

# THE OBSERVER

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## Campus engages sexual violence issues

*Dialogue addresses prevention; men join activist efforts, groups*

By KAREN LANGLEY  
News Editor

In recent years, campus dialogue has increasingly addressed issues of sexual violence. This attention has grown throughout campus but has particularly drawn male activists, University officials and student leaders say.

Student groups are calling with increasing intensity on both the men and women of Notre Dame to reduce the instances of sexual assault — which all sources say occur much more often to members of the campus community than may be perceived.

"We want to create a movement where we say, 'No, this is not OK, and we won't let this happen,'" said Michael Redding, president of Men Against Violence.

Though no more than two rapes have been reported to NDSP during any year in the last decade,

see ASSAULT/page 8



Alison Dunleavy, left, Cara Nazareth and Kevin Stein perform in a sketch in "Loyal Daughters and Sons" at Washington Hall.

*'Loyal' receives positive student feedback, draws large crowd*

By MARCELA BERRIOS  
Associate News Editor

Onstage since Monday, "Loyal Daughters and Sons" will end its run in Washington Hall tonight after a weeklong effort to address sexuality and sexual assault at Notre Dame, from both the male and female perspectives.

Thursday's audience of 337 was the largest the production has seen to date, and a similar turnout is expected tonight, according to junior Sarah Van Mill, one of the show's head writers.

"Loyal Daughters and Sons" has been averaging about 200 people every night, she said.

And the feedback from those hundreds of attendees — mainly students and faculty

see LOYAL/page 9

## Islam and Christianity: brothers in faith

*Archbishop discusses compatibility of two religions, common ancestry, misconceptions*

By JOSH LEEUW  
News Writer

The rift between Christianity and Islam can be solved by finding a common ground in God and a shared ancestry, Archbishop Celestino Migliore, Permanent Observer of the Holy See to the United Nations, said Thursday.

Migliore told a popular Middle Eastern story to illustrate the picture Muslims and Christians have of each other.

A man walks in the desert and sees a monster on the horizon, he said. As the man gets closer, he realizes it isn't a monster but a very ugly man. When he is right in front of the man, he sees it is

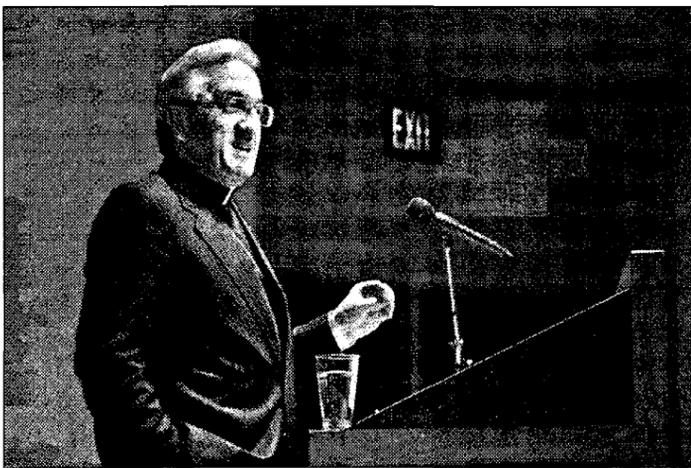
his brother.

"Muslims see Christians as monsters of the Crusades. ... Christians see Muslims as monsters in a similar light," Migliore said.

With both religions having ancient histories, rooted deeply in tradition, it is often said the religions could not be compatible, the Archbishop said.

"However, both religions contain elements that are compatible, but are just unaccepted because of misconceptions," Migliore said. Migliore addressed three points of convergence between Muslims and Christians, aspects both sects of believers share.

see ISLAM/page 6



Archbishop Celestino Migliore, Permanent Observer of the Holy See to the United Nations, speaks on Christianity and Islam Thursday.

## Cuba talk focuses on future

*Journalists: Government has several options*

By LINDSAY SENA  
News Writer

Experts discussed Cuba's political system and their thoughts on the country's future, given the failing health of President Fidel Castro Thursday.

The lecture, titled "Cuba from Inside," featured Hewlett Visiting Fellow and freelance journalist Cecilia Vaisman and former Havana bureau chief for the Chicago Tribune Gary Marx.

"We don't believe he's coming back to power," Vaisman said. The two said Cuba has several options for its government in the future.

The nation could adopt a "China/Vietnam style/model" of governing, which would improve living standards for Cubans while still maintaining a single-party system, Vaisman said. Or, she said, Cubans could stage a violent uprising for democracy, which is "extremely unlikely."

"Civil society is not strong enough to challenge the government," she said.

Although there have been several positive changes since the 1990s, such as the legalization of the U.S. dollar and the opening of some Cuban sectors to tourism and investment, there is still a growing inequality between the rich and the poor, Marx said.

"There is a gap between those with dollars and those without," he said, using the quinciénra as an example of wealthy Cuban excess.

see CUBA/page 4

## Notre Dame delegation to attend vigil-protest

*School of the Americas Watch to hold solidarity events for those killed at the hands of graduates*



A group of protesters stand with a 'puppetista' at the School of the Americas Watch vigil on Nov. 19, 2006.

By JENN METZ  
Assistant News Editor

This weekend, 35 members of the Notre Dame community will drive to Fort Benning, Ga., to join thousands of people in the annual vigil-protest of the controversial School of the Americas (SOA), a combat training school for Latin American soldiers.

Junior Michael Angulo organized the Notre Dame trip, which includes undergraduates, graduate students, theology professor Margie Pfeil and Liz McKenzie from the Center for Social Concerns.

The delegation is joining torture survivors, religious organizations and leaders, students,

social movement leaders, "puppetistas," (an informal group of puppeteers that denounce the SOA), presidential candidate Dennis Kucinich, and the Indigo Girls, among others.

The School of the Americas Watch, a nonviolent grassroots advocacy movement, organized the vigil-protest, which will take place Nov. 16-18. The organization seeks solidarity with Latin Americans to close the SOA and to "change oppressive U.S. foreign policy that institutes like the SOA represent," according to their Web site.

"School of the Americas Watch has done an incredible job at networking between

see VIGIL/page 6

**INSIDE COLUMN**

# Being super

Everyone has thought about it. At least once or twice — what super power would you have if you could choose anything? Or perhaps, if just given the choice between flight or invisibility, which would you take? Only one choice, and you are the only one in the world to have that power.

**Dustin Mennella**

*Photo Editor*

With the price of gas today, who wouldn't chose flight? You could just zoom around whenever going somewhere, and as an added bonus, you could make a really good witch or wizard costume at Halloween.

Of course the invisible power would have its advantages, too — excellent for pranks and escaping a tight situation, but ultimately I don't think it would be a useful power for good, just a temptation of the opposite.

Shoplifting would become simple, and from that one could easily snowball into bad things. Anyway, one would have trouble being a super hero with either of those powers, if that was the only one they had. Unless you had super strength, or a super hero team to back you up, of course.

If I could choose any power, it would be a close decision between controlling time and controlling gravity. Time control would be both fun and useful, but the specific details would have to be worked out. If you went back in time a day, what would happen to the rest of the world — would they also go back? Could you meet your past self, or would there always be only one of you? It could get confusing if a new copy of you was made every time you time-traveled. After a while, there would be so many copies of you, you would definitely run out of clothes for all of your selves. And I suppose you could just stop time and steal some from the store, but hey, that's not proper conduct for someone posing as a super hero.

According to an online quiz, I would be Superman. I wouldn't want to be Superman though — actually I wouldn't want to be many of the super heroes — tragedy seems to be one of the prerequisites for gaining powers. Spiderman's uncle died, Superman's planet blew up, the X-men protect people who misunderstand them and countless other heroes have been exposed to toxic chemicals or radiation. I would imagine those must have been traumatic experiences.

I guess that's where their great sense of responsibility and virtue comes from. Even Aristotle supported super heroes (according to Wikipedia): "There are men so god-like, so exceptional, that they naturally, by right of their extraordinary gifts, transcend all moral judgment or constitutional control: There is no law which embraces men of that calibre: They themselves are law."

*The views expressed in the Inside Column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer. Contact Dustin Mennella at dmennell@nd.edu*

**CORRECTIONS**

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

**QUESTION OF THE DAY: WHAT WAS YOUR FAVORITE CHILDHOOD SNACK, AND WHY?**



**Jonathan Richardson**  
*grad student  
Fisher Grad*

*"I like flan, and mavi."*



**Connie Jones**  
*freshman  
Pangborn*

*"Little Debbie's Zebra Cakes."*



**Charlandra Williams**  
*freshman  
McGlinn*

*"Goldfish, because they smiled at me, and I liked the song."*



**Latifah Cato**  
*freshman  
Lewis*

*"Flintstones vitamins, they were just good."*



**Steve Iwanski**  
*junior  
Alumni*

*"Paint chips."*



KELLY HIGGINS/The Observer

**Notre Dame quarterback Evan Sharpley, left, autographs a Saint Mary's "The Shirt" at the T-shirt's unveiling in the Saint Mary's Student Center Thursday.**

**IN BRIEF**

**"Loyal Daughters and Sons: Sexuality and Sexual Assault As Told by Notre Dame Students"** will be performed at 8 tonight at Washington Hall. Tickets are \$5 and are available at the LaFortune Box Office.

As part of International Education Week, there will be a faculty panel discussing **"Overcoming Global Poverty: Is Globalization the Problem or the Solution?"** in Conference Room D of the Saint Mary's Student Center, from noon to 1 p.m. today.

**"A Bright Room Called Day"** will be performed on the Decio Main Stage in the DeBartolo Performing Arts Center tonight, and Sunday at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$12 for the general public, \$10 for seniors, faculty and staff and \$8 for students.

The Notre Dame women's soccer team will play Loyola Chicago tonight at 7:30 on Alumni Field.

Pangborn Hall is hosting Project Pumpkin Pie for the Hope Rescue Mission this Sunday from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. in the F Wing of North Dining Hall. Sign up through your dorm president or contact mmirammon@nd.edu.

The Black Cultural Arts Council is holding modeling tryouts for its annual fashion show Sunday from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. for any women interested. The men's tryouts will take place next Tuesday from 8 to 10 p.m.. Both tryouts will be held in Washington Hall.

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

**OFFBEAT**

**Boy, driving for dad, charged with DUI**

CLIO, Mich. — A police officer checking on a truck that got stuck in the mud at a city park was startled to find a 13-year-old boy behind the wheel. The officer also was surprised that the boy appeared to be drunk.

So did the teen's father, who was riding in the front seat. He told police that he had turned over the driving duties to his son because he'd had too much to drink.

Open containers of beer and liquor were found in the vehicle, said Clio Police Chief James McLellan.

plur bandit as Gerald A. Rocchi, 32, who was arrested shortly after he allegedly flashed a chrome-plated stapler at an employee of The Ice Cream Shop in Ashland on Tuesday and demanded money.

Ashland Police Capt. Don Petrella said he didn't know if Rocchi planned to shoot staples at the shop's employees or use it as a blunt instrument if he didn't get the cash. It didn't come to that because the employees handed over the cash, Petrella said.

**Man allegedly uses stapler to rob store**

ASHLAND, Ky. — A man wearing a ski mask held up an eastern Kentucky ice cream store with a stapler, and briefly got away with \$175.

Police identified the sta-

Information compiled from the Associated Press.

	TODAY	TONIGHT	GAME DAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY
<b>LOCAL WEATHER</b>						
	HIGH 45 LOW 30	HIGH 35 LOW 20	HIGH 46 LOW 31	HIGH 45 LOW 33	HIGH 55 LOW 40	HIGH 53 LOW 42

# Center offers 'mini grants' to study abroad

Students seek funding to offset costs of international programs from part of CWIL's \$30,000 available for year

By KATIE KOHLER  
Saint Mary's Editor

Saint Mary's students concerned about the cost of studying abroad for a semester or summer have the opportunity to receive "mini grants" through the Lilly Endowment Fund and the Center for Women's Intercultural Leadership (CWIL).

More than \$30,000 has been allotted to the grant program so far this year, said Siqin Yang, assistant director for international and intercultural learning.

On average, students whose grant proposals were approved last year received between \$250 and \$2,400, Yang said.

"There are no fully funded grants, both in order to spread the assistance to as many students as possible and because these experiences are of great educational value," Yang said. "It seems appropriate that students contribute what they can."

Saint Mary's has offered these grants since 2002. Since then, more than 50 students have received grants to study in places like Brussels, Belgium, Rome, Italy and cities in Argentina. The grants, Yang said, assist students who are wary about traveling abroad for financial reasons.

"The grants help students who have financial need realize

their study abroad dream and enhance their intercultural learning," she said. "[The recipients] really appreciated the financial support from CWIL."

Senior Sarah Didier received a grant from CWIL for the European Summer Study program last summer. She spent four weeks traveling through France, England, Scotland and Ireland.

Didier was awarded \$2,500. Her total expenses were close to \$6,500.

The grant covered roughly 40 percent of her total cost, and she said she would not have been able to participate without aid from CWIL. Didier and her sister both attended the program.

"My parents could have helped one of us out, but not both at the same time," she said. "We each received \$2,500. Through this grant we ended up having an amazing summer."

Through CWIL, senior Kelly Fahey was able to travel to

Greece. She received a \$960 grant to put toward the \$3,400 cost.

"The Greece trip is an extraordinary experience with incredible teachers. Without the help of CWIL, there is no way I could have gone," she said.

Senior Kimberly Fugate had a similar story. Fugate, who received \$2,300 out of \$4,000 to study in Greece, said CWIL's support was the deciding factor in going abroad.

"In addition to the [CWIL] grant, I was sponsored by my family as well as LaSalle Grill, who helped with my food portion of the trip," Fugate said. "It was absolutely worth it."

There are two types of grants: student travel grants and independent student grants.

Student travel grants include semesters abroad and summer programs. Independent student grants, however, are much more competitive.

"Independent grants are used for truly independent study supported by a faculty member and is not affiliated with any study abroad institution," Yang said. "This type of grant is merit-based and highly competitive."

The application process is similar to other abroad programs. Recommendations, applications and good college standing are required. In addition, upon returning, students must write a reflection paper and present on their experiences. Attendance at the following year's Intercultural Learning Showcase is also required.

Programs eligible for grants must be at least two weeks long and not contained within usual financial aid funding, Yang said. Though mostly upperclassmen apply, all students are eligible for the grants.

While CWIL tries to accommodate as many students as possible, its policy requires that no more than 75 percent of a trip's funding can come from CWIL, said Elaine Meyer-Lee, director of the Center for Women's Intercultural Leadership.

Meyer-Lee said the grants benefit not only students but also the international and intercultural standards of the College.

"Saint Mary's is a rare college where committed students with

financial need can receive thousands of dollars towards an intensive intercultural experience which they would not otherwise be able to afford," she said. "Even students with little financial aid can receive money for worthy projects."

She said she hopes for the continued success of the grant program so more Saint Mary's students can have positive learning experiences abroad.

"The dedicated students who have taken advantage of this opportunity have found their additional investment well rewarded by life-changing learning," she said.

Meyer-Lee said she thinks the scale of grants offered at Saint Mary's is "highly unusual among colleges."

"Some schools try to offer a little additional scholarship aid for study abroad through a mandatory fee for all students, or alumni donations," Meyer-Lee said. "But Saint Mary's students are fortunate that Saint Mary's received substantial resources to start CWIL and earned a good share of those resources to directly fund students' international and intercultural learning."

CWIL also offers faculty grants. The two main categories are faculty research grants or conference attendance grants, Meyer-Lee said.

Contact Katie Kohler at [kkohle01@saintmarys.edu](mailto:kkohle01@saintmarys.edu)

*"There are no fully funded grants, both in order to spread the assistance to as many students as possible and because these experiences are of great educational value. It seems appropriate that students contribute what they can."*

**Siqin Yang**  
assistant director for  
international and intercultural  
learning



**FRIDAY 11/16**

**Ten Thousand Villages**

Mendoza College of Business Atrium

9:00am - 5:00pm

**SATURDAY 11/17**

**Japanese Film "Linda, Linda, Linda"**

DeBartolo Performing Arts Center,

Browning Cinema

7:00pm and 10:00pm

**SUNDAY 11/18**

**Seminar "Challenges in Education"**

Alumnus Anthony Pohlen speaks about

teaching in Uganda

316 Coleman Morse

5:00pm

IEW events are sponsored by International Student Services and Activities, Office of International Studies, the Kellogg Institute, the Kroc Institute for International Peace Studies, the Senate Social Concerns Committee, the Millennium Development Initiative, the Gender Studies Program, DPAC, the Career Center, the Center for Asian Studies, Notre Dame Food Services, Campus Ministry, GSU

# Hammocks sold to help Nicaraguan artisans

By BRIAN MCKENZIE  
News Writer

Students looking to spruce up their dorm rooms and help Nicaraguan artisans can purchase hammock chairs today from Artisan Opportunities International, Inc. (AOI).

The chairs are designed to fit in a dorm room and are available in blue-and-white and multi-colored. Students can also purchase larger, "matrimonial" hammocks, large enough for two adults, through the AOI's Web site.

AOI is working to improve living conditions for artisans in Nicaragua.

"We can make a difference" in the lives of Nicaraguan

artisans, AOI co-founder senior Brian Brownschidle, said. "It may seem like a small amount of money here but it can make a tremendous difference in the lives of these people," he said.

AOI's efforts have won the 2006 Student Opus Prize, affiliated with the Opus Group, a national real estate development company that rewards individuals for combining entrepreneurship with a fight against social injustice. It also won Gigot Center's Best Undergraduate Business Plan competition.

Brownschidle said the market for artisans in Nicaragua is too small to provide them with living wages. AOI has helped the artisans sell abroad. All of the proceeds from the hammock chair sale will return to the artisans and their communities, he said.

Sophomore Tina Tovar went on a trip to Nicaragua to help study how AOI proceeds could be spent most effectively. "We did a lot of research on the greatest needs of the arti-

sans to determine how to reinvest the money," she said.

"We personally spoke with the artisans and compared their greatest needs with what was most economically feasible. We wanted to have a sustainable, long-term effect on their lives," Tovar said.

The group eventually decided to provide materials to replace roofs, she said.

"With a very small amount of money, we were able to re-roof all of our artisans' homes," Brownschidle said.

Junior Christy Essay, another AOI member that went to Nicaragua, said in the future, the organization plans to focus

on education.

"Our artisans live all over the city, so it's a difficult issue," she said. "I think we'll end up giving supplies or uniforms, but we don't have any definite plans yet."

Brownschidle said logistics issues are also difficult. Also, he had to study solutions to ensure that the proceeds made a difference for the artisans.

Brownschidle stressed that the organization had two separate components, maximizing profit like a company, and maximizing social return like a charity.

"But we're not a charity organization," Tovar said. "Since we're a small organization, it wouldn't be sustainable to keep giving food and water rather than something with a lasting impact."

The chairs will be sold for \$45 at the South Quad flagpole from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and Fieldhouse Mall from noon to 6 p.m. today.

Contact Brian McKenzie at [bmckenzi@nd.edu](mailto:bmckenzi@nd.edu)

## Cuba

continued from page 1

"Cubans are spending thousands and thousands of dollars on these parties," he said.

Additional downsides to the economic reforms include an increase in crime, prostitution and a growing black market.

Aside from affecting the economy, the Cuban government also has control over religion, the arts and the media.

Cuba's constitution changed from atheist to secular in the 1990s, which enabled Catholics to practice their faith freely. However, the government still places strict limitations

on the Catholic Church, which is Cuba's largest independent institution, Marx said.

The Church does not have access to the media, cannot build churches, schools or seminaries, and cannot recruit priests from abroad, he said.

In terms of the media, Marx said that due to a strong internal opposition, there has been a "crackdown" on independent journalists and dissidents.

"The opposition movement is thoroughly infiltrated," he said, emphasizing that it is impossible to tell who is a real dissident and who is a spy, which has led to "suspicion and mistrust" among Cubans.

"Opposition is a nonfactor in Cuba today," Marx said, as dissidents are almost instantly imprisoned and,

upon release, are obliged to leave the country.

Vaisman and Marx said Cubans are, on the whole, fearful of change.

"Propaganda in Cuba is just as effective as propaganda in America. ... the education system emphasizes conformity," Marx said.

Although there is a minor possibility for change in Cuba, the current situation doesn't "look like [it] will change at all," Vaisman said.

The lecture took place in the Hesburgh Center for International Studies, and was a part of International Education Week, a joint initiative of the U.S. Departments of State and Education.

Contact Lindsay Sena at [lsena@nd.edu](mailto:lsena@nd.edu)



CORE COUNCIL  
FOR GAY & LESBIAN  
STUDENTS

## Solidarity Sunday

November 18, 2007

*The Spirit of Inclusion...*

"Strangers and Sojourners no longer" (Ephesians 2:19)

"We value gay and lesbian members of this community as we value all members of this community". "We consciously create an environment of mutual respect, hospitality and warmth in which none are strangers and all may flourish". "We prize the uniqueness of all persons as God's creatures." ~adopted by the Officers of the University on August 27, 1997.

Please join the Notre Dame family in a weekend-long spirit of prayer and welcome.

Copies of the entire statement of the Spirit of Inclusion will be available following all Masses on November 17-18, 2007.

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## INTERNATIONAL NEWS

### Somalian pirate attacks on the rise

MOMBASA — With one slain crew mate in the ship's freezer and Somali pirates threatening to kill his son, Capt. Xinshen Ling could think of only one thing to do: Threaten to throw himself into the shark-infested waters, calculating the pirates wouldn't want to lose the captain.

He was right. Four pirates immediately rushed to keep him from jumping off the Taiwanese fishing vessel.

"It was a test. I wanted to see how much the pirates valued me ... They know if the captain dies, they will get less ransom," the 47-year-old told The Associated Press, safe in Kenya on Wednesday after the U.S. Navy stepped in to win the release of the Ching Fong Hwa 168 and its surviving crew, including Ling's son.

Ling's tale of seven months of captivity is frighteningly common off the lawless coast of war-ravaged Somalia, where piracy is on the increase. After releasing the ship and its crew on Nov. 5, the pirates got away with an unspecified ransom paid by the ship's owner.

### Cyclone hits Bangladesh coast

KHULNA — A powerful cyclone packing 150 mph winds slammed into Bangladesh on Thursday night, flattening homes, toppling trees and power poles, and forcing hundreds of thousands of people to flee for shelters in this low-lying nation.

Tropical Cyclone Sidr swept in from the Bay of Bengal, buffeting the southwestern coastal areas within a 155-mile radius of its eye with heavy rain and storm surges predicted to reach 20 feet high.

No casualties were immediately reported, but rescue teams were on standby.

Sidr's eye crossed the Khulna-Barisal coast near the Sundarbans mangrove forests, the Bangladesh Meteorological Department said.

## NATIONAL NEWS

### Mystery creature sighted in Florida

MACCLENNY — Whether the mystery critter roaming northern Florida is an orangutan, a "baby Bigfoot" or something else, wildlife officials think it might have a bit of Homer Simpson in it.

After a bear hunter said an animal that could be an orangutan stole jelly doughnuts from him, a wildlife investigator has tried to use sweet treats to lure the creature into the open in Baker County.

There have been several sightings of what witnesses have described as a "big orange ball of fur," though officials have yet to confirm it's an orangutan, said Karen Parker, a spokeswoman for the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission.

### Tenants suspicious of police motive

CHICAGO — Jacqueline Thompson has lived in the public housing projects for nearly half a century and can't remember ever seeing this many police officers around before.

From her third-floor window, she watches as they routinely pile out of squad cars, slap cuffs on young black men and take them away. Like other tenants, Thompson believes there's a simple explanation: money.

She and others suspect police are hassling tenants in a plot by City Hall to empty out the projects and redevelop the land.

## LOCAL NEWS

### Man charged with illegal coyote sale

KENNARD — A man charged with shipping coyotes to other states so they could be hunted in confined areas said the animals were rarely harmed.

Earl Hunt, 66, of Kennard, was arrested this week by Indiana Department of Natural Resources Conservation Officers and charged with multiple counts of illegally shipping wildlife.

The DNR said Hunt sold coyotes trapped in Indiana for use in penned dog-running facilities in other states. Hunters use dogs to chase coyotes or foxes in the fenced-in areas.

## IRAQ

# Government seizes Sunni headquarters

Hardline clerics group, accused of supporting al-Qaida, questions reasons behind evacuation

Associated Press

BAGHDAD — The Iraqi government seized the west Baghdad headquarters of a powerful Sunni Muslim group Wednesday, cordoning off the building and accusing the group of supporting al-Qaida, officials said.

The Association of Muslim Scholars, a hard-line Sunni clerics group with links to insurgents, has its headquarters in the Um al-Qura mosque in the capital's Sunni-dominated Ghazaliyah neighborhood.

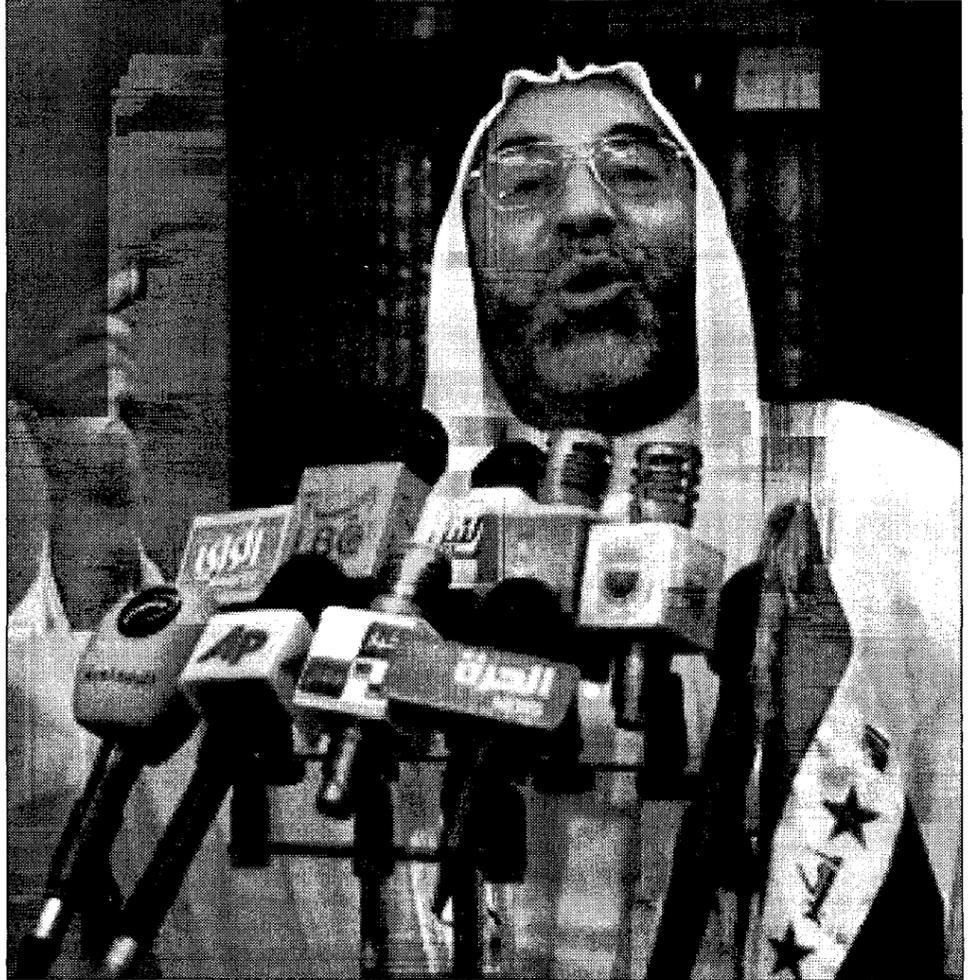
Iraqi security forces dispatched by the Sunni Endowment, a government agency that cares for Sunni mosques and shrines, surrounded the mosque complex at 9 a.m. and demanded that the building be evacuated before noon, the association said in a statement posted on its Web site.

Employees were told to remove all personal belongings and even haul out furniture, that troops said would be destroyed if left behind, it said.

The group also operates a radio station from the mosque, and its transmission was cut as well, the statement said. The final sounds on the air were of an announcer apologizing to listeners and telling them he was being forced from the building, the group said.

The head of the Sunni Endowment held a news conference at the mosque later Wednesday, accusing the clerics' group of supporting al-Qaida.

"The Association of Muslim Scholars has regrettably been attacking any tribal awakening, resistance or worshippers whenever they form a force to purge their neighborhoods of al-Qaida elements. The association has always justified killing and assassinations carried out by al-Qaida," Ahmed Abdul-Ghafoor al-Samarraie, the Sunni Endowment chief,



Ahmed Abdul-Ghafoor al-Samarraie, the head of the Sunni Endowment, dispatched security forces Wednesday to seize the headquarters of a powerful Sunni Muslim group.

told reporters. "The association no longer has a place here. ... These headquarters now belong to the Sunni Endowment," he said.

Earlier, another Sunni Endowment official said the government had plans to renovate the Um al-Qura mosque, which sits on government property.

"We have nothing against the association ... and its members, but we have plans to renovate the mosque and construct more buildings inside," the official said on condition of anonymity because he was not authorized to speak to media.

"However, this matter has been seen by the association as a threat to their

existence in the mosque," the official said.

The association has long opposed the U.S. military presence in Iraq and has often been at odds with the Shiite-backed government. The association spearheaded the Sunni boycott of the January 2005 elections, which fueled the insurgency.

Another statement posted on the association's Web site said the group held al-Samarraie himself responsible for the safety of its employees.

"The Association of Muslim Scholars condemns this blatant assault. ... This was done for the benefit of many parties which see the association as an obstacle to their projects," the state-

ment said.

A spokesman for the association, Mohammed Bahsar al-Faydhi, told The Associated Press that he believed the troops raiding the mosque were not government forces but al-Samarraie's personal guards.

"We don't understand why the Sunni Endowment acted this way," said al-Faydhi, who lives in Jordan.

Some employees who were already inside the Um al-Qura building when forces arrived staged a sit-in, refusing to leave by the noon deadline, the association said. Security forces were preventing any vehicles from entering the compound, it said.

# Minister struggles with death penalty

Associated Press

NEW HAVEN — It's not easy for Richard Hawke to support the death penalty. The retired Methodist minister knows that his church opposes capital punishment. And he knows what scripture says about forgiveness.

But when he looks at a photo of his daughter, Hawke remembers the intruders who strangled her and killed her two daughters last summer in their suburban home.

Hawke, 76, and his wife have struggled with the issue, confiding in friends, searching the Bible and praying. He said he told a prosecutor: "These people had no right to continue to live in society."

The United Methodist Church opposes

the death penalty, but Hawke said it allows for individual conscience. He described himself as an opponent of capital punishment, with some exceptions for cases involving rape and children.

Jennifer Hawke-Petit, 48, and her daughters were held hostage for several hours before they were killed. Hawke-Petit's husband, Dr. William Petit, was beaten but managed to escape the house, which the attackers were accused of setting on fire.

The young girls — Hayley, 17, and Michaela, 11 — were tied to their beds and died of smoke inhalation. Investigators said gasoline was poured on and around them. Hawke-Petit and one of her daughters were allegedly sex-

ually assaulted.

"I don't think people can imagine the terror that went through the lives of these three women during the hours they were held hostage," Hawke said of the July 23 attack.

"Our kids weren't just shot," he added. "They were tortured and terrorized. I couldn't get past that."

Hawke-Petit, who did not know her assailants, was taken to a bank during the ordeal and forced to withdraw \$15,000.

Two paroled burglars — Joshua Komisarjevsky, 27, of Cheshire, and Steven Hayes, 44, of Winsted — are awaiting trial in the slayings. If convicted, the men could be executed by lethal injection.

## Vigil

continued from page 1

many groups dedicated to the cause of the SOA," Angulo said.

The School is a Spanish-language training facility for elite Latin American military and police personnel. After controversy surrounding its reputation, the School was renamed The Western Hemisphere Institute for Security Cooperation (WHINSEC) in 2001 after the signing of the National Defense Authorization Act to "provide professional education and training to eligible persons of the nations of the Western Hemisphere within the context of the democratic principles set forth in the Charter of the Organization of American States," according to the Institute's Web site.

Graduates of the School include dictators Manuel Noriega and Omar Torrijos of Panama, Hugo Banzer Suarez of Bolivia and Guillermo Rodriguez of Ecuador, according to the School of the Americas Watch Web site.

"Part of what [the United States is] helping and allowing to happen, by giving our blessing and training, is the military violence happening in Central and South America," Angulo said.

This year's protest includes lectures, a Mass, concerts and a memorial funeral service, which includes a presentation at the gates of the School, where white crosses with the names of the thousands of those who have died directly or indirectly at the hands of SOA graduates.

"It is an insanely intense experience," Angulo said.

After spending 10 weeks in El Salvador this summer, Angulo witnessed, first hand, how the violence of the country's civil war affected families.

"The government received money from the United States for military assistance," he said.

Angulo's host brother was

drafted to the army when he was 16 and after fighting for "a couple of years," he immigrated, illegally, to the United States, where he joined a gang.

"His comfort is in weapons and violence. I attribute that to the fact he was in the army at a very young age," Angulo said.

He saw a photo of his host brother and some friends from their time in the army and "they were smiling, with guns," he said. "I recognized immediately they were wearing American uniforms — green fatigues — and guns that we sold them."

This weekend's vigil-protest is "a lot more personal" for Angulo.

"In the past, it was a lot more about the ideals of social justice and what kind of country I want to be living in," he said. "It still is about that, but now it means more."

WHINSEC's motto is "Paz, Libertad y Fraternidad" (Peace, Liberty and Brotherhood). According to its Web site, the Institute's mission includes "fostering mutual knowledge, transparency, confidence, and cooperation by promoting democratic values, respect for human rights and an understanding of U.S. customs and traditions."

The Institute is succeeding in its mission, Angulo said.

"The mission of any military institution where the United States is assisting other militaries is first and foremost furthering American interests in the region," he said. "This is historic, we're talking the Monroe Doctrine, where we say, 'Basically, this hemisphere is ours.'"

The pursuit of American interests in Latin America has repercussions that touch the military, economy and immigration, Angulo said.

"It's hard not to make the connection ... it's all right there," he said. "We need to recognize historically what's happening and work to stop future abuses."

"Why are we against terrorism

in some places, but we train terrorists in our own country?" he said. "Why is it okay when our allies or people we train do it, when in reality, terrorism is never okay?"

WHINSEC is a Department of

Defense facility. It occupies Ridgway Hall on the military reservation of Fort Benning.

The trip is organized through the Progressive Student Alliance. With help from sophomore Jenna Knapp, who went on the

trip last year, Angulo was able to secure \$1,200 of funding from organizations such as Campus Ministry.

Contact Jenn Metz at [jmetz@nd.edu](mailto:jmetz@nd.edu)

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## Islam

continued from page 1

"The first point is that we are all children of Abraham ... the second point is that we are both monotheists, and the third point is that we have sacred books, the Bible and the Quran" explained Migliore.

Migliore said Christians and Muslims have many things in common as human beings and are united by their relation to Abraham. Quoting a famous theologian, Migliore said: "The most important tree in the desert is the tree of genealogy."

Migliore cited the Vatican II document, "Nostra Aetate," to explain how the Catholic Church regarded non-Christian religions, specifically the Muslims.

"They [the Muslims], do not acknowledge Jesus Christ as God," Migliore said, reading the document.

"Nostra Aetate" states that, though Muslims do not recognize Christ as God, they do honor God as the maker of the whole human race. They honor Mary as the Virgin Mother and they also value moral life.

He discussed the importance of the words "brother" and "neighbor" to both religions and how both words are used frequently in religious dialogue.

Migliore emphasized the importance of the love of God and the love of neighbor and discussed a Muslim document titled, "A Common Word Between Us and You," which shows the respect and understanding between

Christians and Muslims.

Currently, close to 150 Muslim delegates have signed the document. Despite the effort, there is still a rift between the religions, Migliore said.

"If Christians and Muslims want to find common ground ... they must start with God," he said. He went on to discuss how all religions, no matter what the denomination, have a form of the "golden rule." Migliore said every religion should follow this rule, which is that people must love one another. Migliore briefly discussed the spread of terrorism, and said extremists do not speak for religions as a whole.

"We must show [extremists] the same texts they use for terrorism, [let them know their actions] do not promote peace," he said. Migliore emphasized the importance of love and peaceful dialogue between religions.

"These dialogues must be engaged in by believers, not by diplomats," Migliore said.

Migliore spoke to a standing-room only crowd at the Hesburgh Center for International Studies.

His speech was titled "Catholicism and Islam: Points of Convergence and Divergence, Encounter and Cooperation." University President Father John Jenkins thanked the Archbishop for coming and welcomed him to Notre Dame.

A question and answer session followed the lecture. At the end of the event, the Archbishop was presented with gifts of appreciation.

Contact Josh Leeuw at [jleeuw@hcc-nd.edu](mailto:jleeuw@hcc-nd.edu)

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### Faculty and Staff Nominations

for the Sixth Annual

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**MARKET RECAP**

**Stocks**

**Dow Jones** **13,110.05** -120.96

Up: 733 Same: 70 Down: 2,636 Composite Volume: 3,941,001,504

AMEX	2,380.50	-27.87
NASDAQ	2,618.51	-25.81
NYSE	9,652.52	-156.63
S&P 500	1,451.15	-19.43
NIKKEI (Tokyo)	15,396.30	0.00
FTSE 100 (London)	6,359.60	-72.50

COMPANY	%CHANGE	\$GAIN	PRICE
POWERSHARES (QQQQ)	-0.54	-0.27	49.82
S&P DEP RECIEPTS (SPY)	-1.44	-2.13	145.54
E*TRADE FINL CORP (ETFC)	-1.44	-0.08	5.46
CITIGROUP INC (C)	-4.05	-1.46	34.58

**Treasuries**

10-YEAR NOTE	-2.58	-0.110	4.159
13-WEEK BILL	-3.77	-0.125	3.190
30-YEAR BOND	-1.52	-0.070	4.534
5-YEAR NOTE	-3.87	-0.149	3.701

**Commodities**

LIGHT CRUDE (\$/bbl.)	-0.66	93.43
GOLD (\$/Troy oz.)	-27.40	787.30
PORK BELLIES (cents/lb.)	+2.83	91.25

**Exchange Rates**

YEN	110.44
EURO	0.6843
CANADIAN DOLLAR	0.9865
BRITISH POUND	0.4889

**IN BRIEF**

**Gold prices fall after recent peak**

NEW YORK — Gold prices tumbled Thursday as weaker energy prices and a slight rise in the U.S. dollar prompted investors to pull back from the safe-haven metal and book profits after months of sharp gains.

The commodities markets moved broadly lower as the greenback gained strength, making prices appear more expensive to foreign buyers. Energy, metals and agricultural futures declined.

Gold prices have become extremely volatile as the market wrestles with a correction following the metal's climb to levels not seen since 1980. The big day-to-day moves of \$20 to \$30 an ounce seen this week should be expected, analysts say, after the price of gold ballooned \$200 in fewer than three months. Although analysts described Thursday's move as partly technical in nature, a drop in energy prices and strength in the dollar added to the pressure.

**Hugh Hefner donates money to USC**

LOS ANGELES — Hugh Hefner has donated \$2 million to the University of Southern California's School of Cinematic Arts.

The money will fund a central exhibition space in the new headquarters of the school and an archival repository for student films and historic documents, the university said.

The existing repository, which bears Hefner's name, holds more than eight decades of student films, including some by George Lucas.

"I've always believed that following one's dreams is very important," Hefner said in a statement from USC.

The 81-year-old Playboy founder has contributed millions of dollars to preserve films and fund cinema schools over the years. Hefner gave \$100,000 to USC in 1992 to create a course, Censorship in Cinema, and in 1995 he donated \$1.5 million to endow the Hugh M. Hefner Chair for the Study of American Film. total)

**Georgia drought hurts agriculture**

Farmers worry about competing with Atlanta, Florida for water; state enacts new restrictions

Associated Press

CAMILLA — Southwest Georgia is one of the most productive agricultural regions in Dixie, but you wouldn't know it from the soil under the corn, peanuts and cotton. It can be sandy, it can be pebbly, and it doesn't hold water very well.

That begins to explain why irrigation is so vital around here — and why the mere suggestion that some of the region's water might be taken away fills folks with fear and resentment.

With a historic drought gripping the Southeast, Georgia farmers are increasingly worried that their needs will be sacrificed to those of Atlanta — a city of runaway growth and seemingly unquenchable thirst — or water-guzzling Florida.

"Atlanta needs to take a hard look at what's happening in the metro area," said Bubba Johnson, a 68-year-old farmer who grows cotton and corn on a 500-acre plot. "There's going to be a heck of a battle if they try to come down here to get the water."

The drought has forced much of the state to enact unprecedented watering restrictions, and legislative leaders want to build more state reservoirs. Some — including Atlanta Mayor Shirley Franklin — have also floated the idea of transferring water to Atlanta from other places via pipeline.

Franklin has not specifically mentioned pumping water out of southwest Georgia's Flint River or its tributaries, but the mere possibility has stoked the long-standing tension between the big city and the countryside.

"I don't want to throw a brick at Atlanta. But I feel like we're getting squeezed between entities as every-



Georgia farmer Bubba Johnson checks on his peanut crop as a prolonged drought takes its toll on agricultural production across the state.

one competes for water," said Glenn Cox, a farmer in Camilla. "We just don't have enough clout. There are more trees in this plot of land than there are people in this county."

The drought also has forced a well-known Atlanta nursery to file for bankruptcy in what is perhaps the first major corporate casualty of the drought.

The dry conditions and a ban on outdoor watering kept customers away from Pike Nursery Holding, which calls itself the nation's

largest independently owned garden center, said vice president Wayne Juers.

"It caught us a little bit off guard. Homeowners started turning on homeowners," Juers said. "And if you're planting pansies out there, they think you're a criminal."

In a recent editorial, Valdosta Daily Times lashed out at Atlanta, accusing it of hogging water while farmers watch their crops burn in the fields.

Atlanta politicians, the newspaper said, "can't

bring themselves to tell their greedy constituents complaining about the low flows in their toilets this week that perhaps if they didn't have six bathrooms, it might ease the situation a bit. That watering your lawn isn't as important as watering crops. Or that their greedy overlords have taxed their supplies of natural resources beyond their capabilities."

Between 1990 and 2000, Atlanta added more than 1 million people and its water use climbed 30 percent.

**Despite gas prices, travel continues**

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Gas prices near record highs at a time of year when they typically decline will not deter drivers from hitting the road this Thanksgiving, AAA said Thursday.

The travel agency expects a record 38.7 million Americans will travel 50 miles or more from home over the five days beginning Nov. 21. That is a 1.6 percent increase over last year. Roughly 80 percent of those trips will be by car, and motorists will pay about 90 cents a gallon more for gas than they did last year.

Guy Caruso, chief of the Energy Department's statistical division, the Energy Information Administration, predicted Wednesday that gasoline prices, now averaging \$3.11 a gallon nationwide, will rise another 10 cents by December.

A jump of 15 cents a gallon from current levels, already well above last year's average of \$2.23, also would surpass May's all-time record of \$3.23 a gallon.

Gas prices traditionally fall in the winter months as demand ebbs from summer highs, but oil prices flirting with \$100 a barrel and low fuel stockpiles have reversed that trend this year. Still, demand for gasoline over the four weeks ending Nov. 9 was 0.6 percent higher than a year earlier, averaging more than 9.3 million barrels a day, the Energy Department said Thursday.

"This is the first time that we have seen gas prices tipping over \$3 a gallon in November," Robert L. Darbelnet, president and chief executive of AAA, said in a statement. "But Thanksgiving is traditionally a time for family gatherings, and higher gas will not discourage

Americans from reconnecting with their loved ones."

Some 31.2 million motorists will hit the road for Thanksgiving, a 1.3 percent increase from last year. Another 4.7 million will travel by air, and the remainder will go by train, bus or other transportation.

While travelers will be paying more at the pump, hotels, airfares and car rental prices are mostly declining this year, according to AAA. Holiday hotel rates are down 3 percent for AAA-Rated Three Diamond hotels and up a modest 1 percent at Two Diamond hotels. The average decrease in rental car prices is 12 percent, and airline tickets are down about 7 percent.

Cheaper airfare or not, the airline industry this week urged holiday travelers to get to the airport extra early due to an expected 4 percent jump in passenger traffic.

# Assault

continued from page 1

sources engaged with the topic say sex crimes are often seriously underreported. They cite as evidence of extreme underreporting U.S. Department of Justice statistics that between 20 and 25 percent of women will be raped sometime during their college career.

Despite these statistics, student leaders and officials say increased awareness and individual commitments to reducing sexual assault can have a real impact.

"Hopefully, if any place could be free of sexual violence, it could be a place like Notre Dame," said Ann Firth, Associate Vice President for Student Affairs.

Campus dialogue about issues of sexual assault

has been formally generated within the University's Committee on Sexual Assault Prevention, a committee of representatives from throughout the campus community and the Gender Relations Center, among other venues.

"There is a greater openness to talking about these issues," Firth said.

Openness has increased particularly among men on campus — a change that is critical, said Bill Kirk, Associate Vice President for Residence Life.

With the vast majority of offenses perpetrated by men, the issue cannot be resolved until men take ownership of it, Kirk said.

"This is not a women's issue," he said. "This is a students' issue."

A small group of men engaged with the issue came together in fall 2005 under the title Men Against Violence.

The group formed so that "stand-up male role models on campus would hold other men accountable to work for social change," said Heather Rakoczy, director of the Gender Relations Center.

Membership in Men Against Violence has increased each year since its inception, group co-founder John Corker said. The group operates as a task force under the jurisdiction of the Gender Relations Center while awaiting confirmation of club status.

Corker, now an Admissions Counselor, said men are finally joining women in addressing a problem that affects everyone.

"Men are really signing onto the issue, but it's under the leadership of women," he said. "The leadership continues to begin and end with women."

Corker cited the expansion of MAV and the work of Committee on Sexual Assault Prevention as evidence of growing campus engagement with issues of sexual assault.

"We have gotten to the point where the campus community recognizes this is a tangible issue here at Notre Dame," he said.

MAV focuses its efforts on men who realize sexual assault is a problem but don't see the relevance to their lives.

"Probably the biggest obstacle we are continually overcoming is the mindset that if I don't harm women and I'm not involved in assault or sexual assault, it's not something that affects me," Corker said.

Any man with female friends, a mother, sisters, or any other female in his life needs to realize the significance of actively addressing sexual assault, he said.

"Every guy on this campus knows somebody who has been affected by it," Corker said.

MAV's projects have included drives to encourage male students to sign a pledge. Also, an annual spring poster campaign shows

groups of men involved in different activities — from Bengal Bouts to the Liturgical Choir — framed with a Department of Justice statistic about sexual assault and the MAV pledge.

The campaign's message is that "whatever you do, be a man against violence," Corker said.

The group's presentations at an annual Indiana conference on sexual violence prevention has led to start-up men's organizations at other schools in the state — an increase Corker said is indicative of a trend on campuses across the nation.

The traditional social power ascribed to men sometimes increases the impact of their activism, said Rakoczy.

"Some men can only hear challenging messages like this from other men," she said.

This, she said, is even the case for some women.

