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Football parking options reduced

Summer construction eliminates 1,700 spots for tailgaters; shuttles will transport

By MARY KATE MALONE
News Writer

The tens of thousands of football fans expected for Saturday's game will be greeted by 1,700 fewer parking spaces for their vehicles than in past years.

After a summer of campus construction, a major four-lane roadway — Edison Road — now runs through Blue Field south, a favorite spot for tailgaters

that held about 1,700 vehicles. Blue Field south, also home to soccer fields, was located just south of Edison Road.

As a result, fans hoping to park there on Saturday will be encouraged to park in White Field north, located north of Douglas Road and west of Juniper Road.

"We're providing plenty of parking areas in White Field north," said Phil Johnson,

see PARKING/page 4



GEOFF MATTESON/The Observer

Blue Field south, a popular tailgating spot, no longer serves football fans, who are encouraged to park in White Field north.

Tradition, change are emphasis at SMC

By MEGAN O'NEIL
Saint Mary's Editor

In her first State of the School address Thursday, Saint Mary's student body president Kellye Mitros reflected on significant physical and administrative changes the College has recently undergone and outlined her administration's goals for the coming months.

Speaking to 40 people — largely student government officers and administrators — in Le Mans Hall's Stapleton lounge, Mitros pointed out that Sept. 15 is the anniversary of the founding of the Congregation of the Sisters of the Holy Cross. It was with their "strength" and "dedication to their faith" that four French sisters were able to make Saint Mary's a reality 150 years ago, Mitros said.

"We are privileged to be here at such a time as this," Mitros said. "Our college campus is growing at an incredible rate — our new dining hall, Opus Apartments and the Student Center are all new additions during my college career."

But Mitros said the building progress on campus is not done. The College master plan includes a new academic building, which will be underway in a few years.

Mitros also touched on what has long been one of Saint Mary's biggest challenges — enrollment.

"The number of students in the first year class has exceeded expectations and we seem to be experiencing growth as a community," Mitros said.

She expressed confidence —

see ADDRESS/page 4

ND, SMC seek money to grow

ND eager to build new residence halls

By MADDIE HANNA
Associate News Editor

The recent trends of forced freshman triples and crowded converted study lounges will likely soon become a chapter in Notre Dame's residence hall history, as a capital campaign will begin in 2006 to raise money for building new dorms, University officials said.

Construction on the four proposed halls, to be located east of Knott and Pasquerilla East after the closing of Juniper Road, will depend on how quickly the University finds a benefactor willing to underwrite the project, Vice President of Student Affairs Father Mark Poorman said.

"It's difficult to predict when hall construction will start," Poorman said. "Given the current overcrowding, it is my hope that we will begin con-

see DORMS/page 6



FRANCESCA SETA/The Observer

Welsh Family Hall, above, is among Notre Dame's newest dorms. The University is seeking funds to build more dorms.

Construction at SMC will wait for funding

By LAURA BAUMGARTNER
News Writer

Following a nearly eight-year period of development that saw Saint Mary's build a new dining hall, student center, on-campus apartments and other improvements, the College has halted all remaining construction on its Master Plan until it can raise more funding, officials said.

Saint Mary's will not break ground on new projects — which range from a new classroom building and multipurpose center to a second on-campus apartment complex — until 100 percent of costs are pledged and 75 percent are held in cash, said Laurie Stickelmaier, vice president for finance and administration.

"While we are happy with the results of the Master Plan,

see PLAN/page 9

Weis fund wristbands popular, help unsure

By JACK THORNTON
News Writer

Following a trend first popularized by Lance Armstrong's LiveStrong Campaign, the gold wristbands created to raise money and awareness for Hannah and Friends — the nonprofit foundation formed by football coach Charlie Weis and his wife Maura — are rising in campus exposure.

But ambiguity remains about just how much of the wristbands' cost goes directly to the

charity, named after the Weis' daughter Hannah, who was born with global development delays.

While LiveStrong guarantees 100 percent of its proceeds will benefit cancer research, the package of the Hannah and Friends wristband indicates that only a portion of the \$2 purchase will benefit the Hannah and Friends Foundation.

Hannah and Friends executive director Kevin Kaplan said

see BANDS/page 9

The Shirt provokes controversy

Students, alumni debate importance

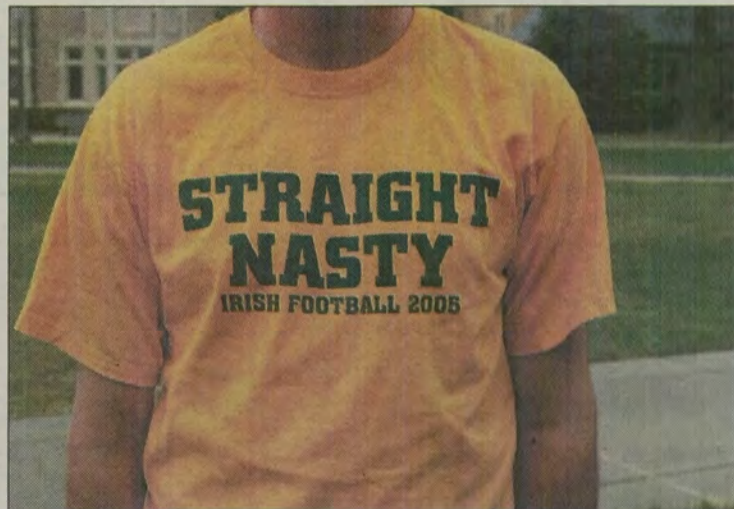
By MADDIE HANNA
Associate News Editor

A big question that has provoked anticipation, suspense and speculation will be answered Saturday — and it's not about the football team's performance.

It's about what students will be wearing in the stands at the Irish home opener.

Although this year's Shirt sales are stronger than the

see SHIRT/page 8



FRANCESCA SETA/The Observer

A student poses in an alternative to The Shirt, which some students have bought instead of this year's design.

INSIDE COLUMN

College: a box of...

Brace yourself for another freshman writing about his first few weeks of college. Don't worry — I promise it won't be boring. I'll admit it's a bizarre column. However, you may find it uplifting.

Peter Ninneman

Wire Editor

Back in the 70s, when my dad roamed this great campus of ours, there existed a few twisted individuals.

You see, these two guys really didn't like a kid down the hall from them.

To imagine the amount of animosity that must have existed between these people would be like sympathizing with Jesus' pain on the cross — it's impossible.

Christmas break rolls around, and what do these chaps send their enemy on the day Jesus was born? A nicely wrapped shoebox full of their excrement, that's what.

Now, you're probably asking yourself why I bring up this box of fecal matter. It's really quite simple. It provides a meaningful metaphor for the college experience.

Picture this: You and your Notre Dame family — which as a freshman I can only assume exists — are all gathered around the gold-covered Christmas tree that is our school's most recognizable building.

Around this giant tree are innumerable gifts: football games, friends, parties, dorm masses, pep rallies, the Grotto, gigantic squirrels and the sun reflecting off the Golden Dome. The list could really go on and on, but I'll spare you.

So here we are, all happy little children beaming with joy as we unwrap our gifts. Meanwhile, one gift is looming in the background. Picture storm clouds billowing above it.

As the weeks progress, that one package starts to get smellier and smellier. Have you guessed what this magnificent gift is?

It takes the form of tests, papers, quizzes, assignments, projects, lectures, late night cramming, reading assignments, presentations, deadlines and study groups.

And boy does it smell rank.

Now, this is going to sound like a really cheesy silver lining approach to life, but that's only because it is. I assert, classmates, that the package full of human waste is definitely wrapped in some darn shiny wrapping paper.

A little hard work never killed anyone, and we will be soaring out of this school full speed in our respective directions in no time, even if it doesn't seem like it now.

So that's college then, a great celebration with some unwelcome gifts. If you want, you can substitute the box of dung with, say, a paperweight.

In my estimation, this is a testament to the college student's spirit. As much fun as we have, we also shoulder a great amount of pressure and anxiety. Assignments pile up. Deadlines close in on us. Computers crash. But we know tomorrow's a new day.

Oh yeah, and our football team is good this year.

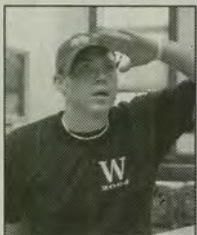
Contact Peter Ninneman at pninnema@nd.edu

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 ARE YOU DOING TO GET READY FOR SATURDAY'S GAME?



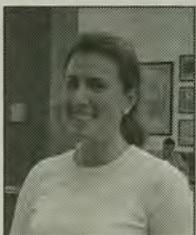
Rick Loesing
sophomore
Stanford

"Looking for this Mike Hopkinson character."



Matt Smith
sophomore
St. Ed's

"Looking for a shirt that isn't the color [yellow]."



Claire Murphy
sophomore
PE

"Avoiding the power-trippin' SBPD."



Moser James Papier
sophomore
Keenan

"Crossing my fingers and practicing with the marching band."



Brian Camus
sophomore
Stanford

"Working at Burger King."



FRANCESCA SETA/The Observer

Dillion representative "Crackhead" smashes a plate over his head at the dorm's annual pep rally Thursday. The event, which ended early due to inclement weather, featured original skits and appearances by football coach Charlie Weis and quarterback Brady Quinn.

OFFBEAT

Sheep star in online reality show

ZAGREB, Croatia — Croatia has launched a new reality show on the Internet, starring sheep instead of people.

The winner of the 10-day Stado (herd) show, which closes on Sept. 17, will receive poetry in its honor instead of money.

Those voted out of the seven-member herd might be eaten, the Vecernji List daily reported Wednesday.

The show can be followed 24 hours a day on website www.stado.org, where visitors can see how the sheep feed and interact

with each other.

They can then choose which sheep to vote out.

The show drew anger from human rights groups who reported animal abuse to local veterinary inspectors.

Principal chases streaker in gorilla mask

UNION SPRINGS, N.Y. — A 17-year-old student was arrested for streaking through his high school in a gorilla mask after being chased down the street by the school principal.

Union Springs High School Principal Kimberle Ward — who said she runs

three to five miles daily — didn't catch the fleeing student, but she was able to help police arrest the teen after watching a hallway surveillance camera video and interviewing several students.

Some might call it monkey business, but Union Springs school officials didn't find the stunt amusing.

"There's no way anyone in the district would consider this a prank," District Superintendent Linda Rice said Wednesday.

Information compiled from the Associated Press.

IN BRIEF

The football pep rally will be held today at 6 p.m. in the Joyce Center Arena. Doors will open at 5:15.

Fiddler's Hearth is hosting a "halfway to St. Patrick's Day" Irish Fest today through Sept. 23 to raise money for the Red Cross Hurricane Relief Fund. Irish bands The Springs, The Bardic Apostles, The Fenians, Teada, Brock McGuire and local band Kennedy's Kitchen will perform. Fiddler's Hearth is located in downtown South Bend at 127 N. Main. For tickets and information, call 232-2853.

The fifth annual Saturday Scholar Series will begin at 11 a.m. this Saturday in the Hesburgh Center. History professor Linda Przybyszewski will give a lecture entitled "Catholics, Concubines and the Constitution."

Flipside will be showing the movie "Rudy" at 9 p.m. today on North Quad.

"The Longest Yard" will be shown in 101 DeBartolo Hall on Saturday at 4:30 p.m. and 7:30. Admission is \$3.

Hammes Mowbray Hall, the new home of Notre Dame Security/Police and the Notre Dame Post Office, will be dedicated at 9 a.m. on Friday, Sept. 23. University President Emeritus Father Theodore Hesburgh will offer a blessing, just as he did at the dedication five decades ago of the bookstore that was located on the South Quad from 1955 to 1999.

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

LOCAL WEATHER	TODAY		TONIGHT		SATURDAY		SUNDAY		MONDAY		TUESDAY	
	HIGH	77	HIGH	61	HIGH	78	HIGH	80	HIGH	84	HIGH	83
	LOW	55	LOW	54	LOW	57	LOW	60	LOW	64	LOW	60

Atlanta 89 / 65 Boston 76 / 60 Chicago 76 / 54 Denver 80 / 50 Houston 92 / 76 Los Angeles 75 / 60 Minneapolis 78 / 58 New York 78 / 64 Philadelphia 80 / 64 Phoenix 101 / 79 Seattle 64 / 50 St. Louis 78 / 58 Tampa 90 / 76 Washington 80 / 64

Stadium will host relief effort

Students prepare to collect Katrina donations during football game

By MAUREEN MULLEN
News Writer

Notre Dame's largest Hurricane Katrina relief effort will take place Saturday during the highly anticipated first home football game of the season.

Between the first and second quarters of the Michigan State game, student volunteers will disperse throughout the stadium, pass around buckets and collect donations from the more than 80,000 fans, said Aly Baumgartner, student coordinator of the Stadium Collection.

Since Katrina hit the Gulf Coast on Aug. 29, the Notre Dame community has come together to aid relief efforts. In the days following the tragedy, the Center for Social Concerns hosted various aid events, a student government-run table in LaFortune collected donations and individual dorms collected money from student residents.

"The willingness of the Notre Dame student body to come to the aid of those in need is readily apparent," student body president Dave Baron said.

The Stadium Collection is the most sizable Katrina event organized by the University, reaching beyond Notre Dame's staff and students and extending to alumni and other fans.



JENNIFER KANG/The Observer

A student volunteer collected aid for hurricane victims Tuesday. The largest relief effort will take place at Saturday's game.

Discussion for the Stadium Collection began in the University's administrative circles, but it became apparent that the student body had the numbers to execute such an event. Student Government took over the collection, calling for and training student volunteers to partake in the massive effort, Baumgartner said.

Baumgartner said the response from students has been tremendous. Approximately 350 student volunteers were needed to successfully collect from the stadium, and nearly 475 offered their help.

Volunteers attended a short informational session earlier this week to learn details of their job, Baumgartner said. On Saturday, volunteers will wear bright red T-shirts and

proceed to their assigned rows shortly before the end of the first quarter. The collection will proceed only between the first and second quarters, and the money will then be taken to the Notre Dame Security/Police Building to be sorted and counted.

Organizers hope the total will be announced before the end of the game.

Baumgartner said a similar Stadium Collection took place after the Sept. 11, 2001 attacks and raised nearly \$275,000. Student government hopes the crowd at Saturday's game gives as generously as it did four years ago.

Contact Maureen Mullen at mmullen1@nd.edu

Saint Mary's reduces spending, cuts deficit

By KELLY MEEHAN
News Writer

After facing a budget deficit of \$1.5 million at the beginning of the 2004-05 school year, Saint Mary's has reduced expenditures to cut the deficit to less than \$750,000.

Through a reduction in spending and the implementation of a four percent tuition increase between the 2004-05 and 2005-06 school years, the College has managed to decrease its deficit by more than 50 percent.

Laurie Stickelmaier, vice president of finance and administration, said two issues could be targeted as source of the budget deficit. The College's troubles began when the actual enrollment in the class of 2008 fell 51 students short of their projected goal — which resulted in a \$1 million loss. The second problem for the College was the general increase in the operating costs.

"The College's financial foundation is very sound. This is a revenue expense problem, it is not a foundational problem," Stickelmaier said.

By carefully monitoring expenses, it was estimated that

the College could be back on track financially within two years.

Stickelmaier said new initiatives, positions, equipment purchases and smaller less critical repairs and renovations have been postponed until funding is more sufficient.

"The College has generous employee benefits and some of these have been decreased, [but] great care has been taken to maintain academic programs,"

Stickelmaier said.

The College hopes to minimize the debt to \$500,000 for the 2006 school year and, barring any costly surprises, is anticipating a balanced budget by the 2007 fiscal year.

This year's freshman class of 375 students met

the target enrollment goals, and the College hopes to enroll 400 students at the start of the 2006-2007 school year.

"It will take several years for the smaller classes to work their way through the enrollment cycle to be replaced by larger classes," Stickelmaier said. "Saint Mary's still anticipates tight budgets for the next two to three years."

"Saint Mary's still anticipates tight budgets for the next two to three years."

**Laurie Stickelmaier
vice president
of finance and
administration**

Contact Kelly Meehan at kmeeha01@saintmarys.edu

Fremantle, Australia



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Expert panel addresses business student plans

Entrepreneurs and venture capitalists advise students on company competition strategy

By PATRICK DOWD
News Writer

A panel of entrepreneurial experts from the Notre Dame family spoke Thursday at the Mendoza College of Business to help students prepare for business plan competitions slated to take place later this fall.

Sponsored by the Gigot Center for Entrepreneurial Studies, the hour-long panel discussion featured entrepreneurs and venture capitalists — two primary groups involved in business deal-making — debating back-and-forth on the topics of entrepreneurship, what makes or breaks start-up business ventures and how to choose a career path.

As panelists weighed in on their respective professions, it became clear that they were cut of the same cloth. They conversed articulately and at times almost jovially on the ins

and outs of the business and making deals that support innovation, create jobs and build wealth.

President of Network Appliance (NetApp) and Notre Dame alum Tom Mendoza said the education he received at the University was influential in the development of his entrepreneurial instincts, noting that the intelligence of his classmates made him "open his mind and actively listen to other people."

The ability to learn from others is an indispensable skill in the business world, he said.

Mendoza also conveyed his pride in the fact that Notre Dame graduates have a "moral compass" and profound desire to win — something that panelists unequivocally stated as the most important aspects of a

good business partner.

Mendoza and other panelists informed students how to further build successful business opportunities. The panel agreed that the goal of a start-up should be to solve a problem not addressed by current markets.

Tom Crotty of Battery Ventures emphasized importance of getting started early and "riding the wave" of new technological movements.

Tim Connors of US Venture Partners spoke about the sort of perseverance it takes to push a new idea past skeptical investors, and stressed that hard work is the only recipe for substantive results.

"If people are telling you [your business plan] is a good idea, it's probably too late."

Tim Connors
US Venture Partners

"If people are telling you [your business plan] is a good idea, it's probably too late," he said.

David Hitz, founder of NetApp, said students should aim to get to the right place and "hang out." The idea of being in a pro-

gressive business atmosphere is one that the other panelists identified as critical in the formation of good entrepreneurial instincts.

Panelists also suggested embracing the risk of getting involved in small start-up businesses early on as opposed to larger companies like IBM, Microsoft and SUN Microsystems.

Panelists said they wouldn't want to hire someone who has to learn on the job and pointed to start-ups as an ideal training ground for future managers. Furthermore, speakers warned students it is often difficult to acquire fundamental business sense in a bureaucratic corporate atmosphere.

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Parking

continued from page 1

assistant director of Notre Dame Security/Police. "And we will run a shuttle from there to the library. We'll have adequate room for anyone who wants to park on campus."

Student tailgating areas have also been relocated. This year tailgaters will be in Blue Field north, located north of Edison Road and east of the Eck baseball stadium.

Despite predictions that there will be 15,000 vehicles on campus this weekend, Johnson said the campus would still be able to accommodate everyone.

"We've always had excess capacity in [White Field north]," Johnson said. "We're confident we can provide all the replacement parking spaces that we lost on the south end of campus."

Johnson hopes some fans will park at off-campus hotels,

Saint Mary's or the South Bend Airport and rely on a shuttle service to bring them to campus for the game.

Transpo shuttle service will release a fleet of 20 buses three hours before kickoff to pick up and drop off Notre Dame and Michigan State fans from locations throughout the city.

"The buses will run a continuous loop," said Transpo general manager Mary McLain. "They don't come on a schedule because of traffic but once they start they run continuously from campus and run from a variety of locations. We use the most direct way to get fans back to campus."

The buses will begin their final loop around the city 45 minutes before kick-off. But they also won't leave fans downtown that couldn't fit on an overcrowded bus, McLain said.

"Let's say the bus fills up with people, then we will make arrangements so someone can come get them. We

won't leave anyone behind," McLain said.

Transpo is expecting — and prepared for — heavier-than-usual crowds for the first home game, McLain said.

"The buses are more popular this year because of higher gas prices, more limited parking [on campus] and more hype with the football team," Transpo marketing assistant Jeannette Barnhart said. "We're expecting higher than average numbers."

Johnson expects the parking situation will improve in the coming years.

"We hope that after construction [Blue Field south] will cure and we'll be able to restore parking," Johnson said.

A Transpo ride from downtown or the airport will cost \$4 each way. From St. Joseph High School or Saint Mary's, it will be \$2. Transportation to and from White Field north is free.

Contact Mary Kate Malone at
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Address

continued from page 1

with Dan Meyer filling the new administrative position of vice president for enrollment — that improvements in admissions would continue in the coming years.

"Mr. Meyer only joined our community a few months ago, however, he has already made his presence on campus and his desire for student input known by coming to introduce himself to our Board of Governance and asking for suggestions to help with enrollment," Mitros said.

One of her main campaign platform issues and biggest goals as student body president was to launch a series of campus lectures and events focused on the history of Saint Mary's, Mitros said.

"Our goal in doing this has been to increase awareness of the uniqueness of our history and appreciation for the work of the sisters that has made our College what it is today," Mitros said. "This history series has become bigger than Susan or I could have ever dreamed it to

be."

She said it had expanded to become an interdepartmental project including the office for Mission, student government and campus ministry.

"My favorite of these ideas is the proposal for having a historical dinner in Reignbeaux Lounge, right here in Le Mans," Mitros said. "Reignbeaux was, after all, the original dining room."

Student government will be continuing several successful programs from past years, Mitros said, including free bus trips to Chicago and the College Readership Program.

Mitros also detailed changes made to the Board of Governance itself. Most notably, the board has begun to search for a new alumnae commissioner, Mitros said, and they hoped to fill the position soon. The previous commissioner, Erin Hanifan, announced her resignation at Monday's Board of Governance meeting.

Mitros said she and vice president Susan McIluff had created and filled the position of Health and Wellness Commissioner.

"Meghan Lambourne was selected to fill this position and has been working with Health and Wellness to put together programming that will help students with a wide variety of health issues that are often faced by women," Mitros said.

She also remodeled the position of campus foods commissioner into the student services commissioner, Mitros said. The commissioner will deal not only with campus foods issues but also work with the Student Center and Security.

The State of the School address, since being revived in 2003, is delivered at the beginning of the fall and spring semesters by the student body president and serves to update the College community on the status of the school.

Contact Megan O'Neil at
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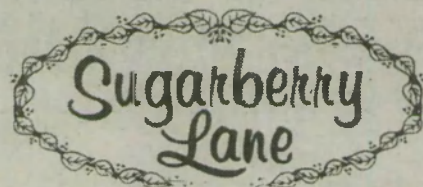
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WORLD & NATION

Friday, September 16, 2005

COMPILED FROM THE OBSERVER'S WIRE SERVICES

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INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Milosevic's wife misses trial

BELGRADE, Serbia-Montenegro — A judge ordered the arrest Thursday of the wife of former Yugoslav President Slobodan Milosevic for failing to attend her corruption trial in Belgrade.

Mirjana Markovic, who was often accused of being the power behind the scenes during her husband's autocratic rule in the 1990s, has been in self-imposed exile in Russia since 2003.

A previous arrest warrant was revoked in June after her lawyer, Zdenko Tomanovic, promised she would attend the hearing.

"Since Mirjana Markovic failed to appear in court, this chamber has decided to issue an order for an arrest warrant against her," Judge Sinisa Sofrenovic said.

Iran's president willing to give info

UNITED NATIONS — Iran is willing to provide nuclear technology to other Muslim states, Iran's hard-line president said Thursday, notching up his rhetoric as his regime rejects international pressure to cut back its atomic program.

President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad made the comment after talking with Turkey's prime minister during a gathering of world leaders at the United Nations, Iran's state-run Islamic Republic News Agency said.

Ahmadinejad repeated promises that Iran will not develop nuclear weapons, the report said. Then he added: "Iran is ready to transfer nuclear know-how to the Islamic countries due to their need."

NATIONAL NEWS

Roberts says he won't be ideologue

WASHINGTON — Chief Justice nominee John Roberts said Thursday there is no room for ideologues on the Supreme Court, declaring an "obligation to the Constitution" and to no other cause as he concluded three grueling days of confirmation testimony.

"If the Constitution says that the little guy should win, the little guy's going to win in court before me," Roberts told the Senate Judiciary Committee. "But if the Constitution says that the big guy should win, well, then the big guy's going to win."

Roberts' confirmation as successor to the late Chief Justice William H. Rehnquist appears secure, the only question the size of his vote total and in particular his Democratic support.

Hurricane Ophelia soaks coast

SALTER PATH, N.C. — Hurricane Ophelia crawled along the North Carolina coast on Thursday, prolonging its punishment of the Outer Banks with rain and wind as coastal residents elsewhere returned home to damaged homes and businesses.

While the weakening storm's center was expected to stay just off shore, the northern side of Ophelia's eyewall, the ring of high wind surrounding the eye, could remain over the Outer Banks until midday Friday, the National Hurricane Center said.

LOCAL NEWS

Budget bill moves front and center

INDIANAPOLIS — Hundreds of delinquent state taxpayers came clean Thursday as Indiana began a two-month grace period that allows them to pay back taxes without penalties, interest or fees.

Gov. Mitch Daniels said the state Department of Revenue's program was poised for success because of the agency's preparations. The state hopes to collect at least \$65 million of the \$1.3 billion in back taxes owed by Nov. 15, when the state's first amnesty program will end.

Bush assembles assistance package

Costs predicted to climb to more than \$200 billion for Hurricane Katrina recovery

Associated Press

NEW ORLEANS — Faced with the nation's costliest natural disaster, President Bush on Thursday assembled an unprecedented package of housing, health care, job assistance and education for hundreds of thousands of Gulf Coast residents thrown into misery by Hurricane Katrina.

Trying to make up for a flawed response to the hurricane that embarrassed his administration, Bush was to announce a recovery plan in a nationally broadcast speech from Jackson Square in the heart of the French Quarter. Elsewhere in the famed city, workers were still pumping out flooded neighborhoods and collecting bodies left behind in the frantic evacuation.

Bush was not expected to put a price tag on the disaster but costs are certain to climb to \$200 billion or beyond in the near term. The final tab could approach the more than \$300 billion spent thus far on U.S. wars in Iraq and Afghanistan. Congress has already approved \$62 billion for the disaster, but that is expected to run out next month.

Bush faced the nation at a vulnerable point in his presidency. Most Americans disapprove of his handling of Katrina, and his job-approval rating has been dragged down to the lowest point of his presidency also because of dissatisfaction with the Iraq war and rising gas prices. He has struggled to demonstrate the same take-charge leadership he displayed after the Sept. 11 terror attacks four years ago, but Republicans fret that he waited too long to address the nation with reassurances.

After denying charges that blacks and poor people were forgotten in the search and recovery



U.S. Navy Seabees tear through a plywood floor as they take part in the restoration of Hope Haven, a children abuse shelter in Waveland, Miss. destroyed by the hurricane.

efforts, Bush planned to promise that needy people would get special attention in the reconstruction, officials said.

Black Americans have been particularly angered by the government response to the disaster, with an overwhelming majority telling pollsters they believe help would have come quicker if so many of the people stranded were not poor and black.

President Bush is pledging to build "a stronger and better New Orleans, and stronger and better communities throughout the Gulf Coast" and talking about the need to act

boldly to address "a long history of injustice that has led to poverty and inequality," said press secretary Scott McClellan. "It's a long history and it's not something we're going to overcome instantly."

The administration has promised to reimburse states for the costs incurred in housing hurricane evacuees. Texas alone has taken in an estimated 250,000 refugees from the flooding, an overwhelming majority of whom are believed to qualify for Medicaid.

Bush was expected to call for legislation that would provide job training, education, housing,

small business help and health care, McClellan said. The president also planned to announce tax relief to encourage businesses to stay in the devastated region, said a Republican official who was consulted but wanted to remain anonymous because Bush had not yet delivered the speech.

Polls show Americans are willing to pay to rebuild New Orleans. Conservatives, worried about the soaring budget deficit, are pressuring the White House to limit federal spending to real emergency needs and to offset the costs elsewhere in the budget.

Foreign ministers hold rare public meeting

Associated Press

UNITED NATIONS — Israel's withdrawal from Gaza yielded immediate returns on the world stage Thursday: praise from Qatar and an unusual meeting between the Arab emirate's foreign minister and his Israeli counterpart.

The meeting, on the sidelines of the U.N. summit, was described as a first step in efforts to arrange a summit between the two nations.

The session was the latest diplomatic reward for Israel's ending its 38-year occupation of the Gaza Strip — the Jewish state's first-ever evacuation of territory the Palestinians

claim for a future state. The Israeli foreign minister has already met with his counterparts from two major Muslim countries, Indonesia and Pakistan.

Arab countries like Qatar are encouraging efforts toward a new peace process as a way to ease the Palestinian-Israeli conflict and blunt the influence of Islamic militants, who are using discontent about the Palestinians and war in Iraq to stir up unrest.

There will be limits, however, to the diplomatic payoff. Muslim nations expect major strides from Israel on the peacemaking front — if not the establishment of a Palestinian

state — before committing to warmer ties.

Qatar is a close U.S. ally in the Persian Gulf and home to the U.S. Central Command's forward operations in the Middle East.

The emirate's foreign minister, Sheik Hamad bin Jassim bin Jabor Al Thani, said it was possible to establish full diplomatic relations with Israel before the formation of an independent Palestine.

"It could happen," he told reporters before heading into the closed meeting with Israeli Foreign Minister Silvan Shalom. "But we need to see a timetable — how we will start the peace process and how we will end."

Dorms

continued from page 1

struction on at least one new hall within the next three years."

Assistant Vice President of Student Affairs Ann Firth said she didn't know exactly what combination of men's and women's dorms would be built.

"My hunch would be we'd probably build a men's hall and a women's hall first," Firth said. "But that will depend a lot on what happens with housing trends between now and the time we actually begin construction, where the need is."

This means that if the University receives enough funding to build all four requested dorms — a condition that may not be fulfilled — the breakdown will not necessarily be two men's and two women's halls.

Along with the addition of new residence halls will be the renovation of existing halls, "to improve the experience of hall life campus-wide and to avoid great disparities between halls," Poorman said.

While these plans mean campus-wide construction, Firth said the process would be conducted in the least disruptive manner possible.

