

WSND-FM 88.9
Voice of the Fighting Irish, Inc.
Quarterly issues/Programming Report for 1st Quarter/2023

Issue: Politics

Program Name: Associated Press News, read by Notre Dame students and WSND community announcers

Aired Monday-Friday at 7:30am, 8:30am, 12:30pm, 4:30pm and 5:30pm

01/04/23 House Republicans are plowing through the second day of the new Congress, with no clear off-ramp from their political chaos over electing a new speaker. Republican leader Kevin McCarthy failed anew to win the House speakership in three votes, faring no better than he had in the same number on Tuesday when 20 fellow Republicans rejected his bid. Former President Donald Trump vigorously renewed his support for McCarthy, but it made no difference. And an outspoken conservative Republican said Trump should actually tell McCarthy to drop out. The chamber's most conservative members believe McCarthy is neither conservative enough nor tough enough to battle Democrats.

01/18/23 Anti-abortion activists will have multiple reasons to celebrate — and some reasons for unease — when they gather Friday in Washington for the annual March for Life. The march has been held since January 1974 — a year after the U.S. Supreme Court's Roe v. Wade decision established a nationwide right to abortion. This year's gathering will be the first since the high court struck down Roe in a momentous ruling last June. Since then, 12 Republican-governed states have implemented sweeping bans on abortion. But in the same period, abortion opponents were defeated in votes on ballot measures in Kansas, Michigan and Kentucky. And state courts have blocked several abortion bans from taking effect.

01/27/23 Germany and the United States have announced that they will send battle tanks to Ukraine. It's the first stage of a coordinated effort by the West to provide dozens of the heavy weapons to help Kyiv break combat stalemates as Russia's invasion enters its 12th month. U.S. President Joe Biden said today that the U.S. will send 31 M1 Abrams tanks. The decision reverses months of persistent arguments by Washington that they were too difficult for Ukrainian troops to operate and maintain. Germany agreed to send 14 Leopard 2 A6 tanks from its own stocks. Germany had said the Leopards would not be sent unless the U.S. put its Abrams on the table.

Issue: Politics

Program Name: PBS Newshour

Aired Monday-Friday, 7-8pm

01/02/23 Monday on the NewsHour, Russia bombards critical infrastructure in Kyiv while Ukraine carries out one of the deadliest attacks against Russian forces since the war began. Pakistan struggles to recover from historic flooding that killed more than 1,700 people. Plus, a new COVID subvariant spreads rapidly in the Northeast, sparking concerns over how well it can evade existing vaccines.

01/11/23 Wednesday on the NewsHour, airlines scramble to get back on track after an FAA glitch grounds thousands of flights. Russian mercenaries battle for territory in eastern Ukraine as Western nations promise more weapons to aid the country's defense. Plus, the attack on Brazil's government by a far-right mob raises concerns about how extremism in the U.S. has spread abroad.

01/30/23 Monday on the NewsHour, another Memphis police officer is suspended following the beating death of Tyre Nichols. On a trip to the Middle East, U.S. Secretary of State Blinken urges Israelis and Palestinians to restore calm amid a spike in violence. Plus, we explore what's causing the price of eggs to skyrocket nationwide.

Issue: The Environment

Program Name: StarDate

Aired daily at noon and 5pm Monday-Friday on WSND-FM

01/02/23 The Moon forms a shifting triangle with two bright orange points of light the next few nights. The brighter dot is the planet Mars. The other is the star Aldebaran, the eye of the bull. Tonight, Mars stands to the lower left of the Moon at nightfall, with Aldebaran farther below the Moon. The triangle will be tighter as the trio sets in the wee hours of the morning.

01/10/23 Betelgeuse is a long way from home. The supergiant star probably was born in Orion OB1 — a region that's given birth to many supergiants. Today, though, it's a long way from there, and it's moving farther by the second. And astronomers are still trying to explain how it was kicked out of its birthplace.

Betelgeuse is one of the biggest and most massive stars in our region of the galaxy. It's moving through space at a speedy clip. It's leaving a wake behind it like a ship racing across the sea. That makes it a runaway — a star that's moving much faster than the other stars around it

01/31/23 The Moon is especially close to a star with a dangerous-sounding name tonight: El Nath, "the butting one." It marks the tip of one of the horns of Taurus. It's the bull's second-brightest star.

