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Delegation to visit Vatican for Bessette canonization

By LAURA McCRYSTAL News Editor

A delegation from Notre Dame, led by University President Fr. John Jenkins, will be present at the Vatican Sunday for the canonization of Blessed Brother André Bessette, a member of the Congregation of Holy Cross.

"I think [the canonization] is an opportunity not only to

reflect on the person canonized, but also the call to holiness in all our lives,' Jenkins said.

The first member of the Congregation of Holy Cross who will be proclaimed a saint, Bessette was born in Canada in 1845 and entered religious life at the age of 25, according to a University press release.

Bessette spent his 40 years as a Holy Cross brother serving as a doorman, launderer, janitor and sacristan at Montreal's College of Notre Dame. In this position, he also

received See Also many poor "Game collection and sick visitors. to benefit Haiti" "He was page 3 a person deep оf

compassion," Jenkins said. "When people came to him ... he would treat them with great compassion and kindness." Bessette visited Notre Dame's campus at least once during his life, Jenkins said, but his greatest connection to the University was in his devotion to Saint Joseph and his spiritual example.

"I think the spirit of Brother André is closely connected with the spirit of Notre Dame in many ways the spirit of welcome, community and compassion," Jenkins said. "Brother André

had a very simple job of manning the door, but he made it into a real calling of holiness and I think we can all reflect on that.'

Notre Dame's delegation to also includes Rome University Provost Thomas Burish, Associate Vice President and Counselor to the President Fr. James McDonald and Notre Dame theology department Chair

see VATICAN/page 5

Group awards pro-lifer

Observer Staff Report

The Notre Dame Fund to Protect Human Life will award its first Evangelium Vitae Medal to Richard Doerflinger, associate director of the United States **Conference of Catholic Bishops**

(USCCB), according to a University press r e l e a s e issued earli- \mathbf{er} this week. "We are

a

looking for Doerflinger n

American who has contributed over a long period of time significantly to the pro-life movement, especially at the beginning of life," said David Solomon, chair of the Fund's governing committee. "It was the active role he's played, specifically in political life ... that made us choose [Doerflinger].'

Doerflinger has been a leader in the pro-life movement for over 30 years, according to the University's press release. Solomon said Doerflinger works with the USCCB in Washington D.C. on pro-life issues and was especially active in presenting the USCCB's stance on abortion in the federal government's recent healthcare debates. The University's Center for Ethics and Culture established the Notre Dame Fund to Protect Human Life earlier this vear. It relies on private donors, not University money, to dedicate itself to pro-life issues, specifically at the beginning of human life, Solomon said





Senior Brandon Buchanan, who struggled in the process of coming out at Notre Dame, said he can empathize with gay teens who commit suicide. He said Notre Dame students underestimate the possibility that a similar tragedy could occur here.

Recent teen suicides raise questions about the level of acceptance on college campuses

By SARAH MERVOSH News Editor

Buchanan decided to come out to the Notre Dame community as gay, he felt "surrounded and suffocated" by the heterosexual culture at the University.

cide Sept. 22 after his roommate streamed a live encounter between Clementi and another male on the After senior Brandon Internet, is one of several recent incidents that have raised questions about the level of acceptance on college campuses.



see PRO-LIFE/page 5

Single-sex dorms, parietals forcing his female friends to leave and talk of "ring by spring" felt overwhelming to Buchanan and he got severely depressed.

"I had a really, really hard time," he said. "I wanted to drop out of school."

Buchanan said the process of coming out was challenging enough when it was done by choice. If someone had outed him before he was ready, he "[couldn't] even imagine" what it would feel like.

The case of Rutgers University freshman Tyler Clementi, who committed sui-

The Straight and Gay Alliance (SAGA) at Saint Mary's College held a candlelight vigil last night in response to the recent suicides.

"The Rutgers situation was just horrifying. It was just one of those things that puts every-thing back into perspective," Karen Borja, SAGA president, said. "If it happened there, there is a possibility that it can happen here."

Borja said the vigil was meant to "show that Saint Mary's cares," but also to give a voice to the issue and start a dialogue.

Buchanan said this kind of



Students present a petition asking that sexual orientation be added to the non-descrimination clause on March 19, 2009.

preemptive dialogue is exactly what the Notre Dame and Saint Mary's community needs.

'[You] should never have to lose a person to have that conversation," he said.

But Buchanan said he hasn't heard many students discussing the issue since Clementi and other similar cases made headlines.

"I honestly don't think Notre Dame people think it could happen here," he said. "And I would disagree."

Buchanan estimated there are about 200 people in the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) community at Notre Dame. Among those, he said about 150 are closeted students who could potentially be outed without their consent.

'There are people here who are completely unwilling to come out but are in these tenuous situations where some-

see LGBT/page 5

Observer File Photo

INSIDE TODAY'S PAPER College to provide internet security sessions page 3 • Fall Break in the Bend page 12 • Hockey to play Lake Superior page 24 • Viewpoint page 10 **QUESTION OF THE DAY:** WHAT IS YOUR BIGGEST PET PEEVE?

THE OBSERVER

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POLICIES

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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 Matt Gamber

> > -0779

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junior Keenan

"Broswhodo not use the word 'Bro.'



Colin Keeler

junior Stanford

"Loud nerds in the Fishbow l."



Elizabeth Andrews junior

Pasquerilla W est

"Chris Bell."



Lauren Aristorenas

junior Lewis

"People feeding the squirrels. They are fat enough without your help."



Tim Zintak

senior 0'Neill

"People com plaining about how much people com plain every tim e Facebook changes form ats."

Have an idea for Question of the Day? E-mail obsphoto@gmail.com



Enthusiastic man seen in the stands at the Irish football game against Pittsburgh Saturday. The Irish closed on Pitt 23-17, winning their first home game since September.

OFFBEAT

Wisconsin students eat lunch at unconventional location

LA POINTE, Wis. -Elementary school students on a Lake Superior island eat lunch at an unconventional location each day. That's until their parents found out their kids were walking and skipping to the Bell Street Tavern to eat lunch. Superintendent Linda Kunelius said she solicited

started. Parent School Association president Jen Croonberg-Murphy said most parents can't get past the idea their children are eating lunch at a bar.

The Daily Press of Ashland said the Bayfield School Board finally considered the matter this week and decided that for the short term, the tavern will deliver lunch to the school.

Fishpaw, of Bucyrus, Ohio, remained jailed Wednesday on assault, reckless endangerment and other charges for allegedly driving her Cadillac DeVille on several holes at the Crab Apple Ridge Golf Course on Monday afternoon.

Course owner Rusty Tracy told the Erie Times-News his course was busier than usual on the Columbus Day holiday. His

IN BRIEF

exhibit "Parallel The **Currents: Highlights of the Ricardo Pau-Llosa Collection of** Latin American Art" will be shown today from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. in the Snite Museum of Art. It will feature Contemporary Latin American artworks from the collection of Ricardo Pau-Llosa, Cuban-American poet, critic, curator, professor and collector.

Selections from the William McGraw Photography Collection will be shown today from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. in the Snite Museum of Art. The pho-tographic styles range from straight documentation to surrealism. It will be shown in O'Shaughnessy Galleries II and III.

RecSports will offer 10 percent off all personal training packages on Monday. You can receive this discount on any Monday during the football season. Log in to RecRegister to sign

The "Even Fridays" event for Friday, Oct. 22 will be a Family Swim. Even Fridays is a program designed to meet the recreational needs of faculty, staff, graduate students, and their families These events are held on the second and fourth Friday of every month. Remember to sign up through RecRegister.

On Sunday, Oct. 24 Family FIRST will host a climbing class in Rockne Memorial from 1 p.m. to 2 p.m. Family FIRST seeks to improve the mind, body, and

The Observer is a member of the Associate reserved. TODAY'	ed Press. All reproduction rights are	bids for the lunch pr gram and the tavern w the low bidder at \$5 p plate. Parents and tead	vas Pa. golf cours per with 'driver' ch- ERIE, Pa. —	s e unhappy sto tru State police wa	n hurt his arm trying to op her in his pickup uck, which police said as rammed by Fishpaw,	Registration classes due to	re Dame's families. is required for all b limited availability.
News Sarah Mervosh John Cameron Sara Felsenstein Graphics Brandon Keelean	Sports Meaghan Veselik Megan Finneran Megan Golden Scene Jordan Gamble	ers didn't learn their ch dren at La Poin Elementary would be e ing lunch at a tavern un the day before scho	at- are welcome a ntil area golf cour	t all drivers can t one Erie- rse. Forty- <i>I</i>	ong with several golf rts. Information compiled om the Associated Press.	included in Observer,	information to be this section of The e-mail detailed about an event to gmail.com
Photo Tom La	Viewpoint Ren Brauweiler	THURSDAY	TONIGHT	FRIDAY	GAME DAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY
CORREC	TIONS			The second	-MX	-MX	MAX .

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.

LOCAL HIGH HIGH 63 HIGH 63 65 HIGH HIGH HIGH 52 67 66 43 LOW 45 40 LOW LOW LOW LOW 36 LOW 45 44

Collection to benefit Haiti



Students cheer during the Standford game Sept. 25. At the Western Michigan game, a collection will be taken in honor of a former Holy Cross priest who is being canonized. Profits will benefit Haiti.

By LAUREN KELLY News Writer

A collection will be taken during the second quarter of the Western Michigan game Saturday to support efforts by and the Notre Dame Congregation of Holy Cross to rebuild Haiti following January's destructive earthquake.

The collection will be taken in honor of Blessed Brother André Bessette, who will become the first saint from the Congregation of Holy Cross to be canonized Oct. 17.

Mike Seamon, associate vice president of Campus Security, said the collection would be "a huge weekend celebration for the congregation."

"This is the perfect way to cel-

ebrate the canonization of the first Holy Cross saint as well as make people aware of the rebuilding in Haiti," Seamon said.

All donations from the collection will go to the efforts of the Holy Cross Missions in Haiti as they try to rebuild and administer to the needs of the people both physically and spiritually.

Over 300 students have volunteered their time to walk through the stands collecting donations. Many Holy Cross seminarians will also be participating in the stadium collection, which will take place during the first media timeout of the second quarter.

The collection will be a quick

only held two other game day collections, one after the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11, 2001 and another after Hurricane Katrina.

Students who volunteer to take collections will have the opportunity to take a VIP tour of the Notre Dame Stadium press box and locker room.

"It's a small way to say 'thank you' for giving up their time at the game," Seamon said.

Seamon added that he was impressed by the number of students who volunteered to take collections.

"It has been unbelievable how students rise to the occasion,' Seamon said. "Their generosity is truly inspiring."

College to give Internet security training sessions

By ALICIA SMITH Associate Saint Mary's Editor

To boost awareness of computer security threats, Saint Mary's College Information Technology will offer computer security awareness sessions Monday Oct. 25.

Kathy Hausmann, coordinator of student computing, said three sessions will be offered at noon, 4 p.m. and 7 p.m. to educate students, faculty and staff about the dangers of the Internet, as well as other computer security topics.

Hausmann said she would talk about malware, which is malicious software for the computer, as well as phishing, which is an attempt to acquire passwords or personal information illegally.

She will also talk about using file sharing programs like LimeWire, how to create effective passwords and Facebook privacy.

According to Hausmann, each time a computer is logged onto the Internet, it is vulnerable to a variety of threats.

"I think it's important that students, faculty and staff attend the sessions because as long as they are using a computer, they are connected to the Internet, they have e-mail accounts, [then] they are susceptible to the threats that are

online," she said. "We'll just be going over best practices of what you should be aware of if you are online.'

Hausmann said members of the College community have already been affected by such threats.

"We have had several instances of faculty, staff and student computers infected with malware," she said. "Since August, we have had faculty and students be affected by phishing scams and we also have had issues with students having peer-to-peer file sharing applications on their computer.

Similar sessions have been offered in previous years, Hausmann said, but because of the constant changes in technology, this year's sessions will offer more up-to-date information.

"I've done these sessions for a couple of years now, but they keep changing," she said. "Just as the technology changes, the scammers and the spammers and the hackers and the malware writers come up with new ways to trick people and so we always have to try to be one step ahead of them. "These are our tools for

defense. Education is what can protect you.'

Contact Alicia Smith at asmith01@saintmarys.edu



Wednesday, October 27, 2010 8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. **McKenna Hall Atrium &** Auditorium

- Refreshments served
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- Discussions on current tools and trends
- Handy tips on taking charge of your personal information

Vendor Fair open 8:30 a.m.

9:00 a.m. Managing Risk at Microsoft

10:30 a.m. How To Protect Against Network-Borne Security Threats in 2010 and Beyond 12:45 p.m. Securing the Mobile, Virtual and Web 2.0 Landscape A Parent's Guide To Protecting 2:00 p.m. **Children Online** 3:00 p.m. Fraud and Identity/Information Theft **Risk Reduction and Investigations**

OBER NATIONAL CYBERSEC AWARENESS

4:00 p.m. Mobile Device Security Tips

For more information, visit: Secure.nd.edu/securitymonth



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STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

STUDENT SENATE

page 4

Members refocus toward on-campus programs

By MEGAN DOYLE News Writer

Student Senate discussed shifting student government's focus from off-campus issues to oncampus safety and programming during its meeting Wednesday

"We are in a transitional period where the off-campus business has been a lot of our focus," student body vice president Andrew Bell said. "We are trying to look back to on-campus issues."

After members of student government met with University leaders, South Bend law enforcement, the Prosecutor's Office and members of the local community Tuesday, Student Senate discussed the results of the meeting.

The meeting focused on the ways students and members of the local community can protect against crime, student body president Catherine Soler said.

"The real focus was on what students can do to be safe in the community," she said.

But Soler said on-campus students should also remember to take small safety precautions, like locking the door to their rooms.

Bell said student government wants to focus more attention toward on-campus issues after so much discussion about off-campus arrests.

"This is definitely a conversation we can bring back to dorms," Soler said. "We need to ask what we can do here to make our nightlife on campus a little livelier."

Soler said the Student Activities Office (SAO) and student government have discussed late-night programming as a way to keep students on campus on weekend nights.

nights. "We want to know if SAO set up programming from midnight to 2 a.m. if students would attend those events," Soler said.

Student government will soon host a week for students to give their ideas and complaints in public places around campus.

"We should be setting up tables to 'whine and dine' in the dining halls," she said.

Bell said well-rounded input can lead to the best decisions so student government encourages students to share their feedback.

"We really want to keep a pulse on how students are reacting to these events and stay updated on how students feel about them," he said.

Members of Student Senate and other student government groups investigated other schools to gauge how they deal with community relations.

The ideas from that report will play a role in the next step for Notre Dame's leaders, Soler said.

Contact Megan Doyle at mdoyle11@nd.edu

Groups ask Board for more funding

By ASHLEY CHARNLEY Saint Mary's Editor

Several Saint Mary's clubs and organizations asked for more funding at the Student Government Association meeting Wednesday.

SGA recently gave out allotments, which is the amount of money each club or organization receives for

the year to cover start-up costs for events. The Board's F i n a n c e Committee will take three of the five appeals into consideration. Al-Zahra, a

club representing the Middle Eastern and North African c u l t u r e s , appealed the

money allotted to it because funds were low following their first event, Kaitlyn Sahd, president of the club, said.

"The purpose of club is to try and raise awareness of Arabic culture and issues on Saint Mary's campus," Al-Zahra vice president Caroline Proulx said. "It's an outlet for [Muslim students] to help express their identity and what it truly means to be Muslim in the United States."

The Board voted to have the

allotment appealed and it will be presented to the Board again once the Finance Committee reviews it, Rachael Chesley, student body president, said.

Circle K, a club that encourages volunteering in the community, appealed their allotment as well. Club President Amanda Garrett said entrance fees to the national organization have

changed, which

made it harder

for the club to

hold its usual

of volunteer

a c t i v i t i e s

throughout the

year," Garrett said. "We have

parties for the

Center for the

Homeless and

work with the

"We do a lot

events.

"It's an outlet for [M uslim students] to help to express their identity and w hat it truly m eans to be M uslim in the United States."

> Caroline Proulx vice president Al-Zahra

> > convent here." The Board voted for the Finance Committee to review Circle K's allotment. The National Student Speech-Language & Hearing Association (NSSLHA) organization on campus also attended Wednesday's meeting in search of more funds.

> > Katie Staak, president of the group, said a fundraising event to sell apples would not be possible year because inclement weather destroyed their supply. As a result, the group's budget

for the year has changed.

But Chesley said no new information could be added during the appeal to help keep the process fair. The Board voted against the appeal.

Saint Mary's Straight and Gay Alliance (SAGA) also appealed their allotment. Karen Borja, president of the club, said the group's executives were new to the process and didn't understand how allotments work.

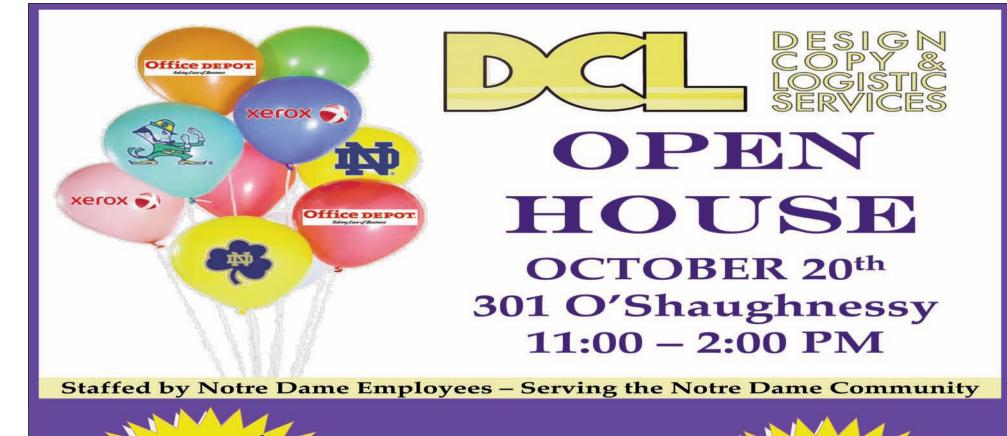
Treasurer Meg Griffin said the instructions and bylaws for the allotments were included in e-mails sent to club and organization presidents, and that student government was also available for questions. The Board voted against reviewing the appeal.

The Social Work Club was the last to present their appeal to SGA. President Maria Kenney said she was concerned with the allotment because the club's events don't reach the minimum for sponsorship through SGA and their estimated revenue from club dues was not as high as anticipated.

Kenney said the club hosts events with Hope Ministries and St. Margaret's House in South Bend during the year.

SGA voted to have their allotment reviewed by the Finance Committee.

Contact Ashley Charnley at acharn01@saintmarys.edu





Vatican

continued from page 1

Matthew Ashley.

The delegation will arrive in Rome Sunday morning to attend the canonization and remain in Rome until Wednesday, during which time Jenkins said they would attend other Masses and celebrations for Bessette.

In addition to attending the series of Vatican events surrounding Bessette, the Notre Dame delegation will meet with Vatican officials, Jenkins said. These meetings include work with the Vatican's Office of Christian Unity regarding Notre Dame's Tantur Ecumenical Institute in the Holy Land.

While Jenkins and the Notre Dame delegation are in Rome, on-campus events will also honor Bessette. Fr. Peter Rocca, rector of the Basilica of the Sacred Heart, said all three Masses in the Basilica Sunday would honor Bessette. Rocca said Bishop Kevin Rhoades gave permission for the University to celebrate the canonization with readings and prayers that differ from the ordinary Sunday schedule.

"So the reading and the prayers of the Mass will be taken from the texts for the feast of Brother André," Rocca said. "We will also have special hymns in his honor that will be sung."

The University will also celebrate the Mass of Bessette in every residence hall Oct. 31, followed by a special night of prayer at the grotto in honor of the newly canonized saint Nov. 1, Rocca said.

"This is the first saint of the Congregation of Holy Cross, and because of that it's more important that the University celebrate his canonization, and that our students in particular come to know who this holy man of a very humble heart was," he said.

Contact Laura McCrystal at lmccryst@nd.edu

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"The Rise of the Ku Klux Klan: Enduring Consequences of Extremism"

Rory McVeigh Professor and Chair, Department of Sociology

LGBT

continued from page 1

thing could happen," he said.

Another issue that played a role in recent publicized suicide cases among gay teens was bullying and harassment.

"Being a teen in general is hard for everyone," he said. "Every teen wants to be normal."

But fitting in can be more difficult for gay teens that often experience bullying and harassment. Buchanan said teens tend to react emotionally and think the mistreatment will never end.

"You assume that the way you're treated in high school is the way you are going to be treated always," he said.

Buchanan said this hopelessness is a significant factor in the choice to commit suicide and gay teens need role models who can tell them that it will get easier.

