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E-mail warns students of cab driver threat

By ANGELA SAOUD
Saint Mary's Editor

Students at Saint Mary's received an e-mail Thursday warning them of a cab driver or cab drivers soliciting students to pose for pictures in hotel rooms.

According to the e-mail, sent by Vice President of Student Affairs Linda Timm, the driver or drivers solicits Saint Mary's students to pose for pictures by offering them various amounts of money. The e-mail noted there "have also been

requests for other sex acts with groups of individuals so that encounters can be videotaped."

The e-mail stated that one specific driver has been identified and was issued a no trespass order, forbidding the driver to come onto the Saint Mary's campus.

Saint Mary's Security is monitoring the situation, as are other appropriate authorities in the surrounding communities, the e-mail said.

The e-mail also noted the amounts of money offered for sexual acts have been "significant

and intentionally enticing."

In her e-mail, Timm warned the campus of the dangers of an activity like this.

"The technology that exists today will allow pictures and video such as is being requested to be sent out over the Internet. It is hard to know just how far such pictures will travel and in whose hands they may arrive," Timm wrote. "Pictures such as these often have a way of surfacing later in one's life when it is least expected. Do not place yourself in this type of situation. The money may

sound attractive, but the consequences can be dangerous, sometimes fatal."

The e-mail said any student who feels uncomfortable with anything a cab driver says or does should have the driver bring her to Saint Mary's and call security immediately.

Saint Mary's Spokesperson Melanie McDonald said all the information Saint Mary's has was released to students in the e-mail.

"Everything she [Linda Timm]

see DRIVER/page 8

Legion shirts at bookstore

Profits from first-time sales will go to Coaches vs. Cancer



DUSTIN MENNELLA/The Observer

A student sports this year's Leprechaun Legion T-shirt.

By PETER LEAHY
News Writer

Taking a cue from the famed Shirt, the Leprechaun Legion shirts declaring "No shirt No shoes No tie No problem" are on sale at the bookstore for the first time, with profits from the \$15 purchase going to charity.

According to Leprechaun Legion president and Knott senior Brian Tracy, the T-shirt used to promote Notre Dame basketball was not always student designed or sold to the general public.

"Sports promotions always made a student T-shirt," Tracy said.

After the Leprechaun Legion was founded in 2001, however, this practice changed.

"My freshman year and sophomore year [Sports promotions] made their shirt, and we made ours," Tracy said. "Starting two years ago

see LEGION/page 4

Seniors bid farewell to football

Band, cheerleaders cherish memories

By EILEEN DUFFY
News Writer

One hundred two marching band members will play their last notes and 13 cheerleaders will yell their last cheer in Notre Dame Stadium on Saturday afternoon.

"It's really hard to believe that Saturday will be my last time marching out of the tunnel and onto the field," Sarah Paulson, president and four-year member of the band, said. "The marching band has been a huge part of my experience here at Notre Dame, and I don't think that I've realized yet that after Saturday it's going to be ending."

Assistant drum major Dan Ferretti recalled some memorable experiences made possible by being in the band.

"I have had the opportunity to perform in some of the greatest venues in college football — Doak-Campbell Stadium at Florida State, Neyland Stadium in Tennessee, Michigan Stadium and of course Notre Dame Stadium," he said.

see BAND/page 4



CLAIRE KELLEY/The Observer

Top, an exuberant student section cheers during the Michigan game. Bottom, the band makes its traditional formation.

Class of 2005 looks back at game traditions

By BETH ERICKSON
News Writer

Three years ago, the Class of 2005 sat together in the far reaches of the student section, looking forward to what then seemed like endless Saturdays of gridiron and tailgates. But this Saturday, these students will be rooting on the Irish from the student section for the last time.

As the final home game draws near, the seniors are anxious for a win.

"I just really hope we win, and I hope it's a memorable game," senior Erin Phillips said. "I can't believe it's our last game."

Some come for the thrill of the athletics, others for the atmosphere.

"There's nothing better than actually looking forward to waking up at 7 a.m.," senior Joe Swiderski said. "I'll miss the randomness of it all. The unexpected is always the best, like when we came back and beat Michigan this year."

Others come for the Stadium experience.

"I will miss the Stadium hot

see SENIORS/page 4

Notre Dame students restricted from spring travel to Cuba

Theology class nixes trip due to new law

By MADDIE HANNA
News Writer

Due to tightened U.S. government restrictions on travel to Cuba, a group of Notre Dame students will no longer be able to make Cuba their spring break destination in March.

University General Counsel Carol Kaesebier informed theology professor Father Robert Pelton Oct. 27 that his "From

Power to Communion" theology class could not proceed with their third-annual Cuba trip, scheduled for March 5-13, 2005.

"Am I surprised and unhappy with this development? The answer is yes," Pelton said.

The new law, announced June 30, permits student travel to Cuba only if the trip lasts a minimum of 10 weeks and entails a structured educational program, formal courses of study or teaching at a Cuban academic institution, said Kaesebier.

Students may travel to Cuba

for less than 10 weeks, but must be either conducting graduate research specifically related to Cuba, sponsoring a Cuban national to teach in the U.S. or organizing and preparing licensed educational activities. The Cuba service trip will be one of the main University programs affected by the policy change.

Despite these allowances, Kaesebier said travel to Cuba would be strongly curtailed.

"Our ability to take trips with students is going to be severely limited," she said. "It [the trip] has to meet the new guide-

lines, which is very difficult to do. Most trips aren't 10 weeks."

Also, Kaesebier said only Notre Dame students or faculty could be authorized to use the University's travel, a change from the past when students from other institutions were free to participate in any Notre Dame programs that involved travel to Cuba.

Despite the strict restrictions, Pelton said he was confident the travel situation would improve at some point.

"My personal opinion is that there will be a change that will

take place in the near future, next year or so, since there is so much pressure against it [the new restrictions]," Pelton said.

According to Pelton, the class will be taught as usual with a new focus on bringing Cubans to Notre Dame. Lecturers will visit throughout the spring semester.

Even though undergraduates will no longer be able to travel to Cuba, students have still shown strong interest in the class, said Pelton.

see CUBA/page 6

INSIDE COLUMN

One last chance

It's all over Saturday.

The Notre Dame Stadium lights will be shining down on our cold bodies as we look out onto the field for our last time as students.

The team will have already saluted us with their gold helmets and the rest of the fans will have left the Stadium, but some of us will just be sitting there in the freezing November evening, with tears rolling down our cheeks, not wanting it to end.

Unfortunately, it will have to.

Notre Dame football did have an impact on my college decision. I could have stayed at home and gotten a scholarship to a very good school. Knowing I would have passed up the opportunity to spend four years at the University I had watched on TV since I was 5 years old would have haunted me forever.

The memories aren't overflowing in my mind about Notre Dame games from our youth. I remember wearing my 1988 national championship T-shirt and watching Shawn Wooden knock down Charlie Ward's pass in the Game of the Century.

That's why this weekend will be so difficult. That's why I avoided talking, thinking and writing about it for weeks.

It took me 18 years to get to Notre Dame Stadium and now in what surely didn't seem like three and a half years, it's almost over.

My first Notre Dame home football game was Sept. 22, 2001 against Michigan State, 11 days after the 9/11 terrorist attacks. Combining the emotions of that first game along with 80,000 people holding American flags chanting "U-S-A" is something I didn't appreciate at the time, but do so now.

Our four years weren't storybook. The team didn't win a national title. We'll remember Boston College as that team we never beat and always hate. The only thing that was consistent was the inconsistency.

The two field-storming wins over Michigan, the road trips to see state-met victories at Florida State and Tennessee and the Return to Glory are just some of the good memories that will be brought up years from now.

The ushers will give us extra time, but at one point it must be over because, as painful as it is for me to write this, we do have to move on.

The next time we watch a Notre Dame game in the Stadium, we will be alumni. We'll be the ones hosting the tailgates, inviting students and trying to feel young again. We won't be standing for four hours, tailgating like champions or doing push-ups.

As students, Saturday's our last chance.

Take your time leaving the Stadium.

I know I will.



Matt Lozar







Editor-in-Chief

The views expressed in the Inside Column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer. Contact Matt Lozar at mlozar@nd.edu

CORRECTIONS

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

QUESTION OF THE DAY: WHAT'S YOUR PREDICTION FOR THE FOOTBALL GAME THIS WEEKEND?

					
Jenni Fong freshman Pangborn	Jonathan Klingler sophomore Keenan	Mike Randolph freshman Fisher	Morgan Dill sophomore Pasquerilla East	Ryan Retartha sophomore Dillon	Will Marra freshman Zahm
"31-24, Notre Dame."	"Irish 31, Pitt 13. If we lose at least we'll probably beat USC."	"I am literally and morally obligated to say our defense is nationwide. Notre Dame takes it 100 to 15."	"Vanno Irlandese!"	"Whoever Lee Corso picks against."	"Notre Dame, it's time for another Pitt loss. 27-13 Irish."



DUSTIN MENNELLA/The Observer

Students gather together at Reckers for "Happy Hour", which is a meeting once every two weeks to eat pizza and talk in Japanese. Organized by Singa Sensei, far right, "Happy Hour" provides interested students the opportunity to practice speaking Japanese in a fun and relaxed environment.

OFFBEAT

Judge says squirrel can live with couple

HARRISBURG, Pa. — Nutkin the Squirrel can live out her later years hunting nuts indoors with a Pennsylvania couple, a court has ruled.

The gray squirrel, which was born in South Carolina where there are no rules against domesticating wild squirrels, may be kept by a Schuylkill County couple despite state laws that prohibit keeping wild animals as pets, a Superior Court panel ruled Friday.

Senior Judge Joseph Hudock, in an 11-page

opinion, had fun recounting Nutkin's early years ["Then one day tragedy struck: Nutkin fell from her tree nest!"] and relocation from South Carolina to Pennsylvania in 1994 ["Dark clouds began to gather."]

Charges slapped on alleged spanker

RED BANK, Tenn. — The owner of a shaved ice business was arrested after two employees claimed he spanked them for making mistakes at work.

Paul Eugene Levengood, 57, was charged with two

counts of sexual battery after the 19-year-old women complained.

Levengood was freed on \$2,000 bail pending a Nov. 16 court hearing. His franchise in this Chattanooga suburb was closed Tuesday.

At the company headquarters in Minneapolis, sales manager Tom Novetzke described Levengood as a "very Christian person," adding that "We've never had a complaint."

Information compiled from the Associated Press.

IN BRIEF

Tom Banchoff, associate professor from the Department of Government and School of Foreign Service at Georgetown University, will lecture on "How the Embryo Became Political." A NANOVC Ethics Seminar, the lecture will take place today from 12:30 to 2 p.m. in 119 O'Shaughnessy.

Ambassador Thomas E. McNamara lectures on "Terrorist Rogue no More: Understanding the Libyan Case." The career diplomat will speak in the Hesburgh Center Auditorium today from 12:30 to 1:30 p.m.







"The International Coffee House: Songs of Protest" is an evening of protest songs and sing-alongs in Spanish and English in the CSC Café from 8 to 9 p.m. tonight. A special collection will be taken for the Catholic Worker Team headed to Darfur, Sudan

The Student Union Board presents "The Manchurian Candidate" in two showings tonight and Saturday at 8 and 10:30 p.m. in DeBartolo 101. Tickets are \$3.

"The Lion King" will be showing at Washington Hall from 9 to 11 p.m. Lyons provides free food, and the chance to win gifts like DVDs and Best Buy gift certificates.

Flipside brings Playground Night to the Rolf's Fitness Center, with basketball, volleyball, badminton, football and other games from 10 p.m. to 1 a.m.

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

	TODAY	TONIGHT	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY
LOCAL WEATHER						
	HIGH 48	HIGH 33	HIGH 41	HIGH 47	HIGH 52	HIGH 52
	LOW 23	LOW 23	LOW 22	LOW 30	LOW 35	LOW 40

Atlanta 59 / 45 Boston 44 / 28 Chicago 44 / 24 Denver 40 / 22 Houston 58 / 46 Los Angeles 69 / 52 Minneapolis 40 / 22 New York 47 / 34 Philadelphia 48 / 33 Phoenix 72 / 52 Seattle 52 / 42 St. Louis 48 / 29 Tampa 82 / 62 Washington 48 / 35

SMC virtual magazine welcomes prospects

By APRIL THOMAS
News Writer

Prospective Saint Mary's students can now experience the college's campus without leaving home.

Saint Mary's free virtual magazine — V-Mag — has been added to the College's homepage, inviting prospective students to go on a virtual tour of the buildings and grounds.

According to Nick Farmer, Saint Mary's director of marketing and communications, V-Mag was initially offered only to accepted students and not publicly displayed on the college's homepage.

"This year the program is offered to prospective students, before the application process even begins," Farmer said.

The first issue features the guidance of two current student hostesses and seeks to give an accurate portrayal of the school's academic, spiritual and social atmosphere.

Junior Anna Bauer, one of the hostesses, got involved with V-Mag through student government.

"I think the best part about the process was the student involvement from the very beginning," Bauer said. "The producers made it a point to use real student interviews, stories and perceptions in writing the scripts."

NewGame Communications created the V-Mag to appeal to today's teenagers. In V-Mag's first

year, the company employed both Saint Mary's College and Georgetown University as initial test subjects.

Mary Pat Nolan, Saint Mary's director of admissions, saw potential in the idea.

"The admissions staff was looking for a cutting-edge, technologically savvy way to communicate with accepted students, a way that would present the benefits of a Saint Mary's education from our most credible sources — Current students, faculty and alumnae," Nolan said.

Now in its third year, the newly enhanced virtual magazine has been helping differentiate Saint Mary's from other colleges and reduce traditional marketing costs.

Despite its success, the virtual tour is not meant to be a final step in decision-making.

"The V-Mag is not intended to be a replacement for the campus visit ... rather, it is an exciting invitation to learn more," Nolan said.

Bauer said producing the Saint Mary's V-Mag gave her the opportunity to share her enthusiasm for her school.

"This was one of the best experiences during my college career thus far," Bauer said. "It was so much fun to get to share this place with prospective students and hope that my story can help them come here and love it as much as I do."

Contact April Thomas at
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Law students help immigrants

By PAUL SPADAFORA
News Writer

In an effort to help citizens of foreign countries apply for residency in the United States, law students are volunteering to help those in need file their applications to the Diversity Immigrant Visa Program.

The Diversity Program is a government lottery that selects 55,000 of the applicants for legal permanent resident visas. Law students are helping prepare the applications of any willing participant that wishes to apply.

Anne Egan, a third-year law student, said the services the law students provide help those with no access to a computer fill out the exclusively online application.

"Since the program stopped using paper applications two years ago, we've been running this program," Egan said.

The law students set up computer kiosks at the local Robinson Community Center and guide applicants through the process.

"There are really specific requirements necessary, so we take the applicants picture and go through [their application] step-by-step," Egan said. "It's especially helpful if there are language barriers that would make applying difficult."

Volunteers at the program take the required digital photo of the applicant, and then help the applicant complete their application.

"We go through the basic forms, country of origin, etc," Egan said.

Volunteers also aid those who are filling out applications for their entire family.

"We also try to file applications for their spouse and children, but it's more difficult because they need to bring digital photos of all the members who are applying," Egan said.

Egan said that the program has received a good response from the community.

"It's not just students looking up the information. Even people working on campus have stopped and looked at the fliers," Egan said. "No fees are charged ... people find it to be a great help, especially if they don't have a computer of their own."

According to Katie Hosty, a third-year law student, the program is an extension of a class on immigration law.

"It's part of the class that you do [an immigration] project within the community, because throughout the semester you're learning how the immigration laws in the United States work, along with the various programs that people can use to enter the country," Hosty said.

Hosty said the Diversity Lottery is designed to provide

options for immigrants

"One of the purposes of the immigration law is to help promote diversity, by helping countries that are traditionally underrepresented by immigration in the United States," Hosty said.

Egan explained who the law applies to.

"There are two main caps for eligibility," Egan said. "The first is that immigrants from countries that have sent more than 50,000 immigrants to the United States in the last five years cannot apply. The second is that no more than 7 percent of all visas may go to a particular country."

Despite the limitations, Egan said the program is an excellent stepping-stone to full citizenship.

"As a legal permanent resident, you can apply for citizenship after five years of residence," Egan said. "This would almost always be the first step that an immigrant to the U.S. takes ... it's their first step on the road to full citizenship."

This year, law students will be running the Robinson Community Center kiosks on Nov. 18, from 6 to 8 p.m. and Nov. 20, from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Contact Paul Spadafora at
pspadaf@nd.edu



"Children and Marital Conflict"

E. Mark Cummings
Notre-Dame Chair in Psychology

"Children and Marital Conflict," with E. Mark Cummings, Notre Dame Chair in Psychology. In this lecture, Cummings will explore the impact of marital conflict on children's emotional security and discuss factors that affect the emotional relationship between parents and children.

As director of "The Happy Couples and Happy Kids Project," Cummings has conducted extensive research on how marital conflict negatively influences a child's development. He was instrumental in the establishment of Notre Dame's Center for Children and Families, a community resource for families in Northern Indiana where parents can learn strategies for constructive conflict resolution.

11:00 a.m.

Saturday, November 13
Auditorium of the Hesburgh Center
for International Studies

For more information, visit the Saturday Scholar Series website at
<http://saturdayscholar.nd.edu>

SATURDAY SCHOLAR SERIES

Fall 2004 Schedule

Experience an intimate discussion with Notre Dame's most engaging faculty speakers on some of the most pressing issues of our times.



9/11 – Michigan

James VanderKam, *Rev. John A. O'Brien Professor of Theology*
"The Dead Sea Scrolls and Christian Origins"



9/25 – Washington

Rev. Richard McBrien, *Crowley-O'Brien Professor of Roman Catholic Theology*
Valerie Sayers, *Professor of English*
Robert Coleman, *Associate Professor of Art History*
"The Da Vinci Code: An Assessment"



10/2 – Purdue

Donald Crafton, *Professor of Film, Television, and Theatre*
"The Movie Mogul: Joseph P. Kennedy's Film Career"



10/9 – Stanford

George Marsden, *Francis A. McAnaney Professor of History*
"Another Kind of Founding Father: Jonathan Edwards and the American Heritage"



10/23 – Boston College

Maureen Hallinan, *William P. & Hazel B. White Professor of Sociology; Director of the Center for Research on Educational Opportunity*
"America's Largest Private School System: A Look Inside Catholic Schools"



11/13 – Pittsburgh

E. Mark Cummings, *Notre Dame Chair in Psychology*
"Children and Marital Conflict"

3-1/2 hours before kickoff at the auditorium in the Hesburgh Center for International Studies. For more information, visit
<http://saturdayscholar.nd.edu>



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Band

continued from page 1

However, there was one aspect that trumped all the others — the students' reactions.

"When we have a great show, a good dance, neat forms and I hear the crowd respond to that, it creates just an almost indescribable feeling," Ferretti said. "It is the people at Notre Dame that make this place meaningful. When it is all said and done, that is what I will miss most after this Saturday."

Dave Binz, cheerleading co-captain, expressed similar sentiments.

"It's been four great years, going through the ups and downs of the football team. The best part was definitely doing step-off, leading the band around campus and through the tunnel," Binz said. "I'll never forget that feeling of walking through the tunnel, hearing those drumbeats get louder and louder."

In the eyes of the younger teammates, the seniors will certainly leave a legacy and a void.

"They're great leaders," cheerleader Chrissy Williford, a junior, said of

the seniors on her squad. "It's a big job to pass down all the traditions, but they did it well."

Williford also pointed out that the team is losing 13 of its 28 cheerleaders.

"That's a major loss," she said.

Members of both the band and the cheerleading squad mentioned the trip to Tennessee as a highlight of their careers.

"The trip to Tennessee was a great experience for the band," Paulson said. "The band loves playing for the team and fans, and we'd love to do so at every away game. We like to think that we bring the intensity and enthusiasm of a Notre Dame home football weekend to any stadium we enter."

"Going to Tennessee was unbelievable," Binz said. "It was so loud, such an intimidating atmosphere. There's nothing like going in and silencing a crowd of 107,000 people."

Ultimately, Binz said he will embrace the change coming in his life.

"I think it's time for us to move on, start our lives, and come back as the alumni," he said.

Contact Eileen Duffy at eduffy1@nd.edu

"It is the people at Notre Dame that make this place meaningful. When it is all said and done, that is what I will miss most after this Saturday."

Dan Ferretti
assistant drum major

Seniors

continued from page 1

dogs more than anything," senior Caroline Meehan said. "Nothing warms you up on a cold South Bend afternoon quite like an ND hot dog. And, whether the Irish win or lose, you can count on your hot dog to be just as tasty."

Despite the ups and downs of the team's record during the past four years, students have faithfully descended upon the stadium dressed for the Sea of Green for every home game.

"I just remember the four years of games as being really fun, I don't really remember which games we won and which ones we lost," Phillips said. "I just have an overall feeling of pride at all the games."

Although there have been several memorable games in recent his-

tory, most seniors agree that rushing the field after the two home match-ups against Michigan made for the best football experiences during their time at Notre Dame.

"My favorite home game memory is either the Michigan game from sophomore year or the Michigan game from this year," Meehan said. "I think it's the Michigan game from this year because it was so unexpected and provided a great start to senior year."

Although the Class of 2005 faced many troubles with ushers this season, most feel that the traditional senior marshmallow fight will go on undeterred this year.

"[The seniors] better do it," senior Jenna Linder said. "It's going to be wild, it's going to redefine all my moments at Notre Dame."

In the past, the ushers haven't been as strict at the last game as they were earlier in the season when enforcing the rules concern-

ing the halftime marshmallow throwing.

Rumors are that the ushers usually give seniors the go-ahead for their traditional marshmallow war, though that stands unconfirmed.

"I've heard that the ushers have said they understand that it's a special senior tradition and they have no problem with the seniors staying longer," senior Joanna Cornwell said.

Seniors will most likely be the first to arrive and the last to leave the stadium Saturday, but when the day comes to an end the nostalgia will begin.

"I'll miss looking across the student section and seeing our school all there together, and seeing how loud we can be," Phillips said. "And I'll miss when the football players come over and raise their helmets up, that's my favorite part."

Contact Beth Erickson at berickso@nd.edu

Legion

continued from page 1

they just took our shirts which is good because students can get them for free."

The Leprechaun Legion has already become a popular organization on campus, and is on probationary club status right now, with expectations to achieve official club status next year.

As with football's 'Sea of Green', the Leprechaun Legion shirt serves as a symbol of unity for fans and support for the team, Tracy said.

Student opinion on the shirt is mixed. Pasquerilla East freshman

Tamara Buretz said the shirt is acceptable.

"I like it. It's kind of plain but it's nice," she said. "I don't get [the back of the shirt], and I think it's dumb."

On the other hand, Steve Przywara, a Keough freshman, said he really liked the shirt.

"The textile manufacturer who created this fabric, I believe there is no word to describe this genius," Przywara said.

In years past, the Leprechaun Legion used to make money off its own shirt sales, while students who bought tickets received the shirt designed by Sports promotions. As a result the Legion has enough money in the treasury to support itself until it receives Notre Dame funding as an official

club.

With this in mind, Tracy and other Legion members decided this year that all profits from the sales of the Leprechaun Legion shirts would go to charity.

"All proceeds go to Coaches Versus Cancer," Tracy said. "That's [Irish coach Mike Brey's] darling." He added that Brey has always been a supporter of the Legion.

The Legion does not have a goal in mind for profits, but Tracy is optimistic about the sales.


"Every purchase helps cancer research and supports the team," Tracy said. "No matter how many we sell it is a success."

Contact Peter Leahy at pleahy@nd.edu

Blak Images

a variety show sponsored by:

The Black Cultural Arts Council



The VMAs @ ND

Live From

Washington Hall

November 13, 2004

8:30 to 10:00 pm

Only \$5

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Fighters try to escape U.S. cordon

FALLUJAH, Iraq — Insurgents tried to break through the U.S. cordon surrounding Fallujah on Thursday as American forces launched an offensive against concentrations of militants in the south of the city. Some 600 insurgents, 18 U.S. troops and five Iraqi soldiers have been killed in the four-day assault, the U.S. military said.

In an apparent bid to relieve pressure on their trapped allies, insurgents mounted major attacks in Mosul, Iraq's third-largest city 220 miles to the north. Guerrillas assaulted nine police stations, overwhelming several, and battled U.S. and Iraqi troops around bridges across the Tigris River in the city, where a curfew was imposed a day earlier.

And in Baghdad, a car bomb exploded Thursday moments after a U.S. patrol passed on Saadoun Street, killing 17 bystanders and wounding 30. There were no U.S. casualties.

The four-day Fallujah offensive has wounded an additional 178 Americans along with 34 Iraqi soldiers, the military said.

U.N. reports nuclear experiments

VIENNA, Austria — South Korean nuclear experiments revealed earlier this year produced minute amounts of plutonium and near-weapons grade uranium but there was no evidence linking them to an attempt to make nuclear arms, the U.N. atomic watchdog agency said Thursday.

The report, drawn up by the International Atomic Energy Agency and made available to The Associated Press, followed up on revelations that South Korea sporadically dabbled in uranium enrichment and plutonium reprocessing from the early 1980s to 2000.

NATIONAL NEWS

Bush honors fallen soldiers

ARLINGTON, Va. — President Bush paused on Veterans Day to honor the "hidden heroes" in America's military who have fought in Iraq and Afghanistan during his presidency and in wars past. He also paid tribute to soldiers he said are waging a winning battle against insurgents west of Baghdad.

"Some of tomorrow's veterans are in combat in Iraq at this hour," Bush said Thursday at Arlington National Cemetery, where he laid a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknowns.

"They have a clear mission: to defeat the terrorists and aid the rise of a free government that can defend itself. They are making us proud," Bush added. "They are winning."

Civil rights group faces turmoil

ATLANTA — The Southern Christian Leadership Conference, the civil rights group that helped lead the fight against segregation, is beset by financial turmoil and infighting that led to the resignation this week of its president, the Rev. Fred Shuttlesworth.

Shuttlesworth, 82, stepped down Wednesday from the organization he and other black preachers helped found along with the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. in 1957.

"For years, deceit, mistrust and a lack of spiritual discipline and truth have eaten away at the core of this once-hallowed organization," he said in his resignation letter.

LOCAL NEWS

Glitch found in ballot counting

BROOKVILLE — A computer glitch in optical-scan voting systems that recorded straight-party votes for Democratic candidates as Libertarian votes has prompted officials in one Indiana county to mount a recount of ballots.

Democrats discovered the error in southeastern Indiana's Franklin County, where ballots were scheduled to be counted again Thursday night. The county's election equipment vendor, Fidler Election Co., notified officials Wednesday of the error.

WEST BANK

Palestinians grieve for Arafat

Successors quickly named, but questions remain unanswered after leader's death

Associated Press

RAMALLAH

Palestinians at home and abroad wept, waved flags and burned tires Thursday in an eruption of grief at the death of Yasser Arafat, the man they consider the father of their nation. The quick appointment of successors did little to dispel the huge question marks now hanging over Mideast peace efforts.

Although Arafat's death at 75 led some world leaders to talk about the possibility of a new era, the outlook was also shadowed by fears of a chaotic transition and a strengthening of Islamic militants.

The burial arrangements in themselves showed how disrupted the region is. The international funeral was to be held in Egypt, because few Arab leaders would travel to Israeli-controlled Palestinian land; Arafat was to be buried in the West Bank town of Ramallah because Israel refused to approve interment in Jerusalem; and most mourners from the Gaza Strip would be barred from traveling across Israeli territory to Ramallah, a security official said.

Workers in Cairo scrambled to lay new carpet and mow the lawn at a small mosque near the airport where dozens of foreign dignitaries will honor the Palestinian leader in a modest ceremony Friday morning, before Arafat's body is flown to Ramallah for a burial service.

In France, where Arafat died before dawn Thursday after 13 nights in a Paris military hospital, eight pallbearers carried his flag-draped coffin past an honor guard Thursday evening as a military band played the French and Palestinian national anthems and a Chopin funeral march.

Arafat's widow, Suha, stifled sobs as the coffin was transferred from a French military helicopter to the



A Palestinian Fatah member carries a picture of Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat during a demonstration in Jebaliya refugee camp, northern Gaza Strip.

official French airplane heading to Egypt.

Though it had been expected for several days as he fell into a coma, Arafat's death stunned Palestinians and left them wondering who could possibly replace their leader of the last four decades.

Arafat had not anointed a successor, but within hours the Palestine Liberation Organization elected former Prime Minister Mahmoud Abbas to replace him as its new chief, virtually ensuring he takes over as Palestinian leader, at least for now.

The Palestinian legislature also swore in Speaker Rauhi Fattouh as caretaker president of the Palestinian

Authority, the self-ruling power in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, though that position will likely have far less power than when Arafat held it. Fattouh is to serve for 60 days until elections can be held, though the law may be amended to allow parliament to choose the new president.

Thousands of Palestinians flooded the streets, many weeping and clutching Arafat's photo. Even members of the Hamas and Islamic Jihad militant groups, often critical of Arafat, mourned his death.

Safra Hassan gave birth to twin boys in Gaza a few hours after Arafat died and said she was naming them Yasser and Arafat. "I'm so

proud that the name of Yasser Arafat will be in my house every day, just as the name of Yasser Arafat will be in every Palestinian house forever," she said.

Black smoke from burning tires rose across the Gaza Strip and gunmen fired symbolic volleys into the air. At Arafat's battered Ramallah compound where he will be buried, flags flew at half staff. The radio played somber music, church bells in the partly Christian city rang out, and Quranic verses were played for hours over mosque loudspeakers.

By Thursday evening, though, the mourning had given way to subdued candlelight vigils.

Senior CIA officer quits to speak freely

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — A senior CIA officer who has become an outspoken critic of the fight on terrorism turned in his resignation this week, citing a desire to speak more freely about problems in the hunt for Osama bin Laden and the debate over intelligence reform.

Current government officials are rarely as vocal as Mike Scheuer, who wrote "Imperial Hubris: Why the West is Losing the War on Terror." But he called the decision to leave the agency after 22 years "entirely my own."

"I have concluded that there has not been adequate national debate over the nature of the threat posed by Osama bin Laden and the forces he leads and inspires, and the nature and dimensions of intelligence reform needed to address that threat," Scheuer said in a statement sent to reporters Thursday via electronic mail.

Scheuer's CIA assignments included running the bin Laden unit from January 1996 to June 1999. He hopes his experience and views will produce a more substantive debate.

This week, Scheuer ignored agency orders and began granting interviews about shortfalls in the

hunt for bin Laden, the findings and recommendations of the Sept. 11 and the intelligence community overall.

During a wide-ranging interview Sunday evening, Scheuer was highly critical of the Sept. 11 Commission's "refusal" to point fingers at senior government officials whose actions contributed to the attacks. Rather than changing the structure of government, as Congress is considering, he said a signal must be sent that people will be held accountable for their actions.

"No one seems to be capable or inclined to find anyone responsible for 9/11," he said.

Cuba

continued from page 1

"I'm still going to take the class because I'm a Latin American studies minor, and I think it's a worthwhile class," said junior Ann Marie Warmenhaven, who plans to enroll in the class. "But it's disappointing that U.S. policy can affect Notre Dame students on such a personal level."

Pelton said the embargo would negatively affect the United States as well as Cuba.

"The most effective way to open relationships is through commerce and educational, cultural exchange," he said. "Relations like this are not productive for Cuba or the U.S."

Fred Licon, a political science graduate student who went on the Cuban trip last year, said the new law would limit the intellectual pursuits of Notre Dame students.

"I would be angry [if my trip was cancelled], because it truly is a nice glimpse into a different governing system," Licon said. "It would be healthy, an intellectual excursion."

He said visiting Cuba last year gave him a new perspective on life in the United States.

"You learn to appreciate democracy, to get a glimpse of what lies outside our bubble, not just the Notre Dame bubble," he said. "And it's so close — only 90 miles away."

According to Licon, the travel restrictions were politically motivated. Wealthy, educated hard-line Cuban nationals who fled the country from 1960-80 entrenched themselves in the Miami region and became a Republican stronghold.

"They feel that travel to Cuba is condoning Castro," Licon said. "Would you have sent people to Iraq during Saddam Hussein's reign?"

Consequently, the new restrictions served largely as "campaign fodder," he said.

"Especially given the tight race this year, the Bush Administration felt that we needed to take our policy to a higher level,"

Licon said. "Florida was a swing state, and the Latino vote was up for grabs."

Contact Maddie Hanna at mhanna1@nd.edu

"You learn to appreciate democracy, to get a glimpse of what lies outside our bubble, not just the Notre Dame bubble."

Fred Licon
graduate student

"The most effective way to open relationships is through commerce and educational, cultural exchange."

Father Robert Pelton
Theology professor

Frist calls for end to filibusters

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Senate Majority Leader Bill Frist on Thursday urged Democrats to stop blocking President Bush's federal court nominees and hinted that he may try to change Senate rules to thwart their delaying tactics.

"One way or another, the filibuster of judicial nominees must end," Frist, R-Tenn., said in a speech to the Federalist Society, a conservative legal group.

The Democrats' ability to stall White House picks for the federal bench was one of the most contentious issues of Bush's first term. Despite the GOP majority in the Senate, Democrats used the threat of a filibuster to block 10 of Bush's nominees to federal appeals courts. The Senate did confirm more than 200 of the president's choices.

Republicans hope their gain of four seats on Election Day will discourage Democrats from using filibusters again. But in a Senate next year with 55 Republicans, 44 Democrats and a Democrat-leaning independent, Democrats still will have the 40 votes necessary to uphold a filibuster.

Frist said filibustering judicial nominees is "radical. It is dangerous and it must be overcome. The Senate must be allowed to confirm judges who fairly, justly and independently interpret the law."

"The Senate cannot allow

the filibuster of circuit court nominees to continue," Frist said. "Nor can we allow the filibuster to extend to potential Supreme Court nominees."

Chief Justice William H. Rehnquist, 80, is seriously ill with thyroid cancer, and three other justices have had cancer. The average age of the nine court members is 70. Speculation on a Supreme Court retirement has grown in part because there has been no vacancy in more than 10 years.

The Bush's administration's former chief lawyer at the high court told the organization earlier Thursday that "any attempted new appointment to the court, especially that of a chief justice, will set off a political firestorm."

Theodore Olson added, "The presidential election was merely about the next four years. A Supreme Court justice is for life. It will not be pretty." Olson, who represented Bush before the Supreme Court in Bush v. Gore four years ago and then became solicitor general after Bush took office, predicted that the president would get to name as many as three justices during his second term.

Frist previously has advo-

cated changing Senate rules to make it more difficult to continue a filibuster. While the idea went nowhere in the current Congress, Frist raised it again in his speech, saying that judicial filibusters were "nothing less than a formula for tyranny by the minority."

"The Senate now faces a choice: Either we accept a new and destructive practice or we act to restore constitutional balance," he said.

To block some of Bush's nominees, Democrats have used procedures that required Republicans to come up with 60 votes to advance the president's choices. It takes 60 votes in the 100-member Senate to break a filibuster, meaning some Democrats would have to side with Republicans.

"The Senate cannot allow the filibuster of circuit court nominees to continue."

Bill Frist
Senate Majority Leader

Robert Bork, Thomas, named by Bush's father, was narrowly approved. Bork, a Reagan choice, was rejected.

"It could easily be worse next time around," Olson said.

Olson has been mentioned as a possible high court pick, but his confirmation for solicitor general was rocky.

Colin Farrell [as Jesse James] in 'American Outlaw'



'Bloody Sunday', Derry, 30 January 1972.



Keough Institute for Irish Studies, University of Notre Dame Undergraduate Courses, Spring 2005

Irish

IRISH 101. A fun and entertaining introduction to the modern Irish language. This course introduces the basic principles of grammar and sentence structure, as well as core vocabulary. Emphasis is placed on the application of these principles in every-day situations. IRL 101:01 T H 11:00-12:15 Sarah McKibben. IRL 101:02, MWF 10:40-11:30, Peter McQuillan. IRL 101:03, T H 12:30-1:45. Brian Ó Conchubhair

IRLL 102. A continuation of IRL 101. Emphasis is placed on reading simple texts in Irish and the student's linguistic, grammatical and cultural knowledge is expanded. Building on IRL 101, the students grow in confidence and linguistic ability. IRL 102:01, T H 2:00-3:15, Sarah McKibben, IRL 102:02, MWF 9:30-10:25. Peter McQuillan.

IRLL 103. A continuation of IRL 102. This course develops the student's existing language skills. Emphasis is on expanding fluency, competency and translation. IRL 103:01, T H 11:00-12:15. Brian Ó Conchubhair

English

Introduction to Irish Writers. IRST 371A:01. MWF, 11:45-12:3. Christopher Fox. The small island of Ireland has produced a disproportionate number of great writers, including Jonathan Swift, Maria Edgeworth, Oscar Wilde, James Joyce, William Butler Yeats, Elizabeth Bowen, Brien Friel and John McGahern. This class will introduce the student to a broad range of Irish writers in English from 18th century to the present.

Anglo-Irish Literature: Cultured Misrule, Dissolute Lords and Rebel Countesses. IRST 372E:01. MWF, 1:55-2:45. This course will examine the role of the Anglo-Irish in the political and literary life of Ireland from the Act of Union (1800) to the last decades of the 20th Century.

Irish Gothic from the Union to 'The Troubles'. IRST 379C:01. MWF, 11:45-12:35. James Wurtz. This class will examine how Irish literature uses ghosts, vampires, demons, and rebels to grapple with threats facing society, and engages with the historical unrest in 19th and 20th century Ireland.

Swift and the Arts. IRST 499. T H 3:30-4:45. Joseph McMin. This course looks at how Jonathan Swift regarded non-literary arts in 18th century Ireland and England - gardening, music, architecture and painting - and how his views on those art forms are reflected in his poetry and prose.

Reading "Ulysses" IRST 475B:01. T H 12:30-1:45. Maud Ellmann. This course aims to make Ulysses, the greatest novel of the 20th century, understandable by reading it slowly chapter-by-chapter in the light of Homer's Odyssey and Joyce's Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man.

Irish Film and Culture. IRST 476 T H 11:00-12:15. Course Req. IRST 476L. Luke Gibbons. This course will examine some of the dominant images of Ireland in film and literature, and will place their development in a wider cultural and historical context. Particular attention will be paid to such key figures as Yeats, Synge, and Joyce, and contemporary writers such as John McGahern, William Trevor, Patrick McCabe, and Roddy Doyle will be discussed.

Graduate Courses

Irish Drama and Revolutionary Politics. ENGL 571 T H, 2:00-3:15. Susan Harris. This course investigates the relationship between the drama produced by the Abbey Theater movement during the first decades of the 20th century and the political struggle for Irish Independence that was taking place at the same time.

Modernism and the Four Nations: England, Ireland, Scotland and Wales. ENGL 573 H, 6:30-9:00. Mary Burgess. This seminar examines the geographies and locations of British and Irish Literary Modernism.

Gender and Writing. ENGL 575:01. T H, 12:30-1:45. Maud Ellmann. Graduate Course. This course focuses on the seventy years between 1871 (the publication of George Eliot's Middlemarch) and 1941 (the publication of Virginia Woolf's Between the Acts), a period of upheaval in gender relations that also witnessed the emergence of the modern professional woman writer.

Rethinking Race: Irishness, Whiteness and Post-colonialism. ENGL 577. W 7:30-9:00. Luke Gibbons. This seminar will discuss issues of race and representation in relation to Irish Literature and Culture. The threat presented by the Irish to colonial civility had less to do with visibility than with other components of racial theory, as the Celt, provided an ominous template for the concept of doomed races, and other modes of cultural contagion.

History

The Bandit and Outlaw in History IRST 322A:01 T H 3:30-4:45. Éamonn Ó Ciardha. This course examines the role of the bandit and outlaw in Irish history, literature and popular culture between the 16th and the 20th centuries. It will also seek to discover why the bandit has remained the focus of recent popular histories, Hollywood films and historical documentaries.

Irish History II. IRST 327B:01. MWF, 9:35-10:25. James Smyth. This course consists of lectures and readings examining Irish (mainly) political history and Anglo-Irish relations from the Act of Union (1801) up to and including 'The Troubles' and the Peace Process.

Medieval Ireland. IRST 435:01, T H 11:00-12:15. Aileen O'Leary. This course covers the history and culture of Ireland from the pre-Christian era to approximately AD 800, discussing the achievement of St. Patrick, Irish monasticism and the Vikings.

Anthropology/Culture

Irish and American Dance. IRST 228:01. MWF, 4:30-4:45. James McKenna. This course will teach a range of fundamental tap steps in addition to at least two finished tap dance pieces set to CD music. Several hard show tap dances will be taught, depending on the ability of the students.

MARKET RECAP

Stocks			
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Up: 2,426	Same: 125	Down: 898	Composite Volume: 1,394,924,544

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NASDAQ	2,061.27	+26.71
NYSE	6,950.97	+59.75
S&P 500	1,173.48	+10.57
NIKKEI(Tokyo)	10,936.48	+89.56
FTSE 100(London)	4,776.90	+42.40

COMPANY	%CHANGE	\$GAIN	PRICE
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INTEL CORP (INTC)	+1.36	+0.31	23.17
CISCO SYSTEMS (CSCO)	+1.63	+0.30	18.74
SIRIUS SAT RADI (SIRI)	-0.26	-0.01	3.85
ORACLE CORP (ORCL)	-1.79	-0.24	13.14

Treasuries			
30-YEAR BOND	-0.22	-0.11	49.65
10-YEAR NOTE	0.00	0.00	42.54
5-YEAR NOTE	-0.31	-0.11	35.60
3-MONTH BILL	0.00	0.00	20.29

Commodities			
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GOLD (\$/Troy oz.)	+0.90		436.20
PORK BELLIES (cents/lb.)	+0.58		102.05

Exchange Rates			
YEN			106.1200
EURO			0.7739
POUND			0.5415
CANADIAN \$			1.1937

IN BRIEF

Board rejects \$9.2 billion takeover

SAN FRANCISCO — PeopleSoft Inc.'s board of directors rejected Oracle Corp.'s \$9.2 billion takeover bid Wednesday and vowed to continue its staunch resistance even if a majority of the business software maker's shareholders decide to accept the offer.

After more than a week of deliberation, PeopleSoft's board unanimously concluded Oracle latest \$24-per-share bid is inadequate. It marked the fifth time the Pleasanton-based company has snubbed its bitter rival since the takeover battle began more than 17 months ago.

"We absolutely believe PeopleSoft is worth far more today than at any point since this process began," said George "Skip" Battle, the lead director on PeopleSoft's transaction committee.

