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CAMPAIGN 2004

ND awaits election as race comes down to the wire

Students cast votes from abroad programs

By JOE TROMBELLO
News Writer

OXFORD — The campaign to increase the representative Notre Dame turnout in the upcoming presidential election has not been confined to South Bend, as students and administrators abroad say that international study programs are making great efforts to encourage students to vote and to provide information on overseas registration and ballot requests.

Laura Holt, associate director of undergraduate studies in London, said that she and other administrators have been especially active in sending e-mails reminding students to request absentee ballots.

"Voting is important, and so even in off-years I encourage London Programme students to



Voters cast their ballots electronically in Miami, Fla. last month. Concerns about vote fraud, disenfranchisement and nightmare legal scenarios are mounting as Election Day approaches.

Professors predict legal battles, conflicts

By TERESA FRALISH
Associate News Editor

Four years after one of the most contested presidential elections in U.S. history, the 2004 race remains dead even — prompting Republicans and Democrats alike to prepare for the worst.

"I think the odds are pretty high that you will see legal challenges to all sort of things," said political science professor David Campbell, who specializes in political participation.

Though Campbell believed Tuesday's election would be run more carefully than the 2000 contest, he said the closeness of the race still makes it prone to legal disputes.

"Both the Democrats and

see ABROAD/page 4

see CHALLENGE/page 6

SMC alumna runs for fifth straight term Northup leading in Kentucky

By MEGAN O'NEIL
News Writer

While the presidential candidates travel around the country straining for every last vote, Saint Mary's alumna Anne Northup looks poised to win her fifth consecutive term as congressional representative to Kentucky's 3rd district.



Northup

A recent poll conducted by the Louisville Courier-Journal showed Northup led with 57 percent of the vote, 17 points ahead of her Democratic challenger, Tony Miller. According to the latest spending reports Northup also topped her opponent in fundraising by over a million dollars.

If she wins on Tuesday, the Republican congresswoman will once again be representing a district in which registered Democrats outnumber Republicans two to one.

Campaign Manager Patrick Neely said it is affirming to be ahead in the pre-election poles but the Republican camp will continue to campaign aggres-

sively in the final days.

"All the polls in the world can't say who is going to win. We are working very hard," Neely said.

Few of Northup's election drives have been as smooth at this year's, however. In her first bid in 1996 Northup faced a fierce battle with Democratic incumbent Mike Ward. Her eventual win, by 1,399 votes, made her the first Kentucky woman elected to serve in Congress since 1926.

In 2002 Northup was once again threatened by a strong democratic candidate, Jack Conway. The race drew national attention and President Bush traveled to Louisville to energize her campaign and ensure Republican control of the House.

Northup's successes have earned her the reputation of a tough competitor and the respect of even her opponents. One such former opponent, Chris Gorman, publicly endorsed the congresswoman in this year's reelection bid.

The Louisville Courier-Journal also endorsed her for the first time.

"I think she has run five very strong campaigns," Neely said.

According to Neely, Northup

see NORTHUP/page 8

Political poll yields surprises Results contrast with Notre Dame stereotypes

Notre Dame Political Perception Poll

Who are you voting for?

George W. Bush	48.7%
John Kerry	43.9%
Other	4.4%

Are you definitely voting in Tuesday's Election?

Yes	79%
No	21%

What direction is the country headed in?

Right Track	33.8%
Wrong Track	48.9%
Don't Know	17.3%

Think politics are relevant to students' lives:

Notre Dame	60.1%
College Students Nationwide	19%

*Margin of Error: 5.86%,
Sample of 273 Notre Dame students

Source: Philip Wells and Nicola Bunick

MIKE HARKINS/Observer Graphic

By MARY KATE MALONE
News Writer

As part of a class project, two Notre Dame students recently conducted a campus-wide poll about students' political opinions on the presidential candidates and various issues affecting the 2004 election — with some surprising results.

Juniors Philip Wells and Nicola Bunick formed and conducted the poll under the direction of political science professors Joshua Kaplan and David Campbell. The survey, which sought students' opinions on topics ranging from the

presidential candidates to homosexual civil unions, is an independent research project that Wells and Bunick will receive credit for through the political science department.

The online survey was conducted from Oct. 11 - 13.

Wells and Bunick, both political science majors, included 10 dorms in their poll. They asked the inhabitants of every third room on each floor to go online and participate in the survey.

"We tried very hard to make the survey representative of the Notre Dame population," Bunick said. "The dorms already consist of a random sampling of students, so it was relatively easy to obtain statis-

tically accurate data."

Wells said the sample of 273 students reflected the student body in terms of male to female ratio and religious beliefs.

Campbell is on a leave of absence, leaving Kaplan to oversee the project. Bunick and Wells were supplied with a national survey conducted by Harvard undergraduates, from which many questions were lifted for the Notre Dame survey.

"The Harvard survey provided a valuable model to work off of and had unbiased questions that sought the answers

see POLL/page 6

INSIDE COLUMN

Creative costuming

"Halloween is the one time a year that a girl can dress as slutty as she wants and no other girl is allowed to say anything about it."

This revelation strikes Cady (Lindsay Lohan) in the movie **Maddie Hanna** "Mean Girls" as she arrives at a Halloween party and realizes that her full-length witch's dress and intensely gory makeup differ significantly from the revealing Playboy bunny costumes spotted on almost every girl in the room.

Scary is out; sexy is in. My question: where is the line between appropriately sexy and flat-out slutty?

I'm not sure where I stand on the "dress slutty or else you will be branded as a social misfit and Halloween loser" rule. This is possibly because I never really celebrated Halloween much in high school, meaning I jumped from junior high trick-or-treating to college partying.

When I was little, I was the chubby kid in a zebra suit two or three years in a row. Now, I'm expected to be the naughty nurse, the bad cop, the French maid.

I must admit, part of this appeals to me. After all, as a freshman in college, moved out and moved on, I love the feeling of having my parents hundreds of miles away and being able to breathe without them hovering over my shoulder. And for a girl, what is more rebellious and liberating than dressing provocatively and not caring what anyone thinks?

Which leads me to my second question: is this actually liberating, or is it simply conforming to the collegiate Halloween standard?

Once in high school, I decided it would be funny to wear a child-sized giraffe costume and drive around, just because I could. My friends and I went into Dairy Queen and Blockbuster, harassed the employees and made small talk with random customers.

It was hilarious. Mostly, I got the stare of blank confusion, which wasn't really a surprise considering I live in generic, uneventful suburbia where giraffes aren't exactly running rampant.

But despite the fact that some kid caught my escapade on video and that I ended up summoning my inner giraffe for two future school projects, I was not ostracized. I was not forever dismissed as the "giraffe girl." In fact, most people thought of the giraffe as I did: hilarious.

This year, I went as an angel for my first college Halloween. White outfit, white boots, and of course, the requisite white halo. Easy enough to pull off, not overly revealing, but cute enough to be socially "acceptable."

However, when I walked into Siegfried, the rector laughed and said, "Hey, you're the fifth angel to come in here tonight!" After that, I started to wish I had worn something a little more creative.

And I can't help but wonder where my zebra suit is.

The views expressed in the Inside Column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer. Contact Maddie Hanna at mhanna1@nd.edu.

Wire Editor

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: SINCE THERE WAS NO FOOTBALL GAME, WHAT DID YOU DO THIS WEEKEND?



Ashley Congjuico
sophomore
Badin

"I usually dance the weekend away."



Broderick Henry
sophomore
Stanford

"I dressed up as Ty Willingham and got fired by Donald Trump."



Camille Gabriel
freshman
Pangborn

"Screamed my head off while going through a haunted house. It was a near death experience."



Eugene Nam
sophomore
Stanford

"I hiked up to Michigan and went to the Niles Haunted House with Filipino American Student Organization."



Julian Lagoy
freshman
Siegfried

"I ate rice all day. Not South Dining Hall rice, real rice."



Mel Bautista
freshman
PW

"I played DDR and brushed up on my moves."



ERIC SALES/The Observer

High powered winds Saturday downed branches across the Notre Dame and Saint Mary's campuses. Winds ranged from 27 to 30 mph with some gusts reaching 40 mph. Although some surrounding areas were left without power, the campuses emerged largely unscathed.

OFFBEAT

Scottish town to pardon witches

LONDON, England — A Scottish township marked Halloween by officially pardoning 81 people — and their cats — executed centuries ago for being witches.

"There'll be no witches' hats, dress-ups or that sort of thing — it will be a fairly solemn occasion," Adele Conn, spokeswoman for the baronial court that granted the pardons, said in a telephone interview Friday.

Sunday's ceremony in Prestonpans publicly declared pardons for 81 people executed in the 16th and 17th centuries.

More than 3,500 Scots, mainly women and children, and their cats were killed in witch hunts at a time of political intrigue and religious excess. Many were condemned on flimsy evidence, such as owning a black cat or brewing homemade remedies.

Canine couture costumes fetch hundreds

HARTSDALE, New York — A high-end clothing company for dogs has added a line of elaborate costumes to its handmade fashions. For \$200 to \$240, the Hartsdale, New York-Couture company can turn Rover into Rigoletto,

Max into Merlin the Magician and Cleo into Cleopatra.

"Dogs like to feel glamorous," says Eva Hallstrom, 41, who started the business with her sister Eleonor Hallstrom, 45, after being laid off from a publishing company last year. "You give them a nice haircut, a bath, you put on a beautiful outfit, and they are just so happy."

The costumes are made from silk, velvet, leather and brocade. They feature collars, buckles, detailed embroidery, fringes, semi-precious stones and pearls.

Information compiled from the Associated Press.

IN BRIEF

The film "Norma Rae" will be shown today from 4 to 5:30 p.m. at C-100 Hesbergh Center Auditorium.

The Leighton Music Festival presents "A Charles Ives Retrospective" tonight at 7:30 p.m. in Saint Mary's O'Laughlin Auditorium.

A Dia de Los Muertos program will be at the Snite Museum of Art Tuesday at 6 p.m.

The lecture "Business Ethic for a Publicly Traded Company" will be given by Alan Graf, executive vice president and chief financial officer of FedEx Corp at the Jordan Auditorium, Mendoza Business of College Tuesday at 7 p.m.

The Notre Dame men's soccer team will take on Michigan State Tuesday at 7 p.m. at Alumni Field.

The Senior Class is sponsoring an Election Night event on Tuesday from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at Smokey Bones in Mishawaka. All senior ROTC students, and all seniors that bring a letter written to a soldier overseas to the event with them, will be able to enjoy free wings and soft drinks at this event. All others will be asked to make a donation of \$2.

The Notre Dame women's basketball team will have an exhibition game taking on Premier Sports on Wednesday at 7 p.m. at the Joyce Center.

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

	TODAY	TONIGHT	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
LOCAL WEATHER						
	HIGH 54 LOW 40	HIGH 45 LOW 38	HIGH 52 LOW 44	HIGH 55 LOW 39	HIGH 50 LOW 36	HIGH 46 LOW 37

Car catches on fire near ND campus

By **CLAIRE HEININGER**
News Editor

A car burst into flames near the entrance to the D6 parking lot Sunday, destroying the vehicle but leaving its two passengers unscathed.

Tawasha McKnight, 26, of Elkhart was driving north on Route 31 when she observed smoke coming from the back of her vehicle, St. Joseph County Police Cpl. Larry Kubsch said. After smoke began to seep into the vehicle, McKnight pulled the car over to the side of the road just before Dorr Road, the entrance to the Notre Dame campus, he said. McKnight and her sole passenger climbed safely out of the car shortly before it caught fire and exploded, Kubsch said.

Firefighters from the Clay Township Fire Department and the Notre Dame Fire Department responded to the scene to extinguish the fire, and St. Joseph County Police and Notre Dame Security/Police arrived to direct traffic, which was disrupted from 1:23 p.m., the time of the explosion, until about 2 p.m., Kubsch said.

The accident left a charred patch of grass but did no damage to the road.

Contact Claire Heininger at chein- ing@nd.edu.

Islamic lecture focuses on history, meaning

Mohammed, Koran main subjects of Yale professor's final talk at Notre Dame

By **PETER LEAHY**
News Writer

In the last of a three part lecture series last week, Yale professor Gerhard Bowering spoke of the importance of the Koran to the Islamic faith. In a lecture entitled "Scripture and Tradition in Islam and Christianity," Bowering spoke of the life of Mohammed and his impact both on Islam and the Koran itself.

Bowering gave background information into Mohammed's life. Born an orphan, Mohammed spent the majority of his adulthood in the business of commerce. Throughout his life he remained a highly religious individual.

"Mohammed was awake and aware of religious currents of his time," Bowering said.

However, Bowering explained that founding Islam was no easy task even for a man with such great faith. As with Jesus, Mohammed faced strong opposition to the creation of a new faith in the form of the oligarchy that controlled the city of Mecca at the time.

When Mohammed received his prophetic call, he was hesitant to act upon it. Through the support of his wife and a few followers, Mohammed embraced the feeling that he was called to be a prophet and

began his teachings.

Yet it was not until the end of his life that Mohammed was able to convert the people of Mecca to Islam. He moved to Medina and established a community there, Bowering said.

In Medina, Mohammed found his ideas more welcome. The society formed included the followers who had supported him when he first received his call to prophecy. Within Medina, Mohammed expressed his faith. He focused on the role of God in life and his own role within the faith.

"[Mohammed] said God stands at the beginning and end of each human life," Bowering said. "Mohammed believed himself to be the 'seal of the prophets.'"

In the last ten years of his life, Medina conquered Mecca and Mohammed became the leader of both cities. In this way Mohammed was able to bring the outlying tribes to Islam, Bowering said.

Bowering emphasized that Mohammed, while accredited with founding Islam, did not interpret the words he received from God. Rather he repeated them as he received them and thus Muslims see the Koran as God's word alone.

"Mohammed faithfully transmits the message," said Bowering. "For Muslims, Mohammed contributes nothing to the Koran. He is the messenger, the mouthpiece."



CLEMENT SUHENDRA/The Observer

Yale professor Gerhard Bowering spoke Monday, Wednesday and Friday on issues involving Islamic history and the Koran.

At the time of Mohammed's death in 632, the Koran was not yet formed.

"[The Koran] was put together in book form 20 years after his death," Bowering said.

Since its original composition, the Koran has been updated. Originally, the Koran was composed without the Arabic marks indicating short consonants or vowels, Bowering said. In the 7th and again in the 10th centuries, there were efforts to "improve the way of recording in writing" the Koran.

"Today we have mainly two versions of the Koran," Bowering said.

Many differences exist between the Koran and the

Hebrew Bible — one being the Koran is much shorter.

"[The Koran] is a rather short portion of scripture if we compare it to the Hebrew Bible," Bowering said.

The Koran is also considered by some to be disorganized.

"The Koran is disjointed. You jump from one topic to another as you go through the suras."

There are 114 suras or chapters in the Koran.

Nevertheless, the Koran remains the central teaching of the Islamic faith. It is as important to Muslims as Jesus is to Christians, Bowering said.

"The Koran is the word become book as Jesus is the word become Christ."

Contact Peter Leahy at pleahy@nd.edu.

2 + 2 = 5

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LaFortune Ballroom

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Abroad

continued from page 1

make arrangements before they leave the U.S. to register and request absentee ballots," Holt said.

Holt said she sent an e-mail to incoming program participants in April, as well as August and September, with election reminders and links to Web sites providing information on voter registration and ballot requests.

Administrators for programs in China and Mexico also said that they sent similar e-mail reminders to students, and Julia Douthwaite, assistant provost for international studies, said that the Office of International Studies sent information on the topic to students prior to their departures.

"The Office of International Studies staff has always done some effort to help students remain abreast of their duties as U.S. citizens," Douthwaite said. "But we did also make more of an effort this year to encourage students to get absentee ballots and to vote."

Douthwaite said that such efforts were done at her office's initiative and not because of student requests or concern.

She noted that students in some programs seemed to show a heightening interest and involvement in the election than others.

"The students in the Washington, D.C. program appear very excited and engaged in electoral politics. The students in other programs are less vocal in their interest," Douthwaite said.

Administrators such as

Kathleen Opel, assistant director of international study programs and manager of the programs in Rome, Tokyo, Shanghai, Beijing and Nagoya, said that she has not received any information from her students regarding their intentions to vote.

"No students have contacted me for further information, nor have any told me that they were planning to request ballots or vote," Opel said.

Aside from administrators' efforts, faculty members teaching in foreign countries have also encouraged student awareness about voting from abroad. National Public Radio recently interviewed Notre Dame graduate and president of John Cabot University in Rome — the location of the Notre Dame Rome program — James Creagan about his efforts to encourage student voting, which included holding a voter registration drive.

Douthwaite said that the drive was well-attended, although she said she was unsure how many of the attendees were actually Notre Dame students.

"Hundreds of expats and students attended," she said.

National organizations such as Democrats Abroad and Republicans Abroad have also been stepping up efforts to register students, expatriates and members of the armed forces, but none of the students or administrators interviewed mentioned volunteering for or being contacted by one of these groups.

As far as the number of students voting from abroad, the results have been mixed.

All six of the students at Oxford either voted early or requested an absentee ballot and plan to vote.

Anne Hayes, program coordi-

nator for the International Study Programs and manager of the programs in Toledo, Rio de Janeiro (a Spring program) and Santiago, said that four of the nine students studying in Chile requested a ballot and planned to vote. She said that two students said they were not voting, and she said she has not heard back from the other three students.

Trevor Turner, a junior in the Dublin program, said that although he has not personally requested a ballot, he believes that the majority of students in Dublin have.

"I am not sure how many people have requested ballots here, but it feels like the vast majority according to how people talk about it," Turner said.

Turner also said that voting was a topic of pre-orientation meetings and student conversation.

A number of students interviewed said that they requested a ballot and were excited to vote in the upcoming elections.

"I've voted absentee before while at ND, but I was especially interested in voting in this election because it's a presidential election, and Ohio is such a key state," Lisa Galli, a student from Columbus, Ohio studying in Santiago, said.

Ryan Lichtenwaller, a student studying in Australia, said he thinks voting will help combat the perception of political apathy.

"I feel that even voting as an absentee is an opportunity, however small or naive, for me to personally stand up against that apathy," he said.

Other students, however, said they did not plan on voting in the upcoming election.

Some, like Australia study-

abroad student Benjamin Marx, said that their states were already a lock for one of the candidates, so therefore their vote would not make a difference.

"I came to the conclusion that as far as the presidential election goes, my vote doesn't count," he said. "Being from New York, I am pretty sure that John Kerry will get all ... of my state's electoral votes."

Marx also described himself as someone who was only well informed about the presidential candidates and therefore chose not to vote in state or local issues.

"Nobody likes an ill-informed voter," he said.

Other students, like Margaret Tucker, a student studying abroad in Santiago, said they chose not to vote because of their dislike of both major party and third-party candidates.

