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Wolf Pack tamed

Student body applauds football team's shutout victory

By MOLLY MADDEN
News Writer

After suffering two years of losing football, Notre Dame students are excited about this year's team following Saturday's 35-0 win over Nevada.

"Compared to the San Diego State opener last year, this team was more legitimate," senior Tom Matthew said. "It was apparent that there was a great connection among the offense and that they had put in a lot of work in the offseason."

After watching the team post 510 yards, Matthew is not the only one in singing the offense's praises.

"It was obviously a very good game for the Irish offense," junior Michael Flanigan said. "There was a lot of carryover from Hawaii and all the talk

about the team's work in the offseason showed."

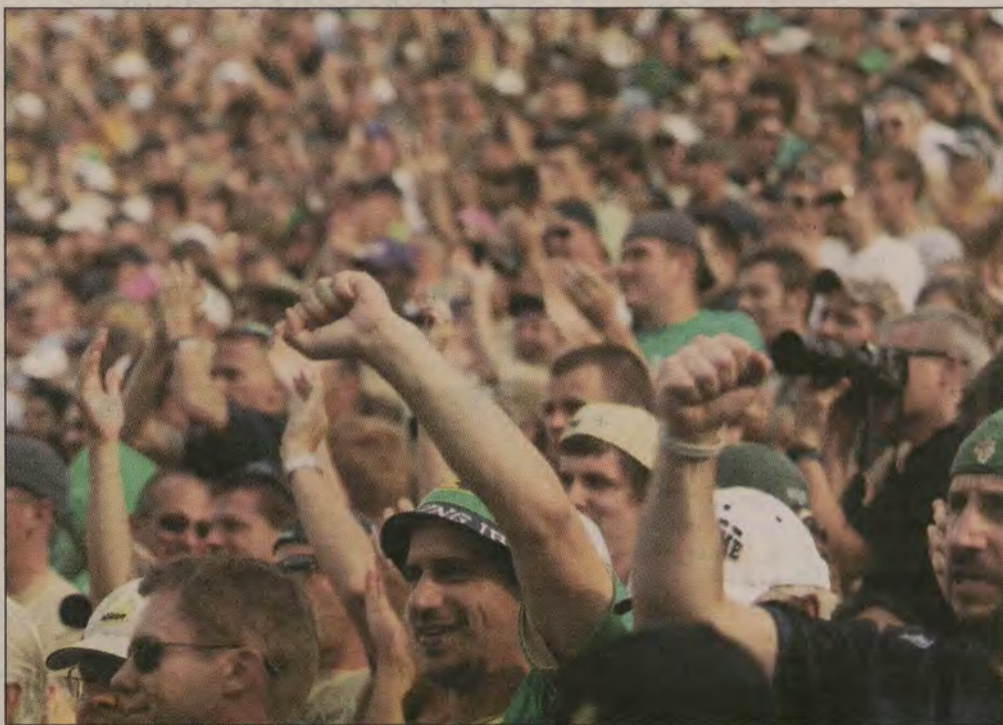
Students were also ecstatic about the dynamic passing game.

"Clausen and Floyd worked great together," Matthew said. "Clausen knew where Floyd was going to be on that field."

Saturday's game marks the first shutout for the Irish since a victory over Rutgers in 2002, and was the first shutout with Weis as coach.

"I'm proud to have been here for the first shutout in seven years," sophomore Sara Teising said. "It must be pretty cool for Weis to have the opener be a shutout," said Teising, who is a part of the Student Management Organization and assists the football team at practices. She

see GAME/page 4



Fans cheer on the Notre Dame Fighting Irish during the team's 35-0 rout of the Nevada Wolf Pack Saturday. It was the Irish's first shutout in seven years.

PAT COVENEY/The Observer

ND's first women make book donation

By MADELINE BUCKLEY
News Editor

As part of one of the first coeducational classes at Notre Dame, Ann Therese Palmer quickly learned to blend in with the men.

Being a woman at a university that had been reserved for men since its founding in 1842 wasn't always comfortable.

A member of the class of 1973, after the University went coed in 1972 under the leadership of University President Emeritus Fr. Theodore Hesburgh, Palmer said women were a minority on campus — and they stood out because of it.

"It was a real shock to go into the [Hammes Notre Dame] Bookstore today and see all of the Notre Dame clothing in hot pink," Palmer said. "Women wouldn't have been caught dead in pink or chick clothing. You'd be setting yourself up to be the punch line of a joke."

But the women rallied. "One of my best friends was a government major. She had a required class on the fourth floor of the Dome in the spring semester ... The professor said he'd taught at ND for 25

see WOMEN/page 3

Students give mixed reviews of Pep Rally

The return of Dillon Hall's signature event draws a large crowd to South Quad Friday



The men of Dillon Hall form a chorus line during one of their skits Friday. Last year's Dillon Pep Rally was cancelled.

SARAH O'CONNOR/The Observer

By JOHN McKISSICK
News Writer

The return of Dillon Hall's signature pep rally to campus was met with mixed reviews by students, although the event, which took place Friday afternoon on South Quad, was well attended.

"I've never seen so many people together in my life," freshman Kathleen Monahan said.

The Pep Rally — which included skits where students impersonated University President Fr. John Jenkins, Irish coach Charlie Weis and even former Irish coach Ty

Willingham — attempted to avoid the controversy that had dogged the event in past years.

"It started off kind of slow, but it picked up," junior Justin Brown said.

Certain skits stood out in the minds of students who attended the event. Sophomore John Kelly said one highlight was a skit titled, 'CS-CSI' — a play on titles of CBS' hit shows and the order of priests that founded Notre Dame.

"I thought it was quite well-written," said Kelly.

This year's Pep Rally also included a musical number,

see DILLON/page 4

Alumnus talks about life in politics

By TESS CIVANTOS
News Writer

In politics, you can go very far, very quickly, if you're willing to work hard, Pennsylvania State Representative and Notre Dame alumnus Brendan Boyle said in a talk with Notre Dame students Friday afternoon.

Boyle (D-Philadelphia/Montgomery) worked as a consultant for AMS Consulting immediately after graduation, when "companies were even hiring Arts and Letters majors" thanks

to a soaring economy. After three and a half years, however, he realized politics was his true passion.

Boyle's bookshelf in his consulting office was filled with biographies of past presidents and American history books.

"You don't belong in consulting," a coworker told him, according to Boyle. "It sounds cliché but it's true, do what makes you happy. As much as I liked consulting, it wasn't where my heart was."

Family connections are not

see BOYLE/page 3



Pennsylvania State Rep. Brendan Boyle, left, and Senior Advisor to the Provost Brandon Roach discuss political careers Friday.

SUZANNA PRATT/The Observer

INSIDE COLUMN

Broken Bubble

Since coming to Notre Dame in 2007, I was always content just living inside of the bubble. South Bend, I had always thought, was a somewhat scary place, and an Observer headline announcing the shootings of two students at Club 23 during my freshman orientation weekend seemed to confirm my notions.

Joseph McMahon
Associate
News Editor

As such, I was happy to live inside the bubble. As a freshman, I couldn't imagine anything better than the sweaty, loud parties that we used to host in our cramped Alumni dorm rooms. Even better was going off campus, where a party was good as long as there were members of the opposite sex present. It was a simple, naïve time. However, since returning from Europe, where I spent last semester and also worked this summer, I have been completely and totally underwhelmed. The bubble I thought protected me feels more like a jail cell.

Now please do not misinterpret me — this is not a column about a person who went abroad, came back, and is now resentful that he lives in a society where the legal drinking age is 21. While the rules here certainly do not permit alcohol consumption, everyone knows it occurs here quite frequently.

Rather, what I am more troubled by is the circumstances under which alcohol consumption takes place. While abroad, going out to a bar or a club was more than just about drinking — it was a chance to meet new people, to practice our language skills, and to experience a new culture.

Sometimes at Notre Dame, I truly cannot understand why people bother going out at all. On Saturday night, following the football team's thumping of Nevada, the halls of Alumni were again filled with blaring music, as girls in high heels and skimpy cocktail dresses wandered the hallways attempting to find a party. Even more comical are the throng out in front of main circle attempting to catch a cab to a party that will either be shortly broken up by the police or run out of alcohol.

Ultimately, I have become disenchanted with the way in which Notre Dame students who are not of the legal age limit socialize. Most people in the administration would criticize the Notre Dame party scene as dangerous and illegal, but I see it as something else altogether — completely pathetic.

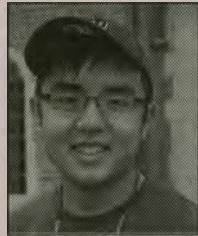
However, this is not entirely the fault of Notre Dame students. Operating within the parameters of the bubble, students are forced to cram like sardines into dorm rooms or venture off campus in the hopes of finding a decent party. While abroad, the times I enjoyed most were simply sitting at a table with a few friends and maybe even a couple of professors while we discussed everything from politics to relationships over a beer. It was civilized, and it also helped cut down on dangerous binge drinking (the only time we ever had to take someone to the hospital was to get his tonsils out). I felt as though I had finally outgrown the need for a protective bubble and had truly matured into an adult, only to find myself back on campus, where I am treated not only by the University, but by society in general as a child.

The views expressed in the Inside Column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer. Contact Joseph McMahon at jcmah06@nd.edu

CORRECTIONS

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

QUESTION OF THE DAY: WERE YOU EXPECTING THE IRISH TO COMPLETELY DOMINATE?



Brandon Vo
freshman
Keough

"We were on a roll and I was hoping it would be higher but it was a bust!"



Dan McDonald
senior
Dillon

"Of course I expected it! Go IRISH!"



Brandi Allen
junior
Badin

"I certainly didn't expect a shutout! Woohoo!"



Lora O'Shaughnessy
junior
Badin

"No, but greatness was thrust upon us that beautiful day."



Max Osbon
senior
Dillon

"Giving Weis four years to prepare for the game was like giving Einstein four years to take the SATs."



Tylor Mondragon
freshman
Duncan

"It was my first football game and it was a great way to start off the season."

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



IAN GAVLICK/The Observer

Notre Dame photographer Matt Cashore, left, sprints from the football field immediately prior to kickoff Saturday. Cashore captured a stunning 360-degree panoramic image that can be seen at gameday.nd.edu

OFFBEAT

Pa. man fires cannon, hits neighbor's house

UNIONTOWN, Pa. — A Pennsylvania history buff who recreates firearms from old wars accidentally fired a 2-pound cannonball through the wall of his neighbor's home. William Maser, 54, fired a cannonball Wednesday evening outside his home in Georges Township that ricocheted and hit a house 400 yards away. The cannonball, about two inches in diameter, smashed through a window and a wall before landing in a closet. Authorities said nobody was hurt.

State police charged Maser with reckless endangerment, criminal mischief and disorderly conduct.

No one answered the phone Friday at Maser's home. He told WPXI-TV recreating 19th century cannons is a longtime hobby. He said he is sorry and he will stop shooting them on his property, about 35 miles southeast of Pittsburgh.

Goat wanders into Bronx nursing home

NEW YORK — It's another case of the wandering goat. Officials say an ema-

ciated-looking Nubian goat wandered onto the property of a nursing home in the Bronx, where two other goats were discovered in July.

Animal shelter officials said the male goat was found Tuesday. He was feverish and suffering from pneumonia.

He has joined the other two goats, nicknamed Duncan and Isadora, at the Farm Sanctuary in Watkins Glen, N.Y.

Officials say the goats' origin remains a mystery.

Information compiled from the Associated Press.

IN BRIEF

An exhibit titled "Fritz Scholder, Contemporary Artist: Influences" is currently on display at the Snite Museum of Art and will run until October 18. He is a contemporary Native American artist, and will be speaking on Sept. 13 at 3:30 p.m. Admission is free.

A lecture titled "When will we find ET?" will be held at 101 DeBartolo Hall today at 8 p.m. The College of Arts and Letters Dean's Fellows will host a lecture by Dr. Seth Shostak, senior astronomer in SETI (Search for Extraterrestrial Intelligence) Institute and host of NPR science show "Are We Alone?"

There will be a Dirty/Dusty Book Sale in the Hesburgh Library concourse on Sept. 10 from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. This sale is open to public.

"King Lear" will be performed by Actors From the London Stage at Washington Hall from Sept. 9 to 11. AFTLS visits campus twice a year with five actors to bring some of Shakespeare's great works to life. Ticket prices vary and the event is open to public.

A film titled "Vanaja" (2006) will be shown on September 11 at the DeBartolo Performing Arts Center in the Browning Cinema at 9:30 p.m. The film follows the 15-year-old daughter of a financially troubled fisherman. Purchase tickets online at performingarts.nd.edu

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

| | TODAY | TONIGHT | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY |
|---------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| LOCAL WEATHER | | | | | | |
| | HIGH 74 LOW 59 | HIGH 59 LOW 55 | HIGH 75 LOW 58 | HIGH 76 LOW 58 | HIGH 76 LOW 59 | HIGH 73 LOW 57 |

Atlanta 84 / 64 Boston 72 / 55 Chicago 75 / 59 Denver 82 / 59 Houston 93 / 71 Los Angeles 81 / 61 Minneapolis 81 / 59 New York 73 / 62 Philadelphia 75 / 62 Phoenix 101 / 82 Seattle 64 / 51 St. Louis 79 / 60 Tampa 91 / 74 Washington 78 / 65

Women

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years, never taught a woman and wasn't starting now. He threw her out of the class," Palmer said.

She ended up in the Dean's office, who sent her back to the class. She was a human ping-pong ball for about a week, until she called her brother, who was at Tulane, for advice. He said she needed to stick it out and get the top score on the first quiz and shut him up, which is exactly what she did.

Along with a group of Notre Dame alumnae who wanted to give back to Notre Dame, Palmer, president of the Thanking Fr. Ted Foundation, collected letters from women graduates of Notre Dame and edited them into a book: "Thanking Father Ted: Thirty-Five Years of Notre Dame Coeducation."

The Foundation, made up of Notre Dame alumnae, decided to donate about 1,000 books to the women of the class of 2013 as well as give the proceeds from book sales to the University in order to fund a scholarship for a female to attend Notre Dame.

"To date, through individ-

ual donations and the sales of our book, we've collected more than \$150,000 to fund a scholarship for an undergraduate student," she said. "The Development Office recently told us the scholarship will be awarded for the first time next year to an undergraduate student."

The books will be distributed to the women through their residence halls.

Secretary of the Thanking Fr. Ted Foundation Sheila O'Brien, a member of the class of 1977, said the book is a good way for current Notre Dame women to hear stories about past Notre Dame women.

"Giving back to Notre Dame is something we really wanted to do," she said. "Giving the book to the first years, it's fun to tell the story of women at Notre Dame. Women need to hear the stories of other women."

Palmer said she also believes it's important for current Notre Dame women to hear the stories of the women who preceded them at Notre Dame.

"We realized a few years ago that women on campus today have no idea what it was like to be a coed pioneer. Today, it's a given that women are accepted on cam-

pus, accepted as equals in the classroom, in extra-curriculars, in sports," she said. "But, each of these givens has been the result of women groundbreakers. They weren't handed to us on a silver platter."

Palmer said she owes her degree to Hesburgh and said he took a lot of criticism for instituting the change to coeducation.

"He was a night owl, would start around noon and work through until the early hours. If you needed to talk to him, you always knew you could find him in his office around 1 a.m.," she said. "It was very comforting because he always knew what to say to make us feel good and make us feel we could succeed, no matter what the obstacles we were facing."

Along with being educational, O'Brien said the book is just a fun read.

"There's a lot of Notre Dame women graduates now and hearing the story is good for all of us and retelling the story and thinking of Notre Dame's history is good for all of our hearts," she said. "We're all part of a great legacy."

Contact Madeline Buckley at mbuckley@nd.edu

Saint Mary's first years adjust to life on campus

By ALICIA SMITH
News Writer

After spending a little over two weeks on campus, some Saint Mary's first year students are starting to find their niches while others struggle with the transition to college life.

"I really like it," first year Cecelia Gatto said. "I feel like there's a lot to offer to get involved in."

Like Gatto, Bonnie Sanders also has a positive outlook on college life.

"I like my classes," Sanders said. "The campus is beautiful. I just like how close knit it is."

However, some first years did have some negative first impressions of the College.

"All through high school, all through when I was younger, I always had boys as best friends, so all girls is kind of hard." Samantha Brady said. "I don't like the lack of variety in the dining hall food. And I can't have a microwave in my room. I don't like to have to pay for laundry."

Although most students have enjoyed their time on campus so far, some are having a hard time adjusting to their new academic experiences.

"I love the atmosphere. I think the people here are really friendly and nice, but I just haven't adjusted academically yet," Emily Reeg said. "It's so

different than high school. I just hope that I can adjust soon."

One reason some students are struggling with classes is the distinct difference between high school and college.

"It's really different from high school. It's really fast paced and you have to keep up," Meghan Feasel said.

Others agreed that classes at the College were considerably different from high school.

"[I am] still getting used to doing homework and getting enough sleep. In high school that wasn't a big deal. You didn't get much homework. Here, every class expects you to do a lot of homework. I've been staying up late trying to get all that done," Sanders said.

Though many have had some issues with classes, Gatto said that she enjoys most of hers.

"I love going to all my classes," Gatto said. "My teachers are all so nice and when I go to class I feel comfortable being myself."

Overall, first year students have had pleasant experiences while attending Saint Mary's.

"I enjoy meeting new people and it feels good to walk outside and see so many people you know and just say 'Hi,'" Reeg said. "It's like a friendly warm feeling."

"It's really different from high school. It's really fast paced and you have to keep up."

Meghan Feasel
first year
Saint Mary's

Contact Alicia Smith at asmith01@saintmarys.edu

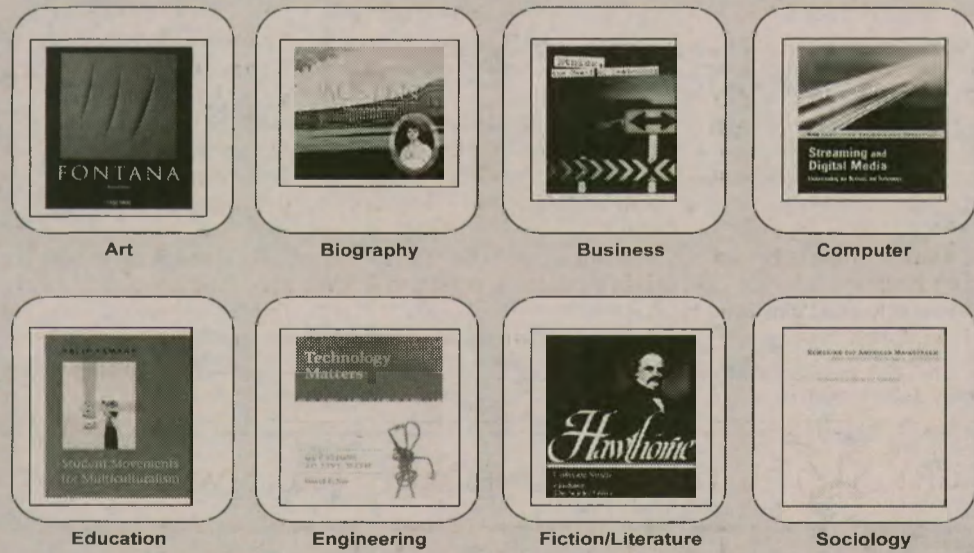
Write for News.

Email Madeline

at mbuckley@nd.edu

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For additional questions please contact 574.631.5757

Boyle

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necessary to have political success, Boyle said. In fact, it's possible to get elected without any connections at all.

"I knew almost no one in elected office," he said. "Don't let that discourage you."

Boyle encouraged aspiring politicians to take on even the least glamorous jobs. A politician who is willing to lick envelopes and knock on doors will go much farther than one who wants to just "consult" a campaign, he said.

"Anyone who believes in democracy should spend an afternoon knocking on doors for a campaign," he said. "It's amazing what people will tell you on their front doorstep."

