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Officials review staff survey results

'ND Voice' poll reveals proud faculty, staff

By MARCELA BERRIOS
Associate News Editor

The three highest-ranking Notre Dame officials addressed faculty and staff members Tuesday in an effort to inform them and gather feedback about the University's direction, developments in research initiatives and employee satisfaction — a tradition that began last year to build up a synergistic relationship between the top administration and the rest of the staff.

University President Father John Jenkins, Provost Thomas Burish and Executive Vice President

John Affleck-Graves spoke at the town hall-style meeting, which will be held again today from 2 p.m. to 3:30.

Burish introduced the three-man panel and thanked the University's employees for their hard work, saying their efforts are not overlooked or taken for granted, before giving Jenkins the floor.

Later in the meeting, Affleck-Graves furthered Burish's initial thought, speaking about the importance of getting feedback from the staff and faculty to improve Notre Dame in multiple facets. He talked about

see FEEDBACK/page 6



MARCELA BERRIOS/The Observer
University President Father John Jenkins talks to a school employee in the LaFortune ballroom Tuesday after the town-hall meeting.

Filmmaker: border life crime-filled

Noted producer says factories exploit women

By AMANDA JOHNSON
News Writer

Film and television producer Barbara Martinez Jitner stressed Tuesday the dangers female factory workers face in their jobs and on the streets in cities along the Mexican-American border.

Martinez Jitner spoke to an audience in the Hesburgh Center Auditorium in a speech titled



Martinez Jitner

"Femicide at our U.S. Border: To be a Woman in Juarez is a Death Sentence."

The Multicultural Student Programs and Services and the Gender Relations Center brought Martinez Jitner, the first Latina ever nominated for a Golden Globe and an Emmy — for her work on the PBS series "American Family" — to speak of her research in Juarez, Mexico.

She began working with Amnesty International in 2000 after spending time studying the effects of the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) on the lives of the Mexican people. NAFTA, signed in December 1992, allows free trade between U.S. and Mexico. Analysts have

see BORDER/page 8

A&L leaders promote doctoral studies

Jenkins' speech to faculty addressed low levels of undergrads who go on for advanced degrees

By JOSEPH McMAHON
News Writer

Notre Dame has launched several programs to help encourage students get on the path to a Ph.D. — a goal expressed by University President Father John Jenkins during his speech to the faculty last week in which he expressed concern over the percentage of undergraduates going on to earn advanced degrees.

"Each department is trying to make students aware earlier of the option of graduate school," said Gretchen Reydams-Schils, associate dean for research,

graduate studies, and centers at the College of Arts and Letters. "We are trying to get students, even freshmen, to think about Ph.D.s."

In his speech, Jenkins said only five percent of Notre Dame undergraduates between 1995 and 2004 earned a Ph.D. The number is low in comparison to institutions like Harvard, Rice and Princeton — and very low compared to leading liberal arts schools like Harvey Mudd and Swarthmore — Jenkins said in his address to the faculty.

"Earning a Ph.D. is a road to leadership, and we must do a better job of sending our students to Ph.D. programs," Jenkins said. "That five percent

number must rise."

Reydams-Schils said the first step toward increasing the number is creating interest among the undergraduates through connections with the University's own graduate students.

"We want graduate students to act as intermediaries, to be role models for the undergraduates, to demonstrate that this option of graduate school is open," Reydams-Schils said. "We are constantly trying to improve the quality of our graduate institutions. That being said, [graduate] students will be an additional mentoring resource, and they will never take the place of professors."

Arts and Letters Assistant Dean Vicki Toumayan said a commitment from the faculty and graduate students to the undergraduates is line with the University's mission and its sense of community.

"The academic departments should be supportive and identify and approach students, even freshmen, who are talented and may be interested in Ph.D. programs," Toumayan said. "It is part of our Catholic mission to prepare students to become educators and professors. There is a service aspect."

Toumayan said there are other reasons why the number

see DEGREES/page 4

Campus, Taco Bell to support Irish

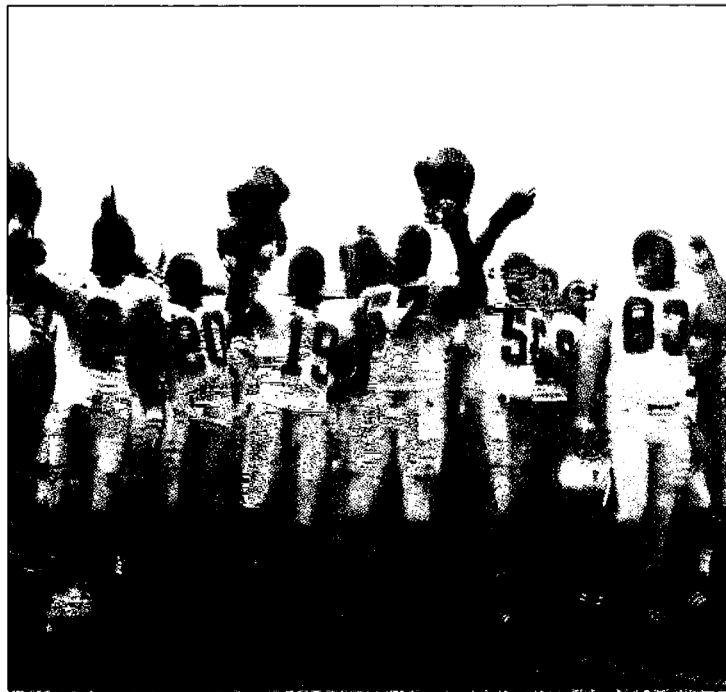
Fast-food chain gives Weis 'Nacho Day' award for team's struggles

By CHRIS KHOREY
News Writer

Despite three straight blowout losses to begin the season, coaches putting them through four-hour full-pads practices and ESPN mocking them at every turn, Notre Dame Football players still have support — from two very different sources.

Leaders of The Shirt Project 2007 and student body President Liz Brown are organizing a "green-out" of campus on Thursday, while local Taco Bells will distribute free nachos on Sunday, both in an attempt to galvanize the Irish.

see SUPPORT/page 4



ALLISON AMBROSE/The Observer
The Notre Dame Football team sings the alma mater after its 38-0 loss to Michigan Saturday.

Student government launches Web page

Goal is to make administration accessible

By KATIE PERALTA
News Writer

Notre Dame student government launched a new Web site Sunday in an effort to facilitate communication with students.

Chief executive assistant Sheena Plamoottil produced most of the material on the new site, which she began planning in the spring when Liz Brown and Maris Braun took over as student body president and vice president.

Plamoottil said building a new Web site was long overdue.

The previous student gov-

ernment home page alienated users, she said, since it was "not updated at all, and sort of archaic."

"One of the hallmarks of this new administration is to be more accessible to students," Plamoottil said.

The actual construction of the site began when Plamoottil and Braun contacted junior Adam Lusch, a computer science engineering major, to help them design and build the Web pages.

"Initially when we were planning it, the Webmaster did not come through," Plamoottil said. "We found

see WEB/page 4

INSIDE COLUMN

On Sparta and Spartans

This weekend, the Michigan State Football team arrives in South Bend during Notre Dame's darkest hour. They call themselves Spartans, but as anyone who has seen the critically-acclaimed hit film "300" can tell you, they are not the real deal.

No, unlike the green and white doppel-gangers from the north, the real Spartans were a band of brave soldiers, led by defiant King Leonidas, who weathered an onslaught from thousands of invading Persians some time in ancient history.

Tae Andrews
Scene Editor

In light of the Irish's recent struggles, there are many lessons we can learn from brave Leonidas and the intrepid 300. In light of the team suffering three consecutive blowout losses, there's the possibility that we, Notre Dame students, could lose faith. That the Notre Dame Victory March could instead turn into a pity parade.

We're made of sterner stock than that. I have never left a home game early, and I don't plan on it. Just as Spartan King Leonidas refused to kneel to the invading Xerxes, we should weather the bad as we would cheer the good: standing with unbent knee, proud and tall.

We're known as the Fighting Irish, not the Sitting Down Irish or the Leaving Early Irish.

Even staring death in the eye, Leonidas refused to show fear, instead shouting to his soldiers, "Spartans! Prepare for glory."

Let this serve as a lesson to us all. Don't think of it as losing; think of it as preparing for glory.

Besides, think of this season's competitive balance: instead of our typical blowouts of certain teams, we could have some real nail-biters. Our annual matchup with Navy could turn out to be a regular barn burner, a high-octane wrangle with only pride and the desire not to lose to a service academy on the line.

Likewise, ND-Duke could wind up as a scintillating battle for the ages. The point is, no matchup will be boring, especially come the end of the season, when we get into the easier (and more winnable) part of the schedule.

I plan on burning a couch should we defeat Duke this year. Likewise, should we end up knocking off Navy and maintaining the nation's longest winning streak, watch out Stonehenge — because I'm coming through, potentially sans swim trunks.

Perhaps the offensive line would do well to watch "300" and note the part where the impenetrable Spartan phalanx repels the enemy approach with shouts of "push!"

The Shirt this year reads, "Shoulder to Shoulder: Chanting Her Golden Name." Shoulder to shoulder? Sounds a lot like a phalanx to me. Likewise, the student section should operate as a single, defiant unit.

The Impostor State Spartans will bring with them their bloated mascot Sparty, whose disproportionate foam head makes one wonder if he trains with Barry Bonds' pals at BALCO.

Obviously, everyone knows that if things came down to actual fisticuffs in a matchup of mascots, our very own leprechaun would handle Sparty just as Leonidas worked the overmatched and inept Persian soldiers.

As the slings and arrows of outrageous fortune (and the ESPN Irish-bashing barbs of Mark May) blot out the sun, remember this: we will fight in the shade.

In conclusion, true Spartans never retreat. True Spartans never surrender.

And as for those who hate Notre Dame and revel in the schadenfreude of watching our struggles and suffering, people who look back at Fighting Irish fans 2007 will remember this: that few stood against many.

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

Contact Tae Andrews at tandrew1@nd.edu

CORRECTIONS

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

QUESTION OF THE DAY: HOW MANY FACEBOOK FRIENDS DID YOU HAVE AT ND BEFORE YOU GOT HERE?



Chelsea Carey
freshman
Badin

"Just one. And I knew him in real life."



Kyle Mitchell
freshman
Stanford

"Like 150."



Meg Fitzgerald
freshman
Cavanaugh

"Twenty-ish, but they were all from my hometown."



Kyle Welch
freshman
O'Neill

"50 or so. About half were people I actually knew."



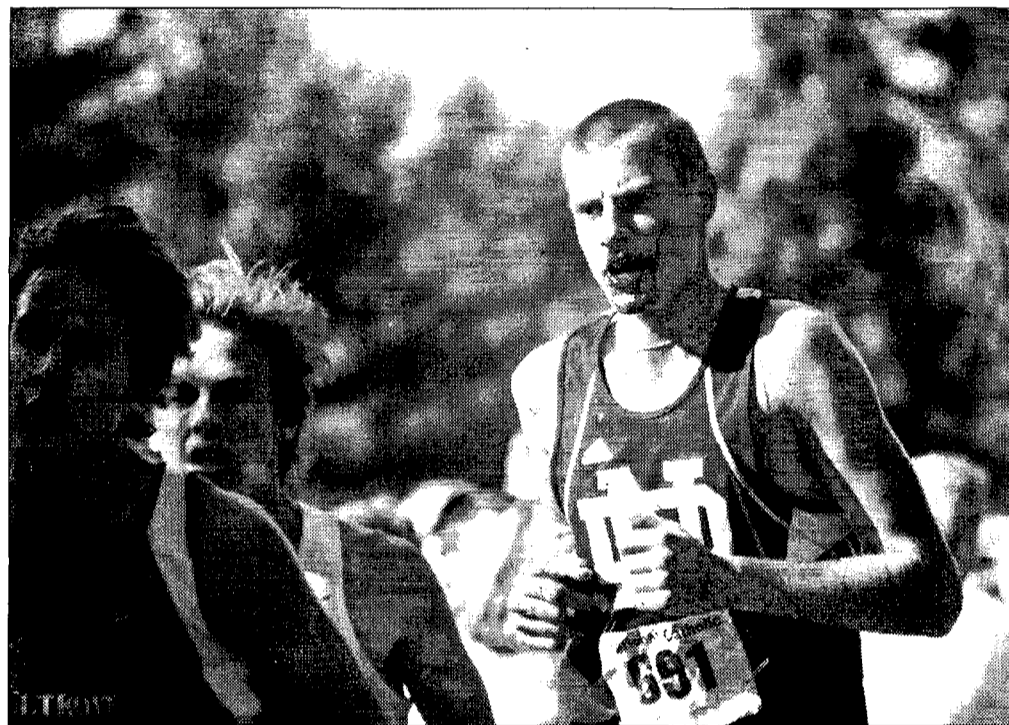
Tanner Ryan
freshman
Keenan

"50 or 51. Mostly girls."



Marco Rosales
freshman
Stanford

"Probably 20."



KELLY HIGGINS/The Observer

Junior Mark Moore runs Friday's National Catholic Championship near the Notre Dame golf course despite a bloody nose. Moore began bleeding on the second mile of the five-mile race but placed 56 out of 266 runners, completing the course in 26 minutes, 41 seconds.

OFFBEAT

Man says wild sex caused SUV accident

MOSCOW, Idaho — A 22-year-old carnival worker blames two friends having sexual intercourse in the back seat of his car for an accident in which his Chevrolet S-10 Blazer struck a telephone pole.

Joshua D. Frank, who is living in a trailer parked on the Latah County Fairgrounds, pleaded guilty Monday to a misdemeanor charge of failing to notify a police officer of a traffic accident. That's after he left the vehicle at the site of the mishap. He was fined \$188.

Frank told Moscow Police

Department officers that he was driving the vehicle near downtown early Saturday while a man and woman were having sex in the rear of the vehicle.

Seattle trolley line has new acronym: SLUT

SEATTLE — Officially, it's the South Lake Union Streetcar. But in the neighborhood where the new line runs, it's called the South Lake Union Trolley — or, the SLUT. At Kapow! Coffee, a shop in the old Cascade neighborhood, 100 T-shirts bearing the words "Ride the SLUT" sold out in days, and another 100 are on order.

"We're welcoming the SLUT into the neighborhood," said Jerry Johnson, 29, a part-time barista.

Some claim — incorrectly, according to representatives of Vulcan Inc., the company that is developing the area — that South Lake Union Trolley was the original name and that it was changed when officials belatedly realized the acronym.

The \$50.5 million project should be completed with streetcars running in December.

Information compiled from the Associated Press.

IN BRIEF

An exhibit, "The Camera and Rainbow: Color in Photography," will show in the Snite Museum of Art on today from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. The exhibit is free and open to the public.

University President Father John Jenkins, Provost Thomas Burish and Executive Vice President John Affleck-Graves will brief the University staff on Notre Dame's status and future at a town hall meeting today from 2 to 3:30 p.m. in Washington Hall.

Employers will be meeting both undergraduates and graduate students from all colleges and majors during the Career Center's Fall Career Expo today from 4 to 8 p.m. in the Joyce Center.

Author Ann Cummins will read from her latest work, "Yellowcake" in the Hospitality Room of South Dining Hall at 7:30 tonight.

Eric J. Brown, director of the Department of Microbial Pathogenesis at the University of California, San Francisco, will deliver the lecture "Can Fish Really Get Tuberculosis? I Thought They Didn't Have Lungs" Thursday at 4 p.m. in 283 Galvin Life Science.

The DeBartolo Performing Arts Center will show a screening of the film "The Namesake" Thursday at 7 p.m.

Whirlpool's chief financial officer, Ted Dosch will speak Friday at 10 a.m. in the Jordan Auditorium as part of the Mendoza College of Business Boardroom Insight lecture series.

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

	TODAY	TONIGHT	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	GAME DAY	SUNDAY
LOCAL WEATHER						
	HIGH 85 LOW 62	HIGH 79 LOW 61	HIGH 80 LOW 65	HIGH 88 LOW 60	HIGH 79 LOW 57	HIGH 77 LOW 57

Atlanta 79 / 56 Boston 69 / 47 Chicago 83 / 68 Denver 82 / 46 Houston 93 / 72 Los Angeles 73 / 62 Minneapolis 75 / 68 New York 73 / 56 Philadelphia 76 / 56 Phoenix 99 / 79 Seattle 64 / 47 St. Louis 84 / 68 Tampa 87 / 72 Washington 77 / 55

COUNCIL OF REPRESENTATIVES

Leaders seek to involve students more through activities

Major topics of discussion include increasing football enthusiasm and the possibility of town-hall style meetings

By JOHN TIERNEY News Writer

Finding ways to increase student enthusiasm — both for football season and student government — dominated discussions at the Council of Representatives meeting Tuesday night.

The Notre Dame Bookstore and the Shirt Project are partnering to sponsor a campus-wide spirit display Thursday by asking students to wear The Shirt 2007. Shirt Project President Brad LeNoir announced at the Council of Representatives (COR) meeting Tuesday.

"When everyone else thinks we're done, we have to do something as students," LeNoir said. "We have to show we're behind our team. It's still early in the season and we still have a chance."

"When everyone else thinks we're done, we have to do something as students. We have to show we're behind our team. It's still early in the season and we still have a chance."

Brad LeNoir The Shirt 2007 president

The Bookstore will offer a discount of at least 10 percent for students to purchase the Shirt on Thursday, LeNoir said.

Members also discussed ways to get students more involved with student government.

One way to boost involvement would be to market each student government committee to students already passionate about that committee's par-

ticular focus, said Bob Reish, junior class president.

"We drive away a lot of potential," he said.

"It's either a lot of work or no work" to be a member of student government, he said.

Paul Robbins, Club Coordination Council president, said he was uncertain how to add to committee rosters without requiring new members to make a long-term commitment.

"The idea of getting input is important," he said.

Sophomore class president Grant Schmidt suggested holding open, town-hall style meetings for everyone to attend. Student government

would be able to select which meetings would be open to the public, so the committees could "leave it up to [their] discretion, and not just have people drop in," he said.

"Firstly, this could counteract dorm unity, which is a lot of what we're all about."

Secondly, freshmen and sophomores could dominate the events. I feel like juniors and seniors are a bit more apathetic."

George Chamberlain Sorin senator

Student body vice president Maris Braun said it is natural to have more interest in student government when major issues arise.

"When popular issues come up, we've always gotten a huge influx," she said.

Student government needs to do a better job of capitalizing on that interest without overwhelming its committees with new members, she said.

"If people are passionate about an issue, they do a good job of coming to student government," Braun said.

Chief executive assistant Sheena Plamoottil questioned whether students would find time in their busy schedules to attend town-hall meetings.

In other COR news:

Schmidt proposed creating a new intramural sport conference between classes rather than halls.

The matches and games would occur during one week, he said.

Sorin senator George Chamberlain questioned the idea.

"Firstly, this could counteract dorm unity, which is a lot of what we're all about," he said. "Secondly, freshmen and sophomores could dominate the events. I feel like juniors and seniors are a bit more apathetic."

Schmidt's suggested athletic events included Capture the Flag.

Contact John Tierney at jtierney1@nd.edu

Advertisement for ND vs Michigan State Book Signings on September 21 and 22. Includes book titles like 'Irish Alibi', 'Gloria Patri', 'Go Irish', 'A is for Ara', 'Here Come the Irish 2007', 'Creating Happy Memories', 'Thanking Father Ted', 'Notre Dame: A Fan's Companion', 'Notre Dame and the Game That Changed Football', 'Undertaker's Son', and 'Tales From The Notre Dame Sideline'.

Please Recycle The Observer.

Web

continued from page 1

Adam and were able to start really putting things together."

Lusch had taken a class with Braun, and she remembered he had already put together various Notre Dame Web sites, including the homepages for the Student Union Board, the Class of 2009, The Show and Morrissey Manor.

Plamoottil said Lusch gladly volunteered his time during the summer to help them with the project.

The finished product boasts a layout that is not only aesthetically pleasing but also user friendly, Plamoottil said.

"I wanted it to have a Notre Dame identifying theme," Lusch said, referring to the gold and blue font and

the Dome icon at the top of the home page.

Plamoottil said the site has links to the Student Government Constitution, updates from various committees and groups — including the Student Senate, the Council of Representatives and the Center for Social Concerns — as well as an online application for students who wish to become involved with student government.

The site also contains the minutes of Senate and COR meetings and a calendar of upcoming events — information not readily available to students before.

Student government will "continue to make changes to improve our capacity to accurately represent and respond to student concerns," Brown said.

Contact Katie Peralta at kperalta@nd.edu

Degrees

continued from page 1

cited by Jenkins is so low.

"The number is skewed because [after getting their bachelor's degree] students will go do a service project, or go get a job, and then go back to graduate school, and they are not counted in that statistic," Toumayan said. "In fact, most of the students that tell me they are interested in earning a Ph.D. tell me that they do not want to do so right after college, and they would not be included in that statistic."

She said the college is currently trying to come up with a way of tracking these students to make their figures more accurate.

In addition to poor calculations, Notre Dame's strong pre-professional programs deflate the number considerably, she said, because they push students directly into their professions and away from the Ph.D.

option.

"When you compare Notre Dame to these other schools, you have to realize that the percentage [of undergraduates earning Ph.D.s] is going to be lower because of the College of Business, the engineering school, the pre-med program, and the pre-law program," Associate Dean of Arts and Letters Stuart Greene said. "All these schools play into that calculation."

Reydams-Schils was quick to point out the University's concentrated efforts on increasing interest in Ph.D. is by no means trying to draw students away from these programs.

"We are just trying to show students that there are other options besides becoming a banker, lawyer and a scientist," she said. "Those are all great and respectable professions but there is nothing wrong with being educated about different choices."

Contact Joseph McMahon at jmcmaho6@nd.edu

Support

continued from page 1

Jason Gott, vice president of the The Shirt Project, said he and other leaders want students to wear either The Shirt 2007 or another green shirt to classes Thursday to show spirit.

"We just want to show that we're all solidly behind our football team and that we still care and that we still believe," Gott said.

Irish coach Charlie Weis said the green shirts will be another sign that the team's success or failure on the field is the success or failure of the student body as a whole.

