

THE OBSERVER

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TUESDAY, DECEMBER 2, 2008

Jenkins addresses economic crisis in letter

President tells faculty and staff that University will survive the recession, but that it must operate more efficiently

By AARON STEINER
News Writer

On the day when government officials announced that the country has been in a recession since December of 2007, University President Fr. John Jenkins wrote to faculty and staff about the current economic downturn and its potential effect on the University.

Notre Dame Assistant Vice President for News and Information Dennis Brown told The Observer the letter

was not sent in response to specific concerns, but he said Notre Dame is aware of potential concerns and issues.

"We're not oblivious to the economic conditions that are facing the university community," he said.

Brown said discussions about



Fr. John Jenkins
University
President

how to address the University's situation with regard to the recession have been ongoing during the past two or three weeks, stating that such discussion are simply "prudent planning."

In the e-mail message, dated Dec. 1, Jenkins said the University is "well positioned to weather the current storm," but also wrote that economic pressures would force the University to "do more with existing resources in order to reduce expenditures."

"While responsible steward-

ship of the University's resources is necessary at all times, it is critical in these grave economic conditions," he said, stating he has asked academic and administrative leaders to identify possible savings and reduce costs where possible.

Jenkins also wrote that he asked the University budget office to develop contingency plans "in the event that economic conditions worsen."

Jenkins said Notre Dame would remain committed to the core mission of the University, noting commit-

ments to financial aid, research, graduate student support, library funding, construction projects, and faculty and staff salaries.

University Executive Vice President John Affleck-Graves confirmed that current construction projects will continue to function, telling The Observer on Nov. 20, "All of the construction projects we have on campus are fully funded, and we are not going to stop construction."

Affleck-Graves said con-

see ECONOMY/page 4

Reish to use survey results as guide

Many students identify off-campus safety as a concern, but say they feel safe on-campus

By JOSEPH McMAHON
Assistant News Editor

The results from last month's student survey, which was taken by 3,658 students, will help guide future student government initiatives and influence the final months of his administration, student body president Bob Reish said.

"I think this information will be very valuable both in the different initiatives our office decides to pursue as well as helping provide hard numbers in support of some of these initiatives to both the faculty and administrative offices on campus," he said.

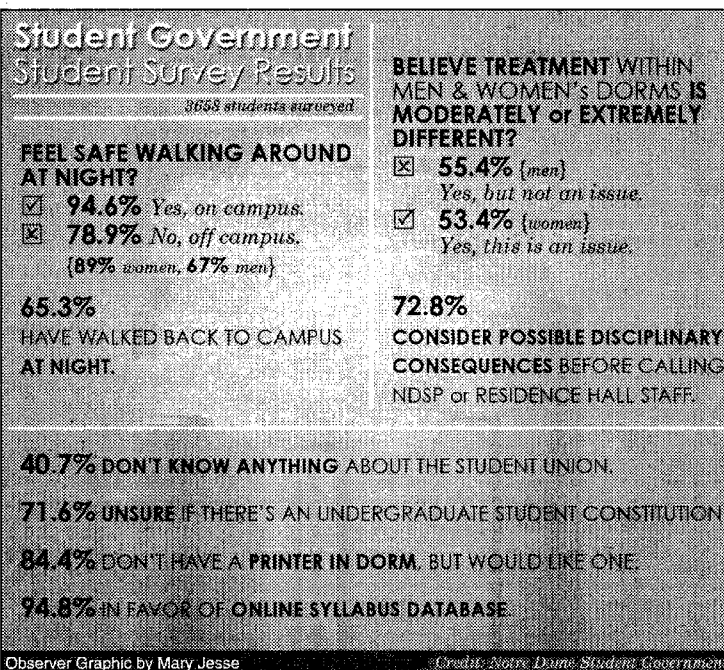
Reish said there was "no singular, pressing issue" that arose from the survey results, but said safety off-campus was

a major concern for many students. While 94.6 percent of students said they felt safe walking around campus at night, 78.9 percent of students said they did not feel safe walking off-campus at night.

Reish said 89 percent of women feel unsafe off campus at night, compared to 67 percent of men. More upperclassmen said they felt unsafe off campus than underclassmen, he said.

Reish said student government would respond to these concerns with several initiatives, including a winter break safety forum "where students will find out how to help keep their off-campus apartment or house safe as well as be able to sign up for an off-campus safe-

see SURVEY/page 4



TCEs move to Internet

By AMANDA GRAY
News Writer

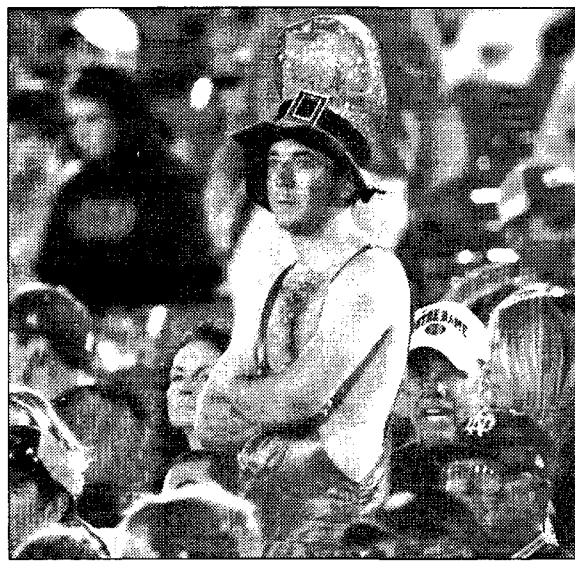
Notre Dame will be implementing a new system to evaluate professors and courses at the end of this semester, according to the Course Instructor Feedback Web site.

Course Instructor Feedbacks, nicknamed CIFs, will replace Teacher Course Evaluations (TCEs) this semester. According to Gunty, the new system will be completely online, so students will have a longer time to fill out the evaluations.

see CIF/page 4

Irish fans disappointed, embarrassed by USC loss

Students cite Marching Band's halftime show as highlight of game; Notre Dame falls 76-3 in two years to Trojans



ALLISON AMBROSE/The Observer
A disappointed fan watches the Irish's 38-3 loss that some students called "embarrassing."

By LIZ HARTER and KATIE KOHLER
News Writers

Notre Dame students who traveled out to the University of Southern California this weekend were hoping for a miracle — but instead they got a massacre, watching the Irish fall 38-3 at the Coliseum.

Waiting until only seconds left in the third quarter for the Irish's first first down, students were disappointed in the last game of the regular season.

"I was disappointed overall," said Saint Mary's senior Allison Buddie, a member of the Band of the Fighting Irish. "Our defense was able to keep it close through the first quarter

which gave me a lot of hope, but then the offense was unable to come up with even a first down until the third quarter."

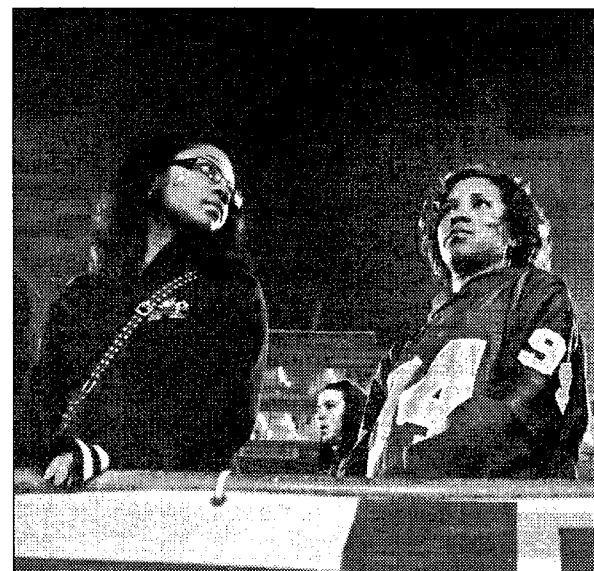
Senior George Packer said he was not only disappointed in the loss, but embarrassed.

"It's embarrassing. We have lost 76-3 to USC the past two years. Father Jenkins only gave Ty Willingham three years. Why should Charlie [Weis] get more than four?" Packer said.

"It sucks that we fell apart right at the end [of the season]," Buddie said. "But I think Weis will stay another year ... too much money and overall improvements have been made to have Weis leave now."

Breaking Charlie Weis' contract could cost the University

see USC/page 6



JESS LEE/The Observer
Notre Dame fans Dana Jason, left, and Ashley Cook watch the Irish's 38-3 loss at USC Saturday.

INSIDE COLUMN

Umbrellas in the snow

I don't think anyone is a fan of the snow that fell on campus on Monday. It doesn't settle on the ground in aesthetically pleasing drifts. It just kind of meekly melts on the sidewalks or feebly tries to cover the grass on the quad. It's either hard and stinging or wet and slushy — not that big, feathery kind that elicits visions of idyllic Christmas cards.

Jordan Gamble

Having Christmas card snow fall on your bare head is cool, because it settles all angelically and stuff. But the kind of snowfall we had yesterday? I'd much prefer to keep it off my hair, face and clothing, thank you. I don't relish being wet and cold once it all melts when I go inside — especially when outside. Notre Dame is going to be some degree of both for the next four months.

Scene Writer

To protect against the undesirable snow, some people wear hats, others hoods, others are just tough and zip up their jackets and saunter through the elements. But me, I use an umbrella. I know, I know. An umbrella in the snow? Who does that?

One my friends, a native Californian who had never seen snow before coming to South Bend, had the same question freshman year. Some people told her it was nerdy, that you'd definitely stick out as a newbie to winter weather if you were seen with an umbrella in snowfall.

I told her what I saw as the most rational approach: If it works for rain, why not just use it for crystalline water ice?

Needless to say, I was the only person who had such an argument.

Maybe the novelty of walking through such precipitation discourages most from using umbrellas. Maybe they relish the light, white, fluffy, swirling goodness in a way that I cannot, seeing as how I have grown up in the crazy weather of Indiana and have had quite enough of "wintry mix" to fill up my novelty quota.

And, if you have trouble remembering to grab an umbrella even when it's raining, the distraction of aforementioned swirling goodness will even further deter you from using one when it's snowing.

So, in defense of snow umbrellas: They keep you dry (at least your head and shoulders). All those layers of T-shirt, sweatshirt, fleece jacket, parka, scarf, ski mask, sock hat and earmuffs will not be for naught. Seriously, if they get wet, they are useless.

And, if you choose to go hatless, probably in an effort to retain some sign of hygienic attention to your hair, the snow will do your painstakingly styled coif no favors. Sure, it looks all angelic and stuff outside, but once you go into a heated building? Not so much.

Most importantly, umbrellas often come in bright, cheery colors, which stand out nicely against the (a) pristine white blanket of snow, or (b) the brutal, churning mess of slush and mud. Either way, the umbrella wins. No one will be able to resist the quirky charm of a bright red umbrella on the frozen tundra of South Quad.

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

Contact Jordan Gamble at jgamble@nd.edu

CORRECTIONS

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

QUESTION OF THE DAY: Do you BELIEVE IN SECOND CHANCES?



Daniel Relmer

senior
off-campus

"Absolutely. How would 'Top Gun' have ended if Maverick didn't graduate?"



Jenna Heffernan

freshman
Walsh

"Yes, as long as the 'second chance' only lasts one more football game."



Liz Peterson

senior
off-campus

"Yes, but I don't believe in third, fourth or fifth ones."



Meghan Lee

senior
off-campus

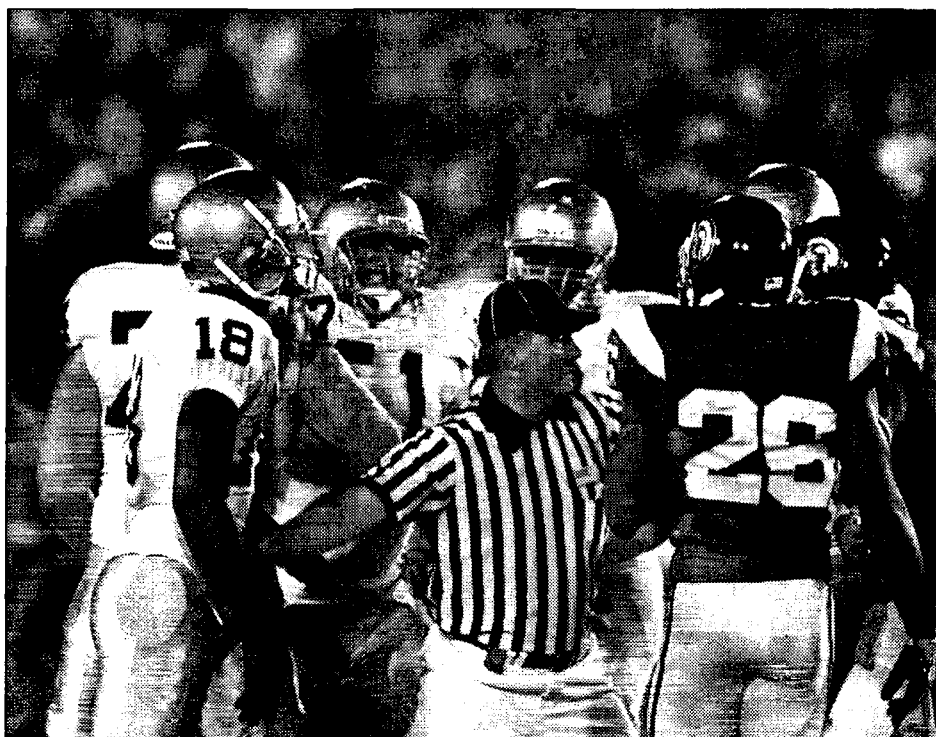
"Yes, but how many second chances does one person get?"



Nick Ward

senior
Duncan

"No, but I believe in miracles, you sexy thang."



ALLISON AMBROSE/The Observer

The referee separates Notre Dame players from USC players as a fight breaks out during the game Saturday at the Coliseum.

OFFBEAT

Man says God told him to crash into car

SAN ANTONIO — A man who rammed his truck into a woman's vehicle on a highway early Friday told authorities he crashed into her while going more than 100 mph because God told him "she needed to be taken off the road."

The truck rear-ended the car on U.S. Highway 281, both vehicles spun across a median then came to a stop along a barrier in the opposite lanes. Both drivers suffered only minor injuries.

"He just said God said she wasn't driving right, and she needed to be taken off the road," Bexar County Sheriff's Office spokesman Kyle Coleman said in the online edition of the San Antonio Express-News.

Deer attacks hunter who shot him

SEDALIA, Mo. — A hunter bagged a big buck on the second day of firearms season, but the kill caused him a lot of pain. Randy Goodman, 49, said he thought two well-placed shots with his .270-cal-

iber rifle had killed the buck on Nov. 19. Goodman said the deer looked dead to him, but seconds later the nine-point, 240-pound animal came to life.

The buck rose up, knocked Goodman down and attacked him with his antlers in what the veteran hunter called "15 seconds of hell." The deer ran a short distance and went down, and died after Goodman fired two more shots.

Information compiled from the Associated Press.

IN BRIEF

Join the Creative Writing Program for a reading by poets Graham Foust and Catherine Wagner. They will read selections from their work at the Hammes Notre Dame Bookstore tonight at 7:30 p.m. The readings are free and open to the public.

Human rights activist Winona LaDuke will speak on "The New Energy Economy: Nonviolent strategies of change utilizing indigenous knowledge" tomorrow at 7 p.m. in the Hesburgh Auditorium in the Hesburgh Center for International Studies.

Students for Environmental Action (SEA) and GreenND are hosting a Green Fashion Show tomorrow from 8 p.m. to 9 at the LaFortune Ballroom. Tickets are \$5 and proceeds go to the Majora Carter Sustainable South Bronx.

Circle K, Knott Hall and the Class of 2009 will make fleece blankets to donate to cancer patients as part of The Aidan Project. The project will take place Saturday from 11 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. in the East Wing of South Dining Hall.

Notre Dame Women's Basketball team plays Purdue at 2 p.m. Sunday in the Joyce Center. Call 574-631-7356 for tickets or visit the Athletic Ticket Office Web page.

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

		TODAY	TONIGHT	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
LOCAL WEATHER							
		HIGH 35 LOW 25	HIGH 25 LOW 15	HIGH 37 LOW 25	HIGH 30 LOW 18	HIGH 33 LOW 20	HIGH 34 LOW 23

Atlanta 49 / 32 Boston 50 / 40 Chicago 34 / 21 Denver 54 / 31 Houston 72 / 45 Los Angeles 67 / 55 Minneapolis 38 / 19 New York 49 / 38 Philadelphia 48 / 37 Phoenix 78 / 50 Seattle 51 / 46 St. Louis 46 / 27 Tampa 62 / 48 Washington 49 / 36

Dance Marathon hosts purse party for charity

By ALICIA SMITH
News Writer

Saint Mary's students gathered in the basement of the College's student center Monday to purchase designer handbags and accessories for a good cause.

"We are hosting the event to raise money and awareness. It also brings something fun to Saint Mary's," said senior Sarah Voss, the Dance Marathon president.

Over 150 bags were brought to Saint Mary's for the event. Brands like Coach, Kate Spade, Prada and many other designer bags filled three tables. Along with the designer purses, designer sunglasses, wallets, jewelry, headbands and scarves were available to be purchased at discounted prices.

Saint Mary's freshman Hanna Vicary attended the event.

"It's supporting a good cause and I want to get involved with Dance Marathon. It's a fun fundraiser. A lot of times it is like they are selling cookies or candles. This is something that I think more people can get involved with," she said.

Sophomore Mary Castle also shopped at the purse party.

"I knew all the money went to a good cause, and that's really important to me. I also need to do some Christmas shopping. I got a lot of girls on

my list and I think they'll like these purses."

Students paid a dollar entrance fee to the event. A portion of the profits from the items sold will benefit Riley Children's Hospital.

"The proceeds will go towards Dance Marathon and the final donation will go towards Riley Hospital for Children in Indianapolis," Voss said.

Dance Marathon has hosted several events this fall, and is planning on hosting many more in the future, closing with the Dance Marathon.

"We'll be having a lot of events next semester, so we are really excited," she said. Saint Mary's junior Kelly Deranek, the vice president of publicity for Dance Marathon, Kelly Deranek said they were planning another purse party next semester.

"The money goes to the general benefit fund at Riley which helps the area of the hospital that has the most need. It changes from year to year what our donation directly benefits," Voss said.

"I think it's an incredible cause," Castle said. "The Riley Children's Hospital is a really important institute and I think it's wonderful what they are doing. I am glad I get to participate."

Contact Alicia Smith at
asmith01@saintmarys.edu

Profs return to grad school

Scholarship program lets faculty study Catholic intellectual tradition

Special to The Observer

University of Notre Dame economists Richard Jensen and Kasey Buckles went back to graduate school last year.

Both had the chance to participate in an Institute for Scholarship in the Liberal Arts (ISLA) program that allows Notre Dame faculty members course-release time for study of the Catholic intellectual tradition.

Jensen and Buckles are two of seven participants in the program since its inception two years ago, says Ken Garcia, associate director of ISLA.

"The program is designed to make faculty members familiar with the Catholic tradition and how they might incorporate relevant aspects of Catholic teaching into their coursework," he explained.

The program is open to both Catholic and non-Catholic faculty members from any college or school in the University, excluding the theology department. It allows faculty to be released from one course to allow time for study, and offers a \$7,500 stipend to the department to provide for their replacement.

Rather than taking a formal graduate seminar, both Buckles and Jensen worked on independent reading and research with members of the theology faculty.

Jensen, department chair and professor of economics and econometrics, is interested in environmental economics—what would people be willing to pay to preserve the rain forest, for example. Part of the reason for his taking the course, he says, was to better understand how the environment figures into Catholic social teaching.

Jensen worked with Matthew Ashley, associate professor of systematic theology.

"I read all the papal encyclicals, and just kept reading from there," Jensen says. "I also read [Notre Dame theologian] Dick McBrien's 1,200-page tome 'Catholicism.' I became curious about what it means to be Catholic, as well as what it means to pursue the Catholic intellectual tradition."

The pope, he notes, has begun directly addressing environmental concerns.

"He points out that in Genesis, when man inherits the earth, it doesn't mean he inherits the earth and wastes the resources," Jensen said. "John Paul II specifically argues that we have to be good stewards of the environment."

For Jensen, one of the most interesting aspects of his studies was that he learned a great deal about what the popes actually said — as opposed to what people think they said.

Buckles, assistant professor

of economics and econometrics, worked through a series of readings with moral theologian Todd Whitmore, associate professor of theology and director of the Program in Catholic Social Tradition, beginning with Pope Leo XIII's 1891 encyclical *Rerum Novarum* and moving through documents on the role of women in the Church. It was interesting, she notes, to see how the Church's teachings have evolved over the last 30 years.

Her studies also have had the interesting result of making her — in many cases — more educated about Catholic social teaching than her students who were raised in the faith. They may know the principles, but have never read the actual documents.

What she's gained from the program is a better understanding of her students and what they know about Church teachings.

"It's up to me to make sure my students understand that economic models aren't inconsistent with Catholic social teaching," she said. "Having had this class, I feel much more prepared to do that."

"I think [the program] was quite valuable," Jensen says. "I don't have the same kind of understanding I'd have if I'd been raised Catholic, but I have a much better understanding."

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business.nd.edu/tenyearshence

January 16

Peering into the Green Future: The Trends and Innovations Forging an Abundant Society in Balance with Nature

Josh Dorfman, Founder & CEO, Vivavi

January 23

Foresight Development in a World of Accelerating Change: Thoughts from an Evo Devo Futurist

John Smart, President, Acceleration Studies Foundation

February 13

Sustainability: Past, Present, and Future from a Corporate View

Jean Sweeney, Vice President, 3M-Environmental, Health & Safety Operations

February 20

Keeping America Great

David M. Walker, President & CEO, Peter G. Peterson Foundation

March 20

Sustainability and Corporate Responsibility: The McDonald's Story

Jack Daly, Senior Vice President, Corporate Relations, McDonald's Corporation

April 17

FutureThink: How to Put Change in Perspective and See More Clearly What is Coming

Edie Weiner, President, Weiner, Edrich, Brown, Inc.

TBD

TBD

Seventh speaker to be determined

Selected Fridays from 10:40 a.m. to 12:10 p.m. in the Jordan Auditorium, Mendoza College of Business. Lectures are open to the public.

"Ten Years Hence" is listed as BAUG-30210, and is open to all Notre Dame and St. Mary's students and employees. There are no prerequisites to enroll. See your academic advisor or your department chair for additional detail. You are expected to attend all lectures and be prepared to engage speakers. No unexcused absences. This is a "Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory" course. This course requires no textbook purchases, examinations or term papers. **Registration is available online.**

Economy

continued from page 1

struction does not begin until 100 percent of the funding is pledged, and 75 percent is received.

Joseph Russo, director of Student Financial Strategies in the Office of Student Financial Services, told The Observer on Nov. 14 that the University remains committed to making a Notre Dame education affordable and accessible, confirming Jenkins' remarks.

Jenkins' letter specifically addressed possible concerns about employment. "It is a priority for the University that our current employees remain part of the Notre Dame community. While we cannot guarantee that there will be no changes to our workforce, our current assessment of the economic situation ... does not lead us to anticipate any

such changes," he said.

Jenkins' letter addressed the University's "most significant financial asset," its endowment, which amounted to \$7 billion by the close of the fiscal year ending June 30, 2008.

Scott Malpass, University vice president and chief investment officer, told The Observer in September that a "tough year" lies ahead. But Malpass said at the time he was "downplaying expectations" for next June's return.

"I don't know how it will end up, but I think it will be a tough year. If we are positive again this year, I think it

"While we cannot guarantee that there will be no changes to our workforce, our current assessment of the economic situation ... does not lead us to anticipate any such changes."