Boyle recommended active involvement in the community as a way to gain recognition and respect from potential constituents.

Boyle also discussed some of the negative aspects of running for political office. He was technically unemployed while running for office, and although he was able to live off his savings, he had no health insurance, making him

nervous about illness or injury. His other biggest worry is fundraising.

"I stared at the phone for two hours before making my first fundraising call," he said.

One way Boyle recommended to raise money is to start with family and friends. Boyle's campaign held "beef and beers" parties for \$30 as a simple fundraiser.

"Free alcohol is always a good way to draw people, whether at college parties or campaign parties," Boyle said laughing.

The fundraising aspect is intimidating to anyone, Boyle said, "unless your last name is Romney."

Boyle offered several pieces of advice for students interested in entering politics. Law school and graduate school in public

policy are good ways to prepare for political careers — Boyle himself holds a master's in public policy from Harvard University's John F. Kennedy School of Government.

Unpaid internships are an easy way to "get your foot in the door," Boyle said, noting that his office recently hired one of his previous volunteer interns.

"It's amazing what people will tell you on their front doorstep."

Brendan Boyle
State Representative
Pennsylvania

Contact Tess Civantos at tcivanto@nd.edu



PAT COVENEY/The Observer

The view from the upper deck as the crowd cheers on the Fighting Irish against the Nevada Wolf Pack Saturday.



SARAH O'CONNOR/The Observer

Students, including one dressed as the wolf man, lean against the stage while watching the Dillon Pep Rally Friday.

Game

continued from page 1

said while the offense put up good numbers, she was just as happy with the defense on Saturday.

"I was really impressed with Kyle McCarthy's interception," Teising said. "It was a good catch and return."

Flanigan said there was much to be pleased about after watching the defense's performance on Saturday.

"You really enjoy seeing no points up on the board for Nevada," Flanigan said. "Especially holding them to 150 yards rushing shows real positive signs that the defense

is showing up. The game wasn't just about the offense."

Matthew agreed that the Irish defense defied expectations.

"I was surprised that they prevented Nevada from scoring at all," he said. "And while the shut-out is nice, if Nevada would have scored that field goal it wouldn't have made the win any less significant. I'm just glad that the Irish were ready to play."

While many students are still reveling in the victory over Nevada, some are already looking ahead to next week's game at Michigan.

"We played a good game against Nevada but that doesn't change the fact that we've got to go to the Big House

next week," Teising said. "I think that game will determine how the rest of the season goes. It will be tough since Michigan's obviously been practicing more than us."

Flanigan also expressed some worries about playing the Wolverines on the road after Michigan's own impressive 31-7 victory over Western Michigan this weekend.

"I think that Michigan's tougher than a lot of us initially thought," he said. "I think that it's going to be a really good game next week and that the outcome will help shape the rest of the season for the Irish."

Contact Molly Madden at mmadden3@nd.edu

Dillon

continued from page 1

"Here at ND," parodying "Under the Sea" from The Little Mermaid. It featured backup dancers dressed as a quarter dog, the golden dome and Touchdown Jesus.

"I thought it was fun. The skits were a little awkward," freshman Maricruz Menchero said. "But I did like the dance."

The Pep Rally — as is tradition — allowed students to display dorm pride.

"Every dorm had a flag except for Badin," freshman Brianna Neblung said. "Our flag's still sitting outside the hall government office."

Dillon also used their stage as an opportunity to poke fun

at their long-time rival, Alumni Hall. One skit featured the men of Alumni dancing across the stage in tights, which elicited some jeers from the crowd.

"I have no comment. The skit was horrible. People from Alumni were so fed up, (they) actually left after a half hour," freshman Matt Schirtzinger said.

While some students liked some of the individual skits, many more said the overarching storyline behind the skits was hard to follow.

"I didn't really understand what was going on," freshman Margaret Bellon said. "The conflict wasn't resolved."

Other complained that the event was poorly planned and the layout of the stage made it hard for the people in back to see.

"I would have made the stage higher," Monahan said. "Lots of people were around me, asking, 'What's going on?'"

Neblung said the skits failed to engage the student body and left much to be desired.

"Maybe if [the Pep Rally had] something a little more student interactive, engaging the dorms, getting the spirit going," she said. "The skits didn't get us excited."

Kelly disagreed, saying the skits helped "hype up the crowd more."

"It condensed the best parts of a Dillon Pep Rally and a regular pep rally," he said. "It was more hilarious than any attempt by SAO."

Contact John McKissick at jmckissi@nd.edu

In honor of workers on this Labor Day, and in the tradition of Msgr. George Higgins, the Higgins Labor Studies Program proudly supports this affirmation of the dignity of work signed by many Catholic faculty and community leaders

~Marty Wolfson, Director of Higgins Labor Studies Program

As Catholic leaders concerned about the pain that workers are experiencing during the present economic crisis in our nation, but especially in our local communities throughout St. Joseph County, we want to affirm the recent Catholic social teaching statements in support of the dignity of workers. Pope Benedict XVI issued his third encyclical this summer, *Caritas in Veritate* (*Charity in Truth*), promoting the Catholic social tradition of tying the dignity of work to the dignity of the human person. The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops also recently addressed the need to support workers in the healthcare industry this summer in their statement, *Respecting the Just Rights of Workers*. This Labor Day is an important historical moment to reflect on work as an expression of our dignity and our involvement in God's creation.

The Holy Father and the U.S. Bishops emphasized four principles related to people's engagement with the economy as part of human development. First, the dignity of work is a fundamental good for humanity. Second, people need to come first by prioritizing labor over capital. Third, people have a right to work together through the right of association. Fourth, people's quality of life depends on receiving a living wage. Pope Benedict stated, "The repeated calls issued within the Church's social doctrine, ...for the promotion of workers' associations that can defend their rights must therefore be honored today even more than in the past." (#25)

Pope Benedict XVI goes on to say, "...poverty results from a violation of the dignity of work." (#63) In our region, cuts in the workforce and the lack of living wage jobs have accelerated the double digits rate of poverty in our area, especially among children. Together we can act to improve the quality of life for workers in our communities. There exist no simple solutions. The social doctrine put forth in *Caritas in Veritate* addresses multiple approaches to lifting humanity out of poverty. Among the conditions needed to allow for "decent work", the Holy Father emphasizes, "Work that permits the workers to organize themselves freely, and to make their voices heard." He emphasizes that the economic security of all depends on the economic security of workers. This insecurity has been aggravated by the weakening of unions.

In conclusion, each of us is endowed by God with particular gifts and talents. We need to recognize our gifts and contribute to the needs of the greater society. Work is a vital activity that allows each of us to contribute to the broader community. This Labor Day we affirm the dignity of work and the guiding points in Catholic social teaching that assist us in acting upon this belief. We ask that our Lord, Jesus Christ, who himself was a carpenter, gives us the strength and courage to live charity in truth.

In Christ,

Joe Carbone, St. Joe Valley Project-Jobs with Justice

Dan Graff, Associate Director, Higgins Labor Studies Program and Director of Undergraduate Studies, Department of History, University of Notre Dame

Bill Purcell, Associate Director, Center for Social Concerns, University of Notre Dame

Co-Signers [organizations listed for identification purposes only]

R. Scott Appleby, Professor of History and Director of the Joan B. Kroc Institute for International Peace Studies, University of Notre Dame

Michael Baxter, South Bend Catholic Worker, and Visiting Associate Professional Specialist in Theology, University of Notre Dame

Mary Beckman, Associate Director, Center for Social Concerns, and Concurrent Associate Professor of Economics and Policy Studies, University of Notre Dame

Rev. Thomas Blantz, C.S.C., Professor of History, University of Notre Dame

Kathleen Cannon, O.P., Associate Dean, College of Science, and Concurrent Professor of Theology, University of Notre Dame

Rev. Leonard F. Chrobot, Ph.D., Pastor, Catholic Community of Saints Patrick and Hedwig, South Bend, IN

Rev. Leonard J. Collins, C.S.C., Pastor, St. Augustine Parish, South Bend, IN

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Br. Bill Mewes, C.S.C., Chair of the Justice and Peace Commission, Congregation of Holy Cross, Midwest Province

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Higgins Labor Studies Program
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INTERNATIONAL NEWS

U.S. airstrike causes NATO dispute

KABUL — An airstrike by U.S. fighter jets that appears to have killed Afghan civilians could turn into a major dispute for NATO allies Germany and the United States, as tensions began rising between them Sunday over Germany's role in ordering the attack.

Afghan officials say up to 70 people were killed in the early morning airstrike Friday in the northern province of Kunduz after Taliban militants stole two tanker trucks of fuel and villagers gathered to siphon off gas.

Afghan and NATO investigations are just beginning, but both German and U.S. officials already appeared to be trying to deflect blame.

German Defense Minister Franz Josef Jung said the Taliban's possession of the two tankers "posed an acute threat to our soldiers." German officials have said the tankers might have been used as suicide bombs.

Philippine passenger ferry capsizes

MANILA, Philippines — Passengers leapt into the dark sea and parents dropped children into life rafts when a ferry carrying nearly 1,000 people capsized in the middle of the night in the southern Philippines.

Nine people died and more than 30 were missing though rescue efforts saved about 900 terrified victims on the Superferry 9 early Sunday after it turned on its side 9 miles (15 kilometers) off Zamboanga del Norte province.

The vessel's violent rotation roused frightened passengers from their sleep and sent many jumping in the darkness into the water, coast guard chief Admiral Wilfredo Tamayo said.

NATIONAL NEWS

Supremacist gunman renounces views

LOS ANGELES — A white supremacist who killed a postal worker and wounded five people at a Los Angeles area Jewish community center in a 1999 shooting spree says he has renounced his racist views.

In a letter to a Los Angeles Daily News reporter, Buford O. Furrow Jr. says he regrets the pain he has caused.

Furrow, who is serving a life sentence with no chance of parole, describes himself as a "model inmate who has shunned criminal activity."

He says he has thrown away his neo-Nazi literature and now believes "a life based on hate is no life at all."

Ten years ago Furrow wounded three little children, a teenager and an adult at a Granada Hills community center. He later killed letter carrier Joseph S. Iletto.

Ocean stations to help research

FALMOUTH, Mass. — A Massachusetts ocean studies institute is building underwater data collection stations to help researchers understand the ocean's role in climate change.

The Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution on Cape Cod has received nearly \$100 million in federal grants to help develop and operate the underwater observatories.

Underwater stations will be built in locales worldwide, from the Gulf of Alaska to about 75 miles southeast of Newport, R.I. They'll measure variables such as water temperature and current movements.

Woods Hole scientist Robert Wellers says the stations will help scientists make prolonged deep water observations that aren't possible now and save money spent on data collection.

LOCAL NEWS

Five Planned Parenthoods to close

INDIANAPOLIS — Planned Parenthood will close five health clinics across central Indiana after losing some of its federal grant money to provide family planning services to low-income women.

The clinics in Anderson, Franklin, Kokomo, Shelbyville and Indianapolis will close over the next six months, Planned Parenthood of Indiana said in a statement provided to The Associated Press on Sunday.

The five centers, none of which provide abortions, serve a total of about 8,500 patients, the statement said.

GREAT BRITAIN

Britain: No demands for victims

Libya not required to offer compensation for deaths of Britons in IRA bombing

Associated Press

LONDON — Britain made no demands that Libya offer compensation for Britons killed by Libyan explosives supplied to the Irish Republican Army for fear it could jeopardize ties with Tripoli, according to new documents released Sunday.

The revelation prompted accusations that Britain had acted to protect energy deals, and added to questions about whether trade ties influenced last month's decision to release Lockerbie bomber Abdel Baset al-Megrahi.

Prime Minister Gordon Brown said his government "does not consider it appropriate to enter into a bilateral discussion with Libya on this matter," according to a letter to victims' lawyer Jason McCue released by Downing Street.

The news outraged British survivors of IRA bombings — particularly since U.S. victims of IRA attacks have secured a separate compensation deal with Tripoli.

Brown later told reporters in Berlin he would offer diplomatic support to private efforts to secure compensation, but he still shied away from pursuing the issue with Libya directly.

"I desperately care about what has happened to the people who have been victims of IRA terrorism," he said.

McCue said he was overjoyed at the announcement of diplomatic support, predicting a compensation deal could now be negotiated within weeks.

The foreign affairs spokesman for Britain's opposition Conservatives, William Hague, said Brown should have provided diplomatic support "as a matter of course, not as a result of public pressure."

Brown argued that his government had previously avoided broaching the issue with the Libyans out of a desire to wean the North African nation away from



In this Sept. 1 file photo, Libyan leader Moammar Gadhafi gestures while he waits behind bulletproof glass for a military parade in Green Square in Tripoli, Libya. AP

its sponsorship of terrorism and its pursuit of nuclear weapons.

"It is these concerns — security and terrorism, not oil or commercial interests — that have been the dominant feature of our relationship," Brown said.

Libya once supplied weapons and explosives to terrorists around the world, including several tons of Semtex plastic explosive sent to IRA rebels fighting to drive Northern Ireland out of the United Kingdom. The IRA used those explosives in the 1980s and 90s.

But Libyan leader Moammar Gadhafi performed an about-face in the wake of the Sept. 11 attacks, renouncing terrorism, dismantling his country's secret nuclear pro-

gram, and accepting his government's responsibility for the Lockerbie bombing, the 1988 attack which killed 270 people, mostly Americans.

Brown and other government officials stressed the need to keep Libya on that route when explaining why they did not press the Libyans for compensation for the IRA's attacks. But documents released Sunday — including a letter sent from Middle East minister Bill Rammell to Jonathan Ganesh, a survivor of one of the IRA bombings — suggest that the government was also keeping Libya's vast oil wealth in mind.

"Libya has genuinely become an important international partner for the U.K. on many levels,"

Rammell said in the letter, dated Nov. 6. In addition to cooperating on terrorism, Rammell noted that "Libya is now a vital partner for the U.K. in guaranteeing a secure energy future for the U.K."

Ganesh told British broadcasters that that passage said it all.

"It's because of an oil deal with BP. I really believe that," he told Sky News television. He was referring to the \$900 million exploration agreement the British energy company signed with Libya Investment Corp. in May 2007.

The same month, Britain and Libya signed a memorandum of understanding that paved the way for al-Megrahi's release from a Scottish prison.

Four dead in violent La. murder-suicide

Associated Press

HOLDEN, La. — A man shot his estranged wife, son and 2-year-old grandson to death and seriously wounded his pregnant daughter-in-law at their rural Louisiana home, then killed himself as police tried to pull over his car 20 minutes later, authorities said.

The pregnant woman later gave birth, about three months early, her father said.

The shootings late Saturday appeared to stem from an ongoing dispute between 50-year-old Dennis Carter Sr. and his wife, Donna Carter, who had a restraining order against him, Livingston Parish Sheriff's Office Chief of Operations Perry Rushing said Sunday.

The father of the pregnant woman, Amber Carter, said the suspect had a history of abusing his estranged wife and recently tried to attack her with a machete.

"This had been going on for quite some time," Paul Williamson said. "It was one of those domestic violence things that just gets worse and worse."

Another 16-month-old boy was in the house during the shootings but was not hurt. The child was related to the Carters but Rushing was not sure how.

Authorities were called about 10:30 p.m. Saturday to the home in Holden, about 30 miles east of Baton Rouge. Donna Carter, 49, and Dennis Carter Jr., 26, were dead inside. Dennis Carter Jr.'s

wife, Amber Carter, was badly hurt and their son, Masson Carter, 2, was found dead outside.

Williamson said Carter Jr. had previously fought with his father to protect his mother.

Rushing said it appeared Amber Carter, who was about six months pregnant, and Masson Carter managed to escape from a second-floor window but it was not clear if the gunman shot them inside or followed them outside and shot them there.

Rushing said deputies spotted Dennis Carter Sr. about 20 minutes after the shootings driving on a highway. When they tried to pull him over, he shot and killed himself.

New Smithsonian chief has big ideas

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Wayne Clough pulls a thumb-sized computer flash drive from his pocket and marvels at how many of the Smithsonian Institution's millions of objects can be captured on it.

The device holds sounds from endangered frogs, images from an archive of Depression-era paintings, a 360-degree view inside a Concorde supersonic jet and much more. The mini archive reflects one way the former engineer, now head of the institution, aims to share the collection of the world's largest museum complex online with more people than ever before.

"It is no longer acceptable for us to share only 1 percent of our 137 million specimens and artifacts in an age when the Internet has made it possible to share it all," Clough told curators and scientists earlier this year.

Unlike his predecessor, who sought to maximize the institution's potential as a visitor attraction and business enterprise, Clough is intent on building up the Smithsonian's science, research and educational impact beyond its walls.

A year into his new job, the 68-year-old former president of the Georgia Institute of Technology is reshaping the sprawling complex of 19 museums, the National Zoo and numerous research centers spread from Massachusetts to Kenya.

It's something of a back-to-the-basics approach for a place founded on science, with a mission to pursue the "increase and diffusion of knowledge."

Clough wants to combine the Smithsonian's resources to become a major voice on the toughest issues of the day. Among his key priorities: climate change, education and immigration.

"We can help our nation and the world face the grand challenges that lie ahead," he told the Smithsonian staff.

They're big goals. But he's already begun transforming the somewhat stuffy "nation's attic" (a term that makes Clough bristle) into a more innovative place.

"He is a scientist himself, and I think he really gets it," said Eva Pell, who will become the under-secretary for science in January. "All the ingredients are there — it's just a matter of bringing things together in a different way."

Pell, senior vice president for research and dean of the graduate school at Pennsylvania State University, said she was drawn by Clough's vision for bringing scientists and even curators in arts and history together to collaborate on research. It's an approach they believe could spark discoveries.

To bolster the Smithsonian's educational offerings, Clough recently secured a \$1.3 million gift to hire an education director and create the institution's first central office focused on K-12 learning. (Previously, 32 different units carried out their own educational programs.)

When the country celebrated Abraham Lincoln's 200th birthday in February, Clough oversaw the first interactive online link to 5,000 K-12 students and teachers in 50 states and 75 countries with lessons focused on the 16th president. Six curators showed off Lincoln artifacts and took questions. Another online conference about climate change is planned for later this month.

Clough has also forged new alliances with colleges.

A broad research collaboration is in the works with scientists and scholars at the University of Maryland. And he signed a deal with George Mason University in Virginia to build residence halls and laboratories as part of a joint-degree program pairing students with researchers at the National Zoo's 3,000-acre Conservation and Research Center in Front Royal, Va.

Less than a decade earlier, Lawrence Small, the previous Smithsonian chief, had proposed closing the Virginia facility, angering many scientists. Clough, though, is unflinching in his dedication to research.

"Zoos have to be research facilities," he said. "If they're just there for tourist attractions, they'll fail."

Scientists and curators said Clough brought a sense of excitement at a time when morale couldn't have been lower.

"It's a game changer really," said Steve Monfort, a longtime staff scientist who is now acting director of the zoo. "I'm seeing a change of culture that is setting in ... a sense that we have a secretary who is very strongly engaged."

In 2007, former secretary Small was forced out because of his high compensation and lavish spending — including charter jet rides and earnings of more than \$900,000 — amid a shrinking work force and \$2.5 billion in maintenance needs. Some executives followed him out.

Clough faced the task of implementing reforms and said it's still a work in progress. Among the changes: He began to lower the six-figure salaries of at least 17 top executives to conform with federal pay scales.

One of his biggest challenges will be raising money to reduce the Smithsonian's heavy reliance on Congress for funding. Federal funds provide about 65 percent of the estimated \$1 billion annual budget. And the outlook for private philanthropy is gloomy because of the recession.

Still, Clough has quietly begun work on the Smithsonian's first major capital campaign with the goal of raising well over \$1 billion.

"We need more big ideas," he said. "I've talked to donors who say 'Hey, I'm really interested in the fact that you have resources to be an honest broker in the climate change debate ... and I would be willing to put up significant money to do that.'"

One thing he doesn't plan to change, though, is the free admission at the museums. The American people own those museums, he said.

