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NDSMCOBSERVER.COM

Students' beliefs guide discussion

Courses attempt to take objective look at election while factoring in personal views

By JENN METZ News Editor

Editor's Note: This is the second installment of a series examining the place of politics in the classroom.

Fair, political discussion can take place in the classroom, though that discussion can be guided, whether subtly or overtly, by the beliefs of the professor.

Two University professors, currently teaching courses relating to the 2008 presidential election take the two different approaches regarding the presentation of their own opinions in the classroom.

Dr. Susan Ohmer, a professor in the Department of Film, **Television and Theatre (FTT)** teaches "Media and the Presidency" this semester, an FTT course cross-listed as a course in American Studies, Political Science, History and Journalism, Ethics and Democracy. She informed her students outright of her political beliefs — she is a Democrat — at the beginning of the class, and explained that students' agreement (or disagreement) with her position would no in no way affect their grade.

On the other hand, Professor Darren Davis said he will not

see POLITICS/page 6



Presidential candidates Sen. Barack Obama, left, and Sen. John McCain speak to supporters at recent rallies.

NDSP releases campus crime statistics

Officers hope details of past events will inform students, prevent future altercations

Freshman class lacks diversity

Percentage of ethnic students drops again

By JOSEPH McMAHON Assistant News Editor

The current freshman class has been heralded as the most academically accomplished group in the University's history, with average SAT scores of 1405. But the class of 2012 is also Notre Dame's least ethnically diverse in the past three years.

Twenty percent of the class of 2012 is composed of domestic ethnic minorities, a drop from 22 percent last year and 24 percent two years ago. Three percent of the class is composed of international students.

"There are a lot of good things to say about this current class: It is the strongest class in our history, almost 50 percent of the students are on financial aid and we have great diversity in a number of areas," Assistant Provost for Admissions Dan Saracino said. "But with the ethnic minorities and the international students, we're not where we want to be." Saracino said the two-year drop doesn't necessarily qualify as a trend, but if the percentage continues to fall, it would present a serious problem for the University.

Handleand South Dand Orland

By EMMA DRISCOLL

burglary, taking place in the Pasquerilla Center on August



"I'm not sure it's a trend.

see DIVERSITY/page 4

Hundreds plan to travel to MSU

Students hope Irish can continue winning season against Spartans

By AARON STEINER News Writer

Hundreds of Notre Dame students will flock to East Lansing, Mich., this weekend to cheer on the Fighting Irish as the team takes on Michigan State Saturday afternoon.

Sophomore Sean McGee is going to the game with over 300 people as a member of the marching band, which traditional travels to away games in the state of Michigan.

McGee said the band usually attracts a certain attention from the opposing team's fans when on the

see MSU/page 6



KELLY HIGGINS/The Observer

Students flocked to Stanford last year to see the Irish take on the Cardinal. The game was one of the team's few wins.

Prendergast urges action on Darfur

By LAUREN KNAUF News Writer

Human rights activist John Prendergast spoke about the devastation of Dafur in western Sudan yesterday in the auditorium of the Hesburgh Center for International Studies.

Prendergast, who witnessed firsthand the effects of a national genocide, said apathy is not an option, even for students halfway around the world.

"Although Darfur may be in its darkest hour, it is always darkest before the dawn. Sudan's dawn is on its way," Prendergast said. "Only we, in this room, can bring light to Sudan's darkness."

Prendergast began his lecture with a story of a Sudanese refugee named Ameena, who told him her tragic account of the night her village was crushed by the militia. Two of her four children were killed, and she was forced to travel miles through the harsh Sahara Desert. When she was done with her story, she said to him: "Now that you know, you must do something."

The perpetrators of the genocide belong to a militia called the "Janjaweed," which acts "with deadly efficiency, and is backed by the Sudanese

see DARFUR/page 6

INSIDE COLUMN

My father's campaign

The news that the long-entrenched Republican Congressman Vito Fossella from New York's 13th district (composed of Staten Island and southern Brooklyn) had been caught for a DUI in Virginia

first broke when my parents came to pick me up at Notre Dame at the end of last semester. Slowly, rumors began to circulate that Fossella was actually driving to see his mistress and secret love child in Alexandria, Va.

Assistant News Editor

Joseph McMahon

At first, my father Michael McMahon, a Democratic New York City Councilman from the North Shore of Staten Island, dismissed these rumors like everyone else. However, as the press dug deeper, the facts became clear — Fossella had fathered a child out of wedlock, and had kept his second family secret for nearly two years. It appears Fossella was simply a "family values" politician who valued family so much that he decided to have a second one.

Disgraced, he announced that he would not seek office in the upcoming election, opening the door for Democrats to take the seat for the first time in ten years. My father's lifelong dream of serving in Washington now was within reach, and immediately he was on the phones negotiating with the local Democratic party bosses. My father was definitely not their first choice, but after a much political posturing and several clever maneuvers, he was ultimately able to convince them that he was the best choice for the people of Staten Island and Brooklyn.

Immediately, my father was handed the task of mounting a campaign for Congress with only five months until election day. In addition, he still faced a primary challenge from Brooklyn lawyer Steve Harrison who had run for the seat against Fossella in 2006 and had no plans of clearing the path for my father.

Normally, Congressional races are organized over the course of two years, but with the help of an incredibly loyal and competent staff, he was able to get the campaign off the ground within a month. The Washington-based Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee (DCCC) was so impressed that they bestowed the coveted "red-to-blue" status on the campaign, encouraging many large Democratic donors to give to the effort. Big-name politicians like Sen. Hillary Clinton and Sen. Chuck Schumer have endorsed him, and the man who ran Barack Obama's successful primary campaign in Iowa signed-on to be his Campaign Manager, bringing with him a wealth of experience. However, the campaign has still been a battle, with my father facing a challenge from former Republican Assemblyman Robert Straniere, who was ousted from his own seat in 2004 by his own party and had since entered the hot dog business. While many may think this is a joke, they underestimate the conservative leanings of Staten Island — a Democrat has not held this seat since the 1960's. In addition, fighting between staff members coupled with having to make 5 or 6 appearances at events and fundraisers have started to take their toll. Despite all this, my father has displayed a level of competence and professionalism throughout the entire ordeal. His honest approach and great record of service carried him to a 50-point win in the Sept. 9 primary, and I can only hope for the same results in the general election. But whatever the outcome of the election, he has put his heart and soul into this campaign and demonstrated the values of integrity, hard work, caring and patience. I can honestly say that there has never been a point in my life where I have been more proud to call him my father.

QUESTION OF THE DAY: HOW MUCH SLEEP DO YOU GET ON AVERAGE PER NIGHT?





Isabel Chirase Grace Mariucci

sophomore Pasquerilla East

"Weekdays plenty, weekends none."



Andrew Kelly sophomore Zahm

"Depends on what her roommates are doing."



senior

Alumni

"I got about 5

hours last

night. I was up

until 4 writing

a 250 word

essay ... Stop

laughing, it's

not funny."



Amanda Costanzo

freshman **Breen-Phillips**

"I'm still a freshman archi, so I can still get about seven hours of sleep at night."

freshman **Breen-Phillips**

"Depends on what my roommates are doing."



IN BRIEF

In "The Wonderbread Years," Pat Hazell finds humor in the experience of growing up in America. This event is today and Sat. at 7 p.m. in **DeBartolo** Performing Arts Center, on the Decio Mainstage Theatre. Tickets are \$40, \$32 faculty/staff, \$30 for seniors, and \$15 for students and can be purchased at the **Ticket Office.**

The annual Forum Film Festival will be held today at 7 p.m. in the Browning Cinema of the DeBartolo **Performing Arts Center.** Films on sustainability will be shown. The event is open to the public. Tickets are free and must be reserved in advance at the **Ticket Office**.

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

Contact Joseph McMahon at jmcmaho6@nd.edu

CORRECTIONS

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

AMY LYNCH The Observer

Students eat hamburgers and hotdogs at a picnic held by Multicultural Student Programs and Services (MSPS) on Thursday afternoon by Stonehenge.

OFFBEAT

World's oldest man has 113th birthday in Japan

TOKYO — The world's oldest man celebrated his 113th birthday Thursday in southern Japan, telling reporters he wants to live another five years. Tomoji Tanabe, who was born Sept. 18, 1895, received birthday gifts, flowers and \$1,000 cash from the mayor of his hometown of Miyakonojo, on southern Japan's island of Kyushu.

Tanabe told reporters he wants to live "another five years or so," according to city spokesman Akihide Yokoyama. That was a slight downgrade from last year, when he said he wanted to live "for infinity."

Teen 'detective' leads police to stolen bike WHITE PLAINS, N.Y.

- Police in suburban Westchester County said a 13-year-old's detective work led

them to a 17-year-old accused of stealing a \$2,275 mountain bike. Scarsdale police said the bike was stolen while its 13-year-old owner was inside a village deli.

The boy searched the Internet and found a bike that fit the description of his for sale on eBay. He gave the information to investigators.

Information compiled from the Associated Press.

The 25th annual Domer Run will take place Saturday at 9 a.m. The race will start on the west side of the Stadium. Runners must check in no later than 8:45 AM at the registration tables. Race day check-in will be held at Legends beginning at 8 a.m.

There will be a Green Prayer Service on Sunday from 5:30 p.m. to 6 p.m. at the Grotto. The service is for Energy Week and being held by the Notre Dame **Energy Center.**

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



Atlanta 79 / 60 Boston 61 / 42 Chicago 77 / 53 Denver 79 / 49 Houston 86 / 65 Los Angeles 81 / 65 New York 66 / 50 Philadelphia 69 / 55 Phoenix 99 / 77 Seattle 68 / 52 St. Louis 82 / 58 Tampa 88 / 72

ELECTION 2008

McCain would fire SEC chairman

Republican presidential candidate wants to strengthen institutions

Associated Press

CEDAR RAPIDS — Republican John McCain, buffeted by criticism about his response to Wall Street's financial problems, said Thursday he would fire the SEC chairman and create a special trust to help strengthen weak institutions.

In all but calling for the firing of Securities and Exchange Commission Chairman Christopher Cox, McCain turned on a fellow Republican and former 17-year House member who served on committees overseeing investor protection and U.S. capital markets. President Bush appointed Cox in 2005.

McCain also tried to counter Democratic rival Barack Obama as the two White House contenders jockeyed to explain how, as president, they would prevent the sort of financial tremors that have shaken the financial industry and consumer confidence this week.

Economic issues traditionally favor Democrats and were expected to be especially potent for Obama in an election cycle after eight years of a Republican White House and a Congress controlled mostly by the GOP. McCain has a long history of opposing government regulation and receives economic advice from former Texas Sen. Phil Gramm, an advocate of freemarket principles. In addition, McCain has served on and has been chairman of the Senate Commerce Committee, which has regulated — and deregulated — vast parts of the economy.

"The chairman of the SEC serves at the appointment of the president and, in my view, has betrayed the public's trust," McCain told a rally in this battleground state. "If I were president today, I would fire him."

Cox attributed McCain's comments to the heat of the campaign.

"I've been in and around politics for many, many years. I'm very happy that as chairman of an independent agency, thousands of men and women at the Securities and Exchange Commission are working very, very hard to protect American markets and investors' confidence in them," Cox said Thursday night after briefing lawmakers on a plan to rescue banks from the bad debts at the heart of the financial crisis.

"Right now, with so much at stake in our country, there's no time for political sniping. This is a time and an opportunity for leadership," he said.

In an earlier written statement, Cox said he's always been clear about his intent to leave the SEC when the Bush administration ends in January 2009. Cox's term officially ends in June 2009, but he could stay on until a successor is named. Campaigning in New Mexico, Obama mocked McCain's call to fire the SEC chairman, basically saying why stop at Cox.

"In the next 47 days you can fire the whole trickle-down, onyour-own, look-the-other-way crowd in Washington who has led us down this disastrous path," he told a campaign rally in Espanola. "Don't just get rid of one guy. Get rid of this administration. Get rid of this philosophy. Get rid of the donothing approach to our economic problem and put somebody in there who's going to fight for you."

McCain also proposed creating a trust to review mortgage and financial institutions, identify weaker ones and strengthen them before insolvency.

"Today we need a plan that doesn't wait until the system fails," the senator said. "For troubled institutions, this will provide an orderly process through which to identify bad loans and eventually sell them."

McCain's running mate, Alaska Gov. Sarah Palin, joined him in Cedar Rapids and drew some of the biggest cheers with her stump remarks. She fumbled a bit at the start when she said it was good to be in "Grand Rapids" — the Michigan city they'd just flown in from.

Their speeches were repeatedly interrupted by protesters who were dragged away

strali

Professor discusses poetry and art

"It is the Arabic

culture ... that

profoundly shapes

the culture of its

Jewish community."

Rosa Menocal

Humanities professor

Yale University

By TARA SCANNELL News Writer

Poetry works as an act of history and is vital to the true understanding of the past, said Maria Rosa Menocal, a Humanities and foreign language profes-

sor at Yale University, during her lecture yesterday at Saint Mary's. Menocal said

poetry and other art forms are critical in attempting to understand the history of medieval Spain, and specifically

the how the cultures of Catholics, Jews and Muslims

intertwined.

Although much of the history of medieval Spain was lost, historians are able to look at the art — including architecture of the time — to draw conclusions about the Arabic influence on the country.

"[This influence] has been largely forgotten and first and foremost it must be said by the Christians of Spain," Menocal said.

By looking at Christian churches and Jewish synagogues, Menocal said that the influence of Islamic architecture cannot be forgotten.

"It is the Arabic culture ... that profoundly shapes the culture of its Jewish community," Menocal said.

> Menocal's speech was part of the College's a n n u a l Christian Cultur e Lecture on the important role of poetry in analyzing history.

"This annual lecture brings to Saint Mary's a professor of the

humanities to discuss some aspect of the Christian division of Western culture", said Philip Hicks, a professor and Chair of the Humanistic Studies department at Saint Mary's College. "This interdisciplinary humanities program emphasizes the dynamic role Christianity played in shaping our world."

Contact Tara Scannell at tscann01@saintmarys.edu



Information Session TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 2008 5:30 PM 138 DeBartolo Hall



For ALPP and ANTH College of Science College of Engineering Students

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top

the

Crime

page 4

continued from page 1

reported stolen and then reported recovered by the owner on the same day, tent stakes, video games, DVDs and food,

Shibata said. The e-mail included comparative data the from months of July and August about crimes taking place in Northeast South Bend. The number of aggravated assaults jumped from 4 to 10 between the two months.

Shibata said that NDSP has not received information that students were involved in these aggravated assaults.

Chapman said the only way NDSP receives information about students being involved in off-campus crime is if the student identifies himself or herself as a student to the officer and if the officer includes this identification in a report.

NDSP has also not received information of students being involved in the two rape cases reported in the month of August in Northeast South Bend.

Shibata said that crime statistics will continue to be sent to students monthly.

"Maybe being aware of

the crime that is taking place will help [students] seek options that will make it more difficult for crimes to be committed against them," Shibata said. Students can also find more information about crime on campus through NDSP's Crime Blotter. NDSP sends Crime Alerts if they determine that students should be aware of a situation immediately. "If it's something where student safety is at risk, we send out a crime alert as soon as we possibly can," Shibata said.

things," Shibata said. The subject also had unrelated felony charges in

Marion County, Chapman said. Also in April, a faculty

phone call enabled NDSP to apprehend a subject leaving Stepan Chemistry Hall with a stolen laptop computer,

This subject was also identified as a suspect in other cases, Chapman said. options that will In May, a ND make it more difficult employee phone helped NDSP committed against stop another person identified as being in dorms. The

stopped.

for crimes to be

them.'

Keri Shibata

NDSP officer

Chapman pointed out that none of these cases involved a break-in or forced entry.

"One of the best ways to prevent these things from happening is to not let people in that you don't know. Be suspicious," he said.

Shibata stressed the importance students reporting suspicious activity or people.

"During that time, there were several instances when we would get called several

hours after the fact," Shibata said. "It's vital for us that when people see something is suspicious, even if they are not sure what's going on or why it's suspicious, call immediately because we have very good response time

and if we're

continued from page 1 Two years in a row isn't necessarily a trend. Three years, I would say, would be a serious trend, and we aim to change

it," he said. "Both of those areas have jumped to the top Chapman said. of our priorities for next year's class to make sure that it is not a trend." Associate Admissions **Gil Martinez** said competition call among elite universities for diversity students has increased in subject was on recent parole at the years. time he was "As competition to get into Notre Dame

> has become more and more difficult, and we're shooting for better and better students, with the diversity students especially, we're finding ourselves in competition with other universities and colleges across the country. We're playing in the leagues now with the ivy leagues, Stanford, Rice, and Duke," he said.

Martinez said the decrease in diversity students has resulted mainly from a drop in black students. While the numbers for Hispanics, Asians and Native Americans have remained consistent, the percentage of black students at the University has fallen from five percent to three percent over the past two years.

"The major drop was in African American students. and those are students that we have to recruit hard because they don't necessarily grow up thinking 'Notre Dame is where I want to go," Martinez said.

Both Saracino and Martinez said the University has launched an aggressive new recruiting program to tap into the pool of ethnically diverse students in Chicago. "We're trying to focus on, without ignoring other areas, Chicago. There are a significant number of African Americans in Chicago who we feel would be interested in Notre Dame," Saracino said.

Matt Tipton, the president of the black men's group Wabruda agreed with Martinez's assessment that a lot of African Americans grow up without knowing about Notre Dame. For many of his friends at Notre Dame, this was true.

"A lot of African Americans don't know about Notre Dame and they don't know where it is," he said.

Martinez said recruiters Director for were in the process of acquiring locations

Chicago in "Anything less than 22 where they percent [ethnic minority] could organize information for next year's incoming sessions for class would be considered black parents and high school students who might be interested in the University. He said one of the biggest challenges

was simply informing students about how close Notre Dame is to Chicago.

"It amazes me how many diversity students from Chicago don't even know where Notre Dame is. ... People don't realize that we're only 90 miles away," Martinez said. "[The information sessions are] just to talk about Notre Dame,

"It amazes me how

many diversity

students from Chicago

don't even know where

Notre Dame is."

Gil Martinez

Associate Director

Admissions

to get them think about it, and to remind them how close we are." In addition, Martinez said the University recently changed its financial aid policy, although no

a definite

disappointment."

Dan Saracino

Assistant Provost

Admissions

public announcement was made. Despite the fact that the school doesn't offer full financial aid to anyone whose family makes less than \$40,000 like Harvard. Martinez said it will help the school recruit more diversity students. "The school did change its policy so that we could be players in the game, but it wasn't a public announcement," he said. "We weren't going to make an announcement, but what we want to do is find the people that truly do need it. Different families will

use accounting that will benefit them the best, but we look at a more holistic view."

Martinez did not elaborate on the changes to the financial aid policy.

Recruiters have also been expanding internationally, Saracino said.

"We have been focusing on Latin America and some recruitment in Asia," he said. "We're going to do some more recruitment in Asia and long term we're considering doing some more recruitment in Europe," he said.

Tipton, who grew up in Gary, Ind., said the University's admissions counselors would have to look outside SAT scores and GPAs to find many top-tier diversity students, especially those who were raised in economically-disadvantaged neighborhoods.

"I wish they could look more behind the numbers, more behind the GPA. SAT scores don't tell everything about a student. A lot of these kids are disadvantaged, they don't have the resources to study for the SAT like other kids do," he said. "Growing up in Gary, Ind., the surroundings aren't conducive to learning.'