"Having been a student here, one thing that this team is counting on is the support of the students," he said. "When you're a student, you're not just a student, you're part of it."

Weis also said that student support can and will improve the team's morale going into the game against Michigan State Saturday.

"The greatest thing that could happen, whether its Thursday or Friday at the Pep Rally, is for the students to say, 'Hey, we're on your side,'" Weis said.

Fifth-year senior captain and tight end John Carlson agreed.

"We appreciate all the support we can get," he said. "We're not giving up. We hope the fans don't give up either."

The support isn't just coming from South Bend. As far away as Irvine, Calif., at the world headquarters of Taco Bell, marketing executives decided to give Weis the "Nacho Day Award."

"We like to call it a Na-cho Day — as in 'not your day,'" Taco Bell spokesman Will Bortz said. "We're trying to put some levity into the situation."

In honor of Weis' award, participating South Bend area Taco Bells will give out free nachos to Notre Dame fans between 2 p.m. and 5 p.m. on Sunday.

"The chips are down, and we want everyone to know we have your back," Bortz said. "To the students, we're saying, 'Hey guys, you've been at the top, and while it might be a little bit rough this year, you can still have some free food.'"

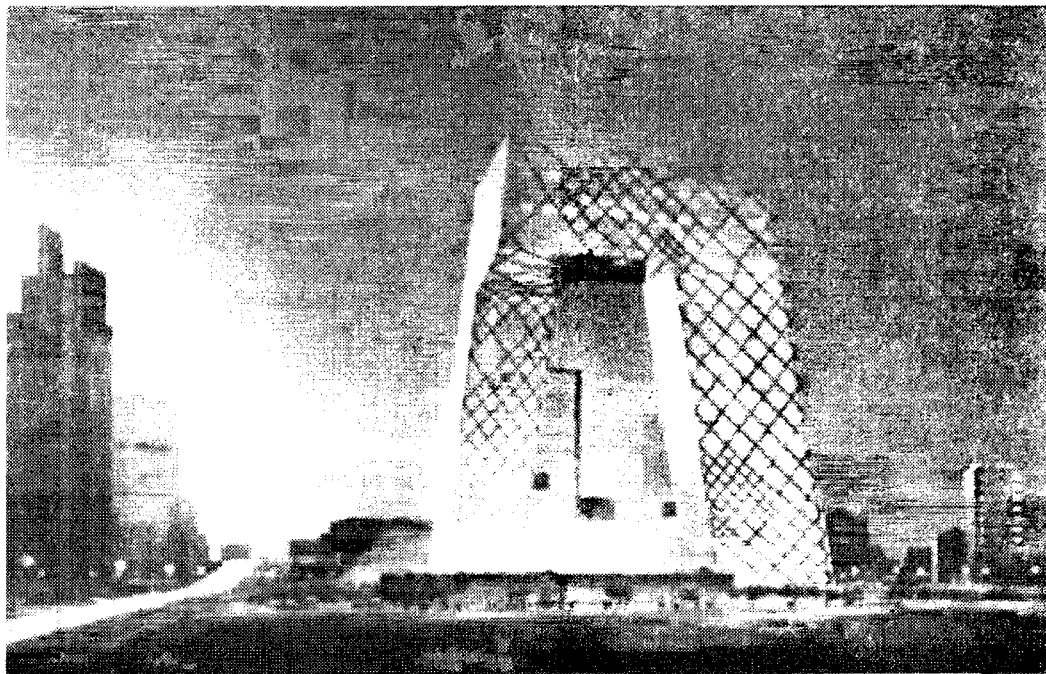
Bortz said that the nacho promotion, which the company has done for organizations and groups before, is not designed to be a joke about Weis' weight.

"We would never ever walk that line as far as giving something offensive to somebody," he said.

Contact Chris Khorey at ckhorey@nd.edu

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INFORMATION MEETING

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5:00 pm 141 DeBartolo

Application Deadlines: NOVEMBER 15, 2007 FOR FALL, SPRING,
AND ACADEMIC YEAR 2008-9
MARCH 1, 2008 FOR SUMMER 2008

Applications Available www.nd.edu/~ois

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WORLD & NATION

Wednesday, September 19, 2007

COMPILED FROM THE OBSERVER'S WIRE SERVICES

page 5

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

North Korea denies nuclear charge

SEOUL — North Korea strongly denied Tuesday that it has provided Syria with secret nuclear cooperation, claiming the charge was fabricated to block progress in the North's relations with the United States.

North Korea's Foreign Ministry said the country has upheld a pledge made last October, when it conducted its first-ever nuclear test, that it would be "a responsible nuclear weapons state" and not transfer any nuclear material out of the country.

The North "never makes an empty talk but always tells truth," the ministry said in the statement carried by the official Korean Central News Agency.

The comments were the first by the government in Pyongyang on the issue since suspicions arose after an alleged Israeli air raid earlier this month on unknown Syrian targets.

Trapped reporter returns home

TEHRAN — An Iranian-American reporter for the U.S.-funded Radio Farda who has been trapped for months in Iran left the country Tuesday, returning to the United States, the station said.

Parnaz Azima was one of four Iranian-Americans suspected by Iran of involvement in a plot to foment a revolution against the Islamic government. Another of the four was released earlier.

Azima "left Iran today and is on her way to the United States," Sania Winter, a spokeswoman for Radio Farda, told The Associated Press from Washington. She would not give further details saying Azima would be "reunited with her family."

NATIONAL NEWS

Congress investigates official

WASHINGTON — A congressional committee has opened an investigation of the State Department's inspector general, alleging he blocked fraud investigations in Afghanistan and Iraq, including potential security lapses at the newly built U.S. Embassy in Baghdad.

Also under scrutiny is whether Blackwater USA, the private security firm banned this week from working in Iraq over the killing of civilians, was "illegally smuggling weapons into Iraq," according to a letter to IG Howard J. Krongard obtained Tuesday by The Associated Press.

The Democratic-led investigation accused Krongard of trying to protect the White House and the State Department.

Police Tase Florida student

GAINESVILLE — Video of police Tasing a persistent questioner of Sen. John Kerry became an Internet and TV sensation Tuesday, generating fierce debate about free speech and the motives of the college student involved — a known prankster who often posts practical jokes online.

University of Florida President Bernie Machen said Monday's takedown, in which the student loudly yelled, "Don't Tase me, bro!" was "regretful." He asked for a state probe of campus police actions and placed two officers on leave.

The student in the middle of it all, 21-year-old Andrew Meyer, had no comment after he was released on his recognizance on various charges following a night in jail.

LOCAL NEWS

Alligator rescued in Indiana

MUNCIE — A nearly 5-foot-long alligator nicknamed Vader Gator was heading to Florida two weeks after being rescued from the streets of Muncie.

The Muncie Animal Shelter sent Vader off Monday on the first leg of his journey to Croc Encounters, a reptile park and wildlife center in Tampa.

Shelter workers rescued Vader on Sept. 5 after it was found wandering through a neighborhood. The 4-foot-11 reptile had escaped an outdoor kennel by climbing over a fence, said Karen Gibson, the shelter's superintendent.

Democrats continue anti-war push

Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid calls for a vote for pullout legislation

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — After weeks of suggesting Democrats would temper their approach to Iraq legislation in a bid to attract more Republicans, Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid declared abruptly Tuesday that he had no plans to do so.

The Democratic leader said he will call for a vote this month on several anti-war proposals, including one by Sen. Carl Levin that would insist President Bush end U.S. combat next summer. The proposals would be mandatory and not leave Bush wiggle room, said Reid, D-Nev.

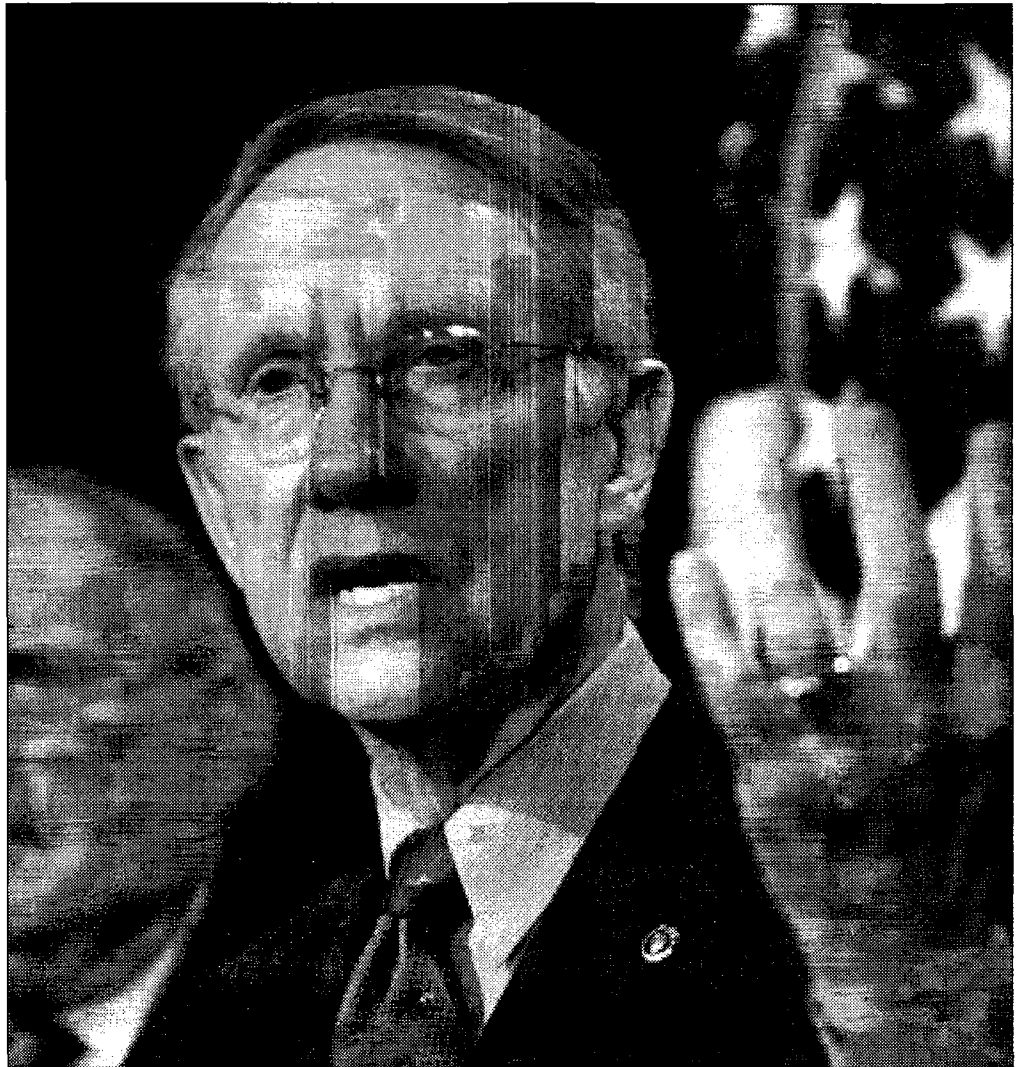
"There (are) no goals. It's all definite timelines," he told reporters of the planned legislation.

Levin, D-Mich., chairman of the Senate Armed Services Committee, said Monday night he would have agreed to turn his summer deadline into a nonbinding goal if doing so meant attracting enough votes to pass. Several Republicans have said they are uneasy about Bush's war strategy but do not like the idea of setting a firm timetable on troop withdrawals.

Reid's hardline stance, announced after the party's weekly policy lunch on Tuesday, reflects a calculation by Democrats that Levin's proposal probably would have failed either way. Democrats hold a thin majority in the Senate and similar legislation has repeatedly fallen short of the 60 votes needed to break a GOP filibuster.

When asked why Democrats won't soften the deadline, the majority leader said he doesn't have confidence Republicans are willing to challenge Bush on the war.

"I think they've decided definitely they want this to be the Senate Republicans' war, not just Bush's. They're jealous," he said



Democratic Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid attends a news conference Sept. 12. Reid plans to call for anti-war proposals in the near future.

with a smile.

Democrats are in a box on the Iraq war debate, lacking the votes to pass legislation ordering troops home but tied to a support base that wants nothing less. Several Democrats, including Sens. Christopher Dodd of Connecticut, Russ Feingold of Wisconsin and Barbara Boxer of California, have said they will not vote for anything short of a firm deadline to end the war.

These members say they are responding to polls that show Americans still oppose the war, despite Gen. David Petraeus' report to Congress and President Bush's nationally televised address.

A poll released Tuesday by the nonpartisan Pew Research Center found that 54 percent of Americans still favor bringing troops home as soon as possible. And despite slight improvements in peoples' views of military progress, more said the U.S. will likely fail in Iraq than succeed by 47 percent to 42 percent, about the same margin as in July.

Other lawmakers, including Levin and several moderate Republicans, have tried to strike bipartisan deals they think would attract enough moderates of either party to pass.

Sen. George Voinovich, R-Ohio, suggested Tuesday that Congress pass legisla-

tion that would restrict the mission of U.S. troops but allow Bush to determine the timeframe for doing so.

Sen. Ken Salazar, D-Colo., has attracted the support of several GOP lawmakers with legislation that would call on Bush to embrace the recommendations of the independent Iraq Study Group. The independent panel called on Bush to hand off the combat mission to the Iraqis next year.

But while Democratic leaders say the concept of compromise legislation is not off the table, no proposals have gained steam. Reid on Tuesday said Salazar is working to add requirements to his bill, but as written it was too weak.

State upholds gay marriage ban

Associated Press

BALTIMORE — Maryland's highest court on Tuesday upheld a state law defining marriage as a union between a man and a woman, ending a lawsuit filed by same-sex couples who claimed they were being denied equal protection under the law.

Maryland's 1973 ban on gay marriage does not discriminate on the basis of gender and does not deny any fundamental rights, the Court of Appeals ruled in a 4-3 decision. It also said the state has a legitimate interest in promoting opposite-sex marriage.

"Our opinion should by no means be read to imply that the General

Assembly may not grant and recognize for homosexual persons civil unions or the right to marry a person of the same sex," Judge Glenn T. Harrell Jr. wrote for the majority.

Plaintiffs said that the judges missed a historic opportunity to strike down a discriminatory law, and that they would continue the fight in the Legislature. Legislators on both sides of the debate predicted action on the issue in the next session.

"I think history will hold them in contempt," plaintiff Lisa Polyak said of the judges. "To create a legal solution in a vacuum, that doesn't recognize that the constitution is there to support the people, is to create an ignorant and irrelevant solution."

State Sen. Richard Madaleno, who is openly gay, said he plans to introduce a bill to allow same-sex marriage. He also expects a proposal to create civil unions.

"I think we'll have a lengthy discussion next session about what the options are for legal recognition for gay people," Madaleno said.

Don Dwyer, one of the General Assembly's most conservative members, said he would introduce a constitutional amendment banning gay marriage as "insurance."

The ACLU of Maryland, which provided legal representation for the plaintiffs, said the fight to legalize gay marriage in Maryland would continue.

Feedback

continued from page 1

ND Voice, a series of surveys and focus groups conducted in 2006 to understand the opinions of different University employees about their experience at Notre Dame.

The results, he said, revealed 96 percent of the polled staff and faculty members said they were proud of working at Notre Dame, 92 percent would recommend the University as an enjoyable workplace and 91 percent said they clearly understood the school's goals, values and direction.

Affleck-Graves also said the surveys told him employees thought Notre Dame needed to improve its accountability — or the University's ability to deal with poor performances in its different offices — as well as its recognition of exceptional employees.

Notre Dame has tried to alleviate these concerns, he said.

Since ND Voice was conducted, he said, about seven percent of Notre Dame employees have received a salary raise more than five percent. Another six percent received a raise equal to or less than two percent, depending on their respective supervisor's performance reviews.

The salary raises fulfilled Affleck-Graves' promise from last year's town hall meeting, where he said annual salary increases would be tied to performance.

Furthermore, the University also created the Presidential Team Irish Awards to recognize

its outstanding faculty or staff members publicly during home football games.

The 2006 poll indicated that some employees were unhappy with their level of respect and overall fairness — specifically Notre Dame's efforts to include its faculty and staff in administrative decisions.

"We need to create more opportunities where you can offer feedback and speak up in either small group or large group settings, like this one," Affleck-Graves said.

He read excerpts of some of the action plans different offices prepared as part of ND Voice last year, including a suggestion from the Central Receiving office proposing top administrators shadow staff members sporadically to understand their daily challenges.

"It is critical and essential every member of the Notre Dame family feels respected, valued and understood," he said.

Future ND Voice polls will be issued every two years, he said, to avoid overwhelming the staff and faculty with too many survey requests.

While Affleck-Graves remarks were concrete and focused on tangible initiatives, Jenkins chose to talk about more abstract concepts, such as the University's core values and its mission to strike a balance between its Catholic character and its academic ambitions.

He spoke of Notre Dame's goal of becoming "a distinctively Catholic university that is counted among the preeminent universities in the world."

To accomplish this mission, he said, the University must provide an unsurpassed undergraduate education and become a premier research institution while ensuring the University's Catholic character permeates these endeavors.

These goals, Jenkins said, should always be approached through the University's defining core values — integrity, excellence, accountability, teamwork and leadership.

"To be a part of Notre Dame is to accept these goals and these values and let them inform your everyday lives and your work here," he said.

Jenkins said his trip last week to Congregation of Holy Cross founder Father Basil Moreau's beatification in Le Mans, France, helped him rediscover Notre Dame's origins.

"There was everywhere a sense of discovering this University's roots and where we came from," Jenkins said. "I met people from Africa, Bangladesh, Peru, Chile and other countries where Father Moreau's work lives on. And with Notre Dame, they all shared this man's commitment to service, his faith and his sense of community."

During his trip to France, Jenkins said, he also met a descendant of the family of Father Edward Sorin, who founded Notre Dame.

Following Jenkins' remarks, Burish updated the audience on current academic initiatives as well as the University's achievements last year.

He said the freshman class had a record average SAT score of 1390. His address,

however, focused less on statistics than the human-interest aspects that make the class of 2011 special.

Among the first-year students, Burish said, there are cancer survivors, a student who served in the Navy, a student who speaks four languages fluently and the great granddaughter of one of the famed Four Horsemen of Notre Dame.

He also praised certain faculty members for their outstanding research, including a science professor he said is working to design cancer-fighting drugs without side effects and another professor who is studying the psychology of middle-aged people.

To keep the faculty motivated and interested in conducting similar projects, Burish said, the University is developing a research park where it would present its findings to corporations and potential backers that might provide further exposure.

Researchers who develop new products, like drugs or software programs, might then find a company that commits to manufacturing the invention, Burish said.

"This park will help take your research findings and give them an avenue so they can actually impact society and people's daily lives," Burish said.

Similar innovation parks already exist at major research universities like Purdue.

Burish stressed the importance of investing in infrastructure to draw new faculty members and graduate students to Notre Dame. This manpower,

in conjunction with state-of-the-art facilities, would help bring more undergraduates into the research beat, Burish said.

Synergies like this one between the different constituents of the Notre Dame community, he said, are further proof that "a university is like a city."

"Education is our main focus, but there are so many other components that make that goal possible," he said. "You, [the faculty and staff] run this city, you manage it. You make it work for those who come here to engage in its primary focus."

Affleck-Graves ended the town-hall meeting with a video presentation of the Eddy Street Commons project. He showed the audience an animation of the finalized project — which is scheduled for completion in 2009. In the virtual tour, people are seen strolling down Eddy Street with shops, cafés and restaurants in the background.

He also showed new artist renditions of other buildings under construction on campus in the near future, including the engineering buildings, the law school, Geddes Hall (which will replace the current building occupied by the Center for Social Concerns) and the Purcell Pavilion inside the Joyce Center.

A short question-and-answer session followed the three officials' speeches, and they later joined the meeting's attendees in the LaFortune ballroom for an informal reception.

Contact Marcela Berrios at aberrios@nd.edu



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S&P 500	1,519.78	+43.13
NIKKEI (Tokyo)	15,801.80	0.00
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COMPANY	%CHANGE	\$GAIN	PRICE
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SUN MIROSYS INC (JAVA)	+1.58	+0.09	5.78
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YEN	115.92
EURO	0.7151
CANADIAN DOLLAR	1.0143
BRITISH POUND	0.4967

IN BRIEF

Number of foreclosures increases

LOS ANGELES — The number of foreclosure filings reported in the U.S. last month more than doubled versus August 2006 and jumped 36 percent from July, a trend that signals many homeowners are increasingly unable to make timely payments on their mortgages or sell their homes amid a national housing slump.

A total of 243,947 foreclosure filings were reported in August, up 115 percent from 113,300 in the same month a year ago, Irvine, Calif.-based RealtyTrac Inc. said Tuesday.

There were 179,599 foreclosure filings reported in July.

The filings include default notices, auction sale notices and bank repossessions. Some properties might have received more than one notice if the owners have multiple mortgages.

Kroger announces jump in profits

CINCINNATI — Kroger Co. said Tuesday its profit jumped 28 percent in the second quarter, topping analyst expectations. The nation's largest traditional grocery chain boosted its outlook for the year. Its shares rose 7.5 percent.

The supermarket operator said it earned \$267.3 million, or 38 cents per share, for the three months ended Aug. 18, up from \$209 million, or 29 cents per share, a year ago. Revenue rose 7 percent to \$16.14 billion in the quarter from \$15.14 billion last year.

Analysts polled by Thomson Financial expected a profit of 34 cents per share on revenue of \$16.02 billion.

The company said it was able to pass along cost increases for staples such as milk to customers while continuing to build customer loyalty with initiatives that include improved service, wider selections and incentive programs. Profits also were helped by reductions in distribution and advertising costs and in inventory loss because of theft, mistakes and other factors, Kroger said.

China

PRC enforces quality standards

Food products under close scrutiny after inspectors discover skew of violations

Associated Press

BEIJING — China is stepping up enforcement against unlicensed food vendors and plans to upgrade quality standards on thousands of food and consumer products by year's end, officials said Tuesday.