Many analysts disagree, saying PeopleSoft's market value has been propped up by Oracle's takeover bid. If Oracle withdraws its bid, some analysts fear PeopleSoft's stock will plunge by more than 30 percent.

PeopleSoft's shareholders theoretically could override the board's recommendation by offering their shares to Oracle by a Nov. 19 deadline.

Should a shareholder majority side with Oracle, Battle and other board members said the directors still intend to use whatever measures necessary to force the issue to a final vote at PeopleSoft's annual meeting next spring.

Fox to provide TV series for phones

NEW YORK — The Twentieth Century Fox studio, a veteran of the big screen and the TV screen, is about to break into an entirely new realm: the really little screen, the kind that comes on a cell phone.

In what appeared to be the first arrangement of its kind, Twentieth Century Fox said Wednesday it would create a unique series of one-minute dramas based on its hit show "24" exclusively for a new high-speed wireless service being offered by Vodafone PLC, the world's biggest cell phone company.

Vodafone will begin offering the one-minute episodes in January in the United Kingdom, coinciding with the start of the fourth season of the show on a satellite TV service.

Blockbuster offers to buy rival

Biggest retailer in movie-rental industry wants Hollywood Video for \$700 million

Associated Press

DALLAS — Blockbuster Inc., facing new attacks from big retailers and online operators, has offered \$700 million for rival Hollywood Entertainment Corp. in a bid to combine the two biggest players in the movie-rental industry.

Blockbuster, the biggest in movie rentals, said Thursday that it had communicated its interest to No. 2 Hollywood Entertainment but that there have been no substantive talks on terms of a deal.

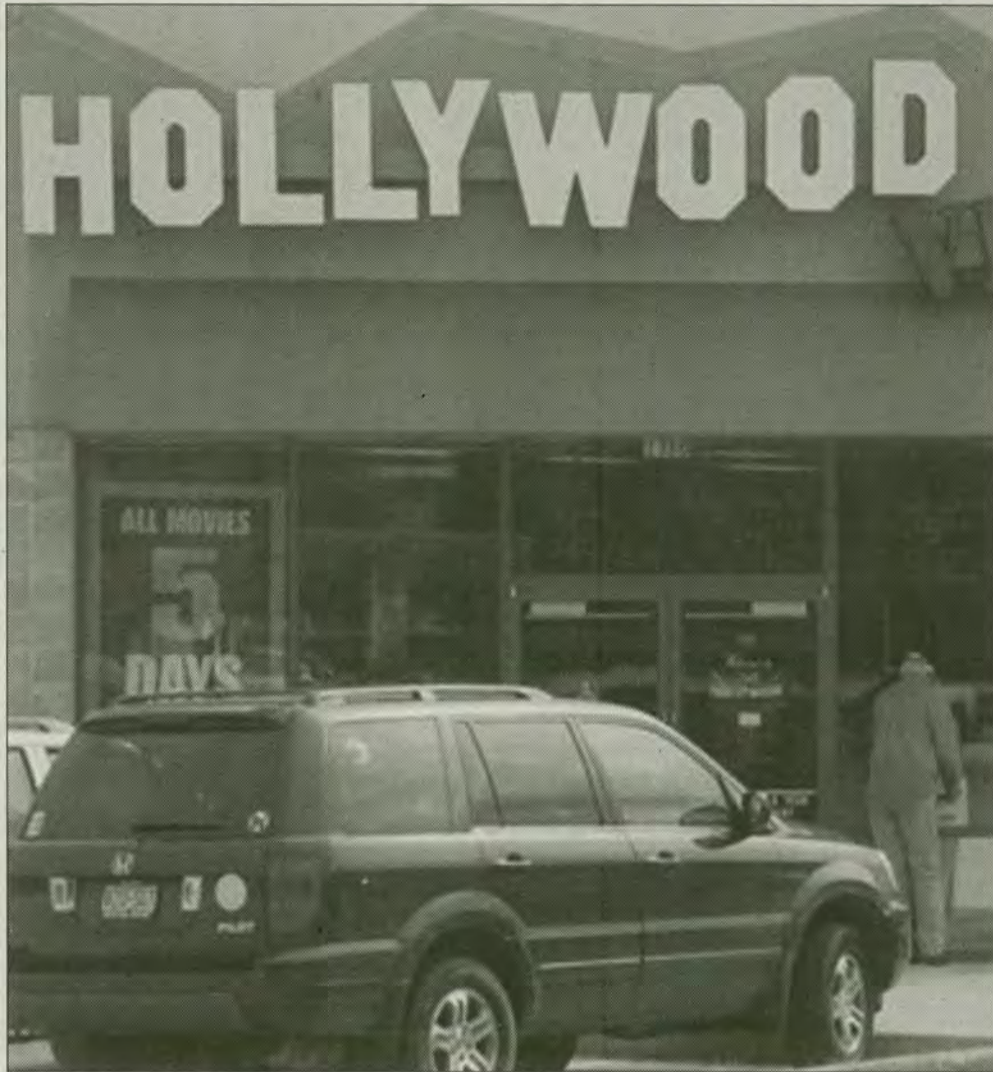
Hollywood Entertainment is already in a deal to let its chairman and chief executive and a buyout firm take the company private. The agreement, however, allowed Hollywood to solicit other bids, and the CEO said he welcomed Blockbuster's offer.

The deal would give Blockbuster, which already has 9,000 outlets worldwide, more than 1,920 Hollywood Video stores and 600 Game Crazy specialty stores. But it could also raise antitrust questions.

In 1999, a plan by the two companies to rename Hollywood stores under the Blockbuster banner was stopped by the Federal Trade Commission, but analysts say a merger of the two largest movie-rental firms stands a better chance now.

Stacey Widlitz, an analyst for Fulcrum Global Partners, said regulators would probably block Blockbuster's plans if they considered the movie-rental business as a distinct industry, but not if they lumped rentals with retail sales of DVDs and games. Widlitz said the combined company would control about half the U.S. rental business but only about 20 percent of rentals plus retail sales.

Dallas-based Blockbuster said it offered \$11.50 per share, a 17 percent premium over Wilsonville, Ore.-based Hollywood Entertain-



Blockbuster Inc. announced a \$700 million offer for Hollywood Entertainment Corp., a deal that would extend its position as the world's largest movie rental company.

ment's closing price Wednesday of \$9.80 per share, and would assume about \$350 million in Hollywood Entertainment debt.

The deal would trump the pending bid of \$10.25 per share for Hollywood Entertainment by a Los Angeles buyout firm.

In afternoon trading, Blockbuster shares were up 58 cents, or 7.9 percent, to \$7.96 on the New York Stock Exchange, and Hollywood Entertainment shares rose \$1.15, or 11.3 percent, to \$10.95 on the Nasdaq Stock Market.

Retailers such as Wal-Mart Stores Inc. sell DVDs so cheaply that they tempt movie renters. In addition, Blockbuster now faces com-

petition from subscription online rental operators such as Netflix Inc.

The new nature of the competition was reflected in recent price cuts by leading providers of Internet movie rentals. Netflix and Blockbuster knocked more than 10 percent off their monthly online subscription rates, and Wal-Mart jumped into the fray by undercutting both. The price war was triggered by Netflix's fear that Amazon.com Inc. would muscle into the business.

"The four companies are going to beat each other to death," said the analyst Widlitz. She was lukewarm on Blockbuster's bid: "It's one company in a declining business buying another."

Marla Backer, an analyst for Research Associates, said Hollywood Entertainment shareholders should "take the money and run" but that Blockbuster would inherit a company facing the same competitive pressures that it does. She said Blockbuster would be wiser to invest in electronic delivery of movies.

John Antioco, Blockbuster's chairman and chief executive, said in a statement that the proposed deal "better positions Blockbuster to compete in the rapidly changing home entertainment marketplace, while simultaneously benefiting consumers as well as Blockbuster and Hollywood Entertainment shareholders."

Microsoft pushes to challenge Google

Associated Press

SEATTLE — Microsoft Corp. finally debuted its own Web search technology on Thursday, hoping to challenge Google Inc.'s long dominance of the field with results tailored to a user's location and answers from its Encarta encyclopedia.

Google signaled that it is ready for a fight, announcing Wednesday that it would nearly double the amount of Web pages available to search through its site.

The Microsoft search engine, offered in 11 languages, will initially be available on a special "test" site. Gradually, some users visiting Microsoft's MSN site may find that the existing search bar uses the new search engine, said

Adam Sohn, a director with the company's online division. But a full rollout, perhaps with new features, isn't expected until early next year.

Redmond-based Microsoft has long offered a search engine on its MSN Web site, but the technology behind was powered by subsidiaries of Yahoo Inc.

Earlier this year, company executives conceded that they had erred by not developing their own search technology and said they had devoted \$100 million in an aggressive catch-up effort. The company also pledged to clearly separate paid search results from those based purely on the relevancy. That's something its previous search engine hadn't done but that the new technology will do.

Microsoft also plans to offer by year's end a test version of its hotly anticipated technology for quickly locating e-mail, Web pages and other files on desktop computers. Google launched a similar product last month.

Hoping to steal some of Microsoft's thunder, Google nearly doubled the size of its search engine index to more than 8 billion Web pages Wednesday evening. A Google spokesman downplayed the Microsoft connection, saying the Mountain View-based company had been working on the expansion for months. Google last expanded its Web index to 4.3 billion pages in February when another rival, Yahoo Inc., unveiled a search engine powered by its own in-house technology.

Aguilar addresses immigration

By JEN ROWLING
News Writer

Alfonso Aguilar, Chief of the Office of Citizenship and Notre Dame graduate, lectured Thursday on "Building a Common Civic Identity."

In the past three years, one million green cards were distributed and at least a half million naturalizations conducted, Aguilar explained. Large numbers have migrated from Asia, Latin America and Africa to the United States.

Aguilar said that his position as Chief of Citizenship within the Department of Homeland Security involves promoting civic principles and increasing awareness of the privileges and responsibilities of being an American citizen.

"We are a nation of immigrants," Aguilar said.

He said that America must learn how to successfully incorporate immigrants into society. "We are a nation not based on religion, culture, but

civic principles, we need to integrate immigrants into our civic culture, what unites us are civic principles," Aguilar said.

According to Aguilar, immigrants should be invited to participate in the larger community to avoid marginalization.

Aguilar admitted biases exist, but said that the situation has improved over the past century.

"We have experience of incorporating people into of our nation," Aguilar said.

The Office of Citizenship initiated new programs to assist immigrants in their transitions to American citizenship. Immigrants now receive a "Welcome to U.S." guide, which contains information pertaining to healthcare, education and laws. Also, new seminars provide U.S. history and language assistance.

Aguilar called all citizens to welcome new immigrants and assist them in the transition to the American lifestyle.

"The federal government can



DUSTIN MENNELA/The Observer
Aguilar, Chief of the Office of Citizenship, speaks Thursday.

not be solely responsible, we need to coordinate with the local, state, faith groups and colleges," Aguilar said.

Contact Jen Rowling at
jrowling@nd.edu

Driver

continued from page 1

was able to obtain was in the e-mail," McDonald said. "We wanted to give the community as much information as possible so this didn't happen to anyone."

Senior Kendall Krische said she has never had any problems with cab drivers, but will now be more cautious when using cabs for transportation.

"I usually take a cab somewhere at least once a week," Krische said. "I guess from now on, if I have to go anywhere, I'll try to go

with a lot of people."

And while others agree with Krische, some students said they wouldn't be afraid to take a cab in the future.

Junior Jessica Landgraf she would immediately report a cab driver if she were ever propositioned.

"Yes, I'd feel uncomfortable, but I would still take a cab if I needed one," she said. "I don't think this should deter people from taking a taxi, especially when they're doing it for safety reasons like getting transportation to and from bars."

Contact Angela Saoud at
saou0303@saintmarys.edu.



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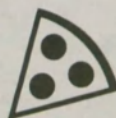
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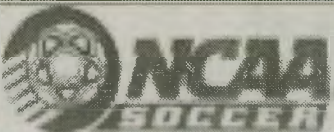
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JAPAN

Officials try to identify mystery submarine

Associated Press

TOKYO — Japan's military on Thursday shadowed an unidentified submarine that entered its territorial waters the day before, but officials said they had not yet figured out which country the intruder was from.

Tokyo put its navy on alert Wednesday after spotting the submarine off the southern island of Okinawa and sent a reconnaissance plane and destroyer to follow its movements.

The submarine, which spent two hours in Japanese waters before leaving, was heading north Thursday, Chief Cabinet Secretary Hiroyuki Hosoda said.

Prime Minister Junichiro Koizumi said the government was trying to confirm the vessel's identity, but he added that sometimes it helped to be vague.

"There are security issues involved. Sometimes it is better to not say things very clearly," Koizumi said.

Asked if Japan's navy was having trouble identifying the vessel, Koizumi said: "No. It's good to have advanced abilities, but sometimes it's better not to know how advanced those abilities are."

He added Japan would take "appropriate action" when it confirmed the mystery sub's identity.

Hosoda refused to confirm media reports that defense officials believe the vessel is from China, saying: "We don't have enough conclusive evidence to make a determination."

He said it would take time to identify the submarine because it had not yet surfaced and did not appear to be heading toward a specific country. Hosoda said Tokyo has not confronted any countries about the incident.

Japanese public broadcaster NHK said defense officials suspected it was a Chinese Han-class nuclear submarine, based on an analysis of the sounds it was making.

In Beijing, Foreign Ministry spokeswoman Zhang Qiyue said she did not know if the vessel was Chinese.

"The Chinese side is now paying close attention to this issue and I do not approve or encourage any random suppositions on this question," Zhang told reporters at a regular briefing. "As to whether this is a Chinese submarine, I do not know and I cannot provide you any information on this."

MEXICO

City residents debate art exhibit
Shack perceived as too similar to real poverty

Associated Press

MEXICO CITY — A squatter "shack" that bulges like a tumor off the outside wall of a Mexico City museum is an experiment in living — or an eyesore, a waste of money, an affront to the country's millions of real squatters, depending on whom you ask.

Whatever it is, Hector Zamora's work of art is hard to ignore. It crawls down the side of the Carrillo Gil art museum about 30 feet above street level, reachable from the sidewalk only by a rickety wooden stairway.

Zamora, 29, says the red cocoon-like shack is a three-month experiment in living in a public space, a technical exploration of lightweight buildings and an opportunity to "spark a discussion."

"People have left me angry notes in my mailbox saying, 'I hope someday you live in real poverty,' and 'Now I know where the arts budget is going,'" said Zamora, a designer who builds canopies and pavilions.

Residents of San Angel, the colonial-era suburb of mansions around the museum, hated it so much they forced Zamora to do what normal squatters don't do — battle for months to get construction permits.

It's not just the insults. Passers-by have barged uninvited into the red, tarpaper shack. One real squatter stopped by and offered tips for improvement.

Zamora says his wood-floored dwellingplace — a parabolic steel frame supported by cables strung from the museum's roof — mimics the precariousness and lack of privacy that real squatters suffer.

He often has to sleep with earplugs as trucks roar by outside his plastic-sheeted windows. The conclusions from the experiment? "This is a livable space," he says, but he gets out on Nov. 28 and is quick to add that when he builds his dream house, "it will not be in the city."

Zamora says the work, titled "Revolucion 1608, bis," is meant to reflect the inventiveness of real squatters, who often build shacks in swamps or 45-degree hillsides. He is proud of the lightweight, inexpensive materials like corrugated cardboard insulation, and also used some "real squatter" materials like tar paper, old oil tins and discarded wooden scaffolding.

Zamora's grandparents came to the city as squatters, but later achieved lower middle-class respectability. In college, Zamora became fascinated with architectural geometry, and cites Buckminster Fuller as an influence. So when the museum approached him to do the exhibition, it didn't expect any ordinary shack.

He hooked up to the museum's water, electricity and sewer lines, just as real squatters tap into the infrastructure around them, sometimes overloading circuits and causing blackouts.

Some, however, think Zamora didn't go far enough.

"It's a magnificent effort, but I don't think it's provocative enough," said Graciela Schmilchuk, a contemporary arts researcher for Mexico's National Fine Arts Institute. "Perhaps it would have been more effective if he had invaded part of the sidewalk, or the street."

That's what real squatters often do — turn parks, nature reserves and vacant lots into shanty towns. The city's main bike trail is blocked at three points by squatters' camps.

One question being debated is whether the shack, a relatively spacious 800 square feet, reflects the true plight of the city's hundreds of thousands of squatters.


"I had no intention of imitating poverty," Zamora said, "or of showing disrespect for it."

Zamora acknowledges the shack is fairly luxurious and pricey by crowded squatter standards. Its \$40,000 cost — paid for mostly by the government and a private donor — would have bought one of the tiny, cookie-cutter apartments in the cheap housing complexes sprouting across the broad Mexico Valley.


"I had no intention of imitating poverty or of showing disrespect for it."

Hector Zamora
artist

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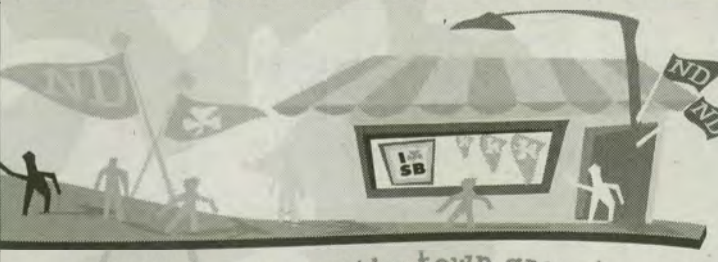


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Spring 2005

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IRLL 102:02	MWF 9:30-10:25	Prof. Peter McQuillan
IRLL 103:01	T H 11:00-12:15	Prof. Brian Ó Conchubhair

OxyContin operation busted

Associated Press

NEWARK, N.J. — More than a dozen reputed street gang members, organized crime associates, pharmacists and college students have been arrested for their parts in an alleged ring that sold the powerful painkiller OxyContin in the Boston area, authorities said Thursday.

The ring moved tens of thousands of pills, which sold for \$80 to \$100 apiece, authorities said. It took in about \$150,000 a week, and had been operating for over a year. "No one expects there to be a connection between organized crime figures, street gang members and college students," Union County Prosecutor Theodore Romankow said. "They do make strange bedfellows."

Authorities arrested 14 suspects in New Jersey, two in Massachusetts and one in Arizona on Wednesday and Thursday. Additional arrests were expected.

The alleged ringleader, Louis Gallicchio, 64, of Newark — described by detectives as a Lucchese crime family associate — befriended street gang members and recruited them to be runners, delivering shipments of pills bought illegally from two pharmacies in Newark, officials said.

Buyers in Massachusetts allegedly included three college students, two of whom had been taken into custody.

SWITZERLAND

WHO recommends smallpox virus alteration

Associated Press

GENEVA — A World Health Organization committee has recommended approval for genetically altering the smallpox virus to make it easier to determine whether drugs to tackle the disease are effective, the U.N. agency said Thursday.

The alteration involves adding a marker gene to the virus that would glow green under a fluorescent light if the

smallpox virus was still alive but would not react if it was dead, WHO spokesman Dick Thompson told The Associated Press.

"They recommended that experiments be done that would speed the screening of drugs for anti-smallpox activity," Thompson said.

Thompson confirmed this would constitute genetic manipulation — as reported earlier Thursday by National Public Radio — but stressed

that the purpose of the experiments would be to try to improve smallpox treatment.

In the United States, however, a senior smallpox expert said he was wary.

"I think that it is unwise for us to be continuing research with a smallpox virus," NPR quoted Dr. Donald Henderson, President Bush's former bioterrorism czar, as saying.

Henderson ran the successful WHO campaign to wipe out smallpox in the developing

countries of Africa, Asia and Latin America from 1966 to 1977.

The WHO committee, which met in Geneva Nov. 4-5, said further research should be carried out on the marker gene that would be inserted into the smallpox virus, Thompson said.

The World Health Assembly — the ruling body of the 192-nation WHO — would make a final decision on whether to approve the experiments.

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Friday, November 12

Day by Day

25th Anniversary Edition

Fr. Tom McNally and
William Storey

2:00 pm – 4:00 pm

I Play For Notre Dame

Ted Mandell

3:00 pm – 5:00 pm

Bill Miller:

Do You Know Me

Libby Miller Fitzgerald

2:00 pm – 4:00 pm

Where the Birds Never Sing

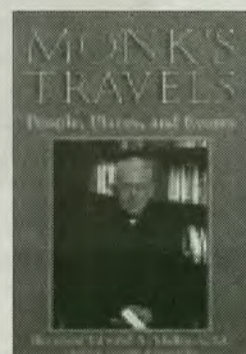
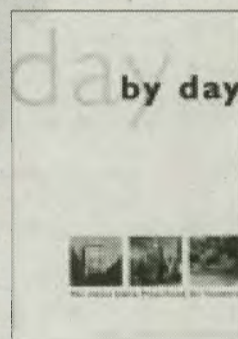
Jack Sacco

4:00 pm – 6:00 pm

Monk's Travels

Fr. "Monk" Malloy

2:00 pm – 4:00 pm



Saturday, November 13

What it Means to be Fighting Irish

Johnny Lattner and
Bobby Brown

9:00 am – 11:00 am

For Who For What a Warrior's Journey

Ricky Watters

9:00 am – 11:00 pm

Tales from the Notre Dame Hardwood

Digger Phelps

11:00 am – 1:00 pm

Green Thumb

A Notre Dame Mystery

Ralph McInerney

9:00 am – 11:00 pm

Go Irish

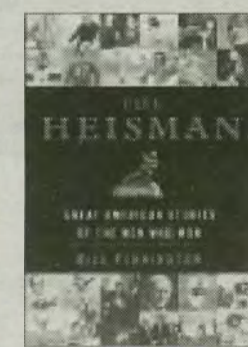
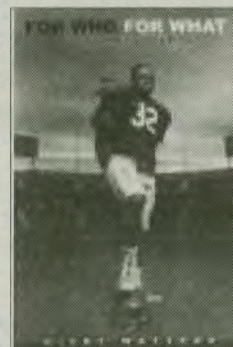
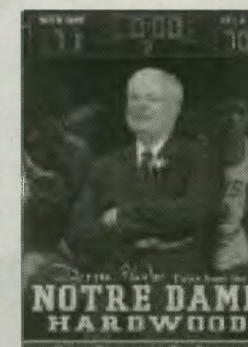
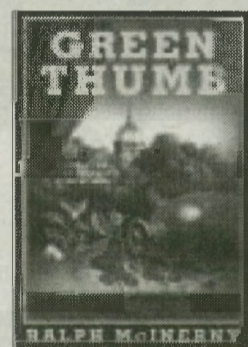
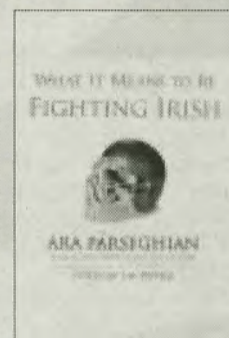
Connie McNamara

11:00 am – 1:00 pm

The Heisman: Great American Stories of the Men Who Won.

Bill Pennington

11:00 am – 1:00 pm



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THE OBSERVER VIEWPOINT

page 12

Friday, November 12, 2004

THE OBSERVER

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Questions regarding Observer policies should be directed to Editor in Chief Matt Lozar.

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Staff, NDSP inaction fosters apathy

Compared to other colleges, Notre Dame is a relatively safe place. Rarely does anyone hear of crime or security problems on campus. But this week, there was a security problem — and not many people seemed to notice.

Sunday morning, a man was reportedly seen in the Pasquerilla West showers between the hours of 7 and 8:30 a.m. — a clear Du Lac violation. This man is suspected of committing vandalism acts within this female dorm, consisting of sexually explicit phrases written on white boards, doors and shower stalls throughout the building.

This situation appears to be rather serious, especially at Notre Dame. However, both the Pasquerilla West hall staff and NDSP failed to inform the campus community of this severe safety and security breach in a timely fashion.

Residents of the dorm were not informed about the incident until 11:30 a.m. Monday morning when they received a silent message, more than 24 hours after the actual incident took place. Monday evening, the residents of Pasquerilla West received an e-mail detailing the events and steps they should take to ensure their safety as well as a copy of that email in their rooms. The same night, NDSP issued a campus-wide security alert.

These methods of informing people were effective. By using different mediums to reach people — e-mail, phone messages, signs — the hall staff of Pasquerilla West made sure every resident knew. NDSP also made sure signs were distributed across campus. All of these efforts were completed by Monday night.

But what about Sunday night? The hall staff could make the argument that the girls who saw the intruder did not report the incident right away. And yes, these residents should have told the hall staff immediately when they saw the man.

But the issue remains that the incident was reported at 3:45 p.m. Sunday to NDSP and more than 19 hours elapsed before the first alert was issued. The Pasquerilla West residents deserved to know what happened. They deserved to know right away, so they could be aware of what was going on and take the appropriate precautions. The Notre Dame campus also needed to know what happened so they too could be aware.

But what happened was too little, too late.

The residents of Pasquerilla West were already apathetic. They weren't concerned about what happened, but instead considered it a fluke, or just a one-time occurrence. The fact of the matter is a man was in the dorm, in the shower areas, and during that time, the dorm was vandalized. Maybe

residents aren't concerned because by the time they found out, the incident was over in their minds.

Perhaps Pasquerilla West's hall staff didn't have the entire story by Sunday night. However, the safety of the Pasquerilla West residents should trump an ongoing investigation when there is evidence of an apparent security breach. Even if the story was incomplete, residents needed to know about this incident so they could be informed and aware.

Perhaps hall staff and NDSP didn't want to scare students unnecessarily. But sometimes being just a little on edge, just a little more aware, can make a big difference in one's safety.

The hall staff and NDSP gave them the impression that this security breach wasn't important enough to tell them right away, and as a result, apathy appears to pervade at least portions of both Pasquerilla West and the campus community.

But it was a big deal, and it still is. So why doesn't everybody care?

The Observer Editorial

Democrats: celebrate diversity

The most compelling yet unsurprising lesson to be learned from the 2004 Presidential election is that the wave of alarmingly hateful anti-Bush rhetoric backfired in Middle America, where voters are more likely to trust the advice of their neighbors than pampers Hollywood elitists and descending Northeastern liberals who act in the "best interests" of the heartland.

Glancing at the Barnes and Noble "Current Events" bookshelf last weekend, I couldn't help but marvel at the now-outdated screeds accusing President George W. Bush of every ill facing American society today. Though my initial reaction was one of pity, I took solace knowing the financial success of these authors utilizing their God-given talents speaks volumes for the inclusive power of free-market capitalism.

For months I feared the literati's wave of disdain directed at the president would overcome the calm-headed rationale of the American voters and propel Sen. John Kerry's intentionally ambiguous platform to success. I feared George Soros and his ilk would declare victory and fuel even greater funding towards "independent" 527-groups and political action committees. I feared the increasingly partisan mainstream media would feel vindicated for their glaringly preferential treatment of the challenger, and I feared that misguided European animus would overpower the will of American exceptionalism.

The electoral and popular vote results allayed my longstanding fears, but the election's aftermath indicates that Kerry supporters are far from learning their lesson. The results hit anti-Bush circles with shock and awe, and critics have latched onto anything that lends an air of intellectual or moral superiority.

Notably, the exit poll results, which gave

Bush a hefty lead among those who cited moral values as their primary voting concern, offered fodder for bashing social conservatives as the standard buzzwords "ignorant ... intolerant ... homophobic ... gun-crazy" surfaced on the editorial pages of the nation's most respected newspapers. A personal favorite, the New York Times columnist Maureen Dowd cited "fear, intolerance, ignorance and religious rule" as the culprits behind Bush's unspeakable reelection. Her counterpart Paul Krugman, whose columns have demonstrated the revolting danger of professorial partisanship, whined about Bush's "radical agenda" that a majority of voters endorsed for the next four years.

Down the ranks, if one discusses the election results with a strong Kerry supporter, a slam towards the sheltered Middle America or religious bigots is virtually inevitable. At this point, they are still searching for any comforting notion to assure them Kerry truly was the candidate America should have chosen were it not for Karl Rove's devious campaign strategy.

In an effort to extend the olive branch towards those who found Bush's reelection unspeakable and now consider moving to Canada an attractive option, I implore my friends on the left to consider their most favored values — diversity and tolerance. I speak not of the superficial concept of racial diversity, but the deeper and more substantive diversity of thoughts and values that transcend the standard definition. America contains the most diverse set of robust religious values in the world, heightened by the fact that religion in America has not declined as noticeably as in Europe, the other bastion of Western tolerance.

Democrats, liberals, progressives (liberals who don't like being called liberal) and every other shade of blue champion the value of tolerance foremost, but far too often their righteous inclusion falls far

short of its goal. While they position themselves on the moral scale so their unifying value is merely value-neutrality, any strong system of beliefs that diverges from the mean immediately earns their condescension and thinly-veiled contempt.

Politically speaking, striving for greater moral and religious inclusion may stand to revitalize the party that increasingly suffers defeat at the polling booth. Perhaps blinded by their own partisan rage against the president, who happens to be openly religious, the liberal intelligentsia openly mocks Bush's invocations of God and faith. During the 1990s, President Clinton discussed religion in a combination of personal belief and political utility, and voters flocked to his down-to-earth vision for America's future. Bush's religious references occur as frequently as Clinton's, yet the contempt leveled at him by intolerant liberals only pushed away voters who appreciated his heartfelt conviction.

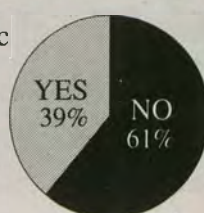
Democrats have the opportunity to seize the moment and prove their version of diversity and tolerance is not simply a means of positioning themselves higher on the scale of elitist delusion. Unchecked arrogance drowned out the voices of the silent majority of Americans who approved of Bush's presidency or at least found him superior to the challenger, and Democrats must now look themselves in the mirror and realize that hubris does not win elections. The best hope for shifting America away from Republican dominance is for Democrats to prove to the voters that the values of diversity and tolerance they so frequently invoke are more than skin-deep.

Bill Rinner is a senior economics major. His column appears every other Friday. He can be reached at hotline@aol.com.

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

OBSERVER POLL

Do you think that academic cheating is a problem on campus?



*Poll appears courtesy of www.ndsmcobserver.com and is based on 150 responses.

QUOTE OF THE DAY

"Fall seven times, stand up eight."

Japanese proverb

Who's right?

I have to chuckle a bit when I think of those Republican voters who expect the next four years will lead to an overturning of *Roe v. Wade*. You would think that after 16 years of Republican presidents since 1980, reality would have set in. It has not. When former President Clinton entered office, eight of nine Supreme Court justices were Republican appointees, but *Roe* was still the law of the land. What a high-stakes wager it was this year, reelecting a president responsible for the largest budget deficit in history and a fiasco in the Middle East. Pro-life Republicans bet the house. I wager they lost.

John Infranca

Dissident Poetry

A recent study indicates President George W. Bush's first term brought an increase in abortions. Economic problems and rising health costs render it likely we can expect the same in years to come. Meanwhile, abortions dropped by nearly 200,000 annually under Clinton. Such statistics make little difference to those who prefer ineffective absolutist moral posturing to actual change. One can be so tied to a cause he forgets the effect.

I took a somewhat perverse pleasure in the firestorm that resulted when Sen. Arlen Specter, the likely new Republican Chair of the Senate Judiciary Committee, warned Bush of the obstacles a court nominee who might overturn *Roe* would face in the Senate. Religious conservatives, aware of the major role they played in reelecting Bush, were up in arms. Some declared Specter unfit for the post.

This controversy between a socially moderate Northeasterner and the religious right reveals a growing tension in the GOP. The famously-unified Republicans might soon develop the kind of in-fighting Democrats have made famous.

For the past few decades, Republicans have succeeded by brandishing a clear vision while Democrats remain mired in what strategist James Carville calls "litanies, not a narrative." The Republican vision in this election was of tax cuts, privatization and a more bellicose international presence. Democrats failed to adequately convey an alternative. To paraphrase "The Big Lebowski":

"say what you will about the tenets of the Republican Party, at least it has an ethos." This ethos is, however, undergoing a perhaps divisive transformation.

Bush (really Karl Rove) has recast the Republican Party, much as Clinton shifted the New Democrats to the center. Bush moved to the right, the religious right in particular. He has abandoned traditional Republican positions — fiscal responsibility, government accountability, concern for the middle class and a reliable, cautious foreign policy. The assertion that he is the heir apparent to President Reagan did not convince the many conservative individuals and publications that chose not to support his reelection or endorsed Sen. John Kerry. They saw an administration that is socially conservative and eco-

nomically indecipherable, and whose neo-conservative foreign policy has hindered America's ability to lead on the global stage. The American conservative denounced the influence of the Christian Right on foreign policy and their unqualified support for Israel. Interestingly, Evangelical Christian leader Pat

Robertson's major critiques of Bush have centered on the president's support for the road map for peace in the Middle East, which "could put the United States at cross-purposes with God."

Robertson, along with Jerry Falwell and James Dobson, represent an element of the Republican Party that has received much attention since the election. On the other end of the spectrum are the key speakers during the recent Republican Convention: Governors Mitt Romney (Massachusetts), Arnold Schwarzenegger (California) and George Pataki (New York), as well as current and former New York City

Mayors Michael Bloomberg and Rudolph Giuliani. Some of these men are potential 2008 presidential candidates. All are pro-choice and socially moderate to liberal. Their major roles in the convention compelled more than half the Republicans in the

House to send a formal letter of complaint to Bush in July. They questioned why pro-life speakers were not given a more public role during the convention. Makes you wonder, doesn't it?

The most prominent pro-life speaker was a Democrat (at least in theory), Zell Miller of Georgia. Sen. John McCain, another speaker, is also pro-life, but for many the renegade senator has always appeared more fiscally than socially conservative. He faced strong opposition from religious conservatives during the 2000 primaries. What to make of a party with a pro-life platform headlining its most prominent pro-choice politicians? Perhaps one should question their commitment to the cause. One must admit the Republicans are at least more receptive than Democrats to the minority view in their party on abortion. Fortunately, pro-life Democrats, often ostracized, might find some hope in their new Senate minority leader, pro-lifer Harry Reid of Nevada.

Republican supporters like the Center for Reclaiming America (for Christ) would likely actively oppose Giuliani or Pataki should they seek the 2008 nomination. A fault line might develop over the next decade or two between the religious right and the "Traditional Conservative" (mainly Northeastern) wing of the party. This is good, not for Democrats, they still need to get their act together, but for our political process. Who thought a viable third party might come from the right? Unfortunately, unless he makes a few changes, Ralph Nader is not likely to receive their nomination.

John Infranca is a theology graduate student. His column appears every other Friday. He can be reached at jnfranc1@nd.edu.

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



LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Democratic Party must become pro-life

Two questions should be asked before, during, and after every election: 1) What hopes do we have for the future, and 2) How do we get there from here? Those questions should be asked by both the general population and also by individual political parties and movements.

As a moderate Democrat I hope for more jobs, better schools, safe communities and an increased availability of healthcare for all Americans. In the wake of President George W. Bush's clear victory I, like many Democrats, have trouble seeing a definitive path towards my hopes for this nation.

However, there is a bold and clear move the Democratic Party must make sooner rather than later — move the party's platform from a pro-choice to a pro-life stance on abortion.

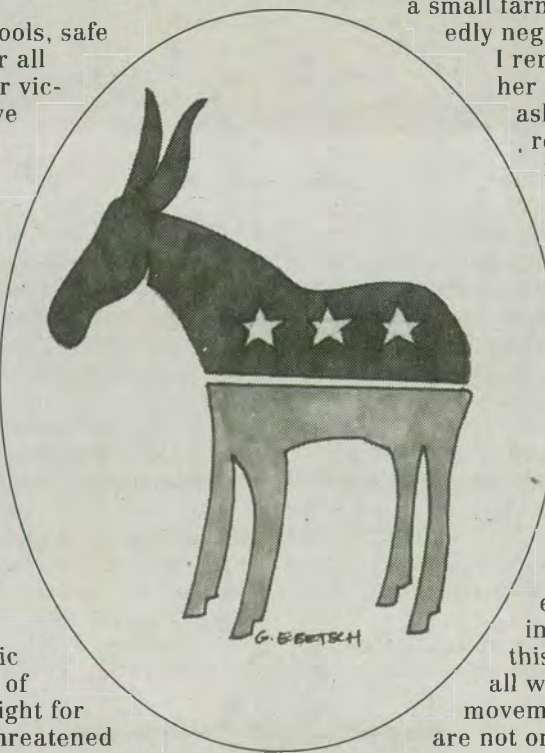
It is politically impossible to take a middle of the road position on abortion. The Democratic Party should create a platform opposing abortion except in cases of rape, incest and the mother's health. The Democratic Party should continue to welcome pro-choice members but insist on pro-life leadership. *Roe v. Wade* is now destined to be overturned, leaving abortion up to the states. At that point, if the Democrats are still the "abortion party," Republicans will sweep to power in at least 30 state legislatures and governor's offices in order to outlaw abortion at the state level. Sen. John Kerry was not the only loser. On Nov. 2, the pro-life movement struck a fatal blow to the pro-choice position. The sooner the Democratic Party realizes this, the better.

Abortion is a unique issue which is not central to the basic principles of the Democratic Party. Contrary to the opinion of many, abortion is not a critical component in the ongoing fight for women's rights. Abortion as a political issue has actually threatened the future advancement of core women's rights issues such as equal pay for equal work legislation. Bush was not the only clear victor Nov. 2; the pro-life movement also scored a resounding victory. With more than 20 percent of voters saying "moral issues" were the most important issues to them, and 80 percent of

those voters backing Bush, the pro-life electoral equivalent of an ace-in-the-hole pushed Bush to victory. It seems that many Democrats do not fully comprehend the weight the abortion issue carries, especially in rural areas. I come from a small farm in southern Indiana and have seen abortion single-handedly negate the progressive beliefs of many good men and women. I remember one time discussing politics with a friend, I noticed her views were very decidedly left of center. However, when I asked her for whom she was going to vote she instantly replied, "George Bush" and then, automatically acknowledging the inconsistency in her position said, "Bryan, I just can't vote for someone who won't end abortion." People like the ones from my hometown are the lower-middle class, economically progressive voters who provided Bush with a wide margin of victory in rural areas due to Bush's pro-life stance. Although I firmly believe single-issue voting threatens our democracy by allowing a small part of the electorate to decide policy, there is no feasible way to end the practice.

I realize distancing ourselves from the pro-choice position will not instantly create droves of converts to the Democratic Party. However, by supporting the pro-life movement we will open the minds of millions of Americans to the Democratic arguments on various issues. I look forward to the debate about Democratic principles, we are the party of civil rights, economic and educational opportunity for all and, albeit cliché, we are indeed the party of hope. I believe we can win a debate in this country about core Democratic values. Let it be known to all who wish to look to the future that while the pro-choice movement has been defeated, Democratic ideals have not. They are not one and the same.

Bryan Hambley
sophomore
Zahm Hall
Nov. 11



“Opus Cactus”

**The dancer-illusionists
of MOMIX presents
their latest
fantastic creation**



Photo courtesy of Patrick Ryan

STORY BY MARIA SMITH

When you look at Moses Pendleton's work, you wouldn't think it all started showing dairy cows at the Celdonian County Fair. The internationally famous choreographer has come a long way from his family farm in northern Vermont. Since he first started touring with dance company Pilobolus after graduating with a degree in English from Dartmouth College, Pendleton's work has been featured all over the world, from Paris to Munich to New York. He has created choreography for ballets, operas and music videos among other projects.

Dance enthusiasts have another rare opportunity following on the heels of "Swan Lake" performed by the renowned Moscow Ballet at the Morris Performing Arts Center on Thursday night. On Saturday MOMIX, Pendleton's famous dance company, will take the same stage with a performance that is unlike anything else in the world of dance.

The performance was arranged by the staff at the DeBartolo Center for the Performing Arts. University-sponsored discounts have lowered student ticket prices to \$7, far below what would normally be charged for a MOMIX performance.

The group characterizes the unique style for which Pendleton has become famous. Inventive costumes and creative use of choreography combine to create the effect that has brought the members of MOMIX the label of dancer-illusionists. MOMIX uses the full capacity of the human body in its

dancing, but does not stop there. The group uses hammocks, trapezes, poles and other indescribable props to expand the possibilities of dance. Incorporated elements of gymnastics make the group one of the most athletic in the business. The inventive and technically excellent dance troupe has earned the praise of professional dancers and amateur fans alike.

"Opus Cactus," the group's newest touring performance, was inspired by the great saguaro cactus of the American southwest. The choreography is based on the unique flora and

fauna of the desert. Dances pieces reflect tumbleweeds, lizards, rattlesnakes and desert blooms.

MOMIX was created in 1981, a year after Pendleton choreographed the closing ceremonies for the 1980 Winter Olympics. The group is named after Pendleton's solo piece "Momix" which he also performed for the games.

Over the past 20 years the group has performed in more than 20 countries. The group's more famous performances include "Bad Habits," a show created to celebrate the opening of the San

Francisco Giants' new training park in 1992, and a performance featured in the 3-D IMAX film "Imagine." "Bad Habits" was a forerunner for the full-length performance "Baseball," one of the group's famous touring performances.

"Opus Cactus" will be performed at the Morris Center for the Performing Arts at 8:00 p.m. on Saturday. Tickets range from \$22-\$30. \$7 rush seats are available for Notre Dame students.

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IRISH INSIDER

INTERHALL

Friday, November 12, 2004

THE
OBSERVER

BATTLE OF THE

K's



KEENAN CONFRONTS KNOTT FOR THE TITLE

PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY DESIREE ZAMORA AND CHUY BENITEZ

MEN'S INTERHALL FOOTBALL

No. 1 Keenan to meet No. 7 Knott in championship

By CHRIS KHOREY
Sports Writer

All the hard work, taunting and hype are over. On Sunday, the blue-clad Keenan Knights take on the orange-jerseyed Juggs from Knott at Notre Dame Stadium for the men's interhall football championship this Sunday at 1:30 p.m. at the stadium.

The Knights come into the game with an impressive 6-0 record and several lopsided victories. Additionally, they have not allowed a point in the playoffs. The Juggs, on the other hand, snuck into the playoffs with a 2-2 record but have shown dramatic improvement since, routing Alumni in the semifinals 24-0.

"We think we've always been a good team, we just got some bad breaks," Knott captain Drew Donovan said of his team's improvement. "We just practiced hard and tried to decrease the mental mistakes."

Both teams have been impressive in the playoffs, employing balanced attacks and stifling defense.

