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ELECTION 2008

NDvotes '08 hosts campaign advisors

Howard Lerner, Obama supporter, and Ike Brannon, McCain supporter, argued for their candidates

By ROBERT SINGER
News Writer

If the six days remaining until Election Day are as unpredictable as last night's "Campaign Forum" hosted by NDVote'08, the outcome will not be easy to forecast.

Ike Brannon, Senior Policy Advisor for the McCain campaign, and Howard Lerner, Executive Director at the Law and Policy Center and advisor to the Obama campaign, were scheduled to sit side-by-side, arguing for their candidates on the issues of energy, the econo-

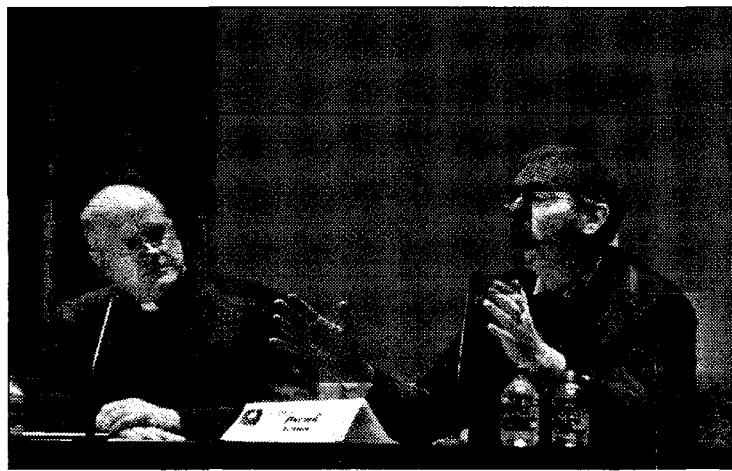
my, health care, and national security.

Ten minutes past the scheduled start time, one of the seats was still empty, so moderator Rev. William M. Lies improvised.

"We have a little change in plans. Howard Lerner thinks we're on central time. Even though you'd like to, don't let this reflect poorly on the Obama campaign," he joked.

The format was changed to two separate question and answer sessions prefaced by opening statements, with

see NDVOTES/page 4



JESS LEE/The Observer

Ike Brannon, left, and Howard Lerner, right, debated candidate positions in the 2008 presidential election Tuesday.

Daniels raises awareness about heart disease

By JENN METZ
News Editor

Cheri Daniels, the First Lady of Indiana, was on campus Tuesday as part of her Heart to Heart Initiative to spread information about how the some of the risks for heart disease, the leading cause of death for women, can be reduced by lifestyle changes.

Heart to Heart visits college campuses throughout the state, offers free screenings and offers students tips on how to lead a healthy lifestyle.

Cindy Adams, nurse practitioner and director of the

Healthy Hearts Center of Indiana Heart Hospital, also presented.

The event, which took place in the Eck Visitors' Center Auditorium, included free cholesterol and glucose screenings provided by the Indiana Heart Hospital, health education booths provided by the St. Joseph County Health Department, Minority Health Coalition



Daniels

and United Health Services. Notre Dame's Health Services and RecSports also had tables in the lobby with additional health information.

Daniels told The Observer she began her initiative because she "felt that people were not aware that heart disease was the number one killer of women."

She said she became aware after her mother was diagnosed with cardiovascular disease; since then, she has been spreading the message of the importance of taking control of heart health.

She told The Observer she has received positive feed-

back about her presentations and that screening results have surprised some participants.

"Kids in college, they think they're bullet-proof," she said, and cited a healthy-weight, semi-active female student, who, during a previous program, was very surprised to find she had high cholesterol.

"It's very good for people to learn about their own health and the changes they have to make to their lifestyles to improve it," Daniels said.

Anne Kleve, the director of Notre Dame Health

see DANIELS/page 6

Club rents DVDs free of charge

Student government offers over 450 movies

By AARON STEINER
News Writer

Got an inkling to watch "Juno," "Transformers" or episodes of "The Office," but they're not in your movie collection?

Notre Dame students can "rent" their favorite DVDs free of charge starting this week as part of a new DVD service Notre Dame Student Government is offering.

The ND DVD Club is operated out of Student Government offices on the second floor of LaFortune and for a year-long refundable five dollar security deposit, students currently have access to over 450 DVDs, organizer Joy Hwang, Student Government Residence Life Committee Chair, said. "Bring your student ID, and a five dollar security deposit and you can join the club," Hwang said. The one time deposit is refundable at the end of the academic year, as long as you follow the rules of the DVD club.

"They can rent movies for the rest of the year," Hwang said.

"Unless you turn [a DVD] in late, or you don't turn [a DVD] in, or [the DVD] is damaged, you get [the deposit] back at the end of the year," she said. Students can also opt out of the program if they would like.

see DVD/page 6

ELECTION 2008

Students cast election ballots early

At least 34 states offer voting opportunities before November 4

By EMMA DRISCOLL
News Writer

Students have been taking advantage of the new opportunity to cast their ballots for the Nov. 4 general election early and in-person in at least 34 states throughout the country.

The state of Indiana offers early voting to registered voters and students registered to vote in other states used fall break as an opportunity to vote in their hometowns.

Senior Colleen Desmond voted at a retirement home

in Cook County, Ill.

"My mom informed me that when I came home for break, I needed to go with her to early vote," Desmond said.

Senior Pat Young, who voted for the first time at a community center in a public park in his hometown of Houston, Texas, also said that his mother influenced his decision to vote early.

"My mom encouraged me to do it, and I was thinking about looking into it," Young said.

Freshman Nathalie Rosado voted in her county's courthouse in Russell

County, Ky.

"I was going to vote in Indiana because I thought it would be more helpful, since it was more of a battleground state," Rosado said. However, Rosado did not make the deadline to register to vote in Indiana.

Early voting offers an alternative for individuals who miss deadlines for absentee voting and people who will be away from their homes on election day.

Young, who was too young to vote in the last general election, said early voting

see EARLY/page 6

ELECTION 2008

SMC profs. examine abortion in the election

By SARAH MAYER
News Writer

Professor of Justice Education, Jan Pilarski and Regina Wilson from Campus Ministry led a discussion called "What's the candidates view on...abortion?" as part of Saint Mary's Super Tuesday events in the weeks leading up to the Nov. 4 election.

Pilarski presented the Catholic perspective on abortion by using "Consciences for Faithful Citizenship" a document compiled by United States bishops. It is meant to serve as a voting guide.

"Bishops are not supposed to tell you what to do," Pilarski said. "Being Catholic is about doing good and avoiding evil. If a Catholic supports intrinsically evil acts, the bishops suggest you do not vote for them."

Intrinsically evil acts according the bishops include abortion, euthanasia, genocide and unjust war among others.

"The Catholic Church wants us to respect life from beginning to end, conception to life's finish," Pilarski said. "To

see ABORTION/page 6

INSIDE COLUMN

Golfing in South Bend

My last round of golf of the season was nothing short of epic.

My partner Rob and I made it to the Interhall championship along with three other twosomes. It was a scramble format, meaning we play the best ball of the two hit, so should I shank my drive to the left on the first hole (which I did) Rob could pick me up.

Only problem? South Bend weather.

We tried to play before fall break, but midterms and torrential downpours kept us off the course. So we played Monday.

Bill Brink

Sports Editor

Anyone who was on campus Monday sees the inherent problem.

It was about 39 degrees out, beautiful golf weather. Laden with Under Armour, gloves and some pre-match spirits to keep us warm, we were, in our minds, at least, championship-bound. But the weather would not cooperate.

The hail started as we approached the second green. That sentence right there demonstrates the anti-golf nature of this poor-weather town. Trying to putt with hail driving into your face at a 45-degree angle makes a normal 20-footer feel like a tap-in at the local putt-putt course. Any ambitions of channeling our inner Tigers and Phils evaporated up into the dark storm clouds. The links in Scotland had nothing on this.

I couldn't feel my hands after the fourth hole, except when I hit the ball thin; then it felt like hitting a baseball off the handle of a bat. The hail cranked up again on the sixth hole, this time bigger and harder. The green turned white, and the ball picked up the hail and sleet as it rolled — nay, bounced between pieces of hail — across the green, as if we were making a snowman.

Here's the kicker: Rob and I both missed a 13-inch putt for par on the sixth. We're not bad putters. We make those putts. We have ice in our veins (and not because it was freezing out). The balls kicked off frozen rain and edged left of the hole. We stared, speechless. There was nothing to say.

Darkness fell prematurely, so we resorted to guessing where our balls may have landed. On the ninth hole, in near pitch-black, we hadn't a clue.

Thwack. "Anybody got anything?" one would ask, hoping that between three sets of eyes someone could follow the inch-wide ball 250 yards away. "Nope, I got nothing," was the chorused response.

We formed a search party, four-wide across the fairway, literally taking shots in the dark at where our balls stopped based on how they felt off the clubface. When Jim found his ball, the same process took place. Any time you have to use the spotlight on the side of the Rock as an aiming point, you know the round has been shot.

We lost by two strokes. Championship hopes dashed until next year. But thanks to some heads-up thinking from Rob, who called our friend Jason from the eighth fairway, we had hot chocolate waiting for us, a warm tonic that washed away our pain and put the round in perspective.

The elements frowned upon us; I felt like the golfer from 'Caddyshack' trying to squeeze in nine holes during a monsoon. But the heavy stuff came down, for quite some time.

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

Contact **Bill Brink** at wbrink@nd.edu

CORRECTIONS

Due to a reporting error, the article "SMC students travel to Mexico for ministry" in the Oct. 28 issue of The Observer incorrectly said that Katheryn Putz is a sophomore. She is a senior. Also, the name of Sister Michelle "Hermana Mica" Toepf was spelled incorrectly. The Observer regrets these errors.

QUESTION OF THE DAY: WHAT WOULD JESUS DRESS UP AS FOR HALLOWEEN?



Mike Mogavero

*sophomore
O'Neill*

"People dress up as Jesus for Halloween. Jesus dresses up like Chuck Norris."



John Doheny

*sophomore
Alumni*

"Chris Gautsch."



Kate Mattoon

*senior
Lewis*

"The Good Shepherd."



Michael Augsberger

*junior
Duncan*

"Rainbow man holding up the John 3:16 signs at sporting events."



Alisha Wilkinson

*senior
Lewis*

"The Lamb."



ANNIE HARTON/The Observer

Notre Dame group Four:7 had a costume contest Tuesday evening. Four:7 meets every Tuesday in Cavanaugh Chapel for Catholic Fellowship.

OFFBEAT

Accused man allegedly drives stolen SUV to court

SAN ANSELMO, Calif. — Police have charged a man with stealing a Lexus SUV he drove to court the day a jury was to decide whether to convict him in a separate auto theft case. The man was arraigned Monday on charges of receiving a stolen vehicle and receiving stolen property after police saw him approach the stolen Lexus in front of the courthouse with its keys in hand.

Police were attracted to the SUV after bystanders noticed several Yorkshire

terriers mulling around it.

The man was also charged with animal cruelty and leaving animals in an unattended vehicle.

Meanwhile, the 37-year-old San Francisco hairstylist was convicted in the other case. He was charged with possession of a \$125,000 Porsche Carrera that had been stolen from a San Anselmo home.

Grandma performs in rap video; grandson goes to jail

WEST PALM BEACH, Fla. — A Florida teenager has been sentenced to 18 months in juvenile deten-

tion for coaxing his senile grandmother into holding a gun and threatening to shoot "all the pigs" in a homemade "gangster rap" video.

Eighteen-year-old Michael Alfinez pleaded guilty Tuesday to elder abuse charges. His family has said the case was a misunderstanding.

The 85-year-old grandmother can be seen in the video holding a handgun, wearing a black mask and threatening to shoot "all the pigs."

Information compiled from the Associated Press.

IN BRIEF

Marty Wolfson, the director of the Higgins Labor Studies program is hosting "The Crisis on Wall Street and What it Means for Main Street" today at 4:30 p.m. in Room 118 DeBartolo.

Yael Prizant, assistant professor in the department of Film, Television and Theater will give a seminar entitled "Fidel Castro Performs: A Look at History and Reiteration" at 4 p.m. today in 208 McKenna Hall.

Saint Mary's College will bless Spes Unica Hall, the new academic building, tomorrow with open houses and tours for the Board of Trustees starting at 1:30 p.m. and academic department presentations from 3:30 to 5 p.m. throughout the building. The blessing will take place in the atrium at 5 p.m. with a reception to follow and a Mass of Thanksgiving in Holy Spirit Chapel, LeMans Hall at 6:30 p.m.

Joan Payden, Chief Executive Officer of Payden & Rygel Investment Management will speak as part of the Mendoza College to Business' Boardroom Insights Executive Speaker Series Friday at 10:40 a.m. in Jordan Auditorium in the Mendoza College of Business.

Gregory P. Crawford, Dean of the College of Science will give a lecture entitled "Notre Dame Science: Making a Difference" Saturday at 11 a.m. in Room 105 of the Jordan Hall of Science

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

	TODAY	TONIGHT	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	GAME DAY	SUNDAY
LOCAL WEATHER						
	HIGH 45 LOW 30	HIGH 35 LOW 20	HIGH 65 LOW 43	HIGH 60 LOW 38	HIGH 53 LOW 40	HIGH 60 LOW 42

Atlanta 59 / 33 Boston 49 / 37 Chicago 54 / 28 Denver 75 / 40 Houston 74 / 43 Los Angeles 85 / 60 Minneapolis 59 / 28 New York 48 / 37 Philadelphia 50 / 38 Phoenix 93 / 65 Seattle 59 / 46 St. Louis 61 / 35 Tampa 67 / 42 Washington 53 / 37

The Shirt 2009 project is underway

Planning committee will gather for the first time in November

By MADELINE BUCKLEY
News Writer

Even though there are still two more home football games this year, the project to design next season's football Shirt is underway, said Matt Barloh, president of The Shirt 2009.

Barloh, appointed president of the project at the Oct. 14 Council of Representatives meeting, said he will choose committee members to design The Shirt next week, and the group will hold its first meeting by Nov. 10.

"The first month of the project will be devoted to determining the color of The Shirt, throwing out ideas both for the graphics and the lyrics of The Shirt and establishing a strategy for our marketing campaign in the spring," Barloh said.

Barloh said there is an online application from which he will choose seven or eight students who stand out. He said he is looking for students who show a passion for the project, have past experience with design or marketing and show a great attention to detail.

"Personally, I like to see someone who is truly passionate about The Shirt project and truly cares about what goes on The Shirt and how the project is seen by the greater Notre Dame community," he said.

The committee will be among the select few at the University that will see The Shirt before the big unveiling ceremony in April, Barloh said.

"We try to keep the design, theme and color secret until the day in April when we

unveil [it] because we feel that the mysteriousness ultimately benefits the project," he said.

The Shirt committee has a lot of freedom in choosing the design of The Shirt because the University issues very few rules about the images and lyrics on it, Barloh said.

"The only guideline that I'm acutely aware of is the University's preference that we not incorporate religious imagery with football imagery," Barloh said. "For example, I couldn't have someone doing the Heisman pose in a football uniform superimposed on a detailed image of the Dome because Mary is on the Dome."

Despite this rule, the committee can be creative, he said. The color of The Shirt doesn't even necessarily have to be blue, gold or green, he said.

"In previous years, we have discussed everything from white and grey to lime green," he said.

But successful Shirts are usually more traditional, Barloh said.

"We prefer the blues, greens and golds because they are colors indicative of Notre Dame," he said.

The committee also tries to unite Notre Dame imagery with football imagery, Barloh said.

"If you want a successful shirt, it's smart to incorporate

lyrics from some sort of Notre Dame song and an image that is clearly related to football," he said. "It's not a basketball shirt, it's not a baseball shirt."

Barloh said he hopes to have The Shirt design completed and approved in January so the committee can then market it to the wider public. Along with advertising for The Shirt on campus and in the South Bend area, the committee is also in charge of marketing The Shirt to the Alumni clubs, he said.

"Alumni clubs all over the world purchase The Shirt," Barloh said. "After The Shirt has been unveiled, we work to make sure that the Alumni club orders are actually filled out, and that they get their shirts on time."

In the spring, the committee will focus on the ceremony to unveil The Shirt, Barloh said. The past two ceremonies have drawn crowds of about 5,000 he said.

After The Shirt is unveiled, the committee works with concession stands, student groups and the Bookstore to sell the shirts, Barloh said. The proceeds then go to SAO to be allotted for student clubs and organizations and to The Shirt Charity Fund, he said.

"[The fund] is used to help students pay for extraordinarily high medical expenses," Barloh said.

The long process of designing, marketing and selling The Shirt is ultimately for the students, Barloh said.

"It's not my Shirt, it's not even the committee's Shirt. It's the whole University's Shirt," he said.

Contact Madeline Buckley at mbuckley@nd.edu

"If you want a successful shirt, it's smart to incorporate lyrics from some sort of Notre Dame song and an image that is clearly related to football."

Matt Barloh
President
The Shirt 2009

"Personally, I like to see someone who is truly passionate about The Shirt project and truly cares about what goes on The Shirt and how the project is seen by the greater Notre Dame community."

Matt Barloh
President
The Shirt 2009

COUNCIL OF REPRESENTATIVES

Leaders allowed to voice concerns

By JOHN TIERNEY
News Writer

In the absence of new business at Tuesday's Council of Representatives (COR) meeting, student body president Bob Reish allowed student leaders to address their concerns about student government initiatives.

"This is a time to refocus ourselves and to refocus our initiatives," Reish said.

One area that Reish would like to improve student government is its approachability. He said that the results of the student survey have showed a "somewhat lower response than we had hoped" on approachability.

But Reish was pleased by the high number of respondents to the survey. He said that over 2,300 people have responded so far.

One area of concern for Hall Presidents' Council co-chair Phil Krichner was pricing at LaFortune establishments. He was specifically concerned by the absence of \$5 foot-long subs at the Subway franchise.

Student body vice president Grant Schmidt recently met with Huddle management and said that the Subway does not serve \$5 foot-long subs because it was not in the franchise's budget. However, Reish and Schmidt are hopeful that the franchise will budget for the promotion in the future.

Huddle management told Schmidt that it would be too difficult to put prices on the rack

in the Huddle Mart convenience store "because things move around due to demand," according to Schmidt.

"To actually label every single item would be a lot of work," Schmidt said.

Schmidt proposed having a scanner in the Huddle so customers would be able to scan their items before approaching the register, but he said such a solution might not be possible and would require cooperation from the Office of Information Technology.

Despite these complications, however, all but one COR member said it is necessary to have prices accessible for items sold in the Huddle.

Sophomore class president Cynthia Weber asked Reish about progress on the Collegiate Council, a proposed organization that would bring together student leaders from various universities.

Reish said that he has spoken with the student body president at Princeton University and that they are working to create a Google group that would serve the same function as the Collegiate Council, but without the costs of bringing so many leaders to the same place.

Weber, however, said that she still thinks that meeting face-to-face with leaders from other universities would be beneficial.

Contact John Tierney at jtierne1@nd.edu

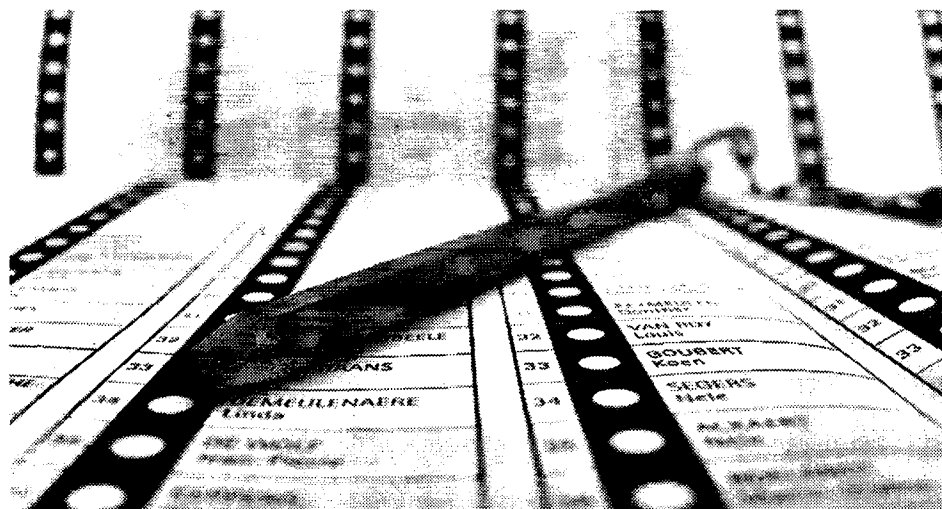
"This is a time to refocus ourselves and to refocus our initiatives."

Bob Reish
Student body president

"To actually label every single item would be a lot of work."

Grant Schmidt
Student body vice president

Interrace Forum: You Voted...Now What?

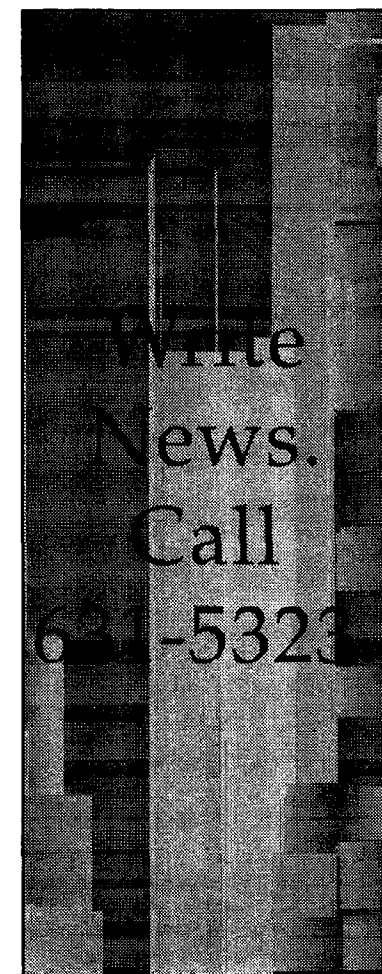


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Speaker shares business successes

Quality Dining, Inc. runs 118 Burger Kings, 45 Chili's, 9 Papa Vito's

By ASHLEY CHARNLEY
News Writer

Dan Fitzpatrick, Chairman, President, and Chief Executive Officer of Quality Dining, Inc. discussed his journey from a small town in Toledo, Ohio to franchise success during his lecture Tuesday night in Vander Vennet Theater.

