

THE OBSERVER

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Jenkins calls for increased faculty diversity

17 percent of Notre Dame's faculty are minorities compared to 28 percent at Yale, 25 percent at University of Chicago

By KAITLYNN RIELY
Associate News Editor

University President Fr. John Jenkins emphasized Notre Dame's commitment to diversity, specifically to recruiting ethnic minorities and women as faculty members, in his annual address to the faculty Tuesday.

"Like many other colleges and universities in the country, we recognize that an academic community that is more

diverse ethnically, socio-economically and by gender is a richer community for learning, discussion and inquiry, and one whose graduates are better prepared to live and work in a world that is ever more global and diverse," he said. Jenkins



Jenkins

flipped through PowerPoint slides comparing the percentages of female and ethnic minority faculty members employed at Notre Dame with those employed at private schools in the Association of American Universities (AAU), an organization of 62 leading research universities in the United States and Canada.

According to data from the Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS) and Notre Dame's Office of Institutional

Research, 28 percent of full-time instructional faculty in 2006 at AAU private schools were female, compared with 23 percent at Notre Dame. When the professor numbers are compared by rank, Notre Dame exceeds the average percentage of female assistant professors for AAU private schools, but falls below the average for female associate professors and full professors.

The Office of Institutional Research shows the number of racially and ethnically diverse

faculty, as a percentage of the whole teaching and research faculty, has increased from 11 percent to 13 percent between 1997 and 2006.

Comparing all faculty, 17 percent of Notre Dame's faculty are minorities, compared to 28 percent at Yale, 25 percent at the University of Chicago, 14 percent at Duke and 11 percent at Brown, in comparison.

Notre Dame's research sta-

see JENKINS/page 8

ELECTION 2008

SMC lines up events for Rock the Vote Festival

'Vote Smart' bus travels to college to educate students

By LIZ HARTER
Saint Mary's Editor

When Saint Mary's students walked past the parking lot in between McCandless Hall and the Student Center on Tuesday they were met with the sight of a red, white and blue bus with the words "Voter's Self Defense System, Project Vote Smart" on the side.

The bus, a part of www.votesmart.org, travels the country with information about the Web site and organization which provides non-partisan, unbiased information on over 40,000 candidates running in local, state and national elections, arrived at the College five hours early and left three hours ahead of schedule due to a miscommunication between Saint Mary's and the Vote



LIZ HARTER/The Observer

The Project Vote Smart Bus, which provides information on over 40,000 candidates, sits between McCandless Hall and the Student Center Tuesday.

see VOTE/page 6

Prof. explains the role of the Electoral College in the election

By MANDI STIRONE
Assistant News Editor

Patrick Pierce, a professor of political science at Saint Mary's explained that the Electoral College is used as the method of selecting the president at a lecture during the College's Rock the Vote Festival.

Pierce — part of the Festival's committee which was made up of faculty, staff and students — said he thought students might want to understand what the Electoral College does in relation to the election.

He discussed the current election and people's voting inclinations and explained what he thinks people really look for when they vote.

"It's not really the self-interest thing

see ELECTORAL/page 6

Eck Center broadcasts interview with author

By MOLLY MADDEN
News Writer

An interview about the new novel, *Indignation*, written by Pulitzer Prize winning author Phillip Roth was broadcast in the Eck Center Auditorium Tuesday.

Fellow author Benjamin Taylor asked Roth questions regarding the novel and his inspiration for past works during the interview that included some reader submitted questions from select universities and bookstores across the country.

Indignation, Roth's 29th novel, is a story about a passionate young man named Marcus Messner who is recounting his

life against the backdrop of the Korean War.

Many of Roth's works have dealt with a particular time in American history though he said the manner in which *Indignation* came to be was somewhat different than his previous works.

"I did not really have a story in mind," Roth said. "I just had a period, and that period happened to be the Korean War."

Roth, was entering his freshmen year of college when the Korean War broke out.

He said it is impossible for him to look back on his college years and not think of, what he called, America's "Forgotten War."

see ROTH/page 6

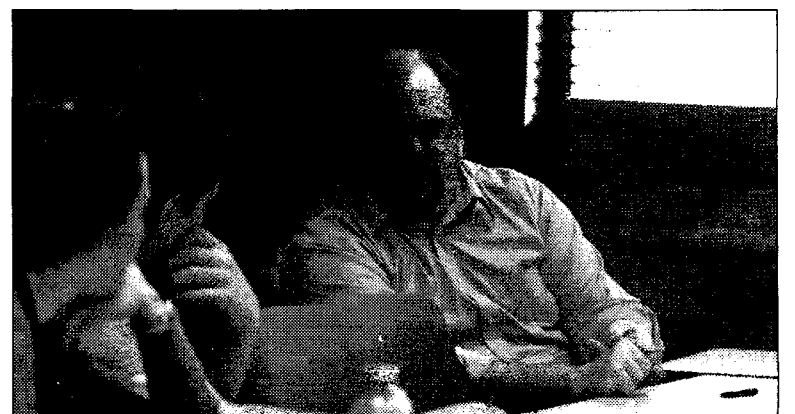
COUNCIL OF REPRESENTATIVES

Group debates Frosh-O changes

Student Activities V.P. discusses criticisms of new program at meeting

By JOHN TIERNEY
News Writer

First Year Orientation should make first year students feel welcome at Notre Dame, Vice President of Student Activities Brian Coughlin told the Council of Representative (COR) as they discussed criticisms of the changes made to Orientation this year at their meeting Tuesday.



ALLISON AMBROSE/The Observer

Vice President of Student Activities Brian Coughlin, right, discusses criticism of Frosh-O changes with council members Tuesday.

see COR/page 4

INSIDE COLUMN

Bowl to pregame

The combination of creative minds, too much free time and a never-ending desire to drink alcohol has created a plethora of drinking games on college campuses across the country.

Beer Pong, Flip Cup, Power Hours, Quarters, Anchorman, Big Booty, Kings (or whatever you want to call it), the list just keeps on going. Some students have even created games to popular songs like "Roxanne" by the Police, AC/DC's "Thunderstruck," or "Beer for my Horses" by the legendary Toby Keith.

Most of these activities are used in the pregame portion of your night on the town. They get the blood flowing, so to speak, and provide some distractions during that awkward sober stage to keep you from making inappropriate passes at your friends that can be blamed on your beer.

However, all these new innovations have sadly overshadowed some classic pregame opportunities that have all but fallen off the map: games that our grandfather's taught our fathers that we have left in the closet covered by dust next to Battleship and Pokemon cards.

One brave group is doing their best to reverse this trend and revive a classic — bowling.

Bowling is a perfect combination of semi-athletic skills, chances to talk trash to your opponents and a splash of responsible alcohol consumption. The game is entertaining enough to play without any beer involved, which is a testament to its greatness. Try playing a round of water pong or flip cup with empty Solo cups and you'll quickly see what I mean. The pins, balls and alleys also provide enough sexual innuendos to safely tread through those awkward moments that I mentioned before.

A few years ago a small group of students decided it was time to bring bowling back to the pregaming experience. They started with small weekly meetings on Wednesday nights to unwind on hump day and work on their 7-10 splits.

Just like Mike Anello and his cover page poses (sorry Mike), the secret didn't take long to get out. The group still meets every Wednesday at Strikes and Spires, but every lane is filled and the line flows almost out the door onto Grape Road.

Space is at a premium to join these pin pioneers, but that shouldn't discourage others from joining the trend. Remember to think outside the box, there are plenty of other great opportunities ready to be unearthed. Take a minute to call your old man and ask for some tips, I am sure there are plenty of undiscovered throwbacks hiding in their minds.

As for now, let me just end by tipping my cap to those anonymous men and women who had the courage to try something new. Keep up the good work.

The views expressed in the Inside Column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer. Contact Dan Murphy at dmurphy6@nd.edu

CORRECTIONS

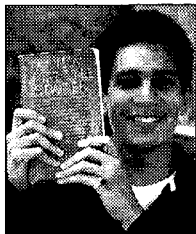
The Observer regards itself as a professional publication and strives for the highest standards of journalism at all times. We do, however, recognize that we will make mistakes. If we have made a mistake, please contact us at 631-4541 so we can correct our error.

QUESTION OF THE DAY: WHAT ARE YOU DOING TO SAVE ENERGY DURING ENERGY WEEK?



Nathan Menendez
senior
Morrissey

"Studying to become a chemical engineer so I can increase energy efficiency."



Victor Saenz
senior
off-campus

"Studying philosophy so as to ask why we must be more energy efficient."



Piper Muenes
freshman
Lyons

"Studying outside instead of in my dorm room."



Mary Kate Roohan
freshman
Lyons

"Unplugging my fan."



Katrina Rodriguez
freshman
Lyons

"Turning off the bathroom light when I leave."



Dillon sophomore Daniel Russ does his part to conserve energy by towel-drying his hair instead of using a hair dryer. Students are finding creative ways to lessen their energy output in light of the upcoming energy week.

OFFBEAT

Protests sparked by closing "nude" discos

KATHMANDU, Nepal — Hundreds of disco workers protested in Kathmandu on Monday against a government crackdown on "nude dancing" in its bid to improve the deteriorating law and order.

Police have raided scores of discos, nightclubs and dance bars in the past two weeks and detained 1,500 people saying many were running bars where "nude dances" were performed, not allowed by law in the Hindu majority society.

There are hundreds of

such night spots in the Kathmandu valley, although the country has no specific law to regulate them.

Berlin candy shop sells hallucinogenic sweets

BERLIN — Police closed down a Berlin sweet shop after discovering the owner was selling chocolates and lollipops laced with hallucinogenic mushrooms and marijuana.

The 23-year old owner of the shop in the trendy east Berlin district of Prenzlauer Berg, an area known for its vibrant night life, was taken into custody

on suspicion of drug-dealing.

"In the shop we found 120 pieces of magic mushroom chocolate and countless cannabis lollipops," said police, who confiscated around 70 sachets containing various drugs, about 20 marijuana joints, a range of pills and some jars of drug-laced honey.

Police said one customer, who appeared intoxicated, was arrested after trying to buy a bag of hallucinogenic mushrooms from an officer in the shop.

Information compiled from the Associated Press.

IN BRIEF

There will be a lecture entitled "How We Can End the Genocide in Sudan" given by John Prendergast in the Hesburgh Center for International Studies Auditorium, on Thursday from 12:30 to 2 p.m. Lunch will be available prior to the lecture. It is sponsored by the Kroc Institute for International Peace Studies, DeBartolo Performing Arts Center, and the Center for Social Concerns. This event is free and open to the public.

In "The Wonderbread Years," Pat Hazell finds humor in the experience of growing up in America. This event will be Thurs., Fri., and Sat. at 7 p.m. in DeBartolo Performing Arts Center, Decio Mainstage Theatre. Tickets are \$40, \$32 faculty/staff, \$30 seniors, and \$15 students and can be purchased at the Ticket Office.

The annual Forum Film Festival will be held Friday at 7 p.m. in the Browning Cinema of the DeBartolo Performing Arts Center. Films on sustainability will be shown. The event is open to the public. Tickets are free and must be reserved in advance at the Ticket Office.

The 25th annual Domer Run will take place Saturday at 9 a.m. The race will start on the west side of the Stadium. Runners must check in no later than 8:45 AM at the registration tables. Race day check-in will be held at Legends beginning at 8 a.m.

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

LOCAL WEATHER	TODAY		TONIGHT		THURSDAY		FRIDAY		GAME DAY		SUNDAY	
	HIGH	LOW	HIGH	LOW	HIGH	LOW	HIGH	LOW	HIGH	LOW	HIGH	LOW
	77	53		67		73		75		77		80
				43		47		55		55		57

Atlanta 81 / 63 Boston 75 / 50 Chicago 77 / 48 Denver 85 / 50 Houston 85 / 62 Los Angeles 86 / 63 Minneapolis 72 / 55 New York 76 / 59 Philadelphia 78 / 58 Phoenix 99 / 78 Seattle 76 / 52 St. Louis 78 / 53 Tampa 89 / 75 Washington 76 / 58

ELECTION 2008

Professor looks at faith and politics

By EMILY DABISH
News Writer

As a part of Saint Mary's Rock the Vote festival and Super Tuesday series, Vincent D. Rogeau, a professor in the Notre Dame Law School, discussed the balance between political responsibility and being a Catholic.

The Catholic faith calls followers to express the values of the faith through participation, Rogeau said.

"[Voting] is the primary way for expressing our values," he said, even though some of the values of the faith may be compromised while voting.

While the Catholic faith gives guidance to voters through the values of the faith, it does not remark on what party to vote for because "it is not the position of the Church to say how people should organize their political lives."

Certain principles should be acknowledged when making a political decision, primarily the right to life, he said.

Right to life does not solely deal with abortion but

includes unjust war and the death penalty, he said.

Other principles Catholic voters should be concerned about include the dignity of the human person, social, economic and political rights and responsibilities, the dignity of work, and stewardship for God's creation.

Rogeau said the United States does not fully embrace these principles.

"[Voters need to think about how a candidate's] policies affect the weakest among us [and] how these positions affect people who face discrimination," he said.

He said every person is created equal and therefore it must be recognized that it is impossible to come to agreement on every issue.

Since every Catholic value may not be found in one candidate, Catholic voters should look for the candidate that respects others, he said.

"It is important to have a well developed and informed conscience," he said, cautioning people not to be a one-issue voter. "Rely on your heart and God."

Contact Emily Dabish at a
edabis01@saintmarys.edu

Chief Justice speaks to students

Law students submitted questions for Supreme Court judge to answer

Special to The Observer

Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States John Roberts addressed a room packed with Notre Dame Law School students, faculty and staff on Sept. 12 (Friday). He visited campus as a guest of the Law School and Notre Dame's president, Rev. John I. Jenkins, C.S.C.

Roberts' talk was presented as a conversation, with William Kelley, associate professor of law, sitting on stage with Roberts, asking the justice questions of his own and reading questions submitted by students. Kelley served in the White House as deputy counsel to the president from 2005 to 2007 and helped guide Roberts through the Supreme Court confirmation process.

Roberts began by speaking briefly about his early years growing up in Long Beach, Ind. Following high school, he attended Harvard University and earned a history degree.

"It wasn't until law school that I knew I wanted to be a lawyer," he admitted.

After graduating from Harvard Law School, Roberts clerked for renowned Justice Henry J. Friendly of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit. From 1980 to 1981, Roberts clerked for then-associate justice William

H. Rehnquist on the U. S. Supreme Court.

"He taught me that there is more to life than being a lawyer," Roberts said. "He once told me, 'if you want to spend time with your young children, you have to do it while they're young,'" laughed Roberts.

Over the course of 20 years as a litigator, Roberts argued before the Supreme Court 39 times.

"I was nervous before every argument," he said.

Roberts offered advice to students considering a career in the courtroom: "Preparation is key. Go over and over the case, write down a list of potential questions the judge may ask, and have friends or family review them with you again and again."

Roberts decided that, after two decades of arguing cases before the court, he wanted to view the law from the other side of the bench as a judge.

"It's easier to ask questions than to answer them," he joked.