On Nov. 6, MAV brought anti-sexism activist Jackson Katz to campus. More than 220 people — half of them men, half women — sat in the audience as Katz said men need to stand up against a culture that allows the physical and psychological subjection of women.

"There are very many people at Notre Dame who want to make a change in the world," Redding said, "and they spend a lot of time doing it."

"This is an issue that with just a little bit of effort, specifically becoming more vocal on the issue, we can see a lot of change."

According to U.S. Department of Justice data provided by the Gender Relations Center, one in four college women will be the victim of an attempted or completed sexual assault this year, and one in six men will be sexually assaulted during their lifetime. The data provided also found that nine of 10 women raped on college campuses do not report the assault.

During the period from 1996 to 2006, 27 forcible sex offenses were reported to have occurred on campus, according to information compiled by NDSP in compliance with federal requirements.

The reports for each year contain between zero and two reported rapes.

"Anecdotally I can tell you, as a rector, that's not at all what's going on," Rakoczy said. "Rape and sexual assault are happening on our campus."

Though survivors of rape and sexual assault are always given discretion about whether they press charges or take any other course, Rakoczy said they can do a "tremendous service" to others by reporting the crime.

With national statistics of sex crimes occurring on college campuses so high, and zero to two rapes reported to have occurred at Notre Dame each year, "you would get the sense this is being covered up," Kirk said. "It absolutely isn't."

In addition to the many reasons for which a survivor might choose not to report statistics at all, the published statistics are also affected in that they only account for offenses that occurred on campus.

Most sexual assaults reported to Residence Life occurred off campus, he said.

"We know it's a dramatically underreported crime," Kirk said.

Survivors of sexual assault may hesitate to report for a variety of reasons, he said. Among these may be the influence of alcohol or fear of disciplinary action for any rules broken.

Both Kirk and Rakoczy emphasized that if someone reports a sexual assault, no disciplinary action will be taken against the person reporting for any du Lac violations what-

soever.

Even if the survivor were to have been drinking, breaking parietals and having consensual sex before being raped, no disciplinary penalty would be enacted if he or she was to report the rape, Rakoczy said.

"Those other violations are just not important to us if someone is the victim of a crime," Kirk said. "Obviously we would be concerned pastorally, but in terms of disciplining — absolutely not."

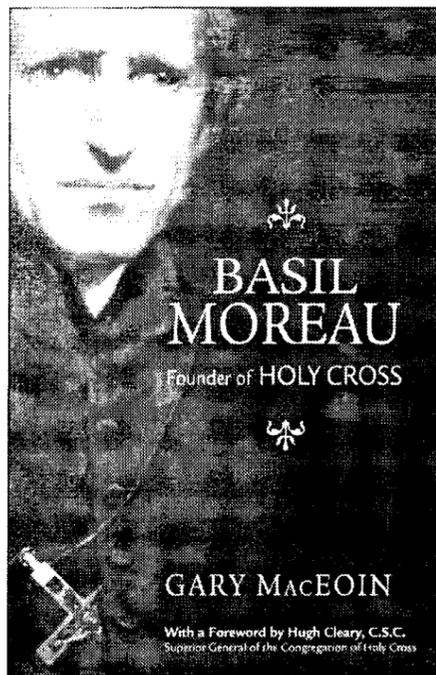
The Catholic environment of

Notre Dame may also play a role in the hesitation of some survivors to report the crime, Rakoczy said.

"I think it's a guilt and shame which is completely unnecessary

see ASSAULT/page 9

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## Assault

continued from page 8

and unfounded," she said.

Some survivors wonder whether, as members of a community whose Catholic values discourage premarital sex, they can still be considered virgins, she said.

"To equate a person who has been raped with someone who has chosen to have sexual intercourse could not be more wrong," Rakoczy said. "Rape is a crime."

Any student found by the Office of Residence Life to have committed such a crime will be expelled from the University, he said.

Such an expulsion has occurred at Notre Dame, he and Firth said.

Kirk said the majority of sexual assaults he's seen reported during 17 years in Notre Dame administration share a common factor — the presence of alcohol.

"We never want to say the victim is in any way responsible for sexual assault," Kirk said.

The use of alcohol cannot be seen as a causal link with a situation in which someone chooses to act criminally, Kirk said. But drinking can still increase risk.

"If alcohol lowers your inhibitions, it can put you in dangerous situations," he said.

Alcohol can act as "liquid courage," Kirk said, causing "breeding grounds" for sexual violence and regretted sex.

The U.S. Department of Justice reports that college students who get drunk at least once a week are 75 percent more likely to be sexually victimized than other students, according to Gender Relations Center records.

The Committee on Sexual Assault Prevention is co-chaired by Bill Kirk, Associate Vice President for Residence Life, and Ann Firth, Associate Vice President for Student Affairs. The committee includes representatives of the Offices of Residence Life and Student Affairs, Notre Dame Security/Police, the Gender Relations Center, the Saint Mary's Office of Residence Life, the Athletic Office, students, professors and others.

The committee's purpose is twofold: To ensure resources are in

place for those who have experienced sexual violence and to educate the community about the reality of sexual violence and how it can be eliminated, Firth said.

Events like this week's Sexual Assault Awareness Week are about "encouraging those who have been victimized to speak, seek support and come forward," Firth said. "That is a very important and healthy thing."

Resources are available for all survivors of sexual assault, regardless of how long ago the incident occurred, she said.

Some survivors are also unsure about whether what happened to them is sexual assault, she said.

But if the incident involved physical force, emotional abuse, the use of alcohol or any drug — or if it just felt wrong — then the survivor should be talking to someone about it, Rakoczy said.

When a student undergoes sexual assault, the first contact through the University is Assistant Dean in the College of Arts and Letters Ava Preacher, the University Victim Resource Person.

"If someone is in crisis or has experienced trauma, it can be difficult to know where to start," Rakoczy said.

Preacher provides resources so that the survivor can decide what choices he or she wishes to make, Rakoczy said.

Preacher was not available for comment this week.

Notre Dame has a decentralized approach to rape and sexual assault services rather than a rape crisis center. Research shows these are equally effective methods, so long as protocols are followed, Rakoczy said.

Resources available to students include S-O-S, the rape crisis center for St. Joseph County. Counseling and therapy are available at the University Counseling Center, and a confidential, on-campus support group is also available.

Ava Preacher can be reached at 631-7728. University sexual assault resource information is available online at <http://osa.nd.edu/departments/rape.shtml>

Contact Karen Langley at [klangle1@nd.edu](mailto:klangle1@nd.edu)

## Loyal

continued from page 1

members — has been nothing short of "amazing. I haven't heard a single bad thing about the show," Van Mill said after Thursday's production.

The reaction Van Mill has observed this year is consistent with the one last year's organizers noted. "Loyal Daughters and Sons" used 60 percent of the creative material that made up its predecessor, "L o y a l Daughters."

Van Mill and the show's original writer, then-senior Emily Weisbecker, conducted interviews with different sexual assault victims last spring to develop the new material included in this year's show. Some of those new stories dealt particularly with the male view of the issue — a perspective Van Mill and director Meghan O'Donoghue wanted to emphasize this year.

They added the phrase "and Sons" to the original title because they didn't want to alienate men who might think the show is exclusively about women's issues and also because they think it's important to be open about the role of men in sexual assault cases.

"The [new] title explicitly shows men are a part of this issue, too," Van Mill said. "And the only way these victims [of sexual violence] — and the entire Notre Dame community — can begin healing these wounds is by being vocal and honest about these issues. Sexual violence happens here, inside our bubble, and that's

something both men and women need to be aware of."

Three new sketches deal with the male view of sexuality and sexual violence at Notre Dame, including a scene where a male student defended his religiously motivated decision to abstain from having sex with his girlfriend despite pressure from his friends to do the contrary.

The second new story features a homosexual student who is a victim of sexual assault at a party, while the third deals with men who are harassed or seduced against their will by women.

The male actor in the third sketch, M i c h a e l M c C o n n e l l, poses the question of a double standard in the sense that when men try to seduce women against their will, it's frowned upon more than when the roles are reversed.

In addition to these new stories, "Loyal Daughters and Sons" reused some of the male-oriented material featured in last year's production, which is what originally made then-freshman Kevin Stein want to participate in this year's show.

"I went to the show last year and thought it was moving and effective in transmitting the message that sexual assault is real at Notre Dame and that it's something that concerns both men and women," Stein said.

Now a sophomore and an actor in "Loyal Daughters and Sons," Stein said he thinks last year's show was already, in a way, "Loyal Daughters and Sons" because it did a good job

presenting all the different people and angles that are affected by the issues.

"Such a big part of last year's production was that it did include so many stories about men and how they see these issues, and that's why I became interested in joining the cast this year," he said.

"Loyal Daughters" director, Madison Liddy, said she also thinks that even though last year's show lacked the "and Sons" phrase in its title, the script did not exclude men from the discussion.

She said the decision to limit the title to women only was simply driven by the original mission of "Loyal Daughters," which was to give women a voice and a forum where they could discuss sexuality and sexual violence issues.

And the show succeeded in doing that, she said.

Liddy said she's noticed "words like 'rape' or 'sexual assault' are much more common on campus now, whereas before last year's production, they were more taboo.

"And now that Notre Dame has accepted the issue is real and that a discussion of it is needed, the next logical step is to include both genders in the debate, to reconcile them," Liddy said.

Van Mill said she's noticed more and more all-male groups attending "Loyal Daughters and Sons."

"You can usually tell if a guy is here simply because his girlfriend or his female friends dragged him," Van Mill said. "But there are a lot of groups of guys that just come to the show not because their girlfriend forced them, but rather because they've heard good things about it or they're just interested in the issue."

Contact Marcela Berrios at [aberrios@nd.edu](mailto:aberrios@nd.edu)



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## Simpson faces new trial for robbery

Case is not slam dunk, prosecutors aren't commenting on suit

Associated Press

LAS VEGAS — A kidnapping and robbery trial against O.J. Simpson would give his attorneys a chance to knock holes in the credibility of dubious prosecution witnesses. But it also would allow jurors to pass judgment on a criminal case Simpson walked away from.

Though a judge found enough evidence Wednesday for Simpson and two other men to be tried, the four-day preliminary hearing showed the case to be anything but a slam dunk. Prosecutors aren't commenting on their case, including on whether they think it could be bolstered by jurors holding the unspoken belief that Simpson should have been convicted 12 years ago of killing his wife and her friend.

Memorabilia dealers who have long profited from selling Simpson collectibles claim they were victimized in September when the former football star and an odd raiding party tried to take back sports items and family heirlooms he claimed were stolen from him.

One dealer had to be brought to court from jail, where he's serving time for a probation violation in a domestic violence case. The man who arranged the ill-fated meeting at a Las Vegas casino hotel room testified under a grant of immunity.

Then there were the men who accompanied Simpson, including two who said they packed guns at his behest. One of them admitted he offered to slant his testimony if he was paid enough.

Justice of the Peace Joe M. Bonaventure found enough evidence to go to trial, but said there were a number of questions raised about "bought" testimony and witnesses who were portrayed as liars, pimps and con artists trying to make a quick buck off of Simpson.

"Much time was spent attacking the credibility of witnesses," Bonaventure said. "There are a number of motive and credibility issues here. However, the ultimate determination of the credibility of witnesses should be left to a jury."

Will jurors' judgment be affected by Simpson's acquittal in the 1994 slayings of Nicole Brown Simpson and Ronald Goldman?

Jody Armour, a law professor at the University of Southern California, said that case will shadow any trial in Las Vegas.

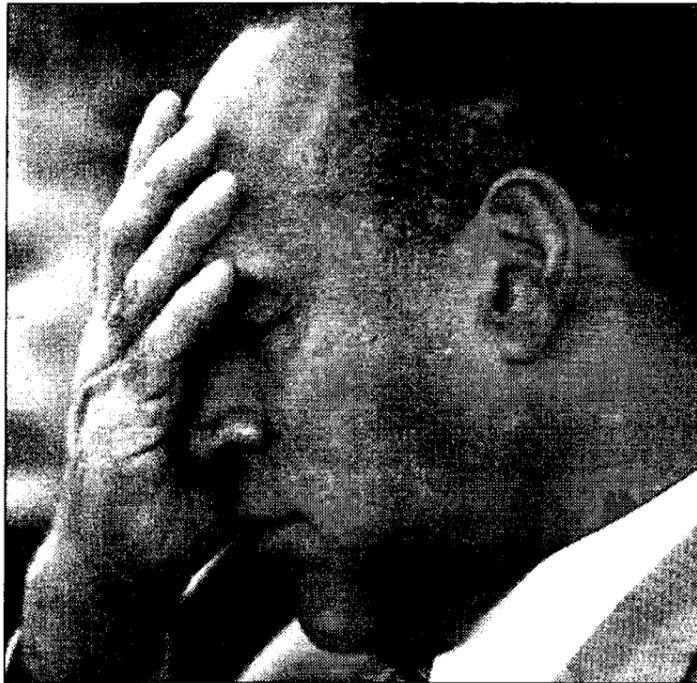
"The prosecution could gamble that a jury's judgment may be clouded by a desire to do justice writ large rather than focusing on the particular facts of the particular case before them," he said.

That would be a scary proposition for co-defendants Clarence "C.J." Stewart and Charles "Charlie" Ehrlich, who may fear being swept along in a campaign to convict Simpson. Kidnapping, the most serious count they and Simpson face, carries a maximum life sentence.

Within minutes after Bonaventure's decision, Stewart's lawyer, Robert Lucherini, raised the possibility that he will move to separate his client's case from Simpson's.

Simpson attorney Yale Galanter said he understood Lucherini's concerns.

"You don't want to try your



O.J. Simpson covers his face during a preliminary hearing on charges of kidnapping and robbery in Las Vegas Wednesday.

case in front of the cameras if you don't have to," Galanter said. But he added that in some circles, Simpson is "very well-revered to this day."

Severing the trials of Stewart and Ehrlich from Simpson could be complicated legally. And there remains the possibility that the pair could follow three other co-defendants who decided to testify against Simpson in hopes of receiving probation for their roles.

And what of the chance that Simpson himself might seek a plea bargain? Out of the question, Galanter said.

"Unless the D.A. gives us an outright dismissal, we will go to trial," he said. "Mr. Simpson is obviously very concerned. These charges are as serious as it gets. But he knows in his heart he is innocent of these charges."

Al Lasso, a Las Vegas lawyer who followed the proceedings, said the preliminary hearing exposed weaknesses in the case that makes a trial unlikely.

"What are we to make of this group? I don't think it's the same case now that prosecutors thought going in. Now that

we've heard their testimony, this case is ripe for a plea deal."

Armour said the case "has that feel of a den of thieves," which hurts the prosecution "because only those who've admitted to being thieves are left to testify against others who're accused of being thieves."

"A week or two ago, the prosecution seemed very invested in the case and confident in the strength of its case," Armour said.

"Now that it's been subjected to some scrutiny and examination, the prosecutors have to make the following judgment call: Are the chances of success worth the expense and time and effort of trying these defendants given the evidence that has come out?"

The long legal road to trial continues Nov. 28 with arraignment and entry of pleas before a new judge. Motions will be filed and arguments heard for months before the search begins for a new jury — one that will pledge to be fair and impartial and put aside everything they have heard about Simpson and his past.

## Jack Daniel's seized, could be dumped

Associated Press

NASHVILLE, Tenn. — Here's a sobering thought: Hundreds of bottles of Jack Daniel's whiskey, some of it almost 100 years old, may be unceremoniously poured down a drain because authorities suspect it was being sold by someone without a license.

Officials seized 2,400 bottles late last month during warehouse raids in Nashville and Lynchburg, the southern Tennessee town where the whiskey is distilled.

"Punish the person, not the whiskey," said an outraged Kyle MacDonald, 28, a Jack Daniel's drinker from British Columbia who promotes the whiskey on his blog. "Jack never did anything wrong, and the whiskey itself is innocent."

Investigators are also looking into whether some of the bottles had been stolen from the distillery. No one has been arrested.

Authorities are still determining how much of the liquor will be disposed of, and how much can be sold at auction.

Tennessee law requires officials to destroy whiskey that cannot be sold legally in the state, such as bottles designed for sale overseas and those with broken seals.

"We'd pour it out," said Danielle Elks, executive director of the Tennessee Alcoholic Beverage Commission.

The estimated value of the liquor is \$1 million, possibly driven up by the value of the antique bottles, which range from 3-liter bottles to half-pints.

One seized bottle dates to 1914, with its seal unbroken. Elks said it is worth \$10,000 on the collectors market. Investigators are looking into whether the liquor was being sold for the value of the bottles rather than the whiskey.

"Someone was making a great deal of profit," she said.

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## THE EVOLUTION OF MICROFINANCE ONE TOOL TO ADDRESS GLOBAL POVERTY

Two members of the board of the microfinance pioneer ACCIÓN International discuss their organization's work to give poor entrepreneurs the financial tools they need to work their way out of poverty.



**MARÍA OTERO**, the recipient of the 2007 Notre Dame Prize for Distinguished Public Service in Latin America, is a leader in the field of microfinance and a ceaseless advocate for economic opportunity for the poor.

**TARA KENNEY**, managing director at Deutsche Asset Management Inc., is the portfolio manager for Scudder's Latin American equity product and a 1982 graduate of Notre Dame.

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# ConAgra fixes flaws in pot pie plan

USDA allows company to resume making product after salmonella scare

Associated Press

OMAHA, Neb. — The USDA allowed ConAgra Foods Inc. to resume making its Banquet and private label pot pies because the company corrected the flaws in its safety plan at its Missouri plant that inspectors found after the pies were linked to a salmonella outbreak.

Those pot pies were recalled last month after hundreds of people who ate them became ill.

A spokeswoman for the Department of Agriculture's Food Safety and Inspection Service said Thursday that ConAgra took action to correct the problems inspectors found after the Oct. 11 recall.

ConAgra announced Wednesday that it had resumed making pot pies

at the Marshall, Mo., plant, and the company expects the pies to return to stores sometime in January.

USDA spokeswoman Amanda Eamich said details of the inspectors' findings at the plant would be released only through a formal Freedom Of Information Act request.

Eamich would say only that there was a record-keeping problem and an issue with ConAgra's Hazard Analysis Critical Control Point plan that spells out what the company does to ensure its products are safe.

ConAgra spokeswoman

Stephanie Childs said the USDA identified two areas of improvement at the plant that the company addressed.

"Specifically, we improved the record-keeping for how we developed our cooking instructions and improved our testing for incoming ingredients per the USDA's request," Childs said. "These measures were put in place prior to resuming production of our pot pies."

The USDA informed ConAgra about its concerns Oct. 23 in a

formal notice. The company developed a plan, which the U S D A approved on Nov. 8. U S D A inspectors will check on the reforms over the next 90 days.

ConAgra did not mention the formal notice it received from the USDA in its news release Wednesday, but it did mention working with the USDA to improve its safety plan.

ConAgra has not identified the source of the salmonella in the pot pies, but company officials have said they are confident the pies will be safe because of the changes that were made.

Childs said ConAgra is applying the testing improvements made at its Missouri plant at every one of the company's plants where those changes would apply. For example, Childs said the company plans

to use the more stringent testing plan for all of its ingredient suppliers.

Childs said ConAgra won't identify its ingredient suppliers for the pot pies or any of its foods. And she would not say whether the company uses imported ingredients in its pot pies.

"ConAgra Foods works with both domestic and international companies to source ingredients for all of its products," Childs said. "For both domestic and international suppliers, ConAgra Foods has put in place measures to ensure the safety of the ingredients that are used in our products, and we have enhanced those measures for all suppliers."

Imported foods have generated headlines this year because of recalls involving contaminated fish, chemically spiked pet food ingredients, toxic toothpaste and other products.

ConAgra's stock gained 24 cents, or about 1 percent, to trade at \$23.68 Thursday afternoon.

Citigroup analyst David Driscoll said in a research note that he doesn't believe the pot pie recall will hurt ConAgra long-term.

"We believe the favorable resolution of ConAgra's Banquet salmonella issue eliminates a number of negative scenarios surrounding the stock," Driscoll said. The stock price will likely improve, he said, as ConAgra's restructuring plan moves forward.

But the company still faces several lawsuits related to the recall, which was the second ConAgra recall this year because of salmonella.

*"Specifically, we improved the record-keeping for how we developed our cooking instructions and improved our testing for incoming ingredients per the USDA's request."*

**Stephanie Childs  
ConAgra  
spokeswoman**

# Drill instructor gets 6 months for abuse

Associated Press

SAN DIEGO — A military jury on Thursday sentenced a Marine drill instructor to six months in the brig and gave him a bad-conduct discharge for abusing 23 recruits.

Sgt. Jerrod M. Glass also received a reduction in rank to private and pay forfeiture. He had faced a maximum sentence of 10 years of confinement.

Former colleagues lined up to hug Glass and shake his hand after the verdict was read. Glass, 25, hugged his parents. His mother broke down in tears in the courtroom filed to capacity, mainly with Glass' supporters, including some of the recruits he was accused of abusing.

Earlier, prosecutors recommended he spend two years in the brig and receive a bad-conduct discharge.

"You need to send the message this is not tolerated," Marine Capt. Brent Sticker told jurors.

The instructor's attorney had asked jurors to take into account Glass's previous exemplary record and sentence him to 60 days of restricted duty and reduction to a rank of their choice.

"There's ways to deal with Sgt. Glass without throwing him out," Capt. Greg Jensen said.

"This wasn't meaningless, senseless violence," Jensen said of the alleged abuse. "It was done with the intent to assist (recruits)."

On Wednesday, Glass was found guilty of eight counts of cruelty and maltreatment, destruction of personal property, assault and violating orders on how to properly treat recruits. The jury deliberated two hours before handing down the sentence Thursday.

Glass was accused of ordering one recruit to jump headfirst into a trash can and then pushing him farther into the container. He is also accused of striking recruits

with a tent pole and a heavy flashlight. None of the recruits were seriously injured.

During the courts-martial, witnesses testified Glass routinely stomped on recruits' toiletry kits, breaking razors and soap containers inside, for minor infractions like not displaying name tags properly. They also said Glass and another drill instructor would also line recruits up after meals and force them to down liters of water from their canteens.

Glass had worked as a drill instructor at the Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego for less than a year when the mistreatment occurred. He was relieved of drill instructor

duty in February.

Glass' mother, Barbara Glass, said, "I still believe he did not do anything he was not instructed to do ... by his superiors. If it's denied, I know it's a bald-faced lie by the Marine Corps."

Glass' father, Jerry Glass, tearfully criticized the Marines' handling of the case.

"I thought the Marine Corps stood for, 'Leave no man behind,'" he told reporters. "I think they had their head in the sand or they are not being honest with the public."

Prior to the courts-martial, Glass had been an exemplary Marine, according to both the defense and prosecution.

Pfc. Bradley Montgomery, 20, who was one of the recruits in Glass' platoon, said the sentence was too harsh. Montgomery testified on behalf of the prosecution under orders.

"This whole thing is ridiculous," he said. "Sgt. Glass thought of us as his own kids."

Glass was one of three drill instructors charged with abusing recruits. Sgt. Robert C. Hankins and Sgt. Brian M. Wendel are facing special courts-martial on separate charges. A fourth instructor, Sgt. Joseph Villagomez, received administrative punishment.

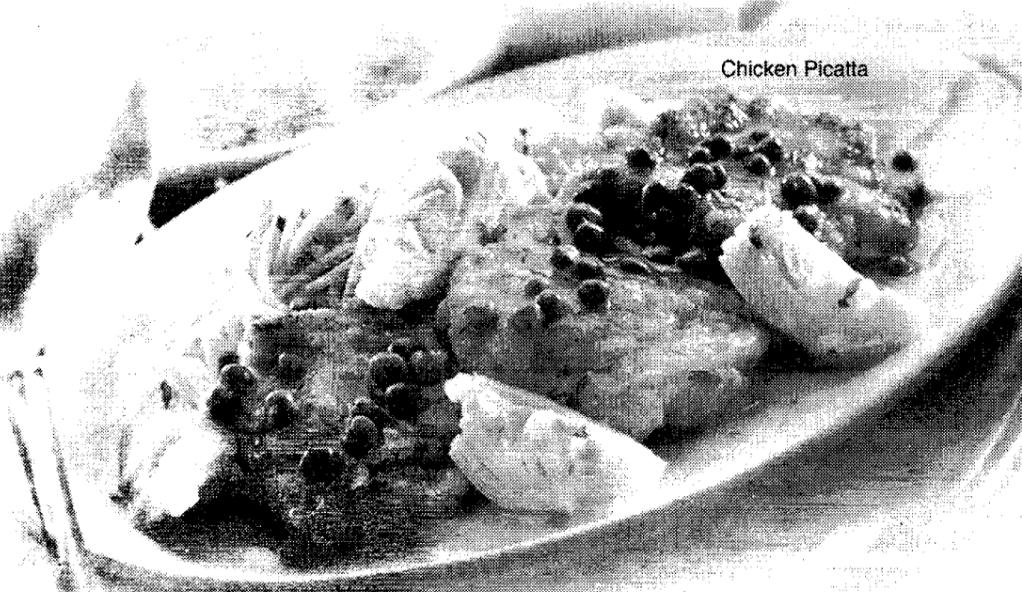
*"You need to send the message that this is not tolerated."*

**Brent Sticker  
Marine Capt.**



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## Football: Raise your helmets

Sophomore offensive lineman Sam Young walked to the northwest corner of Notre Dame Stadium last week after yet another home loss and did something that has largely been forgotten or ignored by the football team this season.

He raised his golden helmet in salute to the student section.

Young then turned to his teammates and urged them to do the same. No one raised an arm.

In news conferences the past few weeks, reporters have frequently asked players and coaches what student support means to them. Every answer is the same: We appreciate that the students still have our backs.

So why doesn't the team perform this simple gesture of thanks to a student body that has supported them throughout the worst season in school history?

It's such a small thing — what in the past was a formality at the end of every game. But to students, it's not small, it's not meaningless and it's not something they can ignore.

It's about respect. After every loss, students have stood and cheered while the team trudges into the corner for the alma mater. It's their version of the helmet raise, showing appreciation for their classmates' efforts on the field. But it goes unanswered, and it's insulting.

"All I know is at the end of the game, win or lose, we walk

over to that corner, and I look at the student body, especially after you lose a game, and I can't believe they're all there. I really just can't believe they're all there," coach Charlie Weis said Tuesday.

But yet for all of Weis' admiration of student loyalty, why hasn't he stressed to his players the importance of the helmet salute? He spent four years in the student section. He should know.

The seniors and fifth-years know what it's like to lose frequently, but in the last two years they know what it's like to win. Yet it took an underclassman in Young to recognize that even in defeat the team must show class and acknowledge the students.

Yes, for the past several seasons, the team raised its helmets after losses, but that was done with the confidence that next week would bring a victory.

That is not the case this year, when each week has seemed more tenuous than the next.

It would have been the difficult, but right thing to do after every loss. The team, however, failed.

But whether the team loses Saturday to Duke or wins and takes a step forward toward next season, it can gain much by returning the respect the students have shown all season. It takes one simple movement.

Raise the helmets.

### THE OBSERVER Editorial

### LETTER TO THE EDITOR

## Win one for the seniors

For us seniors, Notre Dame football in our four years has been an emotional rollercoaster. We were together the first time we watched Notre Dame football as a student body, in stunned disbelief that we could lose to Brigham Young. We were together in Rock's House, or should I say on Rock's House, the following Saturday with a field-storming win over Michigan. We've sat through a cold, rainy, extra-point loss to Boston College, been called "Tiger Bait" God knows how many times, shook down thunder on 4th-and-9 and stood in the field in the endzone as just a few seconds were put back on the clock for USC in '05. But we've also weathered the cold and wind to see one of the greatest games at Michigan State, fallen all over each other at the end of UCLA, felt the adrenaline with a promise of a "nasty" football team and witnessed a gravity-defying jump on a "pass right" play that we later found out was bigger than everything Notre Dame football stands for.

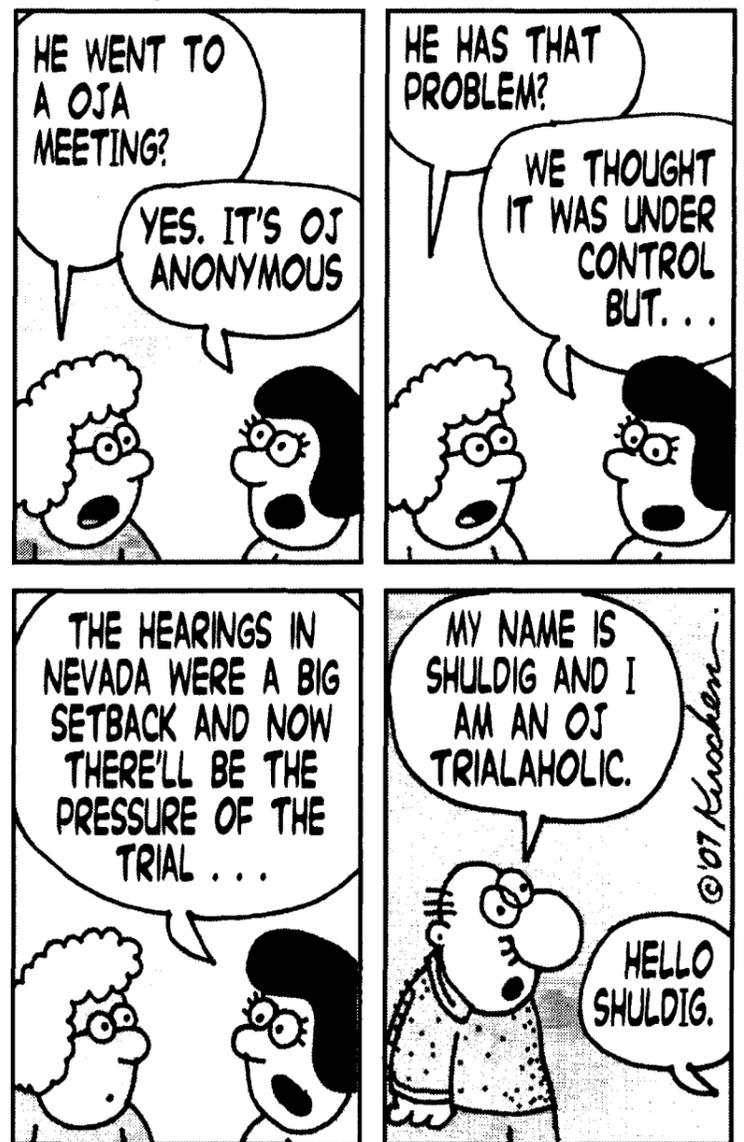
If I have learned anything from Notre Dame football in four years, it's that we never give up. If I can paraphrase a quote from Blue-Gray Sky, a team puts together a few good plays to make a good half, and two good halves to make a win. String a few of those wins together, and you have a win streak. String a few of those together, and you have dominance. But at the end of it all, it started with those few good plays, two good halves, and one good game. This season may be a loss, but one win can start us on a track that us seniors can look back upon and say, "I was there when it started." Send us out right.

Go Irish, Beat Duke, Stanford, too.

John Neiner  
senior  
off campus  
Nov. 15

### EDITORIAL CARTOON

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### Observer Poll

What are you more excited about?

	Votes	Percentage
Notre Dame Basketball	349	58%
Notre Dame Hockey	250	42%



Basketball

Hockey

### QUOTE OF THE DAY

"We are what we repeatedly do."

Aristotle  
Greek philosopher

# Democrats' language lacks rhetorical rhythm

While the technical intricacies of languages around the globe are similar, use of language to politically persuade others is a rhetorical art form. In politics, an argument must be persuasive, visual and memorable.

Focus groups have taught pollsters that a favorable reaction begins with a convincing and memorable message. Presently, the Democratic leadership on Capitol Hill lacks the adeptness of language that former Republican Speaker Newt Gingrich could coin more than a decade ago when he wrestled away control of Congress.

In all fairness to the Democrats, they are not void of successful messages. Their "pay as you go" requirement for the budget mandates that any increase in federal spending must be offset within a balanced budget. But unlike Gingrich, Democrats are slow to create rhetorical phrases that better describe their actions and policies.

Notable Republican wordsmiths Karl Rove and Karen Hughes are famous for parsing a single word such as "oil" to "energy," and "parents" to "moms and dads" to better solicit support. They helped the president clarify our run-up to the war in Iraq by describing Saddam Hussein as a "grave and gathering threat," not an outright threat. These Republican operatives were so skillful at

their craft that they even recycled the intense fearful emotions elicited from "al Qaeda" by proclaiming the existence of "al Qaeda-like" forces.

Democrats must remember that successful rhetoric defines the argument — or in their case, redefines established Republican messages. Last year, this writer managed the Democratic message delivery for a congressional race in a district that voted out its Republican incumbent. Our strategy focused on using words like "welfare" and "politicians," which elicited strong emotions from Republicans who had defined them decades ago. In our campaign, the Democrat could immediately relate to Republican voters by proposing that it was time to "take the Iraqi politicians off of American welfare" and let only Iraqis guard the Green Zone. That way, when "Iraq's politicians" put their own lives on the line, they would be more serious to politically compromise to form a government.

Last week the U.S. House of Representatives passed the Employment Non-Discrimination Act (ENDA), legislation designed to protect workers from discrimination based on sexual orientation. Liberal California Democrat and House Education and Labor Committee Chairman George Miller missed a chance to redefine "special rights" during the floor debate. Traditionally, conservatives label any effort which they oppose that specifically addresses discrimination as a "special right," implying that the public is somehow denied such extraordinary protections. Conservatives labeled the Equal Rights

Amendment of the 1970s a "special right" for women, claiming that women are already covered like the rest of American men under the Constitution. In the 1990s, conservatives once again ignored the fact that a segment of society faced glass ceilings and unjustified incriminations by labeling anti-discrimination laws based on sexual orientation a "special right." Once more they claimed that gays are covered like the rest of heterosexuals under the Constitution.

Conservatives dug into their classic rhetorical bag for the ENDA legislation last week. Indiana Congressman Mark Souder claimed that ENDA "set up another class of discrimination, once again pitting sexual discrimination up against the right to practice religious liberty." Souder asserted that faith-based organizations with fidelity clauses against extramarital sex or one man-one woman marriage clauses had no "defense of marriage" in the bill to follow their missions. He argued that by not specifically indicating that current marriage laws apply under this legislation, organizations which "have any kind of ministry goal and aren't a profoundly a Christian organization that falls under the very narrow definition of the last amendment, you're in deep trouble here."

Miller countered that ENDA only prevents employers from firing a perfectly qualified employee based on sexual orientation. "In fact," Miller said, "I don't see anything anywhere in the text of ENDA that discusses extramarital sex, and I can't understand how Mr. Souder's

come to this conclusion about extramarital sex. But the entire issue is just a diversion from what ENDA actually does." Astonishingly, Miller concluded that he would actually support the Souder amendment because it would not change the bill, citing sections of the legislation that specifically guaranteed existing state law.

However, Miller missed the perfect opportunity to redefine the long-standing conservative use of "special rights." He could have said to Souder that this was a time when Souder actually advocated a special right for something already protected under law. Miller should have emphasized that Souder's defense of marriage was no different than defending women in the 1970s and that a special right seems to be in the eye of the beholder.

Trivial as the parsing of language may seem, its effects on the American public can determine which political philosophy and party governs our lives. As time passes, Democrats will become more skillful during this congressional session. For if they do not establish their rhetorical rhythm, a "mushroom cloud" of voter discontent will declare "mission accomplished" next year.

*Gary Caruso, Notre Dame '73, is a communications strategist who served as a legislative and public affairs director in President Clinton's administration. His column appears every other Friday. He can be contacted at [hotline@aol.com](mailto:hotline@aol.com)*

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



**Gary Caruso**

*Capitol Comments*

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### More to life than sex

I'm writing in response to all the uproar over the "Gay? Go to Hell" shirts, especially Nikki Huiras's letter ("Re-evaluating 'teachings' on homosexuality," Nov. 15). First, let me begin by saying that the people wearing these shirts were executing an abominable act. It's appalling that there are people on this campus who actually seek for another human being to be condemned to hell. The Church in its holy authority does not even condemn people to hell, recognizing that God alone has that ability. We, as Christians, are called to love. Wishing that someone be damned for eternity, away from the loving embrace of God, is entirely contrary to what Christianity would ever hope to accomplish.

After reading the responses to Mary Daly's excellent letter concerning the Church's teaching on homosexuality ("Campus, Catholicism, and homosexuality," Nov. 13), it became apparent to me that a deep misunderstanding is present among those who chastise the Church's position on the issue. It becomes very easy to separate a homosexual person from the homosexual acts when we realize that sexuality is not the quintessence of human joy. A human can live a completely fulfilling, actualized, and happy life without utilizing his sexuality. It is common to find those who believe that homosexual intercourse is acceptable, agreeing that masturbation and pornography are natural, even healthy, outlets of a person's sexuality. The contrary is true. Chastity breeds greater respect for oneself and others, especially those whom the person loves romantically. The Church recognizes this fact, which is precisely why priestly celibacy is such a facet of church life. Thus, the Church, through encouraging homosexuals to a life of celibacy, is working toward bringing them greater happiness, rather than denying them enjoyment.

Additionally, I would like to point out that we are perfectly able to decide that actions are evil, but not people. Indeed, in every case when bad actions are present, we are called to have even greater mercy, forgiveness, and love for the person. Why else is the phrase "Hate the sin, not the sinner?" so familiar to us on a Catholic campus? Indeed, in almost every circumstance, there are mitigating factors diminishing the person's culpability. Nonetheless, we as Christians and as members of a functioning society have the ability and right to say that a particular action is against moral code. Without this ability, we could have no law. The moral relativism that questions our ability to decide that extra-marital sexual activity is wrong also, when consistently understood, would lead us to question our ability to say that theft, rape, and murder are wrong, if for no other reason than that the people committing these crimes feel fulfilled by doing them.

Nathan Loyd  
 junior  
 Keough Hall  
 Nov. 15

### Normalcy based on perception

The vast majority of human beings are heterosexual. (Surprising, I know!) In fact, it is estimated that only three percent of the population are born homosexual. We are a minority, but we are not abnormal.

Normality is a funny thing. Social norms are constructed by society, and those who adhere most closely to those norms run society. They are created by those in power and are used to sustain their dominance. That leaves us with a whole bunch of white, upper class, heterosexual men telling women not to vote, telling blacks not to go to school, and telling homosexuals that they should "Go to Hell." Homosexuality is uncommon. Rarity, however, does not imply that something is disordered.

Homosexuality is a product of natural forces, both biological and social. Variation is a normal part of the natural world. It is a natural, normal variation. The Church made it abnormal only through its teachings. What all this means is that homosexuality is as normal as heterosexuality. It's just less common. The only reason people think homosexuality is bad is because society tells them it is. We call this social ideology "heteronormativity," a word that refers to the marginalization and devaluing of the homosexual and homosocial experience. The Catholic Church reveals itself at a heteronormative institution when it perpetuates this myth

that homosexuality is "deviant" and "disordered." Heterosexuals are pretty much in charge of everything, in particular the government and the Church. (But, not MTV!) Heterosexuals shape, construct and define what is normal and "ordered." The Catholic Church presupposes that the natural "order" of things is reproduction. They're heteronormative. The Church ignores that three percent of the population was created in God's image to have sex and fall in love with people of the same gender. Only if you ignore that many sexual practices are not intended for reproduction can you reduce the purpose of sexuality down to reproduction.

The heterosexual patriarchy of the Church ignores minorities and oppresses them through its construction of normality. If the Church was run by a bunch of gay men, then the natural "order" of things might have been Project Runway on Wednesdays and 80's dance parties on Fridays. But, it wasn't. So instead the natural "order" of our society is that women don't get to be priests and that homosexuals are "disordered," at least from the myopic perspective of an archaic, inflexible religious institution.

Dan Savage  
 sophomore  
 Vassar College  
 Nov. 14

Submit a Letter to the Editor at  
[www.ndsmcobserver.com](http://www.ndsmcobserver.com)



By MICHELLE FORDICE  
Assistant Scene Editor

It is every foodie's favorite. It is instructional, entertaining, and eternally perky. It is what reminds you that to-die-for dishes really exist, even if you are stuck in the middle of the semester despairing over the dining hall. It is the Food Network. And you really begin to understand its brilliance when you're hungry.

After capturing your attention with skilled chefs preparing mouth-watering dishes, the Food Network offers thousands of delicious recipes to try yourself.

Supplemented by its Web site, which allows the curious to search by ingredient, the channel inspires new and old cooks to try something different. By bringing professional chefs out of their kitchens and into viewers' homes, the Food Network offers a glance into how good food really can be.

It is astounding how some of those chefs have achieved star status. Emeril Lagasse, one of the first Food Network stars whose catch phrase "BAM!" quickly integrated itself into popular culture, has 10 award-winning restaurants across the country. Bobby Flay's "Mesa Grill" concept has developed into restaurants, products and cookbooks. In addition to her Food Network cooking shows, Rachael Ray has an Emmy-award winning talk show on CBS. Nearly all of the chefs have their own cookbooks, and many developed their own lines of kitchen supplies. Nevertheless, the real star is the food itself.

Of course, sometimes what looks easy on TV isn't always so. Rachael Ray has some excellent recipes, but very few that are actually "30 minute meals," unless you too have a staff to do all of your cutting and chopping. And some of the ingredients these chefs can access are not readily found in my grocery store, or within the capabilities of my wallet. Ever

picked up saffron? Be wary of spices sold in grams, college student, and put it back right now.

But who says you need to always bother with that whole actually cooking thing anyway? One afternoon my mother and I developed a severe craving for fish and chips after flipping past the Food Network. Did we mess around with all that hot oil? Of course not! We just let our other good friend Google save the day and locate us a restaurant in the area that served the dish we longed for and

discovered one of our favorite restaurants as a result.

Not into the instructional shows? The Food Network splits its programming into two sections, "The Food Network in the Kitchen" and "Food Network Nighttime." Ranging from cooking competitions to behind-the-scenes looks and reality shows, the

*It is the Food Network. And you really begin to understand its brilliance when you're hungry.*

evening programming includes favorites such as "Iron Chef," "Dinner: Impossible," "Unwrapped," "\$40 a Day," and "Ace of Cakes." The most famous is likely the original "Iron Chef," a Japanese show dubbed over in English. The show, which features chefs battling to create the best meal out of a surprise ingredient, is not only intriguing for the resulting dishes but also hilarious for the campy and eccentric feel.

The Food Network does not look like it intends to stop expanding any time soon, either. In 2000, it launched Food Network Canada, with its own set of hosts and programs. In addition to marketing some of the products of its personalities, department stores have begun to carry Food Network labeled kitchen supplies.

But really, don't you want to watch just so that you can imagine eating it all? And now it even comes in HD. So, grab your E.V.O.O (extra-virgin olive oil, of course), and kick it up a notch with the Food Network.

*The views expressed in this column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer. Contact Michelle Fordice at mfordice@nd.edu*

# Charmparticles overcomes produce co

By ANALISE LIPARI  
Assistant Scene Editor

Calling to mind 90s alt-rock groups like Blind Melon and the Cranberries while still feeling as modern as bands like Muse, the Portland, Oregon-based band Charmparticles has created a compelling mix of strong guitar hooks and ethereal vocals on its first full-length album, "Alive in the Hot Spell." The band has only a handful of prior releases, and this one feels just right. There's something almost addictive about this album, and hopefully it isn't the last Charmparticles creation to hit the Billboard charts.

Originally, the Charmparticles lineup centered on the harmonious pairing of singer/bassist Pamela Rooney and fellow vocalist Adam Wayne. With Wayne's recent departure, however, Rooney's vocals are rounded out by drummer Nathaneal Merrill and guitarist Sarah Fitzgerald. Despite any lineup changes, the band's sound doesn't feel uneven or shaky, and Rooney's vocals are more than strong enough to carry the weight of each song.

The album opens with "Black Braid," a track whose unassuming first notes feel more like a lullaby than anything else. Combined with Rooney's soft soprano, the slight electronica sound of "Black Braid" is dreamlike and seductive, an aesthetic that continues in many of the album's other tracks. With the first track, Charmparticles is slowly drawing in its listeners for an hour-long ride through an alt-rock dreamland.

The second track, "Gold Plated Shot," keeps you guessing as it establishes the album: rock-type riffs with an off-the-beaten-musical-path feel. The song's alternating tone and sweeping vocals are juxtaposed against Fitzgerald's guitar work.

## Alive in the Hot Spell Charmparticles

Label: Terrestrial Records

Recommended Tracks: "Black Braid," "Plated Shot," "Relapse," "Ablation Cas"



JULIE GRISANTI | Observer Graphic



# IRISH INSIDER

Friday, November 16, 2007

INTERHALL

## Battle for the Chapel



Keenan and Stanford share a building.

On Sunday, they will share the Stadium.

Photo illustrated by JULIE GRISANTI/The Observer

## MEN'S INTERHALL

## Rivalry renewed: Keenan, Stanford meet again

By GRIFFIN DASSATTI  
Sports Writer

Sunday will be the Battle for the Chapel, not to mention the Interhall Championship.

No. 1 seed Stanford takes on No. 3 seed Keenan at 1:30 p.m. in Notre Dame Stadium in a rematch of the last game of the regular season, where Stanford beat Keenan 12-8.

Living in the same building has created a rivalry between the two halls. Stanford senior captain Rob Huth said tension has hovered around the Griffins this year.

"We feel like people have underestimated us throughout the season," Huth said. "And that's been a big motivator for us. No one gives us a chance, so we kind of play with that chip on our shoulder, and it's worked to this point. Keenan's always viewed us as a little brother so we want go out there and give those guys a tough game."

"Tough" is certainly one word that could describe Stanford's win over the Knights in the regular season, a game that Huth said helped his team both in terms of confidence and in the road to the championship game.

"Up until that point, we hadn't beaten [Keenan] in three years, and getting that win was big for us," Huth said. "Plus it gave us the one-seed in the playoffs, which has helped. So it turned out to be a pretty important win for us."

Huth said the ability of the Griffins defense to fend off Keenan's powerful running attack was the determining factor in the win.

Sophomore Pat Burns, the Knights' captain, said the loss has dictated the practices this past week, with the

team focusing on bolstering its already strong offensive line to make holes for the thunder-and-lightning tandem of senior fullback Joe Pappas and junior halfback Alex Gonzalez.

While the loss to their next-door rival did hurt, Burns also said his team's experience will give the Knights the all-important mental edge. Keenan has made the playoffs in each of the past three years, winning a championship in 2004 and losing in the finals in 2005.

While there will be some nerves, Burns said, the extremely experienced juniors and seniors on the team will be confident and calm.

"[The upperclassmen] have definitely helped a lot," Burns said. "They've told us what to expect. They know what's going on this whole week and that's a little bit of an edge [we have] over Stanford. The [underclassmen] won't be as taken up and they'll be ready to play."

On the other side of the ball, Huth conceded a lack of experience, but also said his team has seen its fair share of pressure situations. One example was the play that won the Griffins their first round game against Dillon.

Trailing 3-0 after the Big Red hit a field goal in its first overtime possession, Huth decided to go for it on fourth-and-goal. The decision worked out beautifully: Junior safety Dave Costanzo stepped in at quarterback to hit freshman tight end Tom Smith for the game-winning touchdown.