"I have a message I would like to give a voice to. Something that isn't a reflection of me per say," he said.

Fitzpatrick began working when he was fourteen in an Italian restaurant. He worked hard because "that was the thing to do." He continued working in the food business until finally becoming Regional Director of 13 Burger King restaurants by age 23. Now, his company, Quality Dining, Inc., operates 118 Burger Kings, 45 Chili's, nine Papa Vito's Italian

Restaurants, and recently opened Blue20, a seafood restaurant in New Jersey.

He opened his speech discussing "what makes him tick." His view of himself, his theology, his family, his community and his career are essential parts of who he is. These "points of character" are what drive him. He emphasized the importance of being in control of your own life.

"You guys have to be the greatest generation. My generation, we screwed it up, and it is up to you to make it better."

Dan Fitzpatrick
CEO
Quality Dining, Inc.

"Me is important. I have been made in the image and the likeness of God. God doesn't make junk. I have to love me," Fitzpatrick said.

The actions of former generations are also important for young people to consider. Fitzpatrick dis-

cussed.

"We have had all these great opportunities handed to us, and we flunked," he said. Civil rights, the environment, energy, education and terrorism were point he believed his

generation was not succeeding on.

"You guys have to be the greatest generation. My generation, we screwed it up, and it is up to you to make it better," Fitzpatrick said.

He separated life into two things — events and experiences.

"Events you generally have no control over. Things happen, big things happen. The point is this: you get to determine how you experience these things," Fitzpatrick said.

He had a rough childhood, but he said he worked through it. Fitzpatrick went from not knowing where his next meal was coming from to owning a multimillion dollar company.

"There is a very fine line between mediocrity and excellence," Fitzpatrick said. As long as you can fire yourself up to do something, you can do it, he said. Success is something that has to be worked for, it is not given.

Fitzpatrick closed his lecture with his words of wisdom, "above all else, pray."

Contact Ashley Charnley at
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NDvotes

continued from page 1

Brannon starting off, and Lerner taking over when he arrived.

Brannon said he supports John McCain because of the character and independence he has shown throughout his life and political career.

"I think it says a lot about the man, that despite taking on several very scared cows in government, despite the fact that he's fought the president head-on on many issues, that he's the standard bearer for the Republican Party," Brannon said.

Brannon then answered audience questions about McCain's policies.

When asked how McCain would appoint Supreme Court Justices with regard to his beliefs about abortion, Brannon said although McCain disagrees with Roe v. Wade, he would impose no "absolute litmus test" and he does not believe abortions should be federally banned but left to the states' discretion.

Responding to another question, Brannon explained the goals of McCain's tax plan.

"One of the biggest problems we have with our tax code is that it taxes capital and business way too much," he said.

According to Brannon, taxing businesses at a high rate

reduces job creation and makes workers less productive. He said that companies have less incentive to invest in the United States when they can be taxed at a lower rate overseas. Less investment, according to Brannon, lowers worker productivity, which often determines wages.

Lerner arrived shortly thereafter and stated his case for Obama.

To solve the world's environmental problems, the next president, Lerner said, will have to "walk into a room with a number of leaders of developing nations" in order to persuade them to the proper course of action. Lerner believes that Obama has the right "personal and political skills" to achieve this.

He also stressed Obama's commitment to meeting both economic and environmental goals, noting that they are not contradictory but reinforcing aims.

"Energy, the environment, and national security have come together," Lerner said. "We can solve them in ways that work for the environment, work for clean energy, work for our economy, and work for our national security."

ty."

When prompted by a question expressing doubt about the compatibility of economic growth with environmental concerns, Lerner elaborated his argument.

"We don't have a choice," he said. "Like I said we can't hit pause on a Tivo and wait for our climate problems to get better."

He stressed that developing renewable energy will create jobs in new industries and laid out some of Obama's specific proposals, including policies that will make the U.S. 50 percent more energy efficient by 2030 and a cap and trade program that should reduce pollution 90 percent by 2050.

Lerner also defended Senator Obama's tax plans, arguing that it will help to balance the budget.

"The fact of the matter is that when President Bush came into office, this country had more than a \$200 billion surplus," he said. "We've frittered that away partly because of tax cuts that have benefited the wealthiest Americans."


Contact Robert Singer at
rsinger@nd.edu

"One of the biggest problems we have with our tax code is that it taxes capital and business way too much."

Ike Brannon
Senior policy advisor
McCain campaign

Please recycle The Observer.

Check out page 9 to read election coverage.



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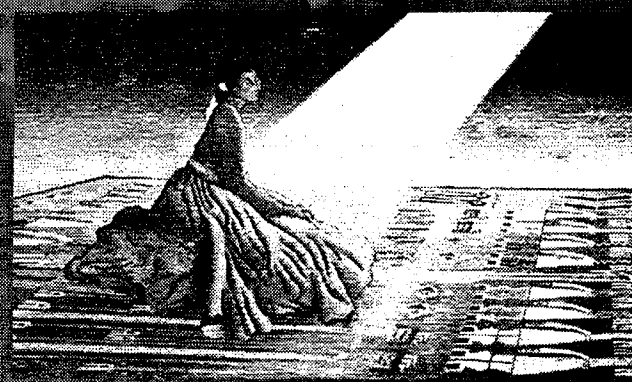
Questions? Contact us by phone at 631-3042 or by email at entrep@nd.edu.

Notre Dame
business plan
competitions
2008-2009

Native American Prayer

Rev. Calvin Hill

Pastor and Navajo Medicine Man



Hammes Student Lounge

Coleman - Morse Center

Thursday, October 30, 7-8 pm

Sponsored by: Campus Ministry, MSPS, ISSA, Native American Student Association of ND, GSU and FOG

CM

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Torture-induced confession tossed

GUANTANAMO BAY, Cuba — A U.S. military judge barred the Pentagon Tuesday from using a Guantanamo prisoner's confession to Afghan authorities as trial evidence, saying it was obtained through torture.

Army Col. Stephen Henley said Mohammed Jawad's statements "were obtained by physical intimidation and threats of death which, under the circumstances, constitute torture."

Jawad's defense attorney, Air Force Maj. David Frakt, told The Associated Press that the ruling removes "the lynchpin of the government's case."

Guantanamo's chief prosecutor, Army Col. Lawrence Morris, said he recognized how the judge made his decision and needed to study the ruling before making more comments.

Jawad, who was still a teenager at the time, is accused of injuring two U.S. soldiers with a grenade in 2002. He allegedly said during his interrogation in Kabul that he hoped the Americans died, and would do it again.

Chavez foe probed for corruption

CARACAS, Venezuela — Venezuela opened a corruption probe of a leading opponent of President Hugo Chavez on Tuesday with less than a month to go before nationwide elections.

Attorney General Luisa Ortega said prosecutors should decide whether to file criminal charges against Gov. Manuel Rosales by year's end, throwing up a cloud that will remain through election day on Nov. 23. Rosales, a two-time governor, is running for mayor of Maracaibo, Venezuela's second-largest city.

NATIONAL NEWS

Skinhead plot poorly planned

BELLS, Tenn. — Two white supremacists charged with plotting to behead blacks across the country and assassinate Barack Obama while wearing white top hats and tuxes were likely too disorganized to carry out the plot, authorities said, and their planning was riddled with blunders.

Paul Schlesselman, 18, of Helena-West Helena, Ark., and Daniel Cowart, 20, of Bells are accused of dreaming up the plan. While authorities say they had guns capable of creating carnage, documents show they never got close to getting off the ground.

Among the blunders: They drew attention to themselves by etching swastikas on a car with sidewalk chalk, only knew each other for a month, couldn't even pull off a house robbery, and a friend ratted them out to authorities.

Warden's wife accused in escape

MANGUM, Okla. — A decade after a convicted killer escaped from an Oklahoma prison and vanished along with the assistant warden's pretty young wife, the two were found living together on a Texas chicken ranch.

Now the woman, Bobbi Parker, is back with her husband and fighting in court to prove she was a kidnap victim, not a lovestruck accomplice to escape.

On Tuesday, a judge ruled Parker, now 46, must stand trial on charges she helped Randolph Dial break out of the Oklahoma State Reformatory in Granite in 1994. The ruling came after evidence was presented at a preliminary hearing that Parker and Dial shared a bed for a decade and acted like husband and wife.

LOCAL NEWS

Crash closes Indiana toll road

BRISTOL, Ind. — A semitrailer slammed into a stopped tanker on the Indiana Toll Road, causing a fire that severely burned a trucker from Delaware.

That crash happened as traffic was stopped for a medical helicopter to take away a victim from another collision before dawn Tuesday on the highway about 20 miles east of South Bend. The crashes caused authorities to close the highway for several hours as slick roads caused numerous traffic problems in the area.

SYRIA

Al-Qaida finds new route to Iraq

Senior officer's death shows how insurgents enter Iraq through Syrian border

Associated Press

BAGHDAD — For years, he operated along Syria's remote border where donkeys are the only means of travel. He provided young Arabs from as far away as Morocco and the Persian Gulf with passports, guides and weapons as they slipped into Iraq to wage war.

But recently, the Iraqi man known as Abu Ghadiyah began doing even more — launching his own armed forays into his homeland, U.S. and Iraqi officials say.

Finally the United States lashed out, frustrated, it says, after years of vainly pressuring Syria to shut down his network supplying the Sunni insurgency.

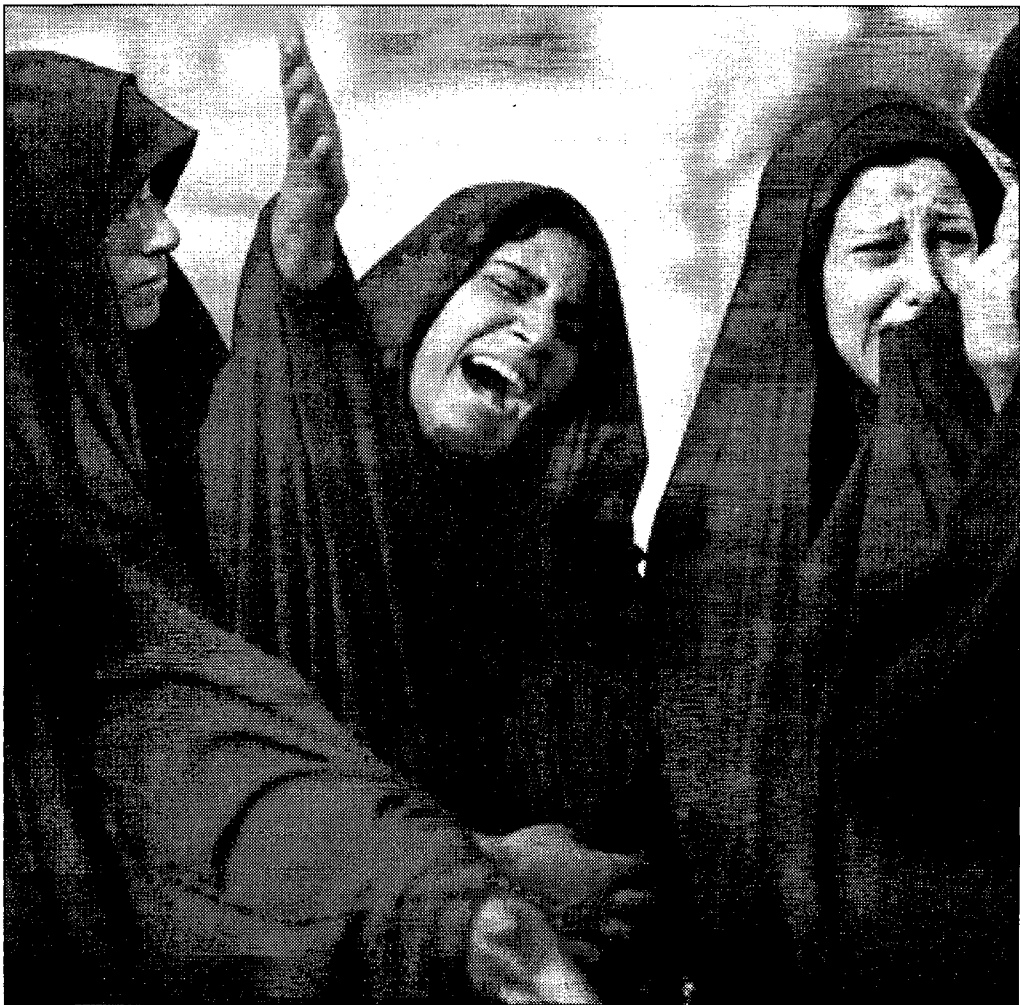
The Americans carried out a bold daylight raid Sunday in a dusty farming community of mud and concrete houses known as Abu Kamal, just across the border in Syria. The U.S. says Abu Ghadiyah and several bodyguards were killed. Syria says eight civilians died. At least one villager says U.S. forces seized two men and hauled them away.

Whatever Abu Ghadiyah's fate, the attack targeting him has become a seminal moment — casting rare light on the hidden, complex networks that recruit foreign fighters and then deliver them across Syria to the battlefields of Iraq.

Syria has long insisted it monitors the border and does all it can to stop weapons and fighters.

"They know full well that we stand against al-Qaida," Syrian Foreign Minister Walid al-Moallem said Monday in London. "They know full well we are trying to tighten our border with Iraq."

But the raid and U.S. documents — recently made public — indicate that insurgents operating in the Syrian border region are still providing the material



Iraqi women mourn relatives who were among 34 Iraqi army recruits found in a mass grave in Karbala. Al-Qaida gunmen waylaid the recruits as they traveled to a training base near Syria.

that enables suicide attacks, bombings and ambushes to continue inside Iraq.

Even as the insurgency has fallen on rough times — battered and bleeding but not yet defeated — the networks themselves have become more organized, the documents indicate. That raises fears the insurgency could someday arise anew.

The documents also shed light on the murky web of religious extremists, professional smugglers and corrupt Syrian intelligence officials who run the smuggling networks — some of whom view Syrias government in faraway Damascus with contempt.

Until the raid, Abu Ghadiyah, whose real name was Badran Turki al-

Mazidih, was mostly unknown outside a tight circle of Western and Iraqi intelligence officers. They tracked his movements, and the al-Qaida commanders who relied on his services, believing him a senior figure in al-Qaida in Iraq.

Abu Ghadiyah housed his recruits both in Damascus and the Syrian port of Latakia before moving them across the Iraqi border, one senior Iraqi security officer said Tuesday. He spoke on condition of anonymity because he was not authorized to talk to media.

Scores of people are involved in the smuggling networks, officials say. But Iraqi police held special disdain for Abu Ghadiyah, a

native of the northern Iraqi city of Mosul believed to be in his early 30s.

Last May, Abu Ghadiyah led a dozen gunmen across the border and attacked an Iraqi police station in Qaim, killing 12 policemen, Iraqi police Lt. Col. Falah al-Dulaimi told The Associated Press on Tuesday. Syrian border guards prevented an Iraqi patrol from pursuing the gunmen back into Syria, the police officer said.

Sunday's raid was launched because of intelligence that Abu Ghadiyah was planning another attack inside Iraq, a senior U.S. official told The Associated Press, also speaking anonymously because the information is classified.

Detroit mayor jailed for sex scandal

Associated Press

DETROIT — A judge sentenced former Mayor Kwame Kilpatrick to four months in jail Tuesday for a sex-and-text scandal, calling him "arrogant and defiant" and questioning the sincerity of a guilty plea that ended his career at City Hall.

Kilpatrick declined to speak in court, but his lawyers urged the judge to look at his entire career, not just the crimes that threw local government into disarray for months.

The punishment was part of a plea agreement worked out last month. Wayne County Circuit Judge David Groner followed that deal but said Kilpatrick would not get time off for

good behavior, potentially up to 20 days in this case.

"When someone gets 120 days in jail, they should get 120 days in jail," Groner said.

Kilpatrick was taken across the street to the county jail, where he will spend 23 hours a day in a private cell.

As he was being led away, he yelled out to supporters: "You all take it easy."

They responded: "Be strong, Mayor. We love you, Mayor. We got your back, Mayor."

Kilpatrick, a Democrat, admitted lying while testifying last year in a civil lawsuit filed by former police officers who accused him of illegally

demoting or firing them.

He and chief of staff Christine Beatty, both 38, were accused of having an affair and denied it, but text messages obtained by a lawyer in the case — and later the Detroit Free Press — clearly contradicted them.

They used their city pagers to arrange trysts and share sexually explicit desires. A fresh batch of messages was released last week, revealing that Kilpatrick, married with three children, likely had other lovers.

The sentencing was Kilpatrick's first public forum since a speech to supporters after he pleaded guilty to obstruction of justice Sept. 4.

Daniels

continued from page 1

Services, introduced the speakers by welcoming them to campus and thanking them for visiting and sharing their information.

Daniels spoke first, and addressed why it has been her initiative to speak to people of college age about heart disease.

"Heart disease is starting to present itself in women younger and younger," she said. "You can make lifestyle changes in your late teens and early 20's — this is a great time to start leading a healthy heart life."

She listed three modifiable factors, or things that people can do, to reduce their risk for heart disease: blood pressure, weight and smoking habits.

"We're recently learning more and more about how important it is for women in particular to start paying attention to heart health," she said, and told the audience that almost 500,000 women die from heart disease each year.

"Heart disease does not discriminate," Daniels said. "It's pretty frightening."

She cited the importance of knowing blood pressure and both LDL and HDL cholesterol figures, staying within the weight guidelines for your height, and quitting smoking, which she said is "the most important thing you can do for yourself." A yearly physical, Daniels said, is important to help keep track of these numbers, to see trends and to spot problems.

Daniels stressed the importance of making time for regular exercise, even though it might be hard to fit physical activity into busy college schedules.

All lifestyle changes should not be made at once to ensure success, Daniels said. "You need to go slowly" because if you go overboard, and start an extreme new diet and exercise regime you'll "be



Cindy Adams, director of the Healthy Hearts Center of the Indiana Heart Hospital, discussed cardiovascular disease in women Tuesday.

staying, you'll be sore and then you'll quit."

She said exercise can also help college students cope with the stress they experience at school, and that they will see both a difference in their physical appearance and the way they feel by performing 30-60 minutes of physical activity on most days.

Daniels encouraged the audience to share the information they learned during the program with loved ones and to make a pledge to themselves that they are "going to take steps to lead a healthier life and lead by example."

"Give yourself the best gift you can — the gift of exercise, the gift of a heart healthy life," she said.

Adams gave a PowerPoint presentation about misconceptions about cardiovascular disease in women, risk factors and symptoms.

According to a recent survey that asked women what they perceived to be their biggest health concern, almost half said breast cancer, Adams said. Heart disease was the fourth most popular answer, following an unspecified cancer and AIDS.

"In actuality, over 35 percent of women are likely to die of cardiovascular disease," Adams said.

She said it is very impor-

tant to be aware of both modifiable and nonmodifiable factors that contribute to heart disease, to be aggressive in getting your blood pressure and cholesterol numbers down, to treat diabetes and to maintain a healthy weight.

Adams encouraged the audience to begin their lifestyle changes as soon as possible.

"It's up to you, protect your heart health, start today," she said.

Along with fliers and booklets containing health information, those in attendance received Heart to Heart bracelets and a card with more information about the program and its Web site address, hearttoheart.in.gov

The audience at Tuesday's presentation contained more male students than when Daniels has brought Heart to Heart to other state universities, like Purdue, Ball State and Indiana University.

"Usually there are just a handful of men," Daniels told the Observer after the presentation. "Though it's just as important for them to be aware of cardiovascular disease, which we've known for a long time to be the number one killer of men too," she said.

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Abortion

continued from page 1

them euthanasia and abortion deserve our preeminent attention."

In the bishop's document, they said there is no way to completely abolish abortion however, the American people need to work in small steps to stop it.

In the end, it all comes down to personal choice, she said.

"You can vote for a candidate if another intrinsic evil is more of a preeminent issue to you," Pilarski said.

Pilarski went on to introduce Barack Obama's point of view on abortion. As in recent years Obama strongly supports Roe v. Wade but Pilarski quoted the Democratic Party Platform as saying "the Democratic Party also strongly supports access to affordable family planning services and comprehensive age-appropriate sex education which empowers people to make informed choices and live healthy lives."

While remaining pro-choice, the Democratic Party will work to provide resources and healthcare for women who choose to have their child.

"By introducing these health care options for women who choose life or adoption, Obama is trying to find a common ground with the Republicans on the issue of abortion," Pilarski said.

In closing, Pilarski said it is

hard to be a Catholic voter because "no candidate envelopes all issues we hold true as believers."

Regina Wilson then spoke on the side of the Republicans.

Wilson referred to a question asked to both Obama and McCain about abortion. While Obama's answer was a bit long, McCain simply said, "I am pro-life and I have been my whole 25 year career."

"Republicans are concerned with maintaining the sanctity and dignity of life," Wilson said. "Life is right given to us in the Declaration of Independence along with liberty and the pursuit of happiness."

Wilson explained that if John McCain is elected all of his appointees will hold the traditional, family values he holds.

After researching McCain Wilson said she learned he allows abortion in cases of incest or rape but in the case of rape "parental acknowledgement would be necessary."

"If McCain overturns Roe v. Wade it will be one step in the long path to end abortion," she said.

"According to McCain we need to empower women who decide against abortion by letting them know it took courage for them to bring a child into the world and we need to be compassionate to mother and child through there struggles," Wilson said.

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Early

continued from page 1

was his only opportunity to vote because he did not request an absentee ballot in time.

"It was fine. I only had to wait a half hour," he said.

"The ballot was pretty self-explanatory [and] the people checking me in were pretty nice."

With early voting, voters get to have the full experience of going to a polling site and can cast ballots electronically.

"I wanted to vote early because I wanted the experience of going into a polling place instead of sending in an absentee ballot," Desmond said.

Desmond voted in the primary election earlier this year and in the congressional race, but last week was her first time voting in a general election.

Compared to her experiences voting in other elections, Desmond felt the early

voting process "was speedier and more voter friendly" and said that she would definitely be inclined to vote early again.

Rosado also voted in the Democratic primary election in Kentucky. She first became aware of the option to vote early for the general election through the Obama campaign.

Based on her experience with early voting, Rosado did not expect early voters to face long lines at polling places.