"It's a pretty complex operation," Firth said. "Our first reading is it won't entail closing out an entire hall and moving a community to another building — we're hoping we can do most of what needs to be done over the course of summer. There might be some continuation of the renovation during the academic year ... but we're hoping we can do all of this without having to ask anyone to vacate, move somewhere else and move back."

University architect Doug Marsh has not created design plans for the proposed halls yet, but Firth said officials were discussing "a conceptual understanding of what we might be looking for" for the new Residential Master Plan.

And although they will have new features in mind, the new halls will not differ greatly from current halls.

"One of the things that multiple studies we've done in the last couple of years has told us is that in many ways, residential life is working at Notre Dame really well," Firth said. "So our goal is really to take the best of what we've got in terms of our existing halls, build new halls that have some of the new features that students like and want, but we don't want to create a disparity where one hall has everything under the sun and some of the existing halls would not be able to have those features."

But the University would like a disparity to exist between rooms in each dorm, Firth said, explaining study findings where students supported the idea of rooms designated for upperclassmen with features like a living room, bathroom or better view.

"We found that those halls that have those kinds of options are more attractive to upperclassmen, since you can see yourself progressing," Firth said. "That's a very natural way to encourage people to stay on campus. It's not anybody's goal to have 100 percent of seniors living on campus ... But we want to make sure that those who are interested in staying on and being a part of the vibrant, campus residential community have

some pretty nice options."

Poorman echoed Firth's sentiments on the number of seniors living off-campus.

"I am a complete believer in our residential system," Poorman said. "With that said, I understand that on-campus living is not for everyone."

Firth said the "ladder" approach as opposed to seniors-only housing would not detract from the intermingling of classes within the halls.

Both Poorman and Firth also mentioned the desire to renovate LaFortune Student Center and the Stepan Center. Those plans are even less definite than the ones for the new halls, although Poorman described the two buildings as "priorities" in the upcoming capital campaign.

With the surge of construction on and around the University — the campus road project, Notre Dame Avenue

entrance, Guglielmo Family Athletics Center and Health Services being just a few examples — Firth said the plans were being designed with the intention of protecting the campus feel.

"I think that's something people who have been involved in campus planning have really

taken to heart," Firth said. "You know, it's sometimes difficult for any of us to see change because we say, 'Wow, that's so different.' We drive down the new roads and think, 'What happened

here?' I think that those concerns are very much a part of the planning process."

"I like to think we're getting the best of what the new facilities have to offer without losing what we already have."

Contact Maddie Hanna at mhanna@nd.edu

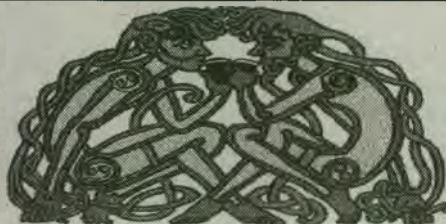
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New professors adjust to teaching students

Special to The Observer

On Aug. 23, Notre Dame freshmen stepped into their first classes at the University, symbolically marking the right of passage from high school to college that has been in the making for years.

But another group new to campus experienced different "first day of school" jitters — the kind you get when you're the one mapping the direction of the class. From unpacking boxes to constructing courses, new faculty at Notre Dame face the same number of adjustments as the students they teach.

"It's been a huge relief to be finished with grad school," says Abigail Waggoner Wozniak, a new assistant professor of economics and econometrics who recently earned her doctorate from Harvard.

"I was fortunate to have advisors who were candid about this being a positive change, though I don't feel like I've made the tran-

sition fully yet. I think the whole first year is described as one of transition."

Waggoner Wozniak shares her newcomer status with two other assistant professors in the Department of Economics and Econometrics, Kasey Buckles and Dan Hungerman.

"The department is oriented to absorbing three new people. Help like that is really valuable with all of us learning at the same time," she adds.

Notre Dame's Kaneb Center for Teaching and Learning offered a weeklong teaching seminar and orientation for new faculty, during which Waggoner Wozniak, Buckles and Hungerman could share concerns and exchange questions ranging from the mundane ("How do I get a copier code?") to the transcendent ("What is the Notre Dame philosophy and how do I fit in?").

"The collaborative effort of the orientation made it fun," Hungerman said.

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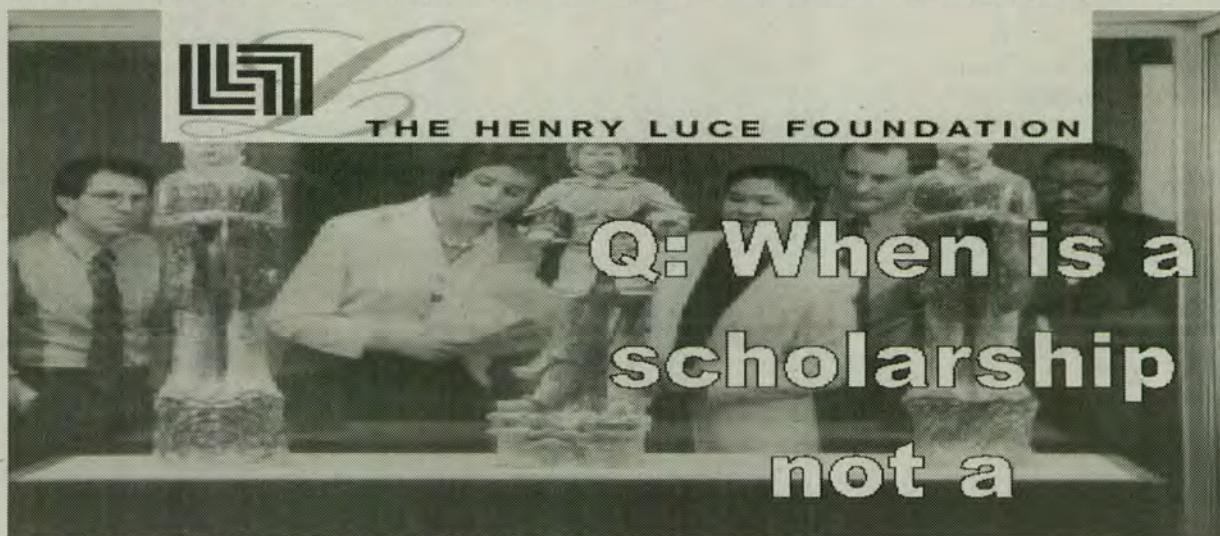
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MARKET RECAP

Stocks			
Dow Jones	10,558.75	+13.85	
Up: 1,552	Same: 185	Down: 1,682	Composite Volume: 2,063,153,480
AMEX	1,710.13	+19.80	
NASDAQ	2,146.15	-3.18	
NYSE	7,583.14	+5.85	
S&P 500	1,227.73	+0.57	
NIKKEI(Tokyo)	12,986.78	0.00	
FTSE 100(London)	5,383.50	+36.10	
Treasuries			
30-YEAR BOND	+1.30	+0.58	45.11
10-YEAR NOTE	+1.10	+0.46	42.14
5-YEAR NOTE	+0.91	+0.36	39.94
3-MONTH BILL	+0.30	+0.10	33.55
Commodities			
LIGHT CRUDE (\$/bbl.)	-0.34		64.75
GOLD (\$/Troy oz.)	+5.60		459.30
PORK BELLIES (cents/lb.)	+0.45		81.13
Exchange Rates			
YEN			110.635
EURO			0.818
POUND			0.553
CANADIAN \$			1.184

IN BRIEF

Stocks nearly still as investors wait

NEW YORK — Stocks barely moved Thursday as investors wondered whether a welter of weak economic data would end the Federal Reserve's year-long streak of interest rate hikes.

Investors were displeased with the Philadelphia Federal Reserve's report of a decline in almost every broad indicator it uses to measure the health of its region's manufacturing. The readings "suggest little to no growth this month," the report said.

The Labor Department reported lower-than-expected inflation data, but gasoline prices jumped by the largest amount in 2 1/2 years and unemployment filings spiked. Roughly 68,000 Americans filed for unemployment last week due to Hurricane Katrina, the largest increase in nearly a decade.

Traders hope signs of a weakening economy will cause the Federal Reserve to curb its year-plus streak of interest rate hikes when the central bank's Open Market Committee meets next Tuesday.

"A lot of investors are in a wait-and-see mode until we get the Fed behind us next Tuesday," said Arthur Hogan, chief market analyst at Jefferies & Co.

Crude in New York ends lower

NEW YORK — Crude-oil futures in New York edged lower Thursday, as concerns about slackening petroleum demand revisited the market.

Gold futures surged to their highest levels of the year, fueled by fund buying, traders and analysts said.

The losses crept into the petroleum market as traders shifted their focus to signs of weakening fuel demand and a slowing economy due to high energy prices.

"The oil market has been on a collision course with the economy, and it's only a matter of time before high prices start to affect it," said Peter Beutel, an analyst for energy consultancy Cameron Hanover in New Canaan, Conn.

Benchmark light, sweet crude oil futures for October settled down 34 cents at \$64.75 a barrel on the New York Mercantile Exchange.

Merck lawyer reprimanded in case

Judge in second Vioxx case claims lead attorney violated pretrial instructions

Associated Press

ATLANTIC CITY, N.J. — The judge hearing a product liability suit against Merck & Co., the manufacturer of painkiller Vioxx, reprimanded the company's lead lawyer Thursday for violating pretrial instructions barring comments about lawyers in front of the jury.

Threatening to declare a mistrial, Superior Court Judge Carol E. Higbee said Merck lawyer Diane Sullivan had made repeated negative references about attorneys in her opening statement to jurors Wednesday, despite being told not to do so.

"It's simply playing to the bias of jurors ... a certain perception that there are too many lawsuits and that it's causing society problems," Higbee said while the jury was out of the courtroom.

In Wednesday's opening, Sullivan made reference to plaintiff Frederick "Mike" Humeston being "surrounded by lawyers" and later criticized their interpretation of evidence by saying, "That's not science, that's lawyering, lawyering, lawyering."

Humeston, a 60-year-old postal worker from Boise, Idaho, alleges Vioxx caused him to suffer a heart attack four years ago. Humeston had been taking the blockbuster drug for about two months to relieve lingering pain from a Vietnam War shrapnel wound to his knee. His lawyers told jurors on Wednesday, when testimony began, that Merck rushed the product onto the market, ignored evidence of problems with some patients and didn't warn doctors or users that Vioxx could increase the risk of heart attacks and strokes.

Sullivan denied those allegations, telling jurors that Merck's witnesses would prove Vioxx had nothing to do with Humeston's heart attack and the company researched the drug's effects and reported the problems when it found out about them.

Whitehouse Station, N.J.-



Attorney Diane Sullivan looks detected in the courtroom after Judge Carol E. Higbee declined her motion for a mistrial Thursday.

based Merck withdrew the popular arthritis and pain treatment from the market in September 2004 after its own research showed Vioxx doubled risk of heart attack and stroke after 18 months' use.

On Thursday, the start of testimony was delayed by Higbee's criticism and a dispute over whether Merck would be allowed to admit into evidence a key 2005 memo from a Food and Drug Administration advisory committee. The judge ruled it cannot be admitted.

Besides reiterating the warning that attorneys should not cast aspersions on other lawyers, Higbee on Thursday barred them from making any further refer-

ences to Merck having pulled Vioxx from the market. Both sides had raised that fact in opening statements. Higbee said it was not relevant because the withdrawal happened after Humeston's heart attack and after he filed suit.

When testimony resumed Thursday, Dr. Gregory Lower, Humeston's physician, returned to the stand. Under questioning by Humeston attorney Chris Seeger, Lower said if he had known of the Vioxx's potential cardiovascular risks, he would never have prescribed it for Humeston.

"I didn't have the information I wish I had at the time," said Lower, who said the Vioxx package insert and

label didn't tell him of the risks.

Lower said that Humeston had once asked him about amputating his leg because the pain was so bad, but Vioxx relieved his pain after other drugs had failed.

On cross-examination, Lower acknowledged to Merck attorney Sullivan that all medications come with risks.

The trial, one of about 2,475 Vioxx lawsuits pending in New Jersey, is the first since a Texas jury found Merck responsible for the death of a Vioxx user and ordered a \$253 million award. That amount will be slashed to about \$26 million because of Texas caps on punitive damages.

Indian firm to develop drug for E.coli

Associated Press

BANGALORE, India — U.S. pharmaceutical giant Eli Lilly and Co. plans to work with an Indian firm to develop a drug that uses benign viruses to kill the deadly E.coli bacteria in cattle, the Indian company said Thursday.

India's Gangagen Biotechnologies developed the drug and signed an agreement last week with Elanco Animal Health, the animal feed division of Indianapolis-based Eli Lilly, to convert the drug into a cattle feed supplement. Janakiraman Ramachandran, chairman of Gangagen Biotechnologies, told

reporters

Developing the drug cost Gangagen \$3 million, and Elanco plans to spend another \$5 million to produce the cattle feed.

The drug can help prevent the bacteria from spreading to humans through contaminated beef, which causes 70,000 infections and a few dozen deaths each year in the United States alone, Ramachandran said.

"A cocktail of such viruses can be a better option than antibiotics, which are increasingly losing their edge," said Ramachandran.

Bacteriophages, as the viruses are known, were used to treat

injured soldiers during World War I, but their use subsided after the advent of antibiotics.

However, improved bacteriophages have regained popularity over the past decade as an alternative to antibiotics, against which several bacteria have developed resistance.

The companies plan to carry out a trial among 400 cattle in Canada next year and launch the drug there by mid-2007. They hope to start selling it in the United States soon after.

Gangagen obtained two U.S. patents in July to use bacteriophages to cure infections without side-effects.

Shirt

continued from page 1

past two years — Bookstore director of retail operations Sally Wiatrowski said more than 54,000 Shirts have been sold so far — the new gold color and design has some fans up in arms.

Following three years of kelly green Shirts, this year's model is gold and bears the words "The Spirit of Notre Dame." The color and design immediately sparked debate after The Shirt's unveiling last spring, and sizeable groups of students have rebelled by pledging to continue wearing green or by creating their own original gold designs.

"I was absolutely appalled and dismayed. [The Shirt] was just bad. We expected something that would reflect the students much better," said one of the two sophomores who has been selling the "Charlie's Army" T-shirts dotting the campus. He spoke on the condition of anonymity because he feared repercussions of selling alternative shirts.

His shirts, which are gold and read "Irish Football 2005: We're Putting the Nasty Back in Dynasty," are just one example of the many student-produced alternatives to The Shirt circulating around campus.

The sophomore, who has sold about 150 shirts so far by word of mouth, said alumni associations have been contacting him and requesting batches of 25 shirts at a time ever since he was spotted wearing it on ESPN's College Gameday at the Notre Dame-Pittsburgh game.

Sophomore Taryn Lewis will also be sporting an alternative shirt to Saturday's game — "the one that has [head Irish coach Charlie] Weis' year-book picture on the back."

Although Lewis has bought The Shirt — "I don't mind it," she said — she has fallen head over heels for her new purchase.

"I might wear [The Shirt] to a couple of games," Lewis said. "But the 'Bring on the Nasty' shirt is just too tempting."

When asked what she would wear Saturday, senior Katherine Graziano laughed and said emphatically, "Not The Shirt!"

"I'm just going to stick to wearing something green," she said. "I don't really like the color, and I've never really been a proponent of oversized shirts."

Sophomore John Lentz saw The Shirt for the first time at the Bookstore on Wednesday. His initial reaction?

"It's not very emasculating,"

he said slowly. "Football's a masculine sport. This ... this text is too flowery."

Although he will don a "Charlie's Army" shirt Saturday, Lentz said he would buy a Shirt "out of respect for the school."

For his part, Weis said the power of the student section comes from enthusiasm, not apparel.

"I just want it to be loud," he said. "I don't care

what they wear, just be loud. Loud is what I'm going to encourage here in the next 24 hours."

Despite the negative reactions, The Shirt — along with the "Attitude" shirt, a black tee featuring the eyes of a football player on front and the words "SMART, DISCIPLINED, TOUGH, NASTY" on back — has been selling very well, Wiatrowski said.

"With the last two wins, our Web site has seen a lot of activity for those two items," Wiatrowski said. The Shirt sales are most comparable to the 2002 season, she said, "but we're hoping to exceed even those numbers, quite honestly."

Wiatrowski said she thought this year's increased sales could be a result of the change from green to gold, the 75th anniversary of Notre Dame Stadium or "the rejuvenation of the football program."

The Shirt display at the Bookstore Wednesday sup-

ported the booming sales claim. The picked-over assortment offered only extra large sizes. It's hard to guess what will happen in the stands on Saturday. Maybe The Shirt will be more popular than many people think, freshman Tessa Romano said.

"I don't really like the writing on the front that much," Romano said. "But I think it might catch on if you give it a chance."

Senior David DiLorenzo is a potential indicator of what could be a last-minute Shirt boom.

"I'm probably going to buy it," he said. "I don't think it's that bad. It's for a good cause."

The good cause is a big selling point for some people. President of The Shirt Katie Fox said all the profits go to Student Activities and Organizations as well as The Shirt Charity Fund and The Rector's Fund.

"The Shirt Project, as always, has gotten both negative and positive feedback," Fox said. "With such a large student, alumni and fan base, it's hard for any one product to please everyone."

Fox said the quote on the back of The Shirt — "If you could bottle the Notre Dame spirit, it would light up the universe" — was said by former quarterback Joe Theisman.

The two players depicted

wearing No. 75 and No. 16 on their jerseys "commemorate the 75th anniversary of Notre Dame Stadium and the 16th year of The Shirt, respectively," Fox said.

This year's gold color is a change from "the sea of green," a phrase Fox said was coined by former head Irish coach Tyrone Willingham.

Whatever happens on Saturday, the real matter of importance is not what students wear, alumni said. It's their spirit.

Taryn Lewis' mother, a 1980 Notre Dame graduate and football fan Maureen Lewis, said while she liked "the sea of green effect," she doesn't see a big correlation between student spirit and The Shirt.

"There was no uniform per se [when I was in school] but we all pretty much wore some shirt that said ND. Back in the

day they were mostly blue or white," Lewis said. "I think we were just as spirited as this generation."

Rachel English, a 1984 Notre Dame graduate, said while everyone dressed "really preppy"

to football games when she was a student, she liked the concept of The Shirt.

"I think it looks neat. I think it's fun," she said. "But it's not a big deal. It's still the students cheering."

Contact Maddie Hanna at mhanna1@nd.edu

"I was absolutely appalled and dismayed. [The Shirt] was just bad."

student
seller of "Charlie's
Army" shirt

"It's hard for any one product to please everyone."

Katie Fox
president of The Shirt

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"...Zambonie's new sound brings to mind Motion City Soundtrack on a rip-roaring roadtrip with Weezer..."
Eric Mitts, Recoll: Vol. 5 Iss. 9

SAO

Plan

continued from page 1

it certainly has taken more time than planned in the study to raise the money needed for the projects," Stickelmaier said.

Approximately \$20 million was raised and spent to build the student clubhouse, the welcome center, the Noble Family dining hall, the student center and to renovate Regina and McCandless residence halls, Stickelmaier said.

"The Master Plan process began in 1998 and involved input from all sectors of the campus community," Stickelmaier said. "Needs for Saint Mary's College were determined and means to meet those needs were proposed. Budgets were established and a final plan was written in late 1999."

Stickelmaier said the goal of the improvements is to attract more prospective students and to bring Saint Mary's into the 21st century. "While we don't have any empirical data that statistically proves new facilities have a positive impact on recruitment, there is general acceptance that these types of changes are an indication that the institution is moving forward as it strives for continual improvements," Stickelmaier said. "We always felt that these facilities would support the admission process."

A pamphlet distributed by

the College highlights proposed changes, which range from a new classroom building and multi-purpose center to refurbishment of the residence halls. Other planned changes include the renovation and expansion of Angela Athletic Facility, an upgrade of the science hall and the eventual construction of a second on-campus apartment complex. The next project tackled under the Master Plan will be construction of the new academic building slated to replace previous plans to renovate Madeleva Hall, the College's current academic building.

"The work on the new academic building is currently in the design phase," Stickelmaier said. "We hope to open the building for classes in fall of 2008."

Stickelmaier said faculty, staff and students have been pleased with the changes that have taken place on campus.

"I believe the campus community has been very supportive of the plan," she said.

Students like junior Eileen Boyce appreciate the many benefits of the new buildings on campus.

"I love having the student center to do homework in," Boyce said. "I'm also looking forward to Opus apartments for next year. It will be exciting to see what else is changed in the future."

Contact Laura Baumgartner at lbaumg01@saintmarys.edu

Bands

continued from page 1

he wasn't entirely sure what portion of the money made from each wristband directly supports the charity.

"It really depends because it's different," Kaplan said. "We don't actually produce the wristbands, so we don't know how much they're sold at. A separate company handles that for us, but it's different prices based on how many they buy, that kind of thing."

The Hannah and Friends bracelets are produced by Forever Collectibles, a sports and entertainment memorabilia company based in New Brunswick, N.J.

"We'll sell [the wristbands] to the distributor at anywhere from a dollar to \$1.50," said Carl Bassewitz, a representative from Forever Collectibles. "Obviously, the higher we can sell to the distributor, the higher we can give to the foundation."

According to Bassewitz, Forever Collectibles does not profit from the sale.

"We're giving almost all of the proceeds to charity. What retailers do with [the rest of the money], I don't know," he said.

Officials at the Hammes Notre Dame Bookstore, the primary campus retailer for the wristbands, were unclear as to how much wristbands sold there benefit the foundation.

Bookstore manager Sally Wiatrowski was unable to give an exact figure.

"You know, I don't know [how much goes to charity], said Wiatrowski. "It comes to me at a

set price with the proceeds already built in, so I don't know."

The Hannah and Friends wristbands were started to help create awareness as well as generate money for the foundation and South Bend's Logan Center, which offers programs and activities for people with disabilities, Kaplan said.

The Hannah and Friends organization is "dedicated to providing a better quality of life for children and young adults affected by Autism and global delays," according to the group's Web site.

Freshman Pete Checki bought a wristband at Meijer the first day it came out.

"I know it cost \$2 [to buy], but I don't know how much of that goes to charity — maybe 50 percent," he said.

More than 50 percent of a total sale going to a charity is valuable, said Jim Paladino, an assistant director at the Center for Social Concerns.

"For something like a wristband, that's not bad at all," Paladino said. "Any direct donation is going to be better, but the trade-off is, 'Can you get someone to give you \$2 and take the full profit or can you take 75 cents from somebody off the wristband?'"

As for the Relay For Life-produced LiveStrong wristbands, whose entire proceeds are donated to charity, Paladino explains that somebody is making up the difference.

"It probably means that the Relay For Life had the costs for making the band donated, so the cost is coming out of one person or corporation who's making the wristbands, and not the cus-

tomers," he said.

Kaplan said this was not the case for the Hannah and Friends wristbands.

"When somebody buys [a wristband] some of the cost goes to pay for production and the rest goes to Hannah and Friends," he said.

In fact, many wristbands sold online only guarantee a 10 percent donation to charity.

Freshman Scott Ogren, who owns a blue cystic fibrosis wristband, said wristbands do more than just raise money.

"The charities are getting money plus recognition," Ogren said. "People come up to me and ask what it is and I say cystic fibrosis and it's good for awareness, because [cystic fibrosis] is not overly well-known."

Ogren had not heard of the Hannah and Friends program until his friend told him about them.

"My parents bought a bunch of them," Ogren said.

Other students aren't so sure about the recent wristband fad.

"You've got people who have six different colors just to match what they're wearing," senior Chris Kepner said. "Are you really thinking about the cause or are you just into fashion?"

Paladino said the wristbands have a positive effect despite their status as a trend.

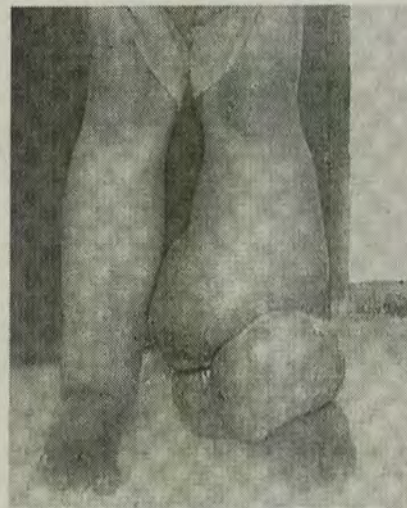
"My gut is that it's still best to make the direct contribution, but if this purpose is not just to make a contribution but to raise awareness then it's not a bad deal," Paladino said.

Direct donations can be made at hannahandfriends.org.

Contact Jack Thornton at jthornt4@nd.edu



Photo courtesy of South Bend Tribune



Elephantiasis of the leg

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Bush says U.S. to handle most of Katrina cost

President outlines post-hurricane plans, says 'city will rise again' in national address Thursday

Associated Press

NEW ORLEANS — President Bush promised Thursday night the government will pay most of the costs of rebuilding the hurricane-ravaged Gulf Coast in one of the largest reconstruction projects the world has ever seen.

"There is no way to imagine America without New Orleans, and this great city will rise again," the president said.

Standing in Jackson Square in the heart of the French Quarter, Bush acknowledged his administration had failed to respond adequately to Hurricane Katrina, which killed hundreds of people across five states. The government's costs for rebuilding could reach \$200 billion or beyond.

"Four years after the frightening experience of Sept. 11, Americans have every right to expect a more effective response in a time of emergency," the president said. When the government fails to meet such an obligation, Bush said, "I as president am responsible for the problem, and for the solution."

Bush ordered his Cabinet secretaries to join in a comprehensive review of the government's faulty response. In addition, he told the Department of Homeland Security to undertake an immediate review of emergency plans in every major city in America.

He also said a disaster on the scale of Katrina requires greater federal authority and a broader role for the armed forces.

Unusual for a prime-time address, Bush stood tieless in a blue dress shirt. At his back, the famous palm tree-framed St. Louis Cathedral was brightly lit. Elsewhere in the famed city, workers were still pumping out flooded neighborhoods and collecting bodies left behind in the

frantic evacuation.

Bush proposed establishment of worker recovery accounts providing up to \$5,000 for job training, education and child care during victims' search for employment. He also urged legislation to provide education, small business help and health care. He proposed creation of a Gulf Opportunity Zone in Louisiana, Mississippi and Alabama offering tax breaks to encourage businesses to stay in the devastated region and new businesses to open.

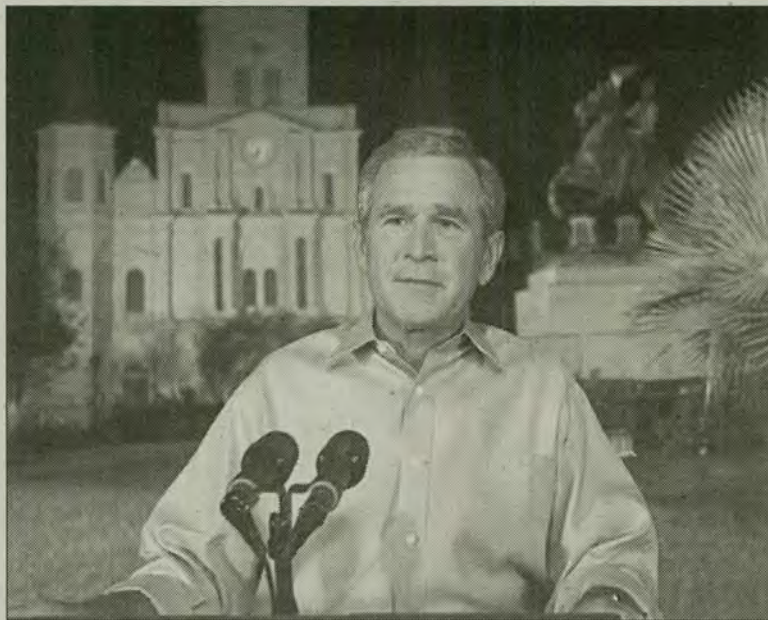
In the speech, which lasted a bit over 20 minutes, he said he would ask Congress to approve an Urban Homesteading Act in which surplus federal property would be turned over to low-income citizens by means of a lottery to build homes, with mortgages or assistance from charitable organizations.

Bush repeated a hotline number, 1-877-568-3317, for people to call to help reunite family members separated during the hurricane. Moments later, Sen. John Kerry, D-Mass., criticized Bush, saying "Leadership isn't a speech or a toll-free number."

"No American doubts that New Orleans will rise again," Kerry said. "They doubt the competence and commitment of this administration."

House Democratic leader Nancy Pelosi and Senate Democratic leader Harry Reid, in a joint statement, said, "We are concerned by Bush administration initiatives this week waiving wage protections, environmental safeguards and protections for veterans, minorities, women and the disabled."

Bush described the hurricane's aftermath as "days of sorrow and outrage," and he said the nation had "witnessed the kind of desperation no citizen of this great and generous nation should ever have to know." He deplored scenes of victims calling out for food and



President Bush addresses the nation from Jackson Square in the heart of New Orleans' French Quarter Thursday.

water, criminals who had no mercy, and bodies of the dead lying uncovered in the street.

He said the suffering of victims was tempered by acts of courage and kindness. To the hundreds of thousands of people forced from their homes, Bush said, "You need to know that our whole nation cares about you — and in the journey ahead you are not alone."

Promising better days ahead, Bush said, "The streets of Biloxi and Gulfport will again be filled with lovely homes and the sound of children playing. The churches of Alabama will have their broken steeples mended and their congregations whole."

"And here in New Orleans, the street cars will once again rumble down St. Charles, and the passionate soul of a great city will return."

Bush faced the nation at a vulnerable point in his presidency. Most Americans disapprove of his handling of Katrina, and his job-approval rating has been dragged down

to the lowest point of his presidency also because of dissatisfaction with the Iraq war and rising gas prices. He has struggled to demonstrate the same take-charge leadership he displayed after the Sept. 11 terror attacks four years ago.

Across five Gulf Coast states, the death toll from Katrina climbed Thursday to 794, led by 558 in Louisiana.

Faulting the government's response, Bush said that Katrina "was not a normal hurricane — and the normal disaster relief system was not equal to it." State officials have blamed the federal government for failing to respond more quickly, and federal officials have pointed fingers at state and local officials.

Responding to charges that help would have been sent more quickly if most victims had not been poor and black, Bush noted that the persistent poverty, rooted deep in the Gulf region, was broadcast for all Americans to see.

