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Major issues mark first Senate meeting

Brown warns against off-campus student rowdiness

By KAITLYNN RIELY
Assistant News Editor

Student body president Liz Brown warned student senators Wednesday that unruly off-campus behavior by students this weekend could jeopardize ongoing discussions between student and city leaders about the proposed ordinance addressing large parties in South Bend.

"Many of us have the mentality that by moving off campus we are automatically free from the rules and regulations that govern residence life on campus," she said. "However, we must realize that although we no longer have to check in with our rector and RAs, we do have a responsibility to behave as responsible residents of the South Bend community."

Brown sent an e-mail to the student body on Aug. 4 to notify them of an ordinance drafted by members of the South Bend Common Council. The ordinance requires residents of boarding houses —

see ORDINANCE/page 4



Student body president Liz Brown, left, outlines her recommendations for student action following discussions with South Bend Common Council members.

LAURIE HUNT/The Observer

Joyce Center and ND Stadium will now accept Domer Dollars

By KAITLYNN RIELY
Assistant News Editor

Concession stands at Notre Dame Stadium and the Joyce Center will now accept Domer Dollars, student body president Liz Brown and vice president Maris Braun announced Wednesday during the first Student Senate meeting of the academic year.

Brown told members of the Student Senate that, after collaboration with Food Services and Vending Services, Domer Dollars could now be used in the two locations.

"This is obviously a great new program that we have," Brown said.

The announcement was a political coup for Brown and Braun, whose campaign platform last year included the addition of Domer Dollars at the two largest venues for Notre Dame athletics.

Mike Davy, the manager of continuous improvement for Food Services, said the

see DINING/page 4

Eddy Street Commons coming in 2009

25 acres
85,000 sq. ft. of shops and restaurants
2 hotels
250 apartments
75,000 sq. ft. of office space
120 condominiums
80 town homes

**Information compiled from the Office of Asset Management

MATT HUDSON/The Observer

Project awaits tax changes

Eddy Street complex will include retail, restaurants, office, residences

By MARCELA BERRIOS
Associate News Editor

During a time of town-gown tension, the construction of the \$200 million, 25-acre Eddy Street Commons may help connect the campus to its surroundings with blocks of shops, restaurants, residences and offices.

"We hope Eddy Commons will be a place where students and South Bend residents alike can go to spend an afternoon shopping or enjoy a good dinner," said David Compton, vice president of Kite Realty Group, the project's

developer.

The South Bend Common Council approved the developer's proposal for the planned unit development on July 16, authorizing the rezoning of the property near the intersection of Edison Road and Eddy Street, said Gregory Hakanen, Notre Dame's director of asset management and real estate development, said Tuesday.

The first phase of the project, which will include retail, office and restaurant space, hotels and residential space, will be completed during 2009. But ground cannot be broken until the city works

out tax issues, Hakanen said.

Developments such as the Eddy Street Commons, which allow for multi-purpose units, require special permissions from the city, he said.

The Council unanimously approved the proposal Notre Dame and its Indianapolis-based developer, Kite Realty Group, submitted in early May.

Before the Council approved Kite's plans, the developer had to make concessions to receive the votes of council members who were skeptical about the project's

see EDDY/page 4

Hilton near SMC not set to open this weekend

By LIZ HARTER
News Writer

The Hilton Garden Inn next to Saint Mary's will not open by this weekend's opening football game against Georgia Tech, despite advertisements that it would.

The hotel, located on Douglas Road, will accept reservations beginning Nov. 1. But it's possible, said General Manager Nicole Smeltzer, that the hotel could open earlier.

"We may be able to open for [the Sept. 22] Michigan State [home game]," Smeltzer said.

With that game only a month away, construction is continuing on the Gillespie Conference

and Special Events Center, located on the northeast side of the hotel site.

The center, which will open by Feb. 1, will be available for formal dinners, conferences, weddings and special events, Smeltzer said. It will seat 750 formal dinner guests and up to 8,400 people when it is used as a banquet center.

The Hilton was built after the Sisters of the Holy Cross were approached by the Holladay Corporation in late 2005 about constructing a 100-unit Hilton Garden Inn Hotel and a 350-seat conference center.

College President Carol Ann Mooney announced the construction plans to faculty, staff

and administrators on Aug. 16, 2006.

In order to provide parking without detracting from the College's main entrance, the College and the Sisters brokered a land exchange to preserve the green space in front of the College.

The College has opted to deed one acre of land west of Angela Drive to the Congregation and will receive in exchange the land east of Madeleva Drive in front of the Welcome Center and Madeleva Hall.

The Congregation's newly-acquired land will allow additional parking to the north and

see HILTON/page 4



KATE FENLON/The Observer

Cars already fill the parking lot of the Hilton Garden Inn next to Saint Mary's. The hotel will not open this weekend.

INSIDE COLUMN

The first weekend

The weekend is fast approaching, and for freshmen it's their first without declaring their love for other dorms via chants or late-night runs around campus. I've overheard some of them making plans to have parties this weekend, and I was reminded of the good old days when I attended my first dorm party.

In retrospect, like many of the beverages consumed during them, dorm parties are an acquired taste.

It was the night before our first home football game. I soon realized that even though I was making a short trip across the hall,

Bill Brink

Sports Production Editor

mesh shorts were not the recommended attire. I walked—no, shoved—my way in to a darkened room full of sopping wet bodies indistinguishable from each other, all moving to the beat of an unrecognizable song. The guys all had some sort of collar on, another memo I missed, and the girls all had donned some sort of club attire.

What fun is this? I had known everyone there for exactly one week and was in no hurry to entertain myself by dancing for the next two hours.

Unfortunately, I had no choice, considering I was enveloped in the broiling-hot mob of people and forced to move at their discretion.

After being violently expelled from the mosh pit half an hour later, I escaped into the hall. Our RA was threatening to shut the party down. I went to the bathroom to find someone had thrown up, completely missing the toilet but covering pretty much everything else. What a successful night.

Eventually all females were evacuated and my friends and I, along with everyone else still awake and on campus, descended on Reckers. We ate and attempted to discuss the night, everyone screaming because they had lost their voice and because our ears were still ringing from the nonstop bass they had been bombarded with. Off-campus was starting to look good.

Eventually, the party scene got better. We created traditions for our parties.

One night we did some crowd-surfing; another night we set up a 'volleyball net' made of Christmas lights and played volleyball. During one party we left briefly and returned with two signs to adorn the walls of the room. Even the Reckers trips became more fun: karaoke nights became quite a spectacle to watch.

So freshmen, before departing for your first evening experience in one of our illustrious residence halls, prepare to leave the premises soaked. Be ready to be threatened by RAs you've never seen. Don't be surprised when the song changes every eight seconds. But most of all, make it your own. Find some friends to enjoy it with. Off-campus has its merits; make sure to experience that too. But don't discount dorm parties too quickly. Mimic the upperclassmen. Create themes for your parties. Invite hundreds more people than can fit in the room.

And most importantly, to avoid carrying your phone and keys around for two hours like I did, wear shorts with pockets.

The views expressed in the Inside Column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer. Contact Bill Brink at wbrink@nd.edu

CORRECTIONS

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 CLASS ARE YOU MOST LOOKING FORWARD TO?



Charlie Vogelheim
junior abroad

"German, because German is sexy."



Pamela Wyrowski
senior off campus

"I'm looking forward to all of my classes, except for linear algebra."



Christina Lee
senior off campus

"Health Economics, because I like Corby's ... and I like Sue."



Steph Bendinelli
junior Welsh Family

"I'm looking forward to Medical Physics this year, because we get to stick people in big machines for fun."



Nick Ward
junior Sorin

"I don't have class with Dr. Michelle Whaley; therefore, I have nothing to look forward to this year."



Sue Kippels
senior off campus

"My Health Economics class, because I'm recruiting at Corby's."



LAURIE HUNT/The Observer

Workers continued on Aug. 29 to landscape the former Juniper Road between Notre Dame Stadium and the Joyce Athletic and Convocation Center. The old road was removed during the spring and summer.

IN BRIEF

The Summer Shakespeare company will perform "Love's Labor Lost" tonight at 7:30 in the DeBartolo Performing Arts Center. Tickets are \$20-35 for faculty/staff/seniors and \$12-15 for all students. Performances will run through Sept. 2.

The DeBartolo Performing Arts Center will be screening the film "Only Human" ("Seres Queridos") tonight at 10 p.m. Tickets are \$3 for students and \$6 for the general public.

The DeBartolo Performing Arts Center will be screening Michael Moore's documentary "Sicko" Friday at 7 and 10 p.m. Tickets are \$3 for students and \$6 for the general public.

The Notre Dame women's soccer team will take on Michigan Friday at 7:30 p.m. on Alumni Field.

The Notre Dame marching band will present its Drummer's Circle outside the Main Building Friday night at 11:59 p.m.

The Basilica of the Sacred Heart will offer a Vigil Mass 30 minutes after the Georgia Tech game Saturday.

The DeBartolo Performing Arts Center will be screening the film "The Night of the Hunter" Sunday at 4 p.m. Tickets are \$3 for students and \$6 for the general public.

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

OFFBEAT

Burglar can't escape after Houdini heist

SCRANTON, Pa. — A man accused of breaking into the Houdini Museum was unable to escape from police.

Officers said they apprehended the man about 2:30 a.m. Tuesday, based on descriptions by three witnesses of two men seen fleeing from the museum. One witness told police he chased the men for several blocks. One man remained at large.

Charles Watkins, 25, of Scranton, was charged with a felony count of attempted burglary and misdemeanor charges of criminal trespass

and loitering.

Watkins was arraigned before District Judge Thomas J. Golden and lodged in the Lackawanna County Prison in lieu of \$5,000 bail. It was not immediately known if he had an attorney.

"He's going to need more than Houdini to escape from this problem," said Dorothy Dietrich, museum co-founder and director.

Dietrich said nothing was taken or badly damaged in the break-in, and the museum devoted to early 20th century escape artist Harry Houdini was open on Tuesday.

Red Rover, Red Rover, tag's all over

COLORADO SPRINGS, Colo. — An elementary school has banned tag on its playground after some children complained they were harassed or chased against their will.

"It causes a lot of conflict on the playground," said Cindy Fesgen, assistant principal of the Discovery Canyon Campus school.

Running games are still allowed as long as students don't chase each other, she said.

Information compiled from the Associated Press.

	TODAY	TONIGHT	FRIDAY	GAME DAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY
LOCAL WEATHER						
	HIGH 75 LOW 48	HIGH 65 LOW 38	HIGH 75 LOW 55	HIGH 78 LOW 60	HIGH 83 LOW 67	HIGH 85 LOW 67

Political science professor edits collection of essays

McAdams reflects on beginning phase of journal

Special to The Observer

"The Crisis of Modern Times: Perspectives from The Review of Politics, 1939-1962," edited by Notre Dame political scientist A. James McAdams, was recently published by Notre Dame Press.

The Review of Politics was founded at Notre Dame in 1939, during the presidency of Rev. John F. O'Hara, C.S.C., who had welcomed into the faculty several prominent European intellectuals who had fled to America from the spiritual and intellectual stultification of European fascism. Under the editorship of one of these émigré scholars, the political philosopher and historian Waldemar Gurian, the new publication became central to a community of thinkers understandably convinced that the West had lost its moral bearings and could not regain them without rediscovering what the French philosopher Jacques Maritain called "integral humanism."

McAdams' book presents 22 articles which appeared in the Review during its early and most influential years when it emerged as a leading journal of political and social theory. In addition to an introductory essay by McAdams on the journal's history and prominent contributors, it includes work by Gurian,

Maritain, Desmond Fitzgerald, C. J. Friedrich, Denis de Rougemont, John U. Nef, Aron Gurwitsch, Josef Pieper, Leo Strauss, Eric Voegelin, Hannah Arendt, Russell Kirk, Robert Strausz-Hupé, Louis de Raeymaeker, Frank O'Malley, Glenn Tinder, and Yves R. Simon.

According to Timothy Fuller, Worner Distinguished Service Professor at Colorado College, "the Review of Politics has been essential reading for students of political philosophy and politics for more than two generations, including among its contributors internationally renowned scholars whose works are both enormously influential and increasingly look to be contemporary expressions of perennial wisdom. To make seminal essays of this remarkable journal easily accessible, with more to come in future volumes, is a great service to students of political science at every level."

McAdams, who joined the Notre Dame faculty in 1992, is the William M. Scholl Professor of International Affairs and director of the Nanovic Institute for European Studies. He teaches and writes extensively on comparative and international politics, political history, and law and technology. He also is the author of several books, including "Judging the Past in Unified Germany," "Germany Divided" and "East Germany and Détente."

"The Review of Politics has been essential reading for students of political philosophy and politics for more than two generations."

**Professor Timothy Fuller
Colorado College**

Series to examine how policy affects Latinos

Special to The Observer

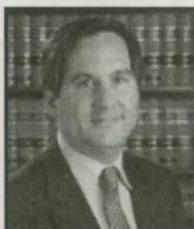
John Trasviña, president and general counsel of the Mexican American Legal Defense and Educational Fund (MALDEF), will open the Institute for Latino Studies' (ILS) Public Policy Lecture Series with a talk titled "Latino Immigrants in America: Our Past and Our Future" at 4:30 p.m. Sept. 5 in 200 McKenna Hall.

The series, titled "A Public Policy Agenda and a New Vision for the Future," will feature world-renowned scholars and policy makers who will discuss the impact of public policy issues on the Latino population and the consequences for American society in general. The lectures are intended to stimulate thought and dialogue on issues of immigration, education, philanthropy, political access, business and economic power.

Trasviña, who will explore the nation's immigration history and present policy recommendations for the

future, is a graduate of Harvard University and Stanford Law School. He began his career at MALDEF as a legislative attorney in 1985 and was appointed to his current position last year. In 1997, President Clinton appointed him special counsel for immigration-related unfair employment practices. In that role, he led the only federal government office devoted solely to immigrant workplace rights and was the highest ranking Latino attorney at the U.S. Department of Justice. He later taught immigration law at Stanford Law School and has testified before Congress in support of extending the Voting Rights Act and against "English only" legislation.

The other speakers in the series are Janet Murguía, president and chief executive officer of the National Council of La Raza; Michael Olivas, director of the Institute of Higher Education Law and Governance at the University of Houston; Kevin R. Johnson, associate dean for academic affairs at the University of California at Davis; and Antonia Hernandez, president and chief executive officer of the California Community Foundation. Details on these lectures will be announced at a later date.



Trasviña

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Dining

continued from page 1

guest meal exchange program will continue on a trial basis for the next year or so as Food Services studies how it affects its budget.

The program, Davy said, allows student who live on campus the opportunity to purchase up to five guest meals, for five dollars each, per semester. The five meals, which remain separate from a student's regular meal plan, are priced at a significant discount for any guests who visit students and want to eat at a dining hall, Davy said.

Adult guest meal tickets for dining hall meals range from \$5.50 for the continental breakfast to \$12.25 for dinner. Special dinners cost \$15.75. The guest meal exchange program does not include special dinners, such as any meals on the Friday, Saturday and Sunday of football weekends and meals for Junior Parents Weekend, Easter and Thanksgiving, Davy said. The exclusion of these days from the program is not necessarily permanent, Davy said, but will be assessed at the end of the trial program.

Students can pay for the

meals, which have been pre-loaded into their meal plan and which are now available for use, with Flex Points, Domer Dollars or cash. Students can pay the monitor at the front of the dining halls for the meals on an as-needed basis.

"We had a lot of great collaboration, a lot of help from Food Services to find out what is the most feasible plan for Notre Dame," Brown said.

If students use up the five meals, they can purchase more dining hall meals at regular guest meal prices, Davy said.

After the guest meal program was explained, Senate committee chairs briefed senators on plans for the upcoming semester.

Oversight committee chair Ian Secviar announced his committee's intention to make a comprehensive appraisal of the Student Body Constitution, which was amended several times last year for clarity. Secviar said grammatical and spelling mistakes remain in the current Constitution. He said he intends to introduce a series of amendments to remedy these errors.

The University Affairs committee will hold its first student-faculty issue

debate Oct. 13, said chair Callie Pogge. The debaters will address immigration issues.

Residence Life committee chair Mariana Montes said she and her committee plan to discuss lowering laundry prices in the residence halls and adding printers to more dorms.

In other Senate news:

◆ Chief executive assistant Sheena Plamoottil said the student government Web site should launch next week.

◆ Academic Affairs chair Carol Hendrickson said that because of the increase in the cost of USA Today over the summer, the College Readership Program, which supplies copies of USA Today, the Chicago Tribune and the New York Times to campus locations five times a week, will have to make budget adjustments. The newspapers will no longer be provided free of charge on campus during study days or on Fridays before breaks.

◆ Thomas Noble, the director of the Medieval Institute and a history professor, is the new Faculty Senate liaison to the Student Senate.

Contact Kaitlynn Riely at kriely@nd.edu

Eddy

continued from page 1

impact on traffic, downtown businesses and the environment.

Some of the commitments included Kite's promises to use environmentally friendly building materials and designs, include bike lanes and relocate the animals that lived in the wooded property before clearing it for construction, a University news release said.

Compton told WNDU earlier this month more than 100 small animals have been relocated since mid-June, and that 60 percent of the evacuated wildlife is made up of raccoons.

Once the animal eviction is complete, Kite will be allowed to clear the woods.

But before construction can begin on the site, the developer will also have to obtain a second permit, Hakanen said.

"The tax increment financing [TIF] is still working its way through the city," he said.

Tax increment financing refers to the additional tax revenues the city expects to receive from the finalized project - money that can be used to cover South Bend's costs throughout the development, which may include road improvements, additional power lines and sewer modifications, Hakanen said.

"You take the additional taxes that would come from the new constructions, and you use them to pay for the bonds that built the roads, the parking garage, and the improvements to the water and sewer systems," he said.

Once the city works out the project's tax increment financing this fall, Hakanen said, Kite Realty will be able to begin constructing the first phase of the Commons, which is slated to include

85,000 square feet of retail and restaurant businesses, 75,000 square feet of office space, two hotels, 250 deluxe apartments, 120 condominiums and 80 town homes.

Although a University news release said the hotels would be a 248-room Marriott and a 123-room Springhill Suites, Hakanen said he could not talk about potential tenants of the retail and office spaces yet.

Compton similarly said he would not discuss possible retail or restaurant tenants until the tax increment financing was finalized and the developer could move forward with its plan, which includes negotiations with interested renters.

"We're in preliminary discussions with different types of interested tenants, but we will only move on to the next stage in the development of the Commons once the TIF is completely finalized," Compton said.

He said the University and Kite have agreed on certain types of businesses they would like to see along Eddy Street.

"We are looking for an Irish-themed restaurant, a bookstore and a café," he said. "And we want these shops to keep the street lined with old-style painted signs."

He said there would be no bars in the Commons, or any other type of business - such as funeral homes - that could detract from the project's mission to strengthen the University's ties to South Bend in an amenable space.

"Hopefully the University and the city will have a college town kind of setting that will benefit everyone," Compton said.

Contact Marcela Berrios at aberrios@nd.edu

Hilton

continued from page 1

east of the hotel. The sharp bend in Madeleva Drive has been softened in preparation for the change.