Fr. John Jenkins
University President

will be a minor miracle," he said.

Jenkins mentioned that administrators are "very much aware that economic pressures on some of our dedicated benefactors may limit their current ability to support our efforts."

Jenkins thanked University staff and faculty for their work in the letter.

"Without your presence, dedication, and contributions, Notre Dame's traditions would not be carried forward and its potential as a preeminent research University would not be realized," he said.

Contact Aaron Steiner at asteiner@nd.edu

Survey

continued from page 1

ty listserv run by [the South Bend Police Department]."

"We will continue our talks with local community leaders and members and bring up this concern," he said. "On the whole, student government will try to host more events that inform students to be more proactive, rather than reactive in regards to student safety."

However, students do continue to place themselves in dangerous situations, with 65.3 percent of respondents saying they had walked back to campus at night for some reason.

Reish said he was concerned about situations when a student needs to call NDSP or residence hall staff to help treat someone, since 72.8 percent of students who have been put in that situation consider the possible disciplinary consequences before they call.

"For this we plan to do more external research at other universities to see the different types of 'good Samaritan' clauses they have in place," Reish said. "This will probably be a joint initiative between the Director of External Affairs and our Residence Life committee."

Reish said there were not many differences between male and female responses, but added that "there were a few outliers."

One of these outliers was how men and women feel they are treated within the Notre Dame dorm system. Reish said 55.4 percent of men believe the difference between men and women's dorms is either moderately or extremely different, but is not an issue, while 53.4 percent of women believe that the difference between men and women's dorms is either moderately or extremely different and believe this is an issue.

"The [Senate] Gender Issues committee will most likely take on gender equality in dorms as an initiative next semester," Reish said. However, both men and women agreed sexual assault/rape was the most important gender issue on campus, with 61 percent of students listing it as one of their top three concerns.

"Because of this, the Gender Issues committee will be helping host a sexual assault awareness week and giving out t-shirts on the quad next week," Reish said.

Also of interest to Reish, who had made it one of his top priorities to make student government more approachable, was the percentage of students who seemed to know very little about student government — 40.7 percent of respondents said they did not know anything about the Student Union, and 71.6 percent of respondents said they were unsure if there was an undergraduate Student Constitution.

"As far as the numbers regarding an individual's knowledge of the student constitution, the [Senate]

Oversight Committee might decide to pursue this initiative by informing students about the student union structure," he said. "This will not take time away from other initiatives we plan to pursue, but if there is a way to combine an event by providing more information we might seek to address this issue with that venue."

Two initiatives which received an overwhelming response from students were adding printers to every residence hall — 84.4 percent of students who do not currently have a printer in their dorm would like to have one — and the creation of an online syllabus database. The survey showed 94.8 percent of students said they were in favor of this.

Reish said his administration has already begun pushing for printers in every dorm, and last week the Campus Life Council (CLC) passed a resolution encouraging Vice President

of Student Affairs Fr. Mark Poorman to show support for the idea.

"Since this resolution was passed by the CLC last Monday, he will give the Council a formal, written response before the semester's end," Reish said.

Suggestions for the "Last Lecture Series" were "overwhelming," Reish said, with the top two vote getters being University President Emeritus Fr. Theodore Hesburgh and professor James McKenna.

"We should have our next Last Lecture scheduled by the end of the semester for the upcoming spring semester," Reish said.

Two other initiatives which also received support were the Campus Farmer's Market, which 46.5 percent of respondents said they would be very likely to attend, and the ND "day of service," which 39.8 percent of students said they would be very likely to attend. Reish

said these would be the "top priorities" of the Senate Social Concerns Committee.

Reish also said 44.1 percent of students said they would likely not use Domer Dollars for charitable contributions, showing a lack of support for a resolution recently passed in the Student Senate.

"Since the legwork behind Domer Dollars donations has already been done, we will finish up with this initiative, even if it did not receive an overwhelmingly positive response," he said.

Overall, Reish and Senate Student Outreach committee chair Sarah Rodts, who designed the survey, said they were very pleased by the number of responses.

"This shows a general interest in some of the initiatives we are pursuing," Reish said. "Our campaign focused on transparency and I think this survey helps achieve that goal."

Contact Joseph McMahon at jcmaho6@nd.edu

CIF

continued from page 1

"You'll be completing CIFs on your own time and you'll see more questions that are tailored to the specific class, rather than the uniform set of questions used for TCEs," said Dr. Mark Guntz, assistant director of Institutional Research at Notre Dame.

Other universities that have implemented an online form have found success, Guntz said.

"We think that the overall quality of feedback will improve," he said.

Ambour Dawson, a Notre Dame sophomore, thinks the new forms will be beneficial.

"They'll be much more helpful than the in-class TCEs," Dawson said. "Most people are ready to leave by the end of class, and don't

want to fill out the TCEs."

The switch to the new system has been in the works for a while.

"The switch to the new system has been in the planning and implementation stages for two years," Guntz said. "A core team of about 10 people have been working on this."

"We think that the overall quality of feedback will improve."

Dr. Mark Guntz
assistant director
Institutional Research

Guntz said the problems that his team is aware of have been worked out.

One difference noted by Guntz was the new ranking of "learning goals." In the old TCE system, only one goal was selected out of a list and ranked for the course. In the new CIF system, six goals will be available per course, and all will be ranked.

"[The goals] have been selected to match the content and format of the

course," Guntz said.

Laura Lindsley, a Notre Dame sophomore, is optimistic about the new forms.

"Sometimes the questions [on the TCEs] were redundant or didn't fit," Lindsley said. "Hopefully these new forms will be helpful, and this in turn will encourage people to fill them out."

According to the Web site, the layout of the CIF will consist of the parts: the "university tier," which contains 21 items used for all courses; the "learning goals tier," which includes six goals tailored for each course; and optional questions added by the instructor. The responses from previous semesters will be available in the future on the Class Search feature on InsideND for students to read when selecting classes. All contact information is kept completely confidential.

The surveys open on Dec. 2 and close Dec. 14, according to the Web site.

Contact Amanda Gray at agray3@nd.edu

Write News. Call Jenn
at 631-5323.

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INTERNATIONAL NEWS

French first lady joins AIDS fight

PARIS — France's glamorous first lady threw her considerable star power behind the global fight against AIDS on Monday, as the world tallied the victims of the HIV virus that infects a new person every 15 seconds.

As ceremonies marked World AIDS Day, Carla Bruni-Sarkozy signed on to become a goodwill ambassador for the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, which said it has provided life-saving treatment to two million people living with HIV worldwide.

"I think the world has become used to AIDS," the model-turned-singer told a news conference in Paris. "We no longer see it as a scandal or an emergency."

Thai leader avoids capital amidst crisis

BANGKOK, Thailand — Thailand's prime minister stayed away from the capital Monday, unable to quell a political crisis that has paralyzed his government for weeks and shut down the city's two main airports and stranded 300,000 foreigners.

Prime Minister Somchai Wongsawat has refused to send in police to evict protesters besieging the airports or occupying his office complex for fear of bloodshed, instead making weak pleas for them to go home. The demonstrators vow to stay until Somchai resigns; he has refused.

The monthslong crisis has drained millions of dollars from the economy and is worsening divisions in Thailand.

Late Monday, an explosion hit protesters camped outside Bangkok's airport for domestic flights. Mongkut Wattana hospital said 13 people were injured, including three who suffered serious shrapnel wounds.

NATIONAL NEWS

Bush works on leaving a legacy

WASHINGTON — President George W. Bush says history will judge him, but he is getting his own crack first. Bush is using his final 50 days in office to tout his legacy, hoping to leave a lasting impression of overshadowed progress.

On Monday, World AIDS Day, Bush was heralded for his leadership in fighting the disease, a point that even his Democratic critics readily concede.

The anti-AIDS program Bush championed in 2003 has delivered lifesaving medicine to more than 2 million people in five years, up from 50,000 people before it began. Many of those helped live in impoverished sub-Saharan Africa, where AIDS is the leading killer.

Holiday parade accident injures nine

OVERTON, Texas — A hospital official says an accident at a holiday parade in east Texas has injured at least nine people, some of them children.

Mother Frances Hospital spokesman John Moore says eight people are being evaluated Monday night at the facility in Tyler. Another person was flown to a Dallas hospital after the accident in the town of Overton.

Moore says the injured include three women and five boys ranging in age from 6 to 11. Their conditions are not available.

Moore says the accident is connected to an annual Christmas parade. No other details on the accident are immediately available.

LOCAL NEWS

BMV to hold holiday food drive

INDIANAPOLIS — The Indiana Bureau of Motor Vehicles will again sponsor a holiday food drive in coordination with food banks across the state.

Collection boxes will be placed in all 140 license branches from Tuesday through Dec. 24. BMV Commissioner Ron Stiver says the agency is encouraging everyone who visits a branch to bring in non-perishable food items to support the needy during the holiday season.

More than 27,000 items were donated and distributed as part of last year's food drive.

INDIA

India demands Pakistan take action

Nation seeks answers as businesses reopen, life begins to return to nor-

Associated Press

MUMBAI, India — India demanded Monday that Pakistan take "strong action" against those behind the deadly Mumbai attacks, and Washington pressured Islamabad to cooperate with the investigation.

The only known surviving attacker told police that his group trained for months in camps operated by a banned Pakistani militant group, learning close-combat techniques, explosives training and other tactics for their three-day siege.

Teams from the FBI and Britain's Scotland Yard met with top Indian police as they prepared to help collect evidence, a police official said.

Soldiers removed the remaining bodies from the shattered Taj Mahal hotel, where the standoff finally ended Saturday morning, with at least 172 people dead and 239 wounded. The army had already cleared other siege sites, including the five-star Oberoi hotel and the Mumbai headquarters of an ultra-Orthodox Jewish group.

India's financial hub returned to normal Monday to some degree, with parents dropping their children off at school and shopkeepers opening for the first time since the attacks, which Indian authorities blamed on the banned Pakistani militant group Lashkar-e-Taiba.

"I think this is the first Monday I am glad to be coming to work," said Donica Trivedi, 23, an employee of a public relations agency.

Jewelry stores, clothing shops and food kiosks in a winding side street near the Jewish center were back in business. But the normally bustling street was half-empty, and business owners said customers were slow in returning to an area so close to the violence.

The 60-hour attack,



Moshe Holtzberg, the 2-year-old orphan of the rabbi and his wife slain in the Mumbai Jewish center, cries during a memorial service Monday.

apparently carried out by 10 gunmen, exposed glaring weakness in India's security forces and police. In the past two days, the country's top law enforcement official has resigned and two top state officials have offered to quit amid growing criticism that the attackers appeared better trained, better coordinated and better armed than police.

Prime Minister Manmohan Singh promised to strengthen maritime and air security and look into creating a new federal investigative agency.

While the cross-border rhetoric between Pakistan and India has increased since the attacks, both countries — by their often-antag-

onistic standards — carefully refrained from making statements that could quickly lead to a buildup of troops along their heavily militarized frontier.

In India, Pakistan's high commissioner to the country met with Foreign Ministry officials and was told that "elements from Pakistan" had carried out the attacks, said ministry spokesman Vishnu Prakash. His phrasing, though, carefully avoided blaming the Pakistani government.

The commissioner was told that India "expects that strong action would be taken against those elements," Prakash said.

India's demands were

reinforced by the United States as Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice, who will visit India later this week, said the perpetrators of attacks "must be brought to justice."

Pakistan must "follow the evidence wherever it leads," she said during a visit in London. "This is a time for complete, absolute, total transparency and cooperation, and that's what we expect."

Pakistan has repeatedly insisted it was not behind the attacks. Pakistani President Asif Ali Zardari said Monday the gunmen were "non-state actors," and warned against letting their actions lead to greater regional enmity.

Obama announces security team

Associated Press

CHICAGO — Barack Obama promised "a new dawn of American leadership" in a troubled world Monday, announcing a strong-willed national security team headed by Hillary Rodham Clinton, who fought him long and bitterly for the presidency, and Robert Gates, the man who has been running two wars for George W. Bush.

The president-elect said he hadn't changed his mind about bringing most U.S. combat troops home from Iraq within 16 months but added a cautionary note — he'll consult with his military commanders first.

While his new team may be a bit more centrist — some war opponents might even say hawkish — than many Obama supporters might

prefer, he said the withdrawal timetable he emphasized in the presidential campaign is still "the right time frame."

Clinton, as secretary of state, and Gates, remaining as defense secretary, will be the most prominent faces — besides Obama's own — of the new administration's effort to revamp U.S. policy abroad.

At a Chicago news conference, Obama also tapped top advisers Eric Holder as attorney general and Susan Rice as ambassador to the United Nations. He named Arizona Gov. Janet Napolitano to be homeland security secretary and retired Marine Gen. James Jones as White House national security adviser.

The choices had been telegraphed days earlier but were remarkable all the same — still another major

turn in Clinton's extraordinary career, a show of faith in Gates and action to support Obama's frequent talk of desiring robust debate among seasoned, opinionated people in his inner circle.

Denouncing White House "group think," Obama signaled a break from President Bush's tendency toward an insular management style and go-with-the-gut diplomacy.

"The time has come for a new beginning," said Obama, flanked by flags on a stage with Vice President-elect Joe Biden and his six newest appointees. While Gates will stay at the Pentagon, Obama said the military's new mission will be "responsibly ending the war in Iraq through a successful transition to Iraqi control."

USC

continued from page 1

thinks that as an alum of the University, Weis should walk away.

"As an alum, he should walk away from the buyout and not make the school pay ... out of respect for the school and the students who have had to watch the past two years," Packer said. "Hopefully it gets better. There is nowhere to go but up."

The only positive thing for Packer and many other Notre Dame fans was the beautiful California weather, he said.

Senior Luke Tabit thought the problem wasn't the lack of talent, but the lack of emotion.

"I don't think it would look good for Notre Dame to fire another coach after three years, but we definitely need change. Our team has a lot of talent, but they don't look like they are motivated at all. We don't play as a team and we don't play with emotion," he said.

Kristi Pellegrini, a Notre Dame senior in the Band of the Fighting Irish, said she was glad she had the opportunity to travel to Los Angeles to support the team.

"It was definitely a unique experience being out there and supporting the football team," she said. "I wish the outcome of the game had been better, but I'm glad I had the opportunity."

Pellegrini said she thinks the best part of the game was the band's halftime show.

"So many USC fans even came down and complimented the band on our performance," she said. "And during the game, our

band was even audible above the mic-ed USC band."

The Trojan Marching Band's halftime show was a dig at the fact that the Band of the Fighting Irish hadn't traveled to Southern California in 35 years, she said.

"USC's halftime show was a classless attack on Notre Dame," Pellegrini said. "Their show was designed to remind Notre Dame of what we missed out on in the 35 years that we haven't been traveling to USC."

Even though they felt attacked, Pellegrini said the band listened to the USC halftime show and were commended by fans at their respect during their show.

"Our band was commended by both Irish and Trojan fans as having the better halftime show," she said.

She said most of the band is talking about how they outplayed the Trojan Marching Band by playing a better arrangement of A-Ha's "Take on Me," a song that USC played during their halftime show, during the second half.

Senior Matt Meinig, a saxophone in the band, said traveling to USC will be something he always remembers from his time at Notre Dame.

"It's something that I'll remember for the rest of my life, to be sure," Meinig said. "As a senior, it was a great way to top off my final season. Despite the outcome of the game and the hostile environment, it was probably the best away game I've played at because I could tell that every Irish fan out there appreciated the band's presence."

Contact Liz Harter at Eharte01@saintmarys.edu and Katie Kohler at Kkohl01@saintmarys.edu

USAF honors engineering professors

Tomar, Xing were selected from 210 proposals, will receive research grants

Special to The Observer

The University of Notre Dame's Vikas Tomar, assistant professor of aerospace and mechanical engineering, and Huili (Grace) Xing, assistant professor of electrical engineering, are two of the 39 engineers and scientists selected by the Air Force Office of Scientific Research (AFSOR) as part of the 2008 Young Investigator Program (YIP).

The program, which is only open to engineers and scientists at U.S. research institutions who have received a doctoral degree within the last five years, recognizes those who "show exceptional ability and promise for conducting basic research." This year's YIP honorees will share approximately \$12.1 million for research efforts over the next three years as outlined in their winning proposals.

As in previous years, competition for the award was very competitive. The ASFOR received 210 proposals encompassing a broad range of areas, including aerospace, chemical and materials sciences, physics and electronics, mathematics, information technologies, and life sciences.

Tomar, who joined the University in 2006, is investigating nanoscale thermal conduction and mechanical

strength correlation in high-temperature ceramics as part of his efforts in the YIP. It coincides well with his work in the department's Multiphysics Laboratory, where he is studying advanced ceramic matrix composites for use in energy plants. High-temperature ceramics that can work in extreme environments — radiation or corrosion — would significantly benefit the coal industry and the development of nuclear power. For example, a simple increase in operating temperature (made possible through new high-temperature ceramics) can result in increased energy efficiency.

Although not part of his YIP research, Tomar also is studying biomaterials such as bone issue and biosensors. In one project, he is analyzing the structure-property relationships for bone tissue in different chemical environments to determine how different drugs affect the properties (including strength) of bone tissue.

In another research effort using molecular analyses, he is focusing on understanding the fundamental mechanisms that control biofunctional materials in extreme environments, such as a highly radioactive environment or sensitive physiological environment (a diseased part of

the human body).

Xing's YIP focuses on the quantum limits of nitride RF high-electron mobility transistors. Through experimental and theoretical approaches, she is investigating the physical origins of the upper limit of speed and power-handling capabilities in gallium-nitride based semiconductor transistors in order to advance the development of the next generation radio frequency applications.

Similar electronic devices, featuring reduced size and lower energy consumption, have already been employed in cell phone base stations. Xing envisions that high-electron mobility transistors could replace bulky power adapters with millimeter size chips, deployed in hybrid engines in automobiles, efficient terahertz (THz) emitters and a host of other applications.

Xing's project aligns with her interests in nitride semiconductors and electronic and optoelectronic devices. Her current research activities in this area include the integration of heterogeneous materials using direct wafer bonding, development of high energy efficiency green light emitting diodes for solid state lighting, as well as ultraviolet and infrared emitters, and THz detection technologies for medical applications.

World Renowned Human Rights Activist

Winona LaDuke

On

"The New Energy Economy"

Nonviolent Strategies of Change Utilizing
Indigenous Knowledge

Wednesday, December 3, 2008

7:00 PM

Hesburgh Auditorium
Hesburgh Center For International Studies

"Promoting Equity through Intellectual Exploration and Cultural Celebration"



Harvard educated Winona LaDuke, Ojibway from the Mississippi Band of Anishnaabeg, is a world renowned activist and advocate for environmental, women's, and indigenous peoples rights. LaDuke's powerful lectures introduce audiences to issues of energy, justice, and opportunities to "democratize power production." Sustainable energy presents an amazing opportunity to promote peace, justice, and equity nationally and internationally.



Co-Sponsored by Center for the Study of Social Movements and Social Change, Kroc Institute for International Peace Studies, Center for Social Concerns, Gender Studies Program, and the Office of Multicultural Student Programs and Services (MSPS)

MARKET RECAP

Stocks

Dow Jones 8,149.09 -679.95

Up: 523 Same: 48 Down: 3,358 Composite Volume: 2,420,784,979

AMEX 1,228.55 -135.46
NASDAQ 1,398.07 -137.50
NYSE 5,092.66 -506.64
S&P 500 816.21 -80.03
NIKKEI (Tokyo) 7,964.28 -432.94
FTSE 100 (London) 4,065.49 -222.52

COMPANY	%CHANGE	\$GAIN	PRICE
SPDR S&P 500 (SPY)	-8.86	-7.98	82.11
CITIGROUP INC (C)	-22.20	-1.84	6.45
FORD MOTOR CO (F)	-5.20	-0.14	2.55
FANNIE MAE (FNM)	-27.59	-0.32	0.84

Treasuries

10-YEAR NOTE	-8.05	-0.238	2.719
13-WEEK BILL	-50.00	-0.010	0.010
30-YEAR BOND	-7.20	-0.251	3.236
5-YEAR NOTE	-11.37	-0.221	1.723

Commodities

LIGHT CRUDE (\$/bbl.)	-5.15	49.28
GOLD (\$/Troy oz.)	-42.20	776.80
PORK BELLIES (cents/lb.)	-1.68	92.23

Exchange Rates

YEN	93.7750
EURO	0.7931
CANADIAN DOLLAR	1.2448
BRITISH POUND	0.6715

IN BRIEF

Retailers offer deals on 'Cyber Monday'

NEW YORK — Retailers who saw Thanksgiving holiday sales drop off as the weekend progressed stepped up online promotions on the day known as "Cyber Monday" to try to get consumers tired of the crowds at stores to keep shopping.

But after weeks of already heavy discounting both at regular stores and online, experts were doubtful that the day would give much of a lift to what is still expected to be one of the weakest holiday seasons in years.

"People are expecting that deals will only get better as we approach the Christmas time frame," said Youssef H. Squali, an analyst at Jefferies & Co. "So while Cyber Monday is significant I wouldn't say today is the only day to track. People may opt to wait a little more."

The Monday after Thanksgiving was dubbed "Cyber Monday" by the National Retail Federation trade group in 2005 to describe the unofficial kickoff to the online retail season — when customers shopped at their desks as they returned to work. But with more deals advertised ahead of time and more consumers with high-speed access at home, the day has lost some luster.

Manufacturing falls to 26-year low

WASHINGTON — A gauge of U.S. manufacturing activity that fell to a 26-year low Monday followed similarly weak readings in Europe and China, fueling fears of a deepening global downturn.

The Institute for Supply Management's index of manufacturing activity for November fell to 36.2 from October's 38.9. The reading was worse than Wall Street economists' expectations of 38.4, according to a survey by Thomson Reuters. A figure below 50 indicates the sector is contracting.

The November reading is the lowest since May 1982, the Tempe, Ariz.-based ISM said. The report is based on a survey of corporate purchasing managers.

The report came the same day that the National Bureau of Economic Research, a private group, said the U.S. economy has been in a recession since December 2007.

U.S. officially declared in recession

Wall street tanks, experts say economy is likely to suffer well into 2009

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Most Americans sorely knew it already, but now it's official: The country is in a recession, and it's getting worse. Wall Street convulsed at the news — and a fresh batch of bad economic reports — tanking nearly 680 points.

