THE OBSERVER

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More students violating zoning off campus

Upwards of 30 single family homes in campus neighborhoods occupied illegally by more than two unrelated residents

By AARON STEINER
News Writer

While the number of students living off campus has remained stable over recent years, an increasing amount of Notre Dame and Saint Mary's students living off campus are in violation of local zoning codes, according to city and county officials.

More students are violating city and county regulations about the number of unrelated occupants a home may have.

"What I am seeing this year are a lot more single family homes — properties that are zoned for single family use only — being occupied by more than two students," Catherine Toppel, director of Code Enforcement for the City of South Bend said.

Most homes in residential districts in South Bend and St. Joseph's County are zoned single family. No more than two unrelated people are allowed to occupy a single family home, according to county Assistant Zoning Administrator Mark Lyons.

"Three students constitutes a violation, both in the city and the county," Lyons said.

Students are increasingly living in single family homes as new houses become available for rent or purchase, Toppel said.

According to files obtained by The Observer through a public records request, the city filed reports of over a half dozen violations in neighborhoods south of Notre Dame's campus since August of this year. Reported violations include homes on Pokagon St., Angela Blvd., Marquette Ave., and N. Foster St. Some of the records showed cases with fines of up to $1,000 per day.

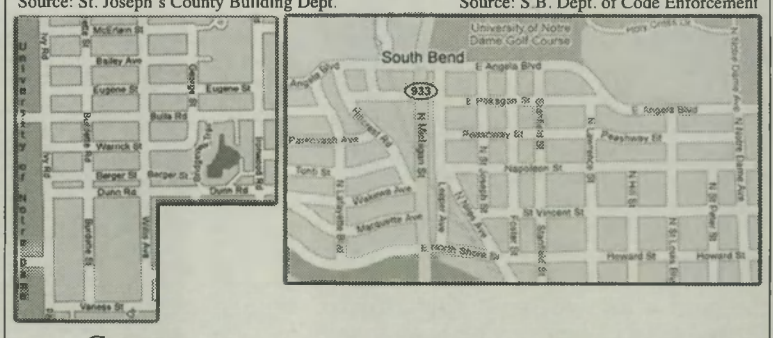
Toppel said her office has investigated at least 15 properties in the city this school year, more than twice the number of cases as in past years. Toppel said there are numerous other properties in violation that are not being investigated.

Chuck Bulot, the county building commissioner, said

see CODES/page 4

Neighborhoods with reported single family zoning violations

Source: St. Joseph's County Building Dept. | Source: S.B. Dept. of Code Enforcement



County East of Campus | City South of Campus

BLAIR CHEMIDLIN | Observer Graphic

Vizio team wins Case Study Bowl

By MOLLY MADDEN
News Writer

The final round of the Notre Dame Entrepreneurship Society's Case Study Bowl took place Wednesday evening, as students attempted to prove it is possible for a company to be successful, even in today's shaky economic climate.

The Case Study Bowl is a competition between three undergraduate teams each representing different companies and debating each other about specific companies of their own choosing, said club Marketing Officer Kevin Kray.

The Case Study Bowl first began in 2007 and quickly became the Entrepreneurship Society's signature event. It is based on Harvard Business School's own case study program.

This year's Bowl started out with six teams representing six different companies. The preliminaries, held on Oct. 28, eliminated half of those teams leaving the remaining three to go head-to-head in the finals.

The three companies that were featured in the finals this year was computer giant Google, holding company Berkshire Hathaway and LCD television manufacturer Vizio.

Each group, composed of three- to five-man teams, had 20 minutes to discuss the history of the company, their current operations, the outlook for the future, and provide an overall analysis of the company in DeBartolo Hall. Following each

see BOWL/page 6

DAN JACOBS/The Observer

Construction on Ryan Hall, the new women's dorm, will continue despite economic troubles.

ND will not halt current construction projects

By JOSEPH McMAHON
Assistant News Editor

Despite concerns over the recent economic slowdown, Notre Dame will be able to complete its current construction projects and the University will continue to function normally, although future building plans may be delayed, Executive Vice President John Affleck-Graves said.

"All of the construction projects we have on campus at the moment are fully funded, and we are not going to stop construction on them because we have the funding," Affleck-Graves said. "We have a number of projects that we are still seeking funding on, and those projects will be delayed until we can get the funding."

Affleck-Graves credited the University's conservative economic approach for preparing Notre Dame for a recession.

"But in general we always run the University in a very fiscally conservative way," he said. "We always balance our budget … so we're in a much better position to face an economic downturn than almost any other school in the country."

see ECONOMY/page 6

STUDENT SENATE

Group passes resolution

Motion calls for dialogue about absences for interviews

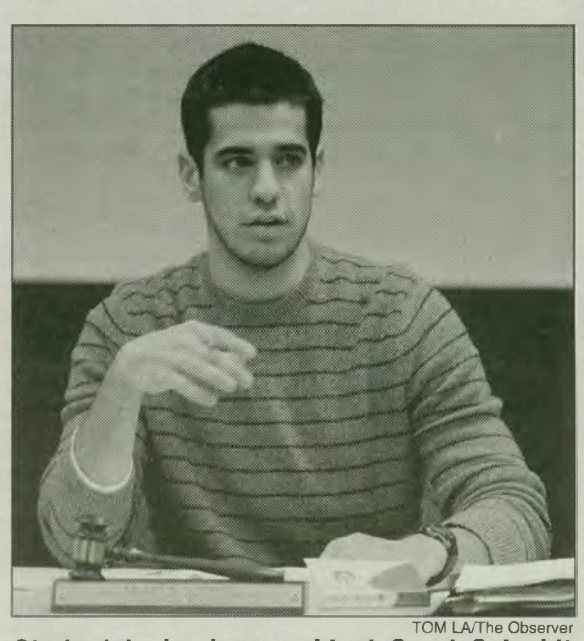
By JOHN TIERNEY
News Writer

Student Senate unanimously passed a resolution addressing student absences for interviews that called for greater dialogue between students and their professors at their meeting Wednesday.

The students who drafted the resolution, led by Academic Affairs committee chair Ryan Brellenthin, was originally told that there was an existing policy in the College of Business that excused student absences for interviews. However, Brellenthin said that he was later informed that no such policy exists.

The committee decided to draft a resolution designed to raise the issue of student inter-

see SENATE/page 4



TOM LA/The Observer

Student body vice president Grant Schmidt presides over Wednesday's Senate meeting.

College to host Choir Festival

By ALICIA SMITH
News Writer

Twenty-four years ago, Nancy Menk, the acting Department Chair of Saint Mary's music department started the High School Women's Choir Festival. The Festival, which will be held again this year on Thursday and Friday, is comprised of 20 women's choirs from five different states who travel to the College to perform.

"It's a festival for high school girls' or women's

see CHOIR/page 3

Inside Column

Opposing viewpoints

Matt Gamber

Associate Sports Editor

I joked with some fellow Observer staff members last week that I could only write inside columns about Notre Dame football and the Chicago Cubs — those are the only two subjects on which I feel both passionately and well-informed, I said.

Thanks to the Keeler brothers, who have gained Viewpoint-renown for their tragically undying defenses of the movie "Tropic Thunder" and its characterizations of those with intellectual disabilities, I have found a new topic.

I viewed the film last night for the second time with this issue in mind, and the lack of sensitivity toward the subject is both blatant and disturbing.

"I watched a lot of retarded people, spent time with them, observed them, watched all the retarded stuff they did," says Tugg Speedman, Ben Stiller's character. "There were times when I was doing 'Jack' that I actually felt retarded like really retarded. In a weird way, I had to sort of just free myself up to believe that it was OK to be stupid, or dumb…to be a moron."

And then this gem from Robert Downey Jr.'s character: "You was farting in bath tubs and laughing your ass off."

Seriously? This doesn't "disparage or harm the image of individuals with disabilities," which DreamWorks spokesman Chip Sullivan said the film managed to avoid doing?

At its best, this exchange drew cheap laughs from those who didn't think much of it. At its worst, it broke the hearts of those who love someone with an intellectual disability and work tirelessly to repair this public insensitivity.

In his Nov. 12 Viewpoint letter titled "Learning to Laugh", Colin Keeler not only states that "a little humor only serves to highlight these great challenges" faced by people with intellectual disabilities, but he concludes, "I'm sure [our Blessed Mother] had a sense of humor as well."

Forgive me for my lifelong enrollment in public schools (until now), as perhaps I missed the chapter on the Blessed Mother's comedic tastes, but I find it hard to imagine she'd be chuckling here.

No, my public schooling didn't teach me whether the Virgin Mary preferred "Yo Mama" jokes to those about "retards", but it did provide me the opportunity to interact with the mentally handicapped, both on an everyday basis in the hallways and through volunteer work with the Special Olympics.

It shouldn't even take these experiences, however, to realize the daily hardships both those with intellectual disabilities and their loved ones endure. Does a Hollywood blockbuster really need to pile on with a marketing campaign based on the slogan "Never go full retard"?

Sure, the film's declared goal, as the film's supporters argue, may have been to satirize the film industry, and the movie itself also contained jokes about African-American stereotypes, for example. But every time one came up, another character pointed it out and tore it down.

Where was the defense of people with intellectual disabilities, the voice saying "Hey, that's not right"? Protestors were hidden from the cameras at the film's premiere, suppressed from defending a minority whose greatest vulnerability is its perceived (and often real) inability to defend itself.

Brendan Keeler's letter Monday suggested, "the very least you ought to do is familiarize yourself with opposing viewpoints."

Sound advice — now follow it.

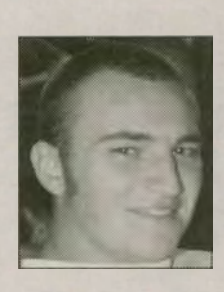
The views expressed in the Inside Column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer.

Contact Matt Gamber at mgamber@nd.edu

Corrections

The Observer regards itself as a professional publication and strives for the highest standards of jounalism 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: *How do you feel about snow?*



Dan Sheper

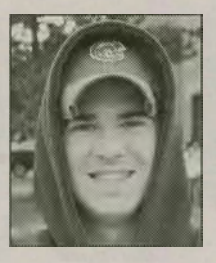
freshman
Keenan

"I like it. I'm from a sunny state so it's different."

Lauren Elliot

sophomore
Pangborn

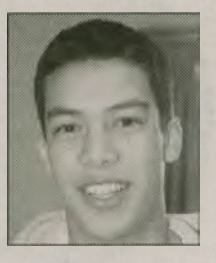
"It's pretty."



Matt Lodwich

senior
Dillon

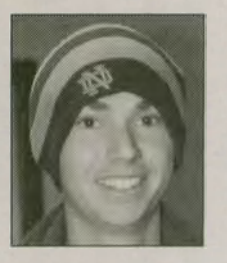
"I love snow!"



Matt Ong

senior
Alumni

"Get back to me in March."



Michael Sizemore

sophomore
Dillon

"I feel like it's Christmas before Thanksgiving."

TOM LA/The Observer

A snowman sits next to a pumpkin on North Quad as the first signs of winter arrive and the last traces of fall disappear.

Offbeat

Innmates sneak through ceiling to have sex

BLOOMFIELD, Ind. — Three male and three female inmates at a southern Indiana jail face charges that they devised a way to sneak between cell blocks to help pass their time behind bars by having sex.

The inmates figured out how to remove metal ceiling panels in the Greene County Jail and used the passageway more than a dozen times in September and October, according to court documents.

The men — ages 44, 38 and 17 — and the women — ages 27, 26 and 21 — crawled through the ceiling after midnight, having sexual encounters and drinking homemade alcohol that was found hidden in the male cell block, a police affidavit said.

Undercover officers use Taser on pallbearer

WILMINGTON, N.C. — A North Carolina sheriffs official has apologized for plunging a funeral into chaos when undercover agents tried to arrest the dead man's son — and used a Taser on him in the process.

It happened as the coffin was being loaded into a hearse. The officers planned to quietly arrest pallbearer Gladwyn Taft Russ III, The Star-News of Wilmington reported Wednesday.

Relatives said two deputies dressed in coats and ties grabbed Russ and kneed him in his back before Tasering him. One deputy's gun fell out of its holster.

Information compiled from the Associated Press.

In Brief

The Kellogg Institute will host a lecture **today at 4:15 p.m.** entitled **"The Future of Democracy in Central America"** in the **Hesburgh Center Auditorium**. This roundtable discussion will examine democracy's future in Central American nations.

The College of Science is hosting a **Planetarium Show Featuring Exoplanets** in the **Digital Visualization Theater** in the **Jordan Hall of Science** at 8 and **9 p.m. today**. The event is **free** and will be followed a by a question and answer session.

The **Browning Cinema at the DeBartolo Performing Arts Center** will show the **film "Boy A" at 6:30 p.m.** and **9:30 p.m. today**. In the film, a man who committed a terrible crime as a child is released from jail as an adult into a world he has never been part of.

There will be a **groundbreaking ceremony** for **Harper Hall**, the new home of expanded medical and cancer research initiatives at the Indiana University School of Medicine - South Bend and Notre Dame, **Friday** at **10 a.m.** adjacent to Raclin-Carmichael Hall on the corner of Angela Boulevard and Notre Dame Avenue.

Notre Dame Women's Soccer will compete in the NCAA Fourth Round Tournament **Sunday** at Alumni Field. Time and team to be announced.

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	FRIDAY	GAME DAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY
HIGH	34	27	29	36	40	32
LOW	20	20	16	23	31	22

Atlanta 52 / 30 **Boston** 39 / 30 **Chicago** 43 / 30 **Denver** 65 / 36 **Houston** 73 / 53 **Los Angeles** 77 / 51 **Minneapolis** 34 / 24
New York 38 / 29 **Philadelphia** 35 / 29 **Phoenix** 86 / 57 **Seattle** 55 / 45 **St. Louis** 55 / 32 **Tampa** 62 / 43 **Washington** 38 / 32

Choir

continued from page 1

choirs that we started 24 years ago," Menk said. "It's to promote good singing among high school travel choirs."

The 20 choirs perform during the two-day festival in the O'Laughlin Auditorium on Saint Mary's campus.

The event is not a competition; however, there will be three commentators giving remarks about each choir's performances. The commentators this year are Dr. James Bass, Western Michigan University's Director of Choral Studies, Dr. Jill Burleson, Ball State University's Assistant Director of Choral Activities, and Dr. Eric Johnson, Northern Illinois University's Associate Professor of Music and Coordinator of Ensembles.

Each choir will perform three or four different songs. After each has finished, one of the judges will instruct them on stage for 15 to 20 minutes.

"Every choir gets to have the chance to have this sort of clinic with one of the commentators," Menk said. "Then the other two commentators give them written comments. The three commentators rotate all day so we're watching different people on stage do the actual clinic."

