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ELECTION 2008

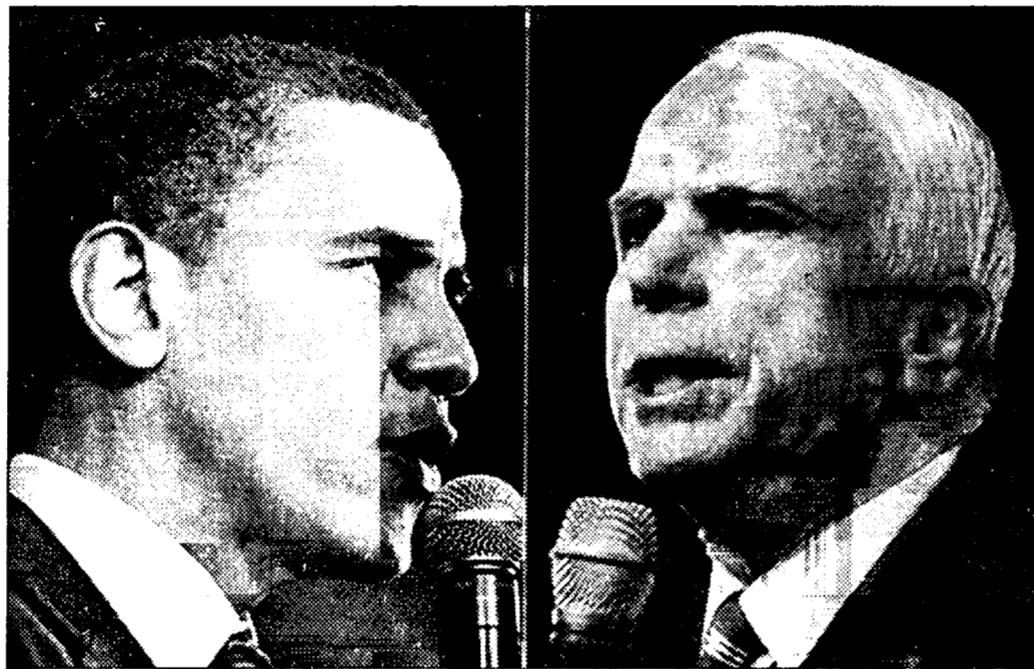
Notre Dame prepares for historic results

Stud. gov't mock election figures mirror current national polls

By JENN METZ
News Editor

When student body vice president Grant Schmidt announced the 2008 Notre Dame mock election earlier this fall, he had no idea the results would be on par with national polls. However, the Gallup Poll, in the days leading up to Election Day, has almost exactly mirrored the student government data from Oct. 5. 2,692 undergraduate and graduate students participated in the mock election. Democrat Sen. Barack Obama and running mate Sen. Joe Biden won 52.6 percent of the vote, followed

see MOCK/page 3



The 2008 contest between Sen. Barack Obama and Sen. John McCain, the longest campaign in history, will be decided today.

Political club leaders, professors contemplate life after Nov. 4

By KAITLYNN RIELY
Associate News Editor

Soon, the confetti will be mopped up, the balloons popped. The bottles of champagne will be drunk and discarded.

The red and blue electoral maps will be archived for perpetuity. The pollsters will get some sleep.

There will be a winner, and there will be a loser. The winner and his staff will begin preparing for the transition to the White House. The loser will go on with his life, forever in the history books as the also-ran.

see LIFE/page 3

International students reflect on right to vote

By MADELINE BUCKLEY
News Writer

International students at Notre Dame are paying close attention to the 2008 Presidential election, even though they cannot join the millions of Americans who will vote today.

Sophomore Christina Zhu said she came to the United States from China to attend Notre Dame, and has paid a lot of attention to the election because it is a good way to learn about American poli-

tics.

"Living here during an election year, I got to know more about the political system," Zhu said.

In the United States, people have every opportunity to educate themselves about the candidates' positions on issues and their proposed policies, but in China, one of the biggest obstacles to voting is a lack of education, Zhu said. Many people in China are impoverished and only about 50 percent of the

see RIGHT/page 4

The youngest voter

Freshman, who celebrated his 18th birthday Nov. 3, fills out his first ballot

By LIZ O'DONNELL
News Writer

Stephen Kahn is one of the millions of college students eager to cast a vote for the first time in this year's presidential election. The freshman from New York, however, is like few others — he is one of the youngest eligible voters in the nation after celebrating his 18th birthday on Monday, Nov. 3.

"I find it pretty amusing, people think it's cool when I tell them," Kahn said. "Also,

I have good friend that is two weeks younger than I am that can't vote."

The majority of the students on campus will be casting their ballots for the first time in a presidential election this year. Anyone born after Nov. 2, 1986 was ineligible to vote



Kahn

in the 2004 contest between George W. Bush and John Kerry.

Kahn knows someone who is at the other end of the spectrum: a friend who missed the last presidential election by only five days.

"My best friend's brother is three years and about 360 days older than I am, and we will be voting for the first time in the same election. It's a small fact that I always be able to tell people," said Kahn.

see YOUNG/page 4

'Loyal' play returns to campus

Preston serves as first male co-writer in third annual production



Students perform a skit titled "Saved By Parietals" in the inaugural 2006 production of "Loyal Daughters and Sons."

By ELLYN MICHALAK
News Writer

The third annual production of "Loyal Daughters and Sons," a play about sexuality at Notre Dame, will open Thursday; this year's version features a male student on the writing team.

Junior Devin Preston, along with junior Zoë Cross, served as the first male co-writer and interviewer for the controversial play. The two also serve as producers of the show.

"Loyal Daughters and Sons" was designed to be updated so that the material remains fresh and current. Notre

see LOYAL/page 4

NDSP reports 8 arrests during game vs. Pitt

By JOHN-PAUL WITT
News Writer

On Saturday, Notre Dame Security Police (NDSP) reported making eight custodial arrests at the Pittsburgh game.

A custodial arrest occurs when the person arrested is transported to the county jail, according to David Chapman, assistant director of NDSP.

Saturday's figure is comparable to the nine arrests reported during the Oct. 7 match-up with Stanford.

Four citations were issued to minors for alcohol-related offenses, and one of those cited was transported to a local hospital by ambulance.

Three arrests were made for public intoxication outside the stadium, one of which involved public indecency, while four were arrested in the stadium for public intoxication and one for minor consuming alcohol.

Four others were ejected from the stadium for violations of Stadium rules and regulations, according to Chapman.

Chapman encouraged students and visitors to report "unruly or unlawful behavior" to NDSP by calling 574-631-5555 or by using a call box in one of the parking areas.

"If your football weekend

see ARRESTS/page 4

INSIDE COLUMN

Post-Election Uncertainty

Decision 2008 is upon us. Today, a struggling nation discovers which candidate will spearhead the efforts of recovery and reform so desperately desired by the American people. Regardless of which candidate emerges victorious, our next president will assume his position with more than enough on his presidential plate. The economic crisis, the war in Iraq, health-care, and abortion are all critical issues that deserve expert analysis and representation. But what about the state of the entertainment industry in America?

Patrick Griffin
Scene Writer

The matter of American entertainment will obviously not be of paramount concern to our nation's next president. However, it is impossible to ignore the condition of the entertainment industry as the presidential race culminates. Never before has the competition to earn the presidency incited such attention across all levels of American media. The matter at hand extends beyond the realm of major news networks where poll after poll is graphically produced and presidential debates reiterate the contrasting platforms of each candidate. We're talking about a whole new level of media that has emerged. This progeny of presidential coverage has been successful in attracting the attention of young Americans.

Consider NBC's recent revised fall lineup. Amidst the schedule of the network's typical sitcoms and dramas lies political satire. NBC recently took advantage of the executive inspiration and has been airing one of its most popular programs, *Saturday Night Live*, on Thursday nights. Since adopting a new political cynicism this season, the veteran program has seen its ratings up 50 percent according to *The New York Times*. Republican candidate John McCain even embraced the programs media success, appearing as a special guest on November 1st.

Late night cable has flourished as well. Both *The Daily Show* with John Stewart and *The Colbert Report* have seen record numbers of viewers as of late. Democratic candidate Barack Obama championed his campaign during an unorthodox interview with John Stewart on Oct. 29. Both programs, which thrive off of political mockery stand atop the late night talk show viewers charts.

Not to be outdone by television, the musical world has also become vocal in the nation's political proceedings. Artists such as Will.I.Am of the Black Eyed Peas, P. Diddy, Bruce Springsteen, Big & Rich, Ted Nugent and LeAnn Rimes have publicly expressed their allegiance towards their favorite candidate. Political issues have given many artists a newfound inspiration and purpose. The Rock the Vote Foundation has successfully employed the appeal of popular music in order to engage the political power of America's youth.

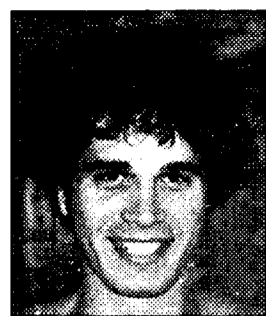
So as we stand on the precipice of political change, at a time when global economics and peace remain uncertain, the entertainment industry may be the only current certainty in American daily life. However, the issue of governmental uncertainty finally concludes this evening. Where will this leave American media? Maybe it's not one of the more pressing issues concerning the United States. Nevertheless, it will be one that is closely watched by the American public.

The views expressed in the Inside Column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer. Contact Patrick Griffin at pgriffi3@nd.edu

CORRECTIONS

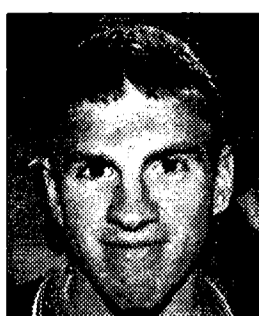
The Observer regards itself as a professional publication and strives for the highest standards of journalism at all times. We do, however, recognize that we will make mistakes. If we have made a mistake, please contact us at 631-4541 so we can correct our error.

QUESTION OF THE DAY: ARE YOU PREPARED FOR THE COLD WEATHER?



Alan Yanchak
freshman Dunan

"No, 'cause I'm not wearing any pants."



Avery Scott
junior O'Neill

"Yeah, bring it on."



Cam Thorpe
freshman Duncan

"Yes, 'cause I am wearing pants."



Kristen Drahos
senior Welsh Fam

"Heck yeah! Snow football is the shizz."



Matt Walters
senior off-campus

"It gets colder?!"



Eric Mark runs for a first down in a Duncan Hall section football game on "Duncan Fields" Monday evening.

TRAVIS ALLEN/The Observer

IN BRIEF

Saint Mary's College Right to Life will sponsor Right to Life Week. It includes a candlelit prayer vigil on the Library Green at 8 p.m. today, a Celebration of Life party in Reignbeaux Lounge in LeMans Hall at 7 p.m. on Wednesday, and a panel discussion from 6 to 7 p.m. in Haggar College Parlor on Thursday.

A colloquium entitled "What the most metal-poor stars tell us about the early Universe" will be held Wednesday from 4 to 5:30 p.m. Dr. Anna Frebel, of the McDonald Observatory, University of Texas at Austin will present in 118 Nieuwland Hall of Science. The event is sponsored by the Department of Physics.

Downtown Lunch & Learn/Eco Film Series: "Six Degrees Could Change the World" will be held at the Crossroads Gallery (Notre Dame Downtown, 217 S. Michigan Street, South Bend) on Thursday at 12:05 p.m. The event is for a free environmental film series.

Frank Baseman will present a lecture sponsored by the Snite Museum of Art and the Department of Art, Art History, and Design on Thursday at 7:30 p.m. in the Annenberg Auditorium of the museum. The main event on Thursday is free and open to the public. Baseman is on campus to meet with and critique the works of design students.

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

OFFBEAT

Man accused of stealing 8 piggy banks from home

ST. PAUL, Minn. — Police said a 34-year-old man was charged with second-degree burglary after allegedly stealing eight piggy banks from a home, netting more than \$2,700 in change.

Police said the man then went to a bank, where he spent more than half an hour standing at a coin-counting machine while the device tallied the money.

Police said the man, already on probation for first-degree burglary, then picked up his girlfriend and bought a coat, boots and

shirts at Burlington Coat Factory.

Police found him after a neighbor saw a man leave with two large nylon bags and noted the plate number.

Police said the man may have lived with the victims in the past.

Couple decide to tie the knot at tattoo parlor

WATERBURY, Conn. — Some say it with diamonds. But a couple wanted tattooed knuckles to seal their matrimonial bond. Tracy Fox, 24, and her 22-year-old groom, Nick Adams, tied the knot in a

Waterbury tattoo parlor on Halloween, married by a justice of the peace dressed as a witch.

The couple dressed like their favorite characters from the horror flick "The Return of the Living Dead."

As part of the ceremony, Fox and Adams each had a special word tattooed on their knuckles. She chose "werewolf" because she loves werewolf movies and he chose "wormfood" because he says everyone will be worm food someday.

Information compiled from the Associated Press.

		TODAY	TONIGHT	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
LOCAL WEATHER							
		HIGH 75 LOW 55	HIGH 65 LOW 55	HIGH 70 LOW 52	HIGH 70 LOW 42	HIGH 45 LOW 32	HIGH 43 LOW 35

Atlanta 69 / 50 Boston 62 / 46 Chicago 71 / 57 Denver 64 / 40 Houston 83 / 60 Los Angeles 68 / 55 Minneapolis 67 / 56 New York 64 / 48 Philadelphia 63 / 51 Phoenix 79 / 61 Seattle 50 / 45 St. Louis 77 / 52 Tampa 79 / 63 Washington 61 / 52

Mock

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by the Republican ticket of Sen. John McCain and Gov. Sarah Palin, which won 41.1 percent of the vote.

The final Gallup Poll, based on data from Oct. 31 to Nov. 2, has Obama at 55 percent to 44 percent advantage among likely voters. Trends show Obama ending his campaign with a lead of up to 11 percentage points among likely voters.

Schmidt told The Observer on the eve of the election that the general perception about the University — that Notre Dame is a conservative campus — caused him to predict a Republican victory in the student government mock election.

"I thought that McCain would have won [in the mock election]," Schmidt said. "I just assumed, because we are a fairly conservative university ... I thought McCain would come out ahead."

Schmidt said, however, that Obama's appeal to the youth voters of America indicated he would be a popular candidate on college campuses.

"A lot of professors I talked to, a lot of people I talked to about the election thought Obama would actually win by more than he did because of the fact we are a college campus," he said. "Obama is generally very well liked among college students."

Schmidt said he believes Notre Dame's unique identity as both a college campus, whose members tend to be among the more liberal electorate and a University that is typically viewed as conservative balanced out the results.

"The numbers we're seeing ... it's cliché, but Notre Dame as a whole is a representative group," Schmidt said.

Schmidt said members the work of the campus media, ND Votes '08 and residence halls has helped make students aware of the issues that will make the difference on Election Day.

"Everybody's goal was to

make sure Notre Dame was politically involved," he said.

"I really feel like we are aligned with the national polls now, and will be a l i g n e d [Election Day] because people are really aware of the issues. We're representative of where America stands right now."

Senate University Affairs chair Ashlee Wright, who helped coordinate the mock election, also did not predict Notre Dame's results to so closely parallel national percentage spreads.

"I was very shocked, because you always hear such taglines about the University, that we're a homogenous, conservative body. But there is that diversity of opinion, and in discussing your views against those of others is the only way you can form opinions," she said.

She said the results of the mock election worked to change outside perception of the University.

"They assumed it would lean

conservative, but at least a quarter of the student body voted, and Obama was the winner," she said.

"... We have such a tagline of being 'the conservative campus' — that it's in a bubble and it doesn't know what's going on in the real world."

Ashlee Wright
student senate
University Affairs chair

being 'the conservative campus' — that it's in a bubble and it doesn't know what's going on in the real world. Now, we're exactly the same as the national polls — it's astounding."

Wright said she believes students making use of the College Readership Program has helped "get us out of the bubble" and "debunked the rumor" that Notre Dame is uninformed politically.

According to an Oct. 6 Observer article about the mock election, the most important issue for those who voted was the economy, with 41.5 percent of the votes, fol-

lowed by foreign policy at 17.7 percent. Of the remaining issues, 9.8 percent chose energy and the environment as the most important issue in the election, 9.5 percent chose other, 7.7 percent chose abortion, 6.2 percent chose the Iraq War, 3.3 percent chose education, 3.2 percent chose civil liberties and one percent chose immigration.

When asked how closely they had been following the election, 37.2 percent chose the selection "I check the election news once or twice a week," 36.8 percent said "I check the headlines once a day," 19.1 percent said "I stalk multiple news networks daily," 5.1 percent said "I've heard of the candidates," .9 percent said "Election? What election?" and .8 percent gave no response.

Before the 2004 presidential contest, student media groups on campus, not including The Observer, conducted a mock election in LaFortune a week before the election between President George W. Bush and Sen. John Kerry, reported Notre Dame Magazine. With 570 undergraduates and graduate students voting, the vote was 47.5 percent for Bush and 46.8 percent for Kerry.

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Life

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And then, what will we do?

The longest presidential race in U.S. history comes to an end tonight, pending any vote tallying problems. For nearly two years, the presidential candidates have participated in the world's longest and toughest job interview. They've given speeches in small towns and giant stadiums. They've kissed dozens of babies, appeared on "Saturday Night Live" and late night talk shows, tasted the local food and they've shaken more hands than most of us will shake in a lifetime.

And we've watched it all on television. We've read about it in the papers, on blogs and talked about it with our family and friends.

When the winner is decided, the long drama will be over. And then what will we watch, read and debate?

Many have followed the election in a manner bordering on obsession. Junior Ed Yap, the president of the Notre Dame College Republicans, said the election occupies his thoughts "25 hours" per day.

He has two TVs, one turned to Fox News and the other to CNN. He also watches local television stations WSBT and WNDU. Yap has a daily subscrip-

tion to the Wall Street Journal, and reads the South Bend Tribune, the Indianapolis Star, the Chicago Tribune, the New York Times, the Washington Times and the Washington Post. Yap also subscribes to Time Magazine and National Review.

This is not an exhaustive list.

"I also check out Drudge Report every five minutes," he said. "Every five minutes on the minute."

After Nov. 4, these media outlets will not have daily tracking polls. They will not cover the candidates' travels

and speeches. After Nov. 4, Yap, who has been working for Luke Puckett, the Republican candidate for Congress in Indiana's 2nd District, has no idea what he will do.

"I really don't," he said. "This has just been my life for the past two years. I'll think about it."

Online political sites are also getting plenty of hits from the co-president of the Notre Dame College Democrats, senior Spencer Howard.

"I'm addicted to the Internet," he said. "I don't even know how many Web sites I have bookmarked that I check multiple times a day."

Political work will not end after the election for either Yap or Howard, who will continue running their clubs on campus. However, life post-Nov. 4 is likely to be a lot less hectic.

"Personally, I'm going to sleep more," Howard said.

For the last two years, Dr. Susan Ohmer, a professor in

Notre Dame's Film, Television and Theatre department who teaches a class entitled "Media and the Presidency," joked that she has spent most of her waking hours thinking about the election.

"I really want it to be over with, big time," she said.

Today and tonight, she will be glued to the returns, waiting to see whether the polls have been accurate.

Unlike Yap, she does not have two televisions. But she

does plan to set up her laptop in front of her TV to watch Election Night play out.

"You do start to feel, 'Are we humans or are we androids?'" she quipped.

She even put all the ballots have been counted and the

champagne bottles corked, Ohmer thinks there will still be plenty of political news to stave off a post-Election Day letdown.

If McCain wins, the media will focus on what happened to Obama, with his record-breaking fundraising, she said. And if Obama wins, the

focus will be on analyzing his election strategy to see what future candidates can learn from it.

That analysis can go on for several weeks, and then the press will focus on the transition process and President Bush's final days in office. The news will then turn to the next president's inaugural address.

The topics will change, Ohmer said, but the intensity will not.

"I think we can get to Christmas on the wave of energy we've built up," she said.

Only after the January inauguration, when the next president settles in and faces massive problems that require large solutions, will the energy die down, Ohmer predicted.

But the confetti has not been thrown and the balloons have not been dropped. The champagne bottles are being chilled.

The electoral maps are red and blue but also gray. The pollsters' eyes are bloodshot and their hairlines receding.

There will be a winner, and there will be a loser. But Yap, Howard, Ohmer and the rest of the country and the world still have several hours of election coverage overload to savor.

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"I think we can get to Christmas on the way of energy we've build up."

Susan Ohmer
professor
Media and the Presidency

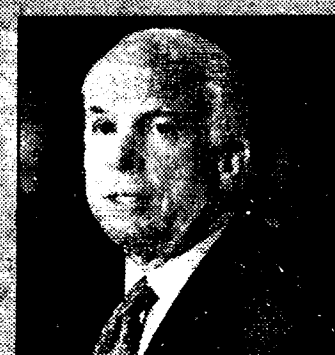
"I'm addicted to the Internet. I don't even know how many Web sites I have bookmarked that I check multiple times a day."

Spencer Howard
president
College Democrats

One of these men will be
our next president.
Be a part of the decision
and cast your vote today.



Obama



McCain

Right

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Chinese population has access to education, she said.

"Voting for the right person and the right policy depends on how much education you receive," Zhu said. "If you are being educated, you can make a better choice."

Zhu said she has watched all three of the presidential debates between Sens. John McCain and Barack Obama and the debate between Vice Presidential candidates Sen. Joe Biden and Gov. Sarah Palin because the platforms of the next

president will affect Chinese foreign policies and International organizations like the United Nations.

"A new president is going to have a new foreign policy," she said. "China has a really close connection to the U.S., so China will have to change their foreign policy when the U.S. has a new

president."

Zhu said she believes voting is a duty as a citizen and a responsibility.

"I think this is one of the best ways to express your opinions and one of the best ways to really change your life," she said.

Olga Beltsar said although she grew up in California, she was born in the Ukraine and cannot vote in the upcoming election. The

sophomore has become involved in politics through her work as Cavanaugh Hall's dorm commissioner for NDvotes '08. She said she helped students in her hall register to vote.

"It felt kind of nice because the more people registered to vote, the more they got excited about it and the more I felt involved in the process," Beltsar said.

Beltsar said voting in the Ukraine is much more difficult than in the United States because the country is unstable and many leaders are corrupt and partake in election fraud to get certain leaders elected.

"Election fraud has disen-

franchised people who would vote for candidates with a pro-Western agenda," she said.

Beltsar said she once tried to vote in the Ukraine elections through the Ukrainian embassy but the paperwork did not go through in time.

Vanya Cucumanova, a graduate student in the Peace Studies program and a citizen of Bulgaria, said she is following the election because the financial crisis in the United States has hurt the economy in Bulgaria.

