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NDSMCOBSERVER.COM

Mendoza adapts in response to financial crisis

Business College expands focus on ethics in curricula, continues leadership programs

By BOB SINGER
Assistant News Editor

Amid widespread scrutiny of corporate management and with the financial collapse in recent memory, the business college is expanding its approach to teaching ethics, Dean of the Mendoza College of Business Carolyn Woo said.

This fall, in addition to offering more courses on ethics and continuing its Executive Integral Leadership program, the College is hosting the annual Berges Lecture Series, which features senior executives speaking about their experiences in the ethical dimensions of business.

"Some colleges have courses in business ethics in their curricula.

What's important to us at Notre Dame is that this be viewed as a way of life, as a cornerstone of what a business education should be," Leo Burke, Mendoza's Director of Integral Leadership, said. "In the spirit of the place, through many of our courses and our professors, we want to emphasize this need for ethics."

The College's MBA program includes two courses in ethics, one required and one selected from a list of topics like marketing ethics, financial ethics in banking and global sustainability, Professor of Marketing Patrick Murphy said. On the undergraduate level, the College requires students to take a course on

see ETHICS/page 6



Observer File Photo

The Mendoza College of Business has broadened its ethics curricula as a consequence of the financial crisis.

Professor founds center to examine regulation

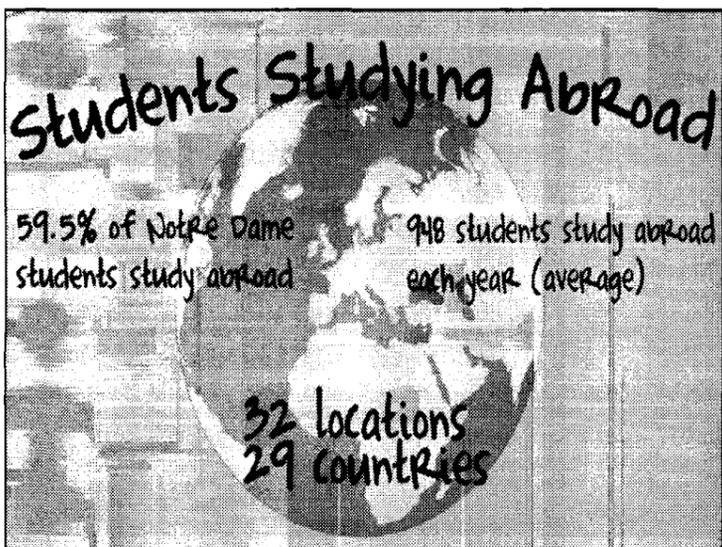
By IRENA ZAJICKOVA
News Writer

When the stock market began sliding in September 2008, Notre Dame Finance professor Paul Schultz said financial regulators took several futile measures that resulted in undesired side effects. To prevent this from happening again, he decided to create the Center for the Study of Financial Regulation to examine the effects of regulations and provide input for future decisions.

"There's a lot going on in financial regulation right

see CENTER/page 4

Study abroad rate ranks seventh in U.S.



BLAIR CHEMIDLIN | Observer Graphic

By SARAH MERVOSH
News Writer

Sophomore Erin Wurst said her study abroad application is weighing on her mind more and more, not just because of the approaching deadline, but because everyone is talking about it.

"All of my friends are applying," she said. "Everyone is kind of talking about where are you in your applications and what's your essay about because you have to stand out to everyone else who's applying."

Wurst, who is applying to study in Toledo, Spain, for a year, said study abroad has become a favored topic of con-

versation because she knows so many students who are applying.

"I feel like it's just kind of something that everyone does. It's not really an issue of it you are going abroad, it's like where you are going abroad," she said.

With 59.5 percent of Notre Dame students earning credit abroad, Notre Dame has the seventh-highest study abroad rate in the country, the 2008 Open Doors report said.

"Our percentage is very high," Director of International Studies Kathleen Opel said. "I would say higher than Ivy Leagues."

Opel said Notre Dame has had a long-term commitment to

see ABROAD/page 8

Lake path closed for repairs

By KRISTEN DURBIN
News Writer

The east area of the Saint Mary's Lake footpath was closed Monday to allow for functional and aesthetic improvements on the path and the surrounding lakeshore.

This area, located just north of the Grotto at the northwest intersection of Saint Mary's Road and St. Joseph Drive, has been a popular gathering spot, so heavy use coupled with erosion caused the asphalt in the area to deteriorate, according to Daniel Younggreen, distribution supervisor for Notre Dame Utilities.

"The main reason for replacing the path is that the walkway on the edge of the lake deteriorated due to wave action on the lake, which caused erosion in that area," Younggreen said.

Another factor contributing to the deterioration of the path is that the area was previously coated with three-inch diameter field stones, and people most likely threw many of these stones into the lake. The gradual loss of field stone in the area led to further erosion of the shoreline.

Younggreen also noted safe-

see LAKE/page 8

STUDENT SENATE

Ideas proposed to improve intellectual climate

By SARAH MERVOSH
News Writer

Senators discussed a perceived lack of intellectual discussion among students outside the classroom at Notre Dame, as compared to peer institutions, and discussed suggestions for improvement at the Student Senate meeting Wednesday.

"We can talk about sports, our internships, our study abroad programs and the jobs we want to pursue later in life at lunch at dinner time, but we don't talk about

Plato or great American works," Duncan Hall senator C.J. Kelly said.

Knott Hall senator Andrew Bell said he had a professor who came from Princeton, who said at Princeton, Notre Dame students were considered inferior in their ability to have intellectual discussion.

"But we were really good at taking notes and taking tests," Bell said. "It sort of offended me at first, but it got us thinking. What do people say about us and how can

see SENATE/page 6



QUENTIN STENGER / The Observer

Senate leadership fields suggestions for ways to enhance intellectual discussion among students.

INSIDE COLUMN

No hope for Ohio sports

As a general rule, I like to remain optimistic in life. However, when it comes to my sports teams, that is downright near impossible for me, especially now. That is because I am an Ohio sports fan, not including Cincinnati, which I don't consider part of Ohio anyway. Growing up in Columbus, I have been a die-hard Ohio sports fan for my entire life (and yes, I still have some affinity to THE Ohio State University) but I can't remember a time when my teams were this bad.



Chris Michalski

Sports Production Editor

Let's start with the NFL, where the Cleveland Browns have once again fallen to the bottom of the standings and show no signs of improving. Even the beloved Brady Quinn couldn't save the abysmal Browns and has now sold his house and will likely be traded. What's most depressing that the other guy, Derek Anderson, is even worse. Silver lining: he actually won a game. Unfortunately for him, though, going 2-for-17 with 23 passing yards and an astounding 15.1 passer rating actually doesn't normally get you a win, go figure.

The front office attributes much of the struggles to sickness and injury, with the flu bug running through the team almost as well as opposing offenses through their porous defense. I'm no doctor but I do know what makes me sick: watching the Browns try to run an offense. Knowing that, I'm not surprised that over a quarter of the team missed practice this last week due to illness.

And then we have MLB's farm team, the Cleveland Indians. With the Tribe being eliminated from playoff contention in late April, I haven't had much to watch as far as baseball goes. I didn't even notice that they almost fell below the Kansas City Royals. That being said, I was glad to see the Indian's all-star team play this October. Too bad the Dodgers' ex-Indians Jim Thome, Ronnie Belliard, Casey Blake, and Manny Ramirez couldn't take down the defending champs, the Philadelphia Phillies. But wait, that's okay because manager Charlie Manuel will represent the Tribe (it's been a while but I still remember him). And then of course the World Series features the Indians' two Cy Young winners over the last two seasons, C.C. Sabathia and Cliff Lee, in Game 1. Silver lining: maybe the Indians' front office going back to the late 90s hey-day with Manny Ramirez by hiring another Manny (Acta).

There have to be some Ohio teams playing well, right? Maybe the Cavs? No, I'll be pessimistic here too. They've already lost to division rival Celtics at home and the end of the King's contract is right around the corner. The Blue Jackets? The Blue Jackets are never good, I don't see why this year would be any different.

I've got one: the Columbus Crew. Winners of the MLS Cup last year and the owners of the best record this year. This must be the team to root for. Only one problem: no one cares about soccer.

Okay so maybe it's not entirely hopeless in Ohio, and I'm sure there are other cities with the same thoughts and more facts to elicit pessimism. But as bad as baseball and football have been for Cleveland, I can't see how anyone can have hope.

Contact Chris Michalski at jmichal2@nd.edu

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

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: WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE KIND OF HALLOWEEN CANDY?



Catie Baransky

freshman Lewis

"Kit Kat."



Mairin Talerico

freshman Lewis

"The Reeses pumpkin."



Mike Petravick

freshman Duncan

"Dots."



Spencer Bruce

freshman Morissey

"Any King size candy bar."



Nick Berlin

senior off-campus

"Milk Duds."



Cailin Ann Connolly

sophomore Lewis

"Candy Corn."

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



MAGGIE O'BRIEN/The Observer

Band members, who will be in San Antonio during Halloween, dressed up on Wednesday as characters from the "Wizard of Oz."

OFFBEAT

Too fat to kill? Fla. man uses weight as a defense

HACKENSACK, N.J. — A man accused of running up and down a flight of stairs to kill a former son-in-law is offering a novel defense: At 5 feet 8 and 285 pounds, he was just too fat to have pulled it off.

An attorney for Edward Ates is making the case that his client wouldn't have had the energy needed to fatally shoot Paul Duncsak, a 40-year-old pharmaceutical executive, from a perch on the staircase.

Lawyer Walter Lesnevich claims that Ates, 62 at the

time of the 2006 killing, was in such bad physical shape that he couldn't have pulled off the shooting or the fast getaway the killer made.

Prosecutors are recommending a six-year prison term and restitution. Sentencing is scheduled for Jan. 8.

Somali who claims to be centenarian marries teen

MOGADISHU, Somalia — A Somali man who claims to be a centenarian has married a 17-year old girl. Ahmed Mohamed Dhore celebrated his marriage to Safiya Abdulle late Tuesday in cen-

tral Somalia before hundreds of guests. Somali adolescent girls are often married off to older men. But it is rare for a man as old as Dhore to marry a girl of Abdulle's age.

Dhore says he wanted to marry Abdulle for a long time but waited for her to grow up. He says his children and two other wives agreed to the marriage, as did Abdulle's parents.

Dhore claims to be more than 100, but there is no way to verify the claim. This marriage was his 6th; three of Dhore's wives have died.

Information compiled from the Associated Press.

IN BRIEF

The Kroc Institute for International Peace Studies is hosting a panel discussion on "Globalization, Social Movements & Peacebuilding" today at 4 p.m. in 104 McKenna Hall.

The Gender Relations Center is hosting "Sex Signals," an improvisational two-person play, in the Jordan Auditorium of the Mendoza College of Business today at 7 p.m. The play offers an irreverent take on dating, but is meant to provoke serious discussion about sexual violence.

The Society for Women Engineers will sponsor the Trick-or-SWEet 5K Run/Walk today at 7 p.m. The race fee is \$10 and benefits the Miss Wizard Day Charity. Prizes will be awarded to the winner and person wearing the best costume.

Friday is the last day to drop a course. More information is available online at <http://www.registrar.nd.edu>

The Notre Dame Men's Hockey team will play Ohio State Friday at 7:35 p.m. at the Joyce Center Ice Rink. Ticket information is available at 574-631-7356.

The Notre Dame Men's Soccer Team will play Connecticut Saturday at 2 p.m. at Alumni Field.

Saturday is Halloween.

Daylight Savings Time ends Sunday at 2 a.m. Be sure to adjust your clocks.

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

	TODAY	TONIGHT	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY
LOCAL WEATHER						
	HIGH 65 LOW 55	HIGH 63 LOW 55	HIGH 61 LOW 41	HIGH 48 LOW 38	HIGH 48 LOW 36	HIGH LOW

Atlanta 72 / 53 Boston 51 / 41 Chicago 58 / 50 Denver 33 / 25 Houston 81 / 73 Los Angeles 67 / 47 Minneapolis 53 / 49 New York 55 / 47 Philadelphia 58 / 49 Phoenix 61 / 47 Seattle 52 / 45 St. Louis 64 / 50 Tampa 88 / 71 Washington 62 / 55

Off-campus safety discussed by CCAC

By MEGAN HEMLER
News Writer

Off-campus safety, traffic problems in South Bend neighborhoods and issues regarding zoning were among the concerns discussed by the Community/Campus Advisory Coalition (CCAC) Wednesday afternoon at the Downtown Office of the University of Notre Dame.

The group is made up of representatives from Notre Dame, Holy Cross and Saint Mary's College as well as representatives from South Bend city offices and agencies.

The Coalition discussed a number of proposals for increasing safety in the neighborhoods immediately surrounding campus, including instituting a neighborhood watch program, increased police presence and a new Transpo shuttle that will operate during the weekend late night hours.

"The shuttle will run from approximately 9 p.m. to 3:30 a.m. Friday and Saturday nights, and anyone can ride it, but it is free for Notre Dame students," student body president Grant Schmidt said.

There will also be additional officers in the Northeast neighborhoods and Eddy Street Commons, on foot and by patrol car, Schmidt said.

Schmidt also spoke on the cre-

ation of the Off-Campus Student Incident Report, which would serve as a way "for students to report safety concerns and events" and "for student government to start collecting data."

Dan Cochran, dean of students at Holy Cross, expressed his concern that the lines of communication to report crimes against students are not always clear.

"When the Holy Cross students were carjacked, the South Bend police called Notre Dame, not Holy Cross," Cochran said.

In addition to safety concerns, the coalition discussed the problems with traffic congestion on home football game days. Individuals often park too close to the corner of intersections, making drivers unable to see whether or not a car is coming from the opposite direction.

There were also concerns regarding zoning procedures and housing codes. Often landlords and families rent single-family homes to multiple Notre Dame students without the students knowing.

"It's a bold violation now," said Cathy Toppel, director of code enforcement for the city of South Bend.

The CCAC will meet again on Dec. 2, at 3:30 pm at the Downtown Office of Notre Dame.

Contact Megan Hemler at mhemler1@nd.edu

SMC students work with homeless

By ALICIA SMITH
News Writer

In Professor Terri Russ' communications course at Saint Mary's College, students have the chance to experience the classroom from a different angle. Russ and her students volunteer at the South Bend Center for the Homeless each Thursday, teaching communications skills to its guests.

The class meets twice a week, once at the College and once at the Center, and according to Russ, the guests are eager to develop skills while they transition back to society.

"Every time we go to the center, they're really excited to see us and they're really eager to learn and do whatever activity we have planned for the day," junior Caroline Baumgartner said. "And they're always talking about it."

The students teach speaking and speech writing skills to a variety of guests, ranging from single moms to teenagers.

"Basically what we're doing is we're going there and teaching a class to four different groups — single moms, general communication, STAR [skilled, trained, able, and ready] programs and teens," senior Cassie McDonagh said. "We're teaching public speaking skills to the members of our

group."
"We each cater kind of differently to the type students we have," she continued.

"So we're just going there every week and meeting with them and going over general public speaking skills, teaching them how to write speeches, different stuff like that."

The course is designed to help students combine education with social justice by giving the class the opportunity to connect with the South Bend community.

Members of the class said it helped to polish their public speaking, as well as their ability to pass on their knowledge to others.

"While it helps us to give back to the community, it also helps our public speaking skills so we are all at once practicing our public speaking skills and teaching those skills to people who need to learn," senior

Mary McDougall said. Since this is the first year for the course, students have faced some difficulties

"I think that this is probably one of the cooler classes that I've ever taken just because I feel so immersed in it and it's not like one of those things where you memorize it and then forget all about it. I find myself actually remembering the things I am teaching to them. I think it's something that is really different than any other class that I'm taking."

Mary McDougall
senior

while working with the center. However, the experience so far has been beneficial for both Saint Mary's students and the members of the classes they teach.

"I think that this is probably one of the cooler classes that I've ever taken just because I just feel so immersed in it and it's not like one of those things where you memorize it the night before and then forget all about it," McDougall said. "I find myself actually remembering the things that I am teaching to them. I think it's something that is really different than any other class that I'm taking. I just think that I've learned a lot more here than I have in a lot of other classes."