Roberts considers his job to be "absolutely" fun. He enjoys the variety of cases and the ability to decide how he is

going to spend his day, whether it's reading a brief, writing an opinion, or reviewing a case with his clerks. One example of Roberts' approach to his work is exemplified in the way he selects his law clerks. He

has been known to ask interviewees to tell him a joke after quizzing them on their legal views.

"We spend a lot of time together, and I want to know I'll enjoy their company," he said.

Some of that time is spent writing, reviewing and revising his opinions.

"On the front of the opinion, for record-keeping purposes, I always write what draft it is. You will never see fewer than 20 drafts before I issue my final opinion," Roberts said.

Following his talk, Roberts mingled with students, faculty and staff at a reception and signed autographs.

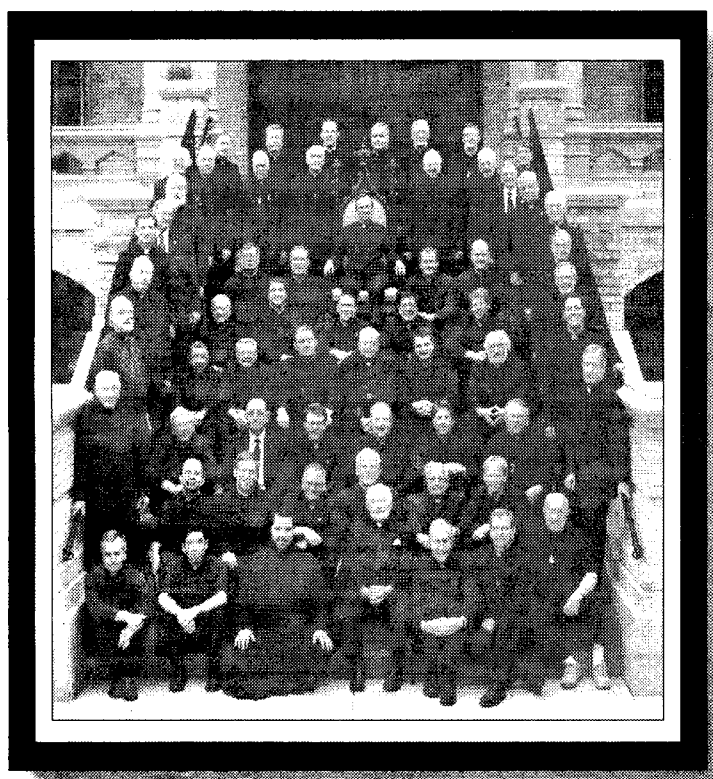
"Preparation is key. Go over and over the case, write down a list of potential questions the judge may ask, and have friends or family review them with you again and again"

John Roberts
Supreme Court Chief Justice



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COR

continued from page 1

"Orientation is one of those lowest common denominator activities," Coughlin said. "Everybody does it. It's our job to make sure that every student who comes here has a comfortable, safe and enjoyable experience."

The changes to Orientation developed first from a committee convened by Assistant Provost Dennis Jacobs that "talked about orientation at the 30,000 foot level," Coughlin said. The committee was comprised of students, parents, faculty and administrators.

"This committee talked about how packed they believed the Frosh-O schedule was, the awkward gender relations, the session that happens in the Joyce Center on Saturday afternoon and the lack of a true academic component to orientation that the faculty was concerned about," Coughlin said.

In an attempt to address some of these concerns raised by the original committee, Jacobs established a standing University Committee on Orientation, which was chaired by Dean Hugh Page of First Year Studies and Vice President of Student Affairs Fr. Mark Poorman.

"It was a meeting of folks who had worked on orientation traditionally in the past," said Coughlin, who was a member of the committee.

He said the committee made several major changes to the Orientation weekend, which allowed for more leisure time and tried to instill a sense of community within the dorms.

"We tried to unpack the schedule a little bit, so [the incoming freshmen] weren't running around constantly," he said. "We also wanted to start building community within the halls at first — this was from some conversation with students and a lot from rectors. The Friday night went to something that had all in-hall activities. This was a change for 25 percent of the halls."

"We also wanted to be a little more conscious to set a schedule that applied all across the University. Before, a parent would get the official weekend schedule from the University and they wouldn't know what the dorm was doing."

Coughlin said that the committee also wanted to make Orientation a more comfortable atmosphere for students.

He said he has heard that many halls used to wake first year students early in the morning to do activities, which the committee asked dorms not to do. "We also asked people to be respectful of first-year students' right to get a good night sleep," he said.

He said there have been many criticisms to the new Orientation schedule from both first year students and upperclassmen.

"Anytime any difference comes on to the Notre Dame campus, there's some hesita-

tion," he said.

He said dorms need to consider physical disabilities of some of their orientation activities.

"The request that was made of halls was that if you're doing something physical, consider the physical limitations and capabilities of everyone in your first year class," he said. "The last thing we want to do is alienate someone who has a disability, or is on crutches."

He said students with disabilities are left behind during activities such as dorm runs during orientation that alienates them from their residence hall, "which is supposed to be the cornerstone of the Notre Dame experience."

Coughlin also said upperclassmen have expressed concerns about first year students spending too much time with their parents during orientation weekend, but he thinks that criticism is unjustified.

"The chunks of parent time isn't much different," he said. "All we added was a one to one-and-a-half hour buffer between the end of the Sprit of Notre Dame Mass on Sunday and the first program."

"I bet your parents would have loved a hug or a kiss interaction before they got back in the car and went home," he said.

The standing committee will meet again this year to further evaluate the changes that they made. The returning members of the committee will be joined by a first year student selected from Freshman Class Council and an upper class student who served on the Orientation staff for his or her residence hall, he said.

Coughlin said the administration is not looking to change Orientation solely on what the committee recommended.

"There's not a conspiracy," he said. "There's a true desire to improve things for everyone. I know Dr. Jacobs well enough that he didn't hand select a committee to force things through."

He said that the committee was convened to make necessary changes that make Orientation a better experience for everyone.

"If we have to program for those who are a little more shy, or less comfortable about being on campus, we have to do it," he said. "In terms of First Year Orientation, it's on all of us to make everyone in the community feel comfortable and not awkward."

The parts of Orientation that are rooted in the core of what the University is will not change, Coughlin said.

"[We won't change] the importance of the residence hall community, exposing first year students and their families to some academic part of the weekend, having the spiritual component of Mass, and establishing community," he said. "Residentiality, academic life, spiritual life, and community — that's what we're about."

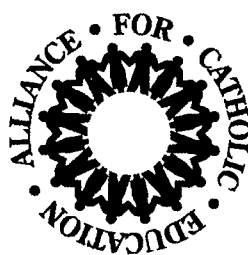
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WORLD & NATION

Wednesday, September 17, 2008

COMPILED FROM THE OBSERVER'S WIRE SERVICES

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INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Intercepted calls prove self-defense

TBILISI, Georgia — In a bid to portray Russia as the aggressor in last month's war, Georgia has released recordings of what it says are two intercepted cell phone calls purporting to show that Moscow invaded before Georgia's offensive against South Ossetia.

The recordings released Tuesday, if authentic, will not cut through the fog of the final hours when escalating tensions burst into war. But President Mikhail Saakashvili hopes they will help dispel a dominant narrative that says his country was on the attack. He said they prove Russian tanks and troops entered South Ossetia many hours before Georgia began its offensive against separatist forces.

"Evidence in the form of telephone intercepts and information that we have from numerous eyewitnesses conclusively prove that Russian tanks and armored columns invaded our territory before the conflict began," Saakashvili told reporters.

Pakistan troops to open fire on U.S.

ISLAMABAD, Pakistan — Pakistan's army said Tuesday that its forces have orders to open fire if U.S. troops launch another raid across the Afghan border, raising the stakes in a dispute over how to tackle militant havens in Pakistan's unruly border zone.

Adm. Mike Mullen, the U.S. chairman of the joint chiefs of staff, arrived in Pakistan late Tuesday amid the increased tensions. Mullen planned to meet with top civilian and military leaders to discuss a range of issues, including ways to improve coordination and cooperation along the Pakistan-Afghan border.

NATIONAL NEWS

RNC delegate robbed of \$50K

MINNEAPOLIS — Police are trying to find a woman who apparently drugged a Republican National Convention delegate and robbed him of about \$50,000 worth of jewelry, cash and other items in his hotel room.

Gabriel Schwartz, a Denver attorney and party donor, told police he met the woman in a bar at the luxurious Hotel Ivy in downtown Minneapolis and invited her to his room early on Sept. 4, a few hours after Alaska Gov. Sarah Palin accepted the GOP vice presidential nomination.

Once there, police say, the woman made drinks and told Schwartz to get undressed.

The 29-year-old delegate told police that was the last thing he remembered. Police believe he was drugged but aren't sure what drug he was given, police Sgt. William Palmer said Tuesday.

When Schwartz awoke, the woman was gone and so were cash and belongings that included a watch he valued at \$30,000.

Ohio Wal-Mart closed for methane

GARFIELD HEIGHTS, Ohio — Wal-Mart Stores Inc. has closed one of its stores in the Cleveland area built atop a landfill amid concerns about potentially explosive methane gas.

An independent contractor confirmed there is a problem with the odorless gas generated by rotting garbage, said Tara Stewart, a spokeswoman for the Bentonville, Ark.-based retailer. The closure of the store is probably permanent, she said.

LOCAL NEWS

Officer cleared after fatal shooting

SOUTH BEND — A police officer was acting in self-defense when he fatally shot an Osceola man while being dragged by his pickup truck, a prosecutor said Tuesday.

Mishawaka police Detective Jeremy Tyler had just ended his work shift late Aug. 25 when he stopped Eugene Nusbaum, 43, after seeing suspicious activity in the neighboring town of Osceola a few miles east of South Bend. Tyler believed Nusbaum was trying to cut a catalytic converter from a minivan in a used car lot and saw him throw an electric saw in the back of his truck.

Ike raises death toll across Midwest

Severe weather submerges roads in water, leaving 10 million without power

Associated Press

ST. LOUIS — Just a few months after near-record flooding across the Midwest, roads in the region were under water again Tuesday and more than 1 million people were without power thanks to the remnants of Hurricane Ike.

"The old-timers knew it was wise to leave the sandbags," said Arnold City Manager Matthew Unrein, whose town south of St. Louis still has the sandbag defenses it built when it was threatened by floods in March. The Meramec was expected to reach 18 feet above flood stage in Arnold on Thursday.

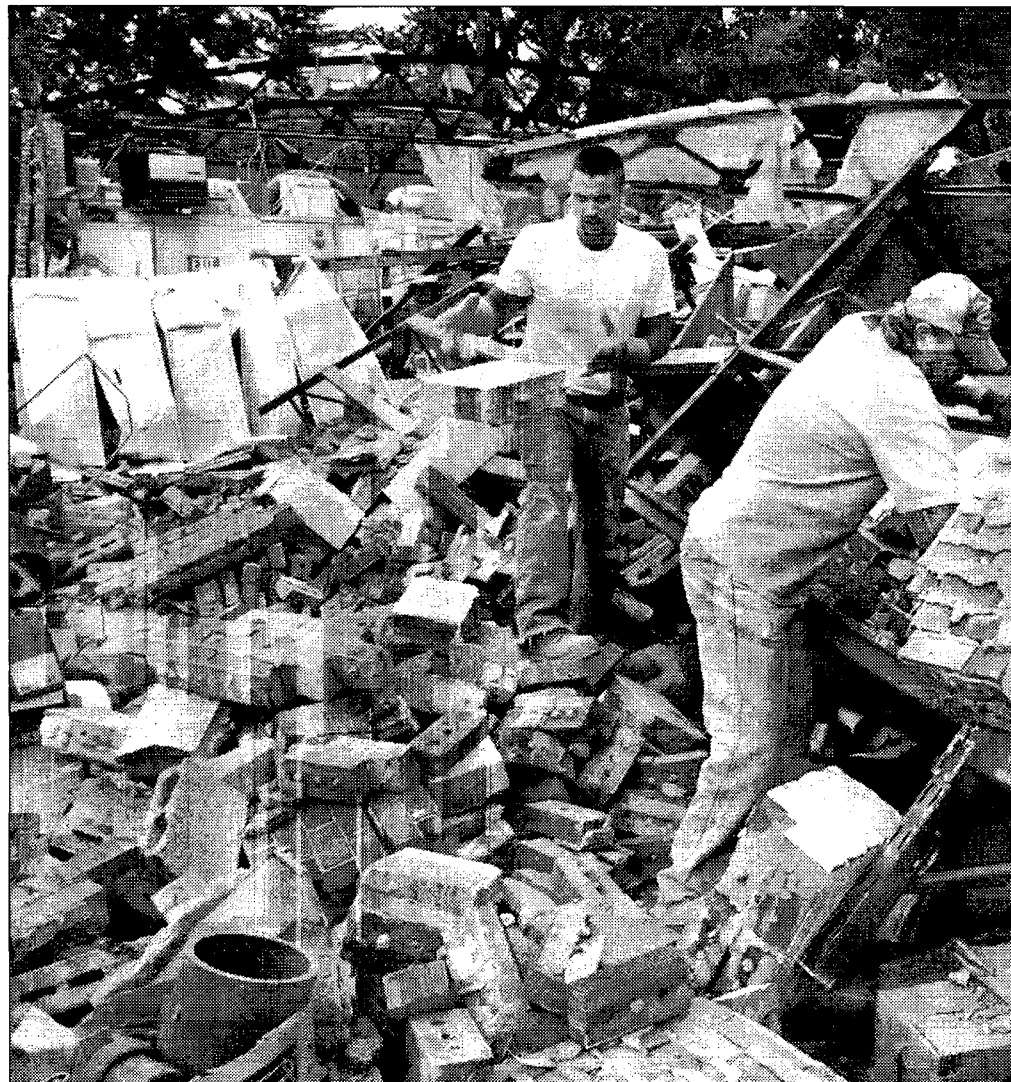
Several rivers in Missouri were rising toward crests expected later this week, some more than 15 feet above flood stage. Flooding already was occurring at several towns along the Missouri and Mississippi rivers, including St. Louis. The President Casino on the St. Louis riverfront shut down for the third time since April because of high water, and the boulevard that runs in front of the Gateway Arch was closed.

Ike dumped as much as 8 inches of rain on parts of Indiana, Illinois and Missouri after coming ashore in Texas during the weekend. It spawned hurricane-force wind in Ohio and a tornado in Arkansas that damaged several buildings.

The devastating rain and wind in the Midwest brought Ike's total death toll to at least 47 in 10 states from the Gulf Coast to the upper Ohio Valley.

The violent weather also knocked out power to more than 2 million homes and businesses across the Midwest, most of them in Ohio. As of Tuesday, the Ohio Emergency Management Agency said 1.4 million customers still had no electricity.

The governors of Illinois, Ohio and Kentucky declared states of emergency. Several utilities said many customers might not be back on line until the weekend, and Louisville Gas and Electric



Kentucky residents Thomas Sago and Jeramy Rock remove debris Monday from rubble in Owensboro after the remnants of Hurricane Ike tore the roof off a building Sunday morning.

says it could be two weeks before service is fully restored in Kentucky's largest city.

More than a half-million Ky. customers lost power at the height of the storm. "This is the biggest outage on record in the commonwealth of Kentucky," said Kentucky Gov. Steve Beshear. He said half the state's 120 counties reported storm damage.