When the construction of the Hilton broke ground near Saint Mary's campus last fall, students voiced concerns that adding another hotel would detract from the natural beauty of the campus.

Now, questions focus on whether the hotel will provide some of the same services as The Inn at Saint Mary's, which is unaffiliated with the new hotel.

"I want to know whether or not they will offer packages for graduation [like the Inn at Saint Mary's]," junior Emily Croft said.

Smeltzer said she didn't know of any definitive package deals.

"We haven't decided yet," she said. "It's been discussed, but a decision has not been made."

The Hilton will also contain a bar, a restaurant and a namesake garden.

Contact Liz Harter at charte01@saintmarys.edu

Ordinance

continued from page 1

defined as residences occupied by more than two unrelated people - to submit an application to the city 10 business days before holding any gatherings in which more than 25 people would have access to alcohol.

Brown urged the senators to tell their friends and classmates that student government alone cannot change the ordinance. She said the student body must contribute to their efforts, because student behavior during the next few weeks could affect the outcome of the eventual hearing.

Brown called the ordinance a "huge wake-up call for Notre Dame students." She told senators she is not recommending an end to off campus student parties, but rather encouraging students to be respectful of their neighbors and other South Bend residents.

"We need to see some improvements in student behavior - it's just a fact,"

Brown said.

Community relations chair Colin Feehan reiterated Brown's stance during his committee report, saying that that student behavior during the first full weekend of the fall semester and for the next few weeks could have a deciding effect on the outcome of the ordinance.

"Our ability to negotiate is dependent on student behavior," Feehan said. "So this weekend, especially, encourage your friends and classmates to be respectful to their neighbors."

Brown said South Bend Mayor Stephen Luecke's office told her the South Bend Police Department will actively enforce the disorderly house ordinance, the existing ordinance that addresses noise violations.

Brown and student body vice president Maris Braun began discussing the ordinance with city officials before most students returned to schools. They have met with members of the Common Council, the mayor and other city officials to discuss alternatives to the

ordinance, which would apply to many students living off campus and would levy stiff fines against residents who did not submit applications.

The Common Council decided Monday to delay the public hearing for the ordinance, for the third time, until Sept. 17. The mayor's office also drafted a revised version of the ordinance with what Brown called "major changes."

The mayor's proposal would require individuals living in boarding houses to notify the police department 24 hours in advance of a gathering of 25 or more non-residents.

"This change is major," Brown said, "because it is a notification, rather than a registration process."

Under the mayor's proposal, there is no application to a city administrative office, only notification to the police department. Fines will, however, still be charged to individuals who do not observe the stipulations of the ordinance, Brown said.

"This new version is at least a step in the right direction, and I am encouraged that we

have another week now to discuss further developments that would bring us closer to our goal of moving away from this restrictive ordinance," Brown said.

Brown said she plans to continue to meet with city and University officials during the next few weeks. She said she has a meeting planned for Friday with city council members, the mayor and Vice President for Student Affairs Father Mark Poorman.

Brown's address was delivered from the podium - a setting she said should emphasize the importance of her message about good behavior by students.

"I don't like to take the podium except for the three times a year that I address you in regard to the state of the student union," Brown said, "but I wanted to come up here today to draw some attention to an issue that has obviously been on the forefront of student minds for the past month."

Contact Kaitlynn Riely at kriely@nd.edu

CBS sending Couric on reporting trip to Iraq

Associated Press

NEW YORK — Katie Couric plans to leave Wednesday for an ambitious reporting trip to Iraq and Syria — the CBS anchor's first time in the war zone — in anticipation of a crucial military report on progress of the American effort.

Couric will anchor the "CBS Evening News" from Baghdad next Tuesday and Wednesday, then from Damascus on Thursday and Friday.

Couric will travel throughout Iraq to talk to military and civilian leaders, soldiers and aver-

age Iraqis, spending most of her time outside of Baghdad. CBS News would not reveal many specifics of her plans in advance because of competitive and safety concerns.

The trip, in the works for six weeks, anticipates the surge progress report by Gen. David Petraeus that is expected the second week of

September.

"You can't help but get a very detached perspective when you're not there and you're not witnessing things firsthand," Couric told The Associated Press on Tuesday. "I'm curious about very basic questions regarding living conditions, about how much fear there is in the street, about how the soldiers really are doing."

Couric and her traveling partner, evening news executive producer Rick Kaplan, were fitted with 30-pound body armor vests in Kaplan's office on Tuesday. Both needed to send

theirs back to add extra protection to the sides.

To break the tension as Couric's armor was pulled tightly around her, Kaplan smacked her on the shoulder.

Safety is a sobering concern for all reporters in Iraq. The Committee to Protect Journalists said 112 journalists have been killed in Iraq since March 2003. An additional 41 media workers have been killed, the latest being CBS News Iraqi translator Anwar Abbas Lafta, whose body was found over the weekend in Sadr City.

Couric is the second major

network anchor to travel to Iraq since ABC News' Bob Woodruff was nearly killed by a roadside bomb. NBC's Brian Williams went to Iraq in March; Woodruff's successor Charles Gibson has not been there.

CBS News cameraman Paul Douglas and sound-man James Brogan were both killed by a bomb while on assignment in Iraq in May 2006. Correspondent Kimberly Dozier, who was with them, survived but has endured 25 operations in her recovery; Couric anchored a special this spring on the bombing's aftermath.



Couric

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Taliban releases 12 South Koreans

QALA-E-KAZI — Taliban militants released 12 captives in a series of handovers Wednesday, part of a deal with Seoul to free all 19 South Korean hostages that one Afghan minister warned would embolden the insurgents.

The South Koreans, Christian aid workers who were kidnapped nearly six weeks ago, were turned over to the International Committee of the Red Cross at three locations in central Afghanistan. None of the 12 spoke to reporters.

The remaining South Koreans will be freed over the next 48 hours, Taliban commanders have said.

The first three women freed came to Qala-E-Kazi in a single car, their heads covered with red and green shawls. Red Cross officials quickly took them to their vehicles and set out for the office of the Afghan Red Crescent in the town of Ghazni, witnesses said.

Pakistan president quits army post

LONDON — Pakistan's President Gen. Pervez Musharraf has agreed to step down as army chief, exiled Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto said Wednesday, a move that would be a key step toward a power-sharing deal aimed at rescuing the U.S. ally's bid for another presidential term.

Bhutto, who is expected to return to her homeland and contest parliamentary elections due by January, also said corruption charges would be dropped against her and dozens of other politicians as part of ongoing negotiations to restore civilian rule.

Musharraf and Bhutto have been in talks for months about a pact that would protect the general's re-election bid from legal challenges and public disenchantment with military rule.

NATIONAL NEWS

Republicans call for Craig to resign

WASHINGTON — Idaho Sen. Larry Craig's political support eroded by the hour on Wednesday as fellow Republicans in Congress called for him to resign and party leaders pushed him unceremoniously from senior committee posts.

The White House expressed disappointment, too — and nary a word of support for the 62-year-old lawmaker, who pleaded guilty earlier this month to a charge stemming from an undercover police operation in an airport men's room.

Craig "represents the Republican Party," said Rep. Pete Hoekstra of Michigan, the first in a steadily lengthening list of GOP members of Congress to urge a resignation.

The senator's spokesman declined comment. "They have a right to express themselves," said Sidney Smith. He said he had heard no discussion of a possible resignation.

Airport screening targets Sikhs

WASHINGTON — A new airport screening policy for turbans and other headwear has the country's Sikhs concerned they are being unfairly targeted.

The federal policy change went into effect Aug. 4, subjecting travelers to secondary screening at security checkpoints if they are wearing head coverings, such as cowboy hats, berets or turbans. The screenings could include a pat-down search of the head covering if the screener finds it necessary.

LOCAL NEWS

School bus drives off I-164; 8 injured

ELBERFELD — A school bus carrying a middle school girl's volleyball team drove off Interstate 164 and into a cornfield Tuesday afternoon, injuring several of the girls, police said.

About 15 seventh- and eighth-graders from Owensville Community School were on the bus, with eight to 10 being taken to a hospital for injuries that ranged from bruises to a broken leg, said David Wedding, chief deputy of the Vanderburgh County Sheriff's Department.

Frustration lingers for New Orleans

Bush visits battered city on two-year anniversary of Katrina as residents protest

Associated Press

NEW ORLEANS — Prayers, protests and a lingering disgust with the government's response to Hurricane Katrina marked the disaster's second anniversary Wednesday, with a presidential visit doing little to mollify those still displaced by the storm.

Clarence Russ, 64, took a dim view of politicians' promises as he tried to put the finishing touches on his repaired home in the city's devastated Lower 9th Ward.

"There was supposed to be all this money, but where'd it go? None of us got any," said Russ, whose house was the only restored home on an otherwise desolate block.

Not far away, President Bush visited a school. "We're still paying attention. We understand," he said before heading to the Mississippi Gulf Coast, also devastated by Katrina.

But Gina Martin, who is still living in Houston after Katrina destroyed her New Orleans home, was unconvinced. "Bush was down here again making more promises he isn't going to keep. The government has failed all of us. It's got to stop," she said.

Martin was among an estimated 1,000 people taking part in a protest march that started in the Lower 9th Ward. It was a uniquely New Orleans-style protest: There were signs accusing the Bush administration of murder and angry chants about the failure of government. But marchers also danced in the street accompanied by two brass bands.

Katrina was a powerful Category 3 hurricane when it hit the Gulf Coast the morning of Aug. 29, 2005, broke through levees in New Orleans and flooded 80 percent of the city.

By the time the water dried up weeks later, more than 1,600 people across Louisiana and Mississippi were dead, and a shocked



Marion Bryan holds a sign at the memorial service for Joyce and Shanai Green on the second anniversary of Hurricane Katrina in the Lower Ninth Ward of New Orleans Wednesday.

nation saw miles of wrecked homes, mud and debris from one of the worst natural disasters in its history.

In New Orleans, recovery has been spotty at best. The historic French Quarter and neighborhoods close to the Mississippi River did not flood and have bounced back fairly well. The city's population has reached an estimated 277,000, about 60 percent its pre-storm level of 455,000. Sales tax revenues are approaching normal, and tourism and the port industry are recovering.

But vast stretches of the city show little or no recovery. A housing shortage and high rents have hampered business growth. The homeless population has almost

doubled since the storm, and many of those squat in an estimated 80,000 vacant dwellings. Violent crime is also on the rise, and the National Guard and state troopers still supplement a diminished local police force.

Bells pealed amid prayers, song and tears at the groundbreaking for a planned Katrina memorial at a New Orleans cemetery.

"We ring the bells for a city that is in recovery, that is struggling, that is performing miracles on a daily basis," said Mayor Ray Nagin, who famously cursed the federal response in a radio interview days after the storm.

The memorial will be the final resting place for more

than two dozen unclaimed bodies.

"The saddest thing I've seen here is that there are 30 human beings who will be buried here one day that nobody ever called about," David Kopra, a volunteer from Olympia, Wash., said, holding back tears. "It says something to my heart. This city needs so much care, and that's why I'm here."

Churches throughout the region, including historic St. Louis Cathedral in the French Quarter, held services. At the Claiborne Avenue bridge over the Industrial Canal, mourners tossed a wreath into the water near the spot where a levee breach led to the inundation of the Lower 9th Ward.

IRAQ

Al-Sadr to overhaul Shiite militia

Associated Press

BAGHDAD — Anti-American cleric Muqtada al-Sadr took his Mahdi Army out of action for up to six months Wednesday to overhaul the feared Shiite militia — a stunning move that underscores the growing struggles against breakaway factions with suspected ties to Iran.

A spokesman for al-Sadr said the order also means the Mahdi Army would suspend attacks against U.S. and other coalition forces.

But it's unclear how much influence al-Sadr still wields over Shiite groups blamed for waves of attacks, including

powerful roadside bombs that remain the chief killer of U.S. troops. American officials, meanwhile, reacted with skepticism and urged al-Sadr to show tangible steps to rein in his fighters.

The announcement by al-Sadr — who formed the militia after the fall of Saddam Hussein in 2003 — appeared aimed at distancing himself from suspected Iranian-backed Mahdi factions he can no longer control. It also sought to deflect criticism for his followers' perceived role in this week's fighting in Karbala that aborted a Shiite religious festival and claimed more than 50 lives.

Thousands of pilgrims fled in terror as fighting erupted Tuesday between Mahdi

Army members and security forces linked a rival Shiite militia, the Badr Brigade.

The battles are part of wider power struggles by armed Shiite groups for control of the Shiite heartland of southern Iraq, which includes major religious shrines and most of the country's vast oil riches. The splintering of the Mahdi Army has opened new fronts across the south.

In a statement, al-Sadr said he would "freeze" the Mahdi Army "for a period not exceeding six months." The goal, the statement said, is to reorganize the force "in such a manner that would maintain and preserve the prestige of this symbol of the faith."

FBI investigates string of store bomb threats

Harding's market in Buchanan, Mich. affected

Associated Press

NEWPORT, R.I. — Large grocery and discount stores across the country have been targeted by a caller who threatens to blow up shoppers and workers with a bomb if employees fail to wire money to an account overseas, authorities said.

Frightened workers have wired thousands of dollars — and in one case took off their clothes — to placate a caller who said he was watching them but may have been thousands of miles away. The FBI and police said Wednesday they are investigating similar bomb threats at more than 15 stores in at least 11 states — all in the past week.

"At this point, there's enough similarities that we think it's potentially one person or one group," FBI spokesman Rich Kolko said from Washington.

No one has been arrested, no bombs have been found, and no one has been hurt, though the calls have triggered store evacuations and prompted lengthy sweeps by police and bomb squads.

Law enforcement officials say the caller claims to have a bomb and orders the store to send money to an account through an in-store money transfer service such as Western Union. He often claims to be able to see inside the store, but officials believe he was making it up.

In Newport, employees at a Wal-Mart got three calls Tuesday morning and wired three payments totaling \$10,000 to an account out of the country, Sgt. James Quinn said. A spokeswoman for Wal-Mart Stores Inc. said the company was assisting in the investigation, but offered no further comment.

The first of the threats that federal investigators are aware of came last Thursday at a Safeway in Sandy, Ore. The caller initially said he had a gun and was watching the store, but after meeting resistance to his demands he claimed to have a bomb, Sandy police Chief Harold Skelton said.

In Buchanan, Mich., on Monday, the caller directed employees of a Harding's market to lock the front doors, move to the front and told them not to call police, said Berrien County Sheriff Paul Bailey. The man claimed he could see some workers standing up, and ordered them to sit down.

"He's just ad-libbing," Bailey said. "He can't see anything."

Nonetheless, Bailey said, the employees were so afraid they wired the caller \$3,000. The manager even hung up the phone when authorities called, saying a bomb would go off if he talked to them.

Bailey said that in a phone call with police, the man even offered to trade a "hostage" for a police

officer to make his threat more believable.

The caller has not gotten every store he's called to give up money, but the FBI on Wednesday did not provide the total amount taken.

On Tuesday, at a Dillons grocery store in Hutchinson, Kan., the caller ordered customers and employees to disrobe. Employee Marilyn Case told The Hutchinson News that store manager Mike

Piros argued with the caller, but they relented when he continued to make threats and instructed them to "do it now."

He then demanded that one of Piros' fingers be cut off for every hour his demands were not met, and another employee got a

butcher knife on his orders, Case said. Jim Peterson, a customer, told the newspaper that people became distraught.

"People came undone and started saying, 'No, no,'" he said.

Piros was not harmed. Police there initially said they were investigating whether the caller had hacked into the surveillance system, but later backed away from that possibility.

The calls continued Wednesday, with a threat at a Hannaford supermarket in Millinocket, Maine. An employee arrived to find the doors locked and employees and customers sitting inside in a circle, said Stephen McCausland, spokesman for the Maine Department of Public Safety.

Store maintenance associate Ivan Garay told the Bangor Daily News that store manager Michael Bennett told everyone to sit on the floor. Later, they were told there had been a bomb threat.

At a Safeway supermarket in Prescott, Ariz., a caller with an accent demanded \$2,850 on Tuesday, according to police and city spokesman Kim Kapin.

"The maximum that Western Union can send through its

service is \$3,000," Kapin said. Wiring money also includes a \$150 service charge, Kapin added. "This individual was obviously aware of that."

Initially, the caller led employees to believe he was observing them.

"After a while, it sounded like he was just taking a shot in the dark at what they might be doing, or what they looked like or how they were reacting to his call," Prescott police Lt. Ken Morley said.

Sherry Johnson, a spokeswoman for Englewood, Colo.-based Western Union, said the company was working with the FBI and U.S. Secret Service to trace the money sent through the service. It was also telling its agents to be on the lookout for the extortion plot. She declined to be more specific, saying "this is an ongoing law enforcement investigation."

"The maximum that Western Union can send through its service is \$3,000. ... This individual was obviously aware of that."

Kim Kapin
Prescott, Ariz.
police and city spokesman

"After a while, it sounded like he was just taking a shot in the dark at what they might be doing or what looked like how they were reacting to his call."

Lt. Ken Morley
Prescott Ariz. Police Dept.

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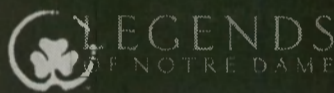
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- a) Freddie Prinze, Jr.
- b) Mark Wahlberg
- c) Orlando Bloom

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MARKET RECAP

Stocks

Dow Jones **13,289.29** +247.44

Up: 444 Same: 67 Down: 2,832 Composite Volume: 3,078,093,429

AMEX	2,216.05	+38.91
NASDAQ	2,563.16	+62.52
NYSE	9,508.92	+219.43
S&P 500	1,463.76	+31.40
NIKKEI (Tokyo)	18,341.27	+100.00
FTSE 100 (London)	6,132.20	+30.00

COMPANY	%CHANGE	SGAIN	PRICE
S&P DEP RECEIPTS (SPY)	+1.96	+2.82	146.54
POWERSHARES (QQQQ)	+2.87	+1.34	48.08
NTEL CP (INTC)	+4.72	+1.13	25.09
SUN MICROSYS (JAVA)	+2.17	+0.11	5.17

Treasuries

10-YEAR NOTE	+0.51	+0.023	4.553
13-WEEK BILL	-9.84	-0.420	3.850
30-YEAR BOND	+0.35	+0.017	4.879
5-YEAR NOTE	+0.82	+0.035	4.283

Commodities

LIGHT CRUDE (\$/bbl.)	+1.78	73.51
GOLD (\$/Troy oz.)	+1.90	675.40
PORK BELLIES (cents/lb.)	+0.58	91.58

Exchange Rates

YEN	115.5850
EURO	0.7325
POUND	0.4965
CANADIAN \$	1.0611

IN BRIEF

DaimlerChrysler profits down 14%

FRANKFURT — DaimlerChrysler AG said Wednesday that its second-quarter profit fell 14 percent and disclosed plans to spend about \$10.2 billion buying back nearly 10 percent of its shares as it moves forward without its Chrysler division.

DaimlerChrysler's profit decline excluding results from Chrysler and its finance arm — which did better in the latest quarter than a year ago — was a steeper 20 percent.

The automaker said it earned 1.44 billion euros (\$1.91 billion) excluding the operations it sold, compared to 1.8 billion euros a year earlier.