Clough has a track record for transforming institutions, a distinction that earned a chapter in Thomas L. Friedman's best-selling book "The World is Flat." Friedman described how Clough's philosophy of attracting science students with artistic and creative interest raised Georgia Tech's graduation rate and encouraged more creativity in engineering. Clough's work over 14 years raised the school's academic profile.

That vision of fusing science with the arts makes him a good fit for the Smithsonian, which holds numerous art, history and cultural treasures, Smithsonian American Art Museum director Betsy Broun said.

Drug lord now serves hot dogs

Associated Press

MARKHAM, Ill. — Two decades after customers clamored to buy cocaine from a teenager named John Cappas, they're lined up to buy what he has to sell: Hot dogs.

The one-time "drug kingpin," as the newspapers called him in the late 1980s, this summer became an owner of a hot dog stand called Johnny's WeeNee Wagon.

It's a few Chicago suburbs and a world away from where he ran the drug empire that made him \$25,000 a week — enough to buy a house, fast cars and a necklace that spelled "Spoiled Brat" in diamonds to drape around his Playboy bunny girlfriend.

In a bright red building that looks like a barn with a man-sized statue of a hot dog wearing an American flag out front, he sells hot dogs, gyros, burgers, and now for the first time since the place opened in 1955, french fries.

"I'm doing the right thing now," said the 43-year-old Cappas, who was released in 2004 after serving 15 years in prison.

That doesn't mean Cappas is shying away from his past.

He obviously enjoys telling stories about what life was like before he was arrested. Like the time he made headlines when, knowing federal agents were looking to arrest him, he and a local television reporter took a spin on Lake Michigan on a friend's speedboat ("The feds had already seized mine," he said.) before he turned himself in.

Nor did he keep it a secret that for his grand opening

last weekend — an event that included a magician and a tiger he says belonged to former boxing champ Mike Tyson — he'd asked two friends who were Chicago police officers before they were convicted of selling cocaine to judge his auto show.

But Cappas knows that his reign as a drug kingpin includes more than funny stories about his lavish lifestyle. He's linked to the deaths of two 19-year-old sons of Chicago police officers, both of whom killed themselves with their fathers' service revolvers after, authorities said at the time, at least one of them bought drugs from one of Cappas' accomplices.

And he knows that for all the "toys" he had, there was a time members of his family wanted nothing to do with him.

"I was banished from my (family) house," he said, his father, Louis Cappas, nodding in agreement.

Then he was banished from society, with a judge who sentenced him to 45 years in prison, angrily telling him that he had "lost his soul."

"I am what I am," he said simply. "I'm never going to live that down."

That helps explain why he said it is important to let people know he is no longer the same young man he was when he was sentenced to prison — something he says he deserved. And that he wants to make amends.

"I do not want kids to follow in my same footsteps ..." he said. "I'm paying some penance for what I did in the past."

That means his plan is not

just to own a successful hot dog stand in a community, but to play a role in that community. He talks about plans to sponsor Little League teams and build a baseball diamond, as well as continue talking to at-risk kids, as he's done for the last few years.

He said a big part of his message is that it's possible to turn your life around, to come out of prison and make an honest living.

"This is my way of giving back," said Cappas, who also plans to publish a book about his life.

It all has impressed Scott Ladany, the owner of Red Hot Chicago, Inc. to sell Cappas his hot dogs.

"I did hesitate but ... it's a gut feeling that he deserved a second chance in life," Ladany said.

Ladany said that what Cappas did after he got to prison — earned a college degree and studied and taught cooking classes — helped convince him that Cappas had changed.

So far, Cappas sees no signs that his past has cost him any customers. In fact, on one recent day, customers — many of whom said they knew all about Cappas' drug dealing past — were in a line that stretched out the door. Some said his past was partly why they were there.

"It's great to see somebody whose life is turned around and is trying to do something good," said Mary Beth Johnson, a 47-year-old Orland Park resident, who grew up nearby and came to the stand regularly when she was a little girl. "It's great to see this in our neighborhood."

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Stocks

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|--------------------------|------------------|---------------|
| Dow Jones | 9,441.27 | +96.66 |
| Up: | Same: | Down: |
| 2,466 | 74 | 599 |
| Composite Volume: | | 4,253,415,746 |
| AMEX | 1,716.69 | +29.10 |
| NASDAQ | 2,018.78 | +35.58 |
| NYSE | 6,637.13 | +90.53 |
| S&P 500 | 1,016.40 | +13.16 |
| NIKKEI (Tokyo) | 10,187.11 | 0.00 |
| FTSE 100 (London) | 4,851.70 | +54.95 |

| COMPANY | %CHANGE | \$GAIN | PRICE |
|------------------------|---------|--------|--------|
| CITIGROUP (C) | +1.68 | +0.08 | 4.85 |
| FANNIE MAE (FNM) | +7.93 | +0.13 | 1.77 |
| BK OF AMERICA CP (BAC) | +1.48 | +0.25 | 17.09 |
| S&P DEP RECEIPTS (SYP) | +1.40 | +1.41 | 102.06 |

Treasuries

| | | | |
|--------------|-------|---------|-------|
| 10-YEAR NOTE | +3.43 | +0.1140 | 3.44 |
| 13-WEEK BILL | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.125 |
| 30-YEAR BOND | +2.96 | +0.1230 | 4.27 |
| 5-YEAR NOTE | +3.29 | +0.0750 | 2.36 |

Commodities

| | | |
|--------------------------|-------|--------|
| LIGHT CRUDE (\$/bbl.) | +0.06 | 68.02 |
| GOLD (\$/Troy oz.) | -1.00 | 996.70 |
| PORK BELLIES (cents/lb.) | +2.00 | 82.88 |

Exchange Rates

| | |
|-----------------|---------|
| YEN | 93.0150 |
| EURO | 1.4293 |
| CANADIAN DOLLAR | 1.0893 |
| BRITISH POUND | 1.6391 |

IN BRIEF

Conn. women buying more guns

WATERBURY, Conn. — Connecticut residents are arming themselves at quite a clip, with women, in particular, packing heat in growing numbers.

The state issued 7,741 pistol permits from January through May, a 90 percent increase over the same time period in 2008. Nearly 12,000 new permits have been issued so far this year in a state that recently posted one of the lowest gun ownership rates in the country, according a study of 2006 data by the Violence Policy Center, a national gun control advocacy group based in Washington, D.C.

Connecticut gun retailers and educators who run the safety classes required for pistol permit applicants report a surge in first-time gun purchases, particularly by women, who account for up to half of the students taught in Torrington.

"I think that the percentage that you'd see of women coming for the first time has quadrupled," said John Petricone, a staffer at Tactical Arms in Torrington. Pistol safety classes that once drew about nine men for every woman are now evenly split, Petricone said.

Labor Relations board still gridlocked

WASHINGTON — Another Labor Day, another year of dysfunction in the agency that's supposed to protect workers from unfair labor practices and referee clashes between unions and management.

The enduring stalemate at the National Labor Relations Board, the longest in its history, comes as evidence that elections don't always settle political tugs of war. Ten months after the election of a president and Congress from the same party, no end is in sight to the deadlock.

Decisions are stalled on dozens of disputes that could set labor-management policies for decades to come. Can employers prohibit employees from using the company's e-mail system to send union-related messages? Where may union members distribute literature at work sites? What about organizing a union by simply signing cards instead of having a secret-ballot election?

These matters and more are going nowhere because the board, since January 2008, has had one lonely Democrat, one lonely Republican and a political stalemate over three empty seats.

Layoffs toughest on old, young

Ends of the age spectrum feeling employment pinch the hardest in tough economy

Associated Press

ORLANDO, Fla. — Marcus Wells and Shirley Walker view their economic prospects from opposite ends of the age spectrum.

Wells, 25, was initially optimistic about his prospects for finding a new job after he was laid off as a systems analyst in January in San Jose, Calif. Now unemployment has begun to wear on the him, and he believes his age has factored into his frustration.

"More experienced people are getting hired, and they're downgrading their skills to get the job," Wells said. "I feel like I'm competing with older workers, not college graduates. It wears on your confidence."

Walker, 58, lost her job running a nonprofit which helped minority women in business in Orlando and hasn't had any luck finding new work in the three months since.

"What they tell us is that they're looking for more mature and experienced workers, but they want us to work for less, or what they could pay younger people to do," she said recently outside an Orlando job fair. "Maybe younger people would be willing or able to accept lesser pay."

Would-be retirees have watched their savings dwindle and health care costs soar, while workers recently out of school and burdened by debt try to advance in careers that no longer have room for them.

The results show up on the map: Places with high concentrations of people in their late 20s or nearing what they thought would be their retirement age are feeling the recession the hardest, as measured by The Associated Press Economic Stress Index. The index assigns each county a score from 1 to 100, with higher numbers reflecting greater stress, based on its unemployment, foreclosures and bankruptcy rates.

California's Santa Clara



This Sept. 1 file photo shows Marcus Wells looking for work at the State of California Employment Development Department in San Jose, Calif.

County, where Wells lives, registered 14.41 on the stress index in July, the most recent month for which figures are available, while Walker's Orange County, Fla., came in at 15.76, both well above the average county's 10.54.

The groups associated with the highest stress scores in each U.S. county are men and women between ages 25 and 29 and women over age 55. That doesn't necessarily mean having a high percentage of people in those groups causes a county's economic health to worsen, though the two appear to go hand in hand.

Experts said a variety of factors may be at play.

Young adults are more at risk for losing their jobs and

homes in a recession, while people later in life are more likely to declare bankruptcy in order to protect their assets, said Tay McNamara, director of research at the Center on Aging and Work at Boston College.

"Last hired, first fired. Generally, that is very true," McNamara said.

Chanel Moore knows how that goes. The 25-year-old Orlando resident was laid off last year from a job in retail and has found herself competing with older workers in her jobs searches.

"I'm young, trying to get on my feet, and then you have people older than me who are already on their feet looking for jobs with more experience than me," Moore said.

Workers in the 25 to 34

age group have seen the most dramatic rise in unemployment during the past year compared to other age groups. Their unemployment rate went from 5.7 percent in July 2008 to 10 percent in July 2009, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Compounding the pain for some young workers can be big bills from their careers as students. The average undergraduate finishes college with \$17,700 in debt at four-year public schools and \$22,375 in debt at four-year private schools. Also, student loan provider Sallie Mae reported this year that seniors graduated college with an average credit card debt of more than \$4,100 in 2008, up from \$2,900 four years earlier.

Obama plans to address organized labor

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President Barack Obama is addressing one of his key constituencies — organized labor — on Monday as union members gather to celebrate the holiday named for their movement.

As Obama prepares for a critical speech Wednesday to Congress and the nation about his efforts to overhaul health care, a supportive audience at the AFL-CIO's annual Labor Day picnic in Cincinnati should provide welcome relief from the highly charged partisan atmosphere surrounding the issue.

Besides addressing health care, Obama will tell the assembled union members he has named Ron Bloom as senior counselor for manufacturing policy. Bloom has served since

February as senior adviser to Treasury Secretary Timothy Geithner as part of Obama's auto industry task force.

Bloom is traveling to Cincinnati with the president, the White House said. He will be working with the National Economic Council to "provide leadership on policy development and strategic planning for the president's agenda to revitalize the manufacturing sector."

The White House said Bloom would continue in his position with Geithner but would expand his role to coordinate administration manufacturing policy with the Departments of Commerce, Treasury, Energy and Labor.

"Ron has the knowledge and experience necessary to lead the way in creating the good-paying manufacturing jobs of the future," Obama said in a

statement released Sunday night.

Before moving to Treasury, Bloom was a special assistant to the president of the United Steelworkers union. He was a founding partner in the investment banking firm of Keilin and Bloom.

Despite a friendly audience at the labor picnic, where Obama is expected to be welcomed by national union leaders John Sweeney and Richard Trumka, the gathering could turn out to be a small oasis in the swing state of Ohio.

Opposition to Obama's health care overhaul was evident Saturday at a "Tea Party" rally in the Cincinnati suburb of West Chester, where a crowd of thousands protested with signs such as "Government-run health care makes me sick" and "Leave our health care alone."

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Health care debate masks real issues

If you've been following the news for the past few weeks, you're probably getting tired of hearing about health care reform. Democrats and Republicans have managed to avoid much serious debate about this crucially important issue, instead launching inane charges of extremism at each other. The caricatures produced by the leaders of both parties would be laughable if they weren't bandied about with such frequency and earnestness. Republicans accuse Democrats of being socialists intent on creating death panels to arbitrarily kill senior citizens, while Democrats counter that Republicans are un-American fascists in the pocket of health insurance companies. This nonsensical political circus obscures the true significance of the health care debate: While health care reform is an important and consequential matter, Americans are primarily concerned about the rapidly expanding size and role of government in everyday life.

Talk of "rationing" health care provides an important insight into the fundamental issues underlying the debate. Conservative politicians are fond of warning that Democrats' proposals will ration care, conjuring up the image of impersonal, bureaucratic agencies limiting Americans' health care options. There is an element of truth to this claim — a government-run "public option" would naturally have to make hard choices about which forms of medical treatment would be covered and which would be excluded. What Republicans usually neglect to mention, though, is that all health care is rationed. All goods, in fact, are rationed — this is a basic truth of economics. Just as there does not exist an infinite supply of Lamborghinis or ice cream, an endless reservoir of health care is not available.

Thus, we must find a way to distribute, or "ration," this scarce good.

There are two basic means by which to do this. One option is to establish a free market, in which the "invisible hand" famously identified by Adam Smith works to distribute goods in the most efficient means possible. The other is to place all economic goods in the hands of a single governing agency and entrust it to use its presumably superior wisdom to determine who should have what. This latter method, of course, is fraught with problems. America has long favored free markets over central planning, but in recent years, the United States have abruptly and dramatically shifted course, bringing many formerly private sectors of the economy under government control and spending at an astonishing rate.

The past year alone has seen a series of Wall Street and auto industry bailouts, culminating in the federal government's takeover of General Motors. These expansions of government power were accompanied by hundreds of billions of dollars in "stimulus" spending, boosting the total national debt to well over 11 trillion dollars. Meanwhile, the U.S. is engaged in two major conflicts in Iraq and Afghanistan, which combine to produce a significant drain on the U.S. treasury. In this context, Democrats' proposed health care reform appears as less of a radical shift than a continuation of the present course.

What, then, are we to make of the heated debate over health care? Americans are beginning to become alarmed at the nonstop expansion of the federal government, and they're worried about the prospect of lawmakers and bureaucrats in Washington, D.C. becoming involved in the intensely personal issue of medical care. Politicians would do well to note, however, that the real issue at stake is not merely health care, but the relationship

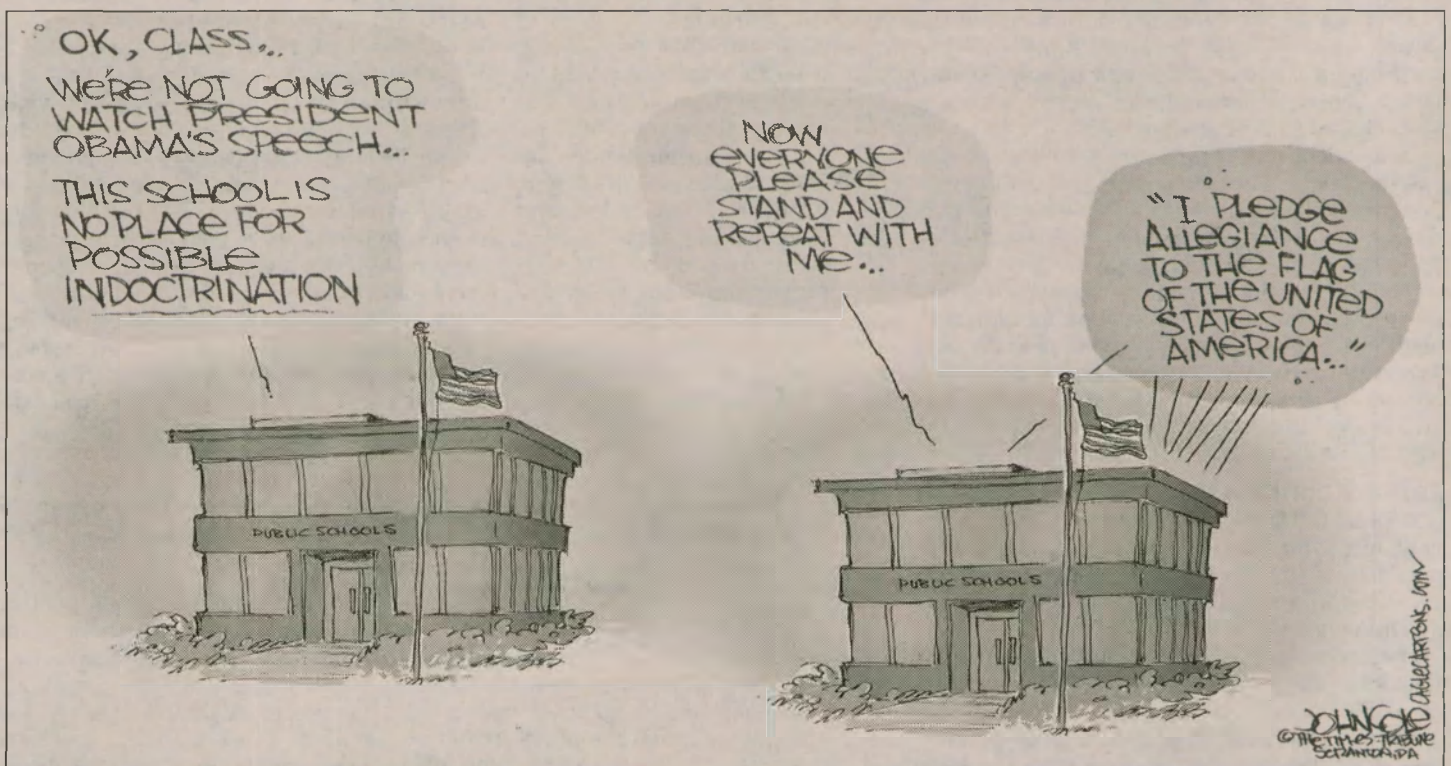
between U.S. citizens and the government. Americans have a long, proud tradition of individualism. We prize our liberties, and we place great value on the virtues of self-sufficiency and personal responsibility. That is not to say that opponents of the Democrats' health care reform proposals are unconcerned about the plight of those unable to afford health care — they simply recognize that government expansion into the medical industry will significantly, and likely irreversibly, expand government while bringing with it a host of new problems. Yet at a time when Americans are clamoring for a serious conversation about the size and scope of the state, politicians in Washington rarely engage in serious debate.

Whether the Democrats' health care reform efforts succeed or not, voters will go to the polls next year with a new perspective on politics. After years of ballooning government under the Bush administration and a Republican-controlled Congress, Barack Obama and Democratic legislators promised to usher in a new era of change and responsible leadership. What Americans have gotten, though, is more of the same. While Democrats push to expand government further, GOP leaders who formerly supported the "big-government conservatism" of the Bush administration mouth small-government platitudes. If President Obama and members of Congress are to achieve long-term political success, they will have to cut out-of-control spending, move beyond empty rhetoric and truly embrace Americans' desire for limited, responsible government and individual freedom.

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

EDITORIAL CARTOON



OBSERVER POLL

What did you think of the Dillon Pep Rally?

Liked it
Didn't like it
Didn't go

Vote by Thursday at 5 p.m. at
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Submit a Letter
to the Editor at

www.ndsmcobserver.com

QUOTE OF THE DAY

"The universe is full of magical things, patiently waiting for our wits to sharpen."

Eden Phillpotts
English author

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Keep Library a relevant institution

While "A library with no books" (Staff Editorial, Sept. 4) may have been written with some tongue in cheek, I thought it raised an interesting point. Gone are the days (back in 2002 when I was a graduate student) when one could walk into the Library and find in his two favorite places — the periodical room on the first floor and the political science section (I think it is on the ninth floor) — journals and books on political science to

one's heart's content. Now in the periodical room one finds totally meaningless journals (to a large extent) and on the ninth floor chaos and predominantly empty shelves with a few copies of ancient journals that cannot be computerized.

