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'Every day was special'

Observer office manager Shirley Grauel retires after 30 years as a 'second mother' to many

By JENN METZ
Senior Staff Writer

In the summer of 1980, Shirley Grauel turned down a job working in a basement.

A mother with young children, she called the University regarding an ad for an administrative secretary position. When the University called back about a new, nine-month job working with the student-run campus

newspaper, she knew it was perfect.

"And here I am now, 30 years later, working in a basement of a building," she said on her second-to-last day as The Observer office manager.

Known for her hugs, her candy bowl and her daily line-up of daytime television, Shirley has been a constant presence at The Observer, and staffers over the years have come to know her as their second mother.

"I love interacting with everybody every day. They stay the same age, but I keep getting older, but I never felt the gap," she said. "I respected the students, and it just worked out so well."

Shirley's time at The Observer has not only shaped her own life, but her family's as well. Her daughter, Jill O'Hara, said her earliest memories of her mom are of her working at The Observer. When she was very young, Shirley would bring her to work in the LaFortune offices when she was too sick for school and she would watch "The Price is Right" with the students working.

"It took me a long time to understand what my mom meant when I'd hear her tell people that she could 'sell her job because it's so great,'" Jill said.

As a student at Notre Dame in the 1990s, Jill said she was touched by how much her mother was loved on campus.

"When students who I didn't even know would approach me and tell me how wonderful she is ... I would smile and agree with them, and then wonder if it was odd that my mom was more popular on campus than I was," she said.

Jill said Shirley's love for her job and for the students who work at The Observer "is genuine and deep."

"I don't think she realizes the hearts she's touched over the years ... but I do. She is 100 per-

cent the person she appears to be: loving, committed, loyal, nurturing," she said. "I am incredibly proud that this mom to so many actually is my mom."

Though 30 years in one position might seem like an eternity to many, it didn't feel that way to Shirley.

"Every day was special," she said. "Where else would you get hugs everyday, and students walking up to say 'I love you?' I could have a bad day, but I don't ever leave here in a bad mood."

During her time at The Observer, Shirley has collected many memories and stories to share about the students she worked with — her second family. She recalled one staffer even calling her from the recovery room after delivering her first baby.

"The weddings I've been invited to, the e-mails I get that they're having tailgates or the notes that are left on my desk every Saturday during the football season ... I feel like I can go anywhere and I can find one of the former people," she said.

After about 10 years on the job, Shirley realized she had a lucky feeling.

"I realized not once had I gotten up in the morning and said, 'Oh man, I've got to go to work.' It was always, 'I get to go to work,'" she said. "I wish everyone could experience that."

Observer alumni will reunite

see SHIRLEY/page 9

Student art showcase exhibited at the Snite

By AMANDA GRAY
Assistant News Editor

Candidates for Bachelor's of Fine Arts (BFA) and Master's of Fine Arts (MFA) degrees have come together to display their art once again.

The BFA and MFA thesis projects are currently on display at the Snite Museum of Art and will be until May 16.

"This annual exhibition of culminating works by seniors and third-year graduate students in the Art, Art History and Design Department demonstrates a broad awareness of the themes and processes of contemporary art and is often provocative," a Snite Museum press release said.

The Efroymsen Family Fund Emerging Artists Awards were given for the fourth consecutive year, the press release said.

The winners of the awards were MFA students Christopher Andrews and Ryan Bantz and BFA students Shelley Kornatz and Takashi Yoshii.

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VANESSA GEMPIS/The Observer

Wednesday is Shirley Grauel's last day as The Observer's office manager, a position she has held for 30 years.

Honorary ND degree recipients announced

By SARAH MERVOSH
News Editor

Notre Dame will award eight honorary degrees at this year's Commencement in addition to the honorary degree it will give Commencement speaker Brian Williams, the University announced Tuesday.

Williams, anchor of NBC Nightly News, will receive an honorary doctor of laws degree.

The additional recipients come from a variety of backgrounds, such as education, engineering, law, philanthropy and the

see DEGREES/page 8

Student government changes hands

Schmidt and Weber reflect on term, give advice to new staff

By JOSEPH McMAHON
Associate News Editor

When outgoing student body president Grant Schmidt and vice president Cynthia Weber entered office a year ago, the duo was determined to enact initiatives to make student government relevant to the student body.

"We didn't take on personal preferences," Schmidt said. "Students were constantly giving us feedback. It made our jobs a lot easier."

The administration soon found the best way to find out what students cared about was not through formal student

see SCHMIDT/page 6



Observer photo illustration by Pat Coveney

Senior Grant Schmidt, left, leaves the office of student body president as sophomore Catherine Soler takes over Thursday.

Soler, Bell take office Thursday; look forward to goals for 2010-2011

By SARAH MERVOSH
News Editor

As sophomore Catherine Soler looks forward to her term as student body president, which will begin Thursday, she said community relations would be a priority for her administration.

"A main goal of ours is for students to feel compelled to go into the community, feel safe while they're there and also give a lot to South Bend, but also get a lot out of being an active member of the community," Soler said.

Student body vice president-elect Andrew Bell said strengthening relations between the University and the community will

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INSIDE COLUMN

Thanks,
Shirley

Today is our beloved Shirley Grauel's last official day as The Observer office manager. You make a lot of friends working in the same place for 30 years, and when I asked former staff members to share their memories for a special column to commemorate Shirley's years at The Observer, I received an overwhelming response. All of those who e-mailed me shared the same message: Shirley is generous, kind, loving and a second mother to all who have had the honor of working with her.

David Dziedzic, Editor-in-Chief, 1983-84

It was a tremendous comfort knowing that she would be there, every day, taking care of everything. And the one semester that she wasn't there (Craig took a job assignment in San Diego and the family went with him), was the worst semester of my four years. Personally, I don't know what I would have done without her. She was like a "guardian mother" placed on campus to keep me straight and focused.

Jenn Metz

Senior Staff
Writer**Michael Ortman, staff member, 1978-82**

I've stayed in touch with Shirley over the years. In the fall of 2006, my then-20-year-old son Patrick had applied to transfer to Notre Dame. I made sure we stopped by The Observer so he could meet Shirley. I told him since mom would not be moving with him to South Bend, that if he ever needed a mom, whether he worked at The Observer or not, Shirley was it.

Patrick Peters, Ad Sales/Operations, 1999-2002

Over the years I spent with Shirley, I learned patience, understanding, the art of listening and how to look at issues from another perspective. As we would work with Shirley in close proximity, often we'd discuss the news of the day. Shirley's take was always genuine, compassionate, caring and open to other ideas. I miss Shirley all the time. She's truly one-of-a-kind and deserving of all of the accolades she will receive as she heads towards retirement.

John Lucas, Editor-in-Chief, 1995-96

Shirley blended being a top-notch office manager with roles as our counselor, confidant and second mother. Everyone who knows here feels exactly the same way. The office will never be the same without her — we wish her all of the best with Craig in retirement.

Chris Hine, Editor-in-Chief, 2008-09

If I ever had a question about how to handle a certain situation, she was always the first person I called. Everybody has their favorite Shirley moments. Whenever I talk with fellow Observer alums, we always share our favorite memories of Shirley. She is so beloved and deservedly so. She was there to comfort you and make you laugh on your worst days on the job, there to celebrate on your best days.

Mike Gilloon, Editor-in-Chief, 2006-07

Shirley was a constant presence for so many students. No matter what else was going on at the time, we knew that Shirley would have chocolate at her desk and the Price is Right on TV. She treated all of us like her own kids. She will be missed.

These are just six of the dozens of Observer staffers who wrote to me about Shirley. I'm sure she'll get lots of flowers, hugs and phone calls today. I agree with all the staffers that wrote to me for this piece: Shirley, you truly are one of the best people I have ever met, and I would not have been able to get through my time at The Observer without you. I only hope that the person who takes over your position will have as many wonderful memories as you do.

So, from all of us, have a happy retirement, Shirley. You deserve it after 30 years. Know that everyone you have ever worked with loves you and thanks you for everything you've done.

The views expressed in the Inside Column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer. Contact Jenn Metz at jmetz@nd.edu

CORRECTIONS

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

QUESTION OF THE DAY: WHAT WERE YOU AFRAID OF WHEN YOU WERE A LITTLE KID?



Yiting Zheng

freshman
McGlinn

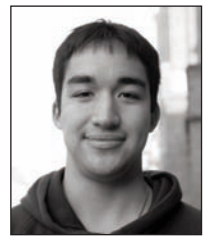
"Mermaids."



Anne McCarthy

freshman
Pasquerilla West"I was afraid of
the dark."

Jacob Szczudlak

freshman
Dillon"My little
sister."

Paul Salazar

freshman
Keough

"Drowning."

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



SUZANNA PRATT/The Observer

Students aspiring to earn a place on the Notre Dame cheerleading squad practice formations and stunts during tryouts on South Quad before they can lead the fans of the Fighting Irish.

IN BRIEF

"All Art is Propaganda" will be displayed today in Special Collections Room 102 of Hesburgh Library. The exhibit will open at 8 a.m.

Daily Mass will be celebrated at 11:30 a.m. and 5:15 p.m. today in the Basilica of the Sacred Heart.

The Creative Writing Program will sponsor a conference titled "The Open Light: A Celebration of Notre Dame Poets" today at 3 p.m. All readings will be held in Seminar Room 100-104 of McKenna Hall.

A lecture on "On the Sociology of Exile and Identity: The Creation and Maintenance of the Cuban Exile Ideology" in Room 210-214 of McKenna Hall at 4 p.m. today.

A Romero Days film screening of MONSEÑOR (Monseñor, the Last Journey of Oscar Romero) will be held in the Montgomery Auditorium of LaFortune Student Center at 6:45 p.m. tonight.

The Catholic Culture Film Series titled "Close to Catholic: A Celebration of Kindred Spirits" will present a screening of the film "Big Fish" at 7 p.m. tonight in the Andrews Auditorium in Geddes Hall.

The Mendoza College of Business will host Tommy Hilliger at 12 p.m. on April 7 in the Eck Visitors Center Auditorium.

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

OFFBEAT

Robbers tunnel into Parisian bank

PARIS — Robbers tunneled their way into the vault of a Parisian bank at the weekend and cracked almost 200 private safes, police said.

The gangsters tied up the security guard at a Credit Lyonnais branch on Paris's Avenue de l'Opera on Saturday night, before digging through a series of cellars to reach the vault, police said late on Monday.

They spent several hours opening the safes and set the place on fire

as they left. The value of the stolen goods is still being estimated, police said.

Taiwan mafia boss leaves millions to charity

TAIPEI — The family of a late Taiwanese mafia boss has donated 60 million Taiwan dollars (1.9 million US) to charities to fulfill the gang leader's dying wish, the authorities said Tuesday.

Lee Chao-hsiung, an influential triad leader in central Taiwan, died of liver cancer on March 11 aged 73, local media

said.

His son donated the money in his name to disabled people and low-income families as well as four major religious organisations, the Taichung city government said in a statement.

About 1,000 people, including several gang bosses, attended a ceremony on Monday to set up a make-shift shrine for Lee, known as the "mafia arbitrator," the Apple Daily said.

Information compiled from the Associated Press.

	TODAY	TONIGHT	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
LOCAL WEATHER					
	HIGH 72 LOW 63	HIGH 49 LOW 42	HIGH 75 LOW 50	HIGH 72 LOW 50	HIGH 69 LOW 46

Atlanta 75 / 46 Boston 48 / 42 Chicago 71 / 52 Denver 70 / 46 Houston 77 / 59 Los Angeles 61 / 46 Minneapolis 78 / 50 New York 60 / 46 Philadelphia 65 / 45 Phoenix 65 / 57 Seattle 51 / 39 St. Louis 77 / 53 Tampa 75 / 53 Washington 71 / 51

Lecture explores non-profits

By EMILY SCHRANK
News Writer

Those who choose to work for non-profit organizations look for a purpose and not just a paycheck, Notre Dame graduate Raymond C. Offenheiser said Tuesday evening.

Offenheiser, president of Oxfam America, a non-profit international development and relief agency, delivered the keynote address at the eighth annual Making a Living, Making a Difference program, held in the Andrews Auditorium of Geddes Hall.

The event, co-sponsored by the Center for Social Concerns and the Career Center, offers students information about the non-profit sector and an opportunity to explore career paths in public service.

"You can make a good living and a good life in non-profit service," he said. "Non-profit organizations span the political spectrum and seek employees with all kinds of talents."

According to Offenheiser, working for a non-profit means working in a world where learning never stops.

"Social change happens right before your eyes and there is a constant stream of new issues," he said. "You can never get bored at a non-profit organization."

Offenheiser said it is rewarding to know you are



SUZANNA PRATT/The Observer
Raymond C. Offenheiser spoke about the non-profit sector in the Making a Living, Making a Difference program Tuesday.

making a difference in someone else's life.

"Working for a non-profit is intellectually stimulating and will fill your life with meaning, purpose and satisfaction," he said.

Although salaries tend to be lower in the public sector, there are more generous social benefits than in the private sector and you are able to receive more responsibility earlier, Offenheiser said.

"The greatest thing about non-profit work is that it puts social teaching and social values at the core," he said. "You engage in direct service and are driven by a certain mission."

Offenheiser's agency, Oxfam America, an affiliate of Oxfam International, works to fight poverty and injustice around

the world.

"In practice, we are front-line responders to natural disasters and work with other organizations that seek to address poverty," he said.

"Working for a non-profit has given me a chance to bond with some of the most amazing people I have ever met," Offenheiser said. "My colleagues make me want to get up in the morning. The quality of people working in the non-profit sector is amazing."

The evening concluded with an information fair, featuring representatives from various non-profit organizations and a fireside chat with Offenheiser.

Contact Emily Schrank at eschrank@nd.edu

SMC team competes in service competition

By ALICIA SMITH
Associate Saint Mary's Editor

Combining their knowledge of communication and their desire to serve, Saint Mary's juniors Katrina Mesina and Claire Yancy are competing in a contest to win scholarships as well as a matching donation to an organization of their choice.

The two are entered in the National Association of Broadcasters Education Foundation's (NABEF) Collegiate Call to Service. Mesina and Yancy make up one of seven teams declared finalists for the prizes.

Mesina and Yancy worked with the South Bend Center for the Homeless during the Fall 2009 semester in a public communication class.

"Our professor, Terri Russ, heard about the scholarship and really encouraged us to do it," Mesina said. "We were a little uneasy about it because we felt that we might not fit into the criteria for the competition, but one short phone call to NABEF ensured that we should apply."

The two have created a program for the Center called "One Hour." The program was designed to allow women at the Center to practice public speaking skills, as well as to bond and create confidence.

"Next year, we will meet once a week for an hour to discuss topics such as family relationships, women's history and body image,"

Mesina said. "We've been meeting with a focus group, staff and professors and students at Saint Mary's College to ensure that we've done the proper research to run a program like this."

In order to win the scholarship and donation, Mesina said the two have to write a blog about their project with the Center. They were responsible to blog about 45 days of service.

"They will be judging based on our efforts to help our community. In addition, they are judging our creativity and use of media in our blogging," Mesina said.

Mesina said she and Yancy worked together, though she credits the basic idea for the project to Yancy.

"I owe a great deal to Claire for envisioning this project," Mesina said. "It was her idea and form there, we've really made it blossom. We still have a long way to go, though, and a huge responsibility to the Center."

Mesina said she enjoys working at the Center.

"I love working at the Center," she said. "It's very easy to lose yourself in activities and school, but giving back to the community should always be a priority. The people at the Center are there because they want to make their lives better. It takes courage to want that for yourself and to work for it. It is an honor to be a part of their journey."

Contact Alicia Smith at asmith01@saintmarys.edu



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STUDENT STIMULUS SALE



GREAT HOMES AVAILABLE FOR 2010-2011

ADDRESS	BR	BA	WAS \$/PER	NOW \$/PER	\$\$ TOTAL
708 Colfax	4	2	\$375	\$325	\$1300
907 Cedar	4	2	\$375	\$325	\$1300
1003 Cedar	3	1	\$375	\$325	\$ 975
1011 Cedar	6	3	\$375	\$325	\$1950
1019 Cedar	5	2	\$375	\$325	\$1625
601 Corby	5	2	\$375	\$375	\$1875
602 Notre Dame	5	2.5	\$375	\$325	\$1625
1022 Madison	7	2	\$375	\$325	\$2275
109 Hill Street 1&2	6	4	\$375	\$325	\$1950
109 Hill Street 3&4	6	4	\$375	\$325	\$1950
109 Hill Street 5&6	6	4	\$375	\$325	\$1950
802 Sorin	4	1	\$375	\$325	\$1300
810 Sorin	2	1	\$375	\$325	\$ 650
814 Sorin	3	2	\$375	\$325	\$ 975
828 Sorin	4	1	\$375	\$325	\$1300
718 Washington	2	1	\$375	\$325	\$ 650
722 Washington	5	2.5	\$375	\$325	\$1625
724 Washington	5	3	\$375	\$325	\$1625
815 Washington	6	2	\$375	\$325	\$1950
925 Washington	6	2.5	\$375	\$325	\$1950
927 Washington	5	2	\$375	\$325	\$1625
109 St. Peter	4	1	\$375	\$325	\$1300
111 St. Peter	6	2	\$375	\$325	\$1950
119 St. Peter	5	2	\$375	\$325	\$1625
214 St. Peter	5	2	\$375	\$325	\$1625
312 St. Peter	5	2	\$375	\$325	\$1625
610 St. Peter	5	2	\$375	\$375	\$1875
614 St. Peter	5	2	\$375	\$375	\$1875

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INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Swiss aim to explain the Big Bang

GENEVA — The world's largest atom smasher threw together minuscule particles racing at unheard of speeds in conditions simulating those just after the Big Bang — a success that kick-started a mega-billion dollar experiment that could one day explain how the universe began.

Scientists cheered Tuesday's historic crash of two proton beams, producing three times more force than researchers had created before and marking a milestone for the \$10 billion Large Hadron Collider.

"This is a huge step toward unraveling Genesis Chapter 1, Verse 1 — what happened in the beginning," physicist Michio Kaku told The Associated Press.

"This is a Genesis machine. It'll help to recreate the most glorious event in the history of the universe."

Putin pledges to find extremists

MOSCOW — The old Vladimir Putin is back, confronting a terrorist attack in Moscow by using the same kind of coarse and colorful language that helped him win the presidency a decade ago.

A day after twin suicide bombings in the subway that killed 39 people, the powerful prime minister told Russians that he is certain the masterminds of the attacks would be found. The security services have blamed extremists from the North Caucasus, a predominantly Muslim region in southern Russia that includes Chechnya.

NATIONAL NEWS

NYC pays poor for good conduct

NEW YORK — An experimental anti-poverty program that pays the poor for maintaining good habits — \$25 to \$150 for things such as going to the dentist, staying on the job or opening a bank account — has not exactly been life-changing.

The payments, also known as conditional cash transfers, were modeled after successful similar programs in other countries, including Mexico and Brazil.

The theory is that the cash rewards reduce immediate hardship for poor people while reinforcing small but significant actions they can take to improve their long-term stability.

Before New York City took up the idea, it had never been attempted in the United States.

Charter school moonlights as club

PHILADELPHIA — Who knew a school cafeteria could be so much fun?

A space where hundreds of Philadelphia charter school students have been eating their lunches during mundane weekdays has been doubling in its off-hours as nightclub, offering dancing and drinking despite an expired liquor license.

City and school officials are not happy about the arrangement between Club Damani and the Harambee Institute of Science and Technology Charter School, which serves about 450 children in kindergarten through eighth grade.

Superintendent Arlene Ackerman said in a letter to Harambee on Monday that "a school and a nightclub cannot coexist in the same space and (the arrangement) must cease immediately," according to a school district statement.

LOCAL NEWS

Ammonia forces residents to flee

TAYLORSVILLE — A dangerous ammonia gas leak led to the evacuation of hundreds of people from their homes and sent at least three people to hospitals early Tuesday, after authorities say thieves tried to steal the chemical from a farm to likely use it to make methamphetamine.

A passer-by notified authorities about the gas cloud and odor south of Taylorsville at about 2:30 a.m., said Lt. Rob Kittle of the Bartholomew County Sheriff's Department. Taylorsville is 35 miles south of Indianapolis.

ITALY

Pope denies liability for abuse

Vatican launches legal defense amidst accusations of negligence regarding molestation

Associated Press

VATICAN CITY — Dragged deeper than ever into the clerical sex abuse scandal, the Vatican is launching a legal defense that the church hopes will shield the pope from a lawsuit in Kentucky seeking to have him deposed.

Court documents obtained Tuesday by The Associated Press show that Vatican lawyers plan to argue that the pope has immunity as head of state, that American bishops who oversaw abusive priests weren't employees of the Vatican, and that a 1962 document is not the "smoking gun" that provides proof of a cover-up.

The Holy See is trying to fend off the first U.S. case to reach the stage of determining whether victims actually have a claim against the Vatican itself for negligence for allegedly failing to alert police or the public about Roman Catholic priests who molested children.

The case was filed in 2004 in Kentucky by three men who claim they were abused by priests and claim negligence by the Vatican. Their attorney, William McMurry, is seeking class-action status for the case, saying there are thousands of victims across the country.

"This case is the only case that has been ever been filed against the Vatican which has as its sole objective to hold the Vatican accountable for all the priest sex abuse ever committed in this country," he said in a phone interview. "There is no other defendant. There's no bishop, no priest."

The Vatican is seeking to dismiss the suit before Benedict XVI can be questioned or secret documents subpoenaed.

The preview of the legal defense was submitted last month in U.S. District Court in Louisville. The Vatican's strategy is to be formally



Pope Benedict XVI faces a potential lawsuit from Kentucky men who allege that the Vatican failed to alert police or the public about cases of molestation.

filed in the coming weeks. Vatican officials declined to comment on Tuesday.

Plaintiffs in the Kentucky suit argue that U.S. diocesan bishops were employees of the Holy See, and that Rome was therefore responsible for their alleged wrongdoing in failing to report abuse.

They say a 1962 Vatican document mandated that bishops not report sex abuse cases to police. The Vatican has argued that there is nothing in the document that precluded bishops from calling police.

With the U.S. scandal reinvigorated by reports of abuse in Europe and scrutiny of Benedict's handling of abuse cases when he was archbishop of Munich, the Kentucky case and another

in Oregon have taken on greater significance. Lawyers as far away as Australia have said they plan to use similar strategies.

At the same time though, the hurdles remain enormously high to force a foreign government to turn over confidential documents, let alone to subject a head of state to questioning by U.S. lawyers, experts say.

The United States considers the Vatican a sovereign state — the two have had diplomatic relations since 1984. In 2007, U.S. District Court Judge John Heyburn rejected an initial request by the plaintiffs to depose Benedict.

"They will not be able to depose the pope," said

Joseph Dellapenna, a professor at Villanova University Law School and author of "Suing Foreign Governments and their Corporations."

"But lower level officials could very well be deposed and there could be subpoenas for documents as part of discovery," he said.

McMurry last week filed a new court motion seeking to depose the pope; Cardinal Tarcisio Bertone, currently Vatican secretary of state but for years the pope's deputy at the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith; Cardinal William Levada, an American who currently heads the Congregation; and Archbishop Pietro Sambi, the Vatican's representative in the U.S.

Bullying raises questions of responsibility

Associated Press

BOSTON — A gay teenager in New York wins \$50,000 from a school district that failed to stop taunts about his sexual orientation. The Justice Department investigates complaints that administrators ignored racial bullying in a Philadelphia school.

And in Massachusetts, a 15-year-old girl hangs herself after she is mercilessly harassed for months — taunting and threats that school administrators knew about but did not stop.

Now, with nine students charged in the bullying of Phoebe Prince, who hanged herself at her family's home

in January, questions have arisen about how accountable school officials should be for stopping bullying.

Barbara Coloroso, a nationally known anti-bullying consultant, had been contacted by South Hadley school officials months before Phoebe's death, after a young boy in nearby Springfield killed himself. She spent a day there in September, training teachers and administrators on how to recognize and deal with bullying.

Coloroso said school officials made mistakes by failing to stop the bullying and, after Phoebe hanged herself, by allowing at least some of the students involved to continue to attend

classes and a school dance with no visible signs of discipline.

"The questions to ask are: Did they follow their own rules and did they keep Phoebe safe? Obviously not. And, did they deal effectively with the bullies? Obviously not," Coloroso told The Associated Press on Tuesday.

Authorities say Prince, who had recently emigrated from Ireland, endured months of verbal assaults and threats after she briefly dated a popular boy. She was harassed mostly in school, but also on Facebook and through other electronic forms.

District Attorney Elizabeth Scheibel said the inaction of school officials was troublesome but not criminal.

COUNCIL OF REPRESENTATIVES

Council approves new positions



TOM LA/The Observer

Student body president Grant Schmidt and vice president Cynthia Weber hold their final COR meeting Tuesday, when they approved new official student government positions.

By MOLLY MADDEN
News Writer

The Council of Representatives (COR) approved several official positions in student government organizations at its meeting Tuesday. It was the final COR meeting overseen by outgoing student body president Grant Schmidt, vice president Cynthia Weber and chief of staff Ryan Brellenthin before president-elect Catherine Soler and vice president-elect Andrew Bell are sworn into office this week.

Junior Marcelo Perez was unanimously approved by COR to be the Judicial Council President for the 2010-2011 academic year. Perez has served as the Judicial Council vice president for two years and said he plans to bring his past experience to his new position.

"I've learned you need to be totally neutral when planning the elections," Perez said. "I've had to learn to be balanced for everybody and not just for a sin-

gle group."

"[Perez] has always been ethical and professional when handling the elections," Weber said. "He will be a great Judicial Council president."

Soler presented her choice for her chief of staff, junior Nick Ruof, who was unanimously approved by COR members.

