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Study abroad program options grow

ND ranked No. 6 among U.S. research universities

By GENE NOONE
News Writer

Students looking to study abroad next year have new cities to consider — Hong Kong, China, Cambridge, England, and, for those in Old College, Leuven, Belgium.

The deadline for 2008-2009 study abroad applications is Nov. 15, and the Office of International Studies (OIS) is expecting large numbers of students to apply.

Notre Dame is ranked sixth among American research universities in the percentage of students who study abroad, according to the most recent International Education annual report, titled "Open Doors."

The report, released last year, compiled data from 2004 and 2005 and found that about 58 percent of Notre Dame students study abroad at some point during their academic careers. That percentage is expected to remain consistent in the next report, OIS director Claudia

Kselman said.

Notre Dame offers 35 semester and year-long abroad locations.

"We are very excited about our Hong Kong program," Kselman said. "We're really hoping it will expand and become bigger."

The Hong Kong program is open to all junior students; although Chinese language study is encouraged, it is not required. The program is a bilateral exchange with the Chinese University of Hong Kong (CUHK), a leading research university with 18,500 undergraduate and postgraduate students.

"The Hong Kong program is a result of a general initiative on the part of Notre Dame to move to the Far East," Kselman said. She said an important aspect of the Hong Kong program is that students may choose to take courses taught in English.

The Leuven program is only open to junior undergraduate students enrolled in the Old

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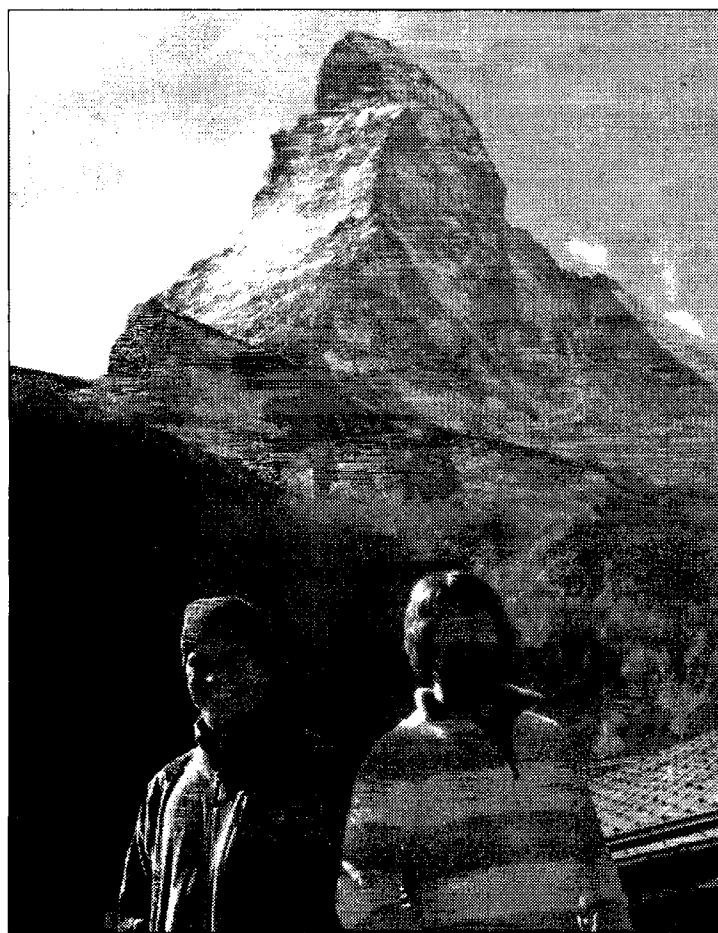


Photo courtesy of Nick Kovachevich
London Program juniors Nick Kovachevich, left, and Pat Lopez, pose in front of the Matterhorn on a trip to the Swiss Alps.

STUDENT SENATE

Course packet costs stir further debate

By KAITLYNN RIELY
Assistant News Editor

The conversation about high course packet prices continued at the Student Senate meeting Wednesday, as senators failed to pass a resolution that encouraged professors to choose electronic reserves over course packets as the primary means of disseminating readings.

Though the resolution did not pass, it will be discussed

within the Senate Academic Affairs committee and may be reintroduced in a future Senate meeting.

The Senate has been discussing the issue of course packet prices for the past several weeks.

At their Oct. 17 meeting, senators passed a resolution recommending that course packets no longer be sold exclusively through the Hammes Notre Dame

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IAN GAVLICK/The Observer
Senate Academic Affairs Committee chair Carol Hendrickson sponsored a resolution that would encourage use of electronic reserves.

Large bags allowed in dining hall

Belongings could be subject to searches

By KATIE KOHLER
Saint Mary's Editor

Saint Mary's students are now able to bring large bags, like backpacks and computer bags, into the Noble Family dining hall — but the belongings will be subject to searches if there is "reasonable suspicion" that items have been stolen.

Director of Dining Services Barry Bowles said this new policy is strictly under a trial run and contingent on student cooperation.

The policy change was made as a result of student requests to bring larger bags into the dining hall.

"In order to accommodate the requests of the students, we decided to implement it," Vice President for Student Affairs Karen Johnson said. "There has been a lot of discussion about wanting to use books, laptops, etc. while dining, so we agreed to give it a try."

Bowles, the Board of Governance, Student Affairs and the administration have reached an accord concerning the parameters of the new "bring-in bag policy."

In an e-mail to students on Oct. 25, Johnson explained the new bag check policy.

"Any and all members of the Food Services staff will be allowed to make random package inspections at meal periods if there is a reasonable suspicion of items being removed from the dining hall (other than those items cur-

see BAGS/page 6

Building Tomorrow raises money for Ugandan school

Organization works with local governments to provide education

By JENN METZ
Assistant News Editor

The Notre Dame chapter of Building Tomorrow is raising money to build a school for 350 Ugandan children.

The Primary Education For All sector of the ND-8 Millennium Development Initiatives club is working with Building Tomorrow, a national non-profit organization, this year. Sophomores Jenna Knapp, Erin Jelm and Barbara Ho are among committee leaders working on

events to raise "a tangible goal" of \$35,000, Jelm said.

"To break it down, if each Notre Dame student donated \$3.02, we would raise the funds to build a brand new school and give hope for the future to 350 impoverished kids," Jelm said.

Last spring, George Srour, the founder of Building Tomorrow, spoke during ND-8's Millennium Development Goals Week, Jelm said.

"George talked to us about Building Tomorrow's mission and work as well as the movement to get college cam-

puses across the nation involved in fundraising," she said.

According to the Building Tomorrow Web site, 46 million children in sub-Saharan Africa have no school to attend.

"Education is the foundation of change, and with an education these children will have more of the resources necessary to better their lives and the lives of their children," Jelm said.

In what Ho calls a "collabo-

see ND-8/page 6



Photo courtesy of Barbara Ho
Junior Sarah Miller, right, a member of ND-8, explains the Promise Banner to students during a fundraiser at Fieldhouse Mall on Oct. 5.

INSIDE COLUMN

Dear business majors

A letter to Saint Mary's Business Majors:

I write this to you before I once again spend six hours, in an Opus study room, slaving over B-Policy. I cannot believe the paper,

Samantha Leonard
Sports Wire Editor

which compiles almost everything I have ever studied during my college career is due in four very short days. I wonder how we will ever get it done, and how four girls with insanely busy lives will ever get together to meet.

On top of this, I also cannot believe I am missing out on the last Halloween of my college career. My non-business major friends are all getting ready for costume parties galore, and all I can think about is which strategy will be the best to choose to increase our profit margin.

I remember thinking how stressed I was during different times through out my past three years.

It seems now nothing will compare to the stress you and I will face in the next six weeks.

From Alex the accounting system to detailed Powerpoints on Saint Mary's identity, we thought those projects would just never end.

We now face a project that makes those look like a cakewalk.

I know it seems impossible. Just when you think you have finished a matrix or found the perfect strategy, something comes along that changes your whole train of thought. I also must say I never thought I would grow to despise words such as matrices and strategies.

As the frustration mounds in these next few days here are some things to keep in mind.

It is also most over! Just six weeks left of this semester and one little presentation in front of a friendly group of judges and, hey, you are done! So as you stare for hours at the numerous pages of research you have done all semester, please try to keep that in mind.

Also, I know it sounds incredibly ridiculous, but try to have some fun and release some stress while you are in your group. I laugh as I say this, and I find it insanely difficult to do this myself. I mean, there has to be something fun about a senior comprehensive. There must be something, right?

Then there is the whole survival thing that we must remember. You need to eat and even try to sleep a little! Not eating and sleeping will just make you more irritated and possibly sick. We have been preparing for this monster for three years, and in just four days the hardest and largest part will be complete. It will be put behind us for the rest of our college career and we can once again breathe.

So grab your bowl of left-over Halloween treats and that dreaded case book and try to remember what I said. Good luck!

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






Contact Samantha Leonard at sleona01@saintmarys.edu

CORRECTION

Due to a reporting error, Patsy McGarry was misquoted in the Oct. 18 article "Panel Discusses religion in Ireland." In the panel, he quoted the Irish Taoiseach Bertie Ahern who had criticized what he described as "a form of aggressive secularism which would have the State and State institutions ignore the importance of this religious dimension."

McGarry did not make the claim on his own. The Observer regrets the error.

QUESTION OF THE DAY: WHERE WOULD YOU STUDY ABROAD IF YOU COULD STUDY ANYWHERE AND WHY?

				
Ryan Pantages sophomore Keough	Kelly Levis sophomore Walsh	Dave Costanzo junior off campus	Kate Gardner freshman P.W.	Cynthia Weber freshman P.W.
"Dublin — gotta stay true to the Irish heritage (and the awesome accent, of course)."	"Siberia, because I could go snowboarding everyday after class."	"Probably somewhere in South America, because I've never been out of the country before, and that seems like a good place to start."	"Cancun — for obvious reasons."	"I would go to Rome to see my friend Benedict."



Sophomore Robin Link walks with young trick-or-treaters in a costume parade on North Quad Wednesday. The Student Senate Community Relations Committee organized the Fall Festival.

OFFBEAT

Vulgar tattoo equals \$50 and some probation

WEST CHESTER, Pa. — A man accused of kicking an argument with his neighbor up a notch by removing his shirt to reveal a two-word expletive tattoo faces 90 days probation and a \$50 fine.

Jason Kaminski pleaded guilty on Tuesday to a summary charge of disorderly conduct.

Neighbor Chris Carr said he asked Kaminski if he could keep the noise down following a noisy party. Carr said Kaminski cursed, bared the expletive tattoo on his chest, kicked Carr's vehicle and motioned as though to break off his rear view mirror.

Judge: Speeding not 'as bad' in miles

DUBLIN, Ireland — When police caught driver David Clarke flying down a road at 180 kilometers per hour this month, he looked likely to lose his license.

But a country judge reduced the charge and let the 31-year-old information technology worker stay on the road after concluding the speed did not look as bad when converted into miles, or 112 mph.

"I am not excusing his

driving. He should not have been traveling at that speed," District Court Judge Denis McLoughlin said in his verdict, delivered Tuesday in County Donegal, northwest Ireland.

McLoughlin suggested it was relatively safe to have shattered the legal road limit at the time, citing good weather, light traffic and the road's unusual straightness.

McLoughlin was quoted as saying the speed seemed "very excessive," but did not look "as bad" when converted into miles.

Information compiled by the Associated Press.

IN BRIEF

A collection of Douglas Kinsey paintings is on display in the Great Hall of O'Shaughnessy Hall through Nov. 29.

The Notre Dame women's basketball team will have an exhibition game against Southern Indiana today at 7 p.m. in the Joyce Center.

The hockey team will play Lake Superior State today at 7:35 p.m. at the Joyce Center.

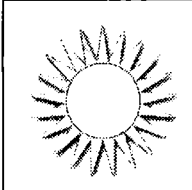
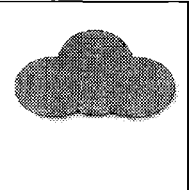
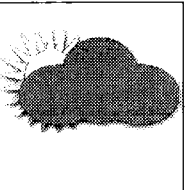
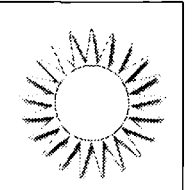
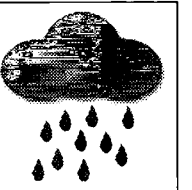
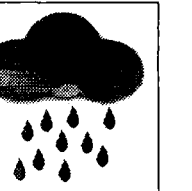
As part of the Boardroom Insights lecture series, Brenda Barnes, CEO of the Sara Lee Corporation will speak Friday at 10:40 a.m. in the Jordan Auditorium of the Mendoza College of Business.

The Black Cultural Arts Council is holding its annual talent show, "Black Images: Through the Seasons," Saturday at 8 p.m. in Washington Hall. Student tickets are \$5.

As part of the Military History speaker series, author David Bell will offer a presentation on his new book, "The First Total War," which focuses on the Napoleonic Wars, Monday at 4:30 p.m. in room 116, DeBartolo Hall.

Gillian Sorensen, senior advisor to the United Nations Foundation, will deliver lecture titled "The State of Women Internationally: Where Are We and Where Are We Going?" Tuesday at 6 p.m. in the Hesburgh Center auditorium.

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	FRIDAY	GAME DAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY
LOCAL WEATHER						
	HIGH 48 LOW 30	HIGH 40 LOW 22	HIGH 55 LOW 38	HIGH 52 LOW 39	HIGH 58 LOW 43	HIGH 47 LOW 27
	Atlanta 75 / 52 Boston 64 / 52 Chicago 50 / 37 Denver 61 / 30 Houston 80 / 55 Los Angeles 78 / 57 Minneapolis 52 / 31 New York 66 / 54 Philadelphia 68 / 50 Phoenix 87 / 62 Seattle 53 / 39 St. Louis 60 / 38 Tampa 83 / 70 Washington 72 / 50					

ND, South Bend build together

Partnership plans to develop industry complex south of campus

Associated Press

The University, the City of South Bend and the regional economic development organization Project Future have joined forces to develop a technology incubator on a site immediately south of the campus between Eddy Street and State Route 23.

Dave Brenner, an entrepreneurial executive with some 30 years of experience, has been appointed director of the project, which will be called Innovation Park at Notre Dame, and construction of the first building is expected to begin in the spring and be completed by the summer of 2009.

"Hiring Dave Brenner and the development of a plan to build Innovation Park have truly resulted from a team approach which has involved the private sector, city and state government, and the University," said Thomas G. Burish, Notre Dame's provost. "We are optimistic that our partnership will result in a successful effort. Similar parks associated with other universities in the state and around the country have proven to be wonderful means for encour-

aging research, taking innovative ideas to the marketplace, creating industry-university relationships, and for spurring economic growth."

The city has made a \$1 million commitment to the project, using resources returned from

the Business Development Corp., according to Mayor Steve Luecke.

"I'm especially excited about the entrepreneurial creativity that will emerge from this place, as researchers from different disciplines interact and dream," Luecke said.

"South Bend has a strong heritage of innovation - from Studebaker and Bendix to Crowe Chizek, Press Ganey and the South Bend Chocolate Co. - and Innovation Park will continue to build on that great entrepreneurial spirit."

Project Future has assisted with organizing and advancing the discussion of the park within the community and provided funds for development of the business and architectural plans. It also will help underwrite the staffing expenses associated with Innovation

Park's early operations he said.

"When this park is completed, it will have significant long-term benefits that will continue to percolate and send ripples through the community's economy," McMahon said.

Like similar ventures nationwide, Innovation Park will provide space for Notre Dame faculty and students, as well as others from higher education and the private sector, to develop and commercialize start-up business enterprises - many but not all related to the sciences, engineering and technology. The proximity to campus will allow for easy access to University laboratories, technology, libraries and other resources. Faculty and staff associated with the Gigot Center for Entrepreneurial Studies at Notre Dame also plan to take an active role in moving ideas forward.

Financial and operational details are still to be finalized, though projects with potential have been identified as early occupants of the park.

Angels, a network of Notre Dame alumni and friends who are experienced in entrepreneurial endeavors and interested in supporting new venture development.

"With nearly 30 years of experience in leading successful start-up companies, acquisitions, partnerships and divestitures, Dave brings precisely the kind of background and energy necessary to take this new initiative and turn it into reality," Burish said. "I could not be more pleased that he has accepted our offer to lead Innovation Park at Notre Dame."

"When this park is completed, it will have significant long-term benefits that will continue to percolate and send ripples through the community's economy."

Patrick McMahon
executive director
Project Future

U.N. adviser to speak on women

Special to the Observer

Gillian Sorensen, senior adviser to the United Nations Foundation, will deliver a lecture titled "The State of Women Internationally: Where Are We and Where Are We Going?" at 6 p.m. Nov. 6 in the Hesburgh Center auditorium at the University.

The talk, which is free and open to the public, is sponsored by Notre Dame's Kellogg Institute for International Studies, Kroc Institute for International Peace Studies, Gender Studies Program and Department of Political Science.

A national advocate on matters related to the United Nations and the United States-United Nations relationship, Sorensen served from 1997 to 2003 as the U.N. assistant secretary-general for external relations. In that position, she was responsible for outreach to non-governmental organizations and was the contact point for the secretary-general with parliamentarians, the academic world, religious leaders and other groups committed to peace, justice, development and human rights.

From 1993 to 1996, Sorensen served as special adviser for public policy, where her duties included directing the U.N.'s 50th anniversary observances in 1995. She led the planning of

conferences, debates, documentaries, concerts and exhibits; the preparation of books and curricular materials; and the coordination of the UN50 Summit at which 180 presidents and prime ministers participated.

Sorensen worked from 1978 to 1990 as New York City commissioner for the United Nations and consular corps, serving as the city's liaison with the world's largest diplomatic community. Her responsibilities included matters related to diplomatic security and immunity, housing and education, and other cultural and business contacts and more than 30,000 diplomats. She secured federal reimbursement to New York for the costs of diplomatic protection, which continues to this day. During this time, she was described as "the diplomat's diplomat" by the New York Times.

Sorensen is a graduate of Smith College and studied at the Sorbonne. In the fall of 2002, on leave from the U.N., she was a fellow at the Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University. She is a member of the Council on Foreign Relations and a fellow at the University of Southern California Center on Public Diplomacy. Previously, she served as a board member of the Corporation for Public Broadcasting.

Catholic Digest honors ND professor for work

Special to The Observer

Kristin Shrader-Frechette, F.J. and H.M. O'Neill Professor of Philosophy and concurrent professor of biological sciences at Notre Dame, has been selected by Catholic Digest magazine as one of 12 "heroes for America" - laypeople living or working in the United States who are performing exemplary work in the spirit of the Catholic faith. The magazine cited her work on behalf of environmental justice.

Shrader-Frechette and the other honorees are profiled in the October issue of the magazine. The only other university professor selected as a Catholic Hero is Paul Farmer, the Harvard University physician and medical anthropologist who is the cofounder of Partners in Health and who was the recipient of an honorary Notre Dame degree last May.

"The environment is not necessarily a social justice issue, but environmental effects of pollution are social justice issues," Shrader-Frechette said in an interview accompanying the Catholic Digest feature. "Environmental injustice - and by that I mean disproportionate pollution forced on children, poor people, minorities and workers - is a social justice

issue, because unfair pollution burdens take away not only poor people's money, but something that's even more important: their lives and their health."

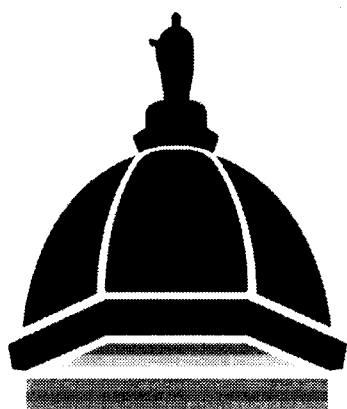
The magazine also cited Shrader-Frechette for involving students in the fight against environmental injustice.

"My students and I (in the Center for Environmental Justice and Children's Health at Notre Dame) work mainly with poor, black, Latino, Native American, and Appalachian communities," she said. "We simply try to provide some scientific help so that the people are able to protect themselves, especially their children. We can do maybe 30 projects a year, pro-bono. That's a lot, but only because the Notre Dame students are so generous, so brilliant, and so committed to social justice. They're just wonderful."

Although cancer annually kills 600,000 Americans, Shrader-Frechette says many of these premature deaths are preventable by avoiding scientific errors in impact assessment and by enforcing pollution laws. Government and U.N. groups agree, noting that up to 90 percent of cancers are "environmentally induced and theoretically preventable."

"We simply try to provide some scientific help so that people are able to protect themselves."

Kristin Shrader-Frechette
philosophy professor



**CORE COUNCIL
FOR GAY & LESBIAN
STUDENTS**

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

The Core Council for Gay and Lesbian Students

(Information, education, and resources)

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

Office of Campus Ministry

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

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

University Counseling Center

(Individual counseling)

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

Visit our web site at

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

Senate

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Bookstore, but rather from copy centers around campus. In past years, course packets have been sold from copy centers, such as those in Decio and O'Shaughnessy Halls. This year, all course packets were sold from the Bookstore, which added a markup for profit.

At the Oct. 17 meeting, Carol Hendrickson, the chair of the Senate Academic Affairs committee, presented the results of a survey, which found a majority of students unhappy with the increased costs of course packets.

The senators unanimously passed a resolution two weeks ago that encouraged the University to revert to the former method of selling packets from various copy centers, rather than the Bookstore. The Oct. 17 course packet resolution was "unofficially handed" to the College of Arts and Letters after it was passed, Hendrickson said.

"It looks like [the College of Arts and Letters is] going to make the 'not selling the course packets' recommendation to the University," she said.

The Senators were less receptive to Wednesday's resolution, which said that most of the student body is "very dissatisfied" with the higher costs of the course packets and that a majority of students are "somewhat to very supportive" of switching from the course packets to electronic reserves as the primary way to access course materials.

The senators, after some debate, failed to gather the two-thirds vote needed to pass the resolution, with nine voting for it and six against. Eight senators abstained.

Fisher senator Stephen Bant, who gave a Powerpoint presentation about the course packet survey with Hendrickson at the last Senate meeting, said he supported the resolution's objective to encourage professors to increase use of the electronic resource, known as "e-

reserves."

"E-reserves, we kind of look at it as the future coming," he said. "A lot of things are going electronic."

The resolution states that the University Library is "willing and able" to put course materials on electronic reserves, and that it is also "willing and able" to cover current and future copyright costs for the materials.