The choirs are chosen on a first come first serve basis. Each choir must fill out an application in order to be accepted into the event.

"This year I have a waiting list of six or seven more choirs that would like to come," Menk said.

Menk created the Festival because, "there are a lot of festivals out there for mixed choirs. But at the time I started this, they didn't have any that were just for high school girls' choirs. This seems the most logical place to have it at this women's college. We are really centrally located."

During the Festival, five choirs will perform each morning, and five in the afternoon. At noon, Saint Mary's own women's choir will perform.

"That's supposed to be sort of a highlight of the Festival. The idea is that we are a good model of what a good women's choir can do, the kind of repertoire that we can sing and the kind of tone quality that we can produce and the kind of musicianship that we can display," Menk said.

The Festival begins at 9:30 a.m. Thursday and will close for the day at 4:30 p.m. It will take place at the same time on Friday. The event is free of charge.

Contact Alicia Smith at asmith01@saintmarys.edu

BOARD OF GOVERNANCE

Group makes allotments to clubs

Executive Board plans to meet with treasurers of organizations

By ASHLEY CHARNLEY
News Writer

Mo Weaver, Board of Governance (BOG) treasurer, announced that allotments were decided and handed out to clubs and organizations at Saint Mary's during Wednesday's meeting.

The Executive Board worked late into the night in order to choose how the allotments would be given out, BOG advisor Patrick Daniel, Director of Student Involvement said.

"They took a lot of time to make sure that those that should have received money received money."

Patrick Daniel
Director of Student Involvement

"They took a lot of time to make sure that those that should have received money received money," Daniel said.

The Executive Board will be meeting with the treasurers of each group receiving money in order to explain how the allotments work.

BOG also discussed an open forum being held today in order to address concerns about food service. The forum will be held in the Student Center Lounge at 5 p.m., Catherine Meadors, Student Services commissioner said.

Barry Bowles, General Manager of Sodexo at the College, will be attending the forum in order to take questions and suggestions from the students about the food in the dining hall.

"I know a lot of people have concerns so if you have concerns, please just come. He is more than willing to answer questions," Meaders said.

In other BOG news:

◆ The Senior Class Board is hosting the "Welcome to the Jungle" dance on Dec. 4 from 8 to 11 p.m. in Haggar Parlor, said Jenny Antonelli, president of Class of 2009. Tickets are $5 and the dance is open to all classes.

"It's just like a fun couple hours on a Thursday night," Antonelli said.

◆ Saint Mary's students put together and sent more than 2,500 letters to troops in Afghanistan, student body president Mickey Gruscinski said.

Student Diversity Board (SDB) will be hosting "Sugar Makes the World Go Round" on Dec. 2 in the Student Center Lounge at 6:30 p.m. Adriana Rodriguez, president of SDB said.

"It will be different snack foods from countries all over the world," Rodriguez said. Different clubs and organizations from the Modern Language and Intercultural Studies departments will be making the desserts and SDB will be providing beverages.

◆ In honor of Native American Heritage Month, Multicultural Services, Anthropology department, and the Anthropology club have been holding events to raise awareness about the culture said Rodriguez.

The final event will be a panel discussion on Current Issues facing Native Americans from 7:30 to 9 p.m. in Vander Vennet Theatre on Nov. 24.

Contact Ashley Charnley at acharn01@saintmarys.edu

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IRLL 20109	*Celtic Heroic Literature*	Fogarty (TR 12:30-1:45)
IRLL 30109	*Introduction to Irish Writers*	Ó Conchubhair (MW11:45-12:35)
IRLL 30112	*Irish Folk Custom & Belief*	Ó Giollán(TR 12:30-1:45)
IRLL 40316	*Folklore, Lit & Irish Culture*	Ó Giollán (TR 9:30-10:45)
IRLL 50318	*The Feminine in Irish Literature*	Ó Crualaoich (TR 3:30-4:45)

For more information visit 412 Flanner Hall or telephone 631-0499

http://studyirish.nd.edu/

Codes

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that he has seen more concentrated violations in neighborhoods east of campus, including properties in a six-block area around Warrick St. Bulot said between 15 and 20 homes have been reported this year.

"The unfortunate side of these issues is that students are going to have to move," Toppel said, or face fines and possible legal action.

Establishing the current code and exceptions

Lyons said the current zoning regulations were enacted in 2004. The new code restricted the number of unrelated people who may live in a property zoned single family.

People can be legally related by blood, marriage or adoption, Lyons said.

"If you have two students in a single family home, that's the maximum you can have, because they're two unrelated people," Lyons said.

There are exceptions to this code, however, Lyons said.

When the current zoning code was enacted in 2004, homes that were occupied by more than two unrelated people at the time were "grandfathered in."

"If you can prove you've consistently used it for that use (with more than two unrelated occupants) since 2004, without lapsing for more than a one year time period, you can continue to use it" with more than two students, Lyons said.

Lyons said that of the homes students are currently living in off campus, there is a "mixture" of homes that are in violation and homes that are legally grandfathered.

Many of the homes rented by well-known rental companies in South Bend are not in violation, Lyons explained.

"A lot of them in the city were existing (student homes)," Lyons said, prior to the new code.

Local landlord Mark Kramer said he is aware of the code and all of the homes he rents to more than two students are legally grandfathered.

"I will not rent a house if it's not zoned correctly," Kramer said. While Kramer does rent properties that are zoned single family and are not grandfathered, "we never put more than two students in the house," he said.

Home purchases, new rentals increase violations

Still, Toppel said some landlords rent non-grandfathered single family homes to more than two students.

In addition, many of the new violations come from homes that are purchased by the students themselves or their families, Toppel said.

"Housing is rather reasonable in South Bend and it's sometimes more reasonable ... to purchase a home, and have the student bring [roommates] to make the mortgage," she said.

Toppel said violations arise from both ignorance about regulations as well as blatant violation of the code in other cases. The property owner — whether it is the resident or a landlord — is legally responsible for knowing and abiding by the code.

"In my opinion, most of the time, students aren't aware," Toppel said.

When parents purchase homes, some do not know about regulations, while others choose to blatantly violate them.

"I've had more parents be blatant about it than students," Toppel said.

When parents — or landlords — purchase homes, Toppel said she instructs real estate agencies and sellers to notify prospective buyers of the codes.

Pam DeCola, a real estate agent at the South Bend office of Cressy & Everett, said that entire real estate community is sensitive to the code.

"We do make sure that we let the prospective buyer know that it is a St. Joseph County ordinance that you cannot have more than two unrelated people in a residence," DeCola said.

"We do make sure that we let the prospective buyer know that it is a St. Joseph County ordinance that you cannot have more than two unrelated people in a residence."

Pam DeCola
real estate agent

She said that while agents make the code known, there are often cases where "there ends up being at least two if not more students living there."

Investigating violations, enforcing code

Toppel and Bulot said investigations about over-occupied single family homes are driven solely by complaints, most often from neighbors.

"We investigate every complaint that comes in," Bulot said. "We go out physically to see if there are any overt signs of over occupancy."

This includes multiple cars with out-of-state plates, multiple bikes and other visible indicators, Bulot said.

Once there is enough evidence to prove the home is over-occupied and in violation, Toppel and Bulot said they send preliminary letters detailing the violations. Toppel said that the city allows 10 days to resolve the issue. Owners can prove they were in compliance, rezone — which she said is highly unlikely — or move students out of the home until only two occupants remain.

For properties that remain in violation, citations are issued starting at $50 and reaching up to $1,000 per day. Legal action is the last resort, Toppel said.

Both Toppel and Bulot said they try to be reasonable when dealing with students and in forcing any of them to move out.

"Sometimes there are leases involved, and we don't want to put any unnecessary burden on a [resident] as long as in good faith they're making progress," Bulot said.

Toppel said the increasing number of violations have led her to be stricter when it comes to allowing students to wait until the end of a semester to move out.

"We can't really offer that [lenience] anymore as a city, because it's become blatant," Toppel said.

Toppel said she recognizes that it is difficult to move out of a house mid-semester.

"The students are going to be upset. One, they're going to have to leave their friends. Two, they're going to have to find a new place to live," Toppel said. "And how do you draw straws? Who's leaving the house?

Toppel added: "I try to see both sides of the story, to be fair, to draw a middle line."

Dealing with current, future cases

Bulot said of cases the county is currently investigating, a series of nine properties in the neighborhood east of campus must be resolved in the coming months. Toppel said she has a number of violations she is currently addressing, and the outcomes will be varied.

Toppel said she would continue to work with landlords, sellers and real estate agents, and continue to investigate complaints as they come in. But she said students should be aware of the risks they take when moving off campus to a single family home.

"I would suggest they look somewhere else before they put themselves in that position," she said.

Lyons said students should investigate whether the home they are renting or purchasing is properly zoned, especially if they plan to have more than two people living in the home.

That's especially important when leases are involved, he said.

"For the students to protect themselves, they need to get something in writing, from that landlord, that says it is a legal property to be used that way [as a student house]," Lyons said. "They want to do their homework and not put themselves in risk of a situation where they would need to find a new place to live in the middle of the year."

Contact Aaron Steiner at asteiner@nd.edu

Senate

continued from page 1

views to the faculty's attention because they "thought it would be a little presumptuous to demand that the faulty do something different," he said.

Creating a policy on the issue is a last resort for Brellenthin.

"If we can fix it just through dialogue without a policy, then we don't want a policy," he said.

Sorin senator Mike Sayles said this idea that creating a policy isn't the best way to handle any potential issues with interviews earlier in the meeting. "Mostly the professors, especially in the business school, say it's fine to miss class as long as you notify them," he said. "They know interviews are going to happen. It's OK as long as you let them know in advance."

However, Pasquerilla West senator Megan Sennett said that she has had a problem with missing class for an interview. Sennett, a junior accounting major, said that she has spent parts of three of the past four weeks in Atlanta on interviews. She said that she had to drop a class that meets only on Fridays because she was only allowed one absence.

"It is actually an issue," Sennett said.

Brellenthin said that his committee based the need for a policy mostly on "anecdotal evidence." But he said that the need for some sort of resolution is not entirely dependent on students having problems missing classes for interviews.

"Even if every professor was granting absences, we just want to get the dialogue going," he said. "It's a good thing for students and professors to get together and talk."

Sayles objected to one specific section of the resolution that he interpreted as saying the resolution was necessary because the job market is currently competitive.

"It shouldn't matter whether the market is competitive or not competitive," Sayles said. "I don't think there's a greater need now than five years ago for somebody to go to an interview. It's always been a part of the process."

But Brellenthin defended the wording of the resolution because it "signals a change from the status quo."

"As time passes and the market place for jobs gets more competitive, there's a reason to change the status quo," Brellenthin said.

Sayles made a motion to remove the clause that dealt with market competitiveness, but his motion only received two votes and was defeated.

In other Senate news:

◆ Student body vice president Grant Schmidt announced at the meeting that Food Services has agreed to allow students to use the east room of South Dining Hall and two rooms in North Dining Hall for study space during exam week.

The study spaces will be open from 9:00 p.m. until 2:00 a.m. from Dec. 14 until Dec. 18.

This is in addition to the Career Center's donation of the interview rooms in Flanner Hall as exam week study space.

◆ Senate approved the sale of coupon booklets to students after Thanksgiving by unanimous acclamation. The booklets have already been produced by an unnamed area resident.

The booklets will contain discounts to a variety of different area establishments, including Pappa John's Pizza and the Star of India restaurant.

Discounts in the book will not be able to be applied to alcohol purchases, Schmidt said.

Contact John Tierney at jtierne1@nd.edu

A ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION
The Future of Democracy in CENTRAL AMERICA

Panelists:
Ricardo Maduro
former President, Honduras
Ottón Solís
former presidential candidate, Costa Rica
Arturo Cruz
Nicaraguan Ambassador to the United States
Moderator:
Luis Cosenza
Hewlett Visiting Fellow of Public Policy, Kellogg Institute, and former Minister to the Presidency, Honduras
4:15 pm TODAY!
Hesburgh Center Auditorium
LASP
Reception to follow discussion
Kellogg Institute
kellogg.nd.edu/events

WORLD & NATION

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Media leaders criticize journalist ban

JERUSALEM — Leaders of the world's biggest media organizations filed a protest with Israel's prime minister Wednesday criticizing the government's decision to ban journalists from entering the Gaza Strip for the last two weeks.

The protest was the latest in a chorus of international criticism of Israel's Gaza closure, tightened after a five-month truce began unraveling about two weeks ago in a flurry of Israeli airstrikes against militants and Palestinian rocket barrages targeting Israeli towns.

Those signing the letter included Associated Press Chief Executive and President Tom Curley, Reuters Editor-in-Chief David Schlesinger, New York Times Executive Editor Bill Keller, ABC News President David Westin, BBC News Director Helen Boaden and other top executives from CNN, the Canadian TV network CTV, the German broadcaster ZDF, and the French news service Agence France Presse.

Indian navy stops Somalia-based pirates

NEW DELHI — The ship, operating off the coast of Oman in the lawless waters of the Gulf of Aden, was crewed by heavily armed men, some carrying rocket-propelled grenade launchers. Behind it were a pair of speedboats — the sort pirates often use when they launch attacks on merchant ships in these violent seas.

What followed, officials said Wednesday, was a rare victory in a sea war against Somalia-based piracy that has become increasingly more violent, and where the pirates are ever more bold.

A patrolling Indian navy frigate quickly identified the vessel as a "mother ship" — a mobile attack base used to take gangs of pirates and smaller speedboats into deep water — and ordered it to stop and be searched.

NATIONAL NEWS

Daschle accepts Cabinet offer

WASHINGTON — Former Senate Majority Leader Tom Daschle has accepted President-elect Barack Obama's offer to be Secretary of Health and Human Services, Democratic officials said Wednesday.

The appointment has not been announced, but these officials said the job is Daschle's, barring an unforeseen problem as Obama's team reviews the background of the South Dakota Democrat. One area of review will include the lobbying connections of his wife, Linda Hall Daschle, who has lobbied mostly on behalf of airline-related companies over the years. The officials spoke on condition of anonymity because they weren't authorized to discuss the matter publicly.

Poultry grower investigates abuses

LEWISBURG, W.Va. — Global poultry grower Aviagen Inc. said Wednesday it has suspended a supervisor and would investigate a video released by an animal rights group that appears to show horrific abuse of turkeys at the company's West Virginia farms.

People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals said the video, which includes workers stomping on turkeys' heads and twisting their necks to kill them, was shot by an undercover investigator who worked on the companies' farms for more than two months.

LOCAL NEWS

BMV reverses license plate ruling

INDIANAPOLIS — The Bureau of Motor Vehicles has reversed an earlier ruling and decided that a woman may have a personalized license plate carrying the words "BE GODS."