Sex survey finds more women try bisexuality

Research says females admittedly experiment

Associated Press

More women — particularly those in their late teens and 20s — are experimenting with bisexuality or at least feel more comfortable reporting same-sex encounters, according to a new report from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

The survey, released Thursday by the CDC's National Center for Health Statistics, found that 11.5 percent of women, ages 18 to 44, said they've had at least one sexual experience with another woman in their lifetimes, compared with about 4 percent of women, ages 18 to 59, who said the same in a comparable survey a decade earlier.

For women in their late teens and 20s, the percentage rose to 14 percent in the more recent survey. About 6 percent of men in their teens and 20s said they'd had at least one same-sex encounter.

While those who conducted the survey took measures to

protect respondents' privacy, researchers say it's unclear whether the figure for men was lower because they're more likely to avoid same-sex experiences or whether they're not reporting them.

It wouldn't surprise Kat Fowler, a 27-year-old art student who dates both women and men, if men were less likely to talk about their experiences.

"There's a certain higher level of discrimination (for men). It's a lot easier for women to have these kinds of experiences and be open about it because it's more accepted," said Fowler, who attends the University of Florida.

The findings on bisexuality and other aspects of Americans' sexual habits were taken from the National Survey of Family Growth, which included 12,571 in-person interviews, done from March 2002 to March 2003. Overall,

researchers said the report shows that most people have relatively few partners and are at a low risk for sexually transmitted diseases.

"Instead of just anecdotes and stories that raise people's anxieties, I think it's best to have real numbers," said William Mosher, the statistician who oversaw the report.

"And now we have those." When it comes to women and same-sex relationships, Mosher said it would be worth studying why young women seek such relationships, and whether they may be trying to avoid diseases more commonly spread through sex with men.

But some experts who study sexuality say it's even more likely that many college students simply see experimentation as a rite of passage.

"It's very safe in the academic community; no one thinks anything of it," said Elayne Rapping, a professor of American studies at the University of Buffalo who has

written about sexuality.

"But to some extent there's more talk than action," she added, noting that the bisexuality label has become a "badge of courage" for some college women, even those who only date men. Meanwhile, she said, men who have same-sex experiences are often less likely to talk about it publicly.

The trend among college women has prompted some sexual behavior experts to light-heartedly refer to the term "LUG," or "lesbian until graduation," said Craig Kinsley, a neuroscientist at the University of Richmond who studies the biology of sexual orientation and gender.

In other findings, the survey said that about 10 percent of females, ages 15 to 19, and 12 percent of males had experienced heterosexual oral sex but not vaginal intercourse. While no earlier data were available for young women, percentages for young men in 1992 were about the same, researchers said.

Those numbers dropped substantially for people in their 20s, who were more likely to have had vaginal intercourse.

Times to set fee for access to writers

Associated Press

NEW YORK — The marquee columnists for The New York Times' Op-Ed page — including Thomas L. Friedman, Maureen Dowd and Frank Rich — generate lots of interest and discussion online. Now, the paper is hoping they'll also generate something else: cash.

Beginning Monday, the Times will begin charging \$49.95 a year to people who don't get the paper delivered at home for access to those writers as well as other columnists for the Times' business, metro and sports sections.

The new service called TimesSelect will also include access to the Times' archives, early looks at some sections of the paper and online tools for tracking and storing articles from the Times Web site. The Times will still maintain a separate premium service for its crossword puzzles.

It's a bold move for the Times since the restrictions are certain to reduce the online exposure for those columnists, whose articles are routinely among the most e-mailed items on the Times' Web site. The Times could also see a decline in traffic to its site after bloggers can no longer link to articles by the columnists.

Eliot Pierce, who oversees the TimesSelect project at the Times' Web site, said the paper is hoping to sign up enough users and home delivery subscribers to the new program so that the Op-Ed columnists "remain part of the dialogue."

Pierce acknowledged that a number of bloggers were likely to "game" the system by illegally copying and pasting the columns onto free sites, which would violate copyright law, but he said he didn't expect such infringements to be widespread or to last long.

"I think people may be getting bored with illegally posting the Op-Ed columns on free sites," Pierce said, "but we will keep a very close eye on it."

Bloggers will still be able to quote parts of the columns, and the Times also plans to offer bloggers an arrangement under which they would sell subscriptions to TimesSelect on their own sites and take a share of the revenues they generate.

Early responses to the program were mixed.

Glenn Reynolds, who runs a popular blog called Instapundit.com, said he was "completely mystified" by the Times' plans to start charging non-subscribers for access to its Op-Ed columnists.

"It seems to me that it's a fairly narrow market that's going to pay for the privilege of reading columns by Maureen Dowd and Paul Krugman and such," said Reynolds, who is a law professor at the University of Tennessee in Knoxville.

UNITED NATIONS

Iran ready to share nuclear secrets

Nation's president threatens to give technology to other Islamic states

Associated Press

UNITED NATIONS — Iran is willing to provide nuclear technology to other Muslim states, Iran's hard-line president said Thursday. Hours later, European nations renewed an offer of economic incentives if the mid-east nation would halt its uranium enrichment.

President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad made the comment after talking with Turkey's prime minister during a gathering of world leaders at the United Nations, Iran's state-run Islamic Republic News Agency said.

Ahmadinejad repeated promises that Iran will not develop nuclear weapons, the report said.

Then he added: "Iran is ready to transfer nuclear know-how to the Islamic countries due to their need."

At the United Nations, foreign ministers of Britain, France and Germany — the three European countries negotiating with Iran on behalf of the European Union — emerged from a meeting with Iran's new foreign minister, Manouchehr Mottaki, and its top nuclear negotiator, Ali Larijani, to say that the offer they had made earlier was still on the table.

"We put forth proposals.

"They are still on the table," British Foreign Secretary Jack Straw said after the 80-minute meeting. "They have yet properly to be considered by the other side."

German Foreign Minister Joschka Fischer said the EU is waiting for the new Iranian government to make its proposals.

"We just underlined that our position is on the table, our position is unchanged and we are waiting now for the announcement of the new proposals of the Iranians," he said.

Straw said the EU ministers would hold a meeting later Thursday with the Iranian president, Mahmoud Ahmadinejad, and U.N. Secretary-General Kofi Annan.

The U.S. State Department expressed concern about Ahmadinejad's reported proposal, saying it makes it more vital that other countries work in concert to stop the Iranian threat.

The EU-Iranian meetings took place amid growing opposition from countries to referring the Iran nuclear dispute to the U.N. Security Council.

The United States, which suspects Iran may be seeking to develop nuclear weapons, and European countries warned last week that Tehran

is running out of time to freeze uranium processing activities or face referral to the Security Council.

But Tehran, which says its nuclear program is for peaceful energy production, has rejected the threat and has warned the United Nations not to go down that road. On Sunday, Mottaki said his country wants to continue dialogue with Europe without preconditions.

Diplomats and officials said in Vienna that due to opposition by veto-wielding Security Council members Russia and China, as well as by India, Pakistan and other key nations, Washington and the EU were reluctantly weighing less severe options for Monday's board meeting of the International Atomic Energy Agency. They spoke on condition of anonymity.

France, Britain and Germany, together with the European Union, have sought for two years to persuade Iran to give up some nuclear activities that can be used to make weapons, but negotiations broke down over the summer and it ended an agreement reached in Paris.

Since then, Iran has resumed activities related to uranium enrichment after rejecting a European package of proposals that had called on Iran to permanently stop its uranium enrichment program in return for a supply of nuclear fuel and economic incentives.

Straw pointed out that the meetings Thursday were the first with the Iranian side since the election of Ahmadinejad in June.

Asked whether the European were losing ground in the negotiations, Straw replied: "What we're doing is talking and that is always better than not talking. There is a new government. They wish to explain their position."

France's foreign minister called the discussions a significant moment.

Body called to lead fight against terror

Associated Press

UNITED NATIONS — Russia and China called Thursday for the United Nations to take the lead in the global fight against terrorism, speaking on the second day of a U.N. summit where a new Arab-Israeli meeting and European nuclear talks with Iran took the spotlight.

The demands for a bigger U.N. role underlined how central terrorism has become around the world since the Sept. 11 attacks. U.S. They also highlighted that, while Washington and others want serious reform before the U.N. tackles new challenges, some nations want to give it more responsibility now.

"There is a need to adjust this organization to the new historical reality," Russian President Vladimir Putin said. "Who else will take the role of coordinating and organizing this work but the United Nations?"

He was echoed by Chinese President Hu Jintao, who called for a new global security concept that puts the United Nations at "the core" of efforts to fight terrorism and settle disputes and conflicts.

While those views may help determine the future of the United Nations, events on the summit's sidelines and fiery bombast from some of the world's most colorful and controversial leaders pulled attention away from the meeting's central concerns.

Among the biggest headlines, Iran's president said his country was willing to provide nuclear technology to other Muslim states.

The foreign ministers of Israel and Qatar met, in a sign that Israel's relations with the Arab world may be improving since its withdrawal from the

Gaza Strip.

Also, a U.N. treaty to fight global corruption got its 30th ratification, triggering its entry into force in 90 days. The convention empowers countries to prosecute officials accused of stealing public funds.

"This dream has become a reality," said Antonio Maria Costa, executive director of the U.N. Office of Drugs and Crime.

Between news conferences by Pakistani President Pervez Musharraf, French Prime Minister Dominique de Villepin and various nongovernmental organizations, Venezuela's President Hugo Chavez scolded evangelist Pat Robertson for calling for his assassination and also criticized the U.S. government.

He suggested the United Nations headquarters be moved to Jerusalem.

"The proposal has the merit of providing a response to the conflict experienced by Palestine, but it may be difficult to bring about,"

Chavez said in a speech that earned him the heartiest applause of the 55 leaders to speak so far.

This summit was called for two main reasons — to review progress toward achieving eight goals meant to improve the plight of the world's poor and to consider a raft of proposals to overhaul the U.N. itself.

Most of the speeches focused on those efforts.

Leaders generally expressed their support for the draft document that was expected to be adopted on the summit's last day Friday, though they said they were disappointed some elements were left out, including Security Council reform and nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation.

A near constant refrain was that the United Nations should play a larger role in world affairs.

The president of the Philippines, Gloria Macapagal Arroyo, went further than most when she suggested the United Nations take the lead in easing the effects of high oil prices. She said it should study oil rationing and conservation, as well as consider initiatives to fuel engines with coconut oil and convert cane sugar to ethanol.

While several leaders made oblique references to the United States by saying no nation should act alone and outside the United Nations, nations spoke far more sympathetically than they had shortly after the Iraq war.

Chavez was one of few to criticize the United States directly. Belarus President Alexander Lukashenko, accused of widespread human rights abuses in his country, also criticized the Americans for the war in Iraq.

"Saddam Hussein was abandoned to the winners' mercy, like in barbarian times," Lukashenko said. "There is nobody to defend their rights except the U.N."

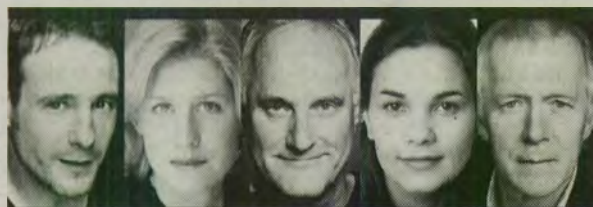
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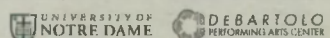
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EGYPT

Hundreds of Palestinians pour into Egypt from Gaza Strip

Troops can't stop those fleeing; Israeli officials fear militants and al-Qaida terrorists may infiltrate security breach

Associated Press

RAFAH — Palestinians blasted holes in an Israeli-built wall and overwhelmed Egyptian troops on the Gaza border to flow by the hundreds into Egypt on Thursday, foiling attempts to impose control after days of unhindered crossings.

Israeli and Palestinian leaders expressed fears that militants and al-Qaida terrorists will infiltrate Gaza and Israel through the border, which has been open since Israeli troops withdrew from the Palestinian territory.

Egypt had promised to reimpose border controls by Thursday evening, and in the morning several hundred policemen were deployed at the main crossing points — more than the few dozen seen over the past days. They allowed Palestinians to return to Gaza and managed to slow the number entering Egypt to a trickle for part of the day.

But after hours of pushing and shoving at the Saladin border crossing in Rafah, the police line broke and hundreds of Palestinians crossed the border. Faced with the large crowds, many policemen gave up and the crossing became almost as open as it was in the past days.

The so-called Canada crossing was closed by police — but less than a mile away, hundreds of Palestinians passed through an olive grove and crossed freely through a break in the wall at the border.

Egypt has yet to deploy the bulk of the 750 border guards it promised to station on the frontier under a deal with Israel. A local official said it could be another three days before the guards, who are more heavily armed than the police, are in place.

To avert friction, Egypt wants the flow of people to subside before it brings in the soldiers, said the official, who is part of the Rafah government and spoke on condition of anonymity because he was not authorized to release the information.

Palestinian security forces also were struggling to control the number of Gazans crossing, especially with the many breaches opening up in the high wall Israel had built along the border.

The militant Palestinian group Hamas blasted a hole in the wall north of Rafah before dawn Thursday to help people get through. In the afternoon, a second explosion blasted a hole about a mile further down the wall, reportedly by the group Islamic Jihad.

Israel's Foreign Ministry expressed fears that international terrorists will exploit the chaotic border to infiltrate Gaza and Israel.

"We're talking about Iran, we're talking elements in Syria, we're talking about groups like Hezbollah and we're talking also about international terrorist groups like al-Qaida," said spokesman Mark Regev. Israel has long accused both Iran and Syria of sponsoring militant groups.

Israel, which withdrew its last troops from Gaza on Monday, is also concerned that Palestinian militants might slip into Egypt, then infiltrate Israel across the long, lightly guarded Israel-Egypt border — bypassing the fence between Gaza and Israel.

Rafiq Husseini, the top aide to Palestinian leader Mahmoud Abbas, said the

Palestinian leadership is "even more worried than Israel about al-Qaida coming here because al-Qaida will harm us more than Israel."

Such a presence, he said, would hurt prospects for peace and renewed negotiations with Israel.

There have been a string of attacks in Egypt's Sinai peninsula over the past year, including deadly al-Qaida-

style bombings in the Egyptian resorts of Taba and Ras Shitan last October and in Sharm el-Sheik in July.

Groups claiming links to al-Qaida took responsibility for those attacks, and Egyptian authorities say new Islamic militant groups have arisen in the peninsula — but they are still trying to determine if they have any real connection to al-Qaida or other interna-

tional terrorists.

Gazans, meanwhile, reveled for another day in their new freedom after years of Israeli travel restrictions. Many store shelves in the Egyptian side of Rafah were cleaned out as Palestinians continued their shopping spree.

Prices in Egypt are far lower than in Gaza — or at least were until the flood of new demand hit Rafah.

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HERE & Happening

Notre Dame vs Michigan State Book Signings

Friday, September 16

Future Domers

Sharon Bui

1:00 pm – 3:00 pm

Notre Dame Baseball Greats

Cappy Gagnon

1:00 pm – 3:00 pm

The Spirit of Notre Dame

Jim & Jeremy

Langford

3:00 pm – 5:00 pm

The Phantom Letters

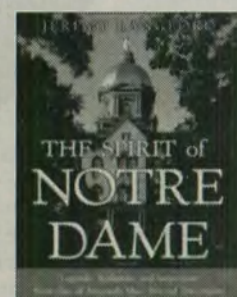
Tom Pagna

1:00 pm – 3:00 pm

The Illustrated American Tourist Guide to English English

J. Eric Smithburn

1:00 pm – 3:00 pm



Saturday, September 17

Echoes of Notre Dame Football

John Heisler

9:00 am – 11:00 am

Go Irish

Connie McNamara

10:00 am – 12:00 pm

Notre Dame's Greatest Coaches

Ara Parseghian

10:00 am – 12:00 pm

Tales From the Notre Dame Hardwood

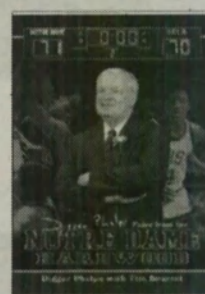
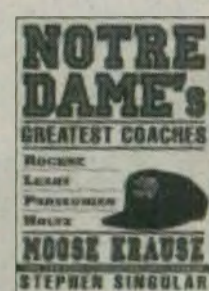
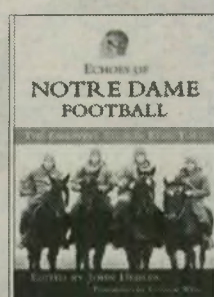
Digger Phelps

10:00 am – 12:00 pm

Tales From the Notre Dame Sideline

Gerry Faust

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Questions regarding Observer policies should be directed to Editor in Chief Claire Heining.

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Buy gold, but wear green

The Shirt.

Any student at Notre Dame knows what those two words refer to.

The Shirt is a symbol of unity in the student body, pride in the University and most of all, what Notre Dame stands for — helping people.

Proceeds from the sale of The Shirt help benefit student groups and students in need of financial assistance. The money raised goes to a worthy cause. The Shirt's admirable underlying mission is not something to debate.

But two football games into the 2005 season, another debate about The Shirt has surfaced. While this year's gold model has reportedly flown off the shelves at the Bookstore, a significant number of students have expressed more disgust than enthusiasm — and are faced with a decision to make about what color to wear to the first home game Saturday.

Green or gold?

At the season's first two away games, the student body has been divided into pockets of each. Despite many Notre Dame students traveling to both Pittsburgh and Michigan, it was difficult to scan the crowds and identify a strong, unified student front.

On Saturday, there's no question that the student body must unite. It must show one color to the thousands of fans swarming campus and the millions of viewers watching the game nationally on NBC.

That color is green.

For the past three years, the Notre Dame student section has been identified with the color green. Whether it be football or basketball, green has been the Notre Dame staple. It stands out, shows people where the student section is and creates an intimidation factor. One student body, one color, one Notre Dame.

The green Shirts of the past three years gave students a common identity, and a visible advantage. Going to other college football stadiums, it's often hard to figure out where the student section is located. But at Notre Dame Stadium since 2002, there has never been a doubt that the northwest corner of the end zone belonged to Notre Dame students.

There shouldn't be doubt now.

True, the past three years have also belonged to a different coach, a different era. But a new coach just means a new style of football — not a new style in the student section.

For three straight years, green has become a formidable marker of the Notre Dame student body, and created a proud, unified atmosphere there is no reason to change. So Saturday, wear green to the football game.

Then where does that leave The Shirt?

With a failed attempt at changing colors, but with an unchanged worthy cause.

It is important not to let the color of The Shirt distract from its purpose. Students should still purchase The Shirt 2005 to demonstrate their commitment to the project's goals.

However, that commitment also implies a widespread responsibility to make sure this

year's divisiveness is never repeated. Though campus constituencies like the Athletic Department, the Bookstore and the Alumni Association all have their say each year's finished Shirt, it is still largely a student-run process, headed by a Shirt president and designer selected from the student body. That means students are ultimately responsible for producing a Shirt design that will unite, not divide, their peers.

But how to make sure that is the case? Shirt project leaders should start by loosening the veil of secrecy over the design — traditionally kept under wraps until its annual revelation on Blue & Gold Game weekend — by providing an outlet, such as a survey or Web site, for student feedback about fundamentals like color and quote choice.

There is no question that students want to wear The Shirt every year. As its primary purchasers, the student body at large deserves a voice in The Shirt's creation.

These are just some of the things that those involved with The Shirt Project should consider so that the Notre Dame student body can be united once again.

For now, though, students should wear green Saturday, and for the rest of the games this season. There are millions of people out there looking for the student section.

Let's make sure they find it — the green mass in the northwest corner of the end zone.

The Observer Editorial

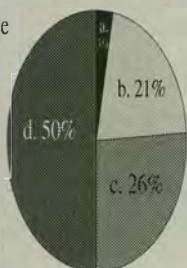
EDITORIAL CARTOON



OBSERVER POLL

What color are you wearing to the home football game Saturday?

- a. Other
- b. Blue
- c. Gold/Yellow
- d. Green



*Poll appears courtesy of www.ndsmcobserver.com and is based on 929 responses.

Submit a Letter
to the Editor at
www.ndsmcobserver.com

QUOTE OF THE DAY

"We must accept finite disappointment,
but never lose infinite hope."

Martin Luther King, Jr.
Civil rights activist

New pope, new coach, new era

There is a buzz around campus. No, I'm not talking about this week's re-opening of our fallen favorite, CJ's. The excitement around here is for Charlie Weis and his 2-0 Fighting Irish, who will be welcomed into Notre Dame Stadium tomorrow for the first time this season. As those of you who don't live under a rock already know, the Irish have climbed into the Top 10 after impressive wins at both Pittsburgh and Michigan.

There are currently shirts being worn around campus that read, "New Pope, New Coach, New Era." I find this shirt fitting, because things just seem much different with Weis at the helm: our offense looks crisp; our defense can force a punt; and we can count on having the right number of players in the huddle. Best of all, on Saturday nights our opponents are now the ones questioning whether or not they need to fire their coach. The Weis Era has certainly started off with a bang, and most of us feel that this season could mark the beginning of "Return to Glory: For Real This Time."

However, there are some among us who are not yet convinced. They cite ESPN's talking heads who constantly remind us that the last guy here won his first eight games.



Molly Acker

Nobody Likes a Dumb Blonde

(Ty Willingham's first team didn't score an offensive touchdown until its third game; Charlie Weis' team scored six touchdowns in its first seven possessions.) They say that it has only been two games. (These two games came on the road against the No. 23 and No. 3 teams in the country.) They tell us not to get ahead of ourselves and to keep our expectations in check.

We could listen to these naysayers, or we could remember what Coach Weis said after dismantling Pitt, "By halftime, our players were starting to realize they were better than they thought they were. That's what I've been trying to tell them all along, a lot of this game is confidence."

So why don't we put a little confidence into our team as well? The statistics have already shown the Irish to be better than anyone thought they were. In the first half of the Pitt game, Brady Quinn threw for more yards than he did in five entire games last year. Weis' first game on the Notre Dame sideline yielded 42 points, a total that surpassed the output in 35 of Willingham's 37 games as coach. The team's win in Ann Arbor was our first road victory over a top five team since Lou Holtz paced the same visitors' sideline in the Big House back in 1993.

In fact, Weis' two road victories have earned him comparisons to a guy by the name of Knute Rockne, who is the only other coach to open his tenure with two victories on enemy turf. While it might be a bit premature to sculpt a statue of Coach Weis to share the bench with Moose Krause outside

the JACC, there is enough evidence to put our faith in "Charlie and the Football Factory" and enjoy the ride.

We can do our part to help ensure a great homecoming for our conquering heroes by supporting the team with reckless abandon this weekend.

This evening, go to the pep rally and cheer until you lose your voice. At midnight go to the steps of the Dome to see the drum circle. Tomorrow, put on The Shirt (even if it does look like one huge mustard stain) and rally around the team as it walks from the Basilica to the Stadium. Raise a toast to the Fighting Irish at your tailgate, and go see the band at Bond Hall. Get into the stadium a little earlier, yell a little louder, and let Michigan State know that they will be spending the afternoon in a very hostile environment.

Finally, trust that Coach Weis will be familiar with the words of Knute Rockne, who said, "We use the same boys and the same plays on the road as we do at home. Our execution is expected to be the same. At home we're the hosts, and I never liked the idea of being embarrassed in front of our friends."

Go Irish!

Molly Acker is a senior at Saint Mary's. She is a double major in communication studies and humanistic studies. She can be reached at acke6758@saintmarys.edu

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

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Show your spirit

Saturday marks the beginning of the Notre Dame home football season and the question on my mind is not how the Irish offense will deal with the zone blitz but what shirt will the students be wearing. If you are anything like me, and most Notre Dame students are, then disappointed doesn't begin to describe how you feel about this year's The Shirt. Whether your reason for not liking this year's shirt is the new gold color, the non tackle-football nature of the script lettering or the pom-squadness of the spirit quote, chances are that you're not going to be wearing The Shirt tomorrow.

However, I am not writing to bash the committee who so brilliantly approved this year's design but to promote student unity and in some ways The Shirt. Many students are going to wear the green shirt from the last three years or some other green shirt. I beg you not to do this. Notre Dame has one of the greatest student bodies in college football because of its creativity in cheers,

knowledge of the game and overall unity. Wearing a green shirt doesn't affect the first two but it does hurt the last. A sea of gold is much more intimidating than pockets of green and gold throughout the stands.

Tomorrow afternoon Notre Dame Stadium is going to be the loudest it's been in a long, long time. The student body needs to contribute to the home-field advantage, and it all starts with what shirt you put on in the morning.

So tomorrow wear a "Play Like a Champion Today" shirt, wear a "Nasty" shirt, a "Charlie's Army" shirt or, even if you must, The Shirt. Just wear gold and help Chuck Dubbs (Charlie Weis) lead his troops to victory by making Notre Dame Stadium one of the toughest places to play in the nation.

Ricky Moreno
junior
Dillon Hall
Sept. 15

Support smoking ban

I am responding to the Viewpoint column from Sept. 13, "The New Bigotry" by Ian Ronderos. I attended the public hearing for the smoking ban on Sept. 6, and I listened to every supporting and opposing argument presented that evening. As an aspiring lawyer, I concentrated as hard as possible to see whether I could make a case for either side.

I concluded that I could not, because this is how I see it: the fact is that smoking has a ripple effect. No, not everyone who walks into a smoking environment comes out with cancer or the like. But one has to consider the fact that some unfortunate individuals indeed do come out sick. And what about those who acquire a disease and have never smoked in their entire life?

As for the notion that the ban is treading on our freedom, please consider the liberty of being able to breathe clean air. Doesn't every person have this right, this freedom? This ban serves to protect the common good; it was by no means estab-

lished to hinder our freedom.

Lastly, I wish to comment on the criticisms that have been directed at Gina Firth, the director of the Office of Alcohol and Drug Education (OADE). I don't understand how Gina could be condemned in the least for promoting a cleaner and healthier St. Joseph County. I, for one, am grateful that she sent out the e-mail to the student body regarding the public hearing. She provided all of us with the opportunity to make a difference, to let the powers that be hear what we have to say. I believe that Gina's e-mail demonstrated how active the OADE is for the students; it makes their presence known and more real.

I ask you all to consider, in Gina Firth's position as the director of the OADE, how could she not promote the supporting of the ban?

Sheremy Cabrera
sophomore
Cavanaugh Hall
Sept. 14

Ad gives proper message

Allow me to frame this new Notre Dame commercial and corresponding diversity issue from another perspective. In the Sept. 15 front page article in The Observer, "Ad sparks debate at meeting," Sarah Liu is quoted as asking, in regards to the new "Candle" ad for Notre Dame, "Where are the minorities? They are nowhere to be found in this commercial," arguing for the commercial to be pulled.

I agree entirely and believe that increased diversity would indeed increase dialogue within the classroom and provide proper preparation for the real world. I am atheist, Asian and liberal, and as such am not in the majority, yet I wonder if the lack of minorities within the advertisement is indeed, such a bad thing.

I still remember when I was still a high school senior, of attending that preposterous minority student weekend when Notre Dame decided to shamelessly reach out to unaware prospectives with their own group of minority hosts, afterwards being shown a cultural bonanza of

events and subsequent after-parties (it was the only weekend of its sort during the year), designed as a means of masking the University's homogeneity. Even worse, was the phone call from the "fellow Asian" who spoke with me, trying to entice me to attend Notre Dame on the back of "diversity."

Certainly this cannot be much better than an ad which provides the proper message that it should: that the people of Notre Dame really are in fact, mostly Caucasian and of the Catholic faith. But it also infers (correctly) that the student body is made up of good people, the great majority of whom are kind and tolerant. I believe that the prospective coveted minority student should know exactly what they are getting into, and as such, choose to attend this University through his or her own unbiased decision.

Sean Huang
senior
St. Edward's Hall
Sept. 15

The power of prayer

I write to applaud those senators who chose to admonish Sarah Liu for writing negatively on the Notre Dame television advertisement. I was frankly quite embarrassed that our student government would authorize such a letter on its behalf, and I think that there are a few important points that Liu took for granted.

Now, I believe that Liu had good intentions, but being a non-Catholic she fails to recognize the power of prayer in the Catholic faith that so many of us hold so dear. Christ tells us in the Gospel of Luke that what we seek we shall find, and if we knock, the door will be opened. Clearly we cannot take this teaching literally, but it shows the power that prayer can have in our lives-Catholic or not. It seems a bit naive and a little ignorant of the Catholic faith for Liu to say that prospective students should "pray for something more important than that." Personally, being accepted to Notre Dame was something very important to

me, and though there are obviously more pressing crises in the world, all should recognize that God has the power, and has the desire, to answer any prayers we may have-no matter how trivial.

I hope in the future that our student government will be less quick to publicly criticize the University and more deliberate in understanding the message it is trying to convey. If our student government truly represented Notre Dame, I think we'd find that letters it endorses would not send false messages about the Catholic faith, and would not be sent by those misguided about the Catholic Church's teachings. Rather, it would embrace the idea of the Catholic spirit which distinguishes this great University, and I believe manifests itself in the advertisement.

Christian Hoeffel
junior
St. Edward's Hall
Sept. 15

CD REVIEWS

McCartney creates 'chaos' with latest effort

By BOB COSTA
Scene Critic

As an ironic young superstar with the Beatles in the 1960s, Paul McCartney penned a breezy pop tune called "When I'm 64," where he sang that he'd probably be "Doing the garden/ Digging the weeds" once he became an old man. Now in 2005, at the age of 63, McCartney seems to be doing just that — yet his predictions were a bit off, since he's not rummaging around a grassy patio back in Liverpool but redefining his musical career with a vital new studio album entitled "Chaos & Creation In The Backyard."

The album, which sprinkles new seeds of melodic genius in with his classic style, showcases McCartney sticking to the premise of an elder statesman tending to his own cerebral garden. He evokes touches of "The White Album" on tracks like the upbeat and piano-driven single "Fine Line" while also creates a more organic and atmospheric acoustic element not heard on many previous efforts with the heartfelt songs "Jenny Wren" and "Anyway."