The National Weather Service is projecting moderate flooding from Hannibal south to the convergence of the Mississippi and Missouri rivers. Major flooding is expected from St. Louis south to Cape Girardeau, although few homes are expected to be affected. At Hermann, the Missouri is expected to crest 11.5 feet above flood stage

Thursday, enough to flood 37,000 acres of farmland and threaten at least two businesses.

The rain from Ike combined with earlier storms in southern and western Michigan to rupture a dam in Berrien County and cause massive sewage overflows and street flooding, authorities said.

An 8-foot section of that earthen dam gave way Monday night on the Dowagiac River and about a dozen homes had to be evacuated.

The rain also overwhelmed Chicago's 4,300 miles of sewers — backing up into homes and inundating streets and parking lots.

Stores in the Chicago area reported a run on sump and

utility pumps. "People were running around like chickens with their heads cut off trying to stop the damage," said Pete Palermo, a manager of the Keystone Ace Hardware in Albany Park.

Hundreds of homes were flooded in northwestern Indiana during the weekend and a busy stretch of Interstate 80/94 was still blocked by water Tuesday. Road crews were still working to pump water from the highway, a major route into the Chicago area, the Indiana Department of Homeland Security said Tuesday.

Indiana National Guard troops were activated Sunday and Monday to help evacuate about 5,000 residents from flooded parts of Munster, Ind., during the weekend.

ELECTION 2008

Financial crisis takes over campaign

Associated Press

GOLDEN, Colo. — Economic fears are suddenly dominating the presidential campaign, shoving aside lipstick on pigs and every other issue. Republican John McCain called for a crisis commission Tuesday, while Democrat Barack Obama laughed that off as "the oldest Washington stunt in the book."

"This isn't 9/11," Obama told a noisy crowd of more than 2,000 at the Colorado School of Mines, dismissing the idea of a need for study. "We know how we got into this mess. What we need now is leadership that gets us out. I'll provide it. John McCain won't."

McCain, campaigning in Florida, promised reforms, too, to expose and end the "reckless conduct, corruption and unbridled greed" that he said had caused the financial crisis on Wall Street.

The bewildering turmoil has shaken Americans' confidence, erased hundreds of billions of paper wealth for U.S. stockholders and led McCain and Obama to forsake other controversies and scramble back to the economy as the primary concern of voters.

The presidential campaign had taken an odd turn to side issues — Alaska's "Bridge to Nowhere" and moose-hunting, Obama's crack about lipstick on a

pig — after McCain's surprise pick of Gov. Sarah Palin as his running mate. There was a fascination with huge crowds attracted by Palin. But the collapse and merger of some of Wall Street's legendary companies forced a return to reality seven weeks before the election.

McCain and Obama now are trusted equally on the economy, with 34 percent of voters naming each as the candidate who would do a better job dealing with what is easily the country's top worry, according to an Associated Press-GfK Poll conducted last week. Previously, Obama had had a solid advantage on the issue.

Electoral

continued from page 1

that drives people," he said. "It's finding someone who inspires them."

The Electoral College was put in place by the framers of the Constitution, something those trying to understand it today need to keep in mind, he said.

"I think the main thing [people ask] is why in the world we would have something like it," he said.

Democracy was associated with mob rule when the Constitution was written, he said. Because of this the framers were not willing to allow a popular vote but gave the actual vote to representatives of the state to avoid "issues of judgment."

"The electors were supposed to be smarter [than the average person]," he said.

These representatives come from every state and the District of Columbia. They number of Electoral Votes a state has is based on the number of representatives they have as well as each state's two Senators, he said.

The states are allowed to make their own laws regarding

the Electoral College and in half of the states it is illegal for electors to vote against the popular vote of their state, in the other half, "they rarely vote against the people," he said.

The few that vote against the popular vote are known as "faithless electors," he said.

"Imagine how much pressure you face," Pierce said.

It is possible for the Electoral College to elect a president that the popular vote didn't elect which is one of the biggest problems many people have with the system, he said.

This has only happened three times, and two of the three, including the 2000 presidential election in which Bush gained more electoral votes than Al Gore, but did not win the popular vote, are "legally suspect," he said.

He said politicians are reluctant to change or remove the Electoral College because the margin of victory would be smaller, currently it "appears that the public has supported you more."

"If you want a strong president, you have some reason to be nervous about a national popular vote," he said.

Contact Mandi Stirone at astiro01@saintmarys.edu

Vote

continued from page 1

Smart organizers.

"It was a miscommunication between us, we need to be in Indianapolis tomorrow morning which will be a three hour drive or so," Bob Kastan, the deputy media director of Vote Smart said.

The bus, which had come through South Bend before, had made its way to the College from the University of Toledo and was on its way to Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis (IUPUI).

"Last time we came to South Bend we came to Notre Dame but we try to get to as many campuses as possible so we wanted to come to Saint Mary's this time," Kastan said. "It happened to coincide with this Rock the Vote festival so it worked out well."

Kastan said quite a few students visited the bus while it was on campus who were interested in finding out about Congresswoman Sarah Palin, Senator Barack Obama and Senator John McCain but he knew many students would not be able to visit because they were in class.

"A few people came to us interested in their state candidates because we have information on candidates running in local and state elections in all 50 states,"

Kastan said.

The Vote Smart Bus was on campus as a part of the College's second Super Tuesday event. Every Tuesday through Election Day, Saint Mary's will host events aimed to inform students about the issues about the election.

Yesterday's event also included a Rock the Vote festival in the Student Center atrium during which students could get information from the College Republicans, the College Democrats, the Political Science Club and the League of Women Voters, among others.

The College Democrats saw a large group of students, both "hardcore" Democrats and people who were curious about the Democratic Party, visit their booth, which excited Missy Waik, the club's secretary.

"It's great that people feel as if their vote counts, which it absolutely does, which can help improve America for the better," Waik said.

The College Republicans also had a lot of people visit their table, though most of their visitors were self-confessed Republicans.

"A lot of our club members brought Republican friends who aren't necessarily in the club but wanted to register or vote or get more information," club vice president Caitlin Sullivan said.

Contact Liz Harter at charte01@saintmarys.edu

Roth

continued from page 1

"Here in America, people were not totally mesmerized by a war that we were not fully engaged in as we had been during World War II," Roth said. "One of the things that prompted me to put this particular book together was that younger people have no idea what the social, cultural, and sexual norms of the 1950s were."

Many of the questions submitted by viewers at other universities and bookstores focused on Roth's writing style and how his work appears to narrate or comment on today's world, something he said he plans to do.

"I never intentionally relate my

books to the events of today," he said. "I'm focused on the time period that I have chosen to write about. If I wanted the book to be about something else then I would have chosen to write about something else."

Roth said he has come to think of himself of a historian of sorts because most of his books deal with a specific time in American history.

"I let the American past flow into the story. I allow historical events determine the lives of characters," he said. "When I write I start with virtually nothing. Sometimes I've started with a period and I try to find the story that I can tell that will somehow give a flavor of that moment in time."

Contact Molly Madden at mmadden@hcc-nd.edu

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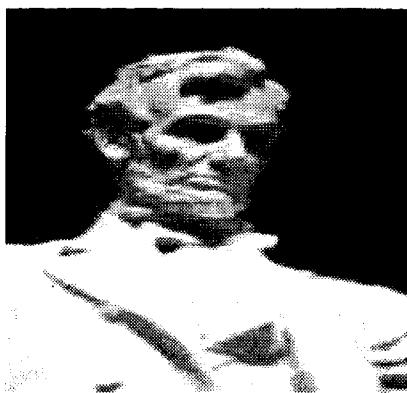
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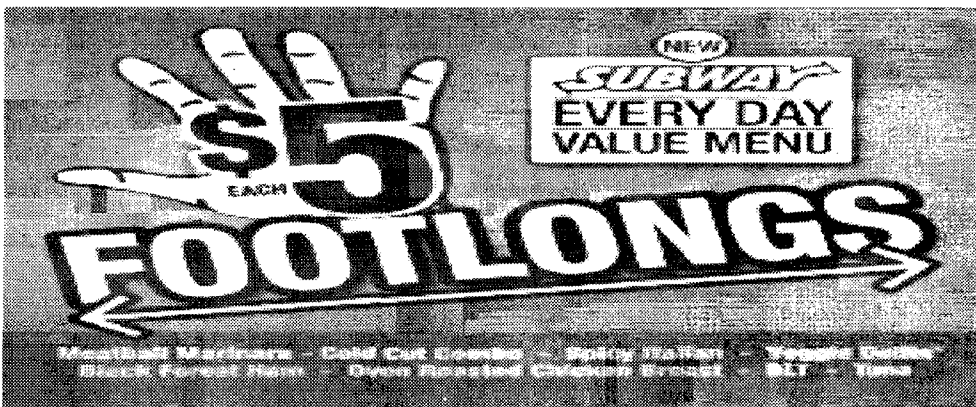
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THE OBSERVER BUSINESS

Wednesday, September 17, 2008

page 7

MARKET RECAP

Stocks

Dow Jones 11,059.02 +141.51

Up: 1,581 Same: 56 Down: 1,899 Composite Volume: 1,003,765,039

AMEX	1,835.6	-11.09
NASDAQ	2,207.90	+27.99
NYSE	7,793.13	+112.98
S&P 500	1,213.591	+20.89
NIKKEI (Tokyo)	11,609.72	0.00
FTSE 100 (London)	5,083.40	-120.80

COMPANY	%CHANGE	\$GAIN	PRICE
AMER INTL GROUP INC (AIG)	-21.22	-1.01	3.75
S&P DEP RECEIPTS (SPY)	+1.67	+2.01	122.10
FINANCIAL SEL SPDR (XLF)	+7.49	+1.43	20.52
POWERSHARES (QQQ)	+0.78	+0.33	42.41

Treasuries

10-YEAR NOTE	+0.23	+0.008	3.491
13-WEEK BILL	+6.17	+0.050	0.860
30-YEAR BOND	-1.37	-0.057	4.095
5-YEAR NOTE	+2.69	+0.070	2.671

Commodities

LIGHT CRUDE (\$/bbl.)	-4.56	95.71
GOLD (\$/Troy oz.)	-6.50	780.50
PORK BELLIES (cents/lb.)	+1.98	90.13

Exchange Rates

YEN	104.9350
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IN BRIEF

Fed holds key interest rate steady

WASHINGTON — Showing a tough love stance for now, Federal Reserve Chairman Ben Bernanke and his colleagues decided to keep a key interest rate steady Tuesday. They acknowledged stresses in financial markets have grown, though, and hinted they stood ready to lower rates if needed.

Wreckage on Wall Street in recent days did not force the Fed — as some thought possible — to reverse course and cut rates. The Fed left its key rate at 2 percent for the third straight meeting. It marked the first meeting this year the Federal Open Market Committee, which sets interest rate policy, agreed unanimously with a decision.

Senate reaches tax break agreement

WASHINGTON — Senate leaders said Tuesday that they had broken a months-long impasse over a tax break package that would bring billions of dollars in relief to individual and business taxpayers, developers of clean energy resources and people threatened by the alternative minimum tax.

Senate Finance Committee Chairman Max Baucus, D-Mont., and his Republican counterpart on the panel, Charles Grassley of Iowa, said the package could reach the Senate floor this week. The tax package is one of the last major issues that Congress must address in the last weeks before its scheduled adjournment for the year.

FDA defends chemical found in plastic

WASHINGTON — With scientists at odds about the risks of a chemical found in plastic baby bottles, metal cans and other food packaging, the government on Tuesday gave consumers some tips on how to reduce their exposure to BPA even as it said the substance is safe.

A Food and Drug Administration advisory committee met as a major study linked bisphenol A to possible risks of heart disease and diabetes. The scientific debate could drag on for years.

"Right now, our tentative conclusion is that it's safe, so we're not recommending any change in habits," said Laura Tarantino, head of the FDA's office of food additive safety.

Stocks stabilize, but AIG teeters

Nervous investors concerned about world's largest insurer's future

Associated Press

NEW YORK — Wall Street took a step back from the ledge Tuesday, with the Federal Reserve resisting a cut in interest rates and the stock market staging a small rebound one day after a stomach-churning drop.

Investors still kept a nervous eye on American International Group Inc., the world's largest insurer, which huddled with the New York Fed in hopes of staving off a failure that would create even more financial turmoil.

The Fed, in its first unanimous decision this year, kept its closely watched federal funds rate unchanged at 2 percent — but noted that strains on the market have "increased significantly" and said it was ready to act if needed.

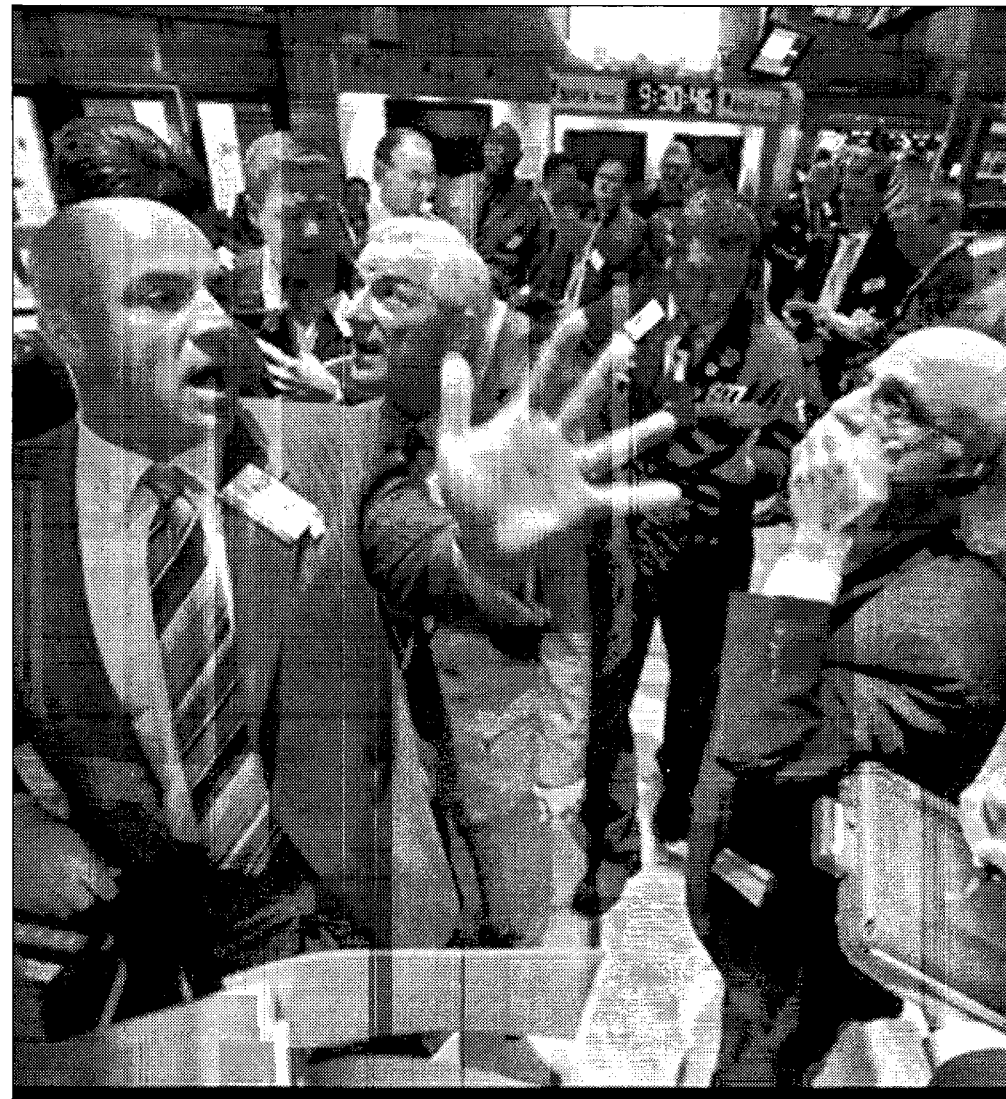
Stocks slumped immediately after the Fed announcement, with the Dow Jones industrial average dropping about 100 points. But the Dow finished the day up 141, and back over 11,000.

