

THE OBSERVER

The Independent Newspaper Serving Notre Dame and Saint Mary's

VOLUME 44 : ISSUE 1

SATURDAY, AUGUST 22, 2009

NDSMCOBSERVER.COM

Class of 2013 receives record aid

Economy contributes to increase in fund allocations; admissions process remains need-blind

By MADELINE BUCKLEY
News Editor

With historic standardized test scores and high school performance, the Class of 2013 is breaking all kinds of University records — including one concerning financial aid.

"This was the strongest applicant pool we've ever had," said Dan Saracino, assistant provost for Undergraduate Admissions. "But it was also financially needier because of the economy."

Over 50 percent of the Class of 2013, which boasts an average SAT score of 1410 and an average

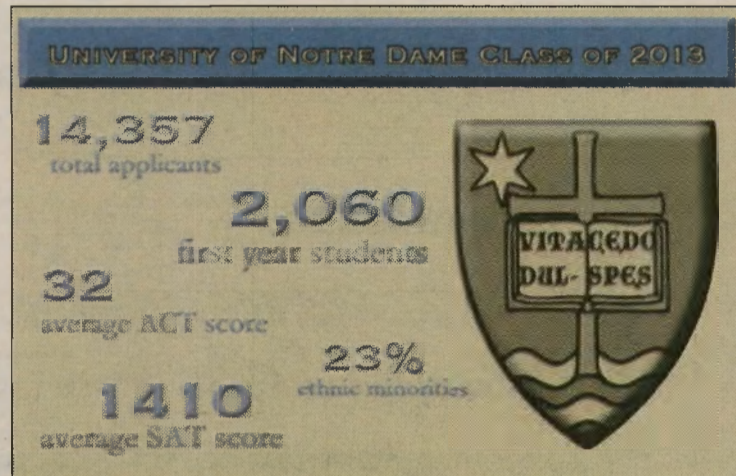
ACT score of 32, requires University need-based financial aid — a percentage that is up from about 44 percent last year.

Saracino said the Class of 2013 not only had record-breaking test scores, but also took more Advanced Placement courses in high school and had the strongest high school transcripts.

"I think the classes are getting stronger because the story of the benefits of Notre Dame is getting out more and more," he said. "It's a fantastic place."

But Saracino said the biggest benefit Notre Dame offers is prob-

see 2013/page 11



ANDREA ARCHER | Observer Graphic

Business booms for local stores

Back to school shoppers still spending money

By KATIE PERALTA
Assistant News Editor

As Notre Dame and Saint Mary's students from all parts of the country make their way back to campus this week, area retailers are enjoying the usual business boom that accompanies students' arrival despite economic concerns.

Retailers like Mishawaka's Super Target, which devotes an entire section of its store to back-to-school items, has not seen a noticeable drop in spending.

"We kind of had a slow start [this year,] but there has been no significant decrease in spending from years past," Kim Godfrey, an executive team leader at Super Target, said. She said the store is extremely busy but only for a few weeks, mainly during the month of August.

"The store, however, has seen a spike on back-to-school items this month," Godfrey said. She said that the store prepares for weeks before student arrivals, stocking up on popular dorm items.

"There is a lot of prep work done on our part. We need to keep the store in full form," she said.

Godfrey added the economic impact of back-to-school shopping is significant, second only to that of the fourth quarter, the period right after Thanksgiving

see BOOM/page 9

Frosh-O madness begins again

Freshmen describe orientation activities, move-in process as 'fun' and 'chaotic'



IAN GAVLICK / The Observer

Students move into Farley Hall Friday before Freshman Orientation activities begin.

By SARAH MERVOSH
News Writer

New Zahmbies, Chicks, Gentlemen and Wild Women alike have arrived on campus to their new home under the Dome. But many incoming freshmen may not be feeling quite at home just yet.

This weekend, Freshmen Orientation, or Frosh-O, aims to make the transition a little easier by helping incoming students get to know others and feel more comfortable on campus.

"The whole point of the weekend is to make friendships and get integrated, to make this your home away from home," sophomore Garrett Campbell, who is on the Frosh-O staff for Sorin College, said.

In order to make that happen,

each dorm has planned different activities for its freshmen, in addition to campus wide activities for all freshmen.

Most dorms used Friday as a time to move in and a chance to get to know one another with ice-breakers.

Sorin College freshman Adam Wisbrock said the move-in process was easy because his Frosh-O staff moved in all of his belongings.

"They moved it all in. It was really easy," Wisbrock said. "By the time we were done registering everything was in here."

Freshman Brittany O'Donnell, who lives in Badin Hall, said the move-in process was a little stressful, but not too overwhelming.

"I'm glad my family is here to help," she said. "At first I thought

see FROSH-O/page 11

Ryan, Geddes open; other construction continues

Newest female residence hall on campus to house 248 students

By IRENA ZAJICKOVA
News Writer

As the school year begins, 248 Notre Dame women prepare to begin a new tradition in Ryan Hall, the University's newest residence hall, located between Welsh Family Hall and the Hammes Notre Dame Bookstore.

Ryan features traditional single, double and quad rooms, but

also has modified "super doubles," which have bay windows, and "super quads," which have private bathrooms. The dorm also has one triple room.

Ryan Hall's improved room options enticed many girls to apply to move. Senior Michelle Maloney, who moved to Ryan from Lewis Hall, said the new

see RYAN/page 11



IAN GAVLICK / The Observer

Geddes Hall, the new home of the Institute for Church Life and the Center for Social Concerns, is now open.

New University building projects seek LEED certification, funding

By JOSEPH McMAHON
Associate News Editor

In a summer rife with economic worries and recession fears, construction continued on the Notre Dame campus with greater emphasis being placed on reducing the University's environmental impact.

James Lyphout, vice president of Business Operations, said the University will not break ground on any project until it has 100 percent of the

funds pledged and 75 percent of the cash in hand. Due to this policy, Lyphout said none of the current projects were affected by the recession because the funds were already set aside.

"Perhaps we would be moving faster if we didn't have the recession, but we're very fortunate to have a pretty substantial construction effort," he said. "In the 18-month period that will end at the end of this calendar year,

see BUILDING/page 11

INSIDE COLUMN

Moving in

I moved into Cavanaugh for the fourth and final time this week. You would think, that from experience, I would have learned how much stuff a dorm room can fit. Though I tell my parents every year not to worry, it will all fit, the inevitable happened: I brought too much.



Jenn Metz

Editor-in-Chief

No matter how much you plan, no matter how experienced you think you might be at something, there are going to be some bumps in the road. Moving into a dorm room might not be the best metaphor, but since you all just went through it, I thought it would be applicable.

Judging from personal experience, I'm doubtful your move-in went as smoothly as you planned. Your first class schedule will probably not be what you wanted. Your roommates and next-door neighbors might be your best friends this week, but next week you might wish you lived across campus.

Starting your freshman year in college is one new experience after another, some you might be prepared for, others not so much. Adjusting to your new life at Notre Dame might be difficult at first.

But slowly, it will get better.

You will find a place for your extra stuff, you will adjust your schedule, and you will find people you can trust.

You will learn the words to the Fight Song (if, like me, you hadn't before arriving), you will take tradition to heart, and you will feel like a true member of this wonderful community.

Things still might go wrong from time to time. You'll still hit those road bumps. They won't be as frequent, and when they come they might be more of a surprise. But, seeing as you got yourselves accepted to this University, you'll be able to handle it. Go for a run around the lakes, drink herbal tea, do whatever you need to do to clear your head, and tackle your problems one step at a time.

If you keep things in perspective, they won't seem so big.

You won't want to waste your time here worrying about them. Trust me, and trust every upperclassman on this campus, when I say your time here will go by entirely too quickly.

Though that 88th awkward bonding activity at Frosh-O might seem like it's dragging on for ages, before you know it, it will be Winter Break. Then you'll be DARTing for your sophomore classes. (You'll figure out what DARTing means.)

Before you know it, you'll be moving into your dorm again. And you will inevitably still bring too much stuff.

It's not the road bumps that you'll remember about your time at Notre Dame, though. You have so much to look forward to during your years here — you'll get involved, you'll find a family and you'll leave your mark on this place.

Welcome home.

The views expressed in the Inside Column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer. Contact Jenn Metz at jmetz@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 ARE YOU MOST EXCITED ABOUT IN YOUR FIRST YEAR?



Adrienne Chabot
freshman
Badin

"Meeting a lot of new people."



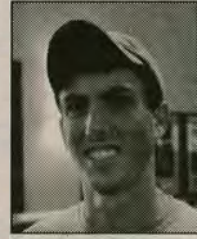
Jenn Cihlar
freshman
P.E.

"The football games."



Anne Crowley
freshman
Walsh

"Being on my own."



John Madison
freshman
Morrisey

"Football games."



Samantha Burke
freshman
P.W.

"Being a Purple Weasel."

ORIENTATION WEEKEND

FRESHMAN ORIENTATION SCHEDULE

Saturday, August 22

10:15-11:45 a.m. — Intro to Residence Hall Staff

1:00-2:15 p.m. — Official Welcome to Notre Dame in Joyce Center

2:30-3:15 p.m. — General session for all first-year students with advisors, Parent Orientations

8:00 p.m. — Orientation with rectors and hall staff for first-year students and parents

Sunday, August 23

10:00 a.m. — Eucharistic Liturgy in The Joyce Center Fieldhouse

11:30 a.m. — Box lunch in the Joyce Center Fieldhouse

12:00-1:00 p.m. — Spirit of Notre Dame in the Joyce Center Fieldhouse

2:30-5:00 p.m. — Residence Hall Programming

4:30-7:00 p.m. — Dinner

7:00-10:00 p.m. — Residence Hall Programming

Monday, August 24

Ongoing mandatory computer security sessions offered every 30 minutes in 102 DeBartolo Hall from 9:00-4:00p.m. and in 101 from 10:15-1:45 p.m.

9:30 a.m., 1:00 p.m., 3:30 p.m. — College Has Issues: hook-ups, alcohol and sexual assault Leighton Concert Hall in the DeBartolo Performing Arts Center

TODAY

TONIGHT

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

LOCAL WEATHER



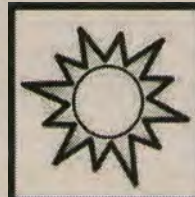
HIGH 67
LOW 55



HIGH 62
LOW 55



HIGH 72
LOW 55



HIGH 79
LOW 59



HIGH 79
LOW 59



HIGH 80
LOW 60

Atlanta 88 / 63 Boston 80 / 69 Chicago 70 / 57 Denver 90 / 65 Houston 98 / 74 Los Angeles 77 / 63 Minneapolis 70 / 62 New York 81 / 70 Philadelphia 80 / 70 Phoenix 94 / 81 Seattle 73 / 53 St. Louis 77 / 55 Tampa 88 / 77 Washington 78 / 69

Saint Mary's welcomes diverse first-year class to campus

Larger class size reflects five-year plan to increase student body to between 1,600 to 1,700 students

By KEVIN SARLO
News Writer

The 438 women of Saint Mary's Class of 2013 represent the most diverse class in the school's 155-year history, helping fulfill President Carol Ann Mooney's goal of enhancing campus diversity.

Approximately 15 percent of the incoming freshmen come from historically underrepresented groups.

"The need to diversify arises from the role that diversification can play in making Saint Mary's a more vibrant learning community and preparing all of its students for life and work in a diverse and global world," Mooney said in her Strategic Vision for the College, a document detailing the College's new diversity goals.

Students come from 37 different states, and four students

from China, Korea, Panama and Poland will also be arriving on campus.

The Class of 2013 also boasts 16 valedictorians, and one third of the incoming class graduated with a GPA of 3.91 or above.

"The Class of 2013 possesses exceptional academic credentials by every indicator — especially noteworthy is the fact that nearly 10 percent ranked in the top 10 percent of their high school class and about 60 percent in the top 20 percent," Vice President for Enrollment Management Daniel Meyer said in a press release. "The entire Saint Mary's community looks forward to the positive contributions this class will have on the College for the next four years."

Sports team captains, student body presidents and Girl Scout Gold Award winners also com-

"The need to diversify arises from the role that diversification can play in making Saint Mary's a more vibrant learning community and preparing all of its students for life and work in a diverse and global world."

Carol Ann Mooney
College president

SAINT MARY'S COLLEGE CLASS OF 2013



438
students

15%
from historically
underrepresented groups

33%
had higher than a 3.91
High School GPA

ANDREA ARCHER | Observer Graphic

pose a portion of the incoming class.

"We know that these talented young women will find both the academic rigor they seek and countless opportunities to serve during their four years here," President Mooney said. "The opportunities for personal growth are endless and I look forward to the many wonderful

things they will accomplish at Saint Mary's and in their lives as alumnae."

The Class of 2013's size of 438 reflects an attempt by the college to increase the student body to between 1,600 and 1,700 women. The 2009-2010 school year is the second year of a five-year program designed to enlarge the student body,

which included hiring of new hall staff and the re-opening of previously closed living spaces last year.

The increase in enrollment is expected to help close Saint Mary's \$1.5 million budget deficit from 2005.

Contact Kevin Sarlo at
ksarlo@nd.edu

Interested in working for

THE OBSERVER

Notre Dame and Saint Mary's daily campus newspaper?

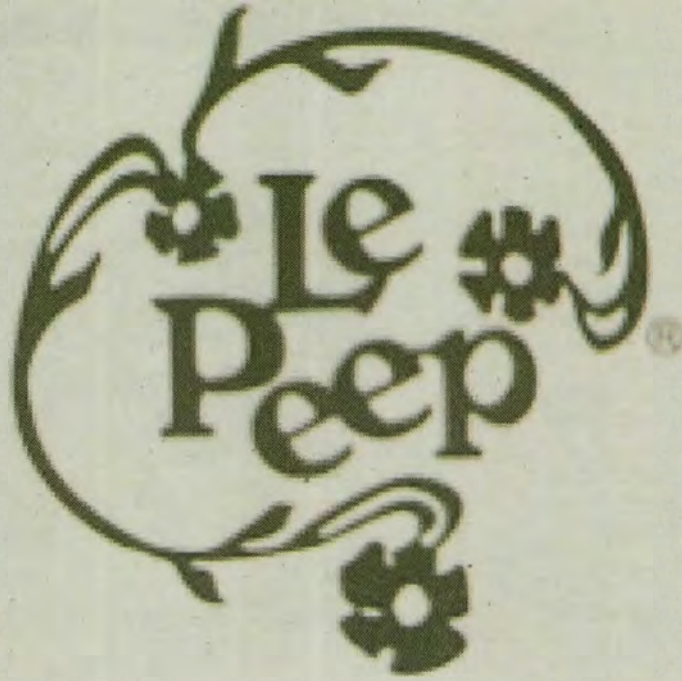
**Come to our
Open House!**

Sunday Aug. 30
Basement of
South Dining Hall
3-5 p.m.

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Visit www.ndsmcobserver.com



Welcome Back Students

Remember: Breakfast is the most important meal of the day...
you can eat it anytime at LePeep!

Monday-Friday 6:30-2:00 p.m.
Saturday-Sunday 7:00-2:00 p.m.

"Luke, we are really glad you decided to stay!"

GO IRISH!

127 S. Michigan Street
Downtown South Bend
288-PEEP

Big Groups Welcome..call ahead

**Thanks for making us your favorite breakfast
and lunch place**

ND Coupon

Buy one entree and get the
second entree 1/2 off
Valid through
10/4/09
Go IRISH!

Three ROTC branches grow by 100 members

Early weeklong orientation introduces students to cadet life with leadership, marching and training activities

By LAURA McCRYSTAL
News Writer

Notre Dame's Naval, Army and Air Force Reserve Officers' Training Corps (ROTC) welcomed its largest group of new members in several years, as 100 students arrived on campus one week early for their own orientation.

Notre Dame ROTC members include students from Notre Dame, Saint Mary's, Holy Cross and other area colleges and universities.

Naval ROTC held orientation activities off-campus for the first time this year, Notre Dame senior and Battalion Commander Brad Towne said.

Eleven upperclassmen and three active duty servicemen accompanied the new midshipmen to Fort Custer, near Kalamazoo, Mich. They slept in the squad base and learned the fundamentals of military life, physical training, marching drill and land navigation, Towne said.

They also became the only

freshman group in the nation to shoot M4 rifles during orientation.

"It's a pretty intense orientation," Towne said. "They really got to see what the military is like."

At Fort Custer, the day lasted from 5:30 a.m. to 9:30 p.m. without any downtime.

"I think it was a little bit more intense than I had expected," freshman Quinn Kilpatrick said.

Kilpatrick both said that the intensity at Fort Custer was worthwhile because it was an introduction to military life.

"I felt like joining the Navy after my four years here would be a good way to serve my country," freshman Billy Kearns said. "But it also pays for my education, which is a huge benefit."

Army and Air Force ROTC members arrived on campus Monday morning for their orientation activities, which were held on campus.

The Air Force welcomed 30 new cadets this year, new student orientation commander Mallory Glass said.

Glass, a senior at Saint Mary's, said that the Air Force orientation involved marching, physical training, group leadership projects and briefings to introduce students to ROTC.

"[The new cadets] come in with such open attitudes you can tell they're excited to be here," she said. "It's neat to see their enthusiasm."

Air Force ROTC orientation concluded Thursday evening with a swearing-in ceremony and drill demonstration, followed by a picnic for the new cadets and their families, Glass said.

"They should be really proud of what they've done," Glass said.

Army ROTC had 33 new cadets at orientation this year, junior Army ROTC member Colin Raymond said. In an average year, there are only 20 new students, Raymond said.

"The program is growing, which is great," he said. "It's been great to have the extra energy."

During orientation, Raymond and other Army ROTC upper-



Photo courtesy of Mike Howard

Freshmen navigate a mock minefield outside of the Pasquerilla Center during the 2008 Army ROTC orientation.

classmen led the new students through Basic Rifle Marksmanship as well as basic movements, marching, customs, drill and ceremony, Raymond said.

Freshman Andrew Simms said although the training was challenging, he enjoyed coming to campus early for Army ROTC.

"It's long days but it's been a lot of fun and it's definitely worth it," he said. "Part of [joining Army ROTC] was the scholarship and part of it is that going into the military is something I've always wanted to do."

Contact Laura McCrystal at lmccryst@nd.edu



Welcome Students

For your convenience, the following Student Service Offices will be open under the "Golden Dome"

Saturday (August 22) from 9:00 a.m. to Noon
and
Sunday (August 23) from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Student Accounts	100 Main Building
Financial Aid	115 Main Building
Student Employment	115 Main Building
Undergraduate Admissions	220 Main Building
Residence Life and Housing	305 Main Building

Regular business hours are 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Duncan Hall opens. Student body expresses concerns over BOG budget issues. America elects Obama; student groups

The Year

2008 ♦

By MADELINE BUCKLEY and ASHLEY CHARNLEY
News Writers

Duncan Hall opens

Duncan Hall, the newest male dorm, welcomed its first residents at the beginning of the 2008-09 academic school year.

The dorm, which houses 232 students on West Quad, is the first new dorm to be built on campus since 1997.

The dorm cost about \$20 million and took 17 months to build.

The Hall integrated itself into Notre Dame life, choosing the "Highlander" as its mascot and hosting its first signature event, the Highlander Games, an adaptation of the traditional Scottish games, including food, music and games of skill.

The dorm colors are blue and green and the residents of the Hall donned kilts and war paint in the tradition of a Scottish warrior to celebrate the mascot.

The newest female dorm, Ryan Hall, is currently under construction and will open for the 2009-10 school year and will house 246 students.

SMC opens and dedicates new academic building

Spes Unica Hall, the newest academic building on Saint Mary's campus, opened at the beginning of the fall semester. A dedication for the building on Oct. 30 included alumnae, benefactors and students.

The new building houses 13 different departments, the Career Crossing Office and the Center for Academic Innovation, the Center for Spirituality and the Center for Women's Intercultural Leadership, as well as classrooms, laboratories, and office spaces and common areas.

"I am amazed how many students are camped in the chairs and sofas. Staff lights are on before the sun rises. I see faculty pouring over their work at their desk," Vice President and Dean of Faculty Patricia Fleming said. "It's an environment that seems to draw our academic community to itself."

Along with the new academic building, Saint Mary's is also renovating Madeleva Hall, which will offer up-to-date classrooms and offices.

Dillon Hall cancels annual pep rally

Rector of Dillon Hall Fr. Paul Doyle cancelled the annual Dillon Hall Pep Rally — the dorm's signature event held every year the Friday before the first home football game — a week before the pep rally was supposed to occur.

The pep rally, an annual campus fixture, mocks various aspects of life at Notre Dame and Saint Mary's.

Doyle said the pep rally was cancelled because he failed to give the necessary guidance and the script writing and production was not coming together in a timely manner.

But the writers and directors of the show told The Observer they were surprised by the sudden decision because the script was finished and production was underway.

Dillon Hall residents and other students expressed disappointment over the abrupt cancellation of a Notre Dame tradition and confusion over the reasons for the cancellation.