"Chaos & Creation In The Backyard" is the 20th release in a long and storied solo career that began with "McCartney" in 1970. His career has since seen the

famed performer and songwriter win numerous Grammy awards, while also earning the ire of critics and some fans for being too cheesy and "un-Beatles like" at times, from duets with Michael Jackson to the bloated sugary confections on his 80s singles. The last time Paul McCartney had a Top 10 hit was during Father Edward "Monk" Malloy's first year as president of Notre Dame back in 1987. Even though he's not as relevant to the Top 40 crowd any more, McCartney doesn't have an agenda on this new album to be a "hit," but seemingly only to be himself — which wasn't always true on recent work like "Run, Devil, Run," which was too forceful in its "hey, I can still rock" buzz and power chords.

McCartney worked with Radiohead producer Nigel Godrich on "Chaos & Creation In The Backyard," the same producer who sculpted Radiohead's landmark "OK Computer" album with Thom Yorke — and it shows. Godrich's fingerprints are all over the record, giving McCartney's signature vocals a deeper resonance than the one seen on his cluttered band endeavor "Driving Rain" back in 2001. Godrich also gives the record an interesting mix of underlying instruments, most notably prickly string flushes that create an eerie cadence on "Riding to Vanity Fair." Although he is no George Martin, Godrich's studio work — mostly placing some chaos into the sometimes formulaic McCartney pop standards — enables "Chaos & Creation In The Backyard" to be the closest thing McCartney has had to a masterpiece since 1996's "Tug Of War."

The most compelling track lyrically is "At the Mercy," where McCartney delves into his own dark thoughts and thankfully leaves the non sequiturs on the studio floor. It's a song that could have been a depressing and muddled interlude, but Godrich and McCartney rein in its chorus, keeping the track sparse and focused — literally taking a sad song and making it better.

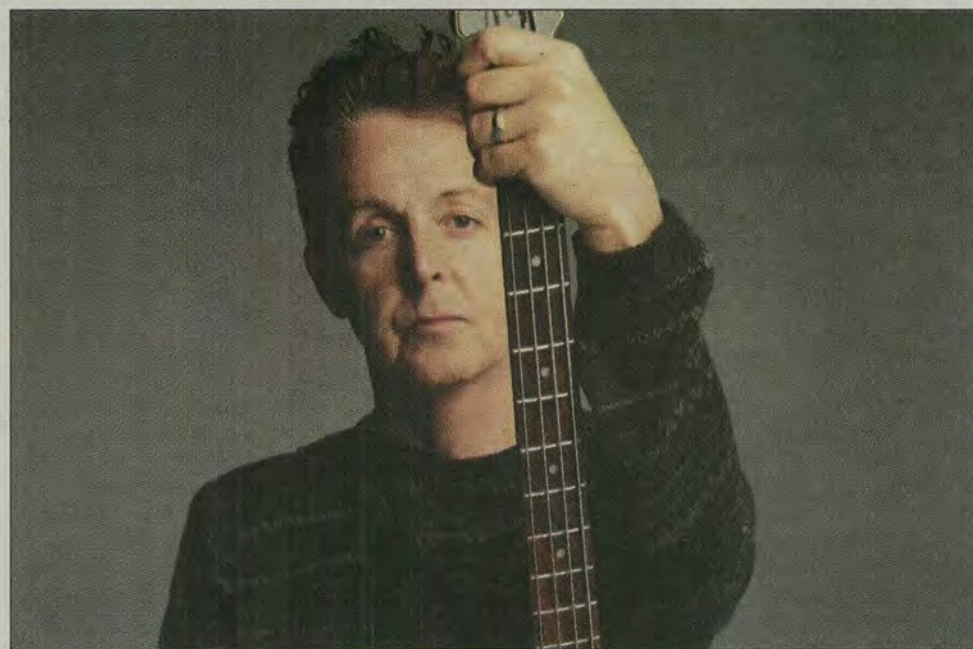


Photo courtesy of s2.com

Sir Paul McCartney released his 20th solo album, "Chaos & Creation In The Backyard" on Sept. 13. He continues to mold his sound to fit the 21st century.

The hook-laden melodies of "English Tea," which sounds like it should be in Disney's "Fantasia" with its whimsical gaiety and friendly vocals, has McCartney making observations about his mother country that are sweetly unpretentious. Yes, it's a silly and catchy tune, but it also gives the esoteric (at least in McCartney standards) album a nice breather from the otherwise contemplative pop songs on the record. The song leads into the album's stand-out track of "Promise to You Girl," which balances indelible harmonies, soaring guitars that bounce of a

jazz piano riff, and achingly personal lyrics.

"Chaos & Creation In The Backyard" is reminiscent of Brian Wilson's 2004 album "Smile" in that it balances classic pop vocal style with modern studio wizardry that give the recordings a simple gloss and eclectic audio structure. As McCartney sang in "When I'm 64" — "I could be handy/ mending a fuse/ when your lights have gone."

On his new studio album, Sir Paul provides old and new fans alike with a refreshing take on life and love that proves that that rocker can still blend melodies with the best of them. With his raucous performance at Live 8 this summer, this new album and his sold-out upcoming tour, old man McCartney is finding new ways to create a little chaos in the 21st century.

Contact Bob Costa at rcosta1@nd.edu

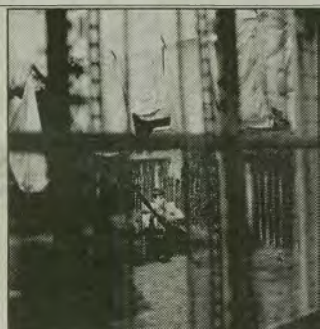
Chaos & Creation in the Backyard

Paul McCartney

Capitol



Recommended tracks: 'English Tea,' 'Promise to You Girl,' 'How Kind of You' and 'Too Much Rain'



Chapman's latest album supports her strong credentials

By TAE ANDREWS
Scene Critic

While she may possess more than a passing resemblance to the pre-hiatus Ricky Williams, Tracy Chapman has proven herself to be a much more reliable veteran in her respective industry. After a three-year interval since the release of her last album, "Let It Rain," the dreadlocked diva continues to impress with her modest substance.

Simply put, Tracy Chapman makes good music. Listening to this album is a welcome relief from the crappy pop songs that have accumulated over the past few years. Her unique style is what makes her music so powerful — her piercingly clear

voice somehow manages to simultaneously haunt and soothe the listener. Chapman is the epitome of elegance in simplicity — her tracks consist mainly of her pure, melancholic voice at its soulful finest with some tasteful guitar accompaniment.

Prior to listening to the album, the listener could offer the same challenge to Chapman that she did on a previous hit single. Give me one reason to stay here, Tracy, and I'll turn right back around. On "Where You Live," Tracy Chapman gives the listener 11 quality reasons to stay, providing more than sufficient rationale to stick around.

The poignant genius behind "Where You Live" starts off strong with "Change," a social self-reflection that manages to make its point without holier-than-thou condescension.

One of Tracy Chapman's best qualities is that she approaches the subject of social commentary with the appropriate gravity of the situation. Unlike rappers who glorify the violence and misogyny of the rough neighbor-



Photo courtesy of berm.co.nz

Tracy Chapman continues her trend of strong lyrics and soulful melodies in her new album, "Where You Live." It is her first studio release since 2002.

hoods where they grew up, Chapman maintains a somber tone as she sings about the abuses of women on "3,000 Miles." She also displays her considerable poetic talent with such lyrics as, "Good girls walk fast/ In groups of three/ Fast girls walk slow/ On side streets/ Sometimes girls who walk alone/ Aren't found for days or weeks."

Despite her understated style, Chapman isn't afraid to wax political. It would be an error to mistake her soothing tone for passive substance, as she sings with a voice that is both powerful and moving. "America," a compelling song about minority abuse throughout American history, is a profound soapbox sermon on the history of racial injustice in this country and on the continued need for change. Her powerful words stand by themselves:

"The ghost of Columbus haunts this world/ 'Cause you're still conquering America/ The meek won't survive/ Or inherit the earth/ 'Cause you're still conquering America."

Songs such as "Talk To You" and "Love's Proof" are tragic love ballads provide ideal listening fodder for the recently broken-up or heartbroken among us.

In fact, if one critical comment were to be made about the entire album, it would be to tell Tracy to lighten up a little, and maybe try to create an upbeat song or two. However, the overall quality and consistent excellence of "Where You Live" proves that Tracy is still the proverbial Chap-Man.

Contact Tae Andrews at tandrew1@nd.edu

Where You Live

Tracy Chapman

Elektra/WEA



Recommended tracks: 'Change,' '3000 Miles,' 'Love's Proof,' 'Talk to You' and 'America'



CD REVIEW

Focus on storytelling for Mann



Photo courtesy of highroadtouring.com

Aimee Mann has released her newest album, "The Forgotten Arm," on her own record label, Superego Records. It tells the dramatic story of John and Caroline.

By MOLLY GRIFFIN
Assistant Scene Editor

Boxing tends to be the inspiration for men making movies, as films like "Raging Bull," "Rocky" and "Cinderella Man" reveal. It takes an iconoclast like singer Aimee Mann to take the thoroughly masculine sport of boxing and transform it not only into a meditation on love, addiction and redemption but also into something as unusual as a concept album that interrelates its 12 songs to tell a story.

The liner notes for "The Forgotten Arm" are set up so that the lyrics for each song are presented as a chapter in a book, and this comparison is actually quite apt. Mann's album has more in common with a novel than it does with many other records on the market. It features two main characters, John and Caroline, and the songs are set up to give the impression of an introduction, conflict and finally a resolution. Few artists could pull off such an ambitious project, but the literary and reflective nature of Mann's lyrics allow her to pull off the concept with ease.

The idea of a concept album seems to be gaining favor among artists due to the massive problem of illegal downloading. By interrelating all of the songs on an album, the artist makes it more appealing and necessary to buy the whole item rather than just having one stand-out song that can be easily downloaded.

"Dear John," a blues-tinged ballad, opens the album and sets up the relationship between John, a boxer, and later a Vietnam vet and drug addict, and Caroline, a small town girl longing to get away from home.

"Going Through the Motions" and "I Just Can't Get My Head Around It" are two songs that show the cracks that emerge in the relationship due to John's drug use.

Songs like "Little Bombs" and "I Was Thinking I Could Clean Up for Christmas" reveal the depths to which the relationship has sunk, but the final song on the album, "Beautiful" reveals

the sliver of hope that remains in spite of it all.

While there really aren't any "skip-pable" songs on "The Forgotten Arm," there are several stand-out tracks. "Goodbye Caroline" an up-tempo song whose melody covers its melancholy lyrics about leaving. The pounding drum and piano beat of "Video" builds to its soaring chorus. "Little Bombs" eloquently expresses how life rarely falls apart in one grand event, but is instead "... less a deluge than a drought." The piano and Mann's soaring voice drives "That's How I Knew This Story Would Break My Heart," a

beautiful song about learning a secret about a loved one.

Mann produced "The Forgotten Arm" on her own record label, Superego Records, which she founded in response to having clashes with a recording company in the past over how they promoted her album. She has developed a grass-roots approach to marketing and gaining fans, and has thus far been very successful.

Mann's career has followed an interesting path to success. She began with stints in a variety of bands, including the '80s band, 'Til Tuesday, who had a hit with the song "Voices Carry." Her music was the inspiration behind the P.T. Anderson film, "Magnolia." In the movie, characters speak her lyrics as lines. She also had a small part in "The Big Lebowski" as a German nihilist.

Overall, "The Forgotten Arm" is a meditation on a dark subject, but in Mann's hands, it becomes pensive and beautiful while still musically entertaining.

The album gets better upon subsequent listenings, and, while each song is good individually, they benefit from being listened to as a whole.

Thanks to Mann's willingness to take the risk of making a concept album and her willingness to spend as much time making well-crafted songs, "The Forgotten Arm" is an almost flawless effort.

Contact Molly Griffin at
mgriffin@nd.edu

NOTRE DAME'S BEST... TREES

BY OBSERVER PHOTO STAFF



A weeping willow at Saint Mary's.



A pine tree on God quad.



Deciduous trees around the lakes.

For next week: What are the best campus jobs?
Send your suggestions to obsphoto@nd.edu.

MLB — NATIONAL LEAGUE

Pettitte throws gem to lead Astros to win over Marlins

Nationals beat Mets in extras; Brewers win big over D-backs

Associated Press

HOUSTON — Andy Pettitte allowed one run over eight innings to win his sixth straight start, a 4-1 victory over the Florida Marlins on Thursday night that put the Houston Astros back in the NL wild-card lead where they were when the series started.

The Astros (78-68) took a half-game lead over Florida and Philadelphia, which lost to Atlanta, in the wild-card race. Houston and Florida split their four-game series, the last games against each other this season.

Florida, which went 6-5 on its road trip, begins a three-game series at home Friday against the Phillies. Houston remains home to play Milwaukee.

Pettitte (16-9) scattered five hits and struck out five. Aside from Miguel Cabrera's 32nd homer leading off the seventh, the left-hander allowed five baserunners, three of whom were erased by double-play grounders.

Brad Lidge struck out the side in the ninth for his 37th save in 40 chances.

After Brad Ausmus led off the fifth with his third home run, Pettitte followed with a deep fly ball of his own — that was caught by center fielder Juan Pierre well short of the wall. Craig Biggio then hit his 21st homer into the left-field stands near where Ausmus' ball had landed for a 3-0 lead.

An inning later, Florida intentionally walked Ausmus with two outs and a runner on to get Pettitte to the plate. He hit another fly to center, shaking his arms in frustration as he jogged toward first base.

Still, Pettitte did what he does best with another impressive pitching performance. He is 13-3 with a 1.50 ERA since June 20 — the most wins and best ERA in

the major leagues during that span.

It came a night after his close friend Roger Clemens, pitching on the day his mother died, beat the Marlins. That ended a three-game losing streak for the Astros, including the first two games against the Marlins.

Florida rookie Jason Vargas (5-4) went five innings and lost his third straight decision over four starts. He gave up four hits, including the two homers, with four strikeouts and two walks.

Nationals 6, Mets 5

Preston Wilson laughed as the rookies on the Washington Nationals, enduring one of baseball's traditional hazing rituals, donned women's dresses before leaving Shea Stadium.

The Nationals know they aren't always baseball's prettiest team, and sight of grown men in miniskirts, halter tops and humiliating hemlines helped drive that point home.

Still, there's nothing unsightly about the way Washington has fashioned itself into a playoff contender.

Vinny Castilla drove in the go-ahead run with two outs in the 10th inning after Braden Loper and the Mets' sloppy defense blew a ninth-inning lead, and the Nationals beat New York. Thursday to complete a three-game sweep.

"People outside of here don't think we can do it," Castilla said. "We're still here."

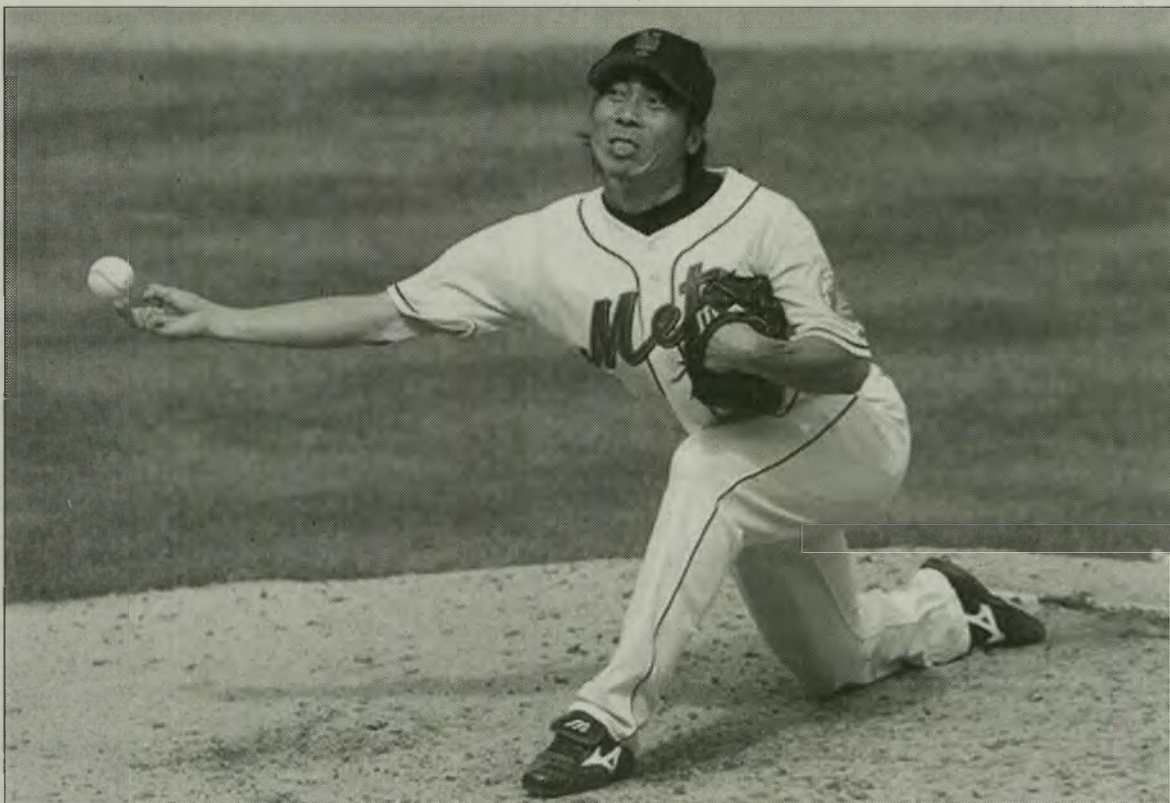
The Nationals, who began the day three games behind Florida and Philadelphia in the wild-card race, swept a road series for the second time in a month. They open a three-game set at NL West leader San Diego on Friday.

The Nationals have played 57 one-run games, the most in the majors, and this was only the second time since the All-Star break they've put together a winning streak of longer than two games.

"This might be the one we needed to put us over the top before this thing is over," manager Frank Robinson said.

"This might be the one we needed to put us over the top."

Frank Robinson
Nationals manager



New York Mets pitcher Shingo Takatsu delivers against the Washington Nationals in the sixth inning in New York Thursday. The Nationals beat the Mets 6-5.

Brewers 14, Diamondbacks 2

Tomo Ohka pitched seven strong innings, Bill Hall had a career-high five hits and Chad Moeller drove in four runs to lead the Milwaukee Brewers to a rout of the Arizona Diamondbacks on Thursday.

Jeff Cirillo went 3-for-4 with two walks and three RBIs, including a two-run homer against reliever Jason Bulger in the sixth inning to make it 14-0.

Carlos Lee also had a two-run shot and Ohka drove in two runs to help the Brewers win for the seventh time in 10 games. Milwaukee had 19 hits and tied a season high with its 14 runs.

Ohka (11-8), acquired from Washington on June 10 in a trade for infielder Junior Spivey, allowed two runs on four hits and a walk. He struck out seven and improved to 4-1 in his last seven starts.

Ohka had a perfect game until rookie Conor Jackson singled with two out in the fifth inning. The Diamondbacks scored their runs in the sixth on Chad Tracy's RBI triple and Luis Gonzalez's sacrifice fly.

Shawn Estes (7-8) gave up seven runs on six hits and three walks in 2 2-3 innings.

After J.J. Hardy doubled with one out in the first, Lee gave Milwaukee a 2-0 lead when he drove the first pitch he saw into the stands in right-center.

The Brewers made it 9-0 with seven runs in the third, started by Brady Clark's leadoff double — the first of his two hits in the inning. Clark scored on Lyle Overbay's single, and Corey Hart had a bases-loaded groundout. Estes was removed after walking Cirillo to load the bases again.

Braves 6, Phillies 4

Chipper Jones hit two homers and tied his career-high with five RBIs, helping the Atlanta Braves avert a four-game sweep with a victory over the Philadelphia Phillies on Thursday night.

The NL East-leading Braves came in with a five-game lead over the Phillies and Florida Marlins. Philadelphia and Florida were tied for first place in the NL wild-card standings, a

half-game ahead of Houston.

Jorge Sosa (12-3) allowed two runs and seven hits in 5 2/3 innings for the Braves and Adam LaRoche had a solo homer.

Jones hit a three-run homer in the third inning and a two-run shot in the seventh for his 32nd career multihomer game.

Kyle Farnsworth got the last four outs for his seventh save since joining the Braves on July 31. He retired Chase Utley on a grounder to first to leave runners at second and third in the eighth, but gave up a solo homer to Ryan Howard, his 18th, in the ninth.

Bobby Abreu hit a two-run homer for Philadelphia, which plays 12 of its final 15 games on the road. The Phillies start a three-game series in Florida on Friday night and play three games in Atlanta next week.

Brett Myers (12-8) allowed four runs and five hits in six innings. It was the third straight subpar outing for Myers, who was outstanding early in the season. He was 0-2 and the Phillies lost all three of his starts during this 10-game homestand.

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 3 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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MLB — AMERICAN LEAGUE

Royals keep White Sox from running away with Central



Royals pitcher Zack Greinke throws toward the plate during the first inning of Kansas City's 7-5 win over Chicago Thursday.

Cleveland closing gap as Chicago lead slims to just 4 1/2 games

Associated Press

KANSAS CITY, Mo. — John Buck hit a two-run double to key four-run seventh inning, and the Royals beat the White Sox 7-5 on Thursday to cut Chicago's lead in the AL Central to 4 1/2 games.

Chicago's second straight loss to Kansas City, the team with the worst record in the majors, has given idle Cleveland a sliver of hope for catching the White Sox for the division crown. The White Sox's magic number to clinch the Central is 13 with 17 games left.

Ambiorix Burgos (2-5) got the victory in relief of starter Zack Greinke, going 1 1/3 innings and giving up two runs.

Mark Buehrle (15-8) went 6 1/3 innings for the White Sox and was charged with four runs on nine hits, with two walks and three strikeouts. His career record fell to 12-6 against the Royals, who started the season losing 10 in a row to Chicago but won five of their last eight.

Chip Ambres opened the Kansas City seventh with his second double and then with one out, Emil Brown chased Buehrle with an RBI single that put the Royals on top 3-2.

Angel Berroa singled off reliever Luis Vizcaino ahead of Buck's double — the Royals' season-high eighth of the day. A walk and an infield single loaded the bases and Vizcaino walked in the sixth run.

Tadahito Iguchi's pinch three-run double off Andrew Sisco sliced the Royals lead to 6-5 in the eighth, but Berroa added an RBI single in the eighth on a cool, rainy day which drew a crowd that seemed much smaller than the announced paid attendance of 9,258.

Mike MacDougal got the final four outs for his 19th save in 22 chances.

Jermaine Dye hit a solo home run in the second inning and Carl Everett had an RBI single for a 2-0 Chicago lead. The Royals tied it the third on Brown's RBI double and a sacrifice fly by Berroa.

Athletics 6, Red Sox 2

Curt Schilling had a setback as the pennant race is heating up. Joe Blanton is hitting his stride.

Both of them have some work to do to get there.

Blanton gave Oakland another strong outing, holding Boston to two runs over 6 1/3 innings Thursday night and the Athletics took advantage of Schilling's early troubles to beat the Red Sox and tighten two pennant races at one time.

"If we don't play well, we're not going to get to the playoffs and we won't play deep into October," Red Sox center fielder Johnny Damon said. "It's ours to lose. There's a lot of teams fighting for spots."

One of them is Oakland, which pulled into a tie for first in the AL West with Los Angeles — an 8-6 loser to Detroit. East-leading Boston fell 1 1/2 games in front of the Yankees, who beat the Tampa Bay Devil Rays; New York had not been that close since Aug. 29.

"We're still on top," said Red Sox designated hitter David Ortiz, who had his major league-leading 131st RBI with a sacrifice fly in the sixth. "The problem is when you go under."

Rangers 4, Mariners 3

Although the Texas Rangers faded from playoff contention after the All-Star break, that hasn't slowed down Michael Young.

The Rangers' shortstop reached 200 hits for the third straight season and Gary Matthews Jr. had a tiebreaking sacrifice fly to lead Texas over the Seattle Mariners Thursday night.

Young's RBI single in the third inning made him the 22nd player in major league history with three consecutive 200-hit seasons.

The last to accomplish the feat was Seattle's Ichiro Suzuki, who is trying to stretch his run to five straight years.

Young went 1-for-4 and leads the AL with a .328 batting average.

Yankees 9, Devil Rays 5

With ground to make up in their quest for another AL East title, the New York Yankees refused to lose.

Alex Rodriguez hit his 42nd home run and Robinson Cano erased a four-run deficit with a grand slam Thursday night, helping Aaron Small and the seven-time defending division winners rally to beat the Tampa Bay Devil Rays.

"The team is playing with a lot of urgency right now. We realize how important each game is, and we're taking this as our playoff," Rodriguez said.

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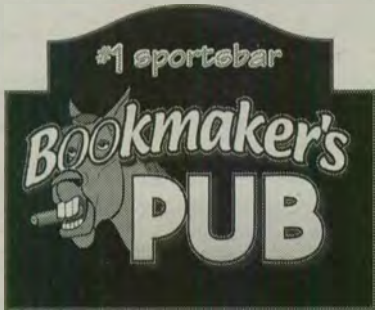
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ND WOMEN'S ROWING

Rowers getting anxious to kick off competition

By TOM DORWART
Sports Writer

They've practiced together, studied together and even eaten dinner together. Finally, the two-time defending Big East champion women's rowing team gets to race together.

"From Sunday team dinner at South Dining Hall to study breaks at the student center, the team has a great sense of unity," senior rower Pamela Jefson said, according to und.eom. "Not only are we improving on the water, but there is great team chemistry

off the water, too."

Sunday the Irish will face rivals Michigan and Michigan State in Ann Arbor, Mich. After weeks of practice, they're ready to face some real competition.

"Looking at the bigger picture, we want to set a standard of excellence this fall that we will continue into the spring," said Jefson, who was a second varsity eight boat rower from last season. "We are well on our way to achieving this goal."

For Jefson and her teammates, this Sunday's fall season regatta is anything but an off-season, informal pushover.

It's a chance to get better.

"Everyone's already really dedicated even though our core season isn't until the spring," sophomore rower Erica Castro-Larsen said.

Their focus is on conditioning and preparing for the spring.

"Lately, we've been working on technique and just building up our strength," Castro-Larsen said. "You don't really want to hit your peak now [when the main season is in the spring]. Practice has been going well. This fall, we want to get stronger."

Castro-Larsen recognizes the best way to improve the team's

rowing is to compete.

"Just be on the water," she said.

Sunday's regatta will likely include three 3,000-meter races, which should last about 12 minutes each, with three equal boats. Rather than separating the rowers into the A, B and C boats as usual, Notre Dame will spread out the rowing, allowing the experienced rowers and some of the newcomers to mix.

The Irish will race in three other regattas later this fall, with their ultimate goal in the back of their minds — the spring NCAAAs. They'll push themselves that much harder.

"There is an understood feeling that the team has the potential for great things this year," Jefson said. "I know I'm excited. The team is off to a great start this fall."

Castro-Larsen agreed with her senior teammate.

"I'm really excited for the season," she said. "We've jumped into it really strong."

Simply put, the Irish have already jumped. The rest of the fall, they'll stay on the water working for another spring.

Contact Tom Dorwart at tdorwart@nd.edu

SMC CROSS COUNTRY

Belles set to participate in the Catholic Championships

By KEN FOWLER
Sports Writer

The Belles look at today's National Catholic Cross Country Championships at the Burke Memorial Golf Course on the campus of Notre Dame as a race with little impact on the overall success of the season, Saint Mary's coach Jackie Bauters said Thursday.

Bauters said that her team hopes to run strong, but views the meet as a fun experience

rather than a crucial competition.

"This is a real fun race for us, because it has such higher competition [than the other meets on the Belles' schedule]," Bauters said. "It's kind of like a home meet for us in a lot of ways — we have a lot of families come out for it. We look for that [tough] competition, but we don't stress it."

The meet will feature teams in two categories — Division I and the College Division. Saint Mary's, a Division-III in regular NCAA competition, will participate in the College Division.

Bauters said that the multi-division field is good competition for the team, but also has its drawbacks.

"They've restricted the number you can enter to 15, when we usually carry 24 runners," she said.

"And historically, we don't have our best times on this course because we are just so much further in the pack because it's so crowded."

Despite the problems, though, several Belles have an opportunity to make an impact in the race.

Junior Sara Otto led the team in last week's Aquinas College Invitational, and should once again be one of the Belles' top finishers, Bauters said.

"Sara had a tremendous race ... for the beginning of the season," she said. "She, along with a couple of our upperclassmen, will have a great season."

Hopes are also high for sophomore Elizabeth Johnson, a sophomore who joined the team only this season.

Johnson was fifth among the Belles in the Aquinas meet with a

time of 21:25, just 1:09 off Otto's team-leading 20:16.

Saint Mary's will be the only team in the MIAA competing, and that has Bauters less concerned about the outcome of the race than with league meets.

"It's not something I look for as a true indication as a team," she said. "Last week was a really big meet for us because we had MIAA competition in the meet and we did really well."

Contact Ken Fowler at kfowler1@nd.edu



"Catholics, Concubines, and the Constitution: 19th-Century Battles over Church and State"

Linda Przybyszewski
Associate Professor of History

"Catholics, Concubines, and the Constitution: 19th-Century Battles over Church and State," with Linda Przybyszewski, associate professor of history. While 21st-century Americans have experienced their share of arguments over church-state issues, Americans living during the 19th century fought even more passionately over the proper role of religion in public life. Two of the most dramatic battle — one over Mormon polygamy and the other over Bible reading in the schools — raised essential questions about the Republic's constitutional order. Przybyszewski, a historian specializing in legal history and Constitutional interpretation, will examine these compelling issues.

