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ELECTION 2008

Campus groups mobilize over 2008 election

College Dem, GOP clubs support their candidates

By KAITLYNN RIELY
Associate News Editor

No matter who wins the presidential election this fall, there's going to be a big celebration at Notre Dame.

"We'll have the biggest party that Notre Dame's ever seen," Edward Yap, the president of the Notre Dame College Republicans, said. "Regardless of who ever wins, we'll have tons of fun at it."

But Yap is hoping for a victory by the Republican ticket of Sen. John McCain of Arizona and Gov. Sarah Palin of Alaska. He said the club might look into booking an off-campus location to watch the election returns Nov. 4.

Across the political spectrum, Notre Dame College Democrats co-president



John McCain, left, talks with opponent Barack Obama. McCain and Obama are both vying for the presidency and have electrified both sides of the political spectrum.

see PARTIES/page 4

Nonpartisan ND Votes '08 helps register new voters

By KAITLYNN RIELY
Associate News Editor

Since the beginning of the fall semester, NDVotes '08 has registered 91 new voters and added 410 people to its database, senior Mallory Laurel, a co-chair for the nonpartisan education campaign run by the Center for Social Concerns (CSC) said.

At the CSC's opening picnic last week, the NDVotes '08 table was "just swarmed the entire time," Laurel said.

"I think, because this election in particular is so exciting and monumental, more people are interested in registering to vote," Laurel said.

see ND VOTES/page 6

Students hopeful for upcoming season

Upgrades for team, re-tooling of pep rallies excite student body after last year's 3-9 record



The Observer File Photo

Howard Hall's mascot crowd surfs at a 2007 pep rally. This year, the rallies will feature competitions for prizes between dorms.

By TESS CIVANTOS
News Writer

Putting the debacle that was Notre Dame football 2007 in the past, students are excited about the possibilities this upcoming season holds, starting with tomorrow's game against San Diego State.

"I'm excited to see how this first game will play out," sophomore Octavia Ratiu said. "I don't think it's possible to do worse than last year."

For members of the senior class, who have seen Notre Dame's storied program plummet from being within seconds

of the National Championship to being 3-9, this season represents a shot at redemption.

"I've experienced the highs of a BCS game and the lows of a loss to Navy," senior Dennis Rankin said. "So I'm excited to experience the highs again."

San Diego State is anticipated to be an easier opening game than Georgia Tech last season, and many students say they expect a win.

"The schedule looks good, the offense seems really improved," sophomore Matt Robinson said. "I'm excited to get back in the football stadium and see an Irish

see FOOTBALL/page 4

College undergoes renovation

Construction takes place in dorms, classrooms

By MANDI STIRONE
Assistant News Editor

Saint Mary's underwent a massive renovation effort this summer with 11 of the College's buildings undergoing construction. According to an e-mail sent to the student body by Director of Facilities Bill Hambling, LeMans Hall, Haggar College Center, Cushwa-Leighton Library, Angela Athletic Facility, Madaleva Hall, McCandless Hall, Moreau Hall, Regina Hall, Reidinger House and the Science Building have all been renovated.

LeMans Hall was under construction as early as spring semester last year, Hambling said in an April 29 Observer article.

"We have installed new drain lines to remove the water shed from the roof away from the sanitary lines and into our storm water system. This repair has eliminated the numerous leaks that were caused from the plugged down spouts and backing up into the walls, causing interior finish damage. Interior finishes that were damaged by the water,

see SMC/page 6

Band holds annual plaiding ceremony

By LIZ HARTER
Saint Mary's Editor

Tailgating, watching the football players head to the stadium after the team Mass, buying steak sandwiches from the Knights of Columbus on South Quad. Students and fans in town for the Notre Dame home opener against San Diego State have a lot of entertainment opportunities vying for their attention before the 3:30 p.m. kick-off.

If tradition is what catches their interest though, the Irish faithful can attend the Band of the Fighting Irish's plaiding

ceremony, which will take place before the traditional concert on the steps in front of Bond Hall at 1:25 Saturday.

At the ceremony the senior members will present plaids to the first year members of the band to complete their uniform.

After the seniors present their plaids they receive a special senior plaid that is distinguished by the gold cording along its edges from a family member or friend.

"It's a way to honor the new band members for their first home game, and a way to recognize the seniors at the begin-

see BAND/page 4



LIZ HARTER/The Observer

Jim McGuire, left, Matt Meinig, middle, and Katie Putz show off their plaids, which represent different aspects of the ND community.

INSIDE COLUMN

Pageantry Rankings

Football weekend is here again! That, of course, means that campus will transform from a sleepy little place and turn into Disneyland for a couple days.

To celebrate the occasion, we decided to release the official Notre Dame Football Pageantry Power Rankings, 08. (Disclaimer: power rankings are not official.)

Our goal is to rank football pageantry items 1-10. We might not get that far, but we'll give it a college try.

1. The game. This is too obvious. It shouldn't even really count.

2. The Alma Mater at the end of the game. People complained last year that we shouldn't sing it after we lose, or at least the players shouldn't sing it with us, but we should sing it and the players should join us. The Alma Mater is more than a school tradition. It's a prayer. And it's really cool that Charlie Weis and the players are willing to join with everyone else in the stadium for it.

3. Knights of Columbus Steak Sandwich sale. Best grub you can get before the game. Plus, the it raised over \$60,000 for charity last year.

4. The jig. I think the jig is more fun than the touchdown pushups. It gets even better when the band speed up the tempo cause someone in the row winds up messing up and everyone falls over.

5. Officer Tim McCarthy from the Indiana State Police. Bad puns are so much fun.

I'm a fan. Only not really. Think about it.

6. Candlelight Dinner. I like food. And the food at Candlelight Dinner is good. This would be higher, but the line is significantly longer than it is at 12:20 on Tuesdays.

7. Trumpets in the Dome. I didn't know about it until sophomore year, but it's worth fighting the crowds to see it. The Victory March is really powerful in the Dome. I like it more than Concert on the Steps because it doesn't spoil the half-time show. But a friend just disputed the spoil factor of Concert via text message. She likes the concert because "you can listen to the music, then you can focus on watching at halftime."

8. Drummer's circle. Between the people climbing the trees on God Quad, the undergrads on the steps of the Dome, and the mosh pit that develops, there's plenty of fun to go around.

9. Going to the Grotto before the game. This is a tip from the same column contributor who advocated for Concert on the Steps: "You almost catch fire because of all the candles."

10. The players taking the walk from the Basilica to the Stadium. Since I live in Sorin, it's pretty easy for me to attend this one, but it's worth a trip.

Moral of the story? Go Irish, beat Aztecs!






The views expressed in the Inside Column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer. Contact John Tierney at jtierne1@nd.edu


John Tierney
News Writer

CORRECTIONS

Due to a reporting error in the Sept. 4 issue of The Observer, Geddes Hall was incorrectly referred to as new building for the Center for Social Concerns. The building should be referred to as Geddes Hall, the new home for the Institute for Church Life, and its associated center, the Center for Social Concerns. The Observer regrets this error.

QUESTION OF THE DAY: WHAT ARE YOU MOST LOOKING FORWARD TO AT THE GAME THIS WEEKEND?

				
Liz Brown sophomore LeMans	Shanna Goffinet junior LeMans	Mickey Grusciniski senior LeMans	Lindsey Appelquist senior Regina	Angela Siller senior LeMans
"The craziness of the student body in the stands."	"Not being there."	"The fact that we're going into the game undefeated. There's hope."	"I want to see a unified team that plays their strongest."	"The awesome halftime show of the Band of the Fighting Irish ... and the hot dogs."



Members of Saint Mary's Student Activities Board (SAB) make cotton candy for students in the basement of the Student Center as part of SAB's the annual Twilight Tailgate event. The event had to be moved from Library Green into the Student Center at the last minute because of rain.

LIZ HARTER/The Observer

OFFBEAT

UPS driver surpasses 1 million miles in truck PALESTINE, Texas — A routine package delivery turned into a milestone for a UPS driver in East Texas. Brent Boyd, 51, on Thursday surpassed one million miles on his UPS delivery truck, the same vehicle he's driven for 22 years with the company. The odometer on Boyd's 1987 GMC truck rolled over to all zeros as he began his delivery route near Palestine. He said he's never had an accident with his company vehicle.	Boyd told The Associated Press that his truck's gone through at least three engines and been repainted several times. But he's resisted offers for a new van. Boyd says the truck is "like home" and feels like "sitting in the recliner in your house."	House cats rescued after starting fire CHATTANOOGA, Tenn. — Chattanooga firefighters rescued several cats during a house fire that investigators say was probably caused by the cats themselves.	Fire department spokesman Bruce Garner said firefighters responded to an alarm Thursday morning and found a fire in the kitchen. While no one was home, they found about 10 cats inside. Some of the cats escaped the house on their own, but some showed signs of smoke inhalation. Capt. Lesley Morgan said the cause of the fire appears to be accidental and most likely was caused by a cat knocking over an unattended candle in the kitchen.
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Information compiled from the Associated Press.

IN BRIEF

Communion and Liberation at Notre Dame will be hosting its **Beginning Day** today from 4:30-6 p.m. in the Notre Dame Room of LaFortune. All students, faculty and staff are invited to attend.

The Office of Student Activities will host comedian **Joel McHale**, star, writer and producer of E!'s "The Soup" for an hour of comedic relief at 10 p.m. today on South Quad.

The **Disabilities Studies Forum** entitled "Disability and Obsession: Can a psychiatric impairment have a history?" will be held today at noon in the Notre Dame Room of LaFortune Student Center.

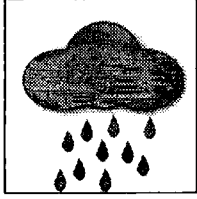
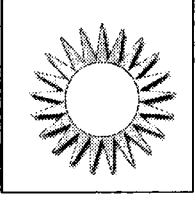
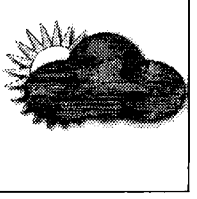
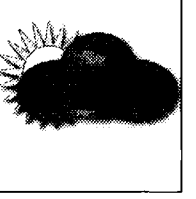
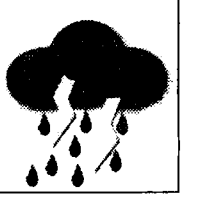
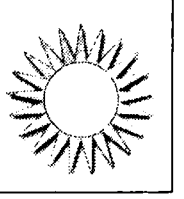
The first pep rally of the season is today from 6 to 7 p.m. in the Joyce Center Arena.

The Notre Dame Glee Club will have a "Kickoff Concert" at 8 p.m. today at the Leighton Concert Hall in the DeBartolo Performing Arts Center. Tickets are \$5 for general admission. The event is sponsored by the Department of Music.

GreenND will hold an informal meeting **Wednesday, September 10, at 7p.m.** in the LaFortune Ballroom.

Michael Novak will be speaking regarding his book "Business As A Calling" on Sept. 11 at 7 p.m. in the DeBartolo Auditorium, room 101.

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

	TODAY	TONIGHT	GAME DAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY
LOCAL WEATHER						
	HIGH 73 LOW 65	HIGH 65 LOW 60	HIGH 78 LOW 58	HIGH 77 LOW 55	HIGH 80 LOW 53	HIGH 73 LOW 45

Atlanta 86 / 68 Boston 84 / 68 Chicago 72 / 57 Denver 55 / 47 Houston 92 / 71 Los Angeles 85 / 64 Minneapolis 71 / 51 New York 89 / 70 Philadelphia 90 / 69 Phoenix 106 / 78 Seattle 74 / 50 St. Louis 76 / 61 Tampa 90 / 74 Washington 86 / 70

SMC co-hosts first pep rally of year

By EMILY DABISH
News Writer

Saint Mary's will co-host the first pep rally today along with four Notre Dame dorms — Knott, Pasquerilla East, Pasquerilla West, and Siegfried. This year marks the third time the College has sponsored a pep rally, and the Board of Governance has stepped up efforts to advertise the event to students.

"I think having it at the beginning of the year is an excellent way for our students to show school pride and get excited for the year ahead," student body vice president Sarah Falvey said.

This year the Board of Governance hopes to get the student body more involved. Instead of just advertising through e-mail, they plan to go dorm to dorm to spread the word.

Also, inspired by Notre Dame's

"The Shirt," Saint Mary's is selling the "SMC shirt."

Saint Mary's freshmen Madison Thatcher and Hilary Ferguson said they were excited for their first Notre Dame pep rally.

"I'm so excited for my first pep rally as a Saint Mary's student. I think this football season is going to be much better than last one," freshman Madison Thatcher said.

Ferguson agreed, adding Saint Mary's integration into Notre Dame's athletic tradition helped build better relations between the schools.

"I think it's really great that Saint Mary's supports Notre Dame in their athletic tradition," she said.

Friday afternoon the SMC student body will be invited to walk over to the rally from the Welcome Center.

Contact Emily Dabish at
edabis01@saintmarys.edu

"I think it's really great that Saint Mary's supports Notre Dame in their athletic tradition."

Madison Thatcher
Saint Mary's freshman

FEMA aids Gustav victims

Associated Press

NEW ORLEANS — The federal government says it will pay the hotel expenses of some of the nearly 2 million people who fled their homes ahead of Hurricane Gustav, but exactly who will be eligible for assistance and how much it will cost taxpayers was uncertain.

Officials from the Federal Emergency Management Agency planned a telephone news conference Thursday to answer questions.

Homeland Security Secretary Michael Chertoff said Wednesday in Baton Rouge that FEMA would pay hotel costs "to make sure that people don't feel economic pressure to return home prematurely, before it's safe."

He said FEMA would pay hotels directly, so it was unclear whether those who had already paid for rooms and checked out would be eligible for reimbursement.

With two other hurricanes threatening the East Coast, the decision to pay for hotels could make it easier to evacuate residents during the next disaster. But doing so would also burden the agency with huge expenses.

The news that hotel costs might be reimbursed came too late for people who have been sleeping at public shelters, such as those in a convention center in Birmingham, Ala. Some of

those evacuees said they would have preferred a hotel if they had known FEMA money would be available.

"You can just get cat naps here," said Aaron Clark, 63, as he sat under a shade tree outside the center. "We didn't get breakfast this morning because they said something was broke down. It's just surviving, that's all it is."

FEMA officials in Louisiana urged residents affected by the storm to register with the agency and to save receipts that document their spending during the evacuation.

"We'd need receipts, and we'd need to know whether the area they were evacuated from is one of the mandatory evacuation areas," said Ed Conley, a FEMA spokesman.

Conley was asked, as an example, whether a family could be reimbursed for hotel expenses after leaving New Orleans on Sunday, checking into a Tennessee hotel, then returning after two, three or four nights.

"That's exactly the family we want to get in touch with us," Conley said.

But he was uncertain what the agency would offer such a family, in part because various other factors — including the family's insurance coverage and whether their house was damaged — could come into play.

Also, the minimum number of days that would be covered had not been determined, and it was unclear whether food and fuel costs incurred while on the road would be covered.

A Georgia Emergency Management Agency spokesman said Thursday

that the agency had received a handful of calls in recent days from evacuees asking for gas money to return home. The state is referring those people to FEMA and the Red Cross.

Some evacuees also wondered whether FEMA would cover their lost wages and other expenses after they return to New Orleans.

In the Birmingham shelter, Carlos Pavilus of New Orleans said he would give anything to be in a hotel.

"I'm so tired of smelling tennis shoes and diapers. We have no laundry. We have nothing," Pavilus said.

"I'm so tired of smelling tennis shoes and diapers. We have no laundry. We have nothing."

Carlos Pavilus
Hurricane Victim



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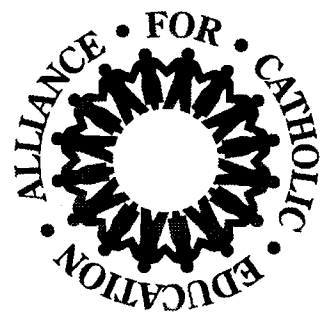


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Parties

continued from page 1

Spencer Howard is anticipating a win by the Democratic ticket of Illinois Sen. Barack Obama and Delaware Sen. Joe Biden.

"We ran through Stonehenge to celebrate [Rep.] Joe Donnelly's win [in 2006]," he said. "We're hoping for another one of those moments."

With sixty days to go until the election, both Yap and Howard fully support their party's ticket — and each is confident his candidate will emerge victorious.

The stretch from the nominating conventions to Election Day will be a "two month long event," Howard

said, and both clubs plan to use the last stretch of what has been a longer-than-usual election year to get students interested in the democratic process and, more importantly, interested in voting for their candidate.

Howard and Yap burst into their roles as the representatives of their respective party's ticket early this semester, with the Democratic National Convention taking place the first week of classes and the Republican National Convention occurring the second.

Howard said he thought the speakers at the Democratic convention did a great job bringing the party together, in light of speculation that disappointed supporters of former presidential candidate Sen. Hillary Clinton (D-N.Y.) would not back Obama.

"I think after the convention and hearing from the Clintons and Barack Obama and Sen. Biden, people have kind of come together," Howard said.

One of the main stories at the Republican convention has been the emergence of Alaska Gov. Sarah Palin on the national scene, with McCain choosing her as his running mate.

"I absolutely love Sarah Palin," Yap said. "I think she's a great candidate. She is perhaps the best candidate McCain could have chosen. When they win in November, she'll be an awesome vice president."

Of course, Howard disagreed with Yap.

"I don't think the pick was looked into enough, as a lot of reports are coming out, he met with her once," he said. "I don't think it was a very careful pick."

Howard and Yap also diverged on their views on Obama's running mate, Sen. Joe Biden of Delaware.

"It was a horrendous pick, because for someone running on a platform of change, choosing someone that is a Beltway insider doesn't make any sense for me," Yap said. "His entire career has been D.C."

Howard said he thinks Obama made a great decision in choosing Biden.

"He has a lot of experience, especially foreign relations," Howard said. "I think Obama's comfortable working with him, since they spent time together on the Senate Foreign Relations Committee. He's a fighter. He's willing to go to bat for the people who need help."

The one issue on which Howard and Yap did agree, however, was that this election

has caught the interest of students at Notre Dame, and the interest of college-aged young adults in general.

"We see this election as something that will really influence our futures," Yap said. "We are all 18 to 22, so this election will really make a huge impact on our jobs and where we go after college, and the economy and nation that we head into after we graduate."

Howard said his outlook may be skewed by the fact that he is a political science major (so is

Yap), but he said he has been struck by the interest students are showing in the presidential campaign this fall.

"People seem to have gotten into it and become involved," he said. "They're

curious to see what's going to happen after the election — where we are going, and what's in store for them."

The College Republicans and the College Democrats are both planning debate watches and election night watches. More immediately, the College Democrats are joining with other college students in Northern Indiana to work for Democratic candidates from a central office on Mishawaka Ave.

The College Republicans are heading to a McCain/Palin campaign rally today in Michigan.

Howard's and Yap's involvement in politics go beyond their leadership of the College Democrats and the College Republicans at Notre Dame. This summer, Howard, a senior, worked for a nonprofit group near Washington, D.C. organizing voter outreach targeted mainly at Democrat-leaning constituents.

Yap worked for Luke Puckett, who is running for Indiana's 2nd District against incumbent Democrat Joe Donnelly. Yap, a junior, still holds his job as Puckett's deputy finance and field director. When asked how he balances taking classes with working for Puckett, Yap said "less sleep."

Contact Kaitlynn Riely at kriely@nd.edu

Band

continued from page 1

ning of their final year with the band," assistant director of bands Larry Dwyer said.

While the plaiding is just for first year and senior band members, Dwyer said the entire band will be in attendance along with a large audience to witness the ceremony.

The plaiding ceremony began in 2002 when the band first started to wear the navy blue uniforms they wear today. The plaid, however, has been a part of the uniform since the 1970s when it was confirmed by the Tartan Advisory Committee in the Court of the Lord Lyon in Edinburgh, Scotland to be a distinctive design not associated with any clan in Scotland.

When it was confirmed that the plaid was original to Notre Dame, the University adopted the blue design as the official plaid. It has since been trademarked and copyrighted which prohibits anyone outside the Irish Guard or the band from wearing it.

"[It] is a unique part of the Notre Dame band uniform," Dwyer said. "It gives our band a distinctively Irish appearance."

Each of the colors in the plaid symbolizes a different aspect of the Notre Dame community. The blue and gold in the design are Notre Dame's colors; the green is for the Fighting Irish; the red signifies the Church and the Holy Cross fathers who founded the University; and black outlines the design.

While the band staff chooses which senior staff will plaid the new members, the seniors can choose anyone they want to be a part of the ceremony, though Dwyer said they typically choose a family member or friend.

Senior saxophone player Katie Putz said she has been looking forward to this ceremony since her first year in the band.

"They show us the senior plaids the first day in band," she said. "It's really exciting to finally get to wear one."

Senior bass player Joe

Thompson said he was especially excited about plaiding a new member of the band.

"When I was a freshman I didn't really appreciate it, but I imagine it'll be a lot more emotional this year," he said.

He said he thinks the ceremony is an important way to show appreciation for the seniors who have been in band for a number of years. Thomson, who will be plaided by one of his parents said he knows that the ceremony is an honor, said he thinks the family and invited guests who are asked to participate get more emotional than the band members during the event.

"We're up there every weekend during concert on the steps," he said. "For them it's something different and special."

Putz — who has asked a fellow Saint Mary's student to plaid her because her family, who live in New Mexico, won't be attending this game — said she's happy she gets to choose who will be taking part in the ceremony with her.

"As a senior I get to choose anyone I like to be a part of the concert on the steps," she said. "A lot of us choose someone who might not be in band. It's someone who has been there through all the hardships and fun times of band and now they get to be a part of the band."

Contact Liz Harter at charte01@saintmarys.edu

Football

continued from page 1

win."

Sophomore Luke Ragon said he hopes the team gained some valuable experience last year, and this weekend's game will be a chance for the student body to see the new and improved Fighting Irish.

"I think they learned a lot from last year, and there will be major improvements," Ragon said. "I'm excited to see how the team's looking."

The team will not be the only aspect of the football season that is improved, as organizers have also been revamping the pep rallies.

"At pep rallies in the past, the dorms hosting the pep rally would scream and chant, and by the time the other dorms got there, they would be kind of worn out," Hall President's Council athletic co-chair Laura Burdick said. "We knew something had to change."

Burdick said this year's rallies will feature the Dorm's Championship League, where dorms will compete against each other for prizes.

"The new pep rallies will pit dorms against each other through obstacle courses," Burdick said. "Every week there will be a different prize for the winners; this weekend, the winning dorm gets free Chipotle. Then at the big 'championship' round for the Syracuse pep rally, the winners will get a trophy."

Contact Tess Civantos at tcivanto@nd.edu

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Call Jenn
at 631-5323.

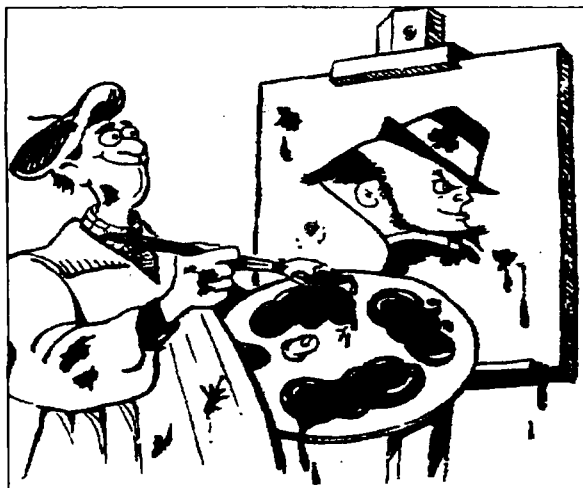
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WORLD & NATION

Friday, September 5, 2008

COMPILED FROM THE OBSERVER'S WIRE SERVICES

page 5

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Gas explosion kills 24 in China

BEIJING — A gas explosion inside a mine in northeast China on Thursday killed 24 people and injured six, local authorities and state media said. Three others were trapped inside.

The official Xinhua News Agency said the 9 a.m. accident happened in a coal mine in the city of Fuxin in Liaoning province. Rescuers were searching for the three trapped people, it said, citing local authorities.

Forty-one miners were working inside at the time. Xinhua said 14 managed to return to the surface on their own.

A spokesman at the Fuxin safety bureau confirmed the explosion but would not provide further details. The man, who refused to give his name, referred questions to the local coal mining bureau. A woman who answered the phone at the coal mining bureau hung up without answering questions.

U.S. raid strains Afghan relations

KABUL — The Afghan president said a deadly raid on a village by American and Afghan commandos has put new strain on relations with the United States and promised Thursday to punish those responsible.

U.S. officials have said that at least 30 militants, including a Taliban commander, and no more than seven civilians were killed during the Aug. 22 raid. Afghan officials, backed by the United Nations mission, insist that more than 90 civilians died, including dozens of children.

President Hamid Karzai's comment come a day after he spoke to President Bush about the raid and how to prevent civilian casualties, his office said.

"President Bush told President Karzai that he grieves anytime innocents die," White House national security spokesman Gordon Johndroe said Thursday.

NATIONAL NEWS

Muslim leader given U.S. citizenship

NEWARK — An influential New Jersey Muslim leader accused by some federal officials of having terrorist ties but praised by others as being an important ally won his fight to gain permanent U.S. residency Thursday.

A federal immigration judge in Newark ruled that Mohammad Qatanani, the spiritual leader of the Islamic Center of Passaic County, can remain in the U.S.

The ruling brought cheers, tears and applause from about a dozen Qatanani supporters who gathered in the courtroom.

"I would like to thank the judge for working hard in this case," Qatanani said. "This is a beautiful thing. The justice system in this country is great."

Detroit mayor guilty in sex scandal

DETROIT — Mayor Kwame Kilpatrick was bounced from office Thursday in a deal with prosecutors that will send him to jail and put an end to the sex scandal that embarrassed this chronically struggling city and preoccupied its government for months.

The 38-year-old "Hip-Hop Mayor" who brought energy and excitement to City Hall when he took office in 2002 pleaded guilty to obstruction of justice and will get four months behind bars.

The Democrat will also pay a \$1 million fine and lose his license to practice law, and cannot run for any elected office for five years. His resignation will take effect in two weeks.

LOCAL NEWS

Medical helicopter crashes killing 3

RUSHVILLE — Rush County is suspending use of the Missouri-based Air Evac Lifeteam because of a fatal crash involving one of its medical helicopters.

Three crew members were killed Sunday when the helicopter, on its way to its base at Rush Memorial Hospital, crashed in a farm field near the town of Burney in neighboring Decatur County. Air Evac, which also has Indiana bases in Brazil, Evansville and Paoli, suspended operations at all four bases temporarily.