"No matter where you go, homophobia will be there. However, your ability to handle it, your self-confidence and your own knowledge will grow as you get older," Buchanan said. "You just have to wait for it. You just have to survive the pain that you feel now and believe that it will get better."

Another factor is the fear that they would lose their support system. In particular, Buchanan said many worry they will lose the unconditional love of their parents if they come out.

"People don't understand what it would be like to fear losing that foundation, especially when as a teen you are

T)

dependent on your parents for income and to support you," he said.

On Notre Dame's campus, Buchanan said he has not experienced harassment or outright discrimination as much as an assumption of heterosexism.

"People feel like the only crime against the LGBT community is a hate crime. No, no one has been beaten up between dorms in the middle of the night," he said. "But it's an atmosphere. It's an apathy."

Buchanan said there is an assumption on campus that everyone is heterosexual.

"I always feel uncomfortable with 'Do you have a girlfriend?" he said.

Buchanan suggested using "inclusive language" by asking questions like, "Do you have a significant other?"

Borja asked students to be tolerant of the LGBT community at Notre Dame and Saint Mary's.

"Coming out is something really profound. It's like the essence of a person. If you can't respect that then what can you respect?" she said. "There just needs to be that tolerance for other human beings."

Buchanan said change is slowly occurring at Notre Dame in regards to accepting the LGBT community, but that does not mean the University is immune to tragedies like those that have occurred throughout the nation.

"Do I think that we're making strides as a community? Are we trying? Yes," he said. "But could it still happen here? Yes."

Contact Sarah Mervosh at smervosh@nd.edu

Pro-life

continued from page 1

A five-person committee, which includes Solomon, Notre Dame Professors Fr. Wilson Miscamble, Carter Snead and Daniel Philpott and Associate Director of the Center of Ethics and Culture Elizabeth Kirk, controls the fund.

The Fund will announce the Evangelium Vitae Medal recipient each year on Respect Life Sunday, Solomon said, and award it on the Feast of the Annunciation, which falls on March 25, 2011.

The award includes a \$10,000 prize and a specially commissioned medal, according to the press release.

This medal is part of a larger initiative by the Fund to Protect Human Life, which will be formally announced within the next six weeks.

"We're starting a big new pro-life initiative in general, and we're going to call it the Project Guadeloupe," Solomon said. "It's a project that will both involve education efforts here at Notre Dame and research efforts."

The initiative will encourage programs such as an annual life seminar on Notre Dame's campus, a number of courses about life in the Notre Dame curriculum and a two-year master's degree and service program based on pro-life work, Solomon said.



FALL 2010 SCHEDULE

9.25.10 (vs. Stanford University)
 "Mercifully Eradicating the Irish: The Strange Case of Lord Macaulay"
 Robert Sullivan, Associate Professor, Department of History

🞘 10.9.10 (vs. University of Pittsburgh)

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12 Noon Saturday, October 16, 2010 Annenberg Auditorium Snite Museum of Art

Professor McVeigh will show how sociological theory can be used to explain the phenomenal growth and diffusion of the Ku Klux Klan in the early 1920s. He will also discuss his current research that traces contemporary violence in the American South prior Klan activism. "American Politics at the Breaking Point"

Robert Schmuhl, Walter H. Annenberg-Edmund P. Joyce Professor of American Studies and Journalism, Department of American Studies

💥 10.16.10 (vs. Western Michigan University)

"The Rise of the Ku Klux Klan: Enduring Consequences of Extremism" Rory McVeigh, Professor and Chairperson, Department of Sociology

🎉 10.30.10 (vs. University of Tulsa)

"Tradition and Identity in Contemporary Church Music: Three Case Studies" Margot Fassler, Keough-Hesburgh Professor of Music History and Liturgy, Department of Theology

2 11.13.10 (vs. University of Utah)

"What Race Is, and What It Is Not: Why This Is Important" Agustín Fuentes, Professor, Department of Anthropology

UNIVERSITY OF NOTRE DAME College of Arts and Letters

saturdayscholar.nd.edu.

Thursday, October 14, 2010



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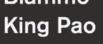
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Dems come to Reid's aid in ad spending

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Eager to protect their politically vulnerable Senate leader, Democrats plan to sink more than \$2 million into Harry Reid's home state of Nevada in the final weeks of the campaign, but have begun scaling back in Missouri where polls show their candidate trailing.

The adjustments, described by officials from both parties, come as Republicanleaning outside groups maintain a drumbeat of advertising in both states as well as in other key battlegrounds.

In the contest for control of the House, Republican-allied groups are planning a \$50 million advertising drive, an extraordinary surge of spending aimed at keeping Democrats on the defensive.

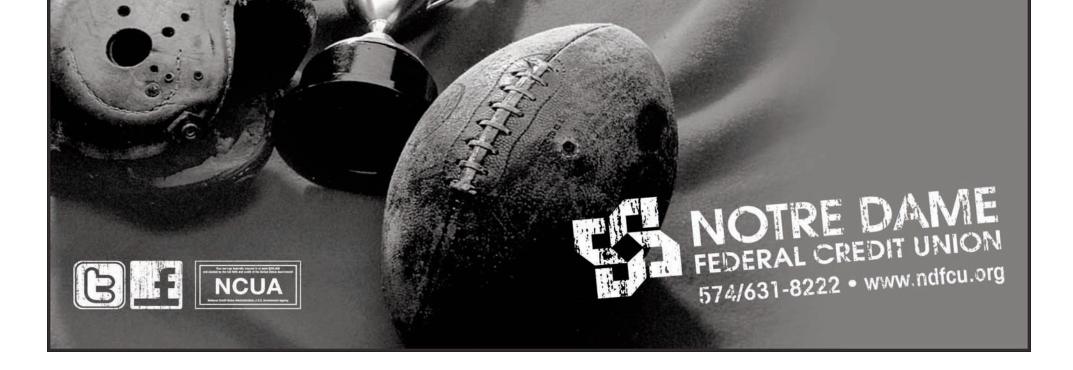
Reid is trying overcome a strong re-election challenge from tea party-backed Republican Sharron Angle, who reported raising \$14 million in the last three months. And the committee charged with electing Senate Democrats has reserved airtime to help Reid withstand a barrage of negative advertising from GOP-aligned groups, according to the officials, who spoke on condition of anonymity because they do not discuss strategy publicly.

Democrats also are spending considerably less than they had planned in Missouri this week, where Democrat Robin Carnahan is struggling in her race again Republican Rep. Roy Blunt. Democrats have cut airtime reservations for the state in the next two weeks, too, but they still could decide to run ads during that period.

The shifts in strategy illustrate the volatile nature of the political landscape in the closing days of the election. Candidates and outside groups are setting records for spending. In House contests, Republican-allied organizations are broadening the field by injecting money against House Democrats that the party had not counted as their most vulnerable.

The Democrats' chances of winning Senate seats currently held by Republicans in Missouri, Florida, Ohio and New Hampshire have dwindled. Polls show GOP candidates in the lead. Democrat Jack Conway in Kentucky also is lagging Republican Rand Paul, but Senate Democrats still are spending money in the state. They say Conway still has a strong chance of winning.





O'Donnell dismisses past statements

Associated Press

NEWARK, Del. — Republican Senate hopeful Christine O'Donnell is dismissing comments she's made over the years on religious and social issues such as evolution, sexual abstinence and homosexuality, saying they're not relevant to the campaign.

Squaring off against Democrat Chris Coons in a nationally televised debate, O'Donnell said Delaware voters want to hear about job creation and spending, not comments she made as a television commentator long ago. She refused to say if she still believes evolution is a myth, as she has said in the past.

Coons, a county executive, argued that O'Donnell owes voters an explanation. He said her remarks are directly related to how she would serve in the Senate, citing Supreme Court nominations as an example of where they might come into play.

The 90-minute debate was held at the University of Delaware and moderated by CNN's Wolf Blitzer. The network carried the first hour of the debate. It pitted Coons, who excelled as a debater in college, against O'Donnell, who has appeared as a conservative pundit for years on TV shows such as Bill Maher's program.

Coons opened the debate by calling O'Donnell an extremist who would promote partisanship instead of compromise. O'Donnell, a tea party favorite, shot back that Coons would be a "rubber stamp" for Democrats in Washington.

One light moment was provided by O'Donnell, who chided Coons: "You're just jealous you were not on Saturday Night Live."

The show has spoofed O'Donnell a couple of times, making light of some remarks she



Senate candidate Christine O'Donnell faces off with opponent Chris Coons in a debate held at the University of Delaware Wednesday.

made as a television commentator over the years, including that she dabbled in witchcraft while in high school.

She challenged Coons' record as New Castle county executive, accusing him of making pledges and "breaking those promises as soon as he takes office."

"He will continue to rubberstamp the spending policies coming from Washington," she added.

Coons accused O'Donnell of distorting his record and said he hoped the pair could have a conversation, rather than her launching into a "diatribe."

O'Donnell, who in the past has described homosexuality as a social disorder, said the decision on "don't ask, don't tell" should be left to the military and that "Congress should not be forcing a social agenda onto the military."

Coons said he would move swiftly to repeal it, calling the policy "discrimination, plain and simple."

O'Donnell also called for extending the Bush-era tax cuts.

Coons was more guarded, saying, "We should do those tax cuts that have the best chance of getting our economy going again."

The two candidates also sparred on health care, with O'Donnell assailing the Democratic health care overhaul that became law this year. "One out of four Democrats have gone on record saying they oppose Obamacare," she said.

But Coons said there are "significant advances" in the bill. When O'Donnell said it would put Uncle Sam in the examination room, Coons snapped, "That's a good slogan ... How does this bill actually put Uncle Sam in the examination room?"

O'Donnell trails Coons by double digits in some polls and has been dogged by questions about her background and past statements.

Fed. agents deport disabled citizen

Associated Press

ATLANTA — A mentally disabled U.S. citizen who spoke no Spanish was deported to Mexico with little but a prison jumpsuit after immigration agents manipulated him into signing documents allowing his removal, a lawsuit filed Wednesday alleges. His lawyers say the agents ignored records showing his Social Security number, while prison officials wouldn't tell concerned relatives what happened.

The lawsuit filed in federal court in Atlanta by the American Civil Liberties Union seeks damages from the federal government and people ranging from Obama administration officials to immigration agents. It also asks for a jury trial.

Mark Lyttle was serving prison time in North Carolina for a misdemeanor offense in 2008 when prison officials say he gave Mexico as his place of birth, drawing the attention of immigration agents. His lawyers acknowledge he eventually signed papers allowing his deportation, but argue he was too mentally disabled to understand what he was doing. He spent four months in Central America before his family helped him return.

"The government failed to protect Mr. Lyttle, and individuals who lacked the proper training and oversight violated Mr. Lyttle's constitutional rights," the lawsuit said. The government does not have the right to deport U.S. citizens.

The lawsuit also alleges discrimination because Lyttle is of Puerto Rican descent and looks Hispanic.

A spokesperson for the U.S. Department of Justice said the department would review the complaint once the government is served and will respond in court. An ICE spokesman said the agency wouldn't comment, citing ongoing litigation.

A spokesman for the Department of Homeland Security did not have immediate comment on the lawsuit.

The ordeal began after Lyttle, now 33, was charged with inappropriately touching a female orderly at a psychiatric hospital. In August 2008, he was sentenced to 100 days in prison.

When Lyttle entered custody, "he reported his place of birth as Mexico City, Mexico," said Keith Acree, spokesman for the North Carolina Department of Correction.

A parallel federal lawsuit is being filed in North Carolina against immigration and prison officials there.

Lyttle's lawyers wouldn't make him available for an interview, but relatives have trouble believing he'd say he was from Mexico.

"I couldn't believe that, honestly," his 31-year-old brother David said. "That doesn't even make sense."

He was interviewed by multiple immigration agents in prison. One agent's notes say "Mr. Lyttle's name was assumed to be 'Jose Thomas' and that Mr. Lyttle's true name, Mark Daniel Lyttle, was assumed to be an alias," the lawsuit says, adding that the agent wrote that Lyttle entered the U.S. illegally from Mexico at age 3.

Immigration agents "coerced and manipulated" Lyttle more than once into signing false statements saying he was a citizen of Mexico and agreed to be deported, the suit says.

Interstate abortion provider suspended

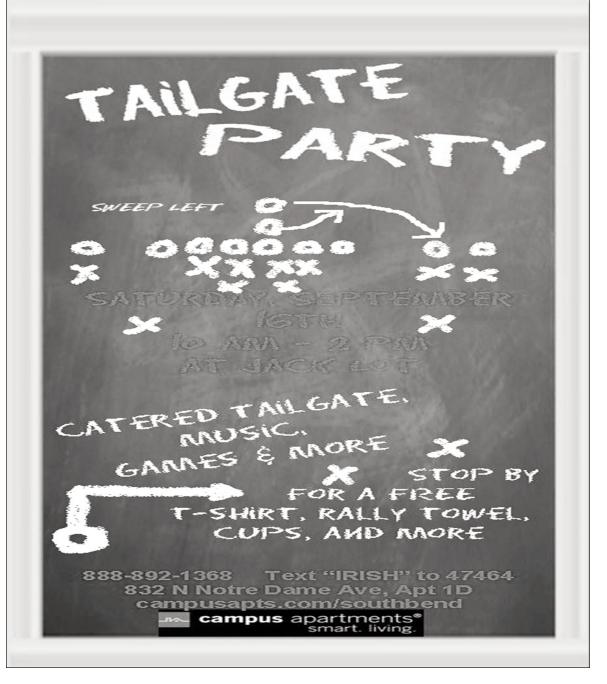
Associated Press

TRENTON, N.J. — A New Jersey doctor who ferried patients to his Maryland clinic for late-term abortions that he wasn't authorized to perform in New Jersey had his license suspended Wednesday by regulators who called his actions "manipulative" and "deceptive."

Dr. Steven Brigham started late-term abortions with medication in Voorhees, N.J., and finished them in Elkton, Md., where law is more nermissiv authorities said. He has no hospital privileges in New Jersey. The New Jersey attorney general's office said Brigham was "grossly negligent" in transporting the patients. Brigham plans to appeal the state Board of Medical Examiners' suspension of his only remaining medical license. He said during testimony that he believed everything he did was legal. He told state regulators it was more "economical" for patients to have their late-term abortions performed at his office in Maryland rather than a hospital, as would have been required in New Jersey. Brigham's attorney, Joseph M. Gorrell, has said the doctor violated no laws by transporting patients.

Women's Services, which has offices in several states. He has had his license suspended or revoked in some states, dating to 1992, and was found to have botched two abortions in New York. Authorities in Maryland have ordered him to stop practicing medicine.

"Dr. Brigham plays fast and loose with the rules," Deputy Attorney General Jeri L. Warhaftig told the board, adding that if Brigham is allowed to keep his New Jersey license, "he will just go find another state" in which to perform abortions. Much of the case centered the definition of when an abortion begins.



Brigham owns American

Warhaftig said Brigham started late-term abortions with medication in New Jersey, where he wasn't permitted to perform them, and finished them in Maryland, where the law is more permissive.

In New Jersey, Brigham gave women drugs that caused fetal death and softened the cervix, and also inserted a device to help dilate them.

His attorney argued that administering the drugs and dilator was preparation for the procedure, not the start of it. Gorrell said the board had already ruled on that distinction in 1994, when it defined abortion as "the evacuation of the fetus and placenta."

Ethnic hate crime case wraps up

Associated Press

SCRANTON, Pa. — Two young men were filled with alcohol and testosterone and, as prosecutors charge, ethnic hatred — when they took part in the fatal beating of a Mexican immigrant two years ago.

Now it's up to a jury to decide whether they are guilty of a federal hate crime.

Jury deliberations will begin Thursday in the trial of former high school football players Brandon Piekarsky and Derrick Donchak, charged in the July 2008 death of a 25year-old illegal immigrant in the small town of Shenandoah.

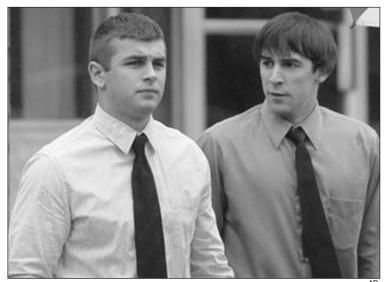
In her summation to the allwhite jury, Justice Department prosecutor Myesha Braden said Wednesday that Donchak, now 20, and Piekarsky, now 18, were motivated by their dislike of Shenandoah's growing Hispanic population when they beat and kicked Luis Ramirez during a random late-night encounter in a park.

Afterward, she said, the young men joked about what they had done and plotted to lie to the police.

"They showed no remorse that night ... no sense of responsibility for having beaten a man to the point of death," Braden said.

The defendants, along with two of their friends who have already pleaded guilty, "acted as a team," she said. "As a team they issued racial threats and slurs. They told him as a team to go back to Mexico. And they beat him as a team. The defendants are responsible together for what happened to Luis Ramirez."

Donchak and Piekarsky



Brandon Piekarsky, left, and Derrick Donchak return to the federal building and courthouse in Scranton, Pa.

were charged in federal court with violating Ramirez's civil rights after an all-white jury in Schuylkill County cleared them of serious state charges last year.

Prosecutors allege that Piekarsky delivered a fatal kick to Ramirez's head after he'd been knocked unconscious by another teen, Colin Walsh, who pleaded guilty in federal court and testified against his former friends last week.

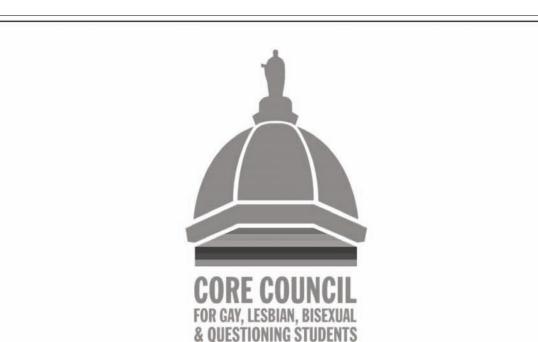
Donchak took part in the fight and then conspired with Shenandoah police to cover up the crime, federal prosecutors say. The accused officers are scheduled to go on trial early next year.

Both defendants are charged under criminal provisions of the Fair Housing Act, while Donchak faces additional counts related to the coverup. The hate crime charge carries a maximum sentence of life in prison. As they have all along, defense attorneys insisted Wednesday that the fight stemmed from youthful aggression — not ethnic hatred.

"Brandon Piekarsky is not, nor has he ever been, a racist," said James Swetz, Piekarsky's attorney.

He ridiculed the government's theory that Donchak and Piekarsky intended to deprive Ramirez of his federally protected housing rights, saying they didn't even know that Ramirez lived in Shenandoah.

The fight began late in the evening of July 12, 2008, when a half-dozen drunken teens, all football players at Shenandoah Valley High School, were walking home from a block party and came across Ramirez and his 15year-old girlfriend in a park. A verbal altercation escalated into a wild melee, with punches thrown on both sides.



Obama considers gay military appeal

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Defense Secretary Robert Gates warned Wednesday of "enormous consequences" for men and women in uniform if a judge's order abruptly allowing gays to serve openly in the military is allowed to stand.

The Obama administration may well ask for a stay of the ruling while it appeals. Justice Department officials worked behind the scenes on response their into Wednesday night with no word on when there would be an announcement. The uncertainty of the next step left gay-rights activists as well as the military in limbo over the status of the "don't ask, don't tell" law.

A day after a federal judge in California ordered the Pentagon to cease enforcing the law, Gates told reporters traveling with him in Europe that repeal should be a question for Congress — and only after the Pentagon completes a study of the impact of lifting the ban, which is due Dec. 1.

Allowing gays to serve openly "is an action that requires careful preparation and a lot of training," Gates said. "It has enormous consequences for our troops."

In Tuesday's ruling, U.S. District Judge Virginia Phillips ordered the military "immediately to suspend and discontinue any investigation" or other proceeding to dismiss gay service members. The 1993 law says gays may serve in the military but only if they keep secret their sexual orientation.

Phillips wrote that the law "infringes the fundamental rights" of current and prospective service members.

Gay rights advocates cautioned gay service members to avoid revealing their sexuality for fear that the Phillips ruling could be tossed out on appeal and they would be left open to being discharged.

Defense Department officials would not say what was happening to current discharge cases, or even confirm how many pending cases there might be. A Pentagon spokesman, Col. David Lapan, said no written guidance had been issued to commanders on how to deal with the court order.

An Air Force officer and cofounder of a gay service Arbury, now a university student. "If I was to hear news that automatically everything would be reinstated, I'd be the first one in the door."

Arbury said he wants to know more about how the military would reintegrate gay ex-soldiers: "If I go back in I want to know, Do I get my rank back? Do I get any damages or compensation?"