Rosado opted to vote early because she thought it would be easier than going through the absentee ballot process, which for her, it was.

"It was really easy. You pretty much just went there and got it done," she said. "It was really convenient."

Desmond agreed that early voting was straightforward process.

"I got in and out of the polling place in under ten minutes," Desmond said.

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DVD

continued from page 1

"At any point, if you want to be taken out of the club, you can get your five dollars back," she said.

Hwang said the movies came from The Huddle, which offered a DVD rental service in previous years. Huddle Manager Jim LaBella told The Observer last February that the rental service was no longer profitable to the store.

The DVDs were given to Student Government, who originally purchased them for the DVD rental service.

"We got a little over 400 from them, and [Student Government] purchased about 50 more," Hwang said. Most of the over 450 DVDs are not duplicates, Hwang said. She also said Student Government

plans to purchase new films on a monthly basis.

Currently, a list of available movies can be viewed on the Student Government Web site.

Students can check out one DVD at a time, and regular DVDs must be returned within four days. New releases, typically films released in the past year, must be returned within two days, Hwang said. There is a late fee if students don't return the movies on time.

Student Body Vice President Grant Schmidt said that the computer program used to track rentals can notify students via e-mail of rentals that need to be returned.

Schmidt said the new program is part of student government's goal to increase the lines of communication between students and Student Government.

"We want to get people kind

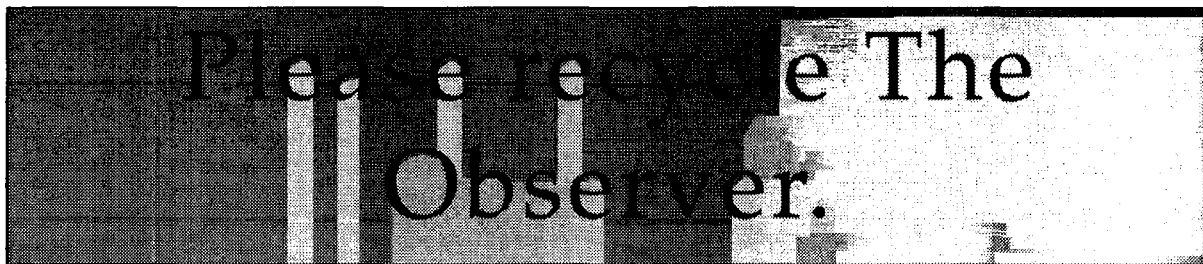
of aware of what we're doing here, in an informal way," Schmidt said. The program is an especially good way for students who aren't familiar with the Student Government office to become more aware of what Student Government does.

Schmidt said of the students who had signed up throughout the day Monday, "a lot of people didn't even know where the second floor of LaFortune was."

Hwang agreed.

"It was people who really wouldn't usually come up to student government," she said. "I'm hoping this will be an avenue for people to [get to know] Student Government."

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MARKET RECAP

Stocks

Dow Jones **9,065.12** +889.35

Up: 2,741 Same: 58 Down: 727 Composite Volume: 2,936,374,419

AMEX 1,425.66 +141.66
NASDAQ 1,649.47 +143.57
NYSE 5,733.45 +536.92
S&P 500 940.51 +91.59
NIKKEI (Tokyo) 7,621.92 0.00
FTSE 100 (London) 3,926.38 +73.79

COMPANY	%CHANGE	\$GAIN	PRICE
SPDR S&P 500 (SPY)	+11.69	+9.81	93.76
POWERSHARES (QQQQ)	+11.05	+3.17	31.86
ISHARES MSCI (EEM)	+25.60	+4.94	24.24
FIN SEL SPDR (XLF)	+15.71	+2.07	15.25

Treasuries

10-YEAR NOTE	+2.44	+0.091	3.820
13-WEEK BILL	+2.74	+0.020	0.750
30-YEAR BOND	+1.63	+0.067	4.172
5-YEAR NOTE	+2.94	+0.078	2.729

Commodities

LIGHT CRUDE (\$/bbl.)	-0.49	62.73
GOLD (\$/Troy oz.)	-2.40	740.50
PORK BELLIES (cents/lb.)	+0.40	86.80

Exchange Rates

YEN	98.1950
EURO	0.7884

IN BRIEF

US automakers seek extra federal aid

WASHINGTON — Beleaguered U.S. automakers are seeking federal help beyond the money available for them as part of a financial industry bailout and a loan package to fund more fuel-efficient cars, the White House said Tuesday.

White House spokeswoman Dana Perino said the auto industry has talked to the Bush administration about funding on a much broader scale than the two programs approved by Congress earlier this fall.

"No doubt that the automakers are big important companies, important to a lot of families and important to a lot of regions in this country," Perino said. "We are capable of competing at a level where these companies can succeed, they might just need a little help. And that's what Congress asked us to help provide them."

General Motors Corp., which is in talks about acquiring Chrysler LLC, is pursuing \$5 billion to \$10 billion in government aid, said an industry official, who declined to be identified because the discussions were private. GM officials declined comment.

Soybean prices fall, corn prices rise

NEW YORK — Soybean prices fell in erratic trading Tuesday even after the government lowered its estimate for the size of this year's harvest. Corn prices traded higher.

The U.S. Agriculture Department's forecast for planted and harvested corn and soybeans fell after the agency discovered discrepancies in a database used to compile the report. Forecasts for corn and soybean production also fell.

Soybeans for January delivery lost 9.5 cents to settle at \$8.88 a bushel on the Chicago Board of Trade, after earlier rising as high as \$9.59.

Vic Lespinasse of Grainanalyst.com said traders were disappointed that the revisions to the crop report "were not more bullish."

"This caused a lot of would-be buyers to wait ... preventing prices from advancing after their higher start," Lespinasse said.

High market leap brings little relief

Wall Street sees one of its best days ever, yet has no cause for celebration

Associated Press

Wall Street's best day in two weeks — and one of its best ever — brought little real reason to celebrate.

Even the manic, final-hour of buying that sent the Dow Jones industrials soaring almost 900 points Tuesday was overshadowed by the reality that it could turn on investors in an instant.

The extraordinary, lurching volatility that has gripped Wall Street since the financial meltdown began in mid-September meant there were no guarantees the rally would hold, not even for a few days.

Investors are expecting a cut in interest rates when the Federal Reserve announces its decision Wednesday. But they're also staring into an economic abyss, bracing for a recession of a depth no one knows for sure.

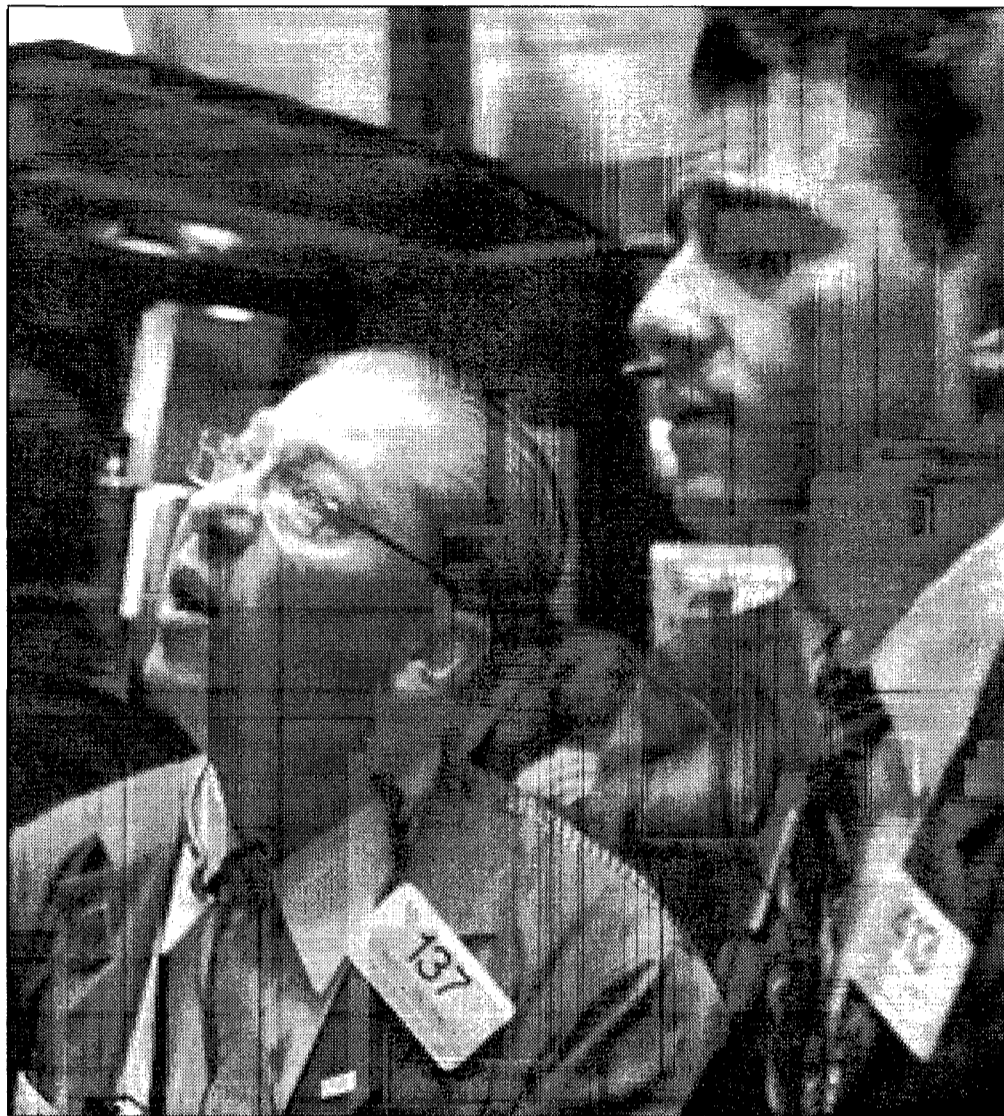
Any other day like this — the Dow and the Standard and Poor's 500 both rose almost 11 percent — might have ended with boisterous cheers and paper tossed into the air. On Tuesday, 4 p.m. came with meager applause.

"I don't think it will be a sustained move," said Matt King, chief investment officer at Bell Investment Advisors.

The Dow finished 889 points higher to close at 9,065. On Oct. 13, the Dow rose 936 points, its best ever; no other single-day rally has come close in terms of points to what happened Tuesday.

Analysts ventured a number of explanations for the sudden rally — including coming interest rate cuts, bargain hunting, a market desperate to find a bottom and the expectation that banks, at the urging of the White House, will quit hoarding money and start making loans.

"There is nothing funda-



Wall Street Broker Edward H. Radziewicz looks at a monitor as he works on the trading floor of the New York Stock Exchange shortly after the market opened Tuesday.

mental that came out today or yesterday that would take it up or down. We're all groping for something meaningful to talk about," said Bob Andres, chief investment strategist at Portfolio Management Consultants. "The market is exhausted from going down."

The mood on Main Street is decidedly more pessimistic, and new data Tuesday showed Americans are more depressed than market analysts had expected.

The Conference Board's consumer confidence index plunged to the lowest level

in its 41-year history in the wake of this month's financial meltdown, the sharp drop in home prices and increasing job losses.

The index fell to 38, down from a September reading of about 61 — the third-steepest monthly decline since the board started the measure in 1967. Analysts, way off the mark, had expected 52.

"It's the worst consumer environment since the 1981-1982 recession," said Adam York, an economist at Wachovia Corp. Americans believe "there's a very dire situation in the U.S. economy right now,

and they're not far from being right," he added.

Financial market turmoil and falling housing prices have wiped out trillions of dollars of household wealth in recent months. The S&P 500 had fallen 27 percent in October, and 40 percent for the year, before Tuesday's jump.

In addition, companies cut 760,000 jobs in the first nine months this year, sending the unemployment rate to 6.1 percent last month. Many economists expect layoffs to continue and the unemployment rate to rise to 8 percent or higher in 2009.

White House tells banks: start lending

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — An impatient White House prodded banks and other financial companies Tuesday to quit hoarding billions of dollars flowing into their vaults from Washington and start making more loans. Wall Street soared nearly 900 points on bargain-hunting and hopes of a hefty interest rate cut by the Federal Reserve.

The stock market's amazing climb, with its second-largest point gain ever, was a welcome burst of good news for a nation suffering big job losses and seemingly tumbling into a painful recession.

Consumer pessimism reached record levels in October amid rising unemployment, plunging home prices and shrinking retirement and investment accounts. The Conference

Board, a private research group, said consumer confidence fell to its lowest point since it began tracking consumer sentiment in 1967.

Hoping to thaw the credit freeze that has chilled the economy, the Bush administration sent banks an unmistakable message to put aside fears and open up loan windows for cash-starved businesses and consumers who have pulled back on spending.

"What we're trying to do is get banks to do what they are supposed to do, which is support the system that we have in America. And banks exist to lend money," White House press secretary Dana Perino said. While there are limits to Washington's power to affect banks' behavior, the White House decided it was time to use its bully pulpit.

"They (regulators) will be watching

very closely, and they're working with the banks," Perino said.

Meanwhile, Treasury Department officials met with banking industry representatives to resolve a glitch in the rescue program that has temporarily prevented some 6,000 of the nation's 8,500 banks from applying for government support.

Treasury is buying preferred shares in banks as a way of injecting cash into the institutions. But about 6,000 of the nation's banks don't have publicly traded shares of stock and therefore are not set up in a way to meet Treasury's current qualifications.

Treasury officials at the meeting assured banking industry representatives that they are working to rework the application forms so that both banks with publicly traded stock and privately held institutions can qualify for the program.

CONGO

Rebels advance on province capital

Associated Press

KILIMANYOKA — Rebels vowing to take Congo's eastern provincial capital advanced toward Goma Tuesday, sending tens of thousands fleeing. Chaos gripped a separate area as government soldiers fired on civilians and aid workers trying to escape, the top U.N. envoy said.

Alan Doss said peacekeepers were forced to "respond," apparently meaning they shot at troops who are supposed to be their allies, after the soldiers opened fire on those trying to leave Rutshuru, a strategic town north of Goma. He vowed to keep Rutshuru and other towns out of rebel hands.

"We are going to remain there, and we are going to act against any effort to take over a city or major population center by force," he told reporters in New York in a videoconference.

U.N. helicopter gunships were being used on fronts near Rutshuru and Kilimanyoka, which is about 7 miles north of Goma. They were hampered by rebels' use of civilians as shields, U.N. spokeswoman Sylvia van den Wildenberg told The Associated Press.

The rebels also are fighting around Rugari, a town between Goma and Rutshuru, as well as northwest of Goma around Sake — using several fronts to scatter government forces and U.N. peacekeepers.

By late afternoon Tuesday, it appeared the use of the gunships was paying off. About 200 government soldiers were nearly two miles closer to the rebels than the line of the troops that retreated. They were being resupplied from a truck loaded with rocket-propelled grenades.

Aid agencies in Rutshuru said their workers could hear bombs exploding as the rebels closed in and angry and frightened civilians and soldiers blocked their evacuation by U.N. peacekeepers.

The mob looted humanitarian centers and the belongings of about 50 trapped aid workers in Rutshuru, said Ivo Brandau, a spokesman for the U.N. humanitarian agency OCHA.

Brandau said tens of thousands of civilians were fleeing that town, heading north and east toward the Ugandan border. Rutshuru had a population of about 30,000 residents and the same number of refugees.

Doctors Without Borders said its doctors and nurses trapped at Rutshuru Hospital had treated 70 war wounded since Sunday but most patients had fled the hospital.

Meanwhile, a sudden influx of an estimated 30,000 people tripled in a matter of hours the size of a camp in Kibati, a few miles from the front line, said Ron Redmond, spokesman for the U.N. refugee agency.

"It's chaos up there," Redmond told The Associated Press from Geneva, citing U.N. staff in Congo. "These crowds of people coming down from the north have already started turning up there."

In Kibati, young men lobbed rocks Tuesday at three U.N. tanks also heading away from the battlefield. The U.N.'s peacekeeping mission is the agency's biggest in the world, with 17,000 troops.

"What are they doing? They are supposed to protect us," said Jean-Paul Maombi, a 31-year-old nurse from Kibumba.

The unrest in eastern Congo has been fueled by festering hatreds left over from the Rwandan genocide and the country's unrelenting civil wars. Renegade Gen. Laurent Nkunda has threatened to take Goma despite calls from the U.N. Security Council for him to respect a cease-fire brokered by the U.N. in January.

Nkunda charges that the Congolese government has not protected his minority Tutsi tribe from a Rwandan Hutu militia that escaped to Congo after helping perpetrate the 1994 Rwandan genocide. Half a million Tutsis were slaughtered.

Nkunda's ambitions have expanded since he launched a fresh onslaught on Aug. 28. He now declares he will "liberate" all of Congo, a country the size of Western Europe with vast reserves of diamonds, gold and other resources. Congo's vast mineral wealth helped fuel back-to-back wars from 1997 to 2003.

The U.N. says more than 200,000 people have been forced from their homes in the last two months, joining 1.2 million displaced in previous conflicts in the east. Outbreaks of cholera and diarrhea have killed dozens in camps, compounding the misery.

On Monday, peacekeepers in attack helicopters fired at the rebels trying to stop them taking Kibumba, a village on the main road 30 miles north of Goma. But fleeing civilians say the fighters overran Kibumba anyway.

The rebels retaliated by firing a missile at one U.N. combat helicopter Monday, but missed, U.N. spokeswoman Sylvie van den Wildenberg said.

U.N. efforts to halt Nkunda's rebellion are complicated by the country's rugged terrain, dense tropical forests that roll over hills and mountains with few roads.

The chief U.N. mandate is to protect the population. But since the peace deal it also is supposed to help the Congolese army disarm and repatriate Hutu militiamen — by force if necessary.

But Bisimwa, the rebel spokesman, claimed Tuesday the Congolese army has abandoned dozens of its positions to Hutu militiamen.

"It's the Hutus who are on the front line and whom we are fighting, not the army," he said. U.N. peacekeepers "leave us no choice but to fight on."

Nkunda long has charged that Congolese soldiers fight alongside the militia of Hutus, an ethnic majority of about 40 percent in the region.

Some 800 Hutu militiamen have voluntarily returned to Rwanda, the U.N. says, but the fighters recruit and coerce Congolese Hutu children and young men into their ranks daily — far outnumbering those who have returned home.



Campus Ministry

Internship Information Session

Thursday, October 30, 5-6 PM

316 CoMo

Pizza will be provided.



Kick-off Your Football Weekend in Downtown South Bend

Football Fridays Block Party

Live Music, Great Food and Fun Activities for Everyone!

Friday Oct. 31 6-10pm

On Michigan St. by the College Football Hall of Fame

Live Musical Performers:

Peach Tree Otis
7 - 10pm

MDA

Admission \$2 Kids Under 12 Free Free Admission with Costume!
Activities Hosted by MDA - Participate and Support a Great Cause!
More info: dtsbFootballParty.com or call DTSB at 574.282.1110

Please recycle The Observer.

ELECTION 2008

Wednesday, October 29, 2008

COMPILED FROM THE OBSERVER'S WIRE SERVICES

page 9

CAMPAIGN NEWS

Biden to campaign in Indiana

EVANSVILLE, Ind. — Democratic vice presidential candidate Joe Biden will make a campaign visit to southern Indiana just three days before the election.

Barack Obama's presidential campaign says Biden will talk about the economy at an appearance in the Evansville area on Saturday. No additional details are being released yet.

The Biden visit will come three days after his Republican counterpart, Sarah Palin, campaigns in Jeffersonville on Wednesday night. It will be Palin's third visit to Indiana in 12 days.

Biden drew a crowd of several hundred people to a Jeffersonville park when he last campaigned in Indiana on Sept. 24. He also stopped with Obama at a restaurant in the northeastern Indiana town of Hamilton on Aug. 31.

Joe the Plumber backs McCain

COLUMBUS, Ohio — Joe the Plumber endorsed Republican John McCain for president on Tuesday.

Samuel J. Wurzelbacher gained national attention when Obama told him during a campaign stop that he wanted to "spread the wealth around." Their exchange about Obama's tax plan aired countless times on cable news programs, and McCain repeatedly cited Joe the Plumber in their third and final debate and again at campaign events.

McCain points to Wurzelbacher as an example of the middle-class worker who would be hurt economically by an Obama presidency. However, Wurzelbacher likely would fare better under Obama's tax plan because it calls for no tax increase for working couples earning less than \$250,000 a year — Wurzelbacher himself earns far less — and provides for a middle-class tax cut.

In a McCain rally at a flag store, Wurzelbacher said he feared that Obama would turn the U.S. into a socialist nation.

Obama rallies supporters in PA, VA

HARRISONBURG, Va. — From a Pennsylvania rainstorm to two thunderous Virginia rallies, Barack Obama told revved-up followers Tuesday they were "so close" to winning.

Targeting two key states, defending one and surging in the other, Obama stayed on the safe ground of linking Republican rival John McCain to President Bush.

"This election, more than any other in my lifetime, represents a clear choice between the past and the future," the 47-year-old Democrat said, ribbing his 72-year-old opponent.

Dropping into the Shenandoah Valley, Obama spoke first to about 8,000 people who spilled onto a soccer field at James Madison University because the indoor site was too packed.

Inside, Obama found 12,000 more people, mostly students who were too excited to sit.

Republicans hopeful against odds

A determined McCain fights on, refuses to surrender as election draws near

Associated Press

HERSHEY, Pa. — John McCain repeatedly implores backers to "stand up and fight" these days, showing gritty determination even as many indicators point to a Barack Obama victory and Republicans engage in fingerpointing typical of losing campaigns.

"Nothing is inevitable here. We never give up. And we never quit," McCain declares.

A week before Election Day, the Republican is an enthusiastic underdog with what advisers say is a deep personal belief that he still has a chance to stage an upset next week. He has come back from the brink politically and personally before, and they say, he's resolved to do so again despite steep challenges.

In the homestretch, he tells people to ignore the pundits who project an Obama triumph and the polls that favor the Democrat. He scorns Obama's confident air in the waning days as a premature "victory lap." He says the country deserves "someone who will fight 'til the end." And, he says a GOP victory is within reach.

Some GOP pessimists have suggested he follow the example of Bob Dole, who, once he fell well behind Democrat Bill Clinton in 1996, shifted his campaign from states with the tightest presidential races to those where his appearance could most help Republican candidates for lesser offices. But McCain has steadfastly focused on the closest presidential battleground states.