Student body expresses concerns over BOG budget issues

Early in the fall semester, Saint Mary's Board of Governance (BOG) began voting on the budget presented by the Executive Board that included a \$20,000 stipend for the eight members on the Executive Board.

Some members of BOG and the student body expressed concern over the amount of the stipend, which was actually only half of what the previous Board had voted on and awarded themselves.

The budget was voted down by BOG and the Executive Board was then forced to change the plans for the budget.

Many members believed that there was a "conflict of interest" and the Board should not be able to choose their own allotments.

"We were not informed of this [happening] last year," Pauline Kistka, a member of the 2008-2009 BOG, said. "My concern is that I know that six people — and I'm not saying you guys, I'm saying on boards prior — were given the option to receive money. If the decision was in their hands and they're the ones going to receive the money, I don't see the open-mindedness of the decision or an unbiased decision regarding it. I guess I kind of see a conflict in get-

ting money in general."

After over a month of disputes, the budget was approved on the third vote and it did not include an executive stipend. The money left over from the stipend was then dispersed between the College Readership Program and a contingency fund.

America elects Obama as president; student groups campaign, educate

On Nov. 4, Barack Obama, then a senator from Illinois, defeated Sen. John McCain (R-AZ) to become the first black president of the United States.

Obama won with 365 electoral votes and 52.92 percent of the popular vote and narrowly won the state of Indiana.

Attracted by Indiana's traditional status as a swing state, many students elected to register to vote in Indiana in lieu of voting absentee in their home state.

NDVotes '08, a nonpartisan group, sprung up to educate students about issues in the election and help get them registered to vote.

The group held "Pizza, Pop and Politics" discussions with students and faculty and recruited a commissioner from each dorm on campus to help students in the dorm register to vote.

Students also rallied to campaign for specific candidates.

Notre Dame College Democrats collaborated with students from other local colleges to open a democratic campaign headquarters in South Bend.

"We want to help elect Senator Obama and all the other candidates we are working for," Notre Dame's College Democrats then-president Spencer Howard said. "And in the broader scheme of things, [our goal] is to put the country on what we consider the right track."

Notre Dame's College Republicans organized a group of students to attend a political rally in Sterling Heights, Mich. in support of the John McCain ticket.

"The rally was absolutely awesome and inspiring," then-College Republicans president Edward Yap said. "The 25 Notre Dame and Saint Mary's students that collectively drove more than 40 hours to see the

McCain/Palin rally in Sterling Heights left ready to do anything and everything necessary to elect John McCain and Sarah Palin."

Schmidt, Weber elected as student body president, vice president

Grant Schmidt and Cynthia Weber were elected student body president and student body vice president on Feb. 12 and took office on April 1.

Schmidt had previously served as student body vice president and Weber, sophomore class president.

Schmidt and Weber defeated juniors Laura Burdick and Derek Sanchez in a run-off election with 51.9 percent of the vote in one of the closest elections in recent years, according to then-Judicial Council president George Chamberlain.

The duo credited their win to their "grassroots campaign" in which they took the time to meet and talk with individual students.

Schmidt and Weber promised tax reform and cheaper text book options and said off-campus safety and community relations are also a priority.

Hoffman and Griffin elected to 2009-2010 Student Government Association office

Rising senior Jenny Hoffman and rising junior Meg Griffin were elected as Saint Mary's student body president and vice president for the 2009-10 academic year.

They took office April 1, and the duo said they hope to continue the projects of the previous Gruscinski-Falvey Board.

Hoffman and Griffin said they would like to distance themselves from the stipend disputes that occurred earlier in the school year and start to bring the student body and student government back together.

Hoffman said she would like to extend Student Center and library hours, have printers placed in all the residence halls and improve communication with the student body through open forums and e-mail surveys.

"Now that we're in place we're really eager to hear what students want done," Hoffman told The Observer earlier this semester. "Right now we have a blank slate and we want to get some issues on it so we can start addressing them."

2008

August 31

Dillon Hall rector Fr. Paul Doyle announces the annual Dillon Hall pep rally, which mocks various aspects of Notre Dame life, is cancelled. Students voice disappointment about the sudden cancellation of a Notre Dame tradition.

October 29

The Saint Mary's Board of Governance (BOG) approved the Student Government Association (SGA) budget after the third vote on the issue at their weekly meeting. The budget had difficulty passing because of the stipend the Executive Board was allotting for themselves. Students and members of BOG opposed the stipend, and it was eventually removed from the budget.

August

September

October

November

December

August 24

Duncan Hall opens for the 2008-2009 school year. The newest male dorm houses 232 students on West Quad. It cost \$20 million and took 17 months to build.

November 4

America elects Barack Obama as president of the United States. Many students register to vote in Indiana rather than their home state, and student groups, such as NDVotes '08, Notre Dame College Republicans and Notre Dame College Democrats, campaign for candidates and educate students.

campaign, educate. Student shot near off-campus home. Sophomore Kevin Healey dies. Obama to speak at Commencement.

in Review

◆2009

A new Student Government Association Constitution was voted on and approved by the student body this semester and Hoffman and Griffin have said they will begin adding amendments in the fall.

Student shot near off-campus home

A Notre Dame student was shot in the arm early morning on Feb. 24 after trying to enter a neighbor's house, which she mistook for her own off-campus residence.

The 23-year-old female was shot on the 800-block of E. Miner St. after returning from Club 23, a bar located at the corner of South Bend and Notre Dame Aves., and knocking on the door of a neighbor's house.

Police said the victim was intoxicated.

The residents of the house told police they heard knocking on the door and told the woman to leave. When the knocking persisted, they fired a shot through the door.

The student was treated at Memorial Hospital in South Bend with a gunshot wound to the arm.

Students petition to add sexual orientation to non-discrimination clause

Members of the Campaign for Human Dignity, a coalition of the Progressive Student Alliance (PSA), presented the Office of the President with a petition asking that sexual orientation be added to the University's nondiscrimination clause in March.

Currently, the clause states the University does not discriminate based on "race/ethnicity, color, national origin, sex, disability, veteran status or age."

The leaders of the group presented University President Fr. John Jenkins with a petition of about 2,300 student signatures and he agreed to a meeting with the group.

At the meeting, Jenkins told the group the University will not change the nondiscrimination clause to include sexual orientation.

"That is, after careful analysis from both the legal and theological perspectives, it was determined that adding the clause may not allow us to distinguish between sexual orientation and behavior, which is a distinction that we must maintain as a Catholic university," University

spokesperson Dennis Brown told The Observer at the time.

But Jenkins told the group he would be open to alternative ideas to make Notre Dame more welcoming for the GLBTQ (Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender and Questioning) community.

SMC Dance Marathon receives award, raises \$91,538

Over the summer, Children's Miracle Network awarded Saint Mary's Dance Marathon with the Incentive Award, the highest award the organization gives to a committee.

"The Incentive Award is to recognize exceptional Dance Marathons that have broken the mold," Zac Johnson, national director of Dance Marathon in the press release, said. "Saint Mary's College students have set the bar very high for campuses just starting the program. These young women re-imagined what can be accomplished in such a short time and serve as an example to other campuses."

This year, Dance Marathon raised over \$91,000 for the Riley's Children Hospital in Indianapolis which is up over \$6,000 from last year's total. 400 participants stood for 12 hours in Angela Athletic Facility to help raise money for the cause. Families and children from the hospital were there throughout the night to visit and encourage students.

Obama accepts invitation to speak at Commencement

The White House and the University announced on March 20 that President Barack Obama will deliver the 2009 Commencement address at the May 17 graduation ceremony and receive an honorary degree from the University.

Catholic and pro-life groups and religious leaders, including Fort Wayne-South Bend Bishop John D'Arcy, condemned University President Fr. John Jenkins' invitation to Obama claiming it violates a document of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) that states Catholic institutions should not honor politicians "who act in defiance of our fundamental moral principles."

Jenkins said the invitation should "in no way be taken as condoning or

endorsing his positions on specific issues regarding the protection of life, such as abortion and embryonic stem cell research."

Students rallied both in support and opposition to the invitation.

ND Response, a coalition of student groups in opposition to Obama delivering the Commencement address and receiving an honorary degree, created a Web site, held a prayer rally and organized the first Right to Life March on campus.

The Progressive Leadership Council gathered the support of about 20 campus clubs — including the Progressive Student Alliance, College Democrats, Feminist Voice, the Notre Dame NAACP chapter, Students for Environmental Action and the Black Cultural Arts Council (BCAC) — and met with Jenkins to show support for his decision and presented him with a petition with about 1,150 signatures from students and faculty also in support.

Both groups said they will continue to make plans to create dialogue about the issue until the ceremony on Sunday.

Glendon declines Laetare Medal

Mary Ann Glendon, former U.S. ambassador to the Holy See, declined the Laetare Medal, an award given annually to an American Catholic since 1883.

Glendon declined the Medal in a letter to University President Fr. John Jenkins.

"I could not help but be dismayed by the news that Notre Dame also planned to award [President Barack Obama] an honorary degree," Glendon wrote in the letter.

Glendon initially accepted the award and Jenkins told The Observer she is "probably the most powerful spokesperson for the Catholic viewpoint in our world today."

This marks the first time the award was accepted and declined.

Instead of choosing a new recipient for the award, the University invited previous Laetare Medalist Judge John T. Noonan to deliver an address at the Commencement ceremony.

Noonan received the award in 1984.

"In thinking about who could bring a compelling voice, a passion for dialogue, great intellectual stature and a deep commitment to Catholic values

to the speaking role of the Laetare Medalist — especially in these unusual circumstances — it quickly became clear that an ideal choice is Judge Noonan," Jenkins said in a statement.

Sophomore Kevin Healey dies

Kevin Healey, a sophomore of Sorin College, died on April 24 after a battle with cancer. He was 20.

Healey, a native of the Cleveland area, was diagnosed with osteosarcoma, a type of malignant bone cancer, in December 2006.

Attending Notre Dame was a "lifelong dream" of Healey's, according to Fr. Jim King, rector of Sorin College.

Friends of Healey's said his courage was inspirational.

"We ought all to thank Kevin Healey, at least those of us in Sorin College with whom he willingly offered friendship and many lessons to learn, even in his final days," sophomore Steven Lechner said. "May his memory, which has united us now in this time of sorrow, live on forever in our hearts in thanksgiving to him and to God."

A plaque that says, "Reserved for Kevin Healey '11" is attached to the seat closest to the altar in the Sorin Chapel.

SMC spends a second year on U.S. News and World Report ranking

Saint Mary's has been ranked 104 out of 248 schools on the U.S. News and World Report magazine's "2009 America's Best Colleges" list, marking the second year in a row the College has made the list.

"We know we compete on a national level. Saint Mary's excellent faculty and our commitment to educate the whole person set us apart. The real proof of our success can be found in our graduates," President Carol Ann Mooney said in a press release Aug. 22 earlier this school year.

In addition, the College was named a "Best in the Midwest" school by the Princeton Review. Out of the 2,500 four-year colleges, Saint Mary's ranks in the top 25 percent, according to a press release from earlier this year.

This is the sixth year Saint Mary's has received this designation.

Contact Madeline Buckley at mbuckley@nd.edu and Ashley Charnley at acharm01@saintmarys.edu

2009

February 24
A Notre Dame student is shot in the arm after mistakenly attempting to enter a neighbor's house. The 23-year-old female was treated at Memorial Hospital in South Bend.

March 30
Students from the Progressive Student Alliance meet with University President Fr. John Jenkins asking that sexual orientation be added to the University's nondiscrimination clause. Jenkins rejected the appeal, but asked for suggestions to make Notre Dame more welcoming to GLBTQ students.

April 24
Sophomore Kevin Healey dies at 20 after a battle with cancer. Healey was diagnosed with osteosarcoma, a type of malignant bone cancer, in December of 2006. Residents of Sorin College, Healey's home on campus, said Healey's courage and strength were an inspiration.

January

February

March

April

May

February 12
The student body elects junior Grant Schmidt and sophomore Cynthia Weber as student body president and student body vice president. Schmidt previously served as student body vice president. The duo beat juniors Laura Burdick and Derek Sanchez with 51.9 percent of the vote.

March 20
Obama accepts University President Fr. John Jenkins' invitation to speak at the Commencement Ceremony. Obama will also receive an honorary degree from the University. Students rallied in support and condemnation of Jenkins' decision.

April 27
Mary Ann Glendon declines the Laetare Medal in a letter to Fr. Jenkins, writing that she was "dismayed" by the news that Obama would receive an honorary degree. Glendon initially accepted the award, marking the first time the award was accepted and then declined since its inception in 1883.

ANDREA ARCHER | Observer Graphic

"LIVE LIKE A CHAMPION TODAY AT LEGACY VILLAGE"

Legacy Village is the most luxurious off-campus student housing development in South Bend and is located three blocks east of campus on McErlain Street between George Street and Ironwood Road and about 200 yards south of Douglas Road. It has ten (10) brand new 3,250 square foot brick homes and each home has 6 bedrooms and 3½ bathrooms. The homes are fully-furnished with high quality furniture and are specifically designed for the lifestyle of college students. No off-campus housing development offers the amenities available at Legacy Village: Legacy Village is sure to set the standard for off-campus housing for the students of Notre Dame, St. Mary's and Holy Cross for years to come. The following are the features and amenities of a Legacy Village home:



1. Square footage of home: Approximately 3,250 square feet;
2. 6 bedrooms, 3½ bathrooms, foyer, living room, kitchen, family room/dining area, and utility room;
3. Back patio with gas barbeque grill;
4. Spacious yard;
5. Abundant parking; and
6. Other amenities:
 - a. Fully equipped kitchen with new refrigerator, range, freezer, oven, dishwasher, microwave, cooking pots/ pans and cooking utensils and dinnerware;
 - b. Dining room table with 8 chairs;
 - c. Fireplace in family room with granite or marble hearth;
 - d. Family room furniture having two (2) couches, a lounge chair, coffee table, end table, table lamp, floor lamp and 42" tv over fireplace;
 - e. Laundry center in utility room with washer and dryer;
 - f. Hardwood flooring on entire first floor, except for entry way in foyer and utility room which will have porcelain tile;
 - g. Each Bedroom area is approximately 11' x 16' and has the following design features:
 - * Fully carpeted;
 - * Vanity cabinet with sink and mirror;
 - * Spacious closet;
 - * Bed with full-size mattresses, night stand, dresser and desk/chair; and
 - * Wired for cable television and internet service.
 - h. Each two bedrooms share a porcelain-tiled bathroom (private toilet room and a large shower with seat);
 - i. Wireless internet service ready;
 - j. Fire sprinkler system;
 - k. Fire and security alarm system with monitoring service and Emtek locks with deadbolts for all exterior and bedroom doors;
 - l. Top-of-the-line mechanical systems having high-efficiency heat pump systems/air conditioning systems (the "Mechanical Systems");
 - m. Grohe, Kohler and Elkay plumbing fixtures;
 - n. Granite and marble countertops;
 - o. All windows have wooden-slat style window shades;
 - p. The homes are extremely well-insulated with sound insulation in all floors and ceilings and the walls surrounding all bedrooms and bathrooms;
 - q. Reduced utility costs because of the quality of the Mechanical Systems and the fact the homes are extremely well-insulated; and
 - r. The homes' lawns have a lawn sprinkler system.

Legacy Village is completely rented for the 2009-2010 school year and only four houses remain for the 2010-2011 school year. Six houses remain for the 2011-2012 school year. Hurry, before it is too late!

For more information, contact RWD Campus Developments, LLC at (630) 655-3223, (630) 886-7715 or rwd.campusdevelop@sbcglobal.net or visit our website at rwdcampusdevelopments.com.

Princeton review recongnizes SMC

By NIKKI TAYLOR
News Writer

Saint Mary's College was named one of the best colleges or universities in the Midwest by the Princeton Review in their latest region-by-region summation of institutions.

The Princeton Review recognized 158 colleges as being the "Best in the Midwest," marking the seventh year the education services company has profiled colleges and universities on a regional basis.

Saint Mary's has been recognized among the Midwest schools every year in the regional profiles.

The Princeton Review does not rank the colleges or universities but rather provides a listing of schools that have been distinguished based on their independent research.

The research behind the recognition includes campus visits, institutional data and recommendations of independent and high school advisors from hundreds of schools in each region. Princeton Review's vice president of publishing Robert Franek said.

The Princeton Review also surveys students, and their responses play a major role in the selection of the top regional schools.

"We also take into account what each school's customers — their students — report to us about their campus experiences at them on our 80-question student survey," Franek said.

Saint Mary's College President Carol Ann Mooney is delighted to have been recognized by the company for the seventh year in a row.

"We are very pleased to once again be listed in the Princeton Review," Mooney said. "Our commitment to an excellent intellectual and academic experience for our students is unwavering. Our graduates are our best recruiters. Their accomplishments speak volumes about the quality of the educational experience they received here."

Saint Mary's students are proud of their school's recognition although they said there were other perks that drew them to the school.

"It's exciting, but I don't think a ranking would have changed my mind. I liked the tradition and the liberal arts education of Saint Mary's," junior Mary Beth Gizinski said.

Junior Ellen O'Brien agreed, saying that Saint Mary's national recognition was like "icing on the cake."

Contact Nikki Taylor at ntaylo01@saintmarys.edu

Boom

continued from page 1

and before Christmas.

Store manager of Mishawaka's Bed Bath and Beyond, Johnny Skeen, said sales increase around 40 to 60 percent during the month of August, the busiest time for his store.

Skeen said people are spending less, but not significantly. Students still are stocking up on dorm items like sheets, mattress pads and pillows like any other year.

Other area stores such as the Futon Factory in Mishawaka enjoy similar profits during the month and offer student specials as well as extended store hours, as advertised on the store's Web site.

"Business is picking up as the students move in," Mary Burrer, owner of the Futon Factory, said. "We have a great business from the ND students and always look forward to this time of year."

While spending on school and dorm items is costly to any student, incoming parents and students agree cutting back on essential items for back-to-school is difficult, especially freshman year.

"You can't not buy things like sheets," freshman Meghan Smith said. "I am going to have a lot of the stuff I buy for all four years," she said.

Smith said she did, however, compare prices carefully for larger items like bedding before making her purchases from stores like the Company Store, Target and Bed Bath and Beyond.

"I probably would have done that any year though," Smith added.

Other students agree that careful spending is important

for anyone.

Freshman Morgan Iddings, who had to buy dorm essentials like a futon, has been bargain shopping at stores like TJ Maxx and Marshalls.

"I refuse to pay full price," Iddings said. "You can get the same thing [at some stores] but cheaper."

Smith and Iddings, like many other students, said they will also be taking advantage of the student government-sponsored Fall Mall, which is held in the Stepan Center and offers Notre Dame student a variety of dorm supplies from local retailers.

Contact Katie Peralta at kperalta@nd.edu

ND encourages H1N1 flu prevention

Health services suggest items to help protect students against illness

By MADELINE BUCKLEY
News Editor

When shopping for basic back-to-school items, did you remember to grab a disposable thermometer?

Although not generally part of the average student's shopping list, Notre Dame Health Services is encouraging all students to be equipped with one to recognize flu symptoms, according to Director Ann Kleva.

Part of an education initiative to help students prevent seasonal flu and the H1N1 virus (commonly referred to as swine flu) and recognize symptoms, Kleva said Health Services is also encouraging students to bring an alcohol-based sanitizer, Kleenex, throat lozenges and a disposable paper mask.

"Our biggest emphasis is going to be encouraging students to take personal responsibility for good hygiene and healthy habits," she said.

Because of widespread swine flu contractions worldwide, Health Services resurrected an old germ-fighting campaign with the tag line: "Be a 'Notre Dame Germ Fighter'... remain 'Flu-less, not Clueless!'"

In April and May, two Notre

Dame students contracted swine flu and fully recovered.

Kleva said Health Services plans to hang posters on campus instructing students on healthy practices, such as the best way to sneeze to minimize germ spread.

"We know it's going to be difficult with kids having beginning of the school year parties and the first football games," she said. "We know there's going to be exposure on campus and we are trying to limit that exposure."

But Kleva said the University is prepared for any flu outbreak.

"We have purchased more masks and more disposable thermometers," she said. "In the waiting rooms, we will have students with identified flu symptoms waiting separately so a student in for a strain or sprain isn't sitting next to a student with the flu."

The biggest message of the campaign, though, is prevention.

Kleva said a good rule of thumb is to stay about six feet away from a person who is exhibiting flu symptoms.

"Our biggest emphasis is going to be encouraging students to take personal responsibility for good hygiene and healthy habits."

Ann Kleva
director of
health services

"Students should always cough into their sleeves and if they sneeze into a tissue, throw it into a correct receptacle immediately," she said. "Germs can stay alive on a surface that's not cleaned with disinfect for two hours so if you cough and then use a computer in the lab, germs can stay

on the keyboard for two hours after."

Healthy eating and good sleeping habits as well as frequently washing hands are also necessities, she said.

"There is no true cure or preventive measure for the flu," Kleva said. "We will just hopefully get our messages out to offer support and education for seasonal and H1N1 flu."