The uncertainty extended overseas. When asked by a reporter whether the ruling had had any impact yet, a two-star U.S. Army commander in eastern Afghanistan suggested he was unsure anything would change and said it was unlikely that his soldiers even knew about the court order.

"If that law is changed, they'll abide by the law," but "that's probably the farthest thing from their mind" as they fight, said Maj. Gen. John Campbell, commander of the 101st Airborne Division.

The Justice Department is considering whether to appeal the Phillips ruling, and its first response may well be another trip to the judge's courtroom in Riverside, Calif., to seek a stay, or temporary freeze. If Phillips turns down the request, the Justice Department probably would then turn to the federal appeals court in California.

If the government does appeal, that would put the Obama administration in the position of continuing to defend a law it opposes.

White House press secretary Robert Gibbs said time is running out for the ban on gays serving openly.

gays serving openly. "This is a policy that is going to end," he said.

Gates, who supports lifting the ban once the Pentagon puts in place a plan for minimizing disruptions, said that besides developing new training for troops, regulations will have to be revised.

Gates and Adm. Mike Mullen, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, face disagreement by some senior general officers on whether lifting the ban would cause serious disruption at a time when troops are fighting in Afghanistan and winding down a long war in Iraq.

The incoming Marine commandant, Gen. James Amos, and his predecessor, Gen. James Conway, both have told Congress that they think most Marines would be uncomfortable with the change and that the current policy works. In part to resolve the question of how the troops feel, Gates has ordered a study that includes a survey of troops and their families. Gates has said the purpose isn't to determine whether to change the "don't ask, don't tell" law, which he says is probably inevitable, but to determine how to end the policy without causing serious disruption. Cultural values in the U.S. have shifted since the law was passed, yet there remains a powerful rhetorical weapon for opponents of lifting the ban — fear that it would weaken a military at war.

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

The Core Council for Gay and Lesbian Students

(Information, education, and resources) Contact: Sr. Sue Dunn, OP, 1-5550 or Rachel Washington at www.washin1@nd.edu

Office of Campus Ministry

(Annual retreat for gay/lesbian/questioning students and their friends; pertinent library resources) in 304 Co-Mo; discussion and support Contact: Fr. Joe Carey, CSC, at 1-7800

University Counseling Center (Individual counseling) Contact: Dr. Maureen Lafferty at <u>mlaffert@nd.edu</u>

Visit our web site at corecouncil.nd.edu

number of a gay service member support group called OutServe said Wednesday he will continue using a pseudonym out of concern that he could still be discharged.

"Can I come out right now and be OK? And if I made a statement would it be held against me?" asked the officer, who calls himself JD Smith and said he is an Air Force Academy graduate. He said service members are hoping the Pentagon will clarify the meaning of the court ruling.

Warren Arbury of Savannah, Ga., said he'd love to re-enlist in the Army two years after being discharged in the middle of a tour in Iraq. But he's being cautious and patient.

"I think it's still way too soon," said 28-year-old

THE OBSERVER I HE OBSERVER

INSIDE COLUMN

Anew NHL great

It's an argument that should not even be an issue. It's like arguing about the weather or the solution to a simple mathematical problem. Some things are just obvious. In this case:

who is the best player in the National Hockey League?

Alexander Ovechkin has proven himself far away and away the greatest man on ice since the Great One, Wayne Gretzky. I know Sidney Crosby fans are fuming right now, but I will



Matthew Robison

Sports Production Editor

make my case. First, there is the obvious. He is the reigning MVP. Then, there are the statistics. You're right, Penguins fans, Crosby did have more goals than Ovechkin last year. He also played in nine more games. Give Ovechkin nine games to make up to score two goals, I bet my left arm that he does so. In fact, I bet a reasonable amount that he goes for 60 goals instead of 50.

Why, you ask, did Ovechkin play nine less games last year? Was he bruised up and decide to sit out? Did Capitals bench boss Bruce Boudreau have an argument with him and bench him? None of those are the correct answer. In effect, the "Great 8" was robbed of the points and goals crowns by the NHL because he plays too hard. He hits hard, he chases down opponents and his wide frame is too much for defenders to handle sometimes. He was slapped with several suspensions last year, all of which were heavily disputed for their triviality.

Essentially, this argument is between Ovechkin and Crosby. But, I would argue that Crosby's not even the best player on his team. Evgeni Malkin impresses me much more with his dekes, hits and goals. I just do not get excited when Crosby stands in front of the net and slaps at the puck until it squirts between the netminder's legs.

On the other hand, every time Ovechkin touches the puck, the entire crowd sits on the edge of its seat. Defenders and goalies anticipate shots from impossible angles. Even if it's one-on-two, he finds a way to weave, dodge, fake, lift his skate and get a shot off. If it does not go in, it whizzes over the stick-side shoulder of the

Hats off to Judge Phillips

A federal judge recently took an enormous step towards correcting one of the most heinous injustices present in our society. On Tuesday, United States District Judge Virginia Phillips issued an inju

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ing the govern-	Guest
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the military's "don't ask, don't tell" policy regarding openly gay U.S. soldiers serving in the armed forces.

The policy, introduced as a compromise between Democrats and Republicans in 1993, stated that, while gay soldiers were forbidden from serving in the military, no one was to be asked about his or her sexual orientation, thus essentially allowing gay men and women to serve, so long as they did not reveal their sexuality. However, the law required that any soldier who did come out as openly gay while serving in the armed forces be immediately discharged from the military. Thanks to the courageous actions of Judge Phillips, no one will ever again be subjected to this egregious injustice.

"Don't ask, don't tell" is a bad policy and a bad law. Since the policy was enacted 17 years ago, more than 13,000 soldiers have been discharged for revealing their sexual orientation. In an era when this country is fighting multiple wars in Iraq and

EDITORIAL CARTOON

Afghanistan, it's not exactly a wise decision to disqualify any man or woman who is willing and able to serve, especially given the well-documented recruiting difficulties that the armed forces have faced in recent vears. What's more, many of the original architects behind "don't ask, don't tell" have since disavowed the policy or acknowledged that it is unjust and counterproductive.

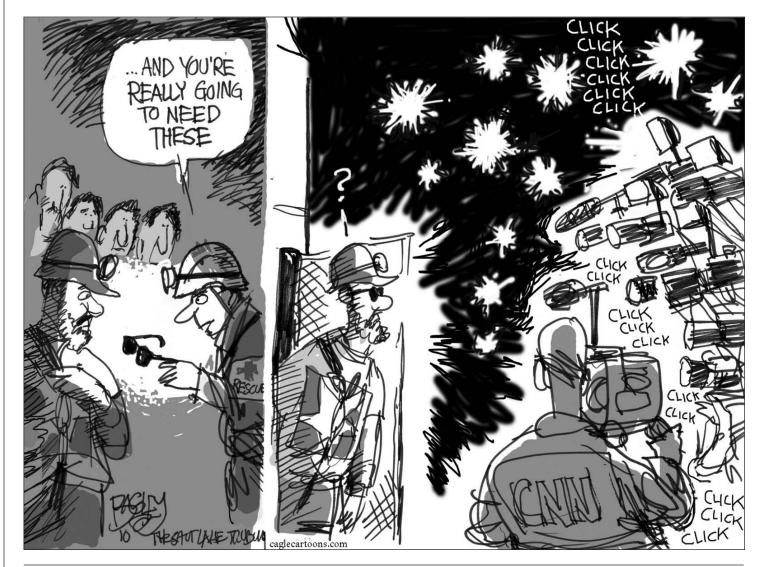
Three current and former chairmen of the joint chiefs of staff have come out against the policy, as has Defense Secretary Robert Gates (a Republican) and Presidents Bill Clinton and Barack Obama. In addition, the idea that having openly gay soldiers serving in the military would decrease troop morale and negatively affect unit cohesion has been definitively debased and refuted, as more and more people continue to acknowledge the extraordinary contribution and sacrifice that gay men and women have made to the defense of their country.

Conservatives will undoubtedly decry the ruling as yet another example of "judicial activism;" that is, of an unelected judge legislating from the bench and overturning the will of the people. It is a charge that has been leveled countless times throughout this nation's history, by politicians on both sides of the aisle. These politicians have used the specter of "judicial activism" to

attack such historic rulings as Brown v. Board of Education, Roe v. Wade and Citizen's United v. Federal Election Commission. Most recently, the charge was lobbied at Judge Vaughn Walker, whose brilliant rul-ing in California nullified that state's grossly unconstitutional ban on same-sex marriages. The truth is that judicial activism is not the monstrous evil that some politicians make it out to be. As evidenced by each of these rulings, it is often the only way in which the rigid partisanship of Congress can be overcome so that bad laws can be thrown out. In the case of "don't ask, don't tell," Congress attempted to hold a vote on repealing the policy several weeks ago, but obstructionist grandstanding and special interests prevented the bill from coming to the floor. Thanks to the courageous ruling of Judge Phillips, the 17 year wait for gay servicemen and women is over, and no one will ever again have to hide their true identity in order to serve their country in the military. Hats off to Judge Phillips, an extraordinary woman who was not afraid to stand up and do the right thing.

Ryan Williams is a recruit coordinator for the University. He can be reached at rwilli28@nd.edu

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



goaltender.

There is one key difference that I will grant to the Ovi-haters and the Crosbylovers. Sid did raise the Stanley Cup two years ago and the Capitals were knocked out of the playoffs as the No. 1 seed in the first found last year.

But, the way Ovechkin has taken the Capitals from cellar dwellers to perennial powerhouse is something of note. It is yet to be seen if he can break through and win a title. With the way he plays night in and night out, the electricity he has created in D.C. and the players that have gathered around him, it is only a matter of time before he hoists the trophy.

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

Contact Matthew Robison at mrobison@nd.edu

QUOTE OF THE DAY

"With the gift of listening comes the gift of healing.

> **Catherine de Hueck Russian social activist**

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

QUOTE OF THE DAY

"There shall be eternal summer in the grateful heart."

Celia Thaxter U.S. poet

Who knows the road down which **Fall Break leads?**

THE OBSERVER

IEWPOINT

I spent Fall Break of my senior year studying for the LSAT's. What a waste.

Not a waste in that I would have preferred Florida with my friends, though this was certainly true. But a waste in

the sense that: 1) my Fall Break activity successfully got me enrolled

Fr. Lou DelFra

Faithpoint

in law school, and 2) I spent precisely one month there before running out the back door, confused, depressed and completely lost. And all that good beach time lost forever

This utterly wasted week of my life is just one of the reasons I am so captivated by the odd story of the little man who will be canonized this weekend in Rome as the first Holy Cross saint -Brother André Bessette. He's one of the few people I've discovered who scripted his life worse then me.

If our vocation is the "call" $\operatorname{God}\nolimits$ has for each one of us, the plan for our life, then God, it would seem, needs a new communications director. Hardly anyone hears it right on the first try. Certainly, I did not (nor, frankly, on the second or third try either ...) Certainly, and consolingly, Brother André did not, nor did those trying to guide him on his way. To wit: André was so sickly when he was born that his parents had him baptized immediately, fearing he would not survive the night. It was an opening act of stark poetic justice, presaging the constant underestimation of the power of this physically under-developed man. (André would never top five feet, was constantly sick, yet would live to the age of 91.) Even more telling, entrusted so quickly into the hands of God, André's immediate post-birth baptism would be a telling beginning to a life that, even while constantly hanging by a thread, was marked by both a total dependence on God, and absolutely prodigious accomplishments.

Still, if this was the introduction to the world of "The Miracle Man of Montreal," as he is now known in the central city square there that bears his name, and at St. Joseph's Oratory André's "chapel" in honor of his hero, which has become the second largest church in North America (behind only Our Lady of Guadalupe), nothing about his birth remotely suggested it. Nor did much of what followed.

André was orphaned at 12, and unschooled and illiterate, followed the only path that seemed to open before him and much of the rest of rural French-Canada in those years — a move to the urban centers in search of industrial employment. Then, somewhere in the midst of being helplessly swept along these socio-economic tides, André - sick, overwhelmed, confused — somehow believed himself to have been called by God.

But ... to do what? Lacking the education needed for priesthood, and chronically sickly, André was first rejected, then barely accepted, by the Congregation of Holy Cross, which was justifiably worried that André was unfit to perform even menial tasks in service to the order's ministries. Then, inexplicably, assigned to the potentially stultifying task of college porter, André's life suddenly caught fire. The sick came to him and were healed. The unemployed spoke with him, and left encouraged. André's chapel to St. Joseph began to fill with crutches and wheelchairs left by the newly cured. The church began to grow through donations from the newly employed. André, apparently, was in the precise place God needed him — which utterly unpredictably was the front gate of College Notre Dame as the doorman. My own life having taken so many unpredictable and at-the-time apparently fruitless turns, this is the story of my kind of saint.

Eleven years ago, 62 years after André's death, a 9-year-old boy was removed from a smashed car outside Montreal, with a severe cranial injury and in an irreversible coma. He was brought back to life after his family entrusted him to the prayers of Brother André. The young man today is a

healthy university student, two adjectives which, ironically, lay permanently beyond the reach of André himself. The boy's healing is the miracle, accepted by the Vatican, that made André a saint. André's dogged persistence in a life of apparent dead-ends, his refusal to unclasp his hands or his heart from the belief that God was powerfully at work in his apparently unremarkable labors, is what makes him a model for those of us still searching.

God's call in our lives is rarely a clarion summons, or an obvious path that rolls out smoothly ahead of us. The script of how our lives will unfold with deep meaning, purpose, love and pro-ductivity is not likely to be handed to us during Fall Break, or any other week. Faith, persistence, hope in God's Providential guidance, especially when a clear way is not apparent — these are some of the lessons of Brother André for us on the eve of his canonization, and the eve of our next life decisions.

This week's column is written by Fr. Lou DelFra, CSC, Campus Ministry director of Bible Studies and ACE director of Pastoral Life. He can be reached at delfra.2@nd.edu

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

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Attack unjustified?

Its always been my dream to be the target of a Viewpoint attack, but I never thought my Scholastic essay "On Guilt" would be the reason.

I thoroughly enjoyed Ms. Zorb's critique of my essay ("The rationality of dining hall guilt," Oct. 13); however, I feel she might be - to paraphrase myself - irrationally bothered by my suggestion that we should not feel guilty about waste in the dining hall.

First, I would hope she realized that absolving students from their waste was not the point of my article. That example was about two short paragraphs of a page essay; it was not meant to be a study of waste and its harmful effects. Ms. Zorb should notice the title is not "On Waste and how it affects African children."

Second, there is a difference between feeling guilty and realizing that waste could have harmful effects on others. In my opinion, one does not need to feel guilty to realize that waste can be harmful, and that one should alter their behavior to minimize these effects. Much like my Catholic elementary school teachers, Ms. Zorb sees guilt as a motivator; however, I do not see that connection. If guilt motivates you to do the right thing, Ms. Zorb, I encourage you to keep feeling guilty. I, however, do not need guilt to know that I should limit my waste.

UWIRE

Can you read this column through?

As a freshman, I regularly ate breakfast at Centennial Hall. In the dining hall I would witness students who were preoccupied by a laptop, MP3 player and cell phone, despite being surrounded by friends. It required obnoxiously loud screams and boisterous hand gestures to

rouse them from their technological stupor. Even after catching their attention, they were unwilling to communicate and quickly returned to the digital domain. **Julian Switala**

The Minnesota Daily

This experience is a manifestation of "the screen invasion," a term coined by Matt Richtel, a technology reporter for The New York Times. The term describes the ubiquity of technological gadgets constantly inundating us with information. Significantly, our constant use of technology is influencing us in unforeseen ways. Current research is uncovering both its cognitive and behavioral effects.

Technology has effectively become a necessity for

Our technological devices insidiously persuade us that we effectively multitask. They've made it incredibly easy for us to procrastinate since they follow us everywhere. As we get bored of one task, we can effortlessly move on to another. Rather than complete one task at a time, we choose to suspend our work by temporarily focusing on a relatively easy task, like answering an e-mail or text message.

Yet multitasking is only the tip of this microchip iceberg. The effects are even more drastic. A 2008 study from the University of California found that acute stress, which is experienced when interrupted by one's gadgets, results in the release of corticotropin, a stress hormone that severely impedes our ability to learn and form memories.

This finding is magnified by our desire to constantly check our digital devices. As Richtel states, when you check your gadget, "you get what [scientists] call a dopamine squirt.'

"You get a little rush of adrenaline. So you're get-

Perhaps my example was poor and, obviously, no one should waste food just for the sake of wasting it. At a school grounded in Christian thought, one does not do the right thing because he or she feels guilty; one does it because it is right. Guilt has nothing to do with it.

Furthermore, I would caution her from making sweeping statements such as "Resources like gasoline, whose carbon emissions are contributing to global climate change, which is having the largest negative effects where? ... Africa" without citing any research. I will not say she is wrong because I do not know enough about the subject, but as any professor would tell you, "cite your sources.

To answer her final question: No, I do not feel guilty yet. Guilt would imply that I did something wrong, and I am not sure that is what I did in my essay. I am saddened, however, that someone would read my essay and boil it down to one example for the sake of airing poorly developed ideas about guilt, waste, and climate change. That is something to feel guilty about.

I encourage everyone to read my article, and see if Ms. Zorb is justified in her attack.

> Chris Milazzo sophomore O'Neill Hall Oct. 5

anyone who wishes to survive in contemporary society and it certainly does have its benefits. But does it make us more productive? Sure it can — if you're careful.

According to a 2009 Stanford University study, truly productive multitasking is far more challenging than previously thought. The problem, says the study, is that "processing multiple incoming streams of information is considered a challenge for human cognition." This is because the more one multitasks, the more difficult it becomes to filter out irrelevant information.

With our cell phones, iPods, laptops, video games, Kindles — the various mediums of entertainment and communication - researchers at the Institut National de la Santé et de la Recherche Médicale in Paris, France have found that we may not be able to effectively multitask at more than two tasks.

ting that more and more and more and more," he told NPR. "Well, guess what happens in its absence? You feel bored. You're actually conditioned by a kind of neurochemical response."

The reality is that technology in our life is inevitable. However, rather than completely disconnecting, we should be creating downtime that allows us to relax and not think about the buzz in our pocket or the e-mail in our inbox. Perhaps it's as simple as sitting down and enjoying your breakfast without any distractions.

This article first appeared in the Oct. 13 edition of The Minnesota Daily, the publication serving the University of Minnesota.

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

necessarily those of The Observer.

Have a good Fall Break!

STHE OBSERVER **S**CENE

Thurssday, October 14, 2010

Break in the Bend Spending vacation on campus



By MARIELLE HAMPE Scene Writer

If you're looking for an action-packed adventure with dynamic characters, intense plot and violence then stop by DeBartolo Performing Arts Center on Fall Break to see "The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo" and its sequel, "The Girl who Played with Fire." The Los Angeles Times called "Dragon Tattoo" a "mind-bending and mesmerizing thriller that takes its time unlocking one mystery only to uncover another, all to chilling and immensely satisfying effect."

The two movies are adapted from Swedish journalist Stieg Larsson's internationally best-selling "Millennium" trilogy. Larsson died at the age of 50 before his novels were published.

Alamo." And they had to walk five miles uphill

In the happening, expansive metropolis of South

Bend and the surrounding area, there is a pletho-

ra of theater options (three), each showing a vari-

ety of excellent films worth seeing. Here's a quick

both way in the snow with no shoes or socks.

look at where to go and what to see this Fall

The movies were originally filmed in Sweden and have English subtitles. The filming of an American version of "The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo" began recently in Sweden starring Daniel Craig ("James Bond") and Rooney Mara ("The Social Network").

In "The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo," known as "Men Who Hate Women" in its original Swedish version, computer hacker Lisbeth Salander (played by Noomi Rapace) and journalist Mikael Blomkvist (played by Michael Nygvist) team up to solve a murder mystery.

Forty years ago, Harriet Vanger disappeared from the island her powerful family owns, and her uncle is convinced a family member murdered her. He employs Lisbeth and Mikael to investigate.

As they delve into Harriet's disappearance, they uncover a number of grotesque murders and reveal dark secrets about the Vanger family. The movie has an ample supply of violence, sex and gore, and it explores the themes of feminism and sexual violence against women.

"The Girl Who Played with Fire" is the next installment in Larsson's trilogy. Mikael, the journalist, is about to publish a story that will link many well-known Swedish society members to an extensive sex trafficking operation between Sweden and Eastern Europe. Lisbeth wants to get involved in Mikael's story because she is a rape victim, but she is unexpectedly accused of three murders.

As Lisbeth and Mikael separately try to clear her name, the first movie's themes of violence and sex become prevalent once again.

Highly dramatic and provocative, these movies are racy and fast-paced thrillers, and a good way to close the sleepy fall break if you're stuck on campus.