As of July, inspectors had uncovered and punished 9,098 unlicensed food makers and other types of vendors, the director of the State Administration for Industry and Commerce, Zhou Bohua, said at a news conference.

Zhou did not give comparable figures for the same period last year, but said the administration was pursuing violators more vigorously, an indication of the pressure the government is under to grapple with China's endemic product safety problems.

"This is a special type of battle to preserve people's health and basic interests, to preserve the trust in and international image of Chinese products," Zhou said.

He said the crackdown was part of a previously announced four-month campaign to step up product safety controls. Zhou's agency does not inspect exports and the inspections he described appeared mainly to involve domestic vendors.

Many of China's problems have been blamed on long and often murky supply chains. To address that, Zhou said the government will require before the end of the year all grocery stores, convenience stores, and roadside stalls to keep records, allowing inspectors to trace the origin of food products.

Another product safety watchdog said standards had lagged behind the development of China's economy and needed to be



Chinese government officials inspect the quality of mooncakes in Chongqing, China Sept. 13. Officials plan to upgrade the quality of food products by the year's end.

upgraded.

"Rapidly developing trade must have the guarantee of rapidly developing inspection standards. This is the only way to ensure that Chinese products receive fair treatment in the international community," Liu Pingjun, director of the Standardization Administration of China, was quoted as saying at a national conference on Monday.

Liu's comments were posted on the Web site of the General Administration of Quality Supervision,

Inspection and Quarantine, one of the government's main product safety watchdogs.

The administration's notice said 3,395 standards for food and consumer products would be amended by the end of this year. All food and consumer products "closely related to human health and safety" would be required to meet international standards and "foreign advanced standards," it said without giving specific examples.

Chinese-made products have come under intense

scrutiny around the world over the past six months after toxins were found in exports ranging from pet food ingredients to toys.

Overcoming its initial reluctance, Beijing has launched an aggressive campaign to win back consumer confidence by issuing new regulations, cracking down on violators and setting up a Cabinet-level panel to monitor quality.

Among those measures are increased scrutiny of vegetable exports that have sometimes been cited for high levels of pesticides.

Health care costs vary around U.S.

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Staying healthy is a costly business in the United States, particularly in the Northeast, government statistics show.

Annual health care spending per person totaled \$6,409 in New England and \$6,151 in the rest of the Northeast, compared to a national average of \$5,283, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services reports in Tuesday's issue of the journal Health Affairs.

The totals include spending on individual health care from all sources, including insurance, personal expenses, Medicare, Medicaid and other sources, for 2004, the most recent figures available.

Highest per capita spending was recorded in the District of Columbia,

\$8,295, followed by Massachusetts, \$6,683; Maine, \$6,540; and New York, \$6,535.

"Most of these states have consistently had the highest spending over time," said report co-author Anne Martin, an economist with the CMS Office of the Actuary. "There is no one clear explanation, but there are several similar characteristics among these states."

For example, many of these states have high personal income, a high concentration of physicians and are among the states with the lowest rates of uninsured.

On the other hand, health care spending was below the national average in the Southwest and Rocky Mountain regions, which also tend to have lower-than-average per enrollee Medicare and Medicaid

spending and, because they are more rural, less access to physicians and hospitals.

The only state outside the Northeast where per capita health spending topped \$6,000 was Alaska at \$6,450.

The lowest per person health care spending was \$3,972 in Utah.

Nationally, per capita health spending increased on average 6.3 percent per year from 1998 to 2004, the report said.

Other findings included: Two states that have actively worked to improve health care had widely different spending patterns. California's per capita spending level was 12 percent below the national average at \$4,638 while Massachusetts was nearly 27 percent above the average.

Border

continued from page 1

linked the agreement's implementation to an increase in factories in Mexico, where labor is cheaper, Martinez Jitner said.

The population of border towns skyrocketed, since "thousands upon thousands" of factories are located in these regions between Mexico and the U.S., she said. Juarez's population climbed from 300,000 to nearly 3 million — and most of the people, she said, are workers.

The factories in Mexico prefer female workers because they are willing to work longer hours for less pay, Martinez Jitner said. Female workers make up almost 99 percent of the force. But, in reality, "most of these women aren't women," she said.

"They are fourteen, fifteen, sixteen-year old girls working these factories for approximately fifty cents an hour."

Since they live on the border — a kind of middle ground between the U.S. and Latin America — they receive third world country wages but pay first world country prices. It takes six hours of work to buy a gallon of milk, Martinez Jitner said.

Worse than the plight of the workers in unsafe, exploiting factories is the fact that their life outside the workplace is also plagued with dangers, she said. Border towns have a rich history of smuggling among other criminal activities, she said.

"Traditionally it's been trafficking of drugs, but now it also now there is a new [kind of] trafficking — trafficking of human beings," Martinez Jitner said.

Women in these towns are being kidnapped, raped, tortured and sometimes sold into slavery, she said. The minority of bodies that are found weeks later often have their organs missing, she said.

In 2002, Martinez Jitner followed Eva Canseco from Tijuana to the U.S. in her documentary, "La Frontera." Canseco experienced the horrors of the factory life Martinez Jitner spoke about.

While filming the documentary, Martinez Jitner's tapes were stolen repeatedly; to the extent she hired a bodyguard to protect her camera. One of her assistants was abducted and beaten by the Juarez police, she said.

Martinez Jitner chose to continue filming her documentary, she said, feeling the need and duty to document Canseco's story and share it with audiences.

Canseco worked in a factory to earn money to pay off the taxes on her farm. She quickly realized, after moving to Tijuana, that "the worker is a slave."

With a face deeply scarred because the factory would not provide masks for its welders, Canseco received a pink slip.

At 30, she is too old for factory work, Martinez Jitner said. The managers in Juarez want younger workers with more nimble fingers.

The film focuses on her journey to the United States, where she hopes to seek out an opportunity to provide a better life for her family.

Martinez Jitner said she has been able to enact some change with her film.

She said she knows her documentary struck a chord with the factory managers because now workers aren't allowed to speak to journalists and filmmakers about their jobs. She said they must even sign confidentiality waivers to get hired.

Toward the end of her lecture Martinez Jitner showed a short clip of the opening scenes of her upcoming movie "Bordertown."

The film — due out later this year — features Antonio Banderas and Jennifer Lopez in the lead roles. Martinez Jitner served as the

movie's executive producer. The movie will follow two journalists, Lopez and Banderas, as they travel to Juarez to investigate the disappearance of several women.

In the last fourteen years, more than 475 women in Juarez have been brutally murdered, Martinez Jitner said. More than 5,000 are still missing.

"People are worth more dead than alive," she said.

"Bordertown," which is mostly in Spanish and features English subtitles, is inspired on the story of a 14-year-old girl in Juarez who was raped by a bus driver and another man then left her for dead in a shallow grave.

The girl managed to climb out of the grave, received amnesty in the U.S. and identified the bus driver who raped her. But the Mexican authorities let the convicted rapist walk free, Martinez Jitner said.

Martinez Jitner encouraged the audience to visit amnestyusa.org/bordertown, a Web site Lopez launched, where users can download digital petitions asking the United Nations to put pressure on Mexico to end the violence against women, as well as encouraging the U.S. to push Mexican factories to set up safer working conditions.

Contact Joseph McMahon at jmcmaho6@nd.edu

Simpson indicted on 10 felonies

Count of robbery may carry life sentence for former football star

Associated Press

LAS VEGAS — Prosecutors filed formal charges Tuesday against O.J. Simpson, alleging the fallen football star committed 10 felonies, including kidnapping, in the armed robbery of sports memorabilia collectors in a casino-hotel room.

Simpson was arrested Sunday after a collector reported a group of armed men charged into his hotel room and took several items Simpson claimed belonged to him. Police reports obtained Tuesday by The Associated Press offered details on the scene.

Simpson, 60, was booked on five felony counts, including suspicion of assault and robbery with a deadly weapon. District Attorney David Roger filed those charges and added five other felonies, including kidnap-

ping and conspiracy to commit kidnapping, according to court documents.

Simpson, accused along with three other men, faces the possibility of life in prison if convicted in the robbery at the Palace Station casino. He was being held without bail and was scheduled to be arraigned Wednesday.

According to the charges, Simpson and the others went to the hotel room under the pretext of brokering a deal with Alfred Beardsley and Bruce Fromong, two longtime collectors of Simpson memorabilia.

According to police reports, Simpson and the other men entered the room and at gunpoint ordered the longtime collectors to hand over several items once owned by the Heisman Trophy winner. Beardsley told police that one of the men with Simpson brandished a semiautomatic pistol, frisked him and impersonated a police officer.

"I'm a cop and you're lucky this ain't LA or you'd be dead," the man said, accord-

ing to the report. The man who arranged the meeting of the former athlete and the collectors, Tom Riccio, also told police a Simpson associate was "acting like a cop," the report said.

As his associates tried to seize cell phones, Simpson yelled and cursed the collectors, who Simpson has said were trying to sell items that had been stolen from him.

The kidnapping charges filed Tuesday accuse Simpson and three other men of detaining each of the collectors "against his will, and without his consent, for the purpose of committing a robbery."

The memorabilia taken from the room included football game balls signed by Simpson, Joe Montana lithographs, baseballs autographed by Pete Rose and Duke Snider and framed awards and plaques, together valued at as much as \$100,000.

Some of the loot was stuffed into pillow cases stripped off the bed, according to the police report.

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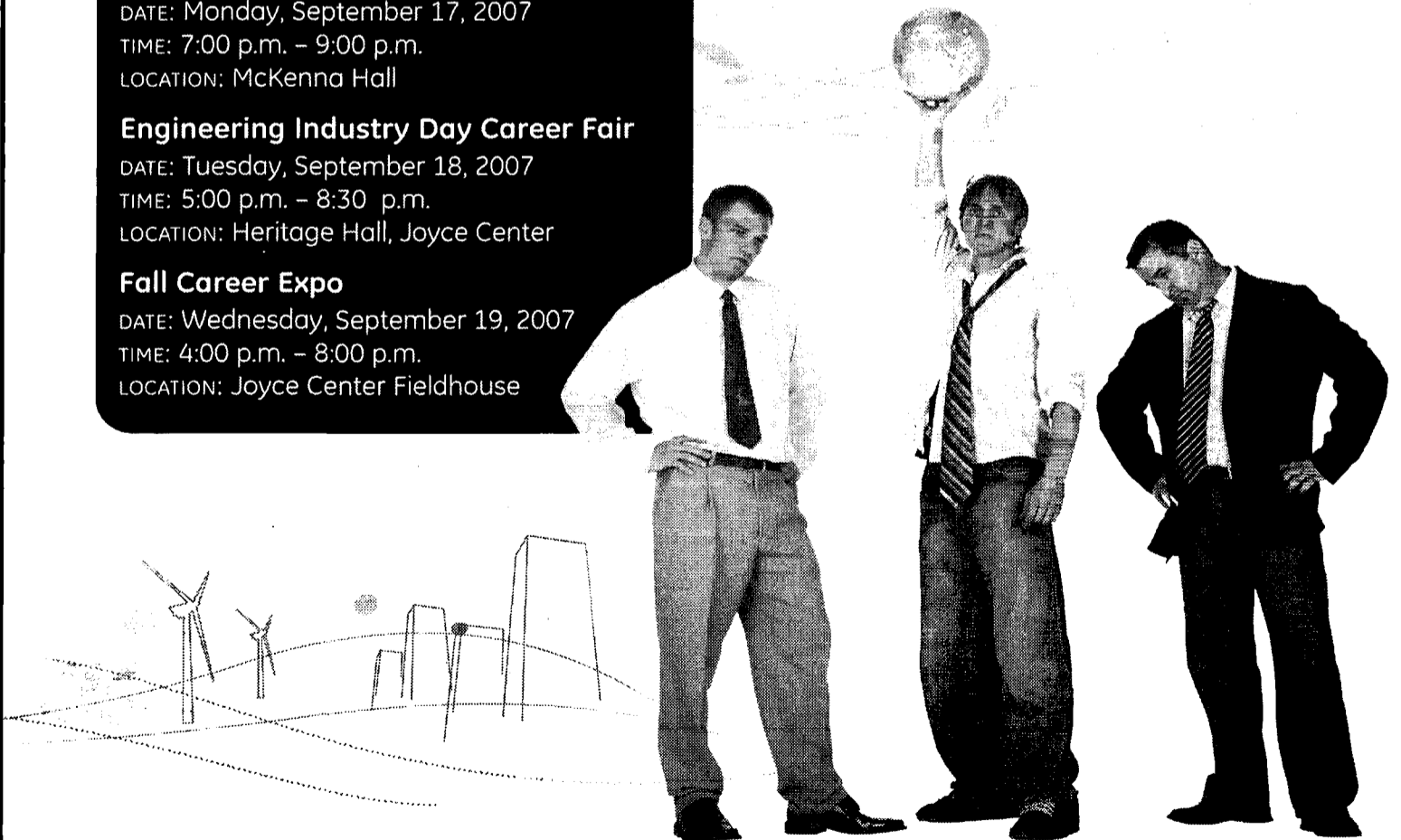
DATE: Monday, September 17, 2007
TIME: 7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.
LOCATION: McKenna Hall

Engineering Industry Day Career Fair

DATE: Tuesday, September 18, 2007
TIME: 5:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.
LOCATION: Heritage Hall, Joyce Center

Fall Career Expo

DATE: Wednesday, September 19, 2007
TIME: 4:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.
LOCATION: Joyce Center Fieldhouse



imagination at work

McConnell discusses Protect America Act

National intelligence director considers major changes to current wire tapping law

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — No Americans' telephones have been tapped without a court order since at least February, the top U.S. intelligence official told Congress Tuesday.

But National Intelligence Director Mike McConnell could not say how many Americans' phone conversations have been overheard because of U.S. wiretaps on foreign phone lines.

"I don't have the exact number ... considering there are billions of transactions every day," McConnell told the House Judiciary Committee at a hearing on the law governing federal surveillance of phone calls and e-mails.

McConnell said he could only speak authoritatively about the seven months since he became DNI.

In a newspaper interview last month, he said the government had tapped fewer than 100 Americans' phones and e-mails under the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act, which requires warrants from a secret intelligence court.

McConnell is seeking additional changes to the law, which Congress hastily modified just before going on vacation in August based in part on the intelligence chief's warnings of a dire gap in U.S. intelligence.

The new law eased some of the restrictions on government eavesdropping contained in the 1978 Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act, to let the government more efficiently intercept foreign communications.

Under the new law, the government can eavesdrop, without a court order, on communications conducted by a person reasonably believed to be outside the United States, even if an American is on one end of the conversation — so long as that American is not the intended focus or target of the surveillance.

Before McConnell can convince Congress to make the Protect America Act permanent — and agree to even more changes easing the provisions of FISA — he first has to allay concerns that the law passed so hastily earlier this year does not subject Americans to unwarranted government surveillance.

"The right to privacy is too important to be sacrificed in a last-minute rush before a congressional recess, which is what happened," said Rep. John Conyers, D-Mich., the panel's chairman.

Democrats worry that the law could be interpreted to

open business records, library files, personal mail, and homes to searches by intelligence and law enforcement officers without a court order.

Assistant Attorney General Kenneth L. Wainstein said the new surveillance powers granted by the Protect America Act apply only when the assistance of a communications company is needed to conduct the surveillance. Therefore, he said, the government could not use the law to search homes, open mail or collect business records because no communications provider would be

involved in such a transaction.

Many Democrats in Congress are now seeking to narrow what they consider to be overly broad language by rewriting the law. Wainstein warned that inserting specific prohibitions on government surveillance to protect civil liberties could have unintended consequences.

"Anytime you put in limiting language, you've got to make sure it doesn't have unintended limiting consequences," Wainstein said.

McConnell said that as long as his office can examine every word of the new language to scrub it for unintended consequences, he would be open to the changes.

However, Bush administration officials say concern about the new powers is unfounded. They contend the Protect America Act only allows the government to target foreigners for surveillance without a warrant, a change that was needed because of changes in communications technology.

Addressing the controversy over the law, the Justice Department and the White House Tuesday issued a "myth and facts" paper meant to ease the concerns of civil liberties advocates and privacy groups that believe it gives the government broader powers than intended.

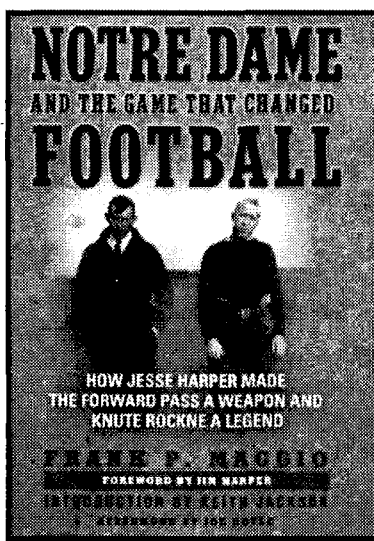
Rep. Jerrold Nadler, D-N.Y., chairman of the subcommittee on the Constitution, Civil Rights and Civil Liberties, called the effort a troubling "charm offensive."

"Let's have some truth in advertising. The act gives the president almost unfettered power to spy without judicial approval — not only on foreigners but on Americans," Nadler said.

McConnell said the new eavesdropping powers are needed not just to spy on terrorists but also to defend against more traditional potential adversaries.

"Anytime you put in limiting language, you've got to make sure it doesn't have unintended limiting consequences."

Kenneth L. Wainstein
Assistant Attorney General

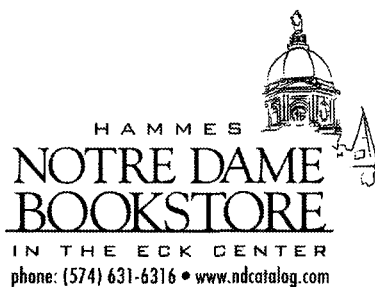


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(son of legend Jesse Harper)

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 22
11:30AM - 1:30PM

Hammes Notre Dame Bookstore

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War disability claims create problems for VA

Sec'y Nicholson steps down, admits difficulties

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Outgoing VA Secretary Jim Nicholson acknowledged Tuesday that he's struggling to reduce backlogs in disability claims from Iraq war veterans, saying current efforts won't be enough to cut down waits that take months.

Addressing Congress for a final time before stepping down Oct. 1, Nicholson also pointed to persistent problems between the Pentagon and Department of Veterans Affairs in coordinating care for veterans and urged Congress to embrace proposals by a presidential commission to fix gaps.

"They have some very good ideas in there," he said.

Nicholson's testimony to a House Veterans Affairs Committee painted a mixed picture of a VA that has initiated measures to boost mental health and other care but has struggled to keep up with growing demands due to a prolonged Iraq war.

Nicholson, who took office in early 2005, said the department has hired 1,100 new processors to reduce delays of up to 177 days in processing disability payments. But he

predicted another rise in compensation and pension claims this year, citing the additional applications pouring in during "the midst of war."

The increase, he said, is coming from Iraq war veterans as well as veterans from previous conflicts who were prompted to file additional claims for new or additional benefits amid the current public focus on war-related injuries in Iraq.

Even with new staff, the VA can only hope to reduce delays to about 145-150 days — assuming that the current level of claims doesn't spike higher.

"The claims backlog is an issue that has bedeviled me and many that have come before me," Nicholson said. "In fact, VA can influence the output — claims decided — of its work product, but it cannot control the input — claims filed."

Nicholson abruptly announced in July that he was resigning. His appearance Tuesday comes amid intense political and public scrutiny following reports of substandard outpatient treatment at the Pentagon-run Walter Reed Army Medical Center and at VA facilities.

ACLU, Muslims sue FBI

Leaders believe U.S. government has been spying on them since 2001

Associated Press

SANTA ANA, Calif. — The ACLU and Muslim advocacy groups sued the FBI and the Justice Department on Tuesday, alleging that authorities failed to turn over records detailing suspected surveillance of the Muslim-American community.

The complaint, filed in U.S. District Court in Santa Ana, alleges that the FBI has turned over only four pages of documents to community leaders, despite a Freedom of Information Act request filed more than a year ago.

The request sought records that described FBI guidelines and policies for surveillance and investigation of Muslim religious organizations, as well as specific information about FBI inquiries targeting 11 groups or people.

The lawsuit states that all the plaintiffs — who include some of the most prominent Muslim leaders in California — have reason to believe they have been investigated by the FBI since January 2001.

"It sends a message that Muslim-Americans have been, and continue to be, cooperating with law enforcement, but they're concerned there might be a disproportionate focus ... on their religious practices," said Ranjana Natarajan, an ACLU attorney.

One plaintiff, Shakeel Syed,

said that his organization and others have spent three years building a relationship with the FBI but that the agency's resistance to the request was troubling.

"I think it is in the best interests of the government to come clean and be transparent and forthright," said Syed, executive director of the Islamic Shura Council of Southern California. "This is a credibility issue."

FBI spokeswoman Laura Eimiller said she could not comment on pending litigation but released a statement from J. Stephen Tidwell, the FBI's assistant director in charge for Los Angeles.

"The FBI does not investigate individuals or groups based on their lawful activities, religious or political beliefs," Tidwell said.

A message left for the Department of Justice after business hours was not returned.

The groups filed an initial FOIA request in May 2006, several months after federal law enforcement officials confirmed the existence of a classified

radiation monitoring program used in surveillance at mosques, homes and businesses.

The FBI responded to the request first by saying it couldn't identify any records that met the criteria requested. After an appeal, the agency turned over four pages that dealt with the Council of American-Islamic Relations and Hussam Ayloush, the council's executive director for Southern California.

Those documents dealt with a suspected hate crime at a mosque that the council had reported to the FBI and a conversation Ayloush had with an FBI agent about cooper-

ating with federal law enforcers, Natarajan said.

She said she believes there are many more records because each plaintiff has been interviewed by the FBI or stopped at airports for questioning. The FBI, in its responses, indicted it searched only files that hold information on active criminal investigations instead of more general files that could encompass surveillance activities, she said.

"The FBI does not investigate individuals or groups based on their lawful activities, religious or political beliefs."

J. Stephen Tidwell
FBI assistant director
Los Angeles office

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AUSTRIA

American leadership called for in U.N. treaty

U.S., 9 others have yet to ratify nuclear testing ban

Associated Press

VIENNA — Diplomats at a U.N. conference urged the United States on Tuesday to take the lead among 10 countries that have yet to ratify a global treaty banning nuclear test explosions.