The resolution says a switch to e-reserves would be more environmentally-friendly, since it would cut down on paper usage.

"More than anything else, the other benefit of e-reserves is that it's more environmentally-friendly, because we don't have the paper waste of thousands of course packets," Bant said.

Some senators disagreed

with the idea that e-reserves would be more environmentally-friendly, giving anecdotal evidence that many students print articles from the Internet to read the hard copy.

Bant defended the resolution's stance.

"Not everyone is going to print off every single article, so in the end it should be less paper use," he said.

Other senators argued that increasing use of e-reserves would

mean students would have to increase their print quota, which allots \$100 for printing at the beginning of the school year.

The Academic Affairs Committee is preparing a resolution to suggest that students be allowed to increase print quota online in the same way that Domer Dollars can be added, Hendrickson said.

The overall objective, some senators said, should be to decrease costs for students.

"I think the ideal is really to go back to the old way, the way it was done before it got put to the Bookstore," said Sorin senator George Chamberlain.

At the end of the meeting, Siegfried senator Jim Lockwood presented a resolution proposing an amendment to the Undergraduate Student Body Constitution.

The proposed amendment requires the student body president to attend all meetings of the Community/Campus Advisory Coalition (CCAC), a group created by the South Bend Common Council and designed to facilitate dialogue between city, university, college and student representatives.

The proposed amendment requires the student body president to then brief the Senate on the CCAC meeting and provide any and all documentation from the meeting to

Contact Kaitlynn Riely at kriely@nd.edu

Abroad

continued from page 1

College seminary program. Students will live at the American College of the Immaculate Conception, which was established by American clergy in 1857 to train future priests and bishops.

Classes for the Leuven program are taught at the Katholieke Universiteit Leuven (KUL), one of the oldest Catholic universities in the world.

The Cambridge program was a result of faculty encouragement, Kselman said. It will join London and Oxford as another abroad program in England.

Dublin and London are the most popular study abroad locations at Notre Dame, Kselman said.

Kselman attributed their popularity to their long history with the OIS and the fact that English is spoken in both locations.

After the OIS receives

every application by Nov. 15, it will evaluate the candidates and notify students midway through the spring semester of their decision.

"We look at everything," Kselman said. "The statement of interest is very important along with recom-

mendations. One thing we always do is look at transcripts, but we will not do so until fall grades are posted."

Students who would like to study abroad in the summer have until

March 1 to apply for seven of the nine locations. The London summer program operates on a rolling admissions basis while the Kampala, Uganda program deadline is scheduled for Nov. 15.

"Study abroad is an essential part of an undergraduate education," Kselman said. "We want to encourage all sophomores to apply and will accommodate as many students as possible."

Contact Gene Noone at enoone@nd.edu

"Study abroad is an essential part of an undergraduate education."

Claudia Kselman
OIS director

Write News. Call 1-5323.



Coffee at the Como

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

Tuesday, November 6
7:30 p.m. – 9:30 p.m.
316 Coleman-Morse

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

Everyone is welcome and confidentiality is assured.



CORE COUNCIL
FOR GAY & LESBIAN
STUDENTS



IRISH HOCKEY

#14 Notre Dame vs. Lake Superior State

Thursday, November 1 @ 7:35pm

Students - pick up your JACCO WACCOS T-shirt (first 500)
Free mini-stick to early arriving fans



Friday, November 2 @ 7:35pm

Early fans will receive a cowbell



FREE ADMISSION FOR ND/SMC/HCC
STUDENTS WHILE SPACE IS AVAILABLE

For tickets:
Call 574-631-7356
Visit www.und.com/tickets

WORLD & NATION

Thursday, November 1, 2007

COMPILED FROM THE OBSERVER'S WIRE SERVICES

page 5

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Bus bomb kills 8, injures 60 in Russia

MOSCOW — A strong bomb shredded a passenger bus Wednesday, killing eight people and injuring more than 60 in a central Russian city known for gang violence.

One official speculated the blast in Togliatti was a terrorist attack, but others said that was only one possibility. They said investigators were also looking into whether it resulted from a turf battle between criminals or even the careless handling of explosives.

Police in the Volga River city also weren't immediately sure whether the bomb was hidden inside or beneath the bus or carried on by a passenger, officials said.

With parliamentary elections coming up in December, the blast raised fears of another round of violence like that which has occurred before past elections.

Afghan civilians flee as Taliban invades

ARGHANDAB — Afghan civilians piled belongings onto trucks Wednesday and fled two villages infiltrated by hundreds of Taliban militants outside Afghanistan's second-largest city. U.S., Canadian and Afghan troops had about 250 of the insurgents surrounded.

The troops killed 50 militants in three days of fighting 15 miles north of Kandahar city, the provincial police chief said. Three policemen and one Afghan soldier also died.

"The people are fleeing because the Taliban are taking over civilian homes," Sayed Agha Saqib said. "There have been no airstrikes. We are trying our best to attack those areas where there are no civilians, only Taliban."

NATIONAL NEWS

NASA postpones space station repairs

CAPE CANAVERAL — NASA canceled Thursday's spacewalk to inspect a snarled joint for a set of solar panels and instead instructed its orbiting astronauts to go out a day later to try to fix a torn solar wing.

The newly ripped wing is now the more pressing of the two problems at the international space station, both of which involve the crucial power system and threaten to disrupt future construction work.

NASA fears the damage could worsen and the wing could lose all power-collecting capability and become unstable. If that happened, the wing would have to be junked, said NASA's space station program manager, Mike Suffredini.

"We've made it a priority to go repair it," Suffredini said Wednesday.

No charges for Katrina bridge blockaders

GRETNA — A grand jury will not charge anyone in a police blockade that kept hundreds of evacuees from crossing a Mississippi River bridge on foot after Hurricane Katrina flooded New Orleans, authorities said Wednesday.

Several hundred people claimed police from suburban Gretna blocked them as they tried to flee New Orleans on Sept. 1, three days after the storm hit.

Many evacuees, who had been stranded at the New Orleans convention center without food and water, said they were told to cross the bridge to be evacuated from the city, only to be forced to turn around upon reaching the other side.

Police later said they blocked the evacuees because there were no supplies or services for them on the other side.

LOCAL NEWS

Fire sprinklers damage 20,000 books

MISHAWAKA — A smoky fire set off sprinklers that damaged thousands of books stored in a Mishawaka warehouse.

About a dozen employees evacuated Better World Books when firefighters arrived as thick black smoke filled the warehouse in the city east of South Bend.

Company co-founder Kreece Fuchs says about 20,000 to 50,000 books out of the 1.8 million books in the distribution center received water damage.

Firefighters are investigating the cause of the fire, but employees said it may have been electrical in nature. No injuries were reported.

The company collects donated textbooks from schools and libraries and uses the profits from sales to promote literacy programs.

IRAQ

Soldier, civilian deaths on decline

Fall in death count shows Bush's troop 'surge' working better than expected, some say

Associated Press

BAGHDAD — Violent deaths of U.S. troops and Iraqi civilians appear to have fallen sharply in Iraq in October, according to the latest Associated Press tally.

The AP's figures mirror other reports that the levels of bloodshed are falling here. But the meaning of these statistics is disputed, and experts generally agree that the struggle for security and stability is far from over.

The number of Iraqi civilians killed fell from at least 1,023 in September to at least 875 in October, according to the AP count.

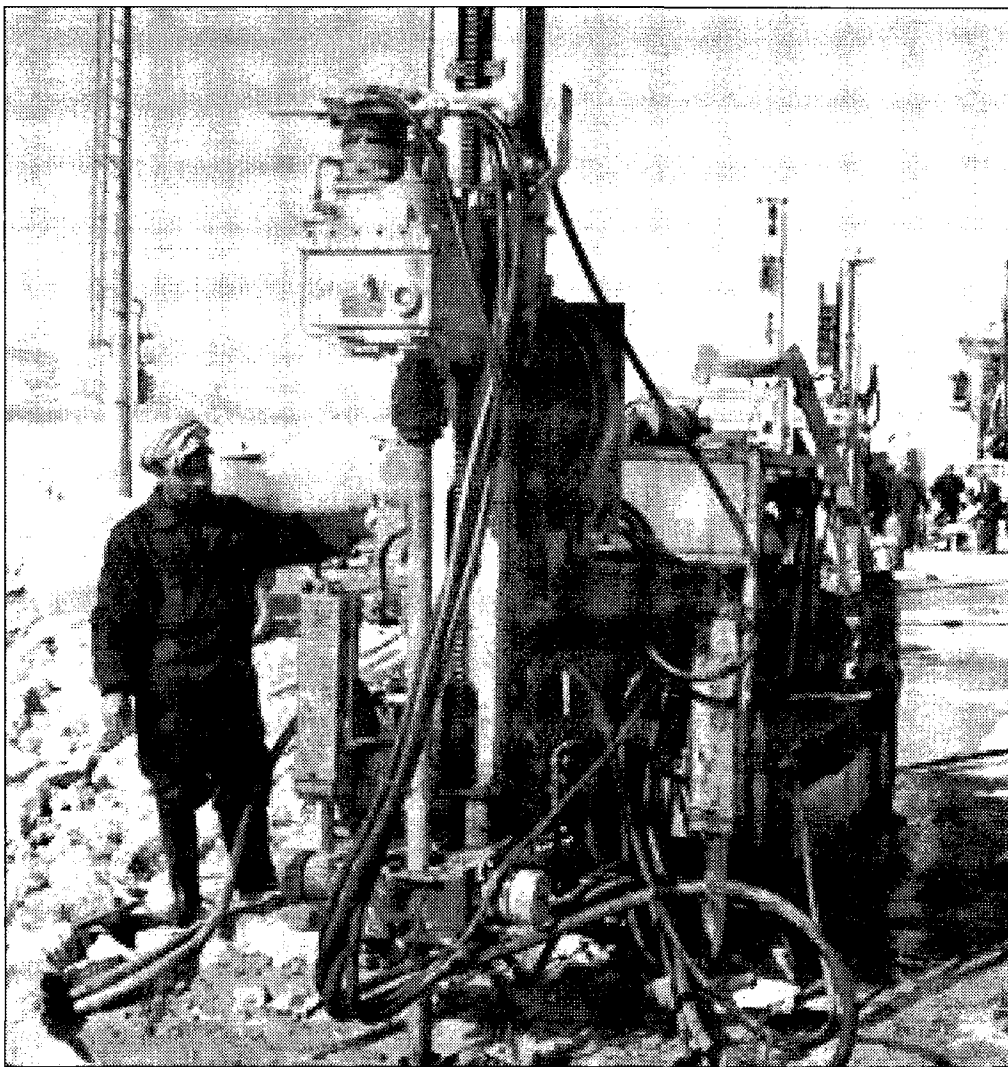
That's the lowest monthly toll for civilian casualties in the past year, and is down sharply from the 1,216 recorded in October 2006. The numbers are based on daily reports from police, hospital officials, morgue workers and verifiable witness accounts.

The count is considered a minimum based on AP reporting; the actual number is likely higher, as many killings go unreported.

The drop in deaths among U.S. military personnel in Iraq was even more striking, according to AP's records — down from 65 in September to at least 36 in October. The October figure is by far the lowest in the last year, and is sharply lower than the 106 deaths recorded in October 2006.

The relative period of calm — if that's what it is — came during the Muslim fast of Ramadan, a time when militants have in the past escalated their attacks on U.S. forces.

Max Boot, a senior fellow at the Council on Foreign Relations and former editorial editor for The Wall Street Journal, said the apparent decline in deaths reflected the success of the buildup in Iraq of U.S. military personnel, who now number 170,000. They have also moved increasingly out of massive forward operating bases into violence-plagued areas.



A worker operates machinery at the Mosul Dam 225 miles northwest of Baghdad. The United States is supporting repair efforts to the dam, which was built on sinkholes in the 1980s.

"I assume it's happening because the surge is working, and working even better than those who advocated it envisioned," said Boot, who was an advocate of expanding the deployment of U.S. troops here. "This is pretty dramatic."

But Anthony Cordesman, an expert on the Middle East and military affairs with the Center for Strategic and International Studies, said the numbers he's seen so far mostly reflect a decline in the level of lethal violence against U.S. troops in Baghdad and Anbar province.

Data collected by the General Accounting Office, he said, don't justify the conclusion that the overall level of fighting has fallen off, or that the number of civilian deaths

is declining, because they don't paint a full picture of the conflict.

The statistics don't reflect attacks that result in injuries, he pointed out. Nor is there reliable reporting of civilian deaths outside of Baghdad.

"I don't question that the level of violence has gone down in Baghdad and Anbar," he said. "But what is not clear at all is that you have reduced the level of tension between Kurd and Arab, that the level of Shiite-on-Shiite violence is down, that the level of ethnic cleansing is down."

The reduction in U.S. losses, he said, is mostly a result of the revolt of the Sunni tribal leaders in Anbar against al-Qaida in Iraq, and not the U.S. military buildup.

And he warned that that revolt against al-Qaida was in jeopardy unless Sunni leaders get more support from the Shiite-dominated government in Baghdad.

"Does focus on one set of numbers tell you that the country is moving toward stability, security and political accommodation?" Cordesman said. "The answer is no."

There may be other, grimmer reasons the civilian death toll has receded. Sunnis have been driven out of Shiite neighborhoods, Shiites from Sunni areas and Christians out of both.

Many Iraqis have fled their country, or seldom venture out of their communities, offering fewer targets for suicide bombers or kidnappers.

Jury acquits prosecutor in terrorism

Associated Press

DETROIT — A former federal prosecutor was acquitted Wednesday of withholding evidence from the defense during the nation's first major terrorism trial after the Sept. 11 attacks.

The government said Richard Convertino wanted so badly to win convictions in the case that he broke the law. But Convertino's lawyers insisted he did nothing wrong and had no reason to hide evidence against four North African men accused of operating a "sleeper" terrorist cell.

"It's a just end to a politically motivated prosecution," Convertino said

after the verdict was read.

The jury reached its decision after less than a day of deliberations. It also acquitted Harry Smith III, a former State Department investigator.

Convertino, 46, was accused of withholding photos of a Jordanian hospital from defense attorneys. Prosecutors alleged the photographs could have helped the defense at the 2003 trial undermine a government argument about how well a surveillance sketch of the hospital matched reality. The sketch was found in an apartment used by part of the suspected Detroit cell.

Prosecutors said Convertino also allowed Smith to testify that it would be difficult to get photos of the hospi-

tal, even though Convertino had such photos, and Smith knew the photos existed.

Government lawyer Daniel Schwager said prosecutors "believe in the case and the importance to the system and respect the jury's verdict."

The defense said the government didn't prove that Convertino intentionally withheld the photos and insisted no conspiracy existed.

Convertino said the way the government pursued charges against him could have a chilling effect on current federal prosecutors engaged in the Justice Department's anti-terrorism efforts.

"I'm hearing that it's having a stifling effect," Convertino said.

ND-8

continued from page 1

rative effort," chapters of Building Tomorrow work with the local government and the communities in the Wakiso district of Uganda, where the schools will be built. They also work with the World Food Program. The \$35,000 raised by chapters at universities like Notre Dame covers only 75 percent of the cost of the school, Knapp said. "The local community contributes the remaining 25 percent through sweat equity and construction costs."

"Building Tomorrow is set apart — at least in my mind — from other non-profit organizations because of the direct involvement that those who donate have with the communities in Uganda," Jelm said.

The school will have 10 rooms, including seven classrooms and an outdoor soccer field. The World Food Program will provide students with daily lunches and the government will sustain teachers' salaries.

"One of the really neat things is once the kids are there, they wear the colors of the school that built it," Ho said. "So the students at our school will be wearing blue and gold."

Building Tomorrow is selling T-shirts for \$10 this week in South Dining Hall and LaFortune Student Center and next week in LaFortune. It is their second fundraiser this year.

All proceeds from T-shirt sales will go to the organization, Ho said. Paul Johnson, a father of a Notre Dame student, donated the T-shirts for the fundraiser.

The first fundraiser this year was called "Brick by Brick," and took place before fall break. Club members sold paper bricks for \$5 in LaFortune.

"They were symbolic bricks," Ho said.

The bricks said "I'm building tomorrow for ...," and students were encouraged to write the name of "someone who reminded them how important education is," Ho said.

The first fundraiser was planned in conjunction with The Promise Banner, where students put hand prints on a banner sym-

bolizing "their promise to help," Ho said.

Project Fresh performed during The Promise Banner signing and the Brick by Brick sale, Ho said.

"This is a uniting for within Notre Dame," Ho said. "We are all working for one goal."

Brick by Brick raised \$10,830 for the organization, she said.

Building Tomorrow is raising awareness and funds, Ho said. On Nov. 6, the group will hold a dinner and lecture at South Dining Hall with speakers Srour and Joseph Kalisa, the country director of Building Tomorrow who works in Uganda.

The club is raising awareness "so people know what they're supporting," Ho said.

"We're grateful for all those who have helped us thus far and hope that people will continue to support this effort," Knapp said.

Building Tomorrow also offers opportunities for student delegates to go to Uganda, and a trip is being organized for January 2008, Ho said.

Contact Jenn Metz at jmetz@nd.edu

"Building Tomorrow is set apart — at least in my mind — from other non-profit organizations because of the direct involvement that those who donate have with the communities in Uganda."

Erin Jelm
ND-8 Building Tomorrow

"We're grateful for all those who have helped us thus far and hope that people will continue to support this effort."

Jenna Knapp
ND-8 Building Tomorrow

Bags

continued from page 1

rently permitted for removal).

Johnson described "reasonable suspicion" as "seeing someone taking items, or an overloaded backpack or bag."

If a random bag check reveals stolen items, a three-strike method will be enforced. A first offense is a \$50 fine and the second is a \$100 fine and 10 hours of community service. The third strike results in the termination of a meal plan without refund for the remainder of the semester.

If a faculty or staff member is found removing items from the dining hall, his or her name will be forwarded to their supervisor, Johnson said.

Some students were skeptical of the penalties. However, Bowles justified the fines by

looking at the long-term effects of theft.

"Yes, a stolen cup becomes a very expensive cup and stolen bagels become equally expensive," he said. "There must be serious ramifications if we are going to allow this policy at all."

Junior Andrea Zettler supports the changes, but thinks the penalties are too severe.

"What do they think we're going to do, steal economy sized bags of cereal?" she said.

Bowles said stealing food is not the only problem.

"Cups, plates, silverware, salt and pepper shakers disappear, like, everyday," he said.

Dining hall workers like Dianna Holland have noticed students taking more than the one item they are allotted to take from the dining hall at each meal.

"Students have a tendency to take advantage," she said.

Bowles said the new policy will be permanent only if inventories remain consistent.

"I cannot allow the policy to continue if more things are being stolen," he said.

Kristen Edelen contributed to this report.

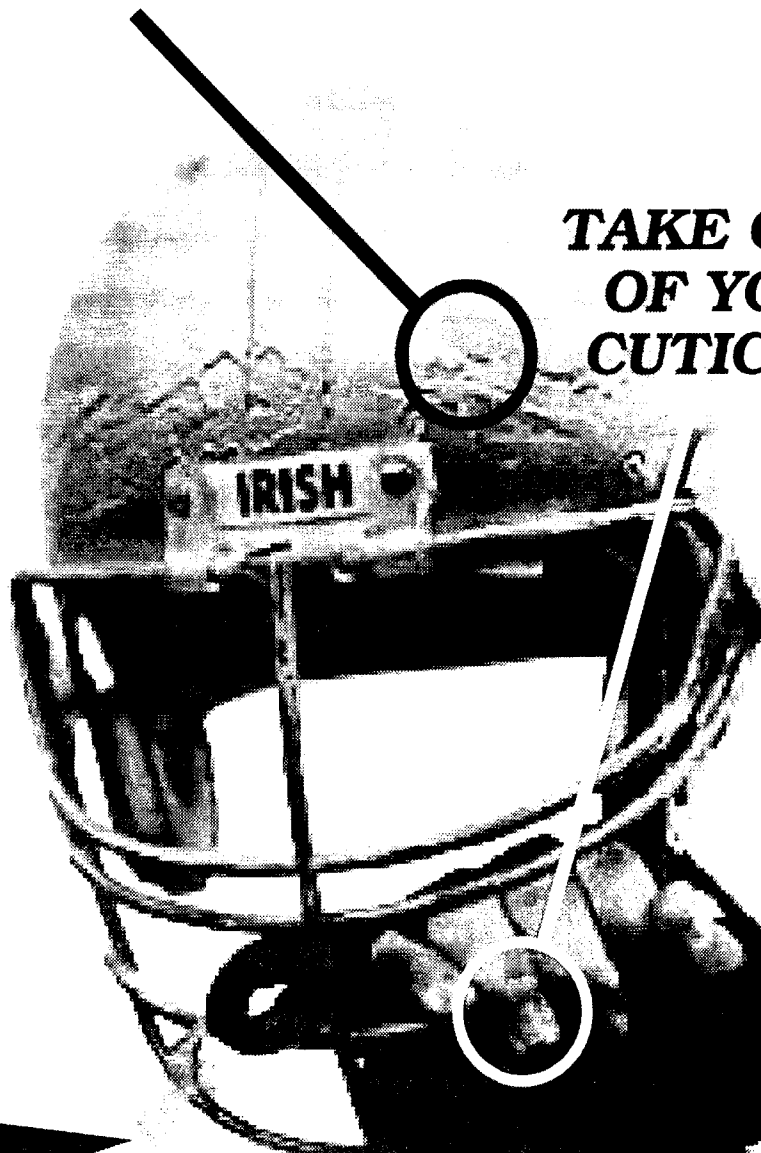
"What do they think we're going to do, steal economy sized bags of cereal?"