Contact Alicia Smith at asmith01@saintmarys.edu

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IT'S COMING.

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Center

continued from page 1

now. The SEC is very active in rewriting rules for trading in various markets and there's new restrictions in place on short selling," Schultz said. "We're trying to promote academic research into some of these regulatory issues. Financial markets have changed a lot in recent years so that indicates there will be a lot of changes in regulations in the next few years."

Schultz said as technology changes, new regulations are needed, and that these rules are written primarily by lawyers.

"We [at the Center] think that professors and economists should have more input into this," Schultz said.

The Center was founded last spring and hosted a conference in April that brought together academics and members of the business world, such as officials from the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) and United States Federal Reserve.

The new Center will prove useful in helping regulators be more informed about the possible long-term consequences of their regulations, which will hopefully lead to

better regulatory decisions, according to Schultz.

"Hopefully we can promote good research in the area of regulations," Schultz said. "And hopefully we can lead regulators to make good decisions in regulations."

Schultz also said the Center would be useful in educating Notre Dame business students about the regulatory issues facing today's economy.

"What we hope to do is to have some speakers who will be on campus and will be talking about some of these

issues that will be of interest to students," Schultz said.

The Center also plans to host another conference in the spring, most likely toward the end of May.

One of the main purposes of the Center is to bridge the gap between business in the real world and business in academia. Schultz said the two areas are becoming increasingly disconnected.

"Sometimes in universities we get kind of cut off on what's going on in the real world," Schultz said. "[By creating the Center for the Study of Financial Regulation], we hope to stay in closer contact with what's going on."

"Hopefully we can promote good research in the area of regulation."

Paul Schultz
director, Center for the Study of Financial Regulation

Contact Irena Zajickova at izajicko@nd.edu

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UNIVERSITY OF NOTRE DAME

Jerusalem Summer Program 2010

at Tantur Ecumenical Institute for Theological Studies

INFORMATION SESSION

Thursday, October 29, 2009

117 Hayes-Healy, 6:00 p.m.



Deadline to apply for the Jerusalem Summer Program is November 15, 2009.

First Year students, Sophomores, and Juniors may apply; all majors welcome.

Contact Liz.LaFortune.3@nd.edu, 152 Hurley, 631-7251, www.nd.edu/~ois

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Supposed centenarian marries teen

MOGADISHU, Somalia — A Somali man who claims to be a centenarian has married a 17-year old girl. Ahmed Mohamed Dhore celebrated his marriage to Safiya Abdulle late Tuesday in central Somalia before hundreds of guests. Somali adolescent girls are often married off to older men. But it is rare for a man as old as Dhore to marry a girl of Abdulle's age.

Dhore says he wanted to marry Abdulle for a long time but waited for her to grow up. He says his children and two other wives agreed to the marriage, as did Abdulle's parents.

Dhore claims to be more than 100, but there is no way to verify the claim. This marriage was his 6th; three of Dhore's wives have died.

UN wants Iran to accept uranium plan

UNITED NATIONS — Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon encouraged Iran on Wednesday to accept a U.N.-drafted plan to ship much of its uranium abroad for enrichment, saying it would be "an important confidence-building measure."

Iranian lawmaker Mohammad Karamirad said the government will formally respond on Thursday to the proposal to send enriched uranium out of the country for processing, according to the semiofficial ISNA news agency. Another Iranian lawmaker, Alaeddin Boroujerdi, said the country's top security body would make a final decision on the proposal later Wednesday.

NATIONAL NEWS

Man pleads guilty to rap crew attack

CINCINNATI — The driver of a vehicle involved in an Ohio gun battle that killed a member of the rapper T.I.'s entourage during a wild highway chase has pleaded guilty to manslaughter and other charges.

Forty-one-year-old Padron Thomas was initially charged with murder. But he struck a deal with prosecutors that allowed him to plead to lesser charges in exchange for testifying in December against his brother, who pulled the trigger.

A judge on Wednesday scheduled a sentencing hearing for Nov. 17. Thomas faces 10 years in prison. He's already serving 17 years on unrelated federal drug charges.

Thomas's younger brother, Hosea Thomas, was sentenced to 66 years in prison for shooting Philant Johnson in May 2006 after a T.I. concert in Cincinnati.

Man uses weight as alibi

HACKENSACK, N.J. — A man accused of running up and down a flight of stairs to kill a former son-in-law is offering a novel defense: At 5 feet 8 and 285 pounds, he was just too fat to have pulled it off.

An attorney for Edward Ates is making the case that his client wouldn't have had the energy needed to fatally shoot Paul Duncsak, a 40-year-old pharmaceutical executive, from a perch on the staircase.

Lawyer Walter Lesnevich claims that Ates, 62 at the time of the 2006 killing, was in such bad physical shape that he couldn't have pulled off the shooting or the fast getaway the killer made.

"You look at Ed and you don't need to hear it from a doctor," Lesnevich said.

LOCAL NEWS

Proposals receive negative responses

ROCHESTER, Ind. — The first of three public hearings on a contentious proposal to revamp Indiana's teacher licensing requirements drew criticism from dozens of educators.

Some at the meeting in Rochester on Tuesday said they worried that the proposal would water down teacher standards, while others urged state officials to take more time considering the changes.

State schools Superintendent Tony Bennett says teachers spend too much time learning teaching methods and not enough on subject matter.

CUBA

Country ready to talk with U.S.

Foreign Minister reports that Cuba is awaiting U.S. response on embargo discussions

Associated Press

UNITED NATIONS — Cuba is willing to hold talks with the United States "on any level," Cuban Foreign Minister Bruno Rodriguez said Wednesday in conciliatory remarks aimed at the Obama administration.

Rodriguez said in an interview with The Associated Press the island nation was waiting for a response from Washington to Cuba's offer to broaden discussions.

His comments came despite a testy exchange between the top Cuban diplomat and a senior U.S. official just before the U.N. General Assembly voted overwhelmingly to condemn America's 47-year trade embargo.

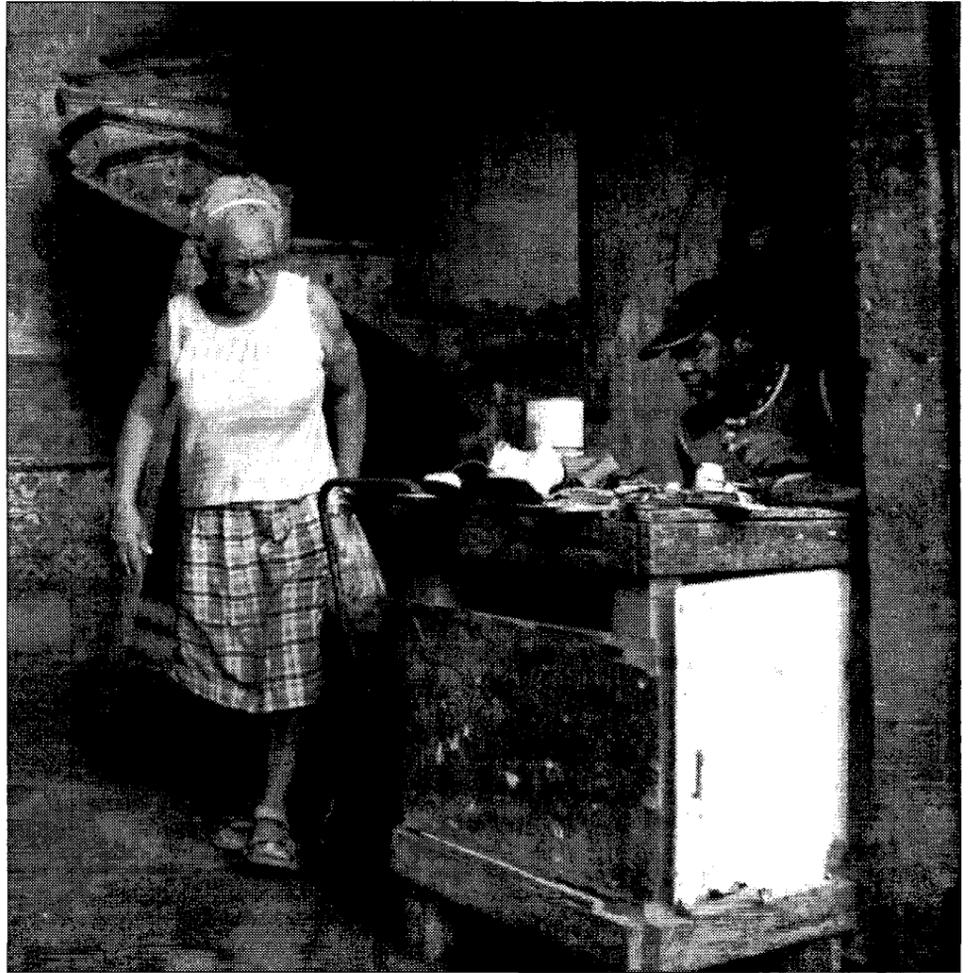
This year's U.N. vote was 187-3 in opposition to the embargo, up from 185-3 last year, with only Israel and the tiny Pacific island nation of Palau supporting the United States. Micronesia and the Marshall Islands abstained both years.

It was the 18th year in a row that the General Assembly has taken up the symbolic measure, and the first since President Barack Obama took office in January, promising to extend a hand of friendship to Washington's traditional enemies.

That change in approach has been noticed by Havana, Rodriguez said.

"We are prepared to have a dialogue with the government of the United States at any level," the foreign minister told AP after the vote, adding that such talks must be held on the basis of mutual respect and sovereignty.

He reiterated that Cuba formally offered in July to hold expanded talks with the United States to cooperate in combatting terrorism and drug trafficking, and to work together to fight natural disasters, among other things.



The U.N. General Assembly overwhelmingly condemned the 47-year U.S. trade embargo on Cuba, which affects Cuban vendors like the shoe repair man pictured above.

"We are waiting for the North American response," Rodriguez said. He also said Cuba has been pleased by progress of ongoing talks on migration and re-establishing direct mail service. He called those discussions "productive and respectful."

Rodriguez's tone in the interview was markedly different from that in his speech before the General Assembly, in which he claimed the embargo — which the Cubans refer to as a blockade — had cost the island's fragile economy tens of billions of dollars over the years and prevented Cuban children from getting needed medical care.

"The blockade is an uncultured act of arro-

gance," Rodriguez said. He likened the policy to "an act of genocide" that is "ethically unacceptable."

U.S. Ambassador Susan Rice reacted strongly, calling the Cuban diplomat's statements "hostile" and "straight out of the Cold War era."

"Here we go again," she said of Rodriguez's speech. "I suppose old habits die hard."

Still, Rice said the Obama administration was committed to writing "a new chapter to this old story" by engaging with the Cuban government, and she used the bulk of her speech to highlight the steps Washington had already taken to improve ties.

In Washington, State

Department spokesman Ian Kelly said the General Assembly vote on the embargo ignored U.S. efforts to help Cubans.

"This yearly exercise at the U.N. obscures the facts that the United States is a leading source of food and humanitarian relief to Cuba," Kelly said. "In 2008, the United States exported \$717 million in agricultural products, medical devices, medicine, wood and humanitarian items to Cuba."

Meanwhile, Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez, a close ally of Cuba, reacted to the U.N. vote by saying Obama has an opportunity to earn the Nobel Peace Prize he was recently selected to receive by lifting the embargo.

Bay Bridge failure stirs fear and anger

Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO — When 5,000 pounds of metal broke off the San Francisco-Oakland Bay Bridge and rained down on traffic during rush hour, the accident resurrected fears about the safety of a span that millions watching the 1989 World Series broadcast learned had failed during an earthquake.

The terrifying scene on Tuesday left only one motorist with minor injuries, but stirred anger over the constant delays and soaring costs of the still-unfinished new eastern span of the Bay Bridge, which has become the largest public works project in California history.

"I thought I was going into the Bay," said Andrea Nelson, a marketing consultant and personal coach who saw the crossbar and two rods fall and bounce on the road ahead of her as she headed into San Francisco for dinner. She swerved and her car spun out as she ran over the rods, which gashed her tires.

"I have lost so much confidence in the experts, the millions of dollars that are being spent to reconstruct and build a new bridge," she said. "I just find it shocking and unacceptable."

The catalyst for a replacement span was the 1989 Loma Prieta earthquake, which caused a 50-foot section of the bridge's upper deck to collapse

onto the deck below, causing another section to give way. It took state officials until 1997 to decide it would be cheaper over the long run to build a new span than retrofit the existing one.

The cost initially put forth for replacing the bridge was \$1.3 billion with a 2004 completion; that has grown to \$7.2 billion with a 2013 opening. Meantime, the existing eastern span was outfitted with giant shock absorbers and other fortifications meant to help it withstand a quake.

Officials provided no precise estimate of when traffic would reopen on one of the region's major transportation arteries.

Mendoza

continued from page 24

ethics and offers several electives on the subject.

Last year, Woo said, the College started offering a course called "Giving Voice to Values," which gives students the awareness to solve dilemmas revolving around the question, "When you say something is wrong, how do you bring your values into the workplace?" The College also offers a course on "Business on the Front Lines"—described by Woo as an examination of "how to start business for the social good in a war torn country."

Additionally, the Executive Integral Leadership program will continue to be offered to Executive MBA students and real world executives.

The one-week program, according to Woo, promotes "self-reflection and self-understanding" by helping participants to recognize the disconnect between their values and deeds with the goal of "integrating interior thinking and external actions."

Woo laid out four specific causes of unethical business behavior, citing the ease with which people can rationalize their actions and highlighting the incentives to record higher profits.

People "go with the flow" or diminish their sense of responsibility for unscrupulous deeds by seeing themselves as part of a larger mechanism beyond their control, view ethical violations as means to a nobler ends, engage in unethical practices because of lax penalties and are pushed to sacrifice their principles with the prospect of enormous gain, Woo said.

Burke discussed the larger causes of ethical breakdowns in business and their significance for a long-term view of the economy.

"On a systemic level, it's fueled by the need for ongoing economic growth," he said. "It fuels the question, 'What levels of economic growth are sustainable environmentally and sustainable in terms of the social good?'"

"At times, we need to look at what more natural rates of growth might be and how we regulate our appetite to concur with these natural rates of growth," Burke continued. "If you look at high growth rates, it requires more and more consumption and what we've see with more and more consumption is that it has led to greater and greater debt and has required more and more extraction of resources from the planet."

Looking at the short term, Murphy said the business community should "restore the trust of people at large about the financial problems and the problems we were going through a year ago."

To create a more ethical business environment, Murphy and Woo argued for change among business leaders.

"I think that changes must come from the inside," Woo said. "Not only can it come but it must come from the inside, because external regulation can never be sufficient."

Murphy also saw a need for more effective regulation and for society to identify ways for the business community to serve its needs.

"Number two, there is undoubtedly a need for the regulatory community to take a look at how they need to tighten up on a range of standards that prevent excess," he said. "But even more important, individual citizens in society need to come together to set the parameters on what the role of business should be in the larger society."

Contact Bob Singer at rsinger@nd.edu

Senate

continued from page 24

we use what people are saying about us to improve our intellectual atmosphere here at Notre Dame?"

Community relations chair Denise Baron said it is socially unacceptable to talk about intellectual topics in social situations at Notre Dame.

"There is this sense of keep it for the classroom. So when you do bring it up, you get shot down about it or you have to preface a lot of what you say with this is really nerdy," Baron said.

Martha Bordogna of Ryan Hall suggested assigning a required reading book for incoming freshmen and then having a discussion about the book during freshmen orientation.

The book would give students a common ground got intellectual discussion, she said.

Bordogna also said discussion needs to play a larger role in the classroom.

"I am a political science and history major and most of those classes you would think would have a lot of discussion," she said "I am a senior and I can count on one hand the classes that I feel like I really had a lot of discussion in."

Farley Hall senator Elise Jordan suggested having

discussions in a more informal setting. Jordan said over fall break she visited Yale University, which offers a class similar to tutorials, but more informal.

"Sometimes these would be in the middle of the week at 9 p.m. and there would be four or five kids from your class and you would talk about what you learned," she said. "It might be even in an informal setting with coffee."

Gender Issues chair Patrick Tighe agreed and said he wanted to change the social culture at Notre Dame by having classes in the dorms, to combine academic and residence life.