Saracino said he hopes these aggressive recruiting programs help increase the percentage of diversity students to last year's level.

> "Anything less than 22 percent [ethnic minority] for next year's incoming class would be considered a definite disappointment," he said. "Our other is goal to increase the international student percent-

age from 3 percent to 4 percent."

Saracino was quick to note these are goals, not quotas, for

"One of the best ways to prevent these things from happening is to not let people in that you don't know. Be suspicious."

David Chapman assistant director

NDSP

"Maybe being aware of the crime that is taking place will help [students] seek

Chapman said that NDSP tries to send the most important information to students.

"We have to judge. A lot of people, if they get so much [e-mail] from NDSP, they will delete it," Chapman said. "We have to be careful how much information we saturate students with," he said.

NDSP urges students to contact them whenever they feel that something is suspicious.

Phone calls from students, faculty and employees made it possible for NDSP to catch three subjects in cases last April and May.

In one case last April, a student called NDSP to report a suspicious person, Chapman said. NDSP stopped the person who was from East Chicago who was suspected in several burglaries at Notre Dame and at other colleges, Chapman said.

"He was targeting colleges and universities and going through dorms stealing

given timely information, we can catch up with these people."

If students would like to receive e-mail alerts of crime against students in the city of South Bend, e-mail Cpl. Hechlinski at Phechlin@southbendin.gov, the e-mail said.

Contact Emma Driscoll at edriscol@nd.edu

next year's class.

In the long term, Saracino said he would like to increase the ethnic minority percentage to 30 percent within 5 years as well as raise the percentage of international students while still maintaining the University's Catholic percentage at around 80 percent.

Contact Joseph McMahon at jmcmaho6@nd.edu

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WORLD & NATION COMPILED FROM THE OBSERVER'S WIRE SERVICES Friday, September 19, 2008

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Outrage caused by tainted formula SHIJIAZHUANG, China — Hundreds of

Chinese parents, some cradling infants, converged on the company at the heart of the tainted baby formula scandal Thursday, demanding refunds and asking what they can safely feed their children.

Thousands of others filled hospitals, many hovering over sons and daughters hooked to IVs after drinking milk powder tainted with melamine, a toxic industrial chemical that can cause kidney stones and lead to kidney failure.

The scandal highlights the changing family dynamics and economic growth in China. A generation ago, women had little choice besides breast-feeding. Now, supermarkets are filled with dozens of brands of baby formula, marketed to women who continue working outside the home even after they give birth.

Swiss atom smasher malfunctions

GENEVA — The world's largest particle collider malfunctioned within hours of its launch to great fanfare, but its operator didn't report the problem for a week.

In a statement Thursday, the European Organization for Nuclear Research reported for the first time that a 30-ton transformer that cools part of the collider broke, forcing physicists to stop using the atom smasher just a day after starting it up last week.

The faulty transformer has been replaced and the ring in the 17-mile circular tunnel under the Swiss-French border has been cooled back down to near zero on the Kelvin scale — minus 459.67 degrees Fahrenheit — the most efficient operating temperature, said a statement by CERN, as the organization is known.

NATIONAL NEWS

Minneapolis bridge reopens MINNEAPOLIS — Emergency vehicles with

lights flashing led twin processions to open the new Interstate 35W bridge before dawn

Texas asking residents to stay away

Galveston still hurting from Hurricane Ike, damage slowly being repaired

Associated Press

GALVESTON, Texas — There's a grocery store open for business on Galveston Island. Cell phone towers are connecting calls. More lights are coming back on at night.

But for all the little signs of recovery in this barrier island community thrashed by Hurricane Ike nearly a week ago, Galveston just "isn't ready" for residents to return. Not even for a quick look around at their battered homes and businesses, officials said Thursday as they pleaded for tens of thousands to wait at least another week before trying to come home.

"By staying away and being patient, you are making it possible for us to get you home in a week or so, instead of the months it would take if the city's infrastructure were more overwhelmed at this point," Mayor Lyda Ann Thomas said.

The roughly 45,000 people who fled Galveston Island are among the more than 1 million who evacuated the Texas coast as Ike steamed across the Gulf of Mexico. Gov. Rick Perry said 22,000 people are still living in more than 200 shelters, and he joined Thomas on Thursday in asking for patience.



Galveston, Texas resident Michael Sims walks home on Thursday, September 18th, after purchasing supplies after Hurricane lke.

after the massive Category 13,000 barrels of oil and 84

2 storm blew through. million cubic feet of natural "I absolutely understand Flight control of the gas a day; the Gulf produces about 1.3 million barrels of oil a day and 7 billion cubic feet of gas.

Secretary Steve Preston said as he stood alongside Chertoff. "We want to make

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Thursday, less than 14 months after the shocking and deadly collapse of its predecessor.

Highway department trucks followed patrol cars, fire trucks and ambulances in slow northbound and southbound parades that passed each other around the middle of the bridge just after 5 a.m. Behind them were hundreds of motorists in cars, motorcycles, trucks and buses, many of them honking their horns and a few waving American flags.

Traffic was initially heavy on what had been one of the Twin Cities' busiest arteries, but it loosened up quickly and it continued to zip along through the morning rush hour. The old bridge had three lanes in each direction, but its replacement has five.

NASA extends Mars mission

LOS ANGELES — NASA is extending the Phoenix Mars mission again.

The three-legged spacecraft has been digging trenches near the Martian north pole since landing on May 25 and its work was supposed to end this month. Phoenix is studying whether the site could have been favorable for microbial life to emerge.

NASA spokesman Dwayne Brown said Thursday the space agency will invest about \$6 million to keep the \$422 million, mission going through December.

LOCAL NEWS

Students stabbed by lancets

GOSHEN, Ind. — Sixteen northern Indiana students who were pricked by blood-testing lancets by three eighth-grade classmates were tested Thursday for contagious diseases.

The three Goshen Middle School students accused of jabbing their classmates face preliminary charges of battery and could face additional charges, said Goshen police Officer Kevin Miller, the school's resource officer. They also have been suspended from school for 10 days and face possible expulsion, he said.

"It was just something they decided to do and it was poor judgment," he said.

they want to get back to their homes ... I'd like to get back to the mansion." said Perry, who's been living in temporary guarters since his official residence burned down in June.

Galveston Island remained closed, as did the worse-off Bolivar Peninsula, where the storm's surge washed entire neighborhoods into the sea. Search teams pulled out of both areas this week after sweeping every house, authorities said.

To the northwest, life took more steps toward normal in Houston, where traffic picked up on the downtown streets less than a week

International Space Station was to return Friday to the Johnson Space Center, which shut down a few days before Ike's strike.

CenterPoint Energy said it had restored power to nearly 900,000 homes, and the utility was fast approaching the point where more people in the nation's fourthlargest city would be with electricity than without.

The Interior Department said Thursday that Ike destroyed at least 49 of the more than 3,800 offshore oil or natural gas production platforms in the Gulf of Mexico, and some may not be rebuilt. The damaged

platforms accounted for

To help ease the recovery Texas, Homeland in Security Secretary Michael Chertoff urged private mortgage lenders Thursday to cut some slack to financially strapped homeown-The Housing ers. Department had earlier issued a 90-day moratorium on foreclosures on FHA loans, a reprieve for about 7,000 homeowners who were in foreclosure or on the cusp.

"A lot of times, after a disaster, people come back, they have expenses they didn't count on," HUD sure they have breathing room before they have to worry about mortgages (that) will become an additional challenge for them."

Chertoff was in Southeast Texas for the second straight day, watching over the federal relief effort that has delivered hundreds of trucks of ice, water and food to the region's more than 5 million people.

Ike's death toll in the U.S. stood at 56, with 22 in Texas, and there was still the fear that more victims would be found. After Hurricane Katrina hit New Orleans in 2005, bodies continued to turn up for more than a year.

AUSTRALIA

Hundreds of new species discovered

Associated Press

SYDNEY — Marine scientists have discovered hundreds of new animal species on reefs in Australian waters, including brilliant soft corals and tiny crustaceans, according to findings released Thursday.

The creatures were found during expeditions run by the Australian chapter of CReefs, a global census of coral reefs that is one of several projects of the Census of Marine Life, an international effort to catalog all life in the oceans.

"People have been working at these places for a long time and still there are literally hundreds and hundreds of new species that no one has ever collected or described," said Julian Caley, a scientist from the Australian Institute of Marine Science who is helping to lead the research.

"So in that sense, it's very significant in that if we don't understand what biodiversity is out there, we don't have much of a chance of protecting it," he said.

Scientists at several Australian museums have begun the complex process of working with the samples for genetic barcoding and taxonomy, the formal system of naming living things. That work is

expected to take years, Caley said.

Among the creatures researchers found were about 130 soft corals - also known as octocorals, for the eight tentacles that fringe each polyp — that have never been described in scientific literature, and scores of similarly undescribed crustaceans, including tiny shrimp-like animals with claws longer than their bodies.

The 10-year census, scheduled for final publication in 2010, is supported by governments, divisions of the United Nations and private conservation organizations.

Politics

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disclose his personal partisan beliefs to his students during the course of the semester. He is currently teaching "Political Psychology of Racism," a junior political science seminar.

Associate Provost and Vice President Dennis Jacobs told The Observer that in cases where political debate is appropriate and relevant to course materials, the decision to disclose political affiliation "is certainly at the discretion of the faculty member."

"I would say in many ways I would respect a faculty member who says 'I will disclose my political beliefs," or anything from their background that helped form those beliefs "on day one just to get it out in the air," he said. "Though, I'm not saying that all faculty members must disclose."

There are certain classes, like those taught by Ohmer and Davis, in which political points of view "will shape and frame the debate all semester," Jacobs said, whether the professor reveals their personal position or not.

An open policy

"It is a challenge to teach during a presidential campaign," Ohmer said. The issues involved evolve on a daily basis, she said, and professors must "think on their feet."

"It's like trying to navigate a river, but usually the stream is not moving so fast," she said.

Ohmer decided to only teach the course, titled "Media and the Presidency" during election years. She said course her draws a number of students with different opinions.

Thinking back

the nature of the course.

She said she believes the results of such a ballot would vary from college to college, and that one survey conducted in a business class showed more students in favor of McCain.

"It gives me a sense of where people stand," she said. "It made me very committed to making sure the McCain supporters felt comfortable."

In the humanities, she said, "teaching is a conversation — a conversation in which the professor is helping the students to develop skills, that says 'here's how we can work together to gather knowledge in this area."

That conversation is more about sharing perspectives and listening carefully than to "rant and to rave," she said.

"I do not profess to be any sort of paragon at all," she said. "In a way, what we're doing in the classroom models a discussion that would be helpful to have in politics in general."

No disclosure...

Political Science professor Darren Davis also told his students something on the first day of class — that he would play devil's advocate, taking different positions, but "those positions should not be confused with my own personal beliefs," he said.

He does not disclose his personal politics for several reasons, the primary being he does not want to "tell students what to think."

"My role is to teach them how to think," Davis said. "I don't want to indoctrinate them into a particular political viewpoint. We're teaching young adults,

and many of

with what the

their beliefs are evolving. "It is a challenge to Professors have teach during a influence, and I think we need to presidential be very careful." campaign." Davis said he is more concerned

think that I may be supportive of affirmative action," he said. "That's a problem. They won't ever know my views on affirmative action in the classroom because my views are pretty much irrelevant."

... except on matters of faith.

Davis' draws the line on his policy of nondisclosure when it comes to issues regarding his faith, he said.

"One of the unique things about Notre Dame is that I can openly wrestle and challenge with these issues," he said. "I am not going to stand up in class and say students need to figure out on their own if genocide is reasonable."

Citing abortion and the death penalty as other such issues, Davis said: "I'm going to take positions on those because those are related to what I believe, and this is what Notre Dame is about."

He separates matters of faith from the political, and said the discussion on these issues "is always heated."

The lines between faith and politics are drawn "in the way you present the material how you cover it and how you approach it," he said. "But to a certain extent, it can't be separated."

"I'm not going to try to force my beliefs on the students, but I'm going to communicate to them that I do have a position on those issues."

While teaching at Michigan State — a public institution — Davis said he felt pressure not to raise these sorts of issues in the classroom environment.

"But at Notre Dame," he said, "I feel comfortable, I feel encouraged to openly wrestle with certain issues and ideas that pertain specifically to my religious beliefs, not to politics.'

Catholicism and politics

Davis' discussion of his faith raises another issue with the

MSU

continued from page 1

road.

"It can be a different atmosphere," McGee said. "Fans of the opposing team can be really rowdy and hostile.'

This weekend, McGee expects the same type of reception.

"They probably won't be too friendly, especially because we have a good chance at

he said. Senior Spencer Howard said the g a m e against h \mathbf{e} Spartans will proba-

winning,"

t

bly be the toughest of the season so we don't do away game far.

"I think it'll be a tougher game, but after last week we've got a little more confidence," he said.

Students were able to obtain tickets from various sources including from a Student Union Board (SUB) lottery, at an Alumni Association ticket sale, or from SUB in a last minute ticket sale.

SUB Board Manager Pat Gartland said 370 tickets were originally made available in the lottery.

Darfur

continued from page 1

government," Prendergast said.

"The Sudanese government

The lottery drawing took place on August 28.

"About 1,200 students participated in the lottery," Gartland said. The winners were able to purchase two tickets at \$70 each, which is face value.

Gartland said the tickets are made available by Michigan State through the Athletic Department.

In addition to a number of tickets that went unclaimed, Gartland said SUB received 63 more tickets from the Athletic

Department which where also sold at face value to any interested students.

The Alumni Association also sold 112 tickets in a special offer to students.

"Traditionally, ticket consignment programs," said Kathy Maloney, who coordinates the ticket consignment program. "We will [sell tickets] for students if it's within driving distance."

The Alumni Association will also welcome students and Irish fans at a hospitality tent in East Lansing, Maloney said. Students with an ID get free non-alcoholic drinks and snacks, she said.

Contact Aaron Steiner at asteiner@nd.edu

Hollywood view that African nations are "huge chasms of despair" and to see them as having "limitless potential for transformation."

Prendergast described both presidential candidates and their camps as committed to

"I think it'll be a tougher game, but after last week we've got a little more confidence."

Spencer Howard

senior

to professors she had in college that would orate their politics and "attack,

not educate," Ohmer, who started teaching the course during the 2000 election, decided to remain neutral in the classroom.

"I think back to that now, even though my political loyalties have shifted, and I remember how that felt," she said.

The first time she taught the course, Ohmer said she thought she "was being evenhanded" in concealing her political sympathies, "but students want to know where their professors stand because they are concerned it will affect their grade," she said.

Now, she reveals those sympathies on day one. Ohmer told her class that she is a Democrat planning to vote for Sen. Barack Obama for president in November.

"I say 'This is what I think, and I'm doing my best to be evenhanded, and if you think I'm tilting one way, let me know," she said.

The purpose of her disclosure is "not to orate, not to preach, but to inform," she said. Though at times remaining neutral in debate "is a struggle when I have strong opinions.'

Ohmer administered a secret ballot to her class to ascertain how the class felt as a group about the presidential candidates. She said the results -22for Obama, 11 for Sen. John McCain and one outlier for Fred Thompson — a write-in option - were not surprising given

Susan Ohmer professor

class learns from the political science literature. He said he also

wants to make students feel comfortable in the classroom, regardless of their politics.

"[I want] a free-flow of ideas and discussion, as long as it takes place on a higher, academic level," Davis said. "I want to create a classroom environment where every political view can be discussed.'

In order to facilitate this discussion, "my political views are always held in check," he said. "I am neither liberal or conservative."

Like Ohmer, Davis said he "hated those classes where my professors were opinionated, especially about politics."

"I understand how that can be off-putting, how that can make students uncomfortable and intimidated," he said.

When political oration takes place, "the understanding of what happens in reality is lost," Davis said. "So if I were to just stand up there and proselytize and preach, the students are missing that objectivity."

Another reason Davis, who has been a professor for 15 years, does not disclose his political beliefs is the issue of race.

"Because I'm black, there is an expectation of a certain political viewpoint," he said. "And I like to keep students guessing."

Students in Davis' class, who may not have had black professors in the past, "may approach the class and automatically

role of political discussion in classrooms at Notre Dame: the University's religions affiliation. In terms of political and religious beliefs, Dennis Jacobs, associate provost and vice president, said it is "dangerous to talk about the faculty as a whole."

"Each [member] comes with a very complex set of values and opinions. You cannot try to aggregate the group," he said.

Political party affiliation is "not a question" when the University hires new faculty, Jacobs said. "That is outside of the sphere of what a University does or is all about."

The University is a Catholic institution, not a political institution, he said, and political alignment — either to the left or to the right — should not be connected with the University's religious affiliation, as "elements of Catholic teaching fall on both sides of the political spectrum."

"As such, open debate on the issues of the day, in light of Catholic teaching, should be a hallmark of Notre Dame," Jacobs said.

That reflection, he said, "might lead people to a particular opinion that they then might express in the political process.'

Open discussion on a topic whether political or not — and examining it through many different perspectives "is not only appropriate at a Catholic university, it is part of our mission," he said.

Contact Jenn Metz at jmetz@nd.edu

is making money hand over fist and has a lot to lose if the rebels seize power; therefore, they want to defeat the rebellion and send a message to the entire country."

Prendergast said there was a wide array of reasons for the continuation of genocide "Raise your voices for in Darfur, Ameena, for the people of including Sudan, for all the people the war in Iraq, who have been targeted in countergenocides past and terrorism present and say 'not on efforts and China's oil our watch." investments in John Prendergast the counhuman rights activist try. These

the cause in Darfur, but he said they must be able to hear the constituency loud and clear.

"Raise your voices for Ameena, for the people of Sudan, for all the people who have been targeted in geno-

cides past and present and say 'not on our watch," he said.

Twentyfive years a g o Prendergast began his work to bring peace and relief to Africa. Beginning with the

famine in Ethiopia, he eventually moved onto conflict resolution and more recently, confronting genocide, particularly in Sudan.

Contact Lauren Knauf at lknauf@nd.edu



according to Prendergast.

audience to abandon the

inhibited efforts to extinguish the conflicts, making Sudan "a unique country — one of the greatest challenges of our time,"

h a v e

greatly

Prendergast urged the

BUSINER BUSINESS

Friday, September 19, 2008

MARKET RECAP

Stocks							
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Commodities		
LIGHT CRUDE (\$/bbl.)	-0.76	96.40
GOLD (\$/Troy oz.)	+46.50	897.00
PORK BELLIES (cents/lb.)	-1.90	88.20

Exchange Rates					
YEN	106.0250				
EURO	0.7001				
CANADIAN DOLLAR	1.0612				
BRITISH POUND	0.5530				
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IN BRIEF

Government weighs financial options WASHINGTON — The government is weighing several options to ease Wall Street's worst financial crisis in decades, according to a person with knowledge of the talks. But taking over banks' bad debt, an idea that rallied the stock market on Thursday, is no certainty. Stocks surged late in the afternoon after a report that the administration was considering creating a government entity patterned after the Resolution Trust Corp. created in the 1980s in the aftermath of the savings and loan crisis.