The recent experience in the "pressure-cooker" along with a good team attitude, Huth said, should take care of most of the nerves on the Griffins' sideline.

"Overall the team's pretty laid back," Huth said. "I don't see a prob-

lem as far as being nervous. For the seniors, it being the last time putting on the pads will be a big [source of] motivation. For everyone else, there will be motivation in the fact that you never know when you'll get back there. There'll be jitters; I'd be lying if I said there weren't any, but they'll definitely be a more positive factor than a negative."

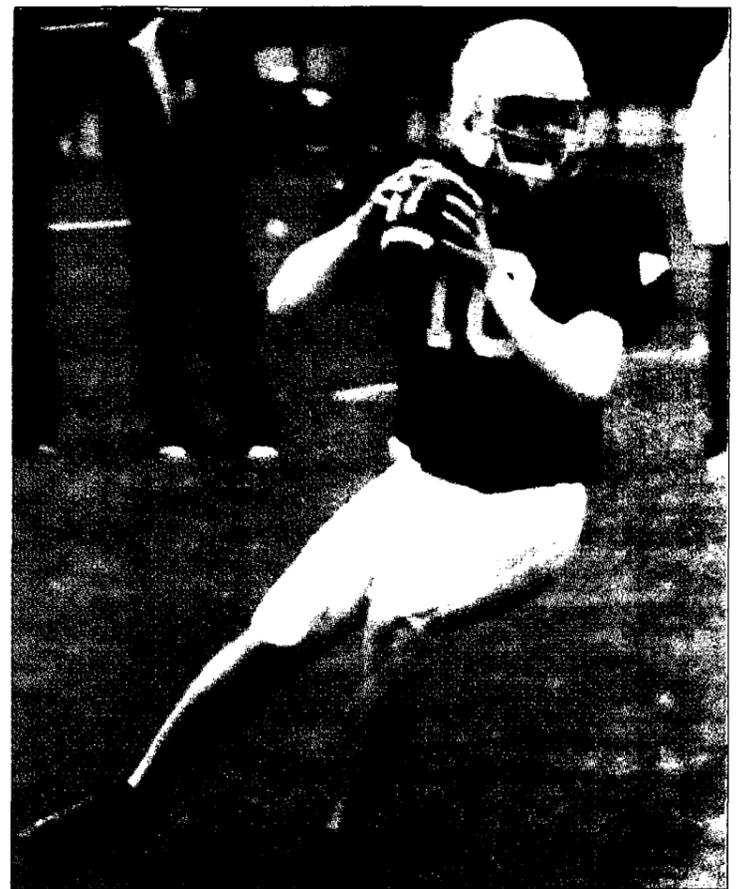
In terms of game strategy, both teams have their ideas fairly well-formulated from the season. Burns said most of the Knights' success this year stems from their defensive prowess. He pointed to Keenan's 7-0 semifinal victory over Siegfried as an example of the defense making things easy on the offense.

The game was so close early because the offense was a little sluggish that game," he said. "[But] our defense was playing so well we didn't think we needed to take any big risks on offense. A lot of credit goes to the Siegfried defense, too. They played a great game."

Huth said the Griffins are looking to stick to the same plan from earlier in the year to beat Keenan — stop the run and force the opponent into passing situations. With that in mind, Stanford's practices have focused on cleaning up some coverage issues the coaches noticed in the teams' first meeting.

Other than that, the captain said he'll be looking to Costanzo (a former varsity walk-on), Smith, senior receiver Matt Frankenfeld, and senior defensive end Matt Templemire to step up like they have all year.

He added that a win over a team like Keenan will go beyond rivalry as something of a signature victory to cap off a perfect season for the Griffins.



ALLISON AMBROSE/The Observer

Knights freshman quarterback Brian Castello drops back to pass during Keenan's 7-0 win over Siegfried on Nov. 11.

"Even before you get on the field and play them it's a rivalry between the dorms," Huth said. "We always have to hear about how they're the better dorm and how they've been better than us before. ... They're kind of the benchmark team on campus. They won [the championship my]

freshman year and they were in the stadium [my] sophomore year. They're the team that's the barometer for where you're at as a program."

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## Injuries force players to become coordinators

By MATT GAMBER  
Sports Writer

When seniors Matt Gibson and Rick Loesing underwent surgeries this summer to repair basketball-related leg injuries, they both thought their Interhall football careers were over.

They were right — sort of.

Keenan's Gibson and Stanford's Loesing have both assumed the all-important position of offensive coordinator for their respective teams and will square off, albeit from the sidelines, in the Interhall championship on the line Sunday in the Stadium.

Gibson tore a ligament in each ankle playing Interhall football and Bookstore Basketball and required

a pair of surgeries, one in May and one in August, to fix the damage.

Though he realized he'd be unable to suit up this fall, he "just wasn't ready to leave the guys [he] had spent three years playing with," he said.

Loesing started at running back and was Stanford's captain a year ago, but he tore his ACL in a pick-up game of hoops this summer and underwent surgery shortly thereafter. He had an eye on this year's roster, however, knowing it'd be "a real solid team" of which he'd still want to be a part.

"Last year, my impact was based more on my actual performance," Loesing said. "I'm relying now not on my physical ability to help the team, but more on my intellectual talents and my ability to see a

defense and make decisions based on what other teams are throwing at us."

For both rookie coaches, stepping into the pressure-packed and oft-criticized role certainly didn't come without its challenges: namely, an utter lack of experience.

"Does Madden count?" Gibson said with a laugh when asked about his previous play-calling history. "This is my first time calling plays, and there's definitely been a huge learning curve. I've said you've got to have mistake-free football; well, you've also got to have mistake-free coaching. I've definitely made my mistakes this year, but I'm getting better and the team's behind me, which helps a lot."

Despite some early struggles, Gibson and Loesing have each found their groove; if they hadn't, their teams wouldn't still be playing. Both contrasted their time on the field to their new roles on the sidelines.

"Now I have to see the big picture and focus on what's happening with everyone on the offense," Gibson said. "There's so many little things you have to focus on that you don't even realize when you're in the heat of the game. When you really sit back and watch, there's just so much going on that every play can depend on one little thing."

Loesing said he's becoming "more and more comfortable every week."

"Having played [for Stanford], I already knew what had worked for us in the past and what our strengths were," he said. "So that definitely has given me an insight into what kind of plays to call."

Stanford senior captain Rob Huth called Loesing an asset to a team that has lacked organization and leadership in recent years but has been rejuvenated thanks to a strong group of senior leaders and Loesing's steady sideline presence.

"It's a lot harder than people realize to call plays in a game," Huth said. "You've got to have the situational awareness of where you are on the field and in the game ... then you have to get the right play-call in. He had a bit of a slow start, but he's doing a real solid job for us."

While both Gibson and Loesing were forced to trade in their helmets and shoulder pads for clipboards and headsets (make that hand signals — it is still Interhall, after all) before they may have liked, they are now living every Monday Morning Quarterback or NCAA '08 player's dream of calling their own game — with real players, in real time, and with real results.

"This isn't a video game," Gibson said of what makes coaching a "great but stressful" experience. "Every decision matters because these are real people you're calling plays for. I can't reset the game for all 24 of my players if I make a bad play call. One mistake can take you out of the game. It's a pressure-packed situation, but I thrive on it."

In Sunday's big game, both coaches will face emotions that will be running higher than ever before. Loesing's key will be to avoid getting "flustered" when presented with new looks from a Keenan defense sure to make adjustments after the Griffins topped the Knights 12-8 to close out the regular season.

"We'll have to see what Keenan does," said Loesing, whose offense got strong play from junior quarterback Brian Salvi and senior tailback Tregg Duerson in the win over Keenan. "I'll have to talk to the offense after the first series and see what's looking good."

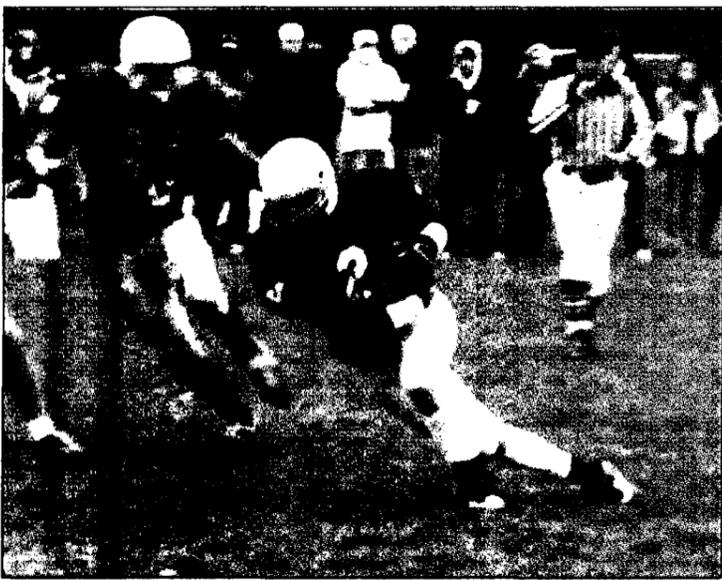
Gibson's offensive philosophy will remain the same as it has all season: Run the football. Juniors Alex Gonzalez and Brett Wilps should see plenty of action, as both Keenan running backs pose viable threats out of the backfield.

"We're focused on what got us here, and that's running the ball and playing good defense," Gibson said. "We like to control the game on both sides of the ball, sustaining drives on offense and holding teams on defense."

So while the game plan is to approach the championship game just like any other, Gibson knows better. Having played center on Keenan teams that made trips to the Stadium in his first two years — including a championship in his freshman season — Gibson is looking to end his Interhall career with what he calls "a return to normalcy": in other words, reclaiming the title the Knights last won three years ago.

"There's no feeling like walking out onto that field, whether it be as a player or now as a coach," Gibson said. "It's really a great feeling to still be involved with the game and know that I can still play a role in the success of the team. I wouldn't trade that for anything, except for maybe the ability to play in this game."

Contact Matt Gamber at [mgamber@nd.edu](mailto:mgamber@nd.edu)



ALLISON AMBROSE/The Observer

Junior running back Andres Villalba turns upfield during Keenan's 7-0 win over Siegfried on Nov. 11.

## WOMEN'S INTERHALL

## Cavanaugh challenges dominant Welsh Fam

By SAM WERNER  
Sports Writer

Welsh Family and Cavanaugh took different routes to the Stadium, but both will enter Sunday's game with only one goal in mind.

"Our season will be complete when we win," Welsh Family captain Kelly Bushelle said.

"We're going to come out from the beginning and play with all we've got," Cavanaugh captain Lizzy Brown said.

It may take all the Chaos have to defeat the top-seeded Whirlwinds, who are 8-0 this season and have throttled their previous three opponents by a combined score of 59-0. Bushelle, though, refused to focus on her team's impressive record.

"We're really proud of what we've done," Bushelle said. "But we're not thinking about the past. We're just thinking about Cavanaugh on Sunday."

The No. 6 seed Chaos have already shown that they're capable of an upset, defeating No. 2 seed Pangborn 18-6 in the first round of the playoffs. They followed that performance with a 12-0 win over Farley in the semifinals. Brown was confident her team won't be intimidated by the Whirlwinds.

"You can only focus on the seeds so much," Brown said. "On Sunday at noon, records aren't going to matter. Whoever plays harder is going to come out with a win."

The Chaos usually receive a strong performance from its

defense, which has come up big in their first two playoff games. In the semifinals, Cavanaugh constantly forced Farley into fourth-and-long situations and forced several key turnovers, a trend it hopes to continue on Sunday.

"Turnovers are absolutely essential to victory," Brown said. "We're going to be looking for interceptions and hopefully our great defensive line can get some big plays for negative yards."

The Chaos defense will certainly be tested against Welsh Family's offense, led by junior quarterback Jenny Gargula. Gargula has thrown four touchdown passes in the playoffs, despite playing with a torn bicep. Bushelle was reluctant to attribute her team's success to one side of the ball despite the fact that Welsh Family scored 21 points per game this season.

"We've really worked well on everything, both offense and defense," Bushelle said. "I can't really pick out one thing that's been the reason for our success."

Cavanaugh will be the first new opponent the Whirlwinds face in the playoffs after already defeating both Lyons and Pasquerilla West in the regular season. Bushelle wasn't concerned about the lack of familiarity.

"We're not really worried [that we haven't played them before]," Bushelle said. "They haven't played us either, so it goes both ways."

The Chaos may not have seen Welsh Family's talented squad

in person yet this season, but Brown certainly knows what her team is going up against on Sunday.

"They've got a talented quarterback and a number of great receivers," Brown said. "It's going to come down to getting acclimated after the first couple of plays and seeing what we can exploit."

Since they have never played each other before, both captains focused on the importance of making strategy changes during the game to take advantage of any holes in their opponent's game plan.

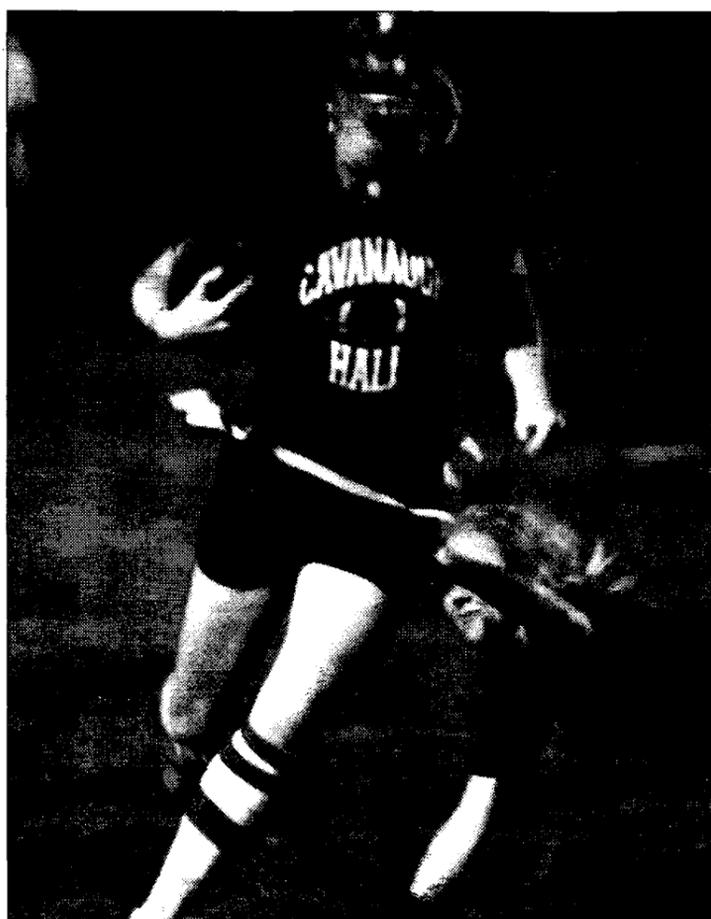
"We're not going to make huge adjustments," Bushelle said. "But the key is just seeing what Cavanaugh brings and exploiting their weaknesses."

It may take both teams a while to settle in to the new atmosphere of Notre Dame Stadium before they can worry about strategy. No player on the Welsh Family team has ever played in the Stadium before. The senior class for Cavanaugh reached the Stadium in 2004, its freshman year, falling to Walsh in the finals.

"Fortunately we were there in 2004," Brown said. "We know what it's like in the Stadium, so we're looking at it like just another game."

Bushelle acknowledged her team's championship inexperience, but did not think it would have an adverse effect on its chances Sunday.

"Even though no one our team has played in the Stadium before, we'll definitely come out focused and ready," Bushelle



YUE WU/The Observer

Sophomore Erin Dolan evades a tackle and runs upfield during Cavanaugh's 14-13 loss to Howard on Oct. 2.

said.

Brown also emphasized the importance of a strong start to gain momentum.

"It's really going to start with coming out and playing hard in the first couple of minutes," Brown said. "It's going to be a

tough, competitive game. We've all put in the work and are looking forward to Sunday."

Kickoff is at noon Sunday in Notre Dame Stadium.

Contact Sam Werner at [swerner@nd.edu](mailto:swerner@nd.edu)

## Coach's battle with cancer inspires players



COLEMAN COLLINS/The Observer

Junior quarterback Jenni Gargula prepares to throw during Welsh Family's 13-0 win over Pasquerilla West on Nov. 11.

By JARED JEDICK  
Sports Writer

Cavanaugh coach Aidan Fitzgerald credits football with saving his life.

"Had it not been for an injury I sustained while playing Interhall football, I would never have taken the CT scan that offered the first clue that I had stage II cancer," Fitzgerald said.

Telling the girls about his struggle with testicular cancer two years ago was one of the most trying ordeals Fitzgerald has gone through. He had tried to keep the mood light.

"But I realized that it was not a joke this time," said Fitzgerald, a sophomore.

Almost a year later, having undergone two surgeries, nine weeks of chemotherapy, and hundreds of needles, Fitzgerald made his return to Notre Dame and to football.

Now he is back on the sidelines of Cavanaugh, inspiring the Cinderella story of this season. And Cavanaugh wants this victory for its coach and the team. Cavanaugh credits much of its success to Fitzgerald, its coaching staff, and senior captain Tarah Brown.

"Both the coaches and the cap-

tains do a great job of reading our team — they always seem to know when to lighten the mood and when to step up the intensity at practice and during games,"

senior center Jill Martini said.

Welsh Fam dealt with some adversity of its own this season.

Welsh Family junior quarterback Jenni Gargula, the Whirlwinds' playmaker, suffered a torn left

(non-throwing) bicep in a car accident over fall break.

Gargula was driving with her boyfriend when the accident occurred.

"My boyfriend was driving, when all of a sudden another car ran a red light," Gargula said. "She hit our car, and in the impact I partially tore the bicep in my left arm."

Gargula's first concern was for her safety and that of her boyfriend. But when the doctors told her that she had a torn bicep, she immediately began to worry if she could play for her team the next week.

"I could not move it at all, and I was in constant pain" Gargula

said.

But the day after, still in agony, Gargula decided she was going to play despite the serious injury.

"I was not sure if I was going to let her play," Welsh Fam coach Mike Kaiser said. "If I thought she was in pain, I was going to pull her."

Welsh Family even prepared back-up quarterback senior Kelly Bushelle to play all week.

"Everyone was pretty bummed. Nobody thought that I would be able to play," Gargula said.

When she unexpectedly started for the Whirlwinds in the first round of the playoffs, the morale boost was immediate.

"I cannot say enough about Jenni," Kaiser said.

Gargula played for most of the game, enduring intense pain in her left arm.

"The pain was worse sometimes than at others," Gargula said. "I just focused on what I was doing, not on the arm. I wanted to get a big enough lead so that I could rest at the end of the game."

When asked why she endured the pain and risked further injury, Kaiser's answer was simple.

"Her stubborn nature," he said. Gargula's answer to the same question was even simpler.

"I hate to lose," she said.

*"The pain was worse sometimes than others. I just focused on what I was doing, not on the arm."*

Jenni Gargula  
Welsh Family quarterback

*"Had it not been for an injury I sustained while playing Interhall football, I never would have taken the CT scan that offered the first clue that I had stage II cancer."*

Aidan Fitzgerald  
Cavanaugh coach

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# IRISH INSIDER

Friday, November 16, 2007

## INTERHALL



## WINDS OF CHAOS

Undefeated Welsh Fam and sixth-seeded Cavanaugh took different paths to the Stadium. Now they meet as equals.

Photo illustration by ALEX CASARINI for IRISHINSIDER.COM

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# Barry Bonds belongs in obscurity

By CHRIS MCGRADY  
Assistant Scene Editor

When Barry Bonds hit his 756th home run on Aug. 7, a 435-foot blast off of Washington Nationals pitcher Mike Bacsik, he passed Hank Aaron as the all-time home run king. It struck me as a shame. Aaron was a model of humility, poise and courage, while Bonds is a big-headed and acidic slugger. It is even more of a shame now, as Barry Bonds was indicted Thursday for perjury and obstruction of justice charges.

Bonds' home run title has always been just a touch fishy. He entered the Major Leagues at 6-foot-2 and about 185 pounds. By 2001, he weighed in at 228 and had gone from a fleet-footed base-stealer to a power-slugger, capable of sweeping any ball off the plate and into the stands.

And now Bonds is not just a cheater, as he already was in the eyes of millions of baseball fans who believe he took steroids. He is also a liar. In fact, the man who owns his record-setting home run ball said

he wants to enter it into the hall of fame with a large asterisk drawn on it. If that happens, Bonds has said, he will never visit the Hall of Fame or have anything to do with the Cooperstown monument again. Fortunately for him, it looks like he won't have to worry about it. That is he won't unless the federal penitentiary has a field trip day.

I think Bonds deserves a different brand of punishment though; jail just doesn't quite do it for me. I suggest the following alternatives.

◆ He takes himself out of the running for anything having to do with the Hall of Fame, and every one of his records and awards is taken away. He spends the rest of his days

going door-to-door and apologizing to every pitcher he hit a juiced-up home run off.

◆ It is a common belief that steroids can cause one's cranium to swell. So I would suggest a form of torture for Bonds. Nothing awful here, but this is my idea — he has to remain standing in one spot until he eventually collapses under the weight of his own swollen head.

◆ He has to spend the rest of his life as the personal servant of each and every person who ever paid to see Bonds play. Need your car washed? Call Bonds. Back rub? Bonds is your man.

*Bonds bothers me more than any other professional sports player. He lied to millions of people and fans. He lied to children. He cheated, and he knew he cheated, and yet he still lied.*

Bonds bothers me more than any other professional sports player. He lied to millions of people and fans. He lied to children. He cheated, and he knew he cheated, and yet he still lied. It's a shame and he doesn't deserve any of the success that baseball has brought him. Which makes me think the best punishment is this: He should be removed from all the record books

and history of baseball guides. His jerseys should be burned or thrown away. The media should never write another article about him again, and he can waste away in obscurity, where he belongs.

I'm glad that Bonds is finally getting his. He has been indicted on four counts of perjury and one obstruction of justice for telling a federal grand jury he did not knowingly use performance enhancing drugs. Our justice system is going to work. Unfortunately for Aaron, it's a few months too late.

*The views expressed in this column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer. Contact Chris McGrady at cmcgrad1@nd.edu*

and for the better. "Gold Plated Shot" is probably the strongest song on "Alive in the Hot Spell," and it sets a solid tone for the rest of the record.

"Relapse," the fifth track, is grounded in the band's alt-rock roots, again employing successfully that stylistic blend of rock guitar and swirling, ethereal vocals. The song dampens the album's mood with an angrier feel — a sentiment that also carries over to the sixth song, "Battersea" — but in a way that allows the album to develop and progress without being limited by its own tropes. "Battersea" takes this development further in its lyrics as well, leaving the listener mournful as Rooney repeatedly sings, "So much wasted."

The lengthy introduction on "Ablation Cascade" lets Fitzgerald impress the listener with her best guitar work, showcasing how critical she is to the band's overall sound.

Other strong tracks include "The Quiet View," the half-instrumental 11th track, "Kohii," and the album's closing song, "Sea of Okhotsk," with traces of Windsor for the Derby, among other influences.

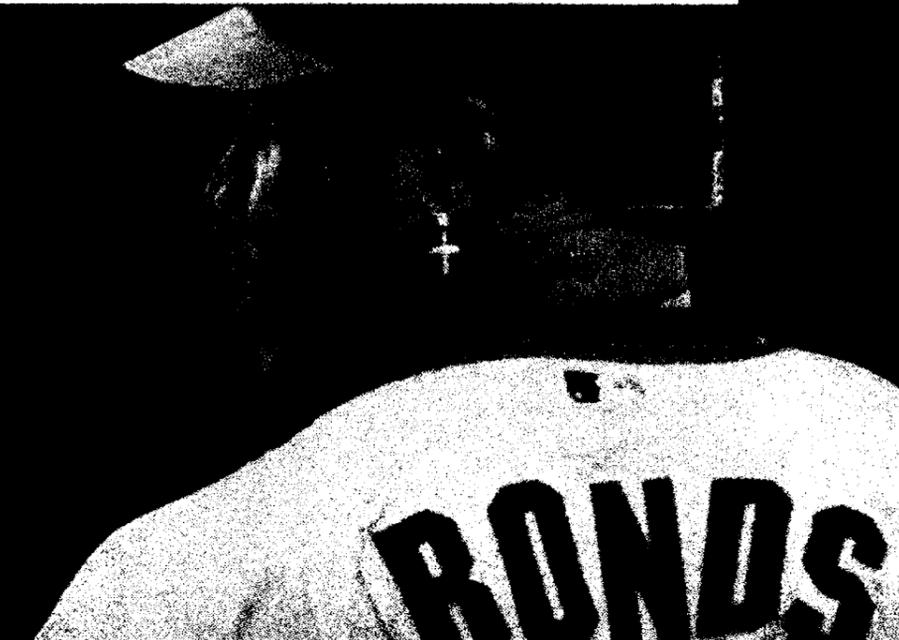
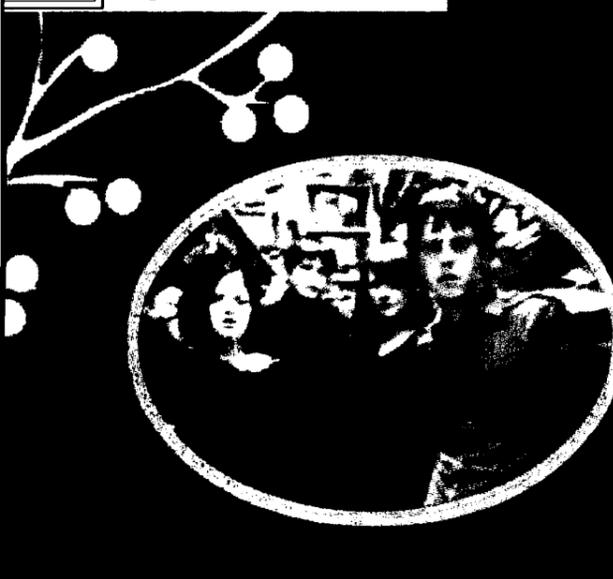
The band began as a different group, Drive, when Wayne was still a member. In time, the lineup and name evolved into the Charmparticles of today, which Rooney chose to keep in spite of Wayne's departure. While "Alive in the Hot Spell" is arguably a solid contribution to the music scene, Rooney acknowledges that climbing to the top hasn't always been easy.

"Oh yeah. It's really easy to be starry-eyed when you're 21," Rooney said in a recent interview with Portland magazine Willamette Week, "and you're finally playing a gig at that venue you always wanted to play. I remember thinking in the Drive days, 'Someone's gonna come along and sign us and everybody in the world is gonna love us.' Then, after the first couple labels don't call back, you go, 'Oh, so this is what people were talking about.'"

Rooney and Co. can easily set aside any fears with this latest release. "Alive in the Hot Spell" is an impressive first full-length album, and it's likely that industry insiders and casual fans alike will be calling back Charmparticles for a while.

Contact Analise Lipari at  
alipari@nd.edu

"Gold Plated Shot"



## MLB

## A-Rod's \$350 million demand becomes \$275 million deal

10-year contract will include bonus for breaking career home run record

Associated Press

NEW YORK — Alex Rodriguez and the New York Yankees have agreed to the outline of a record \$275 million, 10-year contract, a deal that potentially would allow him to earn millions more if he sets the career home run record.

The amount of the guaranteed money was revealed by a person familiar with the negotiations who spoke Thursday on condition of anonymity because the deal hasn't been finalized. A-Rod and his wife met Wednesday in Tampa, Fla., with brothers Hal and Hank Steinbrenner, but the parameters of the agreement were set in place last weekend.

"The meeting was a final get-together," Yankees senior vice president Hank Steinbrenner said. "He wanted to make sure myself and my brother knew that he was sincere and serious."

The Yankees still must draft

the agreement with Rodriguez's agent, Scott Boras. Asked whether the only remaining details were putting the deal on paper, Steinbrenner responded: "pretty much so."

Boras wasn't a part of the negotiations, in which Goldman Sachs managing directors John Mallory and Gerald Cardinale conducted shuttle diplomacy.

"They were the go-betweens, initially," Steinbrenner said. "That's how he reached out to us."

The Yankees were notified by Boras on Oct. 28 that Rodriguez was opting out of the final three seasons of his \$252 million, 10-year contract — the previous record — and becoming a free agent. New York maintained then that it no longer would negotiate with A-Rod because the decision eliminated a \$21.3 million subsidy from Texas that was negotiated in the 2004 trade.

About a week later, A-Rod

contacted Mallory, a friend who works in private wealth management in Goldman's Los Angeles office. Rodriguez knew the Yankees have a close relationship with the investment bank, which was instrumental in the launch of the team's YES Network.

Mallory called Cardinale, who works in the merchant banking section in New York and helped finance the network. Cardinale in turn got in touch with Yankees president Randy Levine.

A-Rod and the Yankees exchanged proposals via the bankers, and the deal gradually was framed in about a dozen telephone calls.

The sides still are working on putting together a provision that would allow Rodriguez to share revenue created by his pursuit of the career home run record held by Barry Bonds, who was indicted Thursday on perjury and obstruction charges. A-Rod has 518 homers, 24 shy of the mark.

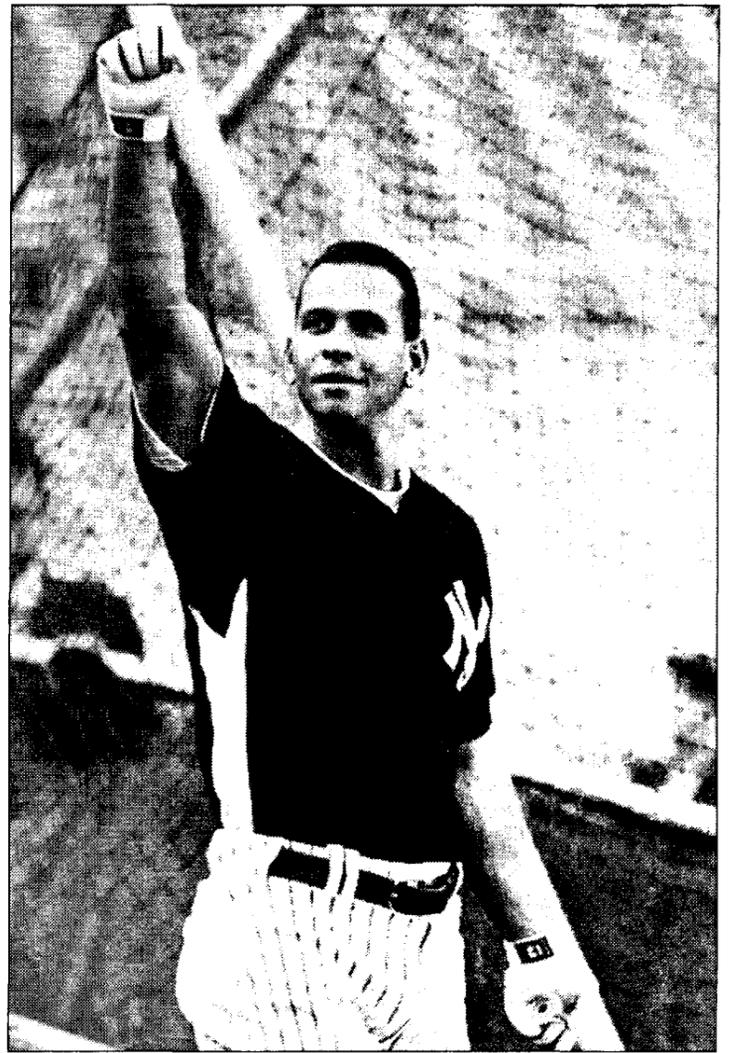
"The Yankees have never had a player since Babe Ruth that really had a 100 percent chance" of setting the record, Steinbrenner said. "[Mickey] Mantle should have, but he had too many injuries. It's a historical achievement bonus more than it is an incentive bonus. There is no yearly incentive bonus."

That provision must be drafted carefully because of Major League Rule 3 (b) (5), which states no contract shall be approved "if it contains a bonus for playing, pitching or batting skill or if it provides for the payment of a bonus contingent on the standing of the signing club at the end of the championship season."

Even with that, the commissioner's office allowed the Boston Red Sox in 2003 to give Curt Schilling a provision for a \$2 million raise in a season following a World Series championship. Boston won the title the following year.

The Yankees already have been in touch with Major League Baseball, and A-Rod's side contacted the players' association.

"Because he's generating such enormous revenue potential, both to the player and the club, there should be some way for the player and the club to



Alex Rodriguez salutes fans before Game 3 of the ALDS on Oct. 7. Rodriguez agreed to a 10-year contract with the Yankees Thursday.



Yankees third baseman Alex Rodriguez laughs before Game 3 of the ALDS on Oct. 7. Rodriguez is set to return to New York.

capitalize on that achievement in some fashion," said Gene Orza, the union's chief operating officer. "The devil will be in the details. The minds of men and women in the sport should be able to figure this out."

Steinbrenner said Rodriguez was given bad advice by Boras during the time before the decision to opt out.

"Boras did a lot of good things for Alex through the years, and Alex knows that. I mean, obviously, he's going to look to Scott's advice on everything," Steinbrenner said. "That's not unusual today. It's not like he's the only one. And if an agent gets out of line or makes bad decisions, then that's going to hurt the player. And obviously, that's one of the things that happened here."

Rodriguez still winds up with baseball's largest contract, a fact that got the attention of Schilling.

"None of us are worth that much relative to 'real world' salaries," the pitcher wrote on his Web site. "But if someone in the game was getting a contract that big, I am not sure you could argue it being Alex. On the field this guy is the MVP-in-waiting every year, it seems."

Steinbrenner said he thinks that had Rodriguez tested the free-agent market, he would have gotten a more lucrative contract and cited the interest of the Los Angeles Dodgers, led by new manager Joe Torre, and perhaps other teams.

"There are a few cynics who say, 'Well, he really couldn't get this there,'" Steinbrenner said. "Trust me, he would have gotten probably more. He is making a sacrifice to be a Yankee, there's no question. ... He showed what was really in his heart and what he really wanted."

## CLASSIFIEDS

The Observer accepts classifieds every business day from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Notre Dame office, 024 South Dining Hall. Deadline for next-day classifieds is 2 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.

## WANTED

Looking for a playful, kind and responsible person to watch my two children (6 & 10 yrs.) in my home occasionally. Please call Jill 574-288-7118.

Seeking part time nanny for our 3 children. 4 miles from campus. 2-6 pm daily. Email schedule availability & qualifications to twannys-search@gmail.com

## FOR SALE

FSBO-6.2 miles to ND-Colonial 2story home 4bdr 2-1/2 baths close to schools county tax many xtrs. 574-291-2899

3 bdrm/2 bath home for sale \$95,000/for rent \$900. 706 N. St. Louis. Contact Brad 574-220-8666.

WALK TO NOTRE DAME - 2 BD with formal living and dining, large family room. 2 car garage. \$89,900. 1221 Rosemary Lane. Century 21 Jim Dunfee. Call 574-315-3707.

Gorgeous 3 bdr. 2 bath totally updated Victorian home on historic W. Washington St. downtown South Bend. Architect owner, 1 block from Tippecanoe Place. \$125,000. Call Bob 574-315-6902. MLS #224252.

## FOR RENT

Blue & Gold Homes now showing 08-09 & 09-10. Bluegoldrentals.com

2BR/2bath condo for rent at Jamison Residential(Ivy Court). Available for jan-may or june-aug or both. Perfect for young couple or visiting prof. contact Mike: 507-326-7044 or mikec@cbatty.com

Blue & Gold Homes 2nd semester sale. \$200 P/S just off campus "alumni owned". Bluegoldrentals.com

GRADSTUDENTS/PROFESSORS: Rent this immaculate 2-3 BR home w/fresh paint, new carpeting & 2-car garage only 5 minutes from Notre Dame. \$895.00/month. Call 574-360-8240.

## TICKETS

ND tickets for sale. Best Prices. 574-288-2726.

FOR SALE: ND FOOTBALL TIX. ALL HOME GAMES. 574-232-0964. www.victorytickets.com

WANTED - ND FOOTBALL TIX. PLEASE HELP! 574-251-1570

## PERSONAL

UNPLANNED PREGNANCY? Do not go it alone. If you or someone you love needs confidential support or assistance, please call Sr. Sue Dunn, OP, at 1-7819. For more information, visit our web-site at: <http://osa.nd.edu/departments/pregnant.shtml> or see our bi-weekly ad in THE OBSERVER.

If you or someone you care about has been sexually assaulted, visit <http://osa.nd.edu/departments/rape.shtml>

PREGNANT OR KNOW SOMEONE WHO IS? You do not have to be alone. We want to help. Call our 24 hour confidential hotline at 1-800-No Abort or visit our web site at [www.lifecall.org](http://www.lifecall.org)

Adopt: a young loving couple long to share their hearts and home with a newborn. Will provide endless love. Expenses paid. Call Eileen and Ed 1-800-718-6577.

Henrick Lundqvist is the handsome reincarnation of Patrick Roy (pronounced "Wah").

Dear A-Rod, Welcome back.

Hey Maria, When are we going to watch "The Office" together again? Love, -Hino

Bruce and Kate, Welcome to campus. It's a pleasure to have two wonderful people here with which to share a weekend. Though our football team may have a poor record, we still cheer loud. Won't you please join us in giving the Duke family members a warm welcome to campus before hoping for their destruction on the field.

Siegfried Ultimate: 1-0. Easy win Thursday night. Next game in two weeks. We shall prevail. We shall prevail.

Humanae Vitae. That's right.

# AROUND THE NATION

Friday, November 16, 2007

COMPILED FROM THE OBSERVER'S WIRE SERVICES

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## NFL

### AFC East

team	record	perc.	PF	PA
New England	9-0	1.000	355	147
Buffalo	5-4	.556	143	166
N.Y. Jets	1-8	.111	159	228
Miami	0-9	.000	176	257

### AFC North

team	record	perc.	PF	PA
Pittsburgh	7-2	.778	253	126
Cleveland	5-4	.556	255	264
Baltimore	4-5	.444	138	178
Cincinnati	3-6	.333	219	251

### AFC South

team	record	perc.	PF	PA
Indianapolis	7-2	.778	265	149
Jacksonville	6-3	.667	183	164
Tennessee	6-3	.667	178	152
Houston	4-5	.444	203	226

### AFC West

team	record	perc.	PF	PA
San Diego	5-4	.556	212	185
Denver	4-5	.444	153	238
Kansas City	4-5	.444	135	173
Oakland	2-7	.222	158	194

### NFC East

team	record	perc.	PF	PA
Dallas	8-1	.889	296	195
N.Y. Giants	6-3	.667	220	190
Washington	5-4	.556	177	193
Philadelphia	4-5	.444	189	180

### NFC North

team	record	perc.	PF	PA
Green Bay	8-1	.889	228	142
Detroit	6-3	.667	221	216
Chicago	4-5	.444	161	187
Minnesota	3-6	.333	166	188

### NFC South

team	record	perc.	PF	PA
Tampa Bay	5-4	.556	164	144
Carolina	4-5	.444	150	181
New Orleans	4-5	.444	202	223
Atlanta	3-6	.333	135	182

### NFC West

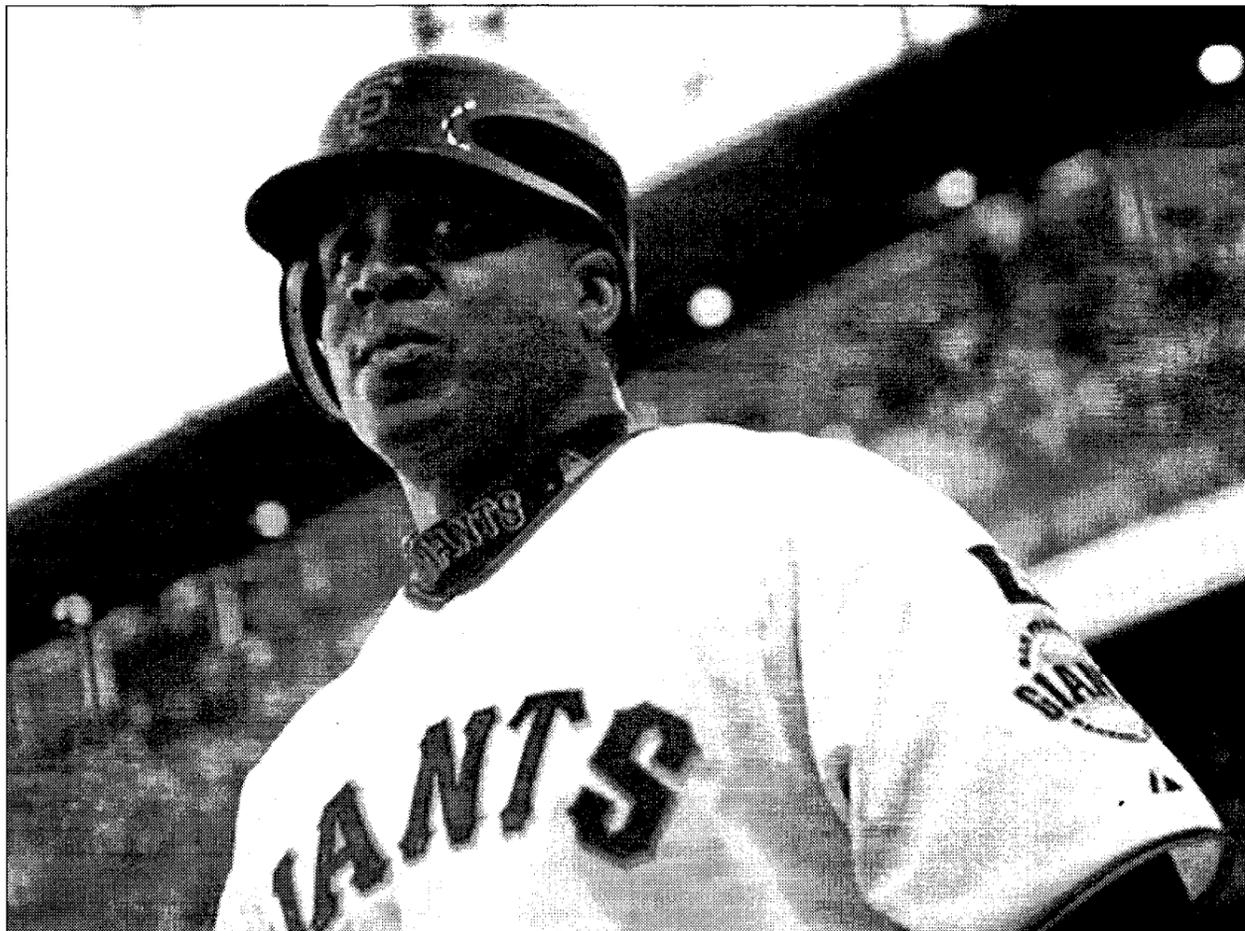
team	record	perc.	PF	PA
Seattle	5-4	.556	191	141
Arizona	4-5	.444	188	195
San Francisco	2-7	.222	104	210
St. Louis	1-8	.111	136	248

## NCAA Soccer

### Adidas National Rankings

Men		Women	
1 Connecticut	1 UCLA	1 UCLA	1 UCLA
2 Wake Forest	2 Texas A&M	2 Texas A&M	2 Texas A&M
3 Santa Clara	3 Portland	3 Portland	3 Portland
4 Virginia Tech	4 North Carolina	4 North Carolina	4 North Carolina
5 Brown	5 Stanford	5 Stanford	5 Stanford
6 SMU	6 Penn State	6 Penn State	6 Penn State
7 Creighton	7 Virginia	7 Virginia	7 Virginia
8 Boston College	8 Purdue	8 Purdue	8 Purdue
9 Indiana	9 Southern Cal	9 Southern Cal	9 Southern Cal
10 Tulsa	10 Texas	10 Texas	10 Texas
11 NOTRE DAME	11 NOTRE DAME	11 NOTRE DAME	11 NOTRE DAME
12 Saint Louis	12 West Virginia	12 West Virginia	12 West Virginia
13 UC Santa Barbara	13 Georgia	13 Georgia	13 Georgia
14 Northwestern	14 Florida State	14 Florida State	14 Florida State
15 Harvard	15 Tennessee	15 Tennessee	15 Tennessee

## MLB



Giants slugger Barry Bonds prepares to bat during an Aug. 7 game against the Washington Nationals. Bonds, Major League Baseball's all-time home run leader, was indicted Thursday for perjury and obstruction of justice.

## Bonds indicted, could face up to 30 years in jail

Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO — Barry Bonds, baseball's home run king, was indicted for perjury and obstruction of justice Thursday and could face prison instead of the Hall of Fame for telling a federal grand jury he did not knowingly use performance-enhancing drugs.

The indictment, culminating a four-year investigation into steroid use by elite athletes, charged Bonds with four counts of perjury and one of obstruction of justice. If convicted, he could be sentenced to a maximum of 30 years in prison.

Shortly after the indictment was handed up,

Bonds' personal trainer, Greg Anderson, was ordered released after spending most of the past year in prison for refusing to testify against his longtime friend.

"During the criminal investigation, evidence was obtained including positive tests for the presence of anabolic steroids and other performance enhancing substances for Bonds and other athletes," the indictment said.

In August, when the 43-year-old Bonds passed Hank Aaron to become baseball's career home run leader, he flatly rejected any suggestion that this milestone was stained by steroids.

"This record is not tainted

at all. At all. Period," Bonds said.

Bonds finished the year with 762 homers, seven more than Aaron, and is currently a free agent. In 2001, he set the season record with 73 home runs.

Late in the season, the San Francisco Giants told the seven-time National League MVP they didn't want him back next year.

Bonds could not immediately be reached for comment. One of his attorneys, John Burris, didn't know of the indictment before being alerted by The Associated Press and said he would call Bonds to notify him.

"I'm surprised," Burris said, "but there's been an

effort to get Barry for a long time. I'm curious what evidence they have now they didn't have before."

Bonds' defense attorney, Mike Rains, declined comment because he hadn't seen a copy of the indictment.

"However, it goes without saying that we look forward to rebutting these unsupported charges in court," Rains said. "We will no doubt have more specific comments in the very near future once we have had the opportunity to actually see this indictment that took so long to generate."

Bonds is scheduled to appear in U.S. District Court in San Francisco on Dec. 7.

## IN BRIEF

### Padres' Peavy unanimous choice for NL Cy Young

NEW YORK — Jake Peavy has been one of the best pitchers in the National League for years. This season, he pulled away from the pack.

The San Diego Padres ace was an unanimous winner of the NL Cy Young Award on Thursday after leading the league in wins, ERA and strikeouts.

"It was just one of those seasons where kind of everything came together," he said on a conference call.

Peavy received all 32 first-place votes and finished with 160 points in balloting by the Baseball Writers' Association of America. Arizona sinkerballer Brandon Webb, last year's winner, was a distant runner-up with 94 points. He was listed second on 31 ballots and third on one.

"Obviously, I was elated. This is as big as it gets as far as individual awards," Peavy said. "Truly amazing. A very humbling day when you think about all my peers that take the mound every fifth day."

### Troubled 'Pacman' gets plea deal in exchange for testimony

LAS VEGAS — A judge accepted a plea deal Thursday reducing felony charges against suspended NFL player Adam "Pacman" Jones to a gross misdemeanor that will get him probation in return for his testimony about a strip club triple shooting.