It was a breather from the chaos the shook the financial system Monday, when investment house Lehman Brothers declared bankruptcy and the Dow Jones industrials suffered their biggest point drop since the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks.

But AIG, a company that is little known off Wall Street but does business with almost every financial institution in the world, became the new star of the Wall Street soap opera.

The company, which insures \$88 billion worth of assets, plays an outsized role insuring mortgages and corporate loans, but what has the Wall Street scared is that it's an integral player in the murky world of hedge funds and credit derivatives.

Investors worry its failure would pose an even greater threat to the U.S. financial



Specialist Henry Becker, left, directs trading at the post that handles AIG on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange, Tuesday.

system than the collapse of Lehman. AIG stock was down as much as 60 percent Tuesday.

Late Monday night, all three major credit rating agencies cut AIG's ratings at least two notches. While the new ratings are all still considered investment grade, they add pressure on AIG as it seeks tens of billions of dollars to strengthen its balance sheet.

New York Gov. David Paterson said Monday he would support a measure allowing it to use \$20 billion of assets held by its subsidiaries to pay for its business — essentially giving it a bridge loan from itself.

A collapse of AIG would force Wall Street to untangle the complex credit derivatives markets and send the market scrambling to figure out who owes what to whom — or even who owns what.

"Regulators knew that if Lehman went down, the world wouldn't end," money manager Michael Lewitt wrote in an op-ed column Tuesday in The New York Times. "But Wall Street isn't remotely prepared for the inestimable damage the financial system would suffer if AIG collapsed."

As AIG teetered, central bankers around the globe

scrambled to revive credit markets. The Fed injected \$70 billion into the American financial system. The European Central Bank pumped one-day financing of nearly \$100 billion into the 15-nation zone. The Bank of Japan added \$24 billion, and England's central bank almost \$36 billion.

Cash left world markets Monday like an outgoing tide. The interest rate banks charge each other for overnight loans soared as high as 6 percent — far above the Fed's target rate of 2 percent and a sign banks didn't trust each other enough to make even 12-hour loans.

Oil prices sink in Wall Street tumult

Associated Press

NEW YORK — Oil prices extended their retreat Tuesday, shedding \$10 a barrel in a violent, two-day slide as tumult on Wall Street dims hopes for a swift economic recovery and signals another drop in U.S. energy demand.

Crude, which shot up near \$150 a barrel only two months ago, is now down 8 percent for the year.

Meanwhile, gas prices edged higher at the pump, topping \$3.85 a gallon amid the aftermath of Hurricane Ike. However, given crude's continuing slide, retail gas was expected to turn lower within a few weeks.

As uncertainty grips Wall Street, evidence mounted that U.S. consumers and businesses were bracing for a protracted economic downturn that should

guarantee more of the money-saving energy conservation measures of the past year: Americans will cut back on driving, airlines will keep fewer planes in the air and U.S. manufacturers will be shipping fewer products. That in turn was expected to keep crude prices down.

"The economic slowdown is completely unavoidable now and people will be driving less, trucking less and buying less," said James Cordier, president of Tampa, Fla.-based trading firms Liberty Trading Group and OptionSellers.com. "Energy consumption will fall dramatically."

Light, sweet crude for October delivery fell \$4.56 to settle at \$91.15 a barrel on the New York Mercantile Exchange, after earlier dipping to \$90.51, its lowest level since Feb. 8. On Monday, prices closed below \$100 for the first time in

six months, shedding more than \$5 and wiping out all of oil's gains for the year.

Crude has fallen about \$55 — or 37 percent — since shooting above \$147 on July 11.

In London, November Brent crude fell \$5.02 to settle at \$89.22 a barrel on the ICE Futures exchange, after earlier dipping to \$88.90.

Oil's steep correction comes as traders were riveted by rapidly unfolding events on Wall Street. Fears rose Tuesday about the health of insurance giant American International Group Inc. after several ratings agencies reduced their ratings on the company. That amplified worries of more turmoil after Lehman Brothers Holdings Inc. filed for bankruptcy and Merrill Lynch & Co. was bought by Bank of America Corp. in a rush sale intended to save the troubled company.

Jenkins

continued from page 1

tistics show that in the fall of 2007, 87 percent of its full teaching and research professors were white, compared with 83 percent of associate professors and 66 percent of assistant professors and instructors.

Notre Dame should strive to increase female and minority faculty at all ranks, Jenkins said, but especially to recruit and train them in senior ranks.

Jenkins said he did not think there would be a "quick fix" to increasing the diversity of Notre Dame's faculty. But he recounted the work of his most recent predecessors, University Presidents Emeriti Fr. Theodore Hesburgh and Fr. Edward "Monk" Malloy, in increasing the presence of both women and ethnic minorities at the University.

"Whatever our current challenges, Notre Dame is today a more diverse and rich institution because of these leaders and the many people who worked with them," Jenkins said. "Our task is to build on the progress that they made."

Jenkins said he is considering proposals made by the University Committee on Diversity and the University Committee of Women Faculty and Students about their recommendations to enhance support for women faculty and students and ethnic minorities. He said he is working on his response to the recommendations.

In his faculty address two years ago, Jenkins emphasized increased recruiting of Catholic faculty. He said the University will employ "useful strategies" they have discussed to recruit Catholic faculty. University Provost Tom Burish established the Office of Recruitment Support, Jenkins said, which will be headed by Fr. Bob Sullivan, whose title is now Associate Vice President for Academic Mission Support.

Jenkins stressed to the faculty gathered in the Leighton Concert Hall of the DeBartolo Performing Arts Center that although the University is "proactively" seeking to hire minorities, women and Catholics, these characteristics will not factor in decisions about reappointment, tenure or promotion.

Research at the University

Jenkins' address to the faculty last year encouraged a University-wide commitment to becoming a premier research institution, including undergraduate research. On Tuesday, Jenkins praised the accomplishments of the faculty thus far in the field of research and encouraged more progress.

Last year, Jenkins listed membership in the AAU as a goal of the University. The University is continuing to strive toward membership in that organization, Jenkins said, but not just so it can be "part of a prestigious club."

"Our goal, rather, is to become a better research university, and thus to make ourselves a compelling candidate for membership in the AAU so that we can reap the benefits of association, access to information and reputation that such membership can bring," he said.

During the 2007-2008 academic year, Jenkins said,

research funding at Notre Dame increased by 4 percent, a substantial figure considering that National Science Foundation (NSF) funding decreased in real dollars and National Institute of Health (NIH) funding was flat.

The Innovation Park planned as part of Eddy Street Commons will "help move discoveries of our faculty to market," Jenkins said.

He commended Cecilia Lucero, the assistant director for Undergraduate Research at the University, for organizing Notre Dame's first campus-wide undergraduate research conference.

'A truly great and truly Catholic University'

The faculty has continued to enhance the quality of teaching and learning at Notre Dame, Jenkins said. This fall, Associate Provost Dennis Jacobs will lead the launch of a new Course Instructor Feedback system so students can provide their impressions of the quality of teaching to their instructors.

Duncan Hall, the recently completed men's dorm, and Ryan Hall, the women's dorm

Address to the Faculty

September 16, 2008



ALLISON AMBROSE/The Observer

University President Fr. John Jenkins addresses the faculty Tuesday. He uses a power point presentation to highlight University goals regarding hiring a more diverse faculty.

still under construction, are the first residence halls at Notre Dame that have classrooms, Jenkins said, a feature that will "help deepen this integration of academic and residential life."

To mark the five-year anniversary of Notre Dame implementing its university-wide strategic plan, Notre

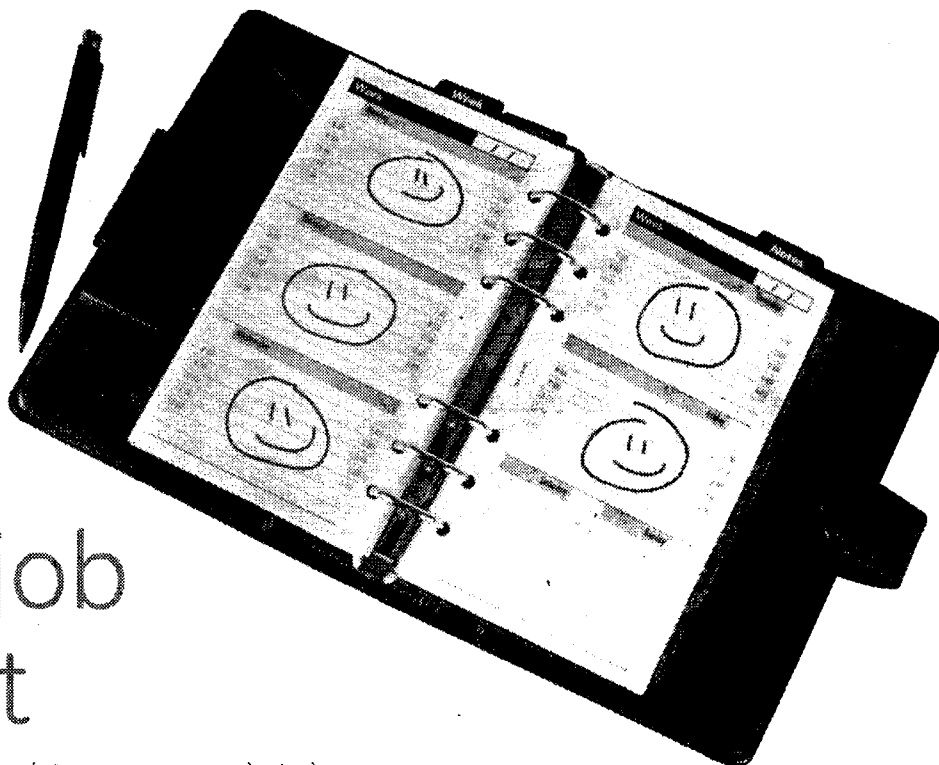
Dame 2010: Fulfilling the Promise, Jenkins said he will begin working with academic deans and other University leaders to update the strategic plan. Jenkins introduced Erin Hoffman Harding as the new Associate Vice President for Strategic Planning.

Jenkins encouraged the faculty to attend the upcoming

Notre Dame Forum on issues involving energy and the environment.

"We must strive, as a community, to make practical steps in response to the energy challenge in our lives and on our campus," he said.

Contact Kaitlynn Riely at kriely@nd.edu



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imagination at work

President visits Gulf, evacuees

Bush asks residents to wait for instructions before returning to homes

Associated Press

GALVESTON, Texas — President Bush got a first-hand look Tuesday at the fury that Hurricane Ike unleashed on the Gulf Coast, and was greeted by a virtual ghost town here where it made landfall. He urged frustrated storm evacuees to keep it that way until local officials, say it is safe to return.

"I know a lot of people are anxious to get back in," Bush said. "I urge you to listen to state and local authorities before you come back."

Ike dumped heavy rains on parts of Indiana, Illinois and Missouri after slamming ashore in Texas over the weekend. It knocked out power to more than 2 million homes and businesses across the Midwest, spawned a tornado in Arkansas and blew high winds through Ohio. The devastating rain and wind in the nation's midsection brought the death toll from Ike to at least 40 in 10 states from the Gulf Coast to the upper Ohio Valley.

In light of the continuing need from Ike and other storms in this year's busy hurricane season, Bush pleaded for donations from the public to relief organizations like the American Red Cross.

"I hope the country does not have disaster fatigue," he said.

Many thousands of displaced residents face weeks or months in shelters, and Bush assured them personally and publicly that the federal government would reimburse them for their costs, up to 30 days, of interim housing. Federal Emergency Management Agency Director David Paulson, who traveled with Bush, said the Bush administration was working hard to avoid a scenario like when people moved out of New Orleans because of Hurricane Katrina in 2005 and never returned. He said a state-led task force would work to

place evacuees in motels and hotels, apartments and duplexes.

"It's not just kind of ad hoc, like it was with Katrina," he said. "If we have to use mobile homes — that will be a state call — we have them available."

The White House also announced Tuesday that the federal government will pick up all the costs of debris removal in Texas for a two-week period starting Saturday, the day the storm hit. This waives the state's required cost-share of 25 percent during that period. This waiver does not apply to Louisiana.

Bush spoke to reporters in Houston, his first stop on a trip through parts of Texas most battered by Ike. The trip lasted less than three hours and marked the third time in two weeks that the president has traveled to the Gulf Coast for a hurricane.

While flying by helicopter from Houston to much harder-hit Galveston, Bush got an aerial tour of the damage. He saw the remains of the resort barrier island of Bolivar Peninsula, where there were flattened homes, flooded fields and bare foundations where houses once stood. Roads and beaches were strewn with debris. Homes that weathered the storm stood next to ones completely washed away. From the air, three sections of the same house that Ike tore asunder resembled children's blocks tumbled into a muddy field.

Ike missed the largest concentrations of oil and gas refineries in the region. But at least 14 Texas refineries closed before the storm made landfall, removing more than 20 percent of the nation's petroleum refining capacity and pushing gasoline prices even higher. From his helicopter, Bush could see scores of ships full of crude waiting off the coast for a green light to deliver to Texas refineries.

While damage to the U.S.

refining industry was less than anticipated, Kevin Kolevar, assistant secretary for electricity delivery and energy reliability at the Energy Department, told reporters that it will take a week to 10 days for even the undamaged facilities to be restarted — if there is power.

Paulson said an estimated 70 percent of Houston should have power by the end of the week, but Galveston won't fare as well.

"Galveston is going to have a tough time," Paulson said. "That's heavy devastation there. ... It's going to be a longer-term fix than getting Houston back up."

With the rescue phase winding down, emergency workers were trying to provide blankets, ice and tarps to victims.

"I know there are some shortages, but thus far the demand has been met," said Bush, whose administration lost credibility with its slow response to Hurricane Katrina. "We'll continue to monitor the situation to make sure that people are taken care of."

On the ground in Galveston, Bush held hands with Mayor Lyda Ann Thomas as they walked down a street where bushes were covered with black roofing paper. "They've got a great mayor and they're working hard," Bush shouted at reporters as he walked back to the presidential helicopter.

Bush's tour of the damage took the place of a fundraising swing he had planned for the day through Topeka, Kan., and Fort Worth, Texas. Those duties were being performed instead by first lady Laura Bush. Earlier this month, Bush scrapped his planned opening-night speech at the Republican National Convention in St. Paul, Minn., to fly instead to emergency command centers in Texas just as Hurricane Gustav hit. He returned to the region later that week to visit Louisiana, also socked by Gustav.