For more information about upcoming events at DeBartolo Performing Arts Center, including "Halloween Bugs," a tribute to classic Halloweenthemed Warner Brothers and Looney Tunes cartoons, visit performingarts.nd.edu.

On campus

What: "The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo" and "The Girl Who Played with Fire" movies Where: DPAC Browning Cinema

Where: DPAC Browning Cinema When: "Tattoo" – Friday, Oct. 22 and Satuday, Oct. 23, 6:30 p.m.; "Fire" – Friday, Oct. 22 and Saturday, Oct. 23, 9:30 p.m. How much: \$3 for students, \$4 for seniors, \$6 for everyone else Learn more: performingarts.nd.edu

Contact Marielle Hampe at mhampe@nd.edu



Back in the day, they only had one theater in this town and it only showed "Bridge Over the River Kwai" and "The

Kevin Noonan Scene Writer

"Hereafter" – Clint Eastwood makes good movies. It opens this Friday.

AMC Showplace South Bend 16, 450 W.

Cinemark Movies 14, 910 W. Edison,

"Red" – Bruce Willis, Morgan Freeman and John Malkovich come together for an action comedy. It may not be "Die Hard," but anywhere close would make for a pretty decent movie. Opens this Friday.

Cinemark Movies 6 (second-run dollar theater)

"The Social Network" – Here's a movie about a tool at Harvard (redundant?) who made a load of money by stealing ideas from a bunch of people.

Few plotlines are true to real life.

"The Town" – An ensemble cast of fantastic actors with an intriguing storyline, this action drama is receiving a lot of early Oscar buzz.

"Secretariat" – My Computer Essentials teacher freshman year of high school said that Secretariat was the greatest athlete in sports history. That is patently false; horses aren't athletes, and besides, horse racing is barely a sport. But Secretariat was still kind of a big deal.

"Toy Story 3" – If you haven't seen it, see it. If you have, see it again. Showing at the dollar theater.

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

Kevin Noonan can be reached at knoonan2@nd.edu

Scene Staff Report

Break.

North and South Dining Halls close their doors and turn off their ovens after the post-game candlelight dinner on Saturday. Students have a few options for food: stocking up on Grab 'n' Go, limited-hour establishments in LaFortune or perhaps the restaurants at Eddy Street Commons. For those with the means to go off campus, there are many options for a taste of South Bend. Go to ndsmcobserver.com/scene for links, driving directions and other information.



Breakfast: Uptown Kitchen 303 Florence Avenue, Granger

Uptown Kitchen is a local eatery from the folks behind the newly-opened The Mark at Eddy Street Commons. Uptown Kitchen has a little bit of everything, but is especially known for its breakfast food — for those who like to sleep in, breakfast is served all day. The Stuffed French Toast is a popular favorite. Uptown Kitchen has something for everyone, including vegetarian and gluten-free options.

Lunch: Lula's 1631 Edison Road, South Bend

Within walking distance of Notre Dame, Lula's is a great place to chill out and maybe do some homework. Along with their fresh sandwiches, make sure to request the "Lula's Dip" with your chips and wash it all down with one of their many flavors of iced tea.

Dinner:

Rocco's

Theaters:

Mishawaka)

Movies:

Chippewa, South Bend

6424 N. Grape, Mishawaka

537 North St. Louis Boulevard, South Bend

Make sure you bring along your other campusbreaking friends with you to one of South Bend's finest pizza places, because the portions are huge. Start off with some salad and cheesy garlic bread, then buckle down for a delicious pizza. Their dough is thin yet soft, and 100 percent delicious.

Late-night: Fiddler's Hearth 127 North Main Street, South Bend

Fiddler's Hearth is an Irish pub located in downtown South Bend. The menu features British favorites, from fish and chips to Welsh rarebit, and American classics, like burgers and sandwiches. The pub often hosts local musicians at open mic nights. For those of age, Fiddler's has a variety of great imported beers on tap, including Guinness, Smithwick's, Harp, Hoegaarden and Hacker-Pschorr. Best of all, everything on the menu is delicious and totally affordable.

BRANDON KEELEAN I Observer Graphic

Thursday, October 14, 2010

Scener Berver

page 13



By WARD PETTIBONE Scene Writer

What do LeBron James, Kobe Bryant and Kevin Garnett have in common? All three played on Amateur Athletic Union (AAU) teams before rising to stardom. But the path to NBA greatness is far from smooth, with greed, corruption and crushed hopes along the way. "Play Their Hearts Out: A Coach, His Star Recruit, and the Youth Basketball Machine," a new book by George Dohrmann, sets out to expose the dark underbelly of the AAU system.

Dohrmann, a Pulitzer Prize winner and alumnus of Notre Dame, will be at the Hammes Bookstore Saturday from 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. for a book signing. A member of the class of 1995, Dohrmann is an investigative journalist for Sports Illustrated. Beginning in 2000, he spent eight years chronicling the Inland Stars, a team of talented young players led by coach Joe Keller.

Dohrmann met Keller while working on an article about corruption in professional basketball. Though the article failed to provoke change, Dohrmann was determined to dig deeper into the closed-off world of grassroots basketball, where children as young as 8 or 9 years old are scrutinized and exploited for their potential. He came to Keller with a proposal: allow him unfettered access, and he wouldn't publish anything until the boys were in college. Keller agreed.

The result is "Play Their Hearts Out," and Dohrmann sugarcoats nothing. Keller is depicted as a mercurial, self-serving leech and the shoe companies that sponsor the teams are dishonest at best. The boys are abused emotionally, physically and even sexually. Defeats bring tirades of profanities from coaches and parents and great plays are ignored if they did not prevent a loss. Yet the youngsters press on, determined to do better and play harder in pursuit of an elusive scholarship or draft pick.

The grassroots world becomes an

obsession for those involved. Families relocate to be closer to practice locations. Players spend more time with coaches than with their parents. Keller even missed the birth of his own daughter to be at a tournament.

But beyond the madness of all the games and practices, beyond the story of

grassroots basket-ball, is a story about people. Dohrmann focuses on Demetrius Walker, a promising athlete who is the center of Keller's Inland Stars. In fact, Keller comes to treat Walker as a son, brother and colleague, depending on his mood. The other players look up to Walker as a guiding force in the - the glue team holding them togeth-

The Inland Stars win and lose and players come and go. This is real life and disappointment is inevitable. There is something surreal in finding these young people in very grown-up situations, but they deal with life's challenges

maturely, and there is a noticeable change in the way the boys carry themselves after eight years.

Ultimately, not everyone lands a scholarship. Some drop the sport entirely before the book's close. In the end, the hoop dreams of a few are realized, while the majority walk away empty-handed.

To take on such a grand project, even after winning a Pulitzer Prize, was significant for Dohrmann.

"Talking to the boys and their parents,

going down and seeing them all the time, it's something that I've lived with for eight years," he said.

The quality of his writing shows it. The story is gripping, the pacing is fluid, and the characters are vivid. Even at over 400 pages, Dohrmann is able to maintain our interest. He carefully avoids sensational-

ism, doing his best to preserve a journalistic objectivity. At times the particulars of the game and the system get in the way of the characters, but otherwise the book strikes a winning balance between the two.

Dohrmann began his "vocational training" as a journalist at The Observer during his time at Notre Dame.

"I just wrote and wrote and wrote ... it really helped me find my voice as a writer," he said.

He cites natural curiosity and meticulousness as the main skills he learned, in addition to a talent that helped him win Keller's confidence. "It's about being

able to connect with

people," Dohrmann said. Two years out of college, Dohrmann was an intern at the Los Angeles Times.

Dohrmann said his editors "would just kind of laugh" if he proposed a feature he wanted to write, so he began breaking news, in his words, "bringing them something they weren't getting" from the more experienced writers.

He eventually broke some stories about UCLA, and from California he went to St. Paul, Minn., where he wrote a piece about academic misconduct at the University of Minnesota basketball program. A year later, that article won him the Pulitzer Prize in beat reporting, and Sports Illustrated took notice.

That story remains his favorite of all the articles he has written, but he also ranks his coverage of the Michael Vick dogfighting scandal and a recent exposé about the NFL agent business as "some of the best work I've done."

Unsurprisingly, Dohrmann is unpopular with many of the people he reports on, but the Pulitzer noted his "determined reporting" in the face of this reaction. He recently received a call from Keller, who had gotten a copy of the book from Dohrmann.

"Obviously [Keller is] not very happy with the way I portrayed him," he said, but added that some of the parents "thought that I did a great job."

Whether or not the book causes changes in the AAU system remains to be seen, but Dohrmann has been cautious with his predictions since his first exposé backfired (instead of discouraging the grassroots coaches, that article increased their business).

"When I set out to write a story I try not to think about what impact it will have," he said.

If a change does come of his work, he said, "that's just a bonus."

With the book finally published after ten years of work, Dohrmann said he had "an itch ... for another longer project." As his first is already receiving significant attention, this seems likely.

Highly recommended for basketball fans and anyone looking for a wellresearched, in-depth true story, "Play Their Hearts Out" will leave readers thinking, both about the grassroots system and professional sports in general. As Demetrius Walker said, "a lot of people are going to be watching now because of this."

Contact Ward Pettibone at wpettibo@nd.edu

A sneck peek at Scene Around the World Watch the videos at ndsmcobserver.com/scene

Truly "The World's City," London is a place like no else, from its glittering skyscrapers to the aller -

LONDON

Basketball Machine' by George Dohrmann Publisher: Random House, 2010

On campus

What: Book signing by Pulitzer-

Prize-winning journalist George

Where: Hammes Notre Dame

When: Friday, Oct. 16, 9:30 a.m.

How much: Hardcover book, \$26

Dohrmann

Bookstore

to 12:30 p.m.

'Play Their Hearts Out:

A Coach, His Star

Recruit and the Youth

majesty of Parliament, London takes the cake as one of the world's most beautiful cities, and Notre Dame students have taken full advantage of all the city has to offer.

The London Undergraduate Program places us at the intersection daytime academics and nightlife. Our time has been characterized by trips to the Continent (aka the rest of Europe) and exploring, or should I say crawling, through London's famous pub scene. I have spent entire days exploring Trafalgar Square, sifting through the National Gallery or grabbing a pint at the Dovetail with my professor. One of the most spectacular nights I spent on the South Bank watching fireworks explode over the River Thames.

Nick Weido, a Notre Dame junior, is currently in the United Kingdom. He can be reached at nweido@nd.edu



Screencapture images courtesy of Nick Weido

BRANDON KEELEAN I Observer Graphic

Men's Interhall

Alumni looks to gain momentum for playoffs

Undefeated Vermin seek top seed in playoffs; Zahm seniors hope to finish career with one last victory

By SAM GANS, MATTHEW DEFRANKS, KELSEY MANNING AND ADAM **LLORENS** Sports Writers

Alumni and Knott square off on Thursday in a game that may seem like it may not have a lot riding on it. The two teams, however, could not disagree more with that notion.

Alumni (3-0) has already clinched a spot in the playoffs and Knott (0-3) has been eliminated from postseason contention. Both teams, however, think winning Thursday's contest is critical.

Alumni is hoping to earn a victory not only for a better seed, but also to build momentum heading into the playoffs. The Dawgs wish to get better in certain key areas, as well.

"We definitely want to win the game," Alumni junior captain Dan Dansdill said. "We definitely want to score points and try to get a good seed, but at the same time we're really looking for an opportunity to improve. 4-0 is that much better than 3-0, so we're focused on getting a win first and foremost."

Alumni used a strong running game to pull off an upset win against two-time defending champion and previously unbeaten Siegfried last Sunday. Despite the fact that Alumni moves from playing a perennial power one week to a winless team the next, Dansdill does not anticipate the Dawgs will have a letdown game.

"I'm actually not too worried about [us coming out flat]," Dansdill said. "I feel like our guys are going to show up. I feel like they are going to have their game faces on.

Knott, on the other hand, is playing for nothing but bragging rights. Though their postseason hopes are dashed, Juggerknotts junior captain Dan Shaffer said his team would come out with lots of heart, as they look to notch their first win.

We've been trying to work as hard as we can throughout the season," Shaffer said. "I don't think it's going to die off at all."

Knott has not managed to score a touchdown yet this season. Coming off a bye, the Juggerknotts hope that the extra practice time can bring their struggling offense up to the level their strong defense has been playing at.

"We've been having trouble

doing poorly. We're very proud of the defense.

Knott and Alumni will battle in each team's final regular season contest tonight at 7:30 pm at LaBar Fields.

Sorin vs. Carroll

When Carroll takes the field on Thursday night against Sorin, the Vermin will attempt to complete an undefeated regular season and claim the No. 1 overall seed for the playoffs.

Fresh off a shutout win over Zahm, Carroll (3-0) brings in a high-powered offense averaging nearly 16 points per game that is led by talented freshmen in quarterback Jack Gardner and wide receiver Bobby Dorman.

"They're both very talented and hard-working in practice and they step up on game day," Carroll sophomore captain Keith Marrero said of his freshmen. 'You just can't say enough about their work ethic."

These freshmen form just part of the Carroll squad that has no seniors on the roster.

"They'll always be freshmen to us," Marrero said. "But everyone contributes equally on this team."

To counter Carroll's youth movement, Sorin (2-1) sports a couple of dynamic sophomores on offense – quarterback Ted Spinelli and wide receiver Ryan Robinson - who connected on two touchdown passes in Sorin's last game

against Zahm. Despite

that win,

Otters

captain

Bobby

h e

"We've been using m ouse traps during practice. It helps keep us on our toes [on offense]."

> **Bobby Sullivan Sorin Captain**

tice methods this week in preparation for this game.

"We've been using mouse traps during practice," Sullivan said. "It helps keep us on our toes [on offense].'

Sorin, running an offense that combines elements of the spread, option, wildcat and pro-style offenses, has scored 52 points on the season — second in the men's league to Dillon.

"We want to put the ball in the end zone every single time," Sullivan said.

Carroll, however, believes their

the game in their favor.

"We've played against runheavy offenses and pass-heavy offenses but theirs is pretty balanced," Marrero said. "But I think we can play good defense and contain them.'

While this game is just for seeding for the Vermin, the Otters still must secure their spot in the postseason, where a rematch is plausible.

'We're both pretty good teams, atop our division and it's possible we meet them in the playoffs," Sullivan said.

This will also be the first night game of the year for both teams.

"[The lights] will definitely be cool, very reminiscent of high school games," Marrero said. "It will be a lot of fun.3

Sorin and Carroll will take the field to close their seasons at 8:30 p.m. on Thursday at LaBar Fields.

Zahm vs. St. Edward's

St. Edward's and Zahm will battle for pride as the two teams close disappointing seasons with the annual "Battle for the Shadow" match.

For the Zahmbies (0-3), Sunday's loss to Carroll clearly had no effect on their indomitable optimism.

"I'm feeling pretty good about [Thursday's game]," senior linebacker, captain and coach Mark Pomerenke said. "I don't know if we'll be able to field a team, but hopefully we do and we win."

The Zahmbies have been working to improve their offense throughout the season, and Pomerenke said Thursday night could be their breakthrough game. Since it will be the Zahm seniors' last game, he said the upperclassmen hope to pass the torch to the

young Zahmbies. "We have a lot of inspired young kids on the team and I think they're going to step up,' Pomerenke said. "There are only a few years of interhall football left ahead of them, and interhall is where dreams are made.'

The Gentlemen (1-2) on the other hand have had their confidence rocked this season. With multiple injuries, difficulty executing offensively and a pair of upsetting losses, St. Edward's is not in the position it had hoped for. Junior captain Jay Mathes cited scoring points and not mak-



St. Edward's running back Sean Philbin is brought down by two Fisher linemen during Sunday's game.

"I don't know if we could beat air right now." Mathes said. "We need to score a lot of points against Zahm to make it to the playoffs, so we'll have to play our best football of the year.'

Although their last contest looked more promising for the Gentlemen with the return of junior wide receiver Joey Ricioli, their passing game was still not quite there. On Thursday St. Edward's will face yet another obstacle.

"We actually lost another receiver to a knee injury so that will probably affect us," Mathes said. "We will probably stick with the run game more than we would like to."

As a last resort to help them pull out their first win, the Zahmbies have been spending a lot of time in the film room to prepare for St. Edward's.

"We have been watching Rudy a lot," Pomerenke said.

The spirited rivalry between the two dorms will take place at 8:30 p.m under the Thursday night lights at LaBar Fields.

Morrissey vs. Siegfried

In a highly anticipated matchup, Siegfried will square off against Morrissey tonight with playoff implications on the line.

The Ramblers (2-1) lost in a tough battle last week against Alumni. Unfortunately for Siegfried, the game was not the only thing they lost. A plethora of starters, including senior quarterback Matt Meinert, were injured, resulting in an interesting game plan for the Ramblers heading into their biggest game so far this season.

"We have been making sure the

senior left tackle Michael McDonnell said. "It is a matter of chemistry between our players. A couple of our guys lacked focus so we need to step it up against Morrissey.²

One of these important changes for the Ramblers will be moving established sophomore running back David Whitmore to quarterback.

"We are going to approach this game as a win or go home scenario. So our playoffs begin Thursday night ag Morrissey," McDonnell said. against

For the Manor (2-1), the team hopes to ride their high tide of momentum to a win on Thursday.

Morrissey sophomore captain Alex Oloriz said the team plans on chanting, "Eat your beans Rory, eat your beans," multiple times during the game. The cheer is an ode to one of Morrissey's most consistent players, junior kicker Rory Carroll, who came up huge for the Manor last week by scoring all of their 6 points, including a pressure-filled 39yard field goal as time expired in the first half.

"We are counting on Rory again this week to step up when the time calls for him to do so," Oloriz said. "We need to control the ball and keep their run-oriented offense off the field as much as possible. Our defense must come up with three-and-outs throughout the course of the game."

Doth teams will be treating this as a must-win game as they step onto the LaBar Fields at 7:30 p.m.

Contact Sam Gans at sgans@nd.edu, Matthew DeFranks at mdefrank@nd.edu,

Sullivan said his team has resorted unorthodox prac-

offensively and got to try to work that out," Shaffer said. "Our given up a point since their first defense hasn't seemed to be

defense — a unit that has not game — is strong enough to tilt

ing mental mistakes as two of the Gentlemen's biggest obstacles this season.

new starters get more reps now that they have been taking over for the injured players," Siegfried

Kelsey Manning at kmannin3@nd.edu and Adam Llorens at allorens@nd.edu

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.

	NOW RENTING		UNPLANNED PREGNANCY?	Chess Lessons: USCF and FIDE	A little inspiration from Lou Holtz
For Rent	2011-12 4BD/2BA	PERSONAL	Don't go it alone.	(International Chess Federation)	It is a fine thing to have ability, but the ability to discover ability in oth-
IRISH CORNER APARTMENTS	HOUSES.	If you or someone you care about	Notre Dame has many resources in place to assist you.	Master, 2010 Indiana State Chess Champion and coach of 1997/8 K-8	ers is the true test.
New upscale apts. Less than 1 mi from ND, next to Taco Bell on	STUDENT NEIGHBORHOODS	has been sexually assaulted, we	If you or someone you love needs	National Championship team	Life is ten percent what happens to you and ninety percent how you
SR933. Fully furnished apts w/gran- ite countertops, GE appliances w/dishwasher. Each has 2bd/2bath.	574-876-6333	can help. For more information, visit	confidential support or assistance, please call Sr. Sue Dunn at 1-7819 or Ann Firth at 1-2685.	Dennis Monokroussos is offering lessons to players of all ages and levels (local & online).	respond to it. No one has ever drowned in sweat.
Mstr. bdrm w/walkin closet. No water/sewer bill. \$1000/mo starting.	AVAILABLE NOW 4BD/2BA HOME FOR RENT. 1.5	Notre Dame's website:	For more information, visit ND's	Please contact historicchess@com-	The problem with having a sense of
Call JSK Development 574-387- 4466.	miles from ND 574-876-6333 ————————————————————	http://csap.nd.edu.	website at: http://pregnancysup- port@nd.edu. 	cast.net for rates and information.	humor is often that people you use it on aren't in a very good mood.

Favre injures elbow threatens starting record

Associated Press

EDEN PRAIRIE, Minn. — Brett Favre's latest problem is his elbow.

With the NFL investigating whether he sent lewd photos of himself to a Jets game hostess while he played for New York in 2008, Favre said Wednesday that his cherished, league-record streak of 289 straight starts could be in danger if the pain in his right elbow gets any worse.

The 41-year-old quarterback did not practice with Minnesota on Wednesday, preferring to rest the tendinitis that flared up noticeably on Monday night in the Vikings 29-20 loss to the Jets.

"I don't want to play just to play," Favre said. "It's kind of a funny injury. It could flare up and get worse."