The Tennessee Titans cornerback did not appear before Las Vegas Justice of the Peace Tony Abbatangelo, who accepted the written agreement and waived Jones' preliminary hearing on two felony coercion charges.

Abbatangelo scheduled Jones to plead not guilty Dec. 5 in state court to one charge of conspiracy to commit disorderly conduct.

Jones will be sentenced later to one year of probation, Clark County prosecutor Victoria Villegas said after a brief hearing. Two charges of coercion, a felony carrying a possible sentence of one to six years in prison, will be dropped.

### Williams welcomed back by Dolphins, will practice Monday

DAVIE, Fla. — Ricky Williams stood at a window in the Miami Dolphins' player lounge and watched the start of practice as he chomped on an apple, so close to an NFL return he could taste it.

Coach Cam Cameron decided Thursday to welcome Williams back, and he'll be on the field starting with Monday's workout. His first game in nearly two years could come a week later, Nov. 26 at Pittsburgh.

"He'll be a member of this team," Cameron said. "He's a Miami Dolphin."

Again. Williams has tested positive for marijuana at least four times since the Dolphins acquired him in 2002. Miami's franchise-record playoff drought began that same year.

But it's difficult to imagine how Williams could sabotage a team that's 0-9, and so the long, strange trip continues. Cameron said his players favored Williams' return from the suspension, and the 2002 NFL rushing champion embraced yet another fresh start.

around the dial

## NBA

Rockets at Spurs  
8 p.m., ESPN

## NFL

# ND grad Grant finds home with Green Bay

*Tailback reminds his teammates of former Packer Dorsey Levens*

Associated Press

GREEN BAY — Brett Favre can't help doing a double-take when he looks at Green Bay Packers running back Ryan Grant.

True, Grant is a former undrafted free agent who was sent to Green Bay by the New York Giants just before the start of the season — and the Packers' fourth choice to be their starting running back.

But Favre still sees former teammate Dorsey Levens.

It starts with the fact that Grant wears Levens' old jersey number, 25, but there's more to it: the 6-foot-1 frame, the powerful running style, and even the Notre Dame connection.

"The number obviously is striking from that standpoint," Favre said. "But he is a big, physical back, deceptively fast. He kind of sneaks up on you. I think his role in our passing game can evolve into what Dorsey's role with us was. But he does remind me a lot of him."

Packers coach Mike McCarthy sees it, too.

"As far as their frame, their history, their background, as far as where he played college, there are a lot of similarities," McCarthy said. "Brett said it the first week he was here."

Grant certainly appreciates the comparisons to Levens, a key play-

er on the Packers' playoff teams of the late 1990s.

Hey, it beats being overlooked and injured for two years in New York.

But at the same time, Grant doesn't think a pair of 100-yard rushing games should be enough to anoint him as the next, well, anyone.

"I know what Dorsey did here," Grant said. "He was a great back, and what he accomplished was very big. So I definitely appreciate it. Honestly, I don't know if I'm deserving of it."

Deserving or not, Grant is the closest thing the Packers have to a reliable running back right now. And as the weather takes a turn for the worse at Lambeau Field, a revival of one of the league's worst running games would help the Packers position themselves for the playoffs.

Grant says the running game is coming around, even if he isn't willing to take the credit.

"Brett's been playing great all season, and we feel like we're in the position to kind of build momentum to kind of take a little pressure off him," Grant said.

The Packers have been trying to find a running back to help Favre out all season, without much success.

After Ahman Green signed with Houston as a free agent, projected starter Vernand Morency hurt his knee in the first practice of training camp and has been limited mostly to third-down duty this year.

Second-round rookie Brandon



AP  
Packers running back Ryan Grant carries the ball in Green Bay's 34-0 win over Minnesota on Sunday. Grant had 119 yards on 25 carries against the Vikings.

Jackson started the first three games and sputtered, then hurt his shin. Seventh-round rookie DeShawn Wynn started the next four games and showed some ability, but hurt his shoulder in the Packers' Oct. 29 game at Denver.

Grant, who had carried the ball six times all season, replaced Wynn, carrying the ball 22 times for 104 yards against the Broncos' subpar run defense. Grant got his shot at starting in the Packers' next game at Kansas City, but gained only 55 yards on 29 carries.

Then came Sunday's game against Minnesota, where Grant gained 119 yards on 25 carries and scored his first career touchdown against one of the league's best run defenses.

"It's only really been three games," Grant said. "I don't look at it as success."

But it's more than the Packers could have hoped for after sending a late-round 2008 draft pick to New York for Grant on Sept. 1.

As an undrafted free agent out of Notre Dame — Levens played at

Notre Dame, too, before transferring to Georgia Tech — Grant signed with the Giants in 2005 and spent his first year on the practice squad. Grant then hurt his hand in the offseason and spent 2006 on injured reserve. He calls his time in New York a learning experience.

"Especially being behind Tiki Barber, I learned a lot being with him every day on and off the field," Grant said. "It let me know that I was hungry, and I still loved the game."

## MLS

# Newcomer to league, D.C.'s Emilio captures MVP award



AP  
D.C. United forward Luciano Emilio, left, passes the ball in D.C.'s 1-0 loss to New York on July 22.

Associated Press

So much for the "Beckham rule." The MVP of Major League Soccer is a newcomer who arrived without the fanfare.

D.C. United forward Luciano Emilio was honored Thursday as the league's top player, capping a season in which he became the first 20-goal scorer in five years in MLS.

"This is the best moment in my career," Emilio said.

The 28-year-old Brazilian finished ahead of Juan Pablo Angel of the New York Red Bulls and Cuauhtemoc Blanco of the Chicago Fire in voting by coaches, general managers, players and media.

All three finalists were foreign players new to the league, but Emilio was the only one not signed under the new designated player rule — known as the "Beckham rule" after English superstar David Beckham — that allows teams to pursue up to two high-profile players.

"For me, it's very, very important," Emilio said. "I am surprised because Cuauhtemoc Blanco and Juan Pablo Angel are very good international players, and I am so happy."

When Emilio signed in January after a three-year courtship by United, he immediately stated his two top aims: win a championship and the goal-scoring title.

He accomplished the latter

by finding the net 20 times, the most in an MLS season since Carlos Ruiz scored 24 goals and Taylor Twellman had 23 in 2002. Emilio became the first player to win the goal-scoring title without the benefit of a penalty kick.

Emilio helped lead United to the league's best record in the regular season, but his pursuit of the championship was hindered by a sprained ankle that limited him in both games of the club's first-round playoff series loss to Chicago.

Emilio's route to MLS began in his native Brazil and went through Mexico and Honduras. He was playing for Honduran club CD Olimpia when discovered in 2004 by United technical director Dave Kasper. Kasper, now United's general manager, pursued Emilio every year until the Brazilian felt ready to move to the United States, in part because he wanted the best lifestyle possible for his newborn daughter.

"It's definitely very rewarding when you put the work in," Kasper said. "First you have to get the player to agree to and sign the contract, but to fit in the way Luciano has, both on and off the field, and to be a pleasure to be around, and to have this much success and impact, is a terrific accomplishment and something we're very proud of."

Emilio is the second consecutive D.C. United player to

win the award, following midfielder Christian Gomez last year. Emilio's superb season has raised his profile on the international scene, but he said he expects to return to United next season.

"I think so. I have a three-year contract," Emilio said. "We speak next week about next season, but I don't have a problem. I like Washington, D.C. The team is a big team in the United States, and I think I stay here."

Emilio's biggest improvement over the season wasn't on the field. When he signed in January, he conducted all of his interviews in Spanish with a translator. On Thursday, all of his answers were in English.

"I learned a lot. I know my English is not very good, but I try to speak in the locker room, with teammates," he said with a smile. "I watch a lot of TV. Getting better every day."

Emilio was the only finalist to play the entire season with his club. Angel, a Colombian striker, arrived from Aston Villa of the English Premier League and finished with 19 goals. His debut with the Red Bulls was delayed because of visa problems.

Blanco, a Mexican midfielder, didn't join the Fire until July because of national team obligations. Chicago was 4-8-4 when he arrived, but he led the team to a 6-2-6 finish that snared the final playoff berth on the last day of the regular season.

NCAA FOOTBALL

# Oregon's BCS chances, QB take a beating in Tucson

*Heisman candidate Dixon injures knee in first half of defeat*

Associated Press

TUCSON, Ariz. — The curse of No. 2 claimed another victim.

Second-ranked Oregon lost Heisman Trophy candidate Dennis Dixon to a knee injury and never recovered in a 34-24 upset by Arizona on Thursday night.

Oregon (8-2, 5-2 Pac-10) became the fifth No. 2 team to lose since Oct. 6, following USC, California, South Florida and Boston College. The Ducks' defeat could open the door for third-ranked Oklahoma in The Associated Press Top 25, and for No. 3 Kansas in the Bowl Championship Series standings.

Dixon, Oregon's gifted starting quarterback, hurt his left knee in the first quarter, about 7 minutes after he ran 39 yards for a touchdown. Dixon crumpled to the turf without being touched and took Oregon's national championship hopes with him.

"My foot got planted in the ground, and my knee went the other way," Dixon told ESPN toward the end of the game.

Antoine Cason returned a punt 56 yards for a touchdown and an interception 42 yards for another score as the Wildcats shook up the national title race on a cool night in the desert. Red-clad students poured out of the grandstand as the Wildcats (5-6, 4-4) ambushed a ranked team in Arizona Stadium for the fourth straight season under coach Mike Stoops.

Brady Leaf, who replaced Dixon, completed 22 of 46 passes for 163 yards and threw two interceptions. Dixon finished 5-of-8 for 62 yards,



Oregon's Heisman Trophy candidate, quarterback Dennis Dixon (10), outruns Arizona's Spencer Larson (51) on the way to a touchdown during the first quarter of the Wildcats' victory Thursday. Dixon later injured his knee in what became Oregon's second loss of the season.

and threw an interception. He carried twice for 34 yards.

Arizona quarterback Willie Tuitama completed 21 of 39 passes for 266 yards and two touchdowns, and was intercepted once. Mike Thomas caught two touchdown passes for the Wildcats.

Oregon's Jonathan Stewart carried 28 times for 131 yards.

Early on, Oregon appeared to be on cruise control with Dixon running its potent offense, which came in averaging 42.8 points per game, fifth in the nation.

The Ducks opened the game with a brisk seven-play, 70-yard scoring drive. On fourth-and-3 at the Arizona 39, Dixon

froze the defense with a fake to Stewart, burst through a hole in the right side and ran untouched to the end zone. Ed Dickson ran for the 2-point conversion to put the Ducks ahead 8-0.

Oregon drove to the Arizona 4 on its next possession. Dixon fired a pass that bounced off Derrick Jones' hands, and safety Nate Ness grabbed the deflection and ran it out to the 45.

Four plays later, the Wildcats scored on a 34-yard pass from Tuitama to Thomas, cutting Oregon's lead to 8-7.

Then came the play that altered the national title race.

On second and 7 at the

Arizona 15, Dixon's left knee buckled as he wheeled to his left on an option play. Dixon had sprained the same knee Nov. 3 against Arizona State, and wore a brace against Arizona.

With older brother Ryan Leaf watching, Leaf replaced Dixon and completed his first pass. But Cason intercepted Leaf's third throw and returned it 42 yards for a touchdown to put the Wildcats ahead 17-11 early in the second quarter.

That started an Arizona avalanche.

Tuitama hit Thomas for a 46-yard score and Cason's 56-yard punt return put the Wildcats ahead 31-11 with

5:30 to play in the first half.

Trailing 31-14 early in the third quarter, Oregon had a 13-yard touchdown run by Stewart nullified on a holding penalty against receiver Garren Strong. The Ducks settled for a 34-yard field goal by Matt Evensen.

Oregon pulled within seven on Andre Crenshaw's 2-yard touchdown run with 7:53 to go in the game.

Arizona answered with an 11-play drive that ended in Jason Bondzio's 46-yard field goal with 3:20 to go.

Oregon is the highest-ranked visitor to lose at Arizona since the Wildcats knocked off No. 1 Washington on Nov. 7, 1992.

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NFL

# Peterson gives record jersey to Hall of Fame

### Uniform from game RB rushed for 296 yards to be preserved

Associated Press

EDEN PRAIRIE, Minn. — Adrian Peterson handed in his uniform Thursday.

Minnesota's record-setting rookie running back hasn't quite given up on his promising career, considering a knee injury that will keep him off the field at least for this week. Peterson, rather, had a present for the Pro Football Hall of Fame.

He donated the purple No. 28 jersey and white pants he wore earlier this month while rushing for an NFL-record 296 yards for the Vikings in a victory over the San Diego Chargers.

The uniform has been guarded by the team's equipment staff since the game on Nov. 4. When Peterson said it was never washed, Joe Horrigan, a representative from the Hall of Fame, feigned disgust as he held the jersey next to him. Horrigan was headed back to Canton, Ohio, where the shrine to Peterson's accomplishment was scheduled to be on display starting Friday.

"The magnitude of what Adrian did on that day is really amazing, and you think about the fact that he is a young rookie and what that must mean for the future," Horrigan said.

Peterson has never been to Canton himself, but he plans to visit soon with his family.

"You just look for the future and expect bigger things to come and envision maybe one day, God's will, that I will be in the Hall of Fame itself," Peterson said.

The seventh overall draft pick out of Oklahoma had 1,036 yards rushing in the first half of the season before tearing the lateral collateral ligament in his right knee last week against the Green Bay Packers. That caused Peterson to fall off pace to break Eric Dickerson's rookie record of 1,808 yards in 1983.

He sighed when the talk turned to the time he's spending in the training room.

"Like all day, literally," Peterson said.

He refused, however, to express regret that the injury will keep his season statistics from soaring as high as they would have if he didn't get hurt.

"It's not going to change, so no reason to hold your head down and pout about it," Peterson said.

While the Vikings (3-6) have not declared a timetable for his return, they've promised him back this season despite their essential elimination from playoff contention. There's no rush, though, to come back too soon for the sake of records.

"Just being smart about it," Peterson said.

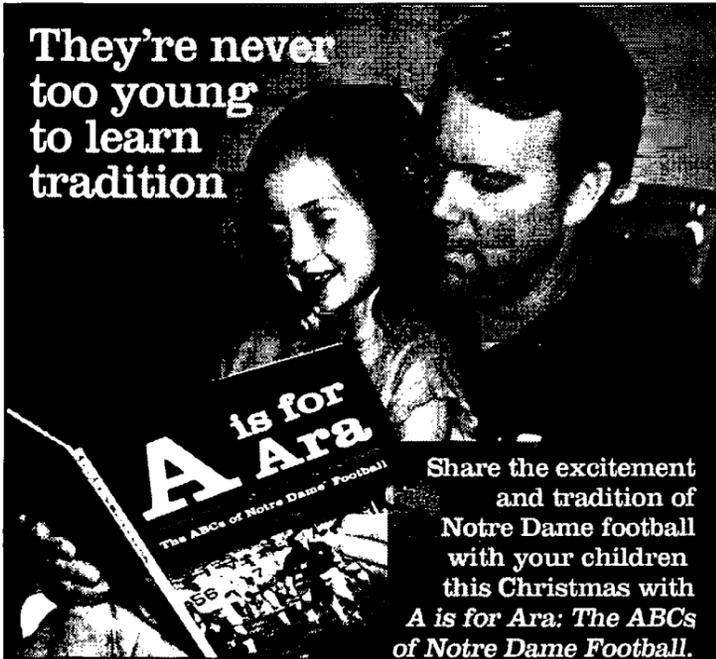
In return for his uniform, Horrigan gave Peterson a black hat and gray shirt bearing the Hall's insignia. Before answering questions from the media about this honor, Peterson proudly set the hat on the podium in front of him. It looked like a get-well-soon gift, given his current status.

But Peterson didn't need to be cheered up. He also learned Thursday that he currently leads his position in fan voting for the Pro Bowl. He's sixth overall behind Brett Favre, Peyton Manning, Tom Brady, Randy Moss and Tony Romo.

*"You just look for the future and expect bigger things to come and envision maybe one day, God's will, that I will be in the Hall of Fame itself."*

**Adrian Peterson**  
Vikings running back

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**NCUA**

NCAA FOOTBALL

# Hart, Henne get last crack at OSU

Associated Press

ANN ARBOR — Mike Hart did not guarantee a win over Ohio State, a la Jim Harbaugh a couple decades ago.

Michigan coach Lloyd Carr chose not to give him a chance to open his mouth when the week of hype kicked off.

The star running back with shifty moves and loose lips was not among the players Carr made available for interviews, living up to a prediction Hart heard from a reporter.

"He better let me come next Monday. It's the last one," Hart said last week. "He might not let me because I might say something stupid."

Such as?  
Guaranteeing a win over Notre Dame or referring to Michigan State as a little brother, as Hart did this year?

Proclaiming things would be "different" if the Wolverines had a rematch with Ohio State, as Hart did last season, adding its defense wasn't "as good as people thought," after losing last year?

Yeah, something like that.  
Hart, Chad Henne and Jake Long turned down a chance to make money in the NFL this year, returning for their senior seasons in part for another shot at the Buckeyes.

The trio's wait is almost over. No. 7 Ohio State (10-1, 6-1 Big Ten) will match up with No. 23 Michigan (8-3, 6-1) Saturday in Ann Arbor with the outright Big Ten title at stake.

For Hart, Henne and Long, their legacies will be on the line, too.

They are arguably the best running back, quarterback and offensive tackle the Wolverines have ever had, quite an accomplishment at college football's winningest program.

But if they go 0-4 against the Buckeyes, it will add a permanent blemish on what is otherwise a flawless resume on and off the field. The trio is also 0-3 in bowl games.

Long made the biggest gamble financially when he chose to come back because he likely would've been a top-five pick.

The offensive tackle insisted a win wouldn't validate his decision.

"That's not what this game is about," he bristled. "This game is about this team, about this championship. It's not about me. I'm not even worried about that."

In the preseason, however, Long agreed that it was fair to say the trio's legacy would be diminished without a win against Ohio State or a bowl opponent.

"No matter what type of season we have, people are going to look at what we do against Ohio State and our bowl opponent," Long said in August.

While the trio's mark against the Buckeyes will always be remembered, each player has also accomplished a lot of things that can't be taken away.

Hart is Michigan's career rushing leader with 4,867 yards, ranking fifth in Big Ten history, and has run for at least 100 yards in the eight games he has been healthy enough to start this season. A high-ankle sprain has sidelined him for about 37

games.

Henne holds school records with 9,274 yards passing and 84 touchdown passes. He added to his lore last month by playing with a separated shoulder at Illinois, helping the Wolverines rally for a 27-17 win. The injury kept Henne off the field for much of last week's loss at Wisconsin and out of a game three weeks ago.

Long was the first of five players The Associated Press listed earlier this year as players worthy of Heisman Trophy consideration, but with no shot to win it. The 6-foot-7, 315-pound tackle has routinely punished defensive linemen and linebackers to pave the way for Hart, and it's difficult to recall a sack being his fault.

Carr is quick to rave about the trio as players and people.

"They've been everything a coach could want in a player and as a representative of this program on and off the field," he said. "When you look at three guys, all of whom could have left early to go on to the draft, and they all came back. To me, that speaks for the fact that they love their experience here."

"They're all going to graduate. And they're all going to be very, very successful when they leave Michigan."

Before Hart cut off any Ohio State-related questions last week, he did provide hint about how important it is to him to finally beat the Buckeyes.

"Everyone knows already how bad I want to win that game," he said. "I'm going to give everything I've got in that game."

SMC BASKETBALL

# Belles tip off with new and old faces



Observer File Photo

Belles guard Alison Kessler dribbles during Saint Mary's 71-63 win over Albion on Feb. 14.

By MEAGHAN VESELIK  
Sports Writer

Saint Mary's may have lost its all-time assist leader, Bridget Lipke, but it returns four starters and welcomes six freshmen for its season opener tonight against Wheaton College in the Wheaton College Tournament.

Coming off one of the best seasons in school history, the Belles return senior shooting guard Alison Kessler, who last season became the seventh player in Saint Mary's history to score more than 1,000 points. Junior Erin Newsom, the team's third leading scorer and top rebounder last season, will be on the court to help lead the Belles. The

team is counting on both Kessler and Newsom to help with scoring.

Jordan Cronin, Becky Newsom, Katie Pappa, Stephanie Parshall, Grace Sawowski, and Liz Wade are the newest Belles on the court. Saint Mary's freshmen — forward Jordan Cronin, forward Becky Newsom, guard Katie Pappa, guard Stephanie Parshall, guard Grace Sawowski, and guard Liz Wade — come from four different states and six different high schools.

The Belles are ranked fourth in the preseason MIAA coaches' poll, their highest ranking ever.

Contact Meaghan Veselik at [mvesel01@saintmarys.edu](mailto:mvesel01@saintmarys.edu)



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- 10/13—Boston College  
"Global Ireland: From Celtic Twilight to Celtic Tiger"  
Luke Gibbons, Donald R. Keough Family Professor of Irish Studies
- 10/20—USC  
"Combating Extremism: Democratic Virtues and Pluralism in Islam"  
Asma Afsaruddin, Associate Professor of Arabic and Islamic Studies
- 11/03—Navy  
"Cops, Protest, and Rioting"  
Daniel Myers, Director of Research and Faculty Development, Joan B. Kroc Institute for International Peace Studies, Professor of Sociology
- 11/10—Air Force  
"Theological But Not Religious: The Case of John Milton"  
Stephen Fallon, Professor and Chairperson, Program of Liberal Studies
- 11/17—Duke  
"Words and Music, Music and Words: The Songs of Franz Schubert"  
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NBA

# Phoenix outduels Chicago 112-102

Associated Press

PHOENIX — The 3-pointers are falling for Leandro Barbosa, and his new teammate Grant Hill looks ever-so-comfortable playing the Suns' style.

Barbosa scored 25 points, including 5-of-7 on 3s. Hill added 24 points and Phoenix pulled away to win its fourth in a row, over the Chicago Bulls on Thursday night.

Hill's performance came on the heels of his 21-point effort against New York two nights earlier.

In between, he flew with his wife Tamia by charter flight to Chicago for an appearance on Oprah.

"I'm starting to get my legs, starting to turn the corner there, and just find a rhythm," he said. "It's a process, but I feel good now and just want to keep looking to get better."

Shawn Marion, who scored 11 of his 21 points in the final six minutes, admitted his nerves were shook up a bit after being involved in a car accident on his way to the arena.

"I almost sat out the second half because I wasn't feeling right at all," Marion said. "It didn't hit me until afterward that I was in a wreck before the game. My team helped me, coach and everybody kept telling me to just take deep breaths and go out there and get it done."

Boris Diaw had seven of his 10 down the stretch in relief of Amare Stoudemire, who drew four fouls in a 3:18 minute span of the fourth quarter.

Steve Nash had 10 points and 15 assists for the Suns, and Stoudemire added 14 points.

"We had our ups and downs a little bit," coach Mike D'Antoni said. "Boris had a start that was bad, but he came on and his fourth quarter was great. That's what we have to have."

Nash had seven assists in the fourth quarter.

"Steve came in and kind of regained control of the game for them," Chicago coach Scott Skiles said, "and we didn't have much of an answer for it."

Ben Gordon scored 24 and Luol Deng had 23 for the Bulls, who rallied from 14 down in the third quarter to take the lead in the fourth. Chicago fell to 1-6 to start the season.

"I thought we played hard, but toward the end of the game and throughout the game we made some bad decisions," Gordon said. "We've just got to shore some things up."

At least this game was an improvement, said Skiles, whose team was blown out at home by 30 points against Toronto in their last game, at home on Saturday.

"There were stretches for longer time periods where we played a little bit higher-quality basketball, that's for sure," Skiles said, "but we're not in

this to do that. We're in this to try to win the game."

Diaw's three-point play with 7:28 to go put Phoenix ahead for good, 88-85. The Bulls scored to get within one, then Marion's inside basket on a pass from Hill triggered a 9-0 run that put Phoenix in control for good.

The decisive spurt featured Barbosa's final 3-pointer, on a kickout pass from Nash on a fastbreak, to give the Suns a 93-87 lead with 6 minutes to play.

The Suns shot out to a 15-6 lead and were up by 15 in the second quarter.

But the Bulls finished the third with an 11-1 run to tie it at 75 on Kirk Hinrich's 16-footer with 21 seconds to go in the period. Chicago took a 76-75 lead when Tyrus

Thomas made one of two free throws to start the fourth.

There were four lead changes and five ties before Diaw's three-point play.

Barbosa, who scored 16 in the second quarter, hit three straight 3s in an 11-3 spurt that put the Suns ahead 56-41 with 1:09 left. But Gordon sank a 3-pointer and Deng added a layup to cut it to 56-46 at halftime.

Hill, who shot 7-for-8 in Phoenix's victory over New York on Tuesday, had 17 in the first half against Chicago, 11 in the second quarter.

Five consecutive points by Marion, on a 3-pointer and a driving runner, gave Phoenix a 62-48 lead before the Bulls launched their rally.

Signed as a free agent in the offseason, Hill has quickly acclimated to the Suns' uptempo style. He had a fast-break layup on a half-court lob pass from Barbosa, the last of his six straight points that put Phoenix ahead 36-32.

*"I almost sat out the second half because I wasn't feeling right at all."*

**Shawn Marion  
Suns forward**

ND WOMEN'S SWIMMING

# Reeling Irish hit road for tri-meet

Observer Staff Report

Notre Dame will try to bounce back this weekend in a two-day meet against Northwestern and Wisconsin. The team suffered a heart-breaking 150-148 loss to Pittsburgh in its last dual meet on Nov. 9.

The deciding race in that meet was the 200-yard relay, when Notre Dame's lead relay team was disqualified, and the Panthers captured the top three spots, securing the victory.

But despite their struggles in the relays against the Panthers, the Irish still found individual success. Senior Caroline Johnson won two events — the 100-and 200-yard backstroke — while

freshman Sam Maxwell captured the 100-and 200-yard breaststroke.

Notre Dame (1-3) swept the top three spots in the 1,000-freestyle and three-meter dive. Junior Claire Hutchinson captured the title in the 1,000-freestyle, junior Casey Wagner grabbed second and sophomore Lexie Shue placed third in the 1,000-freestyle.

Junior Laura Rings took first in the three-meter dive, while her teammates freshman Heidi Grossman and sophomore Natalie Stitt took second and third, respectively.

This weekend's meet marks the first time the Irish have faced the Badgers. The team's record against the Wildcats is 3-4.

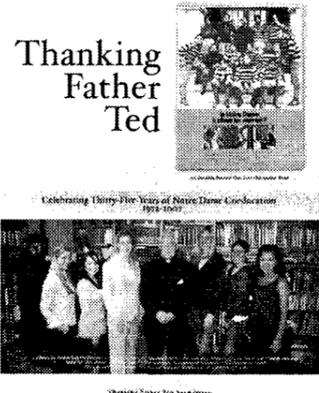
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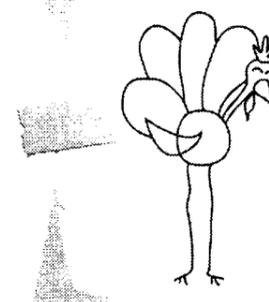
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Notre Dame Women - Connect



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**MEN'S SWIMMING**

**ND tries to shake early-season funk**

By CHRIS DOYEN and ELLYN MICHALAK  
Sports Writers

Notre Dame hopes to add one more win to their 1-3 dual meet record when they host Cleveland State tonight at Rolfs Aquatic Center.

Last weekend the No. 17 Irish captured their first dual meet of the season over Pittsburgh, 169-131. The Irish squad captured eight individual victories and was led by sophomores John Lytle and Mackenzie LeBlanc.

LeBlanc took first in both the 200-yard butterfly and the 500-yard freestyle, while Lytle won both the 50- and 100-yard-freestyle. Lytle also combined with sophomore Andrew Hoffman, freshman Joshua Nosal

and sophomore Ray Toomey to place first in 200-yard freestyle relay, while their teammates junior Bill Bauman, junior Jeff Wood, freshman Thomas Van Volkenburg and senior Rob Seery took third in the relay.

The Irish also dominated the 3-meter diving board — junior Michael Bulfin, senior Sam Stoner, and senior Steven Crowe finished in the top three spots, respectively. The Irish earned their fourth straight win over the Panthers and are now 4-4 in the series against Pittsburgh under the coaching of Tim Welsh.

During the 2006-2007 season, the Irish moved their record to 8-0 after defeating Cleveland State in a meet where they also faced Duquesne and Xavier. The Irish hope to be just as successful this time around.

The Viking's have had an impressive start this season, boasting a record of 5-1. Their sole loss came from Miami (Ohio). Tuesday, the Vikings took first place in Cleveland's City College meet. The team defeated both Baldwin-Wallace and Gannon to add two wins to their record.

Cleveland State swam in the first dual meet ever held in the Rolfs Aquatic Center.

"It adds a sentimental aspect to the meet," Welsh said.

This meet will serve as an indicator of where the Irish stand as the Ohio State Invitational on Dec. 1-2 draws near.

"We're looking at [today] as a really important measuring stick," Welsh said. "And we haven't won a meet at home yet. Winning at home is something we want to do before much longer."

The meet begins tonight at 6.

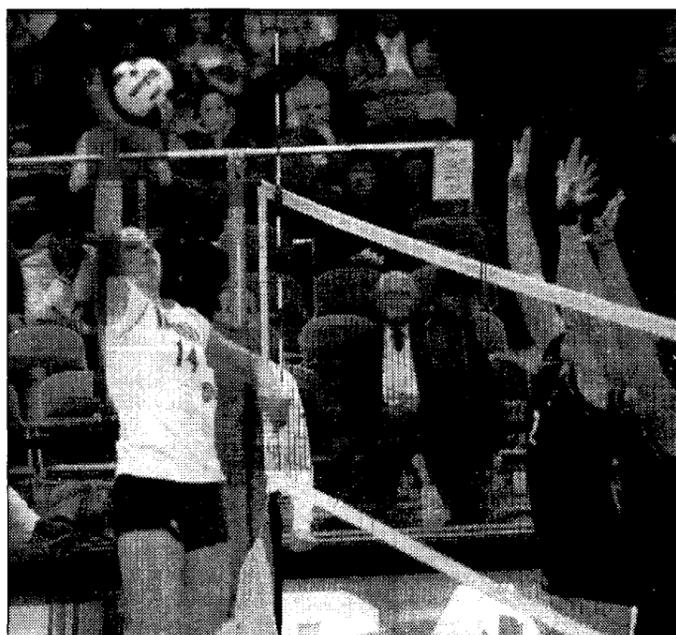
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*"We're looking at [today] as a really important measuring stick."*

**Tim Welsh**  
Irish coach

**ND VOLLEYBALL**

**Irish are smiling, but for how long?**



CHRISTIAN SAGARDIA/The Observer

**Irish middle blocker Justine Stremick attempts a kill in Notre Dame's 3-1 win over Cincinnati on Nov. 9.**

By ELLYN MICHALAK  
Sports Writer

Notre Dame's successful final conference weekend put a smile on senior captain Adrianna Stasiuk's face, and Stasiuk hopes she's still smiling after the Irish face No. 5 seed Cincinnati today in the first round of the Big East tournament.

"[Last] weekend had to have been my favorite [Notre Dame] weekend of all my four years," she said. "We are all so pleased with how we played and of how we fought against Cincinnati and Louisville."

The Irish faced off against the Bearcats last Saturday. Senior setter Ashley Tarutis led the offense with six kills and 51 assists, and Notre Dame's outstanding defense earned a 3-1 victory (31-33, 30-23, 30-28, 30-20) that guaranteed the Irish entry into this year's league tournament.

"Our blocking was outstanding, and our scrappy defense kept the ball alive [during the Cincinnati match]," Stasiuk said.

Last Sunday, Louisville made the trip to South Bend to compete against the Irish in front of 1,511 fans. The Irish dominated the match with 11 kills and 11 digs from Stasiuk and a match-high 58 assists from Tarutis. Notre Dame beat Louisville 3-1 (30-28, 30-16, 25-30, 30-28).

"We outworked our oppo-

nents and played intelligently," sophomore outside hitter Megan Fesl said. "We really executed our game plan well and just had fun playing. I think the fun and excitement of each match really helped us the most."

The weekend brought top awards for two Irish players. Fesl received player of the week honors from the Big East and freshman middle blocker Kellie Sciacca won her third rookie of the week recognition. Together the two swept the Big East honors for the week.

This weekend, the Irish will travel to Marquette to begin competition in the Big East tournament against the Bearcats. Irish coach Debbie Brown and her players plan on improving their offensive tactics to defeat the Bearcats for the second time this season, Fesl said.

"This week in practice, we are focusing on making our side of the net better, and also on slowing down some of Cincinnati's plays that hurt us the first time around," Fesl said.

The match begins at 11 a.m. today at Marquette. If the Irish beat Cincinnati, they will compete Saturday in the Big East semifinals.

"We just have to focus on one match at a time," Stasiuk said. "We have to look at the improvements we can make to ensure our win."

Contact Ellyn Michalak  
[emichala@nd.edu](mailto:emichala@nd.edu)

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**HOCKEY**

# ND begins grueling 5-game stretch

By DAN MURPHY  
Associate Sports Editor

No. 10 Notre Dame kicks off a very busy holiday week tonight with a home game against Western Michigan at 7:35 p.m. in the Joyce Center.

The Irish will play a home-and-home series with the Broncos this weekend, and a Tuesday night game against Bowling Green before heading to Troy, N.Y., for the Rensselaer Holiday Tournament. When all is said and done, the team will have played five games in a span of only nine days.

"I'm a little nervous about it, but we have the best strength coach in the country so I know we are in good shape physically," Irish coach Jeff Jackson said. "We'll probably take a day off in the next week but we have to get through these first two games. These will be up-tempo games."

Notre Dame is already coming off of an emotionally draining weekend in Oxford, Ohio, where the Irish split a two-game series with No. 1 Miami on the road.

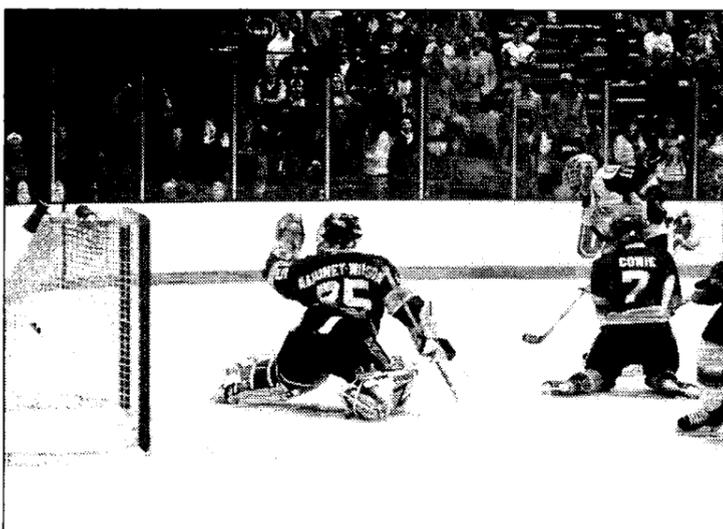
"We're all excited to get back on track after a tough weekend against Miami," junior goaltender Jordan Pearce said. "We saw a lot of positives and they kind of exploited some of our weaknesses, too."

Pearce turned away 64 of 68 shots last weekend against the most potent offense in the country, with 40 goals in their first eight games.

"There was such a great crowd and atmosphere, it's tough to not get up for a game like that," Pearce said.

Despite its 3-5 record, Western Michigan has the potential to fill up the net.

Jackson described the Broncos



QUENTIN STENGER/The Observer  
**Irish right wing Erik Condra scores a goal during Notre Dame's 4-1 win over Lake Superior State Nov. 2 in the Joyce Center.**

offense as "high-flying" and said his team needed to improve its forechecking to slow down the fast-paced attack. The speedy Broncos are led by playmaker Patrick Gallivan. The right wing has 10 assists and a goal eight games into his junior campaign.

"He's a very skilled player. He's got great instincts, he thinks [through] the game extremely well," Jackson said.

Gallivan is averaging 1.38 points per game, which is good enough for third in the CCHA behind Nebraska-Omaha's Bryan Marshall (1.57) and Michigan State's Tim Kennedy (1.5).

The highest Notre Dame player on that list is junior right wing Erik Condra, with ten points through the first 11 games for the Irish. Four of those points have come as a part of the streak Notre Dame powerplay.

Notre Dame has been dead

at times with the man advantage, but at other times it has failed to produce. In last Saturday's loss to Miami, the Irish had two key powerplays early in the third period that could have tied the game, but the Irish failed to convert.

"We've been all or nothing it seems like," Jackson said. "One of the keys is not losing our emotion. It's not a matter of how many powerplay goals we score, it's a matter of when we score them."

Jackson said part of that will go away as the young unit gains experience on the ice. The Irish currently play four sophomores and a junior on their No. 1 powerplay line and two freshmen on the second unit.

But the young Irish should get plenty of experience over the next nine days.

Contact Dan Murphy at [dmurphy6@nd.edu](mailto:dmurphy6@nd.edu)

**NHL**

# Reigning champs knock off Kings

Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — The defending Stanley Cup champion Anaheim Ducks finally seem to be building up some steam.

Corey Perry had two goals and an assist, and Chris Kunitz added three assists to lead the Ducks to a 6-3 win over the Los Angeles Kings on Thursday night.

The victory, the Ducks' second over Los Angeles in three nights, gave them their first three-game winning streak of the season.

"There's definitely something building," Perry said. "When you start a streak, guys get more confidence and things start going your way. That's what we've got to keep working on — playing our game and keep playing the same way on the road as we do at home."

"Everybody knows their role and everybody's doing their job. When you've got 23 guys on the same page, you're going to be successful. We're just starting to bond together now and starting to play a little bit better."

Perry scored his first goal while fighting for position in front of the Kings' net, and the second in a quite different manner, on a breakaway.

"You've got to go into those dirty areas, which are where a lot of goals are scored," he said of his second-period goal when he redirected a pass from Kunitz into the net.

"So if you're getting in there

and getting your nose dirty, you're going to get rewarded and some are going to go in off you."

Kunitz set him up for his next goal when he made a long pass between defenders and Perry skated in alone to beat Jean-Sebastien Aubin.

Aubin and Ducks counterpart Jean-Sebastien Giguere each made 26 saves.

Ryan Getzlaf broke a 2-2 tie when he jammed the puck past the sprawling Aubin at 2:08 of the third. The Kings' goalie blocked a shot by Perry, Kunitz took a couple of whacks at the puck near the left post, and it trickled across the crease to Getzlaf. The goal was his seventh.

Brad May gave the Ducks a two-goal pad when he scored on a backhand in the crease at 8:31 of the period. Anaheim made it 5-2 on Samuel Pahlsson's goal with 9:05 to play.

After Patrick O'Sullivan scored the Kings' third goal, with 3:19 remaining, Anaheim's Rob Niedermayer capped the scoring with a long, bouncing shot into an empty net with 42 seconds remaining.

Anaheim coach Randy Carlyle obviously was pleased with the win, saying, "It's a divisional foe and our biggest rival, so it's always nice to compete ever since I've been coaching in Anaheim, so there's no easy ones. And by no means was this easy tonight."

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**SMC SWIMMING**

# Belles head to Albion for conference meet

*Competition is first contest after event on Nov. 9 was postponed*

Observer Staff Report

Saint Mary's is 3-1 this season, but it has yet to face a conference opponent in a dual meet.

That changes tonight, when the Belles open their MIAA season at Albion.

The Britons are 0-2 this season, with losses to conference powers Calvin and Hope.

Saint Mary's dominated two opponents the last time it swam competitively. In a tri-meet in Crawfordsville, Ind.,

the Belles defeated Rose-Hulman 183- 44 and Illinois Wesleyan 157-72.

Saint Mary's won eight of the 13 events that day, including two individual victories by freshman Casey Niezer.

The Belles defeated Illinois Institution of Technology 74-31 and suffered their only defeat, 63-47 to Chicago, in a tri-meet at Chicago on Nov. 2.

Saint Mary's was supposed to face Alma last week at the Rolfs Aquatic Center, but the meet was postponed.

The Belles will play most of their conference schedule on the road over the next two and a half months before returning home to Rolfs for their final conference match on Feb. 1 against Kalamazoo.

# Storrs

continued from page 28

team's 17 goals and one assist this season. Highly-skilled sophomore Steffen Vroom joins Mangan up front.

"They are a big team," Clark said. "They're good, they're physical, they're good in set pieces."

Mangan and Vroom will not only have to deal with a stingy Notre Dame defense tonight, but also poor weather conditions. It rained all day Thursday in Connecticut and there is a chance for high winds and snow during the game.

"Last Sunday [against St. John's] was windy, Georgetown was windy, Providence was windy," Clark said.

"We've played in a lot of windy games, so if it's windy, we'll certainly be practiced in that."

If the Irish get past DePaul tonight, they will take on the

winner of the Louisville/Connecticut game Sunday at noon to decide the championship.

"I think this team is more than capable of winning the trophy, but we have to take it one game at a time," Clark said.

"There's two games to be won. It's very easy if you say it quickly, but the reality of it is that the first hurdle will be very difficult and I don't want to look beyond that."

Contact Greg Arbogast at garbogas@nd.edu

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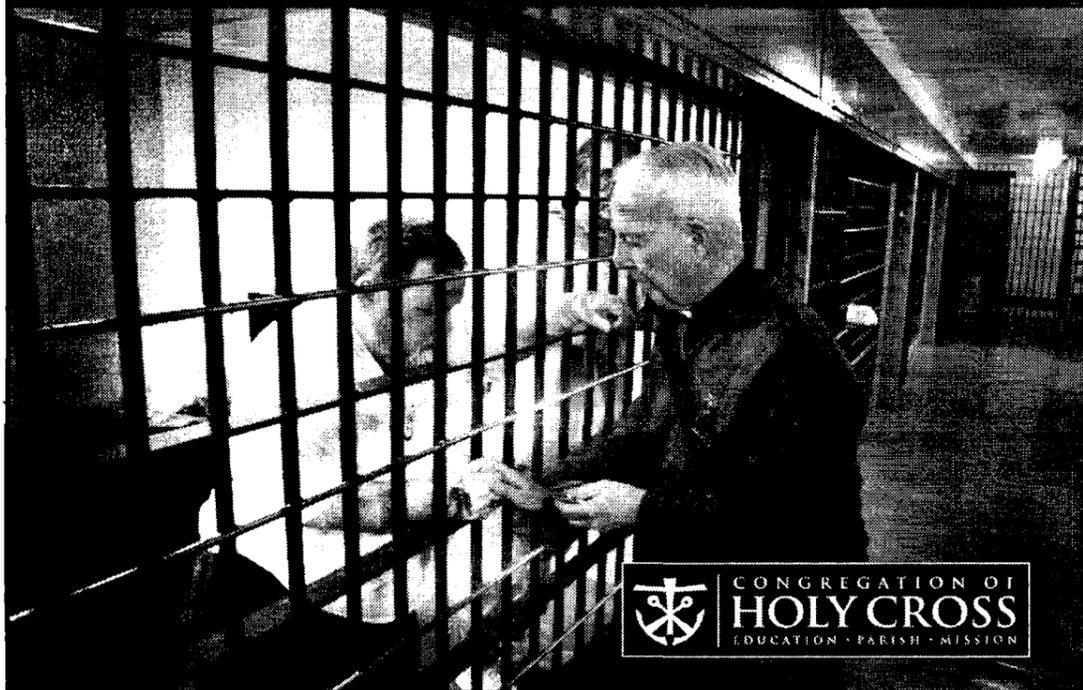
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# Hockey

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**vs. Western Michigan**

## Paradise

continued from page 28

about the long trip, but it won't be nearly as bad as Australia," he said. "My ankles won't be swelled up like balloons when we land this time."

Notre Dame (1-0) will open the tournament against Monmouth tonight. The Muhawks are 0-2, but both losses were close and on the road.

They lost 63-60 to Colgate on Nov. 9. Monmouth was down only one and had the ball with seven seconds left, but guard Jhamar Youngblood had a shot for the lead rim out.

Two days later, the Muhawks took on Big East member Seton Hall and had the Pirates on the ropes before losing 89-81 in overtime.

Monmouth uses a "Princeton-style" offense, which puts the center at the free throw line and relies on him to make crisp passes to cutters and three-point shooters. Junior Dutch Gaitley has been playing that role this season for the Muhawks.

The offense is hard to defend and can neutralize Notre Dame's height advantage. But Brey said the Irish also run Princeton-style plays and defend against them every day in practice.

Playing the Muhawks, Brey said, will provide the Irish with experience against the offense before they face it later in the season.

"We're going to see Georgetown run that stuff," he said.

If the Irish get by Monmouth, they will play Sunday against the winner of Baylor and Wichita State. If Notre Dame loses, it will play Saturday against the loser of the Baylor-Wichita State matchup.

If the Irish can win both of those games, they will advance to the tournament championship game on Monday. The likely opponent in that game is Georgia Tech or Winthrop. The Eagles eliminated the Irish from last season's NCAA Tournament.

Also participating in the tournament this weekend are Charlotte and Illinois-Chicago. The 49ers will take on the Yellow Jackets in the first round, while the Flames will take on Winthrop.

Notre Dame will play Monday regardless of its performance in the first two games of the tournament. Depending on how many games the Irish win, they will either play in the championship, third-place, fifth-place or seventh-place game.

Contact Chris Khorey at [ckhorey@nd.edu](mailto:ckhorey@nd.edu)

## Tourney

continued from page 28

the Big East championship game.

Irish coach Randy Waldrum said with both teams as hot as they are, the game may come down to chance.

"It could be decided on things like free kicks," Waldrum said. "Corner kicks, free kicks, throw-ins — Those dead ball situations can become extremely important in tight games."

And then there are intangibles.

"The other things [are] which team is going to come with the most heart and intensity,"

Waldrum said. "Just that competitive fire and that edge ... you have."

The winner of tonight's match will face either Illinois or Louisville — who play here tonight at 5 — on Alumni Field Sunday at 1 p.m.

But the Irish aren't looking past Loyola.

In the past four games, the

Ramblers have allowed only two goals. Waldrum said that, when facing such a tough defense, his team needs to control the ball and take advantage of any and all scoring opportunities — even those that may not appear to be the most promising.

"We need to take advantage of half chances that present themselves," Waldrum said. "We've got to take the opportunity to shoot the ball. Sometimes we want to keep moving the ball around until we get a perfect shot, and we miss opportunities."

Ramblers freshman keeper Colleen Dougherty has a record of 12-4-1 with seven shutouts since cracking the starting lineup. She has allowed 1.02 goals per game and has a .784 save percentage in 20 appearances.

Dougherty and the Loyola defense will face an Irish offense that averages 2.46 goals on 17.6 shots per game. Junior forward Kerri Hanks leads the Irish with 13 goals and 15 assists, and forward Brittany Bock has 12 goals of her own. Hanks has scored a point in 12

consecutive games.

Loyola forward Cynthia Morote-Ariza leads the Ramblers with 17 goals and 43 points, both single-season school records. Ariza, the Horizon League player of the year, presents a challenge for the Irish defense.

