

OBSERVER

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Freshman fencer competes in Olympics

By DAN MURPHY
News Writer

In the past week students have poured into South Bend from all around the world, but it is safe to say that none of them had a longer — or more interesting — journey than freshman Gerek Meinhardt.



Meinhardt

Meinhardt was in Beijing last

week competing for the United States fencing team in the Olympics. The San Francisco native left China on Aug. 17 and spent a few hectic days packing, doing interviews, and saying goodbye to friends before arriving on campus Thursday.

"The worst part was the jet-lag. It would get to be about three o'clock and I just couldn't take it anymore. I would end up taking about a four hour nap," Meinhardt said.

He then boarded a plan to Chicago and endured the treacherous four-hour bus ride to campus before finally moving into his new room in Knott Hall.

"The dorms aren't quite as

nice as the Olympic Village, but I have a TV in my room now and I didn't over there, so that is nice," he said.

Meinhardt finished tenth overall in the men's foil event, but even making the team was a serious accomplishment. Meinhardt, who turned 18 less than a month ago, was the youngest fencer in Beijing by nearly five years. He has only been competing on the senior level for a year and a half and was not expected to debut on the Olympic level until the 2012 games in London.

"Olympic fencers can be as old as 35, 36, 37 years old. Experience is a huge factor is a

sport like fencing, so for Gerek to be there was very special," Irish fencing coach Janusz Bednarski said. Bednarski was an Olympic coach for the Polish national team in the late 1970s.

"He is a great young man who not only is a terrific athlete, but also is very intelligent," Bednarski said.

Meinhardt first got into fencing when he was nine years old. His piano teacher at the time happened to be married to an Olympic fencer who was opening a gym nearby. The young Meinhardt gave it a try and quickly began racking up cham-

see MEINHARDT/page 10

2 attacked near Clover Ridge

ND student, fiancé hospitalized for injuries

By DEIRDRE KRASULA and JENN METZ
News Writers

A Notre Dame student and her fiancé were attacked and robbed while walking from a local restaurant to her Clover Ridge apartment Thursday night, police said.

The attack, described by Captain Phil Trent of the South Bend Police Department (SBPD) as a "strong armed robbery," took place at 10:50 p.m. in front of 1710 North Irish Way. Both victims were taken to a local hospital and were released Friday.

Jenni Gargula, 21 was returning to her apartment from Between the Buns on South Bend Ave. with her fiancé, Tom Chesnick, Notre Dame '07, and Liz Crosby, 21, when a black Jaguar pulled up alongside them.

Crosby, a friend who was walking with the victims, told The Observer that a white male in his early twenties jumped out of the passenger seat of the car and claimed that Chesnick owed him money. Chesnick had never seen the attacker before.

The attacker proceeded to punch Chesnick in the face and repeatedly beat him, Crosby said. The driver then

see ATTACK/page 9

Duncan Hall welcomes its first students

Residents will select mascot, colors, signature event for new male dorm on West Quad

By KAITLYNN RIELY
Assistant News Editor

Notre Dame, meet Duncan Hall.

The new men's residence hall, which cost approximately \$20 million and took 17 months to construct, opened this week, taking its spot on West Quad next to McGlinn Hall.

The first of the 232 men who will live in the building began moving in this week, and the overwhelming reaction to the first dorm built on Notre Dame campus since 1997 has been positive.

Luis Silva, a senior, was playing pool in his new dorm Thursday morning.

"It's definitely a step up

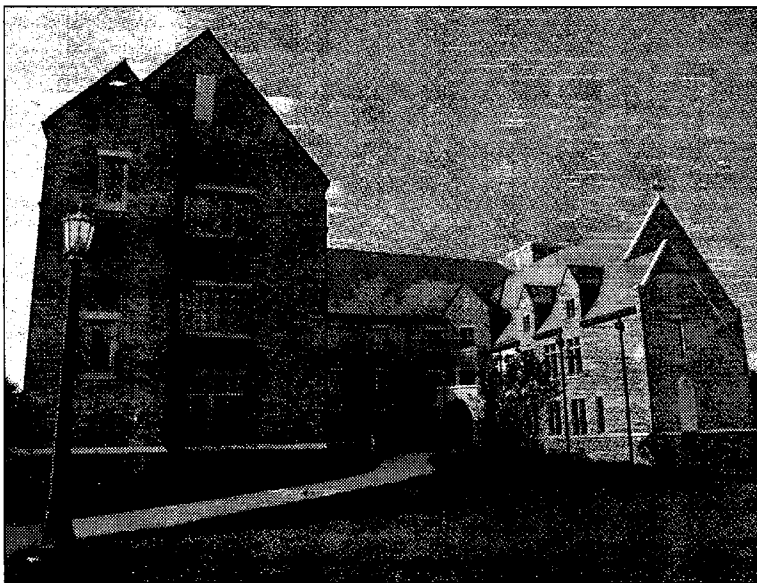
from my other dorm," he said. Silva, who was wearing his new "Duncan Hall" T-shirt Thursday, previously lived in St. Edward's Hall.

Jeff Shoup, the director of the Office of Residence Life and Housing added: "The size of the rooms are very nice — just the newness and freshness of it."

The rooms in Duncan Hall are larger than most rooms in Notre Dame's other residence halls, and the students who moved in early have been surprised by the size of their new rooms, Shoup said.

"A lot will come unprepared," Shoup said. "They will bring a lounge chair and realize they need more

see DUNCAN/page 11



NICK SIMONSON / The Observer

Duncan Hall, located on West Quad, opened its doors this week to its first residents.

ND admits diverse class of 2012

By JENN METZ
News Editor

The Notre Dame class of 2012 has something to be proud of.

The estimated 1,995 first-year students moving onto campus this weekend made it through one of the toughest university admissions processes in the country. They are among the 26 percent of applicants accepted out of a total of 13,947, the second-largest applicant pool in the University's history.

"This is a neat, exciting and talented class," Daniel Saracino, assistant provost for admissions, said. "They are much more than just test scores."

The acceptance rate ranks up with the top universities in the country.

"We're not trying to make Notre Dame a Stanford, or a

see FRESHMEN/page 9

NOTRE DAME CLASS OF 2012

13,947 Total Applicants

1,995 First Year Students*

1405 Average SAT Score
(Critical Reading & Math)

20% Ethnic Minorities

9% Hispanic

6% Asian

3% African American

1% Native American

*estimated

SOURCE: NOTRE DAME ADMISSIONS

Swarbrick hired as new athletic director

By JOSEPH McMAHON
Assistant News Editor

After an extensive search, University president John Jenkins named Indiana lawyer Jack Swarbrick Notre Dame's 12th athletic director on July 16. A member of the Notre Dame class of 1976 and an expert in sports law, Swarbrick replaced former athletic director Kevin White, who left to take the same position at Duke University.

"I am confident that in Jack Swarbrick we have found a superb athletic director for the University of Notre Dame," Jenkins said in his introduction of Swarbrick. "In his career, Jack Swarbrick has gained and exhibited

skills that include communications, marketing, negotiations, and consensus building at the highest level, all within the athletics arena."

A native of Yonkers, N.Y., who moved with his family to Bloomington, Ind., when he was a teenager, Swarbrick attended Stanford Law School after graduating from Notre Dame. He then returned to Indiana, where he joined the law firm of Baker & Daniels, where he specialized in sports law and forged strong relationships with many executives in college athletics.

"He has developed numerous relationships with key leaders in college sports: the BCS commissioners, athletic

see SWARBRICK/page 10

INSIDE COLUMN

Grandpa and George

I can still remember those simple Saturday afternoons, going over Grandma and Grandpa's house to watch the Notre Dame game with Grandpa.

He'd sit in his usual chair and I'd sit on the couch. Grandma or my Aunt Paula would make us something to eat. I'd have a lemonade or a soda in my hand, he'd have the remote — not to change the channel in case things went bad for the Irish, but so he could tape the game while cutting out the commercials. Grandpa liked to re-watch the games during the week and save the special ones, like the "Snow Bowl" game against Penn State from 1992.



Chris Hine

Editor-in-Chief

We'd watch Lou nervously picking the grass from the sidelines, Mark Edwards gain about four or five yards every time he ran the ball up the middle, and watch a local hero of ours, Ron Powlus, come from our home in Northeastern Pa., to quarterback our favorite team.

When people say, "Life was so much simpler before," they meant days like those Saturday afternoons with Grandpa. Grandpa loved Notre Dame, even though he never went there, and watching those games was his favorite thing to do in life. A part of me will always miss those Saturdays.

Flash forward a few years, and I'm a high school senior, and Grandpa, my mother's father, is in the hospital. He fought through a stroke a few years back, but now this time it doesn't look good. I went over to visit Grandpa in the Hospice wing of the hospital one day after school. I helped him drink his tea and we talked about Notre Dame. He didn't have to say it, but I knew he wanted me to get into school there badly. It was one of his final wishes.

We said goodbye, but little did I know that it would be the last time I'd see him alive — he died a few days later.

About three weeks after his funeral — on a Saturday afternoon — mom came running in the house, tears streaming down her face, with an envelope from Notre Dame in her hand. It was the big envelope. I hurriedly opened it and read the first sentence of the letter before being mobbed by mom and dad. I had been accepted. Grandpa's last wish had come true.

Flash forward three more years. I'm a junior now at Notre Dame, and sitting in the Observer office, checking phone messages. I get one from a man named George-Porter Young, a former employee at LaFortune. George tells me he's originally from England and has been in America for the past 30-some years. Now, he's in his 70s and dying of cancer, and he wants to go home to be with his family before he dies. He can't fly because of his cancer, needs help getting home and was hoping the Observer could do a story to help raise funds for his long, expensive trip home.

Before I called George back to do the story, I thought of my grandfather, and how this was a chance to help someone out the way God had helped Grandpa and me. I talked to George many times over the next few weeks, and we did the story about his time here at Notre Dame, but George's final wish couldn't have come true without the help from the Notre Dame family.

You hear stories all the time about what a giving and generous community Notre Dame is, but George's wish was a witness to that generosity. After our story on George ran, donations came pouring in from alumni, professors, campus administrators, and students. Some people even gave thousands of dollars to help George get home. The generosity was overwhelming.

George will be leaving for England soon, and I suggest everyone go over to LaFortune and see if George is there. He can share with you a wealth of wisdom and knowledge.

I bring up these stories to remind you, freshmen, what a unique place Notre Dame is. It helped create a powerful bond between my grandfather and me that will last forever. And it has helped George find his way home one last time.

You learn pretty quickly that being a part of the Notre Dame community is more than cheering on those Saturday afternoons. Yes, you're here to have fun and get a good education, but you have to do more with your time here than simply enter the business school to leapfrog your way to a high-paying job after school. As an institution, Notre Dame definitely has its flaws, but the Notre Dame community can be a powerful force that makes a direct, positive impact on the lives of many people.

So welcome to Notre Dame, now go out and be a part of it.

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

QUESTION OF THE DAY: WHAT ARE YOU MOST EXCITED ABOUT IN YOUR FIRST YEAR?



Ellen Jantsch
freshman
Farley

"I'm excited for the women's soccer team to win a national championship."



Jessica Schuvelier
freshman
Farley

"I'm excited for all the fun athletic games and meeting new people."



Brett Leahy
freshman
Duncan

"Getting to meet a bunch of new people and making a name for Duncan Hall."



Adam Zaabel
freshman
Duncan

"Just being part of the Notre Dame tradition."



Amanda Jonovski
freshman
P.E.

"Finally going to the college that I've been working for four years to get into."

ORIENTATION WEEKEND

FRESHMAN ORIENTATION SCHEDULE

SATURDAY, AUG 23

- 10:15–11:45 am Introduction to Residence Hall Staff followed by lunch in the Dining Hall for students and family
- 1:00–2:15 pm Official Orientation Program for First-Year Students and Parents Joyce Center
- 2:30–3:15 pm Official Welcome to Notre Dame General session for all first-year students with advisors, Parent Orientation
- 8:00 pm Orientation with Rectors and Hall Staff for Students and Families

SUNDAY, AUG 24

- 8:30–9:00 am Continental Breakfast for Families Concourse of Joyce Center
- 10:00 am Eucharistic Liturgy Joyce Center
- 12:00–1:00 pm Spirit of Notre Dame Including a performance by the Notre Dame Marching Band. Joyce Center
- 2:30–5:00 pm Residence Hall Programming
- 7:00–10:00 pm Residence Hall Programming

MONDAY, AUG 25

- ongoing Mandatory computer security sessions. 101 & 102 DeBartolo Hall. Every 15 minutes from 9:00 am–12:00 pm and 1:00–4:30 pm
- 11am, 1 and 3pm College HAS Issues: Hook-ups, Alcohol & Sexual Assault Leighton Concert Hall—Debartolo Performing Arts Center



	TODAY	TONIGHT	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY
LOCAL WEATHER					
	HIGH 86 LOW 65	HIGH 78 LOW 65	HIGH 81 LOW 54	HIGH 79 LOW 56	HIGH 81 LOW 59

Atlanta 82 / 68 Boston 81 / 61 Chicago 84 / 65 Denver 82 / 63 Houston 89 / 73 Los Angeles 83 / 65 New York 70 / 49 Philadelphia 75 / 48 Phoenix 56 / 40 Seattle 61 / 48 St. Louis 71 / 58 Tampa 88 / 68

Saint Mary's welcomes accomplished freshman class

Smaller class of 2012 boasts high GPAs and SAT scores and an increased number of minority, international students

By LIZ HARTER
Saint Mary's Editor

The incoming freshman class at Saint Mary's has something to brag about this year.

While the 460 students who will enroll at the College this week don't measure up numerically to the 481 students in the class of 2011 — the largest incoming class in 17 years — they are one of the most academically talented classes in the history of the College.

"This is always a sensitive issue, but this year's class is one of the best from an academic perspective," said vice president for enrollment management Dan Meyer. "Other classes don't like to hear this because of how it reflects on their accomplishments."

The applicant pool increased this year to 1,422 — a 10.9-percent increase from the previous

year's pool. More than 60 percent of the incoming students had an average high school GPA of 3.61 or higher with 64 students maintaining a perfect 4.0 throughout their entire high school career.

The larger class sizes of the past two years are a part of College president Carol Ann Mooney's initiative to increase enrollment and boost Saint Mary's national recognition.

The College was recently named one of the best colleges in the Midwest by the Princeton Review for the sixth year in a row and ranked 104 out of the 248 Best Liberal Arts Colleges by the U.S. News and World Report.

Mooney first addressed this long-term plan in her inaugural address in January 2005. In that speech, she said stabilizing enrollment was her "top priority." She took steps toward realizing that goal by creating the position of Vice President for Enrollment Management.

"This is always a sensitive issue, but this year's class is one of the best from an academic perspective."

Dan Meyer
vice president for enrollment management

SAINT MARY'S COLLEGE CLASS OF 2012

460 Students

1,422 Applicant Pool

Freshmen are from 36 states
5 international students
55 minority students

More than 60 percent of the incoming students had an average high school GPA of 3.61 or higher

Observer graphic/Mary Jesse

SOURCE: SAINT MARY'S ENROLLMENT MANAGEMENT

The College's efforts to stabilize enrollment has financial relevance, as well. In 2005, Saint Mary's faced a \$1.5 million budget deficit due to small classes and fewer tuition dollars.

"By hitting the [enrollment] mark at 1,600 or 1,700," Meyer said in an interview last year, "we are better equipped to deal with that problem."

Meanwhile, Mooney has started an initiative to double the

College endowment fund, which would reduce dependence on enrollment for financial stability.

Enrolling freshman come from 36 states and include five international students from China, Honduras, Myanmar, Japan and Vietnam, as well as five U.S. students who were living abroad in Switzerland, Kuwait, Korea, Bolivia and Italy.

The class of 2012 also saw an

increase in the number of diverse students to 55 from last year's 47 with the largest increase seen among Pacific Asian Islanders with 13 students up from last year's six.

The number of black students increased to six from last year's five and the number of Hispanic students stayed consistent at 33, Meyer said.

Contact Liz Harter at eharte01@saintmarys.edu

Interested in working for

THE OBSERVER

Notre Dame and Saint Mary's daily campus newspaper?

**Come to our
Open House!**

Sunday Aug. 31
Basement of
South Dining Hall
3-5 pm

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Write News. Contact Jenn at obsnews@nd.edu

Cadets adjust to military life

Orientation events introduce new recruits to Notre Dame, ROTC



Photo courtesy of Mike Howard

Freshman Dan Mulligan, right, directs his platoon mate, freshman Mihai Iancu, through a mock minefield Thursday outside Pasquerilla Center. The event was part of Notre Dame's Army ROTC orientation.

By KAITLYNN RIELY
Assistant News Editor

He'd been on campus for only four days, but freshman Army ROTC cadet candidate Dan Mulligan was already leading one of his platoon mates through a minefield.

Mulligan called out directions Thursday afternoon — walk towards me, stop, lift your feet — to his blind-folded partner as he navigated the mock minefield set up next to the Pasquerilla Center. Mulligan directed his teammate through the course and around the 'mines' — plastic plates weighted down with rocks — as an upperclassman timed him from the sideline.

The purpose of the event — one of six stations in the Notre Dame Army ROTC's Irish Race — is to build teamwork and trust among the new members of the platoon.

Last Monday, students from Notre Dame, Saint Mary's, Holy Cross, Bethel, IUSB and Valparaiso arrived at Notre Dame to take part in ROTC orientation. Each branch of the ROTC program has its own orientation schedule, but all involve team-building exercises and an introduction to life in the military.

Cadet Sgt. Major Ryan Slaney, a junior at Notre Dame, said the Army ROTC's orientation program gets the new cadets, most of whom are freshmen, integrated into the battalion. They introduce them to the various components of

ROTC life at Notre Dame — getting up early, wearing the uniform and intense exercising.

To join the ROTC program, cadets have to pass a physical fitness test, which consists of hitting certain benchmarks during two minutes of sit-ups, two minutes of push-ups and a two-mile run.

Mulligan passed his test Wednesday morning.

"I've always known I've wanted to go into the military and since sixth grade, I've wanted to go here [Notre Dame], so it's the best of both worlds," he said.

Mulligan, and other cadets who pass the test, signed their contract with ROTC Friday for four years, with the option to leave after the first year.

Sophomore Christopher Bennett, also an Army cadet, said his freshman year ROTC orientation was a fun week and a primer on where the classrooms and other buildings are located on campus. Being in ROTC is an experience that few people get to have, he said.

"You get the normal college experience while being prepared to join the military," he said.

This week, members of the

Notre Dame Army ROTC battalion awoke each morning at 5 a.m. to begin their day. As part of the week's itinerary, they went to Five Pines, Mich. to do a high ropes course and made a rope bridge over St. Mary's Lake at Notre Dame.

This year, 28 students, mostly freshmen, arrived on campus to pursue an Army cadet position. The Navy ROTC reported 37 new students and an Air Force ROTC representative said 20 were seeking cadet positions.

The ROTC program offers money and a guaranteed career when one graduates, Slaney said.

"If you want to serve your country, this is a great way to do it," he said.

Linzi Meyering, a sophomore at Bethel College, decided just last week that she wanted to join the Army ROTC program.

"It's an awesome way to pay for college," she said. "And a great way to serve God and my country."

The ROTC orientation ended Friday so freshmen could participate in their residence hall's freshman orientation events.

Contact Kaitlynn Riely at kriely@nd.edu

"I've always known I've wanted to go into the military and since sixth grade, I've wanted to go here [Notre Dame], so it's the best of both worlds."

Dan Mulligan
freshman

OIT integrates Google Apps to Web system

Students now able to access e-mail faster

By BECKY HOGAN
News Writer

Notre Dame's Office of Information Technologies (OIT) has been working over the summer months to provide students with a new e-mail system through Google Apps.

All incoming students now have e-mail accounts through Google Apps, however migrating returning students' existing accounts to the new system has required more time than anticipated.

OIT's project director Katie Rose said the migration process has been running smoothly — just slower than her team anticipated.

"Most of the incoming students' accounts were automatically created on Google Apps. We are a little farther behind on the accounts for returning students, and we will be making an announcement next week about when the migration will take place," Rose said.

Originally, OIT planned to finish migrating students' existing accounts during the summer and have the system ready to use by the start of the fall semester.

"We have one or two small things to finish up on the accounts for existing students," Rose said.

Rose also said that incoming students have been using the new system with ease.

According to Rose, the migration process has been running smoothly and returning students will not lose any information from their Webmail accounts.

"There is no need for anyone to be concerned," she said. "All returning students will have the same e-mail address and will not lose anything in their folders."

Many returning students are anxious to switch over to the Google mail system since it includes several improvements on the current Webmail system.

The Google Apps e-mail system has a 6.5 GB e-mail quota that is markedly larger than 100 MG the Webmail system has.

The new service also features a calendar system as well as an application called Google documents which allows students to create Word documents, Excel spreadsheets and PowerPoint

presentations and share them with other students. They can collaborate and edit these documents online at the same time.

Also included in the new system is a chat utility, similar to AOL Instant Messenger or MSN Instant Messenger, and a portal page that students can customize

to meet their own needs. Rose also said the Google Apps is ideal for students who use mobile devices.

"Google Apps has a lot of great features," she said. "For students who use Blackberry devices, Windows Mobile devices, or iPhones, it has excellent support for mobile devices."

Senior David Heroux said that he believes the Google system will be more user-friendly than Webmail.

"It's a shame that [the University] has been using such an antiquated system for so long."

OIT has also been working with the University's Alumni Association to provide alumni with an e-mail account on Google Apps, however the Association has not yet announced its plans to offer this service.

"We have been working with the Alumni Office for the last two months. It will be up to them to announce the service for alumni accounts [on Google Apps]," Rose said.

Contact Becky Hogan at rhogan2@nd.edu

Three new hall directors join St. Mary's College community

By MANDI STIRONE
Assistant News Editor

Most Saint Mary's students who live on campus will have new hall directors this year, as four of the five residence halls welcome new leaders.

Leslie Robinson, Kady Shea and Terrie Paul have all recently joined the Saint Mary's community. Shea is the director for both McCandless hall and Opus Hall.

Robinson, the new hall director for LeMans Hall is a recent graduate of Ohio State University. Though she had never heard of Saint Mary's before applying for the hall director position, she was looking for a small college where she could work, she

said. Then she did a little online research.

"It looked like a beautiful place based on the Web site," Robinson said.

She called assuming her post in LeMans, the largest dorm on campus, a "mix of emotions."

Now that students are starting to show up on campus, Robinson is getting a feel for the student body and the students she will be in charge of during the year.

"I think it's wonderful," she said. "It has a very unique student body that is so spiri-

tually connected to the [college]. It's very awe-inspiring," she said.

Shea comes to Saint Mary's from Simmons College in Boston, another all-women's institution.

She found Saint Mary's during an online search, she said.

"I literally went online, went to every women's college Web site and looked up jobs in higher education," she said.

She chose Saint Mary's because she wanted to be at a school like her alma mater, and "a lot of the characteris-

tics of Saint Mary's were similar," she said.

When she first arrived on campus, there were no students moved in and she couldn't wait for them to start arriving, she said.

She added that she is especially proud of the staff of "McOpus," her eight McCandless Resident Advisors, and the 2 Opus RAs.

"McCandless has the best RA staff on campus," she said.

With the first-year students moving in, Shea is eager to start the year. "It's a little overwhelming, but I'm excited to kick things into gear and to try and get to know everyone," she said.

Holy Cross Hall's new hall director, Terrie Paul, comes

to Saint Mary's after graduating from Syracuse University and traveling "extensively," she said.

Prior to arriving at Saint Mary's, she taught English in Spain, then China and traveled around Europe, she said.

While she is working to help the residents of Holy Cross, she is also working towards a graduate degree from Michigan State University.

Paul found Saint Mary's after doing a "nation-wide search," she said. She described Saint Mary's as "one place that felt very comfortable," and as a place where she would be able to contribute to, she said.

Contact Mandi Stirone at astiro01@saintmarys.edu

"McCandless has the best RA staff on campus."

Kady Shea
hall director
McCandless and Opus
Halls

McGreevy begins new role as dean

By JOHN TIERNEY
News Writer

John McGreevy, a history professor who took over as I.A. O'Shaughnessy Dean of the College of Arts and Letters July 1, views his new job as one of servant-leadership.