El Nath is most famous for its location. It's the closest bright star to the galactic "anticenter" — the point directly opposite the heart of the Milky Way Galaxy. So when we look in that direction, we're looking toward the galaxy's rim. El Nath isn't on the rim, though. It's about 135 light-years away, while the rim is more than 20,000 light-years farther.

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02/01/23 The FBI has searched President Joe Biden's Rehoboth Beach, Delaware, vacation home as part of its investigation into the potential mishandling of classified documents. Biden's attorney says that agents didn't find any classified documents during today's search, but did

take some handwritten notes and other materials relating to Biden's time as vice president for review. The search followed a top-to-bottom review of Biden's Wilmington, Delaware, home on Jan. 20, when agents located documents with classified markings and also took possession of some of his handwritten notes. The president has been voluntarily allowing the Justice Department into his residences as a separate investigation of former President Donald Trump's holding of classified materials continues.

02/15/23 Former Vice President Mike Pence says he'll challenge a subpoena by the special counsel overseeing investigations into efforts by former President Donald Trump and his allies to overturn the results of the 2020 election. Pence says the subpoena to a vice president is "unprecedented and it's unconstitutional." And Pence says he's "prepared to take this fight into the court and, if need be, take it to the Supreme Court of the United States." Pence is basing his fight on constitutional grounds, namely the separation of power among the branches of government. The potential 2024 presidential candidate is on his way later Wednesday to Iowa, a key early-voting state on the primary calendar.

02/24/23 Former President Donald Trump's lawyers in Georgia are criticizing the Fulton County investigation into potential illegal election meddling after the foreperson of the special grand jury helping the probe went public. Trump attorneys Drew Findling and Jennifer Little say they kept quiet until now out of respect for the process. But they tell The Associated Press that comments by special grand jury foreperson Emily Kohrs in media interviews seemed to implicate Trump. And they insist he has broken no laws. However, Kohrs hasn't publicly named Trump in response to questions about unidentified people the grand jury recommended for possible indictment. Trump himself has denounced the investigation as a "witch hunt."

Issue: Politics

Program Name: PBS Newshour

Aired Monday-Friday, 7-8pm

02/07/23 Tuesday on the NewsHour, desperate rescue efforts continue in Turkey and Syria as the earthquake death toll rises by thousands. President Biden prepares to deliver the annual State of the Union Address and potentially signal his reelection campaign. Plus, federal authorities foil an attempt by racially-motivated extremists to use assault weapons to bring down Baltimore's electrical grid.

02/14/23 Tuesday on the NewsHour, Michigan State University becomes the site of the latest mass shooting in America after a gunman kills three and wounds several more. Former South Carolina Gov. Nikki Haley announces a bid for the White House. Plus, we speak with a teenager whose family is suing social media companies, alleging that the quest for more likes contributed to her eating disorder.

02/28/23 Tuesday on the NewsHour, the Supreme Court hears a challenge to President Biden's student loan relief plan with major implications for borrowers. Food banks prepare for a spike in demand as SNAP benefits implemented during the pandemic come to an end for many. Plus,

nearly a year after their town was liberated, residents of Bucha reflect on the horrors and potential war crimes of Russian forces.

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02/02/23 Punxsutawney Phil carries a heavy load on his little shoulders. According to folklore, if the groundhog pops out of his burrow and sees his shadow today, there will be six more weeks of winter. If there's no shadow, it means an early spring.

Phil has become the unofficial groundhog of Groundhog Day. He's near the small town of Punxsutawney, Pennsylvania. His appearance is part of a day-long festival that's been celebrated since 1887. Many other towns hold similar fetes.

02/14/23 Growing up in the Swiss Alps, Fritz Zwicky liked to throw rocks across rivers, and snowballs at church steeples. He just wanted to throw things higher and farther than anyone else.

Decades later, Zwicky became the first person to throw something away from Earth — a metal ball bearing blasted from the nose cone of a rocket. It escaped Earth's gravity and went into orbit around the Sun. It was the first step in a grand plan to explore the solar system.

02/28/23 The two brightest points of light in the night sky are staging a spectacular encounter. They're low in the west at nightfall, and set an hour or so later. Venus is the brighter of the two — the "evening star." Jupiter is a little above it tonight, but they'll stand side by side tomorrow night — almost touching each other. They'll stay fairly close for a few nights after that, but the gap will grow wider night by night.

Venus appears so bright because it's close to Earth, it's covered by bright clouds, and it's close to the Sun, so it reflects a lot of sunlight into space.