"She is the real deal. She's having a great year," Waldrum said. "She's a clever, kind of a creative type player. She's very good on the ball. She's clearly someone we're going to have to pay close attention to."

Notre Dame has won two NCAA championships, one in 1995 and the other in 2004. The Irish are 32-3-0 in NCAA Tournament games played on Alumni Field.

### Notes:

◆ Senior Amanda Cinalli, Hanks, Bock and Elise Weber made the initial ballot for the Missouri Athletic Club Hermann Trophy, presented annually to the nation's top player. The National Soccer Coaches Association will select 15 semifinalists.

◆ Sophomore defender Haley Ford was able to practice this week after suffering a hamstring injury earlier this season. Waldrum was unsure of how much, if any, playing time she could see this weekend.

Contact Bill Brink at [wbrink@nd.edu](mailto:wbrink@nd.edu)

## WNIT

continued from page 28

Oklahoma and the players that really stepped up to come out and have a night like tonight," Maryland coach Brenda Frese said after Maryland's win over Delaware. "It's just how we're playing so fluid and looking for each other. With all these weapons that we have on the team and no egos, it's a tremendous thing."

McGraw said Notre Dame will have trouble matching up with the Terrapins defensively. She also said Maryland is an even better team than the North Carolina squad that beat Notre Dame 60-51 in the second round of last season's NCAA Tournament.

"They have among the best athletes in the country," she said. "They have just great, great talent. So it will be interesting when we put our game plan together to see how we are going to guard them."

McGraw said that playing a team at Maryland's level will be a good gauge for how prepared the Irish are for the season.

"We get to play a team that's really talented and we will come home from that game knowing where we stand at that time," she said.

McGraw also stressed that this is only Notre Dame's third regular season game and that, even though upsetting a top-tier team on the road would be a confidence boost the Irish, winning is not essential for the team's growth.

"And so it's an opportunity for us to see where we are," McGraw said. "As I told the team, a win in

November is not going to get us a free ride to the Final Four. And if we don't do what we want, we can always come back and work on it."

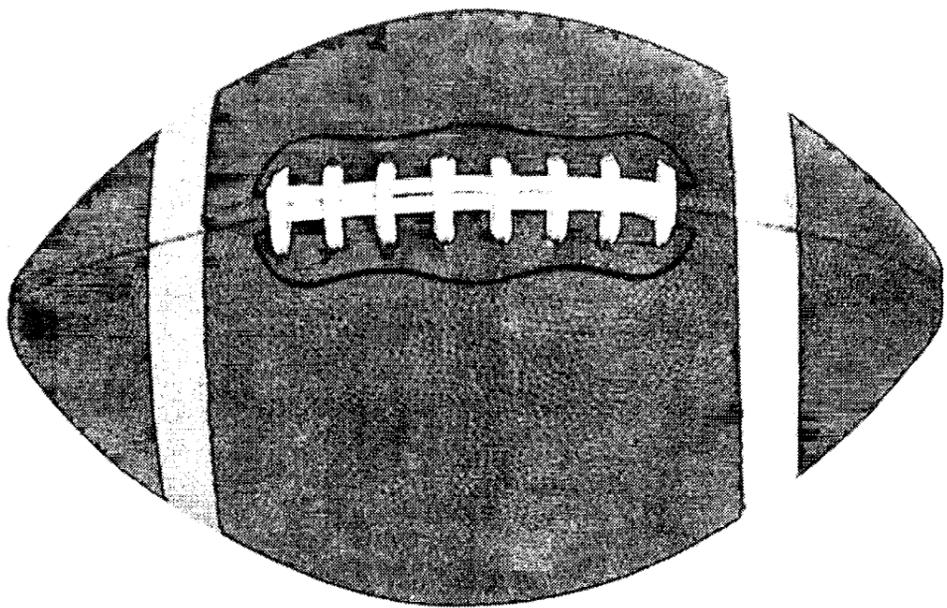
"I just think the opportunity is tremendous. We have absolutely no pressure on us to play."

Contact Jay Fitzpatrick at [jfitzpa5@nd.edu](mailto:jfitzpa5@nd.edu)

*"As I told the team, a win in November is not going to get us a free ride to the Final Four. And if we don't do what we want, we can always come back and work on it."*

Muffet McGraw  
Irish coach

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ND WOMEN'S SOCCER

Prime time

Irish host Loyola in first round of NCAA Tournament tonight

By BILL BRINK  
Sports Writer

Notre Dame is 12-1 in its last 13 games, while Loyola-Chicago is 12-3-1 since Sept. 21.

Something has to give tonight when the Ramblers face the Irish on Alumni Field at 7:30 in the first round of the NCAA Tournament.

Notre Dame (15-4-2) and Loyola have played four times, most recently in 2003 when the Irish beat the Ramblers 5-0, also in the first round of the NCAA Tournament. Notre Dame has outscored Loyola 37-0 in the four-game series.

The Irish have now made their 15th consecutive NCAA Tournament and have played first-round games at home for the past 14 seasons.

The conference championship games ended in penalty kicks for both teams. Loyola (14-8-1) will make its third NCAA Tournament appearance after winning the Horizon League title with a 3-2 PK victory over Milwaukee after playing to a 2-2 draw through regulation and the two overtime periods.

The Irish fell 5-3 in penalty kicks to West Virginia after a 1-1 tie through 110 minutes in

see TOURNEY/page 26



At top, Irish midfielder Courtney Rosen fends off a Villanova defender. At right, Notre Dame defender Julie Scheidler swings at a service ball.



PHOTOS BY  
IAN GAVLIC

MEN'S BASKETBALL

Paradise? More work trip for ND

Players to get some sun, experience at island event

By CHRIS KHOREY  
Sports Editor

Notre Dame is spending almost a full week in the Virgin Islands, but Irish head coach Mike Brey isn't worried about his team losing focus.

"Part of keeping them loose is having a little beach time," Brey said. "All of a sudden you shoot a little better when you've been on the beach."

Notre Dame will compete in the Paradise Jam tournament, hosted by The University of the Virgin Islands today through Monday on the island of St. Thomas.

With three crucial games to play, Brey said, this trip is not a vacation.

"We have to be smart about when we prepare and focus," he said.

The Irish flew to St. Thomas Wednesday. The six-hour plane trip was the longest Notre Dame is scheduled to take this season. But that didn't both junior forward Luke Zeller, who played with a travel team in Australia over the summer.

"Some of the guys are worried

see PARADISE/page 26

ND WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Maryland awaits in WNIT semi

McGraw says No. 3 Terrapins will challenge Irish defensively

By JAY FITZPATRICK  
Associate Sports Editor

Notre Dame has won every game this season in a blowout. Even when Irish coach Muffet McGraw has said that her team did not play well, the Irish have won by a wide margin.

But that is likely to change today when the Irish take on No. 3 Maryland in College Park at 7 p.m. in the second round of the Preseason Women's National Invitation Tournament.

McGraw affirmed Maryland's status as one of the top teams in the country, and she already predicts a deep postseason run for the Terrapins.

"I think that this is a great opportunity [to play a team] that everybody, including myself, thinks will be in the Final Four," McGraw said. "I think they're one of the most talented teams in the country. They've got depth, they've got size, they've got speed. They've really got everything that you need to get to the Final Four."

Maryland has been just as dominant as the Irish early in the season — if not more so. In

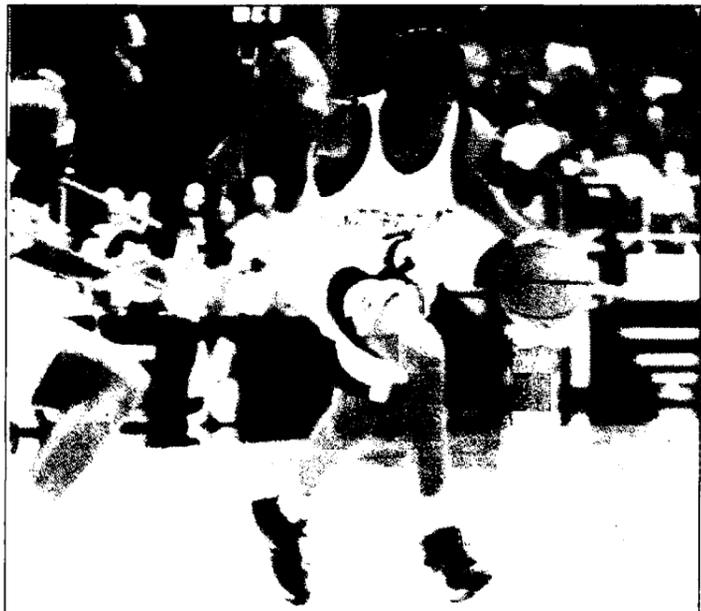
the second round of the Preseason NIT, the Terrapins beat Delaware 91-43 and had four players in double figures. Forward Jade Perry posted the game's only double-double with 11 points and 15 rebounds; forward Marissa Coleman had 16 points, guard Kristi Tolliver added 16 and

reserve Ashleigh Newman netted 18 points in the win.

Maryland also beat then-No. 6 Oklahoma in the State Farm Tip-Off Classic 76-66.

"That's what makes a dangerous team — to be able to see the success we had against

see WNIT/page 26



Irish senior guard Charel Allen drives to the lane in Notre Dame's 78-59 win over Western Kentucky at the Joyce Center Tuesday.

ALLISON AMBROSE/The Observer

MEN'S SOCCER

Squad's third Big East title in reach

Lapira and Co. take on DePaul today; winner faces UConn or L'ville

By DAN MURPHY  
Associate Sports Editor

The Irish will try to move one step closer to their third Big East tournament title tonight when they take on No. 19 DePaul in the semifinals at 5:30.

If Notre Dame wins, the Irish will play in the championship game on Sunday against either Louisville or Connecticut in Storrs, Conn.

The Blue Demons (12-6-0) were the regular season winners of the Red Division in the conference and No. 10 Notre Dame finished in a tie with Connecticut for first place in the Blue Division.

"I think it speaks for itself when you're nationally ranked at the end of the season, I think you've done pretty well. They had a wonderful year," Clark said.

DePaul's season was highlighted by a 2-0 win over No.

1 Connecticut and a win against St. John's on the road. The Blue Demons also beat Cincinnati at home to claim their first-ever Big East tournament win last Saturday.

The Blue Demons joined the conference in 2006 and lost to Notre Dame in the opening round of last year's Big East tournament.

"Last year DePaul was at the bottom of the league, now they're at the top," Clark said. "We're dealing with two different teams, you certainly don't want to look back."

If the Irish did look back, however, they would be pleased with the results. The two teams have faced off 18 times in their history and Notre Dame has won all but one of the meetings, outscoring DePaul 89-4 in the series.

But as Clark said, this year is different. The Blue Demons allowed only 12 goals in 18 games this season, including 11 shutouts, ten from senior goalkeeper Brian Visser.

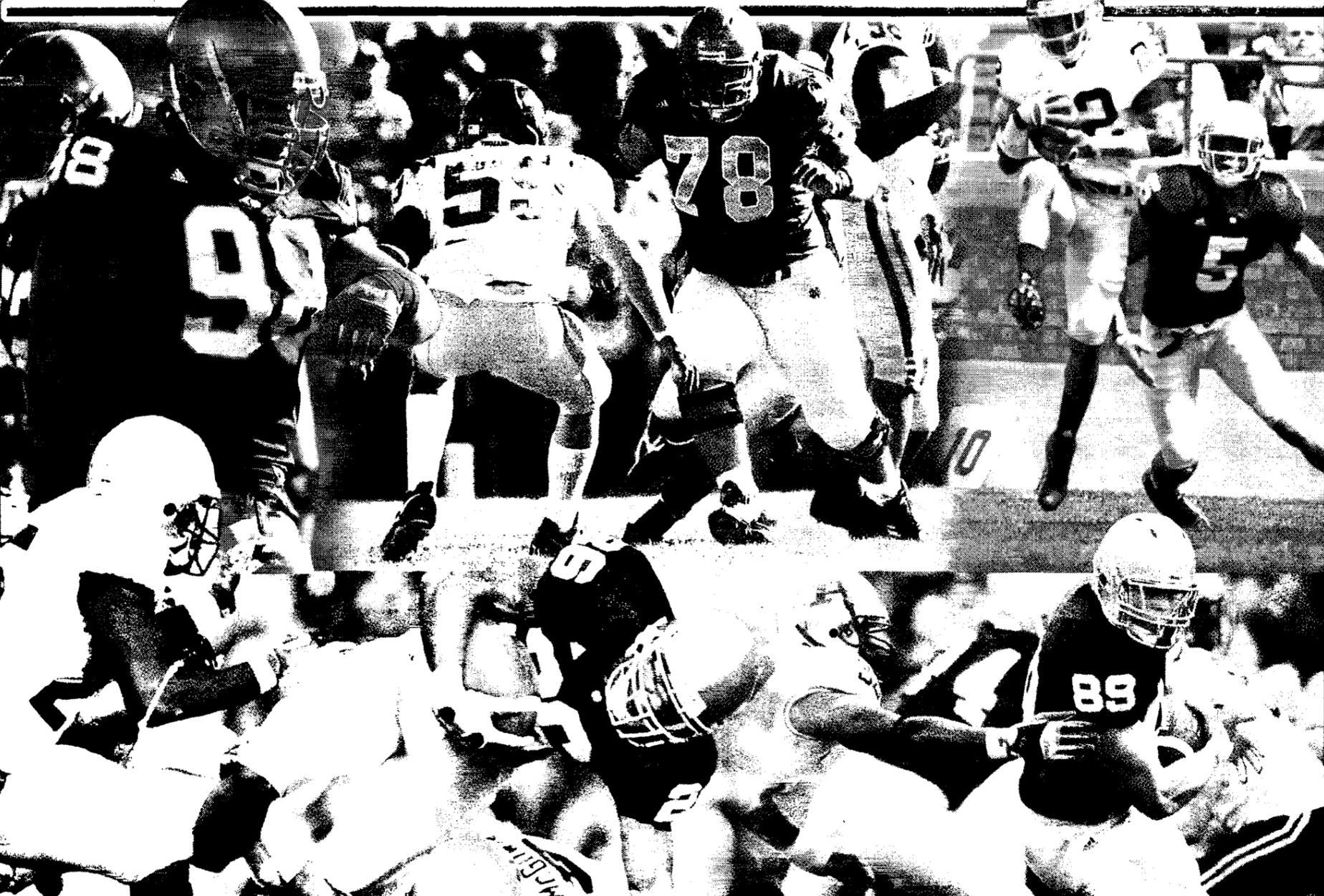
Sophomore forward Alex Mangan has led DePaul on offense, with seven of the

see STORRS/page 25

# IRISH INSIDER

Friday, November 16, 2007

THE  
OBSERVER



The seniors of 2008 had roller coaster careers at Notre Dame. Saturday, they'll try for one last win at the Stadium.

COMMENTARY

# Adversity never stopped seniors

Seventeen scholarship football players arrived at Notre Dame in the fall of 2004.

Only seven are still on the roster.

The Class of 2008 has seen attrition in every way imaginable.

Some players had bad luck — like linebacker Abdel Banda, who suffered a career-ending injury.

Some decided playing varsity football wouldn't be part of their Notre Dame experience after all — like John Kadous and Stanford Interhall star Tregg Duerson.

Some were upset about the coaching change or lack of playing time — like running back Justin Hoskins (now at Central Michigan), quarterback David Wolke (now at Western Kentucky), defensive lineman Brandon Nicolas (now at Colorado) and wide receiver Chris Vaughn (now at Louisville).

And one — running back Darius Walker — opted for an NFL paycheck over his senior season in South Bend.

But even without most of the players they met at Frosh-O, the Class of 2008 has found a way to succeed. They helped the Irish to three bowl games in their time on campus, including two of the BCS variety. And they have done their best to hold the team together during this disastrous 1-9 season.

And now, along with their walk-on brethren and the nine fifth-year seniors, seven recruited scholarship seniors — Maurice Crum, Justin Brown, Terrail Lambert, Leo Ferrine, Junior Jabbie, Darrin Bragg and Anthony Vernaglia — will play possibly their final game at Notre Dame Stadium. (All seven are eligible for fifth years.)

Those seven have seen classmates leave the team, but they stuck it out. They have endured ridicule from fans who called them "not talented enough," but they never lashed out in the media. Some of them have struggled to get off the bench, but they never stopped working.

Through the biggest wins and the most crushing losses, those seven have remained focused on the goal they originally set out to reach — to bring Notre Dame back to the elite. For two years, the Irish were back in the top 20, thanks in part to

them. And while this season has fallen apart, they continue to try to lead the younger players, trying to ensure the program's future.

For the nine fifth-year seniors, the story is different. They arrived at a Notre Dame that saw a bright future ahead after Tyrone Willingham's 10-3 first season. Their classmates included All-America receiver Jeff Samardzija and first-round quarterback Brady Quinn.

After BCS bowls in their junior and senior seasons, this group — John Carlson, Travis Thomas, John Sullivan, Trevor Laws, Tom Zbikowski, Dwight Stephenson, Joe Brockington, Ambrose Wooden and Geoff Price — all decided to return for one more year.

Obviously, this season has not gone as planned, but they have all played with heart and tried to lead despite the losses. They are part of the greatest Notre Dame class since the Holtz era, and their contributions will not be forgotten, even in the darkest hour of Irish football.

And it's important to remember the rest of the senior class — the walk-ons. They joined the team not for a shot at the NFL, but for the camaraderie of their teammates and the chance to wear a gold helmet.

Their best memories aren't scoring a touchdown or making a sack in a big game, but rather when they put on their green jersey before USC in 2005 or when they intercepted a Quinn pass in practice — or even just playing catch on the field in front of 80,000 people.

They have majors like engineering and pre-professional, but they still find time to learn the opponent's playbook every week to help prepare their teammates.

Saturday will almost certainly be their last game at Notre Dame Stadium. If they're lucky, they'll be able to get into the game for a play or two. Even if they're not, they'll be excited to be out there with their friends one last time.

It's been a long season. But win or lose, all of the seniors will probably linger on the field for a few extra seconds, remembering the good times they had there.

They've been through a lot at Notre Dame, and they've handled it all with grace and class.

And for that, they deserve a hand.

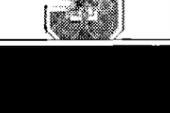
*The views in this column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer.*

Contact Chris Khorey at [cckhorey@nd.edu](mailto:cckhorey@nd.edu).



Chris Khorey  
Sports Editor

## 2007 Irish opponents

	Last week	This week
 (6-4)	W, 41-24, Duke	vs North Carolina
 (8-3)	W, 31-0, Temple	at Michigan State
 (8-3)	L, 21-37, Wisc.	vs Ohio State
 (6-5)	W, 48-31, Purdue	vs Penn State
 (7-4)	L, 31-48, MSU	at Indiana
 (5-5)	L, 20-24, ASU	vs Oregon
 (8-2)	L, 35-42, Md.	at Clemson
 (8-2)	W, 24-17, Cal	Idle
 (6-4)	W, 74-62, N. Tex.	vs. N. Illinois
 (8-3)	W, 41-24, ND	vs San Diego St.
 (1-9)	L, 24-41, Ga. Tech	at Notre Dame
 (3-7)	L, 17-33, WSU	Idle

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### Notre Dame Stadium

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As a courtesy to our guests:

- Disruptive, unruly behavior will not be tolerated
- Persons without authorization are not permitted on the field
- No cans or glass bottles are permitted in the stadium
- The use of intoxicating substances is strictly prohibited
- Throwing objects in the stands or onto the field is prohibited
- Please, do not bring stadium chairs, seat backs or other oversized or noise-producing items into the stadium
- Limited use of cameras, portable/handheld televisions and portable radios is permitted
- In accordance with a St. Joseph County ordinance, there will be no smoking allowed in any part of Notre Dame Stadium
- All persons are subject to search, which includes clothing, jackets, bags and purses (Violators are subject to ejection from the stadium and may have future ticket privileges revoked)



JOHN CARLSON

# Chip off the old block

*Carlson reflects on his father's influence, a tough senior season, and a future beyond Notre Dame*



ERIC SALES/The Observer

Irish senior tight end John Carlson makes a five-yard touchdown grab from freshman quarterback Jimmy Clausen during the 33-19 Irish loss at Purdue on Sept. 29. Carlson finished the game with five catches.

By CHRIS HINE  
Sports Editor

Notre Dame tight end John Carlson has played in two BCS bowl games, was a finalist for the Mackey Award last season, and is a likely NFL prospect.

But for all his athletic accomplishments, few are as special to Carlson as the state title he, his brother Alex, and his father, John Sr., won together in basketball during Carlson's freshman year at Litchfield High School in Minnesota.

Carlson was the starting center, Alex, a senior at the time, was the starting point guard and John Sr. was the coach of the 30-0 Litchfield High School, who captured the Minnesota Class 2A state title in 2000.

Immediately after claiming the title, the Carlson clan met at mid-court and embraced each other in celebration of their rare, Disney-like accomplishment — and it was an embrace Carlson will never forget.

"It was one of the greatest moments of my athletic career so far and it always will be," Carlson said. "We have a picture of the three of us hugging at mid-court and even if I didn't have that picture, I'd always have that image in my mind. It was really special."

But even when things weren't going so well for Carlson, his family was there and continues to be there for him.

## The path to Notre Dame

Aside from his duties as a highly successful basketball coach, Carlson Sr. was also the offensive coordinator for the football team and is still the

tennis coach at Litchfield. Through his father, Carlson developed his ability in all three sports and developed into an all-state basketball and football player and an all-conference tennis player.

"I was exposed to [sports] at a very young age, going to practice and sitting on the bench at games," Carlson said. "That kind of piqued my interest at a very young age and it provided me an opportunity to get in the gym whenever I wanted, get in the weight room whenever I wanted."

While some fathers who are coaches by trade take an overly hands-on approach and pressure their children to become the best at their sport, Carlson Sr. was never like that with his son, Carlson said.

He never forced his son to do anything he didn't want to do, but if John wanted to attend a basketball camp in Pittsburgh or go to a football camp, Carlson Sr. made sure his son was there.

"When I was younger, he did everything I wanted to do," Carlson said. "He provided me with every opportunity athletically, that I asked for ... but he never forced anything on me. It was always everything I wanted to do and he just facilitated that."

But when Carlson Sr. was coaching Carlson in a sport, things were a little bit different.

"The only time he pushed me

was when he was my head coach and that was his job," Carlson said. "As a father, he did his best to let me follow my own interests and not force anything on me."

While his father provided Carlson with every opportunity to become a better athlete, his brothers provided the inspiration. Alex Carlson was a pretty good athlete in his own right, making the basketball team as an eighth grader and the tennis team as a seventh grader.

"He was definitely someone I aspired to be like and because of our body types, we played different positions, but as a competitor, as a football, basketball, tennis player, he was definitely a role model I aspire to be like," Carlson said.

## Becoming a star

Carlson was highly acclaimed in all three sports. He even played on the basketball team at Notre Dame in his freshman season before he decided to concentrate on football. But it was three years before Carlson became the star that he is today.

In his freshman year, Carlson redshirted, and for someone who grew up constantly playing sports, a year without getting playing time in any sport was tough to take.

"By far, my freshman year, my first semester, was the most difficult time here," Carlson said. "You're away from home for the first time. It's going from the high school to the college game. I came in undersized. I was 225 pounds, way undersized, and it's practicing everyday and not getting to play in the games, adjusting to academic and college life. It

was tough."

Through that difficult first year, Carlson's family was there to offer advice and help him persevere.

"They just pushed me to keep working hard and do my best," Carlson said. "That's kind of been a common theme, do your best. If you've done everything you can do, you can't worry about the results."

Carlson first saw the field his sophomore season on special teams and as a back-up tight end. During his junior season, he backed up current Dallas Cowboys tight end Anthony Fasano. Carlson caught his first touchdown that season in a 49-28 Notre Dame win at Purdue on Oct. 1, 2005.

Last season, Carlson broke out and garnered national attention for his athleticism and versatility at tight end. In Notre Dame's home-opening 41-17 win over Penn State on Sept. 9, 2006, Carlson had six catches for 98 yards. Over the course of the season, Carlson helped ease the pressure on receivers Rhema McKnight and Jeff Samardzija by becoming a reliable target for the Irish in the middle of the field.

An injury sidelined Carlson for Notre Dame's final two regular season contests, but Carlson came back for Notre Dame's 41-14 loss in the Sugar Bowl to LSU.

He then decided to use his final year of eligibility, returning to the Irish and putting off plans to enter the NFL Draft. This season hasn't gone the way Carlson or any Irish fan hoped it would. But being a captain of a 1-9 team still carries tremendous responsibility — keeping the team from ruining itself from within — and Carlson is proud of the way his

teammates have responded to this year's adversity.

"This team as a whole, going through everything we've gone through this year, we've never given up," Carlson said. "We

continue to work hard and we haven't turned on each other. We showed a lot of pride, a lot of character and a lot of resolve. It makes me proud to be a part of this team, a part of this University."

With his career at Notre Dame winding

down, Carlson said he hasn't had time to look back and evaluate what his years at Notre Dame have taught him. But he said friend and fellow fifth-year senior, center John Sullivan, could tell you how he's changed as a person.

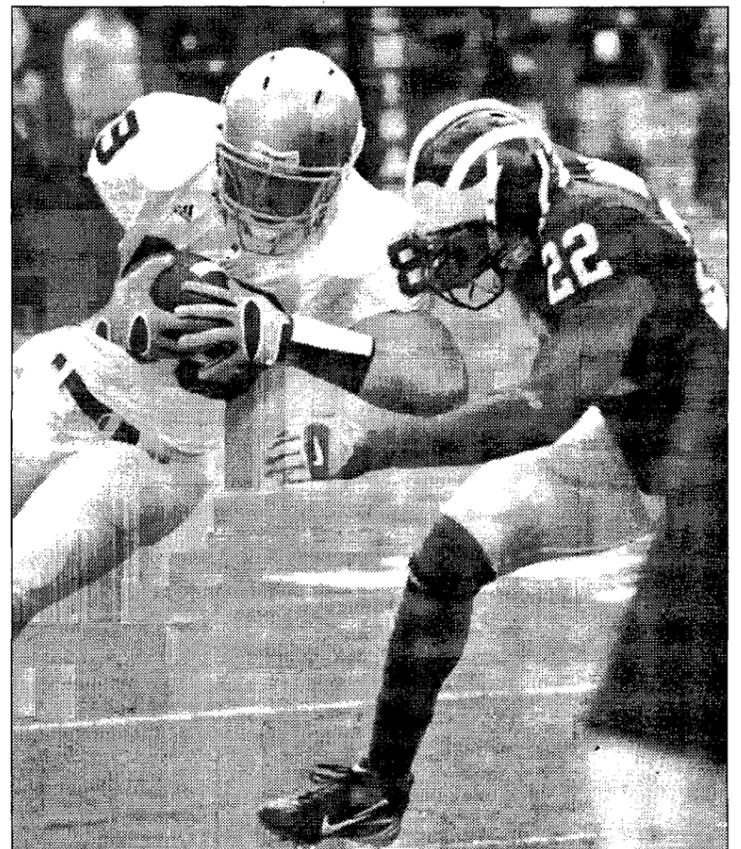
Sullivan said Carlson has grown up just like the rest of the upperclassmen on the team, but it hasn't changed the kind of person he is.

"Well, you know he came in and he's a small town guy and he's been exposed to a little bigger area. ... But I think he's matured just like the rest of us have," Sullivan said. "He's definitely more vocal than when he first came in. I don't know what that's due to, but he's definitely more vocal. He's just matured a lot as a football player and a person. I don't know what else to say about him, he's just a great guy."

Headed into the final home game of his career, Carlson is focused on beating Duke, but once the game is over, it will be hard to hold back how he feels.

"I know when that clock winds down, it'll really be an emotional time for me," Carlson said.

Contact Chris Hine at [chine@nd.edu](mailto:chine@nd.edu)



ALLISON AMBROSE/The Observer

Irish tight end John Carlson secures the ball before taking a hit from Michigan safety Jamar Adams during Notre Dame's 38-0 loss on Sept. 15.

## MAURICE CRUM

## LB's legacy intact whether he stays or goes

By CHRIS HINE  
Sports Editor

Whether he decides to end his career at Notre Dame after this season or next season, linebacker Maurice Crum has already left a legacy at Notre Dame that will be hard to replace.

Crum led the team in tackles last season with 100 and has succeeded both under Rick Minter's 4-3 defensive scheme and Corwin Brown 3-4 personnel scheme.

Aside from his contributions on the field, Crum was voted captain by his teammates prior to this season and has helped hold his team together during a 1-9 season that would see other programs implode.

Crum's father, Maurice Sr., who was an All-America linebacker at the Miami, told The Observer in October that his son planned to apply for a fifth year of eligibility — but Crum himself has yet to say whether he will seek a fifth year.

As for this season, Irish fans owe a debt of gratitude to Crum for Notre Dame's only win this season, a 20-6 victory over UCLA on Oct. 6.

Crum had a night to remember against the Bruins — he recorded seven tackles, one sack, recovered two fumbles, grabbed two interceptions and scored a touchdown in Notre Dame's first win of the season.

"It was a dream," Crum said. "[That game] was like what people dream about, seeing and making plays. It's something that will be in

my heart forever."

But it took a couple of years for that dream to become reality.

Crum was an all-state linebacker at Tampa Bay Tech High School in Florida. Even though football is in his blood, Crum said it still required consistent hard work — even at a young age — to become a star athlete.

"It's been a steady process since I was born basically," Crum said. "You know, being a young kid and learning to be competitive, and as I got older I started learning technique and so it's basically been a steady process."

When he arrived at Notre Dame, Crum found out that he had to keep developing if he was going to see the field. He was red-shirted freshman year, and that, he said, was harder to take than a 1-9 record this season.

"This season is hard, but it's always harder when you don't play," Crum said. "At least this year, you're out there and you have a chance to try but when you're on the sidelines and you're not playing — it's hard. I mean, you come from high school being the guy and you always feeling like you have a chance to make a play, but again it's hard. I think that's the toughest part though is just watching."

Crum's father, however, gave him the advice he needed to get through that tough first year.

"For the most part I kept in contact with my dad and he kept telling me, 'Don't worry. Your time will come. And make the most of it when you get it,'" Crum said.

Crum said his passion for football has only grown in four years.

"One thing I've learned about myself is that I'm more emotional than I thought I was and I realized that I really, really love football with all my heart," Crum said. "That's the reason I'm so emotional."

After two straight seasons capped by BCS Bowl appearances, Crum

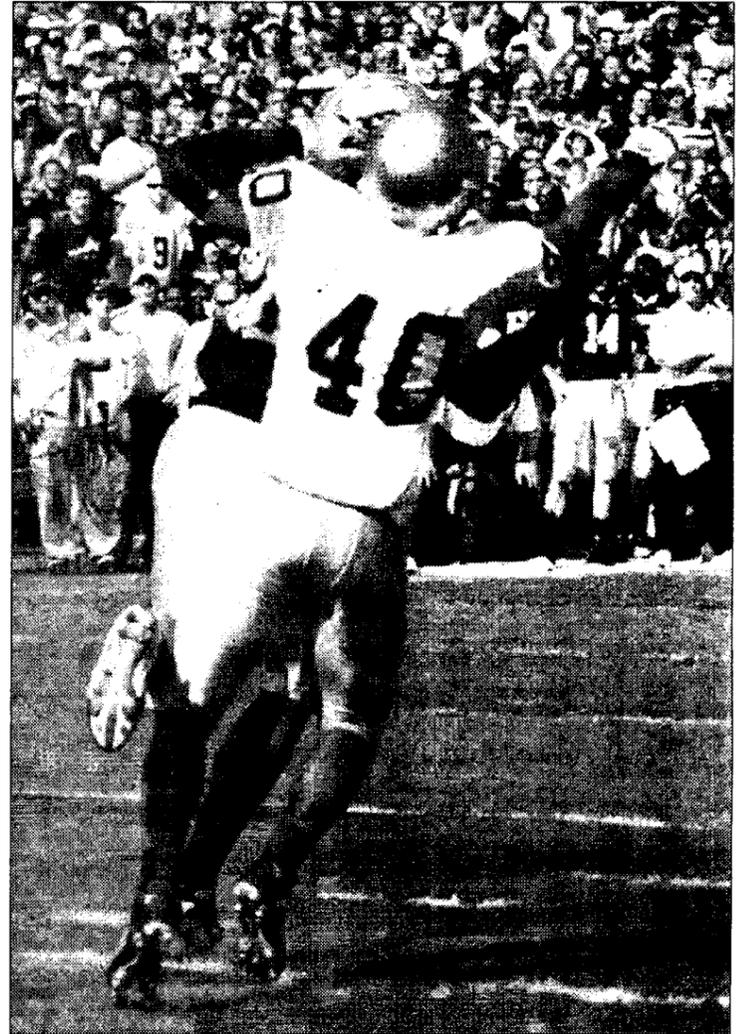
learned a valuable lesson this season about his teammates and the University that he'll take with him next year — whether or not he returns to Notre Dame.

"I think the one positive that I've seen through this season that Notre Dame is really a family," Crum said. "The fans, the students, us as a team, the coaching staff — nobody quits regardless of what's happening, whether we're winning or losing. Everyone here has each other's back. We're a family."

*"The fans, the students, us as a team, the coaching staff — nobody quits regardless of what's happening."*

**Maurice Crum**  
Irish linebacker

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ALLISON AMBROSE/The Observer  
Irish linebacker Maurice Crum deflects a pass during Notre Dame's 33-19 loss to Purdue on Sept. 29.

## JUSTIN BROWN

## Faith keeps Brown positive during struggles

By CHRIS KHOREY  
Sports Editor

"What doesn't kill you makes you stronger."

That motto is what's gotten Justin Brown through thick and thin.

The 6-foot-3, 261-pound defensive lineman has been through ups and downs in his career at Notre Dame. But his faith in God and belief

that any negative can be turned into a positive has kept a smile on his face.

"God will not put anything on you more than you can bear," he said.

And while Brown's faith has been tested during Notre Dame's 1-9 season, he said he is a better man for having gone through it.

"You have to take it as a learning experience," he said. "The thing that keeps

me going is my own will and my faith in God. I just try to make every day better."

Brown played only one year of organized football at Bishop McNamara High School in Forestville, Md. But after he made 65 tackles, had nine sacks and recovered three fumbles his senior year, recruiters came calling — including some from Tyrone Willingham's staff at Notre Dame.

Brown committed to Notre Dame over Boston College and Connecticut.

"It was a good blend of academics and a chance to win a national championship," he said. "I liked the coaching staff when I got recruited."

But that coaching staff wouldn't be around for long. After 2004's 6-5 regular season in which Brown didn't play and spent most of his time "kind of in awe of everything around me," Willingham was fired.

"When he got fired, it was a surprise more than anything," Brown said. Charlie Weis replaced Willingham and suddenly, Brown said, "everything was different."

"It was like being a freshman again for another year," he said. Brown saw the first playing

time of his career that year in the season opener against Pittsburgh. He played in all 12 games that season, including making one start.

The next season, Brown got his first career sack against Navy — and then got another one against Air Force.

But after 2006, Irish defensive coordinator Rick Minter was fired and Brown had to get to know his third defensive coordinator in four years — Corwin Brown.

The new coordinator brought a 3-4 defensive personnel package that changed

Justin Brown's roll dramatically. Although he remained a defensive end, the senior has focus more on keeping offensive linemen off linebackers than on containing the outside edge.

But he said the adjustment hasn't been too stressful.

"After having to adjust so many times, it was a pretty easy adjustment," he said. Off the field, Justin Brown

is a Film, Television and Theatre major and wants to go into TV advertising. But he has the option of a fifth year at Notre Dame.

"That's an option we'll discuss after the season," he said.

*"Going through adversity builds character. The past is the past. You can't change it."*

**Justin Brown**  
Irish defensive lineman

Justin Brown said he would like to pursue a career in football after Notre Dame, but if that doesn't

work out, he has a portfolio of films from his major to show to potential employers. He has even made a silent film.

"It was about a girl and a guy," he said. "The guy was cheating on the girl and she found the phone number in his pocket. She got pretty mad."

"It's easy to show anger, so it wasn't that bad."

But while it's easy for Justin Brown to show anger on film, his positive outlook has allowed him to keep from getting too angry over real life — even a football season as bad as this one.

"Going through adversity builds character," he said. "The past is the past. You can't change it."

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JENNIFER KANG/The Observer  
Irish defensive end Justin Brown tackles Nittany Lions wide receiver Deon Butler during Notre Dame's 31-10 loss on Sept. 8.

TOM ZBIKOWSKI

# The will to win

Whether on the football field or in the boxing ring, Zbikowski makes sure to give full effort



Irish senior strong safety Tom Zbikowski tackles USC running back Stafon Johnson during the 38-0 Notre Dame loss on Oct. 20 at Notre Dame Stadium. Zbikowski finished the day with 10 tackles.

KATE FENLON/The Observer

By CHRIS HINE AND  
CHRIS MCGRADY  
Sports Writers

Irish safety Tom Zbikowski has had many memorable moments in his career: sporting the "Mohawk" in 2006, scoring on a punt return during Notre Dame's 34-31 loss to USC in 2005 and the Michigan State "grab-and-go" fumble recovery in 2004 when Zbikowski pried the ball from the hands of Spartans running back Jason Teague and returned it for a touchdown.

When one thinks of Zbikowski's legacy, these are the recollections that will come to mind. His career had both highs and lows, but one thing that never changed was his will to win.

Zbikowski was a star prep player at Buffalo Grove High School in the suburbs of Chicago as a quarterback and safety. He was named the Gatorade player of the year for Illinois and was a USA Today high school All-American. He entered Notre Dame as a highly regarded recruit, ready to break out as a contributor. That's when things ground to a halt.

Zbikowski sat out his freshman season. As his first collegiate year wore on, he found himself struggling with his role on the team.

"When you're not playing, even though you have a role on the team, whether it's scout team or anything else, you just don't feel like you are really part of the team," Zbikowski said. "It's because you can't help out at all. That was the hardest thing."

Zbikowski even thought about transferring during the summer but ultimately ended up back at the program.

Though his hopes were momentarily grounded by not playing, he never lost his drive to succeed.

"I was motivated. I would work out by myself or with other players who were red-shirted," Zbikowski said. "I would do anything to get on the field any way I could."

After a year of hard work, things quickly began to look up for the hard-hitting safety with a nose for big plays. During his sophomore season, he found himself on the field for the first time and started all 12 games. Not one to settle for mediocrity, Zbikowski was unsatisfied sim-

ply being a role player that the coaches simply plugged into the defensive starting lineup. He hoped to stand out on the field — and that is just what he did.

After a few solid games, including a five-tackle performance against BYU in his first collegiate start, Zbikowski had the first of many game-changing performances on Sept. 18, 2004.

Zbikowski broke onto the national stage with the force of a sledgehammer, creating a fumble and returning it 75 yards for a touchdown. He added a team-high nine tackles and intercepted a pass. Just as he did after ripping the ball from Teague, Zbikowski took his opportunity and ran with it, never pausing to look back.

In 2005, Zbikowski lived up to high expectations. He returned two interceptions and two punts for touchdowns and was fourth on the team in tackles. His biggest punt return was a 60-yard zig-zagging touchdown strike to go up 21-14 against then-No. 1 USC.

When asked to describe the adrenaline rush he gets from returning punts, Zbikowski is almost at a loss for words.

"When you go back to take a punt, you're tired from the defensive series. You have 21 guys in front of you, and if you muff it or drop it, there's 80,000 people watching you. They all have their eyes on you," Zbikowski said. "But once you catch it, your mind just goes blank. You just react."

His play on the field was as

impressive as his performance off the field — as a professional boxer. Zbikowski, who had fought for years and was a Golden Gloves boxer, squared off against Robert Bell, a self-proclaimed Ohio State fan, in Madison Square Garden. Forty-nine seconds after the opening bell chimed, Zbikowski then chimed Bell, sending the portly boxer to the mat as a victim of a technical knockout. Zbikowski's boxing career may seem like an outlet for his stress, but it's anything but that.

"I've been [boxing] for so long, it's just part of my life. It's not going out there and hitting a bag and just having fun," Zbikowski said. "There's nothing like stepping in a ring and knowing you're about to get in a fight."

The attributes of a boxer — stamina, courage and strength — served Zbikowski well on the football field as he entered his senior year as a preseason third-team All-American on a team picked as a national championship contender. While the season didn't end the way he hoped, Zbikowski came up with a solid year, finishing third on the team with 79 tackles and returning a punt for a touchdown.

But his weight was somewhat higher than it should have been — because of boxing — and he was looking for a return to form in 2007.

Zbikowski's decision to come back for his fifth year has obviously not gone as he planned, with the Irish sporting a 1-9 record going into his final home game. Despite the record, Zbikowski is here to win, make no mistake about it.

"I hate losing. I'm still going

be fighting through all the tough times and do whatever it takes to get on the winning sign," Zbikowski said.

The only thing that tempers the losses is having the support of his teammates.

"It's obviously not fun losing, but there is a great group of guys in there that makes it better," Zbikowski said. "It helps to have guys like that."

*"My legacy? A playmaker, that no matter what the circumstances were, was always playing hard and giving it 100 percent."*

Tom Zbikowski  
Irish safety

Zbikowski was famously roommates with former All-American wide receiver Jeff Samardzija. As one of the nine holdovers in the fifth-year class, Zbikowski has

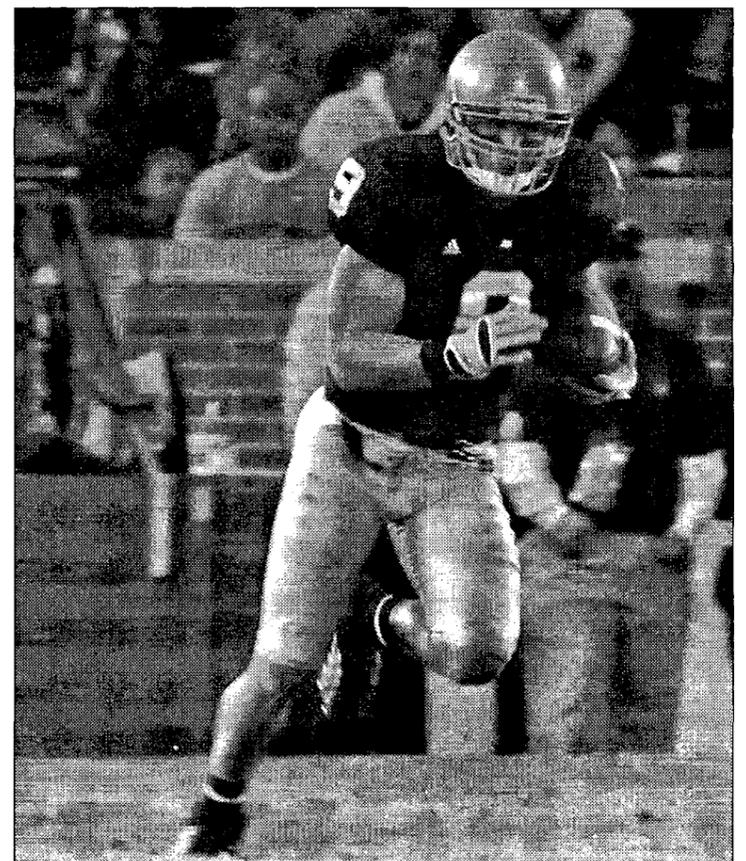
had to become close to the younger players, something that hasn't been difficult.

"It is like a second generation of friends," Zbikowski said.

From his humbling beginnings as a non-playing freshman to becoming a team captain and All-American candidate, Zbikowski's career has traveled full-circle. Irish fans may remember him for different reasons — watching him streak up the field on the way to another punt return, laying a bone-crushing hit in the secondary or patrolling the sidelines as an oddly-haired enforcer — but one recurrent theme is his role as one of the most exciting and electric players in recent Notre Dame history. And how does he want his legacy to be remembered?

"My legacy?" Zbikowski said. "A playmaker, that no matter what the circumstances were, was always playing hard and giving it 100 percent."

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Irish safety Tom Zbikowski returns a punt during Notre Dame's 27-14 loss to Boston College on Oct. 14.

JESSICA LEE/The Observer

## TERRAIL LAMBERT

## Lambert still remembers 2006 highlight

By KEN FOWLER  
Sports Writer

Terrail Lambert was improving, but then Michigan superstar receiver Mario Manningham came to Notre Dame Stadium and showed up the entire Irish defense.

It was the third game of Lambert's junior season, 2006, and it was a humbling experience.

A week later, Lambert became a star.

Notre Dame entered the fourth quarter trailing Michigan State by 16 points in East Lansing, Mich. A season of hope appeared ready to turn into a season of false expectations.

Then the Irish defense had its say. Notre Dame found itself down by four with less than three minutes left when Lambert intercepted Drew Stanton's pass and scampered 27 yards for a touchdown and a three-point lead.

Two minutes later, Lambert sealed the deal with an acrobatic interception on a tipped desperation pass on the right sideline.

"It really didn't sink in until maybe a couple of days after," Lambert said. "It's a really euphoric experience."

"I just remember running with the ball in my hands. It just like magically appeared in my hands," Lambert added with a laugh. "And I'm running down the sidelines. I can't hear the

crowd. I can't hear anything, but I could have heard a pin drop. It's crazy. I had my heart pumping on my way to the end zone."

Since the final two games of last season, however, it's been a tough ride.

*"I just remember running with the ball in my hands. It just like magically appeared in my hands. And I'm running down the sidelines. I can't hear the crowd, I can't hear anything, but I could have heard a pin drop."*

**Terrail Lambert  
Irish cornerback**

want from what could be his final game in Notre Dame Stadium?

"First and foremost, ending the season on a good note," Lambert said. "Individually and collectively, we want to leave with a good taste in our mouths."

Collectively, the Irish pass defense has improved in 2007. Notre Dame is No. 5 nationally in pass defense when measured in yards per game. In terms of pass efficiency defense, the Irish are 46th in the country.

Even if not great, that's a far cry from the porous Irish secondary of Lambert's freshman season.

Still, many of the starters on the 2004 squad were critical in Lambert's development. "One I bonded with most quickly was probably Freddie Parrish. ... He took me under his wing, showed me the ins and outs," Lambert said.

Parrish, who transferred to Stephen F. Austin, played in 21 games with the Irish and had 24 tackles.