Even so, the very real possibility of a loss — and life after the campaign — has crept into McCain's latest pitch. "I have fought for you most of my life, and in places where defeat meant more than returning to the Senate," McCain says. Then, he adds: "I've never been the kind to back down when

the stakes are high."

Public surveys show Obama leads nationally and McCain faces a difficult path to the 270 electoral votes needed. He's struggling to hold onto traditionally Republican states. In a troublesome sign, the Republican National Committee was forced to shore up support with TV ads in the often reliably GOP state of Montana and boosted its presence in West Virginia, which President Bush won.

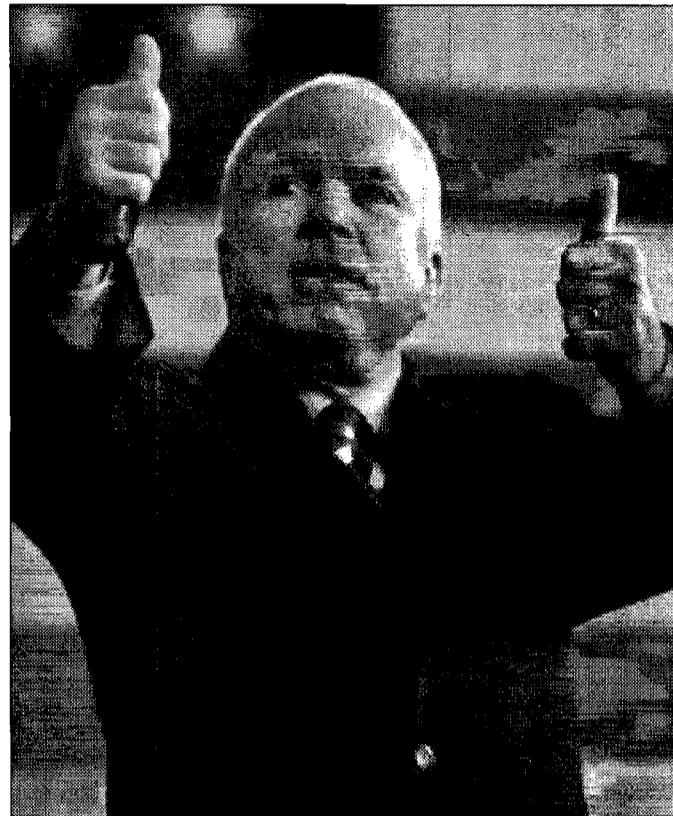
Pennsylvania, which offers 21 electoral votes and hasn't backed a Republican presidential nominee since 1988, is the only traditionally Democratic state McCain now is going after in earnest. Some GOP aides say it alone may hold the key to a McCain victory. Democrats are doubtful.

McCain also is hearing an increasing number of prominent Republicans indicate they expect he will lose. Former Massachusetts Gov. Mitt Romney was the latest. "We face the very real possibility of an Obama presidency," Romney said fundraising e-mail on behalf of Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell.

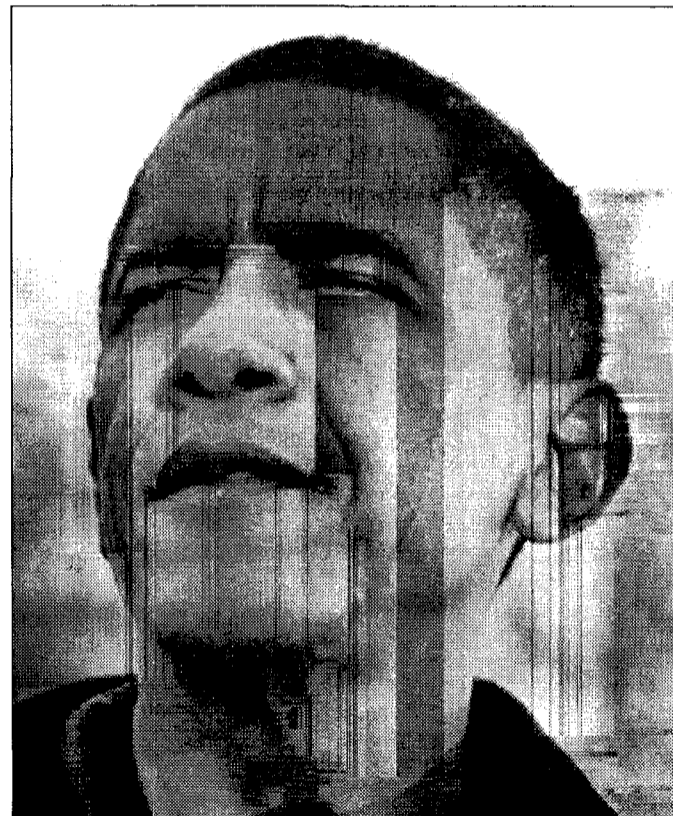
At the same time, the blame game has emerged in GOP circles. Some Republicans have pointed the finger at McCain's chief strategist Steve Schmidt; others are rushing to his defense.

And, frustrations by Palin's allies over her rocky introduction to the public and by McCain's backers over the Alaska governor's unscheduled moments spilled into the open through anonymous quotes in news stories. Senior campaign advisers deny a rift and attribute the griping of a few junior aides.

The Arizona senator's top advisers acknowledge the difficulties in pulling off a comeback, yet they insist McCain still has a shot and adamantly deny McCain is going through the motions.



Republican presidential candidate John McCain reacts to the crowd as he speaks at a rally in Hershey, Pa., on Tuesday.



Rain drops run down the face of Democratic presidential candidate Barack Obama at a rally in Chester, Pa., Tuesday.

INDIANA GOVERNOR'S RACE

High stakes for Indiana in tight race for governor seat

Associated Press

INDIANAPOLIS — One of the most critical contests for Republicans and Democrats alike this year is being fought well outside the presidential spotlight, but the stakes for Indiana voters are just as high.

Republicans are expected to keep their grip on the state Senate, but the closely divided Indiana House is up for grabs again, as it has been for two decades. Democrats have a slim 51-49 advantage now, and any change could affect Hoosiers where they live and work.

"Without a doubt, there is real power with issues related to schools and welfare services and will you get the road you want," said James McCann, a Purdue University political science professor. "State lawmakers deal with very bread-and-butter issues."

Republican Gov. Mitch Daniels, who faces Democrat Jill Long Thompson, acknowledges that in his first two years — 2005 and 2006 — he never would have won some of his top priorities if Republicans had not controlled both chambers.

Chief among them were leas-

ing the Indiana Toll Road to a foreign, private group for \$3.8 billion and pushing Indiana to observe daylight saving time statewide. Republicans controlled the House 52-48 then, and each of those measures became law by a single vote.

Had Democrat Patrick Bauer of South Bend been in power, as he is now as speaker, the Toll Road almost certainly would still be in Indiana's hands; likewise, the state would still be among three that do not change their clocks.

If Daniels wins, a GOP-controlled Legislature would make it easier for him to get what

he wants — or at least can live with. That could include further expansion of full-day kindergarten and automatic tax credits to taxpayers if the state's budget surplus reaches a certain level.

But this is expected to be a big year for Democrats, and Barack Obama has put his party in presidential play in Indiana for the first time in decades.

Bauer hopes that will trickle down to the legislative level and give his party a boost.

If so, look for another two years of Daniels vs. Bauer. They've proven they can work

together, and proven they can clash.

"Indiana has right now both a governor and a House leader, both of whom are in the business of government, but also connoisseurs of power," said Robert Schmuhl, a political science professor at the University of Notre Dame.

In other words, big-time egos backed up by years of political smarts.

While the House races could create some suspense, Republicans almost certainly will keep control of the Senate — a situation that hasn't changed since early 1979.

THE OBSERVER VIEWPOINT

THE OBSERVER

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Bright college years

Life as the senior class knows it ends at graduation this upcoming May.

Just as the words of the unofficial Yale alma mater state, we're living in the "shortest, gladdest years of life" right now. Well, if these four years of college are the best we'll ever have in our lives than can we possibly look forward to anything after graduation? I don't think we can.



Andrew Miller

The Road Scholar

Let's look at the various aspects of the eras that face us in the future and how each of these different ages will fail to satisfy us.

Early Adulthood

The biggest shock after college: you have to get a job. I'm trying to resist this necessity as much as possible but I realize I need to be able to afford the lifestyle to which I've grown accustomed. I can't ever see myself being able to put in an 80-hour work-week, and hopefully I'll never have to. But it could be that way. Unfortunately.

Middle Age

Ostensibly children, marriage, and the work-a-day life continue to dominate the environments of the people our parents' age. Paying bills? Paying taxes? It's not a money issue — it's a writing issue. I've seen that episode of Seinfeld where Jerry cripples his hand signing those Japanese checks. That health risk, along with increased potential for heart and prostate issues, make Middle Age the least appealing age.

Senior Citizenship

I have nothing but respect for senior citizens. But in the past month, I have had two exceedingly awkward encounters with elderly women. I have to relate these occurrences to you, reader, because otherwise my

point will be dulled by lack of specificity.

The first happened at the Krispy Kreme in Mishawaka. I was trying to order a dozen hot donuts on a Saturday morning and this woman approaches me outside the range of my peripheral vision. She sidled up to me without me ever noticing her. Without introducing herself, she grabs my arm (scared me to death) and says, "I was going to go to Arby's but then I saw that red sign on so I decided to come get a free doughnut." Two things. One: why did I not know about this free doughnut policy? Two: what gave this woman the right to sneak up behind me, grab my arm, and talk to me?

The second instance occurred at my local polling place this past week. I was voting absentee-in-person on Monday afternoon and waited quietly for my name to be called up to the voting booth. An older woman sat down next to me and I said hello with a polite head nod, figuring that our conversation would end there. A few silent minutes later, the woman turned to me and said, "You never know who you're going to sit next to!" I couldn't tell if this meant I was supposed to recognize her, if she was trying to figure out if I were famous or not, or if she was indicating that she was seconds away from doing something shocking. I didn't respond, deathly afraid of my seatmate. Then she said, "Too bad I've been eating onions all morning," and proceeded to cackle for several more minutes. Thank goodness I was called to vote shortly thereafter.

These women were not unjustified in talking to me but I cannot figure out why senior citizens feel the need to talk to strangers in such fashions. I do not look forward to a day when I will want to talk to as many random people as possible. I can barely muster up the strength to talk to my closest friends. I won't be able to survive in a world where it's expected you'll speak with unknown people in

lines at fast food restaurants, waiting rooms, and offices.

Decrepitude

Most people would stop their age divisions at the senior citizen level. But in my experience this does not speak to the actualities of our dynamic population. I mean, you can join the AARP at 50 and hold that membership seemingly indefinitely (as long as you pay those darn dues). We need to come to a higher understanding of old age in this country: an understanding that will include less generalization of older peoples. With increasing life expectancies in many sectors of the US population, there should be a last phase of life that runs from the age of 85 until death.

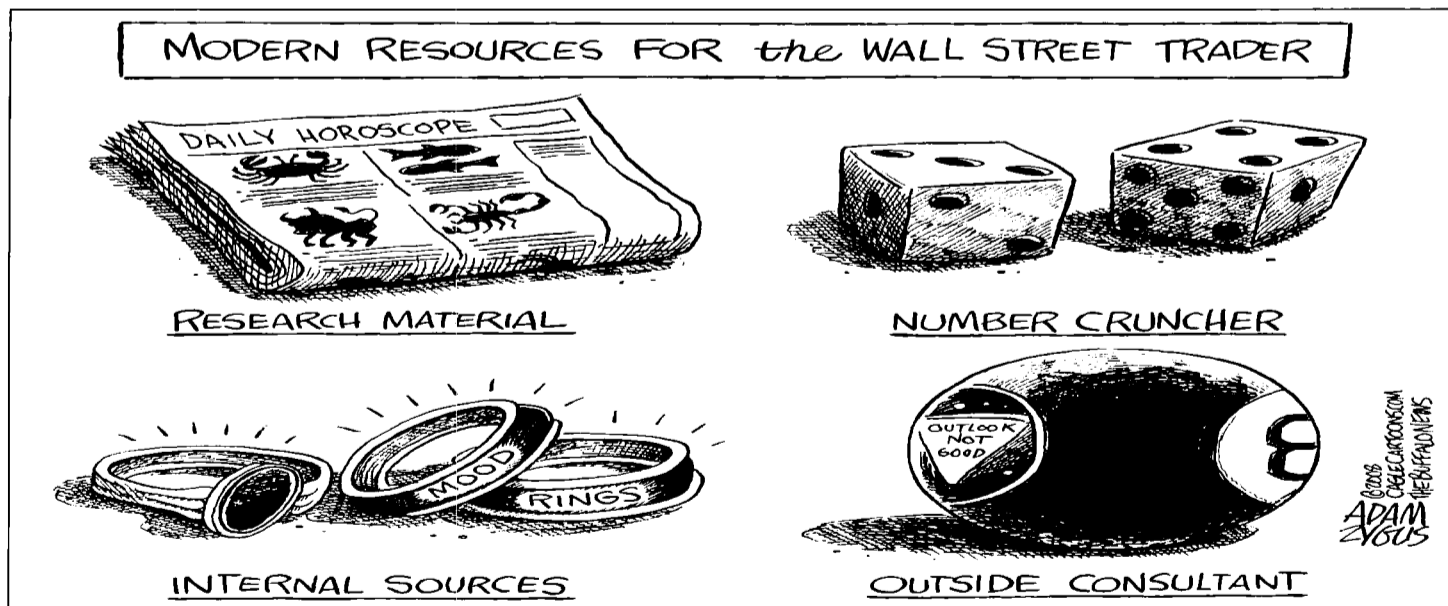
And actually, I look forward to this point in my life. I'll be too old to be a senior citizen, too young to be dead. I'll be just senile enough to be as inappropriate and offensive as I desire. If anyone is hurt by my comments I can blame senility in the purest and most beautiful form of deniability in existence. Nobody gets mad at the quirky old guy. But on top of this freedom comes the actual hardship of actually being senile. We can romanticize the loss of one's intellectual capacities with envious eyes, but we have to take a step back to understand that the inherent condition of using your senility for humor is wholly and truly being senile. And I don't actually ever want to be senile. Do you? I think not.

So now I've deconstructed each of the periods of life after we leave this hallowed ground. And every last one of them has the appeal of getting hit by a freight train. I don't have any solutions or optimistic advice. I agree with Yale. These bright college years will never be matched. Ever. Sorry.

Andrew Miller is a senior English major. He can be contacted at amille15@nd.edu

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

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Barack Obama
Joe Biden
Mr. Sarah Palin

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QUOTE OF THE DAY

"An honest politician is one who, when he is bought, will stay bought."
Simon Cameron.

Faith and politics

Faith and politics should never be discussed in polite company, we are told. Yet in reality, the two are constantly in dialogue, for better or worse. Politics has become increasingly moralistic and the religious have become much more political. And with a rapidly approaching election, every responsible citizen has a duty to look at how they might combine the two.

**Ally Brantley
and Joe Stranix**

*Guest
Columnists*

Whether we care to admit it or not, most of us grapple with this issue on a daily basis. The College Democrat who struggles with a candidate's pro-choice stance is in the same predicament as the Right to Life member whose concerns about the dignity of the immigrant clash with a pro-life candidate's anti-immigration stance. It isn't easy to balance the issues. Many times, our church says one thing, while our political party says another. Faith and politics are personal issues, neither of which can be divorced from our worldview. We cannot just eliminate either, or allow one to dictate our actions on issues. Who do we follow, and how do we decide which are the most important issues?

One place to look is the Catholic Church, which recognizes that voting is truly a per-

sonal decision. It is not merely following the directions of another. The US Conference of Catholic Bishops published the latest in a series of voter guides, "Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship," aiming to educate our individual consciences on a wide variety of issues. The document does not tell Catholics what to do, but rather, serves as a guide for us to discern our own political path from a faith-based perspective.

This is not just a theoretical approach; we have seen it in action. The two of us led a fall break Center for Social Concerns seminar in Washington, DC, in which we focused on the intersection of human rights, faithful citizenship and policy. During our immersion, we constantly saw individuals attempting to reconcile their politics and faith. People in government, think tanks and the religious laity acknowledged that their faith does, indeed, play a role in their politics. However, it is a delicate balance, unique to each individual.

We encountered an immigration official who stated that faith shapes his worldview and he cannot separate it from politics. We discussed immigration with a libertarian who used economics to espouse a view that his faith supported. We spoke with a Franciscan sister working for an organiza-

tion to promote the common good and a pro-life Catholic united behind Obama. All recognized a faith-politics connection, though it played out to different degrees in their professional lives.

These various individuals demonstrated that we cannot wholly disregard the fusion of faith and politics. Neither is pernicious to the other, but rather, enriches its counterpart. For example, the Catholic understanding of a consistent ethic of life brings morality and social justice to the immigration debate. Political and economic considerations provide a pragmatic framework for the issue as well.

So what can we learn from the USCCB and other individuals in Washington?

Faith and politics do not need to be distinct or separate, but in healthy dialogue. For us, as young voters, this means that our faith can, and should, inform our political decisions. As the "Forming Consciences" document suggests, this means not voting on just a single issue, but instead, considering all issues. This isn't easy, nor is it meant to be. Not all issues hold the same weight and not every candidate will be sincere in their views. Neither our religious institutions nor our political parties can tell us what to do. In the end, it is up to us and our convictions. Many Catholics are "politically homeless" for this

exact reason. And yet every year, we must return to the ballot box, having reweighed the candidates and the issues. It is a difficult call to answer. We are debating and weighing some of the most important issues of our day, and reaching an informed decision is a challenging process which takes time and effort.

Civic engagement begins with voting, but does not end there. Our internal debate between our faith and politics can guide our involvement in our community, where a variety of outlets are available. Contact your congressperson, write an editorial, enroll in a community based learning course. Study the issues about which you are passionate and listen to the continual discussion and dialogue between faith and politics in our culture.

Engage with yourself and others on these issues and, of course, don't forget to VOTE.

Ally Brantley and Joe Stranix are senior history majors. Over fall break, they led the CSC "Human Rights, Policy, and Faithful Citizenship" seminar in Washington, DC. They can be reached at abrantle@nd.edu and jstranix@nd.edu.

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

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The right to life, liberty, happiness and access to Abortion

I am a single issue voter. I admit it. A candidate's stance on abortion is my litmus test. I believe that any candidate who supports abortion cannot be a leader. How can we trust someone who is not willing to protect the most vulnerable in our society? Fr. Frank Pavone has a striking comparison: If a candidate told us that they were pro-terrorism, we would never consider voting for them regardless of how they were going to fix the economy or reform health care. Yet, when a candidate says they are pro-abortion we weigh that with their foreign policy experience and plans for tax cuts. I have heard numerous people on this campus claim that they feel that Obama's policies are the most holistically "pro-life" and for that reason they will be casting their vote in his favor. While I will avoid other "life" issues, I want to address Obama's stance on abortion and what he plans to do about it-something I feel that no amount of health care reform can ever justify.

Barack Obama has said, "The first thing I'll do as President is sign the Freedom of

Choice Act." The Freedom of Choice Act (FOCA) will effectively codify Roe vs. Wade. So, even if the Supreme Court does overturn Roe, abortion rights will be untouched. This law not only guarantees the right to abortion for future generations, it also strikes down all existing laws that in any way limit access to abortion.

The FOCA would end the need for parental consent or notification which is required in 35 states. While a school nurse cannot give a middle school girl a Tylenol without her parent's consent, she can take her to have an abortion without ever telling the girl's parents. The FOCA would end all waiting periods before abortions and eliminate the need for informed consent. The FOCA would strike down the ban on partial birth abortion, a horrendous practice where all but the head of a viable baby is delivered, the back of the neck is punctured, the brain is suctioned out, and a dead baby is delivered. The FOCA would strike down the Born Alive Infant Protection Act which requires a doctor to provide medical treatment to a baby

born alive during an abortion.

Not only would this act affect state's abortion restrictions, this act effectively redefines abortion as a fundamental right (as most argue was intended by Roe vs. Wade and the companion case Doe vs. Bolton). This means that not only can the state not restrict a woman's access to abortion; the state must provide a woman with the means to exercise this right. The FOCA will invalidate all laws restricting funding of abortion (namely the Hyde amendment) and all laws that prohibit abortions in public hospitals. The FOCA would cut federal funding to pregnancy centers that do not provide abortions or refer to abortion clinics. The FOCA will invalidate all laws allowing hospitals or health-care providers, to decline to provide or pay for abortions (conscience laws). So, any of you pre-meds reading this may be required in the future to perform abortions whether you like it or not. The FOCA will also strike down any "physician-only" laws that say that abortions must be performed by a licensed physician. Interestingly

enough, most of these laws do not require that the physician be in any way trained in obstetrics and gynecology. The physician could be an allergist or podiatrist and still be a legal abortion provider. If the FOCA is passed, anyone can be an "abortion provider" because to do otherwise might interfere with a woman's access to abortion. Currently, regulation of abortion clinics is left to the state. Sadly, in many states, veterinary clinics are more regulated than abortion facilities. By letter of the FOCA, regulations could not legally exist.

Obama is not pro-life. He may have ideas about how health care, the economy, and poverty should be managed, but he is an outright supporter of death of almost 3300 children daily. Obama believes we should end the Iraq War because roughly 4,000 of our soldiers have died. So all things considered, am I a one issue voter? Heck yes!

Emily Toates

senior

Farley Hall

Oct. 27

We could use a little socialism right

Now Jesus Christ was a socialist. In "Barack the Socialist" (Observer Viewpoint, 10/28/08), Christie Pesavento urges, "If you like socialism, then by all means vote for Barack the Socialist." Colin Powell, endorsing Barack Obama on "Meet the Press," said the important question is not whether Obama is a Muslim, but whether it would matter if he were.

A similar analysis is necessary here. The important question is not whether Obama is a socialist, but whether it would matter if he were.

The fact is, the United States could use a little socialism these days. Pesavento's "example to illustrate the injustice of redistributive practices" is entirely misleading.