Bush poised to punish Russia

White House planning to take action after Moscow's invasion of Georgia

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President Bush is poised to punish Moscow for its invasion of Georgia by canceling a once-celebrated deal for civilian nuclear cooperation between the U.S. and Russia.

With relations between the two nations in a nearly Cold Warlike freeze over Russia's actions against its neighbor last month, planning is under way at the White House for the largely symbolic move by Bush, according to senior administration officials, who spoke on condition of anonymity because the decision was not yet final. Action could come quickly, within days at the most, and officials see no need to wait until Vice President Dick Cheney returns next Wednesday from an overseas trip that includes stops in three former Soviet republics.

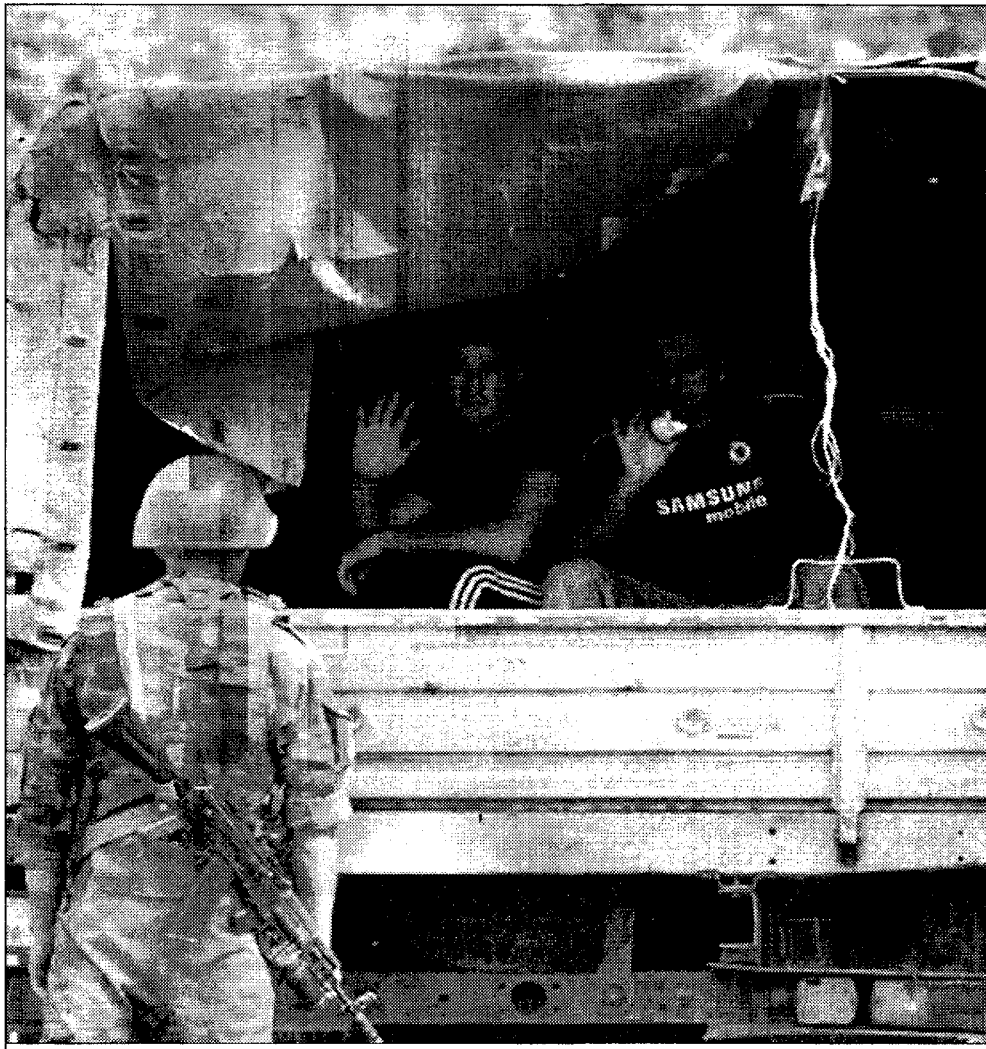
Withdrawing the agreement from Capitol Hill would have little actual impact, as the deal very likely would not gain approval during Bush's presidency.

But taking the overt and public step of pulling it would be intended to send a message to Russia and the world that its actions in Georgia last month are not acceptable and will not go unanswered.

It would require a statement by Bush to Congress that the deal is "no longer in the national security interests" of the United States. A future president could reverse that and send the agreement back to Congress.

Signed in May by the two nations, the administration originally presented the deal as a landmark breakthrough.

It represented a significant reversal in policy for the U.S. on cooperation with Russia on nuclear issues. It would give the U.S. access to state-of-the-art Russian nuclear technology and clear the way for Russia to establish itself as a lucrative center for the import and storage of spent nuclear fuel from



A Russian checkpoint outside Karaleti, Georgia is part of a Russian military presence in the security zone that Moscow claimed in the Georgian territory.

American-supplied reactors around the world. Such a deal was seen as crucial to boosting relations with Russia, and to fulfilling Bush's vision of increasing civilian nuclear energy use worldwide as a way to combat rising energy demands and climate change.

But key lawmakers were suspicious of it even before the disastrous Russia-Georgia war.

Some feared it would undermine efforts to rein in Iran's nuclear program, because of Russia's extensive business and energy — including nuclear — ties with Tehran. That has so far prevented a move to approve the deal, and now there isn't enough time left in the fall legislative calen-

dar for the required review period to run out and have the agreement take effect without congressional action.

After years of tensions between Russia and Georgia, the recent fighting began Aug. 7 when Georgia's military tried to re-establish control over its breakaway province of South Ossetia. Russia joined the battle, brutally repelled the Georgian offensive and then pushed deep into Georgia proper, where many of its forces remain.

Both sides signed a ceasefire, but Russia has ignored its requirement for all forces to return to prewar positions.

Administration officials determined almost immedi-

ately that Russia must suffer some consequences for its actions and wanted to take punitive measures in concert with Europe. But they have been frustrated at the lack of similar resolve among allies, who have offered condemnation of Russia but little else.

If Bush decides against pulling the deal, there are other penalty options available.

The administration could insist that Russia continue to be quietly left out of any discussions among the elite Group of Eight nations, essentially denying Russia membership in the club of major industrialized democracies without actually kicking it out.

The United States also

SYRIA

Syria offers peace proposal to Israel

Associated Press

Associated Press

DAMASCUS — Syria's leader said Thursday he offered a proposal for peace with Israel but also refused to break off ties with Hezbollah and militant Palestinians — a key Israeli demand.

President Bashar Assad also said indirect negotiations with Israel were on hold until that country chooses a new prime minister and that direct talks would have to wait until a new U.S. president takes office.

Assad's comments came after meetings with France's leader and regional

DATELINE — BODY COPY

mediators in talks focusing on Mideast peace and Iran's nuclear program. France hopes that warmer relations with Syria, Iran's ally, could help the West in its efforts to persuade Iran to curb its nuclear program.

Assad said his proposal for Israel was intended to serve as a basis for direct talks. He said he would wait for a similar document laying out Israel's positions before any face-to-face talks. So far, negotiations between the two foes have been held indirectly through Turkish mediators.

Although Assad didn't divulge details of his proposal, the move

reflected a desire to break with Syria's past policies. The quest was given a boost by France's President Nicolas Sarkozy, who visited Damascus on Wednesday and Thursday, becoming the first Western leader in several years to come to Syria.

Sarkozy has encouraged face-to-face Syria-Israel negotiations and offered to sponsor such talks in the future. The French president has been trying to forge better relations with both Syria and Libya, a longtime international pariah that has significantly improved ties with the West.

Bernhard makes three new office appointments

Vice president welcomes new colleagues

Special to The Observer

Robert J. Bernhard, vice president for research at the University of Notre Dame, has made three new appointments to his office.

Randy Ruchti, professor of physics, has joined the office as associate vice president for research in a part-time capacity. He will continue his teaching and research activities in the Department of Physics in a reduced role.

Ruchti will assist primarily with research development, which includes helping faculty identify and secure contracts and grants, and with the launch and management of centers and research cores, particularly in the area of new awards.

Ruchti's research areas include elementary particle physics and experimental high energy. A Notre Dame faculty member since 1977, he is the founder of the Notre QuarkNet Center, a nationwide program that gives high school students and their teachers an opportunity to be involved with ongoing experiments at particle accelerators, such as Fermilab. He recently returned to Notre Dame after a three-year assignment as a program director at the National Science Foundation.

Liz Rulli, formerly director of financial affairs in the office of the vice president

for research at Purdue University, will become assistant vice president for research on Sept. 15.

Her Purdue career includes six years in sponsored program administration of industrial, foundation and state of Indiana projects, two years as business manager in the Department of Physics, five years as the business manager for the College of Science, six years as director of financial affairs in the office of the vice president for research, and two years in the enterprise software effort at Purdue.

In office of the vice president for research at Purdue, Rulli supervised several of the business managers in significant research units, including Discovery Park, Purdue's new interdisciplinary research campus.

Tracey Poston has been named director of research compliance for the office.

She previously served as associate director of research compliance at Missouri State University and as special projects/research integrity officer in the office of the vice chancellor for research at St. Louis University.

Poston, who recently earned a doctorate from St. Louis University, will evaluate, implement and manage Notre Dame's research compliance programs.

ND Votes

continued from page 1

The aim of NDVotes '08 is to simplify the voter registration process and, if students are already registered, the program will send them instructions, tailored to the student's state, about how to register for an absentee ballot.

This year, students are "definitely" being proactive in registering to vote and applying for an absentee ballot, Laurel said.

"NDVotes is working so hard to make absentee voting such a simple process," she said. "We want to make the process as simple as possible to make sure everyone votes."

When a person signs up with NDVotes '08, he or she is added to an e-mail database. The campaign will send an e-mail with a link to the Web site the person's state provides to request an absentee ballot.

Laurel has taken her own advice. She is already applied to vote by absentee ballot in her home state of Texas.

The race for the presidency, between the Democratic ticket of Sen. Barack Obama of Illinois and Sen. Joe Biden of Delaware against the Republican ticket of Sen. John McCain of Arizona and Gov. Sarah Palin of Alaska, represents a "monumental election," Laurel said.

"Not only is there the racial factor," she said. "But there's also the gender factor with Sarah Palin's selec-

"Not only is there the racial factor, but there's also the gender factor with Sarah Palin's selection."

Mallory Laurel
ND '08 co-chair

tion."

NDVotes '08 has been working to increase student civic participation and political knowledge through programming events. The group will continue hosting its popular "Pizza, Pop and Politics" nights, Laurel said.

The first one of the semester is scheduled for Monday in Coleman-Morse Lounge at 5 p.m., where professors in Notre Dame's political science and journalism programs will hold an informal discussion about the race to the White House.

"People this election season are really interested in what the professionals have to say," she said.

NDVotes '08 has several other events planned for the two months leading up to the Election Day on Nov. 4, including a politically-themed film series and an outdoor screening for the first presidential debate on Sept. 26.

Contact Kaitlynn Riely at kriely@nd.edu

SMC

continued from page 1

have been repaired," Hambling said in the e-mail sent to students over the summer.

In addition, Hambling's e-mail said ceilings, shower heads and valves, new sinks and counters have all been repaired or replaced in the Annex wing of LeMans.

Holy Spirit Chapel in LeMans Hall had its exterior storm windows removed and repaired and the damage to the walls inside the chapel is also still currently being

repaired and will be finished August 15.

Madaleva Hall, a classroom building, "is scheduled for a major interior renovation beginning in August 2008," according to the e-mail. In addition, the building's gutters, hatches, blinds and furniture have been repaired as well.

The Cushwa-Leighton Library's roof is still currently under construction as well, and it will be sometime before the project is complete.

"This is an extensive project that will involve total removal of the slate, refastening the wood sub-structure to the concrete deck and replacing the

plywood sheeting. New ice melt system will be installed to eliminate the ice-damming problem," he said.

Hambling, however, assured students that the main doors of the Library would always be open.

Some interior work was done on the carpets and tiles of McCandless Hall, and the showers are being regouted, Hambling said.

In Angela Athletic Facility the "gym floor has been refinished" and the internal and external handrails have been repaired and replaced.

Contact Mandi Stirone at astrio01@saintmarys.edu

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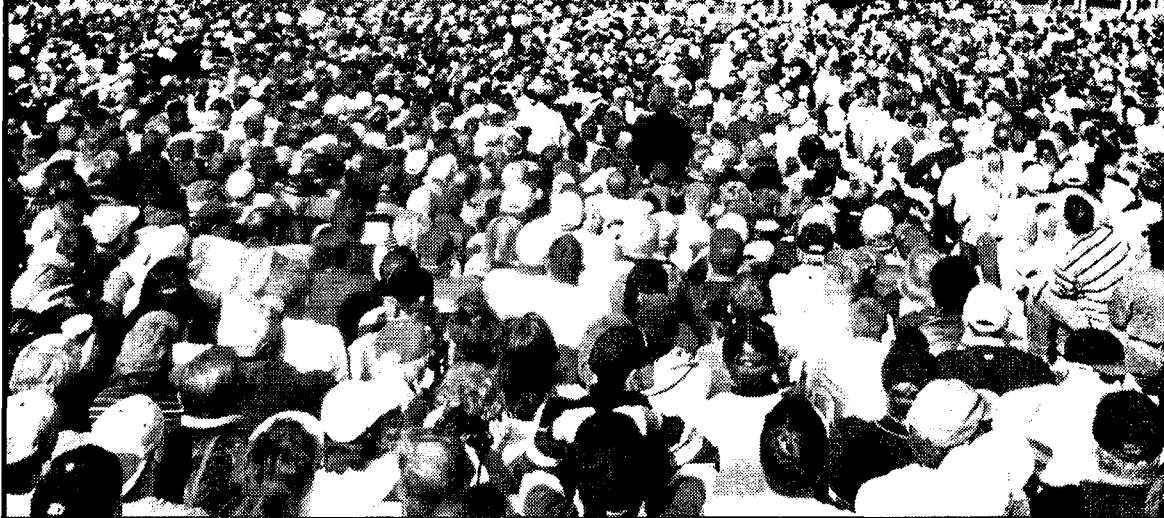
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MARKET RECAP

Stocks

Dow Jones 11,188.23 -344.65

Up: 568 Same: 74 Down: 2,828 Composite Volume: 1,002,583,934

AMEX	1,934.40	-54.02
NASDAQ	2,259.04	-74.69
NYSE	8,008.25	-261.00
S&P 500	1,236.83	-38.15
NIKKEI (Tokyo)	12,557.66	0.00
FTSE 100 (London)	5,362.10	-137.60

COMPANY	%CHANGE	\$GAIN	PRICE
S&P DEP RECEIPTS (SPY)	-3.01	-3.85	124.03
POWERSHARES (QQQQ)	-3.24	-1.46	43.66
FINANCIAL SEL SPDR (XLF)	-4.90	-1.08	20.98
ISHARE RUS 2000 (IWM)	-3.14	-2.33	71.82

Treasuries

10-YEAR NOTE	-1.46	-0.054	3.643
13-WEEK BILL	-0.90	-0.015	1.65
30-YEAR BOND	-0.86	-0.037	4.281
5-YEAR NOTE	-2.18	-0.064	2.876

Commodities

LIGHT CRUDE (\$/bbl.)	-1.46	107.89
GOLD (\$/Troy oz.)	-5.00	803.20
PORK BELLIES (cents/lb.)	-2.88	87.43

IN BRIEF

Consumer spending down, stocks fall

NEW YORK — Dejected investors sent stocks plunging Thursday, hurtling the Dow Jones industrials down more than 340 points after retailers and the government added to a mountain of bad economic news and devastated hopes for a late-year recovery.

The market was already nervous as it waited for the government to release its August employment report on Friday. So news from the nation's major retailers that shoppers curtailed their spending last month due to higher gas and food prices came as a heavy blow.

Wal-Mart Stores Inc., the world's largest retailer, beat expectations because of its big discounts, but many teen retailers and luxury chains did poorly, a sign that consumers are spending mostly on essentials and putting discretionary buying on hold.

Shea selling stadium piece by piece

NEW YORK — As a season-ticket holder, Darrell Buono spent 13 years rooting for the New York Mets in blue, loge-level seats at Shea Stadium. So he bought them.

The seats cost \$869 for a pair and will have a place of honor in Buono's basement in New Hyde Park when they are shipped, sometime after the last game is played at Shea this fall and the Mets begin dismantling the stadium.

"My wife kind of gave me a strange look when I told her I was doing it," Buono admitted. "But she was OK with it."

Comcast appeals FCC blocking ruling

WASHINGTON — Comcast Corp. is appealing an FCC ruling that the company is improperly blocking customers' Web traffic, triggering a legal battle that could determine the extent of the government's authority to regulate the Internet.

In a precedent-setting move, a divided Federal Communications Commission last month determined that the company is violating a federal policy that guarantees unfettered access to the Internet.

Comcast challenged the FCC decision Thursday in the U.S. District Court of Appeals in Washington, D.C.

Corrupt lobbyist sent to prison

Abramoff sentenced to four years for cutting deals between lobbyists and politicians

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Jack Abramoff, the once powerful lobbyist at the heart of a far-reaching political corruption scandal, was sentenced to four years in prison Thursday by a judge who said the case had shattered the public's confidence in government.

Abramoff, who fought back tears as he declared himself a broken man, appeared crestfallen as the judge handed down a sentence lengthier than prosecutors had sought.

Over the past three years, Abramoff has come to symbolize corruption and the secret deals cut between lobbyists and politicians in back rooms or on golf courses or private jets. The scandal shook Pennsylvania Avenue from the White House to Capitol Hill and contributed to the Republicans' loss of Congress in 2006.

"I come before you as a broken man," Abramoff said at his sentencing before U.S. District Judge Ellen Segal Huvelle. "I'm not the same man who happily and arrogantly engaged in a lifestyle of political and business corruption."

He added later that, "My name is the butt of a joke, the source of a laugh and the title of a scandal."

Already two years into a prison term from a separate case in Florida, Abramoff, 49, will have spent about six years in prison by the time he is released, far longer than he and his attorneys expected for a man who became the key FBI witness in his own corruption case.

With Abramoff's help, the Justice Department has won corruption convictions against former Rep. Bob Ney, R-Ohio, former Deputy Interior Secretary J. Steven Griles and several top Capitol Hill aides.

Because of that cooperation, prosecutors were reserved in their comments to the court. Rather than regaling the court with a



David Sickey, vice chairman of the Coushatta Tribe, speaks to reporters outside the U.S. District Court following the sentencing of convicted lobbyist Jack Abramoff.

summary of the misdeeds and the seriousness of the corruption, the Justice Department said little in court while urging leniency.

Defense attorney Abbe Lowell portrayed Abramoff as a conflicted man. Yes, he corrupted politicians with golf junkets, expensive meals and luxury seats at sporting events. But he also donated millions of dollars to charity, and his good deeds were catalogued in hundreds of letters from friends.

"How can we be talking about the same person?" Lowell said. "But that's the record: A modern-day 'Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde.'"

Although Abramoff expressed remorse Thursday, he also has spent his time in prison cooperating with a book that portrays him much differently: as a victim of Washington

politics.

The book, set for publication later this month and obtained by The Associated Press, says Abramoff was pressured to plead guilty. The book blames The Washington Post and Sen. John McCain, the Republican presidential nominee whose Senate committee investigated Abramoff, for making him the fall guy.

"I never expected that I would have to go to prison," Abramoff says in the book, "until it became clear that the media could not allow this play to close without the hanging of the villain."

In "The Perfect Villain: John McCain and the Demonization of Lobbyist Jack Abramoff," Boston journalist Gary Chafetz portrays Abramoff as an innocent man who excelled in an already corrupt system and

was undone by biased prosecutors, reporters and political enemies.

McCain campaign spokesman Tucker Bounds did not immediately respond to an e-mail seeking comment.

That theory was nowhere to be found in court Thursday. Abramoff wept as his attorney discussed his family's suffering. He seemed shocked when Huvelle handed down her sentence, looking at his wife and children and shaking his head.

Huvelle could have sent Abramoff to prison for 11 years but showed leniency because of his work with the FBI. She rejected, however, proposals to reduce the sentence even further by giving Abramoff credit for the time he already has spent in prison on a fraudulent casino deal in Florida.

FDA orders new medication warnings

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The Food and Drug Administration ordered stronger warnings Thursday on four medications widely used to treat rheumatoid arthritis and other serious illnesses, saying they can raise the risk of possibly fatal fungal infections.

The drugs — Enbrel, Remicade, Humira and Cimzia — work by suppressing the immune system to keep it from attacking the body. For patients with rheumatoid arthritis, the treatment provides relief from swollen and painful joints, but it's "a double-edged sword," said the FDA's Dr. Jeffrey Siegel. That's because the

drugs also lower the body's defenses to various kinds of infections.

Siegel, who heads the office that oversees arthritis drugs, said the FDA became concerned after discovering that doctors seemed to be overlooking a particular kind of fungal infection called histoplasmosis. Of 240 cases reported to the FDA in which patients taking one of the four drugs developed this infection, a total of 45 died — about 20 percent.

The infection, which mimics the flu, is prevalent in much of the middle part of the country. It can have particularly grave consequences if it isn't caught early and spreads beyond the respiratory system to other organs of the body.

Siegel said the investigation began with a single case of a woman taking one of the drugs who died of histoplasmosis. Delving into the case, doctors at the FDA found that the woman had been sick with the fungal infection for a long time. "This case led us to be concerned that there may be other situations in which physicians may not recognize histoplasmosis," said Siegel.

FDA officials searched the agency's database and found the 240 cases of patients taking the medications who had also developed the fungal infection. Of those, at least 21 appeared to involve a late diagnosis, and 12 of them — more than half — ultimately died.

Senator leads boycott in underfunding protest

Associated Press

CHICAGO — The state senator who led a school boycott to protest underfunded Chicago schools cut it short after two days and said Thursday he will be talking to Gov. Rod Blagojevich soon to discuss solutions.

Sen. James Meeks said the governor's office has suggested Monday or Tuesday as possible dates for a meeting.

Meeks had announced late Wednesday that his boycott, which began Tuesday, was being ended because Blagojevich said he wouldn't meet while it was still in effect. It was to have lasted through Friday.

"The governor stated that he would not meet until the boycott was called off, so we are going to not only call his bluff but trust that he keeps this word," Meeks said in cutting the protest short. "We

trust that the governor is a man of good will and good sense."

Meeks said he could not yet estimate how many students participated in the boycott's second day, but he said the number was in the hundreds. While the number was only a fraction of the district's 400,000 students, Meeks said it was successful in publicizing the funding problem.

Blagojevich spokesman Lucio Guerrero said the governor was happy to talk with Meeks but it was up to the legislature to approve funding.

Meeks spokeswoman Tasha Harris said all boycotting children should have returned to school Thursday. Schools spokeswoman Anitra Schulte had no immediate detail on the day's turnout, but said first-day attendance Tuesday had actually risen from last year, despite the boycott.

Prison officials get digital TV

Associated Press

COLUMBIA — The big switch to digital TV has prison officials scrambling to keep one of the most important peacekeeping tools in prisons across the nation — broadcast television.

When the nation's broadcasters make the switch from analog to digital signals next Feb. 17, televisions that aren't hooked up to cable, satellite or a converter box will be reduced to static. While TV might seem like an undeserved luxury for inmates, prison officials and inmates say the tube does more than fill year after year of idle hours — it provides a sense of normalcy and is a bargaining chip that encourages good behavior.

The TV industry has spent months preparing consumers for the switch, running ads and offering government-funded coupons that can be redeemed for the converter boxes needed to display the digital signal on older TVs. But officials worry that prisoners may be left to stare at blank screens because they don't qualify for the \$40 coupons.

"They won't give us the switches, we called them," said South Carolina Corrections Department Director Jon Ozmint. "We asked them for the coupons and they said they're only available for households. I said, 'We're the big house.' But they didn't buy it."

Ozmint said state money won't be used to buy the undetermined number of converters South Carolina needs to keep its TVs running in common areas. Officials in many states haven't figured out exactly how many converter boxes will be needed — and what the exact cost will be.

In North Carolina, 699 televisions in 26 of the state's 78 prison facilities get over-the-air broadcast TV. For instance, one prison in Taylorsville has 40 over-the-air TVs. Department of Corrections spokesman Keith Acree said.

The agency is trying to determine whether multiple televisions can be hooked up to a single converter box, or if each TV will need a converter box, he

said.

In Florida, corrections department spokeswoman Gretl Plessinger said officials are asking for donations for the digital boxes and could buy the converters themselves.

But that's something that may need legislators' approval because Florida law bars spending money on perks like cable TV for inmates. "It's important because it's an inmate idleness issue," Plessinger said. "(We're) concerned about inmates acting up if they're bored."

Plessinger, Ozmint and others — including those who have served time — see television more as necessity than perk. Norris Henderson, who spent 27 years in Louisiana's Angola prison, said it's a myth that inmates idle away the day watching soap operas and game shows. "If anything has a priority, it's the news," Henderson said.

Where inmates watch TV, and for how long, depends on the state and prison. Some inmates watch television in communal day rooms, while other prisons let inmates have small TVs in their cells.

Checo Yancy, who spent 20 years in Angola, said TVs rarely are turned on when inmates are working — but there are exceptions. On Sept. 11, 2001, inmates watched in horror as the aftermath of the terror attacks on New York and Washington unfolded.

"Inmates were just as heartbroken as people on the outside," said Yancy, who now helps run the Louisiana chapter of Citizens United for Rehabilitation of Errants. "I saw guys cry that particular day because it was a tragedy."

Dr. Terry Kupers, a psychiatrist and prison expert at the University of California, Berkeley, said there is clear evidence that TV privileges can positively affect prisoners. At Indiana's Wabash Valley super-maximum security prison, he said, far fewer behavior problems were reported among inmates in isolation after they were given small televisions and prison officials spent more time talking with them.

440 children seized in polygamist raid

Child welfare working to find homes for underage boys and girls

Associated Press

SAN ANGELO — Child by child, Texas authorities are acknowledging that many of the children seized during a raid on a polygamist sect's ranch can safely live with their parents or guardians.

Since the April 3 raid on the Yearning for Zion Ranch in Eldorado, 235 children's custody cases have been dropped, meaning fewer than half of the 440 children seized remain bound by a court order to stay in Texas, attend parenting classes or be available for unannounced visits by Child Protective Services.

C P S spokesman Patrick Crimmins said more cases are likely to be dropped but he was unsure how many.