Because of the assumption that everyone has computer access all the time, the Library made the shift to electronic cataloging and online journals (I imagine in the name of

cost-cutting). In the process, the Hesburgh Library has become virtually useless as a place to browse and spend non-academic time in. This seems to take away an important aspect of a library — namely to encourage people to read.

In the course of this past year that I was in South Bend, I went to the library twice for non-academic purposes and a few more times to sit and write. It is unfortunate that the

Library has lost some of its luster and while the editors seem to endorse making life easier for the students by doing away with exams and research papers, I would suggest that more could be done in balancing the technological age (of all computers) with the traditional age of hands-on materials.

Fr. David Kashangaki
 Uganda
 Class of 2005

U-WIRE

Examining the power of unions

With Labor Day upon us, many in America have forgotten why they're off work or out of class (for some). Labor Day has become a perennial picnic, the signal of the end of summer. But this holiday signifies something much larger than the simple pleasures of an end-of-summer fried chicken feast.

Labor Day in America was born out of the Pullman Strike, becoming a federal holiday when President Grover Cleveland decided to make improving labor relations a top domestic priority. Prior to that, labor unions virtually had no seat at the powerful political table. Since then, America has witnessed the rise of labor, peaking in the mid-20th century with almost 29 percent of all workers unionized.

But many today wonder where labor is going. Today, unions maintain less of a percentage of the workforce than virtually ever before. Unions have weakened to the point where current union membership in the private sector is below nine percent.

Despite those numbers, Big Labor still exercises incredible influence over modern politics. Democrats have for years considered labor one of its most precious (and most powerful) allies. The Employee Free Choice Act, publicly touted by President Obama, has been one of the biggest pieces of legislation on Congress' plate over the past year. Celebrities like Martin Sheen and Bradley Whitford have starred in ads encouraging popular support for the bill. With the bill a top concern of many of his constituents, Sen. Arlen Specter, D-Pa., faced a barrage of questions on whether he would support the measure when he switched parties in April. Big Labor still has a powerful agenda, and they're pushing Congress and the president to not only support but enact their proposals.

But some people question this seemingly bountiful political power at a time when unions are smaller and weaker than ever before. Some ultra-conservatives attack labor as coercive and power-hungry, willing to sell out even its own unionized workers before sacrificing its position of public power. But honestly, most politicians, Republican or Democrat, respect unions and the role they play in public life.

Mitt Romney, former Republican governor of Massachusetts, said in a March op-ed in *The Washington Times*, "At their best, labor unions have always fought for the rights of workers and generations of Americans have been better off for it."

Former Democratic President Jimmy Carter famously said of unions, "Every advance in this half-century — Social Security, civil rights, Medicare, aid to education, one after another — came with the support and leadership of American labor."

Unions have been a backbone of America for over a century. They've allowed workers to bargain for fair wages, to receive high quality health care, to prepare for a successful retirement and to establish a safe and healthy workplace.

And unions still maintain an important place in our society. Unions are so often the check that workers have on Big Business, the blue-collar voice at the white-collar negotiating table. Unions have immeasurable value for thousands, if not millions, of Americans.

But as we prepare to end the first decade of the 21st century, we must ensure that unions do not obstruct pathways to a more prosperous and equitable U.S. economy.

Over the next 20 years, the Democratic and Republican parties must focus on maintaining strong relationships with labor leaders, not attacking them as ruthless or ambitious, while ensuring that Big Labor does not dictate the moves our nation takes towards finding economic opportunities for all Americans.

It'll take some tricky political maneuvering to accomplish this, but in a new technology-driven economy where you get paid for what you know and not what you do, we have no other option. Manufacturing jobs are leaving this country, and Big Labor understands that. The focus now must become how to incorporate the remaining voice of labor into a modern, prosperity-driven economic political discussion.

We can't let labor fall by the wayside. But it has to be labor's responsibility to rebrand and restructure itself for the new economy and to do so in a way that promotes a strong American economy.

This column first ran in the Sept. 4 edition of The Crimson White, the daily newspaper serving the University of Alabama.

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

Ian Sams

University of
 Alabama
 The Crimson
 White

Trust the people (unless they disagree with us)

Is American democracy on the brink of inexorable ruin?

That's the inference one would seemingly be forced to make after listening to not only the radical fringe of the political chattering class, but also some of the relatively mainstream Republican voices.

At a town hall event in California, U.S. Rep. Wally Herger, R-Calif., posited that "our democracy has never been threatened as much as it is today" by the specter of health care reform. Rush Limbaugh, whom no Republican politician with national aspirations would even think of publicly rebuking, regularly invokes fascism and Nazi Germany as points of comparison for the progress of the Obama administration.

And it would be negligent not to mention Glenn Beck, who on FOX News' second-highest rated show a few days ago connected the dots on the first letters of random words he used to describe the Obama administration ("Obama," "Left-Internationalists," "Graft," "Acorn," "Revolutionaries" and "Hidden Agendas") to spell what he believed the Obama administration had become: an O-L-I-G-A-R-C-H-Y. (Your guess is as good as mine as to where that "Y" came from.)

So why, then, is it that every strategy in the Republicans' playbook — on health care and virtually every other issue of national importance — relies on employing the most thoroughly undemocratic tactics imaginable?

The self-stated goal of most of the town hall protesters that furiously inserted themselves — at the behest of the insurance industry — into the national discourse in August was to shout down their elected representatives. In opposition to the Waxman-Markey bill (otherwise known as cap-and-trade), which is still working its way through Congress, coal industry firms are hiring lobbying outfits to flood congressional offices with mail purporting to be from concerned constituents and nonprofit groups against the climate change legislation, attempting to create the appearance of grassroots outrage where none exists.

Meanwhile, the decision by congressional Republicans to employ the filibuster to require that important measures have the support of three-fifths of the Senate represents an unprecedented subversion of the basic principle of majority rule. While informed observers have

been quick to adjust to the notion that 60-plus votes are now needed to pass major legislation, not enough attention has been paid to just how singularly ludicrous the present situation truly is. Previously a tool of the retrograde Southern bloc as a means of blocking civil rights legislation, even the Democratic caucuses of the 109th and 110th Congresses largely reserved the parliamentary procedure for extreme judicial nominations.

The resulting variance between public opinion and the situation on the floor of the senate is expectedly stark. According to a Washington Post-ABC poll released on Friday, almost six in 10 respondents support the new energy policy waiting for a vote in the Senate. Fifty-five percent of Americans approve of the way Obama is handling the issue; only 30 percent described themselves as opposed. In any fully functioning democracy, those numbers would suggest that positive action is coming, and soon. But because of the actions of the dwindling minority that claims to be so afraid for the future of American democracy, the legislation will likely die on the vine without receiving an actual vote.

This is all right on the heels, of course, of a national election that President Obama won by more than 9.5 million votes — an election in which both candidates had clear and contrasting proposals on how to handle health care, energy policy and the economy. An election in which Obama won a purple state like Nevada in a landslide, turned blood-red Virginia, North Carolina and Indiana — Indiana! — blue and even eked out an electoral vote from Nebraska.

If American democracy is under threat from any corner, it's under threat from those who don't care for election results, who suggest that our democratically-elected and fully vetted president is illegitimate, who don't respect the concept of offering votes on the merits of legislation and who are congenitally unable to offer any sort of constructive opposition. And unless those selfsame individuals genuinely believe all their Sturm und Drang about the impending doom of our democratic form of government, they are betraying a cynicism that actually does run the risk of striking a real blow to the health of our governmental institutions.

This column first ran in the Sept. 3 edition of the Emory Wheel, the daily newspaper serving Emory University.

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

Asher Smith

Emory
 University
 Emory Wheel

Do you see two different U-Wires up there?
 Yeah, so do we. You should get on that.

Submit a Letter to the Editor

www.ndsmcobserver.com

Mos Def's Ecstatic, "Wonderfully Strange" Rap

By NICK ANDERSON
Assistant Scene Editor

Eminem, T.I., Ludacris, LL Cool J, Ice Cube, Ice-T, Method Man, RZA, and even Snoop Dogg. All rappers turned, with varying degrees of success, into actors. Hollywood, for some unexplained reason, keeps casting rappers in their big-budget movies. These parts have included bit roles in big budget comedies, a supporting actor in Oscar fare, a less than stereotypical street thug and several family fun fests. By all accounts, it doesn't really make sense.

Rare, however, is the rapper-turned-actor who is actively trying to do both without one noticing the other. Mos Def is on that quest. He's doesn't promote his music with movies, hasn't made a vanity piece (his only cameo was in Talladega Nights) and his most critically acclaimed role was in an off-Broadway play.

By all appearances, Def's music has taken an unfortunate back seat to his acting. This would all be a very sad story if it was not for his return to form in "The Ecstatic."

Def never was a typical rapper. His back story sounds familiar: born in Bedford-Stuyvesant, Brooklyn, he would have known of the already famous rappers from his neighborhood including The Notorious B.I.G., Big Daddy Kane and GZA. All three made careers walking the line between glorifying and regretting their now-stereotypical "gangsta" lifestyle.

Def never quite fell into that trap. His immense talent was recognized early and he landed a collaboration with De La Soul as well as a role in the short-lived "Cosby Mysteries" (yes, that Cosby). His music took off before his acting and two classic albums, "Mos Def and Talib Kweli are Black Star" and "Black on Both Sides" made a stir in the 90's. Both confronted issues Def was immersed in growing up. Instead of violence, vulgarity, and shock value presented as the focus, which often happens in rap, he centered his music and identity on his race, passion, and religion.

Without fail, he was regulated to the position of the socially conscious rapper. At the time the title came with a point of pride. Today, even with the recent resurgence of hope, it brings an air of arrogance from the artist and indifference from the public.

The opening moments of his new album, "The Ecstatic," are odd. The words are a speech of a black political leader telling the

listener, "You're living at a time of extremism, a time of revolution ... and now there has to be a change and a better world has to be built."

This is an album from the age of Obama, what should we expect? But quoting a speech from Malcolm X comes as a surprise. It follows the phrase that has opened each of his albums, "Bismillah ir Rahman ir Raheem" (In the name of God, the Compassionate, the Merciful). Somewhere between these two phrases lies "The Ecstatic."

"The Ecstatic" is a showcase of Def's talents. His voice offers his strongest point, easily transitioning from rapping on "The Embassy" to singing on "Priority" with most songs sitting easily on an ODB-esque flow, both familiar and entirely different. Def's flow could offer some of the smoothest hooks in the industry if only he were to consistently utilize a standard song structure.

Instead, the versus-chorus-verse formula ditched for a stream-of-thought style dependant on bridges. The results are songs that won't receive much radio play but will embrace the listener in a welcoming strangeness. This ear for odd sounds lead to fruitful production work from Madlib, Oh No and the late J Dilla, all of which are brilliant.

Def's music is unique by any standard. After a couple of listens, Def's adopted moniker, The Boogie Man, comes to the forefront. It's mysterious and at times uncomfortable but intriguing and original. In the end, it's a return to form, a turning point after two less-than-stellar albums, a wonderfully strange, sonically diverse and oddly inspiring work of art.

Contact Nick Anderson at nanders5@nd.edu



The Ecstatic Mos Def

Studio: Downtown Music, LLC

Recommended Tracks: "The Embassy," "Priority"



Down Home Greek Cooking at ALEXANDER'S GRILL

By GENNA McCABE, ERIC PRISTER, and JESS SHAFFER
Scene Writers

With its copious portion sizes, incredibly friendly owner, eager to please staff and solid Greek cuisine, Alexander's Grill is an endearing dining experience.

One of the few South Bend area restaurants specializing in Greek cuisine, Alexander's offers a menu not only ideally priced for college students but also particularly suited to the tastes of college students. Alexander's is equipped to handle both American tastes and those ready to sample the common specialties of Greece.

Alexander's, despite its label as "Grill," is more akin to an upscale diner in atmosphere, sporting a shiny new interior, two flat screen TVs, and a steady flow of regular customers. The proprietor, who is actively running around the floor taking orders, chatting with diners, warmly greets frequenters and new comers alike, making everyone feel like part of the Alexander family.

Daily specials are on the board, but the full menu is well rounded for American and Greek fares. Portions are huge. Also, most meals come with standard Greek salad (with notably good Greek dressing), fries or Greek potatoes and also the soup of the day, typically a lemon rice soup. These sides could be a gratifying meal in and of themselves, particularly the lightly citrusy and satisfying creamy soup.

Appetizer options range from Hummus and fresh Pita to Spanakopita and Dolmas (stuffed grape leaves). There are also the extensive Hot and Cold Appetizer Plate options. The Hot Appetizer Plate came with Tiropita and Spanakopita, Greek pastries filled with cheese and spinach, respectively. Appealing favorites, these were light but full of flavor. Also included on the Hot Plate was gyros meat, which was served in ample portions and had a somewhat salty, but still quite enjoyable flavor. The final part of the appetizer was homemade pita and gyros sauce, which capped off the dish well. A comprehensive sampling of the menu, this appetizer gets full bang for the eater's buck.

Entrées

The Pastitsio, a Greek lasagna, was not the highlight of the meal, but was nevertheless a solid entrée. The consistency was different and took getting used to, but the combination of ground beef, Greek cheese, and lasagna noodles added a unique twist on a traditionally Italian dish.

The Grecian Chicken is an entire half of a chicken prepared with lemon and oregano. While it was exceptionally moist and very well prepared, it was somewhat bland.

It was served with a bed of rice also flavored with oregano. The whole meal was certainly good, but not great.

This entrée is particularly advisable for anyone who might want a taste of Greek cuisine, but is not inter-

ested in diving head first into the flavoring and often somewhat exotic ingredients of Greek cooking. This dish was certainly not what Greek cooking is all about, so it cannot be surprising that it left something to be desired.

Also the unfussy staple of casual Greek cuisine, the gyro sandwich deserves recognition. A piece of pita bread packed sky high with shaved lamb meat and assorted veggies this is a hefty and affordable Greek classic. Salty and a bit greasy, the meat is full flavored and well complimented by vegetables and

Tzatziki sauce.

Alexander's Grill is by no means a high-end establishment, but a combination of satisfying and enjoyable food with the service from an owner who wants nothing more than to make sure that each and every one of his customers is fully satisfied makes Alexander's Grill and establishment well worth trying. And the best part, with its oversized portions you are ensured to have at least one to go box and filling meals to come.

A short drive or long walk from campus, Alexander's is located on 1841 South Bend Avenue. Also Alexander's can be reached by phone at 574-247-1780.

Genna McCabe, Eric Prister, and Jess Shaffer contributed material to this article.



IRISH INSIDER

Monday, September 7, 2009

THE
OBSERVER

Notre Dame 35, Nevada 0

Opening statement

Clausen, Floyd dominate early and often in 35-0 shutout of Wolf Pack

By DOUGLAS FARMER
Sports Writer

Four times Michael Floyd caught the ball, and three of those times he scored a touchdown Saturday as the sophomore receiver led the Irish to a 35-0 victory over Nevada.

"It's the first game," Floyd said. "You have to show the nation what kind of team Notre Dame is and how we are going to do everything."

After receiving the opening kickoff, the Irish offense quickly set to showing its vast capabilities to Nevada and the 80,000 fans in attendance. On the team's first third-and-long of the season, a third-and-16 on Nevada's 19-yard line, junior quarterback Jimmy Clausen threaded a pass over a Wolfpack safety to sophomore tight end Kyle Rudolph in the back of the end zone. The 12-play, 67-yard drive gave the Irish a 7-0 lead after freshman kicker Nick Tausch converted the first extra point of his college career.

"[The touchdown play] was something we had worked on all week, and Jimmy showed a lot of trust in me," Rudolph said. "I just wanted to go and make a play on the ball, and it worked in our favor."

On Notre Dame's next drive, Clausen connected with sophomore receiver Golden Tate for a gain of 36 yards. Later in the drive, on the first play of the second quarter, Floyd ran a route across the middle, and as he crossed the goal line the receiver pulled in his first touchdown of the day. The 24-yard score capped a 78-yard drive in less than five minutes.

Before Nevada had a chance to respond, the Irish defense followed the offense's lead and showed what it could do. After Tausch's kickoff was downed at the Nevada 31-yard line, junior linebacker Brian Smith recorded his first sack of the season. The 11-yard loss led to a quick three-and-out by the Wolf Pack, giving the ball right back to the potent Irish offense.

"[Smith] had two sacks relatively early," Irish coach Charlie Weis said. "They just change the momentum."

With the ball back in his hands, Clausen found Floyd once again on a quick screen play. Floyd caught the ball around the Notre Dame 30-yard line, and, after a block from Tate, ended the play standing alone in the end zone with Notre Dame an extra point away from a 21-0 lead.



IAN GAVLICK/The Observer

Irish sophomore wide receiver Michael Floyd races down the sideline for an 88-yard touchdown in Saturday's 35-0 romp over Nevada. Floyd had four receptions for 189 yards and three touchdowns in the game, the first Notre Dame shutout since 2002.

"Those guys are playmakers," Clausen said. "All I have to do is give them the ball and they make plays."

Before the end of the first half, junior running back Armando Allen scored the first rushing touchdown of the year for the Irish. The one-yard jaunt topped off Allen's 47 yards in the first half. The back ended the afternoon with 78 yards on 15 carries.

Nevada received possession to start the second half, but still couldn't find success against the Notre Dame defense. After running back Vai Taua ran 18 yards for a first down, the Irish defense buckled down once more to force a punt. After the ball was downed on the one-yard line, Clausen, Floyd, and company were given the ball again.

With the offense lined up on its own goal line, the offensive line needed to continue its solid

performance, not giving up a sack in the game, to prevent any loss of yardage.

"I told [the fans] when we started that drive on the one-yard line that we were going 99 yards for the touchdown," senior center Eric Olsen said. "When I got into the huddle, I said 'Don't make me look bad guys. I just told them we were going 99.'"

After Allen rushed for 11 yards on three carries to give the Irish some breathing room, Floyd made Olsen look like an oracle. Clausen threw a deep jump ball to the receiver, and Floyd leaped higher than the cornerback covering him to pull the ball in at the Notre Dame 40-yard line. With only his man to beat, Floyd broke a tackle over the Wolf Pack player and cruised final 60 yards to the end zone and a 35-0 Irish lead.

"When you're one-on-one and it's a receiver and defensive

back, obviously they made the plays and we didn't," Nevada coach Chris Ault said. "Somebody's got to make a play, and they seem to make them every time."

The 88-yard touchdown is the third-longest score through the air in Notre Dame football history.

After completing his hat trick on only four catches, Floyd ended the day with 189 of Clausen's 315 passing yards.

"You want to [score every time you get the ball], but there are some plays that are not seen as going for the whole thing," Floyd said. "You just try as hard as you can."

The four-touchdown day by Clausen was only the second of his career, the first being the five-touchdown game the quarterback had in the Hawaii Bowl in December.

"We have set a standard," the quarterback said. "Since [losing

38-3 to USC last November], Coach Weis talked to the whole team, and we were going to take a step forward and never look back. We did that in Hawaii, and obviously out there again today."

In meeting that standard Saturday, the Irish defense recorded its first shutout in Weis' tenure, while the offense never turned the ball over, and Clausen only had three incompletions among 18 attempts.

Notre Dame will look to continue to surpass that standard next week when it travels to Michigan to play in the 106,000-seat Big House.

"[The big win] feels good, but I'm already thinking about Michigan," Olsen said. "We did a great job all around on every facet of the game, but our work's not done yet."

Contact Douglas Farmer at dfarmer1@nd.edu

player of the game

Michael Floyd
Irish wide receiver

Floyd tallied 189 yards on just four catches with three spectacular touchdowns in under three quarters.

stat of the game

303.67

Jimmy Clausen's NCAA high passer rating after completing 15 of 18 passes for 315 yards and four touchdowns.

play of the game

Clausen to Floyd (pt. III)
88-yd touchdown

The final acrobatic score was the third longest pass play in school history.

quote of the game

"I was right on it and I was just so happy, it was one of the happiest times of my life."