Amazing comeback on Wall Street

Dow Jones gains 400 points after news of federal assistance for bank debt

Associated Press

NEW YORK - Wall Street rallied in a stunning late-session turnaround Thursday, shooting higher and hurtling the Dow Jones industrials up 400 points following a report that the federal government might create an entity to absorb banks' bad debt. The report also cooled investors' fervor for safe investments like government debt that were in demand for much of the day.

report The that **Treasury Secretary Henry** Paulson is considering the formation of a vehicle like the Resolution Trust Corp. that was set up during the savings and loan crisis of the late 1980s and early 1990s left previously solemn investors ebullient. Wall Street hoped a huge federal intervention could help financial institutions jettison bad mortgage debt and stop the drain on capital that has already taken down companies including Bear Stearns Cos. and Lehman **Brothers Holdings Inc.**

Worries about financial landmines on companies' books have essentially crippled parts of the world's financial markets in recent days and led to the intense volatility in the markets this week.

"It's going to take a lot report. of the bad debt off the bal ance sheets of these companies," said Scott Fullman, director of derivatives investment strategy for WJB Capital Group in New York, commenting on the possibilities of an entity akin to the RTC. It could alleviate many of the pressures causing the credit crisis, he said, and reopen moribund credit markets. But Fullman noted, "the devil's in the details."



Theodore Weisberg, a trader on the New York Stock Exchange, smiles to himself yesterday, after an amazing turn-around in the market.

report. the week after routs an attempt to keep the

But the official, speaking on condition of anonymity because of the sensitivity of the discussions, said the talks have not narrowed to a single option.

President Bush canceled an out-of-town trip Thursday to stay in Washington and meet with his top economic advisers.

Bush held a 40-minute meeting with Federal Reserve Chairman Ben Bernanke, Treasury Secretary Henry Paulson and Securities and Exchange Commission chief Christopher Cox along with White House and Treasury Department aides.

New Zune release possible iPod threat

NEW YORK — The Zune has a long way to go to become a threat to the iPod. But it is getting closer.

With updated Zunes and new iPods hitting the market in the past week, I spent some time with each: a black-on-black version of Microsoft Corp.'s music and video player and a bright red model of Apple Inc.'s iPod Nano. And it became clear that there are a few things Apple can learn from the Zune though not surprisingly, Microsoft might want to take some notes as well.

The Nano (\$149-\$199) remains the more attractive of the two. Its new look is sort of growth-spurt chic, combining the long, lean looks of earlier models with a reoriented 2inch screen that debuted with the shorter, wider third-generation model. In addition, its sides are rounded, which gives it an ovalesque shape that felt awkward cradled in my hand but was easy to slip into a back pocket. "Bear markets are very sensitive to news. And on a scale of 1 to 10, this one is a 13," he said of the The report from CNBC gave direction to a market that had weaved in and out of positive territory for much of the session as investors shuttled between the safety of Treasury bills and gold and the bargains posed by stocks that have been pounded lower.

The Dow soared 410.03, or 3.86 percent, to 11,019.69, surging 560 points from its low of the day, 10,459.44. It was the Dow's biggest percentage point gain since October 2002 but still leaves the index down about 400 for

Monday and Wednesday.

Broader stock indicators also jumped. The Standard & Poor's 500 index rose 50.12, or 4.33 percent, to 1,206.51, and the Nasdaq composite index advanced 100.25, or 4.78 percent, to 2,199.10.

The report of a broader government bailout proved more reassuring to investors than moves before Wall Street's opening bell Thursday by the Federal Reserve and other major central banks to inject as much as \$180 billion into global money markets. The moves were credit crisis from worsening; the Fed added another \$55 billion in overnight loans Thursday.

page 7

But it was only the prospect of a more comprehensive vehicle to sweep up bad debt that emboldened investors. Congress established the RTC in 1989 to buy \$394 billion worth of real estate, mortgages and other assets of hundreds of failed savings-and-loan institutions. The corporation operated for several years disposing of the associations' assets, and then went out of business.

Some oil platforms not being rebuilt

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — At least 49 offshore oil platforms, all with production of less than 1,000 barrels a day, were destroyed by Hurricane Ike as it raced across the Gulf of Mexico, and some may not be rebuilt, the Interior Department said Thursday.

It said in the latest hurricane damage assessment that the platforms altogether accounted for 13,000 barrels of oil and 84 million cubic feet of natural gas a day. There are more than 3,800 production platforms in the Gulf producing 1.3 million barrels of oil and 7 billion cubic feet of gas each day.

Most remain shut down.

The report by Interior's Minerals Management Service said the agency was conducting helicopter flyovers of the Gulf waters to investigate unconfirmed reports of oil spills and oil sheens, but that it was too early to issue any definitive findings.

"There are no reports of oil impacting the shoreline or affecting birds and wildlife from releases in the Gulf of Mexico federal waters," said the agency.

The agency also said five gas transmission pipeline systems sustained damage, although the extent of damage is not yet known. It earlier had reported four oil drilling rigs had been destroyed and another damaged.

Meanwhile, the Energy Department reported that as of midafternoon Thursday, 12 of 31 refineries in Texas and Louisiana, with a total production capacity of 3 million barrels a day, remained shut down as a result of the hurricane that swept through the region on Sept. 13. A number of the others are operating at reduced runs. More than 2.3 million electricity customers in six states as far away as Pennsylvania remain without power as a result of the hurricane and its aftermath of heavy rain, said the department. Of those, 1.6 million customers are in Texas.

Other states affected are Louisiana (18,804 customers), Kentucky (167,740), Indiana (36,800), Ohio (488,900) and Pennsylvania (16,730), according to the department.

About 93 percent of the Gulf's crude oil production remains shut down as does 77.6 percent of its natural gas production, said the Minerals Management Service.

The Energy Department said 10 of 39 natural gas processing facilities also were still closed as a result of the Hurricane lke and Hurricane Gustav which hit two weeks earlier, giving the Gulf's energy infrastructure a glancing blow.

ELECTION 2008 Palin's husband refuses to testify

Associated Press

ANCHORAGE — Alaska Gov. Sarah Palin's husband has refused to testify in the investigation of his wife's alleged abuse of power, and a key lawmaker said Thursday that uncooperative witnesses are effectively sidetracking the probe until after Election Day.

Todd Palin, who participates in state business in person or by e-mail, was among 13 people subpoenaed by the Alaska Legislature. McCain-Palin presidential campaign spokesman Ed O'Callaghan announced Thursday that Todd Palin would not appear, because he no longer believes the Legislature's investigation is legitimate.

Sarah Palin initially welcomed the investigation of accusations that she dismissed the state's public safety commissioner because he refused to fire her said.

But she has increasingly opposed it since Republican presidential candidate John McCain tapped her as his running mate. The McCain campaign dispatched a legal team Alaska including to O'Callaghan, a former top U.S. terrorism prosecutor from New York to bolster Palin's local lawyer.

Earlier this week, Alaska Attorney General Talis Colberg said the governor, who was not subpoenaed, declined to participate in the investigation and said Palin administration employees who have been subpoenaed would not appear.

State Sen. Bill Wielechowski, a Democrat, said the McCain campaign is doing all it can to prevent the Legislature from completing a report on whether the GOP's vice presidential nominee abused her power as governor.

Wielechowski, a member of

the panel that summoned the witnesses, told The Associated Press that the witnesses can avoid testifying for months without penalty and that court action to force them to appear sooner is unlikely.

Palin fired Walt Monegan in July. It later emerged that Palin, her husband, Todd, and several high-level staffers had contacted Monegan about state trooper Mike Wooten. Palin maintains she fired Monegan over budget disagreements, not because he wouldn't dismiss her former brother-in-law.

Wooten had gone through a nasty divorce from Palin's sister before Palin became governor. While Monegan says no one from the administration ever told him directly to fire Wooten, he says their repeated contacts made it clear they wanted Wooten gone.

Alaska Senate President Lyda Green, a Republican foe of Palin, said Wednesday that the investigation is still on track.

"The original purpose of the investigation was to bring out the truth. Nothing has changed," she said.

Without the testimony, the retired prosecutor hired to head the investigation could still release a report in October as scheduled, based on the evidence he's already gathered. As Steven Thursday, of Branchflower had interviewed or deposed 17 of the 33 people he had identified as potential witnesses in the probe.

The Legislature does not have the leverage to compel any witness to testify before Nov. 4, said Wielechowski, a member of the Senate Judiciary Committee.

Stephen Horvath

VENEZUELA

Countries form alliance over oil

Associated Press

CARACAS — Venezuela and Russia are strengthening their strategic alliance with new plans to cooperate on oil production, weapons and even wireless technology, the governments said as two visiting Russian Tu-160 bombers left for home on Thursday.

Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez, traveling to Moscow next week at the invitation of Prime Minister Vladimir Putin, is planning new oil projects with Russian companies and joint military exercises with Russian warplanes and ships in the Caribbean by December.

Venezuela also is in talks to buy Russian air defense systems and armored vehicles, and has expressed interest in the new Su-35 fighter, due off assembly lines in 2010, said Sergei Chemezov, general director of the Russian state holding company Rostekhnologii, according to Russia's Interfax news agency.

The allies have sealed more than US\$4 billion in defense deals since 2005. Venezuela has bought Sukhoi fighter planes, Mi-17 helicopters, and 100,000 Kalashnikov assault rifles, most of which have already been delivered.

Chemezov spoke to reporters

pilots and fix helicopters. The countries also are discussing joint projects to build ships and cars. Russian officials even

offered to install broadband wireless networks to provide cheap Internet and telephone service to Caracas, Chemezov told Russia's Itar-Tass news agency.

in Caracas on Wednesday

while accompanying Russian

Deputy Prime Minister Igor

Sechin, who stressed that

while energy cooperation is

paramount, the military rela-

tionship also is strengthening.

build a factory in Venezuela to

make rifles and ammunition,

and to set up a center to train

Russia has agreed to help

The countries' military cooperation is growing "more solid every day," Venezuelan Defense Minister Gen. Gustavo Rangel said.

Their alliance was mocked on Thursday by U.S. Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice, who said Russia is only isolating itself.

The United States is confident that its own relations with Western Hemisphere countries "will in no way be diminished by a few, aging Blackjack bombers visiting one of Latin America's few autocracies," she said.

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Engaging a New Generation of Catholic Leadership

as work of Mozart **Associated Press** PARIS — It's a forgotten melody, sketched in black ink in a swift but sure hand.

The single manuscript page, long hidden in a provincial French library, has been verified as the work of Mozart, the apparent underpinnings for a Mass he never composed.

The previously undocumented music fragment gives insight into Mozart's evolving composition style and provides a clue about the role religion may have played for the composer as his life neared its turbulent end, one prominent Mozart expert says.

A library in Nantes, western France, has had the fragment in its collection since the 19th century, but it had never been authenticated until now, partly because it does not bear Mozart's signature.

Ulrich Leisinger, head of research at the International Mozarteum Foundation in Salzburg, Austria, said Thursday that there is no doubt that the single sheet, the top third of which has been cut off, was written by the composer.

"His handwriting is absolutely clearly identifiable," he added. "There's no doubt that this is an original piece handwritten by Mozart." Leisinger said the work had been "entirely forgotten." Such a find is rare: The last time unknown music in Mozart's handwriting came to light was in 1996, when a portion of an aria was sold at Christie's, Leisinger said.

The library does not plan to sell, but if it did, the single sheet would likely be worth around \$100,000, the expert said. In all, only about 100 such examples of musical drafts by Mozart are known.

There have been up to 10 Mozart discoveries of such importance over the past 50 years, Leisinger said.

The sheet was bequeathed to Nantes' library by a collector in the 19th century, along with one letter from Mozart as well as one from his father. Both the letters were published in Mozart's complete correspondence, said Agnes Marcetteau, director of Nantes' municipal library.

In an annotation dated Aug. 18, 1839, Aloys Fuchs, a wellrespected autograph hunter who collected works from more than 1,500 musicians, authenticated that the handwriting was that of "W.A. Mozart.'

But strangely, the work never attracted much attention, partly because it did not bear Mozart's signature and partly because the catalog notation about it. was extremely brief and bland, Leisinger said.

Former Technology Consultant & University of Virginia Graduate FOCUS Team Director at Vanderbilt University

Senior Service Recruitment Fair Wednesday, October 1st 5:00 - 8:00 PM

Concourse of the Joyce Center

------ Informational Interviews can be scheduled for Thursday, October 2nd

Fellowship Of Catholic University Students

Vision for Life

Contact: Angela Telthorst - Midwest Regional Director atelthorst@focusonline.org 314.596.8100 - www.focusonline.org

U.S. Rep not expecting charges

Associated Press

WEST PALM BEACH — Former U.S. Rep. Mark Foley isn't expected to face charges after a lengthy investigation into his lurid messages to underage congressional pages, two federal law enforcement officials told The Associated Press on Thursday.

The officials, who spoke on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to discuss the case, said the results of a state investigation would be announced Friday.

They said neither state nor

federal charges were expected, although an FBI investigation has not been closed yet.

Foley resigned in 2006 after being confronted with the emails and instant messages he sent to male pages. He has since been under investigation by the Florida Department of Law Enforcement and the FBI.

Foley's attorney, David Roth, has acknowledged that Foley sent the messages to the teenagers, but has maintained that the Florida Republican never had inappropriate contact with minors. Roth had no immediate comment on the pending announcement.

Shortly after Foley's resignation, Roth announced Foley was gay and had been molested by a priest as a teenage altar boy. Foley also checked himself into an Arizona treatment facility for what his attorneys said was "alcoholism and other behavioral problems."

"Mark does not blame the trauma he sustained as a young adolescent for his totally inappropriate e-mails and (instant messages). He continues to offer no excuse whatsoever for his conduct," Roth said at the time.



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Mother requests medal for son

Associated Press

CAMP PENDLETON — The mother of a Marine who witnesses say covered a grenade with his body to save comrades in Iraq plans to appeal to Congress to award her son the nation's highest military honor after learning it was denied by Defense Secretary Robert Gates because of questions about his final act.

Rosa Peralta said Thursday she made the decision after a Marine general told her that her son, Sgt. Rafael Peralta, would be awarded the Navy Cross rather than the Medal of Honor because the nomination was tainted by reports he was accidentally shot by a fellow Marine shortly before an insurgent lobbed the grenade.

"I'm going to see what can be done, because I'm not satisfied with what they want to do now," she said in Spanish.

President Bush singled out the Marine's actions in a 2005 Memorial Day speech, saying Peralta "understood that America faces dangerous enemies, and he knew the sacrifices required to defeat them."

"The president spoke of him. So how is this now possible that they do this," Rosa Peralta said.

She said she was considering rejecting the Navy Cross, the second-highest award for valor in combat that can be awarded to a Marine. Peralta will be the 24th recipient of the Navy Cross for actions in Iraq and Afghanistan.

"I still don't know what I'm going to do," she said.

The question about whether to award Peralta the Medal of Honor centers on whether the mortally wounded Marine, who was shot in the head and upper body, could have intentionally reached for the grenade and covered it with his body. "There was conflicting evidence in the case of Sgt. Peralta as to whether he could have performed his final acts given the nature of his injuries," said Capt. Beci Brenton, spokeswoman for Navy Secretary Donald Winter.

The initial recommendation that he receive the Medal of Honor went through reviews by the Marine Corps, U.S. Central Command, the Department of the Navy and ultimately up to Defense Secretary Gates, Brenton said.

After all the evidence was scrutinized, officials determined that it "did not meet the exact standard necessary to support the Medal of Honor," she said.

But Rosa Peralta said she was led to believe her son would get the Medal of Honor in a November 2007 telephone call from an undersecretary of the Navy, who she says told her the nomination was to be forwarded to the White House.

Defense Department spokesman Bryan Whitman said there was a June 2007 Navy recommendation for the Medal of Honor, but it never went to the White House because Gates didn't approve it.

He said that because there was some contradictory evidence, Gates instead took the extra step of asking five other individuals to review the case — a former commander of U.S. forces in Iraq, a Medal of Honor recipient, a civilian neurosurgeon who is retired from the military and two forensic pathologists who also are military retirees.

The five were given medical reports that had not been available in the initial review. They thoroughly reviewed the case again, including inspecting the evidence and re-enacting the event, Whitman said. "Each independently recommended to the secretary that the evidence did not support the award of Medal of Honor," he said. Gates made his decision this month. A Medal of Honor nomination is typically made by the military, approved by the Department of Defense and conferred by the president. But a nomination can also be made through a special act of Congress and then bestowed by the president on behalf of Congress. The Medal of Honor comes with about \$1,000 a month special pension in addition to other military pensions. Peralta was shot several times in the face and body during a house-to-house search in Fallujah on Nov. 15, 2004, during some of the fiercest fighting of the war. According to witness accounts, Peralta lay mortally wounded on the floor of a house and grabbed a grenade lobbed by fleeing insurgents. His body absorbed the blast and he died immediately. In a rare move, the Marine Corps Thursday released a redacted copy of the Medal of Honor nomination by Lt. Gen. Richard Natonski and an investigative report detailing the "friendly fire" shooting of the sergeant. The report found sufficient evidence existed to believe that Peralta was probably shot by a fellow Marine and that a gunshot wound to the head and injuries to the head from a grenade caused his death.

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THE OBSERVER IEWPOINT

Friday, September 19, 2008

THE OBSERVER

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be Independent, Daily Newspaper Serving Notre Dame and Saint Mary

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Progress towards sustainability admirable but delayed

Earlier this year, the University of Notre Dame received a grade of C from the Sustainable Endowments Institute for its efforts to become more environmentally friendly. The 2008 College Sustainability Report Card averaged grades in eight different categories, including "Administration," "Climate Change & Energy" and "Investment Priorities." With one A, three Ds and four Cs, our campus sustainability G.P.A. rose from last year's widely publicized D-.

What changed in the span of a year?

In terms of the report, in 2007 the University was awarded

an F in "Administration," "Green Building," "Climate Change" and "Endowment

Transparency." Those grades have risen to C, C, D and D, respectively.

Notre Dame's highest grade in 2007, a C in "Investment Priorities," rose to an A, with the report citing the University's goal to "optimize investment return" as well as current invest-

ment in renewable energy funds as a reason for the grade increase.

On campus, the changes resulting from the D- are obvious. Recycling bins are more widespread and visible now than ever before. Programs for the Opening Mass were locally printed with environmentally friendly ink. This year's Academic Forum, one of President Rev. John Jenkins' big initiatives since taking office, will focus on sustainable energy, with the goal of continuing dialogue and research across campus well after the Forum on Sept. 24th. Father Jenkins has also repeatedly connected sustainability with Catholic values, such as the stewardship of natural resources.

While the administration's efforts at change are admirable, it's surprising that this topic went without notice for so long. Until last year's report card, "sustainability" was hardly the hot-bed word it is now. "An Inconvenient Truth" had already permeated American and world culture, and global warming has been a topic of concern for years.

Even the discussion of Catholicism and the environment is hardly new.

Rewind over two decades to November of 1987, when Pope

John Paul II oversaw a symposium on the environment through the Pontifical Academy of Sciences. The Holy Father remarked then that "[the environment] merits most careful attention . and is truly one of tremendous importance at the present moment in the history and development of our modern world."

Why, then, have environmental issues received so little attention at Notre Dame until now? The administration seems to be taking a reactive, rather than proactive, approach to these problems. Our peer schools have been focusing on sustainability issues for years. In 2007, the Observer reported that Harvard University received an Afrom the Sustainable Endowments Institute, as well as Dartmouth College, Stanford University and Williams College.

It's clear that the administration is working to expand the potential of Our Lady's University. One has to ask, however, if the current focus on sustainability is really motivated by a sense of our environmental responsibility.