"I'm not the boss of the faculty. I'm the leader," he said. He said his primary responsibility is to "put [the faculty] in the position to do great teaching and great scholarship."

McGreevy decided to accept the position as dean because of his loyalty to Notre Dame, the "great situation" left by his predecessor, Mark Roche, and the importance he places on the University's status as a "great Catholic research university," he said.

"I want to see Notre Dame succeed," said McGreevy, a Notre Dame alum whose father and two siblings also attended the University.

"We need a place in this country — and in this world — where thinking at the highest level goes on that includes theology and religion," he said. "Religion is a topic of universal concern, and it is important to bring it together with academics."

While McGreevy says being a Notre Dame alum gives him "no special qualities" for the dean position, his loyalty to the University was a significant factor in his decision to accept his new job.

"I am happy to try to make a difference here. I really want Notre Dame to be a great place," he said.

McGreevy plans to continue his teaching and research during his tenure as dean. He will teach one course at the graduate level this semester.

"I really like the idea of everyone in administration doing some teaching," he said.

Although McGreevy does not want to make dramatic changes in his first year on the job — planning instead to focus on learning about the many programs in the college — he does have long-term goals in mind. Some of these goals for the college include increasing ties with the College of Science, increasing student language acquisition,

promoting the fine and performing arts on campus and encouraging more students to do senior theses.

McGreevy said senior theses can be an invaluable part of the undergraduate experience. He would like to see more students pursue them, but does not plan on making a thesis a graduation requirement.

"Being able to work one-on-one with a faculty member on a year-long project is a really good experience," he said. "We need a stronger thesis culture at Notre Dame."

McGreevy acknowledged that grade inflation in the College of Arts and Letters is real and that it is a problem. However, he said there is "not an instant solution to the problem," but that his administration will continue to work on it.

"It's not fair to students to have grades so compressed, especially to the very best students," he said.

The new dean says the college has a lot of challenges, because "it is hard to be one of the very best." These challenges include faculty hiring and recruitment, which he described as one of the most important parts of his job, and the need to better financially support graduate students — including the need for a graduate student health insurance program.

"The good news is that I'm not a Notre Dame nostalgist," McGreevy said. He said he got a better education from Notre Dame than his father, who attended the University in the 1950s, did, but that students today are receiving a "better education than he did twenty years ago."

"I'm encouraged by the progress," he said.

McGreevy would like to increase the promotion of academic life on campus. He wants to "get students to view their intellectual life with the same passion with which they view so many other things," he said. Increasing the number of Notre Dame graduates who go on to pursue a Ph.D. or other graduate study can follow as a result of a stronger intellectual campus, he said.

Contact John Tierney at jtierne1@nd.edu

Saturday Scholar Series to kick off fall season

Special to The Observer

The eighth annual Saturday Scholar Series at the University of Notre Dame will feature lectures by leading faculty members on each home football game weekend this fall.

Sponsored by the College of Arts

and Letters, the lectures add a scholarly dimension to a weekend roster of athletics, pageantry and fine arts performances.

The lectures will begin three and one-half hours before kickoff and take place in the Annenberg Auditorium of the Snite Museum of Art.

University Choral Auditions

UNIVERSITY OF NOTRE DAME CHORALE
NOTRE DAME GLEE CLUB
NOTRE DAME LITURGICAL CHOIR
NOTRE DAME WOMEN'S LITURGICAL CHOIR
BASILICA SCHOLA

University Choral Auditions will be held in the DeBartolo Performing Arts Center

SUNDAY, AUG. 24, 3-6 PM
MONDAY, AUG. 25, 12:00 PM - 4:00 PM;
5:00 PM - 10:00 PM

To reserve an audition time please e-mail dbayless@nd.edu until 2:00 pm Sunday, August 24

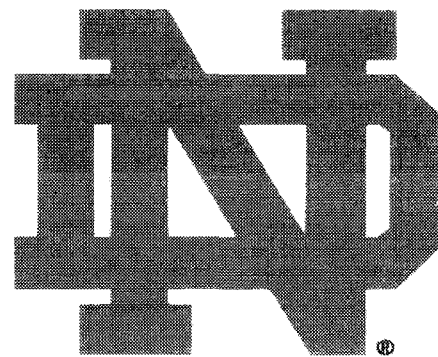
After 2:00 pm Sunday, August 24, please sign up at the coat check in the DeBartolo Performing Arts Center

For more information please call 631-7800



Get Involved With Notre Dame Athletics

The Sports Information Office is looking for student assistants for the 2008-09 school year. Any students interested in becoming active in Irish athletics should come to an informational meeting on Mon., Aug. 25 at 7:00 p.m. in the Sports Information Office (Joyce Center second floor inside Gate 2) or call the Sports Information Office at 1-7516 for more information.



Write News. Call 631-5323.

Two students shot at Club 23. South Bend Common Council passes party ordinance, creates CCAC. Three students

The Year

2007 ♦

Observer Staff Report

Two students shot outside Club 23

Two Notre Dame seniors were shot on Tuesday, August 21 at approximately 1 a.m. outside of Club 23. Captain Phil Trent of the South Bend Police Department said. The students, Matt Collins and Mitchell Depree were taken to St. Joseph Regional Medical Center where Depree was treated for a leg wound and released while Collins' wound to the abdomen was initially classified as life-threatening and he requested last rights.

The confrontation followed a "harsh conversation with the shooter, who returned several minutes later in an SUV and fired five shots at the students," Trent said.

The shooter was described as a short-haired black male of average build wearing a clean, white T-shirt. The shooter drove away northbound on Notre Dame Avenue after firing five shots — two shots at Collins and one at Depree — and shouting expletives at the students.

A bullet will remain permanently in Collins' abdomen since any procedure to remove it would be too risky, hospital officials said.

Both students enrolled in the fall semester.

In the weeks following the shooting, owner Mahmoud Hussein feared that Notre Dame students were "boycotting" the club, located on 744 N. Notre Dame Avenue due to safety issues. Business was in an initial decline for the Monday night hotspot, Hussein said.

Four weeks after the incident, South Bend police were still searching for the shooter.

By December 2007, Club 23 was up for sale on Craigslist, however, Hussein claims the sale and the shootings were unrelated.

Hussein has owned 23 for more than 20 years.

Club 23 was set at \$695,000 and includes 2,500 square feet of space, the building, the 57-car parking lot, the furniture inside and the club's liquor license.

South Bend Common Council passes revised ordinance

After months of deliberation over the South Bend City Ordinance regarding alcohol and party registration, the Community Campus Advisory Coalition (CCAC) was created as a forum for city and college representatives to discuss

community relations. It was created in February and convened for its first meeting in mid-February.

The CCAC was formed after the South Bend Common Council decided not to implement regulations requiring students to pre-register for large gatherings with the city.

The ordinance was initially created in response to disorderly student partying off campus and eventually passed with rules that would require party permits that could be enacted in the future — an option the Council was offered to pursue.

However, the main objective of the Council and the ordinance was to increase dialogue about problems between South Bend residents and off campus students.

Former student body president Liz Brown represented the student body during the CCAC hearings in the summer of 2007 and acted as a liaison between the Council and the student body throughout the fall.

Since the ordinance was passed with only minor provisions on large gatherings, the main goal of the Council was to serve as a forum that will facilitate discussion about important issues within the South Bend community. The Council attributed much of the success of the revised ordinance to the work of Brown — responsibilities she passed on to current student body president Bob Reish in March.

"I'm just going to be taking more of a second role to see how this meeting can help for future meetings next year," Reish said.

The ordinance was the brainchild of Council member Al "Buddy" Kirsits and he currently serves as CCAC chairman and Councilman-at-large.

The ordinance and its provisions are contingent on student off campus behavior and future relations in South Bend, Kirsits said.

Three students pass away

Three Notre Dame students died during the 2007-2008 school year. Sophomore Connor McGrath, graduate student Timothy Aher and junior Andrew Bunikis died in three separate and unrelated incidents throughout the academic year.

Diabetes may have factored in Connor McGrath's death in the early morning of Sunday, Feb. 17, police said.

McGrath was a sophomore from Oklahoma City and died in Dillon Hall.

He was 20 years old.

McGrath was a former resident of Dillon, but lived in Siegfried this past semester. He spent the night in Dillon with friends. In the fall, he attended the University of Central Oklahoma before transferring back to Notre Dame.

Friends discovered McGrath's body at approximately 1:40 p.m.

McGrath was the first student to die on campus since Feb. 8, 1998, University officials said, when Justin Brumbaugh died after suffering from heart disease.

Timothy Aher, from Brookfield, Conn., received a Bachelor's degree in linguistics from the University of Chicago. He was currently enrolled in Notre Dame's Law School London Program and died in the town of Ilford, England.

Aher, 25, had developed a proficiency in Russian and studied German, French and Uzbek. He also served as a station manager at WHPK-FM, a student-run radio station at the University of Chicago.

After graduating from the University of Chicago in 2002, he worked for two years at the Bank of America Securities before applying to law school, where he hoped to study international law. He also held a summer internship in New York where he helped AIDS patients deal with their legal problems.

University President Father John Jenkins called the day he learned about McGrath and Aher's deaths as his "worst day as president of Notre Dame."

Andrew Bunikis, a junior from Zahm Hall, died in a bus crash in Thailand on April 18. Bunikis, 20, from Phoenix, Ariz., took a semester off to teach English to students in Thailand after working there briefly last summer through Notre Dame's Student International Business Council (SIBC).

According to The Nation, a Bangkok newspaper, the bus crashed in the Phitsanulok Province at 11:45 p.m. on Friday. Seven other people were killed and 31 injured.

ND Student assaulted, left seven mile from campus

On April 20, sophomore Timothy Clarke suffered a concussion and a broken right hand after he was assaulted by either two or three men and left on Primrose Road approximately seven miles from campus, St. Joseph County Police said.

Clarke, 20, said he got into a car on

Ironwood Dr. after he left Tailgaters Sports Bar around 3 a.m. on April 20.

Because he had been drinking and because he suffered a concussion, Clarke said he couldn't remember too many details from the night. The identities of the suspects are still unknown.

Clarke, a resident of Keough Hall, said he had phoned a friend who was serving as a designated driver to pick him up from Tailgaters. The driver was picking up other people at the time so Clarke declined the ride and began walking north on Ironwood Drive. After a few minutes he got into a car, thinking the passengers were heading back to campus.

Clarke said he wasn't sure if he got into the car voluntarily or was forced into the car, but St. Joseph County Detective Phil Williams said he wouldn't charge the men with kidnapping if he finds them.

Clarke said he realized he was in the car too long to be heading back to campus and made at least six phone calls to try and alert people to what was happening, but nobody answered his calls. The men took Clarke to Primrose Road where they likely hit him over the head with a beer bottle, took his wallet and cell phone, and left him on the side of Primrose Road. A passer-by discovered Clarke and placed a 911 call. Police responded at approximately 6:45 a.m. and took him to Memorial Hospital in South Bend. Clarke was then transferred to University Health Services where he was released on April 29.

Gruscinski and Falvey take over at SMC

After running unopposed for the highest position in student government, student body president Mickey Gruscinski and vice president Sarah Falvey officially took office on April 1.

They have begun working towards the goals they laid out in their campaign platform such as extending the Student Center hours, making an online calendar of College events for students to access and getting reliable wireless access in all of the dorms.

Reish and Schmidt win ND student body president and vice president

Junior Bob Reish and sophomore Grant Schmidt defeated Maris Braun and George Chamberlain to become the student body president and vice president on Feb. 14. The two took office on April 1.

The two began campaigning last

August 29

Saint Mary's breaks into the U.S. News and World Report top 100 liberal arts college rankings at No. 91. The Princeton Review also recognizes Saint Mary's as one of the best midwestern colleges for 2008. College president Carol Ann Mooney says she hopes to break into the top 50 liberal arts colleges in the future.

October 1

Saint Mary's launches a new identity initiative called "She's Saint Mary's" to help the College attract more applicants. It features personal stories from students about what their time at Saint Mary's means to them.

August

September

October

November

December

January

August 21

Seniors Matt Collins and Mitchell Depree are shot outside Club 23 after a conversation with the shooter. After refusing to give the shooter a ride, he later drives past Club 23 and fires five shots, two of which strike Collins while one strikes Depree. Depree is treated for leg wounds and Collins for leg and abdomen wounds. A bullet remains in Collins' abdomen.

September 25

The South Bend Common Council passes, but does not enact, an ordinance requiring parties in boarding houses (homes where two or more non-related people live) to obtain a permit if 25 or more guests will be served alcohol. The ordinance can be enacted with further legislation and also creates the Campus Community Action Council to bring together students, South Bend residents and the town government.

January 29

Saint Mary's raises the full \$19.2 million for Spes Unica Hall, the new academic building. Donations pay for the entire cost of the building. The College broke ground for the building in the fall of 2006 and it's expected to be completed by the fall of 2008.

die. Clinton and Obama visit South Bend. Students report sexual assaults. College launches identity campaign.

in Review

♦ 2008

September on a platform that included more interaction with the student body.

As a way to better hear student requests, Reish and Schmidt created a Web site, bobandgrant.com, that allowed students to contact Reish and Schmidt with suggestions.

"Part of the campaign was connecting to the students and trying to make sure that we're not any better than anyone else," Schmidt said after the election. "The bobandgrant.com thing, a lot of people laughed at it, but it was something different — an informal way of presenting our ideas that was appealing."

The election broke a trend through the last four administrations in which either the previous year's vice president or executive assistant to the president became president the following year.

Law School Dean announces she will step down

Law School Dean Patty O'Hara announced she will leave the school next June after 10 years of service. O'Hara joined the law school in 1981 and became dean in 1999.

She said 10 years was "the optimal length of time to serve as dean," in a statement released on March 26.

"Like her predecessor, Dean O'Hara has been fully committed to this Law School's being recognized as both a top flight law school nationally and as one that, in the Catholic tradition, invites serious and sustained consideration of the normative dimensions of the law," associate dean John Robinson said in April. "She has invested an enormous amount of time and an equal amount of intelligence and imagination in achieving that objective."

Some students questioned O'Hara's capabilities after the law school dropped from No. 22 to No. 28 last year in the U.S. News and World Report Law School rankings. This year, however, the school was back up to No. 22.

"I was confident that [the Law School] would rebound, and we did, back to a very solid No. 22," she said in April. "I think that reaffirms the notion that no one person or dean was responsible for a temporary slump."

Clinton and Obama visit South Bend

Democratic presidential hopefuls Barack Obama and Hillary Clinton both visited South Bend as part of their campaign to win the Indiana primary. Obama spoke at Washington High School on April 9. He outlined his campaign

plan for supporters and cited Martin Luther King's "Fierce urgency of now" as the reason he decided to run for President.

Clinton spoke at Coveleski Stadium, home of the South Bend Silver Hawks, on April 26. She said she was disappointed that she had only met Obama four times in one-on-one debates and called for a revision of the North American Free Trade Agreement.

South Bend mayor Stephen Luecke announced his support of Obama before Obama spoke to supporters. He outlined new higher-education financial aid plan and tax cuts to help keep jobs in America.

Clinton said she would end the war in Iraq and allow uninsured Americans to buy into the Congressional health care plan.

"It's good enough for members of Congress, it's good enough for every Hoosier and every American, and that you keep insurance if you have it, but if you don't you will be able to buy into it," Clinton said.

"Monologues" return to campus

Students performed Eve Ensler's controversial play "The Vagina Monologues" on campus after moving off-campus last year. Jenkins allowed the play to be performed two years ago provided the play received sponsorship from two academic departments. The performances must also include discussions after the play, analyzing the play from a Catholic perspective. Jenkins reaffirmed his decision this year.

Students report laptop thefts

Cavanaugh, Howard and Lyons halls experienced burglaries of laptops, cameras and wallets during the spring semester. The suspect would carry a bag and walk into unlocked rooms to take the laptops.

NDSP director Phil Johnson said the suspect in those cases was identified by "several people" as a black male, between 5-foot-8 and 5-foot-11, with a thin build, "fizzy long black hair" in a pony tail or braid, possibly bad or missing teeth and possibly facial stubble.

Johnson said Valparaiso University has experienced similar burglaries with a suspect whose description matched that of the suspect in Notre Dame's recent campus robberies.

Saint Mary's security under scrutiny

Saint Mary's students expressed unease with the way the College's

security department deals with emergency situations after an unidentified man escaped after trespassing on the roof of Regina Hall.

When a student in Regina Hall reported the trespasser on April 5, it took the College's security department two phone calls and approximately 15 minutes to send a security guard to the scene and investigate the reported suspicious activity.

Director of Security Dave Gariepy and assistant director of security Stan Klimczak addressed student concerns in an open meeting with Regina Hall residents shortly after the incident to discuss an ongoing investigation of the way the incident was handled to ensure that a situation such as this does not happen again.

"That's not the way we would respond to the situation and that's not the way we want our officers responding to it," he said. "We want to make sure that security is responding adequately to [students] calls for help."

College launches 'She's Saint Mary's' campaign

The College debuted a new brand initiative in October as a continuation of the 2006 identity initiative.

The identity initiative is an ongoing process to better understand the image the College must present to gain the attention of prospective students and parents. The initiative was part of College President Carol Ann Mooney's inaugural platform to make Saint Mary's a nationally known institution.

The new tagline, "She's Saint Mary's," is now present on all College publications, ads, banners and Web pages.

The brand features the personal stories of students and what their time at Saint Mary's means to them.

"[The alumnae] love the stories and they love the fact that we're telling stories about what students experience here," Vice President for College Relations Shari Rodriguez said. "We're focusing on the rigorous academic experience and the relationships students have with each other and with faculty. Those are things that they felt really strongly about as they look back on their experience."

Part of the reason the Saint Mary's tagline of was changed from 'Educating Women. Transforming Lives' was to help better communicate the benefits of the College in an effec-

tive manner, said Karen McDonald, then acting vice president of integrated marketing communications.

"We didn't have an issue with the benefits," she said. "Those have not changed. We just didn't communicate them correctly. This is a campaign to bring these characteristics and quality to the forefront."

Spes Unica funds raised completely

Fundraising for the College's new academic building, Spes Unica Hall, was completed over the winter and the building is set to open for classes in the fall.

The total cost of the project is \$19.2 million, making it the most expensive construction project in College history. The building was entirely paid for in donations, without putting to use any other college funds, said Saint Mary's spokesperson Gwen O'Brien. More than 600 donations came in from faculty, staff, alumnae, students and friends of the College, she said.

Ground was broken on this 65,000 square-foot building in the fall of 2006. Spes Unica will house 13 of the 20 academic departments at Saint Mary's, as well as the Center for Academic Innovation, the Center for Spirituality and the Center for Women's InterCultural Leadership. The new building offers state of the art classroom, laboratory and office space. There are also a number of common areas where faculty and students can gather, such as a café, reflection room and patio.

SMC breaks into U.S. News and World Report rankin

Saint Mary's broke into the U.S. News & World Report's rankings of the top 100 liberal arts colleges, securing the 91st spot last Fall.

While the College was previously ranked the top liberal arts college in the region, it hadn't made the national rankings until this year.

The Princeton Review also recognized Saint Mary's as a "Best Midwestern College for 2008."

"We've long known we can compete on a national level and it is gratifying to see our quality recognized," College President Carol Ann Mooney said in an Aug. 17 statement.

On the heels of this new ranking Mooney set loftier goals for the College. She hopes Saint Mary's can break into the top 50 national liberal arts colleges in the near future.

February 14

Junior Bob Reish and sophomore Grant Schmidt are elected student body president and vice president, defeating Maris Braun and George Chamberlain in a run-off election. They plan to establish a nation-wide college council and allow for free DVD rentals in The Huddle.

March 26

Law School Dean Patty O'Hara announces that she will step down next June. O'Hara saw the Law School rankings drop from No. 22 to No. 28 last year, but watched them bounce back to No. 22 this year.

April 9

Illinois Senator and Democratic presidential candidate Barack Obama speaks at Washington High School about his campaign and outlines his platform. He says he will eliminate tax cuts for companies who ship jobs overseas and provide service-based stipends for higher education.

February

March

April

March 11

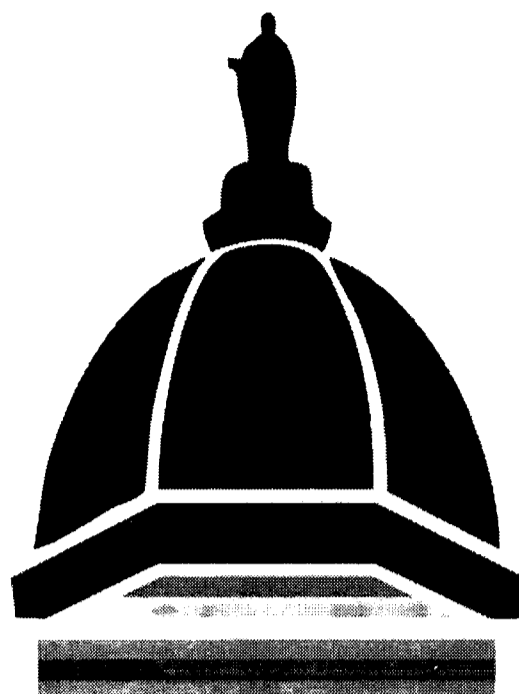
Jenkins allows "The Vagina Monologues" to be performed on campus after the Eve Ensler play receives sponsorship from academic departments. Academic panels that discuss the play in a Catholic light follow each performance. The decision draws criticism from some students, alumni and Fort Wayne-South Bend Bishop John D'Arcy, as it did two years ago.

April 5

A man finds his way onto the roof of Regina Hall at Saint Mary's. A slow security response causes students to question Saint Mary's security policies and leads security directors to investigate their security strategies.

April 26

New York Senator and Democratic presidential candidate Hillary Clinton speaks at Coveleski Stadium, home of the South Bend Silver Hawks, about ending the war in Iraq and allowing Americans to buy into the Congressional health care plan. She also calls for more one-on-one debates with Barack Obama.



CORE COUNCIL FOR GAY & LESBIAN STUDENTS

Meet student members of the **Core Council for Gay, Lesbian, Bi-Sexual & Questioning Students** and find out more about resources available on the Notre Dame campus.

The Core Council Welcomes the Class of 2012

We members of the Core Council are administrators and gay, lesbian, bi-sexual & questioning students who are a resource in identifying the ongoing needs of our students. By implementing campus-wide educational programming on these issues, the Core Council strives to eliminate homophobia and make Notre Dame a place that accepts and prizes the uniqueness of all its students.

The Core Council for Gay and Lesbian Students
will host a RECEPTION for interested first-year students:
Monday, August 25th
1:30-3:30 p.m.
316 Coleman-Morse Building
(3rd Floor Lounge)

Visit our web site at corecouncil.nd.edu

The Core Council for Gay and Lesbian Students also sponsors:

Coffee & Conversation at the Co-Mo

Green Room

Solidarity Sunday

CommUnity

NETWORK Ally Training Program

StaND Against Hate Week

Day of Silence

Freshmen

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Harvard. We respect those schools, but we're trying to make Notre Dame a better Notre Dame," Saracino, a Notre Dame alum, said. "I look at the classes that are coming in, and they make the value of my diploma appreciate."

This year's freshmen are from the top five percent of their high school classes. Their average SAT score is a combined 1405 in Critical Reading and Math. This marks roughly a 20-point increase from last year's class — the biggest jump in recent history.

"It really happens every year," he said.

Twelve years ago, the average SAT score was 1303, over 100 points lower. However, Saracino said one couldn't compare the applicants from one year to another. "It's like apples and oranges," he said.

"It varies every year ... each class has compelling reasons to be admitted," Saracino said.

The Admissions office aims to shape a class — and does not admit students based on num-

bers alone.

"Education goes on both inside and outside of the classroom," Saracino said. "We admit bright students who are passionate."

They also aim for diversity "in the broadest sense," he said. "We're not just looking for the all-American kid."

Twenty percent of the class of 2012 is comprised of ethnic minorities, which marks a decrease from the last two years: the class of 2011 includes 22 percent ethnic minorities and the class of 2010 includes 24 percent. Saracino said these figures are not indicative of a trend.

"Three years would be a trend," he said. "Anything less than 24 percent is not acceptable."