It now expects a charge of 2.5 billion euros for the year from the sale of Chrysler group and its financing arm, less than it had previously thought.

DaimlerChrysler also said it expects vehicle sales to be in line with the 2.1 million it sold in 2006, with revenue on par with the 99 billion euros it reported last year.

The company sold the Chrysler group and North American financial services units to Cerberus Capital Management LLC earlier this month in a \$7.4 billion deal that saw the private equity group take an 80.1 percent stake in Chrysler.

Hackers unlock iPhone from AT&T

NEW YORK — Hackers have figured out how to unleash Apple's iPhone from AT&T's cellular network, but people hoping to make money from the procedure could face legal problems.

At least one of the companies hoping to make money by unlocking iPhones said it is hesitating after calls from lawyers representing the phone company.

Unlocking the phone for one's own use, for instance to place calls with a different carrier, appears to be legal. But if it's done for financial gain, the legality is less certain.

"Whether people can make profits from software that hacks the iPhone is going to depend very much on exactly what was done to develop that software and what does that software do," said Bart Showalter, head of the Intellectual Property practice group at law firm Baker Botts in Dallas.

Bernanke calls for mortgage choices

Federal Reserve chief believes Federal Housing Administration could help

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Federal Reserve Chairman Ben Bernanke is suggesting that policymakers look for ways to encourage a wider range of mortgages geared for low income and other borrowers who have been hard hit by the housing slump and credit crunch.

Bernanke, in a letter to Sen. Charles Schumer, D-N.Y., that was released Wednesday, said the Fed is keeping close tabs on financial markets and is "prepared to act as needed" to ensure spreading credit problems that have rocked Wall Street in recent weeks don't hurt the economy. It's a message the central bank has been sending as the markets have grown more turbulent.

Foreclosure and late payments have spiked especially for "subprime" borrowers with blemished credit histories or low incomes. Higher interest rates and weak home values have made it impossible for some to pay or to keep up with their monthly mortgage payments. Some overstretched homeowners can't afford to refinance or even sell their home.

Bernanke said the development of "a broader range of mortgage products which are appropriate for low- and moderate-income borrowers, including those seeking to refinance" might help the situation. "Such products could be designed to avoid or mitigate the risk of prepayment shock and to be more transparent with respect to their terms," Bernanke wrote in the letter, which was dated Monday.

Mortgage foreclosures and late payments are



Eileen Griffen is trying to sell her house in Cheshire, Conn. Like many Americans, Griffen is having trouble finding a buyer due to the troubled mortgage market.

expected to worsen in the next year and a half as low "teaser" rates that lured in borrowers reset to higher rates, socking homeowners. Some 2 million adjustable rate mortgages are expected to reset to higher rates this year and next. Steep penalties for prepaying mortgages have added to some homeowners' headaches.

Bernanke said the Federal Housing Administration, a government agency that insures home loans, might be able

to help.

"The Congress might wish to consider FHA reforms that allow the agency more flexibility to design new products and to collaborate with the private sector in facilitating the refinancing of credit-worthy subprime borrowers facing large resets," Bernanke said.

The Bush administration is looking into ways that the FHA, part of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, may help troubled home-

owners with low incomes or tarnished credit histories.

Sen. Chris Dodd, a Connecticut Democrat who is seeking his party's presidential nomination, has urged the administration to enable the FHA to "provide more affordable loans to American homeowners in danger of foreclosure due to bad lending practices." Dodd, chairman of the Senate Banking Committee, also is interested in legislation to reform the FHA.

Stocks up amid possible interest rate cuts

Associated Press

NEW YORK — Stocks rebounded sharply Wednesday as investors, growing more optimistic about chances for an interest rate cut, sought bargains after the previous session's huge tumble. The Dow Jones industrials gained almost 250 points.

Many investors believe the Federal Reserve will cut interest rates at its next meeting on Sept. 18 or even sooner and were preparing for Fed Chairman Ben Bernanke to hint at such a move on Friday at a speech in Jackson Hole, Wyo. The possibility of a rate cut has given Wall Street some hope that the stock market will recover from its summer volatility, and that right now, it's a good strategy to buy while the buying is cheap.

News that Bernanke said in a letter to Sen. Charles Schumer, D-N.Y., that Fed policymakers are "prepared to act as needed" if the market's tur-

bulence hurts the economy helped pad the market's gain.

The Fed, although it has not yet indicated that it will indeed lower the benchmark fed funds rate, has been adding cash to the banking system in an attempt to keep the credit markets liquid. The Federal Reserve Bank of New York said Wednesday it would inject \$5.25 billion through a one-day repurchase agreement, where it buys that amount in collateral from dealers who then deposit the money into commercial banks.

Wall Street was also enthusiastic about signs of corporate muscle. A jump in oil prices fed a rally in energy company stocks, and positive news from technology companies including Seagate Technology gave that sector a boost. Meanwhile, Altria Group Inc. spun off its Philip Morris International cigarette business.

Stock investors kept an eye on the credit markets for signs of loosening.

Though the safest assets, Treasuries, are not seeing the same frantic buying they saw a couple weeks ago, assets with a bit more risk, like commercial paper, are having some trouble attracting buyers.

"Everyone's waiting for the dust to settle there," said Steven Goldman, chief market strategist at Weeden & Co. "We're on a little bit better footing, but we're in a healing process that takes time." He added that he regards a Fed rate cut as "mandatory."

The Dow rose 247.44, or 1.90 percent, to 13,289.29, near its highs of the session. The blue chip index tumbled 280 points on Tuesday amid pessimism about the Fed's intentions.

Broader stock indicators also jumped. The Standard & Poor's 500 index added 31.40, or 2.19 percent, to 1,463.76, while the Nasdaq composite index gained 62.52, or 2.50 percent, to 2,563.16.

Statue erected in honor of Mandela in London

Monument stands near other historical heroes in Parliament Square; British prime minister among attendees

Associated Press

LONDON — It was 1962 and Nelson Mandela was on the run. Hunted by South African authorities and gearing up for armed struggle against his country's apartheid government, Mandela visited London seeking money, training and support.

It was then that he and Oliver Tambo, his partner in the anti-apartheid struggle, walked through Parliament Square surveying the statuary tributes to the British Empire's great and good. The figure of South African statesman Jan Smuts caught their eye.

"When we saw the statue of Gen. Smuts near Westminster Abbey, Oliver and I joked that perhaps someday there would be a statue of us in its stead," Mandela wrote in his autobiography, "Long Walk to Freedom."

Forty years later, Mandela returned to the square Wednesday to watch the unveiling of his own statue across from Smuts' — and join the ranks of Britain's most revered heroes.

"Nelson Mandela is one of the most courageous and best-loved men of all time," Prime Minister Gordon Brown said of the 89-year-old Nobel Peace Prize winner, who has come to personify his country's struggle to end apartheid.

Brown said it was fitting that Mandela, whom he called "the great liberator," joined statues of Abraham Lincoln and Winston Churchill in the square.

But Mandela was not always considered a hero. Britain maintained close ties with South Africa through the apartheid era, helping to insulate the former colony's government from international isolation at the United Nations. British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher referred to Mandela's African National Congress as a terrorist organization.

"Even when my friend Gordon, the prime minister, was paying very warm tribute to him, it was not always thus," British lawmaker Nigel Griffiths said, explaining that many British politicians criticized Mandela's decision to take

up arms against the white minority regime.

"It's amazing how people have forgotten how they opposed him," Griffiths said.

But Mandela's cause caught the popular imagination, and Britons were among the most committed foes of apartheid internationally. Boycotts were organized of companies doing business in South Africa, and a constant vigil was held in Trafalgar Square as Mandela languished in jail.

Mandela's career as South Africa's first post-apartheid president, which saw the painful — but largely peaceful — transition from a white supremacist state to a multiracial democracy, won most of his opponents over. Conservative leader David Cameron said last year that Thatcher had been wrong to label the ANC a terrorist organization, calling Mandela "one of the greatest men alive."

Nevertheless, the effort to erect a statue to Mandela in London was not without controversy.

London Mayor Ken Livingstone campaigned for the Mandela sculpture to be placed in Trafalgar Square — home to three statues of British military heroes and King George IV. But Westminster Council's planning committee, which had the final say, decided on Parliament Square, saying it was a more suitable location.

In the end, though, the towering bronze statue of Mandela, its polished brown hands stretching toward London's Houses of Parliament, was more than his British supporters had hoped for.

"I never even thought we would live to see Mandela freed from prison — much less this," said Eddie Fennings, a 43-year-old energy broker, as the crowd around him broke into South African anthems.

Ola Onanuga, 44, said she had protested and marched as Mandela languished in jail. Now she said she was bringing her daughter to the square to give the child a glimpse at what she called a "one of a kind" politi-

cian. "He's someone that our generation and the younger generation will never again see," Onanuga said.

Mandela appeared frail as he made his way Wednesday to the platform, leaning on the arm of his wife, Graca Machel. But he spoke clearly as he invited the crowd to celebrate his 90th birthday next year at a concert in London's Hyde Park in support of his efforts to combat AIDS.

The concert will support his foundation, which is called "46664" — the number he wore in prison.

The Nobel laureate recalled the time he and Tambo toured the square, looking ambivalently at the symbols of British power.

"The history of the struggle in South Africa is rich with the stories of heroes and heroines, some of them leaders, some of them followers. All of them deserve to be remembered," Mandela said.

"Oliver would have been proud today if he were here."



British prime minister Gordon Brown greets former South African president Nelson Mandela during a statue unveiling Aug. 29.

Clashes, arrests mark Chilean day of protest

Associated Press

SANTIAGO — Police used tear gas, water cannons and clubs against demonstrators staging nationwide protests Wednesday over government social and economic policies.

Authorities said 87 people had been detained, but as the protests passed the six-hour mark by mid-afternoon, state television and other local news media quoted police sources as saying that arrests had passed 300.

Journalists saw several demonstrators bleeding or overcome by tear gas after clashes with police. Among the injured was Sen. Alejandro Navarro, of President Michelle Bachelet's Socialist Party, who bled from the back of his head after being clubbed by a police officer. Deputy Interior Minister Felipe Harboe said the incident would be investigated.

Navarro, who went to a nearby hospital for medical attention, supported the protest called by country's largest union federation

to oppose free-market economics and the government's social policies.

Bachelet's government "is doing things very badly," said union leader Arturo Martinez, another Socialist Party member backing the protests.

The center-left government has maintained a largely free-market economic model, which includes free-trade agreements with the United States and other countries.

Protest organizers called for higher pensions and better education, health and housing services.

Police repeatedly blocked protesters from marching toward the center of Santiago but demonstrators blocked traffic at key intersections.

The president appeared especially upset that some members of her own coalition were backing the protests.

"I am not going to accept that my dedication to social justice is not recognized," she said Monday night.

NASA: no evidence of pre-launch drinking

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — After finding no evidence of astronauts drinking before launching into space, NASA said Wednesday it is considering limited alcohol testing of its employees, including astronauts.

An internal investigation recommended alcohol testing while at the same time clearing astronauts of much-publicized drinking allegations. In response, NASA Administrator Michael Griffin said he would come up with a policy for testing after a mishap or when there are suspicions of substance abuse. It would, he said, be further validation of a sober space agency.

The review released Wednesday could not verify two drinking allegations described by an independent panel last month, and Griffin said they just didn't happen. The report did acknowledge the availability of alcohol in crew quarters, noting that non-flying astronauts made booze-buying runs for their quarantined colleagues.

The 45-page report by NASA safety chief Bryan O'Connor, a former astronaut and shuttle accident investigator, was initiated after the July report on astronaut health by eight medical experts.

"I was unable to verify any case in which an astronaut spaceflight crewmember was impaired on launch day" or any case where a manager disregarded warnings from another NASA employee that an astronaut not fly, said O'Connor's report.

However, O'Connor said NASA doctors should play a stronger "oversight" role on launch day,

accompanying astronauts as they suit up for launch. O'Connor also recommended that excessive drinking be added to NASA's list of risky activities forbidden for astronauts in the year before launch, along with motorcycle racing, parachuting and firefighting.

A 1991 law directs NASA to come up with a policy for alcohol testing of employees as recommended by O'Connor, but it never has done so before, Griffin said at a news conference. He said the agency will now start the long process of coming up with a testing policy.

"The issue is just how far we go," he said after the conference.

The chairman of the independent panel, Air Force Col. Richard E. Bachman Jr., commander and dean of the U.S. Air Force School of Aerospace Medicine, declined comment on the internal review through a military spokesman.

O'Connor's review looked back 20 years and involved interviews with 90 NASA officials, astronauts and flight surgeons. Twenty flight surgeons signed an e-mail to O'Connor saying they have never seen any drunken astronauts before a launch or training jet flight.

O'Connor looked through 40,134 government and contractor reports of mishaps and problems dating back through 1984 — many of them anonymous — and none of them involved alcohol or drug abuse by astronauts.

Both O'Connor and Griffin said in their decades of work in the space program they have never seen a NASA employee report for duty under the influence of alcohol.

The safety chief toured crew quarters at space centers in both Houston and Cape Canaveral, Fla., as the astronauts were in quarantine days before launch of the shuttle Endeavour earlier this month.

"I saw one half-empty bottle of tequila in one of the cupboards," O'Connor wrote. He also said beer and wine are available from non-flying astronauts making booze runs.

Still, beer and wine consumption now seems less than what was reported in the 1980s and early 1990s, O'Connor reported. It's usually moderate amounts of wine or beer at dinner, during off-duty times, and a far higher percentage of current astronauts are teetotalers these days, he wrote.

He also noted that "the lack of privacy on launch day makes it nearly impossible to hide alcohol use or alcohol-induced impairment."

"There are reasonable safeguards in place to prevent an impaired crew member from ever boarding a spacecraft," O'Connor said at the news conference.

The careful look at astronaut health issues grew out of the scandal earlier this year involving astronaut Lisa Nowak, accused of the assault and attempted kidnapping of a romantic rival.

The first report, by the independent panel in July, said: "Interviews with both flight surgeons and astronauts identified some episodes of heavy use of alcohol by astronauts in the immediate preflight period, which has led to safety concerns."

One instance involved a shuttle astronaut that a colleague



Bryan O'Connor, former astronaut and shuttle accident investigator, speaks at a news conference at NASA headquarters Aug. 29.

claimed had had too much to drink; the colleague alerted others only after the launch was delayed because of mechanical problems.

O'Connor, using the clues in that report, focused on three missions between 1990 and 1995. He spoke to at least two astronauts on each of those missions and the astronaut chiefs at the time and no one verified the claims.

The other alleged incident involved an astronaut drinking alcohol before flying on a Russian Soyuz capsule to the international space station. Griffin said he had the opportunity to look at the private medical records involved in the Soyuz incident and said there was no drunken astronaut.

Drinking small champagne toasts is part of a "special ceremony"

before cosmonauts go to the launch pad in Kazakhstan, O'Connor wrote. He reported that one non-drinking American worried about not imbibing, but was told by Russian flight surgeons it was OK not to drink.

In both cases — in which no names were given — the July report said that flight surgeons and/or fellow astronauts raised safety worries with nearby officials in charge, yet "the individuals were still permitted to fly."

Griffin and O'Connor said they were convinced no such thing happened. O'Connor said the independent panel was conveying information given to them under the protection of anonymity. The panel would not reveal its sources, he said.

Sikhs oppose changes in turban screenings

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — A new airport screening policy for turbans and other headwear has the country's Sikhs concerned they are being unfairly targeted.

The federal policy change went into effect Aug. 4, subjecting travelers to secondary screening at security checkpoints if they are wearing head coverings, such as cowboy hats, berets or turbans. The screenings could include a pat-down search of the head covering if the screener finds it necessary.

The New York-based Sikh Coalition believes the new policy singles out Sikhs and others who wear religious head coverings. More than 25 ethnic and religious organizations, such as the American-Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee and the Asian American Justice Center, have signed the coalition's petition against the policy change.

In the Sikh religion, the turban is considered private, and removing a turban would be like removing a woman's blouse, Neha Singh, the coalition's advocacy director, said Wednesday. Since 2001, federal policy has required screeners to search turbans only if they do not clear a metal detector.

The Transportation Security Administration denies any use of racial or religious profiling in its security screening practices. The recent policy change applies to all head coverings that could be used to conceal something, said TSA spokeswoman Amy Kudwo. The

change was not a result of any specific threat information about hiding explosives or weapons in head coverings, she said. And all travelers have the right to request a private screening.

"Head coverings do not 'require' a search under the new policy," Kudwo said in an e-mail. "Individuals MAY be referred for additional screening if the security officer cannot reasonably determine that the head area is free of a detectable threat item."

The Sikh Coalition has documented 40 incidents when Sikhs were subjected to these searches since Aug. 4. And some of these travelers were not offered a private area for screening, Singh said, adding, "This is going to lead to profiling."

TSA will not disclose the details of new policy for security reasons. It broadly explains the screening procedures on its Web site with a picture of a white cowboy hat and another picture of three young women laughing and wearing winter hats.

The Sikh community was not notified of the screening changes as it has been in the past, the advocacy group said. The organization met with TSA officials on Aug. 22 and has another conference call scheduled next week to discuss the issue, Singh said. TSA told the coalition the airport screeners decide to perform secondary screening on turbans at their own discretion.

If the policy remains broad and unregulated, it could lead to profiling, said David Harris, a racial profiling expert at the University of Toledo College of Law.

Gov. previews Tech report

Kaine troubled that violent essays weren't shared with law enforcement

Associated Press

RICHMOND, Va. — Seung-Hui Cho's violent essays — including one similar to the Virginia Tech massacre he carried out — weren't widely shared with law enforcement, the governor said Wednesday in a preview of a key report on the shootings.

Gov. Timothy M. Kaine said officers' lack of access to the student gunman's class compositions before the attack is "a significant feature" in the report, due for release Thursday by the panel Kaine appointed to review Cho's killings of himself and 32 others.

"There's a lot of instances where information was out there or different people had information where it needed to be put together," Kaine said.

The governor said it was hard to understand why more was not done about a student who had shown a fascination with the 1999 Columbine High School shooting spree and, in his video manifesto mailed in the middle of the Blacksburg slayings, said he considered the two students who committed it martyrs.

"I'm troubled that a student who had talked about Columbine at an earlier point in

his life, that that information was unknown to anybody on the Tech campus," Kaine said.

Kaine said he read about the writings in an earlier draft of the report. He is to publicly discuss details in the final report for the first time Thursday.

Virginia Tech turned over a compilation of Cho's writings to the review panel, including plays and other student writings so bloody that they horrified teachers and classmates.

One 2006 fictional account of a planned campus shooting previewed Cho's deadly attack. The Washington Post reported Wednesday that piece was

not given to the review panel until recently because of an oversight by school officials, Tech spokesman Larry Hincker said.

Some of the families of those killed and injured have demanded frank answers about how Cho was able to commit the worst mass shooting on an American college campus despite behavior that had alarmed fellow students, faculty and police.

Among those questions: Why wasn't Cho monitored more closely after a judge deemed

him a threat to himself more than a year before the shootings? And why didn't Virginia Tech alert the campus more quickly and cancel classes after the first two shootings in a dormitory, two hours before the main massacre in a classroom building?