"He is the ideal candidate and has a ton of experience," Soler said. "He is going to do a great job."

Two candidates were presented for the positions of assistant student union treasurers. Sophomore Carl Brophy and freshman Eric Biro were both approved by COR for the 2010-2011 academic year.

After the approvals had concluded, Schmidt opened the floor to COR members to provide any advice they had for Soler in her new position as student body president.

Members recommended more collaboration with other groups, more speakers when appropriate in order to better inform

COR members about University policy and encouragement for COR members to bring suggestions from their specific councils and groups get different perspectives from the entire council.

COR members discussed what a great year they had with student government, and Weber commended Schmidt's role.

"If someone should get thanks it should be Grant," she said. "It's been a great year for COR, and we really have Grant to thank for that."

Schmidt likewise thanked the members for their service to the University as members of student government for the 2009-2010 year and wished Soler luck in her future endeavors as president.

"It's been an awesome year, and we've gotten a lot done," Schmidt said. "I think Catherine and Andrew are going to tear it up next year."

Contact Molly Madden at
mmadden3@nd.edu

Schmidt

continued from page 1

surveys, but just by talking to students.

"A lot of it is informal," Weber said. "If you want to get the real opinions of students, you just need to be a real student."

From large programs ranging from the restructuring of commencement and the introduction of Transpo Route 7A to small things like having baskets of mints outside the dining halls, Schmidt and Weber said they attempted to focus their agenda on improving everyday student life at the University.

"The student body at Notre Dame is on its toes," Weber said. "They care about everything."

Weber said by taking care of the everyday essentials of student life, student government was able to boost its credibility in tackling worldwide social justice issues through programs such as the Global Water Initiative.

"Things like Transpo, which did get a lot of exposure, allowed us to use the support for other programs," Schmidt said.

Schmidt, who described his administration as "responsive," said he was forced to tackle issues that arose at the last minute, such as improving off-campus safety after two Holy Cross students were abducted in September and sponsoring aid initiatives following the earthquakes in Haiti and Chile.

Another goal of the Schmidt-Weber administration was to improve student government's relations with the University administration.

"Student government is right now and hopefully will be consulted before every major decision," he said.

Schmidt said there were not any major initiatives he wished his administration could have tackled, although he said he wished the

changes in du Lac, the student handbook, had been enacted during his term and the University had not chosen to move the pep rallies to Irish Green.

In addition, Weber said student government needed to become more involved in the academic side of the University in the long term.

When asked what advice they had for the incoming administration of sophomores Catherine Soler and Andrew Bell, Schmidt and Weber said the focus needs to be on the students.

"Be present and energetic, and love the honor of serving the students at Notre Dame," Weber said.

Furthermore, Weber said the pair should continue to foster close ties with the administration but also stand up for what is needed.

"The ability to respectfully disagree is key," she said.

Schmidt said the pair should also be aware of the complicated dynamics of community relations in the city of South Bend.

"We currently have a very good footing with the city of South Bend," he said. "But community relations is not something that just stops."

Ultimately, Schmidt and Weber feel their time in student government has been productive and personally fulfilling.

"We wanted to be present throughout Notre Dame," Schmidt said. "And we feel we positively changed the brand of student government."

Schmidt, who is a senior, plans to attend law school next year, while Weber, a junior, said she wants to focus on her studies and become "informally involved in the University."

"It really has been a privilege to serve in student government, especially at Notre Dame," Schmidt said.

Contact Joseph McMahon at
jcmaho6@nd.edu

Alumnae from Institute of Health lectures on H1N1 virus

By CAROLYNN SMITH
News Writer

Dr. Mary Anne Luzar, a 1972 College graduate, was back on the Saint Mary's campus Tuesday night to speak about the H1N1 pandemic.

Luzar works for the National Institute of Health as Chief of the Regulatory Affairs Branch in the Division of AIDS at the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases.

"We have to look at what we can learn from pandemics, and that's why I wanted to speak tonight," Luzar said.

Luzar opened her presentation by defining the differences between an epidemic and a pandemic and making sure there was a clear understanding between the two.

"An epidemic is a disease that occurs with greater frequency than expected," Luzar said. "Some examples are the Bird Flu and SARS. A pandemic is an epidemic that spreads all over the world or a major region of the world. These include AIDS, TB, Malaria, Spanish flu, and the

'black death' of the 14th century," Luzar said.

Luzar made a point to explain that there have been many pandemics and epidemics in the past, and humans are knowledgeable about these events.

"Over the past 300 years there have been 11 influenza pandemics. The Spanish Influenza in 1918 is the most fatal event in world history with 20-50 million deaths," Luzar said.

Luzar said pandemics are sudden disease outbreaks that are unpredictable and can also occur at any time in the year.

"That is just something we have to deal with and prepare for," Luzar said. "But once a pandemic appears it does not just go

away. It will continue for years, which is why we need to pay attention to H1N1."

Luzar also said the H1N1 virus is a distant cousin of the 1918 Spanish Influenza but is still an entirely new virus.

"Symptoms of H1N1 are similar to the flu but with additional symptoms like diarrhea," Luzar said. "It spreads through respiratory droplets,

coughs and sneezes, touching objects touched by an infectious person, then touching your nose and mouth."

H1N1 has affected many people around the world. Children and young adults are amongst those most affected.

"Two hundred-thirty countries had cases of H1N1 and today there have been around 20,000 deaths due to H1N1," Luzar said.

The H1N1 response was

considered a success because of rapid worldwide communications, and the vaccine was approved quickly and given to priority groups first, Luzar said.

"It is very hard to know if you are successful in these endeavors. I'm proud of what we did. I think we did the right thing. And not doing anything would have been unacceptable," Luzar said. "This pandemic taught us that

we are not immune to them because we are in the 21st century. Virus and disease are always just one step ahead of us. This was a dress rehearsal of what could happen in the future so we need to be prepared."

This event was co-sponsored by College Relations and the Career Crossings Office.

ContactCarolynn Smith at
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Cheerleading & Leprechaun Tryout Information Meeting

5:30 P.M. March 31, 2010 – Gym 2 – Joyce Center (above Gate 10)

Questions: Please email (Kelsey) - kingram@nd.edu or (Mike) - mcirone@nd.edu

MARKET RECAP

Stocks

Dow Jones **10,907.42** +11.56

Up: 1,981 Same: 162 Down: 1,756 Composite Volume: 257,868,953

AMEX	1,901.78	+9.87
NASDAQ	2,410.69	+6.33
NYSE	7,460.72	-4.18
S&P 500	269.27	+0.06
NIKKEI (Tokyo)	11,097.14	0.00
FTSE 100 (London)	5,672.32	-38.34

COMPANY	%CHANGE	\$GAIN	PRICE
CITIGROUP INC. (C)	-2.15	-0.09	4.09
BANK OF AMERICA (BAC)	-1.55	-0.28	17.76
FORD MOTOR CO (F)	-2.14	-0.29	13.28
GENVEC INC (GNVC)	-71.53	-2.01	0.80

Treasuries

10-YEAR NOTE	+0.10	+0.04	3.87
13-WEEK BILL	+20.00	+0.25	0.15
30-YEAR BOND	-0.13	-0.06	4.76
5-YEAR NOTE	+0.19	+0.05	2.60

Commodities

LIGHT CRUDE (\$/bbl.)	+0.20	82.37
GOLD (\$/Troy oz.)	-5.80	1,104.5
PORK BELLIES (cents/lb.)	+0.85	97.55

Exchange Rates

YEN	92.9550
EURO	1.3427
CANADIAN DOLLAR	1.0200
BRITISH POUND	1.5082

IN BRIEF

Employees sue Bank of America

NEW YORK — Bank of America Corp. and Merrill Lynch have made female employees "second-class citizens" by purposely giving their male counterparts opportunities to make more money, according to a gender discrimination lawsuit filed Tuesday.

The suit brought in federal court in Brooklyn by two former Bank of America financial advisers and one current Merrill Lynch broker accuses upper management of favoring men over women by giving them bigger bonuses and "plum business opportunities" that "groomed them for success."

The women also allege that the companies sought to punish them when they complained about the inequalities. One claims that after she protested, she was yelled at and ordered to seek pre-approval when expensing business lunches — something men never had to do.

"Beneath the veneer of a world-class financial institution, the defendants treat their female financial advisers as second-class citizens," the complaint says.

Calif. home price index rises

LOS ANGELES — A surprisingly strong rebound in California's real estate market helped lift a key home price index for the eighth month in a row.

That's good news for people who plan to sell their homes this spring. Prices are now up almost 4 percent from the bottom in May 2009, but still almost 30 percent below the May 2006 peak.

Prices rose 0.3 percent from December to January on a seasonally adjusted basis, according to the Standard & Poor's/Case-Shiller 20-city home price index released Tuesday. Prices increased in 12 cities in the index.

The biggest monthly gain was in Los Angeles, where prices rose 1.8 percent from December. And real estate agents say there's a distinct sense the worst of the downturn is over.

Buyers are "seeing that prices are creeping up," said Tony Middleton, a real estate agent with ZIP Realty who concentrates on the San Fernando Valley. "They're losing bids on homes and they have to bid again."

Verizon, Apple may join forces

The iPhone may soon be available on cellular networks other than AT&T

Associated Press

SEATTLE — Apple Inc. shares reached an all-time high Tuesday after a newspaper report said the iPhone could find a new U.S. sales outlet through Verizon Wireless.

Since its 2007 launch, the iPhone has been available in the U.S. only to subscribers of AT&T Inc., which uses a cellular network technology called GSM.

The Wall Street Journal reported late Monday that Apple plans to release an iPhone this year that would work on CDMA networks — a technology used by Verizon Wireless and Sprint Nextel Inc. in the U.S., as well as some carriers overseas.

Apple and Verizon declined to comment on the matter. AT&T spokesman Mark Siegel said the iPhone will be an important device for the company for quite some time.

AT&T has thrived as the sole U.S. iPhone carrier despite paying a massive subsidy to Apple for the exclusive rights to offer the phone. At the end of 2009, it was the second-largest wireless carrier behind Verizon Wireless in terms of subscribers.

But the iPhone's popularity has taxed AT&T's networks in cities such as New York and San Francisco, leaving the carrier vulnerable to an aggressive ad campaign from Verizon. AT&T said in January it would spend an additional \$2 billion to improve its network this year.

Apple and AT&T have not said when their exclusive deal will end, though some analysts have predicted Apple will begin offering the iPhone through multiple U.S. carriers sometime after it unveils the next-generation iPhone this summer.

Brian Marshall, an analyst for Broadpoint



Apple shares hit an all-time high Tuesday as it appears the iPhone could find a new sales outlet through Verizon Wireless.

AmTech, estimates AT&T pays Apple \$450 per iPhone, more than the \$300 he estimates all other carriers pay per device.

But having more than one U.S. iPhone carrier can only help Apple, Marshall said. In the U.K., Canada, Brazil and France, the most recent markets to switch from a single iPhone carrier to multiple, unit sales took off when customers on more carriers could choose the phone.

Morgan Keegan analyst Tavis McCourt cautioned that it's not certain that Apple and Verizon could agree on terms for an iPhone that runs on CDMA networks. CDMA capability could also be used to get the iPhone onto the net-

works of China Telecom Ltd. and South Korea's SK Telecom.

Several analysts said it appears AT&T will still be the only iPhone carrier in the U.S. at least through 2010.

Marshall believes Apple extended the deal until 2011 in exchange for a flexible data plan for the iPad, Apple's new tablet device. People who buy iPads with cellular data connections can pay AT&T month by month for service, instead of having to sign a contract, and choose a \$15 or \$30 monthly plan based on data consumption.

Apple shares rose as high as \$237.48 on Tuesday, an all-time peak, before pulling back to

\$235.85, a 1.5 percent gain for the day. Apple's stock has jumped about 13 percent this month in anticipation of the iPad launch, which begins Saturday.

Shares of Verizon Communications Inc., which owns a majority of Verizon Wireless, rose 2.6 percent Tuesday, while the stock of its partner, Vodafone Group PLC, edged up 0.8 percent.

AT&T dropped 2.1 percent. Also hurt were shares of Palm Inc. and Research In Motion Ltd., two makers of smart phones that rival the iPhone and are available through Verizon Wireless. Palm shares lost 3.6 percent and RIM fell 1 percent.

Nissan to sell lower-priced electric car

Associated Press

NEW YORK — Nissan Motor Co. said Tuesday its new electric car will cost just over \$25,000 in the U.S., a move that could force rivals to lower prices on similar vehicles.

The Leaf, a four-door hatchback due in showrooms late this year, will have a base price of \$32,780, but buyers can get a \$7,500 electric vehicle tax credit, Nissan said.

The price tag puts the Leaf, which can go up to 100 miles on a single charge from a home outlet, within reach of mainstream car buyers, and it also will force competitors to respond when they introduce their cars.

General Motors Co., which also will begin selling its Chevrolet Volt

rechargeable electric car later this year, said that it will look at Nissan's pricing before announcing the Volt's price closer to its December sales date.

"I think it's fair to say their pricing, it won't overwhelm, but it will have some influence on our pricing decision," said GM spokesman Rob Peterson.

GM was looking to price the Volt, which can go 40 miles on full electricity before a small gas engine kicks in to provide power, around \$35,000. It would cost \$27,500 with the tax credit.

But GM executives have said they are trying to lower the price as they begin building models at a Detroit factory.

Other competitors, such as Ford Motor Co. and Chrysler Group LLC, also plan to sell fully electric cars, but

those will come out after the Volt and Leaf hit showrooms in December. The Volt and Leaf are the first two electric cars to go on sale that will appeal to the mass market.

Orders in the U.S. start April 20 and Nissan is aiming for 25,000 orders by December.

Nissan says the Leaf will cost 3.76 million yen (\$40,000) in Japan. It will price the car lower in the U.S. because it wants to sell more of them in that market. The automaker says it is confident it can still make money at that price.

But Erich Merkle, president of the consulting company Autoconomy.com in Grand Rapids, Mich., said Nissan may be deliberately setting the price low and may even lose money to establish itself as the market leader.

ND partners with YMCA

Special to The Observer

The University of Notre Dame Nonprofit Professional Development recently announced a new agreement with YMCA of the USA to provide executive education to the service organization's leaders. The program is aimed at executives at the vice president level.

"The University of Notre Dame is committed to helping others as an outgrowth of our Christian faith," said Marc Hardy, director of Nonprofit Executive Programs at the Mendoza College of Business. "We understand the importance of having excellent leadership skills and being a good steward of resources. Our expertise combined with the YMCA will be of great benefit to both organizations and most

importantly to the attendees."

The training will take place in Notre Dame's executive classroom space at the Santa Fe Building in downtown Chicago. It consists of two four-day sessions – one Aug. 24 to 27, followed by a second Nov. 16 to 19 – plus a field project. The format allows the executives to gain education without losing a significant amount of job time.

Participants earn a certificate from the Notre Dame Nonprofit Professional Development upon completion.

The focus of the program is to help managers make the transition to a larger leadership role, Hardy said. This includes such topics as developing a philanthropic culture, managing the media, community relations, financial management and transparency, and

nonprofit board leadership.

Nonprofits are finding greater need for leadership training as they face high levels of CEO retirement at the same time that demand for services is increasing and becoming more complex. A recent Conference Board report found that the nonprofit sector will need to recruit as many as 80,000 executive leaders by 2016.

"A lot of people come into the nonprofit career path because they have a heart for it. They want to do good," Hardy said. "They come from all walks of life, but not typically from a business background. Yet nonprofits are complex and often very large organizations that require specific business skills to operate them at the highest levels. Our program helps fill the gaps in knowledge."



SOFIA ITURBE | Observer Graphic

Degrees

continued from page 1

Church.

Steven Brickner, a leader in antibacterial drug development, will be awarded a doctor of science degree. Brickner's research helped lead to the discovery of Zvox, the first oral drug to treat penicillin-resistant strains of strep and staph infections. More than two million people have been treated with Zvox since its creation in 2000.

Scott Cowen will receive a doctor of laws degree. As president of Tulane University, Cowen has led Tulane to major growth in donations and student applications. He also created a plan to rebuild the university's facilities after Hurricane Katrina flooded 70 percent of its uptown campus and dispersed all of its students in 2005.

Archbishop Demetrios Trakatellis will also be awarded a doctor of laws degree. He was appointed primate of the Greek Orthodox Church in America and he previously taught Biblical studies at the Holy Cross School of Theology in Brookline, Mass. After the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks, he presided at many memorial services and funerals for the victims.

The University will award Fr. Reginald Foster a doctor of laws

degree. Nicknamed "the Pope's Latinist," Foster is considered an expert on the Latin language and has worked in the "Latin Letters" section of the Vatican for many years translating Church documents into Latin. In 2006, Foster founded a free Latin academy for English speakers wishing to learn the language or improve their Latin skills.

MaryAnn Mathile, a top philanthropist, will receive a doctor of laws degree. She is the chief executive officer, board chair and treasurer of the Mathile Family Foundation. Mathile and her husband, Clayton, established their foundation to support children and families in the Dayton, Ohio area. Among the foundation's largest gifts was an academic building at Saint Mary's College.

Marc Maurer, a 1974 Notre Dame alumnus, will receive a doctor of laws degree. Maurer, who was blinded by an overexposure to oxygen after birth, now serves as president of the National Federation of the Blind (NFB). Under his leadership, NFB has expanded its headquarters and accelerated development of innovative education, technology, products and services to facilitate the independence of blind people.

Ted McCourtney, who graduated from Notre Dame in 1960, will receive a doctor of engineering degree. McCourtney was the

lead partner of Venrock for 30 years. Venrock was an early investor in Apple Computer and the chip-maker Intel. McCourtney has also served on the University's Board of Trustees and he remains an Emeritus Trustee.

Cardinal Cormac Murphy-O'Connor will receive a doctor of laws degree. A native of England, Murphy-O'Connor served as rector of the Venerable English College in Rome, was archbishop of Westminster and president of the Catholic Bishops Conference of England and Wales. Pope John Paul II made him a cardinal in 2001. His ministry is well known for his ecumenical work, the protection of human life and the rights of immigrants.

In addition to these honorary degrees, the University will award the Laetare Medal, its highest honor, to Dana Gioia, poet and former chairman of the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) at the Commencement ceremony.

Last year, much controversy surrounded the University's decision to award President Barack Obama with an honorary doctor of laws degree. Obama was the ninth U.S. president to be awarded with an honorary degree, a March 20, 2009, press release said.

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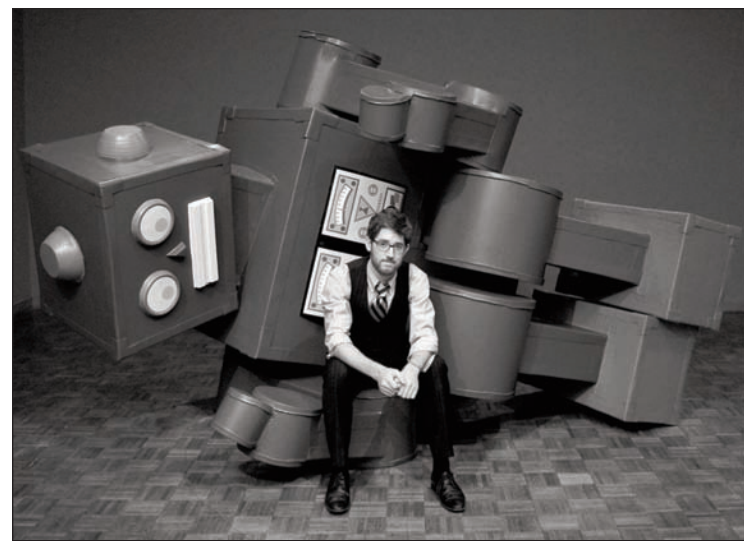


Photo courtesy of Matthew Degnan

BFA student Matthew Degnan sits with "Rex" in the Snite Museum of Art. Degnan's work is featured in the BFA exhibit.

Art

continued from page 1

"The gallery showing means a lot," Yoshii said. "We're one of the only schools that allow us to actually display our designs in an actual art museum, and in a great art museum."

Yoshii's project "Revolution" has been in design since last July. The project focuses on wheelchair design.

"I went through a lot of research ... talking to physical therapists, spending a day in a wheelchair, trying to cook in a wheelchair, and from there it's the concept development," Yoshii said.

BFA student Andrew Pautler said he enjoys Yoshii's work.

"My favorite project is probably Takashi Yoshii's project," Pautler said. "He thought of a totally new way to think about the wheelchair and designed one that could really help handicapped people add ease and functionality to their daily lives. The rendering of the final wheelchair is crazy awesome."

Pautler's BFA project, titled "New City Catholic Church," is also featured in the Snite.

"I knew I wanted to do something related to the Catholic Church," Pautler said. "From my own experience and personal research over the past 12 months, I found that the Catholic Church in many ways is extremely outdated and is in fact dying in many ways."

His project creates a hypothetical Catholic parish that offers recommendations and resources for parishes around the country.

BFA student Katherine Campbell said she is excited to have her artwork shown in the gallery.

"It was quite surreal to see my thesis on the wall during the opening with so many people viewing it," Campbell said. "It is a great honor both as a student and a designer. I will never forget the experience."

Campbell's "Love & Dignity" is a digital print design for a stained glass window triptych, inspired by Pope John Paul II's "Theology of the Body."

"Everyone did such a wonderful job and the entire exhibit looks amazing with our hard work displayed in the gallery," Campbell said.

BFA student Matthew Degnan began his "Rex," a large-scale sculpture robot, last fall.

"I began construction when I came back to campus on January 5," Degnan said. "I finished the skeleton by mid-February and spent the last month sheeting the work in plastic, painting it and adding decals."

Through their theses, many of the students looked forward to future career plans.

"Working on a large-scale work has motivated me to hopefully pursue a career as a scenic designer," Degnan said.

Contact Amanda Gray at agray3@nd.edu

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Shirley

continued from page 1

game for a retirement party for Shirley, an event she is very excited about.

"I can't wait to see everyone," she said.

Preparing to return to campus for the reunion party, Observer alumni shared memories of Shirley.

Bruce Oakley, Class of 1980, returned to campus looking for a job after graduation and started working with Shirley at The Observer after serving as a copy editor his senior year.

He'll be coming back again for the party, and told stories of those early years: installing typesetting machines, listening to Blondie, babysitting for Shirley's children.

"Shirley proudly shared her life with us," he said. "She has strength enough for a family that's been growing for 30 years."

"My message to Shirley: 'Mom, the kids are all right. And we're coming home.'"

Though it hasn't always been smooth sailing in The Observer office, the staff was always able to rely on Shirley, said John Lucas, a member of the Class of 1996 who served as Editor-in-Chief from 1995-96.

"Shirley always was a tremen-

dous, steady force: calm, fun and kind. She was in the eye of the hurricane, with the chaos that is The Observer swirling all around her," he said.

The current staff, including Editor-in-Chief Matt Gamber, isn't quite ready to Shirley go.

"I've been incredibly blessed to have known Shirley for the past three years, and I can't thank her enough for the countless smiles and hugs that have brightened long nights and early mornings in the office," Gamber said. "It will be a challenge to move forward without her, both from a personal and a professional standpoint, but on behalf of the entire staff, Shirley, I wish you nothing but the best as you enjoy your retirement. We will miss you."

Now that her time at The Observer has come to a close, Shirley said she is "going to become a traveler and a full-time grand-

ma." Shirley has plans for an Alaskan cruise this June with her husband Craig, also retired, and the Grauels are renting a condo in Florida for four weeks next spring.

"If Craig wasn't at home, I probably wouldn't be retired ... but things happen for a reason, and it's time," she said. "Thirty years ... that's enough."

Contact Jenn Metz at jmetz@nd.edu

"I've been incredibly blessed to have known Shirley for the past three years, and I can't thank her enough for the countless smiles and hugs that have brightened long nights and early mornings in the office."

Matt Gamber
Editor-in-Chief

Soler

continued from page 1

As sophomore Catherine Soler looks forward to her term as student body president, which will begin Thursday, she said community relations would be a priority for her administration.

"A main goal of ours is for students to feel compelled to go into the community, feel safe while they're there and also give a lot to South Bend, but also get a lot out of being an active member of the community," Soler said.

Student body vice president-elect Andrew Bell said strengthening relations between the University and the community will be a mutually beneficial relationship.

"Not only will we benefit from a positive relationship with the community, but it's better for both sides if we work together," he said. "They are the people that surround us. No one wants to stay on campus and the community members don't want to avoid students."

To fulfill this goal, Soler said she would work for the continuation of Transpo and hopes to get a traffic light installed at the intersection of Twyckenham Drive and Vaness Street, which is highly traveled by students.

"We are also looking forward

to continuing the focus on students taking care of themselves when they are out in the community, being respectful and also being aware of their surroundings," Soler said. "We've seen a lot of success in terms of off-campus safety and we want to continue along that line."

Bell said they have also explored the idea of obtaining class credit through involvement in the community. For example, a one-credit class could involve going to the monthly Northeast Neighborhood Council meetings, he said.

"You will advance your education while becoming directly immersed in the community," he said. "We think that's a really great way to become involved."

For the remainder of the current school year, Soler said she would also pursue a textbook rental system, which was part of her platform.

"We really are pushing for the rental textbook system to come about in the fall," she said. "We're working with the bookstore as well as business operations. We're in

the beginning stages."

Soler also said she plans to host April Awareness Month, a new campaign in which student government will raise awareness for various charities, fundraisers and service opportunities.

"We've seen a lot of success in terms of off-campus safety and we want to continue along that line."

Catherine Soler
student body
president-elect

April Awareness Month will be a way to combine their passion for service and student government, Soler said.

Events will include Commiversity Day, a student

government Relay for Life team and The Bald and The Beautiful, an event where students will cut their hair to benefit childhood cancer research.

"We're both participating," said Soler, who will cut eight inches off her hair, while Bell will shave his head.