Of the ethnic minorities, nine percent are Hispanic, six percent are Asian, three percent are African-American and one percent is Native American.

"Our goal for next year is to improve our ethnic diversity," Saracino said.

Students in the freshman class hail from diverse geographic locations nationally and internationally. The Midwest and Northeast are the most rep-

resented U.S. geographic areas. The top ten states represented are Illinois, Indiana, Texas, California, Ohio, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Michigan and Florida.

Three percent of the freshmen are international, from 27 different countries. The top three foreign countries represented are Korea, Canada and China.

The confirmation rate of this year's accepted freshman was 54 percent, one of the nation's highest.

"Applicants have done their homework," Saracino said. "If they're admitted, chances are, they're going to come."

Fifty-two percent of the Class of 2012 are men and 48 percent are women. Eighty-three percent are Catholic. Twenty-four percent are children of alumni and seven percent are first generation college students.

Notre Dame, which boasts a strong commitment to financial aid, awarded 44 percent need-based grants. Seventy-five percent of the class is receiving some kind of financial aid.

"We are one of less than about a dozen universities that have a need-blind admissions process, and if students are admitted, they receive 100 per-

cent of their need," Saracino said. "That's something I'm very proud of."

The Class of 2012 was especially active in extra-curricular activities in high school that involved leadership positions:

- 10 percent were student government president
- 11 percent were editor of a school publication
- 90 percent participated in community service
- 64 percent lettered in a varsity sport
- 47 percent participated in music, art, drama or dance
- 7 percent participated in the Eagle or Gold Scouts.

The incoming class also contains one Olympian, a certified firefighter, one student from the island of Molokai and two students from an Alaskan fishing village of 7,000 people.

Saracino's daughter, an alumna of Notre Dame, once told him that the opportunities to learn here are only limited by one's need for sleep.

"That's what we want for our children. This is a class where the students aren't going to want to sleep," he said.

Contact Jenn Metz at jmetz@nd.edu

Attack

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got out of the car and also began assaulting Chesnick.

Gargula approached Chesnick to see how badly he was hurt when one of the assailants pushed her to the ground and began beating her, Crosby said. A female then got out of the car and began kicking and beating Gargula as well.

Crosby approached the victims and the assailants verbally threatened to injure her, she said. Crosby then proceeded to call the South Bend Police. She was not injured.

The fire department and medics were called to the scene and responded immediately, Trent said.

A brown purse was reported stolen after the attack.

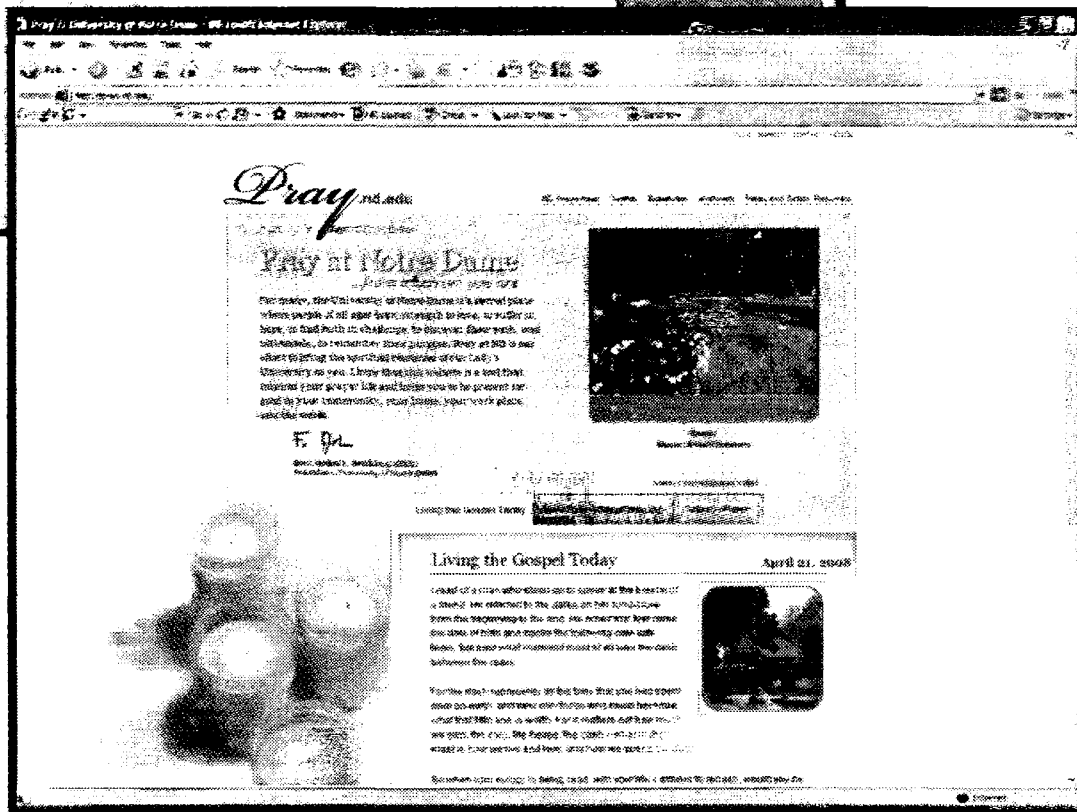
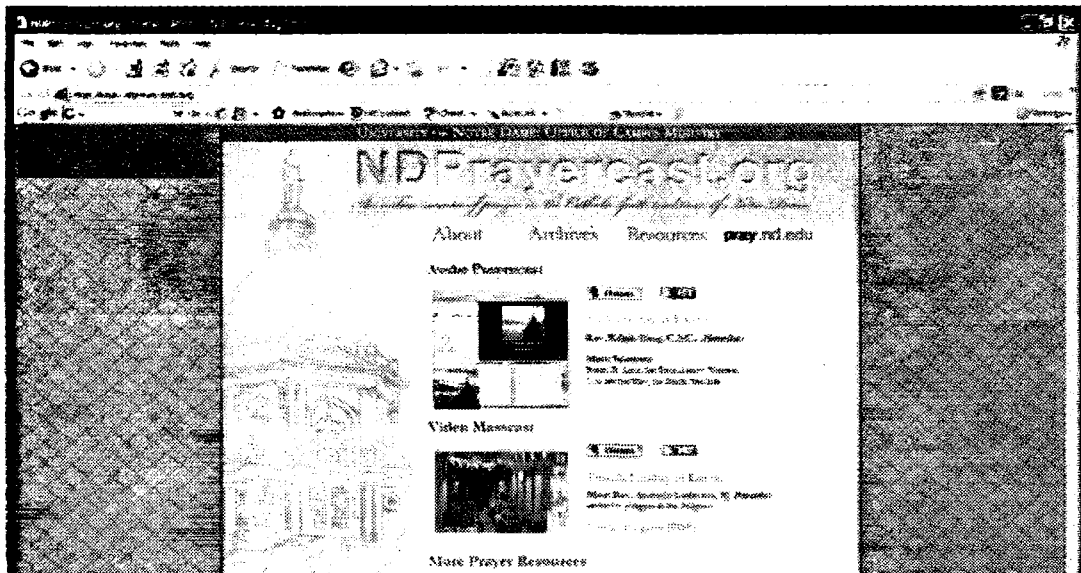
A resident of Irish Crossings heard the disturbance and came outside. As he did, the three assailants got back into the car and left the scene. As the car sped off, Crosby was able to get the license plate number.

The police were able to trace the license plate to a 21-year old St. Joseph County resident whose name was not released by the police. He was arrested for robbery and taken into custody.

Trent said the SBPD are still working on the case and looking for other suspects.

Chesnick and Gargula were taken to a local hospital, where Chesnick received stitches on his lip and was treated for minor scrapes and bruises. His left eye was swollen shut. Gargula was treated for minor scrapes and bruises. Neither suffered serious injuries.

Contact Deirdre Krasula at dkrasula@nd.edu and Jenn Metz at jmetz@nd.edu



Pray at ND from wherever you are.
Visit Pray.nd.edu & NDPrayercast.org for daily prayers and gospel readings, and weekly audio Prayercasts and video Masscasts.

Brought to you by the Office of Campus Ministry and the Alumni Association



Fencer

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pionships on the junior level.

"I had to stop with the piano lessons, but my teacher agreed that it was probably a smart move," he said.

Meinhardt was already considered to be one of the best younger fencers in the nation and his experience at the Olympics will only make him better. He and Bednarski both said that the biggest advantage will be from a mental perspective.

"The Olympics can help you to deal with stress and compete well under stressful situations," Bednarski said.

After performing on the biggest stage in the world, the Joyce Center will seem much less daunting.

Meinhardt said that along with the valuable fencing experience, Beijing also gave him some memories he will never forget — like the time he met the entire U.S. basketball team.

"I'm a pretty big basketball fan so that was probably one of the coolest things that hap-

pened to me over there," he said.

Meinhardt was eating lunch in the Olympic Village cafeteria when Dwayne Wade sat down at the other end of the table. Pretty quickly the rest of the team filed in and before he knew it, Meinhardt was talking with the Milwaukee Bucks' Michael Redd.

A few minutes later when Kobe Bryant arrived at the table he was followed by a mob of foreign athletes and fans snapping pictures. The team's security guards surrounded the table and Meinhardt found himself inside a circle with the best basketball players in the world.

"I was trying to play it cool, but I had a huge smile on my face the whole time. I couldn't help myself," he said.

In a week, Meinhardt has gone from exclusive meals with Kobe Bryant to burgers on the quad. Nonetheless, the young freshman said he couldn't be more excited to be at school and is looking forward to a great year in fencing and around campus.

Contact Dan Murphy at dmurphy6@nd.edu

Swarbrick

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media executives, and the leadership of the NCAA, as well as many others in professional and Olympic sports," Jenkins said in a July 16 press conference. "He has a breadth of vision of the landscape of college athletics that in my experience is unsurpassed. Jack is widely respected for his insight and integrity."

According to a press release, Swarbrick is responsible for bringing many high profile sporting events to Indianapolis, including the Super Bowl in 2012 and the NCAA Men's Basketball Tournament in 1999.

"When more recently people said there is no chance that the NFL will ever take the Super Bowl to Indianapolis,

Indiana, I had all of the challenge I needed, and I was committed to make that happen," Swarbrick said in a July 16 press conference.

Swarbrick described his time at Notre Dame as having "defined my life" and said he was excited to assume control of the reins of one of the country's most storied collegiate athletics programs.

Despite Notre Dame's 3-9 football season last year, Swarbrick said he sees great promise in the future of all of the University's athletics.

"The challenges here are significant," he said in the press conference. "But they're challenges of the best

"I am confident that in Jack Swarbrick we have found a superb athletic director for the University of Notre Dame"

Father John Jenkins
Notre Dame President

kind. They're challenges born not of problems, but of shortcomings, but of great striving, of high goals. I believe that I accept this job on the threshold of extraordinary change in intercollegiate athletics in America."

Swarbrick said he would not only focus on building winning teams, but he would also help maintain Notre Dame's image as the premier Catholic university in the country.

"I'm not here to just do sports right," he said. "We want to be a great academic institution that furthers research in this country. We want to be a place of faith. And we want to be a place that wins on the athletic field and turns out extraordinary student athletes."

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GEORGIA

Georgians rejoice as Russian forces withdraw from Gori

Bush, Sarkozy agree that Russia did not comply with withdrawal agreement, as troops remain in three areas

Associated Press

GORI, Georgia — Columns of hulking, smoke-belching Russian tanks rolled out of key positions deep inside Georgia Friday as Moscow declared it had pulled its forces out following the worst confrontation between the Kremlin and the West since the Soviet collapse. But the United States and France protested the withdrawal was not complete.

Georgians exulted in a new sense of freedom as the Russian troops departed.

In Igoeti, the closest Russians got to the capital of Tbilisi, Georgians pumped their fists and waved white-and-red national flags as two Russian tanks began to leave. They were trailed by Georgian police in more than 100 civilian cars and several police trucks.

"How can we not be happy? We've gotten what we want," said Levan, 77, a math teacher who would give only his first name. "We're overjoyed to see our own police on our streets again."

An Associated Press reporter saw what may have been the last convoy of Russian armored vehicles leave Gori shortly after 5 p.m. Friday. The six vehicles drove off after soldiers fired on a disabled armored personnel carrier, perhaps not to leave any working equipment behind for the Georgians to seize.

A few hours later, Gori was empty of Russian forces.

"We are in control of the streets of the city of Gori," Georgian Interior Minister Vano Merabishvili said outside city hall.

The withdrawal came two weeks to the day after thousands of Russian soldiers roared into the former Soviet republic following an assault by Georgian forces on the cap-

ital of the separatist territory of South Ossetia. The conflict left hundreds dead, several cities destroyed and nearly 160,000 people homeless.

Russian columns left Georgia's western Senaki military base, the central city of Gori and the eastern checkpoint of Igoeti, just 30 miles from the capital, Tbilisi.

But troops and armored personnel carriers stayed put in at least three positions near Senaki and the Black Sea port city of Poti, raising questions about Russia's intentions. The Russians also said they were creating so-called security zones extending into Georgian territory to prevent future attacks.

President Bush, vacationing at his ranch in Texas, conferred with French President Nicolas Sarkozy and "the two agreed that Russia is not in compliance and that Russia needs to come into compliance now," said White House spokesman Gordon Johndroe.

"Compliance means compliance with that plan," he said. "We haven't seen that yet. It's my understanding that they have not completely withdrawn from areas considered undisputed territory, and they need to do that."

The Russians "have without a doubt failed to live up to their obligations," State Department spokesman Robert Wood said in Washington. "Establishing checkpoints, buffer zones, are definitely not part of the agreement."

Georgia's state minister on reintegration, Temur Yakobashvili, told the AP formation of a buffer zone outside South Ossetia "is absolutely illegal."

In South Ossetia, Russian troops erected 18 peacekeeping posts in a so-called "security zone" around its border with Georgia. Col. Gen.

Anatoly Nogovitsyn, deputy head of Russia's general staff, said Friday that peacekeepers would establish another 18 peacekeeping posts around Abkhazia.

A total of 2,142 Russian peacekeepers are to be deployed on Abkhazia's de facto border, while 452 will man the South Ossetia de facto border, Nogovitsyn said.

In Moscow, Defense Minister Anatoly Serdyukov said the pullback into South Ossetia was finished late Friday.

In western Georgia, a column of 83 Russian tanks, armored personnel carriers and trucks hauling artillery drove north from the Senaki military base toward the breakaway Abkhazia region along the Black Sea coast on Friday afternoon. Georgian police said the vehicles came from the base, which has been under Russian control for over a week.

The convoy doubled in size as it tumbled slowly north, and it took hours to cross into Abkhazia.

In central Georgia, at least 40 Russian military vehicles left the strategic city of Gori, heading north in the direction of South Ossetia, the Roki Tunnel and Russia beyond.

An AP reporter in Igoeti confirmed Russian forces had pulled out from their former checkpoints and roadside positions around the village. Located on Georgia's main highway between Gori and the Georgian capital of Tbilisi, Igoeti had been the Russians' closest position to the Georgian capital.

Georgians milled around a checkpoint near Gori for hours before a crane came to heft the cement blocks from the road and traffic started to filter through. A few Russian soldiers lingered near the site.

Russia's invasion and brief occupation of uncontested

Georgian territory has deeply strained relations between Moscow and the West.

Russia has frozen its military cooperation with NATO, Moscow's Cold War foe, underscoring a growing division in Europe. Georgia's pro-Western leaders are pushing to join NATO, angering a resurgent Russia.

The major fighting began Aug. 7 when Georgia launched an artillery and rocket barrage targeting Tskhinvali, the capital of South Ossetia — which has survived since the 1990s with the patronage of Moscow and the protection of troops Russia calls peacekeepers.

Russian forces arrived in less than 24 hours, quickly drove the Georgians back and pressed deep into Georgia.

Under an EU-brokered cease-fire deal, both sides are to pull back to positions held before the fighting erupted.

Western leaders have called for a complete withdrawal of Russian combat troops from Georgia, and for peacekeeping forces to resume the positions they had in South Ossetia before the conflict. But Russia says it will patrol buffer zones stretching into Georgia proper.

Questions remained about whether Russia was withdrawing all its forces.

In western Georgia, an AP photographer saw troops and armored personnel carriers still deployed at three Russian positions after nightfall — one on the outskirts of Poti, one at a crossroads near the Senaki base and another further north along the road toward Abkhazia.

Poti is far from any security zone envisioned by Western governments.

And after a long Russian column crossed into Abkhazia, Russian armored vehicles and troops with blue helmets and the Russian initials for

Peacekeeping Forces headed in the opposite direction, into Georgia proper.

French Foreign Ministry spokesman Frederic Desagneaux said the cease-fire deal allows Russian peacekeeping forces to operate only "in the immediate proximity of South Ossetia" and only in patrols — suggesting the West considers the new South Ossetia posts outside South Ossetia and Abkhazia as violations.

Regardless of Friday's withdrawal, Russia, Georgia and the West seem certain to continue the diplomatic struggle over South Ossetia and Abkhazia, which broke from Georgia's control in wars following the 1991 breakup of the Soviet Union.

The Russian parliament was expected to discuss recognizing the independence of the separatist regions Monday.

In an interview with the AP, South Ossetian leader Eduard Kokoity signaled that ethnic Georgians will not be allowed to return as payback for the ethnic Ossetians who could not return to Georgia after a previous conflict.

"There is nothing left anymore" for them to come back to, he noted.

In the village of Achabeti, an AP reporter saw Ossetians remove chairs, window frames and whatever else they could carry from abandoned Georgian houses.

Russian emergency officials arrived in Achabeti to evacuate elderly Georgians who were too frail to flee. The Georgians were taken to Gori, where officials were trying to get in touch with their relatives.

Many of the elderly were happy to be evacuated, having been left with no food or care. But some thought it was an effort to deport all Georgians from Ossetia.

Duncan

continued from page 1

things [to fill up the room.]”

Duncan has three floors, plus a basement. Every wing contains a social space and a study space. The chapel is on the second floor, a feature shared only by St. Edward's Hall.

Some other highlights include “super quads” — two doubles connected by a common area, complete with bay windows, a bathroom and a shower; whiteboards built into the wall outside every room, a workout facility in the basement, an area in the kitchen where residents can do food sales and benches in the stairwells so people can socialize or read.

What the dorm is currently lacking, however, is its own identity. Duncan Hall does not yet have its own mascot, signature event or colors.

Shoup, who is in his 20th year at Notre Dame, has seen previous new dorms go through the process of forming their own identity.

“It kind of just takes shape on its own,” he said.

The residents will decide as a hall what their mascot, colors and signature event will be, Shoup said.

“That’s going to be up to the men of the community, and they are going to bring a lot of different viewpoints,” he said. “There are people from every hall on campus that will go into the building, plus there are freshmen and there are transfer students that were placed there. That will be totally up to them; we won’t be a part of that. And I think that just develops as people live together.”

Father Tom Eckert is

Duncan’s first rector. Eckert obtained a master’s degree in Iberian and Latin American Literature last May, and prior to that was the rector of St. Edward’s Hall for three years.

“I’m confident that the excitement of opening a new residence hall for the first time in 10 years will really bring the residents together,” he said. “There cannot help but be a great and unifying bond.”

Senior Rafael Diaz, who spoke to The Observer as he was driving from Las Vegas to South Bend, said he’d like to see Duncan take the dragon as its mascot. But, he said, he’s heard people joking that Duncan should be the Donuts, a reference to the nationwide coffee chain Dunkin’ Donuts.

“A lot of people will come unprepared. They will bring a lounge chair and realize they will need more things [to fill up the room].”

Jeff Shoup
Director of the Office of Residence Life and Housing

Freshman Orientation, Eckert said, along with a team of students recruited by the Office of Residence Life and Housing.

Duncan’s hall staff lived in O’Neill for a few days before the contractors turned the hall over to the University. They moved into their rooms last Saturday.

The hall will be dedicated in early October, and the residents will get to meet the Duncan family, Shoup said. The building was funded by 1952 Notre Dame graduate Raymond T. Duncan, president of Duncan Oil Inc. and owner of Silver Oak Cellars in Oakville, Calif.

It will be the University’s 28th dormitory and 15th for men. One of the reasons for building the new hall was to reduce crowding in other residence halls, as Notre Dame was at a 104 percent capacity in its residence halls last year. With the addition of more than 200 beds, the University was able to take beds out of other halls, in dorms like Morrissey, Alumni, Zahm and Dillon, as the on-campus population increased by only 20 over last year.

But overcrowding is still a problem in women’s dorms, and the on campus percent capacity is still at 103, Shoup said. Construction on a new, currently unnamed women’s dorm began last March next to the Hammes Notre Dame Bookstore, and it is slated to open next August in time for the 2009-2010 school year, Shoup said.

Notre Dame also has long-term plans to build one more men’s and one more women’s hall.