First and foremost, Obama is not advocating, and has never advocated, anything approaching a system in which "everyone receives the same grade." People currently making \$250,000 a year ("next to nothing" in some locales, according to Pesavento)

will still make \$250,000 a year under Obama's plan, but they will pay the marginal tax rate they paid under Clinton. Wow, that was a rough time for America's wealthy. Nothing like today, when federal bail-outs are required. Under Obama's tax plan, everyone else will get a tax cut, keeping more of their hard-earned money. What's so bad about that? By the way, our entire progressive income tax structure has always been "redistributive."

Second, Pesavento's "example" belies the classist bias of the author. She paints a scenario in which "you have worked hard and managed to earn an A," while "other students have slacked off and are receiving lower grades." This classroom analogy is cute, but it is entirely inapposite. Unlike grades, one's financial situation in today's America has little or nothing to do with hard work. I am about to begin a lucrative career as a trial lawyer. Sure I've worked hard to get here, but I was also blessed with a comfortable middle-class upbringing,

good health, United States citizenship, English as a first language, private schooling and white skin. Others with better work ethics than I possess but without the other benefits I've enjoyed will not have the same opportunities I've had. Before Reagan, prosperity in this country was more closely tied to effort than it is today. There was a time when Americans made money through hard work and creativity. But today, Americans make money with money, and often with money they don't actually have (see the Wall Street bail-out).

The bottom line is that millions of Americans have a zero percent chance of financial success under our current structure. Barack Obama offers these Americans much more than "vague yet seemingly reassuring promises of 'change.'" Obama offers a real plan under which more Americans will pay less taxes, have more job opportunities, have better education, have a cleaner environment, and have reliable, anxiety-free healthcare

coverage.

Perhaps Pesavento is unaware that the leading cause of personal bankruptcy in this country is not "slack[ing] off" but catastrophic medical bills. Perhaps according to Webster's dictionary, it is proper to label Barack Obama a "socialist." But to do so misses the point. The proper question to ask is, why is that such a bad thing?

America will never be a country where "everyone receives the same grade," nor should it be. But what America should be, at the very least, is a country where everyone is at least sitting in the same classroom at the beginning of the semester, with access to the same professor and textbook. That's the America Obama wants to create, and he has a plan to get us there. That's why he gets my vote.

Sean Lyttle

law student

off-campus

Oct. 8

HIGH SCHOOL

HIGH SCHOOL MUSICAL: LOVE IT EVEN IF YOU HATE IT

The Wildcats are back! Again. Hallelujah!

Disney addicts are flocking to theatres to enjoy their favorite guilty pleasure. As I'm sure many a girls' dorm room can

Jess Shaffer

*Assistant
Scene Editor*

prove, High School Musical is far more than just a preteen phenomenon — the innumerable HSM posters and Troy and Gabriella bed sheets are undeniable proof of an obsession that has overrun girls of all ages. The series is the most PG fun you can have. Luckily for fans everywhere, this made-for-TV classic has been taken to the next level and we can see our favorite too-old-to-actually-high-school-students on the silver screen.

There are so many things to love about High School Musical. Watching teens break into song and dance during normal day-to-day activity is packed with entertainment value.

First, there is some serious mockability. Any dance number that starts with cheese fries being dumped on a girl can't go wrong. Second, there are the legitimate dance moves of cast members like Corbin Bleu. If talent doesn't float your boat, there's always the hilarity that ensues when Zac Efron attempts to bust a move. Note the "Bet On It" routine from "High School Musical 2" where Zac Efron frolics through a golf course singing about perseverance, complete with fist jabs, jazz fingers, split jumps and skipping. Not only fun and wholesome to watch, but amusing when one considers that Efron is supposed to be the high school "it boy."

As far as the musical routines are concerned, catchiness is the name of the game. Those who snobbishly turn up their noses at the High School Musical pop soundtrack dwell in an elite delusion that ignores the memorable nature of the tunes. The songs are at worst harmless and at best really fun (and/or hilarious). No wonder

Disney frequently has sing-along airings of the films. Of course, with the move of "High School Musical 3" to theatres, self-consciousness may prevent fans from belting out their favorite songs in public.

And then there's the cast who portray the clean cut, good looking, well-behaved teenagers that are typical of a Disney approach to high school. Zac Efron and Vanessa Hudgens play the "it couple," embodying a combination of intelligence, athleticism, and stage talent. (Cute and wholesome on screen, it's always delightful to throw in tidbits from this real life couple's tabloid life. The contrast is stark and difficult not to enjoy.) Then there are the other high school caricatures: the wallflower, the joke, the theatre nerd, the maniacal popular girl, and the smart girl. Somehow these wildcats exist in a utopia where all these characters are friends. And what's not to enjoy about this delusion? We labor away with classes and real life drama. We've seen high

school, up close and personal. It's nice and funny to see how Disney approaches the quintessential period of teenage angst.

Basically when considering High School Musical, there are clearly two main types of fans: those who youthfully bask in the fun, simplified, light version of high school presented and those who enjoy the endless amounts of jokes that can be made at the film's expense. But there's no doubt that both groups appreciate the latest — and perhaps last — installment of High School Musical. However bitter-sweet the experience may be, there's always your Zac Efron pillow to cling onto when you're curled up in the fetal position, pining for the East High Wild Cats.

The views expressed in Scene and Heard are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer.

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"THE BOYS ARE BACK" IN HIGH SCHOOL MUSICAL 3

By JENN METZ
Scene Writer

If you're in the market for a film that riles your emotions and leaves you contemplating the meaning of life when the credits roll, High School Musical 3: Senior Year may not be for you.

But, if you're looking for something packed with energy, egotistic stage performers, Disney clichés, dancing basketball players, high school romance (and bromance), something that's just, well, two hours of fun, the third installment of the 'tween musical about a star athlete and a shy "freaky-genius girl" finding love and taking over the drama department at an Albuquerque high school delivers.

A new and improved Zac Efron, with arms that made the 12 year-olds in the theater scream, as hometown hero Troy Bolton, faces a choice at the end of his high school career: does he follow in his father's footsteps and attend U of A for basketball with his best friend and fellow hoops star Chad Danforth

(Corbin Bleu)? Or does he follow his other, once-secret passion, singing, and win a scholarship to Julliard? And what about his love for devoted, "T" pendant-wearing Gabriella Montez (Vanessa Hudgens), who's heading off to Stanford?

If you were a fan of the original HSM (2006) or the second installment, HSM2 (2007), you will be very satisfied with entire cast, who have matured over the years. The soundtrack is expertly done, especially the opening "Now or Never" basketball montage and, surprisingly, "Scream," Zac Efron's teen-angst solo through the halls of an abandoned East High. Ashley Tisdale (Sharpay Evans) and Lucas Grabeel (Ryan Evans) continue to offer high-energy, wonderfully vain, over-the-top musical numbers, like "I Want It All," which takes place in the cafeteria that has become a hotbed for improvisational dance.

The somewhat cliché drama that fuels the plot is to be expected, along with the occasional references to the previous Disney Channel original movies ("We're all in this together", "Breaking with the status quo", etc.).

Gabriella Montez is just as annoying as ever in this installment, calling her boyfriend "Wildcat" and wearing almost scandalously short skirts. Though Troy continually emphasizes her important role in the East High universe, her on-screen time has definitely decreased from the other two films, and Senior Year focuses on all of the characters more equally than before, in their

collective journey from average students to on-stage sensations.

It is Efron and Danforth who steal the show in "The Boys are Back," a scene where an ordinary trip to the junkyard suddenly transforms into a high-impact dance number. The two best buds reminisce about their childhood selves (who amazingly appear from under a wrecked car) and some how make pirouettes and somersaults seem masculine and natural.

Efron displays some legitimate acting talent, and takes on the part of a hard to find, truly sincere teen heartthrob; though his character has conquered virtually every aspect of East High, he is still unsure of his next step and his on-screen relationship with real-life girlfriend Hudgens.

Director Kenny Ortega (Newsies) brings the teen saga to the big screen in a big way, with elaborately choreographed numbers that are much more grown up than their made-for-TV predecessors.

The HSM films are entertaining, and they bring real aspects of being a confused adolescent to life in a happy, fun, the-guy-gets-the-girl fashion. I don't want to give them too much praise; I resisted watching the first when it premiered on T.V., but once you're introduced to the Wildcat crew, they're kind of hard to resist.

Efron might be ready to graduate from High School, but I'd be eager for a fourth installment.

Contact Jenn Metz at jmetz@nd.edu

Kelsi Nielsen (Oleya Rulin) The playmaker is all grown up and composing the spring musical. She too is working hard to impress Julliard and has a blossoming friendship with Ryan.

Zeke Baylor (Chris Warren Jr.) Zeke is still balancing basketball and the culinary arts while harboring his gargantuan crush on Sharpay.

Martha Cox (KayCee Stroh) Martha has shed her brainy persona for once as an excellent dancer and cheerleader in this chapter.

Jason Cross (Ryne Sanborn) As the lazy basketball player Jason just aims to survive the terror of the drama teacher Miss Darbus and make it to graduation.

The New Kids at East High

Jimmie "Rocketman" Zara (Matt Prokop) As a goofy basketball player Jimmie worships the ground Troy walks on. But as Troy's understudy can he fill Bolton's shoes or will he choke?

Donny Fox (Justin Martin) He is Jimmie's right hand man and a stagehand for the musical. He mostly plays the best friend character, but watch out for his performance in the graduation scene.

Tiara Gold (Jemma McKenzie-Brown) The British transfer student is Sharpay's assistant and helps her in her evil scheme to outshine Gabriella. But what are her true motives?

High School Musical 3

Director: Kenny Ortega

Starring: Zac Efron, Vanessa Hudgens, Ashley Tisdale



L MUSICAL 3

WHY I HATE 'HIGH SCHOOL MUSICAL'

One night during high school I sat down to watch TV with my younger brother. We both grew up on Disney, avidly waiting for the latest Disney Channel Original Movie since the days of Jett Jackson. So, when I decided to venture back into the world of my youth for a night, I was hoping to regain some happy childhood mojo.

What I encountered was a travesty of the highest order. Being a musical theatre geek in high school, I had approached this new "High School Musical" movie with measurable excitement. But Disney, my beloved Disney, had sold out. I was not watching a relatable hero battle life and insurmountable foes in order to "find" him/herself, as is the general formula for the D-COM, but instead I saw a mockery of absolutely everything from high school theatre programs to Disney itself.

The music was a joke, nothing like

Stephanie DePrez

Assistant Scene Editor

the "Even Stevens" musical episode I loved so much. Instead it was overproduced, simplistic drivel built on computer chords and electric drums on par with a Britney Spears comeback.

It wasn't even witty!

The lyrics were unbelievable to the point where I had to ask, "Did she just say 'hip-hop hooray?'" After half an hour I turned to my brother and said, "This script is so bad, it's making my toenails cringe." Disney's attempt at "cute-hip-upbeat-frivolous-fun" had fallen flat on its face.

Much to my chagrin, the teenyboppers came out in droves to the point that no-fool Disney decided to make a second. And a third. But before you gag me with a spoon, here are some reasons I passionately despise this "HSM" thing with the white-hot intensity of a thousand suns.

The music

It could have been cute, but it's just awful. I love the simple, catchy attitude of musical theatre today, but this went beyond. I would rail on against

the composers, but they're sitting on piles of money so the argument would be moot. It's a principle thing, though. Yea I say unto you, composers: The music you wrote is miserable and I hope your money is worth what you lost as a musician. Key change!

The story

The first movie was ridiculous, and coming from an intense high school musical program I can tell you with certainty that it was nothing like reality. I know "that's not the point," but really guys, give high school thespians some respect. We got none from the sports programs. The second movie's plot was unremarkable. I offer it up to the chopping block.

Though I haven't seen the third, I've heard of there are a number of blatant flaws that make Disney look just plain stupid. I'm here to tell you none of those kids are going to Juilliard. Juilliard programs are classical, and they aren't exactly looking for any of the skills these characters display. And a Stanford honors program?

Honey, Stanford is an honors program. And there is no way anyone from Stanford is getting away with a relationship with someone attending Cal Berkeley. The schools are mortal enemies.

The acting.

Vanessa Hudgens. 'Nuff said.

Though I could continue, it would be for naught, because I know everyone who loves High School Musical isn't going to stop loving it anytime soon. And I can't really blame a franchise that is off making billions of dollars through clean entertainment, even if it is an artistic disaster. All I can say is, when we look back on our lives, is this really what we will want to see as our cultural contribution to the universe?

The views expressed in Scene and Heard are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer.

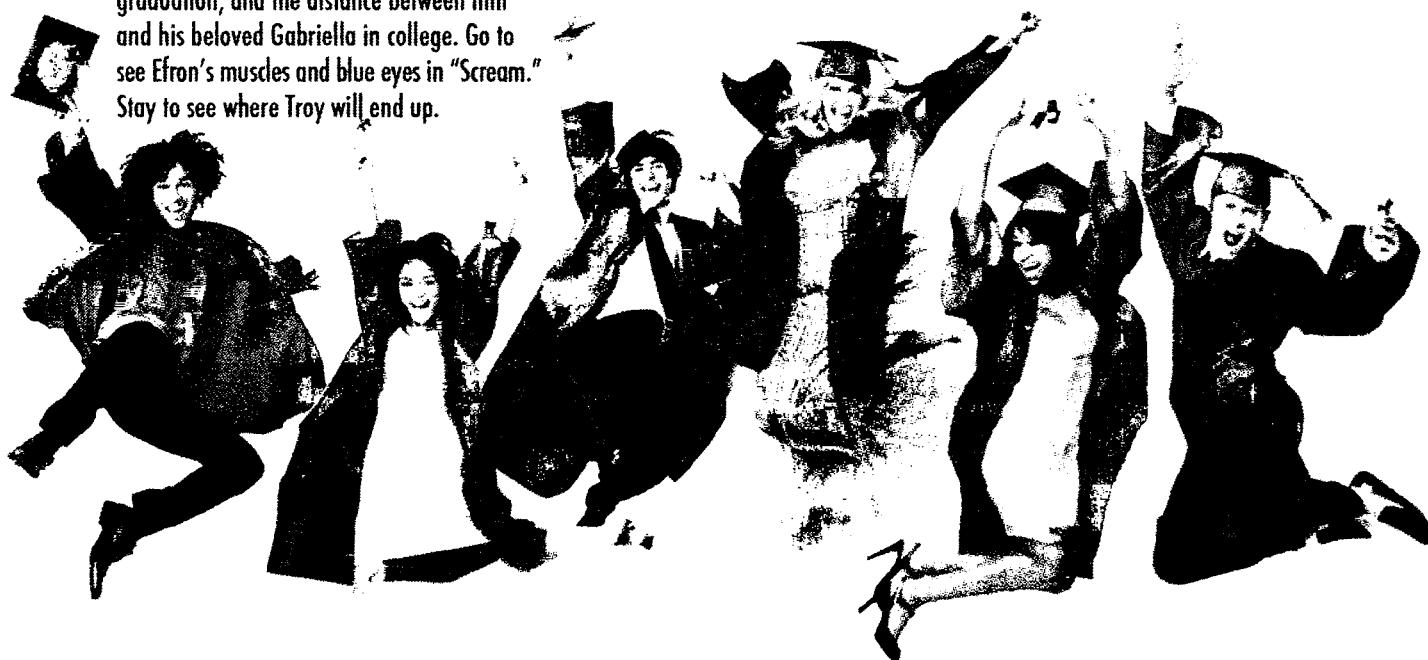
Contact Stephanie DePrez at sdeprez@nd.edu

Chad Danforth (Corbin Bleu) Chad has always been the most resistant to his East High classmates stepping outside of the status quo. Basketball is the only thing on his mind. So can he open his eyes in time and gather the courage to ask his lady to prom? And will he be able to convince his best friend Troy to drop the drama and work on his jump shot? Bleu finally gets his chance in the spotlight as the best dancer in the cast during the junkyard set, bromance-inspired duet with Efron in "The Boys Are Back."

Gabriella Montez (Vanessa Hudgens) She got the whole gang together by shaking things up with her arrival at East High in "High School Musical". But this time around she will struggle with leaving the only place she ever developed roots and friends for her dream school Stanford. It's her idea that they all do the spring musical, but with early orientation will she make the play? And will she still be wearing her "T" for Troy necklace as a college freshman? Note Hudgens' dancing prowess in "Can I Have This Dance" and powerful voice in "Walk Away."

Troy Bolton (Zac Efron) He captured the heart of beautiful brainiac Gabriella while warding off the obvious advances of arrogant Sharpay and paved the way for others at East High to break the mold as the jack-turned-singer. In the latest installment, the captain and leader of the Wildcats must decide his future: play basketball at his Dad's alma mater? Or pursue drama? All while worrying about the state championship, spring musical, prom, graduation, and the distance between him and his beloved Gabriella in college. Go to see Efron's muscles and blue eyes in "Scream." Stay to see where Troy will end up.

Taylor McKessie (Monique Coleman) Taylor is Gabriella's best friend and biggest cheerleader. As the two are yearbook editors together, she encourages Gabriella to jump at the opportunities Stanford is offering. Meanwhile she waits for a proper invitation from a certain curly-headed jock to prom. And what fine college institution will she be headed to in the fall?



Sharpay Evans (Ashley Tisdale) As drama club president and the self-centered diva of East High Sharpay has one goal in mind: to become a superstar. Unfortunately, Gabriella seems to be the one in her way again. Sharpay is on a mission to catch the eye of the Juilliard scouts and will stop at nothing to hog that spotlight. She also provides comic relief and a plethora of hot pink, crazy fashions. Her grandiose flair for the dramatic translates beautifully in her over the top duet with brother Ryan, "I Want It All."

Ryan Evans (Lucas Grabeel) Although still a diva in his own right, over the movies Ryan has transitioned from villain to ally, and stepped out of the shadow of sister Sharpay. He won the grand prize for his choreography in "High School Musical 2" and will be back to choreograph the senior year musical. He too is vying for a spot at Juilliard while dreaming of a successful career after graduation. He shines alongside new friend Kelsi. But will his sister entice him to return to the dark side to steal the show? Grabeel is a fantastic actor, singer, dancer and his solo performance in the reprise of "I Want It All" is absolutely charming.

MLB

MLB puts Series on hold until at least tonight

Associated Press

PHILADELPHIA — Sooner or later, someone will win this World Series.

Just not Tuesday night. Too wet. Besides, the baseball commissioner went home to Milwaukee.

Maybe the Phillies and Rays can play ball Wednesday night. But snow showers are in the forecast.

So just sit tight, folks, we'll get back to you when we can. Right now, bad weather is turning the Fall Classic into a Rainfall Classic.

Players and fans remained in limbo Tuesday, with Game 5 still suspended from the previous night. It was tied at 2 in the sixth inning when a steady downpour turned Citizens Bank Park into a quagmire, washing away the foul lines and turning home plate into a puddle.

The Phillies lead 3-1 in the best-of-seven matchup, meaning Philadelphia could be close to winning a championship the city desperately craves.

Or perhaps not.

"It's kind of like overtime in a sense, I guess," Tampa Bay manager Joe Maddon said. "Or sudden victory."

"It's just the way it is," he said. "There's no crying about it."

OK, no crying here. The manager who listens to Springsteen while filling out his lineup card was real calm — he'd already lost one game at 1:47 a.m., then saw this unexpected break force his Rays to relocate to a hotel 25

miles south in Wilmington, Del.

Too late for complaining, anyway. A Series studded with big boppers such as Ryan Howard and B.J. Upton was no longer whacky — it was downright wacky.

The teams are tentatively set to resume at 8:37 p.m. Wednesday.

Since the Phillies will come to bat in the bottom of the sixth, fans won't have to wait long for the seventh-inning stretch. They might not even have time to get a hot dog.

Hard to tell how many people will tune in even if — for once — a World Series wraps up before kids have to go to bed. The TV ratings for the first four games dipped by 25 percent from last year.

Tickets from Game 5 are good for the resumption, provided everyone can scramble back with their soggy stubs. The Phillies' ballpark holds nearly 46,000 people and surely logistics will prevent some of them from returning.

Then again, a \$160 seat in the upper deck is suddenly more valuable for someone eager to see the Phillies try to win their first championship since 1980, and the city's first major sports title since the NBA's 76ers in 1983.

By Tuesday evening, over 50 tickets were available for resale on StubHub.com, spokeswoman Joellen Ferrer said. The prices ranged from \$599 to \$3,500.

Commissioner Bud Selig, who flew home for a day, was ready to return to Philly for as long as necessary.

"We'll stay here if we have to celebrate Thanksgiving here," he said in announcing the suspension.

If the Phillies win a battle of the bullpens when Game 5 resumes, they'll soon parade up Broad Street. If they lose, time to fly to Tampa Bay.

Delays in the World Series are rare. There has never been a rain-shortened game and this was the first suspension.

There were three straight washouts in 1962 with the Yankees and Giants, and a series of rainouts set up the classic 1975 game between Boston and Cincinnati that Carlton Fisk won with a home run off the foul pole. In 1989, an earthquake interrupted Oakland and San Francisco for a week.

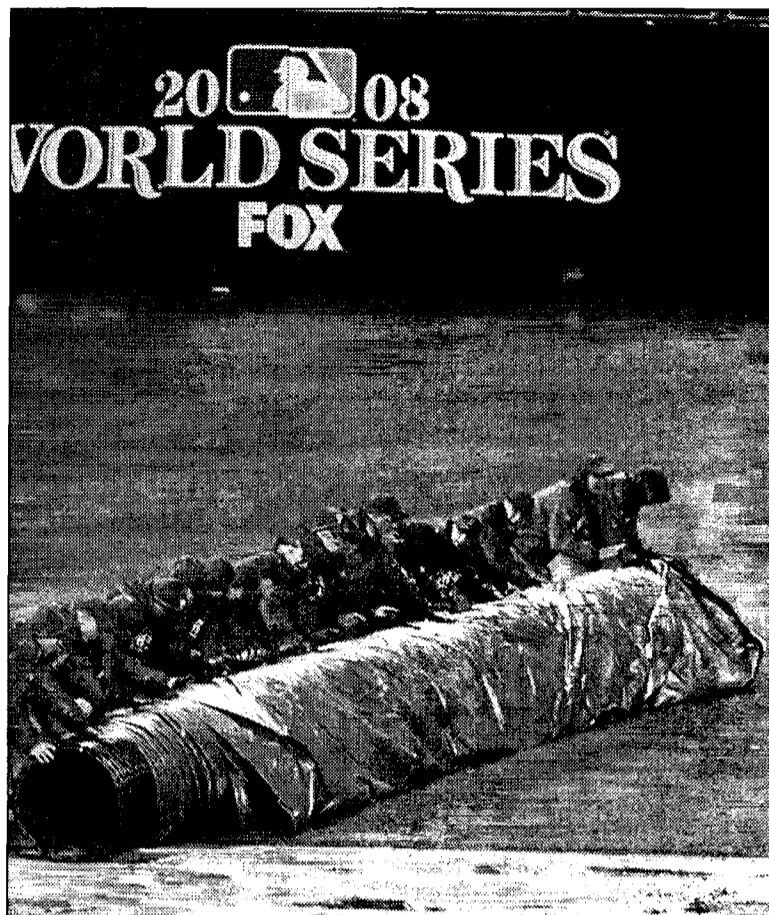
While baseball purists deride Tampa Bay's Tropicana Field as an antiseptic dome that's ringed with crazy catwalks, at least wet weather isn't a factor.