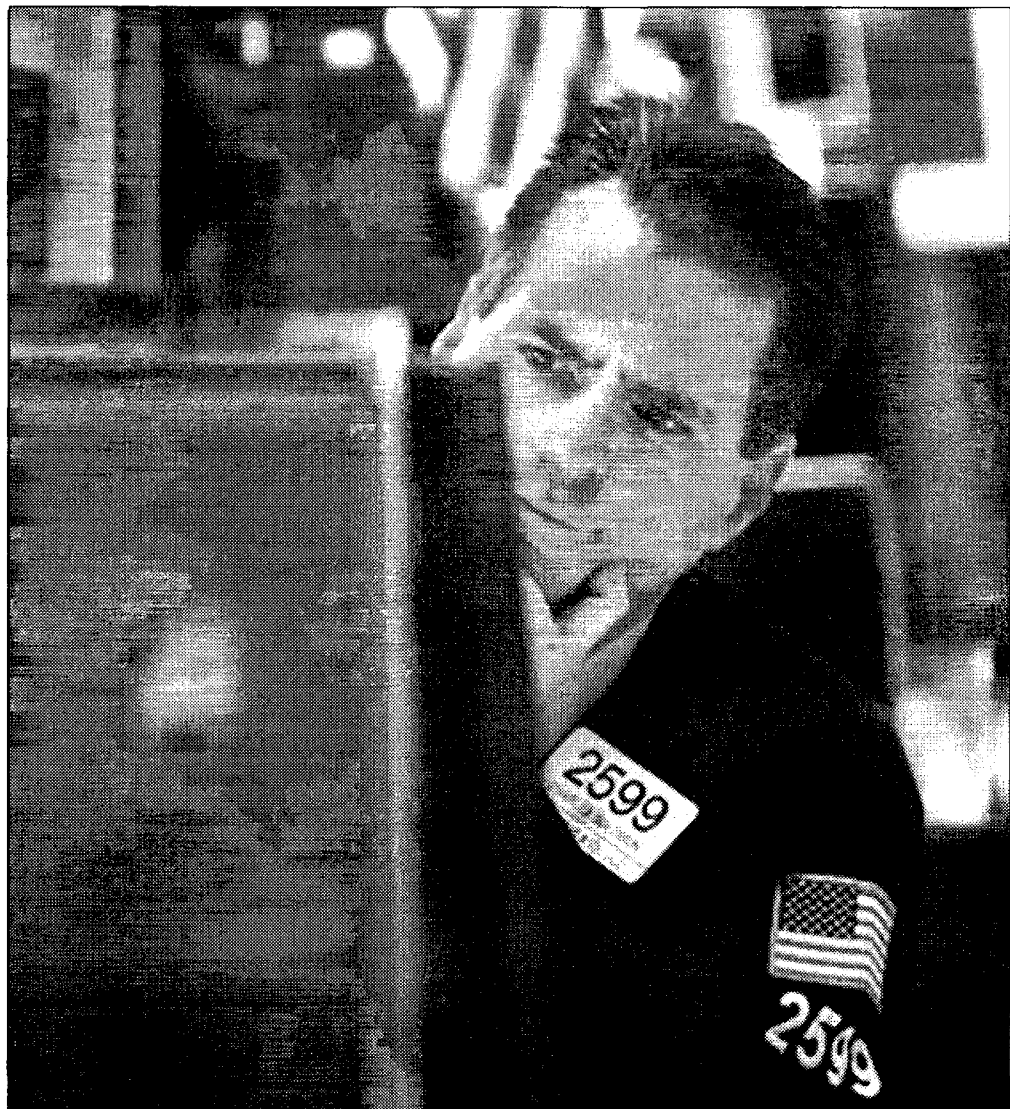
With the economic pain likely to stretch well into 2009, Federal Reserve Chairman Ben Bernanke said Monday he stands ready to lower interest rates yet again and to explore other rescue or revival measures.

Rushing in reinforcements, Treasury Secretary Henry Paulson, who along with Bernanke has been leading the government's efforts to stem the worst financial crisis since the 1930s, pledged to take all the steps he can in the waning days of the Bush administration to provide relief. Specifically, Paulson is eyeing more ways to tap into a \$700 billion financial bailout pool.

On Capitol Hill, House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif., vowed to have a massive economic stimulus package ready on Inauguration Day for President-elect Barack Obama's signature.

That measure — which could total a whopping \$500 billion — would bankroll big public works projects to generate jobs, provide aid to states to help with Medicaid costs and provide money toward renewable energy development. Crafting such a colossal recovery package would mark a Herculean feat: Congress convenes Jan. 6, giving lawmakers just two weeks to complete their work if it is to be signed on Jan. 20.

President George W. Bush, in an interview with ABC's "World News," expressed remorse about lost jobs, cracked nest eggs and other damage wrought by the financial crisis. "I'm sorry it's happening, of course," said Bush. The president said he'd back more government



Specialist Charles Solomon works at the New York Stock Exchange last month. Wall street has continued to decline.

intervention.

None of the pledges for more action could comfort Wall Street investors. The Dow Jones industrials plunged 679.95 points, or 7.70 percent, to close at 8,149.09.

It was another white-knuckle day, punctuated by grim economic reports. An index of manufacturing activity sank to a reading of 36.2 in November, a 26-year low, the Institute for Supply Management reported. Construction spending fell by a larger than expected 1.2 percent in October, the Commerce Department said.

Adding to the gloom, the National Bureau of

Economic Research, a group of academic economists, concluded Monday that the country has been suffering through a recession since December 2007.

With NBER's decision, the United States has fallen into two recessions during Bush's eight years in office. The first one started in March 2001 and ended in November of that year.

The economy jolted into reverse in the final three months of last year. After a short spring rebound, it contracted again in the summer. Economists say it is still shrinking and will continue to do so through at least the first quarter of next year.

Unlike past recessions, consumers are bearing the brunt of this one. Clobbered by job losses, hard-to-get credit and hits to their wealth from sinking home values and plunging portfolio investments, consumers have cut back sharply on their spending, throwing the economy into chaos.

Watching customers' appetites wane, employers have throttled back on hiring. The unemployment rate in October zoomed to 6.5 percent, a 14-year high. So far this year, 1.2 million positions have disappeared. The jobless rate is likely to climb to 8 percent or higher next year.

Bush apologizes for economic crisis

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President George W. Bush expressed remorse that the global financial crisis has cost jobs and harmed retirement accounts and said he'll back more government intervention if needed to ease the recession.

"I'm sorry it's happening, of course," Bush said in a wide-ranging interview with ABC's "World News," which was airing Monday. "Obviously I don't like the idea of people losing jobs, or being worried about their 401(k)s. On the other hand, the American people got to know that we will safeguard the system. I mean, we're in. And if we need to be in more, we will."

The U.S. economy fell into a recession in December 2007, the

National Bureau of Economic Research reported on Monday. Many economists believe the current downturn will last until the middle of 2009 and will be the most severe slump since the 1981-82 recession.

On the war in Iraq, Bush said the biggest regret of his presidency was the "intelligence failure" regarding the extent of the Saddam Hussein threat to the United States. With the support of Congress, Bush ordered the U.S.-led invasion of Iraq in March 2003 — a decision largely justified on grounds — later proved false — that Saddam was building weapons of mass destruction.

Asked if he would have ordered the U.S.-led invasion if intelligence reports had accurately indicated

that Saddam did not have the weapons, Bush replied: "You know, that's an interesting question. That is a do-over that I can't do. It's hard for me to speculate."

During a discussion about what Americans should know about what it is like to be president, Bush was asked what he was most unprepared for going into the office.

"I think I was unprepared for war," he said. "In other words, I didn't campaign and say, 'Please vote for me, I'll be able to handle an attack.' In other words, I didn't anticipate war. Presidents — one of the things about the modern presidency is that the unexpected will happen."

On the presidential election, Bush called Barack Obama's victory a "repudiation of Republicans."

THE OBSERVER VIEWPOINT

page 8

Tuesday, December 2, 2008

THE OBSERVER

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

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Alternatives to go green

While GreeND's campaign to lower energy use and cost by handing out fluorescent lights are admirable, I feel that it's important to note that there are alternatives to fluorescent lighting that also save energy and don't have all of the negative aspects of fluorescent bulbs.

First of all, many people forget or ignore the fact that fluorescent lighting simply isn't a feasible alternative for some people and locations. Because fluorescent lights don't work properly in very cold temperatures, they don't work well as outdoor lighting in certain parts of the country. Other problems with fluorescent lights include the mercury inside them, which is released if they are accidentally broken, and is released into the ground and water when they are thrown in the garbage. Other negative effects of fluorescent lighting occurs at a more personal level. In the workplace and in schools, studies have shown that fluorescent lighting increases irritability, blood pressure, and misbehavior among children. Many individuals with conditions that can cause photosensitivity, such as epilepsy and lupus, experience health problems due to fluorescent lighting. Many people also experience severe headaches and eye strain due to fluorescent light bulbs.

It's certainly true that fluorescent lighting is the most energy efficient option, but its unpleasant light (even among "warm" CFLs, many people consider the light unflattering and unpleasant) and the immediate health ramifications led me to search for other options. Although they give off a lot of heat, some halogen lights are far more efficient than other incandescent bulbs without the hideous light and mercury of its fluorescent counterparts. Philips has released a line of natural-light bulbs called EcoVantage that save 25 percent on energy. As LED technology improves, it may prove to be a viable alternative for accent lighting.

I fully agree with GreeND's desire to save energy, but I believe it's important to do so without introducing highly unpleasant and even dangerous light. What I believe is most important, however, is ensuring that we don't force fluorescent light bulbs on people who don't want to fill their homes with limited-spectrum light that may cause them headaches or health problems. As I said, I fully support GreeND's desire to save the Earth through energy conservation, but we should also explore other options that are more pleasant and healthy, and ensure that if consumers want to pay the higher energy bills to continue using full-spectrum, warm, pleasant incandescent lighting, they are free to do so.

Kelsey Robertson

junior

Regina Hall

Nov 18

Please don't stop the music

So we may not be doing so hot in football, but at least we can still proudly say we have tradition: the Friday afternoon pep rally, the band's performance at Bond Hall, the football player's exiting mass, tailgating with friends and family, and the list goes on. For me, the epitome of Irish football tradition is Friday's Drummer's Circle at midnight.

I look forward to yelling and dancing as I scream my lungs out. I am obviously a huge fan of the Notre Dame drumline and love to show my support by coming out and cheering with them every single home game weekend. This is the best opportunity to show my school spirit and get amped up for the game. This past weekend was no exception; I went to the steps of Main Building, despite the low temperatures and the good amount of snow on the ground, for the last Drummer's Circle of the year. Once I made my way to the front of the crowd, I was rudely pushed back by NDSP as they shined their flashlight in my eyes. Although this got me a bit upset, NDSP was doing its job; they were making room for the drumline. I only question what was, according to me, excessive use of force. Like I said, however, I don't mind being pushed a little as long as I get to hear those beats.

But what ruined this last Drummer's Circle for me was when

four or five drunken guys, two with solo cups in hand, stepped inside the circle and interrupted the performance. They tried to quiet the protesting crowds; one was yelling slurred words to announce that a top recruit for next year was among them. Honestly, I'm not exactly sure what he was saying or who this recruit was, nor do I care. For me, not even Jimmy Clausen is important enough to interrupt the drumline.

Anyway, what makes me really upset is the fact that NDSP did nothing about it. They were not shining lights in their eyes, they were not pushing them out of the circle, they were nowhere to be seen! It just makes me wonder if it is a coincidence that NDSP was conveniently absent while these drunken guys who were possible future football players interrupted the performance, that maybe this was preferential treatment towards athletes, especially the football players. Would NDSP have been missing if it were normal students the ones in there?

Caroline Green

sophomore

McGlinn Hall

Nov 23

True meaning lost

Being a senior I admit that I was disappointed with how the game ended on Saturday, but when I read the viewpoints in November 23rd's paper, I was even more disappointed. Nobody talked about our senior football players. We are so wrapped up in the future of the coaching staff and what was thrown during the game that the true meaning of the day was lost.

I remember the end of sophomore year after the Army game and the farewell that the senior football players received. I'll tell you now that the current senior worked just as hard as they did and deserve the same amount of credit even though the last two years have not been the best in the history of the program. In fact, they stuck it out through a transition that we all knew would be brutal, and yet they came back full of energy and willingness to serve a storied tradition during its darker days.

What are we giving them in return for four or five years of lives? If there is anything that has defined my last four

years at this wondering institution, it has been my friends, my major, and Notre Dame Football. I have loved every minute of it: the tailgating, the games, the feelings of triumph and the feelings of despair. Every weekend of fall semester, the student body has been brought together as one by Notre Dame Football.

It is time that we all thank the seniors for what they have done for us all. So on behalf of myself, the senior class, and the student body, I would like to thank you, seniors. We appreciate everything that you have done for us, and we will not forget your devotion or determination.

James Welle

senior

Stanford Hall

Nov 24

OBSERVER POLL

Should Charlie be fired?

Vote by Thursday at 5 p.m. at
www.ndsmcobserver.com

Submit a Letter
to the Editor at
www.ndsmcobserver.com

QUOTE OF THE DAY

"Such is the inconsistency of real love, that it is always awake to suspicion, however unreasonable; always requiring new assurances from the object of its interest.."

Ann Radcliffe
author

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Syracuse, snowballs, and seniors

After watching the egregious show of ineptitude that was the football game against Syracuse, three major problems stood out in my mind as I reflected upon my last Notre Dame football experience as a student. Just chatting with depressed fellow seniors after the game, I could tell that these three issues — despite all the craziness that transpired — stood out perhaps the most:

1. We lost. Obviously. Not only did we lose, but we lost to a team that, according to Sagarin rankings, is worse than 12 non-bowl-subdivision teams. It would be easy to rip apart our coaching, or our effort, or just the team in general — but I don't want to. I want to believe in Weis. I want to believe ND will return to prominence. Plus, that's a topic for another article.

2. Lack of respect for the senior class. Please, do us a show of respect — we've stood by you through thick and thin, good (2005, 2006) and bad (actually, the worst season in ND history, 2007). It would have been a nice gesture to address the senior section at the end of the game, instead of the traditional march over to freshmen.

3. The senior walk-ons and non-starters. Those who don't quite make the depth chart deserve a

chance to play at home, which presumably is why former AD Kevin White scheduled such a patsy of an opponent for the last home game of the season. Oops. These guys work hard, day in and day out, for little to no recognition. They are the ones who keep the guys that see the field — and television cameras and fame (infamy?) associated with it — in fighting form. The unsung heroes, in this case, remain unsung, and it was a heartbreaking sight for all of us seniors to behold.

Oh, and a note about the snowball-throwing debacle: 99.9 percent of the seniors in the section not only were not throwing at the team, but also thought that the idiots who were should be ejected. And some were, from what I saw. Moreover, it sure seemed like these clowns were aiming at the Indiana State Troopers (mean-mugging, goofy-hat-wearing and all) rather than the team. God knows we have more animosity towards those guys than any football team, losing or not.

Kevin Marvinac
senior
off-campus
Nov. 24

Weren't you listening?

This year, I participated in the creation of College HAS Issues, the annual presentation that is mandatory for all incoming freshman. Of course, HAS represents Hookups, Alcohol, and Sex, and we hoped to prevent the incoming freshman from making serious mistakes in any of these areas. Apparently, Melissa Buddie in her Nov. 19th letter concerning her own first semester at ND must have slept through my portion. I spoke for roughly fifteen minutes about ... that's right, the hook-up culture and its negative effects on the formation of lasting relationships.

The following are direct quotations of what I said to the entire freshman class this past August:

"Obviously the hookup culture is not very conducive to strong and lasting relationships. I would say that it actually impairs you in how you approach your relationships, because you are so used to doing it one way ... with no strings attached and most times with alcohol. But this is not a relationship, and rarely ever can it lead to a meaningful relationship. In fact, all it ever really leads to is an awkward moment in the dining hall."

"As I talked with other friends, over and over I heard that the outcome of hook-ups is awkward run-ins in the dining hall the day after; never talking to that person again; and that it makes relationships — even friendships — nearly impossible. You quickly realize that campus is not that big after all ... really!"

"The hook-up culture creates a situation where

we are not striving for real relationships; we just want what is quick and easy. The work hard/play hard mentality translates to sexual activity; in fact, sexual activity becomes just another thing to check off our "to-do list" for the week — and almost always it involves serious binge drinking."

"Given the hook-up culture, I think many people have a skewed idea of how real relationships work. If you only go through your college career pursuing hookups, then you won't be prepared to form successful relationships once you get out of college. From my experience, getting caught up in the hookup culture only leads to a skewed perspective on your self-value and your value of others. It's objectification of the opposite sex, especially women."

At the time, I had assumed that most incoming freshman were old enough and mature enough not to need such advice. But upon reading that letter, it became clear that perhaps some of us may need a friendly reminder (especially as every aspect of the harmful effects of hookups discussed was also found in what I had already said). We don't need to run any experiments to demonstrate the harmful effects of such interactions (especially not six times). We just need to practice some common sense.

Jim Ogorzalek
sophomore
Siegfried Hall
Nov. 24

Alumni need compassion

My last game as a student at Notre Dame was pretty much as painful as could possibly be expected. Yes, I cried. I stood the entire game, including half time, in the freezing cold, just like the rest of the senior class. I cheered my hardest. I did every possible thing I could think of to make the experience the best I possibly could. I went to the Pep Rally and Drummers' Circle. I tailgated. I ate a steak sandwich at the Knights of Columbus stand and a brat from a student-run concession stand. I participated in the marshmallow fight at half time. I did NOT throw snowballs. At anyone. And I DID ask those around me to stop. I got hit with a pretty hard snowball right in the neck and I suffered the redness and cold for the rest of the game.

I don't think that students were trying to injure the players or anyone. They were trying to make the best of the fact that they were stuck in the snow for four hours. The snowballs that I saw being thrown were all well before we even considered it a possibility that we might lose that game. It was very immature and childish, but for me, the snowballs were the very least of what made my experience so sad. I didn't get to celebrate the end of my football fan-dom as a

student. Instead, I got to see Syracuse jumping around in the middle of our band during the Alma Mater and Fight Song. I will never be able to forget that sight and how terrible it made me feel. I didn't get to see our senior players run around the field one last time. The team ran out that tunnel as soon as they possibly could. We students stayed out there for a long time afterward, but the players were gone immediately.

And then, to top it all off, now alumni are writing in to the Observer and saying things like, "Class of 2009, you are an embarrassment to yourselves and to Domers everywhere." Thanks a lot alumni. I really appreciate your support. The Notre Dame family is really making me feel loved. You're really helping an already painful situation. You guys are saying that you thought the student body was better than that. Well, I thought our alumni were smarter than to make hurtful generalizations like that. Apparently we were all wrong.

Tanya VanSkyock
senior
Breen-Phillips Hall
Nov. 24

Pianos duel controversy

In response to Tyler Deschamps's "Dueling Pianos and the Catholic Identity", I agree with your sentiments wholeheartedly. I, too, was in the audience at the Dueling Pianos show at Legends. I assumed it would be a night of simple entertainment in line with Notre Dame's Catholic identity. This, as would be proven later that evening, was clearly a false assumption. Like Tyler, I was shocked and offended by the performers' choice of songs. "FHG" — I dare not say the actual title, but you know what it is — shocked my sensibilities. Of course, not wanting to seem a wet blanket, I laughed and chortled along with the rest of the crowd, but inside I was deeply offended. Tyler, if that music violated your personal taste as it did mine, I have a nice album of Gregorian chants you can borrow if you want. Track 6 is particularly moving.

Michael Scully
senior
Zahm Hall
Nov. 21

Snowball reactions

Coach Weis said he was "taken aback" by the snowball throwing incidents at the Syracuse game. It's funny that he should feel that way. I for one have been taken aback for the entirety of my two seasons as a Notre Dame student by this team. Since pro football dominates my hometown of New York, I didn't know much about college ball before coming here, but I was given some impressions. Notre Dame was a premier program. They recruit the top players in the country, win things, and generally don't embarrass the University. Perhaps the part about top recruits is correct, but I've seen anything but premier football under Charlie Weis. I'm not calling for his termination, just suggesting that Charlie Weis should be taken aback by how he doesn't get top performance out of his "top recruits" rather than snowball throwing. Thankfully motivational wizards Jeff Jackson and Mike Brey will carry us through the winter.

Brian Wysocki
sophomore
Keenan Hall
Nov. 24

Band tops USC

Occasionally, USC loses a football game. But like our perpetual sunshine, the SC Band always wins, easily outclassing the lesser bands of the Pac-10. So imagine SC fans' shock and surprise when our Irish band not only visited the Coliseum for the first time last weekend, they conquered it. ND's band easily outplayed, out-marched, and out-choreographed the Trojan marching band. They even got an ovation from the usually tough SC crowd. Most of my USC friends have never been out of the Coliseum or the Pac-10. Many didn't even know we had a storied marching band of our own. They do now. As a native of Los Angeles and 1985 grad of ND, I know the Coliseum can be a lonely place for Domers. To the Notre Dame Fighting Irish Band, thanks for making the trip and giving all of us, including my SC friends, something else to talk about besides the final score. See you again in 2010!

Tod Tamberg
alum
class of '85
Nov. 30

This space here is wasted paper.
Save trees. Submit a letter.
www.ndsmcobserver.com



IN THE MIND OF "THE KING OF GONZO"

The life of Hunter S. Thompson

July 18, 1937: Born in Louisville Kentucky to Jack Robert, an insurance adjuster and Army vet., and Virginia Davidson Ray.

July 13, 1952: Thompson's father dies.

1955-1958: Thompson serves in the U.S. Air Force in Texas, Illinois and Florida. He covers sports for the Eglin Air Force Base newspaper, The Command Courier.

1961: Writes two novels, "Prince Jellyfish" and "The Rum Diary." "The Rum Diary" is eventually published in 1998.

1963: Marries longtime girlfriend Sandra Dawn Conklin.

1965: Moves to San Francisco, experimenting with hippie and drug culture.

1966: Writes "Hell's Angels: The Strange and Terrible Saga of the Outlaw Motorcycle Gangs." Thompson immerses himself in Hell's Angels culture, riding and writing with the bikers for a year. This style of writing later comes to be known as "Gonzo journalism."

1972: Writes and publishes "Fear and Loathing in Las Vegas: A Savage Journey to the Heart of the American Dream."

1980s and 1990s: Thompson continues writing, publishing "The Curse of Lono," articles in Rolling Stone, Playboy and the San Francisco Examiner. He also follows various presidential campaigns, writing "Better Than Sex: Confessions of a Political Junkie" about the 1992 campaign.

February 20, 2005: Thompson commits suicide at his home in Woody Creek, Colorado.

By ANALISE LIPARI
Scene Editor

The name "Hunter S. Thompson" may seem unfamiliar to most young people today. To a generation born well after the monumental changes of the 1960s, Thompson's brand of writing, Gonzo journalism, might only conjure up images of a fuzzy blue Muppet rather than the decidedly countercultural approach to writing and to life that Thompson embodied throughout that decade and the rest of his life. The author of "Fear and Loathing in Las Vegas" and "Hell's Angels: The Strange and Terrible Saga of the Outlaw Motorcycle Gangs," a pioneering journalist and a countercultural icon, Thompson was a man to be reckoned with for his literary force alone.

A documentary film titled "Gonzo: The Life and Work of Dr. Hunter S. Thompson" was released earlier this year, and it tracks Thompson's life and career, as well as his unique place in the rising tides of the 1960s in America. The film's soundtrack features clips of actor Johnny Depp's narration, recordings of Thompson himself, and a slew of 60s rock tracks that pepper the film as they did Thompson's life.

"The Edge," the album's third track, is one of the most striking narration clips on the soundtrack, summing up much of the philosophy that ran through Thompson's vivid writing. "The edge

is. There is no honest way to explain it. Because the only people who really know where it is are the ones who have gone over. The others, the living, are those who push their control as far as they felt they can handle it and pulled back or slowed down. The edge is still out there."

The term "Gonzo" comes from Thompson's love for a wacky, instrumental track, "Gonzo" by James Booker, the album's fifth track. The song begins with a whimsical air, employing flute and electric organ in its decidedly "mod," meandering melody. This instrumental track effectively sets up the listener with an element of Thompson's mindset.

"Weird and Twisted Nights" is credited to Ralph Steadman, Hunter S. Thompson and Mo Dean, and features a slower beginning and low-key vocals that pick up speed as the song continues through its images of "mangled bodies." On a historical note, Steadman was a British cartoonist who is best known for giving illustrated life too much of Thompson's work.

One of Thompson's favorite bands, Jefferson Airplane, contributes a lesser known track of theirs, "It's No Secret," to the album. It's something of a departure from better known Jefferson Airplane releases, such as "White Rabbit," but still feels distinct. The liner notes reveal that Thompson had a crush on lead singer Grace Slick, whose distinctive voice shines on this guitar-driven anthem. Another countercultural icon, Lou Reed, adds "Walk on the Wild Side" as the album's eleventh song.