Andrea Zettler
Saint Mary's junior

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THE END ZONE

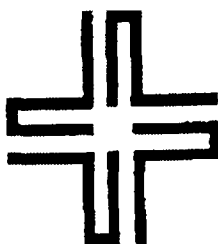
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4:00 p.m.
Hesburgh Center Auditorium

MARKET RECAP

Stocks

Dow Jones **13,930.01** +137.54

Up: 1,255 Same: 120 Down: 2,059 Composite Volume: 3,239,849,403

AMEX	2,530.38	+41.60
NASDAQ	2,859.12	+42.41
NYSE	10,311.61	+146.64
S&P 500	1,549.38	+18.36
NIKKEI (Tokyo)	16,844.57	+106.94
FTSE 100 (London)	6,721.60	+62.60

COMPANY	%CHANGE	\$GAIN	PRICE
S&P DEP RECIEPTS (SPY)	+1.04	+1.59	35.57
MICROSOFT CP (MSFT)	+3.49	+1.24	153.06
POWERSHARES (QQQQ)	+1.42	+0.77	54.26
ISHARE RUS 2000 INDX (IWM)	+1.29	+1.05	3.29

Treasuries

10-YEAR NOTE	+2.10	+0.092	4.475
13-WEEK BILL	-0.78	-0.030	3.820
30-YEAR BOND	+1.67	+0.078	4.751
5-YEAR NOTE	+2.81	+0.114	4.167

Commodities

LIGHT CRUDE (\$/bbl.)	-3.15	90.38
GOLD (\$/Troy oz.)	-4.80	787.80
PORK BELLIES (cents/lb.)	-1.05	83.05

Exchange Rates

YEN	115.4650
EURO	0.6907
CANADIAN DOLLAR	0.9464
BRITISH POUND	0.4805

IN BRIEF

Economy grew fast, despite credit woes

WASHINGTON — The economy picked up speed in the summer, growing at a brisk 3.9 percent pace, the fastest in 1 1/2 years and an impressive performance even as a credit crunch plunged the housing market deeper into turmoil.

The latest snapshot of the country's economic health, released by the Commerce Department on Wednesday, suggested the economy is proving resilient and holding up well despite strains in the housing and credit markets. Those problems intensified during the third quarter and rocked Wall Street.

A second report from the department showed construction spending rose 0.3 percent in September, the best showing in four months. All-time high spending in both commercial construction by private builders and government projects more than offset weakness in home building.

For the entire July through September period, individuals increased spending. U.S. businesses sold more goods abroad and boosted some investment at home. Those were main factors helping to push up overall economic activity during that period.

Government workers endorse Clinton

WASHINGTON — Hillary Rodham Clinton won the presidential endorsement of the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees on Wednesday, an important union boost for the Democratic front-runner.

The union is the largest for workers in the public service sector with 1.4 million members nationwide. AFSCME represents government and private workers including nurses, bus drivers, child care providers, custodians and librarians.

The New York senator will officially accept the endorsement later Wednesday.

"I am honored to receive the support of AFSCME," Clinton said in a statement. "In my administration, America's working families will again have a partner in the White House."

Gerald McEntee, president of the union, said Clinton "will help rebuild America's middle class and make sure everyone shares in our country's prosperity."

Fed cuts funds interest rate to 4.5%

Second reduction in six weeks designed to boost spending after credit crunch

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The Federal Reserve sliced an important interest rate Wednesday — its second reduction in the last six weeks — to help the economy survive the strains of a deepening housing slump that is likely to crimp growth in coming months.

Fed Chairman Ben Bernanke and all but one of his colleagues agreed to lower the federal funds rate by one-quarter percentage point to 4.50 percent at the end of a two-day meeting.

"The pace of economic expansion will likely slow in the near term, partly reflecting the intensification of the housing correction," the Fed acknowledged in a statement explaining its action.

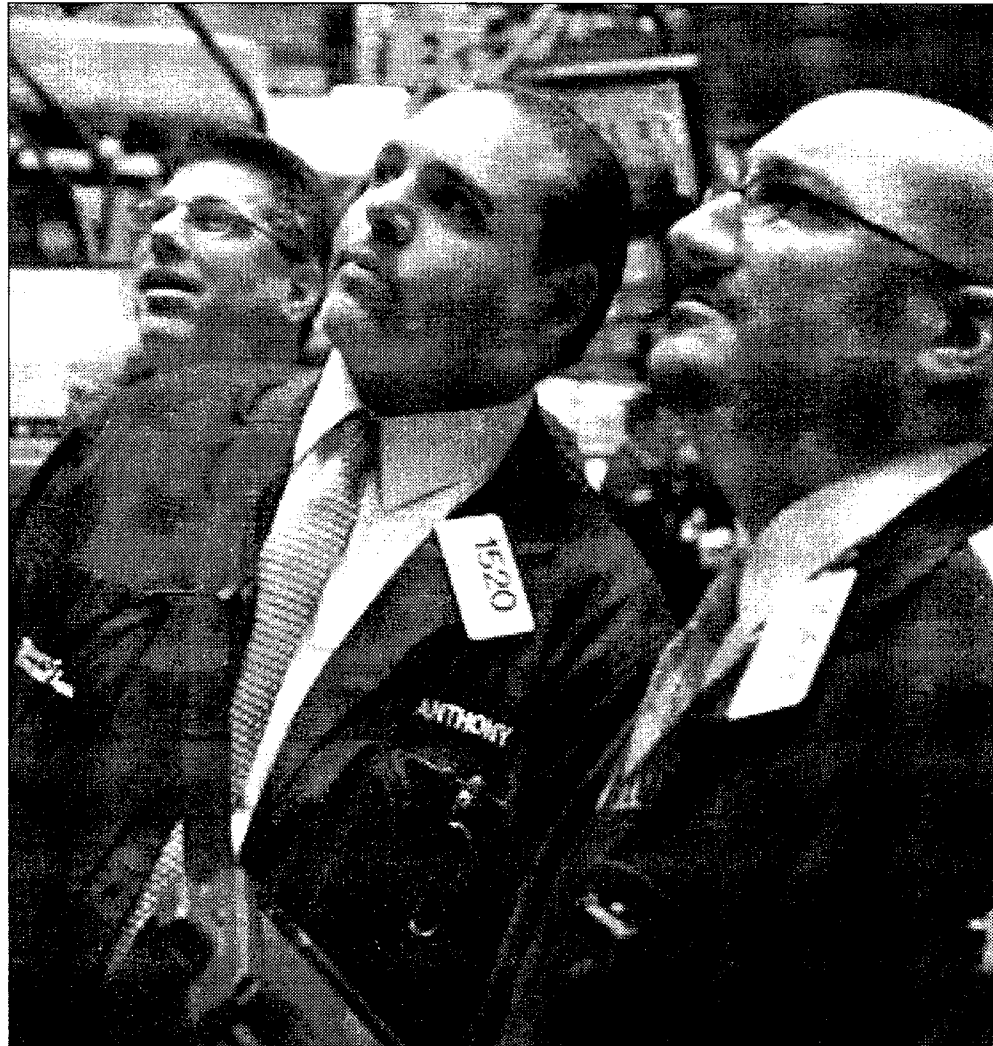
The funds rate affects many other interest rates charged to millions of individuals and businesses and is the Fed's most potent tool for influencing economic activity.

In response, commercial banks, including Bank of America, Wells Fargo and KeyCorp., announced that they were cutting their prime lending rate — for certain credit cards, home equity lines of credit and other loans — by a corresponding amount, to 7.50 percent.

The rationale behind the cuts is that the lower borrowing costs will induce people and businesses to boost spending, energizing economic activity.

Wall Street was cheered by the Fed action. The Dow Jones industrials jumped 137.54 points to close at 13,930.01.

The Fed policymakers supporting Wednesday's



Traders on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange watch as the Federal Reserve Board announces a quarter-point cut to the funds interest rate Wednesday.

rate cut said the action — along with a rate reduction in September — was needed to "forestall some of the adverse effects on the broader economy" that might arise from the housing and credit troubles that have wreaked havoc on Wall Street over the past few months.

Fed policymakers indicated the two rate cuts ordered so far may be sufficient to help the economy make its way safely through the trouble spots.

They said the risks to the economy from infla-

tion "roughly balance," or are equal to, the risks of a serious downturn in economic growth. Previously, the risks of a recession were seen as more of a threat to the country's economic health.

"The message: They are now done for the time being," said Lynn Reaser, chief economist at Bank of America's Investment Strategies Group. "They have taken out a significant insurance policy and now they believe they are fully covered against a recession risk — at least for the near term," she

said.

For now, Reaser and other economists think the Fed probably will leave the funds rate alone when it meets next on Dec. 11, the last session of the year.

The 9-1 decision to cut rates on Wednesday was opposed by Thomas Hoenig, president of the Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City. He preferred no change in the funds rate.

So far, the economy has shown amazing resilience to the housing and credit strains.

Stocks on the rise as credit crisis eases

Associated Press

NEW YORK — Wall Street bounded higher Wednesday after the Federal Reserve assuaged some of investors' fears about a sinking economy, stating that risks to the financial markets from the summer's credit crises have eased. The Dow Jones industrial average gained more than 130 points on the day.

Stocks initially zigzagged after the Fed lowered interest rates as expected because some investors balked at the notion that the Fed might not lower rates again at its December meeting. However, investors eventually appeared relieved that the Fed's comments about the inflation — a perennial concern — signaled the central bank was able to return to somewhat more parochial worries and focus less about upheaval in the credit markets than when it met last month.

Wall Street was heartened by the

fact that investors, businesses and consumers alike will be getting cheaper access to cash because of the widely anticipated quarter-point rate cut. The fed funds rate now stands at 4.50 percent. Last month, the Fed surprised the market with a larger-than-expected half-point cut in the funds rate — the rate banks charge each other for overnight loans.

After months of agonizing over an anemic credit market, investors appeared to take some solace that the Fed found room to offer a less accommodative statement than some had expected.

"A rather stingy Fed suggests that they see an economy that is in pretty good shape," said Bruce McCain, head of the investment strategy team for Key Private Bank.

"They're saying now we can turn back to the issue of inflation and implicit in that is that the economy is getting back on track," he said.

The Dow, which had dipped briefly

into negative territory after the decision, rose 137.54, or 1 percent, to 13,930.01.

Broader stock indicators also advanced. The Standard & Poor's 500 index rose 18.36, or 1.20 percent, to 1,549.38, and the Nasdaq composite index rose 42.41, or 1.51 percent, to 2,859.12.

The Russell 2000 index of smaller companies rose 11.87, or 1.45 percent, to 828.02.

Treasury bond prices fell after the Fed's decision. The yield on the 10-year Treasury note, which moves inversely to its price, rose to 4.47 percent from 4.39 percent late Tuesday.

In comments following its two-day meeting, central bank policymakers said recent spikes in energy and commodity prices are among the forces that could be adding to inflation pressures and that with its latest move "the upside risks to inflation roughly balance the downside risks to growth."

SPAIN

Suspects in terror attack convicted

Associated Press

MADRID — Spain's National Court convicted the three main suspects in the Madrid commuter train bombings of mass murder Wednesday and sentenced them to tens of thousands of years in prison for Europe's worst Islamic terror attack.

But the verdict was a mixed bag for prosecutors, who saw four other key defendants convicted of lesser offenses and an accused ringleader acquitted altogether.

With much of the case resting on circumstantial evidence, the three judges may have been wary after a number of high-profile Spanish terror cases were overturned on appeal.

Spain's prime minister said the verdict still upheld justice. But victims of the attack, which killed 191 people and wounded more than 1,800 when bombs exploded on four trains on March 11, 2004, expressed shock and sadness over the court's decision.

"The verdict seems soft to us," said Pilar Manjon, who lost her 20-year-old son in the attack and has become a leader of a victims association. "I don't like it that murderers are going free."

Three lead suspects — Jamal Zougam and Othman Gnaoui of Morocco and Emilio Suarez Trashorras of Spain — were convicted of murder and attempted murder and received prison sentences ranging from 34,000 to 43,000 years. Under Spanish law, the most they will spend in jail is 40 years. Spain has no death penalty or life imprisonment.

Zougam was convicted of placing at least one bomb on a train and Gnaoui of being a right-hand man of the plot's operational chief. Trashorras, who once worked as a miner, was found guilty of supplying the explosives used in the bombs.

One of the biggest surprises was the acquittal of Rabei

Osman, an Egyptian already convicted and jailed in Italy for the Madrid bombings.

Italian authorities said Osman bragged in taped Arabic-language phone conversations that he was the brains behind the Madrid plot. But translations of the taped conversations by two sets of Spanish translators indicated his comments were more nuanced and did not amount to a confession.

The Spanish verdict came just two days after an Italian appeals court upheld Osman's conviction there, but shaved two years off his prison term, sentencing him to eight years.

Osman watched the Spanish proceedings on a videoconference link from the Justice Palace in Milan. The Europa Press news agency reported that he broke down in tears and shouted: "I've been absolved! I've been absolved!"

"The verdict seems so soft to us."

Pilar Manjon
mother of victim

Four other top suspects —

Youssef Belhadj, Hassan el Haski, Abdulmajid Bouchar and Rafa Zouhier — were acquitted of murder but convicted of other charges that

included belonging to a terrorist organization. They received sentences of 10 to 18 years in prison.

Fourteen other defendants were found guilty of lesser crimes and six others were acquitted.

Much of the evidence in the 57-session, five-month trial was circumstantial. Bouchar, for instance, was seen on one of the bombed trains shortly before the attack, but at trial no one could definitively identify him and there were no fingerprints or other forensic evidence placing him at the scene.

A senior court official privy to the decision-making told The Associated Press after the verdict that the case against Osman was "flimsy," and that there was "no hard evidence" that Belhadj or Haski were masterminds. The official agreed to discuss the verdict only if not quoted by name.

NORTH KOREA

Nation strengthens foreign ties

Success in nuclear standoff sparks new diplomatic missions

Associated Press

SEOUL — Buoyed by progress in its nuclear standoff, reclusive North Korea has begun reaching out to the world beyond its closed borders, forging formal relations with a series of countries and sending high-level delegations overseas.

The communist nation has opened or restored relations with five countries since July.

Senior officials have visited Russia, southeast Asia, Africa and the Middle East — a rare burst of international activity move by one of the world's most isolated nations.

Analysts say the main reason for the drive is that

Pyongyang — branded as part of an "axis of evil" by President Bush — wants to show Washington it can behave like a "normal" country.

"North Korea had judged that the U.S. was squeezing its throat. But now, confidence is building as efforts to resolve the nuclear issue speed up," said Kim Yong-hyun, a North Korea expert at Seoul's Dongguk University.

Progress in the nuclear issue has enabled Pyongyang to

focus on diplomacy with other countries because it is no longer preoccupied with fears that the U.S. is attempting to topple the regime, Kim said.

Pyongyang shut down its sole functioning nuclear reactor in July, and a team of U.S. nuclear experts is set to visit the North this week to start disabling the facility by year-end.

"By broadening its external relations, the North also wants

to show the U.S. the look of a normal country," he said. "The idea is that: 'We've been so closed because of you, but if you go easy on us like this, we can also act like other ordinary countries.'"

In September, North Korea established diplomatic relations with the United

Arab Emirates, Swaziland, the Dominican Republic and Guatemala. Pyongyang also has opened ties with Montenegro and in recent months restored relations with Myanmar and Nicaragua.

The North still does not have relations with the U.S., although it does with the other permanent members of the U.N. Security Council — Britain, China, France and Russia.

On Monday, the North's main state-controlled Rodong Sinmun newspaper touted the

expanding relations as a "great diplomatic success" and said the country wants to develop relations with any friendly countries that respect it.

"It has become an irresistible trend of the times that the international interest in the (North) is growing deep day by day and many countries wish to improve and develop their relations with" the North, the paper said.

The communist country has also sent several high-level delegations to foreign countries.

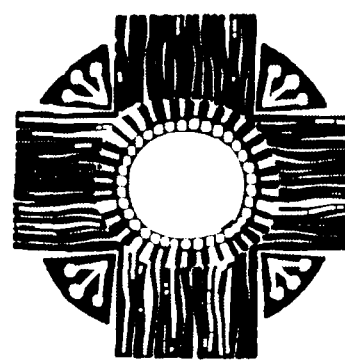
In July, the country's No. 2 leader, Kim Yong Nam, visited Mongolia, Russia, Algeria, Egypt, Singapore and Ethiopia. Since last week, the country's premier, Kim Jong Il, has been to Vietnam, Malaysia, Cambodia and Laos.

Although North Korea has diplomatic relations with 160 countries, it is still considered one of the world's most isolated nations, as most of its ties remain nominal and include only minimal trade and exchanges.

China is the only major ally of Pyongyang, and the North's trade with its neighbor accounts for more than half its total foreign trade.

The North's recent diplomatic rush may be aimed at silencing criticism from hard-line U.S. officials opposed to taking Pyongyang off Washington's blacklist of nations sponsoring terrorism, said Yang Moo-jin, a professor at Seoul's University of North Korean Studies.

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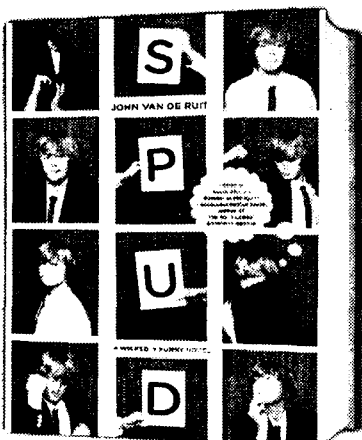
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Handicapped confront obstacles

Physically disabled sue large cities for accessibility to subway stations

Associated Press

NEW YORK — For handicapped New Yorkers, a trip aboard the city's subway system means confronting a series of obstacles — and indignities.

First, they must be at a station with an elevator that descends to the platform. In places, it's so narrow that a wheelchair rolls just inches from the edge of electrified tracks. And once the train arrives, the wheelchair often gets stuck while crossing the gap between the platform and the subway car.

Navigating the nation's largest mass transit system by wheelchair "takes a certain kind of emotional stamina," said Michael Harris, an advocate for the disabled who uses a wheelchair himself. "It's physically and emotionally draining."

Disabled passengers report the same difficulties in several other large cities, and some have sued transit agencies for improvements.

Because of a lawsuit, Chicago officials installed devices that make it easier for wheelchair users to get on and

off trains. In Boston, disabled train and bus riders sued over broken elevators and inaccessible stations, leading the city's transit agency to spend more than \$300 million on improvements.

"It's not something that happens overnight, but they're moving ahead diligently," said Bill Henning, director of the Boston Center for Independent Living. He said the transit system was now "dedicated to improvements and trying to change the culture of an entity that hadn't given this the highest priority or quite understood how to be handicap accessible."

In New York, only about 60 of the city's 486 stations are accessible to wheelchairs, and about 40 more are under construction to become accessible.

"We're more than 100 years old, and we're trying to retrofit stations with elevators and ramps. Space constraints are a big factor," said James Anyansi, a spokesman for New York City Transit, acknowledging that Harris is probably right in describing New York's system as the worst in the country for handicap-accessibility.

Harris, 23, recently demonstrated the pitfalls of an underground ride by wheelchair.

He left his lower Manhattan office near City Hall, heading uptown to Herald Square at West 34th Street — a trip that normally takes about 10 minutes on one subway line from the station across the street. But the station is not wheelchair-accessible.

So Harris powered up his motorized wheelchair and rolled to a different station, where he caught an uptown train to Grand Central Terminal. From there, he rolled down the sidewalk to another station and boarded a train for his destination.

Instead of 10 minutes, the trip lasted about 40.

When there are problems with access, Anyansi said, transit officials post information on station signs and on a Web site, and they update a hot line four times a day. Transit employees are also supposed to be available to answer questions.

In addition, a van can be reserved ahead of time to pick up a passenger at a specified address — at \$2 a shared ride.

Polygamist leader: I am not a prophet

Associated Press

SALT LAKE CITY — Sitting in jail awaiting trial, the leader of a polygamous sect renounced his role as a prophet and said he had been "immoral" with a sister and daughter decades ago, newly unsealed documents show.

Warren Jeffs' attorneys included those statements in documents they filed in July as they sought to keep jail recordings out of his September trial in the arranged marriage of a 14-year-old to her 19-year-old cousin.

Fifth District Judge James Shumate agreed that the recordings could bias jurors against Jeffs and ordered the documents sealed. He unsealed them Tuesday.

Jeffs, 51, was convicted on two counts of rape as an accomplice. He is to be sentenced Nov. 20 and could get up to life in prison.

Jeffs also faces criminal charges in Arizona and in Utah's federal court.

In telephone calls Jan. 24, Jeffs told family that he "had been immoral with a sister and a daughter" when he was 20, according to the documents. He goes on to renounce his role as the church prophet and says the Lord had "revealed to him that he was a wicked man."

It is not clear who Jeffs is speaking about, and Jeffs does not elaborate on the conduct. Some listeners responded by telling Jeffs he is the prophet and was being tested, according to the documents.

The court filings also recount a videotaped Jan. 25 visit to the Washington County jail by a brother, Nephi Jeffs.

Warren Jeffs said he had been fasting for three days and had been awake through the night. He began to dictate a religious message to followers but fell silent in mid-sentence and didn't speak again for 13 minutes.

Again, he renounced his position as head of the church. His brother tried to encourage him and said he should see a doctor.

Jeffs was taken to a hospital three days later and was given medication for depression. Court documents say he lost 30 pounds, was dehydrated and suffering from sleep deprivation.

In February, when his health had improved, he abandoned his

statements about not being a prophet and said he had "experienced a great spiritual test," according to the documents.

Among FLDS members, who cover their bodies from neck to ankle, even small physical gestures would be considered inappropriate, said Ken Driggs, a Georgia lawyer and polygamy expert. As for Jeffs' "immoral" conduct, "I wouldn't read too much into it," Driggs said.

"What that community may regard as immoral conduct is not necessarily what the outside world would consider immoral conduct. He could be talking about thoughts, or some affectionate or physical conduct," Driggs said.

A half-brother, Ward Jeffs, said he doesn't believe Warren Jeffs was married or had children at age 20. Warren Jeffs was a teacher at a private FLDS school in Salt Lake City in 1976.

Ward Jeffs, who has left the FLDS church, said he had no knowledge of allegations of inappropriate behavior with a sister. The half-brothers are no longer close.

Defense attorney Wally Bugden said the judge released the documents without his knowledge.

"I had no idea," Bugden told The Salt Lake Tribune. "There are significant due process issues for Mr. Jeffs as it relates to future cases in Arizona and there are significant privacy issues that we believe are protected."

In his order, Shumate did not explain his reasoning for unsealing the documents, and Nancy Volmer, a spokeswoman for the state courts system, said she did not know why the judge made the decision when he did. A court hearing was planned for Nov. 6 on a request by news media and a private investigator to release them as well as others.

Jeffs has led the Fundamentalist Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints since 2002, taking over from his father. Faithful members hold polygamy as a central tenet of their religion.

The mainstream Mormon church, the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, renounced polygamy more than a century ago, excommunicates members who engage in the practice, and disavows any connection to the FLDS church.

"What the community may regard as immoral conduct is not necessarily what the outside world would consider immoral conduct."