Contact Madeline Buckley at mbuckley@nd.edu

Cheerleading Tryout FRESHMEN LADIES ONLY

August 27, 2009

Rockne Memorial

5:30 p.m.

Pick up tryout forms above Gate 3 of Joyce Center from Jeanne at front desk. Complete forms & Bring to Tryout at the Rock.

Notre Dame Cheerleading

Back To School

CARPET

SAVINGS UP TO 50% OFF REG. PRICES

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OVER 1000 CARPET REMNANTS ON SALE!

MON.-FRI 9:00-8:00
SAT. 9:00-5:30
SUN. 1:00-5:00

Douglas Road east to Grape, turn right (south) onto Grape Road, 1/2 mile on left at stoplight, turn right for the best deals on carpet.



OIT revamps insideND navigation system

By AMANDA GRAY
News Writer

InsideND got a makeover this summer.

Notre Dame's Office of Information and Technology (OIT) launched the latest version of the University's navigation system, resulting in a new look for the site and several new features, said Patricia Sperry, manager of Interactive Web Services at OIT.

InsideND is Notre Dame's major "gateway" — used as a navigation tool to services like web registration and e-mail and also as a way to communicate information, Sperry said.

"It was easier to change because it was all in one package," Sperry said. "We had a new, upgraded version."

A June 18 ND Works article said this was the biggest change to the system in three years.

"Some of the changes were because of student focus groups," Sperry said.

Groups were asked questions about what they used insideND for, such as what links were the most popular and how they navigated the site. This information was used to make insideND run more smoothly.

This leads to one major visual difference — it appears there is less on insideND than there was before, Sperry said. However, all of the same information is available, but a new organization system makes the site appear less

cluttered.

"What we did was make it more condensed, but still have all of the information," Sperry said.

The site also features drop-down menus, said Lenette Votava, organizational communications analyst at OIT. These menus, which include related links to the menu topic, were determined through the focus groups' opinions, Sperry said.

Other updated areas include the classifieds channel, where students have more options for their listings, Sperry said. Also available are tutorials on customizing insideND, such as removing channels and editing tab content.

While OIT is excited about the new InsideND, some students cite confusion over the new layout.

"I knew where everything was before, and now I'm not sure where everything has been moved to," sophomore Allie Hamman said. "It will just take some time to get used to."

One thing everyone can agree on, however, is how it looks.

"It's aesthetically pleasing," Hamman said.

OIT will have several events to welcome new students to campus, including extended Help Desk and Computer Store hours during Freshman Orientation.

A full calendar, including dates, times and locations is available at oit.nd.edu, OIT's Web site.

Contact Amanda Gray at agray3@nd.edu

University Choral Auditions

UNIVERSITY OF NOTRE DAME CHORALE
NOTRE DAME GLEE CLUB
NOTRE DAME LITURGICAL CHOIR
NOTRE DAME WOMEN'S LITURGICAL CHOIR
BASILICA SCHOLA

University Choral Auditions will be held in the
DeBartolo Performing Arts Center

SUNDAY, AUG. 23, 3-6 PM

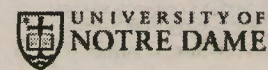
MONDAY, AUG. 24, 12:00 PM - 4:30 PM:

5:30 PM - 10:00 PM

To reserve an audition time please go to
<http://campusministry.nd.edu/about/events/choral-auditions>
or e-mail dbayless@nd.edu until 2:00 pm Sunday, August 23

After 2:00 pm Sunday, August 23, please sign up at the coat check in the
DeBartolo Performing Arts Center (DPAC)

For more information please phone DPAC at 631-7800



Take a Film Course in the Browning Cinema!

Italian National Cinema



Professor John Welle

LLRO 40545, FTT 40233, ROIT 40505

T R 2:00 - 3:15 in Browning Cinema, DEPAC

Taught in English with no pre-requisites

Learn the history of one of the world's most renowned national cinemas. Analyze great films by Pastrone, Rossellini, Fellini, Pasolini, Visconti and contemporary filmmakers. Understand the interaction between Italian history, film history, and national identity. Class meets in Browning Cinema in DEPAC. Fulfills university fine arts requirement, FTT international film requirement, and Italian Studies electives. Instructor is an internationally recognized scholar specializing in the history of Italian cinema.

Ryan

continued from page 1

dorm has much more versatility than her old dorm.

"My friends and I decided to move to Ryan because it gave us a lot more room options than Lewis," Maloney said. "Although we didn't know at the time that Lewis was going to be renovated."

Upperclassmen like Maloney aren't the only ones excited to move in to the new dorm. Julianne Rizzo, a freshman from California, said she is excited to be able to spend all of her time on campus living in Ryan.

"It's amazing," Rizzo said. "I'm truly lucky to be here, especially right since freshman year."

Because Ryan Hall is so new, all of its residents are starting with a clean slate. They get to help create the dorm's cheers, traditions and signature events.

"It's exciting and fun because we get to build new traditions," Ryan Resident Assistant Nkechi Ekwunife

said. "We're the first women to live in Ryan and our legacy will continue."

Ekwunife said she already feels a sense of community from the girls in the dorm.

"I feel like everyone's genuinely excited to live here," she said. "Not just to be back on campus, but to live in Ryan."

The dorm's rectress Breyan Tornifolio feels the same sense of excitement.

"[The reaction to the dorm] has been extremely, extremely positive," Tornifolio said. "I think the girls feel very blessed to be here. They think it's beautiful."

Like Ekwunife and the other residents, Tornifolio is excited about the chance to create new traditions for the dorm.

"I think the greatest part about Notre Dame is its tradition, hands down," Tornifolio said. "And it's really nice to start your own traditions. It's nice to see so many women take an active part in that. There's a lot of excitement here."

Contact Irena Zajickova at izajicko@nd.edu

Building

continued from page 1

we will have done about \$275 million worth of construction."

Lypnout said the recession did impact raising funds for new projects, such as a free standing ice arena, remodeling of the first and second floors of the Hesburgh Library and a new center for executive education to the south of Mendoza. Nonetheless, he said the University is very close to breaking ground on some of these new buildings.

"Our construction is totally dependent upon having the money in hand, so with the recession we did have to slow down some, but we still have a pretty aggressive construction schedule," he said. "These projects we're working on designs for right now. We think we're close to having the appropriate fundraising completed."

Executive Vice President John Affleck-Graves said he is also optimistic that construction on the ice rink would begin soon.

"[The new ice rink] is one of the projects we are waiting to close the funding on," he said. "We won't start a project until we have 100 percent of the funds pledged for the building. It is a building

that hopefully we will close the funding on but we haven't yet."

Two new buildings were completed over the summer — Ryan Hall, a female dorm, and Geddes Hall, the new home of the Institute for Church Life, which will also house the Center for Social Concerns (CSC).

Lypnout said Geddes Hall should be the first building on campus to attain Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) certification.

"LEED is the national standard in green building," according to a July 21 press release from the Office of Sustainability. "To achieve LEED certification, a building must meet high benchmarks for energy efficiency, water efficiency, indoor air quality, protection of natural resources and waste reduction."

Affleck-Graves said the LEED certification process is lengthy, beginning when the building in question is designed, in addition to being "a little bit more expensive to do LEED buildings."

Lypnout said a number of variables are considered by the certification committee.

"You get points for certain aspects of design as well as the construction methods used, the way the construction site is handled, the trailers that you use for

the construction, the environmentally-friendly energy systems you install — there is a whole variety of points you can earn," he said.

Affleck-Graves said the University has followed the requisite procedure and he fully expects Geddes Hall to become Notre Dame's first LEED building.

"It will be [LEED certified]," he said. "We are absolutely confident that it will be because we know what we have to do to meet the standards. But technically it is not certified yet."

Furthermore, several buildings currently under construction are scheduled to be finished this year.

Lypnout said the renovation of the old Law School will be finished on June 1, 2010, and Stinson-Remick Hall, the new engineering building, is scheduled to be completed in December.

Several new athletic facilities are also nearing completion.

"We are completing the two stadiums," Affleck-Graves said. "The one for soccer, Alumni Stadium, and Arlotta Stadium for lacrosse. They will actually start playing the week after next in the soccer one. The lacrosse is a little bit further behind, but they're in the process of being completed."

Contact Joseph McMahon at jmcmaho6@nd.edu

2013

continued from page 1

ably financial aid options. He said the administration still commits to meeting the demonstrated need of every student, and the Office of Undergraduate Admissions is one of the few in the country that is still need-blind.

"If we didn't have financial aid, the class profiles would not be getting stronger," he said.

However, the administration did ask the office to admit about 50 more students than usual because

of the recession, yielding more revenue from tuition and a slightly larger-than-average class size of about 2,060.

Of the 2,060 students, 12 percent were valedictorians or salutatorians of their high school and 18 students achieved a perfect ACT or SAT score.

The Class of 2013 is 55 percent male and 45 percent female and 24 percent are children of Notre Dame alumni.

The incoming freshman class is also one of the most diverse Notre Dame has seen with 23 percent of the class an ethnic minority, but Saracino said the University hopes

to increase that percentage in future years.

"If we came up short in an area, it's ethnic diversity," he said. "We are disappointed in the area of diversity and international students."

About three percent of students in the Class of 2013 are international, but Saracino said many other top universities reach about seven percent.

This year, the class contains students from 23 different countries. The largest group of international students comes from South Korea, followed by China.

Of the 23 percent of ethnic minori-

ty students, an estimated 10 percent are Hispanic, nine percent Asian, three percent African American and one percent Native American.

"The most disappointing is the number of African American students," Saracino said. "We are now spending more time and energy in areas of the country where Notre Dame is not being heard and doing more outreach work."

Along with academic achievements, the Class of 2013 was also active outside of the classroom:

- ◆ 11 percent were class or student body president
- ◆ 14 percent were an editor of a student publication

◆ 51 percent participated in music, art, drama or dance

◆ 85 percent were involved in community service

◆ 78 percent lettered in at least one varsity sport

◆ 35 percent captained an athletic team

◆ 6 percent were Eagle Scouts or achieved a Girl Scouts Gold Award

"This is the strongest class," Saracino said. "It's not just the SAT scores that are getting higher, but their high school records are getting stronger."

Contact Madeline Buckley at mbuckley@nd.edu

Get Involved in Irish Athletics!

The Sports Information Office is looking for student assistants for the 2009-10 school year.

Any students interested in becoming active and involved in Irish athletics should come to an

informational meeting on Mon., Aug. 24 at 7:00

p.m. in the Sports Information Office (2nd floor

Joyce Center; enter at Gate 2). Students with ex-

perience in writing, photography and new media

(web sites) are encouraged to attend. For more

information contact 631-7516.

Frosh-O

continued from page 1

[my room] was a little small, but once everything has been moved around and everything is getting unpacked it's getting to look like a normal size."

Today, incoming freshmen will be busy with dorm activities.

For example, Walsh Hall will have a scavenger hunt on campus, Walsh Commissioner Joanie Fisher said.

"We make them go into DeBartolo and tell us how many chairs are in the back of 101," Fisher said. "They go into the Huddle and get a picture of themselves huddling in the Huddle."

Through the scavenger hunt, Fisher hopes the Walsh freshmen will get to know each other and get acclimated to campus "in a fun and friendly way."

In addition to the scavenger hunt, Fisher said Walsh freshmen will also be learning a song, which is medley of "Grillz" by Nelly, "That's Not My Name" by the Ting-Tings, and various Backstreet Boys songs.

Campbell said in an effort to help make incoming freshmen feel comfortable Frosh-O has a slightly different focus this year. Frosh-O is more focused on helping freshmen meet other students in their own dorm, as opposed to those from other dorms.

"This year they are trying to focus on in-dorm stuff," Campbell said. "It's less focus on spreading yourself out to people you'd meet once and feeling overwhelmed, and more focused on meeting people in your dorm."

But freshmen will also have many opportunities to branch out and meet people from other dorms, he said. This weekend, freshmen will have ice cream socials, play recess games, have bonfires and eat meals with other dorms.

Domerfest, a dance for all freshmen that takes place tonight, will be another opportunity to meet students from across campus.

With all of the commotion this weekend, many freshmen said they are feeling a mixture of excitement and nervousness.

"I'm just really excited to be on campus," O'Donnell said. "I heard you meet a lot of different people [during Frosh-O] and it's just a really fun experience to get settled in."

Freshman Andrew Anderson of Keough Hall said so far, being on campus has been "fun" and "chaotic."

"I'm just excited about the whole thing ... but I'm still nervous at the same time," Anderson said. "I'm just nervous about meeting new people, getting to know my professors and making sure that I pick the right major."

Anderson said he has not been informed about any plans for the weekend and has no expectations for what Frosh-O will be like.

"I'm totally just going with the flow," he said. "I have no idea what's going on."

At the end of Frosh-O, Anderson said he hopes he will feel a bit more settled in.

"I'd like to feel comfortable, like I feel like I fit in and I know the campus better," he said.

Contact Sarah Mervosh at smervosh@nd.edu

Saint Mary's offers money to student service members

New government bill allows College to award scholarships to women serving or who have families in the armed forces

By MEGAN LONEY
News Writer

Saint Mary's is expanding its efforts to help student veterans, service members and their families with help from grants and gifts.

In July, Saint Mary's announced it is one of 21 higher education institutions in Indiana to receive a share of \$270,000 in grants given by Operation Diploma, a program designed by Purdue University's Military Research Institution, and a \$5.8 million gift from the Lilly Endowment.

The Operation Diploma grant is designed to "help institutions and student veteran organizations implement policies and programs that assist in the transition from combat to the classroom,"

the Military Family Research Institute at Purdue Web site said.

With a focus on student service members and veterans — both those beginning their college education and those who are returning to college after extended service or deployment — this grant will enable the College to make the transition from service to school smooth for these students.

Studies have shown that students who have served or are currently serving in the military may deal with barriers to their education, such as feeling frustrated, alone and misunderstood on college campuses.

A grant of \$14,999 will assist with Saint Mary's plans to form a task force to oversee the grant and review the issues involved with recruiting and enrolling veterans, develop a strategy to recruit veterans, train student affairs staff to address the unique issues veterans face and develop a peer support network for veterans.

The number of veterans who have attended and are currently attending Saint Mary's is not currently available, but data is being gathered.

Recruiting student service members, veterans and military family members is important to Saint Mary's College for several reasons, vice president of student affairs Karen Johnson said.

"We believe that we offer the kind of education that women veterans are seeking — small, intense classes, faculty interaction — and that we can also offer great leadership opportunities for women veterans," Johnson said.

"Additionally, bringing women veterans to campus will provide other diverse viewpoints and the interactions with women who have had amazing lives."

In addition to Operation Diploma, Saint Mary's is also

participating in the Yellow Ribbon Program, a new federal program sponsored by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs intended to help veterans attend college or graduate school.

"Saint Mary's involvement in the Yellow Ribbon Program provides an ideal partnership with the Veteran's Administration to reach out to meet the needs of female veterans who have given of the time and talents to serve

this great nation," Dan Meyer, vice president for enrollment management, said in a June press release.

The Post-9/11 GI Bill covers the cost of attending the most expensive in-state tuition at a public institution in each state. Veterans may also choose to attend private institutions that, under the Yellow Ribbon Program, have agreed to

pay at least some of the extra cost. The private institutions determine the number of students that may receive aid and the amount of tuition it will cover, and the VA matches this amount.

Up to five qualifying students could potentially attend the school free of charge for the 2009-2010 academic year, as a result of the agreement between Saint Mary's and the VA.

Saint Mary's is awarding this financial aid on a first come, first serve basis. The five slots have not yet been filled.

"At the time this new program was announced we had already set our aid budget for the 2009-10," director of financial aid Kathleen Brown said. "In addition, as with any new program there were a lot of unknowns at the time we had to make our commitment, such as how many of our students would qualify and how much it would cost. For these reasons we tried to be fiscally responsible while still showing our support for veterans and their families."

Saint Mary's will review the effects of the program on the students and the College at the end of the fall and will make a decision about changes for the following academic year. One factor that will influence the number of award offered next year is the amount of interest the program draws this year, Brown said.

"There has been a lot of interest, both from students enrolling this year and high school students who are in the middle of their college search," Brown said.

Although there are only five slots available, Saint Mary's has committed to providing the maximum amount possible for those five students — up to 50 percent of the tuition and fees not already covered by the Post-9/11 GI Bill.

Brown is positive about this

program and its benefits for the College and those who are eligible.

"First, we're excited at the possibility of potentially enrolling more veterans, and their children, at Saint Mary's College,"

Brown said. "By the nature of their experiences veterans and their children can contribute in unique ways to the diversity of our student body and enhance the learning experience for all of our students. Second, this pro-

gram provides one more way we can make a Saint Mary's education affordable for more families."

Contact Megan Loney at mloney01@saintmarys.edu

"We believe that we offer the kind of education that women veterans are seeking — small, intense classes, faculty interaction — and that we can also offer great leadership opportunities for women veterans."

Karen Johnson
vice president of student affairs

"By the nature of their experiences veterans and their children can contribute in unique ways to the diversity of our student body and enhance the learning experience for all of our students."

Kathleen Brown
director of financial aid

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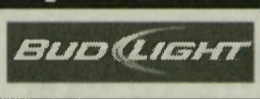
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THE OBSERVER VIEWPOINT

Saturday, August 22, 2009

page 13

THE OBSERVER

The Independent, Daily Newspaper Serving Notre Dame and Saint Mary's

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The Observer is the independent, daily newspaper published in print and online by the students of the University of Notre Dame du Lac and Saint Mary's College. Editorial content, including advertisements, is not governed by policies of the administration of either institution. The Observer reserves the right to refuse advertisements based on content.

The news is reported as accurately and objectively as possible. Unsigned editorials represent the opinion of the majority of the Editor in Chief, Managing Editor, Assistant Managing Editors and department editors. Commentaries, letters and columns present the views of the authors and not necessarily those of The Observer.

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

Questions regarding Observer policies should be directed to Editor-in-Chief Jenn Metz.

POST OFFICE INFORMATION

The Observer (USPS 599 2-4000) is published Monday through Friday except during exam and vacation periods. A subscription to The Observer is \$120 for one academic year; \$65 for one semester.

The Observer is published at:
024 South Dining Hall
Notre Dame, IN 46556-0779
Periodical postage paid at Notre Dame and additional mailing offices.

POSTMASTER:
Send address corrections to:
The Observer
P.O. Box 779
024 South Dining Hall
Notre Dame, IN 46556-0779

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Look below the surface

To all you freshmen who grew up reciting Rockne's speeches, who lay in bed not with visions of sugarplums but of Touchdown Jesus and the Golden Dome, who have 37 family members who went here, who watched "Rudy" so many times you know the order in which the players turned in their jerseys to Dan Devine: Wake up.

Rise and shine, ladies and gentlemen, because life here ain't like that. You may as well have just hopped off the *Mayflower*, because you've entered a world of conservatism, religion and two months of sub-zero temperatures, a place where alumni treat Barack Obama as though he were Michael Vick. Buckle up.

Airplanes flew over campus this spring towing pictures of aborted fetuses to protest Obama giving the commencement address. Awesome dorm events get cancelled and controversial plays cause uproars. You can't camp out for basketball games a la Kryzewskville or the police will run you away.

No joy on finishing that movie/home-work assignment/date in the dorm of the opposite sex after midnight — the rules governing this are called parietals, a word which will soon have the same annoyance as the words "traffic" or "airport security."

Boys and girls can't see each other until tonight. What better way to teach kids away from home for the first time to interact with the opposite sex than to keep them apart? Sex is banned on campus. Not frowned upon. Banned. So

is hard alcohol.

Welcome to college!

So why am I still here after three years of this nonsense? Why does anyone con their folks into shelling out \$200,000 for tuition and make the trek to South Bend rather than party their way through the cheap local state school?

Chances are you knew some of this coming in. So there must be something that brought you here anyway, no?

You're here for the intangibles, the things that can't be quantified by rules or SAT scores or football records.

You're here for the community you've joined and the friends and memories you'll make.

If you're here, you're part of a community that transcends all others, that includes some of the finest people in the world (Condoleeza Rice) but also some of the dumbest (Steve Bartman).

This school isn't about the Dome and T.J, it's about creating drinking games with your friends that your RA can't hear. (Hint: stay away from ping pong balls and quarters. Cards and dice are good). It's about the little things that don't show up in the brochure or on Saturdays on NBC. Those stick with you longest.

You'll get so close to your group of friends that you can literally hear them think. I had the same roommate for two years, and if he were suddenly struck mute I could speak for him and no one would ever know.

This skill is only useful every once in a while. What you learn in classes, however, will be useful ... every once in a while. Slog your way through the requirements so you can take classes you like. Parents reading this, let your kids major in what they want. Wouldn't you rather they graduate with a degree in Latin than drop out after three

semesters of chemical engineering?

This place has spirituality without parallel. If you're religious, Notre Dame provides ample opportunity to practice. If you're not, Notre Dame surrounds you with nice people who don't care.

Your fellow students don't become your best friends by accident. You all came here for similar reasons: You chose a school known for its solid academic program and top-tier athletics with a manageable size and close-knit nature. You're most likely willing to sacrifice some freedoms other schools provide to take part in these things.