One of the soundtrack's strengths is its curious diversity; in addition to tracks like those listed above, it includes one of Thompson's other musical loves, bluegrass, on "My Old Kentucky Home Goodnight." The song is an exercise in quiet, vocally-driven bluegrass. Right afterward is a track by Big Brother and the Holding Company, the band that brought Janis Joplin to the world. "Combination of the Two" allows Joplin's grainy, powerful vocals to float sharply above the music of this Haight-Ashbury concoction.

On the subject of life and living in San Francisco, Depp's smooth reading of Thompson on "The Wave" belies the rising power of the countercultural movement. "It was madness in any direction, at any hour. You could strike sparks anywhere. There was a fantastic universal sense that whatever we were doing was right, that we were winning."

"And that, I think, was the handle. That sense of inevitable victory over the forces of old and evil... We were riding the quest of a high and beautiful wave."

Other highlights of the soundtrack include Hot Chocolate's "You Sexy Thing," the album's pair of Bob Dylan tracks, including a live version of "Maggie's Farm," and "Get Together" by The Youngbloods. Thompson himself would often champion The Youngbloods' work as more powerful than most critics gave it credit for, down to the track's recognizable chorus. "C'mon, people now/ Smile on your brother/ Everybody get together/ Try to love one another right now."

If anything, the "Gonzo" soundtrack is a fascinating look into the mind of a revolutionary man through the music he knew and loved. Any fan of sixties music, ranging from Creedence Clearwater Revival to Lou Reed, should check out this album.

Contact Analise Lipari at alipari@nd.edu

*The film's
soundtrack features
clips of actor Johnny
Depp's narration,
recordings of
Thompson himself,
and a slew of 60s
rock tracks that
pepper the film as
they did Thompson's
life.*

Gonzo: The Soundtrack Various Artists

Released by: SonyBMG Music
Entertainment

Recommended Tracks: "Maggie's
Farm," "Help Me," "Get Together"



IRISH INSIDER

Tuesday, December 2, 2008

THE
OBSERVER

USC 38, Notre Dame 3

Good grief, Charlie

Irish gain just 91 yards of offense in blowout at the Coliseum

By DAN MURPHY
Sports Editor

For the second time in as many years, No. 5 Southern California hung 38 points on Notre Dame en route to a 38-3 victory in Los Angeles Saturday.

The Trojans rolled to their seventh straight victory over the Irish — the longest streak in the rivalry's history — behind an impressive showing from senior quarterback Mark Sanchez. Sanchez finished his final home game with 267 yards passing and two touchdowns.

"Well, it's a rivalry game and it's always tough to lose to any rival, but losing like this is obviously tough," Irish senior Pat Kuntz said.

On the other side of the ball, the No. 1-rated USC defense stopped the Irish in their tracks. Notre Dame was held to a field goal on its only trip into Trojan territory and did not pick up a first down until the final play of the third quarter.

The Irish defense kept things close through most of the first half, but the offense didn't help it out. With just over nine minutes until the break, Trojans senior cornerback Cary Harris picked off a tipped Jimmy Clausen pass to give USC the ball at the 45-yard line. Clausen finished the day 11-for-22 with two interceptions.

The very next play senior Joe McKnight broke loose and juiced his way through the secondary to give USC a 14-0 lead. The score was the first of the season for McKnight.

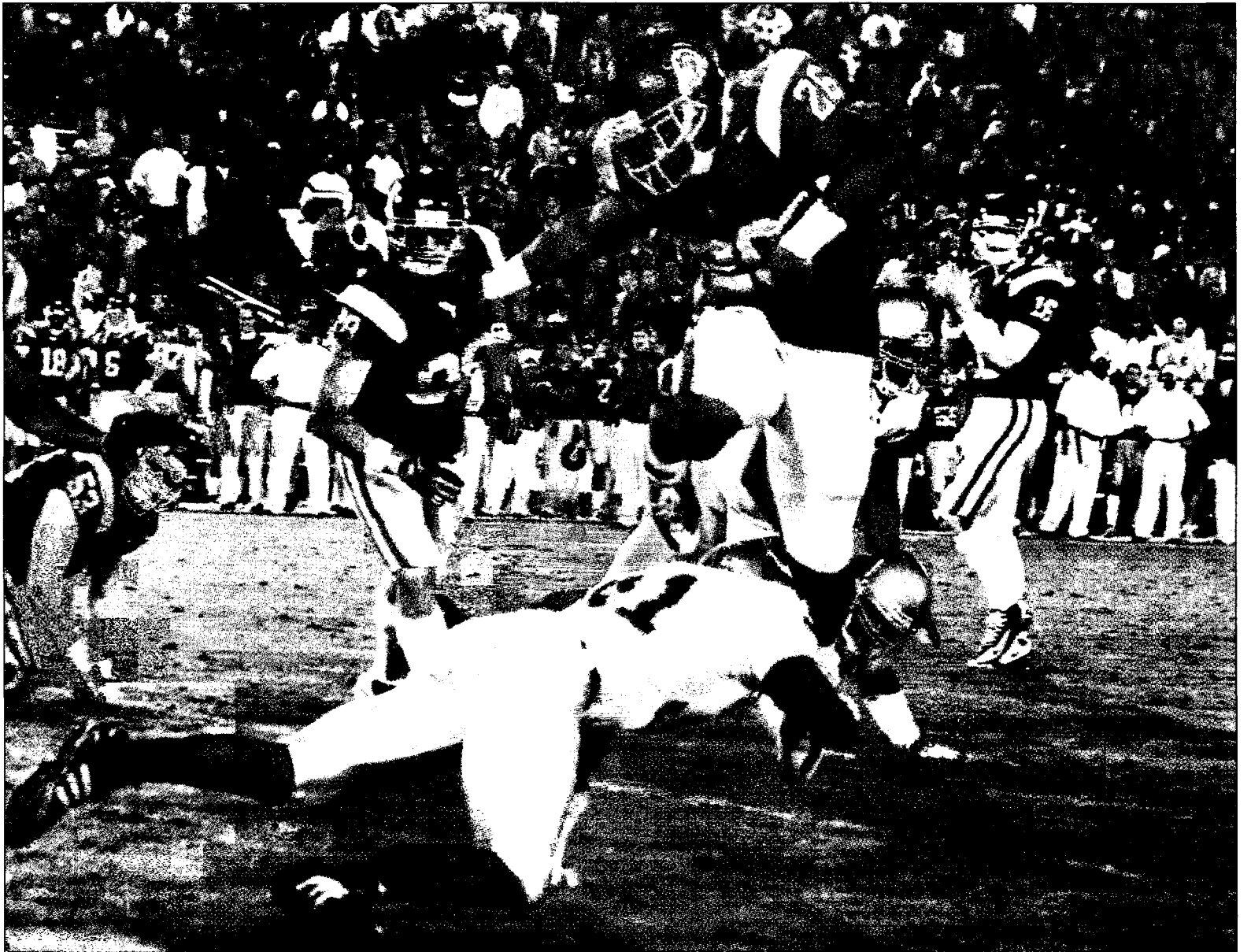
"I think that our lack of productivity on offense with USC defense led to our defense wearing down and giving up some of those big plays," Irish coach Charlie Weis said.

All three USC running backs — C.J. Gable, Stafon Johnson and McKnight — finished the day with a touchdown and combined for 175 yards on the ground.

The Trojans followed McKnight's score with back-to-back scoring drives to close out the half.

Sanchez connected with McKnight for a 14-yard gain and then he found fullback Stanley Havili on the next play for another 39 yards.

After one unsuccessful run play, Sanchez went back to



ALLISON AMBROSE/The Observer

Trojans tailback Marc Tyler jumps over Irish defensive back Sergio Brown during Southern Cal's 38-3 win over Notre Dame in Los Angeles Saturday. Tyler had seven rushes for 58 yards, and the Trojans gained 175 yards on the ground against the Irish.

the air, hitting an open Damian Williams over the middle for the score. Williams led all receivers in the game with seven catches for 86 yards.

On the following drive, Notre Dame got backed up to its one-yard line before it was forced to punt to Johnson. Johnson made it to the end zone on the return, but the play was called back due to a block in the back.

Sanchez drove his team inside the red zone once more before settling for a field goal with under a minute to go, giving USC a 24-0 lead going into the break.

The score stayed there until midway through the third quarter when Sanchez got hot once again. This time he connected with Patrick Turner for a gain of 17, then Irish linebacker Toryan Smith got hit with a pass interference

call that gave the Trojans a first down on the 11-yard line.

From there Gable took over, rushing three times before getting into the end zone for his team-leading eighth touchdown of the year.

The Irish finally cracked the scoreboard on their first drive of the fourth quarter. The Irish gave the ball to junior James Aldridge on seven of eight plays — the eighth was an incomplete pass intended for Aldridge — to move the team into field goal range. He rushed for 51 of his 64 yards on the drive before Brandon

Walker came in and hit the 41-yard field goal attempt.

Aldridge could play a big role in a potential bowl game for the Irish, who may be without their two other running backs for at least the first half. Sophomore Armando Allen suffered a leg injury early in the game Saturday and did not return. Weis said after the game that he was not certain of Allen's status.

Fellow sophomore back Robert Hughes will also miss the first half of his next game because he was ejected in the final minutes after getting in a scuffle with a Trojan

defender.

"That really bothers me that a guy gets punched in the face and he gets thrown out of the game, you know, for getting punched in the face," Weis said.

The two rivals got in several shoving matches late in the game and almost broke into a brawl during pre-game warm-ups. The two teams met as Notre Dame came out of the tunnel to stretch and needed to be separated by coaches.

"We were ready to go," Clausen said. "From the time we left South Bend we said we weren't going to back down."

The Irish finished their regular season at 6-6 with losses in four of their final five games.

Contact Dan Murphy at dmurphy6@nd.edu

*"We were ready to go.
From the time we left
South Bend we
weren't going
to back down."*

Jimmy Clausen
Irish quarterback

player of the game

Damian Williams
USC receiver

Williams caught seven passes for 86 yards and a touchdown

stat of the game

45

Minutes it took Notre Dame to get a first down

play of the game

Joe McKnight's 55-yard touchdown run in the second quarter

The play put USC up by 14 and turned the tables after Notre Dame threw an interception

quote of the game

"If you ever want to be a championship team, that's where you have to be."

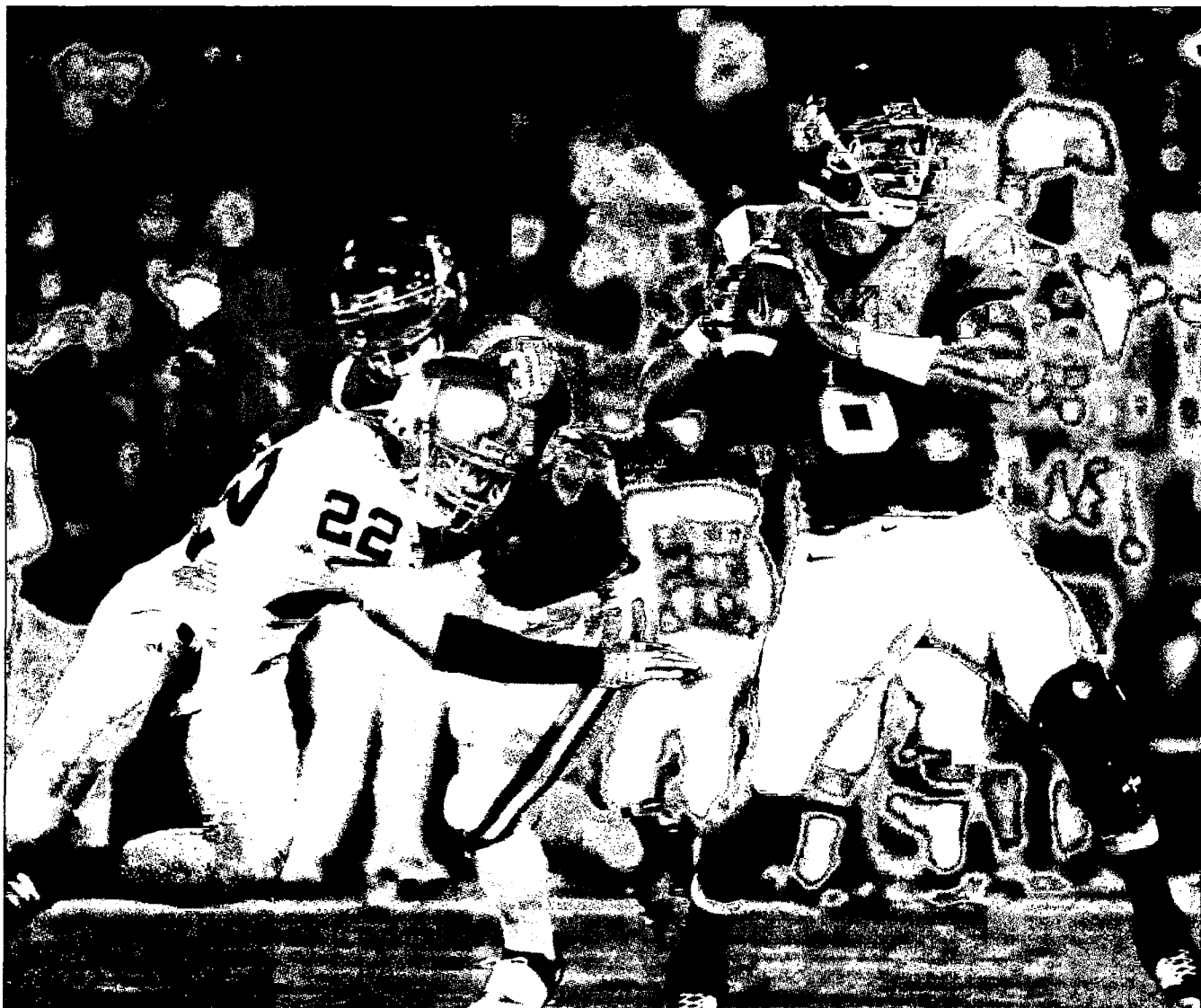
Charlie Weis
Irish coach

report card

- D** **quarterbacks:** Clausen threw two interceptions, one on the second play of the game and another that led to a USC touchdown. He struggled to keep drives going with the passing game.
- D** **running backs:** The backs rushed for 50 yards, an average of 1.9 yards per carry. They couldn't convert third-and-shorts, and Hughes got ejected from the game.
- C** **receivers:** The receivers weren't asked to do a whole lot, but couldn't do much once they got the ball: the longest catch of the game was 11 yards.
- F** **offensive line:** Clausen was sacked four times and had to leave the pocket often. The line didn't clear any holes for the backs and left the ball-carriers open for tackles for losses.
- C** **defensive line:** USC rushed for 175 yards, less than other Irish opponents, but the line allowed some big runs and couldn't get much pressure on Sanchez.
- C** **linebackers:** The backers held their own against an athletic USC offense, but they couldn't keep points off the board. Sanchez had success through the air and the Trojan backs ran wild.
- B-** **defensive backs:** Blanton, Gray and McCarthy each intercepted passes, but the secondary couldn't stop Sanchez. Blown coverage allowed Sanchez to find a wide-open Williams for a touchdown.
- C** **special teams:** Walker gave Notre Dame its only points with a 35-yard field goal, and the coverage teams played fairly well. The unit as a whole did not disappoint, but also didn't make big plays.
- F** **coaching:** The playcalling was predictable, the team looked flat and uninspired and was not prepared to play a team of USC's caliber. The offensive game plan failed and the defense couldn't stop the Trojans.
- 1.4** **overall:** The Irish landed themselves on academic probation this week. They've got some studying to do before a possible bowl bid at the end of this month.

adding up the numbers

- First downs Notre Dame earned in the game. **4**
- 5** Times the Trojans scored when in the red zone, on six chances.
- Average yards per rushing attempt for Notre Dame. **1.4**
- 15.8** Yards per carry for Trojans tailback Joe McKnight.
- Yards rushing for Notre Dame. **50**
- 8** Years since Notre Dame beat USC in the Coliseum.
- Time of possession for Notre Dame during the first three quarters. **17:47**
- 449** Yards on offense USC racked up against the Irish.



Trojans quarterback Mark Sanchez prepares to pass while Irish linebacker Harrison Smith attempts to tackle him. Sanchez passed for 267 yards and had two touchdowns and two interceptions.

An open letter to Charlie Jr.

LOS ANGELES — Dear Charlie Weis Jr.,

We've never met so I don't know what your personality is like, or how you handle criticism of your father, but I can probably guess that it hurts, probably more than when someone says something bad about you.

Every coach's son grows up idolizing his father. You think he's the smartest guy in the world. You think nobody is a better coach than he is. And you don't believe it when anyone says otherwise.

At least that's how I felt growing up. My father, Chet, was the head basketball coach at my high school, Bishop Hoban, in Wilkes-Barre, Pa., for 33 years. After my junior year, his job status was up in the air. A handful of angry parents were displeased with his performance — we finished just around .500 that year — and felt he should be doing better with the talent he had.

It was only a handful of parents, but it was the right parents — those with the deep pockets — that wanted him out. The boneheaded principal listened to them and took the matter under consideration and for weeks, we waited until he made the decision.

Waiting was truly the hardest part.

While we waited, people made accusations about my father and stabbed him in the back,

just as I'm sure you've probably seen reports in various newspapers or Web sites, quoting sources — both named and anonymous — that take shots at your father.

And maybe you heard the USC fans Saturday — and even the Notre Dame fans last week — say-

ing you're dad stinks and should be fired as he was walking into the locker room. It's cheap and it's petty.

But at the same time, you probably realize that the team that dejectedly walked off the field Saturday wasn't the same team it was at the beginning of the year. It resembled the team that took the field week in and week out last season: The offensive line struggled mightily and as a result, the offense did nothing. The defense, while spirited in the beginning, wore down from being on the field too much. As happened all last season, and Notre Dame can't have its team looking like it did in 2007.

You don't want these critics to be right, but when you see the team play like this, you begin to worry if they're right to say your dad can't inspire his team and can't develop the talent that he brings in because he can't relate to college players.

As for my dad, his critics said he many of the same things couldn't motivate the team to play, that he was wasting talent, and that he couldn't relate to high school kids. Funny, because after all, I was a high school kid, and he always related to me pretty well. But I recognized that we had talent and things just weren't clicking that season, and it frustrated a lot of people. I worried that people would think those critics were right.

The mistake was, I took it all personally. It was hard to get up and go to school every day, and have to face the same rumors and accusations from these small people all over again.

For weeks, we kept waiting. The parents who wanted my dad out even organized a meeting to rally support for their cause.

In my head, I imagined all the conversations they were having with each other, all the long phone calls they must've had to plot dad's removal. I thought, "Don't these people have anything better to do

with their lives than worry about the basketball team? After all, it's just sports, there are more important things to worry about."

When you see these Web sites, read the newspaper or watch ESPN, you might have the same opinion.

I was distracted in every aspect of my life. There were some long, even sometimes tear-filled nights where I couldn't stop worrying. I saw what they were doing to my dad. He, too, became sadder and angrier during this time, and that made me even angrier.

Finally, the school let him have one more year. An odd arrangement, but we made the most of it, winning our district title and advancing to the state quarterfinals. So much for the argument that he couldn't coach anymore.

Charlie Jr., you're going to hear a lot of rumors — many more at Notre Dame than we heard at my high school. Tune them out.

You're going to hear a lot of talk on TV. Turn it off.

And you'll probably see some things in the newspaper. Throw it in the trash.

People, young and old, have said and will always say nasty things about your father. Sadly, this sort of dialogue is a part of our American sports culture.

When my dad was done coaching, it was tough, but everything did work out in the end. The whole ordeal actually brought us closer together than ever. Nobody can take away all that he accomplished, just as nobody can take away all your dad has accomplished — Remember, he's the only guy on campus with four Super Bowl rings.

As you go through the next few weeks, don't let the waiting get to you. It's just not worth it.

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

Contact Chris Hine at chine@nd.edu



Chris Hine

Editor-in-Chief

Ineffective offense dooms Irish

By JAY FITZPATRICK
Assistant Managing Editor

LOS ANGELES — Anyone looking for the main reason that Notre Dame fell to No. 5 USC Saturday needs to look no farther than the top of the stat sheet.

In the 38-3 loss, the Irish ran 49 offensive plays for 91 yards, good for a 1.9 yards per play average. On the other side of the ball, the Trojans had an average of 6.8 yards per play, with 449 yards gained on 66 plays.

The rest of the stat sheet looks to favor the Irish, who played a disciplined game (except for the occasional scuffle). The turnover margin was even with three apiece and USC actually had more penalties than Notre Dame did (eight flags for 80 yards against the Trojans and only two for 22 yards against the Irish).

Notre Dame coach Charlie Weis credited a lot of his team's offensive inability to the Trojan defense, which was one of the best in the country in both scoring and yards going into this game.

Weis said the Trojans backed into a cover-2 shell, something they have not done often this year.

"They're more of a press-man, bring an extra guy down in the box," he said. "But they felt they could stop us with their front seven and they were able to do that."

The Trojans managed to sack Notre Dame quarterback Jimmy Clausen four times Saturday, all from the front seven and only one from a linebacker.

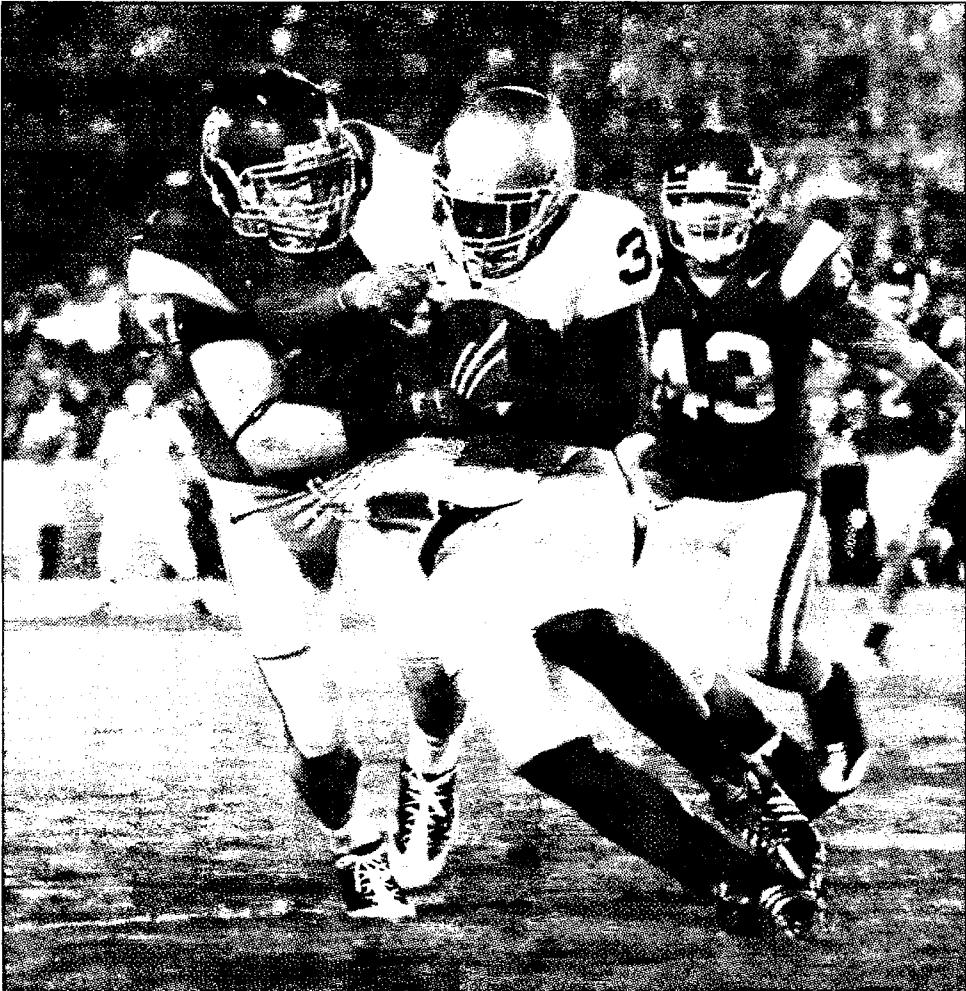
"They were able to get to us without having to bring any heat early in the game. Really I think that at the end of the day, the lack of productivity on offense and USC's defense led to our defense eventually wearing down and giving up more and more big plays," Weis said.