The reversal comes after Liz Ferris sued the BMV in federal court for refusing to issue a new plate carrying the same words she had on other plates for several years.

Ferris contended in her lawsuit that the BMV was discriminating against her for expressing her beliefs.

SOUTH AFRICA

Experts emphasize self-help for Africa

Economists hope for foreign investment for profit, easy access to Western markets

Associated Press

AP

Delegates sing and dance at the Standton Convention Center in Johannesburg Sunday, Nov. 2. A faction of the African National Congress announced that it will form a new political party.

JOHANNESBURG, South Africa — Two weeks after Africans danced for joy to see a black man elected president of the United States, a Kenyan newspaper columnist delivered a crisp warning to this complex and troubled continent: "Obama is not the Great Black Hope."

Africans will have to look for solutions within themselves, not abroad, Priscah Edith Awino wrote in the Daily Nation, the leading newspaper of Barack Obama's ancestral land.

The self-help theme has become increasingly prevalent with the recognition that 50 years of Western aid and emergency rescues of famine, disease and war victims have failed to cure Africa's ills, and may even have held the continent back.

So rather than expect Obama to be a cure-all, Awino wrote, his election "should inspire us to build institutions that will produce leaders with Obama's greatest strengths — his dignified bearing, statesmanship, brains, know-how and depth."

Many of the remedies Obama has said he would apply to Africa's miseries will sound familiar: aid twinned with an emphasis on fostering entrepreneurship; tough talk for dictators; commitment to fighting AIDS.

He has also said he would double foreign aid spending from $25 billion in 2008 to $50 billion by the end of his first term.

But he hasn't said how much of it would go to Africa, and the continent will struggle for a place on a presidential agenda that includes Afghanistan, Iraq, Iran's nuclear program, the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, the global financial meltdown, and climate change.

What would really help, says a new generation of African economists, is more foreign investment for profit and easier access to Western markets. Obama indeed has promised to "expand prosperity" by fostering African entrepreneurship, opening U.S. markets wider and boosting U.S. investment in Africa.

South African economist Iraj Abedian would like to see Obama lead the way to a breakthrough on the long-stalled world trade talks, from which, he says, Africa and other vulnerable areas of the world would be the first to benefit.

In a way, Obama has a tough act to follow: Some of President George W. Bush's Africa initiatives have widely been seen as one of the few bright spots of his foreign policy legacy.

Bush, who twice visited Africa during his eight years in office, crafted an emergency plan to combat HIV/AIDS — the largest ever deployed against an infectious disease. The White House says Bush's effort has enabled 200,000 children of HIV-positive women in Africa to be born virus-free.

War, as much as disease and poverty, is Africa's scourge. And Obama may be no more able than previous American presidents to intervene decisively.

The U.S. has been wary of African military entanglement since its blood-drenched encounter with Somalia, where it led a U.N. force in the 1990s. It didn't send troops to Rwanda, and later took partial responsibility for failing to prevent the 1994 genocide that left more than 500,000 dead.

It declared the conflict in Darfur a genocide, imposed sanctions on Sudan and trained and transported other nations' soldiers for peacekeeping there. But it didn't send in its own troops.

Now as Obama prepares for office, Congo's conflict is deepening again, despite the biggest U.N. operation in history to hold elections after a war that had sucked in neighbors to become what was called "Africa's first world war." A resurgence of that war may only underline the limits on any American president's ability to alleviate the suffering.

Lawsuits seek to nullify Proposition 8

Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO — California's highest court agreed Wednesday to hear several legal challenges to the state's new ban on same-sex marriage but refused to allow gay couples to resume marrying before it rules.

The California Supreme Court accepted three lawsuits seeking to nullify Proposition 8, a voter-approved constitutional amendment that overruled the court's decision in May that legalized gay marriage.

All three cases claim the measure abridges the civil rights of a vulnerable minority group. They argue that voters alone did not have the authority to enact such a significant constitutional change.

As is its custom when it takes up cases, the court elaborated little. However, the justices did say they want to address what effect, if any, a ruling upholding the amendment would have on the estimated 18,000 same-sex marriages that were sanctioned in California before election day.

Gay rights groups and local governments petitioning to overturn the ban were joined by the measure's sponsors and Attorney General Jerry Brown in urging the Supreme Court to consider whether Proposition 8 passes legal muster.

The initiative's opponents had also asked the court to grant a stay of the measure, which would have allowed gay marriages to begin again while the justices considered the cases. The court denied that request.

The justices directed Brown and lawyers for the Yes on 8 campaign to submit arguments by Dec. 19 on why the ballot initiative should not be nullified. It said lawyers for the plaintiffs, who include same-sex couples who did not wed before the election, must respond before Jan. 5.

Oral arguments could be scheduled as early as March, according to court spokeswoman Lynn Holton.

Both opponents and supporters of Proposition 8 expressed confidence Wednesday that their arguments would prevail.

Economy

continued from page 1

Unlike many other universities that are now facing difficulties completing their construction projects, Affleck-Graves said Notre Dame only begins construction when it has received all of the money necessary for the project.

"Our policy is that we cannot begin construction of buildings until we have 100 percent of the money pledged from donors. We have to have 75 percent cash in hand, and the remaining 25 percent needs to be in within five years," he said.

While current construction projects, such as Ryan Hall and the addition to the Law School, will be completed, Affleck-Graves said plans for a new student center, two new dorms and a social science building will probably have to be put on hold.

"There's a lot of other building that we want to do on campus but we won't do them until we get the funding for them," he said. "So, in a sense, we are slowing down just to the extent that we don't get people to provide the funding."

All four of the buildings are part of the administration's plans for the development of the campus, and Affleck-Graves said they had already planned out where the new structures would be placed.

"We have place markers on campus for where new buildings can go. We haven't decided what those buildings will be," he said. "For instance, the social science building is slated to go just south of the Hesburgh Center for International Studies. We know that the two new dorms are slated to go on old Juniper, just east of Pasquerilla East and Knott. We know the student activity center is slated to go just east of the Stepan Center."

Affleck-Graves said it would probably be a few years before the school can raise enough funds from its donors to begin those projects.

"I think everybody knows that funding is going to be much tighter in the next few years. The economy is not in good shape; the financial markets are still in some disarray," he said. "We're reliant on the donors to provide the funding."

However, Affleck-Graves said the absence of these buildings would not have a significant impact on life at the University.

"At the moment we are operating the University without those buildings and we will continue to do so," he said.

Affleck-Graves said the University would have to be more conservative in purchasing, which would include cuts in travel expenses and computer and equipment upgrades.

"I think parts of our operations will have to look at cost savings across the University, maybe in some of our purchasing," he said. "At the moment we're pretty well positioned to handle most other things."

Moreover, Affleck-Graves said the endowment would remain strong throughout the recession. He said the endowment would probably shrink over the next couple of years because it is heavily invested in market-related securities, but it is important to remember the endowment had grown rapidly over the past four years.

"The endowment will always fluctuate because it is invested in a lot of market-related securities, and so certainly the endowment will go down," he said. "But it has also gone up dramatically in the last four years, so it fluctuates with the market."

However, Affleck-Graves said the University would continue to extract the same amount of money from the endowment each year as they had previously.

"We don't like to pay out a fixed percentage of the endowment each year," he said. "We like to pay out a specific dollar amount so we'll always have the same amount of cash coming out of the endowment."

Affleck-Graves credited his predecessors for establishing the University's conservative policies that will help steer the school through the recession.

"I think the people who led the University's financial system before me — Fr. Ned Joyce and Fr. Tim Scully — did such a wonderful job of creating a financial discipline in the University that has always allowed us to be cautious of overspending in good times and that is providing us now with a great reserve so we don't have to impact our operations too much," he said.

Contact Joseph McMahon at jmcmaho6@nd.edu

Bowl

continued from page 1

individual presentation, three University professors serving as judges give their insights on the information presented and the team's performance.

"Although the event will be educational and give the audience insight on these companies, it is intended to be a very fun and lively event with a sports theme, audience interaction, free pizza and drinks, an emcee and more," Kray said.

While the Bowl is educational for the participants, it is also informative to the audience as well, Kray said.

"It teaches the audience about several highly successful and innovative companies, as well as how they can relate to them," Kray said. "Students can learn about the companies being presented and learn how to relate their successes in their own lives. They also learn innovative and creative ways of performing presentations."

At the end of each presentation, the teams discussed how their particular company's ideals can apply and be implemented into the average student's life. All three teams informed the audience to remain true to their ideals when setting goals and to always retain integrity in everything that they do.

After all the presentations had been given, audience members were given a ballot to vote on which presentation they thought had been the best overall. The audience was asked to judge each group based on the presentation of the material, creativity and the relevance of the presentation. The audience accounted for 50 percent of the vote, and the judges the other 50.

After all the votes had been counted, team Vizio was declared the winner of the Case Study Bowl.

"The Entrepreneurship Society is not just another nerdy academic club," Kray said. "We wish to hold events that not only foster entrepreneurship and creative thinking but that are also fun and informative."

Contact Molly Madden at mmadden@hcc-nd.edu

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International Education Week

Friday, November 21

Ten Thousand Villages Sale
9:00am-4:15pm - O'Shaughnessy Great Hall
Sponsored by ISSA

Uganda - A Photographic Journal
Africa Faith and Justice Network
3:00pm-6:00pm - Dooley Room LaFortune
Cosponsored by the Center for Social Concern, ISSA, and MSPS

Departure for International Student Night: Indiana Pacers NBA Basketball Game
3:30pm
Sponsored by ISSA

IEW events are sponsored by International Student Services and Activities, Career Center, Fisher O'Hara Grace, College of Arts and Letters, Center for Social Concern, Multicultural Student Programs and Services , Campus Ministry, Office of International Studies, Kellogg Institute for International Studies, Latin American Studies Program, Department of Film, Television, and Theatre, Liu Family Initiative for Asian Studies, and the Department of East Asian Languages and Cultures

MARKET RECAP

Stocks		
Dow Jones	7,997.28	-427.47

Up:	Same:	Down:	Composite Volume:
303	46	3,390	3,099,532,871

AMEX	1,245.42	-61.29
NASDAQ	1,386.42	-96.85
NYSE	5,011.99	-353.67
S&P 500	806.58	-52.54
NIKKEI (Tokyo)	7,910.20	-363.02
FTSE 100 (London)	4,005.68	-202.87

COMPANY	%CHANGE	$GAIN	PRICE
S&P DEP RECEIPTS (SPY)	-6.41	-5.58	81.50
CITIGROUP INC (C)	-23.44	-1.96	6.40
POWESHARES (QQQQ)	-5.22	-1.48	26.86
FINANCIAL SEL (XLF)	-10.47	-1.23	10.52
Treasuries			
10-YEAR NOTE	-4.07	-0.14	3.39
13-WEEK BILL	-40.91	-0.05	0.06
30-YEAR BOND	-4.15	-0.17	3.97
5-YEAR NOTE	-4.74	-0.10	2.09
Commodities			
LIGHT CRUDE ($/bbl.)		-0.77	53.62
GOLD ($/Troy oz.)		+3.30	736.00
PORK BELLIES (cents/lb.)		+0.10	84.60
Exchange Rates			
YEN			95.8000
EURO			0.8003
CANADIAN DOLLAR			1.2545
BRITISH POUND			0.6687

IN BRIEF

Earmarking may come from Obama

WASHINGTON — They are old bulls both, legendary for fiercely lording over the Senate Appropriations Committee and funneling billions to their home states.

But while Sens. Robert Byrd, D-W.Va., and Ted Stevens, R-Alaska, will no longer be leading the panel, the congressional habit of doling out earmarks is unlikely to change.

If anything, the biggest challenge to "earmarking" money for specific projects — derided as pork by critics but considered hometown boons by defenders — may come from President-elect Barack Obama. He has said he will pare such expenditures to their 1994 levels, billions below today's amounts.

The grizzled duo — Stevens turned 85 on Tuesday, Byrd's 91st birthday is Thursday — have long been the faces of a committee that, with its House counterpart, control more than $1 trillion a year in spending on everything from aircraft carriers to zoological research. They have 90 years in the Senate between them.

Bush plans to attend APEC forum

WASHINGTON — President George W. Bush doesn't see his final Asia-Pacific summit this week as a farewell but rather a chance to enlist more nations in the battle against a financial crisis that threatens to pull the world economy into a severe economic recession.

In a pre-trip briefing, administration officials said Wednesday that Bush was focused on getting more nations to sign on to a broad action plan that was adopted this past weekend by the Group of 20 nations in Washington. He also will have one-on-one talks with the leaders of Russia, China, South Korea and Japan.

Bush leaves Friday for a three-day trip to Lima, Peru, where he will attend the 21-nation Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation forum, likely his last summit with world leaders.

Nine of the nations at the APEC summit also attended the Washington meeting, a gathering of about 20 leaders representing the seven wealthiest nations and including major developing economies China, Brazil and India.

Senate scraps plans to vote on auto bailout

General Motors, Chrysler, Ford Motor Co. could face financial collapse

Associated Press

AP

Milton Black secures a hood assembly at the General Motors Assembly Plant in Arlington, Texas, Tuesday, as Detroit's Big Three automakers pleaded with Congress for a bailout.

WASHINGTON — A Democratic Congress, unwilling or unable to approve a $25 billion bailout for Detroit's Big Three, appears ready to punt the automakers' fate to a lame-duck Republican president.

Caught in the middle of a who-blinks-first standoff are legions of manufacturing firms and auto dealers — and millions of Americans' jobs — after Senate Democrats canceled a showdown vote that had been expected Thursday. President George W. Bush has "no appetite" to act on his own.

U.S. auto companies employ nearly a quarter-million workers, and more than 730,000 other people have jobs producing the materials and parts that go into cars. About 1 million on top of that work in dealerships nationwide. If just one of the auto giants were to go belly up, some estimates put U.S. job losses next year as high as 2.5 million.

"If GM is telling us the truth, they go into bankruptcy and you see a cascade like you have never seen," said Sen. George V. Voinovich, R-Ohio, who was working on one rescue plan Wednesday. "If people want to go home and not do anything, I think that they're going to have that on their hands."

The automakers — hobbled by lackluster sales and choked credit — are burning through money at an alarming and accelerating rate: about $18 billion in the last quarter alone. General Motors Corp. has said it could collapse within weeks, and there are indications that Chrysler LLC might not be far behind. Ford Motor Co. has said it could get through the end of 2008, but it's unclear how much longer.

For now, however, with the federal emergency loan plan stalled in the Senate, lawmakers in both parties are engaged in a high-stakes game of chicken, positioning themselves to blame each other for the failure.

Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid, D-Nev., scrapped plans Wednesday for a vote on a bill to carve $25 billion in new auto industry loans out of the $700 billion Wall Street rescue fund.

It's really up to Bush's team to act, he said.

"I don't believe we need the legislation," Reid said. Treasury Secretary Henry Paulson can tap the financial industry bailout money to help auto companies, Reid said, but "he just doesn't want to do it."

Not our responsibility, countered the White House.

"If Congress leaves for a two-month vacation without having addressed this important issue ... then the Congress will bear responsibility for anything that happens in the next couple of months during their long vacation," said Dana Perino, the White House press secretary.

She said there was "no appetite" in the administration for using the financial industry bailout money to help auto companies.

The White House and congressional Republicans instead called on Democrats to sign on to a GOP plan to divert a $25 billion loan program created by Congress in September — designed to help the companies develop more fuel-efficient vehicles — to meet the auto giants' immediate financial needs.

Voinovich and Sen. Kit Bond, R-Mo., along with Democratic Sen. Carl Levin of Michigan, were at work on that measure Wednesday, trying to placate skeptical Democrats by including a guarantee that the fuel-efficiency loan fund would ultimately be replenished.

"It is the only proposal now being considered that has a chance of actually becoming law," said Republican leader Mitch McConnell of Kentucky.

Fear of deflation affects stock market

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — A growing fear of economic deflation helped take the air out of the stock market Wednesday, and another white-knuckle final hour on Wall Street pushed the Dow Jones industrials under 8,000 to their lowest close since the financial meltdown began.

Consumer prices in October took their biggest monthly plunge in the six decades that records have been kept — a reprieve for shoppers but a danger sign for the economy because falling prices can make a mild recession spiral into something worse.

The drop illustrated once again how quickly the economic danger can shift in tumultuous times like these. The inflation fears that gripped the nation just a few months ago now seem like a distant memory.

"Consumer price inflation has suddenly screeched into reverse," said Brian Bethune, economist at IHS Global Insight. "The inflation threat has disappeared from the radar screen."

Worried about the economic data, a gloomy outlook from the Federal Reserve and the fate of the Big Three automakers, investors yanked money out of the stock market. The Dow drifted lower for most of the day, then plummeted in a tumultuous final hour of trading.

It crossed under 8,000 in the last minutes before the closing bell and closed down 427 points, or about 5 percent, at 7,997 — its lowest close since March 2003. The average has dipped below 8,000 on other days since the meltdown began in mid-September but had not closed there.

The Standard & Poor's 500, a broader snapshot of the stock market, slipped more than 6 percent. The financial crisis has already wiped out $6.7 trillion of value from the S&P 500 since its October 2007 high. In the same period, the Dow has lost more than 6,000 points.

"I don't know what the catalyst is going to be where we turn the corner and people start buying stocks wholeheartedly again," said Jon Biele, head of capital markets at Cowen & Co. "People got out of the way. The financial situation hasn't changed."

The Federal Reserve sharply lowered its economic projections and signaled that further interest-rate cuts might be necessary to ease the economy's worst crisis since the Great Depression.

Documents from the Fed's most recent closed-door deliberations on interest rate policy showed a worry about "significant weakness" in the economy and a worsening job market.

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Love thee 'Noder Dame'

Andrew Nesi

Spicy Sea Nuggets

When I was in Boston the other weekend, my cab driver kept correcting my pronunciation of my alma mater.

"We're going to the Boston College-Noder Dame football game,"I explained.

"Noder Dame ... pfffff ... ."He joined his thumb and index finger on his right hand and shook it. "Knowtre Dahm."

I laughed to be polite. "Yeah, but we're from Indiana, so we're allowed to say Noder Dame."

"You go there?"he asked, knowing full well that the answer had to be yes.

"You go there and you still say 'Noder Dame?' What are you? Stupid?"

My always-supportive first cousin chimed in from the seat next to me.

"Oui, monsieur."

"Eh out ... It's Knowtre Dahm — don't give me this 'Noder Dame.'"He took his hand off the steering wheel to form mock quotation marks.

"Knowtre Daahhhhhhmmm,"he said — this louder and more drawn out, as if I were a foreigner in Paris who only needed my cab driver's patience to help me pick up the local language.

I shorted him on the tip when we reached the stadium.

Of course, in the end, he may have been right, seeing as we played like we were French.

Sure makes the near-collapse against a military academy this Saturday seem appropriate, eh?

Watching TV and reading online, you'd think that Charlie has lost more popularity than Dubya over the past two years. Apparently somewhere — probably in the lakefront suburbs of Chicago or the forums of ND Nation — a nebulous mob of alumni is foaming at their collective mouth.

Last week, "Weis"and "hot seat"were frequent bedfellows. "Weis Saves Job, at Least for a Moment,"read one headline this Sunday, as if another completed bomb would have immediately decimated Paris. During the game, Steve Beuerlein asked a rambling question about the state of the program to Jack Swarbrick, who did himself no favors by expounding at length about the state of the women's soccer team.

It's a wonder I haven't seen the pithy-if cheesy-likes of "Why Irish Eyes Aren't Smiling"and "Yuck of the Irish."

But two years ago, that foaming mouth was salivating. Heck, two months ago, that mouth was salivating. And that's why the calls for Charlie's head are absurd and, more importantly, embarrassing.

It's not just that people are bailing on Charlie Weis now. It's how quickly they leapt onto the bandwagon and how quickly they're leaping off. People outside Notre Dame will use Charlie's contract extension as evidence, and appropriately so. But it's more fundamental than that.

Four years ago, the third quarter ended and the hero worship began in the student section as the 1812 Overture played. Everybody formed their W's and chanted Weis (except for the confused alumni at the USC game, of course, who actually believed we would follow Rudy Ruddeger's suggestion and chant "Charlie.") Now, it's not unusual to hear a few Lou's in there, from kids who are cooler than me. Others sit. Most still chant — but its not the same. Our hero has been impugned.

Five games into the season, we're excited about impending BCS championships, eight games in, we want to overhaul the whole machine. 2005, we're well on the way to a Charlie Weis dynasty; 2008, we're well on our way to a Jon Gruden ...or Brian Kelly ... or, yes, Skip Holtz dynasty. Maybe George O'Leary is available?

The way we swing, you'd think Al Davis was a prominent alum.

It's not that we should still worship Charlie. It's that we never should have. But now, we're only compounding our mistake by flipping on him so quickly. Temperance is still a virtue, even at an Irish school.

And measuring it temperately — weighing the whole of this year versus the whole of last year — the discussion about Charlie seems silly. We are trending up. The women's soccer emphasis aside, Jack Swarbrick is right. Last week, he told a reporter, "I would tell them I am very pleased with the progress we have made this year and that we are moving in the right direction, that we're going to be even better next year, and that I would hope they would move forward with us."

Anybody can recognize how different this team is than last year's. How much more promise we have. Our freshman and sophomores take the field and play with other schools' juniors and seniors: Michael Floyd, the brothas Smith at linebacker, and yes, before Boston College, even Jimmy Clausen. Because of them, we have hope, and it is justified hope.

Whether times are good or bad, that's what our evaluation of Weis and others has to be about: hope. Hope in the face of difficulty (last season). Hope in the face of uncertainty (this season). The audacity of hope.

But let's not go too far. If we're playing like this next year, then we'll talk. But for now, nebulous mob of foaming alumni, cut it out. Temper yourself a bit. You're embarrassing us all.

But the very least, the knowledge of a better future is why we're still Noder Dame, and not Knowtre Dahm.

Andrew Nesi is a senior American Studies major from Fairfield, Connecticut. He can't believe that a broken switch on the popcorn machine in CoMo has shut down popcorn production for the last three weeks. He hopes that, in addition to fixing the problem soon, Campus Ministry subtracts this painful time from the normal 40 days without popcorn in the Spring. He can be reached at anesi@nd.edu

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

EDITORIAL CARTOON

OBSERVER POLL

What are your plans for Thanksgiving?

Stay on campus
Stay home and have relatives over
Visit family

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QUOTE OF THE DAY

"'Tis better to be silent and be thought a fool, than to speak and remove all doubt."

Abraham Lincoln
former U.S. president

Athletic Director needs to schedule better

Fr. Lou DelFra

Faithpoint

I don't know if the Church looks ahead on the schedule when it assigns readings for each Sunday, but it sure blew it this past weekend. Ideally, you look to match the hardest parts of the schedule with the easier teams — a San Diego State opener, for example. And you put your harder games, ideally, after a bye. Notre Dame didn't do a great job this year, scheduling the bye the first week of the season, then loading up on four straight tough games in November, with no bye, three of which they lost.

The Church needs Florida's AD. The Gators play the Citadel this week with a BCS berth on the line. And they had their bye week before Tennessee. That's how you set it up.

As students head into crunch time this semester, they need a bye week on the Gospel. Something consoling — "come to me all you who labor and I will give you rest."Or something energizing, a spiritual Red Bull — "The water I give you will become like a spring of eternal life welling up within you."Or even a crank-it-up pep talk— "I saw Satan fall like lightning from heaven. And I have given you power to trample on snakes and scorpions."(Uh, Jesus, I actually don't need those here in Indiana, but how about "acing tests without studying for them?")

That's what we needed this past Sunday, as dark, snowy, assignment-packed November descended upon us — a soft, peace-inducing, inspiring Gospel. Instead, the Church AD gave us the equivalent of USC on the road. The Gospel of the Talents. Death to Notre Dame and Saint Mary's perfectionists. You know the one: a master gives one servant five talents, another two, and another one. Then, when the master returns from his journey, he asks for their returns. The one with five made another five and gets a posh promotion. The same for the one with two. But the one with just one talent played "Guitar Hero" in his room all week, gets read the riot act, and loses even the one he had. Just what you needed to hear with five papers and an Orgo Final on the horizon ... .

Of course, this passage has its place in the Gospel messages we need to hear. Just not right now. Because one tempting way to interpret this Parable of the Talents is: "If I max out with my gifts, God will be really pleased with me and throw his arms around me and love me."This, I submit, is not at all what Jesus is trying to convey in this Gospel. Furthermore, it's a very dangerous interpretation for our spiritualities, especially if we're perfectionists — that the love of God can be secured by performing perfectly (or at least highly efficiently) with our gifts.

But this interpretation does not square with the God whom Jesus reveals throughout the Gospels as a whole. How can we, for example, square such an interpretation with the Parable of the Prodigal Son? In this parable the younger son not only does not "max out" his gifts, but completely squanders them on debauchery and prostitutes. And when he returns to his father (another image of God), the father, very movingly, runs out to meet his irresponsible son and embraces him in his arms.

The concept that we earn love by our performance is often learned from the first time we bring home our report card full of A's and everybody in our house goes nuts. This is followed by academic awards, honor societies, huge SAT scores and all the rest — each usually, and reasonably, triggering celebrations of our achievement. Though in the deep recesses of our hearts, we can also begin to think, mistakenly, that these are celebrations of our being. That we are good, worthwhile, and lovable because we have produced these achievements. And as our spiritual lives mature, as yours are in powerful ways during these college years, this dynamic of "I-am-loved-because-I'm-successful"can, quite naturally, get projected onto God. "God loves me more when I do well with my life."That, needless to say, places a burden on your tests and your life — the acceptance of God — that is a tremendous, and ultimately unbearable, load to carry.

It is easy to see how last Sunday's Gospel about the talents could be read as an exhortation to please God by maxing out with your gifts. But it is equally easy to see how incompatible such a spirituality is with the Parable of the Prodigal Son, or the Lost Sheep (who doesn't seem to have been the brightest goat in the herd), or the Beatitudes' exaltation of precisely those whom the world normally judges unsuccessful.

The love of God is already ours. It was won for us by Jesus Christ and granted to us at our baptism and continued life in the Church. This is why St. John writes: "The love of God is this: not that we have loved God, but that God has loved us."This is as clear a statement as possible that we do not earn the love of God, not by our achievements, not even by our virtue, nor anything else we can accomplish. The love of God, simply, is already won for us.

If we have been given five talents, or two, or one, we are indeed called to cultivate them and place them at the service of our brothers and sisters. But we do so not so we can "pass the test"and earn the love of God. Rather, freed up by an ever-deepening certainty of the love of God that we already have, we become more and more filled with a prodigal happiness to develop and share what we have with others, especially the poor and sorrowful, that they too might know the happiness and the love of God with which we have been gifted.

This week's Faithpoint is written by Fr. Lou DelFra, CSC, Director of Campus Ministry Bible Studies and ACE chaplain. He can be reached at delfra.2@nd.edu

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

Letters to the Editor

Dear Jane(s)

To the eleven and a half girls and one camel (a surprisingly good kisser) that I have hooked up with this semester,

First, I would like to thank you for your time and consideration. It is an honor to have made it through your rigorous selection process.

Second, I would like to make it abundantly clear that I do not plan on marrying any of you. In fact, I would like to publicly pronounce to everyone that I am not, in fact, looking for a relationship, and my random hookups are in no way my own way of coping with my deep-seated desire for a meaningful relationship.

Third, I would also like to thank everyone for reading this, both on campus and on the Internet around the world. Presumably, you all now know that I have casual morals. I'm glad I could finally get that out there to everyone, especially my parents. Mom and Dad, I know you would be so proud if you could only have seen me in the heat of the moment.

Fourth, despite my complete lack of interest in a relationship, I am wondering why you don't want to be one of my very best friends. Those nights were so magical. In fact, I even remember most of your first names. Presumably, we could even get started on learning last names too at some point. If making out randomly after 30 seconds of conversation isn't enough to base a friendship on, how am I supposed to make friends of the opposite sex at this school?

Fifth, and finally, I would like to thank The Observer for running this letter. After all, I could have simply contacted you individually via Facebook or some other medium. Instead, I am glad that I have the chance to share my feelings and insecurities with the rest of the world as well.

Will Guappone
junior
Fisher Hall
Nov. 19

Two to tango

Dear Melissa (who's hooked-up with six guys this semester),

It takes two to tango. If you truly "love to kiss boys, "then perhaps a much larger portion of the initial blame lies with you than your letter recognized. If you love to eat ice cream and despair when you find yourself opening the freezer, don't blame Ben and Jerry's.

Your greatest problem lies with the lack of attention that you, the "victim" of the hook-ups, receive from those ex-flings. I'll confess, though, that I'm not quite sure how much of a relationship you expect to have established with a kiss. Do you even remember their full names?

Probably not. But that's a problem which arises as a result of hooking-up without having established a relationship — there's no relationship.