"The Bulgarian market is very much dependent on the U.S. dollar and the Euro, and now the prices here are affected greatly," she said. "There was a big fallout in the Bulgarian stock market, much bigger in proportion than what it was here."

Cucumanova also said many Bulgarians are paying attention to the election because of issues with American military bases in Bulgaria. The Bush administration asked for military bases in Bulgaria, and the people clashed with the gov-

ernment on the matter, she said.

"People didn't want the bases to be in Bulgaria, but the government had no way

to refuse as part of being in NATO, which is important to us, being in a small country," Cucumanova said. "In that particular sense, who is the next president affects us because he will affect how these bases are used."

Cucumanova said Bulgaria has a President along with a Prime Minister and a Parliament. For the Presidential elections, there are usually four or five candidates, she said. Cucumanova said the Presidential elections in Bulgaria are different because Bulgarians usually vote based on personality and she said she believes people in the U.S. usually vote by party.

"I think that the U.S. system is very much narrowed down to party lines," she said. "In Bulgaria, that's not the case."

Contact Madeline Buckley
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Young

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Since the beginning of the school year, the campus has been abuzz with different student groups trying to get out the message to vote. The student body has consequently taken a heightened interest in the election.

Like many first-time voters in the freshman class, Kahn said that he is thrilled to be voting for the first time this election.

"It's pretty exciting. I have friends that are still in high school telling me that I'm lucky," he said.

Kahn also pointed out that the strong participation by young voters in both presidential campaigns contributed to his anticipation.

"I've never really considered voting to be that 'exciting' but with so much attention being paid to this election, especially from the youth of America, I certainly feel like I'm fortunate to be involved," Kahn said.

Similar to many people, Kahn said he believes the economy is the most important issue in this election.

"Being a college student, the state of the economy is probably my No. 1 concern when it comes to politics, I know I would hate to have graduated from college last year or be graduating this year, and I don't want the economy to be in a similar state in four years," he said.

Kahn also cited the war in Iraq and national security as two other important issues.

Pollsters are predicting a record number of college-age voters in this year's election. Kahn agreed with these forecasts, but personally hopes that the youth have motives behind their choice.

"I think it's extremely important for the youth of America to vote, but it's even more important that they vote for the right reasons. It seems that voting is becoming a 'trendy' thing to do. Young voters need to pay attention to the issues, and make educated decisions," he said.

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Loyal

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Dame students should be able to go every year and learn something new from the show. New stories will be included, and some stories from previous productions will be integrated into new productions," Cross said.

"This year, with two authors, one of them a male student, we feel that the show continues to evolve, which was the original hope."

The play, originally titled "Loyal Daughters," debuted on campus in 2006. Emily Weisbecker, a 2007 Notre Dame graduate, wrote the

show in order to increase students' awareness of sexuality issues present on campus. In 2007, Sarah Van Mill, a 2008 graduate, took over as the show's co-writer and decided to rename the show.

"The show was renamed 'Loyal Daughters and Sons' to reflect the increased proportion of male perspectives that were incorporated," Cross said.

This year, the show hoped to incorporate even more of a

male perspective with the creative efforts of a male co-writer. Preston and Cross conducted interviews with students and other members of the Notre Dame community in order to gain new material for the show's script.

"I think having a male interviewer is invaluable to the project in terms of gathering stories from the community.

When you're talking about sexual issues, it is important that people are able to interview with either a man or a woman, because most likely they will be more comfortable with one or the other," Preston said. "This is an issue

that also can't be solved by one gender alone, which makes it crucial to have men just as involved in the production as women."

Preston first became interested in "Loyal Sons and Daughters" after he saw the 2006 production. In 2007, Preston auditioned for, and successfully landed, a role in the play.

"I loved performing in the show last year," Preston said.

"As a theatre major, I appreciated being involved in something that channeled my theatrical talents towards a positive cause. The great thing about performing in this show is that you're dealing with real stories, which allows you to get to know someone who you probably haven't had a chance to meet. Most of the people in these stories are confused about something, and trying to play them on stage forces you to really identify with that confusion, which, for me, led to a very unique understanding of the issues and the difficulties this play addresses."

This year's production consists of 30 different scenes. Each scene deals with sex, sexuality and sexual assault at Notre Dame and is based off of real-life experiences of Notre Dame students.

"We have 13 new scenes this year, which we think bring in a lot of material that the show hasn't dealt with before. We tried to pull in and utilize previous stories that complemented the new material," Preston said. "This year's show reflects a lot of confusion and questions. The people in these stories are trying to figure out what things mean, what it means to be sexual, what it means to be Catholic, what it

means to be raped. We also tried to pay attention to how people around the victims responded or reacted to sexual assault so that the show examines what we as a community can or should do about the issue."

"Loyal Daughters and Sons," directed by senior Megan Hartmann, will be shown Nov. 5-7 at 7:30 p.m. in Washington Hall. Tickets are \$3 for students and \$5 for non-students and will be available both at the LaFortune Box Office and at the door.

Immediately following the Thursday and Friday performances, a post-show panel will be held to discuss how to prevent, avoid and address sexual assault at Notre Dame.

"I believe that if students choose to attend the play, they should do so with open minds, ready to listen to these stories and respond, as a member of the Notre Dame community," Cross said. "I would say, go to the performance. Stay for the panel discussions. And then, don't let your involvement stop there. Keep asking questions, having discussions, speaking out, and listening to what others have to say."

Contact Ellyn Michalak at
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"Most of the people in these stories are confused about something, and trying to play them on stage forces you to really identify with that confusion, which, for me, led to a very unique understanding of the issues and the difficulties this play addresses."

Devin Preston
co-writer

"I would say, go to performance. Stay for the panel discussions."

Zoë Cross
co-writer

Arrests

continued from page 1

festivities include the use of alcoholic beverages, remember to follow Indiana laws and drink responsibly," Chapman said. "Law enforcement officers will arrest underage drinkers on campus and at tailgate parties."

Chapman said NDSP worked with Indiana State Excise Police, St. Joseph County Police and South Bend Police.

Contact John-Paul Witt
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It's Election Day.
Use The Observer's electoral map to chart the results and pick up tomorrow's edition for complete analysis.

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Bin Laden aid gets life in prison

GUANTANAMO BAY NAVAL BASE, Cuba — A Guantanamo prisoner who made propaganda videos for Osama bin Laden and says he volunteered to be a Sept. 11 hijacker was convicted of terrorism charges and sentenced to life in prison Monday.

A jury of nine U.S. military officers deliberated for just under an hour before condemning Ali Hamza al-Bahlul at Guantanamo's second war-crimes trial. Al-Bahlul was convicted of 35 counts of conspiracy, solicitation to commit murder and providing material support for terrorism.

The jury, which announced its verdict earlier Monday, dismissed one count of conspiracy and one count of providing material support for terrorism.

The 39-year-old Yemeni defiantly admitted joining al-Qaida, accused the U.S. of oppressing Muslims for 50 years and said "we will fight any government that governs America."

Congo refugees angry at lack of food

KIBATI, Congo — Hungry refugees cheered when the first humanitarian convoy in a week arrived at their camp Monday, but the jubilation turned to anger when U.N. workers dumped only soap and plastic jerry cans instead of food and sped on past rebel lines.

U.N. officials conceded that hunger at the Kibati camp, where tens of thousands sheltered from fighting in eastern Congo, was dire but said the first priority was to resupply medical clinics looted by retreating government troops.

"Are we supposed to eat this?" demanded Boniface Ndayumujinya, an elderly man waving a bundle of spring onions brought by a friend. He said he was with eight family members who had not eaten in five days.

NATIONAL NEWS

Funeral held for Hudson's slain family

CHICAGO — Hundreds of mourners attended a private funeral service for Oscar winner Jennifer Hudson's slain mother, brother and nephew Monday at a South Side church.

A composed Hudson paused before the bodies of her relatives before giving her mother a final kiss, said attendees of the invitation-only service.

Chicago Mayor Richard Daley and the Rev. Jesse Jackson were among those who spoke at the three-hour service for Darnell Hudson Donerson, 57, Jason Hudson, 29, and Julian King, 7.

The three were found shot to death late last month, the adults in Donerson's home and Julian in a vehicle found several miles away. Julian is the son of Jennifer Hudson's older sister, Julia Hudson.

Bones identified as Fossett's remains

MADERA, Calif. — Authorities said Monday they have positively identified some of Steve Fossett's remains: two large bones found a half-mile from where the adventurer's plane crashed in California's Sierra Nevada.

Madera County Sheriff John Anderson said DNA tests conducted by the state Department of Justice positively identified the bones as the remains of the millionaire aviator who disappeared last year.

Anderson has declined to say what bones were found, saying he didn't want to cause the family further anguish.

LOCAL NEWS

Clerk ends voting with 100s waiting

EVANSVILLE, Ind. — The county clerk turned away hundreds of voters who had stood in line for hours to cast absentee ballots in person when Monday's noon deadline arrived.

Radio station WIKY reported hundreds of voters were in line at noon pressing against the door to the office of Vanderburgh County Clerk Susan Kirk when they were turned away.

"I was right there in line ready to sign the book and the lady said I couldn't sign the book," Danielle Groves of Evansville told WIKY. "I've been in this line since eight o'clock this morning waiting to vote. This is ridiculous. It doesn't make any sense."

ELECTION 2008

Candidates campaign relentlessly

McCain, Obama travel the country, looking for votes in battleground states

Associated Press

TAMPA, Fla. — Barack Obama radiated confidence and John McCain displayed the grit of an underdog Monday as the presidential rivals reached for the finish line of a two-year marathon with a burst of campaigning across battlegrounds from the Atlantic Coast to Arizona.

"We are one day away from change in America," said Obama, a Democrat seeking to become the first black president — a dream not nearly as distant on election eve as it once was.

McCain, too, promised to turn the page of the era of George W. Bush, and he warned about his opponent's intentions. "Sen. Obama is in the far left lane" of politics, he said. "He's more liberal than a guy who calls himself a Socialist and that's not easy."

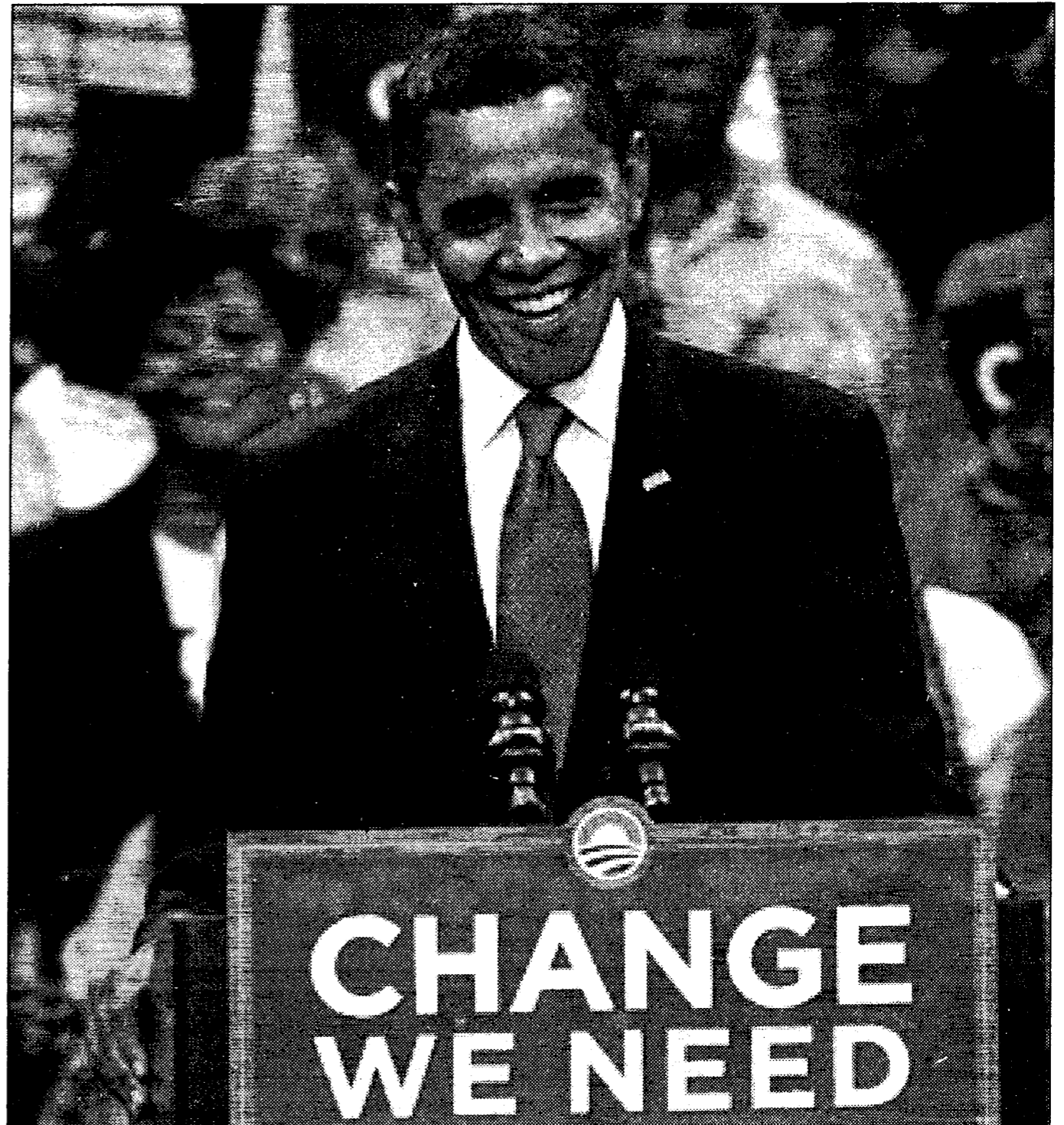
Republican running mate Sarah Palin was even more pointed as she campaigned in Ohio. "Now is not the time to experiment with socialism," she said. "Our opponent's plan is just for bigger government."

Late-season attacks aside, Obama led in virtually all the pre-election polls in a race where economic concerns dominated and the war in Iraq was pushed — however temporarily — into the background.

Early voting, more than 29 million ballots cast in 30 states, suggested an advantage for Obama as well. Official statistics showed Democrats who have already voted outnumbered Republicans in North Carolina, Colorado, Florida and Iowa, all of which went for President Bush in 2004.

Democrats also anticipated gains in the House and in the Senate, although Republicans battled to hold their losses to a minimum and a significant number of races were rated as tossups in the campaign's final hours.

By their near-non-stop attention to states that voted Republican in 2004, both Obama and McCain acknowledged the Democrats' advantage in the presidential race.



Democratic candidate Sen. Barack Obama campaigns in Florida, a battleground state, on Monday.

The two rivals both began their days in Florida, a traditionally Republican state with 27 electoral votes where polls make it close.

Obama drew 9,000 or so at a rally in Jacksonville, while across the state, a crowd estimated at roughly 1,000 turned out for McCain.

One day before the election, no battleground state was left unattended.

But Virginia, where no Democrat has won in 40 years, and Ohio, where no Republican president has ever lost, seemed most coveted. Together, they account for 33 electoral votes that McCain can scarcely do without.

Democratic volunteers in Maryland, a state safe for Obama, called voters in next-door Virginia, where McCain trailed in the polls. The Democratic presidential candidate's visit to Virginia during the day was his 11th since he clinched the nomination.

Unwilling to concede anything, McCain's campaign filed a lawsuit in Richmond seeking to force election officials to count late-arriving ballots from members of the armed forces overseas. No hearing was immediately scheduled.

Several hundred miles away in Ohio — the state that sealed Bush's second term in 2004 — voters waited as long as three hours in line to cast

ballots in Columbus, part of heavily contested Franklin County. Poll workers handed out bottles of water to sustain them.

Lori Huffman, 38, a supervisor at UPS Inc., took the day off to vote early for her man, McCain. "It's exciting isn't it?" she asked, gesturing toward the long line of waiting voters.

"This is happening all over the state, from Cleveland to Dayton," said Gov. Ted Strickland, a Democrat trying to deliver his state to Obama.

Obama hoped so, after more than a year building an elaborate get-out-the-vote operation, first for the primary campaign, now for the general election.

ELECTION 2008

Obama mourns grandmother's death

Associated Press

HONOLULU — Barack Obama's grandmother, whose personality and bearing shaped much of the life of the Democratic presidential contender, has died, Obama announced Monday, one day before the election. Madelyn Payne Dunham was 86.

Obama announced the news from the campaign trail in Charlotte, N.C. The joint statement with his sister Maya Soetoro-Ng said Dunham died late Sunday night after a battle with cancer.

"She's gone home," Obama said as tens of thousands of rowdy supporters at the University of North Carolina-Charlotte grew silent in an evening drizzle.

"And she died peacefully in her sleep with my sister at her side. And so there is great joy as well as tears. I'm not going to talk about it too long because it is hard for me to talk about."

But he said he wanted people to know a little about her — that she lived through the Great Depression and World War II, working the latter

on a bomber assembly line with a baby at home and a husband serving his country. He said she was humble and plain spoken, one of the "quiet heroes that we have all across America" working hard and hoping to see their children and grandchildren thrive.

"That's what we're fighting for," Obama said.

Obama learned of Dunham's death Monday morning while he was campaigning in Jacksonville, Fla. He went ahead with campaign appearances. The family said a private ceremony would be held later.

IRAQ

String of bombings shake Baghdad, kill 10, wound 40

Attacks show that extremists still have the capability to stage bombings even in heavily guarded capital city

Associated Press

BAGHDAD — A series of bombings struck Baghdad and a neighboring province Monday, killing at least 10 people and wounding 40, including a deputy oil minister who was injured when a bomb went off in front of his house as he was leaving for work.

Most of the six blasts occurred in Baghdad, reinforcing U.S. military warnings that extremists remain capable of launching attacks in the capital despite an overall improvement in security.

The attacks took place on the eve of the U.S. presidential election between Sen. Barack Obama and Sen. John McCain, who hold widely differing views on the war in Iraq.

Six people died when a pair of bombs — one of them hidden in a trash can — exploded in Tahariyat square in the Karradah district of central Baghdad during the morning rush hour.

Police said 21 people were wounded, including 10 policemen and two women. The blasts blew out store fronts lining the square in a mostly Shiite area of eastern Baghdad.

Soon afterward, a bomb went off in front of the north Baghdad home of Abdul-Sahib Salman Qutub, a deputy oil minister in charge of crude oil production.

Ministry spokesman Assem Jihad said the bomb was attached to Qutub's car and went off as he was walking to the vehicle.

Qutub was treated and released from a hospital, but his driver was seriously injured, Jihad said.

One policeman was killed and six were injured in a roadside bombing in east Baghdad, police said. Another policeman and a civilian were wounded when a bomb went off near a police patrol in the western part of the capital.

In Baqouba, about 35 miles

northeast of Baghdad, a car bomb blew up across the street from the provincial council headquarters, killing two policemen and a 10-year-old girl, Diyala provincial police said. Nine people were wounded.

A group of people were inside the council headquarters attending a conference on how to protect journalists in Diyala, one of Iraq's most unstable provinces. None of the participants was hurt, police said.

The police officials all spoke on condition of anonymity because they were not supposed to release the information.

U.S. officials say attacks in Baghdad are averaging about four a day, down nearly 90 percent from levels of late 2006 when Shiite-Sunni fighting was at its high point and just before the U.S. troop surge, which helped bring down violence in the capital.

Nevertheless, Monday's bombings show that extremists retain the capability to stage bombings even in the heart of the heavily guarded Iraqi capital.

Last week, unknown assailants blew up a major water pipeline in northern Baghdad, interrupting water supplies to thousands of people before the damage was repaired.

U.S. military commanders have warned that both Sunni and Shiite extremists remain active and have cautioned against major reductions in the 145,000-strong U.S. force until Iraqi police and soldiers are capable of maintaining security.

But U.S. strategy in Iraq may change depending on the outcome of Tuesday's presidential contest.

Obama opposed the Iraq invasion of 2003 and has called for a complete withdrawal of combat troops in 16 months. McCain supported the decision



An Iraqi policeman secures the area at the scene where a car bomb exploded in Baqouba, 35 miles northeast of Baghdad on Monday.

to go to war and opposes scheduling a troop withdrawal, saying the U.S. strategy since the 2007 troop surge is succeeding.

The U.S. and Iraq are negotiating a new security agreement which would end the U.S. military presence by 2012 and give Iraqis a greater role in managing combat operations.

Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki's government is waiting for a U.S. response to proposed changes in the draft agreement before referring it to parliament for a final decision. The agreement must be approved

by the end of the year when the U.N. mandate governing coalition operations expires.

Without an agreement or a new mandate, U.S. military operations would cease on Jan. 1.

The U.S. contends that lasting peace will not come to Iraq until the rival religious and ethnic groups reach power-sharing agreements. As part of that process, Iraq's parliament approved a bill granting Christians and other small religious groups seats on several provincial councils.

The measure was the last legislative hurdle standing in the way of provincial elections by the end of January. Christians complained, however, that the bill granted them too few seats.

Iraqi Christians, believed to number no more than 3 percent of Iraq's 27 million people, have complained of violence, intimidation and the loss of status since the rise of Islamic militancy in the wake of the U.S. invasion.

On Monday, however, al-Maliki, a Shiite, pledged to protect the Christians, whom he described as "an essential component" of Iraqi society.

PAKISTAN

Zardari warns Petraeus against missile strikes on border

Pakistani president says attacks are counterproductive and must be stopped to avoid backlash in war on terror

Associated Press

ISLAMABAD — Pakistan on Monday urged the American general taking charge of the war in Afghanistan to halt missile attacks on militants in its border badlands to avert a backlash against the U.S. in this vital ally in the war on terrorism.

Gen. David Petraeus met President Asif Ali Zardari, army chief Gen. Ashfaq Parvez Kayani and other officials on his first international trip since taking over U.S. Central Command three days earlier.

Petraeus, who now oversees the wars in Afghanistan and Iraq, told CNN he had heard criticism over the U.S. attacks on militant targets on the Pakistani side of the border with Afghanistan.

"In fact, we got certain mes-

sages with each of those we talked today and some of those were very clear and we have taken those on board," CNN quoted Petraeus as saying. "The tone of the conversation was very frank and very forthright, as it should be," he added later.

There is growing U.S. concern about how Islamic militants are using pockets of Pakistan's northwest region as sanctuaries to support the escalating insurgency in Afghanistan.

Complaints from U.S. commanders about Pakistan's efforts to counter the insurgents have been accompanied by a surge of missile strikes on suspected Taliban and al-Qaida targets, despite condemnation in Pakistan.

According to state-run APP news agency, Zardari told Petraeus and Assistant

Secretary of State Richard Boucher that the attacks from unmanned drones should be stopped. Washington is suspected of launching at least 17 such missile strikes on Pakistan since August.