Ken Driggs
polygamy expert

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THE OBSERVER VIEWPOINT

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Thursday, November 1, 2007

THE OBSERVER

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The widening racial divide

This is a column about black Americans.

It's not political; it's not prescriptive. I don't know what to do about the facts I present below, nor do I know how to answer the questions they pose. But I'm certain they matter. If nothing else, they illuminate the American racial division that too many of us still deny.

It's almost embarrassing to have to write a column that observes something so obvious. But, unfortunately, columns that argue the truth of racial distinction in America are still necessary.

1. According to filmmaker Rachel Grady and Heidi Ewin's documentary, "The Boys of Baraka," 76 percent of black teenage males will not graduate high school.

2. Author Jawanza Kunjufu has said that approximately 32 percent of black families today have a father in the home.

3. And it's not just Baltimore — a 2001 Manhattan Institute study reports that less than half of black teenagers in Georgia's DeKalb County graduate from high school, whereas 77 percent of white teenagers do so. (Latino teenagers graduate at a jaw-droppingly low rate of only 29 percent in DeKalb County).

4. Even those who graduate high school fall behind white citizens. As DeWayne Wickham noted at a Democratic debate earlier this year, "According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, in 2006 the unemployment rate of black high school graduates ... was 33 percent higher than the unemployment rate for white high school dropouts." You read that right. The unemployment rate for black gradu-

ates was higher than that of white drop-outs.

5. In 2006, the National Urban Institute's annual "State of Black America" report found that the median net worth of black households was 1/10 of the median net worth of white households (\$6,166 versus \$67,000).

6. According to a 2003 study by the Department of Justice, 32.2 percent of black males born in 2001 "are expected to go to prison during their lifetime, if current incarceration rates remain unchanged."

7. Wickham again: "According to FBI data, blacks were roughly 29 percent of persons arrested in this country between 1996 and 2005 ... Yet at the end of this 10-year period ... blacks were approximately 38 percent [of those in prison]."

8. According to one study in 2000, black seventh- and eighth-graders were three times more likely than their white counterparts to have had sexual intercourse (37 percent versus 11 percent). By 12th grade, meanwhile, 67 percent of black teenagers had engaged in intercourse, compared to 46 percent of white teenagers.

9. In a presidential debate at Howard University, John Edwards observed: "African-American women are 25 times as likely to be infected with AIDS today in America than white women." In the same debate, Hillary Clinton noted that HIV/AIDS is the leading cause of death among black women ages 25 through 34.

10. Zero: the number of black professors I have had at Notre Dame. Zero: the number of black males in my section in my dorm. Zero: the number of black undergraduates in three of my four classes.

We shouldn't need Jena, Louisiana, or Hurricane Katrina to remind us that racial difference still plagues our country. As Leonard Pitts, Jr., a columnist for the Miami Herald, recently observed, "It feels as if in recent years we the people have backward traveled from even the pretense of believing our

loftiest ideals. It has become fashionable to decry excessive 'political correctness,' deride 'diversity,' 'sneer at the 'protected classes.'" We, too, easily become passive about racial disparity — even deny that it exists — when it doesn't glare at us in the form of explicit legal discrimination.

As I wrote at the start, I don't know what to do about statistics like this. A good start, though, is to increase awareness. By "increasing awareness," though, I don't mean holding a trite "Awareness Week" that involves table tents in the dining halls and multicultural performers that include ethnic food and performances by ethnic dance groups. I don't mean selling Jena 6 T-shirts or planting signs across campus or even writing columns acknowledging the importance of these statistics. I mean that day-to-day interaction about race has to change: People cannot get away with saying that opportunity in America is equal across racial lines.

More importantly, the above statistics mean that people cannot dismiss racial distinction as based solely on class differences, rather than racial discrimination. When white high school dropouts are employed at 133 percent the rate of black high school graduates, there is an explicitly racial problem. When I can spend a full day in my dorms and my classes without seeing a black student, there is an explicitly racial problem.

The political ramifications of this glaring problem are a question for another column. But just because we sometimes lack spectacular examples like Jena or Katrina, we can't continue to deny that the problem exists.

Andrew Nesi is a junior American Studies major from Fairfield, Conn. As you read this, he is probably on his way to Walt Disney World for a research trip. No, seriously, he is. He can be reached at anesi@nd.edu

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

Andrew Nesi

Spicy Sea
Nuggets

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Scalia's visit deserved publicity

Surely the sponsors of the recent Notre Dame Law School conference addressing what one conference organizer called "fundamental questions of American constitutional governance" can appreciate the irony in their decision not to inform the public that U.S. Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia was a featured speaker ("Scalia spoke at ND law conference," Oct. 30).

Defending their decision, a spokesperson for the law school was quoted as saying that had Scalia's visit been publicized, "it would have been a mob scene." That is one way to characterize it. Another is to say that citizens of a democracy, had they known of Scalia's presence, might have chosen to exercise their constitutional rights to organize

and dissent. Justice Scalia is often celebrated as one of the most intellectually vigorous members of the Supreme Court. He has been both lauded and reviled for his controversial decisions — decisions that affect the lives of all U.S. citizens. When the justice comes to our campus, then, he should not be smuggled in and out of Notre Dame like contraband. Rather, his visit should be made public so that ordinary citizens can express their opinions about the kind of nation that Justice Scalia seeks to create.

While such expressions may not be welcome to Justice Scalia, who reportedly requested that his presence not be made public, or to the conference organizers, they would nonetheless be evi-

dence of a vibrant — and fundamental — democratic impulse.

John Duffy
English professor
Oct. 30

Editor's note: In an e-mail to The Observer Tuesday, Law School spokesperson Melanie McDonald modified her earlier remarks and said the decision not to publicize Scalia's appearance was conference organizer A.J. Bellia's preference, not Scalia's. The justice's visit "went unpublicized because it was meant to be a purely educational endeavor at the Law School, and widespread publicity may have taken focus off of that objective," she wrote.

QUOTES OF THE DAY

"It's amazing that the amount of news that happens in the world every day always just exactly fits the newspaper."

Jerry Seinfeld
comedian and actor

"Sometimes I lie awake at night, and I ask, 'Where have I gone wrong?' Then a voice says to me, 'This is going to take more than one night.'"

Charles M. Schulz
cartoonist

We can all be saints

Certainly you can remember times when you've heard people say of someone heroic, or who has endured great suffering with patience and grace, "She's a saint!" or "He's a saint!" Perhaps you've even heard it said of one of your own parents (surely not because raising you caused them suffering). Though we most often think of the big names like Francis, Thérèse or Augustine when we hear "saint," the Church from its beginnings used the term saint to mean any baptized Christian. On this feast of All Saints, then, which we celebrate today, we ought to give thanks for the folks we know and those we'll never know whose lives have allowed others to see God at work in the world a little more clearly.

Contrary to criticisms that we worship the saints lavishly with our statues and feast days and prayers, the Church teaches us to honor the saints. Just as we would honor people who excel in the sciences, literature, peacemaking or the arts with

Kate Barrett

FaithPoint

Nobel or Pulitzer Prizes or Laetare Medals, why wouldn't we hold in especially high esteem people who, by their courageous faith in God, lived (and often died) to bring the world around them closer to the Kingdom of God? We can best honor a saint, however, whether a well-known or anonymous holy man or woman, not with medals or prizes, but by imitating Christ in our lives, by being the kind of disciples who can speak out about God's love.

Our culture holds up an almost constant stream of men and women who have achieved fame for their accomplishments in sports, film, music, or simply for being widely-photographed celebrities. Most of them, if we're honest with ourselves, are not people whose lives we truly wish to emulate. What a great idea, then, for our faith to celebrate saints' feast days: To remind ourselves throughout the year of people we really would like to imitate, and the many and various ways a person can serve God. Have an urge for world travel? St. Frances Xavier Cabrini spent her whole life on the move, from Italy to the United States to Nicaragua and Panama and Peru

and back. Long to serve the poor? St. Martin de Porres begged on the street for money he used for poor families in Lima. Want to get the rich to help the poor? St. Vincent de Paul was a master at it. Today we honor not one particular saint, however; but all who are saints, and especially the ones most of us have never heard of.

Christianity proclaims God's unconditional love, and some people just have a special capacity to disclose this love of God to the world. Think about it. If your faith in Jesus Christ, your belief in God, is alive and well today, it's because God called you through the example or witness of another person — or probably many people. And those people grew in their faith because of the example and love of others before them. Our faith has been handed on to us from generation to generation, and the people who have done the handing on are saints, whether publicly recognized by the Church or quietly known in a family or small community of believers.

So here we are. If future generations will experience the joy of the Christian life, it will be because we allow God to work

through us to proclaim it. Who will show, by word and example, the saving love of Jesus Christ to your children and grandchildren, nieces and great-nephews? Who will bring the truths of Scripture and the sacramental life to corners of the world who have never known God? Who will seek out those most in need and tend to their hunger and thirst? If you're looking around for other folks to raise their hands, quit looking and raise your own. Today, of all days, should remind us to answer, "me," to the above questions. God can work through each of us if we let him. We honor the saints by the way we live our lives, standing on the foundation of an innumerable communion of saints who have offered us the saving love and example of Jesus Christ.

Kate Barrett is the director of Resources and Special Projects in the Office of Campus Ministry. She can be reached at kbarrett@nd.edu

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

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Inclusion and exclusion in Victory March

While we're at it ...

Dear Caitly and Erin Schneeman, We think that's a great idea for the fight song and should be promptly added into the Notre Dame repertoire. While we're at it, there's a few more "gender issues" that could be addressed in our school songs.

"Rally sons and daughters of Notre Dame,

Sing her glory and sound her fame...

Cheer, cheer for old Notre Dame...

While her loyal sons and daughters march onward to victory!"

Or how about "I like"? Forget the fact that it's written for football, a sport predominantly played by men.

"I like, hike, hike, the march is on,

No brain or brawn...

For Notre Dame men and women are winning

When Notre Dame hears hike, hike, hike. HIKI!"

Or even "Irish Backs":

"And when the Irish backs go marching by,

The cheering thousands shout their battle cry,

For Notre Dame men and women are marching into the game,

Fighting the fight for you, Notre Dame...

When Notre Dame men and women fight for gold and blue,

Then Notre Dame men and women will win the game."

While we're at it, we can make "Notre Dame" non-gendered, and insist on referring to the University as "her/him."

We are all in favor for forgetting the fact that these songs were written during a period when Notre Dame was an all-male school, that these songs were written to cheer on a male dominated sport (i.e. football) and that this University is a university full of tradition, a tradition that is marked by these songs that have endured from their composition.

We fully support changing all of these lyrics to foster an inclusive, politically correct atmosphere here at Notre Dame so that the ladies in the stadium cheering on the football team won't feel belittled because we have to punch the air at "her" instead of "daughters".

Caitlin Lambert

junior

Pasquerilla East Hall

Christine Morris

junior

Walsh Hall

Oct. 31

Original version cherished

At this point, I've grown accustomed to biting my lip and grimacing at certain times when Notre Dame students, faculty and alumni try to instill their opinions, viewpoints and beliefs into others. This has held true until I recently read Caitly and Erin Schneeman's letter to the editor, "Reconsidering the Victory March" (Oct. 30).

While few people would refer to me as "old fashioned," I am still a firm believer that certain traditions should remain unscathed — above all, the "Notre Dame Victory March." I'm a proponent for equal rights, yet I can't help but ask myself the question: Can anything be left sacred anymore? The reason that most Notre Dame fans are fans is because of the traditions and pedigree associated with the University.

While people are on such a kick to appease the minority by making every tradition as politically correct as possible, they isolate the majority and forget about what most people care about. I've witnessed many great Notre Dame traditions die since I started as a student and the very mention of changing the lyrics to the "Victory March" fills me with the same sadness and rage I usually associate with watching Tyrone Willingham coach a football game.

What's next? Should we start redrafting the Declaration of Independence because it doesn't state that "all men and women are created equal"? Words might just be words but like the Declaration of Independence, the "Victory March" has meant a great deal to a number of people and to change it now would be an injustice to every person who has walked the steps beneath the Golden Dome.

The thing that you must remember, Caitly and Erin, is that this University was founded in 1842, not 1972. So, while I find Caitly and Erin's family traditions to be "interesting" and "cute," I, along with the rest of the Notre Dame family, will continue to sing the original and real version of the fight song written by the O'Shea Brothers in the early 1900s.

Honestly, if Caitly and Erin feel oppressed or shorted in any way by reading my opinion, then I would like to remind them that the beautiful gates of Saint Mary's College are always open. Last time I checked, there was no discussion of incorporating a male presence into its fight song.

Matthew Wrablik

Class of 2006

Los Angeles, Calif.

Oct. 30

Substitution can keep tradition

I read with interest the letter from Caitly Schneeman and her mother, Erin Burns Schneeman, "Reconsidering the Victory March" (Oct. 30). I am in total agreement with these two ladies. Women have been attending the University for decades now, and it's about time to do away with the gender specific "sons" and use a different pronoun. I suggest using the term "ones." Since we refer to those we love as "loved ones," it seems a perfect term to use in this situation.

If the gentlemen at Notre Dame want to continue their proud tradition of shouting out, "sons," when they sing the "Victory March," then, fine, allow them to do so. But, also, allow the ladies to be included by shouting out, too. If the lyric change is made to "ones," then even if some or most of the male students continue to sing, "sons," the two words will mesh together so well that they will seem almost indistinguishable to those listening. I think it would be preferable for everyone to sing, "ones," but it would work either way.

Don't leave anyone out

This is in response to the letter entitled "Reconsidering the Victory March" (Oct. 30). We feel the aforementioned letter included some good points; but it was still slightly exclusive in its message.

Even small exclusions breed both sadness and Viewpoint articles. As The Observer's Viewpoint section has taught us, it should be everyone's goal, in every aspect of life, to never mildly offend anyone, ever. Therefore, we deem it necessary to alter an age-old tradition to achieve the maximum degree of political correctness.

Like Caitly and her understandably concerned mother, we also sang a different version of our University's beloved fight song at the USC game. We were appalled when the people sitting around us sang a less inclusive tune. While the student body ended the song

It is unfair, as well as an act of discrimination, to continue to exclude women by not changing the term, "sons," to something which includes both genders. Please allow women to feel a greater part of this wonderful university. Exclusion is never a pleasant thing for anyone. Both male and female students should feel "equal" at this university in every way. After all, this is a Christian university, which reveres a woman: the Virgin Mary. I would think it only right to change the wording to give female students a better feeling and sense of belonging.

By the way, I am a mother, too, and I have a son (class of 2003). I have no daughters, so I am not writing this with any personal agenda in mind. I'm writing it on behalf of women, as well as everyone, who have ever felt discriminated against, unwanted, or rejected, through no action of their own — just because of "who" they are.

Holly Miller

Mead, Wash.

Oct. 31

with the ignorant and insensitive phrase "while her loyal sons are marching onward to victory," we sang proudly "while Her loyal sons and daughters and hermaphrodites march onward to victory."

It is an injustice rivaling comic strips about fat chicks that males get to raise their hands on "sons," females get to raise their hands on "her," and hermaphrodites don't get a chance to raise their hands at all. We fully expect a response to point out the obvious weakness in our argument: Our version of the Fight Song technically allows hermaphrodites to raise their hands three times. God bless.

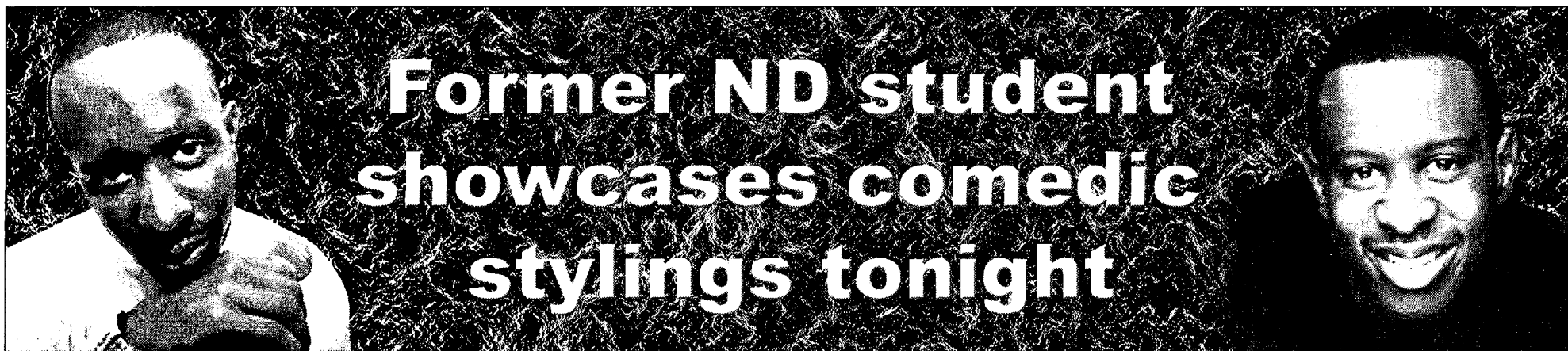
Steve Simeonidis

Claude LeRose

juniors

Keough Hall

Oct. 30



MATT HUDSON | Observer Graphic

Former ND student showcases comedic stylings tonight

By KATIE PERALTA
Scene Writer

Owen Smith, a 1995 Notre Dame graduate and stand-up comedian, will perform his one-hour special, "Anonymous," at the Century Center in downtown South Bend at 7:30 and 10 tonight.

This is Smith's first taped comedy special.

Comedian Terry Crews, who plays Chris' father, Julius, on the CW comedy "Everybody Hates Chris," will be opening for Smith.

Smith has recently gained distinction through his work as a writer for "Everybody Hates Chris" and his upcoming animated comedy on BET, "BUFU," which was co-created by comedian-actor Orlando Jones. Smith also appeared on a McDonald's commercial featuring the "Cha-Cha Slide" that aired during the NFL Season Opener game. Smith's movie, "Unhitched," is currently in the pre-production stages.

"It's like the opposite of [Will Smith's 2005 comedy] 'Hitched,'" Smith said. "and I'll be the guy breaking up couples."

Smith, originally from Maryland, said he has known he wanted to do comedy since he was nine years old. He drew inspiration from one of his favorite comedians, Eddie Murphy, whose comedy show, "Delirious," thrilled Smith as a boy but shocked some of his religious babysitters.

"When I would watch it they would change the channel when he cursed,"

Owen said, "but change back to see what he would say next."

Later, in high school, Smith sold candy bars as regularly as the drug dealers did their business on the other side of town. Smith's candy-selling business was making between \$200 to \$300 per week. His aptitude for money dealing prompted Smith to major in finance when he went to Notre Dame. He lived in Grace Hall.

"College is the best time of your life," said Smith, who said his experience at Notre Dame was beautiful. He said he is thankful for the positive encouragement he received at the University.

Smith, who once got caught breaking parietals in Grace, scored the game winning point of the final game in Bookstore Basketball to win the tournament during his senior year. "People were so serious about that stuff," said Smith. "I would go around and pants the guy on the other team."

After college, Smith went on to work at Prudential Preferred Financial Services selling life insurance. After 11 unfulfilling months, he quit the job to pursue comedy. Inspired by big names like Bill Cosby, Eddie Murphy and Richard Pryor, Smith headed to Los Angeles.

Smith tries to make his comedy a personal expression to which his audience can relate, he said. He never talks down to college students as "you kids" as some other comedians might do, he said. Rather, he loves talking about his college experience.

His three main points during his routine are politics, race and relationships.

"I don't just mean to make jokes about black and white," said Smith.



Photo courtesy of winthrop.edu

Comedian Owen Smith performs tonight at 7:30 and 10 at the Century Center, 120 S. St. Joseph St. Smith is a 1995 Notre Dame graduate.

Instead, he focuses on his encounters with a variety of races in his Maryland hometown, and contrasts it with the relative homogeneity of Notre Dame in the 1990s.

"Any man who curses can't think of anything else to say," Smith said, quoting Bill Cosby. He emulates this theory in his routines now, but uses the occasional expletive only when necessary. When he came to Notre Dame last April, an adviser told Smith that his routine "crossed the line."

Smith said sophomore Cedric Joint approached him after the show and declared, "Yeah, you definitely crossed the line. And I loved every minute of it."

Joint, who kept in contact with Smith

and went out to Los Angeles this past summer to work with him, has worked tirelessly on production for Thursday's show.

Tickets for Smith's show are on sale for \$5 online, at the LaFortune box office, and at the door of the Century Center. Doors for the first show open at 6:30 p.m. for the first show and at 9 p.m. for the second. Free rides will be provided from McKenna Hall and Library Circle starting at 6 p.m.

"I just want everybody to come out," Smith said. "Even if you don't have a ticket. Just hop on the bus and we'll figure something out."

Contact Katie Peralta at kperalta@nd.edu

Affleck brothers show brilliance on both sides of camera

By JAMES COSTA
Assistant Scene Editor

When I first heard that Ben Affleck was directing a movie, I felt a little sorry for the guy. After starring in a series of epic flops, it seemed impossible that he could step behind the camera and make something truly special happen. Yet, my first feelings were wrong. Rather than make a mediocre film, or even a good film, Affleck has risen higher than the critics and the skeptics. In his first effort as a director, he has constructed a deeply moving and powerful film, "Gone Baby Gone," that will compel the viewer to contemplate the very essence of what is right and wrong.

The movie is a drama, pure and simple. It has no comic relief, no funny man, no

cheap laughs or stunts to lighten the mood. From the first frame, it starts hard and only gets harder and darker. Functioning as drama without gimmicks, it succeeds in delivering the viewer deep into a world of broken lives, drug addiction, violence and corruption. The film centers on the idealistic ways in which man views the world and then falls from these perceptions after experiencing the cruelty of life, only to hopefully regain the idealism that has been lost along the way.

The film is based on the novel, "Gone Baby Gone" by Dennis Lehane, the author of "Mystic River," which Clint Eastwood adapted to the screen. From the very beginning of "Gone," it almost feels as if we're watching "Mystic River II." This is not because Affleck is ripping off Eastwood. It's simply that Affleck also understands the South Boston world in which Lehane writes and masterfully captures its essence on the screen.

While the film is still young and the jury is still out on its future appeal, it is quite possible that Affleck has created in "Gone" a film as powerful an insight into the the good and evil spheres of human consciousness as Eastwood created in "Mystic River."