"This year we have fantastic balance on offense. We're not reliant on any one guy," Keenan captain Pat Downey said. "A different guy has stepped up and

been our best weapon in each game. We can run the ball with the best of them, and we can throw when we need to."

Contenders for the honor of Keenan's "weapon of the game" include quarterback Eric Laumann, halfback Alex Staffieri, wide receiver Danny Zenker and fullback Reed Langton. Each individual has had big games statistically in the past such as Zenker's two touchdowns last week against Siegfried.

Notably, each of the stars credits the offensive line for their potent attack.

"The real stars of the game are on the line," Laumann said last week.

Because of their offensive success, the Knights do not expect to change their game plan for the title game.

"We feel we can run the ball successfully against any front, and that opens the passing game," Downey said. "We're going to stay with our basic package."

Hopefully we don't have to delve into our bag of tricks."

On the other side of the field, the Juggs will rely on their stingy defense, which has specialized in causing turnovers this season. Last week, Knott had four interceptions on only seven Alumni passes.



HILARY THORTON/The Observer

The Keenan defense lines up against Alumni on Oct. 10. The Knights will face Knott Sunday for the interhall championship.

"Our secondary has been great for us all year," Donovan said. "We put them in a lot of situations where they have to go one on one and they've been aggressive all season in terms of going for interceptions and getting the ball back to the offense."

Downey, however, downplayed the influence of the Knott defensive backs.

"We have confidence, and I don't think our quarterback has thrown four interceptions all year," he said. "That said, we have to respect their secondary. We're going to have to concentrate on running the ball."

On offense, Knott will try to pound the ball with halfback John Lyons, who carried for 120 yards against Siegfried and attack through the air with

quarterback Justin Gillett and wide receiver Trey Patrick. Patrick caught a 30-yard touchdown pass and last week Gillett threw another one for 25 yards to Lyons.

The Juggs also boast kicker Eric Wooldridge, who kicked a 37-yard field goal last week.

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Keenan's Laumann leads team with his experience



HILARY THORTON/The Observer

By TOM STILES
Sports Writer

Keenan's sophomore quarterback Eric Laumann is not your average football player.

Laumann will be playing in the biggest game of the interhall season on the biggest stage Sunday when his Keenan Knights take on the Juggs from Knott.

The pressure and excitement surrounding this game is unlike any other considering families of players will be flying in to see the championship, including Laumann's.

With friends and foes attending the game, they will almost certainly make up the largest crowd either team has played in front of all year.

Although anxiety will be an issue for most of the players, Laumann is not "most players." He has been playing football since the fifth grade up to his senior year at Kettering Alter High School in Dayton, Ohio. After becoming the starting quarterback his sophomore year, he took his team all the way to the state semifinals both his junior and senior year.

"We played in front of about 15,000 people, which is one of the largest crowds for a high school game in Ohio's history. So, I really don't get nervous," Laumann said. "Before games I take it easy and let the defense get pumped up. I just get in my own frame of mind and try to stay focused."

Laumann has remained one of the most versatile players in interhall based upon statistics alone.

Laumann has already had three games in which he has

thrown and rushed for over 200 yards this season. This is in addition to throwing and rushing for at least three touchdowns in each of the contests.

"We like to run a balanced offense, and Eric is a huge part of it because he is versatile enough to execute on running plays designed for him and he can really tuck it and run on the broken ones," Keenan captain Patrick Downey said. "As any good quarterback, you have to have leadership qualities, and Eric does. He just has that knack for making big plays, especially on third downs. We are very confident when the ball is in his hands."

Laumann attributes this confidence to his many years of experience.

"I think the biggest thing that I bring to the offense is experience. I can read routes well, and I'm better at progressions than most quarterbacks in this league," Laumann said. "I'm athletic enough to be able to make something happen if people bust through the line. Plus, I have a great receiver to throw to in Dan Zenker."

In addition to the Keenan receivers, its defense has been a dominant presence all season long.

The Knights defense has recorded three shutouts and hasn't allowed an opponent to score more than seven points all season.

"The key for a win on Sunday will be the line. It all starts with the offensive line," Laumann said. "Then the running game will open up the passing game."

A successful passing game

and making few mistakes is a pressure Laumann places upon himself.

"For me, the big thing is no turnovers and just making the plays that are called. We are good enough where I don't have to be spectacular," Laumann said. "I know they have a good running back, but our defense hasn't given up a touchdown in the playoffs. It'll be a hard fought game."

Despite being confident in the team's abilities, Laumann knows what is at stake. He also knows what a great achievement it is to get all the way to the Stadium. Last season, the Knights reached the semifinals, only to lose to Dillon 13-6. Laumann and the rest of the players from last year's team haven't forgotten how close they came to reaching the Stadium. This time around though, Keenan looks to relish the experience.

"Last year was a giant tease," Laumann said. "We were so close and we got a taste. But the loss fueled the fire, so we really got to work early this year."

Laumann is also hoping last year's mistakes will help the team to be successful on Sunday.

"I would like to treat this like any other game, but I know the feeling of being on that field will be unbelievable," Laumann said. "But we as a team want to be remembered by everyone there watching. My whole family is coming, so I really hope it will be an experience that they will remember as well."

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Keenan sophomore quarterback Eric Laumann rushes down field in a game against Alumni earlier this season. Keenan will face Knott in the championship game this Sunday.

WOMEN'S INTERHALL FOOTBALL

Chaos and Wild Women set to face off in final

By BRAD WALLACE
Sports Writer

Before the leaves changed and one could still go outside without a parka, Cavanaugh and Walsh met in the first game of the 2004 interhall season. They played to a 0-0 tie.

Eight weeks later and 30 degrees cooler, the Wild Women will butt heads with the Chaos once more, but this time, there will be no tie.

The scenery will likely be the biggest change Sunday when the teams make their way to the Stadium for the 12 p.m. game; it will be a battle of prolific offenses and smothering defenses as this season's best will put it all out there in hopes of being the 2004 women's interhall football champion.

After winning close semifinal games, neither team will need much pumping up before Sunday. For senior Walsh captain Carrie Campbell, the idea of playing in the Stadium is more than enough to get her juices flowing.

"Our last game against Welsh Family was really exciting, and it definitely got us pumped up for the championship," she said. "This is our first time in the Stadium — we got beat in the semis my freshman and sophomore years, so we're really excited to get the chance to play in there."

Feeling the same rush after defeating Pangborn in her semifinal game, Cavanaugh captain Sara Gilloon is ready for Sunday's game but is going into it looking for one thing.

"We had a really tough game against Pangborn, and the win really gave us a lot of momen-

tum," Gilloon said. "We were in the Stadium two years ago and got beat by PE, so the juniors and seniors on the team know what this game is all about. Getting there isn't enough for us this time. We're better prepared than we were then, and we're here to win."

But Gilloon and the Chaos know how difficult that goal will be to realize, as it was the Wild Women who handed them the only blemish on a near-perfect record.

"I think the tie can be attributed to their tough defense, but at the same time, our offense wasn't up and running the way it is now," she explained.

Campbell agrees the first game was well-fought on both sides, but feels Walsh has made a lot of progress since then.

"We felt like we morally won the first game. Cavanaugh was ranked first, and we did a good job of shutting them down," Campbell said. "I think both teams have improved a lot since the beginning of the season. I know we feel a lot more confident, and our offense has really begun to click in the second half of the season."

Over the last eight weeks, both Walsh and Cavanaugh have developed what they consider strengths, but both are extremely well-rounded teams exhibiting impressive skills on both sides of the ball.

"As far as our play goes, defense has been our greatest strength," Campbell said. "Our corners have been solid, and we've held all of our opponents to few or no points. We've also got a very athletic offense that makes big plays."



GEOFF MATTESON/The Observer

Cavanaugh celebrates its 18-13 victory over Pangborn Monday. The No. 1 Chaos finished the regular season 5-0-1.

Walsh quarterback Mary Sullivan feels that her team's biggest asset comes off the field.

"One of our biggest strengths is our unity," Sullivan said. "It doesn't matter who is on the field. When we play, it's always about the team."

The indiscriminate talent of the Wild Women will be evenly matched Sunday by the far-reaching abilities of the women of Cavanaugh.

"We've got a really strong offense that makes big plays," Gilloon said. "We've got a lot of great receivers, and our quarterback, Lisa Ruffer, is getting

more accurate every week. Our defense has also come up with several interceptions at crucial times, and they've made a lot of key stops."

Each team is aware of the other's strengths and will go to great lengths to make sure that it comes out on the winning end.

"Cavanaugh is a great team. They have a very talented offense, and their quarterback is very athletic," Sullivan said. "But I have a lot more confidence in our defense than I have in her, and I know they can shut her down."

As Walsh and Cavanaugh are

so evenly matched, it is likely this game will come down to who wants it more.

"It's going to take the combination of momentum and playing our hearts out to win this game, but I know we're going to do it," Gilloon said.

Sullivan feels representing her dorm will add the necessary motivation to take the Wild Women to the top.

"We just want to take advantage of the opportunity and bring a little glory back to Walsh Hall," Sullivan said.

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Walsh family connection propels team to championship

By KEVIN BRENNAN
Sports Writer

On the Walsh interhall football team, the involvement of several members of one family has resulted in excellence on the field.

The Wild Women of Walsh finished an undefeated regular season with a record of 4-0-2 and have advanced through the playoffs to face Cavanaugh in Sunday's championship game. Interestingly enough, a great deal of the team's success can be attributed to one family.

Senior Carrie Campbell serves as Walsh's captain and leader on the field. Carrie's first cousin, Dave Brenner, is the team's head coach. Carrie and Dave's mothers are identical twins who attended Notre Dame and lived in Walsh as freshmen. Dave's sister, Molly Brenner, and Carrie's sister, Julie Campbell, are two of the freshmen members of the Walsh squad. The four cousins have each played a significant role in the Wild Women's run for the title.

Carrie is on the Walsh team for the fourth straight season. The captain began the year playing quarterback, but an early-season injury ended her role as the signal caller. After sitting out a few games, Carrie

has returned to the team on defense, playing safety and linebacker. Even with her on-field contributions limited by injury, Carrie's leadership and passion have been vital to Walsh's success.

"Carrie always brings so much energy and so much love for Walsh football," Carrie's sister Julie said.

Along with Carrie, Dave has provided excellent leadership and inspiration for the team. Having played in high school, Dave brings a vast amount of football knowledge and an understanding of the game.

However, Dave, in his second year as Walsh's head coach, does more than simply call the plays. He acts as a friend and mentor to the entire team.

"All the girls really like and look up to him," Carrie said about Dave.

Walsh junior cornerback Patty Rose agreed with Carrie.

"Dave really cares about the team and watches out for all of us," Rose said. "He's almost like a big brother."

Dave's sister Molly has made an immediate impact on the team in her freshman year. Dave describes his sister as, "a raw athlete who is fast and has great hands."

Playing wide receiver, Molly has demonstrated a penchant for making big plays all sea-

son long. In Walsh's semifinal game against Welsh Family, Molly caught the game-winning touchdown pass.

Just like her cousin, Julie Campbell has jumped in as a freshman and contributed from the beginning. Julie has provided the team with some much needed versatility, playing several different positions throughout the year.

"Julie's strongest contribution has been her flexibility," Dave said. "She has played three different positions on offense and two different positions on defense, and she has started at all of those positions."

Furthermore, like Molly, Julie has a knack for coming up with big plays. Her interception in the semifinals helped seal the victory for Walsh.

Carrie, Dave, Molly and Julie have each individually helped Walsh reach the championship game.

However, the cousins' greatest contribution might lie in their strong relationships and the effect this closeness has had on the team as a whole. Rose cites these family ties as a great source of unity for the Wild Women.

"Walsh football is very much like a family," Rose said. "The players watch out for each other, and the coaches watch



GEOFF MATTESON/The Observer

Walsh teammates celebrate after defeating Welsh Family 13-6 Monday in the semifinals.

out for the players. Having those family connections on the team has just made this natural."

Dave sees team unity as one of the leading factors in Walsh's success this season.

"Being close like that keeps everyone coming to practice, keeps people serious about

football and keeps the winning streak going," Dave said.

Carrie, Dave, Molly, Julie and the entire Walsh team hope their family bonds can help achieve one final victory on Sunday.

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IRISH INSIDER

INTERHALL

Friday, November 12, 2004

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UNDEFEATED... FOR NOW



After playing to a scoreless tie to open the season, Cavanaugh and Walsh face off in Sunday's Championship game - a battle of unbeatens

Photo Illustration by MIKE HARRIS and CHRY BENTZ

MOVIE REVIEW

'The Grudge' is standard but scary

By MOLLY GRIFFIN
Assistant Scene Editor

Haunted house movies are a staple of the horror genre, and "The Grudge" proves to be an interesting and decently scary addition to this classic vein of films. The picture is a remake of a Japanese film, "Ju-on: The Grudge," and while it isn't extremely original, it does provide a good number of scares and maintains an aura of suspense for a good part of the movie.

The movie follows a non-linear plot structure, so it jumps back and forth between various characters and timelines. It focuses primarily on Karen Davis (Sarah Michelle Gellar), a young exchange student who moves to Japan in order to be with her boyfriend, Doug (Jason Behr).

She works for a nursing care center, and she is called to a house after the primary caregiver mysteriously dis-

appears while she is working. Karen slowly begins to discover the eerie hauntings of the house, as well as the reasons behind why they exist. She quickly finds that death awaits all those who enter the house, and that the agents of the curse will track down

all those who have stepped foot within its doors regardless of where they are.

Through the use of flashbacks, cutbacks and some other narrative devices, the film manages to provide scares and a story without giving away too much too soon. The fact that it is based on a Japanese film is evident in how the story is told, as well as how it is resolved, and in this way it does offer a slightly different perspective on what constitutes a scary movie.

The film's use of sound is perhaps the most effective means of creating suspense and startling the audience. The creak of doors, the swell of music, the howl of a cat and especially the eerie, guttural creaking noise that pre-

cedes most of the attacks all help to create an overall mood of anticipation and terror. Watching the film with the mute button on would seriously detract from the overall experience, and it would definitely make many of the pivotal moments much less frightening.

The house in the movie is another major source of scares, and it actually ends up being one of the most important 'characters' in the film. The claustrophobic atmosphere created by the Japanese home immediately creates a sense of tension before any major action has taken place, and the camera makes use of the cramped quarters to great effect.

As the film progresses, the doors begin to open on their own, mysterious shadows appear in mirrors and windows, and a sinister sensation is evoked whenever a character merely enters a room. When mysterious shapes begin to apparate out of corners, closets and bathtubs, the audience begins to feel

tense when a character does nothing more than enter the building.

The film doesn't exactly revolutionize the horror movie genre, but it does utilize many of the major tropes of classic movies, such as hands popping out of dark corners and grabbing someone, to

create a good scary atmosphere. Although the movie does rely heavily on the "Don't go in there" moments that are frequent in scary movies, a few of which will really have you wondering about the character's IQ, it does manage to usually make you ignore implausibility with some kind of shock or scare.

Like so many other horror movies, it leaves the door wide open for a sequel, and with four films in the Japanese "Grudge" series and a number one box office opening for the film in the

United States, it is highly likely that American audiences will be seeing more of the series.

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Photo courtesy of www.starpulse.com
Karen (Sarah Michelle Gellar) is the victim of rage in "The Grudge."



Photo courtesy of www.movieweb.com
'The Grudge' centers on a house full of vengeful, violent spirits.

THEATRE REVIEW

'Our Town' shows at Saint Mary's

By JONATHAN RETARTHA
Scene Writer

The production of Thornton Wilder's "Our Town" at Saint Mary's College this weekend provides a slice of early 20th century Americana to 21st century college students. A play in the vein of "Fiddler on the Roof," "Our Town" tells the story of the town of Grover's Corners, N.H. at the turn of the century.

By placing a spotlight on a particular, isolated town, Wilder reveals both truths about early 20th century and universal truths about human existence that are applicable today. The play has three acts—Daily Life, Love and Marriage and Death.

The action in the three acts revolves around two families in Grover's Corners — the Gibbs and the Webbs. Mr. Gibbs (Greg Melton) is the town doctor, and lives with his wife Julia (Monica Mastrocco). They have a daughter Rebecca (Maria Corso), and their son George (Terry Dana Jachimik II) is one of the main characters in the play and a prominent figure in the town, being both captain of the baseball team and president of his senior class.

The Webb family consists of newspaper editor Charles Webb (Michael Kramer), his wife Myrtle (Betsy Brown) and their children Wally (Steve Shlakman) and Emily (Diane Pisani), the latter of whom becomes George Gibbs' love interest.

The play is unique in that every action that takes place on stage is choreographed and scripted. Before the play begins the actors are seen warming up on stage and conversing amongst themselves, and the directors are seen going over things with people and fixing props. In between acts, the same applies. This creates the effect of making it hard to

tell where reality stops and the acting begins.

The Stage Manager (Ashleigh Stochel) is the ringleader of this, existing at the same time in the world of the play and in the real world. She serves as a narrator of the action, but more in the sense of a Greek chorus or a Japanese benshi who philosophizes and muses about life and offers insight into the broader picture through her following of the citizens of Grover's Corners. Her role by far is the biggest role in the play since she comments on almost every scene.

The set design for the performance is very plain, mostly with a few simple tables and chairs and some wooden platforms. The one set serves as the Gibbs and Webb households, the Congregational church, a soda shop and the cemetery. Props are also rare, but with good purpose. The actors are constantly reacting with invisible items and invisible buildings, which serves to emphasize the timelessness of the issues being dealt with.

In all, "Our Town" offers solid performances in what is generally a weakly written play character-wise. The most developed and depthful characters, the Stage Manager and Emily are played almost perfectly, and the strong efforts from the rest of the cast bring the other characters up to an equal level. "Our Town" is a play about life, and the actors truly are the driving force in breathing life into the production.

Our Town performs in the Little Theatre at the Moreau Center for the Performing Arts at Saint Mary's College at 7:30 p.m. tonight and Saturday, with a Sunday matinee at 2:30. Tickets are \$8 for adults, \$7 for seniors and \$5 for students. Tickets can be purchased at the box office.

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DANCE REVIEW

'Swan Lake' is beautiful but flawed

By CHRISTIE BOLSEN
Assistant Scene Editor

The Moscow Ballet Company transformed tragedy into beauty on Thursday with its presentation of Tchaikovsky's famed masterpiece "Swan Lake" at the Morris Performing Arts Center. The performance was filled with the composer's gorgeous imagery and emotion, thanks to lavish staging and the dancers' superb mastery of their art.

The Moscow Ballet is a self-proclaimed "pure classical ballet company" that consists of all Russian dancers who are graduates of the Moscow Choreographic Institute and the Vaganova Institute. The performers begin the intense training regimen as early as eight years old.

The result is a cast of 50 artists who bring magic to the timeless love story, although it is the magnificent Tatiana Predeina as both Odette and Odile who owns the vibrant production. Set against a luminous pastel backdrop, bright costumes adorned with feathers and sparkles decorate the stage for two hours. Even the colorful peasant dresses are glamorous on the talented corps de ballet.

While the ensemble had occasional synchronization problems, the corps was spectacular as the swan maidens. They filled the stage like white tulle flowers and performed some of the best dancing of the night as the enchanted birds. Predeina in particular captured swan-like grace and sharpness perfectly, with her fluttering arm movements and airy footwork.

Anton Domashev, as the evil sorcerer Rothbart, also commanded the stage each time he ominously appeared, dancing with such a powerful presence

that it was almost disappointing to see him lying prostrate on the stage after his showdown with Prince Siegfried in this happy-ending version of the tragedy.

Vladimir Statni and Andrei Litvinov as the prince were much less impressive. Siegfried's first appearances featured minimal dancing, and mainly consisted of him gazing off into the distance wistfully. These dull and extended sequences made it difficult for the audience to sympathize with his anguish after he fails to recognize Odile as Rothbart's daughter disguised as his true love, but he proves his worth as the lead male role with impressive solos in Act II.

Unfortunately for the entire performance, the orchestra pit sat empty as Tchaikovsky's brilliant music played through speakers. The consequently canned quality of the score was especially noticeable with the woodwinds — a piccolo quickly becomes unpleasantly abrasive when blared at high volume. This ballet company was too talented not to have live musicians, which are an essential part of the ballet.

"The choreography was entertaining, but the lack of an orchestra really took away from the experience," said senior Nick Moller.

Despite the disappointing pre-recorded score, the Moscow Ballet Company charged the modest stage visually with its lovely rendition of "Swan Lake." The expressive nature of the story allowed Predeina and Domashev to shine theatrically as well, conveying intense emotions through their movements. Audience members can expect wonderful dancing from the company, and a warm-fuzzy conclusion where good ultimately triumphs over evil.

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NCAA FOOTBALL

Dissenters: Joe must go

Is Paterno's time running out as coach at Penn State?

Associated Press

STATE COLLEGE, Pa. — The coaching legacy and goodwill that Joe Paterno proudly built for five decades at Penn State are slowly unraveling with each humbling loss.

The days of scanning the schedule for gimme victories are over — just ask Big Ten foes Purdue and Northwestern, which this season got their first wins in Happy Valley.

Paterno hardly needs his thick, smoky glasses to see he's losing more than games: Thousands of seats at Beaver Stadium have been empty at recent home games, and Paterno is no longer impervious to the criticisms routinely reserved for coaches with lesser pedigrees or without reputations as community patricians.

The message is clear — and getting louder — from the grumbling dissenters: Joe must go.

Paterno, whose 341-116-3 record puts him second in career victories in Division I-A behind only Florida State's Bobby Bowden, is listening. Just don't expect him to decide his future based on the whims of fickle fans.

"If you think that I am going to back out of it because I am intimidated, you are wrong. If you think I am going to stay when I think I am not doing a good job, you're wrong," he said. "Those things have to develop, they have to evolve. Right now, I think we can get this thing done and do a good job."

The numbers give little reason for hope.

The Nittany Lions (2-7, 0-6) are the only Big 10 team without a conference victory entering Saturday's game at Indiana. They have lost six consecutive games, including a school-record tying three straight at home.

Penn State has four losing seasons in the last five years and the senior class will leave having played in only one bowl game. When asked about his future, the 77-year-old Paterno often turns cantankerous, using his 55 years on the staff as a sense of entitlement to dismiss his critics.

His determination (or stub-



Joe Paterno has the second most career victories (341) in Division-I football, but Penn State has struggled recently.

bornness?), his unyielding belief (or hope?), and his four-year contract that will keep him on the school's payroll past his 80th birthday give little reason to expect anyone but the coach affectionately known as JoePa will be on the sideline next year.

"I am looking to get this program back to where it belongs and if I can't get it done in a certain amount of time, I have to sit back and say, 'Hey, turn it over to some other guy and can I help?' That is the way it will be," he said.

And that time is? "I haven't got the slightest idea," he said. "I don't see any reason to say, 'I'm going to get out of here this year, next year or what year.' I don't mean that to be cocky, stubborn or anything like that. I am just trying to do what is right."

What to do with the fading legend seems to be tearing at the conscience of the Penn State community. Has Paterno, who's donated millions to the school in addition to his football success, earned the right to decide his own fate? Or should university officials give him a nudge out the door?

"I think he'll never step down," said former Penn State defensive end Michael Haynes, now with the Chicago Bears. "Right now we're having some issues, but it's still all fixable."

A bronze statue of Paterno

greets visitors to Beaver Stadium. There he is, looking spry, pointing toward the sky with his jacket flown open and tie whipped around as if hit with the wind of another brisk football Saturday.

Engraved near a wall of plaques to the left of the statue is a Paterno quote: "They asked me what I'd like written about me when I'm gone. I hope they write I've made Penn State a better place, not just that I was a good football coach."

Those stories will certainly be written one day. But JoePa most certainly can't like what's being written now.

One alumnus paid \$350 to take out a half-page ad in the student newspaper's gameday edition which read: "The talent's there. The coaching is an abomination. TIME FOR JOE TO GO."

"All I was trying to do was focus some of the dissent I'm hearing all over the place in a way people can see it and read it readily," said Joseph Korsak, who said he's been to every home game since 1967 except for a three-year stint in Ohio. "A few have said it was too harsh, but the vast majority think it's time for a change. A lot of people have been more forgiving and say he should go out on his own terms. Whatever goodwill he's generated ran out at the end of the '02 season."

NBA

Curry's agents request trade from GM Paxson

Associated Press

DEERFIELD, Ill. — The cornerstone of the Chicago Bulls' next dynasty appears to have some structural problems.

Eddy Curry's agents said Thursday they are seeking a trade for the 7-footer, who is eligible to become a restricted free agent next summer. That came as a surprise to general manager John Paxson, who learned of the request not from Darren White and Lamont Carter, Curry's agents, but in a story in the Chicago Sun-Times.

"Eddy hasn't said anything to me yet," Paxson said. "And I'm not going to be intimidated or persuaded by any agent that goes public and tries to do what he thinks is right for his client. I think it only hurts him and it doesn't do us any good, either."

Curry went to a doctor after banging his right knee and wasn't available for comment.

But White told The Associated Press he will continue to explore possible trade scenarios for the Chicago-native Curry and "will operate on the assumption of getting Eddy a trade."

"Eddy's in a no-win situation," White said. "The media in Chicago have really beaten this young man up, but statistics show he's gotten better. The city is tired of losing, and Eddy has become the pin cushion."

"I'm asking for a trade now so we can get the most out of this season for this young man," White added. "I'm looking at his future."

The Bulls gambled big three summers ago, entrusting the future of the franchise to Curry and fellow prep-to-pro project

Tyson Chandler. The 7-footers have tantalizing physical gifts: Curry is wide-bodied with a daunting wingspan while Chandler is long and lean.

But neither has lived up to his hype yet. Chandler has been injury-prone, missing 43 games with a

back injury last year. Curry has flashes of brilliance — he led the league in field goal percentage two years ago — and then disappears. Neither was offered a long-term extension before the Oct. 31 deadline, so they must prove this year that they're deserving of big bucks.

"I'm not going to be intimidated or persuaded by any agent that goes public and tries to do what he thinks is right for his client."

John Paxson
Bulls general manager

NCAA BASKETBALL ROUND-UP

The 'Cuse cruise

Associated Press

SYRACUSE, N.Y. — Syracuse had lost its last two season openers. The Orange weren't about to make it three in a row.

Led by Hakim Warrick and Gerry McNamara, No. 6 Syracuse scored the first 24 points of the game and cruised to a 104-54 victory over Northern Colorado on Thursday night in the first round of the Coaches vs. Cancer Classic.

Syracuse (1-0) will play Princeton (1-0) in the second round Friday night.

No. 12 Mississippi St. 53, Fairfield 49

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. — Ontario Harper scored a career-

high 17 points and No. 12 Mississippi State, playing without preseason All-America Lawrence Roberts, beat Fairfield 53-49 Thursday night in the first round of the Coaches vs. Cancer Classic.

Roberts, a senior forward, sat out because of a one-game suspension from the NCAA over his expenses to attend a tryout before the NBA draft.

No. 24 Memphis 102, Savannah St. 40

MEMPHIS, Tenn. — Rodney Carney scored 21 points and No. 24 Memphis had six players finish in double figures in a 102-40 victory over Savannah State on Thursday night in the Coaches vs. Cancer Classic.

CLASSIFIEDS

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

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AROUND THE NATION

Friday, November 12, 2004

COMPILED FROM THE OBSERVER'S WIRE SERVICES

page 17

NCAA Men's Cross Country Top 25

	team	region	points
1	Wisconsin	GL	417
2	Stanford	W	400
3	Arkansas	SC	399
4	Colorado	M	377
5	NOTRE DAME	GL	365
6	Cal Poly	W	343
7	Georgetown	MA	342
8	Arizona State	W	316
9	BYU	M	303
10	Indiana	GL	276
11	North Carolina State	SE	273
12	Florida State	S	247
13	Butler	GL	245
14	Air Force	M	241
15	Iona College	NE	227
16	Providence	NE	219
17	Iowa	MW	155
18	Villanova	MA	151
19	Texas	SC	145
20	New Mexico	M	133
21	Florida	S	127
22	Minnesota	MW	126
23	Michigan	GL	123
24	Colorado State	M	102
25	Oklahoma State	MW	91

NCAA Women's Cross Country Top 25

	team	region	points
1	Stanford	W	390
2	Providence	NE	373
3	Colorado	MT	366
4	Michigan	GL	348
5	Duke	SE	338
6	NOTRE DAME	GL	327
7	Arizona State	W	308
8	North Carolina	SE	303
9	Missouri	MW	283
10	North Carolina State	SE	256
11	BYU	MT	252
12	Southern Methodist	--	234
13	Michigan State	GL	226.5
14	Villanova	MA	219
15	Tennessee	S	216
16	Illinois	GL	186.5
17	UC Santa Barbara	W	180
18	Arkansas	SC	167
19	Columbia	NE	156
20	Princeton	MA	137
21	Wake Forest	SE	127
22	Georgia	S	116
23	Colorado State	MT	92
24	Georgetown	MA	76
25	Washington	W	60

Women's Basketball AP Preseason Top 25

	team	points
1	Tennessee (20)	1,085
2	Texas (7)	1,056
3	LSU (12)	1,053
4	Connecticut (6)	1,017
5	Georgia	887
6	Duke	838
7	Stanford	827
8	Baylor	794
9	North Carolina	696
10	NOTRE DAME	635
10	Ohio State	635
12	Texas Tech	633
13	Vanderbilt	525
14	Minnesota	489
15	Michigan State	428
16	Purdue	423
17	Rutgers	407
18	Boston College	376
19	Kansas State	358
20	DePaul	248
21	Penn State	217
22	Oklahoma	182
23	Maryland	166
24	Arizona	156
25	Louisiana Tech	137

MLB



Supporters of the Minnesota Twins pitcher Johan Santana wave pictures and national flags outside his home in Tovar, Venezuela after Santana won the American League Cy Young Award Thursday.

Santana unanimous AL Cy Young Winner

Associated Press

NEW YORK — As joyous fans celebrated by honking car horns in Caracas, Johan Santana sounded overwhelmed. He became the first Venezuelan to win a Cy Young Award, and not only that, he was a unanimous choice.

"This is like a dream come true," he said after earning the American League honor Thursday. "I'm a little surprised that I ended up the season where I ended up the season."

The Minnesota Twins' left-hander received all 28 first-place votes in ballot-

ing by the Baseball Writers' Association of America.

Santana, who went 20-6 and led the AL with a 2.61 ERA and 265 strikeouts, became the first unanimous Cy Young winner since Arizona's Randy Johnson two years ago and the first in the AL since Boston's Pedro Martinez in 2000. He is the 18th unanimous winner overall, the seventh in the AL.

Curt Schilling, 21-6 with a 3.26 ERA in his first season with the Red Sox, received 27 second-place votes and one third for 82 points. Mariano Rivera of the New York Yankees,

who led the major leagues with a career-high 53 saves, received the other second-place vote and 24 thirds for 27 points.

"I'm surprised this has been a unanimous decision," Santana said. "I thought this was going to be a real tough race."

Santana traveled Thursday morning from his hometown of Tovar, Merida to Caracas. President Hugo Chavez planned to congratulate him Friday.

"It's on national TV," Santana said. "Hopefully, in a couple of hours I'll be addressing the country and letting them know how

I feel."

Santana was 13-0 with a 1.21 ERA in 15 starts after the All-Star break, mastering his changeup.

"I expected it, with the numbers he had he couldn't fail," said Luis Aparicio, a Venezuelan voted to the Hall of Fame in 1984. "He's going to continue winning."

Voting was conducted before the start of the postseason, when Schilling beat the Yankees in Game 6 of the AL championship series and St. Louis in Game 2 of the World Series despite pitching with a dislocated ankle tendon held together by sutures.

IN BRIEF

Arizona State set to honor Tillman Saturday

TEMPE, Ariz. — Pat Tillman used to climb the light towers over Sun Devil Stadium to meditate. He was a fierce Arizona State football player and an honor student who graduated in 3 1/2 years.

The school will honor the fallen hero, killed in combat in Afghanistan last April, and retire his No. 42 in a halftime ceremony of Saturday night's game against Washington State.

Jake Plummer is scheduled to be among the former teammates who gather on the field for the ceremony, the second one at the stadium this season.

The Arizona Cardinals retired Tillman's number at their home opener on Sept. 19.

Tillman was the Pac-10 defensive player of the year as a senior in 1997, when he and Plummer led the Sun Devils to an 11-0 regular season and the Rose Bowl. Tillman, an academic

All-American, graduated summa cum laude with a bachelor's degree in business.

Byrd and McCline meet for IBF heavyweight title

NEW YORK — Chris Byrd and Jameel McCline are good friends who both happen to make a living hitting people in the ring.

They go to dinner together and hang out at each other's houses. Their wives talk constantly on the phone.

On Saturday night, they'll fight for the IBF heavyweight title. For a few rounds, at least, friendships will have to be put aside.

"We tried to avoid this for a long time," Byrd said. "But McCline is the mandatory for me. I had no other choice."

Byrd defends his IBF title against McCline as part of a heavyweight extravaganza at Madison Square Garden that features a full ton of fighters. Among them are WBA heavyweight champion John Ruiz,

who defends against Andrew Golota, and former champions Evander Holyfield and Hasim Rahman.

Promoter Don King put them all on display at Thursday's weigh-in, where the eight fighters stood with King on a truck axle scale to weigh in at a combined 2,130 pounds.

Mavs place Finley on injured list

MIAMI — Dallas Mavericks guard Michael Finley was placed on the injured list Thursday with a sprained right ankle.

The two-time All-Star was injured in the third quarter of the 94-84 loss at Orlando on Tuesday. He'll miss at least five games, starting with Thursday's at Miami.

X-rays were negative, but team officials believe Finley, who has missed 36 games over the past three seasons with an array of leg and back problems, will need at least two weeks before returning.

around the dial

NBA

Pacers at 76ers 7 p.m., WTTV4

ND WOMEN'S SWIMMING

Spartans, Panthers present weekend challenge

Irish host Michigan State and Pittsburgh at Rolfs Aquatic

By ERIC RETTER
Sports Writer

The Irish are gearing up to get back in the pool this weekend.

The team, who fell twice last weekend in a triple meet to top 25 teams Arizona State and Purdue, is trying to get back on track tonight against Michigan State and Pittsburgh at the Rolfs Aquatic Center. Coming into the event, the Irish are 1-2, while Michigan State and Pittsburgh are 0-2 and 2-0, respectively.

Despite last week's disappointments, coach Bailey Weathers is confident in his team.

"Traditionally, we've beaten both teams," he said.

However, Weathers was quick to point out that his team must perform to its capabilities to get the job done.

"They [Pittsburgh and Michigan State] have given us trouble in the past," Weathers said. "We were behind in both dual meets against them [at one point]."

According to Weathers, the Irish will face their toughest challenges in the breaststroke and the sprint events. The field in the breaststroke will be led by Michigan State junior Courtney Ellabarger, who won both the 100 and 200-meter breaststrokes in the Spartans' last match against No. 16 Michigan.

Rather than those events, Weathers feels his team's strengths lie in the butterfly, backstroke and middle distances, as well as diving events. Based on the results against Arizona State and Purdue last weekend, the Irish have reason to be confident.

"Pittsburgh and Michigan State have given us trouble in the past."

Bailey Weathers
Irish head coach

They dominated backstroke, with sophomore Rebecca Grove winning and freshman Caroline Johnson coming in third in the 100-meters, while sophomores Ellen Johnson and Ann Barton finished first and second in the 200 meters, respectively.

Barton also finished runner-up to a teammate in the 400

individual medley, an event sophomore Jessica Stephens won.

The performance of this talented group of young swimmers will go a long way to determine the Irish's fate this weekend.

Additionally, senior Meghan Perry-Eaton will be a strength on the diving board. A week ago, she swept the diving events, winning both the 1 and 3-meter board events.

However, the divers she will face Friday have shared simi-

lar success this season. Freshman Danielle Williams from Michigan State and junior Coleen Kristobak of Pittsburgh both swept the diving events in their last event.

As the team prepares for competition, Weathers will likely reiterate they cannot just show up and expect to win.

"This will certainly not be a walk through," Weathers said.

Contact Eric Retter at eretter@nd.edu.

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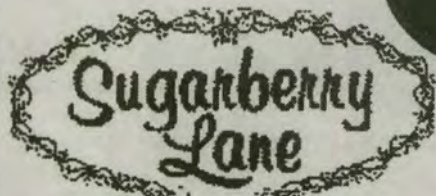
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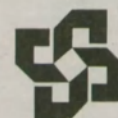
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ND VOLLEYBALL

Irish face conference challengers Pitt and WVU



CLEMENT SUHENDRA/The Observer

Danielle Herndon and the Irish look to rebound against the Panthers and Mountaineers this weekend.

By MIKE GILLOON
Sports Writer

Their hopes of an undefeated conference season were swept away by Boston College last week. Notre Dame (14-7, 7-1 in the Big East) now looks to regroup with home matches today and Sunday against Pittsburgh and West Virginia.

With Pittsburgh (19-6, 7-1), Notre Dame and Syracuse all tied atop the Big East standings, these matches should help breakup the conference.

"We were down after [the loss to Boston College]," Notre Dame coach Debbie Brown said. "But we're eager to play again. The team is determined to get a win."

Today's match against Pittsburgh will begin at 4 p.m. in the Joyce Center. With the football pep rally set for 6 p.m. Brown expects a lot of Irish fans in attendance.

"We [played before a pep

rally] last year against Virginia Tech," Brown said. "We had a tough five-game match but I think it was really important for us to have our crowd there in that fourth and fifth game. It was exciting for the team to be able to play in front of a crowd like that. I think [today's atmosphere] will be good."

The bite in this year's Panthers attack comes from senior Megan Miller. The preseason Big East player of the year is averaging 4.6 kills per game this season along with a .364 hitting percentage. She averaged 3.9 kills per game last year and was also named the most outstanding player of the

conference tournament.

Setter Azadeh Boroumand and libero Megan McGrane combine with Miller to make Pittsburgh a tough team to beat.

"They take good swings when they have good sets and when they don't they do a good job of mixing up their shots and keeping the ball in play," Brown said. "They play very smart, and they're very patient. They

"We [played before a pep rally] last year against Virginia Tech. We had a tough five-game match but I think it was really important for us to have our crowd there in that fourth and fifth game."

Debbie Brown
Irish coach

have a lot of good individual players including [McGrane] who digs extremely well. I think we'll see a very balanced game from them, and I think it will help bring out the best in us."

Despite all the talent Pittsburgh brings to the match, Brown is most concerned with the Irish executing and playing a complete match.

"We have to be smart in how we're trying to defend them and things like that," Brown said. "But I do think the bulk of it is taking care of our side of the net."

Sunday's match against West Virginia will begin at 2 p.m. in the Joyce Center.

The Mountaineers are 18-11 overall and 4-4 in the Big East. Despite not being particularly strong offensively, they make up for it with a stout defense that ranks second in the conference by limiting opponents to a .157 hitting percentage and leads the league in digs per game with 18.35. Senior Alison Zemanski is the main reason for the success as the middle blocker leads the Big East in blocks per game with 1.50. Outside hitter Aurora Ebert-Santos is averaging 4.64 digs per game, third in the league.

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SMC CROSS-COUNTRY

Belles to compete in championships

Ten runners will compete for team

By ANNA FRICANO
Sports Writer

Ten of Saint Mary's top runners will represent the College on Saturday at the NCAA Division-III Regional Cross-Country Competition, hosted by Alma College. The Belles, who finished the regular season in sixth place in the MIAA standings, will face the majority of its conference including Hope, Calvin and Albion — teams that finished first through third, respectively.

Saint Mary's will return four runners to the regional race from the 2003 roster. Junior Becky Feauto and sophomores Erin Nolan, Sara Otto and Katie White all ran in the race, then hosted by Hanover College. Joining the

ladies this year will be freshman Megan Gray, along with sophomores Allison Beyer, Meaghan Herbst, Meghan Murphy and Ashley Oberst. Risa Zander will be the lone senior competing for the Belles.

The 2004 season hasn't exactly been an easy road for the team. After an injury hurt the team's position in the MIAA Jamboree, Saint Mary's was put in a difficult position for the conference championship. The fourth-place spot that the Belles had hoped for eluded the team as more ailments and injuries prevented a few of the top runners from achieving their highest performance at the meet. Since the Saint Mary's Cross

Country team has primarily been focused on improving its conference standings — the Belles finished in sixth-place — the regional race is not a principal concern for the team. Coach Dave Barstis has said in the past that the regional meet is mainly a cool down for the training that the team does for the critical conference competition.

For the majority of the team, Saturday will be one last opportunity to improve as a group and look ahead to prepare for next year. Zander, who will wear her Saint Mary's uniform for the final time, looks at her last race as an opportunity to have a strong finish to a memorable experience with the team.

"Personally, I would like to finish on a strong note ... that I can look back on with pride, just knowing that I didn't leave anything behind," Zander said.

A total of 32 schools will be represented at the Regional Meet on Saturday, held at the Pine River Country Club in Alma, Mich.

The women's race will begin at noon.

Contact Anna Fricano at
africa01@saintmarys.edu

Schedule

continued from page 28

tory on the football field," Pittsburgh athletic director Jeff Long said Thursday in a released statement. "We are very pleased to continue a traditional series with roots that date back to the early 1990s. It's a rivalry both Pittsburgh and Notre Dame fans, as well as college football fans in general, will be excited about for years to come."

Notre Dame is Pittsburgh's third-most common opponent of all-time, with the teams playing for the 62nd time Saturday.

Contact Matt Lozar at
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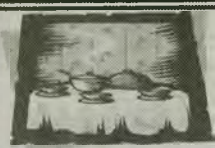
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Irish

continued from page 28

several players throughout the preseason, although just returning starter Jaci McCormick will miss tonight's contest.

The Redbirds had their first winning season in seven years during the 2003-04 campaign. They return three starters from last season's squad as coach Robin Pingeton tries to rebuild a program that has struggled in recent years.

Meanwhile, Notre Dame hopes to begin its season better than a year ago, when the Irish were just 7-6 in their first 13 games before finishing the season at 21-11 with a Sweet 16 berth.

"It's critical for us to get off to a good start," McGraw said. "We played a lot of tough teams on the road [last year]. Obviously it was tough, this year I think we have a few more home games, so hopefully that will prepare us a little bit more."

McGraw knows her team should have an easier time getting into the flow of the

game at the Joyce Center — a place Notre Dame didn't lose at last season.

"We have great fans," McGraw said. "We love our fans because they're so into the game and they're so knowledgeable about the game. They just seem to have a sense of when we need them."