It's worth the sacrifice.

In the scheme of things, the negative aspects of this place stand out to the outside observer. You have the rare chance to see the inside, to experience the joys of this place that lie below the surface. So you'll leave respectfully at 11:55, you'll tolerate the insane views of the University's supporters, you'll find other ways to prepare for basketball games. Trust me, you'll live with the restrictions and negatives, even embrace them, because the greatness of Notre Dame will eventually shine through.

The friends and connections you make here last and the community of the place — put it this way, I've been here three years and can't accurately put it into words. I've tried to do so in this column, and you still have no idea, do you? Give it some time. By the Michigan State game you'll know what I mean.

Bill Brink is a senior History major and Journalism minor who hopes you still want to be here after reading this. He can be reached at wbrink@nd.edu

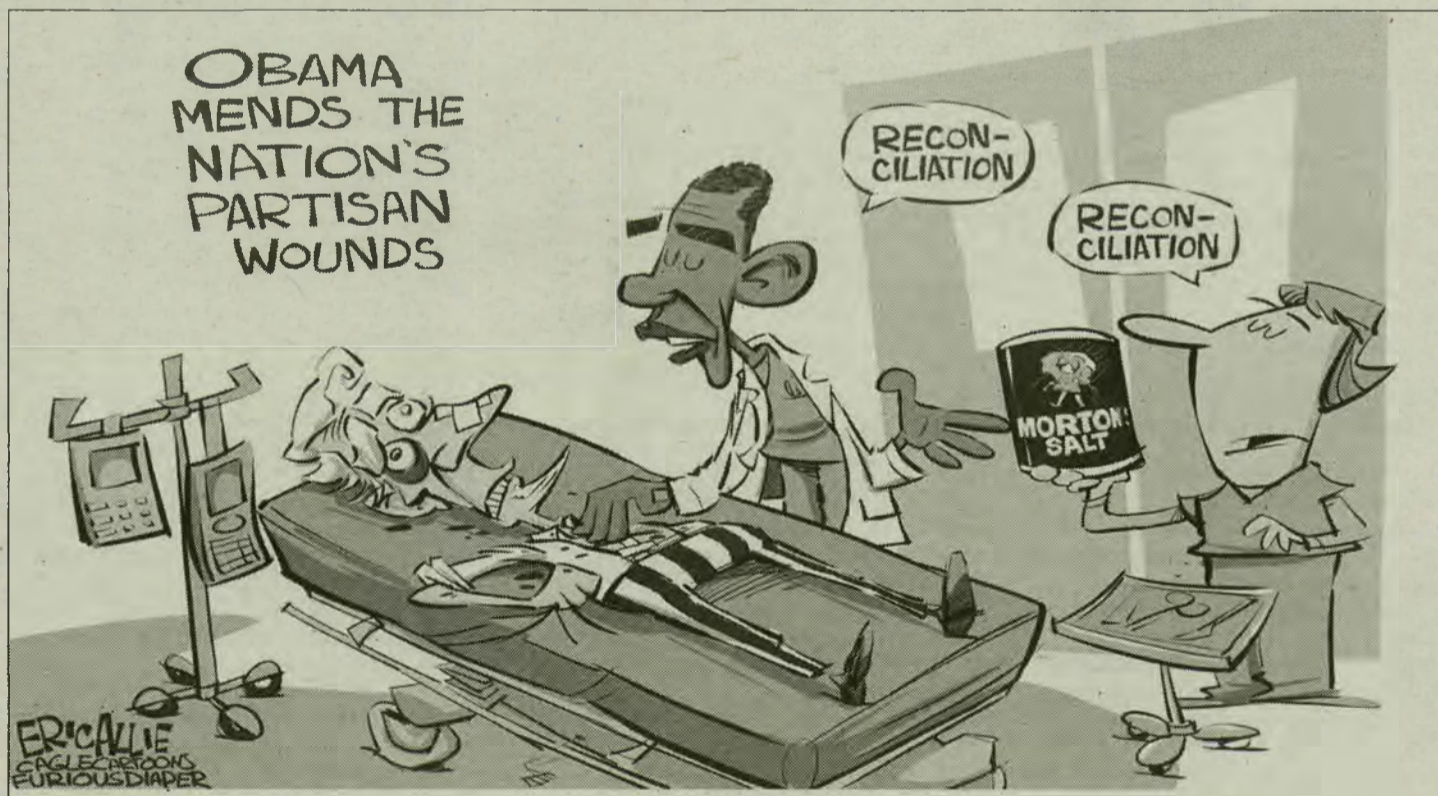
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Bill Brink

Managing Editor

EDITORIAL CARTOON



QUOTE OF THE DAY

"Failures are finger posts on the road to achievement."

C.S. Lewis
English author

QUOTE OF THE DAY

"Honest differences are often a healthy sign of progress."

Mahatma Gandhi
Indian spiritual leader

Submit a Letter
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Experience Notre Dame outside the classroom

In the second class of my freshman year, my professor informed me that someone was paying approximately \$100 per class for me to be there. I think he used this piece of information to try and guilt trip the impressionable freshmen into attending every lecture. It didn't work.

You don't come to college for the classes (sorry Mom and Dad). Notre Dame will give you a great education but the classes here are pretty much the same as anywhere else you could have gone, contrary to the much-hyped U.S. News' annual rankings.

You come here for the name, for the prestige, for the experience. You come because it's Notre Dame and nowhere else can compare.

So while some of what your parents — or your alumni club, or your financial institution — are paying goes to your classroom education, I doubt I'd attribute quite so heavy a weight to

the statistic as my physics professor did three years ago. Remember you came here for the experience, so don't miss out on such a crucial aspect of college life by sitting in your room studying on a Friday night. No test will ever be worth it and no bad grade will hold you back as much as most freshmen seem to think. Your GPA can only get you an interview; it won't help you once you're through the door. Go find something other than group projects to BS about. Besides, it's Notre Dame, and, as long as you're not a science major, it's pretty hard to get anything below a B.

Focus on really learning here. Don't completely neglect your classes — I'm not endorsing scholastic failure, I'm just saying a B isn't the end of the world — but realize what you learn in them won't have as much influence on your future as the life experience you gain here. I like to think of classes as a necessary evil, a way to signal to employers that I actually care enough about my future to broaden my horizons, even if everything I learn will be outdated in the next five years (Literally. IFRS will soon replace every accounting standard I've studied).

Find out who you are and know what you can accomplish. Don't be

afraid to ask your professors for advice; their goal is to help you succeed. Take a class with Carl Ackermann, who understands the importance of real world skills, and even devotes a portion of his class to them. As with every professor here, he'll go above and beyond what you expect.

There will be times when you hate this place. (Every year, someone finds it humorous to submit a Letter to the Editor listing these instances. If you ever feel so compelled, please refrain.) Maybe you're already regretting your decision to attend based on the awkward interactions and forced prancing that is Frosh-O. If you haven't yet found a reason for bitterness, rest assured you will. There will be days when you blame everything from a bad grade to a bad night out on the fact that you chose to attend Notre Dame rather than State U back home. I do it all the time and am always fascinated by how I can loathe and love a place so much.

Notre Dame is exclusive, and that exclusivity gives plenty of people many more valid reasons to harbor resentment. It's fine to be angry and bitter, but don't waste too much energy or you won't find the time to real-

ize all Notre Dame has to offer.

You are lucky to be here. Regardless of how hard you worked in high school or your athletic inclination or who your parents are, I guarantee that for each of you here, there are numerous equally-qualified people willing to take your spot in the Notre Dame family. Do not forget that.

I love Notre Dame and (almost) everything about it. It has given me all I could have asked for in preparing me for the next phase in life. You will become someone new here, and not because of your time in the classroom. But, given the hiring rate of Notre Dame grads, I'd say that's a good thing.

Kara King is a senior accounting and economics major. She would like to apologize to any of her professors who may have been offended by the priorities listed here. She plans on working for Ernst and Young after graduating before pursuing a law degree. Winning the lottery has fallen to a distant third on her list of career goals. She can be contacted at kking5@nd.edu

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



Kara King

Assistant Managing Editor

Building bonds

The words "all women's college" were a huge red flag in my mind. Not because I'm boy crazy, but because I had grown up in a house of all women, and couldn't imagine adding another 1,500 females to that list.

However, one orientation day later, I knew there was no other place I would rather be.

Being a northern Indiana girl, I had visited Notre Dame several times with my family. In all those trips to the golden dome though, I never once went to see Saint Mary's. Unlike many of the girls here, no other women in my family had gone here. So, I stepped onto campus with absolutely no idea what to expect. I had come from a public school, so the concept of an all-women's Catholic college was completely foreign to me.

President Mooney gave the welcome speech at orientation, and she began to talk about the type of women who had been accepted into Saint Mary's. She began to talk about her own experiences at the College, and what struck me most about her words were how genuine they were. You could tell that she wasn't just trying to sell the school, but sharing her real feelings about what Saint Mary's had meant to her. As the day went on, all the stories were the same. This wasn't a school where you just go to class, but a place where you formed your views on life, the world, and your place in it. The girls here made it clear this wasn't just a college, it was a home.

Now, entering my junior year, I am one of those girls who can tell you that Saint Mary's will become your second home, not only for the next four years, but for the rest of your life. Saint Mary's will never just be a school to me. It is where I

decided where to go in life, met inspiring professors and found my closest friends.

Your first few weeks, maybe even months at Saint Mary's won't be perfect. They are filled with apprehension about meeting new people and getting the work done. However, before you leave at the end of your first year, you will find yourself missing everything about your time here. The late night cram sessions with the girls, the junk food at 2 a.m., and the girls you were in the trenches with when the professors gave you two papers and a test on the same day will make you long for fall to come.

So, for those of you who were like me and worried about moving to the all-female world that is Saint Mary's, you should know that this is one of its strengths, not one of its weaknesses. This is a place where women can thrive, find themselves and form bonds that nothing can break. This isn't just a place of higher education, but a home where you can grow within yourself. My best advice to you is come here, but more than that, come here and get to know the amazing women that surround you. There is no other place where so many talented, compassionate and intelligent women will gather together. Take advantage of the company you are privileged to keep for the next four years.

I know you are nervous now because you are here on your own. I know that feeling. I came here alone too, but I will leave here with dozens of women who I will never forget. Saint Mary's and the women you meet here will always be with you. So no matter what, just remember to have fun.

Ashley Charnley is a junior Communication Studies and English Writing major at Saint Mary's. She can be contacted at acharn01@saintmarys.edu

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



Ashley Charnley

Saint Mary's Editor

Exceeding expectations

I happened to pick up a South Bend travel brochure earlier this week at a rest stop along I-80 on my way to campus. Notre Dame graces the cover and some of the text inside touts your new school as "the most famous University" in the nation.

Notre Dame is known the world over. Whether they know the athletic program, the academic reputation or the Catholic history of Notre Dame, people know this University.

With that kind of reputation, stereotypes and expectations about this place abound.

As a freshman, I took these expectations to heart, and had plenty of my own imaginations about the four years ahead of me.

I think it's normal to arrive at an unfamiliar place and have all sorts of expectations and notions about what the experience will be like. If you're like I was, you're a little nervous arriving on campus and have been trying to imagine for months what heading to college would be like who you would meet, what you would do, how you would fit in. And you probably have some expectations.

You might think you know exactly what's coming, but more likely than not there is no way to imagine the types of things you'll experience at Notre Dame.

I, for one, did not expect to travel all over Europe while studying abroad for a year, go to USC or New Orleans with the Band of the Fighting Irish, interview a Senator while working at the campus newspaper, have professors who have become friends, or meet so many amazing people and make so many great friends.

The biggest thing I didn't expect was the huge number of opportunities I'd have as a student at Notre Dame.

In other words, Notre Dame has far exceeded my expectations. And I'm sure the same can be true for you, if

you recognize the opportunities in front of you and take them whenever you can.

This weekend, when you're doing all sorts of Frosh-O activities, take the opportunity to meet as many people from your dorm as you can. Use this opportunity to find a friend or a few in your dorm or elsewhere.

In two weeks, when Activities Night is held, head to the JACC and consider all sorts of clubs and activities the opportunities they provide.

When RecSports starts advertising club or dorm sports, consider joining a team or two.

When a professor or upperclassman mentions studying abroad, talk to them about the opportunity and any experiences abroad they've had.

When the Center for Social Concerns takes applications for their seminars and service programs, check out opportunities and consider giving back.

When Campus Ministry starts an Emmaus group in your dorm, consider the opportunity to meet for Bible study.

When your RA invites you to have dinner, seize the opportunity to get to know him.

When you have the chance, take the opportunity to get to know your rector.

When you're in an interesting class, go to the professor's office hours and use the opportunity to get to know him and talk about the course.

And whenever you have the opportunity, introduce yourself and reach out to as many of your classmates as you can.

If you lack any motivation to take the risk and seize any of these opportunities, find a senior. We'll all confirm that time at this place is limited, and it goes all too fast.

If you're lucky enough to have a diverse number of experiences and meet a wide array of people, I think that you, too, will in retrospect agree that Notre Dame has exceeded your expectations.

Aaron Steiner is a senior Finance and German major. He can be contacted at asteiner@nd.edu

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



Aaron Steiner

Assistant Managing Editor

Campus leaders welcome Class of 2013

Dear Students:

With the beginning of a new academic year, I extend a warm welcome to all new and returning students of the University of Notre Dame. In particular, I wish to congratulate and welcome our freshmen and transfer students. We are excited and grateful that you are here, and we will strive to help you grow during your time at Notre Dame.

Make the most of your time here. Be open to engaging new friends, those who may have very similar or very different personal stories and perspectives. Embrace each classroom experience as an opportunity to learn, hone your talents and share your ideas. If you live in a residence hall, explore the multiple ways that you can contribute as a leader. When you face challenge, know that you are not alone and do not hesitate to seek support from those around you. Finally, in all that you do, take a few moments each day for personal reflection to refresh your spirit.

One of the primary objectives of Notre Dame, as a Catholic university, is to develop people who will be prepared to make positive contributions to the Church and the world and to confront the challenges of the future. We are confident that you possess the talent and desire to make meaningful and lasting contributions.

Once again, welcome to Notre Dame. May you soon come to feel at home on campus, and to love this place, as do so many graduates of past years. I hope to meet you in person over the course of your time, and throughout that time, I will keep you in my prayers.

In Notre Dame,

Reverend John I. Jenkins, C.S.C.
 University president
 Aug. 21

On behalf of the faculty and staff at Saint Mary's College, I extend a warm welcome to the Class of 2013 and our transfer students. As the 11th president of Saint Mary's, and a proud alumna, I know how powerful this experience will be for you. You will spend the next four years in a rigorous academic environment supported by an excellent faculty, close friends, and a deeply caring staff.

As a Holy Cross institution, we place a special emphasis on the education of the whole person. Your education will not end when you leave the classroom, each activity in which you participate will enhance your collegiate experience. I encourage you to participate in as many co-curricular activities as time and your academic schedule will permit.

One of my aspirations for you is that you will develop a sense of obligation to the common good and that your entire life and work will reflect that understanding. If this happens for you, then you, too, will have experienced the real Saint Mary's.

Our proud 165-year tradition of educating women to make a difference in the world now includes you. It is your turn to make history at Saint Mary's College. I look forward to accompanying you on this exciting journey.

Carol Ann Mooney
 College president
 Aug. 21

Class of 2013:

You chose to go to an all-women's, Catholic, liberal arts college. Located in South Bend, Ind. Winters here make Antarctica seem like Fiji. Call me crazy, but that doesn't exactly sound like the best four years of your life. You're in the midst of orientation activities, and you've met more Marys, Caitlins, and Megans than you ever thought possible. Between the time your parents head back home (to measure your room to make sure the hot tub fits) and you and your roommate awkwardly make small talk, you're probably wondering, "What am I doing here?"

These same thoughts filtered through my head as a first year, but they quickly changed after a few short weeks. Saint Mary's College is truly a school unlike any other. As you become more comfortable on campus, you will inevitably become involved in campus life. That's where Saint Mary's Student Government Association (SGA) comes in. SGA is here to ensure that your tenure at Saint Mary's is the best that it can be. SGA consists of leaders from campus who meet once a week to discuss relevant issues and take action to improve campus life.

Last year, SGA revised Saint Mary's constitution and took other measures to ensure the organization ran smoothly. Now that our foundation has been laid, SGA is ready to serve you. Want new vacuum cleaners in the residence halls? Tell us. Want to discuss transportation to and from campus? Tell us. Want to go co-ed? Tell us (but after 165 years, we probably won't do anything). Nothing is too small or too trivial. The only way we can truly give the student body what it wants is if you tell us exactly what that is. You have the power to change things, and we will do everything in our power to make your voices heard.

As a member of SGA, I promise you that we will be a proactive and transparent organization whose primary goal is to better student life. Our lines of communication will be open, and we will share our activities with students. We have nothing to hide from you, and you should have a governing body in which you take pride. SGA will be more efficient and strive to complete tasks in a timely manner. I don't like wasting time, and I do not plan on wasting yours. SGA will communicate better with students. As the liaison between administrators and students, we will be aware of your concerns and suggestions. Completing tasks is great, but it means nothing if these tasks don't improve the welfare of students. Likewise, we invite you through open forums to share your opinions.

In accordance with our mission, SGA hosts wonderful social events throughout the year. Jamaica Shaka is tomorrow night right here at Saint Mary's (a great opportunity to follow up with your Domerfest friends). Ice cream socials, movie nights and formals are only a few of the many ways SGA caters to you. Spring events like SMC Tostal and the Dalloway's Carnival bring all students together. We hope you'll take advantage of these fun activities.

That being said, SGA can only do as much for you as you want us to. As student body president, I am here to ensure that you women get as much out of your four years at Saint Mary's as possible. SGA is your organization; please use us to improve your college experience. If you let us serve you, I think you will find that this all-women's, Catholic, liberal arts college in snowy South Bend is exactly where you're supposed to be.

Welcome home, Belles!

Jenny Hoffman and Meg Griffin
 Saint Mary's student body president and vice president
 Aug. 21

Class of 2013 —

On behalf of the student body, welcome home!

I can't tell you how excited we are to have you on campus. Each year, the incoming freshmen become more and more impressive. Each of you bring an incredibly dynamic perspective to the table. For some of you, Notre Dame has been the dream school. This university has been in sight for many years and you're finally here. For others, you may have recently made the Notre Dame decision during your latter years of high school. And for others, Notre Dame may have even been a last minute decision. Regardless of the reason or path that brought you here, you and your family have made a decision that will reward you in so many ways.

You will hear this countless times throughout your time here, but Notre Dame is much more than a university. We are a community, an athletic powerhouse, a Catholic university, a place of research, a center for development, maturation and understanding. I encourage you to live life to the fullest throughout your time at Notre Dame. Be open to growth. Learn about each other. Study hard, but go out. Spend time with your friends. Meet with professors outside of class. Stay on top of your work. Join an interhall team.

Many of you may be coming from many commitments throughout high school, and you can't wait to join a leadership position on campus. Others may be overwhelmed, and simply want to slowly and comfortably transition into college life. Either option is perfectly fine.

These next four years are yours. But just know that the support you will find here is incomparable. All of the upperclassmen are here for you. Ask us questions. Let us give you some feedback. Continue to seek advice from professors, advisors and your friends across campus. Continue to meet people in your dorm. Everyone is in the same boat and we all want to get to know everyone that we can. Student Government is always here to help. We'll be in 203 LaFortune pumped to help in any way that we can. So bottom line, tear it up this year. Be confident. Do everything with energy and passion. And more than anything, enjoy it!

Take a deep breath. You're here.

Grant Schmidt
 Notre Dame student body president
 Cynthia Weber
 Notre Dame student body vice president
 Aug. 21

Welcome to the Notre Dame Family. Whether you join us as a first-year undergraduate, a transfer student, or a new graduate/professional student, it is an honor to be among the first to welcome you to the University of Notre Dame. On behalf of all of us who serve in Student Affairs, we are glad you are here and hope that you will soon feel comfortable calling this place home.

This University offers a host of incredible resources that exist to help you do just that. Our 28 undergraduate residence halls and two graduate residence facilities are at the heart of the very real sense of community that is one of the most distinctive features of a Notre Dame education. The quality of the student service departments in the Division of Student Affairs is unparalleled; these offices include Alcohol and Drug Education, Campus Ministry, the Career Center, the Counseling Center, the Gender Relations Center, Health Services, International Student Services and Activities, Multicultural Student Programs and Services, the Office of Residence Life and Housing, Notre Dame Security/Police and Student Activities. The staffs in your residence halls and graduate residences are present to assist and to support you in your transition to life at Notre Dame.

Although we provide a variety of services, we share a common desire to do everything we can to help facilitate your intellectual, spiritual and personal growth.

As a community, we draw our strength from the unique and diverse gifts offered by each of you. We hope that all of you will be able to achieve the goals you set for yourselves this year.

I hope that I will have the opportunity to come to know as many of you as possible in the months ahead.

Until I am able to greet you in person, please know that you have my very best wishes for a year filled with all God's blessings.

