**UA 88 • NOTRE DAME 71**

One more to Final Four

By Brian Penso

ANAHEIM, Calif. — Coming off a one-point double overtime victory over No. 5 seed Gonzaga last weekend, many thought top-seeded Arizona was more lucky than good after the second-round scare.

Notre Dame was hoping for a similar Arizona team would show coming into its Sweet 16 matchup with UA. What Notre Dame hoped for and what it got were two completely different things.

The top-seeded Wildcats (28-3) came out and played flawless basketball at times in a dominating 88-71 victory against No. 5 Notre Dame (24-10).

"We got beat by one back of a basketball team," said Fighting Irish head coach Mike Brey said. "I am very impressed with Arizona ... it was too much for us to handle."

The win moves the Wildcats into an Elite Eight matchup with Kansas tomorrow at 5:05 p.m. MST.

With a win over KU, the Wildcats will not only advance to the Final Four, but head coach Lute Olson will have taken his 500th career victory during his tenure in Tucson.

The Fighting Irish's game plan coming into the game was to run the floor and turn the game into more of a "track meet."

That has been their style all year, but that played right into the hands of the Wildcats. With 122:22 remaining in the first half, Notre Dame point guard Chris Thomas stole the ball from Jason Gardner and it led to an Irish layup and a one-point lead. That was the turning point in the game.

"Coach O (Olson) gave me a stare," Gardner said. "I think that play got me going." That was the last time Notre Dame would lead in the game. The Wildcats proceeded to go on a 22-3 run over the next six minutes to break the game wide open.

The key to UA's run, and its protection.

INSIDE:

- Analysis: UA sheds soft image to bury Notre Dame
- Elite Eight preview: Kansas downs Duke, sets up rematch

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**U.S. faces urban war in Baghdad**

By Shelley Shelton

While the conflict in Iraq deepens and more military units are deployed, UA ROTC members and peace activists alike agree that everyone should support the troops.

Despite rumors to the contrary, attacks on military students have been relatively few in number.

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"We’ve had a few incidents of people being yelled at, verbal attacks, pretty much minor misconduct," said U.S. Army Maj. Stewart Slatten, department of military science enrollment adviser.

People might target those in uniform because they are symbolic representatives of the government that makes policies they disagree with, he said.

"Most people understand that those of us

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**Muslims targets of hate crimes**

By Aaron Mackey & Bob Purvis

A recent racially motivated assault on an Arab UA student has many in the Islamic community fearing for their safety, in light of misguided anger from the war in Iraq.

President Pete Likens addressed about 50 Muslims students and Islamic community leaders at a meeting Wednesday of the Muslim Students Association, to diminish growing fears sparked by the Feb. 14 attack on a UA student. The Muslim student’s life was threatened after two men forced their way into his apartment.

The attack, the only reported hate crime targeting Arab students at the UA since talks of war with Iraq began, is one of less than 30 hate crimes reported at UA post Sept. 11. Yet some said they fear they could face similar situations.

"The war has empowered the hate crime in the community," said Omar Shablan, director of the Islamic Center of Tucson.

Shablan said that he has seen an increase in verbal threats on Arab students since the beginning of the war, but that a fear of retaliation may cause some violent instances to go unreported.

"What we report and what we know are two different things. I am sure that there are tons of incidents that go unreported," Shablan said.

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**UA activists, ROTC see human side of troops**

By Shelley Shelton

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**SAFETY/12**

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**ARTS**

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**ANALYSIS**