Bell said April Awareness Month is also a way to connect with the student body.

"It's reflective of the fact that we represent a very service-oriented student body," he said. "We are entering into a climate where service is very important so this is just a result of that."

Soler and Bell said they are grateful for the opportunity to serve the student body and look forward to working with students to enhance the Notre Dame experience.

"We're more energized than ever," Soler said.

Contact Sarah Mervosh at smervosh@nd.edu



Precious: Based on the Novel "Push" by Sapphire (2009)

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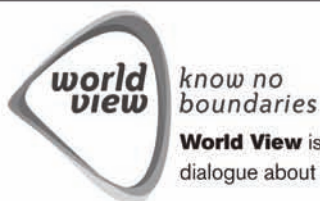
Friday, April 9, 2010 at 6:30 p.m. and 9:30 p.m.

Saturday, April 10, 2010 at 6:30 p.m. and 9:30 p.m.

A faculty panel will discuss the film following the 6:30 p.m. screening

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World View is an initiative from the Office of the President to promote constructive dialogue about issues of race, class, ethnicity, religion, and gender through the arts.



THE OBSERVER

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POLICIES

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Questions regarding Observer policies should be directed to Editor-in-Chief Matt Gamber.

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Rejecting the routine

When I was entering seventh grade, I decided that I wanted to be a good basketball player. When I let my aspirations known to my parents, my dad said that he was happy for me, but he then proceeded to tell me exactly how it was going to happen. Over the summer, I was to run for a mile and shoot 100 free throws every day. In hindsight, that may not seem like a whole lot of work, but for a 12-year old that would have been perfectly content eating candy and playing video games every day all summer, it was like a death sentence. So each day, begrudgingly, I rolled out of bed and worked out, usually after about an hour of bickering with my mom about it. Not surprisingly, I became a pretty good player and even won a few free throw shooting contests in middle school.

My blooming basketball career, though, is not the point of the story (my career was doomed after I failed to grow another inch beyond sixth grade). The point is that my dad instilled a routine in me, where I could count on doing the same thing day after day and, naturally, would become used to it. And that was the case. After a few weeks, running a mile and shooting 100 free throws really didn't seem so bad, it just became a part of life.

We all came to Notre Dame looking for an extraordinary experience. Notre Dame is different, they told us, and for many of us, that extra mystique is what drew us to this place. However, once you have spent a few years here, you pretty much have things figured out. You know the shortest route from your room to all of your classes, you know when to avoid the rush at the dining hall, and you have your favorite study spot picked out. For me, earlier this semester, there was probably a two week stretch where I followed the exact same routine every day: Wake up, eat, go to class, eat dinner and then go finish schoolwork. You would really only ever find me either in my dorm room,

DeBartolo, South Dining Hall or on the first floor of the library, because that was the most efficient way to go about life. It was like being Bill Murray's character, Phil, in the movie "Groundhog Day," where he keeps waking up and living the exact same day over and over and over again. One day, as I passed the same person in the blue hat (who I've never met, but still recognize), at the same place and the same time on my way to class for the third Wednesday in a row, like clockwork, it struck me: Notre Dame had become ordinary. Instead of responding to "How are you?" with a positive, upbeat response, I found myself giving answers like "getting by" and "surviving." What had become of my experience? I decided that I needed to give myself a shot in the arm.

It started with little things. I decided that I was going to mix up my routine and walk to DeBartolo from Dillon along South Quad, not under the Law School Arch, if for no other reason than a change of pace. As it turned out, the very first time I did that, I ran into a good friend of mine whom I hadn't seen in a few weeks and we found a time to meet up for dinner. Obviously, not every walk down the quad ends up in a dinner date, but I would have never seen her had I chosen to walk to class along my regular path. In addition, I made it a goal to eat lunch at every dining establishment on campus before the end of the semester. As we all know, the dining hall can get repetitive; especially if that is the only place you eat for weeks at a time. This turned out to be an worthwhile goal, because now I have discovered awesome places to eat like Café Poche in Bond Hall, Greenfields and, my personal favorite, Decio Commons, all places that I had never set foot in during my first five semesters on campus.

But beyond just going new places, I still felt like I needed to do more. With that in mind, I decided to sign up and attend the Notre Dame Encounter No. 105 retreat this past weekend. I will say this: it was

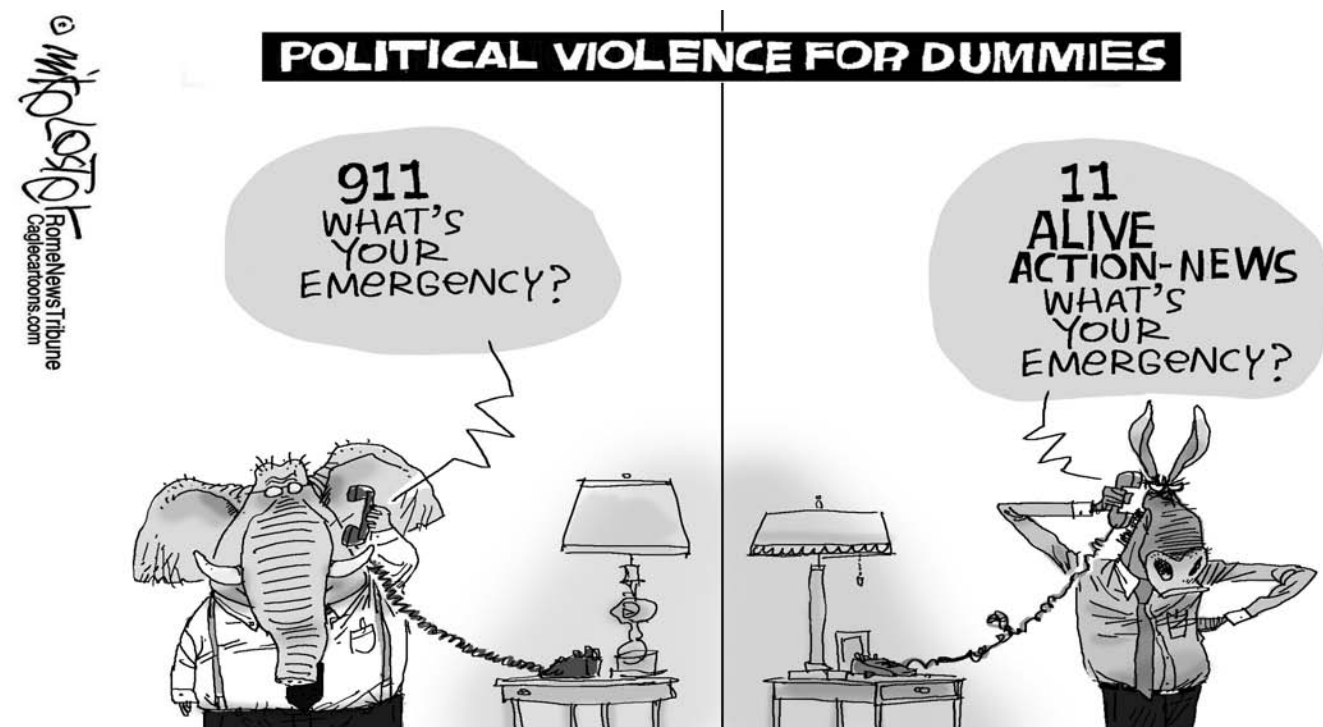
one of the best decisions I have ever made. NDE was one of my favorite weekends during my entire three years here at Notre Dame. It wasn't specifically any one activity that we did on the retreat (though I enjoyed everything) that made the weekend and it wasn't just the fact that my small group's theme was based on the movie "Space Jam" (though that certainly helped); it was the people. Having been at Notre Dame, we sometimes forget that what makes this university great is the truly special student body that chose to attend school here. And on an NDE, you are placed in contact with 55 other amazing people, most of whom you have never spoken to before, in a setting where you can really learn their stories. And, to shamelessly steal a phrase from my small group leader, I love to hear other people's stories; something that I had lost sight of during my day-to-day monotony. At one point near the end of the weekend, I was in a group of four people talking; one freshman, one sophomore, one junior and one senior, all in four different majors. We had been complete strangers no more than 36 hours beforehand. In spite of all that, though, we carried on all the way until we could no longer stay awake, and it was at that point, as I headed to bed, that I realized just how many truly amazing people there are here that I had yet to encounter. What if I chose not to sign up for the retreat and we never had the chance to meet?

Amazing personalities are all around you here. You walk by them every day without even giving them a second glance. We all do. Hopefully, though, you can make the most of it, and not let your experience here on campus pass you by without making the most of it. I know I certainly intend to from here on out.

Andy Ziccarelli is a junior majoring in civil engineering. He can be reached at aziccare@nd.edu

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

EDITORIAL CARTOON



QUOTE OF THE DAY

"Insist on yourself; never imitate... Every great man is unique."

Ralph Waldo Emerson
U.S. philosopher

Submit a Letter
to the Editor at

www.ndsmcobserver.com

QUOTE OF THE DAY

"Failures are finger posts on the road to achievement."

C. S. Lewis
British novelist

HEI: Still an issue

Despite the fact that we are no longer sporting our incredibly sexy and stylish orange jumpsuits this week, the issue of Notre Dame's investment in hotel company HEI is still a pressing one.

After extensive research and having conversations with current and former HEI

employees, it is becoming increasingly clear HEI is a company whose actions are unethical. Their employees in multiple hotels have felt mistreated and ignored to the point where they have decided to call for a union but are facing many difficulties. We have not been "fed lies" by UNITE HERE!, the union working on the HEI campaign. Rather, we have read on our own and spoken with workers. Our conclusions are not from a place of ignorance.

Scott C. Malpass, Chief of Notre Dame's Investments Office, claims he has spoken to employees of these hotels. In our meeting last spring, we asked him what that meant. His response: he had stayed in an HEI hotel and asked those who served him in the hotel what they thought of their job.

Sarah Furman

*Guest
 Columnist*

What employee of a hotel, when approached by a well-dressed, wealthy-looking guest in their establishment would risk their job and bad-mouth their company? Of course Malpass has heard nothing but good things; other than those workers he has only spoken with CEOs and human resources, whose job is to make HEI look good.

We have actually spoken to employees and received honest responses. At different hotels, workers report increases in workloads, reduced hours, layoffs, elimination of job functions and even shortages in cleaning supplies. These are not lies spread by the union; they are factual stories told by the workers.

Also, HEI is clearly anti-union. In fact, they spent over \$90,000 in 2008 alone on anti-union consultants, whose entire purpose is to help the company keep unions out of their hotels. The information for 2009 has yet to be made public, but we fear that this number has increased. In 85 percent of union drives, the employees face intimidation by the employer. It is not surprising that HEI is using the same tactics.

Malpass is correct in that HEI denies committing unfair labor practices and has not yet been found guilty by the National

Labor Relations Board (NLRB) of doing so. But it is disconcerting that Malpass refuses to acknowledge that the Office of the General Counsel of the NLRB has issued complaints against HEI, and that HEI will defend itself against these allegations at a hearing to commence on June 7. The workers have made claims that that the NLRB's General Counsel has determined are serious and substantiated enough to merit a formal hearing - why is Malpass ignoring them? If we wait to take action until they are found "officially" guilty, we could be waiting through years of appeals while their workers suffer in the same unjust conditions.

Student groups at universities across the country are fighting for the same cause. In the middle of February, the president of Brown University, Ruth Simmons, wrote a letter to HEI showing her concern about their labor practices. This week, the Yale Daily News reported that, "Yale's Advisory Committee on Investor Responsibility may reevaluate its stance on the University's investment in HEI Hotels & Resorts in the wake of Brown University president Ruth Simmons's letter" (<http://www.yaledailynews.com/news/university-news/2010/03/23/univ-reconsider-control>).

versial-investment/). These two universities, who are unaffiliated with any religion, have made public statements of concerns about the allegations against HEI. Why is Notre Dame, a Catholic university who claims to stand for justice and the tenants of Catholic Social Teaching, once again refusing to say anything or even discuss the issue?

As a Catholic university, it is our call to stand on the side of those who lack power, which, in this case, are the cooks, housekeepers, bellmen and other workers within the HEI hotels. After many allegations have been made against HEI both by individual employees and by the General Counsel of the National Labor Relations Board, there is clearly reason for concern. We hope that Notre Dame continues to look into the practices of HEI and pressures the company to treat their workers with dignity by allowing them to form a union that will give them a voice in the workplace.

*Sarah Furman is a junior
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 The views expressed in this column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer.*

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

One Book, One Michiana

Although we often forget it, as students of Notre Dame we are also members of the South Bend population. If you want to break out of the "Notre Dame bubble" in an easy and fun way, consider participating in the One Book, One Michiana campaign.

The St. Joseph County Public Library is sponsoring this annual campaign, which creates a series of events that build community feeling by asking the entire Michiana population to read a book, or watch a movie adaptation of that book. This year, the book is the classic novel by Harper Lee, "To Kill a Mockingbird."

Various events related to the novel will be held during the last week of April and first week of May. Some events include a courtroom re-enactment of a scene from the book, a reading of the novel by the director of the movie,

and a creative writing contest for grade school children sponsored by the Hammes Notre Dame Bookstore.

On behalf of Literacy Awareness Notre Dame (LAND), an on-campus club that promotes literacy through awareness campaigns and volunteerism, and on behalf of LAND's contacts at the St. Joseph Public Library, I urge you to consider participating in some of these exciting events. After all, who doesn't love "To Kill a Mockingbird?"

If you would like more information, please refer to the St. Joseph Public Library website.

**Caitlin Wilson
 Rachel Hamilton**
 sophomores
 Lewis Hall
 March 29

Life, liberty and the pursuit of a spoon

Dear Management at North Dining Hall,
 We would like to express our sincere gratitude for our entertainment-filled lunch experience today at North Dining Hall. Your "Talking Spoon Scavenger Hunt" not only challenged our mental abilities, but it also gave us the opportunity for more exercise and sight-seeing into some of the more unexplored, "southern" regions of NDH. Had the opportunity not arisen to trek to the "South Side of the Border" in our search for spoons, our refined palates would have never been exposed to the culinary sensation that is California Eldorado Casserole. We also truly appreciated your brazen display of the viewpoint letter criticizing your spoon policy. It is difficult for us to believe that a member of our esteemed student body would be so short-sighted so as to

question the efficacy of your new and improved utensil policy and to deny us such a fun-filled day of hunting. We are pleased that you are not merely ignorant of the student's views, but instead stand up in the face of student pressure to do what you know is right. We applaud you, NDH, and may you continue your brave fight against the will of insolent students.

Matt Babcock
 senior
 Stanford Hall
**Ted Kratschmer
 Chris Kratschmer
 Brendan Corsones**
 seniors
 Zahm Hall
 March 29

Not standing strong

"To whom much is given, much is expected." Sue Chambers quoted this well-known saying in her challenge to Notre Dame to uphold the teachings of the Catholic Church ("Dream Schools," March 30).

In recent times, Notre Dame has blatantly failed in its position as the nation's most well known Catholic university. The administration, most notably Fr. Jenkins, has given in to popular opinion instead of serving as a beacon for the teachings of the Church in an increasingly secular world. Instead of challenging the most pro-abortion president in the history of the United States, Fr. Jenkins and the University of Our Lady not only welcomed him with open arms, but they also bestowed upon him an honorary degree months after he struck down a rule that prohibits American money from funding international family-planning clinics that promote abortion. At Commencement in May, instead of feeling proud that I had graduated from the University of Notre Dame, I was ashamed and disgraced that Notre Dame and the administration succumbed to the celebrification of a man who consistently supports many of the

beliefs that the Church vehemently opposes.

In a Viewpoint last March ("Money talks," March 24, 2009), I encouraged seniors to let their money talk. Every year, the Annual Fund hosts "Thanksgiving in February," a campaign designed to raise awareness among students about the impact of giving gifts of all sizes to Notre Dame. Once again, I will encourage graduating seniors to let their money talk. Consider how the dollars you pledge will be spent, and if you do decide to donate money to Notre Dame, be aware that you can restrict your contribution to a group, residence hall or activity that you feel will make the best use of your dollars.

Notre Dame critics routinely bash the football team for not living up to the standards that have been set over the years. It is now time for the University to be held accountable for not standing strong in its position as the foremost Catholic university in the United States.

Kelly Kapshandy
 alumna
 Class of 2009
 March 30

Why I do care

In the past few weeks, with the announcement of Christopher Hitchens coming to Notre Dame and the unearthing of more sexual abuse from Catholic priests, many people have turned their discussions again to religion and the Catholic Church. One common sentiment in these arguments is that non-believers (like the invited Christopher Hitchens) have no reason to criticize religion since they are themselves not religious. Furthermore, some people have even questioned why non-believers would bother to attend a school that is so ensconced in Catholicism if all they are going to do is argue about its Catholic policies. As a non-believer at Notre Dame, perhaps I can shed light on these two questions.

Perhaps those non-religious students still enjoy plenty of other things about the university. Rewarding experiences and community can be found in plenty of other areas besides religion. For example, perhaps unique to Notre Dame is its dorm life. While parietales and single-sex dorms might be a headache at times, the fellowship that is developed within dorms is unlike anything I hear about from my friends at other schools, including those in Greek life. It would be sad if Notre Dame's Catholicism was the best thing it had going for it.

That said, remember that just because you are Catholic does not mean you own the school. This is just as much my school as it is yours. As such, I have just as much right to discuss and criticize the shortcomings of my school. In the same light, this is just as much my world as it is yours. Accordingly, I have the same rights to discuss and criticize the shortcomings of the world. An organization that covers up the sexual abuse is something I perceive as a shortcoming.

Just because I am not part of the group does not mean I cannot criticize the group. I am not part of many groups, but I can still criticize them. The Catholic Church is one of these groups. If I am part of the group, like in the case of the university community, I not only have the right to be critical, but the duty in order to make it better both for myself and my peers. So next time you think that because I'm not Catholic, this doesn't concern me, and I should therefore stay silent, I ask you politely to remember that the Catholic Church is a powerful organization whose policies do affect me even though I don't believe.

Andy Hills
 sophomore
 Carroll Hall
 March 30

COMEDY AND ACTION

meet with some success in

COP OUT
2.26

By TATIANA SPRAGINS
Scene Writer

Featuring two actors you would never imagine working together in a combination of what each one does best, comedy and action, “Cop Out” is definitely not bound to feed your intellectual appetite. But it might be fun just to sit back and enjoy the jokes or watch Bruce Willis’ hilariously bad attempt at comedy.

Tracy Morgan and Bruce Willis play the roles of two cops that have worked together for nine years and, due to a failed attempt at catching a Latin gang, are suspended for 90 days. On top of this, Paul (Morgan) thinks his wife is cheating and Jimmy (Willis) can’t afford to pay for his daughter’s wedding. Jimmy then decides to sell a baseball card he’s had since he was little to pay for the wedding. The card had been kept in perfect condition, and could therefore be worth up to \$80,000 — except, when he’s selling the card two amateur robbers come into the shop, tase Jimmy and the shop owner and steal the card and everything in the cash register. Jimmy and Paul both set out to find this robber and get back the baseball card.

Morgan’s comedy background and Willis’ affiliation to action movies made for an unusual duo. Although the film was quite funny at times, it would suddenly shift to vio-

lent scenes right after the funny ones. One or the other genre would have been fine, but the two together didn’t flow too smoothly since it’s usually unexpected for a joking, rather ridiculous scene to precede a gang leader executing two frightened subjects point blank.

Willis didn’t do that bad of a job at comedy, although the true comedy lies in seeing him make an effort to be funny. Not to mention, he hasn’t been involved in any good projects lately — for a while, actually. Not since “The Sixth Sense” has Willis had the opportunity to stand out in a role, and “Cop Out”

won’t be of any help. Out of his element and in a relatively weak movie, Willis continues on his search for the next big thing in his career. On the other hand, Morgan shines in “30 Rock” but should be working on getting roles in better movies if he wants to see his career continue to rise. In “Cop Out” Morgan sometimes tries too hard to be funny, and it can go from amusing to tiring really quickly. The first scene makes this very clear, but the rest of the movie keeps up a good pace and doesn’t over do its own jokes.

“Cop Out” also counts on the appearance of Adam Brody and Seann William Scott, the latter being one of the main sources of laughter. Brody plays one of the rival officers that Jimmy and Paul work with, and still has that slight awkwardness that made audiences first love him in “The O.C.” Scott also does a hilarious job as a hyperactive drug addict that robs houses to sustain his habit. His participation accounts for some of the funniest scenes. The combination of different characters and the way they interact with one another, each in their own

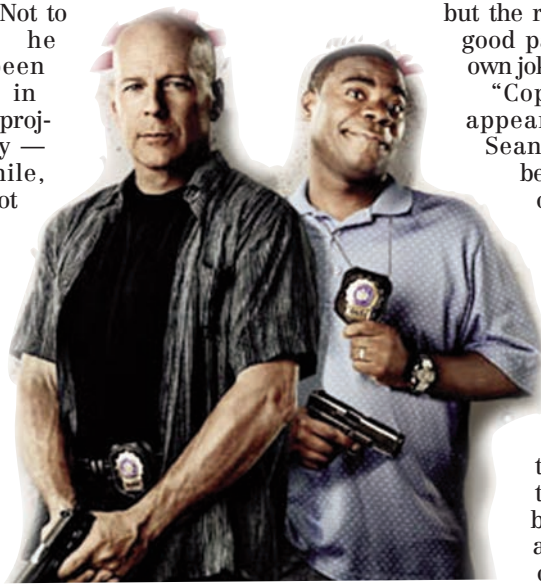
very unique style, adds a lot of fun to the movie.

Definitely more of a “dude movie,” “Cop Out” combines inappropriate jokes, foul language and violence in a police-versus-drug dealer setting. The auxiliary characters also contribute by adding a touch of ridiculousness to the overall plot. Not even close to being the best movie of the year, “Cop Out” is an unintelligent comedy with predictable jokes. However, if you feel like letting your brain rest (and if you’re a dude), grab a beer, sit back and enjoy.

Contact Tatiana Spragins at
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“Cop Out”
Warner Bros.

Directed by: Kevin Smith
Starring: Bruce Willis, Tracy Morgan
and Seann William Scott



Author’s Note: This story was originally a recap of Wrestlemania XXVI, which took place on Sunday night. After writing my first draft, I realized the potential audience of that story was only slightly bigger than the group of four guys with whom I regularly watch World Wrestling Entertainment (WWE). Instead, the piece transformed into a defense of professional wrestling illustrated by Sunday night’s event.

Nicholas Anderson

Assistant Scene
Editor

Professional wrestling is fake — but so is pretty much every show, movie and commercial on television. Tom Hanks never actually stormed the beaches of Normandy, Ross and Rachel never actually got back together and John Cena didn’t actually defeat Batista Sunday night for the world title of a legitimate sporting organization.

The vast majority of wrestling fans knows this, but chooses to watch anyway. While wrestling’s audience may be skewed towards what is thought of as the “Nascar” demographic, it is by no means because they are fooled by the action on the screen. Instead, just like any other fiction fans, they are drawn in by the story lines and athleticism.

However, just because all the matches are predetermined doesn’t mean wrestling is entirely faked. The wrestlers spend most of the year on the road in cramped quarters with a small group of fellow performers. Bad blood is bound to arise.

One of the most famous examples of real world animosity spilling into wrestling storylines was the “Montreal Screw job” in 1997. Bret Hart, the reigning world champion and one of the most popular performers in the business, was supposed to win his last pay-per-view match before leaving the WWE because of WWE’s financial troubles.

Vince McMahon, the CEO of WWE, as well as a frequent performer, arranged for Hart to

win the match before resigning and handing over the title. McMahon later decided to change the outcome of the match without informing Hart. Under McMahon’s orders, the ref called the match early.

McMahon’s betrayal was real, as was Hart’s exclusion from the WWE. By the time Hart was introduced into the wrestling Hall of Fame in 2006, the personal feud between the two had ended. Earlier this year, Hart made his professional return in the ring with old wounds fresh in his mind. After several weeks of build up, Hart spent Sunday night giving McMahon the beat down he deserved over a decade ago. The excellent mesh of real and scripted emotion provided the WWE with one of the better story lines in recent memory as well as a great match at Wrestlemania.

Professional wrestling is at a unique moment in its history. Two decades ago, wrestling was in its heyday. Superstars embodied by Hulk Hogan had transcended the sport and spilled over into family movies and Sunday morning cartoons. It was family entertainment even if it was lower class.

As big names defected to rival wrestling company World Championship Wrestling (WCW), WWE started experimenting with crass, often sexual storylines. This new direction proved to be a disaster, furthering the popularity of WCW while decreasing the influence of wrestling in popular culture as a whole.

WCW was eventually bought out by WWE as it attempted to return to its former glory. Total Nonstop Action, the most recent start up, is quickly hiring former superstars to build its roster and directly compete with WWE.

The best analogy to professional wrestling is a soap opera: the acting is sub-par and the storylines tend to be cheesy, but the elements work more often than not. Pro wrestling provides entertainment that is second to none.

The views expressed in this Column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer.

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NDSMCIMONABOAT.COM

FCC bans Revue from America



Oh, Canada! The United States government has banned the Keenan Revue from its soil, citing its content to be incongruent with the nation's mission statement.

Organizers say they plan to relocate show to Canada

By SUBWAY JARED
Perpetual Optimist

After weeks of internal meetings and wild speculations across the country as to its fate, the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) has taken the bold step of banning the Keenan Revue from the United States.

The FCC said they no longer believe the Keenan Revue to be in line with the mission statement of the nation.

"We could just no longer stand by while those hooligans from Keenan Hall presented caricatures of what United States citizens are

like," FCC commissioner Julius Menachowski said. "The only way we will ever be able to promote virtuous citizens is to completely ignore the way they act and bury our heads in the sand."