U.N. Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon has urged all 10 countries to ratify the deal, saying it would ensure that North Korea's October 2006 test blast is the world's final experiment with atomic weaponry.

Although 140 countries have ratified the treaty, the accord will not enter into force until it has been ratified by all 44 nations that took part in a 1996 disarmament conference and have nuclear power or research reactors.

Only 34 of the 44 have done so. The 10 holdouts are China, Colombia, Egypt, India, Indonesia, Iran, Israel, North Korea, Pakistan and the United States.

The foreign ministers of Austria and Costa Rica, who led a two-day conference on the treaty in Vienna, said the pact was key to ridding the

world of nuclear weaponry and called for U.S. leadership in sealing the deal.

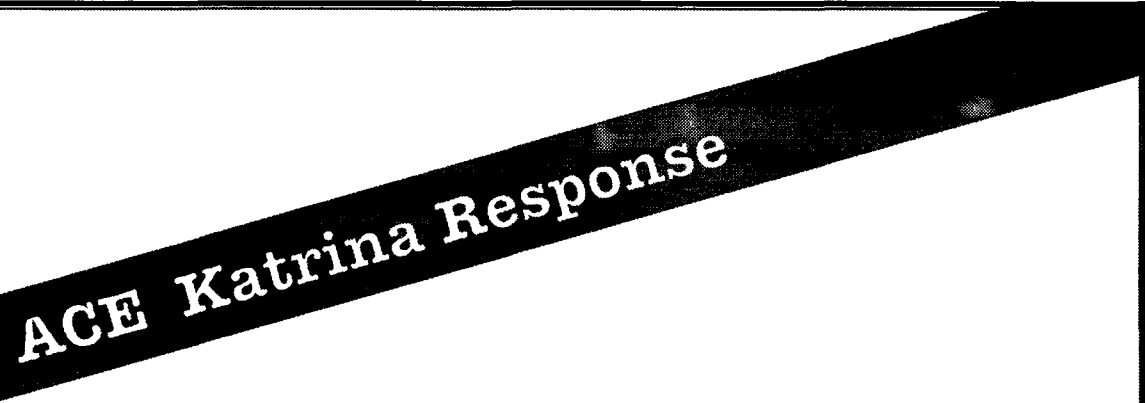
"The message from here in a way is, yes, we want U.S. leadership," Austrian Foreign Minister Ursula Plassnik told a news conference.

The Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty, opened for signature in September 1996, bans all nuclear test explosions. Its aim is to eliminate nuclear weapons by constraining the development of new types of bomb.

U.S. senators who voted against the treaty in 1999 argued that ratifying it would have threatened national security by closing off U.S. options to test. The Bush administration also rejects the treaty.

Ban, in a message relayed through an envoy, called the treaty "a major instrument in the field of disarmament and nonproliferation" that would help rid the world of nuclear weaponry.

The conference was attended by more than 100 countries, including seven of the 10 hold-out countries. India, the United States and North Korea were not present.



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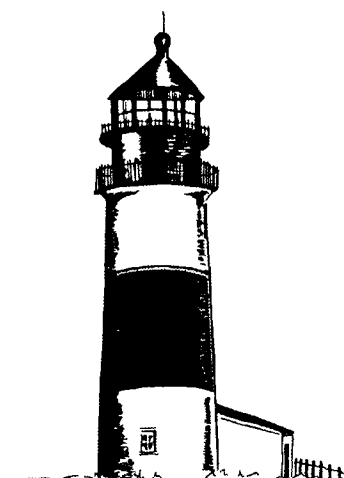
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THE OBSERVER VIEWPOINT

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Wednesday, September 19, 2007

THE OBSERVER

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THE
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POLICIES

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

Questions regarding Observer policies should be directed to Editor in Chief Maddie Hanna.

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Remember the Constitution

"The Constitution: It's not just a good idea. It's the Law." - Michael Badnarik

Monday was Constitution Day. Constitution Day was created in 2004 when a law was passed mandating any school receiving federal funds to teach about the Constitution on or around Sept. 17, the anniversary of its ratification. If you had no idea that Constitution Day was Monday, you're not alone. A survey released Monday by the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation revealed less than 50 percent of high school students have heard of Constitution Day and only 10 percent remember how it was celebrated last year in their high school. This comes at a time when the need to educate Americans on the founding document of this country seems ever more pressing. Consider some of these statistics from the 2007 "State of the First Amendment" survey:

Zach Einterz

Bulletproof
Ideas

When asked which rights were guaranteed by the First Amendment, only 16 percent of Americans could name the freedoms of press and assembly. Only three percent could name the right to petition. 28 percent of Americans believe freedom of religion was never meant to apply to religious groups that the majority of people felt were extreme or on the fringe. 65 percent agree that the "nation's founders intended the U.S. to be a Christian nation," and 55 percent believe "The Constitution establishes a Christian nation."

60 percent believe you should be

allowed to say things in public that might be offensive to religious groups, but only 41 percent believe you can say offensive things about racial groups.

34 percent of Americans believe the press has too much freedom, while only 13 percent say there is not enough freedom of the press.

42 percent disagreed that musicians should be allowed to sing songs with lyrics others might find offensive.

Perhaps the most disturbing fact came from the "Future of the First Amendment" survey of 2007. It reported that only 67 percent of high school students agree with the statement "Newspapers should be allowed to publish freely without government approval of a story."

If these are our attitudes toward the First Amendment, the most well-known and publicized part of our Constitution, imagine what our attitudes might be for the rest of the document. How many Americans can name all, or even half, of the 10 Amendments in the Bill of Rights? How many understand the balance of powers and know which powers are delegated to each branch of government? American citizens are not expected to be experts in Constitutional law or political science majors, but a basic knowledge of the Constitution and an understanding of its purpose are necessary for the protection of our Republic.

The Constitution was written to restrain the power of the government. With the memory of an oppressive king fresh in their minds, the framers of the Constitution wrote up a document that prescribed limited powers to the federal government. If we are ignorant of the limitations placed on government,

how can we defend our rights? When we lose respect for the Constitution and the rule of law, we concede authority to the government to act on its own volition.

We have seen over the past several years the abuse of our Constitution by the very people who swear to uphold it. Military commanders approve the use of torture. Politicians from the legislative and executive branches support everything from warrantless wiretapping to the suspension of habeas corpus to the centralization of power at the federal level. Politicians abuse the Constitution because they can get away with it. Americans voters have become too ignorant and too complacent, and too often we don't hold them accountable.

The Constitution turned 220 years old Monday, but its mandates remain timeless. Freedom from unreasonable searches and seizures is just as important now as it was in 1787.

Authoritarians will make the argument that the Constitution is anachronistic, or as President Bush infamously declared in 2005, "Stop throwing the Constitution in my face. It's just a piece of paper." If we don't educate ourselves about the Constitution and demand that our elected leaders follow it, it will become just that — a meaningless piece of paper.

Zach Einterz is a junior majoring in economics and environmental sciences. He has turned to politics after giving up on an unsuccessful sports career. Contact him at zeinterz@nd.edu

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

EDITORIAL CARTOON



OBSERVER POLL

Notre Dame Football 2007:
Great? Greatest? Abstain?

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QUOTE OF THE DAY

"Don't compromise yourself.
You're all you've got."

Janis Joplin
American singer and songwriter

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Recruiters incompatible with Notre Dame mission

As concerned students of this University, we write regarding this year's Job Expo sponsored by the Career Center and the Mendoza College of Business. Having read over the list of participating organizations, we are very much alarmed at the presence of a number of the groups seeking to recruit students from our University. We question the moral and social responsibility of two organizations in particular. We feel that the inclusion of the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) and Raytheon directly contradicts the mission of our University.

As our mission statement reads, the intent of the University "is to create a sense of human solidarity and concern for the common good that will bear fruit as learning becomes service to justice." Instead of fostering a sense of solidarity and justice, as we are called,

these organizations are founded on the propagation of a society that creates and consumes violence.

In the Iraq war, which has been strongly and repeatedly condemned as unjust by secular and religious leaders around the world, Raytheon received 9.1 billion dollars in weapons contracts in only one year (2005). Its 5,000-pound "bunker buster" bombs have been raining down on the people of Afghanistan since 2001. Raytheon's profit increases only as American actions take the lives of hundreds of thousands of civilians.

The Central Intelligence Agency, while claiming to be our nation's "first line of defense," has become one of the most misused tools in America's unjust foreign policy. Its tactics have recently led to charges by the New Yorker and the Washington Post that the CIA main-

tains secret detention centers. A new report released by six leading human rights groups, including Human Rights Watch and Amnesty International, charges the CIA with the disappearance of 39 individuals. The secret detention and disappearance of these individuals comes in addition to the CIA's use of torture tactics, including waterboarding, in their morally questionable involvement in the War on Terror.

We believe that Notre Dame should act in accordance with the Mission Statement upon which it was founded. We believe that the presence of both the CIA and Raytheon cannot be reconciled with our responsibility to "assist the world in creating justice grounded in love." We call on University President Father John Jenkins and the administration to reevaluate the presence of such organizations that would

seek to exploit our education for service to injustice and violence rather than justice and love. We call on him to take a conscientious position regarding the direction of our University on this matter. We ask that, in the spirit of our University's mission statement, he restrict the recruitment efforts of these organizations on our campus.

Michael Angulo, Kristi Haas and Alicia Quiros are writing on behalf of Notre Dame Peace Fellowship, Human Rights Notre Dame and Progressive Student Alliance.

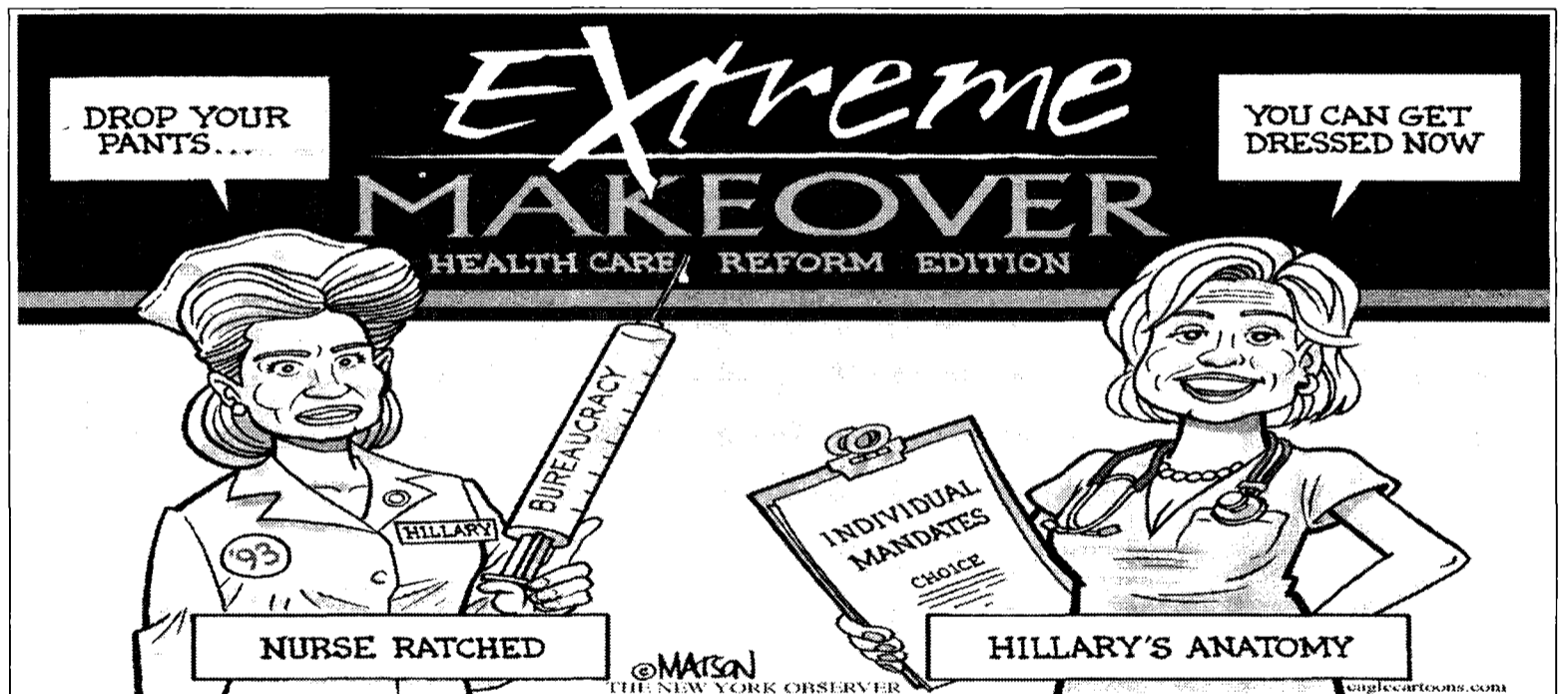
Michael Angulo
junior
Kristi Haas
Alicia Quiros
sophomores
Sept. 18

ND fans show class

As a Wolverines fan, I hate Notre Dame football. But I just wanted to thank your university and students for being so friendly on their visit to Michigan Stadium. There was no bitterness to be seen, only "good game" and "glad to be here." The Fighting Irish faithful proved to be terrific fans and visitors. Good luck on the rest of your season.

Jane Coaston
junior
University of Michigan
Sept. 17

EDITORIAL CARTOON



U-WIRE

Universal health care not feasible

One of the largest and most covered issues of the 2008 presidential elections is the issue of health care and health care reform in America. In a recent poll conducted by Time Magazine, 90 percent of respondents said the American health care system needs a change.

Joseph Motzko

With such an overwhelming portion of the population wanting reform, candidates of both parties are trying to come up with a solution to deal with not only the rising costs of health care premiums, co-pays and prescription drugs but also the 47 million uninsured Americans the U.S. Census Bureau estimates exist.

The Pitt News

One common solution offered is some rendition of a single-payer universal health care plan with the federal government as the single payer in which everyone is guaranteed medical insurance. Surprisingly, in the same Time poll, 64 percent of respondents believed the government should guarantee medical coverage for citizens.

With such a large backing, it might seem strange that some sort of universal health care was not initiated earlier. The reasons

it hasn't are quite simple: cost and quality. When asked if the government should guarantee health care at a higher cost to taxpayers, support falls to 48 percent. Americans may be open to the idea of universal health care, but they are far from sold on it.

It is not a secret that the cost of starting, maintaining and operating a universal health care plan is phenomenal. John Edwards, the first Democrat to outline a specific plan, openly acknowledges that his plan would cost up to 120 billion dollars a year. He believes that this cost could be covered by simply undoing the Bush tax cuts, a move that could dampen economic growth.

Other countries have enacted universal health care at a national level. Just over the border, Canada has a national health care system that is free for all its citizens. Over the Atlantic, Great Britain has a universal system along with several other European countries. But what do the people of these countries get for their money?

Presently, there are 875,000 Canadians on waiting lists for specialists, and 900,000 British people are waiting for admission to National Health Service hospitals, according to a report by the Los Angeles Times. In

Sweden you could wait 25 weeks for heart surgery and more than a year for hip replacement surgery. In Canada you wait 40 weeks on average for orthopedic surgery.

Some Canadian provinces allow for private doctors to provide MRIs and other services for a fee while others forbid any non-government treatment. According to CBS News, in Canada, a class action lawsuit was filed on behalf of 10,000 women who had to wait eight weeks for breast cancer treatment.

One woman, Johanne Lavoie, traveled four hours with her five-year-old son to Vermont on a bus to receive her treatment. When a wealthy Canadian businessman needs an MRI, orthopedic surgery or hip replacement, where does he go?

He doesn't wait a couple months on a waiting list; he flies or drives to the U.S. and pays out of pocket for faster and higher quality treatment. The poor and middle class wait on lists while the rich get what they want when they want it. Don't believe me? Just look at the numerous health care providers lined up at the U.S.-Canada border.

The answer to the health care reform question is not simple. Besides universal

health care, another possible solution is to create tax-free accounts that allow people to save money tax-free for future unexpected health care costs.

A second solution is to provide working Americans with tax breaks if they purchase their own insurance. The most realistic approach is some sort of hybrid system that allows for personal choice and responsibility, but is subsidized by the government.

It is unacceptable for almost 50 million people in the wealthiest country in the world to be without the means to receive non-emergency medical treatment.

However, universal health care, as being discussed today, is not a feasible option. If the money required to pay for universal health care comes from raising taxes on corporations and citizens, we risk becoming less competitive with foreign firms. Health care reform is needed in America, but not at the price of American jobs and national security.

This column originally appeared in the Sept. 18 edition of The Pitt News, the daily publication of the University of Pittsburgh.

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



OBSERVER GRAPHIC | Julie Grisanti

By CORBIN HICKS
Staff Writer

50 Cent is the epitome of what is wrong with rap music today, but we still love him anyway.

Through the years, the art form known as rap has gone through multiple phases, and different people have been considered the top dog in the game. From Run DMC to Sugar Hill Gang, Rakim, KRS-One and even the Wu-Tang Clan, there have been various rap acts which define rap music at the time of their reign. Even politically conscious groups such as Public Enemy and Grandmaster Flash and The Furious Five have time-stamped their names on the history of hip hop. However, no one has done as much good — or as much bad — for rap music as 50 Cent.

When he first burst onto the scene four years ago; it was obvious the next hip-hop superstar had arrived on the scene. From 50's swagger to the "bulletproof" background story he shoved down listeners' throats, there was something about 50 Cent very different from anything anyone had ever seen before. The only thing missing from the

50 Cent is the epitome of what is wrong with rap music nowadays. But we still love him anyway.

finished product was the actual music, which came in the form of the classic album "Get Rich or Die Tryin'."

From the time "In Da Club" reached the airwaves, 50 Cent had the musical formula down for crafting catchy hits that at the same time could not be accused of being corny — a direct contrast to his then competitor Ja Rule.

After bringing his entire group of friends and cronies into the music industry and letting them put out group and solo albums — standard practice in the rap world — it was time for 50 Cent to return with a solo album of his own.

What followed was "The Massacre," in which 50 Cent further tweaked this formula and provided an album that failed to live up to the standard set by its predecessor. While not a complete failure, the bar was set too ridiculously high for "The Massacre" to surpass those expectations.

Fast forward two years to "Curtis," 50 Cent's most recent offering to fans. The album starts with a movie clip about purchasing powerful weapons, which transitions into the opening track "My Gun." For the next couple songs, 50 Cent raps about killing people, accompanied by the standard Akon guest appearance. The next song, "I Get Money," steals the show, resonating through the speaker system and lodging itself firmly in the listener's memory. This song is so good it should make it onto a top 10 list for this entire decade.

Unfortunately, the buildup gets derailed on the very next song, "Come and Go." However, 50 Cent recovers quite nicely



Photo courtesy of soundblaze.com

The bulletproof 50 Cent returns with "Curtis," the artist's second album after his breakthrough smash "Get Rich or Die Tryin'," which was released in 2003.

in the next group of songs, which includes "Ayo Technology," "Amusement Park," "Straight To The Bank" and "Follow My Lead," one of the album's better collaborations with R & B crooner Robin Thicke. The next track up is the obligatory diss record "Fully Loaded Clip," which is pretty standard musical fare if you are familiar with 50 Cent's catalogue of material.

The weirdness of the Eminem-assisted "Peep Show" doesn't do much to add to the album, and starts the rest of the songs on a slow downward spiral until "Curtis" comes to a close.

During the two years which passed in between "Curtis" and "The Massacre," 50 Cent did absolutely nothing to try and reinvent the wheel. In other words, all of the tracks on "Curtis" sound as if you've heard them before — even

though you haven't. While there are some pretty good songs on this album, you have to wonder whether his new-found fortune shilling Vitamin Water has taken away some of the hunger and angst that once filled the heart and tracks of the original mixtape superstar.

Believe it or not, "Curtis" is actually a self-titled album ("Fitty's" real name is Curtis Jackson). The egomaniacal 50 Cent could not rap again another day in his life and still be financially stable forever, but does he have to make it so

obvious during this hour-long bragging and boasting extravaganza? It might be time for him to get his resume ready, because it doesn't look like he has much of a future in this line of work much longer.

During the two years in between albums, 50 Cent did nothing to try to reinvent the wheel. In other words, all of the tracks sound as if you've heard them before — even though you haven't.

Contact Corbin Hicks at chicks2@nd.edu

Curtis

50 Cent

Released by: Fearless Records

Recommended Tracks: "I Get Money," "Follow My Lead" and "Fire"



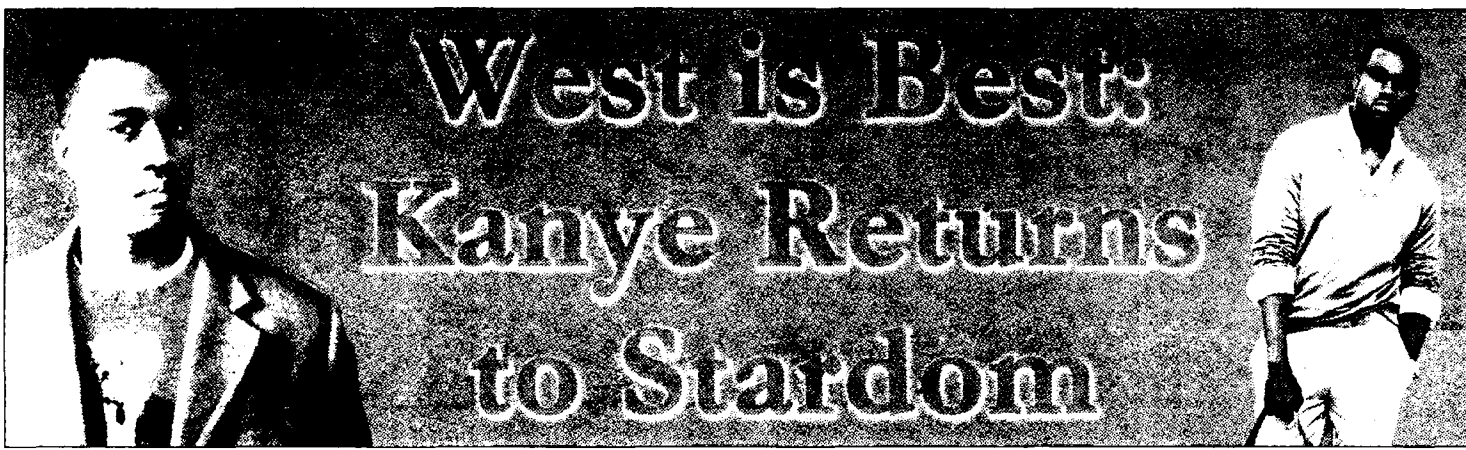
Photo courtesy of hiphopmusicdotcom.com

After becoming the face of rap music with his smash single "In Da Club" in 2003, has the bullet-ridden rapper lost his hip-hop touch?