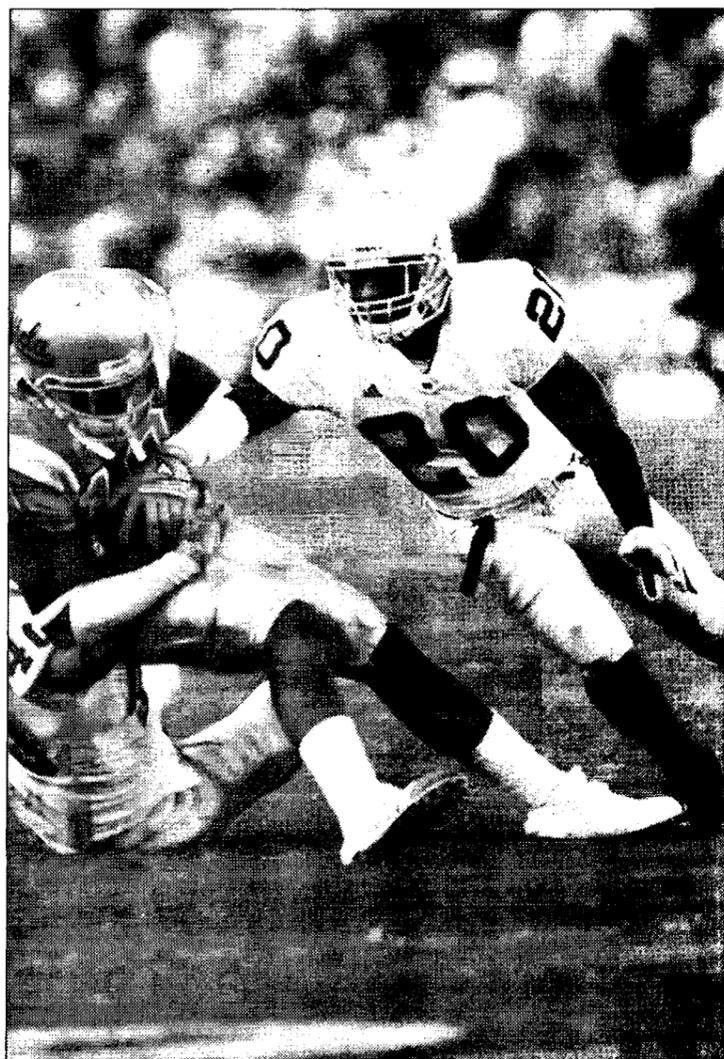
Another one of Lambert's role models was Dwight Ellick, a senior in Lambert's freshman season.

Now, Lambert is working with a corps of younger defensive backs. Sophomore Darrin Walls is starting opposite Lambert, and freshman Gary Gray and sophomores Raeshon McNeil and Munir Prince are working their way into the playing rotation.

So Lambert spends a lot of time teaching, if not always explicitly. Still, that doesn't mean he can't have some fun.

"Pretty much just enjoying the ride," Lambert said of his final games of the season, "trying to take everything as it comes."

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DUSTIN MENNELLA/The Observer

Irish cornerback Terrail Lambert tackles a UCLA receiver during Notre Dame's 20-6 victory on Oct. 6 at the Rose Bowl.

## DWIGHT STEPHENSON, JR.

## Stephenson returns to seize 'opportunity'

By GREG ARBOGAST  
Sports Writer

Taking a fifth year wasn't a difficult decision for Dwight Stephenson, Jr.

After four years at Notre Dame, Stephenson had a degree from the Mendoza

School of Business in hand, but he had some unfinished business on the football field.

"Any time you get an opportunity to play at Notre Dame, you take it," Stephenson said. "I saw the fifth year as a way to finish my Notre Dame career, so I didn't hesitate at it."

It also didn't hurt that Stephenson would be counted on to play a much more prominent role in his fifth and final season for the Irish. During his first four years, the Florida native made more position changes than starts, rotating from linebacker to defensive end to defensive tackle.

When new defensive coordinator Corwin Brown and his 3-4 defense arrived at Notre Dame, however, Stephenson was switched back to defensive end and had a chance to compete for the starting job.

"I didn't have a set role coming back," Stephenson said. "They didn't promise anything, but one thing I've learned from day one is that you keep working no matter what. If you start something, you finish it."

Stephenson has made the most of his opportunity this season both on and off the football field.

Stephenson has played in all 10 games this season, starting four. He has recorded 33 tackles, 14 solo, to go along with 4.5 tackles for loss and one sack.

After appearing in only seven games and recording just one tackle during his first four seasons, Stephenson has

appreciated his opportunity this season to make a significant contribution.

"It's been a real football experience," Stephenson said. "Running out of the tunnel to play a game is different than running out of the tunnel to cheer on your teammates. To play has multiplied my football experience, my Notre Dame experience, and my college experience. It's made everything better."

Stephenson's best performance came against UCLA when he recorded three tackles and two tackles-for-loss as part of dominating performance by the Irish defense.

Stephenson's most memorable performance, however, may not have come on the field this season. During the Boston College pep rally, Stephenson paired up with fellow defensive linemen Trevor Laws and Pat Kuntz to please the crowd with a rousing dance per-

formance.

Stephenson delivered his own dance routine before pairing up with Kuntz while Laws freestyled to the song "Jump on It."

*"Running out of the tunnel to play a game is different than running out of the tunnel to cheer on your teammates."*

**Dwight Stephenson, Jr.  
Irish defensive lineman**

"We knew we had to do something to go down in history," Stephenson said. "We didn't know if it would be hit or miss, and we were a little nervous nobody

would like it.

"[Raghib 'Rocket' Ismail] spoke before us, and we were looking at each other like whatever happens, happens. We just went into it, and they liked it. It was a fun time. We just wanted to make people laugh."

When asked what it would take to use his sack dances in a real game, Stephenson said it would have to be a memorable performance.

"About four sacks," he said. "You can't do it on two because it's expected, and it's definitely expected on one sack, but three or four and you're having fun as a defense."

What better way for Stephenson to finish what he's started at Notre Dame.

Contact Greg Arbogast at  
garbogast@nd.edu



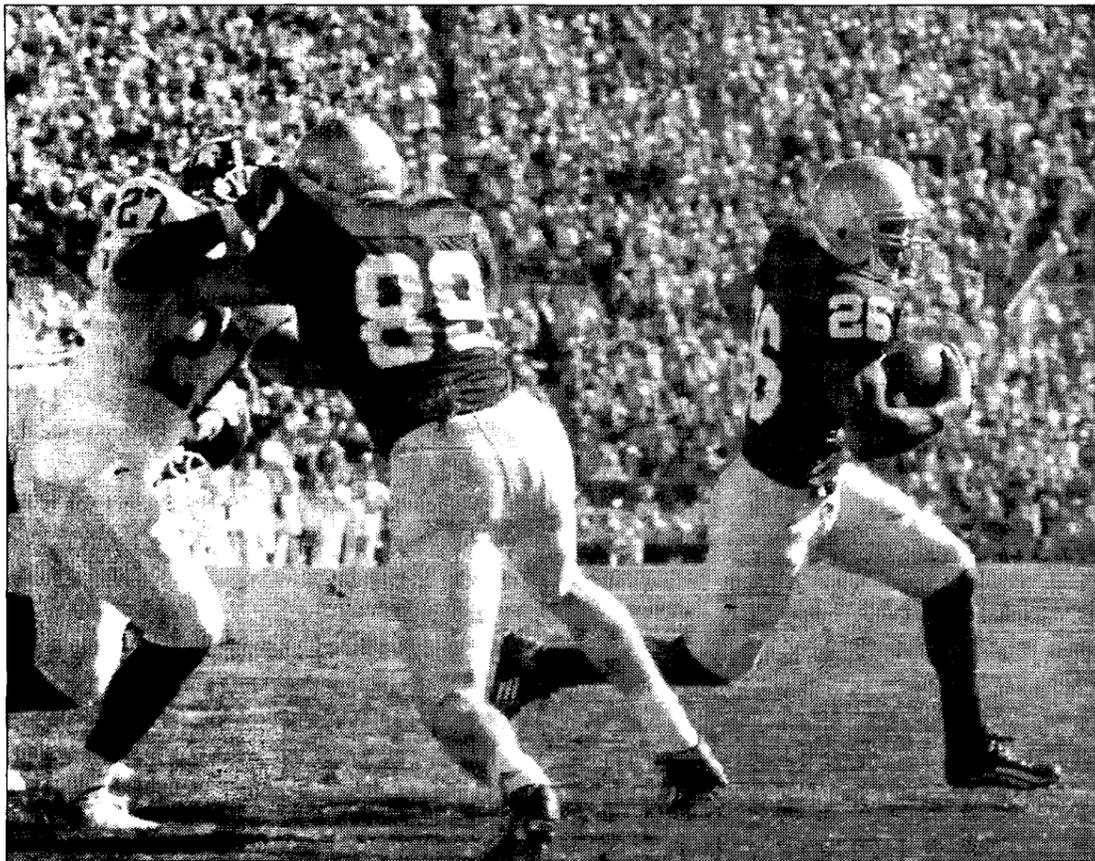
PHIL HUDELSON/The Observer

Defensive lineman Dwight Stephenson, Jr. goes through drills at practice Sept. 19.

## TRAVIS THOMAS

# The long and winding road

*Thomas plays offense, defense, special teams while remaining a leader at every position*



KELLY HIGGINS/The Observer

Irish senior running back Travis Thomas turns the corner for a one-yard touchdown run with the help of tight end John Carlson's block on Michigan State's SirDarean Adams during Notre Dame's Sept. 22 loss.

By CHRIS KHOREY  
Sports Editor

It had been a good day for Travis Thomas.

He had scored three touchdowns already and his team, which had struggled so much in falling to a 1-7 record, had a chance to pull out a victory.

Notre Dame was trailing was 46-44 to Navy in triple overtime and Thomas had just bulled, slipped and dived his way into the end zone to bring the Irish to within two points.

And now coach Charlie Weis was calling his number again.

Thomas lined up behind full-back Asaph Schwapp, took the hand off from quarterback Evan Sharpely and immediately found himself face to face with three Midshipmen defenders.

Thomas couldn't escape them and was tackled well short of the goal line. The Irish lost.

The emotional roller coaster that Thomas went through that day was a microcosm of the running back's career at Notre Dame — a career that included

starting opportunities and position changes, touchdowns and fumbles, big wins and heart-breaking losses.

But Irish coach Charlie Weis said Thomas has never let anything get him down, even something as frustrating as the loss to Navy.

"I don't think Travis is going to sit there and take the blame on his shoulders," Weis said. "He ran the ball as hard as you could run it."

Through it all, Thomas has been the consummate teammate. He said that that has always been his attitude — even going back to his elementary school days.

"I've done the same thing for my whole football career, going back to Little League, Pop Warner, high school," Thomas said.

Thomas' career at Notre Dame began in 2003, but with future pros Julius Jones and Ryan Grant ahead of him at running back, he didn't see any action as a freshman under coach Tyrone Willingham.

"Coach told me there would be a great opportunity to play, but that was before we knew Julius was coming back for his fifth year," Thomas said.

Jones, who had missed all of the 2002 season due to academic trouble, returned to the Irish that year and rushed for 1,268 yards. Meanwhile, Thomas red-shirted.

Although he didn't get to play, Thomas said he was happy Jones returned. He said he learned a lot from the older player.

"One of the things I learned from him is to continuously work hard, whether in good times or bad," Thomas said.

The next year, Grant was injured in fall practice, and Thomas got his first opportunity at playing time.

It didn't go well.

In Notre Dame's season opener against BYU, Thomas carried the ball six times, gaining only two yards. He also fumbled twice.

"Obviously, it wasn't my best performance," he said.

The next week against

Michigan, freshman Darius Walker ran for 115 yards. Thomas found himself buried on the depth chart again. He finished 2004 with only 25 carries and 25 yards.

The problem, Thomas said, was that he struggled adapting to the speed of the college game.

"It was a learning experience for me," he said. "I needed to learn to be a college back."

The next year, Charlie Weis took over for Willingham as coach and gave Thomas another shot.

"When Coach Weis came in, he gave everyone a clean slate," Thomas said. "I tried to work hard and make a good impression."

Then a junior, Thomas was Notre Dame's second-leading rusher, gaining 248 yards and scoring five touchdowns in his new role as the "power back" for the Irish.

Thomas also had one of the most memorable moments of his career in 2005 — early in the showdown between No. 9 Notre Dame and No. 1 USC, he scored a 16-yard touchdown to tie the score at 7-7.

But after that season, Thomas' career took another twist. Weis asked him to switch to linebacker to help shore up the team's porous defense.

Thomas at first was reluctant.

"I was pretty shocked when he asked me," he said. "I thought about it, I didn't make the decision right away. I had had a pretty decent spring game, and I thought things were going to go well on offense the next season."

But in a move that showed his team-first attitude, Thomas agreed to make the switch and ended up starting at outside

linebacker.

"I thought it would be a good decision to show my athleticism," Thomas said. "Looking back, I think I learned a lot more about the game."

Partially because of that attitude, Weis made Thomas a captain for the 2006 season.

Thomas' year on defense was a mixed bag. He made 35 tackles, but the effort came for a unit that gave up more than 23 points per game, including 44 and 41 to USC and

LSU, respectively, in the last two games of the season.

"I was undersized," Thomas said. "But one of the things I used to my advantage was my speed."

Thomas also got to carry the ball that year. He played running back in short yardage situations, gaining 81 yards on 13 carries and scoring two touchdowns.

Thomas said that playing both ways required him to be "in the best shape of my life."

"We ran a lot more than we had in the past," he said. "It really paid off. I could do a lot of things and not be too tired."

Against Penn State that year, Weis called his number on a fake punt, and Thomas took it 43 yards. He scored on a helmet-crunching, one-yard plunge a few plays later.

The special teams play represented another element of Thomas' team-first attitude. Since the beginning of his career, he has always been more than willing to do the thankless jobs of wedge busting, punt protection and kick-return blocking.

"Whatever hat I need to wear, I'll do it," he said.

After Walker left for the NFL last winter, Thomas was in contention to be the starting run-

ning back in this, his fifth season. But all did not go as planned.

Thomas started the season opener, but when he lost seven yards on six carries in a 33-3 loss to Georgia Tech, he found himself on the bench.

But even as he watched loss after loss from the sidelines, Thomas remained a leader, taking his position as a second-year captain seriously.

"It's been difficult," he said. "But I think it's helped our character. I think it's made us better people."

Against Navy, Thomas' roller coaster ride seemed on the upswing again. He scored three touchdowns on his first three carries against the Midshipmen. And while he couldn't get into the end zone on the two-point conversion, Weis said no one on the team has blamed Thomas for the loss.

"I'm sure if the line of scrimmage was going the other way," Weis said, "I think Travis would have gotten in the end zone."

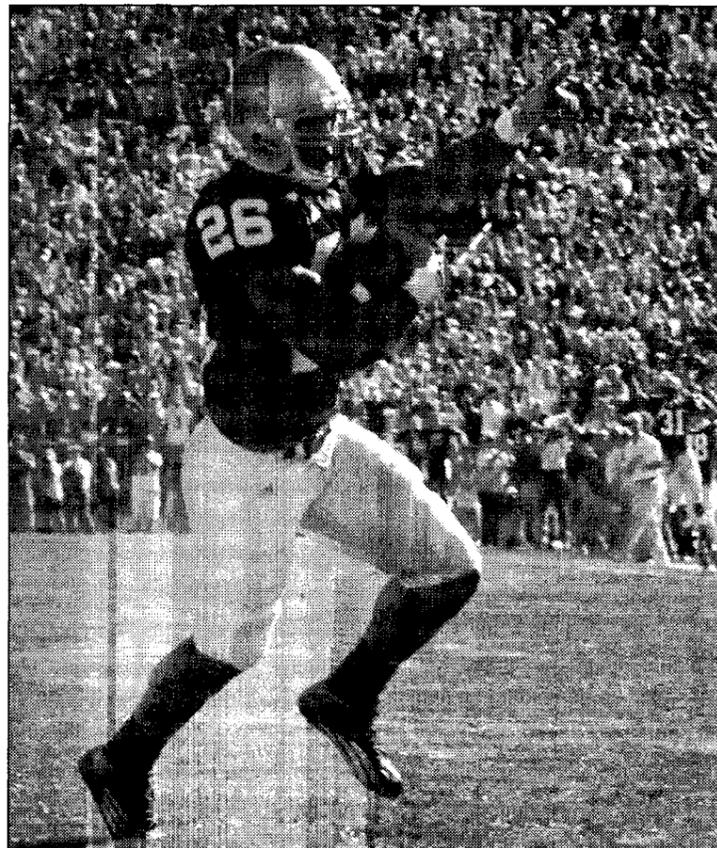
Thomas said he wants to pursue football after the season ends, but after that, he wants to get into management consulting and eventually own a consulting firm.

"I want to be my own boss eventually," he said.

Whether it's in football or not, Thomas said he will use the lessons he's learned as an Irish football player for the rest of his life.

"We made it through a record of 1-9," he said. "Nothing in life is going to be easy. There's going to be a lot of hard times. But if you've been through something like this, it will help you with a lot of other things."

Contact Chris Khorey at  
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KELLY HIGGINS/The Observer

Irish running back Travis Thomas acknowledges the crowd on his way into the end zone during Notre Dame's Sept. 22 loss to Michigan State.

ANTHONY VERNAGLIA

# So. Cal native knows ND was right choice



*Senior OLB left his Trojan roots to play and learn in Indiana*

By FRAN TOLAN  
Sports Writer

Irish outside linebacker Anthony Vernaglia is unsure about why he came to Notre Dame, but he sure is glad he did.

"I don't know how I ended up here — not in a bad sense but in general, I have no idea," Vernaglia said.

Coming out of Orange Lutheran High School in southern California, Vernaglia was recruited by several major colleges and almost committed to USC. But after seeing Notre Dame, Vernaglia had a hunch that the school was the right place for him.

"I don't know how or why [I came here] but out of nowhere I did," Vernaglia said. "Maybe it had something to do with the academics but as for exactly how or why I have no idea."

Developing an enmity for Notre Dame's rival USC was one of the first difficulties Vernaglia encountered.

"I almost went there, so it was pretty hard to turn around and hate them," he said.

Vernaglia was definitely unsure about the road that lay ahead for him as he entered

Notre Dame. In high school, he played a slew of positions including wide receiver, safety and linebacker. But he didn't know what role he would fill for the Irish.

As a freshman, Vernaglia was listed as a reserve safety and did not see action on the field. But before his sophomore year, he moved to linebacker.

"I was recruited as a receiver by some schools, but I played a lot of things," Vernaglia said.

"[Switching positions] wasn't my decision, but I guess it worked best for the team."

In his first year as a full-time linebacker, Vernaglia played five games as a reserve, logging 14:55 of playing time.

The next season, in which the Irish went 9-3, he played in eight games before injuring his knee. Vernaglia said it was difficult to watch his teammates from the sidelines but still enjoyed Notre Dame's great season.

"After I shredded my knee, I still got to go [to the Fiesta Bowl]," he said. "I didn't get to play which stunk, but I got to go which was sweet."

Off the field, Vernaglia said his time at Notre Dame has been all he had hoped for —

except for the Indiana weather.

"Every time it snows and rains, I have a lot of regrets," Vernaglia joked.

On one of the occasions that he did brave the elements, Vernaglia met his current girlfriend.

*"I don't know how I ended up here — not in a bad sense but in general, I have no idea."*

Anthony Vernaglia  
Irish linebacker

"I drove her to a party and someone asked if we were together and we weren't," Vernaglia said. "But it just worked out."

And the climate has not prevented the California

native from taking advantage of the countless opportunities Notre Dame provides. The business major already has plans to open a clothing company and get his MBA from Notre Dame. Afterward, he said he might finally head to USC for law school.

Even though his future has always been blurry, Vernaglia is eager to see what awaits him after graduation.

"[Notre Dame is] definitely different than what I had planned, but I'm happy about it," he said. "I'm definitely happy I ended up here; leaving with this great degree is amazing. I'm excited."

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Senior outside linebacker Anthony Vernaglia stares down the competition during Notre Dame's 41-24 loss to Air Force on Nov. 10.

VANESSA GEMPIS/The Observer

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JOE BROCKINGTON

# Playing the waiting game

*After going nearly four years before making his first start, Brockington never looks back*



PHIL HUDELSON/The Observer

**Irish senior linebacker Joe Brockington prepares to put a hit on a Navy ballcarrier on Nov. 3. Through 10 games, Brockington is second on the team to Trevor Laws with 92 tackles (45 solo).**

By JAY FITZPATRICK  
Associate Sports Editor

On Sept. 30, 2006, Notre Dame's starting defense took the field against Purdue with one key addition — outside linebacker Joe Brockington, who made his first career start for the Irish after nearly four years on the roster.

"It was my coming out game. There are some games I played in last year and this year that I enjoyed because I thought I played pretty well in," Brockington said. "Overall, in my college career, I think that's it because it sort of sums it all up."

Brockington has started every game since — in both former defensive coordinator Rick Minter's 4-3 defense and current defensive coordinator Corwin Brown's 3-4.

Brockington's journey to Notre Dame began in central Pennsylvania, where his mother raised him and his sister on her own.

"She worked two jobs pretty much since I was born — supported my sister and I by herself," Brockington said of his mother. "We've had hard times but she definitely got an A-plus in the whole mothering thing because her two kids are pretty successful."

While in high school at Palmyra (Pa.) High School, Brockington was a standout football player, rushing for 1,046 yards and registering 110 tackles during his junior season. Even though he was sidelined by a shoulder injury in his senior year, Brockington was recruited by schools in the Big East, ACC and Big Ten, as well as Notre Dame. "[Picking Notre Dame] was a

combination of academics and the coaching staff that was in place at the time," Brockington said. "It was a more of a decision my family and I made together; my family felt it was the best opportunity for me."

Another major influence in Brockington's decision was whether he would get to play Penn State — the favorite team of many of his friends and neighbors.

"I know a bunch of people that said I should go to Penn State or else I wasn't good enough to play college football," Brockington said. "It was definitely something I looked at when I was looking at schools so I can show everyone in my area that I can play college football."

Brockington sat out his freshman year, missing his second consecutive season.

"It was tough. I was practicing so I had that type of aspect still there. I was still practicing, still doing some things," he said. "It was definitely tough, it was hard to deal with, but talking with my family they helped me get through it."

Brockington continued to work both on and off the field. He entered school as a business major and spent his sophomore year in the Mendoza College of Business before switching to become an American Studies major with a minor in computer applications.

"I decided on American Studies because the classes they let you take were just more interesting than any other

major I could find in arts and letters," Brockington said of his decision.

But despite the hard work Brockington exerted on the field and in the classroom, he feels the most important part of his time at Notre Dame was making

friends outside of football — people he might not have met at another university.

"The interaction that you have with other students is different than at other schools," he said. "All through college I haven't [roomed] with a football player. It's helped me meet some new people. Now I look back on [dorm life] and it helped build some relationships that I will have for the rest of my life."

Brockington decided last fall to use his extra season of eligibility and return to the Irish for a fifth season.

"At the end of the day my family and I decided it was the best decision for us," he said.

During his fifth season, Brockington has developed into one of the leaders on the Irish defense. In Brown's 3-4, Brockington bulked up and joined senior captain Maurice Crum as the two inside linebackers. Brown said that Brockington has easily made the transition to the 3-4 because he is a smart player who understands the game.

Brockington played some outside and inside linebacker last season, and he said that the transition has not been too difficult.

"The biggest thing for me to adjust was being the weak side backer to being front side and having to deal with more blocks and things like that," Brockington said.

One of the highlights this season was Notre Dame's trip to

State College, Pa., to play against Penn State — the team he grew up watching.

"It's always good to go back and play football that you grew up and also play against guys that you played against in high school," he said. "It's always good to go back home, but it's unfortunate that we lost. I have yet to go back home since then, so I'm sure I'll catch it from a couple of Penn State fans."

During Notre Dame's 27-14

loss to Boston College on Oct. 13, Crum was injured early in the game and Brockington stepped up with 13 tackles (10 solo) in the loss. Even though he

was integral in taking over for Crum as the linebackers' leader, Brockington said it was just business as usual.

"Mo and I — all last year and even this year — we both make the calls on defense and get people lined up," he said. "It's not like its something that week or that game when he went down that was new for me. I've always been doing it."

In the classroom, Brockington is taking two computer classes and a music class to continue to prepare him for life after college. He said that his dream is to play in the NFL and that he plans to declare for April's draft.

Brockington said that he thinks he has an advantage in the draft because of the many roles he has played in college.

"Since I've been here, I've played three different defenses and played two different positions," he said. "I definitely think that when it comes to

playing at the next level it makes me a little more marketable because they've seen me play at the weak side and they've also seen me play in the middle."

But Brockington is still realistic about playing on Sundays and said that if he isn't drafted or signed as a free agent, he will "go back to normal life."

Normal life for Brockington will either be law school or an internship at Notre Dame in the athletic department, in a program designed to help people become athletic directors.

Brockington said the most important thing he will take with him is not the games played on the field or the lessons learned in the classroom, but the people he

encountered. "The people that I actually met here, the friends that I made here just because the people that actually go to school here kind of grew up in a different situation than I did," Brockington said of his favorite experience at Notre Dame. "It was good because I learned some things from them and they learned some things from me."

Contact Jay Fitzpatrick at [jfitzpa5@nd.edu](mailto:jfitzpa5@nd.edu)

*"The interaction that you have with other students is different than at other schools. All through college I haven't [roomed] with a football player."*

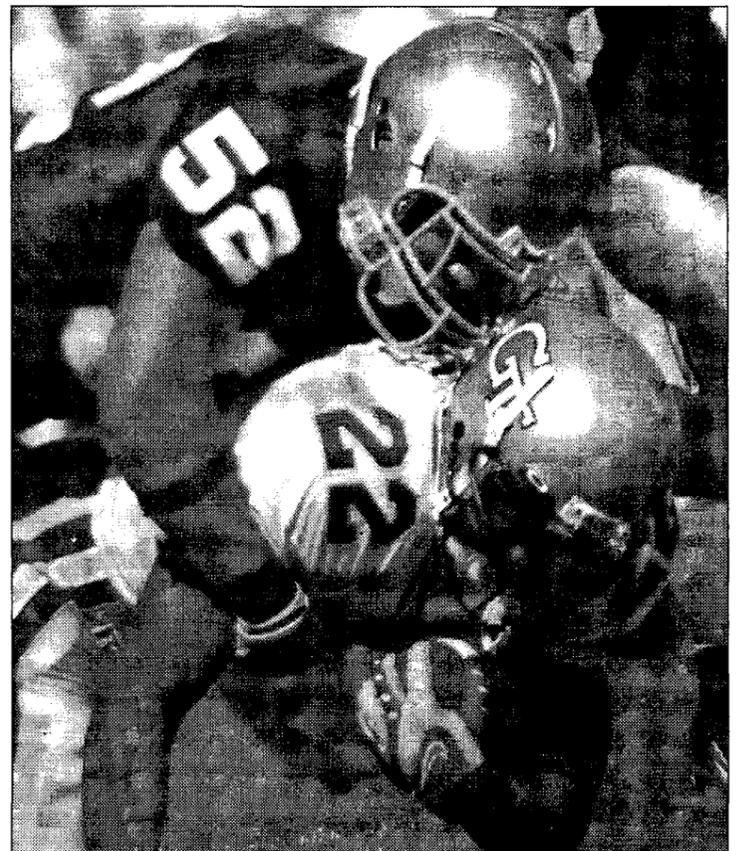
Joe Brockington  
Irish linebacker

*"... [W]hen it comes to playing at the next level, it makes me a little more marketable because they've seen me [at different positions]."*

Joe Brockington  
Irish linebacker

*"We've had hard times but [my mother] definitely got an A-plus in the whole mothering thing."*

Joe Brockington  
Irish linebacker



VANESSA GEMPIS/The Observer

**Irish linebacker Joe Brockington brings down Georgia Tech running back Tashard Choice during the 33-3 Irish loss on Sept. 1.**

MICHAEL PLANALP

# Walk-on plans to put good hands to use

*Tight end will attend medical school to be a surgeon next year*

By DAN MURPHY  
Associate Sports Editor

For the first half of his life, Michael Planalp's idea of football included shin guards and corner kicks. Planalp was raised in Virginia Water, a small town about 30 miles west of London, England.

"I never really watched football until I moved back here, just before high school. That's when I started playing football," he said.

Planalp and his family moved to Cincinnati, Ohio, where he started playing football for Wyoming High School. The 6-foot-4, 250-pound senior played on the offensive line during his high school career before switching to tight end at Notre Dame.

"I wasn't always the great player that a lot of the guys on our team are," Planalp said.

Planalp came to South Bend with no plans to continue his football career but could not stay away from the game for long.

Planalp's first time on the field at Notre Dame Stadium came during his freshman year while playing for the Knott interhall team. The Juggerknotts lost a heart-breaker in overtime to Keenan in the championship game that year.

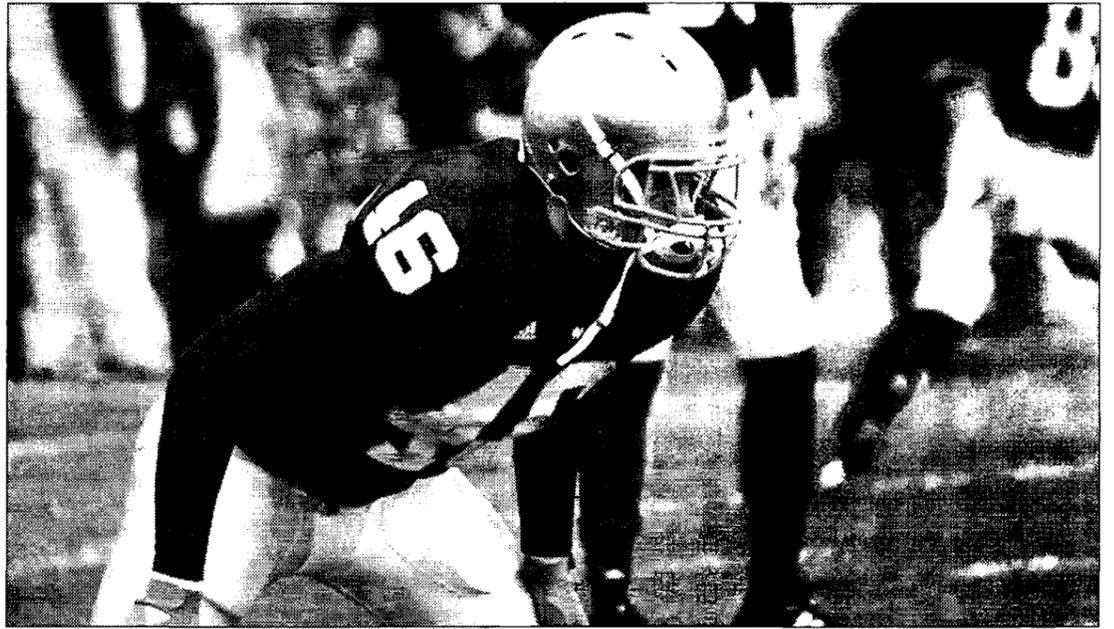
Shortly afterward, Planalp decided that he would try to walk on to the team. He decided the thrill of playing for the Irish was worth the time commitment and hard work he was going to have to put in.

"You get to go out and play everyday with a gold helmet on," Planalp said. "I've loved Notre Dame football my whole life, so that's just really cool."

For the past three years,

Planalp has balanced practice time with the work load of a student heading to medical school.

When all is said and done, Planalp hopes to be a surgeon and is currently applying to medical schools to take the next step. His top choices



IAN GAVLICK/The Observer

Notre Dame senior tight end Michael Planalp stretches with the team prior to Notre Dame's 41-24 loss to Air Force on Nov. 10. Planalp was born and raised in England but moved to Ohio before high school.

include Stanford, Northwestern and Cincinnati.

His work on the football field has helped him off the field as well. At a recent interview with Cincinnati, the interviewer was also a player in college and helped to give him an instant connection.

"He said it reinforced his knowledge of me. He understands how much time it takes up," Planalp said. "It was really nice being able to talk to him about that."

Planalp has also padded his resume with internships over the past couple of summers. He worked with ophthalmologists in Cincinnati and at the University of Michigan to help with research on retinal degeneration.

Planalp believes that his experience as a walk-on will also help him keep his nose to the grindstone while trying to make a name for himself in the medical world.

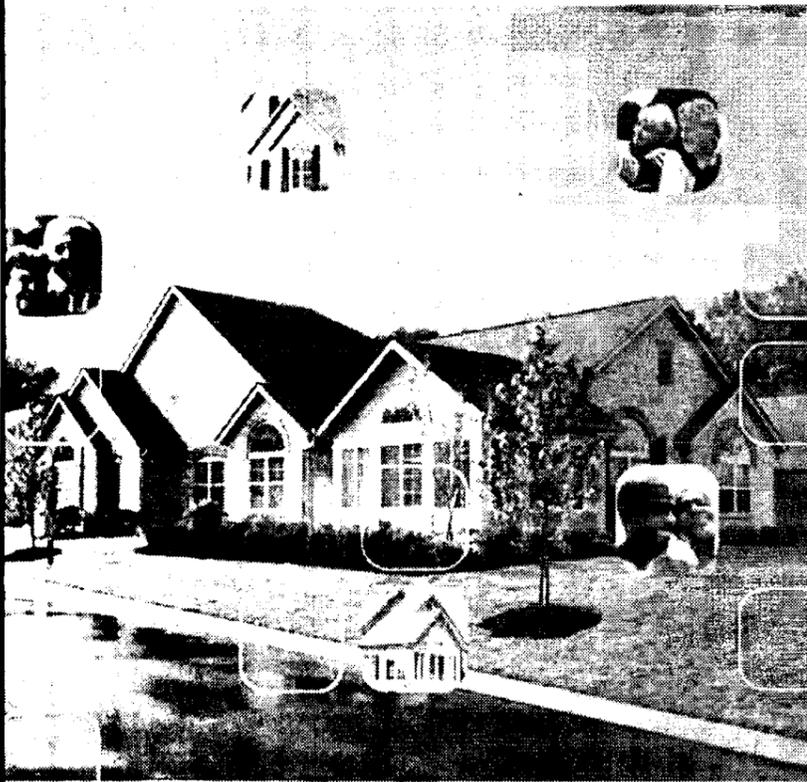
"It helps you because being a

walk-on, you're not a stud on the team. You get to kind of experience knowing your role, going there day in and day out and doing what's best for the team, not always making the big difference, but you know your role is important," he said. "I think that's pretty much what the medical career is going to be, up until you make a name for yourself."

Contact Dan Murphy at [dmurphy6@nd.edu](mailto:dmurphy6@nd.edu)

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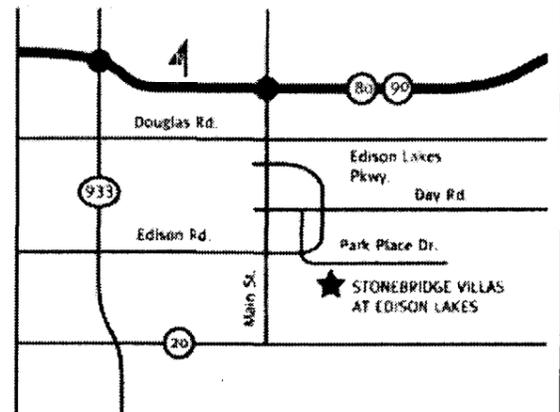
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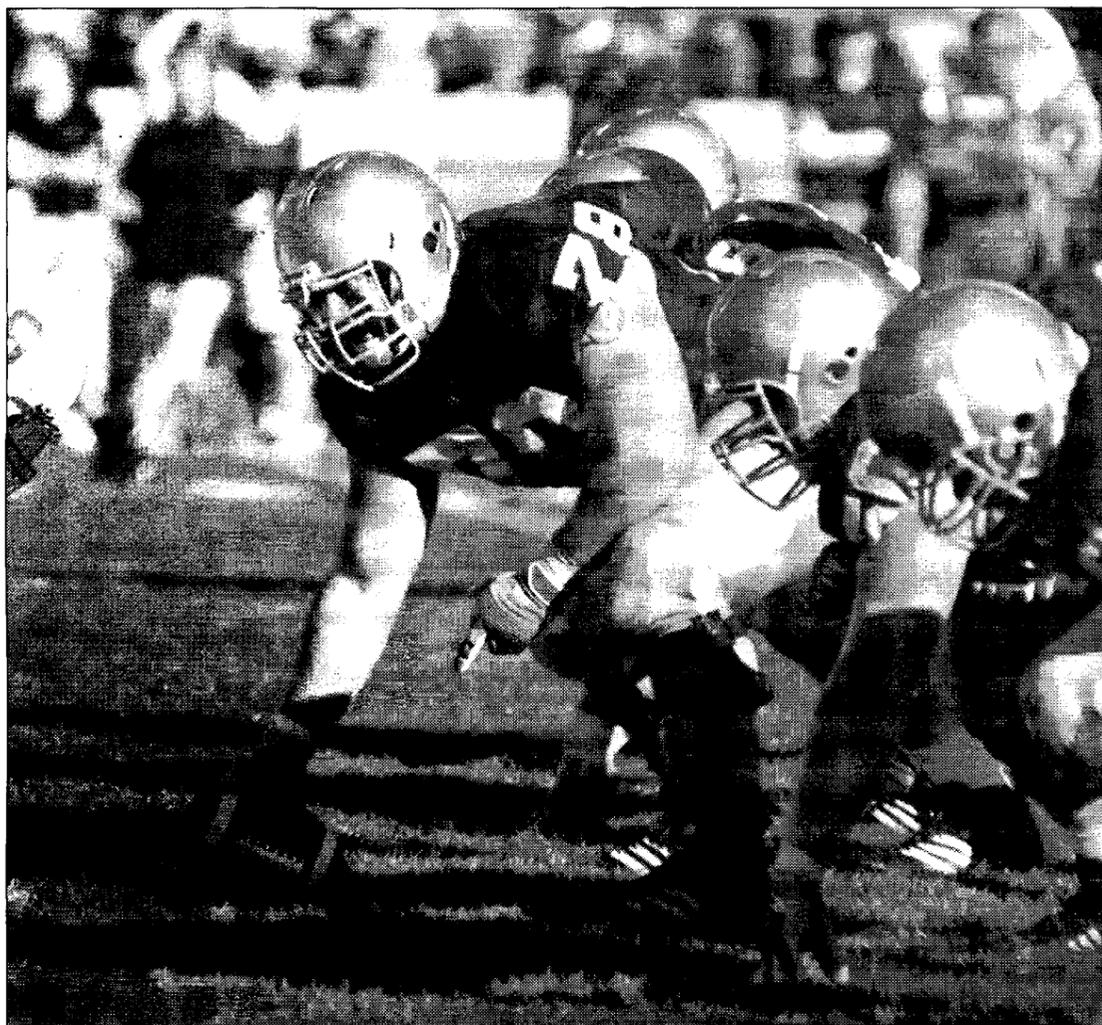
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JOHN SULLIVAN

# Never look back

*Fifth-year center John Sullivan tells his teammates — and himself — to focus on the next game*



TIM SULLIVAN/The Observer

Irish center John Sullivan prepares to snap the ball during Notre Dame's 31-10 win over Stanford on Oct. 7, 2006. Sullivan chose to remain at Notre Dame for a fifth year.

By BILL BRINK  
Sports Writer

Considering the publicity that Notre Dame's all-time worst 1-9 season has received, it seemed odd that the record was not on the tip of John Sullivan's tongue.

The fifth-year senior center brought up the record when discussing his pride in the team, then hesitated and double-checked the number of losses with Notre Dame director of football media relations Brian Hardin before continuing.

"I'm proud of this team, and one of the main reasons is that we're 1-9 and the team will never quit," Sullivan said. "You have to admire a group of guys that go out there and fight every time."

But that's who Sullivan is. Records don't mean much to him, he said.

"I'm focused on one game at a time: the next game," he said. "I don't look back at what the record is."

It is this attitude that helped Sullivan start 43 games, including 31 straight, of his collegiate career. It led the coaches to select him as a team captain. But maybe most importantly, it helped Sullivan guide Notre Dame's young, inexperienced offensive line.

"Keep focusing on the next game," Sullivan told his linemates this season. "You don't

look back, no matter what happened the previous week."

### Finding his home

Sullivan filled his life with sports. In addition to football, Sullivan played water polo and rugby at Greenwich High School in Greenwich, Conn. He had a 138-6 record as a heavyweight wrestler and won the state championship in his sophomore, junior and senior years. He also placed seventh and earned All-America honors at the 2003 national wrestling championships.

Wrestling, he said, contained some skills analogous to football.

"Having good feet is important in both sports, balance, intensity [as well]," Sullivan said. "The training requirements for wrestling forced you to suffer a lot, so it builds mental toughness."

Sullivan excelled, however, in football. A prep school All-American and Gatorade Player of the Year, Sullivan started at center in his sophomore, junior and senior seasons. He also

played nose guard on defense, where he had 20 tackles for a loss and 12 sacks in 2002.

That year, Sullivan's senior season, Greenwich went 12-1-1 and reached the Connecticut Class LL title game. Sullivan said he got many of the characteristics he values in himself from his high school coaches.

"They taught me a lot about the game," Sullivan said. "They taught me even more importantly about how you have to care about your teammates, you have to care about the game and you have to play with a passion. I learned that from them."

Sullivan considered Miami, Michigan, North Carolina and Boston College in addition to Notre Dame and was the No. 3 center of his class, according to rivals.com. What convinced him to join the Irish, he said, was a self-imposed conundrum that stumped him.

"I asked the question, 'How could I say no to Notre Dame?' And ultimately I couldn't answer that question, therefore I had to come," Sullivan said. "It's a great mix of academics and athletics, a great tradition, a rich, storied program, and I wanted to be a part of that for the rest of my life."

### Not done yet

Once at Notre Dame, Sullivan had the chance to play with a veteran group of linemen that included Bob Morton, Dan Santucci and Ryan Harris.

"We had great chemistry. We

could rely on each other a lot," Sullivan said. "We know how each guy on that line played and what to expect from him. That was a great group, and I was proud to be a part of it."

During his sophomore season, Sullivan started all 12 games at center. He started eight as a junior and all 13 games in 2006.

Sullivan could have entered the NFL draft along with the rest of his linemates, but instead chose to return for a fifth year.

"I wasn't done here at Notre Dame. I wasn't ready to leave the school," Sullivan said. "I hadn't graduated yet. I thought that my future could wait another year. I think I've become a much better football player."

Sullivan and sophomore tackle Sam Young suddenly became the only linemen with any meaningful game experience.

During practice on Aug. 23, head coach Charlie Weis announced in front of the team and media that Sullivan would become the team's fifth captain. Sullivan was grateful for the honor, but said it didn't alter his approach to the game.

"I didn't feel my role changed that much as I was trying to be a leader anyway, but I was very appreciative that they saw me in that light," Sullivan said. "Being a captain, you feel like you have to do the right thing all the time. That's really one of your goals anyway, but it just puts a little more emphasis on the fact that the younger guys look up to

you." Offensive line coach John Latina said Sullivan sets an example for the younger linemen, demonstrating how to focus and improve in the face of criticism.

"Basically, he's told them and showed them how to go out and work every day no matter what people say, no matter what people talk about, to keep focused on the task at hand," Latina said. "Keep blinders on in terms of, there's only one way to get better, and that's to go out there and work."

Sullivan's methods of instruction and motivation are not the tamest, Latina said.

"He's a fiery guy. You expect that kind of demeanor about him," Latina said. "He is what he is. And I respect him and I admire him and I think he's an outstanding player."

That personality comes with leading, Sullivan said.

"As a fifth-year guy, I'm looked upon to be a leader for this team," Sullivan said. "Being a leader isn't just a vocal thing. You have to lead by example, with your actions. That's why I'm trying to play as hard as I can."

Sullivan said staying for a fifth year will benefit his future. As for life after football, he said he has no idea what's in store. He's once again focusing on the task at hand.

With a slight grin on his face, he said, "Hopefully football won't end anytime soon."

Contact Bill Brink at  
wbrink@nd.edu



KATE FENLON/The Observer

Irish center John Sullivan blocks Nittany Lion linebacker Sean Lee during Notre Dame's 31-10 loss to Penn State on Sept. 8.