Former Keenan revue directors Flim Fleat and Stanny Zeeland, surprised by the government's decision, vowed to continue the fight to keep the Revue in the country.

The two promised to appeal the decision all the way to the Supreme Court.

"Really?" Fleat said. "Really?"

Zeeland echoed his statement, wondering why the FCC even cared.

"All we did was have a few

sketches about how some Americans are fat and lazy," Zeeland said. "I did not realize that it would be such a big deal."

The FCC claimed its actions were not reactionary and that they had been planning this change for years.

"The Commission finds the unpatriotic nature of the skits as well as the inappropriate references to fatness of American citizens to be incongruent with the United State's mission and values," Menachowski said. "Our government strives to treat all individuals as if they are incapable of committing embarrassing, amusing or

see HUMORLESS/page 3

RV Hall of Fame follows chicken chain to Atlanta

Administrators say that move is unrelated to College Football Hall of Fame's relocation

By KARL BERSTEIN
More of a Legend than an Actual Employee

The RV and Motor Home Hall of Fame announced they will move from Elkhart to Atlanta, effective July 1.

The move follows the College Football Hall of Fame's move to the Georgia capital, but the moves are unrelated, according to motor home guru "Cousin" Sal Chesterson.

"Our employees and visitors at the RV Hall of Fame need us some Chick-fil-A," Chesterson said. "Atlanta said they'd give us a year supply if we moved South."

Guests at the Hall of Fame Tuesday were unconcerned by the move.

"I'd walk 500 miles, and I would walk 500 more to get to the RV Hall of Fame," visitor Gomer Pyle said.

Pyle's wife reminded him he wouldn't need to walk because they could take their RV.

The Hall of Fame expects the move will net them an additional 200 visitors a day, Chesterson said.

"The thing about us RVers is that we love us our chicken," Chesterson said.

Chesterson said he hopes the Hall of Fame's stay in Elkhart has convinced Hoosiers to pursue RVing as a way of life.

Elkhart resident Reginald Hoffman decided to sell his home when he retired to buy an RV

see RVS/page 3



BOB SWEDLACK / The Absurder The RV Hall of Fame is loading up the trailers for a move to Atlanta. Hall of Fame administrators say they want to be closer to the Chick-fil-A headquarters.

Female suspected of breaking rules

NDSP reports school's first parietals violation

Absurder Staff Report

Notre Dame Security Police (NDSP) has released a sketch of a female fugitive alleged to have violated parietals in Zahm Hall the morning of March 30.

If the allegations prove true, it would mark the first parietals violation in the University's storied 168-year history.

According to NDSP and multiple witnesses, a female student, clad

see PARIETALS/page 5



Sketch courtesy of NDSP

STUDENT GOVERNMENT

Tweens to assume top student gov positions

By GLENN O'REILLY
Fair and Balanced

Kathy Sunshine and Anthony Belltower will be inaugurated as student body president and vice president today, taking over for Bob&Grant Dotcom and Grynthia.

The election of Sunshine and Belltower was not without controversy, as a growing number of students claim

that Sunshine attends Saint Mary's College.

"There is no proof that Sunshine actually goes to Notre Dame," Gwen Deck, the organizer of the group of concerned students, said. "Her name isn't even Katie!"

The Irish Poodle, that campus's biweekly watchdog, called for Sunshine's impeachment because she's not a true Domer.

see TWEENS/page 5

INSIDE COLUMN

Bravo, Tiger!

You all are just jealous.

You go home to your slightly overweight spouses and your obnoxious children who constantly force you to question your decision to procreate. Tiger goes home to blonde bombshell Elin, and when he doesn't, he has the pick of the litter of gorgeous women at his beck and call.

You and your buddies golf on Saturday afternoons, hacking from bunker to bunker and carding a gentleman's 118. Tiger drops a 3-wood with the accuracy of a cruise missile a foot from the pin on national television and winks at the busty brunette near the 14th green, knowing that after he wins the tournament he'll put Elin and the kids to bed and then skedaddle on over to her place.

You are affected by the recession. He isn't. You don't get free Nike gear and Buicks. He does. He got to visit the troops and hit golf balls off the deck of the U.S.S. George Washington. You didn't.

You wish you were him.

He's probably in his hotel at Augusta right now with a pile of tabloids and gossip magazines in front of him, and every time he reads about himself he grins.

"Check."
"Count it."
"She was sooooo worth it."

Don't tell me for one second you don't want to have an affair with a dozen-plus porn stars and cocktail waitresses. That's a dozen-plus chances to use the built-in pick-up lines inherent in being a golfer.

"I go longer than anyone on tour."
"You know, my driver has quite the stiff shaft."
"I put it in the hole better than anyone in the world."

He bagged so many women he took the show on the road — literally, hence the, ahem, loss of control that ended his Hummer when he hit a fire hydrant. The car, a Cadillac Escalade, was empty other than Tiger when Elin got there, but you do the math.

In fact, by that point Tiger wanted the world to know just how much of a badass he was. Plus, how hard could it be to score tail in a sexaholics clinic? Speaking of which, Elin isn't innocent either. Since Tiger's new base of operations is in Mississippi, she's been staying with Brett Favre. After a couple of glasses of red wine with Brett and Deanna, she could slip inside his Wranglers in no time.

He hoodwinked us all with his "apologies," pretending to be deeply saddened by his actions and ready to work on his marriage. He's up there saying things like "I am far short of perfect," all the while hiding a smile, thinking, "I'd like to thank the Academy," surreptitiously checking his BlackBerry to see if Shawna from the bar got back to him about tonight.

He's not going anywhere. He'll come out next week, shoot a nine-under despite the boos and raise his arms on the 18th green as if to say, "You wish you were me." Then he'll moonwalk off the green and into the waiting arms of several loose women, accompanied by Elin.

Because even she has to be saying, well done, sir. Well done.

The views expressed in this Inside Column seem to be pretty sound, no?

SHOUTOUTS

Hi mom, dad and Alex!

QUESTION OF THE DAY: NERVOUS ABOUT JOB SECURITY IN THIS ECONOMY?



Sean Junkins
Billionaire Mogul, C.S.C

I'm tenured.



Gnarlie Rice
Former Irish Football Coach

Budget cutbacks cost me my job.



Bike Pray
Former Irish Basketball Coach

My postseason performances speak for themselves.



Kelli Bryan
Freshman Knott Hall

I have a second job at Reckers just in case.



Mac Swartick
Has really hot daughters

Again, I have really hot daughters. So no.



CENSORED BY THE UNIVERSITY OFFICE OF PREVENTION OF THE VIEWING OF NAKED BODIES
In crystal clear detail, University President Fr. Sean Junkins is captured streaking through campus, part of a so-called 'bun run' with his dorm.

USELESS THINGS MAYBE YOU'RE INTERESTED IN, MAYBE NOT

Cristal to begin production on canned wine

The South of, FRANCE — Cristal, the official French champagne of aristocrats and rappers alike, has announced a new line of canned wine set for an early 2011 domestic release.

"The bottle was just getting cumbersome, particularly for some of our consumers who often require free hands to easily grab weapons, and grope females," producer Louis Roederer said.

The can will also allow for Cristal to easily be consumed in mass quantities.

A 30-pack of 12-oz cans is expected to retail for \$64,000, and will be available exclusively through Belmont Beverage.

NBC to renew 'MILF Island' for a second season

NEW YORK — NBC Sheinheart Universal Vice President Jack Donaghy has announced that the critically acclaimed and award winning reality television show featuring sexy moms, teenage boys and no rules, will be back for a second season.

But this time, the game will change, and the MILFs will have to adjust. In addition to the first season's 15 MILFs and 50 eighth grade boys, 5 DILFs and 25 tweens will be added into the mix.

The season, which will film over the next three years in Cambodia, is scheduled to premiere during sweeps in 2015.

Sorry about so many 30 Rock references, but it's hard to try to write jokes for this. Especially when most people at The Absurder aren't funny. I hope you understand.

LITTLE BITS OF NEWS

Former Tonight Show host Conan O'Brien has signed a contract to host NDTV's **Late Night ND** in the Legends Restaurant for the next two years. Try to stop by some time, unless you have homework.

If you've got a couple hundred cold-ish beers sitting around, a **Grand Prix** is the thing to do these days.

If anyone could find out if I'm still **banned for life from The Backer**, I'd really appreciate it. It's not that I want to go or anything, I just need to know that I could if I wanted to.

The password for **Club Fever** this Thursday is 'fidelio'. Get there before eleven, and be sure to bring a mask.

Apparently there's some **God Debate** coming up. Like everyone else I don't really know anything about it, but **man am I opinionated!**

The weather is going to be nice this weekend. Fitting, since you're leaving town for **Easter Break**.

If you're interested in actual things that are happening on campus, just read the real paper.

DRINKING FORECAST

	TODAY	TONIGHT	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	EASTER	MONDAY
High	72	-	74	74	73	69
Low	49	-	53	51	51	41

Seriously. The weather's going to be sweet this week. Listen to the Sun in the Wayfarers.

GOP: President Baraka Rama is anti-Christ

Terri Randyl protests, claiming commander-in-chief is 'only Satan'; student government tries to put itself at center of story

Devil's News Service

Nearly a quarter of registered Republicans believe that United States president Baraka Rama is the anti-Christ, according to a poll released last week.

The poll's findings came as no surprise to many Republican leaders.

"I've been saying he's the anti-Christ for years," conservative radio talker Brush Bimbaugh said.

Democrats retort that Rama's morals prove he isn't the anti-Christ. "If anyone's the anti-Christ, it would be [Republican South Carolina governor] Sark Manford," one Democratic strategist said.

Not all voters are convinced that a political figure is the anti-Christ. "Rama can't be the anti-Christ because it's always been my dream to be the anti-Christ," Chicago resident Lucifera Beelzebub said. "These people are trying to kill my dreams."

It is unclear how the results of the poll will affect November's midterm elections, but some political analysts think that Satan worshippers will now be more likely to vote for Democrats.

If Rama is the anti-Christ, each party will have a figure with ties to the dark side, according to Harry Potter Web site founder H.P. Sparks. "Republicans are for Voldemort, and now Democrats are for Rama," Sparks said, citing the long-standing rumor that former vice president Mick Churnley is the Dark Lord.

Conservative talk show host Benn Deck supported the results of the poll on his Fox

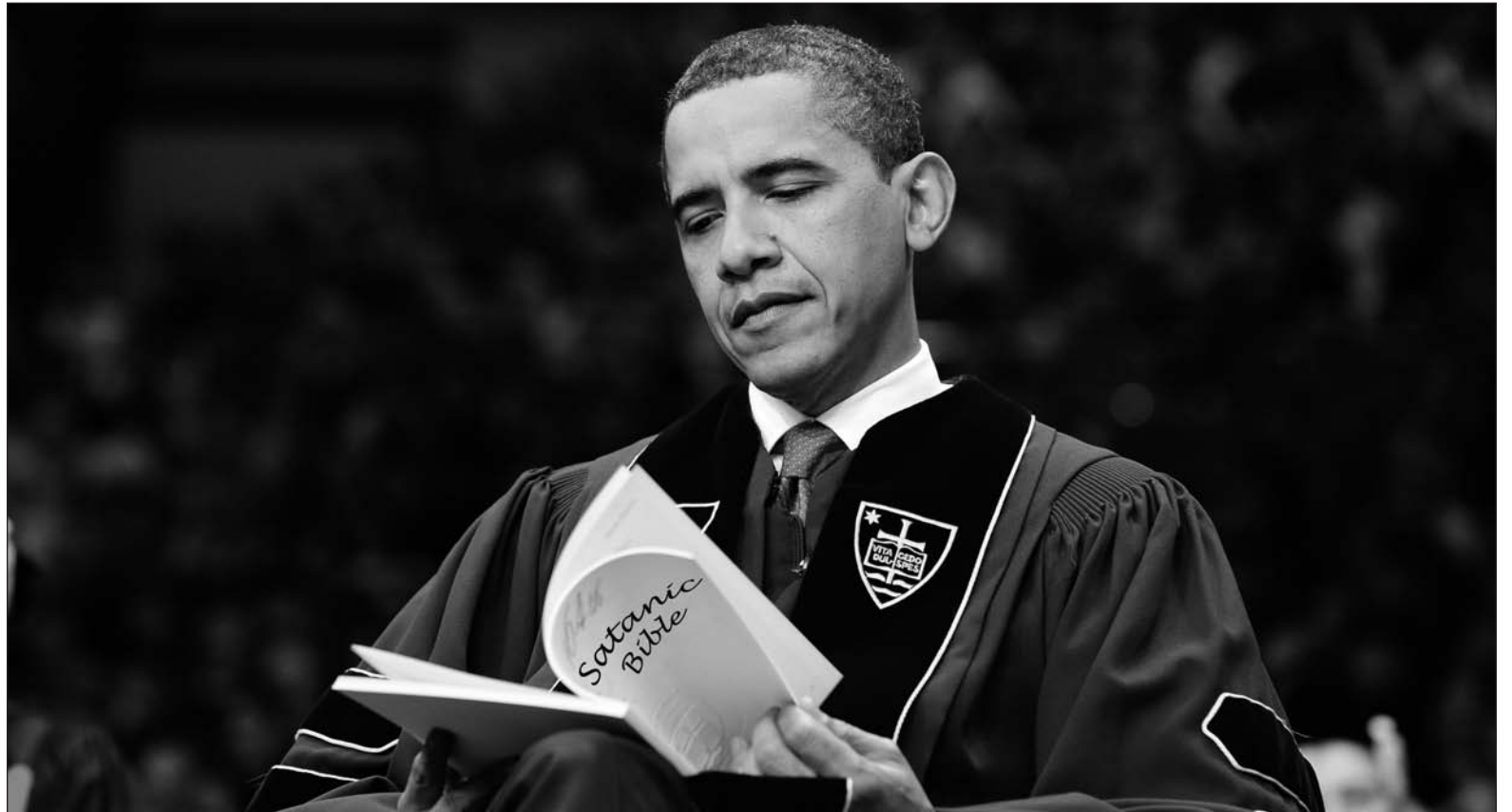


Photo courtesy of Donny Rumsfeld

President Baraka Rama read his satanic "bible" instead of paying attention when he waited to deliver his speech at Notre Dame's 2009 Commencement ceremony. According to a recent poll, almost a quarter of the GOP believes he is the anti-Christ.

"We can't create a task force without a semicolon in the name."

Katie McKaterson
CLC member

News show last night. "I've always know that Rama is 24 percent anti-Christ, and now this is our proof," Deck said.

The poll launched another round of protests on the campus of Notre Dame, where Rama spoke at the 2009 Commencement ceremony.

Terri Randyl, who led the 2009 protests at Notre Dame, is boycotting the current protests because he thinks University

president Fr. Sean Junkins is the true anti-Christ. "Rama is Satan, but Junkins is the anti-Christ," Randyl said.

University spokesman Denny Blue said Notre Dame does not endorse the coming of the anti-Christ, but stands by Rama as president. "Fr. Sean and the officers of the University are anti-anti-Christ," Blue said. "But the University respects President Rama's status as a world leader, and doesn't believe that he's the anti-Christ."

Notre Dame student leaders are still unsure of how they will address the results of the poll.

Student body president Bob&Grant Dotcom suggested

creating a task force to address the poll at Monday's meeting of the Campus Life Council (CLC). Council members approved of the task force in principle, but ultimately tabled the issue until next week's meeting because the student leaders couldn't agree on a name for the committee.

"I want to use a semicolon the name of the task force," CLC member Katie McKaterson said. "We can't create a task force without a semicolon in the name."

After initially supporting the task force, Dotcom is now hesitant. "I'm going to bring it up in the Council of Representatives meeting tomorrow, and urge

members to ask their constituency groups what we should do," Dotcom said.

Dotcom is also considering asking students to vote on who they believe is the anti-Christ. "If we conduct a mock election, we'll know the opinion of the students," Dotcom said. "That will allow us as student leaders to make a more informed decision on behalf of the student body."

Not all students plan to vote in the mock election. "I don't even know who Bob&Grant Dotcom is," one student, speaking on the condition of anonymity because he might have worked on a group project with Dotcom last semester, said.

RVs

continued from page 1

because of the Hall of Fame. "I could have retired to Florida, but I bought an RV so now I've retired to the world," Hoffman said.

Although the move is not expected to affect Notre Dame, University President Fr. Sean Junkins expressed his personal disappointment with the situation. "I like nothing more than road-tripping in my RV," he said.

Junkins is rumored to travel in an extra-wide RV trailer that is furnished with imported Italian marble floors. He was hoping that his motor home would be nominated for the Hall of Fame after it retired.

Now, however, Junkins is concerned that supporting the Hall of Fame would send the wrong message to the Northern Indiana community.

"We don't want to support an institution that betrayed Michianans," Junkins said.

Now that the two hall of fames are leaving the state, observers are concerned that other local landmarks will look for an escape route.

Junkins was quick to disspell

fears that Notre Dame will be the next to move. "We love Northern Indiana, and we're not going anywhere," he said.

He followed his statement by donating \$10 million to the cities of South Bend, Elkhart and Mishawaka.

Saint Mary's College president Carrie Mindy refused to comment if her institution of higher learning is looking for a new location.

Mindy is seeking a cash donation from Junkins to stay in the South Bend area, according to a source within her administration.

"We need someone to pay for our sidewalks to be shoveled," the source said.

The College currently does not shovel its sidewalks after snowstorms because it claims that the retired Holy Cross nuns who live on campus are responsible for groundskeeping.

"If we join the hall of fames in Atlanta, we won't need to shovel our sidewalks," the source in Mindy's office said.

A spokesman for the city of South Bend said the city will not fight to keep Saint Mary's in the region. "If they get a football team, we'll support their institution," the spokesman said.

Contact Karl Bernstein through Deep Throat.

A 5-year-old's alternative uses for The Absurder:

1. Killing flies
2. Toilet paper
3. Napkins
4. Making spitballs

THE ABSURDER

The Independent, Yearly Newspaper Mocking Notre Dame and Saint Mary's

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POLICIES

The Absurder claims nothing in this paper to be true. Anything you read in this special section is not subject to review of the Notre Dame administration. We hope it will remain that way.

Questions regarding Absurder policies are inane. Shut the hell up and go home.

POST OFFICE INFORMATION

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The fight against health care

America was founded on the idea that those who make the laws must do so with the consent of the governed. President Baraka Rama's blatant disregard for consent in driving through the recent health care bill pimp-slaps this precedent in the face, and as such, we on The Absurder editorial board reject the concept of health care in this country.

You want health care, go to Canada. They give it away like candy on Halloween up there. In America, we believe

health care is a communist undertaking that forces supposedly free citizens to accept treatment for illness and injury. Never mind the fact that it will cost just south of a trillion dollars, raise premiums and increase taxes on the wealthy. It's a socialist gambit. The same bill could have come from the Kremlin in 1954.

What happened to "walk it off" and "rub some dirt on it?" Those are the sentiments America used to believe in. The downfall started years ago, when ibuprofen and similar pain relief medi-

cine became available over the counter. Now surgeries, cancer treatment and prescription medicine are all provided to us for a sharply reduced rate. And even worse, by 2019 almost everyone in the country will have access to it.

The concept of health in this country has lost all credibility. Twenty-five percent of the country smokes and 15.3 million Americans have sexually transmitted diseases (we're looking at you, Louisiana, which leads the country in syphilis cases

and is a close second to Mississippi in Gonorrhoea). Health care will not save these poor souls.

Studies show the attempt to stay healthy only hurts Americans more. A Brookings Institution review in 2008 showed that 83 percent of Americans who ate a carrot in the previous two weeks contracted some form of hepatitis in the next six months. In a similar study, conducted by McDonalds, those who ate at least two double cheeseburgers a week or more remained hepatitis-free.

During the founding of this country, doctors would slice open arteries and let the blood flow to cure fever and rubbed scabs from dead smallpox victims in open wounds to prevent the spread of the disease. They did it without ever raising premiums or running a deficit. Let us return to a time of health-care simplicity, where a Band-Aid and a shot of Johnnie Walker can cure most maladies.

A recent Harris poll showed that 24 percent of Americans believe Rama is the anti-Christ and we cannot believe the number is not higher. The prophecies are coming true, one by one, and America is too blind and stupid to realize it. In I John 2:18, the Bible warns, "Little children, it is the last time: and as ye have heard that anti-Christ shall come ... from Chicago by way of Hawaii." Or potentially Kenya. How can we allow this monster to be in charge of our physical well-being?

So stand up for yourselves. Don't floss your teeth, eat too much cholesterol and continue having unprotected sex with morally questionable people. It's all in the name of fighting the good fight — the fight against health care.

THE ABSURDER Editorial

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Brians is a disgrace

To the Editor:

I'm writing in protest of Our Lady's University's latest disgrace. Some of the things I've heard about William Brians are contrary to the way I feel about major issues. As a result, he should not be allowed on these hallowed grounds, let alone receive an honorary degree from this University I am not in any way affiliated with.

I see right through Brians' guise of "journalism." Some of the "news" he reports deals with topics I'd rather not acknowledge. Sure I could just not tune in, but for some strange reason I also feel compelled to spend all of my free time convincing the whole world to feel exactly the same way I do.

I care so strongly about this cause that I'm going to inten-

tionally do illegal things that will likely get me arrested. It's not going to accomplish anything, but I hope you'll join me next week some time!

Let's gather enough money to fly a helicopter above campus, pulling along some banner that all other people will find offensive. Since I have no affiliation with this university, I don't have any qualms about my actions affecting it negatively.

Please sign a protest and visit my several Web sites. I get 5 cents a hit, so if you have the time, just keep refreshing.

Terri Randyl

Activist unrelated with Notre Dame

Mar. 31

Dancin' with the devil

As Catholics and scholars, we at Notre Dame already know a few surefire ways to sentence ourselves to eternal damnation: the consumption of steak sandwiches on Lenten Fridays, the engagement in premarital sex and of course the support of socialist dictators. One gray area about which many a seemingly religious Catholic student is apparently confused, however, is the visitation of the popular Friday student hang-out, Minny's, also known as the Carney Stone.

A simple observation of this sinful spectacle reveals sweaty young men and women gyrating to Satan's song, drinking a vile mixture of potent energy drinks and liquor and, worst of all, dancing atop the counter from which the wicked beverage is provided.

An innocuous weekend hot spot? That is what students have been led to believe. Simply setting foot in

this despicable hellhole, however, is in fact akin to mortal sin, and those who engage in it might as well forget about their chances of meeting St. Peter at the pearly gates.

Until the Anglican Lambeth Conference of 1930, no Christian denomination had ever held that consumption of alcohol and interaction with fellow youth could be objectively right [ALC 4.2.732 (1930)]. Minny's is both embracing and encouraging both of these evils.

The self-evident principle of the natural law is, in St. Thomas Aquinas' words, that "good is to be done and promoted and evil is to be avoided." Therefore, young scholars, I implore you, after a rest on your typical Friday afternoon, before following your fellow sinners to Minny's, ask yourself, what would Jesus do? Consider your pious alternatives. Revisit your favorite Bible passages. Tune into your preferred Fox News program. Call your grandmother.

Anything but a visit to the Devil's dance floor.

Mary Kate Donahue

Right or Rover?

ABSURDER POLL

Do parietals prevent you from thinking about the opposite sex?

(A) Yes.

(B) Most of the time.

Vote by paper ballot in the University president's office.

Submit a Letter
to the Editor at
GiveASchmidt.com

QUOTE OF THE DAY

"We're Notre Dame, and people don't have water."

Grynthia
student body vice president

OMG! Campus juice, not from concentrate

◆University President Fr. Sean Junkins was seen at Belmont Beverages shortly before St. Patrick's Day. Although the contents of his purchase are unknown, OMG! hears that Junkins' drink of choice is iced tea.

◆Student body president Bob&Grant Dotcom urged leaders of Notre Dame to distribute bottles of Jack Daniels Tennessee Whiskey to students at Tuesday's closed-door meeting of the Council of Representatives. "Your constituency groups need something to brush their teeth with when they wake up feelin' like P. Diddy," Dotcom said.

OMG! Gossip

◆It was a star-studded afternoon at the Huddle when Athletic Director Mac Swartrick was caught shopping. Swartrick promised Huddle management he would buy a daily chocolate milk chug to make up for lost revenue after football coach Gnarlie Wise was fired last year.

◆Director of duLac Enforcement Geoff Store and his staff frequent South Dining Hall for lunch, taking advantage of the \$5 meals for faculty and staff.

◆Dotcom and student body vice president Grynthia may be dating.

◆This just in: OMG! learned that all classes taught by tap-dancing anthropology professors are easy.

◆Alanis Morissette and Regina Spektor will perform together at AcoustiCafe next month. They are expected to sign a contract to waitress at Legends after the show.

◆Wise was seen on a Southwest flight from Chicago to Kansas City Sunday. Wise used to fly

on United, but switched to Southwest after United discontinued its on-board peanut service.

◆Harry Potter aficionado H.P. Sparks got engaged last spring on the United Center Jumbotron. That sparked OMG! to make a list of places where we wouldn't want to get engaged:

1. Any South Bend bar (apologies to the people who put a ring on it at Mulligan's on St. Patrick's Day)
2. At a sporting event
3. Our place of employment (the SDH basement smells bad)
4. A dorm party
5. To anyone I don't like
6. At the dining hall (unless it was to my favorite card-swiper)

◆Maybe ND Response's problem with Junkins was more about his wardrobe than his choice for Commencement speaker. OMG!'s favorite biweekly watchdog captioned a picture of Junkins by urging readers to "note the digital wristwatch" in its reunion edition last year. No word if The Watchdog was similarly vigilant with incoming student body vice president Anthony Belltower.

◆OMG! thinks we might frequent the Backer too much. We're starting to recognize the middle-aged townies on the South Bend bar scene. Worse yet, we knew some of them when they were undergrads. No one likes them now that they're 23.