What disturbs me is that, though you admit equal blame, you seem to place responsibility with your hook-ees rather than yourself. Yes, they haven't talked to you since the event, although you reluctantly admit in your letter that a few have. In defense of the silent, though, you've likewise failed to initiate the desired discourse. Did you call their cell phones? Your defense was a broken phone, so you lost most of the numbers which you had obtained — but what about the ones you haven't lost, did you call them? And of the ones you did lose, did you bother to spend three seconds to check a Facebook account?

No, you just chalk-off the male gender as hopeless, write us up as another lost cause when you write, "I doubt you would answer even if I could call you" (p.s. — you can). And as a dude, I'm just sick and tired of being portrayed as a criminal every time I do something that apparently falls in with a facet of the "hook-up culture. "

On that note, I was a kissing booth for Halloween with a warning that read "Too hot to handle. Contains nuts." I'd have written, "Warning: Won't make exceptional effort to contact you after we kiss. This is just meant to be fun for both of us," but I assumed that those were obvious assumptions for something that was clearly meant for entertainment and little else.

I think you reached the right conclusion — if you're looking for friends, it's probably not a great idea to make-out with the other person within the first few hours you've met him or her. Sorry about the hobby. But I think that you need to reflect on your reasoning for the decision; don't blame those mean old boys for not initiating the conversation which you too shy away from.

√Dennis Grabowski
freshman
Dillon Hall
Nov. 19

The Love Doctor

Dear Melissa Buddie,

I was horrified to learn, in your recent letter to the Observer, that you were actively considering swearing off what are colloquially known as "random hook-ups,"or what I prefer to think of as "fun-fun pleasure times." Your experiences with those six (no more and no less) boys are certainly not unique, and definitely not grounds for removing yourself from the competition for Queen of the Make-Outs. As someone who is a self-proclaimed boy-kissing hobbyist, what could possibly make you give up those stolen moments of passion because of a few small helpings of awkward turtle in the dining halls?

As it happens, though, I can sympathize. It may shock you to learn this — but many of the strapping young fellows you've locked lips with are not interested in anything serious, or even casual. The damage has been done to your youthful naivete, and nothing but a full-blown hook-up romance will restore it. At least, that's the diagnosis of this particular Love Doctor. And his remedy is simple.

Knowing (as I do) the true source of your reluctance to make yourself available, that source being the abiding awkwardness of previous hookups, and knowing (as I do) that you have not yet truly experienced the glory of a true 'fun-fun pleasure time,' I would like to throw my hat into the ring as a candidate for an elected office you didn't even know existed. That office? President ... of your heart.

I consider myself something of an amateur philematologist (philematology, n.: the art or science of kissing). But more than this, I know how to treat a woman right.

Facebook bumper stickers have taught me that the secret is to purchase you 11 real roses and one fake one, and have them delivered to your dorm by a serenading Spaniard. When you call to tearfully gush about my thoughtfulness, it will be then that I make this promise to you. "I will love you until the last rose dies."

After which, of course, we will hook-up like wild animals.

So keep an eye out for me on Friday night. I'll be the well-dressed man with the flower in his buttonhole, waiting to show you new realms of pleasure.

PS — I live on North Quad. Things won't get weird.

Brooks Smith
sophomore
Nov. 19

TANGO Fire

By ANALISE LIPARI
Scene Editor

Tonight and tomorrow, the DeBartolo Performing Arts Center will host one of Buenos Aires' hottest exports: the spirited, passionate dancers of Tango Fire. The act, which features five dancing couples performing alongside with the Quatrotango Orchestra, is a pulse-pounding, music-thumping night of Latin entertainment that should not be missed.

"Everything may be beautiful at the ballet, but at Tango Fire, everything is smoldering," says a recent review in EDGE Philadelphia posted on the official Tango Fire Web site. Departing from other touring dance spectacles, such as "Riverdance" or similar phenomena, Tango Fire features a variety of reinterpretations of the title dance itself, the tango. Traditional moves are accented by a theatrical flair, resulting in a show that's bound to captivate and surprise.

The troupe also takes audiences through a history of the dance's evolution; earlier portions of the performance will often focus on "Milonga," a 19th century country-dance that began in Buenos Aires. The stage setting of this portion is a "Café del Tango," complete with café tables and lamps. More modern variations of the tango are featured in the latter portions of the group's shows, incorporating impressive lifts and quickly paced moves into the rhythms of the dance. The performers dress to the nines, with glamorous gowns for the women and fedoras and suits for the men.

Choreographers Yanina Fajar and Nelson Celis have organized an impressive troupe of dancers for Tango Fire, divided into traditional male-female partners. One couple, husband and wife pair Mauricio Celis and Ines Cuestra, have performed in Tango houses across South America and Europe, including those in Brazil, Italy and Peru. Another pair, German Cornejo and Carolina Giannini, have been studying the dance since they were teenagers, and have performed all over the Argentinean capital.

Departing from other touring dance spectacles, such as "Riverdance" or similar phenomena, Tango Fire features a variety of reinterpretations of the title dance itself, the tango. Traditional moves are accented by a theatrical flair, resulting in a show that's bound to captivate and surprise.

Of course, Tango Fire would simply be a troupe of dancers without the smooth performances of their main vocalist, Javier 'Dardenal' Dominguez. Dominguez, a native of Buenos Aires, began a singing career at age 26 and has also made the rounds among the most famous tango houses in Argentina. The accompanying band also includes violinist Marcelo Rebuffi, pianist Gabriel Clenar, bass player Gerardo Scaglione and Hugo Satorre, who plays a traditional instrument called the bandoneon. The soundtrack of Argentinean music keeps the mood energetic and lively.

"I don't think I will ever get sick of the Tango," Christian Miño, one of the featured dancers in Tango Fire, told the Australian newspaper The Daily Telegraph in a recent interview. "I will still be dancing it when I'm old." From the sound of Tango Fire, this passion for dancing comes across the stage and invigorates the audience. Each couple approaches the dance differently, ranging from the more formal stylistics of Fajar and Celis, who perform in addition to choreographing the act, to more romantic interpretations by other couples in the show.

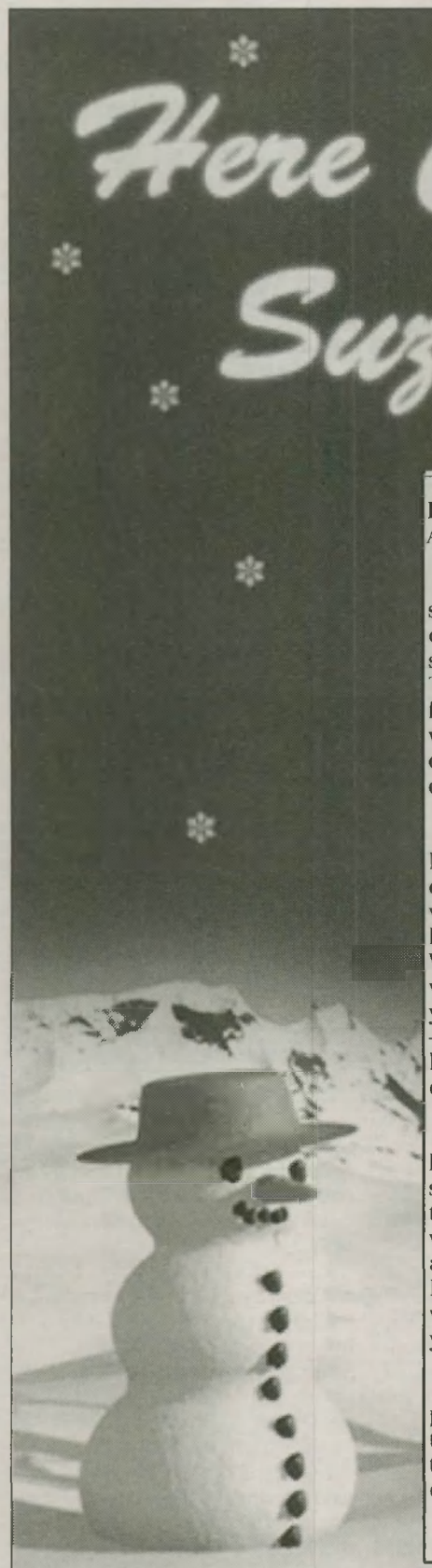
Tango Fire is appearing at the Performing Arts Center courtesy of their Visiting Artist Series. Performances begin tonight and tomorrow night at 7 p.m. Tickets cost $48 for general admission, $38 for faculty and staff, $36 for seniors and $15 for students. For more information about the performance, visit performingarts.nd.edu. Fans can also visit the company's official Web site, www.tango-fire.com, for video, biographies of company members and more.

Contact Analise Lipari at alipari@nd.edu

Lights Up the Stage

BLAIR CHEMIDLIN | Observer Graphic

Here Comes Suzy Snowflake



By MICHELLE FORDICE
Assistant Scene Editor

Winter seemed especially devious this year. It snuck in, teasing all of us on campus with the occasional warm day, even as the temperatures slowly dropped and those dark clouds rolled in. Tuesday's snow seems to announce that it is finally here in full force. But don't let those cold winds and gray days get you down. Here are a couple of ways to fend off that winter depression over the next few months here in South Bend.

1. Pretend you're a kid again. Surviving a Notre Dame winter is all about attitude, and the easiest way to keep your chin up is to remember when every walk through that winter wonderland invoked images of sledding and snow days. We don't get many snow days anymore, but it is worth it to try to approach it with joy. Reopen your eyes to how beautiful — and how much fun — all that snow and ice can be. Here's a hint: the hill between Bronson and Lewis is great for sledding.

2. Stay healthy. Eat well, exercise, and drink a lot of water. As the temperatures drop, we try to stay inside, eat lots of heavy foods and don't have the advantage of high temperatures to remind us when to head to the tap. Keep yourself in shape and you'll feel better through the season. Remember, if you bundle up properly, are careful with ice, and don't go out when it is too cold, you'll be perfectly fine going outside to exercise.

3. Really enjoy your coffee and tea. You've probably been drinking it all semester just for the caffeine kick, but now that it's cold outside, that warm mug is especially comforting. And don't forget that it is apple cider season!

4. Invest in some fun hats, scarves, and gloves. We are all going to be heading to class at the same time, so help each other out by adding some pizzazz to the trip. Pick out colorful winter accessories and don't be afraid to be a little silly. We'll appreciate you helping us put a smile on our face.

5. Pull yourself out of bed. I know it's hard when it's dark and cold outside, but keeping your regular sleeping hours (well, as regular as they can be for a college student) ensures that you don't cut into an already shortened day.

6. Stay social. Don't give into the temptation to avoid the cold at all costs, bundle up and get out. Winter is too cold to take on alone.

7. Of course, winter really does mean staying in some days. It is the time for curling up with a good movie. Take a few hours break and invite some friends over for a movie and hot chocolate with plenty of marshmallows. Try winter season classics or even your Christmas favorites as we move closer to December. Some good options are "Little Women," "Ice Age," and "Meet Me in St. Louis."

8. Do some winter cleaning and revamp your room. Move some things around and introduce some new colors and decorations. Even if it is just printing out those pictures from the last semester and summer and pasting them on the wall, it will refresh the room and how you feel in it.

Don't let winter win! Put a smile on your face, a scarf around your neck, and take a romp — never a trudge — through the snow.

The view expressed in Scene and Heard are those of the author and not necessarily those of the Observer. Contact Michelle Fordice at mfordice@nd.edu.

Dining Hall Dish

By MICHELLE FORDICE
Assistant Scene Editor

It's getting cold outside. If we didn't need to eat, I'm sure a lot of us might pick staying inside over braving the snowdrifts to get to North and South. Alas, we must persevere. Here are two entrées that might make the journey to your favorite dining hall feel a little more worth it.

This week's recipes:

Meatball Sub

The dining hall puts out meatballs for pasta quite often, so why not put them to use in this classic, warm and gooey sandwich? It is great served with a salad. Thanks to Megan Cefferillo for inspiring this recipe.

Pick up a long roll and two slices of provolone cheese.

If you are in South, sprinkle parmesan cheese and Italian seasoning from the spice rack onto the inside of both sides of bread. Place a slice of provolone cheese on top of that on each side. Lay the bread flat and run it though the toaster by the Panini presses. If you are in North, toast the bread, then sprinkle parmesan cheese onto the insides of both sides of bread and cover with provolone. Zap it in the microwave for the cheese to melt.

Head to the pasta bar and add a layer of meatballs. Top with marinara sauce.

Ranch Dressing and Chicken Pasta

This dish is apparently a tradition of the Notre Dame Hockey team before each game. Now, before you run away from the odd idea of using ranch dressing on top of pasta, give the idea a try. Of course, you may feel like you need to play a hockey game by the time you finish eating it! Serve it with a garden style salad with a light vinegar based dressing. Thanks to Chris Hall for inspiring this recipe.

Fill a bowl with short pasta.

Cut up a chicken breast and mix it into the pasta.

Drizzle ranch dressing over the pasta and chicken and mix.

Heat in the microwave for less than a minute to warm up the dressing.

Sprinkle on some black pepper.

Want some variations? Before you heat the dish, try mixing in broccoli and sliced mushrooms. If you want to give it a bit of a kick, add in a little hot sauce along with the ranch dressing.

Quick Tip

Figure out which section of the dining hall you visit the least and head in that direction. Haven't made a waffle since the novelty wore off? Have one for dinner. Skip over the offerings of the Mexican bar most days? Make yourself a good taco salad. Varying your routine will prevent you from tiring of the dining hall too quickly.

Have your own dining hall recipe? We would love to feature it! E-mail mfordice@nd.edu.

BLAIR CHEMIDLIN | Observer Graphic

NCAA Basketball

Reynolds, Fisher lead 'Nova past Niagara

Michigan State survives IPFW behind late 13-0 run; Wake finds offensive stride in blowout win over UNC-Wilmington

Associated Press

VILLANOVA, Pa. — Scottie Reynolds scored 19 points, Corey Fisher had 15 and Reggie Redding 14 to lead No. 23 Villanova past pesky Niagara, 77-62 on Wednesday night.

Playing their third game in six days, the banged-up Wildcats (3-0) were just vulnerable enough to be severely tested at home by Niagara. The Purple Eagles (1-1) opened the second half on a hot streak and a pair of 3s helped slice the deficit to single digits.

The Wildcats played their third straight game without swingman Dwayne Anderson (foot), and 6-foot-10 center Casiem Drummond (foot) was limited to only 2 minutes.

Corey Stokes scored seven points and played with a taped sprained left thumb.

Battered and bruised, the Wildcats still got it done.

Reynolds sank two from the free-throw line around the 8-minute mark and a jumper by Redding helped the Wildcats regain a double-digit lead at 60-48. From there, they slowly did enough to win their 18th straight home game.

Tyrone Lewis scored 16 points and Rob Garrison had 15 for Niagara.