"I know that some parents of the deceased are focusing on the mental health aspect of how Cho through all his life slipped through the cracks, and I understand that," said Suzanne Grimes, whose son Kevin Sterne was shot in the leg and survived. "My focus is why they didn't cancel the classes that day."

Grimes' 22-year-old son was shot in Norris Hall, where 30 people were slain and Cho committed suicide. Sterne has returned to Virginia Tech to earn a master's degree in electrical engineering, but a bullet remains in his body and he still receives physical therapy.

"If the panel report does contain some accountability in it, it will offer some closure to the families," Grimes said.

Cathy and Peter Read, whose daughter Mary Karen Read was killed in Norris Hall, said they want the panel to hold responsible parties accountable for the shootings. They also want the report to include recommendations on privacy and mental health laws, gun availability and the safety of students at universities. And they want the panel to reconvene at periodic intervals to review and ensure progress.

THE OBSERVER VIEWPOINT

page 10

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The flaw in Rudy's abortion stance

If nothing else, Rudy Giuliani has courage. Say the name "Rudy" to any non-Notre Dame fan and the first image that comes to mind is Giuliani, in a dust mask, walking the streets of lower Manhattan on Sept. 11. While President Bush and Vice President Cheney jetted around the country to undisclosed, secure locations, Rudy walked into the heart of the problem.

Recently, though, Rudy's courage has been manifested in a very different, but very dangerous, way. After obscuring his view on abortion in the first Republican primary debate, Giuliani decided to be honest about his position that abortion ought to be legal. Rudy told Americans, "In my case, I hate abortion. But ultimately, because it is an issue of conscience, I would respect a woman's right to make a different choice." Giuliani would later definitively insist that he finds abortion "morally wrong." In an age when, as author Kevin Phillips reports, "Evangelicals, fundamentalists, and Pentecostals" make up "some 40 percent of the [Republican] electorate," that sort of honesty takes courage indeed.

Of course, Rudy is not alone in this illogical "personally opposed but should be legal" position. Former New York Governor Mario Cuomo, a Catholic Democrat, famously detailed the same argument in a speech at Notre Dame in 1984. Cuomo argued that Catholics need to "weigh Catholic moral teaching against the fact of a pluralistic country where our view is in the minority." In 2004, John Kerry said, "I oppose abortion, personally. I don't like abortion. I believe life does begin at conception." Still, Kerry maintained, "I can't take what is an article of

faith for me and legislate it for someone who doesn't share that article of faith." Surely, the list does not stop there; Democrats (and, in Giuliani's case, the occasional courageous Republican) frequently take the "personally opposed, but..." position.

But this position on abortion has a significant flaw. No matter where on the ideological spectrum you fall, you cannot honestly and logically maintain that abortion is both a moral wrong and ought to be legal. Simply put, a person can't have a right to do a definitive moral wrong, and that seems to be precisely what Cuomo, Kerry and Giuliani find abortion to be.

Presumably, Rudy believes abortion destroys a human life. His Catholic background, together with his lack of any equivocation or confusion about the morality of abortion, suggests that this destruction is the reason he finds it morally wrong.

If abortion is "morally wrong" because it amounts to the destruction of innocent children, though, nobody — no matter his "courage" — can claim it ought to be legal. In this view, abortion is tantamount to murder. And it is safe to say that nobody, religious or otherwise, would entertain the idea that you can be "personally opposed" to murder but "respect a [person's] right to make a different choice." As speakers at the Michigan Catholic Conference once asked, "If it is morally permissible for us to say every woman has a right to make her own decision regarding abortion ... why can't everyone have an equal right to decide whether or not to shoot his neighbor?" If you believe abortion is the moral equivalent of murder, there is no room for negotiation on its legality.

Maybe Giuliani's "courage" will carry him farther than Cuomo or Kerry, all the way to the White House in 2008. When Rudy says that he finds abortion "morally wrong," he tries to maintain some credibility with the much discussed Christian base of the Republican Party. That is, even

though he is pro-choice, he tries to speak the same moral language as does the base to which he is trying to appeal. I can only hope, though, that America stops lauding politicians for their "courageous" ignorance and reclaims some critical intelligence as a nation of voters.

The very fact that he is being seriously considered suggests an even scarier reality for the so-called Religious Right: Perhaps, for most people, abortion is not as black and white as they want — and proclaim — it to be. It isn't just that society on the whole is confused about the morality of abortion. Many people are conflicted about whether abortion is "morally wrong." Most people don't "hate" abortion in the absolute sense that "hate" implies.

They weigh the circumstances of the abortion to determine its morality and our feelings toward it. They want to know when, why and how the abortion is performed before they pass judgment. They're iffy about the morality and legality of abortion. And the moment they admit that, the position against the imposition of a morality becomes infinitely more logical and appealing.

No politician, though, can admit this internal confusion publicly — lip service to society-wide "complexity" notwithstanding. For most, abortion is not an absolute, but we always speak about it as if it must be. To admit personal conflict about abortion, though, would be a demonstration of the sort of political — and personal — honesty that we rarely see in politics.

It would be the most courageous position of all.

Andrew Nesi is a junior American Studies major from Fairfield, Conn. Last fall, his lung collapsed, possibly as the result of a bad case of mono and an ill-timed breakup. He can be reached at anesi@nd.edu

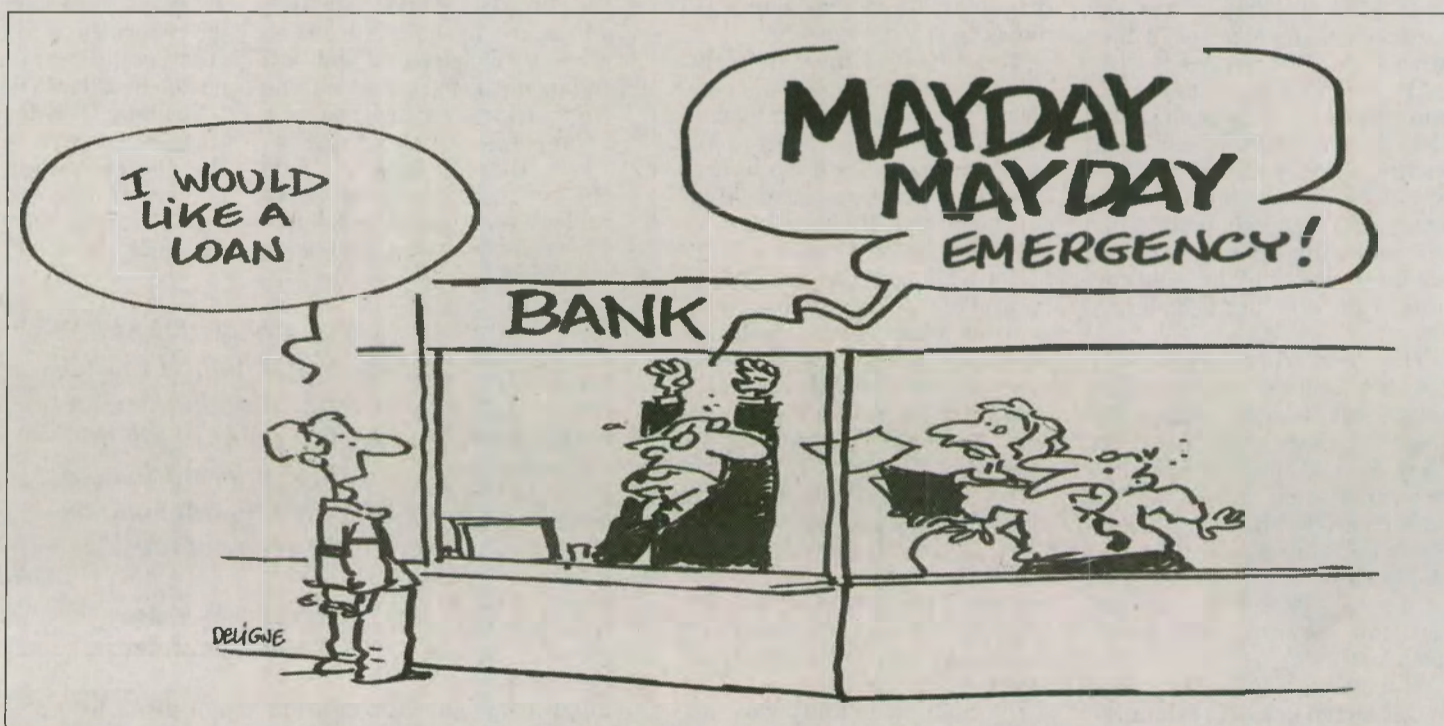
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Andrew Nesi

Spicy Sea
Nuggets

EDITORIAL CARTOON



Submit a
Letter to the Editor.
E-mail jking7@nd.edu

QUOTE OF THE DAY

"What I know for sure is that what you give comes back to you."

Oprah Winfrey
talk show host

Campus Ministry welcomes students

In the name of the staff of Campus Ministry and myself, I would like to welcome all Notre Dame students back to campus for a new academic year. All of us hope that this will be a great year for all of you and we look forward to being with you in some of our many Campus Ministry activities.

Richard Warner, C.S.C.

FaithPoint

Once again this year, we will offer an Ignatian Weekend Retreat early in October and

we are also planning a five-day silent Ignatian Retreat at the time of Spring Break. A number of people are helping us to develop our team, including Father Frank Murphy.

Father Lou DeFra has joined our staff and will share writing opportunities for this column with Kate Barrett. He will also assist us in developing a new series of Bible studies.

Finally, a long-term member of the Campus Ministry staff, Chandra Johnson, who served as associate

director of campus ministry and director of African American student ministry, has accepted a wonderful new opportunity in McLean, Va., working for a foundation that nationally supports African American students. Since this development only took place in July, we did not have an opportunity to invite Judy Madden to join our staff to replace Johnson until recently. I look forward to working with Madden as she serves our African American students.

We all look forward to a great new year in ministry as we work together with our student leaders and with all of you to build up the vibrant community of faith that is one of our wonderful mission values at Notre Dame.

This week's FaithPoint is written by Richard V. Warner, director of the Office of Campus Ministry.

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

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Better seats, a better football experience

Sure, I appreciated the practice Coach Weis put on for us on Sunday, and I want to thank him. I like how he wants to get the student body more involved.

At Texas A&M, they have a powerhouse of a student section. In part, it is due to being spread from goal line to goal line so that no matter where the players are, they are always close to the student body, that sea of maroon.

I know where the students sit probably isn't decided by our coach, but I thought I'd ask not only our coach, but our athlet-

ic department, if it may be possible to have the Notre Dame student body spread out goal line to goal line in order to better support our team?

We could have our sea of green. We could be a part of the team rather than apart from it by half of the stadium. We could be behind our players, literally, cheering them on. As Coach Weis said during the Sunday practice, he considers the student body a part of the football team in the same way he considers the football team a part of the student body.

So let's do that. Let's get some better student seats. We don't have to earn those seats — they were earned by our admission into the University.

I know that's a lot to ask. I'm not sure where previous years have sat at the games, but I think having better seats will give the student body, as well as the football team, that much more encouragement by being able to see our support for our team. This would especially be true when the away team has a large contingency, which is usually at the end

zone opposite the Notre Dame student body.

I again want to thank you, Coach Weis. I believe, no matter where I'm sitting, that you are a fantastic coach with a wonderful holistic approach that makes me feel, win or lose, that I've had a great time.

Robert McKeon

graduate student
 Fischer Graduate Residence
 Aug. 28

U-WIRE

Stick it to the man, avoid high-priced books

At the start of each semester I head down to the basement of the Nebraska Union, and the sight I'm faced with is enough to make Chuck Norris cry. Dozens of students, no more deserving than me of the punishment we're all about to receive,

Dan Halverson

Daily Nebraskan

apprehensively stand in line and await the opportunity to spend a couple hundred well-earned American dollars on their textbooks for the upcoming semester.

On the surface, it seems like a fair trade: dead trees with ink on them for some different dead trees with more ink on them. But I'm not content with surface appearances here, because I'm getting ripped off. I presumably could do some kind of real investigative journalism into just how much money the University Bookstore actually makes off us, but those findings would likely just further depress me. For my purposes here, I'll just assume the answer "a lot" is sufficient, and continue on.

The point that needs to be made, however, is that the bookstore sells thousands of dollars of books to students at the start of the semester, and four months later, at the end of it, those books are worth little more than a Snickers or a six pack — if that much. Do books really lose their value that quickly? Have the laws of physics, the

ones that took centuries to figure out, all of a sudden changed in the past four months while you were sitting in class?

Of course they haven't. But there is money to be made, and students are highly susceptible to the exploitation. Quite frankly, I think it is a scam. And pardon me if this sounds like hyperbole, but it is arguably one of the greatest ones this country has ever seen. The Mob could never pull off something this good.

It is not uncommon for a student to spend upward of 500 dollars on textbooks at the start of the semester. For many of us, this seems excessive. By the time the semester is over and half the books haven't even been cracked (or is that just me?), it seems even more so.

I walk down the stairs, calmly wait in line, show the cashier my NCard, and lo and behold, they will be using the 23 edition next semester in place of the 22 edition that I now feel like practicing my shot-putting skills with. I begin to wonder why I didn't just provide the bookstore a blank check and free reign over my credit cards four months ago. After all, they couldn't possibly screw me over financially all that much more, could they?

I paid hundreds of dollars for some books, and now that I want to sell them back in just as good of shape, I'm informed that begging for change on the corner of 14th and O is a superior money-

making scheme.

So, how do they get away with it? Well, for starters, there are in fact some classes in which you do need the books assigned if you hope to succeed. These classes are far fewer in number than the professors here on campus would have you believe when they hand out syllabi on the first day of class, but they are out there nonetheless.

For most of us, all the classes we sign up for are classes we will be taking for the first time, and therefore we are unable to know which ones we will need books for and which we won't; we usually just play it safe and buy them all. Combine this with the relative ease and availability of books at the bookstore, and you see a system that profits tremendously from a revolving door of naive college students convinced that they not only need every single textbook assigned to them, but that the bookstore is the best place for them to purchase these books.

The truth is, there are other places you can go to get your books, and I recommend you give one or more of them a try.

For starters, there is the library. Books, at the library? I'm a source of immeasurable amounts of knowledge, insight and wisdom, I know. But seriously, so long as it isn't a textbook that you'll need every day of the semester, it is worth a try (middle of campus, just west of the union, if you come to CBA, you've gone too far).

There is also the Internet. Two sources that I've heard particularly good things about are Amazon.com and Half.com. The availability of the books you will be looking for is quite good, and more often than not, the price will be significantly lower than what you could hope to find down in the bookstore.

So long as you aren't a spoiled only child and can wait a couple days for the U.S. mail system to do its job and get you your purchases, I'd recommend this route.

Identifying the "necessary" books from the "probably ought to have" books is no easy task. But one thing I have learned that you should keep in mind — the farther down the list a book is, the less important to the class it probably is. Much like a fantasy football drafter has his own style in selecting players, you too will have to develop your own style of selecting books.

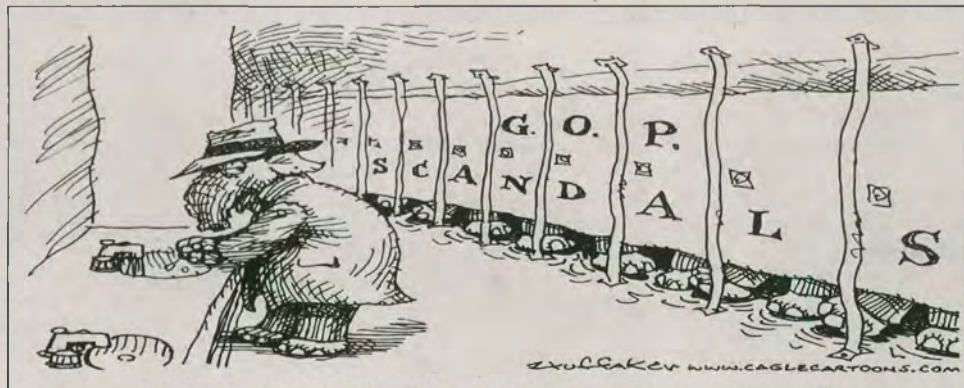
So there you have it. Three suggestions for beating the system. Or, at least, for giving it a kidney shot as it drags you into a pit of financial despair.

Good luck and happy reading.

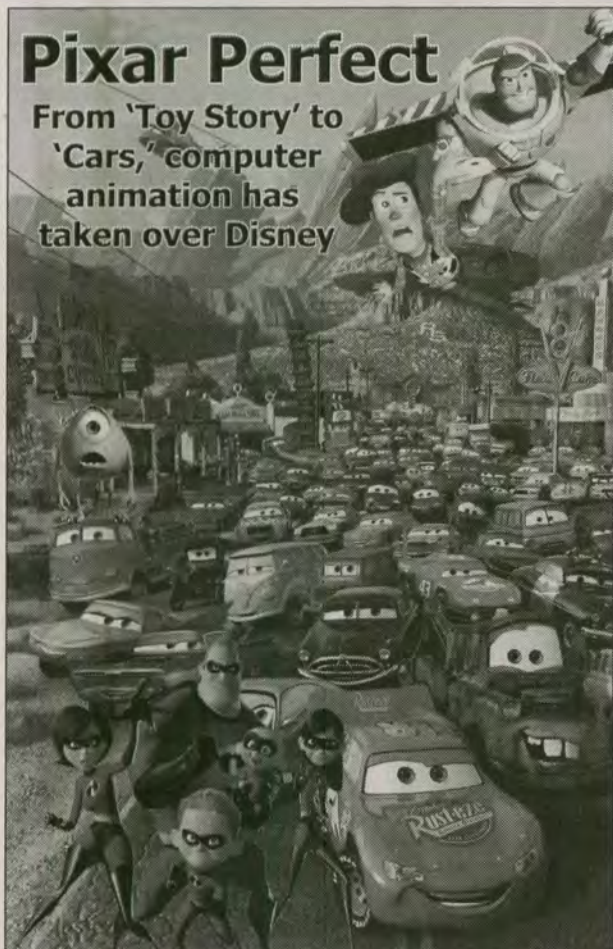
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EDITORIAL CARTOON



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Pixar Perfect

From 'Toy Story' to 'Cars,' computer animation has taken over Disney

By CHRIS McGRADY
Assistant Scene Editor

This summer was a silver tray covered with delectable films and flicks, and one of the main courses was the culinary-based "Ratatouille." The Pixar film, released in June, was a box office smash hit, and rightfully so.

"Ratatouille," named after a French dish, is a coming-of-age film that fully exemplifies the qualities that make Pixar creations so highly regarded. With a perfect blend of slapstick comedy, subtle adult humor, and a hefty dash of the "life-lessons" we have come to expect from so many animated movies, "Ratatouille" is a cinematic success story from the start.

The film follows the tale (or is it tail?) of Remy (Patton Oswalt), a rat with a passion for food that is unappreciated and unwanted by his peers. While his family feasts on garbage and other leftovers, Remy finds pleasure in stealing a bit of cheese from the cottage near his rat nest. Remy is not satisfied to have garbage as his main course, but seeks greater fare. Remy's life goal is to become a chef, but his heritage (i.e. being a rat)

prevents him from following his dreams. That is until a series of events leads to Remy finding himself in Paris, France, and he ends up in the kitchen of one of the most famous restaurants in the world. The story follows Remy's secret ascent into chef-stardom, and the perils it entails.