Rain intruded in Game 3 Saturday night, with the first pitch pushed back to 10:06 p.m. — the latest start time in Series history — and the last pitch came shortly before 2 a.m.

Despite a shaky forecast, baseball tried to play Monday night. It was raining lightly at the start. Within a few innings, it was clear the showers weren't going to quit.

"You're not going to win against Mother Nature," Phillies pitcher Cole Hamels said.

Soon, every pitch and pop



Philadelphia groundskeepers roll out the tarp during the sixth inning of Game 5 of the World Series Monday night.

became an adventure as All-Stars were reduced to looking like Little Leaguers. The grounds crew kept putting down Diamond Dust to absorb the moisture, and it kept caking the infield.

With the wind chill dropping into the 30s, several players wore caps with ear flaps attached. Mud flaps would've

been more appropriate.

"I was upset with some of the things that went on," Phillies manager Charlie Manuel said. "But I definitely was agreed with everything that happened, and I also agreed that the game definitely had to be stopped. The conditions were definitely unplayable."

NBA

Police release new details regarding Thomas overdose

Associated Press

WHITE PLAINS, N.Y. — Officers who responded to Isiah Thomas' home after a 911 call reporting an overdose on sleeping pills found a man passed out on the floor and gave him oxygen until an ambulance arrived.

Authorities have not publicly identified Thomas as the victim, but a person familiar with the case, speaking on condition of anonymity because the official police report has not been released, has confirmed it was the former NBA star and Knicks coach.

On Tuesday, Harrison Police Chief David Hall provided new details about last week's emer-

gency in which officers were handed a bottle of prescription pills at Thomas' Westchester County home.

Hall said the bottle had a name on it, but he would not disclose the precise medication. He said police called the overdose accidental because there was no suicide note and no indication the victim suffered from depression.

Thomas has denied being the victim, and Hall again criticized the ex-coach for saying it was his 17-year-old daughter, Lauren, who required treatment.

"As parents, you try to protect your kids; you don't say they did something when it was you who did it," Hall said. "We know the

difference between a 47-year-old man and a teenager."

Thomas' spokesman, Jesse Derris, said, "This continues to be a private family matter and the family respectfully asks for privacy." A call to Knicks spokesman Jonathan Supranowitz was not immediately returned. Thomas, fired as coach last April, still works for the team.

Some of the latest details about the Thomas case were first reported by Newsday.

Hall said the 911 call made late Thursday from Thomas' multimillion-dollar home in the Purchase section of Harrison went first to state police, then to Harrison. Harrison police on patrol nearby got to the scene

first, saw a 47-year-old man on the floor and went into "standard operating procedure," Hall said. They administered oxygen until an ambulance crew arrived and took over, eventually lifting the man onto a gurney and taking him to White Plains Hospital.

He said it was his department's first call to Thomas' house. An emergency services log, with the names of the caller and the patient blacked out, indicates the ambulance arrived at the house minutes before midnight.

Hall said someone at the house gave his officers a prescription bottle, and the officers gave it to the ambulance crew so the hospital doctors would

know about it. They then searched the house for other medications that might have been involved but found none, he said.

As a player, Thomas won NBA titles with the Detroit Pistons in 1989 and 1990 and an NCAA championship with Indiana in 1981. He joined the Knicks as the team president in 2003 and became coach in June 2006 after Larry Brown was fired.

He was fired as the Knicks' coach April 18 after a season of dreadful basketball, a tawdry sexual harassment lawsuit and unending chants from fans demanding his dismissal. Still, he was retained by the organization as an adviser and consultant.

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

Wednesday, October 29, 2008

COMPILED FROM THE OBSERVER'S WIRE SERVICES

page 15

NSCAA/adidas Men's Soccer Rankings

	team	points	record
1	Wake Forest (23)	575	15-0-1
2	Akron	535	13-1-2
3	Creighton	510	10-1-1
4	St. Johns	497	12-1-3
5	Maryland	495	13-3-0
6	Northwestern	455	11-1-2
7	Loyola (Md.)	451	14-0-1
8	California	399	7-2-4
9	Tulsa	383	11-3-1
10	UC Davis	359	12-2-3
11	South Florida	341	10-3-2
12	North Carolina	317	11-3-1
13	Illinois-Chicago	274	10-2-4
14	UC Santa Barbara	265	9-4-2
15	Connecticut	247	8-3-5
16	Saint Louis	223	7-2-5
17	Indiana	184	9-4-2
18	Michigan	183	10-4-2
19	NOTRE DAME	152	9-5-2
20	UC Irvine	133	8-1-6
21	Louisville	95	9-5-2
22	Dayton	76	11-2-2
23	Pennsylvania	65	9-2-3
24	Drake	50	11-3-0
25	Michigan State	44	9-5-1

NSCAA/adidas Women's Soccer Rankings

	team	points	record
1	NOTRE DAME (34)	850	18-0-0
2	North Carolina	799	15-1-1
3	Portland	764	15-1-0
4	UCLA	763	14-0-2
5	Stanford	733	16-0-1
6	Florida State	677	13-2-1
7	Florida	639	15-2-1
8	Virginia	607	12-3-1
9	Oklahoma State	525	15-1-2
10	USC	505	12-3-1
11	Duke	464	12-3-2
12	Texas	461	12-2-3
13	Boston College	457	11-4-2
14	Texas A&M	449	14-3-1
15	Colorado	367	13-3-3
16	San Diego	364	13-3-2
17	West Virginia	301	12-2-5
18	Wisconsin-Mil.	244	15-2-2
19	Wake Forest	243	10-6-0
20	Missouri	162	12-5-0
21	Penn State	153	13-6-0
22	Washington State	130	8-5-4
23	Georgetown	101	13-3-2
24	Rutgers	66	12-5-1
25	Minnesota	59.5	17-2-0

MIAA Women's Volleyball Standings

	Team	Record
		league overall
1	Hope	13-1 22-5
2	Calvin	11-2 20-4
3	Alma	11-3 19-7
4	SAINT MARY'S	9-6 18-9
5	Adrian	7-8 11-13
6	Albion	4-10 11-14
7	Kalamazoo	4-10 7-18
8	Trine	3-11 8-18
9	Olivet	2-13 6-20

around the dial

MLB

Rays at Phillies
8:00 p.m., Fox

NFL



San Diego Chargers defensive coordinator Ted Cottrell looks on during a divisional playoff game against the Indianapolis Colts. Cottrell was fired by the San Diego Chargers Tuesday, and replaced with inside linebackers coach Ron Rivera.

Chargers fire defensive coordinator

Associated Press

SAN DIEGO, Calif. — Norv Turner, of all people, came up with the San Diego Chargers' hardest hit in weeks when he fired defensive coordinator Ted Cottrell on Tuesday.

Cottrell was sacked by the head coach in large part because his defense couldn't get to opposing quarterbacks, the most glaring shortcoming for a unit that has had little spark since losing star outside linebacker Shawne Merriman to season-ending knee surgery after the first game.

Cottrell was replaced by inside linebackers coach Ron Rivera, a Super Bowl winner with the Chicago Bears in 1985. Rivera will have the bye week to figure out why the Chargers (3-5) have

underperformed.

"Probably the things that we have needed to improve in are the same things that affected us in Week Two and so on," Turner said. "The same things have been an issue throughout the first eight games, at different times."

Any kind of week-to-week improvement "hasn't been there," Turner said. "We've been inconsistent and we've had the same things happen to us over and over in terms of teams throwing for a lot of yardage early in games, making big plays in the passing game and keeping the football."

Cottrell didn't return a call seeking comment. This is the third time he's been fired as a defensive coordinator. He was let go by the New York Jets after the 2003 season and by the Minnesota Vikings after

Brad Childress took over as head coach following the 2005 season.

The Chargers have no sacks or interceptions in the last nine quarters. They are at or near the bottom of the league in several statistical categories, including 32nd in passing yards per game (265.1) and 23rd in points allowed per game (24.9).

Cottrell had become a popular target of fan ire as the Chargers lost three of their last four games, including a 37-32 loss to former teammate Drew Brees and the New Orleans Saints in London on Sunday.

That game was indicative of the Chargers' defensive shortcomings, with no pressure on the quarterback and a lot of passing yards. Brees threw for 341 yards and three touchdowns.

Cottrell was a personal favorite of general manager A.J. Smith going back to their days with the Buffalo Bills. Smith didn't return several calls seeking comment.

With the bye week coming up, Turner said he decided after Sunday's game that Cottrell had to go.

"Ultimately we had a lot of discussion after the game. Ultimately I've got to make a decision based on what's best on our football team and where we need to go and that was the decision I made," said Turner, who is 72-92-1 as an NFL head coach.

"We know what we have to do," the coach said. "We have to create more pressure on the quarterback, and obviously when we create pressure, not give up big plays."

IN BRIEF

Angels exercise team options on Guerrero, Lackey

ANAHEIM, Calif. — The Los Angeles Angels will exercise their 2009 options on outfielder Vladimir Guerrero and pitcher John Lackey, but will decline their option on outfielder Garret Anderson.

The 32-year-old Guerrero, an eight-time All-Star who batted .303 with 27 homers and 91 RBIs this season, will earn \$15 million next year. He had a \$3 million buyout. Guerrero has hit at least .300 with 25 or more home runs in 11 straight seasons, joining Lou Gehrig as the only two players in major league history to accomplish that feat.

In six seasons with the Montreal Expos and five with the Angels, Guerrero is hitting .323 with 2,136 hits, 392 homers and 1,268 RBIs in 1,750 games. He had surgery on the medial meniscus in his left knee Oct. 10 but is expected to be ready for spring training.

Lackey was 12-5 with a 3.75 ERA this season. Originally selected in the second round of the 1999 free agent draft, the 30-year-old has a 91-63 career record with a 3.81 ERA. He will earn \$9 million in 2009. The Angels could have bought out his contract for \$500,000.

Holmes to return to Steelers' lineup after arrest

PITTSBURGH, Penn. — The Pittsburgh Steelers won't further punish wide receiver Santonio Holmes for being charged last week with a marijuana-related offense and plan to start him Monday night in Washington.

Holmes, who led the NFL in yards-per-catch last season, was benched for the Steelers' 21-14 loss Sunday to the New York Giants and was not in uniform. He was allowed to return to the team after speaking to his teammates and issuing a public apology on Monday.

The NFL could punish Holmes once his case is resolved, but coach Mike Tomlin said there will be no additional action taken by the team. Tomlin did not say if Holmes was fined, although he likely was.

Holmes, a third-year player out of Ohio State, was charged with a misdemeanor count of possession of a small amount of marijuana following a police stop Thursday. Holmes has a preliminary hearing before a Pittsburgh district judge on Nov. 24.

"As a football team and an organization, in terms of our view of the situation, we've laid it to bed," Tomlin said Tuesday.

North Texas reports fifteen players failed drug tests

DENTON, Texas — Fifteen North Texas football players failed drug tests conducted this fall at the request of coach Todd Dodge.

Eighty-six players were tested from Sept. 24-Oct. 15. They were chosen by the coaching staff and were considered regular contributors to the team. The results of the testing were first reported by the Denton Record-Chronicle.

The school normally tests athletes at random, and the NCAA tested 20 players separately late last month. North Texas hasn't received results of the NCAA tests.

Dodge said at his weekly news conference that he couldn't specify the types of drugs, but later referred to them generally as "street drugs."

"All I did was what any Division I coach has the right to do," Dodge said. "When you've been around the business long enough, you look at consistency, you put two and two together and you come up with some ideas. It was time to send a message to say, 'No.'"

SMC VOLLEYBALL

Belles end regular season vs. Trine

By ERIC PRISTER
Sports Writer

Saint Mary's College looks to cap off its season with a victory over conference opponent Trine tonight. The Belles have already clinched a fourth-place finish in the MIAA conference, but will look to improve on their 18-9 overall record and their 9-6 conference mark. Trine is currently in 8th place in the MIAA, but can possibly finish as high as 6th.

This is the second meeting between the Belles and the Thunder this season, with the Belles taking the first match in four games. Senior captain Kaela Hellmann led Saint Mary's in the first match, accumulating a team-best twenty kills and a match-high fourteen digs.

On the season, junior captain Lorna Slupczynski paces the Belles with 328 kills on the season. Freshman setter Danielle Brink has recorded a team-high 693 assists for the year.

The Thunder are led by senior outside hitter Sallie Richardson, who has notched 443 kills on the season and is averaging 4.82 per game.

This is the Belles' last game before the MIAA conference tournament, which begins November 4. The tournament, along with the regular season results, will decide which team receives the MIAA's automatic bid for the NCAA Tournament.

The game will be played tonight at 7 p.m. at Trine in Angola, Ind.

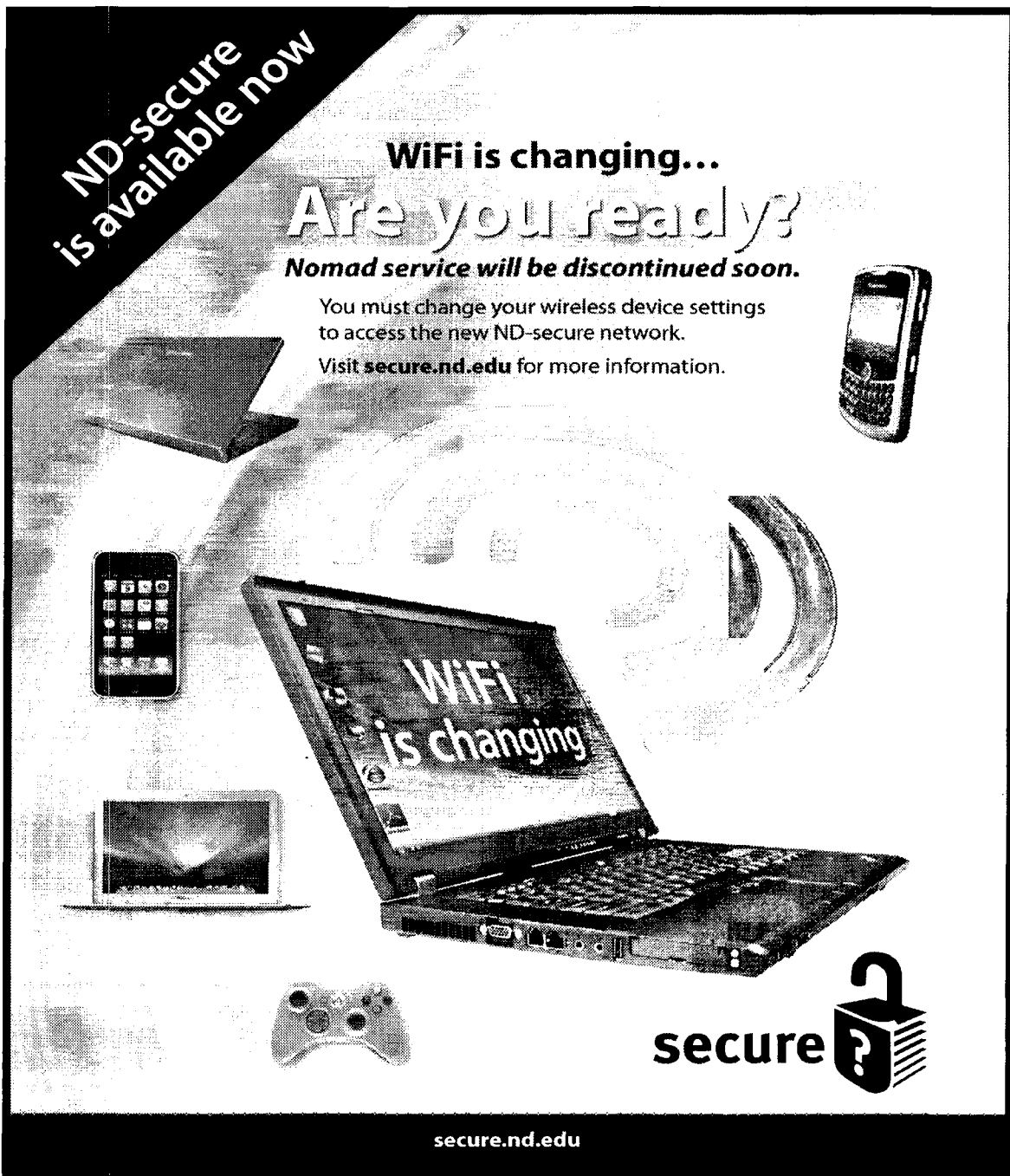
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NCAA

Glass takes over AD reins at IU after scandal

Associated Press

BLOOMINGTON, Ind. — Fred Glass has been called The Closer. Now he gets to be The Cleaner.

Glass, who orchestrated bringing the Super Bowl to Indianapolis, took on a greater challenge Tuesday by accepting the athletic director's job at Indiana amid an NCAA phone-call scandal and allegations the school failed to properly monitor the men's basketball team.

School officials are awaiting a ruling from the infractions committee.

"We're almost over the long, national nightmare, I hope, because our place is one that has always followed the rules," said Glass. "I think we can have that again."

It's been a tough time for Indiana athletics.

The football team just ended a four-game losing streak. The men's basketball program has the pending NCAA decision and is bracing for its worst season in decades under new coach Tom Crean.

To Glass, however, it's a dream job.

The lifelong Hoosiers fan spent Tuesday's news conference proudly recounting stories about pretending in grade school to be Jade Butcher, a member of Indiana's 1967 Rose Bowl team, and the vivid memory of skipping school to meet the

Hoosiers' 1976 national championship basketball team.

With the Hoosiers in desperate need of a fresh start, they turned to a man with long ties and a strong investment in the university. The 49-year-old earned both of his college degrees from Indiana and has served on an arts and sciences advisory board. His wife, Barbara, and daughter, Katie, are both Indiana grads, too.

Perhaps the most significant advantage Glass had over two other finalists was his statewide credibility for doing things the right way.

"What they really needed was somebody who could sort of restore trust and confidence and reconnect the program to its roots," said Notre Dame athletic director Jack Swarbrick, a former colleague of Glass at Baker and Daniels, an Indianapolis law firm.

The Hoosiers took a different tack in making Glass the fifth athletic director this decade.

He has no experience in athletic department administration, but does have a long track record of bringing major sporting events to Indianapolis, developing budgets and fundraising.

He brings significant sports and political experience to Bloomington. Glass led Indy's unsuccessful bid for the 2011 Super Bowl and served as chief of staff to then-Gov. Evan Bayh in the early 1990s. From 2000 to

2007 he was president of the Capital Improvement Board, which owns and operates Lucas Oil Stadium and Consco Fieldhouse in Indianapolis, and he helped negotiate long-term deals to keep the Colts and the NCAA's Final Four in Indy.

Former Indianapolis Mayor Bart Peterson, who attended the news conference and credited Glass with creating the formula that persuaded NFL owners to give Indianapolis the 2012 Super Bowl, believes Glass' personality and judgment will mitigate any perceived shortcomings.

"His judgment is remarkable. He has the ability to look at complex situations and figure out the right thing to do," said Peterson, a longtime friend.

Glass replaces Rick Greenspan, who announced in late June that he would resign at the end of the year.

The open-ended deal with Indiana calls for a salary of \$410,000 a year, IU spokesman Larry MacIntyre said. Greenspan was paid \$275,000.

"In our discussions, I was greatly impressed that Fred not only understood the challenges before our intercollegiate athletics program but also the importance of IU athletics being an integral part of the life of the entire university," McRobbie said.

Glass' first task will be wiping away the stain of scandal.

The Hoosiers' reputation took



Indiana University president Michael McRobbie introduces IU's new athletic director Fred Glass at a press conference Tuesday

a major hit when former coach Kelvin Sampson and his staff were accused of making more than 100 impermissible phone calls while Sampson was still under NCAA sanctions for a similar scandal at Oklahoma.

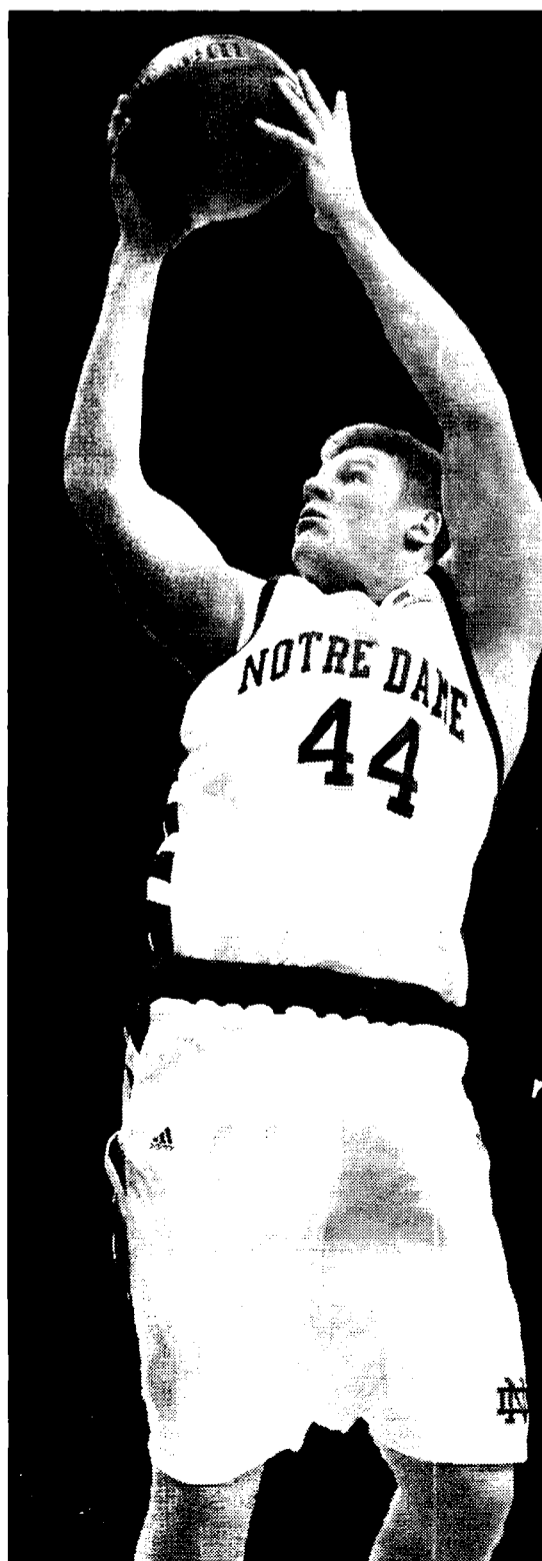
In February, the NCAA accused the school of five major violations before later reducing one to a secondary charge.