For more information, visit <http://saturdayscholar.nd.edu>

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9/17—Michigan State
Linda Przybyszewski, Associate Professor of History
"Catholics, Concubines, and the Constitution: 19th-Century Battles over Church and State"



10/15—USC
Thomas Slaughter, Andrew V. Tackes Professor of History
"Exploring Lewis and Clark"



10/22—BYU
James McKenna, Rev. Edmund P. Joyce, C.S.C., Professor of Anthropology
"Caring for Babies, Caring for Parents: What Human Infants Really Need and Why"



11/5—Tennessee
Julia Braungart-Rieker, Professor of Psychology, Associate Dean of Arts and Letters
"Understanding Personality and Emotional Development in Babies and Children"



11/12—Navy
R. Scott Appleby, Professor of History, John M. Regan Jr. Director of the Joan B. Kroc Institute for International Peace Studies
Lawrence Cunningham, John A. O'Brien Professor of Theology
Rev. Richard McBrien, Crowley-O'Brien Professor of Theology
"A Change at the Top: Pope Benedict XVI"



11/19—Syracuse
Maria Tomasula, Michael P. Grace Associate Professor of Art, Art History and Design
"Vast: The Art of Maria Tomasula" (Snite Museum of Art)

3-1/2 hours before kickoff at the auditorium in the Hesburgh Center for International Studies (unless otherwise noted). For more information, visit <http://saturdayscholar.nd.edu>



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MEN'S INTERHALL FOOTBALL

Zahm hopes to upset favored Carroll in showdown

By JACK THORNTON
Sports Writer

When covering Monday Night Football, legendary broadcaster Al Michaels likes to say that the first game of each season doesn't really matter.

Zahm team captain Pat Gourley will tell you that in interhall football, that kind of breathing room doesn't exist.

"We went 2-2 last year, but were kept out of the playoffs on points," Gourley said. "[The first game] is very important because we only play four games, and

two losses and you could be out of the playoffs."

Zahm will try to get closer to the three wins needed to guarantee a playoff spot when the Rabid Bats play the Vermin from Carroll Sunday at 3 p.m. at Rhiele.

Carroll went 3-1 during last year's regular season but lost in the playoffs to Knott. Team captain and starting quarterback Kory Wilmot believes his squad is now ready for the big prize.

"Carroll's goal this year is nothing less than playing in the stadium," Wilmot said.

Carroll will have plenty of

experience on its sideline — or rather, on its side of the scrimmage line — when it takes the field Sunday, as the Vermin return 20 of 22 starters. In particular, Wilmot is stoked about the returning offense and addition of sophomore transfer running back Mark Bennett.

"The offense is definitely our strong suit," Wilmot said. "We're returning 10 of 11 starters, and the lone starter we lost is being replaced by our transfer [student]. And we've still got our two big receivers: Paul Tassinari and Mike Johnson."

One factor no longer in Carroll's favor is the element of surprise.

"My first two years here — I don't know how to say this being nice — [Carroll wasn't good], but last year they were 3-1, and they beat some good teams," Gourley said. "I'm worried that if we blow this game off like it's going to be an easy win, they'll come out and surprise us like they did to a lot of teams last year."

If Zahm hopes to be successful this year, it will need to fill holes left by graduating seniors and pre-season injuries.

"The last few years our whole defense has been dominant, but we lost a few good seniors, so we'll see how our freshmen step up," Gourley said.

In the Zahm spirit, though, Gourley is undaunted.

"This year, so far, we've been working real hard, and we've been getting our solid guys every time coming out," Gourley said. "We have a lot of confidence and spirit, and I think we're going to be more in shape than anybody we play."

Contact Jack Thornton at
jthorn4@nd.edu

WOMEN'S INTERHALL FOOTBALL

Farley and Pasquerilla West set for big Sunday shootout

By BEN VINCENT and
TOM DORWART
Sports Writers

A pair of squads hopes to start the season on the right foot Sunday when Pasquerilla West meets Farley on West Quad at 4 p.m.

The game promises to be a shootout, with both captains touting their receivers as among their greatest strengths.

While these dorms aren't exactly the biggest rivals on cam-

pus, it looks like they will match up well against each other, and this game could have a big impact on their hopes of making the playoffs.

Farley's captain Katie Popik says that her team is replete with veterans, and should have its best season in recent memory.

She said their greatest assets were depth and experience and, as quarterback, expressed greater confidence in her receivers.

Meanwhile, Pasquerilla West looks to build on a successful

season last year.

"Having returning coaches will be a big plus, they know us and the intense game that is girls' flag football," PW captain Julie Putnam said.

She added she and her defensive line will pressure Farley's passing game all day.

"We are all-around strong," receiver Maureen Spring said. "We've made improvements in offense and defense and have a lot of junior girls returning."

This could prove to be one of the greatest matchups of the sea-

son, as both teams have something to prove and nothing to lose.

Breen-Phillips vs. Welsh Family

Another great Notre Dame season kicks off Sunday. It's no varsity sport, but it's still tradition, still intense and still fun.

Sunday at 3 p.m. at the McGlinn fields the Welsh Family Whirlwinds clash with the Breen-Phillips Babes in the opening Gold League match-up.

In 2004, in a semifinal thriller, the Whirlwinds lost to the Walsh

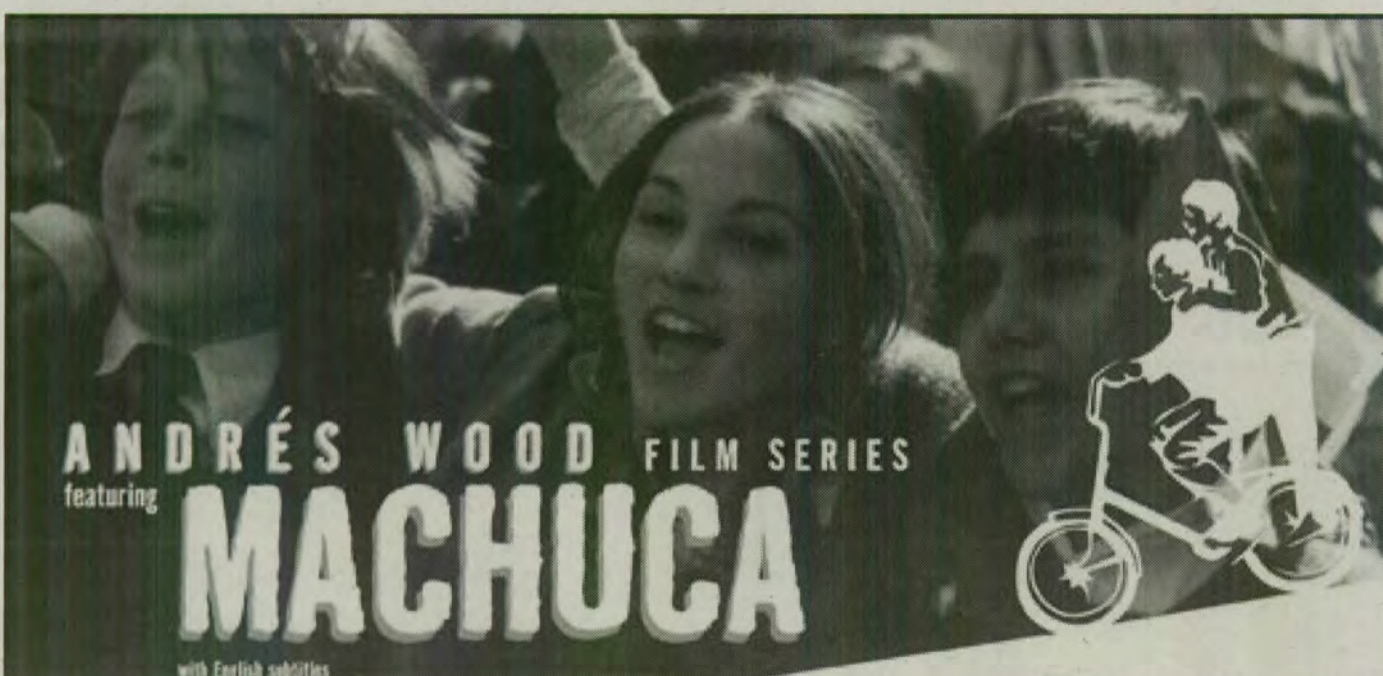
Wild Women. It was the third semifinal loss in a row for the Whirlwinds.

Now, the returnees are back with a vengeance.

The Babes started out the 2004 campaign 3-0 but exited early in the playoffs.

They, too, hope to rid themselves of the bitter taste from last season.

Contact Ben Vincent at
bvincent@nd.edu and
Tom Dorwart at
tdorwart@nd.edu



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Annenberg Auditorium, Snite Museum of Art
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TUESDAY 9/20

HISTORIAS DE FÚTBOL, 1997
(SOCCER STORIES)(1997) with English subtitles
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TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 8:00 P.M.
Annenberg Auditorium, Snite Museum of Art
Andrés Wood will be present for "Question and Answer"



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SMC SOCCER

Belles lock horns with Alma in MIAA match

Team outscored Scots by 6-1 ratio last year

By KYLE CASSILY
Sports Writer

The Belles soccer team will head into the hostile confines of Michigan on Saturday afternoon to take on the Alma College Scots in a key MIAA matchup.

Saint Mary's looks to capitalize on the momentum gained from Wednesday's home-opening 2-0 victory over Albion College.

The game was dominated by the Belles on both ends of the field, a good sign considering the close play usually associated with playing Albion.

In the Albion game the Belles were also able to reverse a three-game scoring drought, a trend they hope to continue.

If the past is any record, that will be no problem for a renewed Belles attack.

Last year in two games against the Scots, Saint Mary's netted six goals, while giving up only one.

But this year they will be facing a tough Alma defense — Pam McCarthy of the Scots was named the MIAA defensive player of week one of conference play.

The two games did not end in two victories, however. The first meeting ended in a 1-1 draw; the second game, a home tilt, ended in a 5-0 Belles win.

The Saint Mary's offense is

not the only aspect of the team's game that has been improving. The defense showed up to play on Wednesday and dominated a previously competent Albion attack.

Every loose ball had a blue and white Belle on it, and every free Albion forward was corralled by a superior defensive strategy.

Alma once again brings another aspect the Belles must contain — Scots forward Kim Hoeltzel was nominated for MIAA offensive player of last week, finishing second in voting.

"I have confidence in our talent," Belles coach Caryn Mackenzie said. "It is only a matter of us believing in ourselves and playing hard for the whole 90 minutes."

And believe they did against Albion, and in their first win of the season against SUNY-Brockport.

Alma is currently 2-1 in MIAA play (3-1 overall) with wins over Adrian College and Tri-State University. The Scots lone loss came at Kalamazoo College.

"Every game we have played, we have seen some really good stuff," midfielder Carrie Orr said.

"We have played some of the best teams around. We know that, and we think we can play with anyone."

Play will begin at 2 p.m. on Alma's field Saturday afternoon.

Contact Kyle Cassily at
kcassily@nd.edu

SMC VOLLEYBALL

Squad defeats Concordia

By KEVIN BRENNAN
Sports Writer

Lost somewhere in Illinois, the Saint Mary's volleyball team may have finally found itself.

The Belles ran into some trouble Thursday trying to find Concordia University in River Forest, Ill.

Saint Mary's was forced to dress for the match on the bus and was unable to warm up at all before the start of the first game.

Despite these obstacles, Saint Mary's bounced out of its recent slump with a five game defeat of Concordia — 30-24, 27-30, 30-18, 25-30, 15-11. The victory boosted the Belles' record on the season to 5-7.

Head coach Julie Schroeder-Biek loved the way her team set the tone for the opening of the match.

"We jumped on that court and we took the lead right off the bat," Schroeder-Biek said.

Saint Mary's corrected the two main problems which it felt led to Tuesday's disappointing home loss to traditional conference basement-dweller Olivet.

The Belles played with a much greater intensity Thursday, Schroeder-Biek said.

In addition, the Belles were no longer plagued by poor service returns. Concordia

recorded only nine service aces in the five games, while the Belles had 10 aces in the match.

Schroeder-Biek particularly liked the balance displayed by Saint Mary's Thursday, as several different players significantly contributed to the victory.

Outside attackers Kristen

Playko and

Michelle

Turley had 22

and 14 kills

apiece, while

middle hitter

Julie Bender

put up 14 kills

and three

aces.

Junior Anne

Cusack put

forth a superb

defensive effort with a team-

high 29 digs.

Amanda David, in her first year playing setter, had a match-high 57 assists.

Schroeder-Biek was impressed with David's performance.

"I think Amanda David did a real nice job of her accuracy on running the quick offense," she said. "For her being so new to this, she really did a nice job of setting the transition offense off the dig."

Concordia entered the game with a poor 2-7 record, but Saint Mary's was impressed by the Cougars' level of play and resiliency.

"This team didn't have a good record, but they weren't a bad team," Schroeder-Biek said. "We had to work."

The Belles still have some

problems that need to be worked out, though.

Saint Mary's has made a habit this season of getting ahead in games and allowing the opposing team to claw its way back.

The trend continued Thursday, as the Belles struggled to put the Cougars away in several games.

"We definitely had our lulls again where we would let them get back in," Schroeder-Biek said.

Saint Mary's also must start playing better at home. Thursday marked another strong road performance for the team, but the Belles have yet to win a match at the Angela Athletic Center this season.

"It's like I have two different teams," Schroeder-Biek said. "We have our home team and our away team, and the away team seems to pick it up a bit more. We need to show our home crowds what we can do."

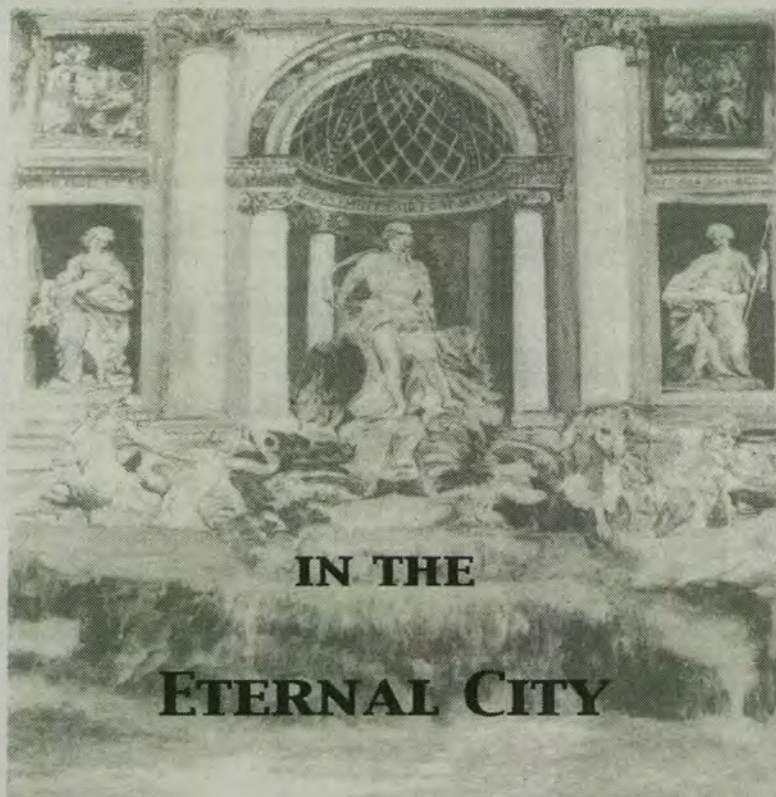
The Belles will get a chance to do just that in their next game.

MIAA rival Kalamazoo College will visit South Bend Tuesday, as the Belles try to carry momentum from the win over Concordia into conference play.

"The women looked confident, and they felt confident," Schroeder-Biek said. "The whole mood is very strong right now. I'm glad to be going into the conference again like this."

Contact Kevin Brennan at
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AROUND THE NATION

Friday, September 16, 2005

COMPILED FROM THE OBSERVER'S WIRE SERVICES

page 23

AVCA Volleyball Top 25

	team	record	points
1	Nebraska	8-0	1,497
2	Washington	7-0	1,423
3	Stanford	8-1	1,386
4	Penn State	6-2	1,300
5	Minnesota	6-1	1,275
6	Hawaii	5-3	1,145
7	Florida	7-1	1,061
8	NOTRE DAME	6-0	1,059
9	Louisville	6-0	987
10	Missouri	6-0	937
11	UCLA	5-1	862
12	Southern California	3-4	799
13	Wisconsin	5-1	795
14	Ohio State	6-1	736
15	Texas A&M	7-2	606
16	Tennessee	5-1	522
17	Santa Clara	6-0	520
18	Texas	5-1	492
18	San Diego	6-1	492
20	Arizona	5-1	485
21	California	5-1	259
22	Kansas State	8-1	189
23	Saint Mary's (Calif.)	6-1	169
24	UC Santa Barbara	3-3	156
25	Long Beach State	5-2	108

MLS

Eastern Conference

team	record	pts.	+/-
New England	15-5-6	51	19
D.C. United	13-9-5	44	15
Kansas City	11-7-9	42	10
Chicago	13-10-3	42	1
MetroStars	9-7-10	37	4
Columbus	9-13-3	30	-10

Western Conference

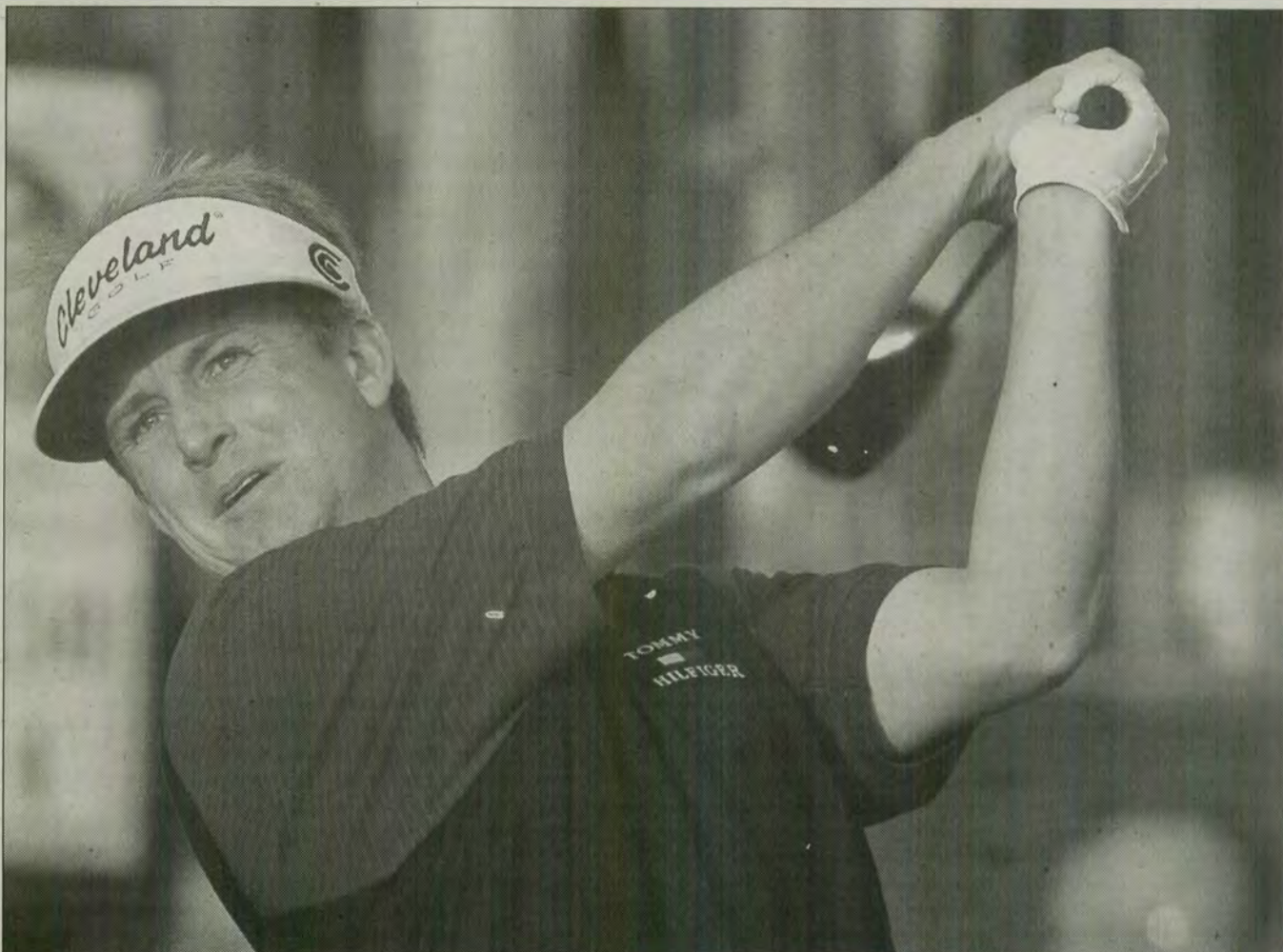
team	record	pts.	+/-
San Jose	14-4-8	50	15
Los Angeles	11-11-5	38	2
FC Dallas	10-9-6	36	4
Colorado	9-12-4	31	1
Real Salt Lake	5-16-4	19	-27
Chivas USA	3-19-5	14	-32

Big East Men's Soccer

Blue Division Overall Standings

team	record	pct.
Connecticut	4-0-0	1.000
Seton Hall	4-0-0	1.000
Providence	2-0-2	.750
Georgetown	3-1-0	.750
Marquette	3-1-0	.750
NOTRE DAME	3-1-0	.750
West Virginia	3-2-0	.600
Pittsburgh	1-2-1	.375

PGA



David Toms tees off on the first hole of his match with Chris DiMarco at the World Match Play Championship Feb. 27. Toms was airlifted to a local hospital Thursday after falling ill at the 84 Lumber Classic.

David Toms collapses at golf tournament

Associated Press

FARMINGTON, Pa. — Shaun Micheel could be forgiven as a potentially great round turned into a very good one at the 84 Lumber Classic. Once playing partner David Toms was rushed to a hospital with a racing pulse, Micheel had a lot more on his mind than golf.

Micheel was in the midst of cutting eight shots off par during a remarkable nine-hole stretch Thursday when Toms — a former PGA champion — became white-faced, dropped to his knee in discomfort complaining of a rapid heart

beat and was rushed off the course in an ambulance.

Toms was in critical condition at UPMC Presbyterian Hospital in Pittsburgh on Thursday night, the administrator on duty at the hospital told The Associated Press. The administrator did not give her name before hanging up the phone.

Micheel no doubt lost some of his concentration during what he called "a scary moment." He bogeyed his final three holes to settle for a 7-under 65, not long after a 59 or a 60 seemed a possibility.

"It shook me up. He went down to his knee, got up and walked a few steps and then went back to his knee," Micheel said. "When an ambulance backs up to the first tee, it tells you it's a little more serious."

Toms, 38, was initially taken to the nearby Uniontown Hospital, then was transported by helicopter to UPMC Presbyterian for further tests. The hospital disclosed no other information, but Adam Young, the director of the David Toms Foundation, said Toms had spoken with his family several times.

Toms was even par through nine holes, taking a bogey on No. 18 after previously being 1 under.

"I asked him if he wanted a drink of water, and he just said his chest was hurting and his heart was racing," Micheel said. "I'm not a doctor ... but that's generally not a good sign. He just turned real white, just didn't have color in his face."

Micheel went on to birdie Nos. 1, 2 and 3 immediately after Toms was stricken, as the group started the day on No. 10, and had an eagle on the par-5 No. 5 and a birdie on the par-4 No. 6 to get to 10 under.

IN BRIEF

New Orleans Bowl set to play in Lafayette, La.

NEW ORLEANS — The New Orleans Bowl may have a bit more Cajun flavor this year.

With the Superdome awaiting massive repairs and New Orleans projected to be cleaning up from Hurricane Katrina for months, the December bowl game may move to Lafayette, La., said Billy Ferrante, executive director of the Greater New Orleans Sports Foundation.

"We have had some very preliminary talks with the folks at Louisiana-Lafayette and our first choice is to keep the game in Louisiana," he said. "Hopefully, we will have a decision wrapped up in a couple of weeks."

The 5-year-old bowl game matches the champion of the New Orleans-based Sun Belt Conference with a team from Conference USA. Louisiana-Lafayette is a Sun Belt member. This year's game is scheduled for Dec. 20.

Sun Belt commissioner Wright Waters said his office and C-USA had been prepared to take over operating the game this year if the Sports Foundation proved unable to, but applauded Ferrante's decision.

Senate committee calls for more steroid hearings

WASHINGTON — The commissioners of Major League Baseball, the National Football League, the National Basketball Association and the National Hockey League have been called to testify about their leagues' steroids policies before the Senate Commerce Committee on Sept. 28.

Two proposed bills that would mandate drug-testing standards for major pro sports have been introduced by Sens. John McCain, R-Ariz., and Jim Bunning, R-Ky.

Witnesses are expected to include baseball commissioner Bud Selig, baseball players' union head Donald Fehr, NFL commissioner Paul Tagliabue, NFL players' union head

Gene Upshaw, NBA commissioner David Stern, NBA players' union head Billy Hunter and NHL commissioner Gary Bettman.

Forward helps Connecticut draw even with Sacramento

UNCASVILLE, Conn. — Taj McWilliams-Franklin can't remember the last time she jumped as high.

And it seemed just about every time the Connecticut forward went up, she came down with a rebound.

McWilliams-Franklin grabbed five boards in overtime and hit the go-ahead jumper, helping the Sun beat the Sacramento Monarchs 77-70 Thursday night to tie the WNBA Finals at 1-all.

She finished with 24 points and 16 rebounds.

"Our post coach always says, 'Get to every rebound.' I just wanted to make sure I got my hand on a few," she said.

"I missed a couple of good shots there in regulation, so I wanted to do something else to help them."

around the dial

FRIDAY

MLB

Oakland at Boston 6 p.m., ESPN

PGA

84 Lumber Classic 3 p.m., ESPN

NCAA FOOTBALL

Houston at UTEP 7 p.m., ESPN2

SATURDAY

NCAA FOOTBALL

Michigan St. at Notre Dame 2:30 p.m., NBC

Wisconsin at North Carolina 6 p.m., ESPN2

Florida St. at Boston College 6:45 p.m., ESPN

Tennessee at Florida 7 p.m., CBS

MEN'S GOLF

Team gearing up for the Gopher Invitational

By **BOBBY GRIFFIN**
Associate Sports Editor

Four hundred fifty-two-yard par four. Driver, 8-iron, putter. Little downhill, right to left. Nice bird.

The Irish golf team will be hoping for similar results this weekend, as they travel to Wayzata, Minn. for the Gopher Invitational.

"We're pretty excited about it," Irish coach Jim Kubinski said.

"I feel pretty good about our lineup, we got a lot of experience."

Making the trip for the Irish are seniors Mark Baldwin, Eric Deutsch and Scott Gustafson,

junior Cole Isban and sophomore Mike King.

"These are four guys who have been through the wars," Kubinski said.

It is the first official match of the season for Notre Dame, despite Deutsch and Isban's participation in the U.S. Amateur event in August.

"I feel really comfortable with the way the guys are playing ... I think it will give us a great shot," Kubinski said.

In the week leading into the

event, Kubinski spoke about how the course would play and the keys to being successful.

"I feel really comfortable with the way the guys are playing. I think it will give us a great shot."

Jim Kubinski
Irish coach

The Irish coach has never seen the new golf course that will be used for the Invitational.

However, he expects it to play long, a common element in college golf courses.

"We're all going to kinda get our look Friday at the practice round," Kubinski said.

"We'll have to drive the ball well, and we'll have to put well. I think if we do those two

things...I think we'll be in good shape."

Kubinski is confident with the way his golfers have been playing so far this season.

He spoke about the golfers having productive summers and getting prepared for the 2005 season.

And with the added preparation comes confidence.

"I think they realize now that they can compete against the best, and that's something that I don't think they necessarily had before last spring and before this past summer," Kubinski said.

All five Irish golfers making the trip have experience with the team.

The three seniors have been

leaders of the squad for the last several years, as Baldwin, Deutsch and Gustafson have all received All-Big East recognition.

Isban, according to Kubinski, is the No. 1 golfer on the team this year.

Mike King, while young, still has a fair amount of college golf experience, playing in the Big East Championship and the regionals.

Following the Gopher Invitational, the Irish will play four more matches this season — one in Alabama, one in North Carolina and two in California.

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SMC GOLF

Belles hit road, head to Normal for two-day tournament

By **ANNA FRICANO**
Sports Writer

After a strong showing in their first MIAA appearance of the season on Wednesday night, the Saint Mary's golf team will take a break from conference opponents and take to the road this weekend to compete in the Illinois Wesleyan University Invitational.

The Belles will depart for Normal, Ill. with six golfers today for the two-day tournament, which will conclude tomorrow afternoon.

Prior to Wednesday's conference competition, Saint Mary's had competed in a pair of difficult matches.

The season kicked off with an appearance at the Ferris

State Invitational, where the Belles were pitted against a combination of Division-I, II and III teams.

Shortly after that, the team accepted an invitation to compete in the Notre Dame Invitational, where it faced an entire group of Division-I schools.

All of the effort that they put into performing well at those two meets seems to have paid off for the Belles. On Wednesday night, Saint Mary's finished 17 strokes ahead of second place finishers Olivet, the same team who defeated the Belles less than two weeks ago at the Bulldog Invitational. Their team score of 332 was enough to not only set a course record at the Thornapple Pointe Golf Club, but also to once again put

Saint Mary's at the top of the MIAA rankings.

The Belles' hard work over the past two weekends, combined with their successful match two days ago, should give them exactly what they need in order to give a strong showing this weekend.

The MIAA match certainly gave the team confidence, but the Belles have been prepared for a while.

"Even coming out of last weekend I think we're ready for it," senior and co-captain Kirsten Fantom said.

Ironwood Golf Course,

where the event is held, is a familiar place to the upperclassmen on the team. Saint Mary's has competed there in both the fall and spring seasons for the past couple years.

So what will it take for Saint Mary's to continue its momentum and defeat regional rivals DePauw University, one of the schools who will be at the event?

"It's going to be short-game based, but that's the way Ironwood is," Fantom said.

The course is not particularly challenging, but it is

likely to come down to a chipping and putting contest.

"If your short game is solid you're going to do well," Fantom said.

And after reclaiming their spot at No. 1 in the MIAA, the Belles feel that they are in perfect position to do well.

"We're excited about it," Fantom said. "We anticipate low scores, and our confidence was restored yesterday at our first conference match."