Photo courtesy of top40.about.com

The controversial 50 Cent has courted criticism from the news media throughout the country due to his profane lyrics and espousal of violence.



OBSERVER GRAPHIC | Julie Grisanti

By CORBIN HICKS
Staff Writer

If Kanye West keeps putting out albums of this caliber, Beethoven should watch his back.

Kanye West's latest album "Graduation" is nothing short of spectacular, which is what you would expect from the man who has contributed some of the best music of this decade. From producing hits for Jay-Z, Common, Ludacris, John Legend, Alicia Keys, and just about every other hip hop act out, Kanye found the time to become an accomplished lyricist and songwriter of his own.

From the Grammy-winning "Jesus Walks" on his first album, high profile recognition of the blood diamond conflict taking place in locations like Sierra Leone, to the highly controversial jab taken at President Bush after the Hurricane Katrina disaster, Kanye just has a knack for staying in the headlines and in people's conversations. Perhaps taking a cue from his mentor Jay-Z, he walks the perfect balance between appealing to the more active hip hop listeners as well as attracting attention from the mainstream consumers. And nowhere is this more obvious than his latest effort.

"Graduation" is the third of four

installments in Kanye's concept album plan. Continuing on the school theme from his previous works, "The College Dropout" and "Late Registration," Kanye intends to follow up this album with the final installment titled "Good-Ass Job." One has to ask how that is going to fly in a media world after Janet Jackson wardrobe malfunction, but you have to applaud him for being able to see the bigger picture and try to put together a cohesive group of work that is meant to withstand the test of time. Just the fact that he is recording as if he were making a box set means that he is not simply trying to cash in on the relative fortunes to be made from the music industry. This passion for music and seemingly perfectionist attitude is what makes his music that much different, for the better or for the worse.

Fortunately for music fans everywhere, these gambles are pretty much all for the better. The album begins with the introductory track "Good Morning", in which he compares himself to a "fly Malcolm X" as the instrumentation prepares you for the musical journey you are about to undergo. The energy shifts from the mellowness of the first track to the high energy "Champion" and the second single from the album "Stronger." This song is perhaps the one that people are most familiar with, as the Daft Punk-sampled chorus and electronic beat make for a musical experience that is for sure a party mix mainstay until the New Year. We all know Club Fever plays "old" new music, so if they have your stuff on rotation now, then you've for sure got a hit on your hands.

The album continues on the musical high note with "I Wonder," and the singles "Good Life" and "Can't Tell Me Nothing." The fact

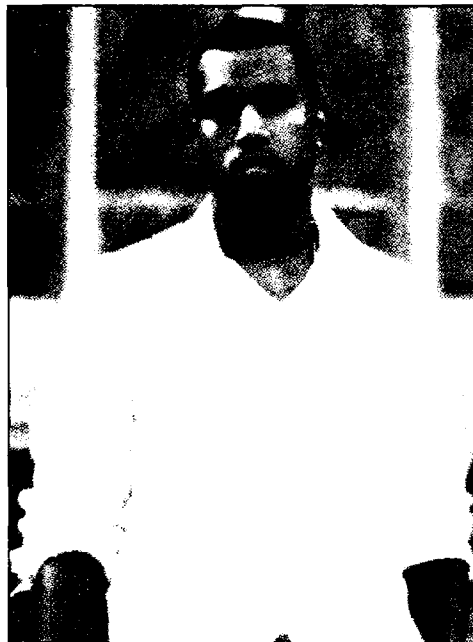


Photo courtesy of blogs.knoxnews.com

Kanye West returns to the limelight with "Graduation," his third album.

that "Stronger" and "Can't Tell Me Nothing" were recorded by the same artist speaks volumes about not only Kanye's creativity as an artist, but also the freedom that fans allow him to have when they receive new material from him. There is nothing out right now that sounds like that song, but to have it be so well received explains how much fans trust him for new music and also how he is looking to sonically conquer new frontiers.

The album seems to flow perfectly from one song to the next until the end of the album. That is, of course, if you forget that "Drunk and Hot Girls" exists (which you should anyway). Even though this album peaks from beginning to end, the inclusion of this god-awful song takes the rating down a full notch. However, don't let that turn you away from this masterpiece of an album that Kanye has released. To answer Nas, hip hop is not dead; it was just waiting for Kanye to get his money right.

Contact Corbin Hicks at chicks2@nd.edu

Graduation

Kanye West

Released by: Fearless Records

Recommended Tracks: "I Wonder," "The Good Life" and "Can't Tell Me Nothing"

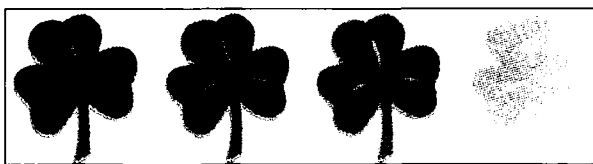


Photo courtesy of msnbc.com

With his feel-good party jams and penchant for eccentricity, Kanye West has cast himself as a foil to harder, edgier rap personas such as 50 Cent.

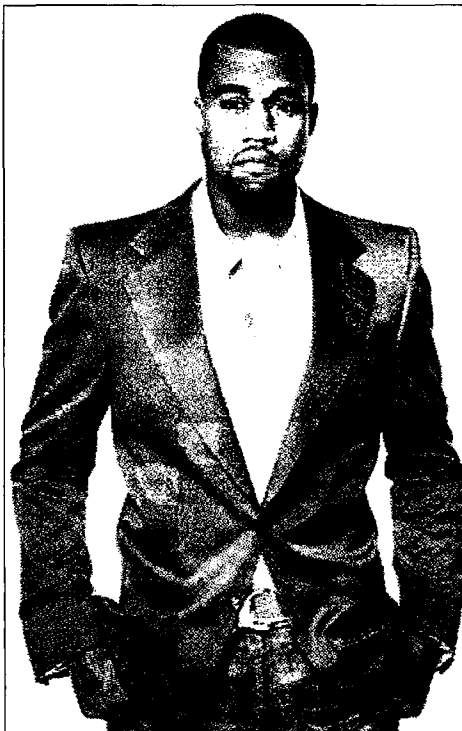


Photo courtesy of people.com

The fashionable West has found himself best suited to making hip-hop hits.

BOOK REVIEW

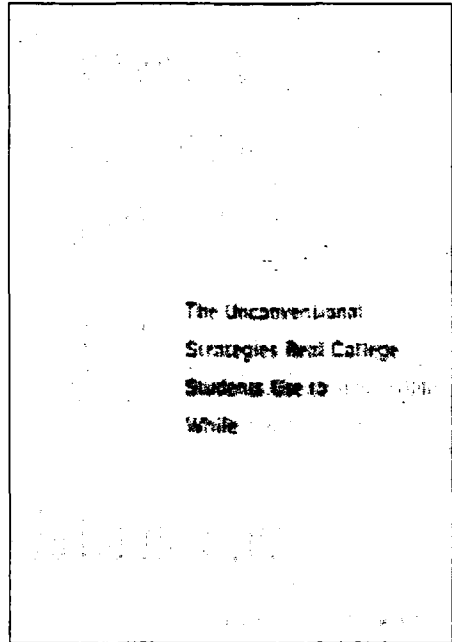


Photo courtesy of randomhouse.com

By TAE ANDREWS
Scene Editor

Every incoming Notre Dame freshman has two goals: one, to get straight As; and two, to devote as much time as possible to football, Family Guy DVDs and going out with friends. Unfortunately, the two exist in creative tension, and college life often seems like a zero sum game: Success at one goal comes at the expense of the other.

In his book, "How to Become a Straight-A Student: The Unconventional Strategies Real College Students Use to Score High While Studying Less," author Cal Newport explains that the two goals don't have to be mutually exclusive. The secret? Not studying harder or longer, writes Newport, but studying smarter.

Most students, he writes, tackle studying by brute force and rote repetition, barricading themselves in the library and poring over texts until their eyeballs threaten to fall out of their heads. Not only is this not fun, Newport says, but it is actually counterproductive.

Instead of buying Red Bull and doing the academic equivalent of banging one's head against the wall, Newport suggests students get smart about getting smart.

Unfortunately, the last thing most college kids want to do is pick up yet another book and leaf through the pages in pursuit of knowledge. In his book, Newport doesn't waste time; he breaks things down in a quick and simple manner. In the first section, Newport explains how to focus on time management and defeat that subtle master of subterfuge and studying sabotage, procrastination.

He also stresses how location has a direct correlation to the quality of studying time, and how studying in powerful, concentrated bursts is a much superior technique than slogging through hours and hours of continuous, monotonous and ultimately ineffective marathon sessions.

In the book's second section, Newport goes over how to take smarter, better notes, in addition to learning how to discern between which readings to actually read, which to skim and which students can skip outright. And in the third section, he writes about how to take down that mastodon of college assignments, the dreaded research paper.

Newport's advice isn't merely conjecture; he surveyed real straight-A students from the nation's top colleges and picked up the strategies they use for success. His writing is light and fun to read, and he has a sense of humor as well. Newport also realizes that college kids have better things to do than read about studying.

"How to Become a Straight-A Student" is a quick easy read and worth a glance for any undergraduate hoping to get good grades while still painting South Bend red. Who knows, maybe it'll even boost that GPA a little.

Contact Tae Andrews at tandrew1@nd.edu



Rock Solid Comedy Shines in First Season

OBSERVER GRAPHIC | Jared Wafer

By CASSIE BELEK
Assistant Scene Editor

After its initial mediocre episodes, "30 Rock" found its grounding and kept building throughout its entire first season. The result was not only the most improved comedy from its pilot, but also one of the funniest. Too bad people don't watch it. However, "30 Rock Season 1," now on DVD, stands out as a shining example of outstanding comedy.

Few people predicted that by the end of the 2006-2007 television season "Studio 60 on the Sunset Strip" would die and "30 Rock" would live. After all, "Studio 60" marked the much heralded return of writing genius Aaron Sorkin. But "30 Rock" had its own secret weapon — Alec Baldwin. Even if he does have anger issues, the man can do comedy.

Baldwin stars as Jack Donaghy, new boss to Tina Fey's Liz Lemon. Jack decides to take Liz under his wing and in the process, makes a few changes to her comedy sketch show, "The Girlie Show." He pushes aside star and Liz's best friend Jenna Maroney (Jane Krakowski) and brings in unbalanced

comedian Tracy Jordan (Tracy Morgan) to grab the male 18-49 demographic, changing the show's name to "TGS with Tracy Jordan." A frustrated Liz is assisted by "TGS" producer Pete Hornberger (Scott Adsit), writers Frank (Judah Friedlander) and Toofer (Keith Powell), and the perpetually happy, show biz-loving Kenneth the Page (Jack McBrayer).

Liz must face a whole mess of weekly obstacles. Most crises are "TGS"-related, like when Liz must deal with an overly psychotic Tracy before he appears on "Late Night with Conan O'Brien," but many of her problems delve into her personal life as well. In one episode she accidentally steals the makeup artist's baby when she feels her biological clock ticking. In another she has to find the courage and the time to break up with

her loser boyfriend Dennis (Dean Cain), one of the only remaining beeper salesmen in New York.

What makes "30 Rock" particularly unique is its use of "Saturday Night Live" alumni Chris Parnell and Rachel Dratch. Parnell frequently appears on the show as Dr. Leo Spaceman (pronounced Spuche-man), the go-to doctor for every illness or emergency imaginable. Dratch, who was originally slated to star as best friend Jenna before the character changed, appears as a variety of different characters including cat wrangler Greta Johanssen, the Blue Dude and Russian prostitute Vlem. We even get to see her do her "SNL" Barbara Walters impression just

like we get to see Tracy Morgan's Oprah and Star Jones impressions one more time.

The only downside to the season one DVD set is the incredibly disappointing extras. The behind-the-scenes featurettes appear to be thought out and filmed at the last minute. Even the episode commentaries are disappointing. It's a delight to listen to Fey's and McBrayer's commentaries, but the DVD set could have benefited from more actors doing commentary together. Lorne Michaels and his son do a commentary, but by the end a person wonders if they even know what a DVD commentary is.

Even the disappointing extras cannot undermine the hilarity and sophistication of "30 Rock." It employs the same self-referential humor that "Arrested Development" mastered and like "Arrested," it sticks strictly to comedy and doesn't dabble in the dramatic.

The guest stars are impeccable as well. Highlights include Will Arnett, Paul Reubens, Isabella Rossellini and Elaine Stritch, who won this year's Emmy for Outstanding Guest Actress in a Comedy Series for her role as Jack's mother.

After its win for Outstanding Comedy

Series at Sunday's Emmy Awards, "30 Rock" needs to worry about attracting an audience or else it will suffer the same tragic fate as

"Arrested Development." Fans of "The Office" will certainly appreciate the comedy of "30 Rock," but America has yet to respond to Baldwin, Fey and company.

If its first season is any indication of the future, then "30 Rock" will continue to be one of the best comedies on televi-

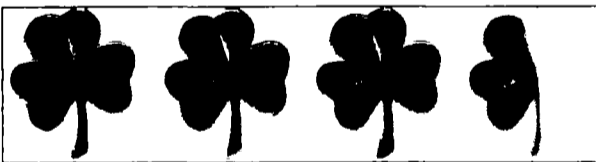
Contact Cassie Belek at cbelek@nd.edu

What makes "30 Rock" particularly unique is its use of "Saturday Night Live" alumni Chris Parnell and Rachel Dratch.

If its first season is any indication of the future, then "30 Rock" will continue to be one of the best comedies on television. People just need to watch the show.

30 Rock: Season One

Starring: Alec Baldwin, Tina Fey, Jane Krakowski, Tracy Morgan, Rachel Dratch



From SNL to 30 Rock: Comedy pals reunite for Emmy-winning new comedy.



Photo courtesy of images.askmen.com

Comedienne Rachel Dratch appears as several characters on "30 Rock."



Photo courtesy of uk.imdb.com

Alec Baldwin and Tina Fey carry the comedic cast starring on "30 Rock."



Photo courtesy of tv.yahoo.com

SNL alumnus Tracy Morgan continues to ham it up as Tracy Jordan.



Photo courtesy of tvcomedies.about.com

Jack McBrayer plays Kenneth the Page on NBC's new hit comedy.



Photo courtesy of nymag.com

Alec Baldwin displays his comedic talents as Jack Donaghy, Liz's boss.



Photo courtesy of tvcomedies.about.com

Tina Fey plays Liz Lemon, a woman who runs "The Girlie Show."

AROUND THE NATION

Wednesday, September 19, 2007

COMPILED FROM THE OBSERVER'S WIRE SERVICES

page 17

NFL

AFC East

team	record	perc.	PF	PA
New England	2-0	1.000	76	28
N.Y. Jets	0-2	.000	27	58
Buffalo	0-2	.000	17	41
Miami	0-2	.000	33	53

AFC North

team	record	perc.	PF	PA
Pittsburgh	2-0	1.000	60	10
Cleveland	1-1	.500	58	79
Baltimore	1-1	.500	40	40
Cincinnati	1-1	.500	72	71

AFC South

team	record	perc.	PF	PA
Houston	2-0	1.000	54	24
Indianapolis	2-0	1.000	63	30
Jacksonville	1-1	.500	23	20
Tennessee	1-1	.500	33	32

AFC West

team	record	perc.	PF	PA
Denver	2-0	1.000	38	34
San Diego	1-1	.500	28	41
Oakland	0-2	.000	41	59
Kansas City	0-2	.000	13	40

NFC East

team	record	perc.	PF	PA
Dallas	2-0	1.000	82	55
Washington	2-0	1.000	36	25
Philadelphia	0-2	.000	25	36
N.Y. Giants	1-2	.333	81	92

NFC North

team	record	perc.	PF	PA
Detroit	2-0	1.000	56	38
Green Bay	2-0	1.000	51	26
Minnesota	1-1	.500	41	23
Chicago	1-1	.500	23	24

NFC South

team	record	perc.	PF	PA
Carolina	1-1	.500	48	47
Tampa Bay	1-1	.500	37	34
New Orleans	0-2	.000	24	72
Atlanta	0-2	.000	10	37

NFC West

team	record	perc.	PF	PA
San Francisco	2-0	1.000	37	33
Seattle	1-1	.500	40	29
Arizona	1-1	.500	40	40
St. Louis	0-2	.000	29	44

MIAA Women's Golf

team	Total	Average
1 Olivet	664	333.0
2 SAINT MARY'S	678	339.0
3 Tri-State	685	342.5
4 Hope	697	348.5
5 Alma	729	364.5
6 Albion	744	372.0
7 Calvin	760	380.0
8 Adrian	763	381.5
9 Kalamazoo	770	385.0

around the dial

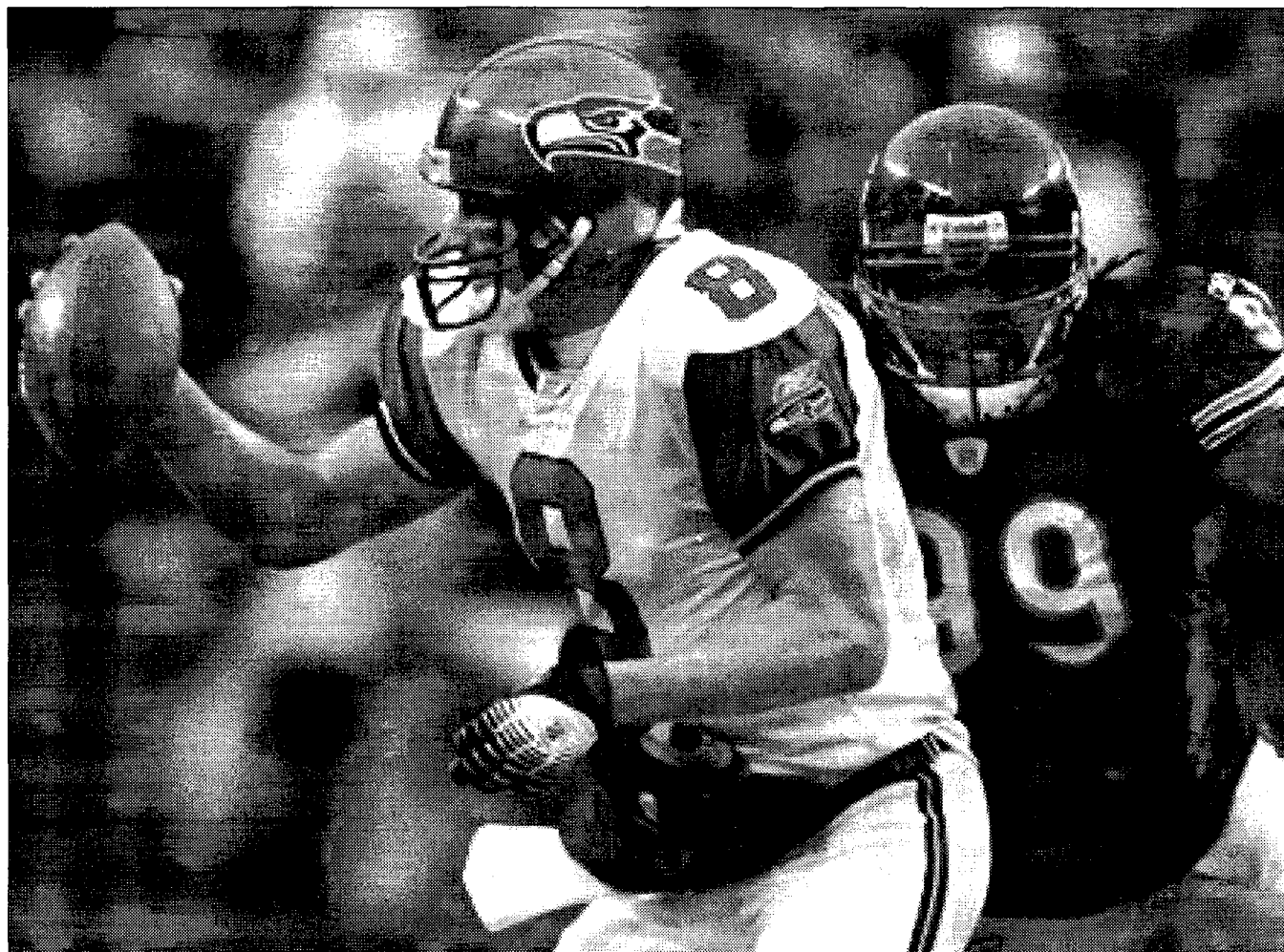
MLB

Cincinnati at Chicago Cubs
8:05 p.m., ESPN

UEFA WORLD CHAMPION SOCCER LEAGUE

Portugal vs. Manchester United
2:30 p.m., ESPN2

NFL



Former Bears defensive tackle Tank Johnson, right, goes in to sack Seahawks quarterback Matt Hasselbeck in a playoff game Jan. 14. Johnson signed a two-year deal Tuesday with the Dallas Cowboys.

Former Bear Johnson signs with 'Boys

Associated Press

IRVING — Suspended defensive tackle Tank Johnson signed a two-year contract Tuesday with the Dallas Cowboys.

Johnson, who played the last three seasons for the Chicago Bears, can't play for the Cowboys and won't be paid until he completes his eight-game NFL suspension for violating probation on a gun charge. He has served the first two games of that suspension and will still have to apply for reinstatement.