The Irish will start the same five players as they have during their two exhibition game victories — Megan Duffy and Breona Gray at the guards, Jacqueline Batteast and Courtney LaVere at forwards and Teresa Borton at center.

Batteast has already received all kinds of national acclaim and preseason awards. The returning all-American averaged 16 points and 8.6 rebounds per game last season. She will be a leading candidate for Big East Player of the Year and is being mentioned by many as the best all-around player in the country.

McGraw doesn't downplay Batteast's abilities, but is emphasizing other scoring options from her team.

"[Batteast is] probably going to see a lot of double teams," McGraw said. "We're just expecting her to play like she

did last year, same kind of game. We hope to help her more. The rest of our players, I think, need to step up and give her a little more help."

Notre Dame will not only rely on Batteast and the other returning players, but also on a talented and athletic freshman class. Guard Tulyah Gaines averaged over 20 points a game as a high school senior in Nevada. Fellow guard Charel Allen also had an impressive high school career and averaged 26 points her final season. Center Melissa D'Amico was a New York all-state selection her senior season. All three should see playing time early on this season.

Whether freshman or senior, Notre Dame's players should be ready for opening night, although McGraw knows with that added anticipation comes more mistakes.

"I think the first game you're always a little bit excited and a little bit nervous," McGraw said. "It's certainly not going to be fundamentally the best game we're going to play this year."

Contact Joe Hettler at jhettler@nd.edu

MEN'S SWIMMING

Irish increase intensity for crucial dual meet

By ANN LOUGHERY
Sports Writer

The Irish (3-1) are gearing up for what has been dubbed their most crucial dual meet of the season against No. 17 Pittsburgh and Michigan State.

In anticipation of today's meet, coach Tim Welsh said the swimmers have intensified their workouts and are looking race-ready.

"If you ask the guys how practices have been this week, they'll tell you they've been really hard," Welsh said. "We need to outwork people who have beaten us so we can outrace them."

Welsh said he expects close races in each event, especially in diving and distance freestyle events — traditionally competitive areas for the Irish.

"These teams are strong where we're strong," Welsh said. "We'll have to be at our best in all events to win. I think we'll see the fastest times of the fall from all three teams."

Notre Dame showcased its talent last weekend, upending Iowa 176-118. Sophomore Ted Brown led the Irish with victories in the 200- and 500-yard freestyle races, finishing with times of 1 minute, 42.30 seconds and 4:35.46 respectively.

The 500-yard freestyle race featured a 1-2-3 finish, with Brown finishing first, junior Patrick Davis following up with a 4:36.63 and freshman Jay Vanden Berg close behind at 4:37.73.

Vanden Berg and sophomore Louis Cavadini each collected

first-place finishes as well, with Vanden Berg clocking a 9:27.84 in the 1,000-yard freestyle and Cavadini registering a 46.68 in the 100-yard freestyle race.

Additionally, sophomore Tim Kegelman won the 200-yard butterfly with a 1:52.42 while freshman Andrew MacKay finished in first in the 200 individual medley with 1:53.83. The 200-free relay, which consisted of senior Frank Krakowski, junior Tim Randolph, Kegelman and Cavadini, added to the list of first-place Irish finishes.

The Irish swept the diving portion of the competition, as Iowa chose not to enter divers in the meet. Sophomore Scott Coyle claimed first place in the 3-meter competition with a career-best score of 321.45 and freshman Sam Stoner won the 1-meter competition with 307.65 points.

Michigan State (1-1) is looking to build on the momentum it gained after last weekend's meet against Iowa. The Spartans defeated Iowa 164-125, claiming victories across the board.

Pittsburgh (2-0) also enters today's meet fresh off a win over Syracuse 177-66. The undefeated Panthers garnered 12 first-place finishes against Syracuse. The team is looking for a Big East Championship again this season, after establishing itself as an annual champion in more recent years.

Although the Panthers' reputation precedes them, the Irish aren't intimidated.

"This is the strongest team we've ever had," captain Matt Burtke said. "We might surprise some people this weekend."

Welsh agreed.

"We have to keep our ultimate goals in sight and not get lost along the way," Welsh said. "Swimming against Pitt is motivating — not intimidating."

"Bring it on. Let's strap on our goggles and see who's fastest."

The Irish are set to host the meet today at 4:30 p.m. at the Rolf's Aquatic Center.

Contact Ann Loughery at alougher@nd.edu

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AP: 24
Coaches: NR

HEAD TO

Notre Dame Fighting Irish



Tyrone Willingham
head coach

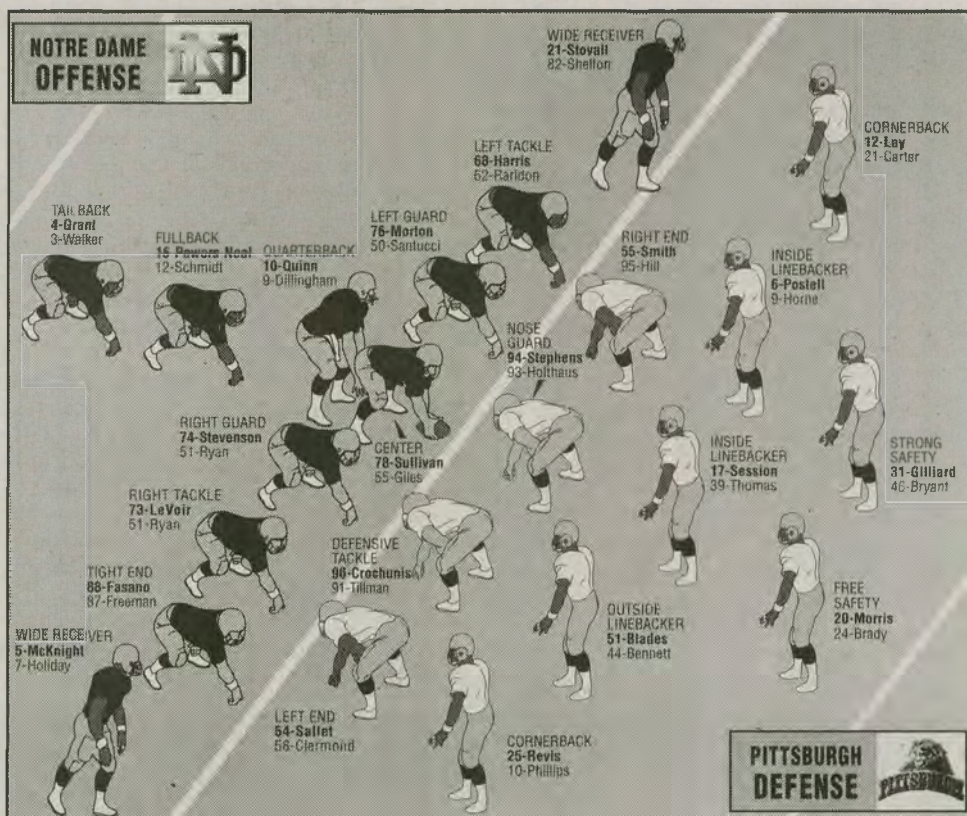
Tyrone Willingham
third season at
Notre Dame
career record:
66-49-1
at Notre Dame:
21-13
against
Pittsburgh: 2-0

Roster

No.	Name	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	YR
1	Jared Clark	TE	6-4	250	SR
2	Freddie Parrish	DB	6-1	202	SO
3	Darius Walker	RB	5-11	200	FR
4	Ryan Grant	RB	6-1	218	SR
5	Rhema McKnight	WR	6-1	215	JR
6	Carlos Campbell	CB	5-11	195	SR
7	Carlyle Holiday	WR/QB	6-3	215	SR
8	Marty Moorey	QB	6-2	210	JR
9	Quentin Burrell	FS	6-0	195	SR
10	Tom Zbikowski	DB	5-11	203	SO
11	Pat Dillingham	QB	6-2	205	SR
12	Brady Quinn	QB	6-4	224	SO
13	Marcus Wilson	RB	5-11	202	SR
14	Josh Schmidt	FB	6-1	232	SR
15	David Wolfe	QB	6-4	205	FR
16	Preston Jackson	CB	5-9	180	SR
17	Rashon Powers-Neal	FB	6-2	243	SR
18	Stan Revelle	QB	5-11	195	SR
19	Geoffrey Price	P	6-3	190	SR
20	J.J. Warren	QB	6-1	184	SO
21	Darren Bragg	QB	6-2	185	FR
22	Chinedum Ndukwe	DB	6-2	223	SO
23	D.J. Fitzpatrick	K/P	6-1	200	SR
24	Maurice Stovall	WR	6-5	227	JR
25	Ambrose Wooden	CB	5-11	186	SO
26	Chase Anastasio	WR	6-1	202	SO
27	Dwight Ellick	CB	5-10	185	SR
28	Nate Schiccatano	FB	6-2	242	JR
29	Wade Iams	DB	5-8	170	FR
30	Travis Thomas	RB	6-0	212	SO
31	Lionel Bolen	DB	6-0	210	SR
32	John Lyons	RB	6-1	192	SO
33	Trey Duerson	DB	5-10	170	FR
34	Cole Laux	FB	5-10	240	SR
35	Mike Richardson	DB	5-11	190	JR
36	Jake Carney	FS	6-0	192	JR
37	A.J. Cedeno	DB	6-0	191	SO
38	Jeff Jenkins	RB	6-0	216	JR
39	Justin Hoskins	RB	6-0	195	FR
40	Terrill Lambert	DB	5-10	190	FR
41	Junior Jabbie	DB	5-11	190	FR
42	Matt Mitchell	CB	5-9	190	JR
43	Leo Ferrine	DB	6-0	180	FR
44	Brandon Hoyte	LB	5-11	231	SR
45	Maurice Crum, Jr.	LB	6-1	215	FR
46	Mike Goolsby	LB	6-4	242	SR
47	Anthony Vernaglia	LB	6-4	220	FR
48	Anthony Salvador	LB	6-2	232	JR
49	Justin Tuck	DE	6-5	261	SR
50	Carl Gioia	K/P	5-10	185	SO
51	Rich Whitney	DB	6-3	205	JR
52	Corey Mays	LB	6-1	243	SR
53	Mitchell Thomas	LB	6-3	230	SO
54	Jerome Collins	TE	6-4	258	SR
55	Derek Curry	LB	6-3	235	SR
56	Dan Santucci	OL	6-4	292	JR
57	Jamie Ryan	OL	6-5	310	JR
58	Joe Brockington	LB	6-1	225	SO
59	Dan Hickey	OL	6-3	224	JR
60	Joseph Boland	LB	6-3	224	JR
61	David Fitzgerald	OL	6-4	285	JR
62	Zachary Gilles	C	6-3	281	SR
63	Nick Borsetti	LB	6-4	238	SO
64	Abdel Banda	LB	6-2	215	FR
65	James Bert	OL	6-1	271	JR
66	Dan Chervanick	DT/NG	6-2	265	JR
67	Casey Cullen	LB	6-2	212	SO
68	J.J. Jansen	LS	6-3	215	FR
69	Scott Raridon	OT	6-6	310	JR
70	Casey Dunn	OL	6-4	256	SR
71	Tim Gritzman	DE	6-3	210	FR
72	Derek Landri	NG	6-2	278	JR
73	John Kadous	OL	6-7	310	FR
74	Ryan Harris	OL	6-5	289	SO
75	Darin Mitchell	OG	6-3	290	SR
76	Chauncey Incarnato	OL	6-6	280	FR
77	James Bonelli	OL	6-4	290	JR
78	Jeff Thompson	OL	6-4	285	SR
79	Mark LeVour	OT	6-7	310	SR
80	Dan Stevenson	OG	6-5	293	SR
81	Chris Frome	DE	6-5	271	JR
82	Bob Morton	OG/C	6-4	300	JR
83	Greg Pauly	DT	6-6	295	SR
84	John Sullivan	OL	6-3	295	SO
85	Brian Mattes	OL	6-5	292	JR
86	Chris Vaughn	WR	6-4	205	FR
87	Brandon Harris	WR	6-1	190	JR
88	Matt Shelton	WR	6-0	175	SR
89	Jeff Samardzija	WR	6-5	215	SO
90	Mike O'Hara	WR	5-9	175	JR
91	Rob Woods	WR	6-2	205	JR
92	Billy Palmer	TE	6-3	256	SR
93	Marcus Freeman	TE	6-2	248	JR
94	Anthony Fasano	TE	6-4	256	JR
95	John Carlson	TE	6-5	248	SO
96	Brian Beidatsch	DL	6-2	295	SR
97	Craig Cardillo	K	6-0	169	JR
98	Kyle Budinscak	DL	6-4	275	SR
99	Brandon Nicholas	DL	6-5	275	FR
	Justin Brown	DL/LB	6-4	225	FR
	Victor Abiamiri	DE	6-5	269	SO
	Bobby Renkes	K/P	6-0	190	SO
	Travis Leitko	DE	6-6	275	JR
	Trevor Laws	DL	6-0	285	SO
	Ronald Talley	DL	6-4	245	FR

NOTRE DAME 2004 Schedule

Sept. 4	at BYU - L
Sept. 11	MICHIGAN - W
Sept. 18	at Michigan St. - W
Sept. 25	WASHINGTON - W
Oct. 2	PURDUE - L
Oct. 9	STANFORD - W
Oct. 16	at NAVY - W
Oct. 23	BOSTON COLL. - L
Nov. 6	at Tennessee - W
Nov. 13	PITTSBURGH
Nov. 27	at USC



D HEAD

Pittsburgh Panthers

Pittsburgh Panthers

Record: 5-3

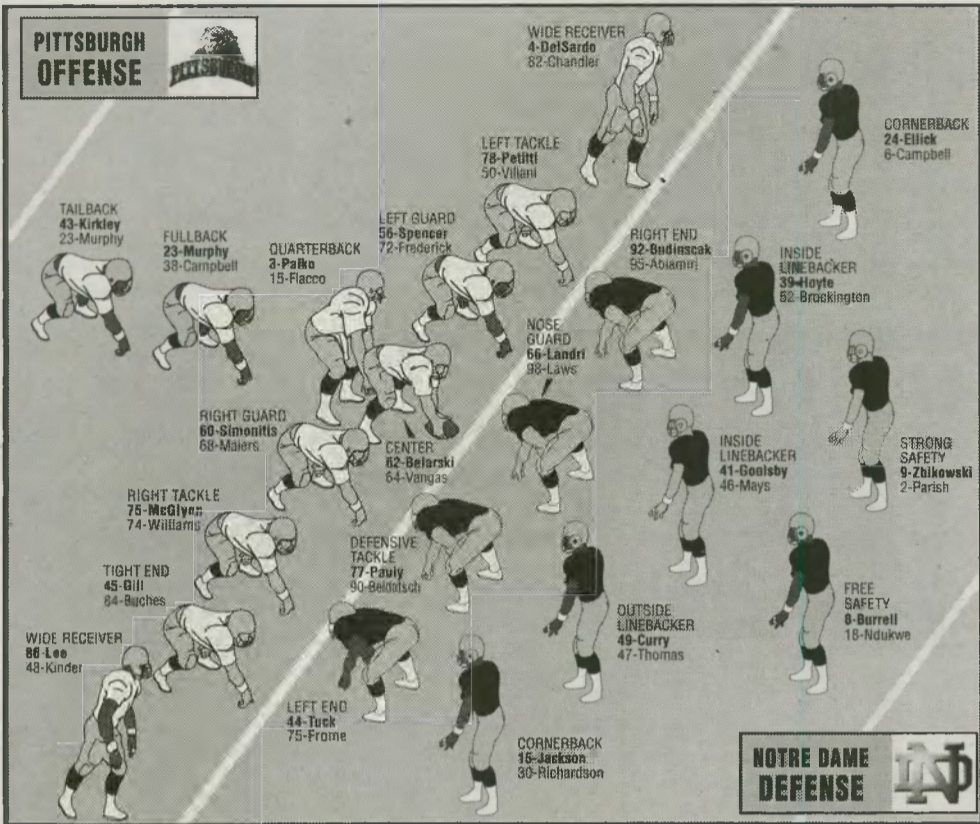
AP: NR

Coaches: NR

Walt Harris
8th season at
Pittsburgh
career record:
60-67
at Pittsburgh:
49-43
against Notre
Dame: 1-4



Walt Harris
head coach



PITTSBURGH 2004 Schedule

Sept. 11	OHIO - W
Sept. 18	NEBRASKA - L
Sept. 25	FURMAN - W
Sept. 30	at Connecticut - L
Oct. 9	at Temple - W
Oct. 16	BOSTON COLL. - W
Oct. 23	RUTGERS - W
Nov. 6	at Syracuse - L
Nov. 13	at Notre Dame
Nov. 25	WEST VIRGINIA
Dec. 4	at South Florida

Roster

No.	Name	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	YR
2	Marcus Furman	RB	5-9	185	SR
3	Tyler Palko	QB	6-2	220	JR
4	Joe DeSardo	WR	5-8	200	SO
4	Adam Gunn	DB	6-1	200	Fr
5	Kennard Cox	DB	6-1	195	SO
6	Malcom Postell	LB	6-1	235	SR
7	Tom Kail	WR	6-4	220	SO
7	Allen Richardson	DB	5-11	185	FR
8	Princell Brockenbrough	WR	6-3	205	SR
8	Nick Krut	P	5-10	180	FR
9	J.J. Horne	LB	6-3	235	SR
9	Justin Latore	WR	5-10	185	FR
10	Mike Phillips	DB	5-11	190	DB
12	Bernard Lay	DB	6-2	195	JR
14	Darnell Strong	QB	6-5	245	FR
15	Joe Flacco	QB	6-6	220	SO
16	David Abdul	PK	5-10	190	JR
17	Clint Session	LB	5-11	235	SO
18	Adam Graessle	P/K	6-4	220	SO
19	Larry Moore	WR	5-9	180	JR
20	Tez Morris	DB	5-10	190	SR
21	Reggie Carter	DB	6-0	190	JR
22	Josh Cummings	PK	5-11	180	JR
22	Steve Walker	DB	5-9	175	FR
23	Tuazama Edwards	DB	5-10	180	SR
23	Tim Murphy	FB	5-10	235	SR
24	Jemeel Brady	DB	6-0	200	SO
25	Darnelle Revis	DB	6-0	180	FR
26	Darren McCray	RB	5-9	200	SR
27	Brandon Mason	RB	6-1	205	FR
28	Matt Flaus	QB	6-2	180	JR
28	Eric Thatcher	DB	5-9	185	FR
30	J.B. Gibboney	PK	5-9	175	SR
30	Doug Roseberry	LB	6-0	225	SR
30	Tyler Tipton	FB	6-2	230	FR
31	Tyrone Gilliard	DB	5-11	205	SR
31	David Dado	FB	5-11	225	FR
32	Mark Yezovich	FB	6-0	240	SO
34	Jawan Walker	RB	5-10	215	JR
35	Steffan Brinson	DB	5-11	195	FR
36	Conor Lee	PK	5-10	195	FR
36	Rashad Jennings	RB	6-2	260	FR
37	Chris McKillop	LB	6-2	240	SO
38	Kellen Campbell	FB	6-0	235	SR
38	Mike Hull	FB	5-10	250	SO
39	Derron Thomas	LB	6-1	235	LB
40	Scott McKillop	LB	6-2	220	FR
41	Azzie Beaggyam	LB	6-1	245	JR
43	Raymond Kirkley	RB	5-10	225	SR
43	Chris Herting	LB	6-2	220	FR
44	Brian Bennett	LB	6-0	235	JR
45	Erik Gill	TE	6-5	270	SR
45	Damien Matuschek	DB	6-4	270	FR
46	Sam Bryant	DB	6-0	220	JR
47	Nick Williams	DI	6-2	225	FR
48	Derek Kinder	WR	6-1	200	FR
49	Justin Aciermo	FB	6-1	235	SR
49	Lance Asbee	FB	6-1	240	SO
50	Joe Villani	OL	6-3	300	JR
50	Corey Davis	DL	6-1	300	FR
51	H.B. Blades	LB	6-0	245	SO
52	Ron Idoko	DL	6-2	265	JR
54	Charles Sallet	LB	6-0	225	JR
55	Thomas Smith	DL	6-4	285	SR
56	Charles Spencer	OL	6-5	330	SR
58	Joe Clermond	LB	6-2	245	SO
58	Joe Perri	OL	6-2	290	SO
59	Mark Estermyer	LS	6-2	235	FR
60	John Simonitis	OL	6-4	315	JR
61	Eric Fritz	OL	6-3	305	JR
62	Justin Belarski	C	6-3	295	SR
63	Chase Clowser	OL	6-6	340	FR
64	Chris Vargas	C	6-2	300	SO
66	Jerald Robinson	OL	6-8	315	FR
67	Mike DeLuca	OL	6-3	290	SO
68	Matt Maiers	OL	6-3	285	SR
70	Dominic Williams	OL	6-4	300	FR
71	Dave Weber	OL	6-3	345	FR
72	Rob Frederick	C	6-4	305	SR
74	Dale Williams	OL	6-6	295	SR
75	Mike McGlynn	OL	6-5	315	SO
76	Neal Tracey	OL	6-3	295	SO
77	Kevin Harris	OL	6-5	285	SR
78	Rob Pettiti	OL	6-6	335	SR
80	Terrell Allen	WR	6-0	190	SO
81	Joe Stephens	WR	6-0	190	SR
82	Kelvin Chandler	WR	6-2	170	FR
83	Jason Gaffney	WR	6-3	185	JR
84	Steve Buches	TE	6-4	250	JR
85	Robbie Agnone	TE	6-5	225	FR
86	Greg Lee	WR	6-2	200	SO
87	Marcel Pestano	WR	6-1	180	FR
88	Kyle Smith	DL	6-5	255	SO
88	Andre Broussard	WR	6-2	185	FR
91	Phil Tillman	DL	6-1	315	JR
92	Michael Hearn	DL	6-5	265	SO
93	Jake Holthaus	DL	6-1	290	SR
94	Dan Stephens	DL	6-2	295	SR
95	Keith Hill	DL	6-3	260	SR
96	Vince Crochunis	DL	6-4	290	SR
98	Vernon Botts	DL	6-4	260	JR

PANTHERS RUSHING

Notre Dame's rush defense is the strength of the Irish unit. The Irish gave up just 56 yards on the ground last week against Tennessee and Cedric Houston. The Irish also had nine tackles for a loss and dominated the big Tennessee offensive line.

Kirkley is not as good as the Irish have faced this season, in Houston and Navy's Eckel. He has just two 100-yard rushing games this season, and is not as much as a threat on the ground as Palko is in the air. His two triple-digit came against Furman and Ohio.

This matchup may be the most unfair of all. Notre Dame's rushing defense wins games for the Irish. Pittsburgh's rushing offense is the reason Palko can throw for 300-plus yards. The Irish allow just 95 yards per game on the ground, and the Panthers average just 105 yards per game.

PANTHERS PASSING

The Irish secondary continues to struggle. They gave up 269 yards in the air at Tennessee, including 120 yards to the third-string quarterback Clausen. Missed tackles have plagued this unit all season, and they must play well for the Irish to win.

Palko has been forced to lead the Panthers offense with his arm, and he has responded. With Lee having a great season and numerous other receivers stepping up, the Panthers have established a solid passing attack.

Palko has had a great past two games. His 67 percent pass completion is exceptional, and the Irish secondary has been beat up all year. Palko should be able to pick on this unit all game. Lee is a dangerous wide receiver who could hurt the Irish significantly.

SPECIAL TEAMS

Fitzpatrick is the best special teams player for Notre Dame. He averages 42.3 yards per punt, good for 32nd in the country. Last week, with Hoskins out on kick returns, Shelton and Anastasio struggled to figure things out. Holiday continues to be solid as a punt returner.

Cummings leads the Big East in PAT percentage, making all 24 of his attempts. He is second in field goal percentage, hitting 12-of-17. Graessle ranks ninth in the country with a 44.7 yards per punt average. He has booted 16 punts inside the 20-yard line.

Fitzpatrick is solid as a punter and kicker for the Irish, but Graessle is a better punter, and Cummings is a comparable kicker. The Irish have struggled on kick returns all year. Although they have gotten better, Notre Dame still isn't quite that good.

INTANGIBLES

It's the seniors last game in their home, Notre Dame Stadium. If they don't get excited for this game, something must be wrong. Grant, Holiday, Goolsby, Curry and Budinscak are just a few key seniors on this team.

With a win, Pittsburgh becomes bowl-eligible. For the Panthers, a win against Notre Dame would make an inconsistent season much better. They are not expected to win, so there is no pressure on this team. They can just go out and play.

This group of seniors is the heart and soul of the Irish. Holiday's story is well-known, and the linebackers have been the heart of the defense, behind Curry and Goolsby. Grant is ready to lay it on the line in his last game. These seniors want to be remembered.

NOTRE DAME

PITTSBURGH

ANALYSIS



Heather Van Hoegarden
Sports Editor

Grant will not be stopped much like Jones wasn't last year against Pittsburgh. The Irish seniors will step it up in their last home game, and Pittsburgh's bid for a bowl will have to wait until next week. There is no reason for this team to have a letdown, so don't expect them to.
FINAL SCORE: Notre Dame 31, Pittsburgh 17



Pat Leonard
Associate Sports Editor

To establish themselves as consistent, Notre Dame has to beat USC and lose to Pittsburgh this weekend. But the Irish will erase its unfortunate trend — losing to underdogs — by taking care of the Panthers Saturday. Pittsburgh scores a late, meaningless TD.
FINAL SCORE: Notre Dame 24, Pittsburgh 17



Justin Schuver
Associate Sports Editor

Pittsburgh is perhaps the worst team on Notre Dame's schedule this season, going to overtime to beat Division I-AA Furman. That said, the Irish have had several let-downs against below-par teams. Willingham doesn't let it happen again — see Stanford 2003.
FINAL SCORE: Notre Dame 45, Pittsburgh 10

Runners

continued from page 24

coach Joe Piane said. The Irish women have won two consecutive championships at the Great Lakes, and the team will look to add to that streak. "We hope to finish in the top two and become an automatic qualifier for the NCAAs," women's coach Tim Connelly said. "We've been in the top two for the past three years and our kids are focused on making it four in a row." The Irish have faced the nation's best runners all season and this Saturday will be no exception. The men's team

will take on No. 1 ranked Wisconsin along with No. 10 Indiana. "Wisconsin is No. 1 and have been there all year and they deserve it," Piane said. "We are healthy, and the guys think we can run well and run with anyone in the country." Molly Huddle captured the 2003 individual title at the Great Lakes Regional but will sit out this year to rest a sore foot. Despite the critical loss, Connelly feels confident the remaining squad will perform well. "We still expect to have a very strong group running on Saturday even without Molly [Huddle]," Connelly said. "Our goal is to qualify for the NCAAs."

With a 15th-place finish at last year's regional and sixth place at the Big East, Tim Moore looks to be the top runner for the Irish men. Kurt Benninger, Kaleb Van Ort, Sean O'Donnell and Vincent Ambrico make up the rest of the team's top five. Without Huddle, the Irish women will rely on strong efforts from Lauren King, Stephanie Madia and Kerry Meagher. Madia came in 10th place at the Big East behind Huddle. The Great Lakes Regional will take place Saturday in Ypsilanti, Mich. starting at 11 a.m. Contact Steve Coyer at scoyer@nd.edu



CHUY BENITEZ/The Observer
The Irish cross-country team, which will take part in the Great Lakes Regional this weekend, compete in an Oct. 1 meet.

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Volleyball

Fri., Nov. 12th vs Pittsburgh at 4pm

- Held at the Joyce Center Arena
- First 1500 fans will receive a green volleyball shirt sponsored by St. Clair Apparel

Sun., Nov. 14th vs West Virginia 2pm

- Held at the Joyce Center Arena
- First 250 fans will receive a ND volleyball lunch box
- ND Faculty/Staff appreciation day! First 200 faculty/staff receive a Jimmy John's sandwich

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#2 Women's Soccer

Fri. Nov. 12th vs. Eastern Illinois at 7:30 pm

- 1st round NCAA tournament at Alumni Field
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Men's and Women's Swimming and Diving

Fri. Nov. 12th at 5 pm GOLD GAME

- Held at Rolfs Aquatic Center vs Pittsburgh and Michigan State
- First 200 fans receive a gold games shirt

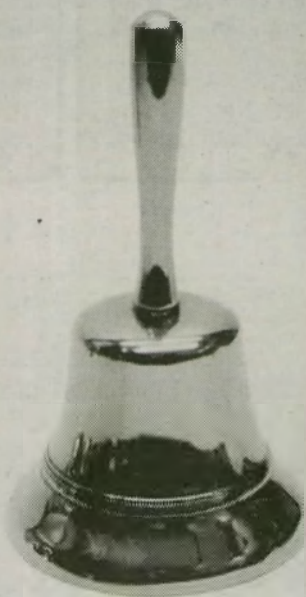


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FENCING

Irish to face rival Nittany Lions

Penn State, last year's No. 2, will host tournament

By MATT PUGLISI
Sports Writer

The Irish look to obtain a first-hand scouting report of a key rival while concurrently testing their own preseason form when they travel to State College, Penn. to participate in the Penn State Max Garret Open Saturday and Sunday morning.

In the NCAA Championships in March, Penn State (160) edged Notre Dame (153) for second place. Both squads finished behind national champion Ohio State (193).

"We are going to the place of a big rival [in Penn State]," coach Janusz Bednarski said. "We would like to make a good recognition of their new roster, and additionally, we would like to show them that we are strong. This is a bit of a psychological trip."

Like last weekend's World Cup Event that saw five Irish fencers place in the top 10 — Olympic gold medalist freshman Mariel Zagunis took first in women's saber, sophomore Amy Orlando finished eighth in women's epee, freshman Greg Howard placed ninth in men's foil and sophomores Matt

Stearns and Valerie Providenza took tenth in men's and women's saber, respectively — this tournament is also individual in nature dual meets don't begin until the Irish challenge New York in late January.

While the level of competition isn't likely to match that of the NCAA tournament at the end of the season, the Open nevertheless figures to boast top-notch fencers from around the country.

"The tournament is open to everybody from the whole nation," Bednarski said. "It's not a team [competition] — it's individual — but individuals are from almost all universities. I believe that it will be very strong, maybe not so high-class like the NCAA final in March, but it will be very close to that level, especially because Penn State is close to New York and in New York there are a lot of good colleges."

I know people from the West are coming because they like this competition — this is the only competition to check out the form after the preseason work. So it's like midterm exams."

Although some of the nation's top collegiate talent will be on display at the Open, one notable Notre Dame fencer who will not making the trip to Penn State this weekend is Zagunis. Exhausted from a number of international tournaments and requiring no additional work,

Zagunis will instead take a few days off and be acknowledged for her Olympic achievements this past summer during half-time of the Notre Dame-Pittsburgh game Saturday afternoon.

"The reason for [Zagunis not competing] is that she's loaded by international starts," Bednarski said. "She's really engaging in too many competitions — higher caliber than collegiate competition, and there is no need to check her form." We are giving her more free time, and in addition, she will be honored on the field during the Pittsburgh game as an Olympian."

Given that the World Cup Event marked the first time Notre Dame has fenced this season, the Irish will presumably have some rust to shake off this weekend. Bednarski, however, isn't concerned.

"We are not yet in full form except those fencers who competed in the World Cup — they started already, a little bit earlier than others," Bednarski said. "Always at the beginning of the season, we are not in the best form, but I think that [other fencers] have the same problem."

The men take the strips Saturday morning at 8:00 a.m., while the women bout at the same time Sunday.

Contact Matt Puglisi at
mpuglisi@nd.edu

SMC SWIMMING

Belles look to keep the success coming

By JUSTIN STETZ
Sports Writer

The Belles look to extend their success this weekend at the University of Chicago Maroon Invitational. Saint Mary's is coming off its first victory of the season as it defeated Rose-Hulman by a score of 155-117.

Last year, the Belles beat the Maroons 124-77. In the meet, Kelly Nelis placed third in the 200-yard freestyle and 500-yard freestyle, while Sarah Nowak finished first in the 100-yard breaststroke. She was also second in the 50-yard freestyle as well as the 100-yard freestyle.

Bridget Lebiecz will look to improve upon her fourth-place finish in the 100-yard butterfly. In the 100-yard backstroke, Katie Dingman who finished first last year, will be a key swimmer for Saint Mary's once again. Lebiecz and Nelis, the only two players left from the 2003 squad, which won the 200-yard freestyle relay, will aim for another successful finish.

The University of Chicago is currently 2-1-1 this year over its first four meets. In the second competition of the season, they defeated Rose-Hulman 112-97. If this final score gives any indication to this year's match against the Maroons, Saint Mary's should

have a pretty good idea where they stand following the event.

After hitting her head on the board in her first dive last meet, Megan Medlock came back to earn Saint Mary's some valuable points in both diving events against Rose-Hulman.

The first-years have made quite an impression so far this year. They have meshed very well and haven't had too many problems adjusting to the college level. Coach Gregg Petcoff has stressed the importance of the freshman swimmers for the continued success of the Belles.

"They are essential to Saint Mary's chances for victory," Petcoff said.

The swim meet will consist of the 100 and 200-yard backstrokes and breaststrokes, as well as the 200-yard freestyle and 200-yard butterfly. Three-meter diving will follow the 1-meter, and the match will conclude with a 400-yard freestyle relay.

The meet begins Saturday at 10 a.m. at the University of Chicago. Following the event, Saint Mary's will have more than three weeks to rest and improve upon their times. They will not take the water again until the Wisconsin-Oshkosh Invitational

Contact Justin Stetz at
jstetz@nd.edu

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Tim Luebbert/The Observer
Noah Babin controls the puck against Bowling Green on Nov. 5. The Irish will take on Western Michigan this weekend.

Iced

continued from page 28

CCHA) squares off against Western Michigan (4-4-0, 2-4-0) in a two-game road series this weekend.

The Irish have not won a conference game this season. They jumped out to a 3-0 lead against Bowling Green on Nov. 5, only to watch that lead disappear and the team barely survive with a 4-4 tie.

The four Irish goals in that game were a season-high, as Notre Dame's offense has been anemic to start the season. The team averages just 1.67 goals per game.

The Irish are off to their worst start since opening the 1995-96 season with a 1-8-0 record. After losing six seniors from last year's class, the team expected to struggle out of the gate, but this kind of start was not what coach Dave Poulin had in mind. Even so, the coach has seen things in recent practice and game situations that excite him.

"I think that our offense will improve because we've been having better practices," Poulin said. "Confidence grows in practice, and then transfers usually onto the ice. I think we're really starting to come up with some line combinations, as well."

"After losing so many guys, we weren't sure what our lines would be coming into this season, and now five weeks in I think we're starting to see some combinations really develop."

The team's strength coming

into the season — goaltending — has been inconsistent, as well. Sophomore Dave Brown has struggled, while senior Morgan Cey had been nearly unbeatable in net until the 4-4 tie, when he allowed four goals on just 19 shots.

But Poulin knows he has two proven net-minders on his team, and the coach is equally willing to start either one.

"I think [the goalies'] confidence is all right," Poulin said. "Morgan was very upset about his play on Friday, because he thought the rest of the team played well enough to win and he couldn't give him the kind of goaltending they've been used to with him. David will go [tonight], and we're fully expecting him to bounce back and have the kind of good performances he's had in the past."

This weekend's games will also be a homecoming of sorts for Irish forward Evan Rankin, a freshman off to a terrific start. The native of Portage, Mich. — a suburb of Kalamazoo, the home of Western Michigan — has already endeared himself to his coach and teammates with a style of play that relies on both hustle and skill.

Rankin has two goals so far this year, tying him for second on the team. He has also picked up one assist.

"Evan's been talking about this series ever since he got on campus," Poulin said. "He's

really looking forward to going back to see his home again."

Western Michigan is coming off a sweep of NCAA tournament team Niagara last weekend. The Broncos knocked off the Purple Eagles 4-3 on Nov. 5 and completed the sweep with a 4-1 victory on Nov. 6.

"Confidence improves in practice and then transfers usually onto the ice."

Dave Poulin
Irish coach

Freshman goalie Daniel Bellissimo picked up both Broncos victories. Bellissimo has been the team's primary starter in net so far. His 3.47 goals-against average and .894 save per-

centage lead the team. Eric Marvin, a veteran who was in net when Paige scored his decisive goal the last time the Broncos and Irish met, is the backup with a 4.15 GAA and .855 save percentage.

Like the Irish, the Broncos have had difficulty scoring goals as a team. Unlike the Irish, Western Michigan has a definite go-to guy in forward Brett Walton, who leads the team with 17 points (nine goals, eight assists) and is tied for the lead in the CCHA in scoring.

"[Walton] sees the ice really well and controls the speed of the game through his puck possession," Poulin said. "Plus, he's essentially the one who shoots the puck most often on the power play, and he's done a great job on capitalizing on those chances."

Contact Justin Schuver at
jschuver@nd.edu

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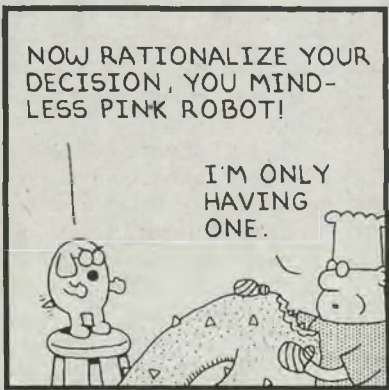
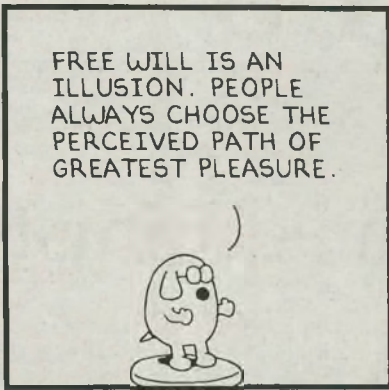
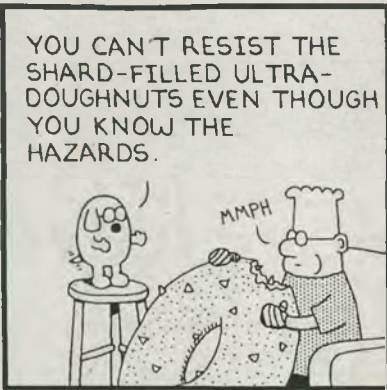


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PEANUTS

CHARLES SCHULZ



JUMBLE

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JUMBLE

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

EGGAU
[] [] [] [] [] [] [] []

VARBE
[] [] [] [] [] [] [] []

LEPPUR
[] [] [] [] [] [] [] []

EEFELC
[] [] [] [] [] [] [] []



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

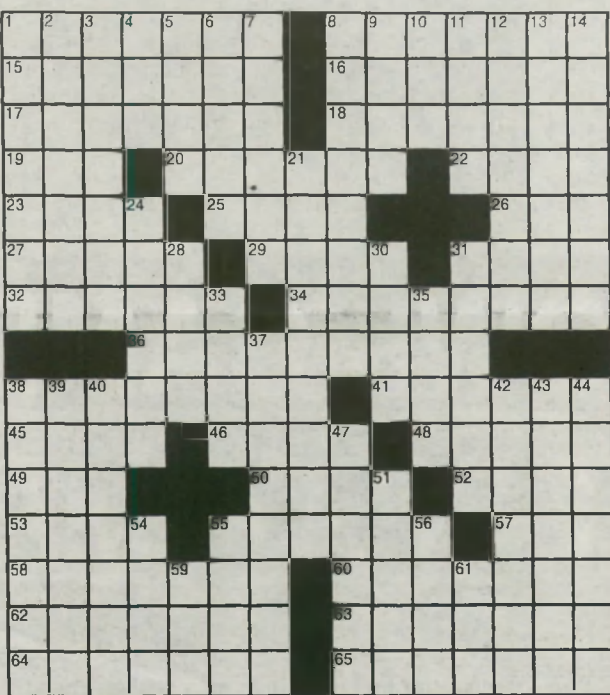
Ans: AT " [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] " [] [] [] [] [] [] [] []
(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: ABOVE PUTTY DISMAY LIMBER
Answer: What the defense did when the judge addressed the jury — RESTED

CROSSWORD

WILL SHORTZ

- ACROSS**
- 1 1918 hit song about "a maid with hair of gold"
 - 8 Instrument whose name is of Bantu origin
 - 15 "Ta-ta"
 - 16 Big name in frozen foods
 - 17 Make an illegal crossing
 - 18 Example or attribute of something used to represent the whole, as "sword" for "military power"
 - 19 Native: Suffix
 - 20 Namesake of a renowned Naples castle
 - 22 Lamebrain
 - 23 Big zero
 - 25 Move slowly
 - 26 Korean currency
 - 27 Shoots off
 - 29 Adaptable aircraft, for short
 - 31 House runner
 - 32 Strayed
 - 34 Freeway prohibitions
 - 36 With limited funds
 - 38 Basically
 - 41 Take the king's shilling, as Brits once said
 - 45 Northern constellation, with "the"
 - 46 Drops
 - 48 Mahler's unfinished symphony
 - 49 Cowhand's moniker
 - 50 Starts (out)
 - 52 Reddish pink
 - 53 Rubs the wrong way
 - 55 Much late-night TV fare
 - 57 Thanksgiving serving
 - 58 Letter container
 - 60 Madonna or Britney Spears
 - 62 Start, as a process
 - 63 Answer sources
 - 64 Little biter
 - 65 Paltry amount
- DOWN**
- 1 Hall-of-Fame Boston Celtic from the 1950's-60's
 - 2 Iranian president Mohammed
 - 3 Entered
 - 4 Gardens
 - 5 Principal river of Armenia
 - 6 Tips
 - 7 Country cousins
 - 8 "Yum!"
 - 9 Mars: Prefix
 - 10 Alphabetic trio
 - 11 Apple product
 - 12 Racing legend
 - 13 Mortgage subsidy
 - 14 Some candy bar ingredients
 - 21 Auction info
 - 24 When some meet for lunch
 - 28 Enthralled
 - 30 Olympic racer
 - 31 Poet Samuel who wrote "Hudibras"
 - 33 Take out



- Puzzle by Bob Peoples
- 35 Mountain climber's equipment
 - 40 Toy of paper, sticks and string
 - 54 Turn on an axis
 - 42 Stacked
 - 43 Exerted oneself
 - 44 China, Japan, etc.
 - 47 Daze
 - 51 Looooong, boring speech
 - 55 Clip
 - 56 W.W. I plane
 - 59 Hit maker?
 - 61 Century year

For answers, call 1-900-285-5656, \$1.20 a minute; or, with a credit card, 1-800-814-5554.
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HOROSCOPE

EUGENIA LAST

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Leonardo DiCaprio, Peta Wilson, Calista Flockhart, Demi Moore

Happy Birthday: Your world will turn upside down this year and, although you will be faced with challenges, you will rise to the occasion. You will surprise everyone with your strength and courage. Nothing will stop you from following through with what you know you must do. Your numbers are 10, 13, 27, 30, 39, 42

- ARIES (March 21-April 19):** Financial changes will ease your stress. Put a little time and effort into your surroundings. Patience may be required but, if you can master that, you will excel. ***
- TAURUS (April 20-May 20):** Think about love and getting together with someone you like to spend time with. Today is all about making plans and stabilizing your personal life. A promotion is possible. ****
- GEMINI (May 21-June 20):** Changes at work will lead to a better position. Social activities will lead to a chance meeting or hearing about someone from your past. ***
- CANCER (June 21-July 22):** Friends will brighten your day. A hobby you enjoy will spark enthusiasm to turn it into a profitable pastime. Love and romance should be penciled in. *****
- LEO (July 23-Aug. 22):** You have to listen and discuss if you want to filter through some of the problems that are stressing you out. You will see both sides of the situation today. **
- VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22):** You can count on a friend to come through for you. Favors will be granted and relationships will develop. This is a good time to start something new or to finish what you've already begun. ****
- LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22):** Work should be your concern. Changes may not appear to be going your way but, if you are patient, everything will turn out in your favor. Acceptance is the key. ***
- SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21):** Don't let anxiety get the better of you. Things aren't as bad as they seem. Develop and promote your true talents -- you have more going for you than you realize. ***
- SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21):** Focus on what you can do to make your family life better. You can help an older relative accomplish what he or she needs to do. For this, you will be rewarded. ***
- CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19):** The more involved you get in something that interests you, the better you will do. Take any help being offered. You will form a strong bond with someone who will complement you. ****
- AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18):** There is so much happening that it is difficult for you to keep things straight. You may be enticed by someone who really isn't good for you. You may have to say no. **
- PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20):** Nothing will stop you today if you are serious about getting something done. Someone will be there for you regardless of what it is you need. Romance should be on your mind. **

Birthday Baby: You are a responsive individual. You are not likely to let anyone take advantage of you. You are determined to do things your own way. You know how to take control.