EDITORIAL CARTOON



O^{THE} Editorial

www.ndsmcobserver.com

POLICIES

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

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

Questions regarding Observer policies should be directed to Editor in Chief Chris Hine.

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QUOTE OF THE DAY

"Indecision may or may not be my problem."

Jimmy Buffet U.S. singer/songwriter

THE OBSERVER **IEWPOINT**

Friday, September 19, 2008

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MSNBC deserves three thumbs down

Just eight years ago, when Al Gore opposed George W. Bush for the presidency, cable news flourished during its infancy. While serving at the time as a Clinton public affairs presidential

appointee, I not only spoke with reporters from each upstart cable news organization, I routinely monitored Fox News, MSNBC, CNBC and the grand daddy of cable news at that time, CNN. In 2000, reports from all of the cable channels was not edited by political philosophy



Gary Caruso

Capitol Comments

like much of it is today. Unlike today, commentary was confined to segments clearly apparent to the viewer.

Currently, it is obvious just from the information slowly crawling at the bottom of the screen that ratings, market share and political philosophy drive many cable news operations. For example, recently CNBC, MSNBC and CNN included excerpts in their crawls from a major policy speech given by Democratic presidential nominee Barrack Obama about his view for sustaining the economy. However, Fox News chose to display political strategy excerpts from Democratic National Committee Chairman Howard Dean without a single Obama quotation. On the surface, both may have been newsworthy, but Dean spoke political strategy on how to win red states while Obama's political policy affected the nation. One could argue that in an effort to maintain viewers, Fox pandered to its demographic supporters — a type of editorial content nonexistent in 2000, but one worthy of thumbs-up ratings.

I personally identify myself as liberal. Ironically, while the Vietnam War raged. I entered Notre Dame as a somewhat conservative-thinking person but gravitated to an extremely liberal philosophy by graduation. Contrary to the remarks of many who respond to this column, I do not drink the liberal kool aide like Rachel Maddow at MSNBC. In fact, I disapprove of the way she stretches logic in her "Mind Over Chatter" or "Ms. Information" segments on her new commentary program which now fills the time slot previously held by conservative Tucker Carlson. For example, in an effort to discredit Republican vice presidential nominee Sarah Palin last week, Maddow played Palin's remarks to Alaskan troops departing for Iraq in which Palin said that she hoped the mission was part of God's plan. Maddow stretched logical interpretation to accuse Palin of advocating a government sanctioned church.

Following both political conventions,

MSNBC executives announced that Chris Matthews, host of the political discussion show "Hardball," and Keith Olbermann, host of the political satire show

"Countdown," would no longer participate in the network's election night coverage for November. Some noted that the two personalities were so partisan that MSNBC executives averted an internal war with established NBC journalists Tom Browkaw and Brian Williams, whose sense of news reporting never had a political bent. It was no news flash for Hillary Clinton supporters who recognized the duo's bias earlier this year.

Matthews and Olbermann's demise began during the primary election cycle. They consistently displayed overt excitement of the possibility of upstart Obama knocking off a Clinton. For Clinton liberals, the Clinton bashing felt like our mother was eating her young like in the animal world. Olbermann couched questions about Obama differently than about Clinton. One evening, he mildly asked Maddow, "Some say Obama is not capturing certain segments of the electorate. What does he need to do to appeal more to working class Democrats for example?" Later, Olbermann set up an argument with negative conclusions about Clinton in his question by asking another commentator, "Hillary Clinton has failed to gain African-American support. She is losing by 85 percent to 9 percent. Wouldn't you say that she has

no chance to counter that loss?"

Day after day, week after week throughout the spring primary cycle, Olbermann slanted his broadcasts away from Clinton in favor of Obama. For us liberals who had not jumped on the more liberal Obama bandwagon, MSNBC excluded us loyal viewers with blatant support of Obama. The bias insulted us as MSNBC — and most notably Olbermann — our witty political friend had turned on us. We were stunned, saddened and angered.

Lately, in discussing the Olbermann and Matthews removal from election evening coverage, Fox News commentators said that MSNBC had slighted Clinton. For once, Fox and a cross-section of liberal viewers were in agreement...a possible foreshadowing of the end of life as we once knew it. For many liberals, it will take years for MSNBC to regain its trust with them. Until that day, MSNBC will receive every thumb down we can find.

Gary Caruso, Notre Dame '73, is a communications strategist who served as a legislative and public affairs director in President Clinton's administration. His column appears every other Friday. He can be contacted at GaryJCaruso@alumni.nd.edu

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

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

'Us' and 'them' status draws response Attitude cause Individuals must begin

of separation

Andrew Nesi wrote a column yesterday ("Moving beyond the 'us' and 'them',") encouraging interaction with South Bend residents apart from just service experiences, advocating "equal footed engagement," which, he argues, is the only way we can overcome our socioeconomic and historical differences. After all, he argues, not all South Bend residents are "NASCAR-loving mimeographs of My Name is Earl Characters."

Thanks Nesi; how gracious of you. Saying "we're people with disparate interests and experiences, nuanced beyond the stereotypes into which we each cleanly fit ourselves and others" sounds lofty and academic, but it doesn't negate the patronizing language he used in his opening paragraph to describe his neighbors.

I'll summarize his unflattering description for those who didn't have the pleasure (I mean chagrin) of reading it yesterday: "The house with the bench press on the porch ... mailbox man was shirtless ... the type with a Budweiser belly ... sparse, premature gray hair on his chest." And here's my favorite, "Jean shorts that hung low enough that I could see his ... lower middle class, if you know what I mean."

Lower middle class? Now I pose the question: How are we ever going to establish solid neighborly relationships with our South Bend residents with people like Nesi writing articles dripping with condescension in our official University Newspaper? I wonder why South Bend Police Department won't cut Notre Dame students any slack; after all, we Notre Dame students admit that not all South Bend residents are "mimeographs of My Name is Earl characters."

I want to offer some advice to anyone interested in alleviating tensions between Notre Dame and South Bend. Talk to your cab drivers, servers, cashiers and any other South Bend residents you interact with on a daily basis, and talk to them in the spirit of trying to understand them. In every sense of the word, they are your equals, and their labor is as dignified as your schoolwork. Put pressure on your student leaders and university officials to enact policies that make our campus a place where we can be college students, instead of policies that drive students off campus into neighborhoods where children are trying to get sleep, and show yourself worthy of these policies.

As the entire Notre Dame community, we have to make an effort to resist the temptation that comes along with great blessing the temptation of self-aggrandizement. Instead of accentuating differences or posing solutions in hypocritical articles, let's focus on making ourselves — individually and collectively — conduits of blessing for our local community, understanding and sympathetic neighbors and, above all, equals, in thought, deed and word.

> Cynthia Weber sophomore Pasquerilla West Hall Sept. 18

bridging the gap

My first reaction when I read Andrew Nesi's "Moving beyond 'us' and 'them'," (Sept. 18) was anger.

"It is exactly that kind of elitist attitude that gives Notre Dame a bad name in South Bend," I thought from the security of my high rise office, 20 years removed from my life as a student.

But as I thought more about it, I actually felt bad for him. Here's a guy that sees the differences and has at least some desire to bridge the culture gap between "Domer" and "Townie," between "haves" and "havenots," between "us" and "them." They're the same differences we face every day out here in the "real world."

Thankfully, Andrew, in your current role you have the blessing of being able to do something about it. Since you don't know Mailbox Man's name, it is obvious that you have never introduced yourself to your own neighbors.

Why not? Surely your differences should not stop you from paying them even this minimum courtesy. If they were students, wouldn't you have done so by now?

And, believe it or not, you do have similarities. You live in the same neighborhood. You get up every morning and slug it out at your own challenges. You're likely praying to the same God. You both want to succeed. You both want your neighborhoods to be safe. You've both got families, dreams, fears, likes, dislikes. The fact that your specific circumstances are different does not mean that you cannot share those things.

Yes, Notre Dame has a tendency to exist in a bubble. But you, as an off campus resident, have the best opportunity to break through that bubble, even just a little at a time, because you could interact with "them" everyday.

(By the way, there is a good chance that "they" — or at least some of their family members — are serving you in the Huddle or cleaning your classrooms while you sleep. It is likely that you are interacting with them every day and don't even know it).

How do you know they wouldn't enjoy Kegs and Eggs? Have you invited them? Have you ever asked them to share a meal with you? Invited them over for Monday Night Football? Asked to borrow a cup of milk or a ladder? Volunteered to pick something up for them on your next trip to Martin's or Belmont Beverage?

These are the things neighbors do. They are your neighbors. What's stopping you? You don't need to think alike or dress alike to bridge the gap.

You're absolutely right: if you live segregated lives, you will never bridge the gap. But you don't live segregated lives — or at least you don't need to.

Do you want to break out of the bubble? Do you want to diversify? Then, you do it. You take the lead. You can make a difference right now, today. We don't need to change admissions policies or debate diversity or appoint a panel or do any of the other things that stop people from going beyond musing about their differences to actually making a difference.

When they come home from their jobs tonight, go over and introduce yourself and apologize for not having done so sooner. Ask them their names, about their families, their jobs, the neighborhood.

And then, care about them. Really care about them. Love them as Christ commands us. If you do, you'll find the differences are not that big a deal at all and you'll do more to burst the bubble than you ever could have imagined. Who knows, you may even come to enjoy NASCAR.

> Mike Wilkins alumnus Class of 1985 Sept. 18

THE OBSERVER CENE

Friday, September 19, 2008

WHO WILL WIN EMMY GOLD? Scene Writers Face Off t As Chosen by Analise Lipari, (WATCH THE 60TH PRIMETIME EMMY A SUPPORTING ACTOR IN A DRAMA SE LEAD ACTOR IN A DRAMA SERIES Chris: **Chris:** Analise: Stephanie: Analise: It'd be fun to see "Boston James Spader has won three I don't care who these mad Again, a very solid category. I Again, there's a Legal" star James Spader of the last four years in this cat-men are, the maddest of them pick Michael Emerson from that won't win. Te repeat his surprise success from egory because "Boston Legal" all is High Laurie as "House." "Lost." If anyone deserves an received raves for last year, and given the occa-gives him showy speeches to He's insane, unpredicatble and Emmy on what is arguably net-ance on "Damage sionally random tendencies of make near the end of his sam- the most perfect character on work television's most twisted, he's going up again the Emmys, anything's possible ple episodes. This year, his television today. After carrying ridiculous show, it's this guy. Emerson (Ben Lin Still, I'm going with John Hamm episode contains a 10-minute his show for four years he Not everybody can make an who gives a tour as Don Draper, the advertising diatribe in front of the Supreme shows no sign of stopping or island disappear. formance in his o executive with a whole lot of Court. Jon Hamm should win, slowing down. He managed to Shape of Things drama behind those smoky but his superb performance is take a character we all thought will be hard for eyes. "Mad Men" is incredible, understated. Michael C. Hall we knew and make it worth ignore such a gr and Hamm's winning the stat-has a shot for "Dexter." It's watching every week. Here's to ance and they won uette would be the icing on the hard for an actor to win four you, Hugh. cake of a "Mad Men" sweep. Emmys for one role, but Spader is going to do it. LEAD ACTRESS IN A DRAMA SERIES SUPPORTING ACTRESS IN A DRAMA Chris: Stephanie: Chris: Analise: Analise: Confession — I started watch- FX's "Damages" received a Mariska Hargitay never fails Granted, I stopped watching Disappointingly ing "Brothers and Sisters" whole bunch of nominations, to deliver. "Law and Order" is "Grey's Anatomy" a long time actress from "Ma towards the end of last season but look for it to get ignored — unstoppable in any form, but ago. Still, out of the nominees the final cut. Inst It got good! Don't judge me! The except in this category. This she managed to take her token here, I'll go with Chandra stale lineup that lo point, though, is that Sally Field award belongs to Glenn Close. female character and make it Wilson as Miranda Bailey. In the last year's. Voters would be a solid winner in this Field won last year, but it'll be indispensable. Every week she few episodes I did see, Wilson like Oh and Wilso category. In the end, though, hard to repeat against another deals with the same issues, and has continuously kept up a top- and Bergen has a 'm going with my longtime veteran actress on a new show every week she reveals some-notch standard of acting on a truckload of Em favorite, Mariska Hargitay as with a lot of buzz. show that's often shamefully picking Wiest, a tw thing we never expected to see.

Olivia Benson in "Law and Order: SVU." You don't mess with Benson, fools. You just don't.

reign of Bailey begin.

prone to melodrama. Let the winner. Voters Emmys to peo already won Oscar

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S THE OBSERVER S CENE

Friday, September 19, 2008



o Predict Emmy Winners

CHRIS HINE AND STEPHANIE DEPREZ AWARDS LIVE ON ABC THIS SUNDAY







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ERIES		OUTSTANDING REALITY	Series	I		
to see Rainn in Emmy, it's Voters will emy Piven for a row, or Neil iose stock has l over the past	I am forever grateful to Neil Patrick Harris for his Freeze Ray wielding stint as Dr. Horrible. That is to be his only shining moment, though, as this category is going to Rainn Wilson. "The Office" deserves it's due, and it's coming in right	Despite the guilty pleasure status of "America's Next Top Model," I'm picking "Project Runway" in this category. I love "Top Chef," but "Runway" is spunky, creative, and downright fun to watch. Plus, an Emmy	I can say. It's nearly impossible to describe the glory of "Top Chef." "Project Runway" can forget it. "American Idol" was always a joke. Nothing can stop the awesomeness of "Top Chef."	fierce. "Project Runway" is the ultimate in reality TV. Anyone, including your dad, can be caught in it's web about ten minutes into an episode. Is it		
SERIES	<u></u>	BEST VARIETY SHOW H	OST	I		
er this year? t that's OK, Amy Poehler Night Live." n Hollywood		I'm going with Colbert on this one. Steward, Letterman and Fey are all solid choices, and Don Rickles is a comedy legend for every reason in the book, but Colbert can and should take the cake on Sunday.	Colbert may get his due in this category. Each of the past two years, a legendary singer has won this category — Barry Manilow and Tony Bennett — and another legend is in it this year, albeit a comedic one, Don Rickles. But I have a feeling vot- ers have waited long enough to honor Colbert.	God bless Colbert. Now, come and speak and graduation, why- doncha.		
					ANGELA ARCHER	Observer Graphic

WOMEN'S INTERHALL FOOTBALL

Chaos hope to defend women's title as new season begins

Veterans and new faces to take the field for first games Sunday; all look to make a statement early in season

By NATHANIEL LEE, CHRIS MASOUD, KELLEN MATH-ERS, SHANE STEINBERG, and MOLLY SAMMON

page 14

This Sunday the Cavanaugh Chaos will look to begin their quest for a second consecutive Championship season against the veteran McGlinn Shamrocks.

The Chaos, led by Senior Quarterback Captain Katie Dunn, have only one goal in mind: win it all.

"This year is about a repeat, but it's also about getting freshmen playing time," Dunn said. "Basically, we're going to dominate."

The first obstacle on the path to a repeat is Sarah deGroot and the girls of McGlinn. Coming off an 0-5-1 season, the Shamrocks will use experienced players with a fresh strategy.

"We lost a lot of close games last year, but hope that this year with the installation of our new, more organized offense, we will come out on top" deGroot offense. Middle linebacker said.

"Basically, we're

going to dominate."

Katie Dunn

Cavanaugh captain

Strong line play will be the backbone on both sides of the ball for the Chaos. On defense, Dunn said they will be looking to "make quarterbacks cry." Meanwhile, the offense

"We're going to march down the field and I don't care how we get it done," Bishop said. "We won't be looking for the long play, but if it happens we'll take it."

With the return of Kate Sylvia and Mary Jenkins to the defensive line, the Ducks hope to overpower the Lyons in the trenches. Wide receiver Laura Giezeman will present a threat to the Lyons defense and will be key in the Ducks' success this season.

Lyons will also be looking to return to the playoffs this year after a successful campaign last season. Led by junior captain Claire Connell, the Lions are poised to make a name for themselves.

"We had a solid team last year, but we just didn't have enough bodies," Connell said. "This year we have plenty of young talent to support our veteran core."

Connell will try to connect with sophomore running back and receiver Neva Lundy to ignite the Lion

Shannon Brady, who brings both talent and toughness to the young team, will anchor the defense. "In the end, I think it will

come down to defense, Connell said. "We have to

take advantage will focus on "forming a of our speed and quickness

Farley's Finest are excited about their prospects as well. Coming off a loss in the semifinals, Farley hopes to build on their past success along with a renewed motivation and energy.

"We're a little bit younger," Farley captain Jenny Rolfs said. "But

good job hitting them," Rolfs

Defensively, an experi-

Overall, Rolfs said Farley

enced linebacking corps

has focused on "getting back

into the swing of things,'

new plays in practice.

while still installing some

As for Sunday, though,

ate, so it's a new year entire-

effort from both teams.

envisions

leads the way for the Finest.

team."

attack.

said.

ly.'

Meyer

"We have a

solid set of

receivers and

our quarter-

back does a

we're a pretty motivated "We always expect the first game to be On offense, **Rolfs** expects an old-fashioned aerial

> Kehau Meyer Walsh captain

> > this year, Gabby Tate for the Phoxes and Jenny Gargula for the Whirlwinds. Both signalcallers, though, will have to make do with wide receiving units that are composed of primarily freshmen.

While both teams made the

playoffs last year, this year

will certainly be a test, as

they both find themselves

lacking significant experi-

ence. To make matters

worse, the recent rain has

kept both teams from prac-

ticing as much as they'd

have liked to.

When the teams

take the field

this Sunday, no

quarterbacks

sure

young

star

"It's all about

learning who's going

to work best

together."

Katie Rose Hackney

Badin quarterback

With more potential than experience on the offensive side of the ball, the defenses could end up

Rolfs is unsure what to deciding the expect from the Wild Women. The game. "We had a great game Phoxes are against Walsh last year, very high on probably our best game of their linebackthe year," she said. "But they ers, and, their had a lot of players gradudefense has retained a fair amount of last key year's an inspired, if not flawless players. The Whirlwinds,

meanwhile, return two top senior wide receiver and safeties, who will try and halfback Tara McCarron, shut down Tate's passing sophomore wide receiver

The feeling is certainly mutual.

"This year, we are really excited because we have a large group of girls," Badin senior quarterback Katie Rose Hackney said. "The freshman girls are really pumped. They're a really athletic class.'

Badin had a rough 1-5 season last year and hopes to improve that record. Keeping the roster full has been a problem for the Bullfrogs, and recruiting is difficult because of the dorm's small size, but the class of 2012 brings new hope for the season.

Badin does, however, return two very strong players — safety Kelsey Young and wide receiver Courtney Rains are two key components in Sunday's season opener.

"[Rains] is a very aggressive wide receiver and has a great knack of reading the ball," Hackney said.

The seniors, especially, are looking forward to Sunday with anticipation.

> "For us seniors, this year's our last chance to put ourselves out there Hackney said. Breen-Phillips' key returning players include

one will be entertaining because exactly there will be a lot of how things will work out for frehmen out there." these teams. Both squads return

pocket big enough to hide that second extra item from the dining hall."

On offense, the Shamrocks will look to senior wide receivers Lulu Meraz and Jennifer Fedyna for the big plays. Senior tackle Maddie Boyer will handle things on the defensive side of the ball. DeGroot said that while the seniors will be key, "the team features both new and returning talent."