◆An intoxicated tipster told OMG! that Pasquerella West is the new Rome. "All roads lead to P-Dub," Katie McKaterson said.

◆The Observer's male assistant managing editor from the 2009-2010 term isn't working on The Absurder because he's at his spinning class.

Parietals

continued from page 1

in an oversized male T-shirt and athletic shorts, was spotted stumbling from an unknown dorm room to a male bathroom on the residence hall's third floor at approximately 3:15 a.m. on March 30. On weeknights, parietals begin promptly at midnight, leaving authorities puzzled as to how the female

suspect could have been present in the all-male residence hall at that time.

Details of the incident are still largely unknown, and Zahm residents are keeping quiet, citing the Hall's strict "Bros Before Hos" oath. The few witness of the incident that talked to The Absurder under the condition of anonymity said only that the female was "a'ight," and had an "average face" but a "sweet rack."

Still, to the Office of Residence Life and Housing, which

enforces the parietal regulations, how the violation could have ever happened remains a mystery.

"We put out duLac so students know the rules. Parietals is a rule," director of ORLH Geoff Store said. "How could this student dent have violated one of our rules? It just doesn't make any sense."

Anyone who has any information about the incident, or the possible motives behind it, is asked to call or text NDSP at 513-519-8808.

**The Absurder hates the environment.
Please just throw us on the quad, along with any other aluminum, plastic or garbage you may find.**

Humorless

continued from page 1

lascivious acts." The loss of the venue in the United States was a big blow for the Revue, which as always relied upon an American audience with an actual sense of humor.

Ninety-eight percent of the Revue's audience, apparently, is made up of Americans.

"I was very disappointed that the FCC chose to ban our event from the country," Keenan rector Fr. Fran Dolan said. "America is the best country in the world. It is going to be difficult to find another country that accommodates us so well."

American citizens themselves said they enjoy the humor, citing the Revue as an appropriate opportunity to identify the absurd activities in which they and their countrymen engage

Despite these arguments, the FCC is steadfast in its desire to remove all humor and amusement from the country.

"Jokes are no laughing matter," Menachowski said.

Undaunted, organizers plan to move the Revue to Windsor, Ontario, Canada

and are hopeful to attract a whole new target audience.

"Based on the closing ceremonies of the Olympics in Vancouver, we have some pretty big comedic shoes to fill," Fleat said. "I don't know if we can top William Shatner and inflatable moose and beavers, but we will try."

"Why don't they go after other countries that deserve to be made fun of, like England or Djibouti?"

**Mari Todtiguez
pro-American activist**

When asked what specific jokes especially troubled the FCC, they cited disparaging remarks that were directed only directly at their constituents.

"It is not ok for the Keenan Revue to target us Americans," pro-American activist Mari Todtiguez said. "Why don't they go after other countries that deserve to be made fun of, like England or Djibouti? English girls are really fat and have horrible teeth."

The Keenan Revue is known for its ability to make fun of everyone, from Americans to Canadians to Brazilians, yet the FCC seems determined to protect the United States' image from any kind of taint or perceived flaw.

FCC officials say they will not change their minds, even if that means doing their best to silence free speech.

Contact Subway Jared at jared@eharmony.com

Tweens

continued from page 1

"A vegan can't be student body president at Our Lady's University," a Poodle staffer said.

The group of concerned students, which primarily consists of Poodle staffers and outsiders with no ties to the University, has threatened to boycott Notre Dame football, NBC and the Republic of Ireland if Sunshine is allowed to take office.

Sunshine might be working with an enemy "that hates Notre Dame," Deck said.

The University investigated the claims that Sunshine isn't actually a Notre Dame student, according to spokesman Denny Blue.

"We found that Sunshine is a student," Blue said. "She pays tuition and attends classes."

Deck and The Poodle were not convinced by Blue's defense of the new president. "We want to see her tuition bill and transcript," Deck said. "Even then, how will we know it's not a forgery?"

Dotcom is defending his replacement as the deserving student body president. "The student body has spoken, and they want Sunshine and Belltower as leaders of Notre Dame," Dotcom said.

Dotcom initially considered conducting a survey to determine if the majority of students believe Sunshine is a Notre Dame student, but was informed that last month's election already gauged the student body's opinion on the president-elect.

Sunshine herself is unfazed by the controversy. "I just want to break loose the sky and let love grow love,"

Sunshine said.

Dotcom still hopes to appear on the front page of The Observer at least once a week until he graduates.

"My picture has been in The Observer every day since I took over as student body president two years ago," he said.

Dotcom said the key to his success as student body president was his relationship with The Absurder.

"Editor-in-Chief Jersey Mets and I work really well together," he said.

Grynthia had long intended to run for student body president herself, but decided to step aside to pursue her musical career.

She is also in negotiations to star in a reality show called "Grynthia's Alabama" with NDTV.

When Grynthia dropped out of the race, it paved the way for Sunshine's win.

Student government analysts were originally concerned that Sunshine could not win because she and Belltower are too young.

"Who'd vote for 14-year-olds," said one Dotcom administration staffer, speaking on the condition of anonymity because she is applying to work for Sunshine.

Dotcom said he hopes that Sunshine and Belltower can deliver as much to Notre Dame students as he has.

He cited his recent proposal to legalize drinking games on campus as an issue that he hopes Sunshine will pursue.

"I surveyed the student body, and students really want to be able to play beer pong on campus," Dotcom said. "You gotta give the people what they want."

Contact Glenn O'Reilly at 1-800-4-Jenny

Balls

continued from page 8

The 100th inaugural games were also tainted by accusations of liquor abuse by various countries throughout the event. "Pregaming is strictly forbidden," said IBC President Jacque Pussad. "It's an unfair advantage for every nation wishing to find an illegal advantage."

Junk

continued from page 8

uniforms will allow the Notre Dame brand to penetrate into several lucrative new demographics: MILFs, cougars, tweens who are mature for their age, and the physically attractive. "The University's always looking for new blood to solicit hefty donations from, and these new uniforms are opening our product up to entirely new fanbases."

NBC Sports Chairman Rick Parosol agreed. NBC, signed on to broadcast Irish home games through 2015, announced in a March 22 press release that it was "absolutely dropping the Irish from the schedule as soon as we can find passable filler". However, according to Parosol, the new uniforms change everything. "With the huge success NBC has had with its sexy new programming, "MILF Island" in particular, we couldn't be more thrilled to see the Irish showing a little skin on the field."

Though some have expressed concern over the lack of protection that the new uniforms will provide Notre Dame players, team physician Dr. Leo Spaceman disagrees. "Traditional football helmets and pads have been medically

Despite the multiple items of controversy, the Americans were happy to claim the upset win over many nations, including the favorite Canadians.

"After they victory in the Winter Olympics in hockey, they got real cocky," said U.S. captain Bruce Springer. "Now those b**es will never be our 51st state."

Contact Rob via Chatroulette after 11 p.m.

proven to amplify the force of hits by up to 50 times!" Spaceman said. "By removing the pads altogether, blows from opposing players will almost definitely bounce off our team's glistening muscles without ever causing any harm."

Irish coach Kelli Bryan, who coached all-conference defensive lineman Justin Timberlake at Grand Valley State, said he drew inspiration for the uniforms from the now-white singer-songwriter's lyrics. "There used to be all this focus about bringing the 'nasty' back to Notre Dame football. And that's just kind of gross, you know," said Bryan. "Frankly, the thing we really need to be bringing back ... is sexy."

Though the fashion show was closed to the public, a few female students, colloquially referred to as "jersey chasers," were in attendance.

"I totally just saw the outline of [model and former player Splurge Black's] junk!" some SMC freshman at the show squealed. "Aside from the chance to pretend we go to Notre Dame, these new uniforms are now the most compelling reason for me and my classmates to attend home football games."

Contact Calvin at the pool lobbying to shrink the women's swim team uniforms next

Snitch

continued from page 8

for his practice of vampirism and was forced to live the rest of his 800 years in the guise of a pious French Catholic. Storin's story was thought to be one of the original inspirations for Stephenie Meyer's "Twilight Saga."

Sources say the magical sport's dramatic return is related to the arrival of H.P. "The Chosen One" Sparks to the University in the fall of 2005. Sparks had been prophesied to vanquish the Dark Lord and chose Notre Dame because of its magical past to learn the secrets of the fabled headmaster, thought to communicate through portraits when muggles, or non-magic people, aren't paying attention.

Critics say Sparks' fame is suspicious, and that his high-grossing Web site, that explains the intricacies of the magical world, is in fact a hypnotic tool to encourage fans to deposit their hard-earned Galleons directly into his Gringotts account.

There are some students on campus who believed the legends confirmed by Swartrick's announcement prior to today's breaking news.

A Sept. 29, 2008 Letter to the Editor angrily accused The Absurder of displaying "a lack of awareness of the Quidditch culture on campus" and stated an underground non-magic student group known unofficially as the "Quidditch

Undergraduate Association For Fantasy-Loving Enthusiasts" (QUAFFLE) has been playing a land-based version of the sport at Notre Dame since Spring 2008 in celebration of the school's history. Sparks, playing the position of Seeker, captured the visible, human Snitch (running around a pitch in yellow clothing) with ease due to his actual magical ability.

Notre Dame's first official magical quidditch match in six centuries will be played in the airspace above the greater city of Los Angeles, pitting the Irish against the Southern University of California (SUC). The Irish will be flying the latest model of extremely expensive broomstick. The seven players, top international recruits, will don the latest in aerodynamic quidditch robes, that closely resemble the new uniforms for the football team (see above). Since Sparks matriculated in 2009, he will not be eligible to play, much to the disappointment of fans.

For those unfamiliar with the traditional rules, each Quidditch team normally consists of seven players: three Chasers, two Beaters, one Keeper and one Seeker. Full explanation of the rules can be found in J.K. Rowling's "Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone."

The battle between good and evil will take place in complete darkness and the exact location will not be disclosed, Swartrick said.

Contact Avery by owl post only please

h20

continued from page 8

Raiders organization."

Blausen impressed scouts at the combine, completing the 40-yard water-bucket pull in 11.36 seconds.

"He's a valuable addition to our staff," Raiders coach Dom Table said. "But if he doesn't pan out, I'll treat him like every member of my staff — I'll beat him senseless."

Word is Blausen's contract will be in the neighborhood of \$13,000 per season with a playoff bonus of \$6.3 million (since the Raiders won't get there).

Blausen's affinity for quality water has gotten him into trouble at times. In the fall, at CJs, a local South Bend bar, Blausen did not like the taste of a glass of water bought for him and made a snide remark. Oops. Moments later, Blausen was on the ground with a black eye.

"I'm a perfectionist," he said at the time. "I won't stand for substandard water."

Blausen has wanted to be a water boy ever since he was little, he said. He looked up especially to Bobby Boucher, famed water boy/linebacker for South Central Louisiana State University.

"Blausen, he — he got what it take," Boucher, a water boy analyst for ESPN, said. "He really distribute some high-quality H2O."

Former Irish coach Gnarlie Dice, known for grooming water boys who succeed in the NFL, said he was proud of Blausen's progression in the three years they worked together.

"When he started, he couldn't tell water from Gatorade," Wise said from Kansas City, site of his latest attempt to groom the next hydration

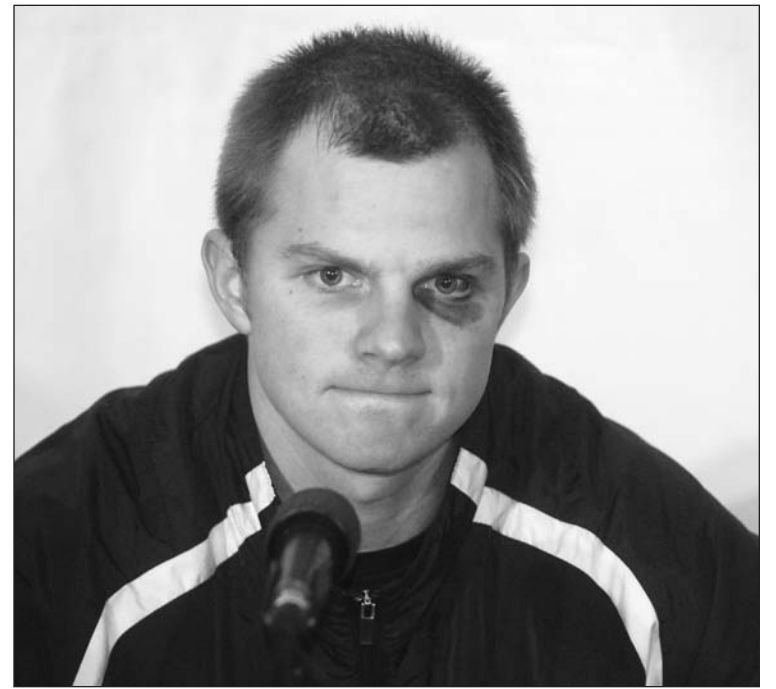


Photo courtesy of drunk chick's cell phone camera at CJ's

Talk smack about CJ's water, suffer the consequences: Blausen sports a shiner after refusing a drink.

wunderkind. "But once we had time to study the film, really work on the filtration, he really began to improve."

The fact that Blausen emerged as a first-round NFL pick came against the odds. His older brothers, KC and Dick, were both star water boys in college who never made it in the NFL.

"Neither of them had my looks, or my skill with the hoses," Blausen said in defense. "I can hydrate an entire defense in 45 seconds. What can they do?"

Current Irish coach Kelli Bryan said he wished he had Blausen's services for his inaugural season at Notre Dame. Bryan had to bring his own water boy with him from Cincinnati.

"But we're feeling positive about Dan Christ," Bryan said. "Blausen has done a great job giving him an example of how to go about putting in the time in the lab, getting the chemistry just

right."

Blausen played football for most of his childhood, starting at Oaks Christian High School in Westlake Village, Calif. But after offseason shoulder surgery, he decided against continuing his football career and opted for the hydratory arts.

"Notre Dame had enough good quarterbacks — Montana, Quinn, Hornung," he said. "I wanted to make a name for myself in a new field."

When he showed up at the College Football Hall of Fame in a stretch Hummer limo, some questioned his motivation. Was he here to perfect hydration or to be a showboat? But he said his career here speaks for itself.

"We went 16-21 while I was here," he said. "But was there ever a game where our players were thirsty? No. In

Contact Elin at Finny's while taking shots of liquid cocaine

THE IRISH ROVER

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Lenten Expressions: A God Fearin' Good Time

By **GOOD CATHOLIC**
Where's my technicolor dreamcoat?

Taking a page from the ever-successful event put on annually by student group La Alianza, the priests of Notre Dame are launching their own annual event celebrating Catholic culture and the resurrection of Christ, titled Lenten Expressions, which takes place this Sunday night at the Grotto.

"We were looking for a new way to get students excited about salvation and the Lenten season that unites us Catholics, and what better way to do that than an evening showcasing the best of Catholicism at Notre Dame?" said show director and Basilica rector Fr. Paul Socka.

The event features 12 different acts. Performers will include members of a variety of student groups, faculty from the theology department and numerous Holy Cross Priests.

"It's going to be about two hours of beautiful scripture recitations, reenactments of the Stations of the Cross, all concluding in a final act — a dazzling performance about the resurrection featuring the liturgical choirs, the priests of the Holy Cross and performers from around campus," Socka said.

Students attending confession at the Basilica of the Sacred Heart Tuesday said they were on pins and needles in anticipation.

"This probably will be the highlight of the year, better than that time we had cupcakes after dorm Mass," one said.

"I heard a rumor they got Christopher Hitchens to play Satan in one number, I'm sure it'll be awesome. I've been waiting for this event for 40 days!" another said.

It's been speculated that Lenten Expressions is also similar to its Latino counterpart in that it may function as a recruiting tool for young Catholics.

"Notre Dame's Catholic reputation has been hit hard in the past few years, so it's not a huge surprise they're trying to lure people in with a big event like this," one cynical student said. "But don't be fooled — this place isn't nearly as 'Catholic' as Lenten Expressions might make you think."

"This probably will be the highlight of the year, better than that time we had cupcakes after dorm Mass."

Student at confessions

Monologues flap? Don't think a show like this makes up for that kind of thing."

Socka denied that there were any ulterior motives behind the show, but said he did hope it "paints a positive picture of a vibrant Catholic culture at Notre Dame" in the minds of everyone, including prospective students.

The show will be emceed by guests from the local diocese, Bishop James F'Artsy and Bishop Keith Toads, Socka said.

"We're so pleased these two friends of Notre Dame agreed to lead the event," Socka said. "We enjoy a great friendship with these honorable men and were glad to invite them to participate."

Socka said the bishops

will also play a role in the finale, with F'Artsy playing the role of the Heavenly Father and Toads the role of Christ.

Toads will also star in a performance of the hit song "Rock Me Sexy Jesus" from the musical "Hamlet 2."

In another act, an interpretive dance of the Last Supper, University President Fr. Sean Junkins will assume the role of Judas. Peter will be played by Fr. Park Moorman, and various Holy Cross priests will assume the roles of the other apostles.

The campus chapter of the Knights of Columbus will also be at the event selling steak sandwiches and refreshments to the audience during the event.

"Every Friday for the past few weeks when I go to the dining hall, I've just been thinking to myself, 'you know, this abstinence thing will all be worth it when I get that steak sandwich at Lenten Expressions,'" one student said.

Socka said the event is all about making Lent more meaningful for non-Catholics, and celebrating Catholicity at Notre Dame.

"We want to get people pumped up and get them to celebrate this part of Notre Dame, and we figure a blowout event with music, dance and entertainment is a great way to do that," he said.

"Don't miss this event — it promises to be a highlight of the year."

Contact Good Catholic in the Basilica or at the Grotto

TEXT an insult to 513.519.8808

FOOTBALL

Irish unveil new uniforms

Team drops trou to lift revenue, jersey sales

By CALVIN KLEIN
Senior Undergarment Correspondent

When the Irish take to the gridiron in 2010, a \$2.25 increase in Stadium nacho prices won't be the only dramatic change awaiting fans. In a sexy, Absurder exclusive fashion show in the Loftus Sports Center Tuesday, the Athletic Department showcased the team's skimpy new digs for the upcoming season.

A departure from the college football staple of jerseys, pads and pants, the new uniforms utilize high-tech nanotechnology to shrink the entire cumbersome football ensemble into one tight, revealing piece.

"Notre Dame football has real-

ly strayed from its roots over the years," Director of Athletics Mac Swartrick said. "We've been so focused on unsuccessfully trying to win football games that we've forgotten about the only reason we have a football program in the first place: to make absurd amounts of money for (University President) Fr. Junkins and myself."

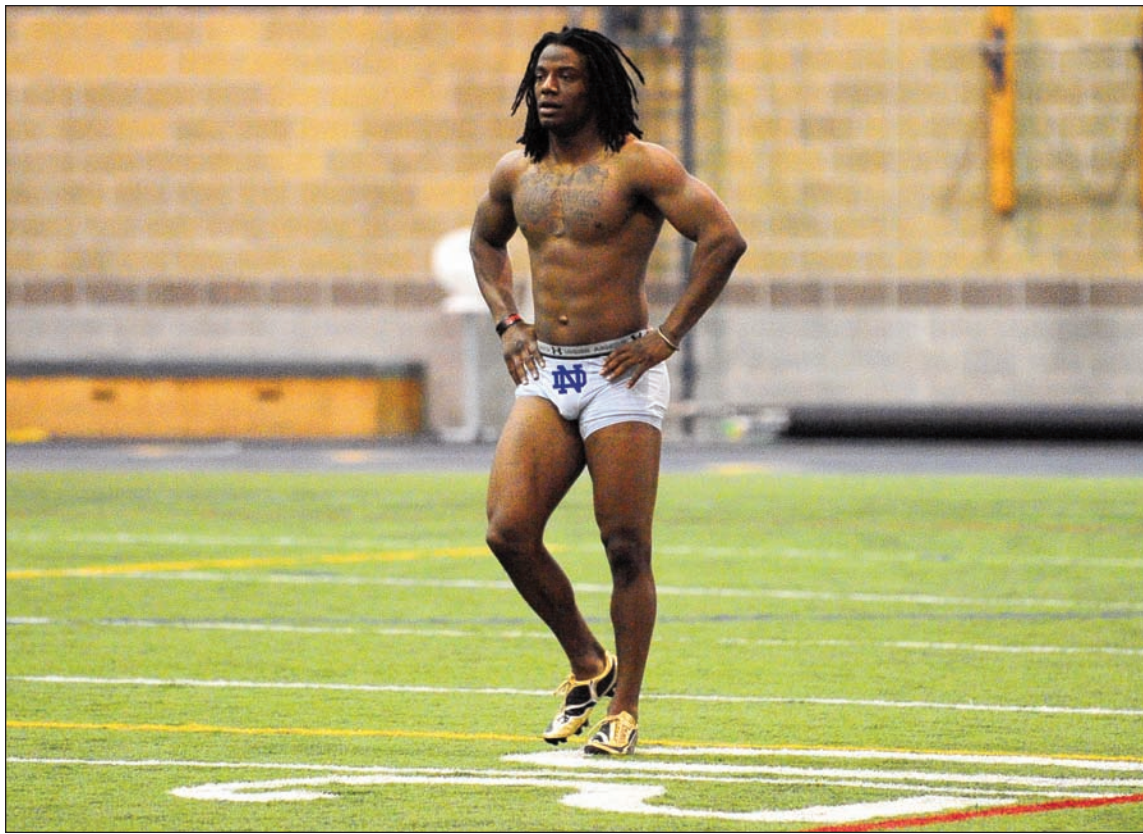
"Am I concerned about our practices continually breaking out into tickle fights? Of course. But it's spring, that stuff is in the air, you know?"

Kelli Bryan
Irish coach

"Thank God my vow of poverty doesn't apply to yachts," added Fr. Junkins. "The Spirit of Notre Dame [the recent, \$1.5 billion fund-raising campaign] let me christen my second yacht out in Cannes last spring ... I'm really hoping the profits from these new uniforms will get me my third."

Economics Department chair Jane Garlic said that the new uniforms will allow the Notre

see JUNK/page 6



Model and former Irish player Splurge Black struts his stuff on the artificial turf catwalk in the Loftus Sports Center during the football program's fashion show Tuesday. FORDE SATFOUR/The Absurder

BEER OLYMPICS

Americans get their balls wet, clinch spring games with pong

By ROB KOSTAS
Little man, big dreams

The 2010 Spring Beer Olympics was clinched this weekend by the United States, clinched with gold medals in beer pong and a boat race on the final day of competition.

The Americans clinched the gold medal over Djibouti and the Virgin Islands (playing independently) with their late wins, sealing their second consecutive

victory in the medal race after the '09 Fall Games in Athens.

"We couldn't be more proud of our country to bring home such a special honor," said freshman Jake Daniels. "It's been a dream of mine ever since I started drinking and flipped my first cup."

Daniels was an integral part of the U.S. victory, hitting seven of eight shots in the final beer pong event to clinch the beer pong gold over Israel. The hero was a late addition to the

American roster after an impressive performance at the Draught Combine in Indianapolis in February.

"The kid made 72 percent of his shots in high school, we haven't seen that kind of talent in years," said United States captain Ryan O'Reilly. "We thought it was a steal when he fell to our spot and we could take him last year."

Daniels credited his strict training regiment for his strong performance in his first Beer

Olympics.

"I was a little nervous, but I've been doing three or four 40s of Magnum every Friday starting at 4 p.m.," Daniels said. "My tolerance was at an all-time high before the Olympics and I could just rely on my shot and technique."

While Jamaica managed to take an early lead in the Spring Olympics after a gold medal performance in the ice luge, the Americans quickly established their dominance on the second

day of competition with medals in quarters, Civil War and the wheelbarrow race.

The early U.S. victories were marred by accusations of doping, primarily fueled by Chinese accusations of tequila and grain-alcohol injections by Americans in illegal training techniques that were investigated by the International Beer Committee over the first week of contests.

see BALLS/page 6

FOOSEBALL

Move over, Bobby Boucher

Raiders draft Blausen as water boy in 1st rd.

By ELIN — NOW SINGLE
Call Me :)

Welcome to the pros, kid.

The Oakland Raiders drafted former Irish quarterback Timmy Blausen as their new water boy with the eighth pick of the 2010 NFL Draft. Blausen, a three-year water boy at Notre Dame, was thrilled with the selection.

"I'm honored to be a part of the Raiders' fine hydration replacement staff," Blausen said from New York City. "I have a true passion for water and cannot wait to supply the



Former Irish water boy Timmy Blausen runs the 40-yard water bucket pull for scouts at Notre Dame's pro day on March 23. DIDDY KONG/The Absurder

see H20/Find it yourself

QUIDDITCH

Hold onto your quaffles: game returns to campus

By AVERY JESSUP
Hotbox Thursdays at 8 p.m. on CNBC

In an exclusive interview with The Absurder, Notre Dame Director of Athletics Mac Swartrick announced the return of quidditch to the University after a 600-year hiatus.

"Though our past relationship with magic has been largely ignored in the annals of history, we thought it was time to reintroduce the sport in hopes we can once again dominate on an international stage," Swartrick said.

While many are familiar with alleged-vampire Fr. Ted Storin's "founding" of the

Catholic University of Notre Dame du Lac, historians often overlook the famous school for wizardry that once stood on these grounds, where Storin, then the headmaster, established the first quidditch team on the American continent.

Quidditch was a thriving sport on the land that became South Bend, Ind. during the 1400s, until the Medieval Bubonic Vatican Assembly of 1492 banned wizardry and the practice of all magic. That was a troubled time for Storin, who ran into trouble with the school's Native American neighbors (thought

see SNITCH/page 6



Scene Staff Report

In 1993, a boy met the world and embedded himself so deeply into American teen and pre-teen culture that to this day, 10 years after his television series came to a close, college kids across America still find themselves quoting and re-watching episodes from "Boy Meets World." Because The Observer is so attuned to what the typical college kid yearns for, the Scene writers have decided to address your needs and tell you exactly what is going on in the lives

of Cory, Topanga, Shawn, Eric and the rest of the crew with a "Where are they Now: Boy Meets World" special edition. Here's to hoping the gang made it big and made Feeny proud!