Issue: World News

Program Name: Associated Press News, read by Notre Dame students and WSND community announcers

Aired Monday-Friday at 7:30am, 8:30am, 12:30pm, 4:30pm and 5:30pm

03/01/23 Ukraine's military may decide to pull troops back from the key eastern stronghold of Bakhmut after a bloody, months-long Russian offensive to capture the city. An adviser to Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy said today that Ukraine's military "is obviously going to weigh all the options," including withdrawing. The adviser added, "We're not going to sacrifice all of our people just for nothing." Meanwhile, another of Zelenskyy's advisers denied that Ukraine had used drones to attack Russian territory on Tuesday. Russian officials said that Ukraine had targeted infrastructure deep inside Russia and one drone crashed into a field less than (60 miles) from Moscow. A Kremlin spokesman says Russia doesn't believe Ukraine's denial.

03/08/23 Women in Turkey have braved an official ban on an International Women's Day march today in Istanbul, demonstrating for about two hours before police used tear gas to disperse remaining protesters and detained several people. Thousands converged on a central neighborhood for a protest that combined women's rights with the staggering toll of the deadly quake that hit Turkey and Syria a month ago. Organizers had been forbidden — for the second straight year — from marching down the popular Istiklal pedestrian avenue where Women's Day marches were held since 2003. Police blocked demonstrators' access to the avenue and broke up the protest with tear gas. An Associated Press journalist saw officers detain at least 30 people.

03/28/23 Visitors have flocked to see Michelangelo's David sculpture in Florence following the uproar over the Renaissance masterpiece at a Florida school. Tourists, many of them Americans on spring break or studying abroad, were reacting to the decision by Tallahassee Classical School board to pressure the school principal to resign after an image of the David was shown to a sixth-grade art class. One parent said it was pornographic; two others complained they hadn't been warned in advance it would be shown.

Issue: Politics

Program Name: PBS Newshour

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03/1/23 Wednesday on the NewsHour, an intelligence report refutes one possible cause of the mysterious Havana Syndrome that sickened American diplomats. Chicago voters oust Mayor Lori Lightfoot in an election where crime was a top issue. Plus, scientists researching the aftermath of wildfires add to the evidence that climate change is accelerating the risk of disease spreading from animals to humans.

03/15/23 Wednesday on the NewsHour, global markets tumble as a large Swiss bank acknowledges signs of instability in the wake of two U.S. bank failures. A federal judge hears a case that could overturn the FDA's approval of abortion pills. Plus, the contentious fight over LGBTQ rights in Tennessee threatens access to HIV care.

03/30/23 Thursday on the NewsHour, a New York grand jury indicts former President Trump over hush money payments to a porn star. An American reporter is detained in Russia on spying charges for the first time since the Cold War. Plus, more uncertainty ahead for homeless people in Washington, D.C. as the city phases out its COVID-era hotel housing program.

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03/02/23 Traveling to any astronomical object beyond Earth takes time. Apollo astronauts left Earth at 25,000 miles per hour, yet it took three days for them to reach the Moon — our closest neighbor. And present-day missions take even longer.

Yet that's nothing compared to the time it would take to reach the stars — even the closer ones. A couple of examples appear near the Moon tonight — Pollux and Castor, the “twins” of Gemini, with Pollux closest to the Moon.

03/15/23 A star cluster with a lot of deceptively young-looking stars ascends the eastern sky tonight. It's to the upper left of the bright yellow-orange star Arcturus, which climbs into good view by about 10 o'clock. The cluster is visible through binoculars as a small, round, faint smudge of light.

Messier 3 is a tight ball of half a million stars known as a globular cluster. It spans a couple of hundred light-years, although most of its stars are jammed together in the middle. They're so tightly packed that each star probably has thousands of neighbors within just five light-years; by comparison, only one star system is that close to the Sun.

03/30/23 If you're a city, town, coastline, bit of tundra, or even a desert and you don't have your own spaceport, you're behind the times. New rocket launch sites have been sprouting like Texas bluebonnets after a spring rain. And several more are scheduled to open later this year. They'll be launching some brand-new rockets, by new companies, built with new technology. That's because the market for space missions is really taking off. The space industry will launch thousands of craft this year. Most of them are communications satellites. Others are tiny payloads that will conduct science and technology experiments. And a few will head for the Moon or carry astronauts to orbit.