Johnson signed after visiting with the Cowboys and taking a physical. He will make about \$255,000 this

season, the prorated portion of a minimum contract.

"For a lot of reasons, he really just felt the Cowboys were the right fit," said Johnson's agent, Jerrold Colton. "He's so thankful to them for giving him this opportunity. He is very determined to prove they made a wise decision in believing in him."

The team issued a news release confirming the signing and announcing that Johnson will discuss the signing in a conference call Wednesday.

The Cowboys also said that Calvin Hill, a former player who is now a consultant specializing in monitoring troubled players, will

be available for comment Wednesday, as will coach Wade Phillips, owner Jerry Jones and Johnson's new teammates.

NFL spokesman Greg Aiello said the earliest Johnson would be eligible to play is Nov. 11 at the New York Giants, the Cowboys' ninth game of the season. Dallas has an open date in the NFL's eighth week.

Johnson could provide late-season depth on a defensive line that lost starting nose tackle Jason Ferguson for the year because of a torn right biceps in the opener. But Johnson will have to adjust to Cowboys' 3-4 scheme,

which is different from what he's played in Chicago.

Although Johnson can't work out with Dallas until the week of the Giants game after his suspension ends, the team had to make room for him on the 53-man roster. The Cowboys released backup cornerback Nate Jones on Tuesday.

The Cowboys will place Johnson on the reserve/suspended list Wednesday. This creates a roster opening.

Jay Ratliff, a third-year player, replaced Ferguson as the starting nose tackle. Ratliff has five tackles, a sack and a fumble recovery for the Cowboys (2-0).

IN BRIEF

Gibbons meets with league officials in steroid probe

NEW YORK — Baltimore outfielder Jay Gibbons met with two officials from the baseball commissioner's office to discuss a report he received performance-enhancing steroids and human growth hormone after both substances were banned by baseball.

Gibbons met Monday with Rob Manfred, baseball's executive vice president for labor relations, and Jon Coyles, the sport's director of drug testing.

There was no indication whether there would be any follow-up, a person familiar with the meeting said, speaking on condition of anonymity because no details were announced.

"I met with Major League Baseball representatives (yesterday) and was happy to answer all of their questions," Gibbons was quoted as saying.

NFL pushes for authority on disability claims

WASHINGTON — Under fire from injured retirees who say they were denied sufficient benefits, the head of the National Football League Players Association asked Congress on Tuesday for greater authority to approve disability claims.

Gene Upshaw, director of the players association, said the union currently is limited in what it can do for the scores of former players who are battered and broken from years of playing the violent sport.

At the same time, Upshaw and NFL Commissioner Roger Goodell said league pensions are improving. "We have made great progress, and we are not finished," Upshaw told a Senate committee. "Congress can help."

It is the first time the union has asked Congress for help with the problem, which was the subject of a House hearing earlier this year.

QB Leftwich signs deal with Atlanta Falcons

FLOWERY BRANCH — The Atlanta Falcons signed former Jacksonville quarterback Byron Leftwich on Tuesday, giving the team immediate depth and a potential contender for the starting job.

"First of all, I'm a football player and the last couple of weeks have been tough on me," said Leftwich, who was cut the week before the season by the Jaguars. "I appreciate the opportunity and I look forward to doing whatever I can to help our team."

Leftwich's agent, Tom Condon, said the former first-round draft pick passed a physical, worked out for the team and signed a two-year, \$7 million deal. The 27-year-old Leftwich is set to join the Falcons for Wednesday's practice.

To clear a roster spot for Leftwich, the team released third-string quarterback Casey Bramlet, whose only professional experience came in Europe...

MLB

Unusual offense leads Angels to 10-7 victory

Rockies pitcher Francis keeps playoff hopes alive; Royals' Meche holds White Sox to only four hits and two runs

Associated Press

ANAHEIM — The Los Angeles Angels' versatile offense overcame another shaky outing by Kelvin Escobar.

Chone Figgins and Casey Kotchman each had three hits and two RBIs, and the Angels lowered their magic number for clinching the AL West to five with a 10-7 victory over the Tampa Bay Devil Rays on Monday night.

This was the 17th time the Angels have scored 10 or more runs, and the 11th time in their last 50 games. And they did it without the benefit of a home run.

"Our team is not a home hitting team and our park's not built for that," Figgins said. "We've got guys who can run. And when you've got athletes, you can do a lot more things."

Darren Oliver (3-0) allowed two hits in 1 2-3 scoreless innings for the Angels, who had 18 hits. Los Angeles overcame deficits of 2-0 and 4-3 and also wasted leads of 3-2 and 6-4.

Escobar gave up six runs, eight hits and two walks in

four-plus innings, the fourth straight start in which he failed to pitch through the sixth. One of the runs against him was a straight steal of home by B.J. Upton in the third.

The Angels right-hander has a 10.19 ERA during his last four outings, raising his overall ERA from 2.77 to 3.46.

"It's been tough on me my last four games," Escobar said. "For some reason, I'm out of synch and I'm fighting with myself to get back into my rhythm. I just have to find a way to fix it and finish strong."

Escobar left with a 6-4 lead after Tampa Bay loaded the bases with none out in the fifth, and Oliver relieved. Akinori Iwamura scored on second baseman Howie Kendrick's fielding error, and Greg Norton came home on a fielder's choice grounder by Delmon Young — his third RBI of the game. But Oliver kept the score tied by retiring Dioner Navarro on a bases-loaded flyout.

Edwin Jackson (4-15) lost his third straight decision, allowing seven runs — four earned — and 14 hits over 4 2-3 innings.

Figgins chased the right-hander with a tiebreaking, two-out RBI triple over the head of Upton, who was playing shallow in center and appeared to have trouble picking up the ball off the bat.

"Most defenses are taking away most of Figgy's stuff in front, because that's really where he predominantly hits the ball," Angels manager Mike Scioscia said. "But once in a while, he's got that power. That ball was squared up."

Rockies 3, Dodgers 1

Accolades can wait for Jeff Francis.

The Colorado left-hander rebounded from a rare bad outing to lead the Rockies past the Los Angeles Dodgers in the first game of a double-header Tuesday.

So centered on keeping the Rockies' slim playoff hopes alive, Francis didn't realize until afterward that he'd struck out a career-high 10 batters or that he had set a franchise record for wins by a lefty.

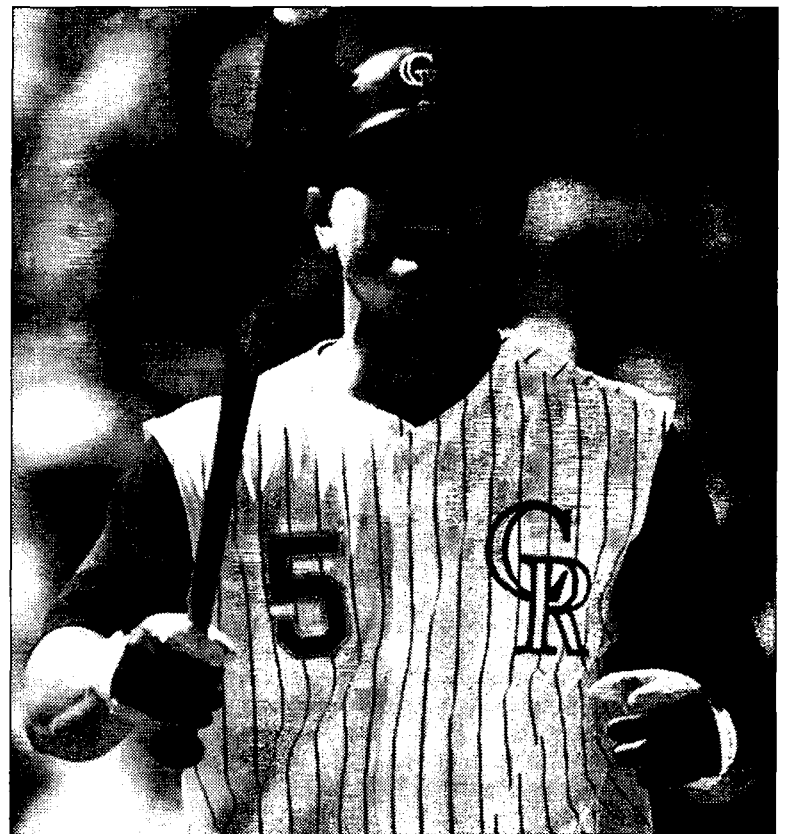
Francis (16-8) surpassed Shawn Estes, who had 15 in 2004, and put himself just one win shy of the franchise record set by Kevin Ritz in 1996 and tied by Pedro Astacio in 1999.

"When the season is over you can look back at things like that and be proud of them," Francis said. "But I think there's something bigger we're working toward right now."

The teams played a split doubleheader to make up for a rainout on July 27 at Coors Field, and both teams looked at it as crucial to their hopes of catching San Diego in the NL wild-card chase. The Dodgers began the day three games behind the Padres and Colorado started five games back.

Francis allowed one run on six hits and stranded eight runners in 6 2-innings. His 10 strikeouts were the most by a Rockies pitcher since Jason Jennings fanned 10 Giants on Aug. 28, 2003, a span of 661 games.

"Great time to pitch a great game," Rockies manager Clint Hurdle said. "Very resilient,



Rockies first baseman Matt Holliday reacts after he struck out looking against Dodgers pitcher Chad Billingsley.

pitched through a lot of traffic early, left seven men on base in the first four innings, topped it off with 10 strikeouts. Nice bounce-back outing."

Royals 3, White Sox 2

Gil Meche picked up his ninth victory Tuesday night, but he could have a whole lot more if he got any run support this season.

Meche scattered four hits over seven innings, and Billy Butler drove in two runs as the Kansas City Royals beat the Chicago White Sox.

Meche (9-12) has a 2.90 ERA over his past eight starts, and has not allowed more than three runs in any of them. But he is just 2-3 over that stretch, and the Royals have scored only 10 runs while he was on the mound in his 12 defeats.

"I think you could conservatively say he could have won 16 to 17 games the way he's pitched," Royals manager Buddy Bell said. "We got three runs in the first and that's all

we needed. I felt like were on the edge all night long and kind of held on."

The right-hander, who the Royals signed to a five-year, \$55 million contract during the offseason, has worked 202 innings to become the first Kansas City pitcher to surpass the 200-inning mark since left-hander Darrell May logged 210 innings in 2003.

"It's something I've never done," Meche said. "To come in here with a big contract and establish myself as a good pitcher who eats up a lot of innings and give us a chance to win, for the most part I've done that all year. I've been real pleased."

Meche gave up two runs, one earned, while striking out five and walking two.

"We get three runs off the bat and it let me go out there and relax a little," Meche said. "It seemed like I got better as the game went along. In the seventh inning, I had the best stuff I had the whole game."



Devil Rays third baseman Akinori Iwamura tags out Angels' Casey Kotchman during a rundown after a pickoff attempt.

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MLB

Brewers move into first place in NL Central

Vargas relieves Sheets, pitches four scoreless innings; Estrada hits his second grand slam of season

Associated Press

HOUSTON — The Milwaukee Brewers lost their ace, then moved into first place in the NL Central.

Johnny Estrada hit his second grand slam of the season against Houston and Milwaukee overcame an injury to Ben Sheets to beat the Astros 9-1 on Tuesday night, moving the Brewers less than a percentage point ahead of the Chicago Cubs in a tight division race.

Claudio Vargas (11-4) pitched four scoreless innings in relief of Sheets, who left with tightness in his left hamstring after giving up a run in the first. Team officials said Sheets would be evaluated on Wednesday. His status was uncertain for his next scheduled start, in Atlanta on Sunday.

"I guess I'll see tomorrow," said Sheets, still in pain after the game. "It was just grabbing

me back there. I felt great in the first (inning). I thought I was going to get into a nice groove."

The Brewers didn't need Sheets against the Astros — Vargas and three relievers held them without a hit over the final seven innings to win their third straight game.

"The grand slam was big," Estrada said. "But Claudio sucking up those innings was bigger. That was a huge effort by the bullpen."

Ryan Braun added a two-run homer and Prince Fielder stretched his hitting streak to 16 games with an RBI single for the Brewers, who have won four of their last six.

"I was telling the guys a few days ago, whoever puts together a good seven-game win streak is probably going to pull away and win this thing," Estrada said. "Hopefully, we can keep it going."

Estrada's second career slam capped a five-run fourth inning off rookie Felipe Paulino (0-1), who was making his first major league start. The 23-year-old right-hander was recalled from the minors on Sept. 4.

"There was an excitement in the ballpark," said Houston manager Cecil Cooper. "But they put five up in that inning and that kind of took the fans out of it."

By then, Vargas was cruising. He allowed singles to Mark Loretta and Brad Ausmus in the second, a walk to Lance Berkman in the third and retired the other 12 hitters he faced.

"I've pitched out of the bullpen before," Vargas said. "I just take the ball, try to get loose and try to make my pitches. That's what I did."

Houston took 1-0 lead in the first inning before Sheets departed.

Rookie Josh Anderson led off with a double down the left-field line, went to third on Craig Biggio's bunt and scored on Berkman's single up the middle. Anderson is 12-for-25 since the Astros recalled him from the minors on Sept. 1.

Sheets came out to start the second inning, threw a few warmup pitches, then signaled to the dugout that he was hurt. Manager Ned Yost walked to the mound with a trainer and the right-handed Sheets pointed to his lower left leg.

"It didn't pop," Sheets said. "It just gradually grabbed worse and worse every time."

Sheets jogged around the infield and threw a warmup pitch before walking off the field. He's already missed a month this season with a sprained finger and strained his groin in April.

"I'm mentally fried from injuries this year," he said. "The

guys picked me up nicely. That made me feel better. I don't know about the injuries, though. They keep happening."

Paulino allowed only one hit through the first three innings before crumbling in the fourth.

After Joe Dillon led off with a ground out, Braun tripled over Anderson's head in straight-away center and Fielder followed with a broken-bat single to left that tied the game at 1.

Corey Hart doubled down the left-field line and Paulino intentionally walked Gabe Gross to load the bases for Estrada, who hit a grand slam off Astros reliever Rick White at Miller Park on June 26.

"It took me five years to hit one," Estrada said. "After I hit the first one, I figured it would take five more to hit another one."

Turns out it took less than three months.

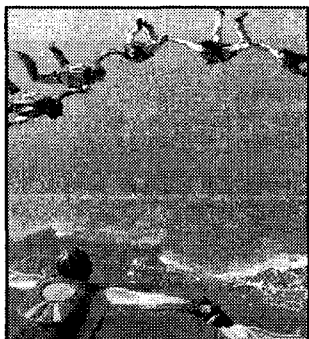
This time, Estrada drove a 2-2 pitch from Paulino over the right-field wall, just inside the foul pole. Estrada is 6-for-10 with 19 RBIs with the bases loaded this season.

Left-hander Trever Miller relieved Paulino to start the fifth. He walked Dillon before Braun lined his 31st homer of the season a few feet inside the left-field foul pole.

Geoff Jenkins and Rickie Weeks hit back-to-back homers off Brian Moehler in the ninth.

Seth McClung, Derrick Turnbow and Greg Aquino combined to shut out the Astros without a hit over the final four innings. Houston has lost 10 of its last 13 games.

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NCAA FOOTBALL

Purdue quarterback Taylor breaks left arm

Associated Press

INDIANAPOLIS — Purdue running back Jaycen Taylor could return in six weeks after he broke his left arm Saturday against Central Michigan, coach Joe Tiller said Tuesday.

Tiller originally thought Taylor might be out for the season, but the fact that the injury was a clean break changed the prognosis.

"He possibly could come back and play," Tiller said at his weekly teleconference. "Whether or not that comes to fruition, of course, remains to be seen."

The junior left Saturday's game for good after a 5-yard run late in the first quarter, and later found out that he broke both bones in his lower arm. He had successful surgery on Monday, and plates were put on both bones.

"To me, any break is not a good deal, but apparently, this

was the best we could have hoped for, and that Jaycen could have hoped for, coming out of this," Tiller said.

Tiller said he expects Taylor to say he's ready before six weeks pass.

"He probably will," Tiller said. "I don't know if we can believe him, but I'll be surprised if he doesn't."

Taylor, a junior college transfer, entered last season expecting to have to work his way into the rotation because starter Kory Sheets ran for 571 yards and 10 touchdowns as a freshman. Instead, Taylor finished with 677 rushing yards and four touchdowns and played regularly as Sheets' backup. Tiller promoted Taylor to starter in the spring.

Taylor rushed for 197 yards on 28 carries this season before the injury.

"I'm concerned quite a bit about the running back position," Tiller said. "I think the

loss of Taylor was pretty big."

Sheets, who will resume his starting role, had career highs of 21 carries and 144 yards against Central Michigan, but fumbled twice. The junior has rushed for 1,622 yards and 24 touchdowns at Purdue.

Dan Dierking steps in at the No. 2 running back spot. His father, Scott, ran for 2,863 yards from 1973 to 1976. Tiller thinks some of that talent rubbed off.

"I think he's a fast learner," Tiller said. "He's been coached well, certainly by his high school coaches, and maybe by his daddy."

Quarterback Curtis Painter believes Dierking will succeed in his expanded role.

"I think he's very similar to Kory and Jaycen in that he plays extremely hard," Painter said. "He picked up a couple blocks in this past game. That's always a good sign, that they're not so worried about not getting the ball that they won't block."



Purdue running back Jaycen Taylor (33) escapes the tackle of Eastern Illinois cornerback Sinque Turner on Sept. 8. AP

Zook hopes to defeat Indiana on home turf

Coach currently 0-2 in series vs. Hoosiers

Associated Press

CHAMPAIGN, Ill. — Ron Zook says he won't use the fact that Illinois hasn't beaten Indiana in his two-plus seasons in Champaign as a motivator for Saturday's game between the two teams.

Not his style, Zook says.

But don't believe that the Illini's 0-2 record since 2005 against their eastern neighbor is far from Zook's thoughts.

"Like I told our team last night, this is the third time we're gonna play and we haven't won yet," Zook said during his regular Tuesday news conference.

"Our programs are very, very similar. We're both kind of improving at the same rate. The thing that they've done is they've beaten us twice," he said.

If the Illini's back-to-back losses against Indiana don't give Saturday's game in Bloomington extra significance for Illinois, those similarities might.

Indiana enters the game at 3-0, with talented sophomore quarterback Kellen Lewis leading an offense that's averaging 478 yards a game. Illinois is 2-1, and has consecutive wins for the first time since Zook's first two games in 2005 and comes off a 41-20 dissection of Syracuse on the road.

The winner opens Big Ten play 1-0 and should get a big lift. The loser will enter the next week looking for its first win against tougher competition — Indiana at Iowa and Illinois at home against Penn State.

Illinois' defense versus Lewis figures to be one of the game's key matchups.

The Illini haven't allowed an opposing back to run for more than 100 yards this season,

while Lewis has 317 yards rushing — including 199 last weekend in a 41-24 win over Akron. He's sixth in the Big Ten in rushing yards, right behind Illinois running back Rashard Mendenhall.

Lewis, a sophomore, also has passed for 643 yards — 214 yards a game — and nine touchdowns while throwing three interceptions.

"He can beat you with his feet and his arm," Zook said. "How do you defend that?"

Zook also said Tuesday that hasn't forgotten that Lewis had one of his first strong games last season in Champaign.

Lewis punched holes in the Illinois defense with his feet, rushing for 47 yards and a touchdown, and his arm with 240 yards passing. The Hoosiers came back from a 15-point first quarter deficit to win, 34-32.

"He was just using athletic ability and the skill around him," Zook said.

Linebacker Brit Miller compared Lewis to Illini quarterback Juice Williams. Both can run the ball, and are sometimes more dangerous when a play breaks down than when sticking to the playbook, Miller said.

"For the most part, you don't account for the quarterback in a lot of breakdown situations," he said. "It's not about the straightaway speed, it's about their elusiveness."

Williams is coming off what some say is his best college game. The sophomore threw for 97 yards and a touchdown, ran for 90 more and another TD and, most importantly, didn't make a fatal mistake.

He and Mendenhall will, at times, face eight- and nine-man fronts, Zook said Tuesday.

Mendenhall, who ran for 150 yards and three touchdowns last weekend at Syracuse, is practicing this week with a slight ankle sprain, Zook said, adding that the running back should be fine by Saturday.



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FIFA WOMEN'S WORLD CUP

U.S. defeats Nigeria in World Cup quarterfinals

Chalupny scores sole goal within first minute of play; the favored squad looks for its third championship title

Associated Press

SHANGHAI — Lori Chalupny gave the United States the fast start it was looking for in a 1-0 victory over Nigeria on Tuesday, a win that put the top-ranked Americans into the Women's World Cup quarterfinals.

Chalupny's goal after only 55 seconds set up a quarterfinal match against England on Saturday in the northern city of Tianjin. The Americans have won six of nine games against England (with two losses and a tie). The last game was a 1-1 draw eight months ago.

Sweden defeated North Korea 2-1 on Tuesday in Tianjin. Despite the loss, North Korea advances to a quarterfinal against defending champion Germany on Saturday in Wuhan.

Sluggish in the first two games against North Korea and Sweden in Group B, the Americans raced ahead in a heavy downpour at Hongkou Stadium and pushed their undefeated streak to 50 games.

"You take any goal you can, but getting a quick one — now they've got to come at you," American coach Greg Ryan said. "It gives you better chances going the other direction. It's a great way to start."

Off a throw-in from Cat Whitehill, Abby Wambach headed a ball to midfielder Chalupny,

who settled it off her chest and then chipped a close-in right-footed shot that deflected off a Nigerian player behind keeper Precious Dede. It was her fifth goal for the national team and the quickest of the tournament.

"It's a set piece we've been working on," Chalupny said. "Abby just got the perfect flick on it, kind of what we draw up in practice, and it just happened to bounce right to me. So I was able to get a touch on it and slide it away."

Looking for its third title to go with World Cups in '91 and '99, the United States finished with seven points in Group B, considered the toughest in the tournament.

The wet field and driving rain slowed many attacks and kept the crowd down to several thousand in the 34,000-seat stadium.