"I feel a real lack of a valuable choice in this election. I cannot in good conscience vote for either major party candidate," she said. "There was no way I was voting for a Libertarian."

Although Tucker described herself as being "more liberal," she said that her father is a physician, and Kerry-Edwards' health-care policy, as well as Edwards' connections with medical malpractice lawsuits, ruled out that ticket. Despite her decision to abstain from voting, Tucker said she believes that this does not mean she is apathetic or uninformed.

"A lot of people have been giving me a hard time about not voting, but I feel like I've really considered the issues," Tucker said. "I watched the debates, I read the American News almost daily, and I watch CNN World, just to keep in touch with what's going on ... I just realized that I don't like

either one [candidate]."

A number of students also said that despite having requested absentee ballots, they either have not received them at all or received them at their home address after they left. States have different requirements about receiving ballots, with some requiring the ballot to be received by an election official on Election Day, while others only requiring that a ballot be post-marked by Election Day.

Rin Westcott, a junior in the London program, said that she and other students who requested absentee ballots have not received them.

"I know plenty of people who applied for ballots and never received them," she said. "The ones who did [receive ballots] all seem to be from California oddly enough."

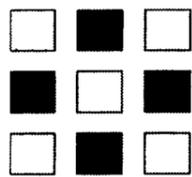
Students like Dana Lee, a Beijing program student, said that they and other peers have had to take advantage of the U.S. Embassy's emergency-voting procedures because they have not yet received their requested ballots.

"What a mess the absentee ballot process seems to be," she said.

At the same time, Lee said that she felt proud being able to vote in a country that does not permit its own citizens to do so.

"Once I passed the security checkpoint and walked into the compound, I was on free soil and I was able, that day, to exercise a right that the 1.3 billion people here in China do not have," Lee said. "No matter how disorganized the system is, if you really want to vote abroad, you can."

Contact Joe Trombello at jtrombel@nd.edu



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INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Car bomb kills 9 U.S. Marines

NEAR FALLUJAH, Iraq — A car bomb killed eight U.S. Marines outside Fallujah on Saturday, the deadliest attack against the U.S. military in nearly six months. Marines pounded guerrilla positions on the outskirts of Fallujah, where American forces are gearing up for a major assault on the insurgent stronghold.

The Marines later reported a ninth combat death Saturday but did not say whether it was in the car bombing or another action. Efforts to contact the Marines for clarification were unsuccessful.

In Baghdad, another car bomb exploded outside an Arabic television network's offices, killing seven people and injuring 19 in the biggest attack against a news organization since the occupation began last year.

Bin Laden addresses U.S. voters

CAIRO, Egypt — Osama bin Laden's new videotape clearly targets American voters days before an extraordinarily tight presidential election, but also courts another constituency: young Arabs who are frustrated and disenchanted but not committed to radical Islam.

Al-Qaida's leader already has extremists on his side, who made it clear in their remarks posted Saturday on Islamic Web sites that they were elated to see him looking healthy and in control of the cause.

But analysts say he is trying to broaden his base and that his words were chosen for more secular young Muslims as well as Americans.

In the tape, parts of which were aired Friday by the Arabic TV network Al-Jazeera, bin Laden dropped the usual religious rhetoric and historical references in favor of plain language.

NATIONAL NEWS

Board approves facial transplant

CLEVELAND — The Cleveland Clinic says it is the first institution to receive review board approval of human facial transplant for someone severely disfigured by burns or disease.

Several independent medical teams around the world also are pursuing the procedure. The Cleveland Clinic said its approval on Oct. 15 followed 10 months of debate on medical, ethical and psychological issues.

It has no current patients or donors for the procedure.

"We are at this point ready to begin screening patients," said Dr. Maria Siemionow, the hospital's director of plastic surgery research and training in microscopic surgery, who advocated the procedure.

Meeting sets plans for flu pandemic

WASHINGTON — The World Health Organization has called an unprecedented summit meeting of flu vaccine makers and nations to ramp up plans for dealing with the growing threat of a flu pandemic.

Sixteen vaccine companies and health officials from the United States and other large countries already have agreed to attend the summit in Geneva, Switzerland, on Nov. 11, said Klaus Stohr, influenza chief of the United Nations' health agency.

LOCAL NEWS

Woman copes through activism

FORT WAYNE, Ind. — Tammy Miser lost her younger brother in a Huntington factory explosion just more than a year ago.

She has turned her grief into activism for the families of workers killed on job sites across the country, creating the United Support and Memorial for Workplace Fatalities.

Her 33-year old brother Shawn Boone died from severe burns over 90 percent of his body when a series of explosions rocked the Hayes Lemmerz International factory in Huntington on Oct. 29, 2003.

AFGHANISTAN

Militants release hostage video

Militants threaten to kill the 3 hostages unless U.N. and British troops leave

Associated Press

KABUL—Militants released a video Sunday showing three frightened foreign U.N. hostages pleading for their release and threatened to kill them unless United Nations' and British troops leave Afghanistan and Muslim prisoners are freed from U.S. jails.

In the tape, the hostages — Annetta Flanigan of Northern Ireland, Filipino diplomat Angelito Nayan and Shqipe Habibi of Kosovo — are shown sitting hunched together against the bare wall of a room in an undisclosed location. The three answered questions from someone who is speaking to them in broken English from off camera.

Both women are crying, but the trio look healthy and unharmed.

The Iraq-style abduction could put a brake on the country's post-Taliban recovery and overshadow the crowning of U.S. favorite Hamid Karzai as its first democratically elected president. The three, who helped organize the Oct. 9 election, were snatched from a U.N. vehicle on a busy Kabul street last Thursday.

In the video, obtained by Associated Press Television News in Pakistan, the questioner repeatedly asks the captives why they have come to Afghanistan, then asks why America and NATO have sent troops to Afghanistan and Iraq.

"We have nothing to do with America," Nayan says calmly. "We are here for the Afghan people." He adds later: "We all want to go home to our families. We are United Nations workers. We want to go home to our kids and to our parents."

Habibi explains that she is from Kosovo — the mainly Muslim autonomous region of Serbia — but her abductor seems unsure where that is.

"It is a Muslim country," she says. "I thought I could help a Muslim country, and I just want to go home and see



Afghan forces and NATO troops have mounted extra patrols since the unidentified armed men on Thursday kidnapped the Filipino diplomat and UN workers.

my brother."

All three hostages appear frightened. Their interviewer at several points seems to try to reassure them, saying to Flanigan: "Don't cry. Why you cry?"

But he repeatedly — sometimes sharply — asks them what they are doing in Afghanistan, and does not seem to understand their answers.

Toward the end of the 15 minute video, obtained by APTN in neighboring Pakistan, the interviewer appears to ask Flanigan to cry for the camera, to which she replies: "I have cried and cried and I can't cry anymore."

Finally after 15 minutes, Nayan asks: "Are we going to be released?" and the tape

ends.

Karzai, the country's interim leader, released a statement saying he spoke with British Prime Minister Blair on Saturday and that they "strongly condemned the hostage situation."

"This war is against the Afghan nation and we know who will win," Karzai said, without indicating how the governments would respond to the crisis.

A Taliban splinter group called Jaish-al Muslimeen, or Army of Muslims, claimed responsibility for the abduction. Ishaq Manzoor, a spokesman for the little-known group, told The Associated Press on Sunday that the hostages would be executed in three days if their demands were not met.

"The Afghan government and their foreign masters would be responsible if we got rid of the hostages," he said by phone from an unknown location.

However, the group's leader, Akbar Agha, insisted in a separate phone call that it had set no deadline.

U.N. spokesman Manoel de Almeida e Silva said the world body was "relieved" the hostages were unharmed and appealed for their immediate release.

He refused to discuss whether contact had been made with the kidnapers or how the United Nations would respond to their demands, though said there were no plans to halt programs or pull staff out of the country.

Marines face final assault charges

Associated Press

CAMP PENDLETON — Working in a makeshift lab in a bombed-out building, an Army pathologist dipped her gloved hands into a decomposing corpse — and changed the lives of nine U.S. Marines.

Running her fingers along a fragile, U-shaped bone in the throat of a dead Iraqi prisoner, Col. Kathleen Ingwersen felt a break. She concluded the man had been strangled — that Nagem Sadoon Hatab was the first victim of homicide in prisons the U.S. military set up in Iraq.

However, since the autopsy that pathologists considered surprisingly

conclusive under difficult circumstances, the case has fallen apart.

Tissue samples that Ingwersen's team collected as evidence decomposed when they were left outside in 126-degree heat; Ingwersen said organs turned to "goo." The rib cage and larynx vanished, then resurfaced a year later at military labs on two continents. She conceded she doesn't know what became of the broken hyoid bone that strongly indicated strangulation.

Nine Marines faced courts-martial in Hatab's death but most of the cases were dismissed, in part because of the forensic breakdown. The sole conviction came in

September, when a military panel convicted Marine Sgt. Gary Pittman of dereliction of duty and abuse of prisoners — but acquitted him of assaulting Hatab. He was sentenced to 60 days hard labor and demoted to private.

On Monday, prosecutors have their final chance to salvage the case when court-martial proceedings begin at this base north of San Diego for the last defendant.

Maj. Clarke Paulus, 35, faces up to 4 1/2 years in military prison if he is convicted on charges of aggravated assault, dereliction of duty and maltreatment.

Poll

continued from page 1

we were looking for," Wells said.

Based on the results of the poll, George W. Bush drew 48.7 percent of those surveyed, while John Kerry drew 43.9 percent, other candidates 4.4 percent and unsure voters composed 3 percent.

But, according to Wells, Bush's margin of victory is well within the margin of error for the survey, indicating that Notre Dame students are split almost evenly between the two candidates.

Wells was surprised by the close race between Kerry and Bush on campus.

"I think a lot of people would think Bush would win by a huge margin, but the numbers prove that's just not the case here," he said.

Other unexpected results from the poll involved questions regarding homosexual marriage and abortion. Both issues yielded responses that seem to imply that the student body is not as conservative as many perceive it to be, Wells said.

Despite the fact that Notre Dame was recently ranked first in the Princeton Review's "Alternative Lifestyles are Not an Alternative" category, Bunick and Wells' poll seems to indicate otherwise. Nearly 70 percent of respondents agreed that the government should recognize civil unions for homosexual couples.

In addition, students responding to questions about abortion reflected a greater prevalence of a liberal attitude on campus. Among women, while 55 per-

cent considered themselves pro-life, 35 percent described themselves as pro-choice. Among men, 66.9 percent called themselves pro-life, compared to 23 percent that considered themselves pro-choice.

The survey further defied preconceptions about the student body based on respondents' answers to the statement "I am more liberal than the average Notre Dame student."

Over 56 percent of students agreed with this statement, reflecting a greater presence of liberal attitudes on campus.

Bunick and Wells also discovered that voter apathy does not appear to be a serious problem on Notre Dame's campus.

Whether it is due to the closely contested presidential race, or the prevalence of politically involved students, there is a significant amount of political interest on campus. Over 60 percent of the Notre Dame population thinks politics is very relevant to their lives, compared to the national average of 19 percent for college students. Also, 79 percent of respondents said they will "definitely vote" in Tuesday's election.

Wells and Bunick will each receive three credits for their work. Since they are the only students in the class, they do not meet formally with Kaplan.

"We discuss our progress with professor Kaplan on a weekly basis and consult professor Campbell via e-mail," Wells said.

Following the survey, Wells and Bunick will analyze the results and present their findings in a formal report.

Contact Mary Kate Malone at mmalone3@nd.edu

"I think a lot of people would think Bush would win by a huge margin, but the numbers prove that's just not the case here."

Phillip Wells
student pollster

Challenge

continued from page 1

the Republicans have established absolutely enormous legal teams," he said.

However, political science professor Donald Kommers said it seemed unlikely that any legal challenge would reach the level of 2000, when the Supreme Court finally determined the victor.

"If there is such a dispute, those terms are usually resolved under state law," said Kommers, who specializes in constitutional law. "I frankly do not think that there are going to be similar type of disputes to 2000."

Campbell said concerns about voter registration requirements, raised by both Democrats and Republicans, increased sharply in recent weeks, but on different topics.

"Generally what you find from the Democrats is a willingness to err on the side of inclusion. Democrats generally have less concern for fraud," he said.

In contrast, the Republicans tend to care about opposite problems, according to Campbell.

"The Republicans generally take the other view — they're a little more concerned about fraud," Campbell said.

But ultimately, Campbell said increased scrutiny for fraud, registration and the election overall would help

ensure the integrity of the process.

"I think it's actually healthy for the system," he said.

Kommers also identified registration as a key issue for both campaigns, and one that could spark post-election challenges.

"If some of the swing states are extremely close, recounts will probably be ordered," he said.

In the campaigns closing days, both Bush and Kerry have campaigned heavily in a handful of swing states. But unlike most states who award all electoral college votes to a single candidate, closely contested Colorado has a measure on the ballot about whether to switch from the current winner-takes-all system to splitting its votes according to the popular vote. A majority in favor of the switch would affect the awarding of Colorado's nine electoral votes immediately.

"A conflict is more likely to arise in the Colorado case than in Florida," said Kommers.

If the Colorado vote is close, it could potentially create a tie in the national Electoral College vote, Kommers explained. In that

event, the Constitution stipulates that the House of Representatives must vote for a winner.

Campbell also said the manner in which the 2000 race was decided — particularly the U.S. Supreme Court's Bush v. Gore decision that ended the Florida recount — could impact events this year. Often, the Court's decisions establish a legal precedent for lower courts, but the justices did not intend the Bush v. Gore opinion to be applied in future cases.

"In Bush v. Gore the Supreme Court bent over backwards to not set a precedent," Campbell said.

"[This year], I guess there have been 30 cases that are actually drawing on Bush v. Gore."

But despite the debacle of 2000, Campbell said ultimately the losing candidate, Al Gore, admitted defeat when the time came — and the same would likely happen again should legal challenges arise after Tuesday.

"Gore had his eye on the integrity of the process," Campbell said. "At some point, one side or the other will say it's time to concede."

"I think the odds are pretty high that you will see legal challenges to all sorts of things."

David Campbell
professor

Contact Teresa Fralish at tfralish@nd.edu

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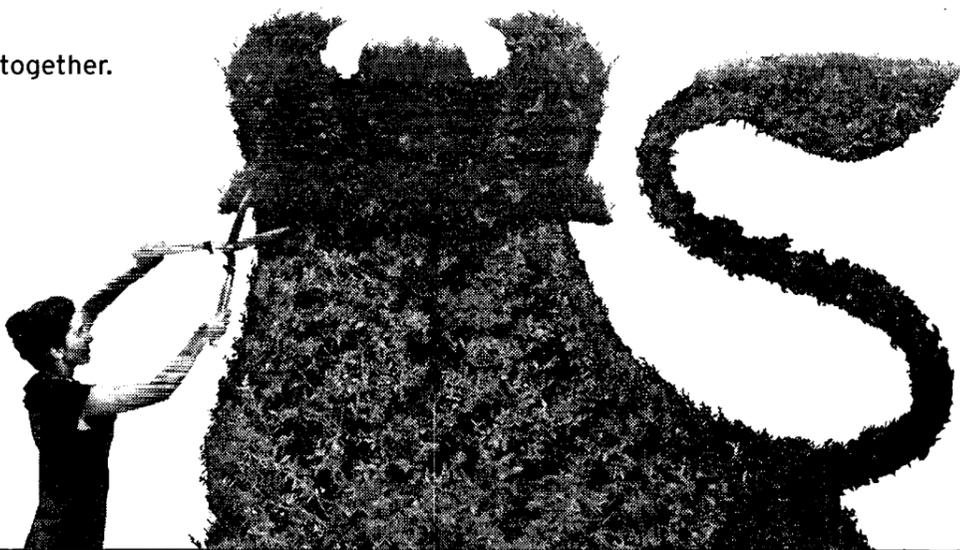
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Stocks		
Dow Jones	10,004.54	+2.51
Up: 1,713	Same: 164	Down: 1,569
Composite Volume: 1,628,610,048		
AMEX	1,307.60	-7.24
NASDAQ	1,975.74	+5.75
NYSE	6,670.50	+4.63
S&P 500	1,127.44	+2.04
NIKKEI(Tokyo)	10,766.88	-86.24
FTSE 100(London)	4,642.80	+12.70

COMPANY	%CHANGE	\$GAIN	PRICE
JDS UNIPHASE (JSDU)	-10.54	-0.37	3.14
INTEL CORP (INTC)	+1.23	+0.27	22.27
MICROSOFT CP (MSFT)	-0.50	-0.14	28.01
CISCO SYSTEMS (CSCO)	+2.16	+0.40	18.95
SUN MICROSYS (SUNW)	+0.90	+0.04	4.47

Treasuries			
30-YEAR BOND	-0.10	-0.05	48.39
10-YEAR NOTE	-0.17	-0.07	40.80
5-YEAR NOTE	-0.63	-0.21	33.33
3-MONTH BILL	-0.53	-0.10	18.67

Commodities		
LIGHT CRUDE (\$/bbl.)	-1.54	50.92
GOLD (\$/Troy oz.)	+0.50	426.10
PORK BELLIES (cents/lb.)	+0.60	94.75

Exchange Rates	
YEN	106.3100
EURO	0.7849
POUND	0.5464
CANADIAN \$	1.2230

IN BRIEF

Many accused of online identity theft

NEWARK, N.J. — Federal authorities on Thursday indicted 19 people in the United States and abroad on charges related to a Web site investigators claimed was one of the largest online centers for trafficking in stolen identity information and credit cards.

More than 20 others have also been charged in the probe.

The site, www.shadowcrew.com, had about 4,000 members who dealt with at least 1.7 million stolen credit card numbers and caused more than \$4 million in losses, the Justice Department said.

Federal agents gained control of the site during a yearlong undercover investigation by the Secret Service and other agencies, Assistant U.S. Attorney Scott S. Christie said.

"I allowed the agents to more closely monitor the criminal conduct that was going on, and also to arrange for undercover purchases of illegal merchandise from various targets," Christie said.

China increases interest rates

SHANGHAI, China — China announced Thursday that it will hike interest rates for one-year loans by 0.27 percentage points to 5.58 percent, the first increase in more than nine years.

The adjustment, which takes effect Friday, comes as China's government struggles to curb investment growth that continues to keep economic growth at an annual rate of more than 9 percent and inflation at seven-year highs.

A statement posted on the People's Bank of China Web site announced the one-year lending rate will be increased from 5.31 percent, the first loan rate hike since July 1995.

In addition, the one-year deposit rate will be raised to 2.25 percent from 1.98 percent, the first increase in the interest rate paid on savings since July 1993, the bank said.

Raising interest rates will likely weaken pressure for China to re-value its currency, the yuan, to slow growth further. The United States has been pushing for China to raise the value of the yuan, saying the current rate is artificially low and gives Chinese imports an unfair advantage.