The Internall foes will clash Sunday at LaBar Fields at 1 p.m.

Howard vs. Lyons

successful season last year that led to Howard's first playoff appearance, the Ducks are confident they can begin the season with a statement win on Sunday.

Sophomore captain Kayla Bishop said her team's discipline in practice will translate into success on the field.

because it only takes one big play to take your team out of the game."

Howard faces Lyons at 2 p.m. at LaBar Fields.

Walsh vs. Farley

With the arrival of fall comes a new interhall football season for the ladies of Walsh and Farley Halls.

The Wild Women of Walsh, led by Captains Kehau Meyer and Cindy Brenner are relying on inspired veteran leadership coupled with a healthy dose of young talent.

"We have a very young team," Meyer said. "We are Looking to build upon a just hoping that our seniors and upperclassmen set an example for our young girls that Walsh takes Interhall seriously."

Walsh returns plenty of talent on both sides of the ball and, along with strong group of incoming freshmen, could field a potentially fearsome squad.

freshmen out there," she said.

"We always expect the first

game to be entertaining

because there will be a lot of

The teams face off Sunday at 5 p.m. at LaBar Field.

Pangborn vs. Welsh Family

Following last year's disappointing championship game loss to Cavanaugh, the Welsh Family Whirlwinds begin their quest for revenge against the Pangborn Phoxes this Sunday.

This will be the second straight year that Welsh Fam. and Pangborn open the season against each other. Last year's game ended with Welsh Fam. confusing Pangborn's defense en route to a 27-12 blowout win.

"They kept running a delay where their center would block and then run five or 10 yards down the field and become an eligible receiver," said Pangborn coach Ryan Bell. "That killed us, but this time we'll hopefully be ready for it."

attack.

In a regular season of only six games, every game matters. But for two young teams in the midst of rebuilding, this Sunday's opener will prove especially important.

"This game is going to set the tone for the rest of the season," Gargula said. "With so many players who have yet to play a game here, a win would do a lot for their confidence."

Kick off is 4 p.m. Sunday at **Riehle Field**.

Breen-Phillips vs. Badin

Breen-Phillips has been waiting to play Badin for a long time and to start this Interhall season off with a win.

"Everyone is hungry. We have been anticipating this game since the end of last season," Breen-Phillips senior quarterback Melissa Meagher said.

Gabby Moriel, and senior safety Christy Golubski

"We have been working on the basics in practice," Meagher said. "Fundamental skills with catching and flagpulling are crucial, and we always work on team communication on defense and offense."

Neither team is willing to field a guess as to the outcome on Sunday

"You never really know what to expect the first game," Hackney said. "It's all about learning who's going to work best together."

The game is at 3 p.m. at LaBar fields.

Contact Nathaniel Lee at nlee5@nd.edu, Chris Masoud at cmasoud@nd.edu, Kellen Mathers at kmathers@nd.edu, Shane Steinberg at ssteinb2@nd.edu, and Molly Sammon at msammon@nd.edu.

CLASSIFIEDS

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The charge is 5 cents per character per day, including all spaces. The Observer reserves the right to edit

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Need Purdue tix & parking pass. 574-276-8507.

PERSONAL

If you or someone you care about has been sexually assaulted,

visit http://osa.nd.edu/departments/csap/

UNPLANNED PREGNANCY? Do not go it alone. We have many resources in place to assist you. If you or someone you love needs confidential support or assistance, please call Sr. Sue Dunn at 1-7819 or Ann Firth at 1-2685. For more information, visit NDs Pregnancy Resources website at: http://osa.nd.edu/departments/pregnant.shtml

Oh simple thing where have you

gone I'm getting old and I need something to rely on So tell me when you're gonna let me in

I'm getting tired and I need somewhere to begin

GO IRISH So if you have a minute why don't we go Talk about it somewhere only we know This could be the end of everything So why don't we go Somewhere only we know

BEAT

SPARTANS

AROUND THE NATION

Friday, September 19th, 2008

COMPILED FROM THE OBSERVER'S WIRE SERVICES

page 15

NCAA Football AP Top 25

	team	points	record
1	USC (61)	1,596	2-0
2	Oklahoma	1,485	3-0
3	Georgia (2)	1,437	3-0
4	Florida (1)	1,414	2-0
5	Missouri	1,389	3-0
6	LSU	1,274	2-0
7	Texas	1,140	2-0
8	Wisconsin	1,076	3-0
9	Alabama	982	3-0
10	Auburn	958	3-0
11	Texas Tech	904	3-0
12	South Florida	801	3-0
13	Ohio State	800	2-1
14	Brigham Young	788	3-0
15	East Carolina	781	3-0
16	Penn State	779	3-0
17	Oregon	679	3-0
18	Wake Forest	482	2-0
19	Kansas	445	2-1
20	Utah	528	3-0
21	West Virginia	179	1-1
22	Illinois	163	2-1
23	Clemson	160	2-1
24	Florida State	146	2-0
25	Fresno State	121	je 11. 1−1 – 1

NCAA Football USA Today Coaches' Poll

	team	points	record
1	USC (57)	1,518	2-0
2	Oklahoma (1)	1,423	3-0
3	Georgia (2)	1,393	3-0
3	Florida (1)	1,335	2-0
5	Missouri	1,294	3-0
6	LSU	1,233	2-0
	Texas	1,128	2-0
8	Wisconsin	1,027	3-0
9	Auburn	955	3-0
10	Texas Tech	887	3-0
11	Brigham Young	846	3-0
12	Oregon	783	3-0
13	Alabama	771	3-0
13	Ohio State	736	2-1
15	Penn State	724	3-0
16	South Florida	685	3-0
17	East Carolina	508	3-0
18	Wake Forest	498	2-0
19	Kansas	416	2-1
20	Utah	400	3-0
21	Clemson	233	2-1
21	West Virginia	159	1-1
23		127	2-1
24	Arizona State	113	2-1
25	Florida State	110	2-0

NFL



Los Angeles Dodgers closer Jonathan Broxton celebrates with teammate Manny Ramirez after closing down the Pittsburgh Pirates in the 12th inning to preserve a 4-3 win in Pittsburgh yesterday.

Schilling blasts Ramirez for attitude

Associated Press

BOSTON — The media called Manny Ramirez's the team holding two one-Manny." Curt Schilling sees it differently.

longer deserved him. team for seven years," Ramirez was in the last year of his contract, with quirks "Manny being year options for \$20 million each.

Schilling said. "And then [when] he's on this crusade room every day, voicing his displeasure without even having to play the game that night."

around to a guy who's there every day early working his [butt] off who gets to get out of here, all of a 110 at-bats a year and saysudden he's in the locker ing, 'You know what? Yeah, I can't put you in there .tonight," Schilling said. "Manny being Manny" has taken on new meaning in L.A., where Ramirez has been an RBI machine at the plate and Mr. Congeniality in the clubhouse. "There were times when you had players who were on like fire duty, 'Show up tomorrow, I'm not sure if you're playing or not, we've gotta find out what [Manny] wants to do.' That's not fair to anybody."

MIAA Women's Volleyball Standings

	Team	Record
	ia	league overall
1	Hope	4-0 9-3
2	Calvin	3-0 9-2
3	Alma	4-1 9-4
4	Adrian	2-1 6-5
5	SAINT MARY'S	2-2 6-3
6	Albion	2-3 6-6
7	Kalamazoo	2-4 5-9
8	Trine	1-4 4-9
9	Olivet	0-5 3-11

around the dial

NCAA FOOTBALL

Baylor at Connecticut 8:00 p.m., ESPN

In an interview Wednesday on Boston radio station WEEI-AM, the injured Boston Red Sox starter took his former teammate to task, saying Manny's "level of disrespect to teammates and people was unfathomable."

Ramirez was dealt to the Los Angeles Dodgers at the trade deadline after complaining the team had tried to turn the fans against him and that the Red Sox no

IN BRIEF

Sore hamstring sidelines Vikings' Peterson

SEDEN PRAIRIE, Minn. - Minnesota's sputtering offense could be without its biggest star against Carolina on Sunday.

Running back Adrian Peterson, the NFL's leading rusher and the 2007 offensive rookie of the year, missed practice on Thursday with a hamstring injury. Peterson said he is hopeful he can play against the Panthers, but he took a step back one day after participating in practice on a limited basis.

"It's a concern," coach Brad Childress said. "Your legs are your legs. We'll just see how he comes out by the time we get to Sunday."

Before practice began, Peterson told reporters that he injured the hamstring late in last weekend's 18-15 loss to the Indianapolis Colts. Peterson rushed for 160 yards in the game and has 263 yards on the season, 1 yard ahead of Atlanta's Michael Turner for the league lead.

In eight seasons in Boston, Ramirez's quirks were widely seen as harmless, or dismissed as a small price to pay for having such a gifted hitter in the lineup. But Schilling, speaking with "Big Show" host Glenn Ordway and former Red Sox players Brian Daubach and Lou Merloni, said Manny's antics disrespected his teammates.

"The guy got to dress in a locker away from the

> Criminal charges filed against Broncos[~]Marshall

> ENGLEWOOD, Colo. Prosecutors in Georgia have filed two counts of simple battery against Denver Broncos wide receiver Brandon Marshall stemming from a 6-month-old domestic violence complaint.

> The charges were filed Sept. 10 in Fulton County State Court. Police allege Marshall threw his ex-girlfriend on a bed, slapped her and damaged an Atlanta apartment on March 4.

> Marshall said Thursday he had been waiting for charges to be filed, but it wasn't clear why they came so long after the complaint.

> "Like I said before, that's my past," he said."Everything that came out in camp was from last year and there was an incident in March, but that's still an open case and we've been waiting six months for those charges to be filed," he said.

Manny's behavior was hardest on Red Sox manager Terry Francona, Schilling said.

"Nothing makes a guy that respects the game and respects human beings like Terry Francona feel worse than looking at a guy and saying, 'Go ahead, [mess] with me, [mess] with your teammates, I'll put you in the lineup,' and then turn

> Wie among leaders at LPGA Qualifying School

> RANCHO MIRAGE, Calif. -Michelle Wie salvaged a ragged round with a birdiebirdie finish to remain among the leaders after the third round of an LPGA Tour sectional qualifying tournament Thursday.

> Wie's closing birdies gave her 2-over 74 on the Dinah Shore Tournament Course at Mission Hills Country Club, the home of the LPGA Tour's Kraft Nabisco Championship.

> That left Wie at 7-under 209 entering Friday's final round. She was fourth and still comfortably inside the top 30 players and ties who will advance to the final qualifying tournament in Florida in December.

> Wie again declined requests for interviews after the round.



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SMC CROSS-COUNTRY

Friday, September 19, 2008

Invite to test Belles' success

By KATELYN GRABAREK Sports Writer

Although the Belles have had success early this season, they face tough competition when they head to the Calvin Invitational.

"I am looking for progress out of the team," head coach

Jackie Bauters said. "I want to see them continue to push themselves and find their race. It's a pretty stacked race with some ranked Division-III teams, so it's not necessarily about seeing the

team place well so much as seeing them work on the things we've been talking about and hopefully with the caliber of the meet, have some really great times."

The field will include teams from Alma, Aquinas, Baldwin Wallace, Calvin, Case Western Reserve, Denison, Ohio Northern University, Oshkosh, and

Spring Arbor.

Calvin's team is ranked No. 2 in the Division-III rankings. Case Western Reserve is ranked No. 10, and Oshkosh is ranked No. 20.

The Belles are coming off of two fourth place finishes in their last two races at the Hokem Karem and the Bradley

Invite.

" I

said. "They

definitely

went out to

was

"I want to see them continue to push themselves and find their race."

> **Jackie Bauters Belles coach**

pretty pleased with their performance last Friday," Bauters

compete. We're not to the point of them feeling good for the last half-mile but we're getting there. They are running more tired and I think they all ran well given the circumstances."

Leading the Belles racers in each of their last two races has been junior Megan McClowry.

McClowry finished 12th

out of 111 runners at the Bradley Invite last week and teamed with freshman Arianne Rodriguez in the Hokem Karem to again lead the Belles to their fourth place finish.

"The difference for me this season is due to summer training," McClowry said. "I was able to come in with a good base and then my teammates have helped push the pace at workouts this season."

McClowry and her teammates will be looking to improve on their times this weekend before hosting the MIAA Jamboree.

"One of our goals for the team this year is to improve upon our finish in the conference," McClowry said. "Last year we got fourth place, which was the highest place we had gotten, and we hope to better our place this year. One of my goals, along with some of the other girls is to consistently break the 20-minute barrier in the 5k."

Contact Katelyn Grabarek at kgraba01@saintmarys.edu.

MLB

Cubs extend lead in NL Central with win

Lee singles in winning run in twelfth inning

Associated Press

CHICAGO — Geovany Soto and the Chicago Cubs can almost taste the champagne after one of their sweetest and most improbable victories of the season.

Soto hit a tying three-run homer with two out in the ninth inning, Derrek Lee singled in the winning run in the 12th and Chicago beat the Milwaukee Brewers 7-6 on Thursday to move closer to the NL Central title.

The Cubs' magic number for winning their second straight division championship was reduced to two as they sent the Brewers to a crushing defeat.

"Wow," Soto said. "This year's been really, really crazy. I'm just here for one reason. I want to win and keep going."

Chicago was trailing 6-2 with two out and nobody on in the ninth, with just three hits to that point, before scoring four runs off closer Salomon Torres.

Now, the Cubs can clinch Friday if they beat the Cardinals at home and the struggling Brewers lose in Cincinnati.

"The beauty of baseball is you never know what is going to happen until that final out,' Cubs manager Lou Piniella said. "It's uplifting to us and got to be deflating to the other team. ... Let's win tomorrow if we can and whatever happens on the road (to the Brewers) happens."

Milwaukee, which began the day just a half-game back of the NL wild card-leading New York Mets, was on the verge of winning two of three at Wrigley Field and restoring some momentum under interim manager Dale Sveum. Instead, the Brewers have dropped 13 of 17 during a skid that cost manager Ned Yost his job on Monday. Milwaukee has nine games left but this will be a tough defeat to shake off."

Reed Johnson's sacrifice. Alfonso Soriano was intentionally walked before Ryan Theriot flied out, sending Marquis to third.

Lee then singled to center off Carlos Villanueva (4-7), leading to a wild celebration.

"It shows the character of our team," Lee said. "All of a sudden in the ninth off a good closer we score four runs and like that's it a tie game. We kept chipping away and grinding it out.'

Kerry Wood (5-4) pitched two innings, escaping a secondand-third, no-out predicament in the top of the 12th for the win.

J.J. Hardy singled leading off the 12th and Corey Hart doubled for the Brewers. With the infield drawn in, Craig Counsell grounded out with the runners holding. When Jason Kendall hit a bouncer to third, Aramis Ramirez threw home and Hardy was caught in a rundown and tagged for the second out. Pinch-hitter Joe Dillon then grounded out.

"We had a good chance to win still," Counsell said. "But I didn't get it done."

With the Cubs down to their last out in the ninth, Ramirez hit a sinking liner to left that got past Ryan Braun for a double, and Jim Edmonds followed with an RBI single. Mark DeRosa singled and Soto hit the next pitch deep into the left-center field bleachers as the crowd erupted.

"It was my fault," Torres said. "I should have sealed the





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"A real nice day kind of went haywire right away," Sveum said.

"You're running out of games. It gets to the point, whatever the Mets do, you start thinking you have to win seven out of nine or eight out of nine. That's what it's getting to."

Pinch-hitter Daryle Ward led off the 12th with a walk and was replaced at first by Jason Marquis, who moved up on deal. I felt like I let the team down, especially given the nature of this series.'

The Brewers appeared to have Thursday's game under control with four unearned runs in the sixth off reliever Jeff Samardzija.

Samardzija gave up a oneout walk to Counsell before second baseman DeRosa misplayed Kendall's grounder for an error. Mike Cameron, Ray Durham and Braun delivered consecutive two-out RBI singles to give the Brewers a 4-2 lead.

Prince Fielder drew his second intentional walk as the Brewers loaded the bases for the third time in the game. Randy Wells relieved and walked Hardy on four pitches to force in a run.

Hart added an RBI double in the ninth but the Brewers missed a chance to score more.



ND CROSS COUNTRY

Teams to compete at Catholic race

Race to be held at Notre Dame Golf Course; men and women both look for repeat wins

"I think we're real"

prepared. We have a

bunch of young guys

and it should be an

exciting meet for us."

Joe Piane

Men's head coach

By LAURA MYERS Sports Writer

It's fitting that the Notre Dame cross-country team historically dominated an event its coach created.

The men's and women's cross-country teams will run at home today in the National Catholic Championships, which head coach Joe Piane started in 1980.

"It was a nice concept, all the Catholic teams competing," Piane said.

The Irish men have won Michigan and Wisconsin. 19 of the 28 runnings, The women were ranked including 17 of the past 20. No. 4 in the region, behind

The women have won 16 of the last 20, and both took the title in 2007.

Piane said only one of the seven runners who ran last year will be competing in the race, but

that does not worry him.

"I think we're real prepared," he said. "We have a bunch of young guys and it should be an exciting meet for us."

The women's team will be going with experience, running only two freshmen, women's head coach Tim Connelly said. Included in the lineup for the women are sophomore Marissa Treece and junior Lindsey Ferguson, who took first and fourth, respectively, at this event last year. Treece also finished first of runners at the 61 Valparaiso Invitational two weeks ago, while Ferguson

finished second.

"[Treece] is training really well. I expect her and [Ferguson] to run well on Friday," Connelly said.

Both teams go into the race with added pressure because they were ranked in the United States Track and Field and Cross Country Coaches Association poll.

The USTFCCCA ranked the Irish men No. 20 in the nation, out of about 320 teams. The men were also ranked third in the Great Lakes Region, behind Michigan and Wisconsin. The women were ranked No. 4 in the region, behind M i c h i g a n

> S t a t e , Wisconsin, and Michigan. "It's flattering that people think we're that good," Piane said. "But preseason rankings are based more on history than quali-

ty." Piane said the team would need to prove it deserved the ranking.

Connelly agreed, saying only the top two teams in the region are guaranteed bids to the NCAA championshins

Reds to host Civil Rights Games

Associated Press

The Cincinnati Reds will host the majors' first two regularseason Civil Rights Games.

Major League Baseball made the announcement on Thursday at Great American Ball Park. The Reds' game against the Chicago White Sox on June 20 will serve as the first one to be held during the season, followed by another to be played in Cincinnati in 2010. The first two Civil Rights Games, intended to raise awareness of the civil rights movement and baseball's part in it, were held before the season in Memphis, Tenn.

"When we went to Memphis, we always knew we'd grow this into a major league game," Jimmie Lee Solomon, executive vice president of baseball operations in the commissioner's office, said.

MLB started looking at potential sites in July and decided on Cincinnati in late August, Solomon said. One of the main reasons Cincinnati was chosen was the National Underground Railroad Freedom Center, which is located next door to the ballpark and was a major part of the Reds' presentation.

"It's pretty exciting that they're having the game here, especially when you've got the Freedom Center right next door and the history of the town," said Reds manager Dusty Baker, who is black.



onships.

"It's all guessing and speculation at this point," he said. "I think it's a realistic picture of where we are. We will have further to go."

Both teams can start to prove themselves today at 3:30.

Contact Laura Myers at Imyers2@nd.edu.

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Big Red

continued from page 24

top as well. Last year, the Big Red lost in the first round of the playoffs to eventual champion Stanford.