Contact Kaitlynn Riely at kriely@nd.edu

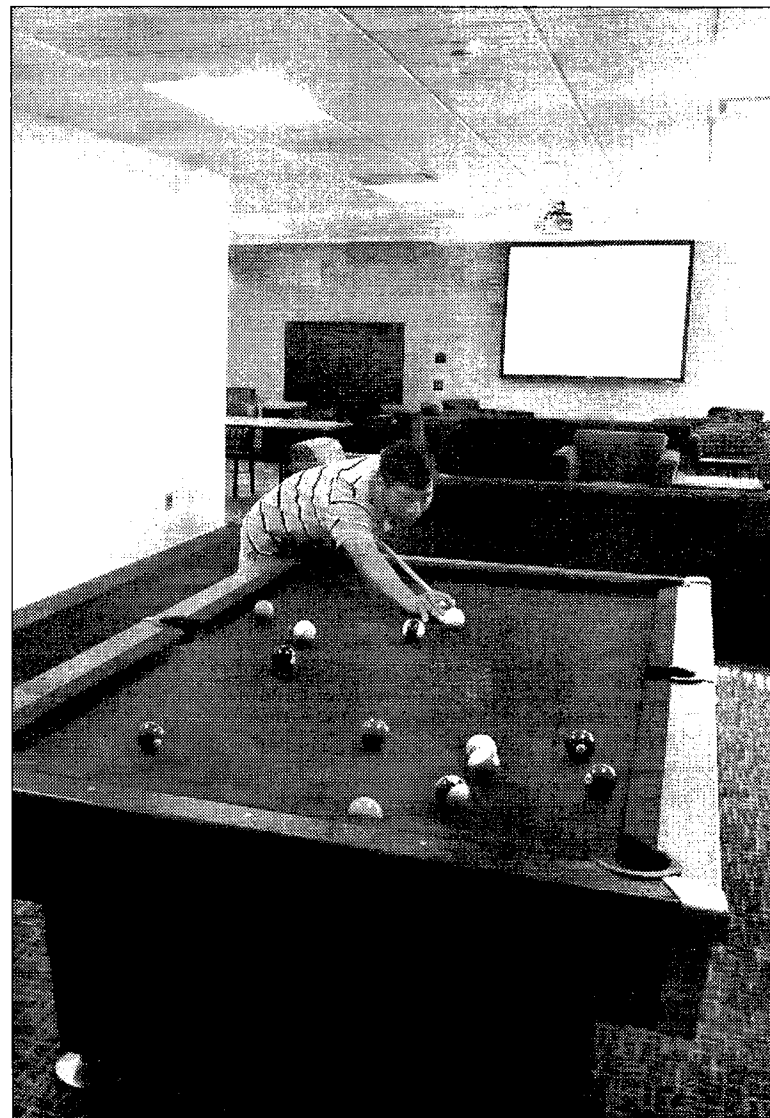
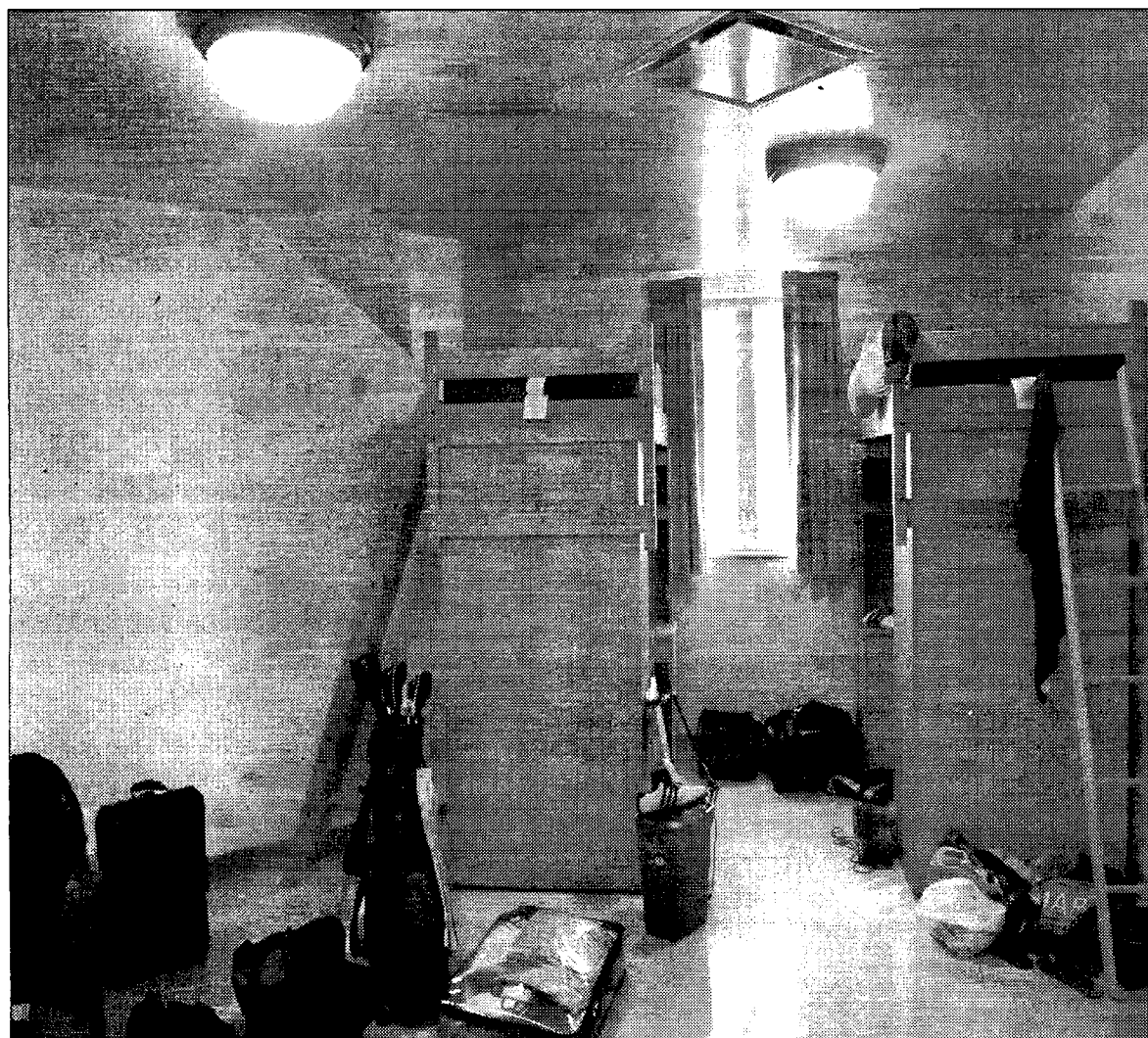
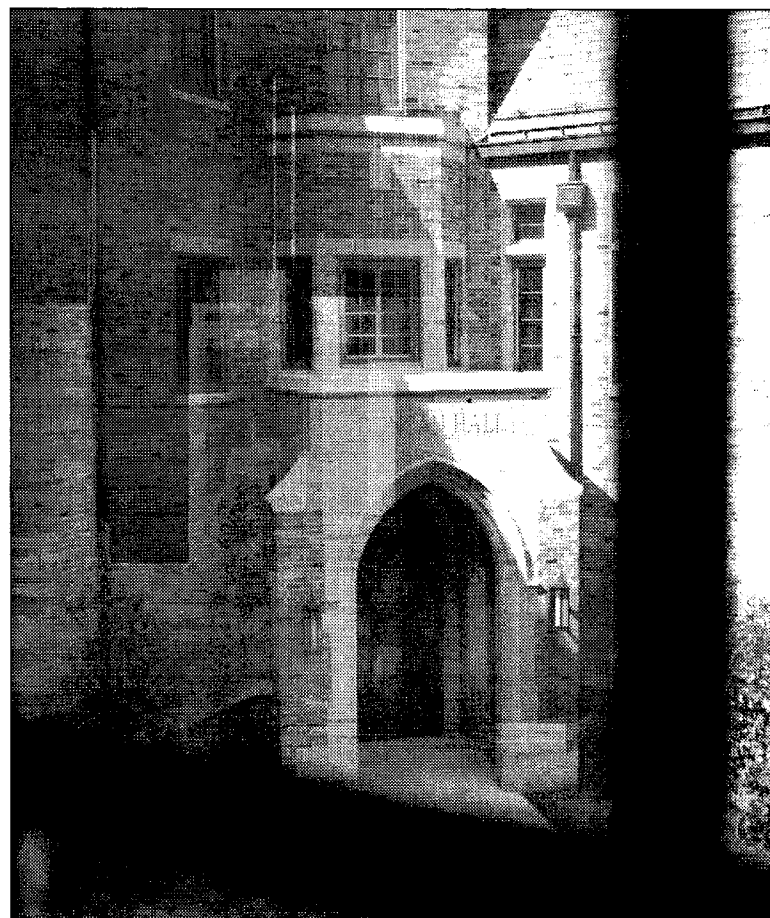
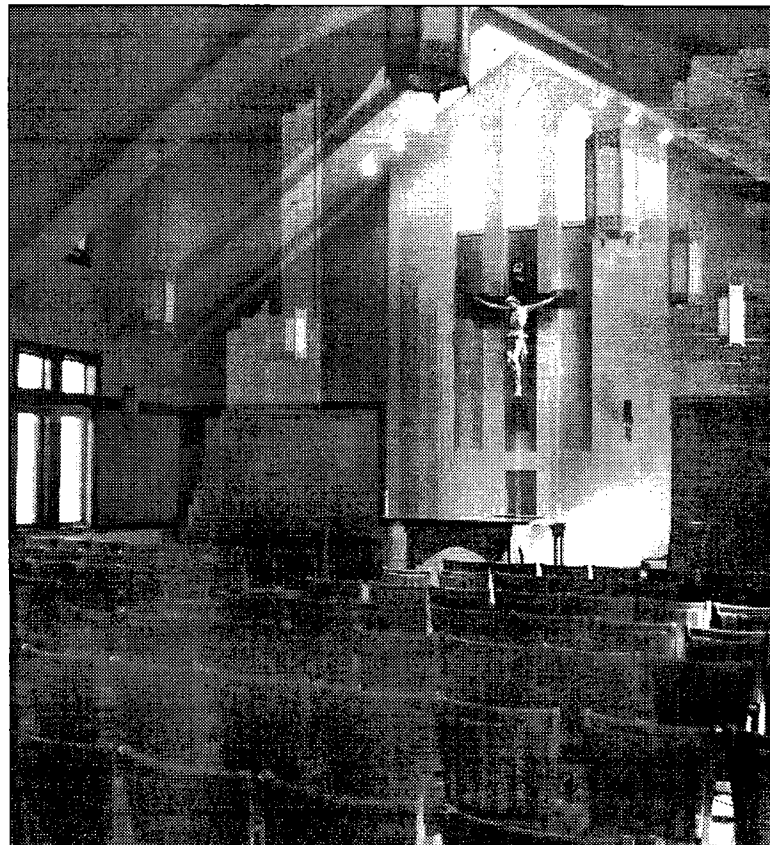
“I’m confident that the excitement of opening a new residence hall for the first time in 10 years will really bring the residents together.”

Father Tom Eckert
Duncan Hall rector

Diaz left his former home in Morrissey in search of a bigger room, and will be living in one of Duncan’s “super quads” with three of his friends.

Most of the residents who are living in Duncan won their rooms through a lottery system held last year. Shoup said 350 people applied for spots in the 232-bed hall. Seniors make up 15 percent of the hall, juniors and sophomores 25 percent each, and freshmen 35 percent.

Duncan’s six resident assistants will be running



JESSICA LEE AND NICK SIMONSON/The Observer

Clockwise from top right: the interior of the Duncan Hall chapel; the exterior of the Duncan Hall entryway; resident assistant Brian Lan plays pool in the Duncan Hall lounge; a double dorm room in Duncan Hall.

Obama prepares to name VP

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The suspense holding, Barack Obama readied an announcement by text message Friday of his vice presidential running mate from a list suddenly spiced by a dark horse from Texas.

Hillary Rodham Clinton's prospects remained a mystery on a day full of them, although senior aides said the Obama campaign never requested financial or other records from her.

Three days before the party gathers in Denver to nominate Obama for the fall campaign, several officials said Rep. Chet Edwards, whose district includes President Bush's ranch in Crawford, Texas, had made the list of finalists. Sens. Joe Biden of Delaware and Evan Bayh of Indiana were also in the mix, as were Govs. Tim Kaine of Virginia and Kathleen Sebelius of Kansas — and unknown others Obama had managed to keep secret despite intense scrutiny.

"It'll be exciting news," Sebelius told reporters in Kansas.

Obama, his secret his own, went to the gym for a morning workout before heading to an office in Chicago to polish the convention acceptance speech he will deliver next Thursday night.

Obama told reporters on Thursday he's already made his choice, and aides have used the prospect of a text-message announcement to try and attract

additional supporters by soliciting their cell phone numbers and e-mail addresses.

The Illinois senator has arranged a joint appearance for Saturday with his running mate at the state capitol in Springfield, Ill.

Hundreds of miles to the west, carpenters, electricians, sound stage gurus and others transformed the Pepsi Center in Denver into a made-for-television convention venue.

Tucked away in one corner were thousands of lightweight rolled cardboard handles, meant to allow delegates to wave signs bearing the names of the ticket — once the identity of Obama's running mate was known.

And he wasn't saying. "Obviously, the most important question is: Is this person ready to be president?" Obama told "The Early Show" on CBS. Second, he said, was: "Can this person help me govern? Are they going to be an effective partner in creating the kind of economic opportunity here at home and guiding us through some dangerous waters internationally?"

And, he added: "I want somebody who is going to be able to challenge my thinking and not simply be a 'yes person' when it comes to policymaking."

Among those believed in the running, Edwards, Biden and Bayh fit the mold of running mate with experience in defense or foreign policy — areas in which Obama performs relatively poorly in the polls compared

with Republican Sen. John McCain.

Clinton's credentials were forged in the primaries and caucuses where she ran a close second to Obama in the battle for the nomination.

There was no shortages of other speculation, ranging from: GOP Sen. Chuck Hagel of Nebraska, who traveled with Obama to Iraq and Afghanistan; Massachusetts Sen. John Kerry, the 2004 Democratic presidential nominee, or Democratic Sen. Chris Dodd of Connecticut.

Edwards is a favorite of House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, who praised his "extraordinary credentials" on ABC's "This Week" on Aug. 3 and said: "I hope he will be the nominee."

One Democratic official with knowledge of the conversation said Obama told Pelosi recently that she would be pleased with the choice. Other Democratic officials said he was on the short list. All spoke on the condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to discuss Obama's selection process.

Edwards, chairman of the Military Construction and Veterans Affairs Appropriations Subcommittee, is a nine-term moderate Democrat representing the GOP-leaning Texas district. He is well-known in Texas but does not have a national profile.

Asked about Pelosi's praise, Edwards said in July that he "cannot imagine that many Americans would not consider it a privilege" to be considered a vice presidential contender.

On the 5th day of Fay, cleanup begins in Fla.

Associated Press

STEINHATCHEE, Fla. — As Tropical Storm Fay finally got on track Friday to make its way out of Florida, flood-stricken homeowners got an encouraging sign: Muddy brown water lines began appearing on the sides of homes, a clue that floodwaters were receding.

The fickle storm that stuck around for five days and carved a dizzying path that included three separate landfalls dumped more than two feet of rain in some places. But to the relief of Floridians, it was finally expected to veer west over the Panhandle before leaving for good later this weekend.

Officials in Melbourne, one of the hardest-hit areas on the central Atlantic coast, carried boats down streets where just a day earlier 4 feet of water made roads look like rivers. Water several feet high remained in some neighborhoods, but most of the area had drained, leaving behind a half-inch layer of muck and mud.

"This is a welcome sight," said Ron Salvatore, 69, who stood in his driveway Friday morning boiling coffee on a propane grill

and surveyed a dry street. Salvatore and his wife Terry, 59, had been stuck in the house since Tuesday because water surrounded their home.

The storm's death toll rose to six in Florida and nearly 30 overall since it first struck in the Caribbean. Florida officials said four people died in traffic accidents in the heavy rain and two others drowned in surf kicked up by the storm. Before the storm ever blew through the state, a man testing generators as a precaution also was killed.

Tens of thousands of people from Melbourne to Jacksonville to Gainesville were still without electricity, and residents of Florida's storm-stricken Atlantic coast faced a weekend of cleanup after chest-high flooding. Florida Insurance Commissioner Kevin McCarty said there will likely be thousands of flood claims from Fay.

"The damage from Fay is a reminder that a tropical storm does not have to reach a hurricane level to be dangerous and cause significant damage," said Florida Gov. Charlie Crist, who toured flooded communities this week.

PAKISTAN

Bhutto widower proposed for new president

Associated Press

ISLAMABAD — Pakistan's largest political party on Friday proposed the husband of assassinated leader Benazir Bhutto to succeed the ousted Pervez Musharraf as president.

Asif Ali Zardari, who is emerging as the favorite to be elected by legislators Sept. 6, criticized Musharraf for his long, authoritarian rule but would likely continue the former general's support for the U.S. war against extremist groups.

However, his ascent would dismay many Pakistanis, who view him as a symbol of the sleaze that tainted the country's last experiment with civilian rule in the 1990s. He won the nickname "Mr. 10 Percent" for alleged corruption during his wife's turns as prime minister.

And, with the governing coalition that drove Musharraf to resign this week now teetering on the verge of collapse, Zardari's nomination is not certain. He is engaged in intense political horse-trading with the leader of the other key party, former prime minister Nawaz Sharif, who was a bitter rival of Bhutto.

Sharif had no immediate reaction to Zardari's nomination, but his party has been threatening to bolt from the coalition in a struggle over power.

Many citizens, as well as Pakistan's Western backers, are urging the parties to resolve political issues and turn their attention to runaway inflation, slowing economic growth and inexorably rising violence by Islamic militants entrenched along the border with

Afghanistan.

That need was rammed home Thursday by twin Taliban suicide bombings that killed 67 people at the country's biggest weapons manufacturing complex, just 22 miles from the capital, Islamabad. On Friday, security forces killed 16 militants, including two suspected suicide bombers, in a clash in the restive frontier in the northwest, officials said.

After seeking to tame militant groups in peace negotiations, the government has been entangled in recent weeks in increasing fighting with hard-line Islamic movements along the border. Militant violence began intensifying after Musharraf ordered soldiers to seize a radical mosque in Islamabad during a bloody battle in July 2007.

According to Associated Press reporting, at least 110 militant attacks have been launched on government, military or police targets since the mosque siege and about 20 attacks have targeted civilians. At least 60 of all those attacks were suicide bombings.

The total violence since July 2007, which includes some fighting not initiated by militants, has resulted in the deaths of at least 350 soldiers, 120 police, 470 civilians and 1,000 militants, based on AP reporting.

The 52-year-old Zardari did not immediately accept his party's nomination, but he had done nothing to tamp down the recent chorus from supporters calling for him to take a post that retains many of the powers accumulated during Musharraf's nine-year rule.

"If the major political party believes that he is the most talent-

ed person, then he is the most eligible person for this post," said Nabeel Gabol of Zardari's Pakistan People's Party, which gave the leader unanimous support at a meeting Friday.

Party spokeswoman Sherry Rehman said Zardari promised to announce whether to accept the nomination within 24 hours.

"Now it depends on him whether he himself becomes (president) or nominates someone else," Gabol said.

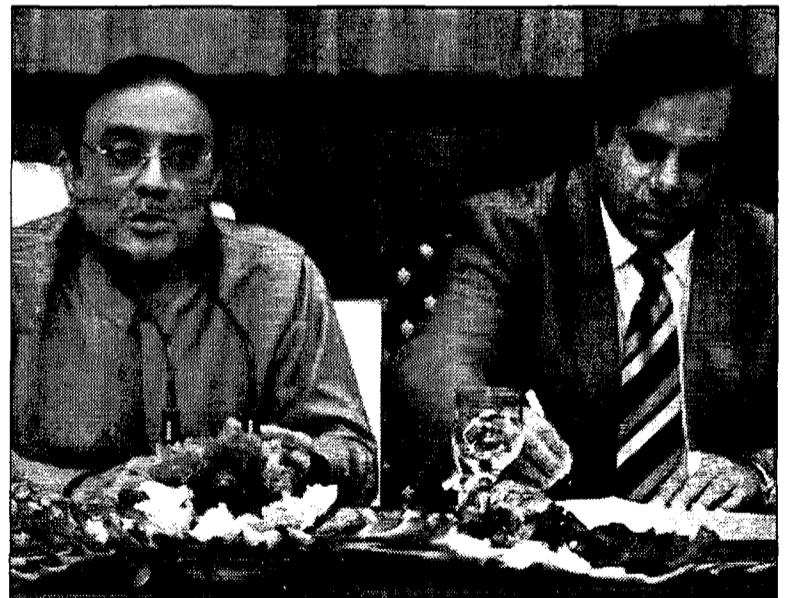
A presidency for Zardari — or a figure under his control — would cap an extraordinary transformation of Pakistani politics that has removed both of Washington's most likely allies from the scene.

Zardari only returned to Pakistan from years in exile after his wife was assassinated in a gun-and-bomb attack last December.

Bhutto, a liberal who courted Western governments and pledged a tough line against Islamic militants, had come back two months before under a U.S.-encouraged deal with Musharraf expected to see them share power after February parliamentary elections.

Musharraf, who gave up his dual post of army chief in November to rule as a civilian president, had by then issued a controversial order quashing corruption charges against Bhutto and her husband.

Zardari has been widely known as Mr. 10 Percent since allegations were raised that he pocketed kickbacks on government contracts during Bhutto's two premierships. He denied the charges, calling them fabrications by political opponents, and he was never con-



Ruling party leader Asif Ali Zardari, left, speaks during the party's central executive meeting in Islamabad on Friday.

victed.

But Musharraf became a political untouchable even for Bhutto after he imposed emergency rule so he could remove Supreme Court judges poised to block his plan to remain as a civilian ruler.

The turmoil resulted in a stinging defeat for Musharraf's allies in the February elections and thrust Zardari into an alliance with Sharif united mainly by opposition to the unpopular ex-general.

Once Musharraf resigned Monday to head off impeachment, the two biggest parties in the government have wrangled over how to restore the fired judges, whether Musharraf should face prosecution and who should succeed him.

The election commission

announced Friday that federal and provincial lawmakers would elect the new president in simultaneous votes Sept. 6. It said candidates must file nomination papers Tuesday.

Lieutenants of Sharif have argued that the next president should hail from one of Pakistan's two smallest provinces — Baluchistan or North West Frontier. That would exclude Zardari, who comes from the southern province of Sindh.

Zardari previously suggested a woman should get the job — prompting speculation that parliamentary speaker Fehmida Mirza, who bears an eerie resemblance to his late wife — or even his sister, a minor politician, could step up.

THE OBSERVER VIEWPOINT

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Helpful hints

I'll admit I don't know why each of you came to Notre Dame. And I can't tell you what to expect, what you will learn in and out of the classroom. All of you will have vastly different college experiences, make different memories, live different lives. But there is one constant thing that will transcend your time here.

You go to Notre Dame.

Some of you might think I mean the Spirit of Notre Dame. You might have heard of it, the one that can light up the universe.

Notre Dame has different nuances and idiosyncrasies that you won't find at other universities.

So even if I can't give you any grandiose advice, here are some helpful hints for living at Notre Dame:

◆LaFortune (a.k.a. LaFun or The Huddle) can be your best friend, depending on the time. Say you want lunch, but don't have time to go to the dining hall. Subway might be the healthiest option, but will have the longest lines at mealtime — I guarantee it.

Burger King is quicker, but closes disturbingly early at 8 p.m. If you dare venture to the basement you will find the most delectable of treats — just not when you think.

In the basement lurks Sbarro pizza, open until 2 a.m. on weekdays and 4 a.m. on weekends. And for good reason. If you should happen to be awake that late,



Jay Fitzpatrick

Managing
Editor

doing goodness knows what, you may be a little hungry. And nothing tastes better than greasy stromboli at 2:30 a.m. Unfortunately, it tastes terrible at any other time. Something about the moonlight just changes it.

◆Most buildings on campus are named for old, dead white guys. Unfortunately, some of these names can be difficult to pronounce. To avoid any pronunciation problems, here is a handy key.

O'Shaughnessy looks imposing, but don't worry about how to say it. Just go for O'Shag (as in "The Spy Who Shagged Me").

There are two buildings named for DeBartolo, but neither is called as such. If it's a class, you are likely in D-Bart; a play/concert/artsy-fartsy movie, you will be at DPAC (dee-PACK).

There is a mythical place called the Coleman Center or Morse Center. For all intents and purposes, they are the Siamese Twins known as CoMo. Learn that name, because you will likely go there often.

The numbers on many classroom buildings make zero sense. Fortunately there are maps in the buildings. Unfortunately, you will look like a fool if you use them. There are maps of most classroom buildings online. Find them and use them to try to save some face.

◆Get to know the people in your section, because they are the people you will see the most often. Most people continue to room with people who they lived with or near freshman year.

But don't just know the freshmen. The upperclassmen can help you with professors and classes. More importantly, at

least for this semester, only they have cars to escape the Bubble.

The most important person to get to know is your RA, and for purely pragmatic purposes. They can be your best friend or your worst enemy, depending on your relationship with them.

I just threw out a term that might have confused you: "The Bubble." Notre Dame exists as an identity unto itself. We have our own post office, our own fire department, our own police, etc. Most of what you need you can find here on campus.

But the Bubble isn't always a good thing. Experiencing life off-campus can be a great experience, but a trickier one. And partying is just one thing to do off-campus. Just like any town, South Bend has its fair share of stores, bowling alleys and movie theaters. Go to them, have fun off-campus.

Regardless of what you might have heard, not everyone loves Notre Dame, and you have to be careful with what you do off-campus. Don't stay home; just be smart.

This might not be some earth-shattering information, but it should make life easier in the next few days.

Jay Fitzpatrick is a double major in History and Arabic Studies. He used to live in Dillon Hall until moving off-campus. He would like to thank Lennie, Jaytar, Wakim, Healy, Tony, Kevin and Ryan for their continued support. He recently got engaged and would like to assure you that all donations are accepted and appreciated. Send them to Jay at jfitzpa5@nd.edu

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

Play like a champion today

Four years ago this week, it was raining. I was moving onto the third floor into one of Saint Mary's smallest quads with limited elevator access and basement entry. Did I mention it was raining? If all

this wasn't a sign that I made the wrong college decision, I didn't know what was. I was sad to be leaving the life I knew (in Philadelphia) and uprooting to Indiana, as I'm sure many of you were (or still are).

Fast forward four years. I am sad again. But sad for another reason. Sad to be beginning my last year at Saint Mary's. Sad to be doing everything for the last time. To go to my last football game of the season. To celebrate my birthday at school for the last time (which is August 26, if you were wondering). To go to my last pep rally; my last Pigstotal; my last undergraduate classes; my last Observer meeting. It truly is the beginning of the end and while many other seniors out there aren't quite ready to admit their nostalgia, I know you feel my pain.

For this very reason, my friends and I have made a commitment to ourselves and others, and while it is not very origi-

nal, it speaks the truth: Play like a champion today. Your days in college are numbered, unfortunately, so make it count. Don't wait until you're a senior to realize this. Take advantage of all the opportunities here so college really is the best four years of your life. I know it's been mine.

Notre Dame, Ind., is a special place. Sports and nationally-ranking academics aside, Notre Dame and Saint Mary's are unique because of the students they draw. The proverb goes: "A man is judged by the company he keeps" and for any graduate from either school, the saying is all the more poignant. The ND/SMC network reaches from coast to coast and if you haven't already experienced this for yourself, take my word for it. There is a family. There is a connection. There is a shared sense of pride. And the company you keeps here will strengthen this bond.