Cory Matthews (Ben Savage)

Ben Savage captured the hearts of viewers as charming prankster Cory Matthews. He navigated the tough years of adolescence, bringing worldly wisdom and amusing jokes to his trials and tribulations. Since the show ended in 2000, Savage has graduated from Stanford University with a degree in Political Science. He took a three-year break from acting in which he and his father spent a summer following Bruce Springsteen on a U.S. tour. Afterwards, he appeared in TV movies "Swimming Upstream" and "Making It Legal." He has also made guest appearances in TV shows like "Phil of the Future," "Chuck" and "Without a Trace." Currently, he is filming "Doesn't Texas Ever End?," a dramedy that was supposed to premiere in 2009.

Shawn Hunter (Rider Strong)

Rider Strong's Shawn Hunter was the character who tackled the toughest problems on the show, mostly stemming from his tough family life. But with his best friend Cory's help, Shawn managed to avoid any serious trouble. In 2004, Strong graduated Magna Cum Laude from Columbia University with a degree in English. He finished his Master of Fine Arts degree in 2009 at Bennington College. After "Boy Meets World," Strong has appeared on the big screen in indie horror film "Cabin Fever" and recently had a cameo in its sequel, "Cabin Fever 2: Spring Fever." He also returned to television with a regular role in "Pepper Dennis" on the WB in 2006. Recently he expressed an interest in expanding his writing and directing career after his film, "Irish Twins," which he wrote with his brother Shiloh, won some awards at film festivals.

Topanga Lawrence (Danielle Fishel)

Fishel played the role of Topanga Lawrence, Cory's longtime girlfriend and eventual wife on "Boy Meets World." She is now the host of Style Network's "The Dish," a TV satire that skewers the latest pop culture trends in television, movies, magazines and celebrities, much like its sister network E! does on "The Soup." She also appeared as a guest on "The Tyra

Banks Show" in 2006 and discussed her dramatic weight loss on the Nutrisystem Diet. After the appearance, Fishel became a spokesperson for Nutrisystem, as well as a special correspondent for "The Tyra Banks Show." She has also appeared in a few movies, including "Longshot," "National Lampoon's Dorm Daze" and its sequel and "Gamebox 1.0." Fishel dated a couple of her "Boy Meets World" cast members, including her co-star Ben Savage and Matthew Lawrence. She also briefly dated rapper Michael Barber and former *NSYNC member Lance Bass, who was her date to her high school prom.

Eric Matthews (Will Friedle)

You may know him best as the voice of Ron Stoppable from "Kim Possible" (just kidding) but for those of you who grew up listening to the shrieks of "FEEEEENNNNNYYYY," Will Friedle will never be more famous than for his role as Eric on "Boy Meets World."

Since his turn as the lovable and kind of stupid big brother of Cory, Friedle has focused on providing his voice for multiple cartoon characters such as Blue Beetle in "Batman: The Brave and the Bold." On a more exciting note, he did date Jennifer Love Hewitt in 1997, but that love boat left him stranded on shore long ago. The last time he made news in a major magazine was in 2006 when he told "People" he was contemplating attending culinary school, but so far no sumptuous scents have wafted from his kitchen. Hopefully that means he's busy concocting the perfect recipe for revitalizing his acting career!

George Feeny (William Daniels)

Mr. Feeny appeared in almost every episode of "Boy Meets World." His character had multiple sides — the grumpy neighbor tending his beloved garden, the strict principal trying to lay down the law, the warm-hearted mentor guiding Cory and friends through the trials of life and the college professor who just could not get enough of his favorite students. Since the finale of Boy Meets World, Daniels, now 82, has been consistently playing minor film and television roles on popular shows such as "Boston Legal," "The King of Queens" and "Scrubs" and movies including "Blades of Glory" and "The Benchwarmers." Though he is well-known for his part in the classic film "The Graduate" and has been employed since the end of "Boy Meets World," the children of the eighties and nineties only think one thing when they see his face: "Feenyayy!"

Alan and Amy Matthews (William Russ and Betsy Randle)

Cory's parents, Alan and Amy, were the best. They were understanding to Cory's adolescent problems while not so ridiculous as to think that Cory and Topanga getting married so young was a good idea. They were there for all the kids throughout the years, including

the ones that weren't their own. Russ has had guest roles on many different shows since "Boy Meets World's" end including

"Deadwood," "Boston Legal" and "Wildfire." He currently has a recurring role on the daytime soap "The Young and the Restless." Russ is also married with children. Meanwhile, Randle, who had a myriad of roles before playing the lovable Mrs. Matthews, retired from acting after her last role on the series "Charmed" in 2004. She now lives with her husband and children in California.

Angela Moore (Trina McGee)

McGee portrayed Angela Moore, Shawn's major love interest throughout the latter half of the series. Witty, passionate and artistic, she and Shawn begin dating after he finds a purse she had lost and discovers their shared interests based on the bag's contents. They dated on and off until the series finale, when she decided to go spend a year in Europe with her father. While McGee was best known for her role as Angela on "Boy Meets World," she has also

guest starred on a few television shows, including "Family Matters," "A Different World," "So Little Time" and "The Sinbad Show." She now spends most of her time with her family. McGee was previously married to Courtland Davis and they had two children together. She is now currently in a relationship with actor Marcello Thedford ("Dangerous Minds") and lives in the San Fernando Valley with him and her three children.

Jack Hunter (Matthew Lawrence)

Matthew Lawrence, of the famed Lawrence brothers, joined the cast of "Boy Meets World" in 1997 as Jack Hunter, Shawn Hunter's older half brother. After the series ended in 2000, he continued acting, but no role brought him as much notoriety as his portrayal of Jack. In 2001 he played Jake Hunter in the Disney Channel Original Movie, "Jumping Ship." His brothers Joey and Andrew also

starred in the production. In 2002 he enrolled as a student at University of Southern California. That same year he also starred opposite Rob Schneider in the comedy "The Hot Chick." He continued to make appearances on television shows like "Boston Public" and "CSI: Miami." In 2004 he became engaged to his girlfriend Heidi Mueller, but the two later split up. He was also rumored to have dated Cheryl Burke from "Dancing With the Stars." He currently lives in

the Los Angeles area and hopes to become a zoologist someday.

Mr. Turner (Anthony Tyler Quinn)

He only graced our television screens for three years on "Boy Meets World" but Anthony Tyler Quinn's portrayal of the lovable Mr. Turner left a lasting impression. Turner was the kids' English teacher in middle school who tried to teach them life lessons through the works of great authors, while also identifying with the kids on a personal level, connecting especially with Shawn. The ladies' man took Shawn in and cared for him when his father abandoned him. Eventually, Turner was in a motorcycle accident and mysteriously left the show, much like he did Hollywood. Or did he? Quinn had recurring roles on several television series during the 90s including "Melrose Place," "Party of Five," and "Caroline in the City." More recently he has had guest spots on hit shows like "The Mentalist" and "House, M.D." Look for him in four television movies later this year.

Rachel McGuire (Maitland Ward)

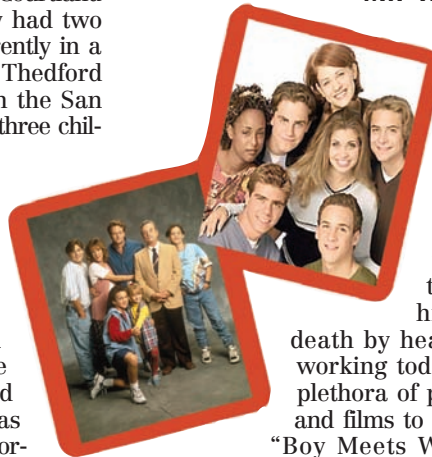
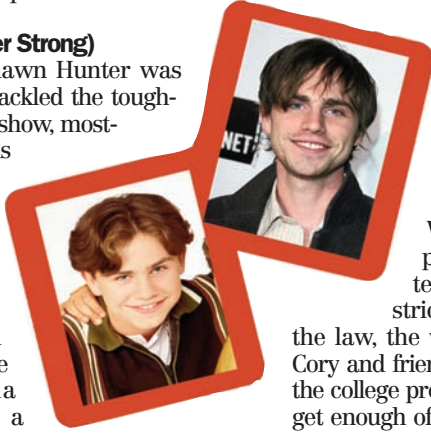
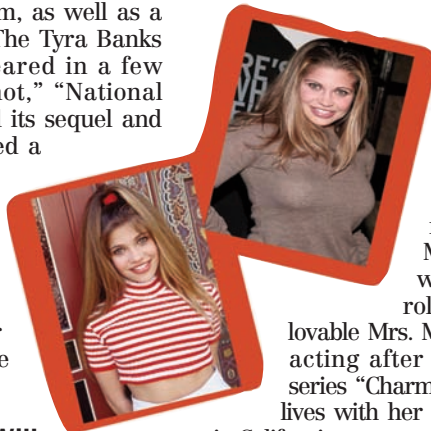
Ward was late on the "Boy Meets World" scene, first appearing on the series during the college years in 1998. Rachel was the tall, beautiful redhead that moved in with Eric and Jack after she broke up with her boyfriend. She quickly becomes the boys' love interest and hijinks ensued. In the end, she headed to the Peace Corps with Jack. Since "Boy Meets World" she has had guest roles on shows such as "Boston Public" and "Rules of Engagement." She also co-starred in "White Chicks" with the Wayans brothers. Ward is now happily married and will return to the role that began her career in 1994 with her portrayal of Jessica Forrester on the daytime soap "The Bold and the Beautiful."

Mr. Hunter (Blake Clark)

Blake Clark played Chet Hunter on "Boy Meets World," dead-beat dad to Shawn and Jack Hunter, who haunted them even after his untimely death by heart attack. Still working today, Clark has a plethora of popular sitcoms and films to his name. Post-"Boy Meets World," he has appeared in television shows including "Community," "My Name is Earl," and even "Sabrina, the Teenage Witch," another T.G.I.F. favorite. In addition, he is often cast in Adam Sandler films: "I Now Pronounce You Chuck & Larry," "50 First Dates," "Eight Crazy Nights" and "Mr. Deeds." This summer, listen for him alongside Tom Hanks and Tim Allen in "Toy Story 3," set to come out in June. It seems "Boy Meets World" was just a flicker in the life of this wide-ranging actor, who shows no signs of slowing down in the world of showbiz.

Minor Characters

Where are your other favorite characters that played only small roles? You can catch geeky Minkus from sixth grade played by Lee Norris on "One Tree Hill" as the lovable Marvin "Mouth" McFadden. And whatever happened to the bully with a heart of gold Frankie "The Enforcer" Stechino played by Ethan Suplee? You might recognize him as Louie in "Remember the Titans" or Randy on "My Name is Earl."



NCAA WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Moore scores 22 points in UConn win over FSU

Oklahoma comes alive in the second half of 88-68 victory over Kentucky and guarantees a spot in the Final Four

Associated Press

DAYTON, Ohio — Maya Moore and Connecticut are just two steps away from their ultimate goal after another rout in the NCAA tournament.

Moore scored 22 points to lead the Huskies past Florida State 90-50 on Tuesday night, sending the defending champions back to the Final Four and stretching their unprecedented win streak to 76 games.

Tina Charles controlled the paint with 20 points and 14 rebounds for the Huskies (37-0), who advance to their eighth Final Four since 2000 where they will meet Baylor in the semifinals Sunday night.

The 40-point victory was the largest margin ever in a regional final.

Jacinta Monroe had 15 points for the Seminoles (29-6), who set a school record for victories while going deeper in the NCAA tournament than any FSU team before.

Moore, selected as the regional's most outstanding player, had 11

points early then watched from the bench with foul trouble as Charles and her supporting cast stretched the lead. Moore then returned with eight quick points after the break as the Huskies sealed the deal.

Kalana Greene added 15 points and Tiffany Hayes had 13 points, seven assists and five rebounds for UConn. The Huskies shot 61 percent in the second half to pull away while limiting the Seminoles to 25 percent.

The Huskies are dominating unlike any team ever. No team has come within 12 points of them all season. They have won their first four games of the 2010 NCAA tournament by a record 188 points — a margin of 47 points a game. They are now 11-5 in regional championship games.

Moore, perhaps itching to play after sitting out the last 12 minutes of the first half with two fouls, quickly helped put the game away at the outset of the second half.

On the opening possession, the Huskies went to their high-low game, with Charles wheeling to throw a perfect pass to Moore for

a three-point play. Greene then stole the ball in the FSU backcourt and fed Moore for a breakaway layup.

After two baskets by the Seminoles, Hayes hit a drive and Moore swished a 25-footer 3. That made it 52-32 and the rout was on.

"Boy, they make you play ugly," FSU coach Sue Semrau said, shaking her head. "We missed a ton of shots but that's because they did such a great job in every area."

The University of Dayton Arena crowd's allegiance was almost evenly split between the teams. One underdog-lover did wear a white shirt with red letters that said, "Any 1 But UConn."

Unlike so many of the wins during the streak, this one was not a runaway from the outset. Moore scored 11 points and was nearly perfect from the field, but also picked up her second foul during a rebound scrum at the 14:29 mark with UConn leading 15-9. Coach Geno Auriemma then brought in his second big center, Kaili McLaren to pair with Charles, and also went to a trapping zone defense.

The Huskies built the lead to 22-9 only to have the Seminoles bounce back to cut it to 22-19 on back-to-back 3s by Courtney Ward and Alysha Harvin.

A 10-1 run by Connecticut — Charles scoring six points and Hayes adding four, along with two assists on Charles buckets — pushed the lead to 35-22, the Huskies hanging on for a 42-28 lead at the break.

Charles had 16 points and 11 boards, while Moore had 11 in just over 8 minutes on the court. She had scored 25 points in 25 minutes in the semifinal win over Iowa State.

The teams met in Tallahassee, Fla., on Dec. 28, with top-ranked Connecticut winning 78-59. Charles scored 16 of her 24 points in the second half of that game as UConn pulled away while shooting 49 percent from the field to FSU's 31 percent. The teams were evenly matched on the boards, but the Seminoles had 21 turnovers that the Huskies turned into 26 points.

This time the Huskies forced 19 turnovers while harassing the Seminoles on every single shot.

Oklahoma 88, Kentucky 68

Oklahoma withstood early adversity, composed itself and took control with balance, hustle and grit.

In a game that mirrored their season, the Sooners pulled through. Now they're going back to the Final Four.

Nyeshia Stevenson scored 31 points and Oklahoma blew past fourth-seeded Kentucky on



Oklahoma coach Sherri Coale cuts the net from the rim after the Sooners' 88-68 victory over Kentucky Tuesday.

Tuesday night to earn its second straight trip to the Final Four.

Amanda Thompson added 17 points and 14 rebounds for the third-seeded Sooners (27-10), who'll face Stanford on Sunday in San Antonio.

The Wildcats stormed out to a 17-4 lead, only to watch as the Sooners rallied to go ahead 43-39 by halftime. Oklahoma opened the second half on a 15-5 run, then scored 11 straight points to jump ahead 69-50 with 6:30 left.

Victoria Dunlap had 31 points and 12 rebounds to lead Kentucky (28-8), which was seeking its first trip to the Final Four. The Wildcats stunned top-seeded Nebraska to reach their first regional final since 1982, but they couldn't complete the Big 12 sweep in Kansas City.

After a brutal start, the second half belonged to the Sooners.

"Well I don't know what that was for the first five minutes, these kids have fought back all year. It's sort of their identity," Oklahoma coach Sherri Coale said. "Their confidence was unwavering. I give them credit for keeping their head and getting out of it."

Stevenson — who finished one point shy of a career high — followed a 3 with a transition layup to give Oklahoma its first double-digit edge, 54-44. Danielle Robinson then hit a layup, and Thompson's open jumper put the Sooners ahead by 14.

Kentucky scored six quick points, but that would be about it for the Wildcats.

"Nyeshia's performance tonight was unbelievable," Coale said.

Oklahoma responded with a series of knockout blows, as Jasmine Hartman's steal and

layup put Oklahoma back ahead 64-50 with 7:41 left. Stevenson then buried another 3 to give the Sooners an insurmountable a 19-point lead.

Kentucky's speed and quickness had Oklahoma on its heels early, though.

Freshman A'dia Mathies had a transition jumper, a steal and an assist in the books 30 seconds in, and Amber Smith's no-look dish to Mathies put the Wildcats ahead 8-0 and forced Coale to call timeout.

It took six minutes — and six turnovers — before the Sooners hit a field goal. By then, Kentucky's lead was already in double digits — and it appeared that Oklahoma's fears about the Wildcats speed and quickness were coming to pass.

But Oklahoma soon found its comfort level, erasing a 13-point deficit in the blink of an eye. Danielle Robinson, who had 16 points and six assists, converted a 3-point play off a steal gave Oklahoma its first lead, 28-25, with 7:41 left in the first half, and she added a late layup to put the Sooners ahead by four at halftime.

Of Coale's three Final Four teams, these resilient Sooners just might be the most remarkable.

Oklahoma lost the frontcourt duo of Courtney and Ashley Paris and were picked to finish fifth in the brutal Big 12. The loss of guard Whitney Hand to a knee injury early in the season cast further doubts over their national title hopes. But Oklahoma survived the nation's toughest schedule — all 10 of its losses came against teams that made the NCAA tournament — and was at its best in Kansas City.



Connecticut's Maya Moore celebrates after scoring during the Huskies' 90-50 win over Florida State Tuesday.

CLASSIFIEDS

The Observer accepts classifieds every business day from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Notre Dame office, 024 South Dining Hall. Deadline for next-day classifieds is 3 p.m. All classifieds must be prepaid. The charge is 5 cents per character per day, including all spaces. The Observer reserves the right to edit all classifieds for content without issuing refunds.

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AROUND THE NATION

Wednesday, March 31, 2010

COMPILED FROM THE OBSERVER'S WIRE SERVICES

page 15

Men's Division I Tennis ITA Poll

team	points
1 Virginia	25
2 Ohio State	24
3 Tennessee	23
4 Southern Cal	22
5 Texas	21
6 Florida	20
7 Stanford	19
8 Georgia	18
9 UCLA	17
10 Kentucky	16
11 Baylor	15
12 Texas A&M	14
13 Texas Tech	13
14 Louisville	12
15 Illinois	11
16 Mississippi	10
17 California	9
18 Virginia Tech	8
19 Oklahoma	7
20 North Carolina	6
21 Washington	5
22 Florida St.	4
23 Pepperdine	3
24 Wake Forest	2
25 Georgia Tech	1

Men's Division I Golf Sagarin Index Poll

team	points
1 Southern Cal	25
2 UCLA	24
3 Arizona St.	23
4 Purdue	22
5 Michigan St.	21
6 Auburn	20
7 California	19
8 LSU	18
9 Pepperdine	17
10 Florida	16
11 Alabama	15
12 Oklahoma St.	14
13 Georgia	13
14 Stanford	12
15 Ohio St.	11
16 Duke	10
17 Texas A&M	9
18 Denver	8
19 Tulane	7
20 Arizona	6
21 Virginia	5
22 Tennessee	4
23 Wake Forest	3
24 Louisville	2
25 New Mexico	1

CWPA Women's Water Polo Division I Standings

team	points
1 Southern Cal	100
2 Stanford	95
3 California	88
4 UCLA	87
5 Hawaii	80
6 San Jose St.	72
7 Arizona St.	71
8 Michigan	69
9 Loyola Marymount	60
10 Cal St. Northridge	54

PGA



Tiger Woods smiles while completing a practice round for the 2009 Masters. Woods is scheduled to hold his first press conference in over five months on April 5 and Woods' pairing for the tournament will be revealed on April 6.

Woods awaiting pairings for Masters

Associated Press

ORLANDO, Fla. — Dean Wilson was in his hotel room getting ready to practice one Tuesday afternoon seven years ago when a PGA Tour official called to let him know the pairings were about to be released.

Wilson didn't understand why he was being contacted until he heard the names.

One was a fellow rookie, Aaron Barber. The other was a sponsor's exemption, Annika Sorenstam.

"Someone from the tour contacted me and said, 'The draw is coming out and you're paired with Annika. We want you to talk to the media when the tee times come out, rather than it com-

ing out when you're on the course,'" Wilson said last week. "I knew it was going to be a big deal. I didn't know it was going to be a giant deal."

Imagine how massive the Masters will be.

The two situations are nothing alike. Colonial was a celebration of Sorenstam becoming the first woman in 58 years to compete on the PGA Tour. The Masters could be a circus when Woods returns to golf for the first time since being exposed as a serial wife cheater.

Even so, not since Colonial in 2003 has there been so much interest in tee times.

Wilson's name essentially came out of a hat, thrown in with other rookies and play-

ers with the lowest level of status. Augusta National has no policy with its pairings, other than the defending champion traditionally plays with the U.S. Amateur champion.

How will they decide who plays with Woods?

"With great care," said Colin Montgomerie, who is not eligible for the Masters this year. "You'd almost have to ask for volunteers. There's a number of players that will be looking at the draw sheet — I believe it comes out on Tuesday afternoon — and will be delighted if they are not playing with Tiger on this occasion."

So who gets him? Perhaps the better question is who wants him?

"I would say it would be a tough pairing, to tell you the truth," said 49-year-old Kenny Perry, who lost in a playoff last year. "I'm old enough to maybe handle that. Maybe you need some hillbilly like me to do that. But it will be different, because I'm sure the players will be focused on Augusta, yet focused on what's going on with him and paying attention to what he's doing out there."

Since his first Masters as a pro in 1997, Woods has played with only two American pros — Stewart Cink in 2000 and 2009, and Tim Herron in 1999. In eight of his 13 trips to Augusta, Woods has played with an amateur the first two rounds.

IN BRIEF

Steelers president says he's 'disappointed' in WR Holmes

PITTSBURGH — Pittsburgh Steelers president Art Rooney II said in a statement that the team is "disappointed" in wide receiver Santonio Holmes is being accused in a lawsuit of assaulting a woman in an Orlando nightclub.

That incident followed another involving quarterback Ben Roethlisberger, who became the subject of a police investigation after a 20-year-old college student alleged he assaulted her in a Georgia nightclub.

Since 2006, Holmes has been charged with marijuana possession in Pittsburgh, domestic violence in Ohio and disorderly conduct in Florida. The marijuana and domestic violence charges were subsequently dropped and the disorderly conduct charge was dropped in exchange for a \$250 donation to a police officers trust fund.

Fifth spot in Phillies rotation goes to 47-year-old Moyer

KISSIMMEE, Fla. — Jamie Moyer has won the fifth spot in the Philadelphia Phillies' rotation, a decision the team announced Tuesday after its 5-2 loss to the Houston Astros.

Moyer is the oldest player in the majors at 47. Kyle Kendrick, who was Moyer's competition for the spot, started against Houston and allowed one run in two innings. Manager Charlie Manuel assured Kendrick that he has a roster spot and would be an important part of the bullpen for the two-time NL champions.

Michael Bourn had four hits, including two doubles and a triple for Houston. Carlos Lee had two doubles and four RBIs and J.R. Towles drive in a run. The Astros said Towles would be their starting catcher.

Astros starter Bud Norris struck out seven in five innings.

Semenya prepares for return to running amid controversy

STELLENBOSCH, South Africa — Caster Semenya is tired of waiting for track and field's ruling body to release results of her gender tests and plans to return to competition.

What's unclear is whether any meets will allow the world champion to run.

"I hereby publicly announce my return to athletics competitions," Semenya said in a statement on Tuesday shortly after a meet in South Africa denied the 19-year-old's request to run.

Semenya has not raced or spoken publicly since winning the women's 800 at the world championships in Berlin in August, when her dramatic improvement in times and muscular build led the International Association of Athletics Federations to order gender tests.

around the dial

NBA Basketball
Golden State at Utah
10 p.m., ESPN

NHL Hockey
Blackhawks at Wild
8 p.m., Comcast SportsNet

TENNIS

Roddick beats Becker to move on to quarters

Associated Press

KEY BISCAYNE, Fla. — Since arriving on Key Biscayne, Andy Roddick has played H-O-R-S-E with D-Wade, hung out with T.O. and helped organize a charity event to benefit Chilean earthquake victims.

He's also squeezing in a little tennis. Roddick advanced to the quarterfinals of the Sony Ericsson Open by beating Benjamin Becker 7-6 (4), 6-3 on Tuesday.

Seeded sixth, Roddick improved to 23-4 this year, and he leads the men's tour in wins. He seeks his first Key Biscayne title since 2004 and hopes to prevent a potential showdown Sunday between Roger Federer and Rafael Nadal.

Roddick's hoops contest against Dwyane Wade was for laughs, as were brief get-togethers with Terrell Owens, a friend and tennis fan. The Chilean benefit is a doubles match in which Roddick will take part Saturday — the evening before the men's final.

"Even if things go great and I'm in the final, I'll still play Saturday, just because it's necessary and what needs to happen," he said. "It's a bigger cause than my tournament."

Nadal, who could face Roddick in the semifinals, advanced by beating fellow Spaniard David Ferrer 7-6 (5), 6-4. Three-time champion Venus Williams became the first women's semifinalist by defeating No. 6-seeded Agnieszka Radwanska 6-3, 6-1.

To get past the unseeded Becker, Roddick rallied on the strength of his dominating

serve. He dug out of a 1-4, love-40 hole in the first set and won 34 of his final 39 service points, including all six in the tiebreaker.

Roddick said experience helped with the turnaround.

"When things aren't going my way, I'm probably better now," he said. "Six years ago on the court my highs were a lot higher, and the lows were a lot lower. If I would have gotten down early, I don't know if I would have stayed the course."