Clausen said the way to adjust to the cover-2 defense would be to try running the ball more and checking down to shorter options in the passing game.

Notre Dame's offense could not do this effectively, in large part due to USC's defense. Any running plays or short passes were quickly snuffed out by the Trojan linebacking corps, led by Bednarik finalist Ray Mauluga.

"They're one of the top defenses in the country, if not the best defense in the country," Clausen said.

The forced check-downs made the passing game Saturday easily the worst in Weis' tenure with the Irish, and Clausen finished the game 11-of-22 passing with 41 yards and two interceptions.



VANESSA GEMPIS/The Observer

Irish running back Robert Hughes tries to break a tackle during Notre Dame's 38-3 loss to USC Saturday. Hughes had nine yards on three carries.

The low yardage totals are most surprising, since the deep ball had been one of Notre Dame's most potent offensive weapons during the first 11 games of the season. But against the Trojans, the leading Irish receiver in terms of yards was wide-out Golden Tate, who had two catches for 15 yards. In the loss to Syracuse on Nov. 22, Tate had seven catches for 146 yards and two touchdowns.

The Irish only managed one first down in the first three quarters of play: a 15-yard run by James Aldridge as the last play of the third quarter. Later on that drive Notre Dame's offense would see Trojan territory for the first time.

Aldridge accounted for more than half of the team's total offense against USC, with 58 yards on 12 carries. Most of those yards came on Notre Dame's field goal drive spanning the end of the third and the beginning of the fourth quarter.

The Irish did hang with the Trojans through the first quarter, and were losing

only 7-0 despite giving up five times as much total offense to USC (118 yards to 21 through the first 15 minutes). Weis attributed this early score to his defense's passion and emotion going into the game.

"In this game, I think that our defense let us hang around there for a while because their defense was working us pretty good right until the end of the third quarter," he said.

But early in the second quarter, after the defense had just forced a Trojan three-and-out, Clausen threw a pass intended for tight end Kyle Rudolph into heavy coverage. Mauluga tipped the pass, which linebacker Kaluka Maiava grabbed for the pick, Clausen's second.

That play ended up as a turning point for the game, since Joe McKnight followed it immediately with a 55-yard touchdown run to double the USC lead.

Contact Jay Fitzpatrick at jfitzpa5@nd.edu

scoring summary

	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	Total
Notre Dame	0	0	0	3	3
USC	7	17	7	7	38

First quarter

USC 7, Notre Dame 0
Stafon Johnson 2-yard run with 4:06 remaining (Buehler kick). Drive: 12 plays, 79 yards, 7:11 elapsed.

Second quarter

USC 14, Notre Dame 0
Joe McKnight 55-yard run with 9:05 remaining (Buehler kick). Drive: 1 play, 55 yards, :10 elapsed.

USC 21, Notre Dame 0
Damian Williams 12-yard pass from Mark Sanchez with 4:48 remaining (Buehler kick). Drive: 5 plays, 67 yards, 2:33 elapsed.

USC 24, Notre Dame 0
Buehler 35-yard field goal with 0:24 remaining. Drive: 8 plays, 32 yards, 2:09 elapsed.

Third quarter

USC 31, Notre Dame 0
C.J. Gable 1-yard run with 5:03 remaining (Buehler kick). Drive: 6 plays, 44 yards, 2:37 elapsed.

Fourth quarter

USC 31, Notre Dame 3
Brandon Walker 41-yard field goal with 11:45 remaining. Drive: 9 plays, 51 yards, 3:51 elapsed.

USC 38, Notre Dame 3
Patrick Turner 17-yard pass from Mark Sanchez with 7:57 remaining. Drive: 9 plays, 84 yards, 3:51 elapsed.

statistics

total yards

ND	91
USC	449

rushing yards

ND	50
USC	175

passing yards

ND	41
USC	274

return yards

ND	70
USC	40

time of possession

ND	25:59
USC	34:01



passing

Clausen	11-22-2	Sanchez	22-31-2
---------	---------	---------	---------

rushing

Aldridge	12-58	McKnight	4-63-1
Allen	4-7	Tyler	7-59

receiving

Hughes	3-9	Williams	7-86-1
Allen	3-3	Turner	6-83-1
Tate	2-15	McKnight	3-0
Kamara	1-7	McCoy	2-26
Rudolph	1-4	Johnson	2-24

tackling

Blanton	7	Maiava	5
McCarthy	7	Morgan	3
Gray	5	McAllister	3
Johnson	5	Moore	3
Bruton	5	Casey	3

Anello breaks leg making tackle on return

By FRAN TOLAN and GREG ARBOGAST
Sports Writers

Notre Dame kick coverage standout Mike Anello was injured midway through the first quarter covering a punt. Anello made the tackle, but he injured his leg in the process. Anello was subsequently carted off the field with a full-leg brace, and reports after the game were that he fractured a bone in his leg. The tackle was Anello's 23rd of the season, good for 10th on the team.

Two down, one to go

Armando Allen left the game in the first quarter. Weis said he had a lower leg injury, and Allen was on crutches in the second half. Robert Hughes was ejected in the fourth quarter for fighting, and by NCAA rule will miss the

first half of any bowl game Notre Dame goes to. This means Robert Hughes will see the majority of the carries in a potential bowl game.

Early bird gets the points

When USC tailback Stafon Johnson scored on a two-yard plunge with 4:06 remaining in the opening quarter, it was the first time an opponent scored a first-quarter touchdown on the Irish defense since Sept. 27. On that day, Purdue tailback opened the scoring with a 22-yard scamper for a touchdown during Notre Dame's 38-21 victory.

Century Man

With a tackle late in the first quarter on Anthony McCoy, Irish strong safety Kyle McCarthy registered his 100th tackle of the season. With the tackle, McCarthy became the first player in the Notre Dame secondary to hit the century mark for tackles.

Standing Ovation

It took until the last play of the third quarter for Notre Dame to pick up their first first-down of the game, but the accomplishment was duly noted. When James Aldridge burst through the middle of the line for a 15-yard

"Our players practiced hard this week and had a good game plan going in. We really had our mind on this game only and unfortunately this is how the game turned out."

Kyle McCarthy

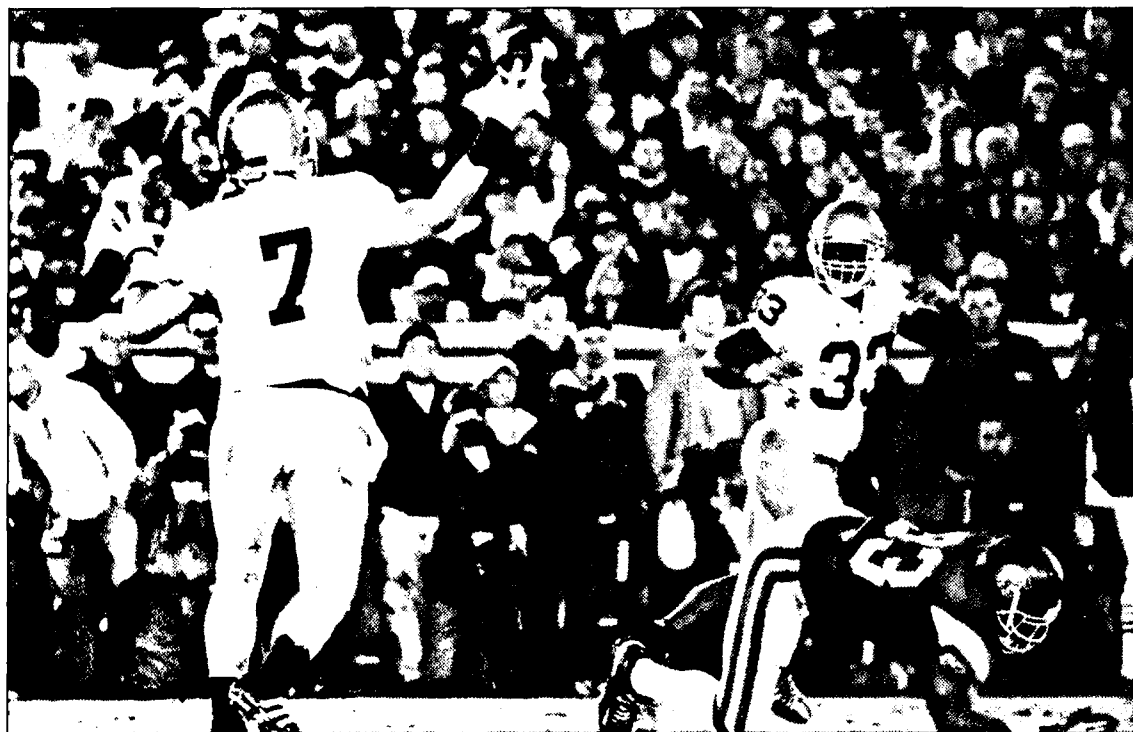
gain, the entire crowd — Irish and Trojan faithful alike — gave the Notre Dame offense a standing ovation.

Future of the program

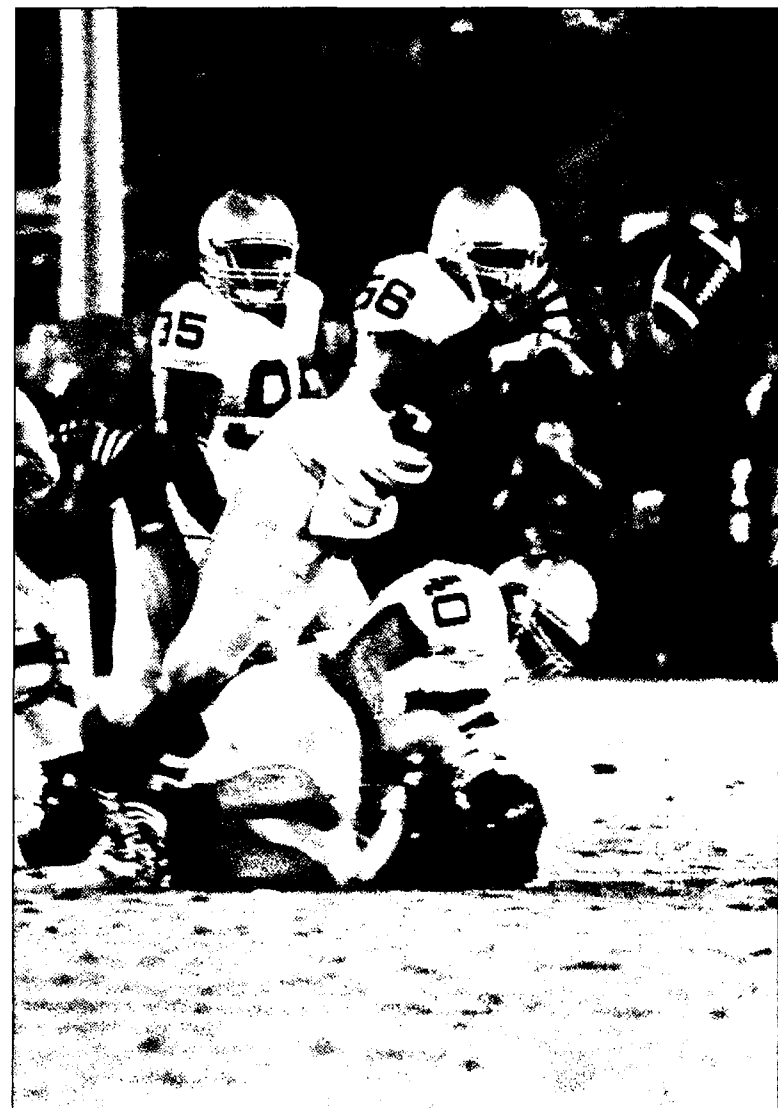
Notre Dame athletic director Jack Swarbrick said he will meet with Weis next Monday to discuss the season. Speculation swirls that Weis will be fired, but Irish safety Kyle McCarthy said the rumors didn't affect the players.

"It didn't affect us at all," McCarthy said. "Our players really practiced hard this week and had a good game plan going in. We really had our mind on the game only and unfortunately this is how the game turned out. We're a couple wins away from being a nine-win team and that falls on the players."

Contact Fran Tolan at ftolan@nd.edu and Greg Arbogast at garbogast@nd.edu



JESS LEE/The Observer

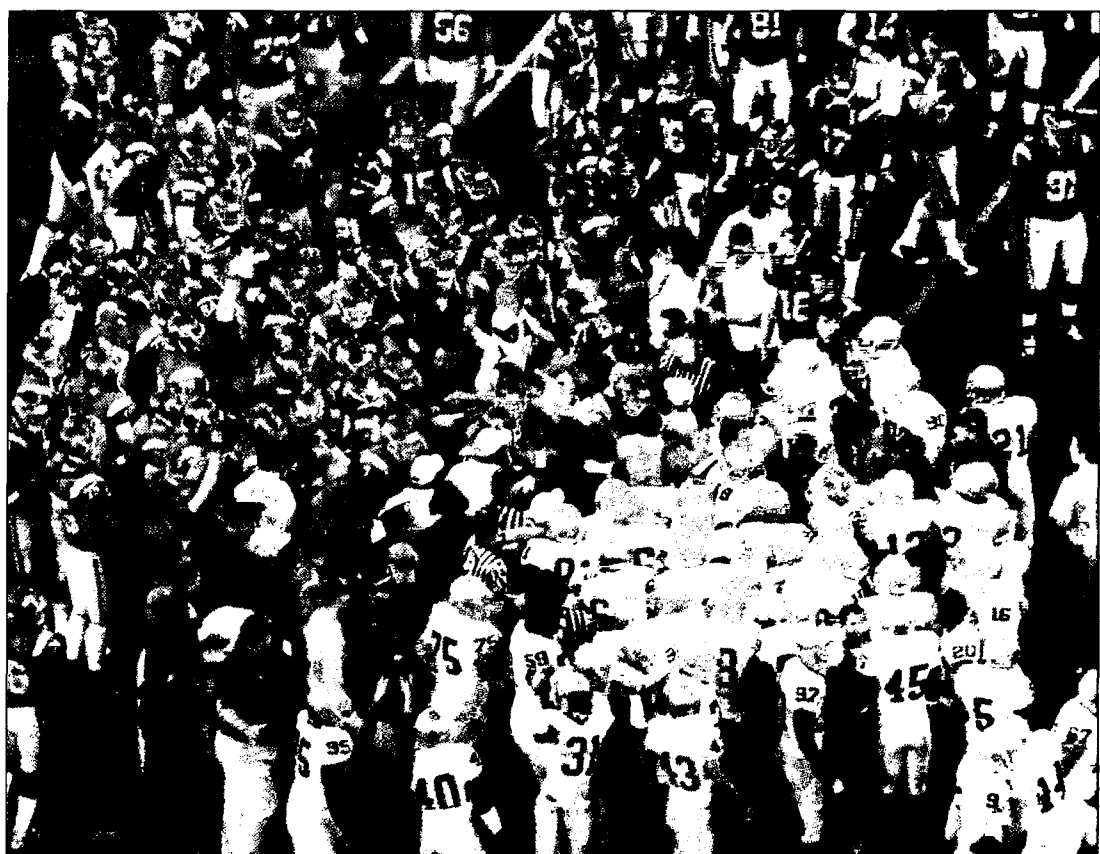


JESS LEE/The Observer

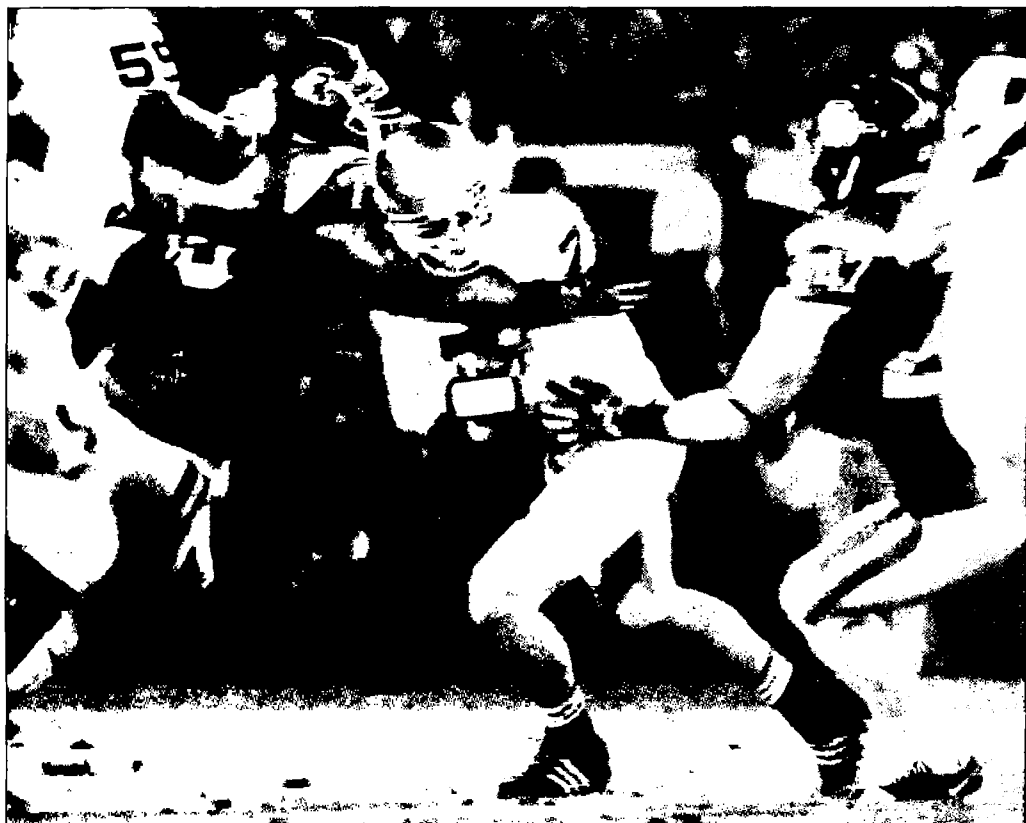
Laying down the L.A. law

The battle began before the game started. Irish and Trojan players clashed on the field, emotions overflowing. Once the game began, however, the battle turned into a bloodbath. Notre Dame hung with the Trojans in the first quarter and was only down by seven, but an interception and a long touchdown run quickly changed that. USC's 17 points in the second quarter put the game out of reach.

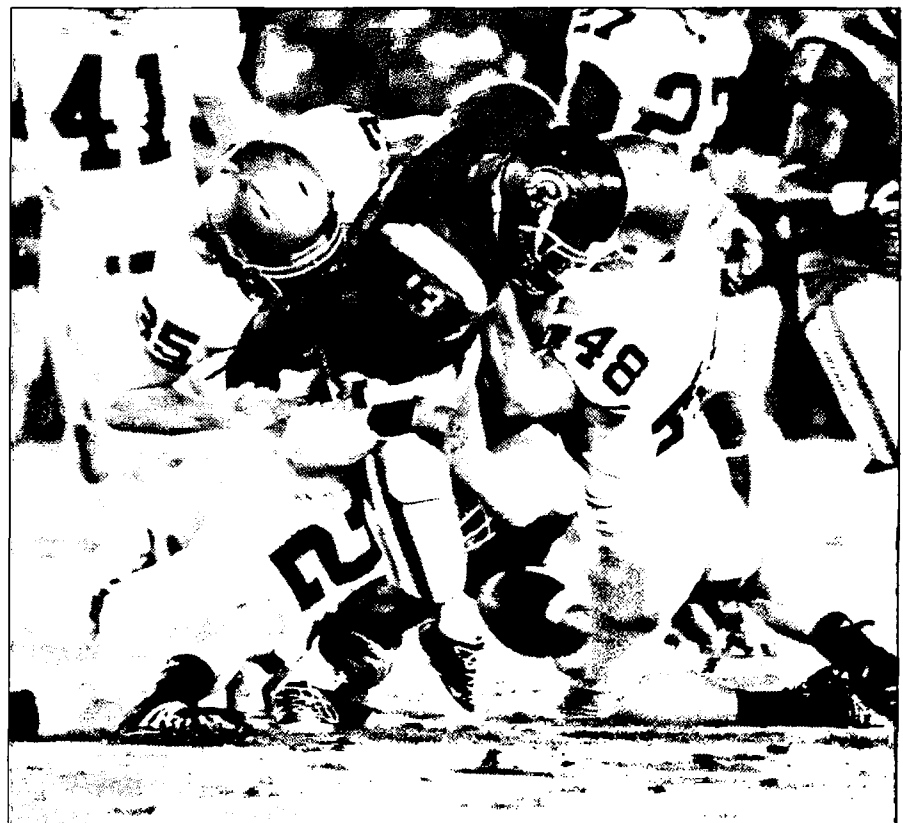
USC added to its lead with a one-yard touchdown run in the third quarter. It took the Irish 45 minutes — right up to the end of the third quarter — to get a first down, and the Irish didn't reach Trojan territory until the fourth quarter. Brandon Walker's field goal averted the shutout, but another Southern Cal touchdown pass ensured that Notre Dame could not cover the 31.5-point spread, the largest in the history of the series. Late-game scuffles on the field did nothing to change the outcome, and Notre Dame limped out of the Coliseum with an even record.



VANESSA GEMPIS/The Observer



ALLISON AMBROSE/The Observer



JESS LEE/The Observer

Clockwise from top, Clausen throws a pass to Robert Hughes; linebacker Kerry Neal dives to recover a loose ball; Notre Dame and USC players get in each other's faces before the game; Irish linebackers Steve Quinn, right, and Kevin Smith force Trojan running back Stafon Johnson to fumble; Trojan defenders sack Clausen.



twilight soundtrack melds sensitivity and power

By JESS SHAFFER
Assistant Scene Editor

It provides the right musical blend for vampires and their significant others, and it can do the same for ordinary people as well. This 14-song mix is just some of the music that set the mood for the holiday season, teen blockbuster, *Twilight*. And for those, who (despite constant attention paid to Bella and Edward in books, movies, and the on the Web) still can't get enough, this soundtrack will help feed the *Twilight* addiction. Still, the album has an eerily unusual and enjoyable mix that can stand on its own, even without the *Twilight* phenomena.

With a peculiar, and yet satisfying, blend of pounding, aggressive techno-rock hybrid, hypnotic indie, and tender, slow love songs, the *Twilight* soundtrack is surprisingly cohesive. An underlying anomaly connects the tracks with an indescribable quality subtly created by sound, lyrics, and tone that unpredictably work together. Going off the heavily beaten path of solely popular hits, the mix generates an offbeat concoction that translates from film to album, and has potential to suit *Twilight* fans and those not so vampire obsessed alike.

The appeal of *Twilight*'s soundtrack is that it's atypical and unpredictable in equal parts. At one moment, the processed sound of techno-rock pushes a fast, beating tempo and, at the next, captivating raw vocals are crooning over minimal instrumental. And yet, the swings from one end of the spectrum to the other are well balanced and coherent, starting off with fast paced beats and descending to soothing opera and instrumental.