The story is complex. Amanda McCready, a cute four-year-old from South Boston, is abducted from her home. A few days go by and no progress is made in finding

the kidnapper. Distressed, Amanda's aunt goes to a private investigator (Casey Affleck) and seeks his help. There isn't much more to say without giving away secret. However, it is a plotline that only thickens in complexity before the dramatic and classic climax between Affleck and the kidnapper.

Beyond the details of the plot, the film truly succeeds in exposing a world that most of us know little about. It is a world of ugly lives — thrown away and forgotten because of criminality, drug use and complacent despair. Helene (Amy Ryan), the mother of kidnapped Amanda, most ably portrays this world. A disastrously rough and beaten woman, she is the epitome of the snarled mother from the underclass. She is a druggie, a user, a villain to herself and her family, and yet there is also an element of sad hope and love for her child that makes her impossible to hate.

Casey Affleck delivers a powerful and commanding performance. It is clear from the start that he has ingrained himself deep into the subtleties of his character. There is something laying beneath the veneer of the character that adds an additional element of tension to the already nail-biting storyline.

The film is extraordinarily compelling. It contains a remarkable sensitivity to the struggles people face and the difficulties in doing what is right when there is already so very much wrong.

Contact James Costa at jcosta1@nd.edu



Photo courtesy of movieweb.com

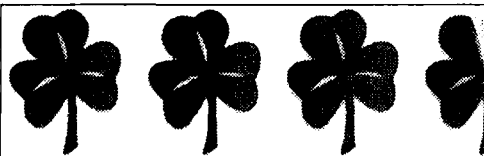
Casey Affleck has garnered critical praise under the direction of his brother, Ben.

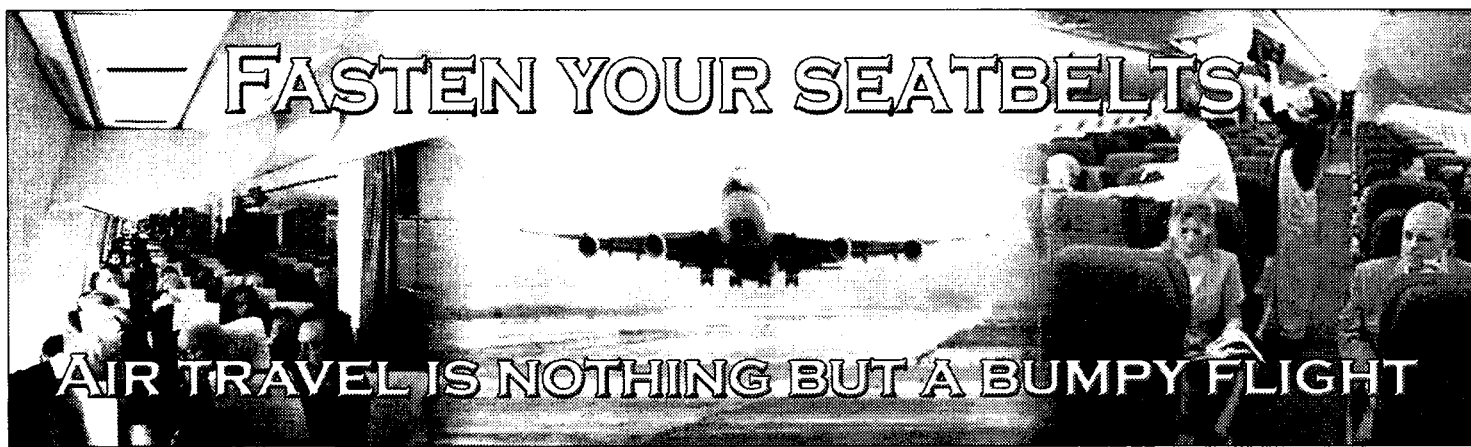
Gone Baby Gone

Miramax Films

Directed by: Ben Affleck

Starring: Casey Affleck, Michelle Monaghan and Morgan Freeman





MATT HUDSON | Observer Graphic

"We are just about 140 nautical miles out of Chicago O'Hare." While this may seem like a pleasant update, it's really just nonsense. Note what follows: "Hope you're enjoying your flight." Now back to that first comment. Let's play "one of these things is not like the other." If you guessed that the word "nautical" makes no contextual sense when you're miles above any water mass, you're 100 percent correct.

Jess Shaffer

Scene Writer

This is just one of the many oddities that pervade air travel. It seems that even the often repeated phrase, "pleasant trip" is a contradiction in terms. I mean, what's really fun about cramming into a tin can that is about 20 yards long, but only 15 feet wide? And moreover, what's fun about being in this cramped space with 100 other people? What's appealing about company like that guy who dozes off on your shoulder or the inevitably screaming child who's kicking your seat?

Okay maybe air travel isn't all that bad. There's a romantic nostalgia associated with flight. Put on Frank Sinatra's "Come Fly with Me," and I'd probably be persuaded to repeat my combined 27 hours of fall break travel. I'm sticking with Frank when I insist that there is a charm in seeing towns dissolve into what looks like a distant monopoly board.

But, with that said, this little slice of sky heaven is enveloped in an environment ridiculously akin to what I imagine hell is like. After enduring traffic and getting rid of your burdensome luggage, the daunting obstacle of security looms. Somehow, I'm almost always the one pulled out of line for an extra-thorough check. I thought there was a limit to how many times I could be frisked by airport security in a single year. Apparently not.

In those mundane lines of "remove your laptops" and "no liquids exceeding four ounces," I just can't seem to do anything right. Case and point: I accidentally forgot to remove my centimeter-thin flip flops, and was forced to repeat the entire process. I was additionally subjected to the glares and

jostles from the irritated people behind me. I guess my threadbare (trash-bound) sandals are actually incognito weapons. They were so well disguised that even I, their owner, couldn't pick them out as dangerous. Good thing I have airport security to protect me from myself. It's probably for the best that I couldn't harness my shoes' nunchucking potential or else that guy who kept coughing his infectious germs onto me would definitely not have had such a "pleasant trip."

You'd think that waiting at the departing gate would be unexciting and therefore not irritating. Time at the gate is intended for sipping your morning latte before you endure a claustrophobic's nightmare. But regrettably the gates, once havens from airport anarchy, have now become locales for positioning yourself for optimal boarding capacity. Using totes, backpacks, and briefcases as weapons to defend their turf, passengers prepare to charge the gate. Those soccer moms pack a hard punch with their kid's Dora the Explorer backpack. And once your row number is called, chaos breaks out with a rush to be the first to board.

Attention passengers: This is not an Olympic speed walking race.

My enjoyable traveling experience has been reduced to absently glancing at the scenery while pondering the odd smell of the guy who is sitting way too close to me.

I even once had fondness for flight attendants. They hand out drinks and peanuts with a freakishly glued on smile. Or, at least, that used to be their job. Now it seems that they feel obligated to baby-sit their customers. I missed the "no more electronics" announcement, and instead of getting a friendly reminder, the flight attendant stood over me to check to make sure that I switched off my iPod. Fascist state much? It was an honest mistake, not an intentional sacrifice of safety protocol. What happened to the sexist generalization of stewardess Barbie? I bet she would have fulfilled her duties with class and style, instead of just a glare.

And then suddenly you're landing and there is a grand push to get out of the plane. There is a charge to be the



Photo courtesy of britishseagull.net

Unfortunately, friendly smiles don't always greet us when we fly.

first one out of your seat — an all consuming desire to be one of the few who get to stand at full height in the center aisle. And while the rest crouch under the overhead compartments, the vicious carry-on luggage rains down from the sky, attacking at random with a roller bag to the head. The Dora the Explorer backpack comes out of nowhere, again!

At least baggage claim is out in the open; it gives more space for bagging. But unfortunately, here you are subjected to the little boys and old men's delusions of strength. Inevitably you always get an only half-retrieved bag thumped onto your foot. That last yank of your bag off the belt is about all any sane person can take. It's enough to send anybody straight to bed as remedy for exhaustive irritation.

I'm considering not leaving my bed until Christmas so that I can start recouping for my next flying disaster. Sorry, Frank, it's disappointing for me, too.

The views expressed in Scene and Heard are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer.

Contact Jess Shaffer at jshaffe1@nd.edu

Burritos fill bellies of ND students

By CHRIS McGRADY
Assistant Scene Editor

Students have been caught up in the craze for Chipotle — the burgeoning empire of burrito restaurants built on the backs of organic meat, beans, and guacamole. Chipotle, a Colorado-based Fresh-Mex chain, has hit the Michiana area with all the force of, well, a three-pound burrito.

Chipotle opened on Main Street in Mishawaka a little more than a year ago. The restaurant was popular initially, but mostly with those students who had been to Chipotle in other cities. But as time went on, the phrase, "Wanna go to Chipotle?" became as much a campus mainstay as, "What did you think of the game?" Now, if you head to Chipotle at 6 p.m. on any given day, expect the line to reach the door.

Chipotle's secret is simplicity. Its menu only has a few options: burritos, tacos (hard or soft shell), burrito bowls (a burrito minus the tortilla) and a salad. But the possibilities within these choices are endless. Four different kinds of meat, four kinds of salsa, two types of beans and, oh, would you like sour cream and cheese on that? These ingredients ultimately become the real weapon behind their success — taste.

So often lost in the restaurant atmosphere-battle (see also, the "how much stuff can we put on our walls" battle) is, ironically, good food. Chipotle founder Steve Eells is a cook at heart, and it shows. The adobo rubbed steak is delicious, the chunky guacamole is flavorful, and the tomatillo salsa is spicy and robust. Chipotle boils its menu down to a few things and does them very well, rather than having dozens of mediocre choices. The recipe works.

Many area students enjoy Chipotle on a regular basis. Interestingly enough, some don't choose Chipotle for its taste or convenience. Rather, they choose the restaurant for its morals.

Chipotle is dedicated to what they call, "food with integrity." The restaurant uses free-range and humanely-raised meats and vegetables from sustainable farms. The sour cream is made from milk that doesn't use RGH, a hormone used to increase dairy production. Even the restaurant buildings are made from recycled materials. Talk about commitment.

Other students are jumping on the bandwagon as well, and not just because of the company's ethical motto. A burrito is big enough for a whole meal, and costs less than \$6. With students' limited budgets, a \$6 meal isn't half bad.

But students aren't the only ones afflicted with the Fresh-Mex madness. In its second quarter press release, Chipotle noted an increase in net income earnings of 72 percent during the previous six months. The restaurant opened 32 new restaurants and its stock is now worth more than \$110 per share. Chipotle's popularity is booming across the country, not just at Notre Dame.

With tasty options, reasonable prices, and a penchant for morality, why not join the craze?

Contact Chris McGrady at cmcgrad1@nd.edu

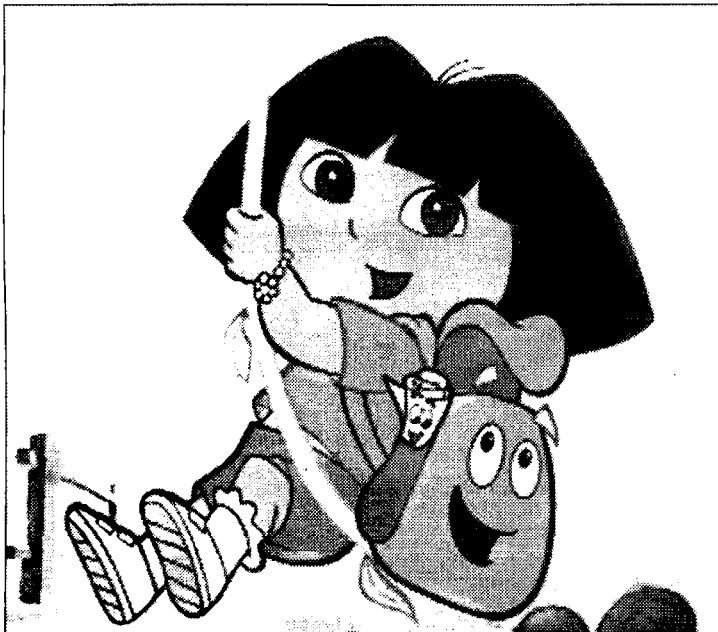


Photo courtesy of ncta.com

This popular cartoon character may look sweet, but her merchandise could distract and injure you on flights.



Photo courtesy of gokudo.co.jp

Ol' Blue Eyes adds whimsy to flying in "Come Fly with Me," but real-life traveling experiences are never so romantic.

NBA

Nets' big three pace squad in win over Bulls

Hornets open season with win in front of home crowd; Lewis' debut a success in Orlando's win over Milwaukee

Associated Press

EAST RUTHERFORD, N.J. — Antoine Wright has learned to deal with rejection very well.

Told by the New Jersey Nets last week that they won't be picking up the option on his contract next year, Wright started his walk year by making a statement.

Wright scored 14 of his career-high 21 points in the fourth quarter and overtime to lead the Nets to a 112-103 victory over the distracted Chicago Bulls on Wednesday night.

"I am a little excited," Wright said. "I am looking at this as an opportunity to show people I can be consistent and play every night. At the end of the year, hopefully everything will take care of itself."

Wright spent \$25,000 this summer to work out three times daily on his overall game at a camp in Las Vegas, and it certainly paid off.

"For him to have a game like this on opening night to save us, I'm just happy for him," Frank said. "It's nice to see him have a big game like this and hopefully, he'll have more like this."

Richard Jefferson, who battled injuries in recent years,

added 29 points and 10 rebounds as the Nets won their 12th straight against the Bulls in New Jersey. Vince Carter had 24 points and a big steal late and Jason Kidd handed out 13 assists.

Kidd was impressed with Wright, whose previous high was 16 points last season.

"I think it gives him confidence and puts him on the radar," Kidd said. "He played extremely well."

The Bulls struggled at times in the season opener, the possible victims of rumors of a major trade with the Lakers for Kobe Bryant.

Ben Gordon had 27 points and Luol Deng added 22 points and 11 rebounds for the Bulls, who rallied from a 17-point second-half deficit to force the overtime.

"There's never a deadline when it comes to trades," Deng said. "I guess I have to learn to expect that for the rest of my career. There's always someone who wants you. I didn't think it really bothered us."

Hornets 104, Kings 90

Chris Paul and the rest of the Hornets' starting five got their team's full-time return to New Orleans off to a promising start.

Paul had 22 points and 12

assists, while Peja Stojakovic showed some of his All-Star form of old with 19 points to help the Hornets beat the Sacramento Kings on Wednesday night.

Tyson Chandler, fresh of a stint playing for the U.S. national team, had 15 points and 13 rebounds for New Orleans, while David West showed no signs of a recent ankle sprain in scoring 17.

Newly acquired shooting guard Morris Peterson chipped in with 13, including three 3-pointers.

Stojakovic missed all but 13 games last season because of back surgery. New Orleans will need him to stay healthy this season, and he looked fine against his former team, playing 31 minutes and hitting four 3-pointers.

Defensively, Sacramento missed Ron Artest, who is serving a seven-game suspension after pleading no contest to a charge related to domestic violence. With Mike Bibby out at least eight weeks after surgery to repair a torn ligament in his left thumb, the Kings' offensive firepower was diminished as well.

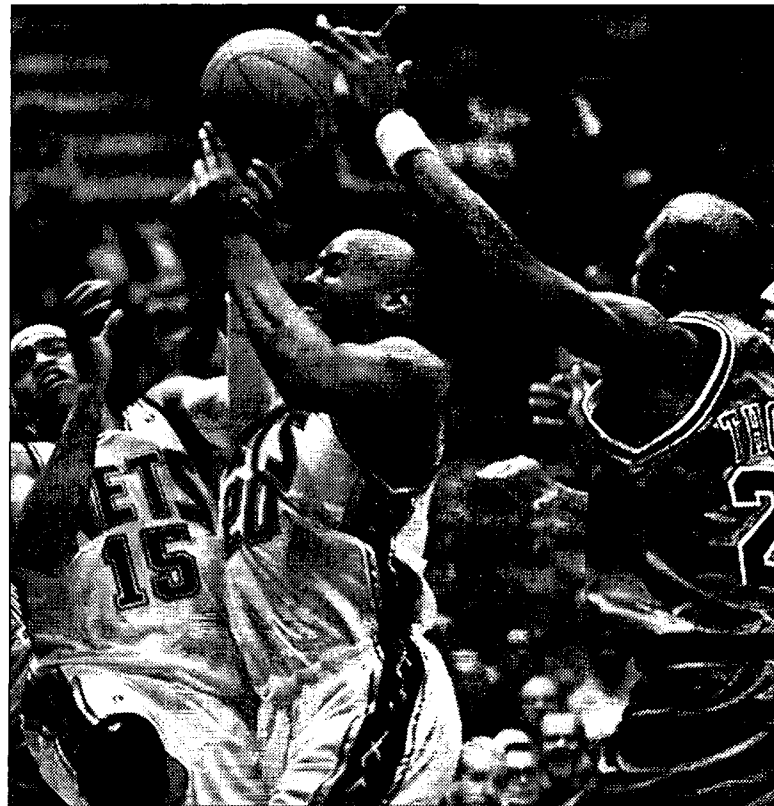
Kevin Martin led the Kings with 26 points, while John Salmons scored 22, Francisco Garcia 17 and Brad Miller 12.

The Hornets took a double-digit lead in the first half and maintained it for most of the game.

NBA commissioner David Stern was in New Orleans to announce a season-long, league-wide community service initiative in New Orleans that will include a day of service by players, coaches, team employees and their families two days before the NBA All-Star game here on Feb. 17.

He also attended the game, the first of 41 regular-season contests the Hornets will play here in their first full season in New Orleans since Hurricane Katrina struck on Aug. 29, 2005. The team spent most of the past two seasons in Oklahoma City, playing only nine regular-season games in the Big Easy during that time.

"Thank you, New Orleans, for having us back," Stern said to the crowd in brief comments shortly before tipoff, with Hornets majority owner George



Nets center Jamaal Magloire battles for the ball with Bulls forward Tyrus Thomas during New Jersey's 112-103 win Wednesday.

Shinn standing nearby. "Thank you to George Shinn and to the Hornets, who are committed to being part of the rebuilding of New Orleans. The NBA is committed to this in a way we think is going to have a significant contribution to the rebuilding effort."

Then Stern handed the microphone to Shinn, whose decision to leave behind big crowds in Oklahoma City and return to New Orleans has been questioned by a number of pro basketball observers.

"I'm tired of people criticizing us and pulling us down," Shinn said. "We believe in New Orleans."

Magic 102, Bucks 83

Rashard Lewis came out decidedly on top in a matchup of two frontcourt debuts. Yi Jianlian proved he could be dangerous with a little more experience.

Lewis, the former Seattle All-Star who landed a \$118 million offseason payday, scored 26 points on 9-of-13 shooting Wednesday night to help the Orlando Magic beat the Milwaukee Bucks.

Jianlian, the No. 6 overall

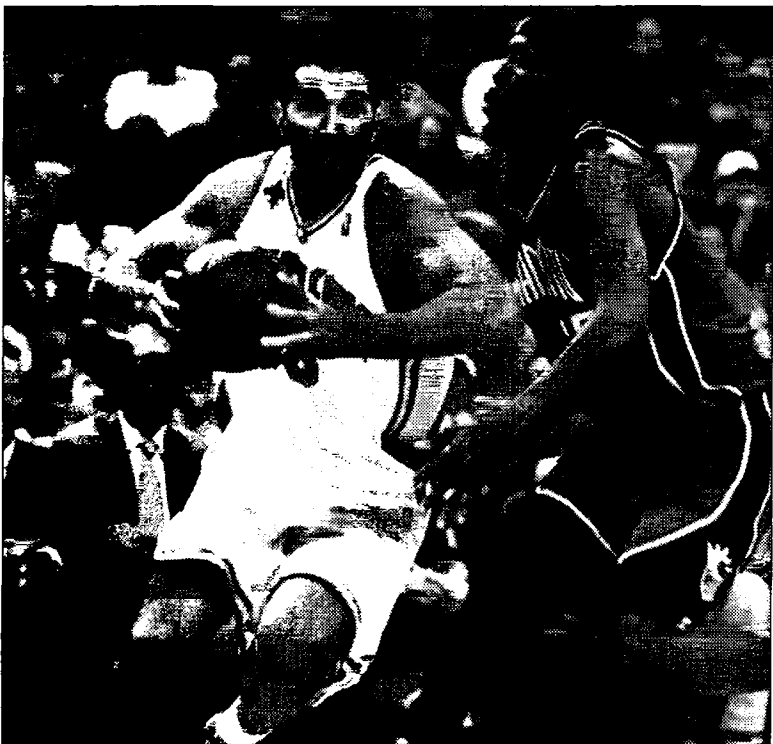
draft pick from China, had nine points in 25 minutes on 4-of-5 shooting. He sat several stretches after getting his third and fourth fouls, but showed the same impressive range that has made Lewis so valuable. Not bad for a guy that three months ago never looked like he'd play for Milwaukee.

"If I can control the fouls, I can play much better," Yi said.

Lewis probably couldn't have. The 6-foot-10 forward scored from all over the floor, leading a Magic 3-point barrage that buried Milwaukee in the third quarter. As Orlando hoped, he stretched halfcourt sets to open up the paint for Dwight Howard, and vice versa.

"He obviously makes it easier for us because he draws so much attention down low," Lewis said. "And when we're knocking down 3s, he's left with his man one-on-one."

Orlando, one of the league's worst 3-point teams by attempts last season, shot better from 3-point range (54 percent) than the field (44 percent). Besides Lewis, Hedo Turkoglu keyed the effort with 24 points on 3-for-5 shooting from behind the arc.



Hornets guard Peja Stojakovic, left, drives past Kings guard John Salmons during New Orleans' 104-90 win Wednesday.

CLASSIFIEDS

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

WANTED

Granger family seeking babysitter for two boys. Once per week, either Tues or Thurs afternoons.

Call 247-1194.

Secretary help. Computer savvy, typing, organizing, light cleaning.

Call Terry 360-4192. Pays well.

TICKETS

WANTED - ND FOOTBALL TIX. PLEASE HELP! 574-251-1570

FOR SALE: ND FOOTBALL TIX. ALL HOME GAMES. 574-232-0964. www.victorytickets.com

ND tickets for sale. Best Prices. 574-288-2726.

FOR RENT

Cozy 3 bedroom house, walk to campus, washer/dryer, landlord does the yardwork. \$750/month. No pets. No section 8. 574-250-1266.

Charming home now available for Navy, AF & Duke. Reserve now for JPW and Commencement! Great reviews, wonderful place & reasonable rates!