They're being dropped "as fast as we can because it's a burden on everyone," he said.

He said the dismissals do not mean that abuse never occurred, only that many of the children can safely live with a parent or other relative — something that sect members and lawyers argued early on in the chaotic custody case.

"It most certainly goes back to the idea that the proper way to have conducted this process was to get evidence as to what children, if any, were at risk," said Cynthia Martinez, a spokeswoman for Texas RioGrande Legal Aid, which represented dozens of mothers in the case. "They went through this ordeal, and in the end, CPS found they were a good parent."

The children of the Fundamentalist Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day

Saints were the subject of one of the largest custody cases in U.S. history, taken into state custody from their ranch in a tiny west Texas town because child welfare authorities said girls were being forced into underage marriages and boys were being raised to be perpetrators.

Authorities went to the ranch after several calls to a domestic abuse hotline, in which the caller claimed to be an underage wife and mother who was being beaten and raped by her much-older husband. Texas state police are now investigating whether the calls were a hoax.

Once authorities had the children at a San Angelo shelter, they said the sect members refused to cooperate with the investigation, refusing to give last names or identify parents or siblings. CPS officials said they had no choice but to treat all the children as potentially members of the same family.

They were scattered to foster care facilities across the state in April and remained there for about two months until the Texas Supreme Court ruled that authorities were wrong to take all the children. Half the children sent to foster care were younger than 6.

When state District Judge Barbara Walther ordered them returned to their parents in June, she also ordered them to stay in Texas, take parenting classes, allow psychological assessments and be available to investigators from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. every day.

Only one child — a girl allegedly married to jailed sect leader Warren Jeffs when she

was 12 — has been returned to foster care.

Five sect members, including Jeffs, have been indicted in Schleicher County for sexual assault of a child; several have also been charged with bigamy. A sixth FLDS member is charged with failing to report child abuse, a misdemeanor. Jeffs, convicted as an accomplice to rape in Utah, remains jailed in Arizona where he awaits trial on charges stemming from the alleged underage marriage of sect girls.

Crimmins said the agency never intended to take the FLDS children from their parents permanently.

"We never brought the kids into care to keep them in care. We brought them into care to do an efficient and effective investigation," he said.

Jessica Dixon, a law professor who oversees the child advocacy clinic at Southern Methodist University in Dallas, said CPS cases do sometimes result in children quickly being dropped from court supervision, even after initial foster placement. But it doesn't happen often.

To remove a child, "legally, you've got to be able to show risk," she said.

CPS now usually looks for a way children can remain with their parents safely, Dixon said, though she noted that cases of alleged sexual abuse will usually trigger swifter action.

"In most child welfare courts, they're going to be safe rather than sorry, and in some cases, that will result in removals that shouldn't have happened," she said.

Since the April raid and rancorous custody case, the FLDS, which believe polygamy brings glorification in heaven, has said it will not sanction marriages of underage girls. The sect is a breakaway of the Mormon church, which renounced polygamy more than a century ago.

"In most child welfare courts, they're going to be safe rather than sorry, and in some cases, that will result in removals that shouldn't have happened."

Jessica Dixon
Methodist University
Law Professor



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THAILAND

Protestors work to oust prime minister

Leader refuses to cede or compromise amidst economic chaos

Associated Press

BANGKOK — Thailand's prime minister refused again on Thursday to cede to protesters determined to oust him, but offered an unconventional compromise — a referendum on his fate aimed at ending the political crisis that has paralyzed the government and raised fears of economic chaos.

Prime Minister Samak Sundaravej hopes the vote will allow him to keep his job while placating the People's Alliance for Democracy, which has vowed to continue its campaign, including occupying the seat of government, until Samak quits.

The referendum will ask the public to choose between the alliance and the government, but many analysts say a simple yes-no vote is insufficient in the face of a complicated political crisis.

The alliance ridiculed the plan, saying Samak will manipulate the vote, just as they allege he did during general elections in December 2007.

"The referendum is an attempt by Mr. Samak to buy himself some more time in the office," Sondhi Limthongkul, a media tycoon and one of the protest leaders, told The Associated Press.

Before announcing the referendum, which caught the nation by surprise, Samak

delivered a combative speech on national radio, again refusing to step down.

"I will not abandon the ship, and I will take responsibility for the crew on board," Samak said, peppering his speech with folksy language. "I am not resigning. I have to protect the democracy of this country."

But some have said the referendum could aggravate rather than alleviate the political deadlock.

"A referendum is normally used to test public approval on whether to go to war or pass an important law. It would not be effective as a tool to solve a complicated political crisis with many conditions and layers," said Panithan Wattanayagorn, a political science professor at Bangkok's Chulalongkorn University.

"The problem is complex and nuanced and asking a yes or no question will only further divide the country," Panithan said.

Before any referendum can be held, the Senate must pass a law because current statutes do not provide for the possibility. Samak said once the law is passed, it would take about a month to hold the vote.

The alliance, which claims to be apolitical, is a loosely knit group of royalists, wealthy and middle-class urban residents, and union activists. It wants Parliament to be revamped so most lawmakers are appointed

rather than elected, arguing that Thailand's impoverished rural majority is too susceptible to vote buying.

The group has already had a hand in bringing down one government, when it staged demonstrations in 2006 that paved the way for the bloodless coup that removed then Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra from office.

Thaksin, a telecommunications tycoon, recently fled to Britain to escape corruption charges. The protesters say Samak is Thaksin's stooge and is running the government for him by proxy. They accuse Samak's government of corruption and making unconstitutional decisions.

After months of protests in the capital, thousands of PAD supporters stormed the gates of the Government House, the stately domed building that houses Samak's office, on Aug. 26. They have occupied the compound's lush lawns, set up a thriving community under tents and refused to budge.

Even though Samak imposed a state of emergency on Bangkok on Tuesday, the military has not stepped in to evict the protesters for fear it would lead to a bloodbath.

Rioting between supporters of Samak and the alliance left one person dead and dozens injured early Tuesday, the only violence since the deadlock began.

GAZA STRIP

Medical staff strike cripples hospitals

Associated Press

GAZA CITY — A walkout of medical staff throughout Gaza has strained services at hospitals and clinics throughout the territory, the latest in a series of crippling strikes that are deepening bitter divisions between Gaza's militant Hamas rulers and loyalists of moderate Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas.

The strike has forced non-complying doctors to pull double shifts and left residents struggling for treatment, adding to the hardships in a territory suffering from international isolation since Hamas wrested control of Gaza from Fatah-allied security forces in June 2007.

The Medical Workers' Union, dominated by Abbas' Fatah movement, called the strike last week to demand Hamas reinstate workers Fatah says have been fired for their political loyalties. The union said Hamas police have forced some essential staff to report to duty under the threat of arrest.

Hamas has accused Fatah of calling the walkout at state-run hospitals and clinics as a political ploy — but has aggravated the crisis by shutting down private clinics run by striking doctors.

Around half of Gaza's thousands of doctors, nurses and

administrative medical workers have walked off the job since last week, according to the World Health Organization. Hospital workers carried out a similar strike last year after Hamas fired several senior doctors, but the doctors weren't rehired and the slowdown fizzled after five days.

Gaza hospitals are barely grinding along because working doctors and nurses are putting in 12-hour to 24-hour shifts and running on skeleton staff, many only treating emergency cases. Many clinics are closed.

"I want to ask something. The doctors and nurses that went on strike, if their son or brother is sick, will they watch him die?" asked Mohammed Musa, an unemployed, 36-year-old father who could not find a doctor to treat his son's fever.

Union leader Osama Najjar said hundreds of medical staff were called in for interrogations, and dozens of pro-Fatah employees have been fired and replaced with Hamas loyalists.

Mahmoud Zahar, a top Hamas leader and physician by training, said the government had to take action because key staff were not turning up. He said there isn't enough medical staff in Gaza to replace strikers, prompting police to force them to work.



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P.O. Box 779, Notre Dame, IN 46556
024 South Dining Hall, Notre Dame, IN 46556

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MANAGING EDITOR: Jay Fitzpatrick
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AD DESIGN MANAGER: Kelly Gronli

CONTROLLER: Tim Sobolewski

SYSTEMS ADMINISTRATOR: Christian Sagardia

OFFICE MANAGER & GENERAL INFO

(574) 631-7471

FAX

(574) 631-6927

ADVERTISING

(574) 631-6900 observad@nd.edu

EDITOR IN CHIEF

(574) 631-4542

MANAGING EDITOR

(574) 631-4541 obsme@nd.edu

ASSISTANT MANAGING EDITOR

(574) 631-4324

BUSINESS OFFICE

(574) 631-5313

NEWS DESK

(574) 631-5323 obsnews.1@nd.edu

VIEWPOINT DESK

(574) 631-5303 viewpoint.1@nd.edu

SPORTS DESK

(574) 631-4543 sports.1@nd.edu

SCENE DESK

(574) 631-4540 scene.1@nd.edu

SAINT MARY'S DESK

smc.1@nd.edu

PHOTO DESK

(574) 631-8767 obsphoto@nd.edu

SYSTEMS & WEB ADMINISTRATORS

(574) 631-8839

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OBSERVER ONLINE
www.ndsmcobserver.com

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TODAY'S STAFF

News
Joseph McMahon
Ashley Charnley
Viewpoint
Kara King
Graphics
Andrea Archer

Sports
Matt Gamber
Greg Arbogast
Scene
Stephanie DePrez

Reasons behind cancellation should be revealed

Recently, Dillon Hall rector Fr. Paul Doyle cancelled the Dillon Pep Rally, the dorm's signature event. Fr. Doyle was vague in his reasoning and emphatic about his decision, but did not give what many residents of the dorm felt was sufficient reasoning for abandoning the pep rally so definitively. Because of the abrupt nature and the lack of clear rationales of the cancellation, The Observer believes that it was unfair to the students of the dorm to cancel their event.

In an interview with The Observer, Fr. Doyle explained his decision by saying that things were not coming together in a "timely fashion." However, by Sunday — the day pep rally tryouts normally begin — a crowd of 30 students gathered in Dillon Hall with a 25 page script ready to begin rehearsals.

Moreover, those in charge of the pep rally already had confirmed guests of Notre Dame football coach Charlie Weiss, new Notre Dame athletic director Jack Swarbrick and two Notre Dame football players. After announcing to the dorm that the pep rally was cancelled, Fr. Doyle had to call these guests and inform them that they did not need to attend.

Fr. Doyle also mentioned the lack of an approved T-shirt design as a reason behind cancelling the event, and took the blame for that. However, the T-shirt is an ancillary part of the pep rally; the important parts (guests, a script and actors) were already taken care of.

The issue of the "timely fashion" in which the pep rally

must be completed is also suspect. Fr. Doyle denied requests to postpone the pep rally to later in the football season, saying that instead planning for the pep rally must begin in April and continue throughout the summer. However, with a script fully written by Sunday night, the pep rally was on the same timeline it had been in previous years.

The University has been mum on the issue. Both the Student Activities Office and the Office of News and Information denied involvement, claiming that the cancellation was done entirely by Dillon Hall's staff with no outside pressure.

In a meeting with Dillon Hall residents interested in performing in the Dillon Pep Rally, Fr. Doyle expanded on his reasons for cancelling the dorm's signature event, mentioning complaints he received after last year's pep rally about the vulgarity in the skits. However, Fr. Doyle did not read this year's script's first draft to see if that same level of crudeness that had been present in previous years was used this year.

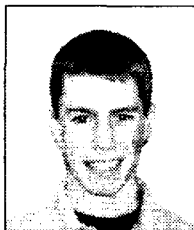
Overall, the Dillon Pep Rally is an annual event not just for that dorm, but for the University as well. It does not stand for the vulgar jokes Fr. Doyle wants to suppress, but instead for bringing Notre Dame football fans together to get ready for the season.

Fr. Doyle singlehandedly undid 30 years of tradition over, according to his reasoning, a t-shirt and a few complaints — clearly not important enough to deprive a dorm of a key part of its identity.

THE OBSERVER Editorial

A class by class guide to a Notre Dame football weekend

After impatiently waiting for the past nine months, and avoiding excuses for that abomination of a season, it's morning again at Notre Dame. Our football team is back in action this weekend, and campus is morphing to account for it. Trash cans are being put everywhere, food stand equipment is being laid across campus, temporary fences are being erected and alums have started arriving on campus. Notre Dame is a different place on a football weekend, and this list should get everybody in the mood, and remind each class of students of what they are supposed to do throughout the weekend.



Bob Kessler

House of Stix

Freshmen:
Watch Rudy on Thursday night. Go to the pep rally on Friday. Attend Drummer's Circle at midnight. Wear The Shirt on Saturday. Watch the Band play at Bond Hall. Arrive at the game 45 minutes before kickoff. Do the cheers incorrectly. Try to start The Wave in the 3rd quarter. Eat at the Candlelight Dinner in South Dining Hall. Fall asleep early.

Sophomores:
Pregame the Pep Rally with beer and/or liquor. Lead dorm cheers on

the way to the JACC. Host an opponent themed party such as "Beat them Back to the Aztec Era" where everybody comes dressed as an Aztec Warrior. Wake up early after the party to sell Brats and Burgers at a dorm/club concession stand. Head out to the Stadium Lot with a group of friends looking for some friendly alums or a random friend's relative to give you free food. Arrive at the game 25 minutes before kickoff to watch the band perform. Complain about the freshmen doing cheers wrong in the 1st quarter. Purchase a platter of Nachos in the 2nd quarter. Try to start The Wave in the 4th quarter. Order Pizza in the Dorm after the game.

Juniors:
Utilize fake IDs at Club Fever on Thursday Night. Attend the Pep Rally on Friday. Complain about the length of the Pep Rally. Party at the opponent themed party, but ditch early for Washington Street. Wake up in mid-morning and watch College GameDay. Complain about Lee Corso's anti-Notre Dame comments. Wear The Shirt or a green Brady Quinn jersey. Drink some beer at a relative's tailgate. Run from the cops through the Stadium parking lot. Arrive at the game five minutes before Kickoff with a good buzz going. Complain about The Wave. Get a free dinner from your roommates parents after the game. Fall asleep early while watching College Football Final. Complain about Mark May on Sunday morning

Seniors:
Go to Finnegan's on Thursday Night. Skip the Pep Rally with an enormous hangover. Welcome recent Alums back for a party on Friday Night. Wake up early on Saturday for Tailgating. Wear whatever you want to wear, which probably isn't The Shirt. Host a tailgate at an off campus house or at the Radio Tower lot. Keep BAC high enough so that you can feel free to yell loudly whenever you like about how Matt Leinart and Reggie Bush ruined the best moment of your life. Shotgun approximately seven beers in the 90 minutes leading up to kickoff. Stumble into the game 10 minutes after kickoff because you were busy playing one last round of Can Of Shame. Participate in one out of every seven cheers. Complain that the sophomore year Leprechaun was way better than this one. Walk home to Off-Campus house after game. Go to The Backer at night. Sing/yell "Oh What a Night." Pass Out at home. Watch Entourage on Sunday night.

Freshmen/Sophomores/Juniors/Seniors:

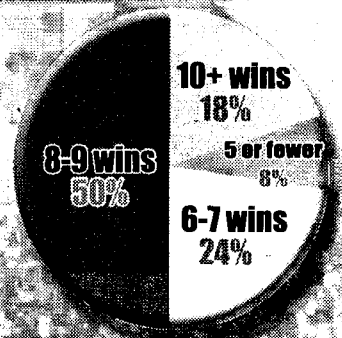
Do it all again next weekend!
Now that we're all clear on the game plan, let's go out and do it.
Go Irish, Beat Aztecs

Bob Kessler is a senior majoring in political science and economics. You can contact him at rkessler@nd.edu
The views expressed in this column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer.

Observer Poll

How many wins will Notre Dame football have this season?

	Votes	Percentage
8-9	549	50%
6-7	264	24%
10+	192	18%
5 or fewer	89	8%



QUOTE OF THE DAY

"Here's to alcohol: the cause of, and solution to, all of life's problems."

Homer Simpson
animated genius/philosopher

BE AN ILLUSTRATOR

By MARK WITTE
Asst. Scene Editor

It has the largest collection of Olmec art in North America, with artifacts covering more than 3000 years of Mexico's mother culture—the Olmec Civilization's history. It contains Native American art predating European contact, countless paintings from the last five centuries and is currently exhibiting Richard Serra's groundbreaking *Arc of the Curve* and *Paths & Edges*. But most Notre Dame students have never been inside.

The Snite Museum of the Arts sits in the silhouette of Notre Dame Stadium, but its collections are anything but overshadowed.

Located immediately to the east of the museum's main entrance is *The Dragon and the Goddess: Olmec Art and Its Legacy* exhibit, which houses over 270 works of art, more than 80 of which are Olmec, and 169 of which were made before A.D. 250. The gallery is the museum's largest collection and one which Gina Costa, the Museum's Public Relations and Marketing Specialist, says is the most important Mesoamerican collection outside of Mexico City.

And it is.

The gallery contains artifacts and sculptures from the Aztec, the Toltec, the Mayan and the Teotihuacán Civilizations, to name a few. Notable among them is the "God L Relief Panel" attributed to Toltec and Mayan culture of the Late Classic and Early Post Classic periods (A.D. 850-950). God L, the Lord of Hell, can be seen smoking a cigar in the stone sculpture.

Also eye-catching is the basalt sculpture "Palma depicting the God of Death as a

ballplayer holding a knife and a severed head" from the Classic Veracruz Culture (A.D. 700-900), which nearly resembles the shape of a tiara.

In the center of the exhibit there are selections from the museum's collection of Spanish Colonial Christian art interpreted by Indian and Latino artists, including a stone Atrial Cross with the face of Christ and instruments of the passion, i.e. torture devices, carved into it. The cross predates the conquest of the Aztec Empire.

But the Olmec collection is only one of many at the Snite Museum of the Arts.

On the upper level of the museum are the 18th and 19th Century Galleries, the American Gallery and the Beardsley 20th and 21st Century Gallery. The 18th and 19th Century Galleries contain works by numerous European artists including Jean-Baptiste Camille Corot, François Boucher, Gerard de Lairese and Charles Louis Muller, who's "Roll Call of the Last Victims of the Reign of Terror" calls out pertinently from a wall in the Virginia A. Marten Gallery.

In the American Gallery, Father William J. Corby, CSC, can be seen addressing troops of the Irish Brigade on July 2, 1863 at Gettysburg, Pennsylvania in Paul Henry Wood's "Absolution Under Fire," which he painted at the age of 19 in 1891. Demanding attention from the other side of the room with its stunningly bright color scheme hangs Jeanette Pasin Sloan's more modern, acrylic on canvas, "Mercato Stripes," (1983) which shows chalices reflecting off one another. Inside the Beardsley Gallery are a number of contemporary art pieces including Kenneth Snelson's "Mozart I," whose shadow is almost as impressive as the intricate brass tubing

and wire design creating it.

The lower level of houses the Arts of Africa Gallery whose pieces include a 19th century brass ceremonial sword of the Ghana Ashanti people, Liberian facial masks from the early 20th century and numerous Cameroon earthen pipe bowls depicting toothless old men.

The basement also contains the Ancient, Medieval and Renaissance Gallery which contains many marble works from the first and second centuries AD and the 16th century marble depiction, "Virgin Enthroned Nursing Infant Jesus," by Italian sculptor Giovanni Antonio Amadeo.

There are more than 23,000 works of art inside the Snite Museum of the Arts and that's not including the exhibitions on the main floor which change regularly.

The aforementioned Serra exhibit is on display in O'Shaughnessy Gallery (located behind the Native North Americans Gallery) until mid-October and selections from Maxim Kantor's *Wasteland* and *Metropolis* are on display in the Milly and Fritz Kaeser Mestrovic Studio Gallery on the first floor's northeastern most wing.

The title of the Olmec gallery, *The Dragon and the Goddess*, according to Museum Curator Douglas E. Bradley, refers to two important features of the Olmec temple—the concept of the land of Mexico as a giant dragon's body, and the role of the Great Goddess as the primary deity involved in human life. You'd be silly to miss seeing either of them.

The Snite Museum is open on Tuesday and Wednesday 10am-4pm, Thursday thru Saturday from 10am-5pm and Sunday from 1-5pm. Admission is free.

Contact Mark Witte at
rmwitte@nd.edu

By ANALISE LIPARI
Scene Editor

The 2008-2009 season at the University's Snite Museum of Art is currently featuring an exhibit of prints by artist Richard Serra. "Arc of the Curve and Paths and Edges: Prints by Richard Serra" is in some ways a departure for the artist, who is better known for his works of sculpture.

A native of San Francisco, Richard Serra is primarily known for his work in minimalist sculpture with large pieces of sheet metal. Famous for his statement on site-specific art, "To remove the work is to destroy it," Serra

has also exhibited work at the Guggenheim Museum Bilbao, the Netherlands, and a retrospective on his work in New York at that city's Museum of Modern Art. Hardly one to shy away from political content in his work, in 2006 Serra showed a litho crayon drawing of an Abu Grahb prisoner with the caption "STOP BUSH" at New York's Whitney Museum of American Art. The drawing was then adapted for promotional materials surrounding the Whitney's Biennial show. He has also worked with video as an artistic medium.

Like his sculpture, his collection of prints currently being shown at the Snite is often

focused on pushing the boundaries of printmaking. With alternative sizing and dimensions, the prints are fascinating, dominating pieces of art. The exhibit consists of 26 prints from two of Serra's collections, 2004's "Arc of the Curve" and 2007's "Paths and Edges." The prints will appear at the Snite courtesy of collector Paul Schupf, in honor of Rev. Theodore M. Hesburgh. The exhibit is scheduled to run through October 12th.

For more information about the Snite, visit their Web site, www.nd.edu/~sniteart.

Contact Analis Lipari at
alipari@nd.edu

Viva la Coldplay!

By SHANE STEINBERG

Scene Writer

If 2005's "X&Y" was Coldplay's way of becoming more commercial and connecting with the masses, then their latest album, "Viva la Vida or Death and All His Friends" must be the band's way of showing that they can be boldly experimental while still connecting with the masses. Three years in the making, Viva la Vida is, as its opening track "Life in Technicolor" suggests, bursting with color and life. Chris Martin, Johnny Buckland, Will Champion, and Guy Berryman are still the Coldplay we have grown to know and love with their brooding ballads and heartfelt songs about love, and doubts and fears, but this time around they've put their musical chops on full display en route to recreating their sound. It may not connect

Viva la Vida or Death and All His Friends

Coldplay

Released by: Capitol Records

Recommended Tracks: "Viva La Vida", "Lost!", and "Lovers in Japan"



with listeners as much as "A Rush of Blood to the Head" and it most certainly isn't as dreamy and moodily dramatic as their debut album "Parachutes," but "Viva la Vida," despite its shortcomings, is in fact a resounding experimental success that has solidified Coldplay's status as one today's finest bands.

From the band's newly dawned 19th century French peasant army attire, to the album artwork, to the title track, Coldplay seems to scream revolution from every which way. It's no "OK Computer" or "The Joshua Tree". Then again, Coldplay isn't exactly sticking to their formula this time around. Sure, tracks like "Lovers in Japan" and "Lost?" could have come from any other Coldplay album, but they're still worthy nonetheless. Meanwhile "42" sounds like nothing before it while "Lost!", "Chinese Sleep Chant", and "Strawberry Swing," although not revolutionary, are surely uncharted waters for Coldplay.

Viva la Vida starts off quite appropriately with a beautifully celebratory instrumental prelude that truly lives up to its name, "Life in Technicolor". Next up is "Cemeteries of London", which despite its dreary name is actually mellow, and sees Martin's voice operating at a lower register, which is quite common throughout the album. Following "Cemeteries of London" are a host of truly engrossing, contemplative songs, that includes the likes of "Lost!" with its drum-circle flare and engaging lyrics, "Lovers in Japan", a pure Coldplay ballad with a great hook, the title track "Viva la Vida", a truly inventive, unbelievably catchy portrayal of a dethroned king recounting his fall from

power, but the true standout in the album is "42." Ingeniously dark and artistically abrasive, "42", with its brooding lyrics and sudden change of course into what initially seems like a completely different song, is the revolution Coldplay had been hoping to achieve with this album.

Of course "Viva la Vida" does have its fair share of missteps. To being with, it is over-produced and spotty in both quality and in delivering a central message with each song. Songs like "Chinese Sleep Chant" which, lets face it, is better off skipped than listened to, and "Reign Of Love" have no business being in the album. "Chinese Sleep Chant" sounds like a bad impression of My Bloody Valentine and "Reign Of Love" almost feels like a rehashed version of "A Rush Of Blood to the Head" minus the artistic genius. Redefining one's sounds isn't always a good thing when an editing eye isn't used, and such is definitely the case with "Viva la Vida."

When all is said and done, "Viva la Vida" isn't Coldplay's best album. It simply takes a longer time to digest, because, upon first listen it tends to bewilder rather than immediately pierce the listener like Coldplay's first two studio albums did. In the end, however, "Viva la Vida," which to this point has topped charts throughout the world and has produced a No.1 hit single, is a grand creative leap for a band that has already proven its immense artistic capacity as well as its ability to have commercial success while staying true to itself.

Contact Shane Steinberg at
ssteinb2@nd.edu

A Retrospective

By SHANE STEINBERG

Scene Writer

A flier outside the Laurel Tree, a local Camden club, read "January 16th, 1998, Starfish + others live at the Laurel Tree". A one-man tech crew could be seen through the crowd of rowdy teenagers on the decrepit stage setting up microphones for the night's act. Around one hundred and fifteen people were stuffed into a room, all of them unable to maneuver their way through the commotion. Backstage, ready to lay their musical aspirations on the line for the first time was the band Starfish. Yes, Starfish. Not exactly the name of a band anyone in their right mind would expect to make it in the music industry.

But here we are, ten years, four studio albums, five EPs, and one name change later, and Coldplay is selling out the world's largest arenas and topping charts in everywhere from Chile to Malaysia. Coldplay may have started out at the Laurel Tree by making the mistake of playing the same song twice in a row under a band name they had come up with an hour before taking the stage, but now, as lead singer Chris Martin said in a recent television appearance, "it doesn't get any bigger than us."

Of course Coldplay didn't start out selling millions of albums and headlining shows at Madison Square Garden. No, their humble beginnings as four Brits trying to make it big

with piano laden ballads started with a little-known song called "So Sad" and their first attention grabber, "Ode to Deodorant." From there they released five EPs, the most popular of which, Brothers and Sisters, helped garner them a spot with a major record label in 1999.