The first tracks are generally high energy. But they go beyond a film's stereotypical "power jams." Instead, characterized by a blend of the better attributes of rock and techno, these energetic songs have a distinct tension. Maybe it's the mixing of genres or maybe it's the lyrical themes of empowerment and temptation (that obviously speaks to the themes of *Twilight* on the whole). More expressly, this appealing tension seems to derive from all the artists attempt to control their powerful music, keeping it forceful without being overbearing or chaotic.

A good example of this is Mutemath's "Spotlight." Using rhythmic clapping and melodic humming to make a revved up tempo, this track translates to an equally empowered feeling for listeners. Additionally, "Supermassive Black Hole" by Muse sets the tone for the entire album with its thumping pace and tough vibe.

A similar chanting, rhythmic vibe is continued in other tracks like Blue Foundation's "Eyes on Fire" and The Black Ghost's "Full Moon," other album highlights. It's not only the rhythmic quality of the tracks that sew a thread from one high powered track to another but also an eerily off beat sound that is nonetheless confident in its atypical power. Tracks like these, while more subtle, are the strength and backbone of the album that help transition between mellow and vigorously aggressive melodies.

The heart wrenching love songs are all similarly unhurried and deliberate. More importantly, they all seem to have an enthralling spirit. Iron and Wine's contribution, in their never-fail heart-warming, romantic style, enchants listeners with the magical "Flightless Bird, American Mouth."

But perhaps the most surprising musical contributor is the star of the movie himself, Rob Pattinson. Lending two tracks to the album, Pattinson's crooning is soulful, measured, and breathtakingly redolent of pain and love. While he's said that a musical career is a backup, his musical talent has a captivating ability that reeks a maturity that his acting skills lack. Sadly, these are the only two tracks available from Pattinson, whose talent could no doubt create more beguiling music.

Also, the instrumental and classical portions of the soundtrack are worth being mentioned. While Carter Burwell created the entire score for the film, his touch is only found on the soundtrack in "Bella's Lullaby," which comes off a bit more like seductive piano playing rather than calming, bed-time lullaby. More from Burwell would have been a welcome addition. His talent easily could have replaced tracks from more predictable, unexciting artists like Paramore, which probably should have been left out in the first place. Additionally, "Clair de Lune" provided a classical, charming piece that nicely works in with the rest of the album.

Unconventional film themes somehow translate into an atypical sound that is just as appealing as the story for which it sets the mood. Some tracks utilize a powerful tension that encompasses equal parts of aggressive passion, empowering poignancy, and measured restraint. Others have an affecting sensitivity that will pluck at listeners' heart strings. And still other songs instrumentally create charmingly enchanting melodies.

Perhaps all styles are in their own way memorizing and this is the quality that defines and unites the album as a whole. And while, of course, certain tracks are so evocative of their respective cinematic scenes that it is hard not to be sucked into the film, for the most part, the *Twilight* soundtrack can stand on its own as a offbeat, captivating mix. It will speak not only to *Twilight* fans but also to those who simply love a cohesive variety of none-generic, satisfying music.

Contact Jess Shaffer at jshaffe1@nd.edu.

Twilight: The Soudtrack

Various Artists

Released by: Chop Shop Records

Recommended Tracks: "Spotlight", "Let Me Sign," "Flightless Bird, American Mouth," "Full Moon"




DAVID BYRNE
& BRIAN ENO
EVERYTHING
THAT HAPPENS
WILL HAPPEN
TODAY

: New but not novel

By MARTHA KARAM
Scene Writer

Time has treated David Byrne and Brian Eno well. Over 25 years after their collaborative and experimental 1981 release "My Life in the Bush of Ghosts," Byrne and Eno team up in a familiar sounding summer Internet release, "Everything That Happens Will Happen Today." Byrne and Eno's latest collaboration sounds exactly how you would expect a Talking Heads and Brian Eno album to sound. Take Byrne's vocals and soothingly sanctified lyrics and place them onto Eno's distinctly warped electronic-rock sound and you get "Everything That Happens."

If you're looking for an album that goes outside of what you expect from Eno and Byrne, "Everything That Happens" will not suffice. Most of the songs on the album are comparable in either lyrical mode or sauntering beat to any Talking Heads album you've heard. If you happen to be a big

Talking Heads fan, this album is a lot like what you would expect from the band somewhere between "Remain in the Light" and "Speaking in Tongues."

Byrne's vocals have changed little, if at all, for the better, becoming slightly less comical and irritating than his Talking Heads days. The tracks "I Feel My Stuff," "Poor Boy," and "Wanted For Life" carry the most obvious influence from Eno with their more synthesized sound and stick-out on the album as more current and accessible.

The ironic single off the album, "Strange Overtones," is a poppy song about a song. The concept of a song about songwriting seemed doomed. But despite its literal lyrics of "melting snowballs" and "hearing your feet in the apartment next door", the song's subject ties together the entire album's idea of the transcendent pleasures of music over time and even Byrne's personal beliefs.

The second song off the album, My Big Nurse, is testament to that subject. As an

ode to Byrne's confidence in a high being, and the biblical references scattered throughout the entire album hints that Byrne's higher being just might be God.

The music on the album is contemporary, but the lyrics could easily be placed on an album over a half-century earlier and still be appreciated in a completely different context. The ability of the lyrics to match Eno's instrumentation is why Byrne and Eno make a good team.

The ability of the lyrics to be timeless as well as modern makes Byrne's influence on the album more overtly memorable than Eno's influence. It is also Byrne's influence that makes the album sound more like a Talking Heads' album than anything else.

There is one difficulty in listening to this album. When a producer and his artist get together to make an album again, it's a chore to avoid similarities and associations in sound to their previous work. If you are willing to accept that this album is not going to be a refreshingly novel sound check out "Everything That Happens Will

Happen Today." The album manages to be unique from most music being released today, regardless of Byrne and Eno's experience and practice in music for three decades.

The full streaming album is available on the official site (<http://www.everythingthathappens.com>), but for the deluxe edition, which contains 5 extra tracks, you can now order a physical copy.

Contact M. Karam at mkaram2@nd.edu

EverythingThat Happens Will Happen Today

Brian Eno and DavidByrne

Released by: Legacy Records

Recommended Tracks: "I Feel My Stuff", "Poor Boy", "The Eyes"



Richardson, Bobcats ease past Timberwolves

Pierce's strong fourth quarter helps Celtics earn ninth straight victory; Magic's road winning streak snapped at six

Associated Press

CHARLOTTE, N.C. — The point guard was nearly mistake-free. The big man was finally getting the ball — and converting. The shooter looked as good as ever following arthroscopic surgery.

It took a while, but the Charlotte Bobcats finally appear to understand coach Larry Brown's complex offense.

Jason Richardson scored 25 points in another strong performance after being sidelined with knee trouble, leading the suddenly efficient Bobcats to a 100-90 win over the error-prone Minnesota Timberwolves on Monday night.

After starting 3-9, the Bobcats have won three of their last five games, with a close loss to defending champion Boston during that stretch. In his record ninth NBA head coaching job, Brown appears to be making progress with a team that won only 32 games under Sam Vincent last season.

"It's pretty difficult because there are so many demanding things that he wants you to do," Richardson said of the 68-year-old Brown. "But we're a team that's willing to learn, was ready to listen and looking for something different. We still don't have everything down, but the things we're doing are heading toward it."

While Richardson scored at least 21 points for the third straight game since his return after sitting out seven contests following exploratory surgery on his right knee, he got plenty of help.

Emeka Okafor, often invisible in the paint this season, added a season-high 24 points on 9-of-14 shooting. The notoriously poor free-throw shooter made all six from the line and added 10 rebounds.

Raymond Felton had a season-high 14 assists, and didn't commit his only turnover until just more than 2 minutes remained. Felton and rookie D.J. Augustin (nine points, four assists) continued to play well in Brown's two-point guard backcourt.

"When we have those two

guys in together, we get extra passes," Brown said. "That makes other people better."

Randy Foye scored 23 points and Mike Miller added 19 points and 10 rebounds for Minnesota, which was never in sync in its second straight loss. Top scorer Al Jefferson was held to eight points on 3-of-11 shooting and Minnesota committed 14 of its 18 turnovers in the first half.

It was the end to a bad day for the Timberwolves, who learned in the morning that top defender Corey Brewer will miss the rest of the season with a torn anterior cruciate ligament in his right knee.

"There are going to be nights you don't have it offensively," coach Randy Wittman said.

"If you don't continue to do things at both ends of the floor, then you can't play. I've got to find people to play."

With Bobcats part-owner Michael Jordan back in his courtside seat for a second straight game following a two-week absence, Charlotte took the lead for good on Richardson's reverse alley-oop dunk on a feed from Augustin midway through the second quarter.

After Minnesota cut a 12-point deficit to five, Charlotte then pulled away in the final period, highlighted by Richardson's spectacular, spinning alley-oop dunk off Felton's pass that made it 84-70 with 6:16 left.

The Bobcats had 28 assists and only 10 turnovers.

"A lot of guys played very, very well," Brown said.

The Timberwolves never had a good job of setting me up," Pierce, who scored only five points in the opening half, carried the Celtics

shot with Jefferson struggling. In his first game in Charlotte since scoring a career-high 40 points in April, Jefferson added nine rebounds and blocked six shots, but couldn't contribute on offense as he struggled with Charlotte's defensive scheme.

"They're doing a great job of just acting like they're going and stunting," Jefferson said. "It's messing me up."

After messing up for weeks under Brown, the Bobcats appear to be finally getting what their Hall of Fame coach wants.

"That's his history with

"It's pretty difficult because there are so many demanding things that he wants you to do."

Jason Richardson
Bobcats forward

"They're doing a great job of just acting like they're going and stunting. It's messing me up."

Al Jefferson
Timberwolves forward



Charlotte Bobcats guard Raymond Felton, right, tries to steal the ball from Minnesota Timberwolves guard Randy Foye during their game Monday night in Charlotte, N.C.

teams," Okafor said. "When he first comes in it takes some time to adjust. There's a learning curve. Once everybody learns it, people get going."

Celtics 107, Magic 88

Everything was working so well for Paul Pierce that his teammates just kept getting him the ball.

Pierce scored 17 of his 24 points in the third quarter to lead the Boston Celtics to their ninth straight win over the Orlando Magic on Monday night.

"We were just taking advantage of the matchups," Pierce said. "We saw something that we could do and we just kept going to it."

"We were just taking advantage of the matchups. We saw something that we could do and we just kept going to it."

Paul Pierce
Celtics guard

Pierce, who scored only five points in the opening half, carried the Celtics from a two-point halftime edge to a 12-point lead entering the fourth quarter.

Isolating against Hedo Turkoglu on a number of trips, Pierce scored 15 of Boston's 20 points as the Celtics pulled ahead 68-57.

When Pierce was contained driving the lane, he fired a

pass to Ray Allen, who nailed a 3-pointer from the top to make it 71-57.

After Pierce scored easily against Turkoglu, the Magic tried Rashard Lewis against Pierce, with only a little better success.

"He did what he's been doing all his career," Boston point guard Rajon Rondo said. "He had a rhythm and we continued to call plays for him."

Allen added 21 points, Rondo had 16 points with 12 assists and Kevin Garnett scored 15 points for the Celtics (17-2) in a win over a top Eastern Conference rival.

There were eight technicals whistled in the game, with referee Bob Delaney calling four in the first half.

"This was one interesting game. A lot of technicals," Boston coach Doc Rivers said, before joking: "I better be quiet before I get a technical."

Lewis paced Orlando (13-5) with 30 points. Turkoglu had 19 and Dwight Howard, the NBA's leading rebounder, had 14 points with 15 boards and four blocked shots.

"We didn't do a very good job on the pick and rolls in the second half," Orlando

coach Stan Van Gundy said. "I think more than anything it was a problem with our schemes and preparation."

The Magic had their four-game winning streak snapped. Orlando had won six straight road games, one short of its club record set at the start of last season.

Similar to the opening minutes of the game, when Boston broke ahead by 10 points, the Celtics controlled the tempo and appeared to run whatever they wanted on offense.

Boston, which held Orlando to 39 percent shooting in the first three quarters, led 77-65 at the break.

Eddie House's 3-pointer made it 92-75 with 6:50 to play, and Boston cruised the rest of the way, mixing starters with reserves.

In the opening half, the Celtics shot 60 percent and led 28-18 after one. They opened it up to 37-22 on Glen Davis' jumper before the Magic scored 10 straight points to get back into it.

The Magic were without their starting backcourt for the second consecutive game. Jameer Nelson was sidelined for his fourth straight with a hip flexor and Mickael Pietrus is on injured reserve with a torn right thumb ligament.

"Yeah, they smacked us tonight," Orlando guard Anthony Johnson said. "But with two healthy squads I feel very good."

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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PERSONAL

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

UNPLANNED PREGNANCY? Do not go it alone. If you or someone you love needs confidential support or assistance, please call Sr. Sue Dunn, OP, at (574)631-7819 or Ann Firth at 574-631-2685. For more information, visit our website at: <http://osa.nd.edu/departments/pregnant.shtml>

Sleigh bells ring, are you listening?
In the lane, snow is glistening
A beautiful sight, we're happy tonight
Walking in a winter wonderland.

Feliz Navidad,
Feliz Navidad,
Feliz Navidad,
Prospero Ano y Felicidad.
Roll Tide!

AROUND THE NATION

Tuesday, December 2, 2008

COMPILED FROM THE OBSERVER'S WIRE SERVICES

Page 13

NCAA Football BCS Top 25

	team	BCS avg	previous
1	Alabama (58)	0.971	1
2	Oklahoma	0.935	3
3	Texas	0.922	2
4	Florida	0.885	4
5	USC	0.808	5
6	Utah	0.784	6
7	Texas Tech	0.781	7
8	Penn State	0.737	8
9	Boise State	0.703	9
10	Ohio State	0.634	10
11	TCU	0.563	14
12	Ball State	0.531	15
13	Cincinnati	0.483	16
14	Oklahoma State	0.428	12
15	Georgia State	0.405	22
16	Georgia	0.331	11
17	Boston College	0.320	21
18	Brigham Young	0.314	18
19	Oregon	0.304	23
20	Missouri	0.282	13
21	Michigan State	0.255	19
22	Northwestern	0.122	24
23	Pittsburgh	0.101	25
24	Florida State	0.077	20
25	Virginia Tech	0.057	NR

NCAA Football AP Top 25

	team	points	previous
1	Alabama (62)	1,620	1
2	Florida (3)	1,516	2
3	Texas	1,488	4
4	Oklahoma	1,480	3
5	USC	1,355	5
6	Penn State	1,257	6
7	Utah	1,216	8
8	Texas Tech	1,197	7
9	Boise State	1,103	9
10	Ohio State	1,069	10
11	TCU	885	14
12	Ball State	834	15
13	Cincinnati	824	16
14	Oklahoma State	798	11
15	Georgia Tech	708	18
16	Oregon	630	19
17	Georgia	495	13
18	Boston College	482	20
19	Missouri	479	12
20	Brigham Young	385	20
21	Michigan State	312	22
22	Mississippi	280	25
23	Pittsburgh	241	NR
24	Northwestern	190	24
25	Oregon State	122	17

NCAA Hockey USA Today Rankings

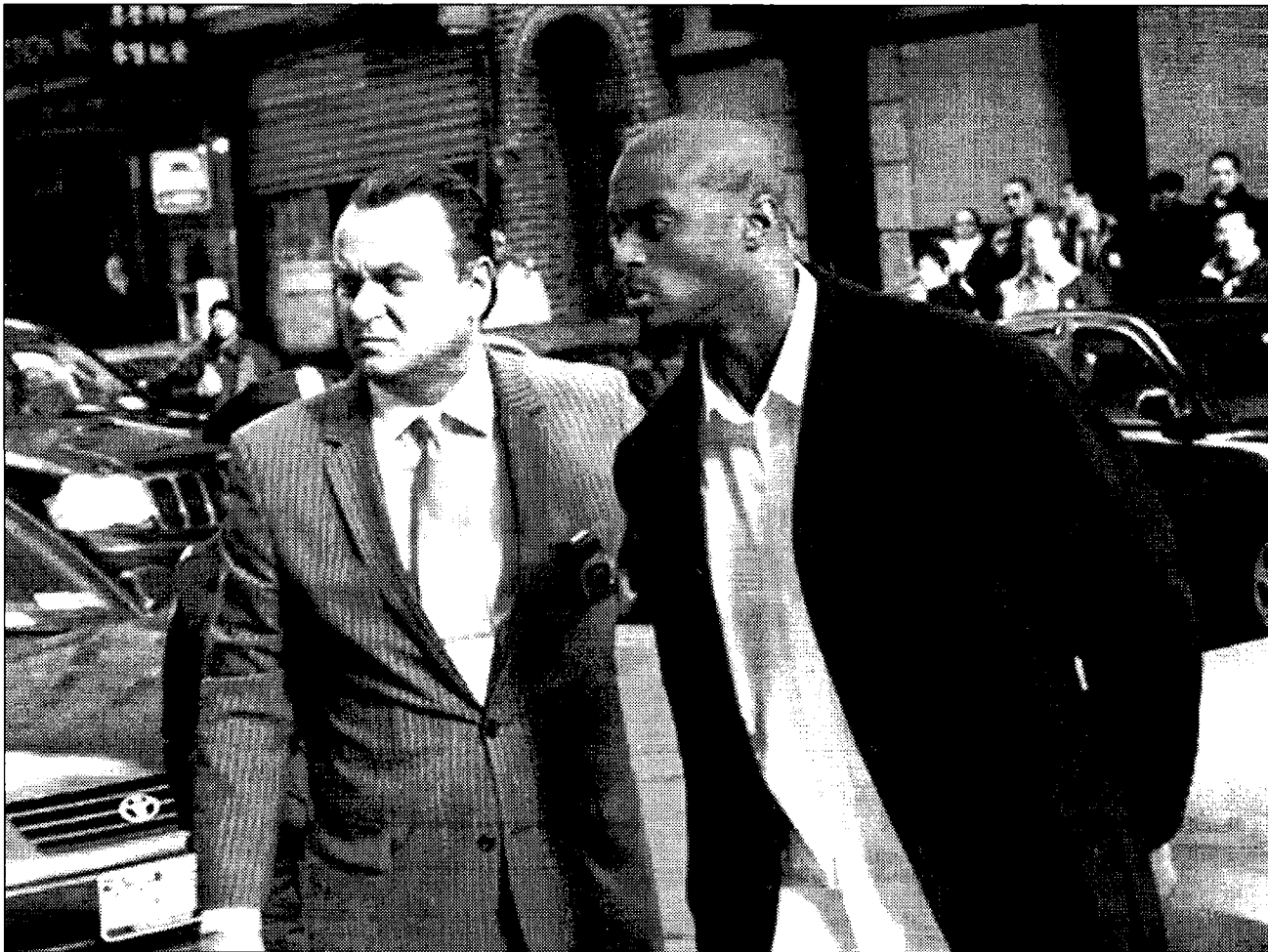
Men	Record	
1	NOTRE DAME (33)	10-3-2
2	Minnesota (1)	7-2-5
3	Boston College	9-4-1
4	Miami (Ohio)	8-3-3
5	Boston University	9-4-0
6	Colorado College	9-4-3
7	Denver	9-5-1
8	Northeastern	10-3-2
9	Princeton	9-2-0
10	Air Force	13-1-0

around the dial

NCAA MEN'S BASKETBALL

Duke at Purdue
9:00 p.m., ESPN

NFL



The Giants' Plaxico Burress arrives at Manhattan Supreme Court for arraignment with a law enforcement official in New York Monday. Burress accidentally shot himself at a Manhattan nightclub Friday evening.

Burress turns himself into police

Associated Press

NEW YORK, N.Y. — Taken to court in handcuffs, Plaxico Burress posted \$100,000 bail on weapons possession charges Monday as the frenzy grew around the Giants star receiver who accidentally shot himself in a nightclub.

Authorities said teammate Antonio Pierce was being investigated over his role in the weekend shooting, while the Super Bowl-champion Giants weren't sure what action they would take, if any, against Burress. The NFL said it was monitoring developments. Mayor Michael

Bloomberg also weighed in, saying it would be an outrage "if we didn't prosecute to the fullest extent of the law."

Burress shot himself in the right thigh in the VIP section of the Latin Quarter nightclub in Manhattan about 1 a.m. Saturday, police said. He did not have a permit to carry a handgun in New York.

A witness reported hearing a popping sound before Burress' legs began to shake, according to a criminal complaint. It said the person saw a bloody pistol fall out of his pant leg and land on the floor before Burress said "Take

me to a hospital."

It's believed Pierce took Burress to a car and then left with him, according to police. Burress was treated at New York-Presbyterian Hospital/Weill Cornell Medical Center and released later Saturday.

Burress was charged with two counts of second-degree criminal possession of a weapon, which could result in a prison sentence of 3 years to 15 years if he is convicted. He was not required to enter a plea Monday and is due back in court on March 31. Burress did not say anything in court.

"He is standing tall. He is a mature adult," said

Benjamin Brafman, his defense lawyer. "I think any professional athlete in this situation would be concerned."

He said Burress is feeling OK. "If they let him play, he will be able to play. ... I think he will be a superstar for the rest of his career."

Originally, police had said that running back Derrick Ward was with Burress and Pierce at the club, relying on information given to them from security guards at the bar. But police said later that it was unclear if Ward was at the club, and the running back denied that he was.

IN BRIEF

Marbury's future with Knicks uncertain after tirade

GREENBURGH, N.Y. — Stephon Marbury did not get the divorce he wants, but he and the New York Knicks agreed to a separation.

Marbury was ordered Monday to stay away from the Knicks while the team looks for a solution to its \$21 million problem — one that has lingered since the preseason and exploded last week when the team suspended him for refusing to play and he retaliated with a series of inflammatory remarks about coach Mike D'Antoni.

Marbury's future was "not resolved" during a meeting with team president Donnie Walsh at the Knicks' practice facility, according to the players' association attorney representing him. The sides will continue to talk, but Marbury won't be around in the meantime.

"After meeting with Stephon and his representative this afternoon, we have directed Stephon not to participate in practice or attend games until further notice," Walsh said in a statement. "We want to continue to meet with him to discuss a long-term resolution."

Red Raiders' Harrell's finger broken in nine places

LUBBOCK, Tex. — Texas Tech quarterback Graham Harrell was recovering Monday from surgery to repair nine breaks in two fingers of his non-throwing hand, but he won't miss any playing time.

Texas Tech spokesman Chris Cook confirmed details of Harrell's injury and Sunday surgery. He didn't have specifics on whether Harrell's fingers got caught in a facemask or slammed against a helmet in Saturday's 35-28 win over Baylor.

ESPN.com first reported the details involving the nation's leading passer. Surgeons inserted 17 pins and two plates into the pinkie and ring finger of Harrell's left hand.

Harrell, a contender for the Heisman Trophy, will play when the No. 8 Red Raiders (11-1) appear in their ninth straight bowl, likely the Cotton Bowl.

The fifth-year senior played in the second half and finished with 309 yards and two touchdowns, the second one coming midway through the fourth quarter to cap a 21-point rally by the Red Raiders.

Anderson out for season, Dorsey to lead the Browns

BEREA, Ohio — Derek Anderson's season is officially over, yet another slap for the down-on-their-luck Cleveland Browns.

Anderson, who lost his starting job to Brady Quinn several weeks ago, will miss the final four games after tearing a ligament in his left knee on Sunday against Indianapolis.