Nigeria had only one shot in the first half; the Americans had a half dozen.

Wambach headed the ball just over the bar in the 20th minute and Kristine Lilly's free kick from 18 yards sailed just high in the 25th. Dede also leaped to stop a header in the 36th. In the 41st, Lilly found Chalupny in the box, but she headed the ball just wide.

In the 43rd, Wambach's close-in header was deflected just over the bar by Dede following Lilly's cross.



U.S. forward Abby Wambach, left, and Nigeria's Christie George fight for the ball during their Group B match of the 2007 FIFA World Cup soccer tournament Tuesday.



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WNBA

Mercury captures first WNBA championship

Associated Press

PHOENIX — The Phoenix Mercury's slogan for the 2007 WNBA playoffs was "One team, one city, one goal."

On Tuesday, it was one big party as the new WNBA champions and about 1,000 of their fans celebrated at a U.S. Airways Center rally. A championship banner was unfurled as purple and gold confetti fluttered from the ceiling.

"You stuck with us through thick and thin, and there was quite a bit of thin," All-Star forward Penny Taylor told the crowd. "We fought for you."

Taylor wasn't kidding. She bore four bruises and an inch-long scratch on her arms, evidence of an intense, physical series with the Detroit Shock.

The Mercury have had a small but ardent fan base since their inception in 1997. Some of the rally's loudest cheers were reserved for Mercury assistant coach Bridget Pettis, who scored the first basket in team history.

"I feel that I'm asleep right now, and I'm having the best dream of my life," an emotional Pettis said.

It was a dream season for the Mercury, who scored a WNBA-record 89 points per game and became the first team in league history to clinch a title on the road.

Phoenix rallied from a 2-1 deficit to beat Detroit in the

best-of-five series. The final score of the clincher — PHX 108, DET 92 — flashed on a scoreboard above the dais.

Championships are rare in this city. Among the four major


pro sports teams, only the Arizona Diamondbacks, in 2001, have brought a trophy to the desert.

Perhaps that's why the rally stirred so many emotions.

Arizona fans haven't been spoiled by success.

"From the bottom of our hearts, thank you so much," All-Star Diana Taurasi said. "We're going to do it all again next

year." Before the 12:30 p.m. rally, the Mercury gathered on an underground practice court to have a team photo taken with the WNBA trophy.



Kellogg Institute
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"Health Care Reforms: An Economist's Assessment"



William Evans
Keough-Hesburgh Professor of Economics



12:00 Noon
Saturday, September 22, 2007
Annenberg Auditorium,
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- 9/22—Michigan State
"Health Care Reforms: An Economist's Assessment"
William Evans, Keough-Hesburgh Professor of Economics
- 10/13—Boston College
"Global Ireland: From Celtic Twilight to Celtic Tiger"
Luke Gibbons, Donald R. Keough Family Professor of Irish Studies
- 10/20—USC
"Combating Extremism: Democratic Virtues and Pluralism in Islam"
Asma Afsaruddin, Associate Professor of Arabic and Islamic Studies
- 11/03—Navy
"Cops, Protest, and Rioting"
Daniel Myers, Director of Research and Faculty Development, Joan B. Kroc Institute for International Peace Studies, Professor of Sociology
- 11/10—Air Force
"Theological But Not Religious: The Case of John Milton"
Stephen Fallon, Professor, Program of Liberal Studies
- 11/17—Duke
"Words and Music, Music and Words: The Songs of Franz Schubert"
Susan Youens, J.W. Van Gorkom Professor of Music

3-1/2 hours before kickoff in the Annenberg Auditorium, Snite Museum of Art (unless otherwise noted).
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L e t t e r s & A r t s o f C o l l e g e o f A r t s



UNIVERSITY OF NOTRE DAME

NFL

McNabb says black QBs scrutinized

Associated Press

NEW YORK — Philadelphia Eagles star Donovan McNabb says black quarterbacks face greater scrutiny than their white counterparts.

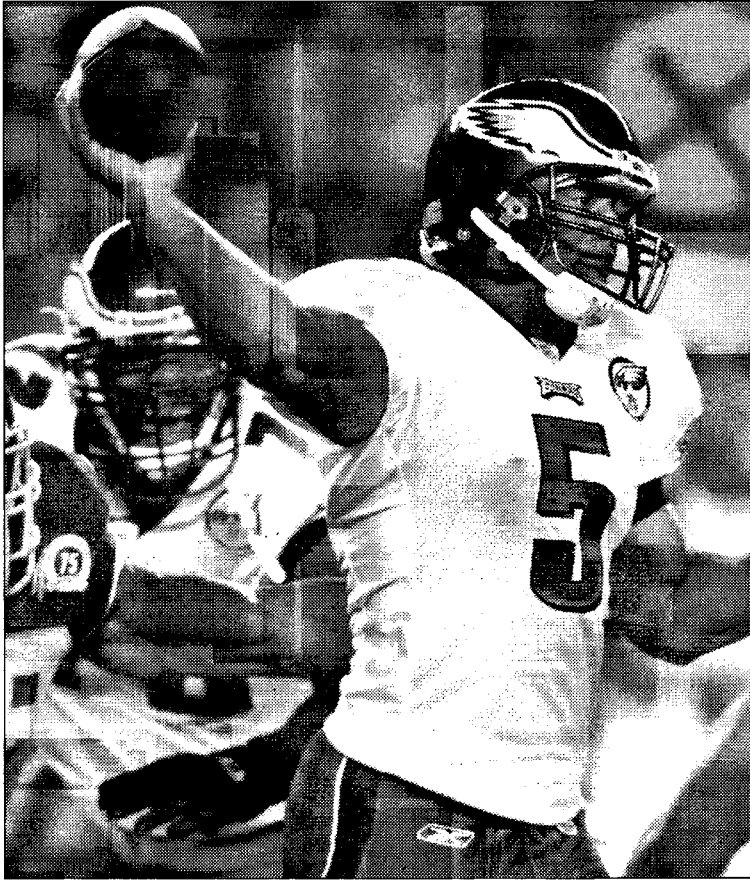
In an interview on HBO's "Real Sports with Bryant Gumbel" to be broadcast Tuesday, McNabb said black quarterbacks "have to do a little bit extra" because there are relatively few of them, adding "people didn't want us to play this position."

McNabb said if he passes for 300 yards and his team wins by a touchdown, critics will say, "Oh, he could have made this throw here. We would have scored more points if he would have done this."

Asked if white quarterbacks such as Peyton Manning and Carson Palmer are held to the same standards, McNabb replied: "Let me start by saying, I love those guys. But they don't get criticized as much as we do. They don't."

McNabb is one of six black starting quarterbacks in the NFL. The others are David Garrard of Jacksonville, Vince Young of Tennessee, Steve McNair of Baltimore, Jason Campbell of Washington and Tarvaris Jackson of Minnesota.

McNabb, a five-time Pro Bowl selection, is 9 1/2 months removed from major knee surgery and has missed 13 games the past two seasons because of injuries. On Monday night,



Eagles quarterback Donovan McNabb passes during Philadelphia's 20-12 loss to Washington Monday night.

he misfired on several throws and couldn't create big plays during the Eagles' 20-12 loss to Washington.

In 2003, conservative commentator Rush Limbaugh, briefly part of ESPN's pregame show, said he didn't think

McNabb was as good as perceived.

"I think what we've had here is a little social concern in the NFL," Limbaugh said. "The media has been very desirous that a black quarterback do well."

STEROIDS

St. Louis company fined \$10.5 million

Associated Press

BOSTON — A company that distributed human growth hormone to "well known athletes and entertainers" has agreed to pay a \$10.5 million penalty and cooperate with ongoing law enforcement investigations, federal prosecutors said Tuesday.

Under the terms of the agreement, Specialty Distribution Services Inc., a subsidiary of Express Scripts Inc., will not face prosecution for three years if it fully complies with terms of the agreement.

Steve Littlejohn, a spokesman for St. Louis-based Express Scripts, said the company fully cooperated in the federal investigation and has already implemented procedures to prevent the illegal distribution of human growth hormone.

"Express Scripts does not condone the use of human growth hormone for anti-aging, cosmetic or performance enhancement purposes," the company said in a news release.

Specialty Distribution Services "knowingly distributed human growth hormone to certain well known athletes and entertainers, including a well known athlete in Massachusetts, knowing that

their intended use was athletic performance enhancement, cosmetic or anti-aging," in violation of federal law, the U.S. attorney's office said in a news release.

Prosecutors did not mention any names of those believed to have bought HGH from the firm.

The drug in question was approved by the Food and Drug Administration only for specific purposes, including treatment of children with growth failure due to inadequate growth hormones, prosecutors said.

"The public should also realize that human growth hormone has not been shown to be safe and effective for athletic, cosmetic or anti-aging uses, and it must not be promoted or distributed for such uses," U.S. Attorney Michael Sullivan said in a statement.

The company illegally shipped the drugs five times between October 2000 and December 2005, according to court documents prosecutors filed with the agreement.

Human growth hormone was sent to a "well known professional athlete in Massachusetts" in January 2002 and again in October 2003 following a doctor's request, the documents said.



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NBA

Thomas allegedly used slurs, curses

Associated Press

NEW YORK — Just months after berating her in expletive-filled tirades, New York Knicks coach and president Isiah Thomas moved from cursing to courting a fellow executive now suing the basketball Hall of Famer for sexual harassment, a former team employee testified Tuesday.

Jeffrey Nix, a 15-year employee of the NBA team, took the stand in U.S. District Court to recount a series of conversations he had with his friend and co-worker, plaintiff Anucha Browne Sanders, throughout 2004.

Browne Sanders, in tones of disgust, detailed how Thomas initially treated her with contempt shortly after his December 2003 arrival in New York. Nix testified.

At one meeting meant to resolve any issues between Browne Sanders and Thomas, the two-time NBA champion guard lashed out at her by announcing, "Don't forget, you f—— bitch, I'm the president of this f—— team," Nix said his friend told him.

Browne Sanders also told Nix, he testified, that Thomas had asked her in March 2004, "What the f— is your job? What are your job responsibilities, you f—— ho?"

By the end of the year, though, Nix testified that he saw Thomas embracing Browne Sanders in Madison Square Garden after a Knicks' victory — and watched as his friend pushed the coach away.

"You're not going to believe what he just said," Nix quoted Browne Sanders as saying. "He just said, 'I'm in love with you. It's like [the movie] 'Love and Basketball.'"

Browne Sanders is suing Thomas and Madison Square Garden for \$10 million in a sexual harassment suit that also seeks reinstatement to the job that she held for five years with the once-storied franchise that won its last title in 1973.

Attorneys for Browne Sanders rested their case Tuesday afternoon after calling the plaintiff's sister, Ruth, and her ex-administrative assistant to buttress her claims. They also played a videotaped deposition from MSG Chairman James L. Dolan, who said the decision to fire Browne Sanders was his alone.

Asked if it was appropriate for MSG employees to refer to co-workers as a "black bitch," as star Knicks guard Stephon Marbury allegedly did to Browne Sanders, Dolan quickly said it was not.

"It is also not appropriate to murder anyone," Dolan continued. "I don't know that that has happened either."

Thomas, who has denied the allegations, sat with his hands folded in front of his face at the defense table, tilted his head slightly and listened intently as Nix testified. Nix, who held a variety of bench and front office jobs with the Knicks, was let go by the Thomas regime at the end of August.

The defense case, with Thomas expected to testify at some point, should begin Wednesday morning.

Nix said Browne Sanders was upset and confused by Thomas' switch from verbally abusive to amorous. When the two spoke in spring 2005, Nix recalled Browne Sanders telling him, "It went from last year bitch and ho to now he's in love with me."

Browne Sanders, a married mother of three and former Northwestern basketball star, joined the Knicks in late 2000. The vice president of marketing and business operations was fired in January 2006; she claimed the dismissal came after she complained to MSG management.

The Garden claims she was dismissed for a failure to "fulfill professional responsibilities."

Nix appeared one day after jurors watched a videotaped deposition where Thomas insisted that he had never cursed at the plaintiff. During the questioning, Thomas also said he would find it more offensive if a white male called a black female a "bitch," than if a black male made the same comment.

SMC VOLLEYBALL

Belles travel to last-place Albion

By SAMANTHA LEONARD
Sports Writer

Saint Mary's returns to the court after six days off to face last-place Albion (1-7, 0-4 MIAA) tonight at 7 in Albion, Mich.

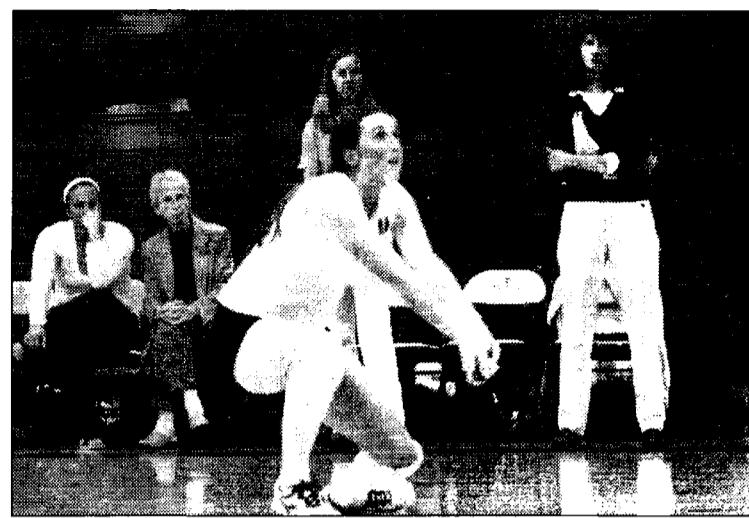
Albion may be in last, but it boasts the most recent MIAA player of the week. Britons outside hitter Morgan Waller had a combined 52 kills and 26 digs in Albion's league losses to Alma and Olivet.

Saint Mary's had two honorable mentions for the MIAA player of the week — senior setter Amanda David and sophomore outside hitter Lorna Slupczynski.

The Belles meet the Britons with a 2-2 conference record and an overall record of 5-6.

Players strive to be the MIAA player of the week, but the Belles want to go beyond that prize.

"This season our goals are a little higher than last year both on and off the court," David said. "We have raised our team GPA goal to a 3.4 or higher, which is very feasible. On the court we are pushing hard for a regional ranking,



KRISTY KING/The Observer

Junior middle blocker Kaela Hellman bumps during Saint Mary's 3-0 over Olivet on Sept. 11.

which is also very possible."

In their six days off, the Belles kept up the work.

"We will be working on really making both our offense and our defense crisper," coach Julie Schroeder-Biek said. "Our game is coming together nicely, but we still have a lot of work to go to get to where we want to be."

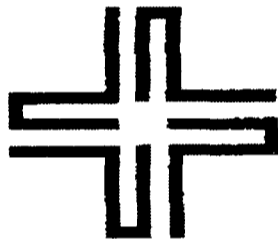
Although Albion is in last, its stats are competitive with

Saint Mary's. Both teams average about 12 kills, 11 assists and two blocks a game. Albion is ahead of Saint Mary's in digs per a game with 22.21 digs to the Belles' 14.7.

But the statistics haven't meant much for Albion.

The Belles will return home Friday to face Kalamazoo.

Contact Samantha Leonard
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Wednesday, September 19th and talk to the NIBCO team!

Walsh

continued from page 24

After a punt return to mid-field, Chaos junior quarterback Katie Dunn completed three straight passes to get her team within five yards of a touchdown. After a two-yard scramble by Dunn, Cavanaugh faced a fourth-and-goal from the Walsh 2-yard line. Senior captain Tarah Brom attempted to cross the plane on a sweep but was stopped behind the line by Walsh defender Julie Campbell.

The Chaos was given a second chance when Lauren Cummings intercepted a Sullivan pass moments later. On third down, Dunn was pressured by Walsh's defense, but managed connect while on the run with receiver Sarah Van Mill, who was standing unguarded in the

corner of the end zone.

An extra point would have tied the score, but Dunn was stopped just before she could dive across the goal line, leaving the Wild Women with the slim edge.

Cavanaugh got another chance to win the game with 1:23 remaining, but three straight incomplete passes ensured victory for the Wild Women.

After the game, Sullivan was awarded the offensive MVP for Walsh, with Campbell winning defensive MVP. Both players received a piece of "the rock" as a reward.

"[Campbell's] stop at the end of the game was absolutely crucial," Walsh coach Mike Schaefer said.

Sullivan, meanwhile, enjoyed the moment after defeating her team's arch-rivals.

"It's a pretty intense rivalry," she said. "It's always

competitive, and it feels really good to win my senior year."

Though disappointed with the loss, Cavanaugh coach Hunter Land refused to look at the negatives and was already looking forward to exacting revenge.

"Our defense played really well the second half," he said. "Walsh played a hell of a game and we wish them the best of luck this season. We definitely hope to play them one more time, though."

PE 14, Howard 14

Although Howard's defense had been powerful against McGlinn Sunday, it collapsed against Pasquerilla East in a hard-fought tie.

The Ducks started the game with a long pass from freshman quarterback Kayla Bishop to freshman receiver Leslie Allen, but were stopped shortly thereafter.

Howard's defense played well; Emily Stewart made a

diving interception and Laura Geisman had two picks of her own. After her second interception, Howard's rushing and passing attack took the Ducks down the field.

Pasquerilla East's coaches attributed Howard's passing success to the height of their receivers. Howard's two touchdowns came on deep passes.

"Howard is a small team of girls, but they are pretty good," Pyros co-coach Laura Hansen said. "I bet every one of them is over 5-foot-10."

Pasquerilla East worked their way down the field and eventually evened the score, but neither team could pull ahead.

Pyros co-coach Kyle Carter admitted didn't have a solid game plan.

"We just go out and make up plays, pretty much," Carter said. "... P.E. was a lot faster than we were. They've got speed."

Howard coach Tim Baumgartner said the team faced a tough opponent.

"They kept us guessing with that play-calling — they ran reverses and things that we just weren't ready for," he said.

One of Howard's players saw the need to change their defensive alignment.

"I've got to give credit to Christina Sensabaugh; during our timeout she told us the defense wasn't working, and then she came up with a scheme that held PE back for the rest of the game," Carter said.

McGlinn 0, Farley 0

Defense was the name of the game as McGlinn and Farley blocked and tackled their way to scoreless tie Tuesday at Rihele Field.

The Finest defense got going early, when they drove McGlinn to a three-and-out on its first possession and forced a punt. Farley senior quarterback and captain Jenny Rolfs completed four passes in a row to senior receiver Kim Crehan. But the Finest were stopped short of a first down and yielded the ball to the Shamrocks.

Rolfs completed 15-of-19 passes but threw three interceptions. In addition, a five-yard false start penalty in the second half caused the offense to stumble.

"The offense has a lot of new players," Rolfs said. "I think we did a good job of moving the ball."

McGlinn's offense was based on the run, with sophomore running back Tina Noranha getting the majority of the carries. The Shamrocks, playing sophomore backup quarterback Christie Haller, were held to only one first down. Haller was 2-of-7 passing with two interceptions.

"You've got to hand it to Farley's defense," senior McGlinn coach Jeff Paramore said. "They really stopped our run."

The football changed hands many times at the end of the second half.

With two minutes left on the clock, McGlinn turned the ball over on downs. The Farley possession began with a 25-yard rush by Rolfs, followed by three passes to Crehan. But Shamrocks freshman Kathleen Stanley had several tackles to prevent the Finest from scoring.

McGlinn took over with 30 seconds remaining, but Farley senior Anna Pursley intercepted Haller's pass. The Finest regained possession with time for one more play, but Rolfs' pass attempt was intercepted by senior Shamrocks captain Katie Zedler to end the game.

"We showed a lot of promise today," Zedler said. "We are implementing a new offense, and have a lot of new players. The rest is yet unwritten."

Senior Farley coach Matt Barcus also saw potential in his team.

"I think we can win with this team," Barcus said. "Six ties and we go to the playoffs."

The Farley Finest play Cavanaugh Sunday at 1 p.m., and McGlinn's next challenger is also Cavanaugh, on Sept. 25 at 7 p.m.

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Camp

continued from page 28

of the ball," Weis said. "We want to run the ball with more physicality — and pass block for that matter."

Weis said that aside from improving physicality, tackling to the ground also allows the staff to get a better read on the players' performance. When the Irish were merely wrapping up ball carriers before a whistle blew, the coaches had no way of knowing how well a defender could tackle or how well a running back could break tackles.

"There's no way to hide [now]," Weis said. "If you're a running back, you're going to the ground. If you're a receiver, you're going to the ground. If you're a tackler, you have to take them all the way to the ground. There's no whistle that's going to blow the play dead."

Weis said the team took the transition to more physical practices well.

"I didn't know on Sunday how they would respond having just played a game and having lost by a lopsided score ... and then being out there and going full pads," he said. "I've been encouraged by the tempo we've had."

All of the hitting is in lieu of a specific game plan for Michigan State, whom Notre Dame plays on Saturday. Weis said the Irish will focus less on "Xs and Os" this week and more on doing the little things well.

"We've kept it very simple on both sides of the ball," Weis said. "We're letting people tee off on each other and see who wins."

Weis introduced specific game plans for both Georgia Tech and Michigan, utilizing the spread-option to try to neutralize his team's inexperience. In both cases, the offense struggled. He said the days of special offenses week-to-week are over, at least for now. For the next few weeks, the Irish will work on mastering their base playbook.

"Sometimes when you try to find the Xs and Os schematics to best exploit the other team's weaknesses, you don't really have an identity," Weis said. "The identity that I've always dealt with on the offensive side of the ball is multiple forma-

tions and multiple formations that can all run the same plays. We haven't gotten that yet. Right now we're trying to get to the core, because that can build off the core."

Weis also said that the special offenses were designed to mask his team's weaknesses, but he's now decided to buckle down and correct the weaknesses.

"You have to start force-feeding who they are," he said. "At this point you can't be trying to figure out what they can do. You have to say 'we're going to do this.' And then you have to do it, and do it, and do it, and do it, until you get it right."

Even if the optimism on Weis' face comes true and the Irish improve significantly this week, the coach said he will keep his team hitting hard in practice for most of the season.