Overall the film is one of Pixar's best, and can easily be mentioned in the

brilliance is breathtaking. The rats themselves are very well animated, and the animators do a knock-up job of making the rats' personalities fit with their form.

Ratatouille is rated G and is a perfect film for the whole family. However, it features several different subplots that are woven together and the youngest audiences might have a difficult time following all the details. The film, while probably not Pixar's best, is certainly a very good film indeed. Written by Brad Bird, the plot is beyond the usual fluff that can be found in so many summer movies. Rather, the dialogue is sharp and clever and keeps the film moving at fast pace. Despite some unrealistic holes in the plot (it is a cartoon after all) the film's main story is most in the realm of reality - if you can overlook the talking

Ratatouille

Directed by: Brad Bird and Jan Pinkava
Starring: Patton Oswalt, Lou Romano, Peter O'Toole and Brad Garrett



same breath as other Pixar classics. Pixar has in fact become so good at what they do, they are leaving the competitors in the dust. It seems these days, every Pixar film is good, and Ratatouille does not disappoint.

The animation is beyond great. Every detail of the French kitchen is accurate down to the last grain of salt. As Remy sprints through the scenes, the passing

rat issue. The film, while made for children, will please even the most discerning of movie-goers, kids and adults alike. Overall, Ratatouille is one of the best of the summer and a film that will be a must-buy when it hits DVD.

Contact Chris McGrady at cmcgrad1@nd.edu

DPAC fall theatre season kicks off with tales from the Bard

By MICHELLE FORDICE
Assistant Scene Editor

As the summer theatre season wraps up, the fall season is ready to begin. Summer Shakespeare's production of "Love's Labor's Lost" is in its final days, but Actors From the London Stage will soon come to campus with its take on "Macbeth" to usher in the fall.

In addition to these Shakespearean comedies and tragedies, the DeBartolo Performing Arts Center and the Department of Film, Television and Theatre are bringing John Patrick Shanley's "Savage in Limbo: A Concert Play" and Tony Kushner's "A Bright Room Called Day."

"Love's Labor's Lost" concludes Summer Shakespeare's film and play season theme of "smart men and smarter women." This comedy by William Shakespeare tells the story of four young nobles who, after swearing to spend three years living aesthetically and studiously without even the company of women, are tempted away from their task by the love they develop for three ladies-in-waiting and the French princess they serve.

Summer Shakespeare, the professional theatre in residence at Notre Dame, produces excellent plays every year, and shouldn't be missed in the rush to move on to campus. "Love's Labor's Lost" began running on the Decio Mainstage Theatre Aug. 21 and will continue through Sunday.

The Actors From the London Stage will respond to Summer Shakespeare's comedy with a Shakespearean tragedy, the infamous "Macbeth." The Actors From the London Stage, a group housed in the DPAC that travels throughout the U.S., is known for performing with limited actors, sets and props. This creates a very clean production centered on the acting and the words with few

embellishments. "Macbeth" depicts the slow descent into madness of a general and his wife after they kill the king of Scotland for his throne. "Macbeth" will run in Washington Hall Sept. 12-14.

The FTT Department's "Savage in Limbo: A Concert Play," written by John Patrick Shanley, is the story of five elementary school classmates that meet by chance in a bar sometime after their 32nd birthday. All are experiencing serious disappointment in their lives, and the encounter and their circumstances force them to face their shortcomings and failures. "Savage in Limbo: A Concert Play" will run in the Philbin Studio Theatre Oct. 8-12.

The core of "A Bright Room Called Day," written by Tony Kushner, is set during Germany's Weimar Republic. Five artists watch, declaring various stances and ideologies, but do little as Adolf Hitler rises to power. In the original, an American woman named Zillah interrupts the primary action and criticizes the rise of the Republican Party in America during the 1980s, to the point of comparing President Ronald Reagan with Hitler. In subsequent plays, the directors have chosen to perform both parts, only the section of the play set in the 1930s, or write their own version of Zillah that better applies to the times.

With this play, the FTT Department has the chance to approach many of the issues coloring American politics



Actors From the London Stage will perform "Macbeth" in Washington Hall Sept. 12-14. The theatre company has been touring the world for 32 years.

today. "A Bright Room Called Day" will run in the Decio Mainstage Theatre Nov. 13-18.

The fall theatre season on campus should be an excellent one consisting of a strong set of works that ranges from the lesser known to the very famous. The companies have plenty of room to explore the ever-relevant and demanding themes of these four plays, and each one stands distinct from the other.

To purchase tickets for all of these events contact the DPAC Ticket Office at 574-631-2800.

Contact Michelle Fordice at mfordice@nd.edu



By TAE ANDREWS
Scene Editor

First there was Superman. Then there was Spider-Man.

And now there is Optimus Prime — the latest red, white and blue-clad hero to dedicate costume and cause to the defense of this great nation during a big screen summer blockbuster. Prime, in case you happen to have never played with toy action figures as a child, is undoubtedly the George Washington of robots — a founding father and freedom fighter who arrives on earth to defend all of humankind from vicious attacks from the evil Decepticons.

Optimus Prime doubles as a tricked-out semi with more knick-knacks and doodads than the friendly folks at "Pimp My Ride" could ever hope to customize. Like Prime, the rest of the Autobots (the shape shifting robots dedicated to saving us all) arrive with a flurry of whirring clicks and grinding gears as a series of mechanized metal minions pop, lock and drop in and out of their covert and battle modes.

Like the Transformers themselves, the film has a lot of moving parts. Shepherding us in the midst of all this wild mechanical mayhem is director Michael Bay, the previous driver behind the wheel of such massively successful (if not critically-acclaimed) films as "The Rock," "Armageddon," "Pearl Harbor" and "Bad Boys II."

Bay's cinematic flair for the explosive, the high-octane and the destructive is matched only by his ever quickening pacing and disdain for character development. He scores again with "Transformers," delivering the summer blockbuster red-blooded Americans waited for, without much success, after a relatively disappointing May with the releases of "Spider-Man 3" and "Pirates of the Caribbean: At World's End."

Bay's massive, loud and fun (if stupid) film could not succeed without its humans, despite all of the flashy gear-porn on display. He paints them in the typical Michael Bay aesthetic. The reels are chock full of dirt-streaked, grimy faces and lots of sweat and squinting.

Shia LaBoeuf of the Disney Channel's "Even Stevens" and, more recently, "Disturbia" fame - an actor whose name sounds more like the spe-

cial at a French restaurant than the leading man of a multi-million dollar film - adapts to the role of movie star well, delivering his lines with good timing and coming across as a genuinely likable guy.

Alongside LaBoeuf is the foxy Meghan Fox, a stunning beauty and a stunningly bad actress. The only thing more unlikely than alien robots descending upon our planet to wage war with one another over us is prob-

ably the fact that the baby-faced LaBoeuf ends up getting with Miss Fox in the end, but with a movie such as "Transformers," a person has to suspend his disbelief for a few hours to enjoy himself.

Opening on July 4, a day in which American founding forefathers such as Samuel Adams, Thomas Jefferson and John Hancock declared American independence from tyranny, director Michael Bay puts his own signature on the pages of Americana with his signature tendency of blowing things up. In the end, the titanic, shape-shifting and fascist titanium-clad forces of evil find themselves defeated by truth, justice and the American Way. What could possibly be a more perfect Hollywood ending?

As he sees the Transformers for the first time, Shia LaBoeuf exclaims that they are "probably Japanese." So in the words of that great and technologically proficient people, domo arigato, Mr. Bay. That was one fun ride.

Bay's cinematic flair for the explosive, the high-octane and the destructive is matched only by his ever quickening pacing and disdain for character development.

Contact Tae Andrews at tandrew1@nd.edu



photo courtesy of movieweb.com
Optimus Prime defends truth, justice and the American way while shapeshifting into battle.

Transformers

Directed by: Michael Bay

Starring: Shia LaBoeuf, Megan Fox, Josh Duhamel and Jon Voight



Got writing on the brain?

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SCENE

**Contact Tae Andrews at
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MLB — AMERICAN LEAGUE

Angels sweep Mariners, increase lead in West

Clemens gives up only two hits in win over Boston; Hannahan hits walk-off single in 12th for Athletics

Associated Press

SEATTLE — If this wasn't how the West was won, it certainly seemed like it.

Jered Weaver won for the fourth time in five decisions, Garret Anderson had four hits and Los Angeles beat the Seattle Mariners 8-2 Wednesday to complete a three-game sweep and open a five-game lead in the AL West.

Vladimir Guerrero homered and went 8-for-14 in the series as the Angels moved a season-high 25 games over .500. Los Angeles outscored Seattle 24-8, outhit the Mariners 43-23 and had 17 extra-base hits to Seattle's five.

No wonder the Angels opened their biggest lead since before play on June 30.

"I think this series probably put in their head that they have to worry about the wild card, not the division," the Angels' Orlando Cabrera said after he went 2-for-5 and scored twice. "(We're) just leaving no doubt we're a better team at this moment."

Los Angeles, seeking its third division title in four years, improved to 11-4 against Seattle this season. The teams have one

more series, Sept. 20-23 at Anaheim.

The Mariners, who entered one game ahead of the New York Yankees in the wild-card standings, weren't conceding the division race.

"It's too early for wild-card stuff," Adrian Beltre said.

The Mariners have lost five in a row after winning 13 of 17 to close to within a game of the Angels last week.

"It's serious," said Seattle starter Jarrod Washburn, who won the World Series with the Angels in 2002 and will start Friday at Toronto. "There's no room for error."

Jeff Mathis hit his third career home run, a fourth-inning drive off Felix Hernandez (10-7), who lost from the first time in seven starts since July 22. Hernandez allowed six runs and a season-high 13 hits in seven innings, dropping to 0-3 with a 7.30 ERA against the Angels this season.

Eight of the Angels' first 16 batters got hits off him.

"I don't know what happened. Everything I threw, they hit hard," the 21-year-old ace said.

New York 4, Boston 3

Roger Clemens left the Red



Athletics third baseman Jack Hannahan, center right, is congratulated by teammates after hitting the game-winning single in Oakland's 5-4 victory over Toronto Wednesday.

Sox more than a decade ago. On Wednesday night, he left them scratching their heads.

Clemens shut down his original team, allowing only two hits and outpitching a much younger ace in leading the New York Yankees to a victory over Boston.

Alex Rodriguez hit his major league-leading 44th home run, and the Yankees got another big hit from Johnny Damon to earn their second consecutive win in the series. New York trimmed Boston's cushion to six games in the AL East and moved within a percentage point of Seattle for the wild-card lead.

Josh Beckett was tagged for a career-high 13 hits by the Yankees, who turned to Mariano Rivera in the eighth inning for a four-out save.

Clemens (6-5) held the Red Sox hitless until David Ortiz connected for an upper-deck homer with one out in the sixth. The Rocket worked around a season-high five walks and improved to 9-5 in his career against Boston, a team he last faced in Game 7 of the 2003 AL championship series.

The Yankees tied the season series 7-all after losing the first

four meetings. The teams play four more times this year, including Thursday afternoon. New York will go for a series sweep when 15-game winner Chien-Ming Wang faces Boston's Curt Schilling.

Kevin Youkilis also homered for the Red Sox, who played without injured star Manny Ramirez. The slugger sat out with a strained muscle on his left side and probably will be sidelined for several days.

"I don't know. Maybe a week?" Ramirez said.

Youkilis' two-run shot off Kyle Farnsworth in the eighth cut it to 4-3. Rivera entered with a runner on first and retired Coco Crisp on a soft comebacker to end the inning.

Rivera worked a perfect ninth for his 22nd save in 25 chances this season and second in two nights against Boston, often a personal nemesis.

Oakland 5, Toronto 4 (12 inn.)

Jack Hannahan has so little experience in the major leagues that most of the pitchers he faces are new to him. Given a second chance against Scott Downs this week, Hannahan showed he's a quick learner.

Hannahan hit a game-ending single with two outs in the 11th inning off Downs to help the Oakland Athletics snap a five-game losing streak with a victory over the Toronto Blue Jays on Wednesday.

Hannahan grounded out with runners on second and third and two outs in the eighth inning of a tie game against Downs in Oakland's 6-2, 12-inning loss Monday night. He was waiting for a fastball this time and delivered when he got it in his 62nd major league at-bat.

"I had an opportunity to do it the other night against the same pitcher and didn't get the job done. You're always looking to be in that spot to win the game for your team. I got it done this time," Hannahan said. "I just waited for a fastball and I was lucky enough to get one out over the plate and put a bat on it."

Hannahan's big hit came after Huston Street blew a 4-2 lead in the ninth by allowing solo homers to Lyle Overbay and pinch-hitter Matt Stairs — the first time the closer has allowed two homers in an outing in his career.



Los Angeles first baseman Casey Kotchman avoids ball four to draw a bases-loaded walk during the Angels 8-2 win Wednesday over Seattle.

CLASSIFIEDS

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

WANTED

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claiquis is a predator...

karl, my theory on why the freshmen are hotter this year — they knew joe peris would be in Spain

MLB — NATIONAL LEAGUE

Dodgers rally from five down to complete sweep

Phillies top Mets on controversial call at second base; Rockies stay in wild-card hunt with win over Giants

Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — Los Angeles has resuscitated Shea Hillenbrand's big league career, and the seven-year veteran is doing his best to recharge the Dodgers' season.

Hillenbrand hit a two-run homer in the sixth inning and a sacrifice fly in the 12th as the Dodgers rallied from a five-run deficit to beat the Washington Nationals 10-9 on Wednesday and complete a three-game sweep.

"I've been through a bit of adversity this season that I never even thought would happen in my career — especially with the success I've had," said Hillenbrand, who was reunited with former Boston manager Grady Little on Aug. 13 in L.A. after getting released by the Angels and Padres. "The game is very humbling, so you've got to take advantage of every opportunity you can and every situation you get put in."

James Loney drove in four runs for the Dodgers, who also got homers from Russell Martin and Matt Kemp. Jeff Kent had four hits, including a leadoff single that started the winning rally.

Los Angeles, which won its fourth straight, began the day 4 1/2 games back of NL West-leading Arizona, the closest the Dodgers had been to first place in three weeks.

"We're excited about being able to come home and win three games, because we know we've got to play some catch-up and make up some ground here," Kent said. "We're all

pulling on the same side of the rope, so we'll see how good we are."

Washington wasted an 8-3 lead and lost its sixth straight game. Nook Logan drove in three runs for the Nationals and Ryan Church had four hits. Robert Fick homered and drove in two runs, but also grounded into a pair of inning-ending double plays with runners in scoring position.

"We just ran into a team that's real hungry, and they showed it — especially today," Fick said.

Phillies 3, Mets 2

Marlon Anderson went a little too wide with his slide.

Anderson's hard takeout attempt might have been enough to bust up a double play in the ninth inning and allow the tying run to score for the New York Mets. Instead, Anderson went far outside second base, knocked down Philadelphia's Tadahito Iguchi and was ruled out on a game-ending interference call in the Phillies' victory Wednesday night.

Jimmy Rollins and Pat Burrell homered, and Brett Myers survived a wild ninth to help the Phillies win their third straight game against New York and close within three games of the NL East leaders.

"I'm just glad the umpire made the call and took care of it," Iguchi said through an interpreter. "I think we were fortunate he was right on the play."

The Mets had runners on the corners with one out against



Rockies pitcher Jeff Francis is congratulated by catcher Chris Iannetta after Francis pitched a six-hit shutout in Colorado's 8-0 win Wednesday over San Francisco.

Myers when pinch-hitter Shawn Green hit a slow roller to Rollins, who shoveled the ball to Iguchi at second.

Anderson made a rough slide at Iguchi outside the line and knocked the second baseman down as he threw to first. Second base umpire CB Bucknor ruled interference and a double play, sending Anderson into a fit.

He ripped off his helmet and jumped up in protest, and man-

ager Willie Randolph also rushed out to argue.

"I know it shouldn't have been a double play, but at the same time we have to abide by the rule of the umpire," Anderson said.

Rockies 8, Giants 0

Jeff Francis provided exactly the kind of performance the Colorado Rockies so desperately needed as they head into a key weekend series at first-place Arizona.

Francis pitched a six-hitter for his second career shutout, Garrett Atkins homered twice and the Rockies beat the San Francisco Giants on Wednesday to avoid a three-game sweep.

Despite their yearslong reputation for losing, the Rockies believe that this year they are clearly in the chase for the NL West going into the final month. Colorado came into Wednesday 5 games behind

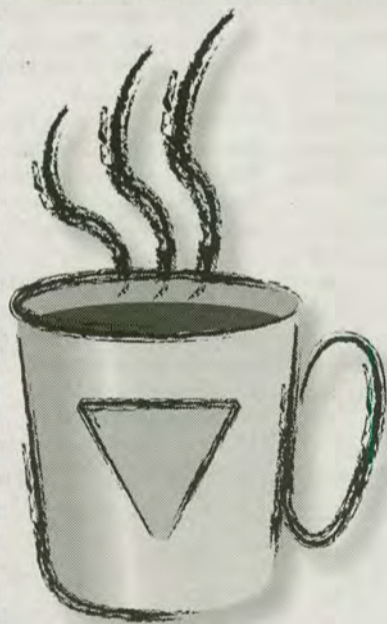
San Diego for the wild-card spot.

"We still think we're in it," reliever Matt Herges said. "It's feasible."

Francis' big outing sure helped matters.

The left-hander (14-6) struck out three and walked one in his second career complete game. The other was a two-hit shutout against St. Louis on July 24 last year.

He matched his career high with his 14th win — also accomplished in 2005 — and had two hits while making his 100th career start. Francis, who became just the sixth pitcher in franchise history with 100 starts, allowed only two batters to reach second base on the way to ending a three-start winless stretch. He is 12-2 since May 7 — and has won at least 13 games in each of his three full major league seasons.



Coffee and Conversation

For Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and Questioning Students at Notre Dame

Tuesday, September 4
7:30 – 9:30 p.m.
316 Coleman-Morse

The Core Council for Gay and Lesbian Students invites gay, lesbian, and bisexual members of the Notre Dame family, their friends, and supporters to an informal coffee at the Co-Mo.

Everyone is welcome and confidentiality is assured.