Contact **Anna Fricano** at
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MEN'S INTERHALL FOOTBALL

Intrigue and intensity sure to mark first games

Knights and Kangaroos set to square off; Siegfried and Knott will lock horns

By TIM KAISER and
CATHERINE KANE
Sports Writers

Reigning interhall football champions Keenan will open up their new season against Keough on Sunday, their first game since an exciting one-point victory over Knott in last fall's championship.

Needless to say, the Knights have high expectations for the coming season.

"[We're looking] very good," Keenan captain Vince Lyzinski said.

"We're looking forward to a good game, and we're excited to be back on the field again." The team has a good balance of leadership and young blood, with six or seven seniors returning, as well as lots of

new freshman who will be playing their first game wearing navy and white.

This year's squad looks to have a similar strategy to last year's, with a balanced offense incorporating both the pass and run, and hard-nosed defense looking to make big plays. The team is hoping that these familiar schemes will bring familiar results, and a repeat of last season's exploits.

On the other side of the ball, Keough also has high hopes for the season, looking to rebound from last year's disappointing campaign in which they failed to make the

playoffs.

"The team is looking real good, but we need a little work," junior outside line-

backer Chaz Arnold said. "Keenan is tough, but we're going to come out prepared. The defense looks great, we can definitely run with them."

Keough players say their defense will be solid against both the run and the pass, as the strong points of the team.

"We're working hard in at practice," sophomore captain and linebacker Zachary Brown said. "We're trying to put a solid offense together — that's always been our weakness.

"The team is looking real good, but we need a little more work."

Chaz Arnold
Keough linebacker

We're trying to put some points on the board this year."

The team is looking for strong performances from many members, including Arnold on defense, as well as seniors "Big" Rob Holman and Brian Bylycea on both the offensive and defensive lines, freshman Mike Anello and Brown.

But in whatever part of their game plan the Kangaroos may be lacking, they certainly more make up for in personality. The team's defense looks to strike fear into the hearts of coming opponents.

Whatever Keough's record

may be come season's end, they will have definitely had a good time, as will fans who come out to see this exciting opening-day match-up.

The two teams will play on Sunday at 3 p.m. on Riehle Fields with Keenan acting as the home team.

"We are confident about our returning starters and excited for our incoming freshmen."

Tom Martin
Siegfried offensive guard

Siegfried vs. Knott

Facing one another on the quad, Knott and Siegfried have ample opportunity to investigate what the other team has in store for them this

Sunday in the first interhall game of the season.

"We're pretty well prepared," Siegfried defensive end and offensive guard Tom Martin said. "The whole team is coming together pretty well."

Siegfried has brought in some new coaches this season, and Martin feels that they have really aided in the betterment of the team.

Siegfried's strength, Martin claims, is its backfield.

Regarding weaknesses, Martin pointed to some graduated players, but as whole, still feels the team has improved.

"Although we lost a few defensive and offensive players last year, we are definitely a better team," Martin said. "We are confident about our returning starters and excited for our incoming freshmen."

As for key players to look for, don't bother.

"We go as a team," Kane said. "Not one person is the superstar. No one player is going to run the team. We really have a great team chemistry."

Siegfried seems well-equipped for the game on Sunday, but Knott is eager to match up against a confident opponent.

Knott should, however, be warned that Siegfried has some extra incentive to win the championship this season.

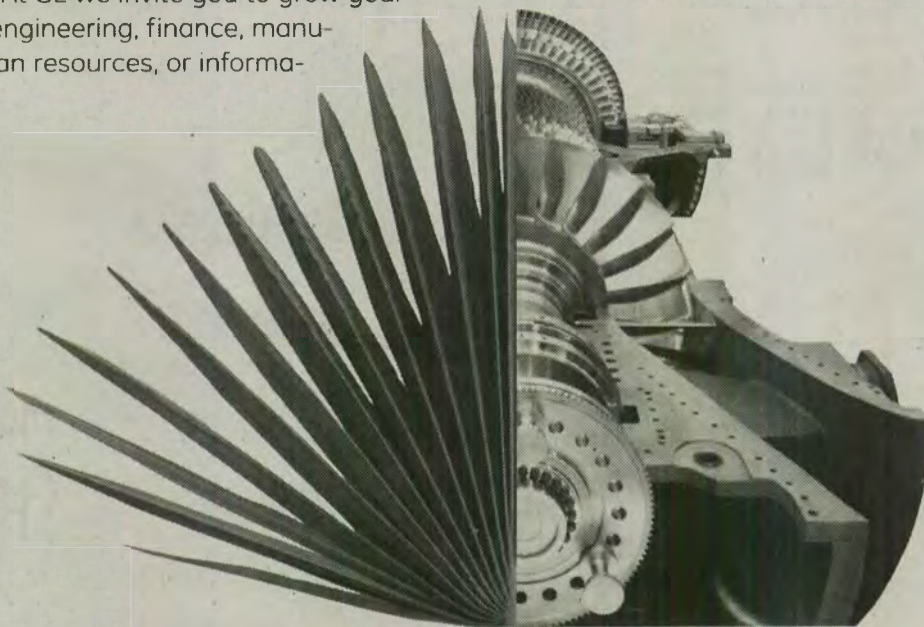
Siegfried assistant rector and assistant football coach Pete Livel, has promised the team that if it wins the championship, he will wear women's underwear for a week.

Representatives from Knott could not be reached for comment.

Contact Tim Kaiser at
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Catherine Kane at
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ND WOMEN'S CROSS COUNTRY

Catholic schools set to run at Burke Memorial

By RYAN KIEFER
Sports Writer

Catholic college cross country supremacy will be on the line this afternoon when the Notre Dame women's cross country team hosts the National Catholic Championships at Burke Memorial golf course.

The Irish, who are ranked third in the nation by Finishlynx/WICAA, have dominated the Catholic Championships, winning 11 of the last 13 races, including each of the last three.

Notre Dame will enter nine runners in the race, which begins at 4:15 p.m.

After running a number of underclassmen last weekend at Valparaiso, the Irish will add more experience to this afternoon's lineup.

Coach Tim Connelly's goal is much the same as last weekend's. He hopes to get his younger runners more experience and build his team's depth for later in the season.

Heading the lineup will be sophomore Sunni Olding, who earned All-America honors by finishing 32nd in the NCAA championship meet last fall.

Connelly explained his decision to run one of his top athletes in this afternoon's meet.

"She needs a race, a confidence booster," Connelly said. "She ended the track season injured so she's a little behind. It will be good for the rest of kids to have Sunni running with them."

Olding will be joined by veterans Elizabeth Webster, Jean Marinangeli and Loryn King. Marinangeli and Olding will be running their first races of the season, while King and Webster contributed to a third place finish at Valparaiso last weekend.

Ann Mazur, last weekend's top finisher for the Irish, will join Becca Bauman, Amy Kohlmeier, Katie DeRusso and Julie Opet in rounding out the

squad.

Last year's individual champion at the Catholic Championships, Stephanie Madia, will not compete in the race this year.

She will continue training for later in the season with the rest of her Irish teammates.

Notre Dame's success in the meet is a considerable accomplishment considering the large number of schools competing.

Thirty-five schools are expected to field teams this afternoon.

Connelly thought the large field may present some problems for his team at the race's outset.

"The start could be a little hairy," Connelly said. "It's going to be tight getting to that first turn. They need to get out well to put themselves in good position. It should spread out quickly once the race gets going."

Race strategy will be Connelly's focus this afternoon.

Connelly said he is more concerned with how the Irish run today than with how fast they run.

He stressed the importance of getting out well together and staying together through the early part of the race.

Conditions are expected to be ideal for racing this afternoon, with the forecasted high in low 70s, a far cry from the 85-degree heat the Irish battled last weekend.

Connelly felt the weather, combined with his team's familiarity with the surroundings, would give them an excellent opportunity to succeed today.

"It should be a lot more comfortable this weekend," Connelly said. "The girls get to race at home in a low-key environment. When you are relaxed, often times you run well."

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ND VOLLEYBALL

Irish travel back to Texas

Team slated to play the Tigers and Wave

By TOM DORWART
Sports Writer

After a few days of being unsure of their weekend plans, the No. 8 Irish (6-0) have headed to Texas — again.

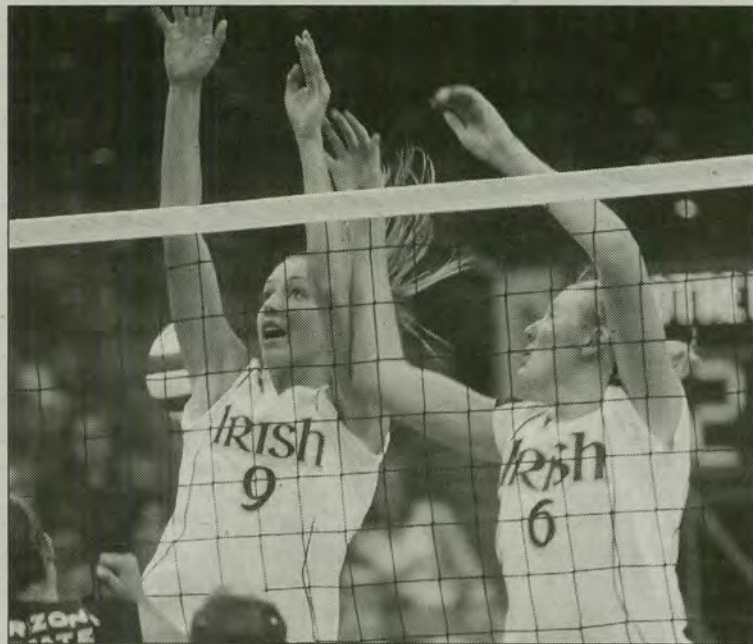
Notre Dame will play Tulane (1-0) at 2 p.m. today and LSU (8-1) at 11 a.m. Sunday in the Sugar Bowl Classic, which was originally slated to take place in New Orleans but has been moved to the campus of Texas A&M.

The Tigers are off to one of the best starts in school history — in fact, their best since 1991. Currently No. 33 in the American Volleyball Coaches' Association rankings, the Tigers are receiving votes for the first time in head coach Fran Flory's eight-year career. Their lone loss came to then-No. 13 Texas A&M 28-30, 30-17, 30-28, 29-31, 15-13.

Tulane has played only one match this season. Since the Green Wave's Aug. 26 season-opener against Nicholls State — which they won 3-0 — they have had six matches cancelled because of Hurricane Katrina's destruction to their campus and consequent relocation. A newfound pride will likely carry the Wave in their first match in three weeks.

Notre Dame knows it's in for two dogfights this weekend, but a visit to Texas did wonders for the Irish last week.

Now, they can only hope to have the same kind of experience.



DUSTIN MENNELLA/The Observer

Carolyn Cooper, left, and Lauren Kelbley attempt to make a block against Arizona State in Notre Dame's 3-2 victory Sept. 4.

Last weekend Notre Dame swept through the University of Texas San Antonio's Dome Rally at the Alamodome, beating two top-10 teams in Southern California and Florida as well as Oklahoma.

"The thing that was really good to see on numerous occasions was that there were times when it was pretty easy for the team to fall apart," coach Debbie Brown said. "But we didn't; we remained competitive and composed."

The Irish lost the first Friday game to the Trojans, but fought back to win the next three. That comeback just might be the epitome of the Notre Dame season thus far Brown said.

"The second game [against

USC] was huge," she said. "For us to come back and win that one maybe set the tone for the rest of the weekend. That was pretty exciting."

This weekend the Irish travel to College Station to face a hot Tiger squad and a fired-up Green Wave. The Irish are just glad to be playing rather than having to wait until Sept. 25 to play Big East foe Seton Hall.

And, while at the time Brown said the USC match might have set the tone for last weekend, it just might have set the tone for the entire season.

Today, her team will find out.

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WOMEN'S INTERHALL FOOTBALL

Runner-up Chaos start new season vs. Chicks

Lyons battles Howard in other league action

By JAMES FEGAN,
JASON GALVAN and
GREG ARBOGAST
Sports Writers

The opening game of the 2005 women's interhall football season pits an up-and-coming Lewis team with last year's runner-up, Cavanaugh.

The two halls will meet Sunday for the first time in three years. Cavanaugh, which stormed through the 2004 regular season undefeated, appears to be strong once again with six returning starters on both offense and defense.

With the core of last year's team intact, Cavanaugh has legitimate ambitions of returning to the title game in Notre Dame Stadium.

Not to be overlooked is Lewis, which is coming off a promising 2-2-2 season when they fell just short of a playoff berth. Lewis returns much of last year's offense, and despite a slew of losses on defense, the team is very confident about the quality of this year's freshmen class.

Returning a majority of its starters, Lewis is going to rely on its offense to take the pressure off of its younger defense. The Chicks' strong receiving

core is headlined by co-captain Kara Bailey, and it should ease the transition of a new quarterback. Cavanaugh will depend on stalwart quarterback Lisa Ruffer to lead its offense again this season. The Chaos also possess several impact players on a tough defense, including Lauren Manning and middle linebacker Kerri Bergen.

Despite the high expectations, the first game will serve as an opportunity for both teams to get a feel for how their teams will compete this year.

"It's the first game of the season, so we really want to just see how our offense and defense work," Lewis co-captain Julia Borke said.

While this game will be a bit of a trial run for both teams, Cavanaugh captain Rachel Byrne wants her team to remain focused.

"We really just need to focus on executing the game plan, and not really pay too much attention to what the other team tries to do," she said.

Cavanaugh looks to begin its quest to return to the championship game Sunday, and is supremely confident.

"We have the athletes and the discipline, so that if we just execute our game plan, we don't have anything to worry about," Byrne said.

However, Lewis counters with a capable offense and young talent on defense, and will pro-

vide Cavanaugh with a significant challenge Sunday.

Lyons vs. Howard

Two teams look to start the season on good footing as the Lyons Hall Lions square off against the Howard Ducks this weekend. The Ducks and Lions, each fresh off their pre-season training, will face each other at 2 p.m. Sunday at West Quad.

The importance of this game is enormous for the two ballclubs, with each team seeking to gain momentum going into the regular season.

The Lions, led by co-captains Katie Mackin and Megan Hassell, are confident going into their first test.

"We are really excited ... everyone is really pumped for Sunday," Mackin said.

Each team has lost starters from last season and will have newcomers at several key positions. However, they are confident their new players will step up to the challenge.

Despite some key losses on offense from last year's starters, the Lions' captain expresses a great deal of confidence in her rookies.

"We have some girls with some really good hands," Mackin said.

Despite some unproven areas for each team, there are still several positions with veteran players. These leaders will prove to be crucial in this con-

test and as the year progresses.

Mackin is especially confident about the strength of the Lions' defensive unit, which sports several returning starters.

"We're very quick and nasty," Mackin said of her defense.

The Lions will be coached by newcomers John Harrington, Chase Gunner and Pat Reidy. This new staff has been implementing a new offense, and they are hopeful that the girls will be ready for the upcoming contest.

"We have a strong program this year with a lot of returning talent," Harrington said.

Despite a strong regimen of workouts during the off-season leading up to this weekend's game, the true test for the teams will come at game time.

"I think we will be successful once we come together as a team," Mackin said. "We have a lot of talent, we just need to come together."

Howard Ducks representatives could not be reached for comment Thursday.

McGlinn vs. Pasquerilla East

The 2005 women's interhall football season begins Sunday evening fresh with new hope for the McGlinn Shamrocks and the Pasquerilla East Pyros, when the squads face off at 5 p.m. on West Quad.

Both teams are looking to rebound from subpar years.

While neither team made the

playoffs a season ago, the new season is full of hope for either team as both McGlinn and PE return starters at key positions.

For McGlinn, quarterback and now-captain Bridget Meacham returns to direct the Shamrock offense along with the assistance of senior running back Raquel Ferrer. These two should provide a balanced offense throughout the season, not allowing defenses to concentrate solely on the run or pass.

For PE, the potent combination of quarterback Laura Adams and wide receiver Caroline Nally returns to again provide the bulk of the offense.

With a year of experience, these two should only improve on their performances from a year ago.

The real question for the Pyros in this game is defense.

Susceptible to the big play a year ago, the Pyros will have to improve in this area if they plan on a trip to the playoffs.

With both teams having experience at such key positions, expect some points to be put on the board this Sunday night, and the winner will likely be determined by which team's defense plays better.

Contact James Fegan, Jason Galvan and Greg Arbogast at jfegan@nd.edu, jgalvan@nd.edu and garbogast@nd.edu



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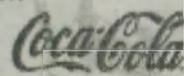
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FIGHTING IRISHTM

Red Storm

continued from page 32

ranked No. 16 and hold a 3-1 record.

The team has seen contributions from veterans and newcomers, and goalkeeper Chris Cahill has been a pleasant surprise for a rebuilding defense.

"All the boys that we take, from the starting guys to the backup guys, have got to be ready to add whatever they can add to the team on this trip," Clark said.

Although the focus is on St. John's, the road trip will end with a journey to Syracuse.

"We also travel to Syracuse on Sunday so two very, very [key games]," Clark said. "Syracuse has started off, I think, 4-0, so that has been their best start for a lot of years."

The Irish kick off conference play with two of the toughest opponents they'll face all year, but the team is ready for the challenge.

"This is not an easy trip for Notre Dame soccer, but it's a trip I think we have got the ability to take something positive out of it," Clark said.

Contact Kate Gales at kgales@nd.edu

**Recycle The
Observer.**

Rivalries

continued from page 32

"It's a problem," McGettigan said.

Despite the setback, McGettigan feels that his team is prepared for O'Neill.

"We've won [against O'Neill] both times I remember, so we have a lot of confidence," he said.

O'Neill, on the other hand, is looking to win its opening game for the first time in hall history, and O'Neill captain Matt Hughey recognizes the challenge ahead.

"Alumni, they're going to be a tough test," he said. "They're known to be tough. This is a pivotal game, it's going to dictate which way the season will go."

Last year, O'Neill's record was 1-2-1, the best record in the hall's history.

"I think we have a great chance to improve," Hughey said. "[We have] a lot of commitment from the players."

O'Neill has only about five seniors, while freshmen compose nearly a third of the team. Hughey feels that everyone has been working very hard to prepare.

As far as practices go, we've really had some great practices," he said. "I think we're as ready as we can be."

In terms of equipment, Alumni was in the middle of the pack for pad selection, and McGettigan said that all his players are fairly satisfied.

O'Neill was third for pad selection, though Hughey feels as though Notre Dame could improve in terms of getting pads for the players.

"I think we could do a little better than the 70s hand-me-downs," he said.

When it comes down to game time, looking like players from 30 years ago won't be on anyone's mind. All that matters for these teams is coming away with a victory. Hughey says there's no question about their objective.

"Obviously, our goal is to make it to the championship," he said.

Stanford vs. Dillon

Although they take the field as enemies on Sunday, both Dillon and Stanford have the same goal — victory.

This prize remains from last year's game when the score ended in a 0-0 tie.

"Shutout," Dillon captain Kenny Cushing said, referring to Dillon's goal this weekend. "Shutout victory!"

Stanford captain Phil McNicholas had the same game plan.

"We played Dillon last year and didn't give up a point," McNicholas said. "Our offense didn't score in the game, but that should change this time."

Yet, both squads claim that defense is the strength of their respective teams.

"Our strength has got to be our defense," McNicholas said. "For the season last year, the defense gave up a total of nine points in four games. Most of our starters are back from last year, but we also added even more talent, so I'm really excited to see how our defense plays this year."

Dillon captain Romeo Acosta pointed to his defensive line as the Big Red's strongest aspect.

And, fittingly, both Dillon and Stanford agree that offense is

their main weakness. Although this weakness, they say, is due to lack of experience in interhall football, not lack of skill in the game itself.

"Inexperience is definitely one of our weaknesses, because we have a lot of freshman and new upperclassmen on the team," Acosta said.

McNicholas has similar thoughts about his offense.

"One weakness might be a lack of experience on offense," McNicholas said. "We have mostly a new cast of characters, including quarterback Brian Salvi and running back Joey Benitez, both freshmen. They may be freshmen, but they have a lot of talent and will do just fine."

Sunday's game seems to be in the hands of the new offense and its capability to rise to the captains' expectations of scoring.

It seems that the teams have been evenly matched, and the game could swing either way. Some players crucial to that swing include Dillon's Lennie Giannone and Dan Avants and Stanford's Eddie Medrick.

Sorin vs. St. Ed's

In a highly anticipated opening weekend matchup, St. Edward's and Sorin face off Sunday at Rihele Field North at 1 p.m. in a battle for God Quad bragging rights.

The Stedsmen, led by captain Dan Ward, are trying to improve on last year's team that failed to make the playoffs. To make sure his team is ready for Sorin, Ward has been working his players hard as of late, including six practices in the last two weeks.

"The teams are really excited," Ward said.

For St. Ed's, part of turning its football team around is also building team unity. The Stedsmen had a team dinner Thursday night in order to get everyone ready to win on Sunday.

St. Ed's hopes to upset the Sorin Otters in a game that Ward feels confident his team will do well.

Facing off against St. Ed's will be the Sorin Otters. Hoping to build on last year's semifinal team, Sorin captain Pete Lavorini built a solid team with a tough defense led by sophomore Ryan Bove and junior Mike Godino.

To go along with the strong defense, Sorin promises a high powered offense, led by sophomore Stu Mora and juniors Chris Paley and Kevin Tooke.

"We've got a good talented team like every year," Lavorini said. "We're just going to go out and play as hard as we can. It'll be a hard fought game between us and St. Ed's."

In what promises to be a David and Goliath rematch, St. Ed's and Sorin will be a quality game to see. The Otters are focused on getting back to the playoffs and this time winning the championship. The Stedsmen are determined to improve and want to prove themselves against a good team. Either way, both teams are ready to win.

Contact Joe Piarulli at jpiarul@nd.edu, Tim Kaiser at tkaiser@nd.edu and Jay Fitzpatrick at jfitzpa2@nd.edu

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Two

continued from page 32

that his squad could play to its maximum potential, but many of the problems that loomed large when the Irish lost to Santa Clara a week ago still plague the team.

He said that freshman forward Brittany Bock is making progress on a knee injury, and several other players have missed practice time this week.

"I haven't gotten the update on Jill [Krevick] on what her status will be [for the weekend games]," Waldrum said.

That could pose somewhat of a problem for the Irish, as preparations for DePaul were somewhat more difficult because of the lack of history between the teams.

However, DePaul's lackluster offense may allow the Irish more breathing room in the contest; the Blue Demons have managed only two goals in five games this year. With the Irish

defense one of the better backfields in the country, DePaul will have to play a near flawless game to hang with Notre Dame.

Waldrum said that the Irish will have to focus on executing their plays properly, rather than countering specific tendencies of the opponent.

"With DePaul being a new team into the conference ... what we're going to focus on for Friday is trying to get the backs more and more organized," Waldrum said.

The DePaul game wasn't the only one the Irish have to prepare for this week, though. They host Michigan (2-1-2) at 1 p.m. Sunday in another Midwest battle.

The game against Michigan is of historical importance, as the Wolverines were the last team to defeat Notre Dame at Alumni Field. In fact, Michigan represents Notre Dame's last two home losses.

The Irish lost 1-0 to the Wolverines at home Nov. 16, 2003 in the second round of the NCAA tournament, less than

"The one thing that continues to be good is the attacking part of our game."

Randy Waldrum
Irish head coach



BETH WERNET/The Observer

Senior forward Katie Thorlakson moves the ball upfield against Maryland Sept. 4. Thorlakson and the Irish face DePaul at home tonight in the team's conference opener.

three weeks after falling 3-2 to them in the team's final regular-season game.

The Wolverines are not as strong as they were two years ago, but have proven difficult for good teams this year.

They tied No. 23 Kansas 1-1 in

their season opener, and matched No. 6 Texas A&M with the same score Sept. 4.

The Irish offense, however, is more potent than any of those that Michigan has played thus far this year.

Waldrum said that the Irish

will try to continue their aggressive offensive play this weekend.

"The one thing that continues to be good is the attacking part of our game," he said.

Contact Ken Fowler at
kfowler1@nd.edu

Host

continued from page 32

Kaleb Van Ort and Kurt Benninger will all sit out Friday's meet.

Piane said he wanted to see his younger runners gain meet experience, and he also wanted

to rest his top runners for late-season competitions.

Racing this week for the Irish will be sophomores Zach Einterz, Brett Adams, James Millar, Mark Moore, Dan Bradley and Mike Popejoy and freshmen Chris Rodriguez, Robbie Barany, Kevin Veselik and Patrick Smyth.

Rodriguez, Adams, Bradley, Millar, Moore and Popejoy all

contributed to last week's victory at Valparaiso. Rodriguez led the way with a second-place finish. Einterz, Adams, Bradley and Moore also finished in the top 10.

Veselik, Smyth and Barany are all running in their first collegiate race. Division I schools competing in Friday's meet include Canisius, Dayton,

DePaul, Duquesne, Detroit-Mercy, Holy Cross (MA), Loyola (MD), St. Louis, San Diego, Siena, St. Bonaventure, Xavier and Notre Dame.

The Irish are the highest ranked team in the field. No other team is ranked in the top 30 by the USCCCA.

Notre Dame has won the last 10 National Catholic

Championships and has 17 total wins in the meets 26-year history.

The meet will begin with a JV race at 3:30 p.m. today, followed by the women's race at 4:15 and the men's race at 5. Admission is free to all races.

Contact Chris Khorey at
ckhorey@nd.edu

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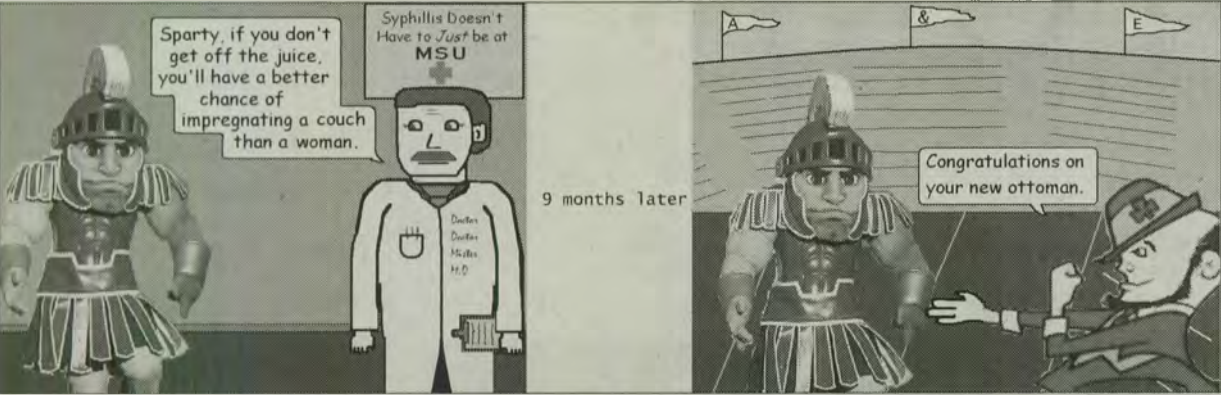
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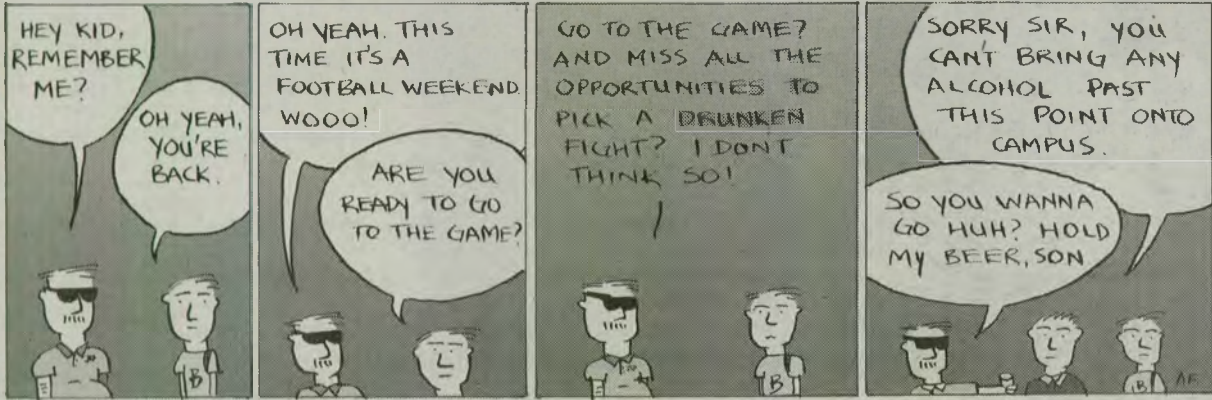
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Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon. (Answers tomorrow)

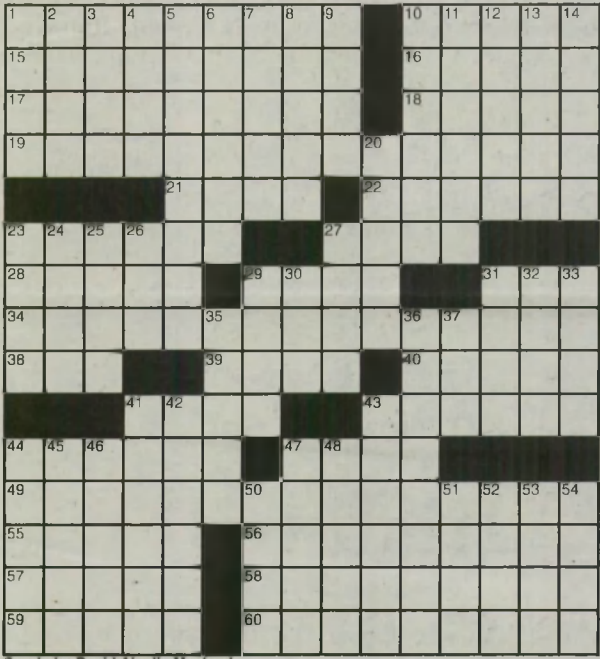
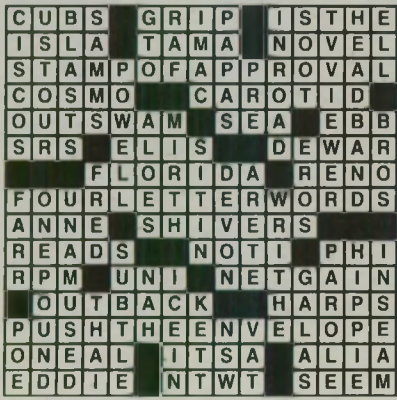
Yesterday's Jumbles: TRACT MAJOR HUMBLE BROGUE
Answer: When the lumberjacks formed a jazz group they ended up with a — LOG "JAM"

CROSSWORD

WILL SHORTZ

- ACROSS**
- 1 Airplane passenger's option
 - 10 Volunteer's response
 - 15 Some conic sections
 - 16 "The Gene Krupa Story" title role portrayal, 1959
 - 17 Certifies
 - 18 Colleague of Freud
 - 19 Gabs
 - 21 It has many decision points
 - 22 They make your business theirs
 - 23 Mark of prestige
 - 27 Some shelter dwellers
 - 28 Part of a stage
- DOWN**
- 29 Prefix with professional
 - 31 "Rugrats" dad
 - 34 Whupped
 - 38 Course setting: Abbr.
 - 39 Drillers' group?
 - 40 Campbell Soup Co. brand
 - 41 Stop up
 - 43 Some mouths
 - 44 Downhill
 - 47 ___ effort
 - 49 Thingy
 - 55 "___ my way!"
 - 56 Bugbear
 - 57 Common survey option
 - 58 Ditched
 - 59 Appropinquates
 - 60 Bite
- DOWN**
- 1 Ems and others
 - 2 A shot
 - 3 Not pizzicato
 - 4 Tropical tuber
 - 5 Help in holding up
 - 6 Signals
 - 7 Flash
 - 8 Bat spinner
 - 9 De bene (provisionally)
 - 10 Turkish hostel
 - 11 Increases in capacity
 - 12 Sound
 - 13 Gibbons of TV
 - 14 Like some old monitors, for short
 - 20 How some things are played
 - 23 Semi-detachable parts?
 - 24 Makes like
 - 25 Sticking point
 - 26 In, for now
 - 27 Talk in the service, perhaps
 - 29 Extra
 - 30 Bread box?
 - 31 Galley mark
 - 32 Certain party attire
 - 33 Fantastic craft
 - 35 Iron-fisted

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE



Puzzle by David Ainslie Macleod

- 36 Latin word in police work
- 37 Modern link, for short
- 41 Coast Guard vessel
- 42 Annual event with 7-Down
- 43 Museum person
- 44 Response to Beatlemania
- 45 Water park feature
- 46 Kind of yoga
- 47 Real low life?
- 48 Like some blows
- 50 French mutineer's phrase
- 51 Web-footed bird
- 52 Impatient person's annoyance
- 53 Tees off
- 54 Sen. Stevens and others

For answers, call 1-900-285-5656, \$1.20 a minute; or, with a credit card, 1-800-814-5554.