574-286-9995.

Large house available for 2009-2010. Full renovations completed this year. Great location on E Marion. Large common areas, 5 bathrooms. Also available: 5bdrm 2 bath and 3bdrm 2 bath for 2008-2009. Contact MacSwain@gmail.com

Blue & Gold Homes now showing 08-09 & 09-10. Bluegoldrentals.com Blue & Gold Homes 2nd semester sale. \$200 P/S just off campus "alumni owned". Bluegoldrentals.com

FOR SALE

1990 Volvo Station Wagon. Only 103k. Good shape, Reliable, Cheap. Classic! Asking \$1950. Dan Lindley (Fac.) 574-631-3226.

Moving on with my life Moving in with yours. Lake St. George is your new home With an almost view of the dome Sleep in one of three suites Taste the city water. It is sweet New. New Everything You can have it for some bling Not too bad for \$345 thousand Call Jan Lazzara on her hand 574-233-6141. FSBO-6.2 miles to ND-Colonial 2story home 4bdr 2-1/2 baths close to schools county tax many xtrs. 574-291-2899

PERSONAL

Adopt: a young loving couple long to share their hearts and home with a newborn. Will provide endless love. Expenses paid. Call Eileen and Ed 1-800-718-6577.

UNPLANNED PREGNANCY? Do not go it alone. If you or someone you love needs confidential support or assistance, please call Sr. Sue Dunn, OP, at 1-7819.

For more information, visit our website at: <http://osa.nd.edu/departments/pregnant.shtml> or see our bi-weekly ad in THE OBSERVER.

If you or someone you care about has been sexually assaulted, visit <http://osa.nd.edu/departments/rape.shtml>

PREGNANT OR KNOW SOMEONE WHO IS?

You do not have to be alone. We want to help. Call our 24 hour confidential hotline at 1-800-No Abort or visit our web site at www.lifecall.org

superproofer.com

Do you need childcare?

Lena s Little Angels has 1 opening. I specialize in infants; 2 blocks south of campus.

\$110/week.

261-5435 Angelena

j willys bar and grille www.jwillys.com Monday: 35 cent wings Tuesday: \$1 tacos Thursday: happy hour buffet 5-7pm.

Now hiring servers

Q: What do you call a hotdog that has had its insides removed?

A halloweenie

AROUND THE NATION

Thursday, November 1, 2007

COMPILED FROM THE OBSERVER'S WIRE SERVICES

page 15

College Football AP Poll

team	record	votes
1 Ohio State (59)	9-0	1,615
2 Boston College (1)	8-0	1,501
3 LSU (3)	7-1	1,478
4 Oregon	7-1	1,417
5 Oklahoma	7-1	1,365
6 Arizona State (2)	8-0	1,310
7 West Virginia	7-1	1,286
8 Kansas	8-0	1,164
9 Missouri	7-1	1,121
10 Georgia	6-2	949
11 Virginia Tech	6-2	823
12 Hawaii	8-0	776
13 USC	6-2	742
14 Texas	7-2	728
15 Michigan	7-2	726
16 Connecticut	7-1	555
17 Alabama	6-2	547
18 Florida	5-3	532
19 Auburn	6-3	530
20 South Florida	6-2	392
21 Wake Forest	6-2	259
21 Boise State	7-1	259
23 South Carolina	6-3	196
24 Tennessee	5-3	165
25 Clemson	6-2	146

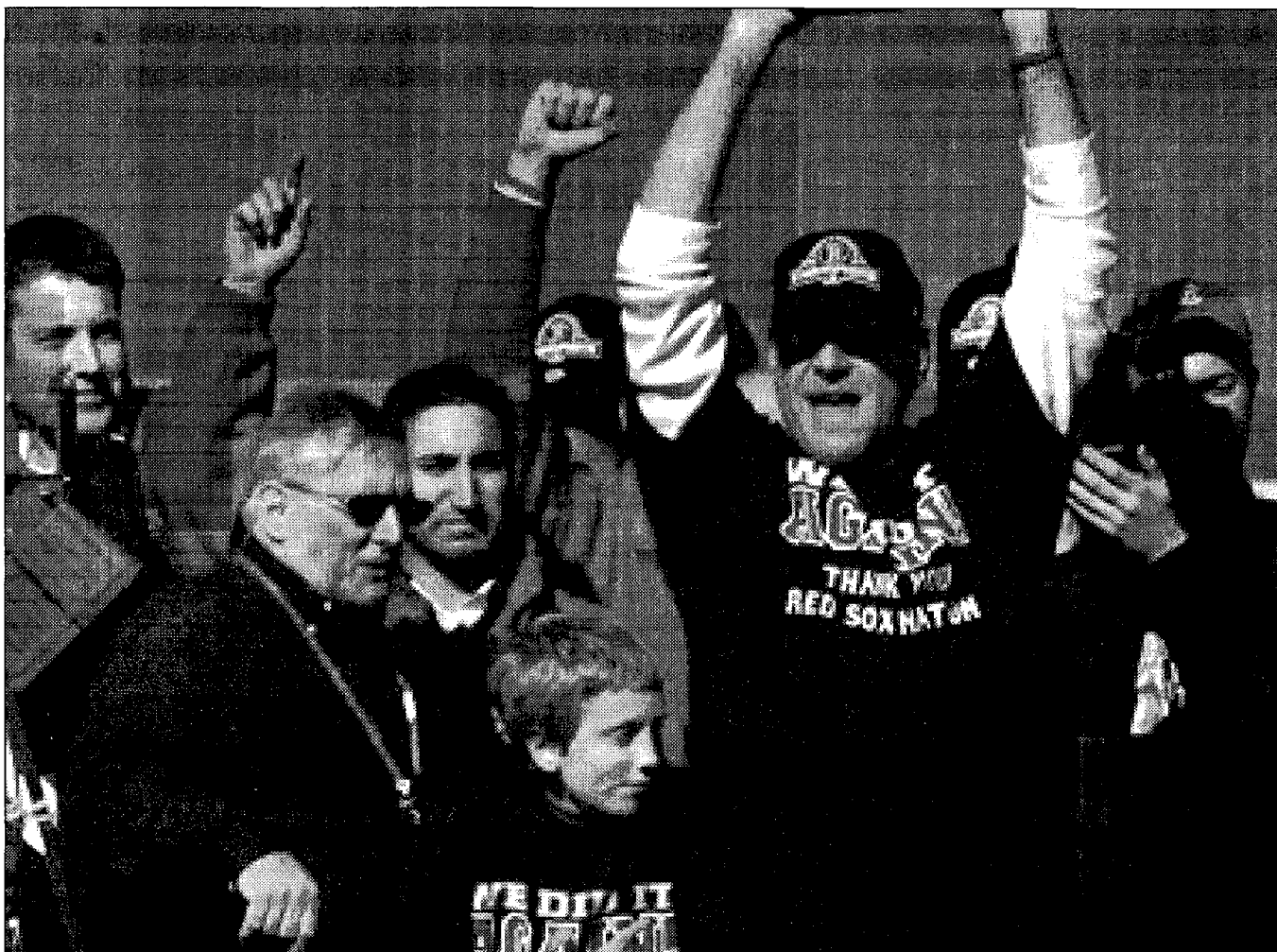
College Football USA Today Poll

team	record	votes
1 Ohio State (56)	9-0	1,495
2 Boston College (3)	8-0	1,414
3 LSU	7-1	1,324
4 Oregon (1)	7-1	1,280
5 Oklahoma	7-1	1,269
6 Arizona State	8-0	1,221
7 West Virginia	7-1	1,177
8 Kansas	8-0	1,108
9 Missouri	7-1	983
10 Georgia	6-2	791
11 Hawaii	8-0	769
12 Texas	7-2	753
13 Virginia Tech	6-2	736
14 Michigan	7-2	701
15 USC	6-2	679
16 Auburn	6-3	454
17 Florida	5-3	451
18 Alabama	6-2	439
19 Wisconsin	7-2	422
20 Connecticut	7-1	419
21 South Florida	6-2	291
22 Boise State	7-1	218
23 Kentucky	6-3	159
24 Clemson	6-2	145
25 South Carolina	6-3	131

College Football BCS Standings

team	record	BCS avg.
1 Ohio State	9-0	.9756
2 Boston College	8-0	.9559
3 LSU	7-1	.8879
4 Arizona State	8-0	.8493
5 Oregon	7-1	.8390
6 Oklahoma	7-1	.7920
7 West Virginia	7-1	.7759
8 Kansas	8-0	.7723
9 Missouri	7-1	.6100
10 Georgia	6-2	.5820

MLB



Boston pitcher Curt Schilling celebrates the Red Sox's second World Series win in four years during the team's victory parade in Boston Tuesday. The veteran hurler is a free agent sorting through his options.

Schilling considering other listed teams

Associated Press

BOSTON — Although his first choice remains Boston, Red Sox pitcher Curt Schilling said on his blog that he would consider a dozen other teams for a "last year" based on quality of life and a chance to make it back to the playoffs.

Schilling previously said he would only rule out the rival New York Yankees.

On Tuesday evening, he posted on his blog, 38pitches.com, the following list: "Cleveland, Detroit, Anaheim, New York Mets, Philadelphia, Atlanta, L.A., S.D., Arizona, Chicago Cubs,

St. Louis, Milwaukee."

"Teams we didn't include aren't for any one reason," he wrote. "There are a million little things that go into this from stadiums to school districts to travel to spring training to etc. etc. etc. but the list represents the teams after Boston that have some of the off the field things that are big to us, plus the potential to go into October next year."

Only the Red Sox can sign the right-hander, who turns 41 this month, until Nov. 13; other teams can express an interest but not negotiate over money.

Schilling, who isn't rep-

resented by an agent, said he called the baseball players' association and told them he wanted to file for free agency.

"Weird," Schilling wrote. "Something that can be so life altering was pretty much a 48-second phone call."

Catchers Jason Varitek and Doug Mirabelli stopped by the Red Sox clubhouse to box up their belongings on Wednesday morning after being honored at the Massachusetts Statehouse. Varitek took care to label and preserve the bats he used during the World Series.

The two lockers next to the catcher, which had

been used by Schilling, were cleared of any personal items and name tags.

Varitek repeated his hope that Schilling is able to finish up his career in Boston, but said he wouldn't be running to his teammate's blog to keep up on his status.

"I haven't checked a blog, so I'm probably not going to start now," he said. "I may call him now and then to see what's going on."

Varitek said he was one of the players who received a note from Schilling.

"It's something I'll keep," the catcher said.

IN BRIEF

Sluggish Adam Dunn becomes highest paid Reds player

CINCINNATI — Adam Dunn became the Cincinnati Reds' highest-paid player Wednesday when the team picked up his contract option for \$13 million next season.

The Reds answered their most expensive offseason question by keeping their top power hitter, the only one in franchise history to have 40 homers in four consecutive seasons. Dunn wanted to stay with the team that drafted and developed him.

Owner Bob Castellini was consulted about the decision. Earlier this month, Castellini said he wanted Dunn to stay, even if it cost \$13 million.

Anytime you have a deal of this magnitude, ownership deserves to be part of the process," general manager Wayne Krivsky said.

Mike Cameron suspended 25 games for stimulant use

SAN DIEGO — Mike Cameron, the Padres' Gold Glove center fielder, was suspended for the first 25 games of next season on Wednesday after testing positive a second time for a banned stimulant.

Cameron, who plans to file for free agency, said he believes he took a tainted supplement.

"The one thing I wanted to make sure was explained is, no steroids," Cameron told AM 1090, the Padres' flagship radio station. "I never took nothing like that before in my life. That would be 50 games, and that would affect me a whole lot more."

Cameron issued a statement through his agent, saying doctors for the players' association helped him narrow down what triggered the positive test.

Lisa Leslie back after a year off and a newborn baby

COLLEGE PARK, Md. — It would have been easy for Lisa Leslie to walk away from playing basketball and begin a broadcasting career.

The three-time Olympic gold medalist had just become a mom in June with the birth of daughter Lauren and had nothing left to prove.

But the 36-year-old star still yearned to play.

"Honestly, I didn't know if I was going to be able to play or not," Leslie said. "Being back out on the floor, I just love basketball, and regardless of whatever my age is, as long as I'm keeping up and able to contribute, I'll play."

"And when I can't do that anymore, I have no problems hanging up the shoes and going over and getting behind the mike and talking about the game. But I think right now I'm still effective enough to help the team win."

around the dial

NCAA FOOTBALL
Virginia Tech at Georgia Tech
7:30 p.m., ESPN

MLS PLAYOFFS
Chicago Fire at D.C. United
7:30 p.m., ESPN2

MLB

Torre leads candidate pool for Dodgers job

L.A. GM Colletti admits he has spoken with former Yankees skipper, no deal has been reached between the two sides

Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — General manager Ned Colletti acknowledged Wednesday he had spoken with Joe Torre about managing the Los Angeles Dodgers.

While Colletti insisted they had not agreed on a contract, he indicated the former New York Yankees manager was the leading candidate to replace Grady Little, who resigned on Tuesday.

"We've had some conversations with him very recently," Colletti said. "Certainly as you look at his resume and what he's done and the market he's done it in, you've certainly got to start there."

Having said that, Colletti was quick to point out that other candidates were also being considered.

"We're talking about a number of people," Colletti said. "We're crossing off names. It may be a very short list."

Colletti said he was aware of baseball's directive regarding minorities being interviewed for open managerial jobs, but wouldn't say whether the Dodgers would honor the request.

"We're taking it into consideration. We'll see how things go," he said. "I'd rather look at what we've done. What we've done speaks well. I think it's pretty indicative of a thorough thought process."

By any reasonable gauge, Torre's name is at the top of the Dodgers' list. However, when asked whether the parties had discussed money and if they were close to a deal, Colletti retreated.

"We have interest," he said. "It may be mutual, that's really a question for the other side."

"I don't categorize anything as close, far. It's either done or it's not done. We're still trying to learn about each other. There's been some light discussions to try and get a feel. I'm not going to get into where the negotiations are. It's still early in the process in some ways."

Torre's agent, Maury Gostfrand, declined comment Wednesday.

Soon after Little resigned Tuesday, published reports said Torre and the Dodgers had already reached a deal, some claiming he had agreed in principle to a three-year contract worth \$14.5 million.

"I've watched stuff in the last 72 hours that I can't believe I'm watching," Colletti said. "I

can tell you we do not have an agreement. I've seen more inaccuracy than I can ever remember."

Still, it would be a surprise at this stage if Torre doesn't follow in the footsteps of Hall of Famers Walter Alton and Tom Lasorda in what would likely be the final chapter of his own Hall of Fame career.

Colletti acknowledged the buzz surrounding Torre might cause other potential candidates to decline to be interviewed.

"That's certainly a factor," Colletti said. "I believe it will play a role."

The 67-year-old Torre, who managed the Yankees to four World Series titles and 12 playoff appearances in 12 seasons, completed a \$19.2 million, three-year contract this year. He ranks eighth on baseball's career list with 2,067 victories and has won a record 76 postseason games.

On Oct. 18, Torre rejected a \$5 million, one-year offer from the Yankees with an additional \$3 million in performance bonuses. He earned \$7.5 million this season, by far the most of any manager.

Colletti said he sensed Little was leaning toward stepping down, so he began discussing the job recently with potential replacements. One of those candidates, the GM acknowledged, was Joe Girardi, hired by the Yankees as Torre's successor earlier Tuesday.

The Dodgers entered this season as the clear-cut favorite to win the NL West. They had the league's best record in mid-July, but lost 11 of their last 14 games to fade out of contention, finishing at 82-80.

Once one of baseball's glamour franchises, the Dodgers have struggled in recent years, failing to win a single playoff series since winning the 1988 World Series. In fact, they've won only one playoff game since winning their sixth Series championship.

Since Lasorda stepped down during the 1996 season after suffering a heart attack, the Dodgers are 1-9 in postseason action. The lone victory came three years ago, when they lost to St. Louis 3-1 in an NL division series.

The Dodgers won the NL wild card in 2006, Little's first year as their manager, but were swept by the New York Mets in the first round of the playoffs.

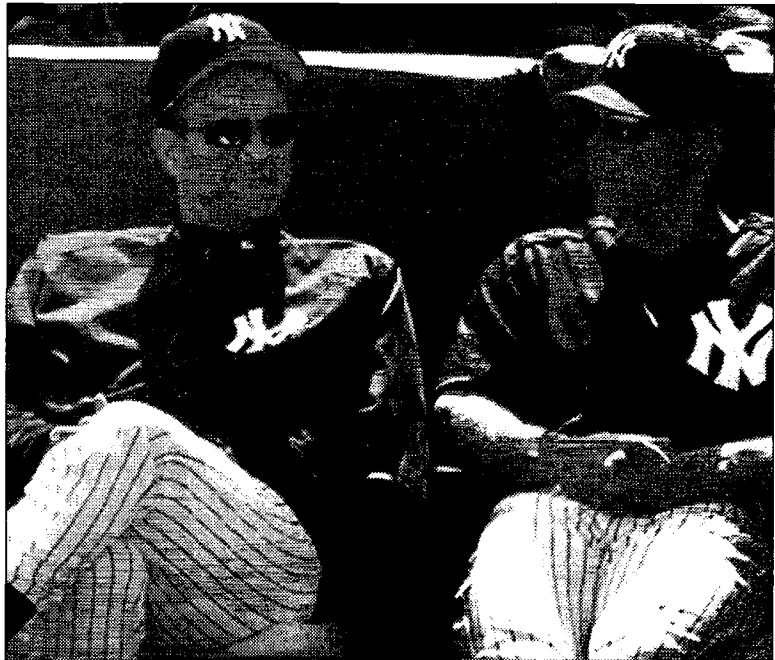
Torre and his former bench coach, Don Mattingly, have dis-

cussed the possibility of joining the Dodgers together, according to a person with knowledge of those talks. The person spoke on condition of anonymity because the manager's position in Los Angeles was vacant.

"We don't have a coaching staff in mind, we haven't gotten there," Colletti said. "We've discussed it to some extent. I think whoever the manager is, there will have to be a comfort level on his part and my part."

Colletti said he hadn't spoken directly with potential managerial candidates other than Girardi and Torre personally, but added there have been conversations with others "in a secondary way, not directly, through other people."

"I'm not going to get into the numbers," he said.



Former Yankees manager Joe Torre, left, watches a spring training game with new Yankees manager Joe Girardi on March 1, 2005.

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NCAA FOOTBALL

LSU fans look for payback on Saban Saturday

Tiger faithful haven't forgiven Alabama coach for jumping ship to NFL, returning to coach rival SEC school

Associated Press

Nothing gets college football fans more riled up than a coach who bolts for a big-money contract in the NFL.

Wait, there's one thing that's even worse: When that same coach returns to the same conference to lead a rival school.

That's why Nick Saban is so reviled in Cajun country, this week more than ever as his former team, No. 3 LSU, gets set to play his current team, No. 17 Alabama.

At least Saban has the good fortune of playing Saturday's game in Tuscaloosa, where he'll be in the safe confines of adoring fans who have already anointed him the second coming of Bear Bryant.

Just imagine if he had to go to Death Valley this weekend.

"They may have had to add a little something extra to the

police force," Saban quipped Wednesday.

Otherwise, he insists this matchup is nothing personal. It will be decided by the players on the field, Saban said, not the guys on the sidelines or the people in the stands.

"Look, I had a lot of great relationships with a lot of people at LSU," Saban said, offering up his version of a truce. "I'm sure some of those people are anxious for this game. Anytime you know somebody and have relationships with people, it creates a tremendous opportunity when you compete against them. You don't really have to hate somebody to compete against them."

Maybe not, but there are plenty of folks in Louisiana who despise Saban for abandoning the Tigers after the 2004 season, then returning just three years later to lead a team that's

in the same division as LSU and standing in the way of a possible run at the national championship.

Saban's successor, Les Miles, chose his words carefully when asked if there was a different feeling about this game.

"I probably got more ticket requests from boosters than I normally do," he said. "Knowing the opponent's coach as well as they do around here has certainly made it a little bit more interesting."

The Web was buzzing with plenty of talk about Saban facing his former team. For instance, a chat room run by The Times-Picayune of New Orleans allowed people to vent behind the anonymity of the Internet.

"When you talk, you don't know what to believe," one blogger wrote. "He always says he is happy where he is and

wants his family to stay there, and then denies entertaining job offers and then before you know it he is gone. We just want someone who is upfront and honest."

"I don't hate him," another LSU fan chimed in, "but let's flip it around. Truthfully, think of any former UA coach (you have a few to choose from). When Bama was to play them, wouldn't you want Bama to win just a little more so as to remind him what he left behind? That's how I feel about Saban. He's a good coach, but I want LSU to beat him pretty good."

Make no mistake, Tiger fans appreciate the job Saban did during his time in Baton Rouge.

LSU stumbled through the 1990s with more coaches (four) than winning seasons (three). Saban arrived in 2000 and immediately turned things around, taking advantage of the state's enormous high school talent base and shutting off other teams from swooping in to take the best players.

In Saban's second year, the Tigers won their first Southeastern Conference championship since 1988. That was only a prelude to the 2003 season, when LSU defeated Oklahoma in the BCS title game to claim a share of the national championship.

At that point, Saban was so popular he probably could have been elected governor of Louisiana. Instead, he hung around just one more season before taking a lucrative offer to coach the NFL's Miami Dolphins.

While the money was good, Saban wasn't a good fit for the pro game. He yearned for another college job and, after vehement denials that he was leaving, he took a \$4-million-a-year offer from the Crimson Tide, which had fired Mike

Shula after a disappointing season.

Back at LSU, there was an angry outcry against Saban, whose name was accompanied by words such as "betrayal" and "turncoat." Everyone in purple and gold circled one date on their calendars — Nov. 3.

"I don't think it surprised anyone that he returned to college football," said Herb Vincent, who serves as a liaison between LSU's athletic department and its fundraising group. "He always talked about how much he enjoyed coaching college players. What took everybody by surprise was that he would come back to not only the SEC, but right into our division. That adds a little bit of an edge to this game."

A little bit of an edge? That's an understatement.

When LSU started taking orders for the 7,000 tickets it was allotted for Saturday's game, it was bombarded with 33,000 requests.


"That exceeds most bowl game requests," Vincent said. "That in itself shows the anticipation for this game. I'm sure a lot of our fans are going just to go, even though they may not have tickets."

Saban recruited most of LSU's starters, but the players have largely gone along with the company line. Yes, this is a very important game. No, it has nothing to do with the guy coaching the other team.