The very next year, Coldplay released its first studio album, Parachutes, an incredibly well-crafted debut with a singular resounding message as well as a breakthrough hit, "Yellow," which put Coldplay into the public consciousness. Having earned a Grammy award and been nominated for the prestigious Mercury Prize, Coldplay returned in 2002 with what is arguably their best album, "A Rush of Blood to the Head."

Both genuinely moving and consistently majestic from the first note to the last, "A Rush of Blood to the Head" received overwhelming critical acclaim and served notice that Coldplay was not just another flash in the pan.

2005 saw what may very well be Coldplay's only misstep in ten years. "X&Y" was Coldplay's way of creating more mainstream music and while it was successful commercially, it lacked in many ways and for a while it seemed as though the band had traded itself in to please the masses.

Then, three years later, Coldplay finally released their fourth, much-awaited album, the oddly but aptly titled "Viva la Vida or Death and All His Friends." This fourth effort saw the band aim for the stratosphere

with bold experimentation that involved the incorporation of many new international sounds, new dimensions of Chris Martin's voice, and evolved songwriting, all of which made the album an instant success.

Coldplay's formula for success mixes a knack for piercing song writing, a flair for moodily dramatic craftsmanship, and an ability to maintain a high quality from wire to wire while striking gold numerous times on each album. Their music manages to be dark one song yet vivid the very next. It is a culmination of thoughts on love, ruminations on fears and doubts, and reflections on the journey of finding oneself, all of which the band has managed to stay true to since crossing the threshold to the mainstream.

In ten years, Coldplay has risen from the depths of tiny clubs in the heart of Camden to a headlining mega-band with an automatic success factor. They've been through it all. They've sold 35 million albums (and counting), won three Grammy awards, received positive (and negative) comparisons to Radiohead and U2, been accused of ripping off another band in the song "Viva la Vida", and, most importantly, have provided the world with a brand of dreamy Britpop that truly transcends the shortcomings of today's music industry.

With music as good as their's, who knows, maybe they could have actually gotten away with the name Starfish.

Contact Shane Steinberg at
ssteinb2@nd.edu

MLB

Angels top Tigers to cut magic number to six

Votto's heroics help Reds to late comeback win over Pirates who've lost eleven of their last thirteen games

Associated Press

DETROIT — The Los Angeles Angels showed the Detroit Tigers what a playoff team looks like.

Torii Hunter homered to back Ervin Santana and the Angels beat the Tigers 7-1 on Thursday to cut their magic number to six for clinching their fourth AL West title in five seasons.

Santana (15-5) struck out eight in 7 1/3 innings, allowing one run and six hits.

"He's as consistent as any pitcher I've seen," Angels manager Mike Scioscia said. "He's approaching 30 starts, and he's throwing as well as he did in start five or six."

Santana, who won his first six decisions this year, is 4-0 in seven starts since July 27.

"It's about working hard," he said. "You just have to keep it up and keep throwing."

Detroit (67-73), which hasn't been at .500 since Aug. 2, advanced just two runners past first base before Curtis Granderson's homer in the eighth.

Mark Teixeira and Juan Rivera each drove in a pair of runs for the Angels, who broke open the game with a four-run third inning off Kenny Rogers (9-13). Gary Matthews Jr. hit safely in his first four at-bats, his first four-hit game since June 9.

Rogers (9-13) was removed

after he gave up four straight singles starting the third inning, his shortest start since he gave up seven runs and got just two outs at Cleveland on July 25, 2006. The 43-year-old left-hander, who allowed six runs and eight hits in two innings, has lost three straight starts and seven of eight.

"I'm not tired. I feel fine," he said. "I had no reason for failing. I went out there and didn't get it done. That's the only way to look at it. Everything they hit went for a double or single or whatever. I just couldn't stem the tide."

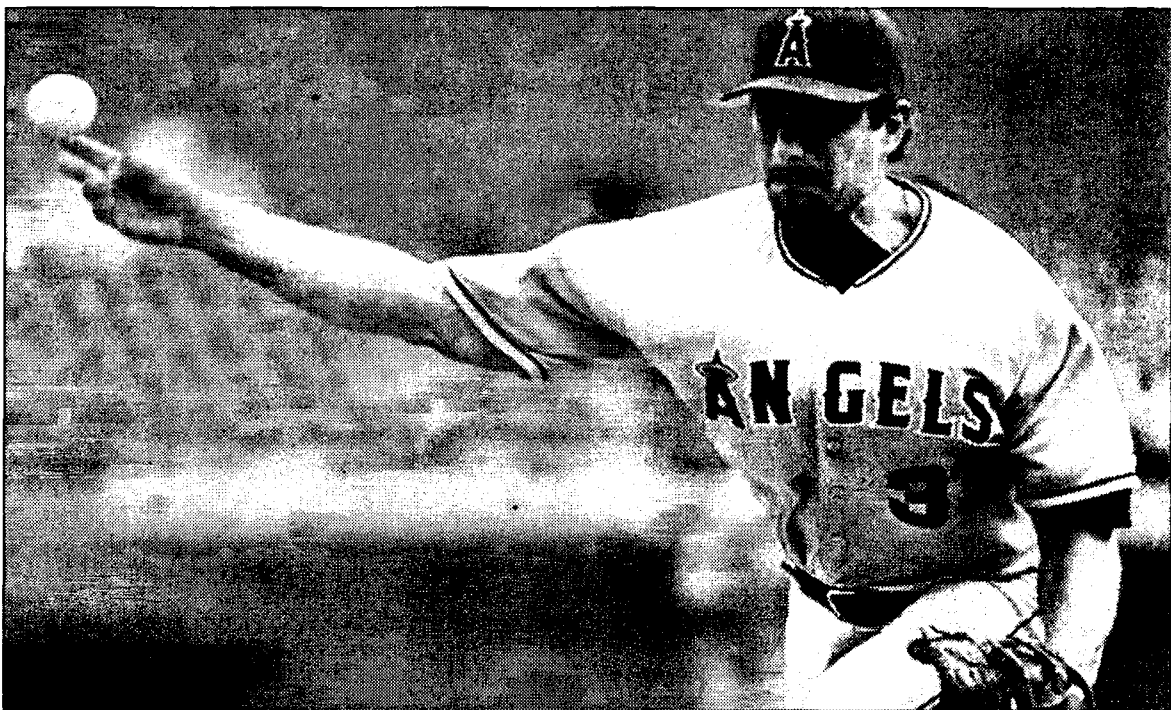
Tigers manager Jim Leyland thought Rogers is fighting some nagging pain but didn't think the pitcher would admit it.

"He won't make excuses. He's a professional," Leyland said.

Run-scoring singles by Teixeira in the first and Rivera in the second built the Angels' early lead. Robb Quinlan and Teixeira hit run-scoring singles in the third, chasing Rogers, and Vladimir Guerrero and Rivera singled in runs off Aquilino Lopez.

Hunter homered in the eighth off Nate Robertson, reaching 20 homers for the third consecutive season and seventh time in eight years. The drive landed an estimated 435 feet away in the upper hedgerow at Comerica Park.

"That's the longest ball I've ever hit here," said Hunter,



Los Angeles reliever Justin Speier pitches during the ninth inning of the Angels' 7-1 win over the Tigers Thursday to help Los Angeles move to the brink of their fourth AL West title in five seasons.

who made frequent stops in Detroit during his first seven full seasons in the majors with Minnesota.

Reds 8, Pirates 6

At this point in another dismal season, the Cincinnati Reds are looking for any reason to feel a little better about themselves.

How about this: At least they're not in last place.

Joey Votto hit a solo homer and a tiebreaking, bases-loaded single in the eighth inning Thursday, completing the Reds' rally from a five-run deficit to a victory over the Pittsburgh Pirates, who got to stay all by their lonesome at the bottom of the NL Central standings.

"It was real important for us," manager Dusty Baker said. "They were gaining on us, trying to get out of last place."

Instead, the Pirates blew a big early lead, gave up three runs in the eighth inning and lost for the 11th time in their last 13 games. A victory over the Reds would have completed a series sweep and left the two teams tied in the loss column.

"You couldn't have scripted a better day," manager John Russell lamented. "We're going for a sweep and we're spotted five runs."

Craig Hansen (0-3) couldn't hold a one-run lead in the

eighth, when his wild pitch let in the tying run. Hansen has given up runs in six of his nine appearances with the Pirates, who got him from Boston as part of the three-team trade involving outfielder Jason Bay.

He came in throwing 96 mph fastballs, but most of them were off the mark. He walked two of the batters he faced and threw the wild pitch.

"He was trying to do too much in a situation like that," Russell said. "He wants to come in and throw hard and dominate the inning, and it got away from him."

Votto's run-scoring single off T.J. Beam put the Reds ahead for the first time, and Edwin Encarnacion followed with a sacrifice fly.

Nick Masset (1-0), who came to the Reds in the trade that sent Ken Griffey Jr. to the White Sox, got the victory despite giving up a solo homer to Nate McLouth in the eighth. Francisco Cordero pitched out of a threat in the ninth for his 27th save in 33 chances.

"Generally, we're just finishing off strong, trying to win as many as we can and hope it transfers to next year," Votto said.

The Pirates swept the first series at Great American Ball Park in 2003. Since then, the

two mirror-image franchises have shared misery and, quite often, the bottom spots in the NL Central.

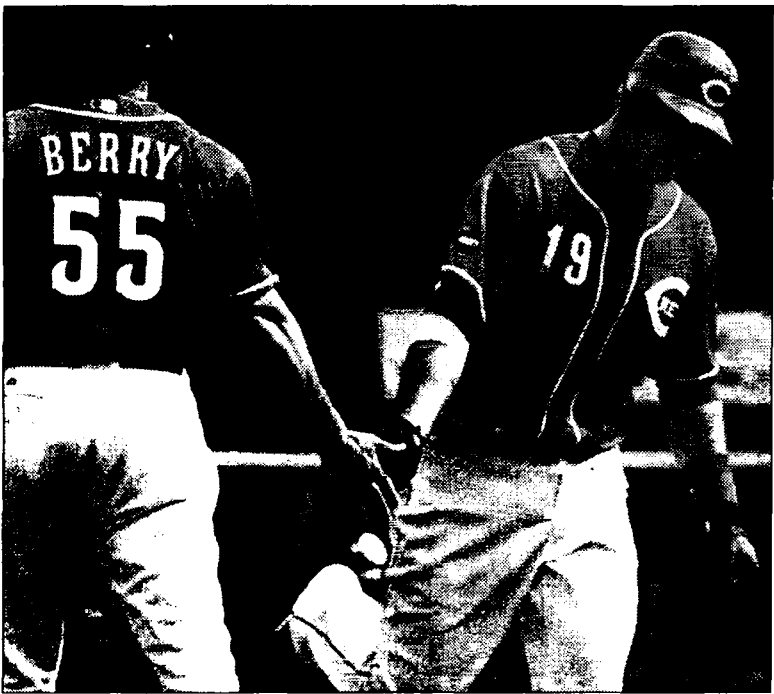
At 59-80, the Pirates are two defeats away from clinching their 16th straight losing season, which would tie the major-league record held by the 1933-48 Phillies. The Reds are 62-78, leaving them within four defeats of their eighth straight losing season. It's their longest such slump in a half-century.

The Pirates pulled ahead 5-0 in the second inning against Josh Fogg, who left after three innings with a strained groin. Chris Gomez hit a two-run shot off Fogg, the 37-year-old infielder's first homer since April 14, 2007, when his grand slam off Kansas City's Joel Peralta accounted for his only homer of last season.

It was another poor showing by Fogg, who has only one victory in 10 starts since returning from a sore back. His ERA over that span is 6.30. He strained his groin while tagging up on a sacrifice fly in the bottom of the third.

The Reds pulled even by scoring a run in five consecutive innings off left-hander Tom Gorzelanny and the Pirates bullpen. Jay Bruce and Votto hit solo homers.

"I was just trying to do too much," Gorzelanny said. "I left a lot of balls up."



Reds first baseman Joey Votto, right, rounds the bases after hitting a homerun during Cincinnati's 8-6 win over Pittsburgh.

CLASSIFIEDS

The Observer accepts classifieds every business day from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Notre Dame office, 024 South Dining Hall. Deadline for next-day classifieds is 3 p.m. All classifieds must be prepaid. The charge is 5 cents per character per day, including all spaces. The Observer reserves the right to edit all classifieds for content without issuing refunds.

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AROUND THE NATION

Friday, September 5th, 2008

COMPILED FROM THE OBSERVER'S WIRE SERVICES

page 15

NCAA Football AP Top 25

team	points	record
1 USC	1,539	1-0
2 Georgia	1,506	1-0
3 Ohio State	1,497	1-0
4 Oklahoma	1,432	1-0
5 Florida	1,415	1-0
6 Missouri	1,301	1-0
7 LSU	1,207	1-0
8 West Virginia	1,108	1-0
9 Auburn	1,033	1-0
10 Texas	1,028	1-0
11 Wisconsin	849	1-0
12 Texas Tech	842	1-0
13 Alabama	834	1-0
14 Kansas	748	1-0
15 Arizona State	672	1-0
15 Brigham Young	672	1-0
17 South Florida	588	1-0
18 Oregon	508	1-0
19 Penn State	467	1-0
20 Wake Forest	414	1-0
21 Fresno State	242	1-0
22 Utah	214	1-0
23 UCLA	151	1-0
24 Illinois	147	0-1
24 South Carolina	147	1-0

Women's NSCAA Soccer Rankings

team	points	previous
1 USC	701	1
2 UCLA	678	3
3 North Carolina	677	2
4 Florida State	637	5
5 NOTRE DAME	634	4
6 Virginia	552	7
7 Stanford	526	10
8 Texas	514	8
9 Portland	499	6
10 Penn State	412	9
11 Texas A&M	407	13
12 Duke	376	16
13 West Virginia	318	11
13 Boston College	318	15
15 Illinois	313	18
16 Santa Clara	279	21
17 Wake Forest	271	20
18 Oklahoma State	194	23
19 Connecticut	154	12
20 Tennessee	140	14
21 California	118.5	17
22 Georgia	104	19
23 Florida	98	22
24 Cal State Fullerton	83	RV
25 Kansas	75	RV

MIAA Women's Volleyball Standings

Team	Record
	league overall
1 Adrian	1-0 3-2
2 Albion	1-0 4-1
3 Alma	1-0 3-2
4 Calvin	1-0 4-1
5 Hope	0-0 3-1
6 Kalamazoo	0-1 2-3
7 Olivet	0-1 1-4
8 Trine	0-1 3-2
9 SAINT MARY's	0-1 3-2

NCAA FOOTBALL



Ohio State running back Chris "Beanie" Wells, left, falls to the turf during the third quarter against Youngstown State, Saturday, Aug. 30, 2008 in Columbus, Ohio. He did not return after injuring his right leg.

Ohio State's Wells out for Ohio

COLUMBUS, Ohio — Ohio State coach Jim Tressel said tailback Chris "Beanie" Wells will not play when the third-ranked Buckeyes take on Ohio on Saturday.

Wells injured his right foot in last weekend's 43-0 victory over Youngstown State. He has not practiced with the team this week and has spent much of the time wearing a protective boot.

"Beanie won't go this week," Tressel said Thursday afternoon. "I feel good about his progress, but it wasn't enough progress to practice through yesterday."

Asked if he worries that Wells may not be available when the Buckeyes play at No. 1 Southern California on Sept. 13, Tressel added: "No, not at all. Not at all. But that's easy to say today."

The junior running back was considered one of the top contenders for the Heisman Trophy behind returning winner Tim Tebow of Florida. Despite several nagging injuries last year, Wells rushed for 1,609 yards and 15 touchdowns.

Ohio State has not allowed him to speak with reporters since he was injured, although he was

quoted as saying by a team spokesman that he was relieved that X-rays had not shown any broken bones. He was seen walking between meetings at the team's practice facility on Tuesday, carrying the protective boot while gingerly making his way in stockinged feet.

Running backs coach Dick Tressel, Jim's older brother, said on Wednesday night that Wells had not been permitted to have contact, or to even put weight on his injured foot.

"Any time you have a foot injury and you have

to tote around 238 pounds at high velocity, it's a day-by-day thing," he said.

Jim Tressel said Chris Wells' inability to practice all but prevented him from playing against Ohio.

"I think there's a little bit of risk when you don't practice, not just in the injury department but in the execution department," he said.

The Buckeyes will rotate Maurice Wells (who is no relation), Brandon Saine and Dan Herron at the position.

Much of the state has been in an uproar since

IN BRIEF

Cubs' Zambrano diagnosed with shoulder tendonitis

CHICAGO — Cubs ace Carlos Zambrano has right rotator cuff tendonitis and inflammation, an MRI confirmed Thursday, a potential obstacle to Chicago's chances of winning the World Series for the first time in a century.

Zambrano received a shot of anti-inflammatory medication and hopes to return to the rotation next week.

General manager Jim Hendry said Zambrano hopes to start throwing again when the team begins a series in St. Louis on Sept. 10. If all goes well, Zambrano would start at Houston in the following series.

Zambrano, 13-5 this year, left his start Tuesday night against the Astros after five innings, saying he did not feel well. He was examined Wednesday by team orthopedist Dr. Stephen Gyzlo.

Zambrano is 1-1 over his last six starts and has made it past the fifth inning only twice.

NFL officially recognizes Bengals' 'Ocho Cinco'

CINCINNATI — Call him Ocho Cinco on the field, too.

The National Football League decided on Thursday to recognize receiver Chad Johnson's legal name change to Chad Ocho Cinco. The new name will be on the back of his Cincinnati Bengals uniform for the season opener in Baltimore on Sunday.

The receiver had his name changed in his home state of Florida last week. It's a reference to his uniform number — Ocho Cinco means "eight five" in Spanish. When the NFL celebrated Hispanic Heritage month in 2006, he wore it on the back of his uniform for pregame warmups, but had to remove it for the game because of NFL rules — it wasn't his real name.

The Pro Bowl receiver asked the media to start calling him by his new name this week. The Bengals couldn't change the name on his uniform until the NFL gave permission.

Federer reaches 18th consecutive major final

NEW YORK — Roger Federer edged 130th-ranked qualifier Gilles Muller 7-6 (5), 6-4, 7-6 (5) at the U.S. Open on Thursday to reach the semifinals for the 18th consecutive Grand Slam tournament.

It was Federer's 32nd victory in a row at Flushing Meadows, where he has won the past four championships.

Despite playing a man who never before was past the third round at a major event, Federer had some trouble. He wasted six set points in the opener but closed it out on his seventh chance when Muller missed a backhand volley. Federer only went 1-for-11 on break-point chances.

No other man has played in more than 10 major semifinals in a row. Bidding for a 13th Grand Slam title, which would move him one shy of Pete Sampras' record, Federer will meet No. 3 Novak Djokovic or No. 8 Andy Roddick in the semifinals.

around the dial

MLB

Angels at White Sox
7:11 p.m., CSN

MLB

Kazmir's strong start helps Rays avoid sweep

Jeter, A-Rod hit back-to-back homers in ninth in Yankees loss; Struggling Brewers lose fourth straight game

Associated Press

ST. PETERSBURG, Fla. — Scott Kazmir allowed one hit in six scoreless innings, and Tampa Bay's bullpen weathered ninth-inning home runs by Derek Jeter and Alex Rodriguez to hang on for a 7-5 victory over the New York Yankees on Thursday night.

Willy Aybar homered and drove in three runs for the AL East-leading Rays, who avoided a three-game sweep and extended their lead in the division over second-place Boston to 3 1/2 games.

The Red Sox, who face Tampa Bay six times over the next two weeks, were idle.

Kazmir (11-6) limited the Yankees to Cody Ransom's fifth inning double, walked five and struck out seven, but a high pitch-count (98) prevented him from going deeper into the game. Ransom also singled off reliever Trevor Miller in the seventh for New York's second hit.

Chad Bradford worked a scoreless eighth but Tampa Bay lost its bid for its 13th shutout of the season in the ninth when Jason Hammel gave up RBI single to Ransom, who finished 3-for-3, and home runs to Jeter and Rodriguez.

Jeter's three-run shot to right field moved him within four hits of tying Babe Ruth for second on the Yankees career hit list. Rodriguez followed with career homer No. 550 to trim New York's deficit to 7-5.

Dan Wheeler replaced Hammel and earned his 11th save in 14 opportunities, retiring Xavier Nady on a first-pitch fly ball.

Aybar capped a five-run second inning against Darrell Rasner (5-10) with a two-run single for Tampa Bay. He hit a solo homer in the fourth off Alfredo Aceves.

The Rays, who lost a series for the first time since the All-Star break, looked bad in dropping the first two games.

Manager Joe Maddon attributed the flat performances to the way the Yankees have been playing lately and uncharacteristic mistakes by the Rays — not the pressure of being in a pennant race in September for the first time.

Tampa Bay improved the best record in the majors to 85-52, but is 6-9 against New York, one of two AL teams with winning marks against the Rays this year.

Kazmir walked four in the first three innings, including A-Rod twice. He didn't give up a hit until one out in the fifth when Ransom doubled on a fly ball to shallow right that fell in when Gabe Gross tried to make a shoestring catch.

Rasner, 0-3 in nine starts since last winning on July 12, allowed five runs and six hits in 1 1/3 innings. Aybar drove in the last two runs charged to the right-hander with a bases-loaded single off Aceves.

Gross, Jason Bartlett and Akinori Iwamura also had RBIs during the five-run second against the Yankees starter.

Padres 5, Brewers 2

Will Venable hit his first career homer and the San Diego Padres beat Milwaukee Thursday night, handing the slumping Brewers their fourth straight loss.

Nick Hundley and Luis Rodriguez each drove in two runs for San Diego, which had lost nine straight on the road and is tied with Washington and Seattle for the fewest wins in the majors.

With all of the NL's playoff hopefuls taking the day off, maybe Milwaukee should have, too. The Brewers' wild-card lead was trimmed to four games over Philadelphia, and they fell five games behind NL Central-leading Chicago with 22 games left.

Fresh off being swept by the New York Mets, Milwaukee fell to 0-4 on a 10-game homestand, but this loss was much more troubling.

The Padres, mired in last in the NL West, took advantage of every opportunity Jeff Suppan (10-8) and Milwaukee gave them.

San Diego eliminated Milwaukee from postseason contention in its visit last year before the Brewers won the final two of the season to force the Padres into a one-game playoff with Colorado for the wild card that the Rockies won.

In this four-game series, only

San Diego can play spoiler, but the Brewers' problems were self-inflicted Thursday. Milwaukee stranded nine runners after leaving 26 on in the series against the Mets.

Shawn Estes (2-1), making his first start since May after being sidelined with a broken left thumb, allowed one run and seven hits over six innings for San Diego. Trevor Hoffman allowed a leadoff single to Jason Kendall in the ninth before finishing for his 28th save.

Suppan, who had won his last five decisions and posted a 3.00 ERA since July 1, struggled against the youthful Padres.

Venable, who was called up from Triple-A Portland last Friday, went deep in the sixth in his sixth big league game. Suppan was chased minutes later after loading the bases on a single to Hundley, an error and an intentional walk. Rodriguez's sacrifice fly off Guillermo Mota gave San Diego a 5-1 lead.

Hundley had a sacrifice fly in the second and a two-out RBI double in the fourth. Rodriguez's fifth-inning single drove in Brian Giles, who slid in just around Kendall's tag at the plate.

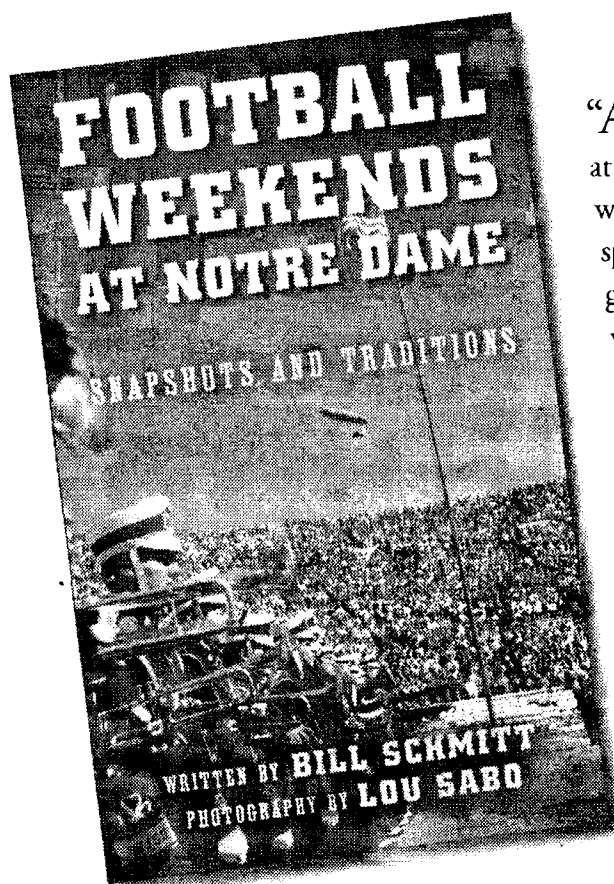
J.J. Hardy hit his 22nd homer off Mike Adams in the seventh, cutting the lead to 5-2.

Milwaukee had its chances, stranding two runners in the first, two in the second, one in the third, three in the fourth after loading the bases with one out and one in the ninth.



Rays second baseman Akinori Iwamura sticks his tongue out after striking out during Tampa Bay's 7-5 home victory.

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NFL

Fins circle around Favre

Associated Press

DAVIE, Fla. — The messages are spread in black paint across the Miami Dolphins' locker room walls.

"The fastest way to lose is division from within," reads one wall.

"Miami Dolphins players have the makeup!" exclaims another slogan.

The new regime has tried all sorts of gimmicks to get players motivated. Defensive coordinator Paul Pasqualoni, inheriting one of the NFL's worst units, has fed players old stories and an intense attitude to get them hyped.

Despite all the offseason tricks, the greatest motivation Pasqualoni gave his defense came in the playbooks this week: stopping Brett Favre and the New York Jets.

"He's just such a veteran and has had such a great career and can take over a game," Pasqualoni said Thursday. "He's one of those quarterbacks that can beat you. It's just going to be a big challenge going into this game, trying to play with this guy and trying to contain him."