"Continuing drone attacks on our territory, which result in loss of precious lives and property, are counterproductive and difficult to explain by a democratically elected government," Zardari was quoted as saying.

He said the government was "under pressure to react more aggressively" to the strikes.

In September, a U.S. ground assault in a tribal region in Pakistan's northwest spurred particular outrage. Days later, Pakistani troops fired on or sent flares at two American helicopters operating near the border and U.S. and Pakistani ground forces in the area exchanged

fire.

There have been no reports of additional ground assaults since and Petraeus has given few hints about what strategy he will follow.

Without confirming the subject of Petraeus' discussions in Pakistan, White House press secretary Dana Perino said it is normal for allies such as the U.S. and Pakistan to exchange views frankly.

"There's a lot of tension in Pakistan right now," Perino said. "They have a lot of issues on their plate, from terrorists to their economy to the concerns about their future security and their political situation, as they have a new administration that's trying to get settled."

Pakistan's government is mindful of widespread opposition at home to its ties with Washington. However, it has

acknowledged its dependence on Western aid in the face of economic problems and taken a tough public stance against terrorism and extremism.

Defense Minister Ahmad Mukhtar said in a statement after his meeting with Petraeus that missile strikes could "create outrage and uproar among the people." But his statement also noted that both sides "stressed the need for enhanced cooperation to eliminate the scourge of terrorism."

It was unclear whether Petraeus addressed vows from Pakistani and Afghan leaders to seek talks with elements of the Taliban. Petraeus, previously the top U.S. commander in Iraq, has indicated support for efforts to reach out to members of the Taliban considered moderate enough to cooperate with the Afghan government.

Tuesday, November 4, 2008

MARKET RECAP

Stocks

Dow Jones 9,319.83 -5.18

Up: 1,963 Same: 74 Down: 1,508 Composite Volume: 271,993,156

AMEX 1,475.32 +8.42
NASDAQ 1,726.33 +5.38
NYSE 6,054.98 -6.11
S&P 500 966.30 -2.45
NIKKEI (Tokyo) 8,942.34 +365.36
FTSE 100 (London) 4,443.28 +65.94

COMPANY	%CHANGE	\$GAIN	PRICE
SPDR S&P 500 (SPY)	+0.29	+0.28	97.11
POWERSHARES (QQQQ)	-0.21	-0.07	32.82
AMER INTL GROUP INC (AIG)	+12.04	+0.23	2.14
ISHARES MSCI E.M.I.F. (EEM)	-0.90	-0.23	25.20

Treasuries

10-YEAR NOTE	-1.66	-0.070	3.900
13-WEEK BILL	-3.45	-0.020	0.420
30-YEAR BOND	-1.10	-0.048	4.321
5-YEAR NOTE	-4.08	-0.115	2.706

Commodities

LIGHT CRUDE (\$/bbl.)	-3.90	63.91
GOLD (\$/Troy oz.)	+8.60	726.80
PORK BELLIES (cents/lb.)	-0.88	83.90

Exchange Rates

YEN	98.6700
EURO	0.7943
CANADIAN DOLLAR	1.1826
BRITISH POUND	0.6341

IN BRIEF

Hundreds of Circuit City stores close

RICHMOND, Va. — As the lights go out at about 20 percent of Circuit City's stores, the company is hoping that by closing hundreds of stores and cutting thousands of jobs it can survive consumers who are reluctant to spend and vendors less eager to give it credit.

But analysts say the moves announced Monday renewed the specter of bankruptcy hanging over the nation's No. 2 consumer electronics retailer heading into a holiday shopping season that could determine its future.

"Clearly, (Circuit City) is frantically working to keep itself alive," JP Morgan analyst Christopher Horvers wrote in a note to investors.

Circuit City Stores Inc. is closing 155 of its more than 700 U.S. stores by Dec. 31. The stores are spread throughout 28 states, including multiple locations in areas like Phoenix and Atlanta. It is laying off about 17 percent of its domestic work force, which could affect up to 7,300 people.

James A. Marcum, vice chairman and acting president and chief executive, called the decision to close stores "difficult, but necessary."

Hysterical lady bought for \$3 million

LEXINGTON, Ky. — Moments after his racehorse sold for \$3 million at auction, trainer Jerry Hollendorfer began lobbying the buyer to preserve Hysterical Lady's racing career rather than retire her as a broodmare.

John Ferguson, who placed the winning bid Monday at Keeneland on behalf of Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid al Maktoum, the ruler of Dubai, said she would likely head to the breeding shed. But, he acknowledged Hollendorfer was persuasive.

"He's making a case," Ferguson said. With the sale, Hollendorfer gave up his 33 percent stake in the 5-year-old racing star who won seven lifetime starts, including last year's Grade I Humana Distaff, and came up short of winning the Breeders' Cup Distaff later that year.

Hollendorfer said he understands the temptation to retire the Distorted Humor mare, but he said her durability also opens the door for continued success on the track should the sheikh decide to go that route.

THE OBSERVER BUSINESS

page 7

U.S. auto sales show drastic decline

Auto sales drop to 17-year low while General Motors sales drop by 45 percent

Associated Press

DETROIT — U.S. auto sales dropped to their lowest level in more than 17 years last month as consumers frightened by Wall Street turmoil stayed away from showrooms, prompting some auto company executives to predict dire consequences if the market doesn't improve.

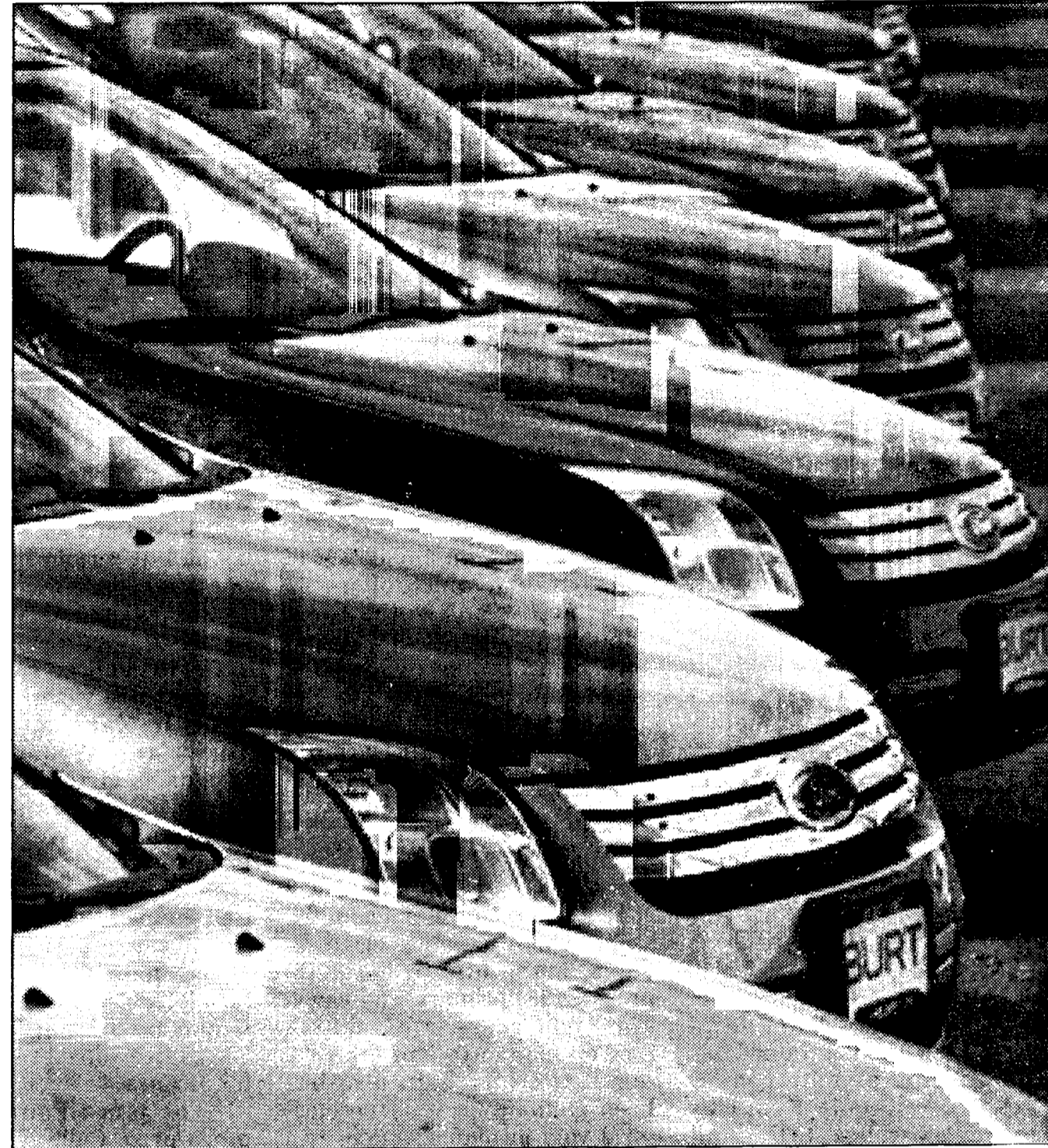
By the time all automakers reported their numbers Monday, sales had dropped 32 percent to just over 838,156 vehicles, the lowest monthly sales figure since January 1991, according to Autodata Corp. and Ward's AutoInfoBank.

"This is clearly a severe, severe recession for the U.S. automotive industry and something we really can't sustain," said Mike DiGiovanni, General Motors Corp.'s executive director of global market and industry analysis who said the government should speed up actions to thaw out frozen credit. "There really needs to be actions focused on the consumer and available credit."

GM's sales plunged 45 percent in October, the worst drop of any major automaker. Chrysler LLC, which is in talks to be acquired by GM as a way for both companies to survive in the current climate, saw a 35 percent decline. Ford Motor Co.'s sales dropped 30 percent.

Japanese companies weren't immune from the carnage, with Toyota Motor Corp. sales down 23 percent despite a zero-percent financing offer. Honda Motor Co.'s sales dropped 25 percent and Nissan Motor Co.' sales tumbled 33 percent.

October's seasonally adjusted annual sales rate of 10.6 million vehicles was worst since February 1983 and far below the rate of 16 million a year earlier, Autodata said. The closely



2008 Fusion Sedans sit at a Ford dealership in the southeast Denver waiting to be sold on Sunday.

watched figure indicates what sales would be if they remained at their current rate all year, with adjustments for seasonal fluctuations.

"There are no hot segments or really hot products," said George Pipas, Ford's top sales analyst.

The figures were especially troublesome for GM and Ford, both of which are trying to conserve cash and stay in business long enough to outlast a severe economic downturn. Neither company had any idea when sales might rebound to more normal levels.

Emily Kolinski Morris,

the Dearborn-based company's senior economist, said that because automobiles are more durable than in the past, people can wait without buying a new vehicle until they feel more confident in the economy.

"The answer to when we will start to come out of that trough lies in when the economy comes out of that trough," Kolinski Morris said on a conference call with reporters and analysts.

The poor sales, though, will mean good deals for people who do want to buy cars. Toyota decided to extend its zero-percent

financing offer on most models for another month, while GM announced it would begin its annual "Red Tag" year-end sale Tuesday, earlier than normal. Auburn Hills, Mich.-based Chrysler said it would continue incentives introduced in November that include cash rebates of up to \$6,000 and discounted financing on remaining 2008 models.

Toyota's no-interest loans gave it an advantage last month over automakers such as GM and Chrysler whose finance companies are having trouble getting access to capital.

Banks tighten lending in all areas

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Banks tightened the spigots further on all sorts of lending, from home mortgages to credit cards and business loans, as the worst financial crisis in seven decades took a bigger toll on the economy.

The Federal Reserve said Monday that its latest quarterly survey of bank lending practices found high numbers of banks reporting tighter credit standards across a broad range of loan products. Nearly 60 percent of banks responding to the survey said they had tightened lending standards on credit card debt.

"We're into the eye of the storm here," said Brian Bethune, chief U.S. financial economist at IHS Global Insight in Lexington, Mass.

The latest Fed survey was conducted in the first two weeks of October, too soon to reflect possible effects of the government's program to inject about \$250 billion into U.S. banks by directly buying shares in them as part of a broader financial rescue effort. The government also plans to buy billions in distressed mortgage-related assets that banks hold.

The unprecedented government moves are designed to bolster banks' balance sheets and break the logjam in bank lending to get the credit system moving again — and avoid the country sinking into a deep and prolonged recession.

The Fed survey of 55 domestic banks and 21 U.S. offices of foreign banks found that sizable percentages of banks had "continued to tighten their lending standards and terms on

all major loan categories over the previous three months."

The figures reflect the condition of bank lending "as the economy has entered into a recession," said Keith Leggett, senior economist at the American Bankers Association.

The Fed found 85 percent of the domestic banks responding to the survey reported that they had tightened their lending standards for a major type of business loans known as "commercial and industrial" loans, up from 60 percent in the June survey. Nearly all banks — 95 percent — reported tighter standards for the lines of credit they extend to large and medium-sized businesses.

A large number of banks also reported they were tightening standards for both credit cards and other types of consumer loans.

Key states could bring early winner

Landslide possible if Obama secures Georgia, Indiana, Virginia

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Election watchers won't have to wait for polls to close in the West to know how things are going. The first clues will come early, when voting ends in Georgia, Indiana and Virginia.

If Democrat Barack Obama wins any of the three, he could be on his way to a big victory, maybe even a landslide. If Republican John McCain sweeps them, he could be headed for a comeback. And if any of these three are too close to call quickly, that could indicate a long night ahead — and, perhaps, a squeaker of a result.

President Bush comfortably won the trio four years ago. But Obama has used his financial muscle and his draw as the youthful first black Democratic nominee to put them, and other historically reliable Republican states, into play.

Thus, the Democrat has several routes he can take to reach the 270 Electoral College votes needed for victory. McCain's strategy has no room for error; he must win nearly all the states that went to Bush in 2004, and possibly even one or two that voted for Democrat John Kerry that year.

Here's a timetable for arm-chair election watchers, all given in Eastern Standard Time:

— 7 p.m.: The last polls close in Georgia, Indiana and Virginia, new battlegrounds this year offering a combined 39 votes, as well as in Kentucky and South Carolina, GOP country and 16 votes McCain should easily win, and Vermont, three, a sure thing for Obama.

— 7:30 p.m.: Ohio and North Carolina, both are critical for McCain.

Ohio is a perennial swing state that no Republican has ever lost on his way to the presidency. Bush captured the state twice, and a loss would be difficult, if not impossible, for McCain to weather. He has few options to make up the 20 electoral votes elsewhere, while Obama probably could sustain a defeat here and look for wins in other GOP states where polls

show him running stronger.

North Carolina, with 15 votes, is another GOP state that Obama targeted for a pickup from the start of the general election and one where he is working to get blacks and young adults to turn out for him in droves. He also made a late play for West Virginia's five votes. Both are less likely than others to flip; McCain losing either would be disastrous.

— 8 p.m.: Final voting ends in some 15 states and Washington, D.C.

For Obama, the biggest prizes among them are Florida and its 27 votes and 11-vote Missouri, a bellwether for decades. Both went for Bush, and while Obama can afford to lose both, McCain can't.

Should the Republican stumble in those states or others, he hopes to make up any deficit in Pennsylvania, which offers 21 votes and hasn't voted for a Republican since 1988. A loss here could be the death knell for McCain's chances; it's the only Kerry-won state where he and the Republican National Committee are fiercely competing.

Among other Kerry states, McCain hopes New Hampshire and its independent streak will come through for him again; the state, which has four electoral votes, made him in his 2000 presidential primary and saved him eight years later, setting him on course to win the GOP nomination. McCain also has been gunning for a single electoral vote in Maine, one of two states that award them by congressional districts.

In this election-night hour, the Republican will almost certainly rack up 33 quick votes with wins in Alabama, Mississippi, Oklahoma and Tennessee, while Obama banks 47 from Connecticut, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Jersey and the nation's capital and 24 more from his home state of Illinois and that of running mate Joe Biden, Delaware.

— 8:30 p.m.: Arkansas should be called for McCain shortly after its polls close. It has six votes.

— 9 p.m.: Another big wave of states closing. The ones to watch are hotly contested Bush states Colorado and New Mexico, where Obama hopes Democratic-leaning Hispanics will lift him to victory. McCain could withstand losing the 14 votes these two offer — as long as he wins just about everywhere else he's competing.

It's also worth keeping an eye on the typically reliable Republican territory of North Dakota and South Dakota. Obama has competed in the former, and there may be overlap effect in the latter. They each offer there votes. Obama is also pushing for one vote in a Nebraska congressional district.

Arizona, McCain's home state, may be another key indicator of which way the election will play out. If McCain loses that state, it's all but certain his presidential dreams are over. Some surveys show the race there having tightened.

The Republican can essentially guarantee victories worth 52 votes in Kansas, Louisiana, Texas and Wyoming, while Obama is virtually certain to collect 72 votes from Michigan, Minnesota, New York, Rhode Island and Wisconsin.

— 10 p.m.: Voting ends in GOP-held, Iowa, Montana and Nevada, a combined 15 votes. Losing these would be a setback for McCain, while winning them would be a boon for Obama. Utah's five votes are a certainty for McCain.

— 11 p.m.: Four states — mega-prize California, Hawaii, Oregon and Washington — are expected to quickly give Obama a combined 77 votes, while Idaho is expected to award its four votes to McCain.

— 1 a.m.: Capping off the night is Alaska, where GOP vice presidential nominee Sarah Palin is governor. The Republican ticket is a shoo-in for those three votes.

And then it's over. Or not. As the past two elections showed, there's no certainty. If it's a contest at all, the victor may not be declared until Wednesday's wee hours. Or later.

Candidates visit undecided Indiana

Associated Press

INDIANAPOLIS — Unexpectedly undecided Indiana is drawing both John McCain and Barack Obama back for last-minute campaign stops before voting ends Tuesday in their quests for the state's electoral votes.

Indiana hasn't backed a Democratic presidential candidate since Lyndon Johnson won the state in 1964, but recent polls have shown the race between Obama and McCain as a dead heat.

McCain spoke at an airport rally Monday afternoon in Indianapolis — his first stop in the state since July 1. Republicans hoped McCain's visit would bolster the state's long-standing conservative leanings.

"We've got the momentum, my friends. We've got it," McCain told the crowd. "Indiana is now a battleground state, but it's a battle we're going to win."

Democrats said the visit was too little, too late.

"If John McCain thinks he can ignore Indiana, show up for a brief stop in the final hours of this election without talking about the issues that Hoosiers care about, and win votes, he has another think coming," said Lauren Smith, spokeswoman for the Indiana Democratic Party.

Obama planned to visit the Indianapolis area on Tuesday in his ninth Indiana campaign stop since mid-July.

The Obama campaign released no details, saying the Illinois senator planned to meet voters in person and ask for their support. Obama's Indiana stop on Tuesday comes as he travels to Chicago for a massive rally in Grant Park.

Many Hoosiers, meanwhile, have already voted.

As of Monday, 631,906 people had cast early absentee ballots

— more than 14 percent of the state's 4.5 million registered voters.

Secretary of State Todd Rokita was hoping for a smoother election night than the one in the May primary.

Lake County results came in late on primary night, but election administrators say they are adding counting stations for

absentee ballots and have created a separate problem-solving station so ballot questions won't bog down the counting process during the general election.

Rokita said it sometimes takes time to get fair and correct

results.

"I'm not going to sacrifice fairness or accuracy for speed," Rokita said.

Many voters were drawn to the polls this year because of the presidential election, but Tuesday's election will also determine control of the governor's office and the Statehouse.

Republican Gov. Mitch Daniels, who introduced McCain at Monday's rally, has outtraded and ousted Democratic challenger Jill Long Thompson. Polls have shown Daniels with a wide lead over Long Thompson.

Daniels' campaign spokesman, Cam Savage, said they feel confident about Daniels winning a second term but are taking nothing for granted.

"We have knocked on tens of thousands of doors and made hundreds of thousands of phone calls," he said Monday. "We're not going to let up one bit through Election Day. There seems to be a lot of enthusiasm for the way he has taken the state the last four years."

In the Statehouse, Republicans are expected to keep their grip on the state Senate. But the Indiana House is up for grabs as Democrats try to hold on to or expand their slim 51-49 advantage.

Palin cleared in "Troopergate"

Legislative investigation had earlier concluded nominee abused her office

Associated Press

ANCHORAGE, Alaska — Gov. Sarah Palin violated no ethics laws when she fired her public safety commissioner, the state personnel board concluded in a report released Monday.

"There is no probable cause to believe that the governor, or any other state official, violated the Alaska Executive Ethics Act in connection with these matters," the report says.

"Gov. Palin is pleased that the independent investigator for the Personnel Board has concluded that she acted properly in the reassignment of Public Safety Commissioner Walt Monegan," her attorney, Thomas Van Flein, said in a statement.

An earlier, separate investigation by the Legislature

found that Palin had abused her office.

Monegan said he felt pressure from Palin, her husband and her staff to fire a state trooper who had gone through a nasty divorce from Palin's sister. Palin denied the claim, and said Monegan was fired last July because she wanted the department to head in a new direction.

Monegan told The Associated Press he was "perplexed and disappointed" by the report. It was prepared by Timothy Petumenos, an independent investigator for the Alaska Personnel Board.

"It conflicts with the first investigation and then casts doubts on both of them. So, it doesn't really resolve anything," he said. "If it did, then I could walk away. It does seem to fly in the face of circumstantial evidence."

The separate investigation by the Legislative Council recently concluded that Palin — the Republican vice presidential nominee — abused her office by allowing her husband and staffers to pressure Monegan to fire the trooper, Mike Wooten. However, it upheld the firing because Monegan was an at-will employee.

Petumenos said his conclusions differ from the report by the legislative panel's investigator, former prosecutor Stephen Branchflower, because the earlier probe assumed facts without having all relevant data at hand. He said Branchflower used a wrong statute as the basis for his conclusions, misconstrued the available evidence and did not consider or obtain all the material evidence to reach a proper finding.