Cuba rushes to sign food bills

The American presidential election could affect U.S. — Cuban relations

Associated Press

HAVANA — Just days before an American presidential election whose outcome could alter U.S.-Cuba relations, communist officials were designing deals to buy \$150 million more in corn, wheat, cattle and other American farm products at a trade fair opening Monday.

Agribusiness giant Archer Daniels Midland of Illinois, Tyson foods of Arkansas, Splash Tropical Drinks of Florida, Marsh Supermarkets of Indiana and White Rose Foods of New Jersey were among 125 U.S. companies participating in the weeklong International Fair of Havana.

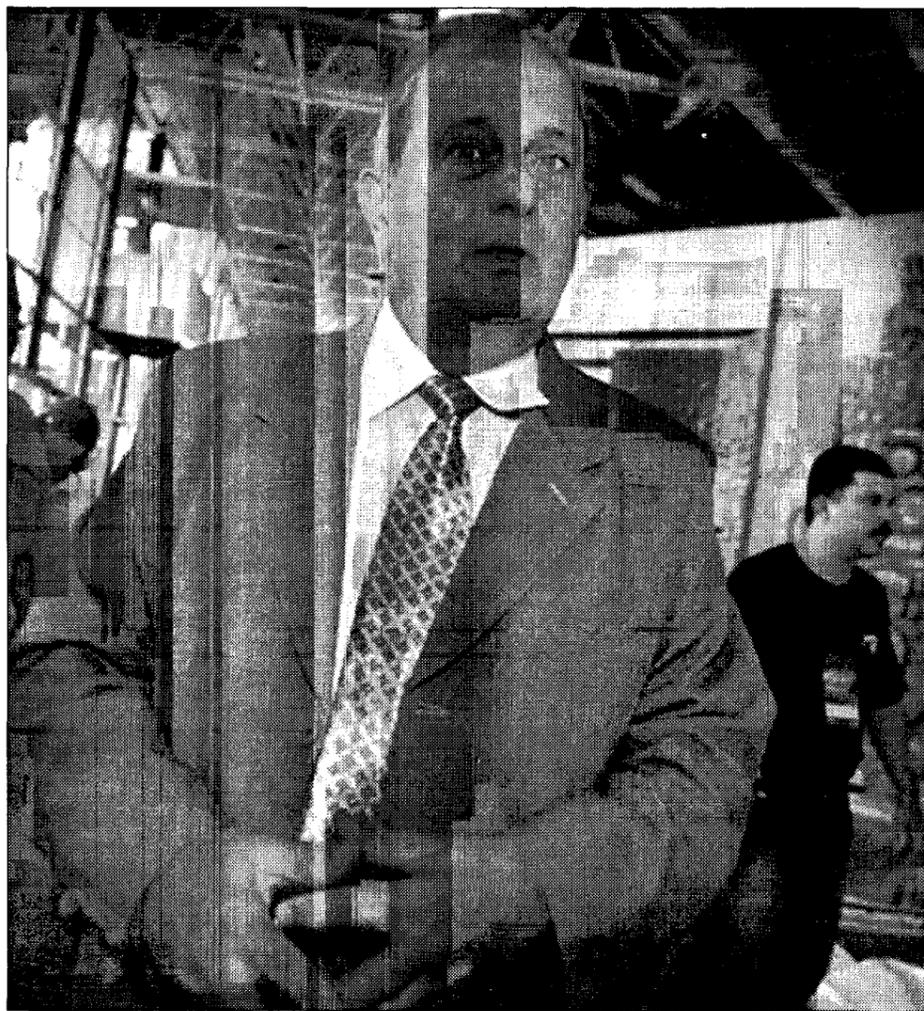
"This is happening at a crucial moment, during elections in the United States," Pedro Alvarez, chairman of the Cuban food import company Alimport said Saturday after inspecting stands at the exposition center where the Americans will display food samples.

"Many companies and their people will come after the elections," so they don't miss the chance to vote Tuesday, Alvarez said.

Alvarez declined to talk about the U.S. presidential candidates or express a preference.

Democratic contender John Kerry has said he would maintain more than four decades of trade sanctions against Cuba if elected president. But many on the island believe any change to reverse the U.S. government's increasingly tough policies on Cuba would be more likely with Kerry in the White House.

President Bush has steadily tightened restrictions on Cuba over the past four years, making it virtually impossible for most Americans to travel here legally, and tightening loopholes through which U.S. dollars have fil-



Pedro Alvarez, chairman of Cuba's food import agency walks around the International Fair of Havana where Communist officials requested to buy American farm products.

tered into the country despite sanctions.

While the four-decade old trade embargo hurts Cuba, "it also has a serious impact on Americans, too," Alvarez said.

Under an exception to the U.S. sanctions, American food may be sold directly to Cuba on a cash basis.

Since Cuba began taking advantage of the exception in 2001, it has contracted to buy more than \$900 million in American farm goods, including shipping and hefty bank fees to send payments through third nations.

The Cuban government's announcement last week that it was eliminating U.S. dollars from general circu-

lation on the island will have no impact on the sales, said Alvarez.

He said the move to replace American money with a local currency called the convertible Cuban peso, and discourage importation of more dollars will not affect the island's ability to pay for American food and other imports with other types of foreign exchange, such as the euro.

Those payments are made through banks in third countries such as France — because the embargo prohibits payments directly to the United States — they are often more easily made in other euros or other foreign currencies anyhow,

Alvarez said.

The more than 200 Americans expected later in the week from 26 states, Puerto Rico and Washington are among more than 1,000 business people from 45 countries that have signed up to participate in the fair. The state with the largest participation is Florida, with 27 companies represented.

Other countries showing a wide range of products at the trade fair include China, Brazil, Argentina and Venezuela.

Along with the United States, other countries showing food products are France, Spain, Germany, Canada, Great Britain, Vietnam, New Zealand, Venezuela, and Mexico.

Regulators need more data on drug

Associated Press

NEW YORK — The Food and Drug Administration told Merck & Co. that it requires further safety and effectiveness data before it will approve its successor drug to now-defunct pain reliever Vioxx, the company said Friday.

Most experts and doctors had not expected the FDA to give Arcoxia a green light now because Merck pulled Vioxx from the market last month after a study showed it doubled patients risk of heart attacks and strokes. The two products are in the same class of drugs known as cox-2 inhibitors.

"I think it is a positive that the

drug wasn't killed," Bert Hazlett, an analyst at SunTrust Robinson Humphrey.

Merck shares rose 43 cents or 1.36 percent to \$32 a share in morning trading on the New York Stock Exchange.

Merck said the FDA gave it an "approvable" letter on Arcoxia with the condition that the company provide further safety and efficacy information. It was unclear what the company would need to do to achieve final approval.

Last week, Merck released positive study results for Arcoxia that found there was no statistical difference in cardiovascular problems between it and diclofenac, an

older pain reliever. However, the average length of time a patient was in the trial was nine months and Vioxx's dangers didn't manifest themselves until 18 months.

Merck is scheduled to finish a 23,500-patient study that was focused on cardiovascular safety in early 2006.

Arcoxia is already sold in 47 countries throughout the world.

"We continue to believe that Arcoxia has the potential to become a valuable treatment option for many Americans with arthritis and pain," chairman, president and chief executive Raymond V. Gilmartin said in a news release.

Abroad students try to re-adjust

For many, returning to college in U.S. proves difficult

Associated Press

MIDDLEBURY, Vt. — For some Middlebury College students, the hardest part about studying abroad wasn't adjusting to life in a foreign country.

It was coming home. Brian Fink says the feeling hits him in the library — the palpable stress of his fellow students reminds him how much he misses the more contemplative pace at the French university where he studied last year.

Gale Berninghausen wonders if she'll ever uncork the bottle of Spanish wine she's saving for an occasion that reminds her of the lingering, talkative dinners she recalls from Madrid.

And Mary Hiebert feels it at unexpected moments. Once, she was out for coffee with her parents soon after returning from Ireland when she burst into tears.

"I had this vague sort of sadness," Hiebert recalled. "I didn't know what it was, or how to talk about it. I think it was a sense of loss."

Many of the 160,000 American university-level students who study abroad each year set off well prepared with language and cultural training. Experts say they're often less prepared for the jolt of coming home. What may strike friends as annoying disdain for the life they've returned to may actually reflect real depression.

"Reverse culture shock can be more difficult than the classic culture shock," said Craig Storti, author of "The Art of Coming Home," a guide for returning expatriates. "People actually resist fitting back into

their home countries, because it symbolizes going back to who I was." They're so different, and they don't want to endanger this new self, to compromise this richer person they've become."

Returning Americans of all ages often find the pace of life hurried, and their friends and families gratingly provincial. For students who have become accustomed to the more independent learning style typical of many foreign universities, their few remaining semesters back at American colleges can feel awkward and over-structured. Many are moving from a big, glamorous city back to a small town like Middlebury.

And these days especially, encountering anti-Americanism may well have shaken their political views.

A growing number of schools are expanding efforts to help returning students. Many, like Stonehill College in Easton, Mass., have dinners and discussions for former ex-pats; some, including Wartburg College in Waverly, Iowa, offer "re-entry" courses.

But administrators admit they aren't always sure how best to help.

"I think the field as a whole is struggling with this, to really pinpoint what it is students are feeling," said Cori Filson, director of international programs at Skidmore College in Saratoga Springs, N.Y., which is develop-

ing a course for study abroad students with a post-trip component.

At Middlebury — where more than half of the roughly 2,350 students spend time studying in another country — Fink, Berninghausen and Hiebert were part of a group of students who gathered over lunch recently to talk about their

experiences returning from a transformative year or semester abroad.

They discussed their frustration dealing with others who couldn't understand how they've changed, or whose world-views they feel are limited. They

also acknowledged that their attitudes may have irritated friends and family.

Berninghausen admits that covering her dorm room with memorabilia from her Spanish trip alienated at least one friend. She's tried to bite her tongue and not tell too many travel stories.

"They're very excited about [their travels] and want an audience," Filson said. But friends who have stayed home are kind of like, "Let's move on," because they haven't shared that experience."

David Macey, who oversees Middlebury's off-campus study programs, says many difficulties are academic. Abroad, students commonly find a more independent curriculum and study style. When they return, a regime of assignments and quizzes can feel insulting.

"Reverse culture shock can be more difficult than the classic culture shock."

Craig Storti
author

Experts discuss space exploration

Associated Press

LONDON — About 100 international experts meeting at the United Nations scientific organization Friday discussed creating a legal and ethical framework to guide the future exploration of space.

The Paris symposium — gathering scientists, legal experts and space agency executives — focused on such topics as the status of the astronaut, criminal conduct and other behavior on board spacecraft, and liability or insurance coverage, officials said.

"As much as everybody wants the space frontier to expand, the rules to govern this new era have yet to be set," said Adigun Age Abiodun, chairman of the U.N. Committee for Peaceful Uses of Outer Space, a Vienna, Austria-based agency working on a legal framework for space exploration.

The role of astronauts — recognized as "envoys of mankind" in the 1967 Outer Space Treaty — is changing, noted Julien Tort, a program specialist for UNESCO in charge of organizing the event.

The geopolitical situation in space also has changed since the Cold War, and space increasingly is being used for commercial purposes, organizers said.

A rocket-plane made the first successful private suborbital space flight earlier this month, and the Virgin Galactic company announced it would offer public flights to space by 2008. Space agencies also are beginning to focus on the future exploration of Mars.

"We have no adequate rules to cover space tourism," Abiodun said, or for "the future of space colonization, and we have to prepare the law for that."

Northup

continued from page 1

had to be a hard-hitting campaigner.

"It's a competitive district and she has had a couple of high caliber opponents," Neely said.

The second of 11 children, Northup came from a long line of Notre Dame and Saint Mary's graduates. Her father, James Meagher was a scholarship basketball player for the Irish and her mother attended Saint Mary's.

Northup graduated from Saint Mary's in 1970 with degrees in Economics and Business. She worked as a math teacher and at Ford Motor Company before running for the state legislature in 1987. Northup served as the 32nd District's representative for nine years.

In a state economically dependent on tobacco farming, Northup took a risky political step to set herself apart from fellow state representatives by calling attention to the health risks of cigarettes and by attacking teen smoking.

Economic issues continue to

be some of the most pressing for Northup as a congresswoman. Her opponent has argued that the 3rd District has lost 13,900 jobs on her watch and that the region has the fewest manufacturing jobs in over a decade.

Neely admitted that the statistics are correct, but said the tax cut package, which she championed in 2002, has already helped to create thousands of new jobs.

Notre Dame freshman Marian Eldridge lives in Kentucky's 3rd District and described Northup as "extremely" popular.

"She has brought a lot of money to the district," Eldridge said, "and she has a lot of sway in Congress. A lot of people don't want to vote her out office because of the sway that she has."

Freshman Susan Dee attended the same high school as Northup and has met her several times. Dee expects her to be re-elected on Tuesday.

"I watched one of the debates on TV and she was by far the best candidate," said Dee. "She seems just really together."

Contact Megan O'Neil at onei0907@saintmarys.edu

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ELECTION 2004

Monday, November 1, 2004

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CAMPAIGN NEWS

Presidential race ad spending triples from 2000 election

JACKSONVILLE, Fla. — The most expensive presidential advertising campaign in history closes Tuesday after more than eight months with President Bush, Sen. John Kerry, their political parties and allied groups having spent more than \$600 million.

That's triple the amount spent on TV and radio commercials in 2000.

Still, for all the money, the race remains a statistical tie, even though Democrats have a spending advantage.

Since March, Kerry and the Democratic Party have poured about \$250 million into TV and radio ads compared with about \$240 million for Bush and the Republican National Committee.

Democrats have even more of an edge when spending by outside groups is included. Liberal organizations bought about \$70 million worth of airtime, outpacing the \$40 million or so spent by conservative organizations.

"The story this whole year has been the sheer volume of ads," said Evan Tracey, president of TNS Media Intelligence/Campaign Media Analysis Group. "This is an election that I think changes politics."

Despite the unprecedented spending, only about one-third of the country was inundated with commercials.

Ads ran on national cable networks, but most aired on local TV and radio stations in the 17 most competitive states. Campaign commercials are now focused on 10 states where polls show the race extraordinarily tight.

Republican and Democratic strategists alike say the biggest reason for the record spending was the 2002 campaign finance reform law, which barred political parties from collecting corporate and union money. So, the parties hustled to raise hordes of money from wealthy individuals, but those donors were beholden to contribution limits.

Early voting compounds problem of 'ghost' votes getting through

RALEIGH, N.C. — In what would be her last conscious act, 90-year-old Trixie Porter gripped a pen in her weak, trembling hand, checked the candidates of her choice and scrawled a squiggled signature on her absentee ballot.

Within an hour, the petite woman who had been suffering from heart problems lay back in her hospital bed, closed her eyes and never woke up. Her ballot arrived at her local elections board two days later, Oct. 5 — the day she died.

"We commented that day that it probably won't count," said daughter Cheryl McConnell. "But she went to her grave not knowing any different. It counted with her."

An untold number of ballots like Porter's will indeed be counted because of the haphazard and cumbersome process of enforcing laws in many states to weed out the absentee votes of those who die by Election Day.

With millions of voters taking advantage of new, in-person early voting in at least 30 states this year, it's even more certain that such "ghost" votes will be counted because, in most cases, those ballots are impossible to retrieve. Besides, it could be days or weeks after the election before local officials get word someone has died.

Death has no political allegiance. But the thousands of lawyers from both parties who will be descending on battleground states Tuesday looking for reasons to pick up a few votes could find the phenomenon of dead voters more than just an Election Day curiosity.

Focus narrows on undecided states

In last hours, candidates work to secure swing states' crucial votes



Left, President Bush greets a baby in the crowd at the Great American Ball Park in Cincinnati on Sunday. Sen. John Kerry responds to the crowd at a rally at the Curtis Hixon Park in Tampa, Fla.

Associated Press

MIAMI — In the closing hours of their bitter campaign, President Bush and challenger Sen. John Kerry charged through the critical battlegrounds of Florida and Ohio on Sunday, going from hushed church services to raucous campaign rallies in search of last-minute support with promises to keep America safe.

Kerry said he would undertake an unprecedented "flurry of activity" to protect national security that would include quick Cabinet appointments. "I'm going to make America safer and I have some very strong and real steps to take quite immediately to make that happen," Kerry said in an interview with The Associated Press.

Bush emphasized a similar theme. "If you believe America should fight the war on terror with all her might and lead with unwavering confidence," the president said, "I ask you, come stand by me."

"If you are a Democrat who believes your party has turned too far left in this year, I ask you, come stand with me," Bush said.

Strategists on both sides said Tuesday's election likely will hinge on which party is successful in getting their

voters to the polls after two vastly different and costly campaigns to increase turnout. In the pivotal state of Wisconsin, Republicans questioned more than 37,000 addresses of registrants in heavily Democratic Milwaukee.

A rash of polls suggested the race for the popular vote was essentially tied after the costliest political advertising campaign in history — more than \$600 million spent by Bush, Kerry, their political parties and allied groups.

The election's outcome also was uncertain in the battleground states, the eight or so states where Bush and Kerry are vying for a winning margin of the 270 Electoral College votes needed to win the presidency. The campaign's final weekend was clouded by war and terrorism — a videotape by Osama bin Laden and the deaths of eight U.S. Marines in Iraq.

Bush made a pitch for Hispanic voters in Miami, promising Cuban-American voters that he would push for freedom in communist Cuba. "We will not rest — we will not rest, we will keep the pressure on until the Cuban people enjoy the same freedoms in Havana they receive here in America," Bush said. The

crowd responded with cries of "Viva Bush."

The president began the day at The Church of the Epiphany, a Roman Catholic church where the pastor, Monsignor Jude O'Doherty, all but endorsed Bush. "Mr. President, I want you to know that I admire your faith and your courage to profess it," the priest said in a long tribute to Bush. "Your belief in prayer and dependence on God has to be an example for all of us."

Kerry, who is Catholic, worshiped in Dayton, Ohio, first at a Catholic mass and then — for the fifth consecutive Sunday — at a predominantly black church.

Quoting the Bible and criticizing Bush without naming him, Kerry said, "There is a standard by which we have to live. Coming to church on Sundays and talking about faith and professing faith isn't the whole deal."

Bush campaigned from one end of Florida to the other, with rallies in Miami, Tampa and Gainesville before flying to Ohio for an evening rally in Cincinnati. Kerry dashed north from Ohio to New Hampshire and then was appearing in Tampa at a rally.

Both sides said Sunday was eerily quiet on the campaign trail. Senior advisers

in both camps dropped off and raced home to take their children trick-or-treating on Halloween. Vice President Dick Cheney and his wife, Lynne, are being accompanied by their three grandchildren. Elizabeth, 7, wore a costume as the Grim Reaper at a rally in Romulus, Mich., and was introduced by Mrs. Cheney as "John Kerry's health plan."