On the day Greenspan announced his resignation, the school was hit with another major allegation: Failure to monitor.

"I think it's almost immeasurable, not only for basketball but it's almost worse for the univer-

sity," Glass said. "Basketball may be the easiest fix because we've got a dynamic coach. But people around the country don't like wearing IU stuff and having people coming up and making comments because of what's happened."

Greenspan orchestrated a major housecleaning. He imposed penalties that included the loss of a scholarship for this season and a one-year extension of the NCAA's recruiting sanctions, got rid of Sampson and all of his assistants and restructured the compliance department. Only two players are back from last season's team.



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NCAA BASKETBALL

Doctor reveals stroke forced Olson to retire

Associated Press

TUCSON, Ariz. — Lute Olson's doctor said Tuesday that the former Arizona basketball coach had a stroke within the last year and he advised him to retire.

The comments by Dr. Steven Knope at a news conference called by Olson's family offer the first explanation for Olson's sudden retirement last week, two days after he appeared at the Wildcats' media day. Olson said at the time he was energized and looking forward to his 25th season with Arizona.

Knope said an MRI confirmed the stroke in the frontal part of Olson's brain, which left the Hall of Famer with severe depression and impaired judgment.

"This is a rather cruel twist of fate," Knope said at a McKale Center news conference attended by two of Olson's daughters, Jodi Brase and Christi Snyder.

"He is quite literally devastated," Knope said. "He was doing great over the summer and very much wanted to fulfill his obligation to the community and the university."

Knope said Olson is resting at home and is on a blood thinner, and he's optimistic Olson will recover.

The announcement ended almost a year of speculation about Olson's health. Rumors began to circulate when he took a leave of absence last season for what he later termed a "medical condition that was not life-threatening."

Over the last few weeks, Knope said he had talked to Olson about retiring because Olson was struggling to handle his workload as preseason practice opened.

"He just couldn't put the pieces together," Knope said. "He couldn't do what he needed to do for the team."

Knope said he ordered the MRI on Monday after Olson did not respond to recent treatment for depression.

"Unlike a typical stroke that you may imagine where someone is unable to walk or talk or move a limb, this stroke occurred in a part of the brain where much of his intellectual function and his motor function was perfectly normal," Knope said. "So it wasn't quite apparent. The tipoff and the clue came in the last several weeks, when we began to treat what appeared to be a bout of depression that simply didn't respond."

Knope said he had treated Olson for depression in the last year, during which Olson went through a contentious divorce from his second wife, Christine.

In April, Olson appeared ready to return to the grind of major college coaching. Olson told his doctor, "I love the game, I can't wait to get back," Knope said.

But something had changed. Knope said the coach had responded earlier to antidepressants but in the more recent bout he did not and also exhibited out-of-character behavior.

One public example came when a combative Olson sparred with reporters during the April news conference to

announce his return. He typically had cool but cordial relations with the media.

"I think we can attribute that behavior to the stroke," Knope said.

At media day last week, Olson expressed contrition about his behavior that day. "I've wished I had that hour back many times," he said.

Olson's hands have trembled in recent years, prompting rumors that he has Parkinson's disease. Knope said Olson suffers from a benign condition called familial tremor but does not have Parkinson's.

"There is no dementia going on in coach Olson," Knope

said. "He had a mental status exam two days ago, and he scored almost perfectly."

Knope said Olson is still accepting that his health forced him to retire. Knope

said the coach is "beating himself up" for leaving the team shortly before the season.

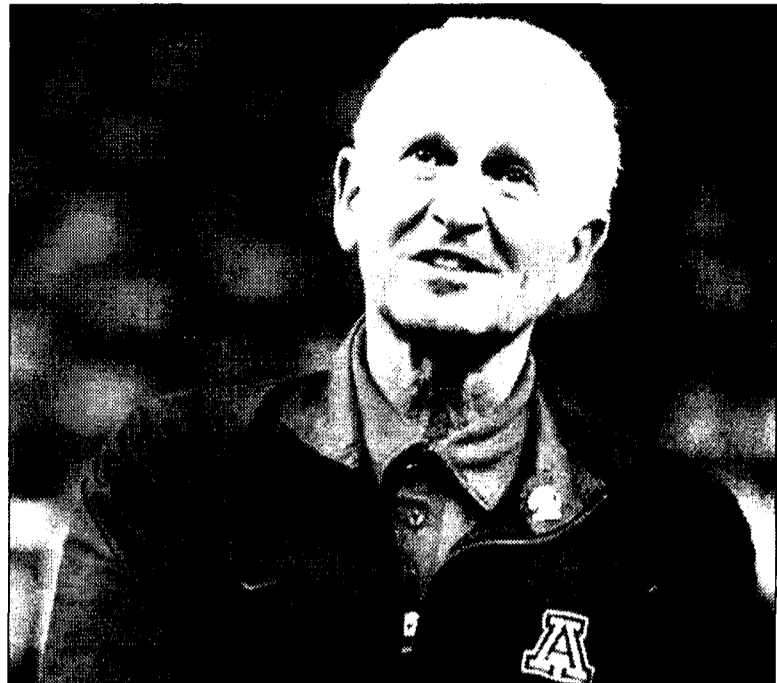
"I can't tell you how much Lute wishes he were here today," Knope said.

Olson's interim replacement, Russ Pennell, expressed his support.

"Today's news, as odd as this may sound, is comforting only in that he now knows what he's up against as he works to return to good health," Pennell said.

"There is no dementia going on in coach Olson."

Dr. Steven Knope
Lute Olson's doctor



Former Arizona coach Lute Olson watches his team practice before a 2007 game. Olson retired Thursday after 24 years with the Wildcats.



Dean of the College of Science
Gregory Crawford

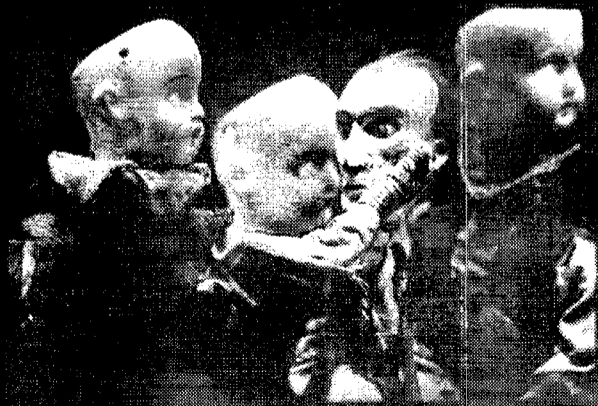
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NBA

Pierce leads Celtics over Cavs in season opener

Associated Press

BOSTON — The championship banner rose to the rafters. The tears trickled down Paul Pierce's cheeks.

The MVP of last year's NBA Finals finally was part of a ceremony that often seemed unreachable throughout his 10 seasons, all with the Boston Celtics.

But on Tuesday night, before their season opener against the Cleveland Cavaliers, the Celtics' 17th title banner and first since 1986 was hoisted high above the same court where Boston routed the Los Angeles Lakers 131-92 barely four months ago in the clinching game.

John Havlicek, an eight-time champion with Boston, carried the golden Larry O'Brien trophy onto the court accompanied by other former Celtics and handed it to Pierce. They hugged and Pierce cried.

"As a kid, I always dreamed of moments like this," Pierce told the crowd before the first quarter. "You never know if this day is ever going to come. I've had a dream come true to add another banner to the rafters."

The team's owners handed out championship rings to players before the green-and-white banner was raised with several players pulling on two ropes that lifted it to the ceiling. Some former Celtics were presented with rings between the first two quarters.

"One team, once a year gets to have a ring celebration," coach Doc Rivers said before the ceremony, "and we're that team because we earned it."

The Celtics beat Atlanta and

Cleveland in tough seven-game series, then eliminated Detroit in six before facing the Lakers, the team they beat for their 15th title in 1984 but lost to in the 1985 and '87 finals.

In Game 7 against the Cavaliers, in Boston, James outscored Pierce 45-41 but the Celtics won 97-92.

"I let it go quickly," James said in the Cleveland locker room an hour before the ceremony. "I had to refocus myself to get ready for the Olympics. It was a great game between me and Paul and it was a great game between the Cavs and the Celtics."

James and his teammates were on the court for the national anthem but left before the ceremony.

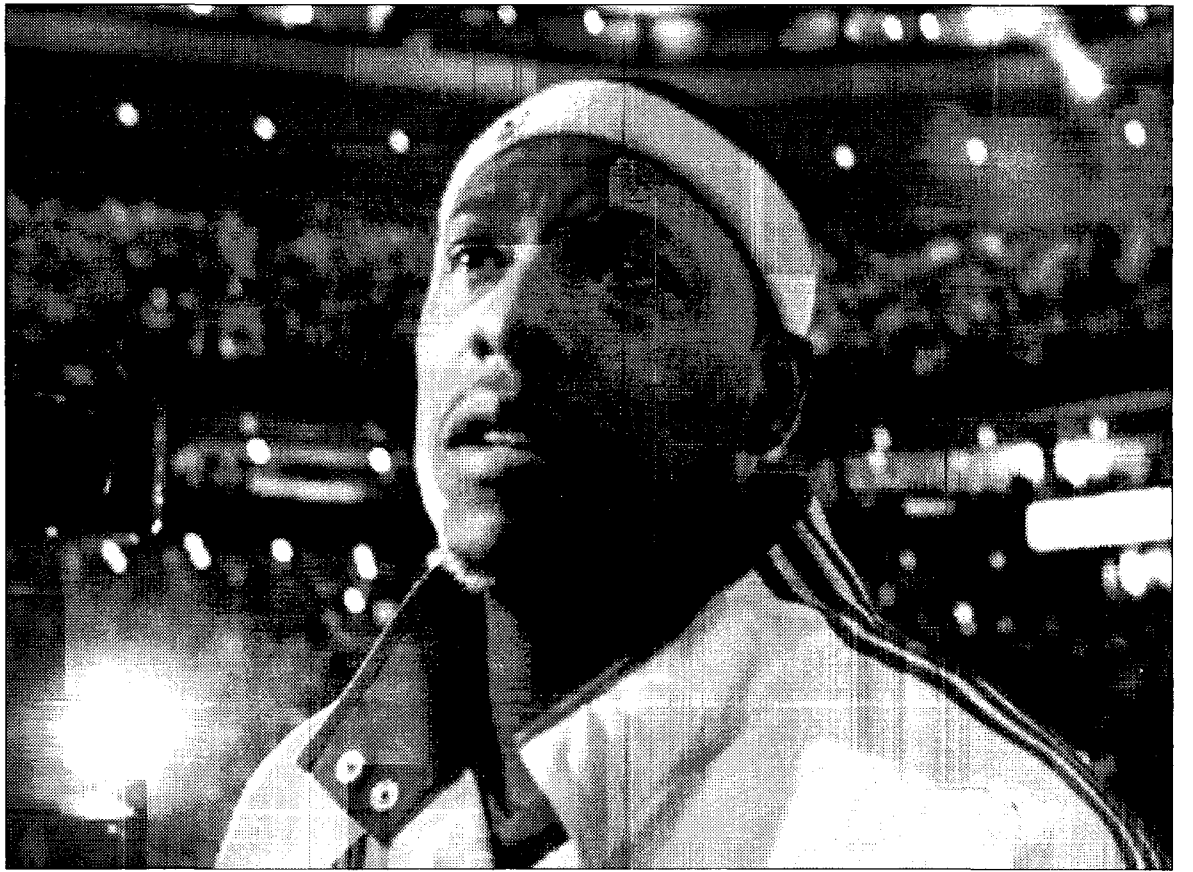
"They were invited," Rivers said with a laugh. "I wouldn't want to be out there either. ... First of all, it's long. And, secondly, they're giving us something they want."

It was a bright night for Boston — fans' cameras flashing for nearly the entire 15-minute ceremony and gleaming rings made of 14-karat white gold with a total of 92 diamonds and emeralds. The top of the ring features an emerald shamrock surrounded by 64 pave set diamonds.

NBA commissioner David Stern had looked forward to participating in the ceremony.

"In this game, you have the players say that you're playing for the ring," he said before it began, "and, there you are, being a part of fulfilling the goal of every player."

Then, he added, "it's one of the few times you don't get booed



Celtics guard Paul Pierce cries during the banner ceremony for defending champion Boston before its 90-85 win over Cleveland during the season opener for both teams Tuesday night.

when you're the commissioner."

Turns out, he was the only person booed at the ceremony. Then he opened it by saying, "Here we are, No. 17."

And when he was done, the crowd chanted, "Let's Go Celtics."

A brief video of Celtics patriarch Red Auerbach, who died at the age of 89 in October 2006, got loud cheers when it was played on the scoreboard at the beginning. He guided the Celtics

to their first 16 titles as coach or general manager.

When Rivers came out to get his ring — with Auerbach's signature engraved on the inside — he put his left palm atop the trophy.

The biggest cheers went to Pierce, who had won just three postseason series in his first nine years and was part of the team that managed only 24 wins the season before their championship.

Celtics owner and CEO Wyc Grousbeck handed Pierce his ring after all the other players had gotten theirs. Pierce, seeming to fight back tears, held it up in his right hand as the fans roared and chanted, "MVP, MVP." Then he and his teammates raised the banner.

On one side of the new one was the 1986 championship banner. On the other side was a banner bearing the retired numbers of eight Celtics.

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SMC SOCCER

Belles prepare for last regular season game

By ALEX BARKER
Sports Writer

Opposing environments have proven unfriendly to the Belles so far as they have not recorded a road victory in seven tries this season. Today, Saint Mary's travels to take on Albion, where the team hopes it can shake its road woes and conclude a tough regular season schedule on a winning note.

The Belles find themselves in a slump, having lost eight of their last nine matches.

Last week, Saint Mary's dropped two very closely-contested matches against Alma and Kalamazoo by one-goal margins.

Despite their disappointing record this season, the Belles have not been completely over-matched. Eight of their 11 losses have come by one-goal margins, including all but one conference loss.

Saint Mary's has shown its ability to put the ball in the goal as it has found the net in all but

three games this season, including a four-goal effort in its conference victory over Trine.

The Belles' leading scorer on the season is senior forward Lauren Hinton, who has found the back of the net five times and has also served up two assists.

Saint Mary's has also received a huge offensive contribution this season from the freshman class, which is led by forward Katelyn Tondo-Steele. Tondo-Steele has two goals and an assist. In all, freshmen have accounted for six goals and five assists, nearly half of the Belles' offensive production.

Saint Mary's junior Patty Duffy has stepped up in goal, having recorded 72 saves and giving up less than two goals per match.

Saint Mary's will begin post-season play when the MIAA conference tournament kicks off Nov. 1.

Contact Alex Barker at
abarker@nd.edu

Write Sports for The Observer.
E-mail Dan at dmurphy6@nd.edu

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Nicholas

continued from page 24

"It's really just repetition and repetition," Nicholas said. "And getting in scrimmage situations and things like that to help us understand positions."

That relationship was on full display Oct. 12 in a match against Pittsburgh. Despite Notre Dame's loss to the Panthers, Nicholas notched a career-high 54 assists, and Kaelin capitalized with 21 kills.

In her role as setter, it is Nicholas' job to run the offense on the court during the course of a match. She said her biggest responsibilities are calling the plays and deciding what type of set is best for a given situation.

Nicholas credited part of her success to the fact that she had the opportunity to play with former Irish setter Ashley Tarutis for two years before taking over the starting role this season.

"[Tarutis] helped me learn the offense and taught me how things were run on the court," Nicholas said. "I just went off and mimicked what I could from her."

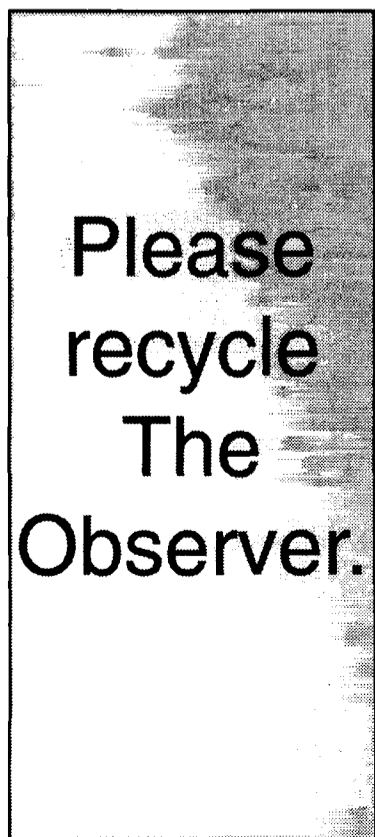
Nicholas and the Irish (11-11, 6-3 Big East) currently sit in third place in the Big East, tied with Pittsburgh and trailing Cincinnati and St. John's. Nicholas said that, while she had hoped for a better start, she's confident Notre Dame will make a run in its remaining matches.

"I think we have done OK up to this point," she said. "We've won some big games, but we've also let down matches that we should win. If we just keep working everyday at the gym, we'll be happy with the result."

The Irish have already lost their matches against Pittsburgh and Cincinnati, but have a matchup with conference-leading St. John's on Nov. 14 at the JACC. Nicholas, though, said she isn't worried about the teams on Notre Dame's schedule.

"The only things we can control are on our side of the net," she said. "So we just need to come out the second half of the Big East [schedule] and get the job done."

Contact Sam Werner at swerner@nd.edu



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The
Observer.

Scodro

continued from page 24

five bogeys in eight holes. He responded with a birdie and nine pars to salvage the round and finish strong.

Kubinski said Allan-Lee's round was a good indication of the benefit experience provides to his young team.

"We have a number of guys really coming a long way in terms of learning to make

shots," Kubinski said. "Alan-Lee's round was a perfect example learning to right the ship and starting to make some better finishes after getting a lot of experience."

Junior Doug Fortner shot an ugly 10-over par 82 in his opening round before firing a 72 and a 73 in his final two rounds to finish in 46th place. Senior co-captain Olavo Batista's final-round 81 dropped him into 54th overall after shooting a 76 and a 74 to start the tournament.

Freshman Chris Walker rounded out the Irish effort with a 20-over 236 in his second collegiate tournament.

The tournament — which was played at the par 72, 7,197-yard Forest Oaks Country Club in Greensboro, N.C. — marked the last competition Notre Dame will see until March. Despite inconsistent results and a last-place finish at the Fighting Irish Gridiron Invitational, the Irish have a young crop of talented and increasingly experienced

golfers heading into the spring season.

"Coming into the fall, we didn't know what to expect with [senior] Josh [Sandman] being out," Kubinski said. "We hoped to play a little better than we did, but we're very encouraged. A lot of guys are really learning, and we're expecting to bounce back in the spring and make a run at the Big East Championship."

Contact Michael Blasco at mblasco@nd.edu

Hoyas

continued from page 24

him for 10 years — from 1996-2000 at Stanford and from 2001-05 at Notre Dame. That explains the major similarities between the two teams in terms of scheme and formations, Clark said.

"If you ask anyone, they'll always say they're very similar to us," he said. "At the end of the day, personnel dictate how things go, but I think you'll find that there will be a lot of similarities."

With home-field advantage and a chance to guarantee themselves a share of the Blue Division crown, the Irish are poised to erase concerns about last week's stumble.

"Everybody knows what the stakes are," Clark said. "If you're in the last week of the season and you're playing for something very meaningful, you know it's been a good season."

"We're in that situation, playing for the trophy, and you can't ask for more than that. Well, you can — you can ask to play very well — and that's our goal starting against Georgetown."

Contact Matt Gamber at mgamber@nd.edu

Backs

continued from page 24

Last week against Washington, Aldridge was Notre Dame's leading rusher — the first time this season he was tops for the Irish — with 84 yards on only 13 carries, two of which went for touchdowns.

"When somebody all of a sudden gets something going, you're not looking to take them out just to take them out. So that's where he is right now," he said.

The fourth quarter of Saturday's game against Washington also showcased Notre Dame freshman running back Jonas Gray, who had yet to see playing time earlier this season because of the team's depth.

Gray carried nine times for 61 yards (6.8 yards per carry) in mop-up duty against the Huskies.

Gray is especially important this week for Notre

D a m e because of his speed and quickness, both of which mirror Pittsburgh tailback L e S e a n McCoy. Weis said Gray will represent McCoy this week for the Notre Dame scout team.

"[Gray will] be wearing a big old 25. So just you might as well look at him this week and call him McCoy instead of calling him Gray because that's who he will be this week in this practice," Weis said.

Notes:

♦ Senior wide receiver David Grimes told Weis earlier this week that he feels fully healed after back spasms kept him out of the Washington game.

"He intends to go this week, and we'll see how

those spasms are acting when he's out there in practice, because I really don't know the answer until after I see him running around out there," Weis said of his offensive captain.