"This game is more than coach Saban," senior defensive end Kirston Pittman said. "It's about winning the SEC West. I have a lot of respect for coach Saban. He brought a lot of fire to the table. He expected excellence. He didn't expect you to make a mistake. He would get in your face if you did make a mistake."

"This game is more than coach Saban."

Kirston Pittman
LSU defensive end



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NFL

Kitna proves to be prophetic

QB's prediction of 10 wins for Lions appears possible after 7 games

Associated Press

ALLEN PARK, Mich. — Jon Kitna subjected himself to ridicule, saying before the season he would be disappointed if the Detroit Lions didn't win at least 10 games.

No one is laughing at Detroit's quarterback anymore.

The Lions are 5-2, the lone NFC North team without a loss in the division and only one in the conference undefeated at home. Detroit's strong start — and startling turnaround — gave Kitna enough confidence to say special things are possible.

Such as?

"I don't play this game for any other reason but to win a Super Bowl," Kitna said with conviction and a steely glare as he grabbed a reporter's recorder. "I'm not trying to go to the playoffs. I'm not trying to win 10 games. I'm not trying to do moral victories."

"I'm trying to win a Super Bowl."

On the eve of training camp, Lions coach Rod Marinelli insisted he didn't have a problem with Kitna's bravado.

As the team prepares to hit its midway point of the season at home against Denver, Marinelli wasn't bothered by the latest bold statement from his quarterback.

"Every team in this league has a vision of what they want to be," Marinelli said after Wednesday's practice. "But in reality, it's the day-by-day preparation."

The Lions have embraced Marinelli's one-snap-at-a-time mantra, and it has appeared to help them win five times in

the final quarter with clutch plays by all three units.

Detroit was routed 56-21 at Philadelphia and 34-3 at Washington, but bounced back to win the last two games. Suddenly, people outside the locker room are believing in the franchise coming off one of the worst six-season stretches in NFL history.

The former laughingstock of the league is slowly gaining respect, but Marinelli insists he doesn't care.

"It doesn't mean anything," Marinelli said. "If it helped us win, I'd care."

"It certainly doesn't mean anything as we prepare to play Denver this week."

If Detroit beats the Broncos, it will double last season's win total; match the most victories from the Matt Millen era; and reach six wins halfway through the season for the first time since 1999, the last season it made the playoffs.

The Lions are vastly improved chiefly because they're creating turnovers — five more than they've given up — and taking advantage of them.

They lead the NFL with 20 takeaways, 13 interceptions and 69 points off turnovers. At this point last year, Detroit was 1-6 after forcing 11 turnovers, including just three interceptions.

"The first thing you look at is their turnover ratio," Denver coach Mike Shanahan said. "Anytime you win the turnover battle, you've got an excellent chance to win football games."

"It's also another year of the defensive and offensive system under their belt."

While Marinelli and offensive coordinator Mike Martz are in their second season with the Lions, defensive coordinator Joe Barry, Marinelli's son-in-law, is in his first.

Marinelli said it's not a coin-

cidence the "Tampa Two" defense is being implemented much better than it was last year because of Barry.

"It's everything," Marinelli said.

Barry learned the popular system as an assistant in Tampa Bay under coach Tony Dungy and coordinator Monte Kiffin.

"When I hired him people were like, 'Well, that's your son-in-law,' but he's here because he knows this system as well as anyone in the league," Marinelli said. "Coach Dungy hired both Mike Tomlin and Joe, then he trained under Monte Kiffin, one of the elite coordinators ever."

Marinelli fired defensive coordinator Donnie Henderson, replacing him with Barry.

"With Donnie, that was my fault 100 percent," Marinelli said.

Marinelli also got rid of some players who didn't fit his system, or did not seem willing to practice hard with pads after going through lighter workouts under former coaches Steve Mariucci and Marty Mornhinweg.

Detroit reshaped its roster in part by trading cornerback Dre' Bly to Denver, defensive end James Hall to St. Louis and choosing not to re-sign safety Terrence Holt. "He broke the whips out last year and demanded attitudes change," defensive tackle Cory Redding said. "He said, 'We're not rebuilding this year. We're going out to win.'"

"It wasn't personal when he got guys out of here. It was business."

"I don't play this game for any other reason but to win a Super Bowl."

Jon Kitna
Lions quarterback

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NFL

Flexible Vrabel a dual threat

Patriots linebacker comfortable catching quarterbacks and TDs

Associated Press

FOXBOROUGH, Mass. — Quarterbacks should keep their eyes on Mike Vrabel, whether he's trying to tackle them or getting open to catch a touchdown pass.

Defenders should do the same when the Patriots linebacker lines up at tight end.

The Redskins left Vrabel unguarded last Sunday when he caught a 2-yard scoring pass from Tom Brady that gave New England a 14-0 lead in their 52-7 rout. That was his 10th reception in his 11 NFL seasons, every one a touchdown, but none longer than 2 yards.

By now, you'd think opponents would pay attention to him near the goal line.

"Sometimes they do and sometimes they don't," he said Wednesday. "When they do, I don't get the ball, and when they don't cover me, I get the ball. You can only stop so much down there."

If a player covers him there would be more room for the Patriots to run the ball. That also would divert a defender from more dangerous threats: wide receivers Randy Moss, Wes Welker and Donte Stallworth.

"I would always cover Randy before me," Vrabel said with a smile. "I'm not running out there every time thinking I'm going to score."

When he does get into the pass pattern, Brady has confidence.

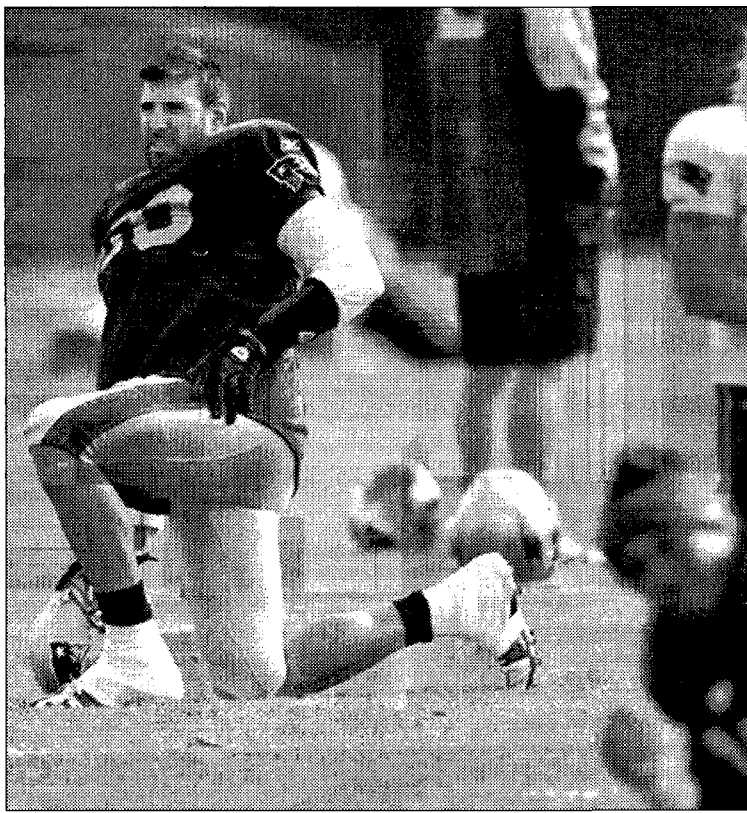
"He's very good at evading defenders and getting off the line of scrimmage," Brady said. "He's very quick. He uses his hands well."

Vrabel is the only player in NFL history who has scored on all of his regular-season catches, according to the Elias Sports Bureau. He's 8-for-8 not counting playoffs.

Of players with at least five touchdown catches, tight end Mike Bartrum, at 6-for-11, has the second-highest percentage. Bartrum had two touchdowns with New England and four with Philadelphia.

On his latest touchdown, Vrabel was open in the end zone after going in motion from left to right and faking a block on a linebacker who anticipated a run.

But his primary mission is to tackle offensive players. On Sunday, those would be Peyton Manning, Joseph Addai, Reggie



Patriots linebacker Mike Vrabel stretches before practice Wednesday as the Patriots prepare to play the Colts this weekend.

Wayne and other Indianapolis Colts in a matchup of unbeaten teams.

The Patriots improved to 8-0 when they beat Washington. Vrabel had 13 tackles. He had three sacks of Jason Campbell, forcing a fumble on each one. Roosevelt Colvin returned the last one 11 yards for a touchdown. Ty Warren recovered the other two.

"It was like I was out there Easter egg hunting or picking up a golden egg," Warren said. "You just have to continue to play and sometimes the ball might literally bounce in your direction."

The 6-foot-4, 241-pound Vrabel has a combination of speed, strength and smarts that make him a threat on both sides of the ball.

"You can be out there in the game and he'll say, 'Watch out for this or be looking for that. It may be a screen or a draw,' just calling out the plays," defensive end Richard Seymour said. "We always joke at the end of the game. He says, 'Hey, Sey, at the end of the game I'm going to hand them back their playbook,' because he's so in tune."

The Patriots first saw that when he was a rookie with Pittsburgh in 1997. Like he did against Campbell, he sacked New England's Drew Bledsoe, forcing a fumble in the final minutes of a second-round playoff game. The Steelers held on for a 7-6 win.

He has 77 sacks this season, fifth in the NFL and first among

linebackers. Just two more and he'll match his career high set in 2003.

His three sacks last Sunday led to 17 points.

The first came midway through the second quarter on the fourth play after his touchdown and set up Stephen Gostkowski's 36-yard field goal. He got the second with 1:49 left in the half, setting up Brady's 6-yard scoring pass to Moss.

Then, on the Redskins third play of the third quarter, Vrabel sacked Campbell again and Colvin scooped up the ball and ran it in. Vrabel had lined up at left end and got a free shot at the quarterback when the right tackle and running back both tried to block Junior Seau coming up the middle.

"Any time that somebody makes a play, more times than not other (defensive) guys are involved," Vrabel said. "Probably the worst ball security guy on the field is the quarterback. When he's looking to try to make a play and if you have some awareness, you can usually get it out."

Vrabel didn't force Manning to fumble, but did sack him with 10:43 left in last season's AFC championship game. The Colts punted two plays later and the Patriots followed with a field goal for a 31-28 lead. But Indianapolis won 38-34.

"I think we certainly are aware of it," Vrabel said of the season-ending loss. "It's not going to have any bearing on this week's game."

NHL

Owner works to keep Predators in Nashville

Associated Press

NASHVILLE, Tenn. — Predators owner Craig Leipold decided Wednesday to give more time to the local investors trying to buy the NHL team and keep it in town.

The local investors put down \$10 million as a deposit in August for the \$193 million purchase and faced a midnight deadline Wednesday to finalize the sale or lose exclusive negotiating rights.

They have been working with Metro Nashville officials to revise the team's arena lease to give them a better chance of making rather than losing money. Leipold is selling because he estimated he has lost \$70 million in his 10 years of ownership.

Leipold said in a statement released by the team late Wednesday afternoon that he had met with Mayor Karl Dean for an update on where the city is in the lease negotiations with the group led by David Freeman. Leipold also met with Freeman for an update on the group's progress toward finalizing this deal.

Leipold didn't say how much more time he is giving them to finish the deal but said he looks forward to completing the sale.

"We understand how complex this transaction is and how much time and effort David, his group, the Mayor's office and others have invested into the process all with a goal of keeping the Predators in Nashville and making the franchise viable for the long-term," Leipold said.

"Based on the progress being made, I am convinced all parties will benefit from extra time to

complete this transaction so we will extend the purchase agreement with David's group with a goal of completing the sale as soon as possible."

The investors declined to comment after Leipold announced the extension. But the group does have a new partner. Doug Bergeron is a businessman and friend of California venture capitalist William "Boots" Del Biaggio — who had been the only non-Nashville investor.

Freeman said in a statement that nothing is changing in the ownership group.

"Boots is simply diversifying or diluting his personal interest and bringing another very bright, high quality, hockey-loving investor into his group. We are very happy that Mr. Bergeron will be part of our ownership group," Freeman said.

Leipold didn't say much more himself.

"We do not plan to comment further on the sale status until there is significant and definitive news," Leipold said.

Leipold originally announced a deal to sell his team in May to Canadian billionaire Jim Balsillie for \$220 million. But the deal fell through in June when the co-CEO of Blackberry makers Research In Motion Ltd. started taking season ticket deposits in Hamilton, Ontario.

He remains interested in purchasing the team. Balsillie retained a local attorney who shared a letter with the Nashville Sports Authority recently in which he called Nashville a great hockey market.

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MEN'S TENNIS

Irish finish fall season with tourney in Virginia

Parbhu and Helgeson look to continue good play in Williamsburg

By KATELYN GRABAREK
Sports Writer

Notre Dame travels to Virginia this weekend hoping to put an exclamation point on the end of an already strong fall season.

The Irish played well at the Olympia Field's Invitational in Chicago Sept. 13-16, sweeping all six matches against last spring's national runner-up Illinois. Notre Dame then went on to win 27 singles matches while hosting the Tom Fallon Invitational in South Bend Sept. 28-30.

The Irish will look to close the fall season with the same success at the William and Mary Invitational, which starts this morning in Virginia.

While the singles players have excelled so far, the doubles teams have been a weak spot for the Irish throughout

the early part of the season.

"The doubles teams had a disappointing showing this past weekend [at the ITA Midwest Championships]," Irish coach Bobby Bayliss said. "They have had a rough time this fall. We are still working on moving together and we will try to get them ready for the spring season."

Notre Dame has managed to stay afloat with strong individual efforts from the top of their lineup. Senior captain Sheeva Parbhu and junior Brett Helgeson have led the way for Notre Dame in singles.

"Helgeson played world-class tennis this past weekend,"

Bayliss said.

"It was the signature event of his career to date. He did a much better job of managing his on court anxieties. He always gives 100 percent on court, but we're trying to

get him to relax."

Helgeson upended Steve Moneke of Ohio State, the second-seeded player in the nation. Helgeson won the tight match in three sets, 6-2, 1-6, 6-4.

"Helgeson prepared well,"

Bayliss said. "He did pull an abdominal muscle in the match which hindered his serving abilities in his semifinal match."

Helgeson lost his semifinal match to Ryan Rowe of Illinois 6-1, 6-4. With the win, he would have earned an automatic bid into this weekend's ITA National Intercollegiate Tennis Championships.

Instead, Helgeson will go with the rest of the Irish to the William and Mary Invitational.

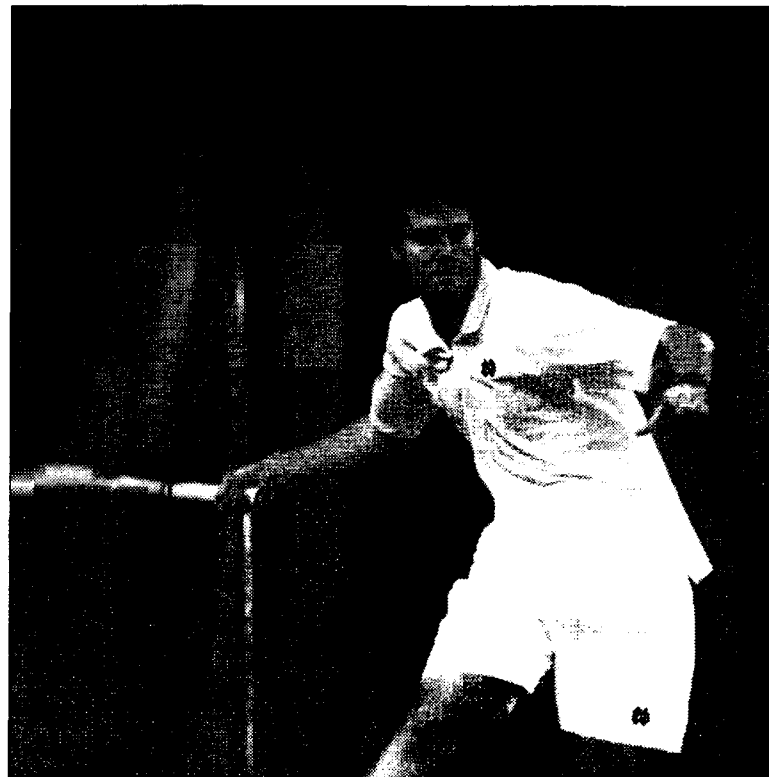
"Parbhu also played well this past weekend," Bayliss said. "He played the tournament winner in the Round of 16 and didn't quite play well enough to win."

Parbhu and 2007 graduate Stephen Bass reached the National Championships last season.

Freshman David Anderson also had a promising performance at the last weekend's tournament. He won his first round match over Marquette's Nick Boulteris, but lost a close match in the next round to Jeremy Sonkin of Wisconsin.

Senior Andrew Roth has rebounded well after spraining his ankle in the Olympia Field's Invitational.

"Roth has done well for us after he sprained his ankle," Bayliss said. "He had a convincing win in round one, but fell in the round of 32 against



TIM SULLIVAN/The Observer

Irish junior Brett Helgeson lines up a forehand shot during Notre Dame's match with Indiana on Nov. 26, 2006 in the Eck Center.

Austen Childs of Louisville."

This weekend's tournament marks the end of the fall season. Bayliss said the team will train individually during the winter months.

"The players want to continue to improve," Bayliss said. "The amount of competition

among this team is great, and they all push each other. They will go home on Christmas break and come back refreshed to start the spring season."

Contact Katelyn Grabarek at
kgraba01@saintmarys.edu

Tip off

continued from page 24

Mallory, was ranked 11th in the nation by Blue Star Basketball. Notre Dame has now had a top-25 recruiting class for 11 consecutive seasons.

The team lost only two players to graduation, Crystal Erwin and Breona Gray. The pair averaged 12.2 points per game between them. Schrader, who averaged 10.5 points per game as a freshman, will contend for Gray's spot.

Irish coach Muffet McGraw plans to use a four-guard offense this season, in part to improve the team's perimeter defense. Opponents shot from the outside often and effectively against Notre Dame last season — teams made 40 percent or more of their three-point attempts 10 times last season.

"It fits our team. This is the offense for our team," Schrader said at the Women's Basketball Media Day on Oct. 10.

The Screaming Eagles finished last season with a 16-12 (10-9 Great Lakes Valley Conference) record and received votes in this year's USA Today/ESPN Division II Top 25 Preseason Coaches Poll. Senior forward Jasmine Baines, who averaged 11 points per game last season, is the team's top returning scorer. Tonight's game will be the first preseason game for Southern Indiana as well.

Senior All-America guard Charel Allen was named as a preseason candidate for the John R. Wooden Women's Award, given to the top player who best represents the

term "student-athlete." Allen led the Irish in scoring and rebounding (17 points per game, 6.2 rebounds) last season.

She is expected to be the leader of McGraw's new four-guard offense and continue to put up big numbers for the Irish in her final season in South Bend.

The Irish were picked to finish fifth in the Big East by

the conference's coaches, behind Connecticut, Rutgers, West Virginia and Pittsburgh.

The Irish finished fifth in the conference last season after being picked to end their season in 11th place at the beginning of the 2006 campaign.

Tip-off is set for 7:00 tonight.

Contact Bill Brink at
wbrink@nd.edu

"It fits our team. This is the offense for our team."

Lindsey Schrader
junior guard

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Luke

continued from page 24

went backwards," the sophomore said.

At the time, the prognosis was that Harangody would be out for three to six weeks. At this point, the forward will miss both of the team's exhibition games — Friday against St. Ambrose and Wednesday against St. Edward's — but will certainly be back when the Irish travel to the Paradise Jam tournament in the Virgin Islands Nov. 16.

Brey said a decision will be made on Harangody's status for the Long Island game

sometime next week.

In the meantime, Harangody has been trying to work out and practice with the team as best he can without full use of his right hand.

"It's been tough, but there's only one more week, so I can wait I guess," Harangody said. "It could have been a lot worse."

Harangody has used the injury as an opportunity to improve his ball handling with his left hand, something the big forward felt he needed to improve on anyway.

"I've only been working with my left hand and I've been in the gym all the time," he said. "I almost feel more comfortable with my left hand now."

Once he gets the hard cast

off, Harangody will most likely wear a soft cast or glove to protect and support his hand during games.

"I'll probably have to have to wear something on it," Harangody said. "I'll probably wear like a leather sort of glove or something."

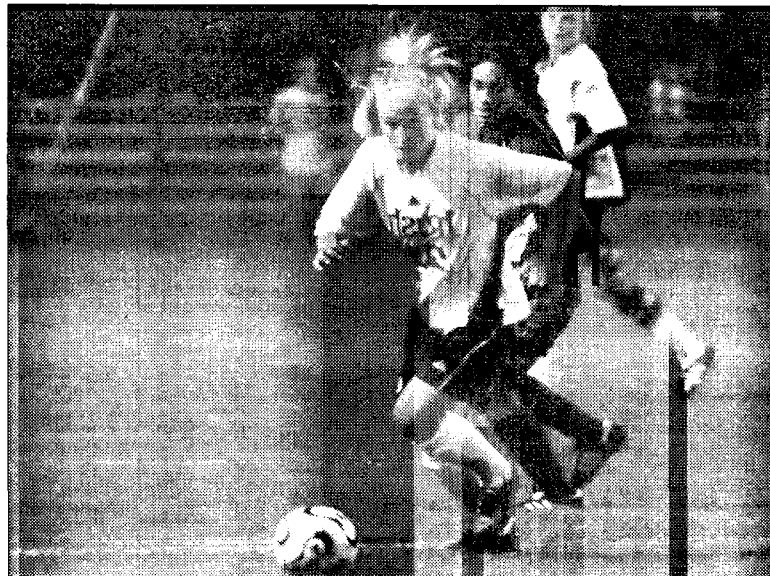
Harangody said while the injury is not likely to affect his play, he could continue to have pain throughout the season.

"The doctor warned me about it maybe being a recurrence," he said. "But I can't worry about that. I just have to play."

Note:

♦ Irish junior forward Luke Zeller missed yesterday's practice and was limited today with an ankle injury. Brey said he is expected to be at full speed tomorrow and will play Friday against St. Ambrose.

Contact Chris Khorey at ckhorey@nd.edu



WIE YUE/The Observer

Junior defender Elise Weber heads downfield during Notre Dame's 4-0 win over DePaul on Sept. 21 at Alumni Field.

Weber

continued from page 24

"As a defense, we've definitely improved," Weber said. "We've had time to play together now and that allowed us to play some really good games."