Kerry's running mate, Sen. John Edwards, raced through Florida, Pennsylvania and Ohio, where he was knocking on doors in a Columbus neighborhood. He also was to do telephone interviews with Hawaii newspapers; Cheney was heading for a rally in traditionally Democratic Hawaii.

With little new to say after months of speeches and millions in commercials, both candidates hoped to energize their supporters to get to the polls. The two sides have get-out-the-vote operations which are groundbreaking in their size and expense.

Four years ago, Democratic nominee Al Gore had 90,000 people with specifically assigned jobs working to get out the vote on Election Day. This year, Kerry has 47,000 in Ohio alone — 250,000 nationally.

INDIANA GOVERNOR'S RACE: NEW POLL SHOWS SLIGHT LEAD FOR DANIELS

INDIANAPOLIS — A new statewide poll showed Republican Mitch Daniels with a slight lead in the governor's race, but Democratic Gov. Joe Kernan's campaign hoped to close that gap by Election Day.

The Indianapolis Star/WTHR poll released Saturday found 48 percent of respondents favored Daniels and 42 percent supported Kernan. The telephone poll of 1,002 likely voters also found 3 percent backed Libertarian Kenn

Gividen while 7 percent remained undecided.

The six-point difference between Daniels and Kernan was greater than the poll's margin of error of plus or minus 3.1 percentage points.

Both candidates' campaign managers said the race remained close and voter turnout would be the key to the outcome.

"There's still plenty of time for these numbers to move," said Daniels campaign manager Bill

Oesterle. "We have to make sure our get-out-the-vote activities are stellar."

Bernie Toon, campaign manager for Kernan, also said voter turnout was vital. "That's really what we're about for the next 72 hours," Toon said Saturday.

Still, he said, "We are very confident that going into Election Day we basically have a tied ballgame."

The survey conducted Tuesday through Friday by Iowa-based polling firm Selzer & Co. found that

49 percent said the state is going in the wrong direction, while 38 percent said the state is on the right track.

Oesterle said the numbers indicated that voters were embracing Daniels' message that Indiana needs a change in political leadership.

"People think the state needs a change, and that's what's coming through," he said.

Respondents gave Kernan a 48 percent approval rating in the

same survey while 32 percent said they disapproved of his performance as governor and 10 percent were unsure.

Toon said the state's economy is beginning to recover from recent tough times, and voters know that.

He also said — and Oesterle acknowledged — that Daniels, a former White House budget director, benefited from the state's strong support for President Bush, who is expected to carry the state Tuesday.

THE OBSERVER VIEWPOINT

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Monday, November 1, 2004

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POLICIES

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The news is reported as accurately and objectively as possible. Unsigned editorials represent the opinion of the majority of the Editor in Chief, Managing Editor, Assistant Managing Editor and department editors. Commentaries, letters and columns present the views of the authors and not necessarily those of The Observer.

Viewpoint space is available to all readers. The free expression of all opinions through letters is encouraged. Letters to the Editor must be signed and must include contact information.

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Think outside the vote

Given this most coveted column timing, one day before what has been hearkened in frenzied tones by many as the most important election of our lives, I will not inundate you with hyperbolic arguments in support of the candidate for whom I will vote. This somewhat reactionary decision on my part comes not only from an eagerness to be past the tense and divided atmosphere of election season, but also from the conviction that too much emphasis has been placed on voting as the crucial form of civic engagement. Our electoral passion should, in fact, extend past tomorrow.

Surely, the degree to which Americans have been investing themselves in the future of their society during the past six months is incredible. Thousands have been canvassing door to door in their home towns and states and creating grassroots networks to get out the vote. Television ratings from the debates were at an all-time high. Newspapers, radio stations and dinner tables across America have been buzzing with dialogue about important issues. At no other point in recent American history have so many people been investing themselves in the future of their country.

But any citizen that sits back on Nov. 3 and considers their civic duty accomplished by simply having cast a vote is wasting an unparalleled opportunity to carry on this momentum to create a more flourishing democracy.

Indeed, the success of a democratic society relies most fundamentally on the constant participation of its members. The "power of the people" is meant to be exercised to determine our communal well-being at all times; it is expressed not just by electing politi-

cians but also by holding them accountable, not just by learning about the issues but also by acting on them directly. Realizing our power demands recognizing that these issues affect our lives.

In many ways, elections actually represent the worst of democracy. Acknowledging that one vote will most likely never make a literal difference is often disempowering. The semantics and sound bytes of stump speeches and debates represent culture wars and battles for swing voters more than honest dialogue about the common good. The vote can even be seen as a mere symbolic representation of the values that already exist in America, making the year-round work at the level of individual hearts and minds a much more important and effective form of social change.

The problems brought up in the dialogue surrounding this election do not miraculously disappear after a victor is declared tomorrow, regardless of which candidate wins. Two days from now, all of us will still have a vested interest in understanding why two-thirds of America has grown poorer over the last four years.

Two days from now, our soldiers will still be in Iraq and many of our children will still lack health care. In other words, two days from now, needless suffering will continue its disillusioning existence, awaiting our impetus to act.

Each of the 1,460 days between

Presidential elections represents an opportunity to respond to this impetus by giving of ourselves to the community around us and by engaging any of the countless ways our values can affect the public square. Each new day is an occasion to challenge the status quo and to be builders of a healthier world.

This act of building can take many forms. It can be writing letters to the editor or to our elected officials. It can be raising awareness in our community for important issues. It can be supporting or participating in a social or political movement or campaign. It can be joining a rally or prayer vigil for structural change. At the very least, it can be educating ourselves about these issues and discussing them with the people around us.

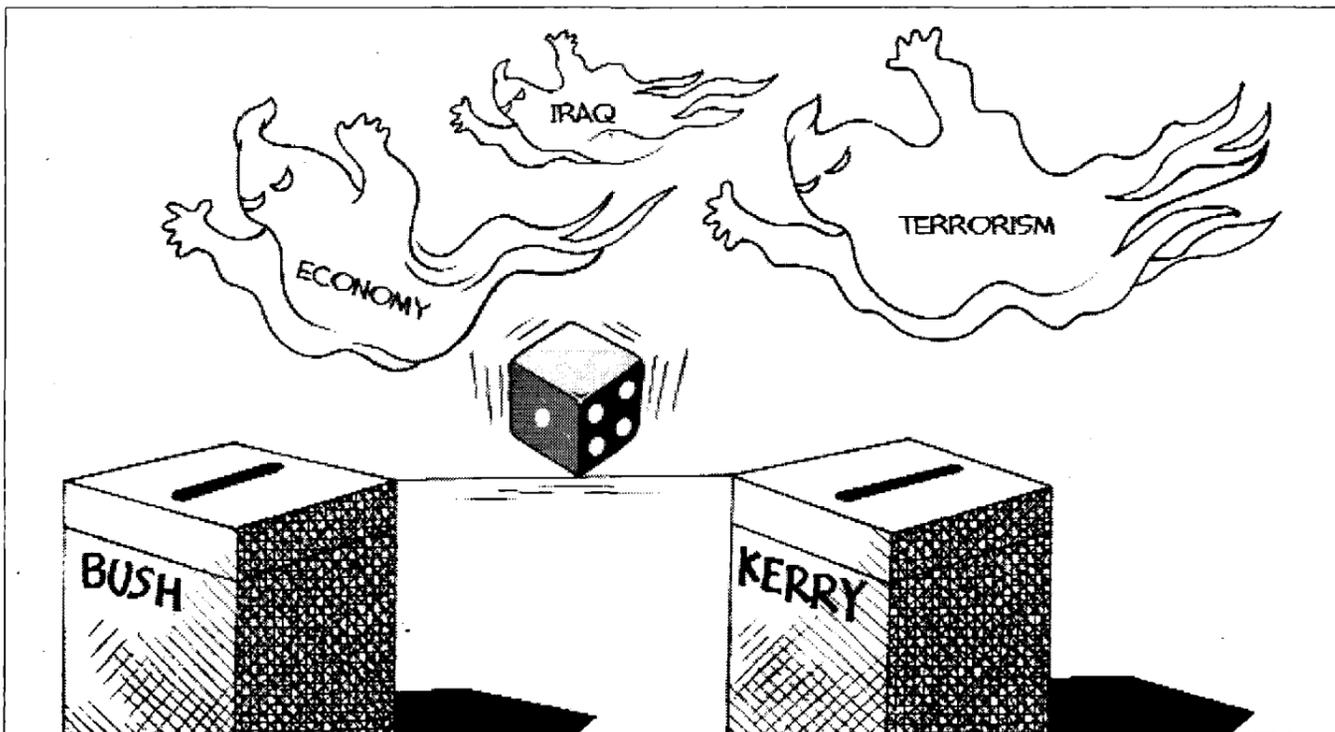
Let each of us take up this mission and not lose the participatory spirit of this election season. For President John F. Kennedy's proclamation made during his 1961 inaugural address certainly holds as true today as ever: "Ask not what your country can do for you, but what you can do for your country." And that means always.

Michael Poffenberger is a senior anthropology and peace studies major, and a member of Common Sense. Contact him at mpoffenb@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

"Never look down on anybody unless you helping him up."

Jesse Jackson
political activist

QUOTE OF THE DAY

"Many an opportunity is lost because a man is out looking for four-leaf clovers."

Anonymous

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

God is not a Republican. Or a Democrat.

"It is the responsibility of every political conservative, every evangelical Christian, every pro-life Catholic, every traditional Jew, every Reagan Democrat, and everyone in between to get serious about re-electing President Bush," said Jerry Falwell to the New York Times, July 16, 2004

"I think George Bush is going to win in a walk. I really believe I'm hearing from the Lord it's going to be like a blowout election in 2004. The Lord has just blessed him ... It doesn't make any difference what he does, good or bad ..." said Pat Robertson to the AP/Fox News, January 2, 2004

These leaders of the Religious Right mistakenly claim that God has taken a side in this election and that Christians should only vote for George W. Bush.

We believe that claims of divine appointment for the president, uncritical affirmation of his policies, and assertions that all Christians must vote for his re-election constitute bad theology and dangerous religion.

We believe that sincere Christians and other people of faith can choose to vote for President Bush or Senator Kerry — for reasons deeply rooted in their faith.

We believe all candidates should be examined by measuring their policies against the complete range of Christian ethics and values.

We will measure the candidates by whether they enhance human life, human dignity, and human rights; whether they strengthen family life and protect children; whether they promote racial reconciliation and support gender equality; whether they serve peace and social justice; and whether they advance the common good rather than only individual, national, and special interests.

We also admonish both parties and candidates to avoid the exploitation of religion or our congregations for partisan political purposes.

By signing this statement, we call Christians and other people of faith to a more thoughtful involvement in this election, rather than claiming God's endorsement of any candidate.

This is the meaning of responsible Christian citizenship.

We are not single-issue voters.

We believe that poverty — caring for the poor and vulnerable — is a religious issue. Do the candidates' budget and tax policies reward the rich or show compassion for poor families? Do their foreign policies include fair trade and debt cancellation for the poorest countries? (Matthew 25:35-40, Isaiah 10:1-2)

We believe that the environment — caring for God's earth — is a religious issue. Do the candidates' policies protect the creation or serve corporate interests that damage it? (Genesis 2:15, Psalm 24:1)

We believe that war — and our call to be peacemakers — is a religious issue. Do the candidates' policies pursue "wars of choice" or respect international law and cooperation in responding to real global threats? (Matthew 5:9)

We believe that truth-telling is a religious issue. Do the candidates tell the truth in justifying war and in other foreign and domestic policies? (Matthew 5:33-37, John 8:32)

We believe that human rights — respecting the image of God in every person — is a religious issue. How do the candidates propose to change the attitudes and policies that led to the abuse and torture of Iraqi prisoners? (Genesis 1:27)

We believe that our response to terrorism is a religious issue. Do the candidates adopt the dangerous language of righteous empire in the war on terrorism and confuse the roles of God, church, and nation? Do the candidates see evil only in our enemies but never in our own policies? (Matthew 6:33, 7:15, Proverbs 8:12-13)

We believe that a consistent ethic of human life is a religious issue. Do the candidates' positions on abortion, capital punishment, euthanasia, weapons of mass destruction, HIV/AIDS — and other pandemics — and genocide around the world obey the biblical injunction to choose life? (Deuteronomy 30:19)

This petition was initiated by Jim Wallis (editor of

Sojourners magazine), Tony Campolo (professor of sociology at Eastern University), Joan Chittister, OSB (Benedictine Sisters of Erie), and Brian McLaren (author and senior pastor at Cedar Ridge Community Church). The petition has now been signed by best-selling author Philip Yancey, dozens of religious leaders and college presidents, and more than 70,000 faithful citizens.

A version of this ad appeared in The New York Times during the week of the Republican National Convention and in the hometown papers of Jerry Falwell and Pat Robertson.

We, the undersigned members of the Notre Dame campus community, wholeheartedly endorse this message and we paid to publish the ad on page 8 of today's paper offering the free "God is not a Republican. Or a Democrat." sticker.

Progressive Student Alliance; Notre Dame Progressive Faculty and Staff Alliance, Notre Dame Peace Coalition, Ed Cohen, Judith Fox, Christopher Fox, William O'Rourke, John Monczunski, Gail Bederman, Clark Power, Ann Power, Francisco Aragón, Laura Bayard, Catherine Perry, Kimbra Smith, John Welle, E. Jane Doering, Barbara Booker, John Duffy, Ava Preacher, Sonia Gernes, Rachel Tomas Morgan, Joanne Mack, Mary Beckman, Teresa Phelps, Barbara Fick, Alven Neiman, Anne Montgomery, Laura Fuderer, Margaret Doody, Barbara Szweda, Jill Godmilow, Ann Walshe, Peter Walshe, Valerie Sayers, Chris Jara, Gressa McDowell, Darcia Narvaez, Heather Marconi, Stephen Fredman, Barbara Black-Fredman, Bob Jones, Lisa Koop, Caroline Murray of Pasquerilla East Hall, John Welke, Ivy Wilson, Nicole LaVoi, Stuart Greene, Janet Kourany

Editor's Note: This letter was originally submitted to The Observer as an advertisement. However, because The Observer does not allow advertisements that contain editorial or ideological content, The Observer rejected the advertisement and offered the authors the opportunity to resubmit the text to the Viewpoint section.

Catholics still get a choice

I am writing to respond to the column written by Professor Charles Rice on Nov. 28 about voting and faith. This column was a glaring example of the hypocrisy with which many Catholics conduct themselves, particularly where politics is concerned. For example, the author stated that abortion and euthanasia are inherently evil and therefore any practicing Catholic must vote against anyone who condones these practices. However, according to this author, there is a little more wiggle-room when it comes to the death penalty and the war in Iraq.

In this column, the pope was referenced several times. If you want to quote the pope, do so by all means. But do so accurately. The Vatican opposes both the war in Iraq and the death penalty. The Vatican also said very recently that people should not use a presidential candidates' stance on the abortion issue as an acid test when voting. The Vatican really cannot get much closer to saying "Vote Kerry" without naming names.

There appears to exist a division between the religious right in this country and the actual religion they profess to represent. Why else would people who use the Bible and Vatican to substantiate every point they make, then conveniently forget that the Vatican wholeheartedly condemns the war in Iraq and the death penalty? Why would such people encourage us to vote for Bush when he is currently the

record holder for most executions as governor of Texas? Maybe the whole "Thou shalt not kill" thing is more of a guideline where groups that are predominantly black, such as death row, are concerned.

Where it not so important, I would almost find it humorous that such people, church leaders included, seem to understand the pope when he is criticizing the classically Democratic-supported issues, such as pro-choice and stem cell research, but apparently have bouts of tinnitus when more Republican-supported topics are being reviled.

But it is important. We now live in a world where we are under the constant threat of terrorism from fundamentalists. A situation that in the last four years has only been exacerbated by having our own set of zealots imposing their ideological agendas while representing this country. With our very well-being at stake, I am nothing short of baffled when it becomes clear that people seem to focus only on abortion when deciding whom to vote for. God gave us brains capable of multi-tasking, let's use them. There is more than one issue at hand, and abortion, while important, is not paramount.

Aside from impeding our ability to choose someone who best represents American interests, focusing on one issue en masse has another detrimental consequence. It sets up a political atmosphere in which those who profess to be "Pro-Life" are given

a free pass to do whatever they want without ever being fact-checked, questioned or where necessary, punished. Pro-life politicians automatically have an inbuilt base of supporters who feel they are "trustworthy" or "a man's man." Ask such people what they think of Bill Clinton or John Edwards and without being able to put their finger on it, they will invariably tell you that they just can't trust them.

Therefore it seems that as well as the ability to multi-task, we are also squandering the gift of common sense. Courtesy of one-issue fanatics, we now have in office someone who led America to war on faulty premises, alienating the allies earned after 9/11, someone who endangered the lives of others while drink driving — and married someone who ended the life of a poor unfortunate while driving — someone who offered no-bid contracts to his right hand man's company and then ignored the theft of money for those contracts and who, at the end of the day, has not even appeased his one-issue fanatics by reversing Roe v. Wade. Lucky for him, words speak louder than actions to these people. Merely saying you are anti-abortion will earn you their categorical support. Besides, if abortion were successfully outlawed, what issue would be our litmus test for the presidential elections?

Elizabeth Halpin
 graduate student
 Oct. 28

Evaluate your vote

This election year, it is clear that there are many issues that people will consider as they choose a candidate. I have considered the situation in Iraq, the economy, national security and several others. What astounds me is that while there are many, many issues that should be considered, the people on this campus seem to prioritize only one: abortion. To support his claim that abortion is the most important issue in this election, Professor Charles Rice quotes the Evangelium Vitae: abortion, euthanasia and embryonic stem-cell research "involve the intentional killing of an innocent human being." He goes on to quote Archbishop John Myers: "Policies on welfare, national security, the war in Iraq, Social Security or taxes ... do not provide a proportionate reason to vote for a pro-abortion candidate." Rice throughout his letter uses quotations from others to fuel his rhetoric that boils down to if you are Catholic, you have to vote for Bush. Well, I would like to use a quotation myself. Cardinal Renato Martino, the president of the Council for Justice and Peace, was quoted as saying "Human rights are inherent to every human being. They are not a concession." That's right, he said every human being, not just unborn fetuses or people with a terminal disease. I find it hard to believe that anyone could denounce a candidate for being pro-choice (which I might add makes little difference, as the laws are currently in place) and then support a candidate who not only holds the record for most executions in U.S. history but also, has caused the death of thousands of innocent Iraqis.