Coffee and refreshments will be served



ND Freshman Ladies: Cheerleading Tryouts

September 2, 2007 @ 9 a.m.
in the Joyce Center - Gym 2
(above Gate 10)

Questions: email Gold Squad Captain
Nicole Villano at: nvillao1@saintmarys.edu
or Blue Squad Captain Sami Mainieri at:
smainier@nd.edu

AROUND THE NATION

Thursday, August 30, 2007

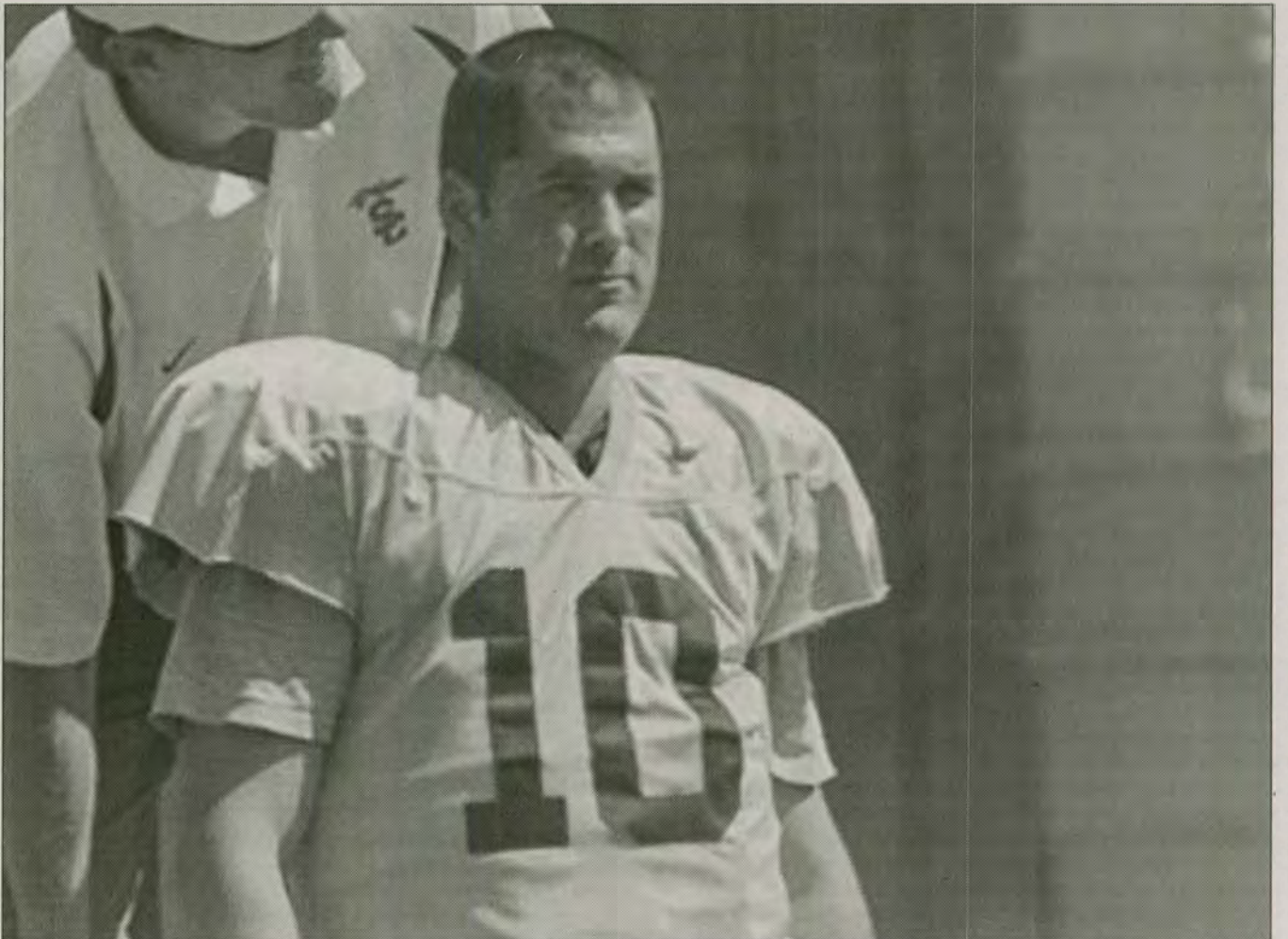
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page 16

NCAA FOOTBALL

NCAA Women's Soccer NSCAA/adidas Poll

team	record	previous
1 North Carolina	27-1-0	1
2 NOTRE DAME	25-1-1	2
3 UCLA	21-4-0	3
4 Portland*	17-4-3	6
5 Texas A&M	17-6-1	5
6 Florida State	18-4-4	4
7 Penn State	18-5-3	7
8 Santa Clara	15-5-1	9
9 Texas	18-4-3	8
10 Stanford	15-6-2	16
11 BC	12-7-3	11
12 Rutgers	16-3-4	20
13 Florida	14-6-5	10
14 Colorado	14-6-4	23
15 Purdue	14-6-3	NR
16 UConn	11-7-4	21
17 Virginia	12-8-2	18
18 Cal	12-5-5	NR
19 Clemson	11-8-5	25
20 Illinois	16-8-0	17
21 West Virginia	14-4-3	8
22 Wake Forest	16-6-1	18
23 Oklahoma State	17-3-3	7
24 USC	11-5-5	25
25 Tennessee	12-7-4	25



A trainer helps University of Southern California quarterback John David Booty stretch during football practice in Los Angeles on Aug. 10. Summer workouts helped Booty beat recurring back problems.

Back injury resolved for USC's Booty

Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — The back problems that bugged John David Booty for years are finally behind him.

That being the case, the Southern California quarterback was able to participate in a rigorous training program administered by strength and conditioning coach Chris Carlisle this summer.

The results are obvious.

"I think the offseason program made a big difference," Booty said. "The SC program, you see guys year after year looking like NFL players."

Booty, a fifth-year senior, finally got his shot at play-

ing last season after sitting and watching Matt Leinart star at quarterback for three years. He made the most of it, passing for 3,347 yards and 29 touchdowns with nine interceptions.

For a while, it appeared Booty might not get his shot. He underwent back surgery in March 2006 after experiencing problems since his junior year in high school because of a herniated disc, and had to beat out freshman Mark Sanchez for the starting job last summer although he still wasn't in tiptop condition.

He is now.

"For the first time since

his sophomore or junior year in high school, John David felt comfortable, and it opened up his ability to train the way we've trained quarterbacks here before," Carlisle said. "We did a lot of core work — abdominal, lower-back work."

"He has more zip on the ball as a result because he has more power coming from the core and his legs. His body weight went up to 220 (pounds). He stands in the pocket now and knows he can take a shot without worrying about it. He's pain-free and confident in what he can do."

Trojans coach Pete Carroll has noticed a big difference.

"The fact that he can just work out regularly with coach Carlisle in the program where he couldn't do that a year ago makes all the difference in the world in his confidence and athleticism," Carroll said. "John David has had an incredible run since the springtime."

Offensive coordinator Steve Sarkisian said Booty reminds him of four-time Cy Young Award winner Greg Maddux because of his accuracy.

"I think the thing that jumps out at you is his ability to fit the ball in tight quarters," Sarkisian said. "You ever watch Greg Maddux? He doesn't miss."

NCAA Volleyball CSTV/AVCA Coaches Poll

team	record	pts.	previous
1 Nebraska	2-0	1495	1
2 Stanford	1-0	1438	2
3 Penn State	2-0	1382	3
4 USC	3-0	1247	6
5 UCLA	1-1	1230	5
6 Texas	0-2	1208	4
7 Florida	2-0	1158	7
8 Washington	3-0	1086	8
9 Minnesota	1-0	1054	9
10 Wisconsin	3-0	978	11
11 California	3-0	883	12
12 San Diego	1-0	798	15
13 Ohio State	3-0	693	16
14 Duke	3-0	657	18
15 BYU	2-0	546	17
16 Hawai'i	1-2	475	10
17 Purdue	2-1	455	13
18 Cal Poly	2-1	409	14
19 Santa Clara	3-0	350	24
20 Michigan	3-0	343	NR
21 Oklahoma	3-0	271	22
22 LSU	3-0	258	23
23 Ohio	2-0	229	25
24 Long Beach State	0-2	156	19
25 Kansas State	3-0	148	NR1

around the dial

NCAA FOOTBALL
LSU at Mississippi State
8 p.m., ESPN

NCAA FOOTBALL
Tulsa at Louisiana
7 p.m., ESPN2

TENNIS
Day 4 U.S. Open
11:00 a.m., USA

NCAA FOOTBALL
Mets at Phillies
1:05 p.m., Comcast

IN BRIEF

DeForge now lead scorer in the WNBA

INDIANAPOLIS — Anna DeForge, not Tamika Catchings, was the Indiana Fever's top scorer in their playoff series win over the Connecticut Sun. In fact, DeForge leads the entire WNBA in playoff scoring. The shooting guard averaged 25 points against the Sun, a surprise from someone who averaged 8.7 points in the regular season. She hopes to continue her success against Detroit in Game 1 of the Eastern Conference finals Friday.

DeForge was content with a secondary offensive role this season before Catchings, an early favorite for the MVP award, suffered a left foot injury that kept her out for a month. While Catchings healed, DeForge started looking to shoot. Even with Catchings back for the playoffs, DeForge put up a scoring spree that brought back memories of her college days at Nebraska.

Montoya dominates several NASCAR races

NASCAR's Juan Pablo Montoya is \$25,000 richer, thanks to some good finishes at the right races. Raybestos, which normally pays \$1,500 to the top rookie at each Nextel Cup race, increases that amount to \$5,000 at seven designated events throughout the 2007 season. Montoya wound up taking top rookie honors at five of them, including Las Vegas, Darlington, Infineon, Chicagoland and last Saturday night at Bristol.

Overall, his 17th-place finish at the Tennessee track was the 11th time this season the former open-wheel star from Colombia has been the top rookie in a Cup race. Montoya leads David Ragan by 25 points, 216-191, in the rookie standings heading into Sunday's race at California Speedway. Montoya is 18th in the season standings, also the best of any first-year driver.

Jagodzinski to begin as BC's head coach

Boston College's Jeff Jagodzinski can't wait for the first kickoff of his head coaching career. Miami's Randy Shannon is trying to keep cool — if only for a short while longer.

It's finally game week for the two rookie coaches in the Atlantic Coast Conference, and the newcomers are approaching their debuts differently. "It's not so much being nervous, it's being anxious," Jagodzinski said Wednesday. "Everything I've done up to this point in my career has led me to this ball game, so I'm really excited about it, and I'm excited about getting out there and playing a football game."

Jagodzinski, 43, spent 22 years as an assistant with five college teams and Atlanta and Green Bay of the NFL, leaving the Packers to take over at BC when Tom O'Brien left for North Carolina State.

PGA

Boston ready for playoffs

FedEx Cup will resume with Woods to make his debut

Associated Press

NORTON, Mass. — The PGA Tour Playoffs figured to be somewhat of a homefield advantage for someone like Vijay Singh, a three-time winner at Westchester and a past champion at TPC Boston and East Lake.

Then he shot 40 on his opening nine holes and missed the cut in the first event of the playoffs.

Steve Stricker had not played at Westchester since 1995, when he tied for 60th and promptly told his wife, "Take a picture because we're not coming back." He had little choice but to return under the FedEx Cup format, and Stricker warmed to the place rather quickly when he won The Barclays for his first victory in more than six years.

"I think for the most part, most players feel like if they're playing well, they can compete at any course," Stricker said Wednesday.

The next stop in the playoffs is the TPC Boston for the Deutsche Bank Championship, which starts Friday to accommodate its annual Labor Day finish.

The defending champion is Tiger Woods, who will be making his playoff debut after sitting out the first round, which caused him to fall from No. 1 to No. 4 in the standings.

Three of the top 10 players —

Adam Scott is the other — have won at the TPC Boston. That doesn't mean much if the first week was any indication. Plus, the course has gone through another round of changes, this time by architect Gil Hanse and Brad Faxon.

Among the most significant changes:

◆ No. 4 now plays at 298 yards, which will tempt players to drive the green.

◆ The par-5 seventh now has a massive cross bunker some 135 yards short of the green, with the face built up so steeply that players won't be able to see the green.

◆ On the par-3 16th, the green has been moved forward and to the right, closer to the pond players must carry.

◆ A new green on the 412-yard 17th, along with a 70-yard bunker in front of the green.

◆ Two pot bunkers in the middle of the 18th fairway, and another one in the lay-up area on the 528-yard closing hole.

Hanse and Faxon also reshaped the bunkers to give them a New England feel, rugged and unkempt.

The routing is the same, but it's not quite the same course where Woods closed with a 63 last year to turn a three-shot deficit into a two-shot victory over Singh.

Woods won't see these changes until his pro-am round. Playing for the first time since

winning the PGA Championship at Southern Hills, he spent about two hours on the practice range and putting green before going to a Presidents Cup meeting with Jack Nicklaus.

David Toms was among the first and most vocal about the courses used for the PGA Tour playoffs. He grew up in the South, and won his only major in the PGA Championship at Atlanta Athletic Club. That doesn't mean he is incapable of winning anywhere, but he questioned the equity of going to the same courses.

"If you're going to make guys play, are their guys from the West Coast who would normally go to Chicago or New York? Maybe, maybe not," Toms said Wednesday. "You might have variety throughout the year, but you're talking about four straight weeks. For anyone, you do the best you can."

And Toms realizes his chances aren't necessarily hurt by going to the same four courses. He recalls hating Kingsmill the first time he played the old Michelob Championship, and it wasn't long before he won there in consecutive years.

"It's OK, as long as the golf courses are suitable for everybody," he said. "I guess if you look at past experience, there might be guys that definitely have an advantage. But that's usually some of the best players, anyway."

"I think for the most part, players feel like if they're playing well, they can compete at any course."

Steve Stricker
PGA golfer

FIBA

Unsung Canadians one win from finals



Canada forward Olu Famutimi, left, pump fakes two Mexican defenders during Canada's 97-80 win over Mexico Wednesday.

Associated Press

LAS VEGAS — Canada, the team without a star, needs one more win to reach the semifinals of the FIBA Americas tournament.

Levon Kendall and Denham Brown, two former Big East players, both had double-doubles Wednesday in Canada's 97-80 victory over Mexico.

A victory over Puerto Rico on Thursday in the final game of the second round would mean a semifinal spot for Canada and a chance to play for one of this tournament's two berths in the Beijing Olympics.

The third-, fourth- and fifth-place finishers receive bids to an Olympic qualifying tournament next July.

"This was huge because we gave ourselves a chance to get there," said Kendall, who had 14 points and 11 rebounds. "We knew we clinched at least fifth today with the win and now it's the same tomorrow, another must win to get to the semifinals."

Kendall, who played in the NCAA tournament all four of his years at Pittsburgh, got Canada (3-3) going in the second quarter — again.

The 6-foot-10 forward had six points, six rebounds and two assists in the 22-5 run that gave Canada a 47-29 lead with 31 seconds left before halftime. It was the third straight game Kendall came into the game and gave his teammates a lift.

"That's what my role has become the last few games, come in and be active if we start a little slow," he said.

Canada's rough first quarter against Mexico (1-5) was because of poor shooting. Canada made seven of 25 shots in the opening 10 minutes and trailed 22-21. Kendall came in, tied it right away with a shot in the lane and after an exchange of baskets, the deciding run started and it was all Canada the rest of the way as it led by as many as 27 points.

"You have to have different players in different games step up and Levon has been a double-double guy the last three

games," Canada coach Leo Rautins said. "This format, this marathon format of so many games means you need those other players."

"We've been very conscious of depth and the players have been responding to that and that's what you're asking for."

The loss was the sixth straight for Mexico since a win over Puerto Rico on the opening day of the tournament. Coach Nolan Richardson's uptempo, pressure style seemed to have caught up with his team.

"We got here and played our 20th game in a month and with the style I play it's very difficult. We're a trapping team, a running team and we're not blessed with big people so I was just hoping we would survive," said Richardson, who led Arkansas to the NCAA championship in 1994 and is in his first year with the Mexico national program. "To play the first game against Puerto Rico the way we did, we still had it when we got here. But between the wear and tear and travel it backfired in that we didn't have legs."

Brown, who played on Connecticut's national championship team in 2004, had 11 points and 11 rebounds. Canada had six players score in double figures and it finished with a 61-30 rebound advantage.

"We take pride in rebounding," Rautins said. "Our wings can really get on the glass. We did a great job today and 26 offensive rebounds puts a lot of pressure on people, especially on a team like Mexico who wants to run and get into transition."

Mexico's Romel Beck, who played at UNLV, entered the game tied with Brazil's Leandro Barbosa as the tournament's leading scorer with a 23.3 average. He was 1-for-6 from the field against Canada and finished with two points.

"It was fatigue, fatigue. I couldn't even feel my legs in warmups," Beck said. "I was trying to run the pick-and-roll to get shots like I had been all tournament but today it wasn't there."



**CORE COUNCIL
FOR GAY & LESBIAN
STUDENTS**

University Resources for Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and Questioning Students

The Core Council for Gay and Lesbian Students

(Information, education, and resources)

Contact: Sr. Sue Dunn, OP, 1-5550, or Melanie (Mel) Bautista, Baustista.5@nd.edu

Office of Campus Ministry

(Annual retreat for gay/lesbian/questioning students and their friends; pertinent library resources in 304 Co-Mo; discussion and support)

Contact: Fr. Joe Carey, CSC, at 1-7800

University Counseling Center

(Individual counseling)

Contact: Dr. Maureen Lafferty at Lafferty.3@nd.edu

Visit our web site at

<http://corecouncil.nd.edu/>

NFL

Jets will aim high with 'Mangeni'

Associated Press

HEMPSTEAD, N.Y. — Eric Mangini had quite a rookie season.

He went from being known as Bill Belichick's ingenious assistant to becoming the "Mangeni," a successful and popular coach who could count Tony Soprano among his fans.

Clever nicknames and television cameos aside, the ever-focused New York Jets coach faces a big challenge following a 10-6 season and a surprising playoff appearance.

"Each year is its own entity," Mangini said early in training camp. "You have to do the same things every camp, every step of the way, to achieve the same level that you did. Prior results don't predict future results, kind of like the stock market."

While Mangini's waistline has been steadily shrinking since last year — he's lost at least 40 pounds — the hopes for this season are significantly higher.

"Every season, there are teams that were disappointing that suddenly had very good seasons and teams that expectations were high for that didn't," a guarded Mangini said. "You see it year in and year out."

Thomas Jones, acquired from Chicago in March, should play a major role in determining New York's fate. He helped make the Bears a Super Bowl contender, and the Jets are hoping for the same sort of impact from the veteran running back.

"Thomas has been a really positive influence and it goes back to what our research showed on him," Mangini said. "Every team that he was on had great things to say about him and that has been our experience."

Jones gives the Jets a true No. 1 running back after they struggled with a four-man rotation that contributed to their offense being ranked in the bottom portion of the league.

"This is a totally different team, totally different situation," Jones said. "I'm the type of person to just play football. I don't get too much into people's personalities and how people coach. I just do what I'm asked to do."

Jones has been sidelined since Aug. 12 with a strained calf, but should be ready by the opener against New England. He'll give quarterback Chad Pennington another weapon to further open the passing game, which thrived with Laveranues Coles and Jericho Cotchery having career years despite the struggles with the run.

"The running game is something we wanted to address,"

offensive coordinator Brian Schottenheimer said. "The No. 1 thing was bringing in Thomas and just trying to get a feel for the second year in the system and the things we can do."

Pennington bounced back from career-threatening injuries last year to being voted the league's Comeback Player of the Year after throwing for a career-high 3,352 yards.

"What we've done in the past has no bearing on the future," said Pennington, echoing

"What we've done in the past has no bearing on the future."