It's even more adversity for Favre this season, which so far has been anything but a repeat of last year's charmed run to the NFC title game. How bad is it? On Wednesday, local TV station WCCO posted video of Favre getting hit in the groin by a stray football during a warm up before practice started.

Commissioner Roger Goodell said on Tuesday there is no timetable for completing an investigation into a Deadspin report that Favre sent inappropriate messages and photos to Jenn Sterger in 2008.

And the Vikings are off to a 1-3 start heading into what they call a must-win game against Dallas on Sunday.

"I don't rank them," Favre said on Wednesday when asked how the allegations measure up to other issues he's dealt with in his career. "I'm thrilled to be here and have an opportunity to lead this team to the Super Bowl. ... There's still a lot of football left. I feel very confident in a lot of ways.

"You go through different things in your life. Football is a very tough sport, mentally and physically. Last year was great. Almost too great. But I woke up this morning and was very eager to get over here. Moreso than last year at this time, to get this back on track. I feel confident that (the team) will right itself in the end."

In 20 years in the NFL, Favre has been through tough times before.

From his addiction to pain killers early in his career, to his wife being diagnosed with breast cancer, and through the death of his father, Favre has always managed to keep his focus on the game, often delivering some of his best performances along the way.

"I think he's really handling it well. I really do," said Vikings kicker Ryan Longwell, a close friend of Favre's from their days together in Green Bay. "The guy is so resilient and has his priorities straight, and I think in the midst of a tough, tough situation, across the board, I think he's handled it really well."

Favre said on Wednesday that it was his elbow, not the investigation, that hampered him against the Jets.

He completed 14 of 34 passes and grabbed his arm several times as he tried to rally the Vikings. He threw three touchdowns in the second half, but also sealed their fate with an interception that was returned for a touchdown late in the fourth quarter.

Coming off the most accurate season of his career, Favre missed several wide open receivers on throws "that I could have made blindfolded" were it not for the pain in his elbow.

"You're not going to make every throw but I would have made some of those throws," Favre said.

He insisted yet again that the allegations from a Deadspin report played no factor in his performance. Favre said his preparation and focus "may even be better" now than it's ever been.

Vikings coach Brad Childress said he's "worried about both" Favre's physical condition with the elbow injury and his mental state with the investigation ongoing. But he also said that he feels that way about all of his players after the slow start for a team that began the year with Super Bowl aspirations.

"I am not overly concerned about where he's at with whatever he's got going on in his life," Childress said. "I don't mean to minimize it. It is what it is. But I see a guy that is here ready and prepared and doing the work. I don't see ill effects from that."

His teammates are rallying around their leader, the man they prodded to return for one more run at a title.

"I respect the guy so much,

and I've seen him go through a lot over the 14 years we've been together," said Longwell, who was one of three Vikings to visit Favre in Mississippi in August. "And certainly we realize he stuck out his neck for us when we went down there and we certainly are not going to turn now at this point."

The Vikings host the struggling Cowboys on Sunday and then have games at Green Bay and at New England to finish a brutal four-game stretch. Favre said he will "be smart" with his practice reps this week to rest his elbow as much as possible, all while trying to quickly forge a connection with new receiver Randy Moss.

He feels "very good about the preparation" this week to face a desperate Cowboys team that needs a win as much as the Vikings do.

As for the investigation, said Childress on Monday night: "We can't afford to have it carry over the rest of the season."



Viking quarterback Brett Favre leaves the field after an NFL game against the Jets Tuesday, Oct. 12. The Jets won 29-20.

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NOTRE DAME



ND WOMEN'S GOLF

ND recharging its batteries for a win

By MEAGHAN VESELIK Sports Writer

The Irish have had three successful tournaments over the last three weeks and are finally enjoying a few days off the course this weekend before facing their toughest competition so far at the end of fall break.

"After competing the past three weekends we will take this weekend off from golf and just get away from the grind for a few days," Irish coach Susan Holt said. "This week Tuesday through Friday each player is focusing on their own game and where they need to get better. "

Notre Dame won its first two tournaments this fall before taking fifth in the third. The first title came at Michigan State's Mary Fossum Invitational on Sept. 26, where the Irish defeated both Michigan State and Kent State, two teams they've struggled with in the past.

Playing host to the William K. Warren Invitational the following weekend, the Irish once again dominated on the course and successfully held off Kent State again. The Golden Flashes got their revenge the following week, though, holding the Irish to fifth at the Mercedes-Benz Championship.

Finding areas to improve upon when Notre Dame has finished in the top-five teams of each tournament might be hard for outsiders, but Holt has a clear plan for her team over break.

"Short game is always an area we emphasize in practice and we will continue to do that," Holt said. "The days off I think will give us a chance to recharge our batteries for the final two tournaments of the fall."

The first of Notre Dame's two final events of the fall schedule will be Oct. 22-24 at the UNCW's Landfall Tradition Invitational at the Country Club of Landfall in Wilmington, N.C. Holt said that the tournament will put the Irish "head to head with the best field of 17 teams we have played against this year," but she still has another game plan ready for the weekend.

"My goal is for each player to play 18 holes of smart and well executed golf for three consecutive days," Holt said. "As a team we have not yet played our best golf and we are competing very well up to this point but we can and must do better."

Among the 18 teams that will be competing in Wilmington, seven competed on the same course last May in the NCAA Championships. Among those seven is Duke, the former Landfall Tradition champion. Texas, Florida State, Virginia, Oklahoma State, UCLA and South Carolina will also be returning to the course, as well as some local favorites: Wake Forest, North Carolina, North Carolina State and UNC-Greensboro. But rankings and achievements mean little to this Irish squad, whose focus remains on themselves.

"We really do not concern ourselves with what teams are at the tournament and who we have to beat," Holt said. "Our goal is to win. Our best chance of winning is to play the golf course the best that we can. If we do this with the talent that we have I feel very confident we will always put ourselves in a position to win. Our toughest competition is against ourselves. We need to get out of our own way and play great golf the way we all know we can."

Notre Dame will tee off sometime between 8:30 a.m. and 10:36 a.m. on Friday, Oct. 23 in Wilmington.

Contact Meaghan Veselik at mvesel01@saintmarys.edu

ND MEN'S SWIMMING Irish to test their spirit against Pitt

By MAIJA GUSTIN Sports Writer

Coming off a win at their Dennis Stark Relays last weekend, the Irish team looks to take on division rival Pittsburgh Friday in the first dual meet of the season to open their Big East conference schedule.

"We were very encouraged by the relays," Irish coach Tim Welsh said. "We thought it helped us. We got off to a very good start."

Notre Dame opened its season by winning gold in all but three races Friday to win the event overall. The Irish clocked two meet records, one in the 400-yard freestyle relay and the other in the 400-yard breaststroke relay. After suffering a loss to Michigan at last year's meet, Welsh said he believed the enthusiasm of this year's team has made the difference.

"One of the things we've been noticing is there's a real joy and exuberance to this team," he said. "They race with that spirit."

Training has been a top priority for the team this year, and Welsh believes the team is faster than it was at this time last year.

"We've put a lot of emphasis this year on the idea of trying to get more than one year's improvement out of one year's training," he said. "The team has embraced that."

Pittsburgh has competed twice at home this season, and Welsh said he thought the Panthers might be a little more in tune.

"They'll know a little more about how the squad is shaping up than we will," Welsh said.

Irish captain Mike Sullivan said he's looking forward to

facing a tough division rival.

"The meet against Pitt is always a fun one for us," Sullivan said. "They always swim well against us in dual meets, and the meet is often a close one. We are definitely confident after the way we swam on Friday, but we need to just keep training for the next few weeks and be ready to swim faster. We look to improve with every meet through the season, so we'll see if that holds true in two weeks."

Welsh called Notre Dame's rivalry with the Panthers "a collegiate rivalry as it's supposed to be."

"Inside the event, it's very

intense," he says. "But outside the event, there is very good sportsmanship."

The Irish defeated Pitt last year in their first dual meet of the season, besting the Panthers 152-148.

"We're a team they like to race and they will be prepared for us," Welsh said. "It's a meet I look forward to every year. We're just eager to see where we are. We want to measure ourselves."

Notre Dame will take on Pittsburgh at 12 p.m. at the Rolfs Aquatic Center on Thursday, Oct. 22.

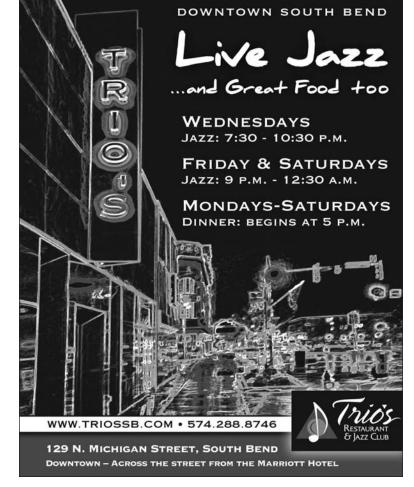
Contact Maija Gustin at mgustin@nd.edu



Junior Ryan Belecanech races in a freestyle event at the Dennis Stark Relays on Oct. 8.

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THE JUGGLER

Created anything good lately? Submit it to ND's student literary magazine, *The Juggler*, by October 27th.

E-mail juggler@nd.edu (no limit to number of pieces; short stories 2500 words or less, art 300+ dpi). Art may also be turned in to Mary in 206 Riley Hall.

NFL Cornerback Cox expresses passion

Associated Press

JACKSONVILLE, Fla. -Jacksonville Jaguars cornerback Derek Cox has been in the starting lineup, on the bench and on the inactive list this season.

He handled the demotion and the promotion the same way: With little reaction and even less emotion.

His subdued responses are part of his laid-back personality. But he doesn't want anyone mistaking them for a lack of passion or enthusiasm.

"Football is what I do. It doesn't define me," Cox said. "I shouldn't define any of these guys in here. If you look at the grand scheme of it, a football career, that's a smidgen of your life. Even the guys that play double-digit years, it's a smidgen of their lifetime and their life span. While I'm doing it, I give it my all. My passion is there and

desire will always remain."

Cox was benched during the season opener, pulled after giving up a long reception, and played just one snap the next three games. The second-year pro, a third-round draft pick who started every game as a rookie in 2009, returned to the rotation last week against Buffalo and played one of his best games. Cox finished with five tackles and a pass defense.

He believes taking a step back helped him move forward. He's expected to return to the starting lineup Monday night when the Jaguars (3-2) host AFC South rival Tennessee (3-2).

'There's a pretty strong likelihood that he reclaimed his position with that effort," coach Jack Del Rio said. "He played well in his role, so that was good to see.'

Del Rio gave little insight into Cox's benching, saying only that the former William & Mary standout needed to "clear his head."

Fellow cornerback Rashean Mathis agreed, saying Cox tends to think too much on and off the field.

'He's a thinker," Mathis said. "I tell him that all the time. Whether it's with food or a book he's reading, he's a huge thinker. It helps you in some aspects of life. But in others, you can think a little bit too much. He's young. He just has to learn how to separate the two.'

Cox, who led the Jaguars with four interceptions last season, had no explanation for the way his season unfolded. While playing through a foot injury, Cox struggled in coverage during training camp and the preseason. The Jaguars figured it would pass, but Cox got burned several times in the opener against Denver.

Cox tried not to let it get to him.

ND WOMEN'S TENNIS Frilling ready to lead at Regionals



Junior Kristy Frilling strikes back in an April 15 match against Depaul last season.

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ESTATES

By MEGAN FINNERAN Sports Writer

The Irish will have their first full-team meet in three weeks over Fall Break at the Regional Qualifying tournament in Ann Arbor, Mich.

The team's most recent event, the All-American Pre-Qualifying Tournament in Palisades, Calif., brought success from many fronts, including advancing to quarterfinals for junior Kristy Frilling and progression to round of 16 by junior pair Frilling and Shannon Mathew. Now the whole team will join this dynamic duo on the court Oct. 21-22.

The first all-team meet at the Eck Classic paired many of Irish teammates against each other, which included senior Kristin Rafael defeating freshman Britney Sanders in the singles' Blue division title match. This weekend, Notre Dame will face tough opposition beyond their teammates.

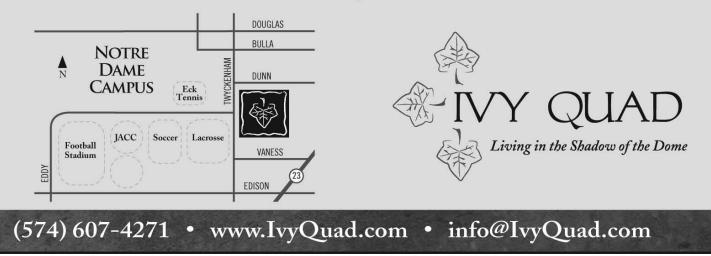
"It's at Michigan, so the Michigan players will definitely provide some tough competition," Frilling said. "They're playing on their home courts and they're a good team so they will come out fighting."

With the weeklong break, Notre Dame gets some time to rest, but hopefully not enough time to get off their game. According to Frilling, they should have no problems with that, and will benefit from the gap between meets. "I don't think the week off influences our play next week too much," she said. "If anything, the week off from matches was needed because we all played so much the week before in our tournaments." The team will have plenty of preparation time, filling in the gaps they've noticed at previous points in the season. We've gotten some good solid practices in, and those will help us compete well at regionals," Frilling said. The Irish will travel to Ann Arbor on Oct. 21, with qualifying rounds taking place Thursday and Friday. The Midwest Regional official matches begin Oct. 22 and continue through Oct. 26.

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Bayliss

continued from page 24

NCAA time, or before."

The Midwest Regional qualifying round will bring in 64 players beginning on Thursday and Friday that will compete for eight spots in the main draw that will run through Monday.

'There will be a conference call Oct. 13 to determine which players are selected and into which draw they will begin play," Bayliss said. "I expect to get nine doubles teams in the event. We are still trying to determine exactly which players are going to pair up as doubles teams for us.

In this event last year junior Casey Watt was able to make a strong run to the finals. This year, Bayliss noted that senior Stephen Havens has been playing at an elite level and could make a deep run in the tournament.

The Irish are a very deep team again this year returning all of their starters from last season as well as adding new freshman such as Billy Pecor and Greg Andrews.

'This will put them on a bigger stage and I am anxious to see how each handles it," Bayliss said. "Both were in national junior singles finals a year ago. If [freshman] Ryan Bandy gets an opportunity to play he has looked pretty good so far, as has [freshman] Matt Dooley at times."

The Irish are also looking for their doubles play to continue to improve as it has most of this fall season already. At the event last year, their doubles teams had a poor showing, so Bayliss is hoping with the addition of the freshmen, the results will improve.

The chance to demonstrate this here in front of friendly fans is a perfect opportunity for us to show the growth that is taking place in our doubles," Bayliss said. "Havens and Tyler Davis are playing very well together. At times [junior] Niall Fitzgerald and [sophomore] Spencer Talmadge have been awesome. Watt and Anderson are pretty good. Andrews and Pecor can each factor into the doubles equation. There are others, as well, and we certainly going to have options this year.'

The Irish will look to continue the dominance that has been a strong theme this fall on their home turf before heading south to the Alabama Invitational the first weekend in November to round out their fall season.

Contact Kate Grabarek at kgraba02@saintmarys.edu

SMC Swimming

Belles ready to relax after high-paced relay

"W e get to see how the

other schools are;

there's no pressure.

We'll just see how we

do."

Liz Palmer

By CORY BERNARD Sports Writer

Fresh off their first meet of the season last week at Notre Dame's Dennis Stark Relays, the Belles can now look forward to a more relaxed event. Unlike the three Division I teams faced last weekend, the MIAA Relays contain only fellow league participants.

Sophomore Liz Palmer said the upcoming meet will be more enjoyable than the Belles' foray into top-

flight compe-tition. "It's really fun," Palmer said of the MIAA Relays. "We get to see how the other schools are; there's no pressure. We'll just see how we do." The relaxed

atmosphere of this warmup to regular season action differs greatly from what Palmer said seemed like a daunting task last week.

"Going into it we were apprehensive," she said. Half the team was really worried and half the team was confident, but we didn't do as bad as we thought."

The results of the Belles efforts against higher com- Contact Cory Bernard at petition will encourage cbernard@nd.edu

Saint Mary's as they move through the season, Palmer said.

"It was fun to see the great competition," Palmer said. "It ended up being a really good confidence booster for us for the meet on Saturday.

In Saturday's meet, the Belles will carry not only improved confidence but also improved team chemistry and physical conditioning. Palmer said new coach Mark Benishek has been instrumental in build-

ing team unity and to already getting the squad into mid-season form. "We were worried about the transition,'

Palmer said of bringing **Belles sophomore** Benishek in. 'Нe has been great, very motivational. He is really focused on the team and team building activities. Also, we're in really good shape. We are where

we were physically at the end of last year.' The Belles will travel to Calvin at the end of Fall Break to take part in the MIAA Relays on Oct. 23.

ND WOMEN'S SWIMMING

Irish head south after first place relay finish

Junior Niall Fitgerald returns a serve against Depaul in their match

By MICHAEL TODISCO Sports Writer

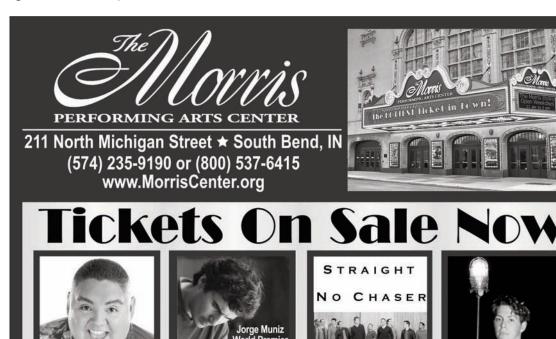
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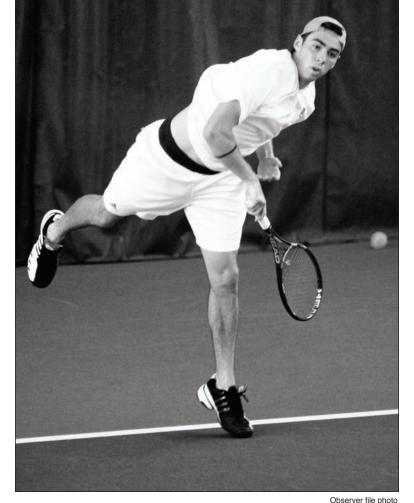
The Irish will head south over Fall Break in an attempt to tame a pair of Tigers in SEC opponents No. 8 Auburn and No. 25 Louisiana State.

Despite the highly ranked competition, Irish coach Brian Barnes believes his team will be able to

season, as they took first place at the Dennis Stark Relays on Oct. 8. Although the Irish had a strong showing at the relays, there were still many areas that Barnes wanted to work on heading into the non-conference showdown.

'We need to look at our starts and turns as a team," he said. "We have been happy with our racing between the walls, but ng directions and being chang around the walls is something we have put a real emphasis on." Barnes also stressed the fundamentals to his team during practice this week in an effort to improve going into next weekend's event. 'We spent a lot of times up on the blocks this week. We have really been relearning mechanics and improving our starts," Barnes said





perform well in the event.

"We know that Auburn and LSU will be very tough opponents," he said. "I still expect our team to go down there and be competitive against a couple of really good teams.'

Barnes stressed that his team's demeanor and attitude will be essential for the Irish to be successful.

"We need to approach this meet with confidence and poise, and believe that we have the ability to keep up with [Auburn and LSU]," Barnes said.

Notre Dame will be looking to build off a successful start to the

The tri-team meet will be held at Auburn on Oct. 22, with races beginning at 3 p.m.

Contact Michael Todisco at mtodisco@n.edu

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Clark

continued from page 24

Shipp's third and final assist came in the 30th minute, when he once again took the ball into the box before sending it back out to junior Adam Mena. Mena connected and went top shelf into the back of the net, just a minute after entering the game.

Clark said he was disappointed by the way his team came out in the second half. The Irish allowed Marquette to get on the board in the 56th minute. A Golden Eagles corner kick was initially handled by the Irish, but the ball got loose and sophomore forward Chris Madsen sent the ball past Tuttle. "I think we kind of took out

"I think we kind of took out foot off the gas in the second half," Clark said. "We lost a goal, and that made a game of it for a little while. It's hard to keep it going for 90 minutes. That's the challenge. We ask for a 90-minute performance, and unfortunately we got a 45-minute performance. But there were good bits in the second half, but I felt we just sat back a little."

Perry's second goal of the night sealed the win for the Irish, who now begin a threegame Big East road trip. They will travel south to take on No. 2 Louisville on Saturday before heading to Seton Hall for a game on Tuesday. Notre Dame will then finish its road trip with a match against No. 6 Connecticut.

"The first half was absolutely great," Clark said. "If we play like that all the time, we're a great team."