President George W. Bush has now been in office for almost four years and, although he does not support abortion, has failed to reverse Roe vs. Wade. As he has been quite busy with the war in Iraq, how can one blame him? Of course, the 9/11 episode (i.e. national security), the recession, health care and tax cuts have also filled up his agenda. Clearly, although Bush is anti-abortion, he has made other issues his priority. We should all do the same. If our national security is compromised, thousands are at risk for dying. If the war in Iraq is not concluded quickly, thousands — including American soldiers — are at risk of dying. If the health care and Social Security issues are not resolved, thousands are at risk of dying. So when you go to the polls next Tuesday, try to evaluate all the issues and then, and only then, choose the candidate that you feel will best protect the human rights of all human beings, not just the unborn.

Jessica Hornick
 graduate student
 Oct. 29

Watch and learn from "The O.C."

I will admit it. I love "The O.C." I know it's trashy. I know that I really should be doing something to further my education for that hour, like reading existential philosophy or attending a lecture on modern poetry, but somehow, I feel like "The O.C." has given me a different kind of education. The show rolls up more of the action, intrigue, back-stabbing and deception than you would find in any soap opera, romance novel and Shakespearean drama combined. So, in order to justify the hour that have spent each week watching Seth, Summer, Marissa, Ryan and company, I would like to list the things that I have learned from watching "The O.C."

Molly Griffin

*Assistant
Scene Editor*

1. Fighting solves everything, especially cat fighting.

Julie and Hailie get in a catfight at Julie's bachelorette party. Caleb and Sandy fight at a fancy restaurant in Las Vegas and that's just in one episode. "The O.C." is rife with examples of how violence is the answer to a myriad of usual problems, which, luckily, most of us don't have to face.

2. Midlife crises can have a lot of manifestations, including sleeping with your daughter's ex-boyfriend.

Julie has an affair with Luke, Marissa's ex-boyfriend. Needless to say, it doesn't end well.

3. High school kids have a lot of problems, not limited to alcoholism,

pregnancy, stalkers, affairs, abandonment and accidentally hiring strippers.

My high school experience wasn't quite like that of the students on "The O.C.," but maybe I just hung out with the wrong crowd.

4. Nerds can get the girl.

Seth gives hope to nerds everywhere by actually dating hot-girl Summer, but lets them all down when they break up at the end of the season.

5. Paris Hilton will hit on anything, including high school students.

In "The L.A.," Paris hits on Seth, but are any of us really surprised by anything that Hilton does anymore?

6. Be careful who you marry, because they might not be as rich as you think they are.

Julie marries Caleb, quite possibly more for money than for love. Only we, the audience, can only anticipate what her reaction will be when she finds out that he's bankrupt next season.

7. Family politics can get complicated, especially when your foster son's girlfriend's mother is marrying your father and her ex-husband is dating your sister.

The population of Orange County is disproportionately represented by the seeming need of Kirsten's friends and family to intermarry.

8. While we won't know until the new season starts, it may just be possible to sail from California to Tahiti.

Seth, following his break-up with Summer and Ryan deciding to leave,



Photo courtesy of www.petergallagher.com

The cast of "The O.C." returns for a second season on Thursday. The first season of the popular Fox series was recently released on DVD.

renews his attempt to sail his catamaran to Tahiti. Isn't that what we'd all like to do when things aren't going our way?

9. You don't have to choose between Christmas or Chanakka because you can have Christmukka.

The Cohens manage their family with creative solutions at all times, even at the holidays.

10. When you start hanging out with a guy, make sure that he isn't a crazy, obsessive stalker who will try to kill you and himself when you try to cool things off.

In "The Rivals" and "The Truth," Marissa's "friend" Oliver slowly takes

over her life, leaving it up to Ryan to come and save her. While to those of us watching it was quite obvious that he was deranged, Marissa is not exactly a Rhodes scholar.

Maybe these aren't things that you would learn in the classroom, but at the very least, watching "The O.C." will, regardless of how hectic your life is, make you feel normal. Plus, it is quite possibly the best excuse to take a study break that has come along for a long, long time.

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"The Grudge" tops Halloween weekend

Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — Halloween spirit possessed movie-goers as Sarah Michelle Gellar's fright flick "The Grudge" remained the top draw for the second straight weekend with \$22.4 million. The film biography "Ray," which has drawn Academy

Awards buzz for Jamie Foxx as Ray Charles in the title role, debuted in second place with \$20.1 million, according to studio estimates Sunday.

The horror tale "Saw," about a serial killer who puts victims through grisly morality trials, opened at No. 3 with \$17.4 million. The cast includes Cary Elwes and Danny Glover.



Photo courtesy of www.up4u.net

Sarah Michelle Gellar stars in "The Grudge," which grossed \$22.4 million to stay the No. 1 movie for the second week in a row.

In narrower release, Nicole Kidman's "Birth" had a so-so debut, coming in at No. 11 with \$1.7 million in 550 cinemas to average \$3,091 a theater. Kidman plays a widow about to remarry when she encounters a 10-year-old boy claiming to be the reincarnation of her dead husband.

By comparison, "Ray" debuted in 2,006 theaters with a healthy \$10,020 average, while "Saw" averaged \$7,516 in 2,315 cinemas.

"The Grudge," starring Gellar as an American student tormented by a hateful spirit lurking in a Tokyo house, lifted its 10-day domestic gross to \$71.3 million. A remake of a Japanese horror hit, "The Grudge" cost just \$10 million to produce.

Scary movies tend to plummet in their second weekend because hardcore horror fans catch them in the first few days. Halloween weekend helped shore up "The Grudge," whose receipts fell just 43 percent, a relatively strong hold from its \$39.1 million debut.

"The Grudge" and "Saw" drew mostly younger viewers looking for Halloween scares. The audience for "Ray" was older, with three-fourths of viewers age 30 and over.

Films that play to older crowds tend to stick around longer at theaters, and distributor Universal Studios is counting on the movie's Oscar prospects to extend its appeal through awards season.

Interest in Charles has surged since his death last June and Foxx has received enormous acclaim for

his uncanny re-creation of the blind singer's mannerisms and spirit.

"This is the most talked about performance of the year," said Paul Dergarabedian, president of box-office tracker Exhibitor Relations. "His performance even transcends the movie itself."

Director Taylor Hackford, who had Charles' full support on "Ray," struggled for 15 years to get the movie made. Financed independently, the finished film was shopped around futilely among Hollywood studios until it found a home at Universal.

"Nobody wanted this movie, so as a result we are celebrating like you can't even believe," said Nikki Rocco, head of distribution for Universal. "We expect a long life for this movie."

Estimated ticket sales for Friday through Sunday at North American theaters, according to Exhibitor Relations Co. Inc. Final figures will be released Monday.

Top 10 weekend movies:

1. "The Grudge," \$22.4 million
2. "Ray," \$20.1 million
3. "Saw," \$17.4 million
4. "Shark Tale," \$8 million
5. "Shall We Dance?" \$6.3 million
6. "Friday Night Lights," \$4.1 million
7. "Ladder 49," \$3.3 million
8. "Team America: World Police," \$3.1 million
9. "Surviving Christmas," \$2.6 million
10. "Taxi," \$2.15 million

MOVIE REVIEW

"I Heart Huckabees" not for everyone

By MARIA SMITH
Scene Editor

A movie about existential detectives, however good it may be, does not tend to attract a wide audience.

"I Heart Huckabees," a comedy about the ups, downs, ins and outs of life and how it's all connected, has a limited enough appeal that it hasn't opened widely in theaters around the country. It was only engaged for a two-week showing at Showplace 16 in South Bend.

The movie is not one for people who like run-of-the-mill chick flicks or action movies. The storyline is like nothing else in the video store and the script is equally bizarre.

The film caters more to people who are fans of philoso-comic films like "The Big Lebowski" or "The Royal Tenenbaums" which are slightly out of sync with reality. If you are one of those people who is tired of going to the theater and seeing something where every plot development can be predicted an hour ahead of time, this is one of the few films in theaters that you might actually want to see. "I Heart Huckabees" is nothing if not unconventional.

Like its offbeat compadres, "I Heart Huckabees" is a film composed more of striking moments than a coherent plot. It would be hard to describe in 20 or even 50 words what "The Big Lebowski" is about, but the style and the quotes are unmistakable.

Explaining the plot of "I Heart Huckabees" is almost as difficult, but certain scenes in the movie click in a way that is unique but effective.

Unfortunately, the best moments of "I Heart Huckabees" are not quite as good as those from "The Big Lebowski." The film is more philosophical and more ethereal, and while it would be easier to define what the film is trying to say, it isn't really quite as entertaining. You might laugh at the key moments, but you're less likely to start quoting them to your friends.

The film opens when Albert Markovski (Jason Schwartzman), a well-meaning but out-of-touch environmentalist, calls in existential detectives Bernard and Vivian Gaffe (Dustin Hoffman and Lily Tomlin) to explain the meaning of a strange coincidence in his life. The Jaffes, who operate under a belief that everything in the universe is both connected and meaningful, set out to explain as many things about Markovski as they can.

Dustin Hoffman and Lily Tomlin play existential detectives satisfactorily, but are not especially distinctive. They do provide a cheerful contrast to Catherine Vauban (Isabelle Huppert), their dark counterpart.

The best performances in the movie are given by Mark Wahlberg as firefighter Tommy Corn and Naomi Watts as Dawn Campbell, the face of the Huckabees corporations. Wahlberg has occasionally been too creepy for his own good, but in this role his angry streak turns out perfectly. Watts, the



Photo courtesy of www.empiremovies.com

Jude Law, as businessman Brad Stand, and Jason Schwartzman, as environmentalist Albert Markovski, star in "I Heart Huckabees."

star of "Mulholland Drive," plays as a glam-girl gone philosophical who yields some of the best scenes of the film.

Jude Law also fits well into the role of seemingly soulless businessman Brad Stand.

"I Heart Huckabees" is probably not a

film everyone will enjoy, but if you want something that introduces some new thoughts without hitting you over the head, it may do the trick.

Contact Maria Smith at
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MUSIC EVENT

The Unicorns bring quirky music to campus

By MATTHEW SOLARSKI
Scene Editor

Notre Dame's preeminent Internet radio station, WVFI, is proud to present one-of-a-kind opportunity to Notre Dame students who love live music. The Unicorns, quirky Canadians, critical darlings and fan favorites, bring their unique brand of nuanced, danceable pop music to the LaFortune Ballroom tonight. The free show begins at 7:00 p.m. with opening act Besnard

Lakes.

The Unicorns catapulted into the indie spotlight with their stellar 2003 release, "Who Will Cut Our Hair When We're Gone?" This little record seemingly came from nowhere and took the underground by storm, topping many critics' year-end lists and winning over droves of new fans. Following a summer tour with the red-hot Arcade Fire, the Unicorns were hand-selected to open for Ben Kweller on his autumn tour and will tonight grace Notre Dame with their idiosyncratic flair.

The band's press release says it best:

"Get yourself ready and put your hands together for the 'blow-up' sensation of the rest of your lives: The Unicorns ... have arrived to save you, to let you save them, and consequently make-up the face of modern music. Having blossomed in Montreal, Quebec, The Unicorns have packed their things and are heading to all the roads in all the world for an unforeseeable amount of time,



Photo courtesy of www.theunicorns.net

The Unicorns became underground favorites with their album "Who Will Cut Our Hair When We're Gone?" They have toured with Arcade Fire and Ben Kweller.

backing up their reputation as being Canada's most promising new band, and planet Earth's next big thing.

The Unicorns have a gift for blending a morbid sense of humour with irresistible pop melodies caked with beautiful vocals employing thoughtful, near-sacred lyrics.

Upon seeing this band live, it's impossible to deny that there are supernatural forces at play. You'll never know what you are in for — a performance (i.e. a puppet show, a homeless person hired to impersonate the band, bizarre costumes, a bloody fight between band members) or simply sweet boys delivering the sweet goods. But regardless of

what shape their live performance takes on, it never fails to be deeply moving and highly entertaining. You will leave a believer.

The Unicorns seem poised on the brink of a huge commercial breakthrough, so this may well be the last chance to see this superb live act in such a fun and intimate setting. The show will likely fill up fast, so come early for the best view. Next time around they just might be co-headlining a world tour with John Mayer.

Contact Matthew Solarski at
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Photo courtesy of www.theunicorns.net

Canadian pop musicians, The Unicorns, will play in the LaFortune Ballroom tonight.

MEN'S SWIMMING

Irish beat Utah on the road, fall to BYU

By RAMA GOTTUMUKKALA
Sports Writer

After posting a victory over Utah, the Notre Dame men's swimming and diving program challenged No. 22 Brigham Young down to the very wire before faltering. Swimming only hours after their 123-118 victory against Utah (0-1), the Irish (2-1) led early against the Cougars (1-0) but lost the decisive 400-yard freestyle relay that allowed BYU to eek out a 153-144 victory.

Seeking the program's first-ever win against a nationally-ranked opponent, the Irish went to work quickly against BYU, leading by 25 points early. Notre Dame finished 1-2-3 in two of the first three individual events and the Irish took the lead on the basis of their strong distance freestyling.

Freshman Jay Vanden Berg, junior Patrick Davis and sopho-

more Chris Zeches posted times of 16 minutes, 15.63 seconds, 16:28.93 and 16:30.66, respectively, in the 1,650-yard freestyle and all finished more than 20 seconds quicker than any BYU swimmer.

"I thought that the way we competed was just great for the whole weekend," Irish coach Tim Welsh said. "The distance freestyle events, which are the first individual events, are one of the areas in which we are a strong team. We rely on our distance swimmers and they've had three good meets in a row now. We do talk about being aggressive and intense from the very beginning."

Vanden Berg performed well throughout the weekend, notching two victories against Utah in the 1,000-yard freestyle (9:37.44) and the 500-yard freestyle (4:41.41) and also finishing first in the 1,650-yard freestyle against BYU the following day.

"Obviously, he swam really well," Welsh said. "We knew that about him, that he was a very good distance freestyler. He has a great work ethic, he trains very hard and he swam great over the week-end."

With the score tied 140-140, the final relay of the BYU meet proved to be crucial and the race was close throughout.

Senior Frank Krakowski and sophomores Tim Kegelman, Ted Brown and Louis Cavadini ended with a time of 3:06.37 in the 400-yard freestyle, only 1.13 seconds behind BYU's winning time and faster than all but one dual meet from last season.

In order to win the meet, BYU had to win the last three events, which they managed to do. Using strong performances in

the diving and breaststroke events, the Cougars closed the margin on the Irish and spoiled Notre Dame's bid to achieve their first victory against a nationally-ranked foe.

"I think that to some extent, the fact that [the Cougars] are an experienced top-25 team and they're racing at home was to their advantage," Welsh said. "From our extent, we want to learn how to win

those meets and we're getting closer.

It doesn't happen in one giant step. It happens little by little and we know we're getting closer so that's what we're working on."

The Irish also used a strong start to build a 47-6 advantage in their victory against Utah, a lead that the Utes could not

overcome and suffered their first home defeat in dual-meet action since January 31, 2003. Brown led a strong outing for the Irish in the 200 freestyle, with senior captain Matt Bertke and sophomore Brian Freeman taking second and third place. Sophomore Scott Coyle and freshman Steven Crowe paced the Irish divers and both achieved third place finishes in the Utah meet.

Notre Dame will take to the water next weekend as the team heads to Iowa to face the Hawkeyes, an opponent the Irish have never beaten.

"We have a very, very challenging early schedule this season and we're just going one step at a time," Welsh said. "We picked up some good notes this weekend and we'll try to apply that to the Iowa meet on Friday."

Contact Rama Gottumukkala at rgottumu@nd.edu

SMC CROSS COUNTRY

Belles can't quite get it done

Team finishes in sixth place at conference championship, sixth in final standings

By ANNA FRICANO
Sports Writer

The Belles weren't quite able to pull off the victory that they needed on Saturday in order to finish in the top four of the MIAA standings, where the Belles had hoped to end the season.

A sixth-place finish in the conference championship left Saint Mary's in the sixth place position that they were in prior to the race.

The overall rank that the Belles achieved is as high as the team has finished since first running in the championship in 1998, matching their standings for the 2003 season.

Hope College dominated both the MIAA conference as well as the conference championship race this year, finishing the day on Saturday 36 points ahead of the second place contenders.

Calvin and Albion took second and third place, respectively. Kalamazoo College finished fourth, followed by Alma.

Finishing behind Saint Mary's were Adrian College and Tri-State University finishing in the seventh and eighth spots.

Freshman Megan Gray topped the Saint Mary's finishers with a time of 25:38, and an overall finish of 25th place. Erin Nolan, Sara Otto, Risa Zander, Becky Feauto, Katie White and Elizabeth Commers also

finished in the top seven for the Belles. These ladies will go on to run in the NCAA Division-III Regional at Alma College on November 13.

Although Saint Mary's did not end the season as high as the runners had hoped, the team is still confident that the outcome of the year is a stride in right direction.

Zander, a senior and co-captain on the team, is confident of the position that her team

is in at the end of the season.

"We have definitely seen a lot of growth on the team this year ... There is still a long way to go, but I would like to think that we're laying the foundation now to improve the team in the future," Zander said.

Zander also commented on the position that the team will be in next year with a strong group of underclassmen ready to fill the gap that will be left by the graduating seniors. Gray and sophomore transfer Meghan Murphy have both been stand-out runners for the Belles this season.

With a year of experience under their belts, the two ought to be even more effective for the team next year. Sophomores Nolan, White and Otto, along with Junior Feauto, have all been consistent top finishers for Saint Mary's, and will be returning for the 2005 season.

Contact Anna Fricano at africa01@saintmarys.edu

"We have definitely seen a lot of growth on the team this year."

Risa Zander
Belles runner

NCAA FOOTBALL

Purdue's dream season turns into a nightmare

Associated Press

EVANSTON, Ill. — Three short weeks ago, Purdue and Kyle Orton were on the verge of one of those magical seasons.

The Boilermakers had climbed to No. 5 in the country, their best start in almost 60 years, and fans were thinking Orange Bowl, not the Rose Bowl. Orton was on the fast track to the Heisman Trophy, piling up touchdowns and yardage with dizzying ease. Now Orton's starting job is in jeopardy and the Boilermakers are in shambles, on the wrong end of a three-game losing streak and wondering how things got so bad, so fast.

"We're disappointed. We're trying to get a win, we're trying to play well," Orton said after being benched in Purdue's latest loss, a 13-10 upset at Northwestern on Saturday afternoon that dropped the Boilermakers out of the top 25.

"We just have to get a win and try to get back on track."

But what derailed the Boilermakers (5-3, 2-3 Big

Ten) in the first place?

Purdue looked almost invincible as it raced out to a 5-0 start. Orton threw 18 touchdown passes in those first five games, and the high-octane offense churned out more than 500 yards and 45 points a game. The young defense looked as nasty as its predecessor, which sent seven players to the NFL.

But something happened in that fifth game. The Nittany Lions clamped down tight on Purdue's receivers, clutching and grabbing and getting as close to pass interference as they could without drawing a flag. Purdue still won 20-13, but other teams now had a blueprint for how to attack the Boilermakers.