Having seminars with the people you live with and actually having people come and teach in your dorms," he said.

Campus Technology chair Walker Anderson said improving intellectual discussion would improve community at Notre Dame.

"Community building is facilitated by intellectual dis-

course and it builds a community of scholars," he said. "[Currently], the community aspect breaks down into two things from what I've been hearing,"

Anderson said. "There is this division between the academic life and residence life."

"So maybe our focus and our goal as we try to find tangible ways to get around this is try to blur that line," he said.

Keenan Hall senator Chase Riddle said the reason he came to Notre Dame was because of its balance between academics and social life.

"I can't be in those institutions where it is all about academics," he said.

Maria Lynch of Breen-Phillips Hall agreed, and said balance is part of what makes Notre Dame unique.

Lynch said students at Brown University and Providence College were envious of that part of Notre Dame.

"They were so envious of all our school spirit. While they can maybe talk about Uzbekistan at dinner, they are really jealous of our community here," she said.

Student body vice president Cynthia Weber clarified that Notre Dame is not trying to become like an Ivy League school, but to look at the weaknesses of our intellectual environment in order to improve them.

"This is Notre Dame. We are not an Ivy League and we aren't trying to be an Ivy League," she said.

Contact Sarah Mervosh at smervosh@nd.edu

"We can talk about sports, our internships, our study abroad programs and the jobs we want to pursue later in life in lunch at dinner time, but we don't talk about Plato or great American works."

C.J. Kelly
Duncan Hall senator

"Community building is facilitated by intellectual discourse and it builds a community of scholars."

Walker Anderson
Campus Technology chair

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Tuesday, November 3
7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.
316 Coleman Morse

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AMEX	1,744.33	-62.26
NASDAQ	2,059.61	-56.48
NYSE	6,765.69	-166.35
S&P 500	1,042.63	-20.78
NIKKEI (Tokyo)	10,075.05	0.00
FTSE 100 (London)	5,080.42	-120.55

COMPANY	%CHANGE	\$GAIN	PRICE
CITIGROUP (C)	-4.45	-0.19	4.08
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IN BRIEF

Google adds song feature to search

LOS ANGELES — A new music feature rolled out by Google Inc. Wednesday will bring its U.S. searchers one click away from listening to a full-length song.

The simple design brings up to four songs to the top of search results. Once one is clicked on, the song will play on pop-up players from MySpace or Lala. The search results are also accompanied by album art and links to music sites Pandora, imeem and Rhapsody.

Internet users can search by artist name, album or song title and can even access a song by typing in part of its lyrics.

The clutter-free box pushes down other search results, such as the artists' home page and fan sites, and reduces what Google Inc. calls "time to result," in this case meaning how much clicking one has to do to hear a song.

"Within that mission of trying to make music search easier is to keep it simple," said R.J. Pittman, Google's director of product management. "Exercising great restraint in the design of this is what's going to maximize its adoption."

Taiwan to ease beef restrictions

TOPEKA, Kan. — Kansas Gov. Mark Parkinson said Wednesday that he has been assured Taiwan will soon ease restrictions on imports of U.S. beef.

Parkinson met in Taiwan last week with President Ma Ying-jeou during a trade mission to the island nation. Parkinson said Ma indicated Taiwan would soon begin accepting shipments of U.S. beef, although no timetable was given.

The governor, speaking to reporters about his recent trade mission, said there had been considerable effort at all levels of government to reopen beef markets in Taiwan, as well as other nations in Southeast Asia.

"President Ma indicated that the input we provided was helpful, that he's headed toward a policy that will lift the ban," the governor said. "That would be a terrific benefit to the livestock industry, not just in Kansas, but across the United States."

Taiwan was the 16th largest market for Kansas products in 2008. Taiwan ranks as the seventh largest export market for U.S. agricultural products.

Costco to accept food stamps

More and more warehouse clubs allow customers to use the vouchers

Associated Press

PORTLAND, Ore. — With many families suddenly struggling to feed themselves, the big warehouse clubs known for king-size packages of steak and jumbo boxes of Cheerios are increasingly competing with grocery stores for the 36 million Americans now on food stamps.

Costco Wholesale Corp. said Wednesday that it would start accepting food stamps at its warehouse clubs nationwide after testing them at stores in New York. That is a big about-face for a chain that has catered to the bargain-hunting affluent with its gourmet foods, and a reflection of the fact food-stamp use has hit new highs.

Costco joins warehouse-club competitor BJ's Wholesale Corp., which started taking food stamps last April, and Sam's Club, which began accepting them in the fall of 2008.

Up until recently, some warehouse clubs were skeptical poor people would be willing to pay the \$50-a-year membership fee or would be interested in buying food in the bulk quantities for which the stores are famous.

But now, in this economy, stores are battling for every dollar and see a big potential market in the growing ranks of food-stamp recipients. From warehouse clubs to supermarkets and mom-and-pop groceries, stores are retraining their cashiers and hanging new signs to welcome such customers.

"Certainly this economy was a wake-up call," Costco chief financial officer Richard Galanti recently told investors. "It is not just very low-end economic strata that are using these."

The rolls of food-stamp recipients have grown by 10 million over the past two years. The U.S.



Costco announced that consumers nationwide will be able to use food stamps at the company's warehouse clubs after testing them at stores in New York.

Department of Agriculture said nearly 200,000 retailers nationwide now accept food stamps, 20 percent more than in 2005.

Most major food chains — like Wal-Mart Stores Inc. and Safeway Inc. — have accepted food stamps and other public assistance as payment for many years.

Costco had refused to do so, arguing that there would not be enough shoppers to make it worth the trouble of updating its electronic payment systems and that food stamps would slow down the checkout lines.

In May, however, Costco began accepting food stamps in New York under political pressure, and the practice turned out to be

more popular than expected. Richard Galanti said the company's assumptions were "probably a bit arrogant."

Moreover, some of the warehouse club chains say that poor people — particularly those with large families to feed — can save money by buying food in bulk. The warehouse clubs are not waiving their membership fees for food stamp recipients, and memberships cannot be bought with food stamps.

But Costco executives said they were surprised to find that some shoppers are, in fact, paying the \$50 fee precisely because the company takes food stamps.

The company hopes to

accept food stamps in about half its 407 stores in the U.S. by Thanksgiving. The rest will be phased in as Costco gets the necessary state approvals.

As for Kroger Co. and other grocers that have long accepted food stamps, they are adding new signs to welcome those on food stamps, as well as increasing staffing and stocking up on key products at the times of the month when benefits are issued.

"This is a big deal. It's a meaningful segment of our shoppers, and it's increasing rapidly," said David Dillon, Kroger CEO, who recently visited a store to talk with shoppers using food stamps about their concerns.

Obama hails hate crime legislation

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President Barack Obama on Wednesday signed and celebrated hate crime legislation that extends protection to people based on sexual orientation, sealing a long-fought victory to gay advocates. The president spoke of a nation becoming a place where "we're all free to live and love as we see fit."

The new law expands federal hate crimes to include those committed against people because of gender, sexual orientation, gender identity or disability. It also loosens limits on when federal law enforcement can intervene and prosecute crimes, amounting to the biggest expansion of the civil-rights era law in decades. "No one in America should ever be

afraid to walk down the street holding the hands of the person they love," Obama said in East Room reception, surrounded by joyous supporters. "No one in America should be forced to look over their shoulder because of who they are, or because they live with a disability."

Civil rights groups and their Democratic backers on Capitol Hill have tried for a decade to expand the hate crimes law, but fell short because of a lack of coordination between the House and Senate, or opposition from President George W. Bush. This time, the bill got through when Democrats attached it to a must-pass \$680 billion defense measure over the protests of Republicans. Obama signed the combined bill in a separate ceremony earlier on

Wednesday.

Conservatives have opposed the legislation, arguing that it creates a special class of victims and could serve to silence clergymen or others opposed to homosexuality on religious or philosophical grounds.

The bill is named for Matthew Shepard and James Byrd, whose family members stood with Obama. Shepard, a gay college student, was murdered and found tied to a fence in Wyoming in 1998. The same year, Byrd, a black man, was chained to a pickup by three white men and dragged to his death in Texas.

"We must stand against crimes that are meant not only to break bones, but to break spirits; not only to inflict harm, but to instill fear," Obama said.

Abroad

continued from page 24

international education since the 1960s and continuously works to improve the program by reviewing each location and adding programs to fill needs of departments.

"We've increased our number of programs and the kinds of opportunities people have," Opel said.

The University has 32 semester and year-long study abroad locations in 29 different countries, the Office of International Studies Web site said.

"We have a variety of programs that fit different students' needs, but we don't have so many that we don't have a good knowledge of every program," she said.

Though Opel said about 948 students study abroad during each academic year, the Office of International Studies does little recruiting.

The office announces information sessions for each abroad location and has one general information session during freshmen orientation, Opel said.

"The students who come back from study abroad are really our best recruiters because they tell everyone in the dorm about their experiences," she said.

Junior Gabriela Moriel, who is currently studying in Puebla, Mexico, said the ringing endorsement of studying abroad by returning students was a factor in her decision to go abroad.

"I did not hear from a single person who did not absolutely love their study abroad experience," she said. "And I think that is a remarkable thing to say, especially when we already go to the best university in the country."

Moriel said her abroad experience has been just as positive as she had expected.

"My experiences in Mexico have completely surpassed my expecta-

tions in every way possible. As we approach November, I'm already starting to get sad because I am not ready for this experience to end," she said.

Wurst said the accessibility of the study abroad programs make it easy for students to apply, and is probably a contributing factor to the high rate of international study at Notre Dame.

"They encourage you to go, and they are really organized and they make you feel safe about going abroad and comfortable," Wurst said. "They make it really appealing."

"I feel like at other schools, especially at big universities, it's like well you can study abroad if you want, here's how you apply. And you are kind of on your own from there," she said. "They don't have as much direction as we do here at Notre Dame."

Junior Elizabeth Benson, who is studying abroad in London, agreed.

"Notre Dame has lots of study abroad students because it's so easy to do. Being abroad is so much fun and everything I'm doing counts for college requirements and for my major," Benson said.

Junior Emma Nalezny, who is also studying abroad in London, attributed Notre Dame's large study abroad percentage to the type of students who attend Notre Dame.

"I think Notre Dame's study abroad rate is so high because the students are willing to take on an adventure and discover new things," Nalezny said.

Senior Alex Riordan, who studied abroad in Toledo, Spain, agreed.

"Notre Dame students tend to value cultural awareness while they also desire the excitement that comes with being surrounded by completely new people, places, and things," she said.

Wurst said the number of stu-

dents who go abroad at Notre Dame made her feel comfortable enough to apply.

"I know that I'll be surrounded by other Notre Dame students and I'll be in an environment where I'll feel comfortable," she said. "I really don't think I'd go for a year if I was on my own."

Opel encouraged anyone who is interested to apply for a study abroad program.

"When you come back and have on your resume that you've done a study abroad, not just for the sake of study abroad, that you really learned something, I think that's what makes it a really marketable experience," she said.

"We want to put you abroad, so help us do that for you by giving us a good application," Opel said.

The application deadline is Nov. 15, according to the Office of International Studies Web site.

Contact Sarah Mervosh at smervosh@nd.edu

Lake

continued from page 24

ty is another central reason for repairing the path, which closely borders the lake, because further erosion could potentially be hazardous to pedestrians.

The project, overseen by ND Utilities for Landscape Services, involves replacing the remaining field stone with glacier field stone on the exposed shoreline. The new stone, with an average diameter of 12 to 18 inches, will be placed on geotextile fabric to prevent silt from getting into the field stone and to minimize erosion.

Improvements on the path also include the installation of a timber border between the path and the field tones for aesthetic purposes,

Younggreen said. Also, a six-inch layer of aggregate base will be placed underneath the path to ensure and extend the life of the path.

In addition, a storm inlet structure will be installed along St. Joseph Drive to create a conduit for collecting rainwater. This structure will allow rainfall to run into the lake through the conduit instead of across the soil, which would cause increased erosion of the lakeshore.

"We [ND Utilities] are using best management practices throughout the project in doing anything we can do to improve storm water quality and be good stewards of the environment," Younggreen said.

Although ND Utilities is overseeing the project, the paths around both Saint Mary's and St. Joseph's Lakes are maintained yearly by

Notre Dame Landscape Services. The primary focus of the annual maintenance is to ensure the limestone paths are even and safe for use by members of the Notre Dame community.

The project will be completed within the next two weeks, culminating with the reopening of the area at noon on Nov. 6.

Younggreen said the project would not affect general use of the path because the area under construction is roped off for pedestrian safety.

The Saint Mary's Lake paths and banks were last renovated in the summer of 1995 in order to improve the design of the lake area. The field stone currently being replaced was installed during the previous project.

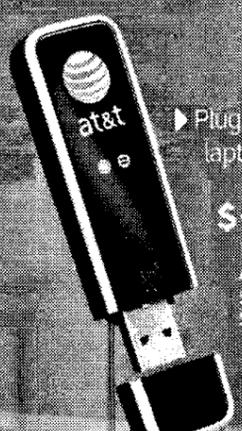
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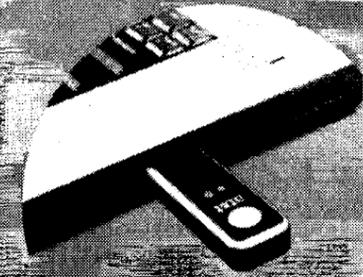
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THE OBSERVER VIEWPOINT

page 10

Thursday, October 29, 2009

THE OBSERVER

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Filler column

Upon first being told, that I had attained the position of Viewpoint writer in this fair newspaper, my soul positively blazed with delight; and I set to making the ink flow from my pen, in the service of making light of things, which hereabouts are taken more seriously than they deserve. And indeed, for one or two columns, the freshness and invention which naturally arose from being a new writer with a somewhat different perspective won me some modest acclaim from close friends and immediate relations.

But being unable to sustain this mood, nor plentifully enough supplied with the wit or brains to invent new topics for discussion, I hit upon the determination to immediately let down my readers, by composing a column entirely of such desultory filler, as is usually to be found written herein when news is slow and topics of conversation are few. So I racked my brains for such well-worn topics as life at Notre Dame could supply me with, and before long had come up with a list which, if not comprehensive, at least hit upon most of the major clichés which are often remarked upon by lackwits such as myself.

It was my intention to avoid any originality in thought or word, so as to avoid putting off more traditionally minded readers, which at Notre Dame are in no short supply. Indeed, this entire column is written in the style of Jonathan Swift, complete with archaic grammar. If by some mischance I should have happened to use a novel turn of phrase, or put a new twist on an old joke, I heartily apologize

for the unintentional breach of good conduct.

First, I assayed to note, that Notre Dame has entirely too many sprinklers, which cover not only grass, but also douse sidewalks and innocent passersby with their freely flowing water; and ventured to express the opinion, that perhaps we might be better served, by a higher degree of control over their volume, direction, and timing.

That topic running dry, I quickly hit upon another, which was that the squirrels, who currently run amok over the grass, and are positively shameless about begging food, have lost much of their natural fear of mankind, and pose a great danger to the student body, should they ever develop a taste for human flesh. Certainly this latter topic has been milked dry at length, by other would-be comedians, and I considered making it the entirety of my column; but in my desire to cover as much ground as possible, I regrettably had to omit it.

My next subject, was the age old question, of which dining hall was superior to the other; and indeed much ink has been spilled, defending the honour of North Dining Hall, for its free and easy seating arrangements, or upholding that of South Dining Hall, for its vaunted resemblance to the dining rooms in Hogwarts School of Witchcraft and Wizardry.

From the topic of dining halls I proceeded naturally to considering, whether the women of this fair university consume too much of the Fro-Yo provided therein, and thereby swell their girth beyond that which average males might consider attractive, and push our male population into the open arms of the Saint Mary's population (on which more later).

Naturally, not wishing to appear partial

to one sex or the other, I next chose to muse on the exceeding awkwardness of many among our male population, and their lack of social skill, especially as pertaining to interactions with females, in which discomfort in the male may be observed to increase directly in proportion to the attractiveness of the girl being spoken to.