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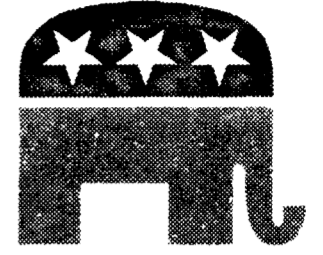
ELECTION 2008

Tuesday, November 4, 2008

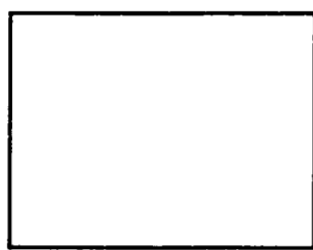
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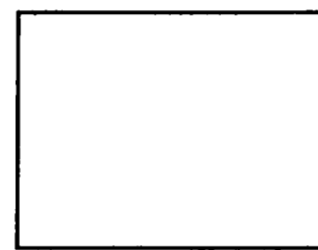
Electoral Map



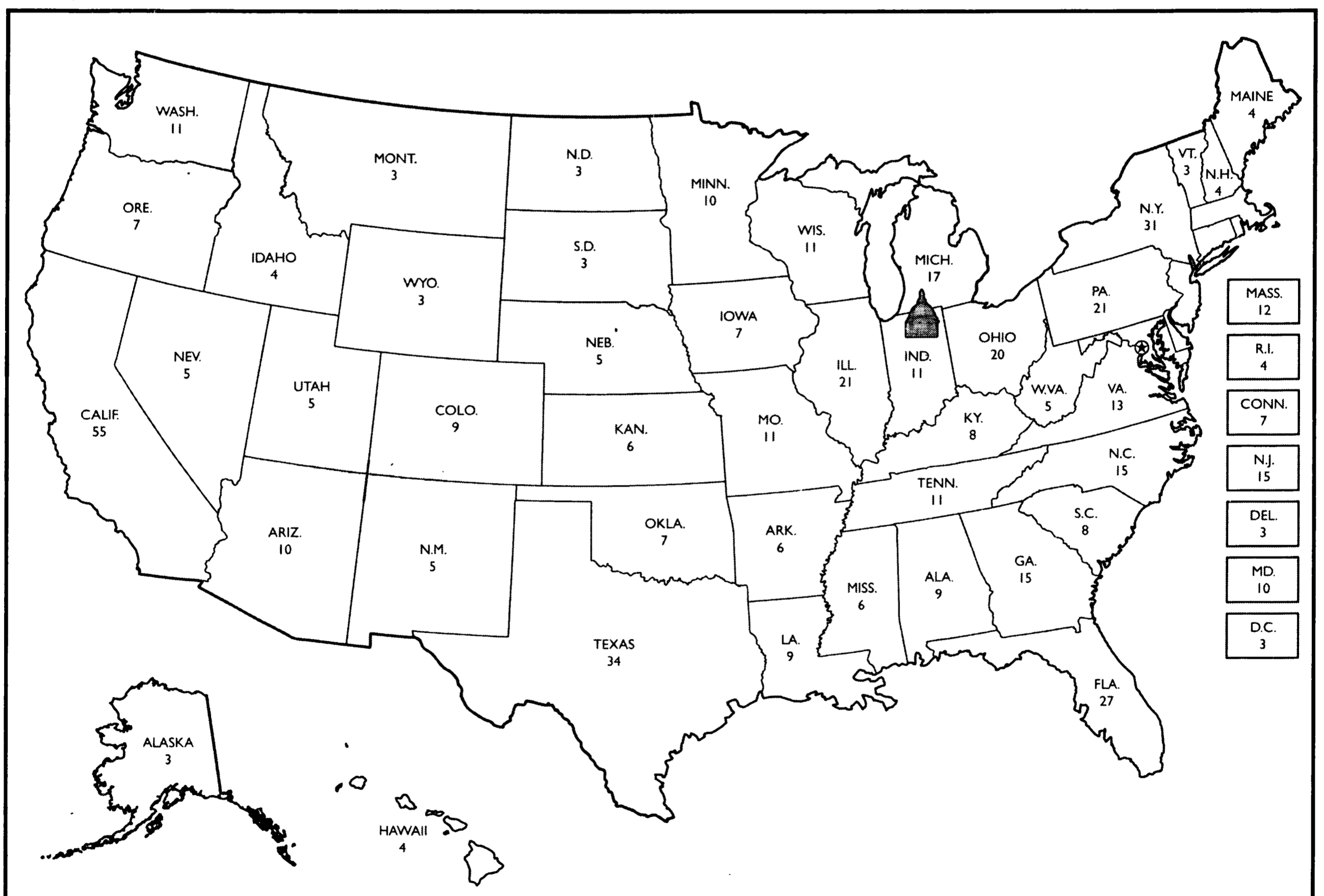
Today, as you are watching Election Day coverage on television or tracking the results online, use The Observer's Electoral Map to chart the battle for 270 electoral votes. Color states blue for Sen. Barack Obama, and red for Sen. John McCain and tally their votes.



OBAMA



McCAIN



MAGIC NUMBER
270

THE OBSERVER

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In this presidential campaign, why did so many Catholics apparently reject the teaching of the Church on citizenship? The bishops and clergy presented clearly the Church's teaching on abortion and voting. "Not all moral issues," said Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger, now Pope Benedict XVI, "have the same weight as abortion ... There may be a ... diversity of opinion ... among Catholics about ... war and ... the death penalty, but not [on] abortion and euthanasia.... A Catholic would be guilty of formal cooperation with evil... If he were to ... vote for a candidate ... because of the candidate's permissive stand on abortion ... When a Catholic does not share a candidate's stand in favor of abortion ... but votes for that candidate for other reasons, it is ... remote material cooperation, which can be permitted in the presence of proportionate reasons."

With over 48 million surgical abortions and uncountable millions more by pill or other abortifacients, all authorized by law, Archbishop John J. Myers of Newark accurately concluded that "policies on welfare, national security, the war in Iraq, Social Security or taxes, taken singly or in any combination, do not provide a proportionate reason to vote for a pro-abortion candidate."

The Obama campaign, as the Washington Post put it, reached out "aggressively" to Catholics, arguing "that the church's teachings on social justice and ... poverty, the environment, health care and unjust warfare should guide Catholic voters as much as abortion.... The Democratic effort includes anti-abortion Catholic scholars who ... favor ... Obama [and] progressive Catholic organizations that have sprung up." Some Catholic professors described Obama as the "pro-life" candidate, because he would reduce abortions by promoting pro-life attitudes and providing social services. You probably have to be an academic to believe that.

The readiness of some Catholics to put abortion on a par with issues of lesser gravity and so find a "proportionate rea-

son" to support a pro-abortion candidate could be an unintended consequence of a decision the bishops themselves made nearly three decades ago.

In *Roe v. Wade*, the Supreme Court ruled that, whether or not the unborn child is a human being, he is not a "person" and therefore has no right to life. The Court acknowledged that if he is a "person" the case for abortion "collapses, for the fetus' right to life is then guaranteed by the [Fourteenth] Amendment."

The National Conference of Catholic Bishops (NCCB) promptly condemned the decision and urged "legal and constitutional conformity to the basic truth that the unborn child is a 'person' in every sense of the term from conception." When four cardinals, Krol, Manning, Cody and Medeiros, testified before the Senate in 1974, they insisted that a constitutional amendment "should clearly establish that, from conception onward, the unborn child is a human person in the terms of the Constitution." It should restore the "right to life ... to the unborn, just as it is provided to all other persons in the United States." Cardinal Medeiros said "A 'States rights' amendment which would simply return jurisdiction over the abortion law to the States, does not seem to be a satisfactory solution ... Protection of human life should not depend upon geographical boundaries ... Therefore, the prohibition against the direct and intentional taking of innocent human life should be universal and without exceptions." If the unborn child were recognized as a "person" with respect to his right to life, abortion would still depend on state legislatures for its prohibition but those legislatures would be bound by "the supreme law of the land" not to deprive the unborn child of that right to life.

During the late 1970s support for the cardinals' position eroded. In 1981, the bishops endorsed a states' rights amendment. Archbishop John R. Roach, president of the NCCB, in endorsing the amendment, told the Senate that "[w]e are committed to full legal recognition of the right to life of the unborn child," but the NCCB acknowledged that the amendment "places the extent of restriction and prohibition [of abortion] entirely in the discretion of the federal and state legislatures." The Senate Committee on the Judiciary agreed that, under the amendment, a state legislature or Congress "could ... prohibit abortion or ... maintain ... abortion on demand [or enact] reforms that fall somewhere between

these ... propositions." Report, June 8, 1982.

The "states' rights" approach affirms the holding of *Roe* that the unborn child is a nonperson. If your life is subject to termination at the discretion of a state legislature or Congress, you are, in terms of the Constitution, a nonperson. That goes beyond the limited recognition in *Evangelium Vitae*, no. 73, that a legislator "could licitly support" an imperfect law on abortion when it is "not possible to overturn or abrogate a pro-abortion law." Nor is "states' rights" a return to the situation prior to *Roe*. Before *Roe*, there had never been a ruling by the Court on personhood. Once the Court ruled in the negative, the only coherent response was, and is, to insist on the personhood of the unborn with respect to his right to life. That does not preclude the advocacy also of effective restrictions on abortion.

The bishops continue in their support for "states' rights." One of the most eloquent statements by bishops in the 2008 campaign undermined its affirmation of the right to life by saying, "Roe is bad law. As long as it stands, it prevents returning the abortion issue to the states where it belongs, so ... the ... people can decide its future through fair debate and legislation."

It is no surprise that some Catholics interpret, or use as a pretext, the bishops' consignment of abortion to the evaluation and "discretion" of state legislators as an invitation to them, as voters, to make that same political evaluation with abortion as one issue on a par with others.

The technology of early abortifacients is making abortion a truly private matter beyond the reach of the law. To promote what John Paul II called a "culture of life," it is more essential than ever to insist on the entitlement of every human being "to be respected and treated as a person from the moment of conception." Introduction on Bioethics.

It involves no criticism of the bishops, whose witness is admirable, to suggest that it would be appropriate for them to reconsider the cardinals' 1974 insistence on the entitlement of the unborn child to the right to life guaranteed to persons by the Constitution.

Charles E. Rice is professor emeritus at the Law School. He may be reached at 633-4415 or at rice.1@nd.edu.

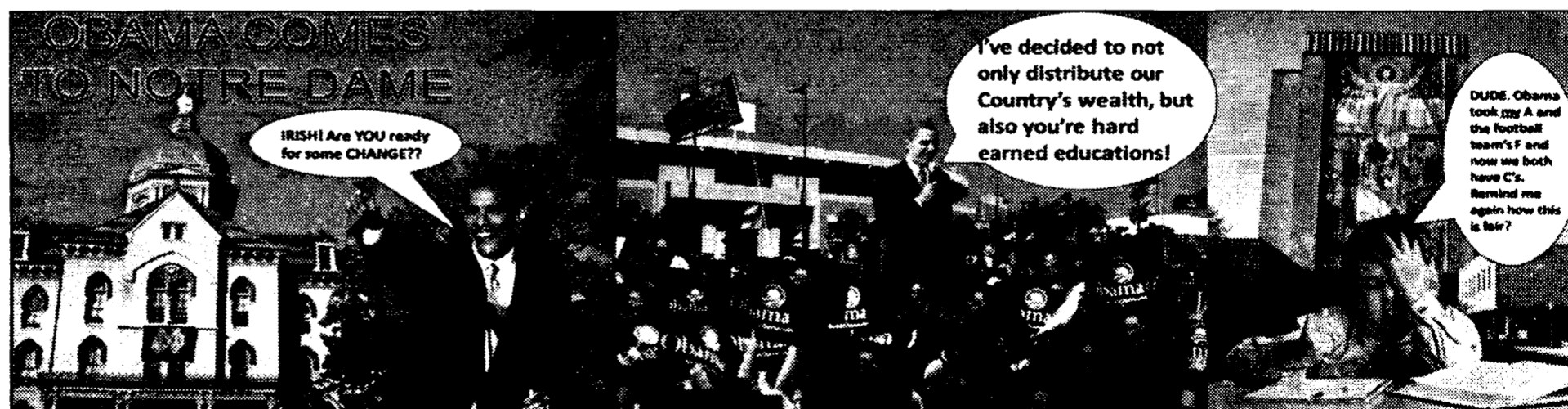
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Charles E. Rice

Right or Wrong?

EDITORIAL CARTOON



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QUOTE OF THE DAY

"We cross our bridges when we come to them and burn them behind us, with nothing to show for our progress except a memory of the smell of smoke, and a presumption that once our eyes watered."

Tom Stoppard
British dramatist and screenwriter

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Hark!

Hark, ye fellow Domers!

As we were watching the Texas Tech students rush their field not once, not twice, but THREE times this past Saturday, a sad realization settled over the room: Texas Tech just rushed the field three more times in one game than we will in four years. As a matter of fact, the Texas Tech student body has had so much fun in recent years that their field goal posts have been placed on ropes so field officials can lower them before students can tear them down in their joy-rage.

I know that rushing the field is not necessarily the goal of every game, but it would be nice to win a game that would warrant such a glorious celebration. Unfortunately, the outlook for winning such a game is bleak given the lack of quality home wins in recent years. To enlighten the freshman and sophomore classes, who have cursed our football program with their presence, the last quality win we've had at home was against Penn State in 2006 and that was far from field-rushing material.

Therefore, to remedy this problem, we propose a premeditated stampede to the gridiron at the next home game. That is correct folks: we are planning to storm our hallowed field after the conclusion of the Syracuse game. We are about 87 percent sure even we can't lose to Syracuse at home. I mean, they're no Navy.

I know some of you haters sitting in your ivory towers will say that a victory over Syracuse is not worth populating the turf with students, but after last season's lone home victory coming against Duke and our loss against a mediocre Pittsburgh team last week, we should never take a home victory for granted again. Each win we have at home is worth celebrating. For all of you that don't think this will be worthwhile, imagine how much fun it will be to watch Sportscenter analysts try to make sense of the student body rushing the field after beating a (projected) 2-8 Syracuse team. And then imagine your delight

after seeing Lou Holtz explain to Mark May why such an event is occurring.

As my beloved father once told us after losing to Pittsburgh, "I hope you boys came to this school for an education." Well, let's put it this way: when I tell people that I go to Notre Dame, they don't say "Wow! What an education you must be getting!" Conversely, they usually say "Wow! You must really hate football now!" It's time to change that. Maybe at least a few people will one day say "Wow! Rushing the field against Syracuse must have been a blast."

To all the alumni reading this letter sitting aghast wherever it is that alumni read The Observer, allow me to sway you. I know Notre Dame is "more than football", but what do you reminisce about most when recounting the glory days? I know football is near the top of your list. Well, when I graduate, I want to be able to talk about something other than how I survived the worst season in school history. My kids will never have to know that Syracuse was 2-8. And to all of you that cite "tradition" as a reason not to rush the field, I say to you: if Charlie can make the team wear green jerseys against Army, then the students can rush the field against Syracuse.

Let's go all out on this one. Do it for the seniors. Make signs. Dress up in costumes. It's time to have fun at a home game. Let's do this right. To recap: Rush the field after the Syracuse game (contingent upon victory).

Cameron Randle
junior
Matt Howard
junior
Chris Adcock
junior
Stanford
Nov. 2

Guilt not the only motivator

I am compelled to respond to the opinion voiced by Bradley Duffy ("Spread the Logic", Oct. 30). He accused Sean Lyttle of "feel[ing] guilty for everything from his upbringing to his race to his potentially successful future" based on Lyttle's acknowledgment of a charmed life, and the less-fortunate lives of others. It is unfortunate that, in the mind of Duffy and others like him, that the only motivator can be shame. That one can't be moved out of pity, or generosity, or love for your fellow man. By this logic, all pro-lifers act only because they feel guilty that they were born. All doctors are motivated to treat the sick, only out of guilt of their own health. Your professors teach because they feel guilty that they're so smart. We can argue the best way to help others, and indeed we should. But Duffy's cynical analysis of Lyttle's motivation is an attitude unbecoming of anyone associated with Notre Dame, and I feel pity that anyone would choose to see nothing but guilt from a man who counts his blessings.

Christopher Middendorff
grad student
off-campus
Nov. 3

U-WIRE

It's not about who wins or loses, but who casts the vote

I acknowledge that I will be relieved, for many reasons, when this election ends. I am sympathetic to every side of this fight. I am tired of the word "maverick," and I am tired of mocking the same word. I am tired of Bill Ayres, Joe the Plumber, Lipstick, Pigs and ACORN. Most of all, I am tired of the idea that voting is a waste of time.

Eryk Salvaggio

*The Maine
Campus
University of
Maine*

Maybe the voting booth is a place that has no real meaning. Perhaps you have always been skeptical of people and you do not want to hand over a piece of paper declaring that you believe in something. It's understandable.

After all, we've been tossed into a mud-stained democracy run by blowhards and fools, many of whom condescendingly sneer if we express an interest in an idea or a candidate they don't like. We've heard about how so-and-so is a terrorist and so-and-so doesn't show up for any votes; how one side is embroiled in scandals and how the other side has no experience; how one is too religious or not religious enough, or has the wrong kind of really amazing, powerful, empowering speeches.

My advice to you, skeptical voter, is one more layer of noise, but bear with me. I'm asking you to put the noise aside and vote, even if you don't believe that vote will count. I'm asking you to walk into the multi-purpose room on Tuesday, sign an affidavit if you haven't registered, and cast a vote. Just this once, just to see how it feels.

I am tired of hearing about how this generation always says it will vote, but doesn't. I am tired of being ignored by candidates because they don't think we'll make it to the polls. Let's face it, you've probably been late to class for worse reasons: hangovers, flirting, video games, boredom, hunger, who knows? Why not have a better excuse?

Maybe your guy loses, maybe your guy wins, but there are plenty of reasons to

believe that winning or losing doesn't matter. What matters is mustering up an ounce of faith in a broader system, taking the risk of being wrong and taking the plunge toward the single inch of progress you want for this world. You stake your claim and it's terrifying.

Voting, you see, is not just about politics. It's about working up the courage to believe in something you want to believe in. It's the moment when you ask someone on a date even if you think you aren't cool enough. It's the moment when you raise your hand in a class to give an answer you kind of, maybe, think you know. It's not the vote that matters, it's the risk you take when you cast it: that you might be wrong, certainly; that it might break your heart if he wins, and becomes just another politician, the kind of guy who made you not want to vote in the first place. I believe the courage of asking for an impossible kind of dream is more important than the pleasure of getting it.

You can decide if that's reason enough to vote. But to not vote is to say no to possibility, and yes to whatever you get stuck with. Sure, if you vote, you might not make it to that boring class on time, or have time to read the next article and eat your lousy sandwich. You can resign yourself to fate, or you can design your own. You don't need to tell anyone you voted, or who you voted for. You can have a secret moment where you said yes to your rightful stake in the world, where you let yourself become the type of person who has ideals and takes action to make them come to fruition.

The ballot doesn't care if you aren't cool, or if you have all the answers. It just wants to know one thing: Who are you voting for?

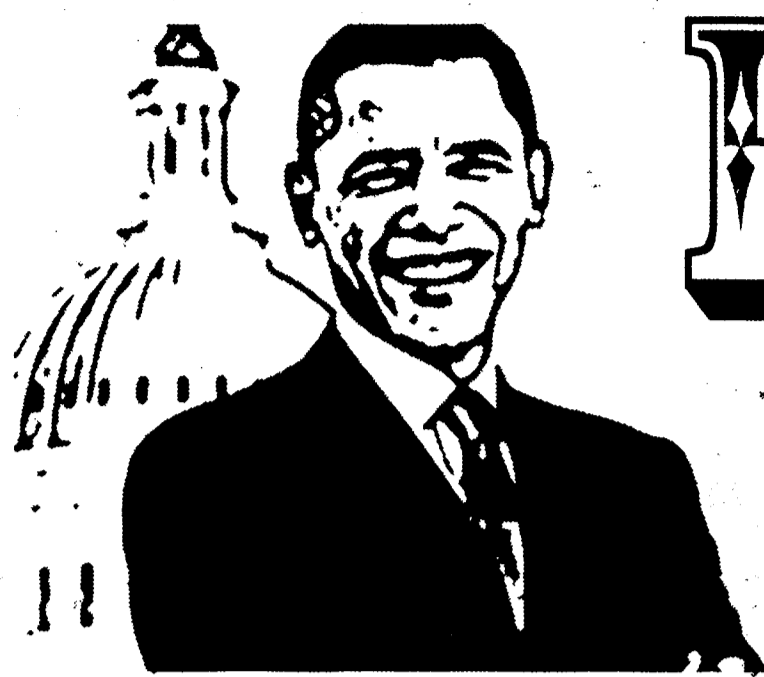
This editorial first appeared in the Nov. 3 edition of The Maine Campus, the daily paper at the University of Maine.

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

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ELECTION — 2008

THE CAMPAIGNING That Won't End!

Everyone knows it's nearly Election Day when the campaign ads start getting really, really nasty. Nothing screams "Elect me!" quite like attacking everything you possibly could about your opponent, from his voting record to his family life.

Scene Writer

I think we're all ready for the election to be done and over with, not only to resolve this whole 'who's going to win' issue, but to get those ads off the television.

We all wonder if the negative ads are really necessary to running a campaign. It makes you wonder if either candidate is strong enough on his or her own merit to really win the election. Almost every ad I've seen has focused first on blasting the other candidate, and then basically said: "This candidate won't do this. Sponsored by this candidate's campaign."

The problem seems to be that neither candidate has actually told the truth in one of their campaign ads. I feel like everything I've seen, read, and heard has been skewed by one source or another. There are very few reliable, unbiased places to go for such a heated election.

The candidates themselves certainly aren't reliable: both want their views to get across, and they do so by casting their opponent in a negative light.

My question to both candidates is this: what are you really going to do? Stop talking about what you're not going to do and give me some concrete ideas of what you are going to do. No matter who you're voting for, I feel like we can all agree on one thing — this country needs change. Our economy is spiraling downwards. Education and healthcare are a mess. America has a million reasons and the resources to be an incredible country, and yet we are lackluster compared to many others.

A decent campaign ad should address these issues, clearly and honestly. I know that we should expect some skewing of the facts — in a race, we all want to be the winner, and our presidential candidates are no different. They pull ahead by spinning what they believe as best they can. But honestly, I'd think this race would be far less close than it is if both candidates focused on their own views instead of the views of their opponent. I'd love to know the solid

plans that either one of them has to reform our health care system. I think it would be great to see what their plans are for public education. But the way things are going now, I barely know what either candidate plans on doing for any problem we face. Oh, other than that, it won't be what their opponent is doing.

If both candidates focused on their own views instead of just condemning the views of the other, their own platforms would be much stronger. It's undeniable: — half of the undecided voters are undecided simply because they don't see what either candidate offers over the other one. It's too late for the current election to be changed by a new wave of positive campaign ads, but let's hope that the next one isn't so negative.

So good luck to whichever candidate you're voting for tomorrow. Any hopes I can just hide under a rock until it's over and the winner is decided, just to avoid the Election Day wave of nastiness?

Yeah, I didn't think so.

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

Contact Kaitlyn Conway at kconway2@nd.edu

ELECTION BLOGS

By JORDAN GAMBLE
Scene Writer

Jezebel.com

Jezebel is a self-proclaimed "blog for women that will attempt to take all the essentially meaningless but sweet stuff directed our way and give it a little more meaning."