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Happy Birthday: You'll be torn between two plans this year. Don't allow yourself to be a martyr. No one should expect you to give up an opportunity to fulfill your life dream. Question anyone who is selfish enough to stand in your way. Your numbers are 7, 20, 21, 22, 38, 41

ARIES (March 21-April 19): You are headed upward and are definitely more in control of your life. Support will be available. A business partnership will allow you greater creative freedom. ****

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): You'll have conflict over what you should be doing vs. what you want to do. If you organize well, you can take care of both needs. Put career objectives first so you can enjoy more pleasurable events without worry. **

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Popularity won't be an issue today. An opportunity may be too good to pass up even if it does infringe on time spent with someone who depends on you. *****

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Don't let someone handle an investment you should be taking care of yourself. Contracts, agreements, settlements, and collecting old debts can be done successfully today. ***

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): The smallest personal concern will set you off today. Try not to get involved in a disruptive discussion. Spend time nurturing what means most to you. **

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): A chance to do something different will result in some fabulous ideas regarding future prospects. A chance to connect with others with similar interests will guide you to new professional levels. ***

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Everything is going your way, so don't be lazy. Take on more and you will impress someone who has a plan you want to be a part of. Love is in a high cycle. *****

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Torn between the emotional and the practical, you aren't likely to move in either direction fast. Look at your options and choose the route that will lead to publishing, travel, art or music. **

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Today is all about working alongside others. It's about cooperation, longevity and forming alliances that will stand the test of time. A team player is what is required. ****

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Focus on the here and now. It's what you do today that counts. You have passion and drive, so strive to raise your profile and increase your popularity. Business trips will pay off. ***

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Question your motives and those of anyone with whom you are intimately involved. Let go of the past and focus on the future. A change in lifestyle will be necessary if you want to head in a new direction. ***

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Problems with colleagues or authority figures will arise if you confide in them. Keep your thoughts to yourself for now. Changes to your home or personal life may be necessary. ***

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MEN'S SOCCER

Battle in the Big Apple

Irish visit St. John's in early-season Big East competition

By KATE GALES
Associate Sports Editor

Starting with a foe picked to win the conference isn't exactly a cakewalk beginning to the season.

But the Irish are ready for as a challenge as they take on No. 10 St. John's.

Notre Dame has already knocked off a top-10 opponent this season with a win over then-No. 7 Southern Methodist.

But in the history of the programs, the Irish have never won at St. John's.

"We couldn't open with a harder game," coach Bobby Clark said. "I think you can count on one hand the number of games that St. John's will have lost in the Big East in Queens in New York in the last 10 years."

In the all-time series, the Red Storm leads the Irish 8-2-3, with last year's decision a 1-1 tie between the two top-10 teams.

In 2003, Notre Dame won the Big East tournament title



TIM SULLIVAN/The Observer

Freshman forward Bright Dike moves past a St. Louis defender Sunday in the Irish's 1-0, double-overtime victory. The Irish face St. John's in Jamaica, Queens tonight.

after defeating No. 4 St. John's. In 2004, it took the regular-season title.

This year is crucial for the Notre Dame program, and this road trip is critical for starting the season off right.

"This is a game that I think could really make this team

be of age," Clark said. "I think this is a great opportunity game for us, and I think its one where I think we're capable of — I know we're capable, I don't just think we're capable — but this is a wonderful opportunity for this team."

The Irish have already traveled, playing in the adidas/IU Credit Union tournament in Bloomington. After last weekend's Mike Berticelli Memorial Tournament at Alumni Field, the Irish are

see RED STORM/page 29

MEN'S INTERHALL FOOTBALL

Grit will be on the gridiron

By JOE PIARULLI, JAY FITZPATRICK and TIM KAISER
Sports Writers

For the Alumni and O'Neill interhall football teams, Sunday at 2 p.m. is the time when the questions are answered, the hits are delivered and practice pays off. It's game time.

"We're really excited about getting going," Alumni captain Ryan McGettigan said.

Alumni will field a team which has a fairly even distribution, with six or seven from each year [freshman to senior], including a senior quarterback, but will have to make up for the loss of its starting running back, who is out with a recently suffered broken leg.

See Also
"Two big matchups begin women's interhall"

page 27

see RIVALRIES/page 29

MEN'S CROSS COUNTRY

Team to host National Catholic competition

By CHRIS KHOREY
Sports Writer

Some matchups are simply unfair.

The No. 7 Irish hosting 35 other schools, none of whom are ranked, in the National College Championships, is one such lopsided arrangement.

The last time Notre Dame failed to win the National College Championships was 1994.

But a 10-year run of dominance could be expected, as the meet is the brainchild of longtime Notre Dame men's cross country coach Joe Piane. It will feature schools of varying sizes. While there will be only one men's and one women's race, the teams have been divided into Division I and Small College competitions.

"There will be one race," Piane said. "There will be an overall score, but then we pull

out the Division II, Division III and NAIA schools and score them separately."

Because the meet features 35 teams and over 300 competitors, Piane said the key to the meet will be separating from the enormous pack early.

"You need to be a little more aggressive early, because if you get far behind, you're going to spend four-and-a-half miles trying to pass people," he said.

Piane said that each one of the over 150 Catholic colleges and universities in the United States is invited to the meet every year in hopes of creating a true national Catholic championship.

The Irish, ranked No. 7 by the United States Cross Country Coaches Association and fresh off a victory in the Valparaiso Invitational, will for the second straight week field a young line up. Varsity regulars Tim Moore,

see HOST/page 30

ND WOMEN'S SOCCER

Irish will face tests at Alumni

Notre Dame kicks off Big East schedule with game against DePaul

By KEN FOWLER
Sports Writer

After a weekend of "sloppy play," the Irish (5-1-0) kick off their Big East schedule tonight at 7:30 p.m. at Alumni Field against conference newcomer DePaul (1-3-1).

The game will be Notre Dame's first since returning with a split from the SCU Adidas Classic in Santa Clara, Calif. last weekend. The Irish lost the opener 2-1 to the host Broncos but bounced back with a 4-1 victory over Gonzaga Sunday, despite what Notre Dame head coach Randy Waldrum called a mediocre performance.

"I wasn't real pleased with the performance against Gonzaga," he said. "I mean, you've got to be happy that we turned around after the loss and got a win, but I don't think it was nearly as sharp as it



TIM SULLIVAN/The Observer

Irish forward Kerri Hanks maneuvers around a Maryland defender Sept. 4. Hanks leads the nation in goals with 11.

should be. We didn't have the mindset that we would come out and kill Gonzaga."

But this weekend presents an opportunity for the Irish to regain the sharpness with which they played in the first four games of the season.

The Irish scored 27 goals in

the first two weekends of the schedule en route to four wins, including wins over then-No. 24 Maryland and then-No. 13 Florida at the Inn at Saint Mary's Notre Dame Classic.

Waldrum said that he wishes

see TWO/page 30

SPORTS AT A GLANCE

W CROSS COUNTRY

Notre Dame hosts major meet and hopes to replicate past Irish success.

page 26

ND VOLLEYBALL

The Irish travel to Texas to face Katrina-battered LSU and Tulane in weekend action.

page 26

GOLF

David Toms collapses with heart irregularities during the 84 Lumber Classic and is rushed to the hospital.

page 23

SMC SOCCER

Saint Mary's vs. Alma

The Belles take on a conference foe in an important early-season matchup.

page 22

SMC VOLLEYBALL

Saint Mary's 3, Concordia 2

The team nearly missed the game after getting lost in Illinois but won the match.

page 22

MLB — AL

Yankees 9, Devil Rays 5

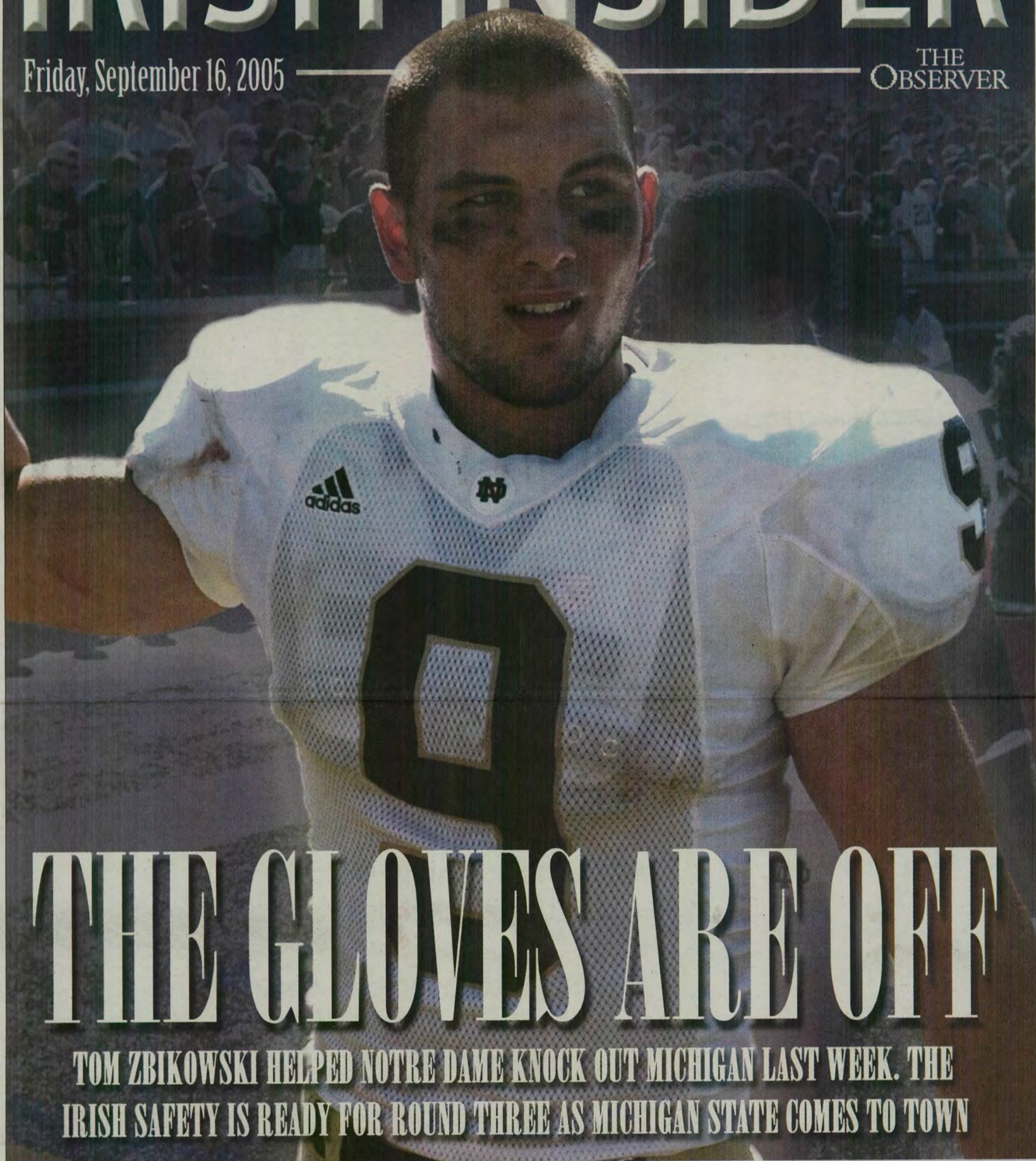
New York slices Boston's lead in the American League East to just 1.5 games.

page 19

IRISH INSIDER

Friday, September 16, 2005

THE
OBSERVER



THE GLOVES ARE OFF

TOM ZBIKOWSKI HELPED NOTRE DAME KNOCK OUT MICHIGAN LAST WEEK. THE IRISH SAFETY IS READY FOR ROUND THREE AS MICHIGAN STATE COMES TO TOWN

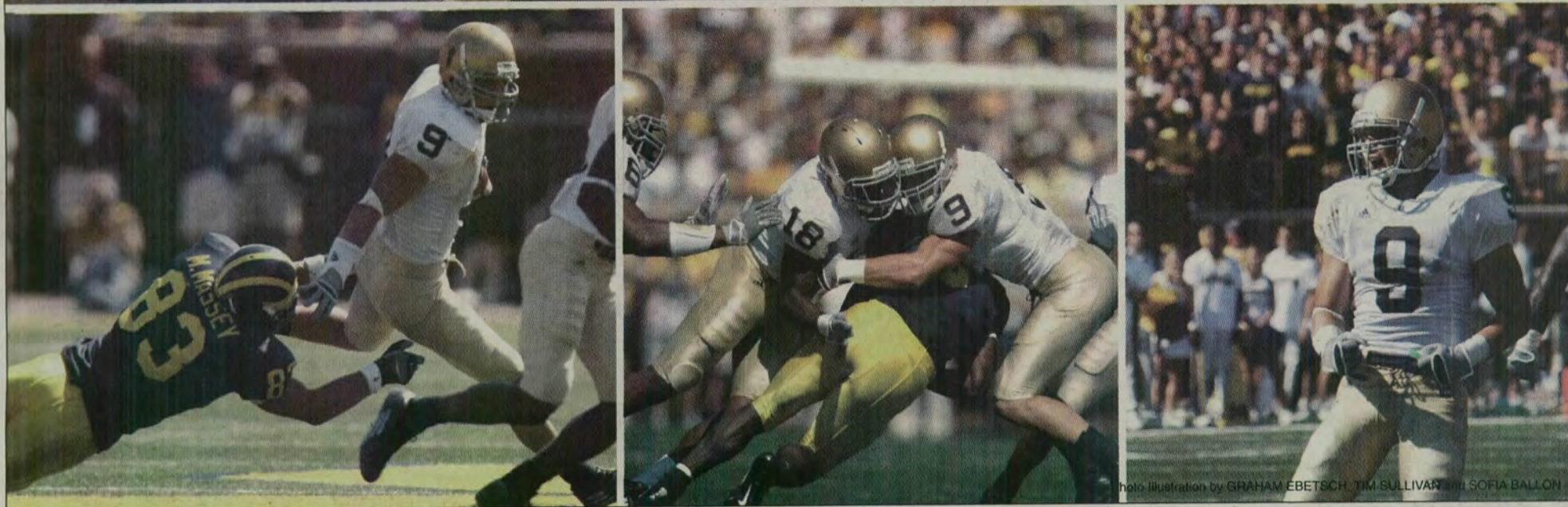


photo illustration by GRAHAM EBETSCH, TIM SULLIVAN and SOFIA BALLON

Irish need to avoid early letdown

The letdown.

Known throughout the sports world for its ability to turn last week's Dr. Jekyll into this week's Mr. Hyde, the let-down has the potential to devastate teams and ruin seasons. Like the unsightly barnacle stuck on the cruise liner of victory, the let-down quietly attaches itself to the end of any big win, waiting for the opportunity to rear its ugly head the following week.

And Saturday's win over rival and then-No. 3 Michigan in the Big House — a location where the Irish hadn't won since Lou Holtz was at the helm in 1993 — certainly qualifies as a big victory. The Irish earned their second-straight road victory over a defending conference champion.

But as big as the 42-21 throttling of Pittsburgh at Heinz Field was in establishing the Irish as a remarkably different football team than years past — at least in terms of transforming a solid

game plan into results on the field — the upset of the hated Wolverines in the Big House provides the ideal fuel for the following week's let-down fire.

Indeed, while playing at home in front of 80,000 screaming Irish faithful can provide that extra spark that helps the players dig just a little deeper and carries the team to victory — all the hype surrounding the Notre Dame home opener can be distracting.

Add the unexpected road victories by a new coach in Charlie Weis — the first one to open the season with two road victories since Knute Rockne in 1918 — and the accompanying vault from unranked to No. 10 in the Associated Press poll, and the potential for distraction grows to unprecedented heights, a fact that wasn't lost on Weis.

"First of all, Michigan State is good to start off with," Weis said during Sunday's press conference. "And if that isn't enough, then we have a problem. Then on top of it, now you don't have that 'Let's get on the bus and get out of here where we can focus everything.' Now you have all of your family and friends coming into the game. It could be a distraction."

And with the distraction-factor building, Weis knew

Sunday was the time to tackle the topic.

"I won't wait until Tuesday to bring it up, because Tuesday I want to be talking about game plan," Weis said. "I want to be talking about Michigan State's personnel. I want to be all football."

Heading into Saturday's contest, the Spartans have won four straight games at Notre Dame Stadium and 11 overall — the highest total of any opponent.

"First thing I did when I got on the bus on the way home was started doing some research to make sure I had the exact numbers [of the Notre Dame-Michigan State series]," Weis said. "Because I, like anyone else who knows the psychology of football, would realize that this would be a perfect opportunity for the guys to feel so good about themselves, they forget to show up to play a team that's been beating them regularly that they have come here."

Recognizing the mental impact of the sobering stats, Weis wasted little time presenting the numbers to the team, choosing to do so at the beginning of Sunday's meeting before any talk of Notre Dame's big win in the Big House.

"I think by giving them the cold, hard facts; 'Fellas, this is the way it is,' kind of slap them back to reality, and I

think that's the most important thing that I could be doing this week more than X's and O's," Weis said. "Make them understand the fact that we need to play our best game if we're going to beat Michigan State."

If Weis can achieve the same level of success in keeping the Irish focused on the current week as he's had not only convincing players of their potential, but then translating that confidence into success on the field, Notre Dame should have little difficulty scraping the let-down parasite off the hull of the ship and continuing the smooth sailing of the 2005 campaign.

But, in the end, if the Irish don't come ready to play, they can't expect the hometown crowd to pull it out for them.

"There's no more obvious, evident case than [the Michigan game] for our players that if you don't go out and play well enough, it won't make a difference how many people are yelling," Weis said. "Whether it's 80,000 or eight, you can still end up losing the game if you didn't play well."

The opinions expressed in this column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer. Contact Matt Puglisi at mpuglisi@nd.edu



Matt Puglisi

Associate Sports Editor

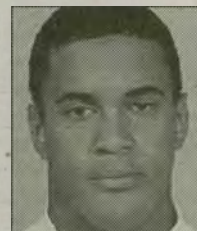
game hype



Charlie Weis
Irish head coach

"This is your home stadium. You don't want somebody to come in and beat you at your own stadium."

"There's nothing better in coaching than having players that are starting to gain some confidence."



Ryan Harris
Irish tackle

"It starts this weekend. This is our first home game of the season. So we just have to step up to the challenge."



Maurice Crum, Jr.
Irish linebacker

"This one is key for us. We get to find out if we're worth a hoot or not."



John L. Smith
Spartans head coach



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Art Gallery & Gift Shop

Tough, 'Zibby' style

Strong safety Tom Zbikowski leads Irish defense with attitude and experience

By PAT LEONARD
Sports Writer

The offensive player in him just wouldn't shut up. Tom Zbikowski needed the ball, and he needed it now.

It had been since high school that Zbikowski had run an offense, when he played quarterback, safety and returned kicks at Buffalo Grove High School in Buffalo Grove, Ill. But one touch of the ball was all he wanted.

Never mind that he had already intercepted Michigan State quarterback Stephen Reaves to set up the first Irish touchdown on Sept. 18, 2004.

On a routine Michigan State running play to tailback Jason Teague, with the score tied 7-7, Zbikowski zipped through the line, tore the ball from Teague's hands and bolted 75 yards for the end zone before even Teague could say, "Who's that guy?"

Everyone knows now.

The 5-foot-11, 208-pound strong safety made nine tackles and intercepted Michigan quarterback Chad Henne at the goal line last Saturday. He is the most experienced defensive back in a secondary that, though early in the season, seems to have made huge strides from a rough campaign last year.

And to top it all off, Zbikowski was named special teams captain for this week's game against the Spartans because of his contributions on punt returns.

"Tommy is one of the real leaders of our football team," defensive backs coach Bill Lewis said. "I don't imagine there's anything that Tommy does that he doesn't do competitively."

As Notre Dame attempts to end Michigan State's winning streak in South Bend, one of the "real leaders" of the Irish has a message to convey.

"Them coming in and winning four straight in our place is really not acceptable," Zbikowski said. "You can't let teams come into your place and win at home."

And like that, "Zibby" — as they call him nowadays — has developed a Keyshawn Johnson-esque attitude that says "Throw me the damn ball," per the title of the former Southern Cal receiver's book. Except Zbikowski doesn't say he wants the ball.

He just takes it.

Zibby the student

Zbikowski's classroom is not always in a school building, with 8,000 other undergraduates and textbooks. His classroom, and that of his teammates, is also the room where he watches film; where coaches dissect the past week's game; where head coaches show tape of mistakes, and mistakes only, in past years' losses.

Irish head coach Charlie Weiss showed his squad similar film of Notre Dame's last four home losses to the Spartans this week. But, as Lewis describes, Zbikowski has the toughness and ability to respond to such motivation and encourage teammates to do the same.

"Tommy tries to do everything the way he's coached to do it," Lewis said. "He's very easy to coach."

"What is so important, and what I appreciate about him, is he takes and goes from the class-

room to the practice field and can take things from inside [to the] outside. You talk about a game plan, [and] he can go out on the field then and start to work on executing it."

The strong safety's discipline and work ethic are contagious and evident. Though he redshirted as a freshman and has only played one full season for Notre Dame, Zbikowski gained the reputation as a confident and experienced player unusually quickly, simply because people noticed his style.

"He's not a boisterous guy, but it's very easy for his teammates to see what he's all about," Lewis said. "Because everything he does on the field he does full speed."

That speed was fast enough to gain recognition as Gatorade Player of the Year in Illinois Zbikowski's senior high school season, when he threw for 1,382 yards and 11 touchdowns, rushed for 1,287 yards and 23 touchdowns, racked up 41 tackles and made three interceptions.

USA Today tabbed him as a first-team All-American. The Chicago Sun Times labeled him the Chicago area player of the year. And Notre Dame made him one of their top recruits.

Right now, fifth-year senior linebacker and defensive captain Brandon Hoyte is already a leader on defense. But Zbikowski's command in the secondary also distinctly benefits the younger players and the entire defense — he called the defense's practices before the Michigan game "sloppy."

"It's not just his confidence," Weiss said. "It's his understanding of playing."

Zibby the teacher

Zbikowski could have walked onto the practice field in the spring, turned to face the quarterback, looked to his left and right, and felt completely lost.

He was the only starter remaining in the defensive backfield, albeit one that surrendered too many passing yards and touchdowns through the air last

season. Zbikowski instead saw the new season, with the new coaching staff, as an opportunity.

"Whenever he sees something that I could possibly be doing better, he'll mention it," said starting free safety Chinedum Ndukwe. "That's just the kind of guy he is. He'll step up to say 'Maybe you need to take that one more step when you hit someone' or 'Take that extra step when you're backpedaling.'"

"He knows what he's doing back there. He has a good football mind."

Ndukwe is not only new to the starting secondary. He is new to defense altogether. The former wide receiver, who caught touchdowns from Brady Quinn at Dublin Coffman High School in Ohio, is still getting used to tackling rather than catching.

But as Weiss has observed through spring practice, fall practice and the early season, the coach believes Zbikowski has had an obvious positive influence on less experienced players like Ndukwe.

"Somebody who's been out there and who's seen things happen at full speed — changing every week — is different than someone who just goes through it in training camp," Weiss said. "I think when you have that settling force that checks you in and out of the right coverages and adjusts formations [like Zbikowski does], it really takes some of the pressure off you that you have to be the sole adjuster, especially when it comes to the secondary."

Zbikowski said he believes his role is to get his teammates ready on a week-to-week basis, much along the lines of his coach's mentality. They're on the same page, as teachers and as competitors.

Zibby the player

Football is his sport, sure. But Zbikowski is also a veteran boxer who takes hits as well as he gives them.

He competed in the Golden Gloves program beginning at age nine, compiling a 60-13 amateur



TIM SULLIVAN/The Observer

Irish strong safety Tom Zbikowski has made 17 tackles in Notre Dame's first two games this season.

record and earning a national rank. He was also a Silver Gloves national finalist in 1998, '99 and 2000.

His multiple talents, within football and without, distinguish Zbikowski as an athlete and — as Lewis describes him — a competitor. Though the experience in the ring is completely separate from his efforts on the field, the strong safety found a correlation.

"[Boxing and football] are two different sports," Zbikowski said. "But I guess boxing has always helped me in all my aspects [of football]. When you're winning, you've got to know how to survive without getting knocked out."

Notre Dame finds itself in that exact predicament Saturday against a team that has had the Irish's number in Notre Dame Stadium. Despite coaching and win streaks and rebounds from

unsuccessful seasons, it takes attitude to reverse trends, win games and prove a point.

Enter Tom Zbikowski.

"What [Michigan State has] been saying in the media, they don't really have any fear when they come in to play us," he said. "But we've got to put fear in them."

And as the Notre Dame defense grows, on the shoulders of a young man who stands under 6-feet tall, so will the abilities of a player who still has a long time to improve — scary, isn't it?

"I think as we go down the road, every week I'm going to raise the bar on Tommy and expect more of him," Lewis said, "because I think he's got that kind of ability."

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MATT SMEDBERG/The Observer

Tom Zbikowski, left, runs off Heinz Field after the Irish beat Pittsburgh 42-21 on Sept. 3. Zbikowski has been a leader for the Irish in the early part of 2005.

by the numbers

The number of consecutive times Michigan State has won at Notre Dame Stadium. **4**
Purdue holds the record with five.

102 The number of rushing yards Irish running back Darius Walker is averaging through the first two games of the season.

The number of points Michigan State has scored through their first two games. **98**

.632 Notre Dame's winning percentage against Michigan State in the history of both programs.