Check out Eugenia's Web sites at astroadvice.com and eugenialast.com.

THE OBSERVER

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MEN'S GOLF

Athletic Department: Jasinski on administrative leave

Fourth-year head coach led team to up-and-down fall season

By ERIC RETTER
Sports Writer

Halfway into his fourth year, Irish head coach John Jasinski is on administrative leave, according to John Heisler, associate athletic director.

"Coach Jasinski is on administrative leave," Heisler said, declining to make further comment on the issue.

Jasinski, assistant coach Chris Whitten, and several team players also declined to comment on the



Jasinski

situation.

The news comes just a week after the Irish wrapped up their fall schedule, in which Jasinski piloted them in an up-and-down season.

During Jasinski's more than three-year tenure, the Irish had already made major steps to becoming a force in the collegiate golf world. During the 2003-04 season, Jasinski coached the Irish to the Big East Championship and their

first NCAA Regional berth since 1966. They where they finished 12th and just missed a chance to compete in the NCAA Finals.

Jasinski greatly improved the strength of both the Irish schedule as well as its lineup. He recruited strong classes and his incoming freshmen have routinely made an impact on the team.

Jasinski, who is the fifth head coach in the 75-year his-

tory of the program, has been committed to Notre Dame for the long haul. In June, he signed a contract extension to continue coaching at the University, and he founded the Irish Golf School, where he, along with Whitten, provided teaching sessions to Irish friends, family, alumni and supporters.

Contact Eric Retter at eretter@nd.edu

ND WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Irish begin trip into Preseason NIT

Team will start regular season with non-conference opponent Illinois State tonight

By JOE HETTLER
Sports Writer

Notre Dame can only imagine what challenges Illinois State will present tonight in the opening round of the Preseason National Invitation Tournament at the Joyce Center.

The Redbirds, like the Irish, have not played a game this season. Since Illinois State is from a different conference, No. 10/11 Notre Dame couldn't acquire any tape of their home-opening opponent, either.

"It's really hard. We can't even get anything from the end of last year so it's a little bit more difficult [to prepare]," Notre Dame coach Muffet McGraw said. "It makes it hard because you don't have the scouting, and you don't know exactly what to take away

[from film study] until the game."

McGraw said the best Notre Dame could do in scouting Illinois State was looking at film from Southwest Missouri State last season. The Irish beat the Lady Bears in the first round of the NCAA tournament 69-65 at the Joyce Center in March.

"They're the same kind of team [as Southwest Missouri State]. They have great shooters, great 3-pointer shooters, and they're an up-tempo team that plays great defense," said McGraw, who is entering her 19th season as Notre Dame's head coach. "It's really going to be a challenge for us."

The Lady Bears enter their season-opening game a little beat up. Injuries have plagued

see IRISH/page 21



GEOFF MATTESON/The Observer

Melissa D'Amico shoots as Crystal Erwin, right, looks on in a Nov. 6 exhibition game against the Hoosier Lady Stars.

HOCKEY

Icers want to get back on track

By JUSTIN SCHUVER
Associate Sports Editor

The last time the Irish and Western Michigan squared off, Jason Paige scored a game-winning goal 12:35 into overtime, and Notre Dame took game three of the best-of-three CCHA first-round playoff series on Mar. 14.

Paige's goal put the Irish into the Super Six. More importantly, the goal played a major role in helping Notre Dame reach the NCAA tournament for the first time in the program's history.

Now, the Irish would just like to get back on the winning track against the Broncos.

Notre Dame (1-5-3, 0-4-2

see ICED/page 26

ND CROSS-COUNTRY

Irish hope to clinch berth for NCAA Tournament

By STEVE COYER
Sports Writer

After strong performances all season, the Notre Dame cross country teams will set out to solidify a bid for the NCAA championship this weekend.

At the Great Lakes Regional Saturday, the Irish can automatically qualify for the NCAA meet with a first- or second-place finish. Both teams already stand among the top

in the country with the men and women nationally-ranked fifth and sixth respectively.

The men's team comes off a very close first-place finish in the Big East Championship and hopes to carry the momentum through the remainder of the season.

"If we run like we did at the Big East we should have no problem qualifying for the NCAAAs but we just need to reproduce that effort," men's

see RUNNERS/page 24

FOOTBALL

Team sets 2005 schedule

By MATT LOZAR
Sports Writer

For the second consecutive season, the Irish have moved an October road game to Labor Day weekend.

The Oct. 8, 2005 game between Notre Dame and Pittsburgh was moved to Sept. 3 in a mutual agreement between the schools announced in a press release Thursday.

The game was rescheduled to ensure the teams would play in a nationally-televised contest on a network to be determined.

That game also allows the Irish to play before traveling to Ann Arbor, Mich. to take on the Wolverines, who play Eastern Michigan on Sept. 3.

Notre Dame also announced Thursday the signing of an eight-year contract with Pittsburgh to resume their series in 2008 after a two-year layoff in 2006-07.

The game in 2008 will be at Notre Dame Stadium with the teams alternating as host of the games until 2015.

"The University of Pittsburgh and Notre Dame have a rich his-

see SCHEDULE/page 20

Notre Dame Football Updated 2005 Schedule

Date	Opponent
Sept. 3	at Pittsburgh
Sept. 10	at Michigan
Sept. 17	MICHIGAN STATE
Sept. 24	at Washington
Oct. 1	at Purdue
Oct. 15	USC
Oct. 22	BYU
Nov. 5	TENNESSEE
Nov. 12	NAVY
Nov. 19	SYRACUSE
Nov. 26	at Stanford

MIKE HARKINS/Observer graphic

FENCING

Penn State Max Garret Open

Last year's No. 2 fencers will host the Irish in this preseason event.

page 25

SMC SWIMMING

University of Chicago Maroon Invitational

The Belles come off their first victory of the season.

page 25

ND SWIMMING

Men face crucial opponents

Men host No. 17 Panthers and Spartans in a meet with high expectations.

page 21

SMC CROSS-COUNTRY

NCAA Division-III Regionals

Ten of the team's top runners will race at Alma College this weekend.

page 20

ND VOLLEYBALL

WVU, Pitt travel to Notre Dame

Irish look to rebound from BC loss in weekend matches.

page 19

ND SWIMMING

Women host triangular meet

Spartans, Panthers will challenge defending Big East champions

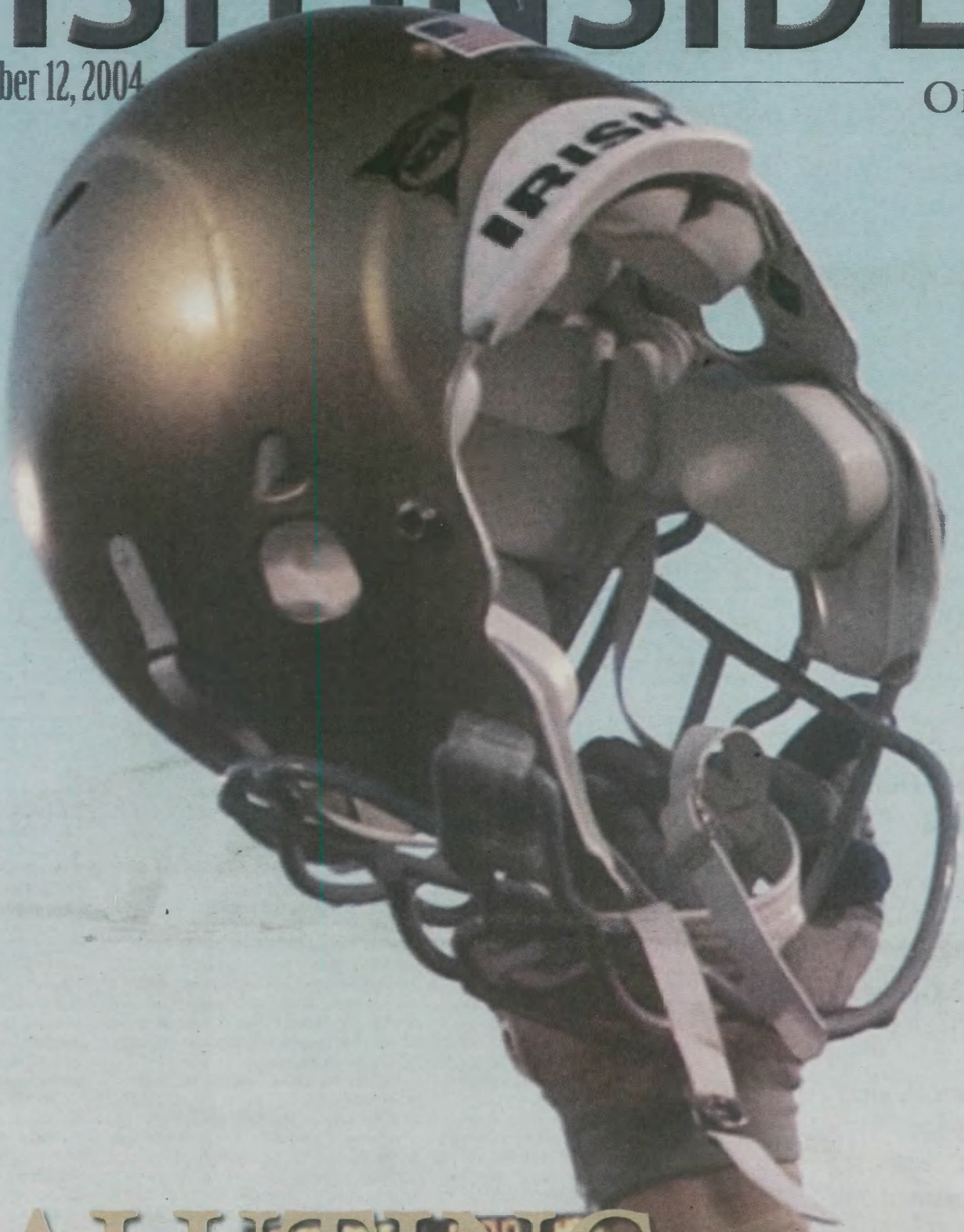
page 18

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IRISH INSIDER

Friday, November 12, 2004

THE
OBSERVER



SALUTING THE SENIORS

Photo Illustration by MIKE HARKINS

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table of contents



Kyle Budinscak
page 8



Quentin Burrell
page 10



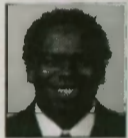
Carlos Campbell
page 19



Jared Clark
page 15



Jerome Collins
page 20



Derek Curry
page 6



Casey Dunn
page 4



Dwight Ellick
page 18



Mike Goolsby
page 5



Ryan Grant
page 7



Matt Hasbrook
page 9



Carlyle Holiday
page 3



Preston Jackson
page 12



Cole Laux
page 14



Billy Palmer
page 16



Greg Pauly
page 13



Stan Revelle
page 17

Fourth-year seniors
pages 22-23

Numbers don't tell entire story



CLAIRE KELLEY/The Observer

Irish linebacker Derek Curry listens to the crowd cheer after Notre Dame defeated Washington 38-3 on Sept. 25. Curry and the seniors might not have had the most success in their careers, but their character is unmeasurable.

Looking at the numbers during the past four or five years, Notre Dame's seniors didn't rewrite Fighting Irish history by any means.

They had two losing seasons.

They went 1-4 against Boston College.

They never won a bowl game.

But, sometimes, the numbers lie. What the Notre Dame seniors didn't get done on the field in terms of wins and losses, they certainly made up for in how they played the game and carried themselves on and off the field.

Some Irish fans, alumni and outsiders will look at this class now — and in years to come — as never achieving greatness. They never won a national title. They never returned Notre Dame to a consistent football powerhouse.

But those people make a grave oversight. This group of seniors has shown an uncommonly high degree of character, resilience and toughness that anyone associated with Notre Dame should be proud of — and all qualities head coach Tyrone Willingham preaches and teaches to his team each day in practice.

Derek Curry described the senior class best during interviews earlier this week.

"We have a group of seniors that are just phenomenal," Curry said. "Our fifth-year seniors, I love those guys with everything because they give it their all, week in and week out, summer in and summer out. ... You are playing for Notre Dame, you are playing for the family, you are playing for those people who came before, you're playing for pride and [the seniors have] tried to instill that, and I think that's one thing that's helped because the guys that are stepping in for guys that go down, they have to step up and come in, they [have to] understand what they are playing for."

Perhaps the best example of Curry's description is Carlyle Holiday.

He was thrown in the fire during his first season at quarterback, then bounced back to have an outstanding 2002 campaign, leading the Irish to an 8-0 start and a Gator Bowl appearance.

But the very next season, Holiday and the offense struggled. As the losses mounted, the criticism rained down on Holiday. Rather than blame the inexperienced offensive line that never gave him time to throw, or chastise the ineffective running game that forced him into undesirable passing situations, or rant about the inconsistent wide receiver play, Holiday said nothing — and meanwhile, put all the blame on his own shoulders.

He never complained, never pouted. When students made tasteless T-shirts saying, "The Holiday is Over, Quinn to Win," the quarterback said nothing. Instead, he carried himself as a true champion by doing all he could to help the team, while at the same time sacrificing his own personal gain.

Holiday had played quarterback since he was six, yet he never flinched when asked to change positions last season. When he came back in 2004 as a fifth-year senior, Holiday hoped and expected to play significant minutes. Instead, he's been stuck returning punts and playing sparingly on offense.

But, through it all, Holiday has never wavered.

"I think when you look at Carlyle's character and what he has gone through in the tenure that he's been here, through both the ups and the downs — to go through that and be the man that he has, I think says a great deal for him, and it's helped the program through some tough times," Irish offensive coordinator Bill Diedrick said.

Then there are guys like Jared Clark. Another quarterback, Clark asked the coaches if he could change positions in 2002. Assuming he would be on defense, Clark was surprised when the Irish coaching staff penciled him in as tight end, a position already full of talented players.

But Clark did not complain. He just worked harder, moving up the depth chart to eventually become the team's fifth-leading receiver in 2003.

Then at the beginning of the 2004 season, Clark was passed up by players that had played the tight end position their whole lives. Instead of seeing the field as a fifth-year, Clark now sees the bench. But Clark does his best to help the younger players and keep the locker room atmosphere light. He's the guy that makes his teammates laugh, even when times get tough.

"He did a lot for me, especially early in

my career," fellow tight end Anthony Fasano said. "He helped me along and showed me the ropes along the way."

Players like Holiday, Clark and defensive end Kyle Budinscak have made the Notre Dame program better during the past few seasons, even if the number of wins say otherwise.

Budinscak has set an example for other players, compiling a 3.6 GPA while also keeping an upbeat and positive attitude.

Asked at practice this week what he remembers during his five years as a Notre Dame football player, Budinscak talked of many experiences. A reporter then asked him, "Is there anything you'd really want to forget?" Budinscak paused for a moment, then said, "There's plenty of those too, but they only make you stronger."

When Notre Dame lost to Brigham Young to open the season, it was Budinscak who was a leader in not allowing the Irish to give up. This team had worked too hard, Budinscak said, to let it all slip away because of one bad performance.

Notre Dame's seniors have taken excessive amounts of criticism at times throughout their careers. Some of it justified, some not. But through it all emerged a group of 36 guys that have defined what a Notre Dame athlete should be. They've been through so much together — two coaching changes, numerous blowout losses and many peaks and valleys — yet they have bonded together and battled through it all.

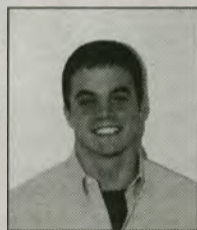
The Notre Dame team, led by its seniors, will run out of the tunnel for the final time this season on Saturday. They won't run out ranked No. 1 in the nation, they won't run out with hopes of a BCS bowl berth and they won't run out with a chance to accomplish all of their preseason goals.

But the seniors nonetheless have left a positive mark on this football program. They've laid the foundation for future successes and shown the younger players how to lead.

Character, resilience and toughness can't be measured in wins and losses — you have to see it to understand it. Just look on the field Saturday to see a perfect example.

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

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Joe Hettler

Sports Writer

QUOTING THE IRISH

"I'm certainly glad I came to this place and played for this University. I'm happy to have gone here and I don't have any regrets."

Kyle Budinscak
offensive lineman

"To go out with these guys and fight every week has been great. I've seen a lot of great things."

Ryan Grant
running back

"Just coming here and being part of this environment — it was incredible."

Casey Dunn
long snapper

CARLYLE HOLIDAY

Taking one for the team

Holiday has put Notre Dame's success ahead of his personal glory

By JOE HETTLER
Sports Writer

Carlyle Holiday will do anything to help his team — even if that's a baseball team.

As a senior at Roosevelt High School in San Antonio, Texas, Holiday was asked by the baseball coach to play in the final eight games of the season. Holiday, who had never played high school baseball up to that time or swung a bat in years, accepted the offer. He homered in his first at-bat and finished the season with five round-trippers while also helping his team with good defensive play in centerfield.

In 2003, the Cincinnati Reds selected Holiday in the 44th round of the Major League Baseball draft.

"I was a big hitter," Holiday says with a smile.

Putting the team first has always been one of Holiday's best traits. The fifth-year wide receiver has seen his shares of ups and downs during his career at Notre Dame — from struggling as a starter in 2001 to leading the Irish to an 8-0 to start in 2002 to losing the quarterback job last season to changing positions heading into the 2004 campaign.

But through all that change, the one constant has always been Holiday's team first, 'me' second



Holiday

attitude.

Learning on the job

Holiday came to Notre Dame as a freshman in 2000 after a successful high school career where the 6-foot-3, 215-pounder threw for 719 yards and rushed for another 876 as a senior out of a makeshift option-style offense.

"They called it option but really it was just having me drop back and run," Holiday said. "We had a couple options plays in there."

When he signed with Notre Dame, over Nebraska and Texas A&M, Holiday knew there would be much competition for playing time. The Irish already had freshman quarterbacks Matt LeVecchio and Jared Clark. Rather than fearing the competition, Holiday embraced it.

"It was fun for me," he said. "Those [other quarterbacks] I had met before when they visited. We all visited together and we became real close. Other people may look at it as a competition [and] we did, but at the same time it was a friendship."

Even after seeing LeVecchio win the starting job and lead Notre Dame to a 9-3 season in 2000 and a Fiesta Bowl berth, Holiday continued working on his game, waiting for an opportunity.

Sure enough, in 2001 with Notre Dame off to a shaky 0-2 start, Holiday earned his first start against Texas A&M. Holiday would start the remaining eight games of the team's 5-6 season. While he was disappointed the Irish didn't have more success, Holiday knows the playing time was valuable in terms of learning and game experience.

"It was just a great season for

me overall, just getting adjusted to playing college football," Holiday said. "Playing with some of the big time guys that left this program and learning from them, it helped for next season. It was a big learning experience. There were ups and downs and it made me stronger."

Tasting success ... for a short time

Then-first year head coach Tyrone Willingham stuck with Holiday to start the 2002 season and the move paid off. Holiday took the Irish to an 8-0 start, including an upset win against Florida State in Tallahassee in late October.

In that game Holiday, threw for 185 yards on 13-of-21 passing and two touchdowns, including a 65-yard score to receiver Arnaz Battle on the game's first play.

Holiday finished the 2002 season throwing for 1788 yards, 10 touchdowns and just five interceptions. The Irish, however, couldn't finish their magical season undefeated, losing to Boston College at home after Holiday left that game injured. Notre Dame would be blown out by Southern California on the road to end the regular season, before Holiday again went down, this time against North Carolina State in the Gator Bowl. The Irish couldn't recover without their starting quarterback and again lost in blowout fashion, this time 28-6 to the Wolfpack.

Still, for Holiday and the Irish, a 10-3 season with a first-year head coach was a giant step from the dreadful 2001 season.

"I don't think people realize how hard it is to go 8-0, especially at a place like this," Holiday said. "That was one of the more positives things that I've been through since I've been here at Notre Dame. It was remarkable. [We were] sorry it didn't end up the way we wanted to, but starting 8-0 was a big thing for this whole program."

Handling the hardships

There was every reason to believe Notre Dame would have another successful season in 2003, after the 2002 year. But things went wrong in a hurry for the Irish, especially the offense.

After a comeback victory against Washington State in the season opener, Notre Dame traveled to Michigan and got spanked 38-0, the most one-sided loss in series history.

Holiday, pressured by Michigan defenders the entire game thanks to an inexperienced offensive line, finished just 5-for-14 for 55 yards and an interception. He was pulled for freshman Brady Quinn in the fourth quarter.

Things didn't get any better the next week against Michigan State, when Holiday struggled in a Spartan victory. The quarterback ended the game just 10-for-25 for 99 yards and two interceptions.

The Michigan State game was the last straw for Holiday. Quinn was named the starter for the next game and would remain in that role for the final eight games of the season.

Through those three weeks, Holiday took all kinds of criticism from media reporters to alumni to fans and even students. Shirts popped up that said "The Holiday is over" on the front and "Quinn to Win" on the back.

Yet through all the hard times, Holiday kept a positive attitude and patiently answered every



CLAIRE KELLEY/The Observer

Irish wide receiver Carlyle Holiday makes a move as he returns a punt in Notre Dame's game against Michigan this year.

question at every press conference, no matter how difficult that may have been.

"You realize whenever you lose its going to come down to the quarterback and the coach and I realized that," Holiday said. "My thought was just to keep everything positive and try not to tear this team apart and do something that would hurt your reputation. I realized certain things were happening. ... We weren't playing as well as we wanted to. But [I learned] to just let it ride because there are others things besides football that are important."

Holiday took the bulk of the criticism for the inept offense, when other factors were also at work. The young offensive line struggled to give him time in the pocket. The running backs couldn't find any yardage on the ground, which put more pressure on the passing game. But Holiday never placed blame anywhere but on himself, even if he knew the criticism was unfair.

"It was definitely a combination of things," Holiday said. "We were young in areas. There are just so many other areas that go into losing a football game than just a single player."

Willingham said he's been more than impressed with the manner in which Holiday handled the heavy criticism from others.

"[H]e has really handled this situation with the most character of any young man that I've seen in a while," Willingham said. "He's stood tall, he's never backed away from any situation that he's been pressed into. With that, I have genuine respect for him."

Making the switch and returning for another season

After losing the starting job to Quinn, Holiday was asked late in the 2003 season whether he was interested in switching positions.

"I was on the sideline and they just wanted to find a way to get me into the football game," said

Holiday, who had played quarterback since the age of 6. "So [the coaches] said, 'Do you want to go to receiver?' and towards the last couple games I decided to switch."

The switch was anything but easy for Holiday. He had to learn how to block, run routes and catch the football. The change didn't pay huge dividends for Notre Dame or Holiday as the new receiver caught just two passes for 13 yards.

Despite his best efforts, the transition was a slow one for the former quarterback.

"It was hard. I didn't really get adjusted to it until this fall," Holiday said. "It really took me awhile."

With a year remaining, Holiday decided to apply for a fifth-year and contribute to the Irish in 2004. After seeing another quarterback-converted-to-receiver Arnaz Battle have success in 2002, Holiday hoped to follow suit.

This season, Holiday has been the primary punt returner and has seen some action as a wide receiver. Heading into the Pittsburgh game, he has two receptions for 21 yards. Despite not putting up the numbers he would have liked, Holiday has tried to help the team in other ways.

"The season has been great," Holiday said with his usual optimism. "I have not played as much as I wanted to or caught as many balls, but I still have those opportunities to get on the field and help the team out. Even though I'm not playing a lot and I'm a fifth year and that's what I came back to do, other players can see that and stay strong when they're not playing as much as they want."

No one should be surprised by that attitude. Holiday has been putting Notre Dame's football team first for the past five years.

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CHUY BENITEZ/The Observer

Irish wide receiver Carlyle Holiday works for yardage after receiving the ball on a reverse against Washington.

CASEY DUNN

Long snapper gets thrill of his life against Michigan

By KATE GALES
Sports Writer

Life doesn't always go according to plan, and no one knows that better than Casey Dunn.

Once a diehard Miami fan who yearned to play on an Ivy League offensive line, he has thrived as the long snapper for Notre Dame this season.

"I was just a freshman deer-in-the-headlights type deal,"

Dunn said of his days as a preferred walk-on in August of 2001. "[I tried] to figure out what was going on around me — it was definitely a learning experience."

The Miami resident grew up rooting for the Hurricanes and wanting to attend an Ivy League college. However, the combination of academics and Division-I athletics tipped the scales in favor of Notre Dame — that balance, and an emotional family connection to the University.

"I honestly didn't know anything about Notre Dame football before I got here," said Dunn. "It was just a whole new experience for me and that's probably been the best part of this experience for me, coming in here not knowing much about the history of



Dunn

Notre Dame football."

He did know that his grandfather grew up a diehard Notre Dame fan, watching the games on television throughout his lifetime.

"I never met my grandfather but it was a place my dad always held in high esteem because [my grandfather loved it]," said Dunn. "I applied there just on a whim."

Dunn saw some reps and limited action at practice team for offensive guard and offensive tackle. His opportunity to take the field came after his sophomore year, when the long snapper position opened up.

Since Dunn took over at long snapper during his junior season, the Irish have been grateful for that whim. He has yet to be credited with a bad snap, going over 140 consecutive plays without a missed ball. For someone who snapped in just one game in high school, it has been a road of transitions.

"I basically picked [long-snapping] up in the off season, through spring practice, then two-a-days my junior year I was able to win the long-snapping job," Dunn said. "That was my opportunity to get on the field and play and I took the opportunity and ran with it."

The change from offensive lineman to long snapper involved losing weight, gaining speed, learning to block immediately after the punt and learning a new mental attitude.

"It's physically somewhat chal-

lenging, snapping the ball and blocking at the same time is tough to do," Dunn recalled. "[But] I'd say it's more mentally challenging in terms of always wanting a perfect snap and get the ball back there to the punter so he can get the ball off. I remember when I first got the job everyone was like 'You picked that job? If you screw up everybody's going to know.' You can't screw up, ever."

But Dunn has done more than just snap well and execute blocks. This September, he catapulted into the public eye when he recovered a fumble in the home-opener against rival Michigan.

"Recovering that fumble was incredible — for sure one of the best experiences of my life so far," he said. "There's nothing that can describe standing up with the ball raised above your head and 80,000 people going crazy especially against a team like Michigan ... at Notre Dame Stadium, a stadium filled with history, it's surreal."

This season will mark the last time Dunn steps on a football field as an athlete, as he moves on to medical school after graduating with a degree in the College of Science's Pre-Professional Studies. As he moves on, the former Zahm resident will take with him the storied Notre Dame experience from academics, football and life on the Notre Dame campus.

"As much as everybody hates Zahm, I love Zahm to death," he



DUSTY MANNELLA/The Observer

Casey Dunn went from a walk-on to the team's long snapper, and recovered a fumble this year against Michigan.

recalled. "It's the closest brotherhood I know aside from the football team."

He earned high grades in the challenging College of Science and is looking to interview at medical schools in order to pursue a career as a doctor "who works with people."

"Just coming here and being part of this whole environment — it was incredible. I'd never seen snow before," Dunn recalled. "It

was just one of those things where I decided to pick myself up and put myself in a whole new environment, and it's worked out pretty well."

The Irish special teams would agree, as Dunn has become an essential component to every successful punt.

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MIKE GOOLSBY

Bouncing back

Goolsby has overcome injury to play his best season yet in an Irish uniform

By JOE HETTLER
Sports Writer

Justin Tuck can't help but laugh when thinking about Mike Goolsby on the football field.

"Man, Gools', he's funny at times," Tuck said. "His passion for the game — it explodes on the field. You can tell because he just zones out. He'll be in the huddle, just zoned out."

Goolsby says he's simply trying to prepare for each play.

"I'm always more worried about making mistakes so I'm always constantly [saying in] my head, 'What do I have to do? What do I have to do?' There's so much emotion in this game. I mean, this year, I get a knot in my throat almost every single game because I want to win so bad."

"I'm not a big 'rah-rah' guy in the locker room, but I've learned how to get myself jacked up for games and sustain that throughout the game, which is the most important part."

But there was a time when Goolsby didn't know whether he'd play football at a high level again. An injury nearly ended Goolsby's career before the fifth-year senior had a

chance to reach his full potential.

A 'special' player

The day Notre Dame offered Goolsby a scholarship to play football, the Joliet, Ill. native knew his college choice.

"Going into recruiting, I really didn't have a clear plan of how I was going to do it. I was just taking offers as they came in. ... I really knew I was headed [to Notre Dame] not for any particular reason but just because it felt right. I took a couple unofficial visits and I took my only official visit here and committed on my official. As soon as [Notre Dame] came into the picture, I knew I was headed here."

Once at Notre Dame, Goolsby wanted to find any way to be on the field. When the coaches asked him to be on special teams, the then-freshman was thrilled.

"[Special teams] definitely still holds a special place in my heart," Goolsby said.

This season, Goolsby asked to play on the special teams unit once again — this time he wasn't trying to get additional playing time. Rather, Goolsby thought the Irish needed to improve.

"I didn't think our special teams played up to par," Goolsby said. "Kickoff returns was my forte my freshman year. So I asked to be on that and they put me on punt as well. Early on in the season I did it more than I do now."

Injured and out

Goolsby started all 13 games



CHUY BENITEZ/The Observer

Irish linebacker Mike Goolsby tackles Washington's James Sims during Notre Dame's 38-3 victory over the Huskies this season.

during the 2002 football season and excelled for the Irish.

He recorded 75 tackles, including four sacks and a forced fumble. He led the team with 13 tackles for a loss and added an interception.

But the season ended on a sour note for the linebacker when he broke his left collarbone in the Gator Bowl against North Carolina State. In the offseason, Goolsby also had cartilage problems with his right shoulder at the time. To make matters worse, Goolsby re-injured his left collarbone playing Bookstore Basketball in the offseason. That injury cost the linebacker the 2003 season.

While the Irish struggled to a 5-7 record, Goolsby could only watch, helpless.

"It was extremely frustrating," Goolsby said. "The toughest part was seeing the guys every day in practice, working there butts off and not getting a 'W' on Saturday. That was the toughest part because I felt partially responsible because I shouldn't have been out there screwing around at Bookstore."

Yet, Goolsby says he's learned a lot about himself during the time away from football on the sidelines.

"What I've learned from it is just how much I love the game and how much I miss the game and how much I took being healthy for granted and everything that goes into football," Goolsby said. "I took it all for granted and then I had an opportunity to come back for a fifth year and I didn't want to let the slip by."

Returning with a vengeance

Goolsby came back this season scared to death.

"[Failing to reach my potential] consumed me for the longest time and I think it still

does to some extent," Goolsby said. "During spring ball there were a lot of sleepless nights, just driving myself nuts worrying about getting back with that one year left and trying to accomplish what I wanted to accomplish."

"It was a big worry of mine for a long time until camp when I got it out of my system."

Goolsby's worry seems to be for naught, as the fifth-year senior has played exceptional for much of the season. Notre Dame head coach Tyrone Willingham feels Goolsby is just now starting to hit his stride.

"Mike has had a fine year," the third-year coach said. "[He] really appears to be even getting better as he finishes out this last stretch of games."

Goolsby has tallied a team-high 84 tackles, 24 more than the next closest player and also has two sacks and two interceptions.

The latest interception was returned for a game-winning touchdown against No. 9 Tennessee at Neyland Stadium on Nov. 6.

Tuck said Goolsby's return this season has been critical for the Irish defense.

"He brings great leadership," Tuck said. "He had an injury last year that was just devastating but his passion for the game came back and he didn't make no complaints about anything. He worked his butt off to get back to where he is. I'm just happy for him."

"[Goolsby] really appears to be getting even better as he finishes out this last stretch of games."

Tyrone Willingham
Irish head coach

"I think that would be great just to be a part of that history [at Notre Dame]."

Mike Goolsby
Irish linebacker

Goolsby has had the luxury of focusing solely on football this season, since he already earned his degree in American Studies.

"Football is such a huge part of my life," Goolsby said. "It's pretty much a full plate of football for me. There isn't any excuse not to excel. It's put up or shut up for me. In life I try to work hard at different things and I think I have a pretty hard work ethic. I came back for a fifth year for a reason and that's to be successful on the football field and that's my main goal in life right now."

Goolsby admits that he's hoping for a career in the NFL after his final season at Notre Dame ends. But for now, he wants to focus on the final two games of the regular season and help Notre Dame finish strong.

"I'm proud of the way the team's handled the adversity and bounced back time and time again," Goolsby said. "Sometimes I wish we didn't have to bounce back the way we do. But you can't change the past. We're going to try and get these next two games and win a bowl game. ... then I'll look back and say I was proud of what we accomplished."

Personally, Goolsby has high goals for himself before he leaves this season.

"I'd also like to leave some kind of legacy here," Goolsby said. "You don't want to be one of those guys who's forgotten."

"You hear people talking about past players all the time and I think that'd be great just to be a part of that history."

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CHUY BENITEZ/The Observer

Irish linebacker Mike Goolsby returns an interception for a touchdown against Tennessee on Nov. 6. Goolsby's touchdown proved to be the game-winning score.

DEREK CURRY

Setting an example

Curry hopes his football success will inspire young people in his hometown

By MATT LOZAR
Sports Writer

Do you.

Two words, five letters, a life motto for Derek Curry.

For one of Notre Dame's fifth-year seniors, to 'do you' is about more than just playing football.

When he's not on the practice field, watching film or hitting opposing players, Curry is out in the community spreading that message.



Curry

"It's basically be yourself. Everybody has individual gifts and everybody is special and unique," the starting outside linebacker said. "Don't try to play like you see me on TV, don't play like NFL players play, play the way you play."

"You be the person you are, in the end, the only thing you can be is happy because you are being true to yourself."

That's why Curry is at Notre Dame.

Foundation for life

Growing up in a Christian family in Sealy, Texas, Curry went to Shepherd's Way Church. During his senior year of high school, the message preached each week began sinking in.

"When I became a senior in high school, I started to realize God gave me these gifts," Curry said. "I didn't give them to myself, my parents didn't give them to me, but God has given me this ability. The foundation came there."

Coming from the high school football-loving state of Texas, Curry had a lot of options to continue his education in college. As an honorable mention USA Today All-American, three-sport star and one of the top 100 players in three separate Texas newspapers, many letters filled his mailbox.

When he had to sign on that dotted line, there was only one choice.

"God really led me to Notre Dame more than anything else. I had a lot of

options as to where I could go, but I didn't think it was about me," Curry said. "The ability God gave me to play this game I wanted to just glorify him in every way I could, and I felt like when I came here he was really telling me this was the place, this is where I want you to be, and so I wanted to just be okay, this is what you want me to do, and let's go do it together."

Curry didn't want to leave and never look back when he left Sealy High School for South Bend. Attending the same high school as NFL running back Eric Dickerson and living 200 yards from

Dickerson's mother, Curry learned something from the future Hall of Famer he never wanted to let happen again.

Dickerson never came back to Sealy to talk with the young kids and provide them with inspiration to achieve their dreams.

"The main reason I do stuff like that is because I was in a position at my life that no one really came back," Curry said. "I never wanted to put anyone else in that situation. I know what it's like to be there and know someone from where you're from or the area near you not to come back and tell you that you can make it, do the things you want to do in your heart and fulfill the dreams you have, and I try to tell people that."

While Curry only gets back to his hometown maybe once or twice a year right now because of commitments to the football team, when he does go back, he doesn't make the mistake he feels Dickerson did.

"Every time I do go home I try to spend time at the middle school, junior high or athletic department," Curry said. "I try to hang around some kids and let them talk to me. I'm an open guy."

"Yeah, I went to Notre Dame, but I'm just like anybody else. I'm from the same side of town as most of those guys, the same city. So I try to leave that option open that if they want to learn anything about the college level, my life in general or anything."

Weathering the storm

Curry's been a leader his entire life, something he attributes to God putting him in the right situations and environments.

Throughout high school where he was a two-time captain in football and three-time captain in basketball and baseball to being in the huddle and in the locker room during his fifth-year, Curry's never been shy about sharing his opinions.

"It's just a challenge I was willing to accept. I feel everyone is a leader in their own individual way, but mine is just more vocal, maybe too vocal at times," Curry said. "It's just something

that carried over, and my personality is just to be vocal and step up for myself and the things I really believe in."

"I really believe in this team, and that's one of the reasons I step up and speak about this team because I really care and believe we can be a great team."

When the program needed leaders the most, Curry was there.

Former coach Bob Davie was fired in December 2001 and five days later, his replacement, George O'Leary had to resign. The coach and staff that recruited Curry to South Bend was gone after his first two seasons in an



CLEMENT SUHENDRA/The Observer

Irish linebacker Derek Curry makes an interception near the end of the first half of Notre Dame's game against Michigan State this year. Curry has been one of the leaders of the defense all season.

Irish uniform. The majority of his playing career would be spent underneath a new coaching staff.

Curry understood people have to make career moves and things happen because coaching in big-time college football is basically like a business. For a leader like Curry, it was time to put faith in Irish coach Tyrone Willingham and the rest of his staff — however blind that faith could be.

"As a leader on the team I had to step up and basically jump on board," Curry said. "The thing about a leader, whenever change is made in the program or within the organization, you have to step up, go with the flow and help with the transition so that was my role."

Going with the flow included having the leaders like Curry help with the change brought in by Willingham — a changed attitude, atmosphere and perspective. It started from the day Willingham showed up at the first team meeting with the Powerpoint slide presentation ending

with the word "WIN." All of that change Curry feels led to the 8-0 start during the Return to Glory of 2002 and a changed outlook in the program ever since.

"[I had to] stay positive, and just say, you know what these guys have some-thing really good to offer and are good coaches. We are going to go with this and give it all we got," Curry said. "I think that's one of the reasons we had such a good season that first

year because people bought in and really tried to buy in to what the coaches wanted us to go."

Following his own message

Along with the other seniors playing their last game in Notre Dame Stadium on Saturday afternoon, it's the last time Curry will run out of the tunnel.

It's something he's been thinking about for awhile.

"I don't know what I'm going to do yet," Curry said. "It's going to be interesting to see how it plays out and how I handle the last pep rally and all this."

"I think the one thing I will

be is excited. Not because it's the last game, but because I have the opportunity to play another game in our Stadium. Because when it's all said and done, I want to come out with the victory."

As the end to his Notre Dame playing career nears, the question looms about what Curry will do with his future. An obvious option is the NFL, but he's not ready to commit to that just yet.

"If I get the opportunity, that's great," the management information systems and theology double major said. "If I don't, that's fine to."

If that opportunity doesn't arise, Curry knows there's something else.

"I want to be a youth pastor at some point because that was the time in my life when I really got a foundation so when I went to college, I was able to stay the person I am and I don't sway to anyone else or who this person is or what I see on TV," he said. "I want to stay true to myself."

Staying true to himself — doing that will allow Curry to follow his own message.

One wouldn't expect anything less.

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"God really led me to Notre Dame more than anything else."

Derek Curry
Irish linebacker

"My personality is to be vocal and step up for myself and the things I believe in."

Derek Curry
Irish linebacker

RYAN GRANT

Picking up where he left off

A year after backing up Julius Jones, Grant has experienced a rebirth as a running back

By HEATHER
VAN HOEGARDEN
Sports Editor

As a sophomore, he was the man, and there were 1,085 reasons (or yards) why.

Then that title went to Julius Jones in 2003. Then it went to Darius Walker — until the original got healthy again. If there was ever any doubt what Ryan Grant means to the Irish football team, it was washed away when Grant returned from his hamstring injury this season.

With Grant in the game this season, the Irish are 5-1; without him, they are 1-2. If Irish fans haven't recognized the importance of this senior just yet, then they are missing out.

Just ask Irish coach Tyrone Willingham.

"I think it is [easy to look over what Grant adds to the offense]," Willingham said. "First of all, you have to take into account the role of the senior, and the role of the senior is not just on the field. It's what he provides off the field and in the locker room and the kind of play that we have got now with Ryan has been very solid for us in all areas. It was almost easier for many to forget that two years ago he was a 1,000-yard rusher."

Willingham added that Grant's low-key personality might overshadow his accomplishments on the field.

"It's easy to overlook," he said. "I don't know if it's his personality or the way he carries himself, but you have that



Grant



Irish running back Ryan Grant looks upfield against Boston College in Notre Dame's 24-23 loss to the Eagles on Oct. 23. Grant, injured at the start of the season, has collected 354 yards so far this year.

tendency. But he adds a great deal to our football team in terms of pass protection and in terms of understanding pass routes where he can go, where he can't go."