Besides showcasing celebrity fashion faux-pas and clips from Gossip Girl, the contributors at the Jezebel blog offer their takes on election news, from the polls to Sarah Palin's appearance on SNL.

Slant: Pro-Obama.

Yes We Can (Hold Babies)

Yeswecanholdbabies.wordpress.com

With so much vitriol in a campaign — the accusations, personal attacks and Paris Hilton — sometimes it's nice to just see some cute kids. The bloggers at Yes We Can (Hold Babies), a couple of college students from Massachusetts, say their mission as "the international source for pictures of Obama holding babies" is to uphold the storied tradition of politicians scoring brownie points by kissing babies at public events.

Slant: Pro-Obama and people who love cute babies

HotAir.com

Founded by Michelle Malkin, a conservative columnist, blogger, and commentator, HotAir.com prides itself on being the first "conservative Internet broadcast network."

Its main focus is video-blogging, with clips of election coverage and commentary from the site's staff. A significant portion of the main page lists headlines from major newspapers and TV networks selected by the staff.

Slant: Pro-McCain.

McCainBlogette.com

Meghan McCain, John McCain's 24-year-old daughter, chronicles the election through her own pictures and musings while on the campaign trail with her family. Meghan runs with blog with help from a photographer and producer who also travel with the McCain campaign. The photos are the biggest draw for this site, capturing both the public rally atmosphere and life-living on the "Straight Talk Express" campaign bus.

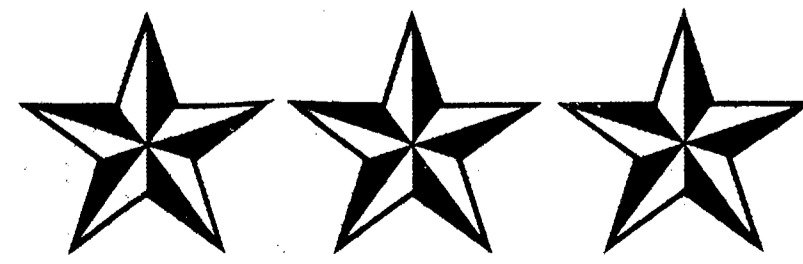
Slant: Pro-McCain (duh).

Contact Jordan Gamble at jgamble@nd.edu

The Google Election Blog

<http://www.google.com/2008election/>

If you want comprehensive, non-partisan election coverage and commentary, the Google Election Blog is where you go. It's not so much a blog as a continually updating compendium of everyone else's blog posts, news stories, Youtube videos, and quotes from all the presidential candidates for the 2008 election, from Barr to Barack, from Nader to McCain.



DAY



OUR FAVORITE FICTIONAL COMMANDERS AND CHIEFS

By CAITLIN FERRARO
Scene Writer

Harrison Ford as President James Marshall in "Air Force One"

Bio: President James Marshall takes a tough stance against terrorism and then becomes a hostage himself when Air Force One is taken over by terrorists from Kazakhstan, led by Ivan Korshunov (Gary Oldman). The terrorists demand the release of their leader General Radek. Marshall appears to escape from the plane in an emergency capsule yet is actually hiding on board. Then he silently kills a member of the terrorist group before establishing contact with F-15's to engage the hijacked plane. Marshall is the handsome, down-to-earth hero with surprisingly good hand-to-hand combat skills. Even though he is the President he takes chances with his life (much to his Vice President, Glenn Close's, chagrin) such as when he swings from a cable in midair.

Weapon of Choice: His fists

Memorable Quote: "We will never negotiate. We will no longer tolerate and we will no longer be afraid. It's your turn to be afraid." Also, "Get off my plane!"

Morgan Freeman as President Tom Beck in "Deep Impact"

Bio: The unfortunate job of breaking the news to the American people that the planet is about to be hit by a massive comet is left to the able President Beck. He must also inform the public that the government has been preparing underground caves to house a million lucky people chosen to survive the calamity. Beck devised the plan to build the caves, and eventually ends up saving humanity. National survival was his forte.

Weapon of Choice: Freeman's characteristic, calming voice

Memorable Quote: "Cities fall, but they are rebuilt. And heroes die, but they are remembered."

Michael Douglas as President Andrew Shepherd in "The American President"

Bio: While President Shepherd runs for re-election and negotiates a new crime bill, he courts an environmental lobbyist (Annette Bening) and the press watches their every move. Douglas is theatrical enough to make even the most cynical viewer feel at least a twinge of romantic patriotism. Seeking re-election, the Democrat sells his environmental lobbyist girlfriend out for a pansy crime bill. In the end, he redeems himself by backing her bill, then issuing a stinging challenge to the Republican senator who attacked her ACLU-card-carrying ways.

Weapon of Choice: Rhetoric and romance

Memorable Quote: "If you want to talk about character and American values, fine. Just tell me where and when, and I'll show up. This is a time for serious people, Bob, and your 15 minutes are up. My name is Andrew Shepherd, and I am the President."

Bill Pullman as President Thomas J. Whitmore in "Independence Day"

Bio: Whitmore leads by example in his battle against an alien invasion. He refuses to let the aliens stay and pools together his resources to protect the world's natural treasures. Whitmore proved he was an everyman president by piloting a fighter plane in the war against extraterrestrial invaders, who were bent on destroying mankind. And in a powerful Fourth of July speech he uses a megaphone to rouse the American people from the back of a pick-up truck before climbing on board that fighter.

Weapon of Choice: Fighter jet and the Fresh Prince

Memorable Quote: "We are fighting for our right to live, to exist. And should we win the day, the Fourth of July will no longer be known as an American holiday, but as the day the world declared in one voice: 'We will not go quietly into the night!' We will not vanish without a fight! We're going to live on! We're going to survive! Today we celebrate our Independence Day!"

Kevin Kline as Dave Kovic/President Bill Mitchell in "Dave"

Bio: Due to an uncanny resemblance to the President, an ordinary man, Dave Kovic, moonlights as the President. After the real commander-in-chief has a stroke, he impersonates the Prez after being coerced a pair of Machiavellian advisors. Dave decides to do some good while he has the chance, including fixing the federal budget and repairing relations with the icy First Lady (Sigourney Weaver). Dave is the classic common man, and also a champion of the homeless who wants to secure employment for all Americans.

Weapon of Choice: Virtue

Memorable Quote: "If you've ever seen the look on somebody's face the day they finally get a job, I've had some experience with this, they look like they could fly. And it's not about the paycheck, it's about respect, it's about looking in the mirror and knowing that you've done something valuable with your day. And if one person could start to feel this way, and then another person, and then another person, soon all these other problems may not seem so impossible. You don't really know how much you can do until you, stand up and decide to try."

Martin Sheen as President Josiah 'Jed' Bartlet on "The West Wing"

Bio: A devout Roman Catholic who attended the one and only University of Notre Dame in the hope of one day becoming a priest, until meeting his future wife and First Lady Abbey (Stockard Channing). He speaks four languages, and was a Nobel Laureate in Economics. Bartlet is portrayed as a stern but loving father. He hides the fact that he suffers from multiple sclerosis from the American public, then divulges his illness, but is still re-elected. Bartlet's accomplishments as President include granting amnesty to illegal immigrants from the Americas, appointing the first Hispanic Supreme Court Justice and first female Chief Justice, negotiating a peace settlement between Israel and Palestine, creating millions of new jobs, and support for alternative energy. Bartlet is endowed with a fierce intellect, great personal integrity, toughness yet compassion, and a sense of humor. He also demonstrates respect and affection for his staffers.

Weapon of Choice: Wit, charm and impeccable taste in universities.

Memorable Quote: Mrs. Bartlet asks the introspective President what he is thinking about, and Bartlet replies: "Tomorrow."

Dennis Haysbert as President David Palmer on "24"

Bio: As a Senator from Maryland, Palmer is elected President after several assassination attempts against him on the day of the California primary are foiled by Counter Terrorist Unit (CTU) agent Jack Bauer (Kiefer Sutherland). Palmer's role as President is often vital to the successful foiling of terrorist plots. Palmer is seen as a good leader who makes difficult decisions without much hesitation. On several occasions, his intervention as President and the execution of his Presidential powers are extremely helpful for the CTU and Bauer.

Weapon of Choice: Jack Bauer

Memorable Quote: "Listen to me. All of you. I know you're not in the same room with me but you can see and hear me plainly enough. Take a good look. Do I seem scared? Am I breaking into a nervous sweat? Am I babbling? At a loss for words? Is my voice shaking? Can any one of you look me in the eye and tell me I'm disabled?"

Contact Caitlin Ferraro at cferrar1@nd.edu

NBA

Kings stay winless after blowout loss to 76ers

After trade for Iverson, six Pistons score in double figures helping Detroit beat Charlotte, stay perfect on season

Associated Press

PHILADELPHIA — The solution to the Philadelphia 76ers' 3-point shooting woes might be at the end of their bench.

Kareem Rush and Donyell Marshall have to hope the way they almost flawlessly buried all those open looks earns them a second look at a bigger role in the rotation.

Thaddeus Young scored 18 points, Lou Williams had 17 and the 76ers led by as many as 40 points in a 125-91 rout of the winless Sacramento Kings on Monday night.

Marshall and Rush went a combined 6-for-7 from 3-point range and each played their season high in minutes, even though most of their playing time came when the game was put away.

The 76ers led last in the NBA last season in 3-point percentage and 3s made. So they signed Rush as a free agent and hoped he would boost those numbers.

Instead, Rush earned a DNP-CD the last game and had attempted only one 3-pointer this season.

"It's very discouraging," Rush said. "I didn't plan on this when I signed here, but it's the way it is. A lot of these guys have been here for a number of years and played with [coach Maurice] Cheeks a number of years, so I think it's a familiarity thing that he has with these guys."

Willie Green scored 16 points and Elton Brand had 15 for the Sixers, who were up 20 points at halftime and were able to stretch the lead in the second half instead of blowing it like they did Saturday at Atlanta.

In that one, the Hawks rallied

from a 23-point deficit to stun the Sixers. This time, role players like Green and Williams kept making shots in the third quarter and to keep the road-weary Kings from rallying.

"We talked about coming out in the second half and being more aggressive than we were," Green said. "We weren't going to let that happen again."

No need to worry about blowing this one against the Kings.

Jason Thompson scored 17 points and Spencer Hawes had 15 for the Kings (0-4), who can't wait to head home after a dreary season-opening road trip.

The Kings, off to their worst start since 1997-98, open a four-game homestand on Wednesday against Memphis.

"You can't win in the NBA if you give up 120 points a game," coach Reggie Theus said. "I told them that is not acceptable, from the leaders all the way down. In order to win, you have to be tough-minded, and right now we're not tough-minded."

The Sixers shot only 32 percent (13-for-41) on 3s in their first three games but seemed to discover their long-range form against the Kings, finishing 10-of-13.

"This is what I do," Rush said. "That's what they brought me here for. That's what I can bring to this team. Hopefully I can find a way to get some regular time, crunch time, instead of blowout games."

Cheeks said he learned a lesson after blowing the big lead over the weekend and would try to play a deeper rotation late in the game.

He used 10 players in the third quarter and all but Samuel



Pistons guard Richard Hamilton drives to the basket during Detroit's 101-83 win over Charlotte Monday.

Dalembert scored. Rush scored 10 points and hit a 3 for a 92-65 lead.

Pistons 101, Bobcats 83

The Detroit Pistons overcame a wild, emotional day to crush their old coach's new team. It didn't mean they were easily coming to grips with the blockbuster deal that shook the foundation of their core.

It was clear after their 101-83 rout of the Charlotte Bobcats on Monday night that it's going to take the Pistons time to warm to the idea that Allen Iverson is now their teammate — and Chauncey Billups and Antonio McDyess are headed to Denver.

"Do we like the trade? Maybe not. Ain't no telling," forward Rasheed Wallace said.

Added Tayshaun Prince: "When you have six straight years with somebody, you've got that bond, that connection. Now all of a sudden it's gone."

Richard Hamilton scored 19 points and the Pistons toyed with Larry Brown's Bobcats, improving to 3-0 and perhaps pleasing Iverson that he'll have plenty of scoring options when he takes over at point guard.

But from the tone of the subdued locker room, Iverson will have to win over his new teammates as he joins a team used to being among the Eastern Conference powers.

"Obviously we're all shocked by the situation," Prince said. "We're going to go out and play. Under the circumstances I thought it was a good win. No matter who you

play, when something happens like this it's tough for the team to go out and play. We were able to come out with a win."

Wallace added 15 points and four other players scored in double figures. Rodney Stuckey replaced the departed Billups at point guard and had nine points and three assists as Detroit shot 50 percent.

"It was a tough game," coach Michael Curry said. "When your captain gets traded and Dice, who's not a captain, but is one of the emotional leaders of this team, it's a tough day for the guys."

Shannon Brown came off the bench to score 16 points, and Gerald Wallace had 15 points and 12 rebounds for Charlotte, which couldn't build off Saturday's win over Miami in the beginning of a week of reunions for the well-traveled Brown, who has his own problems.

Brown, who has lamented managing partner Michael Jordan's inability to bring in more depth up front, was clearly frustrated after being overmatched by the team Brown led to the NBA title in 2004.

"I've known our problems since May. We've got to address them somehow," Brown said.

The beginning of Brown's reunion week — he visits New York on Wednesday, where he spent one ugly 23-win season in 2005-06 — was overshadowed by Detroit's makeover.

The Pistons arrived in Charlotte on Sunday while president of basketball operations Joe Dumars

worked into the night on a trade he felt would give his team a different way to win games "other than the same predictable way we've been doing it for quite some time."

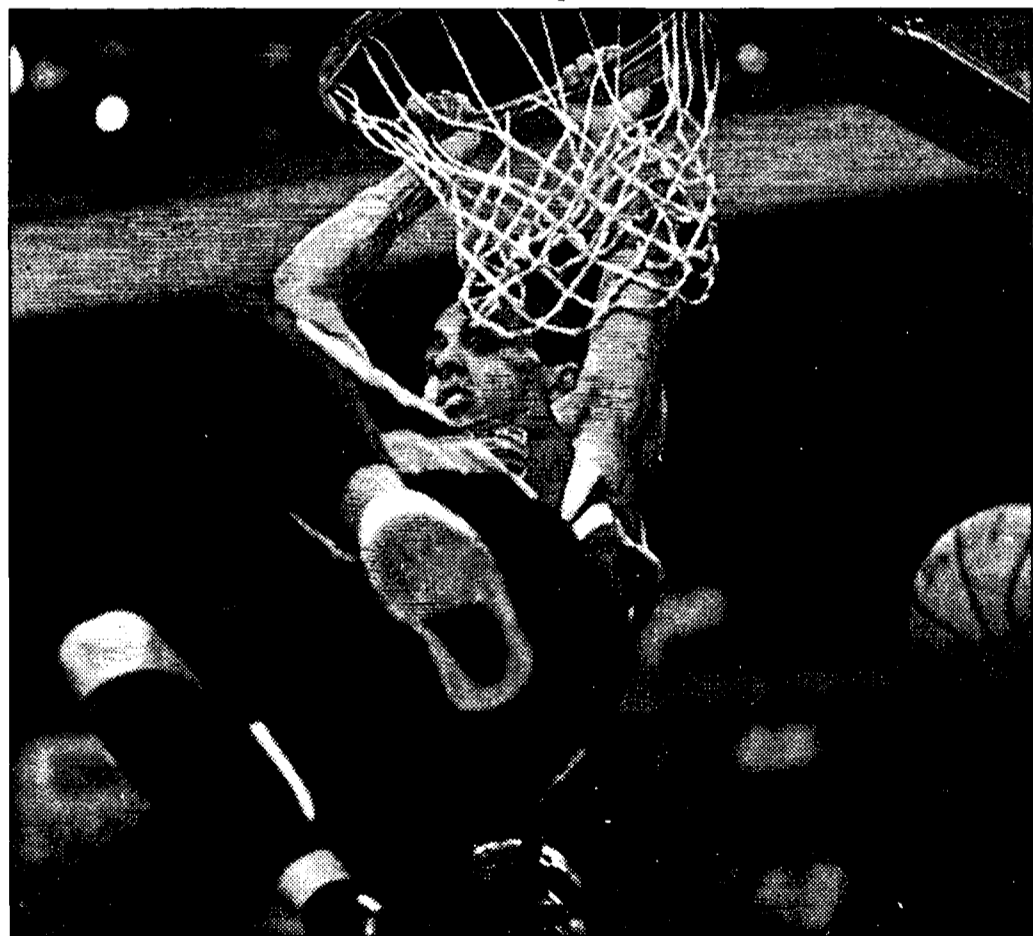
Informed they were headed to Denver early Monday, Billups, McDyess and project Cheikh M'Baye left town before the morning shootaround. It left Detroit with 12 players — and Stuckey starting at point guard — against their former coach.

Stuckey, wearing No. 3 in perhaps a precursor to the Iverson era, had only one turnover and Detroit showed its depth, inside play, rebounding prowess and steady outside shooting to overwhelm Browns' ninth NBA team.

Hamilton, who agreed to a three-year contract extension Monday in the midst of the Iverson trade, scored 11 points in the third quarter when the Pistons pulled away. His 3-pointer and mid-range jumper on consecutive possessions made it 76-60.

Playing again without forward Sean May, who is struggling with his weight and conditioning following knee surgery, the Bobcats couldn't recover with their undersized lineup that included 6-foot-7 Jared Dudley at power forward. Held mostly at the time to one shot, the Bobcats were outrebounded 42-31.

"You can get away with it against Miami," Brown said of Saturday's win against the undersized Heat. "You're not going to get away with it against 6-10, 6-11, 6-10 frontline, all athletic. It just doesn't happen."



Kings guard Kevin Martin hangs on the rim during the 76ers 125-91 win over Sacramento Monday.

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Here's how it works. Election is today. And then Wednesday is the first day of Sarah Palin's 2012 campaign.

The Observer accepts classifieds every business day from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Notre Dame office, 624 South Dining Hall. Deadline for next-day classifieds is 3 p.m. All classifieds must be prepaid. The charge is 5 cents per character per day, including all spaces. The Observer reserves the right to edit all classifieds for content without issuing refunds.

AROUND THE NATION

Tuesday, November 4, 2008

COMPILED FROM THE OBSERVER'S WIRE SERVICES

page 15

Women's Basketball NCAA Division I AP Poll

team	points
1 Connecticut (44)	1124
2 Stanford (1)	1018
3 Maryland	1005
4 Oklahoma	946
5 Rutgers	914
6 North Carolina	892
7 Tennessee	857
8 Duke	815
9 California	769
10 Louisville	726
11 Texas A&M	624
12 Vanderbilt	546
13 Texas	501
14 Oklahoma State	442
15 Virginia	437
16 NOTRE DAME	374
17 Arizona State	364
18 Ohio State	359
19 Baylor	353
20 Auburn	239
21 Florida State	204
22 Xavier	170
23 Purdue	148
24 LSU	133
25 Old Dominion	124

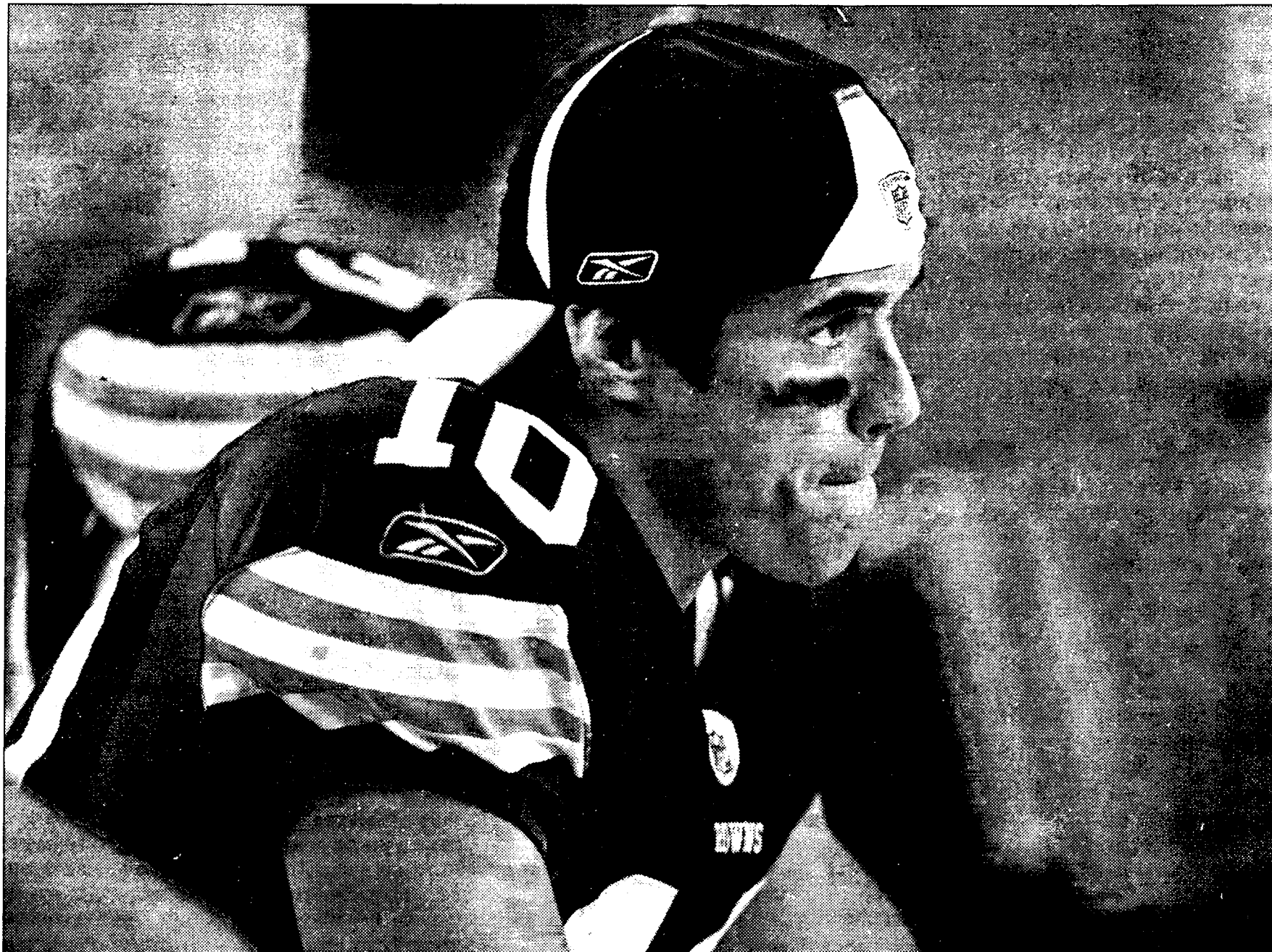
Women's Soccer NSCAA/Adidas Division I Rankings

team	points	previous
1 NOTRE DAME (34)	850	1
2 North Carolina	799	2
3 Portland	764	3
4 UCLA	763	4
5 Stanford	733	5
6 Florida State	677	6
7 Florida	639	7
8 Virginia	607	8
9 Oklahoma State	525	9
10 USC	505	10
11 Duke	464	11
12 Texas	461	12
13 Boston College	457	13
14 Texas A&M	449	14
15 Colorado	367	15
16 San Diego	364	16
17 West Virginia	301	17
18 Wisconsin-Milwaukee	244	18
19 Wake Forest	243	19
20 Missouri	162	20
21 Penn State	153	21
22 Washington State	130	22
23 Georgetown	101	23
24 Rutgers	66	24
25 Minnesota	59.5	25

MIAA Women's Volleyball Standings

team	conf. record
1 Hope	15-1
2 Calvin	14-2
3 Alma	11-5
4 SAINT MARY'S	9-7
5 Adrian	8-8
6 Albion	5-11
7 Kalamazoo	4-12
8 Trine	4-12
9 Olivet	2-14

NFL



Browns quarterback Brady Quinn watches from the sidelines during Cleveland's 10-6 loss to Pittsburgh on Sept. 14. Quinn will start next week against Denver.