It was my intention to dwell for some length of time on the purported lack of intelligence and loose nature of Saint Mary's chicks, but I decided it was best to avoid sparking a tiresome Viewpoint war, as I have seen in these pages many times before over just this subject.

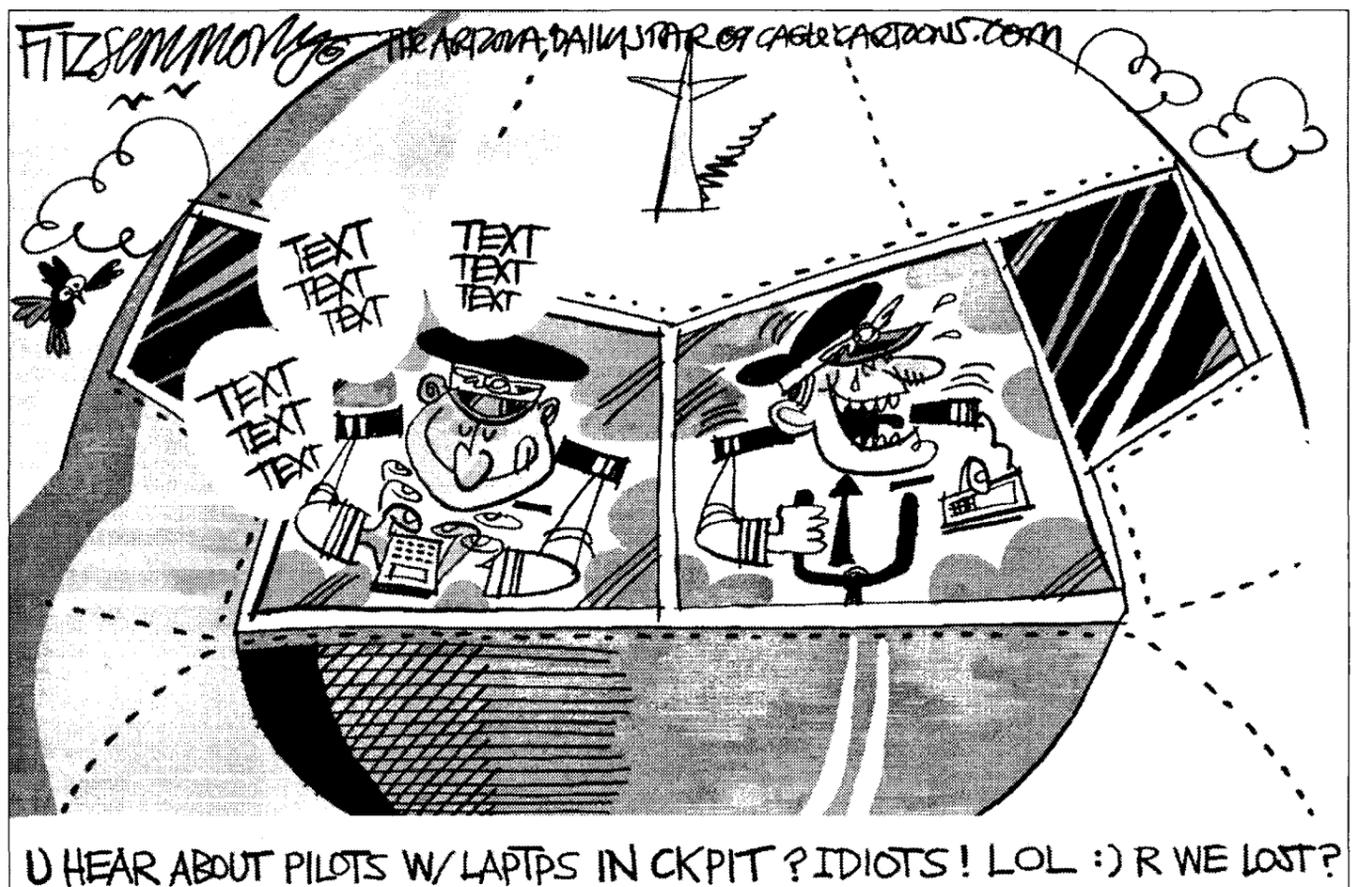
I meant to muse on the nonexistent dating culture here at Notre Dame, which essentially segregates its students into those looking for random hookups and those seeking their ring by spring, but a brief reflection on which camp I had been 'sorted in' convinced me to hastily abandon the subject.

In summation, it is my hope that, by the expedient of relying on tired and shopworn jokes, I have managed to raise a horse-laugh or two, from the great masses, who will slap their knees indiscriminately at any minimally observant quip, which references our fair school; and that I have managed to convince the considerably smaller readership, who long for intelligent humor at Notre Dame, that I can offer them no solace. I welcome the diminished readership and expectations that will accompany my next column.

Brooks Smith is a junior math and english major at Notre Dame. He can be contacted at bsmith26@nd.edu

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

EDITORIAL CARTOON



QUOTE OF THE DAY

"If all economists were laid end to end, they would not reach a conclusion."

George Bernard Shaw
Irish dramatist

QUOTE OF THE DAY

"Never bear more than one trouble at a time. Some people bear three kinds — all they have had, all they have now, and all they expect to have."

Edward Everett Hale
U.S. author

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What are you going to be for Halloween?

If you're still asking, "How was your break?" it's time to switch gears; it's Oct. 29 and there's only two days to go.

In our house, Halloween isn't too big a deal. The extent of our decorating includes two big pumpkins from the farmers' market plopped on our front steps, which some enterprising squirrels have already discovered as the perfect fall snack food. Our daughter plans to be a hippie, though she had to Google "60's fashion" to answer the question, "Mom, what does a hippie look like?" Our oldest son originally wanted to dress as his favorite food, bacon, or "the candy of meats," as he prefers to call it. Then he learned that a) now that he's in high school you don't get to wear your costume to school and have a party in your homeroom — in fact, you don't even really have homeroom; and b) because of a sporting event he will miss out on trick-or-treating and on two friends' Halloween parties.

I have a dear friend whose opinions I respect, whose five children have never trick-or-treated or dressed up in Halloween costumes. She feels quite strongly that the holiday celebrates evil with too cavalier an attitude. Now,

don't roll your eyes as you're reading — I know it's not a mainstream way of thinking, but she believes so strongly both in the existence of God and in the existence of evil that it pains her to give a day, or anymore now practically the whole month of October, over to glorifying so much of what pulls us away from God.

C. S. Lewis, his wonderful book "The Screwtape Letters," reminds us quite humorously — but also forcefully — that evil enters our lives on a petty, even unnoticeable level, much more often and insidiously than on a grand scale. The "patient" referred to in the book simply tries to live his life as a Christian, while Screwtape (who's sort of a middle management type in Lewis' bureaucratic depiction of the underworld) and his nephew and lackey Wormwood plot and scheme about how to use the most ordinary events of the young man's life to draw him apart from The Enemy (God). Screwtape coolly prods Wormwood to "keep the waters muddied," to make it difficult enough for the man to live with faith and integrity that he might just give up trying. The young Christian "patient" could be doomed simply by not looking carefully enough for the truth of a situation; by growing more and more comfortable delivering humorous insults to garner a laugh; by taking the efforts of

a loved one for granted, or by allowing one's prayers to become lax and insincere. As Screwtape reminds Wormwood, nothing drastic is necessary because "the safest path to hell is the gradual one."

So is it a ridiculous stretch of the imagination to believe that Halloween somehow qualifies as a holiday in which fictional forces of evil such as Screwtape and Wormwood — or the real forces of evil in which we Christians believe — might take great delight? I don't think so. Big-time Evil gets our attention, but sneaky little evil weasels its way in when we're not looking. Maybe we ought to think twice before wanting to "be" Freddy, or Jason, or Leatherface, or a "sexy" French maid (costumes which are now widely available in grade-school sizes).

Halloween's origins specifically connected it to All Saints' Day on Nov. 1, and the message was quite clear: evil could give it a try, but goodness would triumph in the end. Now that connection is largely unknown, and Halloween has become the second-most commercialized holiday behind ... (tah dah) Christmas. Ugh. Screwtape and Wormwood might find our culture filled with such easy targets they wouldn't even want to waste their time.

So can we celebrate Halloween at

all? Probably. We don't believe as Catholic Christians that we need to isolate ourselves from the world. Jesus certainly never did. Halloween can be a great reason to have a party, to buy a little extra of our favorite candy, to carve a pumpkin, and yes, even to dress up in a costume. But it might also be the perfect time to remember to be careful — very, very careful — of the insidious ways evil can creep into our lives and tug us gently but insistently away from our focus on God.

Each time we pray the Lord's Prayer we ask God to "lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil." If evil is real enough that we need to be delivered from it, then we'd better learn to recognize that evil too wears many costumes, and wants to disguise itself so that we can't see it, no matter how hard we look. So whatever you decide to do on Saturday, be sure to remember the Halloween advice of teachers and parents everywhere: don't choose any costumes that might obstruct your vision.

This week's Faith Point was written by Kate Barrett, director of the Emmaus Program. She can be reached at kbarrett@nd.edu

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

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Prudence, Pickens style

At Monday's event featuring energy executive T. Boone Pickens, I expected a constructive discussion of his plan for energy policy, wind, and natural gas. I overestimated. What I found completely lacked argumentative structure and, worse, encouraged people to endorse a mysterious policy out of self-interested hate. Among Mr. Pickens' main topics: (1) T. Boone Pickens has money and famous friends. (2) Anything American is inherently good (except that which doesn't bring profit, like national parks and the interests of poor people). (3) Natural gas is located within U.S. borders. Therefore, it is inherently good (and inherently accessible to Mr. Pickens' companies). It's the best way to stop buying oil from The Enemy (and start buying from Pickens). Why didn't Pickens actually explain his policy plan?

I'm all for seriously rethinking our energy policy, but taking Mr. Pickens' policy advice is a lot like agreeing with a Notre Dame raccoon who recommends that the dumpsters should have doggie-doors installed, so the little raccoon can get to the profits — er, dinner. Unlike Mr. Pickens, though, our raccoon doesn't usually dehumanize people who happened to be born in the Middle East by referring to them as, collectively, the "enemy" and "people who hate us." The worst part of this event was the applause at Mr. Pickens' point that if energy-saving batteries are Chinese and not American, then batteries do not belong in a U.S. policy solution. I can only repeat this idea in order to beg the clappers to consider what they were applauding: Mr. Pickens' prudence in appealing to fear on behalf of his own bank account? His fortitude in grossly oversimplifying our energy and foreign trade problems in front of a bunch of smart Notre Dame people? Or his faith, hope, and love for the god we call America, no matter what?

On second thought, the worst part was that the Office of the Provost co-sponsored this "lecture." So much for our pursuit of truth through inquiry enriched by Catholicism's intellectual and cultural resources.

Kristi Haas
senior
off campus
Oct. 28

Too expensive

After picking up my student tickets for the upcoming Notre Dame Men's Basketball season, I am not only upset but disappointed. Four years ago, tickets were \$60, now ... \$100. While at the ticket office I asked out of curiosity, "Why the increase in price." The response, "There are more games, and it's a brand new arena."

Let's just say that answer did not satisfy me. Our non-conference schedule is easier than a freshman at CJ's after a football game. I swear Greg Oden's AAU team had a tougher November than we do (barring UCLA). So it's true that there are more games, but how about the quality of the opponent instead of quantity.

Second, the new Purcell Pavilion, I assume was paid for by Mr. Purcell himself. Even if it was only partial, students should not shoulder any of the burden of a new arena. That is not fair. Should tuition go up because the University decided to build Duncan and Ryan Halls? Wait, it probably did.

Don't get me wrong, I will still attend the games and support our team, as I will have nothing better to do on a Tuesday night in February.

Go Irish, beat all these opponents that kill our RPI come March.

James Murphy
senior
off campus
Oct. 27

Those defending the innocent

To Eduardo Magallanez ("Pro-life vs. pro-birth," Oct. 27), I agree with your thoughts regarding the respect we desire for human life of all stages. As Catholics we should strive to defend the dignity of life as John Paul II said "from conception to natural death." I fail to see, however, if you believe abortion is abhorrent, why you would attack the pro-life efforts on campus. As you have pointed out, the degradation of the gift of life takes many forms.

The abomination that is the murder of the innocent unborn is the most horrific of these attacks and therefore we work to end it. By focusing on this issue we do not downplay or disregard the others that you listed. Ideally we would be able to address every threat to the dignity of life, and as the Christian community as a whole we can. Yet within this community of believers there is no reason why individuals should not direct their energies toward a specific problem.

It is illogical to criticize these individuals who are working to end a particular evil, by claiming that they should also be working to end all types of evil. Your intention to point out that there are many life issues that need to be addressed is valid and laudable, but mocking Notre Dame's pro-life individuals and their efforts does not move us closer to bringing about the universal respect for life that you and I desire.

Joe Mackel
freshman
O'Neill Hall
Oct. 27

Share your best fall break
ponderings or stories

Submit a Letter to the Editor

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PARANORMAL ACTIVITY FALLS SHORT OF BLAIR WITCH PROJECT'S SHOCK VALUE

By SHANE STEINBERG
Scene Writer

Writer-director Oren Peli's "Blair Witch"-inspired cult classic in the making, "Paranormal Activity," is the closest thing to actually being worthy of being called a "horror film" since its near-identical twin forever made camping in the woods terrifying nearly 10 years ago. It takes cues from everything from its predecessor's viral marketing campaign, to its medium, making it seem a near replica of "Blair Witch," thus signaling a departure from everything that has plagued the recent "Saw"-inspired horror genre that has been horrifying, but for all the wrong reasons.

The film is filled with rawness and a sense of believability, and thankfully lacks any sort of post-production touch-ups, over-the-top scares, pop-outs that are just there for kicks and any semblance of unnecessary gore. Instead, the film builds off of mental suggestion manifested in a keen eye for tension-ridden suspense that is so masterfully built up through the use of a static video camera.

"Paranormal Activity" follows a young couple, Micah and Katie. Katie claims to be haunted by some unknown presence in their new house. Her history with such hauntings is persistent and therefore alarming, but not to her immature, more-curious-than-anything-else, testosterone-driven boyfriend, Micah, who gets the bright idea to film the couple during the wee hours of the night to see what's really going on, if anything. What ensues is a whole lot more than either of them is ready to handle, and as the couple loses their grip

on the situation, and on each other, the problem becomes increasingly more horrifying, with the camera there to document it all.

Micah is the real diamond of a character here because of his believability and his ultimate progression through the film. His curiosity is real and understandable, and the fun-turned-concern-turned-terror that he goes through evolves in such a way that he acts as a microcosm for the audience itself, and how someone in his shoes would in fact deal with the eerie happenings in his home that plague his girlfriend. We live his terror, not necessarily hers, and that makes the journey all the more enjoyable.

All of the suspense, all of the build up

hoopla behind the film, really — pays off in the last 30 seconds of the film. Or maybe it doesn't. Like "The Blair Witch Project," everything is thrust onto the screen during the all-or-nothing closing scene, culminating in what will either be interpreted as a mightily satisfying scare of all scares that'll leave you disturbed long after the film ends, or a predictable gag that's ultimately uneven and too "by the book." It happens so quickly that not even a breath is spared before its over, and in

the end, it doesn't have the same force, nor shock value, nor lingering

— and all of the

affect that it tries to have.