Cugliari thinks his team has a good chance at improving on their 2-1-1 record from last year because of their style of play. He said that his team was looking to hit hard on both sides of the ball.

Like Bono, Cugliari also his team will have the best chance at victory on Sunday if they execute well and don't turn the ball over.

The teams play at 3:00 Sunday afternoon on Riehle Field.

Keenan vs. Keough

After falling short in the championship last year, the Keenan Knights have one mission: a return to the title game.

Keenan team captain Barton Dear is optimistic about his team's prospects for the upcoming season.

"We lost a few key players," Dear said. "But I think we can replace them and hopefully win it all."

Keenan's balance of talent on both offense and defense makes them a formidable threat.

"We should be pretty strong on both sides of the ball," Dear said. "Last year defense was our main strength, but we have evened out a little more this year."

Dear added that the line play on both sides of the ball, and how Keenan's two freshman quarterbacks handle pressure, will be key. Freshmen Terry Mahoney and Pat Kelly will split time behind center for the Knights.

"We are really going to be counting on our quarterbacks ... to come through for us," Dear said.

On the other sideline, Keough will try to rebound after a 1-3 season last year.

Captain Nazur Ahmed is cautiously optimistic about the upcoming season for the Kangaroos.

"We are a lot more organized than in the past. We have a lot of new talent we are excited about," he said.

In addition to some key new players, Keough will rely on its solid receiving corps led by Chris Kosinski and Dorian Inzunza. Ahmed said Inzunza was, "extremely athletic, quick and powerful. We rely on him heavily and he always performs."

While Ahmed understands Keenan's reputation, he said his squad isn't afraid of them.

"We have a lot of respect for Keenan. They are perennially a very tough competitor," he said. "[But] we prepare for anything."

The two will meet Sunday at 3 p.m. at Riehle Fields.

Fisher vs. Sorin

A year ago, the Fisher Green Wave came within one game of the internall championship, losing to eventual champion Stanford.

This year's team will have a new look, returning only nine players. Nonetheless, team captain Brian Monson isn't worried

"Fisher football hasn't skipped a beat from last year," he said.

The Green Wave hopes to back up that confidence with a strong defense. Monson points to a few key returning starters on defense to uphold the Fisher tradition.

The young Fisher team will have to mature quickly, as they face Sorin Sunday.

Otters captain Rob Gallic pointed to his team's offensive line as their greatest asset. The line hopes to plows a path for highly-touted freshman Bobby Sullivan. The Otters are so confident in Sullivan's ability that they have adopted the phrase "Wanna win? Let Bobby spin," as their team motto.

Both teams know the importance of starting the season off with a victory, and each squad is eager to finally gauge where they are at as a team. In a four-week regular season, each contest can be the difference between the Stadium and the dorm room.

The game kicks off Sunday at 2 p.m. at Riehle fields.

Duncan vs. Knott

Duncan Hall and Knott Hall will kick off their respective Interhall Football seasons at 2 p.m. Sunday on the Riehle Fields.

This will be the inaugural season for Duncan Hall nickname to be announced. Led by senior captain Garrett Burke, Duncan will try to begin a winning tradition Sunday.

Duncan will field a young team, with many freshman players. However, Burke said the lack of experience will be a factor.

"Our team has a handful of upperclassmen with strong leadership that has helped our freshman get ready for game time," he said.

Burke also added having a lot of freshmen on the team may be beneficial. Many of the freshman played large roles on their high school football teams only a year ago.

"They are still sharp from years of high school experience," he said.

On the offensive side of the ball, Duncan has high hopes for wide receiver Mike Kearney and quarterback Chris Toups.

"Toups is pretty good if you like 6-foot-5 230-pound quarterbacks with a laser rocket arm," said Burke, referencing one of Colts quarterback Peyton Manning's many com-

mercials.

On the other side of the ball, Knott will try to rebound from a disappointing 1-3 campaign last season.

Junior captain Aidan Fitzgerald said that Knott's ground game will be one of the team's strengths and they expect to establish a dominant rushing attack.

"We have a very deep backfield which will allow us to keep fresh legs carrying the ball," he said.

While the Juggerknotts lost one of their biggest threats at wide receiver, Nate Prochaska, to graduation, they return many starters from last season' squad.

Sophomore Cam Smith and Junior Jeff Skorup return, and should provide stability at the rushing and receiving positions, respectively. While fellow returning sophomore J.T. Redshaw will make his first start at quarterback for Knott.

Both teams are ready to begin their runs at the stadium.

"We are looking forward to hitting someone else for a change," Fitzgerald said.

Alumni vs. Morrissey

Interest was so high in the Alumni Interhall football squad that it took three practices to make cuts and finalize the roster. The result of those cuts? A team that consists mostly of freshmen and sophomores.

After a rough season last year, the team will try to be a strong force in the league. "There are quite a few freshmen with a lot of experience from high school, that the team will be relying both offensively and defensively," captain Luke Betterman said.

One of these key players is freshman running back Barrick Bollmin.

"Our quarterback can throw a great ball, we have a physical fullback, and look to be an attacking defense," said Bollmin, who is looking forward to his first taste of Notre Dame Interhall football.

As a whole, Alumni's strength lies in its speed, and the team has also made an effort to spend quite a bit of time in the classroom during preseason, which it hopes will give them an edge on Sunday.

Captain Joe McBrayer said Morrissey is "ready to go, ready to play," and will be counting on a strong defense to bring them the win. On the other side of the ball, the team has been working on a new spread offense, with the quarterback receiving most snaps out of the shotgun.

"For the past few years we were a 'three yards and a cloud of dust' running team, but this year our offense will be much more explosive and fluid," sophomore Phil Yuhas said.

A key to their success in the past, Yuhas should be a strong force on an aggressive defensive squad.

Other players to look for this fall include wide receiver Carl Andersen, and left tackle Mike Kaiser. The Manorites are also hoping to use speed to their advantage on both sides of the field.

Due to the recent rainfall, the two teams have had limited practice opportunities and are currently working to fit in a few extra practices before the big game.

Alumni and Morrissey will face off at 1:00pm, Sunday, at Riehle Field, in the opening game of the men's interhall football season.

Contact Charlie Spokes at cspokes@nd.edu, Alex West at awest@nd.edu, Kyle Smith at ksmith31@nd.edu, Douglas Farmer at dfarmer@nd.edu, Matthew Wilsey at mwilsey@nd.edu and Liza Navarro at Inavarro@nd.edu



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SMC GOLF

Belles head to MIAA jamboree in third place

By ALEX BARKER Sports Writer

Saint Mary's will continue conference play this weekend as they head to the Zollner Golf Club in Angola, Ind., for the second of four MIAA jamborees.

After the first jamboree, the Belles sit comfortably in third place in the conference with a team score of 340, four strokes behind Hope and eighteen behind first-place Olivet. Sophomore Rosie O'Connor led the team in round one after shooting an 83, good for 10th place in the individual standings. Outstanding freshman Natalie Matusak carded an 84 to finish in 11th place.

The Belles have had mild success this season facing much tougher competition. In the opening tournament of the year, hosted by Ferris State, Saint Mary's finished ninth out of a field of 16 which featured several top Division II teams. In her collegiate debut, Matusak had the highest individual finish among all NCAA Division III golfers in the tournament.

Most recently, the Belles competed at the Dartmouth Invitational against a very

SMC VOLLEYBALL

field, including tough Dartmouth, Harvard and Brown. Saint Mary's finished last in a field made up of Division I and II teams.

As the Belles return to conference play, they will look to their young talent for continued leadership in gaining ground on the field. The top performers on the team -O'Connor and Matusak — have only one year of collegiate experience between them. Behind them. freshman Christine Brown has been a solid third option so far this season.

With such a young and talented team, Saint Mary's should continue to improve as the season matures.

After four MIAA one-round jamborees and the final tworound shootout are tallied, the leading team will be proclaimed the conference champion for the fall season. However, the conference's automatic NCAA tournament berth will not be awarded until the spring.

The second jamboree, hosted by Trine University, will begin Saturday at 1pm.

Contact Alex Barker at abarker1@nd.edu

Belles to play Depauw

after two home wins

Clark

continued from page 24

"This is possibly our hardest weekend of the year so far," Clark said. "St. John's is always a very good team, and they're hard to play against. Syracuse looks very, very good as well. This is one of their best teams in many years. It could be a fabulous weekend for us if we do our stuff right."

The Red Storm has been especially impressive this season compiling their 5-0-1 record against a litany of talented opponents. In their last game, St. John's dismantled No. 19 Virginia Tech 3-0. Earlier in the season, the Red Storm defeated No. 18 Virginia and No. 12 Dartmouth and tied No. 2 Boston College.

Part of St. John's early-season success may be due to the squad's continuity. The Red Storm return nine starters from last year's team that went 9-7-5 before bowing out against Notre Dame in the quarterfinals of the Big East tournament.

Syracuse will begin this weekend putting their 3-0-2 record .on the line at Marquette Friday night. Unlike St. John's, the Orange have not played a particularly grueling non-conference schedule. So far, Syracuse's schedule reads as follows: Canisius, Colgate, UNC-Wilmington, Florida Gulf Coast and Monmouth.

Friday's contest against Marquette — the same team that Notre Dame beat 4-1 last Thursday night — will help determine how great a threat the Orange pose to the Irish.

The way Notre Dame has played the past few weekends, however, no team seems to

pose much of a threat to the Irish. After dropping their season opener to Akron 3-0, Notre Dame has won four straight matches by the combined score of 15-3.

The Irish's average of 3.75 goals per game in their last four matches has put to rest much doubt that the team would be unable to find scoring options after the graduation of last year's starting forwards. Notre Dame has found goal-scoring from a multitude of sources this season as four players have already scored multiple goals. Junior midfielder Dave Donahue currently leads the Irish with four goals.

Friday's game versus St. John's will begin at 7 p.m. while Sunday's contest against Syracuse starts at 1 p.m.

Contact Greg Arbogast at garboga@nd.edu

NFL Hester's injury a mystery

Bears' return specialist hopes to play Sunday against Tampa Bay

Associated Press

LAKE FOREST, Ill. — Devin Hester's status remained a mystery and so did the extent of his rib injury.

After telling a few reporters earlier Thursday he had torn cartilage, the Chicago Bears' record-setting return specialist backtracked and said his ribs are simply bruised. Either way, he hopes to play against Tampa Bay on Sunday.

He remains a game-time decision after missing his second

straight practice Thursday, but he seemed relieved that tests earlier in the week did not reveal a more serious problem.

"It's a lot better," Hester said after practice. "It's improved a lot, and I'm feeling a lot better."

Hester was taken from the sideline on a cart during the third quarter of last week's 20-17 loss at Carolina.

Hester said he first felt some pain earlier in the game when he landed on another player while being tackled and aggravated it on a kickoff return following a 45-yard field goal by Carolina's

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John Kasay. The Bears were leading 17-6 when Hester caught the ball a yard into the end zone and sprinted to the 15, where he felt a "real sharp pain" as he twisted to his left before heading out of bounds at the 23.

Hester was still in motion when Julius Peppers, trying to slow him down, extended his right arm and was seen about a second later clutching the left side of his rib cage. He walked over to the Chicago sideline and was carted away with what he thought was a more serious injury.

By PAT STYNES Sports Writer

After a day off, Saint Mary's resumes play tonight at the DePauw Invitational, located at DePauw University in Greencastle, Ind.

The Belles will take on North Central at 4 p.m. and DePauw at 8 p.m. On Saturday they will play Anderson at 10 a.m., and that afternoon they play Franklin, Gallaudet, Heidelberg or Rose-Hulman.

The team is coming off two consecutive home wins, the first time this season it has been able to string together consecutive victories. The Belles picked a good time to crank up the gas, as both games were conference matchups, boosting their MIAA record to 2-2.

Saint Mary's success will depend upon the recent emergence of outside hitter Lorna Slupczynski. The 5-foot-8 junior had 25 kills against Albion and Olivet, both home matches.

11 of the 25 kills came during the opening sets of both matches. At 5-foot-8, Slupczynski is the shortest hitter on the team, but her non-stop motor and enthusiasm more than make up for her lack of height.

Even, more impressive is that

Joining Slupczynski in the impressive offensive assault is 5-foot-11 senior Kaela Hellmann, who is the only member of the team to have more kills over the last two games (27) than her junior counterpart. The senior also leads the team in kills on the season, with 101.

The Belles' first opponent, North Central College, won its conference opener, beating the Augustana 3-2. Saint Mary's will have to step up its play to try and contain North Central's outstanding junior Stephanie Ryding, who will look to continue her hot streak after turning in a triple-double performance last Tuesday.

Contact Pat Stynes at pstynes@nd.edu



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Frank

continued from page 24

said. "They're telling him that wherever he can get on the field first is where he'll play. In the end it might end up hurting Notre Dame, but they're right in it with Penn State and Rutgers for the lead."

Defensive end Chris Bonds out of Columbia, S.C., soaked in his first visit to the Notre Dame campus and came away impressed. Another person who enjoyed the experience was Bonds' mother, who could influence the selection process.

"Bonds came in thinking, 'I don't know about Notre Dame,'" Frank said. "But he left thinking 'this is actually a really nice place.' The key for the Irish is to continue giving him attention. They've got [defensive coordinator] Corwin Brown recruiting him and he's been great at reeling in top talent.

"He's been looking at schools in the [Southeastern Conference], and the leaders are Alabama and Tennessee. If Tennessee continues to play poorly, Notre Dame has a chance. More importantly, his mother came away impressed and she could be influential in the final decision."

Davon Custis, another defensive end considering the Irish, is from Columbus, Ohio, and was on campus for an unofficial visit against Michigan. The Irish worked themselves back into the mix, and once Custis could make his final decision when he returns for his official visit later this season.

"With Davon, it's interesting," Frank said. "He likes Notre Dame, but Boston College was kind of leading. The Irish opened his eyes on the latest visit. There aren't too many defensive ends left on the board, so he's a big target. He'll probably have his final look at Notre Dame on his official, and that could solve all his questions."

Although sometimes inclement weather spells trouble for recruiting during game days, the rain heightened the passion and atmosphere of the crowd — something the high school talents quickly picked up on.

"It's huge for the Irish," Frank said. "The most important thing for them was that

kids wanted to see a winner again. They want to see emotion and passion in the environment, and I think Michigan was perfect for that."

After the big rivalry win, the Irish improved their standing with some of the recruits, but did they do anything to warrant a commit in the near future?

"I think Nyshier Oliver is the most likely at this point," Frank said. "He's still taking his visits and looking around, but they need a speed receiver and he would be a huge get."

In addition to the high school seniors, Notre Dame laid some solid groundwork on the prospects of the recruiting class of 2010. Of the 13 that have been offered scholarships thus far, six were present against the Wolverines.

"They really did a great job of bringing in some top junior talent," Frank said. "They set themselves up for the future with a great win. Also, the recruits were able to meet each other and spend some time together which is always good."

Contact Lorenzo Reyes at lreyes@nd.edu

Dome

continued from page 24

the Golden Dome Invitational. "We are not looking ahead right now," Brown said. "We are looking at each team we are about to face."

Coming into its ninth Golden Dome Invitational, Notre Dame is 13-8 all-time, having won 10 of its last 12 matches in the event.

The Irish are entering some uncharted territory, however they have not faced Liberty, UC Irvine or Western Michigan in a long time, according to Brown.

"We have played them before, but not recently," Brown said. "I do know that they are having pretty good pre-seasons."

Up first for the Irish on Friday is Liberty with an impressive 8-2 record and a decent schedule. The Flames won their first eight matches of the season before finally losing their first two games to Northern Iowa and No. 18 Kansas State.

Liberty likes to rely on its star sophomore outside hitter Nicki Scripko, Brown said.

"They try to get her the ball a lot," Brown said.

To beat Liberty, Brown stressed the need to work hard to keep the ball out of the hands of Liberty's best players.

"We need to work hard and serve aggressively," Brown said. "We need to take their best options away."

Up next on Saturday is a down

Ranking

continued from page 24

it."

UC Irvine squad (4-6). It has had a tough schedule, having faced No. 17 San Diego, No. 18 Kansas State, and No. 12 Oregon.

Leading the Anteaters in kills is sophomore Kari Pestolesi, who had 53 kills in four matches last week. Pestolesi also had 38 digs and 5 service aces.

Rounding out the field for the Irish on Sunday is a 7-1 Western Michigan squad that is a legitimate contender for the MAC title. The Broncos, however, have been struggling with injury lately. Senior middle blocker Ashley Vogl will miss the rest of the season after sustaining a right knee injury against Illinois State on Sept. 6, while junior middle blocker Tara Lowell remains out indefinitely because of a right knee injury sustained in preseason practice.

To take advantage of the these last three games before getting into the Big East, Brown said the team needs to improve in several areas.

"We need to improve the offense, make our passing more dynamic," Brown said. "On defense we need to increase our range and set up the block. I want us to be aggressive and get good serves in."

If the Irish can heat up this weekend and start up a winning streak, they will be well placed to start Big East play off right against South Florida next week.

Contact Jared Jedick at jjedick@nd.edu

sophomore goalie Alyssa Naeher.

"I think she's the best goalkeeper in the country." Waldrum said. "Last year when they beat us she was responsible for [the win] ... That was last year and this year she's playing as well as ever."

In the team's first road trip this season, Notre Dame toppled both then-No. 3 North Carolina and then-No. 12 Duke. Waldrum said he hopes for similar results this weekend. "This is just another one of those tough games that we've bitten off," Waldrum said. "But if we can sheak out of [Penn State] with a win, we should be in really good shape for the meat of our Big East schedule." The contest against Penn State is the last non-conference game for the Irish during the regular season. And, beginning with DePaul Friday, Waldrum said his team is ready to begin Big East play. "We have done so well in the [conference] regular season; we typically win our league," he said. "We're excited to go back and actually have an opportunity to win our conference tournament." Last season, the Irish fell to West Virginia in the Big East tournament final and Waldrum said they are eager to get another crack at it. Still, the coach emphasized that it is more critical for his team to have a solid regular season than to worry about the postseason at this point. "Our entire body of work [in the regular season] is much more important to me than the tournament," Waldrum said. "And usually by the time the NCAA Tournament rolls around, we've done enough with our body of work to get in."

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NCUA

Waldrum said even though DePaul is 2-6, the matchup is a dangerous one for the Irish because it is the first Big East game for both teams.

about it, and people are pat-

ting them on the back about

haven't discussed it but it's

there and I'm sure there's

extra motivation to keep it."

Waldrum said. "We

"It's the first conference game so you always have to see what everyone in the conference is like and you want to rack up as many in-conference wins as possible," the coach said.

In addition, DePaul plays on a small, turf field that Waldrum said nullifies some of Notre Dame's athleticism.

"The facility is very poor," he said. "Hopefully it keeps us sharp and we realize that it might present some difficulty for us."

The Blue Demons have won two of their last three games after dropping their first five contests.

After facing off against DePaul, Notre Dame will fly from Chicago to Pennsylvania to take on No. 17 Penn State. Brown upset Penn State last Friday before beating No. 25 Connecticut Sunday. Penn State fell in the rankings, a factor Waldrum said could make the home team hungrier when the Irish come to town.

"I almost wish they hadn't lost to Brown because that might have added some fuel to their fire," he said. "And with us being No. 1 they're gonna be really ready to go."