Browns replace Anderson with Quinn

Associated Press

BEREA, Ohio — Quarterback Derek Anderson has been benched by the Cleveland Browns, who will start popular backup Brady Quinn on Thursday night against the Denver Broncos.

The surprising and unexpected switch was announced Monday by the team, just hours after coach Romeo Crennel said he had no plans to make a change.

Anderson, who has been inconsistent this season, threw a costly interception that was returned for a touchdown in the final minutes of Sunday's 37-27 loss to the Baltimore Ravens. The pick prompted Browns

fans to begin chants of "Brady! Brady!" for Quinn, the former Notre Dame star who has thrown just eight passes in two seasons.

A team spokesman said Crennel and Quinn would not be available for comment until Tuesday.

Earlier, Quinn was asked for his reaction to hearing fans call his name.

"We lost the game, really that's all that matters," he said. "That's something in the NFL, everyone always loves the backup. That's just how it is."

Browns center Hank Fraley found out about the change when he got a text message during the afternoon from Anderson.

"I was surprised," Fraley

said. "I've become real good friends with Derek and I feel for him. I told him to stay positive. He will. He's a team player."

Anderson had gone 132 pass attempts without an interception before he was picked off by Ravens linebacker Terrell Suggs, who stepped in front of a screen pass and ran it back 42 yards for a TD. Anderson finished 17-of-33 for 219 yards and two TDs, but the 25-year-old's stats would have been even better if wide receiver Braylon Edwards hadn't dropped a certain TD pass in the fourth quarter with the game tied.

Edwards with 13 drops, and Anderson has had to throw

to wide receivers Syndric Steptoe and Steve Sanders, two former backups who have played only because of injuries to Donte' Stallworth and Joe Jurevicius.

Fraley was asked if Anderson was the fall guy for the Browns, who were expected to contend for a playoff spot coming off a 10-6 season in 2007.

"That was the coaches' decision," he said. "Maybe they feel like he (Quinn) will bring a spark. It's tough because Derek is a great guy, a team leader and a captain. We just haven't been playing well around him. It's a shock to everybody on this team. It's their decision and we're going to have to live with it."

IN BRIEF

Iverson traded to Pistons for Billups, McDyess

DETROIT — The Detroit Pistons worked the phones last summer, trying to trade for a superstar to shake up their roster.

They ended up standing pat because a deal didn't make sense.

Two games into the season, Allen Iverson was the answer to their hopes in a blockbuster that generated rare buzz for the NBA in November.

Detroit acquired the former NBA MVP on Monday for All-Star point guard and former finals MVP Chauncey Billups, top reserve Antonio McDyess and project Cheikh Samb.

"We just felt it was the right time to change our team," Pistons president of basketball operations Joe Dumars told The Associated Press. "Iverson gives us a dimension that we haven't had here and we really think it's going to help us."

Fulmer to be replaced after season

KNOXVILLE, Tenn. — An emotional Phillip Fulmer, with his wife at his side and tearful, angry players surrounding him, announced Monday that he had accepted Tennessee's decision that this will be his last season as the Volunteers coach.

Fulmer, 58, is being forced out after 17 years as Tennessee's coach, a run that included a national championship. He has a 150-51 record with the Vols, including the 1998 NCAA title — the school's first since 1951.

"This is not an easy day for me or my family. It is not a day that I sought or accepted easily," said Fulmer, his voice cracking as he fought back tears standing next to wife, Vicky.

"Our Tennessee family is united in its goals, but divided in the right path to get there."

Orton's status uncertain after ankle injury

LAKE FOREST, Ill. — One day after leaving the field on a cart, Chicago Bears quarterback Kyle Orton was undergoing more tests on his right ankle to determine the extent of his injury.

Orton was injured in the final minute of the first half in Sunday's 27-23 victory over the Detroit Lions, forcing the Bears to turn to former starter Rex Grossman. And Chicago might be without Orton for the next few weeks.

"I'm not playing doctor; you shouldn't either," coach Lovie Smith said Monday. "You should let us come and tell you once we know for sure exactly what the injury is. We're hopeful, I'll just say that."

around the dial

NCAAF

Miami (OH) at Buffalo
7:30 p.m., ESPN 2

MLB

GMs meet amidst economic troubles

Associated Press

DANA POINT, Calif. — Baseball general managers began offseason of economic uncertainty when they gathered Monday for their annual meeting — at the same posh resort Rep. Henry Waxman criticized AIG executives for convening at following the company's government bailout in September.

Walking past a circular lobby area with sculpted plants, intricate stone floors and glass artwork at the St. Regis Monarch Beach Resort, the GMs prepared for feeling each other out about potential trades and meeting with agents touting their free-agent clients. While baseball is coming off a season of record \$6.5 billion revenue, some teams are worried the go-go years might be over and still have not set final payroll budgets for next season.

"I know we're sensitive to the softness of the economy and frankly are taking it into account as we do our planning for next season," Arizona Diamondbacks chief executive officer Jeff Moorad said. "We're bullish about next season on the one hand, but we recognize that especially on the corporate partnership side, that there could be some direct impact."

Just five days after the Philadelphia Phillies defeated the Tampa Bay Rays for the World Series title, the other 28 GMs were plotting overtaking them to win next year's pennants. They can't start talking money with free agents from other teams until Nov. 14, and the offseason maneuvering is unlikely to pick up speed until the winter meetings held in Las Vegas from Dec. 8-11.

CC Sabathia, A.J. Burnett and Francisco Rodriguez highlight the available free-agent pitchers, and Manny Ramirez and Mark Teixeira top the free-agent hitters. San Diego pitcher Jake Peavy likely will be shopped by the Padres in the lobbies of the fancy hotel, where a bagel goes for \$5.50.

Ramirez, whose \$20 million team options were voided when the Los Angeles Dodgers acquired him from Boston on July 31, expects a bull market for his services.

"I want to see who is the highest bidder. Gas is up and so am I," he said last month after the Phillies eliminated the Dodgers from the playoffs.

Perhaps Ramirez didn't notice, but the average price for a regular gallon of gas dropped to \$2.41 nationally on

Monday, down more than 30 percent from last month, according to auto club AAA, the Oil Price Information Service and Wright Express.

"We'll have to check the gas market, I guess, before I go and speak with him," Dodgers general manager Ned Colletti said. "I know how the fans feel and how we feel. It's obvious. I mean, what he did for 10 weeks — regular season and postseason — was as good as anybody can do. I've been at it long enough to tell you that I'm not going to tell you what my gut feeling is."

Ramirez is represented by Scott Boras, who last year persuaded Colletti to give Andruw Jones a \$36.2 million, two-year contract. Jones then hit .158 with three homers and 14 RBIs.

Colletti said the Dodgers haven't made an offer yet to Ramirez and it would be difficult to afford both Ramirez and Sabathia.

"You can't let one player stand in the way of everything else you need to do," he said. "Every player's got their own timeline and their own rhythm to their thought process. So when you have other needs that you need to address, you can't really hold them up waiting for somebody to make a decision, unless it's a very unique situation."

Milwaukee said it made an offer to Sabathia last weekend, hoping to sign him before other clubs can offer megabucks.

"It's in their hands," general manager Doug Melvin said. "He hasn't really had a chance to talk with other teams."

Free-agent contract demands won't slow because of the economy. That could cause negotiations to drag out even longer than usual because budgets may be in flux.

"I think in some places it may very well have an effect," Houston Astros president of baseball operations Tal Smith said. "From the standpoint of free agents, it's something clubs will probably take a look at."

Some high-revenue teams, relatively certain that they will sell close to 100 percent of their tickets, don't have to worry as much.

"I don't have a final number yet, but my boss, Crane Kenney, I think he feels that our payroll will go up slightly," Cubs general manager Jim Hendry said, referring to Chicago's chairman. "We're fortunate that it's not going to stay flat or take a reduction, but at the same time you have to be cognizant of what's going on in the world."

"I know we're sensitive to the softness of the economy and frankly are taking it into account as we do our planning for next season."

Jeff Moorad
Arizona chief executive

"I want to see who is the highest bidder. Gas is up and so am I."

Manny Ramirez
Dodgers outfielder

FOOTBALL

Huskies now only winless team

Associated Press

SEATTLE — A week ago, on the day Washington announced coach Tyrone Willingham's firing, university president Mark Emmert said the Huskies' lowly football program was at the "lowest ebb" in the school's storied history.

His reference was probably a week early.

Burdened with a lame-duck coach in Willingham, and players still reacting to the news of Willingham's firing, the Huskies' 56-0 loss to No. 7 USC on Saturday left Washington as the only winless team in the country.

North Texas beat Western Kentucky 51-40 on Saturday, ending its own nine-game losing skid.

The Huskies (0-8, 0-5 Pac-10) are caught in a 10-game losing streak dating back to last year, matching the longest skid in school history. The 56-point rout was the third-worst loss ever for the Huskies in the modern era, and could have been far worse if Trojans' coach Pete Carroll had wanted it to be.

"Honestly, it's not easy," Willingham said Monday of his "interim" status. "I've never been in this situation before."

The announcement last week of Willingham's firing,

effective the end of the season, surely felt like the lowest point of Washington's downward spiral. That was before the Huskies were shut out for just the second time since 1981, prompting Willingham to be asked Monday whether he second-guessed sticking around for the final five games of the season.

"No, not at all," Willingham said.

When later asked if a new voice was needed to incite some emotion from a dreary team that has scored more than 14 points only twice this season, Willingham said: "That's a hypothetical that I won't consider."

What Willingham must now consider is whether his team has the desire remaining to rally around it's outgoing coach and find a way to avoid the first winless season in Washington's history. The Huskies schedule appears to soften for the next three weeks, beginning with Arizona State at home on Saturday, which is dealing with its own six-game losing streak.

After the Sun Devils comes a visit from former coach Rick Neuheisel and UCLA (3-5) and the Apple Cup pillow fight against equally woeful Washington State (1-8).

"Our head coach keeps us grounded and keeps us focused. It's easy for anybody in this kind of situation to lose focus but our team is pulling together and we're staying close," quarterback Ronnie Fouch said. "We're not letting people get frustrated or give up on the season."

The blowout against USC concluded a difficult week for Washington's players. It started with most of them receiving word by e-mail or text message that Willingham would be out at the season's end. It concluded with a lifeless performance against the Trojans, where Washington managed only 184 total yards and didn't make a first down on offense until its sixth possession.

In the modern era, only a 65-7 loss at Miami in 2001 and a 58-0 loss against Oregon in 1973 had larger margins of defeat. Washington lost to California 72-3 in 1921.

Despite knowing that a new regime will be in charge next year, players still believe that Willingham's direction is getting through and being taken seriously.

"Definitely. He's an incredible man. He has a lot of things he can coach us on as far as being better young men and players," defensive tackle Johnnie Kirton said. "I feel people are still listening to him and taking his words of advice. I don't think anyone is going to give up on the way he teaches us."

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NFL

Belichick's call costs Patriots

Associated Press

FOXBOROUGH, Mass. — Matt Cassel keeps making progress. The Patriots quarterback might have made more if coach Bill Belichick hadn't called a timeout.

While Cassel was sneaking from the Indianapolis 7-yard line for an apparent first down, Belichick was signaling for a timeout as he ran frantically to get an official's attention. He got the timeout, the run didn't count and Belichick decided to go for a field goal in the fourth quarter of New England's 18-15 loss Sunday night.

"We didn't get a very good look at the spot," he said. "At first, we thought it was fourth-and-inches, then all along it was fourth and about a yard. So once we saw what the distance was, it just seemed better to get the points."

It was an unusual miscalculation by one of the NFL's best coaches that contributed to the loss that cost the Patriots (5-3) sole possession of first place in the AFC East.

Stephen Gostkowski did make a 25-yard field goal that tied the game 15-15, but New England had used its last timeout and there was still 11:33 left in the game. Then, 3 and 1/2 minutes later, Adam Vinatieri kicked the go-ahead field goal. And when the Colts got the ball again with 3:54 left, the Patriots couldn't stop the clock.

Had the Patriots gone for a first down and made it

behind an offensive line that had been solid all game, they would have been in excellent position to take the lead with a touchdown. Had they tried and failed, the Colts still would have been backed up against their goal line.

But the New England secondary was missing key injured players who could have given the Patriots a better chance to stop the Colts, who ended up reaching the Patriots 34 before Vinatieri's kick.

Cassel played very well, completing 25 of 34 passes for 204 yards and directing four drives of more than 6 minutes. But moving the ball becomes tougher inside the 20 because the offense has less room to work with.

"An area where there is not much field space, it is harder to throw down there than it is out in the field. But it is still something you have to do. It is harder to run down there, too, because everyone is closer to the line and there is less space to defend," Belichick said Monday.

"I am confident in Matt throwing the ball. I am confident in us running it. I am confident in us stopping them, but we just have to do a better job of it, that's all."

Still, his confidence wavered that his offensive line could push defenders far enough for Cassel to run for the first down.

"I thought it was too long for a quarterback sneak," he said.

The Patriots gained 140

yards on 32 carries and didn't lose ground on any of them. The offensive line didn't allow a sack.

"We just ran the play and snapped the ball at that point," Cassel said. "Then I got up and saw the coach called a timeout."

The loss left the Patriots tied for the division lead with the Buffalo Bills and New York Jets, their next two opponents, both at Gillette Stadium. With half a season of experience since Tom Brady suffered a season-ending knee injury in the first quarter of the opener, Cassel should be ready.

"I think Matt has continued to improve every week since Week 1," Belichick said. "It doesn't surprise me. He works hard. He is a very attentive, smart kid who has talent, and every opportunity he gets a chance to practice, take reps and play, I think he improves. He's worked hard on it and I think that has shown up in his performance on a consistent basis."

But his longest completion Sunday covered 20 yards and he rarely threw longer, even though Randy Moss was running patterns against a defense without three sidelined cornerbacks. Moss caught six passes, all in the second half, for 65 yards.

"I thought both teams really played well," Belichick said. "There weren't a lot of negative plays, turnovers or things like that. It just came down to a lot of little things in the end. They had just a little more than we did."

NFL

Cowboys have bye week to fix issues

Associated Press

IRVING, Texas — How 'bout them Cowboys?

Since a 3-0 start that reinforced their preseason Super Bowl hype, America's Team has gone in reverse. The latest loss dropped them to 5-4 — and last place in the NFC East. With a week to stew over it, too.

Yet Dallas coaches and players have been eyeing the bye week for a while because this is when they're supposed to reload. Quarterback Tony Romo, running back Felix Jones, left guard Kyle Kosier and cornerback Terence Newman could all practice Wednesday and should be ready to play when the Cowboys go to Washington a week from Sunday.

"We are not going into it saying, 'Hey, just because these guys are back everything is fixed and we are going to win all our games,'" coach Wade Phillips said Monday.

However, Phillips spent much of the rest of his news conference saying exactly that.

The reality is Romo replacing Brad Johnson and Brooks Bollinger should juice up the offense. Dallas went from scoring at least 24 points in all his starts to topping out at 14 in the three games he missed.

"It's kind of sickening," receiver Patrick Crayton said following a 35-14 loss Sunday to the division-leading New York Giants. "I don't know what's going on. We really need to regroup during this off week. ... Right now, we stink all across the board."

Having Kosier back should give Romo more time in the pocket. Jones' return provides another big-play threat, perhaps opening up room for Terrell Owens to have his first 100-yard game. Romo also has a new target in Roy Williams, the receiver acquired a few days after the star quarterback broke the pinkie finger on his throwing hand.

But then there's this sobering thought: The Cowboys weren't very good in Romo's last three games, losing twice and barely beating a Cincinnati team headed to a record of 0-8.

"Everything is not well," Phillips acknowledged. "I do think some of the players coming back will help us obviously in some areas. But that is not the answer. The answer, I told them

after the game, is everybody doing their part in getting us where we need to be."

One thing the last few weeks cleared up is that Johnson is less awful than Bollinger. Phillips said Bollinger is now No. 2 on the depth chart and would start against the Redskins if Romo somehow isn't ready.

Dropping Johnson to No. 3 creates another problem — who will hold on kicks? Phillips mentioned Crayton and punter Sam Paulescu as likely candidates; he also ruled out Romo, whose tenure in that role ended quite memorably in a playoff loss against Seattle.

After going 13-3 last season, then seemingly upgrading the roster, Dallas was the chic pick to rule the NFC this season. By late September, the Cowboys were doing exactly that.

A home loss to Washington began the tailspin. It's hard to say whether the offense or the defense has been the bigger disappointment for Phillips and owner Jerry Jones.

So the dream of closing out Texas Stadium with an NFC championship victory has pretty much vanished. At this point, the Cowboys need to get in gear just to claim a wild-card spot.

"As far as I'm concerned, we're just winning games right now," Jones said Sunday, postgame. "We know where we are and it's not where we planned to be at all by this point in the season. It's very disappointing. ... We just don't look anything like we had hoped."

There are seven games left to change that. It's almost as if the playoffs already have begun for this group.

"You make or break yourself in the second half of the season," Phillips said. "At least, with this team, that's where we need to go."

Phillips believes his players are up for the challenge.

"I got the feeling after the game they're going to come back strong," he said.

And what gave him that feeling?

"Thirty-one years of coaching," he said. "Just being around it and seeing how they react and I just get that feel. I think we do have a lot of high character guys that want to do well and they want to compete."

"We are not going into it saying, 'Hey, just because these guys are back everything is fixed and we are going to win all our games.'"

Wade Phillips
Cowboys coach

"It's kind of sickening. I don't really know what's going on. We really need to regroup during this off week"

Patrick Crayton
Cowboys wide receiver

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Interhall

continued from page 24

that consistently halted promising drives.

"Our defense played well," St. Edwards' coach Cameron Hogue said. "Even though we did not force turnovers, we can't complain with the shutout."

The game came down to a battle of the defenses. Specifically, Sorin's tight coverage broke up the passing game and it forced several three-and-outs from a usually explosive St. Edwards' offense. The Gentleman attack, led by quarterback Matt Abeling, managed less than 50 yards of offense on the day.

"Offensively, we did not execute at all," Hogue said.

This Hogue ineptness may be attributed to the fall break that broke up the momentum of their season.

"It's hard coming off fall break," St. Edwards' sophomore Daniel Quinlan said. "We just need more practice time to get people used to each other again."

Freshman St. Edwards' linebacker Jay Mathes said the offense wasn't connecting.

"We just have to play throw and catch and really establish the ground game for next week," Mathes said.

Despite not scoring, Sorin coach Tony Bellino said his team played well on the offensive side of the ball.

"Our offense was very strong today," he said. "We're going to try to take all the positives we can out of this tie."

The Sorin offense maintained possession and had the ball for most of the game, including a drive that took up the entirety of the third quarter.

In the fourth quarter, a key sack by Sorin defensive lineman Matt Gamber gave the Otters the ball back with 32 seconds left and a chance to win the game. Sorin, though, decided to play for the tie and simply let the clock run out.

Some players on Sorin suggested that their lack of scoring was intentional.

"We didn't want to show anything before the playoffs," Otter freshman Bobby Sullivan said.

St. Ed's also has thoughts of post-season success.

"We can be a contender," Quinlan said. "We will make a run for this."

St. Ed's earned the No. 2 seed in the playoffs and will face Keenan next week, while the tie dropped Sorin all the way to fourth. They will face Morrissey next week.

Zahm 8, Fisher 0

Although only eight points separated Zahm and Fisher in the Rabid Bats season-ending win Sunday, the game couldn't have been more lopsided.

Armed with an arsenal of ineffective trick plays and a collective amnesia about the rules of organized football, Fisher (0-4) finished the game with more penalty yards than offensive yards.

Zahm (1-2-1) began the game with a quarter-long drive only to get stopped in its tracks at the one-yard line by Fisher's blitz-happy defense that blitzed as many as eight players on a given play. After taking over possession at their own 3-yard line, Fisher ran a trick play in which the snap was supposed to go through the quarterback's legs and directly to the fullback.

The play did not go as planned, though, hitting off of the quarterback's leg and costing the team two yards, leaving the offense on its own goal line. The Green Wave proceeded to run the exact same

play again, resulting in a safety.

Despite playing like a bad section football team in the first half, Fisher came out of halftime trailing only 2-0.

Sticking to their game plan, the Green Wave ran such plays as the "Mahondoff", a designed run for offensive lineman Dan Mahon, and the "Gerow for it", a play that saw a Fisher tackle become eligible as a receiver, both of which resulted in penalties. Soon enough, Fisher found itself facing a 3rd and 50.

Zahm stuck to its running game and finally broke a long run in the second half, putting the Rabid Bats deep in the red zone. They finished off their drive with a short run up the middle, making the score 8-0.

Late in the fourth quarter, Fisher crossed midfield for the first time and almost scored, only to be stopped by Zahm's defense.

With Zahm taking over to run out the clock, apparently unbeknownst to his team, Zahm's quarterback tried to take a knee and complete a long pass. After an earful from the coaches, the Rabid Bats ran out the clock and walked away with a win.

With its offense picking up penalties and racking up yardage losses, the Green Wave could only shake their heads and laugh off their shutout loss on Sunday.

"This was the ugliest football game I've ever been a part of going all the way back to fifth grade pee-pee football," Mahon said.

Siegfried 24, Duncan 0

Siegfried cruised to a comfortable 24-0 victory over Duncan this Sunday, preserving its unbeaten record and proving it will be one of the teams to beat in the playoffs.