*"I'm proud of this team, and one of the main reasons is that we're 1-9 and the team will never quit."*

John Sullivan  
Irish center

# Notre Dame Fighting Irish

Record: 1-9  
AP: NR  
Coaches: NR



Charlie Weis head coach

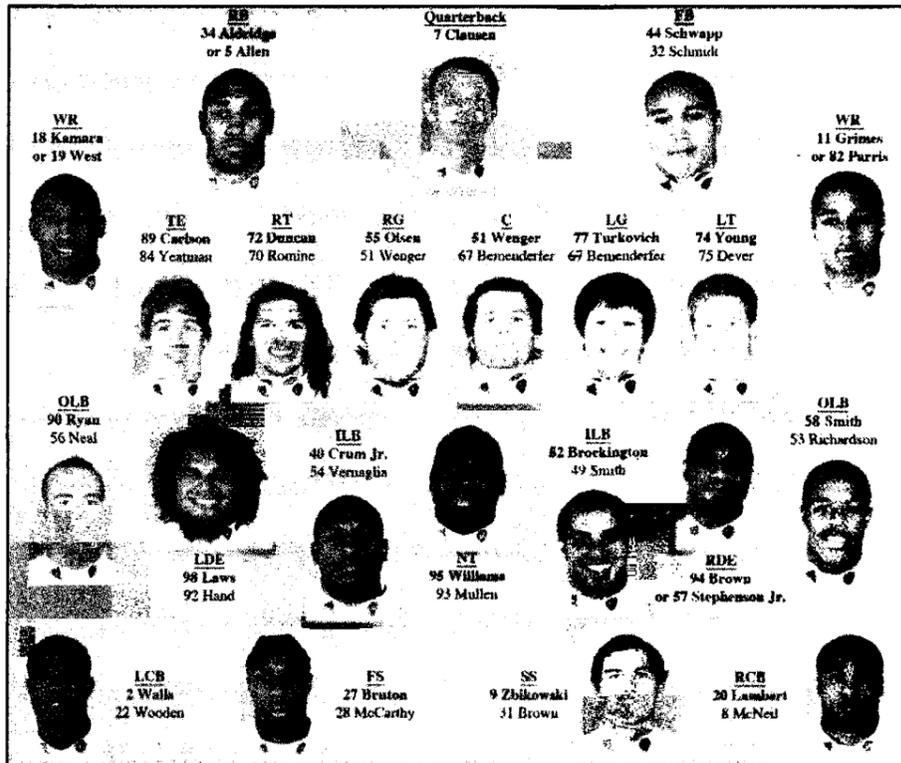
Charlie Weis  
Third season at Notre Dame.  
career record:  
20-15  
at Notre Dame:  
20-15  
against Duke:  
0-0

## Roster

No.	Name	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	YR
1	D.J. Ford	WR	6-1	196	JR
2	Darrin Walls	DB	6-1	180	SO
4	Gary Gray	DB	5-11	180	FR
5	Armando Allen	RB	5-10	190	FR
6	Ray Herring	DB	5-10	197	JR
7	Jimmy Clausen	QB	6-3	207	FR
8	Raeshon McNeil	DB	6-0	187	SO
9	Tom Zbikowski	DB	6-0	207	SR
11	David Grimes	WR	5-10	177	JR
12	Darrin Bragg	QB	6-1	188	SR
13	Evan Sharpley	QB	6-2	216	JR
14	Brandon Walker	K	6-3	197	FR
15	Leo Ferrine	DB	6-0	189	SR
16	Justin Gillett	QB	5-11	180	SR
17	Geoffrey Price	P	6-3	208	SR
18	Duval Kamara	WR	6-5	222	FR
19	George West	WR	5-10	197	SO
20	Terrill Lambert	DB	5-11	191	JR
21	Barry Gallup Jr	WR	5-11	185	SO
22	Ambrose Wooden	CB	5-11	196	SR
23	Golden Tate	WR	5-11	188	FR
23	W. David Williams	DB	5-9	173	SR
24	Leonard Gordon	DB	5-11	194	SO
25	Munir Prince	DB	5-10	184	SO
26	Travis Thomas	RB	6-0	216	SR
27	David Bruton	DB	6-2	207	JR
28	Kyle McCarthy	DB	6-1	207	JR
29	Jashaad Gaines	DB	6-0	203	SO
29	Jake Richardville	WR	6-1	180	SR
30	Harrison Smith	DB	6-2	205	FR
31	Sergio Brown	DB	6-2	196	SO
32	Luke Schmidt	RB	6-3	248	SO
33	Robert Hughes	RB	5-11	238	FR
34	James Aldridge	RB	6-0	222	SO
35	Nate Whitaker	K	5-9	165	FR
35	Kevin Smith	LB	5-8	200	JR
36	Dex Cure	RB	6-1	220	SO
37	Junior Jabbie	RB	5-11	205	SR
38	Wade Lams	DB	5-9	183	SR
39	Ryan Burkhardt	K	5-11	196	SO
39	Kevin Brooks	TE	6-2	241	JR
40	Maurice Crum Jr.	LB	6-0	230	SR
41	Scott Smith	LB	6-4	235	JR
42	Kevin Washington	LB	6-1	241	JR
43	Eric Maust	P	5-10	177	SO
43	John Leonis	DB	5-9	169	JR
44	Asaph Schwapp	FB	6-0	261	JR
45	Mike Anello	DB	5-10	180	JR
45	Kris Patterson	WR	5-11	185	JR
47	Aaron Nagel	LB	6-1	229	FR
48	Steve Quinn	LB	6-2	231	JR
49	Toryan Smith	LB	6-1	245	SO
50	Steve Paskorz	LB	6-2	235	FR
51	Dan Wenger	OL	6-4	287	SO
52	Joe Brockington	LB	6-2	240	SR
53	Morrice Richardson	LB	6-2	244	SO
54	Anthony Vernaglia	LB	6-3	234	SR
55	Eric Olsen	OL	6-4	303	SO
56	Kerry Neal	LB	6-2	245	FR
57	Dwight Stephenson	DL	6-2	272	SR
58	Brian Smith	LB	6-3	233	FR
59	Chris Stewart	OL	6-5	339	SO
61	J.J. Jansen	LS	6-3	242	SR
63	Jeff Tisak	OL	6-5	306	JR
67	Tom Bemenderfer	OL	6-5	285	JR
69	Neil Kennedy	DL	5-11	266	SR
70	Matt Romine	OL	6-5	279	FR
71	Bartley Webb	OL	6-6	305	SO
72	Paul Duncan	OL	6-7	308	JR
73	Matt Carufel	OL	6-5	295	SO
74	Sam Young	OL	6-8	310	SO
75	Taylor Dever	OL	6-5	289	FR
76	Andrew Nuss	DL	6-5	292	FR
77	Michael Turkovich	OL	6-6	301	JR
78	John Sullivan	OL	6-4	303	SR
80	Richard Jackson	WR	6-3	204	SO
82	Robby Parris	WR	6-4	209	SO
83	Mike Ragone	TE	6-5	230	FR
84	Will Yeatman	TE	6-6	264	SO
85	Sam Vos	WR	5-10	199	SO
89	John Carlson	TE	6-6	255	SR
90	John Ryan	LB	6-5	253	SO
91	Emeka Nwankwo	DL	6-4	283	FR
92	Derrill Hand	DL	6-3	287	JR
93	Paddy Mullen	DL	6-5	290	SO
94	Justin Brown	DL	6-3	261	SR
95	Ian Williams	DL	6-2	300	FR
96	Pat Kuntz	DL	6-3	285	JR
97	Kallen Wade	DL	6-5	257	SO
98	Trevor Laws	DL	6-1	296	SR

## Notre Dame 2007 Schedule

- Sept. 1 GA. TECH — L
- Sept. 8 at Penn State — L
- Sept. 15 at Michigan — L
- Sept. 22 MICH. ST. — L
- Sept. 29 at Purdue — L
- Oct. 6 at UCLA — W
- Oct. 13 BC — L
- Oct. 20 USC — L
- Nov. 3 NAVY — L
- Nov. 10 AIR FORCE — L
- Nov. 17 DUKE
- Nov. 24 at Stanford



## COACHING

## QUARTERBACKS

## IRISH RUSHING

## IRISH PASSING

### NOTRE DAME

In his first two years in South Bend, Charlie Weis took his team to two BCS bows and looked like a genius. But poor fundamentals and baffling game-day decisions have fans wondering — where did the old Charlie Weis disappear to?

Jimmy Clausen returned the starting lineup against Air Force and played much better than he had previously this season, completing 22-of-40 passes for more than 240 yards and three touchdowns. His numbers would have been even better if not for dropped passes.

Notre Dame was inconsistent on the ground against Air Force, but after the Irish fell behind they had to pass on every down to try to catch back up. Even though the last two weeks have been better, the Irish are nowhere near where the need to be.

Clausen looked much better last week, but Irish wide receivers killed drives with way too many dropped passes. Freshman Duval Kamara is expected to play Saturday after sitting out last week because of academic issues.

### DUKE

Duke football has always been second fiddle to the basketball team in Durham, but under Roof, the team has hit new lows. In four years, he is 6-43 and has suffered through a 16 game losing streak, including a winless season in 2006.

Thaddeus Lewis has been one of the lone bright spots for the Blue Devils this season. He has completed 55 percent of his passes for 19 touchdowns and 10 interceptions. He is averaging more than 200 yards per game through the air.

Duke has not been able to stop anyone from running the ball, giving up 176.9 yards per game on the ground. Last week, Georgia Tech rolled up 259 yards rushing behind 173 from running back Tashard Choice.

Duke's pass defense has been awful this year. The Blue Devils are giving up more than 260 yards per game through the air. They do have 21 sacks this season and could give the porous Irish offensive line trouble in pass protection.

### ANALYSIS

Neither coach has his team playing very well right now, but Weis has had success in the past and probably will have more in the future. Roof is spinning his wheels in Durham, and the prospects for the future are much less bright.

Lewis has played well despite his team's struggles this season. Clausen has been inconsistent, although he does seem to be on the upswing. Still, Lewis' consistent presence on the field means his team is more comfortable with him.

Notre Dame hasn't been able to run the ball and Duke hasn't been able to stop the run. After this game, both teams will probably feel better about their rushing offense/defense, but how much will be due to incompetence by the other side?

Notre Dame's passing game looked better last week, but it has been horrendous all year. Duke has a decent pass rush, and if Clausen isn't given time he can't be effective. On the other hand, the Blue Devils' secondary has struggled this season.

## Irish experts



Ken Fowler Sports Writer

Duke is much worse than Air Force, so if the Irish played like they did last week, the home team will get the win. The mitigating factor, however, is the sheer dejectedness that could envelop Notre Dame's bench if things don't go its way early. This game will be slightly closer than the last meeting of the two teams, a 64-0 Irish victory in 1966.

**FINAL SCORE: Notre Dame 27, Duke 24**



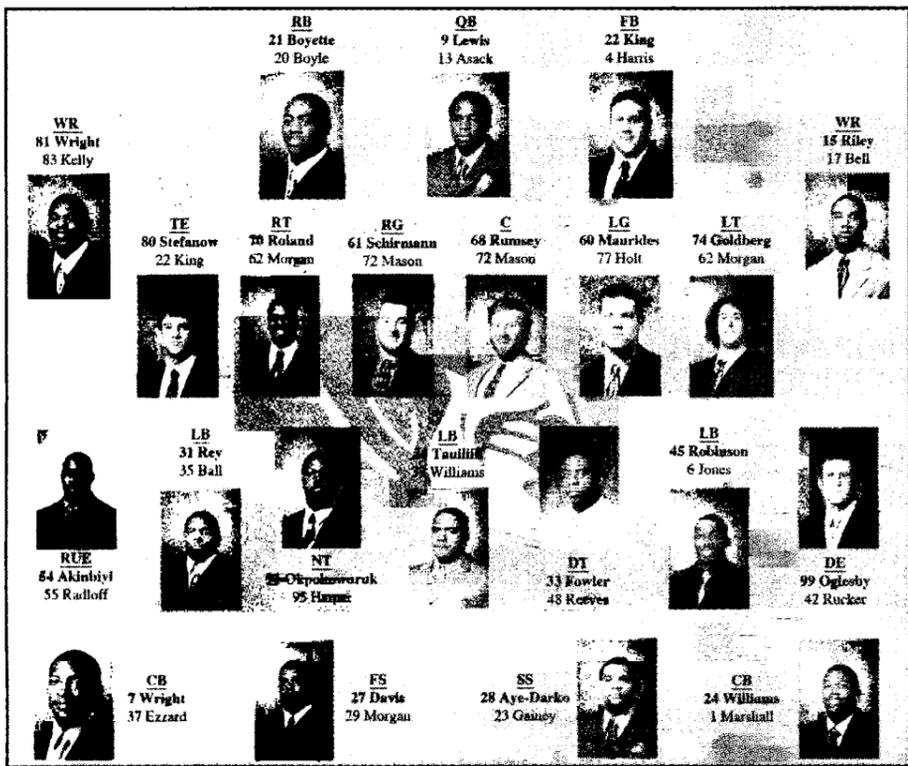
Chris Khorey Sports Editor

Welcome to the Toilet Bowl: 1-9 Duke vs 1-9 Notre Dame. Both teams are struggling on both sides of the ball. The Irish have home-field advantage and senior day on their side, but a win by the Blue Devils would make not only their season, but most of their players' careers. Jimmy Clausen will try to continue his personal growth against a porous Duke secondary.

**FINAL SCORE: Notre Dame 21, Duke 17**

# HEAD

## Duke Blue Devils



### Duke 2007 Schedule

- Sept. 1 UCONN — L
- Sept. 8 at Virginia — L
- Sept. 15 at N'western — W
- Sept. 22 at Navy — L
- Sept. 29 at Miami — L
- Oct. 6 WAKE — L
- Oct. 13 VA TECH — L
- Oct. 27 at Florida St. — L
- Nov. 3 CLEMSON — L
- Nov. 10 GA. TECH — L
- Nov. 17 at Notre Dame
- Nov. 24 at North Carolina

**Duke**  
**Blue Devils**  
**Record: 1-9**  
**AP: NR**  
**Coaches: NR**

**Ted Roof**  
**Fourth season at**  
**Duke.**  
**career record:**  
**6-43**  
**at Duke:**  
**6-43**  
**against Notre**  
**Dame: 0-0**



**Ted Roof**  
**head coach**

### Roster

No.	Name	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	YR
1	Jabari Marshal	DB	5-11	200	JR
2	Tielor Robinson	FB	5-11	245	Sr
3	Vince Oghobasse	DL	6-6	310	SO
4	Clifford Harris	FB	5-10	220	JR
5	Rapheal Chestnut	WR	6-2	190	JR
6	Marcus Jones	LB	6-3	220	JR
7	Leon Wright	DB	5-9	165	SO
8	Abraham Kromah	LB	6-1	210	SO
9	Thaddeus Lewis	QB	6-2	190	SO
10	Matt Fridemore	DB	5-11	185	FR
12	Marvin Marcelin	DB	6-2	185	SO
13	Zack Asack	QB	6-4	200	SO
14	Mike Cappelto	QB	6-5	210	FR
15	Eron Riley	Wr	6-3	200	JR
16	Chris Rwabukwamba	CB	6-0	175	SO
17	Sheldon Bell	WR	6-4	200	SO
18	Jeremy Ringfield	WR	6-5	210	SO
19	Kris Stubbs	DB	6-1	185	JR
20	Justin Boyle	RB	6-1	215	SR
21	Re'quan Boyette	RE	5-10	210	JR
22	Brandon King	TE	6-2	260	SO
23	Catron Gainey	DB	6-2	205	SO
24	Glenn Williams	DB	5-10	185	JR
25	Tony Jackson	DB	5-10	185	FR
26	Joe Surgan	K	6-4	210	JR
27	Chris Davis	DB	6-0	205	SR
28	Adrian Aye-Darko	DB	6-2	210	JR
29	Eddie Morgan	DB	6-0	185	FR
30	Colin Jones	DB	5-10	186	FR
31	Vincent Rey	LB	6-0	255	SO
32	Cameron Jones	RB	5-10	185	FR
33	Alfred Williams	LB	6-2	250	JR
34	Michael Taulili	LB	5-11	180	JR
35	Tim Ball	LB	6-1	225	JR
36	Philip Lamela	DB	5-8	185	JR
37	Rodney Ezzard	DB	5-11	180	JR
38	Evalio Harrell	DB	5-9	170	SR
39	Adam Banks	LB	6-4	230	FR
40	Ronnie Drummer	RB	5-9	185	SR
41	Eriks Reks	DB	6-5	225	FR
42	Kinney Rucker	DL	6-2	300	SO
44	Justin Wilkerson	DL	6-3	245	FR
45	Charles Robinson	LB	6-2	214	JR
46	Trevor Dixon	FB	6-1	220	FR
47	Nick Maggio	P	6-5	190	FR
48	Andrew Holoman	LB	6-2	225	SO
49	Kevin Jones	P	6-3	185	SO
50	Tyler Rice	DL	6-3	245	SO
53	Sam Poggi	LB	6-2	220	FR
54	Greg Akinbiyi	LB	6-2	250	JR
55	Ryan Radloff	DL	6-4	260	SO
56	Damian Thornton	LB	6-1	235	FR
57	Paul Thornton	LB	6-1	235	FR
58	Casey Hales	LS	6-0	204	SR
60	Zach Maurides	OL	6-6	290	SR
61	Rob Schirmann	OL	6-5	285	JR
62	Bryan Morgan	OL	6-3	255	FR
63	Chris Shannon	OL	6-5	300	FR
65	Jeffrey Cowart	OL	6-5	310	SO
66	Pontus Bondeson	DL	6-6	275	SO
67	Mitchell Lederman	OL	6-8	320	SO
68	Matt Rumsey	OL	6-4	285	SR
70	Fred Roland	OL	6-8	310	JR
71	Jon Needham	OL	6-7	305	FR
72	Garrett Mason	OL	6-5	300	SR
73	Marcus Lind	OL	6-5	300	SO
74	Cameron Goldberg	OL	6-6	280	JR
75	Robert Drum	OL	6-6	285	SO
76	Justin Freeman	OL	6-1	290	JR
77	Jarrod Holt	OL	6-6	260	FR
78	Ben Loebner	OL	6-9	315	SO
79	Kyle Hills	OL	6-6	260	FR
80	Nick Stefanow	TE	6-5	235	SR
81	Jomar Wright	WR	6-1	200	SR
82	Ryan Wood	WR	6-1	190	JR
83	Austin Kelly	WR	6-3	195	FR
84	Patrick Bailey	DL	6-4	235	SR
85	James Brooks	WR	6-3	185	JR
86	Josh Trezvant	WR	5-11	175	FR
87	Brett Huffman	TE	6-5	245	SO
88	Danny Parker	TE	6-5	225	FR
89	Garrett Utt	TE	6-4	225	FR
90	Patrick Egboh	DL	6-4	250	SO
91	Ayanga Okpokowuruk	DL	6-4	255	SO
92	Ifeke Okpokowuruk	DL	6-1	285	SO
93	Charlie Hatcher	DI	6-3	275	FR
94	John Phillips	WR	6-3	190	SO
95	Brandon Harper	DL	6-3	320	SO
97	Clifford Respress	DL	6-4	275	JR
98	Greg Meyers	K	5-8	150	SR
99	Wesley Oglesby	DL	6-6	250	SO

### BLUE DEVILS RUSHING

The Irish have struggled defending the run this year, allowing more than 200 yards per game. The Notre Dame front seven is undersized and has been bitten by the injury bug. Nose guard Pat Kuntz is not expected to play after suffering an injury against Air Force.

### BLUE DEVILS PASSING

Notre Dame's pass defense has been its strength this season, although Matt Ryan and Mark Sanchez had good days against the Irish. Notre Dame was also burned by bootlegs and play action against both Navy and Air Force.

### SPECIAL TEAMS

The Irish special teams have suffered massive breakdowns at times this season. Against Navy two weeks ago, Charlie Weis had so little confidence in his kickers that he passed up what would have been a game-winning 43-yard field goal.

### INTANGIBLES

The Irish are 1-9 and have lost to service academies in consecutive weeks for the first time since World War II. It is senior day, but is that enough to motivate a team whose season has already been counted a failure for weeks?

NOTRE DAME

DUKE

ANALYSIS

The Blue Devils have not been able to run the ball on anyone this year. Five tailbacks have started this season, but only two are averaging more than three yards per carry. The offensive line is undersized, especially on the left side.

Lewis has passed decently this season, but he has been inconsistent and is prone to throwing crucial interceptions. The Blue Devils' leading receiver is Jomar Wright, who has 43 catches for 497 yards and three touchdowns.

Duke can't find a placekicker. Three players are listed on their depth chart, and they are a combined 3-for-7 on field goals this season. Jabari Marshall has returned a kickoff for a touchdown this season.

Duke is 1-9, but that's improvement. Last year at this time they were 0-10. If they win this game, they can tell their grandchildren about the time they beat Notre Dame. This game will make their season, if not their careers.

After facing two prolific option attacks, Notre Dame is probably happy to face an I-formation team. But even though Duke is the worst rushing team the Irish have faced, there's still no guarantee that Notre Dame will stop them.

Notre Dame is 46th in pass efficiency defense, while Duke is 71st in pass offense. The Blue Devils have been able to move the ball through the air a bit this year, but some of that is against prevent defenses when they're behind in games.

Neither team has any confidence in its placekickers, both teams have somewhat dangerous return men and both punters have way too much game experience. Between the Irish and Blue Devils, special teams is about as even as it gets.

Duke has the motivation of the Notre Dame name, while the Irish are merely looking to avoid a 10-loss season for the first time ever. The Blue Devils will come out fired up and the Irish will have to weather the storm.



**Chris Hine**  
**Sports Editor**

Notre Dame finally gets off the schvide this week. The offense has shown signs of life the past two weeks, albeit against two academies, but it's still a step up from the beginning of the season. And luckily for Notre Dame's defense, Duke doesn't run the option. With this being senior day, I can't see Zibby, Laws, Carlson, etc. leaving Notre Dame Stadium without one last win.

**FINAL SCORE: Notre Dame 27, Duke 14**



**Jay Fitzpatrick**  
**Associate Sports Editor**

Duke is one of the few teams as bad as, if not worse than, Notre Dame this season. The two have comparably terrible offenses, but Notre Dame's defense could be the difference maker. Duke has the No. 98 defense in the nation, meaning that even Notre Dame's offense should be able to do something productive. Clausen continues to play like he did in the second half against Air Force and gets his first home win.

**FINAL SCORE: Notre Dame 24, Duke 13**

## Irish experts

**JUNIOR JABBIE**

# Jabbie turned to past Irish standouts for help

*After solid showing in Blue-Gold game, RB earned playing time*

By DAN MURPHY  
Associate Sports Editor

Entering the Blue-Gold Game last spring, Notre Dame's starting running back spot was still up in the air. With a stable full of young talented backs, it seemed that Charlie Weis had more than enough options.

Weis, however, had to add one more to the list after senior Junior Jabbie rushed for 87 yards on 13 attempts to lead the Gold squad to a 10-6 win. Jabbie's performance was far and away the best of the game, almost doubling the yardage of all the other backs combined.

"I realized there was going to be an opportunity for a lot of running backs to play because no one really had any experience," Jabbie said.

After the spring game, Jabbie talked to his good friend, and for-

mer Irish back, Darius Walker about what to expect in the future. Walker told him to keep working hard and good things would happen.

Jabbie, who had seen action on special teams his junior year, worked hard and became a situational back for the Notre Dame offense with appearances in nine of 10 games so far this year. He has carried the ball eight times for a total of 21 yards, including four carries during the second half comeback of the team's 33-19 loss to Purdue on Sept. 29.

"Everybody was put in when they were needed," he said. "I was more of a third down kind of back, but we all had our own packages for different situations."

Jabbie said everyday at practice was a competition with the other backs and that the friendly contest helped him and the rest of his teammates better runners this year. Jabbie was recruited by Notre Dame as a defensive back and was listed at that position on

the depth chart for his first two seasons. He had experience in the backfield as a running back in high school and decided to give the offensive side of the ball a try

in his junior season.

Jabbie spent a year at the Hun School of Princeton in New Jersey as a post-graduate before coming to Notre Dame in 2003. There he was named an All-prep running back by the Trenton Times after rushing for 1,200 yards and scoring 18 touchdowns.

Before the Hun School, Jabbie graduated from Sayreville War Memorial High School, the same alma mater of former Irish line-backer Brandon Hoyte.

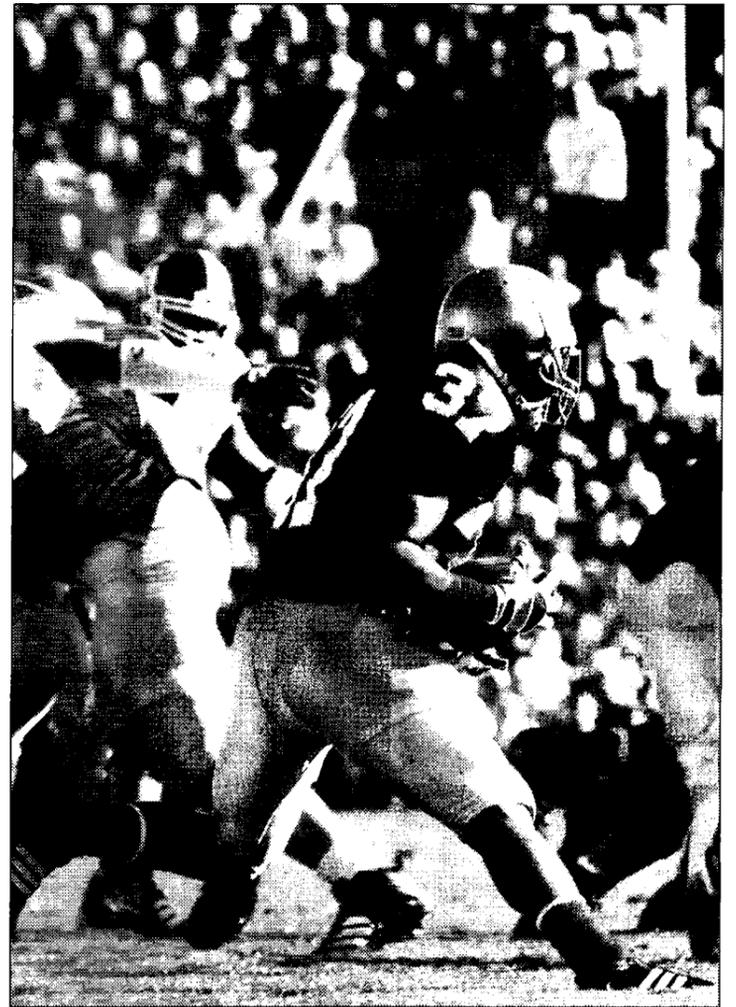
"When I was getting recruited he told me to just keep working hard and that I would be successful," Jabbie said.

The pair knew each other long before high school. The family friends met playing youth sports long before coming to South Bend.

"He was always one of the good athletes, so it was pretty cool to end up at the same school as him," Jabbie said.

Hoyte took the young back under his wing when he first arrived in South Bend, inviting him over to his house and reminiscing about their childhoods to help make Jabbie feel more comfortable in his new surroundings.

Jabbie, who is in the Mendoza College of Business, said he still isn't sure what he wants to when he graduates and is just concentrating on football at this point.



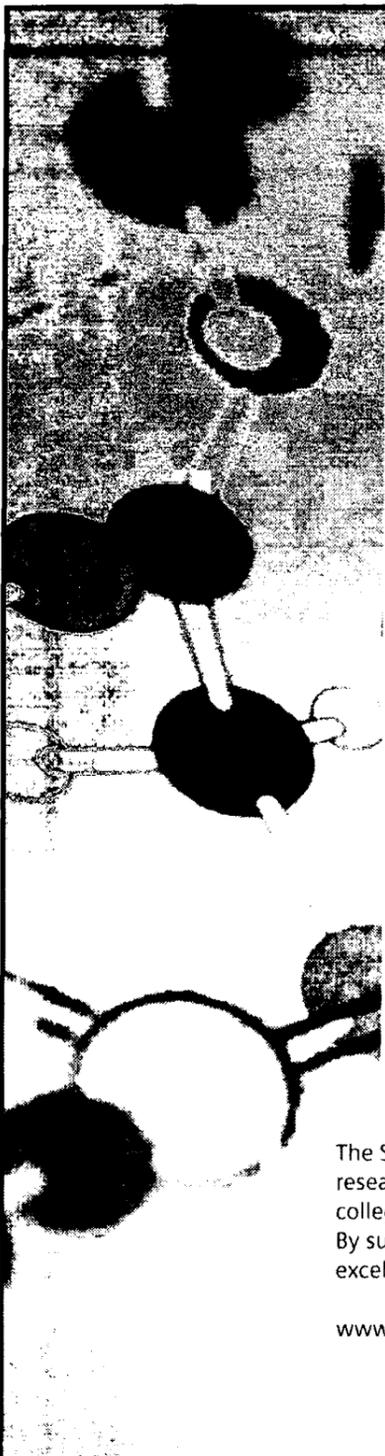
KELLY HIGGINS/The Observer

Irish running back Junior Jabbie tries to find a running lane against Michigan State on Sept. 22 in a 31-14 Spartan victory.

*"Everybody was put in when they were needed. I was more of a third down kind of back, but we all had our own packages for different situations."*

**Junior Jabbie  
Irish running back**

Contact Dan Murphy at  
dmurphy6@nd.edu



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## AMBROSE WOODEN

# Mr. Sunshine

*Ambrose Wooden has kept an optimistic outlook on life throughout his career at Notre Dame*

By KEN FOWLER  
Sports Writer

Even when Ambrose Wooden is having a bad day, you'll never know it.

The fifth-year senior cornerback will walk down the quad with a smile on his face every day. That's just who he is.

"When I walk around campus, I don't know who's having a bad day. I just smile and nod at them," Wooden says as the dimples on his face come to life. "I don't know who they are, but I thought to myself, I just try to be an inspiration."

That Wooden has such a mentality may be inspiration on its own. The Gilman School in Baltimore as a wide receiver. After sitting out his freshman year as a reserve wide out, he moved to cornerback as a sophomore. He started all 12 of Notre Dame's games as a junior and made SportsCenter and Sports Illustrated when Matt Leinart's fourth-down pass to Dwayne Jarrett snuck past his outstretched arm in No. 1 USC's 34-31 last-second win over the No. 9 Irish on Oct. 15, 2005.

The next season, a knee injury limited his time at starting cornerback and forced him into a nickel-back role. Now, sophomore Darrin Walls has gotten the starting nod over Wooden.

But Wooden just keeps on plugging, smiling all the while.

"I always think that somebody has something worse



Notre Dame cornerback Ambrose Wooden makes a tackle during a 38-31 win over Stanford on Nov. 26, 2005 in Palo Alto, Calif. The win improved the Irish record to 9-2 and gave them a berth in the Fiesta Bowl against Ohio State.

KELLY HIGGINS/The Observer

than you have right now," he says. "... You've got kids going off fighting in wars, you've got all types of stuff going on around the world. Whereas, this is, it's a game. Yeah, it means a lot, but it's still just a

game." For his career, Wooden has made 116 tackles and intercepted two passes.

He will get nostalgic, though, as the final seconds of the Duke game mark the end

of his career at Notre Dame Stadium.

"It's definitely hitting me," Wooden says. "While things still aren't going the way we'd like them to ... I'm still happy being here. It's still just a blessing being here and playing for coach Weis and for this university. It's been great."

When this season ends, Wooden will have a couple of options for his future. He's going to try to make an NFL roster, but he's also in his fifth round of interviews with Goldman Sachs. Wooden eventually wants to become a trader for one of the world's largest investment banks.

"Every Sunday, I'm leaving out of here after meetings and I'm flying into New York by 12 o'clock Monday morning and interview all day and I'm back Monday night or Tuesday morning for workouts and practice."

Wooden also plans to interview with Credit Suisse, and he is considering participating in Teach For America.

That work Wooden, who

graduated in May from the Mendoza College of Business as a finance major with a 3.834 grade-point average in his final undergraduate semester.

As a fifth-year athlete, Wooden is enrolled in three classes — including Human Ethology, the University's

largest class in history, and a directed readings course on the principles of charity.

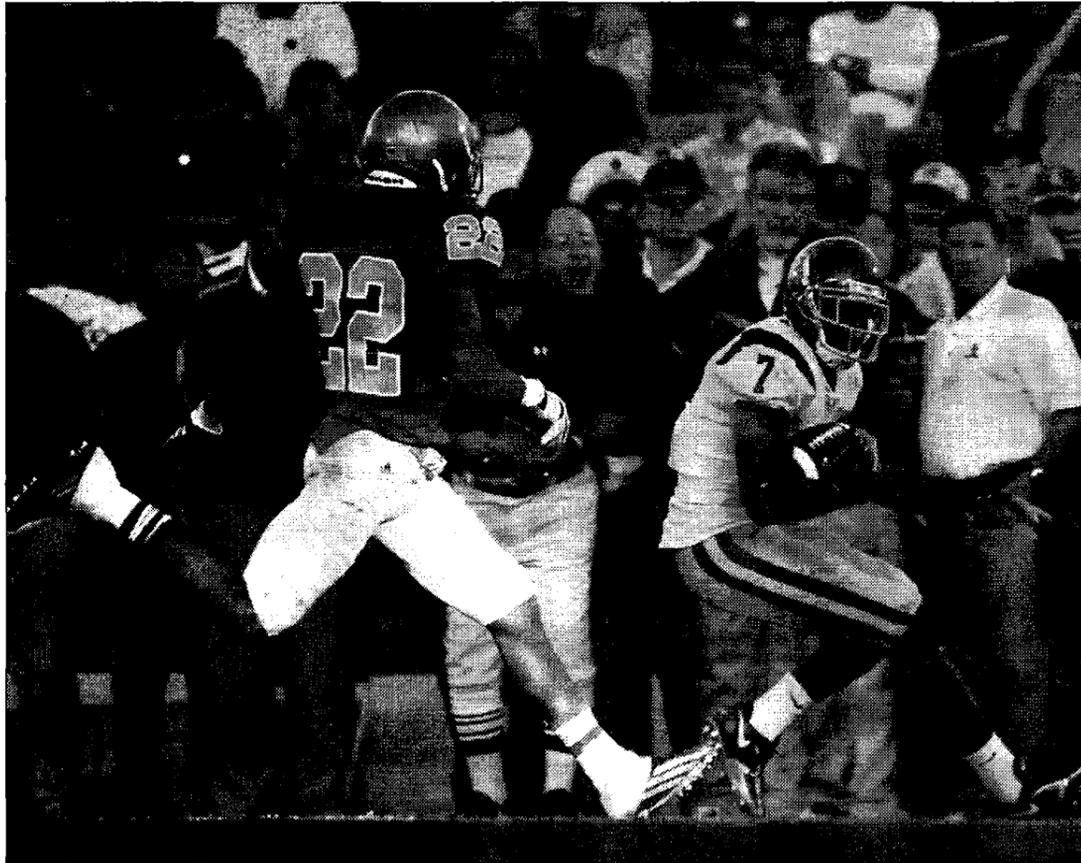
"I'm not in class all day like most kids but I'm staying busy," Wooden says. "[The NFL's] definitely a dream of mine, but I have another dream. I didn't go to school for four years

for nothing. And I want to make sure I have that opportunity."

And while his four years have been good, he'll probably be on campus some time again soon.

"I'll definitely be back. This place is special," Wooden says. "You've been here for four or five years. This has been a part of your life. You don't just go home."

Contact Ken Fowler at [kfowler1@nd.edu](mailto:kfowler1@nd.edu)



Irish cornerback Ambrose Wooden chases after USC wide receiver Vidal Hazelton during Notre Dame's 38-0 loss to the Trojans on Oct. 27 at Notre Dame Stadium.

KATE FENLON/The Observer

Please recycle The Observer.

JAKE RICHARDVILLE

# Interhall champ goes varsity as receiver

*After missing cut as punter, walking on at wide out pays off*

By ELLYN MICHALAK  
Sports Writer

Growing up in Fort Wayne, Ind., Jake Richardville's first love was baseball.

While he was offered Division II scholarships for his efforts in the sport, Richardville ultimately decided to come to Notre Dame because of academics.

After Richardville was seriously injured in practice before his eighth grade football season, he couldn't convince his parents to let him play football until his senior year of high school. Once he was out from under their roof, Richardville decided to join

his dorm's Interhall team. But in the spring of his freshman year, Richardville realized he wanted to play more than just a dorm sport.

"After playing Interhall, I had the urge to increase the competition level and take the next step," Richardville said. "I wanted to see if I could make the team because Notre Dame football is different from every other program around the country because of its tradition."



Richardville

In the spring of 2005, Richardville tried out for the Irish varsity team as a punter.

"I thought that trying out as a specialist would give me the best opportunity to make the team. It

turns out that they really didn't need any specialists at the time, so I was cut from the team. I was devastated, but at the same time I was motivated to work harder and learn a new position," Richardville said.

After leading Zahm to the championship in the fall of his sophomore year, Richardville decided to try out again — this time at a different position.

"I trained all year, came back to tryouts one year later as a wide receiver and was fortunate enough to make the team," Richardville said.

Playing for Notre Dame for two years has provided Richardville with many memorable moments. As a walk-on, he takes pride in doing his part to help the team's defense.

"Whether it be getting a first down against our number

one defense, or scoring a touchdown in practice, those are the moments I'll never forget," Richardville said.

"I think playing football is the best thing that has ever happened to me, because I was able to learn a new type of work ethic, time management and the ability to spread myself out and work efficiently in both the classroom and on the football field."

Despite two memory-filled years on the team, Richardville is ready for the next chapter of his life. After he graduates in the spring with a degree in pre-professional science,

Richardville plans on going to medical school somewhere in the Midwest.

"The ending of this season is bittersweet for me," he said. "I'm looking forward to the next portion of my life. I'm excited to go into the medical field right now, and I'm ready to serve others in my profession for the rest of my life."

Richardville has had tremendous academic and athletic success over the past four years, and he attributes his accomplishments to his family.

"I love my parents. I love my four brothers. I couldn't have a better support group," Richardville said, "I think my family friends and my faith have really enabled me to enjoy this experience more than anything I ever could have imagined."

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*"After playing Interhall, I had the urge to increase the competition level and take the next step."*

Jake Richardville  
wide receiver

*"I think playing football is the best thing that has ever happened to me ..."*

Jake Richardville  
wide receiver

the next chapter of his life. After he graduates in the spring with a degree in pre-professional science,

MIKE TALERICO

# Talerico adjusts to life as a walk-on tight end

By TAE ANDREWS  
Sports Writer

During his freshman year, Mike Talerico played Interhall football for Knott Hall with his buddy Justin Gillett. The Juggerknotts rumbled all the way inside Notre Dame Stadium that year, but they lost their championship game to Keenan in overtime on a missed extra point.

Talerico and Gillett left the Stadium in defeat that day, but the loss ignited a burning drive

in both players to make it back on that field — and not as Interhall players.

Gillett said, "Why not try to walk on with new coaching?" Talerico recalled. "So we went to the first tryouts, and I was really nervous. I think I hyperventilated during stretching."

After exhausting regimens of plyometrics and what Talerico calls "devil work" — body weight exercises such as endless pushups and sit-ups — the two successfully walked on the team.

"They never really told you

that you were on the team," Talerico said. "You just kinda kept getting told to show up."

From there, Talerico had to make two new adjustments: learning how to play tight end, and learning how to play football at Division I speed. As an offensive lineman in high school, he concerned himself primarily with blocking schemes. As a tight end, Talerico had to learn how to read coverages and run pass routes — at a quick pace.

"The adjustment from high school to college, everyone's just hitting that much harder, faster," Talerico said. "The first spring was really hard, but after that you just get tucked into it. Everything slows down, as they say, cliched, but it happens."

Talerico said Irish tight ends such as Anthony Fasano, Marcus Freeman and current starter John Carlson played a huge role in helping him make the transition.

"They were just really great guys, really helpful," Talerico said. "They were there to help you if you had any questions. Carlson played a big brother role when I walked on, so I'd say he's a guy I'm pretty close to. He definitely made you feel like one of the guys, so the transition went okay."

After the successes of the past two years, this season was a jarring transition for Talerico and company.

"It definitely has been a lesson in humility, trials and tribulations as [Charlie Weis] would say," Talerico said.

He remains steadfast in his belief that Notre Dame will pre-

vail, no matter the odds.

"I honestly have gone through every week this year thinking we were going to win," Talerico said. "All my non-football friends think I'm crazy, like 'Do you think you can win this season?' And I'm like, 'Yeah.' I always believe in our game plan. We worked hard in practice."

"I feel like over the past three years we've worked harder in practice this season than we have ever, and so it's really frustrating to see all that effort and then not have the usual results we've gotten. It's easy to get down. I hate the feeling when we walk in the locker room after games, it's just horrible. I can't even describe it."

Despite mounting criticism from the naysayers, Talerico said Weis continues to keep a good attitude.

"He jokes around a lot during our stretching," Talerico said. "He'll walk around, and he'll give people a hard time. He's a very entertaining character, and he always inserts humor, or tries to. It's always a lot of fun. He's definitely a tough coach, whatever he wants to get out of you guys he'll let us know if he doesn't think we have it. So he's pretty on the ball in terms of what he wants to get out of us that week."

Talerico himself said he's had a few fun moments even amid the negativity surrounding this season. The self-deprecating big man said that watching scout film produces funny moments because of the blunders players make. He mentioned one moment in particular.

"Justin Gillett, he has a great,

strong arm — but only occasionally. One time he threw the ball across the field," Talerico said. "As the ball was let go, he said, 'Get there.' He wasn't sure it had enough juice. Everybody heard it. But it got there. So needless to say, we have a lot of fun and joke around."

A pre-professional major, Talerico plans on becoming a doctor one day. Besides his best friend Gillett, he counts fellow walk-ons Nick Possley, Brandon Erickson and William David Williams as some of his closest cronies on the team.

He still recalls the epic and devastating home loss against USC in 2005 as the single most memorable experience of his career.

"We came back in and changed our jerseys, and Rhema McKnight said, 'I got something for you guys,'" Talerico said. "And we all had our green jerseys laid out. If it wasn't a hyped game already, then this was ridiculous. We all went down the tunnel and some of us peeked out and the crowd saw us, and just hearing the roar of the crowd — it's giving me goosebumps right now. Just running out there and hearing it — it was just deafening."

"Just warming up, I throw the ball around with Justin Gillett and Nick Possley and just playing catch on the field in front of 80,000 people warming up, it's a pretty once-in-a-lifetime thing every time it happens."

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VANESSA GEMPIS/The Observer

Irish tight end Mike Talerico concentrates during warm-ups before last Saturday's 41-24 loss to Air Force.

Please recycle The Observer.

## TREVOR LAWS

# Going out in style

*Defensive end returned for a fifth year, becoming a vocal leader on and off the football field*

By JAY FITZPATRICK  
Associate Sports Editor

Last season, Trevor Laws was part of an all-senior defensive line for Notre Dame as a defensive tackle. But after tackle Derek Landri and ends Victor Abiamiri and Chris Frome graduated, Laws was the only experienced defensive lineman on Notre Dame's roster who could return for a fifth year.

Laws took that fifth year to try to improve his play on a solid team, but instead has been one of the top players on one of the worst teams in the nation.

But he wouldn't trade it in for anything.

"If I could go back in time, I would make the exact same decision because I've had great moments with my good friends here," he said.

## Life before Weis

Laws came out of Apple Valley High School in Apple Valley, Minn., as one of the top recruits from Minnesota — even though his team was never one of the best in the state.

"Apple Valley High School was a great place. We were never really that good, but we played hard every game," he said.

Laws played on both sides of the ball in high school as a versatile lineman on offense and as a tackle on defense — although he made his name as a defensive standout.

As a senior, Laws had 87 tackles, 11 sacks. Before that, he had 85 tackles, 10 sacks and 25 tackles for loss as a junior — enough to make him a first team all-state selection.

But in high school, football may not have been Laws' best sport. He finished his high school wrestling career as a three-time all-American with a 142-5 record, including an undefeated 49-0 campaign as the top-ranked super-heavyweight in his junior

season.

In football, Laws made consistent appearances on various football recruiting lists, and was named an ESPN.com and USA Today prep All-American. Laws was rated the No. 2 defensive tackle in the country his senior season and earned Gatorade player of the year honors in Minnesota.

When colleges came to recruit Laws, he knew that he wanted to go to a Big Ten school so that he could be close to home; Notre Dame wasn't on his initial list.

"I wasn't always a Notre Dame fan, and when I first got the letter to come here I didn't know if that was the right decision for me," he said.

But when he sat down and thought about it, Laws decided that Notre Dame's combination of athletics and academics — he was a member of the National Honor Society in high school — made it a good place to go.

When Laws entered the University, he played his first two seasons under coach Tyrone Willingham. He did not get on the field as a freshman and finished his sophomore season with 17 tackles, two pass breakups and a forced fumble.

When Willingham was fired on Nov. 30, 2004, Laws said he was shocked. "It was tough; I didn't see it coming at all.

Coming to Notre Dame you think you're going to be with this guy you're whole career and then he gets fired," he said. "So it's tough, but [coach Charlie] Weis came in and we had such a successful year and thought this was going to be great so that made it easier. But it's always tough losing some of your coaches."

When Weis took over, Laws said, it took some adjusting to the new coach's personality.

"It was definitely a little bit of culture shock but you get used to it fast," Laws said. "And [defensive line] coach [Jappy] Oliver has been a great position coach, it's been a great having him with me."

Laws took immediate advantage of the new system, earning a starting job as a defensive tackle in his junior season. Laws started all 12 games on the defensive line but netted only 33 tackles and 1 1/2 sacks.

Even though Laws had relatively modest numbers, his coaches still saw the potential he had to be a top-tier defensive player.

"Even when I first got here I have always thought that Trevor was a great technician. I really have," Oliver said.

Oliver also said that Laws has been relentless — especially this season — in trying to make a big play on every down.

"The one thing I've tried to do is get him to trust his instincts, because Trevor has great instincts," Oliver said. "And a lot of players do not trust them; they get a feel for it, but that's what it's all about. If you sense something, trust your instincts and go play."

Weis said that Laws reminds him of a lot of the great defensive tackles he faced as an offensive coordinator for the New England Patriots.

"He's a very disruptive inside player because he's not only short but he's powerful and quick off the ball and the schemes of the teams that we were coaching had a lot more of the two-gap type players," Weis said. "He's definitely more a prototypical 4-3 inside defensive lineman. There's a whole bunch that he reminds me of — those pain in the butts that are always in the backfield."

Laws played well in 2006 alongside fellow seniors Abiamiri, Landri and Frome. He had 62 tackles, 3 1/2 sacks, 9 1/2 tackles for loss and a forced fumble.

But things all changed this season since his teammates on the line all left — and so did defensive coordinator Rick Mantz.

One of the most important decisions for Laws was whether he



KELLY HIGGINS/The Observer

Notre Dame defensive end Trevor Laws combines with safety Tom Zbikowski to force a fumble by UCLA quarterback Ben Olson in a 20-6 Irish win Oct. 6 in the Rose Bowl.

should even take the fifth year. But he said that he has a lot of friends in the fifth-year class, and they decided to play one more year together.

"In the end, we decided it would be the best for all of us to come back and play another year at Notre Dame, another year for each other and also at the same time elevate ourselves in the draft for next year," he said.

Still, when Corwin Brown came in and brought his 3-4 personnel defense, everything changed for Laws.

## Elder statesman

Laws has been one of the players most affected by the new defensive scheme. Laws said that he sees himself as more of a defensive tackle in a 4-3, but had to make the adjustment to playing end.

To prepare for the change, Laws said, he lost some weight and did drills to increase his speed and mobility because he would have more room to work with on the end.

Weis said that even though Laws is listed as an end, he has played every position on the line this season — something that will help him at the next level.

"He's played both inside and outside both left and right this year so what he's really done is he's elevated his status," Weis said. "He can play left defensive tackle, right defensive tackle, left end or right end. So he's really helped himself, rather than get pigeonholed at just one spot."

But the biggest change was not from tackle to end, but in becoming one of the leaders on the field.

This year's Irish defensive line is filled with young, inexperienced players — except for Laws and nose tackle Pat Kuntz — so Laws took it upon himself to be the leader of that group.

"During spring ball ... I looked

down the line and saw all the new faces and knew that it was up to me to help teach these guys how to play football," Laws said. "At first it was tough with guys learning their positions and everything and learning how to play, but now it's a point in the season where guys are playing great football and I don't have to say anything anymore."

Laws said that he expected the team to struggle because of the losses on the offensive side of the ball but never would have thought the team could have been this bad. Moreover, he said that his solid season — 98 tackles, two sacks, two fumble recoveries and five pass breakups — cannot overshadow the team's performance.

"I will never feel good about this season, but maybe in the future it will be easier to look back on myself and see the positives," Laws said. "But I will never be OK with the way we played," he said.

But one of the toughest parts of being the lone senior on such a young defensive line has been focusing on this season's final four games — his last at Notre Dame.

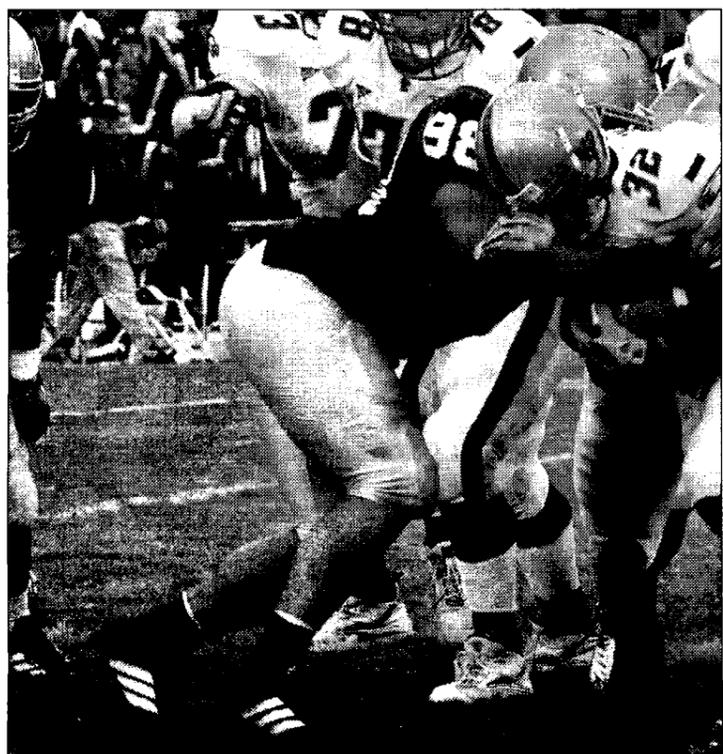
"Some people are saying 'I'm looking forward to next year, this is the beginning of next year,' or something like that and I don't want to think about it that way," Laws said. "The way I do think about it sometimes is just helping younger guys because it is my team and they're going to be playing next year for my school, so just helping them along and playing hard these last four games."