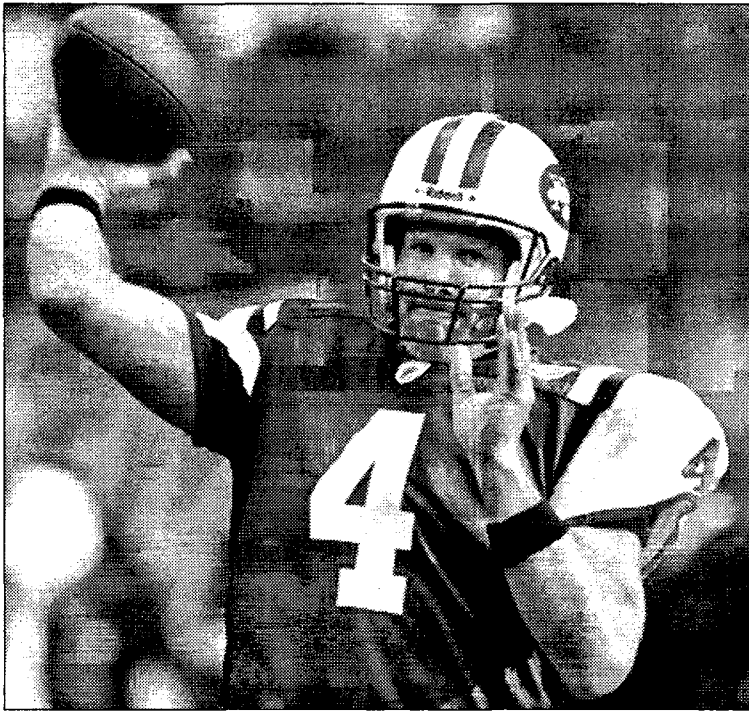
Trying to contain anyone — let alone a three-time MVP quarterback — was tough enough last season for the Dolphins.

Miami is coming off a 1-15 season that was a defensive mess. The Dolphins ranked last in the AFC in 2007 in scoring defense, giving up 27.3 points a game.

And some of the best players — Jason Taylor and Zach Thomas — are gone, and an anonymous group is faced with trying to stop the quarterback who broke Dan Marino's touchdown record.

"I know the kind of quarterback he is. He's no different than the other 31 quarterbacks in the league," safety Chris Crocker said, chuckling. "He's just a Hall of Famer. So, you know, I can't say he's too much different."

The defense has a weapon to



Jets quarterback Brett Favre throws a warmup pass before New York's game against Washington August 16, 2008.

help game-plan against Favre: Chad Pennington.

Perhaps no one knows the Jets' offense better than Pennington, who spent the past eight seasons as the Jets quarterback before he was released to clear space for Favre. It's a unique tool for the Dolphins, even if it's something they're not ready to admit.

"I'll put it to you like this," cornerback Will Allen said, "if we did get some things from Chad, we wouldn't tell you."

Game planning for Favre — and the rest of the NFL — has been an offseason in the making for Miami's defense.

The coaching staff has tried to wipe away any leftovers from the losing attitude that surrounded the NFL's worst team. In the case of Pasqualoni, the former linebackers coach with the Dallas Cowboys, his favorite tool is supplying analogies to keep players interested.

His defensive motto: Know

your assignment, and know you know your assignment.

But perhaps nothing has resonated more with the defense than his description of the unit as an old car trying to be "cranked up."

The metaphor has become a routine discussion among players, who were inspired to create a signature celebration named the "The Flywheel," where they crouch low to the ground and mimic cranking an antique car after a big play.

Pasqualoni also has tried to keep players' attention through intimidation, a change from the Cam Cameron-led coaching staff that seemingly babied players. And Pasqualoni's deep voice has helped.

Linebacker Channing Crowder, who receives the plays from Pasqualoni in his helmet, called it the "voice of God" last week. Other players also have taken notice.

MLB

Injuries, losing streak raise concerns for Cubs

Associated Press

CHICAGO — Ryan Dempster stepped out in front of the team's headquarters at the beginning of spring training nearly seven months ago and made a bold statement: He said he thought the Chicago Cubs would win the World Series.

Dempster's optimism remains intact, despite a recent funk that has seen the first-place Cubs drop five straight games for the first time this season.

And not only are the Cubs trying to weather the losing skid, they learned Thursday that ace Carlos Zambrano has rotator cuff tendinitis, a condition that required an injection of anti-inflammatory medication.

Zambrano, who will miss his turn Sunday in Cincinnati, hopes to begin throwing in St. Louis when the Cubs go there next Wednesday, 10. And if all goes well, he could rejoin the rotation for a series in Houston and pitch against the Astros.

"It's a relief knowing Z doesn't have anything more significant than what we thought. And hopefully he'll pitch in Houston, which means he will only miss one turn," general manager Jim Hendry said Thursday.

So, in the 100th anniversary year of their last World Series win, the Cubs are sorting out some major issues. They have 22 games remaining and just six are at Wrigley Field, where they are 51-24.

"Obviously you lose five in a row and don't play as well as you are capable, it's frustrating for everybody," said Dempster, who has 15 wins after being converted from a closer. "There are better times ahead. I promise that."

But will those days ahead include Zambrano?

Big Z left his start Tuesday

night after five innings, telling pitching coach Larry Rothschild he didn't feel well and wanted to be taken out. He had been slated to pitch last Sunday but got two days extra rest for what was described as a tired arm.

His right arm was more than just weary.

Zambrano, on the disabled list in June with a sore shoulder, was examined by team orthopedist Dr. Stephen Gryzlo and then had an MRI on Thursday that confirmed the original diagnosis.

"Dr. Gryzlo has been right-on with all his evaluations this year, and he felt this was not going to be a significant problem," Hendry said. "It was not like the situation where he had to be put on the DL after Tampa. And Carlos never felt it was going to be that serious either."

Chicago also is taking a cautious approach with hard-throwing Rich Harden — who will go 12 days between starts because he has some discomfort in his arm. Sean Marshall will start for Zambrano on Sunday.

"There's no good time when people are out," Hendry said. "We have a lot of confidence in Marshall, Dempster's had a great year, Ted Lilly's as tough as they come and (Jason) Marquis has been throwing the ball real well."

Sore arms, bad luck and strange occurrences are part of the Cubs' lore, especially since their 2003 collapse in the NLCS, when they were five outs from their first World Series appearance since 1945. In the ensuing seasons, repeated arm problems for Kerry Wood and Mark Prior sidetracked the Cubs and eventually led to the departures of both manager Dusty Baker and chief executive officer Andy MacPhail. Wood has since returned as a top closer.

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NFL

Culpeppers rolls out of NFL after 9 seasons

Former Vikings, Dolphins, and Raiders quarterback announces retirement after failing to land starting job

Associated Press

MIAMI — Daunte Culpepper summed up his thoughts Thursday in two words, which ushered in the start of a new era for the former Pro Bowl quarterback.

"Farewell NFL," he wrote.

With that, a career once filled with such promise came to a most unceremonious end.

Culpepper, who starred for the Minnesota Vikings before a major knee injury in 2005 curtailed his career, announced his retirement in an e-mail Thursday morning, saying he's simply grown tired of fighting for one more opportunity.

The 31-year-old was the Vikings' first-round draft choice in 1999, became their full-time starter a year later, and teamed with Randy Moss to pile up yards and touchdowns at an impressive rate.

But he hurt his right knee in October 2005, never played for the Vikings again, and never seemed to return to his past level, either.

"When free agency began this year, I had a new sense of excitement about continuing to rebuild my career in the same way that I had rebuilt my knee after my catastrophic injury in 2005," Culpepper said. "Unfortunately, what I found out was that the league did not share any of the optimism about me as an unrestricted free agent that I expected. In fact, there was an overwhelming sense that there was no room for me among this year's group of quarterbacks."

The Miami Dolphins acquired him in 2006 in exchange for a second-round pick, but Culpepper played only four games before being shut down because of continued knee problems. He was sacked 21 times in those four games, and his brief stint with Miami had two compelling images:

— Getting sacked seven times in his first home game,

where fans booed him by half-time.

— Walking off the field during minicamp in June 2007 because the Dolphins wouldn't let him play, and flanked by a team security official.

"Now that dream to get back on the field and prove everybody wrong is behind him," said Dolphins defensive lineman Vonnie Holliday, who talked to Culpepper about his ongoing comeback quest this summer. "It has to be tough. ... When he was healthy, he was definitely one of the best."

Last season, the Oakland Raiders took a shot on Culpepper, and he made five starts there, albeit only getting five touchdown passes in those games. And over the past few months, he tried to get any opportunity around the league, even saying just last week that he'd be willing to be Aaron Rodgers' backup in Green Bay.

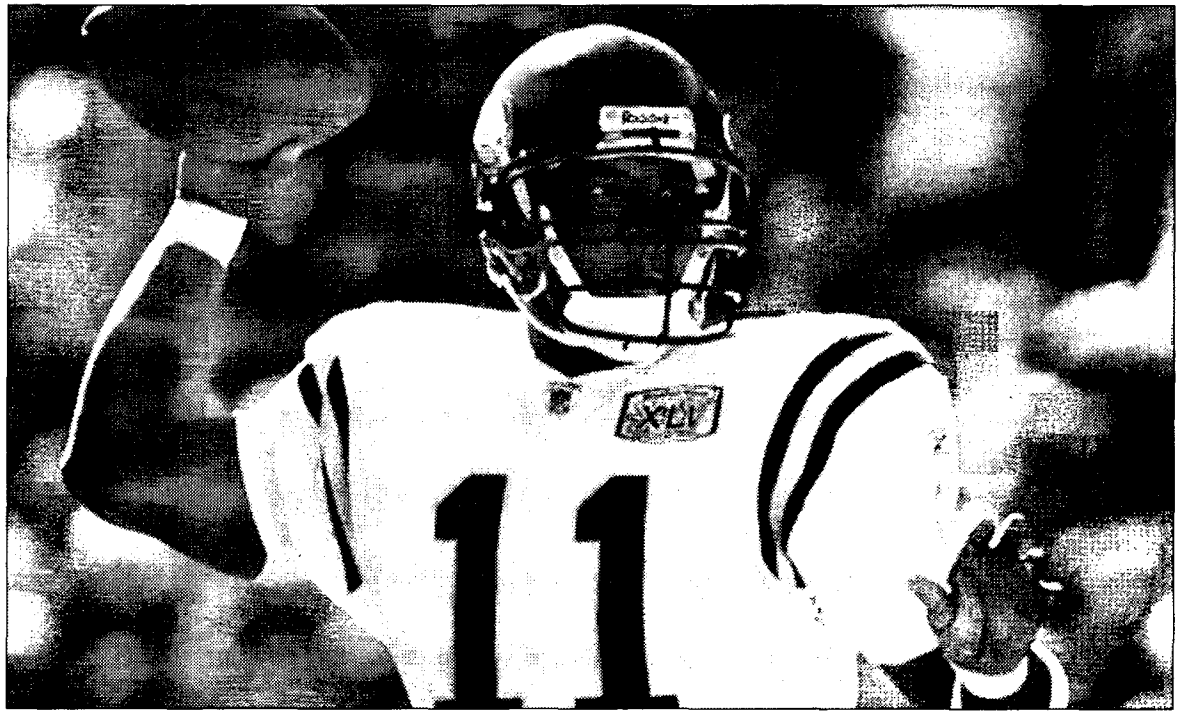
There were no takers, and Culpepper saw no reason to keep waiting.

"Since I was not given a fair chance to come in and compete for a job, I would rather move on and win in other arenas of life," Culpepper said.

In Minnesota, Culpepper's decision was met with disappointment, even though he hadn't played there for years.

"Very surprising. Surprising that he hasn't gotten a job, too. Sad," Vikings safety Darren Sharper said. "Last year I didn't think he played bad in Oakland. I've seen quarterbacks that are still playing in this league today play a lot worse. ... And they still have jobs. So I don't know the reason for it."

Culpepper completed 64 percent of his passes in a nine-year career, with 142 touchdowns. The 6-foot-4, 265-pounder out of Central Florida was a three-time Pro Bowl selection, and he was at his best in 2004, when he established career-highs in yards (4,717), touchdowns (39) and



Former Vikings quarterback Daunte Culpepper throws a pass during Minnesota's game versus Chicago October 16, 2005. Later that season, Culpepper tore his ACL.

passing rating (110.9).

Then came the knee injury, and it all went downhill from there, even though Culpepper — who has served as his own agent and announced his retirement in an e-mail — believes he can still compete.

"No matter what I did or said, there seemed to be a unified message from teams that I was not welcome to compete for one of the many jobs that were available at the quarterback position," Culpepper said.

Culpepper said, without citing anyone by name, that he

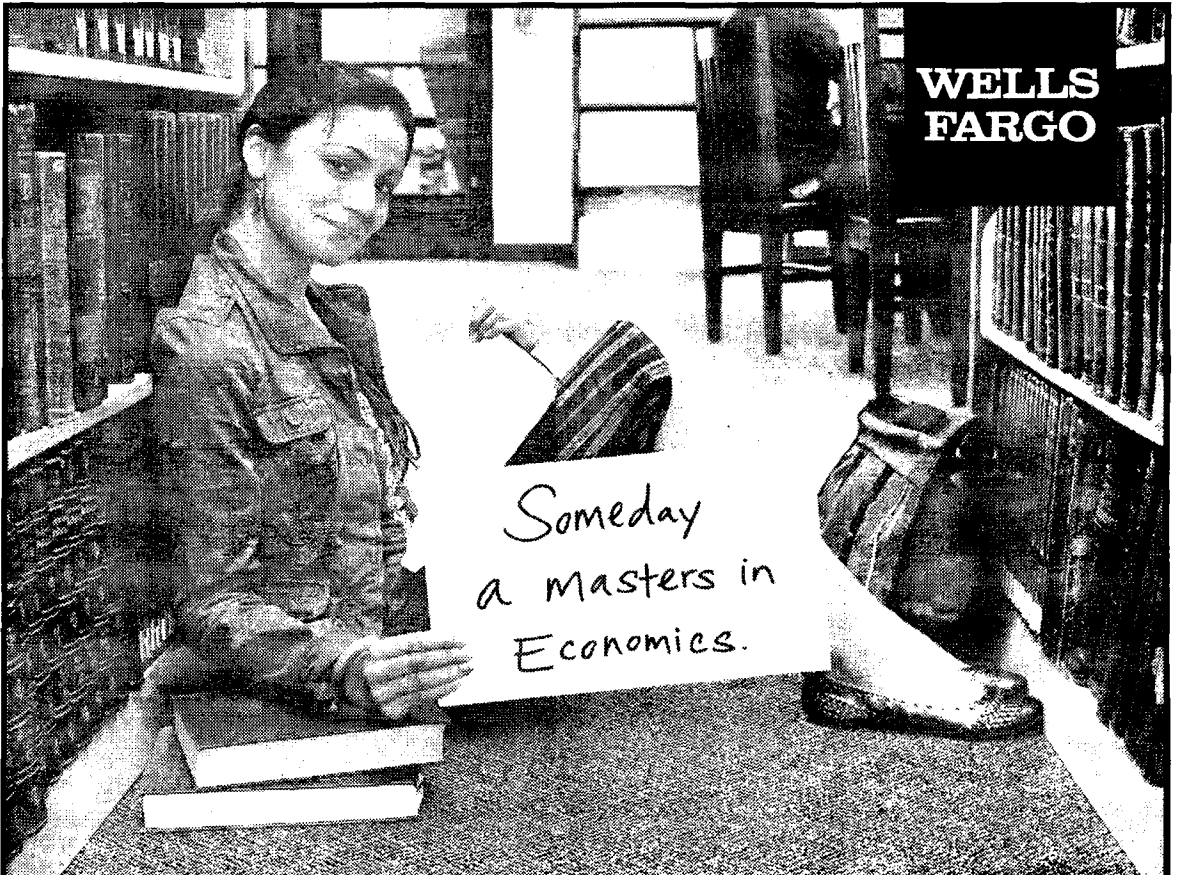
was told he'd get a chance with some teams this season when other quarterbacks got injured. Friends, family members and "league personnel" also advised him, Culpepper said, to continue waiting for a chance and postponing any decision on retirement.

"If he was anywhere close to 100 percent, it would seem teams would have to take a shot at him," Holliday said. "You look at the league and you see a lot of teams don't have that high-profile, quality quarterback."

Sometime in the past six

days, though, Culpepper's mind was made up.

"I want to thank my family and my fans for their unwavering belief in me as a person and a player," Culpepper said. "I embraced both the peaks and the valleys of the game and my career. I am a better person today as a direct result of the experience of playing in the NFL. I can now focus on the enjoyment of watching some of the greatest athletes in the world play the game I love without the distraction of waiting for those elusive return phone calls."



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NFL

Newman's injury may make Pacman a starter

Associated Press

IRVING, Texas — Call him Adam Jones or Pacman. Maybe even call him a starter.

Because the Dallas Cowboys are wary of cornerback Terence Newman's groin injury, there's a chance Jones will make his Dallas debut as part of the starting lineup Sunday in Cleveland.

"Yeah, if we didn't start Newman, Adam Jones would start," coach Wade Phillips said Thursday.

Even if Newman can play and starts, he's likely to get more rest than usual — which still means more playing time for Jones in his first NFL game since the finale of the 2006 season, when he was with Tennessee.

"I don't have a preference," Phillips said. "I wouldn't want to hold back Adam if that was the case. I feel good about how he's played and he is ready to play."

Newman missed nearly all of training camp, and the entire preseason, while dealing with a slightly torn groin muscle. He returned to practice last week and was listed as fully going through drills Wednesday. On Thursday, however, he was

listed as limited participation.

Phillips said there was no setback, just a mistake in the way Newman was listed Wednesday. Phillips said Newman did the same thing both days.

"I don't definitely say he'll play. It looks good for him right now. But we'll see where he is tomorrow," Phillips said. "I don't think he's completely back yet. We're being cautious and I think that's the right thing to do."

Newman missed the first two games last season because of a foot injury. The Cowboys eased him back into action, bringing him off the bench each of the next two games.

"We learned last year about Terence that you need to bring him along slowly when he's missed rather than just throwing him in there," Phillips said. "We kind of winged him in last year and that's pretty much the same process right now. ... It could be that situation (again). Or it might be that he plays the whole game. I don't have a feel for it yet. We'll see how he did after today's practice and if we're going to limit him some tomorrow or not."

NFL

Giants begin title defense

Super Bowl champs shut down Redskins offense in 16-7 victory

Associated Press

EAST RUTHERFORD, N.J. — The New York Giants won their final 11 away from Giants Stadium in capturing their third Super Bowl, but they were 3-5 at home, losing the last four games.

The win capped a fun-filled opening night for Giants fans, who saw the retired Strahan hold up the Lombardi Trophy just minutes before the opening kickoff.

"It was a great opening to the season," said Manning, who completed 19 of 35 for 216 yards and an interception. "There was a lot of emotion, a lot of excitement. You could feel it in the crowd. It was great to see Michael holding the trophy."

"It was a great crowd. They were fired up. It was good to play well at home and to win a game at home. It's been a while."

Coordinator Steve Spagnuolo and his defense made sure the home woes came to an end. In the process he might have made Redskins owner Dan Snyder think twice about trying harder to hire him.

Spagnuolo was a serious candidate to replace Joe Gibbs until backing out to stay with the Giants.

Zorn eventually got the job, but his offense did little against Spagnuolo's aggressive defense, which limited Washington to three of 13 third-down conversions.

Jason Campbell threw a 12-

yard touchdown pass to Santana Moss with 13 seconds to play in the first half to account for the Redskins' points. The score was set up by a Giants' special teams lapse, a 50-yard kickoff return by Rock Cartwright.

Washington only got in New York territory three times in the game, the last time in the final seconds.

"A team held us to three and out for over half the game," said Redskins halfback Clinton Portis, who had 84 yards on 23 carries. "We have to be better than that."

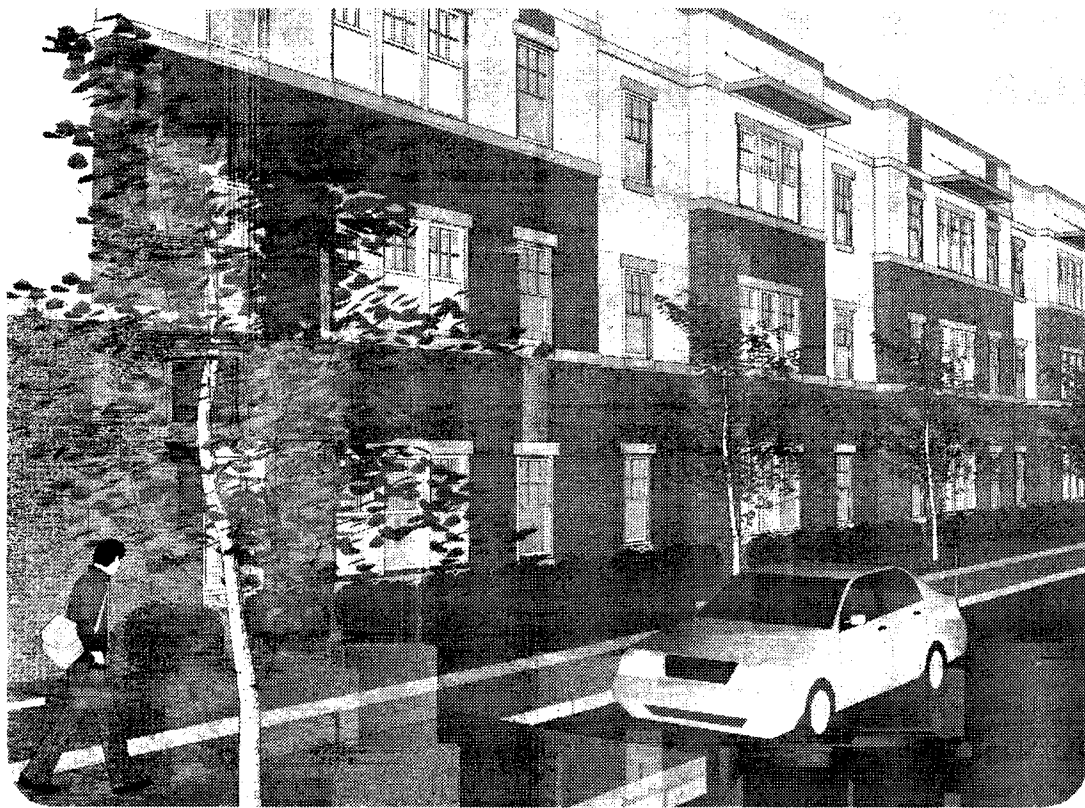
The only concern for the Giants was that defensive end Mathias Kiwanuka went down with an ankle injury on the final play, but he said after the game that he was OK. He was switched from linebacker to end when Umenyiora was lost for the season with a knee injury in the preseason.

Other than that the game belonged to the Giants, who have been overlooked when it comes to their chances of repeating. Their odds were 25-1 heading into the game.

"We are not worried about what people are saying," middle linebacker Antonio Pierce said. "We are trying to win games. You have to get to the Super Bowl to repeat, and if we don't make the playoffs it won't matter. Right now our goal is to win the division."

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SMC GOLF

Saint Mary's starts year slowly

By MIKE GOTIMER
Sports Writer

other beyond their comfort zone. I don't know that anyone is taking charge, rather the team is realizing their roles and their potential."

This weekend's meet differs from the team's typical 5K race. In this pair relay style, each Belles' tandem of two runners will run two miles — four miles per pair.

"I'm hoping to see us improve on the things we saw at the Alumnae Race," Bauters said. "Small

*"I believe the team
and myself really try
to create a
supportive, positive
environment for
everyone to
succeed in."*

Jackie Bauters
Belles coach

ate a
2, positive
nent for
one to
id in.”

saunders
said. “When
groups working
together to
push each
other and see
the importance
of the team. I
expect them to
put their best
effort forward.”

With four new freshmen this year, the team is trying to help

the girls get through their first couple of weeks on campus.

Following this weekend, the Belles will next compete in the Bradley Invitational in Peoria, Ill., on Sept. 12.

**Contact Kate Grabarek at
Kgraba01@saintmarys.edu**

The Belles, however, found themselves in a familiar position after the 18-hole competition, finishing in third place with a cumulative score of 340 behind defending champion Olivet College and Hope College, who finished with scores of 322 and 336, respectively.

Despite the third place fin-

Collier showing progress

Associated Press

JACKSONVILLE, Fla. — Jaguars offensive tackle Richard Collier is making gradual improvement from gunshot wounds but is "not out of the woods yet," his agent told a newspaper Thursday.

Collier remained in critical but stable condition in the intensive care unit at Shands Jacksonville Medical Center, but agent Jeff Jankovich told the Florida Times-Union he was encouraged by what limited knowledge he has of Collier's condition.

"(The family) seems pretty

ish, the Belles had their fair share of strong individual rounds. All five Saint Mary's golfers finished with one of the 25 lowest scores of the tournament. Sophomore Rosie O'Connell's 83 was the low round for the Belles and 10th-best in the field.

The three Saint Mary's freshmen that started did not disappoint, as each golfer broke 90. Freshman Natalie Matuszak continued her solid play and finished right on O'Connell's heels with an 84, good for 11th in the field. Fellow freshman Christine Brown finished with an 85, which tied for the 12th lowest round in the field.

Matuszak and Brown's classmate Kailey Jacob finished in a

tie for the 17th lowest round in the field with her score of 88. Senior Perri Hamma's 92 was tied for the 23th lowest score in the field.

Olivet's 322 set a new MIAA course record at the Medalist Golf Club. Olivet's strong performance was a result of superb individual performances, as all five Olivet golfers finished with scores of 85 or lower. Junior Megan Rimmel's 78 was the lowest score of the day.

Saint Mary's returns to the course on Sept. 20 at the Zollner Golf Course, the home course of Trine University.

**Contact Mike Gotimer at
mgotime@nd.edu**

upbeat he's going to make it," Jankovich told the paper. "He's awake at times. He's still in intensive care, but he's stable. Every time they've talked to the doctors, it seems like it's a little bit better. It's still precarious. There may be more surgery needed, but it seems encouraging at this point."

Jankovich did not immediately return a phone call or an e-mail from The Associated Press.

Collier, a 6-foot-7, 345-pound backup, was shot several times while sitting in his Cadillac Escalade early Tuesday morning. Collier and former teammate Kenneth Pettway were

waiting outside an apartment complex for two women when the attack occurred.

Police have no suspects in the case, and Collier's family has requested privacy from the hospital and the Jaguars regarding his medical condition.

Jankovich emphasized the need for caution because Collier's progress has been gradual, though the family remains hopeful that his recovery will continue moving in a positive direction. The agent didn't give any specifics about where or how many times Collier was shot or what type of surgery he had.

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Recruits

continued from page 24

an area he needs to continue to recruit to succeed."

Another New Jersey product that committed in the middle of May is inside linebacker Carlo Calabrese. Coming out of Verona High School in Verona, N.J., Calabrese is a force to be reckoned with in terms of stopping the run. More than anything, Frank feels, Calabrese has the type of attitude that the Irish are looking for in high school recruits.