Carried by the potent duo of halfback Marcus Young and fullback Dex Cure, the Ramblers (4-0) out-muscled a Highlander (0-4) defense that was helpless to stop the run.

On its first possession, Siegfried found the end zone as Young took a pitch 30 yards for the score. The Ramblers' two-point conversion was successful and they took an 8-0 lead.

While Siegfried jumped out to a fast start, the Highlanders struggled to ignite their offense. The Rambler defense consistently caused confusion and pressure, and Duncan had no response, going three-and-out on its first two possessions.

"It was a tough game," Duncan captain Garrett Burke said. "Our defense had a tough time handling their strong run game and our offense was too inconsistent."

On Siegfried's second drive, Young scored again, capping off a 74-yard drive with a touchdown from two yards out for a 15-0 lead.

As the half drew to a close, Duncan threatened for the first time when wide receiver Mike Kearney caught a 34-yard pass to move into Siegfried territory. But the Ramblers forced a fumble on the following play, and Cure recovered the ball to snuff out the drive.

The Ramblers debuted a direct-snap shotgun offense to start the second half that proved effective. But for the first time, Siegfried couldn't break through the Highlander's defense, and had to settle for a 30-yard field goal, which Gary Burke converted, and the Rambler's led 18-0.

Siegfried's defense kept Duncan in check the entire second half, and backup quarterback Zach Maxwell closed out the game in the final minute with a 19-yard scoring pass to Charles Drury.

Although the Ramblers finished the regular season unbeaten, Kelly knows the playoffs are a fresh start for everyone, and an unbeaten season is meaningless unless they make it to the championship game.

"It is important to stay focused and keep reminding ourselves that the ultimate goal is the Stadium," he said.

Stanford 6, Keenan 6

The Battle for the Chapel resulted in a, with the evenly matched Stanford and Keenan squads ending up with only a touchdown apiece.

The tie allows both teams to advance to the playoffs, Stanford as the No. 6 seed, and Keenan as the No. 7 seed.

Stanford started off the game with possession, but was forced to punt after some great coverage from the Keenan secondary. After the punt return, the Knights were also stopped and neither team was able to finish out a drive.

However, with 58 seconds on the clock, Stanford regained the ball and moved down to the 10-yard line. Quarterback Brian Salvi pitched the ball to David Costanzo, who then completed a pass to tight end Tommy Smith. With six seconds to go, Salvi connected with Costanzo for the touchdown. The kick was blocked by Keenan defensemen Pat Kelly, and the score at halftime read 6-0 in favor of the Griffins.

Costanzo was a standout on both sides of the ball, with numerous receptions and a punt return that he ran back for what would have been a touchdown, if not for a holding call on the Griffins.

"Costanzo is our best athlete, it is nice to have him on the team and he can play everywhere, we put him on offense today to switch things up and surprise the defense," Salvi said.

In the beginning of the third quarter, the Keenan offense came back strong, moving the ball down to the 10-yard line with a run by senior running back Alex Gonzalez. Freshman quarterback Terry Mahoney had a pass to put a touchdown on the board for the Knights. The kick was blocked, and the score remained tied at the end of the third.

With 52 seconds to go, Mahoney passed to Jim Zenker, and the Knights remained at first down and goal. However, in spite of three attempts to run the ball into the end zone, Keenan was stopped by an aggressive Stanford defense.

"This game was about defense, Keenan had three plays on the goal line and our defense stopped them," Salvi said.

Keenan had three plays on the goal line and our defense stopped them," Salvi said.

O'Neill 0, Keough 0

Keough blocked a field goal with less than a minute left in the game ensured a shutout as Keough and O'Neill battled to a scoreless tie on Sunday. Exceptional team defense from both rivals was the story of the game, as neither offense could find the end zone.

Keough (0-2-2), which began the year with a scoreless tie against Keenan, finishes the season without a victory. Nevertheless, senior captain Nazur Ahmed said he is far from disappointed with his team's season.

"I'm proud of the way our guys played all season, especially today," Ahmed said. "This team is laying the foundations for success in the future."

Although Keough struggled once again to establish a rhythm on offense, the

Roos were poised to score late in the first half.

Tailback Reed Looney ran the ball well on the ground, finding holes and breaking tackles. Quarterback Matt Bruggeman found receiver Kevin Laughlin for a 25-yard pass down to the O'Neill eight, but a controversial offensive pass interference call effectively ended the Keough drive.

As a result, the Roos finished the first half without completing a pass or obtaining a first down.

The Mob defense created havoc in the Keough backfield all day, amassing four sacks. Pressure from the defensive line forced Keough interceptions to defensive backs Tom Freel and Brendan Mulharen.

"Our defense played strong all game," O'Neill captain Matt Bono said. "We had a great sense of camaraderie this year."

O'Neill (1-2-1) started strong on offense as running back Tom Freel powered through the holes, breaking multiple tackles and gaining good yardage. But after starting quarterback Bobby Powers was injured on the third play of the game, the Roo defense took advantage of an inexperienced backup quarterback.

Freshman linebacker Alex Boll and defensive back Chris Kosinski intercepted passes on consecutive drives, while senior linemen Faustin Weber recovered a fumble

late in the fourth quarter.

But the Roo defense had its most important stop with 40 seconds left in the game. Rushing all 11 players, Keough blocked an O'Neill kick that would have sealed a victory.

"It's a rivalry, but I still have much respect for O'Neill," Ahmed said.

Morrissey 21, Knott 6

Early in the week, Morrissey captain Joe McBrayer said this week's matchup against Knott would come down to who worked harder in practice. After a 21-6 win against the Juggernauts on Sunday afternoon, it's clear all the hard work was worthwhile.

"We were able to run what we wanted to run," McBrayer said.

With the win, Morrissey (3-1) will be the No. 5 seed in the playoffs and will play No. 4 seed Alumni this Sunday. After a last second loss to Alumni earlier in the season, McBrayer expressed the importance of the momentum Morrissey will carry with them after the big win over Knott.

"We're glad to end our regular season on a high note and go into the playoffs with all the momentum," McBrayer said. "But the playoffs won't change our game plan, we're looking to go out there and do what we've done all year long."

On the opposite sideline, the Juggernauts (1-3) are headed for the off season.

"Not too much went well," Knott captain Aidan Fitzgerald said. "We made some plays, it was just that we couldn't string them together."

The game, a microcosm of Knott's season, was characterized by a lot of abrupt changes.

"Our defense was in a strange alignment for most of the game," Fitzgerald said. "We also had trouble finding a consistent offense. We've been forced to do a lot of on the spot changes and that obviously isn't conducive to a winning record."

Fitzgerald did see reason for optimism though. A relatively young team this year, the Juggernauts will have a lot of returning talent next year and they are confident that they can build off of a disappointing season and make a run for the playoffs in 2009.

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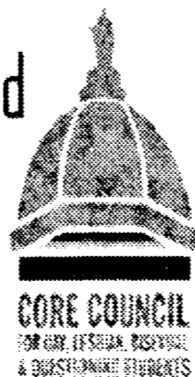
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Recycle The Observer

NFL

Chicago plays waiting game on Orton injury

Associated Press

LAKE FOREST, Ill. — One day after losing the field on a cart, Chicago Bears quarterback Kyle Orton was undergoing more tests on his right ankle to determine the extent of his injury.

Orton was injured in the final minute of the first half in Sunday's 27-23 victory over the Detroit Lions, forcing the Bears to turn to former starter Rex Grossman. And Chicago might be without Orton for the next few weeks.

"I'm not playing doctor; you shouldn't either," coach Lovie Smith said Monday. "You should let us come and tell you once we know for sure exactly what the injury is. We're hopeful, I'll just say that."

Orton was examined after the game and underwent tests Monday morning, Smith said. More were scheduled for later in the day, but the odds of him being ready for next week's game against Tennessee certainly did not look good after he went down against the Lions.

Asked if the injury was more than just a sprain, Smith said: "It's an ankle injury. That's about all I'm going to tell you right now. Wednesday, I'll tell you more."

He also offered few details about safety Mike Brown's calf injury, although Smith did say he doesn't think it's season-ending.

Smith said the Bears have no plans to bring in another quarterback.

"To do that, you would say that Kyle will be out for a long period of time," Smith said. "We're not there. We're evaluating an ankle injury. That's about all we're doing right now."

Several reports said Orton could be out up to a month with a high ankle sprain, but team spokesman Scott Hagel said Monday night: "The evaluation process is ongoing and it will go through tomorrow."

Orton's agent David Dunn did not return messages seeking comment.

Orton was enjoying a breakout year after beating Grossman in a preseason competition before the injury in the closing minute of the first half. That happened moments after the Bears lost Brown, their emotional leader.

Brown walked to the locker room after Detroit's Jason Hanson booted a 52-yard field goal that extended Detroit's lead to 10 with 1:05 left.

The Bears had a third down on their 35 with 40 seconds left when Orton scrambled to his right. Cory Redding hit him and Dewayne White fell on Orton as the quarterback was hitting the turf.

Orton got up and took a few steps before crumpling to the ground. He was tended to for several minutes before being carted off the field. He was 8-of-14 for 108 yards and was in line for his sixth straight game with 199 yards or more.

Now, the Bears might be without him for a while.

"I don't want to be prepared for that," tight end Desmond Clark said. "Hopefully, he comes back and misses a minimum amount of time. ... At this point, I'm going to hold out hope that he's not going to miss much time because he was playing at an elite level, and hopefully, we can get him back as soon as possible."

Orton has 1,777 yards in all while completing 151 of 244 passes, and has 10 touchdowns and four interceptions — none in the past four games. He might not have been on his way to the Pro Bowl, but clearly was playing at a much higher level than when he got thrust into the starting role as a rookie filling in for the injured Grossman in 2005.

Back then, Orton was simply a game manager. The Bears simplified their offense and limited him mainly to handoffs and short passes. And although

Chicago went to the playoffs, fans couldn't wait for Grossman's return late that season.

On Sunday, they cringed when Orton went down. And they serenaded Grossman with boos, a familiar tune the past few seasons.

Although Grossman threw a 6-yard touchdown pass to Rashied Davis in the third quarter and scored the winning TD on a 1-yard sneak with 5:36 left in the game, he was erratic. There were deflections. There was an interception. And there were jeers before he gave the Bears the lead.

After he landed into the end zone, Grossman ran to the right and slammed the ball to the ground.

Grossman's stats — 9-for-19, 58 yards, one touchdown, one interception and a 49.9 rating — were far from impressive. But the Bears have played with him in the past. He won at a Pro Bowl level early in 2006 before inconsistency set in. The Bears made the Super Bowl, but fell to 7-9 last season, with Grossman getting benched for Brian Griese and then injuring his left knee late in the season.

That, leading to a quarterback competition.

"Rex has played a lot of downs around here," Smith said. "He's been in that position before."

Brown finds himself in a familiar spot, too: recuperating.

An Achilles' tendon injury ended his season in 2004, and he missed the final four regular-season games the following year with a calf injury. In 2006, he started the first six games before going down with a foot injury, and last year, he tore the anterior cruciate ligament in his left knee in the opener at San Diego.

"It's a concern because it's happened so many times," Smith said. "But right now, he just has a calf injury. Mike doesn't have a season-ending injury."

"I'm not playing doctor; you shouldn't either."

Lovie Smith
Bears coach

NFL

Leftwich fills in, leads Steelers over Redskins

Associated Press

LANDOVER, Md. — Byron Leftwich led two touchdown drives after Ben Roethlisberger reinjured his throwing shoulder and the Pittsburgh Steelers beat the Washington Redskins 23-6 on Monday night.

The Steelers' top-rated defense had seven sacks, allowed only 221 yards and became the first team this season to intercept Jason Campbell.

Leftwich went 7-of-10 for 129 yards and a touchdown as the Steelers (6-2) beat an NFC East team for the first time in three attempts this season.

Roethlisberger was 5-of-17 for 50 yards and an interception before leaving the game at halftime, again hindered by the slightly separated shoulder that has bothered him since the second week of the season.

Roethlisberger said he hurt the shoulder on the 1-yard sneak that gave the Steelers a 10-6 lead near the end of the first half.

"I have no update on Ben at this point," coach Mike Tomlin said. "Potentially, he

was capable of going back in the game, but we went down the field with Leftwich in there to start the second half. We'll just see how he is."

Roethlisberger spoke briefly in the locker room. Asked if the injury was serious, he said: "I hope not. We'll find out."

Leftwich's 50-yard completion to Nate Washington set up a 1-yard TD run by Willie Parker, who was back from a four-week layoff with a knee injury. He also had a 5-yard scoring pass to S a n t o n i o

Holmes, who returned from a one-game benching over a charge for a marijuana-related offense. Roethlisberger celebrated that touchdown on the sideline by high-fiving his teammates — with his left hand.

The Steelers held Clinton Portis to 51 yards rushing, ending his streak of five straight games with at least 120 yards. Washington (6-3)

came close to scoring a touchdown only once — when Campbell threw incomplete to eligible lineman Lorenzo Alexander on fourth-and-goal at the 1 in the fourth quarter. Campbell, who finished 24-of-43 for 206 yards, thought he had scored on a scramble on the previous play, but a replay challenge showed he was down just before the goal line.

While the Steelers remain atop the AFC North, the Redskins lost ground in the NFC East to the New York G i a n t s .

Washington enters its bye week needing to tweak an offense that has put together promising drives all season but has often struggled to find the end zone.

The game was the first hosted by Washington on the eve of a presidential election since 1984, and there was no mistaking the combination of football and election fever. One fan

alternately waved a white towel with Barack Obama's image in the left hand and an all-burgundy Redskins towel in the right hand. Sports-themed interviews with Obama and John McCain were broadcast by ESPN during halftime.

The Redskins also used the special occasion to wear burgundy jerseys and pants together for the first time in franchise history. A more noticeable color, however, was the yellow from the sea of Terrible Towels waved by Steelers fans who managed to secure tickets by the boatload for the lower bowl of the stadium. In a bizarre sight, visiting Pittsburgh players were waving to the fans all around them to make noise crowd during defensive stands.

Neither team managed 100 yards in a first half that included seven sacks and a combined 13-of-32 performance by Roethlisberger and Campbell. The Redskins didn't convert on third down until Campbell hit tight end Chris Cooley for a 12-yard gain late in the third quarter.

Campbell's streak without

an interception reached 271 attempts — 249 this season — before cornerback Deshaea Townsend grabbed a pass tipped by Portis late in the third quarter.

Washington was on the board early with two field goals in the first four minutes — without the benefit of a first down. Linebacker Alfred Fincher alertly recovered the Steelers surprise inside kick that opened the game, and Cornelius Griffin intercepted a pass tipped by teammate Andre Carter. Both plays gave Washington the ball in Pittsburgh territory, leading to field goals of 44 and 43 yards by Shaun Suisham.

The Steelers didn't cross midfield until Carlos Rogers grabbed Hines Ward to commit an obvious 43-yard pass interference penalty, setting up a 35-yard field goal by Jeff Reed that cut Washington's lead to 6-3.

The Steelers went ahead after Andre Frazier blocked Ryan Plackemeier's punt. William Gay recovered, giving Pittsburgh the ball at Washington's 13 and setting up Roethlisberger's 1-yard TD.

"I have no update [on Roethlisberger] at this point."

Mike Tomlin
Steelers coach

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Pastor

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accepted into the students' cheer repertoire.

But upon further examination, the song contains words of wisdom for the Fighting Irish, especially after the tough loss to Pittsburgh Saturday. Pastor Troy knows pain, in the same way as Notre Dame does, and he knows what it's like to have a rough history like the Irish had last season.

Also, the name "Pastor" plays to Notre Dame's religious affiliations, even if there aren't pastors in the Catholic Church. Minor detail. It's nothing new to have a priest pray with the team before kickoff, so having the crowd chant the words of the Pastor puts the team in a familiar state of mind.

Let's look at some of the lyrics:

"Now ease up shorty, let the G slide through": Offensive line coach John Latina says this to center Dan Wenger, who at 6-foot-4 is the "shorty" of the offensive line. What he means by this is to let the defensive guard slide through a hole in the line when Wenger pulls to the side to block for a sweep. This lead blocking helps spring running back Armando Allen to the sidelines, where he can use his speed to create plays, or on short-yardage conversions when the defense guesses that James Aldridge will run up the middle.

"And I don't leave without my .32": An homage to Notre Dame's secret weapon. When I last played organized football in

eighth grade, our bread-and-butter run play was called Power-I right 32. In this case, Notre Dame uses a rare three-back set with Robert Hughes, Asaph Schwapp and James Aldridge in the backfield at the same time. Aldridge, the three-back, would take the handoff and run behind Hughes and Schwapp through the two-hole, the space between Wenger and right guard Chris Stewart. Why this wasn't part of the "pound-it" philosophy is beyond me.

"Putting it down for five years, the blood, the sweat, the [explicative] tears": A clear reference to the hard work the fifth-year seniors, Maurice Crum Jr., Terrail Lambert and Justin Brown, have put in during their careers. They lasted through two coaches, two BCS bowl losses and the worst season in the history of Notre Dame football. They deserve some dap.

"Hard as a hammer, I am Atlanta": a shout-out to Paul Duncan, Eric Maust, Morrice Richardson, Jamoris Slaughter and Toryan Smith, who all hail from the great state of Georgia.

*"Soon as I step on the scene, its lights camera, action, cash in, fat-a** cheques, my rolex":* The way Jimmy Clausen must have felt when he first arrived here. As highly regarded as he was, the cameras certainly rolled. His watch may not be a Rolex, but it certainly attracts attention.

"I watch your CD's, my man, y'all suck": What offensive coordinator Mike Haywood must have thought when watching

tape of Pittsburgh, especially its game against Rutgers. By CD's he means DVD's game film. Notre Dame ran 10 offensive plays in the third quarter. Five of them were passes, five of them were runs. The first two drives of the quarter started with runs by Allen — both five-yard losses.

Why the need for balance? Both Irish touchdowns at that point came on passes. The offense should not have ignored threats like Michael Floyd and Golden Tate; instead of putting Aldridge and Schwapp in the backfield and motioning Duval Kamara in to run-block, thereby telegraphing their intentions, they should have spread the field with four or five wide receivers and let Clausen do his thing.

Same thing in overtime. Nine rushes, seven passes. An average of 7.75 yards rushing per overtime period. That won't cut it. If the rush isn't getting it done, allow Clausen to throw. Granted, he completed only two of those seven passes, but he had Floyd wide open in the end zone and just overthrew him. Give him more chances and he'll make it happen eventually.

"If you a gangsta you need to crank this up": the offense needed to channel its inner gangsta and crank up the passing game, but instead kept the ball on the ground. As a result, the team's hopes of beating a good team stayed grounded.

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

Contact Bill Brink at wbrink@nd.edu

Injury

continued from page 24

son, just that sophomore Taylor Knaack or junior Michelle Weissenhofer may be where Hanks once paced the field.

So even though and injury is never welcomed — unless you're playing against Notre Dame — the temporary loss of Hanks isn't likely to affect

Notre Dame's performance against Marquette in the Big East semifinals. And even the prospect of No. 17 West Virginia in the finals shouldn't hold too much threat — after all, we are talking about an undefeated team here.

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

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MIAA

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matches, finishing fourth in the MIAA on the back of suffocating defense and an opportunistic offense. The Belles' record was an improvement over last season's 6-10 mark in league play (fifth place) and 12-17 overall, and the squad demonstrated giant leaps in consistency and team effort.

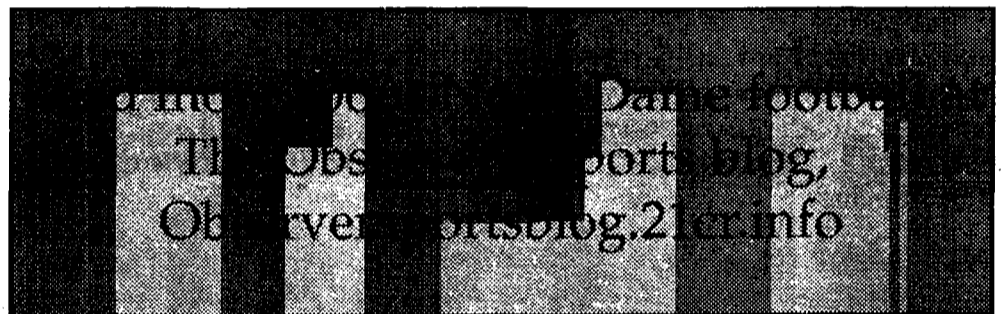
Standout junior hitter Lorna Slupczynski paced the offense with a team-high 3.14 kills per game, while freshman setter Danielle Brink added a .323 attacking percentage and 8.25 assists per game,

both team highs. Sophomore defensive specialist Meghann Rose led the team with 4.48 digs per game.

The Bulldogs finished the season at .500 in the conference (8-8) and 14-15 overall. Adrian plays a similar game as Saint Mary's, relying on smothering defense to offset a pedestrian offense that posted a .164 attacking percentage. Senior hitter Jenny Carlson leads the Bulldogs' offense with 3.37 kills per game, while senior defense specialist Samantha Mercy added 5.04 digs per game, first on the squad.

The game starts at 7 p.m.

Contact Michael Blasco at mblasco@nd.edu



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Welsh Fam

continued from page 24

the underdogs in the lead, 7-0.

"The 4th down conversion we had on our first offensive drive was the most exciting play of the game," Lyons quarterback Claire Connell said. "It really gave us a boost to start the game."

But Welsh Family must've received a boost as well — Welsh dominated much of the rest of the game.

"We started off a bit slow," Welsh Family captain and quarterback Jenni Gargula said. "But once we got into the game, we played like we always do."

Gargula ran in the Whirlwind's first touchdown, tying the game 7-7 just before the half. They kept the momentum going for the remainder of the game, and the Lyons defense struggled against a strong Welsh Family offense in the second half. The Whirlwinds scored two more touchdowns, by Katherine Hart and Natalie Baldasare, before the time ran out to secure their victory.

"We came up a little short, but everyone improved as the year went on," Connell said. "I am looking forward to seeing what we can do next year."

As Lyons finishes their season, Welsh Fam still must prepare for another opponent as it hopes to stay undefeated going into the championship game in the Stadium.

**Pasquerilla West 12,
Howard 6**

Pasquerilla West's hopes of a

third Stadium appearance in four years survived as PW downed Howard Sunday, thanks to two touchdowns, one by air and one by ground, from senior quarterback Cara Davies.

On its opening drive, PW, the No. 4 seed, marched down to the end zone in seven plays. Davies competed a 9-yard pass to junior receiver Cynthia Curley for the touchdown and an early 6-0 lead.