Wisconsin did it to perfection two weeks ago, smothering the receivers and harassing Orton all afternoon. When he fumbled late in the fourth quarter, the Badgers scooped it up and returned it for the game-winning touchdown. Michigan was equally tough, allowing top receiver Taylor Stubblefield only one catch and limiting Orton to 213 yards passing.

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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Happio six monthio, sweet pea!

What a goober.

Yeah, Strawnilla.

Tarkki flops more than a fish out of water.

Way to go Peerless. Score two touchdowns the day I bench you. Jerk.

The Dirty Birds are back.

The Boston Red Sox won a World Series, and Armageddon didn't come. I'm disappointed.



T I C K E T S O N S A L E N O W

F A L L A R T S F E S T : S H A K E S P E A R E I N P E R F O R M A N C E

MUSIC

Notre Dame Symphony Orchestra

November 4 at 8 p.m.
 Tickets: \$6, \$5 ND/SMC/HC, \$3 students

King's Singers

November 7 at 8 p.m.
 Tickets: \$44, \$35 ND/SMC/HC, \$15 students



MUSIC

ND Schola Musicorum

Wednesday, October 27 at 9:30 p.m.
Abend-Musique XXIII
 Reyes Organ and Choral Hall

The Schola Musicorum was formed in 1993 to study and perform Gregorian Chant. Wednesday's concert will feature chant by composer Guillaume Du Fay. For more on the ND Schola Musicorum, visit www.nd.edu/~Emusic/ensembles/schola.html

Glee Club Concert

Friday, October 29 at 8 p.m.
 Tickets: \$3 all seats

FILM

Nosferatu (90 minutes)

Thursday, October 28 at 7 p.m. and 10 p.m.
www.nosferatufilm.com/
 F.W. Murnau's silent film classic shown with live musical accompaniment.

Before Sunset (80 minutes)

Friday, October 29 at 7 p.m. and 10 p.m.
<http://wip.warnerbros.com/beforesunset/>
 Romantic story set in Vienna and Paris.

All The President's Films

Saturday, October 30 starting at 11 a.m.
 The films to be screened include *Primary*, *The Best Man*, *The War Room*, *Journeys with George*, *Primary Colors* and *Wag the Dog*. Please visit <http://performingarts.nd.edu> for more information about the films and show times.

THEATRE

Fortinbras By Lee Blessing

November 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13
 Tickets: \$12, \$10 ND/SMC/HC, \$8

A Midsummer Night's Dream

November 3 and 6 at 7:30 p.m.
 Tickets \$18, \$16 ND/SMC/HC, \$12 students
 Performed by *Actors From The London Stage*

MacHomer by Rick Miller

November 5 and 6
 Tickets: \$37, \$30 ND/SMC/HC, \$15 students

THEATRE



Victoria

www.dulci-langfelder.org/English/engframe.html
 November 11 at 2 p.m. and 8 p.m.

Decio Theatre
 Matinee price is \$15
 Evening Performance \$30, \$25 faculty/staff,
 \$15 all students

A humorous, warm and loving play about aging based on an original idea and texts by Charles Fariola, staged and performed by Dulcinea Langfelder.

Dulcinea Langfelder recaptures the comic tradition of Chaplin, with an original and a very contemporary twist, through clever use of technology and multiple disciplines. The heroine, Victoria, has lost her memory; she's lost her pussycat, she's lost control over her life. A shadow of her former self; Victoria adapts and adopts comic and dramatic situations as her imagination dictates. Her wheelchair is also her rocking chair, her prison, her tango partner and her flying chariot.

FILM

Tickets for these films will go on sale on Monday, November 1. For more information about these films, please visit <http://performingarts.nd.edu>.

Amleto (1915)

Thursday, November 4, 8 p.m.

Titus (1999)

Friday, November 5 at 6:30 p.m.

Forbidden Planet (1956)

Friday, November 5 at 10 p.m.

Richard III (1955)

Saturday, November 6 at 11:30 a.m.

Ran (1985)

Saturday, November 6 at 3 p.m.

Romeo and Juliet (1996)

Saturday, November 6 at 6:30 p.m.

Hamlet (2000)

Saturday, November 6 at 10 p.m.

DANCE



NDPresents: Momix at the Morris

www.momix.com
 November 13
 Performed at the Morris Performing Arts Center
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 Order tickets on line at www.MorrisCenter.org
 or call 574.235.9190

Momix may change your definition of dance. Known internationally for work of exceptional inventiveness and physical beautiful, Momix is a company of dancer-illusionists. Under the direction of Moses Pendleton, the company has conjured a world of surreal images for more than 20 years. For Notre Dame Momix will perform their critically acclaimed *Opus Cactus*. Choreographed by Moses Pendleton, *Opus Cactus*, is a celebration of the deserts of the American Southwest. Drawing from other art forms-gymnastics, acrobatics, body surfing, pole vaulting, ballet and puppetry-and aided by designers whose imaginations are as large as the desert sky, Pendleton has sculpted nineteen desert scenes to make you forget the cooling temperatures of Michiana November. Prepare to be delighted.

Discounted tickets are underwritten by the DeBartolo Center for the Performing Arts. There are a limited number of student discounts available.



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AROUND THE NATION

Associated Press Top 25

	team	record	points
1	USC (56)	8-0	1,616
2	Oklahoma (8)	8-0	1,556
3	Auburn (1)	9-0	1,507
4	California	6-1	1,362
5	Wisconsin	8-0	1,359
6	Texas	7-1	1,230
7	Utah	8-0	1,212
8	Georgia	7-1	1,162
9	Tennessee	7-1	1,132
10	Michigan	8-1	1,062
11	Miami	6-1	1,035
12	Virginia	6-1	815
13	Florida State	6-2	803
14	Louisville	5-1	793
15	West Virginia	7-1	754
16	Boise State	8-0	685
17	LSU	6-2	557
18	Virginia Tech	6-2	515
19	Oklahoma State	6-2	469
20	Iowa	6-2	416
21	Southern Miss	5-1	209
22	Texas A&M	6-2	206
23	Arizona State	6-2	189
24	Boston College	5-2	111
25	UTEP	6-2	69

ESPN/USA Today poll

	team	record	points
1	USC (52)	8-0	1,516
2	Oklahoma (8)	8-0	1,459
3	Auburn (1)	9-0	1,409
4	Wisconsin	8-0	1,262
5	Georgia	7-1	1,221
6	California	6-1	1,200
7	Texas	7-1	1,150
8	Utah	8-0	1,087
9	Michigan	8-1	1,025
10	Miami	6-1	979
11	Tennessee	7-1	931
12	West Virginia	7-1	784
13	Virginia	6-1	743
13	Florida State	6-2	743
15	Boise State	8-0	724
16	Louisville	5-1	681
17	LSU	6-2	576
18	Virginia Tech	6-2	503
19	Oklahoma State	6-2	352
20	Iowa	6-2	341
21	Southern Miss	5-1	239
22	Texas A&M	6-2	151
23	Arizona State	6-2	144
24	Northern Illinois	7-2	110
25	Boston College	5-2	102

Women's Soccer Division I NSCAA Rankings

	team	record
1	North Carolina	15-0-1
2	NOTRE DAME	16-0-1
3	Penn State	14-1-1
4	Virginia	13-2-1
5	Santa Clara	11-4-2
6	Portland	15-3-0
7	Kansas	15-3-0
8	Princeton	12-1-0
9	UCLA	11-5-0
10	Auburn	13-2-2
11	Tennessee	12-3-2
12	Washington	12-3-1
13	Texas A&M	13-5-0
14	Ohio State	11-3-3
15	Duke	12-5-0
16	Florida State	12-4-1
17	Stanford	10-4-2
18	Florida	12-3-3
19	Maryland	7-4-3
20	Illinois	11-4-2
21	Texas	11-5-1
22	Boston College	12-5-0
23	San Diego	10-7-1
24	Connecticut	15-5-0
25	West Virginia	14-4-0

NFL



Pittsburgh Steelers' Plaxico Burress hauls in a first quarter touchdown pass from quarterback Ben Roethlisberger as he falls out of bounds in NFL action on Sunday in Pittsburgh.

Steelers beat an unpatriotic New England

Associated Press

PITTSBURGH — So much for a perfect week in New England sports, the Patriots' chances for a perfect season and the longest winning streaks in NFL history.

Ben Roethlisberger, a rookie quarterback who seemingly doesn't know how to lose, drove the Steelers to four scores following uncharacteristic New England turnovers and Pittsburgh ended the Patriots' two long winning streaks with a remarkably easy 34-20 victory Sunday.

The Patriots had won 21 straight counting the play-

offs and a league-record 18 in a row in the regular season, but were all but out of this one after Roethlisberger — still unbeaten as an NFL starter — threw two touchdown passes to Plaxico Burress in the first quarter.

Maybe all this winning was too much to ask of Boston-area teams. With running back Corey Dillon (knee) sitting out and Pro Bowl cornerback Ty Law (foot) sidelined for all but a few plays, the Patriots' winning streaks ended only four days after the Boston Red Sox won their first World Series in 86 years.

With Tom Brady throw-

ing two interceptions and losing a fumble, New England's run ended with its first loss since a 20-17 defeat to Washington on Sept. 28, 2003. But Roethlisberger upped his personal winning streak to 18. He won his final 13 at Miami of Ohio last season following an opening-game loss, and now is only the second rookie quarterback since the 1970 merger to win his first NFL five starts.

Mike Kruczek won six straight for the injured Terry Bradshaw for the 1976 Steelers, never once throwing a touchdown pass; Roethlisberger already has nine in what is

fast becoming the best season by an NFL rookie QB since Dan Marino threw 20 touchdown passes and only six interceptions in 11 games for the 1983 Dolphins.

Next up for Pittsburgh — or, as they're calling it now, Roethlis-burgh — is unbeaten Philadelphia, 7-0 for the first time. The Steelers' 6-1 start is their best since their '78 team was 7-0, and they lead the Ravens (4-3) by two games in the AFC North.

It may be of little consolation, but New England's 6-1 record also equals the best start in franchise history.

IN BRIEF

Agassi loses Stockholm Open final

STOCKHOLM, Sweden — Andre Agassi lost the Stockholm Open final in a third-set tiebreaker to Sweden's Thomas Johansson, who won 3-6, 6-3, 7-6 (4) Sunday to capture this tournament for the second time.

Johansson, a former Australian Open champion, rallied from a set down before a packed Royal Tennis Hall crowd that included Agassi's wife, Steffi Graf.

"I was pretty discouraged with the level of tennis he was playing [in the second set]," Agassi said. "I wasn't getting any chances. I hung in there and I managed to make it a competitive set. But, again, I was just playing to hang on."

Johansson led all the way in the tiebreaker, going up 6-3 after two mini breaks. Agassi saved the first match point with a passing shot. Johansson, backed by clapping, foot-stomping fans, then smacked an ace to close the match. He had lost all six

previous matches to Agassi.

Butler student dies in crash on I-70

COLUMBUS, Ohio — One person was killed and seven others were injured Sunday when a van carrying members of Butler University's crew team overturned on Interstate 70, school and highway patrol officials said.

Kristopher Thomas Stewart, 21, of Fort Wayne, Ind., was killed in the crash, a spokesman for Butler said in a release.

"We offer condolences to the family of Kristopher Stewart," Butler president Bobby Fong said. "And we keep the other students and their family members involved in the accident in our hearts and prayers."

The van went into the median, overturned, and came to rest in the eastbound lanes.

Grace Park wins CJ Nine Bridges Classic

JEJU, South Korea — Grace Park won the CJ Nine Bridges Classic on Sunday, shooting a 7-under-par 65 for a five-stroke victory and giving her game a big boost after a collapse in the final round two weeks ago.

"I can't describe my happiness with words," the South Korean star said.

Park finished at 16-under 200. Top-ranked Annika Sorenstam and Carin Koch, both of Sweden, shot 67s and tied for second at 11 under. Sorenstam entered the day three strokes off the lead and closed her round with an eagle.

Defending champion Ahn Shi-hyun (69) was at 10 under, tied for fourth with Lorena Ochoa (67) and Jeong Jang (68).

Park won \$202,500 and was presented with a traditional South Korean dress when she accepted her prize.

around the dial

NFL

Dolphins at Jets 9 p.m., ABC

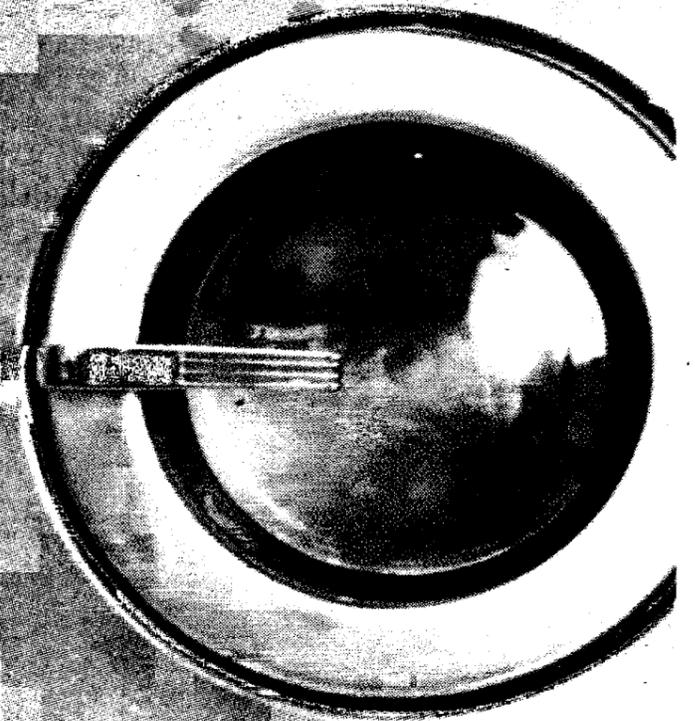
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World Series of Poker 6 p.m., ESPN

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ND WOMEN'S SWIMMING

Tired Irish drop consecutive meets

By KATE GALES
Sports Writer

A number of individual performances highlighted a disappointing weekend for the Irish, as the No. 23 ranked women dropped both meets in a triangular event against Purdue and Arizona State.

Jessica Stephens had three top-three finishes and Meghan Perry-Eaton led the divers with two top-two finishes. Additionally, Ellen Barton and Ann Barton both placed in the top two twice in the meet, as the Irish fell to Arizona State 186-111 and Purdue 169-130.

"I think that for the most part, there were the individuals who swam pretty well, but for the most part the team just looked pretty tired," co-captain Kelli Barton said. "Coming out of the meet we were tired mentally as well."

After spending the week of fall break in intense training, injuries to key swimmers also played a role in the team's defeat.

"It also didn't help that we had a lot of injuries coming into the meet," Barton said, citing the absence of Christel Bouvron, Katie Carroll and Kristen Peterson as major factors.

In the 400-yard individual medley, the Irish took first and second with Stephens touching at 4 minutes, 25.76 seconds and Ellen Barton coming in at 4:26.31.

"I'm really excited for the IM events," Kelli Barton said. "Our top [swimmer in that event] was out of the meet and we still went 1-2 in the 400 IM. It was quite an achievement, especially at the end of the meet that was very depressing."

There were other bright spots for an otherwise strug-

gling Irish squad.

"I think the backstroke events look pretty strong this year," Barton said. "Our IM events look very strong, also our butterflies will be pretty strong this year as well. Relay wise too, I think the 400 medley [will do well after placing] third at this meet."

That relay team, consisting of Caroline Johnson, Natalie Burke, Stephens and Katie Eckholt, came in at 3:52.47, even without Carroll, who usually swims in the event. The 400-yard free relay of Johnson, Rebecca Grove, Georgia Healey and Ellen Johnson came in fourth at 3:32.01.

Grove also took first in the 100-yard backstroke, notching a time of 56.60.

In addition to her relay wins, Johnson posted a third-place finish in the 100-yard backstroke with a time of 58.44.

The Irish return to the pools Nov. 12 against Pittsburgh after more intense training.

"The next meet is parent's weekend, so I think that we're going to train pretty hard through it," Barton said. "Tomorrow we're starting a new phase of our training...they usually start out pretty intense so definitely we'll be swimming straight through the Pitt meet."

However, the Irish expect improvements between now and when the Panthers dive in.

"The little things [we improve on] will make it just that much more exciting," Barton said. "I think we'll see swimmers that are just as good as [they were] at this meet and there will be some that will be a lot better."

Contact Kate Gales at kgales@nd.edu

"For the most part, the team looked pretty tired."

Kelli Barton
Irish co-captain

SMC VOLLEYBALL

Belles show heart in final match

Team must regroup from losses and prepare for MIAA tournament

By JUSTIN STETZ
Sports Writer

In a season full of hope and promise, Saint Mary's finished its final four games in the same way they began — with heart. The Benedictine Tournament presented the Belles with a big challenge as they faced some very strong competition.

They only managed one victory in the two-day affair, but played hard all along the way.

On Friday, the Belles opened up against Monmouth College. Saint Mary's ended the match losing in three-straight, but kept it close. The Fighting Scots jumped out to an early lead by beating the Belles 30-27 in the first game. The second game's outcome was similar as the Belles fell by the same score. In the final game, Saint Mary's didn't let up and played hard even after dropping the first two, eventually losing 30-26.

With little time to regroup, the Belles hit the floor again following their first contest and battled Clarke College.

Saint Mary's cruised to their first non-conference victory of the year as they defeated Clarke in three games. The Belles took the first one without much of a problem, winning 30-22. The Crusaders closed the gap in game two, but ultimately lost 30-25. Up two games, the Belles fended off their opponents' last charge and came away with the match win by a score of 30-28.

The second day offered an even bigger challenge for the Belles as the competition continued to get better. In their

third game of the tournament, the Belles faced Benedictine University. The Eagles had their hands full with the Belles' attack in the first two games.

Benedictine barely won the first game by a score of 32-30. Saint Mary's evened the series by claiming game two in a wild finish, winning 31-19. But the team completely fell apart in the third game, losing 30-8 and also dropped the fourth set, 30-25.

The last challenge would be the most difficult for the Belles as they faced Millikin College who came into the tournament with a record of 24-8. Millikin won the first set, but the Belles fought hard and tied the match at one game a piece with a 30-26 victory.

Saint Mary's lost a heart-breaking third game by the score of 30-28. Down two games to one, the Belles put it

all on the line in their last regular season game of the year only to come up short, 30-25.

The final four games made the Belles 6-18 overall this year. But after beginning the season 1-8, the Belles gradually improved.

Michelle Turley who has been consistently one of Saint Mary's best players, leading the team in kills and finishing second in digs, was named to the All-Tournament team.

Now the Belles must prepare for the MIAA Tournament. They play their first game Thursday against second-ranked Calvin College.