An MRI taken Monday revealed Anderson tore the medial collateral ligament when he was sacked in the final minutes of Cleveland's 10-6 loss to the Colts. Anderson, making his first start since Nov. 2 after being benched for Quinn, will not need surgery. He will be placed in a brace and will need four to six weeks to recover.

Quinn, too, is done for the season with a finger injury. He has not yet decided whether to have surgery on his broken right index finger, which he hurt on Nov. 17 at Buffalo.

The injuries to their top two QBs means the Browns (4-8) will start third-stringer Ken Dorsey on Sunday against the Tennessee Titans (11-1). Return specialist Joshua Cribbs will serve as Dorsey's backup.

CYCLING

Armstrong affirms Tour de France return in 2009

Seven-time champion Lance Armstrong will make a surprising return when he rides in next year's Tour de France

Associated Press

AUSTIN, Texas — Lance Armstrong will ride in the 2009 Tour de France, marking the first time he will compete in that race and the Giro d'Italia in the same year.

"I'm committed to riding for the best guy," Armstrong said Monday, acknowledging the taxing schedule could leave him riding in a supporting role in France.

The Giro runs May 9-31, and the Tour begins July 4.

With such a quick turnaround between two grueling races, the seven-time Tour champion acknowledged his body might not perform at the same level it did when he won his last Tour in 2005.

"If you've been away for three or four years, it would be silly for anybody to think I could pick up where I left off," Armstrong told The Associated Press in a telephone interview from Tenerife in the Canary Islands where Astana is training. "I can tell you I feel better than ever, I feel stronger than ever on Dec. 1. How that translates to racing, we'll have to see. Mentally, in terms of motivation, this feels like 1998-1999 to me."

"If you've been away for three or four years, it would be silly for anybody to think I could pick up where I left off."

**Lance Armstrong
Team Astana rider**

Armstrong's decision to ride gives the powerhouse Astana team a superstar lineup in France, including 2007 Tour winner Alberto Contador. He missed last year's race because Astana was barred from riding for previous doping viola-

tions. Also riding with Astana is Germany's Andreas Klöden, American veteran Levi Leipheimer and top support rider Yaroslav Popovych. Astana is considered by far the strongest multistage team.

"We'll abide by the same code that I do: cycling is a team sport, while we'd all like to win," he said.

The 37-year-old stunned the cycling world in September, when he announced he was ending his three-year retirement. He said then his goal was to race in the Tour but stopped short of a guarantee.

Reached by telephone, French anti-doping agency chief Pierre Bordry would not comment on Armstrong's decision but did say "he will be treated like everyone else" when it comes to drug testing.

Jonathan Vaughters, Armstrong's U.S. Postal teammate during the 1999 Tour win and now Garmin Chipotle's sporting director, said he was not surprised by the news.

"I never considered it a realistic possibility he wasn't going to do the Tour," Vaughters said by telephone. "It's the biggest race in the world. Why wouldn't he want to do that?"

In recent interviews, Armstrong revealed worries about his personal safety while riding in the open roads of France and through the throngs of fans that pack the route.

The Tour has its own police force to guard each stage and ensure safety, and French police paid particular attention to Armstrong's safety when he was riding. In



Lance Armstrong rides past the Arc de Triomphe in Paris during the final stage of the Tour de France July 24, 2005.

recent years, organizers have taken additional steps to protect riders.

"We'll abide by the same code that I do: cycling is a team sport, while we'd all like to win."

**Lance Armstrong
Team Astana rider**

Armstrong dismissed any potential threats Monday: "It's not going to keep me from going and doing my job, and it's not going to keep me from spreading my message."

He has dedicated his comeback to raising awareness for the Lance Armstrong Foundation and his global fight against cancer.

"I'm happy with the record (seven wins). I'm training hard and trying to be as com-

petitive as possible," he said. "The main objective is the message of the foundation. That's the first priority and if we ride moderately well, it helps get the message out."

He's scheduled to return to elite racing Jan. 20 for the Tour Down Under in Australia. That's also when the drug-testing program he's arranging with Don Catlin, America's top anti-doping expert, will be in place.

But no race provides a stage similar to the Tour.

"The Tour is the biggest bike race in the world; we need it to tell this story on the biggest stage," Armstrong said. "There's a mutual respect there, it hasn't always been mutual love. We need them, they need us."

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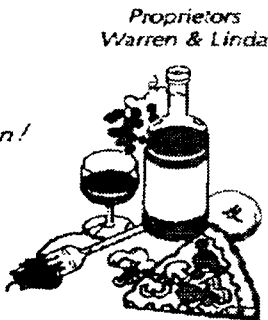
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VOLLEYBALL

Irish end season with sweep

By JARED JEDICK
Sports Writer

The Irish finished up their season in style with a 3-0 (25-23, 25-19, 25-22) win over Xavier on Friday, sending their two seniors, middle blocker Justine Stremick and outside hitter Mallorie Croal, off into the sunset with a good taste in their mouths.

"We all would have rather been playing in the NCAA's," Irish coach Debbie Brown said. "But it was important for those two to go out with a win. We all have a lot of respect for Justine and Mallorie."

Notre Dame (17-14; 9-5 Big East) did not disappoint on senior day, dominating all facets of the game against Xavier (16-15; 8-5 Atlantic 10) to pull out the sweep win and earn the team its 80th victory in the seniors four years.

"Overall, we did pretty well, despite a somewhat poor showing statistically," Brown said. "Our main goal was to get everybody into the match and gain some experience."

Freshman outside hitter Kristen Dealy and junior outside hitter Christina Kaelin had 10 kills apiece to lead the Irish in scoring, who hit .225 as a team. Sophomore outside hitter Kellie Sciacca tossed in eight kills with five blocks with Stremick nailing five more kills. Sophomore libero/defensive specialist Megan Dunne led the Irish with 14 digs, followed closely by freshman libero/defensive specialist Frenchy Silva's total of 10.

But the real story of the day was

the send-off for the seniors, who have been important leaders for the Irish for some time now.

Croal could not make it onto the court this year for any extended period of time because of injury, but she took over the role of doing whatever she could on the sidelines, according to Brown.

"Mallorie was just an outstanding leader," Brown said. "She could not be the leader she was on the court because of her injury, but she did everything she possibly could off of it to help the team."

Brown found the hard work and insights of Croal to her fellow teammates to be inspiring and an important aspect of the team down the stretch and through the surprising run to the Big East Championship.

"Mallorie tried everything to get back out there, but her ability to do everything you would expect a leader to do was important down the stretch," Brown said. "She was an inspiration to us."

The last month of the season saw Stremick coming on as the player and leader Brown always knew she could be.

"Justine is our dominant presence at the net," Brown said. "This last month saw her playing up to the ability that she always had."

Stremick came from a small town by the name of Langdon, North Dakota, and did not even play for a club team, but she found a way to keep rising to the occasion and become a key player on a Big East team, according to Brown.

"When she came onto the team as a freshmen, she had to sit and

learn from some dominant players already on the team," Brown said. "But she stepped up into the starting role sophomore year and just kept getting better and better. She is really pretty remarkable."

After failing to reach their goal of making the NCAA's this year, the Irish have to look to next season, as they would like to move beyond the inconsistencies that plagued them for most of this year.

"It is a little frustrating when you have an up and down year," Brown said. "The early losses really hurt us, especially with all the injuries."

But Brown believes the season ended on a high note with the team coming together in the Big East tournament, bolstered by the fact that the team is only losing two players to graduation and will boast six returning seniors and four juniors.

"Overall we improved as a team," Brown said. "Nobody on this team ever crumbled, and no one threw in the towel."

The expectations are even higher next year than this.

"We have very high expectations," Brown said. "We felt that this year would be the year we made it back to the NCAA's and returned to an elite status. That did not happen this year, so there is no question we want to make it there next year."

The Irish will be back next fall looking to build on the momentum gained from a furious run at the end of the year.

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SMC BASKETBALL

Belles break streak against Wheaton

By KATE GRABAREK and
MICHAEL BLASCO
Sports Writers

The Belles certainly had a full plate over Thanksgiving break, opening a two-week home stand with three games in four days.

Saint Mary's (2-3) earned its first win in eleven meetings against Wheaton on Wednesday, triumphing 81-78 over the visiting Thunder, before dropping two matches in the Saint Mary's College Thanksgiving Classic over the weekend. The Belles took a close, 66-63 loss to Otterbein, before No. 21 University of Chicago edged out Saint Mary's 73-64 on Sunday.

Belles head coach Jen Henley is looking for her squad to step up across the board this season.

"I expect us to have more depth in our program this year," Henley said. "We need to improve our overall team defense and be more balanced in our offense from last season."

In its first home game of the season, Saint Mary's survived a late rally from Wheaton to take home the victory 81-78.

After trading points through the early going, a 24-11 Belles charge late in the first half gave Saint Mary's a 50-37 lead heading into the locker room. Wheaton hung tough in the sec-

ond period, tying the contest at 78 with only 39 seconds remaining.

Belles freshman guard Maggie Ronan pulled down an offensive rebound with 27 seconds left, before a crucial foul sent her to the free-throw line. She sunk the first to take a 79-78 lead. After missing the second, Saint Mary's junior forward Anna Kammrath picked up the most important of her fourteen rebounds on the night. The Belles would not relinquish the lead.

Senior forward Erin Newsom notched a double-double with 22 points against 10 rebounds on the night, while the squad shot 43.8 percent from the field and 42.9 percent beyond the arc.

After the holiday, Saint Mary's dropped both contests of the weekend's SMC Thanksgiving Classic, opening the tournament with a 66-63 loss to the Cardinals.

Otterbein shot over 55 percent from the floor in the opening half to take a 38-34 lead at the half, while the Belles kept it close by going 13-for-16 from the charity stripe. A pair of field goals from Ronan to open the second tied the game up quickly. The two squads traded the lead seven times before a Cardinals three-pointer halfway through the second gave them the lead for good.

In its Sunday match against the Maroons, Saint Mary's kept

it close until halfway through the first, in which a 17-4 run for Chicago broke the 15-15 tie. The Maroons would not let up until claiming a 73-64 victory.

Newsom repeated her double-double performance adding 10 rebounds to her 20 points. Belles senior forward Nicole Beier tallied a career-high 20 points alongside a perfect 6-for-6 effort from the free-throw line. Beier led the Belles with 32 points for the tournament and was named to the All-Tournament team. She also earned her first ever MIAA Player of the Week Award for her efforts off the bench.

Saint Mary's has struggled through the early part of the season having been exacerbated by the graduation of an outstanding senior class last spring, notably guard Alison Kessler.

"There certainly was a void to fill after the graduation of Alison," Henley said. "But every program goes through that transition when seniors graduate. The team has adjusted well."

The Belles open their MIAA-conference schedule Wednesday with a 7:30 p.m. game against Trine at Saint Mary's Angela Athletic Facility in Notre Dame, Ind.

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Wildcats

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missed opportunities.

"I obviously feel sorry for the seniors," Notre Dame coach Bobby Clark said. "They've had a great career. This is the first time they've fallen in the second round. It's always tough when that happens. This group of guys have worked so hard over the past four years and this year they have been superb. It's been a great senior class. I felt we deserved more, but soccer can be a cruel game sometimes."

Cruel would be the word to describe the end to Notre Dame's season. Kupe hit the game winner with only 1:14 remaining on the clock when he took a pass from senior defender Brian Usinger and fired past Irish keeper Phillip Tuttle.

The goal put a cap on a strong Wildcat performance in the second half that saw Northwestern out-shoot Notre Dame 7-4 after intermission. The comeback started early in the second half when the same duo responsible for Northwestern's game-winning goal tied the game. In the 66th minute, Usinger slotted a through ball putting Kupe behind the Irish defense, and the forward made no mistake dispatching the ball past Tuttle.

"[Kupe] came on and caused trouble for us," Clark said. "We had a little bit of a problem with getting our feet in the back at that time. They pressed forward and it was a

very good win for them."

Northwestern's second-half surge couldn't have been more different than the first 45 minutes. Before halftime, the Irish constantly pressured the Wildcats goal registering 11 shots to Northwestern's four. The pressure paid off in the 24th minute when senior defender Jack Traynor ripped a shot from near the top of the 18-yard box that beat Wildcats keeper Misha Kosenthal to the far post.

Kosenthal would give up nothing more, ending the game with seven saves. In the 38th minute, junior midfielder Michael Thomas beat Michael again to the far post, but his shot rebounded back off that post into play. Junior midfielder Dave Donahue was there for the rebound, but his attempt was saved by Kosenthal.

"I thought we played exceptionally well in the first half," Clark said. "I also thought we played well in the first part of the second half. They scored the goal and they certainly got into the game. They finished the game very strongly. We had our opportunities. We needed to get a second goal."

That second goal never came, and Notre Dame paid dearly for it. It was the second time this season that the Irish let in a goal in the final minutes that ultimately cost them the game. In a regular season tilt at Louisville, Notre Dame conceded the tying goal on a penalty kick in the 90th minute before losing in overtime.

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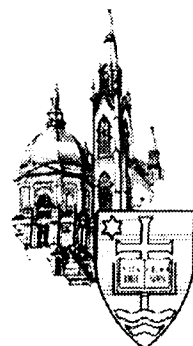
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Maui

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winning streak record — originally set from 1943-48 at Notre Dame Fieldhouse. Against North Carolina and Furman, McAlarney shot a combined 19-for-35 from 3-point range.

Notre Dame 81, Texas 80

Notre Dame did not trail for the entire second half Tuesday night but that doesn't mean the Irish had an easy time with A.J. Abrams and Texas.

In a game that resembled a Wild West shootout, No. 8 Notre Dame prevailed over the No. 6/7 Longhorns 81-80 to advance to the final game of the EA Sports Maui Invitational.

But not before Abrams drained four second-half 3-pointers and saw his desperation 60-foot prayer graze the front of the rim and fall just short as the final buzzer sounded.

"We did a good job defending the [3-point] line the whole game," Irish coach Mike Brey said. "A couple that he hit were bombs."

But Abrams' biggest bomb just missed.

"I was wondering if the [good] karma reversed, quite frankly," Brey said. "Because he got a pretty clean look and he was feeling good."

Abrams got the shot off after Irish junior Luke Harangody, who led Notre Dame with 29 points and 13 rebounds, missed two free throws with 3.5 seconds left. Harangody's foul shooting was part of a second-half trend for the Irish, who hit just 6-of-13 freebies during the period.

The free throw misses were some of the only mistakes Notre Dame made all day. The Irish committed just six turnovers against a physical Texas team.

"We should be a single-digit turnover team no matter who we play," Brey said. "I wasn't sure if we'd be able to do that against Texas. That's really taking care of the ball because they come after you."

Irish guards Kyle McAlarney and Tory Jackson, who scored 19 and 16 points, respectively, high-fived over Brey in the postgame press conference after they heard they had limited Notre Dame's turnovers to single digits.

With just over 12 minutes remaining in the first half, the Irish held a 19-13 lead. But Texas went on a 14-4 run over the next five minutes of play to take a 27-23 advantage.

The Irish fought back, though, to take a 43-40 edge into the locker room at halftime. With 2:34 left in the period, senior forward Luke Zeller drained a 3-pointer to give Notre Dame a 40-35 lead. After Texas cut the deficit to one on a pair of free throws, Harangody answered with a jumper and a three-point lead the Irish would not surrender in the half.

Texas cut the Irish lead to two or fewer six times in the second half but Notre Dame responded each time with a bucket of its own.

"That's maturity and experience. Young teams panic, young teams panic in a situation like that," Brey said. "You can't inject an experience into a team because when these guys were

young they got smacked a little bit when runs came like that ... That's being old and poised."

Brey and his players said Texas' physical play provided the Irish with a good template for their Big East schedule. The Longhorns outbounded the Irish 48-37 but Notre Dame came up with several key rebounds in the game's waning minutes.

"That was definitely the toughest challenge I've had this whole season," Harangody said. "They have a great front line with [forwards Connor] Atchley and [Damion] James."

Brey said the win over Texas will benefit the Irish during the selection process for the NCAA Tournament at the end of the season.

"I'm trying to figure out how to get a bid from the Big East right now with the schedule we play," he said. "Certainly, this was a great resume win and we have the opportunity for another one so anything we can stack up."

North Carolina 102, Notre Dame 87

At the Maui Invitational, Notre Dame showed why it was one of the top 10 teams in the country, but in Wednesday's championship game, North Carolina showed why it was the No. 1 team in the country.

The Irish, who defeated No. 6/7 Texas Tuesday, fell to the Tar Heels 102-87 despite 39 points and a Notre Dame record 10 three-pointers from Irish guard Kyle McAlarney.

"They're an elite team. We're not that," Brey said. "We like to aspire to be that in time. Maybe, hopefully by the league season, maybe by February. We know where the bar is."

Notre Dame simply had no answer defensively for the Tar Heels, specifically Tyler Hansbrough and Ty Lawson. Hansbrough, the reigning Naismith and Wooden national player of the year, scored 34 points and grabbed five rebounds. Lawson, a lightning-quick guard, scored 22 points, dished out 11 assists and claimed tournament MVP honors. Forward Deon Thompson also pitched in 19 points and 13 rebounds.

"I was disappointed, we did such a good job against Texas' bodies in the paint last night," Brey said. "We couldn't do it tonight and that's disappointing for all of us."

One reason for Notre Dame's trouble defensively could have been the condition of junior forward Luke Harangody, who scored 13 points despite suffering from flu-like symptoms Wednesday.

Even with Harangody not at 100 percent, North Carolina only led 46-36 at the half, but extended its lead to 58-43 with 15:15 left to play. After the media timeout, Hansbrough scored North Carolina's next six points. Then a 12-4 run, featuring a three from Lawson and a dunk from Hansbrough, gave North Carolina a 76-53 lead with 8:49 to play.

Then, McAlarney put on a shooting clinic the rest of the game, hitting shots from well beyond the 3-point line and with defenders in his face. Within a 3:20 span, McAlarney hit four three-pointers and scored 14 points and Notre Dame pulled within 84-73 with 5:15 to play.

McAlarney shot 8-of-13 from 3-point range in the second half, 10-for-18 for the game.

"I just felt good. I got my legs under me. My teammates did a great job, especially [senior forward] Zach Hillesland. I have to give him a lot of credit. He did a great job the past three days of getting ball exchanges and setting good screens on my guy."

But as was the case all night, every time Notre Dame made a run, North Carolina responded.

"We were in desperation time and I was just trying to put some points on the board," McAlarney said. "But we can't win without getting stops and we can't come back without getting stops. It's as simple as that."

McAlarney hit another shot that would've pulled Notre Dame within eight, but the referees had called a foul on Thompson. Irish junior guard Tory Jackson missed the front end of a one-and-one. North Carolina then scored six of the next eight points.

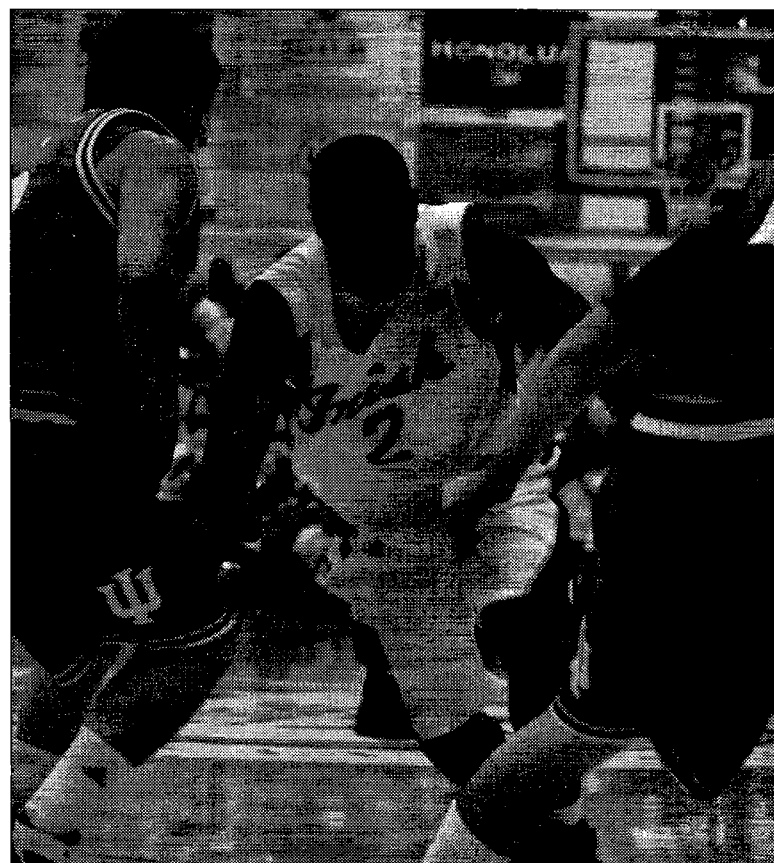
Two more McAlarney three-pointers made it 93-81 with 1:57 to play, but time was running out on Notre Dame. A 3-point play from Thompson and a pair of free throws from Hansbrough gave the Tar Heels a 100-81 lead with 1:17 to play.

"We're not at North Carolina's level yet, but we can be," McAlarney said.

Early in the first half, Notre Dame did play at North Carolina's level. A dunk from senior forward Luke Zeller pulled the Irish within 24-21 with 10:17 to play, but then they went on a dry spell, scoring just five points in the next 6:40.

During that stretch, North Carolina grabbed a 40-26 lead. Brey said the lack of offensive production was more Notre Dame just missing open looks, instead of North Carolina shutting the Irish down.

"I think we missed a lot of



ALLISON AMBROSE/The Observer

Irish guard Tory Jackson drives to the hoop during Notre Dame's 88-50 win over Indiana at the Maui Invitational.

clean looks. Clean threes. [Senior forward] Ryan Ayers and Zeller had a couple there, but they have to keep shooting them because that's who we are. We're a team that needs to knock down a good percentage of those when we get clean looks, especially against a team like this, where we're not going to be able to maneuver inside as easy with all those bodies."

Brey added: "We're going to need a few more of those to go in because we're going to need to score a lot against this team to beat them. We're not stopping them or shutting them down."

For the game, Notre Dame shot 32-for-78, 41 percent, while the Tar Heels shot 39-for-

70, or 56 percent. North Carolina also shot 19-for-21 from the free-throw line

Notre Dame 93, Furman 61

Playing without Harangody, the Irish still steamrolled Furman Sunday night in the Joyce Center as McAlarney hit another nine 3-pointers and finished with 32 points. Jackson pitched in 17 points, eight assists and six rebounds while Zach Hillesland added 12 rebounds. Ayers added 19 points on 8-for-13 shooting. Notre Dame plays South Dakota tonight.

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Peters

continued from page 20

"Our man-to-man defense is a lot better than last year at this time," McGraw said. "We're willing to take some risks, we're not as conservative."

Guard Brittany Mallory scored 19 points and hit 3-of-4 3-pointers against the Eagles. McGraw said Mallory's consistent performance in other areas of the game, rather than her 3-point shooting, makes her valuable.

"I wanted her on the floor at the end of the Michigan State game because she knew what to do," McGraw said. "She's fearless on defense. She's always a

lift off the bench."

Against the Spartans, the defense struggled to defend forward Aisha Jefferson, who scored a career-high 34 points and grabbed 11 rebounds. The Irish also struggled to rebound — the Spartans grabbed 48 boards to Notre Dame's 32.

"The defense on [Jefferson] was not very good," McGraw said. "But it wasn't defense so much as rebounding."

Freshman forward Kellie Watson torched the Spartans

defense from 3-point range, hitting 6-of-9 from 3-point land. McGraw said Watson always stays after practice to work on her shot, but there's more to being an effective shooter than practice.

"It has to happen in a game to gain the confidence," McGraw said.