Father Mark Poorman
 vice president for student affairs
 Aug. 21

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Things to Do Around the Bend

By ERIC PRISTER
Scene Writer

What to do, what to do? You've arrived on campus, gone to your dorm, moved a life-time's worth of belongings into a room the size of a walk-in closet, met your roommate and had a meal in North Dining Hall.

But now, you have a week-end to spend (albeit with some Frosh-O activities) in South Bend, Ind. with your parents before they return home and leave you to your own devices. Now, South Bend has never been described as the most interesting city in the world, but you do have options for entertainment in the city and the surrounding areas.

For sports fans, or at least college football fans, South Bend is home to the College Football Hall of Fame. From busts of the greatest athletes to ever step on the gridiron to interactive areas allowing visitors to feel included in the

game, the Hall of Fame would provide hours (though maybe only two) of enjoyable family time. Also, stop by the South Bend Chocolate Café while you're downtown and try their homemade chocolates.

For those families who prefer something more active, South Bend is home to the East Race Waterway, a white-water rafting facility and one of the 2004 Olympic Trial locations. For both beginner and advanced kayakers, the East Race can provide an afternoon of fun for you and your family.

Golf fans have a multitude of choices for hitting the links in South Bend. Notre Dame itself is home to two courses, and South Bend's Blackthorn ranks in the top 50 public courses, according to "Golfweek."

Lake Michigan is also within an hour of campus. Although the Lake Michigan beaches do not compare to either the Pacific or Atlantic coast, they do serve as a decent replacement. The beach in New

Buffalo, MI is particularly appetizing, if only because of its proximity to Redamak's, which serves some of the best hamburgers in the area.

However, one could still contend that the most exciting, beautiful and enjoyable place to spend time in the South Bend area is the very place that you will be spending your next four years. Notre Dame, with its park-like atmosphere, is a perfect place to enjoy your last few days with your parents.

Take a walk around the lakes, visit the Golden Dome, the DeBartolo Performing Arts Center, the Rolfs Sports Recreation Center and the Grotto, or just play catch and have a picnic on one of the quads. Your experiences at Notre Dame will surely shape your life, and your parents certainly would enjoy experiencing some of its greatness with you.

Contact Eric Prister @ eprister.nd.edu



Where to Go on Campus

More... **Map** **Satellite** **Terrain**

Café de Grasta
Located in Grace Hall (not pictured), this café's homemade sandwiches are well worth the trek. Open Monday - Friday, 7 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Washington Hall
Additional venue to the DPAC featuring plays, musicals, shows and the Collegiate Jazz Festival.

WVFI
Student-run radio station featuring student D.J.s. Check out current schedules at <http://www.nd.edu/~wvfi/>

Hesburgh Library
Check out the group study rooms that can be reserved, or find a cubicle on any floor. Open daily until 2 a.m.

Waddick's
A quick stop on the way to class in O'Shag. Try their breakfast sandwiches. Open Monday - Friday, 7 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Decio Commons
With sandwiches, salads and coffee, this is a great place to meet professors, many of whom have offices in Decio.

Snite Museum
This on-campus museum features permanent and traveling exhibits, as well as special workshops and speakers. Open Tuesday & Wednesday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Thursday - Saturday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Sunday 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. Closed Mondays.

Café Commons
Business students often hit up this café for soup, salad, sandwiches and a variety of drinks. Open Monday - Friday, 7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Legends
A full-scale restaurant and bar that serves Notre Dame-themed dinner fare. The attached club and performance space also hosts concerts, ranging from campus bands to big name acts. Past performers have included Ben Lee and the Plain White T's. Restaurant open Monday - Saturday, 11 a.m. to 11 p.m.

DeBartolo Performing Arts Center
The DPAC offers a wide range of concerts, plays, films and other performances. Visit their Web site for a full schedule: <http://performingarts.nd.edu>

Greenfields
Run, don't walk, to this hidden gem for an eclectic variety of global cuisine. Open Monday - Friday, 7 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Hammes Bookstore
Beyond the book and gear sales, there are readings, signings, and an expanded Café. Open Monday - Saturday, 8 a.m. to 10 p.m., Sundays 10 a.m. to 9 a.m.

Reckers
With sandwiches, personal pizzas, smoothies and ice cream, this is a popular and often crowded hangout - especially for the post-parietals crowd. Check out its large screen TVs and stage for periodic karaoke, poetry readings and bands. Open 24 hours.

The Irish Café
Want to know what's behind those ivy-colored walls? Try this café, which offers baked goods, salads, sandwiches and soups. Open Monday - Friday, 7:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Lafortune Student Center
A one-stop shop for virtually any student need. Offers the Huddle (convenience mart), Subway, Burger King, Sbarro, Starbucks, a barbershop, a salon, a ballroom and more. The basement is a great place to stay up all night studying. Hours of operation vary depending on the establishment.

Coleman-Morse Center
The first floor has a great study space with popcorn and soda machines.

Café Poché
Tucked away in Bond Hall, home of the "Archies," is a quiet spot with sandwiches, soups, baked goods, drinks and coffee. Tip: the Bond library is one of the best study spaces around. Open Monday - Friday, 9 a.m. to 3 a.m.

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Dorm Decorating FOR DUMMIES

By JESS SHAFFER
Scene Editor

We could all use tips when it comes to the difficult choices made when decorating our respective college habitats. Unpacking is only one step in the process of making a dorm your home-away-from-home, but decorating takes a room from the place where you keep your things to the place where you can feel comforted, inspired, and relaxed. Here are a few ideas to keep in mind during this process.

To Theme Or Not To Theme?

Themed rooms are a very common way for roommates to bond over a common interest. Common themes include beach paradises, black and white motifs, pink and polka-dotted looks, and even "High School Musical" devotion that extended past graduation into Notre Dame move-in.

Sometimes a chosen theme can help navigate the wide range of room decor options. With a theme, roommates can go wild in the creation of a cohesive ambience. But there are some down sides to a theme. A tropical haven might not seem so warm with the change of seasons. Or the phrase "orange is the new pink" might make you panic if your room looks like set from "Legally Blonde."

It's important to decide if a theme will be overbearing or too inflexible for you before you commit to it. Once you gauge this, dive into your chosen motif or divert to a more eclectic, diverse look.

Points for Creativity

Making dorm room decor takes a lot of flexibility and compromise. You have to combine the tastes of anywhere between two and six people. Being considerate and letting each persons preferences have a presence in the room not only will make for peaceful roommate relations but

also for peace of mind. Eclectic nirvana can be achieved by making everyone happy in your living space.

At the heart of compromise is creativity. Creatively incorporating all parties allows for a new comprehensive look. Creativity is not only vital to the personality of a room but also essential for making the room functional. Creativity is crucial in making the most of small or oddly shaped rooms found in older dorms and in spicing up boring, homogenous spaces in newer dorms.

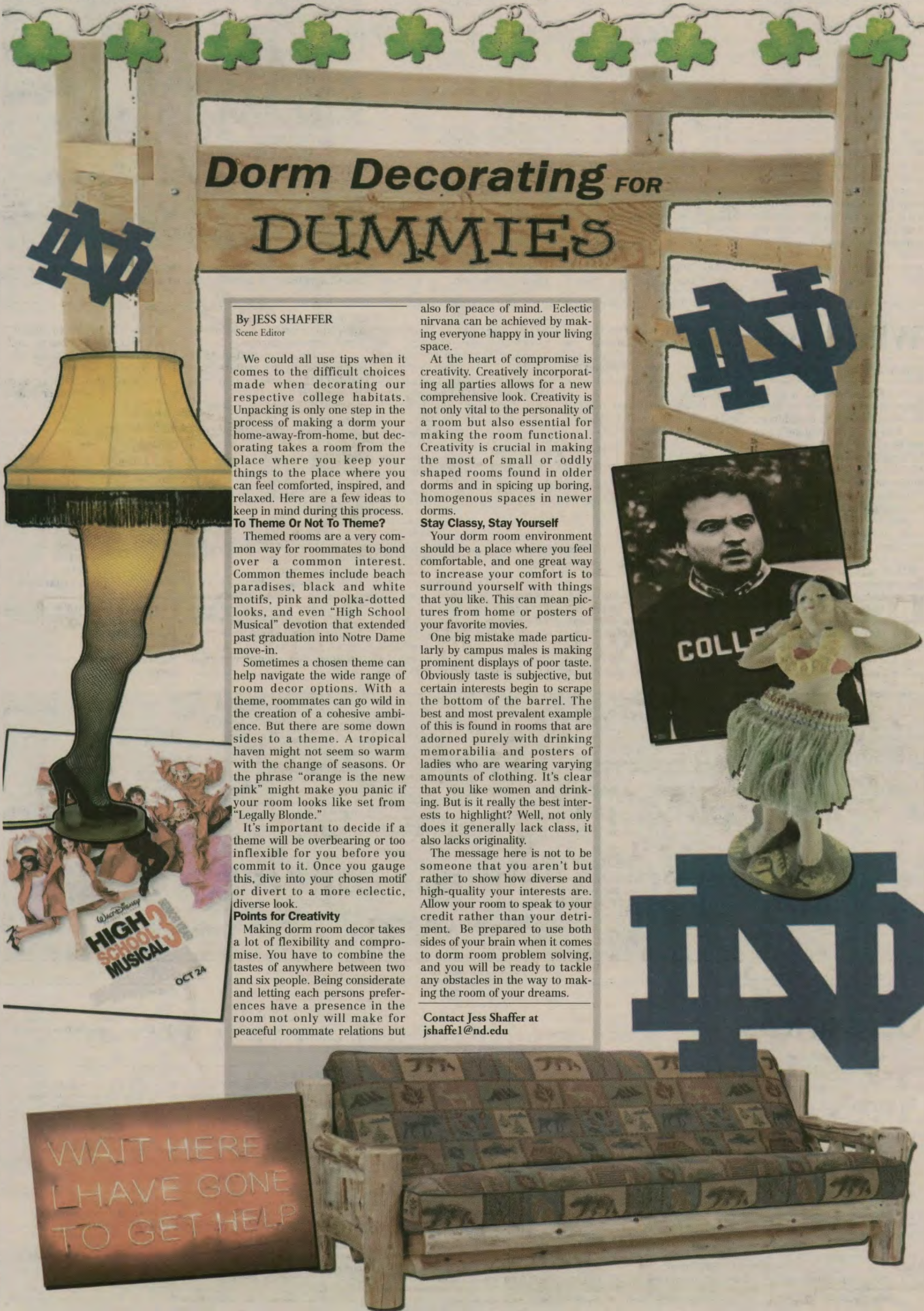
Stay Classy, Stay Yourself

Your dorm room environment should be a place where you feel comfortable, and one great way to increase your comfort is to surround yourself with things that you like. This can mean pictures from home or posters of your favorite movies.

One big mistake made particularly by campus males is making prominent displays of poor taste. Obviously taste is subjective, but certain interests begin to scrape the bottom of the barrel. The best and most prevalent example of this is found in rooms that are adorned purely with drinking memorabilia and posters of ladies who are wearing varying amounts of clothing. It's clear that you like women and drinking. But is it really the best interests to highlight? Well, not only does it generally lack class, it also lacks originality.

The message here is not to be someone that you aren't but rather to show how diverse and high-quality your interests are. Allow your room to speak to your credit rather than your detriment. Be prepared to use both sides of your brain when it comes to dorm room problem solving, and you will be ready to tackle any obstacles in the way to making the room of your dreams.

Contact Jess Shaffer at jshaffel@nd.edu



Freshmen

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won national titles and lost national titles before and we continue to be very resilient and have that hunger to achieve this year.”

The 2009 Irish may be just as deep as last year's squad with 19 monogram winners and seven starters returning. Last year's depth will help the Irish this season as they look to replace many of their graduated stars, including two-time Hermann Award winner Kerri Hanks. Although the Irish return few proven goal scorers, they return a great number of offensive players who have the ability to light up the box scores this season. Among those who Waldrum expects to step up and produce is sophomore forward Melissa Henderson, the reigning Big East Rookie of the

Year who ranked second in the conference behind Hanks in both goals and points.

“We're looking at Melissa Henderson, who's into her sophomore year as one who's fully capable of stepping up and filling that goal scoring,” Waldrum said.

Waldrum also believes that sophomore forward Courtney Barg will contribute on the front line. Barg came on strong for the Irish late last season and started in all six of Notre Dame's College Cup games.

“Courtney Barg may be one of the best players in the country this year,” Waldrum said. “She has the ability to score a lot of goals.”

The Irish also boast a strong incoming freshman class, led by Canadian forward Tereza Stastny, whom Waldrum said he expects to contribute early.

“Freshman Tereza Stastny from Canada can step in and

put up a lot of goals,” Waldrum said.

Fans looking to see the Irish make another run at a national championship will be able to do so in the comfort of Notre Dame's brand new Alumni Stadium, which Waldrum believes may be the final step in making Notre Dame a perennial national power.

“As a university we have great academics, and we've had a great women's program over the years and we think [the stadium] is the last piece of the puzzle to make sure we remain a national power,” Waldrum said. “More importantly, I hope it helps draw students, and I hope we get more of the student support out there because we think that if we get students out there once, it will get them hooked.”

Contact Mike Gotimer at mgotimer@nd.edu



IAN GAVLICK/The Observer

Sophomore Melissa Henderson shoots during Notre Dame's 1-0 NCAA semifinal win over Stanford on Dec. 5.

Wildcats

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“Northwestern is a great team, but we felt that we didn't do what we were capable of. We had the potential to go all the way.”

The team's first game, against Michigan on Sept. 1, should be played in the brand new Alumni Stadium, which Clark had the opportunity to tour last week.

“It's exciting,” he said. “It looks like a castle. Hopefully it becomes a fortress for Notre Dame soccer.”

Clark said he is looking for the Irish to make it further into the NCAA tournament this season, though another Big East title is also a big goal.

“I think the league is the true measure of success, but in fairness the way we are going to be judged, and the way we really

want to judge ourselves is if we can win the championship,” he said.

However, even qualifying for the NCAA tournament is a tough task.

“Making the tournament makes it a successful season,” Clark said. “But to make it a great season, I'd say the final four is what the target is.”

The Irish will have to prove themselves right away, as their first games come at home against No. 22 Michigan

and then at the Adidias/IU Credit Union Classic against No. 3 Wake Forest and No. 5 St. John's, both of which made the Final Four in 2008. Overall, the schedule contains eight teams ranked in the pre-season Top

25 by the National Soccer Coaches Association of America. The Irish are ranked No. 12.

“We play a difficult schedule,” Clark said. “We'll find out pretty early if we've got what it takes.”

The schedule may be even harder to navigate after the loss of nine seniors from the 2008 squad including first-team All-American central defender Matt Besler, who was drafted in the first round by the

Kansas City Wizards, and all-Big East left back Jack Traynor. Both men started every game for the Irish in 2008.

But Clark said he is confident that the team will overcome the losses and is still well-stocked

with upperclassmen, including nine returning starters.

“There's no question that we'll miss all the seniors,” he said. “I think every year you have a good team, you're going to graduate very good players. The secret is to replace them. It's an opportunity for the lads who have been waiting in the wings.”

One key replacement comes in the form of incoming freshman midfielder Dillon Powers. Powers was named the 2008-09 Gatorade Boys Soccer Player of the Year for his senior year at Plano Senior High School in Plano, Texas. Clark said he does not yet know how soon Powers will play.

“That will be up to Dillon,” Clark said. “He's going to challenge when he comes in, and he'll certainly add depth.”

Powers and sophomore defender Aaron Maund may miss up to six games if chosen to play for the United States at the 2009 U20 World Cup. Both have been named to a 30-player list, of which 21 will be selected.

“It's great news if they make the squad,” Clark said. “But the bad news is we might have to do without them. But we're very happy for them. We'll be good still.”

Contact Laura Myers at lmyers2@nd.edu

“We play a difficult schedule. We'll find out pretty early if we've got what it takes.”

Bobby Clark
Irish coach

“The secret is to replace [seniors]. It's an opportunity for the lads who have been waiting in the wings.”

Bobby Clark
Irish coach

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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

SOCCER REFEREES Needed for 2009 Fall Season - The Stanley Clark School, a south side elementary/middle school is located north of Erskine Golf Course on Miami Street. Soccer referees are needed for 5-6th grade and 7-8th grade girls and boys soccer matches. Pay is \$37 per game to licensed referees. If interested, please contact Caryn MacKenzie, Athletic Director, at Stanley Clark School at 574-291-4200.

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UNPLANNED PREGNANCY? Do not go it alone. Notre Dame has many resources in place to assist you. If you or someone you love needs confidential support or assistance, please call Sr. Sue Dunn at 1-7819 or Ann Firth at 1-2685. For more information, visit ND's website at: <http://pregnancysupport@nd.edu>

She was more like a beauty queen from a movie scene I said don't mind, but what do you mean I am the one Who will dance on the floor in the round She said I am the one, who will dance on the floor in the round

The Way You Make Me Feel (The Way You Make Me Feel) You Really Turn Me On (You Really Turn Me On) You Knock Me Off Of My Feet (You Knock Me Off Of My Feet) My Lonely Days Are Gone (My Lonely Days Are Gone)

I wanna love you (P.Y.T.) pretty young thing you need some lovin' (T.L.C) and I'll take you there I wanna love you (P.Y.T.) Pretty young thing You need some lovin' (T.L.C.) Tender lovin' care I'll take you there

Jackson

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No. 1 in the national rankings last year, and claimed both the CCHA regular season and playoff Championships, earning the latter with a 5-2 come-from-behind victory over Michigan at Joe Louis Arena in Detroit.

Jackson said the Bemidji State loss has stuck with him over the off-season, and expected it had with his players as well. Even though NCAA regulations prohibit much contact between coaches and players over the summer, Jackson said he trusted in his team's work ethic.

"They're a pretty focused group," Jackson said. "And I'll be pretty surprised if they weren't working hard."

The biggest question mark heading into the new season will be between the pipes, just as it was two years ago. Going into the 2007-08 campaign, then-junior Jordan Pearce beat out then-sophomore Tom O'Brien and the highly touted then-freshman Brad Phillips. Pearce went on to become one of most decorated net-minders in Irish history, setting program records in single-season wins and shutouts as well as career wins.

Jackson said Phillips, who missed all of last season because of a leg injury, would be the starter this season with O'Brien and freshman Mike Johnson serving as suitable back-ups.

"Jordan Pearce, when he got his first opportunity he never looked back, and we hope that Brad can do the same thing," Jackson said. "That's going to be the biggest question mark going into the season, but I have full confidence that Brad can take the similar type of step that Jordan took."

As far as Phillips' injury goes, Jackson said he expected Phillips to be fully recovered from the surgery, which was done last October. Phillips returned to the ice last spring for some light practice just before the NCAA Tournament.

"He looked pretty good for a guy that hadn't played or practiced all year," Jackson said. "The biggest thing for Brad is going to be his mental approach to the game."

In addition to Pearce, the Irish also have to replace seniors Erik Condra, Christian Hanson, Garrett Regan and Justin White. Jackson said he expected the current senior class, specifically players like Ryan Thang and Kyle Lawson, to take on a larger role.

Rounding out the roster will be the six-man freshman class of forwards Kevin Nugent, Nick Larson, Kyle Palmieri and Riley Sheahan, defenseman Sam Calabrese, and Johnson.

Jackson said Palmieri, selected 26th overall in the 2009 NHL Draft by Anaheim, and Sheahan, second cousin of former Irish player Brock Sheahan, have the best chance to contribute immediately, though he expects all the freshmen to leave their mark eventually.

"There's no question that Kyle Palmieri is going to be ready to play right away, and I hope that Riley Sheahan will as well," Jackson said.

Notre Dame will need contributions from across the board if they expect to successfully navigate a confer-

ence schedule that includes four games each against rivals Michigan and Michigan State and two against last year's national runner-up Miami (Ohio). Outside of CCHA player, Notre Dame has a home game against perennial power Boston College, a potential match-up against North Dakota in the midseason Shillelagh Tournament in Chicago, and, to top it all off, a fall break trip to Boston to play defending national champion Boston University.

"I don't want to go through the season without having some bumps in the road so that your team gets better and knows how to play teams of that caliber," Jackson said.

The agreement with Boston University stipulates that the Terriers will play a return game in South Bend in 2011, Notre Dame's first season in the new Lefty Smith Ice Rink, which will break ground this spring.

"There's motivation to prepare our team, but there's also motivation to bring teams into our building as

well," Jackson said.

The Irish open their season with a non-conference two-game series against Alabama-Huntsville on Oct. 9 and 10 in the Joyce Center.

Note

◆ The CCHA voted on Aug. 11 to deny admission to Alabama-Huntsville. The Chargers currently play in the College Hockey Association, a four-team conference that is set to disband after the 2009-10 season. The CCHA will be dropping to 11 teams after this season, as Nebraska-Omaha will be joining the WCHA.

"We certainly didn't do it out of disrespect for Alabama-Huntsville," Jackson said. "We were just more worried about the members of our conference and making sure our league is in full health for the future. It's disappointing and I hate to see that happen, but it is based on a lot of different reasons."