For all you freshmen, you have four years to nurture this relationship. You have four years to define yourself. And there is no better place to do it than here. Notre Dame and Saint Mary's students are driven, passionate, intelligent and, I like to think, a lot of fun.

Take advantage of the symbiotic relationship between our two schools. Join a club at the other school. Register for an elective across the street. Broaden your horizons. My college experience has been so enhanced by taking advantage of these opportunities. I never thought I'd be the

Assistant Managing Editor of The Observer four years ago, but here I am. I hope you have similar experiences your senior year and can look back on your accomplishments with pride.

Sitting here writing my farewell column makes me realize that the reason it's so hard to picture myself leaving is because I still picture myself arriving. Four years is too fast to sit back and just go through the motions. You have such a unique opportunity here and even though you might not be on the football team, your dorm president, or in the band, there is something here for you that will make you happy. You just have to find it. Good luck.

Katie Kohler is a senior political science major at Saint Mary's. Realizing that this is indeed her last year of college makes her yearn for all the things college, manifesting itself in EZ-Mac and Papa John's binges as well as recreational activities such as Guitar Hero and riding a bike. Besides her superior dancing skills, Dave Matthews impressions, color coordinated spandex and numerous nicknames she has gained over the years, she wants to be remembered by her peers for her love of the song "Sandstorm" by Darude and her sequin-studded wardrobe. Contact her at kkohle01@saintmarys.edu

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

QUOTE OF THE DAY

"Courage is the art of being the only one who knows you're scared to death."

Harold Wilson
former British prime minister

QUOTE OF THE DAY

"The first step to getting the things you want out of life is this: Decide what you want."

Ben Stein
former presidential speech
writer and comedian

QUOTE OF THE DAY

"Education's purpose is to replace an empty mind with an open one."

Malcom Forbes
U.S. author

Campus leaders welcome Class of 2012

Dear Students:

With the beginning of a new academic year, I extend a warm welcome to all new and returning students of the University of Notre Dame. In particular, I wish to congratulate and welcome our freshmen and transfer students. We are excited and grateful that you are here, and we will strive to help you grow during your time at Notre Dame.

Make the most of your time here. Be open to engaging new friends, those who may have very similar, or very different personal stories and perspectives. Embrace each classroom experience as an opportunity to learn, hone your talents and share your ideas. If you live in a residence hall, explore the multiple ways that you can contribute as a leader. When you face challenge, know that you are not alone and do not hesitate to seek support from those around you. Finally, in all that you do, take a few moments each day for personal reflection to refresh your spirit.

One of the primary objectives of Notre Dame, as a Catholic university, is to develop people who will be prepared to make positive contributions to the Church and the world and to confront the challenges of the future. We are confident that you possess the talent and desire to make meaningful and lasting contributions.

Once again, welcome to Notre Dame. May you soon come to feel at home on campus, and to love this place, as do so many graduates of past years. I hope to meet you in person over the course of your time, and throughout that time, I will keep you in my prayers. In Notre Dame,

Reverend John I. Jenkins, C.S.C.
University president
Aug. 22

Welcome to the Notre Dame Family. Whether you join us as a first-year undergraduate, a transfer student or a new graduate/professional student, it is an honor to be among the first to welcome you to the University of Notre Dame.

On behalf of all of us who serve in Student Affairs, we are glad you are here and hope that you will soon feel comfortable calling this place home.

This University offers a host of excellent resources that exist to help you do just that. Our 28 undergraduate residence halls and two graduate residence facilities are at the heart of the sense of community that is one of the most distinctive features of a Notre Dame education. The quality of the student service departments in the Division of Student Affairs is unparalleled; these offices include Alcohol and Drug Education, Campus Ministry, the Career Center, the Counseling Center, the Gender Relations Center, Health Services, International Student Services and Activities, Multicultural Student Programs and Services, the Office of Residence Life and Housing, Notre Dame Security/Police and Student Activities. The staffs in your residence halls and graduate residences are present to assist and to support you in your transition to life at Notre Dame.

Although we provide a variety of services, we share a common desire to do everything we can to help facilitate your intellectual, spiritual and personal growth.

As a community, we draw our strength from the unique and diverse gifts offered by each of you. We hope that all of you will be able to achieve the goals you set for yourselves this year.

I hope that I will have the opportunity to come to know as many of you as possible in the months ahead.

Until I am able to greet you in person, please know that you have my very best wishes for a year filled with all God's blessings.

Father Mark L. Poorman, C.S.C.
vice president for student affairs
Aug. 22

Welcome Class of 2012!

On behalf of the Saint Mary's student body, we are excited for you to join our family. We hope that you will find your special place in this community and allow Saint Mary's to help you discover more truths about yourself.

This is a remarkable year for Saint Mary's. Along with becoming a part of our community and joining the tradition of excellence of Saint Mary's women, you are the first students to experience Spes Unica Hall, our new academic building. We know that you will treasure your time here, as alumnae have before you.

Life at Saint Mary's is about discovering your passions. We encourage you to take advantage of your time both in and out of classes. Learn more about each subject than you are required to know — it will help you stay focused and interested. Form new, lasting friendships. Try new activities to make the most of your experience. During Student Activities Night on Aug. 28, you will have the chance to join some of our many clubs and organizations.

Everyone here wants to help you adjust to college life and ultimately flourish throughout your time here. If you need anything or have any questions, you can contact us at bog@saintmarys.edu, or you can stop by our office located on the second floor of the Student Center, room 225. We cannot wait to meet all of you!

Mickey Gruscinski
Saint Mary's student body president
Sarah Falvey
Saint Mary's student body vice president
Aug. 22

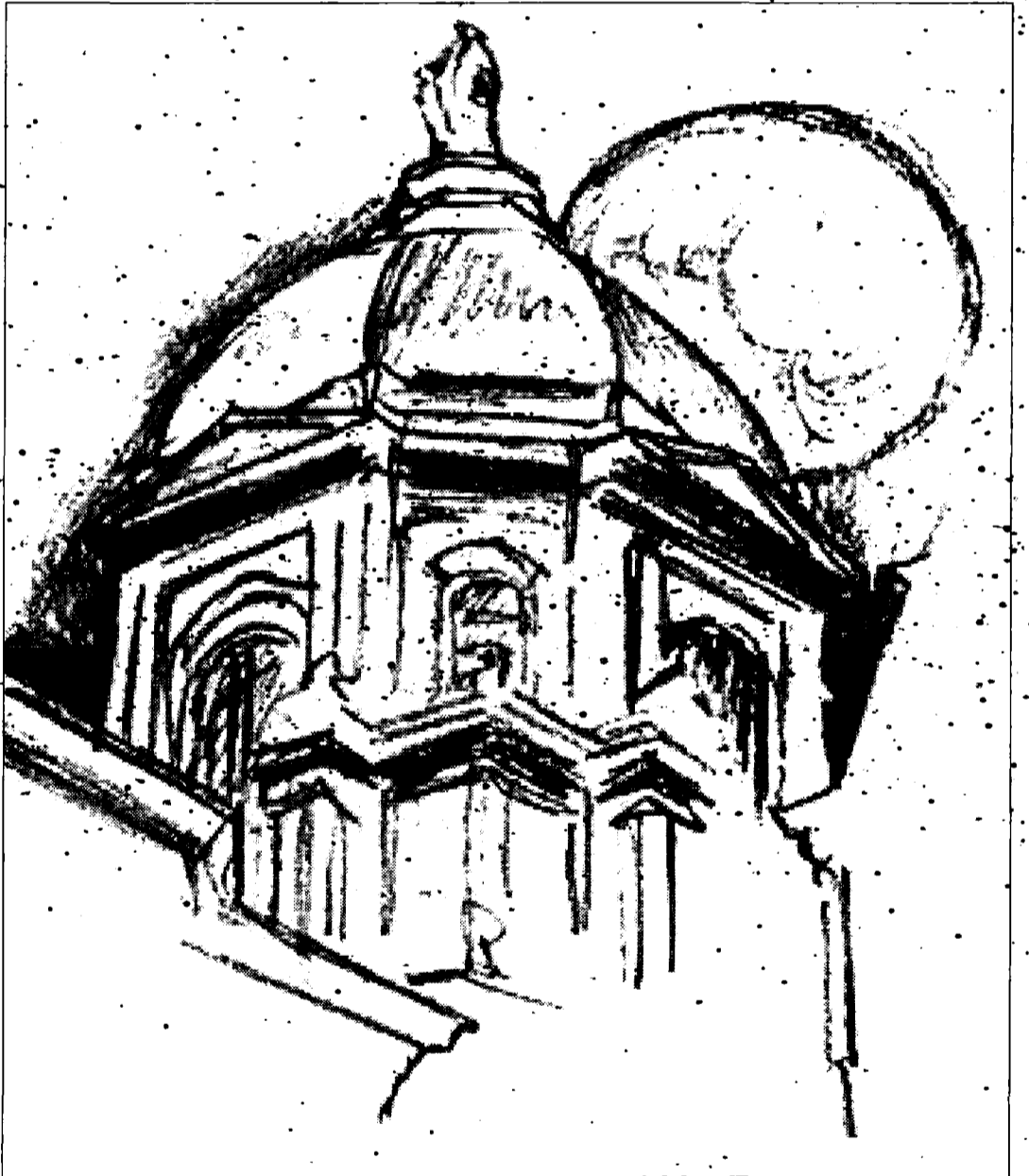
On behalf of the faculty and staff at Saint Mary's College, I extend a warm welcome to the Class of 2012 and to our transfer students. As a graduate of Saint Mary's and now its 11th president, I care deeply about this special place, and about you, our students. As Saint Mary's students, you are following in the footsteps of generations of remarkable, accomplished women, and, like them, your talents will leave your distinct mark on the College.

At Saint Mary's we will challenge you. We will help you learn the extent of your capabilities and how to use them well. You will receive an excellent Holy Cross education — an education that is committed to the development of the whole person.

As a Catholic college, we cherish intellectual pursuits because they enrich our understanding of God and God's creation, which in turn helps us build and sustain more just and equitable communities. We hope one result of your Saint Mary's education is that you will develop a sense of obligation to the common good and that your life and work will reflect that understanding.

We have a proud 164 year tradition of educating women to make a difference in the world. Now it is your turn to make history at Saint Mary's College. I look forward to accompanying you on this journey.

Carol Ann Mooney
College president
Aug. 22



Class of 2012,

Welcome to Notre Dame! Hopefully by now you've been able to unpack, somewhat organize your room and get to know your roommate(s). Most likely, you've gotten lost at least once, seen a ton of new faces and are probably pretty overwhelmed with this new situation. All of these things will only last a few days, and in a week, you will know this place like the back of your hand. In a week, your room will look perfect (this may only last a few days). In a week, you will walk from LaFortune to DeBartolo and see 10 familiar faces. In a week, this place will become ... home. The beauty of this campus, the friendliness and availability of professors, the time spent with your classmates and, of course, Fajita Fridays and Wing Night (trust us, make sure you experience these) all contribute to the incredible environment that you now have the opportunity to live in for the next four years. The SAT and ACT are never to be seen again, and the decision between colleges is over. Our advice to you? Enjoy yourself. Get involved.

Meet new people every day. Laugh. Laugh hard. Challenge yourself. Become engaged. Seize every opportunity this University offers.

Our job, as members of Student Government, is to serve you and to keep you constantly informed of the developments and improvements going on around campus. Keep an eye out for some pretty amazing additions and opportunities that we will be offering throughout the year. Coming up in the next few weeks, you will have an opportunity to join Freshman Class Council or the Flex Program. And if you ever have any questions, please let us know. Seriously, if there is something that frustrates you or you have an amazing idea that could make Notre Dame even better, just email us (studegov@nd.edu) and let us know.

Good luck and go Irish!

Bob Reish
Notre Dame student body president
Grant Schmidt
Notre Dame student body vice president
Aug. 22

Falling into place

A series of missteps — that's probably the best way to describe my life at Notre Dame so far.

For a lot of you, life under the golden dome is a dream come true, a chance to spend four years at a school that you've worked as long as you can remember to get into, well, that wasn't the case for me three years ago.

Figuring out my path at Notre Dame was never a structured route; really it was more a series of events that just sort of happened to fall into place. So for those of you have stepped on this campus, a little weary if you've made the right choice, my advice to you is this: don't worry, Notre Dame is one of those places that even when things are going wrong, in the end, everything falls into place.

I stepped onto campus with no clue of what I wanted to major in or what I wanted to find out, I just sort of happened into things, and looking back, I wouldn't have it any other way. There have been a lot of moments when I felt lost, I made a lot of mistakes, but a lot of those mistakes turned out to be a blessing in disguise.



Deirdre Krasula

Assistant
 Managing
 Editor

There are a lot of things that I definitely didn't plan for. Here are just a few unforeseen events, if you will, that have gotten me to where I am today:

First — I lived in a quad in Badin Hall my freshman year (that's the building with the porch across from CoMo, and yes people live there) with three girls from the Midwest, and being from Long Island, I was a little taken aback. I was paranoid beyond belief that I would have nothing in common with people who live over 800 miles from me. I just moved into an apartment with one of those girls this week — note to myself three years ago, the Midwest is not a foreign country though it may have seemed like it at the time.

Second — I started out as an undeclared Arts and Letters major then switched to the business school the beginning of my sophomore. Right now, I'm working on a double Finance and English major (yes, I know it doesn't make sense, but in the long run I'm hoping that it will work out). Regardless, I plan to go into journalism (fingers-crossed) at the end of the year, and while it may seem that my majors have nothing to do with journalism, I've learned a lot from both. My finance background came in handy this summer when I was sitting in meetings for the Metropolitan Transit Authority attempting to figure out their budget and just a few of the

many many things that were wrong with it. And while analyzing poetry in depth may not interest a lot of people, it doesn't hurt to be able to pound out a five page paper in an hour.

And probably my biggest concern — I always knew that I wanted to go abroad, and I thought that meant going in the spring and not missing football season. It just so happens that I ended up going to London in the fall, and while I missed Notre Dame football, I had a totally different football experience that was life changing (and no I'm not talking about futbol). I ended up interning at the NFL in London, yes American football, for the Giants-Dolphins game. I got to interview players in the locker room and watch a 16-ft robot of Jason Taylor walk around Trafalgar Square. I traded the chance to see the Irish go 3-9 for a chance to see the future Super Bowl Champions play in the pouring rain at one of the best stadiums in the world.

Those are just a few steps along the way that at the time seemed like I was veering off course in the completely wrong direction, but looking back I'm happy with where I've landed. And while those three things were momentous and somewhat life changing I learned a lot of smaller things along the way. Like it may seem that the corner of Angela and 31 is a lot closer if you just take a short cut across the

golf course, but trust me, there's a barbed wire fence on the other side. And the time you could have taken to walk around the golf course is about the same amount of time it will take you to get a tangled shirt out of the fence.

I guess what I'm really getting at is that in your four years here a lot of stuff is going to happen, and there will be moments to freak out, but just keep in the corner of your mind that you're at a school where you will meet people to help you out along the way and somehow things seem to work out, that's just Notre Dame, maybe it has something to do with the luck of the Irish.

Deirdre Krasula is a senior Finance and English major at Notre Dame. She hopes to get a job in journalism in Nowheresville, USA come May, until then she plans on salvaging her final college moments, putting of school work to watch meaningless TV and praying that the Irish can at least make it 4-8 this year. She can likely be found in the corner of party singing along to Miley Cyrus and outdated 80s songs with a few friends at hand. If you have any new song suggestions she can be contacted at dkrasula@nd.edu

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

Welcome to the bubble

Welcome to the bubble.

It's a term that tends to circulate around this campus — the "Notre Dame bubble," that funny, invisible membrane that keeps us in and keeps the world out. We enjoy the safety of our dorm rooms and dining halls. It's a magical world, Hobbes — why would we leave?

The term "Notre Dame bubble" is chronically over-used, but it holds some truth. There's a tendency here (and as a big, bad senior, I can testify to its pervasiveness) to avoid venturing too far outside of our fair brick and cinderblock walls. The bubble is just as much a mental roadblock as it might be a physical one. It's easy to make excuses — no car, no money, or no need to get off the futon and enter the outside world.

Besides, we're intelligent human beings with sophistication and smarts. We take our fashion tips from "In Style," not "Seventeen." We laugh at Wes Anderson movies that our parents don't understand. So long, Rihanna, hello, MGMT. I've got enough 'culture.'



Analise Lipari

Scene Editor

Just let me worry about homework and football tickets.

Like you, I'd like to consider myself well schooled in the cultural side of life, both high and low. Even if I only know one Lou Reed song ("Satellite of Love," actually. Okay, it was in an episode of "Gilmore Girls." Don't judge me), I was psyched when Sony BMG sent a copy of his greatest hits to The Observer office. I'm currently trying to read Henry James's *The Portrait of a Lady*, without missing an episode of "Project Runway." I know the difference between "coloratura" and "recitative," as well as the difference between Miley Cyrus and Selena Gomez. My own blend of nerdiness, sure, but I doubt I'm alone in being a nerd around here.

When I was in high school, my mom used to tell me that I'd love college. At the time, I was reading the *Canterbury Tales* in AP English, and my art classes taught me about Auguste Renoir and Jackson Pollack. I'd always ask her why she thought I was so college-bound. To my mom — and probably to a lot of your parents — college held all kinds of yet-unknown promise for our burgeoning minds. We could study what we liked, indulge our interests, and explore our futures. I couldn't wait to take classes the subjects I loved. I wanted to be a college kid,

just like you.

Now that you're here, that unknown promise is within your grasp. The beautiful thing about the "bubble" is that there's a lot of good stuff inside. And the only way you'll make absolutely, 100 percent sure that you never experience it is if you stay inside your dorm room, the classroom, and your basic routine.

I dare you to get out. Not to get out of campus, meaning to leave — we're psyched to have you, and we won't let you go for the rest of your life. No, I dare you to get off of your new futon, close your door, lock it behind you, and walk away for a few hours. Visit the Snie Museum, and not just for class. Attend a lecture by a visiting scholar on a subject you aren't studying. Domers, go to Saint Mary's. Visit the pasta bar at Dalloway's, and see more shows at Moreau than the Keenan Review. Dig into those pockets and scrounge together fifteen bucks to see world-class entertainment at the DeBartolo Performing Arts Center. When else in your life will performers like the Soweto Gospel Choir and the London Philharmonic fall into your lap? There are multiple theater companies on campus with different shows each semester — go see them.

Where things get really adventurous,

though, is when you finally venture off campus and into that mysterious land known as Michiana. You can't pop the bubble unless you try. I dare you to drop the fear of the unknown, and see more of this corner of the world. Go to the Morris Performing Arts Center. Find a local farmer's market online and go there. See an art show. Settle in at Fiddler's Hearth and listen to Irish music over your fish and chips. Don't be afraid. Just do.

We wonder sometimes about how to build relationships between Notre Dame and Saint Mary's students and the greater South Bend community. I suggest you start small. Buy tickets. See things. Get up and get out.

Pop the bubble — I dare you.

Analise Lipari [li-PEAR-ee, in case you were wondering] is a senior English major who lives in Howard Hall. She hails from beautiful New Hampshire, the greatest state in the Union, and dares you to visit northern New England (in addition to the other amazing things you'll do in your well-educated lives). Just don't go to Vermont. They're kind of weird. Contact Analise Lipari at alipari@nd.edu

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

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Directions to University of Notre Dame, South Bend, IN 46556

 Home

1. Start by unpacking your gear
2. Say goodbye to Mom and Dad
3. Get ready for the best four years of your life
4. But before the football games, SYRs and other campus antics begin, it helps to know your way around as you navigate the twists and turns of life in our corner of the Bend
5. Whether you're looking for an escape from dining hall fare, some peace and quiet to crack open those shiny new textbooks, or just want to check out something new, here are some of the better and lesser known nooks and crannies of campus 
6. So here's the key: green flags stand for grub, blue flags stand for books, and gold flags stand for the unexpected side of campus life 
7. Lastly—welcome home.

 **University of Notre Dame**
North Notre Dame Avenue, South Bend, IN 46556

These directions are for planning purposes only. You may find that construction projects, traffic, weather, or other events may cause conditions to differ from the map results, and you should plan your route accordingly. You must obey all signs or notices regarding your route.

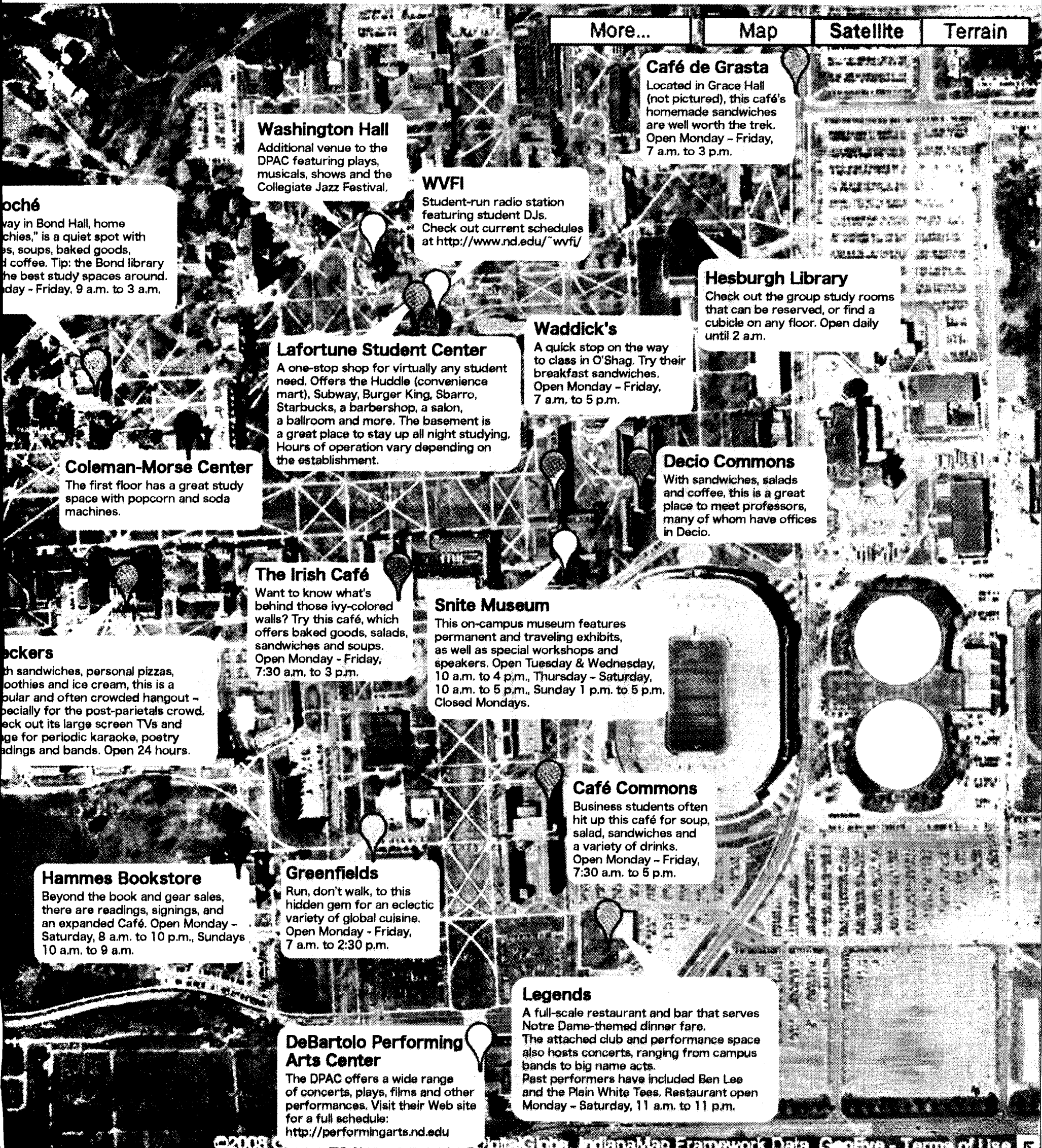
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More...