The Irish (5-0) travel to Eastern Michigan today to face the 2-4 Eagles, who

recently competed in the Caribbean Challenge in Cancun, Mexico. Both wins for the Eagles have come at home. McGraw said the Irish have a size advantage against the Eagles, who start three players who are under six feet tall.

"We're going to look inside and take advantage of that," she said.

McGraw said she wants the defense to play better against Eagles guard Cassie Schrock, who leads the team with 16 points and 8.8 rebounds per game, than it did against Jefferson.

The Eagles play an active defense, McGraw said.

"They can trap, they can press, they play zone, they play man," McGraw said. "We have to be ready for their aggressiveness."

Note:

uWatson was named the Big East Freshman of the Week following her performances against Georgia Southern and Michigan State. She averaged 12.5 points in the two games and hit 7-of-11 3-point shots. She is the first Notre Dame freshman to earn the award since current senior Lindsay Schrader in 2005.

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"We're going to take a look inside and take advantage of that."

Muffet McGraw
Irish coach

Cary

continued from page 20

"We have a little bit of a rivalry with Florida State so that made it nice," Irish coach Randy Waldrum said. "But what really made me happy was how well we played. We were clearly the better team out there."

Irish senior Kerri Hanks assisted on both Notre Dame goals in the win over Florida State, passing soccer icon and former North Carolina forward Mia Hamm on the NCAA all-time assist list. Hanks is now tied for second in the category.

"Kerri has broken so many records but I think this was the biggest," Waldrum said. "It couldn't have come at a better time and she passed Mia Hamm, who is the benchmark for women's soccer — not only collegiately but on the international level, as well."

Freshman defender Jessica Schuveiller and sophomore forward Taylor Knaack both scored off of passes from Hanks to give Notre Dame the win. When Schuveiller headed in a corner kick just over 18 minutes into the contest, she became the 19th different Irish player to score this season.

"That was really great for [Schuveiller], to get her first

goal at such a critical time as the game-winner," Waldrum said. "She's just so good in the air."

Waldrum said Schuveiller has been moved forward on corner kicks due to the recent injury to senior forward Brittany Bock.

"That's something new we've been doing, moving her up front on dead ball situations," the coach said. "She's been going up ever since Brittany's been out and it worked out great Friday."

On a cold night at Alumni Field, which will be replaced next season by the Alumni Soccer Stadium, the Irish relied on a trio of Texans to take them to the College Cup. Hanks, Schuveiller and Knaack all hail from the Lone Star State.

"It's kind of funny, with all the cold-weather games we've been playing in the past month, that three of the players from Texas were the ones who hooked up on our goals. So it was kind of nice to see the warm-weather girls do that for us," Waldrum said.

The Texas Irish and as well as the rest of the squad will get a welcomed break from the cold when they travel to North Carolina to take on Stanford in the semi-finals Friday at 4:30 p.m.

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No. 1

continued from page 20

them all. Kuhn finished the game with 35 saves.

After a scoreless overtime period, they moved into a shootout. Western Michigan scored early and Maday and sophomore Calle Ridderwall both missed their chances. Jackson decided to move Thang to the third spot because of his play late in the game and the move paid off. Thang buried his shot to send things to sudden death.

"The shootouts are kind of a feeling out process at this point. I went in with a certain order of guys I would use, but I changed that based on the way we were playing late in the game," Jackson said.

Two shooters later Condra stepped up and finished things off for the Irish.

Friday night was a little bit easier for Notre Dame. The team skated to a 4-1 win while going four-for-four on the power-play.

Western Michigan's Campbell got things started with his first of two goals in the series halfway through the first period.

Junior Kevin Deeth answered late in the period with his third goal of the year. Deeth's unit which also includes Hanson, Ridderwall, Maday and Brett Blatchford was on the ice for all of Notre Dame's goals.

"There is no question they have had a lot of success over the past couple weeks," Jackson said. "Teams are going to start looking for ways to shut them down, so they are going to have to be ready to make adjustments."

Ridderwall picked up the next two goals in the second period and Maday rounded out the scoring in the third. Ridderwall had four points in the game adding two assists to his pair of goals. Hanson also had three assists in the game.

The Irish will defend their No. 1 spot this weekend in Big Rapids, Mich. with a pair of games against Ferris State.

Contact Dan Murphy at
dmurphy6@nd.edu



WU YUE/The Observer

Junior Ryan Thang picks up a loose puck during Notre Dame's 9-1 win over Bowling Green on Nov. 21 at the Joyce Center.

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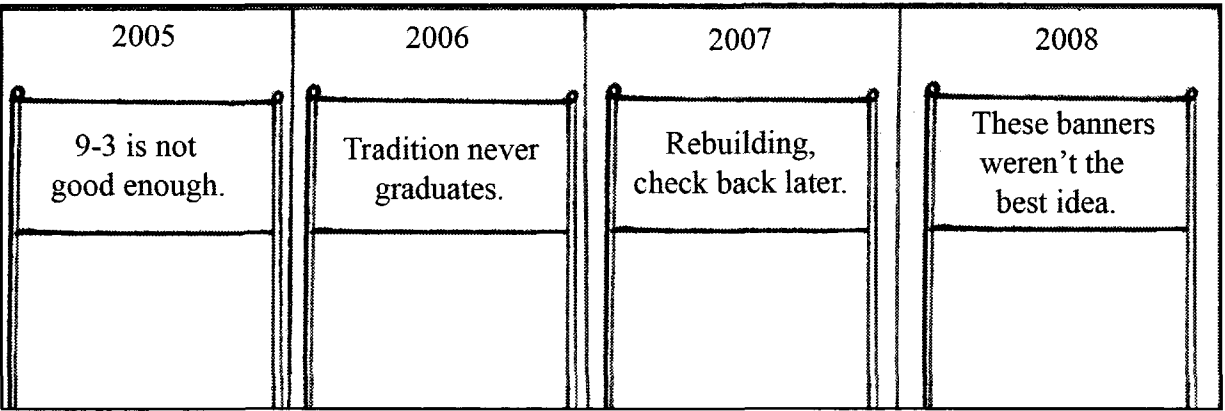
BLACK DOG

MICHAEL MIKUSKA



FORBIDDEN DOUGHNUT

PATRICK GARTLAND

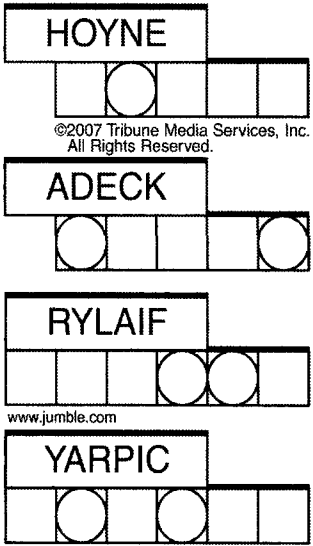


JUMBLE

HENRI ARNOLD
MIKE ARGIRION

JUMBLE

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



Print answer here: " " (Answers Monday)
Yesterday's Jumbles: WAGER FORCE BEHAVE QUARRY
Answer: When he got a dead battery from the junkyard, it was — FREE OF "CHARGE"

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME
by Henri Arnold and Mike Argirion

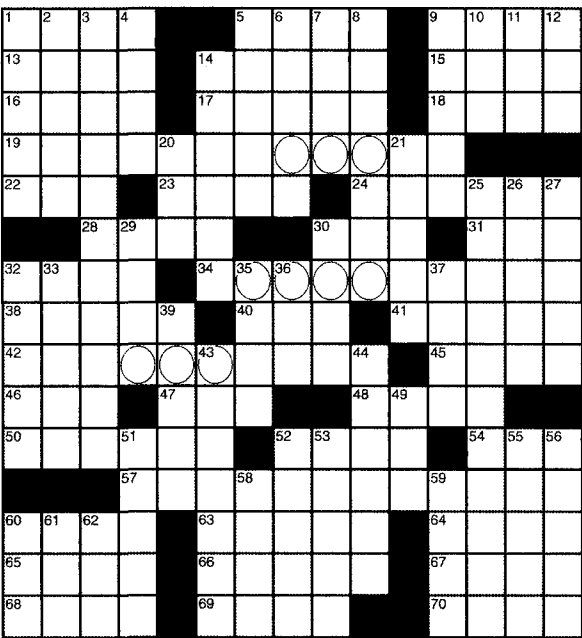


Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

CROSSWORD

WILL SHORTZ

- Across**
- 1 Does sums
 - 5 Pillow filler
 - 9 Flapper hairdos
 - 13 Scuttlebutt
 - 14 Like a manly man
 - 15 Escapade
 - 16 Part of the eye that holds the iris
 - 17 ___ and pains
 - 18 What "thumbs up" means
 - 19 Bandleader in the Polka Music Hall of Fame
 - 22 Explosive initials
 - 23 Pinocchio, famously
 - 24 Mock
 - 28 Dance with a wiggle
 - 30 Lord
 - 31 Card that's taken only by a trump
 - 32 Mail carriers' assignments: Abbr.
 - 34 Creamy soup
 - 38 City where Van Gogh painted sunflowers
 - 40 Suffix with suc- and lact-
 - 41 Pacific republic
 - 42 Substantial portion
 - 45 Pile
 - 46 Component of bronze
 - 47 Permit
 - 48 Washington's Capitol ___
 - 50 Precipitates at about 32°F
 - 52 Left hurriedly
 - 54 New Deal program inits.
 - 57 One who lost what's hidden in 19-, 34- and 42-Across
 - 60 Hawaiian isle
 - 63 More than perturbed
- Down**
- 1 No longer a minor
 - 2 Couch
 - 3 Made a stand and would go no further
 - 4 Polaris, e.g.
 - 5 Bangladesh's capital, old-style
 - 6 Color of fall leaves
 - 7 "Thank goodness!"
 - 8 Rhinoplasty
 - 9 Chap
 - 10 Tree loved by squirrels
 - 11 Maidenform product
 - 12 Cloud's site
 - 14 Psycho
 - 20 90° turn
 - 21 Ushered
 - 25 "Fantastic Voyage" actress
 - 26 Honda division
 - 27 Get ready to drive, in golf
 - 29 ___-friendly
 - 30 Agents under J. Edgar Hoover, informally
 - 32 Balsa transports
 - 33 Path
 - 64 "Unfortunately ..."
 - 65 Give a hard time
 - 66 Nobodies
 - 67 Small field size
 - 68 Branch of Islam
 - 69 Plow pullers
 - 70 Jean who wrote "Wide Sargasso Sea"



Puzzle by Lynn Lempel

- 35 Booty
- 36 Tempe sch.
- 37 Comedian Mort
- 39 1972 U.S./U.S.S.R. missile pact
- 43 Latin American with mixed ancestry
- 44 Oedipus' realm
- 49 Wedding vow
- 51 Doolittle of "My Fair Lady"
- 52 Distress signal shot into the air
- 53 Divulge
- 55 Explorer who proved that Greenland is an island
- 56 Basilica recesses
- 58 Fearsome dino
- 59 Jack of early late-night TV
- 60 Butterworth's
- 61 What a doctor might ask you to say
- 62 Israeli gun

For answers, call 1-900-285-5656, \$1.49 a minute; or, with a credit card, 1-800-814-5554.
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HOROSCOPE

EUGENIA LAST

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Sarah Silverman, 38; Carol Alt, 38; Julie Condra, 38; Bette Midler, 63

Happy Birthday: A lot rides on your interaction with others and how you handle situations, so get ready to think before you speak, act out or take charge. Diplomacy is the key this year. There is plenty to consider, much that can be gained and, most of all, friendships that can be salvaged. Your numbers are 9, 11, 17, 22, 26, 43, 45

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Start thinking more about your financial future and stop overdoing it in all aspects of your life. It's time to put a dollar figure on your talent and make the most of the services you have to offer. Put some money away. ★★

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): You can make a couple of adjustments that will help you engage in a brighter future. Consider the job of your choice and focus on what you have to do to get it. Get moving in a direction that will satisfy you financially. ★★★★★

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Look at the relationships you are involved in and make plans to do things with the people you favor most. Don't hesitate to back away from those who bring you down. You need to be around upbeat, motivated individuals who will spark your creativity. ★★★

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Let your feelings be known. This is a great time to stabilize your situation at home or to size down if that will help you financially. Your perception of how someone views you may be off if you let your sensitivity take over. ★★

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Put your to-do list together and move quickly to complete what needs to be done. Once you have your work out of the way, you can enjoy other aspects of your life. Shop, plan a vacation or socialize with people who make you think and who spark your imagination. ★★★

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Make arrangements to do things with friends who will allow you to explore new avenues. A change in plans will lead to greater love and romance. Shopping will bring practical results. ★★★★★

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Sticking too close to home will lead to disagreements with someone you care about. Overindulgence or taking on too much will cause more trouble. Don't push the one you love. Ultimatums will not work. ★★

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Don't let anyone bully you or take credit for something you have done. You have to be aggressive if you want to get ahead. A change of plans will actually turn out to be to your advantage. ★★★★★

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Work with someone who can teach you and you will be able to incorporate an added twist to your findings. Don't make a snap decision if you haven't assessed the situation thoroughly. Time is on your side. ★★

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): You'll have plenty to think about financially and personally. Protect your assets. Love looks promising if you are straightforward about your intentions. ★★★

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): If you share your secrets with anyone, expect rumors to spread. It may be time to fess up to anything you feel guilty about and start anew with someone you care deeply about. A commitment can be made that will lead to greater stability. ★★

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Do what you say instead of just talking about it. Once you put your plans into motion, you will feel better about yourself and your future. Now is not the time to let others guide you. A good partnership is apparent and will help you achieve more. ★★★★★

Birthday Baby: You are aggressive, playful and very competitive. You are an adventurer, a thrill-seeker and an enthusiastic leader. You give your all.

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THE OBSERVER

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HOCKEY

Irish named top team in the country after weekend sweep

By DAN MURPHY
Sports Editor

Notre Dame has reached the top again.

With a pair of wins over Western Michigan this weekend the Irish moved to No. 1 in the polls for the first time since the end of the 2006-07 season.

"It's all well and good," Irish coach Jeff Jackson said. "Polls are polls, I didn't really discuss it with [the team]. I want them to

focus on the process not on where they are ranked."

Notre Dame entered the weekend just behind Minnesota in the national rankings. A loss and a tie from the Gophers were enough to drop them behind the Irish who received 33 of 34 first place votes.

The team improved its unbeaten streak to ten games, but it didn't come easily. Western Michigan took the Irish to their second sudden death shootout of the season Saturday night before

senior captain Erik Condra scored the game-winner. The shootout victory was the second of the season for Notre Dame in as many tries.

Senior forward Christian Hanson got the scoring started midway through the first period when he snuck behind the Bronco defense and buried his team-leading ninth goal of the season. Christiaan Minella and Garrett Regan both picked up assists on the play.

Not to be outdone, freshman

Bill Maday netted his ninth of the season only three minutes later on the power-play to give his team an early 2-0 lead.

"[Hanson and Maday] are playing with a lot of confidence. Once they start feeling good about their game they start playing even better," Jackson said.

Western Michigan then took over with three unanswered goals from Patrick Galivan, Tyler Ludwig and Max Campbell. Jackson said he felt his team lost the momentum quickly, giving

the Broncos a 3-2 lead heading into the final period. In the locker room between periods, Jackson said he called out his upperclassmen to take over. They responded.

Six minutes junior Ryan Thang, who has had a slow start to the season, tied the game with a power-play goal. The Irish had several chances late in the game but Western Michigan goalie Jerry Kuhn managed to stop

see NO. 1/page 17

ND WOMEN'S SOCCER

Going out on top

Irish win final game on home turf Friday

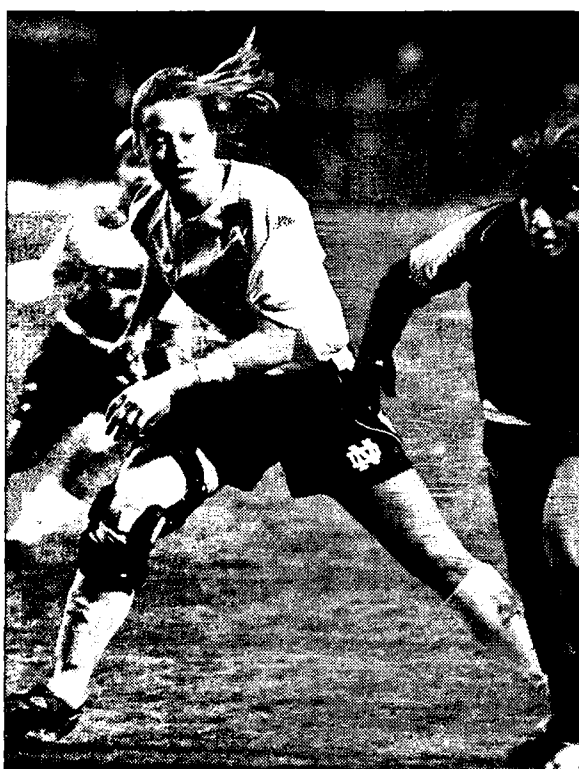
By FRAN TOLAN
Sports Writer

Farewell Alumni Field, hello North Carolina.

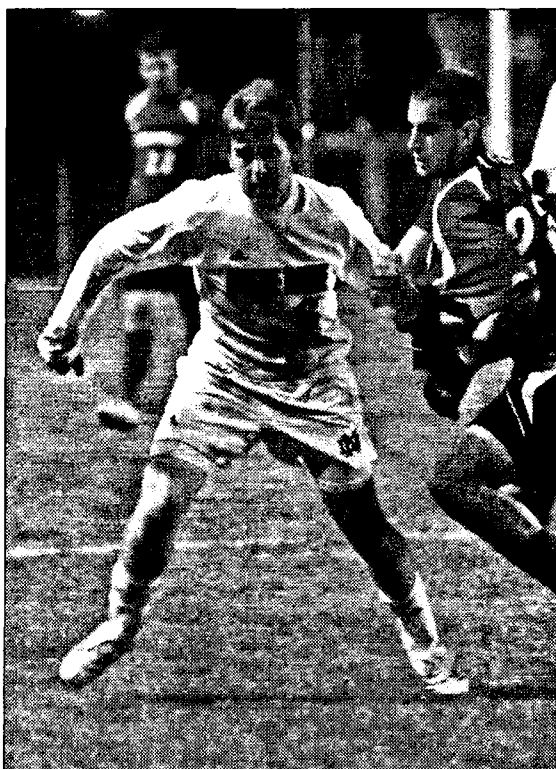
The top-ranked Irish took down No. 6 Florida State 2-0 Friday night in the final game ever at Notre Dame's current home field. The Irish remained undefeated and advanced to the College Cup as one of the top four teams in the country for the third season in a row. This year's championship weekend will be held at WakeMed Soccer Park in Cary, N.C.

Florida State knocked Notre Dame out of last year's national semifinals but the Irish returned the favor by denying the Seminoles a trip back to the College Cup.

see CARY/page 18



Left: Irish senior Brittany Bock and her team are headed to the College Cup once again. Right: Junior Dave Donohue plays defense in Notre Dame's 2-1 loss to Northwestern at Alumni Field.



IAN GAVLICK and JESS LEE/The Observer

MEN'S SOCCER

Team falls in NCAA 2nd round

By GREG ARBOGAST
Sports Writer

The Irish must have left Alumni Field last Tuesday night with a bitterly cold feeling that had nothing to do with the wintry conditions they faced during their second-round NCAA Tournament game against Northwestern.

For the first time in any of the current Notre Dame players' career exempting fifth-year seniors, they won't be tasting the Sweet 16.

After a 2005 trip to the Sweet 16 followed by two Elite Eight berths, the Irish were undone by two second-half goals from freshman forward Oliver Kupe giving the Wildcats a comeback 2-1 win and giving Notre Dame an offseason to contemplate

see WILDCATS/page 16

ND WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Peters reinjures knee in win over the Eagles

By BILL BRINK
Sports Editor

Bad news tempered No. 11 Notre Dame's spirits coming off a successful week — forward Devereaux Peters tore her left anterior cruciate ligament (ACL) in Notre Dame's 102-54 win over Boston College last Saturday. Peters, who tore the same ligament on Feb. 10 against Pittsburgh last season, will miss the rest of the season.

Peters had surgery to repair the torn ligament and successfully rehabbed the knee. She returned to the court this season, seeing time in three games and starting in one, before re-injuring the knee. She averaged 7.3 points and 4.3 rebounds per game and had six blocks this season.

"She was doing a terrific job

so far," Irish coach Muffet McGraw said. "It was devastating news at first."

McGraw said the presence of assistant coach Niele Ivey, who also had multiple ACL surgeries while at Notre Dame, will have a positive effect on Peters' recovery.

"That was the first thing we talked about," McGraw said. "It's a great reference point for her."

McGraw also said she asked the rest of the players to fill one gap left by Peters' absence.

Despite losing Peters, Notre Dame won two games over the holiday break, beating Georgia Southern 85-36 and No. 21 Michigan State 78-72. The Irish held Georgia Southern to 21.4 percent field goal shooting and forced 24 turnovers.

see PETERS/page 18

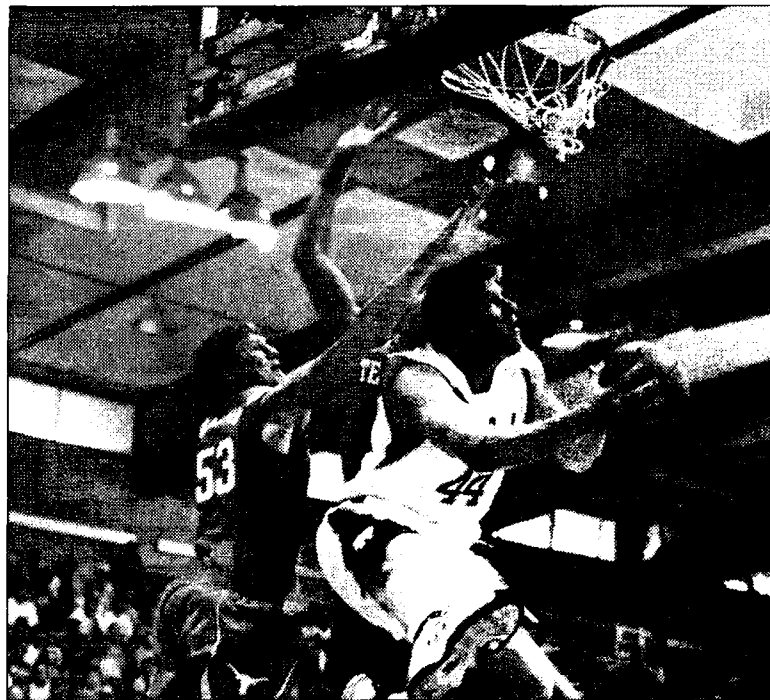
MEN'S BASKETBALL

Making waves in Hawaii

By CHRIS HINE and FRAN TOLAN
Sports Writers

MAUI — Notre Dame faced its biggest tests of the season over Thanksgiving break when it faced Texas and North Carolina in the Maui Invitational. The Irish proved they belong among the top teams in the country when they beat Texas 81-80 and learned what they needed to get to the same level as the No. 1 Tar Heels. Of course, having a healthy Luke Harangody, who contracted pneumonia in Maui, could have helped against the Tar Heels.

Irish guard Kyle McAlarney hit a Notre Dame record 10 3-pointers against North Carolina and then hit nine more Sunday against Furman at the Joyce Center. In that game, Notre Dame snapped the school home



ALLISON AMBROSE/The Observer

Junior Luke Harangody goes up for a layup in Notre Dame's 81-80 win over Texas in the semifinals of the Maui Invitational.

see MAUI/page 17