ISRAEL

Leaders threaten force against Iran

Associated Press

JERUSALEM — Both front-runners for the leadership of Israel's ruling party vow to take a hard line against Iran, threatening possible military force if sanctions do not halt what Israel believes is a covert nuclear weapons program.

The winner of Wednesday's primary to replace Ehud Olmert as head of the Kadima Party would be in a strong position to succeed him as prime minister, and the stance toward Iran could have repercussions for peace in the Middle East.

Israel's soft-spoken foreign minister, Tzipi Livni, is battling Shaul Mofaz, a former military chief and defense minister, in the race to head the centrist party. Both say they prefer a diplomatic solution, but promise to be as tough as needed in confronting Iran.

Israeli officials describe Iran as the biggest threat to Israel's existence. They cite Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad's frequent calls for its destruction and the Iranian development of long-range missiles capable of striking the Jewish state.

Mofaz has indicated a stronger willingness to turn to the military option. In June, he spooked world oil markets by telling the newspaper Yediot Ahronot that Israel would have "no choice" but to attack Iran if diplomatic efforts to end Tehran's nuclear program fail.

"If Iran continues its nuclear arms program — we will attack it," he was quoted as saying.

After coming under heavy criticism for his comments, Mofaz toned down his language, but he hasn't ruled out a military strike.

"I never said that military action is the preferred choice," he told Yediot Ahronot last week. "It would be a last resort in the event that other options fail."

Livni, Israel's top diplomat for the past two years, has repeatedly said she hopes diplomacy prevails. But she too has said force cannot be ruled out if Iran fails to

yield to sanctions.

"Iran needs to understand the military threat exists and is not being taken off the table," she said in June.

On the campaign trail, Livni, who was an agent with the Mossad spy agency before working as a lawyer, has declined to discuss her Iran strategy.

"I'm ready," she said last week. "The only thing I won't do is say in advance what I would do. Headlines on this issue hurt more than help."

Mofaz's supporters have sought to present Livni as lacking the security credentials to stand up to Israel's enemies, but she says people should not mistake her preference for diplomatic solutions for a lack of resolve.

"The fact that I'm a woman doesn't make me a weak leader," she said in an interview published Friday in the Jerusalem Post.

"I would like to think that generals also think twice when they make decisions, just like I do," she added. "It's not that generals pull the trigger and women don't. I have no problem pulling the trigger when necessary."

While Iran says its nuclear program is for the peaceful production of electricity, the U.N. Security Council has imposed three rounds of sanctions over Tehran's refusal to cooperate with an international probe of the program. Israeli officials believe Iran could have the capacity to produce a bomb as soon as next year.

Israeli policymakers and experts long have debated whether it would even be possible for Israel to take out Iran's nuclear program.

Such a mission would be far more complicated than the 1981 Israeli air raid that destroyed Iraq's partially built Osirak nuclear reactor or an U.S. air raid last year on what U.S. intelligence officials described as an unfinished nuclear facility in Syria.

Iran's government has atomic installations throughout the country, some underground or bored into mountains, while the Iraqi and Syrian installations were single, aboveground complexes.

Also, there are signs Washington may be moving away from a military option, including a proposal to open a low-level U.S. diplomatic office in Tehran and a recent decision to allow a senior American diplomat to participate alongside Iran in international talks in Geneva.

On Monday, five former U.S. secretaries of state, gathering to give their best advice to the next president, agreed the United States should talk to Iran.

The wide-ranging, 90-minute session in a packed auditorium at George Washington University produced exceptional unity among the former officials from both parties — Madeleine Albright, Colin Powell, Warren Christopher, Henry A. Kissinger and James A. Baker III.

"The military options are very poor," Christopher said. "And we have to tell the Israelis that."



ARTS & LETTERS STUDENTS:

The Journal of Undergraduate Research needs editors for the spring semester. Join us **Wednesday September 17th at 7:30PM in 119 O'Shag** to find out more, OR e-mail ujournal@nd.edu to request an application for the editorial board.



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*The Religious History of American Women:
Reimagining the Past*
(University of North Carolina, 2007)

Catherine A. Brekus, editor, with contributing authors
Anthea Butler, Kristy Nabhan-Warren and Kathleen
Sprouts Cummings

Saturday, September 20, 2008
9 a.m. to noon
McKenna Hall Center for Continuing Education

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SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Wednesday, September 17

Aerospace Engineering Night
Joyce Center, Monogram Room
6:30 - 8:00 p.m.

Thursday, September 18

Civil Engineering Lunch
Joyce Center, Monogram Room
12:30 - 2:00 p.m.

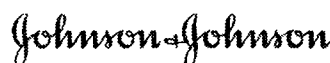
Networking Reception
Joyce Center, Monogram Room
4:00 - 5:00 p.m.

Career Fair
Heritage Hall in the Joyce Center
5:00 - 8:30 p.m.

Friday, September 19

Interview Day
Flanner and Fitzpatrick Halls
8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Engineering Industry Day Networking Reception Sponsored by



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Lockheed Martin
Merck & Co., Inc.
Metavante Corporation
Michelin North America
Microsoft
Miller Brewing Company
Modine Manufacturing Company
Morningstar, Inc.
Nestlé Waters
NetQoS
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Perrigo Company
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PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP
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Trading Technologies
Turner Construction
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U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Chicago District
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Valdes Engineering Company
Walsh Group
Westinghouse Electric Company
Xerox Corporation

Companies listed in **bold** will be interviewing on September 19

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SOUTH AFRICA

Zimbabwean refugees seek asylum

Citizens cross border to escape hunger, poverty from inflation

Associated Press

MUSINA, South Africa — A power-sharing deal has not stopped the flow of Zimbabweans streaming into South Africa to escape the hunger and poverty wrought by runaway inflation in their homeland.

About 1,000 Zimbabweans seeking asylum formed a line that snaked across a packed-dirt parking lot in this South African border town Tuesday. Many had been waiting for days to file their applications.

Some said they feared President Robert Mugabe was still in a position to unleash violence on his enemies. Others said that while they found hope in the agreement signed Monday, they did not expect Zimbabwe's economic crisis to be quickly resolved.

Under the pact, Mugabe remains president and head of government. Morgan Tsvangirai is prime minister-designate and will head a new Council of Ministers responsible for forming government policies.

Observers worry that rather than resolution, the agreement heralds government paralysis.

In Musina, asylum seekers waited restlessly in a lot dotted with ash left over from the previous night's fires and lengths of cardboard used as mattresses. Children gathered around a blackened paint pot balanced over a fire to await a breakfast of corn meal porridge and milk.

Robin Mucheana reached South Africa on Saturday and was still waiting Tuesday to have his application processed.

For 15 years, Mucheana grew oranges, guavas, avocados and vegetables on a small farm in Chitungwiza, south of Harare. This year, with official inflation the highest in the world at 11 million percent, he could not afford seedlings, seeds or

fertilizer. He and his wife resorted to selling vegetables on the streets, but were barely making enough to feed themselves and their three children.

"In the morning, you wake up with bread selling at 8 trillion (Zimbabwe dollars), at 5 in the evening you get it at 10 trillion. And tomorrow, again, new prices," he said. "The hunger is the main issue. Some people are even dying."

The International Red Cross estimates more than 2 million people are hungry in Zimbabwe, and that the number is going to rise to 5 million, about half the country's population, by year's end.

Some aid groups estimate that in recent weeks as many as 6,000 Zimbabweans have been crossing into South Africa every day. Many go back within a few days carrying groceries and other essentials that are scarce at home.

But there has also been a spike in those seeking refugee status.

While most are men, more and more women and children were coming, said Alexis Moens, an official with Medecins Sans Frontieres, which has been providing medical care for Zimbabweans and other immigrants in Musina.

"My feeling is that now more women and children are coming than before (because) the situation is getting a bit more desperate," she said.

High prices aren't the only reason Zimbabweans are struggling. The last harvest was poor, and Mugabe's government restricted the work of aid agencies in June, accusing them of siding with the opposition before a presidential runoff. The ban was lifted last month, but aid agencies say it takes time to gear up.

"People are eating berries, people are eating roots, peo-

ple are eating anything they can get their hands on," said James McGee, the U.S. ambassador to Zimbabwe. "We're seeing it all over the country."

McGee added the political violence that followed elections in March and sent many Zimbabweans fleeing across the border has subsided, but not completely disappeared. He said there were signs of tension in areas where the deaths of parliamentary candidates or other issues meant new votes would have to be held.

Tsvangirai defeated Mugabe in March presidential elections and his party also out-pollled Mugabe's in parliamentary voting. But Tsvangirai did not win the simple majority needed to avoid a runoff. An onslaught of state-sponsored violence forced Tsvangirai to withdraw from the second election, and Mugabe was declared the winner in a vote widely denounced as a sham.

More than 100 Tsvangirai supporters were killed, thousands were beaten, and tens of thousands were forced from their homes.

Richard Zuza, a pastor in Zimbabwe's capital of Harare, said the agreement was a start. But he was also in line for asylum Tuesday, as he had been for four days. He was fearful of returning because he said new elections were being held in his area and he had been counseling his congregation not to vote for Mugabe's party.

He said he wanted details on the agreement, such as whether Tsvangirai's party or Mugabe's would get the ministries overseeing police and the army, two institutions accused of fomenting violence against Mugabe's opponents.

"If they don't give Mr. Tsvangirai those soldiers, I don't think anything can change," he said. "Mugabe must resign. Then everything will be all right."

CHINA

Baby formula has harmful chemicals

Associated Press

BEIJING — China's latest product safety scandal — tainted milk formula blamed for killing two Chinese babies and sickening 1,200 — expanded to include more foods Tuesday, with state media reporting some formula produced by companies involved was exported.

State broadcaster CCTV reported on its evening newscast that a nationwide inspection of the 175 Chinese companies making baby milk powder showed that 22 of them had traces of the industrial chemical melamine in their products.

One company, Guangdong-based Yashili, exported its products to Bangladesh, Yemen and Myanmar, CCTV said, but added that initial testing of samples of the company's exports turned up no trace of melamine.

In Hong Kong, food inspectors ordered a recall after melamine was found in an ice cream bar made by Shanghai Yili AB Foods. The amounts of the chemical found "would not pose major health effects from normal consumption of the bar, however, small children should not eat it," the Center for Food Safety said in a notice posted on its Web site.

The widening scandal is an embarrassing failure for China's product safety system, which was overhauled to restore consumer confidence and preserve export markets after a string of recalls and warnings abroad over tainted toothpaste, faulty tires and other goods.

It is also the second major case in recent years involving baby formula. In 2004, more than 200 Chinese infants suffered malnutrition and at least 12 died after being fed phony formula that contained no nutrients.

The official Xinhua News Agency quoted the Health Ministry as saying medical agencies were prepared for the probe to uncover additional cases and were setting up a treatment system for affected infants.

The company at the heart of

the food scandal, Sanlu Group Co., has apologized for the tainted milk powder, which the Health Ministry says was spiked with melamine. The company says suppliers who sold the raw milk apparently added the chemical, normally used in plastics, to make the milk appear higher in protein.

Zhang Zhenling, Sanlu's vice president, apologized Monday but did not explain why the company took so long to inform the public about the contamination despite receiving complaints as early as March and having tests confirm the presence of the chemical in early August.

The company went public with the information after its New Zealand stakeholder told the New Zealand government, which then informed the Chinese government.

"The serious safety accident of the Sanlu formula milk powder for infants has caused severe harm to many sickened babies and their families. We feel really sad about this," Zhang said, reading from a prepared statement.

Sanlu's General Manager Tian Wenhua was fired and dismissed from the company's board of directors as a result of the scandal, Xinhua quoted Communist Party officials as saying in the northern city of Shijiazhuang, where the company is based.

In total, four men have been arrested in relation to the tainted milk, spokesman Shi Guizhong with the Hebei Provincial Security Department was quoted as saying by the official Xinhua News Agency on Tuesday. The newly arrested dealers were only identified by their surnames as Ma, 40, and Zhao, 43.

Earlier, police said they had arrested two brothers, surnamed Geng, who ran a milk collection center in Hebei province and are accused of watering down milk to increase volume then adding melamine, Xinhua said. They sold about three tons of contaminated milk a day, the report said.

Details of the children's deaths show the problem appeared to have gone undetected for months. The first victim, a five-month-old boy from the western city of Lanzhou, died May 1, ministry officials said. The second, an eight-month-old girl also from Lanzhou, died July 22.

Vice Health Minister Ma Xiaowei told reporters that 1,253 infants had been sickened — mainly after developing kidney stones — more than twice the number previously acknowledged. Of those, 913 of the infants were only slightly affected, while 340 remained hospitalized and 53 cases were considered especially severe, he said.

Shoddy and fake goods are common in China, and infants, hospital patients and others have been killed or injured by tainted or fake milk, medicines, liquor and other products.

None of the milk powder was exported to Europe or the United States, although Sanlu is 43 percent owned by a New Zealand dairy farmers' cooperative, Fonterra.

Fonterra, the world's biggest milk trader, says it urged Sanlu to recall the product as early as Aug. 2. Sanlu did not order a recall until last Thursday, after the New Zealand government took up the issue with China.



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THE OBSERVER VIEWPOINT

page 12

Wednesday, September 17, 2008

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THE
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OBSERVER POLL

What do you think of the new Facebook?

Love it
Hate it
I don't care
I don't have a Facebook

Vote by Thursday at 5 p.m. at
www.ndsmcobserver.com

"Yes ma'am, white people get keloids, too"

Working at a small independent bakery in a semi-gentrified neighborhood this summer, I had interesting encounters with every other customer. Some were a good kind of interesting (the lady who was en route to northern Michigan for her first ever kayaking trip), some were a bad kind of interesting (the people who complain to cashiers about prices), and some were just plain interesting (the residents of the nearby mental health facility).

But one of my favorite interesting conversations came late in the summer. A lady named T'Raina called in one day to request four loaves of six-grain bread. I took her order over the phone and, as I was working unexpectedly the next day, served her when she and her teenage daughter came in to pick it up. I handed her her bag of bread and asked, "Can I get you anything else, ma'am?"

"I'm sorry, I'm just curious," T'Raina said, motioning to the area right beneath her own throat. "Are those keloids?"

A pause for two points of information. First, for those of you who slept through that slide in Common Human Diseases, a keloid is a mass of scar tissue produced by the body in a particularly overzealous healing of a wound. Keloids can occur in many shapes and sizes, from those resembling large stubborn pimples to huge fleshy scars that cover entire limbs. I have a few of the former; your Common Human Diseases textbook depicts the latter.

Second, keloids run in my family. Mine are beneath my own throat, a few inches from a childhood surgical

scar that, oddly enough, healed up just fine. And, because I was on Xanga long enough to know just how much fun other people's medical stories are, those are all the details you need.

Anyway, I'd recently gone through a long process to get the keloids conclusively identified as such. Now it was pretty refreshing that T'Raina had diagnosed them at first glance.

"Yes, ma'am," I told her. "Those are keloids."

"Oh." She said. "I didn't think white people got those."