1,000 yards to being a back-up

As a sophomore, Grant became the seventh player in Notre Dame history to reach the 1,000-yard rushing mark in a season. He finished with 1,050 yards and was the first Irish rusher to achieve that

mark since Autry Denson did in 1998. For Grant, it was quite the season after an elbow injury had sidelined him just a year before.

He carried the ball 261 times, averaging 4.2 yards per carry and scored nine touchdowns. Grant was the feature running back on a team that finished 10-3, starting all 13 games.

But in 2003, Julius Jones came back to Notre Dame after missing a year due to academic problems, and Grant saw his playing time decrease as he split time and carries with Jones.

Grant finished the season with 567 yards and three touchdowns, numbers far fewer than those of his sophomore year. Meanwhile, Jones shined, averaging over 100 yards per game, and racking up 1268 yards on the season to go along with his 10 touchdowns. Jones started seven of the Irish's 12 games. Grant said he was frustrated, but he understood that there was nothing he could do.

"I think the frustration is there to a degree, but you have to understand, some of those things I had no control over," the Nyack, N.Y. native said. "The things that I had control over, I think that might have been frustrating. [For example], if I'm not liking the way I'm running, then I need to change some things."

'Special' leadership

Grant came into the 2004 season with high expectations for himself. He was ready for a season similar to that of 2002. With the goals he had in mind for himself, Grant thought he

could finish in the top-five of all-time leading rushers at Notre Dame.

"My initial goal going into the season, if things would have worked out, I wouldn't have gotten hurt and I would have stayed on track. I had the opportunity to be top-five [all-time rushing], and that was one of the goals I was looking at," Grant said. "Whatever the case may be, I'd rather win games."

Grant missed the first with a hamstring injury, something he never counted on coming into his last season in a Notre Dame uniform.

"It was frustrating more than disappointing just because I was feeling good, I felt like good things were going to happen and it was something I didn't have control of," Grant said. "It just happened. It wasn't something I felt was coming on. It was just spur of the moment."

With Grant the Irish have excelled, but without him they struggle at times, despite the emergence of true freshman Darius Walker. But Grant says he is finally getting healthy with two games to play, and even with the injury, he is not feeling sorry for himself.

"For the most part, especially with my injury, I had no control over that," Grant said. "I did everything possible to get myself together and things happen for a reason. I might not understand that reason right away, but I'll figure it out sometime. I just still need to be there for this team. I feel great now, so I just trying to finish up with the most positive things as pos-

sible."

It is that unselfish attitude that has earned Grant the respect of his teammates and coaches alike, even in injury.

"I think Ryan has been special because in the manner in which he has had to work through this year," Willingham said. "Great expectations coming into the season and then suffering the hamstring injury, having to fight back, partially out. His leadership has been special."

Thus far, Grant has played in six games, rushing for five touchdowns and 354 yards. He has just 83 carries on the year, but he remains more concerned with his team.

"Part of me being a leader on this team I have to make sure all the other guys are mentally sharp," Grant said. "I can't worry about not getting the ball because I can't let other guys on the team see that, feed off that. I have to make sure whoever's in is taking care of business. So I feel like that is part of my role on this team."

Willingham has always acknowledged the importance of Grant to this Irish team, despite the ups and downs of his career.

"What Ryan has done, and I think what he might say, if I could say it for him, is that the Notre Dame experience has helped make him a man and it's helped mature him and learn to really understand the ups and downs of football and hopefully he can take that into life," Willingham said.

And Grant remains the consummate team player.

"There were other ways I found I needed to help the team [after I got hurt]," he said. "I want to get wins more than yardage, so the frustrating part is maybe not having the seasons more than [yards]. I want to contribute in any way to the team."

One last time

For Grant and the seniors, Saturday is the last time they will get to play together at Notre Dame Stadium. Grant said he wants this win more than anything.

"I feel like with everything I've gone through, it's gone fast, my career here," Grant said. "But I still feel like I'm mature and I am ready to move on and take that next step."

"I feel like I have taken advantage of the time I've spent with these guys — the good and bad. I appreciate the times I've had with them, and I lay it on the line for them — they're my brothers for life."

Grant also said he has really enjoyed the four years he's spent at Notre Dame, as it was everything he hoped for and more.

"It's been great, even with all the ups and downs of the teams I've played on," Grant said. "To go out with these guys and fight every week and the sweat that goes into playing on Saturdays has been great. I've seen a lot of great things and a lot of great people, and I appreciate everyday I've had with them."

Contact Heather Van Hoegarden at hvanhoeg@nd.edu



Ryan Grant scores a touchdown against Navy during Notre Dame's 27-9 win over the Midshipmen on Oct. 16.

KYLE BUDINSCAK

Brains and brawn

Budinscak just as comfortable reading Frost as reading the playbook

By HEATHER VAN
HOEGARDEN
Sports Editor

He's played for two coaches and experienced the resignation of another. He quotes Robert Frost and knows all about interest rates and risk and return. And somewhere in there, he has found a way to get to the quarterback and stop the run.



Budinscak

Irish senior Kyle Budinscak has been through a lot in his five years at Notre Dame. He was here for the Bob Davie era and the debacle that was the hiring of George O'Leary. And now he is playing for Tyrone Willingham.

When asked about the ups and downs that he has had throughout his career, Budinscak responded with a quote from Robert Frost.

"It's tough but you keep on going, because that's the only thing to do," Budinscak said.

"Robert Frost said, 'The only thing certain about life is that it goes on.'"

"I think that's really true."

Coming to ND

Budinscak came to Notre Dame as a highly-touted defensive lineman out of Raritan High School in Bridgewater, N.J. He was the 1999 Somerset County Defensive Player of the Year and was named all-state his senior year. For Budinscak, coming to Notre Dame was an easy choice, despite his father's disdain for Notre Dame football, and his brother's affiliation to the Naval Academy, where he was a wrestler.

"My family's always known that Notre Dame was a place that bred excellence and always had outstanding football players and guys that were really smart," he said. "There's always been a respect in my family for the Notre Dame program. I was actually always a fan in my own way of Notre Dame."

Budinscak said it was the combination of the academics and athletics that lured him to South Bend from the east coast.

"When [Notre Dame] offered me a scholarship in high school, I knew it was the best place I could possibly go," Budinscak said. "My father even said, 'There's no place in the world like that place — to play football and earn your degree from that place.'"

"It wasn't too hard of a decision," Budinscak said.

Versatile and volatile

Since coming to Notre Dame, Budinscak has switched positions, all being on the defensive line. He has played nose tackle, tackle and now has found a home at defensive end.

Regardless of where he has played on the line, Budinscak

has been effective. As a red-shirt freshman in 2001, he made 13 tackles in 11 appearances as a reserve. In 2002, he stepped into a starting role at left defensive end, recording 20 tackles in 12 starts, including 13 solos. Last season, he recorded 17 tackles in just eight games at right defensive end before he suffered a season-ending injury.

Budinscak said the position changes have made him a better football player.

"I've enjoyed playing anywhere on the defensive line," Budinscak said. "I've always been happy to play any position. It's been great playing all those positions; it's taught me a lot about football."

Along with the position changes have come the coaching changes. First, Davie was fired in 2001. Then, O'Leary was hired and resigned after it was discovered that he falsified information on his resume. And finally, in 2002, Willingham was hired. Budinscak said the changes were tough to deal with, especially at a place like Notre Dame.

"It certainly teaches you about life," Budinscak said about the coaching changes. "It makes you grow up a little bit. I don't think there's anywhere you can go through swings like you do here and like we've had in the past four years. It really makes a man out of you if you stick with it and keep trying to succeed."

A big setback

Eight games into the 2003 season, Budinscak was having arguably the best season of his career at Notre Dame to-date. But against Florida State, this all changed when he was injured.

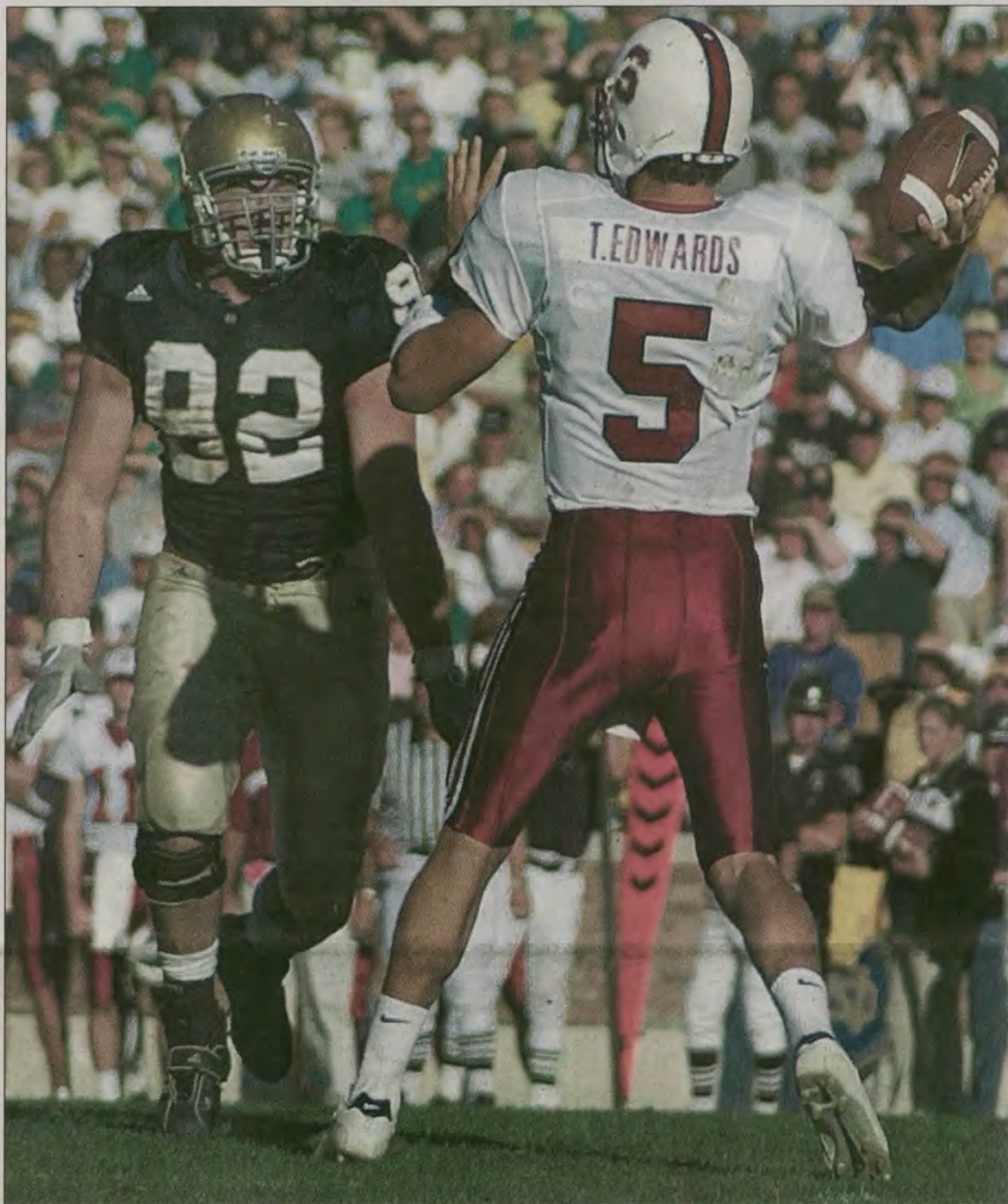
The doctors told Budinscak the bad news — he had torn his ACL, MCL and the cartilage in his knee. He didn't return to the field that season, and had surgery Dec. 20 to repair the damage.

"It was rough," Budinscak said of the injury. "Some people

told me I might not be able to play. People weren't expecting me to do that much [this season]. It kind of worked as motivation for me, and it helped me realized the opportunity I have here, and what I almost lost. As time consuming as rehab was, and as much effort as it took, I knew it was going to be all worth it, being able to play for this team one more year. It was tough, but it was something I was glad I endured."

Budinscak had a partner in crime during the rehabilitation process. Defensive end Justin Tuck also suffered a torn ACL in the Syracuse game last season. The two rehabbed all spring and summer, and pushed each other to get healthy for this season.

"I was sad to see that happen to him," Budinscak said. "But then I was given someone to compete with in getting back. The athletic trainer really did-



CHUY BENITEZ/The Observer

Irish defensive end Kyle Budinscak puts pressure on Stanford quarterback Trent Edwards during a game earlier this season. Budinscak has been one of the team's leaders on defense this year.

n't want us doing that, but it was kind of good for us. Every time I was kind of sore, thinking about easing up, I'd see him going full-blown and I'd think 'I can't give in,' and I think he saw the same thing with me sometimes."

Budinscak was ready for fall practice this season, and eased his way back into the full-speed workouts. He has been strong this season, registering 17 tackles in the first eight games.

Willingham said the fifth-year senior has been an inspiration to his teammates because of his hard work in getting back on the field with an injury that a lot of people say takes athletes two years to fully recover.

"What you first think of with Kyle, is you watch a young man that was injured in a ballgame last year, an injury that really should have never taken place, and you see the fight, the drive and desire to first of all rehabilitate himself, and get himself back," Willingham said. "And most people will tell you to be fully recovered it takes two years, and you see how he's played today. So he becomes an inspiration, No. 1 because of his fight to get back. No. 2, he becomes an inspiration because he is a hard worker and a very intelli-

gent young man."

Just how intelligent?

Budinscak graduated in the spring with a degree in finance and a 3.6 grade-point-average on a 4.0 scale. He has been named to the Dean's List numerous times, including the fall semester of 2001, in which he registered a 3.97 grade-point-average. Budinscak has earned Academic All-District honors the last three seasons and is an Academic All-American candidate. He said the key to his success is discipline.

"It's hard," he said. "People ask me that a lot, and my only answer is you just have to somehow get things done as they come at you. You just can't procrastinate, somehow you have to have some motivation inside you just to do things and actually get things done when they come at you."

"That gets harder and harder as the year goes on, but the only way for me to really have done both was to put my head down and go and to just get things done as they came."

Willingham said he wishes all his players were like Budinscak in the classroom, and when asked about Budinscak's grade-point average, responded, "Isn't that impressive?"

"That is what I hope all of

our guys will be like," Willingham said. "You know they can't be, just as all the students can't get [that high of a grade-point average]. But at the same time, I enjoy having that kind of role model on our team, because that's the student-athlete you want."

So what will happen when Budinscak runs out of the tunnel for the last time this weekend against Pittsburgh? Even he doesn't know how he will react to his final game at Notre Dame Stadium.

"I've thought about it a little bit here and there, not so much recently, but I don't know [how I'm going to react]," Budinscak said. "It went by so fast. I know everybody says that, that's the cliché. I think I'm only going to be able to tell once it happens. It's hard for me even to think about."

As far as his five years playing for the Irish and going to school at Notre Dame, Budinscak maintains he made the right decision in schools.

"I'm certainly glad I came to this place and played for this university," he said. "I'm happy to have gone here and I don't have any regrets."

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MATT HASBROOK

Walk-on lineman transferred to ND for its academics



Irish defensive tackle Matt Hasbrook stretches during a recent Notre Dame football practice.

By MATT PUGLISI
Sports Writer

The future rarely unfolds as planned.

Just ask fifth-year senior defensive tackle Matt Hasbrook.

A nine-time wrestling All-American fresh off an undefeated (49-0) senior year that saw the Indianapolis, Ind. native take home the state title in the 215-pound weight class, Hasbrook was rewarded with a wrestling scholarship by Michigan State and never looked back — for a couple years, that is.

After being red-shirted as a freshman wrestler, Hasbrook traded in his headgear for a helmet and tried his hand on the gridiron.

While the Cathedral High School grad saw action in four games his junior year and was named an Academic All-Big Ten honoree, Hasbrook ultimately decided that Michigan State wasn't quite the fit he had expected and traded in his Spartan green and white for Notre Dame blue and gold.

In the end, Hasbrook's decision to leave Michigan State was rooted in a number of factors.



Hasbrook

"There was a multitude of things [that went into my decision to transfer]," Hasbrook said. "Between [Bobby Williams] getting fired at MSU and the team was kind of in shambles, and I had dropped my wrestling scholarship to play football — I was already paying out-of-state tuition."

"Coach Willingham had just had a great season at 10-3 so I thought why not come to the best football program with the best academics in the country. I wanted to get a better education."

Per NCAA rules, Hasbrook was forced to sit out the 2003 season, leaving him in a tough position to not only earn a spot on the roster, but also a starting job.

"I was on the travel team [at MSU], and then I came here and it was a pretty humbling experience because I had to walk on," Hasbrook said. "I think if I look back I probably would have applied to come here right off the bat, because it's so hard to earn a starting job as a walk-on in just one year."

Equipped with the unique experience of having attended two major universities in the past three years, Hasbrook has little trouble identifying the factors that separate Michigan State from Notre Dame.

"It's night and day," Hasbrook said. "There are 50,000 wild people at Michigan State and there are parties all the time and it seems like school's just a second-

ary option to why you're there — it's pretty much a party school."

"At Notre Dame everyone's more focused on academics, and the people are a lot closer — there's a lot more school spirit and it's just a better atmosphere at Notre Dame."

While academics and atmosphere certainly contribute to an individual's university experience, of predominate importance are the fostered friendships.

"It's been incredible," Hasbrook said. "I've made so many close friendships with the other fifth-year seniors. I live with Greg Pauly and Billy Palmer and we have a really close relationship with Mike Goolsby, Jared Clark and Kyle Budinscak—we're all really tight. I'm so happy I made the switch because of the friendships I've made."

With the senior's collegiate football careers quickly drawing to a close, Hasbrook looks forward to one day being his own boss.

"I'd like to run my own business, but first start off in the financial sector or sales to earn a little capital," Hasbrook said. "Eventually I would definitely like to own my own company."

While Hasbrook's plans appear firmly in place, if his collegiate experience is any indication, there's no telling where the talented student-athlete may end up.

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QUENTIN BURRELL

The battle-tested veteran

In the Irish secondary, nobody has more experience than Burrell

By PAT LEONARD
Associate Sports Editor

Quentin Burrell made 90 tackles and seven interceptions in his senior season at Southwest DeKalb High School. He broke up 13 passes.

But when he came to Notre Dame, Burrell waited.

Recruited by a team already ripe with secondary talent in Gerome Sapp, Glenn Earl, Shane Walton and Vontez Duff, the Georgia Class 5A all-state honorable mention selection was relegated to special teams under head coach Bob Davie.

"My freshman year and my sophomore year I was kind of just playing my role," Burrell said. "There were a lot of upperclassmen, especially in the secondary, with a lot of experience so it was kind of like a wait your turn deal."

Now, going into his final game at Notre Dame Stadium facing Pittsburgh on Saturday, Burrell finds himself starting at free safety for the 19th time in the past two seasons.

Burrell was, after all, the most

experienced member of the defensive backfield going into the 2004 season. And that makes him, unofficially, the leader.

"I think he's handled the responsibility well," defensive backs coach Steven Wilks said. "He's been consistent all year."

Burrell is third on the team with 56 tackles and 30 solo, and he made four tackles last Saturday in an upset of top-10 ranked Tennessee.

"I can really tell you the last three weeks, he has really stepped his game up," Wilks said. "I'm talking about the way he plays, the way he's practicing. He's diving for balls in practice. He's trying to make great decisions in reading the quarterback. So I've seen great improvement in Quentin throughout the year, but most importantly he's stepped up and been the leader."

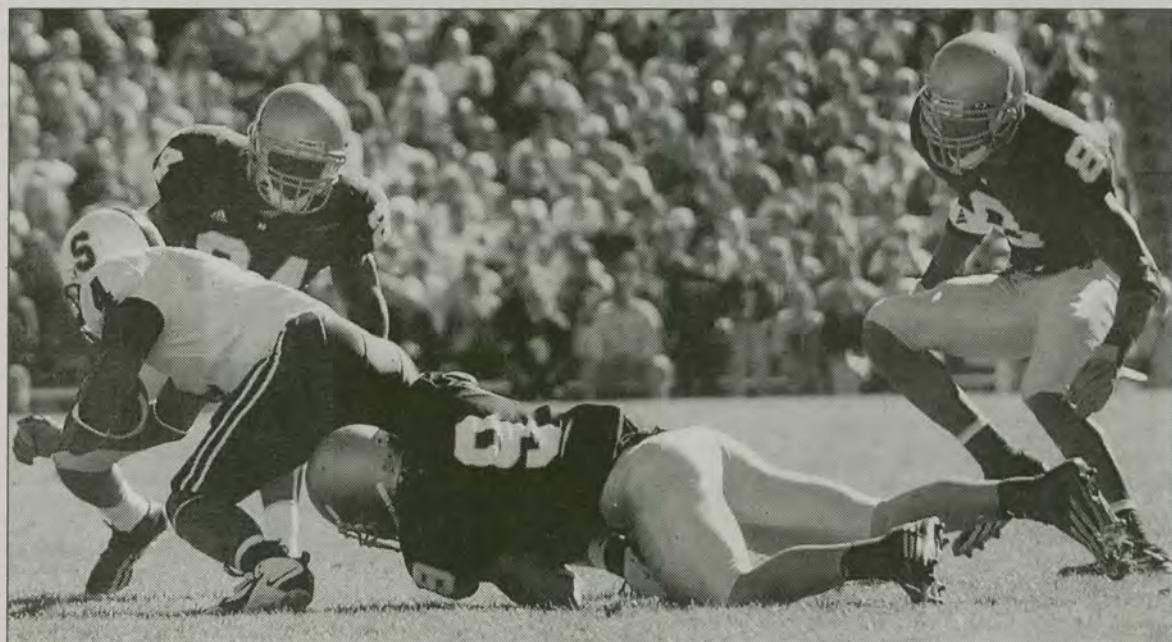
The process of reaching the starting safety position was an unmapped one, but Burrell felt the opportunity to showcase his skills would have to come sooner or later.

"Going into my junior year I knew I didn't have much time left," he said. "My clock was ticking. So I needed to do something."

And then, Glenn Earl got hurt.

Thrust into the spotlight

In the midst of a 23-10 loss to Purdue, Notre Dame fans were distraught. They complained that



CHUY BENITEZ/The Observer

Irish safety Quentin Burrell, far right, runs toward the play as Tom Zbikowski makes the tackle during Notre Dame's 23-15 win over the Cardinal on Oct. 9.

a freshman quarterback should never throw that many passes (59) in a game, or that no team should lose when it out-gains its opponent that badly (346 Notre Dame to 223 for Purdue).

Burrell's introduction to the Notre Dame defense in replacement of Earl, who saw limited action afterward, was glanced over. He would go on to make five tackles and his first career tackle for a loss that day.

But Burrell's presence the remainder of the season was not overlooked.

Burrell started the last nine games of the season, finishing fourth on the team in tackles with 58 (39 solos) and logging over 265 minutes played. Those numbers compared in a lopsided fashion with his statistics of 2002 (two tackles, 41 seconds).

"I knew my main thing was getting healthy because I had a lot of nicks and knacks there," Burrell said. "It was unfortunate that Glenn got hurt, but at the same time I looked at it as an opportunity to step up and do things that I knew I could do when I came here. So I looked at it as an opportunity. And once I had that opportunity I just took it and ran with it."

Stanford found out better than any team how Burrell could run with it.

With Notre Dame up 27-0 on a bewildered Cardinal team Nov. 29, 2003, Burrell scooped up a Stanford fumble and took the ball back 65 yards for the touchdown, his first ever score in a Notre Dame uniform.

He also intercepted Stanford Chris Lewis once that day, but Burrell said the fumble recovery was his most memorable moment as an Irish defender.

"As far as performance on the field, I would maybe say the Stanford game from last year," Burrell said. "I had an interception in that game and I took a fumble back like 70-some yards."

But Burrell's memories are not all good ones.

Taking the bad with the good

There was the Syracuse game Dec. 6 of last season, when Orangemen running back Walter Reyes beat Burrell to a spot 15 yards downfield to score his fourth of five touchdowns that day.

There was the BYU game to start the 2004 season, when the Cougars went deep on two key pass plays over Burrell and the secondary to score or set up backbreaking touchdowns.

Wilks knows the defensive backfield has struggled this season, but also knows Burrell is a key component in accomplishing the secondary's goals. He helped the defense hold Michigan receiver Braylon Edwards without a touchdown, and he leads the secondary in tackles, albeit quietly.

"With our defense and the way we invert our safeties a lot, [making tackles quietly] is going to happen as far as making plays," Wilks said. "At times we've missed some [plays] and they were crucial ones, but for the most part I feel he's stepped up his game."

Going from 48 special teams appearances his freshman year, to 141 appearances as a sophomore showed Burrell he had the opportunity to make an impact soon on the team. And since he did not have the minutes to show coaches his talents in game situations, the next best option was to impress them in practice.

"I think the thing was during the off-season and during spring ball, I think I had one of the best spring balls I've ever had here," he said. "And the coaching staff took well to that. So once I got the opportunity, it was there for me."

Burrell entered this season for the first time ever penciled in as the preseason starter. Being a senior, Burrell not only had to shoulder the preparation responsibilities of a starter. He also was part of a select group that could control the direction of the Irish team.

"Going into the season, I was talking to a lot of the upperclassmen. We're really close," Burrell said. "And we just didn't want to have any regrets."

"We've lost some games we shouldn't have lost, and we could be in the national championship basically if it went a certain way, but that's over and done with. We're bowl eligible now and we've got to look forward to going to a good bowl, a bowl that we deserve to be in, and we'll just go from there."

The game against Pittsburgh on Saturday will be Burrell's last at Notre Dame, but the free safety said tears aren't his style.

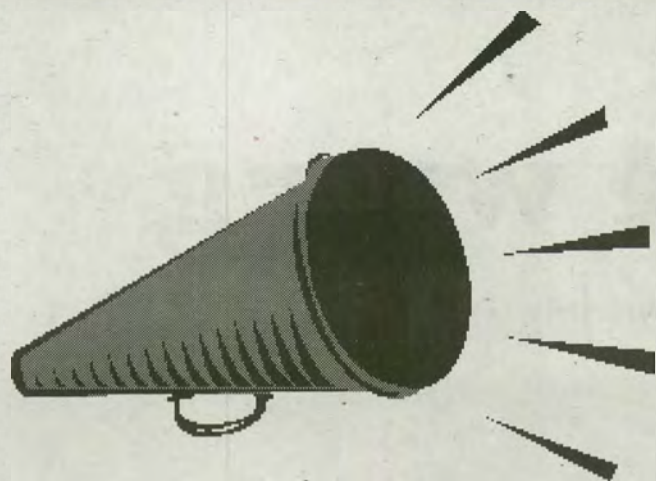
"[I] kind of, sort of [care], but I'm not going to get too emotional or anything like that," Burrell said. "I was fortunate enough to have the opportunity to come to this university, I did the things that could do here, and it's just time to move on. I had a good time here, and it's just another chapter in my life."

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PHOTOGRAPHER/The Observer

Quentin Burrell, left, teams with Mike Richardson to bring down Washington's Sonny Shackelford during Notre Dame's 38-3 win over the Huskies on Sept. 25.



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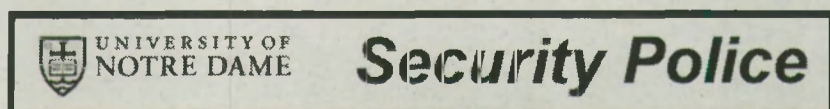
We hope that everyone has a wonderful and safe weekend celebrating the final home game and cheering the Irish on to a victory against Pitt!

As you celebrate this weekend, keep safety in mind!

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- Look out for each other! Help friends and others make wise and healthy choices about the use of alcohol...don't be afraid to speak up!

Each year tragedies involving the use of alcohol strike the Notre Dame community and communities across the nation. Experts say that 1400 young people will die as a result of alcohol abuse this year. Let's put an end to needless tragedy and enjoy a wonderful weekend with the Notre Dame family cheering the Irish on to victory.

For more information about healthy choices and the use of alcohol visit the Office of Alcohol and Drug Education website at <http://www.nd.edu/~aldrug/> or come to 311 LaFortune.



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PRESTON JACKSON

Proving everyone wrong

Jackson has not let his smaller stature keep him from being a defensive force

By JUSTIN SCHUVER
Associate Sports Editor

What would possibly make a talented football player from the state of Florida ignore the lure of southern programs and come instead to a tiny Catholic school in the middle of frigid northern Indiana?

Ask Preston Jackson, and he'll tell you.

"I was basically looking for the best opportunity possible," Jackson said. "I wanted to succeed academically and wanting to play the best football possible, that's how I got from Florida and ended up here."

The fifth-year senior from Tampa, Fla., has grown into his role as Notre Dame's starting cornerback — joining fellow Floridian Dwight Ellick in the defensive backfield. Jackson has had perhaps his best season so far in an Irish uniform, scoring a touchdown against BYU off an interception.

The 5-foot-9, 180-pound Jackson has also made the most of his compact body, providing several bone-jarring hits during the season and priding himself on his physical play.

"I play football. Football is a physical game," he said. "I don't care what size you are, you've got to be able to do what you've got to do. It's 11-on-11 and you've got to be a physical player, no matter what position you play."

Making the hit

Throughout his Irish career, Jackson has always been in the defensive backfield — whether as a cornerback or as a nickel back in passing situations.



Jackson

As a senior at Hillsborough High School in Tampa, Jackson made 57 tackles and five interceptions in 1999, helping his team to the region finals of the Florida Class 5A state playoffs. Unlike other high school star recruits, by his senior year Jackson focused primarily on the defensive side of the ball, although he did return punts and kickoffs as well.

It was Jackson's hustle and willingness to make the big hit that endeared him to Irish head coach Bob Davie and his coaching staff, and the same qualities continue to impress his current coaches.

"He's smart on the field," Irish secondary coach Steven Wilks said. "He always puts himself in the position to make the big play, and he gets that from watching film and things like that."

"He's not just a leader of the secondary, he's a leader of this entire team."

Jackson embraces his role as defensive back, taking the criticism that goes with the position, as well as the glory from making a big interception or hit.

"The thing about being a defensive back is that it's going to be 50/50," Jackson said. "If you get beat it's going to be real glaring, but if you make a good play it's also going to be real glaring. You've got to take the good with the bad. You've got to be confident and a competitive athlete to play in the defensive backfield. Really though, it's always fun to be on the defensive side of the ball, period."

In addition to his performance on the field, Jackson enjoys his role as a vocal leader for the team. Talking, trying to get in the mind of the opponent, trying to psyche out the other team's receivers — it's all in a day's work for Jackson.

"It's kind of your nature as a corner to do all the yapping all



TIM SULLIVAN/The Observer

Irish defensive back Preston Jackson returns an interception for a touchdown against Brigham Young in Notre Dame's first game of the season.

the time," he said. "We probably talk more than the other players on the field."

Of course, it shouldn't be surprising that Jackson talks so much. His role model taught him well.

Walton's influence

Shane Walton, who played at Notre Dame from 1999 to 2001, bears several comparisons to Jackson. Both came to play for the Irish from warmer-climate states (Walton played high school football in California).

Both were considered undersized (Walton was 5-foot-10, 185 pounds). Both are characterized by their toughness and willingness to talk on the field.

And, according to Jackson, both know the importance of having a high football IQ.

"I watched Shane. Everybody knows that Shane was very smart, even if he wasn't the best athlete on the field," Jackson said. "If you watch the guys ahead of you and watch the mistakes they make you can learn from them and make you a better player."

"I try to almost mock him in a way, be a good leader and also watch film and study what my opponent does. If you study your opponent and know what he's going to do, then it's really easy to make plays — you don't even have to be the best athlete."

Jackson showed his knowledge of other team's offenses right away in the 2004 season. In the first game of the year, against Brigham Young, the senior made a perfect read on a slant and picked off BYU quarterback Matt Berry's pass, returning it 38 yards for a touchdown.

It was a burst of positive press for a player who has been criticized often during his career.

"I think for my career, my performance has gotten better every time I've stepped on the field," Jackson said. "A lot of people counting me out when I first got here, but I shrugged my

shoulders at all that — I played for myself and my family and the people out of my state. This season I've progressed and I'm pretty proud of myself or doing that."

So proud, in fact, that he's learned to all but ignore criticism from the media and the Notre Dame faithful. As a cornerback, Jackson has learned to have a short memory and quickly bounce back from a bad play.

And as a member of a Notre Dame team that has had its struggles during his career, he's learned to dodge criticism of the team itself.

"The fans don't play; people who write stories don't play, and they write stories that the public wants to hear," Jackson said. "So, it's really not for the media and for some of the fans — we're basically playing for ourselves and the people who wore the uniform before us. If we win and other people are proud of us, then fine. If we lose and they don't like us any more, forget it, we're going to line up and play again — that's just how it is."

It's that closeness and camaraderie that sums up Jackson's enjoyment of his Irish career.

Growing as a team

Jackson has been through a lot in his five years, from witnessing the changing of a coaching staff — not once but twice — to going from a Fiesta Bowl season to a sub-.500 year.

But through it all, the defensive back has looked to his teammates as a calming influence and source of pride.

"There's just something about playing with the same group of guys day-in and day-out over 300 days a year," Jackson said. "You get the camaraderie from all the times you spend with each other. And you get to know each other, so you don't take everything personal. We joke on the field all the time and have fun; it's just the chemistry we have."

That closeness as a team also

helps when the Irish go through their lower points of the season — the losses that cause the team's fans to sometimes turn on the Irish.

"I wouldn't say they were our down games; they were probably games that we learned more from," Jackson said of losses like BYU and Boston College. "Every week you play a whole different kind of offense. So, being in the secondary, you've got to learn to shrug things off. You have to get off the field and bounce back to make a play the next time. You may get beat one time, but that's football — they other team wants to make a play, too."

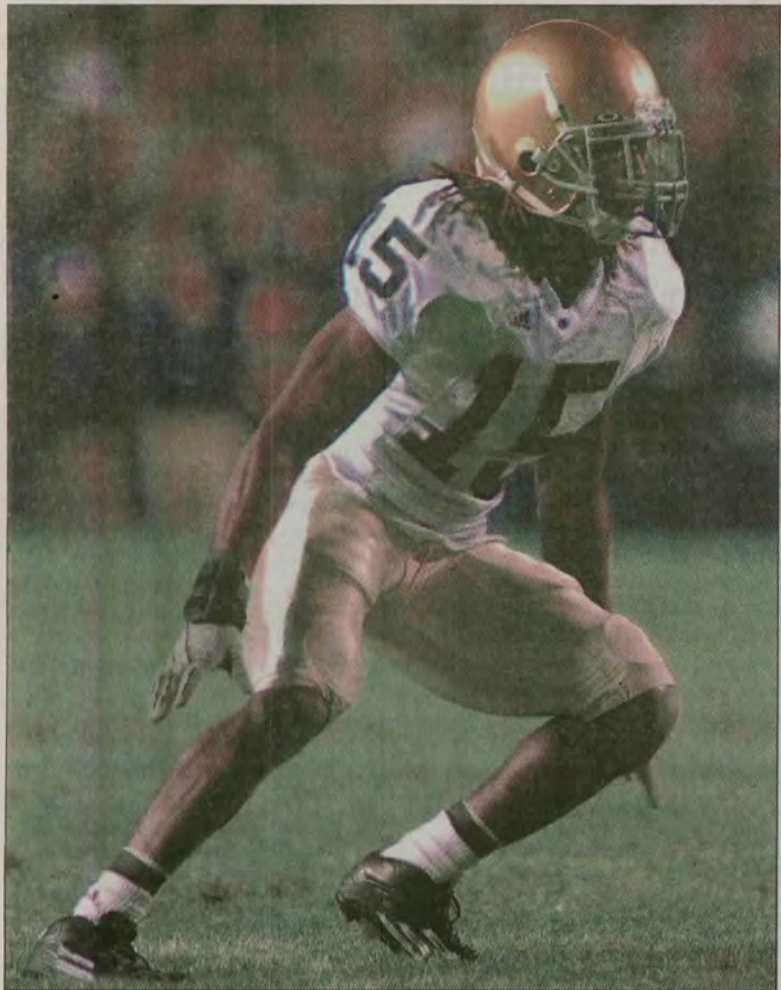
Jackson has been there to comfort his teammates, as well, such as against Boston College when fellow defensive back Mike Richardson was the player who the Eagles' Tony Gonzalez beat for the winning touchdown.

"It's never one play that loses a ball game," Jackson said of what he told Richardson after the loss. "It's things that happened in the first through third quarters that lose ball games, and it's just so evident that sometimes your mistake is more evident than the things before that."

And yet through all the criticism and the praise, through the high times and the low times, Jackson has continued to remain focused on his ultimate goals.

"I'm going to keep my options open. I earned my degree and I'm going to put myself in the job market; make myself marketable — that's what I came to school for," Jackson said. "I'm not sure about the [National Football] league; if the opportunity comes I'll jump on it, but for right now I've got very broad horizons and a lot of things to reach out and grab. I've got personal goals I've set for myself, and I'm hoping to accomplish them."

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TIM SULLIVAN/The Observer

Irish defensive back Preston Jackson keeps his eyes on the quarterback during Notre Dame's loss to Brigham Young.

GREG PAULY

Hobbled and humbled

Pauly has been impressive in bouncing back from an injury early in his career

By PAT LEONARD
Associate Sports Editor

Injuries are an athlete's worst nightmare, but they're even worse when they happen in games that don't matter.

Don't tell it to Greg Pauly. He knows.

Pauly tore his ACL in a 2000 summer all-star football game. And until his junior season at Notre Dame rolled around, the interior lineman's knee did not fully heal.

"I think my junior year I started feeling a lot better, getting more comfortable," Pauly said. "[It was difficult] especially because I added weight on, too. With Kyle [Budinscak] and Justin [Tuck], I'm surprised how fast they've come back from their surgeries. I wasn't even close to where they were."

Pauly's knee surgery prior to his freshman year forced him to sit out an entire season as he watched the Irish go 9-3 in his absence.

But the wait was well worth it.

As a fifth-year senior on the 2004 squad, Pauly (6-foot-6, 295 pounds) has 31 tackles and 4.5 for a loss as one of two starting defensive tackles. He has started all nine games so far this season, the most since he started three in his sophomore year.

The sudden and drastic increase in playing time has placed Pauly in the spotlight.

"It's a little harder on the body I guess," Pauly said. "I've taken a lot more reps in practice, taken a lot more reps in the games. But I think it puts me in more of a role out there to step up and make plays."

One-fourth of a whole

Pauly composes one-fourth of a defensive line that has made plays to limit Irish opponents to 95.2 yards rushing per game. In a season marked by inconsistency, Notre Dame's run defense has been consistent and impenetrable.

"I think we're playing pretty tough against the run," Pauly said before the Stanford game. "Hopefully, by the end of the season we'll establish a name for ourselves that way."

By now, the words 'Notre Dame defense' scream run-stopping. And that is largely due to the push from the interior defensive line, something Pauly says is important in pass defense, as well.

"It's tough. It's two-on-three usually because you've got the center and two guards blocking me and Derek [Landri] or me and Trevor [Laws]," Pauly said. "And it's tough because usually you're getting double teamed or someone's slamming back down on you, but I think we're getting a good push."

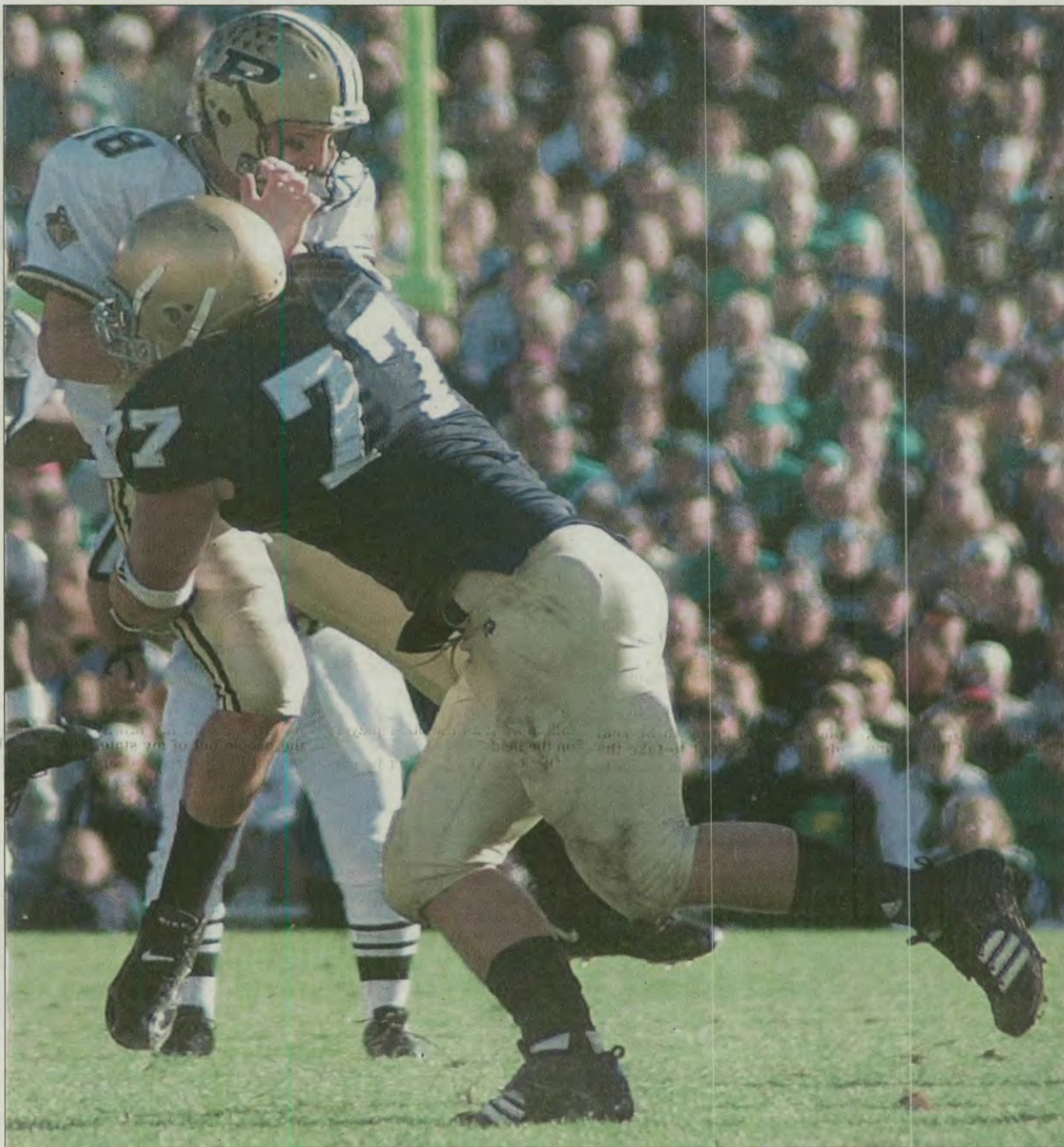
Willingham often rotates junior tackle Derek Landri and sophomore tackle Trevor Laws in their hole on the line, but Pauly remains on the field often due to his size, his strength and also because of the leadership that comes with being an experienced fifth-year player.