The film straddles the line of believability but never quite settles deep enough under the skin that it loses the vibe of being just a film, and one that despite its producers' exhaustive efforts, is, in the end, fictional. It's a shame too, because there are a couple of instances in the film when even the most horror-resistant

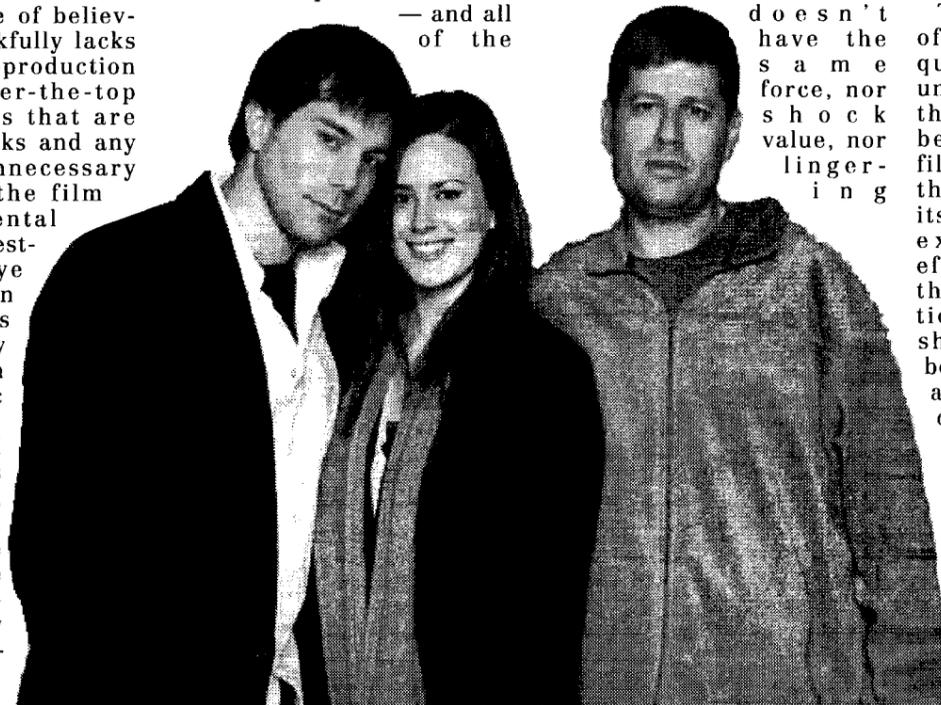
that the feeling is lost.

Horror is a only breath away—real horror the likes of which hasn't been seen in theaters for quite some time—but it never quite manifests itself. Instead, the film is rather choppy in the weirdest sort of way. For you see, suspense is built up masterfully and the scares are separated by enough story that believability isn't sacrificed, but when the audience is

"The film straddles the line of believability but never quite settles deep enough under the skin that it loses the vibe of being just a film, and one that despite its producers' exhaustive efforts is, in the end, fictional."

viewer can't help but be in an "okay-I'm-kind-of-freaked-out-right-now-let's-see-what-happens-next" state. It's in these moments that the audience is swept under a cover of eeriness that tugs at the nerves and sends shivers down the spine, but the tragedy here is that it's in the successive moments

really pulled in and the opportunity to become a truly great horror film presents itself, the film loosens its vice grip. If only it capitalized on the opportunity, this would be a truly scary film. Instead, it looms much larger than most of the other garbage that passes as "horror" these days, but falls quite short of the "Blair Witch" plateau.



Paranormal Activity

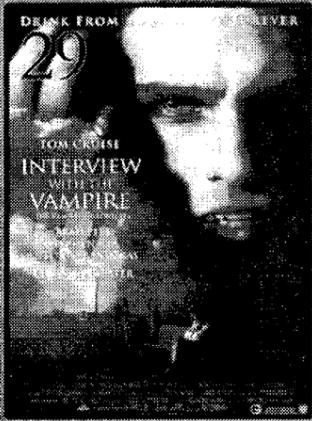
Directed by: Oren Peli

Starring: Katie Featherston, Micah Sloat, Mark Fredrichs, Amber Armstrong

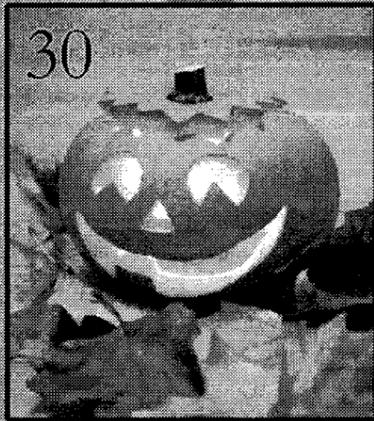


Weekend Events Calendar

thursday



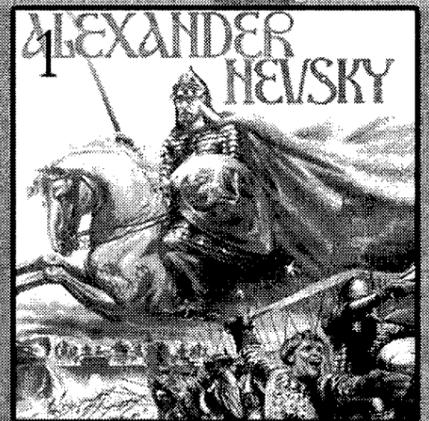
friday



saturday



sunday



Interview with the Vampire @ DPAC, 10 p.m.

With an all-star cast including Brad Pitt, Tom Cruise, Christian Slater and Kirsten Dunst, "Interview with the Vampire" is the perfect fix for everyone's current vampire addiction. It centers upon a man named Louis who loses his wife and child. He meets Lestat, a vampire, and makes the decision to become a vampire himself. This decision turns out to torment Louis as he learns to live with the new beast he has become. The SUB movie for this week, "Interview with the Vampire" is showing Thursday night at 10 p.m. and Friday and Saturday nights at 8 p.m. and 10:30 p.m.

SAO Halloween Events all evening SAO, in conjunction with several other groups on campus, has put together a variety of Halloween activities for this weekend. It all starts at 3 p.m. on Fieldhouse Mall, featuring pumpkins, corn hole, DJ music, hot chocolate, hot apple cider and donuts. At 9 p.m. be sure to participate in the Halloween SCVNGR Hunt which takes place at all the spooky sites across campus. Text "ndhauntedtour" to 728647 to sign-up. From 9 p.m. to 2 a.m. SAO will be sponsoring campus hayrides leaving from Stepan Center. Also, from 10 p.m. to 2 a.m. SAO will be sponsoring a haunted house in Stepan Center with several different walk routes and no limit on re-entering. Costumes are encouraged at all events.

Halloween Hip Hop Night @ Legends, Midnight

All dressed up and nowhere to go Saturday night? Legends is hosting Halloween Hip Hop night and in the words of their Web site it will be "like every other hip hop night but better: this one has costumes." And what could be better than great music and fun costumes? Come with all your friends and your most inspired outfit. The music promises to be good and if past hip hop nights are any indication, everyone will be there. Plus, there is nothing better than dancing with a mysterious stranger in a gorilla costume. In short, this is a great way to end an epic Halloween weekend.

Alexander Nevsky @ DPAC 3 p.m.

This 1938 film is part of a two series entitled "Medievalism on Film: Those were the days" which includes four films which all depict medieval life. "Alexander Nevsky" chronicles the life of Alexander Nevsky, a Russian prince in the 13th century who leads a ragtag team of civilians against a foreign aggressor. The film is in Russian with English subtitles and is based on the true story of Nevsky's life. It is running in the Browning Cinema at 3 p.m. Sunday. Tickets are \$6 for the public, \$5 for faculty and staff, \$4 for seniors and \$3 for all students.

Contact Genna McCabe at gmccabe@nd.edu

By JOEY KUHN
Assistant Scene Editor

When most people think of '80s music, the sound they usually conjure up is a kind of glossy, sexy, synth-laden pop somewhere between David Bowie and Duran Duran. Yet there were a lot of things happening in music during that decade besides electronic beats and crazy clothes. One of those things was the Meat Puppets.

The Meat Puppets are best known for their contribution to Nirvana's final album, "MTV Unplugged in New York." Kurt Cobain, the famously suicidal lead singer of Nirvana, became a fan of the Meat Puppets after he saw them open for a Black Flag concert. In late 1993, he invited two members of the Meat Puppets, brothers Cris and Curt Kirkwood, to join him on "MTV Unplugged."

On the show, they played three of the Meat Puppets' songs: "Plateau," "Lake of Fire" and "Oh, Me." These three songs were some of the strongest in the set, and "Lake of Fire" particularly became a staple of alternative rock radio

thanks to a particularly haunting vocal performance by Cobain. Tragically, Cobain died only 138 days after the concert, but his death assured the high sales of Nirvana's final recording and cemented a place in rock history for the Meat Puppets.

But the Meat Puppets do not deserve to be relegated to a minor footnote in the career of Nirvana. Even

before Nirvana, the Meat Puppets had created a unique sound of their own, blending hardcore

mental than their first. It pinpoints a delicate ratio of punk, country western and acid rock, so that somehow, all these elements manage to hang together in a sound that is weird yet appealing. Think the Pixies,

though it still retains the surreal, acid-washed atmosphere. And about half of the songs being purely instrumental, the Meat Puppets here show a knack for creating lovely, intricate little acoustic webs. With every album, the Meat Puppets continued to expand and



MUSIC REWIND

Meat Puppets are Grade A



punk, country and psychedelic rock. Their eponymous first album, which was heavily punk-influenced, contained only the seeds of this sound. But by their second album, released in 1984, the band members "were so sick of the hardcore thing," according to drummer Derrick Bostrom.

"We were really into pissing off the crowd."

"Meat Puppets II," perhaps the quintessential Meat Puppets album, is much more experi-

Johnny Cash and Jerry Garcia in one band. All three of the songs performed on Nirvana's "MTV Unplugged" are from this album.

Not only is the music bizarrely enjoyable, but the surrealist lyrics also run the gamut from simply quirky ("Oh Mary Lou, won't you tell me what to do / I got a dollar on the corner and a razor in my shoe") to downright indecipherable ("It's a poor living room / Just above the dock / Wish those wild hens there / Feathers drip from every corner"). Curt sings the words in a distinct, warbling voice not unlike that of a different Kurt.

"Up on the Sun," the 1985 follow-up to "Meat Puppets II," delves even further into the country western vein. Distancing themselves from punk, the band members mostly ditched the distortion in favor of twanging acoustic guitars and a rambling bass. As a result, this album has a much lighter feel than "Meat Puppets II,"

evolve their sound. After their major exposure from "MTV Unplugged," the Meat Puppets put out their best-selling record, "Too High to Die," on which we finally do hear the influence of the eighties creeping in with a synthesizer and perfectly metronomic drumbeats. They also began to sound more like some of their Seattle grunge contemporaries such as Pearl Jam.

The Meat Puppets went through two breakups in the '90s and early '00s, but after each they revived themselves with a new lineup. The band is still active and consists of two of the three original members, Curt and Cris Kirkwood, plus Ted Marcus on the drums. They have released two albums with this new line-up, the latest being 2009's "Sewn Together."

Contact Joey Kuhn at jkuhn1@nd.edu

BLAIR CHEMIDLIN | Observer Graphic

NFL

Favre prepares for bitter return to Green Bay

Associated Press

EDEN PRAIRIE, Minn. — Before Brett Favre's first pre-season game with Minnesota, a meaningless performance featuring all of six snaps, he was nervous and nauseous.

In the last hours before the Vikings played his former team at the Metrodome, Favre muttered to himself, "Man, I'm losing it."

So how anxious must he be THIS week? It's the highly hyped rematch in Green Bay at Lambeau Field, where betrayed fans will be waiting with what could be a cold welcome and the Packers are eagerly preparing to avenge their recent defeat.

"I don't think it'll be as bad," Favre said, "but I don't know that."

The NFL's all-time leading passer wearing rival purple and white — rather than the home green and gold — in his return to the site where he played 16 exceptional seasons, helped revive the famed franchise, and played on a Super Bowl winner will go down as one of the most memorable moments in sports history.

Just don't expect the man

around which this story revolves to reveal a mental or emotional breakdown in anticipation of Sunday's main event.

"I think that's probably more intriguing to everyone else," Favre said.

He expects a mixture of cheers and boos, but insisted "there's no sentiments" about the upcoming trip. Favre recalled Wednesday scooter rides with his youngest daughter, Breleigh, around the stadium concourse to combat the winter blahs, but beyond that he wasn't in a reminiscent mood. He's already been in the visiting locker room at Lambeau for photo shoots, and he's even been booed there before during a handful of bad games.

This will be a unique experience, but Favre is more concerned about the NFC North race between the Vikings (6-1) and Packers (4-2). After appearing stiff and tired during his news conference, Favre loosened up and joked about checking fan mail from Wisconsin for "something ticking" or "white powder." He revealed that only two of his family members are going to the game, denying that a bunch

of hotel rooms for his relatives had already been booked this summer.

"I'm way too cheap for that," Favre said.

Vikings coach Brad Childress didn't plan any special talks with his quarterback.

"He's a 40-year-old man, as you know," Childress said.

Perhaps this classic scene from the 1980 comedy "Airplane" is the true reflection of Favre's feelings: The lead character, Ted Striker, tells the lady sitting next to him early in the film that he's nervous.

"First time?" the woman asks, shortly before the flight begins.

"No, I've been nervous lots of times," Striker replies.

Sure, Favre will feel his stomach stirring as he takes the field Sunday afternoon with the Vikings and hears the boos — however many there are — emanating from the stadium bowl. Considering the significance of the game, the fans are bound to be at their loudest. After failing to generate any pass rush in Minnesota's 30-23 victory at the Metrodome, Green Bay's defense could bring a more aggressive approach.

After kickoff, though, butterflies usually return to their cocoon. Yes, playing the Packers is a big deal and being a visitor at Lambeau is a first, but the motivation of a 7-1 record is stronger.

"To me, being able to focus, being relaxed, kind of seeing things clearly as they're happening, is a much better and more productive way to play," Favre said. "Being nervous and having anxiety and things like that, I don't think can be a plus when you're in a decision-making role."

Teammate Ryan Longwell, who left the Packers to join the Vikings in 2006, talked to Favre several times this summer as he mulled coming to Minnesota. By far, their longest conversation was about this particular game.

"I think it'll be different for him, but I think he'll know how to handle it," Longwell said.

Defensive end Jared Allen expects a "good harsh ripping on" from the crowd.

"I want to hear some funny stuff out there," Allen said.

Linebacker Ben Leber downplayed the possibility of nastiness at Lambeau.

"Listen, I've been a part of

some Raider-Charger games, so I think I've seen the worst in the league," Leber said.

After Favre's first retirement in 2008, he tried to force his way back with the Packers, who ultimately decided he wouldn't fit anymore. Favre acknowledged Wednesday "it's probably best that things worked out the way they did."

After playing for the New York Jets last year, hanging it up and then reconsidering again to sign with the Vikings, Favre is in prime form for a talented, well-rounded team with serious Super Bowl aspirations.

That's what burns Packers fans most.

"I think our fans here in Green Bay are first class, and I think they'll do what they feel is appropriate," Packers coach Mike McCarthy said, when asked what kind of reception he thinks Favre will get.

Favre has maintained a defiant stance when asked about his deteriorating legacy in Green Bay. He repeatedly said his success there should speak for itself, and described a stream of supportive letters he's received from Packers backers since he left.

NFL

Westbrook questionable against Giants after concussion

Associated Press

PHILADELPHIA — Brian Westbrook will be a game-time decision for the Philadelphia Eagles against the New York Giants on Sunday after suffering a concussion earlier this week.

"We'll see how he does this week," Eagles head coach Andy Reid said Wednesday.

Westbrook was knocked unconscious in the Eagles 27-17 win over Washington on Monday night when he took a knee to his head in the first quarter.

The NFL instituted a rule in 2007 that states a player who loses consciousness during the course of a game cannot return to that game.

Westbrook did not practice Wednesday, nor did he do his scheduled weekly press conference.

Reid and Eagles trainer Rick Burkholder both said the star running back was doing better

immediately after the game.

"His eyes were clear," Reid said. "He didn't have that hazy look about him."

Burkholder, who ushered Westbrook off the field is taking the one-day-at-a-time approach, but is encouraged by what he has seen.

"He knows everything," Burkholder said. "He knows his brother was on the field. He knows Andy was behind me. He remembers walking off the field, going to the locker room, being on the field in the second half. He remembers all of that."

"Now, we're looking at a headache. Once his headache clears, and it's a mild headache, but it's still a headache. Once that clears we'll get his heart rate up and see how he responds. If he does well there we'll try some football drills."

Burkholder said through the years he has seen players who were knocked unconscious come back and play the follow-

ing week and players who were not knocked unconscious not able to play the following week.

"Every situation is different," the trainer said. "Some guys take 10 days, some guys take three days."

The Eagles have one less day to get Westbrook back, after playing Monday night.

"That's one of the things I told management after the game," Burkholder said. "We have a short week. That will play into it. But I can't worry about that. I worry about Brian."