"We feel that every MIAA team we have played against this year is beatable," Turley said. "In a tournament scenario any team can win."

Contact Justin Stetz at jstetz@nd.edu

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ND WOMEN'S GOLF

Irish hope to finish season strong

Team to face familiar rivals at Edwin Watts/Palmetto Intercollegiate

By ERIC RETTER
Sports Writer

The Irish will look to continue their streak of success and end their fall season on the positive note Monday. The team, who has already won two tournaments this fall, is traveling to South Carolina to compete in the Edwin Watts/Palmetto Intercollegiate.

The Irish won this event last year, and Notre Dame coach Debby King is confident about her team's chances for repeating.

"We're defending champions,

so why not do it again," she said.

In their quest to repeat, the team will face some strong competition from the field of 18 teams, namely from Michigan and Southern Methodist, both of whom are ranked in the top 25 according to the latest Golfstat.com polls. However, the Irish have had success against both squads, owning a 2-1 record against Michigan and a 1-0 record against SMU.

The tournament will consist of 27 holes on both Monday and Tuesday, and will take place at the Oak Point Golf

course in Kiawah Island.

The Irish will take a young but experienced lineup to South Carolina this week. Junior co-captains Katie Brophy and Suzie Hayes will lead the team this weekend. Brophy already has numerous top-five finishes this fall, including a victory at the Jeannine McHaney Invitational, and should be able to contend for another crown.

Joining them will be sophomores Noriko Nakazaki and Stacy Brown, and freshman Jane Lee. All three have played well for the Irish and have become staples in the lineup.

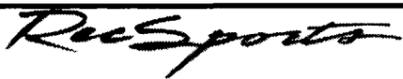
Despite of the individualistic nature of the sport of golf, the team has become a very cohesive group over the course of the fall, and this has been a key aspect of their success all season.

"There's really good chemistry, and we all believe we can win," King said.

King is happy with her lineup and very pleased about how the team has worked all season. Even though the Irish did not compete this past week, King opted not to tinker with the practice schedule they had been following all season, choosing not to focus practice on trying to adapt to the course they would be playing.

"What we've been doing has been working, so we'll keep doing it," she said.

Contact Eric Retter at
eretter@nd.edu



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SMC SWIMMING

Belles struggle in their season opener

By ANNA FRICANO
Sports Writer

For their first race of the season, the Belles were faced with a difficult challenge on Saturday, competing against the defending MIAA champions, Hope College, as well as the surprise standout school of the 2003 season, Olivet. Hope defeated Saint Mary's by a score of 166-55, and Olivet knocked off the Belles with a final score of 158-61.

Junior Sarah Nowak was the performer of the meet for Saint Mary's, finishing first in the 200-yard breaststroke and second in the 200-yard individual medley. Junior Kelly Nelis was also very effective for the Belles, finishing fourth out of 10 in both the 100-yard freestyle and 200-yard freestyle.

Sophomore transfer Nicole Korte, who comes to Saint Mary's from Holy Cross College, is off to a good start with the Belles. She finished fourth in the 50-yard freestyle and fifth in the 100.

The challenge for Saint Mary's on Saturday came not only from the difficulty of its opponents, but the condition that the team was in going into the race.

Belles coach Gregg Petcoff was quite pleased with his swimmers. The team did a lot

of endurance and anaerobic workouts this week, and the overall condition of the team was a very fatigued one.

"The best thing about it was that despite the fatigue they got up there and raced ... that was one of the high points," Petcoff said.

He was happy with the times that his swimmers were able to put on the boards after having such a strenuous week of workouts.

The Belles are excited to see how this season will play out, with so many new prospects on the roster.

"It's going to be interesting to see how the freshmen step into the roles," Petcoff said.

For the freshmen, this was their first real collegiate meet, racing in individual events. Petcoff was pleased with the way that they stepped into the roles that they needed to. Because of the vast amount of underclassmen, many of the upperclassmen will be forced to step into the "go to" positions. The combination a few experienced upperclassmen, as well as plenty of fresh faces on the team, should provide Saint Mary's with a strong foundation to build on throughout the 2004-05 season.

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MEN'S GOLF

Strong field awaits team at the Prestige

By ERIC RETTER
Sports Writer

As they compete in their last event of the fall, the Irish will hope to end what has been an up and down season on a positive note. After a strong performance at the Nelson Invitational at Stanford last week, the team will again head out west to play in the Prestige at the PGA West in La Quinta, Calif. The course was designed by Greg Norman and has hosted numerous PGA tour events.

The Irish will face a strong field of 16 teams from across the country. Their toughest competition will come from Texas Christian and UCLA, ranked 10th and 16th in the nation,

respectively.

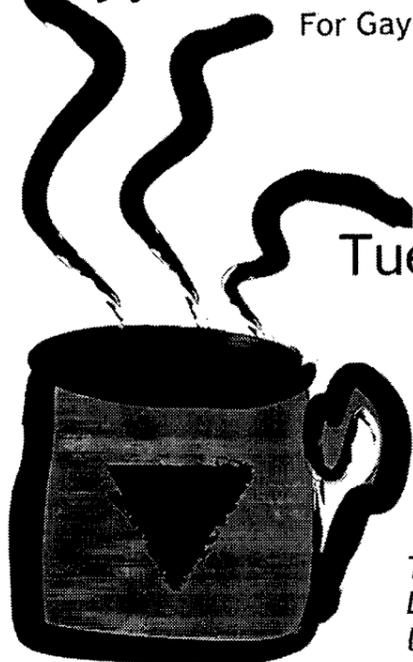
Notre Dame will send a young lineup that is quickly becoming their core players. Juniors Eric Deutsch and Scott Gustafson will lead the team this weekend. Gustafson, who has struggled with injuries all season, will try and re-find his competitive peak, and Deutsch will hope to build on his career-low 213 last week.

Sophomore Cole Isban will join them this weekend. Isban has been the most consistent member of the team this year, performing well in every fall event.

Mike King and Greg Rodgers, two freshmen, will round out the lineup. Both had strong performances at the Nelson Invitational.

Contact Eric Retter at
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HOCKEY

Irish tie, lose to No. 15 Wildcats during the weekend

Sophomore Noah Babin scores first career goal during 1-1 tie Friday night against Northern Michigan

By JUSTIN SCHUVER
Associate Sports Editor

Ghosts and jack o'lanterns weren't the only thing scary around the end of October this year — Notre Dame's schedule was positively terrifying as well.

The Irish wrapped up a string of seven games in a row against ranked opponents Saturday night, losing to No. 15 Northern Michigan by the score of 4-1. Friday, the Irish tied the Wildcats 1-1 with Noah Babin's first career goal the lone Irish tally.

Morgan Cey continued his fine play this season Friday night, making 26 saves to help the Irish earn its first point in CCHA play this season.

"That was a real good hockey game," Irish coach Dave Poulin said Friday. "We got a couple big saves from Morgan, they got a couple big saves from their guy and it was a real good battle between two gritty teams."

Jason Paige scored the only goal for the Irish Saturday, and David Brown remained winless on the year — allowing four goals on 31 shots and falling to 0-3 on the young season.

Northern Michigan freshman forward Mike Santorelli had a prolific weekend against the Irish, scoring three of the team's five goals — including the only goal for the Wildcats Monday.

The Wildcats' goalies also played up to the challenge. Freshman Bill Zaniboni made 29 saves on Friday and senior Tuomas Tarkki also stopped 29 Irish shots in Saturday's game.

With the tie and loss, Notre Dame finds itself in last place in the CCHA with one point and a 0-3-1 record. Despite the slow start, Poulin believes his young team can turn it around as they head into the less-brutal portion of their schedule.

"I still really like my hockey team," Poulin said after Saturday's loss. "I think we can be a tough, tenacious team when everybody is working hard and on the same page. We know that we're going to have to work to score goals, but hopefully we can learn to win close games as the season goes on."

"We got beat by a pretty good hockey game tonight."

Friday, the Irish got on the scoreboard first, with Babin connecting a little more than 16 minutes into the first period.

Zaniboni made two fantastic saves on Chris Trick and Tim Wallace, and the puck trickled out harmlessly to the right boards. The Northern Michigan goalie appeared to lose focus for a second, and Babin's weak shot from the boards somehow squeezed through Zaniboni's pad and the right post.

The Wildcats scored the equalizer about six minutes into the second period, when Santorelli deflected a Dirk Southern centering pass into the net behind Cey.

Both teams had their chances in overtime, with the Wildcats nearly putting the game away just 30 seconds in, but Andrew Contois' shot hit the crossbar and bounced harmlessly away.

Notre Dame ended the game Friday outshooting the Wildcats 30-27, the first time this season where the Irish weren't out shot by an opponent.

The Irish found themselves behind early in Saturday's game, with Matt Siddall scoring at the 16:57 mark of the first period.

Zach Tarkir's power play goal nine minutes into the second period made the score 2-0 in favor of the Wildcats.

Paige cut the deficit to one

goal when he picked up a loose puck in the slot and whipped it by Tarkki for a Notre Dame power play goal just three minutes later. But Santorelli scored two insurance goals, one at the end of the second period and one in the third, to put the game away.

"The goal that really killed us was the third goal, after making the game 2-1. It was a set face-off play and our guy got beat to the puck and then they were off to the races," Poulin said.

The Irish face Bowling Green in a home-and-home series this weekend, with the game Friday scheduled for 7:35 p.m. at the Joyce Center. Notre Dame plays Thursday at Bowling Green.

Contact Justin Schuver at
jschuver@nd.edu



CHUY BENITEZ/The Observer
Irish forward Michael Bartlett, center, dives for the puck in a game against Northern Michigan on Friday night.

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Four

continued from page 24

way through the first half put St. John's in a deep hole. Only two teams have scored two goals against the Irish all season.

Another even faster three-goal flurry by the Irish in the second half put the game out of reach. It took only 1 minute, 21 seconds for Notre Dame to double its lead and run out the clock. Kim Lorenzen added a goal in the 69th minute to provide the final margin of victory.

Thorlakson did much of the damage, lighting up the scoreboard with four goals and two assists for a total of 10 points on the afternoon.

"I had a couple weeks where I

was a little frustrated because I wasn't putting the numbers up," she said. "But our team's playing really good and I've been able to put the ball away."

Following a two-week scoring drought, Thorlakson has been on a tear over the last three games, totaling seven goals and five assists.

"Good players that score goals all the time can get down on themselves if they're not scoring," coach Randy Waldrum said. "It's great to see her get back on track. We're gonna need that to win in the playoffs."

Notre Dame's offense racked up a combined 27 shots on goal while the Irish defense stifled St. John's attack, allowing only two shots on goal. The Notre Dame goalkeeping duo of Erika Bohn and Nikki Westfall easily handled

the few chances they saw to preserve the team's 10th shutout of the season. Sophomores Lizzie Reed and Christie Shaner also tallied a goal apiece for the Irish.

"Today is the day we [finally] put most of our chances away," senior Candace Chapman said.

"I couldn't have asked for better," Waldrum said. "Seeing 27 shots and seven goals, I'm pretty pleased with that. I thought it was a really good effort today."

The blowout allowed Waldrum to rest many of his starters and get a number of his bench players some significant post-season minutes. Several of the starters left the game with over 30 minutes left to play.

"It's kept us healthier, kept us fresh," Waldrum said. "You want to finally settle in as you get into the postseason with your team,

but I think at the same time as much as we can keep playing [as many] players [as possible], it's only going to help us at the end."

While Waldrum is looking out for his team's well-being down the playoff road, he constantly stresses to his players the need to stay in the present. Last year, the Irish lost three of their last five games, including once in the Big East Championship semi-finals and then again in the second-round NCAA.

"I hope that the group that played last year, as good as it was, gained some maturity and got a little better of understanding that you have to approach each game like it's your last game. So far this year we've done a good job of that and we'll know more as the season progresses."

Chapman sees this philosophy

as just a continuation of the team's approach from the regular season.

"I think this year we have a lot of faith in ourselves," she said. "We just have to look at it like we've been looking at the season and take one game at a time."

Now in the "win-or-go-home" stage of the post-season, Thorlakson feels that the added pressure requires much more focus.

"You have to be more intense because up until now the games haven't really mattered," she said. "They've mattered for positioning but once you get to the NCAA's it's single round knockout so [you have to play] every game like your last."

Contact Matt Mooney at mmooney@nd.edu

SMC SOCCER

Belles drop home match to Knights

By RYAN DUFFY
Sports Writer

In the course of Saturday afternoon, the Belles watched their chance at going undefeated at home get blown away.

With gusts of over 60 miles per hour dominating every aspect of the game, Saint Mary's was unable to extend its record at home to 8-0 with a 2-1 loss to Calvin.

"It was ridiculously windy, and that changes the flow of the game immediately," junior Carrie Orr said. "It was a hard game to play in, and it didn't help that Calvin is a good team."

Calvin came out against the Belles with a physical style that was compounded by the weather conditions.

Though the Belles are not typically a team that puts the ball in the air "over the top" of the defense, the reliability of that aspect of passing was completely removed for both teams due to the wind.

"We had to focus on playing the ball on the ground instead of putting it over the top," Orr said.

Calvin scored twice in the first half to give the Knights a 2-0 lead at the half. The Belles responded in the second half, when Carolyn Logan buried a centering pass in the back of the net to cut the lead in half. But Saint Mary's could get no closer, and Calvin held on for a 2-1 win.

The problem of converting chances on offense has plagued the Belles all season.

"We played good defensively, and had our chances on offense, but we just couldn't find the back of the net," Orr said.

Calvin became the only team to beat the Belles twice this season, after Saint Mary's suffered a 3-1 defeat in the first meeting between the teams Oct. 2. Nevertheless, the Belles' record of 7-1 at home remains impressive.

The game also marked the last time on their home field for seven seniors on the Belles.

"The seniors are great leaders who have molded the attitude of this team and set a good example for all the underclassmen," Orr said.

Contact Ryan Duffy at rduffy@nd.edu

ND WOMEN'S SOCCER

Irish have a special player in Thorlakson

A storm was brewing Halloween afternoon on Alumni Field, and it sure wasn't a red one.

On Sunday, Irish forward Katie

Thorlakson shredded the St. John's defense notching four goals and two assists in a 7-0 Irish rout. The Red Storm was overwhelmed by

a gale-force, white-jersey-wearing maelstrom who helped Notre Dame roll into the Big East Tournament semi-finals.

Statistically, the game was the capstone of a three-game offensive rampage in which Thorlakson has totaled an eye-popping seven goals and five assists. But more importantly, her performance may have signaled the beginning of a very special post-season run for the Irish.

Notre Dame coach Randy Waldrum knew at the start of the season that in Thorlakson he had one of the elite players in the nation. Her play this season has not only backed that up, but elevated her to superstar status. One of the reasons both she and her Irish teammates have an undefeated record this season stems from her ability to make everyone around her better while still excelling herself.

Seemingly out of habit, Thorlakson exhibits the uncanny knack to know when to pass and when to take her own shot. Teams who play off her trying to respect her playmaking ability are subject to her deceptively-quick feet and pinpoint accuracy.

If opposing defenses over-commit to stopping her, she is more than willing to dump the ball off and create scoring chances for her teammates as demonstrated by her team-high 17 assists.

Her skills as a creator also help the team when she goes



CHUY BENITEZ/The Observer

Irish forward Katie Thorlakson dribbles the ball in Notre Dame's game against Santa Clara on Sept. 5 at Alumni Field.



Matt Mooney

Sports Writer

through a scoring drought. Like any player, she has stretches when the ball just doesn't bounce her way and won't find the back of the net.

Recently, Thorlakson went through a four-game drought without either a goal or an assist. Yet she still helped her team find ways to win and the Irish remained unbeaten even through her slump.

Despite all her individual accomplishments, Thorlakson has displayed an unwavering dedication to her team.

During interviews, she quietly deflects attention from her own performance to that of the team as a whole. There is almost a tone of embarrassment in her voice when discussing her individual play despite the fact that she will contend for the National Player of the Year award.

The British Columbia native is talented enough to have a spot waiting for her on the Canadian Under-19 National Team. However, Thorlakson declined the position so as not to miss a crucial stretch of the NCAA Tournament.

The thing that solidifies her

status as a soccer star is her elevated level of play when the games mean the most. In the five games Notre Dame has played this season against ranked opponents, Thorlakson has totaled four goals and four assists, including a hat trick early in the season against No. 4 Santa Clara. She took charge of Thursday's rivalry game against Michigan, avenging two losses last season with two goals and two assists in a 4-0 shutout. Her performance against St. John's was nothing short of outstanding.

This excellence is what she expects of herself and that is part of the reason why she has been so successful this year. It is also the reason why the rest of the collegiate soccer world should grab their umbrellas. The storm that St. John's witnessed first-hand doesn't look like it's letting up any time soon.

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

Contact Matt Mooney at mmooney@nd.edu

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Close

continued from page 24

easy meet by any means, and we were happy by any kind of a win."

It was quite the accomplishment for the Irish. The team knew that the field was going to be very tough, and that showed in the close finish.

"We knew our major competition would come from Georgetown, and possibly Providence, and boy certainly that played out."

Tim Moore finished sixth overall in the race, finishing

in 23 minutes, 53 seconds, and was the first Irish runner to cross the finish line.

Kurt Benninger, Kaleb Van Ort and Sean O'Donnell joined Moore in the top 10, finishing in seventh, eighth and ninth, respectively.

The story of the meet, however, came from Vinny Ambrico who finished in 17th place, but showed a strong stretch late in the race.

"The success of the meet came from Vinny Ambrico.

He ran a real good solid race and passed three guys in [the last] 300 meters which secured the victory," Piane said.

The women's team didn't do too shabby, either.

Coming off two straight Big East victories, the women's cross-country team ran well but just didn't have enough to

beat the champion Lady Friars.

"Going in I knew that Providence was really good and they ran really well, I mean they were going to be hard to beat," Irish women's coach Tim Connelly said.

"I thought that we had some kids run really well, [and] we had some kids that struggled, so I don't think that as a whole we had our best race of the season."

Molly Huddle finished fifth overall in the field, with a time of 20:16.

She was followed by Stephanie Madia, who finished 10th, and Sonni Oling, who finished 12th.

"I guess that second place is nothing to be ashamed of, but we obviously were going in there hoping for more," Connelly said.

Connelly only had praise for Providence, the only team at the meet who ran better than the Irish.

"They aren't ranked number two in the country for nothing, they are a good team," Connelly said.