Contact Eric Prister at eprister@nd.edu



Junior midfielder Brendan King heads for the goal in their game against Marquette Wednesday night. The Irish won 4-1.

SMC VOLLEYBALL Belles fall to Comets once again

By ANDREW OWENS Sports Writer

The Belles fell short Wednesday night, losing to Olivet 3-1 as Saint Mary's failed to avenge an early season loss to the Comets.

Saint Mary's (4-15, 2-8 MIAA) suffered its ninth loss in ten matches. Despite the loss, Belles coach Toni Kuschel was encouraged by the team's performance.

"We had a great match up against Olivet this evening," she said. "However, we came up short in the end. I was really happy with our defense. We had four players with double digit digs, with junior Meg Rose leading the way with 25 and senior Ellen Hueslman with 22."

The Belles will have three matches over Fall Break next week. On Oct. 19, they will host No. 4 Calvin. The Belles lost a 3-0 (25-20, 25-18, 25-18) decision to Calvin in their only meeting this season in one of the Belles' best-played matches so far this season. In order to prepare for the Knights a second time around, Kuschel said Saint Mary's has been switching up their game plan.

"We will be working on moving a few people around in practice this week to work in a faster offense in hopes of beating out their strong block," Kuschel said. "We will need to continue to play great defense and win the serving and passing game."

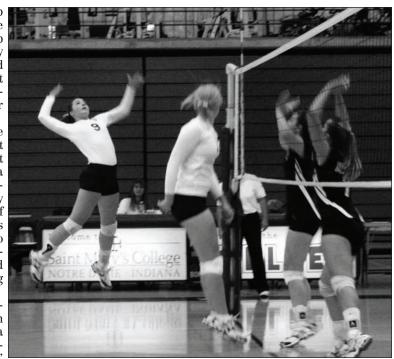
Saint Mary's will travel to Kalamazoo on Friday, Oct. 22. The Belles dropped a 3-1 (25-10, 16-25, 25-12, 31-29) decision to Kalamazoo earlier this season in the midst of a seven game losing streak. In the marathon fourth set, there were 16 ties and six lead changes.

The Belles will quickly travel home to host Alma on Oct. 23.

They fell 3-0 (25-12, 25-7, 25-18) in their first match against the Scots in September.

Calvin, Alma and Kalamazoo are currently ranked first, third and fourth in the MIAA standings, respectively. The Belles will be hoping to make up ground in the conference before the MIAA Tournament starts in early November.

Contact Andrew Owens at aowens2@nd.edu



ing out their strong block," Kuschel said. "We will need to continue to play great defense **Junior Lindsey Stuss jumps up for a hit against Albion on Sept. 10. The Belles won 3-0.**

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Brown

continued from page 24

need for improvement on the Irish's 'point scoring side,' when the team is serving as opposed to receiving the serve.

"It is so important to score points and win rallies when you are serving," Brown said. "We had a real tough time with that. This involves better serving, blocking and transi-tions; all of which we will focus on before our next match."

Notre Dame will return to the court Friday when the team hosts DePaul (1-18, 0-6 Big East), but will be without

Dealy, who has been battling injuries. 'We want to give Kristen some time to heal," Brown said of the team's offensive leader. "This will mean we will need to look at some new lineups and options. Hopefully some new people will have

junior outside hitter Kristen

the chance to play and get some game-experience." The Irish will have a brief interlude from Big East play after the match against DePaul when the team travels to Western Michigan (13-6, 4-2 MAC) on Tuesday, Oct. 19, before returning to campus to continue their conference schedule. Notre Dame will take on Syracuse (20-2, 4-2 Big East) on Saturday, Oct.

23, and Marquette (11-7, 3-2 Big East) on Sunday, Oct. 24.

Brown emphasized that every conference game for the remainder of the season will be of the utmost importance to the Irish.

"Because of our two conference losses last weekend, we really need to finish strong and win every game from here on out," she said. "Even if we can't win a regular season conference championship, we need to earn a strong seed for the conference tournament."Notre Dame (11-6, 4-2 Big East) will take on conference opponents DePaul, Syracuse and Marquette as well as one out of conference team, Western Michigan, over the next two weekends.

The Irish will look to bounce some time to heal," Brown back from a disappointing said of the team's offensive weekend where they lost to leader. "This will mean we both Louisville

d n \mathbf{a} Cincinnati, breaking their 19-game conference winning streak. Although the matches weren't in Notre Dame's favor, Irish coach Debbie Brown stressed that there were

important lessons for the squad to take away from the losses.

"The two matches last weekend showed us that certain aspects of our game, which earlier in the season we had felt pretty good about, clearly need to be worked on and improved," she said.

Brown emphasized the need for improvement on the Irish's 'point scoring-side,' when the team is serving as opposed to receiving the serve.

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> **Debbie Brown Irish Coach**

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> seed for the conference tournament."

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Contact Michael Todisco at mtodisco@nd.edu

ND CROSS COUNTRY Piane looks to guide team to Pre-Nationals

take on Depaul at home on Friday, October 15 at 7:30 p.m.

By MAIJA GUSTIN Sports Writer

After strong performances at the Notre Dame Invitational, the Irish men's and women's teams look to earn big points and valuable experience at the NCAA Pre-National Meet on Saturday.

"Teams will come from east, west, north, south and have the opportunity then to see the course and run on the course,' Irish men's coach Joe Piane said in an interview with und.com. "There will be roughly 80 teams there.' The Notre Dame men finished seventh at the Notre Dame Invitational last weekend, while the women placed eighteenth. Competition was stiff and both teams faced some of the top schools in the country amongst the 21-team field.

Jeremy Rae as the anchors for the team this season.

Jackson finished first for the Irish at the invitational, coming in at 24:13. Rae finished second at 24:30 with Carlson close behind at 24:41.

For the women, freshman Meg Ryan has been the top runner for the Irish in the last two meets, with a 17:37 finish at the Notre Dame Invitational. Senior Erica Watson followed close behind 17:41.



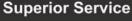




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We want to give Kristen

East), but will be without jun-TOM LA/The Observe Senior Angela Puente serves against West Virginia on Sept. 24. The Irish won the match 3-0. They next injuries.

Weddings Receptions



Photo by Peter Thurin Photography

We're going to be better than that," Piane said.

Though neither team placed first, Piane wasn't disappointed with the day's results.

"We did beat some teams that are going to help us get some big for the points NCAA [Championships]," Piane said.

On the men's side, Piane pointed out senior Dan Jackson, junior Jordan Carlson and sophomore

"[Watson]'s done an incredible job, I mean, just gotten better and better every year," Irish women's coach Tim Connelly said to und.com.

Both teams will be looking to build some momentum and pick up points against top teams at the Pre-National meet. Connelly is specifically looking to get some of the freshmen more experience, especially before the upcoming Big East Championships. "We need to get some more of

the freshmen moving forward to where we thought they could be," he said. "We've got a really young group.

Notre Dame will get its nationals preview Saturday morning in Terre Haute, Ind.

Contact Maija Gustin at mgustin@nd.edu

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Lee

continued from page 24

Jeff Jackson expressed confidence in his young winger.

"I think he's a mature kid, physically and mentally. He had a great year in the USHL last year, which allowed him to come here with a lot of confidence," Jackson said. "The one thing about freshmen is if they have great instincts and they're physically strong enough, generally they can make an impact.'

Lee was one of a handful of Irish freshmen who made an impact during the opening weekend, as freshmen T.J. Tynan, Bryan Rust and Shayne Taker all joined Lee in netting their first collegiate goals. With a number of

young playmakers supplementing an experienced core led by senior defenseman Joe Lavin and senior left wing Calle Ridderwall, Jackson said he was beginning to get a sense of where the multitude of Irish freshman fit into his lineup.

"As we watch our team play, and as we get more feeling for some of these young guys where they belong, where they fit and what their strengths and weaknesses are then we'll focus on those things to work on improving,"

Jackson said. Like Notre Dame, Lake Superior State (0-1-1) participated in a showcase tournament to begin the season. The Lakers tied the opener of the Superior Showcase 6-6 against Minnesota-Duluth before falling 6-2 to Michigan



Right wing freshman David Gerths takes the puck against University of Guelph on October 3. The Irish won 5-3.



Tech. Jackson said that although the Lakers are a work in progress at this point in the season, they would present a challenge to his defense.

"They've got some guys that are good hockey players — smart, gritty hockey players, and they're a big team," Jackson said. "They've got real big forwards."

Though the Irish have gone through their typical pregame routine as far as scouting in preparation of their first conference game of the year, the team has taken a more simplistic approach to game preparation in the hopes of turning around last year's sub-.500 campaign.

"We're trying to focus our preparation more on ourselves and what we need to work on in practice," Lavin said. "Last year I think we got away from that a little bit.'

An Irish win would be the 300th of Jackson's elevenyear career at the Division I level, spanning stints at Notre Dame and, coincidentally, Lake Superior State, where Jackson won national champi-onships in 1992 and 1994. The coach was quick to deflect praise to his players and fellow coaches, however.

"I would never take responsibility for any success we've had here. I'll take responsibility for the failures," Jackson said. "I'm not going to take responsibility for the success we've had here or my prior opportunities because it was my entire coaching staff, it was our entire support staff, it was a bunch of great kids."

The two-game set will be played on Thursday and Friday nights at the Joyce Center with the puck dropping at 7:35 p.m. both nights.

Contact Chris Allen at callen10@nd.edu

Men's Interhall Football

O'Neill and Stanford set to change records

Undefeated Dillon hopes to continue streak

By JACK YUSKO and MÉGAN GOLDEN Sports Writer

With a playoff spot on the line, tonight's game between evenly matched O'Neill and Stanford promises to be an intense and hard fought battle.

O'Neill (2-1) and Stanford (2-1) are currently tied in the Green League, with both teams taking their only loss from undefeated Dillon. The winner of this matchup will advance to the postseason, while the loser will have to turn in their pads with a .500 record.

'We're looking to make it to the [championship game in Notre Dame] Stadium this season, and winning this game is our next step toward that goal," O'Neill freshman wide receiver Troy Suter said.

While also looking for a playoff bid, Stanford is also looking to make up for their loss last Sunday.

"Last game left a bad taste in our mouths," senior captain and quarterback Tony Rizzo said. "We didn't play our best and showed we still have room for improvement. Thursday is an opportunity to show what we've been working on in practice and prove we deserve to make it to the post-season."

Practice for both teams this week has been intense, with each team perfecting their current system instead of introducing new sets or plays. Rizzo said that Stanford has been making personnel adjustments, while Suter said that O'Neill has been focusing on defensive back play and knowing their assignments.

"We've got a strong receiving corps and our two-minute offense has been vastly improved; the key to this game is going to be outscoring Stanford," Suter said.

Stanford recognizes O'Neill's potent offense and says that defense will be key.

"I have confidence in our offense, and our running backs should give O'Neill a hard time all game," Rizzo said. "But it's our defense — led by [senior] linebacker Colin McNamara that'll win us this game."

Both teams predict a close high scoring match-up, as each has demonstrated offensive prowess in previous games.

Stanford and O'Neill face off 'hursday for the right to contin-

Dillon vs. Keough

The winless Kangaroos are looking to finish the season strong under the lights and upset the Green League regularseason champion Big Red.

Dillon (3-0) and Keough (0-3) have played the same three teams with the Big Red outscoring the Kangaroos 56-9 against these opponents. It will up to Keough's defense to slow down Dillon's explosive offense.

'We need to stop shooting ourselves in the foot," Keough senior wide receiver Kevin Laughlin said.

Dillon sophomore coach Lee Haruno said he was aware of the challenges Keough presents.

"They gave Stanford a really good half last week, so we know that they can play ball," he said. "We've got to turn it around really fast. We'll hit it hard in practice so we can be ready for them on Thursday."

In order for Dillon to continue to be a threat on offense, freshman quarterback Kevin Fink said he and sophomore wide receiver Will Salvi must remain on the same page in the Big Red's passing game.

"We just want to keep being consistent, keep playing without penalties," Fink said. "We realize that Keough's a really good team, and we're going to come and play hard."

Laughlin said he believes his team's attitude is its strength. The Kangaroos lost by only six points in two of their games this season.

"Our strength is our desire to play the game. We've been in a position to win every game so far, but one bad break or two has cost us in every game,' Laughlin said. "I expect that to change this week."

Dillon has already clinched a spot in the 2010 playoffs. They look to play well against Keough, however, they have much larger goals in mind.

"We're 3-0, we just got to keep it rolling, and go strong into the playoffs," freshman safety Ben Diaz said.

Keough, on the other hand, is ready to compete for the upset.

"Should be a close game between two good teams, under the lights no less," Laughlin said.

The battle between Dillon and Keough will begin at 9:30 p.m. on Thursday at LaBar Fields.

Contact Jack Yusko at ikusko@nd.edu and Golden at mgolde01@saintmarys.edu

ue playing at 9:30 p.m. at LaBar Fields



MACKENZIE SAIN/The Observe

Stanford defenseman Jim Waclawik runs after a Keough player in their game on Oct. 3. Stanford beat Keough 27-9.

Waldrum

continued from page 24

still a couple of wins away from that at least."

In fact, if the Irish continue with their conference perfection this weekend, they will clinch at least a share of the National Division; two more Notre Dame wins combined with any Georgetown loss will give the Irish the crown outright. Notre Dame travels to face the Hoyas next week.

At the forefront of the Irish's minds, however, is the trip to Storrs, Conn., the site of the renewal of a traditional league rivalry, albeit one that has been one-sided recently. The Irish have come away victorious in each of their last eight meetings with the Huskies.

"We have such a rivalry with Connecticut," Waldrum said. "They've been such a force in the Big East and that's always a tough game and a tough place to play."

The game will also be a homecoming of sorts for Irish senior goalkeeper Nikki Weiss, who hails from Redding, Conn., and will be facing her home-state school.

"I think it's always good to get a chance to go home and play in front of friends and family," Waldrum said. "I think we're eating lunch at her house on Saturday."

On Friday, however, Weiss will be focused on stopping the three-pronged attack of Husky senior midfielder Elise Fugowski, sophomore midfielder Linda Ruutu and graduate student forward Angelika Johansson, who are all coached by the longest-tenured coach in the Big East, Len Tsantiris.

"Those players, I think, are a couple of the best players in the conference," Waldrum said. "Their team kind of goes how their two or three best players go."

The Friars have traditionally been one of the easier matchups on the schedule for the Irish, but this year promises something different. Providence opened its season with one of the best starts in program history, posting six shutout wins in eight games. Sophomore midfielder Amanda Webster and graduate student forward Jill Camburn will pose the biggest offensive threats to the Irish back line, but the true intangible will be the team's confidence.

"Providence is having really their best year ever, or at least as far back as I can remember," Waldrum said. "I think we're going to find a very confident Providence team."

With the weekend shaping up to be one that could be crucial late in the season, Waldrum took the time to mention that its importance was earned, not given.

"If we didn't do the work early in the season, these last two weekend wouldn't matter," he said. "We've put ourselves in a really good position."

The Irish clash with Connecticut at 4:30 p.m. Friday and then battle Providence at 1 p.m. on Sunday.

Contact Allan Joseph at ajoseph2@nd.edu

Belles lose close match to Hope

By JOE WIRTH Sports Writer

SMC SOCCER

The Belles lost their fifth straight game Wednesday when they were defeated 1-0 by conference rival Hope.

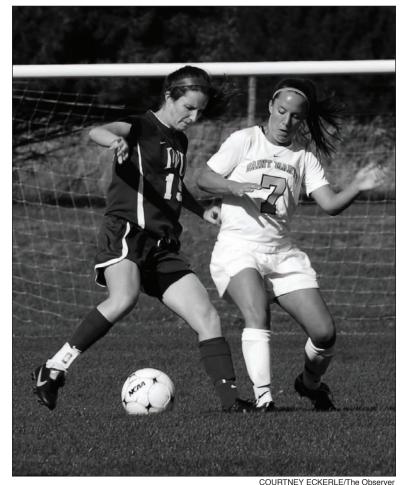
The Flying Dutch registered the only goal of the contest in the 11th minute when sophomore Alyson Epolito scored her fourth goal of the season. The Saint Mary's defense held strong after that goal, although Hope registered 22 more shots, five of which were on goal.

The Belles' best chance at getting on the board came in the 51st minute when Saint Mary's nearly tied the game up off of a corner kick from sophomore Maddie Meckes to junior Taylor Patton, but Patton's shot hit the cross bar and bounced away. Meckes, junior Katelyn Tondo-Steele and freshman Mollie Valencia also had shots on goal in the match.

Belles sophomore goalkeeper Caitlin Walsh had four saves in the losing effort.

Saint Mary's will return to its home field Friday when they take on Kalamazoo in hopes of ending their losing streak. The Hornets (5-6-2, 2-1-1 MIAA) hope to give the Belles a run for their money.

If the Belles are to have a shot at their third victory of the season, they must contain Kalamazoo's sophomore forward Jackie Short, who leads her team with seven goals this season.



Freshman defensive player Kerry Puckett cuts in to stop her opponent in their game against Illinois Wesleyan on Sept. 8.

The Belles will also need their defense to kick into gear and hold strong as they did Wednesday. With the exception of the Wednesday's shutout, the Belles offense has shown improvement as the season has worn on, but their defensive performances have suffered as they have given up 20 goals in the last five games.

Saint Mary's will kickoff against Kalamazoo at 4 p.m. on Friday.

Contact Joe Wirth at jwirth@nd.edu

November 3 / 7 pm Leighton Concert Hall / DeBartolo Performing Arts Center /

Thomas L. Friedman, the influential Pulitzer Prizewinning columnist from *The New York Times*, will speak on the title topic. Friedman has examined a wide range of subjects in his work, including globalization and worldwide economic issues, religious fundamentalism and terrorism, and the Middle East conflict. He is the author of four best-selling books, most recently *The World is Flat* and *Hot, Flat, and Crowded*, both currently best-sellers.



Free but ticketed event:

Tickets for the Nov. 3 Forum event featuring Thomas Friedman are free to Notre Dame students, faculty and staff, and will be available at the DeBartolo Performing Arts Center Ticket Office beginning Wednesday, Oct. 27, during regular ticket office hours (noon-6 p.m.) You must present a valid Notre Dame ID. Two tickets per ID on a first come, first-served basis. Limit one ID per person.

Event will be also available online via live web stream at forum.nd.edu

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EUGENIA LAST

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Ashanti, 30; Sacha Baron Cohen, 39; Kelly Preston, 48; Marie Osmond, 51

Happy Birthday: Making concessions at home will be easy if you are diplomatic. An opportunity to socialize with new people will benefit you when dealing with professional matters. Expanding your outlets through common interests will be the name of the game. The people you work with should also be your playmates. Your numbers are 5, 9, 17, 20, 31, 38, 46

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Partnerships are not likely to bode well if you are intoler-ant and impatient. Impulsive action will lead to legal, contractual, financial or even physi-cal problems that will stop you in your tracks. Focus on doing the best you can. **

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Learn from your superiors. Take in every bit of information you can and make it your own. Once you've mastered what's being taught, you can advance in ways you never thought possible. ********

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): You should probably take a closer look at your personal papers in order to ensure the safety of your assets. Now is not the time to take chances. Don't pay for someone else's mistakes — offer advice not cash. $\star\star\star$

CANCER (June 21-July 22): It will be hard to face personal problems and opposition you encounter from friends and family. Listen to what's being said and assess the situation without making a fuss. Expect criticism but don't let what's being said depress you. ***

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Interacting with people who have similar interests or goals will help you get ahead as long as you don't let someone dependent on you cause you to miss opportunities. Take a time-out and reevaluate your current relationships. ***

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): There is a great deal to learn as well as to offer. Sharing in-formation and ideas will lead to an interesting revelation regarding your professional and financial future. Hard work coupled with imagination and innovation will lead to a new way of doing things. ********

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): There will be issues to deal with at home and in your per-sonal life but, if you try to run from the problems you face, it will only make matters worse. You cannot always keep the peace if you want to end old conditions that aren't working to your benefit anymore. **

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): You can learn a lot from your mistakes. Trusting someone to do what's right is not likely to pan out. Handle any matters that need your undivided attention with banks, government agencies or organizations you need on your side to get ahead. $\star\star\star\star$

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Finish what you start, especially when it has to do with work. A serious, disciplined attitude coupled with originality will help you bypass criticism. Stifle your emotions for now. *******

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Focus on the changes you can make in order to satisfy your needs and you can deal with what others are doing with less stress. Use your experience with others to help you discover how much you have to offer. *******

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Put your heart and soul into whatever you do. Don't let your past hold you back or lead you in thewrong direction. Use your experience or what you have to offer to pay off debts. Don't let anyone take advantage of you. $\star \star \star$

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Deals can be made but partnerships may not turn out as expected. A love relationship can help you secure your assets, allowing you more time to look for the help you need to advance. ********

Birthday Baby: You are steadfast and determined, intense and passionate about your goals and the people in your life.