This was a homecoming of sorts for some of the Purple Eagles. Coach Joe Mihalich was a former La Salle standout and assistant coach for the Explorers, assistant coach Phil Martelli Jr. played at Saint Joseph's for his father, and forward Bilal Benn transferred after playing two seasons for Villanova.

Niagara had their mini-run early in the second half to keep the game close. Lewis hit a 3-pointer and Benson Egemonye followed with a tough inside bucket and free throw. Another free throw cut the gap to 40-38, and the Villanova fans that came expecting to see another easy win were pretty quiet in the Pavilion.

Redding hit a 3 to give the Wildcats a little bit of space on the scoreboard, but it didn't last long. Lewis and Garrison each sank 3-pointers and the deficit was back down to five.

Redding's jumper capped a 9-0 spurt that was sorely needed once Dante Cunningham, who scored a career-high 31 points against Fordham on Monday, fouled out. Cunningham finished with 11 points.

This was a preliminary round game for the Philly Hoop Group Classic. The championship round games will be played Nov. 28-29 at the Palestra.

Niagara dropped its 18th straight game against ranked opponents and hasn't beat a Top 25 team since a win over No. 4 St. John's in 1984.

Michigan State 70, IPFW 59

Raymar Morgan scored eight of his 22 points during a decisive 13-0 run Wednesday night and No. 5 Michigan State survived a scare from IPFW, beating the Mastodons.

Michigan State (2-0) led 32-24 at halftime, but opened the second half making just 1-of-10 shots. They fell behind twice by three points to IPFW (0-2), which lost its opener to Xavier by 28.

Trailing 44-42, the Spartans took control midway through the second half. It started with a free throw by Delvon Roe. Then Kalin Lucas quickly added a 17-foot jumper. Then Morgan scored on an inbounds pass and a moment later added a free throw.

The Spartans then forced IPFW turnovers on three straight possessions. The Mastodons only missed two shots during the 13-0 run, but the Spartans forced four turnovers.

Lucas added 17 points and Goran Suton had 10 rebounds for the Spartans. Ben Botts led IPFW with 22 points despite going 4-for-17 from 3-point range and David Carson scored 17 points.

IPFW, which shot 25 percent in its opening game loss at Xavier, its worst shooting night since becoming a Division I program in 2001, outshot the Spartans 46 percent to 43 percent.

But the Spartans had a 38-28 rebounding advantage and made 19 free throws on 28 attempts compared to IPFW's 6-of-7.

The Mastodons, playing slowly deliberately, twice managed to grab the lead, 18-15 on a 3-pointer by Carson with 3:48 left in the half and 21-20 when Botts hit a 3 with 2:46 left. The Spartans appeared ready to take control, scoring four straight baskets inside before Korie Lucious capped the run with a 3-pointer with 2 seconds left to give Michigan State a 32-24 halftime lead.

But then the Spartans shooting went cold to start the second half. Michigan State was finally able to find its touch, though, making 10-of-21 shots the rest of the way as the Spartans finally put the Mastodons away.

It was the first time a Big Ten team traveled to Fort Wayne to play the Mastodons, whose biggest win since moving to Division I came three seasons ago when it beat in-state rival Indiana State 54-46. The Mastodons have dropped eight straight games against ranked opponents, including four to Michigan State.

Wake Forest 120, UNC-Wilmington 88

Jeff Teague scored a career-high 31 points, James Johnson added 25 and No. 20 Wake Forest beat North Carolina-Wilmington on Wednesday night.

Chas McFarland had 19 points for the Demon Deacons (2-0), who led almost the entire way in a game that featured plenty of transition buckets and quick shots for both teams. Wake Forest shot 57 percent and scored 41 points off 24 turnovers to improve to 11-0 all-time in the series.

Johnny Wolf scored 24 points to lead the Seahawks (2-1), who had scored 100 points in each of their first two games. UNC-Wilmington shot 48 percent for the game and hit 12 3-pointers, though the Seahawks struggled to match up with Teague, Johnson and McFarland all night.

UNC-Wilmington had rallied from a 17-point deficit in the final 6 minutes of regulation to beat Appalachian State 108-101 in overtime to open the year, then followed with a 107-95 win over Troy. But the Demon Deacons looked plenty comfortable playing at a fast pace, weathering several spurts from the Seahawks before reaching the century mark on Teague's driving score with 61/2 minutes left.

Wake Forest jumped out to a 22-point lead midway through the first half and led 61-44 at halftime. The Seahawks hung around early after the break, getting as close as 69-60 on a 3 from Wolf with 15:40 to play.

Teague quickly restored order, assisting on a dunk from L.D. Williams before draining a 3 from the corner to push the margin back to 15. Wake Forest put the game away with a 10-point burst, with Johnson finding Teague for a transition layup and Teague adding a driving basket over Dominique Lacy that helped Wake Forest take a 92-68 lead with 91/2 minutes left.

Teague surpassed his previous high of 27 points set against Miami last year, going 10-of-17 from the field and 9-of-12 from the foul line while spending time defending UNC-Wilmington's top scorer, Chad Tomko.

AP

Villanova guard Corey Fisher, right, drives to the basket against Niagara guard Kamau Gordon during Villanova's 77-62 victory on Wednesday night.

Classifieds

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

For Sale

Villa ranch at 18133 Annettas Ct. in South Bend. 5 mins. to ND. Built in 2004. 3 bdrm, 2 bath. 1652 sq.ft. Vaulted great room, formal dining room, oak eat-in kitchen, all appliances, large 3-season room, first floor laundry. Finished basement plumbed for bath, egress window. Patio. $249,500. Handicap accessible. Century 21 Jim Dunfee Realty Jack Egenhoefer. 574-280-7730

4 ND v. USC Football Game Tickets. Face Value. Bob 574-287-2210

FOR SALE: $20,000 - A SET OF TWO TIME-SHARES AT VARSITY CLUBS, MISHAWAKA, IN. One Sophomore TimeShare (1 Flexible Week, cannot be booked during ND Home Football games) and One Senior TimeShare (1 Flexible Week, guaranteed booking for ND third home football game). Call Sara Slevinski 716-361-0911 or email s.slevinski@gmail.com for more info. You can view Varsity Clubs at ILXresorts.com

3-bdrm, 2.5 bath Condo. Close to ND, Master bdrm on main floor w/bth. Catwalk between bdrm upstairs. 1896 sq. ft. 1330 Bridgewater Way, Mishawaka. $179,900. Call 574-247-1567.

For Rent

HOUSES FOR LEASE 09-10 SCHOOL YEAR. 2-10 BDRMS AVAILABLE.
CONTACT KRAMER PROPERTIES 574-234-2436 OR KRAMERHOUSES.COM

Affordable Graduate and Faculty Off-Campus Housing. Call for Availability (574)243-2818 or (574)276-6118.

Furnished 2-bdrm, house.

Living room, kitchen, dining room, full bath. 6.5 blks to ND. $795/mo. Avail Jan. 1.

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Student rentals 2009/2010. St. Peter/S.B. Ave. homes. $1300-$1960/mo. 5-7 bdrms 1st & 2nd floors.

Contact Bruce Gordon 574-876-3537.

Walk to ND Campus!

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Application/credit check required. 574-277-0116

Walk to ND Campus!

Fully remodeled home. 1617 Scottswood Dr. 2 bdrms/ 1 bath, 1+ car detached garage, $1300/mo.

Application/ credit check required. 574-277-0116.

Personal

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

UNPLANNED PREGNANCY? Do not go it alone. If you or someone you love needs confidential support or assistance, please call Sr. Sue Dunn, OP, at (574)631-7819 or Ann Firth at 574-631-2685. For more information, visit our website at: http://osa.nd.edu/departments/pregnant.shtml

Men's Basketball AP Top 25

	team	points
1	North Carolina	1,800
2	Connecticut	1,674
3	Louisville	1,635
4	UCLA	1,475
5	Michigan State	1,362
6	Pittsburgh	1,355
7	Texas	1,304
8	NOTRE DAME	1,243
9	Gonzaga	1,185
10	Duke	1,176
11	Purdue	1,116
12	Oklahoma	1,028
13	Memphis	968
14	Tennessee	941
15	Arizona State	653
16	Marquette	653
17	Miami (FL)	591
18	Florida	460
19	USC	398
20	Wake Forest	349
21	Davidson	339
22	Georgetown	265
23	Villanova	261
24	Kansas	207
25	Wisconsin	187

Women's Basketball AP Top 25

	team	points
1	Connecticut	1,125
2	Oklahoma	1,018
3	Rutgers	1,010
4	North Carolina	963
5	Tennessee	931
6	Duke	900
7	California	788
8	Stanford	764
9	Louisville	724
10	Baylor	698
11	Maryland	680
12	Texas A&M	658
13	Vanderbilt	603
14	Texas	519
15	NOTRE DAME	459
16	Virginia	440
17	Ohio State	361
18	Arizona State	345
19	Oklahoma State	291
20	Auburn	258
21	Purdue	178
22	Florida State	173
23	Xavier	152
24	TCU	148
25	Old Dominion	106

NCAA Cross Country USTFCCCA Rankings

	Men	Women
1	Oregon	Washington
2	Oklahoma State	Oregon
3	Stanford	Florida State
4	Portland	Princeton
5	Alabama	Villanova
6	Wisconsin	West Virginia
7	Northern Arizona	Minnesota
8	Iona	Wisconsin
9	Michigan	Texas Tech
10	Geogetown	Michigan State

around the

NCAA FOOTBALL

No. 23 Miami at Georgia Tech
7:30 p.m., ESPN

NFL

AP

Dallas Cowboys owner Jerry Jones, left, head coach Wade Phillips and vice president Stephen Jones, right, look on during practice Wednesday at Dallas' training facility.

Goodell conditionally reinstates Pacman

Associated Press

ARLINGTON, Texas — The NFL is giving Adam "Pacman" Jones another chance.

Dallas Cowboys owner Jerry Jones said Wednesday the suspended cornerback has been reinstated by league commissioner Roger Goodell, but he must miss two more games — this Sunday and the following game on Thanksgiving. He'll be back Dec. 7 at Pittsburgh.

"He much appreciates the Cowboys and Jerry Jones for standing behind him and encouraging him, and he's grateful to the commissioner," said Worrick Robinson, Adam Jones' Nashville-based attorney.

Jerry Jones would not reveal any conditions the commissioner may have imposed and the league office said it would not have any immediate comment. However, Robinson, said, "He knows what he has to do. It's very clear."

"He's a long way, a long way from having clear sailing," Jerry Jones said.

Adam Jones was suspended from the entire 2007 season because of multiple incidents while with the Tennessee Titans. Over the offseason, he was traded to Dallas and then given another chance by Goodell. The Cowboys gave him a security team to help keep him in line, but on Oct. 7, Jones got into an alcohol-related scuffle with one of the bodyguards during a private party at a Dallas hotel.

Jones spent part of his time away undergoing alcohol rehabilitation.

"He has demonstrated something very important to all of us," Jerry Jones said.

It also will be up to Pacman to police himself. The Cowboys will no longer be providing bodyguards.

"It all starts with him and his decision-making," Robinson said. "He's comfortable making decisions for himself."

Robinson said the alcohol therapy was "something he needed to do."

"The real issue was more than allegations of an incident at a Dallas hotel," Robinson said. "There were personal issues that, until addressed, there was a likelihood of another incident occurring."

Jerry Jones said Adam Jones can have "limited participation" this week, but would not be part of full-squad practices or conditioning. He can return to practice Monday.

Goodell suspended Adam Jones indefinitely on Oct. 14, saying he'd put a timeframe on it after the cornerback missed at least four games. This decision means it will be a six-game suspension. Jones also missed the entire 2007 season. By the time he returns, he will have been

IN BRIEF

Graham placed on IR, finished for the season

TAMPA, Fla. — With leading rusher Earnest Graham out for the season, the Tampa Bay Buccaneers will lean more on Warrick Dunn.

Graham limped off the field with a right ankle sprain after his only carry during last week's victory over Minnesota and was placed on injured reserve Wednesday. That means a greater role in the offense for the 33-year-old Dunn.

"I expect to play a lot more. But at the same time, we have other guys who can come in and make plays," Dunn said. "I'm just going to do my part to help us move the chains, score touchdowns and win games."

Graham entered last season as the third-string tailback, but wound up playing a major role in Tampa Bay winning the NFC South because of injuries to Carnell "Cadillac" Williams and Michael Pittman.

Vikings' Allen fined heavily, won't be suspended

EDEN PRAIRIE, Minn. — Minnesota Vikings defensive end Jared Allen has been fined $25,000 for a recent spate of late hits, but he won't be suspended.

He's not planning to reduce his aggressiveness, either.

After his summons to NFL headquarters in New York on Tuesday, Allen returned to Winter Park to continue resting and rehabilitating his sprained right shoulder. He vowed his approach to pass rushing would not change, even though he's been fined a total of $80,000 this season — over three separate levies — for what the league has deemed unacceptable contact during games.

"Not at all. I will play football the way I play football, and that's the way it is," Allen said after Wednesday's practice, in which he did not participate due to his injury. "I'm not a dirty player. I never have been. I play hard football, and that's the bottom line."

UNC's Zeller out for season with broken left wrist

CHAPEL HILL, N.C. — Top-ranked North Carolina's unmatched depth just got a little thinner.

The school said freshman 7-footer Tyler Zeller will likely miss the rest of the season with a broken left wrist he suffered late in Tuesday night's win against Kentucky. Zeller had surgery Wednesday to repair fractures in two places, a recovery that normally would take 12 to 16 weeks.