**Chad Pennington
Jets quarterback**

Mangini's thoughts. "It's a new season with so many changes in the league: new coaches, new players, free agency and drafts. You can't bank on what you did last season happening again. You have

to start all over from scratch. New year, new team, new goals."

And at some positions, new faces. After trading veteran left guard Pete Kendall to Washington last week after a bitter contract dispute, New York is giving rookie Jacob Bender, Adrien Clarke and Adrian Jones — and anyone else who can play the position — a shot at winning the job.

"We all know the NFL is about change," Pennington said, downplaying Kendall's departure. "There's constant change and anytime you look or read or hear something, there's change going on."

The Jets' defense was transformed last season as Mangini and coordinator Bob Sutton installed a 3-4 system. It got mixed reviews as Bryan Thomas and Victor Hobson thrived, while perennial playmakers Jonathan Vilma and Eric Barton struggled. The key will be getting those four

linebackers, along with rookie David Harris and veteran David Bowens, on the same page to bolster the run defense and help a struggling pass rush.

"You don't get to start where you finished, good or bad," Sutton said. "You can never count on things being exactly as you ended them."

The secondary should be improved with the addition of speedy cornerback Darrelle Revis, drafted 14th overall. Following a long training camp holdout, Revis has already showed signs of being a potential game-changing playmaker. Combined with standout safety Kerry Rhodes, the Jets could have two of the league's most exciting defensive backs.

"It's the challenge that will face us every year, and that's being able to have focus," Mangini said. "To focus on the task at hand, communication, have good finish in everything we do and build that trust between all the players."

Giant concerns raised in New York

Coughlin on hot-seat despite two straight playoff appearances

Associated Press

EAST RUTHERFORD, N.J. — Despite making the playoffs the past two seasons, expectations for the New York Giants aren't that high.

Tiki Barber, the Giants' all-time leading rusher and offensive catalyst, retired for a television career. The wait for Eli Manning to live up to expectations continues. And who knows what to expect from seven-time Pro Bowl defensive end Michael Strahan, if anything.

Then there's the Tom Coughlin factor. The no-nonsense coach is on the hot seat after failing to get past the first round of the playoffs two straight years amid all kinds of turmoil.

If the path gets bumpy again, things could get ugly fast.

That's the Giants, though. They were the defending NFC East champs and considered a legitimate Super Bowl contender a year ago. They got big heads, suffered a couple of injuries, pointed fingers and went 8-8 to barely squeeze into the playoffs.

"One of the things we are striving for this year is playing together as a team," center Shaun O'Hara said. "I think last year we had a lot of individual talent, but I don't know if we played well as a team every Sunday. That's our overall goal as a team, to complement each other in every phase and make it a collective effort."

Whether the Giants can get back to being a title contender depends on three key issues:

— Can Manning have a consistent season and avoid the big mistakes?

— Can big, bruising Brandon Jacobs do as well as Barber, and stay healthy?

— Will Strahan end a holdout and play a 15th season, and can the defense survive without him?

The Strahan question was the most unexpected. Hours before training camp opened, the NFL's active sacks leader announced he was holding out while he mulled retirement. Five weeks later, and just a little more than a week before the opener at Dallas, he was still mulling his options.

On the field, the offense has shown the potential to carry the Giants, especially if Manning can avoid a third straight second-half slump. Having former quarterbacks coach Kevin Gilbride as the offensive coordinator should help Manning, who is also being tutored by Chris Palmer, another longtime quarterbacks guru.

One thing that has changed is Manning has emerged as one of the leaders of the Giants, thanks in part to Barber.

Barber criticized the quarterback's leadership a few weeks ago during halftime on Sunday night football and Manning fired right back at his former teammate.

Not only did the retort prop him up in the eyes of his teammates, but Manning followed that with good stints against Baltimore and the Jets.

Manning should have plenty of help this season.

David Diehl's ability to move from left guard to left tackle has strengthened the offensive line. It also should help Jacobs use his 6-foot-4, 260-pound frame to run over defenses.

The receiving corps is deep with Plaxico Burress, Amani Toomer, rookie Steve Smith and Sinorice Moss on the field along with Pro Bowl tight end Jeremy Shockey. The concern is Burress, who missed much of training camp with ankle and back problems.

"This team came a long way," said Toomer, who has returned from major knee surgery. "There were times early in camp where it was touch and go, but the young guys stepped up and our defense played real well."

After a dismal performance in the preseason opener, the defense improved under new coordinator Steve Spagnuolo, allowing one touchdown in the next two games.

Justin Tuck, who like Strahan missed a good part of last season with a serious foot injury, has been outstanding filling in at left end. Osi Umenyiora has been a force on the other side.

Mathias Kiwanuka has been adequate making the transition from defensive end to strongside linebacker, and free agent Kawika Mitchell has looked good as weakside linebacker. With Pro Bowler Antonio Pierce in the middle, the linebackers are solid.

The weakness is the secondary, especially with veteran Sam Madison battling a hamstring injury. Rookie cornerback Aaron Ross should provide help at some point.

"This is going to be a team you can be proud of," Pierce said. "I know one thing you love in New York is defense. When I came here from that other team (Washington) I saw the (tradition) at linebacker: Carl Banks, Lawrence Taylor and Harry Carson. But this group is going to work hard and play some ball."

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Lowly Lions hope 2007 is turnaround season

Detroit franchise has bumbled, bickered its way to the worst record in the league over the past six years

Associated Press

The Detroit Lions have been the target of relentless verbal and written shots while compiling the NFL's worst record the last six years.

It turns out, their own players were delivering some of the worst blows.

"There were knockdown, drag-out fights all the time last year," defensive tackle Cory Redding said. "There were cheap shots with guys getting leg-whipped and hit in the helmet."

Jeff Backus, who has endured each of the 72 losses since 2001, said last season's team-crumbling behavior wasn't new.

"It's happened as long as I've been here," the offensive tackle said. "My first couple of years, there were lazy veterans that didn't want to be touched in practice. If you blocked them, they would try to get you back in a dirty way for the rest of that practice."

In his second year, coach Rod Marinelli seems to have gotten rid of the destructive culture that infested a franchise with one playoff victory since winning the 1957 NFL title.

Marinelli's players believe that finally pulling in the same direction will produce positive results for a change.

"We had no fights in training camp because Rod changed the whole attitude around here," Redding said. "We know we have to fight, scratch, claw and kick our opponents — not teammates

— and I think that's going to make a difference.

"We have so many winners on this team that are tired of losing."

Detroit has won just 24 times — an average of four a year — against those 72 defeats since team president Matt Millen was given control.

Tampa Bay's 12 straight seasons of double-digit losses from 1983-94 is the only other stretch of futility in league history that compares.

Detroit was 3-13 last year, Marinelli's first as a head coach, and only Oakland had fewer wins.

Quarterback Jon Kitna predicts this year will be different, claiming the Lions will win at least 10 games.

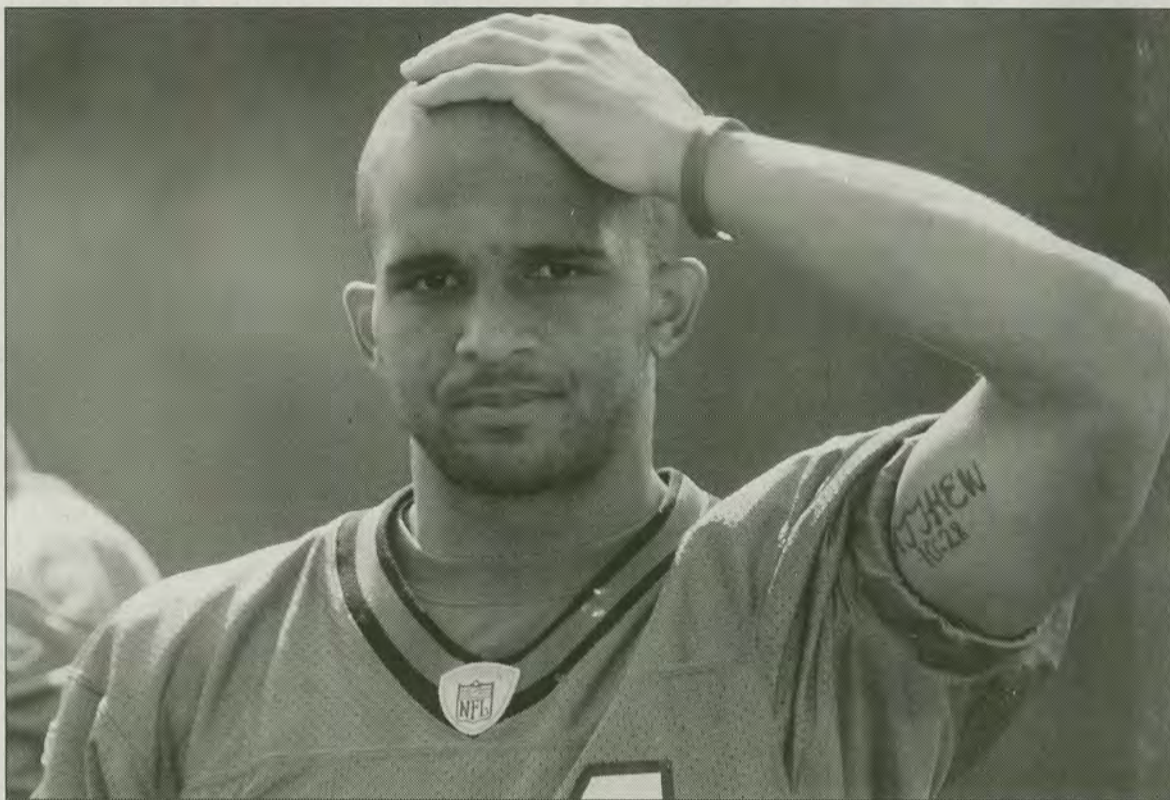
If he's right, they likely will be in the playoffs for the first time since 1999.

"I was talking like that because of what I saw in the offseason," Kitna said. "We have great team camaraderie. We don't have a whole bunch of individuals out here, and that's what Rod preaches."

"That's what wins in this league, not the greatest talent. New England has proven that."

The Lions seem to have enough ability on offense to live up to Kitna's projection, but their defense will have to exceed expectations to validate it.

Kitna led the NFL with 372 completions last season in Mike Martz's pass-happy offense and was the first quarterback in franchise his-



Detroit Lions wide receiver Shaun McDonald rubs his head during training camp. The Lions have the worst record in the NFL over the past six seasons heading into Rod Marinelli's second year.

tory to take every snap in a season.

Opponents probably will have a tough time slowing down Detroit if a reshaped line, with at least two new starters, can protect Kitna after he was sacked a league-high 63 times last season.

Roy Williams had an NFC-best 1,310 yards receiving, earning a spot in the Pro Bowl, and Mike Furrey led the conference with 98 receptions.

Not content with that pro-

duction nor worried about jokes, Detroit used the No. 2 overall pick to draft Calvin Johnson, marking the fourth time in five years the Lions used their top selection on a wide receiver. The 6-foot-5, 239-pound Johnson has a unique blend of size, speed, leaping ability and soft hands. And unlike his experience at Georgia Tech, he shouldn't face double-team coverage.

"There's a lot of talent here," Johnson said.

Detroit also added depth at running back in the offseason, bringing in Tatum Bell and T.J. Duckett, because it was unclear when Kevin Jones would return from a serious foot injury that sidelined him for the final four games of 2006.

Two new faces with starting experience will be counted on to open up holes for the running game and give Kitna time to find his talented wideouts. Guard Edwin Mulitalo and tackle George Foster will try to bolster a unit that has been consistently shaky in recent years.

"I don't think we can score 40 points a game, but averaging 28 is realistic," Williams said. "But the key is going to be our defense, which I think is going to surprise people."

If the Lions are effective on defense, it will startle some

because there are questions from the front to the back of the unit.

Detroit gave free agent defensive end Dewayne White about \$13 million guaranteed, despite a resume with just 13 starts in 60 games in Tampa Bay and no more than six sacks in a season.

The Lions made Redding the highest-paid defensive tackle in football, with reportedly up to \$20 million in guarantees, after he had a breakout season that included eight sacks. Shaun Rogers, a two-time Pro Bowl tackle who struggled last season with injuries and was suspended for using a banned supplement, has to prove he's an elite player again.

The linebacking corps has potential with Ernie Sims and Boss Bailey, but production from the group has been spotty.

Standout cornerback Dre' Bly was dealt to Denver for Bell and Foster, and the Lions are confident their scheme will negate the loss.

After defensive coordinator Donnie Henderson tried to teach the "Tampa Two" for the first time, Marinelli fired him and hired his own son-in-law, Joe Barry, away from the Buccaneers to implement the two-deep zone that has been emulated throughout the league.

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Irish outside hitter Megan Fesl taps the ball over the net in Notre Dame's 3-2 loss to Missouri on Sept. 2, 2006. PHIL HUDELSON/The Observer

Success

continued from page 24

while no season outcome is determined in August, this weekend's games should show whether Notre Dame can play with the top teams in the country.

Judging by their 3-0 victory over No. 14 Northwestern on Monday night, the Irish certainly possess the attacking talent to compete with the very best. Seniors Joseph Lapira and Kurt Martin put on a show, combining for all three Notre Dame goals and setting up many other promising chances.

Lapira's impressive play is no surprise. After all, he won last year's Hermann Trophy — the equivalent of a Heismann Trophy in football. Martin, however, has the

potential to make the Irish attack something special. Despite his solid contributions the past two seasons, Martin has been stuck behind upperclassmen. This year, with seven points in two preseason games, Martin is ready to make his mark.

What makes the partnership of Martin and Lapira so dangerous is that their styles mesh perfectly. Martin is best at receiving the ball with his back to the goal so that he can use his deft first touches to beat defend-

ers and slot through balls. Lapira's top-end speed is sure to allow him to run onto a few of Martin's passes.

Lapira and Martin already appear to be developing a rapport. Take Monday night's game against Northwestern, for example. In the second half, Lapira

received a pass from Martin with his back to the goal, took one touch and back-heeled the ball to an onrushing Martin, who fired a first-time shot over the top of the goal. While the play will show up as nothing more than a statistic, it indicates a developing partnership that will likely give Notre Dame a healthy scoring average this season.

Though Clark is being cautious with his words regarding the potential of this year's team, the performances of Lapira, Martin and the entire Irish squad Monday night have the coach guardedly optimistic.

"I think there's a lot of talent on this team," Clark said. "This could be a fun team, but it's too early to say anything."

With two top-10 opponents on deck for this weekend, we'll be talking soon enough.

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

Contact Greg Arbogast at garbogas@nd.edu.

"I think there's a lot of talent on this team. This could be a fun team, but it's too early to say anything."

Bobby Clark
Irish coach

Losses

continued from page 24

tallying 17 kills, while senior Jessie Jones added 13 kills and four blocks.

Florida 3, Notre Dame 1

While the Irish felt they played better Aug. 26 against the Gators, the result was the same. Notre Dame endured a frustrating home loss to a top team, this time by a 3-1 (30-25, 30-24, 30-32, 30-23) ledger.

"We came out more prepared against Florida," freshman middle blocker Kellie

Sciacca said. "I felt more comfortable getting the first match [against Minnesota] out of the way."

Notre Dame (0-2) had four players score double-digit kills in the loss.

Fesl had 11 digs and 11 kills, while both Stasiuk and sophomore Serinity Phillips tied for a team-high 14 kills. Stasiuk also added 12 digs.

Freshman Kellie Sciacca got into the fold as well with 12 kills, improving on her six from the Minnesota match.

The Gators (2-0) were led by senior Angie McGinnis' 59 assists and senior Marcie Hampton's 20 kills. Sophomore Elyse Cusack led the match with 25 digs while senior Amber McCray helped with 16 kills.

The Irish are set to play two games this weekend at the Tiger Invitational in Columbia, Mo. Notre Dame takes on No. 20 Missouri Aug. 31 and Florida International Sept. 1.

"We need to stabilize our fundamental skills and play with a strong desire," Fesl said of the upcoming match against Missouri. "We will be able to bounce back easily. [The first two games] were a good test of character."

Sciacca agreed. "We talked about keeping our energy high [against Missouri]," she said.

Contact Pat O'Brien at pobrien6@nd.edu

"We need to stabilize our fundamental skills and play with a strong desire. We will be able to bounce back easily."

Megan Fesl
Irish outside hitter

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Comcast

continued from page 24

vide video broadcasts of all Notre Dame home sports games, with the exception of those teams — like football and men's and women's basketball — that have third-party television agreements limiting what Notre Dame and Comcast can provide. As a general rule, Notre Dame cannot broadcast video of away contests in sports because the home team's conference controls the broadcast rights to those games.

Corrigan said much of the content will be what is available on the "all-access" portion of the official Notre Dame athletics Web site, und.com. He said the athletic department is trying to provide 40 hours a week of original programming during the academic year, an increase of more than 50 percent from last year.

The major drawback of the television programming is that Notre Dame is still working on its Web-to-TV technology. Corrigan said the athletic department hopes for a turnaround time between 24 and 48 hours for all content, though it will continue to work on increasing the speed of the transi-

tion. Any geographic expansion of the channel outside the three initial states would have to come by mutual agreement.

"This is a great example of what happens when entities — in this case Comcast and the University of Notre Dame — enter a situation with mutual interest and work together to come up with something that's a great solution for both fans of the University, or alumni, current students, et cetera — and for us in terms of our customers," Ruggiero said.

The deal between Notre Dame and Comcast provides something of a counter-balance to the most important sports issue facing Comcast.

The company, which provides cable service to 35 percent of the Big Ten Conference's regional footprint, is currently in the midst of a public battle with the Big Ten Network, the television arm of the Midwest's premier athletic

conference. The Big Ten Network, which launches today under the leadership of former ABC Cable Networks General Manager Mark Silverman, wants all Comcast subscribers to receive the network and pay \$1.10 each month for the network.

In a release posted on the network's Web site, it argues that its inclusion of nearly 400 live events and 600 hours a year of original programming should earn it a spot on basic cable in the eight states that are home to

Big Ten schools. But Ruggiero said the \$1.10 charge was tantamount to a "13 dollar-a-year tax that people are going to pay to Fox and the Big Ten."

Ruggiero said he had a simple message for Notre Dame fans in Indiana and Michigan: "You're already paying to support public universities like Indiana University, Michigan State University. Do you really want to further subsidize the athletic programs at universities that are competing with Notre Dame?"

Comcast wants to put the channel on its sports entertainment package, which customers can add for an additional cost, because it believes the network's lack of marquee football games and dominance of non-revenue sports will minimize its appeal.

"With Big Ten, we've been very clear that we absolute-

ly would love to add the Big Ten Network to our channel lineup. ... But we want to do it in the way that's best for all of our customers. When you look at the entirety of the year, and you look what the Big Ten's going to offer [on the network], especially compared to what's available on other channels, we think the best way to do that is to make it part of ... the sports entertainment package. ...

"That way any customer who wants it, can absolutely get it. But the vast majority of customers, who are probably not going to want the Big Ten programming, aren't going to be paying for it."

Comcast's sports entertainment package includes the NFL Network and NBA TV.

Contact Ken Fowler at kfowler1@nd.edu

"This is a great example of what happens when entities — in this case Comcast and the University of Notre Dame — enter a situation with mutual interest and work together..."