If Westbrook can't play, he will be replaced by rookie running back LeSean McCoy, the team's second-round draft pick out of Pitt.

McCoy played in place of Westbrook, who was out with a knee injury against Kansas City in the third game of the season and finished with 84 yards rushing on 20 carries with a touchdown.

That was the Chiefs. This is the Giants.

Westbrook has done well against the Giants, including an 84-yard punt return for a touchdown in the Eagles' win in 2003. In nine games against New York, he has topped 100 total yards eight times and 100 yards rushing five times. He's also scored 11 touchdowns in those nine games.

The one Giants game Westbrook missed, early in the 2007 season, the Eagles lost and scored just three points.

"You prepare for Westbrook," Giants head coach Tom Coughlin. "He's a great player and he's a guy they rely on tremendously. In key situations, he's going to get the ball."

This week he might not.

"I'm not a doctor and I'm not Brian, so I don't know," Eagles quarterback Donovan McNabb said. "But it's a tough deal. You get a knee to the head like that, it's tough."

"Will there be pressure if Brian can't play, I hope not, but there will be. For (McCoy) it's just a matter of relaxing. It's a different role for him. He just has to see the hole, hit it and hold onto the ball. The same things he did in camp and the preseason."

McCoy, for his part, said he's ready if he has to go.

"There's always a little pressure on you," the rookie back said. "But that's my job to go in and help us out, if Brian can't go."

Looking to bolster their depth at the position, the Eagles signed P.J. Hill off New Orleans' practice squad. Hill, 5-foot-10, 218 pounds, was signed as a rookie free agent by the Saints out of Wisconsin. He carried 26 times for 128 yards, a 4.9 yards per carry average and scored three touchdowns in the preseason. Among the Saints' final cuts, he was signed to the team's practice squad on Sept. 7.

CLASSIFIEDS

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

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PERSONAL

UNPLANNED PREGNANCY? Do not go it alone. Notre Dame has many resources in place to assist you. If you or someone you love needs confidential support or assistance, please call Sr. Sue Dunn at 1-7819 or Ann Firth at 1-2685. For more information, visit ND's website at: <http://pregnancysupport.nd.edu>

If you or someone you care about has been sexually assaulted, we can help. For more information, visit Notre Dame's website: <http://csap.nd.edu/>

Cop Trainee: Forget about the badge, when do we get the freaking guns!?!?

Chief Wiggum: Hey! I told you, you don't get your gun until you tell me your name.

Cop Trainee: I've had it up to here with your rules!

It's the fault of those physicists and that synchronicity theory, every particle being connected with every other; you can't fart without changing the balance in the universe. It makes living a funny joke with nobody around to laugh. I open a book and get a report on future events that even God would like to file and forget. And who am I? The wrong person; I can tell you that.

Don't get loud. Just get funky.

AROUND THE NATION

COMPILED FROM THE OBSERVER'S WIRE SERVICES

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NSCAA/adidas Women's Soccer Top 25

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20 Texas A&M	20
21 Washington State	23
22 Purdue	18
23 Indiana	24
24 Charlotte	25
25 Penn State	RV

NSCAA/adidas Men's Soccer Top 25

team	previous
1 Akron	1
2 Wake Forest	3
3 North Carolina	4
4 UC Santa Barbara	6
5 Louisville	8
6 Maryland	5
7 UCLA	2
8 Connecticut	10
9 South Florida	13
10 Virginia	12
11 Charlotte	9
12 Northwestern	17
13 North Carolina State	14
14 Monmouth	7
15 Harvard	11
16 Duke	19
17 Butler	23
18 Tulsa	16
19 UC Irvine	22
20 Brown	18
21 Stanford	21
22 Iona	RV
23 UNC Wilmington	RV
24 Dartmouth	15
25 Missouri State	RV

USTFCCCA Men's Cross Country Top 10

team	previous
1 Stanford	358
2 Oregon	337
3 Oklahoma State	332
4 Colorado	324
5 Northern Arizona	315
6 Alabama	309
7 BYU	291
8 Portland	265
9 William & Mary	263
10 Georgetown	241

around the dial

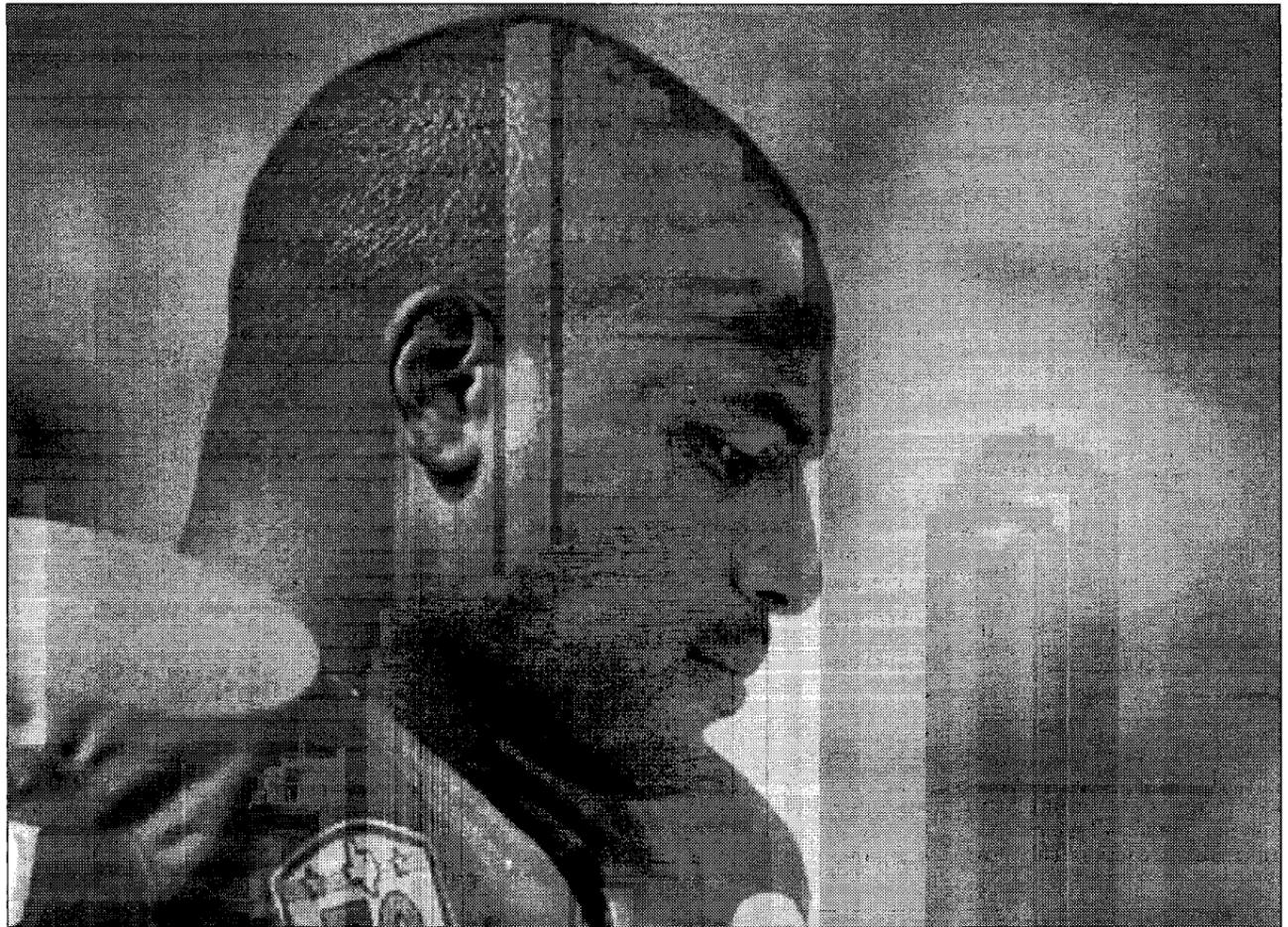
NHL

Blackhawks vs. Predators
8 p.m., CSN

MLB World Series

Phillies vs. Yankees
8 p.m., Fox

NFL



Chiefs running back Larry Johnson hangs his head during Kansas City's 37-7 loss to San Diego Sunday. Johnson, who has a history of poor behavior both on and off the field, was given a one-game suspension this week. AP

Chiefs suspend Johnson for gay slurs

Associated Press

KANSAS CITY, Mo. — Running back Larry Johnson, who made two gay slurs within a 24-hour period and has a history of poor behavior both on and off the field, was given what amounts to a one-game suspension Wednesday night by the Kansas City Chiefs.

Missing one game check will cost the troubled former Pro Bowler about \$213,000.

In a three-sentence release, the Chiefs said Johnson would be suspended until Monday, Nov. 9. The team is on its bye week and will not play again until traveling to Jacksonville on

Nov. 8.

The Chiefs had been saying for three days that they were "investigating" the situation. Johnson was told to stay away from the team on Tuesday.

In 2007, Johnson signed a five-year contract extension that guaranteed him about \$19 million and could be worth as much as \$45 million. But because of these latest problems, his future with the Chiefs beyond Nov. 8 may still be cloudy.

Coach Todd Haley and first-year general manager Scott Pioli have repeatedly said they are trying to build a new culture and a new attitude for a struggling franchise which has sunk to the bottom of the NFL and

that disloyalty will not be tolerated.

A two-time Pro Bowler who needs just 75 yards rushing to break the team's career record, Johnson first used the gay slur on his Twitter account in an exchange with one of his followers on Sunday night. Earlier he had posted comments calling Haley's qualifications into question.

Then in a whispered remark on Monday after telling reporters in the locker room he was not talking, Johnson repeated the slur, according to the Kansas City Star which has posted audio of the alleged comment.

The three-sentence news release issued Wednesday

night said only that Johnson, who turns 30 in a few weeks, was suspended for conduct detrimental to the club. The Chiefs said they would have no further comment on Johnson's status "at this time."

Johnson wrote the objectionable material on his Twitter account several hours after the Chiefs (1-6) lost 37-7 to San Diego, one of their most lopsided home losses ever.

Johnson issued an apology on Tuesday, almost exactly 12 months after apologizing to the team and its fans and ownership for two incidents in Kansas City nightspots that led to his pleading guilty to disturbing the peace.

IN BRIEF

Iverson sits out season opener against Pistons

MEMPHIS, Tenn. — The Memphis Grizzlies will have to wait a while longer for the debut of veteran guard Allen Iverson.

Iverson, the Grizzlies' highly publicized free-agent signing, was listed as inactive Wednesday night for the season opener against his former team, the Detroit Pistons.

Iverson is still recovering from a partially torn left hamstring he sustained early in the preseason. When an MRI revealed the tear on Oct. 7, the initial scheduled return was Wednesday's opening night.

But Iverson has been unable to practice while rehabilitating the injury and was not game ready.

"He's starting to work with us in a non-contact aspect, so that's a positive," Memphis coach Lionel Hollins said. "That makes me feel good that it won't be long."

Edwards refuses to comment on assault charge

FLORHAM PARK, N.J. — New York Jets wide receiver Braylon Edwards refused to provide details Wednesday about the misdemeanor assault charge he faces over accusations he punched a man outside a Cleveland nightclub.

"I have lawyers for that, and that's their job to take care of that," Edwards said in his first media availability since the charge was filed Monday. "Right now, I'm focusing on football. That's what I'm here to do. Those people can take care of that and I can focus on helping this team out."

Edwards is accused of punching promoter Edward Givens, a friend of NBA star LeBron James, following an argument Oct. 5. Two days later, the Browns traded Edwards to the Jets.

The charge carries a maximum sentence of six months in jail and a \$1,000 fine.

Sanchez donates 500 hot dogs and hamburgers

FLORHAM PARK, N.J. — Mark Sanchez is hot-doggin' it again.

This time, the New York Jets' rookie quarterback isn't sneaking a snack on the sideline, though.

Sanchez bought 500 hot dogs and 500 hamburgers, along with buns and rolls, through A&P supermarket, and donated them to the Community Soup Kitchen of Morristown, N.J.

"Something happened here and wanted to turn it into a positive," Sanchez said Wednesday.

Sanchez was grilled Sunday after television cameras caught him trying to discreetly put mustard on a hot dog and eat it late in New York's 38-0 win at Oakland. He apologized after the game, saying he didn't feel well and needed to eat something.

"I didn't mean it as a form of disrespect," Sanchez said.

NCAA BASKETBALL

Hoosiers to honor former president

Associated Press

INDIANAPOLIS — About 1,000 people are expected to attend Tuesday night's special tribute for Myles Brand, the late NCAA president who died of pancreatic cancer last month.

The NCAA and Indiana University, where Brand served as president for eight years before taking over the governing body, invited most of the guests. They range from politicians to university administrators and coaches.

Among those scheduled to speak are Brand's son, Josh, Tennessee women's basketball coach Pat Summitt and Georgia president Michael Adams, who chairs the NCAA's executive committee.

The tribute is expected to begin at 6 p.m. and last about 90 minutes at Conseco Fieldhouse, the home of the NBA's Indiana Pacers.

Indiana will also recognize former Brand by naming an endowed faculty position for cancer research for him.

The university says the position is aimed at supporting a biomedical researcher with expertise in pancreatic and other gastrointestinal cancers at the IU School of Medicine in Indianapolis.

Current university President Michael McRobbie is to formally announce a fundraising campaign for the Myles Brand Chair during a tribute program for him Wednesday night at Conseco Fieldhouse.

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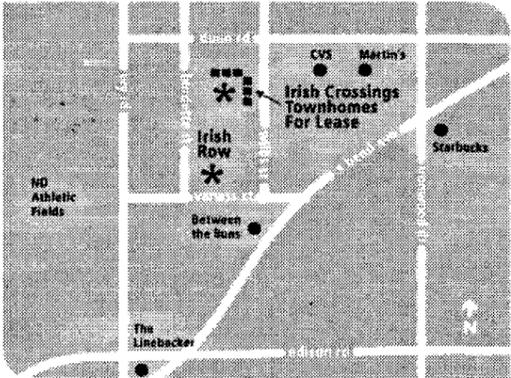
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TENNIS

Agassi admits methamphetamine use in book

Associated Press

NEW YORK — Andre Agassi's upcoming autobiography contains an admission he used crystal meth in 1997 and failed a drug test — a result thrown out after he lied by saying he "unwittingly" took the substance.

According to an excerpt of the autobiography "Open" published Wednesday in The Times of London, the eight-time Grand Slam champion writes that he sent a letter to the ATP tour to explain the positive test, saying he accidentally drank from a soda spiked with meth by his assistant "Slim."

"Then I come to the central lie of the letter," Agassi writes. "I say that recently I drank accidentally from one of Slim's spiked sodas, unwittingly ingesting his drugs. I ask for understanding and leniency and hastily sign it: Sincerely."

"I feel ashamed, of course. I promise myself that this lie is the end of it."

Agassi said the ATP reviewed the case, accepted his explanation and threw it out. The tour responded with a statement, noting an independent panel makes the final decision on a doping violation.

"The ATP has always followed this rule, and no executive at the ATP has therefore had the authority or ability to decide the outcome of an anti-doping matter," the statement said.

The International Tennis Federation said it was "surprised and disappointed" by Agassi's revelations.

"Such comments in no way reflect the fact that the tennis anti-doping program is currently regarded as one of the most rigorous and comprehensive anti-doping programs in sport," the ITF said in a statement.

In the past three years, the organization has begun overseeing anti-doping efforts on behalf of the ATP and WTA tours.

"The events in question occurred before the World Anti-Doping Agency was founded in 1999 and during the formative years of anti-doping in tennis, when the program was managed by individual governing bodies," the ITF said.

The president of WADA, Jim Fahey, said he was disappointed by Agassi's revelations and expects the ATP to "shed light on this allegation."

Agassi, who married tennis star Steffi Graf and has two children, retired in 2006. Excerpts from his autobiography, which comes out Nov. 9, are being published this week in the London newspaper, as well as Sports Illustrated and People magazines.

In a story posted on People magazine's Web site Tuesday, Agassi says: "I can't speak to addiction, but a lot of people would say that if you're using anything as an escape, you have a problem."

According to the Times of London, Agassi writes in his book that "Slim" was the person who introduced him to crystal meth, dumping a small pile of powder on the coffee table.