Zeller, who started the first two games in place of injured star Tyler Hansbrough, was injured after taking a hard foul by Ramon Harris in transition after a turnover. He fell to the ground under the basket and got up holding his wrist before heading to the locker room with 1:26 left and

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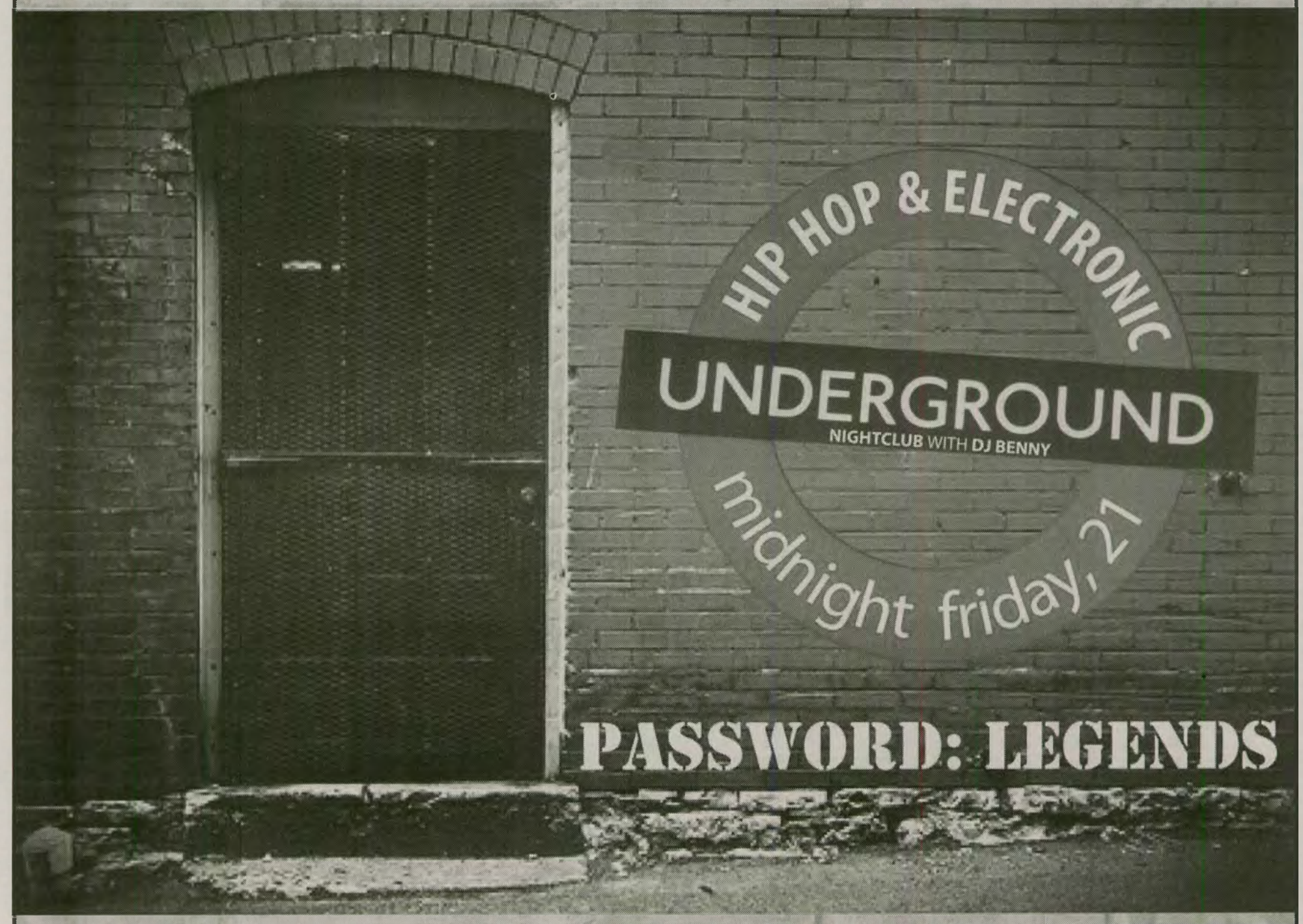

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Irish

continued from page 20

whole game," Evansville coach Misty Murphy said. "That led to 31 turnovers, and that led to the final score."

McGraw said the team's defense had not peaked, but that the turnovers were a good sign.

"I'm pretty happy with our assist-to-turnover ratio," McGraw said.

What bothered McGraw, she said, was the rebounding. Evansville (1-1) out-rebounded Notre Dame 42-36. "Rebounding was a big disappointment. Coming off the LSU game and out-rebounding a very athletic team and then coming in here tonight and allowing ourselves to get out-rebounded," McGraw said. "Evansville outworked us. They played hard, they got on the boards, they did everything they needed to do."

Bruszewski shot 7-for-9 from the field and hit two 3-pointers in the first minutes of the game. Those two attempts equaled her tries from behind the arc last season, when she went 1-for-2.

"I was hitting them in warm-ups, so I thought today would be a good day to try," Bruszewski said.

Rebounding was a big disappointment. Coming off the LSU game and out-rebounding a very athletic team and then coming in here tonight and allowing ourselves to get out-rebounded. Evansville outworked us. They played hard, they got on the boards, they did everything they needed to do.

Muffet McGraw
Irish coach

Bruszewski's 3's came right before a 19-5 run that gave Notre Dame a 27-10 lead with 12:34 left in the first half. Turnovers and fast breaks accounted for many of the points scored in the run. Barlow said turnovers fuel the fast break.

"If you can get up and get quick steals on people and turn it into quick layups without having to set up an offense, that's what we like to do," Barlow said.

Thanks in part to a couple buckets from Lechlitner, Notre Dame went on a 15-4 scoring run late in the first half to make the score 42-20 with 5:57 to go.

Evansville struggled to shoot in the first half, making only 35 percent of its field goals. The Aces finished the game 6-for-18 from 3-point range, something McGraw said she wasn't thrilled about.

"Playing all man-to-man, I thought to give up 18 attempts was a little more than we wanted," she said.

Bruszewski continued to score in the second half. She made two free throws just into the half, then made a jumper and a layup to put the Irish ahead by 19.

Aces forward Anaris Sickles scored eight of her 10 points in the second half, six of them from a 3-pointer and three foul shots.

Barlow started hitting 3-pointers in the second half. She went 0-for-1 in the first half, but made three after the break, including one right after she entered the game to put Notre Dame ahead 71-47 with 9:22 remaining.

"You just gotta get repetitions at it, and that's exactly what I did," she said. I came into the gym and shot multiple times. As long as I step into my shot, it's alright.

Mallory had a career-high six assists in the game and did not commit a turnover. This was Mallory's first game of the season — she was suspended from the LSU game because of an incident at an off-campus party.

Guards Ashley Austin and Ashlee Barrett both scored 10 points for the Aces, and Sickles led the team with seven rebounds. McGraw sees the potential in the defense, she said, but the team needs to work to get there.

"I think we came off the LSU game thinking we can be a great defensive team, and we still can be, but we've got a lot of work to do before we can be a great defensive team."

Contact Bill Brink at wbrink@nd.edu

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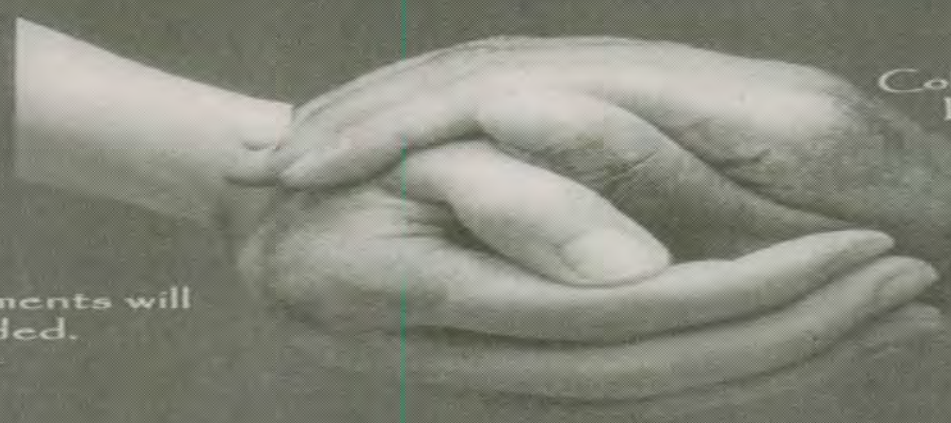
Interrace Forum: What Is Culture?



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Koppel

continued from page 20

took over the announcing duties for the home meet against Purdue on Oct. 8 when the normal announcer, former Irish swimmer Louis Cavadini, was unable to do it.

"Coach told the team that I was going to be the 'Voice of the Irish' for the meet," Koppel joked.

Koppel's injury will keep him out of the pool for six to seven months, but that surely isn't going to stop him from staying active with the team, even if it is from the sidelines.

"I really enjoyed announcing at the meet," he said. "I also still go to practice almost every day and try to help out with coaching and other small things that I can do. Even though it's less than I wish I could be doing, I'm glad I'm still able to contribute in some way."

With that said, Koppel remains focused on getting healthy and making a return to the team next season.

"Hopefully before my knee is fully healed I will be able to start doing some light workouts in the water," he said. "Once it is fully healed I plan on training a full workload all summer so that I can be back in good shape by next season."

Welsh acknowledged that the team is going to really miss Koppel's presence in the pool.

"He had been swimming faster than we had ever seen him swim," Welsh said. "But he'll be back and he won't let the injury keep him down."

Koppel has remained positive through this entire experience even picking up a few of life's important lessons along the way.

"First, I learned that I am not a football player," he said. "Also, right now I'm learning a lot about having patience with the recovery process and staying optimistic."

Koppel will be at the meet cheering on his teammates when they face Ohio State at home on Friday night. However, it has not been determined whether or not he will be called upon again to resume his role as "Voice of the Irish."

Contact Alex Barker at abarker1@nd.edu and Mike Gotimer at mgotimer@nd.edu

Running through the rain

QUENTIN STENGER/The Observer

Freshman runningback Jonas Gray carries the ball in the rain during Notre Dame's 27-21 win over Navy Saturday.

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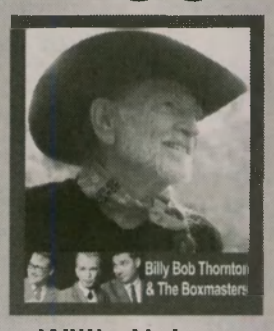

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Thursday-Sunday January 1 - 4	Sesame Street Live! *"Elmo Makes Music"*
Tuesday-Sunday January 6 - 11	Monty Python's Spamalot Broadway Theatre League

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Smyth

continued from page 20

meet any weakness you have is going to be exposed because the level of talent there is so high. We've been working since June all the way up to this point."

He said that it is very tough to treat the championships like just another race.

"There's definitely more pressure," he said. "Some people respond really well to it, and some people don't. It's really unique — it's 10k, it's over hill and dale, the weather could be good or bad, you have to be prepared for anything. I would argue it's the toughest race in the whole NCAA system, including winter track and outdoor track."

Smyth said he hopes to get the front of the pack early in the race, and to stay there.

"I'm going to put myself in a good spot and just hope for the best, run the smartest race that I can," he said. "Once you've put yourself in that position, anything can happen.

"As for the team, I mean, we were the last team to get a berth, so the only way to go from here is up."

This race is also important for Smyth's post-graduate running opportunities.

"You're only as good as your last race when you're looking to run after college," he said. "I'm just trying to make that last race as fast as possible."

Smyth was not always a runner. The cross country coach at his Salt Lake City high school convinced him join the team as a way to get in shape for basketball, his primary sport at the time.

"The cross country coach was always trying to steal athletes from other sports," Smyth said. "I thought it was a good idea, to get in some good workouts and get ready for basketball season. When I got down there, I realized I was pretty good."

Smyth was a standout runner in high school, winning the Utah state cross-country championships twice. Though he considered schools like Georgetown and Stanford, he said he found Notre Dame to be the best fit both academically and athletically.

He made an impact immediately in 2005, his freshman year, placing well in several races. None was bigger than his 99th place finish at nationals that year. In the last 1,000 meters, Smyth put on a burst of speed to run past 15 competitors and was the fifth Irish runner to cross the finish line, assuring the team would place third overall.

"I kind of came through in the clutch there, and that was kind of the springboard to the rest of my career," Smyth said. "A lot of people see the individual side of cross country because everyone talks about the frontrunners and whatnot, but it's really a team sport.

"I'd have to say that was my greatest accomplishment."

The four-time all-Big East and two time All-American certainly has several accomplishments to pick from, and looks to add one more on Monday.

Contact Laura Meyers at lmeyers2@nd.edu

Novosel

continued from page 20

and four rebounds in the effort. Shannon was held to 2-of-6 shooting and had five turnovers.

Just because this was the sisters' first official game against each other, it was by no means the first time they had squared off. There was a strong sibling rivalry between the two on their backyard hoop.

Natalie said that her sister usually had the edge in those games because of her height advantage.

"She used to always beat me, she was taller ... But it only made me better," the Irish guard said.

Natalie credited those games in the backyard with helping her develop as a player. The most important trait she learned going one-on-one against her taller, older sister was persistence, she said.

"She beat me, day in and day out, and it only made me more competitive. And I think that's why I'm so competitive now. Just maneuvering around bigger people and shooting under them and being more crafty with the ball," she said.

Both sisters said there was never any serious trash-talking on the court — and that there wouldn't be after their first team game against each other — but that does not mean they were not intense.

"I would always get so mad, so angry. Throw balls at her, curse her — yeah it happened," Natalie said.

Shannon agreed, and has proof of the games' intensity.

"I've got a couple scars from that," she said.

Shannon said that she has seen marked improvement in Natalie's game during her short college career, and that she will develop into a solid player for the Irish.

"I think she's gotten huge leaps with every game that she's played. She had a couple of nice offensive moves in there. I even got a hand on one of her shots and it still went in. I'm just really looking forward to watching her over the next three years," she said.

As Natalie's career is just beginning, Shannon's is starting to come to a close — but will likely end as one of the best ever at Evansville.

After the Notre Dame game, Shannon is 307 points from cracking 1,000 — a reachable feat since she had over 350 points last season. She is also within striking distance of the school's top 10 list in free throws made, rebounds and steals, and is also third all time in blocks with 82 after Wednesday's game.

Since it is Shannon's senior season, the large Novosel contingent sat in the Evansville cheering section in the Joyce Center. The sisters estimated that about 20 family and friends drove to South Bend to watch the game.

"I think they were wearing a little bit of both. They were sitting in my section because I am a senior and they've got more opportunities to come see [Natalie]," Shannon said.

Even though the fans were all in Shannon's corner, their mother remained neutral.

"I think my mom has a combination of all of our colors on her shirt. She said she was going to try to do that," Shannon said.

Contact Jay Fitzpatrick at jfitzpa5@nd.edu

Floyd

continued from page 20

would mean increased touches for players like David Grimes, sophomore Duval Kamara and junior Robby Parris. Parris had one catch for nine yards after Floyd was sidelined against the Midshipmen.

"I thought Robby Parris stepped up really nicely on Saturday," Ianello said. "We've played a lot of guys at a lot of different spots in practice to build ourselves in case someone broke a shoelace during the game and we had to put someone else in."

Ianello also said that at 6-foot-4, 210 pounds, Parris's size helps give Clausen a big target to look for in Floyd's absence.

Weis said that the receiving corps had suffered injuries earlier in the season and he was not concerned with how they would react.

"Remember when Michael really started playing was at the expense of David Grimes early in the year. So now that we have a healthy David Grimes back, David and Michael are not the same body type and not the same player but certainly lessons the loss," he said.

Grimes was hampered for most of the first half of the season with a back injury. The senior captain appeared to be back at full strength last week when he had three catches for 22 yards.

Both Ianello and Weis said that no new players will be thrown into the mix, eliminating the possibility of other promising true freshmen like Deion Walker or John Goodman seeing some action.