♦ Linebacker

Brian Smith

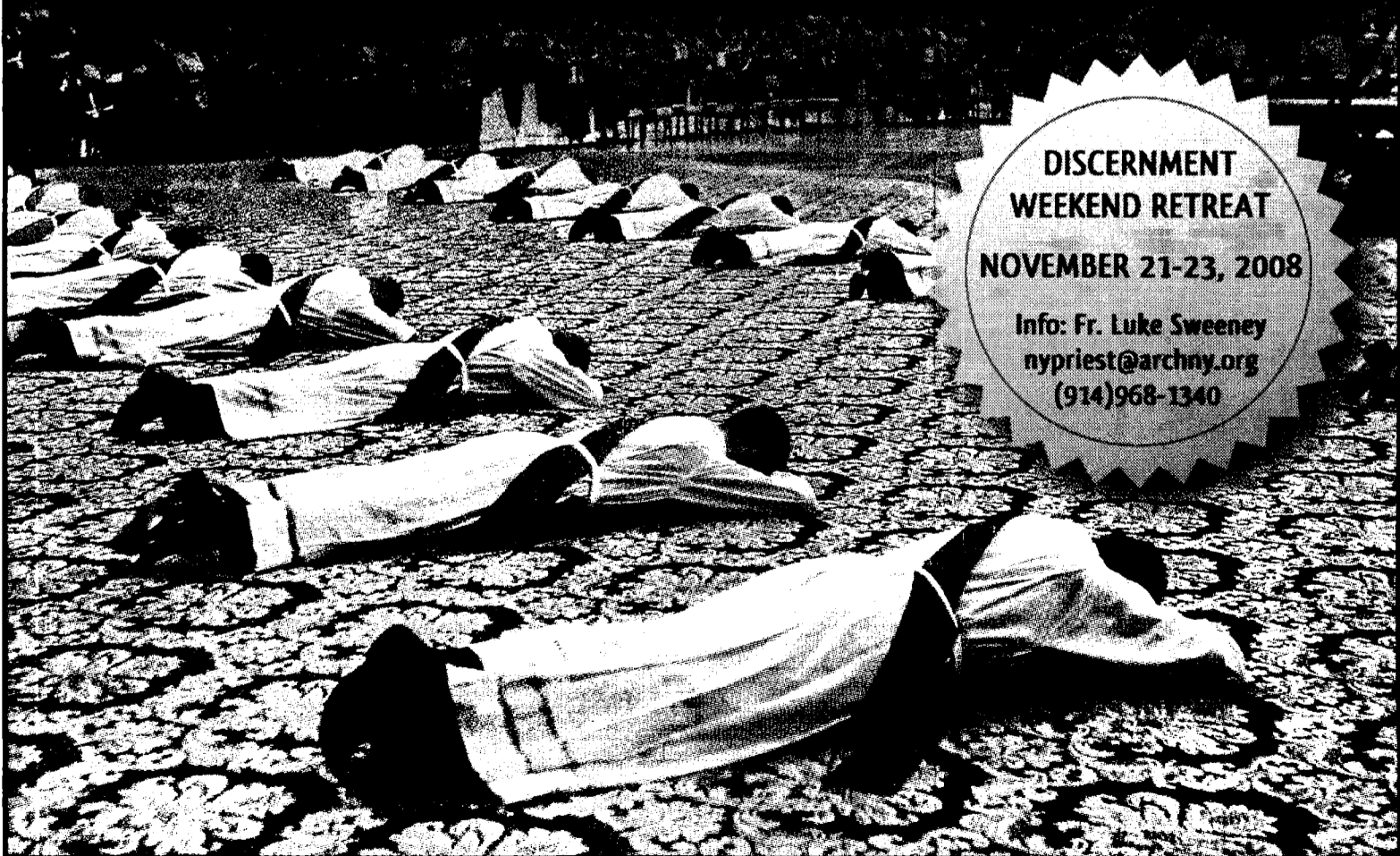
had a cognitive test after suffering a mild concussion against the Huskies. He will not be held out of any practices this week, but will have limited contact early in the week.

♦ Weis said he foresees linebacker Harrison Smith as David Bruton's heir apparent at starting free safety, and told the sophomore what he needs to do to win the job next season.

"I told him, 'You're going to have to lose a little weight and get a haircut.' I told him those are the two things that will probably have to go together for him," Weis said.

Contact Jay Fitzpatrick at jfitzpa5@nd.edu

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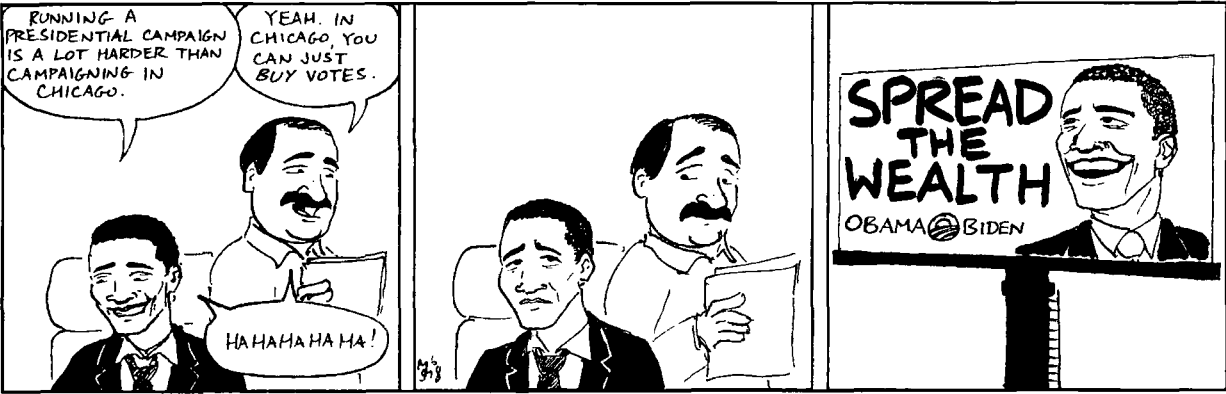
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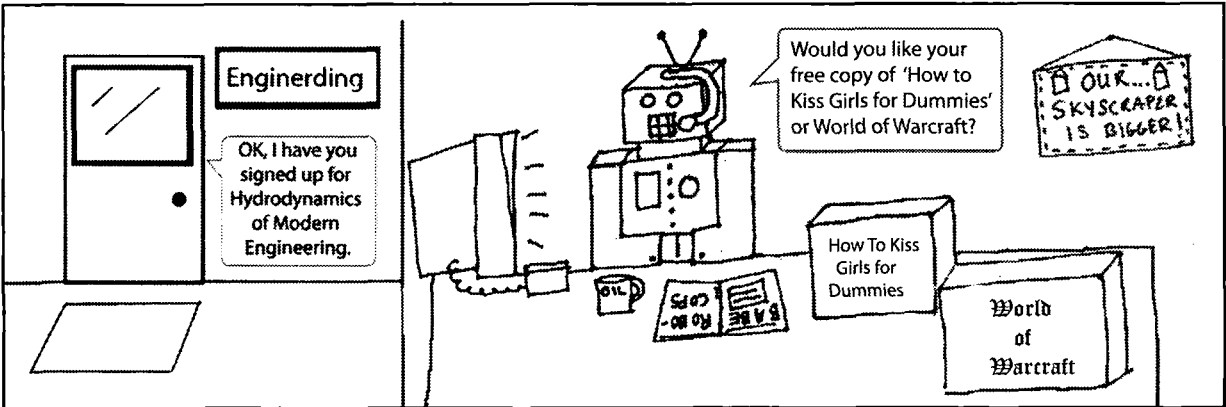
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THE DOME PIECE

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MIKE ARGIRION

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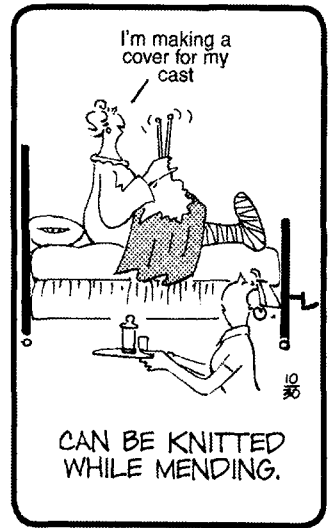
Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

RONED
ENMOY
BRAMKE
TECJOB

Ans: A

Yesterday's Jumbles: DERBY LIVEN UPROAR BEMOAN
Answer: What the pro wrestler got when he won the match — "PIN" MONEY

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME
by Henri Arnold and Mike Argirion

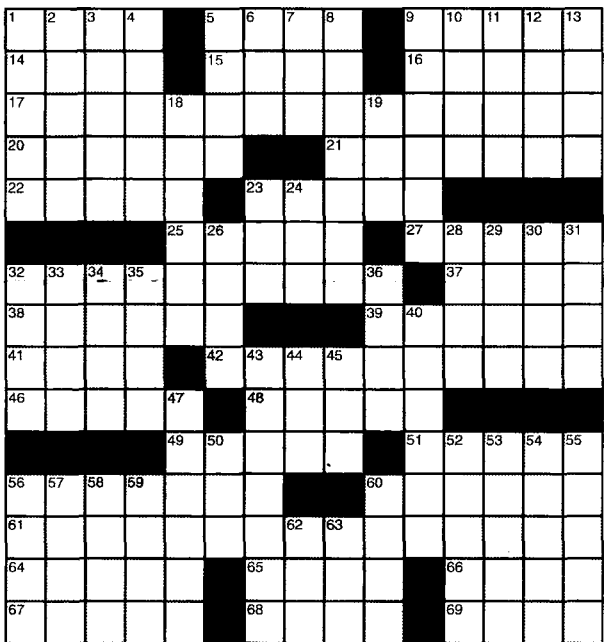


Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

CROSSWORD

WILL SHORTZ

- Across**
- 1 Inane
 - 5 ___ scan (biometric authentication method)
 - 9 Districted
 - 14 Cynic's comment
 - 15 Payload delivery org.
 - 16 Beam
 - 17 Helpful person's line
 - 20 Spiral in space
 - 21 Most comfy
 - 22 Jazz dance
 - 23 Vice squad arrestees, perhaps
 - 25 Perturbation
 - 27 Autumn bloomer
 - 32 With 42-Across, helpful person's line
 - 37 Mesa tribe
- Down**
- 38 Philosophy of bare existence?
 - 39 Log-in info
 - 41 Writer Waugh
 - 42 See 32-Across
 - 46 Like good pianos and engines
 - 48 Levitated
 - 49 Versatile fabric
 - 51 Lives on
 - 56 Spode
 - 60 Coterie
 - 61 Helpful person's line
 - 64 Popular place for 18-Down
 - 65 Tied up
 - 66 Reel in
 - 67 With cunning
 - 68 St. Andrew's Day observer
 - 69 Virtual mart



Puzzle by Chuck Deodene

- 35 Cubes at Harrah's
- 36 Bother
- 40 ___ Artois beer
- 43 Agrees
- 44 Sellout letters
- 45 Lithium-_____ battery
- 47 Stylish
- 50 Dough producer, briefly
- 52 Airplane seating request
- 53 Fowl entree
- 54 ___ deaf ear to
- 55 Not yet gentrified
- 56 Much of a waitress's income
- 57 And others, for short
- 58 Cockeyed
- 59 Clipper's sheet
- 60 ¢
- 62 Piping compound, briefly
- 63 Fierce type, astrologically

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HOROSCOPE

EUGENIA LAST

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Joaquin Phoenix, 34; Julia Roberts, 41; Bill Gates, 53; Bruce Jenner, 59

Happy Birthday: You can turn nothing into something this year with hard work and discipline. Change is upon you -- embrace it and make it work for you. You will prosper if you are adaptable and alter your life without a fuss or a costly price tag. Make fast decisions as each alteration in your life takes place. Your numbers are 5, 11, 18, 20, 28, 32, 41

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Don't give in when you know you are right. A commitment to someone or something will ensure that you have covered your back and can move forward with confidence. ★★★

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): So much will depend on how you treat others. Be compassionate but refrain from spoiling. Use common sense, good judgment and honesty. Open up talks about a new business venture. ★★★

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Someone will not give you the lowdown on something you are working on. Don't get lured into doing something unnecessary. Do your own research and double-check everything. Nurture a love relationship. ★★★

CANCER (June 21-July 22): You are in the driver's seat and can manipulate whatever situation you face. Network, socialize and make contact and you won't be disappointed in the people you meet or what they can contribute to your life. ★★★★★

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): You won't be too popular at home, especially if you refuse to give in to someone's demands. Get out and spend time with people who inspire and motivate you rather than bringing you down. Consider changing the conditions under which you have been living. ★★

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Nothing will happen if you don't take action. Love may be questioned if you haven't been happy lately. If there is a problem, do not hesitate to rise up and take on whoever and whatever is standing in your way. ★★★★★

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Take time to reflect on the past and to realize what you might have done differently. It's never too late to go back and fix something you did wrong or to address someone you never got over. It's hard to move on when you are hanging on to the past. ★★★

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Do not wait for someone else to take over or push you aside. Stand tall and go for gold. Set the standard and be proud of who you are and what you've accomplished. ★★★

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Less talk and more observation and reevaluation will help you realize what everyone else wants and the strategy necessary. Once you see all the players positioned, you can make a wise and winning choice. Bide your time and strike purposefully. ★★★

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Don't run and hide or give up or move on because you can't see a way out. Fight back with persuasion, a unique approach or a secret weapon. Watch your back. ★★★★★

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Don't give in to someone because of sentimental reasons. If you don't stand your ground now, you will eventually regret your actions and have to deal with a much worse situation. Stay calm. ★★

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Set up deals and invest in your future. Check out any problems that you've had physically, emotionally or financially. You can get others to help you. Good fortune is heading your way. ★★★★★

Birthday Baby: You are persistent and emotion-driven. You have finesse and talent and can capture an audience, enabling you to get what you want.

Eugenia's Web sites: eugenialast.com for confidential consultations, myspace.com/eugenialast for Eugenia's blog, nstroadvice.com for fun

THE OBSERVER

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MEN'S SOCCER

Irish set for rematch against Big East foe Georgetown

Hoyas come to town for midweek game today at Alumni Field

By MATT GAMBER
Associate Sports Editor

No. 19 Notre Dame can clinch at least a share of the Big East Blue Division crown with a win in today's 2:30 p.m. home tussle with No. 24 Georgetown.

The Hoyas (9-3-3, 4-2-3 Big

East, 15 points) have lost just once in their last eight games and have moved into third in the division, two points behind the Irish (9-5-2, 5-2-2 Big East, 17 points) and Connecticut (8-3-6, 5-3-2 Big East, 17 points), which tied Pittsburgh 2-2 last night.

Georgetown could grab first place with a victory today, as wins earn three points and draws one point in the conference standings. A win would give the Irish 20 points and a three-point advantage over the Huskies, who play just one more conference game.

Notre Dame and Georgetown each have one more Big East contest after today's match.

Today's match-up is a rare mid-week day game because a norovirus outbreak on the Georgetown campus caused the originally-scheduled Oct. 5 match to be postponed.

"This game is such a big game, and it's a pity it won't be played in a better atmosphere," Irish coach Bobby Clark said. "There might not be that atmosphere, but I know our players will be very excited."

After scoring just one goal in a pair of Big East road games last week, the Irish offense will be tested once again by a stingy Hoyas defense that allows only .58 goals per game.

Georgetown bottled up the Notre Dame attack in a scoreless draw in last year's meeting, and the Hoyas goalkeeping duo of Matthew Brutto and Mike Wilber have combined for 10 shutouts this season. Brutto has recorded a shutout in all eight games he has played this season.

But with the exception of last

week, Notre Dame's offense has been potent. The Irish average 2.19 goals per game, which ranks 10th nationally, and have consistently generated scoring opportunities. Now they just need to convert, Clark said.

"We've just got to play well and put a complete game together," he said. "We'd like to score goals but we also can't concede goals."

The Hoyas are led by Brian Wiese, who played for Clark at Dartmouth before coaching with

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FOOTBALL

Running mates

Trio of talented backs have combined for 792 yards on ground

By DAN MURPHY
Sports Editor

So far this season, the Irish running game's only real problem is one that most coaches wouldn't mind having. Notre Dame has too many talented running backs.

This season, junior James Aldridge and sophomores Armando Allen and Robert Hughes have split time at tailback for Notre Dame, rushing for a combined 792 yards on 4.28 yards per carry.

They have shared the scoring, as well. Aldridge has found the end zone three times on the ground and Allen and Hughes each have a pair of touchdowns.

Notre Dame coach Charlie Weis said he rotates the trio because of the constant position battle that has gone on this season. As of right now, Allen is the

No. 1 back for the spread-style offense and Aldridge is the go-to guy for the "pound it" package.

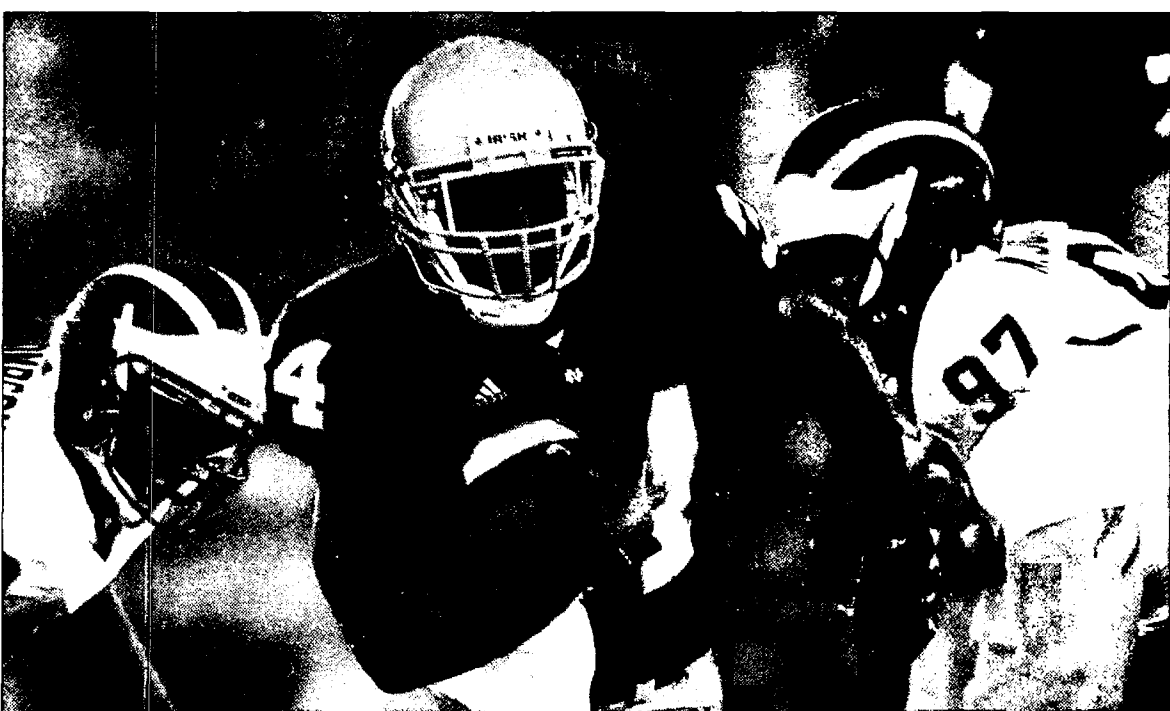
Hughes is the back-up for both packages.

Weis said the one thing he is most proud of in his team's running game is its ability to run the ball in the smashmouth package in recent games. He said that some teams try to stack the box against the run when Aldridge and fullback Asaph Schwapp enter the game, but that has not always been successful for Irish opponents.

"When they know you're going to run it and you still run it effectively, that sends a very good message, because they know you're going to run it, and you're still running it and gaining yards," Weis said.

Even though Aldridge did not see much playing time earlier in the season, Weis said he has played his way into a much bigger role based on his performance in practices and recent games.

"I think for about the last month in practice he's been getting better and better every



Irish junior running back James Aldridge hits a hole during Notre Dame's 35-17 win over Michigan on Sept. 13. Aldridge rushed for 84 yards on 13 carries against Washington Sunday.

day," Weis said. "He's been better when we go against the first defense when he's gotten reps doing that. He's been better in

practice, and he's been running with power in practice and [offensive coordinator Michael] Haywood has rewarded him by

giving him more opportunities on the field."

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ND VOLLEYBALL

Nicholas' assists lead ND into home stretch

Setter looks to help team rise in standings

By SAM WERNER
Sports Writer

It isn't Jamel Nicholas' job to rack up dozens of kills like outside hitters Christina Kaelin and Kelly Sciacca, but that doesn't mean the junior setter hasn't put up some gaudy numbers of her own.

Over the weekend, Nicholas posted 31 and 49 assists against Villanova and Seton Hall, respectively, and leads the Irish with 690 assists on the season. But the Gibsonia,

Pa., native prefers to remain modest about her contributions to the team.

"I think I've done okay," Nicholas said. "Being the setter out there, I need to direct traffic and keep putting up a great set so that our hitters can get a kill."

The 5-1 formation the Irish play is designed for Nicholas to get most of the assists, but the sociology/FTT double major still has to work to develop a strong rapport with her hitters. Nicholas said she and Kaelin arrive to practices early to work on their timing.

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MEN'S GOLF

Scodro ties for first place

Golfers finish fall season with seventh-place showing in N.C.

By MICHAEL BLASCO
Sports Writer

After an uneven showing in his first collegiate tournament earlier this month, Notre Dame freshman Max Scodro finished with a 3-under par 213 that catapulted him to a tie for first-place at the UNCG Bridgestone Intercollegiate on Tuesday. An excruciating bogey on the 72nd hole prevented Scodro from taking home solo medalist honors.

Battling through 25-knot winds and a 30-degree wind-chill, the Irish squad finished in seventh place, a solid showing after a string of

rough performances this fall. No. 37 Duke finished atop the stacked field of 15 with a 5-over par 869 — 21 strokes ahead of Notre Dame's 890.

Notre Dame head coach Jim Kubinski praised the mature play of Scodro and his ability to bounce back after his 78th-place finish at the Fighting Irish Intercollegiate earlier this month.

"Max has an all-around sound game," Kubinski said. "He's fairly long, definitely one of the longer guys on the team and long for a college golfer, but he also putts well and has a great touch. He played some very good golf out there."

Scodro scattered six birdies and four bogeys in his opening round to shoot a 2-under par 70 before carding an even-par 72 in Monday's late round. An eagle on the par-5 fifteenth Tuesday put Scodro in the sole possession of first place, but a bogey on the 72nd hole of the tournament dropped him into a tie for the individual title.

Sophomore Connor Alan-Lee finished tied for 24th with a 6-over par 222. After following up his opening-round par with a 2-over second round, Alan-Lee opened his final round with a string of

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