Contact Sam Werner at swerner@nd.edu

Brey

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East teams will face.

"We lost four seniors who were such a key part of our fabric, it just changes the personality of the team, which is neat about college basketball," Brey said. "You always have new personalities to add."

Hansbrough averaged 10.5 points per game in his last year at Mississippi State, and will join Jackson on the perimeter as the likely shooting guard. Martin, a 6-foot-8 swingman with range from outside, will replace Ryan Ayers at small forward. Martin averaged 8.5 points and 3.8 rebounds per game in his only year with the Boilermakers.

Manning the frontcourt with Harangody will be junior forward Tyrone Nash, who emerged as a key rebounder and post presence for Notre Dame at the end of last season, averaging 6.2 boards per contest.

Brey said there are definite

points of improvement he would like to see on both ends of the floor for the upcoming season.

"I'd like to see us getting a little better offensively than we were this year," Brey said. "The year or two before we were very potent offensively, up in the 80s [in points per game]. I think we probably have that potential again."

"Certainly on the defensive end, we can get better there, can we rebound the ball better, that's always a certain, rebounding the basketball against the athletic ability in our league," Brey said. "We're not going to necessarily steal in down from people but can we keep the keep the field goal percentage down."

Brey also said he preferred the lack of pressure compared to last year's preseason top 10 ranking.

"We're not on anybody's radar right now and I think that's a good thing for us," he said.

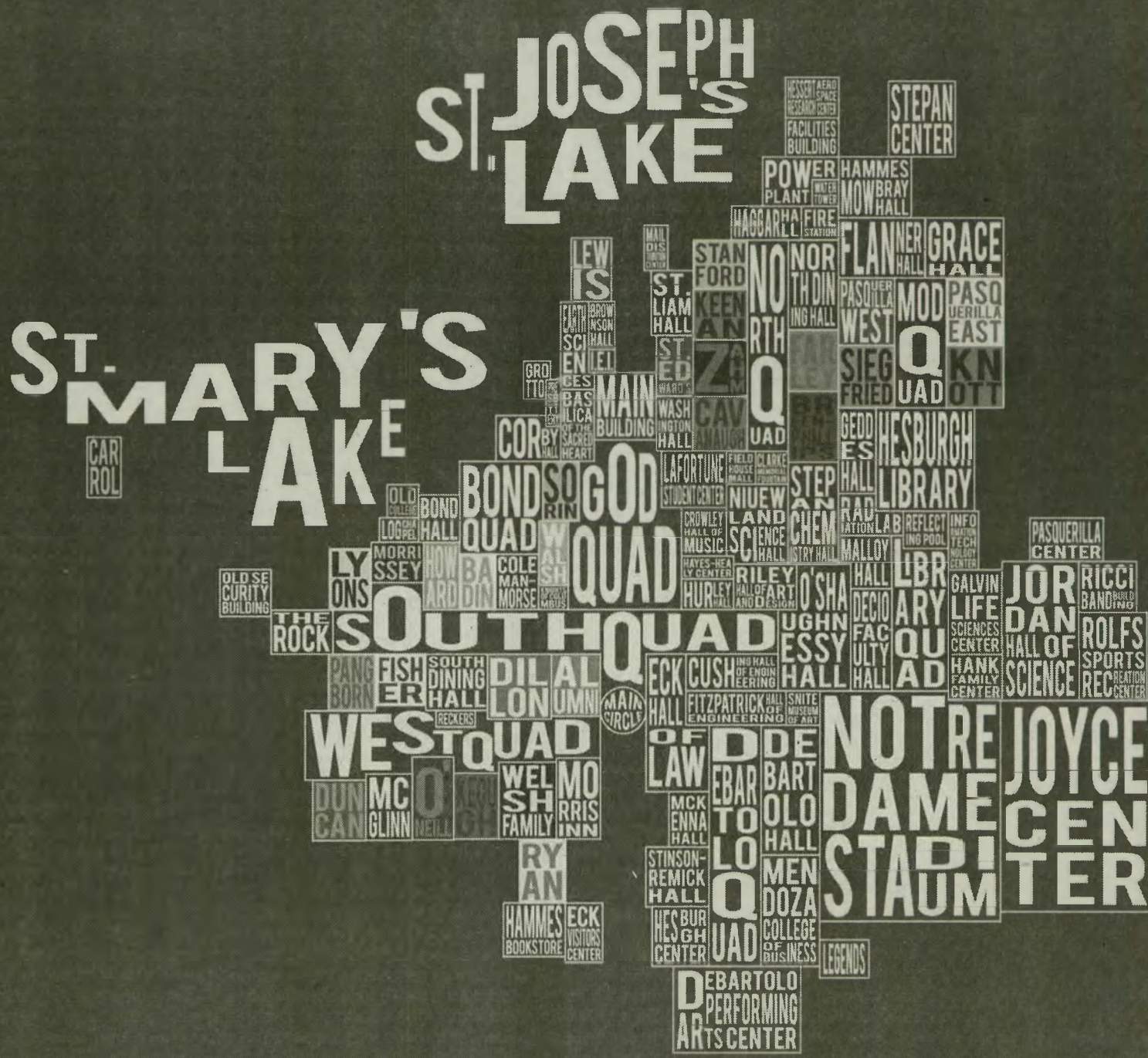
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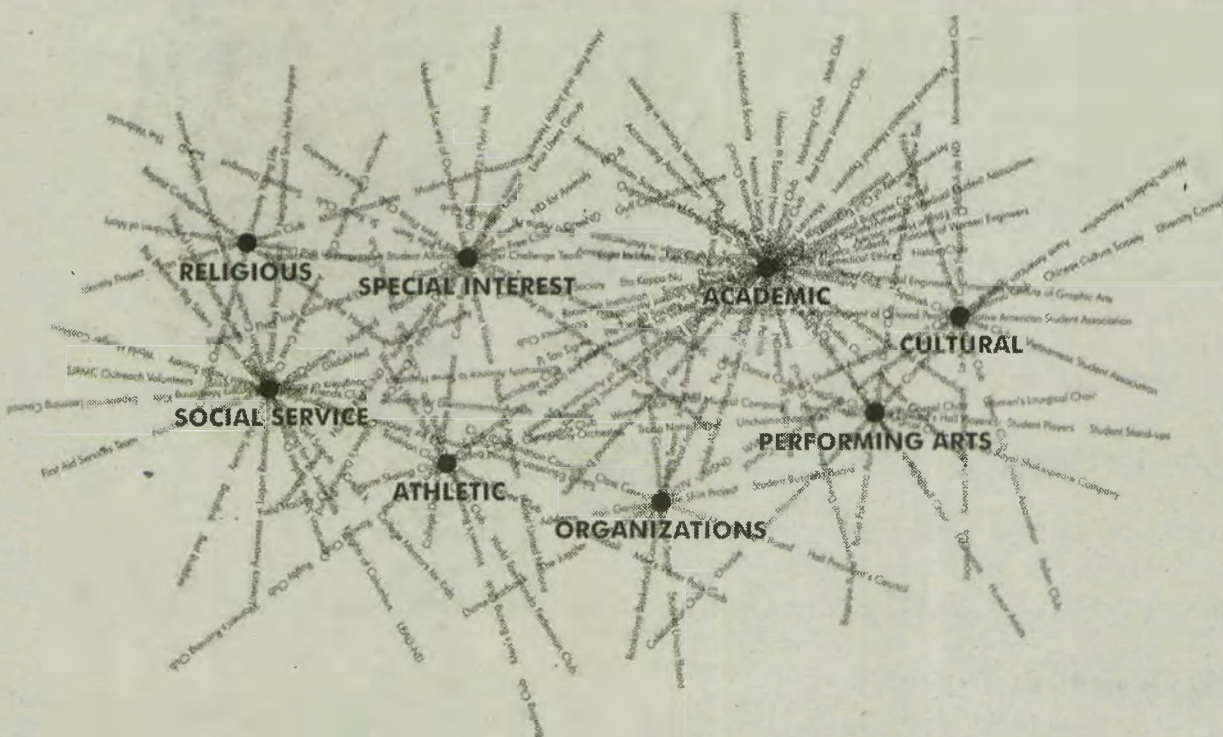


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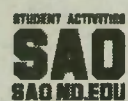


ACTIVITIES NIGHT

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Evans

continued from page 32

open practice last Saturday, and Weis likes the flexibility his presence gives the rest of the Irish offense.

"We all know Michael and Golden are going to be on the field a bunch," Weis said. "So does he end up as backup to Golden, because he has similar type speed? Or do you put him opposite of Golden, and now you have speed on both sides out there, rotate him in with that three-wide group?"

Fellow receiver Roby Toma, Te'o's high school teammate, has caught his head coach's eye by exceeding early expectations, particularly as a blocker, despite his 5-foot-9-inch, 175-pound frame.

"Everyone thought that Roby was a throw-in. He's the Punahou throw-in," Weis said. "But that's not the way it's working out. He's been competitive."

Tailbacks Cierre Wood and Theo Riddick both took significant reps in Saturday's open practice with junior starter Armando Allen not participating in full-contact drills, and both could contribute in the backfield and on special teams right away.

Tight end Tyler Eifert is making a push to play behind sophomore Kyle Rudolph and junior Mike Ragone, and Weis

used Eifert as an example of the "proverbial semantics conversation about playing or not playing freshmen" that coaches have at this time of the year.

"He's making it tough for us to want to not play him," Weis said. "He's picked it up mentally and physically he's handled the roles of a tight end, including the blocking, which has been a very pleasant surprise for us."

Though offensive linemen Chris Watt, Alex Bullard and Zach Martin aren't likely to see much, if any, playing time with an experienced group of linemen ahead of them, Weis said all three impressed him.

"In some other years, I think they might be playing in the two-deep right now," Weis said. "Fortunately, we can wait a little while. We'll see how it goes. But we've been happy with all three of them."

Fellow freshman offensive lineman Jordan Cowart has already been named the starting long snapper.

On the other side of the ball, defensive lineman Tyler Stockton has impressed the coaching staff but might remain behind several talented veterans on the depth chart.

"He's done a really nice job, but there's a perfect situation of he might be a luxury item," Weis said. "Here's a guy that you could spend that year developing, because he'll be

that much better of a player."

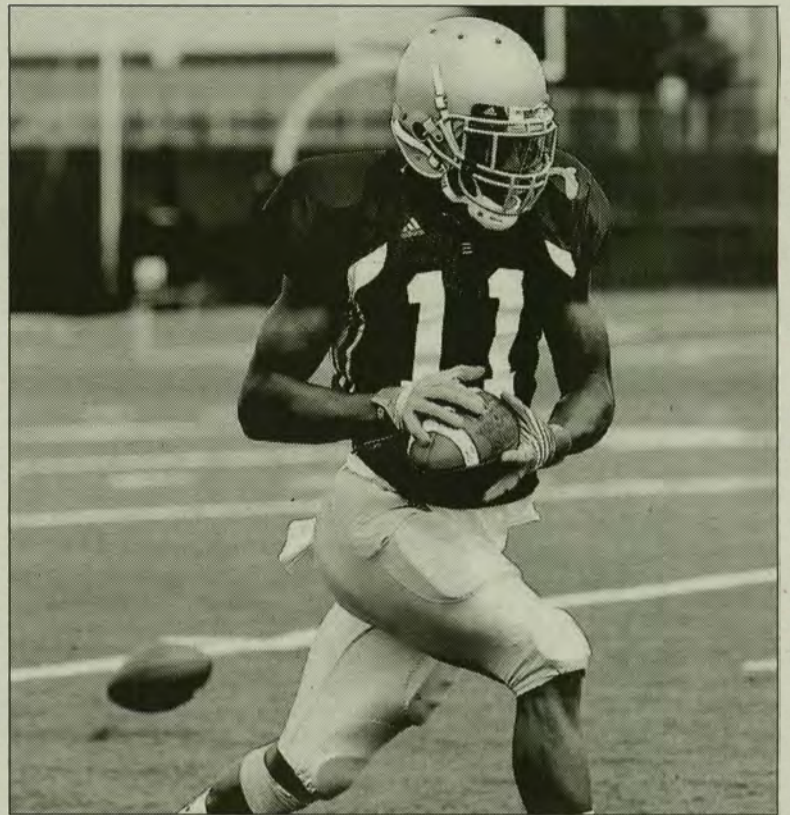
Depth at the linebacker position will likely preserve a year of eligibility for both Carlo Calabrese and Dan Fox. In the secondary, corner E.J. Banks has been joined by fellow early enrollee Zeke Motta, who moved from linebacker to safety. Motta emerged as one of the team's quickest, most athletic players in the spring, and Weis said he'll see the field immediately.

"We need to play him on special teams," Weis said. "I see him playing on all four teams, and don't be surprised if you end up, as the year goes on, seeing him play on defense too."

Both punter Ben Turk and placekicker Nick Tausch have challenged returning upperclassmen for starting roles. Weis said Thursday "the punter situation is too close to call" between Turk and senior Eric Maust, though using Maust to preserve a year of eligibility for Turk is an option Weis will consider.

"As far as leg strength, there's no one here with the leg strength [Turk] has," Weis said. "He's got big-time pop."

With the quality and depth of Weis' last few recruiting classes, the Irish have talented returnees at virtually every position that will allow most of the newcomers a year to grow acclimated to the college game. Still, though, there



IAN GAVLICK/The Observer

Freshman wide receiver Shaquelle Evans runs through drills during Notre Dame's practice Friday.

are the few who have already secured a spot in the rotation — no small feat, Weis said.

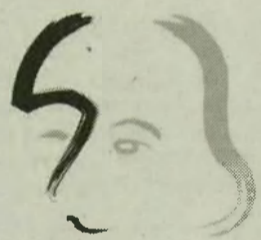
"The guys that get on the field now as freshmen are getting on the field because they're really good, or they're playing on special teams," Weis said. "But I'm telling you, on offense and defense right now, to get on the field,

that means you're pretty good."

For more notes from Notre Dame's freshman media day, check out The Casual Observer at observersportsblog.wordpress.com

Contact Matt Gamber at mgamber@nd.edu

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Notre Dame:

Volleyball falls just short in Big East championship; Men's swimming earns conference crown in last race;

Observer Staff Report

Volleyball

Despite finishing fifth in the Big East regular season standings, the Irish came within two games of claiming the conference crown, falling in a close match to Louisville in the Big East championship game.

"We continued to improve as a team as the year went on," Irish coach Debbie Brown said. "And that allowed us to have a really strong finish."

Notre Dame's Big East tournament run included a victory over Big East regular-season champion St. John's, 3-1 (23-25, 25-20, 25-21, 27-25).

"I feel like we had a really strong finish and were playing really good volleyball at the end of the year," Brown said.

The Irish started the season in four nonconference tournaments, going 5-7 in early play. One of those defeats, though, was a tight loss to then-No. 4 California. Notre Dame fell to the Golden Bears 3-2 (25-17, 21-25, 20-25, 25-23, 16-14).

After the nonconference tournaments, Notre Dame got down to business in Big East play. The Irish won their first three conference matches before falling to Cincinnati on Oct. 5. Notre Dame went 6-4 the rest of the way in conference play, and dropped a 3-1 decision to Long Beach State in a nonconference match.

Once the conference tournament started, though, the Irish turned up their level of play. The Irish beat Connecticut 3-0 (25-19, 25-19, 25-22), before downing the Red Storm and ultimately falling to the Cardinals, 3-1 (25-23, 28-26, 15-25, 25-22).

Brown said the late-season success was mainly a result of her team finally getting healthy.

"We were just able to kind of tweak the lineup a little bit and get more comfortable," she said. "We lost a couple of matches early on because we didn't have the depth at that point."

Junior outside hitter Christina Kaelin led the Irish on offense, averaging 3.25 kills per set, with a .258 hitting percentage. Kaelin returned to the Irish lineup in 2008 after sitting out 2007 due to injury.

"As the season went on, she just became more and more confident in what she could do," Brown said of Kaelin.

Also making an impact for the Irish on offense was freshman outside hitter Kristen Dealy. Dealy was second on the team with 2.79 kills per set, with a .177 hitting percentage.

"I think Kristen's greatest asset is that she's a really strong all-around player," Brown said. "In particular, her passing was so important for us."

Notre Dame should be poised for improvement in 2009, losing only two seniors to graduation. Senior middle blocker Justine Stremick spent the early part of the season recovering from an ACL injury, but came on at the end to lead the team with 1.11 blocks per set.

"She was just getting in the groove of things," Brown said. "As the season went on she got more and more comfortable so that by the end of the season she was playing the way we knew she could."

The Irish will also lose senior outside hitter Mallorie Croal, who played in only 11 matches this season due to injury. Brown, though, said that Croal still found a way to help the Irish win.

"There's no question that Mallorie is one of the best leaders we've ever had," Brown said. "And the way that she could continue lead the team even when she wasn't on the court was just amazing."

Overall, Brown said the early outlook for next season was positive.

"Obviously we're very optimistic," she said. "I think that everything is in place for us to have a very strong season."

Cross Country

The Irish had a successful 2008 campaign that ended with both teams competing in the NCAA championships.

The men and women both finished fourth at the Great Lakes Regional, good enough for at-large team bids for nationals. The men finished 19th overall at the NCAAs and the women finished 29th.

"The highlight for our team was our performance at the regional meet to qualify for the NCAA championships," Irish women's coach Tim Connelly said. "Our goal each year is to qualify for the NCAA Championships and run well there, so we accomplished part of what we had hoped to."

Notre Dame hosted two meets

in 2008, the Nov. 19 National Catholic Championships and the Oct. 3 Notre Dame Invitational. Junior Lindsey Ferguson and sophomore Paul Springer each finished first in the Catholic Championships while senior Patrick Smyth led the men's team with a fifth place finish in his first race of the year in the Notre Dame Invitational.

Smyth paced the Irish men for the rest of the season, finishing second at the Big East championships and first at the Great Lakes Regional. He placed 10th at the NCAAs to earn his third cross-country All-American selection.

For the women, Ferguson made a name for herself early in the season and continued to lead the Irish at each race.

"Lindsey had a very consistent, solid season," Connelly said. "Hopefully next year she will be able to continue to perform at a high level throughout the season and finish with a great race at the NCAA Championships."

Ferguson finished 13th at the Big East championships to earn her second all-conference honor and led the Irish at the NCAAs with a 99th place finish.

Both teams were young in 2008; the men will lose only three runners to graduation and the women just two. Both will still have stars in 2009, including Ferguson and sophomore Marisa Treece for the women and all-Big East junior Jake Walker and freshman Joe Miller on the men's side.

"With the bulk of our team back next year, some of our younger runners continuing to develop and the addition of several freshmen contributors, we would expect to be back at the NCAA and improve on this year's performance next fall," Connelly said.

Men's Swimming

It took a dramatic last-second finish, but the Irish walked away the 2009 season with their second consecutive Big East title.

The 400-yard freestyle relay team of juniors John Lytle and Andrew Hoffman, senior Danny Lutkus and sophomore Joshua Nosal defeated top-seeded Louisville to clinch the crown for Notre Dame.

"We managed to fight back and win in the most dramatic fashion," senior breaststroker Daniel Rave said. "I think Louisville was

not expecting us to swim as well as we did, and they were expecting a rather easy win."

After being predicted to finish almost seven seconds behind the Cardinals and suffering a regular season loss a few weeks before, the Irish were able to pull off the upset.

During the regular season, the Irish went 4-5, earning crucial victories over Pittsburgh, Miami (Ohio), and Cleveland State.

"The last four years showed me that teamwork exists, and even though I am alone during my race, I am supported by a team," Rave said. "Whether it is through racing someone during practice or by seeing others having great races during meets, your teammates influence you."

The Irish will return several key swimmers from this year's squad, and should be in good position to compete for the third consecutive conference championship. Last season's most valuable players MacKenzie LeBlanc and John Lytle will be back, and hope to lead Notre Dame to another championship.

"It's a long season and there are a lot of ups and downs," senior diver Michael Bulfin said. "In the end we needed to make sure that we had put ourselves in the right position to win the Big East and have a good shot at sending people to the National Championships."

After a season with big wins and upsetting losses both, the Irish men's swimming and diving team walked away conference champions and with high hopes for next season.

Women's Swimming

Notre Dame capped off its record-extending 13th consecutive Big East title this season with NCAA championship berths from three athletes.

Though sophomore swimmers Amywren Miller and Samantha Maxwell and junior diver Natalie Stitt boasted tremendous individual efforts, first-year Irish coach Brian Barnes said it was the teamwork that was emphasized from the start that had the biggest impact on his team.

"It wasn't easy coming into this team in August with no familiarity with the program, but the team really embraced me," Barnes said. "I am so lucky that I have a motivated group who believes in what I believe in, and we are

going to continue to learn and grow."

A clean sweep of the Dennis Stark Relays' 12 events at the Rolfs Aquatic Center gave the team its first win the season. The Irish won each of the 10 races and both diving competitions to post a record-setting 280 points.

"I knew we had several potential All-Americans swimming in the pool over at Rolfs," Barnes said. "While the long-term goal is setting times that will be competitive at the national championships, we are always competing to win."