"Carlo plays the game like it should be played," Frank said. "The play stops when Carlo hits you. He's a guy that's going to hit you every play he goes out there. He's fast and I think some will be surprised with how aggressive he is on the field."

Over the summer, the Irish coaches hit the recruiting trail and picked up some big names along the way. The second week of July, however, proved

to be one that solidified some of the key players of the class of 2009 thus far. In the span of seven days, Notre Dame picked up verbal commitments from cornerback Marlon Pollard, who originally committed to UCLA, tight end Tyler Eifert and offensive guard Chris Watt.

Pollard originally wasn't scheduled to visit the Notre Dame campus, but after the Cajon High School product had an extra day in Chicago at the Offense-Defense Sports Select Football Camp, he decided to visit the Irish. That was all the coaching staff needed as special teams coach Brian Polian showed the four-star corner around campus and received his pledge to play for Notre Dame. Frank thinks Pollard could eventually be one of the biggest commits of the class.

"It was a real big deal to land another corner this early on in the process," Frank said. "Pollard's a little undersized, but at 6-foot-1, he's got good height to play against other receivers. He has extremely quick feet, maybe quicker than

anybody on the [Irish] roster right now. He could be a leader in the secondary with his talent."

Watt, out of Glenbard West High School in Illinois is a physical presence and is exactly what Notre Dame needed, according to Frank.

"Chris is exactly what the coaching staff was looking for," he said. "He's a player that's going to hit you during the play, and he might hit you after the whistle too. Not to say that he gives cheap shots, but he's extremely aggressive and loves the contact."

"It was a big get because he's a Chicago kid and it was important to land him. With him on one side and Trevor Robinson on the other, the Notre Dame running game could be good for years to come."

Lying in the road ahead for the Irish are a couple of blue-chip prospects that are being heavily recruited by most large programs across the nation. Outside linebackers Jelani Jenkins out of Wheaton, Md., and Manti Te'o out of Honolulu,

Hawaii headline the names along the defense.

"It's hard to tell with Jenkins because no one really talks to him," Frank said. "He came for a visit with his stepfather and mother, and his father likes Notre Dame too. I'd say Notre Dame will definitely be in his top five. If the Irish can win some games, they'll be in better shape."

Te'o's situation is very similar, Frank said.

"Manti's case is almost the same situation," he said. "Weis has done an excellent job of staying in touch with him and recruiting him very hard. Notre Dame needs to bring him up for a visit to have a shot here. I've been hearing that they're working on bringing him for the [Pittsburgh] game, but I think the Irish have a better shot at Te'o than most people think."

The other big name Irish fans are hearing a lot of is Xavier Nixon, a left tackle out of Jack Britt in Fayetteville, N.C. This is perhaps the most vital position left on the board for the Notre

Dame, due to its recent struggles with the position. Like most recruits, Frank thinks the visit will tell the story.

"Xavier will definitely come up at some point," he said. "If not during the season, they'll look to bring him afterwards, but they need him on campus. His family likes the coaching staff and the education that Notre Dame brings. He's a highly recruited guy, so he's hearing from just about every program in the nation. He wants to know how the Irish will play and how he'll fit in. Having Corwin Brown recruiting him has been an advantage because Brown has struck up an excellent relationship with Nixon and his family."

As the season kicks off Saturday against San Diego State, all eyes will be on the Irish and how they will respond to last year. None will be as important as the high school recruits on the fence about the Irish.

Contact Lorenzo Reyes at lreyes@nd.edu

Fetzer

continued from page 24

We're expecting about four or five thousand people to show up so the place should be electric."

The Irish are just 3-9-2 against North Carolina all-time and 1-2 at Fetzer Field, which is located on the Chapel Hill campus.

And despite Notre Dame's poor overall mark against the Tar Heels, this will be one of North Carolina's most important games of the year. The Irish are one of North Carolina's main rivals, in part because the Irish are one of only two teams to have beaten

the Tar Heels more than twice. In addition, North Carolina will be seeking revenge after Notre Dame ended its season a year ago with a 3-2 win in the third round of the N C A A Tournament at Fetzer Field.

"The North Carolina-Notre Dame series has two of the most storied programs in women's soccer, so we really bring out the best in each other," Waldrum said.

If the Irish have any energy left after the showdown with

North Carolina Friday, they will take the field Sunday against Duke, another team on the hunt for vengeance against

Notre Dame. A week before knocking out North Carolina last season, the Irish bounced the Blue Devils from the second round of the NCAA Tournament.

The Irish defense has been impenetrable so far, allowing just five total shots

on goal in the team's three games. The back line is

"The North Carolina-Notre Dame series has two of the most storied programs in women's soccer, so we really bring out the best in each other."

Randy Waldrum
Irish coach

anchored by senior co-captain Carrie Dew, who was named Big East defensive player of the week for the second consecutive time on Monday. But the unit will be pressured by North Carolina's potent attackers. Led by senior midfielder Allie Long and junior forward Nikki Washington, who each have four points, the Tar Heels have averaged three goals a game in wins over Charlotte, Texas A&M and Tennessee.

"Their offense is certainly a big challenge," Waldrum said. "There's not many teams that can hold them to two or three shots a game like we've been doing to teams."

At the Fetzer Classic, the Irish will look to continue their offensive dominance. Senior

forward Kerri Hanks, the reigning Top Drawer Soccer national player of the week, leads the Irish with four goals to go with one assist.

"Their offense is great but we expect to have a lot of chances against them, too, with all the firepower that we have on our side," Waldrum said.

Notre Dame's 3-0 record stands in stark contrast to its disappointing 2-3-2 record to begin last season. The Irish look to add an exclamation point to their hot start when they go toe-to-toe with some of the best programs in the country this weekend.

Contact Fran Tolan at ftolan@nd.edu

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Idaho

continued from page 24

also contributed 30 kills apiece. Sciacca was selected to the Big East honor roll this week.

Brown said her team has been focusing on improving its offensive efficiency this week in practice.

"We did pinpoint a few areas," Brown said. "We were struggling in a few rotations, so we just tried to work those rotations out."

Eastern Washington enters the tournament with a 1-2 record, participating in last weekend's Hilton Classic in Fort Collins, Colo. Despite the losing record, the Eagles pushed No. 17 Colorado State to a fifth set before falling at the wire.

Like the Irish, host Idaho enters the tournament 2-1. The Vandals notched wins last weekend over South Dakota State and Southeast Missouri State, with their only loss being to No. 15 Middle Tennessee State.

Idaho is led by senior outside hitter Haley Larsen, the reigning WAC Player of the Week, who has 49 kills on the season.

"I think it's a pretty competitive field and I know we're going to be tested," Brown said. "We're just looking to put ourselves in competitive situations and respond positively to that."

Notre Dame's final oppo-

nent, Washington State, is the only undefeated team coming into the event, sporting a 3-0 record after winning last weekend's Boise State Bronco Invite. Junior defensive specialist/libero Kelly Hyder is third in the PAC-10 with 4.36 digs per set.

This weekend marks the first time Notre Dame will play a volleyball game in the state of Idaho, but Brown doesn't think the unusual travel schedule will bother her team.

"We sometimes play better on the road than we do at home," Brown said. "It's not necessarily a real easy trip, but I don't think it should affect us."

Notes:

♦Notre Dame coach Debbie Brown was honored by her alma mater, USC, on Thursday night during the Trojans' match against Oklahoma. Brown won national championships with the Trojans in 1976 and 1977, also winning the Mikasa Award as the "nation's best all-around player" in those years. A permanent banner with Brown's name will hang in the Galen Center.

"I'm really honored and certainly it's a testament to the teams we had here," Brown said. "To be a part of the first two national championships at USC was just a great experience for me."

Contact Sam Werner at swerner@nd.edu

Valpo

continued from page 24

Dame on Sept. 19.

He said the meet is mostly a way to gauge the level of fitness and the competitive nature of his runners.

"They're going to be running tired," he said. "We'll see who can dig deep when it starts to hurt."

The Irish men have won the Crusader Open four times in a row and are looking to make it five with a host of upperclassmen returning.

Senior Patrick Smyth, who finished 15th at last year's NCAA Championships as a jun-

ior, will be leading the Irish on the men's side. Smyth has earned two All-American accolades in cross-country and one in track and field.

Chris Rodriguez, now a senior for the Irish, won the men's 6k course last year at the Crusader Open with a time of 19:51.

The Irish men, led by head coach Joe Piane, finished 21st of 30 teams at the N C A A Championship.

In addition to hosting the National Catholic Championships, Notre Dame will host the Notre Dame Invitational on Oct. 3.

Contact Laura Myers at lmeyers2@nd.edu

"They're going to be running tired. We'll see who can dig deep when it starts to hurt."

Tim Connelly
Irish coach

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Deborah Crowder

Berticelli

continued from page 24

Union Classic, completes the four-team field.

"They're both tournament teams the last couple years," Irish coach Bobby Clark said. "It should be two very testing

games. Quite different games, but both will be challenging for sure."

The Irish have never played Dartmouth, where Clark coached from 1985-1993. The Big Green return their top three scorers from last year's 11-4-3 team, including senior Craig Henderson, who competed in the Summer Olympics with New Zealand. He led the team with six goals and four assists last year.

South Florida, like Notre Dame, competes in the Big East conference, but the two are not scheduled to play each other in the regular season. Sunday's match will not count toward conference standings.

"We didn't play so very badly on Friday, but the goals came Sunday. If you could find the magic formula to that, it'd be easy."

Bobby Clark
Irish coach

The Bulls shut out Bowling Green 3-0 in their season opener Aug. 30, receiving goals from Zak Boggs, Jordan Seabrook and Bernardo Anor. Returning nine starters from a team that advanced to the third round of the NCAA Championships, South Florida was picked to win the Big East Red Division.

"Dartmouth is always one of the top teams in the Ivy League," Clark said. "USF will be different: they're very athletic and have a great Caribbean flavor about them."

The Irish will look to start this weekend on a better note than last, when they fell to No. 12 Akron 3-0 on Friday night in Bloomington, Ind. Notre Dame, then-ranked No. 3, rebounded to beat Duke 4-1 Sunday.

"We didn't play so very badly on Friday, but the goals came Sunday," Clark said. "If you could find the magic formula to that, it'd be easy."

Senior forward Bright Dike led the Irish charge against Duke, scoring two goals for his first career multi-goal game. Junior midfielder Justin Morrow scored Notre Dame's first goal — a crucial one, Clark said.

"It's very important to get the first goal," he said. "When Akron got the first goal, we had to open up to get back in the game and that gave them space to give us a tough time and score some goals — and it was the opposite against Duke. The first goal is always very important — if you don't get it, you've got to chase it carefully."


The Irish hope to avoid that chase by taking the advantage from the opening kick-off — right after Nino Berticelli, the son of the tournament's namesake and a 1999 Notre Dame graduate, makes a ceremonial opening kick-off. Berticelli was an assistant coach for the Irish in 2000, the year after his father's passing and before Clark took the helm.

Notre Dame will next hit the field with its Big East opener, Sept. 11 at home against Marquette.

Contact Matt Gamber at mgamber@nd.edu

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JUMBLE

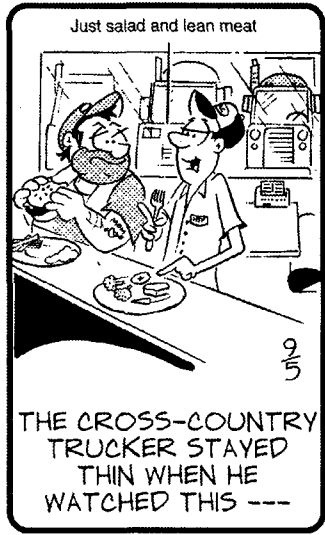
HENRI ARNOLD
MIKE ARGIRION

JUMBLE

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

EXIDO
NUMIS
WHENEP
FALOTA

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.

Ans: THE " " (Answers tomorrow)
Yesterday's Jumbles: DALLY PRUNE JITNEY BUSILY
Answer: Most brides look stunning, but some grooms are — STUNNED

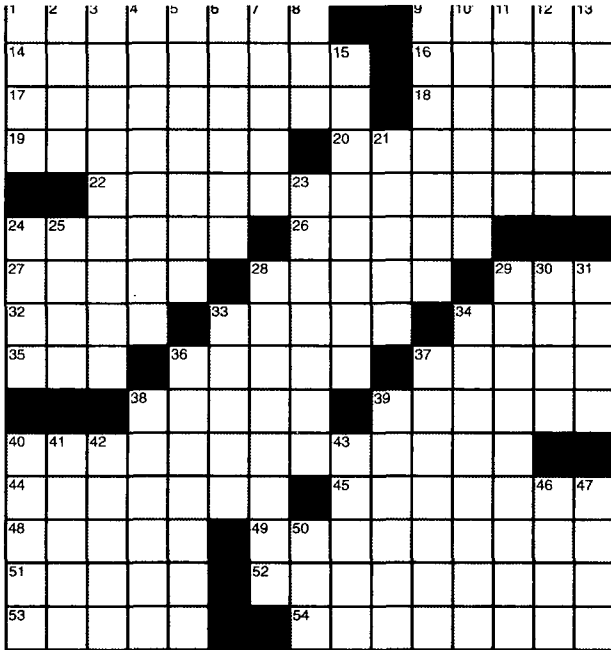
CROSSWORD

WILL SHORTZ

- Across**
- 1 Mover of merchandise
 - 9 Deadens
 - 14 Like singing in a shower
 - 16 Ship sinker
 - 17 Unwilling to get organized
 - 18 Divine
 - 19 Showing extreme embarrassment
 - 20 War ("Charge of the Light Brigade" conflict)
 - 22 Fictional parrot type featured in Monty Python's "dead parrot sketch"
 - 24 7 and 11
 - 26 Some swings in a ring
 - 27 Threw a tantrum
- Down**
- 28 Heach in total
 - 29 Inner ear?
 - 32 "Draft Dodger Rag" singer
 - 33 Athletic schedule list
 - 34 Ordering option
 - 35 Spaying customer?
 - 36 South-of-the-border homes
 - 37 Pack animal
 - 38 Pack animal?
 - 39 1970s American Motors car
 - 40 They often make a splash
 - 44 Where to find free spirits
 - 45 While traveling
 - 48 Lieutenant of Capone
 - 49 Having trouble delivering the eulogy, say
- Down**
- 1 "Born from jets" company
 - 2 It might make you red in the face
 - 3 Around the witching hour
 - 4 Archetypes
 - 5 Drove
 - 6 Extends, as a lease
 - 7 Choose not to say?
 - 8 Mideast grp.
 - 9 Tackled energetically
 - 10 W.W. II enders, for short
 - 11 Architect's starting point
 - 12 Micronesian nation that hosted the 10th season of "Survivor"
 - 13 "Diamonds Are a Girl's Best Friend" composer
 - 15 Plato and Aristotle, e.g.
 - 21 A lot
 - 23 Elmer's product
 - 24 Play thing

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

WORDSHIP TAMALES
BROCADE EMINENT
CROONER CANTATA
TOOMUCH HEAVEN
MUFTI OIL INT
OTO FIFE MOTTO
WEREWOLF AUSTEN
RAREEARTH
STMARK EPITAPHS
ARISE SPED HAI
CAN MAO SCAMP
HIGHWAYTOHELL
ENLARGE RADIATE
TEENIER CHANNEL
SEDATES ANNEXES



Puzzle by Patrick Berry

25 Competition 36 The M-1, for one 42 Prefix with chloride
28 Bookwork, e.g. 37 Impolite 43 Singer Lewis with the 2008 #1 hit "Bleeding Love"
29 Dextrose 38 Snapper, of a sort 46 Slow-moving ships
30 Big brute 39 Nose, slangily 47 Sword: Fr.
31 Wellington, e.g. 40 Eggheaded experts 50 -to
32 Tree-dwelling snake 41 Dealing with honey makers
34 Enter, as a cross street

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HOROSCOPE

FRIDAYS WITH FRAN

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) If the Tin Man really had no heart, wouldn't he have strangled that yappy dog Todo?

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) Check out the gum stuck to my leg.

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) Don't force it, feel it.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) Don't go into the long grass ... That's where the raptors are.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) Drink Knapstein!!

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) If you don't like these horoscopes, DX has two words for ya.

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20) Tim the Toolman Taylor has a huuuuge tool.

Aries (March 21-Apr. 19) Take Grambling and the over.

Taurus (Apr. 20-May 20) Call (914) 924-3717 and tell him, "Look whatcha did, ya little jerk."

Gemini (May 21-June 20) I can see liking pina colodas but who honestly likes getting caught in the rain? Rain makes one feel icky.

Cancer (June 21-July 22) Search for the whereabouts of Aaron Carter's once-promising career.

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22) San Diego State might have the superior football team but Notre Dame girls have much better tans.

THE OBSERVER

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FOOTBALL RECRUITING

Wood, Stockton highlight impressive early 2009 commitments

By LORENZO REYES
Sports Writer

How Notre Dame was able to have a 3-9 record last season and still retain arguably the top recruiting class in the nation has boggled the minds of many across the nation. If anything, it is a testament to the effort and skill that head coach Charlie Weis and the rest of the Irish coaching staff has to bring in top talent.

Although the 2008 season has yet to start, Notre Dame has already received verbal commitments from many of the top players in the nation — some of these coming in positions of key needs.

The first notable player to jump on board was running back Cierre Wood from Santa Clara High School in Oxnard, Calif. Ranked as a five-star recruit at Scout.com, Wood brings an element of speed, explosiveness and playmaking

ability from both the backfield and special teams. Wood committed during the weekend of the spring Blue-Gold game and his interest in the Irish turned some heads due to last season's record and the heavy competition at the running back position.

Tyler Stockton, a defensive tackle out of The Hun School in Princeton, N.J., also verbally committed to Notre Dame during the spring game. Irisheyes.com's Mike Frank

thinks very highly of Stockton and feels that Irish fans will recall a recent standout along the defensive front when watching Stockton.

"Tyler is a very big pickup for the coaching staff," Frank said. "He's short, compact and can penetrate and make some plays in the backfield. He's a huge pickup because defensive tackle has been a position that Notre Dame has struggled to recruit in the past. I think he'll remind a lot of people of Trevor

Laws when all is said and done."

Weis and his staff have done a solid job of luring talent out of the Garden State, a place Frank feels is vital for success in the future.

"Charlie has been putting a lot of effort into the recruitment of players out of New Jersey," Frank said. "It's a vital area that he can relate to because he's from there and it's

see RECRUITS/page 21

ND WOMEN'S SOCCER

Headin' to Tobacco Road

Unbeaten Notre Dame to face ACC rivals North Carolina, Duke at UNC's Fetzer Classic

By FRAN TOLAN
Associate Sports Editor

No. 5/4 Notre Dame has rolled to a 3-0 start, including a win over No. 21 Santa Clara. But the nation will get to see what the Irish really have to offer this weekend in the Fetzer Classic, hosted by North Carolina.

The Irish will take on the No. 3/2 Tar Heels Friday and — as if the first contest won't be enough of a test — conclude the tournament with a match against Duke Sunday.

While the Irish have been impressive in the early-going, outscoring opponents 13-0 in three games, they will have a chance to prove they are among the top teams in the country this weekend. The team has not yet played away from Alumni Field, but the Fetzer Classic should provide one of the most difficult road tests imaginable.

"It's certainly a very difficult place to play," Irish coach Randy Waldrum said. "...



JESS LEE/The Observer

Senior defender Elise Weber eyes the loose ball during Notre Dame's 4-0 home victory over Loyola Marymount on Aug. 29.

see FETZER/page 21

ND VOLLEYBALL

Road trip to provide tough tests

By SAM WERNER
Sports Writer

The Irish continue their early-season tournament play this weekend, journeying all the way to Moscow, Idaho, to take part in the Idaho Volleyball classic.

Notre Dame will face off against Eastern Washington today and will take on Idaho and Washington State Saturday.

The Irish are 2-1 in the young season after hosting last weekend's Shamrock Invitational. Freshman outside hitter Kristen Dealy leads Notre Dame with 31 kills on the season.

"I thought she did a great job," Irish coach Debbie Brown said. "She took some really aggressive swings. I think she learned a lot from the weekend and I think she's just going to keep getting better."

Sophomore Kellie Sciacca and junior Serinity Phillips have

see IDAHO/page 22

ND CROSS COUNTRY

Men, women to open season at Valparaiso

By LAURA MYERS
Sports Writer

The men's and women's cross-country teams open the 2008 season today at the Crusader Open in Valparaiso, Ind.

Both teams came in first place at the event last year and are looking to do the same this year. Women's head coach Tim Connelly said, however, the meet will not be a good indicator for the rest of the season.

"There is no real strong competition at this meet," he said. "Our approach is fairly low-key."

Junior Beth Tacl led the Irish at this event last year, placing third on the 4L course with a time of 19:07.

Connelly said he plans only to run the upperclassmen in this meet in order to give the freshmen more time to improve.

"We're taking a different approach this year," he said. "We've got three seniors and many good upperclassmen."

Connelly said he will run the freshmen for the first time in the National Catholic Championships, held at Notre

see VALPO/page 22

MEN'S SOCCER

ND hosts four-team tourney

By MATT GAMBER
Associate Sports Editor

No. 8 Notre Dame will host the seventh annual Hilton Garden Inn Mike Berticelli Memorial Tournament this weekend in memory of the late Irish coach who died suddenly in January 2000.

The Irish (1-1-0) play Dartmouth at 7:30 tonight and No. 5 South Florida Sunday at 2 p.m. No. 3 Indiana, who hosted but did not play Notre Dame in last weekend's adidas/IU Credit

see BERTICELLI/page 22



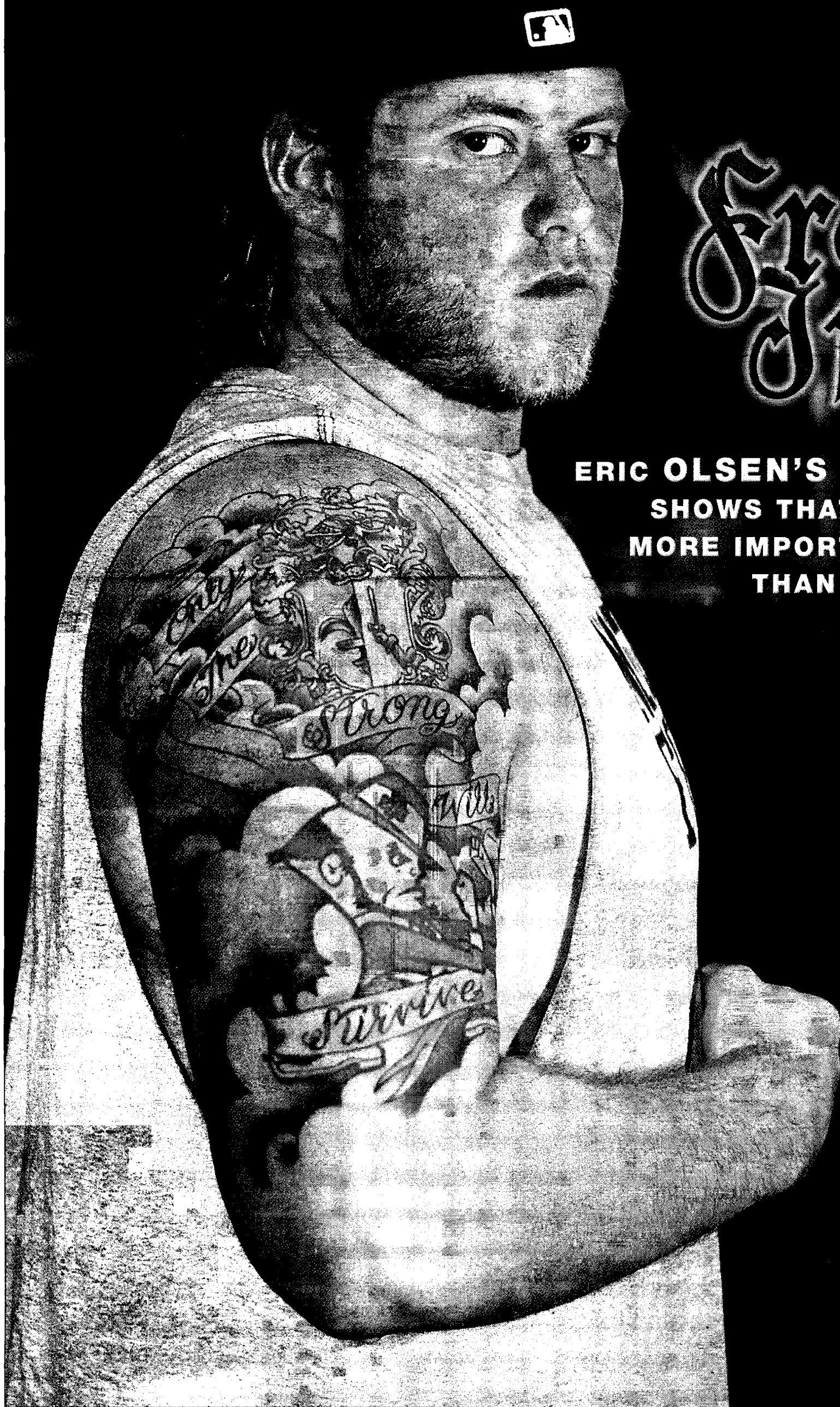
JESS LEE/The Observer

Junior midfielder Justin Morrow tries to get by a defender during Notre Dame's 1-0 defeat of St. John's on Nov. 11.

IRISH INSIDER

Friday, September 5, 2008

THE
OBSERVER



Fresh Ink

**ERIC OLSEN'S NEW TATTOO
SHOWS THAT THERE ARE
MORE IMPORTANT THINGS
THAN FOOTBALL**

COMMENTARY

Past is unspoken but not forgotten

The frightening images of 3-9 are still fresh in the mind.

John Sullivan snapping the ball over Armando Allen's head to start a 38-0 debacle at Michigan.

Southern Cal coming into the Stadium and laying another 38-0 beatdown on the Irish.

Fans screaming, babies crying, gnashing of teeth and so on.

So frightening, in fact, that coach Charlie Weis instructed his team to no longer speak of last season.

But try as Weis might, those images are hard to repress for anybody.

For many of his players, it was a rude awakening to the college game.

Unspoken now, but still remembered.

The problems were well-documented — poor offensive line coupled with anemic offensive production, a defense that couldn't stop the run.

Before the year, you could expect Notre Dame wasn't going to match previous years success, but who knew they were going to be 3-9 bad?

All the Irish can do now is learn from it. Don't speak about it, but don't forget it either. Quarterback Jimmy Clausen and the rest of the offense showed signs of progress toward the end of the year, but in the back of their minds, motivating them this season, should be the memories of those early-season mishaps. Fear of failure can be the best motivational tool.