With the defense leading the way, Notre Dame went 11-1 in Big East play and enters the conference tournament as the top seed.

Weber's offensive pedigree has allowed her to be an impact player on both sides of the field. She is tied for fourth on the team with 10 points, and she stands alone in second place with six assists.

Once she got comfortable on the back line, Weber said she became more apt to get involved in the attack.

"It took a little while to get used to it but I've just been aggressive as far as going forward and playing offense," Weber said.

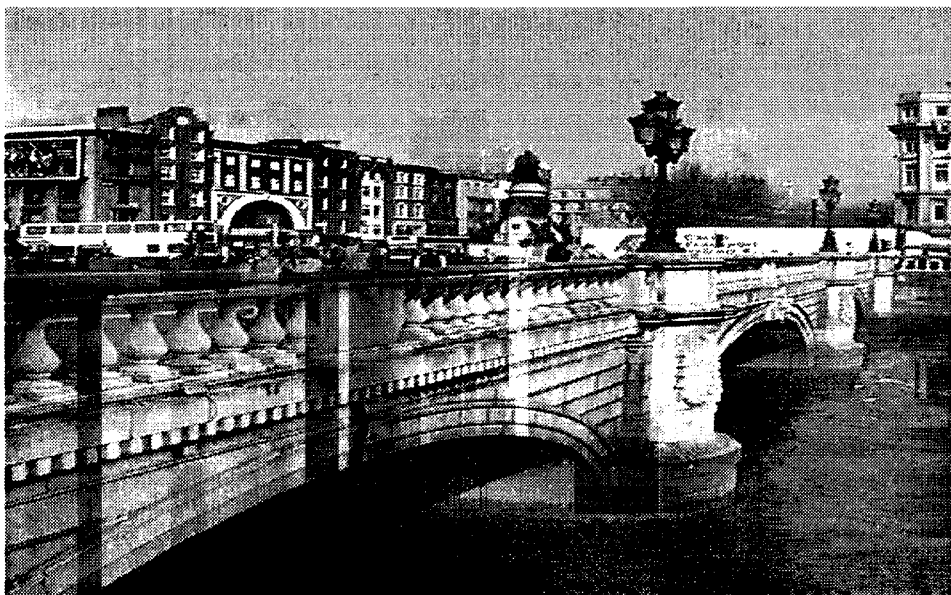
According to Waldrum, that aggressiveness has paid off for Weber — and the rest of the Irish.

"She might be the best outside attacking back [Notre Dame has] ever had and that's a long list," Waldrum said. "As a coach, I couldn't be more proud of her and what she's done this season."

Weber isn't done yet. She and the rest of her teammates will start the Big East postseason tournament this Saturday with a game at Alumni Field.

Contact Fran Tolan at ftolan@nd.edu

Write Sports. Call Chris at 631-4543.



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DUBLIN, IRELAND

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Trinity College

INFORMATION MEETING

Thursday, Nov. 1, 2007
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Practice

continued from page 24

on the ice — you actually perform on the ice. Most hockey players are not visual or audible learners."

Notre Dame has been forced to do a lot of on-ice learning during games, which it will have to do again tonight when it hosts Lake Superior State (1-2-1) at the Joyce Center. However, it's not an excuse for the team's play, Jackson said, and the young Irish are working on fixing their many problems.

One of those holes that only recently developed is in the power play. Prior to last week, when the Irish defeated Bowling Green in a midweek game and split with Ferris State over the weekend, they had scored at least one power play goal in each of their five games. In the last three games, the Irish went 1-for-24 and allowed a short-handed goal.

"We're not doing enough in and around the net to be successful," Jackson said. "We're getting opportunities, if you see some of the scoring chance that we had in Ferris State on the power play. We're not finishing."

The personnel on the power play has changed frequently, which Jackson said may be happening a little too much. But it will continue to shift until the right chemistry is found on the unit.

Notre Dame has had trouble in the third period as well, giving up 10 of its 17 goals allowed in that frame. Against Wisconsin in the season opener, the Irish surrendered three third-period goals after the game was tied 1-1. The same thing happened against Denver, when they let up a late goal to blow a tie and then an empty-netter to put the game out of reach.

The late goals aren't because

of poor conditioning, Jackson said, but the team has not yet learned to "value the puck" to the level that Jackson expects. The team tries to do too much with the puck and turns it over, which has led to the late goals. It happens in every period, but has tended to lead to goals more in the third period than any other, he said.

The players who were a large part of last season's conference championship and run to national No. 1 have put so much pressure on themselves to do better than last year that each one has put the responsibility of generating offense on themselves. This has led to valuing the

puck much less than Jackson would like to see.

"It was the biggest fear I had going into the season and it's actually happening," Jackson said. "That's the pressure of high expectations — not just team expectations — but personal expectations."

Irish goalie Jordan Pearce, who has started every game and been the only goalie to see any action, will start in net tonight as well. Earlier in the season Jackson said he wanted to work

goalies Tom O'Brien and Brad Phillips into the mix, but Pearce now leads the team in minutes played with just over 416.

Pearce has been sharper between the pipes than he was expected to be, Jackson said. But he will not play every game,

and O'Brien and Phillips will get a shot in the near future. It will only happen, however, when Jackson has full confidence in the younger goalies.

"Just when I'm about ready to pull the trigger, they have a bad practice or they don't look good. I need to see consistency in them," Jackson said. "A coach always deals with his confidence level and who he's putting on the ice."

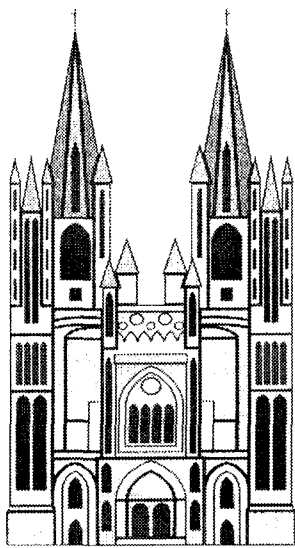
Contact Kyle Cassily at kcassily@nd.edu

"We're not doing enough in and around the net to be successful."

Jeff Jackson
Irish coach

"That's the pressure of high expectations — not just team expectations — but personal expectations."

Jeff Jackson
Irish coach



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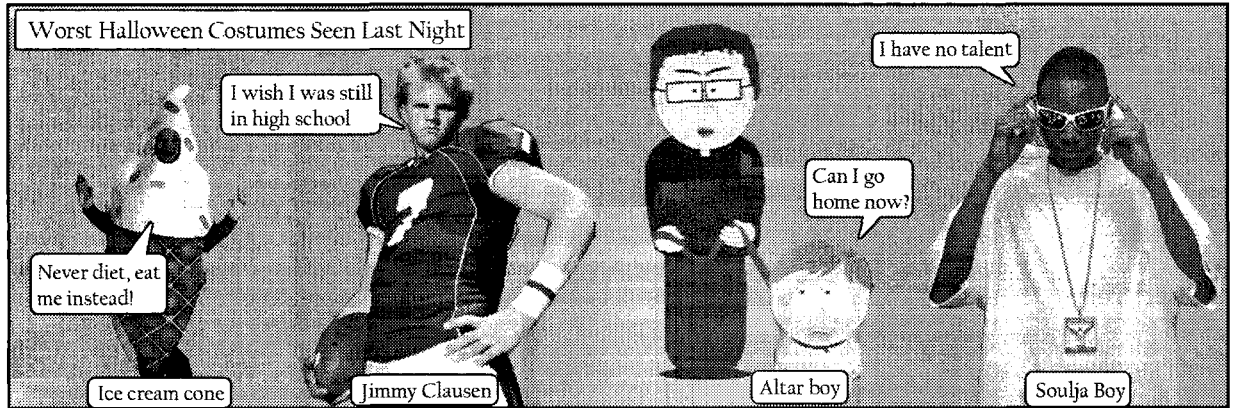
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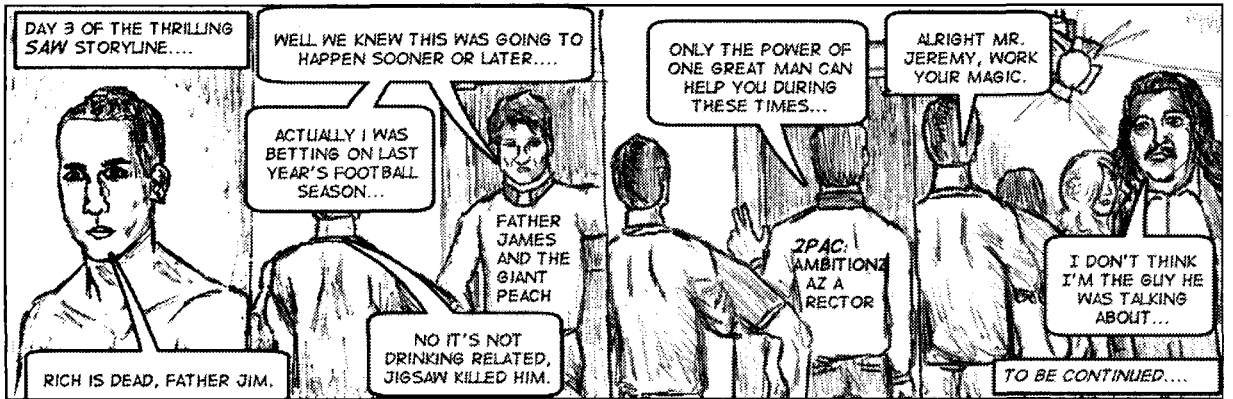
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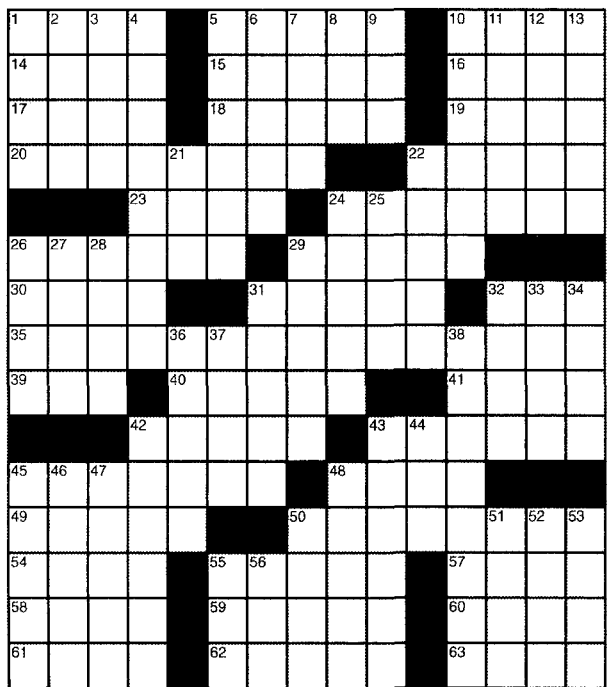
RICH PROTIVA & ANDY SPANGLER



CROSSWORD

WILL SHORTZ

- Across**
- "Wait ___!"
 - Terrific
 - Andrew of "Melrose Place"
 - Longtime Vicki Lawrence character
 - Burn slowly
 - One of the Munsters
 - Popular depilatory
 - Static
 - Baryshnikov's birthplace
 - "Jolly good!"
 - Pioneer in I.Q. testing
 - Honoraria
 - Takeout choice
 - Home of São Miguel Island
 - Lab container
 - British general in the American Revolution
 - Light-colored stogie
 - Dallas-to-Austin dir.
 - Author of a 1952 novel published in full in Life magazine
 - "No ___!"
 - Occupy
 - Nutritionist Paul who founded a pet food company
 - Pear-shaped instrument
 - Rodeo sights
 - "I"-opening experience?
 - Throw out water
 - Ticks off
 - Accessory for many a game
 - Winnepago owner
 - Amber, e.g.
 - Height
 - Like llamas
 - Truck stop sign
 - Unpleasant feeling
 - Some personal data: Abbr.
 - A Stooze
 - Many a D.C. org.
- Down**
- Peloponnesian War participant
 - Part of a Three Stooges shtick
 - Dr. Skoda of "Law & Order"
 - Happy-go-lucky
 - Elvis's "Hound Dog" and "Anyway You Want Me"
 - Some chain hotels
 - Gave up one's hand
 - Suffix with two
 - Morsel
 - 3-Down's profession
 - German poet who wrote "Don't send a poet to London"
 - Presses
 - Flow out
 - Formerly known as
 - Animal on the backs of three state quarters
 - Surgical aid
 - Mata ___
 - Faux cough
 - Author Neale Hurston
 - Fesses (up to)
 - Part of un jardin
 - Badly made
 - End of a fly? ... or the start of one?
 - All the ___



Puzzle by Alex Boisvert

- "The Swiss Family Robinson" author Johann
- Oscar winner for "Yankee Doodle Dandy"
- Baseball datum
- Odd jobs
- Buckles
- Ingredient in some potato chips
- Old nightclub employee
- Old Testament book
- Thom ___ shoes
- Layers of eggs weighing more than a pound
- Move to first class, e.g.
- Boombax button
- Evian or Perrier

For answers, call 1-900-285-5656, \$1.49 a minute; or, with a credit card, 1-800-814-5554. Annual subscriptions are available for the best of Sunday crosswords from the last 50 years: 1-888-7-ACROSS. Online subscriptions: Today's puzzle and more than 2,000 past puzzles, nytimes.com/crosswords (\$39.95 a year). Share tips: nytimes.com/puzzleforum. Crosswords for young solvers: nytimes.com/learning/xwords.

JUMBLE

HENRI ARNOLD
MIKE ARGIRION

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME
by Henri Arnold and Mike Argirion

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

PLEEO
HUGAL
TUGELL
NOOSAL

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

Answer: _____ OF "_____"

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: DANDY BUSHY POSTAL LOUNGE
Answer: When expenses were computed, the owners were — "NON-PLUSSED"

HOROSCOPE

EUGENIA LAST

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Adam Horovitz, 41; Peter Jackson, 46; Larry Mullen Jr., 46; Jane Pauley, 57

Happy Birthday: You must not allow your emotional outlook to hold you back. Count on your determination and drive to help you reach your goals. You will attract unusual people who can offer you information, inspiration and help. Cast your fate to the wind and enjoy the ride. Your numbers are 7, 21, 23, 31, 35, 49

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Work from home if you feel you will get more accomplished. Letting others distract you or take up your time will not pay the bills or allow you to advance. Today is about finishing what you start. 2 stars

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): You can help those less fortunate and, at the same time, make others think more of you. Your ability to bring about reform will lead you to a position of power. Follow through with your beliefs and ideas. 4 stars

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Money will be the issue today. You can make a professional change or start your own small business if you are willing to put time and effort into earning more money. A partnership can make a difference to your financial future. 3 stars

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Emotional issues may be difficult to discuss but, if you take action and do things to improve your home environment, you will be able to make a difference to the ones you love and to yourself. Change is good today. 3 stars

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Today, it will be your contributions that enable you to reach out to those who can help you excel. Home improvements will be surprisingly satisfying and functional. Follow through with your dreams, hopes and wishes. 3 stars

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Take action. If you are prepared to finish what you start, do what you say and take a serious approach to what you believe is required, you won't let anyone down, including yourself. Don't overreact or pontificate. 4 stars

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Don't let your emotions and anger cross over or you will make a mistake that is hard to reverse. This is not the time to burn bridges. Consider your options and do what is best for yourself and those influenced by your actions. 2 stars

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Make changes at home to help you pave the way to a better future. Fix any wrongs and you will help to bring the people you love closer. Now is the time to solve problems not create more. Love issues can be resolved. 5 stars

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): You may be tempted to get involved in an unusual moneymaking scheme. Think twice before you trust your money to someone else. You have to be careful not to be too trusting, generous or frivolous. Don't donate, lend or borrow. 3 stars

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): You may be torn between what someone you think highly of wants you to do and what you want to do. Weigh the pros and cons. If you anger someone with your choices, you can offer your help in other, more suitable ways. 3 stars

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Apply yourself to work and projects that have the potential to bring in extra cash. Good ideas may appear to be unusual but someone will see the possibilities. Put love and passionate plans into play. 3 stars

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Your way of dealing with others will win approval and impress someone who is considering you to head up a new project. Laugh, love and be happy and you will make the people you care about feel good. 5 stars

Birthday Baby: You are quick to respond and eager to get to the bottom of things. You don't waste time but can be a spendthrift with the ones you love. You are accommodating, caring and strong-minded.

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

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HOCKEY

Talkin' about practice

Notre Dame prepares for LSSU in another short week of practice

By KYLE CASSILY
Sports Writer

Notre Dame worked on pulling its goalie mid-play for the first time this season during Wednesday's practice.

The run-through was their last before taking on Lake Superior State tonight at 7:35 in the Joyce Center.

The drill, which was conducted over three weeks since on-ice practices started, went over a very small portion of a hockey game, but its timing is a sign of the struggles the Irish have had with their schedule so far this year.

The No. 13 Irish (4-3, 2-1 CCHA) have played several mid-week games in order to avoid conflicts with the home football schedule, a decision that has severely limited their number of practices. And when they do practice, the sessions are shorter so the team is not fatigued for games.

"We're trying to teach by film now," Irish coach Jeff Jackson said. "Most hockey players are what you call kinesthetic learners. They have to learn by doing. You walk them through

see PRACTICE/page 22



Freshman defenseman Ian Cole looks up ice during Notre Dame's 4-3 win over Denver on Oct. 18. Cole and the six other freshmen have had little practice time to work with their new teammates.

ALLISON AMBROSE/The Observer

MEN'S BASKETBALL

Big man's cast will come off

Sophomore forward could play in season opener against LIU

By CHRIS KHOREY
Sports Editor

The hard cast on Notre Dame forward Luke Harangody's thumb will be removed next week, and he might play in the team's regular season opener against Long Island University on Nov. 12, Irish coach Mike Brey said Wednesday.



Harangody

"I'm holding out hope that he's able to play in our first game," Brey said. "We'll take a really good look at it next Tuesday when the cast comes off."

Harangody injured his thumb during a pick-up game in practice on Oct. 15.

"I came off of a ball screen and my hand got against someone's hip, and my thumb just

see LUKE/page 21

ND WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Irish tip off season tonight

Strong freshman class makes Joyce Center debut in exhibition

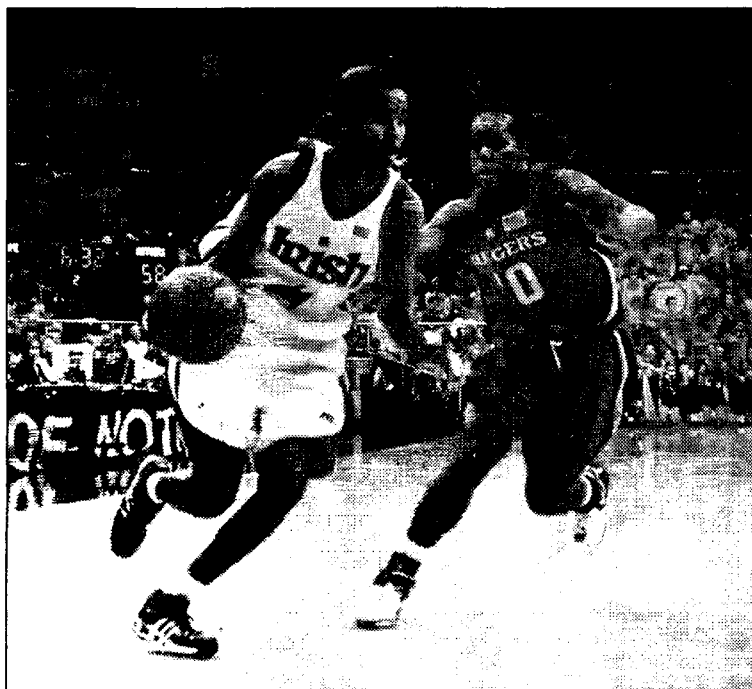
By BILL BRINK
Sports Writer

Notre Dame welcomes Southern Indiana to the Joyce Center tonight for its preseason opener, its first game since a second-round exit in the 2007 NCAA tournament.

The last contest, a 60-51 loss to No. 1 North Carolina that was closer than the score indicated, displayed the team's ability to play with anyone when they chose to, a theme of the 2006-07 season.

The Irish put together winning streaks of four and six games last season, but also lost three straight on the road against Big East opponents and three straight to end the regular season. Their losses in the final game of the regular season and in the first round of the Big East tournament both came at the hands of DePaul.

Notre Dame finished 20-12 (10-6 Big East) last season,



PHIL HUDELSON/The Observer

Senior guard Charel Allen drives during a 76-60 loss to Rutgers in 2006. Allen leads a revamped Irish offense this season.

but the Irish had an impressive record at home. Notre Dame was 14-2 at the Joyce Center and won nine straight home games before losing to Rutgers on Feb. 24.

With a highly touted freshman class, a number of returning starters and junior guard Lindsay Schrader back

after missing last season because of a torn ACL, the Irish have quite the array of weapons for 2007-08.

The freshmen class, composed of forwards Becca Bruszewski and Devereaux Peters and guard Brittany

see TIP OFF/page 20

ND WOMEN'S SOCCER

Weber adds spark to offensive attack

Junior transfer has boosted Irish defense

By FRAN TOLAN
Sports Writer

After Elise Weber committed to Wisconsin as a senior in high school, Irish coach Randy Waldrum assumed he would not get many opportunities to see the midfielder play again.

"We don't play Wisconsin regularly — just every three or four years," Waldrum said. "I kind of lost track of her."

But Weber transferred to Notre Dame this summer and her play this season has made it extremely difficult for Waldrum — and opposing teams — to lose track of her.

Now a junior defender for the Irish, Weber has become a regular fixture on the Big East



Elise Weber

weekly honor roll. Waldrum said there are few players at her position that impact a game as much as she does.

"We haven't seen a better attacking back this season," Waldrum said. "Not only are her stats great but she's just so dangerous in the attack."

Weber has racked up two goals and six assists from her defensive position this season, though she had played a primarily offensive role in her two years with the Badgers.

Weber only played three or four games as a defender at Wisconsin, she said, but when she decided to transfer to Notre Dame, Waldrum knew he could find a spot for her.

"Once she got her release and faxed it over, we were a little surprised, but I knew she was a good player," Waldrum said.

After moving into her spot on the Irish back line and suffering some early-season growing pains, Weber has helped anchor a defense that surrendered just six goals in its 12 Big East regular season games.

see WEBER/page 21