After posting a 3-3 record in dual meets and finishing third in the Ohio State Invitational in early December, Notre Dame posted a Big East meet performance in mid-February that can only be described as dominant.

The Irish set 11 school records and beat runner-up Louisville — which had edged Notre Dame in dual meet competition in January — by nearly 150 points, all while extending the longest championship winning streak in Big East competition for any sport.

Maxwell set school and Big East records in the 200-yard breaststroke. Miller's 22.37-second time in the 50 free made her the fastest female Notre Dame swimmer ever. Junior Megan Farrell set the school's 200 IM mark. Sophomore Katie Casey made her own mark in the 200 butterfly record books and Stitt won both diving events.

"All season we have talked about swimming well and being confident and working like a team," Barnes said. "It takes more than one or two stars to win a title, and at the Big East championships we performed like a team and won like a team."

Rowing

The Notre Dame women's rowing team was a force to be reckoned with in the Big East again this year.

The biggest meet of the year up to this point, the Big East championship, was a success for Notre Dame. The Irish placed first out of eight teams overall, and placed either first or second in all races that weekend. They finished with 112 points, which was far above second-place Syracuse at 97 points.

The Irish also fared well in several big regattas, including the San Diego Crew Classic, where

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2008-2009

September	October	November	December
<p>September 13 Football ends two-year drought against Michigan with a 35-17 victory over the Wolverines.</p>	<p>September 15 Women's soccer rises to the top spot in the polls after starting the season with six wins.</p>	<p>September 19 Third-ranked men's soccer plays to a double overtime, scoreless tie against No. 5 St. John's.</p>	<p>September 21 Volleyball falls to Western Michigan 3-2 in the final of the Golden Dome Invitational.</p>
<p>October 14 After beating No. 18 Rutgers 3-1, women's soccer's 17-0 record is the best start in program history.</p>	<p>October 25 Football opens the season 6-2 with a 33-7 victory at Washington.</p>	<p>October 26 With a 6-0 victory over Seton Hall on senior day, women's soccer finishes the regular season unbeaten and untied for the first time in program history.</p>	<p>October 29 Hockey rises to No. 1 in the rankings after opening the season 10-3-2.</p>
<p>November 24 Senior Patrick Smyth finishes in 10th place at the NCAA Championships.</p>	<p>November 26 Men's basketball starts the season 6-0 before losing to top-ranked North Carolina 102-87 in the Maui Invitational Final.</p>	<p>November 27 Women's soccer suffers its first loss of the season in the NCAA Championship to North Carolina 2-1.</p>	<p>November 29 USC emphasizes its dominance over Notre Dame with a 38-3 victory at the Coliseum.</p>

Year in Review

Sandman, Fortner help young men's golf team mature; Men's track wins second consecutive league crown

the second varsity eight finished fifth overall in the JV Grand Final. In a three-team competition between in-state rivals Indiana and Purdue earlier in the year, Notre Dame was able to capture victories in four out of the five races.

The Irish have found success this season, and head coach Martin Stone has had a simple formula all year: "To go faster than the year before and be fast enough to win the Big East."

The team is repeatedly working on conditioning and strength, always searching for that physical edge on the competitor. The next step is to be fast enough to compete in the NCAA Championships, which is the ultimate goal for the crew.

As is the case for any successful team, the Irish have had excellent leadership, especially from the seniors. "I think all the seniors have shown themselves to be leaders at one point or another," Stone said. "They are all very passionate about the sport and work to see the program succeed."

Some of these seniors were recognized for their performance both on the water and in the classroom. Erica Copeland, a member of the second varsity eight crew, was given The Top Gun Award as well as the Notre Dame Club of St. Joseph Valley Rockne Student-Athlete Award. Sophomore Emily Crosby and junior Braegan Padley were named to the Rosenthal Leadership Academy.

The Irish are still in-season, with the South/Central Sprints in Oakride, Tenn. coming up on graduation weekend and possibly the NCAA Championships in Cherry Hill, N.J. to follow.

Men's Golf

As Notre Dame looks back on a season marked by both success and failure from its young team, it welcomes with open arms senior Josh Sandman, who will return to the team for a fifth year after missing the 2008-2009 season due to injury. Sandman is the team's only senior and holds the program record for scoring average.

"I've been fortunate enough to watch him in so many stages of development," Irish coach Jim Kubinski said. "He's my first player to have gone through a full

four years, as I arrived in the spring of 2005. It's been such a thrill for me to watch him grow, not only becoming a top player and leader on our team but also how he has grown as a student and as a person."

Sandman, who missed the fall and spring seasons due to back surgery, watched as a young Irish squad endured a tumultuous season. Junior Doug Fortner, the only upperclassman who started consistently, was the rock for a team experiencing growing pains with his team-leading 74.24 stroke average. Freshman Max Scodro emerged as a solid collegiate golfer, picking up medalist honors at the UNCG Bridgestone Intercollegiate and four top-10 finishes. Both Scodro and Fortner earned All-Big East honors for their efforts.

Notre Dame shared defeat along with its successes. Youth and inexperience hurt the Irish this season, but the veteran presences of Sandman and Fortner allowed the younger golfers to mature quickly.

"[Sandman] has meant exponentially more to our program than his scores," Kubinski said. "I'm not even sure how to measure his contributions. He has not only related to each and every one of our younger players but has been able to contribute to their growth. He has never given any attitude toward younger players, as if to say, 'I'm important,' or 'I'm older.' Quite the contrary."

With Scodro, Fortner and Sandman returning alongside a very strong sophomore class highlighted by Jeff Chen, the future is bright for Notre Dame.

Women's Golf

Coming into this season, the Irish women's golf team had a tough act to follow from their 2007-2008 campaign. The defending Big East Tournament champions took to the links in September to try and replicate their success with some new faces on the roster, and Irish coach Susan Holt was happy with the way the team came together in the fall.

"In the fall, we got acclimated to a new team," Holt said. "Everyone was getting used to the new line up."

It wasn't long before Notre Dame experienced some success with the new team. On Sept. 29 at

the University of Colorado Tournament, the Irish set a program record for scoring on their way to winning the tournament.

"The win in Colorado was huge for us," Holt said. "[The tournament win] was significant for the team because it gave them confidence."

The spring season brought a new challenge for the Irish. Before the season started, Holt set some lofty goals for the team, including finishing nationally-ranked in the top 15 and winning the Big East Tournament again. The Irish came up short on both of those goals, but still came away with a successful regular season.

"We played tougher competition on some difficult courses," Holt said. "Plus it rained in just about every tournament, but I still feel good about where we're at right now."

On April 21, the Irish finished second at the Big East Tournament and qualified for a spot in the NCAA Tournament. Notre Dame competed at the NCAA Central Regional at Ohio State this past weekend, ending its season with a 16th place finish.

Leading the Irish this season was senior captain Lisa Maunu. Maunu was one of four Irish golfers named to the All-Big East team after the Big East Tournament, and finished first individually in the conference tournament.

Junior Annie Brophy, sophomore So-Hyun Park and freshman Becca Huffer were also named to the All-Big East team for the Irish. In addition to taking home All-Big East honors, Huffer was voted as the Big East Freshman of the Year.

With the success of the last few seasons, the Irish women's golf program appears to be on the upswing.

"We've got a lot of talent right now and some good players coming in the new few years," Holt said. "I think it's a sign of things to come."

The Irish will be returning four of the five major contributors on next year's team, led by Huffer and 2008 All-American So-Hyun Park.

Men's Track

When the athletes of the men's track and field team look back at the 2009 season, they will most

likely remember their comeback victory over Louisville to win the Big East Championship.

The Irish repeated as the Big East Champions at the outdoor championships in Philadelphia, Pa. on May 3 when they squeaked past Louisville by just half a point.

Irish coach Joseph Piane thinks that the 2009 season will be well-remembered by the team.

"Winning the Big East [Championship] was special," Piane said. "Coming from behind to win on the last event, that was something even more special."

The Irish met Piane's pre-Big East Championship challenge of scoring in every event on their way to claiming the championship.

After finishing second at the indoor Big East Championships in New York City on Feb. 22, the Irish started a tough outdoor schedule that often put them against some of the nation's top competition. Throughout the season, Notre Dame butted heads against ranked opponents like Arizona State, Stanford and top-ranked Texas A&M.

The Irish currently have qualified 20 athletes on both the men's and women's teams to send to the NCAA Regional. Of those 20 athletes, Piane was especially proud of the efforts of senior hammer thrower Jeff Mensch. Mensch won the individual title for hammer throw at the Big East Championship improving on his personal best by five meters in the process.

"[Mensch's improved] astronomically," Piane said. "To improve by about 16 feet like that is really a special effort."

Fellow senior Daniel Clark claimed All-Big East Honors with a third place finish in the 1500-meter. Senior Patrick Smyth added another impressive finish in the 5000-meter to finish third and take home All-Big East Honors.

The Irish will return the majority of their team for next year in the hopes of a third straight Big East Championship.

"We're graduating 31.5 points out of the 130.5 we scored [in the Big East Championship]," Piane commented. "That means we have quite a few points coming back next year which is good."

The Irish will have one more event beginning today, the Georgia Tech Invitational, before

the NCAA Regionals in Louisville, Ky. on May 29.

Women's Track

The Irish women's track and field team capped off a successful year with a fourth place finish at the Big East Championship in early May. The 2009 season was highlighted by the efforts of seniors Mary Saxer and Joanna Schultz.

Schultz was ranked in the top 10 nationally in the women's 400-meter, an event she won at the Big East Championships. In addition to taking the top spot in the 400-meter, Schultz also placed sixth in the 400-meter hurdles on her way to earning first team all-conference honors.

Saxer won the pole vault at the Big East Championship on her way to All-Big East honors for the fifth time in her career. Irish track coach Joseph Piane praised Saxer's performance while at Notre Dame.

"This year she was ranked No. 1 in her event," Piane said. "But now I think she's down to second."

Saxer set the Notre Dame women's pole vault mark last season with a vault of 4.06 meters. She is also one of the Notre Dame's three indoor All-Americans with a good chance of being named an outdoor All-American with a strong showing at the NCAA Regional on May 29.

The Irish have already had 20 members of the men's and women's track and field teams qualify for the NCAA Regional. They still have one more chance to add more qualifiers to that list today at the Georgia Tech Invitational.

All year Notre Dame has been competing against some of the toughest talent in the country. The Irish traveled to events in Tempe, Ariz. and Palo Alto, Calif. to take on some of the nation's elite. Piane said the team should be even more competitive next year.

"[The team] is pretty young," Piane said. "We're bringing back a lot of talent to improve."

Some of the young talent includes sophomores Kelly Langhans in the 800-meter, Marissa Treece in the 1500-meter and Kali Watkins in the 100-meter hurdles, all of whom finished in the top 10 in their events at the Big East Championship.

January	February	March	April	May
<p>January 10 Men's basketball beats Seton Hall 88-79 to run the team's home court winning streak to 45 games.</p> <p>January 23 Both the men's and women's track and field teams take first place at the Notre Dame Invitational.</p> <p>January 30-31 Hockey splits a home-and-home against Michigan.</p>	<p>January 17 Women's basketball rises to No. 10 in the polls by winning 15 of its first 17 games.</p> <p>February 8 Junior Becca Bruszewski hits key buckets in the final minute of women's basketball's 62-59 victory over No. 25 DePaul.</p> <p>February 12 Men's basketball ends a seven-game losing streak by upsetting No. 5 Louisville 90-57.</p> <p>February 15 Women's tennis suffers its first loss of the season in the semifinals of the Indoor Championships to No. 1 Northwestern.</p> <p>February 19 Both the men's and women's fencing teams rise to No. 1 in the USFCA Coach's Poll.</p> <p>February 22 Fencing finishes second at the NCAA Championships behind Penn State.</p> <p>February 28 Given a No. 1 seed, hockey loses to No. 4 Bemidji St. 5-1 in the NCAA Tournament.</p> <p>March 8 The seventh-ranked men's lacrosse team tops No. 3 North Carolina 9-7 at home.</p> <p>March 15 Hockey wins the CCHA Championship by defeating Michigan 5-2.</p> <p>March 21 The men's basketball season ends at Madison Square Garden as Penn State tops Notre Dame in the NIT Semifinals 67-59.</p> <p>March 28 Senior Ryan Hoff scores six goals to lead the No. 2 men's lacrosse team to a GWLL Championship.</p> <p>March 31 Men's track and field wins the Big East Outdoor Championships by half a point over Louisville.</p>	<p>April 3-4 Baseball sweeps three games in two days from Villanova.</p> <p>April 18 After playing in the first half of the Blue-Gold spring football game, sophomore Golden Tate goes 3-for-3 against West Virginia as the baseball team wins 8-6.</p> <p>April 21 Junior Doug Fortner leads the men's golf team as he shoots a final round 66 to finish tied for second at the Big East Championships.</p> <p>April 25 Men's lacrosse ends the regular season 13-0 by beating Ohio State 14-8 in front of over 30,000 fans.</p> <p>May 3 Men's track and field wins the Big East Outdoor Championships by half a point over Louisville.</p> <p>May 8-9 No. 5 women's tennis advances to the third round of the NCAA Tournament after defeating UIC and Michigan at home.</p> <p>May 10 Maryland upsets men's lacrosse in the first round of the NCAA Tournament 7-3.</p>		

Best Wishes

for the 2009–2010 Academic Year

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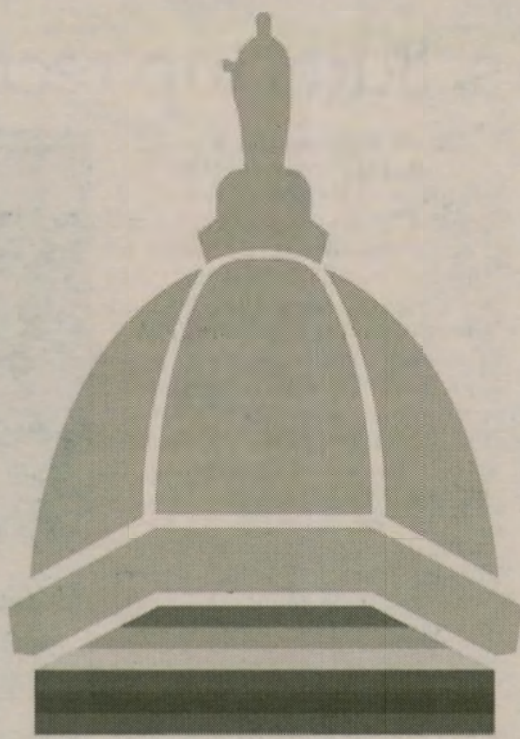
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UNIVERSITY OF
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CORE COUNCIL
FOR GAY, LESBIAN, BISEXUAL
& QUESTIONING STUDENTS

The Core Council for Gay, Lesbian, Bi-sexual & Questioning Students

Welcomes the Class of 2013

We Core Council members are administrators, and gay, lesbian, and ally students who are a resource in identifying the ongoing needs of our gay, lesbian, and bi-sexual students. By implementing campus-wide educational programming on gay, lesbian, and bisexual concerns, we strive to eliminate homophobia, and to make Notre Dame a welcoming and accepting place that prizes the uniqueness of all its students.

Meet student members of the **Core Council** and find out *more* about resources available to **gay, lesbian, bisexual, and questioning students** on the Notre Dame campus.

A RECEPTION

For Interested First-Year Students

Hosted by The Core Council

Thursday, August 27th

1:30-3:30 p.m.

316 Coleman-Morse Building

(3rd Floor Lounge)

Visit our web site at corecouncil.nd.edu

The Core Council for Gay, Lesbian, Bi-Sexual & Questioning Students also sponsors:
Coffee & Conversation at the Co-Mo ★ Gold Room "Conversations" ★ Solidarity Sunday ★ CommUnity
NETWORK Sessions ★ StaND Against Hate Week ★ Day of Silence

ND WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Team returns all players, adds top recruits for new season

By BILL BRINK
Sports Writer

Turnover and graduation are staples of college sports, but this year Notre Dame has a get-out-of-jail-free card.

Not one player from last year's team left. The addition of one of the country's best high school players is just piling on.

That doesn't erase last season's first-round loss at the Joyce Center in the NCAA Tournament, which coach Muffet McGraw and the Irish have not forgotten about.

"I'm sure not over it. I'm pretty sure they're not either," McGraw said. "It was a really devastating blow to us."

The Irish finished 22-9 last season, 10-6 in the Big East conference. They drew a No. 7 seed in the NCAA Tournament and faced No. 10 seed Minnesota, who beat them 79-71.

The only senior on last year's team, guard Lindsay Schrader, has one more year of eligibility because she redshirted her sophomore season after tearing her anterior cruciate ligament (ACL). Schrader scored 12.5 points per game last season and led the team with 7.4 rebounds per game.

Schrader, along with seniors

Melissa Lechlitner, Ashley Barlow and Erica Williamson, understand they only have one more shot.

"[They are] trying to get together the rest of the team to kind of get on that page of, 'Hey this is it for us,'" McGraw said.

Torn ACLs kept the Irish short-handed for much of last season as well. Junior forward Devereaux Peters and guard Brittany Mallory both tore their ACLs early in the season.

Mallory was cleared to play in July, McGraw said, and got a chance to play with the Irish over the summer.

"I think mentally she's over the hump of coming back in terms of testing out her knee and feeling it's strong, she got knocked down a couple of times so she'll be ready to go," McGraw said.

Peters tore the ACL in her left knee for the second consecutive season, but had more time to rehabilitate since she suffered the injury so early. She had a preliminary surgery in January to clean out the knee and another surgery in May, both of which were successful, McGraw said. She will not be ready to play until December.

"It really takes a year," McGraw said. "She's going to be a year out and I think she's going to really be ready."

Joining the Irish this season is point guard Skylar Diggins, the Gatorade National Female Athlete of the Year from South Bend's Washington High School. Diggins recently helped the U.S. U19 team win the World Championships in Bangkok, Thailand.

"I think that really helps prepare you because you're playing for a college coach," McGraw said. "That definitely gives her a little bit of an advantage."

In addition to Diggins, the Irish bring in 5-foot-8 guard Kaila Turner from Joliet, Ill. Turner was a four-year starter at Marian Catholic High School, where she averaged 10.8 points per game as a senior.

McGraw said Turner's athleticism was impressive and that she sees her as a defensive stopper at the moment.

"Our strength and conditioning coach was very impressed with her speed and quickness," McGraw said. "We're excited about getting her in the gym and seeing what she can do."

The Irish started 13-1 last season, their only loss coming in overtime on the road at Michigan. Then, they went 1-3 in four conference games. They split their next six conference games, which included a 10-point loss to eventual champion



IAN GAVLICK/The Observer

Senior guard Lindsay Schrader dribbles during a 78-72 win over Michigan State on Nov. 29, 2008.

Connecticut.

Notre Dame won three straight to end the season and earned a first-round bye in the conference tournament. The Irish beat St. John's in their first game of the Big East tournament, but lost to Villanova in the third round.

That second-half struggle dropped the Irish, who were ranked No. 8 in the Associated Press poll at one point, down into the 20s.

The only junior who was healthy last season, forward Becca Bruszewski, emerged as a multi-talented offensive threat. She averaged 10.7 points per game and led the team in 3-point percentage (37.5 percent).

"Becca is most improved player two years in a row," McGraw said. "She's someone I know I can count on."

Contact Bill Brink at wbrink@nd.edu

SMC CROSS COUNTRY

Squad shoots for top three in conference race

By MICHAEL BLASCO
Sports Writer

After back-to-back fourth-place MIAA finishes in 2007 and 2008, Saint Mary's begins the fall with an eye on cracking the conference's top three for the first time in the program's history.

The Belles are looking to build upon a season in which they finished fifth or better in six of eight meets.

Fifth-year head coach Jackie Bauters, a 2004 Saint Mary's graduate and former student-athlete, said she is pleased with the progress the Belles have made under her watch.

"The [program] is steadily headed in a positive direction, and, as an alumna, it means a lot to me," Bauters said. "Being able to steadily progress toward the top tier of the MIAA during my tenure has been a great thrill."

All eyes are on senior captain Megan McClowry, who earned second team All-MIAA honors in last year's MIAA Championships. McClowry — who finished 13th in last year's conference meet — was only the fourth Belle in program history to earn conference honors.

"My wish for [McClowry] is that she has her best season yet — filled with career highlights," Bauters said. "She is a wonderful athlete to coach and has a lot of natural talent, so I really hope she reaches all

the goals she strives for this year."

Bauters named senior Ellen Pfister as captain alongside McClowry and believes that her team displays leadership throughout the roster.

"[McClowry] is a leader by example," Bauters said. "[Pfister] is a great vocal leader. I believe our captains make the biggest impact on the team, as far as seniors, [but] our junior class is very strong and their work ethic, enthusiasm and spirit will help carry the team this year, too."

Junior Catie Salyer and sophomore Joanne Almond were key contributors to the 2008 squad's success, routinely placing near the top of the Saint Mary's finishers, while sophomore Arianne Rodriguez and junior Clare McVey look to make strides from their promising 2008 seasons.