That fear of failure also resides deep within Notre Dame fans. Some fans on the surface are optimistic about the coming year, and will give you their rosy prediction. After all, look at that schedule, look at that talent, everyone's a year older, and God can't hate Notre Dame that much. Still, they know another 3-9 is still possible.

Others are more pessimistic, and project a defeatist attitude about the coming year as a defense mechanism because the thought of another 3-9 is too much for them to think about.

But next to that fear of failure resides the pride of being a Notre Dame fan, the intimate connection each fan feels

toward this University. It's a connection that's forged with family, with tradition, and a connection forged in part by unprecedented success on the field.

Unspoken now, but still expected.

It doesn't matter if Notre Dame was 3-9 last year. It doesn't matter that this team is young and may still need a year or two to get back to national prominence. That's not the attitude fans are accustomed to.

Notre Dame football is not allowed to go 3-9, it just isn't supposed to happen. In the eyes of every Notre Dame fan, this year must be different. This year must be a success or else something needs to change.

That's why Tyrone Willingham got fired. A middling Notre Dame team just won't do. Not with the fans, and not with the administration, and not with NBC, who just re-negotiated its contract with Notre Dame. One year of 3-9 didn't concern the NBC suits, but a few more, and those ad revenues will start to shrink, and the suits at NBC and Notre Dame will start to sweat a little bit.

Notre Dame is one of the few places where the term low expectations doesn't exist, and it shouldn't. And nobody knows that better than Weis, the former student who once met with then-University president Fr. Hesburgh to complain about the football team. I wonder what Weis, the student, would've thought of 3-9.

And nobody knows better than Weis that last year can't happen again. Yes, there are personnel holes on the team that Weis inherited and has done a great job recruiting to fill those holes, but at some point, those recruits have to produce.

Weis called his book "No Excuses," and rightfully so. It's the attitude you need at Notre Dame. There are no excuses for 3-9. And there will be no excuses should it happen again.

He was a student here, he knows what it's like to sit in the stands when the team stinks and he knows the anger fans and alumni feel when the team stinks. And he knows what those fans will be thinking if there's a repeat of 3-9.

Unspoken now, but still very much understood.

The views expressed in this article are those of the writer and not necessarily The Observer. Contact Chris Hline at chline@nd.edu.



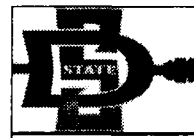
Chris Hline

Sports Writer

2008 Irish opponents

Last week

Next week



(0-1) L, 29-27, Cal Poly

vs San Jose St.



(0-1) L, 25-23, Utah

at Notre Dame



(0-1) L, 38-31, Cal

vs. FAU



(0-0) Idle

vs. OREGON



(1-0) W, 36-28, Or. St.

at TCU



(1-0) W, 35-27, McNeese

at Rutgers



(0-1) L, 44-10, Oregon

vs. Oklahoma



(0-1) L, 27-17, BGSU

Idle



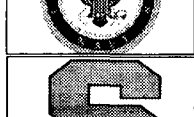
(1-0) W, 21-0, Kent St.

Idle



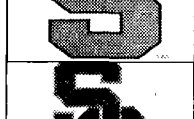
(1-0) W, 41-13, Towson

at Duke



(0-1) L, 30-10 NW'ern

vs. PennSt.



(1-0) W, 52-7, Virginia

vs Ohio St.



FOOTBALL WEEKENDS AT THE COLLEGE FOOTBALL HALL OF FAME

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- 6:00 pm - 10:00 pm Football Fridays Block Party featuring Mack Pherson & the Struts



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- 7:00 am Salmon Chase Fall Classic: Runners, walkers and kids are invited to take part in 5K Run, 10K Run, 5K Walk and the Guppy Run (ages 2-7) from the Hall of Fame.

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First 200 fans on Friday, September 5, will receive a FREE Hall of Fame Mini Stress Football!

Want to cover ND sports? Contact Bill Brink or Dan Murphy at sports@nd.edu

The fireman's son

Eric Olsen gained perspective on life from his dad's hardships on Sept. 11

By JAY FITZPATRICK
Sports Writer

This offseason, Notre Dame guard Eric Olsen's body changed. Not only did it get bigger (along with the rest of the offensive line), it got more colorful.

The change was the addition of a tattoo covering his entire right upper arm.

The tattoo took months to finish, with Olsen beginning it in December after the season ended and not finishing it until this summer.

The tattoo has some more common aspects, including an American flag and a family crest, but the back of his arm has a more personal design: angels crying on the shoulders of a firefighter.

"It's a real famous image in New York from September 11. My father was a firefighter, so it fits in with the theme [of the tattoo] 'Only the strong will survive,'" Olsen said.

Olsen's father Andy — who lives in Staten Island — was already a firefighter when the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center occurred, and was called to Ground Zero after the initial attacks.

The elder Olsen was at home when the planes first hit the buildings, on a two-week vacation after being promoted. But after the attacks, he and other off-duty personnel were called to Manhattan to assist with the emergency relief.

Olsen said his father was stuck in traffic on his way into Manhattan and forgot that he had his officer plates with him. He put them on his windshield, and a police officer escorted him to Ground Zero. Olsen said his father arrived shortly after the towers fell.

"If he had noticed that he had [the plates] sooner ... who knows what could have hap-

pened," Olsen said.

When the attacks initially happened, Olsen was in eighth grade and, like many other students that day, was unaware that the attacks had occurred. After he found out about the attacks, Olsen said he felt "a lot of anger that someone could do something like that."

"I felt a lot of anger toward the terrorists, a lot of pride in New York. Knowing the pain that my dad had to go through — it just hits home on a real personal level," he said.

Olsen also said that he felt helpless and frustrated because, at only 14-years-old, he said he felt there was not much he could do to help his dad.

Olsen said one of the worst parts of the day was his father's direct involvement in the rescue efforts. Olsen said some of his father's best friends had died in the effort.

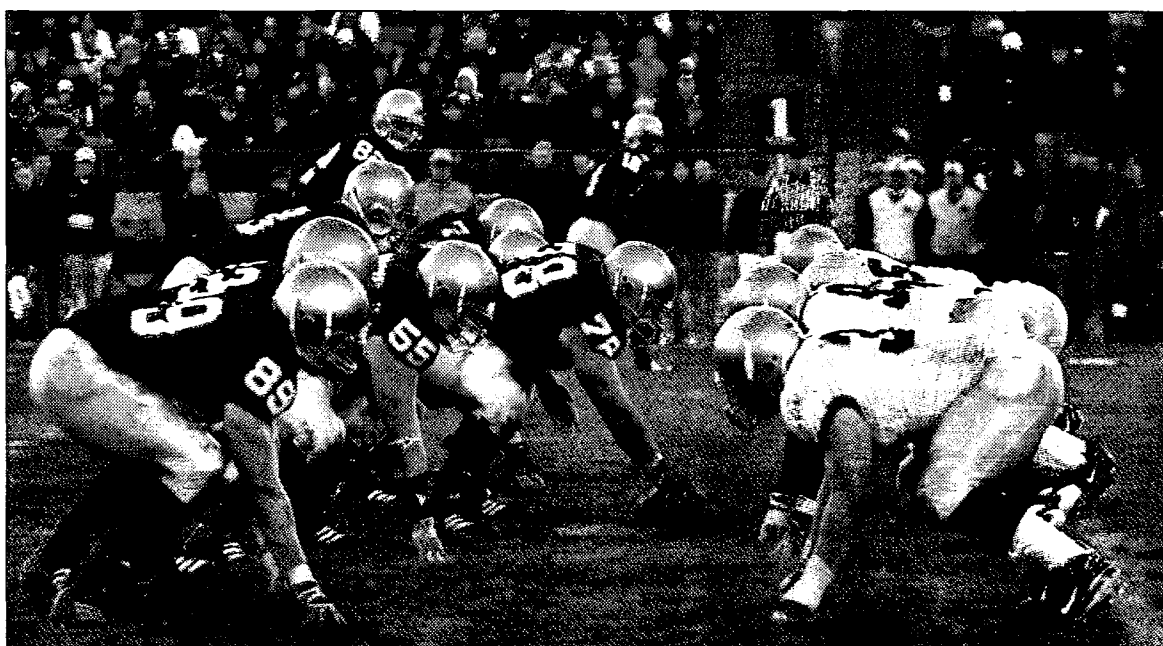
"Being a firefighter is like a brotherhood, like being on a football team or a fraternity," Olsen said. "Watching the losses that he had to endure — his friends, the people that he knew — was really painful."

"The relationships that he had with those guys, seeing the pain on his face and the pain on my mom's face and the people that we're close with, it was a really hard time for us."

Olsen said every anniversary of the attack — which is coming up on Thursday — brings back his memories and emotions from that day.

"It hits you when you are sitting in class and on the top corner of the page you write 'September 11,'" he said.

Olsen said that helping with the attacks was just one ordeal his father has had to go through. Andy Olsen has had 12 surgeries, including two for his anterior cruciate ligaments (ACL) and quadruple bypass surgery three



Olsen (55) and the Irish offensive line face off against Navy during Notre Dame's 46-44 triple overtime loss to the Midshipmen last season. Olsen has taken over as a leader on the offensive line.

years ago. He was also electrocuted at one point during his firefighting career, leading to some nerve damage.

Although Olsen still harbors bad memories from Sept. 11, 2001, he did move on, entering Brooklyn Poly Prep high school the next year.

Olsen was a stand-out player in two sports in high school, anchoring the football team's offensive line as a tackle and leading the lacrosse team's attack, including a 50-goal season as a junior. Olsen said he still weighed over 300 pounds when he played lacrosse, but it was "a little different 300" and that he was leaner and had more muscle than in the past.

"It was easy [playing attack]. The little guys couldn't stop me," he said. Olsen said he tries to keep up with playing lacrosse, and has been trying to play with tight end Will Yeatman — who also plays lacrosse for Notre Dame — but has not done that yet.

Even though Olsen described playing lacrosse was one of the happiest times in his life, he said he never had any interest in playing anything other than football in college.

Olsen fell into tight end coach Bernie Parmalee's recruiting area, but offensive line coach John Latina, his current position coach, also recruited him.

"I saw [in Olsen] a big, strong athletic guy that showed he liked playing football and had passion playing football. That's what I saw in high school and that's what I'm seeing now," Latina said.

Olsen said determining where he wanted to play college football involved multiple

factors, and Notre Dame was the best fit.

"I was looking for the complete package of academics; football, obviously; and the situation on the offensive line, in terms of depth. Everything had to be perfect," he said. "And when you look at those characteristics and break it down, not many schools can compete with Notre Dame."

Olsen took advantage of the various academic opportunities available at Notre Dame, beginning as an art studio major before switching to industrial design.

"I have a passion for drawing. It's something I like to do in my free time. I'm also interested in marketing, so I figured I could somewhat combine the two in industrial design," Olsen said.

Olsen said the recent success of the program is exciting and that he is impressed by some of the projects his classmates have done.

He also said managing his time as an industrial design major is tough because of the number and length of classes involved.

"I had to take a couple studio classes each semester and the studio classes can be up to three hours long," he said. "It kind of fills up my schedule a lot because I'm just going from class-to-class and then straight to practice."

This season, Olsen is slated as the No. 1 right guard on the opening day two-deep depth chart. He's been a source of leadership for an offensive line determined to improve its play from a year ago.

Latina said he always envisioned Olsen playing as a guard, despite having been a

tackle in high school. The coach said that is the easier transition to make than guard to tackle because tackles often play against faster opponents and have no one covering their outside. Latina said guards play "big guys like yourself in a phone book amount of space," making it an easier adjustment.

Latina said Olsen has done well since transitioning permanently to guard after his freshman season.

Olsen played sparingly as a freshman, but saw increased playing time last season, including his first Irish start against Boston College. That added experience has given him more confidence to perform well, Latina said.

"He's just older, smarter, wiser, more confident," he said. "... Now he gets to reflect back and pull from past experience."

Notre Dame head coach Charlie Weis agreed, saying the game has slowed down for Olsen since last season.

"When you first start going out there and you're lining up there the first time on the offensive line as a young guy, okay, it's like, whoa, everything is happening real fast," Weis said. "Everything's happening real fast and those guys you're playing against are pretty good. Now it's a year later and he thinks he's one of those good guys now. Where last year he was trying to get his feet wet."

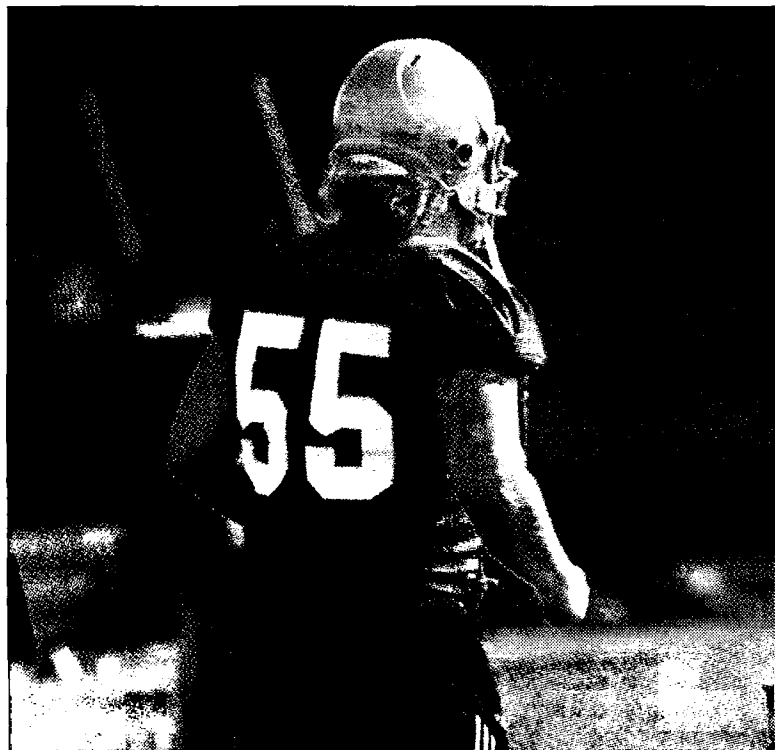
Even defensive coordinator Corwin Brown said Olsen has improved to the point that he has been a big help in improving the defensive line play this season.

"Olsen is a tough guy. Everybody else has to be tougher because they are watching him play," Brown said. "I gotta choose my words right. You gotta do your business or get off the pot."

But despite this confidence and improvement, Olsen said the only thing that matters is a win.

"That's the only thing we can do," Olsen said. "We can talk the talk all we want, we can talk all off-season and have confidence and be excited about the season. But all that matters is Saturday."

Contact Jay Fitzpatrick at jfitzpa5@nd.edu



Irish guard Eric Olsen runs during practice Tuesday. Olsen recently covered his upper right arm with a tattoo.

Notre Dame Fighting Irish

Record: 0-0

AP: NR

Coaches: NR



Charlie Weis
head coach

Charlie Weis
Fourth season at
Notre Dame
career record:
21-14

against
San Diego St.: 0-0

Roster

No.	Name	Pos.	Ht	Wt.	YR
1	Deion Walker	WR	6-2	188	FR
3	Michael Floyd	WR	6-3	215	FR
4	Gary Gray	DB	5-11	188	SO
5	Armando Allen	RB	5-10	195	SO
6	Ray Herring	DB	5-10	198	SR
7	Jimmy Clausen	QB	6-3	217	SO
8	Raeshon McNeil	DB	6-0	190	JR
9	Ethan Johnson	DE	6-4	275	FR
10	Kyle Rudolph	TE	6-6	252	FR
11	Dayne Crist	QB	6-4	233	FR
12	David Grimes	WR	5-10	177	SR
13	Nick Lezynski	QB	5-8	157	SO
14	Robert Blanton	DB	6-1	180	FR
15	Evan Sharpley	QB	6-2	215	SR
16	Brandon Walker	K	6-3	202	SO
17	Brian Castello	QB	6-2	191	SO
18	Nate Montana	QB	6-4	200	FR
19	Duval Kamara	WR	6-5	219	SO
20	George West Jr.	WR	5-10	198	JR
21	Terrill Lambert	DB	5-11	195	SR
22	Barry Gallup Jr.	RB	5-11	200	JR
23	Harrison Smith	DB	6-2	206	SO
24	Golden Tate	WR	5-11	195	SO
25	Leonard Gordon	DB	5-11	187	JR
26	Brian Coughlin	WR	6-0	172	JR
27	Jonas Gray	RB	5-10	230	FR
28	Jamoris Slaughter	DB	6-0	182	FR
29	David Bruton	DB	6-2	212	SR
30	Kyle McCarthy	DB	6-1	203	SR
31	Jashaad Gaines	DB	6-0	202	JR
32	Michael Garcia	WR	6-1	178	SO
33	Steve Paskorz	FB	6-2	235	SO
34	Sergio Brown	DB	6-2	205	JR
35	Luke Schmidt	TE	6-3	246	JR
36	Robert Hughes	RB	5-11	237	SO
37	James Aldridge	RB	6-0	237	SO
38	Kevin Smith	LB	5-8	200	SR
39	Kevin Brooks	TE	6-2	241	JR
40	Joe Bizjak	K	6-2	165	JR
41	David Poslusznny	LB	6-0	220	FR
42	Mike Anello	DB	5-10	170	SR
43	Eras Noel	RB	5-8	190	SO
44	Chris Bathon	DB	5-10	192	JR
45	Christopher Gurnies	WR	5-10	181	SO
46	Ryan Burkhardt	K	5-11	190	JR
47	Maurice Crum Jr.	LB	6-3	235	SR
48	Scott Smith	LB	5-11	235	SR
49	Nikolas Rodriguez	RB	5-11	205	SR
50	Kevin Washington	LB	6-1	250	SR
51	Dan Franco	WR	5-10	188	JR
52	John Leonis	DB	5-9	169	SR
53	Eric Maust	P	6-2	177	JR
54	Asaph Schwapp	FB	6-0	236	FR
55	Darius Fleming	LB	6-1	257	SR
56	Kris Patterson	WR	5-11	237	FR
57	Steve Filer	LB	6-3	185	SR
58	Joe Vittoria	LB	5-11	244	JR
59	Mike Narvaez	FB	5-11	231	JR
60	Steve Quinn	LB	6-2	225	SR
61	Toryan Smith	C	6-4	344	JR
62	Dan Wenger	C	6-3	202	JR
63	Braxton Cave	C	6-3	315	FR
64	Morrice Richardson	DE	6-2	255	JR
65	Anthony McDonald	LB	6-3	225	FR
66	Eric Olsen	OG	6-5	303	JR
67	Kerry Neal	LB	6-2	246	SO
68	Mike Golic Jr.	C	6-3	280	FR
69	Brian Smith	LB	6-3	245	SO
70	Chris Stewart	OG	6-5	337	JR
71	Martin Quintana	LB	6-1	242	JR
72	Bill Flavin	C	6-3	252	SO
73	Jeff Tisak	OT	6-3	306	SR
74	Tom Burke	LB	5-10	242	JR
75	Mike Hernandez	OL	6-2	275	FR
76	Tom Bemenderfer	C	6-5	300	SR
77	Carl Brophy	OL	6-4	278	FR
78	Matt Romine	OT	6-5	292	SO
79	Dennis Mahoney	OL	6-6	290	FR
80	Paul Duncan	OT	6-7	308	SR
81	Sam Young	OT	6-8	308	JR
82	Taylor Dever	OT	6-5	330	SO
83	Lane Clelland	OT	6-5	281	FR
84	Andrew Nuss	DE	6-5	304	SO
85	Mike Turkovich	OG	6-6	305	SR
86	Trevor Robinson	OG	6-5	301	FR
87	Hafis Williams	DE	6-2	302	FR
88	John Goodman	WR	6-4	210	JR
89	Robby Parris	WR	6-4	210	JR
90	Will Yeatman	TE	6-6	265	SO
91	Sam Vos	WR	5-10	199	JR
92	Paul Kuppich	TE	6-3	232	SR
93	Joseph Fauria	TE	6-7	245	FR
94	Kapron Lewis-Moore	DE	6-4	257	FR
95	John Ryan	LB	6-5	264	JR
96	Emeka Nwankwo	DE	6-4	295	SO
97	Paddy Mullen	NT	6-3	300	JR
98	Justin Brown	DE	6-3	277	SR
99	Ian Williams	NT	6-2	310	SO
100	Pat Kuntz	DE	6-3	283	SR
101	Kallen Wade	LB	6-5	255	JR
102	Sean Cwynar	DE	6-4	283	FR
103	Brandon Newman	NT	6-0	310	FR

Notre Dame 2008 Schedule

Sept. 6 SAN DIEGO ST.
Sept. 13 MICHIGAN
Sept. 20 at MICH. ST.
Sept. 27 PURDUE.
Oct. 4 STANFORD
Oct. 11 at UNC
Oct. 25 at WASH.
Nov. 1 PITT
Nov. 8 at BC
Nov. 15 NAVY
Nov. 22 SYRACUSE
Nov. 29 at USC

COACHING

Charlie Weis handed over play calling responsibilities to his coordinators so he could focus more on what is going on in the field. The once-worshiped coach must be feeling the pressure to win quick after last year's 3-9 record.

Chuck Long may be pretty green as a head coach, but the 1985 Heisman runner-up knows the game. Long also won a national championship during his seven year stint as an assistant coach under Bob Stoops at Oklahoma.

Long certainly has an impressive resume, but a 7-17 record with the Aztecs puts him a step or two behind Notre Dame. Weis has a lot to prove this season, but don't expect him to shy away from the challenge. He and his staff take the edge on the sidelines.

QUARTERBACKS

Jimmy Clausen has an extra year under his belt and a healthy throwing arm for the first time in his career. A stronger O-line should keep him off of his back for a little longer, but it is still far from Brady Quinn under center.

Redshirt freshman Ryan Lindley settled down for some impressive stats after a rocky start to his career last week. Standing in front of 80,000 screaming fans in Notre Dame Stadium is a big jump up for act two.

The Irish struggled last year to find a No. 1 QB. Clausen seems to have won the job for good. As one of the nation's top recruits, Clausen is no stranger to the spotlight and should be able to play to his potential this weekend.

IRISH RUSHING

A combination of speed and power in the backfield looks promising for Notre Dame's new "pound it" mentality. However, it's all up to the big boys in the trenches who have yet to prove themselves as a force to be reckoned with.

Despite returning eight starters, the Aztecs gave up 263 yards on the ground against Div. I-AA Cal Poly last week. They struggled to stop the option and will most likely struggle to slow down the speedy, youthful Notre Dame backfield.

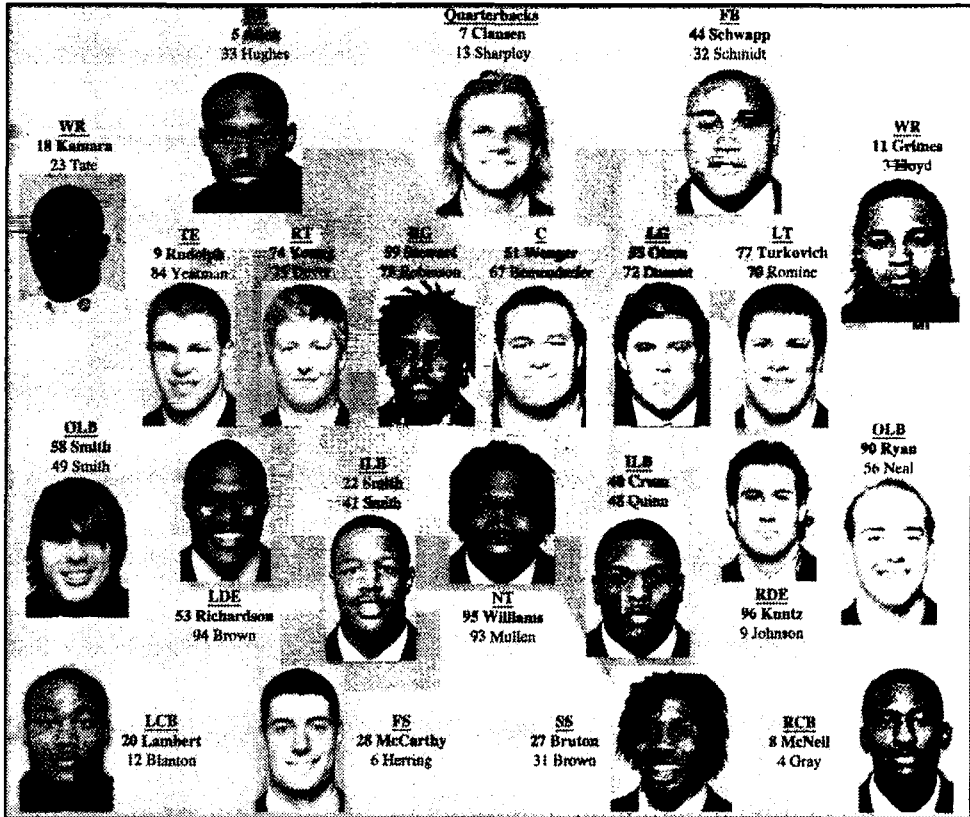
Notre Dame's line outweighs San Diego by about 40 pounds a man. The three-headed Irish backfield should have holes to run through and is potentially very dangerous in the open field.

IRISH PASSING

Kamara and Floyd add some much needed height for the the Irish receivers. The team will miss tight end John Carlson's good hands over the middle, but as long as Clausen can stay on his feet the passing game should be much-improved from his rookie season.

With a pair of six-footers at corner back the Aztecs will match up well against the Irish receivers. They didn't see too much of a test last week but were able to shut down most of the Cal Poly passing attack.

The Irish passing offense looked promising at the end of last year, but they have yet to establish themselves as a dominant force. A tall, strong Aztec secondary will be able to hang with the Irish receivers throughout most of the game.



Bill Brink
Sports Editor

however, will take advantage of a sketchy Notre Dame secondary. It won't matter in the end, but it won't be a blowout.

FINAL SCORE: Notre Dame 27
San Diego State 17



Jay Fitzpatrick
Managing Editor

Aztec defense. The offensive line atones for last year's sins, leading to a big offensive output on the ground and in the air.

FINAL SCORE: Notre Dame 35
San Diego St. 13



Chris Hine
Editor-in-Chief

to play a role. But San Diego State lost to Div. I-AA Cal Poly last week. This should be a good warm-up for a young Irish team.