I was a little too taken aback to formulate a coherent answer, so I said "Um, yes ma'am, they're keloids. I inherited them from my dad." (My father's father's family came from Syria about a hundred years ago. This is as close as I come to non-whiteness and is all I could think of).

"Okay," T'Raina said. "I didn't mean to be intrusive. I just wondered."

"It's fine," I said. "I'm just glad someone knows what they are."

That was true. But the whole truth is there was something else I felt glad about. As I packaged up a few muffins for T'Raina, helped distribute the bags between her and her daughter, rang up her total and wished them a nice afternoon, I'll admit the guilty white liberal in me briefly danced a euphoric little solidarity dance.

It is true enough that personal problems of the keloid magnitude aren't limited to any one race, age, gender or sexual orientation. These form basic human common ground. Guaranteed, no matter who or what you are, you are currently struggling with at least one of the following:

Acne in the usual or perhaps odd locations, stale breath, inverted foot arches, stale armpits, hair that refus-

es to conform to modern standards of beauty, hangnails, aversion to green vegetables, aversion to red meat, self-righteousness, and that affliction most common to contact lens wearers with allergies: "eye boogers."

Thus we all struggle against the little imperfections. They may be the only things that people can agree they have in common.

Last week I watched dozens of people say good-bye to their families at the International Departure gate at O'Hare. Some went down the security line reserved "For Deployed Military." Some were simply leaving for a long time. One girl my age broke quickly away from her parents before the exchange could become too emotional. Watching all that, realizing that the rest of the world goes through the same hard good-bye, made my own leaving the country easier. Somehow, knowing that a struggle belongs to everyone takes some of the weight from your own.

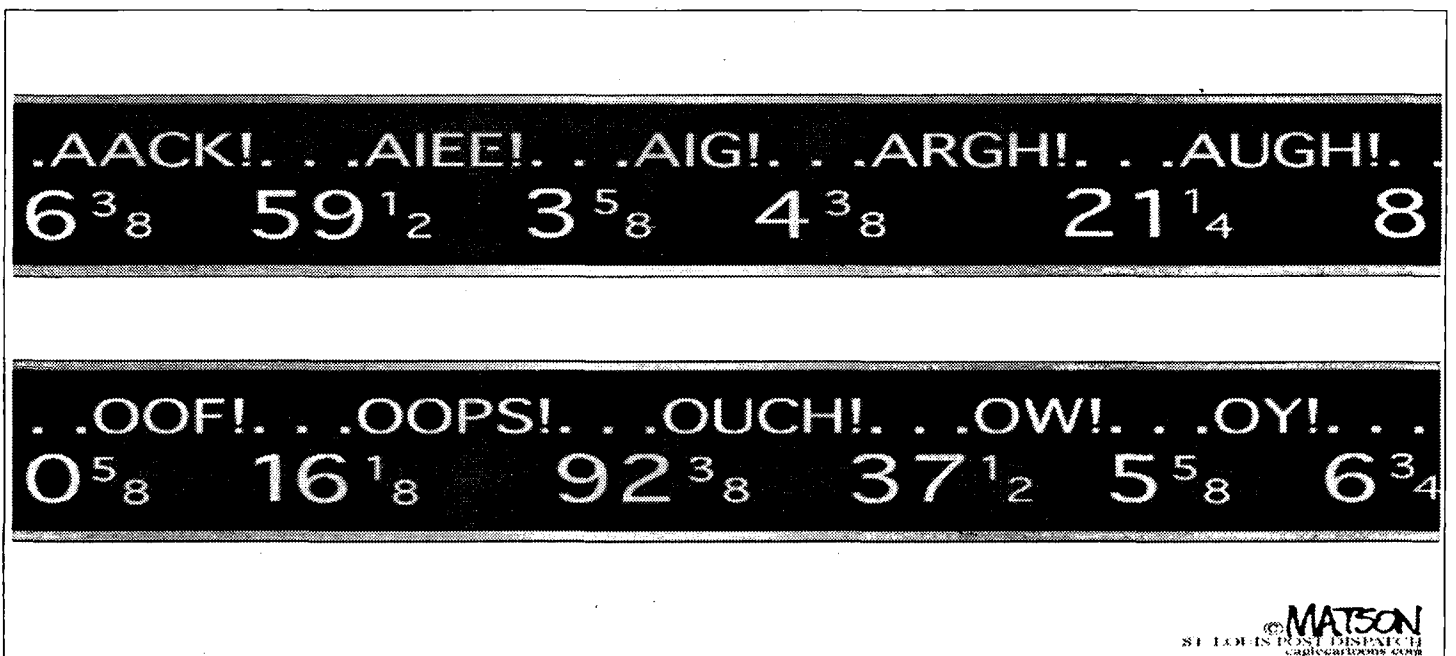
Maybe that's because knowing you share someone else's struggle is a sure way to connect with them. So is a white girl with keloids — by virtue of them — automatically not a racist? Of course not. But she has a little more affinity for one of her bakery customers who happens to be black.

And in the mirror the keloids look a lot smaller than they used to.

Katherine Khorey is a junior studying English and Russian at Trinity College, Dublin. She plans to spend a lot of her free time baking organic bran muffins while wearing her hand-sewn flowered apron. Seriously.

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

EDITORIAL CARTOON



QUOTE OF THE DAY

"Whom are you?" he asked, for he had attended business college."

George Ade
U.S. dramatist

Submit a Letter
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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Raytheon important aspect of national defense

I was rather dismayed when I read the Sept. 15 Letter to the Editor entitled "Raytheon's money is blood money." This article presents a very dangerous and myopic view.

While I have no intimate knowledge of the weapons industry, I highly doubt Miss Brosnihan does.

In fact, it is evident that she is taking issue with the very existence of the company and weapons manufacturers as a whole and no particular policy. Apparently she has forgotten that the world in which we live is a dangerous one. The very freedoms that she, and in deed all of us, enjoys are protected by force of arms.

It would be nice to believe that every situation could be solved in a civil manner but this is not the case. Put another way, there is a reason that members of the South Bend Police Department carry firearms.

Just as there exists persons who wish to do harm to their fellow Americans (theft, homicide, etc.) there also exists extra-territorial threats to American citizens. These threats are dealt with through diplomacy when possible and force exerted by the military when necessary. The brave men and women who compose the military and police forces are armed by companies like Raytheon.

Thus these companies — and the

weapons they produce — make it possible for military and police to protect your freedoms. This is not to say that government policy regarding the use of the police or military is always noble.

However, the deployment of these forces is an entirely separate matter from the basic issue of their baring arms. It is simply a reality that this world necessitates, on occasion, the use of force to ensure liberty.

It is true that we must all work for a more peaceful world, but unilaterally disarming is simply not an option. In fact, it is likely that doing so would only decrease America's national security and the cause of bringing about greater stability and peace. After all, Pax Romana was not guaranteed by please and thank you but by brute force and clever diplomacy.

True, tolerance and some extent of cultural autonomy played a healthy role in stabilizing the empire but the backbone always consisted of its legions. In many ways, the world has changed since then, but human nature has not. Brosnihan would do well to do to remember these words: "If you want peace, prepare for war."

Jim Napier
junior
Siegfried Hall
Sept. 16

Removing Raytheon not enough

In response to Claire Brosnihan's Sept. 15 Letter to the Editor, I wholeheartedly agree with the notion that supporting Raytheon in any manner is basically giving them the power to kill. She makes a strong point claiming that no Notre Dame students should pursue a career with Raytheon, a career with a company that, in my eyes, is the epitome of evil. However, I think it is necessary to take her idea one step further and not support Raytheon in any means. Additionally, we might as well remove all support to any industry or organization in which it produces blood money. I strongly think it is imperative that then we must start at the top, the complete removal of the United States Military.

We need to end all support of our soldiers and veterans, I mean when is the last time that they have done any good for us? Pensions for veterans, who wants that? Miss Brosnihan, do you not realize that it is blood money that has brought about our nation's freedom? It appears that you are suggesting that we throw away over 200 years of sacrifices made by men and women of this fine country, just so that no innocent life would ever be harmed. Need I remind you of Pearl Harbor? If we did not have a military force, we would have been annihilated during WWII. Forgive me if I think a few innocent lives are a necessary price for the freedom of countless American.

What I truly want to know is do you really want some dictator to march into our country and take away our rights because we would not have a military to defend ourselves, or maybe you are a fan of dictatorship and communism? I am appalled that you would vehemently attack our nation's freedoms-albeit in a round about manner-but nonetheless, you are disgracing our nation. If you are so anti-American, might I suggest Canada, or some other foreign nation which does not have a military, therefore allowing you to not be bothered by the blood money being thrown around. But for me, I am proud to be an American.

But to stick to your point, I truly think Notre Dame should cut all support to any and all activities where innocent lives are lost. For starters, we might as well disband our football team — yes there are fatalities every year in football — innocent boys losing their lives. Additionally, we might as well stop sending money to missionaries that travel across the globe to help those lesser off. In both of these activities, football and mission work, innocent lives are lost and there is no way we can have that now is there?

Charles Cossell
junior
Alumni Hall
Sept. 15

Recycling easiest way to save economy

Blue recycling bins, stealth bombers, gas-sipping cars and M-16s all have the potential to be used for the same purpose: protecting America's interests and making her a stronger country. We all know the same familiar story of high energy prices due to our dependent addiction to foreign oil, and the typical Washington response: Do nothing.

While those of us back in the real world wait around for our gridlocked leaders not to solve our energy problems as we helplessly watch billions of dollars get sent abroad in return for some black sludge, there is something that we can do both to help our economy and strengthen the relative position of our beautiful country in this dangerous world. And the answer is easier than you think. Recycle, recycle, recycle.

This may seem like a crazy thing for a relatively conservative Republican to say, as we Republicans seem to have a bad reputation on environmental issues. But trust me, in recycling I can find almost as much agreement with a crazy hippie environmentalist than my stomach finds with a 3 a.m. Taco Bell run.

Recycling serves a multitude of goals, the most obvious being its environmental benefits, but also including econom-

ic and security benefits of great proportions for us in terms of more jobs, cheaper sources of materials and, most importantly, less foreign borrowing from China to pay for the greatest wealth transfer in history to hostile and questionable nations like Venezuela, Iran, Russia, ... actually almost every country we get our oil from.

You may think I'm crazy, but hear me out. In America, we buy over \$700 billion of foreign oil every year. While much of this is refined to make gasoline, a lot is also used to make the plastic that we use and throw away everyday. Recycled plastic saves 70 percent on energy costs, creates jobs through its collection and reprocessing and replaces oil that we import from dangerous places with a source that is already here. And this is all in addition to the fact that the plastic doesn't end up taking up space in a landfill somewhere in New Jersey or chilling out on the Pacific coast with some sea otters.

While I can understand if you don't like people from New Jersey, you can't possibly hate on cute sea otters. By reducing the amount of oil we use in plastic production, our gas will cost less, the American economy will benefit from the recycling industry's growth. Also the national transfer of our money

to countries who hate us and sponsor terrorism with oil revenues will be lowered as we pay more Americans to produce plastic with resources we already have here at home.

Increased recycling should not be limited to plastic, however. It pains me when I see bag after bag after bag of Natty cans mixed in with the trash in dorm bathrooms every Sunday after the parties are over. Besides the gross fact that people were drinking Nasty Lite, it costs 95 percent less to produce aluminum from recycled cans than from virgin sources. That is a ridiculous margin, yet I see cans in the trash all the time. I could lament the waste and inefficiency for days and still be upset.

When it costs 1.43 cents to make a penny, you know that raw material prices are ridiculously high, but in America we still throw everything away.

People of Notre Dame, as good citizens of your country and your world, try to make a difference this year. While your contribution may not seem like much, and while recycling obviously won't totally solve our energy problems, together we can have a large impact.

So stop being a lazy slob and dedicate a separate trash can to beer cans next weekend so that you can recycle them.

When you are walking out the door of a DeBartolo classroom, resist the temptation to throw your soda bottle in the little tan trash can by the door and hold onto it for another ten seconds so you can put it into the recycling bin on your way out of the building. And don't accept that stupid little plastic bag from the cashier at Subway when you are just going to walk 15 steps to a booth, sit down and eat it within site of the ugly yellow sign anyway.

Just try to make a small conscious effort to recycle throughout the course of your daily life. I don't care if you do it for Captain Planet, Uncle Sam, John Doe, Our Lady or Jesus Christ himself, but just spend the extra two seconds to recycle your aluminum, paper and plastic each day.

Collectively we will save ourselves money at the store and at the pump, help other Americans by creating jobs, and help protect the country that we so dearly love from foreign sponsored terrorism and other threats, just as she protects us and our freedoms with constant vigilance, every single day.

Stephen Bant
junior
off campus
Sept. 15

THIS SPACE FOR RENT.

Submit a Letter to the Editor, guest column, illustrations or political cartoons.

E-mail Kara at viewpoint.1@nd.edu for more information.

By JORDAN GAMBLE

Scene Writer

The Season

Interrupted and ultimately shortened by last fall's writer's strike, "The Office" nonetheless delivered a rich fourth season.

Starting with the premiere, "Fun Run," and Michael Scott's Dunder Mifflin Scranton Meredith Palmer Memorial Celebrity Rabies Awareness Pro-Am Fun Run For The Cure, the show's writers hardly let up in the quest for more character-driven comedy, with a surprising amount of drama thrown in.

The performances this season were still spot-on as they evolved. The saga of "Dwangela" gave Rainn Wilson a chance to flex some acting muscle, and his mournful, pining Dwight is weirdly endearing. Steve Carell keeps Michael's infuriating and hilarious tactlessness, but injects quite a bit of pathos with Michael's romantic relationships, as seen in "The Deposition," "The Dinner Party" and with a new character, Holly, played by Oscar-nominated Amy Ryan in the season finale.

Jim and Pam's relationship, after three seasons of anticipation, is finally official. Thankfully, it avoids the curse that plagued so many other eagerly awaited TV couples — that of instant boredom. Die-hard "Jam" fans may have seethed with frustration after Jim's botched marriage proposal in the season finale, but it will be inter-

esting to see what happens next season.

Starting with the "Dinner Party," the season hit a rocky stretch, the product of the long months of the writer's strike that forced storylines to change and entire episodes to be scrapped. This may account for the abrupt feeling of the latter half of the season, where a few elements seemed rather tacked on, or at least underdeveloped. Events such as Jan's pregnancy, Toby's resignation, and Ryan's arrest, while still in line with the characters, feel like half the story was left out — which is probably true, as the strike cut about ten episodes from the regular season run.

The Office Season Four NBC

Created By: Ricky Gervais, Stephen Merchant

Starring: Steve Carell, Rain Wilson, John Krasinski, Jenna Fischer, B. J. Novak



The DVD

With only fourteen episodes, the \$49.99 price tag for the boxed set seems steep, but a wealth of bonus materials helps fill the void.

In three episode commentaries, directors, writers and cast members weigh in on the making of the show from script to final edit, and the 20-minute blooper reel reveals just how much fun the cast and crew are really having on set.

Perhaps the most intriguing of the behind-the-scenes features is an hour-long writer's panel from "The Office" Convention, although the video quality leaves much to be desired.

Another nice touch is "Michael Scott's Dunder Mifflin Ad" on the second disk as a stand-alone, separate from the episode in which it originally aired. Some clever NBC promos fill out the first and third disks.