The percentage of passes that MSU quarterback Drew Stanton is completing, the nation's fourth best passing efficiency-rating. **78**

592 The number of total yards of offense Michigan State is averaging in its first two games.

The last time Notre Dame started off the season 3-0, something they hope to accomplish Saturday. **2002**

1 Notre Dame, the one team in the country to have two wins over top-25 teams.

Notre Dame
Fighting Irish
Record: 2-0
AP: 10
Coaches: 12



Charlie Weis
head coach

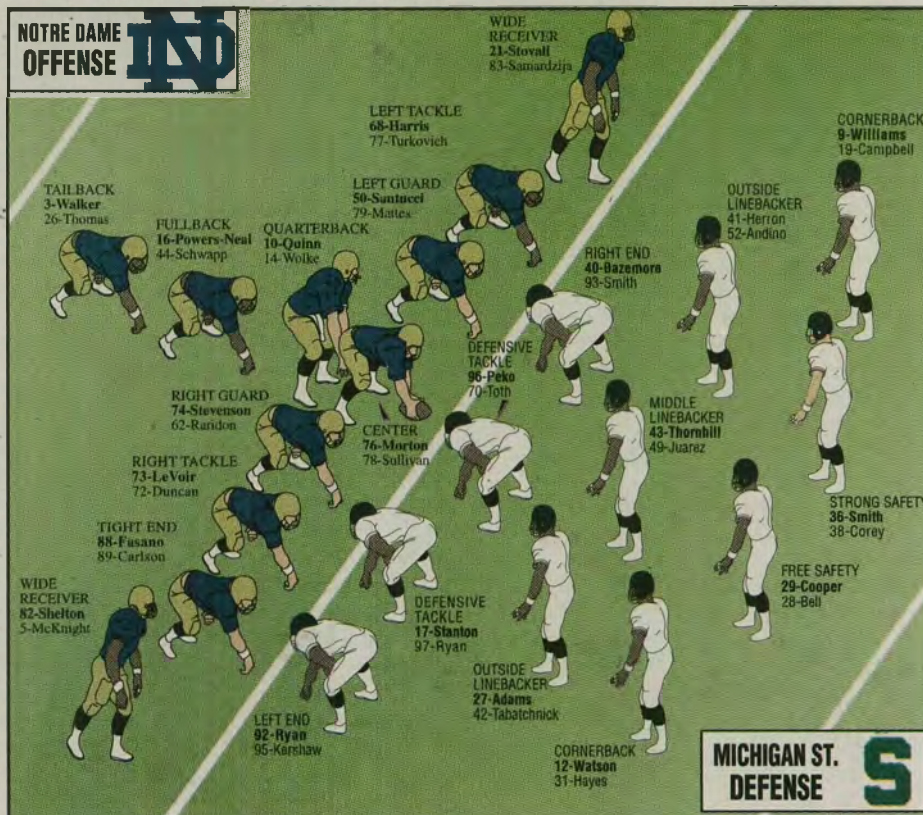
Charlie Weis
first season at
Notre Dame
career record:
2-0
at Notre Dame:
2-0
against
Michigan State: 0-0

Roster

No.	Name	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	YR
1	D.J. Hord	WR	6-1	198	FR
3	Darius Walker	RB	5-11	200	SO
4	Anthony Vernaglia	DB	6-3	221	SO
5	Rhema McKnight	WR	6-1	215	SR
6	Ray Herring	DB	6-0	199	FR
7	Darrin Bragg	WR	6-1	192	SO
8	Junior Jabbie	RB	6-0	188	SO
9	Tom Zbikowski	DB	5-11	203	JR
10	Brady Quinn	QB	6-4	231	JR
11	David Grimes	WR	6-0	170	FR
12	Marty Mooney	QB	6-2	207	SR
13	Evan Sharpley	QB	6-2	207	FR
14	David Wolke	QB	6-2	196	FR
15	Leo Ferrine	DB	6-0	186	SO
16	Rashon Powers-Neal	RB	6-3	238	SR
17	Geoffrey Price	P	6-3	186	FR
18	Dan Gorski	QB	6-3	196	FR
19	Chinedum Ndukwe	DB	6-2	219	JR
20	D.J. Fitzpatrick	K/P	6-2	206	SR
21	Terrill Lambert	DB	5-11	188	SO
22	Maurice Stovall	WR	6-5	222	SR
23	Ambrose Wooden	CB	5-11	197	JR
24	Chase Anastasio	WR	6-2	203	JR
25	W. David Williams	DB	5-10	170	SO
26	Brandon Erickson	WR	6-0	178	SO
27	Nate Schiccatano	DL	6-2	237	SR
28	Wade Iams	DB	5-9	188	SO
29	Travis Thomas	RB	6-0	215	JR
30	David Bruton	DB	6-2	187	FR
31	John Lyons	RB	6-1	205	JR
32	Kyle McCarthy	DB	6-0	189	FR
33	LaBrose Hedgemon	DB	5-9	190	JR
34	Mike Richardson	DB	5-11	193	SR
35	Jake Carney	DB	6-0	187	SR
36	Jeff Jenkins	RB	6-0	232	SR
37	Alvin Reynolds	DB	5-10	180	SO
38	Justin Hoskins	RB	5-10	186	SO
39	Tommie Lee	DB	6-2	200	JR
40	Ashley McConnell	RB	6-0	247	JR
41	Tim Kenney	DB	6-0	180	JR
42	Brandon Harris	DB	6-0	198	SR
43	Junior Jabbie	DB	5-11	190	FR
44	Matt Mitchell	DB	5-8	187	SR
45	Nick Possley	WR	6-1	183	SO
46	Brandon Hoyte	LB	6-0	236	SR
47	Maurice Crum, Jr.	LB	6-0	220	SO
48	Scott Smith	LB	6-3	234	FR
49	Kevin Washington	LB	6-1	231	FR
50	Anthony Salvador	LB	6-2	233	SR
51	Asaph Schwapp	RB	6-0	250	FR
52	Carl Gioia	K	5-10	183	JR
53	Rich Whitney	DB	6-2	213	JR
54	Corey Mays	LB	6-1	234	SR
55	Mitchell Thomas	LB	6-3	240	JR
56	Steve Quinn	LB	6-2	220	JR
57	Matt Augustyn	FB	6-3	220	JR
58	Dan Santucci	OL	6-4	290	SR
59	Joe Brockington	LB	6-1	212	JR
60	Joseph Boland	LB	6-2	242	SR
61	David Fitzgerald	OL	6-4	293	SR
62	Nick Borseti	LB	6-4	238	JR
63	Dwight Stephenson	DL	6-2	252	JR
64	Abdel Banda	LB	6-1	220	SO
65	James Bent	OL	6-2	265	SR
66	Casey Cullen	DL	6-1	238	JR
67	J.J. Jansen	LS	6-3	242	SO
68	Scott Raridon	OL	6-7	304	SR
69	Jeff Tisak	OL	6-3	305	FR
70	Derek Landri	DL	6-3	263	SR
71	Ryan Harris	OL	6-5	288	JR
72	Neil Kennedy	OL	5-11	260	SR
73	James Bonelli	OL	6-5	280	SR
74	Paul Duncan	OL	6-7	292	FR
75	Mark LeVoi	OL	6-7	311	SR
76	Dan Stevenson	OL	6-6	292	SR
77	Chris Frome	DL	6-5	268	SR
78	Bob Morton	OL	6-4	292	SR
79	Michael Turkovich	OL	6-6	290	FR
80	John Sullivan	OL	6-4	298	JR
81	Brian Mattes	OL	6-6	285	SR
82	Rob Woods	WR	6-2	208	SR
83	Matt Shelton	WR	6-0	172	SR
84	Jeff Samardzija	WR	6-5	216	JR
85	Michael O'Hara	WR	5-10	180	SR
86	Joey Hiben	TE	6-4	253	FR
87	Mike Talerico	TE	6-5	245	SO
88	Marcus Freeman	TE	6-3	245	SR
89	Anthony Fasano	TE	6-5	255	SR
90	John Carlson	DL	6-3	294	SR
91	Brian Beidatsch	K	6-0	174	JR
92	Craig Cardillo	DL	6-3	301	FR
93	Derrell Hand	DL	6-1	259	SR
94	Dan Chervanick	DL	6-3	247	SO
95	Justin Brown	DL	6-4	260	JR
96	Victor Abiamiri	DL	6-0	195	JR
97	Bobby Renkes	K	6-0	267	FR
98	Pat Kuntz	DL	6-2	197	FR
99	Trevor Laws	DL	6-1	293	JR
	Ronald Talley	DL	6-4	261	SO

NOTRE DAME
2005 Schedule

Sept. 3	at Pittsburgh - W
Sept. 10	at Michigan - W
Sept. 17	MICHIGAN ST.
Sept. 24	at Washington
Oct. 01	at Purdue
Oct. 15	USC
Oct. 22	BYU
Nov. 5	TENNESSEE
Nov. 12	NAVY
Nov. 19	SYRACUSE
Nov. 26	at Stanford



COACHING

Charlie Weis has done everything he's been asked to do in his first year as Irish coach — win. His gameplan to start the game against Michigan was flawless. The Irish have looked sluggish in the second half of both wins, however, and Weis will have to prevent a letdown.

John L. Smith is the 12th winningest coach in Division I-A with a career record of 125-72. He is 15-12 during his three years at the helm of Michigan State. Smith led Louisville to five straight bowl berths before coming to East Lansing.

Smith is one of the better coaches in the nation and will have Michigan State ready to play. But Weis has shown he is more than capable of handling the spotlight at Notre Dame, and his offensive mind will be too much for Smith and his less-talented Spartans.

QUARTERBACKS

As Brady Quinn goes, so goes Notre Dame. Quinn has been efficient behind center, and as a result the Irish offense has looked crisp. He has thrown just one pick in two games, but the Michigan blitz rattled him last week and led to several poor passes.

Drew Stanton is currently fourth in the nation in passing efficiency while leading an offense ranked second in the country averaging 592 yards of total offense per game. Stanton enters his second year as the starter and is dangerous on his feet as well as with his arm.

Quinn and Stanton will both throw for a couple touchdowns and keep their names on early season awards lists. Stanton's legs will keep Michigan State close, but Quinn is too calm, too talented and too good to allow the Irish to fall to the Spartans.

IRISH RUSHING

Darius Walker pounded out 104 yards against the Wolverines. Fullbacks Asaph Schwapp and Rashon Powers-Neal are both steady blockers. Look for Powers-Neal to carry in goal-line situations. He scored three short-yardage touchdowns two weeks ago against Pittsburgh.

Spartans linebacker Kalib Thornhill leads a defense giving up a sparse 68.5 rushing yards per game. Kent State and Hawaii both failed to rush for a touchdown. Michael Bazemore and Clifton Ryan are solid at the defensive end positions.

The Irish offensive line is larger, more talented and more seasoned than Michigan State's defense. Walker is aching to break out and rush for 150 yards or more after being bottled up during most of the Michigan game. Look for Powers-Neal to notch another touchdown.

IRISH PASSING

Rhema McKnight is not playing this week due to an injury he suffered against Michigan. Quinn will need to look for Jeff Samardzija and Maurice Stovall to pick up the slack. Tight end Anthony Fasano has eight catches to tie for the team lead with Darius Walker.

SirDarean Adams leads the team in tackles and joins Eric Smith as two big hitters in the defensive backfield. Spartan opponents have thrown for an average of 268 yards per game and four total TDs. The loss of safety Jason Harmon and cornerback Roderick Maples hurts.

The absence of McKnight could really hurt the Irish. Spartan defensive backs Jaren Hayes and Smith are formidable and will slow down Notre Dame's passing attack. But if Samardzija can keep making catches like he has in the first two games, ND will be fine.

Irish
experts



Pat Leonard
Managing Editor

Drew Stanton can throw and so can Brady Quinn. We know this. What we don't know is how Michigan State runs the ball against a team like the Irish, and we don't know if the Spartans can stop Notre Dame's run game. On Saturday, the Irish win the ground game and the contest.

FINAL SCORE: Notre Dame 24
Michigan State 21



Heather Van
Hoegarden
AME

Michigan State wants to know how good it is. Notre Dame wants to show how good it will be at home. The Irish defense will step up for the second straight week and the offense will play better than last week. For the first time this season, Notre Dame will pull it all together for one game.

FINAL SCORE: Notre Dame 31
Michigan State 21

O HEAD

Michigan State Spartans

Michigan State Spartans

Record: 2-0

AP: NR

Coaches: NR

John L. Smith
third season at
Michigan State
career record:

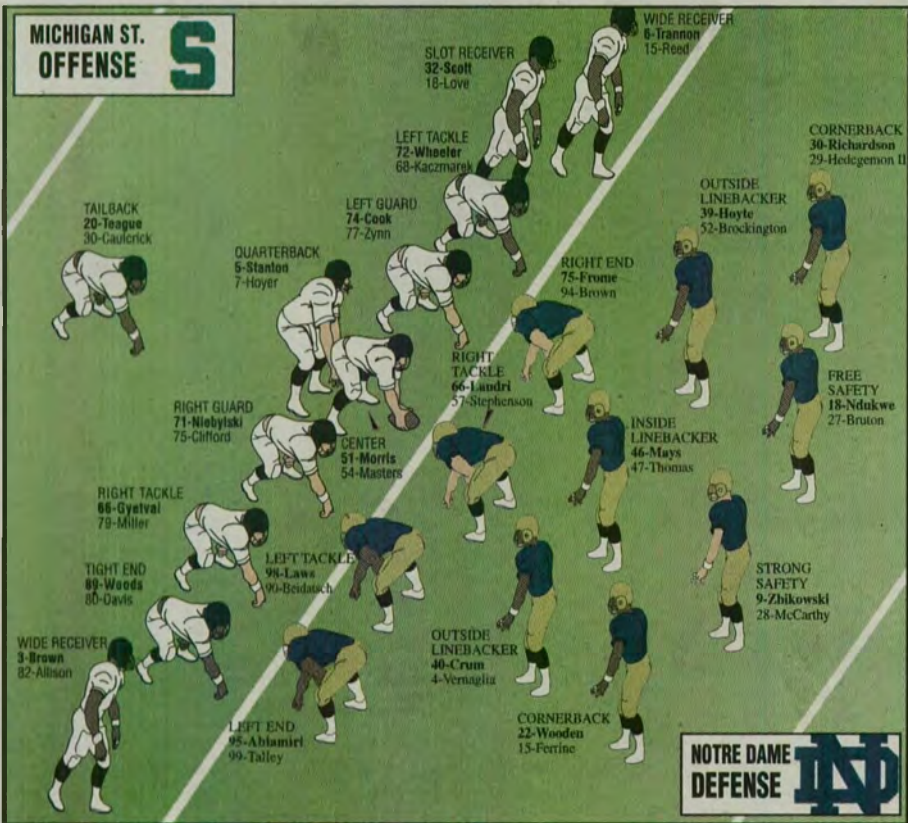
123-72

at Michigan State:
13-12

against Notre
Dame: 2-0



John L. Smith
head coach



MICHIGAN STATE 2005 Schedule

Sept. 3	KENT STATE - W
Sept. 10	HAWAII - W
Sept. 17	at Notre Dame
Sept. 24	at Illinois
Oct. 1	MICHIGAN
Oct. 15	at Ohio State
Oct. 22	NORTHWESTERN
Oct. 29	INDIANA
Nov. 5	at Purdue
Nov. 12	at Minnesota
Nov. 19	PENN STATE

Roster

No.	Name	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	YR
2	Diego Oguendo	WR	5-9	178	FR
3	Kyle Brown	WR	6-1	210	SR
4	Carl Grimes	WR	5-9	171	FR
5	Drew Stanton	QB	6-3	222	JR
6	Matt Trannon	WR	6-6	227	SR
7	Brian Hoyer	QB	6-2	204	FR
8	Ted Toune	CB	5-8	173	FR
8	Brandon Fields	P	6-6	230	JR
9	Demond Williams	DB	5-9	174	JR
10	Aaron Alexander	WR	6-5	206	SR
11	John Goss	K	6-3	218	FR
12	Clay Charles	QB	6-1	190	FR
12	Ashton Williams	CB	5-11	189	SR
13	Travis Key	CB	5-10	181	SO
14	Domenic Natale	QB	6-1	185	FR
14	Cole Malatinsky	S	6-0	201	SR
15	Kerry Reed	WR	6-2	198	JR
16	John Van Dam	QB	6-3	217	SO
16	Andrew Pendy	S	6-1	222	FR
17	David Stanton	DL	6-3	291	JR
17	Blair White	WR	6-2	192	FR
18	Terry Love	WR	5-11	173	SO
18	Brandon Denson	WR	5-11	195	FR
19	Irving Campbell	CB	5-11	180	SO
20	Ashley Beaudouin	S	6-0	218	S
20	Jason Teague	RB	5-9	193	SR
21	Brett Kahn	RB	5-9	171	SO
21	Otis Wiley	DB	6-2	185	FR
22	Kyle Rowley	S	5-10	197	FR
26	Kyle Mayer	K	6-1	210	JR
26	Tom Dance	S	6-1	205	FR
27	Sir Daeon Adams	CB	6-2	222	SO
28	Mike Bell	S	5-11	189	SO
29	Greg Cooper	S	5-11	189	JR
30	William McElroy	CB	5-11	170	FR
30	Jehuu Caulcrick	RB	6-0	245	SO
32	Jerramy Scott	WR	5-10	186	JR
33	Dan Fortener	DB	6-1	184	FR
35	Kiel Beltinck	DB	5-9	200	JR
36	Eric Smith	S	6-1	202	SR
37	Ross Weaver	DB	6-1	196	FR
38	Cole Corey	S	5-10	194	SO
39	Javon Ringer	RB	5-9	195	FR
39	Jelani Nantambu	DB	5-9	178	FR
40	Michael Bazemore	DE	6-3	270	FR
41	David Herron Jr.	LB	6-1	246	SR
42	Rob Tabatchnick	LB	5-11	209	SO
43	Kaleb Thornhill	LB	6-1	240	SO
44	A.J. Jimmerson	RB	5-10	195	FR
45	Andrew Hawken	LB	6-2	224	FR
47	Brandon Long	LB	6-4	230	FR
48	Seth Mitchell	LB	6-2	255	JR
48	Steven Juarez	LB	6-1	225	JR
51	Derrick Johnson	LB	5-9	238	SO
51	Chris Morris	C	6-4	305	SR
52	Eric Andino	LB	6-4	232	SO
53	Adam Decker	LB	6-2	235	FR
54	Jeff McPherson	LB	6-1	228	FR
54	John Masters	C	6-4	280	SO
56	Brian Bury	SN	6-0	244	JR
57	Rocco Cironi	OL	6-6	298	FR
58	Reggie Graham	DL	6-4	205	FR
59	Marcus Calverley	LB	5-11	233	FR
59	Kenny Shane	OL	6-5	302	JR
60	Mike Bacon	OL	6-4	278	FR
61	Tramonte Pointer	DT	5-10	304	SO
62	Derrick Outlaw	DE	6-3	251	SO
63	Devin Pritchett	LB	6-2	249	SO
64	Brendan Moss	OG	6-6	269	FR
65	Joel Nitchman	OL	6-3	281	FR
66	Mike Gyetval	OT	6-7	307	SO
67	John Mulroy	OT	6-5	281	FR
68	Tom Kaczmarek	OT	6-5	308	FR
70	Joe Toth	DT	6-2	292	SO
71	Gordon Niebyiski	OG	6-3	312	SR
72	Stefon Wheeler	OT	6-5	330	SR
73	Roland Martin	OG	6-5	318	FR
74	Kyle Cook	OG	6-3	295	JR
75	Pete Clifford	OT	6-7	327	SO
76	Mike Schmeding	OL	6-8	293	FR
77	Daniel Zynn	OG	6-2	321	JR
79	Jesse Miller	OT	6-6	311	FR
80	Kellen Davis	TE	6-6	241	SO
81	Dwayne Holmes	TE	6-0	254	FR
82	Ryan Allison	WR	6-3	207	SO
83	Jamar Jones	TE	6-3	225	SO
84	Deon Curry	WR	6-1	209	FR
85	Joshua Kaltsas	TE	6-2	221	FR
86	Jeremy McGinnis	WR	5-11	172	FR
87	Kyle Sackrider	TE	6-2	254	SO
88	Craig McGovern	TE	6-3	267	FR
89	Ryan Woods	TE	6-4	259	SR
91	Travis Willard	TE	6-2	228	FR
92	Clifton Ryan	DE	6-2	302	JR
93	Nick Smith	DE	6-5	265	SO
94	Jonal Saint-Dic	DL	6-1	260	JR
95	Justin Kershaw	DE	6-4	253	FR
96	Domata Peko	DT	6-2	320	SR
97	Charlie Rewoldt	DT	6-2	301	SO
98	Bobby Jones	DT	6-4	299	JR
99	Brandon McKinney	DT	6-3	320	SR

SPARTANS RUSHING

Notre Dame is giving up an average of 108.5 yards per game on the ground. Brian Beidatsch and Derek Landri each have a tackle for loss while Trevor Laws and Victor Abiamiri helped keep Michigan's potent running attack quiet last Saturday.

Twenty nine of Michigan State's 60 first downs have come on the ground and so have eight of the Spartans' touchdowns. Jehuu Caulcrick ranks 17th nationally with 114.5 yards per game. Center Chris Morris is one of three returning offensive line starters.

Caulcrick is a dangerous runner and will help the Spartans control the clock. However, without suspended running back Jason Teague, the Spartans won't be able to withstand the run-stopping ability of Laws, Landri, Abiamiri and Frome.

SPARTANS PASSING

The Irish line knocked down eight passes last week, the most since the 2002 Florida State game. Tom Zbikowski has two interceptions so far this season, and cornerbacks Ambrose Wooden and Mike Richardson have broken up a total of two passes.

Stanton has plenty of options in this offense. Kyle Brown has nabbed 12 catches for 133 yards this season. Terry Love is averaging 20.5 yards per reception from the receiver spot, and Jerramy Scott has scored two touchdowns from the slot position.

Stanton might be the best passer in the Big Ten and should be excited to play a young Irish secondary unit. Though Zbikowski and Wooden played well at Michigan, if the defensive line doesn't put pressure on Stanton, he could light up the Irish just as he did Kent State and Hawaii.

SPECIAL TEAMS

The punt coverage team excelled last week by keeping Michigan returner Steve Breaston in check, preventing him from breaking a big play. Zbikowski looks dangerous as a punt returner. Fitzpatrick's field goal last week was wobbly — but good.

Kicker Dave Raymer, the Spartans all-time leader in points, field goals and extra points, is gone. Brandon Fields averages 44.4 yards per punt and also handles kick-off duties. Brown averages 21 yards per punt return while three players rotate at kick returner.

Michigan State hasn't faced much of a test this year with only a handful of kick returns to work with. Zbikowski has the ability to put points on the board in a hurry with a punt return. If he can break one big, the home crowd will come alive and make a Spartan win difficult.

INTANGIBLES

Notre Dame should be confident after two impressive road victories. Finally playing at home should help the Irish and make them more at ease. The student body is very optimistic and should make Notre Dame Stadium as loud as it has been in several seasons.

Michigan State is coming off two blowout wins over Kent State and Hawaii. Then again, it's Kent State and Hawaii. But the Spartans haven't lost at Notre Dame Stadium since 1995 and seem to always play their best game of the year against the Irish.

Notre Dame's renewal under Weis is the talk of the college football world. That could be a problem Saturday. If the Irish read their press clippings more than their playbook, Michigan State will walk out of Notre Dame Stadium with its fifth straight win in South Bend.

NOTRE DAME

MICHIGAN STATE

ANALYSIS



Mike Gilloon
Sports Editor

Michigan State has been a thorn in Notre Dame's side for years. Weis will turn this flaw into an advantage, and the Irish will be fired up to stop the Spartans' Notre Dame Stadium win streak. Drew Stanton has trouble facing a defense not named "Hawaii," and Darius Walker busts out with a 200-yard game.

FINAL SCORE: Notre Dame 45
Michigan State 10



Matt Puglisi
Associate
Sports Editor

As impressive as Michigan State has looked beating up on bottom-feeders Hawaii and Kent State by a combined score of 91-28 the first two weeks of the season, reality returns this weekend. If the Irish can effectively adjust to Spartan quarterback Drew Stanton, the game will be over shortly after it starts.

FINAL SCORE: Notre Dame 38
Michigan State 16

Irish experts

Sizing up the Irish and the Spartans

AVERAGE PER GAME	NOTRE DAME'S OFFENSE VS MICHIGAN STATE'S DEFENSE		MICHIGAN STATE'S OFFENSE VS NOTRE DAME'S DEFENSE	
total yards gained	746		1184	
total yards allowed	674		660	
rushing yards gained	379		552	
rushing yards allowed	137		217	
passing yards gained	367		632	
passing yards allowed	537		443	
kick return yards gained	59		48	
kick return yards allowed	172		152	
punt return yards gained	42		77	
punt return yards allowed	19		31	
yards per punt	42.3		44.4	
punts blocked	0		0	
turnovers lost	2		3	
turnovers recovered	2		4	
total points scored	59		91	
total points allowed	28		31	
Notre Dame yards penalized	115			
Michigan yards penalized	109			

KEY MATCHUP



**NOTRE DAME
SECONDARY**

Notre Dame has done a good job against the pass so far this season, shutting down the passing games of Tyler Palko and Chad Henne in its first two games of the season.

The Irish have allowed 443 yards passing, making two interceptions. This week, Notre Dame has to deal with a Michigan State team that has had success moving the ball through the air.

Tom Zbikowski, above, will need to continue to come up with big stops to slow down the pace of red-hot Drew Stanton.



**MICHIGAN STATE
QUARTERBACK**

Drew Stanton has been everything Michigan State has hoped for thus far in 2005.

He has thrown for 632 yards and helped the Spartans put up 92 points in their two games this season. He runs a good play action, and his ability to throw on the run makes him dangerous.

This week will be a good test for Stanton. His big games this year have come against Kent State and Hawaii. Stanton will need to find a way to duplicate those performances against a tougher Irish defense.

Did you work for The Observer?

The Observer will be celebrating its 40th Anniversary with a reunion during the weekend of the Blue & Gold Game this spring. We would love for you to attend.

Please contact Maureen Reynolds at mreynold@nd.edu for more information.

Crum living up to name, Irish expectations

By HEATHER VAN HOEGARDEN
Sports Writer

Irish linebacker Maurice Crum Jr. is a first-year starter, but the way he plays rarely reflects his youth.

"When I look over to him, it's just trust that he's going to make the play," senior linebacker Corey Mays said. "It's not that he's young or anything like that. We really don't look at him like that. He has to step up."

And step up he has. Crum has made ten tackles in two games at the new Apache linebacker spot and forced a fumble against Michigan last week. The 6-foot sophomore, despite having played only two games in his college career, doesn't get flustered easily.

"I went through the first game jitters, playing in the Michigan game, so now it's time to play," Crum said. "I know my role. I know my responsibility. I just have to step up and fulfill it."

Crum is playing alongside two fifth-year seniors — Mays and Brandon Hoyte. Mays said that for Crum, stepping into the spotlight after redshirting as a freshman was not a big deal.

"There's not much of a transition because he's so comfortable with it," Mays said. "He's not nervous about it. He's not forgetting his checks or anything. Really it's rather easy. Some people can come into college football and fit right in and never miss a beat."

Crum grew up with football.

The son of Miami All-American linebacker Maurice Crum Sr. said being raised with football around him has helped him become the player he is today. Crum and his father would watch game tapes of him in high school, analyzing the tape and critiquing his play.

"I've been around football for a long time so maybe that's why I learned so quickly," Crum said. "We'd watch my high school tape and his college tape and compare the two. So far, I haven't had as many big plays as him. But I got a couple more years."

The elder Crum, who played outside linebacker when he led Miami in tackles for three straight years, still watches his son play.

"When he watches the game, he has a pen and paper, so he can grade me," Crum said. "After the game I call him and he lets me know what I do wrong."

Even with his dad making sure he does everything right, Crum's coaches have been pleased with what they've seen so far, starting with April's Blue and Gold game, when he recorded three tackles.

"He's a redshirt freshman that's progressed well," defensive coordinator and linebackers coach Rick Minter said. "He took advantage of opportunities in the spring time, carried it over to the summer workouts and into the

fall camp. And [has] really done just a nice job adapting."

Crum, an all-state selection in high school, knows he still has some things to work on in the rare occasions when his inexperience shows.

"At times, you can see that I'm still young," he said. "Sometimes [the coaches] point that out to me but they also point out highlights, bright spots."

And surrounded by Hoyte and Mays, Crum is between two experienced players

who look out for him, all while expecting him to step up on the field.

"Everybody's accepted me," Crum said. "They all look after me, I will say that. So I know they're looking after me as kind of the youngin'."

"I take it as a compliment, that they respect me in that way, and I just try to live up to it. I just want to do my job."

Saturday's game against Michigan State will be another "first" for the Riverview, Fla., native, as he will run out of the tunnel at Notre Dame Stadium as a starter.

"That's going to be exciting," he said. "I've kinda dreamed about that, and I'm waiting for that. So that will be an exciting moment."

Contact Heather Van Hoegarden at hvanhoeg@nd.edu



SOFIA BALLON/The Observer

Maurice Crum dives over Michigan running back Mike Hart during Saturday's 17-10 win over the Wolverines.

Stanton standing tall in Spartan backfield



The Michigan State quarterback has been efficient this season

By MIKE GILLOON
Sports Editor

Drew Stanton ranked No. 10 in the Big Ten last season in passing yards per game.

So it's not a stretch to say the Michigan State quarterback has exceeded expectations with his success through two games in 2005.

Stanton has completed 78.2 percent (43-for-55) of his passes for 598 yards this season, with five touchdowns and just one interception. He ranks fourth in the nation in passing efficiency.

Though these staggering statistics came at home against perennial doormats Kent State and Hawaii, Irish coach Charlie Weis is still wary of the quarterback's ability to score on Notre Dame's defense.

"I think [Stanton] is something special," Weis said. "Not only is he one of their captains, but he can do it all. Look at last week ... He's a very special player."

Stanton led a Spartan offense that racked up 685 yards of total offense in its season-opener against Kent State, the second-most in program history.

Michigan State also opened up a 35-0 lead on Hawaii and tallied 499 yards of total

offense. These performances have put Michigan State No. 2 nationally in total offense.

Stanton did not start in last season's 31-24 loss to Notre Dame, a duty fell on the graduated Stephen Reaves. But Stanton did enter the game eventually and went 8-for-12 and led the Spartans with 112 yards through the air.

Last week he torched the Rainbows, going 21-of-36 for 300 yards and three touchdowns. That was the third career 300-yard passing game for the junior from Harrison Hills High School in Michigan, where he was a consensus top-20 quarterback recruit in 2001.

Irish cornerback Ambrose Wooden agreed with his coaches' respect and concern for Stanton's ability to make plays both in and out of the pocket.

"He's a great player, a great all-around quarterback," Wooden said. "He can beat you here, there. He's an agile, do-it-all type guy. You've just got to be prepared for him."

Stanton started seven games in 2004 and threw for an average of 160 yards per game while also ranking eighth in the Big Ten with 68.7 average rushing yards. This combination propelled him to a third-place finish in

the conference in total offense, which worries Weis.

"I'll tell you what. Every time Stanton hands off and starts to roll out, that concerns me," Weis said. "He does a pretty good job of ball faking after he hands the ball off. That's one of our concerns because he's so athletic, you always have to be concerned with him pulling the ball down, coming down the line of scrimmage and doing that. There's a lot of things I'm worried about with that offense. That's just one of many."

Michigan quarterback Chad Henne had 223 yards on 19-of-44 passing with one touchdown during the 17-10 Notre Dame win last week. The Irish defense rattled Henne into one fumble and one interception.

With Stanton's ability to make plays with both his feet and his arm, Weis wishes Michigan State coach John L. Smith would only utilize one side of his talent.

"We prepare for [Stanton's rushing ability]," Weis said. "To be honest with you, that kid, the way he throws the ball, I'd do all I could not to get him hurt."

Contact Mike Gilloon at mgilloon@nd.edu

Michigan State junior quarterback Drew Stanton throws a pass during the second quarter of Saturday's 42-14 win over Hawaii.

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