"I snort some. I ease back on the couch and consider the Rubicon I've just crossed," Agassi writes.

"There is a moment of regret, followed by vast sadness. Then comes a tidal wave of euphoria that sweeps away every negative thought in my head. I've never

felt so alive, so hopeful — and I've never felt such energy."

"I'm seized by a desperate desire to clean. I go tearing around my house, cleaning it from top to bottom. I dust the furniture. I scour the tub. I make the beds."

U.S. Fed Cup captain Mary Joe Fernandez, a contemporary of Agassi's, described the revelations as disappointing and "a bit of a shock."

"It takes a lot of guts and courage to come out and say something that nobody would have really known about," Fernandez said. "I've always admired Andre. He was a huge part of inspiring my generation, and he did a lot of great things and continues to do a lot of great

things. He's opening up now, and that's his choice. Maybe people can learn from it and not make the same mistakes."

Among the most successful and popular tennis players in history, Agassi drew attention not just for his play, but also for his outfits, hairstyles and relationships with women, including a failed marriage to actress Brooke Shields.

Agassi's first major championship came at Wimbledon in 1992, and he won a gold medal at the 1996 Atlanta Olympics. But by late 1997, he dropped to No. 141 in the rankings, and he was playing in tennis' equivalent of the minor leagues.

He resuscitated his career in 1998, making the biggest one-

year jump into the top 10 in the history of the ATP rankings. The next season, he won the French Open to complete a career Grand Slam, then added a second career U.S. Open title en route to finishing 1999 at No. 1.

After an exhibition match Sunday in China against long-time rival Pete Sampras, Agassi was asked if his autobiography contained any major revelations.

"I think I had to learn a lot about myself through the process," Agassi said. "There was a lot that even surprised me. So to think that one won't be surprised by it, it would be an understatement."

"Whatever revelations exist, you'll get to see in full glory," he added. "But the truth is, my hope

is that somebody doesn't just learn more about me, what it is I've been through, but somehow through those lessons, they can learn a lot about themselves. And I think it's fair to say that they will."

In a posting on People's Web site, Agassi says he "was worried for a moment, but not for long," about how fans would react if they found out he used drugs.

"I wore my heart on my sleeve and my emotions were always written on my face. I was actually excited about telling the world the whole story," Agassi says. According to the publisher, he worked closely on the book with Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist J.R. Moehringer, author of "The Tender Bar."

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NFL

NFL's Goodell downplays effect of concussions

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — NFL commissioner Roger Goodell did not acknowledge a connection between head injuries on the football field and later brain diseases while defending the league's policies on concussions before Congress on Wednesday.

That frustrated several members of the House Judiciary Committee, including the committee chairman, Michigan Democrat John Conyers, when Goodell told him the NFL isn't waiting for that debate to play out and is taking steps to make the game safer.

"I just asked you a simple question. What is the answer?" persisted Conyers.

Goodell replied by saying a medical expert could give a better answer than he could. But some House members complained later that Dr. Ira Casson, chairman of the NFL's committee on concussions, had not testified.

Rep. Linda Sanchez, D-Calif., gave Casson some exposure anyway, playing a clip of a TV interview in which he denied evidence of a link between multiple head injuries in NFL players with brain disorders such as dementia and Alzheimer's.

Sanchez said that reminded her of tobacco companies denying a link between smoking and health damage in the 1990s.

Goodell testified alongside new NFL Players Association

leader DeMaurice Smith, who said the union "has not done its best in this area. We will do better." Both men did agree to turn over players' medical records to the committee.

In addition, Conyers wants information on head injuries from the NCAA, high schools and medical researchers to better understand football's health risks.

Still, several Republicans questioned the point of the hearing. Rep. Ted Poe of Texas said Congress' involvement in football would mean the end of the sport.

"We'd all be playing touch football," he said.

Rep. Maxine Waters, D-Calif., whose husband played in the NFL, asked Goodell how the league was addressing the welfare of retired players during current collective bargaining negotiations.

Goodell said it's a "priority for the owners and players to take better care of our retired players," but Waters cut him off, demanding specifics.

"We've heard from the NFL time and time again — you're always 'studying,' you're always 'trying,' you're 'hopeful,'" Waters said, pointing a finger in Goodell's direction. "I want to know what are you doing ... to deal with this problems and other problems related to injuries?"

When Goodell said talks between owners and players are in the early stages, Waters said it's time "for Congress to

take a look at your antitrust exemption" and that she thinks it should be removed.

A 1961 law grants professional sports leagues antitrust exemption for broadcasting. That has allowed the NFL to sign TV contracts totaling billions of dollars on behalf of all its teams, helping transform the league into the economic powerhouse it is today.

When Waters was done grilling Goodell, she walked to the back of the hearing room and greeted Hall of Fame running back Jim Brown with a hug. Other former NFL stars present included Willie Wood, who sat in his wheelchair, a few rows behind the witness table.

In his testimony, Goodell said that the league has "reduced red tape, simplified the process for applicants and their families, and sped disability determinations."

Several retired players testified at the hearing, including former fullback Merrill Hoge, who said a series of concussions cost him his career. After his first concussion, he said he never saw a neurological doctor and was cleared to play five days later.

"What happened to me would not happen in the National Football League today," Hoge said. "That does not mean we are all the way there. We are on the way."

Gay Culverhouse, former president of the Tampa Bay Buccaneers, said NFL team

doctors are not advocates for the players and called for an independent neurologist to be on the sidelines.

Dr. Robert Cantu, co-director of Boston University's Center for the Study of Traumatic Encephalopathy, said there is "growing and convincing evidence" that repetitive concussive and subconcussive hits to the head in NFL players leads to a degenerative brain disease known as chronic traumatic encephalopathy.

"The public health risk is already here, and we cannot afford to wait any longer to make changes to the way we play sports," he said, calling for rule and technique changes.

His colleague at the center, Dr. Ann McKee, showed the committee images of brains of dead football players with CTE.

"We need to take radical steps" to change the way football is played, she said.

Dick Benson told the committee about the death of his 17-year-old son, Will, a high school quarterback in Austin, Texas, several weeks after a helmet-to-helmet hit in 2002. The following year, Benson founded the Will Benson Foundation for Sports Safety. He said the game needs to be changed to reduce physical contact, especially helmet-to-helmet contact.

"My one request is," he said, pausing to sob, "don't let it happen again."

Former running back Tiki Barber said he was concerned that high school players don't have the medical access that pros do.

"My ask of you is that you find a way to mandate that every high school athletic program has access to medical doctors who can diagnose, understand and treat concussions," he said.

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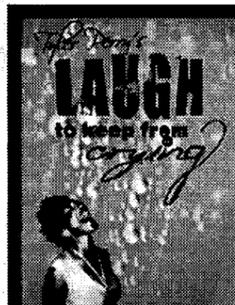
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NFL

49ers name Smith starter against Indy

Associated Press

SANTA CLARA, Calif. — Mike Singletary can see it in Alex Smith's eyes, in his body language. He's a different player now. Confident. Mature. Experienced.

At all of 25, Smith has been at the top and at the very bottom during his short NFL career. There was all the hype and talk of his potential when the San Francisco 49ers chose him No. 1 overall in the 2005 NFL draft.

Three years later he had disappeared, having worked his way back from shoulder surgery only to get hurt again three days before last year's season opener. He missed all of 2008.

"Alex is a totally different guy today than he was even six months ago," Singletary said Wednesday. "I think his mindset is clear."

On Sunday, Smith gets to start over, given a second chance — a rare thing in professional sports these days.

San Francisco's game at Indianapolis will mark his first start since Nov. 12, 2007, and it just so happens the Colts are also the team he faced in his NFL debut back in '05.

"I think it's just coincidence I'm back starting again against the team I got my first start against," Smith said.

He is taking this all in stride, but it's clear he's thrilled to be the top guy again after all this time.

"Back on the podium," Smith said with a smile Wednesday, the standard day for the starting quarterback to address the media. "I missed it the most."

Smith missed this so much he opted to stay with San Francisco last spring rather than leave for a potentially better situation and more money elsewhere. He said at the time he wanted to finish what he started, to redeem himself. He never lost belief he could be a starting quarterback for this franchise. Now, others may begin to regain faith in him, too.

Singletary has, that's for sure. Even when the coach named Shaun Hill the starter during training camp.

The 49ers need Smith's leadership on offense now like no other. They have endured six straight losing seasons. They're 3-3 and have lost two straight games on the heels of a 3-1 start, though Smith nearly led them back from a 21-0 deficit in a 24-21 defeat at Houston last Sunday.

In March, Smith agreed to a restructured contract that sharply reduced his base salary.

Smith was due to make nearly \$10 million this season under the deal he signed in 2005. The 49ers now have Smith under contract through next season at a salary more commensurate with his four up-and-down years with the club. Smith isn't all about the money. He said everything he's endured has given him a new perspective and appreci-

ation that he gets to play football for a living.

"To me he's been a true team player, the ultimate team player, through this process," Singletary said. "The thing that spoke volumes to me about him was in the offseason he had a chance to move on and go to another team and make more money. But he decided to stay because he felt that he wanted to be a part of what was here. He wanted to finish what he started. I'm excited for him going forward and I'm not going to build too much into it. I'm going to let Alex's play speak for itself."

This season marks the first time Smith has been fully healthy since shortly after his promising 2006 season in which he took every snap for the 49ers, throwing for 2,890 yards and 16 touchdowns. His shoulder problems began with a sack early in the 2007 campaign and later stoked a periodic feud with former coach Mike Nolan that seriously hampered both men's careers. Nolan questioned how hurt Smith really was on several occasions, shocking behavior from an NFL head coach.

Smith seems to have forgotten all of these bad memories, or at least pushed them out of mind.

He has stayed ready, though he never knew when he might get another shot.

"This is the NFL. If you're a backup quarterback and think you're not going to play, you're kind of in a dreamland," Smith said. "How many QBs go through a season and take all of the snaps and can handle that? It's a lot. You have the mindset, you have to have the expectations to play. The question is, when does it come? You have to be ready for that because you don't know when it's going to come."

Smith isn't making too much of his promotion, knowing full well how quickly things can change in this league. If he doesn't perform, Singletary might decide to make another switch, even though the coach said this won't be a "flavor-of-the-month kind of thing."

Smith's teammates are proud of his turnaround. They all know it's not often someone gets to revive their career with their original organization, but rather is forced to start over elsewhere with a clean slate.

Smith took over for Hill in the second half against the Texans on Sunday and completed his first six passes on the way to a 15-of-22 day for 206 yards. He threw three touchdowns to tight end Vernon Davis.

"I always believed in Alex," Davis said. "Sometimes it takes certain guys a little longer to come around. He always had the tools but it just took him some time. He's always had it."

Smith doesn't think he's changed to get to this point, even if others notice differences in his relaxed demeanor.

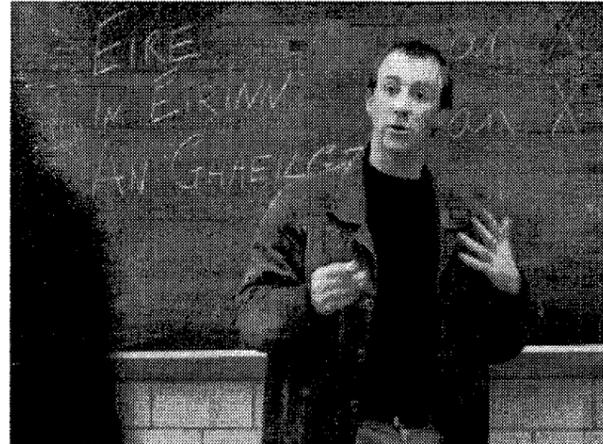
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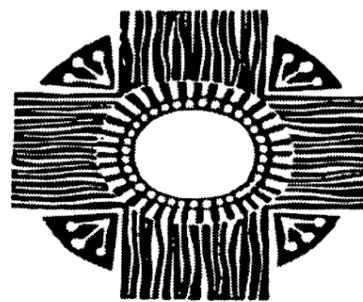
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Luis Cosenza
 Hewlett Visiting Fellow for Public Policy, Kellogg Institute for International Studies, and former Minister of the Presidency, Honduras (Moderator and Discussant)

Interhall

continued from page 24

Cavanaugh enters the game without a win and has questions at the quarterback position because of injuries.

"We need a strong performance from our defense," senior captain Sarah Cline said. "We have an awesome defense and we just need them to do what they can."

The Chaos have had an up-and-down season that has included a game in which they were routed by Pasquerilla West 30-6, but they hope to carry only the positives over from before break.

"We should not struggle because of break," Cline said. "We don't expect any negative effects there. We practiced [Tuesday] and we feel good and are ready to play."

When Cavanaugh has excelled this season, their offense has been a key factor.

"The offense has executed well this season," Cline said. "When we've struggled, it has been in rainy weather that has been difficult to pass the ball in. If we get a couple scores early, we should be fine."

Lyons, meanwhile, is winless on the season but hopes to break through with a victory against the Chaos.

"We've had some tough games but we are still working hard and ready to go," said senior quarterback Claire Connell, who has missed time due to an injury, leading a freshman to take over the signal-calling duties.

"We aren't too concerned about how much time off we have had," Connell said. "All the other teams have to deal with the layoff as well, so we don't think we will be at a disadvantage there."

Lyons expects to be ready to go and compete with the Chaos despite their injury problems.

"If we come out and play hard we should be fine,"

Connell said.

Lyons and Cavanaugh will face off tonight at Riehle Field at 9 p.m.

Ryan vs. Pangborn

Pangborn takes on Ryan with a chance to play their way into the playoffs.

Throughout the season, the Phoxes (2-2) have been a competitive team and one of the top in their division. After starting their season with two heartbreaking losses, including one to Pasquerilla West in the final seconds, Pangborn has been on a tear with wins over Lyons and Badin. In order to make the playoffs, Pangborn needs to win their final two games and hope for a loss by either Walsh or Pasquerilla West.

On the other side, Ryan (1-3) has struggled in their inaugural season, only managing one win.

Pangborn has relied on a total team effort to win. Key contributors include junior Gabby Tate, junior Emily Wurtenberger, sophomore Liz Pawlak, and senior Meghan Beshar. They feature a strong balance on offense and a stingy defense.

"Our keys are quick passes and being aggressive on defense and always trying to get out hands on the ball," junior quarterback Gabby Tate said.

But the most important part of the Phoxes game is not talent or schemes, but their team unity.

"We feed off each other's energies and keep the momentum going," Tate said. "For example, when Emily Wurtenberger makes a sack, it makes me that much more determined to get out there and score a touchdown."

Pangborn hopes to make a strong push for the playoffs starting tonight against Ryan at 9 p.m. at Riehle Field.

Contact Kevin Baldwin at kbaldwi2@nd.edu, Andrew Owens at aowens2@nd.edu and Barrick Bollman at jbollman@nd.edu

Go Sponsored by: Office of Multicultural Student Programs and Services, NASAND, and NAACP

Interrace Forum OUSTED: African Americans Dismissed from Native American Nations

A presentation on Race, Identity and Multicultural Histories by Snite Museum of Art Curator Bethany Montagano



Robert Banks, aka "Eagle Eye", a Cherokee Freedman
 Image courtesy of Peggy Kautner, photographer

About the Presentation

This presentation will explore the Cherokee nation's controversial decision to make "Indian Blood" a requirement for citizenship in 2007. The policy ultimately stripped tribal citizenship from almost 3,000 descendants of African American slaves owned by the Cherokee. The matter has exploded into an all out blood war, as tensions over race and tribal citizenship continue to rise.

The presentation will conclude with a discussion about how these current events speak to a larger conundrum facing biracial and multicultural persons especially; who I am - who gets to decide - and where and to whom do I belong?

Wednesday, November 4, 2009
 5:30 pm
 Geddes Hall
 (Center for Social Concerns Coffee House)

Please RSVP by Monday, November 2nd to mssp@nd.edu with "Interrace" in the subject line or call 574-631-6811

Belles

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Wehrli. Overall everyone really did a great job."

After doubling their win total from last season, the Belles (4-13-2, 1-6) will lose nine seniors to graduation this year, and will have to do some rebuilding before next season.