Penn State beat the Irish 2-1 at Alumni Field in the teams' only meeting last season. Waldrum said his squad outplayed the Nittany Lions in that game but the visitors had one great equalizer — then-

Contact Fran Tolan at ftolan@nd.edu



NO COVER





Friday, September 19, 2008

The Observer \blacklozenge **TODAY**

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HOROSCOPE

FRIDAYS WITH FRAN

Aries (March 21-April 19): Tremble often this weekend. Taurus (April 20-May 20): The high seas are calling so hop on your jetskis and get wetskis.

Gemini (May 21-June 20): Ralph Wiggum thinks you're ugly. Boy, that says a lot about you.

Cancer (June 21-July 22): Make a diorama out of a diamhea.

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22): Lean on the lamppost and wait for a certain little lady to come by.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Just because your job is working the corner doesn't mean you can't get rich. So get out there and get rich.

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): If your crickets turn into cats and your cats turn into hamsters and your hamsters turn into even more hamsters, you will be left with one smelly house.

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Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Today's riddle: What's fat and can't spell much. (Hint: look in the mirror or try to spell something)

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Ask the Lama for a little something for the effort.

Capricom (Dec. 22-Jan 19): So who liked whom as more than a friend? Screech or Mr. Belding? Text your answer to (317)258-1272. The winner (loser?) will be revealed next week.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): You will get trapped in a pit with lions, tigers, scorpions, venomous snakes and midgets. Be extra wary of the midgets.

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20): Keep the good metal separate from the scrap metal!!! How many times must you be told?

THE OBSERVER

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S PORTS

Friday, September 19, 2008

SOCCER

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Creams of the crop

No. 1 women open Big East competition

By FRAN TOLAN Associate Sports Editor

Another weekend, another tough road trip for the Irish. Top-ranked Notre Dame (6-0-0) opens Big East play at DePaul tonight before heading to State College to take on No. 17 Penn State Sunday.

The Irish have not talked as a team about the No. 1 ranking that they earned for the first time of the season this week. But coach Randy Waldrum said he knows his players will have added incentive to win this weekend in order to retain it.

"The program and the team is used to [being ranked No. 1] but I'm not naive enough to think the girls don't read

see RANKING/page 21





Left, freshman defender Jessica Schuveiller battles during Notre Dame's 4-0 win over Loyola Marymount on Aug. 29. Right, junior midfielder Justin Morrow dribbles during Notre Dame's 5-0 win over USF on Sept. 7.

No. 5 St. John's, 'Cuse come to South Bend

page 24

By GREG ARBOGAST Sports Writer

The last time the No. 5 team came to Alumni Field, it walked away with its tail between its legs when Notre Dame beat then No. 5 South Florida 5-1 Sept. 7.

Now it's St. John's turn.

The No. 5 ranked Red Storm kick off a grueling weekend for the No. 3 ranked Irish, who will also play undefeated Syracuse on Sunday. Combined, Notre Dame's two opponents sport an 8-0-3 record on the season, and St. John's and Syracuse have outscored their opponents by the combined score of 17-2. Irish coach Bobby Clark has noticed.

see CLARK/page 20

INTERHALL FOOTBALL

Young Carroll squad seeks improvement on 0-4 season

By CHARLIE SPOKES, ALEX WEST, KYLE SMITH, DOUGLAS FARMER, MATTHEW WILSEY AND LIZA NAVARRO Sports Writers

Abeling.

"Last year was totally unexpected and fun after St. Ed's supposedly failed to score a single point during the previous four seasons," team captain Andy Nester said. St. Ed's has been working extensively on perfecting its kickoff return and coverage teams and is intent on playing together as a team. "We really want to stress team unity and being on the same page," Nester said.

0-4 last season.

"We had our ups and downs," captain Nick Ruof said. "But we've been working on smashmouth football with our double tight-end formations and a clever defensive scheme." The Dillon Big Red and The Angry Mob from O'Neill square off Sunday in a season-opening matchup of two teams searching for redemption.

After a disappointing 2007 season, the Mob are determined to rebound. Hopes were high after reaching the championship game in 2006, but O'Neill couldn't get things together last year. "We had a lot of talent, we just didn't get much out it," Captain Matthew Bono said of last year's squad. "All I can say is that it's a different offense from last year."

Although O'Neill is changing their offensive strategy, Bono said their best chance for victory will come from good execution and playing mistakefree football.

Despite different results last season, both St. Eward's and Carroll will try to get their internall seasons off to a hot start on Sunday at 1 p.m. at Rehle fields.

The Stedsmen, who had a 3-2 record last season, return sophomore quarterback Matt

The Vermin are looking to improve their team after going

Carroll's squad is comprised mostly of young players, but does return last year's quarterback Kris Kast.

"We just want to have some fun and score more points than the other team," Ruof said.

Dillon vs. O'Neill

Big Red team captain Chris Cugliari also said a rebound is possible for O'Neill.

"We're not taking O'Neill lightly," he said. "We believe they will be back at the top."

The Big Red captain is confident in his team's ability be on

see BIG RED/page 19

ND VOLLEYBALL

Golden chance to improve

By JARED JEDICK Sports Writer

Notre Dame looks to build momentum this weekend when it hosts the Golden Dome Invitational against Liberty, UC Irvine and Western Michigan.

The Irish (3-6) had a tough couple of weeks against some of the best competition in the country. They faced No. 11 Minnesota, No. 4 California and No. 16 Cal in a span of only three days.

"We have learned so much in the past few weeks," head coach Debbie Brown said. "Now we need to apply what we have learned."

The Irish want to build momentum this weekend to carry over into Big East play next week, but Brown said the team's focus is still squarely on

see DOME/page 21



CASEY CARNEY/The Observer

Freshman setter Beth Wildermuth sets the ball during Notre Dame's 3-1 win over Nevada on Aug. 30.

Rainy game may have attracted top recruits

By LORENZO REYES Sports Writer

FOOTBALL

Imagine being a highly touted recruit visiting one of the premier football programs in the nation on a fall Saturday in September, in which the hosts played its most hated rival in a rainy, raucous atmosphere to pick up a convincing win.

For the high school talents in attendance at Notre Dame's 35-17 win over Michigan last week, this was precisely the case.

As a result, the Irish coaching staff is thrilled with the progress made toward receiving verbal commitments from some of these young talents. Mike Frank, who covers Notre Dame football for Scout.com, said the win over the Wolverines is exactly what the Irish needed.

"What the Irish did do is solidify opinions that a lot of these recruits had about Notre Dame," Frank said. "That and all the guys who already committed had a great time too, so it was a big week."

Some players that originally weren't highly interested in the Irish have now started to strongly consider Notre Dame as a possible destination. According to Frank, linebacker Glenn Carson from Southern Regional High School in Manahawkin, N.J., is a perfect example.

"Notre Dame wants Carson to play from the fullback position, but he wants to stick to his natural linebacker position," Frank

see FRANK/page 21



NO ONE—NOT EVEN HIS HOUSEMATES— CAN STOP KYLE MCCARTHY, THE NATION'S LEADING SOLO TACKLER.

The Observer ◆ **IRISH INSIDER**

Friday, September 19, 2008

COMMENTARY

Defense's turn to lead ND to victory

Against Michigan it was turnovers.

Against San Diego State it was ... well, it was San Diego State.

Against Michigan State it

has to be stopping Javon Ringer.

Two weeks in a row Notre Dame been has able to point to a specific reason why



Sports Editor

came it away with a victory. If the Irish want to be 3-0 Saturday night, they will have to be able to shut down Ringer, Michigan State's run-

ning back. Ringer has rushed for 498 yards and nine of his team's 12 total touchdowns. So, saying he is a focal point isn't exactly breaking new ground.

The question is: is it possible for Notre Dame to slow down the 5-foot-9, 202-pounder who looks like he is firing out of a slingshot every time he touches the ball?

Last Saturday, Michigan freshman Sam McGuffie torched the Irish defense for 131 yards on the ground. Like McGuffie, Ringer is a smaller, shifty back with a great burst of speed. But Ringer brings even more to the table.

His great vision and agility allow him to slip through the eye of a needle to find daylight, and once he gets a step on you there is no catching

package with five defensive backs.

Safeties David Bruton and Kyle McCarthy have both done good jobs coming up and making plays, but by the time they read the play and get to the ball carrier, he is already a few yards downfield.

The extra man in the secondary meant that linebackers Brian Smith and Maurice Crum were left on an island as the third backer, usually John Ryan, moved down to a threepoint stance where a defensive end would normally play.

Playing out of position, Ryan has been about as effective as a screen door on a submarine. Right now he has as many solo tackles as wide receiver Duval Kamara — one.

While Ryan struggled, defensive ends Ethan Johnson and Morrice Richardson watched big chunks of the game from the sidelines. If Ryan's job was to clog up the works up front rather than make tackles, it makes more sense to have an end in the game who is more comfortable using his hands to get free in tight spaces.

Michigan State does not run the spread offense. This week defensive coordinator Corwin Brown will be able to return to his normal 3-4 set that puts an extra linebacker on the field. The extra man in the box should help in getting to Ringer a little bit quicker, but bringing him down will still be a challenge.

The defense has definitely improved its tackling since last season, but it is still not where it needs to be against a slippery back. McGuffie proved that last week when he turned a two-yard catch into a 40-yard touchdown littered with missed tackles in the second quarter.

	2008	Irish opponents .				
]	Last week	<u>This week</u>			
D-	(0-3)	L, 35-10, SJSU	vs. Idaho			
MICHIGAN	(1-2)	L, 35-17, ND	vs. Wisconsin			
S	(2-1)	W, 17-0, FAU	vs. Notre Dame			
	(1-1)	L, 32-26, Oregon	vs. C. Mich.			
	(1-2)	L, 31-14, TCU	vs. San Jose St.			
(PZ)	(2-0)	W, 44-12, Rutgers	vs.Va.Tech			
W	(0-3)	L, 55-14, Okla.	Idle			
eur	(1-1)	Idle	vs. Iowa			
	(1-1)	Idle	vs. UCF			
	(1-2)	L, 41-31, Duke	vs. Rutgers			
	(0-2)	L, 55-13, PSU	vs. Northeastern			
Ş.	(2-0)	W, 35-3, OSU	Idle			

Dan Murphy

up.

With all the areas that Notre Dame has so noticeably improved, the one department that is lagging behind is the run defense. In their season opener, the Irish gave up 4.7 yards per carry to the Aztecs - a predominantly passing team.

The following week the same off-tackle play sprung McGuffie again and again for big gains. It's usually not a good sign when the top two tacklers on your team are both safeties.

The problem comes from the fact that in the first two games, Notre Dame faced spread offenses that normally kept at least three receivers on the field. The extra receiver meant the Irish have spent most of the season in a nickel

In week one, the offense especially the line — stepped up to avoid an embarrassing loss to the Aztecs.

In week two, the specials teams created good field position and big turnovers to set the tone early.

In week three, it's the defense's turn to carry the burden and lead the team to a victory.

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

Contact Dan Murphy at dmurphy6@nd.edu

Check out The Obsever sports blog, The Casual Observer, at Observersportsblog.21cr.info.



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Man of the house

Irish safety Kyle McCarthy anchors both a tough Irish defense and his off-campus home

By BILL BRINK Sports Editor

"Take off your shirt!"

Kyle McCarthy shakes his head, unable to hide a sheepish grin.

"Take off your shirt!" the yell comes again. It's not from a female student dying to see a football player topless, but rather from nose tackle Pat Kuntz, one of McCarthy's housemates. Once he heard McCarthy, a senior safety, would have his picture taken, Kuntz had to be a part of it, and he kept asking - no, pleading — for McCarthy to undress.

McCarthy refused. So his housemates — Kuntz, offensive tackle Paul Duncan and linebacker Steve Quinn — along with linebacker John Ryan and receiver Robby Parris, conspire to create the most ridiculous setting imaginable for a picture.

McCarthy, who acts respectful and intelligent, put up with the nonsense. He reserves himself for the most part but exudes a quiet sense of humor. He looks surprised, however, when told

he led the nation in solo tackles with 17.

"You're honestly the first person that told me that," he said after a pause.

Before long, it will be hard to ignore.

said. "He's got boxers on, but that's about it.

Quinn called McCarthy the dad of the house, but Kuntz called him the mom. McCarthy agreed with Quinn.

"I'm the dad of the house," he said. "Pat's a child. I have to whip him into shape every once in a while."

The five of them carpool to campus, but not everyone pulls their weight. McCarthy and Kuntz are the main drivers the "workhorses," Kuntz said - while Duncan slacks in the transportation department.

"Duncan, I don't think he's ever started his car," McCarthy said. "He's trying to save gas money."

Lest one get the wrong idea, McCarthy was quick to mention that the five of them clean the house once a week.

"I don't want you guys to get the wrong impression, it's not a shack. It's a nice house," he said.

> And McCarthy would, reluctantly, call himself a nice guy. "I don't want to be boastful, but I'd say I'm a nice, hardworking Midwestern kid," he said.

Path to success But years before he was

man of the house, McCarthy played quarterback at Cardinal Mooney High School in Youngstown, Ohio. He rushed for 1,273 yards and 14 touchdowns and passed for 557 yards and five touchdowns as a senior. He also played safety, recording 70



Irish senior safeties David Bruton (27) and Kyle McCarthy wrap up Wolverines running back Sam McGuffie during Notre Dame's 35-17 victory Saturday.

now plays for the Baltimore Ravens, in front of him, but he said the two became close.

"Zibby and myself became real good friends right off the bat," he said. "We both play the same position and have the same interests. I felt like his style of play and my style of play

what he needs to be doing. But he's a big boy now."

Tackling machine

So far this season, the big boys on the field have had fear to McCarthy.

The style of the Irish defense and its opponents have somewhat

"[Javon Ringer is] a

Heisman hopeful, he's

got that kind of

talent. We've go to be

prepared ... to come

up and tackle him."

Kyle McCarthy

Irish safety

can't reconcile the two — they get along both on the field and off.

JESS LEE/The Observer

"We'll watch film together, we'll talk about schemes together," he said. "We've got our differences, but we generally like each other."

Targeting Ringer

McCarthy, Bruton and the rest of the Irish defense have a new task this weekend: stop Spartans running back Javon Ringer, who has nine touchdowns in three games this sea-

"It was a tough won me over."

Irish safety

decision, but the lure of playing big-time college football really

Kyle McCarthy

Full house

McCarthy painted quite a picture of his off-campus home. There's Pat Kuntz, the resident child, making a mess and playing Halo 3. There's Paul Duncan, the nicest person McCarthy's ever met. There's Steve Quinn, who loves gummy bears for some reason McCarthy can't fathom. There's also tackle Mike Turkovich, who ... McCarthy couldn't think of anything, so he asked Kuntz. "He always wears boxers,"

Kuntz offered.

"Yeah, he never wears clothes in the house," McCarthy

tackles and five interceptions his senior season.

When colleges came calling, McCarthy heard from MAC schools as well as service academies who were interested in him as a quarterback. Tempting, but not right for him.

"It was a tough decision, but the lure of playing big-time college football really won me over," he said. "When you're playing for Notre Dame, it's a whole different story."

When he arrived at Notre Dame, however, he battled both injury and the depth chart. He had safety Tom Zbikowski, who



HALEY BEAUPRE/The Observer Irish safety Kyle McCarthy, right, defends wide receiver David Grimes during the Blue-Gold game on April 19.

pretty were similar, but we're both our own player."

McCarthy said

he learned the workings of the defense from watching on the sideline, but the transition from being a big deal in high school to a relative no-name his freshman year humbled him.

"It taught me that no one's going to give me anything, you've got to work for it," he said. "I've tried to keep my head down, keep working.³

He knew he was on the right track, however, near the end of his junior season, when he started getting more playing time. His confidence has never wavered, he said, but playing in front of 80,000 people can take some getting used to.

McCarthy's older brother Brian graduated from Notre Dame in 2006, and his younger brother, Dan, is a freshman safety on the team this fall. McCarthy said he enjoys having his brother around, both during football and outside of it.

"We pick on him a little bit, myself and my friends included. I think they think he's their brother too," he said. "We're excited for him to come along next year, and he's going to be a great player."

To make sure his brother takes care of himself, McCarthy said he checks up on Dan from time to time, but that to some extent, he's on his own.

"I can guide him in certain areas he needs to be guided," he said. "I keep an extra close watch on him in the meeting rooms, to make sure he's doing

Kyle McCarthy Irish safety

"I'm the new guy,

right? I hope they

underestimate me ...

And it kind of

motivates me, to be

honest, to get my

respect."

inflated McCarthy's tackles. Notre Dame has been in the nickel

package for the first two games of the season to neutralize the spread offense, and running backs have been funneled to McCarthy and safety David Bruton.

Irish defensive coordinator Corwin Brown said McCarthy is a reliable guy and someone who does what he's taught.

"Up until this point, he's a

guy that you give him rules and assignments and he tries his best to execute them," Brown said. "He doesn't get all of the flash and the flair, and everybody isn't hollering his name, but at the end of the day when you look at the

film and you look at the stat sheets and he's doing his job."

McCarthy said it wasn't a negative that other offenses focused more on Bruton; in fact, it gets him going.

"I'm the new guy, right? I hope they underestimate me," he said. "It kind of makes me excited. And it kind of motivates me, to be honest, to get my respect."

McCarthy and Bruton got to know each other well coming in as freshmen from Ohio, and -despite disagreements over music — Bruton likes rap, McCarthy likes rock, and they

son.

"The guy that they've got, he's a Heisman hopeful, he's got that kind of talent," McCarthy said. "We've got to be prepared, the defensive line, linebackers and safeties to come up and tackle him."

Tackling Ringer, he said, was not so much a matter of positioning as one of prepping oneself for a potential big hit.

"Honestly, you probably just have to buckle up a little bit tighter," McCarthy said. "He's a guy that will juke you, but he's

got some weight to him, some muscle to him, he'll try to run you over at times."

If one were to look at his teammates' stage theatrics for his shoot, photo however, one think might McCarthy capable of stopping

anyone. In various poses, with Kuntz as the art director, he has a foot on Parris' gut while Kuntz holds on for dear life. Duncan, who wanted no part of any of this, stood in hysterics in the background.

Will McCarthy to live up to his teammates' view of him, as well as his lead in solo tackles? He doesn't know, but he's not worried about it. His thoughts are elsewhere. After learning he had the lead, he said, "I guess I hope I lead at the end."