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

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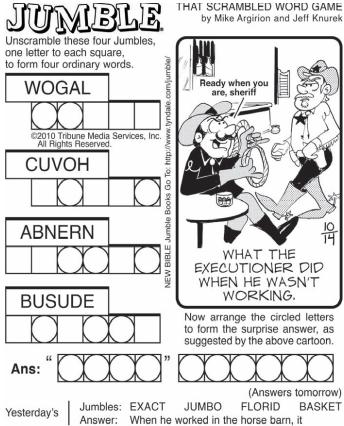
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SPORTS

HOCKEY

Breaking the ice

Freshman Lee named Rookie of the Week

By CHRIS ALLEN Sports Writer

Notre Dame will open its final season in the Joyce Center tonight with a twogame series against Lake Superior State to kick off the CCHA season.

The Irish (1-1-0) come into the contest fresh off of a second-place finish in the season-opening Warrior Ice Breaker Tournament in St. Louis, defeating Holy Cross 6-3 but falling to Boston University 5-4 in the tournament's championship.

Freshman left wing Anders Lee shined in both games, netting a hat trick against the Crusaders and adding an assist in the last minute loss to the Terriers. For his play, Lee was named CCHA Rookie of the Week. Irish head coach Jeff Jackson expressed confidence in his young

see LEE/page 21



Freshman center Anders Lee races after the puck in a game against the University of Guelph on Oct. 3. The Irish won 5-3. The next weekend Lee went on to score a hat trick against Holy Cross.

ND MEN'S TENNIS Irish return to campus to compete

By KATE GRABAREK Sports Writer

Coming off a tough first showing at the ITA All-American Event in Tulsa, Okla., the Irish will return home over fall break to host the Midwest Regional Tournament Oct. 21-22.

"We certainly did not get the results in Tulsa that I was hoping for, but that event represented the top 64 players in college tennis," Irish coach Bobby Bayliss said. "None of our guys had played the event before and our draws were difficult. What was important, though, was for each of them to see the top level and understand that we will need to meet that level by NCAA time, or before.'

The Midwest Regional qualifying round will bring

see BAYLISS/page 19

ND MEN'S SOCCER

Freshman Shipp shines with three assists in first start

By ERIC PRISTER Associate Sports Editor

The learning curve for freshmen can be difficult to overcome, but when freshman midfielder Harrison Shipp was given his first opportunity to start Wednesday night against Marquette, he made the most of it. Shipp recorded three assists in the first half, lead-

ing the Irish (6-3-3, 3-1-0 Big East) to a 4-1 victory over the Golden Eagles (4-4-4, 1-1-2).

"It's always a little bit harder for freshmen because we only get them for a couple of weeks, and so they've got to get into it," Irish coach Bobby Clark said. "And although [Shipp]'s been doing very well coming in in the second half of all the other games, I thought that today he got his start and he made his mark. Three assists is a pretty good way to start your starting career.'

Notre Dame struck early, as Shipp took the ball inside the 18-yard box in the third minute before kicking it back out to sophomore Dillon Powers, who one-timed it into the lower left corner, just out of reach of Marquette sophomore goalkeeper David Check.

"The tempo was fantastic," Clark said. "The first half was superb. It was a clinic. They

played fast, slick, great soccer."

Just eight minutes later, the Irish struck again. Junior Michael Rose played the ball ahead to Shipp in the corner, who sent it into the box where it found a sliding Steven Perry, who scored his seventh goal of the season. Perry would score his second goal of the game and eighth of the year in the 62nd minute after an excellent goal kick from senior

goalkeeper Phil Tuttle.

"[Perry]'s getting himself into goal scoring positions,' Clark said. "He's making goalscoring runs. One of the things he does better than anyone else is he just makes great runs, whether he's running to the strong side or fading to the weak side. And he's very busy just now, and he's getting the reward with

see CLARK/page 19

ND WOMEN'S SOCCER

Team sets off to New England

ND VOLLEYBALL Irish working to make changes and move on

By ALLAN JOSEPH Sports Writer

With only two weekends remaining in the regular season, the No. 4/5 Irish will travel to New England this weekend in search of two wins that will put them on the brink of yet another Big East National Division title. On Friday afternoon, Notre Dame (13-1-0, 7-0-0 Big East) will face Connecticut (6-2-2, 3-3-1) before taking on Providence (8-4-2, 2-3-2) on Sunday afternoon.

"We're getting closer and closer to being in a position to maybe wrap up the championship," Irish coach Randy Waldrum said. "I think we're



JULIE HERDER/The Observer Freshman midfielder Elizabeth Tucker dribbles down the field away from a Rutgers opponent on Oct. 10. The Irish won 3-2.

By MICHAEL TODISCO Sports Writer

Most students use Fall Break as a time to relax and recover from their hectic schedules. The Irish, though, won't have this luxury, as they enter the heart of Big East play over break with four total matches.

Notre Dame (11-6, 4-2 Big East) will take on conference opponents DePaul, Syracuse and Marquette as well as one out of conference team, Western Michigan, over the next two weekends.

The Irish will look to bounce back from a disappointing weekend where they lost to both Louisville

and Cincinnati, breaking their 19-game conference winning streak. Although the matches did fall in Notre Dame's favor, Irish coach Debbie Brown stressed that there were important lessons for the squad to take away from the losses.

"The two matches last weekend showed us that certain aspects of our game, which earlier in the season we had felt pretty good about, clearly need to be worked on and improved," she said.

Brown emphasized the need for improvement on the Irish's 'point scoring side,' when the team is serving as

see BROWN/page 20

see WALDRUM/page 20

Thursday, October 14, 2010

From WALK=ON

to STARTER for SURE THING

After 16 straight field goals, David Ruffer is Notre Dame's Mr. Consistency

中方

Photo Illustration by Sarah O'Connor, Dan Jacobs and Blair Chemidlin

FOOTBALL RECRUITING

COMMENTARY

page 2

Broncos give Irish a chance to shine

As I considered a topic for this column, there was so much temptation to write about, well, pretty much anything except for the game itself. After all, what does Saturday's game

against the Broncos really mean for the 3-3 Irish?

I thought back to when this year's schedule was announced and so

many fans

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Matt Gamber

Sports Writer

graced the Irish calendar: "How dare Notre Dame play a team from the MAC, especially when the schedule already looks soft?' Well, ask anyone about the schedule today, and the uproar is about the difficulty of Notre Dame's first six games, and not the perceived softness of this week's opponent.

Similarly, I thought of those first six games, and how Saturday's date with the Broncos marks a turning point in an Irish schedule that now includes three straight winnable games before battles with Utah and USC are sandwiched around the Army game at Yankee Stadium. After a 1-3 start, the Irish now have a real shot at 8-4, or even 9-3, so Notre Dame should use Saturday as the first of three tune-ups before the going gets tough again.

There are several other stats and statements being thrown about this week, and most of them have to do with how the Irish should be able to sleepwalk through this game on their way to the five-game win streak many seem to be ready to hand to them. There's no doubt Notre Dame is the more talented team, so there is that inclination to take this game as a given and look ahead one, two or even three weeks.

It's one thing for us, as onlookers, to have this attitude, to gaze weeks into the future, and to check out the other major storylines around the country on weeks like this.

But the Irish can't afford to do that Saturday, and for what it's worth, Brian Kelly is saying the right things to make us think they won't. Kelly's been in games like this from the Western Michigan perspective, and it sounds like he's demanded his team's attention all week. The Irish know where this game fits into their schedule and what it could mean as some big games approach. But

at this point, I hope they aren't taking anything for granted. As much as we want to think about where this team is going, let's not forget where it's been; while Western Michigan certainly wouldn't qualify as a "signature win," Notre Dame hasn't won enough lately to be satisfied with playing anything

less than its best game, even against an inferior opponent. Saturday's game doesn't have the "measuring stick" potential

of several the Irish have played this season, but in some ways, I think we could get our best look at just how hungry this team is.

This game doesn't have the added excitement of the opener against Purdue or the bitterness of the rivalry with Boston College. We aren't asking, "Can the Irish slow down Denard Robinson's Heisman campaign?" or "Will Notre Dame shut down future first-round pick Andrew Luck?" We're not talking about Kelly's coaching ties with Michigan State's Mark Dantonio or the way Pittsburgh's Dion Lewis torched

the Irish last year. From the Notre Dame perspective, there's no extra buildup, magical storyline or bulletin board material heading into a game against Western Michigan. If the Irish win, they'll still be unranked, and we won't have a much better picture of how they stack up with the best teams in the country.

So, as much as we as outsiders want to take this game as a given or find some added meaning to the matchup, Saturday gives us a unique chance to just learn about the Irish, and especially their attitude and identity as a team.

Is donning the blue and gold at Notre Dame Stadium enough to get these guys fired up? Do they want to not only beat, but dismantle, a team trying to come into their house and pull an upset? Are they ready to take advantage of every opportunity to improve and perform on Saturdays?

Most importantly, do these guys just love to play football? Saturday's game may not tell us much about Notre Dame's offensive capabilities or defensive speed in relation to the nation's best, but it could give us our best look at the intangibles the Irish will need to compete at that level. That's what Saturday's game means.

Decommitment strikes slow week

By DOUGLAS FARMER Sports Editor

This week Notre Dame has already felt one effect of landing 20 verbal commitments before October — one of those commitments has decommitted.

And this weekend, the Irish will feel another effect of all those commitments - very few, if any,

"The only things I think

recruits care about are,

are you winning and

where do I fit into your

for a winner."

Mike Frank

Irish recruiting expert

visits from recruits to see the game against Western Michigan. de-The

commitment came from offensive lineman Jordan Prestwood Tuesday, and main his reason for this decision

from his native Florida, Irish recruiting expert Mike Frank said.

"I think the big problem he is having right now is the distance from home thing," said Frank, who runs the ESPN.com-affiliate Irish Sports Daily. "He is just not sure he wants to go that far from home ... As the day gets closer and closer to happening, that is when you sit there and wonder is this exactly what I want to do."

Prestwood, the No. 128 recruit in the nation according to the ESPN top-150, scholarship with Notre Dame, but Frank said he does not expect him to do so.

"I know Notre Dame has been trying to solidify the situation, but it seems he is pretty set on visiting other schools," Frank said. "I can jus tell you in the past that when kids start visiting other schools after committing, very rarely do they end up at Notre

dame. It has happened occasionally, but not that often." W i t h Prestwood plans. They want to play the class,

seemingly on his way out of 2011 recruiting the Irish will look for another offensive linemen to fill the

void. Most of the top was that Notre Dame is far recruits committed to other teams awhile ago, which will make the search difficult.

"If there is anybody left. That is the issue, they have to go find somebody who is still out there." Frank said. "There are just not a lot of names out there that [the Irish] are currently recruiting. They thought they had their spots already taken.

One name Frank mentioned is that of Nick Martin, the younger brother of Irish sophomore tackle Zack Martin. Nick has committed to Kentucky already.

The other dilemma the Irish

could still end up signing a face with a nearly-filled recruiting class is that few recruits will visit this weekend.

"There's really nobody that is coming in," Frank said. "There might be a couple bigname guys but I don't know for sure they are coming in. It will be a very small group.'

While Western Michigan may not be a glamorous opponent, Frank insisted the scheduling is not the reason recruits do not flock to campus.

"The only things I think recruits care about are, are you winning and where do I fit into your plans," Frank said. "They want to play for a winner. Every major school in the country is playing a team like Western Michigan, and chances are they are playing four or five of them."

In fact, Frank said this game could leave as much of an impression on some recruits as a high-profile as a game against a traditional rival would.

"To show a recruit, 'Hey look, we're getting this thing turned around - look how pounded Western we Michigan.' That needs to be a statement that you can make too.'

For more on Notre Dame recruiting, check out Mike Frank's irishsportsdaily.com. Mike E-mail at mike frank 18@sbcglobal.netand tell him The Observer sent you.

Contact Douglas Farmer at dfarmer1@nd.edu





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

Contact Matt Gamber at mgamber@nd.edu

Follow our LIVE blog from the press box at Notre Dame Stadium: ndsmcobserver.com/sports/irish-

football/irish-insider-extra

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Walk-on, kickoff

Every time David Ruffer has attempted a field goal, he has made it, as he bucks all walk-on expectations

By DOUGLAS FARMER Sports Editor

When David Ruffer walked off the practice fields Tuesday afternoon, two loyal autograph seekers quickly approached him and asked for his signature. Unsurprisingly, the senior walkon kicker signed away - something he never thought he would be in a position to do.

"It's cool I guess," Ruffer said a few seconds after putting the cap back on the provided Sharpie. "I never really thought of myself as somebody one day who would be signing autographs, but I'll take what I can get. It's neat to be in that position."

Then again, Ruffer never really thought of him-

self as somebody who would be Notre Dame's starting place kicker, having never missed a competitive field goal, even splitting the uprights from 50 yards away. In fact, the only aspect of Ruffer's current life he could have anticipat-

ed is the one aspect he initially had denied him — being a student at Notre Dame.

Denial serves its purpose

Ruffer's father and grandfather graduated from Notre Dame, as did a few of his uncles and his older sister, but when Ruffer received a response to his application, it was not the response anybody in the family had hoped for.

"I grew up loving Notre Dame. I just wanted to be a student first of all," Ruffer said. "I didn't get in as a freshman, and that was probably the best thing that ever happened to me. It made me realize you have to work really hard for the things you want."

Ruffer then turned his eyes to William & Mary for a year,

where, after four years of playing varsity golf in high school, he took up kicking field goals. After a tryout, Ruffer walked-on to the Tribe football team.

"I walked on there kicking," he said. "and it's worked out ever since."

A field goal and a tryout

Once he transferred to Notre Dame, Ruffer joined the Siegfried interhall football team, and after two games, in which he kicked one field goal and a couple of extra points, attempted to walk on with the Irish.

"It was more of when I would go out and practice [that I impressed people]," Ruffer said.

The tryout process was threefold — one night with only tees and the then-

special teams coach Brian "I try not to think about Polian, one [the streak]. Right now night with a snapper and I'm zero-for-zero with holder Western Michigan Polian, and a coming up, and that is final night in front of thenhow I approach every Irish game." Charlie Weis. "I was really

and

coach

were

nervous. These

going to see

guys

David Ruffer senior kicker

me for about 15 or 20 minutes, and if I don't do really well, they will probably not want to see me again," he said. "I just hoped I would perform to the best of my ability. I would have obviously been upset with myself if I came out here and didn't do the best that I know I could

have.' Impress them he surely did, as Ruffer does not remember missing a single kick in the three tryout sessions.

The rest is history

Ruffer only took one kick in a game in 2008, a point-after attempt that clanked off the upright. In 2009, Ruffer took over place kicking duties after incumbent Nick Tausch injured his foot, and Ruffer connected on nine of his 10 point-after

attempts, and all five field goal attempts.

This season, he has made all 11 of his field goal attempts, bringing his Irish career total to 16-of-16. Including his one field goal as a Rambler, Ruffer has never missed a field goal attempt in competition.

By making kick after kick, Ruffer has raised the Notre Dame standard for place kickers. His 16 consecutive made field goals bested Tausch's school record of 14, as well as the previous record for most consecutive made field goals to open a career, which was previously 13.

"I try not to think about [the streak]," he said. "Right now I'm zero-for-zero with Western Michigan coming up, and that is how I approach every game."

Ruffer's 50-yard kick against Pittsburgh tied the sixth-longest field goal in Notre Dame history. The longest in school history was kicked in 1976 by Dave Reeve, a 53-yarder. Reeve should not count his record safe as long as Ruffer is kicking, according to special teams coach Mike Elston.

"I see the kid kick 52 or 53 yarders every day," Elston said. 'We were well in front of his threshold [on the 50-yard field goal] which is really about the 35-yard line."

'Kickers are head-cases'

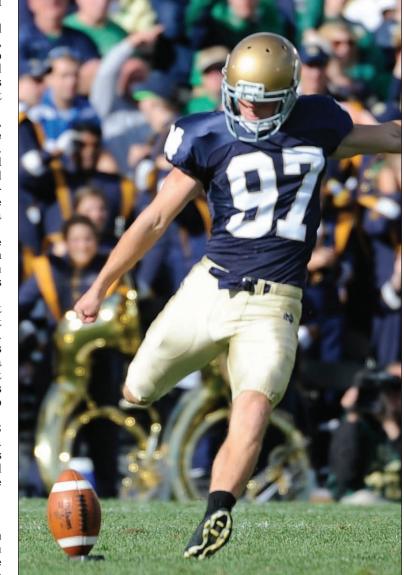
After the Pittsburgh game, in which Ruffer also connected on 32- and 31-yard field goals, he attributed much of his success to junior holder Ryan Kavanagh, also a walk-on.

"Ryan Kavanagh is one of my best friends and he will say something to keep me calm," Ruffer said. "But then from when the ball is snapped to when I kick it I don't know what happens.'

Tuesday Kavanagh said he knows he needs to keep a close eye on Ruffer, if for no other reason than the position he plays.

'Kickers are head-cases," Kavanagh said. "You have to make sure they're honed in on the ball.

"I just give him a couple reminders, take it easy, make sure he takes a deep breath ... I



Senior kicker David Ruffer sends his first kickoff of the season downfield during Notre Dame's 23-12 victory over Purdue on Sept. 4.

just make sure he's just focused on the kick.'

Elston said he has seen the "head-case" in kickers that Kavanagh refers to, but in Ruffer it is more of an even demeanor that Elston sees.

"The kickers that I've been around that are good athletes, that have a good demeanor, that aren't just specialists as kickers and have done other things in their athletic career, they typically tend to be more competitive and more even-keeled when they take the field in pressure situa-tions," Elston said. "Because they are used to being in it.'

Whatever reasoning Kavanagh and Elston have for his success this season, Ruffer thinks he has found a groove simply because he has relaxed, in all areas of his

"I still work really hard [in school], but before I was really a perfectionist. Now I have grown up to a point where I realize things won't always go your way," Ruffer said. "That little bit of a laid-back attitude has helped my focus a little bit." At some point, things on the football field won't necessarily go Ruffer's way. He may miss a field goal — believe it or not, he does miss them in practice. When the Saturday afternoon comes that one goes awry, Ruffer said he is ready to deal with that setback. "You can only learn from mis-takes," he said. "You can't make every single one, so it will happen eventually. The trick will be how I bounce back from that. It will happen, but I feel like I have a pretty strong head, so I'll be okay."

questions concerning the NFL are bound to come his way. Ruffer qickly dismisses those thoughts.

"I don't plan on playing football forever," he said. "It's probably going to end after this season and I'll need to get started on the next chapter of my life.

"NFL stands for Not For Long, right? I would give it a shot, but if there is something else that gives me more of a sense of fulfillment, I'll do that instead."

Amid all of his success on the field, the primary reason Ruffer is at Notre Dame hasn't changed — the same reason he wanted to come to the University in the first place.

"It's been difficult, but I still think of myself as a student first," he said. "That's why I'm going through the interview process right now, and just trying to get that Notre Dame degree.'

Ruffer, an Economics major, interned in the accounting department of Gurley Leep over the summer, and has not decided what he will do after graduation, nor has he ruled much out. "I could go and be a house husband," he said. "If my wife is the bread winner, maybe I'll just take care of the kids." He may not know what the future holds, but Ruffer did not expect any of what the present holds either, as he continues to move past his wildest dreams, field goal after field goal. "I never thought this was going to happen. Obviously I thought it'd be something cool, but never to this magnitude. I can't say it's a dream come true, because I never really dreamed of this much."



'Not For Long'

If Ruffer keeps making each and every one of his field goals, **Contact Douglas Farmer at** dfarmer1@nd.edu

TOM YOUNG/The Observe

Senior kicker David Ruffer converts one of his 11 field goals this season — this one during Notre Dame's 37-14 loss against Stanford. Ruffer has made all 16 of his field goals in his career.