Map

Satellite

Terrain

Café de Grasta

Located in Grace Hall (not pictured), this café's homemade sandwiches are well worth the trek. Open Monday - Friday, 7 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Washington Hall

Additional venue to the DPAC featuring plays, musicals, shows and the Collegiate Jazz Festival.

WVFI

Student-run radio station featuring student DJs. Check out current schedules at <http://www.nd.edu/~wvfi/>

Roché

Way in Bond Hall, home of "chies," is a quiet spot with soups, baked goods, and coffee. Tip: the Bond library has the best study spaces around. Open Monday - Friday, 9 a.m. to 3 a.m.

Hesburgh Library

Check out the group study rooms that can be reserved, or find a cubicle on any floor. Open daily until 2 a.m.

Lafortune Student Center

A one-stop shop for virtually any student need. Offers the Huddle (convenience mart), Subway, Burger King, Sbarro, Starbucks, a barbershop, a salon, a ballroom and more. The basement is a great place to stay up all night studying. Hours of operation vary depending on the establishment.

Waddick's

A quick stop on the way to class in O'Shag. Try their breakfast sandwiches. Open Monday - Friday, 7 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Coleman-Morse Center

The first floor has a great study space with popcorn and soda machines.

Decio Commons

With sandwiches, salads and coffee, this is a great place to meet professors, many of whom have offices in Decio.

The Irish Café

Want to know what's behind those ivy-colored walls? Try this café, which offers baked goods, salads, sandwiches and soups. Open Monday - Friday, 7:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Snite Museum

This on-campus museum features permanent and traveling exhibits, as well as special workshops and speakers. Open Tuesday & Wednesday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Thursday - Saturday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Sunday 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. Closed Mondays.

Bookers

With sandwiches, personal pizzas, smoothies and ice cream, this is a popular and often crowded hangout - especially for the post-parietals crowd. Check out its large screen TVs and stage for periodic karaoke, poetry readings and bands. Open 24 hours.

Café Commons

Business students often hit up this café for soup, salad, sandwiches and a variety of drinks. Open Monday - Friday, 7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Hammes Bookstore

Beyond the book and gear sales, there are readings, signings, and an expanded Café. Open Monday - Saturday, 8 a.m. to 10 p.m., Sundays 10 a.m. to 9 a.m.

Greenfields

Run, don't walk, to this hidden gem for an eclectic variety of global cuisine. Open Monday - Friday, 7 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Legends

A full-scale restaurant and bar that serves Notre Dame-themed dinner fare. The attached club and performance space also hosts concerts, ranging from campus bands to big name acts. Past performers have included Ben Lee and the Plain White Tees. Restaurant open Monday - Saturday, 11 a.m. to 11 p.m.

DeBartolo Performing Arts Center

The DPAC offers a wide range of concerts, plays, films and other performances. Visit their Web site for a full schedule: <http://performingarts.nd.edu>

OLYMPICS

Investigation continues on Chinese gymnasts

IOC says no proof so far, asks International Gymnastics Federation to review documents of five athletes

Associated Press

BEIJING — China was asked to provide additional documents proving that five of the six members of its gold medal women's gymnastics team were old enough to compete in the Beijing Olympics, in hopes of ending persistent questions about the girls' ages.

The International Olympic Committee said Friday there is still no proof anyone cheated, but it asked gymnastics officials to investigate "what have been a number of questions and apparent discrepancies," spokeswoman Giselle Davies said. The International Gymnastics Federation asked China to submit documents that will further substantiate the ages of He Kexin, Yang Yilin, Jiang Yuyuan, Deng Linlin and Li Shanshan.

The federation said it would forward its conclusions to the IOC. If it finds evidence that the gymnasts were underage, it could affect four of China's six medals. In addition to the team gold and He's gold on uneven bars, Yang won bronze medals in the all-around and bars.

"It is in the interests of all concerned, not least the athletes themselves, to resolve this issue once and for all," the FIG said in a statement.

So far, however, all the information the Chinese gymnastics federation has presented supports its insistence that its athletes were old enough to compete.

"We believe the matter will be put to rest and there's no question ... on the eligibility," Davies said. "The information we have received seems satisfactory in terms of the correct documentation — including birth certificates."

With the games wrapping up Sunday, the IOC wants to quickly end any lingering doubts about underage competitors.

No one would be happier to finally have closure on the controversy than the gymnasts' parents.

China coach Lu Shanzan said the parents are "indig-

nant" over persistent questions about their daughters' ages.

"It's not just me. The parents of our athletes are all very indignant," Lu said. "They have faced groundless suspicion. Why aren't they believed? Why are their children suspected? Their parents are very angry."

In an interview with The Associated Press, Lu said Asian gymnasts are naturally smaller than their American and European rivals.

"At this competition, the Japanese gymnasts were just as small as the Chinese," he said. "Chinese competitors have for years all been small. It is not just this time. It is a question of race. European and American athletes are all powerful, very robust. But Chinese athletes cannot be like that. They are by nature that small."

He said the governing body of gymnastics was given additional documents Thursday night to try to dispel lingering questions. Those documents included He's current and former passport, ID card and family residence permit. Lu said the documents all say she was born in 1992, which would have made her eligible to compete. Gymnasts must turn 16 during the Olympic year to be eligible.

"Surely it's not possible that these documents are still not sufficient proof of her birthdate?" Lu asked. "The passports were issued by the Chinese Foreign Ministry. The identity card was issued by China's Ministry of Public Security. If these valid documents are not enough to clarify this problem, then what will you believe?"

"The Chinese government and the Chinese athletes must be respected," he added.

The coach dismissed Chinese media reports and online records that suggested that He, Yang and a third team member, Jiang Yuyuan, might be as young as 14.

"If you trust every Web site but not a government...," he said. "There are so many Web sites, so much hearsay. These



The Chinese gymnastics team poses with their gold medals Friday. Five of the six members of the women's team are under investigation by the IOC and FIG for competing under the minimum age of 16.

are not official. It is possible that all news on the Internet is accurate?"

The federation has said repeatedly that a passport is the "accepted proof of a gymnast's eligibility," and that China's gymnasts have presented ones that show they are age eligible. The IOC also checked the girls' passports and deemed them valid before the games began.

Neither the IOC nor the FIG gave details on what new information prompted it to act now, three days after the gymnastics competition ended.

"With some questions still remaining, we asked the federation to take a closer look," Davies said.

The U.S. Olympic Committee said it sent a letter to the IOC and the FIG on Friday, asking that the matter be resolved.

"We certainly believe that it's important for the IOC and the international federation to review the issue and hopefully lay it to rest because the questions surrounding the age of some of the athletes have been out there for quite a while and it's unfair to them and unfair to the other athletes to continue to linger," USOC chief executive Jim Scherr said.

"So we have sent a letter to the IOC and to the international federation asking them to review the matter and see if they can't resolve it for the

good of the competition, the integrity of the competition and the good of all the athletes."

The Chinese women won six medals, including the team gold and He's gold on uneven bars. Media reports include a Nov. 3 story by the Chinese government's news agency, Xinhua, that suggest He is only 14. Asked again earlier this week about her age after winning the uneven bars title, beating American Nastia Liukin in a tiebreak, she said: "I was born in 1992, and I'm 16 years old now," He said. "The FIG has proved that. If I'm under 16, I couldn't have been competing here."

Earlier this month, the AP found registration lists previously posted on the Web site of the General Administration of Sport of China that showed both He and Yang were too young to compete. He was born Jan. 1, 1994, according to the 2005, 2006 and 2007 registration lists. Yang was born Aug. 26, 1993, according to the 2004, 2005 and 2006 registration lists. In the 2007 registration list, however, her birthday has changed to Aug. 26, 1992.

"We played fair at this Olympic Games," Liukin's father and coach, Valeri, said after they arrived back in the United States. "... If somebody cheated, shame on them."

Added Steve Penny, presi-

dent of USA Gymnastics: "USA Gymnastics has always believed this issue needed to be addressed by the FIG and IOC. An investigation would help bring closure to the issue and remove any cloud of speculation from this competition."

Age falsification has been a problem in gymnastics since the 1980s after the minimum age was raised from 14 to 15 to protect young athletes from serious injuries. The minimum age was raised to its current 16 in 1997. Younger gymnasts are considered to have an advantage because they are more flexible and are likely to have an easier time doing the tough skills the sport requires. They also aren't as likely to have a history of injuries or fear of failure.

North Korea was barred from the 1993 world championships after FIG officials discovered Kim Gwang Suk, the gold medalist on uneven bars in 1991, was listed as 15 for three years in a row. Romania admitted in 2002 that several gymnasts' ages had been falsified, including Olympic medalists Gina Gogean and Alexandra Marinescu.

Even China's own Yang Yun, a double bronze medalist in Sydney, said during an interview aired on state broadcaster China Central Television that she was 14 during the 2000 Games.

CLASSIFIEDS

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

NOTICES

WELCOME BACK!!!

FOR RENT

1-bdrm apt.

All utilities except electric.

Close to ND. \$550/mo.

Call Joe 574-514-0900.

3-4 bdrm, 2 full bath house.

New construction. 1 mile to ND.

Laundry, C/A, and more. \$1,000/mo.

Call Joe 574-514-0900.

Roommate wanted.

New home. \$450/mo. includes utilities. Close to ND.

Call Joe 574-514-0900.

WANTED

SOCCER REFEREES Needed for 2008 Fall Season - The Stanley Clark School, a south side elementary/middle school is located north of Erskine Golf Course on Miami Street. Soccer referees are needed for 5-6th grade and 7-8th grade girls and boys soccer matches. Pay is \$35 per game to licensed referees. If interested, please contact Caryn MacKenzie, Athletic Director, at Stanley Clark School at 574-291-4200.

PERSONAL

Hill

UNPLANNED PREGNANCY? Do not go it alone. We have many resources in place to assist you. If you or someone you love needs confidential support or assistance, please call Sr. Sue Dunn at 1-7819 or Ann Firth at 1-2685. For more information, visit ND's Pregnancy Resources website at: <http://osa.nd.edu/departments/pregnant.shtml>

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

Deirdre forgot the cream cheese. Now she must die.

Jay's top five NBA centers:
1. Bill Russell
2. Wilt Chamberlain
3. Kareem Abdul-Jabbar
4. Hakeem Olajuwon
5. Shaquille O'Neal

We should have taken shifts.

Manu Ginobili is the enemy.

Were no strangers to love
You know the rules and so do I
A full commitments what Im thinking of
You wouldnt get this from any other guy

I just wanna tell you how Im feeling
Gotta make you understand

Never gonna give you up
Never gonna let you down
Never gonna run around and desert you
Never gonna make you cry
Never gonna say goodbye
Never gonna tell a lie and hurt you

Best Wishes

for the 2008-2009 Academic Year

From the Division of Student Affairs

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Ms. Ann Firth

Associate VP for Student Affairs
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Assistant VP for Student Activities
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204 St. Liam Hall
631-7970

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8/29 AT 8PM | THE SHOW
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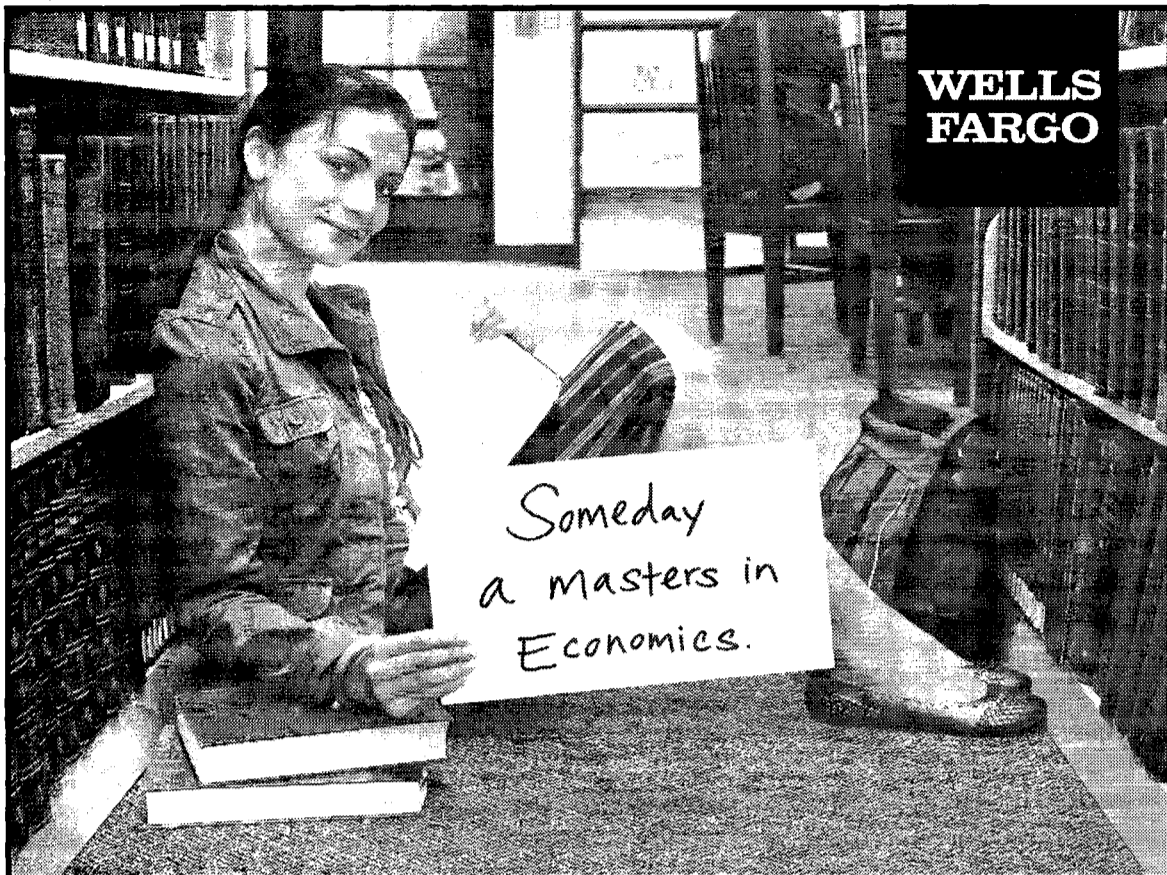
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SMC CROSS COUNTRY

Belles hope youth can replace Gray

By KATE GRABAREK
Sports Writer

Saint Mary's will look to continue its upswing as a program without the most decorated runner in school history.

Megan Gray became the first Belles runner to qualify for the NCAA championships and was named a first-team all-MIAA selection — accomplishing each feat in both her junior and senior seasons.

"The team is definitely missing Megan," Belles coach Jackie Bauters said. "It's always hard when someone as talented and influential as Megan graduates, but this should be a great year for us to develop our younger talent and maximize the potential in our upperclassmen."

Last year's standout freshman, Samantha Wiczorek, is currently out with a knee injury so Bauters will look for

some new faces to lead a team that includes four freshmen.

"Unfortunately our No. 2, Sam Wiczorek, from last year is still recovering from an after-season injury, so we'll be looking for people to step up in many areas," Bauters said. "I'm looking forward to seeing how our freshman can contribute to the team. Next, I think there are some sophomores and juniors that are still discovering their potential — Catie Salyer, Clare McVey...the list goes on of sophomores that have so much more in them."

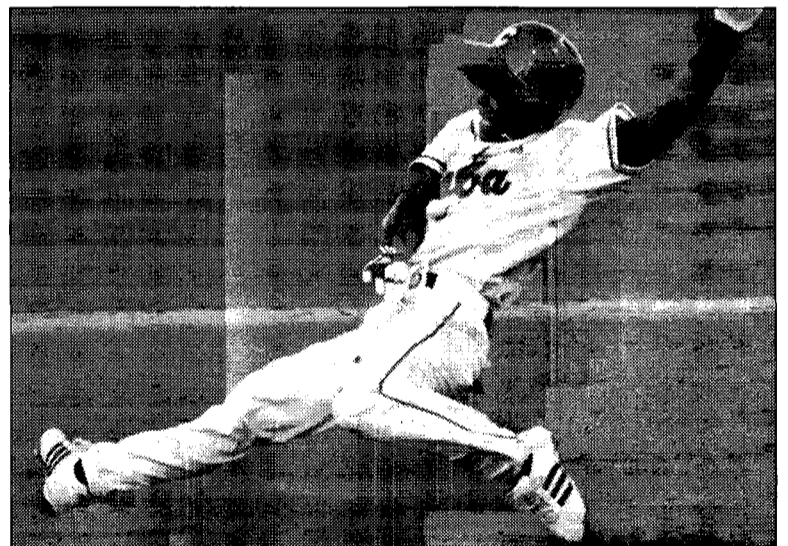
The Belles will have six seniors this season, including returning captains Caitlin Brodmerkel and Alicen Miller.

Saint Mary's will also host two events — the season-opening Alumnae event on Aug. 30 and the MIAA Jamboree on Sept. 26.

Contact Kate Grabarek at kgraba01@saintmarys.edu

OLYMPICS

Cuba knocks out USA in baseball semifinals



Cuba's Alexei Bell is hit by a ball as he slides into second base during an attempted steal in Friday's 10-2 victory over the U.S.

Associated Press

BEIJING — The U.S. baseball team will find no gold in Beijing. And Cuba is back in a place it knows so well — playing for another Olympic title.

Alexei Bell hit a three-run homer in the eighth to put the punctuation mark on the Cubans' 10-2 rout of the United States on Friday night.

He raised his hand to signal No. 1 while rounding the bases, then Ariel Pestano added his own three-run shot three batters later to seal it.

Alfredo Despaigne hit his second homer against the Americans this tournament and Frederich Cepeda also connected.

Anything less than gold will be considered a failure for the Cubans, who have won three of the previous four Olympic tournaments since baseball became a medal sport in 1992.

Cuba (7-1) will play Saturday night against unbeaten South

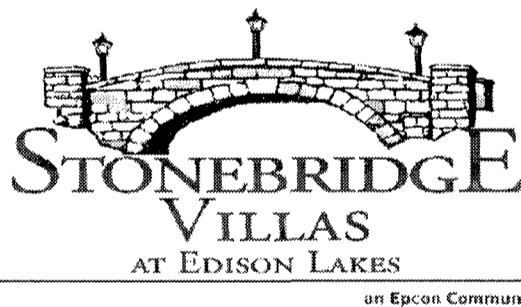
Korea (8-0), and the U.S. (5-3) will face Japan for bronze in the first game of the day. South Korea past Japan 6-2 in Friday's first semifinal.

After the final out, the Cubans celebrated mildly on the mound. The Cuban team includes Antonio Castro, the team doctor and son of the country's former president.

Cuba finished runner-up to the U.S. in 2000 at the Sydney Olympics before winning again four years later in Athens. Winning gold in China might mean even more to the island, considering baseball will come off the Olympic program for the 2012 London Games and might not be back.

Wukesong Stadium was nearly full save for a few open seats in the outfield bleachers. Cuba's fans chanted of "Let's go Cuba!" in Chinese, standing to clap and wave their country's flag. They even had their share of supporters from China.

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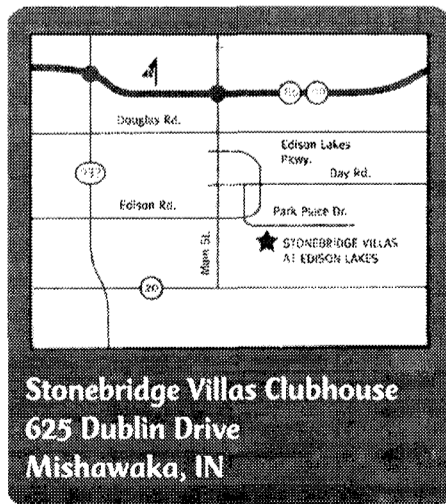
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OLYMPICS

Bolt, Jamaica take gold in men's relay

"World's fastest man" earns third gold medal; relay sets new world record with win

Associated Press

BEIJING — Yelling at his teammate after handing off the baton, Usain Bolt saw another world record in reach.

It was just a matter of time.

Asafa Powell took the baton from Bolt and did the honors in the anchor leg of the men's 400-meter relay Friday, finishing the race in 37.10 seconds to shatter a 16-year-old mark and bring yet another gold medal home to Jamaica.

"It's wonderful," Bolt said. "You can't explain the feeling you feel after the greatest Olympics ever."

There's no other way to define it for the 6-foot-5, 22-year-old sprinter, the likes of which the world has never seen.

Three races. Three gold medals. Three world records.

That's never happened before.

Bolt also became only the fourth man, and the first since Carl Lewis in 1984, to win all three Olympic sprint events.

His three gold medals are exceeded in these games only by the record eight for American swimmer Michael Phelps. British cyclist Chris Hoy and Chinese gymnast Zou Kai of China also won three.

Bolt got to share his final chapter with Powell, who held the world record in the 100 for about three years before Bolt took it over in May — then broke it again last Saturday in a hot-dogging 9.69 seconds at the Bird's Nest.

After finishing fifth in the last two Olympic 100s, Powell had the reputation as a great runner who couldn't handle pressure.

By the time he took the handoff from Bolt, his first Olympic medal was secure. It was a only a matter of chasing history. Just as Bolt had done when he ran 19.30 in the 200 to break Michael Johnson's mark, Powell drove hard to the finish, leaning at the line, and then looked at the clock.

37.10.
That was 0.3 second better than the mark first set by an American team featuring Lewis and Leroy Burrell at the Barcelona Olympics in 1992 and tied at the world championships a year later.

"I pushed myself to help Usain and his quest for three gold medals," Powell said.

Powell crossed 0.96 second ahead of Trinidad and Tobago's Richard Thompson — the biggest margin in the Olympics since 1936. Japan took the bronze.

"We simply couldn't compete," said Thompson's teammate, Marc Burns.

The United States didn't qualify for the final after

dropping the baton in qualifying.

America's absence from this race because of the baton mishap eliminated any real competition for the Jamaicans. But even had Tyson Gay and Co. been on the track, it's hard to imagine anyone beating a team with Bolt and Powell.

It was still a race after Nesta Carter and Michael Frater completed the first two legs. But moments after Frater handed off to Bolt, the race became a rout. And when Bolt handed off to Powell, Powell's quest became very much like Bolt's was two nights previous in the 200 — not simply to win, but to own a slice of history.

When the race ended, Bolt greeted Powell. They hugged and found some Jamaican flags to wear around their shoulders as the familiar reggae music filled the stadium.

While Bolt finished a perfect Olympics with the relay, the Jamaican women fell one race short of only the second 6-for-6 sweep by any country in Olympic sprint history — and only because they beat themselves.

Sherone Simpson and Kerron Stewart botched the handoff between the second and third legs and Jamaica didn't finish the race won by Russia. Still, nobody beat the Jamaicans in any sprint they finished at these games.

Counting a gold in the women's 400 hurdles, Jamaica has six gold medals with one day left. That's one more than the United States, which won its fifth when Bryan Clay wrapped up the decathlon title moments before the men's relay.

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SMC SOCCER

Belles welcome new head coach, players

Crabbe, former assistant coach at Columbus State University, has high hopes for SMC

By ALEX BARKER
Sports Writer

When Saint Mary's returns to the field this season, their sideline will feature some new faces.

Ryan Crabbe will take over the reins of the program this season, replacing Caryn MacKenzie as the Belles' new head coach. Crabbe will become the first full-time soccer coach at Saint Mary's.

"I think this is a great time for Saint Mary's soccer," Crabbe said. "Having a full-time coach means having a full-time resource. It shows an even greater commitment to the student-athletes on behalf of the college."

Crabbe will have a strong nucleus of 12 veterans and 12 newcomers to work with this season as he attempts to improve on last year's 7-5-5 record and fifth-place finish in the MIAA.

"My immediate goal will be bringing together our team of returning players and new players. Finding out their strengths and weaknesses and evaluating them as players will be the number one priority heading into the season," he said. "Long term, my goal for this team is to compete for and win the conference championship and

ultimately play for a berth in the NCAA Tournament."

Before being hired at Saint Mary's, Crabbe served as the assistant coach at Columbus State University for three seasons. During his tenure with the Cougars, he helped guide them to consecutive Peach Belt tournament championships in 2006 and 2007. In addition to their post-season success, Columbus State won their conference's regular season title during all three seasons he was there.

Crabbe is looking forward to this opportunity of becoming a first-time head coach.