"I think you have to keep some element of this in your planning so you don't have a setback," he said. "Say you go and win on Saturday. That doesn't mean you're okay. You still got the crap kicked out of you in three straight games and you're 1-3."

Notes:

◆ The Fort Wayne Journal Gazette reported on its website Tuesday night that quarterback Demetrius Jones will not be released from his scholarship, meaning he will have to pay his own tuition at Northern Illinois this year.

Weis said that he talked to Jones on Monday evening, four days after the sophomore abruptly left South Bend, but that he was not involved directly in Jones' transfer.

"I'm not involved in any of that stuff," he said. "It goes from athletic director to athletic director."

◆ Weis confirmed Tuesday that sophomore offensive lineman Dan Wenger has suffered an injury, but would not comment on the specifics.

"He's iffy for a little while," Weis said.

◆ Suspended nose guard Darrell Hand will be back in uniform and is expected to play against Michigan State after missing the first three games of the year, Weis said.

Contact Chris Khorey at ckhorey1@nd.edu

Cinalli

continued from page 28

dribble."

Cinalli attributed her creativity in large part to her relationship with Hanks, with whom she has developed an on-field rapport.

"She's so creative, so technical, she knows the game so well," Cinalli said. "It's really fun to play with her because you can do a lot of good fun combinations with her. Since we've been playing together for the past three years we kind of understand where we're going to go with the ball. We kind of anticipate ... each other and work really well together."

It's Cinalli's ability to cooperate with her teammates that allows her to play multiple positions. She started the first three games at forward, but played

the last three at midfield.

"I just felt like, with the three forwards, we were struggling a little bit to hold the ball up front," Waldrum said. "We just didn't have anybody that was doing a good job of holding it."

Waldrum made an allusion to the low-post position in basketball. The Irish struggled at times with getting the ball in the box and holding it there so other players can get open for a shot.

Cinalli, who likes both positions and has played both since childhood, understands the roles she is expected to fill.

"If [I'm playing] in the midfield, [my role is] trying to control the ball and playmake and play up to the forward's feet," Cinalli said. "If it's up front, it's being able to hold on to the ball and turn and get some goals."

Cinalli's soccer brain knows exactly what she should be doing on every possession.

"You're trying to think one step ahead of the game," she said.

Without the ball, she tries to spread the field and make room for her teammates or make her way deep into the attacking third for a long pass. With the ball, she looks for one-touch passes to her teammates.

No matter where she is or what position she plays, Cinalli exemplifies the role of captain with both her skill and attitude.

"I just try to go out there every game and play with my heart, work my hardest," she said. "I'm out there for my teammates the whole time, and I never stop until that ending whistle blows."

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

Contact Bill Brink at wbrink@nd.edu

Victory

continued from page 24

The Cardinals finished the tournament second at 881 (295-295-291). Augusta State took third with an 890 (289-303-298). Georgia State was fourth at 896 (303-291-302), and Middle Tennessee State rounded out the top five, shooting a 912 (302-300-310) on the tournament.

"There is a little bit of luck involved in golf," Holt said. "I think they're getting committed to the game plan and executing it."

The Irish charge was led by a freshman competing in her second collegiate tournament. So-Hyun Park claimed medalist honors with her three-under-par 213 (70-71-72).

Junior Lisa Maunu was the second best golfer for the Irish with her five-over-par

221. After placing first in the Cougar Classic, the co-captain notched her second top-10 finish after she placed in a three-way tie for sixth. It marked the second time in program history that Irish golfers have won back-to-back events.

Sophomore Kristin Wetzel had a career-best three-round tournament at the Cardinal Club with a 223 (75-71-77) to land her in a tie for 13th place.

Fellow sophomore Annie Brophy finished the tournament in a tie for No. 21 with a 226 (77-73-76). Her freshman teammate, Katie Conway, shared a spot with her at 21st with a 226 (78-75-73).

Holt acknowledged that the play of the underclassmen was a large part of the success during the first two victories.

"The upperclassmen were

thrilled with the freshmen today," Holt said. "It was nice to see our younger golfers contribute and help us on to victory."

Notre Dame will look to start a season three-for-three for the first time when it tees off at the Wolverine Invitational on Sept. 29 and 30 at the University of Michigan Golf Course.


Despite the team's early success, Holt said, the golfers are not worried about any other teams and focusing on themselves.

"We're not concerned of what other people think about our program," Holt said. "We're just out there playing golf. We're not playing for anyone else. We're playing for Notre Dame, and each other."

Contact Lorenzo Reyes at lreyes@nd.edu

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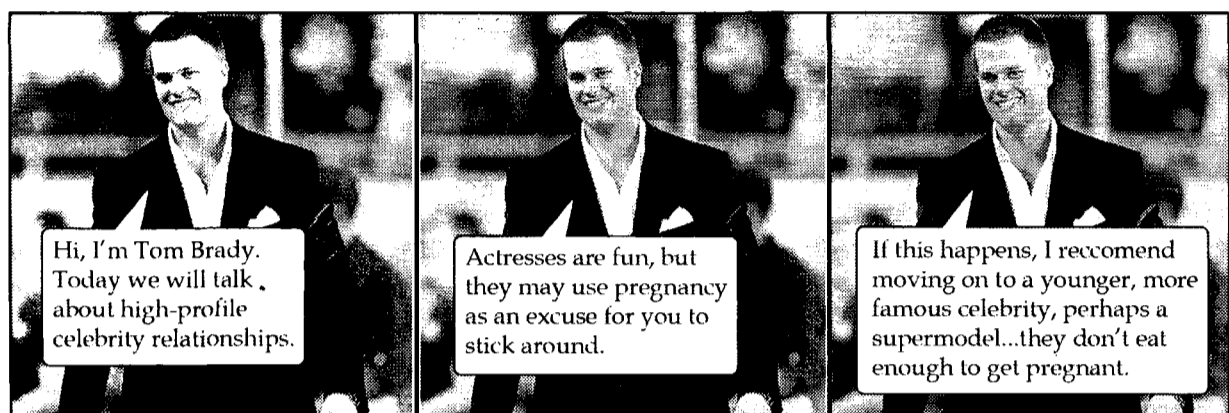
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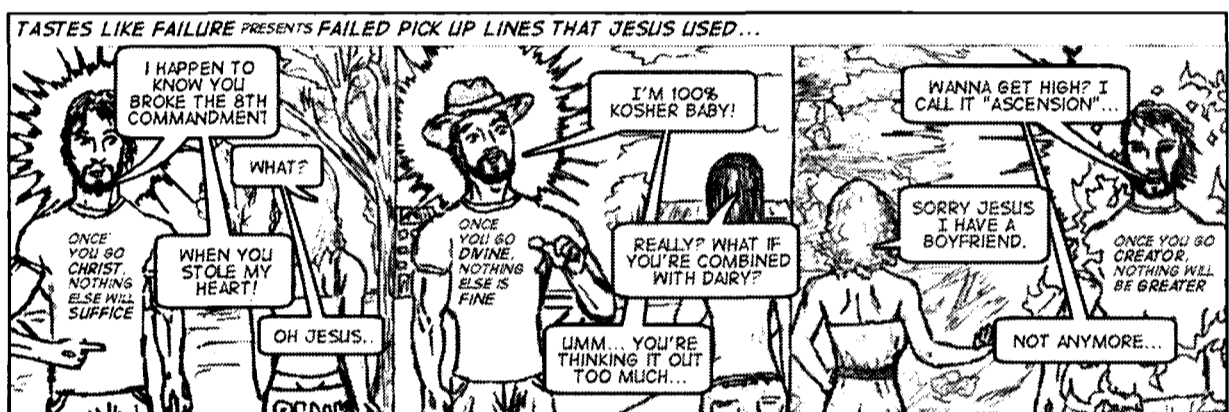
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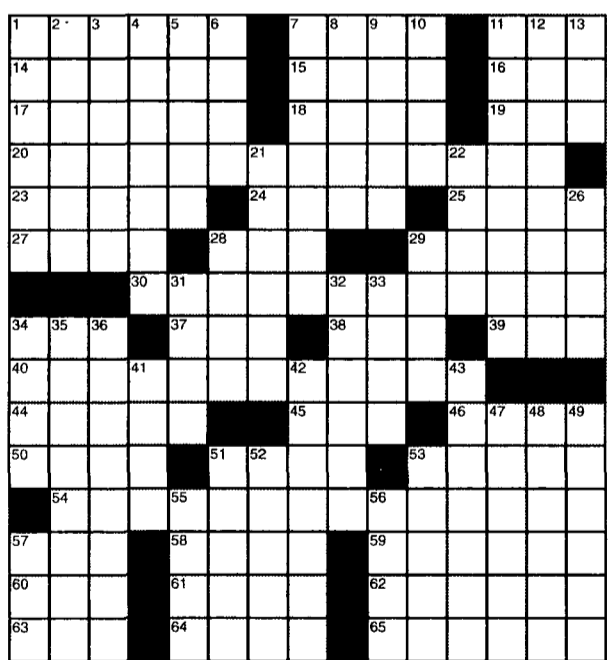


CROSSWORD

WILL SHORTZ

- Across: 1 Toyota Camry model, 7 Dietary needs, 11 Balaam's beast, 14 1980 John Carpenter chiller, 15 Sarcastic reply, 16 Rap's Dr. ____, 17 Channel swimmer, 18 Gertrude, 19 Novelist Jaffe, 19 Crude, e.g., 20 Back-to-the-slammer order?, 23 Readies, briefly, 24 "___ a traveler from an antique land": "Ozymandias", 25 Son of Judah, 27 Opposite of ecto-; 28 Hard-rock connector, 29 Cheerful, 30 Reason the kids were left alone?, 34 Eiger, e.g., 37 A/C meas., 38 ___ Na Na, 39 Get stuck with, as the cost, 40 Reward for a Ringling invention?, 44 In progress, 45 La-la lead-in, 46 Devil Ray or Blue Jay, for short, 50 Prefix with cab or cure, 51 Baba ____, Gilda Radner "S.N.L." character, 53 Coward's lack; 54 Scuff marks on the prairie?, 57 Bespectacled dwarf, 58 "Young Frankenstein" hunchback, 59 TV's Howser, 60 "Norma ___", 61 Poetic times, 62 Museum guide, 63 Since Jan. 1, 64 Be in a stew, 65 Alley pickups; Down: 1 Grassy expanse, 2 "Shoot!", 3 Looked like a wolf, 4 Music from across the Atlantic, 5 Diner basketful, 6 Posthumous Pulitzer winner, 7 Dalmatian's master, sometimes, 8 Superior to, 9 Group doctrine, 10 Marquee topper, 11 "Oklahoma!" gal, 12 Ceylon, now, 13 Condiment for pommes frites, 21 Revolt, 22 Go bad, 26 Duma denial

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- 28 Graphic ____, 29 1970s tennis great Smith, 31 Border on, 32 Woman's shoe style, 33 1969 and 2000 World Series venue, 34 Put ___ on (limit); 35 1944 Hitchcock classic, 36 Cranked out, 41 Do, 42 Least favorably, 43 Starchy dessert, 47 Hang around, 48 Object of a tuneup, 49 Turns to 0, say, 51 It might be placed at a window, 52 Without equal, 53 Hawk's descent, 55 Feudal estate, 56 Throws in, 57 Prohibitionist

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JUMBLE

HENRI ARNOLD MIKE ARGIRION

JUMBLE

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

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THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME

by Henri Arnold and Mike Argirion



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

Ans: IT WAS A " " (Answers tomorrow) Yesterday's Jumbles: ARMOR CUBIC ACCENT NAUSEA Answer: Easy to get when one trains - A STRAIN

HOROSCOPE

EUGENIA LAST

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: James Marsden, 34; Jada Pinkett Smith, 36; James Gandolfini, 46; Fred Willard, 68

Happy Birthday: Emotions will be running high so control your reactions. It is a time of change so do your best to set your goals and stick to them. Don't rely on others, rather, trust in your own abilities. Your numbers are 11, 16, 22, 25, 34, 44

ARIES (March 21-April 19): A trip, taking a course or attending a conference will open your mind to new ideas. Be careful not to tread on toes of someone who can influence your progress. Love and romance are looking good. 5 stars

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): A change in the way you live and how you do things is evident. Contracts can be signed and changes to your future put into play. You will get help from someone older. 3 stars

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): There are too many variables to make any firm decision today. You may want to take time out, enjoy the company of friends or family and forget about everything else. 3 stars

CANCER (June 21-July 22): There may be some problems that crop up regarding a colleague, peer or even one of your pets. Don't let any minor health issues turn into something bigger. 3 stars

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): This is the perfect day to spend time with people you love or to get out and find someone new. Most of all, focus on friends and family but don't overspend. 5 stars

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Don't believe everything you hear. Something you are trying to do will not work out the way you want because funds are lacking or someone is causing you grief. Put your differences aside. 2 stars

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Make your plans and follow through even if someone disappoints you and opts out. You will end up meeting someone who is fun and entertaining and can open your eyes to new interests. 4 stars

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Tie up loose ends and do what you must to stay within your budget. Stay in control by not allowing anyone to push you in a direction you feel isn't in your best interest. You can do just fine alone. 3 stars

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Your emotions will be difficult to control and, if you let your heart lead your head, you are likely to make mistakes. Listen but do not make promises. Overindulging will be your downfall. 3 stars

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Chances are good that you can make some cash or position yourself well for your next move. Residential moves or changes will provide you with what you need to improve your status. 3 stars

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Someone from your past will offer you something that is hard to turn down. Think carefully before accepting -- you will probably get an even sweeter deal. You can turn something you enjoy doing into a prosperous venture. 4 stars

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): If something sounds too good to be true, it probably is. You will probably have to make some changes that will affect the people you either live with or are close to. Think before you proceed. 2 stars

Birthday Baby: Fearless, adventuresome and charming can lead to precarious situations throughout life. You can see the big picture clearly and you are quick to react to whatever happens. You are strong and unwilling to back down.

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

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FOOTBALL

Weis says starters to stay

Coach pleased with week's two practices

By CHRIS KHOREY
Sports Editor

A smiling Charlie Weis walked into the media room at the Guglielmino Athletics Complex Tuesday to address reporters.

The Notre Dame coach hasn't had much to smile about this season, with three blowout losses, negative total rushing yards, and the transfer of the opening day starting quarterback looming over his head — but the smile was on his face, anyway.

After losing 38-0 to Michigan Saturday, Weis said his team was going to "back to training camp."

But that change hasn't resulted in any significant changes to the starting lineup, Weis said. He said that, while the coaching staff is learning more about the players this week, most starters

will retain their position on the depth chart — even along the offensive line, which has allowed 23 sacks this season.

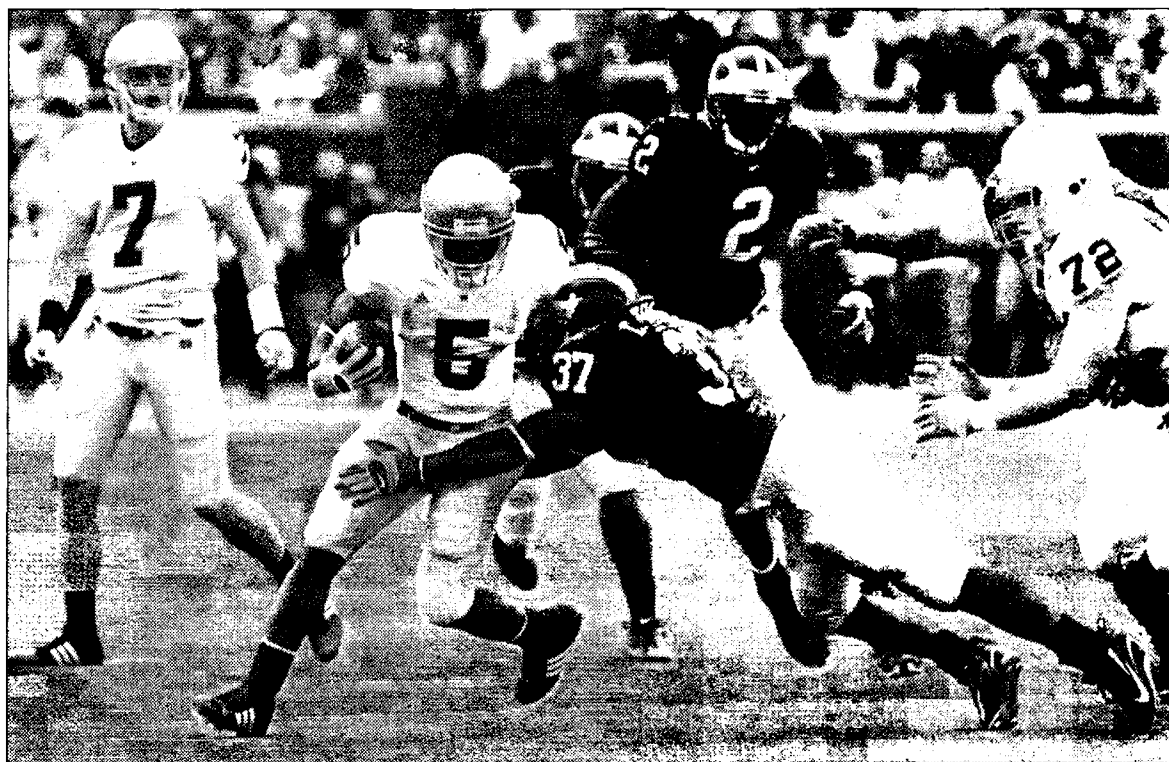
"I didn't want to start making massive changes because then you're making sacrificial lambs," Weis said. "You're saying, 'You're the problem' or 'You're the problem.' Well, when you lose 38-0, there are a lot of problems."

For four hours Sunday and for two more hours Tuesday, the Irish were in full pads, simulating game hits and tackling to the ground for the first time this fall — all in an effort to fix the blocking and tackling deficiencies that have led to more than 230 yards per game in rushing by opponents and negative-4.7 per game on the ground for the Irish.

Judging by Weis' demeanor, those deficiencies must be slowly disappearing.

"I'm trying to develop a more physical mentality on both sides

see WEIS/page 26



ALLISON AMBROSE/The Observer

Irish running back Armando Allen is tackled by Wolverines linebacker Chris Graham during Notre Dame's 38-0 loss to Michigan. After the loss, Irish coach Charlie Weis instituted a "training camp" mentality.

ND WOMEN'S SOCCER COMMENTARY

Cinalli leads Irish by example, puts squad ahead of self

Amanda Cinalli will be the first to tell you that one player does not make a team. But when watching her play, that can be hard to believe.

The day is Sept. 14. Cinalli, the senior captain, was held out of practice all week because of hip problems and is not in the starting lineup. She checks into the game in the 25th minute. Within

Bill Brink
Sports Writer

seconds, she streaks up the middle of the field and sends a shot into the right side of the net for her first goal of the season. She'll score again, tapping in one of sophomore forward Michelle Weissenhofer's flip throws, and will also notch an assist on junior forward Kerri Hanks' goal. Notre Dame wins 4-2.

Cinalli's talent has not gone unnoticed. She was placed on the 45-player preseason Hermann Trophy watch list and was named to the preseason All-Big East

team. She shared the 2007 Francis Patrick O'Connor award — which honors characteristics such as team spirit and inspiration for Notre Dame student athletes — with hockey captain T.J. Jindra. She was also a member of the Under-21 National Team that has played in the past two Nordic Cups. Despite her individual honors, Cinalli remains humble.

"Obviously our whole team is critically important for our entire offense," said Cinalli, only the third Irish captain in the pro-

gram's 20 years. "It's not just one person. I think everyone brings a unique part to the game."

Cinalli isn't just being modest; instead, she's using what coach Randy Waldrum refers to as her "soccer brain" to understand that while she clearly has talent, she's still a cog in a system that requires that the necessary pieces be present for completion. Waldrum said each of Notre Dame's forwards brings a different skill set to the offense, and that the combination of those skill

sets keeps opposing teams from focusing on one player.

"The thing we've always liked about our team, and Amanda fits into that puzzle great, is we have three different kinds of players up front," Waldrum said. "She's the one that has that ability to be creative, she's got probably the most overall skill level of the three forwards. She's more technical, she's more clean with the ball, she can beat you off the

see CINALLI/page 26

ND WOMEN'S GOLF

Perfection continues for team

By LORENZO REYES
Sports Writer

As Notre Dame coach Susan Holt was traveling back to campus with her team from their second straight victory Tuesday, her golfers told her the main reason behind the unit's success.

"Good chemistry," they shouted to her as she fielded questions about the team's promising start.

Notre Dame is a perfect two-for-two this season. A week after their triumph in the Cougar Classic, the Irish took the Napa River Grill Cardinal Cup in Simpsonville, Ky.

The Irish edged out host team Louisville by three strokes with a 878 (292-290-296) mark over three rounds.



PHIL HUDELSON/The Observer

Junior Lisa Maunu and the Irish have two wins in their first two events of the season.

see VICTORY/page 26

WOMEN'S INTERHALL FOOTBALL

Walsh tops Cavanaugh; Ducks' defense falters

By SAM WERNER,
RACHEL PLASSMEYER &
LAURA MYERS
Sports Writers

Walsh seems to have found a rallying point for its season.

As the team's pre-game cheer indicates, they "have the rock" — a small piece of stone that was once a part of the Berlin Wall. The team rallied around the rock, its unofficial mascot, to defeat Cavanaugh 7-6 at Riehle Field on Tuesday night.

After receiving the ball to start the game, the Wild Women wasted no time taking advantage of a Chaos defense that was playing its first game of the regular season. On the opening drive, senior quarterback Mary Claire

Sullivan led her team down the field almost single-handedly, rushing the ball three times and connecting on three long passes to sophomore receiver Sierra Smith.

On a third-down play from the Cavanaugh 15-yard line, Smith, surrounded by three Chaos defenders, brought the ball in to secure the touchdown and take a lead Walsh would not surrender. Senior captain Marie Brenner ran in the extra point to give Walsh a 7-0 lead.

After the opening drive, both defenses buckled down and neither offense could generate any momentum. The teams exchanged punts until midway through the second half.

see WALSH/page 25