FINAL SCORE: Notre Dame 28
San Diego St. 14

Irish experts

O HEAD

San Diego St. Aztecs

San Diego St. Aztecs

Record: 0-1

AP: NR

Coaches: NR

Chuck Long
3rd season at
San Diego St.
career record:
7-17



Chuck Long
head coach

against Notre
Dame: 0-0

San Diego St. 2008 Schedule

Aug. 30 CAL POLY — L
Sept. 6 NOTRE DAME
Sept. 13 at San Jose St.
Sept. 27 IDAHO
Oct. 4 at TCU
Oct. 11 AIR FORCE
Oct. 18 at New Mexico
Oct. 25 COLO. ST.
Nov. 1 at Wyoming
Nov. 8 at BYU
Nov. 15 UTAH
Nov. 22 UNLV

Roster

No.	Name	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	YR
1	DeMarco Sampson	WR	6-2	210	JR
1	Andy Gregorio	DB	5-9	195	SO
2	Travis Crawford	DB	6-0	200	SR
2	Kelsey Sokoloski	QB	6-2	195	SO
3	Mekell Wesley	WR	5-10	175	JR
4	Darren Mougey	WR	6-6	230	SR
5	T.J. McKay	DB	6-1	205	SR
6	Atiyah Henderson	RB	5-9	180	JR
7	Vonnie Holmes	DB	6-0	170	SR
9	Drew Westling	QB	6-2	220	JR
9	Miles Burns	LB	6-2	245	FR
10	Davion Mauldin	DB	5-10	175	JR
10	Josh O'Brien	QB	6-4	210	SO
11	Martrell Fantroy	DB	6-1	215	SO
11	Zack Kusin	QB	6-6	215	FR
12	Alston Umuolo	TE	6-4	240	SO
13	Brandon Davis	WR	6-2	185	FR
14	Ryan Lindley	QB	6-3	205	FR
14	Brian Stahovich	K	6-0	170	FR
15	Jose Perez	DB	6-1	180	SO
16	Eric Miclot	TE	6-5	245	SR
17	Josh Wade	DB	6-0	175	FR
17	Justin Shaw	WR	6-2	210	SR
18	Roberto Wallace	WR	6-4	215	JR
19	Jon Toledo	WR	6-3	215	JR
20	Matthew Kawulok	TE	6-2	245	JR
21	Robert Gregorio	RB	5-10	170	FR
21	Aaron Moore	DB	6-0	195	JR
22	Andrew Preston	LB	6-1	225	SO
23	Brandon Sullivan	RB	5-11	205	SO
24	Kwincy Edwards	DB	5-11	165	JR
26	Gerard Armstrong	DB	6-0	225	SR
27	Vincent Camarda	DB	6-2	195	FR
29	Bryan Shields	K	6-1	190	SO
30	Davon Brown	RB	5-9	180	SO
30	Darryn Lewis	DB	5-9	165	SO
31	Logan Ketchum	LB	6-3	215	FR
32	Tyler Campbell	RB	6-0	220	SR
33	Ramon Judkins	RB	6-0	205	FR
34	Jerry Milling	LB	5-10	230	JR
35	Luke Laolagi	LB	6-1	230	JR
36	Rob Andrews	LB	6-2	225	FR
37	Colin Shumate	LB	6-2	225	FR
38	Josh Uilbarri	FB	6-1	240	SR
38	Zach Shapiro	LB	6-2	250	JR
39	Dey Juan Hemmings	DB	5-11	195	SO
40	Corey Boudreaux	DB	6-1	220	SR
41	Tony Demartinis	TE	6-5	260	JR
42	Nick Sandford	DB	6-2	210	JR
43	Ross Williams	LB	6-3	200	FR
43	Aubrey Smith	DB	6-2	190	FR
44	Romeo Horn	DB	6-1	185	SO
45	Dustin Abrams	P	5-11	170	JR
46	Russell Allen	LB	6-3	235	SR
47	David Brown	PK	5-10	160	FR
48	Eron Moses	DE	6-4	250	FR
49	J.J. Autele	DE	6-1	240	FR
50	Trask Iosefa	OL	6-0	315	SO
51	Jimmy Miller	OL	6-3	290	FR
52	Marcus Yarbrough	LB	6-2	245	SO
53	Emilio Rivera	OL	6-4	330	FR
54	Zach Clarke	LB	6-2	225	SR
55	Neil Spencer	DL	6-2	295	SO
56	Jonathon Soto	DL	6-3	270	JR
57	Willie Walters	DE	6-2	240	JR
58	Aaron Brewer	LS	6-5	210	FR
59	Lance Louis	OL	6-3	300	SR
60	Tommy Draheim	OL	6-4	285	FR
61	Demetrius Barksdale	LB	6-3	200	FR
63	Bryan Finkel	LB	6-2	225	JR
65	Shane Morris	LB	6-0	230	SR
66	Henry Simon	DL	6-3	275	FR
67	Ikaika Aken-Moleta	OL	6-2	305	JR
68	Mike Schmidt	OL	6-2	320	SR
69	Erik Quinones	OL	6-3	305	FR
71	Alec Johnson	OL	6-3	310	FR
72	Tom Rische	OL	6-4	320	SO
73	Kellen Farr	OL	6-7	320	FR
74	Mike Matamua	OL	6-4	305	FR
75	Leo Grassilli	OL	6-3	280	FR
76	Uaita Emosi	OL	6-2	350	FR
77	Damian Shankle	OL	6-2	310	JR
78	Brian Milholland	OT	6-6	300	FR
79	Kurtis Gunther	OL	6-8	280	FR
80	Vincent Brown	WR	6-0	185	SO
81	Dominique Sandifer	WR	6-0	180	SO
82	Doug Deakin	WR	6-0	185	FR
83	Simon Ayala	WR	6-1	195	SR
84	Dante Daniels	WR	5-9	170	FR
85	D.J. Shields	TE	6-4	230	FR
86	Waika Spencer	TE	6-4	265	JR
87	Lucas Stafford	WR	6-1	170	FR
88	Lane Yoshida	K	5-10	195	JR
89	Hunter Hewitt	TE	6-5	230	FR
90	B.J. Williams	DE	6-3	250	SO
91	Darius Jones	DL	6-4	355	JR
92	Siaosi Fifita	DL	6-4	270	SR
93	Avery Williams	DL	6-3	280	JR
94	Jerome Long	DL	6-5	250	FR
95	Michael Sneed	DE	6-4	250	FR
96	Greg Scott	DL	6-2	260	FR
97	Eric Ikonne	DE	6-0	250	SO
98	Ryan Williams	DL	6-5	250	JR
99	Ernie Lawson	DL	6-3	300	SO

NOTRE DAME

SAN DIEGO ST.

ANALYSIS

AZTECS RUSHING

Fifth-year linebacker Mo Crum anchors a group of linebackers that could only improve. Smith and Neal add some much-needed athleticism and a bigger, stronger defensive line should be able to clog up some holes against San Diego State.

SDSU running back Brandon Sullivan picked up only 43 yards on 15 carries. The offensive line is smaller than average and will have trouble pushing around an Irish defense that spent the summer in the dining halls and weight rooms.

As much-improved Irish front seven will debut in style holding Sullivan to even less than he had last week while the Aztecs will most likely stick to the air to try to create some offense.

AZTECS PASSING

The loss of Darrin Walls at corner hurts the already inexperienced defensive backfield. McCarthy and Parris should be strong over the middle but the front seven will have to provide a consistent pass rush for the Irish to keep the ball on the ground.

Long, who knows a thing or two about quarterbacks, is excited about his passing attack which gained 352 yards through the air and threw for three touchdowns last week. The learning curve is still pretty sharp for a young, talented group.

An impressive first day under center for Lindley makes the Aztecs a legitimate threat through the air. Notre Dame still has some question marks in the defensive backfield and will have plenty of opportunities to try to find some answers.

SPECIAL TEAMS

Brandon Walker went 6-for-12 kicking field goals last season, only one of those was 30 yards or more. The Irish lost fire-cracker returner Tom Zbikowski but still have some speed in their return game with Armando Allen and Golden Tate returning kicks.

Punter Brian Stahovich averaged 39.5 yards per kick last week including two pinneds inside the 20. The placekickers were perfect on extra points but did not attempt any field goals. The Aztecs also averaged 25 yards per return in the punt game.

San Diego State takes this category partially because of impressive numbers in their opening week and partially because Notre Dame doesn't deserve to be listed above any teams special teams at this point in the season.

INTANGIBLES

In case you have been living under a rock for a year, this game is a must win for Weis and the Irish. Notre Dame was embarrassed on their own turf week after week last season. Expect them to be fired up and looking to make a statement.

The Aztecs play in front of less than 30,000 fans on a regular basis. If 80,000 people and a national television spotlight don't get these guys crawling with goosebumps, it's time to check for a pulse.

The Aztecs will be excited, but Notre Dame has much more to prove to their opponents, their fans, and most importantly themselves. Weis will have his boys boiling from kickoff until the clock strikes zero Saturday afternoon.



Dan Murphy
Sports Editor

Notre Dame fans will finally have something to cheer about Saturday, but don't hold your breath. Weis' smash-mouth mentality will make for a slow first half with plenty of work for both punters. A bigger, stronger Irish team will run away with this one in the second half and Michael Floyd will earn himself a spot in the starting line-up with some big catches and most likely a trip to the end zone.

**FINAL SCORE: Notre Dame 31
San Diego St. 17**

Celebrity Pick

Each week the Observer asks a well-known celebrity to sound off on ND's chances.

Mike Golic co-hosts the popular radio show Mike & Mike in the Morning. Golic played football and wrestled for the Irish from 1981-1985. He was drafted by the Houston Oilers and also played for the Eagles and the Dolphins. Golic now works for ESPN on NFL Live as well as his radio show. His oldest son, Mike Jr., is a freshman on the Notre Dame team.



Mike Golic
ESPN Host

I expect the Irish to try to grind down the clock and control the ball with the running game. Weis is going to try to wear San Diego down even if they aren't picking up many yards. The defense will be aggressive and going after it on each play. I think people will be excited and surprised to see how aggressive and quick this defense is going to be.

**FINAL SCORE:
Notre Dame 30
San Diego St. 10**

Irish experts

Crunching the numbers

2007 SEASON AVERAGES PER GAME

ND points scored **18.4**
SDSU points scored **23.1**

ND points allowed **28.8**
SDSU points allowed **34.4**

ND rush yards **75.2**
SDSU rush yards **183.8**

ND rushing allowed **195.4**
SDSU rushing allowed **241.5**

ND pass yards **167.8**
SDSU pass yards **272.5**

ND passing allowed **161.6**
SDSU passing allowed **288.7**

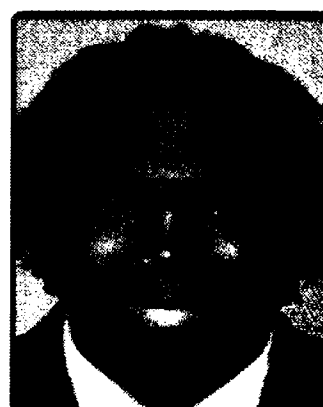
OBSERVER CLASSIFIED WITH...

IAN WILLIAMS #95

NT

HT : 6-2 WT : 310

HOMETOWN : Altamonte Springs, Fla.



Where did you get the nickname "Tank"?

Some of the trainers started calling me that last year and I guess it stuck.

Who do you like to hang with off the field?

Most of the guys in my sophomore class, Ragone, Emeka, Golden, Armando.

If you could play any other sport than football what would it be?

Probably basketball. I played it back when I was in middle school.

What's your favorite spot around campus?

That's gotta be my room — in my

bed in Fisher. I'm always just trying to catch up on some sleep now.

You're a long way from home, how has the transition been?

My uncle and my mom have been there to help me out, I talk to them three or four times each week.

How did you survive your first winter in South Bend?

It was tough. It took a little bit of getting used to, but I kind of like the cool weather over the warm water.

So no regrets that you didn't stay in Florida or anywhere else warm?

No, no regrets at all.

Villa Macri

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Smith handles position switch with aplomb

By BILL BRINK
Sports Editor

Brian Smith isn't happy about his nickname.

"Puppy," he's called. It started after defensive coordinator Corwin Brown introduced him to coaches at a clinic before he came to Notre Dame. "He's just a young pup," Brown said.

The genre is fine; Smith just wants a fiercer canine moniker.

"Rot, Doberman, I don't care. Just give me a masculine dog name," Smith said.

Smith, a sophomore, will have a chance to make his case for a more intimidating label tomorrow — and from a new spot on the field. A former outside linebacker, Smith will start this year at middle linebacker along with fifth-year senior Maurice Crum Jr.

He's not moving too far, about six yards on the field. But he said he handled the transfer well.

"It's been smoother than

expected," he said. "Playing outside linebacker, you don't have to know too much. But as a Mike [middle] linebacker, you have to know what's going on in front of you, behind you, all over the place."

Assistant head coach/defense Jon Tenuta offered a reason why Smith has made the transition.

"He's a linebacker, first and foremost," Tenuta said.

The middle of the field, or "maze," as Tenuta called it, can be confusing to players who have never played there before, so Smith spent the spring and summer learning — albeit at a slow pace — how to read it. Now, Tenuta said, he has learned how to play at game speed and understand his responsibility.

"Every time I'm outside, I try to use my speed against slow offensive tackles. I feel like I can attack from everywhere."

Brian Smith
Irish linebacker

The Notre Dame defense, Tenuta said, is a gap-fill defense. Each defender is assigned a gap to fill between the opponent's offensive linemen. None of the players, Tenuta said, will ever have to play two gaps.

"You're not going to go into a two-gap against a 300-pounder because you're not going to win," Tenuta said.

So for Smith, understanding how his gap assignments change as he moves inside is, he said, the biggest mental aspect.

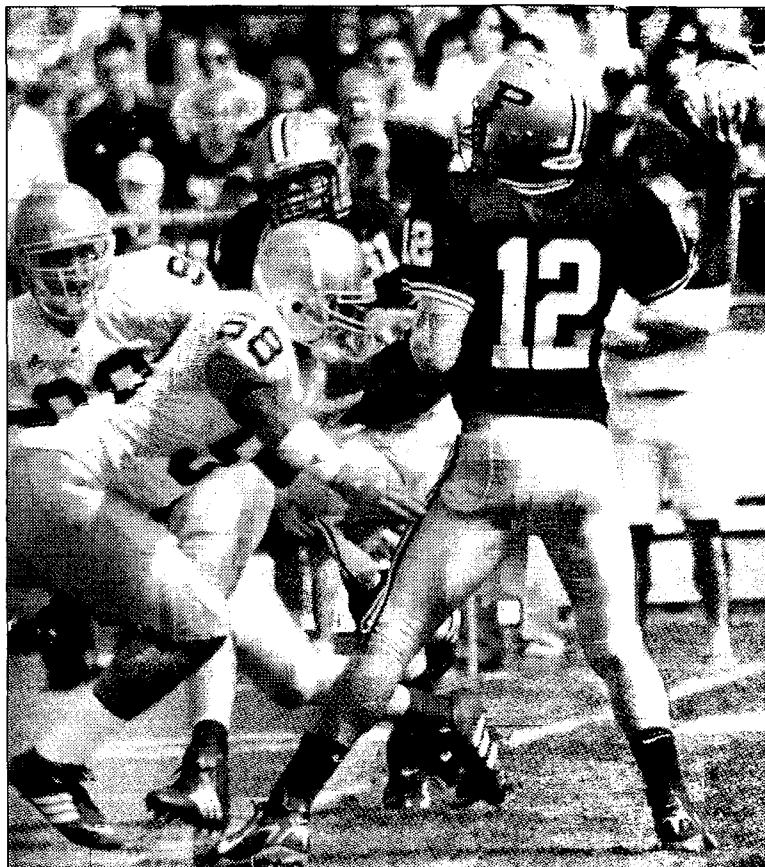
"When you're playing Sam [outside linebacker] you have one gap," Smith said. "You just cut the field in half and take the edge. When you're playing Mike, you can have the A, B, C or D gap."

Smith has what he called a safety net in Crum, a veteran at middle linebacker with whom he roomed over the summer.

"He's been a big help. When I'm on the field and I think I know something, I'll look at Mo and we'll check it," Smith said. "He'll tell me, 'You're thinking the right thing.'"

Brown said Smith handled the transition well, and "itched" to get back outside. Any time a young player can do multiple things, he said, it opens up what the defense can do. But Smith can't learn everything during spring ball, Brown said, and Smith needed to "play his rules" to succeed.

"If I just play my rules, it doesn't matter what happens around me," Brown said. "What matters is what the guy over me does and what my rules tell me to do."



VANESSA GEMPIS/The Observer

Irish linebacker Brian Smith, 58, tackles Purdue quarterback Curtis Painter during Notre Dame's 33-19 loss to the Boilermakers last season.

Irish coach Charlie Weis said it's possible Smith's itch to get outside will be scratched.

"Before this year's out, I think you might see him in multiple spots," Weis said. "You might see him inside. You might see him outside. You might see [both] this week."

Smith said he relishes the chance to get back outside and looks to capitalize whenever he does.

"In some packages I'm outside, and when I'm outside, I'll think, 'Okay, I'm back, let me take it, let me take advantage of it,'" he said. "Every time I'm outside, I try to use my speed against slow offensive tackles. I feel like I can attack from anywhere."

Smith's itch isn't limited to speed rushing outside. He wants to get on the field. He

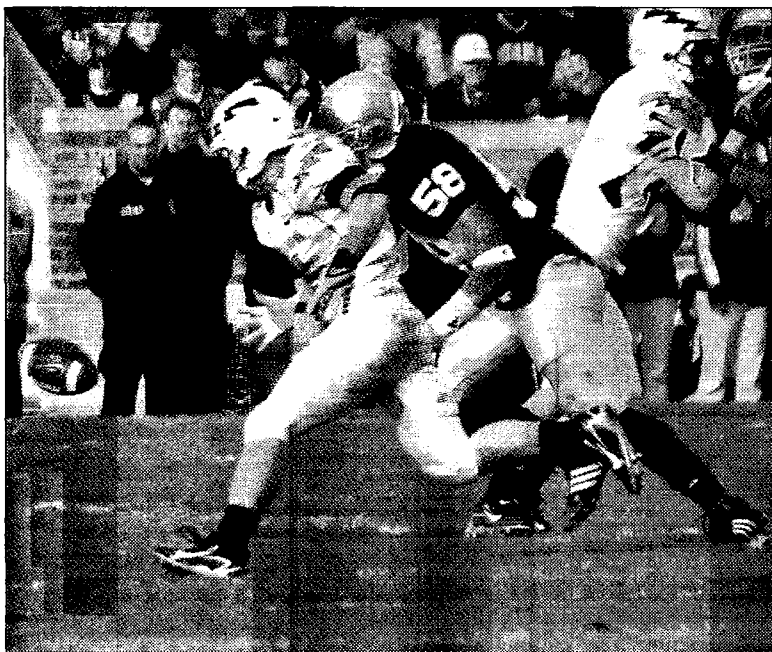
couldn't sit still, bouncing his knee on the ground and gesturing while answering questions at a press conference Wednesday. Watching football this weekend increased his appetite to play, especially, he said, watching Alabama's defense.

"I don't root for teams, I root for defenses," he said. "When I see a defense that's on the same page, making plays, being physical and violent, I love that kind of football."

Smith hopes to replicate that this weekend against San Diego State; when asked about the game, he said, "It's going to be violent."

Maybe violent enough to earn himself a new nickname.

Contact Bill Brink at
wbrink@nd.edu



IAN GAVLICK/The Observer

Irish linebacker Brian Smith forces a fumble during Notre Dame's 41-24 loss to Air Force on Nov. 10, 2007.

Players, coaches remember Yonto's ways

By DAN MURPHY
Sports Editor

On Aug. 4 Notre Dame football lost a legend. At the age of 83, long-time defensive line coach and former Irish player Joe Yonto passed away.

Yonto spent 19 years on the Notre Dame sideline when all was said and done. He also spent nine years as an assistant to the Athletic Director and remained close to the team until his death. Beyond any shadow of a doubt, he changed the history of Notre Dame football, but he never let football change him.

"Joe was a great family man, he always was," former Irish coach Ara Parseghian said. "He was a very sincere guy who had a wonderful, unshakable set of principles he lived by."

Parseghian hired Yonto as

defensive line coach in his first year at Notre Dame in 1964. He said they became good friends and practically lived together during the season.

The one thing Parseghian remembered most about his friend was that he never swore — something that is pretty rare in the world of football coaches.

"We used to have a quarter box set up in coaches' meetings. If you swore, you paid a quarter. Joe never went near that box," Parseghian said.

"We used to have a quarter box set up in coach's meeting. If you swore, you paid a quarter. Joe never went near that box."

Ara Parseghian
former Irish coach

Players remember him as a man who could talk to you about anything in the world, most of the time it had nothing to do with football.

"He was a coach's coach no doubt, but off the field he was a regular guy. A lot of coaches will just talk football all the time, that wasn't Joe," former Irish defensive

lineman Mike Golic said.

Golic said he first met Yonto when the coach was recruiting his older brother, Bob, in 1975. Bob was heavily recruited out of high school, but both Golic brothers were filled with nervous excitement with an Irish coach coming to the house.

When he arrived Yonto put out his hand, but when the Golics went to shake it he moved it away just enough to make them whiff — a trick that Yonto loved to use to break the ice with young players.

"With a guy like that walking in, you were almost standing at attention," Golic said. "It was the kind of thing that just put you at ease with him right away though."

Golic said Yonto was never as large as any of the big linemen that he coached, but

he had a demeanor about him that demanded respect and made him a giant.

A short, easy-going prankster with the mouth of an altar boy is generally not a strong resume for a football coach.

"He was a coach's coach no doubt, but off the field he was a regular guy. A lot of coaches will just talk football all the time, that wasn't Joe."

Mike Golic
former Irish defensive lineman

Add to that a permanent ear-to-ear smile or an undying loyalty to your wife and six children and it becomes a little more imaginable. Yonto found a way to make it work, and he made it work well.

The coach won three national championships, in 1966, 1973 and 1977. He also produced 12 All-Americans on the defensive line. In eight different seasons his defense lines held opponents to an average of less than 100 rushing yards per game.

"He never used profanity, but he could yell at you. He

knew how to get the most out of all of his players," Parseghian said.

Yonto always had coaching in his blood. His first job was as an assistant coach for the freshman team after a leg injury ended his playing career in 1946. Prior to his injury Yonto played fullback and guard for the Irish starting in 1945.

After graduation, Yonto coached high school teams for several years in the Chicago area. Parseghian was coaching at Northwestern at the time and met Yonto while recruiting some of his players.

"When I got the job [at Notre Dame] Joe contacted me and we hired him right away," Parseghian said.

Yonto suffered a heart attack earlier this year and was also on kidney dialysis, but was able to live out his final days playing golf and enjoying life. He is survived by his wife, six children and the hundreds of players he improved on and off the field.

Contact Dan Murphy at
dmurphy6@nd.edu

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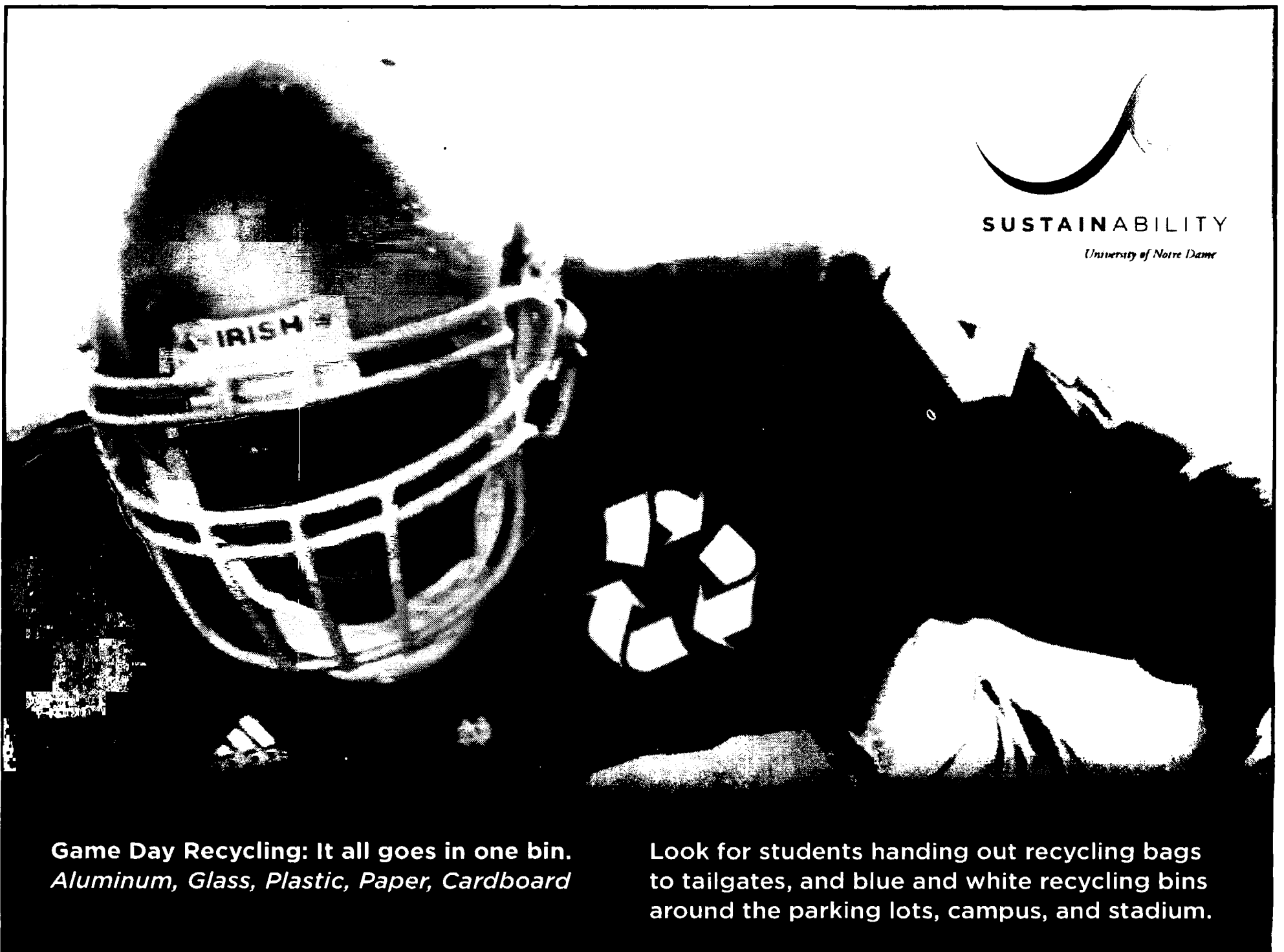
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