"In terms of transitioning from assistant to head coach, there is certainly a large

increase in responsibility both on and off the field. I am excited about the opportunity because I feel like the experience gained from my last program has prepared me for this chance," he said.

Saint Mary's is coming off their fourth winning season in the past five years and will be returning their two top scorers from 2007, Senior forward Lauren Hinton and Junior midfielder Katy Durkin.

Contact Alex Barker at abarker@nd.edu

"I think this is a great time for Saint Mary's soccer."

Ryan Crabbe
Belles coach

OLYMPICS

Clay wins decathlon gold

Athlete becomes first American to win the event since Atlanta games

Associated Press

BEIJING — Bryan Clay sat on the track, then plopped on his back, chest heaving. The American's head was resting a couple of feet beyond the finish line he had just crossed as the Olympic decathlon gold medalist.

Four years after settling for silver at the Summer Games, Clay finished with 8,791 points to win the 10-discipline event.

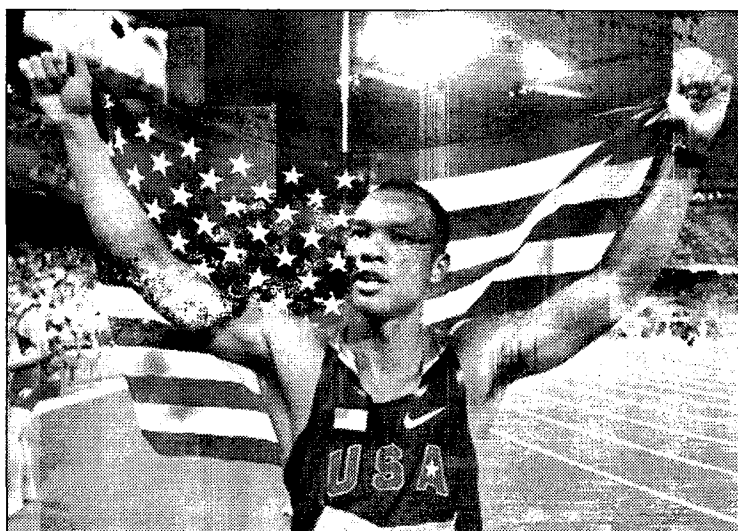
Andrei Krauchanka of Belarus took the silver with 8,551, and Leonel Suarez of Cuba was third with 8,527.

Roman Sebrle of the Czech Republic, the 2004 Olympic and 2005 world champion, finished sixth.

The 5-foot-11, 185-pound Clay is the first American to win the decathlon since Dan O'Brien at the 1996 Atlanta Olympics.

The event began Thursday morning in the rain and finished on a muggy night at the Bird's Nest with the javelin and 1,500 meters.

Already holding a comfortable lead, Clay was able to take it relatively easy in the event-ending 1,500, finishing in 5 minutes, 6.59 seconds.



Bryan Clay takes a victory lap after winning the decathlon in Beijing Friday. Clay scored a total of 8791 points to take gold.

In his three events during Friday's daytime session, Clay was second-fastest in the 110 meter hurdles at 13.93 seconds, set an Olympic best in the discus at 176 feet, 5 inches (53.79 meters), then cleared 16-43/4 (5.00 meters) in the pole vault, tied for second-best in the competition.

Trey Hardee, NCAA champion for Texas in 2005 and runner-up to Clay at this year's U.S. trials, was a close fourth through seven events but failed to clear

his opening height in the pole vault and did not finish.

He missed three times at 15-5 (4.70 meters), spoiling a chance for the United States to win two medals in the decathlon for the first time since Milt Campbell and Rafer Johnson went 1-2 at the 1956 Melbourne Games.

Clay led the decathlon overall standings since winning the first event, the 100 meters, in a driving rain.

Ukrainian's medal stripped

Associated Press

BEIJING — Lyudmila Blonska was stripped of her Olympic heptathlon silver medal Friday, the highest-profile athlete kicked out of the Beijing Games so far for doping.

The International Olympic Committee said Blonska tested positive for the steroid methyltestosterone after finishing second in the heptathlon last Saturday behind teammate Nataliia Dobrynska.

Blonska was temporarily suspended by the IOC on

Thursday, and her medal was officially removed Friday by the IOC executive board.

Blonska, who blamed her coach and husband for the positive test, also was dropped from Friday's long jump final after finishing third in qualifying earlier in the week. Nigeria's Blessing Okagbare advanced to the final in her place and won the bronze medal Friday.

The IOC also has asked the International Association of Athletics Federations to adjust the heptathlon results and consider further sanctions against Blonska.

The Ukrainian Olympic

committee was ordered to return Blonska's medal "as soon as possible."

American Hyleas Fountain is in line to take the silver, with Russia's Tatiana Chernova moving from fourth to bronze.

The IOC also reserved the right to take sanctions against Blonska's coach and husband, Sergei Blonsky.

The 30-year-old Blonska faces a lifetime ban for a second doping offense. She was suspended from 2003-05 for using the steroid stanozolol.

Blonska's backup "B" sample came back positive Thursday.



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OLYMPICS

Redeem Team defeats Argentina in semifinals

Carmelo Anthony scores 21; United States wins 101-81, moves on to face Spain in the gold-medal game

Associated Press

BELJING — The climb back to the top is nearly complete. One more win and U.S. basketball is golden again.

The Americans ended their streak of final four flops and Argentina's hopes of an Olympic gold-medal repeat, starting fast and finishing strong in a 101-81 semifinal victory Friday.

All that is left is what the U.S. players came for: a gold medal.

The United States scored 21 of the first 25 points, got a big break when Argentina star Manu Ginobili reinjured his left ankle, and surged into its first gold-medal game in eight years.

There is still 40 minutes to go, but this U.S. team looks good as gold. All the Americans have to do now is beat Spain, who they clobbered by 37 points in pool play, on Sunday to win their first gold in a major international event since the 2000 Olympics.

What followed was a frustrating and embarrassing stretch in which they could not even make the podium in the 2002 world championships, then managed only bronze medals after losing in the semis of the 2004 Athens Games and 2006 worlds.

Carmelo Anthony and LeBron James were part of those bronze busts, and vowed they would leave China with gold. Anthony scored 21 points and James added 15, 13 in the second half.

Luis Scola scored 28 points for Argentina, which did not relinquish its title without a fight. Even without Ginobili for the final three and a half quarters, the Argentines cut a 21-point lead into single digits and frustrated the Americans with their physical play, but they did not have enough depth or firepower without their best player.

Lithuania and Argentina will meet Sunday for the bronze. Spain beat Lithuania 91-86 in the first semifinal.

When the Americans fell from the top of world basketball, it was Argentina as much as anyone who took their place — and hastened their fall. The Argentines, with Ginobili's flair and Scola's force, won gold in 2004 and silver in the 2002 world championships, beating the United States in both tournaments. The victory in Indianapolis was the first time a U.S. team lost with NBA players.

They knocked off the Americans again four years ago in the semis, and Bryant said two nights ago he wanted to

face Argentina in this round.

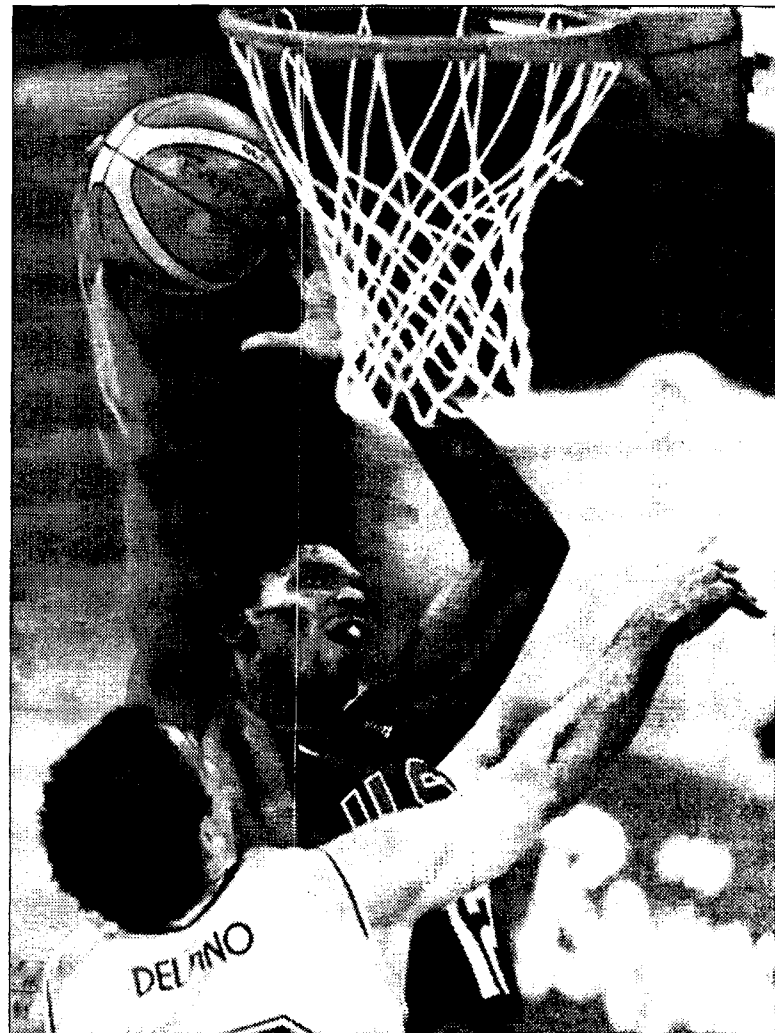
Now Argentina's time has passed. The Americans want their spot back.

The U.S. lead was already 10 points when Ginobili, who came in leading the tournament with 20.3 points per game, went down in a play away from the ball, limped to the sideline and took off his left sneaker after reinjuring the same ankle that slowed him so badly in the Western Conference finals.

The Americans extended the lead to 21-4 and were up by 21 early in the second quarter. But they went ice cold against Argentina's zone, committed some silly fouls that gave away free points at the line, and saw the lead trimmed all the way down to 46-40 on a basket by Scola in the final minute of the half.

James was not with his teammates when the starting lineups were announced, having to sprint out from the back after his name was called. Then he was curiously absent in the first half, managing only two points.

He scored five quick ones in the third quarter, teaming with Dwight Howard to help the Americans break it open again. Anthony got mixed up in some chippy play with Scola and Andres Nocioni, but kept his poise and scored eight points in



United States forward Chris Bosh, 12, puts up a shot against Argentina's Carlos Delfino during the semifinal game Friday.

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ND VOLLEYBALL

Preseason hopes high despite last season's results

Big East coaches 'have not been in the gym' with Irish; team won't have superstars but will be balanced

By JARED JEDICK
Sports Writer

Coming off one of the most disappointing years in head coach Debbie Brown's tenure, the Irish volleyball team is looking for vast improvement and a quick turnaround in the upcoming season.

"We are expecting a lot more from ourselves this year," Brown said. "Last year was by far our worst finish since I have been here. We need to improve tremendously."

The team has no shortage of expectations and goals this year, Brown said.

"We want to win the Big East and advance significantly in the NCAA tournament," Brown said.

Standing in their way is an impressive Big East field, with

the Irish ranked fourth behind Louisville, St. John's and Cincinnati in the Big East preseason coaches poll. Brown said this ranking is more indicative of last year's results, a 15-13 record and a second-round exit from the Big East tournament, and not of the team's current make-up.

"That ranking is about where we deserve to be based on how we finished up last season," Brown said. "But those coaches have not been in the gym with us this summer and they do not know where we are at."

Brown likes the underdog role, preferring the opportunity to move up the standings than having to worry about sliding down.

"We are expecting a lot more from ourselves. Last year was by far our worst finish since I have been here. We need to improve tremendously."

Debbie Brown
Irish coach

"It can be a motivating factor," Brown said. "We need to play well and move up in order to change their thoughts."

The Irish will have a tough time filling the shoes of graduated players Adrianna Stasiuk and Ashley Tarutis, but Brown believes she has the team to

to make up, but we will counter it with a very balanced and deep team," Brown said.

Senior middle blocker Justine Stremick and junior outside hitter Serinity Phillips were both voted to the preseason all-Big East squad this year, improving on their second-team all-Big East honors last year.

Even with these accolades going to individual players, Brown said she doesn't think they will have any players that stand out from the rest of the team. Instead she wants a more collective feel to the team, stressing balance and

depth across the floor.

"I do not think we are going to have any superstars," Brown said. "We are going to be balanced and deep."

"The team is really disciplined and put all they have into academics. They are more serious about their academics than their volleyball."

Debbie Brown
Irish coach

The new mantra for the team this year that Brown stresses is balance and depth. Brown wants to get contributions from everyone.

Joining the team will be a couple promising freshman looking to make some of

those contributions. Setter Beth Wildermuth, defensive specialist Frenchy Silva, middle blocker Megan Barnicle, and outside hitter Kristen Dealy are mixing well into the team in their first season.

"The freshmen are all doing outstanding," Brown said. "So far they are fitting in well with the team and responding to coaching. I expect them to do a lot of contributing in the upcoming season."

This combination of experienced upperclassmen and new freshman who can make an impact early will contribute to Brown's mantra of balance and depth.

The Irish also excel off the court in the classroom, as they received The American Volleyball Coaches Association (AVCA) Team Academic Award. To earn this award, the Irish had to score over a 3.30 cumulative team grade-point-average on a 4.0 scale. The Irish blew this away with a 3.44 cumulative team GPA over the last year.

"The team is really disciplined and put all they have into their academics," Brown said. "They are more serious about their academics than their volleyball."

This discipline both on and off the court will be key if the Irish are to reclaim the top spot in the Big East.

Contact Jared Jedick at
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ND WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

With Allen gone, Irish need others to step up

Talented freshmen class, returning weapons will help fill the gap left by the starting guard and leading scorer

By JAY FITZPATRICK
Sports Writer

When guard Charel Allen graduated from Notre Dame in the spring, she left a seemingly gaping hole in the Irish program. Allen's name is littered throughout the Irish record book, and she will go down as one of the best all-around players in Irish history, with 1,566 points, 656 rebounds, 239 assists and 206 steals in her career.

But Allen isn't the only major personnel loss for the Irish for the 2008-09 campaign. Point guard Tulyah Gaines also graduated, meaning both positions in the starting Irish backcourt will need replacement.

Despite these two key losses, Irish coach Muffet McGraw is confident that her team can reload quickly for another strong performance in the upcoming season.

"When you lose your starting point guard and your leading scorer, it leaves a lot of holes," she said. "That leaves a lot of opportunities for the freshmen."

McGraw's rookies this season mark another strong recruiting class for the Irish coach. In the last 12 years, only Notre Dame, Connecticut and Tennessee have had a Top 25 recruiting class every season.

Notre Dame added four players this year: guards Natalie Novosel and Fraderica Miller and forwards Kellie Watson and Erica Solomon.

The freshmen, with an average height of just over 6 feet, add a significant amount of height to the roster, but McGraw said she will not drastically change her gameplan for the season.

Another advantage the freshman class brings to the squad is its versatility. McGraw said Watson, who is listed as a forward, played guard and forward in high school, including some time at the point. Solomon will add depth to the post, along with junior center Erica Williamson and sophomore forward Becca Bruszewski.

But the freshmen alone can't account for all of the points this season. McGraw said she expects the veterans to continue to contribute this season.

"We are going to need a lot of people doing a little bit more," McGraw said.

Specifically in the backcourt, McGraw said she will look for junior Ashley Barlow and senior Lindsay Schrader to continue scoring like they did last year. The two were second and third as scorers for the Irish last season with 12.1 points per game and 10.3 points per game, respectively.

McGraw also said she expects sophomore guard Brittany Mallory to be the team's long-distance threat again. The 5-foot-10 guard shot 38.2 percent from 3-point distance in conference-play last season — the team's second best shooter from that range. (Allen led the

team with 47 percent).

Bruszewski and Williamson will anchor the front-court for the Irish again this season.

Bruszewski finished last season as the team's Most Improved Player, as voted on by her teammates, and scored in double figures in two of the team's three N C A A Tournament games.

One key component returning this year for the Irish is sophomore forward Devereaux Peters, who missed half of last season recovering from an tear in her anterior cruciate liga-

ment (ACL) against Pittsburgh on Feb. 10. Peters scored 9.0 points per game and led the team with 45 blocks last season.

"When you lose your starting point guard and your leading scorer, it leaves a lot of holes. That leaves a lot of opportunities for the freshmen."

Muffet McGraw
Irish coach

McGraw said Peters' rehab for her knee was going well and that she started running again a couple weeks ago.

"She is right on schedule," McGraw said. "We expect her to be ready for the first day of practice."

Although McGraw said she does not know who specifically will pick up the scoring slack, she said she is confident in Gaines' replacement at the point.

"Melissa Lechlitner will be the starting point guard. I am confident in her; she is a great leader from the point guard position," McGraw said.

McGraw said the team's goals this year remain the same, even with losing Allen and Gaines.

"We went to the Sweet 16 last year and we want to get back," she said. "We would also like to do well in the Big East, which is something we did not do last year."

In the 2008 Big East tournament, the Irish came in as the No. 3-seed, but fell in the second round to Pittsburgh 64-53.

Notes:

◆ McGraw received a contract extension at the end of last season, guaranteeing her a place at Notre Dame

through the 2014-15 season. McGraw has taken the Irish to 13 consecutive NCAA Tournaments and 15 overall in her previous 21 years at the helm.

"It is an honor to represent Notre Dame," McGraw said. "I feel like I'm still in my first years with my emotions and my passion for coaching."

◆ Irish assistant coach Jonathan Tsipis was promoted to associate head coach earlier this summer. Tsipis will continue to coach the Irish wing players and is also the team's recruiting coordinator.

"He has made major contributions to the program and is indispensable to me," McGraw said.

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MEN'S GOLF

Golfers return from Ireland ready for fall

By **MICHAEL BLASCO**
Sports Writer

A leg up on the competition never hurts, and the Notre Dame men's golf team got a big one on its recent trip.

Nine returning members of the Notre Dame men's golf team came back to South Bend last Saturday after a week-long trip to Ireland. The Irish spent the week in Killarney, Co. Kerry, a picturesque town in southern Ireland famous for the links-style golf courses in the area. The team, accompanied by coaches Jim Kubinski and Steve Colnitis, as well as several guests, played several matches at the local clubs.

Head coach Kubinski kept a daily blog during the trip. In his concluding remarks, he offers a warm opinion of his stay in Ireland.

"It was an incredible week in so many ways," Kubinski wrote. "We ate well, stayed comfortably, were treated exceptionally well and played some of the greatest courses in the world. We were truly blessed to have experienced a week of golf in Ireland...[it] will surely become a lifelong memory."

Despite rainy and blustery weather, Notre Dame golfers outscored the locals on their own courses, posting a 6-1 record against the Waterville and Tralee Junior Clubs. The golfers often battled heavy winds, which occasionally reached 40 miles per hour on the unforgiving links courses. Junior Doug Fortner had a particularly memorable trip, shooting a 67 at Ballybunion and a 70

at Tralee, two of the most demanding courses in the world.

Several weeks before accompanying the golfers on their trip, Kubinski agreed to terms on a multi-year extension with the University. Kubinski, in his fourth year with the Irish, has guided the program to consecutive Big East Conference titles in

"When I was hired, I said that coaching at Notre Dame was a dream come true. This is where I want to be, and it couldn't be at a better time ... the future looks very bright."

Jim Kubinski
Irish coach

2005 and 2006, as well as the top three single season scoring averages in Notre Dame history.

"I'm absolutely thrilled to be continuing what we've started to build here at Notre Dame," Kubinski said. "When I was hired, I said that coaching at Notre Dame was a dream come true. This is where I want to be, and it couldn't be at a better time. Our program has made great strides and, given our returning roster and recruiting efforts, the future looks very bright."

A graduate of Springfield College, Kubinski came to the Irish in January 2005 after two seasons as an assistant at Duke University. In 2007, Golf Magazine listed Kubinski among the top 100 golf instructors in the United States.

"It's a special place and a special time," Kubinski said. "I'll continue to play whatever small role I can in building on those things [that improve the program]."

Notre Dame formally begins its fall campaign at the USF Olympic Club Intercollegiate Tournament on September 8th, at the Olympic Club in Daly City, Calif.

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Freshmen

continued from page 32

to face national powers Santa Clara, North Carolina and Duke in early-season contests.

"We're very excited. We've bitten off a big, big schedule," Waldrum said.

Despite the daunting matchups, Waldrum said his team's upperclassmen provide the leadership needed for a grueling season. Seniors Carrie Dew and Brittany Bock have been voted captains.

"They are two good selections," Waldrum said of Dew and Bock. "They are both key players for us who are also hardworking and committed. They're just what you'd want out of your captains."

In addition to the pair of captains, Waldrum said seniors like Kerri Hanks, Rebecca Mendoza and Kerry Inglis provide vital leadership for a team with so many first-year players.

"I think we have a great core group of senior leadership," Waldrum said.

But the coach knows that it will not be easy for his club to match last year's success. For that reason, he said the Irish must concentrate on just one opponent at a time.

"We're taking the approach of game-by-game, trying to win," Waldrum said. "We take that approach every year and it's worked out for us most of the time."

Contact Fran Tolan at ftolan@nd.edu

NFL

Union head Upshaw dies

Associated Press

NEW YORK — Gene Upshaw was a punishing blocker who intimidated opponents on the field. Off it, his power was greater.

A Hall of Fame guard for the Oakland Raiders, Upshaw died Wednesday at age 63 from pancreatic cancer, an illness he only learned about Sunday. His death cut short a 25-year, post-playing career as union boss in which he led NFL players to riches that would have been almost unimaginable when he was a rookie in 1967.

"The Raider organization, the National Football League, and the world have lost a great man," Raiders founder Al Davis said. "He is as prominent a sportsman as the world has known."

The unexpected nature of Upshaw's death shocked people throughout the NFL. This was a towering man who played 15 years — all for an Oakland team that reached the Super Bowl three times and won twice.

Upshaw died Wednesday night at his home near California's Lake Tahoe, the

NFL Players Association said Thursday. His wife Terri and sons Eugene Jr., Justin and Daniel were by his side. NFLPA president and Tennessee Titans center Kevin Mawae said Upshaw was diagnosed Sunday after he fell ill and his wife took him to the hospital.

In the wake of his death, many of those who had made him the focal point for their complaints over pension and health benefits for retired players softened the rhetoric and spoke of their respect for Upshaw.

As a player, the seven-time Pro Bowler was one of the best ever, elected to the Hall of Fame in 1987, the first time he was eligible.

That also was the year Upshaw led the second players' strike in five years, a short walkout that led to the embarrassing spectacle of games with replacement players, or "scab football" as it was jokingly called at the time.

By 1989, while the union was pressing in court for a settlement, the league implemented a limited form of freedom, called Plan B. A new,

seven-year contract was finally worked out in 1993, bringing in a new age of free agency and salary caps.

That will go down as Upshaw's legacy because it brought prosperity to both union members and owners, leaving many of today's players appreciating Upshaw as a labor leader without knowing much about his playing career. Brandon Moore, the New York Jets player representative was 2 years old when Upshaw retired and said simply: "From what I hear, he was a pretty good player."

What Upshaw did for Moore, and his counterparts is make them money — the salary cap for this season is \$116 million and the players are making close to 60 percent of the 32 teams' total revenues, as specified in the 2006 labor agreement. The players will be paid \$4.5 billion this year, according to owners.


That sum led the owners to opt out in May from the collective bargaining agreement, meaning that if no new deal is reached, there will be an uncapped year in 2010, the season before the contract is expected to expire.

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Frozen

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finished, I think that they got a taste of what it's like to play in the Frozen Four and get so close," Irish coach Jeff Jackson said. "Now they've got to go through the work of trying to get back there again."

The road to Washington, D.C., where this year's Frozen Four will be held, begins Oct. 11, when the Irish travel to face Denver in the U.S. Hockey Hall of Fame Game. After a pair of home non-conference showdowns with Sacred Heart on Oct. 17-18, Notre Dame opens up its CCHA slate with two home games against perennial power Miami (Ohio) on Oct. 24-25.

But the game likely to be circled on the calendars of most Irish fans? At Boston College on Nov. 7 — the national title rematch.