Editor's note: This article originally ran in the Nov. 2 issue of The Observer.

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*"Even when I first got here I have always thought that Trevor was a great technician. I really have."*

Jappy Oliver  
Irish defensive line coach



CHRIS MASSAD/The Observer

Irish defensive end Trevor Laws tackles Boston College running back Andre Callender during the 27-14 Irish loss Oct. 13.

GEOFF PRICE

# Price gets back lost job with hard work

*Punter would like to try skills at next level*

By KEN FOWLER  
Sports Writer

It was the week of Geoff Price's fifth game of his fifth year. And he got passed on the depth chart.

Irish coach Charlie Weis announced that sophomore punter Eric Maust would take over the punting duties for Notre Dame after Price got off to a wobbly start no one saw coming.

The graduate with a degree in finance from Hurst, Texas, was a member of the preseason watch list for the Ray Guy Award after finishing 2006 in the top 10 nationally for punting average. And that came in his first season replacing veteran punter and placekicker D.J. Fitzpatrick.

But Price was inconsistent in Notre Dame's first four games this season, and Weis was ready to make a switch.

"I came into this year with a lot of high expectations — both myself and a lot of outside pressure was on me," Price said. "... I don't want to say it affected me; maybe it did subconsciously because I knew I just needed to go out there and do a job and if I did it, those types of things would come. Unfortunately it didn't happen and it was a very humbling experience. It's something that you never as an athlete ever want to go through."

But he did — and he bounced back

immediately.

Weis released the depth chart with Price at No. 2 the Tuesday before the Purdue game. Maust punted three times against the Boilermakers, but Price took it in stride, so to speak.

"It was tough, but I've been here so long and my name's been second on the depth chart for so long. Not to say that I'm used to it," he said.

The fifth-year senior had three straight strong practices the next week and won back the starting job by the time the UCLA game weekend rolled around.

Price proved his worth. He punted nine times in Pasadena for an average of 40.3 yards but a more impressive three kicks that wound up inside the Bruins' 20.

"I think that this is just another moment in my career that shows the adversity and what I have to go through," Price said. "It's just a situation where you have to push through and overcome. And I think I was fortunate just to go back to basics."

Price's success in 2006 came from just that. He practiced shortening his strides by placing a towel in front of him in the summer after Notre Dame's loss to Ohio State in the Fiesta Bowl. That propelled him to the top of many charts of the best senior punters. But 2007 has been more of a challenge.

"The year before was just such a great year. Everything that could go right did go right," Price said of the 2006 season. "I know there were occasional battles, but for the most part it was a great season. It was a

great season all around."

Price punted 50 times in 2006 with a 45.4-yard average, six touchbacks and 12 kicks that ended up inside the opponent's 20-yard line. This season, he has 54 punts, a 41.9-yard average, 11 inside 20 and only two touchbacks.

Though his average is down, Price is happy with his fewer touchbacks and the team's spot at No. 15 nationally in net punting — which measures not only where the punt lands but also how far it is returned, thus accounting for hang time.

"Even though I've started off slowly, this is one thing where I can learn where I've overcome, I've kept pushing up," Price said. "... I've learned how to deal with the down and I've pushed through it and kept going."

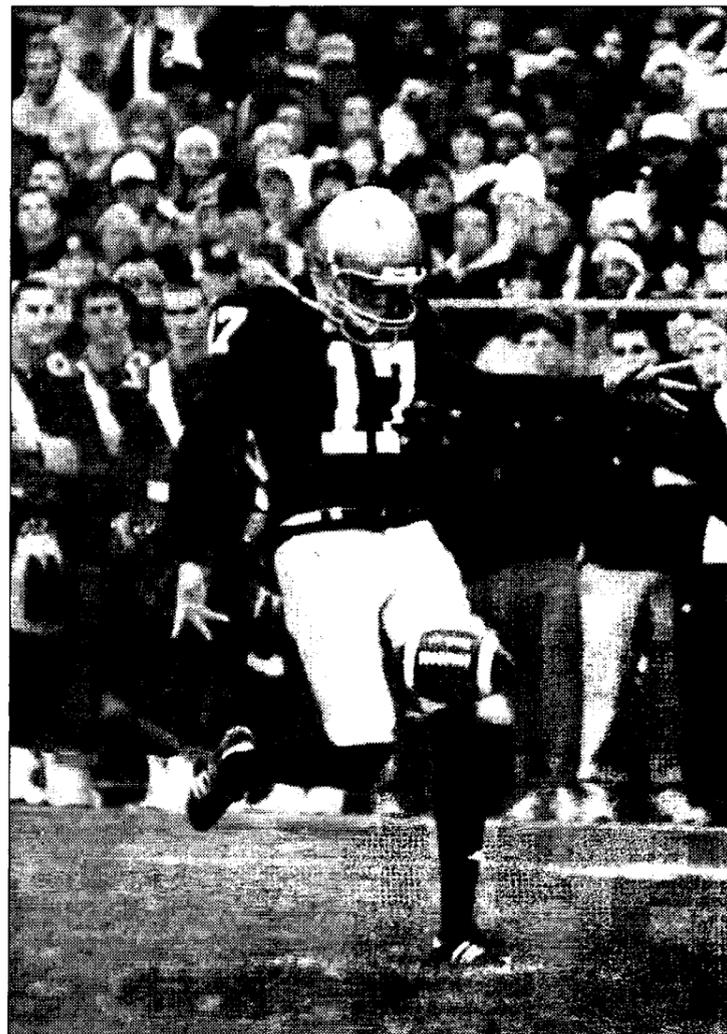
And he still sees the bright side of his decision to come back for a fifth year, even if his NFL prospects have not improved.

"Me coming to Notre Dame was not just about playing time. I came to Notre Dame because it's Notre Dame and there were other things I wanted to accomplish even more than just football — getting a degree, getting a well-rounded education and so forth."

But he hopes his playing days aren't over.

"I would like to potentially try the next level," Price said. "If I make it, I make it, that's great. But I want to just — for self justification — to say that I tried. I would like to try."

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Observer File Photo  
Irish punter Geoff Price punts the ball during Notre Dame's 45-26 win over North Carolina on Nov. 4, 2006.

J.J. JANSEN

# Jansen not one for publicity, likes anonymity

By LORENZO REYES  
Sports Writer

Being a long snapper is a lot like being a referee.

If a long snapper is doing his job correctly, no one will ever know who he is. But one mistake will define his career.

Irish senior long snapper J.J. Jansen wouldn't have it any other way.

"For the most part, I'm comfortable with it," Jansen said.

"I don't like to see my name out there. It's nice not to worry about it. I'd rather have the credit go to the great kickers on our team. I pride myself when they do well, and hurt for them when they do poorly. I'm just very comfortable with who I am. Sometimes I actually think the anonymity makes playing more enjoyable."

But whether or not he'll admit it, Jansen has made major contributions to Notre Dame.

As a freshman, Jansen did not see any action as a reserve long snapper. The following year, the Phoenix, Ariz., native started the last seven games of the season, replacing Dan Hickey as the long snapper on punts and field goals. As a starter in his sophomore year, he was perfect on all 71 snaps.

As a junior, Jansen was the only long snapper who played for the Irish, once again flawlessly snapping on 115 attempts throughout the season for place kicker Carl Gioia and punter Geoff Price.

Coming into his senior season, Jansen was widely considered one of the nation's most accurate and consistent long snappers. The one blunder in his Notre Dame career came this season against Boston College when he snapped the ball low. That caused Price to field the snap with his knee on the ground, which marked the play dead.

Jansen attributes his solid long snap success rate to focus, relaxation and self-confidence.

"I try to treat everything as one play at a time," Jansen said. "I try to be even keeled with each snap, just relax and have fun while I'm out there."

Jansen's selfless and humble sense of his accomplishments

is clear when he reflects on his career.

What was his proudest individual moment at Notre Dame?

"That's a tough question," Jansen said. "I would say my proudest moment was when Geoff [Price] broke the all-time record in a season for punting average. It really showed all the hard work we put into our efforts."

Jansen derived much of his demeanor, work ethic and success from his father, Rick Jansen, who he considers one of the primary models in his life.

"My dad inspires me the most," Jansen said. "I look up to him to model my life in all aspects, be it football, academics or relationships."

Of all the lessons Rick Jansen taught his son, the senior long snapper remembers one in particular.

"The most important life lesson he taught me was to work hard at everything I do," Jansen said. "With friends,

football and school, he taught me to put forth my full effort and do everything with respect."

Coming from a tight-knit family, Jansen is not afraid to share every aspect of his life with his father.

"I turn to him to ask questions about anything," Jansen said. "When I'm not meeting my own expectations, he is a great sounding board to talk things out. I don't have to hide anything from him. It's

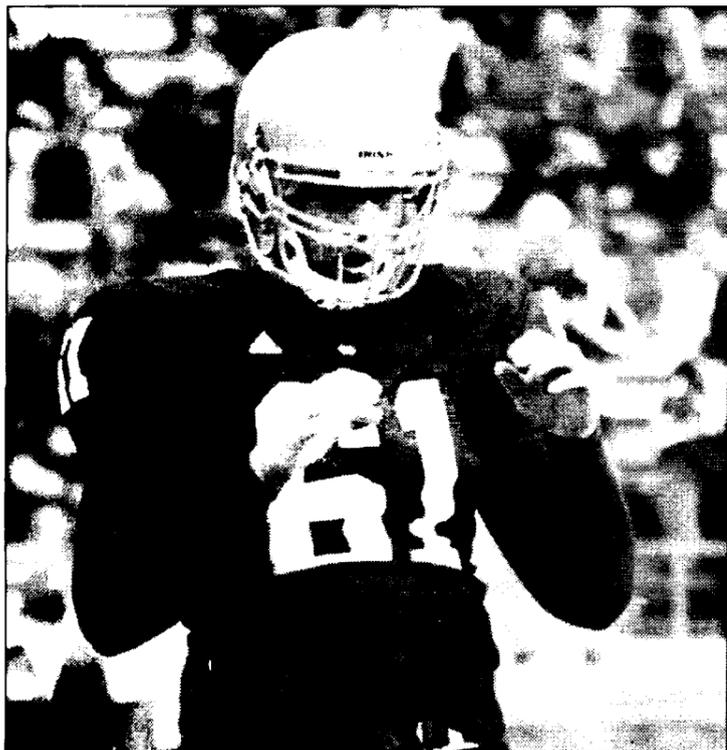
easy to turn to him when I need some honest advice."

Once Jansen graduates, he wants to continue playing football for as long as he can, and hopes to land a spot in the NFL as a long snapper.

"I'm excited to see what happens," Jansen said. "I'm going to play it by ear, but my first goal is definitely the NFL."

Whether Jansen makes it to the next level, he can be sure his father will be there by his side, making sure he maximizes his potential.

"He showed me that I should never quit on anything, regardless of how bad it was at the time," Jansen said. "It was never an option."



Irish long snapper J.J. Jansen warms up before Notre Dame's 41-24 loss to Air Force on Nov. 11.

VANESSA GEMPIS/The Observer

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## BRANDON ERICKSON

## Wide out works through broken bones, tough losses

*Despite a painful foot, Erickson remained dedicated to his team*

By TAE ANDREWS  
Sports Writer

Brandon Erickson knows hospitals. Maybe that's why he wants to work in one someday.

The walk-on in recent memory and pre-professional major from Marlboro, N.J., suffered a bad ankle break in practice after a collision with running back Travis Thomas following last year's Georgia Tech game.

"Travis hit me on a crossing route, spun me the other way," Erickson said.

As soon as Erickson suffered the break, team trainers rushed him to the hospital, and he underwent surgery. As the trainers attended to him, Erickson recalls literally telling them to turn his mangled leg back around. "Clearly, that was impossible," he said, "but I didn't want to undergo surgery at all."

Given that Erickson didn't have time to even call his parents and let them know what had happened, fellow New Jersey native and coach Charlie Weis called Erickson's mother and left her a message saying that Brandon was OK but had been injured in practice.

When Erickson's mother

called back around midnight, Weis told her that Brandon had suffered one of the worst, if not the worst, injury he had ever seen.

"My mom freaked," Erickson said. "Even though Weis told her I was OK, and her and my dad drove up here to see me the next day."

Not one to lay around idle, Erickson left the hospital the morning after his surgery and went to class. Irritated that Erickson had left the hospital so soon, Weis called him and ordered him to go to the infirmary for the weekend. The ankle continues to bother Erickson today.

"It hurt a lot, still hurts, actually," Erickson said. "I got two screws and a plate in there."

Despite the hard knocks, broken bones and new hardware, there's no keeping him off the team. After playing football in high school, Erickson realized during his freshman year that he couldn't be happy watching from the stands.

"I just kind of missed the game a lot," he said. "I tried to walk on and Weis came in at the same time with a new walk-on class, you know, he was doing everything new, so he took a couple of us. ... It worked out well for me."

Erickson said the real Weis is very different from the brash, outspoken image many people have of him.

"He's quiet for the most part," Erickson said. "He yells a little bit, but not too much. He doesn't make rash judgments. He kind of holds back, takes it all in, then he'll watch the film and give you his critique at practice the next day."

Over the past three years, Erickson has seen Weis' exciting reinvigoration of the Notre Dame football program from the inside. One part of that means learning a lot from coaches who demand a lot.

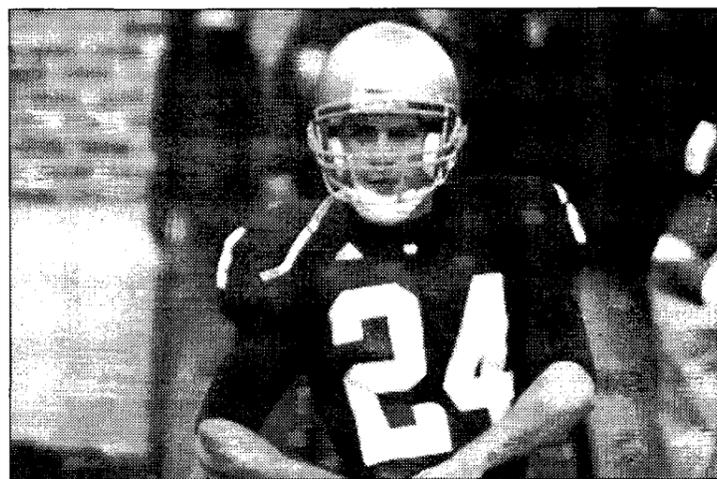
"They'll get on you about stupid stuff sometimes," Erickson said. "If there's really nothing to yell at you for, they always find something to yell at you for. Obviously, you never can be perfect, so they make sure you know that."

Having coaches with such a perfectionist work ethic has convinced Erickson that the future of Notre Dame football remains bright, despite the team's abysmal record this season.

"It's gonna be a good program," he said. "They're good coaches. They know what they're doing."

Another part of playing wide receiver during the recent Irish resurgence meant being on the receiving end of former quarterback Brady Quinn's bullet-like passes.

"You know, honestly, the first time I came in from high school I almost broke my fingers," Erickson said. "He



Irish wide receiver Brandon Erickson stretches before Notre Dame's 41-24 loss to Air Force on Nov. 10.

throws so fast. I mean, he's accurate, and he can put it wherever. Wherever you want him to, he can put it, but if you're not ready for it, it will definitely hurt you."

Having made a full recovery from the ankle injury, Erickson continues to face risks on the field and in practice, but he says he does it for the friends he's made during his time on the team.

"It's just cool to go out there with all the seniors every day, all the guys I've been here with for a couple years, and just go out and have a good time," he said. "Because without them, it wouldn't be fun. It wouldn't be worth it."

Erickson counts fellow sen-

iors and walk-ons Nick Possley, Mike Talerico and Justin Gillett among his best friends on the team, plus quarterback Darrin Bragg.

Despite all the losing in one of Notre Dame's worst seasons in history, Erickson said he's still having a good time because of the bonds he has with those friends.

"You're still having fun, you're still playing with the same guys, having a good time," he said. "It's kind of something...you stick to it. You don't want to quit at anything you do, ever, so stick to it."

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## NICK POSSLEY

## Receiver, ROTC member does double-duty

By MATT GAMBER  
Sports Writer

Three hours after becoming the first walk-on in recent memory to speak at a pre-game pep rally, Nick Possley read a text message that struck him even more than the ovation he

had received earlier from the thousands gathered in the Joyce Center.

"My dad just texted me one word: 'Unbelievable,'" said Possley, a senior wide receiver and Navy ROTC member whom coach Charlie Weis asked to speak at the Navy pep rally on Nov. 2.

After learning just two days in advance that he was slated to address the crowd, a nervous Possley prepared a speech in which he would recognize his fellow walk-ons, praise the Navy traditions, and even throw in "a little bit of self-deprecating humor" for good measure.

What he didn't do, however, was tell his family about it. "I knew [several relatives] were coming, so I figured I'd surprise them," said Possley, a Wheaton, Ill., native. "I didn't want my dad taking pictures; I just wanted him to enjoy it. It was fun, and I'll never forget it."

Possley's public speaking debut marked the culmination of more than three years of balancing not only daily football workouts and academic commitments, but also the rigors of the Navy ROTC program.

"ROTC has been really accommodating, letting me get out of most everything," Possley said. "Football, in turn, has served as a lot of leadership training. I'm observing

coaches and players, leaders and followers, and I'm filling both roles, which has been as valuable as anything I could've gotten just from ROTC."

Possley, an all-area wide receiver as a senior at Wheaton-North High School, said he

had "no intention to play football in college," but watching a season from the stands changed his mind. Possley began attending off-season workouts in the spring of his freshman year, eventually securing a place on the roster.

"As long as we were able to hang around and not hurt each other, [we walk-ons] were good to go," Possley said. "The main thing was I just missed being on a team, being a part of a group of guys and having that special bond that you get, at least for me, from playing a sport. I couldn't find that anywhere else, so I figured I'd give it a shot."

Possley has since made the traveling squad and has seen special teams action in several games for the Irish during the past two seasons.

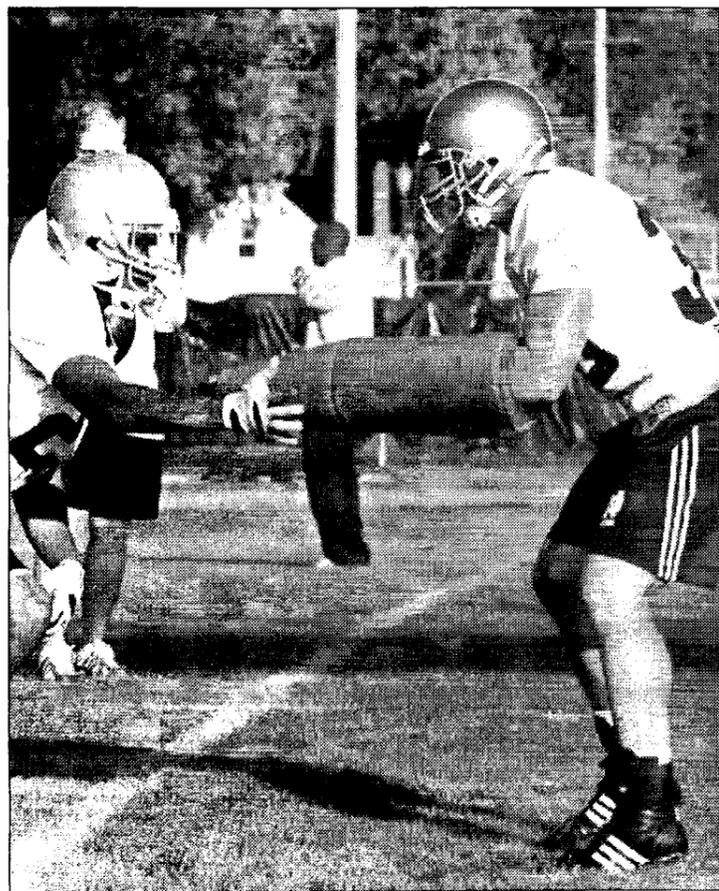
"Somebody must have put in a good word for me at some point along the way," Possley said of how his role increased. "I had to catch a break, everybody does, but if you work hard and you're ready to capitalize on it, good things will happen."

And, Possley hopes, they will continue to happen in his post-graduate career. He will travel to Washington, D.C., later this

month seeking approval to attend nuclear power school in preparation for a career in submarines.

Regardless of what his future holds, Possley will look back on his times at Notre Dame, especially those spent with the football team, with both pride and appreciation. In fact, he's already begun to do so. "I've been so fortunate to play and be a part of this team," Possley said. "This has made me realize, more than anything, that sports are something I love and always want to be a part of. I wasn't happy when I wasn't part of a sport, and this has been very fulfilling for me. I don't regret anything, and I'd definitely do it all over again."

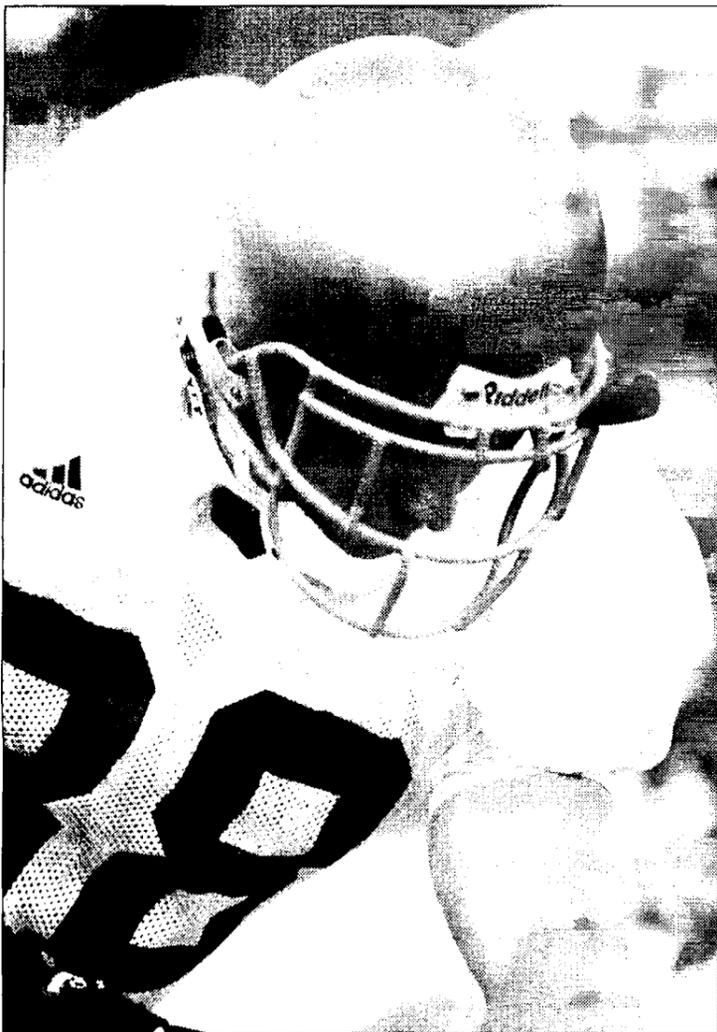
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Notre Dame senior receiver Nick Possley, right, works with fellow wide out Golden Tate in practice on Oct. 4.

## WADE IAMS

# Med school looms after football career



VANESSA GEMPIS/The Observer

Notre Dame defensive back Wade Iams stretches before a team workout. Iams hopes to attend medical school after graduation.

*Senior defensive back learned to balance time between class, football*

By FRAN TOLAN  
Sports Writer

Irish reserve defensive back Wade Iams has never taken the field on a Notre Dame football Saturday. He has played on the "look" squad every week during practice for four years, simulating the defenses of upcoming Irish opponents. So of course Iams wonders what life would be like had he not chosen to walk onto the team as a freshman.

"It would be very difficult tomorrow to go back and start it all over again," Iams said. "But you never want to quit."

Iams, a senior biology major, said he has not even had preferred scheduling when deciding his classes during some of his semesters at Notre Dame.

"Some semesters we've had preferred scheduling and some we haven't," Iams said.

"Semesters when we don't, walk-ons are allowed to miss some meetings. But you definite-

ly learn to manage your time." Despite the difficulties of being a walk-on, Iams said, he would not have had his best friends and memories if not for football.

Some of his closest friends are fellow walk-on defensive backs. Iams said his favorite teammates are reserve defensive backs William David Williams, Mike Anello and John Leonis. He also lives with a former Irish walk-on, Alvin Reynolds, at the Clover Ridge Apartments.

Iams also said his favorite time at Notre Dame was the 2005 game against USC.

"That was the most electric I've ever seen campus," Iams said. "It was awesome that weekend, just amazing."

And Iams, a Mishawaka native, has seen his share of Irish football games. His father, a 1981 Notre Dame graduate, played baseball for the Irish and frequently receives tickets from the

Monogram Club.

"I came to a lot of Notre Dame football games ... so my whole

family loves Notre Dame," Iams said. "Every week, those tickets are spoken for."

And even though his family comes every week to see him on the sidelines, he frequently returns home. Iams said he enjoys going back to Penn High School in Granger — where he starred both football and baseball — to see his younger brother's football games.

This season, Irish coach Charlie Weiss

awarded Iams a scholarship for the senior's dedication to the Irish. And that extra money could be useful, as Iams plans to head to medical school after graduation. Iams said he knows his time at Notre Dame has prepared him well for his future education. And he hopes it will make it easier for him to stand out among aspiring doctors.

"Everybody going to medical school is trying to get the 'thing' on their resume," Iams said. "Mine is football."

And judging from his work ethic with the Irish, Iams has earned any advantage that he can get.

*"It would be very difficult tomorrow to go back and start it all over again, but you never want to quit."*

Wade Iams  
Irish defensive back

*"Everybody going to med school is trying to get the 'thing' on their resume. Mine is football."*

Wade Iams  
Irish defensive back

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## NEIL KENNEDY

# Irish lineman draws inspiration from parents

By JARED JEDICK  
Sports Writer

Dedication and hard work define the character of nose tackle Neil Kennedy.

A walk-on since his sophomore year, Kennedy has played in only one game in his

three years on the team. And yet his experience of being part of the team and part of Notre Dame tradition has left an indelible mark on the senior.

And it all starts with the first play he ever participated in during practice.

"It was a goal-line play, and

I went the wrong way on a stunt," Kennedy said. "[Former Irish defensive coordinator] Rick Minter was in my facemask just screaming at me."

But the perseverance that is second-nature to Kennedy pushed him to the culmination of his football career as a junior when he played against Army on Irish senior day in 2006.

"It was probably the loneliest I have ever felt among 80,000 people," Kennedy said. "There are only 22 people on the field."

Kennedy, who came from a humble background in Phoenix, said his mom and dad are his heroes in life.

"My dad is one of my biggest influences in football. He played football all the way through and went on to junior college. My mom works two or three jobs putting us three kids through Catholic high school and Catholic college. She works her butt off."

*"My dad is one of my biggest influences in football. He played football all the way through and went on to junior college. My mom works two or three jobs putting us three kids through Catholic high school and Catholic college. She works her butt off."*

Neil Kennedy  
Irish defensive lineman

to keep in touch with his younger sister Maureen, who is in college, and his younger brother Phillip, who is back at Kennedy's alma mater, Brophy Prep, in Phoenix.

Kennedy's workload is substantial: He is a mechanical engineering major despite the huge time commitment the football team demands.

"I get more sleep than most people think," Kennedy joked.

The key to balancing football and schoolwork, Kennedy said, is using a day planner.

"I literally schedule out every hour and minute of each day," he said.

The vast amount of time required to succeed in his endeavors has made Kennedy's Notre Dame

experience different from most of his classmates and teammates. He's never been to Fever on a Thursday night or

Corby's on a Tuesday night.

"I go home, I go eat, and I start homework. That is it," Kennedy said. "Sometimes it is only 11:30 [when I get to bed], sometimes it is three or four o'clock in the morning."

Kennedy's hard work has paid off, however, as he

expects to graduate on time and has landed a job with Stryker Endoscopy in San Jose, Calif.

The relationships Kennedy has formed as a part of the team are some of the most important experiences that he takes away from his four years here. He credits his girlfriend, Sarah Lavelle, and fellow football player and mechanical engineer Justin Gillett as being key to his success.

"[Gillett and I] spend about 18 hours a day together," Kennedy said.

As the final game of his career approaches, Kennedy is drawn back into his workman-like approach to his life and his team.

"All you can do it come back the next day and get working," Kennedy said. "That is all you can do."

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IAN GAVLICK/The Observer

Irish defensive tackle Neil Kennedy follows the action during Notre Dame's 41-24 loss to Air Force Saturday.

## LEO FERRINE

# Cornerback adjusts to cut in playing time

By GREG ARBOGAST  
Sports Writer

Syracuse quarterback Perry Paterson dropped back, surveyed the field and fired a pass to the left flat. Leo Ferrine was ready. The red-shirt freshman cornerback cut in front of the wide receiver, and Ferrine returned the pass for a 16-yard touchdown.

"Everything happened so fast, you don't even realize you're doing it," Ferrine said. "All I remember is my teammates jumping on me and then going to the sideline and being congratulated by my position coach and defensive coordinator. That was my red-shirt freshman year, so I was like, 'If I can do this now, I can do it for a lot of years to come.'"

Unfortunately for Ferrine, that play against Syracuse in 2005 was less a sign of things to come than a temporary high in a Notre Dame career that has seen numerous ups and downs.

Even though he was forced to switch high schools before his senior year, causing many universities to lose recruiting contact with him, Ferrine was tracked by Notre

Dame throughout high school.

After not playing in 2004, his first year in South Bend, Ferrine looked ready to assume a bigger

role starting his second year. In 2005, Ferrine played in all 12 games, started against Purdue and recorded 22 tackles (17 solo) on the season.

"In terms of individual stuff and team stuff, that was the best year," Ferrine said.

"We didn't come in with a lot of expectations, and we proved a lot of people wrong."

But Ferrine's career did not continue on an upward trajectory after the 2005 season. A combination of a nagging hamstring injury and competition from younger players has limited the cornerback to action in only 15 games over the past two seasons.

Although his Notre Dame experience may not have gone as planned on the football field, Ferrine has benefited in other ways during his time in South

Bend.

Ferrine said that academics played a large part in his attraction to Notre Dame, and the New

Jersey native has appreciated his classes as a Film, Television and Theatre major.

"Academically, [my time here] helped me meet a lot of different people, people I've met in the television and film industry," Ferrine said.

"Hopefully, I want to go home to the New York metropolitan area and just get into the film industry there.

"I want to be on television, like Fox Sports and that, but it has to start small at first. It doesn't matter at first, but [I want to be on television] at the end."

Working through tough times at Notre Dame, Ferrine said, made him grow up.

"I came in the youngest in my family, so I came in thinking I'd get whatever I want, just keep asking and people will give you what you want," Ferrine said. "You have to do everything for yourself in college. Live by yourself. Get around by yourself. You got to be a real man to go into the world, and I learned that in college."

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*"We didn't come in with a lot of expectations, and we proved a lot of people wrong."*

**Leo Ferrine**  
Irish cornerback

*"You have to do everything for yourself in college. Live by yourself. Get around by yourself. You got to be a real man to go into the world and I learned that in college."*

**Leo Ferrine**  
Irish cornerback



QUENTIN STENGER/The Observer

Irish cornerback Leo Ferrine takes part in a drill during Notre Dame's practice on Nov. 8.

## WILLIAM DAVID WILLIAMS

# Defensive back defies odds, earns scholarship

By JAY FITZPATRICK  
Associate Sports Editor

This summer, William David Williams received a scholarship to play football at Notre Dame. The thing is, he's been on the team for three years.

Williams, long snapper J. J. Jansen, cornerback Wade Iams and guard Thomas Bemenderfer were four walk-

ons whom Irish coach Charlie Weis awarded scholarships this fall.

"It was such an honor, not necessarily for the money, but more so for what it meant for me — kind of like vindication for everything I've been through," Williams said. "Not saying that other things didn't pay out, but it felt like, 'Man, everything I'm doing is really paying off.'"

Williams worked throughout his high school career and freshman year to get on the football team — a goal he has had his whole life.

Williams attended Millbrook High School in Raleigh, N.C., where he was a standout on the football team. He was named to the academic all-conference teams in football twice and four times in track. During his senior season, Williams was captain of the Millbrook football team.

Williams said his coaches at Millbrook wanted him to look at going to some Division III schools, but Williams always had higher aspirations for himself.

"I knew that I had the academic qualifications to go to a place like Notre Dame, but I always wanted to go somewhere where football was a mainstay at the university and also I could be well rounded in spirituality and academics as well," he said.

Williams tried out for the Irish during the spring of his freshman year after playing a year of Interhall football for Alumni Hall.

He checked every day with the football office to make sure of the details for walk-on tryouts in the spring. And when tryouts started, Williams knew he had finally reached his dream.

Irish coach Charlie Weis, then in his first spring practices, called Williams' number as one of the top performers in the walk-on tryouts.

"Sometimes people look at my height, they look at my

size and they say, 'You on Notre Dame football team, what?'" Williams said. "So just being there and working that hard and seeing that I could impress [Weis] the way that I did. ... Its amazing."

Williams said that when one of the physical trainers told him he was on the team, he could not put into words that feeling because it was so emotional.

"It's hard to put into words, but I'd say exhilarating," he said. "It shows me that I made the right decision to try out for the Notre Dame football team and that I have what it takes to be on the Notre Dame football team."

Williams, who is a business major and had a GPA of 3.893 during the 2006-07 school year, said that being a football player is just one aspect of his life at Notre Dame.

"The rigors of being at Notre Dame are already tough, but it's the passion that I have inside of me to always try to be the best I can be at anything I put my mind to and I wasn't going to let my academics slide for football or anything," he said.

Williams said this passion will lead him away from college — and football — after graduation and into the Teach for America program. Williams hopes to be a part of the program's Oakland chapter.

"I want to go into the work force for a little while to find more about myself, find what kind of work I want to get into," he said. "And Teach for

America provides students who just got out of school to really help out, to help kids who don't really have the same opportunities that we have, don't have the same resources, and they need that one influence."

Williams said that one of the biggest reasons he has such a passion for others is because of the influence his mother — Antoinette Bailey Williams.

He said that she was a huge part of his life when he was growing up. She was a constant presence at all of his athletic events and "always had cupcakes for the mom's club," Williams said.

"It's kind of tough because she really is disabled so she can't really work," he said. "She really is just a homemaker, but that is a job within itself and she always does it to the best of her abilities. People think of money being attached to a job, but I think that's one of the best jobs a person can do."

But at Notre Dame, Williams said, he has always felt like he was part of a larger community that always has nothing but respect for everyone involved.

"[Notre Dame is] one of the best colleges to go to if you really want to find out who you really are and want to discover more about yourself," he said. "The people here come to respect you. If you go out and you work your hardest, they will come to respect you."

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QUENTIN STENGER/The Observer

Irish cornerback William David Williams backpedals during Notre Dame's practice on Nov. 14.

**DARRIN BRAGG**

# From Hollywood to House That Rock Built: Bragg returns

*QB was asked to rejoin team during studio internship at Fox*

By JAY FITZPATRICK  
Sports Writer

Five months ago, Darrin Bragg wasn't on Notre Dame's football team. Now he's the third-string quarterback. Over the summer, the senior film, television and theater major was an intern at 20th Century Fox under Executive Vice President of Production Jim Sharp. There, he worked on Fox hit shows like "Bones" and "House."

"Pretty much every day I walked in and he let me do whatever I want," Bragg said. "And whatever I want, wherever I wanted to go in the company, I got to do."

Bragg said he was on a television set when Notre Dame Director of Football Operations Chad Klunder called him in July and asked him if he would return to the Irish.

"I was in the middle of work and they said, 'We need you to come back and play quarterback,'" Bragg said. "And I'm like 'OK, sure.' Why not? What am I going to say, no?"

Bragg said he was unsure if the call was true since he had only quit the team two months before he was asked to come

back. "I called them back, and I was shocked," he said. "I called [quarterbacks] coach [Ron] Powlus and a couple of other coaches to make sure they weren't pulling my chain," Bragg said. "I was like, 'Really? Are you sure?'" For Bragg, the truth marked the end of a wide circle.

Former head coach Tyrone Willingham recruited Bragg as a quarterback out of Bellarmine Prep in San Jose, Calif. But when Willingham was fired after the 2004 season, new head coach Charlie Weis moved Bragg to wide receiver.

"I always wanted the ball every time the quarterback dropped back. I always thought, 'I'm open,' even if I was covered," Bragg said. "[Being a quarterback] helped out playing receiver because you knew if there was a hot [read] or something you knew what to do."

Bragg did not see any time as a wide receiver in his two seasons at that position and decided in May that he would leave the team. Bragg thought he was treated somewhat unfairly as a receiver before he left the team.

"I was frustrated because I really wasn't sure how to play the position," Bragg said. "It's just great to be back playing quarterback, something I'm comfortable with."

Now, he's not only comfortable he's also important. When Bragg left the team, Jimmy

Clausen, Evan Sharpley, Demetrius Jones and Zach Frazer all were ahead of him on the depth chart.

By Notre Dame's game against Purdue in September, Bragg was a snap away from entering the game with Clausen out because of an injury.

"This year of all years has definitely been kind of a highlight because I've been 'that guy.' It's like, 'What if that guy gets hurt? Demetrius transferred, Zach transferred.' I'm like, 'Yeah, I guess I'd go in next,'" Bragg said. "There was certain points where I was like, 'Yeah, I should probably get ready.'"

Bragg also said that his emotions haven't changed much since he returned to the team, but that things will probably change this week for his final home game as a Notre Dame student.

"I think it will be much more important for the last home game, suiting up instead of being in the stands watching it, so I'm really glad I came back just for that last game," Bragg said.

Bragg's football career might end, but the film and theatre major has his plans set for after graduation — and they involve Los Angeles.

"I know I'm going to move to L.A., but I'm not sure what I'm going to do yet," Bragg said. "I'll probably be a starving actor for the first 6, 10, 20



VANESSA GEMPIS/The Observer

**Irish quarterback Darrin Bragg tosses the ball before Notre Dame's 41-24 loss to Air Force on Saturday.**

years, whatever. But it's something you love, you've got to do it."

And he'll be coming back to Notre Dame every now and then to watch his former teammates.

"I'll probably come back next year, dude. I want to come back soon enough where I know guys on the team," Bragg said, before harnessing his thespian side to imitate an old man. "I

don't want to come back 20 years from now and be like, 'Back in my day, I was the third-string quarterback in 2007.'"

*Editor's note: A previous version of this article appeared in the Oct. 5, 2007 edition of The Observer.*

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**JUSTIN GILLETT**

# Interhall star joins team as QB at friend's urging

By LORENZO REYES  
Sports Writer

In 2004, freshman quarterback Justin Gillett of Knott Hall was quickly turning some heads in interhall football. After leading his dorm to several victories and efficient passing performances, Gillett was just trying to

make his way through college life as a freshman normally would.

Then, one of his closest friends urged him to try for a walk on spot to the football team for Notre Dame.

"I didn't think I would ever play football," Gillett said. "Playing in Knott was a fun experience. Once there was the

coaching change and coach Weis came in, word of mouth spread that there were going to be open tryouts. One of my good buddies,

John Lyons, who took a year off was planning on walking on and talked me into it, so it was an easy transition."

Gillett made the team his sophomore year as a reserve quarterback, and although he has never participated in any game action, he has contributed to the Irish program in practices.

The one aspect of the entire process Gillett embraces is the friendships he has created and sustained on the team.

"My family and friends were rooting for me," Gillett said. "The guys who had my back were those that I was walking on with. The friendships — that's what makes it worthwhile. We all shared a common goal, and achieving it with those people was the most rewarding part."

Gillett's effort hasn't gone unnoticed by his family members, and the walk-on senior is content with the joy and pride he gives them.

"It's nice to see how proud my family is of me," Gillett said. "They see the glitz and glamour of the whole thing, and that's what really makes me the most

proud."

Although many players are in awe of walking through the tunnel for the first time, Gillett cele-

*"There were a lot of times when the workload was intense, and I had to devote hours to playing football and academics, but the support group of guys doing the same thing kept me going."*

**Justin Gillett**  
Irish quarterback

brates these moments with his teammates as the most memorable part of the experience. "I had never been in front of so many people," Gillett said. "It was great. It was a little different, though, because I knew I wasn't going to play. The fun part is hanging with your boys on the field during the games."

As his career winds down, Gillett isn't nearly as concerned with getting substantial playing time as much as he is with winning games.

"I'm not concerned about getting snaps to end the game against Duke or anything like that. It depends on what hap-

pens. I just want to feel good walking off the field for that last time," Gillett said.

After he graduates, the engineering major is looking to find a job but would like to relax a bit beforehand.

"I'm looking forward to kicking back for a little while," Gillett said. "Eventually though, I want a job within engineering."

Although Gillett one day plans on being successful, he notes that he has other priorities as well.

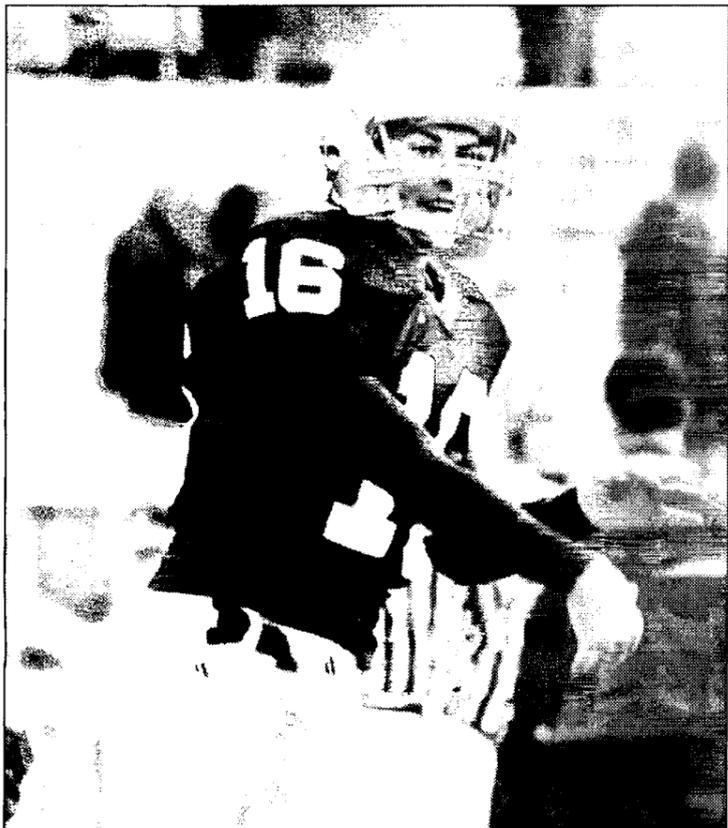
"Football was a big part of my life, as was school and friendships," he said. "But sometimes, you just have to take time out and give the ladies what they want."

With humor aside, in whichever path Gillett pursues, the one lesson he can take with him from his time at Notre Dame was the work ethic involved with the team.

"The number one thing I can take is the work ethic," Gillett said. "There were a lot of times when the workload was intense, and I had to devote hours to playing football and academics,

but the support group of guys doing the same thing kept me going."

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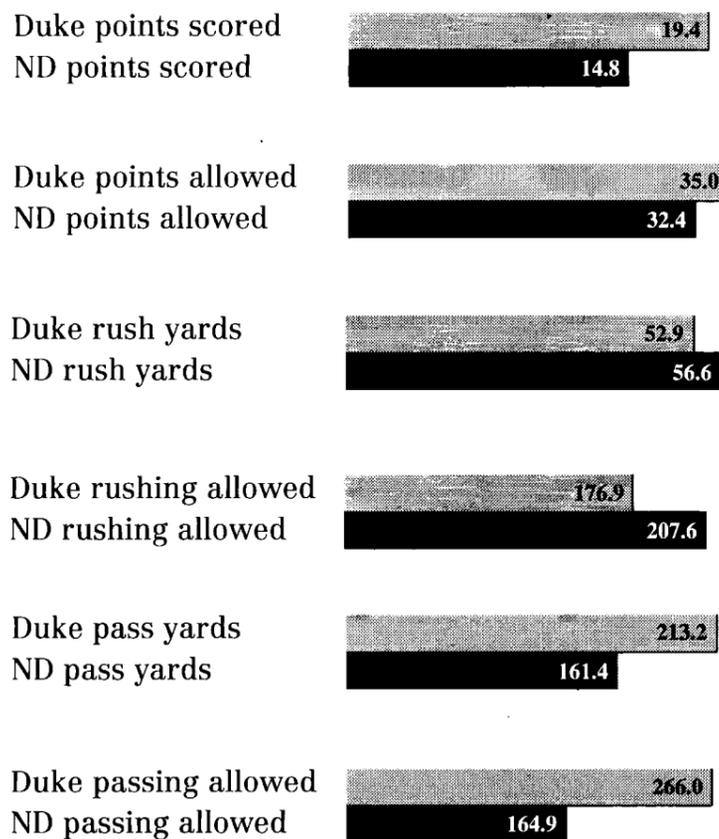


VANESSA GEMPIS/The Observer

**Irish quarterback Justin Gillett throws a pass during warmups before the loss to Air Force on Saturday.**

# Crunching the numbers

## AVERAGE PER GAME



# Saturday Pick 'em

	<u>Khorey</u>	<u>Hine</u>	<u>Fowler</u>	<u>Fitzpatrick</u>
Record:	(131-56)	(140-47)	(140-47)	(142-45)
No. 1 LSU at Ole Miss	LSU	LSU	<b>Ole Miss</b>	LSU
Iowa State at No. 3 Kansas	Kansas	Kansas	Kansas	Kansas
No. 4 Oklahoma at Texas Tech	Okla.	Okla.	Okla.	Okla.
No. 5 Missouri at Kansas State	Mizzou	Mizzou	KSU	Mizzou
No. 6 WVU at No. 22 Cincinnati	WVU	WVU	Cincy	WVU
No. 7 Ohio State at No. 21 Michigan	OSU	<b>Mich.</b>	Mich.	OSU
No. 23 Kentucky at No. 9 Georgia	<b>UK</b>	Ga.	UK	<b>UK</b>
Miami at No. 10 Virginia Tech	Va Tech	Va Tech	Va Tech	Va Tech
Florida Atlantic at No. 12 Florida	UF	UF	UF	UF
No. 17 BC at No. 15 Clemson	BC	BC	BC	Clemson
No. 16 Hawaii at Nevada	Hawaii	Hawaii	Hawaii	Hawaii
Idaho at No. 18 Boise State	BSU	BSU	BSU	BSU
Northwestern at No. 19 Illinois	Illinois	Illinois	Illinois	Illinois
Vanderbilt at No. 20 Tennessee	UT	UT	UT	UT
Syracuse at No. 24 Connecticut	UConn	UConn	UConn	UConn
No. 25 Wisconsin at Minnesota	Wisc.	Wisc.	Wisc.	Wisc.

\*Upset special in bold

# Notre Dame vs Duke Weekend

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- Football Fridays Tent Party: Friday night, 7:00 to 10:00 pm, featuring live musical entertainment, tailgate food, beverages, giveaways and more! \$5 admission

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