"I think it puts you in more of a leadership role," Pauly said. "I'm an older guy. People are going to look up a little bit. It kind of puts me in more of a role in the eye of the team to do things well and step up."

But playing time was not always so easy for Pauly to find. Though the



Pauly



CHUY BENITEZ/The Observer

Irish defensive lineman Greg Pauly sacks Purdue quarterback Kyle Orton in Notre Dame's 41-16 loss to the Boilermakers earlier this season.

Wisconsin native was a Parade All-American and first-team USA Today All-American, Pauly came to Notre Dame and knew he was starting over — injury and all.

"Coming in freshman year, I was pretty highly recruited and everyone has a big head and that happens," Pauly said. "Coming in I had big expectations. I wanted to play right away. After I got hurt, I was here watching practice and seeing how it happens and how different it is."

Pauly's hype going into high school was just as high, and he matched it. In his first year at South High School in Waukesha, Wisc., Pauly became the first freshman starter at the high school since John Anderson, who went on to play for Michigan and the Green Bay Packers.

He dominated the league. Particularly in his senior season, Pauly set record numbers with 40 solo tackles, 65 assisted tackles, 17 sacks, 20 tackles for a loss, two interceptions and two fumble recoveries.

Pauly accumulated countless

accolades. He was one of 34 players on the Reebok ESPN All-America team. He was voted No. 17 on the Chicago Sun-Times top 100 list.

And the list goes on.

Pauly was rated No. 12 on the "Best of the Midwest" team by the Associated Press. The AP and Milwaukee Journal-Sentinel also made him a two-time first-team all-state selection.

And then Pauly was named an all-star, one of the few 'bad' awards he received as he looks back.

"You kind of reevaluate your expectations [with an injury] seeing the college game," he said. "But I think it's gone pretty well for myself and I hope it ends just as well."

Considering the knee injury, Pauly has rebounded to have a solid career at Notre Dame, even if it did not live up to expectations. The line Pauly helps command has not stopped the run, but it has done its part often this season in disrupting it.

Teams average a healthy 253 yards passing on Notre Dame. But the shaky secondary play has over-

shadowed the line's dominance in a few important games. Tennessee amassed 269 yards in the air last Saturday, but the defensive line made 14 tackles and four for a loss.

"The play of all of the defensive line ... is based on the productivity of the group," Willingham said. "What we try to do is rotate those guys in such a manner that you've created one with the many and to keep them fresh, keep them active and keep our defense being productive."

Jumping back into the fray

Pauly once was near the end of that rotation. As a junior in 2002, he gave breathers to starter Cedric Hilliard and amounted over 98 minutes of playing time, making 11 tackles. By his senior season, Pauly played in 11 games and started two of them while mostly substituting for Hilliard and Darrell Campbell on the line.

But now, Pauly is one of the penciled-in starters, and he is among the senior leaders who care deeply about the team finishes its season. That finish begins with Pauly's final

game at Notre Dame Stadium Saturday.

"Especially the seniors, we want to go out winners," he said. "We don't want to end the season on a bad note."

Ending the season on a good note would qualify as beating both Pittsburgh and Southern California and winning a respectable bowl game. Pauly will focus on helping Notre Dame to the best of his ability. But when the season ends, there may be greater things waiting for him.

"Every player wants to go on to the next level," the tackle said. "I hope we finish up the season well and that I have no regrets."

Pauly does not regret the knee injury. He simply dealt with it. And the fifth-year senior would be devastated if he did not contribute to a strong finish to the 2004 season.

But knowing how Pauly has dealt with adversity in the past, he will certainly try.

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COLE LAUX

Walk-on fullback has always loved ND

By MIKE GILLOON
Sports Writer

His soft voice contrasting with his muscular physique, Cole Laux slowly described how he would feel strapping on the gold helmet one final time.

"I'll just take it as it comes, I guess. That's usually how I do it," Laux said.

This calm, confident attitude has helped the senior walk-on fullback become a fixture in the scout team backfield and one of the leaders of the entire Notre Dame squad over the past five seasons.

"I always take it as a challenge to myself to try and get better," he said. "I like to go against [the starting defense] and beat them when I can."

Born in Texas and raised in Indianapolis, Laux and his family moved to South Bend when Cole was in the eighth grade. He attended Marian High School in Mishawaka and was the starting tailback on a 13-1 team that made it to the state semifinals his senior year. Along with the 13 touchdowns and 938 rushing yards he tallied, Laux was also



Laux

named to the Academic All-State team. Despite his prep success, Laux did not receive any recruiting interest from then-Irish head coach Bob Davie and did not take the handful of offers from smaller colleges seriously.

"[Playing college football] really wasn't a priority for me in high school," Laux said. "Academics was the big thing in my family. So I really didn't give it much thought until after I was done [with high school]."

Cole's father Chris graduated from Notre Dame in 1979 so it wasn't difficult for the second-oldest of the six Laux children to decide where to go to college.

"I was always an Irish fan," he said. "I decided after my senior year was over that I thought I could probably continue [playing football] if I could get into Notre Dame and try out for the team."

After receiving his acceptance letter, Laux contacted then-Irish recruiting coordinator Bob Chmiel and sent in some high school game film. The Notre Dame coaching staff liked what it saw and Laux started practice the first day of school.

Though he has mainly played fullback for the scout team, Laux occasionally filled in at running back and tight end to help the first-team defense prepare for Notre Dame's next opponent. But his versatility is not what Laux is most proud of.

"I'm most proud of my work

ethic," he said. "I think I've worked pretty hard and maybe some of that has rubbed off on some of the other guys. Maybe they've stepped up their attitudes coming into practice by watching and seeing what I've been doing."

Laux came back to Notre Dame for a fifth year to finish up the requirements for his finance and history double major and to enjoy one last season playing football for the Irish.

"My favorite part of playing has been the camaraderie with the other guys on the team," he said. "Just building relationships with the guys that you're always spending time with day in and day out. Getting to know them and working out with them at 6 a.m. on Saturday mornings and hanging out with them on a Saturday night. It's been a lot of fun. There are a lot of good guys on the team."

Laux's hard work and tight friendship with his teammates has helped him face the challenge of going to practice every day against players who are often bigger and stronger than him.

"I like to go out there and have fun," he said. "I have a lot of fun with those guys on defense, joking around about who won the personal battles. I like to say I've won a bunch of them and they'd probably say they won a bunch of them. It's a good time."



JOE RAYMOND/Notre Dame Sports Information

Irish fullback Cole Laux participates in a tackle-breaking drill at a recent team practice.

Like every senior, Laux has seen the Irish head coaching job change hands from Bob Davie to Tyrone Willingham and he has many positive words to say about Willingham's effect on the team.

"Coach Willingham brings a lot of emotion and intensity to the program," Laux said. "I think he is able to get the most that anyone can out of his players."

Sidelined recently with a knee

injury, Laux hopes to be healed in time for the Irish bowl game. Though he might downplay it, he knows that his last game wearing an Irish uniform will be special.

"I don't really get a chance to look too far in the future, but it will probably be somewhat emotional," he said.

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JARED CLARK

The odd man out

Clark has been a team player in his role as backup tight end this season

By JOE HETTLER
Sports Writer

Jared Clark didn't know what to do in the spring of 2002.

He was struggling at quarterback and had little chance of seeing the field. He didn't enjoy playing football anymore.

So Clark decided to take a chance.

"I actually approached one of the [graduate assistants] and asked kind of out of the blue if there was interest in me playing at another position because I was struggling so bad at quarterback," Clark recalls. "It was really getting to the point where it wasn't fun at all. [The graduate assistant] said 'Absolutely there's interest in you at another position.'"

"So he went to the coaches and I actually asked coach [Tyrone] Willingham if it'd be alright if I switched positions and he said, 'You can be a tight end.'"

Switching was no easy task for Clark. At first, he thought he'd be on the other side of the ball.

"I thought they were going to say linebacker, that's where I thought they were going to put me," Clark said. "They said they wanted me at tight end and I was fine with that too because I had played on offense primarily and it was probably better for me than linebacker."

While he was big (now listed at 6-foot-4, 250 pounds), Clark had mainly played quarterback his whole life. Despite the possible obstacles, Clark wanted to contribute for Notre Dame.

So the Sarasota, Fla. native made the change to tight end and hasn't looked back.

Intense competition

Clark was a sought-after quarterback at Cardinal Mooney High School in Sarasota, especially after an outstanding senior season. Clark threw for 1,372 yards and 17 touchdowns, and ran for more than 700 yards and 10 more scores as Mooney advanced to the third round of the Florida state playoffs.

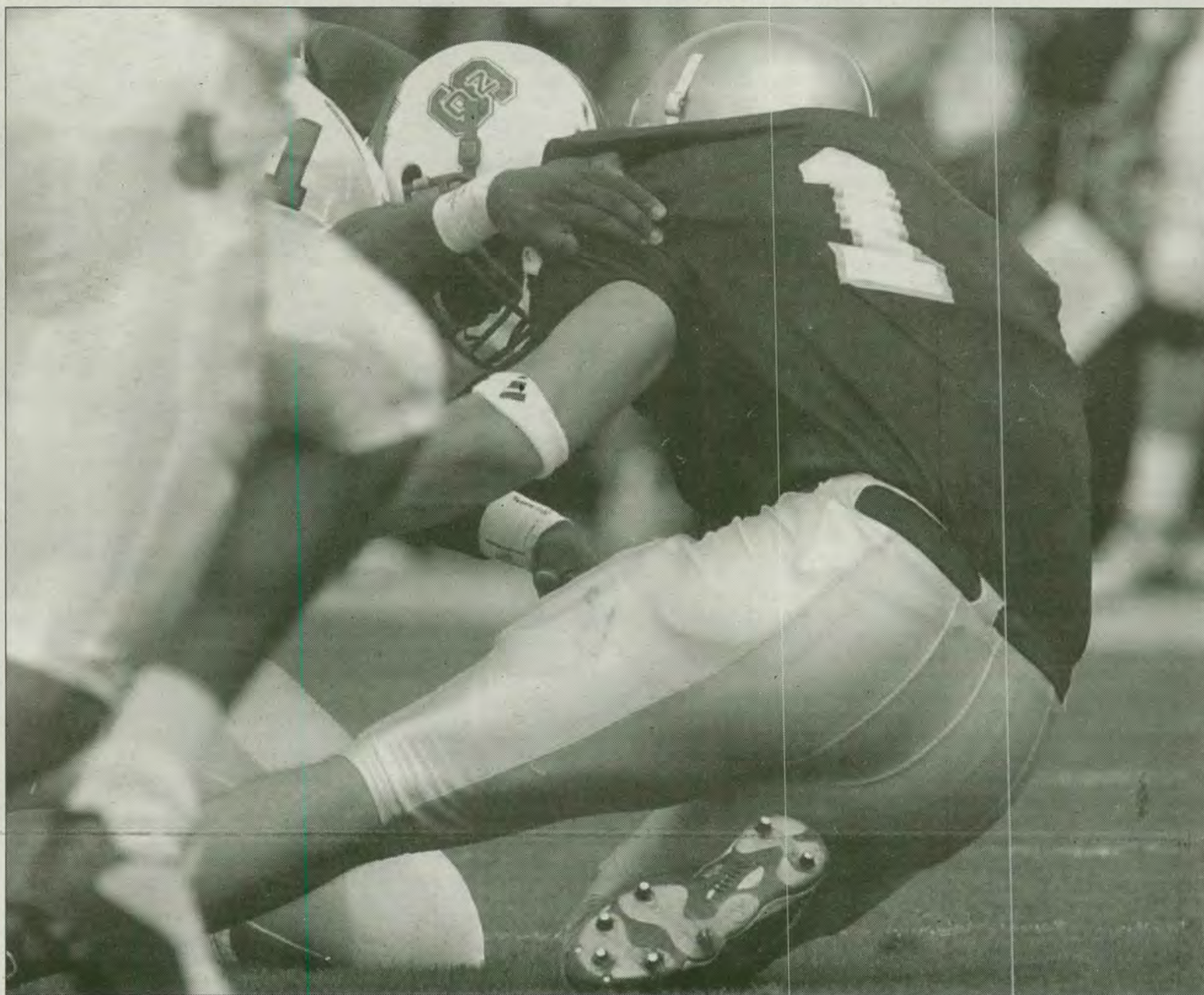
Clark narrowed his choice for college down to three schools — Miami (Fla.), Georgia and Notre Dame. He finally chose the Irish after visiting the campus and meeting some of Notre Dame's players and coaches.

"When I came on my official visits some of the guys that are in this class were here and the people on this team and the camaraderie and the closeness of the guys on the team was evident," Clark said. "That was something I wanted to have."

Clark signed with the Irish and entered fall camp knowing that there were two other tal-



Clark



TIM KACMAR/Observer File Photo

Irish tight end Jared Clark makes a catch against North Carolina State during the 2003 Gator Bowl. The senior tight end has yet to catch a pass this season.

ented freshman vying for the starting job — Matt LoVecchio and Carlyle Holiday.

But Clark wasn't worried about the competition.

"I knew the best man was going to win and it was more whoever came in here and did the best," Clark said. "Those two came in and did better than I did, so that's how it worked out."

Clark continued to practice as the non-starting quarterback until making the decision to switch to tight end before the 2002 season.

Learning on the run

The hardest part of changing positions for Clark wasn't catching passes or learning the playbook — it was crouching into a three-point stance.

"When I first made the transition, I had played football since I was six and I had never had to get down in a three-point stance and push people around. I played defensive line in high school but that was the only other time I ever had to put my hand on the ground playing football. It was completely foreign."

But Clark didn't get discouraged and continued working hard in practice. He credits tight ends coach Mike Denbrock with helping make

the transition smooth.

"Coach Denbrock did a great job. I've come a long way since that first day," Clark said.

Despite just changing positions a few months earlier, Clark showed signs of promise at his new position in 2002.

He caught seven passes for 104 yards, including a 37-yard reception against Florida State and had four more catches for 41 yards in the Gator Bowl against North Carolina State.

"It was just fun to be able to get in the game and help the team out," Clark said.

With a season at tight end under his belt, Clark emerged as a threat for the Irish in 2003. He started two of the team's 12 games and finished the season fifth on the team with 15 receptions for 142 yards. Besides contributing on offense, Clark played a significant role on special teams, recovering a fumble in Notre Dame's upset win against Pittsburgh.

Stiff competition

After applying and receiving a fifth-year of eligibility, Clark went back to work in the off-season and spring practice to continue improving at tight end.

But when the 2004 season began, Clark found himself on the bench and not on the field.

The problem for Clark? Notre Dame had too many talented tight ends on their roster.

"We have a great group of tight ends and someone's not going to be playing that much or at all and I guess I'm that guy," said Clark, who has yet to catch a pass this season. "If that's the role they need me to play I'll be the backup guy and whenever they need me to come in, I'll come in."

Clark accepted the role gracefully, continued practicing hard and tried to help the Irish in other ways, besides by playing in the game.

"More than anything [I want to] be there and answer questions for guys and let them know sometimes coaches will get on them for little stuff," Clark said. [Letting them know, 'Hey man, we've all been there. We've all made those mistakes, go pick it up.' I think that me and [fellow tight end] Billy Palmer are real close and we try to make the guys laugh a little and keep the morale up and try to keep the camaraderie together."

Denbrock said Clark has made the most of his opportunities and is the ultimate team player.

"Leadership wise I think he's done a very good job of not only keeping himself in a position where he's ready to go at

a moments notice but also helping out the other guys at his position," Denbrock said. "It's a very competitive situation and he is a very positive influence on everyone around him and that makes us a better football team."

With only one home game remaining, Clark has started thinking about life after football and Notre Dame. He hopes to take his management degree and find a job back in Florida.

Clark said he's enjoyed his experience at Notre Dame, even if things didn't turn out how he once envisioned a few years ago.

"Right now not playing that much and taking a different role has been tough," Clark said. "But I think looking back and seeing that I was able to play for the University of Notre Dame and I was able to get in there and help the team a little bit."

"The biggest thing I'll take away from this are my teammates and the friendships I've made on this team. I've never been as close as I am with a bunch of guys on this team and hopefully we'll be friends for life."

"I'll be the backup guy and whenever they need me to come in, I'll come in."

Jared Clark
Irish tight end

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BILLY PALMER

No regrets

Palmer might not have the gaudiest stats, but he wouldn't trade ND for anything

By MATT LOZAR
Sports Writer

Billy Palmer's career at Notre Dame hasn't been flashy.

With two regular season games left in his Notre Dame career, the Wyntree Heathrow, Fla. native only has four career catches for 44 yards and zero touchdowns.

He gets lost in the shuffle behind junior Anthony Fasano who has broke onto the scene this year, sophomore John Carlson who is earning more playing time by the week and even converted linebacker and fifth-year senior Jerome Collins who was making strides before suffering an injury against Stanford.

But what Palmer brings not only to the tight end position, but also the Notre Dame offense is something that can't be seen on the field.

"I think above all he brings a great deal of leadership and stability to the position," Irish offensive line and tight end coach Mike Denbrock said. "He's been around the world more than once and lends a great deal of experience not only to the position but to the other guys that are there."

"He's really done a great job of leading our whole entire offense let alone our tight ends."

That might not translate into filling out the stat sheet, but with a total of six tight ends competing for valuable playing

time, Palmer has found his role with the Irish in his fifth and final season in South Bend.

"I feel if you just do your best and work your hardest, they'll find a spot for you," he said.

Coming to Notre Dame

Palmer was born in Ottawa and played rugby through his sophomore year of high school. Team Canada selected Palmer to be on the under-18 team for rugby, but his family moved to Florida, and Palmer concentrated more on football. He played offensive tackle with former Irish All-American center and current Cleveland Brown Jeff Faine as a junior in 1998 before Palmer transferred to Lake Highland Prep in Orlando for his senior year.

Palmer caught eight passes his senior year as a tight end to go along with 50 tackles as a defensive end.

That's when college decision time came.

And for Palmer, just like many other high school seniors, whether they play football or not, it was something unexplainable that swayed the final decision to choose the Golden Dome.

"It came down to Michigan, Ohio State, Florida, Georgia Tech and Notre Dame," Palmer said. "I really felt comfortable here and everyone talks about the combination of academics and athletics, but for myself, it was the special feeling I had."

Former Notre Dame coach Bob Davie and his staff recruited tight ends to play a different role in the offense from what current coach Tyrone Willingham's offense uses tight ends for. Davie's tight ends were used as blockers and were an afterthought as a pass receiver.



Irish tight end Billy Palmer sets up a block for fellow tight end Jerome Collins, with ball, during the Stanford game on Oct. 9.

In his last season in South Bend, Davie's tight ends caught a combined eight passes throughout the entire year.

This year's team has 38 catches through nine games.

For Palmer, it's been difficult, but worthwhile.

"I'm very grateful for the pre-

vious staff for bringing me here and very grateful for the current staff for developing me as a player," he said. "Every time you go through transition, it's not an easy thing, but I was fortunate enough to grasp the offense and they were confident enough in me to play, so it was a positive transition for me."

With Willingham and Irish offensive coordinator Bill Dierick incorporating more of a pro-style offense, the tight end is obviously used more. Willingham recruited tight ends to fit his system that were more complete players where opposing defenses couldn't guess run or pass based just on personnel.

With six players at one position, the competition at tight end became intense, but worthwhile.

"I think every coach demands of his players to be a complete player," Palmer said. "A complete player with this many tight ends, you had to work that much harder to be a complete player."

"That type of competition only makes you better. I've been blessed with some great guys. It's friendly competition, but there definitely was some competition in the offseason and during the season, but it's helped us all."

'The Bachelor' not for him

Many people make the connection with Palmer and his brother, Jesse, who was "The Bachelor" during the show's spring season and is a backup quarterback for the New York Giants.

But Palmer jokes about not following his brother's footsteps.

"Too ugly," he said.

One family member Palmer could follow the footsteps of is his father, Bill, who played for

in the Canadian Football League. In the 2004 CFL draft, the British Columbia Lions selected Palmer in the fifth round.

"It's definitely an honor. Being a Canadian citizen, there's a certain amount of pride," Palmer said. "Being selected by the B.C. Lions was definitely an honor to me, and I'm very proud to be Canadian and very proud of the CFL and might be something I pursue down the road."

Palmer's dad, just like throughout his life, hasn't pressured his son to play in Canada.

"My father has always been very happy with me in letting me do what I want to do, so long as I'm successful and work hard at what I do, he's happy," Palmer said. "If that's the case, it just might be it."

His position coach thinks if Palmer wants to play professionally, the CFL is a viable option.

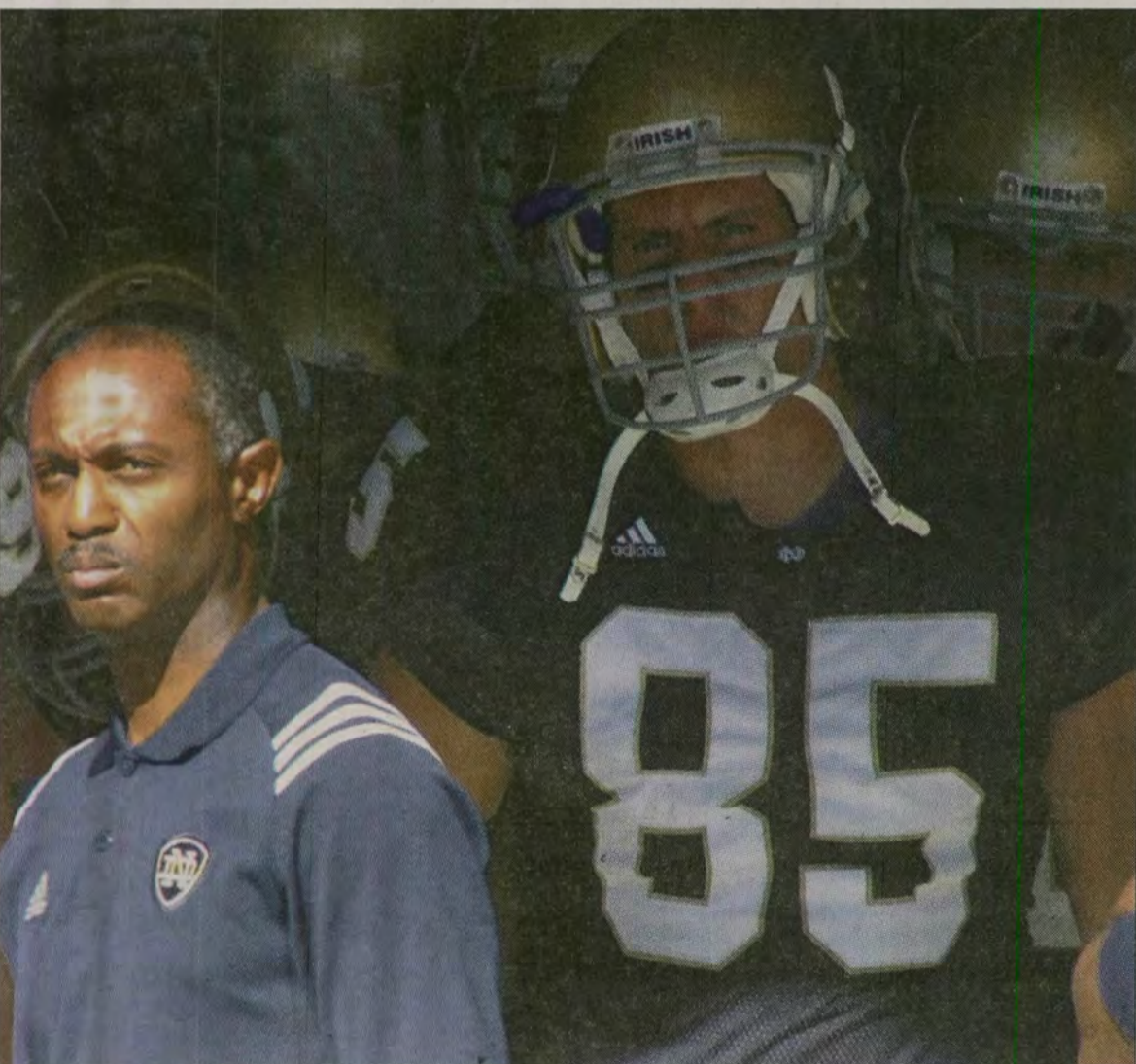
"I think it's up to him," Denbrock said. "If that's something he chooses to pursue, I think he's got that type of ability."

Palmer hasn't had a career filled with lots of receptions or touchdowns, but that hasn't developed any ill feelings about his decision to attend Notre Dame for the past five years.

For Palmer, it's about realizing what an opportunity the past five years have been.

"You know what, I've been extremely fortunate to be here and play with some good football players, and I've enjoyed my experience no regrets," Palmer said.

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Irish tight end Billy Palmer and head coach Tyrone Willingham wait to burst out of the tunnel at the start of Notre Dame's game against Stanford.

STAN REVELLE

Scout team quarterback has enjoyed the Irish experience

By ANN LOUGHERY
Sports Writer

Stan Revelle sounds like every coach's dream.

His team-oriented attitude makes him the kind of player coaches can rely to keep the team focused and inspired.

"When you're practicing day in and day out in the cold and the rain, you find that a lot of people aren't motivated," Revelle said. "I just kind of convince them that they're an important part of the team."

In his four years at Notre Dame, the unassuming senior walk-on quarterback has risen from an inexperienced freshman to a leader and prominent feature on the scout team.

A native of Poplar Bluffs, Mo., Revelle comes from a storied high school football career. The all-time leading passer in Poplar Bluff high school's history, Revelle totaled 370 completions for 5,730 yards and 59 touchdowns. Revelle also holds the school record for passing yards with 411 in a game.

But his accolades didn't end

there.

As a senior, Revelle was named all-state and received the College Football Hall of Fame/National Football Foundation Scholar-Athlete Award and Scholarship as valedictorian of his class. That year, USA Today also recognized the standout Revelle's achievements, dubbing him USA Today Missouri Player of the year in 2000.

Despite a high school career characterized by glory and achievements, Revelle remained uncertain whether or not he could find a place on the competitive and prestigious Irish team.

"I didn't really think it could happen to me, and then it just kind of all fell into place. It was never really something I dreamed about or expected because I didn't think it was within my reach," Revelle said.

Revelle's doubts vanished as he watched a highlight film at an awards banquet. He realized that his love for football was so ingrained in his personality that playing football at Notre Dame was something he had to do.

"At that moment, I knew I would miss football if I didn't at least give it a try," Revelle said. "I guess I just love to throw the ball. I love to see a good spiral."

Revelle joined the team under then-coach Bob Davie in 2001, weathering a rocky 5-6 season. The Irish saw more success Revelle's sophomore year, earn-

ing a trip to the Gator Bowl after a 10-2 regular season, but last year, the Irish were 5-7. Revelle described his experience witnessing the team's progress.

"I've seen the team evolve from coach Davie through good seasons and bad seasons," Revelle said. "[After Davie], there was more a change in attitude in the coaches than in the players. They've kind of focused on a person being a more of a total package — a great student, great athlete and a great person spiritually."

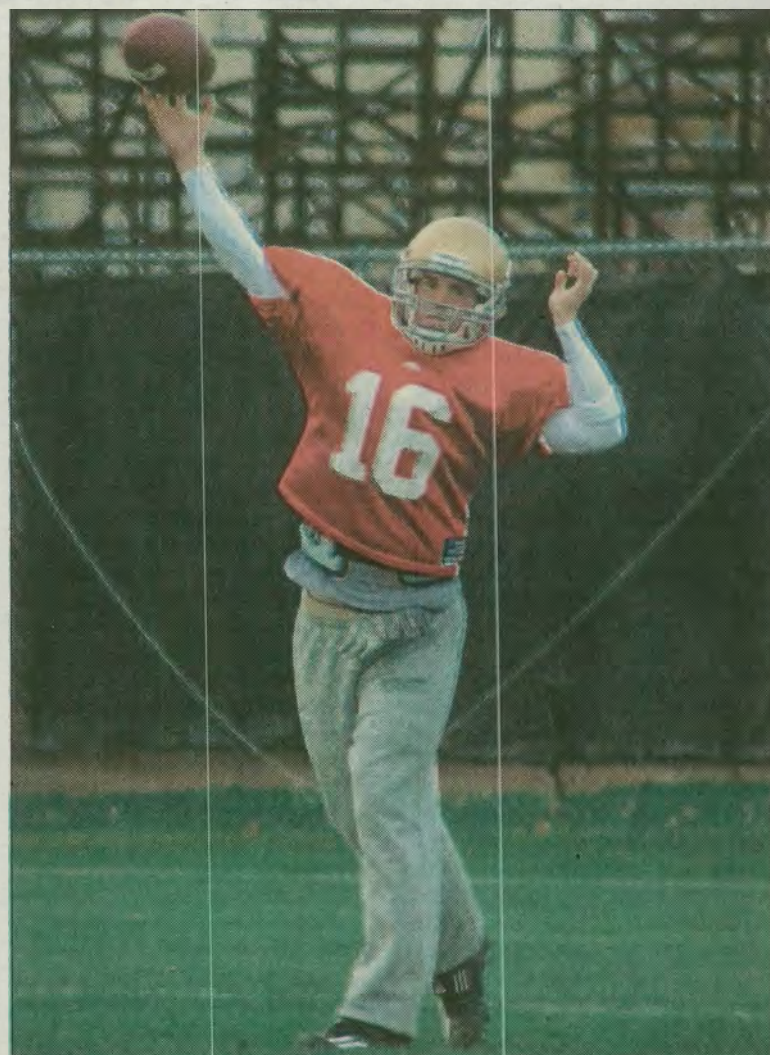
Revelle added that each of the players walk away from the team as stronger individuals prepared to face any challenge.

"I think being on the team is something that's really going to help me in the working world because it's taught me how to be mentally tough and find unique ways to motivate those around me," Revelle said.

Revelle will graduate this year with a degree in electrical engineering, and says he hopes to pursue his love of football.

"I'll probably try to get involved in a social league or a club team," Revelle said. "It's going to be a hard transition leaving [Notre Dame]. With football, if you put this much time into it, it's not just something you can stop."

Contact Ann Loughery at alougher@nd.edu



TIM SULLIVAN/The Observer

Irish quarterback Stan Revelle participates in a passing drill in a recent team practice.



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DWIGHT ELICK

Twice the athlete

Ellick has been both a star on the gridiron and on the track

By JUSTIN SCHUVER
Associate Sports Editor

It's hard to imagine the strain mentally and physically on a Notre Dame football player.

In addition to duties as a full-time college student, you're expected to perform at the highest athletic level at least 12 Saturdays a year. You're expected to lift weights, eat healthy and practice with your best effort nearly the rest of the time.

And if you're Dwight Ellick, you'll occasionally make time for a little run or two.

The senior cornerback is one of the unique breed in college sports — the two-sport athlete. In addition to his starting position as a cornerback for the Irish, Ellick is also one of Notre Dame's biggest track-and-field stars.

Double the sports, double the fun

Ellick has always had speed, and has made use of it on both the football field and the track at Moose Krause Stadium. This year, he placed sixth in the 200 meters at the 2004 Big East Outdoor Track and Field Championships, coming in with a time of 21.66 seconds.

Being a two-sport varsity athlete hasn't been that big a deal, the senior said, particularly because of the helpfulness and good attitude of the coaches in both sports.

"The coaches on both staffs — track and football — are definitely understandable and accepting to the guys who want to do football and track," Ellick said. "So they don't work you over time in both sports."

"Our strength and conditioning coach is the one who's with us out there all season, and he talks to the track coach and they talk about what they're going to do. They schedule my workouts

together so that I'm able to do both of them at the same time."

Ellick was born in Syracuse, N.Y., and later moved to Tampa, Fla., but not before first earning the mantle of the fastest high school runner in the Empire State. His time of 10.62 in the 100 meters as a junior in high school gave him the state championship in that event.

To his Notre Dame coaches, that speed has always been one of Ellick's most impressive physical attributes, but not the only thing that makes him a good defensive back.

"He's a kid that's a real quick guy," Irish secondary coach Steven Wilks said. "But we really emphasize technique and at times if you make a mistake, speed does not always allow you to recover."

"It's great that he has speed but it's something that we don't try to rely on too much."

Speed not always enough

Irish fans always seem to pick on the secondary. It's inevitable.

The defensive backs are literally out on an island, usually one-on-one with an opposing receiver. When the defensive back wins the battle, everyone notices.

And of course, when the defensive back loses the battle, everyone notices.

"You've got to have a short memory — that's probably one of the most important things to have besides the physical tools," Ellick said. "You need great technique, have to have good anticipation. You've got to have great discipline and learn not to make the same mistake twice in a row."

Ellick has certainly seen his share of criticism during his career at Notre Dame, but the cornerback has shrugged most of that blame off. His coaches continue to use his speed as an asset, putting him on the opponent's best receiver at times.

"Ellick really allows us to key in sometimes on a team's weapon, with his speed and technique," Wilks said. "Anytime you can take away a big part of the other team's offense, that can be a big boost for your team defensively."

Although Ellick will finish his



Irish defensive back Dwight Ellick tries to prevent BYU's Todd Watkins from making a catch late in Notre Dame's 17-14 season-opening loss to the Cougars.

TIM SULLIVAN/The Observer

career as a cornerback, his talents on the high school gridiron were much more varied and extensive.

From Tampa to 'Tundra'

As a senior in Florida, Ellick played in one of the most football-crazy states in the nation. The Sunshine State has never been short on talent, and Ellick was among the state's all-around athletes.

As a senior at Wharton High School in Tampa, he made 70 tackles, intercepted three passes and broke up 16 more. In addition to his defensive prowess, Ellick collected 587 yards and scored six touchdowns as a receiver, while

collecting 348 yards rushing.

He also became a track champion in his second state, winning the Florida Class 4A championships in both the 100 (10.60) and 200 (21.35) meter races.

So, how does an athlete from one of the warmest states in the world end up in the Siberia that is South Bend, Indiana?

"Education. When I came to visit, I got along good with all the players," Ellick said. "That was one thing I was really looking for. I liked the coaching staff. They were coming off a big year and it seemed like a program that was definitely on the rise, so I wanted to be a part of that."

The season Ellick referred to was the 2000 season in which head coach Bob Davie's team went to the Fiesta Bowl, only to lose 41-9 to Oregon State.

Ellick's freshman season was a disappointment to say the least. The Irish went 5-6 and Davie was fired after his fifth year of mediocre coaching. After resume fraud prevented George O'Leary from being named the next Notre Dame coach, Tyrone Willingham came to Notre Dame from Stanford.

Some players might be upset or frustrated from having to deal with a coaching change, but Ellick enjoys playing for the man his teammates have previously referred to as "The Prophet."

"It's great [to play for Willingham]," Ellick said. "He's a coach who's going to treat you like a man and going to expect you to hold yourself like a man. I like that. I'm not sure how other coaches around the country are, but what I hear from other guys I know, not all the coaches are like that."

"They're not going to disrespect you in any way, but you know, they're going to have a lot more

say in what you do every time. Whereas here, the coaches will tell you what to do, but they're also going to let you hold yourself accountable and be a man, both on and off the field."

A bigger role this season

After making six starts last season, Ellick has blossomed into the team's starter at cornerback along with fellow Floridian Preston Jackson.

Under new defensive backs coach Wilks, Ellick has been able to improve his skills, continuing the progress he made under coach Trent Walters — who accepted an assistant coaching job with the NFL's Philadelphia Eagles after the 2003 season.

"To be honest with you they're kind of the same guy in two different bodies," Ellick said of the difference between Walters and Wilks. "They've both had basically the same teachings on technique and things like that. I'd probably say the only difference is that coach Wilks is a lot more hands-on."

"He's a lot younger than coach Walters, so he's a lot more energetic."

Ellick's improved play has shown this season, collecting his first interception of his career against Michigan and adding another pick against Washington.

He hopes that his improved play this season has done more than just quiet his doubters, but also impress professional scouts.

"My main goal is to go to the NFL," Ellick said. "That's been my dream since I was five years old. Besides that I do want to start my own business, perhaps in a car dealership or something."



CHUY BENITEZ/The Observer

Irish defensive back Dwight Ellick just misses an interception against Purdue.

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CARLOS CAMPBELL

Not quite as planned

Campbell might not have had the career he'd hoped for, but he still enjoyed the experience

By PAT LEONARD
Associate Sports Editor

Carlos Campbell is a great athlete. In high school, he was a great athlete. And when Campbell committed to Notre Dame, he had to make the decision that faces so many superior all-around athletes out of high school — which position should he play?



Campbell

"Coming in, of course, I wanted to be an All-American," Campbell said. "And when I first came in, I wanted to be a receiver."

His past experience on both sides of the ball was impressive.

Campbell was a two-way starter who earned all-state honors as a defensive back in 2000 and as a receiver in 1999. He caught 31 passes for 812 yards and 12 touchdowns in 1999, totaling career numbers of 75 catches, 1800 yards and 20 touchdowns. Over his final two seasons, Campbell also intercepted 15 passes.

All factors pointed to a successful stint on either side of the ball. But Campbell found on the Division-I college level that success was not guaranteed.

"Things were going well [at receiver] and then things didn't work out, so I wanted to switch to the other side of the ball," Campbell said. "I went to the coaches and told them, because I've always had a defensive player's mind, and I

felt that was the right time to change."

Campbell now plays as a reserve cornerback and top special teams asset, ranking No. 12 on the team in tackles with 19 total (13 solos).

But the statistics under Campbell's name did not always count tackles.

In his freshman and sophomore years, Campbell had caught just five passes for a total of 70 yards and zero touchdowns. During that time, he also received playing time on special teams, making three tackles as a sophomore and making 92 appearances on kick returns and coverage.

"That's something that I enjoy, especially being in my position and not having the type of career that I've wanted, special teams plays a special part and is a key to this team," Campbell said. "Whenever I get in the game, I can take advantage of my opportunities."

The taste of hitting offered on special teams eventually swayed Campbell to flip his role on the Irish squad to the other side of the ball completely. And though Campbell saw the field only 12 minutes in 2003 as a reserve corner often hindered by injury, first-year defensive backs coach Steven Wilks feels a healthy Campbell has given the coach more options this season.

"I've seen [physical play] in Carlos several times," Wilks said. "Throughout fall camp and last spring, he is physical. The one thing we've talked about with our whole secondary is just being consistent. And that's the reason we put him into the boundary. That's a guy that can be a boundary corner. We are able to roll him up [to the line], be physical for



TIM SULLIVAN/The Observer

Irish defensive back Carlos Campbell makes a shoestring tackle of BYU's Todd Watkins during Notre Dame's season-opening loss to the Cougars.

run support and things like that."

But Campbell's greatest value has appeared on special teams, where Notre Dame has struggled but relies on veterans like

the Hampton, Va. native to prevent breakdowns.

"He's a very important part of our special teams, particularly at gunner in gunner control on punt return teams," Wilks said. "Those two [gunner] positions are very important to what we're trying to do, and you've got to have guys with speed to plays those positions so no question."

Regardless of the position he is listed at, Campbell — and coaches — know he has speed.

The senior also competes on the Irish track and field team as a sprinter, posting a 2004 indoor best of 7.27 in the 60-meter dash last season.

"He also adds a lot of speed," Wilks said. "He's a track guy, as well, so I think he has a little bit of both, to be a boundary and field corner and a gunner."

Campbell displayed his speed on the big scene in 2003 when he returned a fourth quarter Boston College fumble for a touchdown. Notre Dame would lose the game — its first loss of the season — but the play represented the epitome of Campbell's college career.

"I would say my sophomore year [was most memorable], coming in with the new coach then going in winning eight straight games [and] being on the verge of winning a championship," Campbell said. "Of course, it didn't end like we

wanted it to, but that's the year I'll probably most remember."

Save a few big plays, Campbell feels he did not accomplish the goals he had set coming in as freshman. All the same, the senior has no regrets heading into his final game at Notre Dame Stadium against Pittsburgh on Saturday.

"Things happen for a reason," Campbell said. "Of course, I didn't have the career I wanted to have, but I don't think I had a bad one either. There was always an injury here or there or something like that, but I have no regrets about anything."

Head coach Tyrone Willingham said the loss of Campbell and his classmates, as it happens every year to a group of seniors, is not cause for despondence. Instead, it is an indelible ritual of college football.

"It's one of those special acts that take place in college football that you don't get any place else," Willingham said. "That you get to have guys sometimes with four, five years and then to see them go off and hopefully on to pro careers and beneficial to them and their families."

"It really doesn't hurt. It's a joyous moment."



CLAIRE KELLEY/The Observer

Irish defensive back Carlos Campbell, far left, keeps an eye on the ball carrier during Notre Dame's game against Stanford.

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JEROME COLLINS

Dealing with change

Collins has played four different positions and had three different coaches

By HEATHER
VAN HOEGARDEN
Sports Editor

Four positions and three coaches later, Jerome Collins has found a home catching the football.

Collins has endured numerous changes in his five years at Notre Dame, but this year, he has seen the field the most, playing tight end and special teams.



Collins

Coming to Notre Dame, Collins was a highly-touted wide receiver. Hailing from Wheaton-Warrenville South High School in Warrenville, Ill., Collins was in the top 100 prospects in the nation, according to numerous publications. The Chicago Sun-Times ranked him No. 94 in its 1999 top 100, and the Detroit Free Press ranked him No. 11 on the Best of the Midwest team. He was also an honorable mention all-state selection.

Collins chose Notre Dame for both its education and football program. Plus, his parents loved the school.

"My parents really wanted me to go here," Collins said. "They thought it was the best fit for me academically and athletically. It was closest to home and the best overall college I was recruited by."

But when Collins arrived, things changed immediately.

Playing all sides of the ball

Collins, a wide receiver, was no longer a pass-catcher after the first team meeting he ever attended.

"I came in as a wide receiver, and the first meeting we ever had, they moved me to linebacker," Collins said.

Although Notre Dame recruited him as an athlete, it was quite a different experience for the true freshman. But Collins stuck with it and played outside linebacker up until the middle of his junior year. As a sophomore, he saw action in three games as a linebacker and special teams player, but that was it. Then, as a junior, the 6-foot-5, 256-pounder finally saw some playing time. As an outside linebacker, he played in 11 games as a reserve, and continued to be a solid special teams player for the Irish.