"We would do everything we could not to have that happen at this time," Weis said.

Goodman and Walker have yet to play this season and would be eligible for a fifth year in the future.

Floyd, in the meantime, is dealing well with his first real serious injury.

"He's been fine. He's been doing everything the trainer has asked him to do. He's in meetings, he's attentive," Ianello said.

He is expected to be back in practice by mid-December which the coaching staff is confident will be enough to rebuild his stamina for a potential bowl game.

Contact Dan Murphy at dmurphy6@nd.edu

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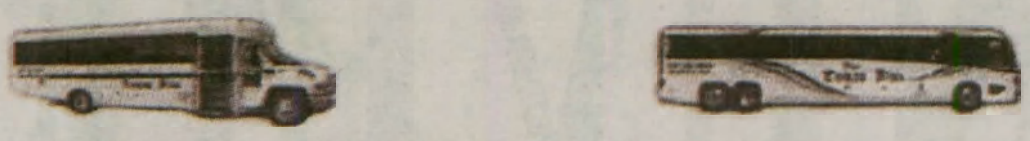
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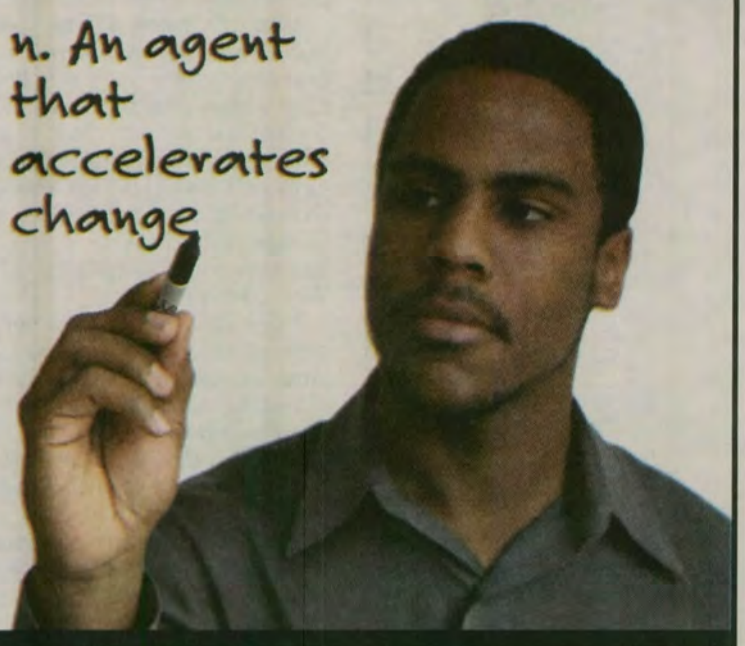
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Jumble

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by Henri Arnold and Mike Argirion

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

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RIPEV

BELFEE

COSHUL

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www.jumble.com

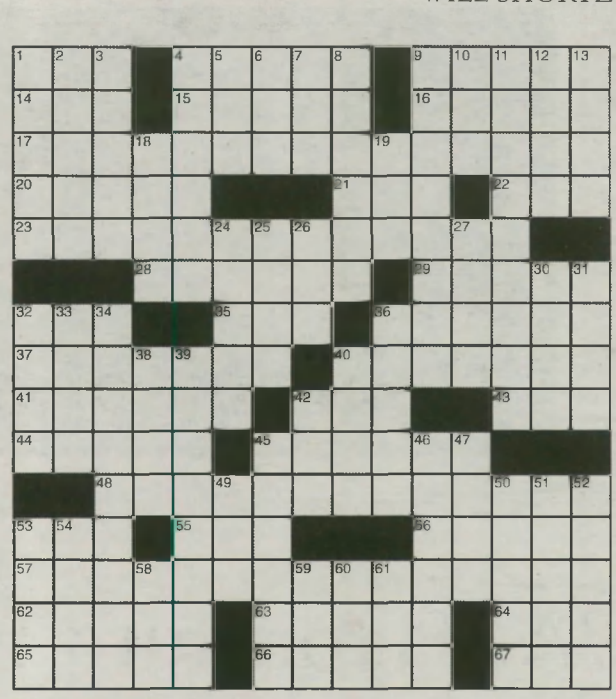
Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Answer: " " (Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: FAINT ROACH HECTIC MARMOT
Answer: When they met on the tennis court and later married, it was a — MATCH MATCH

Crossword

WILL SHORTZ



Puzzle by Timothy Powell

Across

1 Speaks, informally
4 Speak
9 Smokey Robinson's music genre, for short
14 ___ de France
15 End of a hangman's rope
16 Love to bits
17 Bore
20 Have ___ in one's head
21 ___ and outs
22 The "I" in T.G.I.F.
23 Boar
28 Nap
29 "Golden" song
32 Ad-lib, musically
35 Sign before Virgo
36 Person performing an exorcism
37 Gives a stage cue
40 Honeybunch or cutie pie
41 Glowing remnants of a fire
42 Abbr. after many a general's name
43 Meyerbeer's "___ Huguenots"
44 Painting surface
45 Publisher of Cosmopolitan and Good Housekeeping
48 Boer
53 Before, in poetry
55 Baseballer Mel
56 "Maria ___," Jimmy Dorsey #1 hit
57 Bohr
62 Actress Garbo
63 "Er ... um ..."
64 Old tennis racket string material
65 Stand for a portrait
66 Taboos
67 Cry before "Get your hands off!"

Down

1 Have a chair by, as a table
2 ___ Yale, for whom Yale University is named
3 Six in 1,000,000
4 Out of sight
5 Also
6 ___ Sawyer
7 Reverse of WNW
8 Fix the electrical connections of
9 Didn't have enough supplies
10 Problem in focusing, for short
11 "Don't worry about it"
12 "Phooey!"
13 Panhandles
18 Club with a lodge
19 Bankbook abbr.
24 Knuckleheads
25 Tribulations
26 ___ dye
27 Lena or Ken of film
30 "This ___ ... Then" (Jennifer Lopez album)
31 French summers
32 Computer image file format
33 French weapon
34 Sights at after-Christmas sales
36 Lab's ___ dish
38 Mini-plateau
39 "Will you marry me?," e.g.
40 Brandy fruit
42 Hoops official
45 Sticker through a lady's headgear
46 Coils of yarn
47 Soft powder
49 Biblical suffix
50 Stable sound
51 Come afterward
52 Wretched
53 Scoring advantage
54 ___ avis
58 Suffix with Israel
59 Dr. provider
60 Japanese moolah
61 ___ Paulo, Brazil

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

W	A	G	S		A	D	D	U	P		E	L	S	E
I	D	E	A		L	O	O	S	E		N	O	U	N
G	O	L	D	F	I	N	G	E	R		O	W	E	D
			D	I	S	S				R	U	S	T	S
L	A	M	E	N	T		S	H	R	U	G			
E	R	A	S	E		S	T	E	E	L	H	E	A	D
T	O	R	T		E	T	E	R	N	E		R	H	O
H	U	T		C	L	A	R	E	T	S		R	O	W
A	S	H		A	D	L	I	B	S		B	A	R	N
L	E	A	D	B	E	L	L	Y		S	E	N	S	E
			V	E	R	S	E		G	O	A	D	E	D
A	C	T	O	R				E	L	A	N			
R	O	A	R		S	I	L	V	E	R	B	A	C	K
A	L	G	A		P	R	E	E	N		A	L	O	E
B	A	S	K		Y	E	A	R	N		G	A	N	G

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Horoscope

EUGENIA LAST

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Kerri Strug, 31; Jodie Foster, 46; Meg Ryan, 47; Allison Janney, 49

Happy Birthday: Weakness will work against you this year, so stand tall and make your point clear as you proceed forward. Keep your mind on work and getting ahead. Promptly take care of any personal financial problems or expenses that arise and you will win. Your numbers are 2, 8, 23, 27, 32, 34, 44

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Step into the spotlight and do something that surprises everyone. A powerful from-the-heart presentation will generate attention. ★★★★★

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Don't get railroaded into giving your valuable time to a cause or someone you don't believe in. Don't be swayed by someone playing on your emotions. Keep spending to a minimum. ★★

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): You can make residential moves, investments and some agreements that will help you out financially. Consolidation and a strict budget will help get you moving on the right track before the year comes to an end. Offer a service and make extra cash. ★★★★

CANCER (June 21-July 22): You have to keep an eye on both household matters and the changes occurring in the workplace. Now is not the time to instigate something new but it is a good time to stabilize your position by strengthening what you already have. ★★★

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Take a good look at what you need to do to make your life better. It will take your mind off what others are trying to get you to do. ★★★

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Focus on yourself and the ones you love. Love is looking positive and a little get-together late in the day will resolve some questions. ★★★

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Be careful what you say in the heat of a discussion. Concentrate on what you can do outside the home with people who agree with your position and your solutions. Your creative input to a discussion will get you more involved if you want to be. ★★★★

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): It won't be worth getting upset with someone who doesn't see things the same way you do. An odd occurrence will leave you questioning what actually happened. You will be able to take care of everything without missing out on what you want to do, as well. ★★

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Someone from your past will still feel a strong connection to you. If you refrained from taking action in the past, do so now before it's too late. A challenge will get you all pumped up and ready to go. ★★★★★

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Don't pay for someone else's mistake. Getting involved in something because someone makes you feel guilty will be costly. Someone trying to get you to do something will give you a false impression regarding your responsibilities or duties. ★★★

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Keep things upfront and honest, especially with relationship issues. Someone you are close to will question your plans for a bigger and better lifestyle. Explain your position but don't pass on an opportunity because of jealousy or fear. ★★★

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Your persistent nature will pay off and bring about a change of attitude among your peers. Talks, travel and financing should all be scheduled into your plans. Keep talking until the right partner comes along. You are in the driver's seat. ★★★

Birthday Baby: You have strength of character, determination and the desire to follow through with your plans. You are strong, dedicated, emotional and caring.

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WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Smokin' aces

Squad picks up win behind scoring efforts from Bruszewski, Barlow

By BILL BRINK
Sports Editor

When you're hot, you're hot, no matter whether the heat has to carry over from the previous season.

Becca Bruszewski scored a career-high 18 points, Ashley Barlow added 19 and Notre Dame beat Evansville 96-61 Wednesday at the Joyce Center.

This game was the third in the last five, dating back to Notre Dame's 75-62 win over Southern Methodist in the first round of the NCAA Tournament last season, that Bruszewski has scored at least 16 points.

"I thought Becca came out and shot the ball well to start the game," Irish coach Muffet McGraw said.

Every player scored for Notre Dame, and five Fighting Irish players scored double figures — guards Melissa Lechlitner and Brittany Mallory had 11 and guard Lindsay Schrader had 12. But the Purple Aces' turnovers told the story; Evansville gave Notre Dame (2-0) the ball 31 times.

"We were on our heels the

see IRISH/page 15

Top: Junior guard Ashley Barlow, center, scrambles for a loose ball in a 96-30 exhibition win over Gannon Nov. 5. Right: Freshman forward Kelly Watson dribbles down the court against Gannon.

Photos by: CASEY CARNEY/The Observer

Novosel sisters squared off, Irish guard secures bragging rights with win

By JAY FITZPATRICK
Sports Writer

While Notre Dame coach Muffet McGraw was gameplanning for Evansville this week, freshman guard Natalie Novosel had a much more specific target in mind. For the first time in her career, she would get to square off against her big sister, Shannon.

"There was a lot more [talking between us] than usual. We saw each other last night. We're just excited to play each other, it's a once in a lifetime chance," Natalie said.

While this was the first time the two have played against each other, they have been teammates before, at Lexington Catholic High School in Lexington, Ky. They helped the team win the state championship during Shannon's senior year of high school.

After Wednesday's game, Notre Dame secured bragging rights for Natalie, even though she said her sister's seniority might counteract that. The Irish won 96-61, with the freshman adding six points

see NOVOSEL/page 17

CROSS COUNTRY

Smyth returns to NCAA's for third time in his career

By LAURA MYERS
Sports Writer

When Patrick Smyth lines up for the start of the NCAA Championships Monday, the view will be a familiar one.

This is the senior's fourth trip to Terre Haute, Ind., for the national finals, and his eighth overall run on the course. That includes his fourth place finish at the 2008 Pre-national meet on Oct. 18.

"I'm going to be thinking back to that race, where I could have run smarter, where I could have run stronger, just try to visualize the course and visualize the race," Smyth said.

After winning his second straight regional meet on Saturday, expectations for Smyth are higher than ever. Smyth finished 15th at nationals in 2007 and has been improving ever since. Following Saturday's regional, coach Joe Piane called Smyth "one of the best runners in the country."

Smyth said his elite status is surreal.

"It's always what I aspired to," he said. "People say those things about me, and it's unbelievable that that's where I'm at."

Smyth said he looks forward to being the veteran presence as the No. 29 Irish men, who are mostly freshmen and sophomores, head to the national meet.

"I've been there before and in a lot of different circumstances," Smyth said. "Pretty much what I've been telling the guys that at the national

see SMYTH/page 17

ND SWIMMING

Koppel to take a new role

By ALEX BARKER and MIKE GOTIMER
Sports Writers

After tearing his LCL and a muscle in his calf while playing in a pickup football game, sophomore swimmer PJ Koppel had little hope of making further contributions to the team until next season. That was until Notre Dame coach Tim Welsh came to him with an interesting proposition.

"Coach asked me if I wanted to be the announcer for the next meet," Koppel said. "Doing something like that really makes me still feel like a part of the team."

At the request of Welsh, Koppel

see LIGHTNING/page 22

JESS LEE/The Observer

Sophomore Peter Koppel goes his breast stroke in a 152-148 win over Pittsburgh on Oct. 31.

FOOTBALL

Floyd, B. Smith to miss rest of regular season

By DAN MURPHY
Sports Editor

This Saturday when Notre Dame takes on Syracuse in the final home game of the season, it will be without the services of freshman wide receiver Michael Floyd.

"You try to build your depth as you go through the whole season," Irish receivers coach Rob Ianello said.

Floyd left the field on the third play from scrimmage last Saturday against Navy and did not return. In a press conference Sunday afternoon, Irish coach Charlie Weis said that he, along with sophomore linebacker Brian Smith, had sprained his knee and would be out for approximately four weeks.

"It would really, really be unreasonable to see either one of them playing the next couple of weeks," Weis said. "So, you know, the bad and the good. The bad: they miss the next two games, but the good is there will in all likelihood be another game left after that."

The win in Baltimore made Notre Dame officially bowl eligible.

In the meantime, Ianello and Weis said that they feel comfortable delegating Floyd's normal workload to the other regular receivers. This

see FLOYD/page 18