Rich Ruggiero
Comcast regional vice president for communications and public affairs

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Laws

continued from page 24

coordinator Corwin Brown's 3-4 defense. Laws has by far the most experience of the linemen remaining on the Irish roster, having started the last two seasons at defensive tackle.

But this season, Laws has had to start from square one along with the rest of the defense — a challenge defensive line coach Jappy Oliver says Laws conquered easily.

"More than anything else it's attitude. Trevor did a nice job over the summer coming back in shape," Oliver said. "His attitude was second to none in terms of willingness to learn this new package. He just did a great job in terms of the other guys too in terms of keeping them motivated and telling them what to do in certain circumstances."

Laws' teammate on the line, nose tackle Pat Kuntz, agreed that Laws has been crucial for the defensive linemen's transition.

"Basically, [Laws has] been the leader of our group and when things might be down he gets us back up and ready to go," Kuntz said. "Always having him there is almost like a

safety blanket because he's such a good player, he's going to make plays no matter what you're doing."

Kuntz will enter the Georgia Tech game as the starting nose tackle, one of the most important positions in the 3-4 defense. Oliver said that Kuntz spent the summer bulking up in order to play the position effectively.

"Basically [Laws has] been the leader of our group and when things might be down he gets us back up and ready to go."

Pat Kuntz
Irish nose guard

"I just ate a lot more, and I ate a lot better stuff," Kuntz said of his summer workout. "Definitely hitting the weight room harder than I've ever hit before and trying to be in the best shape conditioning-wise I can possibly be."

Because Kuntz was able to bulk up effectively, Oliver said, the job was his to lose coming into camp.

"You just have to know Pat," Oliver said. "He's a warrior and you have to be a warrior to play nose tackle in a 3-4 system, and he's just that."

"Trevor did a great job over the summer coming back in shape. His attitude was second to none in terms of willingness to learn the new package."

Jappy Oliver
Irish defensive line coach

Another strength of this year's defensive line is depth, Brown said. Behind Laws at left end is sophomore Paddy Mullen, while freshman Ian Williams is the backup nose guard. At the other defensive end spot, fifth-year senior Dwight Stephenson and senior



Notre Dame defensive linemen Neil Kennedy, left, and Andrew Nuss, right, go through drills at football practice Tuesday as defensive coordinator Corwin Brown watches on.

DUSTIN MENNELLA/The Observer

Justin Brown will both see playing time.

One reason the Irish defensive linemen have been able to adapt so quickly to the 3-4 defensive front is because of Oliver, Kuntz said.

"He's such a good coach when it comes to knowing exactly what to do," Kuntz said. "I mean, he's had this defense before and having an experienced coach like him in a situation like this has been nothing but help-ful."

Although Oliver was brought to Notre Dame to coach in the 4-3 defense, he said, he has coached the 3-4 in the past — although Brown has brought some new changes to the formation.

Oliver also credited the willingness of the players themselves in the transition.

"I think they've made the transition pretty good. I like this bunch, they're hungry, they're eager to learn.

They're just a good group to work with," he said.

After spending the entire camp playing against themselves, Oliver said, the team is as ready as they ever will be for Georgia Tech.

"You're never there but there's not much else. We've done just about all we can do right now its time to let the kids go out and play and have fun."

Contact Jay Fitzpatrick at jfitzpa5@nd.edu

2007 Season Predictions



Ken Fowler
Sports Writer

This season is going to be ugly. Damn ugly. The finesse offense that produced prolific numbers is gone, as is the bend-but-don't-break mentality on defense that too often led to breaking. While the passing game is Charlie Weis' forte, something about hard-nosed football being run by a protégé of Bill Parcells seems right. Notre Dame will start the season 2-0, and the series with Michigan is underdog-friendly. But UCLA will trip up an undefeated Irish squad in early October, reminiscent of the 2005 team's loss to Sparta. This year, however, Notre Dame will overcome Troy and enter the BCS full steam ahead.

FINAL RECORD: 12-1, BCS bowl win



Chris Khorey
Sports Editor

The season breaks down into three categories: Michigan and USC, six middling opponents, and four easy wins at the end. The Irish probably don't have the experience to beat the first two yet, and they will probably be picked off by one of the "second six," likely Georgia Tech, Penn State or UCLA. There is no way Notre Dame will lose to Navy, Air Force, Duke or Stanford.

Along with a win in the Gator or Cotton Bowl, that leaves the Irish with the exact same record as last year. However, instead of finishing on our sour note, Notre Dame will finish on a five-game winning streak and with confidence for next year.

FINAL RECORD: 10-3, Bowl win



Chris Hine
Sports Editor

The Irish begin the year with a gutsy home win against Georgia Tech, but then head into Happy Valley and drop their first of the year. Learning from that loss, the Irish go on to upset Michigan and their weakened defense.

Notre Dame uses a combination of good defense and a solid running attack to handle their next two opponents before losing in a defensive struggle to UCLA.

After pounding Boston College, USC comes in and reminds everyone why they are the preseason favorites to win it all. The next four wins are easy wins and the Irish gain a berth in the Gator Bowl where they finally break their bowl losing streak.

FINAL RECORD: 10-3, Bowl win



Jay Fitzpatrick
Associate Sports Editor

Notre Dame has one of its toughest tests in a few years this season. With away games at Penn State and Michigan back-to-back along with home games against Boston College and Southern Cal, the Irish will have to work hard to repeat the success of the Brady Quinn era.

The most important part of this season is whether the Irish will reload or rebuild. A new quarterback and a new defense could mean trouble for Notre Dame, but there's enough athletic ability and coaching talent to keep the Irish a strong team, if not BCS-bound.

Corwin Brown's defense and the five running back stable will help the Irish more than anyone could think.

FINAL RECORD: 9-4, Bowl Win

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MATT HUDSON, ANDY MANZA & PAUL TASSINARI

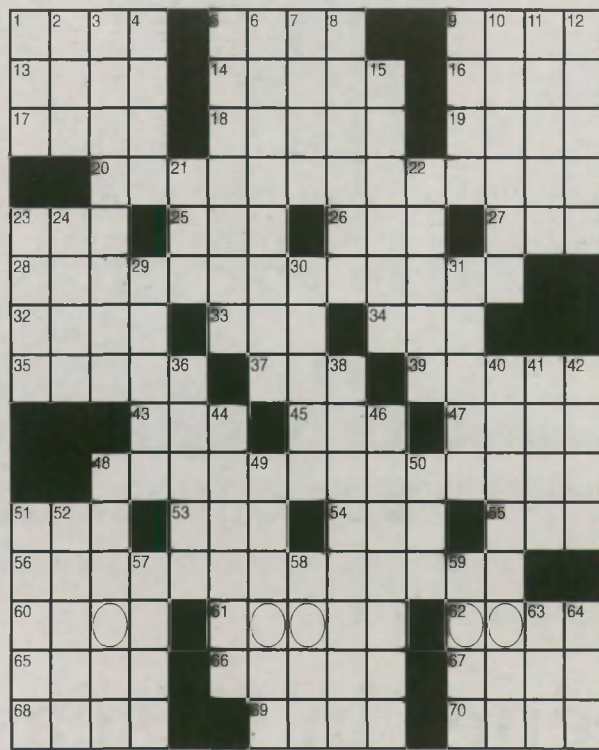


Deuces Manor will run in The Observer for the next two weeks. Let us know what you think. Feedback and comic submissions can be e-mailed to viewpoint.1@nd.edu

CROSSWORD

WILL SHORTZ

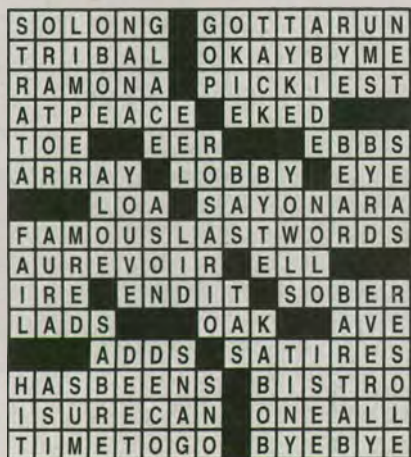
- Across**
- 1 Restraint
 - 5 Project Blue Book subject
 - 9 Ex-
 - 13 Not berthed
 - 14 Big name in skin care
 - 16 Talk radio's ___ & Anthony
 - 17 Hospital count
 - 18 Turns around, as a mast
 - 19 Abbé de l' ___, pioneer in sign language
 - 20 With 28-, 48- and 56-Across, riddle whose answer appears in the circled squares
 - 23 "Who ___?" (common riddle ending)
 - 25 Camp seat
 - 26 Largest geological division
 - 27 "Don't wanna"
 - 28 See 20-Across
 - 32 Like frittatas
 - 33 Sun. discourse
 - 34 Year in the reign of Justinian the Great
 - 35 Answers the call, maybe
 - 37 Affluent duo?
 - 39 Fortuneteller
 - 43 Satisfied reactions
 - 45 Suffix with profit
 - 47 Movie featuring Peter O'Toole as Priam
 - 48 See 20-Across
 - 51 Kentucky's Athlete of the Century
 - 53 Goose egg
 - 54 Plugs
 - 55 "Bells ___ Ringing"
- Down**
- 1 Trucker's place
 - 2 Resort to
 - 3 N.H.L. team at Joe Louis Arena
 - 4 Big party
 - 5 Pulls the plug on
 - 6 Fine metal openwork
 - 7 Reproductive seed
 - 8 Trickled
 - 9 "Odyssey," for one
 - 10 Attach (to)
 - 11 Tuscany city
 - 12 Canines that bite
 - 15 Comparatively noisy
 - 21 Bass ___
 - 22 Bottom-of-letter abbr.
 - 23 One with a sterling service
 - 24 Ancient gift givers
 - 29 How some music is played
 - 30 Monteverdi opera
 - 31 Takes off
 - 60 Like worms
 - 61 Computer unveiled in 1946
 - 62 Cold feet
 - 65 Store drawer
 - 66 See 58-Down
 - 67 Concerning
 - 68 Suit to ___
 - 69 Spin
 - 70 Frequent gift for a PBS donation



Puzzle by David J. Kahn

- 36 Stood out
- 38 Plan for nuptials
- 40 Musician who created the Windows 95 start-up sound
- 41 Watch-step connection
- 42 ___ disease
- 44 Beamed
- 46 Avant-garde
- 48 Changeable on a whim
- 49 Power tool in woodworking
- 50 Ukr., once
- 51 California's Santa ___ Park
- 52 Kosher
- 57 MacLachlan of "Desperate Housewives"
- 58 With 66-Across, Egyptian agricultural area
- 59 "What ___?" (snippy reply)
- 63 Knack
- 64 "Riddle-me-___"

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE



For answers, call 1-900-285-5656, \$1.20 a minute; or, with a credit card, 1-800-814-5554. Annual subscriptions are available for the best of Sunday crosswords from the last 50 years: 1-888-7-ACROSS. Online subscriptions: Today's puzzle and more than 2,000 past puzzles, nytimes.com/crosswords (\$39.95 a year). Share tips: nytimes.com/puzzleforum. Crosswords for young solvers: nytimes.com/learning/xwords.

JUMBLE

HENRI ARNOLD
MIKE ARGIRION

JUMBLE

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME
by Henri Arnold and Mike Argirion

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

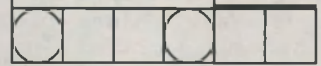
GREME



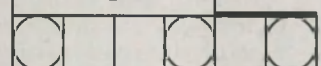
TINEW



HESTEE



MACPIT



Ans: " [] [] [] [] [] " OF " [] [] [] [] [] [] "

Yesterday's Jumbles: EIGHT DOGMA SCHEME FACING
Answer: What the cops did when they questioned the crooner — MADE HIM "SING"



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

(Answers tomorrow)

HOROSCOPE

EUGENIA LAST

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Lauren Collins, 21; Jeff Licon, 22; Dante Basco, 32; Carla Gugino, 36

Happy Birthday: You will tend to take on partners who are not compatible. It's best to go it alone where financial or professional matters are concerned. However, when it comes to love, understanding, nurturing and a passionate approach will help you weather any storms. Your numbers are 5, 18, 26, 28, 44, 49

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Travel and communications are off-limits today. Get involved in something that will diversify the way you think or do things. A romantic evening may lead you in a new direction but question your motives. 3 stars

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): You can go the distance and push for what you want. A chance to do something different will lead to knowledge and wisdom. Learning, traveling and networking will move you in a positive, profitable and pleasing direction. 4 stars

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Be careful how you handle the people around you. If you aren't fair or you twist things around, you can expect to get the same in return. Overreacting or aggressive action will backfire. Pace yourself and use your imagination to keep everyone around you guessing. 2 stars

CANCER (June 21-July 22): There is plenty going on but you have to be willing to try something new or at least get involved with new people or activities. An event that brings you in contact with more people in your community or neighborhood will pay off. 5 stars

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): As much as you want to get out and have fun, take care of unfinished financial, legal or contractual business first. You'll be surprised what you can accomplish if you are adamant about what you want. Don't give up too much or be overly generous. 3 stars

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): You'll be pulled in lots of different directions today but, as long as you know what you want, you will surpass your expectations. Don't let someone who thinks he or she can outsmart you get away with using emotional blackmail. 3 stars

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Finish what's important. Take care of matters concerning pets, health or dealing with peers. This isn't the time to let things slip but also not the time to argue over something that doesn't really matter in the big scheme of things. 3 stars

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Get on with your goals. You can think and ponder over things forever but that won't get you ahead. Prepare to learn by trial and error. You have to make your move, ready or not. 5 stars

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Love, romance and intrigue will all tempt you but be careful whose toes you step on. Opposition will be following you around, keeping an eye on what you are up to. Play by the rules or prepare to deal with trouble. 2 stars

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): A closer look at what you have to offer will result in some great ideas that will end up being profitable. A chance to see first hand how you can make things work will develop if you take a short trip to visit someone with experience. 4 stars

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): You can offer a service that will bring in a bit of cash. Be original and you will attract interest in whatever you do. You don't have to go overboard, however. Keep things simple and you will succeed. 3 stars

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): You'll not be yourself today, so don't think that everyone around you is wrong. It's probably you who is causing all the fuss. Keep things simple, avoid controversial subjects and don't let anyone bait you into a battle. 3 stars

Birthday Baby: You are eager to please, a bit of a chameleon and very strong-willed. You are well liked, an excellent worker and have a tendency to go overboard to make an impression.

Eugenia's Web sites: astroadvice.com for fun, eugenialast.com for confidential consultations

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ND ATHLETICS

Notre Dame, Comcast launch free on-demand channel

Meanwhile, Big Ten Network goes live, but not on cable giant

By KEN FOWLER
Sports Writer

It just got a little bit easier to follow Notre Dame athletics.

Cable company Comcast and the University last week announced the start of a

new "on-demand" channel that will feature video of games, practices and interviews of all 26 Notre Dame varsity teams. The programming, which digital cable customers can view without charge through the "Get Local" portion of the on-demand feature, began last week for customers in Indiana, Illinois and Michigan.

More than half of Comcast's customers in the region have digital cable

and thus free access to the content, said Rich Ruggiero, the Comcast vice president for communications and public affairs in the Chicago and South Bend markets.

Notre Dame did not charge Comcast a rights fee for the content. Boo Corrigan, the associate athletic director in charge of corporate relations and marketing, said the athletic department views the agreement as a way of expanding the visibility of Notre Dame's sports

teams.

"It literally will cover, over the course of the year, all 26 varsity sports at Notre Dame," Ruggiero said. "Naturally, given the very strong interest in Fighting Irish football, there's a lot of football content."

Ruggiero said post-game and mid-week news conferences with Irish coach Charlie Weis will be a staple of the programming. Comcast already has added practice reports from the

last few weeks and video from freshman media day, which was on Aug. 24.

Viewers can search the Notre Dame feature within the on-demand channels and then pick individual clips — whether it be a practice report from a certain day, a news conference after a particular game or player profile — to watch at any time.

Corrigan said the University is trying to pro-

see COMCAST/page 21

FOOTBALL

Indispensable

Fifth-year senior Laws anchors inexperienced defensive line corps

By JAY FITZPATRICK
Associate Sports Editor

In 2007, Trevor Laws will play in his third different defense in his Notre Dame career.

And now he feels that he can finally show everything he can do.

"I'm excited to get out there and show people what I've learned and what this scheme can help me do out there," Laws said. "It's definitely a new way to play, and I'm definitely enjoying it."

Laws will be the anchor of the defensive line this season as one of two defensive ends in first-year defensive

See Also
"2007 Season Predictions" page 22



TIM SULLIVAN/The Observer

Irish fifth-year senior Trevor Laws chases North Carolina quarterback Joe Dailey in Notre Dame's 45-26 win on Nov. 4, 2006. Laws is the only returning starter on the Irish defensive line.

see LAWS/page 22

MEN'S SOCCER

Preseason bodes well for squad

Upcoming schedule will shed light on true potential of team

Before his team had played any games this season, Irish coach Bobby Clark said Notre Dame's goal was to improve upon last year's Elite Eight finish in the NCAA Tournament.

Apparently, Clark sets realistic goals.

In its two preseason games, No. 10 Notre Dame scored six goals, conceded zero and, in general, looked more than capable of becoming the first Irish team in program history to reach the Final Four.

Clark, however, isn't convinced.

When asked how indicative his team's preseason performances were of what's to come in the regular season, Clark said that preseason games mean nothing and that he'd tell us in December.

Luckily for impatient Notre Dame fans, they won't have to wait until December to get a better idea of whether the 2007 Irish are capable of reaching the Final Four.

On Friday, Notre Dame's first regular season game will pit the Irish against No. 2 UCLA, which fell to UC Santa Barbara in last season's NCAA final. Later in the weekend, the Irish take on No. 9 Maryland — the 2005 NCAA champion.

The Bruins and Terrapins are the type of teams the Irish will likely need to beat in order to reach this year's Final Four in Cary, N.C., and



Greg Arbogast
Sports Writer

see SUCCESS/page 20

ND VOLLEYBALL

Irish drop first opener in 17 seasons



Observer File Photo

Notre Dame outside hitter Adrianna Stasiuk prepares to return a serve against Syracuse on Oct. 8, 2006.

ND loses season kickoff for first time in Brown era

By PAT O'BRIEN
Sports Writer

Notre Dame's year began on a sour note for the first time in a decade.

The Irish lost a 3-0 (30-16, 30-28, 30-28) decision to No. 9 Minnesota in their season opener Aug. 24 in the Joyce Center, then dropped a 3-1 match to No. 7 Florida two days later.

The loss against the Golden Gophers marked the first time since 1990

that the Irish fell in a season opener. It is also the first defeat in a home opener for head coach Debbie Brown.

Sophomore Megan Fesl led the Irish with 11 kills. Senior Ashley Tarutis tallied a team-high 16 assists, while sophomore Jamel Nicholas added 13 helpers. Senior Adrianna Stasiuk had 10 digs along with nine kills.

Three players aided Minnesota (1-0) with double-digit kills. In her freshman debut, Brook Dieter had 18 kills and 14 digs. Junior Kyla Roehrig was also impressive at the net,

see LOSSES/page 20