Olivet got on the scoreboard early in the sixth minute of the game, but Saint Mary's battled back. With just over 12 minutes remaining in regulation, Wehrli passed to Smogor for the tying goal. Neither team could convert a shot on goal in either overtime period, ending the game in a tie.

Crabbe knows that he and the coaching staff will have to emphasize the fundamentals next season with their lack of veteran leadership as they only have one junior on the roster this season.

After not making the end of the season conference tournament the Belles will need to continue to improve to move

up in the conference next season.

"As a team we are very fit," Crabbe said. "The competitive attitude and work rate of the 2009 team has been tremendous. It will be important to bring those qualities forward with us as we head into the off-season."

The Belles defense was a weak point this season and they will look to improve that through recruiting and getting stronger in the offseason Crabbe said.

While they are losing their main starting goalkeeper in Duffy, they have freshman Adele Bruggeman to step in and help fill the void.

"[Bruggeman] has worked very hard," Crabbe said. "Our goalkeeper coach Marc Colwell has done a tremendous job with both Adele and Patty this season."

Through improving their defense, and working on the fundamentals the Belles are looking forward to continuing to build on their improvement from this season.

Contact Katelyn Grabarek at kgraba01@saintmarys.edu

Spartans

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a cross from senior forward Jeb Brovsky. It was Mena's first goal in an Irish uniform and it tied the game at 1-1.

"It was a really bonnie goal," Clark said. "Adam, in the game against Georgetown, met a similar ball and hit it with his head the same way and it hit the crossbar. This time he hit it better and it went in. It was really neat for him."

The score remained tied into halftime, though Clark said the team wished the first half hadn't ended.

"We were good, we were back in the game, pushing the game at that point," he said. "You're sorry to see halftime come because that broke our momentum. We had really good momentum after we scored."

Michigan State once again struck first in the second half when midfielder Cyrus Saydee got one past senior goalkeeper Andrew Quinn in the 56th minute.

"[Michigan State] wasn't doing anything special and suddenly their left winger scored a pretty fantastic goal," Clark said. "He toasted two or three of our defenders before hitting a shot from a very tight angle."

Notre Dame was then in a very familiar position — down one goal and fighting for life — but was unable to get the ball into the net.

"They worked very hard trying to get back into the game," Clark said. "We huffed and puffed but

we couldn't come up with that vital tying goal."

The Irish outshot Michigan State 14-8 in the game and 7-3 in the second half, but had little to show for it. In fact, the Spartans had just two shots on goal in the game compared to Notre Dame's four, but both went in.

"If it was on shots taken, we carried the game," Clark said. "But the only statistic that really counts is goals and unfortunately they came up on the right side of that."

The match was Notre Dame's last away game of the regular season and also its last non-conference game. The Irish will return to Alumni Stadium Saturday for Senior Night against No. 5 Connecticut. The Huskies currently lead Notre Dame by one point in the Big East Blue Division standings, and an Irish win combined with a Husky loss or tie to Marquette Monday would give Notre Dame the regular season title. The Big East tournament begins Nov. 4.

The Irish will also be fighting for a chance to make the NCAA tournament. Before Wednesday's game they stood in 36th in the Ratings Percentage Index (RPI), used to determine at-large bids to the tournament, to which 32 teams are invited.

"If we're going to make the tournament we've got to win some games," Clark said. "These games take on tremendous importance. Today's game was a very important game to us and we came up short. We've got to start winning some games."

Contact Laura Myers at lmeyers2@nd.edu

Top seed

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coach Randy Waldrum said the Irish are not overlooking the chance to win yet another Big East title.

"Every year they're able to keep their focus," Waldrum said. "They've been through this enough that we're in the part of the season where it's one game and you're out and we can't slip up, so there hasn't been a lot of discussion about us being the top seed and winning the regular season championship. At this point, every team is good enough to beat you on any given day."

Notre Dame's biggest challenge to winning another championship could come from No. 9 Rutgers, who finished second in the Big East National division behind Notre Dame and remains the only other conference foe ranked in the NSCAA poll. However, the Scarlet Knights find themselves on the opposite side of the bracket in the tournament as a result of their second place finish and would only face the Irish should both teams reach the title game.

On Notre Dame's side of the bracket, Waldrum said a challenging match-up could occur with the winner of the quarterfinal match between Georgetown-St. John's should the Irish advance that far.

"I think on our side who's a good team is Georgetown, who we just played Sunday night," Waldrum said. "We haven't seen St. John's all year and didn't play them last year, so they're consistently good and we could see them up there."

Waldrum was also careful not to overlook some of the other teams in the conference who didn't receive byes, including potential quarterfinal opponents DePaul and Villanova, who could present some difficulties for contenders on the other side of the bracket.

"I don't say [the other teams would be a tough game] to underestimate DePaul or Villanova on the other side of the bracket. The other side is so difficult and has been so close all year," he said.

Another sleeper that Waldrum said could advance all the way to the final on the other side of the bracket is Marquette, who won the Big East American division for the first time in school history to receive the other top seed in the tournament.

"There's a good chance you could see Marquette in the final," Waldrum said.

The Irish will face off against the winner of the first round matchup between DePaul and South Florida at 1 p.m. Sunday at Alumni Stadium.

Contact Mike Gotimer at mgotimer@nd.edu

Schedule

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The last three games added, though, give some reason for pause.

Next year, the Irish will play non-traditional opponents Utah, Tulsa and, they announced this week, Western Michigan.

There's nothing wrong with the game against Utah. Ever since Urban Meyer took over as head coach there, the Utes have been a solid, if not elite, football team.

The problem lies in the last two games, against Tulsa and Western Michigan. These two agreements, in which both schools will play one game at Notre Dame with no return trip, reflect a disturbing trend in Notre Dame's recent scheduling policies.

Beginning this season, Notre Dame has started with a "7-4-1" scheduling model, meaning the team plays seven home games at Notre Dame Stadium, four true road games, and one off-site home game, such as this weekend's against Washington State in San Antonio.

The main problem of the 7-4-1 model is the fact that it severely limits the amount of true road games Notre Dame can play. In any given season, three away games are taken up by the "regular" opponents that aren't leaving the schedule any time soon.

The main problem with limiting road games is that it cuts down on which teams Notre Dame can realistically schedule games with. The reason the Broncos and Golden Hurricane are coming to South Bend is because they agreed to do so without demanding a return trip from the Irish. Any top-caliber team would demand at least

one game against the Irish at their stadium.

Both Alabama and Miami have expressed interest in playing Notre Dame in recent years, and, for their part, the Notre Dame athletic department has said they are interested. It seems, though, that they are only interested if they don't have to make any concessions to the 7-4-1 model.

Notre Dame has said that the 7-4-1 is in place to maximize the number of home games for Irish fans, which sounds great on the surface. But if we're getting home games against Western Michigan and Tulsa, is it really worth it?

I'll be the first one to agree that there's nothing like a game in Notre Dame Stadium, but aren't road games an integral part of college football, too? It's fun to load up the car with your friends, hit the road, and see the Irish in another team's stadium. As anyone who traveled to Atlanta in 2006 or Happy Valley in 2007 can attest, road games are a good thing.

The 7-4-1 would even be fine, though, if it weren't filled with Western Michigan and Tulsa. Either one on its own would even be okay, but the combination of the two is, at best, undesirable.

"Last year it was Ball State that was on that remarkable run, and Buffalo had a great year. Certainly, it's no surprise that TCU and Boise State are having the kind of years they're having," Notre Dame Athletic Director Jack Swarbrick told the South Bend Tribune Oct. 22. "That's the landscape of college football now. And I know our fans are so savvy and they follow the games closely that they'll understand that."

There are three non-BCS conference teams that Notre

Dame should try to schedule: Utah, TCU and Boise State. These three teams are in the BCS discussion almost every season. Tulsa and Western Michigan are not.

Just because two random non-BCS teams, as Swarbrick points to Ball State and Buffalo, were decent last season doesn't mean Tulsa and Western Michigan will be good next season. Yes, there are surprise schools every season, but it would be safer to schedule at least a lower level BCS team to ensure at least some stability.

Finally, and almost worst of all, next year's schedule is just downright boring.

Sure, the numerical strength of schedule will probably end up being decent, but is anyone — outside of Tulsa and Kalamazoo — excited to see the Irish take on Tulsa or Western Michigan?

Proponents of the watered-down schedule will just say, "Well, everyone else is doing it."

Yes, Florida played Troy State and Charleston Southern this year. The Gators, though, can fall back on a loaded SEC conference games against LSU, Georgia and Tennessee.

As an independent, the history of Notre Dame football is based on big games against varying opponents. Sure, the Irish have had memorable showdowns against USC and Michigan, but who can forget Catholics vs. Convicts in 1988 or the Snow Bowl in 1992?

Unless Jack Swarbrick and the athletic department have a pleasant surprise for us, it looks like those games are gone for the foreseeable future.

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

Great Lake Swimmers



thursday, october 29, 2009

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WOMEN'S INTERHALL FOOTBALL

Pasquerilla West hopes to complete undefeated season

By KEVIN BALDWIN,
ANDREW OWENS and
BARRICK BOLLMAN
Sports Writers

Pasquerilla West is looking to finish its season off with a perfect 6-0 record when it plays Badin tonight. Badin (1-3) hopes for an upset after securing its first win just before fall break over Lyons.

The Purple Weasels' (5-0) last game was also against Lyons in which they raced to a 27-0 shutout. Senior captain Cynthia Curley hopes her

team can pick up where they left off and use tonight's game to prepare for the playoffs.

"Interhall football is a game of momentum," Curley said. "Coming off the break is hard and everyone is gunning for us."

The Pasquerilla West defense features senior Lindsey McMahon, a reliable force on the defensive line, and sophomore Alison Lindeen, a ball hawk at safety responsible for many interceptions.

Junior Simone Bigi will pose

a double threat to the Bullfrogs' defense at quarterback, equally adept at running the ball as she is at passing.

"[Bigi] is the heart and soul of our offense," Curley said.

The Bullfrogs need a win tonight in order to have any shot at earning a spot in the postseason.

"This is a must win for us," senior captain Kelley Daniels said. "We're all pumped."

The Bullfrogs' defense has improved remarkably since the beginning of the year with sophomore Kelsey Brennan

emerging as a useful all-around player.

Badin's offense will have to strike early and assertively in order to gain the upper hand against a relentless Purple Weasels defense. Junior quarterback Carli Fernandez, along with freshman teammates Tommasina Domel and Ashley Okonta, will try to catch to the opposing team off guard with a high powered performance.

"We've been improving with every game," Daniels said. "We have to do our part but we're also going to need

luck."

Pasquerilla West is practicing as hard for this game as they would any, intending to finish the season as strong as they started it.

"We never underestimate anyone," Curley said.

The game will begin tonight at 7 p.m. at Riehle Field.

Lyons vs. Cavanaugh

Lyons and Cavanaugh face off tonight in a make-up game that was originally scheduled for Oct. 8.

see INTERHALL/page 21

MEN'S SOCCER

Spartan surrender

Irish can't rally and fall to Michigan State 2-1

By LAURA MYERS
Assistant Sports Editor

Notre Dame found itself playing catch-up twice Wednesday and ultimately fell short as it lost 2-1 at Michigan State.

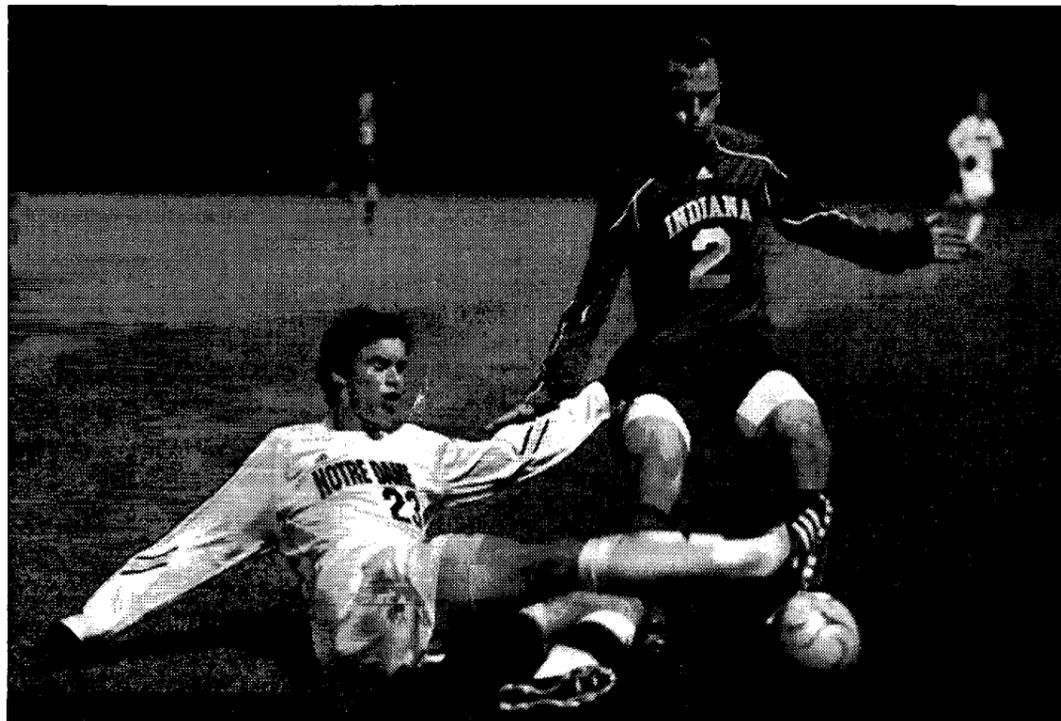
"We always seem to be chasing the game," coach Bobby Clark said. "The team put in tremendous effort. That was a given and I couldn't fault them for their effort. I thought they worked very, very hard."

The Spartans (10-4-1) got off to an early lead with a goal by forward Rubin Bega in the 14th minute.

"I thought after they scored that really woke us up," Clark said.

The Irish (9-7-1) responded in the 36th minute as sophomore midfielder Adam Mena headed in

see SPARTANS/page 22



VANESSA GEMPIS/The Observer

Sophomore midfielder Michael Rose slides for the ball during a 3-0 loss to Indiana Oct. 14. Notre Dame was edged at Michigan State 2-1 Wednesday.

FOOTBALL COMMENTARY

Schedule for 2010 not acceptable

Notre Dame released its finalized 2010 football schedule this week, and it is, shall we say, uninspiring.

The regulars are all there —

USC, Michigan, Michigan State, Purdue, Stanford and Navy. Recent series against Boston College and Pittsburgh continue next season, and of course

everyone is excited for the game against Army in the new Yankee Stadium.



Sam Werner

Associate Sports Editor

see SCHEDULE/page 22

ND WOMEN'S SOCCER

Team nets No. 1 Big East seed

By MIKE GOTIMER
Sports Writer

After another undefeated run through the Big East regular season, No. 5 Notre Dame finds itself in a familiar position at the top of the bracket heading into this week's Big East championship.

Although the Irish received a bye to the quarterfinals and have a strong chance to secure their 11th Big East title, the road to the championship game should provide a number of challenges as Notre Dame tries to navigate through the competitive field of opponents. For this reason,

see TOP SEED/page 22



SUZANNA PRATT/The Observer

Junior forward Rose Augustin battles for a ball against Georgetown during a 2-0 Irish win on Sunday.

SMC SOCCER

Late goal gives Belles 1-1 tie in season finale

By KATELYN GRABAREK
Sports Writer

The Belles fought to a 1-1 tie in their final game against Olivet in double overtime Wednesday, with both teams fighting to end the season on a high note.

"The team really played well today and showed a lot of resilience battling back from giving up an early goal," head coach Ryan Crabbe said. "The game was physically very tough as both teams were trying to end their seasons' on a high note."

Saint Mary's seniors were

able to really step up for the team in their final game in a Belles uniform especially goalkeeper Patty Duffy, and midfielder Jessica Slean.

Duffy has been a key player for the Belles this season and Crabbe has noted Slean's improvement this season.

"Patty with 12 saves was tremendous in goal," Crabbe said. "Jess Slean showed a lot of toughness and determination as well. It was great to see Sam Smogor score the goal late to tie the game and she was assisted by fellow senior Katie

see BELLES/page 21