The deleted scenes for every episode often rival the material that made it on television, so the included table draft of the script for "Dinner Party" is a great addition for fans wanting to compare it to the televised episode. The paper reproduction fits neatly into the cardboard sleeve.

With this much material in the bonus features and 14 pretty darn funny episodes with great performances, any fan of "The Office" would appreciate the season four boxed set.

Contact Jordan Gamble at
jgamble@nd.edu

By MARY FRANCIS POPIT

Scene Writer

Why is NBC's comedy "The Office" so popular among Notre Dame students? Perhaps because of the parallels between the two worlds. Take, the end of last season, for instance.

The office temp-turned-executive Ryan Howard (B.J. Novak) commits fraud and is sent to the real world's version of Res Life.

The old-timer boss, Michael Scott (Steve Carell), is given a chance to pursue a senior/freshman romance when he meets the charming but unassuming newcomer Holly (Amy Ryan). He also finds out that his ex-girlfriend Jan Levinson (Melora Hardin) is pregnant, courtesy of a sperm bank.

Dunder Mifflin's receptionist, Pam Beasley (Jenna Fischer), is accepted into the Pratt School of Design for the summer, yet she fails to get her ring-by-spring from Jim (John Krasinski).

However, accountant Angela Martin (Angela Kinsey) gets her ring, albeit without enthusiasm, from her admirer, salesman Andy Bernanrd (Ed Helms).

Finally, the show shocked viewers when Angela and her secret interest Dwight (Rainn Wilson) are caught in the office breaking a certain rule of du Lac.

If these parallels seem interesting, yet overwhelming, then you would be on the right track.

The writers of The Office need to take the advice of one of their characters, Michael Scott, and K.I.S.S. — that is, Keep It Simple, Stupid. Last year's writer's strike has been worse for the writers than Michael has been for Dunder Mifflin. It forced them to create plot lines but also tie up loose ends within the final six episodes, producing entire installments that were akin to work at the Scranton paper company — lazy and uninspiring.

Hopefully, executive producer Greg Daniels in the recent past yelled to his fellow writers "Conference room — now!" Here's what was likely discussed in this emergency meeting:

1. Keep "The Office" within the world of Dunder Mifflin. The brilliance of the show has been its portrayal of simplistic office life. Seasons two and three struck a healthy balance, giving us hints of the world outside of Dunder Mifflin, especially with episodes such as "The Dundies" and "Diwali." However, this world exposed itself too much (much like a man did to Phyllis) in season four, with nearly every episode containing major plot lines outside of the Dunder-Mifflin offices.

2. Keep "The Office" to a half hour. As much as NBC hypes up longer versions of the show, the hour-longs recently have had disastrous consequences ("Dunder Mifflin Infinity" is an example). A Dwight/Michael antic is only funny for so long. Leave the hour-longs for the season finales and

maybe the season premieres.

3. Bring in Ricky Gervais as a guest star for some major resuscitation. The British comedian, who played regional manager David Brent in the original U.K. version, receives the gold yogurt lid for playing most disturbing boss. Surely he could make an appearance as David Brent, coming to America to sell office supplies, perhaps?

4. Make this season the last one. If you love someone (or something), you need to know when to let him or her (or it) go. This applies to the writers and fans of "The Office." Season four was evidence that despite great performances by the actors, the writers are running out of fresh ideas to keep NBC's hit series going.

Season five, with its first two episodes entitled "Weight Loss" and "Business Ethics," has great potential to gain what season four lacked. The show deserves to receive the kind of treatment Michael Scott wishes for himself in one his talking-head appearances: "I swore to myself if I ever got to walk around the room as manager, people would laugh as they saw me coming, and they'd applaud as I walked away."

Notre Dame, get ready to laugh and applaud once again.

Contact Mary Francis Popit at
mpopit@nd.edu

To Do:
Clock back
into
"The Office"

Around the water cooler:
Moments in "The Office"



**Celebrating
Diwali**



**Rabies
Fun Run**



**Dwight &
Angela
revealed!**



**Booze
Cruise**



**Jim &
Pam's
first kiss**



**Michael
& Jan's
first fling**



**The Office
Survivor**



**Basketball
Match**

Rays top Sox in bottom of ninth, lead AL East

Waters' complete game leads Orioles over Blue Jays; Lowe and Dodgers edge closer to NL West crown

Associated Press

ST. PETERSBURG, Fla. — Dione Navarro singled with the bases loaded and one out in the ninth inning, enabling the Tampa Bay Rays to beat the Boston Red Sox 2-1 and remain in first place in the AL East.

Navarro delivered his second game-winner in a week against the defending World Series champions, lifting a fly ball that sailed over the head center fielder Coco Crisp on a 2-2 pitch from Justin Masterson (6-5).

A night after Boston hit six homers to rout Rays ace Scott Kazmir 13-5 and pull within percentage points of the division lead, Tampa Bay wiped out a 1-0 deficit on Carlos Pena's seventh-inning homer off Josh Beckett.

The Rays, who have led the division for the past 54 days, moved one game ahead of the Red Sox, who have lost seven of eight at Tropicana Field this season. Dan Wheeler (5-5) struck out the only batter he faced to bail Tampa Bay out of a ninth-inning jam and get the victory before a crowd of 32,079.

The Rays loaded the bases on Jason Bartlett bloop single, a walk and a hit batsmen. Navarro, whose ninth-inning double off Jonathan Papelbon gave Tampa Bay a 5-4 victory at Fenway Park last Tuesday, ended with a fly that fell just short of the warning track.

Beckett and Rays starter Andy Sonnanstine were outstanding against each other for the second time in six days.

Beckett limited the Rays to Carlos Pena's 29th homer and two singles in eight innings, and Sonnanstine held the Red Sox to three hits and an unearned run on Kevin Youkilis' sacrifice fly in six innings.

Both allowed just one run last

Wednesday at Fenway Park in a game Tampa Bay eventually won 4-2 in 14 innings.

Beckett retired 13 in a row before Floyd singled to right with one out in the fifth. He walked Navarro, but escaped unscathed when he struck out Eric Hinske and Gabe Gross to end the inning.

The Red Sox snapped a scoreless tie in the sixth.

Jacoby Ellsbury beat out an infield single and Dustin Pedroia followed with a sharp grounder that Rays third baseman Evan Longoria bobbled and then kicked for an error. David Ortiz grounded to first, moving the runners up, and Youkilis followed with his sacrifice fly.

Akinori Iwamura singled with one out in the sixth for the second hit off Beckett. Pena's homer in the seventh was his 15th since the All-Star break and only the second Beckett has allowed in his last six starts.

Orioles 2, Blue Jays 0

Chris Waters threw a four-hit shutout and Luke Scott homered to lead the Baltimore Orioles to a victory over the Toronto Blue Jays on Tuesday night.

Toronto lost its third straight and saw a six-game home winning streak ended. The Blue Jays had won seven of their past eight games against the Orioles.

Baltimore, which had lost 17 of 21 coming in, posted its first shutout since beating Texas 9-0 on Aug. 9.

Making his ninth major league start, Waters (3-3) walked two and struck out three. The left-hander was 0-3 with a 6.45 ERA in his past four outings.

Toronto rookie Travis Snider had the only extra-base hit, a one-out double in the eighth, but Waters got out of it by retiring Marco Scutaro and Jose Bautista

on grounders.

Waters pitched eight shutout innings in his major league debut, allowing one hit in a road victory over the Los Angeles Angels on Aug. 5.

Scott opened the fourth with a homer to center, his 23rd, off reliever John Parrish, as the Orioles won consecutive games for the first time since a three-game winning streak from Aug. 13-15.

The Orioles had chances for more runs, but Ramon Hernandez grounded into a double play with the bases loaded to end the third and Brian Roberts stranded two runners with an inning-ending double play in the fourth.

Toronto starter Shaun Marcum (9-7) left after two-plus innings because of numbness in his right forearm. Marcum missed 27 games earlier this season with a sore right elbow.

The right-hander gave up a double and a walk in the first without allowing a run and he set the Orioles down in order in the second before running into trouble with his control in the third.

No. 9 hitter Juan Castro walked and scored on a double by Roberts before Marcum walked Nick Markakis, bringing manager Cito Gaston and trainer George Poulis to the mound. After a brief discussion, Gaston called Parrish out of the bullpen as Marcum and Poulis headed to the dugout.

Baltimore third baseman Melvin Mora threw his bat onto the field after he was ejected by home plate umpire Rob Drake in the third. Upset after being caught looking at a knee-high fastball, Mora argued with Drake and was ejected as manager Dave Trembley ran out to try and break it up. With Aubrey Huff batting, Mora tossed his bat into foul territory as he left the dugout.

It was Mora's first ejection of the season and the 12th for the Orioles.

Dodgers 6, Pirates 2

Derek Lowe held Pittsburgh to five singles over seven effective innings to remain unbeaten in his career against the Pirates, and the Los Angeles Dodgers edged closer to the NL West title with a victory Tuesday night.

Casey Blake homered and tripled his first two times up after sitting out the Dodgers' 8-2 win Monday night with lower back stiffness. Manny Ramirez had three hits for the second successive night, including an RBI double in a four-run second inning.

The Dodgers won their 14th in 16 games and lead Arizona by



Red Sox outfielder Jacoby Ellsbury can't reach a home run by Carlos Pena in the seventh inning of Boston's 2-1 loss Tuesday.

five in the NL West with 11 to play. The Diamondbacks played later Tuesday at home against San Francisco.

A questionable call aided the Dodgers' second — Lowe, lumbering down the line, appeared to be out by a step on his sacrifice bunt. Pirates pitcher Jeff Karstens nearly threw it away, but TV replays showed second baseman Freddy Sanchez, covering first, managed to scoop up the ball before the runner arrived. Umpire Tim Timmons called Lowe safe.

The Dodgers already had a run in on Blake's 10th homer, then scored three more times following the one-out call at first. Russell Martin hit a sacrifice fly, Andre Ethier singled in a run after sitting out three games and Ramirez doubled in the fourth run.

Blake tripled and scored on Blake DeWitt's sacrifice fly an inning later. Blake finished a double short of the cycle, hitting into a force play and grounding out in his other two at-bats.

Lowe (14-11) didn't need much run support, though he rarely does against the Pirates — he is 6-0 in six career starts against them. He struck out three, walked none and was in trouble only in the fourth when the

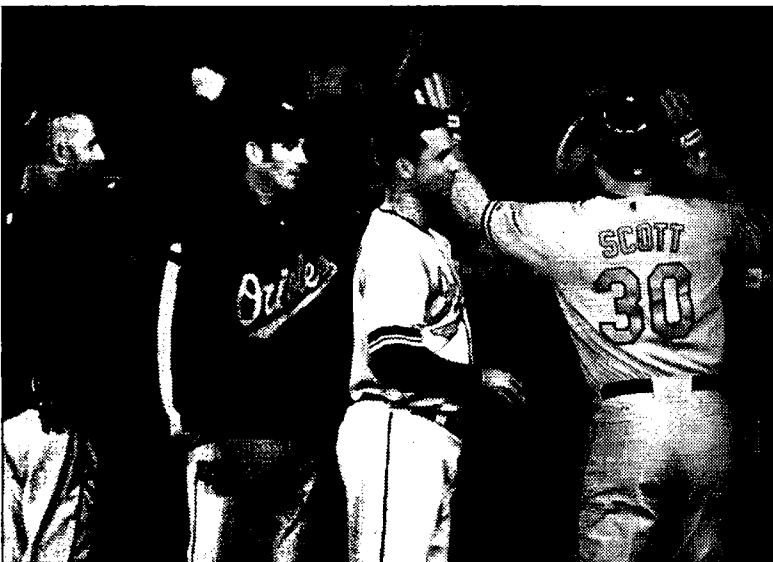
Pirates, down 4-0, scored on consecutive singles by Sanchez, Nate McLouth and Ryan Doumit to start the inning. Lowe recovered to get Brandon Moss to ground into a double play and retired 11 of his final 12 batters.

Lowe has won his last four starts, allowing two runs and 14 hits in 26 1-3 innings — a 0.68 ERA — with the Dodgers winning each game by a margin of at least four runs.

The Pirates wish they could win at PNC Park the way Lowe and the Dodgers do. Los Angeles is 22-6 in Pittsburgh since the ballpark opened in 2001 and has never lost a series there. The Dodgers are guaranteed at least a split in this four-game series. Lowe is 5-0 in Pittsburgh.

With Karstens (2-6) losing his sixth consecutive decision since he pitched 7 2-3 perfect innings against the Diamondbacks on Aug. 6, the Pirates dropped their eighth in 11 games and 19th in 25 games. They are 13-30 since trading top run-producer Jason Bay to Boston on July 31, part of the three-team deal that sent Ramirez to the Dodgers.

Ramirez, facing the Pirates for the first time since that trade, is 6-for-9 in the series. He is hitting .402 for the Dodgers with 14 homers and 44 RBIs in 43 games.



Baltimore players celebrate in the dugout after Luke Scott's solo home run in the fourth inning Tuesday's 2-0 win.