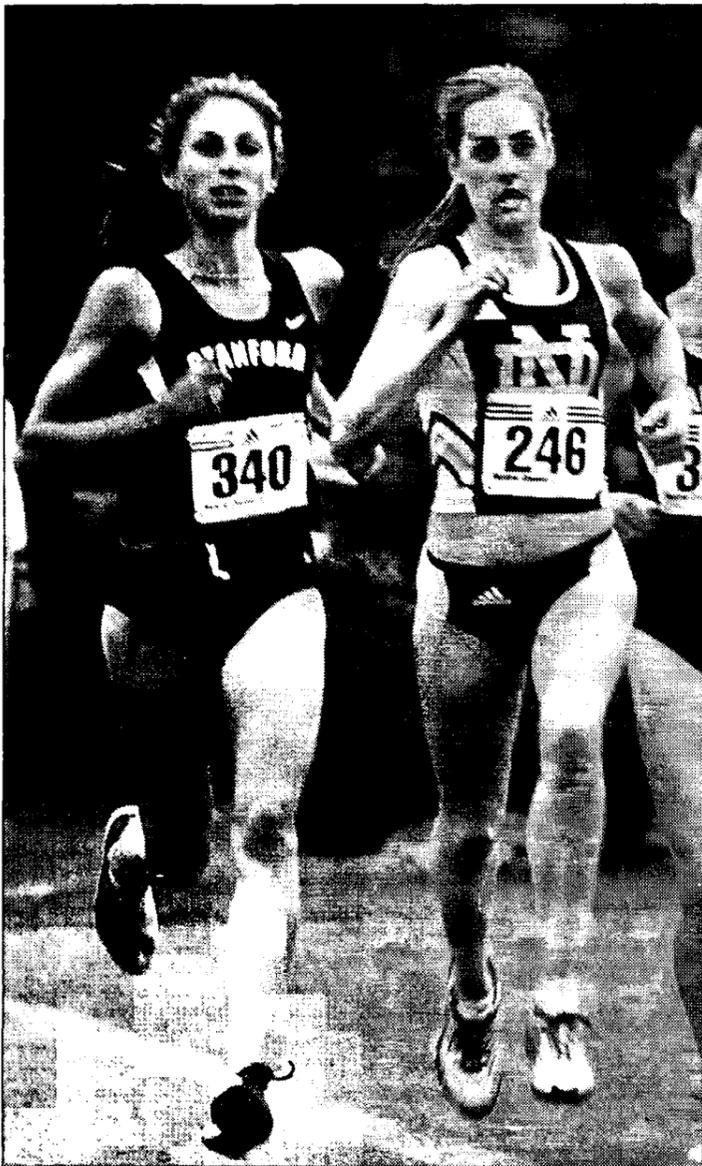
The Irish now gear up for the regional qualifier for the NCAA championships on November 13.

Regardless of what happens the rest of this season, the story of the weekend was the men's team winning its first Big East title since 2001, with a combination of solid consistency and a touch of Ambrico's last-second heroics.

"We were anticipated the win, that was our goal when we went to the meet," Piane said.

"We know every point counts."

Joe Piane
Irish men's coach



CHUY BENITEZ/The Observer

Irish runner Molly Huddle keeps up with the leading pack during the Notre Dame Invitational on Oct. 1.

Drama

continued from page 24

Notre Dame produced the game's first scoring chances.

After midfielder Ian Etherington nearly put the Irish in front on a run into the left side of the box with 17 minutes remaining during the first half, defender Jack Stewart dented the crossbar on a blast off a loose corner a minute later.

Fellow defender and senior classmate Kevin Goldthwaite imitated Stewart 12 minutes into the second half, firing yet another Irish shot off the crossbar.

After several Notre Dame opportunities failed to bear goal-scoring fruit, the Huskies nearly buoyed their upset bid with 11 minutes left in the contest.

Attempting to defend a free kick, Irish goalkeeper Chris Sawyer was caught out of position, forcing the Irish defense to clear the ball off the goal line to preserve the tie.

"It was the wind that caused

that [opportunity]," Clark said. "It was a difficult ball into the box — any balls on a day like [Saturday] cause trouble."

After falling short on several occasions, the Irish finally cashed in at the 84:54 mark on Lapira's third goal of the season — all three tallies have been game-winners.

Driving down the left side of the field, midfielder Nate Norman sliced a cross into the box that Lapira lunged for and redirected into the side netting just inside the right post to stake Notre Dame to a late 1-0 advantage.

"It was a fabulous goal," Clark said. "Joe just got in front of his defender and glanced it into the corner — very difficult for the goalkeeper."

After needing almost 85 minutes to net their first goal, the Irish didn't wait long to light up the scoreboard a second time.

Three minutes, 41 seconds after Lapira found the back of the net, freshman striker John Mousinho posted the first goal of his collegiate career, slamming home a cross from strik-

er Justin McGeeney to seal the contest.

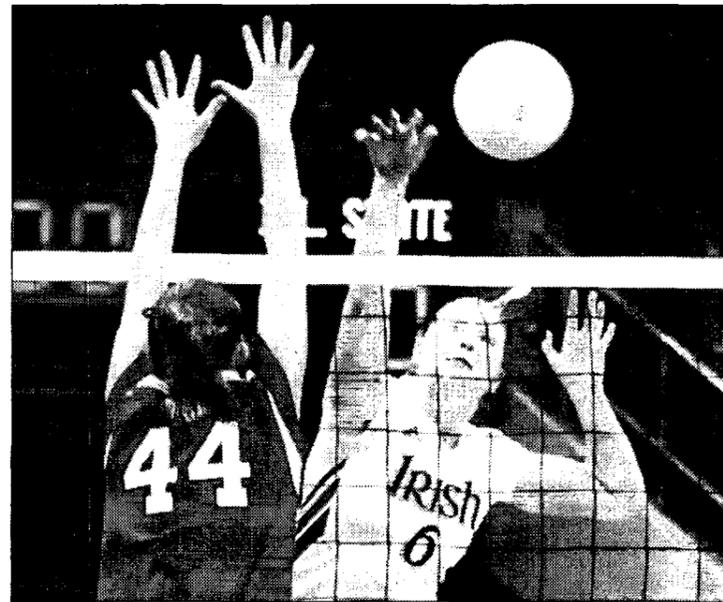
"It was just a great combination between two strikers," Clark said. "Justin got onto a very good ball from Ryan Miller, saw 'Big Moose' in the middle and [Mousinho] just hammered it in. It's nice to see that goal get in because it certainly made it very easy to run out the clock after that."

The Irish finish regular season play Tuesday night when regional rival Michigan State visits Alumni Field.

While the Irish have already locked up the No. 1 seed in the Big East Championships tournament scheduled to begin Nov. 6, Notre Dame is still hungry for victories to both secure a higher NCAA tournament seed and protect its home turf.

"We're looking for seedings — it'd be great to get a victory against Michigan State," Clark said. "[A win] would give us a perfect regular season home record — that would be very nice."

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CLEMENT SUHENDRA/The Observer

Notre Dame's Lauren Kelbley tries to slap the ball past an Illinois State blocker during a game Oct. 13 at the Joyce Center.

Sweeps

continued from page 24

errors, the lowest mark of the year.

Tarutis tallied 31 assists while Burrell tacked on 10 to help Notre Dame to their second-highest hitting percentage of the season, only topped by the .356 mark against St. John's last week.

The first game against Georgetown showed the Irish offense at their statistical best as the team had 19 kills for a .425 attack percentage. Notre Dame continued its strong hitting the entire game as they hit .324 and .271 in the following two games.

Outside hitter Lauren Kelbley led the team in kills with 12, middle blocker Emily Loomis had 11 while middle blocker Carolyn Cooper had a career high eight. Cooper was first on the team with an attack percentage of .429.

Sunday's 30-27, 30-24, 30-22 win over Villanova was highlighted this time by the defense as the Irish held the Wildcats to a .007 attack percentage, the lowest mark by an Irish opponent all year.

Meg Hlenican's play was close to spectacular as the captain recorded 26 digs at her libero position, the second-highest three-game mark in Irish volleyball history.

Hlenican finished out the

match on a high note with twelve digs in the final frame, after recording ten in the first game and four in the second. Middle blocker Lauren Brewster, the reigning Big East player of the week, added eight to help give the Irish an average of 20 digs per game, the best average since Notre Dame recorded 26.7 per game against Sacramento State on September 11.

Villanova struggled to negative attack percentages in the final two games as the Irish duo of Kelbley and Brewster helped Notre Dame record 13.5 blocks. Brewster, who led the nation in blocking last season and currently ranks second in the Big East, had five blocks in the match, as did Kelbley.

The offense was sluggish against a stout Villanova defense as the Irish only hit .115 for the match. However, freshman setter Ashley Tarutis continued to shine as she paced the Irish with twenty six assists.

Notre Dame is now tied for first place in the Big East with Pittsburgh. The Irish will take to the Joyce Center court next Friday at 7 p.m. for a match against Connecticut. This will be the first of five consecutive home matches leading up to the Big East championships November 21-22 at Pittsburgh.

Contact Mike Gilloon at mgilloon@nd.edu

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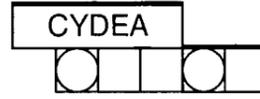
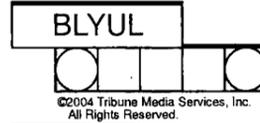
CHARLES SCHULZ



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Ans: " " (Answers tomorrow)

Saturday's Jumbles: PARCH AUDIT INFIRM GASKET
Answer: What the cops used to catch the fence — HIS "GAIT"

CROSSWORD

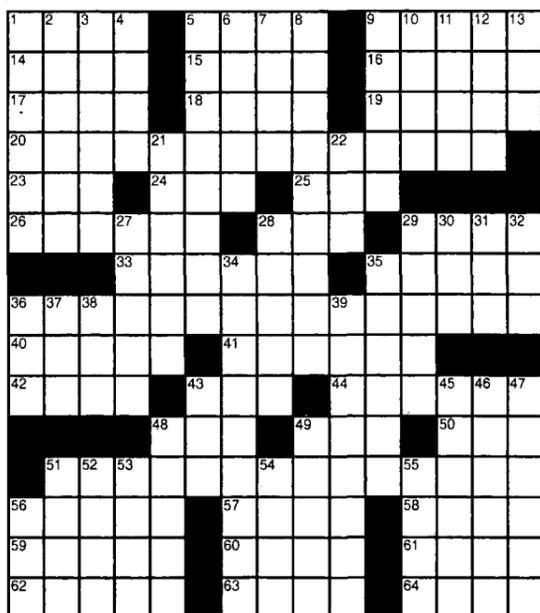
WILL SHORTZ

HOROSCOPE

EUGENIA LAST

- ACROSS: 1 Go to sea, 5 Feet above sea level: Abbr., 9 Boston's airport, 14 Stubborn animal, 15 Ear part, 16 Ex-Mrs. Trump, 17 Fitzgerald who sang "I'm Making Believe", 18 University V.I.P., 19 Car parker, 20 Decreed, 23 ___ foil, 24 Before, in verse, 25 Fleming of 007 fame, 26 Bad mark, 28 Discontinued, 29 Lacking muscle, 33 Writer Welty, 35 Throng, 36 Document of legal representation, 40 Liqueur flavoring, 41 Armadas, 42 Nary a soul, 43 Injection units, for short, 44 Relaxed, 48 Tree swinger, 49 Joanne of "Sylvia," 1965, 50 1959 hit song about "a man named Charlie", 51 Children's game, 56 Easy gallops, 57 Bad place to drop a heavy box, 58 Landed (on), 59 Florida city, 60 Advantage, 61 Ready for picking, 62 Like sea air, 63 Flagmaker Betsy, 64 1930's boxer Max

- DOWN: 1 Refines, as metal, 2 How some café is served, 3 "Fighting" Big Ten team, 4 Starring role, 5 Fabled New World city, 6 "Camelot" composer, 7 Israel's Abba, 8 Open the windows in, 9 Jazz up, 10 Running track, 11 Festive party, 12 Again, 13 ___ King Cole, 21 Shy, 22 "This ___ better be good!", 27 Honkers, 28 Rigorous exams, 29 On the downslide, 30 Sea eagle, 31 Lemon or lime drink, 32 C minor, for one



Puzzle by A. J. Santora

- 34 Unbalanced, 45 Earhart who disappeared over the Pacific, 51 ___-Cola, 35 Spa feature, 46 Skunk feature, 52 Iridescent stone, 36 Criticize, as a movie, 47 It immediately follows Passiontide, 53 Skin, 37 Plastic ___ Band, 48 Examine, as ore, 54 One slow on the uptake, 38 Victory, 49 Bottom of the barrel, 55 Cutting remark, 39 Fragrant flowers, 56 The "L" of L.A., 43 Overseer of co. books

For answers, call 1-900-285-5656, \$1.20 a minute; or, with a credit card, 1-800-814-5554.

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ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE



CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Kieran Culkin, Lacey Chabert, Jenna Elfman, Marty Stuart

Happy Birthday: Don't be too quick to turn a blind eye or forget what you've been through. The time to learn from your past experience is now. If you have learned your lessons well, you will not have to worry about losing again. Your numbers are 5, 12, 16, 22, 31, 42

ARIES (March 21-April 19): A lot will be up in the air today, making it important to be precise and detailed in all you do. Do not let personal problems interfere with what needs to be done. ***

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Put your efforts into a job well done and you will avoid feeling anxious about matters that you have no control over. Your suggestions will help you make improvements. ***

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Not everything will be out in the open, but if you rely on your own steam and knowledge, you will do what's right and best for you. Make personal or physical changes today. ***

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Put your efforts into partnerships, group endeavors or travel. Someone you know through work may cause you grief. Keep your professional and personal life separate. ****

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): You may have to rely on friends, relatives or neighbors to help you out of a sticky situation today. Don't trust someone you know through work. **

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Business trips or gathering information that can help you get ahead will result in financial gains. You may discover a new hobby through one of the people you meet today. *****

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Protect your health and your finances. Someone may try to convince you to spend too much on something that you don't really need. Offer suggestions, not cash. ***

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): You will be emotional about personal matters. Don't leave yourself in a vulnerable position. Secrets must not be revealed at this time. ***

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): The way you interact with peers, colleagues or clients will make a difference to the outcome of a deal you are involved with. Don't take sides; diplomacy will count. ***

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Nothing will be too much trouble for you, however, if you do put yourself out on a limb, the backlash may be severe. Physical or mental changes will turn out well. *****

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): You may feel uneasy about your personal life. Don't start a discussion that could end up fueling a fire. Play it safe and say as little as possible. **

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Travel will bring about new friendships or business connections. You should be able to present and promote whatever you are working on. ****

Birthday Baby: You are in control and you instinctively know what must be done to get what you want. You are intelligent, intuitive and very in tune with the universe.

Check out Eugenia's Web sites at astroadvise.com and eugenialast.com

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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ND CROSS COUNTRY

Photo finish

Men win the Big East by one point; women come in second

By **BOBBY GRIFFIN**
Sports Writer

Winning a football game in overtime after being up 10 in the fourth quarter, that's a close call. Winning the Big East cross-country championships by one point, perhaps that's just the luck of the Irish.

The Notre Dame men's cross country team finished first in Friday's Big East Championships, taking home the title for the fourth time in the school's history and the first time since 2001.

The women's team missed making it an Irish sweep, finishing in second place and 25 points behind Providence.

The Irish men finished just one point ahead of Georgetown, who was ranked No. 7 going into the race.

"We've lost by one before, so we know every point counts," Irish men's coach Joe Piane said. "It wasn't an



CHUY BENITEZ/The Observer

Members of the Notre Dame men's cross country team run at the Notre Dame Invitational on Oct. 1. The Irish men won the Big East by one point at the conference championship Friday.

see CLOSE/page 22

ND VOLLEYBALL

Sweeping away their opponents

By **MIKE GILLOON**
Sports Writer

One has to wonder if the Irish have been cleaning up the Joyce Center after home matches this season. Sweeping seems to come pretty naturally to them lately.

Notre Dame defeated Georgetown and Villanova in consecutive conference road matches this weekend for its second and third straight three-game victory. The two wins improved Notre Dame's conference record to 6-0 for the sixth straight season and give the Irish five sweeps in six conference matches so far this year.

Irish setters Ashley Tarutis and Kelly Burrell fueled the Irish offensive attack during Friday's 30-24, 30-23, 30-22 win over the Hoyas. As a team the Irish hit .339 thanks to 53 kills and only 12 attack

see SWEEPS/page 22

ND WOMEN'S SOCCER

Offense stays on a roll



HILLARY THORNTON/The Observer

Midfielder Jen Buczkowski fights for the ball during Notre Dame's 3-0 win over Eastern Illinois on Aug. 28.

Thorlakson collects four goals as team slams St. John's 7-0

By **MATT MOONEY**
Sports Writer

Notre Dame began its quest for a Big East Tournament Championship on a crisp Halloween afternoon, and Katie Thorlakson showed St. John's just how frightening the Irish can be.

A Notre Dame offensive explosion in each half buried the visiting Red Storm by a 7-0 score as the Irish (19-0-1) dominated St. John's (6-8-1) in every facet of the game. Three unanswered Notre Dame goals in under a five-minute stretch mid-

See Also

"Irish have a special player in Thorlakson"
page 21

see FOUR/page 21

MEN'S SOCCER

Irish pull away late against Connecticut

By **MATT PUGLISI**
Sports Writer

Joe Lapira has a flair for the dramatic.

For the second time in the last three games, the freshman striker provided the game-winning goal in the contest's final 10 minutes as the No. 5 Irish (13-2-2, 8-1-1 in Big East) conquered both Connecticut (8-7-2, 4-4-1) and fierce elements in a 2-0 victory on a cold, windy Saturday night at Alumni Field.

"I thought it was a great result from our point of view," coach Bobby Clark said. "On a cold night, to grind out a

result like that was very good. I thought we played well enough to win, but we can definitely play better than that."

The victory leaves the Irish with a program-record eight conference wins this season, eclipsing their previous high of seven in 2001.

The new conference win mark marks the second time in as many contests the 2004 Irish have written their names into the record books — the Irish clinched their first regular season Big East title since joining the conference in 1995 with a 1-0 victory over Rutgers on Oct. 23.

In a game that was slow to develop — Irish midfielder Greg Dalby unleashed the first shot nearly 20 minutes into the contest and Connecticut didn't record a shot until just past the 30-minute mark —

see DRAMA/page 22



Lapira

SPORTS AT A GLANCE

SMC SOCCER

The Belles fail to remain undefeated at home, dropping a 2-1 decision to Calvin.

page 21

HOCKEY

Icers tie No. 15 Northern Michigan on Friday, then fall to Wildcats 4-1 on Saturday.

page 20

ND WOMEN'S GOLF

The Irish hope to continue recent string of success at the Edwin Watts / Palmetto Intercollegiate.

page 19

MEN'S GOLF

The team is set to hit the links at the Prestige at PGA WEST to close out the regular season.

page 19

SMC SWIMMING

The swimmers suffer a pair of losses at the Hope College dual meet Saturday.

page 19

SMC VOLLEYBALL

Saint Mary's loses a series of heartbreakers during the weekend at the Benedictine Invitational.

page 18