Kapron Lewis-Moore
Irish defender on his fumble recovery

JIMMY CLAUSEN/NOTRE DAME FOOTBALL

report card

- A+** **quarterbacks:** Clausen was almost perfect, and even the incompletions weren't off by much. As a junior he looks in total control of the offense and has a better pocket presence.
 - B+** **running backs:** The Irish rushed for 178 yards, with Allen leading the way. Jonas Gray had a solid showing as the second option and James Aldridge looked good in his new role before leaving the game.
 - A+** **receivers:** Michael Floyd was dominant, putting up video game statistics and averaging 47 yards per catch. Golden Tate and Kyle Rudolph also added a few nice grabs and Duval Kamara looks healthy after surgery.
 - B+** **offensive line:** The line gave Clausen all day to throw and didn't give up a sack. Still room for improvement in the running game, but 4.3 yards per carry is nothing to complain about.
 - B-** **defensive line:** Kapron Lewis-Moore had a big fumble recovery, but no sacks for any defensive lineman despite consistent pressure.
 - B+** **linebackers:** Brian and Toryan Smith both had big games getting after the quarterback. Manti Te'o shined in his debut, and Darius Fleming was also able to apply consistent pressure.
 - B+** **defensive backs:** Kyle McCarthy and Robert Blanton had interceptions and the Wolf Pack passed for just 154 yards. Harrison Smith looked very comfortable back at safety.
 - A-** **special teams:** Nick Tausch converted his extra points and had good hang time on his kickoffs. Freshman Theo Riddick looked quick on his kickoff return, and Eric Maust put two punts inside the 20.
 - A** **coaching:** The offense scored on five of the first six possessions. The blitzing defense kept the Wolf Pack from establishing a rhythm and stepped up against every threat for the shutout.
- 3.58** **overall:** The best opening game of the Weis era, notching the first Irish shutout since 2002 and firing on all cylinders on offense.

adding up the numbers

- 18** The number of Irish players making their first game appearances against Nevada, including seven freshmen.
- 3** Times Nevada has been shut out in coach Chris Ault's 25 year coaching career with the Wolf Pack.
- 8.36** Yards the Notre Dame offense averaged per play, the highest game total of the Weis era.
- 88** The number of yards in the completion from Jimmy Clausen to Michael Floyd in the third quarter, the third longest pass in Notre Dame history.
- 24** The number of consecutive times Notre Dame has beaten Navy either on the road or at a neutral site, a streak that dates to 1960.
- 7** Seasons since the last Notre Dame shutout, a 42-0 victory over Rutgers in 2002.
- 189** Receiving yards for Michael Floyd, the most for an Irish player since Jeff Samardzija in 2005.
- 4** Jimmy Clausen's rank among Notre Dame's career touchdown leaders after adding four scores on Saturday.



Pat Coveney/The Observer
Juniors Armando Allen (5), Brian Smith (58) and Golden Tate (23) celebrate with the Irish team in front of the student section Saturday after the 35-0 victory over Nevada, the fourth opening game win in the last five years.

Game shows BCS potential

As the clock wound down on Notre Dame's dominant season-opening win over Nevada, Irish Athletic Director Jack Swarbrick could be seen mingling on the sidelines with Orange Bowl representatives, clad in distinct orange blazers.



Sam Werner
 Associate Sports Editor

Hopefully Swarbrick will be hearing from them, or another BCS bowl, later this season.

The mere fact that the Orange Bowl deemed it necessary to send representatives to this game says a lot about the state of the Notre Dame program, and the Irish certainly didn't disappoint.

"Overall, I thought the operation, especially in the first half how everything went, it went pretty much like clockwork," Irish coach Charlie Weis said.

Clockwork, indeed. The Irish did Saturday what a good team — a team with legitimate BCS aspirations — should do in their opening game. They went up against a less talented team and walked away with a business-like victory.

Florida beat Charleston Southern 62-3, Texas downed Louisiana-Monroe 59-20 and USC beat San Jose State 56-3. The Irish want to prove they belong in that mix of teams, and they certainly took a step in doing so Saturday.

"How do you keep momentum

rolling from a game that was so long ago?" Weis said, referring to Notre Dame's big Hawaii Bowl win in December. "And a lot of it has to do with hunger. You know, these guys are hungry."

For the first time in way too long, Notre Dame didn't play down to its competition. The theme of 2008 seemed to be that no matter how bad the opponent was, the Irish always played poorly enough to make it a game. San Diego State and Syracuse leap prominently to mind.

The thing is, the Irish could have struggled slightly on Saturday and no one would have been the least bit surprised. They would have chalked it up to opening game jitters, inexperience, and, hey, Nevada is supposed to be a pretty good football team.

"I'm sorry we didn't give [Charlie Weis] a better game so we could see what his ballclub is like," Nevada coach Chris Ault said after the game.

Nevada is a better team than they showed on Saturday, and will win their share of games this season, but Notre Dame can't control how the opponent plays. All the Irish can do is take advantage of it — and they certainly did.

The most noticeable difference isn't even in Jimmy Clausen and Michael Floyd's video game stats or the defense's first shutout since 2002. The difference was notice-

able as soon as the teams took the field.

After last year's loss to Syracuse, receiver Golden Tate described the sideline emotion as "Eh." Against Nevada, nothing could be further from an accurate description. This team has swagger, confidence, and plays with a boatload of emotion.

The telling play was a 4th-and-1 stop in the first half. Last year, Nevada would have converted the first down. In 2007, the Wolf Pack probably would have scored a touchdown. This year, Notre Dame had three guys in the backfield before you could say "Kaepernick."

Now, one game does not a whole season make. It's easy to play with poise when you score on five of your first six possessions. It will be interesting to see how this newfound strut changes when the Irish find themselves trailing. A trip to the Big House could be a better litmus test for this team.

"It was just a good start," Weis said. "That's what today was, it's a good start."

A good start towards, hopefully, seeing those guys in orange blazers again soon.

The views expressed in this column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer. Contact Sam Werner at swerner@nd.edu

"Overall, I thought the operation, especially in the first half how everything went, it went pretty much like clockwork."

Charlie Weis
 Irish coach

For more matchups and pregame analysis, check out the Irish Insider podcast at ndsmcobserver.com/podcasts as writers Sam Werner, Michael Bryan, and Matt Gamber wrap up the game against Nevada.

Defensive gameplan stifles Nevada



IAN GAVLICK/The Observer

Irish players Brian Smith (58), Harrison Smith (22), Kyle McCarthy (28), Darrin Walls (2) and Sergio Brown (31) race off the field following McCarthy's interception in the third quarter Saturday. The defense's shutout was the first of the Weis era.

By MATT GAMBER
Sports Editor

Saturday's was the kind of dominant defensive effort Irish fans haven't seen in a long time — since 2002, Ty Willingham's first year at Notre Dame, in fact.

Nevada's vaunted Pistol offense surely didn't live up to the hype, and all-WAC Colin Kaepernick certainly didn't play his best game for the Wolf Pack. But the fast, disciplined, opportunistic Irish defense most definitely had a lot to do with that.

On Nevada's first possession, Notre Dame allowed the Wolf Pack to move the ball downfield with three straight plays of 10-plus yards. But junior linebacker Brian Smith's takedown of Kaepernick for a loss of seven led to a third-and-12, and the Irish defense held to set up a missed field goal.

That's about as close as Nevada would come to scoring all day.

Nevada would muster just one first down on its next two possessions combined, and by the time the Wolf Pack started their fourth possession, the

Irish were up 21-0 midway through the second quarter.

"Obviously, it feels good to put up a shutout on defense. Being a defensive guy, it's something you shoot for," senior safety Kyle McCarthy said. "We're happy with how we played today."

Co-defensive coordinators Jon Tenuta and Corwin Brown had the Irish defense obviously well-prepared for Nevada's unique offense and the Wolf Pack's multitude of rushing weapons, and the players went out and executed a game plan that seemed to center around getting bodies in the Nevada backfield.

"There was a lot of us moving the line of scrimmage the other way," Weis said. "We had two sacks and four tackles for loss, and to be honest with you, we had another four sacks that we could have had that we missed a few tackles there. I think that's going to be one of the points of emphasis for the defensive staff going into Michigan."

As Weis suggested, there is likely room for improvement, both in terms of tackling fundamentals and stopping

the inside run more consistently. But considering the Irish are less than two years removed from having to return to a back-to-basics training camp mentality a few games into the 2007 season, one has to be pleased with the defense's progress.

All three defensive position units — the defensive line, linebackers and defensive backs — made at least one big play. Sophomore defensive end Kapron-Lewis Moore recovered a fumble, linebackers Brian Smith and junior Toryan Smith each recorded a sack and McCarthy and sophomore corner Robert Blanton each intercepted a Kaepernick pass.

Notre Dame's defense combines talented youngsters with seasoned veterans, and the Irish appeared to have a newfound confidence and swagger, celebrating big plays and engaging the crowd in key situations.

"Guys out there getting rowdy, not just offensive guys with offensive guys, defense with the defense, but the team collectively. We had each other's backs," junior linebacker Brian Smith said. "Whenever the offense was in a bad situation, the defense put us in a good situation. We kind of fed off of each other today."

Contact Matt Gamber at mgamber@nd.edu

"Being a defensive guy, [a shutout] is something you shoot for."

Kyle McCarthy
Irish safety

18 players make Irish debuts in victory

By MATT GAMBER
Sports Editor

Eighteen players took the field as Notre Dame football players for the first time Saturday, and that tally includes seven true freshmen.

"That's a lot of guys to be getting their first snap of football," Irish coach Charlie Weis said Sunday. "I thought the team as a whole, shown by the number of mental mistakes not being very high and the number of penalties not being very high, I think that the team played with pretty good poise, especially the fact that you're throwing in so many new guys into the mix."

Sophomore Kapron Lewis-Moore was among those seeing

his first game action, and the defensive end notched his first career fumble recovery.

"It wasn't hard to keep my head about me, I was more nervous than anything," Moore said. "Going out on the field for the first time in about two years, since high school, was just a great feeling. I felt like I settled down after the first couple of plays."

Other notable debuts included freshman linebacker Manti Te'o (2 tackles), freshman kicker Nick Tausch (5-for-5 on extra points), freshman running back Theo Riddick (5 carries, 20 yards), sophomore quarterback Dayne Crist (2-for-2 passing) and sophomore wide receiver Deion Walker (1 reception, 15 yards).

More on openers

The shutout of Nevada was Notre Dame's first in an opener since Aug. 31, 2002, when the Irish topped Maryland, 22-0, on the road. Notre Dame's last season-opening shutout at home took place on Sept. 22, 1973, in a 44-0 thrashing of Northwestern.

Notre Dame scored first in its opener for the first time in eight seasons, with the last time coming in that 2002 victory of the Terrapins.

The 28-0 Irish halftime lead was their biggest in a season opener since Notre Dame led 33-0 over Virginia in 1989.

Jimmy's Day

Irish quarterback Jimmy Clausen's quarterback rating of

303.67 set a Notre Dame Weis era record, as the junior surpassed his Hawaii Bowl mark of 277.63. It was his second straight game completing at least 80 percent of his passes, and the contest marked the third such game of Clausen's Irish career.

Clausen's third touchdown, on which he connected with sophomore receiver Michael Floyd on a 70-yard screen pass, helped him pass Jarious Jackson (1996-99) for fourth on the all-time touchdown passes list at Notre Dame. That pass was the longest of Clausen's year — until his 88-yard strike to Floyd in the third quarter.

Contact Matt Gamber at mgamber@nd.edu

scoring summary

| | 1st | 2nd | 3rd | 4th | Total |
|------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-------|
| Notre Dame | 7 | 21 | 7 | 0 | 35 |
| Nevada | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

First quarter

Notre Dame 7, Nevada 0
Kyle Rudolph 19-yd pass from Jimmy Clausen (Nick Tausch kick) with 8:42 remaining.
Drive: 12 plays, 67 yards, 6:18 elapsed.

Second quarter

Notre Dame 14, Nevada 0
Michael Floyd 24-yd pass from Clausen (Tausch kick) with 14:54 remaining. Drive: 9 plays, 78 yards, 4:24 elapsed.

Notre Dame 21, Nevada 0

Floyd 70-yd pass from Clausen (Tausch kick) with 11:42 remaining. Drive: 2 plays, 79 yards, 0:49 elapsed.

Notre Dame 28, Nevada 0

Armando Allen 1-yd run (Tausch kick) with 1:48 remaining. Drive: 8 plays, 80 yards, 3:45 elapsed.

Third quarter

Notre Dame 28, Navy 0
Floyd 88-yd pass from Clausen (Tausch kick) with 10:12 remaining. Drive: 4 plays, 99 yards, 1:58 elapsed.

statistics

total yards

| | |
|----|-----|
| ND | 510 |
| NV | 307 |

rushing yards

| | |
|----|-----|
| ND | 178 |
| NV | 153 |

passing yards

| | |
|----|-----|
| ND | 332 |
| NV | 154 |

return yards

| | |
|----|----|
| ND | 45 |
| NV | 48 |

time of possession

| | |
|----|-------|
| ND | 33:40 |
| NV | 26:20 |



passing

| | | | |
|---------|-----------|------------|-----------|
| Clausen | 15-18-314 | Kaepernick | 12-23-149 |
|---------|-----------|------------|-----------|

rushing

| | | | |
|----------|-------|------------|--------|
| Allen | 15-78 | Taua | 18-117 |
| Gray, J. | 9-51 | Kaepernick | 10-67 |
| Hughes | 6-20 | Ball | 1-0 |
| Riddick | 5-20 | | |
| Aldridge | 3-13 | | |

receiving

| | | | |
|------------|-------|------------|------|
| Floyd | 4-189 | Session | 5-51 |
| Tate | 3-59 | Taua | 3-38 |
| Rudolph | 4-29 | Wimberly | 2-36 |
| Allen | 3-25 | Wellington | 2-27 |
| Walker, D. | 1-15 | Green | 1-2 |
| Parris | 1-10 | | |
| Gray, J. | 1-5 | | |



IAN GAVLICK/The Observer



IAN GAVLICK/The Observer

Time to exhale

It was like Hawaii all over again for the Irish offense, as Jimmy Clausen and the passing game continued their dominance over WAC defenses with 314 yards and four scores. Michael Floyd tore up the Nevada secondary to the tune of 189 yards, the highest total in the nation after one week. The offensive line gave Clausen time in the pocket and did not give up a sack, and Armando Allen led the running game to over 170 yards. Nevada's vaunted pistol offense was stifled the entire game by a blitzing attack led by the Smith linebackers — Brian and Toryan. Manti Te'o made his highly anticipated debut and appears poised to live up to the lofty expectations set for him as a freshman. Fifth year senior and captain Kyle McCarthy led the team in tackles and had a key interception for his unit to preserve the shutout.



IAN GAVLICK/The Observer



MEG SMITH/The Observer



PAT COVENEY/The Observer

Clockwise from top: safety Harrison Smith drags down Nevada running back Vai Taua; Alphie the Nevada mascot mourns another Clausen passing touchdown; senior offensive tackle Sam Young reacts after a key run in the first quarter; running back Theo Riddick leaps over a Wolf Pack defender; and safety Sergio Brown hits the deck after leaping for a ball.

BATTLEFIELD heroes Free for the Taking

By ANDY SEROFF
Scene Writer

In the beginning, there was "Battlefield 1942." Since then, gamers have fought in Italy, World War II, and even in the year 2142. Now, the well-established, ten-year reign of Electronic Arts' "Battlefield" series of video games has a new king - "Battlefield Heroes."

Not too long ago, gamers were a clique culture. Strategy and RPG games were at their prime, requiring the casual gamer with their head in the hands. With the arrival of the Wii, video games have found a much broader fan base. Simple, pick-up and play games are vastly outselling their predecessors, and this latest installation of the first-person shooter series caters to this new trend.

Your character can be one of three classes: commando, soldier and gunner, each with a variety of unique abilities. The soldier is your run-of-the-mill class, the gunner specializes on heavy weaponry, and the commando is the sniper and assassin. The game makes an effort to balance the classes, for example, commandos' range and stealth are countered by their low survivability, however each class plays better or worse depending on the battlefield.

At the moment, the game has four maps - Coastal Clash, Seaside Skirmish, Victory Village and Buccaneer Bay. The cute alliterative names each have an equally cute battlefield to match. Victory Village is set in a quaint Germanic town, complete with narrow alleys and rooftops to engage in urban combat in. Seaside Skirmish is a little bigger, with houses and a windmill surrounding a small river. Buccaneer Bay and Coastal Clash are huge, sprawling maps. Unlike Victory Village and Seaside Skirmish, which only have jeeps to drive around, the open-air settings of Buccaneer Bay and Coastal Clash facilitate the use of tanks and airplanes.

In "Battlefield Heroes," you fight in a cartoony world. Instead of attempting

to create realistic people, places and warfare, the game instead invites you into a world where soldiers have speed boosts, magically appearing shields, and a massive bazooka that can be stuffed into a pocket when not in use. Your character is a soldier of either the Royals (the "good guys") or Nationals ("bad guys"). When capturing checkpoints, your team's fight song plays, as you dramatically raise your flag up the flagpole - light blue and a gold crown for the Royals, dark red and a big black skull for the Nationals. Explosions from sticky dynamite, tank shells, or grenades send you comically flying into the air. Characters casually sit on the wings of planes, and if it turns out their pilot

hasn't exactly gotten his wings at Online FPS Air Flight School, you can just jump right off and you're covered, thanks to an always-ready parachute.

And the best part is it's free.

All you have to do is go to their website (www.battlefieldheroes.com) and download the small, web-based program. In-game currency is earned by completing achievements and missions in battle, which can be spent on different weapons, bandages, and outfits. The outfits purchasable with these Valor Points are different color combinations of the standard garb, but cool or silly additions are available for micropayments of real money. Fortunately for the gameplay, all performance-enhancing items are for Valor-Points and not US currency, preventing people from paying money for a leg-up on the competition. Also for purchase are emotes - one second animations your character can do. Simple emotes like "Yes" and "No" are for Valor Points, but you can get silly ones for real money as well.

The game isn't perfect, but since the game is free, you get much more than you're paying for. It has some glitches, and the friend-finding system can be touchy, but all in all it's a fun time. Watch out for the sniper in the full knight armor, clucking like a chicken.

Contact Andy Scroff at aseroff@nd.edu.

Battlefield Heroes



The game isn't perfect, but since the game is free, you get much more than you're paying for.



Observer Graphic | MARY CECILIA MITSCH

IMOGEN HEAP "Soft & Powerful" in *Ellipse*

By KATHERINE GREENSPOON
Scene Writer

Imogen Heap's voice, tone and lyrical masterpieces are what put her on the map as a talented and unique artist. After a four-year hiatus with the release of her second album, "Speak for Yourself," the British singer-songwriter has graced the lists of music charts yet again, taking the 5th spot on Billboard top 200. Heap's new album "Ellipse" gained Heap her highest chart position ever. This comes as no surprise with her innovative approach to her old new sound.

"Ellipse" was completed in Heap's hometown of Essex, England, where she composed the entire album in her studio basement. The name references the oddly shaped structure of her house where she spent most of her time composing and writing. Heap took advantage of simple sound and common household distractions such as floor board creaks, birds chirping and kitchen commotion which aided her in blending all of her ideas together to form what later turned into "Ellipse."

Heap's new album is loaded with new unconventional melodies and contemporary orchestral influences that capture listener's attention immediately. Her voice and unique lyrics tell amazing stories, "Train Ride Home" and "Canvas" are only a couple of the newest songs she has debuted on this album that showcases her unbelievable charisma and talent. Her artistic approach to every song makes her so intriguing and attracting to listeners.