Howard, the No. 5 seed, attempted to respond quickly with a score, but the Purple Weasels defense held strong. On fourth-and-goal from the 5-yard line, Howard sophomore quarterback Kayla Bishop looked to throw, but PW linemen Jordan Johnson grabbed her flag from behind for the sack, killing Howard's momentum.

PW opened the second half by intercepting Bishop at the 15-yard line. Two plays later, Davies raced around the end for a 1-yard touchdown and a two-possession lead.

Howard was able to manage one touchdown on its final possession. A deep completion set up a Bishop five-yard touchdown run. Nonetheless, the Ducks left the game saddened, still looking for a playoff victory in team history.

"We are really disappointed with the way we played today," Bishop said. "We just got outplayed."

Davis added: "The win today was a good step towards our season goal. But we don't want to rest on our laurels."

Staying motivated won't be hard for PW. In the semifinals, the Weasels will face Welsh Family. Last season Welsh Fam beat the Weasels in the same round. That loss is the only

playoff loss for PW in the past four seasons.

"The semifinals matchup will be a grudge match — they ended our Stadium run last year," Davies said. "Hopefully we'll return the favor this time around."

Farley 13, Walsh 7

Whether it is a short field goal, a solid drive, or a strong defensive stand, every coach looks for that little bit of momentum at the end of the first half to carry through to the second half. In this first-round playoff match between Farley and Walsh, that little bit meant everything.

With only seconds remaining in the first half, Farley quarterback Emily Murphy and her offense faced fourth and goal on the 4-yard line. The Finest were driving effectively and were poised to break the scoreless tie on the last play before halftime. To the chagrin of the Finest, Walsh junior Molly McCarthy intercepted Murphy's pass. McCarthy quickly found a seam down the sideline and seemed to have a clear path to the end zone. The ecstatic Wild Women were all ready to congratulate her on her touchdown interception return until a Farley player chased her down and dove to grab her flag. The play undoubtedly saved a touchdown and, more importantly, saved the Finest from the ultimate turn of events and potential loss of momentum. Walsh assistant coach Christopher Cugliari recognized its importance.

"The game-saving play was the tackle at the end of the half," he said. "She made a great play and it changed the

outcome of the game."

The second half was all Farley's. An interception on the first drive led to touchdown and extra point passes both to sophomore Molly Casanova.

The Finest then forced a three-and-out, which Murphy turned into six more points on a pass, again to Casanova.

By this point, the Wild Women, found themselves behind 13-0 with little time left. They managed to find Meghan Hadley in the end zone, but it was too little too late.

Although the Wild Women's season was over, the coaching staff was proud of the team's accomplishments.

"The difference between our first game and this game is just astounding," coach J.J. Rees said. "We have improved so much and we are all so proud to be able to coach Walsh."

On the other sideline, the Finest were able to celebrate a win and a spot in the semifinals.

"Our defense played very well, and I was glad our half-time adjustments were successful in getting us some offensive production," coach Doug Susco said.

The Finest will play No. 2 seed McGlinn in two weeks.

McGlinn 18, Pangborn 14

In a tight game from start to finish, McGlinn defeated the Pangborn and will move on to face Farley in the semifinals.

"I could not have been more excited with the way that we played," McGlinn captain Sarah deGroot said. "We came out the gates fast, which has been an emphasis at practice all week, and gained a lot of confidence by scoring first. The offense did

a great job setting the tone all game and putting up three touchdowns on a solid Pangborn defense."

DeGroot said the Shamrocks played well on defense, allowing McGlinn to hang on to its close lead at the end of the game.

"The defense did a terrific job shutting them down, keeping their offense off of the field, and holding a dangerous offense to only two scores," deGroot said.

DeGroot was also pleased with McGlinn's aggressive attitude throughout the game.

"I thought that we did a great job battling. We had some tough calls that didn't go our way, but we never lost our composure," deGroot said. "We still have improvements to make before our next game against Farley but we feel like we have some momentum and that we can play with any team in this league".

The Phoxes were disappointed with the loss.

"Our quarterback Gabby Tate and our defense played a great game," Pangborn captain Kathleen Poploski said. "It was a tough loss".

Despite Pangborn's loss, the team is encouraged for next season since this year's team is young.

"A lot of our team was freshmen and sophomores so we'll have a lot of returning players. We're only losing two seniors. We should be much improved

Contact Molly Sammon at msammon@nd.edu, Douglas Farmer at dfarmer1@nd.edu, Chris Michalski at jmichal2@nd.edu and Ryan O'Connell at roconnor3@nd.edu



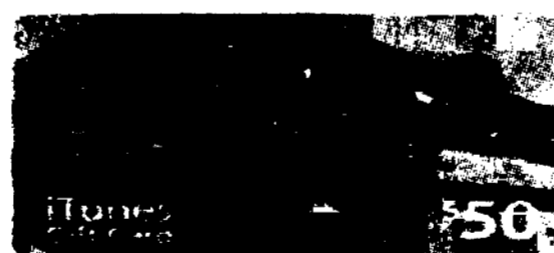
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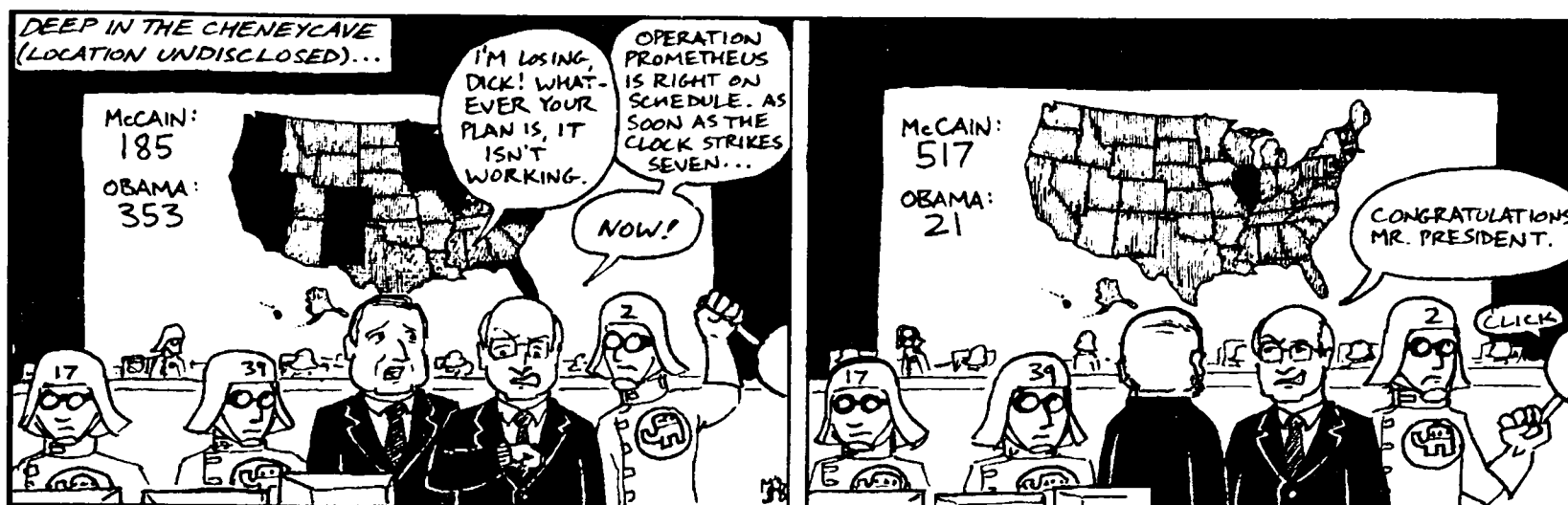
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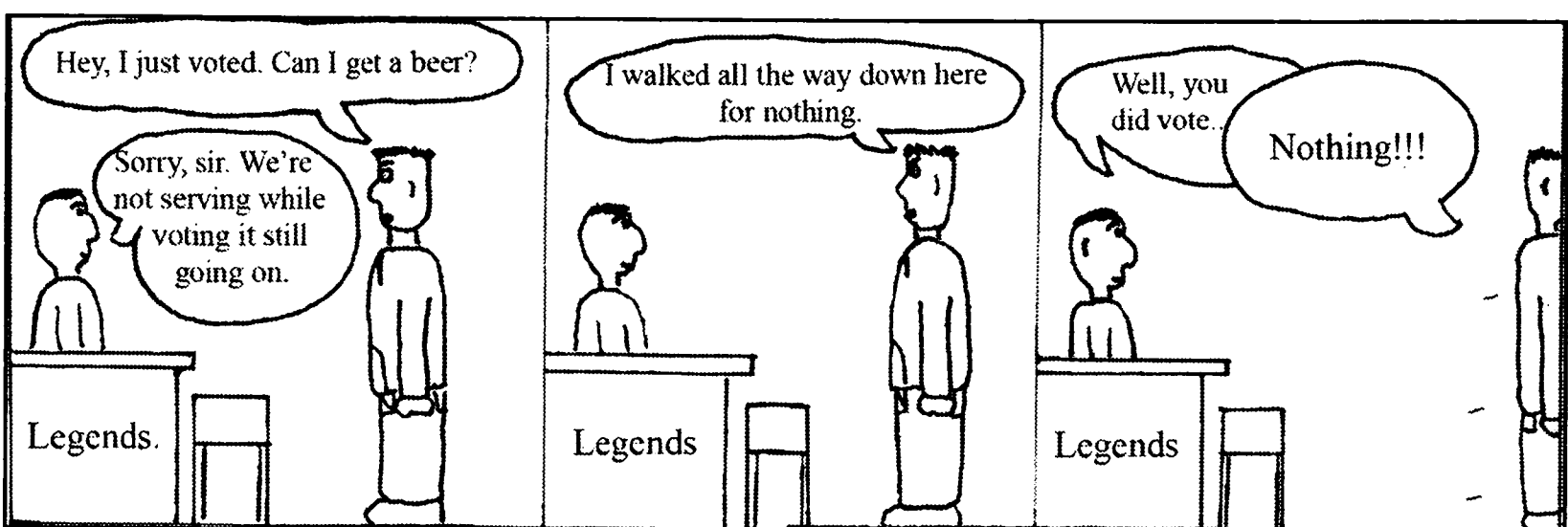
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MICHAEL MIKUSKA



PATRICK GARTLAND



WILL SHORTZ

Down

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Puzzle by Fred Piscop

For answers, call 1-900-285-5656, \$1.49 a minute; or, with a credit card, 1-800-814-5554.

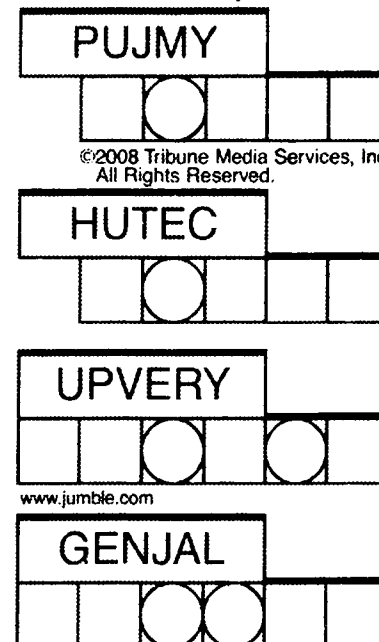
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HENRI ARNOLD
MIKE ARGIRION

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME

by Mike Argorion and Jeff Knurek

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



Print answer here:

A cartoon illustration of a woman with curly hair sitting at a round table with a white tablecloth. She is looking up and saying, "I'm starved". On the table are several plates of food and a glass. A waiter in a uniform and cap stands next to her, holding a large plate. The background shows a simple room with a doorway.

NO MATTER WHAT
IS SERVED, THIS WILL
MAKE IT ATTRACTIVE.

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

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's | Jumbles: ERASE TITLE POTTER GYPSUM
| Answer: Unwrapping their treats during the cowboy
| movie made them —RUSTLERS

EUGENIA LAST

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Dolph Lundgren, 51; Adam Ant, 54; Kate Capshaw, 55; Roseanne Barr, 56

Happy Birthday: Tie up any mess you've left. Straight talk will make your life easier. It's not the outcome but the journey that counts. However, this year, without the final stage the journey has no meaning. Your numbers are 5, 13, 18, 20, 28, 36, 40

ARIES (March 21-April 19): You can make a big enough splash if you are original. A short trip to experience something first hand or to become well-informed about something you want to pursue will result in help and success. Schedule in a little loving. ★★

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Talks, travel and expressing your desires with passion will help you move forward. Don't let someone's lies or misinformation slow you down. You have to surpass those who are jealous or competitive. ★★★★★

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Learn from your mistakes and you won't have to do a repeat performance. Too much is on the line to overreact or to let your emotions control your actions. Be creative and do things a little differently and you will confuse your opponents. ★★ ★

CANCER (June 21-July 22): You may think you know the outcome of a situation you face but your intuition is wrong. The people with whom you discuss things will not be well enough informed to help you. Let things unfold further before you make a costly mistake that cannot be reversed. ★★

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Stop expecting everyone else to do the work. Drive and determination at home and work will enable you to take control and get your way. Love can be a powerful tool when coupled with a playful attitude. ★★

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): A change is heading your way that should bring about abundance, new friends and a lifestyle change. All these will help you get out of a sticky situation. Make decisions for the future based on what's best for you. ★★★★★

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Don't get into trouble with someone over a trivial matter. Get out of the house and meet new people but don't divulge secrets to newfound friends. Consider a new course of action, job or outlet that will challenge you creatively. ★★

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Share your thoughts, feelings and future plans with others today. The feedback and interaction you have with others will provide the spark you need to move ahead with something you've been procrastinating about. ★★★★★

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Work diligently on a project that will allow you to learn, teach and grow intellectually. A love connection is likely to be frustrating and, if you allow it to get to you, you will limit what you can accomplish. ★★

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Don't blurt out or argue without thinking. Put things into context. Steady progress comes from stability, security and building a solid reputation for being professional and maintaining a code of ethics. ★★

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Say what's on your mind and you can put ongoing emotional problems behind you. Draw up an agreement that will help you gain ground in other areas of your life. Don't allow anyone to hold you back from educational pursuits. ★★★

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): There is money heading your way. A sudden change of course or turn of events will surprise even you. Don't let love leave you in a vulnerable or guilty position. You have to remain in control if you want to come out on top.

★★★★

Birthday Baby: You have everything you need to be successful: charm, attitude, determination, openness and the desire to try new things. You are a fighter and a great asset to any group you join.

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

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INTERHALL FOOTBALL

Postseason pressure

Three games without winners in final weekend

By CHRISTINA MCDONNELL, SHANE STEINBURG, KYLE SMITH, LIZA NAVARRO, CHRISTOPHER MASOUD and BOBBY GRAHAM
Sports Writers

Two unbeaten teams remained without a loss Sunday when St. Edward's and Sorin played to a scoreless tie.

The Otters (3-0-1) established dominance quickly when their defense forced a turnover within the opening minutes to give them possession early.

However, the Gentleman (3-0-1) matched this offensive prowess with a potent defense

see FISHER/page 18



Left, Houston Clark carries the ball during Knott's 21-6 loss to Morrissey Sunday. Right, senior Welsh Family quarterback Jenni Gargula scrambles during the Whirlwinds' 20-7 win over Lyons Sunday.



Welsh Fam advances to semifinal round

By MOLLY SAMMON, DOUGLAS FARMER, CHRIS MICHALSKI and RYAN O'CONNELL
Sports Writers

A 20-7 win moves No. 1 and undefeated Welsh Family one round closer to champion status, and forces Lyons to wait until next season for their shot at glory.

The first Lyons offensive drive was planned around short running plays, but plays that gained meaningful yardage. A 4th-and-long conversion took the Lions all the way down the field for the first touchdown of the game, putting

see WELSH FAM/page 22

ND WOMEN'S SOCCER COMMENTARY

Hanks' injury won't hurt Irish in playoff games

Not much can rattle the Irish, not even seeing their leading scorer

down on the field grabbing her knee — okay so maybe that was momentarily scary, but the Irish shook it off.

And there's more than one reason that Kerri Hanks' strained MCL wasn't nearly as frightening as



Deirdre Krasula
Assistant
Managing Editor

Tony Romo's end-of-season injury was to Cowboy fans — one, she's likely to recover quickly and be back in time for the NCAA Championship, and if anyone is willing to fight for her spot back on the field, it's Hanks, and two, the Irish bench is packed with offensive stars.

Take a look at forward Melissa Henderson. She may not have Hanks' 18 season goals, but hey, 15 ain't bad either, and oh, she's a freshman.

Hanks isn't just a shot scorer, she sets up those game winning plays too, leading the Irish with 10 assists. But again, Notre Dame is not to be held up by

one set of legs: enter senior captain Brittany Bock. Bock is just an assist behind Hanks with nine on the season, and she boasts six goals in addition to that.

But it's not just Bock and Henderson who will help ease the pain of Hanks injury. The Irish have had 17 different players score 69 goals in the 2008 season. And the Irish defense has only let up eight goals in a still-undefeated season. So Irish fans, I see no reason to worry yet.

The Irish defense makes up yet another reason the Irish are likely to push right on through to the NCAA Championship.

With senior captain Carrie Dew healthy and looking as good as ever, the likelihood that opponents will get a chance to see the back of the Irish net is slim. Goalkeeper Kelsey Lysander and the Irish defense were even able to keep No. 2 North Carolina scoreless in their 1-0 win over the Tar Heels back in September — even more encouraging is the fact that Bock posted the lone Irish goal.

And its easy to forget who stands at the crux of it all — Irish coach Randy Waldrum, a man who's never stopped learning about the game, especially on the women's side. And even if this Irish team hasn't

faced injuries and tournament time before, he certainly has. Most recently losing one of his top defenders — Dew — to an ACL injury right before the start of the 2006 post-season.

And despite losing to North Carolina in the College Cup Final, they made it there nonetheless. Waldrum has dealt with injury before, and Hanks' is the first really trying injury of the season, and I'm sure Waldrum will know how to deal with it. The Irish are likely to step on the field Friday and look like essentially the same team you've seen all sea-

see INJURY/page 21

SMC VOLLEYBALL

Belles will face No. 5 Adrian in MIAA tourney

By MICHAEL BLASCO
Sports Writer

After clinching fourth place in the conference last week, Saint Mary's will take on No. 5 seed Adrian in the first round of the MIAA Tournament tonight at home. With a win, Saint Mary's (18-10, 9-7 MIAA) would face either No. 1 Hope (25-6, 15-1) or No. 8 Trine (9-19, 4-12) in the semifinals Friday.

The Belles have clashed with the Bulldogs twice this season, with each team picking up a victory in straight sets. While Adrian's defense shut down Saint Mary's in a home match on Sept. 2, the Belles scratched out a tough victory in an MIAA mini-tournament later in the month. Each match, despite

the straight-set outcomes, were grinding, defensive battles that favored the team that made the fewest offensive mistakes.

Saint Mary's coach Julie Schroeder-Biek praised her team's ability to rebound from early losses, citing the Belles' victory over Adrian in late September as a turning point in the season.

"Our approach was just to keep going forward and finishing strong," Schroeder-Biek said. "I have been incredibly proud of my team for how well they have responded to teams that have defeated us [early in the season] — Adrian and Alma — and turning around to defeat them."

Saint Mary's enters tonight as winners of six of its past nine

see MIAA/page 21

FOOTBALL COMMENTARY

Helpful words from the Pastor

It's no secret now that the "Crank me up" chant, a staple of third-down noisemaking from the student section, stems from a

Pastor Troy song by the same name.

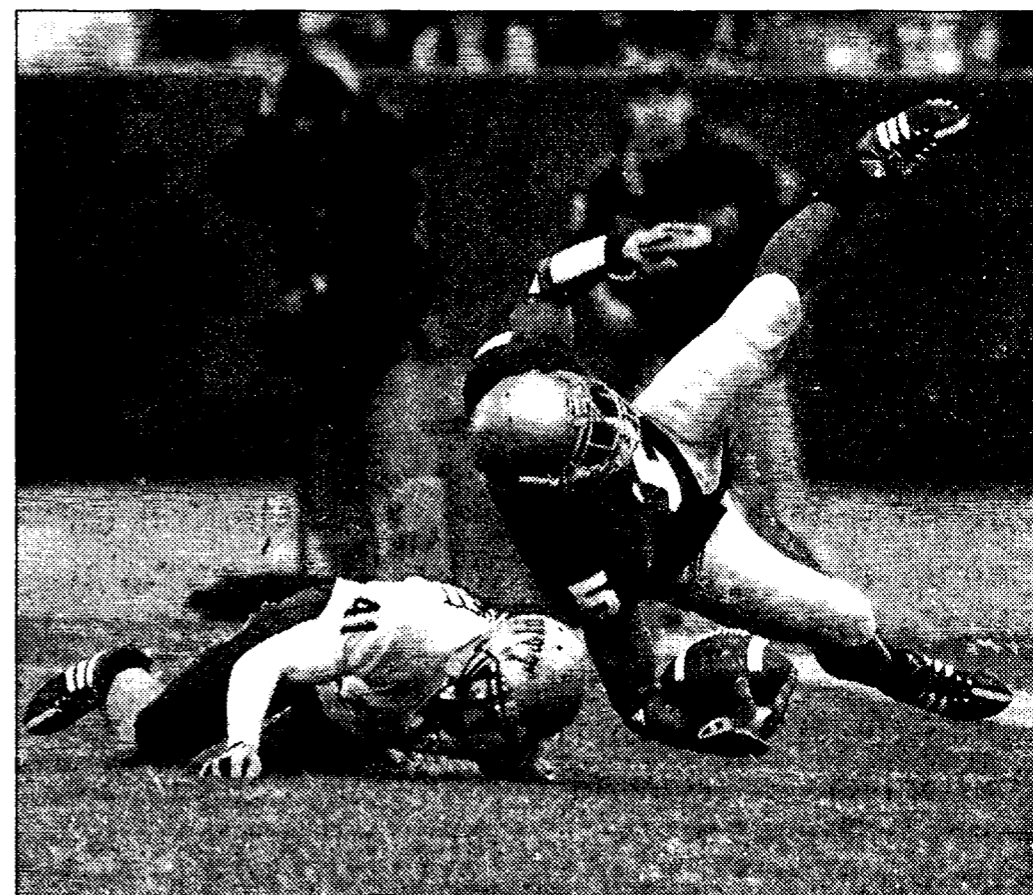
The official story is, defensive back Sergio Brown asked corner-back

Jamoris Slaughter how he got his defense pumped during high school games. Slaughter apparently got "cranked up" in high school, and the phrase became



Bill Brink

Sports Editor



A Pittsburgh defender upends Irish running back Armando Allen during Notre Dame's 36-33 quadruple-overtime loss Saturday.

VANESSA GEMPIS/The Observer

see PASTOR/page 21