A big serve helps, too. When Roddick found himself in another hole serving at 4-5, love-30, he responded with three service winners and an ace, all in the 133- to 135-mph range.

"It's nice at love-30 to be able to make some first serves," he said.

Roddick made another one on match point, closing out the victory with his seventh ace of the match and his 343rd of the year, second-most on the tour. He has been broken only once through three matches and next plays No. 33-seeded Nicolas Almagro, who eliminated No. 27 Thomaz Bellucci 6-4, 3-6, 7-6 (3).

The woman with the best chance to beat Venus Williams at Key Biscayne watched the women's quarterfinals from the photo pit. Serena Williams had no camera but used her connections to secure a front-row seat as she watched her sister beat Radwanska.

Top-ranked Serena has been sidelined by a knee injury since winning the Australian Open in January. In her absence, Venus has become the woman to beat



Andy Roddick, left, engages in a handshake with opponent Benjamin Becker of Germany after Roddick defeated Becker in two sets at the Sony Ericsson Open in Key Biscayne, Fla. Tuesday.

as she bids for her fourth Key Biscayne title and her first since 2001.

"When I'm executing and playing my best, it's great," Venus said. "It feels good, and I feel like I'm definitely dictating the points and that I don't give my opponent as many chances to have a say."

The oldest women's quarterfinalist at 29, Venus is the hottest player on the WTA Tour. She has won 14 matches in a row, and two more would give her three consecutive tournament titles for the first time since 2002.

In the men's fourth round, American Mardy Fish retired with a sciatic nerve injury trailing Mikhail Youzhny 6-1,

1-0. The injury occurred when Fish took a tumble in the first set, causing discomfort from his back to his calf.

"I don't think I've ever felt that much pain on a tennis court," said Fish, who is coming back from knee surgery last September.

No. 8 Jo-Wilfried Tsonga earned a shot at Nadal in the quarterfinals by beating No. 12 Juan Carlos Ferrero 6-2, 6-2. The fourth-seeded Nadal, seeking his first Key Biscayne championship and his first title anywhere in 10 months, punctuated his win over Ferrer with a nifty leg kick-uppercut combination.

No. 5 Robin Soderling defeated No. 9 Fernando Gonzalez 6-

0, 6-7 (3), 6-2.

The No. 3-seeded Williams hit eight aces and lost only five points on her first serve. She broke five times, including in the pivotal eighth game, when Radwanska had consecutive double-faults and then hit a 62-mph knuckleball serve that Williams pounced on to whack a winner.

Williams struggled with her backhand but won 15 of 19 points at the net.

"I play my best game when I'm more aggressive, because that's my style," she said. "Others don't play as well as aggressive, because that's not their style. It just seems to be better when I move forward, and I try to do that."

NHL

Antropov scores final goal in Thrashers win

Associated Press

TORONTO — Nik Antropov picked the perfect time to get his first career goal against his former team, scoring the winner Tuesday night to help the Atlanta Thrashers keep their playoff hopes alive with a 3-2 victory over the Toronto Maple Leafs.

Antropov tipped a shot past Jonas Gustavsson at 4:44 of the third period — putting Atlanta back in front just 57 seconds after Viktor Stalberg had tied the game.

Atlanta remained two points out of the final playoff spot in the Eastern Conference with 80 points. Boston, Montreal and Philadelphia all have 82 points, but all three teams have played one less game than Atlanta.

Antropov played his first nine seasons with the Maple Leafs and hadn't recorded a point in three games against his former team. He finished with a goal and an assist.

Maxim Afinogenov and Evgeny Artyukhin also scored for Atlanta.

Viktor Stalberg had both goals for the Maple Leafs.

With the Thrashers playing for the second time in as many nights, there was very little

sense of urgency in the first period. Both teams were sloppy with passes and failed to create many quality scoring chances.

However, Atlanta got the break it needed early in the second period after Leafs defenseman Francois Beauchemin failed to clear the puck from the defensive zone. Afinogenov was able to wheel around untouched and beat Gustavsson with a wrist shot at 6:18.

Artyukhin extended the lead to 2-0 just 46 seconds later, taking a perfect pass from Marty Reasoner and roofing the puck.

Afinogenov had the chance to put the game away after jumping off the bench and taking a long breakaway pass, but Gustavsson managed to stop him.

It proved to be an important save when Tyler Bozak and Stalberg went back up the ice on a 2-on-1 break. Bozak appeared to hold the puck too long, but managed to find his fellow rookie, who banked a shot in off Ondrej Pavelec's skate to make it 2-1 at 17:43.

The Leafs came out hard in the final period and Stalberg scored his second to even the score. He gathered the puck in the high slot and beat Pavelec high to the glove at 3:47.

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NCAA MEN'S BASKETBALL

Duke's Scheyer ready for Final Four

Associated Press

DURHAM, N.C. — From the day he stepped foot on campus, Jon Scheyer was a dependable member of Mike Krzyzewski's rotation.

Then he took over at point guard, and Duke started being Duke again.

With Scheyer running the show, the Blue Devils (33-5) claimed two straight Atlantic Coast Conference tournament titles, a league regular-season crown and their first Final Four berth since

2004.

Duke plays West Virginia (31-6) on Saturday night in Indianapolis in the national semifinals, but the senior wants to wait until well after that before he even considers the end of his career, saying "I can't go there."

"It's exciting, but for us, the goal's not complete," he said Tuesday. "That's the way all of us feel. As much as you want to enjoy the Final Four and there's going to be a lot of people wanting to hang out and celebrate

with you. That's not what we're going down there for. (Focusing) will be easy for us."

Scheyer has played in many roles during four seasons at Duke, growing from a scrawny freshman into a serious ACC player of the year contender. He led the team with 104 3-pointers and an average of 18.2 points this season.

Those are the kinds of numbers he always hoped for when he was the starter at shooting guard in 2006-07. He shifted to become

the Blue Devils' sixth man as a sophomore and last year found himself back in the starting lineup.

But it wasn't until Krzyzewski's tactical shifting of Scheyer to the point and insertion of Elliot Williams at shooting guard that the Blue Devils really took off. The switch stabilized the Blue Devils and put them on their path back to prominence, with a late-season roll carrying them to the 2009 ACC tournament title, the first of Scheyer's career.

MLB

Venditte shows off both arms

Associated Press

KISSIMMEE, Fla. — Pat Venditte can see why he's such a curiosity. It's not everyday that a pitcher throws with both arms.

Venditte showed off his ambidextrous talents for the New York Yankees on Tuesday, giving up one run in 1 1-3 innings during a 9-6 split-squad loss to the Atlanta Braves.

"I understand where it's coming from," Venditte said. "And it's my job to go out there and prove that I can pitch."

Making his first appearance for the Yankees, Venditte took over for CC Sabathia with two outs in the fifth inning and tossed four warmup pitches with each hand. Venditte switched back and forth, depending on whether he was facing a righty or lefty, and gave up two hits and a walk.

"I think I have to," he said. "I don't have overpowering stuff from either side, so I think I really need this."

The 24-year-old reliever, who uses a six-finger glove, pitched for two teams in Class A last season and went a combined 4-2 with 22 saves and a 1.87 ERA. He is scheduled to begin the season at Class A Tampa.

Sabathia said he knew the Yankees had an ambidextrous pitcher in their organization, but did a double take when Venditte took the mound.

"I've never seen anything like that," Sabathia said. "I felt like we kept changing pitchers before I figured out what was happening."

If he makes the majors, Venditte wouldn't be the first pitcher to throw as a left-hander and right-hander. Greg Harris, who pitched for Cincinnati, Montreal, San Diego, Texas, Philadelphia, Boston and the Yankees from 1981-95, was a righty throughout his career. He pitched from the left side for two batters in the second-to-last game of his career.

Yankees manager Joe Girardi had said he wanted to watch Venditte throw this spring and asked that the pitcher be sent over from the minor league complex for an exhibition game.

Venditte started out as a righty in the fifth and retired Yunel Escobar on a grounder to end the inning.

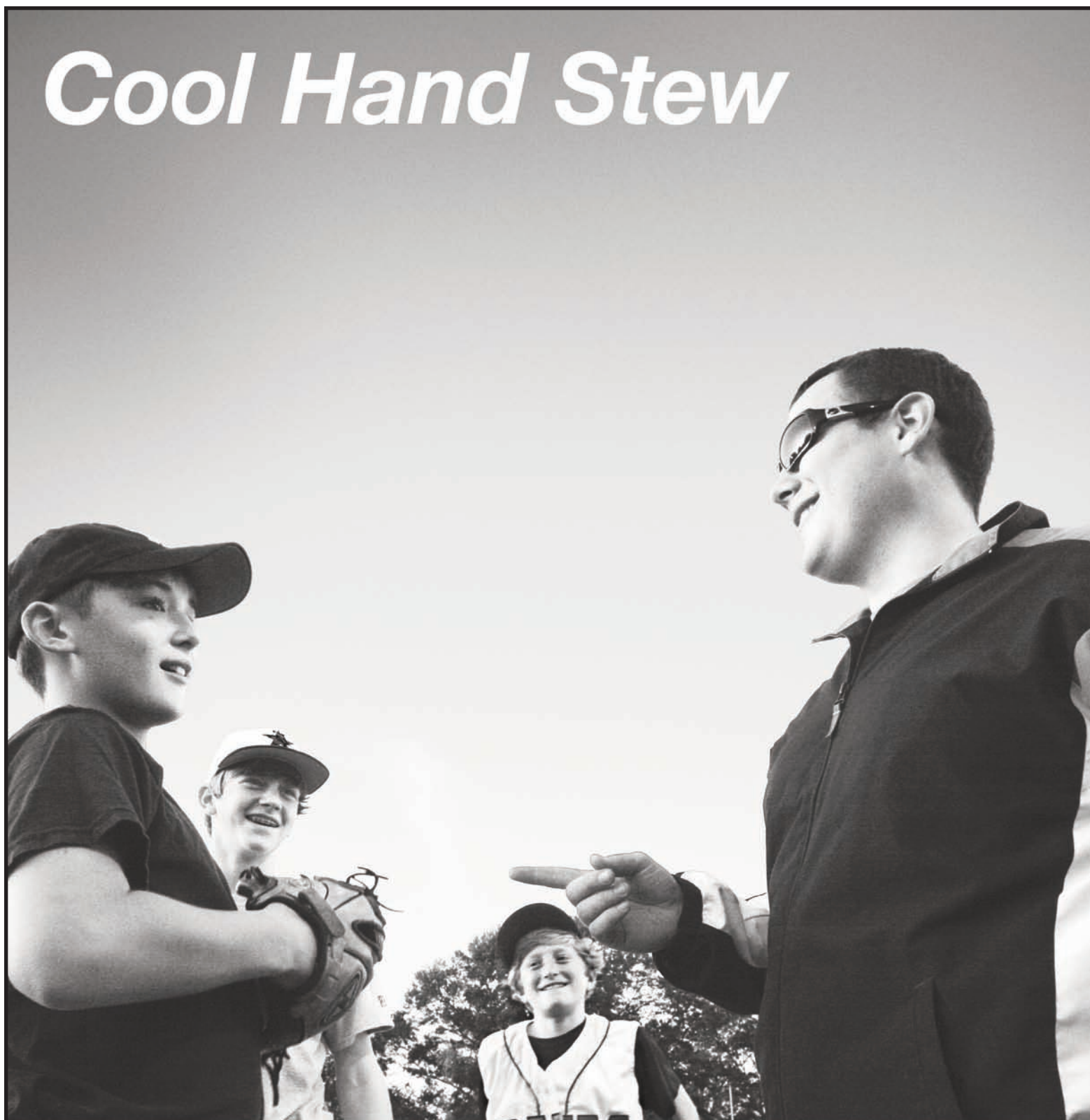
In the sixth, Venditte pitched right-handed to Matt Diaz and gave up a single. Venditte shifted to a lefty and fielded Nate McLouth's sacrifice bunt.

Later in the inning, switch-hitter Brooks Conrad came to the plate and by rule Venditte had to declare in advance how he would pitch. He went righty, Conrad batted lefty and grounded out.

Venditte complimented catcher Jorge Posada.

"Jorge did a good job of keeping me calm," he said.

Sabathia tuned up for his start in the major league opener Sunday night at Boston, allowing five runs and eight hits in 4 2-3 innings. He has a 7.23 ERA this spring.



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MLB

STL prepares 2010 lineup

Associated Press

ST. LOUIS — Tony La Russa loves to tinker with the lineup card, using a whopping 135 variations last year in what was a pretty typical campaign.

No doubt there'll still be some juggling for the St. Louis Cardinals this season as La Russa factors in lefty-righty matchups and pitcher-vs.-hitter numbers. He will also have input from new batting coach Mark McGwire, whose hiring and subsequent admission to steroids use caused a stir. But a full season penciling in an order anchored by Albert Pujols and Matt Holliday figures to provide much more stability than usual.

"I think managers do what they have to, not what they want to," La Russa said. "My favorite thing is to have a core of five or six guys, and you play around with the other two or three, keep your bench going."

The Cardinals were 91-71 last season and won the National League Central Division despite La Russa's season-long search for a No. 2 hitter ahead of Pujols. A dozen players got a shot at that spot, 10 batted cleanup, 16 hit seventh and 12 more landed in the eighth slot, not counting the 48 times he batted the pitcher there.

For the most part, La Russa will be working with a set starting eight.

Cleanup intrigue ended when Holliday was acquired from the Athletics last July, and he batted .353 with 55 RBIs in 63 games. Ryan Ludwick, the primary No. 4

hitter before the Holliday deal, is now a fixture in the fifth slot.

Pujols has owned the No. 3 spot for years, and was the unanimous NL MVP after batting .327 and leading the league in homers (47), runs (124), on-base percentage (.443), slugging percentage (.658) and intentional walks (44). He had elbow surgery after failing to homer in his final 89 at-bats, counting the postseason, but the power stroke appears to be back.

Brendan Ryan, one of five players to get at least 18 starts at shortstop last year, is now established as one of the league's top fielders, and he returned in plenty of time from minor wrist surgery in early February. David Freese, acquired from the Padres for Jim Edmonds in 2007, will get a full shot at third base — a big change from last year when Troy Glaus couldn't return from shoulder surgery until September.

"What I wanted to do is come out here and earn the job," Freese said. "I feel like I've been productive and progressed over the course of the spring and that's all I can do."

Colby Rasmus, who batted second about half of his rookie season, has batted more in the middle of the order during a strong spring. But La Russa isn't totally adverse to trying Rasmus at second again behind leadoff man Skip Schumaker — even if it means both of his left-handed bats are at the top.

Questions about the order were overshadowed at times by McGwire's hiring. Big Mac

was brought in after the Cardinals went 4-for-30 with runners in scoring position while getting swept in the first round of the playoffs. McGwire has patiently answered all questions about his doping days, though he will surely face more scrutiny when the season begins.

The rotation could be one of baseball's best, anchored by Chris Carpenter and Adam Wainwright.

Carpenter was 17-4 and led the NL with a 2.24 ERA, returning to dominance after missing nearly all the previous two seasons. He was second in the NL Cy Young balloting, just ahead of Wainwright, who was 19-9 and led the NL with 233 innings while working six or more innings in 26 consecutive starts.

Wainwright likened Carpenter to a shark and said he just followed that lead.

"I'm like a remora, always looking for useful tidbits that he drops," Wainwright said. "He's always filled with knowledge and he's a good teacher, too."

The bottom three has plenty of promise. Hard-throwing Brad Penny got a free agent deal off a strong finish with the Giants, Kyle Lohse was 6-10 in an injury plagued season but has had a healthy spring and was a 15-game winner in '08, and rookie left-hander Jaime Garcia won a three-way battle for the fifth spot.

The Cardinals wanted Garcia to get more minor league seasoning coming off reconstructive elbow surgery that sidelined him most of last season. But he proved he was ready.

ND MEN'S TENNIS

Irish seek doubles point in road matches

By KATE GRABAREK
Sports Writer

The Irish will head south this weekend for a doubleheader against Southern Methodist and Texas A&M over the Easter holiday, as Notre Dame is coming off a strong showing at the Blue Gray National Classic and a win over Northwestern last weekend.

The doubles point has been a tough win for the Irish early on this season and they will need it to get off to a good start against both opponents this weekend.

"We will certainly look to strengthen our doubles," head coach Bobby Bayliss said. "We made a switch at doubles. [Stephen] Havens and [Casey] Watt are now together as well as [Tyler] Davis and [Niall] Fitzgerald."

The Irish were able to pull out the doubles point against Northwestern in a tough match. The team lost the first doubles match as juniors Dan Stahl and David Anderson fell early, but the No. 1 and No. 2 doubles teams were able to perform well.

At No. 2 doubles the Irish duo of sophomore Fitzgerald and junior Davis were able to come through with an 8-6 victory.

The Irish will be looking to

continue this strong doubles play in their tough matchups this weekend against SMU and Texas A&M.

Watt and Havens have been strong at the top of the Irish singles lineup already this season. Watt is ranked in the top-20 in the nation after a strong fall season performance.

Havens is coming off what Bayliss labeled as his cleanest singles match of the year as he won over Andrew McCarthy from Northwestern 6-1, 6-4.

Stahl was also able to come through for the Irish with a big win and they will continue to look for strong play after the 5-2 win in Texas.

Anderson has come on strong for the Irish at the bottom of their lineup, including with his doubles play already this season.

Bayliss said Anderson has a strong serve and uses his weapons well and that has helped him be more successful this season. The Irish have also had strong play from sophomores Sam Keeton and Fitzgerald to help propel them to 10 wins early in the season.

The Irish will face off against SMU at 1 p.m. on Saturday before playing Texas A&M Monday at 6 p.m.

Contact Kate Grabarek at kgraba02@saintmarys.edu

"We will certainly look to strengthen our doubles."

Bobby Bayliss
Irish Coach

SMC GOLF

Belles finish third in Southwestern Invite

By LUKE MANSOUR
Sports Writer

No. 3 Saint Mary's took third place in the Southwestern Invitational Tuesday in Georgetown, Texas, with an overall team score of 693. Southwestern, the tournament host, finished in first with a two-day total score of 677.

The Belles were also edged by UT-Tyler, which finished with a score of 689. Belles sophomore Natalie Matuszak and junior Mary Kate Boyce were both named to the all-tournament team.

The third-place finish was a bit of a disappointment for Saint Mary's, which finished second in last year's tournament and were also in second place going into Day 2, six strokes ahead of UT-Tyler. Belles coach Mark Hamilton was not pleased with his team's overall performance at the tournament.

"I'm not satisfied with the results," Hamilton said. "Our focus and resolve under tough

conditions needs to and will improve."

Matuszak finished second overall in the tournament with a total score of 166, while Boyce scored a 168 to finish with a share of fourth place.

Southwestern's Kristen Davenport led the entire tournament with a combined score of 164, and a 79 on the second day clinched the title for the hosts.

Rosie O'Connor finished with the third best score for the Belles (18th overall).

The Belles have yet to finish lower than third in each of their three tournaments this spring season, and with their success thus far, a bid to the NCAAs is in their sights.

"We have to work to do to regain our ranking and prepare for our NCAA bid," Hamilton said.

They will look to continue their successful season when they host a dual meet against Trine on April 10 at South Bend Country Club.

Contact Luke Mansour at lmansour@nd.edu

"We have work to do to regain our ranking and prepare for our NCAA bid."

Mark Hamilton
Belles Coach



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ND WOMEN'S TENNIS

Streaking Irish face Texas teams

By CHRIS ALLEN
Sports Writer

The red-hot No. 3 Irish will ride a three-game winning streak into Texas this weekend as they take on No. 2 Baylor and Texas A&M. The Irish are coming off a road trip to Wichita State during which they defeated tough opponents in TCU and Wichita State by a combined score of 13-1.

Irish coach Jay Louderback was proud of his team's effort and hopes they can carry it with them down to the pair of Lone Star State matches.

"Tennis-wise, the kids played with a lot of enthusiasm, which will certainly carry into this next week," Louderback said.

With both matches on the road, the Irish (15-2) will need to get off to strong starts in order to take the crowd out of the match. The No. 4 first doubles team of sophomore Kristy Frilling and senior Kali Krisik has performed admirably, winning 13 matches in a row. Louderback has continually looked for the No. 2 and No. 3 doubles teams to match that level of consistency as he shifts the lineup around.

"In practice, we've been working on doubles more. It is so important to get that first lead," Louderback said. "We've been playing so much lately that we have just been practicing so the kids stay sharp."

The Bears (15-2) will pose a challenge in singles for the Irish, and particularly for No. 1 singles player Frilling. Baylor's top player is No. 5 senior Lenka Broosova, and they line up No. 18 sophomore



SARAH O'CONNOR/The Observer

Irish sophomore Shannon Mathews hits a backhand during Notre Dame's 4-3 victory over Georgia Tech on Feb. 27.

Nina Segerbegovic at No. 2 singles. Louderback said his team knows they are up against a challenge.

"Baylor is ranked second in the nation. We played them three times last year, during the National Indoor, once in the regular season and at the quarterfinals, though we've never played at Baylor before," Louderback said. "They're an older team. Their number one singles is a top-10 player as well. Unlike what she's used to, [Frilling] is going to get a chance to play someone a little better than her."

After taking on the Bears in Waco, the Irish will run into the Aggies (8-4) in College

Station. Texas A&M is riding high after winning their first three conference games. Louderback said the atmosphere should challenge his team to be on their game.

"The kids are excited about Texas A&M. They are ranked around 40. We always play well there," Louderback said. "They have a great crowd base. They lead the country in fans."

The Irish will take on Baylor Saturday at 3 p.m. and Texas A&M Monday at 6 p.m. as they look to keep their recent winning streak alive.

Contact Chris Allen at callen10@nd.edu

TRACK & FIELD

Team splits up for weekend events

By ANDREW OWENS
Sports Writer

The Irish will travel to four different sites this weekend to compete in various events leading up to Easter. Different parts of the team will head to Arizona, Auburn, Florida and Purdue as the outdoor season continues for the Irish.

The Arizona Multi-Event will be held Thursday and Friday while the Florida Relays, Auburn Tiger Track Classic and Purdue's Mike P o e h l e i n Invitational will take place Friday and Saturday.

"A big part of being successful will be for everyone to ignore the meet atmosphere and just perform like they do in practice," sophomore thrower Mike Smigelski said. "If we simply focus on our coaches' advice and stay relaxed, we will do really well as a team."

The events will mark the second weekend of competition in the outdoor season. The Irish competed at the Arizona State Invitational and Stanford Invitational last Friday and Saturday.

Three Irish athletes finished first in their events over the

weekend. At the Arizona State Invitational, senior Joanna Schultz topped the list in the 400-meter hurdles, sophomore Kevin Schipper recorded the best height in the pole vault and sophomore Jack Howard won the men's 800 race.

After the events, the team will have Easter Sunday off before getting back to action Monday.

"This is a time to have a good Holy Week but we have to stay focused on track," junior pole vaulter Andrew Kolbeck said. "Having time off from classes really helps with this."

The matches mark the beginning of the final month leading up to the Big East outdoor championships, which will be held in Cincinnati, Ohio.

"The Big East meet really comes up quickly in the outdoor season," Kolbeck said. "We have to make sure everyone's focused and ready to compete every opportunity we have, starting with this weekend so we can get everyone qualified especially in some of the new events that are added outdoor."

Contact Andrew Owens at aowens1@nd.edu

"A big part of being successful will be for everyone to ignore the meet atmosphere and just perform like they do in practice."

Mike Smigelski
Irish thrower

SMC TENNIS

Belles dominate in 9-0 sweep of rival Trine

By MATT ROBISON
Sports Writer

The Belles dominated Trine on the road Tuesday, winning every singles and doubles match handily on the way to a 9-0 victory.

Trine is admittedly one of the weaker teams in the MIAA, said Belles coach Dale Campbell. "That could be a tough one for us."

The shutout win kept the clean sheet going for junior Jillian Hurley, who has yet to lose at the No. 1 singles spot this year and has not dropped a doubles match with partner Mary Therese Lee since the beginning of the season.

Behind the ever-sharp play of Hurley and the steadily improving play of their doubles squads, the Belles are in top shape to face the toughest stretch of the MIAA schedule in the next few matches.

After the home match against Calvin, the Belles have three straight away matches against Chicago on April 12, then Albion on April 14 and Kalamazoo on April 17. If the Belles can get out of the Calvin match with a win, they will have a full head of steam going into the road stretch, which would give them a commanding presence in the MIAA standings.

"We still need work at the net in doubles," he said. "Our returns and serves could use work, and we still need to attack [the net] more."

The Belles should have various aspects of their game to work on during the weeklong

break before their next match against Calvin.

"[Calvin is] one of the better teams, if not the best team, in our conference," Campbell said. "That could be a tough one for us."

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Contact Matt Robison at mrobison@nd.edu

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Bookstore

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rebounds that they were then able to convert into layups. In fact, their athleticism later in the game allowed them to execute alley-oops in the second half when the outcome was in doubt.

"We executed our game plan to the best of our ability," Lee said. "We play for keeps every time we take the court."

The Irish Amish, despite their high effort level, saw some inherent disadvantages that gave them an uphill battle from the beginning.

"We felt that our conservative dress and attitude and lack of height were big factors today," Bastedo said. "I'm really confident in our chances in the women's bracket. Next time we'll slit the dresses a little bit higher."

You're not that special 21, Team Cupcake 7

You're not that special (trust us, we read your application) a team of counselors from the Office of Undergraduate Admissions, defeated Team Cupcake, a squad of seniors with a large, supportive cheering section in a long, defensive battle that was marked at times by sloppy play from both sides.