Every song on this album has a catchy chorus and distinct lyrics that force the listener to continue listening. "Tidal" is one of the thirteen songs on this album that really stands out with its natural and mellow tone. The simplicity and easy rhythm that has become Heap's style comes across in several of her songs. Every aspect of this album is easy and relaxing to listen to and ideal to enjoy during those long nights of homework.

Heap's voice is absolutely hypnotizing and irresistible. She combines her streaming piano sessions and electronic additions to create new and exciting music that transcends gender and dramas. Electronic synthesizers plus a voice that echoes pure poetry combine as two ingredients that are guaranteed to give extraordinary performance.

However, Heap's execution of "Earth" on the album seems to be a bit out of place and tedious. She has a pattern of sweet and light pieces but with "Earth" sounding more repetitive and irritating it does a poor job flowing with the rest of her collection.

Heap's witty and boisterous conversation throughout the rest of her songs makes her work relatable and effortless for the public to listen to. With her ingenious instrument usage and ideas she is able to reach a broad audience through her energetic and breathtaking performances on and off the stage.

Her progression from her first two studio albums, "iMegaphone" and "Speak for Yourself" is extraordinary. "Ellipse" stands out as more contemporary and cutting edge with songs like "Little Bird" and "Between Sheets," both of these pieces being very imaginative and creative.

Heap has had several appearances on TV shows including Letterman and has lent her sound to many soundtracks including "The O.C.," "American Psycho 2" and "Heroes." Her soft but powerful voice is contagious and her newest CD offers fans new material that is both mature and well versed. Heap has said that her album cycles are three to four years and hopes to get started on her next album, which will include bonus tracks and a new electronic sound.

Everything from her hair to her shoes is different and edgy, and whether she has multicolored dresses on or feathers and flowers in her hair, her music will always outshine every aspect of her image.

Contact Katherine Greenspoon at kgreen01@saintmarys.edu

Ellipse Imogen Heap

Studio: Nonesuch Records, Inc

Recommended Tracks: "Little Bird," "Between The Sheets," "Tidal"



AROUND THE NATION

Monday, February 7, 2009

COMPILED FROM THE OBSERVER'S WIRE SERVICES

page 13

NCAA Men's Soccer NSCAA Division 1 Preseason Poll

| team | previous |
|---------------------|----------|
| 1 Maryland | 1 |
| 2 North Carolina | 3 |
| 3 Wake Forest | 2 |
| 4 Akron | 9 |
| 5 St. John's | 4 |
| 6 Creighton | 5 |
| 7 Indiana | 6 |
| 8 California | 12 |
| 9 Northwestern | 7 |
| 10 UIC | 11 |
| 11 South Florida | 8 |
| 12 Connecticut | 14 |
| 13 NOTRE DAME | 18 |
| 14 Tulsa | 16 |
| 15 UC Irvine | 10 |
| 16 UC Santa Barbara | 22 |
| 17 Dartmouth | 20 |
| 18 Loyola (Md.) | 15 |
| 19 UCLA | RV |
| 20 Michigan St. | 17 |
| 21 St. Louis | 21 |
| 22 Michigan | 13 |
| 23 Cal Poly | 23 |
| 24 Boston U. | RV |
| 25 Louisville | RV |

NCAA Women's Soccer NSCAA Division 1 Rankings

| team | previous |
|-------------------|----------|
| 1 North Carolina | 1 |
| 2 NOTRE DAME | 2 |
| 3 Portland | 3 |
| 4 Stanford | 4 |
| 5 Florida St. | 5 |
| 6 Florida | 7 |
| 7 West Virginia | 14 |
| 8 Virginia | 10 |
| 9 UCLA | 9 |
| 10 Texas A&M | 6 |
| 11 Illinois | 13 |
| 12 San Diego | 15 |
| 13 Penn St. | 8 |
| 14 Purdue | RV |
| 15 Colorado | 18 |
| 16 Boston College | 20 |
| 17 Wake Forest | RV |
| 18 Georgia | 16 |
| 19 Minnesota | 17 |
| 20 Oklahoma St. | 21 |
| 21 Utah | NR |
| 22 Santa Clara | 19 |
| 23 Missouri | 22 |
| 24 Duke | 11 |
| 25 St. John's | NR |

NCAA Women's Volleyball AVCA Division 1 Coaches Poll

| team | points |
|---------------|--------|
| 1 Penn St. | 1492 |
| 2 Texas | 1429 |
| 3 Washington | 1388 |
| 4 Hawaii | 1299 |
| 5 Florida | 1212 |
| 6 Nebraska | 1142 |
| 7 Michigan | 1056 |
| 8 Illinois | 1036 |
| 9 UCLA | 993 |
| 10 California | 921 |

around the dial

NCAA Football
Miami at Florida State
8 p.m., ESPN

MLB
Boston at Chicago White Sox
8 p.m., CSNCH

NCAA FOOTBALL



Oklahoma quarterback Sam Bradford reaches for his shoulder after being hit by Brigham Young linebacker Coleby Clawson in the closing seconds of the first half. Bradford did not return as BYU went on to win by a score of 14-13.

Bradford sidelined in Sooners loss

Associated Press

OKLAHOMA CITY — Before the season started, Oklahoma's offensive coordinator talked about preparing the Sooners to deal with an injury to Heisman Trophy winner Sam Bradford.

The worst case scenario became reality Saturday night and the result was a season-opening 14-13 upset at the hands of BYU.

Now, with no timetable for their star quarterback's return, the Sooners are looking for Plan C — or at least a revised Plan B.

"Whether he is here or is not here for this week and the weeks to come, we're sitting right here at 0-1 and we've got to buckle it up and

get moving in a quick direction and a positive direction," offensive coordinator Kevin Wilson said Sunday.

Oklahoma's medical staff was still taking a look at treatment options for Bradford on Sunday. The injury to Bradford's right, throwing shoulder has been called a sprained AC joint. Purdue quarterback Curtis Painter missed two games last season and played as a reserve three weeks after injuring the joint.

Wilson said a similar process is ongoing for second-team All-America tight end Jermaine Gresham, who has cartilage damage in his right knee and didn't play against BYU.

"Those are not just neces-

sarily for our team, but those are two tremendous players that have great futures. We want to make sure their best interest is taken into consideration with what's being done," Wilson said.

"There's no rush. There's no judgments."

Only four days before he was hurt, Bradford described how he'd taken out an insurance policy after he decided to pass up the chance to be a first-round pick in this year's NFL draft and instead pursue a national championship at Oklahoma.

The Sooners have no such policy, but they have been through this before. Starting quarterback Jason White got hurt in both 2001 and 2002,

prior to his Heisman Trophy run. Adrian Peterson was a season and a half removed from being the Heisman runner-up when he broke his collarbone in 2006 and missed seven games.

Two of those three seasons ended with Oklahoma still winning the Big 12 championship and going to a BCS bowl.

"We do have a track record here," Wilson said. "We've lost some guys through the years. It is a part of the game. You don't want it. You don't want it for anyone, but I do think we've shown that we do have the ability to adjust and we do have a bunch of good players here that will rally and pick it up."

IN BRIEF

Texas' CB Robinson reaches agreement

HOUSTON — Dunta Robinson and the Houston Texans were moving ahead Sunday after the star cornerback ended his holdout and signed the one-year deal the team had been offering all along.

He took his physical early in the morning, then worked out for coaches.

"I feel like being a rookie all over again," Robinson said. "I walked in here and all the guys they welcomed me with open arms with a lot of high-fives and a lot of hugs. It's good to be back."

Coach Gary Kubiak said there was no animosity even though Robinson held out for the entire training camp.

"It's very positive," Kubiak said. "I'm just excited to have him back."

"I'm fine with it. I understand the business and I understand what he went through. I understand all that. That's over. It's time to go play football."

Mariners' Suzuki notches 2000th career hit

OAKLAND — Ichiro Suzuki took Gio Gonzalez's first offering for a ball. He drilled the second pitch down the right field line for a double and his 2,000th career hit.

The Mariners' outfielder, who accumulated 1,278 hits in Japan, became the second fastest to 2,000 hits, recording it in his 1,402 major-league game. Al Simmons did it in game 1,390.

Even before the ball fell in front of the Seattle bullpen, fans stood to cheer the Japanese baseball icon, who led off a game with a hit for the 436th time.

"The game is international and even though there were players from Japan before him, he's the one you think about first," A's manager Bob Geren said following Saturday night's win over the Mariners. "He's big over there and he's made our game bigger here. There's a big turnout wherever he goes and that's good for the game."

Oregon RB Blount makes apology to Boise St.

PORTLAND — Oregon running back LeGarrette Blount called Boise State defensive end Byron Hout and coach Chris Petersen to apologize for the punch he threw following Thursday's game between the two teams.

Blount and Ducks coach Chip Kelly made the conciliatory phone call on Saturday. A spokesman for Oregon confirmed it took place, but would not discuss what was said.

Blount punched Hout in the jaw following the 16th-ranked Ducks' 19-8 loss to the 14th-ranked Broncos on Thursday night. Hout was knocked to his knees.

On Friday, Kelly suspended Blount for the rest of the season, effectively ending his career at Oregon. Blount will remain on scholarship and be allowed to practice with the team, but will not play in games or a bowl.

NFL

Seymour traded to Raiders

Associated Press

ALAMEDA, Calif. — The Oakland Raiders took a big step toward improving their struggling run defense by acquiring five-time Pro Bowl defensive lineman Richard Seymour from the New England Patriots on Sunday.

The move does not come without its risks as the Raiders gave up a first-round pick in 2011, which could be in the top 10 based on Oakland's recent history, to acquire a lineman who turns 30 next month and is in the final year of a contract paying him \$3.7 million this season.

Raiders owner Al Davis wanted immediate help for a defense that has struggled to stop the run in recent seasons. Since going to the Super Bowl following the 2002 season, Oakland has had the worst run defense in the NFL, allowing 141.7 yards per game on the ground and 122 touchdowns rushing. The Raiders have allowed a 100-yard rusher in more than half of their games the past three years.

"It shows the commitment of this organization," defensive end Greg Ellis said. "You can't guarantee we're going to have a great, great season this year. But the commitment is definitely there so players don't have to question that when you're making those kinds of moves to make something happen and hopefully win right now."

Seymour has been a stalwart in New England since being drafted sixth overall in 2001. He played on three Super Bowl winners with the Patriots, recording 39 career sacks and being selected to the Pro Bowl for five straight seasons beginning in 2002.

"From nearly the day he arrived in 2001, Richard Seymour established himself as one of our premier players for nearly a decade," Patriots coach Bill Belichick said Sunday. "His presence has been felt as a force on the field, a respected man off it and a multiyear champion."

The move is only the latest as the Patriots continue to get younger on defense.

Linebacker Mike Vrabel was traded to Kansas City in the off-season, safety Rodney Harrison retired, and more recently Tedy Bruschi officially called it a career after 13 seasons. Seymour was the last member of the 2001 Super Bowl championship defense still with New England.

Earlier this summer, Oakland sent two-time Pro Bowl defensive end Derrick Burgess to New England for a pair of mid-round draft picks. The Patriots also acquired receiver Randy Moss from Oakland in 2007 for a fourth-round pick, and the teams have swapped draft picks in recent years.

"Any transaction we make is with the goal of what is best for our team and, as difficult as it is to part ways with a player of Richard's stature, many factors were taken into account when we considered this trade," Belichick said.

"As an organization, we feel the trade with Oakland brings sufficient value and is in the long-term interest of the club," he added. "We are extremely grateful for the huge impact Richard's elite level of performance had on our success and we wish him the very best during the rest of his career."

Seymour goes from a team that has gone 77-19 the past six seasons to one that is an NFL-worst

24-72 over that span. The Raiders became the first team to lose at least 11 games in six straight seasons when Seymour and the Patriots beat them 49-26 last December.

The addition of rookies Myron Pryor and Ron Brace to a defensive line that also includes veterans Vince Wilfork, Ty Warren, Jarvis Green and Mike Wright made Seymour expendable.

"It's the nature of the business," said veteran running back Kevin Faulk, the longest-serving player on the team after Bruschi's departure. "They have an agenda upstairs, and the coaches decide who comes and goes. You can't do nothing about it."

Faulk said the team will miss the way Seymour carried himself as a person and a player.

"He was a quiet leader," second-year linebacker Jerod Mayo said. "He led by his actions. He'll be dearly missed as a teammate and as a player on the field. But we have players that are ready to step up."

Seymour will primarily play right defensive end, shifting to tackle in some passing situations. The move gives the Raiders the run-stuffing end they have lacked in recent years and helps strengthen the pass rush up the middle.

The Raiders had the worst run defense in the NFL in the preseason, allowing 192 yards per game. They had hoped to have fixed their problems against the run by bringing in coordinator John Marshall, who put a heavy emphasis on fundamentals.

But after watching the preseason, the Raiders decided they needed an upgrade in personnel as well and made the move for Seymour.

Write for Sports.
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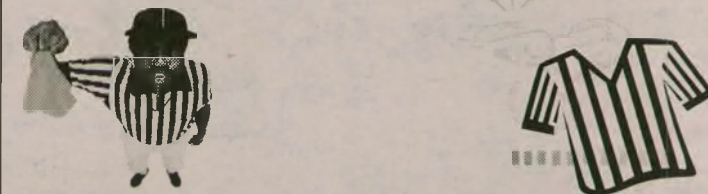


Earn Extra Money, Get Involved, Have Fun!

Officiate for RecSports

| Sport | Date | Time |
|---------------------|-----------------|------|
| Softball & Baseball | Monday, Aug 31 | 7 pm |
| Flag Football | Monday, Sept 7 | 7 pm |
| Soccer | Monday, Sept 14 | 7 pm |
| Basketball | Monday, Oct 5 | 7 pm |

All Meetings in the RSRC Meeting Room Downstairs



NFL

Merriman accused of choking girlfriend

Associated Press

SAN DIEGO — San Diego Chargers star outside linebacker Shawne Merriman was arrested Sunday and accused of choking and restraining his girlfriend, reality TV star Tila Tequila, as she tried to leave his suburban home.

Tequila, 27, signed a citizen's arrest warrant, charging Merriman with battery and false imprisonment, San Diego County Sheriff's Lt. Gary Steadman said.

Deputies responded about 3:45 a.m. to Merriman's house in Poway, north of San Diego, after a woman called to say she was choked by the player and thrown to the ground when she tried to leave, Sheriff's Department spokesman Jan Caldwell said at a news conference.

Merriman, 25, was taken into custody and booked into the central jail at about 8:30 a.m. He was released shortly after 11 a.m. Caldwell said she didn't know if he posted bail or was released on his own recognizance.

Tequila was taken to a hospital. Her condition was not immediately available.

Caldwell said deputies determined Tequila had been drinking. She said she wasn't sure about Merriman. Caldwell said there were other people at the house, but wasn't sure if any of Merriman's

teammates were there.

Tequila, whose real name is Tila Nguyen, is best known for "A Shot at Love with Tila Tequila," which ran for two seasons on MTV. The bisexual dating show featured men and women vying for Tequila's affections. She has also modeled for Playboy and other men's magazines.

Scott E. Leemon, an attorney for Tequila, said in a statement that neither she nor her representatives would comment publicly on the incident.

Merriman didn't return two e-mails seeking comment. His agent, Tom Condon, said he hadn't heard about the arrest when contacted by The Associated Press.

Caldwell said the sheriff's department will turn over the results of its investigation to the District Attorney's office, which will determine whether to charge Merriman.

There had been considerable Twitter chatter between Tequila and Merriman during the last two months. She tweeted several times about going to the Chargers' game Friday night and a party she held afterward at a downtown club, including:

"Im the Head Cheerleader Prom Queen and (at)shawnemerriman is the Prom King! hahaha! LETS GOOO! LIGHTS OUT! SAN DIEGO I WILL. SEE U TOMORROW!"

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U.S. OPEN TENNIS

Clijsters knocks No. 3 Venus Williams out of U.S. Open

Associated Press

NEW YORK — Well, she sure answered that question.

Anyone wondering how serious a threat Kim Clijsters might be at the U.S. Open after a two-year layoff got their answer Sunday, when the 2005 champion at Flushing Meadows toppled none other than No. 3 Venus Williams, 6-0, 0-6, 6-4 to advance to the quarterfinals.

Moving well, stinging shots with both forehand and backhand and matching every bit of Williams' power, the Belgian star offered a startling referendum on the state of her game.

It may have also said something about the true state of Williams' left knee, which she hurt in the opening round, but had refused throughout the tournament to use as an excuse.

"It was unbelievable. I don't know what to say," Clijsters said. "It was such a weird match, especially those first two sets. But after I lost the second at 6-0, I said, let's start over and start a new match."

Indeed, the match began the way many Sundays do in Queens — with a couple of bagels. It took a grand total of 50 minutes to complete those first two sets, but both players regrouped from that bit of awkwardness and played some of the most compelling, solid tennis of the tournament so far.

Clijsters grabbed an early break for a 3-1 lead in the third, helped by one of Williams' five double-faults to close it out. Clijsters served

out the match from there, though it was anything but routine.

She fell behind 0-30 on her serve at 5-4, but just kept banging away. She got it to 30-40, then hit a shot deep into the corner that Williams couldn't handle. She forced an error at deuce with another deep groundstroke, then skidded a service winner off the line on the backhand side for the win.

Her reaction was one not so much of surprise, as a smile that seemed to say "I told you so." She became the first female wild-card entrant to reach the U.S. Open quarterfinals. One promising slice of history: This marked the third meeting between Clijsters and Williams at the U.S. Open, and each previous time, the winner has gone on to take the championship.

"I've been working really hard the last seven, eight months and I'm enjoying it," Clijsters said. "It's something that's really important for myself, as long as I can focus on tennis and have fun on the outside as well."

Clijsters retired in 2007 to start a family and hadn't seen Grand Slam action since that year, but is quickly re-establishing herself as one of the few who can move well enough and hit hard enough to hang with the Williams sisters.

Mother of an 18-month-old daughter, Jada, Clijsters is trying to join Margaret Court and Evonne Goolagong as the third mother to win a Grand Slam singles title.

Who said motherhood and topflight tennis can't mix?

"We have help, so that's great," Clijsters said. "It's fun. To her, it doesn't matter whether I win or lose. She's just happy to see me and that's great."

Clijsters came into the U.S. Open without enough tournaments under her belt to receive a ranking, and now finds herself two wins away from becoming the first unseeded player to reach the finals of the Open since Williams in 1997.

"I was really glad coming back that a few of the girls who were there when I was playing well are still on top right now," Clijsters said. "And it's great to see some of the newcomers doing well, too. It's fun for me to be part of the change the sport is going through."

On the men's side, No. 3 Rafael Nadal overcame a 10-minute medical break for an injury to his stomach muscles to defeat 32nd-seeded Nicolas Almagro, 7-5, 6-4, 6-4.

Nadal missed Wimbledon with knee injuries, and now must deal with injured abs that first cropped up last month in Cincinnati.

"I don't want to talk about injuries," Nadal said. "Sorry. No, no, I am a little bit tired to talk about injuries. I am here to try my best every day."

In other men's matches, No. 11 Fernando Gonzalez advanced, as did No. 6 Juan Martin del Potro, while 24th-seeded Juan Carlos Ferrero moved on when ninth-seeded Gilles Simon retired in the fourth set with a right knee injury.

But the biggest buzz on this



AP
Kim Clijsters defeated No. 3 Venus Williams 6-0, 0-6, 6-4 to advance to the quarterfinals of the U.S. Open.

blustery day in Flushing Meadows belonged to Clijsters, the Belgian, who was clearly the fan favorite at Ashe Stadium — an honor usually reserved for an American going against a foreigner at this tournament.

The Clijsters win injected another twist into a tournament that is not going to form. No. 2 Serena Williams is the only top-5 seed remaining. Meanwhile, 70th-ranked Melanie Oudin, the 17-year-old from Marietta, Ga., is turning into a star.

Clijsters shook up the side of the bracket that practically had Williams-vs.-Williams penned in for the semifinals. Her next match is against 18th-seeded Li Na of China, with a possible meeting with Serena after that.