The Belles begin the season Sept. 5 with a Saint Mary's alumnae exhibition meet. Formal competition kicks off Sept. 12 at the NIU Huskie Open, before the opening of MIAA competition at the Calvin Invitational Sept. 19.

"Returning to the Calvin meet is exciting," Bauters said. "Last year there was great competition on a beautiful course early on. It's a great event, and I'm excited to take the women back. The MIAA meets are of obvious importance to us."

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MEN'S GOLF

Sandman returns to squad in 2009

By ERIC PRISTER
Sports Writer

After no first-place finishes and a fourth-place showing in the Big East tournament in the 2008-09 season, the Irish look to use the experience they gained last season on the road to a more successful 2009-10 campaign.

"Last year's results were somewhat predictable given the timeline of our program and the loss of our best player and lone senior, Josh Sandman, before the season began," Irish coach Jim Kubinski said. "We had some growing pains but gained a great deal of experience. We're going to build on those experiences and are looking forward to a great season this year."

After missing all of last season because of an injury, Sandman will return for a fifth year with the school's best career stroke average. In his junior season, he recorded two top-5 finishes and five top-10 finishes and was also named to both the PING All-Midwest Region team and the All-Big East team.

Sandman will be joined by senior Doug Fortner, who led the Irish last year with a 74.24 scoring average and has been named to the All-Big East team two years in a row. He also ended last season with a runner-up finish in the Big East tournament.

"[Fortner] is primed for a big year," Kubinski said. "Given the experience he gained last season playing number one in our lineup and with the return of [Sandman] as a fifth-year senior, I feel we'll have two number one

type players in our lineup."

Sophomore Max Scodro is another player in the Irish lineup looking to improve on a solid 2008-09 season this year. The only player to finish a tournament in first place — he tied for first place in the UNCG Bridgestone Collegiate Championship — Scodro finished the year with two top-5 finishes and four top-10 finishes and was named to the All-Big East team with Fortner.

"Max is another extremely talented player," Kubinski said. "He has a great attitude and has shared some very lofty goals with me. With continued

hard work, patience and his ever growing emotional maturity development, [Scodro] can become a top player nationally."

Senior Carl Santos-Ocampo, juniors Dustin Zhang, Connor Alan-Lee and Jeff Chen and sophomore Chris Walker will each look to contribute this season for the Irish. Chen was second in scoring average for Notre Dame last season, and Santos-Ocampo and Zhang both recently qualified for the U.S. Amateur golf tournament.

The Irish will begin the season competing in tournaments hosted by Minnesota and Vanderbilt before returning home for the Fightin' Irish Gridiron Golf Classic, where Kubinski promises his team will be ready to compete.

"We just came out flat [at the 2008 Fightin' Irish Classic] and never recovered in that event. We won't do that again. We'll be fired up for our event this year. I guarantee it," he said.

Contact Eric Prister at epriester@nd.edu

"Last year's results were somewhat predictable."

Jim Kubinski
Irish coach

SMC SOCCER

Belles hope to bounce back after disappointing 2008 campaign

By KATE GRABAREK
Sports Writer

After a difficult 2008 campaign that ended with a 2-13-1 overall record, the Belles are looking to continue to move forward.

"Now I have a better understanding of our players and what I feel are their strengths and weaknesses," Belles coach Ryan Crabbe said. "In addition, we had a very good four weeks of training in the spring which allowed us to continue to improve and stay focused on Saint Mary's soccer. I also feel the players have a better understanding of my expectations. While we struggled in 2008 to win close games, I feel in 2009 we are all more highly motivated to turn those results around."

The team is returning 17 players in 2009, many of whom saw playing time during the 2008 season.

Crabbe would like to see the team finish their games better. In 2008 the team lost eight games by one goal and Crabbe is hoping this will provide increased motivation for the players and get them to take more responsibility when scoring goals.

The team will be led by senior co-captain Bridget Ronayne, who has been a mainstay on a tough defense for the Belles.

"Bridget is a very mature player on the field," Crabbe said. "She is a good leader and her teammates respect her. Her success playing in the back for us comes from her ability to read the game and make good decisions under pressure. She is very good at minimizing mistakes which is key as a defender."

The Belles will count on Ronayne and other veterans to lead a freshman class



Observer File Photo

Senior midfielder Katie Wehrle fights for possession against a Manchester player on Sept. 5, 2007.

that is coming in from all over the country.

"We have players coming from Georgia, Kentucky, Ohio, Illinois, Missouri and Indiana," Crabbe said. "We look to have between eight and 10 freshmen competing for spots on this year's roster."

Senior Patty Duffy will also be a force for the Belles as the goalkeeper this season. Duffy registered 81 saves in 15 appearances last season for the Belles.

"Duffy has a tremendous competitive spirit," Crabbe

said. "She has spent many extra hours on her own in order to get better at her position. Having a full season in 2008 and the number of minutes she played should translate into an advantage for her coming into the 2009 season that she did not have last year."

The Belles will open the season with a tough road trip when they play Centre and Transylvania Colleges on Sept. 5 and 6 at Centre College's Tournament.

Contact Kate Grabarek at kgraba01@saintmarys.edu

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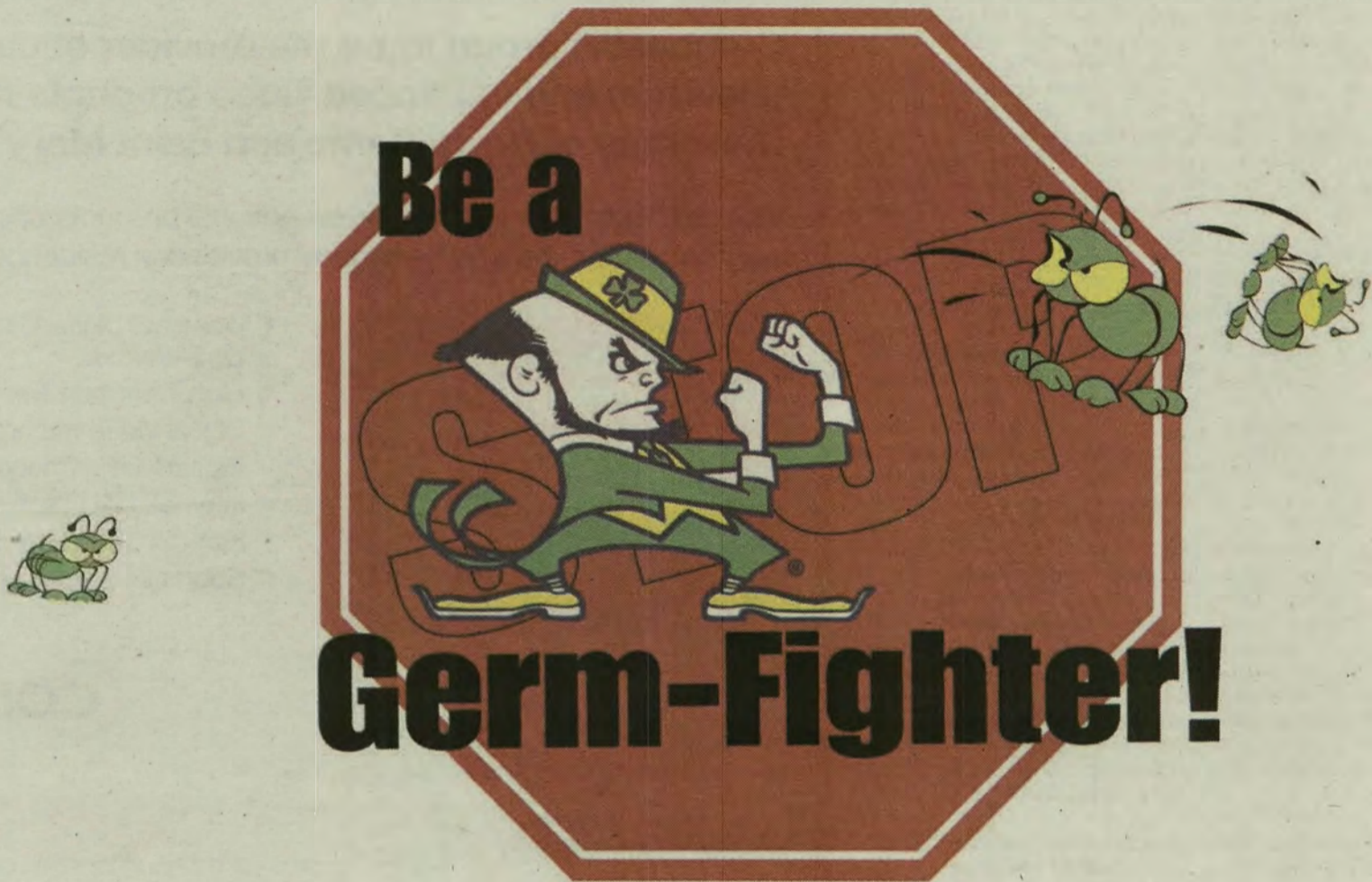
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ND VOLLEYBALL

Irish hope to live up to expectations

By CHRIS MASOUD
Sports Writer

One phrase can motivate a team or damage a team before the season even starts, and that phrase describes this year's squad: high expectations.

The Irish received five first-place votes and a total of 178 points in the pre-season Big East coaches poll and sit tied at No. 2 with Cincinnati.

The high rank comes despite a less than spectacular 2008 season in which the Irish finished 14-13 in the regular season and took second in the Big East tournament.

The Irish may need to avoid turning the preseason poll into a jinx. After last season's preseason coaches poll had Notre Dame finishing fourth in the Big East standings, the team fell to fifth with a 9-5 record in conference play.

The Irish will be counting on more than luck to carry them to victory during the length of the season. Senior Christina Kaelin and junior Kellie Sciacca return to lead the squad. Both were all-Big East selections for the Irish last year and will likely have to continue their dominance in the conference for the squad to have success.

Kaelin, a 5-foot-10 outside hitter, made an immediate impression during her freshman year by

amassing 24 kills against Bowling Green in her first collegiate experience, which tied an Notre Dame record for the second-best mark in a three-game match. Kaelin was also twice named Big East Rookie of the Week.

Sciacca adds depth and talent as a 6-foot-1 middle blocker to an already experienced team that features six returning seniors and four juniors. Like Kaelin, Sciacca wasted no time in making a name for herself during her freshman year. Sciacca became only the second Irish player to earn the AVCA Northeast Region Freshman of the year honor.

But this year's most promising sign may be the return of assistant head coach Robin Davis, who spent five years on the Notre Dame volleyball staff from 2002-2005. Davis spent the last three seasons as the head coach at Boise State and replaces former assistant coach Greg Smith, who was named head coach of the University of Toledo in May.

"I'm really excited to have Robin back on staff," Irish coach Debbie Brown told und.com.

Led by experience both on the court and on the sidelines, the Irish will begin the 2009 season with a Big East title on their minds from start to finish.

Contact Chris Masoud at cmasoud@nd.edu

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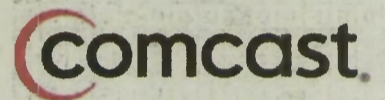
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CROSSWORD

WILL SHORTZ

- Across
1 Reasonable treatment
10 Striking ends
15 63-Across?
16 Moon of Uranus
17 Have a lot to lose?
18 CD player part
19 Supply for driving
20 Most night owls
22 Pietà figure, literarily
23 Turned up
24 With 54-Down, approach with a line
27 Tawny
29 Factory
31 Kind of door or window
33 Draft sources
35 Have yet to settle
36 Highway caution
39 Rich or famous: Abbr.
40 Particular
41 Michael of the G.O.P.
42 Word accompanying finger-pointing
44 People of the Platte, once
46 Lump in cloth
47 "If I Had ___" (Lyle Lovett song)
49 Symbol of innocence and purity
51 Lucy and Ricky Ricardo's residence, e.g.
53 Eschewer of convention, in slang
57 One way to be taken
58 Comment from the beat
60 Big maker of communications satellites
61 One singing in the kitchen
62 Artist with the 1999 6x platinum album "2001"
63 Opposite of avant-garde

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

Grid containing answers to the previous crossword puzzle, such as ATPLAY, UNIPCTS, DIRIGIBLES, RAHS, ELEVEN+TWO, OSIS, ESSES, ARTLOVER, PITTT, OVA, DRIFTS, TOHAVE, NEEDIER, MERLE, ELEA, BIC, ANAGRAM, ENS, ETUI, GAVEL, LATTICE, ORINGS, ADRENO, QUO, ORCS, DAMASCUS, SNOOP, ASTI, TWELVE+ONE, SUEZ, ATEYELEVEL, APSE, SSN, ELDEST.

- Down
1 It's not fancy
2 Tropical flower
3 Hungarian writer Madách
4 62-Across offerings
5 Big D campus
6 Berry with juicy parts?
7 Chilling, so to speak
8 Honorary title bestowed on Bill Clinton, Muhammad Ali and Mae West
9 "Manhattan Mary V" artist
10 Woman on a 2008 ticket
11 Takes back one's words?
12 He said "A people that values its privileges above its principles soon loses both"
13 Bum
14 Pentax Spotmatic and Nikon F2, for short
21 Sketches (out)
22 Some Cherokees
24 Site of Robert E. Lee's last victory
25 Means of getting some answers

14x14 crossword puzzle grid with numbered starting points for clues.

Puzzle by Doug Peterson and Barry C. Silk

- 26 Shooting star, briefly?
28 Opposite of FF
30 Rose with a hit record
31 180 is its max. score
32 Does a nursery job
34 Put aside
37 Emeritus: Abbr.
38 Modern, to Beethoven
43 Crash site sight
45 "Hoffman" co-star Cusack
48 ___-high
50 Amaryllis family members
51 Completely smooth
52 Outfielder Francona
53 Some like it hot
54 See 24-Across
55 Solar or lunar phenomenon
56 2009 G.M. spinoff
59 Part of the fourth qtr.

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EUGENIA LAST

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TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Someone may try to outshine you at work, school or within your group of friends. Be methodical and ponder the situation fully before you decide to make a statement or move that could alter your standing.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Get your work done but have fun doing it. The more networking you can fit in, the further you will get professionally.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Concentrate on family, your lover and your friendships. So much can go wrong if you are shortsighted or neglect something or someone.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Open up about the way you feel and what you want to see happen. Money will come to you from an unusual source.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Look for an interesting position in a field that suits you and you will excel. A change of career or companies or even starting your own little business can all work out well.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): You've got lots on your plate and plenty of people waiting to see how you are going to handle everything. Don't let your emotions get the better of you.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Make a few necessary changes to your personal life and the way you divide work and down time and you will eliminate a lot of stress.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): A chance to show your talent will ensure advancement. A trip may be spurred on by something that happens but phone ahead or deal with matters over the Internet instead of in person.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Watch what you say and be careful where you travel. Someone is trying to make you look bad, so be ready to troubleshoot.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): There is an opportunity to close a deal, push a settlement through or even collect money owed to you.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Confusion is present. Don't be surprised if someone you least expect undermines you. Don't be bullheaded and forge ahead.

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THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME by Mike Argirion and Jeff Knurek

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

OCKAL

Grid for OCKAL: O O K A L

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DEYNE

Grid for DEYNE: D E Y N E

GALEEB

Grid for GALEEB: G A L E E B

DROBIF

Grid for DROBIF: D R O B I F



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

A: A [O] [R] [I] [N] [L] [I] [N] [C] [O] [L] [I] [N]

(Answers Monday)

Yesterday's | Jumbles: SNACK ABYSS OUTCRY VIABLE Answer: A good way to improve the view at a football game — BINOCULARS

THE OBSERVER

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FOOTBALL

Man(ti) of the hour

Hawaiian linebacker leads deep, talented freshman class of 17

By MATT GAMBER
Sports Editor

The expectations surrounding heralded linebacker Manti Te'o could be summed up by the scene at Friday's freshman media day, where he was undoubtedly the center of attention.

Since the prized recruit announced his commitment to the Irish on signing day, any discussion of Notre Dame's freshman class has begun with the Honolulu, Hawaii, native. But when he first greeted the Irish media contingent in the Guglielmino Athletics Complex, Te'o downplayed the attention he has received.

"I just try to be myself and take every day one at a time.

I don't pay attention to all the hype," Te'o said. "Just like everybody else, I'm just trying to make the team better."

Te'o has been somewhat limited in camp by a hamstring injury, but Irish coach Charlie Weis said Thursday that the linebacker has only missed "parts" of practices. The injury won't keep Te'o out of the rotation in the season opener against Nevada on Sept. 5, Weis said.

"I expect to see him on the field in the opener," Weis said. "I don't think we'll be seeing him standing on the sideline very long."

The same could be said for several of Te'o's classmates, including wide receiver Shaquellle Evans, who has worked his way into the third-receiver battle behind junior Golden Tate and sophomore Michael Floyd. The Inglewood, Calif., native impressed at Notre Dame's

see EVANS/page 21



Freshman linebacker Manti Te'o works out during Friday's practice. Te'o is one of 17 freshman players.

IAN GAVLICK/The Observer

HOCKEY

ND hungry after early tourney exit

By SAM WERNER
Associate Sports Editor

As the prominence of the Notre Dame hockey program has grown over the past few years, so too have the expectations. Those lofty standards came crashing back down on the Irish last spring in a 5-1 upset loss to Bemidji State in the first round of the NCAA Tournament.

"We had a great season, and I don't want to take away from that," Irish coach Jeff Jackson said. "But the last game of the year, we weren't the same team that we were for the majority of the season."

Notre Dame rose as high as

see JACKSON/page 19

MEN'S BASKETBALL

Return of Harangody gives Irish high hopes for 2009-10

By MICHAEL BRYAN
Associate Sports Editor

"I realized my time here wasn't done yet."

With these few words Luke Harangody summed up his decision to forgo entering the NBA draft and return to Notre Dame for his senior season, changing a potential rebuilding year for the Irish into plans for a trip to the NCAA Tournament.

"We just want to fight back and get one of those seven or eight (Big East) bids," Irish coach Mike Brey said at the press conference announcing Harangody's return. "I think with [Harangody] back and what we have, we can realistically say we can make a run at one of those bids, period."

The senior class of Harangody and guards Jonathan Peoples and Tory Jackson has a chance to become the winningest in school history, and will break in

the newly renovated Joyce Center this year. Harangody can cement his legacy at Notre Dame by placing himself in the record books alongside the program's all-time greats. After three years, Harangody ranks eighth in points (1,823) and fifth in rebounds (949). Both school records are in reach this year, but the power forward said the individual achievements are far from his top goals.

"It's good to be on a team again with guys that are family, and I'm just looking forward to wins this year and not individual statistics," Harangody said.

This season the Irish will look to replace the scoring and depth provided by departed senior captains Kyle McAlarney, Ryan Ayers, Zach Hilleland and Luke Zeller, but that task may be made much easier with the addition of transfers Scott Martin and Ben Hansbrough.

Both players were ineligible last season after transferring following the 2007-2008 season — Hansbrough following his sophomore year at Mississippi State and Martin after his freshman campaign at Purdue — but both have been practicing with Notre Dame for a full season, and should make the transition of replacing the graduated seniors far easier than the task other Big

see BREY/page 19

MEN'S SOCCER

Powers leads freshman class

By LAURA MYERS
Sports Writer

The Irish may be able to make up for past mistakes Monday, if only symbolically, before moving on to a new stadium and another chance to win a championship.

Northwestern shocked Notre Dame in 2008 in the second round of the NCAA Tournament, beating Notre Dame 2-1 and knocking them out of contention for the College Cup.

Now the teams return to the same field before the start of their 2009 campaigns in a pre-season match-up — and it will most likely be the last game the Irish play at the old Alumni field.

"There's a lot of returning players, and they were very disappointed last year," Irish coach Bobby Clark said.

see WILDCATS/page 18



Senior forward Tamba Samba evades a defender during a Big East quarterfinal game against Louisville on Nov. 8, 2008.

Observer File Photo

ND WOMEN'S SOCCER

Near perfection inspires team for new season

By MIKE GOTIMER
Sports Writer

The term "nearly perfect" is often used in sports to describe great teams. It can be used to describe the 1996 Chicago Bulls or 1998 New York Yankees that were so good they had few, if any, flaws as they cruised to titles in their respective leagues. However, some teams, like the 2007 New England Patriots, find themselves on the other end of the spectrum, coming up just short in the big game while on the brink of true perfection.

In 2008, Notre Dame found itself on the same ground as those Patriots, as it came up short in its pursuit of perfection during the final minutes of the championship game. The Irish, who entered last

year's College Cup final with a 26-0-0 record, suffered a 2-1 loss to North Carolina as Tar Heels forward Casey Noguiera drilled home the game-winning goal from 20 yards out with less than two minutes to play in the match.

Despite the tough finish to an otherwise fantastic season, Irish coach Randy Waldrum said he expects the team to rebound and compete at the high level that they have been accustomed to during his tenure at Notre Dame.

"I would expect the response to be just like it is every year," Waldrum said. "[The loss] continues to drive you and realize that you were so close and there were one or two little mistakes that cost you a championship. It was a difficult loss but we've

see FRESHMEN/page 18