The Admissions team was captained by Matt O'Rourke and featured Gabe Brown, Maureen Clark, Stephanie Nguyen, Chris Perkins, Charleen Vinalon and Julie Denkler, while captain Emily Stewart's Team Cupcake squad played Mary Cecilia Mitsch, Lauren Miller-Lemon, Emily Chappell and Patty Carnevale.

The size discrepancy between the teams favored Special, who used its advantage on both ends of the court, with Perkins and Brown racking up block after block on defense and gaining as many as four offensive rebounds on a single possession multiple times.

In addition, the Admissions team tried to utilize fast breaks but often missed the ensuing layup attempt, characteristic of the shooting from both teams. Team Cupcake tried to counter the size advantage with swarming, energetic defense on the perimeter and in the post,

using active hands to disrupt the Admissions offense.

The contest got off to an even start before Special pulled ahead; Team Cupcake would not give up, however, and fought hard to the very end, as demonstrated by one sequence in which a Cupcaker took an elbow to the lip.

"We've got fat lips and bruised knees, but on the whole, we came to play today," Stewart said. "We were a little anxious about playing people older than us, but we had a great game."

The Admissions office, for its part, will savor a rare Bookstore Basketball victory before preparing for its next game after the Easter break.

"It's been a while for our office since we've won a game and so we're happy to come out here, play pretty well, and get a W," O'Rourke said. "It was a hard-fought game, and they played us tough. We're going to enjoy this one for a while."

Team No. 1 21, Tiger Tiger Rawr 8

In an all-senior matchup Tuesday evening, Team No. 1, a victim of censorship, defeated Tiger Tiger Rawr.

Team No. 1 had the obvious advantage in height, athleticism and number of Y-chromosomes. But instead of putting Tiger Tiger Rawr away immediately after a 5-0 run, they let them stick around. Team No. 1 tried to get fancy with alley-oops and no look passes, but to no avail. Once they settled in and decided to end the game, they did so.

Tiger Tiger Rawr, clad in orange shirts with black stripes and consisting of seniors Gabby Mai, Carolyn Rumer, Colleen Nolan, Ellen Mrowka and Kiel Hockett, rode their youthful exuberance the entire game, despite being down on the scoreboard.

"The Tigers had the tenacity," Rumer said. "We just didn't have the accuracy."

Coming into the game, Team No. 1, consisting of seniors Greg Cunn, John Baumgardner, Mike Lucien, John Langley and Ray Farabaugh, just wanted to "let the game come to us," Lucien said.

According to Team No. 1, who could nearly coast to victory for the final points of the game, the deciding factor in the outcome was "playing four

girls." Apparently Hockett's male presence was not enough to intimidate the all-male Team No. 1.

"And we wanted to execute the cherry picking strategy," Langley said.

The Mantastic 5 21, 2010 Quidditch Olympic Gold Medalists 2

In an entertaining all-female showdown, the Mantastic 5 led a rout of the 2010 Quidditch Olympic Gold Medalists, 21-2.

The Mantastic 5 came dressed in tank tops and flannel shirts, while the Harry Potter-inspired Gold Medalists wore black outfits, capes and wielded wands. But when things got serious, the capes came off, the wands were tossed aside and some of the Mantastic 5 even lost the long-sleeved flannel.

The disparity on the scoreboard never reflected the intensity of the game. Every rebound was contested, nearly every pass deflected and every dribbler was met with hounding defense by the opposition.

The Mantastic 5 simply knocked down shots with greater consistency than the Gold Medalists.

Even though the final tally made it look like a blowout, no one on the 2010 Quidditch Olympic Gold Medalists — freshmen Catherine Reidy, Patrizia Martellard, Maria Diamond, Brianna Piper and Meredith Kugar — were disheartened at the end of the game.

"We just wanted to try as hard as we could, but have fun at the same time," Reidy said.

"We're better on brooms," her teammates added.

The Mantastic 5 — juniors Allison Vicenzi, Amywren Miller, Eileen Flanagan, Delia Cronin and Sam Maxwell — "were looking for a complete destruction."

"We model our game after the Bash Bros. from the Mighty Ducks," the Mantastic 5 said.

The Mantastic 5 played well, but in order to advance further in the seemingly never-ending bracket of Bookstore, they will need to improve.

"We have some practicing to do," they said. "We expect great things in the next round."

Contact Allan Joseph at ajoseph2@nd.edu and Matt Robison at mrobison@nd.edu

NCAA FOOTBALL

Washington's Locker excited for senior year

Associated Press

SEATTLE — Jake Locker could have spent Tuesday getting ready to perform before NFL scouts as the draft approached.

Instead, Washington's senior quarterback was on the field at Husky Stadium as the team began spring practice on an unseasonably chilly afternoon.

Locker wouldn't have it any other way. NFL money can wait.

"I was really excited. Just the atmosphere, the intensity and the overall enjoyment that you have when you're out here is something that you miss when you're not," Locker said. "It was great to get back out here with the guys and get yelled at and coached and play a little football."

Coming off a 5-7 record in Steve Sarkisian's first season at Washington, Locker decided to put off the NFL for another chance at boosting the Huskies' resurgence. The small-town quarterback who hears it from his teammates when he sings country songs was expected to be a high first-round pick.

Locker didn't wait very long to make his decision. Barely a week after the Huskies' season ended, Locker announced he was returning for his senior year.

"He had a chance to go to the NFL and chose to come back, which I don't have a problem with," said wide receiver Jermaine Kearse, the Huskies' leading receiver last season. "I kind of figured he was going to stay. I had that feeling he was going to stay."

But there's a new wrinkle for Locker's final year. He agreed to a contract with the Los Angeles Angels last August after he was selected in the 10th round of the major league draft.

Details of Locker's contract with the Angels have never been released. He spent a weekend with the AL West champs this month in Arizona, and the

Angels have been in talks with the school about whether he would be able to play at all this summer.

Locker has said his top priority is football, and declined to comment further about his baseball situation on Tuesday.

"The plan for him is to play football all the way. When Jake has a week off here and there, nothing mandatory going on, they'd like him to do some baseball. That is where we're talking," Sarkisian said. "A guy can grow mentally ... in being in that clubhouse, in that locker room, in that dugout. But it's the matter of can he handle it mentally and physically so that he's not exhausted in the middle of the season for us. We're still working on that stuff."

Locker finally showed some of the polish pro scouts wanted to see during his first season under Sarkisian's tutelage. He threw for 2,800 yards and 21 touchdowns, completing 58 percent of his throws. It was the third-highest passing total in Washington history and the TD total was fourth-best at a school with a tradition of producing NFL quarterbacks.

He also had nearly 400 yards rushing and seven TDs on the ground, but often tempered his natural reaction to run.

Now with a year of experience in Sarkisian's offense, Locker said Tuesday felt far more comfortable. With the NFL draft a few weeks away and a couple of teammates from last season expected to be chosen, Locker is having a hard time not keeping one eye on what's happening at the pro level.

But it's not a view filled with second-guessing or regret.

"(I'm) not putting myself there. I do like to watch it because it's interesting and it's something you hope to be a part of some day. I do follow it," Locker said. "We have some guys that are going to be in it this year, so I follow them and see what people are saying about them."

Loyola

continued from page 24

The Ramblers scored twice in the fifth inning between grabbing three runs in both the sixth and third innings.

Junior pitcher Jody Valdivia (18-3) lost for the first time since February, ending her 17-game win streak on the mound. She struck out eight batters and gave up five runs in her five innings of work.

Freshman Brittany O'Donnell took over for Valdivia in the sixth and final inning, giving up three runs on one hit.

"Losing that game does have some positives," Wright said. "It's going to be that reminder that we all need that we can't take any team for granted, we need to attack improvement every day and that begins with the first inning."

The Irish were out-hit 8-4 by the Ramblers. Junior Sadie Pitzenberger had a double to right-center in the first inning

to extend her school-record hit streak to 25 games. Fellow junior Katie Fleury had another hit for Notre Dame, while sophomore Alexa Maldonado added in a team-high two singles.

Loyola - Chicago's Angie Funsten went 2 for 3 with two runs and three RBIs while Brooke Andreson scored twice on two hits.

Notre Dame will take on its second Big East opponent of the season in Rutgers (12-15) this weekend at Melissa Cook Stadium. The Irish know that their conference competition is some of the toughest in the country, and that they will have to make a comeback if they are to compete at that level against Rutgers, a challenge they are ready to face.

"We know that this weekend we are going to bring all we

have to each game against Rutgers, and show that Notre Dame is better than what was displayed in today's game," Wright said. "This weekend will

be a good test on how we can bounce back from a bad loss, and being able to have a good mindset while taking on each of these teams. We are going to stay positive and keep on playing the game like we have this whole season."

The Irish defeated the Scarlet Knights in both of their two meetings last season.

The two teams will meet Thursday at 6 p.m. with a doubleheader on Saturday with games scheduled for 11 a.m. and 1 p.m.

Contact Meaghan Veselik at mveselik01@saintmarys.edu

"This weekend will be a good test on how we can bounce back from a bad loss."

Kristina Wright
Irish sophomore

Wildcats

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"I wish we competed better, but I don't think how we played to do has anything to do with Georgetown," Coyne said.

The loss to the nation's top-ranked team will do nothing to dampen the hopes of the Irish, who are still aiming for the No. 1 seed in the conference tournament this year.

"If we work on our game, our goal is to win another Big East championship and try to be the No. 1 seed in the tournament," Coyne said.

The Irish will attempt to take another step toward that

goal when they travel to Washington D.C. to take on Georgetown at 1 p.m. on Saturday.

Contact Luke Mansour at lmansour@nd.edu



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JULIE HERDER/The Observer

Irish sophomore attack Nicholas Beattie runs upfield during a 10-8 Irish loss to Rutgers on Saturday.

Wildcats

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themselves, play together and play within ourselves."

Although this is the first year for the Big East conference in men's lacrosse, the Irish have faced Villanova (6-3) in the past, and the Wildcats have consistently proven to be a formidable foe.

"Villanova is a team that has always given us trouble in the past because they play smart and with discipline," Corrigan said. "You have to beat them, they won't beat themselves."

One aspect to look out for is the play of the Irish goalkeepers. After senior Scott Rodgers went down with an injury against Rutgers, Corrigan turned to both senior Brendan Moore and freshman John Kemp, who made his

collegiate debut in that game.

But after the loss, Corrigan said he was most disappointed with the play of the offense, which has been relying on individual efforts rather than team play to score, according to Corrigan.

Saturday should be a tough game for the Irish, but Corrigan said he is confident in his team's ability to get ready this week.

"This is a big game for us because we haven't been playing well of late," Corrigan said. "But we've had a couple good practices this week and if we keep working we will be ready Saturday for what I expect to be a very hard-fought game."

The Irish will face off against the Wildcats Saturday at 1 p.m. in Villanova, Pa.

Contact Matt Robison at mrobison@nd.edu

Season

continued from page 24

could hope for, but the bench was not enough to lift them over the top.

But in what appears to be the year of the Husky, when no one can make a legitimate claim to the national title besides Connecticut, maybe there is something more to be found here than just winning it all.

Just ask the Irish players who faced Connecticut three times this year and lost all three games by double digits. Sometimes you just cannot impede the unstoppable force.

But there was something about this Irish team that was truly special, and that can never be taken away from them. They had class, they had poise, and most importantly, they had each other.

I can only speak as an observer from the outside, hopefully not a too terribly biased one, but the best analogy to what I was able to cover this year was a team that was a family.

Of course there was the steady presence of Irish coach Muffet McGraw, always keeping the girls on track to do what they needed to succeed and get better.

The veteran guidance of seniors Ashley Barlow,

Melissa Lechlitner, Lindsay Schrader, Erica Williamson and Alena Christiansen cannot be underestimated.

Barlow was the defensive juggernaut, taking on the opposing team's best player and shutting them down on a regular basis. Lechlitner organized the offense and made sure everyone was in the best position to succeed. Schrader was the hard worker that always put herself in position to make plays with hard work, and McGraw trusted no one more with the ball in pressure situations.

Williamson stepped up to the plate late in the season and made some huge contributions down the stretch. Christiansen, although she did not see the court very much, added to that substantial senior presence.

Looking at this list of truly phenomenal women to have taken the court together for the Irish for so many years, it is hard to imagine what this team will look like next year. When will the team be as together and formidable as it was this season again?

But do not underestimate the teaching that went on

between these players. Juniors Becca Bruszewski, Brittany Mallory and Devereaux Peters are ready to make the next step and take over that leadership position.

There was something about this Irish team that was truly special, and that can never be taken away from them.

And do not forget Diggins, who was able to absorb so much from these great players in so short a span of time.

Diggins led the team with 13.8 points per game and was tied with Lechlitner for the lead in assists with 3.2 per contest. The story of Skylar Diggins has barely begun here at Notre Dame, and the team is in good hands going forward.

But as a graduating senior myself, I cannot help but feel nostalgic as the year comes to a close, and I begin to contemplate the end of my Notre Dame career along with these fabulous senior basketball players.

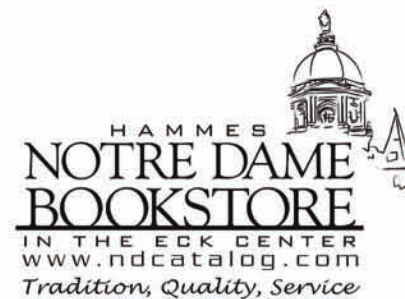
It reminds me that basketball (whether playing or writing about it) and going to college in general is just a stepping stone in life to that next big phase. And if what I have seen is any kind of an indication, this team and these girls are going to be just fine.

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

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The story of Skylar Diggins has barely begun here at Notre Dame, and the team is in good hands going forward.

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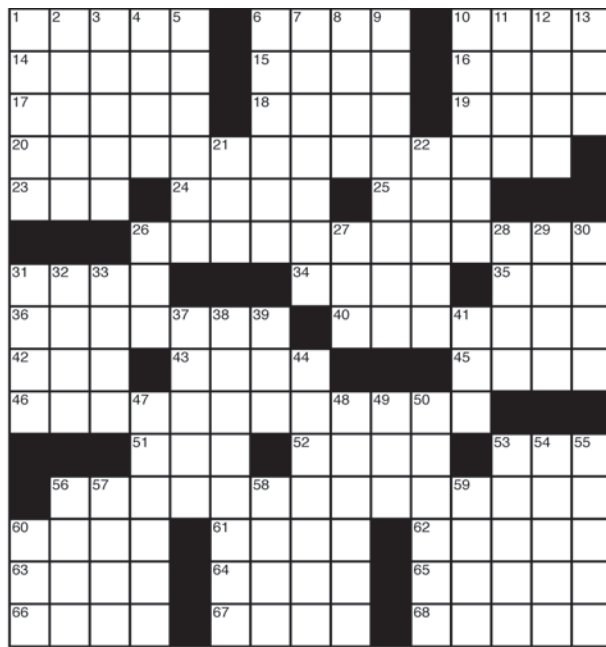
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- Across**
- 1 Fix firmly
 - 6 Bust ____ (laugh hard)
 - 10 Colombia's second-largest city
 - 14 Walled city of Spain
 - 15 "Forbidden" perfume brand
 - 16 Service closer
 - 17 Focus of some contemplation
 - 18 Control tower word
 - 19 Cozy corner
 - 20 Hoopsters turn down singer Stevie?
 - 23 Singing the blues
 - 24 Filled fare
 - 25 Taxonomic suffix
 - 26 Misplace comic Costello's privies?
 - 31 "The Square Egg" author
 - 34 Keen on
 - 35 Maximilian I's realm: Abbr.
 - 36 20-, 26-, 46- and 56-Across, homophonically speaking
 - 40 Yup'ik and others
 - 42 Like a petty officer: Abbr.
 - 43 Martini et Corsica
 - 45 Org. with a closing bell
 - 46 Apportion hamburgers to track runners?
 - 51 Get-up-and-go
 - 52 Candidates for witness protection programs
 - 53 Secretary Geithner
 - 56 Compose the appropriate ceremony?
 - 60 Austria's capital, to Austrians
 - 61 Kind of tide
 - 62 Rushed
 - 63 Grp. including Nigeria and Venezuela
- Down**
- 1 Admiral and others
 - 2 The first Mrs. Trump
 - 3 Like some imaginations
 - 4 T.V.A. output
 - 5 Have a word with
 - 6 On the double
 - 7 Filled fare
 - 8 Alpine goat
 - 9 Rat race casualties
 - 10 Alternative to "Continue" in an online order
 - 11 In a frenzy
 - 12 13 popes, so far
 - 13 Tattooist's supply
 - 21 Airline in the Star Alliance
 - 22 "No harm, no foul"
 - 26 Sass
 - 27 Pee Wee Reese, for the Dodgers
 - 28 "Heavens!"
 - 29 Top prizes at the Juegos Olimpicos
 - 30 Zaire's Mobutu ____ Seko
 - 31 Part of many musical notes
 - 64 "Mon Oncle" star
 - 65 Speedy Washington-to-Boston link
 - 66 Chinese toy, for short
 - 67 German admiral who went down with the Scharnhorst
 - 68 Custodian's supply



Puzzle by Kenneth J. Berniker

- 32 Former Minnesota governor Carlson
- 33 Piper's wear
- 37 The sky, it's said
- 38 Things on a table
- 39 "Get it?"
- 41 Cause of a turnover: Abbr.
- 44 Make furrows in
- 47 Show clearly
- 48 Heckle or Jeckle of cartoons
- 49 Haile Selassie's land: Abbr.
- 50 Like some planetarium projections
- 53 Sticking points
- 54 Author Calvino
- 55 Like most golf woods, nowadays
- 56 Towelette, e.g.
- 57 Need a bath badly
- 58 Take in
- 59 Blue
- 60 Doo-__

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Happy Birthday: You will hit emotional barriers if you try to dive into household changes too quickly. Do your research and find out what your options are before you make any decisions. Share your thoughts and ideas with creative people who are already into something similar. There is no room for arguing or anger this year. Your numbers are 3, 8, 13, 24, 26, 38, 46

ARIES (March 21-April 19): A little give-and-take will show your ability to adapt to whatever you face and come up with workable solutions. A relationship can become a great partnership, professionally and personally. Your enthusiasm will enhance your reputation. ★★

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Someone you rely on will disappoint you by leaving you in an awkward situation regarding promises you made to others. A serious, responsible attitude regarding your financial situation will help to clear some debt you've incurred. ★★

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): There is an opportunity awaiting you. Long-range statistics will help you make up your mind. Sending your resume and/or going for an interview will all be met with satisfaction and a brighter future. ★★

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Getting out and away from your normal surroundings may not be your idea of a good time but the experience will spark some interesting ideas and help you make a decision. If you don't choose to alter your course, the choice may be made for you. ★★

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): You'll have plenty to think about regarding your home life and the people you are involved with personally and professionally. Don't let anyone cause you anxiety or lead you to believe that you have to follow through with someone you aren't happy about. ★★

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): You need to engage in more entertaining activities. It will help you develop new ideas you can implement into your work and daily routine. Concentrating on your health and fitness will ensure that you are up for the opportunities ahead of you. ★★

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Put time and effort into your personal and social life and you will develop relationships that will help you excel. An idea you have been mulling over should be taken to the next stage. ★★

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Do the unexpected and you will be able to outmaneuver anyone trying to get the better of you. Maintain a certain amount of control both at home and work if you don't want to lose ground. Be subtle but intent. ★★

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Stick to what you know and do best. If you pretend to have a handle on things, you will fall short of your goals and promises. ★★

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Poor directions or misinterpretation will cause upset and wasted time. Map out what you want before you get into a lengthy conversation that can lead you down the wrong path. Emotional upset is apparent. ★★

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): You have lots going for you and a chance to make headway financially, legally and personally if you set your plans in motion. Don't hold back when there is so much you can do to please others as well as yourself. ★★

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Don't let someone else's uncertainty cause you to miss out. It's important to view things as they are and deal with each situation constructively and objectively. It's time to move forward with a contract, settlement or agreement. ★★

Birthday Baby: You are emotional and sensitive. You are original, creative and innovative. You have far-reaching interests and goals.

Eugenia's Web sites: eugenialast.com for confidential consultations, mspace.com/eugenialast for Eugenia's blog, astroadvice.com for fun

SCHAD & FREUDE

WILL GUAPPONE & BRI KRAFCIK



T.I.N.D.

DAN POHLMAN



JUMBLE

JEFF KNUREK
MIKE ARGIRION

JUMBLE

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME by Mike Argirion and Jeff Knurek

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

MYALD

BLONE

DOAZIC

PINGAY

Answer: _____

Answer: _____

Answer: _____

Answer: _____

Answer: _____

Answer: _____

Answer: _____

Answer: _____

Answer: _____

Answer: _____

Answer: _____

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Answer: _____

Answer: _____



Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Answer: _____

Answer: _____

Answer: _____

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Answer: _____

Answer: _____

THE OBSERVER

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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MEN'S LACROSSE

Big East brawl

Irish look for road win at No. 17 Villanova

By MATT ROBISON
Sports Writer

The No. 18 Irish will face No. 17 Villanova Saturday in Notre Dame's first-ever Big East road game. In the conference opener last weekend, the Irish fell to Rutgers at home 10-8. Saturday will be a good chance to get back on the right track against a challenging conference opponent.

The focus in practice this week will be getting back to what Notre Dame (5-3) does best as a team, rather than looking too far ahead or overthinking their opponent. Irish coach Kevin Corrigan said he wants the Irish to establish their identity as a team.

"Our focus is almost entirely on ourselves right now," Corrigan said. "That is not a slight to a very good Villanova team but an acknowledgement that we can't win unless we understand our-

see WILDCATS/page 22



JULIE HERDER/The Observer

Senior midfielder Grant Krebs passes last Saturday during Notre Dame's 10-8 loss to Rutgers at Arlotta Stadium. The Irish travel to face No. 17 Villanova on Saturday.

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Team falls, but players learn more

A season begun with lofty expectations came to a close in the Sweet 16 on Sunday when Notre Dame lost 77-72 in overtime to Oklahoma. It was not the finish that many of the players probably expected to have happen after boasting five returning seniors this year as well as adding local freshman sensation Skylar Diggins.



Jared Jedick

Sports Writer

The year began with a 15-game winning streak and a No. 2 ranking nationally, yet that was not to last. The Irish saw themselves with one of the deepest benches a team

see SEASON/page 22

WOMEN'S LACROSSE

Notre Dame falls 15-5 on the road at No. 1 Northwestern

By LUKE MANSOUR
Sports Writer

The No. 14 Irish knew they would have to put together a complete effort from the outset to beat No. 1 Northwestern. Unfortunately, after falling behind early, they never got the chance to recover, falling by a score of 15-5 in Evanston, Ill. Tuesday night.

"There were moments

where we did some good things," Irish coach Tracy Coyne said. "We just didn't string together enough sustained attacking opportunities."

It was the ninth straight loss for the Irish (5-3, 1-0) against the Wildcats (8-0). Northwestern now holds a 9-2 advantage since the teams began competing in the 2003 season.

The Irish were led by senior attack Gina Scioscia, who

recorded two goals and an assist. Junior Shaylyn Blaney, sophomore Kate Newall and freshman Betsy Mastropieri also scored for the Irish.

Northwestern jumped out to a 6-0 lead and never relented, notching a 9-2 lead by half-time. Danielle Spencer and Shannon Smith led the Wildcats with four goals apiece.

"Spencer and Smith played well and some of their secondary personnel stepped

up," Coyne said. "They're relentless in what they do, it just forces you to play out of your comfort zone."

The Irish were able to produce a fair amount of quality chances, but they were turned away by Wildcats sophomore goalkeeper Brianne LoManto, who notched a career-high 11 saves. Northwestern outshot Notre Dame overall by a tally of 29-21.

"We were getting chances and [not finishing] has been a

problem for us in other games," Coyne said. "They're good, don't get me wrong. I thought we had to good chance to win or at least keep it close so it wasn't the result we were looking for."

Despite the loss, Coyne said she expects there to be no carryover from Tuesday's bad result when the Irish resume their Big East slate against Georgetown on Saturday.

see WILDCATS/page 20

ND SOFTBALL

No. 24 ND falls to Loyola

By MEAGHAN VESELIK
Sports Writer

No. 24 Notre Dame saw its 11-game win streak end Tuesday when it fell 8-0 to Loyola-Chicago in a non-conference matchup at Loyola Softball Park. The Irish dropped to 24-6 while the Ramblers improve to 7-12.

"Today was an upsetting loss, not because of the fact that we lost but how we lost the game," sophomore catcher Kristina Wright said. "Our hitting wasn't on, we didn't make the adjustments needed to produce enough hits, and we just couldn't string any together to get some runs. Our team needed to improve on all areas to win that game."

see LOYOLA/page 20



TOM LA/The Observer

Irish junior Katie Fleury leads off second base Sunday during Notre Dame's 13-3 win over Big East opponent Seton Hall.

BOOKSTORE BASKETBALL

Wet Bandits use size to take out Irish Amish

By ALLAN JOSEPH and MATT ROBISON
Sports Writers

The Wet Bandits, a team of freshmen from Knott Hall, defeated the Irish Amish, a team of sophomore girls dressed in full Amish regalia — except for their Nike and Adidas basketball shoes — by the comfortable margin of 21-5 Tuesday.

The Wet Bandits were captained by Charlie Lee and consisted of Lee, Will Crowley, Tyler Smith, Tebo Bennett and Chris Carr; the Irish Amish roster incorporated Claire Kueny, Erica Vesnaver, Laura Yoviene, Analise

Althoff and captain Megan Bastedo.

The Amish's humorous clothing belied a will to win the game evident from the team's organized warm-ups and their commitment to a dribble-drive-kick attack on the offensive end of the floor. Their game plan resulted in open jump shots, but the Amish could not get their shots to fall and fell behind quickly.

The Bandits were able to use their superior size and athleticism to make easy passes and find easy scores in the paint. Their missed shots usually resulted in offensive

see BOOKSTORE/page 20