"Any time you're slated to play one of the top teams, it's going to be an exciting game, but the fact that we finished last season against them, I'm sure our guys will have a little more incentive in that game," Jackson said. "They're going to be one of the top teams in the country again. It'll be a big game just from a rivalry factor."

Jackson said leading scorer Erik Condra, who missed the NCAA Tournament after injuring his knee in the CCHA playoffs, and Christian Hanson, who was hurt in the title game, will both be ready for the beginning of the season. Those injuries, Jackson said, were a by-product of the aggressive, relentless style of play that made the Irish such

"When you're playing with the intensity level that we did in the NCAA Tournament, you get banged up, and that's kind of price that you've got to pay to get back there."

Jeff Jackson
Irish coach



WU YUE/The Observer

Calle Ridderwall and Kevin Deeth celebrate a goal during Notre Dame's 4-1 loss to Boston College in last year's national championship game.

a dangerous tournament team.

"At the end of the season we had four or five guys who had to have surgery and fairly substantial injuries," Jackson said. "When you're playing with the intensity level that we did in the NCAA Tournament, you get banged up, and that's the kind of price that you've got to pay to get back there."

Despite losing two of its strongest leaders from a year ago in captain Mark Van Guilder and hard-

nosed defenseman Brock Sheahan, Notre Dame looks poised to build on the unprecedented success of the past two seasons.

"The things that made us successful [in the NCAA Tournament] against Michigan, Michigan State and New Hampshire, we've got to remember what kind of price we paid to get to that point," Jackson said. "If we assume things will just fall in place, that's not how it works. We're going to have to play with that same kind of passion we played with in the NCAA Tournament just to get back there again."

Sam Werner contributed to this report.

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Soccer

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luck."

Not downplaying this year's team, Clark also said that he believes the 2008 Irish, like the teams of the past two seasons, are talented enough to compete for the national title.

If Notre Dame is to break through and reach the program's first ever Final Four, the one major question mark that will have to be answered is who will put the ball in the back of the net. After three highly successful seasons —

"I honestly feel that, if needed, every one of the freshmen could step in and play."

Bobby Clark
Irish coach

including a Hermann Trophy win in 2006 — forward Joseph Lapira has moved on to a professional soccer in Norway.

Over the past two seasons, Lapira has accounted for 38 percent of Notre Dame's goals, and replacing that production

will fall into the hands of a talented but inexperienced bevy of upperclassmen.

"No question Joe leaves big shoes to fill, but you can do it in a variety of ways," Clark said. "It can be one person scoring a lot of goals or a lot of people scoring a few goals. I think we have the potential."

In addition to the upperclassmen, Clark will be looking to integrate another talented freshman class — one ranked No. 12 by College Soccer News. Comprised of seven freshmen, the class is led by midfielder Brendan King, a member of the 2007 U.S.

U-17 World Cup team as well as a two-time NSCAA All-American. After enrolling at Notre Dame last spring, King looks ready to contribute right away.

"We were lucky enough to get him in here in January, so

he's got that advantage over the other players," Clark said. "He's someone who should be looking for some serious time."

With injuries in the back line that may force midfielder Michael Thomas to play central defender, King could see major minutes from the start, similar to sophomore Matt Armstrong, who started every game as a freshman.

The rest of the incoming class includes talent across all positions. Midfielder/forward Michael Rose and midfielder Adam Mena figure to join King in the attack. Competing for minutes on the defense will be Aaron Maund, Sean McGrath and Chris Sutton. Keeper Will Walsh will give Clark another option in net. While Clark admitted that competition for playing time would be tough, he gave his incoming freshmen a vote of confidence.

"I honestly feel that, if needed, every one of the freshmen could step in and play," Clark said.

Contact Greg Arbogast at garbogast@nd.edu

Fresh Start

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Since he was thinner than the coaching staff wanted him as a senior in high school, he underwent a series of off-season workouts that helped him bulk up and add over 20 pounds of muscle.

With his added strength and size, Rudolph could be used in goal line situations, or even on short third downs when a reliable pass-catcher is essential. For this reason, Weis is looking forward to seeing him on the field.

"I'm very, very, very high on Kyle Rudolph," Weis said. "I mean, the kid is 255, but he's just grown into 255. He still looks skinny at 255 because he's so big. But his straight-line speed, he gets down the field in a hurry and he's got great ball skills."

Robinson comes in after being with the squad for a semester as an early enrollee. An offensive guard from Elkhorn Secondary School in Nebraska, Robinson's large frame and quick hands combined with explosive upper body strength could have him find the field early and often. When coupled with the struggles of the offensive line and the lack of depth along the unit, he could contribute early this season.

Notre Dame's offensive line coach, John Latina, likes how Robinson has developed in his first semester with the team.

"I think he has a great attitude," Latina said. "I think football is really important to him and obviously he's talented. Even though he's going to make some mistakes along the way as a young guy, he does a good job of not making the same mistake over and I think that shows a lot of maturity on a player's part and it also shows how important it is to him."

On defense, there are a handful of freshman that could also see some serious playing time as well in Ethan Johnson and Robert Blanton and linebackers Steve Filer and Darius Fleming.

Johnson is a defensive end out of Lincoln High School in Portland, Ore., who is already a physical presence. Johnson missed his senior season due to a sprained knee in the first contest of the season.

Despite the setback, Johnson tried to stay in shape and came into fall camp in excellent shape, ready to contribute. At 6-foot-4, 275 pounds, he remains quick off the line.

"I wouldn't say he's been a pleasant surprise," Weis said. "But he has definitely put himself in the

mix in a very short amount of time."

Blanton is a cornerback who could benefit from the absence of junior Darrin Walls, who is not with the team for the semester. Blanton is out of Butler High School from Matthews, N.C., who has speed and instinctual ball skills that have seen him break up a number of plays in fall practice thus far.

At 6-foot-1, he is rangy and has size to compete with bigger wide-outs. Additionally, and like a true cornerback, Blanton brings some attitude.

"He has shown very good cover skills," Weis said of Blanton. "And a cockiness that a corner needs to be able to get on the field. He's not afraid of anyone and he's willing to tell anyone in the whole free world that's willing to listen. He's a chirper."

Filer and Fleming are a potent linebacking duo out of the Chicago area, and played for rival high schools. Fleming attended St. Rita High School, while Filer went to Mount Carmel High School.

Although Filer projects more as an inside linebacker and Fleming is better suited to play outside, they both possess excellent physical traits. Filer is 6-foot-3 and has proven to be very strong and quick.

"Let's say he has so much athleticism that even if he's not in the two-deep at this point, before it's all said and done, you are hoping that he is," Weis said. "He knows he has some work to do but there are few guys that are that athletic."

Fleming looks to be in a similar mold of sophomore teammate Kerry Neal. Both players excel at rushing the passer and are comfortable starting in either a standing position or in a three-point stance. Along with this similarity, both players have built up a strong rapport.

"Oh, me and Fleming are real close," Neal said. "We get along real well. We sit in the meeting room next to each other and I try to help him out with some things that he asks me of. He's got some real physical gifts. He's got great speed. The other day in practice, he caught up to Armando [Allen] and brought him down."

Note:

Sophomore tight end Mike Ragone had surgery to repair a torn anterior cruciate ligament (ACL) and is expected to miss the entire season.

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Ireland

continued from page 32

regardless of who started, both saw upwards of 20 minutes per game. Ayers netted 24 points in the win over Ireland, including a game-winning dunk. Junior Jonathan Peoples served as the backup guard to spell McAlarney and Jackson while 6-foot-11 senior Luke Zeller will be called upon to replace the height on Notre Dame's defense that left with Kurz.

Once Notre Dame begins non-conference play this season, it'll face a tougher slate than it did last year. Last season, Notre Dame's lone major non-conference win came against Kansas State. This year, Notre Dame will play in the Maui Invitational, with the prospect of facing North Carolina — who will likely begin the season ranked No. 1 — in the finals. And in February, the Irish will take a break from Big East play to head out to Los Angeles to renew their rivalry

with UCLA.

All this is designed to test the Irish — a veteran squad with a chance to make a run deep in the NCAA Tournament this year — as much as possible before the postseason rolls around.

But after this season, the Irish will lose four seniors to graduation — McAlarney, Zeller, Hillesland and Ayers, and Brey did not sign any recruits last season.

He did, however, land two sought-after transfers — Scott Martin from Purdue and Ben Hansbrough from Mississippi State.

Martin, who will have three years of eligibility remaining after sitting out this season, is a 6-foot-8 forward who averaged 8.5 points per game for a 25-9 Boilermakers club. Hansbrough, a 6-foot-3 shooting guard, will have two years of eligibility remaining after this season and averaged 10.5 points last year for Mississippi State.

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Zahn Hall

Rector: Mr. Corry Colonna

Howard Hall

Rector: Sr. Katherine Collard, I.H.M.

Pasquerilla East Hall

Rector: Ms. Bryan Tornifolio

FOG Complex

Rector: Ms. Mary Alice Beck

Keenan Hall

Rector: Rev. Daniel Nolan, O.S.V.

University Village & Cripe

Street Apartments

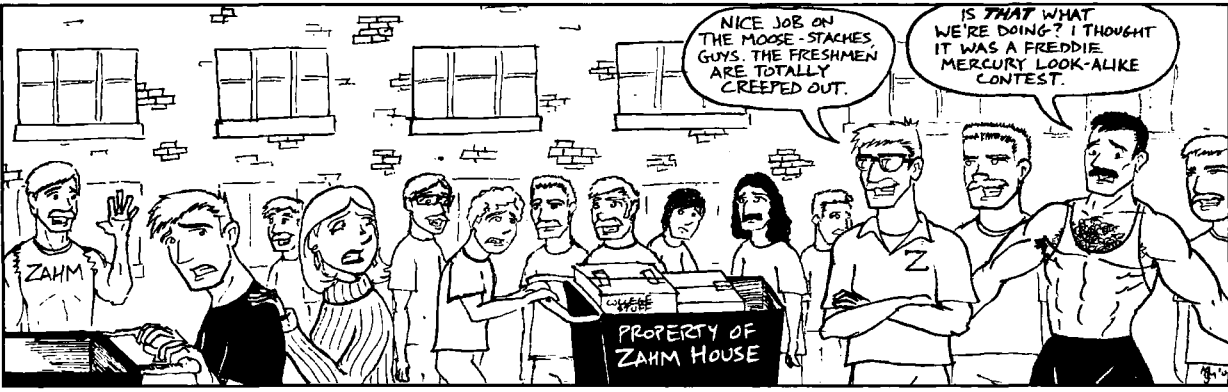
Rector: Mr. Nathan Elliot



UNIVERSITY OF
NOTRE DAME

BLACK DOG

MICHAEL MIKUSKA



The Observer is looking for artists interested in designing a daily comic. If you are interested, e-mail Chris Hine at chine@nd.edu or call 574-631-4541.

JUMBLE

HENRI ARNOLD
MIKE ARGIRION

JUMBLE

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

BUTIC

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NARCK

GURCOH

GOAFER

www.jumble.com

A: A

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME by Mike Argirion and Jeff Knurek



Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

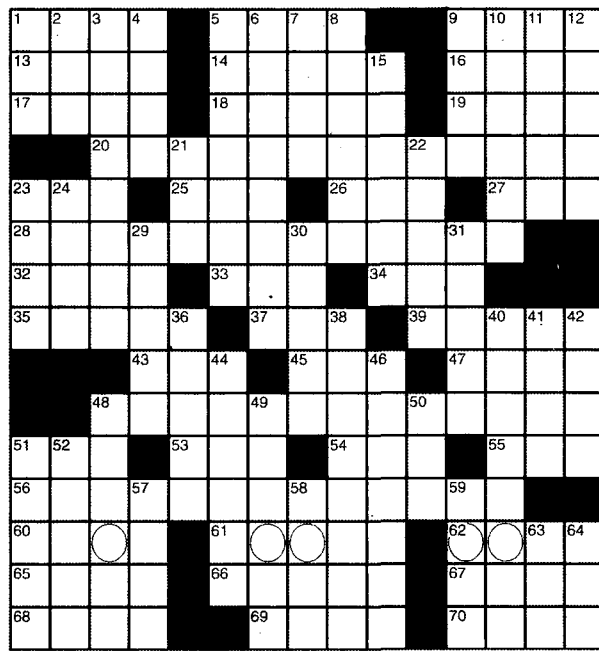
(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: EXUDE LIMIT CHARGE UNEASY
Answer: When the mechanic installed the new muffler, it was — "EXHAUSTING"

CROSSWORD

WILL SHORTZ

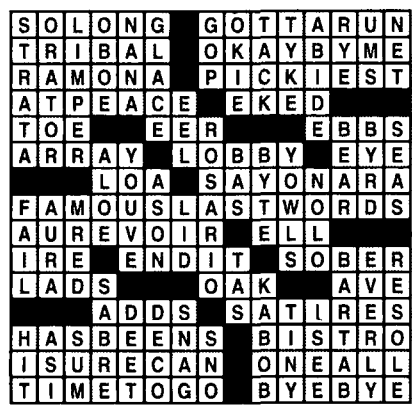
- Across**
- 1 Restraint
 - 5 Project Blue Book subject
 - 9 Ex-
 - 13 Not berthed
 - 14 Big name in skin care
 - 16 Talk radio's _____ & Anthony
 - 17 Hospital count
 - 18 Turns around, as a mast
 - 19 Abbé de l'_____, pioneer in sign language
 - 20 With 28-, 48- and 56-Across, riddle whose answer appears in the circled squares
 - 23 "Who _____?" (common riddle ending)
 - 25 Camp seat
 - 26 Largest geological division
 - 27 "Don't wanna"
 - 28 See 20-Across
 - 32 Like frittatas
 - 33 Sun. discourse
 - 34 Year in the reign of Justinian the Great
 - 35 Answers the call, maybe
 - 37 Affluent duo?
 - 39 Fortuneteller
 - 43 Satisfied reactions
 - 45 Suffix with profit
 - 47 Movie featuring Peter O'Toole as Priam
 - 48 See 20-Across
 - 51 Kentucky's Athlete of the Century
 - 53 Goose egg
 - 54 Plugs
 - 55 "Bells _____ Ringing"
- Down**
- 1 Trucker's place
 - 2 Resort to
 - 3 N.H.L. team at Joe Louis Arena
 - 4 Big party
 - 5 Pulls the plug on
 - 6 Fine metal openwork
 - 7 Reproductive seed
 - 8 Trickled
 - 9 "Odyssey," for one
 - 10 Attach (to)
 - 11 Tuscany city
 - 12 Canines that bite
 - 15 Comparatively noisy
 - 21 Bass _____
 - 22 Bottom-of-letter abbr.
 - 23 One with a sterling service
 - 24 Ancient gift givers
 - 29 How some music is played
 - 30 Monteverdi opera
 - 31 Takes off
 - 56 See 20-Across
 - 60 Like worms
 - 61 Computer unveiled in 1946
 - 62 Cold feet
 - 65 Store drawer
 - 66 See 58-Down
 - 67 Concerning
 - 68 Suit to _____
 - 69 Spin
 - 70 Frequent gift for a PBS donation



- Puzzle by David J. Kahn
- 36 Stood out
 - 38 Plan for nuptials
 - 40 Musician who created the Windows 95 start-up sound
 - 41 Watch-step connection
 - 42 _____ disease
 - 44 Beamed
 - 46 Avant-garde
 - 48 Changeable on a whim
 - 49 Power tool in woodworking
 - 50 Ukr., once
 - 51 California's Santa _____ Park
 - 52 Kosher
 - 57 MacLachlan of "Desperate Housewives"
 - 58 With 66-Across, Egyptian agricultural area
 - 59 "What _____?" (snippy reply)
 - 63 Knack
 - 64 "Riddle-me-_____"

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



HOROSCOPE

Fridays with Fran

- Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)**
Try not to look like a skank.
- Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)**
Use the word dingle in a sentence. Try not to say it to someone with a dingleberry; he or she will blush.
- Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)**
Wear those loafers, former gophers.
- Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)**
Anyone who relies on TMZ for news is an idiot. Sorry, their stories have been classified as news too often lately. Stupid, man.
- Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)**
If you wanna make that dollah or dem dollahs, call (713) 569-2690.
- Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)**
Calm down, you incestor.
- Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20)**
Are you part of the J. Crew?
- Aries (March 21-Apr. 19)**
Don't misbehave. It was okay before but Heath Ledger is watching you now (from below).
- Taurus (Apr. 20-May 20)**
Search "Bling Bling" on YouTube if you can handle having your life changed.
- Gemini (May 21-June 20)**
Have an individual party.
- Cancer (June 21-July 22)**
Out of 300 million swimmers, how were you the fastest?
- Leo (July 23-Aug. 22)**
Hey Leo... LEO the Lion goes GER! If you know what that means, stand up and remove the pole.

THE OBSERVER

Published Monday through Friday, The Observer is a vital source of information on people and events in the Notre Dame and Saint Mary's Community.

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FOOTBALL

Let's try this again

Young talent, more experience provide a positive outlook after 3-9 season

By LORENZO REYES
Sports Writer

Despite Notre Dame's disappointing 2007 season, it can expect a bevy of freshmen to enter the fall ready to compete. With one of the top-ranked recruiting classes in the nation, this could be exactly the case.

On the offensive side of the ball, Michael Floyd, Kyle Rudolph and Trevor Robinson have the best chance to see playing time early in the season.

Floyd, from Minnesota's Cretin Durham-Hall, is a 6-foot-3 wide receiver with reliable hands and consistent speed. He was ranked the 16th-best prospect in the nation by Scout.com and largely considered the best football player in the state of Minnesota.

Earlier this summer, Floyd had the opportunity to work out with his new teammates and participate in

7-on-7's. The results have the Irish coaching staff excited.

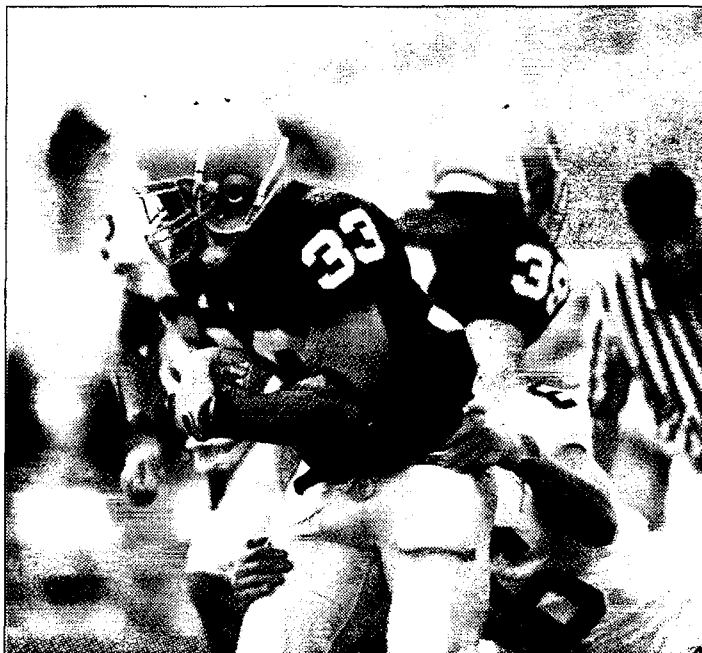
"The feedback on Michael Floyd from Jimmy [Clausen] has been through the roof," Irish head coach Charlie Weis said. "... [Floyd] doesn't look like a freshman. He looks like an upperclassman that's been around a long time. You look at him and say that's what I'm talking about."

Floyd said the team had an excited and positive outlook towards the season.

"I just feel like the team is fired up," he said on freshmen media day on Aug. 22. "They're just showing a lot of emotion."

Rudolph was ranked the No. 1 tight end in the nation on Scout.com and hails from Elder High School from Cincinnati, Ohio. The first feature that strikes an observer is his height - he's 6-foot-6.

see FRESH START/page 29



IAN GAVLICK/The Observer

Sophomore tailback Robert Hughes sheds a tackler during this spring's Blue-Gold Game.

HOCKEY

ND looking for Frozen Four repeat

By MATT GAMBER
Associate Sports Editor

After their remarkable NCAA Tournament run ended in a 4-1 national championship game loss to Boston College, the Irish have officially reloaded.

Notre Dame returns 18 letter winners, including eight of its nine top scorers and all-CCHA goaltender Jordan Pearce. Add to that mix a heralded group of seven freshmen, led by U.S. Under-18 teammates Patrick Gauland and Sean Lorenz and the Irish are among the nation's favorites to return to the Frozen Four.

"I think that seeing the response from how last season

see FROZEN FOUR/page 29

MEN'S BASKETBALL

Irish have high aspirations after returning all but one player

By CHRIS HINE
Sports Writer

This year, there's no sneaking up on anyone.

Two years ago, Notre Dame was picked to finish 11th in the Big East; the Irish finished fourth. Last year, they were picked ninth and finished tied for second.

But this season, the Irish return four starters from a team

that finished 25-8, including Big East player of the year Luke Harangody and first-team Big East selection Kyle McAlarney. Many analysts have consistently ranked the Irish among the top-10 teams in the country in the 2008-09 preseason polls.

To get his team ready to face such high expectations, coach Mike Brey has changed the way his team approaches its off-season and non-conference schedule.

Currently, the team is taking an international trip to Ireland as part of the Emerald Hoops Tour. The trip has given Brey a chance to get his team together in the gym earlier than normal and try some different lineup combinations.

So far on the trip, the Irish have picked up where they left off in terms of offensive production - scoring 90-plus points in their four victories.

It's also the first time sopho-

mores Tyrone Nash and Carleton Scott have seen significant minutes as they compete to fill the void in the rotation left by the graduation of Rob Kurz.

Through Notre Dame's first three games on the tour, Scott has averaged 11.3 points, while Nash has averaged five points per game. The box score was not available for Notre Dame's fourth game, a 90-88 win over Ireland.

Aside from Harangody and

McAlarney, the Irish return junior point guard Tory Jackson, an excellent rebounder given his 5-foot-11 height, who averaged eight points, 5.1 rebounds and 5.8 assists. Sharpshooter Ryan Ayers and versatile forward Zach Hillesland also return. The two split starting duties last season - Ayers started most of the first half of the year before Hillesland took over - but

see IRELAND/page 29

MEN'S SOCCER

Team searching for scorers

By GREG ARBOGAST
Sports Writer

Early 1990s Buffalo Bills? Not quite. But after two consecutive Elite Eight exits, Notre Dame coach Bobby Clark and his team have hit a roadblock in the program's progression towards its first ever Final Four.

Last year, the Irish beat Oakland and upset No. 10 Santa Clara before an overtime loss to eventual national champion Wake Forest. In 2006, Notre Dame upended Illinois-Chicago and defending national champion Maryland before falling at Virginia. Despite the setbacks, Clark isn't worried about his team's psyche.

"I just want the team to play at their full potential," Clark said. "I always say that it was my poorest team at Stanford that went to the national championship. You need a little bit of

see SOCCER/page 29



JESSICA LEE/The Observer

Junior midfielder Michael Thomas heads the ball during Notre Dame's scoreless draw with Mexico on April 25.

ND WOMEN'S SOCCER

Early non-conference slate will test squad

By FRAN TOLAN
Associate Sports Editor

After reaching the national semifinals last year, Notre Dame will have to overcome a difficult schedule to duplicate that success. But the Irish have the personnel to do it.

Nine freshmen join a stacked team that made it to the College Cup before falling to Florida State a year ago.

"We've got a very good group [of freshmen] coming in," Irish coach Randy Waldrum said. "Four or five of them might step in and play a lot right away."

Among the newcomers, forward Melissa Henderson adds to the plethora of talent on Notre Dame's roster.

"In most recruiting circles, she's the player of the year," Waldrum said of Henderson, a fellow Texan.

Waldrum said Kansas City natives Molly Campbell and Ellen Jantsch should also put in meaningful minutes for the Irish. Campbell and Jantsch both hail from St. Teresa's, the same high school that sophomore Lauren Fowlkes attended. Last season, Fowlkes stepped in as a freshman to help anchor Notre Dame's defense. Waldrum said he hopes that Campbell and Jantsch can have the same type of impact.

The coach said that several other freshmen will also have the opportunity to earn playing time.

"We have a very, very good group... Some of the other [freshmen] could slide right in for us in the future as they get a little more experience."

The freshmen will be introduced to top-tier competition right away as the Irish are slated

see FRESHMEN/page 27