Before her sister lost, Serena Williams cruised through her fourth-round match, winning the final 10 games in a 6-2, 6-0 rout over No. 22 Daniela Hantuchova.

"I just want to keep this level and just stay focused," Williams said.

MLB

Zimmerman comes through

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Many times over the last four years, Ryan Zimmerman was the only reason to pay attention to the Washington Nationals. On Sunday, with his team riding its worst losing streak of the season, he made some noise again.

For the fifth time in his career, Zimmerman ended a game with a home run. There was the familiar scene, his right arm aloft as he circled the bases, waiting to be mobbed at the plate, this time after a two-run shot gave the Nationals a 5-4 win over the Florida Marlins.

"Zim doing what Zim does," teammate Willie Harris said. "Coming through."

Zimmerman's homer snapped an eight-game skid for the Nationals, who at this point in the season have modest goals — such as avoiding 100 losses. For the Marlins, the loss was an especially tough one — they twice blew a two-run lead, and thus a chance to keep pace in the NL playoff race. They fell five games back of wild card-leading Colorado.

"This time of year, all of them are tough," Florida manager Fredi Gonzalez said, "especially when you have leads in the eighth and ninth inning."

Zimmerman's homer capped a furious finish to a game that, for the longest time, was looking like a sleepy 2-0 shutout in favor of the Marlins. The Nationals tied the game in the bottom of the eighth with the help of a pair of bottom-of-the-order walks and Mike Morse's two-out, two-run single — a hit that tripled his RBI total for the season — off reliever Kiko Calero.

"That's the inning I'm more upset about," Gonzalez said. "You've got two outs and we walk a couple of guys and they get a couple of hits."

In the top of the ninth, the Marlins responded with Nick Johnson's two-out, two-run single off Mike MacDougal (1-0), who got the win only because his ninth-inning performance was less miserable than that of Leo Nunez (4-5).

Nunez threw only five pitches. Willie Harris opened with a first-pitch homer to make the score 4-3. Then came a first-pitch infield single by Cristian Guzman, who hustled to beat the throw in a close play at first.

Then, with a 1-1 count to Zimmerman, Nunez went to the change-up.

"He's got a good change-up. He throws it a lot," Zimmerman said. "It's hard to trust yourself and look change-up when a guy throws 94, 95 (mph), but they'd been throw-

ing soft stuff to me all day, so I was kind of looking for it. And he left it up."

The ball landed in the red seats beyond left-center field.

Hanley Ramirez hit his 100th homer for the Marlins, who wasted a solid start by Anibal Sanchez. The right-hander allowed four hits in six sharp innings.

Ramirez's 20th homer of the season leading off the fourth inning landed some 20 rows back in the left-field bleachers. It was the only run of the game until the seventh.

Rookie starter J.D. Martin matched his career high by throwing 6 2-3 innings for the Nationals, allowing six hits.

Florida's Chris Coghlan finished with two hits, giving him a 14-game hitting streak, the longest in the majors this season by a rookie. He jammed his ankle sliding into the catcher's shin guard on a play at the plate in the eighth, but he said he didn't think he would miss any playing time.

Tigers 5, Rays 3

Brandon Inge struck out in each of his first three at-bats Sunday. Then, one swing changed everything.

Inge hit a grand slam in the ninth inning and the Detroit Tigers picked apart Tampa Bay's bullpen in a 5-3 victory over the Rays that completed a three-game sweep.

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SMC SOCCER

Belles drop pair of tournament contests

By KATE GRABAREK
Sports Writer

Saint Mary's suffered its first two setbacks of the season at Centre College's Tournament in Danville, Ky., falling 3-0 to the hosts Saturday and 4-0 to Transylvania University Sunday.

The Saint Mary's soccer team (1-2, 0-0) suffered their first loss this season at Centre College's Tournament in Danville, Ky. Saturday evening falling 3-0 to Centre College (2-0), and on Sunday dropped the tournament finale against Transylvania University (2-1).

Centre College (2-0) scored its first goal when freshman Amy Hebbeler had a one on one situation with Belles senior goal keeper Patty Duffy. Hebbeler scored the goal in the 29th minute, which ended up being the deciding goal as the Belles were shut out for the first time of the season. The goal would be the first of two for Hebbeler, who leads the Colonels with three.

Duffy also had eight saves in the contest for the Belles.

"Duffy has a tremendous competitive spirit," Belles coach Ryan Crabbe said before the game. "She has spent many extra hours on her own in order to get better at her position. Having a full season in 2008 and the number of minutes she played should translate into an advantage for her coming into the 2009 season that she did not have last year."

Junior Corissa Hart and senior Colleen Ferguson both registered shots on goal for the Belles.

The Belles were dominated on offense in the game with Centre having a 30-3 advantage in shots, and a 7-3 advantage in corner kicks in the game.

Coming off an appearance

in the NCAA tournament last season, the Colonels presented themselves as a tough opponent for the Belles.

The Belles were again shut out in their final game of Centre College's Tournament by a score of 4-0.

Saint Mary's was down early and were not able to recover after Transylvania freshman Ashley Cobanes scored her second goal in as many games.

The Belles also relinquished a goal to Katie Kelly that was her second of the tournament that put Transylvania up 4-0, which ended up being the final tally.

Kelly also had an assist on another goal when Sammi Miggliozzi scored, also chipping in a goal for Transylvania was Kari Dailey who tallied her first goal of the season off a corner kick from Kate McKelway.

Despite the Belles being outshot 23-8 the Belles coach still has strong hopes for his team.

"I am looking for a good competitive attitude from all of our players, regardless of their role on the field," Crabbe said before the game. "Our energy level when we defend will be important. Finally, we need our attacking players to take greater responsibility in front of goal this year. In 2008 we spent too much time waiting for one player to score all of our goals. This year we have quite a few players capable of contributing on the scoresheet."

Senior Patty Duffy did record 14 saves for the team and four different Belles had four shots on goal in the loss.

The Belles will next return home to host their own tournament and will play No. 7 Otterbein College to open the tournament on Friday at 4 p.m.

Contact Kate Grabarek at
kgraba01@saintmarys.edu

MLB

Norris comes back for a win

Associated Press

HOUSTON — Rookie Bud Norris regrouped like a seasoned veteran after giving up Jimmy Rollins' leadoff homer Sunday.

The 24-year-old right-hander struck out six in six efficient innings for his first win in a month and Carlos Lee had a two-run single in the Houston Astros' 4-3 win over the Philadelphia Phillies.

Norris (4-3) allowed two runs and six hits to snap a personal three-game losing streak and earn his first victory since Aug. 12 at Florida. He had been hit hard since becoming the first rookie in Astros history to win his first three starts.

"They let you know where you stand a little bit," Norris said of his last three outings. "You kind of gather yourself, get back to the basics, just

keep going at it and that's exactly what I did."

Michael Bourn stole two bases and scored twice for the Astros. Lance Berkman and Miguel Tejada each drove in a run, and Jose Valverde pitched a scoreless ninth for his 21st save in 25 chances.

The Astros, out of the NL playoff race, have won seven of their last eight home games.

"They keep playing all the time, they don't quit," manager Cecil Cooper said. "They play hard all the time."

Jimmy Rollins, Ben Francisco and Jayson Werth homered for the Phillies. Cole Hamels (8-9) gave up four runs and eight hits over six innings to lose for the fourth time in seven starts.

Rollins drove Norris' fourth pitch into the Astros' bullpen for his fourth leadoff homer of the season and No. 32 for

his career. Norris then struck out two of the next four hitters.

"The first batter of the game is always a question mark," Norris said. "But I came back and the rest of the game, I pitched really well."

Hamels extended his scoreless streak to a career-best 21 innings before the Astros got to him in the third. Bourn singled, stole second and scored on Berkman's one-out bloop single to right for the first run allowed by Hamels since Aug. 21.

The Phillies traded Bourn to the Astros in November 2007 as part of the Brad Lidge deal and are familiar with his abilities in the lead-off spot.

"With the type of speed he has, I think there's a reason he's been such a huge threat and a big player for their team," Hamels said.

The College of Arts & Letters Dean's Fellows
will host two events by

Dr. Seth Shostak

Senior Astronomer

SETI (Search for Extra-Terrestrial Intelligence) Institute
and host of the NPR science show *Are We Alone?*



Tuesday, September 8

Panel Discussion: Why Do People
Believe in Extra-Terrestrials?

4:00 PM

Jordan Science Hall, Room 101

Moderator, Dr. Matthew Dowd
University of Notre Dame Press
Concurrent Assistant Professor in the
Program of Liberal Studies

Panelist, Dr. Kenneth Filchak
Lecturer, Dept. of Biological
Sciences

Panelist Dr. Michael Crowe
Rev. John J. Cavanaugh, C.S.C.
Professor Emeritus in the Humanities in the
Program of Liberal Studies and Graduate
Program in Philosophy of Science

Panelist Dr. Philip J. Sakimoto
First Year of Studies Learning
Strategies Specialist and former
Acting Director of NASA's Space
Science Education and Public
Outreach Program

Lecture: When Will We Find ET?

8:00 PM

DeBartolo Hall, Room 101

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UNC

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ting Notre Dame in a 2-0 hole.

"It would have been a different game if we had played 10 or 15 minutes and had been in a battle rather than making those mistakes," Irish coach Randy Waldrum said. "We can't get down two goals to a team like North Carolina and expect to have a good result."

Both goals stemmed from Notre Dame turning the ball over within scoring-distance of its own goaltender, senior Kelsey Lysander. By halftime, North Carolina's shots had found the back of the net four times.

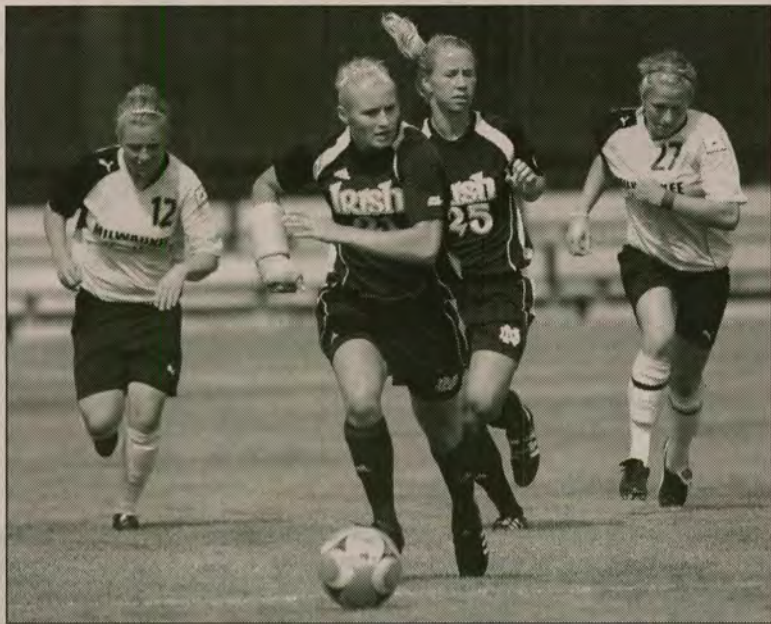
"Once [North Carolina] had scored those goals, a combination of nerves and tension made us look like we'd never stepped on the field before with a good team," Waldrum said.

The Irish did manage 15 shots on goal, compared to North Carolina's 19, but only four Notre Dame shots reached the Tar Heel goaltender, Ashlyn Harris. Besides North Carolina's six goals, five other shots needed to be saved by one of the Irish goalies.

"We are hoping to get a chance to play them again," Waldrum said. "I have not lost any confidence in my team because we just made those two crucial mistakes that dictated the game right there."

North Carolina netted two more goals in the second half on junior goaltender Nikki Weiss.

The team is now 1-4 when wearing the green jerseys, having only won in them the first



PAT COVENEY/The Observer

Junior forward Erica Iantorno breaks away from Wisconsin-Milwaukee defenders during Notre Dame's win Sunday.

time they were worn. Notre Dame wore the jerseys in its 1-0 triple-overtime victory in the 1995 NCAA National Championship over Portland.

A standing-room only crowd of 3,007 fans watched the first women's soccer game at Alumni Stadium. Many fans were turned away once the \$5.7 million facility began exceeding its capacity.

"The fans were fantastic. We could not have asked for a better way to start in a new stadium than with those fans and their support," Waldrum said. "It is a shame we laid such an egg for them. Hopefully, they'll give us a chance and come back out and support us because we will have a great year."

The Irish got back on track with a 3-0 victory over UW-Milwaukee (2-2-2) in the final game of the Classic.

Sophomore forward Melissa Henderson scored two goals in the first 14 minutes of the match. Freshman forward Tereza Stastny assisted on both of Henderson's goals.

"We had a really good start," Waldrum said. "The coaching staff was very curious to see how we would respond today to Friday's fiasco, and I thought we responded very well."

Junior midfielder Lauren Fowlkes headed in junior forward Rose Augustin's corner kick midway through the first half to give the Irish the winning 3-0 margin.

Two Notre Dame forwards, sophomores Melissa Henderson and Courtney Barg, were named to the All-Tournament Team.

Contact Douglas Farmer at dfarmer1@nd.edu

Xavier

continued from page 20

Jamel Nicholas also stepped up for the Irish. Dealy put out 15 kills and nine digs as Nicholas led all players with 46 assists for the day.

"We probably matched up a little better with Xavier," Brown said. "We were steady with our passing."

Saturday was not as successful for Notre Dame as it dropped a 3-0 (25-22, 25-16, 25-22) match to the Lady Vols. The match marked the first time since an Oct. 19, 2007, match versus DePaul that no Irish player finished with double-digit kills.

Phillips led the team with 11 digs, seven kills and three blocks in the loss. Junior libero Angela Puente had 11 digs for Notre Dame and Nicholas put in 29 assists while senior outside hitters Christina Kaelin and Megan Fesl both had six kills.

But the Irish couldn't keep up with the Lady Vols hitting from the field. They struggled to put up a .103 hitting percentage to Tennessee's .200.

Looking to recover its winning record for the weekend, Notre Dame came out strong but was unable to overcome the powerful Michigan team, losing 3-0 (25-19, 31-29, 25-20).

"[The seniors] keep the atmosphere on the court relaxed, which isn't something you can teach."

Debbie Brown
Irish coach

"I think today in the match we ran a much more balanced attack, and that will definitely help us down the road," Brown said.

Both teams stepped up in the second set of the match with 13 tied scores and three lead changes.

Kaelin led the Irish in only her second start of the season with 13 kills and three digs. Nicholas also put out an impressive performance as she recorded a double-double

with 36 assists and 15 digs. Freshman middle blocker Hilary Eppink made her first career start and finished the afternoon with eight kills and a .438 average. Dealy posted seven kills, nine digs

and one ace in the match.

As they have already showed early on in this season, the Notre Dame seniors have showed their maturity on the court.

"We have a really good group of seniors," Brown said. "They all have a pretty significant role on the team, and keep the atmosphere on the court relaxed, which isn't something you can teach, it just comes from experience."

Notre Dame returns to its home court this weekend as they host the Notre Dame/adidas Invitational at the Joyce Center where Wisconsin and New Mexico State will be traveling to take on the Irish.

Contact Meaghan Veselik at mveselik01@saintmarys.edu

MLB

Reds win, Cards fall in respective series finales

Associated Press

ATLANTA — Once Micah Owings realized he was OK, one of his biggest concerns was making sure his mom knew he was fine.

Owings walked off the field after getting beamed with the bases loaded in the 12th inning, and the Cincinnati Reds beat the Atlanta Braves 4-2 on Sunday for their seventh consecutive win.

Owings (7-12), who pitched two scoreless innings, was hit on the left side of his batting helmet by an 0-1 fastball from Kawakami. Owings was on his back for several seconds before medical staff from the Reds and Braves helped him sit up and walk to the dugout.

The scary play came in front of several family members, who came in from Gainesville, Ga., hoping to see Owings get into the game.

"Yeah, it was nice to have them here even though I'm sure my mom was flipping out from the get-go, but I tried to reassure everybody when I knew that I could see and that everything was fine," Owings said. "I wasn't dizzy or anything, but I wanted everyone to know because I knew they would be worrying and praying at the same time."

According to Cincinnati manager Dusty Baker, Owings was bleeding "at the ear" in the dugout.

"He can't fly for a couple of

days," Baker said. "But he was in good humor about it. The doctors are in there now stitching him up."

Joey Votto scored on the play, and Corky Miller followed with a sacrifice fly to make it 4-2.

Kawakami (7-11), who has started 25 of 27 games, allowed two runs and two hits in two innings. Atlanta has lost five straight, matching its season-worst skid set April 14-18.

Cincinnati trailed 2-1 before Drew Stubbs hit his fifth homer against Mike Gonzalez in the eighth. The Reds have won 12 of 14.

"Anytime a guy gets hit, it's a scary situation," said Stubbs, who finished with three hits. "It could've been much worse — a concussion that puts him on the DL — but I was ready for the game to end in the ninth."

The Braves wasted a terrific start by Tim Hudson, who allowed one run and four hits over seven innings in his second game since returning from elbow surgery. The right-hander retired the last 14 batters he faced while making his first appearance at Turner Field since beating Washington on July 18, 2008.

"It was a tough loss today," Hudson said. "I wish we could have pulled this one out. For the most part things are starting to zero in for me. My curveball and my split were really good today. Those are

pitches I haven't had in a really long time."

Johnny Cueto also turned in a strong start for Cincinnati, striking out nine while allowing one run and three hits over six innings. The right-hander was attempting to win consecutive starts for the first time since June 25 at Toronto and July 1 against Arizona.

Jared Burton replaced Cueto in the seventh and former Reds catcher David Ross hit his first pitch for his seventh homer, giving Atlanta a 2-1 lead.

Owings, also one of Cincinnati's top pinch hitters, wasn't sure how long he would be unable to play. In 169 career at-bats, Owings has eight homers, 30 RBIs and a .538 slugging percentage.

Pirates 6, Cardinals 5

Thanks to Garrett Jones and a rare failure by the Cardinals' Ryan Franklin, the Pittsburgh Pirates must wait at least a day to set one of the most unwanted records in pro sports.

Jones hit a game-ending RBI single to cap a two-run rally in the ninth inning against one of the majors' top closers and the Pirates ended a nine-game losing streak, beating St. Louis 6-5 Sunday.

The Pirates won after falling behind 5-4 on Rick Ankiel's pinch-hit homer off Jesse Chavez (1-4) in the top of the ninth. By rallying, they post-

poned becoming the first team in any of the four major American pro team sports — major league baseball, the NFL, NBA or NHL — to have 17 consecutive losing seasons.

This current mix of prospects and lower-paid players has been responsible for only a handful of the 1,500 losses the Pirates have absorbed since 1993, and Cardinals manager Tony La Russa said this team is playing like it doesn't want the streak to last much longer.

"We've been there ... They're young and they're hungry, and they're all playing to be here next year," reliever Trevor Miller said of the Pirates, who have dealt five everyday players since opening day.

Not that the Cardinals accepted losing for only the third time in 14 games. Especially the way they lost, with a lead and Franklin on the mound in the ninth.

Franklin (2-2) gave up singles to Jason Jaramillo, Andrew McCutchen and pinch-hitter Ryan Doumit in a span of four batters, although Jaramillo was forced at second on a failed sacrifice.

The left-handed Miller came in to face the lefty-hitting Jones with runners on first and second and one out, and the rookie hit a line drive between left fielder Ankiel and center fielder Colby Rasmus for the Pirates' first victory since beating the Phillies 3-2

on Aug. 27.

Jones, a Pirates find who was previously stuck in Minnesota's farm system, leads NL rookies with 18 homers but wasn't looking to drive the ball.

"I was trying to take a nice, short swing and hit a line drive and just get a pitch to hit," said Jones, who is hitting .308. "It worked out, I hit it decently and it started tailing away."

Franklin had converted his previous 13 save opportunities and 37 of 39 overall.