But then, he switched positions as a senior, moving to the defensive line, where he played defensive end. But that was only temporary, as Collins also played linebacker that year. Collins played just over 33 minutes that season on defense, recording nine tackles, including seven solos. Despite the changes, Collins maintained that repeatedly



CHUY BENITEZ/The Observer

Irish quarterback Brady Quinn throws a pass in the direction of Irish tight end Jerome Collins during Notre Dame's game against Stanford. Collins has been one of many prolific tight ends in Notre Dame's offense this season.

learning new systems wasn't that arduous of a task.

"That's why we go to Notre Dame," Collins said. "I feel like we're all pretty smart guys. So I think we can pick up stuff pretty quick. But I think sometimes it's overwhelming because you get comfortable with one thing and then you have to do something totally different. It always takes a little while to get things going again, but it's not that difficult."

Coming into this season, Collins had played 24 games and recorded 10 tackles, including eight solos.

But now, the fifth-year senior is a tight end.

"I asked coach Willingham a couple times if I could move to the tight end position, and he had always thought that I still could be successful at defense," Collins said. "And then at the end of last semester, he asked if I still wanted to play tight end, so they moved me to tight end, and I was pretty excited about that."

Irish tight ends and offensive line coach Mike Denbrock said Collins has been an asset to the team despite the changes in positions.

"I think naturally, he's a little more comfortable playing tight end than at linebacker,"

Denbrock said. "But I think it's just an example of self-sacrifice for the betterment of the team. I think he bit the bullet for a couple years and helped us in a position that we needed some depth and some help and now that he's got a chance to play tight end, I think he's got a chance to showcase the abilities that he has a little bit more."

Tightening things up

When Collins moved to tight end, many wondered why. It was arguably the deepest and most talented part of this Irish team, so why did the Irish need a sixth tight end?

Collins, a former wide receiver, just thought it was the position for him.

"I feel like I have [gotten used to playing tight end] just because I'm the most comfortable doing it," Collins said. "It comes naturally to me, playing offense and getting the ball in my hands and blocking. I feel like it's definitely a home for me."

Collins has struggled to see significant time on the field due to a nagging ankle injury, but against Stanford, he made his presence felt. Collins had three catches for 45 yards as well as a key play on special teams in the Irish win. However, Collins also sprained his ankle and has been hampered ever since.

"I've been happy but I'm never satisfied," Collins said. "I would have loved to have

played more. But after the one game I had a good game I sprained my ankle, and I've been nursing that for the last couple weeks. It seems like every time I feel like I'm ready to get back in there, I reinjure it again."

Collins is part of a deep tight end corps that includes fellow fifth-year seniors Billy Palmer and Jared Clark with younger players John Carlson, Anthony Fasano and Marcus Freeman rounding out the group. When Fasano and Freeman have been injured, the rest have stepped up for the Irish.

Despite the ups and downs and many changes during his five years, Collins has tried to maintain a positive attitude.

"It's been frustrating, only from the fact that, anybody who comes to Notre Dame, they want to play they want to be out there on the field, they want to contribute," Collins said. "So that's the only frustrating thing. Coaches are going to change because that's the way things are run in college. Position changes — they're just trying to put me in the best spot to get me to play on the field as quickly as possible and it just seems as though it took me a little bit longer to get into a position that I could be the most successful and help the team the most. It's been a bit frustrating but you just gotta move on to the next thing."

Collins has no regrets. Despite coming to Notre Dame with high expectations, he understands that thinking about the past is not going to help things.

"I did [wonder what could have been] before, but that was a time when it was the most frustrating because I was always second-guessing myself," Collins said. "Now I choose not to second-guess myself because if I do that I'll always be questioning it and I won't be able to get ahead in the game."

One last sprint

When Collins runs out of the tunnel for the last time, he doesn't know how he'll react. Many times, it's an emotional experience, but Collins said he usually doesn't let his emotions get the best of him.

"I've never been a really emotional person," he said. "But to think about that possibly being the last time I put on a Notre Dame helmet, or just a football helmet in general, that's going to be an overwhelming feeling, regardless of how much I try to hold it back."

"All good things must come to an end I guess. But thinking about the possibility of having to get a real job or not playing football anymore is kind of weird, but you get over it."

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Fourth-year seniors

JUSTIN TUCK



CLAIRE KELLEY/The Observer

Irish defensive lineman Justin Tuck breaks a block against Purdue.

Justin Tuck made history this season, breaking the Notre Dame career sack record against Tennessee. His 23.5 sacks at the time broke the record that was held by Kory Minor, and Tuck would later add another sack to increase his mark.

The defensive lineman from Kellyton, Ala., was ignored by large SEC schools and has been an absolute force since he first came to Notre Dame. Tuck's 6-foot-5, 260-pound frame has been nothing less than a challenge for opponents to block this season. Irish opponents have often been forced to double or triple team Tuck, allowing other members of the Irish defense to pressure opposing quarterbacks.

Tuck has the choice to return to the Irish in 2005 as a fifth-year senior.

D.J. FITZPATRICK

Former walk-on D.J. Fitzpatrick has come out of nowhere to be one of the most-consistent members of Notre Dame's special teams this season. Fitzpatrick first saw action in 2003, after starting kicker and punter Nicholas Setta went down with a season-ending injury.

A local product, from Marian High School in Granger, Fitzpatrick has a 75-percent (9-for-12) success rate on field goals this season, and a punting average of 42.3 yards per kick. Fitzpatrick has proven reliable in clutch situations, including a last-minute field goal to beat Navy in 2003.



CHUY BENITEZ/The Observer

D.J. Fitzpatrick attempts a field goal against Boston College.

Pat Dillingham

A former walk-on, Pat Dillingham has proven himself a serviceable backup quarterback the past two seasons.

Dillingham has seen limited action in 2004, but has been successful in the four games in which he has participated. The Portola Valley, Calif., native has completed all three passes he's attempted this season, good for 28 yards. He saw minimal action against Stanford after an injury knocked starter Brady Quinn out for the last few minutes of the fourth quarter.

Dillingham has two wins to his credit, including a 2002 miracle over Michigan State. If he returns, he will serve as Quinn's backup again.

Mark LeVoor

One of the team's veteran lineman, Mark LeVoor has latched on as the starter at right tackle. After missing the last three weeks of 2004 practice with an injury, he has bounced back and been one of the team's top linemen this year.

In 2003, LeVoor started all 12 games at left guard, and led the team in playing time with 311 minutes, 48 seconds. The Eden Prairie, Minn., native was a first-team pick on the USA Today All-America team. He was a successful tight end in high school, but changed his position to offensive tackle when he arrived at Notre Dame as a freshman.

LeVoor should return in 2005 as one of the team's most-experienced linemen.

Corey Mays

Corey Mays has proved himself as one of the team's most reliable special teams players, seeing action as a backup linebacker capable of playing all three positions.

Mays has 12 tackles in nine games so far during the 2004 season, with the bulk of those coming on special teams. He played in 12 games in the 2003 season, finishing 10th on the team with 26 tackles. He also collected a sack, two blocked kicks, a fumble recovery and a forced fumble.

If Mays decides to return, he should be a competitor for one of the linebacker spots left by graduating seniors Mike Goolsby and Derek Curry.

Josh Schmidt

Irish fullback Josh Schmidt went from a successful interhall football player for Zahm to a walk-on that saw significant action in 2003 and this season.

Schmidt proved himself as a receiving threat out of the backfield last season, collecting 13 passes for 125 yards. He also was serviceable as a blocker for the Irish running backs.

The Notre Dame rushing attack in 2004 has used the tight end as the primary blocker more often than the fullback, limiting Schmidt's playing time. He has caught one pass for 14 yards.

Schmidt has the option to return for a fifth-year in 2005.

BRANDON HOYTE



CHUY BENITEZ/The Observer

Irish linebacker Brandon Hoyte sacks Navy's Aaron Polanco during Notre Dame's 27-9 win over the Midshipmen on Oct. 16.

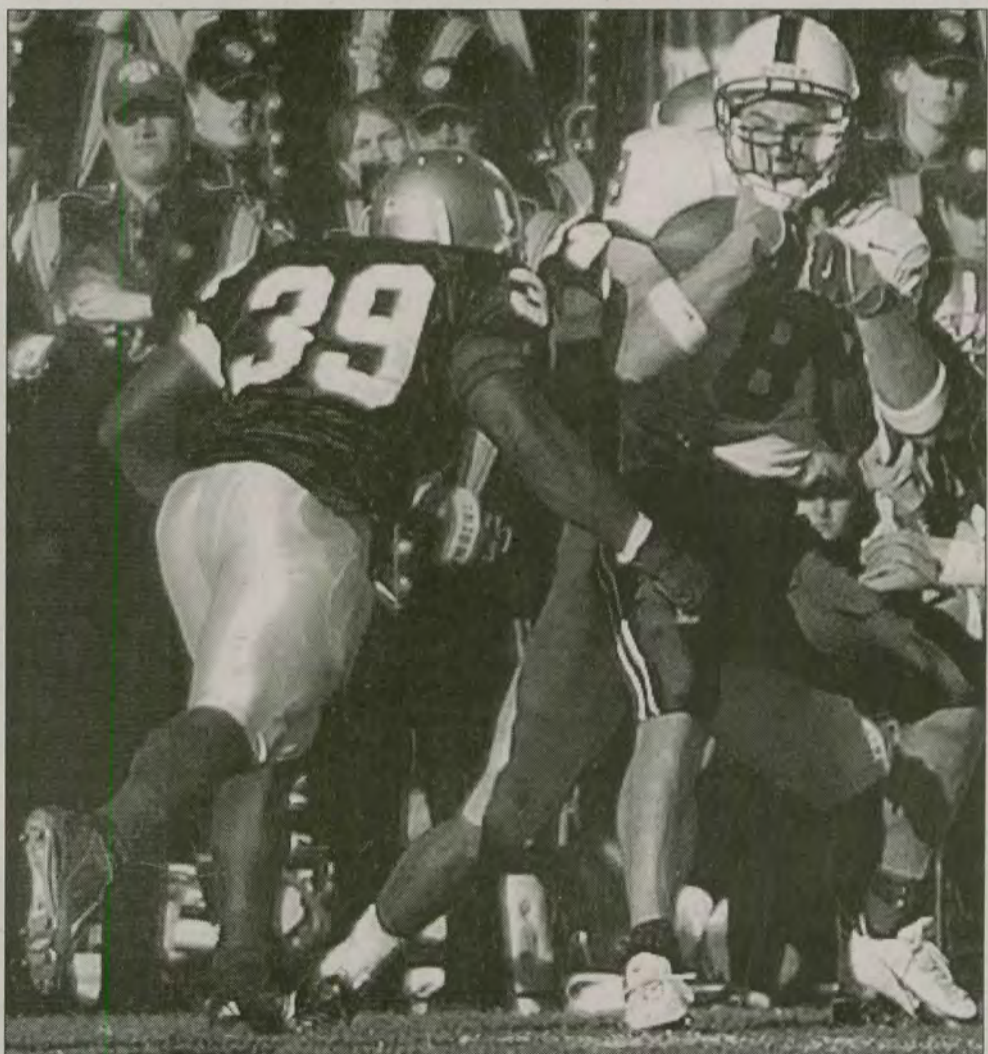
Brandon Hoyte's not your typical football player. In addition to his role as one of the team's most-punishing hitters, Hoyte has found time to write and recite poetry and to participate in community service events.

The linebacker has been responsible for the injury of not just one, but two, quarterbacks so far. BYU quarterback Matt Berry was sacked by Hoyte and was forced to leave the game. And Saturday, Hoyte's hit on Tennessee quarterback Erik Ainge knocked the freshman out of the game and might have helped the Irish pull off the upset against No. 9 Tennessee.

Hoyte had large shoes to fill in 2003, being forced into action as a replacement for Mike Goolsby — who would miss the entire season with an injury. But Hoyte blossomed, finishing the year with 74 tackles including 7.5 for a loss. He also recovered a fumble, forced a fumble and broke up two passes.

This season, Hoyte has joined with linebackers Goolsby and Derek Curry to lead one of the nation's stingiest rush defenses. Hoyte's current mark of 60 tackles is second on the team.

Hoyte should return in 2005 and be one of the defense's biggest senior leaders.

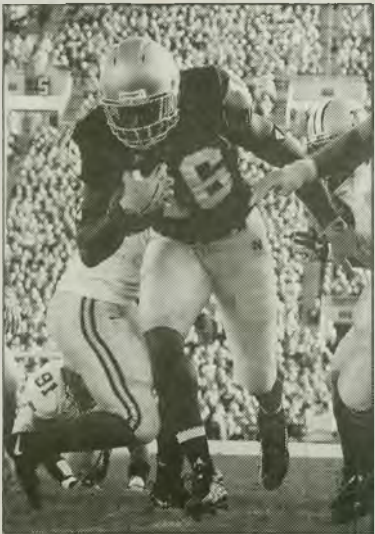


CLAIRE KELLEY/The Observer

Irish linebacker Brandon Hoyte goes for the tackle against Stanford's Evan Moore in Notre Dame's 23-15 win over the Cardinal on Oct. 9

have one year left

RASHON POWERS-NEAL



CHUY BENITEZ/The Observer

Rashon Powers-Neal rushes against Purdue.

Irish fullback Rashon Powers-Neal has shown himself to be a versatile back so far this season. The 6-foot-2, 243-pound bruiser has been used in short-yardage situations in addition to his usual role as a blocking fullback.

Powers-Neal has also been one of the team's more-consistent receivers out of the backfield, leading all backs with eight catches for 51 yards. The St. Paul, Minn., native has a running touchdown and a receiving touchdown so far this year.

Powers-Neal should return in 2005 to give the Irish an additional option on offense, both when running and when passing.

MATT SHELTON

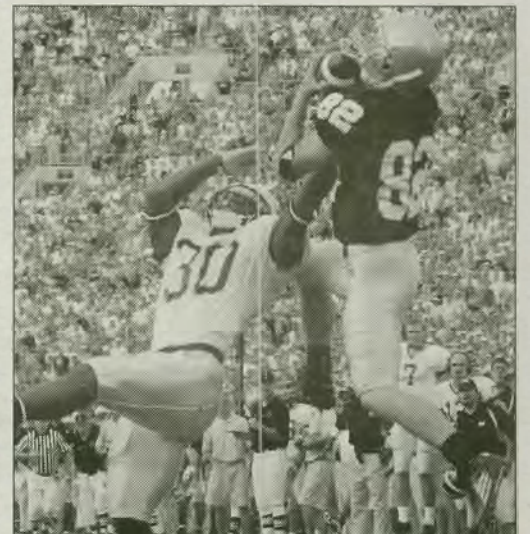
Irish receiver Matt Shelton may not look like it, but he's one of the fastest players on the team. He has made use of that speed this season, leading the team with five receiving touchdowns, including two against Michigan.

Shelton is currently fourth on the team with 14 catches for 377 yards, proving himself an equally capable threat when going deep as when running a quick hitch route. Recently, Shelton has been used as a kickoff returner, hoping to give the

Irish breakaway speed on special teams.

Shelton played in all 12 games of the 2003 season, primarily on special teams. He caught three passes for 80 yards and scored a touchdown against Stanford on a career-long reception of 65 yards.

The speedy wide receiver has played larger than his 6-foot, 175-pound frame, showing a fearlessness when going up against bigger, athletic defensive backs. He should return in 2005 as a serious deep threat for the Irish.



CHUY BENITEZ/The Observer

Irish wide receiver Matt Shelton catches a touchdown pass against Michigan.

Darin Mitchell

Darin Mitchell came into the 2004 season as a player whose role was expected to be bigger, but that outcome has not materialized.

The veteran offensive lineman was a reserve guard his first two seasons, and has continued in that role for the 2004 season. Mitchell has made one start in his career, filling in for an injured Sean Milligan against Michigan State in 2003.

Because the Irish are not losing many linemen, and because of the emergence of young players like Ryan Harris, Mitchell might not see much action if he returns next season.

Zachary Giles

Zachary Giles has spent most of the 2004 season as the backup center behind John Sullivan. Giles played in six games in 2003, starting one game (against Michigan State) and finishing the Florida State game at center after an injury to starting center Bob Morton.

Giles, from Marshfield, Mass., was a Parade All-American and a second team on the USA Today prep All-American team, but has not yet clicked in the Irish starting line.

With Sullivan returning, it might be difficult for Giles to find playing time at center if he decides to return for 2005.

Lionel Bolen

Lionel Bolen has made two tackles in 2004, in his role as a reserve defensive back.

Bolen played in 11 games in 2003 and started against Florida State. He was credited with 12 tackles, including an assist on a tackle for a loss.

The 6-foot, 210-pound Bolen was a versatile athlete in high school, averaging 12 points and helping his team to the state championship game.

Bolen has an option to return in 2005.

Brian Beidatsch

Brian Beidatsch has been a versatile depth player thus far during his Irish career. He is capable of playing either the defensive end or defensive tackle positions.

He has made one tackle so far in 2004, in five games. Beidatsch played in nine games in 2003, making five tackles and recovering a fumble. As a senior high school player at Marquette High School in Milwaukee, Wis., he made 100 tackles and 15 sacks.

He has an option to return in 2005.

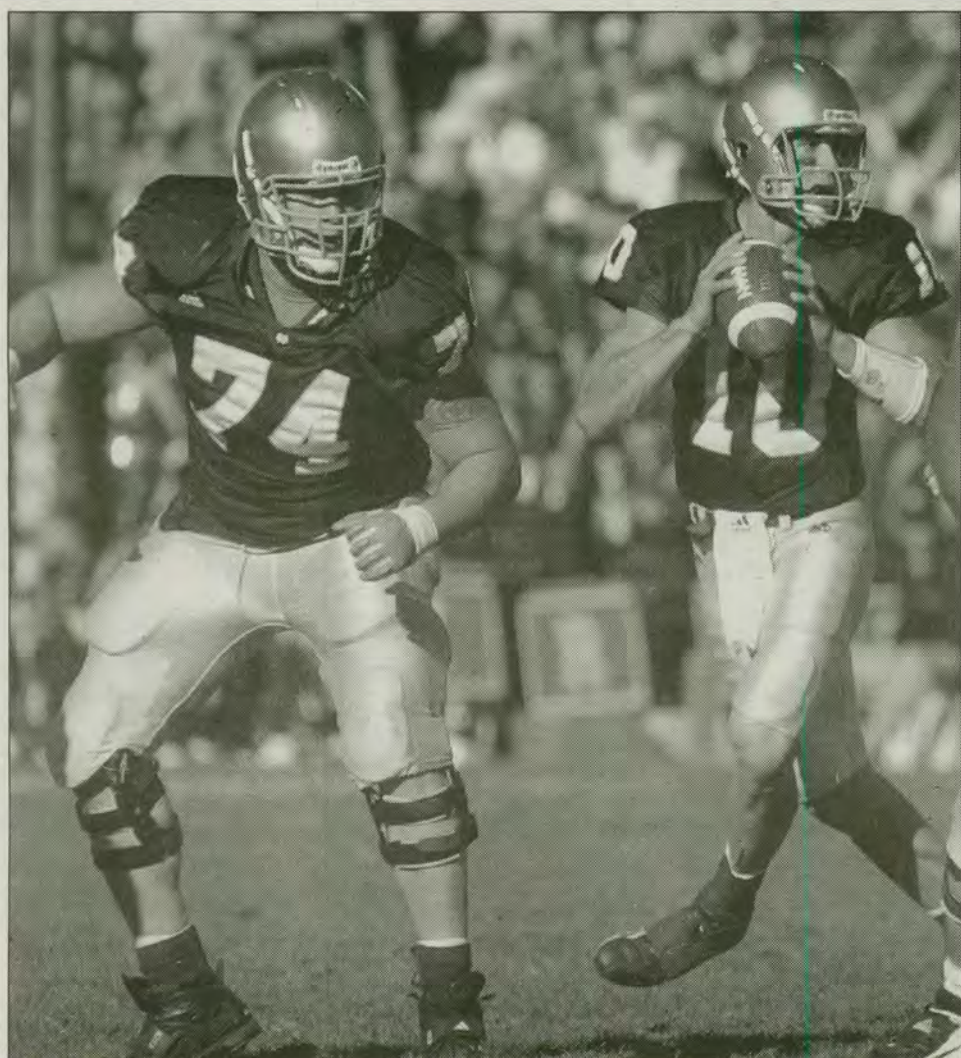
Jeff Thompson

Offensive lineman Jeff Thompson has shown himself to be a versatile player who can play guard or center, and has served well in a backup role for the Irish this season.

Thompson is a local product, playing high school football at Penn High School in Mishawaka, and helping his team to the class 5A state title. Thompson has seen action in two games in his Irish career, in addition to making one special teams appearance.

Thompson has an option to return for a fifth year.

DAN STEVENSON



CHUY BENITEZ/The Observer

Irish offensive lineman Dan Stevenson blocks for quarterback Brady Quinn in Notre Dame's game against Stanford.

Stevenson has been one of the team's most-consistent linemen in the 2004 season, starting all games so far at right guard.

The 6-foot-5, 293-pound lineman from Barrington, Ill., has always had football in his blood.

His father Mark played for the Detroit Lions, brother Tony played at Arizona State and brother Joey played at Arizona Western.

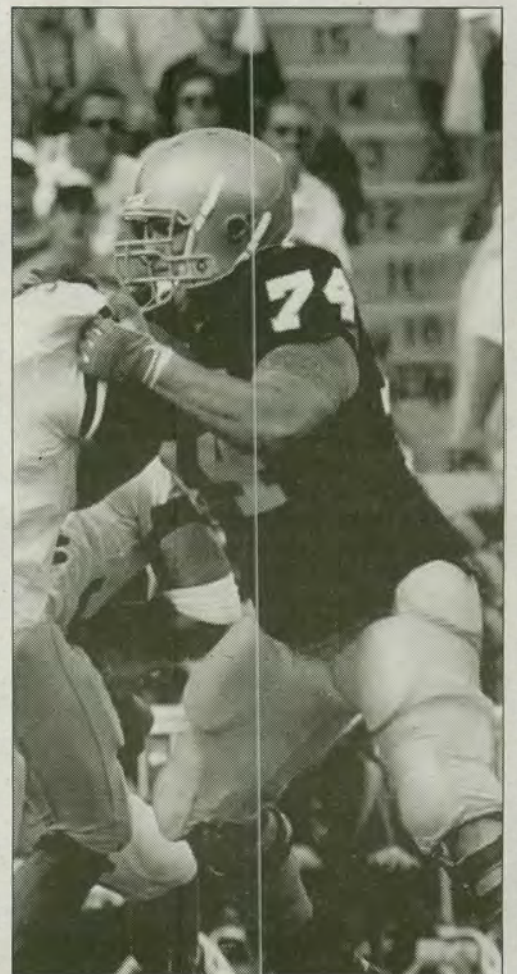
Stevenson was one of the top linemen in the country coming out of Barrington High School. He was rated the top offensive lineman in the Midwest by the Chicago Sun-Times, and was a Parade All-American.

His first start came in a big game for the Irish in the 2002 season, when he started at offensive guard against North Carolina State in the Gator Bowl.

Stevenson has bounced back successfully from an injury in the Florida State game in 2003. He then missed the next two games and returned against Stanford to help Julius Jones rush for 218 yards. Stevenson made 12 special teams appearances in 2003.

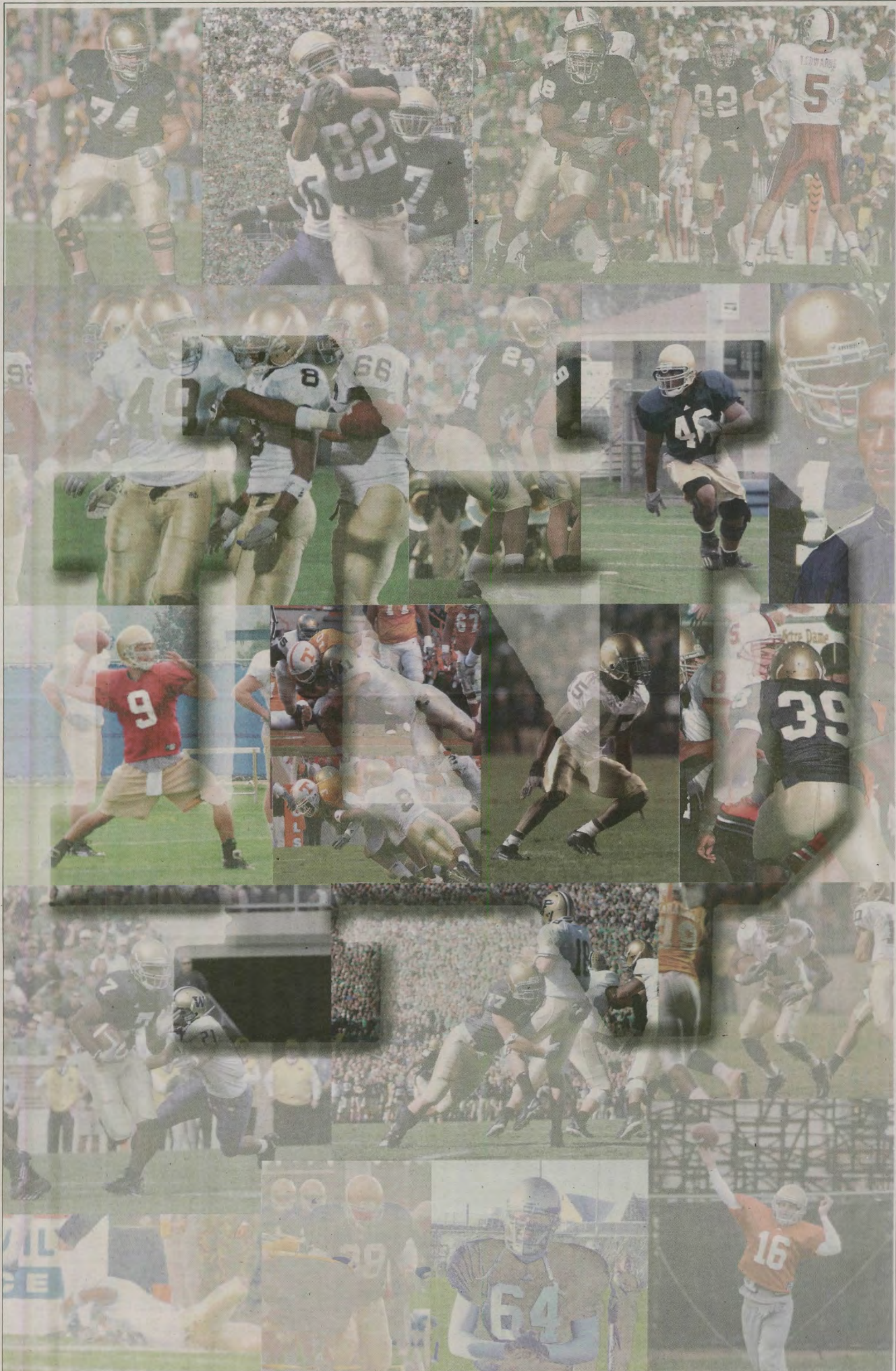
Stevenson has been a critical part of an offensive line that has helped quarterback Brady Quinn put up career numbers.

He should return in 2005 as one of the team's more-experienced linemen and help anchor an improved offensive line.



CLAIRE KELLEY/The Observer

Irish offensive lineman Dan Stevenson engages a Michigan defensive lineman during Notre Dame's win over the Wolverines. Stevenson has been one of the team's most consistent linemen this year.



IRISH INSIDER

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THE
OBSERVER

NORTHERN LIGHTS



Photo illustration by MIKE HARKINS

Canadian force

Thorlakson, Tancredi and Chapman lead the Irish into the NCAA tournament

By DAN TAPETILLO
Sports Writer

Going into the NCAA tournament, the Irish will look to the team's foreign presence to play an integral role in the success of the team's postseason run.

Canadians Katie Thorlakson, Candace Chapman and Melissa Tancredi have each played pivotal roles in Notre Dame's 19-1-1 season. Irish coach Randy Waldrum said the Canadian trio has been an important ingredient for the team's achievements.

"They have been a key to our success," Waldrum said. "We are a team loaded with talent, but we'd certainly be different without those three."

Earlier this year, the Irish were faced with the possibility of losing Thorlakson for three weeks.

Thorlakson needed to make the decision of leaving the team to play for the Under-19 national Canadian team. Her participation in the Under-19 World Championships would have caused her to miss the first three rounds of the NCAA Championships.

Thorlakson chose to remain playing for Notre Dame, drawing on the team's close-knit dynamic to make her decision.

"It was a hard decision," Thorlakson said. "But I just thought that our team was more like family."

Thorlakson has made her coaches and teammates proud this season by leading Notre Dame's cohesive unit offensively all season and putting herself in a position to win the Hermann Trophy award where she is a finalist for the best women's soccer player in the country.

She began the season with a record-setting performance against Baylor by being the first Irish player ever to score or assist on the first five goals in a game.

She hasn't slowed down since.

Additionally, Waldrum says Thorlakson brings a sense of team-oriented play to the field, helping her teammates shine in the spotlight instead of adding a goal to her already impressive career.

"Most of the players who are scoring goals are just scoring goals and not really getting the assists," Waldrum said. "She [Thorlakson] brings so many other people into the game, and it is really rare that you will see somebody get double digits in goals and assists. She has taken upon herself to be that leader, that goal scorer for us and she has done just tremendous with that."

Her efforts have not gone unnoticed. After the impressive performance against Baylor, Thorlakson has earned three Big East offensive player of the week awards and the Big East offensive player of the year honor as well. However, adding to her already impressive list of awards this season has not been Thorlakson's pri-

mary focus.

"It is nice to get the recognition for playing hard, but it is just one step in the road to get the national championship," Thorlakson said.

Senior defender Tancredi is also expected to play a crucial role in leading the team to make a run at a national championship.

In addition to being a finalist for the Hermann Trophy award, Tancredi also earned her second consecutive Big East defensive player of the year. Thorlakson described her teammate Tancredi as a cornerstone of the Irish defense.

"Our defense is so good this year and [Tancredi] is such a big part of that," Thorlakson said. "We don't have to do as much work because we know she is back there taking care of it for us."

Waldrum agreed.

"She separated herself last year from the rest of the pack in the conference, and it is no different this year. But this isn't just in the Big East. We haven't seen a person as dominant in the rest of the country as Melissa has been for us," Waldrum said. "She is so good in the air that the ball does not spend a lot of time in the defensive end. She quickly gets the ball into the attack and it makes the game from being a full field game, 115 yards to a 60 or 70-yard game."

In addition to the dominance she brings to the backfield, Tancredi serves as a mentor for the team as she was selected as one of the tri-captains for the 2004 season.

Another mentor for the team is Chapman who came back from an ACL injury that caused her to miss the entire 2003 season.

Prior to the injury, Chapman was already a freshman All-American and had earned the 2002 Big East defensive player of the year award.

This year, Waldrum moved Chapman to the forward position, where she has turned into one of the team's top offensive players.

"Our mindset was that if we can get her back, let's get her into the attacking end of the field because she is such a dangerous player and such a good athlete," Waldrum said. "She can strike the ball with both feet so well that we knew she could score goals for us. She adds a whole new dimension offensively that most teams probably aren't prepared for because they expected her in the back."

One of Chapman's top performances this season came during the 3-1 victory over Seton Hall Oct. 24. Chapman scored twice for the Irish. This match served as a culmination to all of her success at that point of the season. She already had scored eight goals during the season in just five games, including three two-goal games.

"She is a huge strength because she is going to work hard for every ball and she is



Photos courtesy of Notre Dame Sports Information and CHUY BENITEZ/The Observer

Junior forward Katie Thorlakson, top, knocks a corner kick earlier this season. Senior defender Melissa Tancredi, middle, kicks the ball past a defender. In a game against Santa Clara on Sept. 5, senior Candace Chapman rushes downfield in the 5-2 victory.

so physical in her plays," Tancredi said. "If you need her, she will play in the back, and she can play up front. You can put her anywhere and know she will have an impact in the game."

However, the Irish believe the team puts pressure on the ball no matter where an

opposing player tries to attack. "We see it as a whole unit," Chapman said.

Heading into the first round against Eastern Illinois, the Canadian unit and the Irish have one goal in mind.

"We are trying to achieve a team that no one has seen and have an intensity that nobody

can match for 90 minutes," Tancredi said. "We have all the skill, we have all the finesse, we have all the athleticism, we just have to put it all together and focus."

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One win six times equals one championship

By MATT MOONEY
Sports Writer

Clichés are a journalist's nightmare. As the type of people who are supposed to have some creative ability in the realm of the written word, we sports writers get our jollies from the creative sound byte. Muhammed Ali, Dennis Rodman and Shaquille O'Neal are notable wellsprings of quotable gold.

So when several team members told me early in the season that they were just "taking one game at a time," I nodded, smiled and tried to rephrase the question to get a different answer.

But when that same axiom kept rearing its head week after week, even from the coach, I was beginning to doubt my ability to ask an effective question.

The realization soon dawned on me that the generic answers were not a result of bored interviewees (or so I hoped) but rather the product of a team which knows first-hand the dangers of looking ahead.

The ghosts of the 2003 meltdown still haunt Notre Dame. Last year, the Irish reached the heights of a No. 2 ranking with an 18-0-1 record during the regular season only to tragically falter in three of their last five games.

A Big East semifinal loss to Boston College and two losses to Michigan, once in the regular season finale and again to end the season in the second round of the NCAA tournament, left Notre Dame with no titles and only bitter memories of an otherwise sweet season.

Therefore, "take one game at a time" became the team's mantra for the 2004 season. To safeguard against a letdown, coach Randy Waldrum broke down the season into small chunks, the non-conference games, the Big East conference schedule and finally the post-season. Each of those

segments breaks down into the individual games, essentially giving the Irish 21 one-game seasons.

Thus far, the formula seems to have worked. Notre Dame hit No. 1 in the collegiate polls for much of the season. The Irish finished the regular season unbeaten for the fourth time in program history. Connecticut had to come from behind to defeat them in the Big East Championship game.

But Notre Dame is at the point in its season where one slipup can mean only a long, cold South Bend winter to ponder what could have been. To avoid this, to instead bask in the Caribbean-like glow of a national championship, the Irish will need to break down each game so as to halt a resurfacing trend.

During the loss to Connecticut, the Huskies had only two shots on goal but converted both into scores. Similarly, in their two postseason losses last year, the Irish only allowed four total shots on goal but three found the back of the net. The Notre Dame offense provided little support, only combining for two goals in the three games.

The Irish stars will have to step up to turn this trend around. The post-season is the time when National Player of the Year candidates Katie Thorlakson and Melissa Tancredi need to back up those nominations. They need to be the first to embrace the challenge put before them and set an example for rest of their teammates.

After all the regular season success, this team is under tremendous pressure to win and to avenge last year's failure. The stars and the leaders are the ones who can turn that pressure into an equally large opportunity, a chance to show the nation the extent of their greatness.

This is chance for the Irish to be great, but they can't look past anyone. They should just go out there and have fun, remembering that there's no "I" in the word "team" but only as long as they take one game at a time.

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Matt Mooney

Sports Writer



Observer File Photo

Midfielder Jen Buczkowski dribbles by one defender and prepares to take on another during a game this season against Eastern Illinois.

The Top 16

No. 1 North Carolina (17-0-2)

The defending national champs still have the top seed despite failing to win the ACC championship for the first time in 15 years.

No. 2 Penn State (18-2-1)

The Nittany Lions lost the Big Ten Championship game to Ohio State, but they have instant offense in junior forward Tiffany Wiemer (25 goals, 11 assists).

No. 3 Virginia (16-2-2)

By ousting the Tar Heels in an overtime shootout for their first ACC Championship, the Cavaliers proved they can win the big, close game.

No. 4 Notre Dame (19-1-1)

The Irish look to exorcise the demons of their second-round loss in last year's NCAA tournament. Notre Dame lost the Big East Championship to Connecticut.

No. 5 Portland (17-3-0)

The junior duo of Christine Sinclair and Lindsey Huie are both Player of the Year finalists and combine for 75 of the Pilots' 126 points (59%) on the year.

No. 6 Ohio State (16-3-3)

Midfielder Lara Dickenmann set a school record by scoring her 12th goal of the season in a shutout of Penn State for the Big Ten Title.

No. 7 Princeton (15-2-0)

It was a banner year for the Tigers, setting a school record for wins (15) and becoming the first team in program history to have a perfect league record (7-0-0).

No. 8 Kansas (17-4-0)

The Jayhawks gave up two goals in their Big 12 semifinal loss, marking the first time the team allowed more than one goal in a game this season.

No. 9 Texas A&M (17-5-0)

The Aggies have their highest NCAA seed in school history following their Big 12 Championship win over Texas in a 3-0 shutout.

No. 10 Florida (16-3-3)

The SEC champion Gators have plenty of close game experience. Florida played in six overtime games this year with a 2-1-3 record in those games.

No. 11 Tennessee (15-4-2)

The Volunteers lost to Florida in the SEC Championship game, but have a SEC Defensive Player of the Year Keeley Dowling to secure the back line.

No. 12 Texas (13-6-2)

The Longhorns' biggest win of the season came on Oct. 24 when they upset then-No. 6 Kansas in a 1-0 double overtime thriller.

No. 13 Arizona (15-5-0)

The Pac-10 champion Wildcats are making their first appearance in the NCAA tournament in program history.

No. 14 UCLA (13-6-0)

UCLA split the Pac-10 championship with Arizona. The Bruins have a 2-2 record against higher-seeded teams.

No. 15 Washington (14-4-1)

Washington flew out of the gate with an 8-0-1 start but only finished 6-4 in its last 10 regular season games.

No. 16 Santa Clara (14-4-2)

The Broncos started the season ranked third in the country. As co-WCC champions, they finished the season with seven straight wins.



Irish refocused to begin NCAA tournament

By MATT MOONEY
Sports Writer

Short-term memories are at a premium as national fourth seed Notre Dame (19-1-1) kicks off its first game of the NCAA tournament tonight at Alumni Field at 7:30 p.m. against Eastern Illinois (13-5-2).

The Irish enter the 64-team tournament having just blemished their perfect record after losing the Big East Championship game to Connecticut 2-1 on Sunday. The loss conjured up memories of the end of the 2003 season when the Irish lost three of their last five games. Notre Dame fell in the Big East semifinal to Boston College and then was bounced out of the second-round of the NCAA tournament by Michigan in a 1-0 upset. The pain from those losses still lingers, but has also taught valuable lessons to players and coaches alike.

"We can't look ahead," coach Randy Waldrum said. "This week we have not even talked about the other two teams that are here this weekend. Everything has been focused on Eastern [Illinois]. I think maybe that's where we failed a little bit as a staff last year and as players, trying to look ahead and who you may get down the road."

Senior Kate Tulisiak feels the

scars from the loss are nothing if not motivational.

"We'll never forget about losing in the second round last year and we don't want that to happen again," she said. "That's constantly running through our minds. It'll stick with us and help us to play harder so it won't happen again."

Eastern Illinois, a team familiar with playing in South Bend, will be first to test that commitment. Notre Dame hosted the Panthers in its second game of the season, a contest the Irish won easily by a 3-0 margin. Eastern Illinois struggled against the Notre Dame back

line and only managed one shot-on-goal. Meanwhile, the Irish offense piled up 23 shots on goal as Candace Chapman, Jen Buczkowski and Annie Schefter all scored a goal apiece.

But for some players, the early season is a distant memory compared to where they are now.

"A game like Eastern Illinois was so long ago that we kind of forget," Schefter said. "Honestly, it's kind of like we never really played them. I couldn't tell you who we played three weeks ago."

As for the present, the four teams playing in South Bend have a higher combined win total than any other site. Waldrum refuses to underestimate any team, regardless of previous matchups.

"Obviously they went on to have

a pretty good year again, winning their conference. The one thing that we've tried to emphasize to the kids is that they've now been in the tournament four years in a row," he said. "Each year you're in it you gain more experience, and you learn to handle it a little bit better. I don't think it's going to be that easy of a time for us."

Now that the Irish are entering their last stage of the season, there is a tension as players try to stay focused in the present while still maintaining the drive to achieve their larger goals.

"We knew that we would have a team that was qualified and capable of winning a title," Schefter said. "Pieces are fitting together and if it doesn't end up that [we win a championship] everyone will be very disappointed."

Meanwhile, the coaches continue to stress that the focus must remain on the game at hand to prevent a letdown similar to the 2003 postseason.

"We just have to take each game and go from there, win each game and keep going," Tulisiak said. "Coach is always saying that, every practice, every game, all the time. It's always running through our heads."

The winner of tonight's game will advance to the second round on Sunday against the winner of the Dayton-Wisconsin game. The first two rounds of competition for these four teams will all be played at Alumni Field.



Observer File Photo

Defender Kim Lorenzen fights off an Eastern Illinois player for possession of the ball when the Irish played the Panthers earlier this season.

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Notre Dame Region

SOUTH BEND, IND.

No. 4 Notre Dame (19-1-1)

The Irish are coming off a 2-1 loss to UConn in the Big East Championship.

Eastern Illinois (13-5-2)

The Panthers were dealt a 3-0 loss by the Irish earlier this season.

Wisconsin (15-5-1)

This will be the Badgers 13th appearance in the tournament.

Dayton (20-1-0)

The Flyers hold the nation's longest winning streak with 20 straight wins.

STORRS, CONN.

No. 13 Arizona

The Wildcats have never been to the NCAA tournament before.

Colgate (12-6-2)

The Raiders are entering the tournament with a victory over No. 7 Princeton.

Harvard (8-6-2)

The Crimson are one of three Ivy League schools in the tournament.

Connecticut (16-6-1)

The Huskies just recently upset the No. 4 Irish 2-1 to claim the Big East title.

PORTLAND, ORE.

No. 5 Portland (17-3-0)

The Pilots have two players up for the Hermann Trophy this season.

Weber St. (8-9-2)

This will be the Wildcats first appearance in the tournament.

Colorado (14-5-2)

The Buffaloes lost in the first round last season as the 10th seed.

Utah (13-5-3)

The Uteps lost to the Buffaloes 1-0 on Sept. 12.

AUSTIN, TEXAS

No. 12 Texas (13-6-2)

The Longhorns are one of five teams representing the Big 12.

North Texas (15-5-1)

This is the Mean Green's first appearance in the NCAA tournament.

Southern Methodist (15-3-3)

The Mustangs are coming straight off their fourth consecutive conference title.

West Virginia (14-5-1)

Last season, the Mountaineers reached the round of 16.