Record: 3-3 **AP: NR** Coaches: NR



page 4

career record: 174-60-2 record at ND: 732-3

against WMU:

First season at **Notre Dame**

Brian Kelly head coach





Bob Diaco Def. Coordinator

Charley Molnar Off. Coordinator

2010 Schedule

Sept. 4	Purdue-W
Sept. 11	Michigan — L
Sept. 18	@ Michigan St. — L
Sept. 25	Stanford — L
Oct. 2	@ Boston College — W
Oct. 9	Pittsburgh — W
Oct. 16	Western Michigan
Oct. 23	@ Navy
Oct. 30	Tulsa
Nov. 13	Utah
Nov. 20	Army
Nov. 27	@ USC

Head-to-Head

ND OFFENSE Scoring: 24.33 ppg (82nd) Total: 391.50 ypg (56th) Rushing: 107.0 ypg (97th) Passing:284.50 ypg (19th) Turnovers against: 12 (92nd) Fumbles lost: 6 (88th) Interceptions: 6 (74th) Sacks Allowed: 12 (62nd) T.O.P. for: 26:07 (118th)

Scoring: 27.60 ppg (80th) Total: 363.40 ypg (67th) Rushing: 168.0 ypg (82nd) Passing: 195.40 ypg (46th) Turnovers for: 15 (9th) Fumbles rec.: 9 (3rd) Interceptions: 6 (39th) Sacks: 13 (27th) T.O.P. against: 28:14 (22nd)

WMU DEFENSE

Statistical Leaders

ND OFFENSE

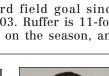
OB DAYNE CRIST 137-233, 1600 vards, 11 TD **RB ARMANDO ALLEN** 93 rush, 448 yards, 2 TD WR MICHAEL FLOYD 35 rec., 467 yards, 3 TD WR THEO RIDDICK 37 rec., 395 yards, 3 TD WR TJ JONES 11 rec., 196 yards, 2 TD

I can honestly say I never thought I

TEAMS

SPECIAL

Ð



takes some pressure off of the Notre Dame offense. Punter Ben Turk continues to improve, averaging more than 46 yards per punts inside the 20.

As I wrote in my column, I think this game will, above all, give us a look at some of this team's intangibles. That being said, I think we'll see the offense play with a swagger we haven't yet seen this season. The Irish will get off to a hot start, and while we haven't seen it to this point, I think Notre Dame will keep its foot on the gas. The Irish know they're the more talented team, so they should play with confidence. But they also know they aren't yet where they need to be, and that fact should help them remain focused for four quar-



Brian Kelly's offense has been hot and cold so far this season. When they move the ball, they do it with speed and precision. When they don't, the offense looks dazed and confused. If Kelly can keep his team focused and performing their best, the Irish should have no trouble

moving the ball against the Broncos.

up less than 200 yards passing per

game. That being said, Idaho's Nathan

Enderle threw for 380 yards and three

touchdowns against the Broncos, who

are particularly susceptible to long

plays. Look for Floyd to stretch the

field, and if Crist can hit him, the Irish

EDGE: NOTRE DAME

nent, Western Michigan gave up 141

yards rushing and two touchdowns on

10 carries to Michigan State's Le'Veon

Bell. The Irish would be wise to take

advantage of this weakness of the

Broncos, and use the running game to

set up their high-powered passing

EDGE: NOTRE DAME

can have success through the air.

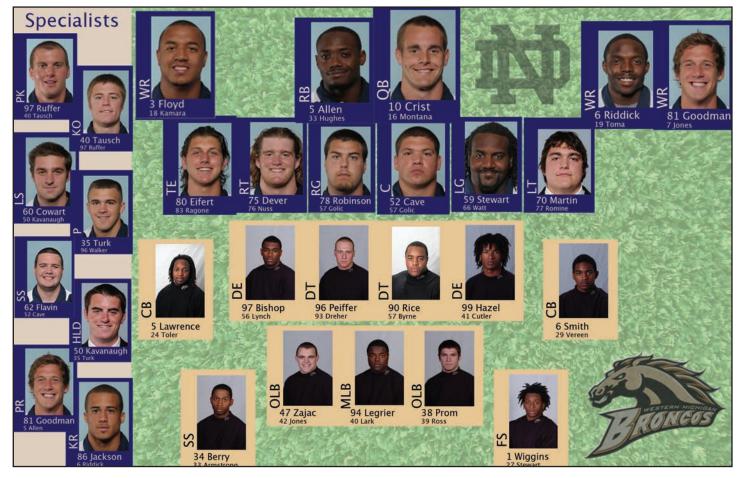
Kelly has seemed to abandon the run at times this year, but against this WMU team, he may try to pound the ball more than usual.

EDGE: NOTRE DAME

For the third week in a row, Notre



Irish Offense vs. Broncos Defense



injury to Kyle Rudolph takes away

Crist's favorite target. Receivers TJ

Jones and John Goodman, along with

tight end Tyler Eifert will need to step

in and fill the void alongside receivers

Western Michigan has been relatively

good against the pass so far this sea-

son. The Broncos rank 46th in the

country in pass defense, and are giving

74 yards per game and 4.8 yards per

carry. Crist also has the potential to

tuck the ball and run, scoring a rush-

ing touchdown in each of the past two

The Broncos have struggled defend-

ing the run this season. They are giv-

ing up 168 yards per game, and 4.77

yards per carry. In addition, in its only

game against a BCS-conference oppo-

Michael Floyd and Theo Riddick.

The Irish passing attack has struggled in recent weeks, and 5 junior quarterback Dayne Crist PASSIN has not looked comfortable throwing the football. The Irish are still 19th in the country in passing, however, and Crist certainly has shown the potential to be an elite Q quarterback.

The season-ending hamstring

Over the course of the season, the Irish have used the running RUSHING game mainly as a change of pace from their spread passing attack. They are averaging just over 100 yards on the ground per game, good enough for 97th in the nation. g

Senior Armando Allen leads the Irish rushing attack, averaging

Kicker David Ruffer continues to be spectacular for the Irish. He made two field goals against

Pittsburgh, including Notre Dame's first 50yard field goal since 2003. Ruffer is 11-for-11 on the season, and

punt against Pittsburgh and putting three of his five **EDGE: NOTRE DAME**

games.



attack.



would have to predict the final score of a match-up between the Irish and Western Michigan.

Well, here I am, picking this game, and for the first time since Notre Dame's season-opener I have not needed to deliberate about who I feel will win this game.

Douglas Farmer

Sports Editor

Pure and simple, even without Kyle Rudolph, if the Irish don't win by double digits Saturday I'll be surprised. For once, Notre Dame unquestionably has the better athletes on the field. It is about time we get to see those athletes

perform. FINAL SCORE: Notre Dame 38, Western Michigan 13



Matt Gamber

Sports Writer

ters.

FINAL SCORE: Notre Dame 41, Western Michigan 10

Eric Prister

Associate Sports Editor

Dame plays a team which it should beat. The Irish were certainly not crisp against either Boston College or Pittsburgh, but did enough to win both games. Western Michigan is the worst team of the three, and has shown at times a susceptibility against the pass.

The Irish have far superior talent, and I think that this is the week that Davne Crist and the Irish offense break out. The defense may struggle at times to defend against the pass, but in the end, victory should come easy.

FINAL SCORE: Notre Dame 45, Western Michgian 27



For more matchups and pregame analysis, as well as a live **IRISH INSIDER ONLINE** at ndsmcobserver.com/sports/

page 5

HEAD

Broncos Offense vs. Irish Defense



Quarterback Alex Carder has been off and on in his first season under center for the Broncos. He threw for seven touchdowns in his first two games, but has thrown only three since that point. He has both a 403yard game and a 104-yard game, and has been picked off seven times over the course of the season.

There is no doubt that the Broncos

The Broncos run a pass-first offense, so their running game is not particularly strong. They average 103 yards per game, which puts them 102nd in the NCAA, and gain only 2.9 yards per carry.

Western Michigan's biggest threat on the ground comes from quarterback Alex Carder, who has run 13 times per game over their last three games, and will throw. They are averaging 43 pass attempts per game, and threw the ball 64 times against Toledo. The Broncos rank 23rd in the nation in passing yards per game, and will certainly look to move the ball through the air.

The Irish have had trouble at times stopping the pass, ranking 99th in the nation against the pass. They have

Junior Aaron Winchester is the lead-

ing rusher for the Broncos, but is aver-

aging only 28 yards per game.

Freshman Tevin Drake may have added

another threat to the Western Michigan

ground game last week against Ball

State. Drake had eight carries for 63 yards and averaged 7.9 yards per carry.

The Notre Dame defense has been

۳

MMU

has scored four times on the year.

been opportunistic, however, intercepting eight passes in six MMU games, the 14th best total in the NCAA. Cornerbacks Darrin Walls, Gary Gray and Robert Blanton PASS will have their work cut out for them against a talented group of Western Michigan receivers. ING

EDGE: WESTERN MICHIGAN

excellent in their past two games. The Irish held Boston College to only five yards on the ground, and then gave up only 103 rushing yards to Pittsburgh, which averages RUSHING 157 per game. Saturday should be a third-straight such performance.

EDGE: NOTRE DAME

Kicker Jon Potter has attempted only five field goals on the season, making four. He has not attempted one from 40 yards or more. Punter Ben Armor

ECIAL

S

has been excellent for the Broncos, averaging 42 yards per punt with

nine punts inside the 20. He also has recorded seven punts over 50 yards, including a long of 65 yards, so he will play an important part of the field position battle against the Irish.

EDGE: EVEN



Bill Cubit is known for his pass-heavy offense. As the offen-**OFFENSIV** DACHING sive coordinator at both Stanford and Western Michigan, his offenses consistently finished in the top 30 in the nation in passing and scoring.

Last season, quarterback Tim Hiller broke every school passing record under Cubit's tutelage. The Broncos are going to throw early and often, and it will be up to the Irish to see if they can stop them.

EDGE: NOTRE DAME

Record: 2-3 AP: NR **Coaches: NR**

Broncos

Sixth season at Western Michigan career record:

Bill Cubit

head coach

Mike Grant

assistant head

coach

record at WMU: 34-27 against ND: 0-0

68-45-1



Dave Cohen Def. Coordinator

2010 Schedule

Sept. 4	@ Michigan State — L
Sept. 11	Nicholls State — W
Sept. 18	Toledo — L
Oct. 2	Idaho — L
Oct. 9	@ Ball State — W
Oct. 16	@ Notre Dame
Oct. 23	@Akron
Oct. 30	Northern Illinois
Nov. 5	@ Central Michigan
Nov. 13	Eastern Michigan
Nov. 20	Kent State
Nov. 26	@ Bowling Green

Head-to-Head

WMU OFFENSE Scoring: 29.0 ppg (57th) Total: 377.40 ypg (61st) Rushing: 103.20 ypg (102nd) Passing: 274.20 (23rd) Turnovers against: 13 (102nd) Fumbles lost: 6 (88th) Interceptions: 7 (91st) Sacks Allowed: 15 (104th) T.O.P. for: 31:46 (22nd)

ND DEFENSE Scoring: 23.50 ppg (60th) Total: 397.83 ypg (83rd) Rushing: 145.67 ypg (52nd) Passing: 252.17 ypg (99th) Turnovers for: 10 (47th) Fumbles rec.: 2 (97th) Interceptions: 8 (14th) Sacks: 15 (36th) T.O.P. against: 33:53 (118th)

Statistical Leaders

WMU OFFENSE **QB ALEX CARDER** 125-2

37-14."

37-14 ND

125-208, 1290 yards, 10 TD	34 so
QB ALEX CARDER	LB C
53 rush, 141 yards, 4 TD	45 to
RB AARON WINCHESTER	S ZE
53 rush, 146 yards	28 to
WR JORDAN WHITE	S HA
37 rec., 535 yards, 3 TD	29 so
WR JUAN NUNEZ	CB D
34 rec., 296 yards, 2 TD	19 so

ND DEFENSE MLB MANTI TE'O olo, 69 total, 4 TFL CARLO CALABRESE otal, 2.5 sack, 5 TFL KE MOTTA tal, 1 INT, 1 FR ARRISON SMITH olo, 49 total, 2 INT DARRIN WALLS olo, 27 total, 2 INT



Sam Werner

linally lightened up for Notre Dame The Irish battled hard to get to 3-3, and there's no reason they shouldn't be 6-3 when Utah comes to town Nov. 13. We've seen Notre Dame lose games like this before (hello, Syracuse, Navy, Connecticut and Navv again) but Brian Kelly has put an emphasis on not looking past this game. Notre Dame should be up big early, and hopefully it'll be able to Sports Writer fine-tune some of their offensive strategies - specifically, the underused rushing attack — with the game

It appears as if the schedule has

already out of reach. FINAL SCORE: Notre Dame 41, Western Michigan 16



Laura Myers

Sports Writer

touchdowns in its first 59 seconds last week against Ball State, but it will be Notre Dame getting off to the fast start in this one. The Irish should have no trouble overcoming the 2-3 Broncos. The biggest question for the Irish is how the offense will respond to the loss of junior tight end Kyle Rudolph - and Western Michigan should be the perfect team to help Notre Dame find its answer. If the offense can get over its secondhalf struggles, the Irish will win by a pretty good margin; if not, they will

Western Michigan scored two

simply win by a smaller margin. FINAL SCORE: Notre Dame 33, Western Michigan 16

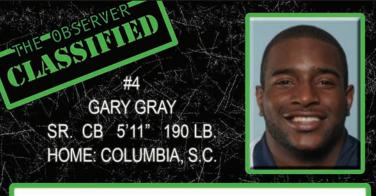
– featuring Golden Tate "They have no business even being on the field with us.

GOLDEN PICK OF THE WEEK

e blog on Saturday, check out the irish-football/irish-insider



S.DN	OPPONENTS LAST WEEK	e this week
-	(3-2) W 20-17 @Northwestern	Minnesota
MICHIGAN	(5-1) L 34-17 Michigan State	lowa
	(6-0) W 34-17 @Michigan	Illinois
	(5-1) W 37-35 USC W	ashington State
R	(2-3) L L 44-17 @NC State	@Florida State
F	(2-3) L 23-17 @ND	@Syracuse
- ROMEOS	(2-3) 45-16 @Ball State	@ND
3433	(3-2) W 28-27 @Wake Forest	S. Methodist
Tillsa	(3-3) L 21-18 @S. Methodist	Tulane
Ũ	(5-0) 68-27 @lowa	@Wyoming
	(4-2) 41-23 @Tulane	@Rutgers
Ş	(4-2) W 37-35 @Stanford	California



You are currently vying for a spot on Team Reckless. What made you decide to attempt to join?

Dayne had said a long time ago that I should join, but we never got around to it. We're trying to set that up.

Is it a very selective process?

I'm not ever sure what the process is. We'll see in the next couple of days what I have to do.

How reckless do you think you'll have to be? I think I'm pretty reckless. So I don't think I'll have to be too much more reckless than I already am. I think I'll fit right in.

Would it be an honor to be the first member of the Notre Dame defense on Team Reckless? Yeah, it'd be a great honor, first defensive player. It'd be nice.

Broncos to become first ever MAC foe for Irish

By LAURA MYERS Sports Writer

The Mid-American Conference (MAC) has existed since 1947, but Western Michigan will be the first team from the MAC ever to play against Notre Dame.

The Broncos (2-3) are currently third in the West Division of the MAC, which includes teams from New York, Ohio, Illinois, Indiana and Michigan.

"Up until this week it meant a lot," Broncos coach Bill Cubit said in a press "Up until to conference." "You're the only one out there only one playing [Notre playing [N Dame]. And then you get the tape, and you

ence (the MAC champion goes to GMAC Bowl in Mobile, Ala., and the conference also sends teams to the uDrove Humanitarian Bowl in Boise, Idaho and the Little Caesars Bowl in Detroit). But Irish coach Brian Kelly said his team has no choice except to focus completely on the Broncos.

a team from a non-BCS confer-

"We are not that good to think about anybody else but our next opponent," Kelly said in his Tuesday press conference. "We can't roll the ball out and expect to win football

games." It is a common practice for BCS teams to schedule MAC opponents for a guaranteed win — but



hit reality. These guys are pretty good. This is a storied program."

Cubit said his team prepared with music and crowd noise to imitate Notre

Dame Stadium. The Broncos' average attendance is 17,350 fans, as opposed to Notre Dame's 80,795.

"That's the best thing when you're playing Notre Dame, because that's what they're going to hear," Cubit said. "Hopefully they don't hear the fight song too much. But that's what they're going to hear so they get used to it."

This will be Notre Dame's first game this season against

reality. These guys are pretty good. This is a storied progam."

"Up until this week it

meant a lot. You're the

only one out there

playing [Notre Dame]

And then you get the

tape, and you hit

Bill Cubit Broncos coach

that is not the case Saturday, players said. "We are not 6-0 and the No. 1 team in the country," senior safety Harrison Smith said. "We are

not at that place yet."

In fact, Kelly made sure the players wouldn't overlook the Broncos.

"He's shown us statistical proof of teams that they have beaten or been very close to beating in games where I'm sure those teams went in overlooking a Western Michigan opponent," junior quarterback Dayne Crist said. "They do some good things on offense, they do some good things on

Western Michigan running back Tevin Drake is tackled during the Broncos' 45-16 victory at Ball State Saturday. Drake and his teammates are the first Mid-American team to play Notre Dame in history.

defense. It's just like any other game."

For the Broncos, though, the game is a rare opportunity, Cubit said, that they plan to take advantage of.

"There's only one Notre

Dame," he said. "I know they take some criticism for that, but they built that. I give them all the credit in the world.

"This is a college experience. It's for the kids. Fifteen, 20 years from now, they can say they did this. I told them yesterday: It's one thing to play in the Stadium, it's another thing to play well in the Stadium."

Contact Laura Myers at Imyers2@nd.edu

Eifert, Ragone prepared to fill in for Rudolph

By SAM WERNER Sports Writer

Since arriving at Notre Dame last December, Irish coach Brian Kelly has been preaching the importance of his "next man in" philosophy, which means that every player at every position needs to be ready to step in and be productive if called upon.

Now it's time to put that mantra to the test.

With junior tight end Kyle Rudolph sidelined for the rest of the season, sophomore Tyler Eifert and senior Mike Ragone, as well as sophomore Jake Golic, will have to fill the void left by the preseason All-American.

"No one player is going to stop what we do," Kelly said at his Tuesday press conference. "It's a 'next man in' philosophy for us. Tyler Eifert, Mike Ragone, Golic those guys are going to have to step up and play the position for us at a high level. We think those guys can. We have a lot of confidence in them."

It may help that the hamstring injury had been nagging Rudolph all season, and offensive coordinator Charley Molnar said the tight ends and coaching staff had discussed a plan for what would happen if he had to miss any action.

"We talked about this in summer camp when he was sore and we've been prepared for it," Molnar said. "Everybody moves up a notch on the ladder, moves up a rung, and those guys have been ready for it. We don't slow down a bit; we just keep on moving."

Eifert and Ragone are the two players most likely to see a substanRudolph out. Of those two, Eifert has seen more playing time so far this season, but has only hauled in one pass for 17 yards against Michigan. Since then, he's been hampered with a shoulder injury, but said that it was at a point where he thought he could play through the pain.

tial increase in playing time with

"With the medicine and the heat of the game, you don't feel it and you can't let that bother you," Eifert said.

Ragone played sparingly in the first few games after a heat-related illness caused him to miss a significant portion of training camp. He caught his first pass of the season for 11 yards in last week's win over Pittsburgh.

"It always feels good to be on the field," Ragone said. "It feels better to be on the field that it does to sit on the sideline."

He added that the lack of playing time early on wouldn't affect his play going forward.

"First couple of games I just didn't get as many reps," Ragone said. "But hey, when your opportunity's called you just step up and you just do what you've got to do."

Both players stressed the need to not try and fill the shoes of Rudolph, one of the top tight ends in the country, but rather to play within their abilities to help the team win.

"Why would I want to be Kyle Rudolph?" Ragone said. "I want to be Michael Ragone, he wants to be Tyler Eifert, he's Kyle Rudolph over there. We're all different. I'm just gonna keep doing me, Kyle's gonna keep doing him and we're gonna win these ball games."

Part of Rudolph's effectiveness could be attributed to his tight-knit relationship with starting quarter-



Sophomore tight end Tyler Eifert catches a pass in an Irish practice. Eifert will take the place of junior Kyle Rudolph, who is out for the season with a hamstring injury.

back Dayne Crist. The two are close friends and seemed to have a strong rapport on the field. Crist, though, said that he would be just as comfortable throwing to whoever takes Rudolph's spot.

"I have a ton of confidence in our other two tight ends, Mike Ragone and Tyler Eifert," Crist said at his press conference Wednesday. "They are great players and doing some good things for us, as well. We will continue to bring those guys along and get better with those guys because that's really our focus right now."

For their part, Efiert and Ragone both said they're comfortable enough with the playbook to step in right now.

"We know the offense," Eifert said. "I've picked it up well and I'm confident. I just need to go out and execute."

While losing a player of Rudolph's caliber is obviously a tough blow to

Notre Dame's chances going forward, Eifert and Ragone said they were excited about their chance to showcase their ability with more playing time.

"The circumstance, [Rudolph] being down, is not great," Ragone said. "I'm not smiling about it or anything, but now my opportunity is called and now it's time to step up."

Contact Sam Werner at swerner@nd.edu

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Robert Sullivan Associate Professor, Department of History



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🎉 10.9.10 (vs. University of Pittsburgh)

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