"He's been out there a lot, I think his stuff was not quite as sharp — he had to locate perfectly and they stayed on the ball nice," La Russa said. "We'll be careful in the Milwaukee series (that starts Monday) about how we use him."

The Cardinals lost for only the sixth time in 28 games since taking control of the NL Central on Aug. 7. They still lead the Cubs by 11 1/2 games.

"We're looking forward to playing playoff baseball," Miller said. "We just got to get there. That was frustrating right there, you don't ever want to have a hiccup game like that."

The game began with a mis-play that epitomized all that's gone wrong with a Pirates franchise that, for its first 100 seasons of existence, was one of baseball's most consistent winners.

Clark

continued from page 20

was taken down inside the 18-yard box to trigger the foul that knotted up the game.

"The penalty kick was well deserved because Dike was through and was brought down," said Irish coach Bobby Clark. "Michael (Thomas) stepped up and took the penalty kick."

The Irish were threatening the Wake Forest goal all game, including quality shots from Thomas and senior midfielder Justin Morrow that just could not find their way into the goal.

In the 34th minute the Demon Deacons took the lead on

a cross from Wake Forest junior midfielder Corben Bone sent a cross in to sophomore forward Luke Norman who headed the ball into the back of the net.

Notre Dame kept the pressure on with a header that nearly went in from Dike, but the Irish were unable to even the score until the penalty shot.

"Even right through the overtime I thought we had the mentality to want to win the game," Clark said. "For this early in the season I felt it was a good performance by us."

The Irish stayed strong and did not allow an early deficit to prevent them from coming back and tying the game.

"We went down against a top team in the first half, but we then out shot them 10-5 in the second half and that was key," said Clark. "I thought the team showed a lot of character. I felt that we opened well and their goal came against the run of play. I thought we really took the game to them in the second half. It was a good team performance for us."

The second match saw the Irish match up against the top-ranked team in the nation in St. John's, and although they did not come out with the victory, the Irish battled tough, keeping the score even

at 0-0 until late into the second half.

"It was a really competitive game in the first half," said Clark. "St. John's is a very hard pressing team, which made it difficult for us to establish our game. I thought we played as well as we could have played in the second half. We just didn't convert on the day. I was proud of the way we played. It's tough when you play as well as we did and then take nothing out of it."

The Irish had a chance to take the lead early in the first

half when junior forward Steven Perry was taken down in the box attempting a header, but Michael Thomas was unable to convert the penalty into a goal against St.

John's goalkeeper Derby Carillo.

The Red Raiders held a 7-6 shot advantage in the first half, along with a 5-0 advantage in corner kicks.

St. John's ended the scoreless tie in the 68th minute of the second half when Red Raider junior midfielder Sverre Wegge Gundhus nailed a goal from 18 yards out.

"St. John's is a good team and it just wasn't our day," said Clark. "We had some missed chances and their goalkeeper saved the penalty kick."

The scored remained 1-0 until the final seconds of the game, when the Irish attempted to even the score by bringing the goalie out to put extra pressure on the St. John's defense. This strategy backfired, however, when St. John's capitalized on the empty net off the foot of senior midfielder Nelson Becerra.

"It certainly wasn't our day," said Clark.

Notre Dame will next take the field in the eighth annual Hilton Garden Inn Mike Berticelli Memorial Tournament at Alumni Stadium next weekend against Seattle on Friday and New Mexico on Sunday.

Contact Jared Jedick at jjedick@nd.edu

"It's tough when you play as well as we did and then take nothing out of it."

Bobby Clark
Irish coach

College

continued from page 20

with a dominating 15-8 fifth set. Senior Lorna Slupczynski led the way with 18 kills, 17 digs, and six aces.

The Belles continued on with a 3-1 victory over Penn State-Altoona, giving them their second victory of the young season.

The two wins advanced them to the semi-finals on Saturday morning, where they faced DePauw, which fin-

ished second in the Southern Collegiate Athletic Conference Championship last year. The Belles dropped three straight sets (25-17, 25-18, 25-17) to the Tigers and were forced to settle with a chance at third place.

But the Belles put the loss behind them and came out with a dominating three-set win over Hanover. In the match, Junior Danie Brink had 20 assists, six digs, five kills and two aces. Slupczynski added to her stats with a team-leading 12 kills.

Following the tournament, Slupczynski was named to the All-Tournament Team, adding to her numerous accolades including back-to-back All-MIAA second team honors.

The Belles will return to Angela Athletic Facility on Tuesday to take on in-state rival Trine University at 7 p.m. The match will mark the beginning of their MIAA conference schedule. The Belles split the series 1-1 with Trine last year.

Contact Chris Michalski at jmichalski2@nd.edu

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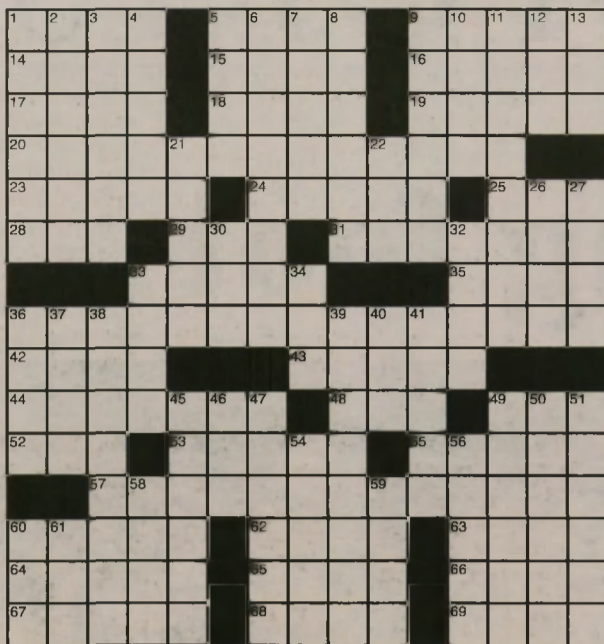
Write
Sports.
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Matt at

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CROSSWORD

WILL SHORTZ

- Across**
- 1 What some people do in an online "room"
 - 5 Shoe bottom
 - 9 Swift
 - 14 Circle of light around the sun or moon
 - 15 Bard of _____ (Shakespeare)
 - 16 Microscopic creature
 - 17 "So be it"
 - 18 Nourish
 - 19 Beckett's "Waiting for _____"
 - 20 Mays
 - 23 Zinc or zirconium
 - 24 Home of Barack Obama's father
 - 25 Radical 1960s org.
 - 28 1st to 220th, in Manhattan: Abbr.
 - 29 Israeli-made gun
 - 31 Like hereditary factors
 - 33 English dramatist George
 - 35 Actress Turner
 - 36 Maize
 - 42 _____ Mountains (Asia/Europe separator)
 - 43 What the dish ran away with, in "Hey Diddle Diddle"
 - 44 Soda can feature
 - 48 "_____ the ramparts we watched ..."
 - 49 Butter serving
 - 52 One step _____ time
 - 53 Zones
 - 55 Rock with a crystal inside
 - 57 Maze
 - 60 Tangle
 - 62 "Honest to God!"
- Down**
- 1 Gorges
 - 2 Small village
 - 3 Native Alaskans
 - 4 South Pacific kingdom
 - 5 Official's call with outspread arms
 - 6 Excess
 - 7 Frederick _____, "My Fair Lady" composer
 - 8 Part of a whodunit that reveals who done it
 - 9 Overcoat sleeve
 - 10 Mine: Fr.
 - 11 Statue's support
 - 12 Nigerian native
 - 13 "Gimme _____!" (rude order)
 - 21 Viscous
 - 22 Soapmaker's supply
 - 26 Flintstones' pet
 - 27 Surgery souvenir
 - 30 Zuider _____ (former inlet in the Netherlands)
 - 63 Place of research: Abbr.
 - 64 With 34-Down, golf's U.S. Open champion of 1994 and 1997
 - 65 Peru's capital
 - 66 "Beetle Bailey" dog
 - 67 West Pointer, e.g.
 - 68 Toward the rising sun
 - 69 First-year college student, usually

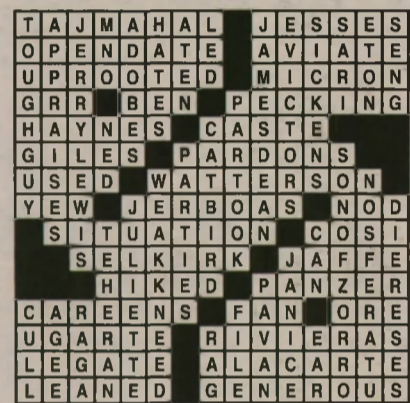


Puzzle by Janet R. Bender

- 32 North Carolina university
- 33 _____-mell
- 34 See 64-Across
- 36 Larva successor
- 37 In _____ (stuck in the same old same old)
- 38 Dreamy place
- 39 Arboreal animals with pouches
- 40 Anguish
- 41 Welsh dog
- 45 One of two for the Ten Commandments
- 46 Departure's opposite: Abbr.
- 47 Any of the Fab Four
- 49 Ballerina's position
- 50 "_____ Fideles"
- 51 German
- 54 Courtyards
- 56 Writer T. S.
- 58 Singer India. _____
- 59 Vegetarian's no-no
- 60 Dry, as wine
- 61 Gun lobbyists' org.

For answers, call 1-900-285-5656, \$1.49 a minute; or, with a credit card, 1-800-814-5554. Annual subscriptions are available for the best of Sunday crosswords from the last 50 years: 1-888-7-ACROSS. AT&T users: Text NYTX to 386 to download puzzles, or visit nytimes.com/mobilexword for more information. Online subscriptions: Today's puzzle and more than 2,000 past puzzles, nytimes.com/crosswords (\$39.95 a year). Share tips: nytimes.com/wordplay. Crosswords for young solvers: nytimes.com/learning/xwords.

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE



HOROSCOPE

EUGENIA LAST

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Greg Rusedski, 36; Rosie Perez, 45; Jane Curtin, 62; Swoosie Kurtz, 65

Happy Birthday: You may have to give something up in order to start something new. Not everyone will agree with you but, if you concentrate on what needs to be done, you will get positive results. Your heart is in the right place but emotionally you must refrain from manipulating or being manipulated. There is too much at stake to let someone else have control over your life. Your numbers are 4, 12, 23, 32, 35, 40, 44

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Don't let emotional issues cloud your common sense, regardless of the way others act or perform. It's up to you to do the best you can. As long as you are clear on what's required, you will be the one who gets praised. ★★★

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): A private matter concerning someone you are attracted to may lead to trouble if you do something you would normally disregard. Don't mix business and pleasure. A poor choice will lead to a medley of errors. ★★★

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Focus on home, family and the ones you love. If you let your work stop you from enhancing the bond with the people who are important in your life, you will have regrets. A child or older relative will give you cause for concern. ★★★

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Don't get emotional if things don't go your way. By taking the high road and compromising, you will get most of what you want. Arguing over something inconsequential will cause damage to a relationship you care about. ★★

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): You need to diversify. Get out and enjoy new pastimes or travel. The people you meet and the functions you attend will motivate and inspire you to get back on track and resurrect some of your old dreams, hopes and wishes. ★★★★★

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Don't let anyone push you into something without doing the proper research. A dilemma may need your attention but that doesn't mean you have to make a move without all the facts and figures you require. ★★★

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): You've got the right idea but probably the wrong people involved. Look outside your normal group and you will get the perfect fit for something that can take off and lead to bigger and better opportunities. Don't let someone's obstinacy stand in your way. ★★★

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): You need to mix things up a little. Get out with other creative people. Getting involved in a networking group will help you formulate new ideas and discuss plans that will lead to higher income in the future. ★★★

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): You can make some strategic alterations at home. Love and romance appear to be escalating and can lead to a fabulous encounter with someone you adore spending time with. The payback will be enormous. ★★★★★

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Don't get entangled in someone else's emotional war. Avoid meddling even if someone asks you to get involved. You will end up being the one blamed. Offer suggestions but nothing more. ★★

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): You can find a solution to a money problem by selling something you no longer use. Once you get started going through what you do and do not need, you will be ripe for selling online or having a garage sale. ★★★★★

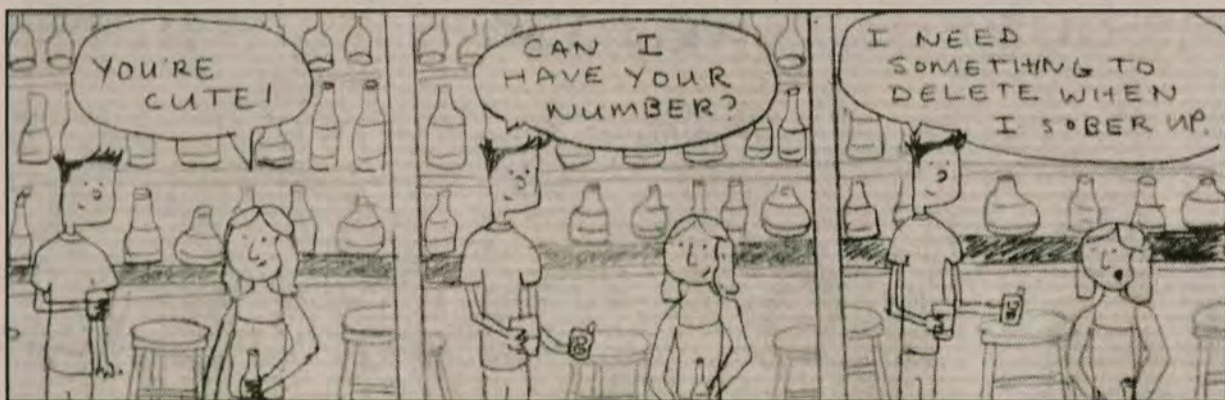
PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Set up a home office or a place you can exercise or work on one of your hobbies. No matter what your need, clearing a space will help you achieve your goals and make you feel better about yourself and your future. ★★★

Birthday Baby: You are sensitive, caring and emotional. You are imaginative, strong-willed and charming. You follow your own path.

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

SCHAD & FREUDE

WILL GUAPPONE & BRI KRAFCIK



Thank you for voting.
Look for the winning comic strip later this week.

JUMBLE

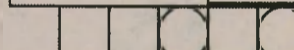
JEFF KNUREK
MIKE ARGIRION

JUMBLE

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME
by Mike Argirion and Jeff Knurek

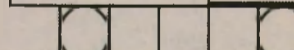
Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

KOCHE

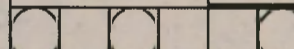


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ENFLO



EXGONY



ZIFLEZ



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

Ans: A " [] - [] " []

(Answers tomorrow)

Saturday's Jumbles: EXACT TACKY ORCHID THORAX
Answer: What the ballplayer and fisherman had in common — THE CATCH OF THE DAY

THE OBSERVER

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ND WOMEN'S SOCCER

Wrong foot

Team struggles in first game at Alumni Field

By DOUGLAS FARMER
Sports Writer

Wearing green jerseys for the fifth time in program history, Notre Dame suffered a humbling defeat Friday night to top-ranked North Carolina. The No. 2 Irish returned to form with a 3-0 victory over UW-Milwaukee Sunday afternoon, finishing third in the Inn at Saint Mary's Classic.

Notre Dame (3-1) began its residence at Alumni Stadium with a 6-0 loss at the hands of the defending national champion Tar Heels (5-0). North Carolina set the Irish reeling with a goal only 23 seconds after the opening whistle. North Carolina scored again exactly six minutes later, put-

see UNC/page 17



PAT COVENEY/The Observer

Freshman forward Teresa Stastny drives past a Wisconsin-Milwaukee defender during Notre Dame's victory Sunday. The Irish rebounded after falling 6-0 to North Carolina Friday.

SMC VOLLEYBALL

SMC takes 3rd place in Columbus

By CHRIS MICHALSKI
Sports Writer

Belles first-year coach Toni Kuschel led her Saint Mary's squad to a third-place finish in the Capital University Opener Tournament, bringing the team's overall record to 3-2.

Following their straight-set loss in the season-opener against cross-town rival Bethel on Tuesday, the Belles won three out of four this weekend, with their only loss to the eventual champion DePauw University.

They started the weekend off with an exciting match against Muskingum where the Belles eventually pulled it out

see COLLEGE/page 18

ND CROSS COUNTRY

Men's, women's teams both capture first at Valparaiso

By MOLLY SAMMON
Sports Writer

The Irish men's and women's teams both opened their season with impressive showings at Friday's Valparaiso Crusader Open event, taking home first place on both sides.

"Overall, the team ran very well," sophomore Thomas Noel said. "We went into the race

knowing that we would be setting the pace and got all of our runners up front with in about the first four hundred meters."

Both Irish men's coach Joseph Piane and women's coach Tim Connelly used the season-opening meet to test out a few of each team's inexperienced but promising runners who could turn into key contributors as the season progresses.

"The kids that we raced were

people that we thought needed experience," Connelly said. "I thought they stepped up and competed really well."

In the men's race, 10 of the first 11 finishers at Valparaiso's Sunset Hills Park were wearing Irish blue and gold. Junior Spencer Carter (19:16), sophomore Kelly Lynch (19:20) and junior Mat Abernethy (19:22) took home the top three spots for Notre Dame, which totaled 15

points. Those efforts set the pace as the Irish outdistanced the University of Chicago, Valparaiso and Wisconsin Green-Bay.

The Irish women notched 26 points, beating Western Michigan, University of Chicago and Valparaiso handily. Juniors Theresa Cattuna (18:25) and Erica Watson (18:36) finished in the top two spots, and sophomore Kari Johnson (19:05) finished fifth.

"It really was a great team performance, but the real challenges will be later in the season as we meet some of the top teams in the country," junior Spencer Carter said.

The team's next event is the National Catholic Invitational on Sept. 18th at Notre Dame's Burke Golf Course.

Contact Molly Sammon at msammon@nd.edu

MEN'S SOCCER

ND ties, loses to top teams

By JARED JEDICK
Sports Writer

No. 10 Notre Dame faced two of the powerhouses of college soccer this weekend and came out with mixed results, tying No. 3 Wake Forest 1-1 and losing to No. 1 St. John's 2-0 in Bloomington, Ind.

The Irish were competing in the adidas/IU Credit Union Classic, which pits many of the top teams in the nation against one another and gave Notre Dame an early gauge of where they stand against the best of the best.

The first game on Friday against Wake Forest saw a long battle that featured a penalty shot goal from senior midfielder Michael Thomas to tie the match in the 77th minute.

Senior forward Bright Dike

see CLARK/page 18



CASEY CARNEY/The Observer

Senior defender John Schaefer heads the ball during Notre Dame's 5-0 win over Michigan on Sept. 1.

ND VOLLEYBALL

Notre Dame finishes 1-2 at Xavier tournament

By CHRIS MICHALSKI
Sports Writer

The Irish were swept by No. 7 Michigan — Notre Dame's second top-10 opponent in the past week — to finish their weekend 1-2 at the Xavier Invitational.

Notre Dame (3-3) was victorious Friday in its 3-0 win over Xavier, but fell Saturday to Tennessee.

"We fell short of what we wanted to do," Irish coach Debbie Brown said. "We didn't execute overall as a team to defeat Tennessee and Michigan. There were a lot of bright spots, we just need to put some things together."

Xavier fell 3-1 to Michigan Saturday and 3-0 to Tennessee Sunday. The Wolverines went 3-0 for the weekend after starting off with a 3-1 defeat

over the Lady Volunteers.

"They are all different style teams and that showed," Brown said. "We know some of the things we struggled with was our serving. We know where we want to be with that and are taking a step in the right direction."

"We're also working on our passing because it was somewhat erratic. We can get better in both those areas."

Senior outside hitter Serenity Phillips and sophomore libero Frenchy Silva were essential in the Irish win over the Musketeers Friday in the four-set match (25-19, 25-21, 18-25, 25-18). Phillips had 19 kills while hitting at a .444 rate and Silva notched a career-high 23 digs.

Sophomore outside hitter Kristen Dealy and senior setter

see XAVIER/page 17