Contact Chris Hine at chine@nd.edu

The Observer
 IRISH INSIDER

Friday, September 19, 2008



42 42 43	Kevin Washington Dan Franco John Leonis	LB WR DB	6-1 5-10 5-9	250 188 169	SR JR SR				yuruugo.	
43 44 45 45 46 47 47 48 49 51 52 53 54 55 56 57 58 59	Eric Maust Asaph Schwapp Darius Fleming Kris Patterson Steve Filer Joe Vittoria Mike Narvaez Steve Quinn Toryan Smith Dan Wenger Braxston Cave Morrice Richardson Anthony McDonald Eric Olsen Kerry Neal Mike Golic Jr. Brian Smith Chris Stewart	P FB LB KB LB FB LB C C DE LB C LB C LB C C B C	6-2 6-0 6-1 5-11 6-3 5-11 6-2 6-1 6-4 6-3 6-2 6-3 6-5 6-3 6-3 6-5	177 257 236 185 2362 44 231 225 244 302 315 255 225 303 246 280 245 337	JR SR FR JR JR R JR R JR R F JR F R SO R SO R SO JR	MICHIGAN STATE	In his second year at Michigan State, Mark Dantonio has the Spartans at 2-1, with the loss coming against a decent Cal team. A home game against a hot team will challenge his abilities.	Spartan quarterback Brian Hoyer has thrown only one touchdown this season and averages 185 yards per game. He did throw for 321 yards against Cal, his toughest opponent.	The Spartans give up 4.5 yards per carry and let two different Bears rush for over 100 yards against Cal. They buckled down in their next two games, however.	After allowing Cal to move the ball through the air, Michigan State shut down the Eastern Michigan and Florida Atlantic passing games. Strong safety Otis Wiley has two interceptions this season.
61 62 63 64 65 67 70 71 72 74 75 75 76 77 78 79 81 82 84	Martin Quintana Bill Flavin Jeff Tisak Tom Burke Mike Hernandez Tom Bemenderfer Carl Brophy Matt Romine Dennis Mahoney Paul Duncan Sam Young Taylor Dever Lane Clelland Andrew Nuss Mike Turkovich Trevor Robinson Hafis Williams John Goodman Robby Parris Will Yeatman	LB C OT LB OL C OL OT OT OT OT OT OT OT OT OT OT OT OT OT	$\begin{array}{c} 6\text{-1} \\ 6\text{-3} \\ 5\text{-10} \\ 6\text{-2} \\ 6\text{-5} \\ 6\text{-6} \\ 6\text{-5} \\ 6\text{-6} \\ 6-$	242 252 306 242 275 300 278 292 290 308 300 308 300 308 300 308 300 300 30	JR SO SR JR FR SR FS FR SO R SO R FR FR FR FR SO R SO	ANALYSIS	Weis has emotion on his side, and the Gatorade bath and hugs he received after the win over Michigan demon- strated his team's confi- dence in him. Dantonio's team-while good, lacks balance.	Hover hasn't thrown a touchdown in two weeks, while Clausen has five in that span Even though he's younger. Clausen's playing better.	None of Michigan State's defensive linemen weigh more than 288 pounds, so bruiser Robert Hughes and Notre Dame have an advantage. But the Spartans haven't allowed a back to rush for more than 57 yards since week one.	All four members of the Spartan secondary are 6-1 or taller, giving them a leg up over shorter Irish receivers like Tate or David Grimes. But with Weis' "bombs-away" mentali- ty, Notre Dame will drop a big play or two.
85 86 87 89 90 91 93 94 95	Sam Vos Paul Kuppich Joseph Fauria Kapron Lewis-Moore John Ryan Emeka Nwankwo Paddy Mullen Justin Brown Ian Williams	WR TE DE LB DE NT DE NT	5-10 6-3 6-7 6-4 6-5 6-4 6-3 6-3 6-3 6-2	199 232 245 257 264 295 300 277 310	JR SR FR JR SO JR SR SO		I'm excited several thin this game. I when Notre	ngs in think te	Notre Dame looked ke a whole new am after trouncing ichigan last week.	After a pivotal win, the Irish have to avoid a let down while Michigan State will be



DE

LB

DE

6-3

6-5 6-4

Pat Kuntz

Kallen Wade

Sean Cwynar

97

page 4

283 255 283

SR

JR FR

with. We can expect the defense to make a big play, and the Irish extend their winning streak in East Lansing to four. FINAL SCORE: Notre Dame 28 Michigan State 24

Bill Brink

Sports Editor

gets a bona fide offensive line on the field, the rush defense will improve. I think Clausen shows some talent without the rain to contend Jay Fitzpatrick Managing

Editor

Clausen has yet to be sacked and the running backs have looked better. Javon Ringer has a big day on the ground, but the inept Spartan passing attack will allow the Irish to stack the box

all day. The team plays a complete game in all three facets and stays undefeated.

FINAL SCORE: Notre Dame 38 Michigan State 17



Chris Hine

Editor-in-Chief

win, avoid while Michigan State will be ready, as usual, for Notre Dame. Cal tallied over 450 yards of total offense against the Spartans in week one. The Spartans improved in their next two games, but their

opponents were Eastern Michigan and Florida Atlantic. This could be a chance for the offense to show what it can do.

FINAL SCORE: Notre Dame 31 Michigan State 27 Friday, September 19, 2008

) HEAD

Michigan State Spartans



Michigan State

2008 Schedule

Aug. 30

Sept. 6

@ CAL — L

E. Mich. — W

Michigan State Spartans

Record: 2-1 **AP: NR**

Coaches: NR

Mark Dantonio 1st season at **Michigan State** career record: 25-23 against Notre **Dame:** 1-0



Mark Dantonio head coach

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	Image: state of the	A GOOTLOOR A GOOTLOOTLOOR A GOOTLOOTLOOR A GOOTLOOTLOOTLOOTLOOTLOOTLOOTLOOTLO	Sept. 13FAU — WSept. 20Notre DameSept. 27@ IndianaOct. 4IowaOct. 11@ NorthwesternOct. 18Ohio StateOct. 25@ MichiganNov. 1WisconsinNov. 8PurdueNov. 22@ Penn State	No.NamePos.Fit.Wit.Fit.2Mark DellWR5-9170SO2Matt HaugheyK5-9176SR3B.J. CunninghamWR6-2205FR4Dan ConroyK5-10165FR5Johnny AdamsCB5-11165FR6Fred SmithWR6-2218FR7Brian HoyerQB6-3215SR8Kirk CousinsQB6-3197FR9Jeremy WareDB5-10184JR10Kyle SeldenP6-5184FR11Marcus HydeS6-0199SO13Brad SonntagWR5-8173FR13Charles BurrellS6-2210FR14Brett SwensonK5-8168FR15Kenneth HallWR5-8160FR15Todd BoleskiK6-6215SR16Chris D. RuckerWR5-10170FR17Charlie SnowQB6-3190FR18Aaron BatesP6-0188SO19David WilliamsWR5-9179SO20A.J. JimmersonRB5-10208JR21Otis WileyS6-2210SR23Javon RingerRB <td< th=""></td<>
Spartans Rushing	Spartans Passing	SPECIAL TEAMS	INTANGIBLES	27 Andre Anderson LB 6-0 230 SR 28 Mike Bell DB 5-11 175 JR 29 Chris Rucker DB 6-2 185 FR 30 Jehuu Caulcrick RB 6-0 255 SR 31 Ashton Henderson DB 6-2 185 FR 32 Mike Cordell DB 5-9 185 JR 33 Dan Fortener DB 6-1 197 SO
Notre Dame had all sorts of trouble bringing down Sam McGuffie, who rushed for 131 yards last week. The Irish have been playing a smaller front four that struggles to stop backs at the line of scrimmage.	The Irish secondary took advantage of the wet conditions and limited Michigan's Steven Threet's effectiveness. David Bruton and Gary Gray both had intercep- tions, while Raeshon McNeil and Robert Blanton both played well.	Eric Maust averaged 39.9 yards per punt in the first two games. Kickoff returns have been OK: Notre Dame averages 18.9 yards per kick return. Bruton and Mike Anello have destroyed opposing return units.	The painful stigma of last season has faded with the win over Michigan. The offensive line kept Clausen on his feet and created holes for the running backs. Don't forget the domination of the defensive red zone; the Irish have an interception and two fum- ble recoveries there.	38 Kendall Davis-Clark CB 5-11 210 SR 39 Trenton Robinson CB 5-11 180 FR 40 Nick Bendzuck FB 6-3 235 SO 40 Roderick Jenrette S 6-1 195 JR 41 Glenn Winston RB 6-3 218 SR 41 Mike Haddad LB 5-9 194 FR 42 Ryan Allison LB 6-3 224 SR 43 Eric Gordon LB 6-0 224 SO 44 Josh Rouse FB 6-3 235 JR 45 Andrew Hawken FB 6-3 238 JR 47 Adam Setterbo FB 6-3 246 FR 47 Brandon Long DE 6-4 250 SR 48 Drew Stevens LB/FB 6-4 225 FR
When the Spartans were in the same deluge as Notre Dame last week, Javon Ringer rushed 43 time for 282 yards and two touch- downs. He scored five times the week before. One might say he has skills.	Good thing Ringer went ballistic, because Brian Hoyer went 5-of-15 for 88 yards and a pick. Granted, it was pouring, but that's not inspiring if the Spartans need a comeback.	Punter Aaron Bates averaged more than 40 yards per punt and had two downed inside the 20. Brett Swensen made a 22-yard field goal. As a returner, Ringer can break one at any time.	When in doubt, hand off to Javon. That will be Hoyer's mantra Saturday, and by all rights it should be effec- tive. But Hoyer and receiver Mark Dell have had some success as well: Dell has a touch- down and averages 24.6 yards per catch.	50 Steve Gardiner LB 6-1 214 FR 51 Jamiihr Williams LB 6-3 240 FR 52 Andrew Pendy LB 6-1 235 JR 53 Greg Jones LB 6-1 222 SO 54 David Rolf LB 6-3 215 FR 55 Adam Decker LB 6-2 238 JR 56 Alex Shackleton SN 6-2 242 SO 57 Johnathan Strayhorn DE 6-0 252 FR 58 Trevor Anderson DE 6-3 250 JR 59 Ryan Wheat NT 6-5 297 FR 60 Mike Bacon OL 6-4 30 SR 61 Arthur Ray Jr. OL 6-3 325 FR 63 Anthony Woods OL 6-3 325 FR 64 Brendon Moss OG 6-6 287 JR 65 Joel Nitchman C
Notre Dame will have its hands full with Ringer, who carried the Spartan offense the past two games. Expect another big day for him.	It was the pass defense that killed the Spartans in 2005, and it may do so again. The Irish pass defense gives up yards (251.5 per game) but not touchdowns (only two this season) and has limited opponents to 5.8 yards per pass attempt so far this sea- son.	Notre Dame's field goal unit has not been up to par, however, and in a close game that could influence a coaching decision. But the difference-maker is Ringer, whose quick cuts make him tough to catch on kick returns.	The wind in Notre Dame's sails is too strong for Michigan State to derail the team. The Irish are playing complete football, and if they continue to do so they will be hard to take down — even on the road.	68 Ethan Ruhland OL 6-6 278 FR 69 Forrest Cohn SN 6-0 218 FR 70 Oren Wilson NT 6-3 288 SO 71 John Deyo OL 6-6 283 FR 73 Roland Martin OG 6-5 330 SR 74 Zach Hueter OG 6-7 330 FR 75 Jared McGaha OL 6-6 290 FR 76 Mike Schmeding OT 6-8 320 JR 77 J'Michael Deane OT 6-5 294 SO 79 Jesse Miller OT 6-6 318 SR



Dan Murphy Sports Editor

Ringer will run wild with another 100plus yard performance, but if Notre Dame can continue to play stingy defense in the red zone, it will hold off Sparty. FINAL SCORE: Notre Dame 31 **Michigan State 24**

As usual, a battle with the Spartans will be hard-fought and high-scoring. The passing game is good for a few big plays each game and Hughes will continue to establish himself as the main back for the Irish with a busy day. Michigan State's



Harangody averaged 20.4 points per game and 10.6 rebounds per game in his sophomore season and was named Big East Player of the Year. His performances included a career-high 40 points at Louisville and a 32-point game at Connecticut.

After last week's convincing win over Michigan, the Irish have already surprised a few people, but they have their first true road test this Saturday. Michigan State always plays Notre Dame tough, but Robert Hughes will

run all over the Spartans Luke and in the end, I see the Harangody Irish pulling it out in the Irish fourth quarter. forward

FINAL SCORE: Notre Dame 35 Michigan State 28

WR 6-3 178 FR Cam Martin 6-7 6-5 268 FR Tyler Hoover DE Ishmyl Johnson DE 275 SO DL 6-5 318 SO Antonio Jeremiah 6-3 FR DE 240 Cameron Jude 6-3 6-5 248 DT FR Kevin Pickelman 273 Justin Kershaw DT SR DT 6-5 287 JR Michael Jordan

DT

-89

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92

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Jerel Worthy

Irish experts

6-3

305

FR

The Observer **• IRISH INSIDER**

Friday, September 19, 2008

Crunching the numbers

2007 SEASON AVERAGES PER GAME



What's your favorite spot on campus? I'm going to have to say Siegfried Hall. If you got to go anywhere in the world where would you go? I wouldn't mind seeing the pyramids in Egypt. I think that would be pretty cool. If you weren't playing football, what sport would you play? I like baseball. I mean I stink at it, but I like baseball. I played when I was a little kid, but it's been a long time. I played third base back then. What's the least favorite class you've taken at Notre Dame? Wow, there's a whole bunch of them, it's tough to narrow it down to one. I think I'd have to say Calc II. What is the best memory you'll take away from your time here? Probably my freshman year when we beat Stanford to get into a BCS bowl, because of that bowl game. Who's your favorite team to play against? I'd say Michigan State. They're a bunch of tough guys and you have to play tough to beat them. I like banging. Who talks the most trash out on the field? Actually, it's probably a freshman, Rob Blanton. He's got a big mouth on him, man.

THE OBSERVER CLASSIFIED

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FORSE



Hughes earning approval of coaches, fans

By CHRIS HINE Sports Writer

"Huuuughes!"

That chant — heard every time sophomore running back Robert Hughes carries the ball - has bellowed from the student section 35 times this season, and Hughes has been listening each time.

"I definitely like it, just to get the crowd into it, to know they're having fun in the stands," Hughes said Tuesday after practice. "It's entertainment and I appreciate the fans getting behind it and it definitely helps the offensive line. They get behind it and it helps me run better, it motivates me."

But coming into the season, it was hard to tell how many times the students would get to yell that chant. Hughes, a powerful runner who's rushed for 139 yards in two games, is one of three running backs the Irish use. The other two, sophomore Armando Allen, more of a speed back, and junior James Aldridge, a combination of Allen and Hughes, haven't seen as many carries as Hughes has thus far.

But that still doesn't mean Hughes will get the most carries from now on.

According to offensive coordinator Michael Haywood, the situation of the game dictates which back gets on the field, and in a driving rainstorm against Michigan, the situation

called for a slower but tougher back.

"We get into a situation where there's a downpour and you have to pound the football, and when you have to pound the football it goes to two people, James Aldridge or Robert Hughes because that's not Armando Allen's type of game," Haywood said.

And when Notre Dame is near the goal line, Hughes is also called upon. Against Michigan, Hughes scored twice on short touchdown runs. So will the goal line one day become Robert Hughes' territory?

"I wouldn't say that," Hughes said. "I'd say it's Notre Dame's territory. Because our goal is to get the ball in the end zone every time we're inside the 20yard line ... Your mentality is always score, no matter where you are on the field, you want to score. Whether you drive the ball in 13 plays or one play, you have to score."

Even if he doesn't get the most carries every game, the coaching staff has shown that it trusts Hughes to shoulder a high percentage of the workload in the backfield, something Hughes has worked hard for since coming to Notre Dame from Hubbard High in Chicago.

"I rely more on just my eyes and making the right reads and the right cuts," Hughes said. "In high school, it was all instincts. Now, the game has changed. You have to use proper technique, you have to



AMANDA SCHREIBER/The Observer

Irish running back Robert Hughes sheds a tackler during Notre Dame's 21-13 victory over San Diego State Sept. 6. Through two games, Hughes leads the Irish with 36 carries for 133 yards.

lower your pad level."

Lowering his pad level has been a constant point of emphasis for Hughes. All of the power he generates when he runs could be negated if he runs straight up, allowing a defender to easily send him backwards. But by working to lower his pad level, Hughes has tried to use that power to

gain vardage after contact.

"[I've worked on] finishing runs and lowering may pad level. I worked on it going into spring ball ... I've tried to do it, but you can always get better at it," Hughes said. "You always want to make sure you're finishing through with positive yards. Those two or three yards are the difference

between third and one and a first down."

If Hughes can get those pads down, he can help Notre Dame by doing a little more of his favorite thing.

"Getting points on the board," he said.

Contact Chris Hine at chine@nd.edu

Gameplanning will be easier, but stopping RB Ringer won't

page 7

Bv IAY FITZPATRICK

prise him because Ringer's the passing attack. "intangibles" set him apart from other players.

or lack thereof -- did not sur- carries for 83 yards to set up



Michigan State running back Javon Ringer has earned Big Ten offensive player of the week honors each of the past two weeks.

Sports Writer

Going into last week's game against Michigan, the Irish defensive coaches had a lot of questions when game-planning, from the quarterback to the new spread system. This week against Michigan State, things are a lot easier.

The Spartans boast what Irish head coach Charlie Weis called one of the best running backs in the country in senior Javon Ringer.

"You don't have to worry about whether or not they're going to take him out of the game plan, because that is not going to be the case," Weis said. "So you better bring your lunch pail with you because they're going to get behind those big linemen and hand him the ball and you'll have to stop him."

Ringer has been the Big Ten offensive player of the week the last two weeks, both wins for the Spartans. On the season, Ringer has already racked up 713 all-purpose yards and nine touchdowns, including 282 rushing yards and two scores against Florida Atlantic last weekend. The senior tailback also returns kicks for Michigan State.

coach Mike Spartans Dantonio said one of the most impressive parts of Ringer's day against FAU was that he had no fumbles. Last week's Spartans-Owls game was played in East Lansing, Mich., which experienced the same downpour South Bend did on Saturday.

Dantonio said the fumbles -

"It's the toughness, it's the attention to detail, it's the confidence, it's the work ethic [that set him apart]," Dantonio said Saturday in his post-game news conference. "When you have a tough environment like that, they know you're running the football, so for him to get the yards and for him to sort of control the game

"You might stop"

[Ringer] a few times

but that's not going to

stop [Dantonio] from

giving him the ball."

Charlie Weis

Irish coach

in . certain moments was impressive, but it's the type of person he is."

Weis said Ringer's individual performance made the team's "Top Ten" list of goals for this week's game

because he knows Ringer will be an integral part of the Michigan State offensive gameplan.

"You might stop him a couple times but that's not going to stop [Dantonio] from giving him the ball," Weis said. "They're going to keep on giving him the ball and you're going to have to keep on stopping him, because they're going to keep on giving it to him."

Ringer has been a thorn in Notre Dame's side throughout his career at Michigan State. During last year's 31-14 Spartan win at Notre Dame Stadium, he carried the ball 26 times for 144 times, but the Irish kept him out of the end zone. However, Michigan State used his and then-senior running back Jehuu Caulcrick's 20

In that game, quarterback Brian Hoyer had mediocre numbers (only 11-of-24 for 135 yards and one pick), but also connected with receivers for four passing touchdowns.

Hoyer, now a senior who has started all three of Michigan State's games this season, continues to have below-average numbers. The 6-foot-3 quarterback has completed only 44

percent of his passes (33-of-75) for 557, one touchdown and two interceptions. Last Saturday against FAU, he only went 5-of-15 passing for 88 yards and a pick.

But Weis said

that despite the numbers Hoyer has improved since taking over for former Spartans quarterback Drew Stanton last season.

"Now he's got a year under his belt, and he looks like a much, much more competent quarterback than when he first took over. I think he's done a really nice job," Weis said.

Weis also said Hoyer has the talent to be a top-tier quarterback, but hasn't had to be one because of Ringer's spectacular season thus far.

"If anyone could kind of stifle [Ringer] at all, I'd still think they'd feel confident enough that Hoyer can make enough plays to win for them," Weis said.

Contact Jay Fitzpatrick at jfitzpa5@nd.edu

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