CLASSIFIEDS

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

LOST & FOUND

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RETURNED THE LEPRECHAUN
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PERSONAL

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nant.shtml

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

Some day somebodies gonna make
you want to turn around and say
goodbye

Until then baby are you going to let
them hold you down and make you
cry?
Don't you know?
Don't you know things can change
Things'll go your way
If you hold on for one more day

It's just for decoration, man., that's
it and that's all

AROUND THE NATION

Wednesday, September, 17, 2008

COMPILED FROM THE OBSERVER'S WIRE SERVICES

page 17

NCAA Men's Soccer NSCAA Top 25

team	points	previous
1 Wake Forrest	575	1
2 SMU	552	4
3 NOTRE DAME	518	5
4 Maryland	490	8
5 St. Johns	464	11
6 California	458	6
7 Connecticut	402	7
7 North Carolina	402	12
9 NorthWestern	366	14
10 Akron	357	2
11 Illinois-Chicago	350	16
12 Creighton	322	3
13 Saint Louis	282	17
14 Indiana	265	19
15 Ohio State	229	10
16 Boston College	227	9
17 Loyola Md.	196	13
18 Dartmouth	167	25
19 Louisville	144	NR
20 Providence	127	NR
21 South Florida	114	21
22 Georgetown	94.5	20
23 UD Davis	59.5	NR
24 UC Santa Barbara	50	13
25 Duke	45	NR

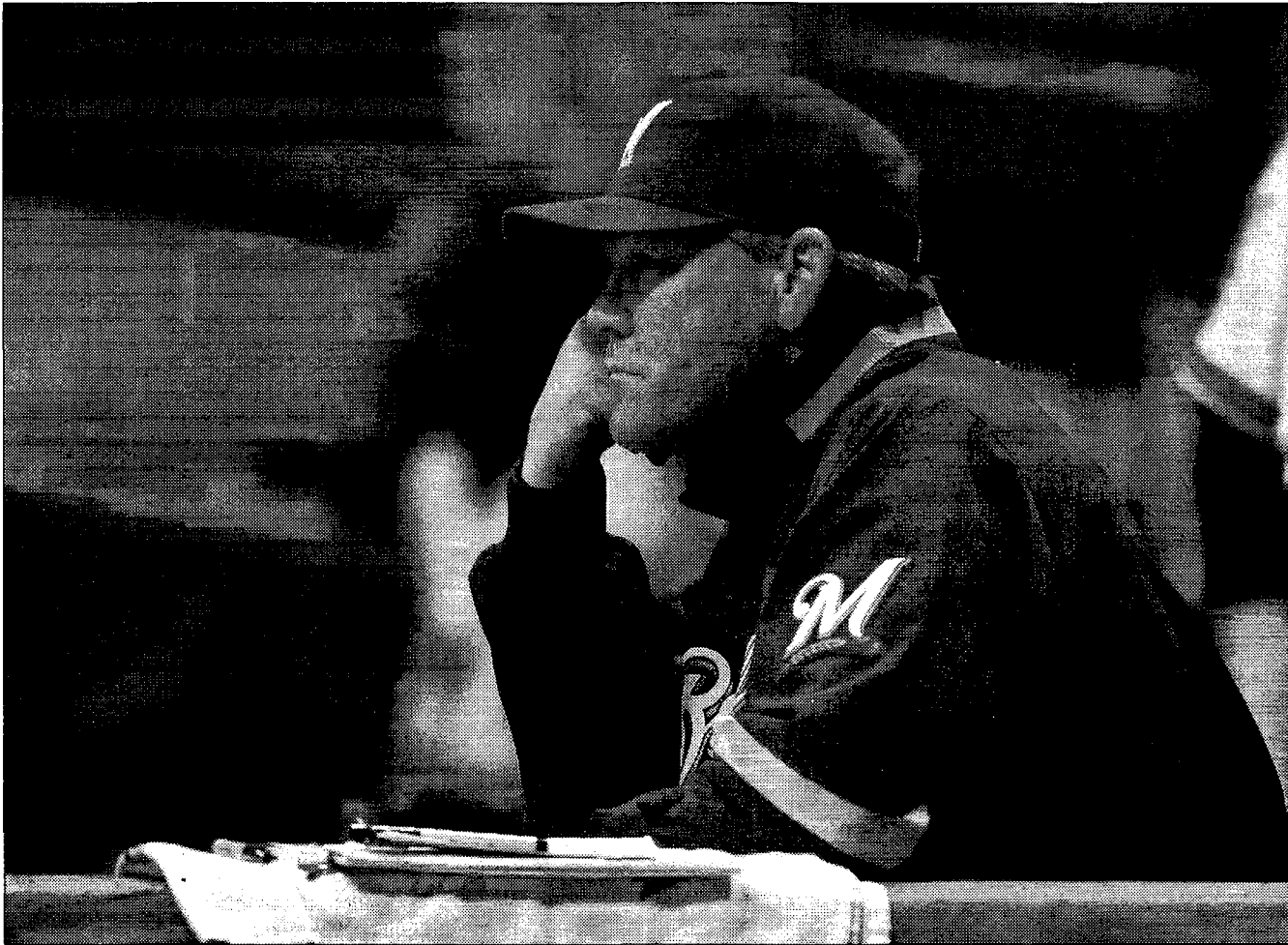
NCAA Women's Soccer NSCAA Top 25

team	points	previous
1 NOTRE DAME	840	2
2 UCLA	790	1
3 North Carolina	734	5
4 USC	722	3
5 Portland	719	6
6 Stanford	708	3
7 Virginia	636	9
8 Texas A&M	579	10
9 Florida State	555	7
10 Texas	549	8
11 Duke	518	12
12 Boston College	440.5	13
13 Oklahoma State	399	16
14 West Virginia	373	14
15 Wake Forest	351	19
16 Florida	350	17
17 Penn State	344	11
18 California	168	20
19 Villanova	152	NR
20 UC Santa Barbara	136	NR
21 Colorado	110.5	NR
22 South Carolina	98	NR
23 Illinois	85	18
24 San Diego	82	NR
25 Kansas	74	21

MIAA Women's Soccer Conference Standings

Team	Record
	W-L
1 Adrian	4-1
2 Albion	2-3
3 Alma	3-3
4 Calvin	4-1
5 Hope	3-3
6 Kalamazoo	3-4
7 Olivet	2-4
8 SAINT MARY'S	1-3
9 Trine	0-5

MLB



Milwaukee Brewers manager Ned Yost leans in the dugout during the first inning of a game against the Reds September 9. In Milwaukee. The Brewers fired Yost Monday with the team mired in a late-season slump.

Yost says he has no regrets managing Brewers

Associated Press

MILWAUKEE — Once he finished packing, Ned Yost figured he'd begin the long drive back home to Georgia. He might even tune in a ballgame. "I've got XM Radio, so I'll be able to listen to the Brewers pitch-by-pitch and be rooting Dale on in his first win," Yost said. A day after being abruptly fired as Milwaukee's manager and replaced by third-base coach Dale Sveum, Yost insisted Tuesday he had no hard feelings toward the team that let him go with 12

games left while tied for the NL wild-card spot. "If anybody thinks that I've got sour grapes or I don't want this club to succeed, they're crazy. I'll be rooting them on every inch of the way and I hope they can win that wild card and go deep, deep into the playoffs and win the World Series," he said. Sveum starts out Tuesday night with the opener of a three-game series against the NL Central-leading Cubs at Wrigley Field. Yost intended to be in charge when he flew into Chicago on Monday. Instead, he's got a new

plan: taking wife Debbie out to dinner for their 31st wedding anniversary Wednesday night. Yost said he had no idea he was about to be fired when he went into general manager Doug Melvin's room in the team hotel in Chicago and saw principal owner Mark Attanasio. "When I walked in, I hadn't even sat down on the couch and Doug said we were going to make a change," Yost said. "They didn't ask me any questions what did I think we needed to do," Yost said. "There was none of that."

That contradicted what Attanasio and Melvin said Monday at a hastily called news conference about four hours after the move was announced. The two said they had asked Yost for answers for the team's recent woes — including a 3-11 stretch in September and a four-game sweep in Philadelphia — before the firing. The slide left the Brewers, trying for their first playoff spot since 1982, tied with the Phillies for the wild card. "I don't agree with the decision, but I respect Doug Melvin's decision."

IN BRIEF

90-year-old reminisces about Yankee Stadium opener

NEW YORK — Standing in front of the Yankees dugout during batting practice, Joe Mignogna remembered opening day as if it were yesterday — opening day 1923, that is.

Now 90 years old, Mignogna went to the very first game at Yankee Stadium with his grandfather.

"You want highlights?" he said. "I remember all the people — the fans and the dignitaries. The dignitaries wore fedoras, top coats. None of the fans here would have been let in."

"Every time I come in, I get that feeling of exhilaration," he said. "I used to come here and sit in the rain, and a couple of times in the snow. When I was going to high school, my favorite place was out in the bleachers. I've still got splinters."

Jets cut former AussieRules punter Ben Graham

NEW YORK — The New York Jets waived punter Ben Graham on Tuesday, two days after a poor outing in a loss to the New England Patriots.

Graham, a former Australian Football League star who was in his fourth season with the Jets, averaged just 27.3 net yards in the 19-10 loss. The Patriots benefited from excellent field position throughout the game, starting five of their nine offensive series in Jets territory. Jets coach Eric Mangini, who discovered Graham in an AFL kicking competition in Australia 11 years ago, made it clear Monday that he was disappointed with the punting situation. "We'll look at it very closely, then we'll move forward here," he said.

Jays Marcum leaves with right forearm numbness

TORONTO — Blue Jays pitcher Shaun Marcum left the game against Baltimore on Tuesday night after two-plus innings because of numbness in his right forearm. Left-hander John Parrish replaced Marcum, who missed 27 games in June and July because of soreness in his right elbow. Marcum struggled after returning July 22, going 3-2 with a 6.19 ERA in seven starts, and was optioned to Triple-A Syracuse on Aug. 22 to work on his location. He had gone 1-0 with a 1.26 ERA in two starts since being recalled on Sept. 2.

Making his 25th start of the season, the right-handed Marcum (9-6) gave up a double and a walk in a scoreless first, then retired the Orioles in order in the second.

around the dial

CFB

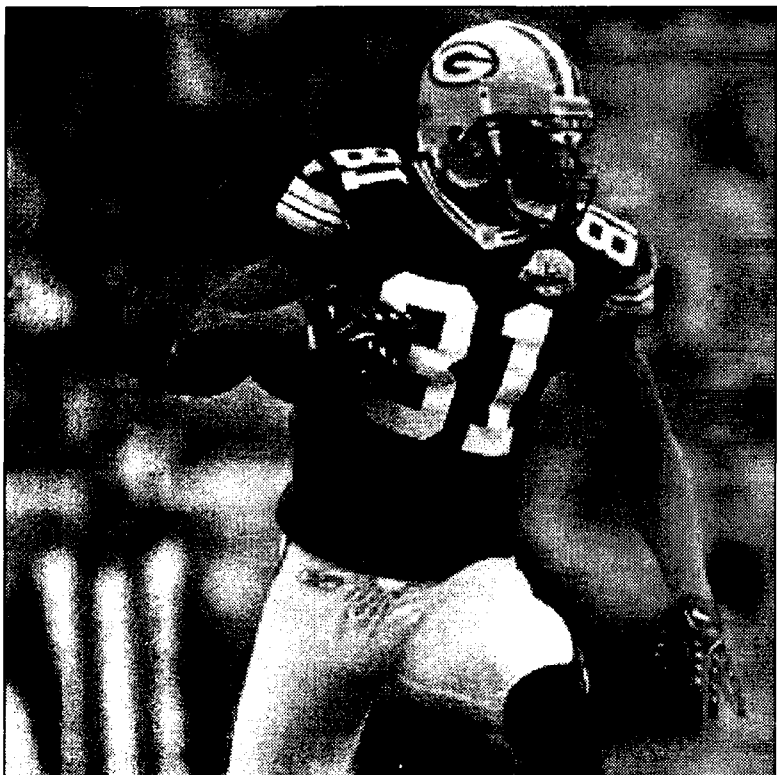
Kansas St. at Louisville
7:00 p.m., ESPN 2

MLB

Brewers at Cubs
7:00 p.m., ESPN

NFL

Seattle trades for pair of receivers



Receiver Koren Robinson catches a pass during a 2007 game with the Packers. The Seahawks acquired Robinson in a trade Tuesday.

Associated Press

SEATTLE — The Seattle Seahawks took two steps to bolster their injured-depleted wide receivers by trading for Keary Colbert and reacquiring Koren Robinson on Tuesday.

Seattle agreed to a one-year contract with Robinson, its former No. 1 draft choice. Agent Alvin Keels confirmed the agreement and its length in an e-mail to The Associated Press.

Robinson worked out for the Seahawks on Tuesday and convinced team president Tim Ruskell he has changed since Ruskell released him in the 2005 season because of repeated problems with alcohol.

The Seahawks have lost six wide receivers to injury this season. Robinson already is listed as No. 1 on Seattle's depth chart at wide receiver for Sunday's game against St. Louis, a matchup of winless teams.

"Just because of the terms and circumstances I left Seattle on, I never thought I'd be back," Robinson said on a conference call. "I'm grateful for this chance. I think it can be a good story — for me and the team."

The 28-year-old Robinson said he has been sober for 25 months thanks to a new marriage, two young sons, a baby girl due next month and religion.

"I'm definitely proud of that," he said.

Robinson said the final incident that caused him to abandon his partying ways came in August 2006. Police said Robinson, then with the Minnesota Vikings, led them on a car chase at speeds more than 100 mph, and that his blood-alcohol content was found to be 0.11 percent, above the legal limit of 0.08.

Robinson was sentenced to 90 days in jail after pleading down to a charge of fleeing police. He also was sentenced to three months in jail for violating probation on a separate drunken-driving case in Kirkland, Wash., in 2006.

The NFL suspended him for one year then reinstated him last October. He caught 21 pass-

es and returned kickoffs in nine games last season for Green Bay. If Robinson violates the league's substance-abuse policy again, he faces a lifetime ban.

Last week when the Seahawks had four receivers injured, coach Mike Holmgren mentioned Robinson to Ruskell as a possible replacement. And quarterback Matt Hasselbeck, Robinson's quarterback from 2001-04 in Seattle, told Ruskell that Robinson had turned his life around. Hasselbeck saw Robinson during a weeklong Christian retreat in Dallas last winter and was impressed.

"I don't know about the football side of it at all. I haven't seen him play in a long time," Hasselbeck said Monday. "But, I guess what I care about more is that he grew up and really matured and got his life turned around in the right direction. ... I'm proud of him."

"I understand the criticism ... if this was the Koren of four years ago, that would be warranted," Ruskell said. "And we could be wrong ... but all of us believe in second chances."

Logan Payne started Sunday's loss to San Francisco but injured a knee. He is the third wide receiver to be out for the season. Backup quarterback Seneca Wallace pulled his calf while pressed into receiver duty and will miss up to a month.

Colbert's agent, Gary Uberstine, said Tuesday in an e-mail to The AP his client is also coming to Seattle, from Denver. Fox Sports.com first reported the trade.

The deal is believed to be for a fifth-round pick. It will likely become official on Wednesday, Ruskell said.

The 26-year-old Colbert has not caught a pass in two games with the Broncos after signing a three-year deal in March. He became tradable with the emergence of rookie Eddie Royal and the return of Brandon Marshall from suspension. Colbert was also behind former Seahawk Darrell Jackson and veteran Brandon Stokley.

Colbert caught 32 passes in 12 games for Carolina in 2007.

NOTRE DAME
energy week

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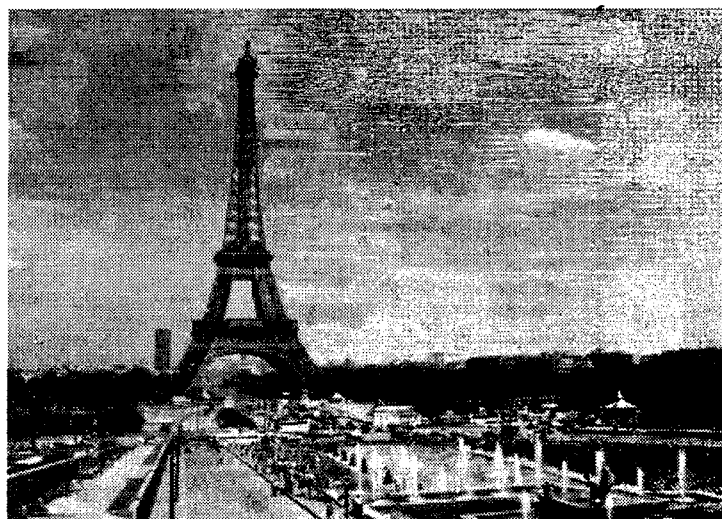
INCLUDING LOTS OF GIVEAWAYS!

Energy Week is sponsored by the Notre Dame Energy Center Student Advisory Board for the purpose of creating awareness and educating the Notre Dame community on energy related topics and issues. This year, we are proud to support the Notre Dame Forum on "Sustainable Energy" and encourage everyone to attend. The Forum is scheduled for Wed., Sept. 24, from 3 - 5 p.m., in the Joyce Center Arena. For more information, visit <http://energycenter.nd.edu>.

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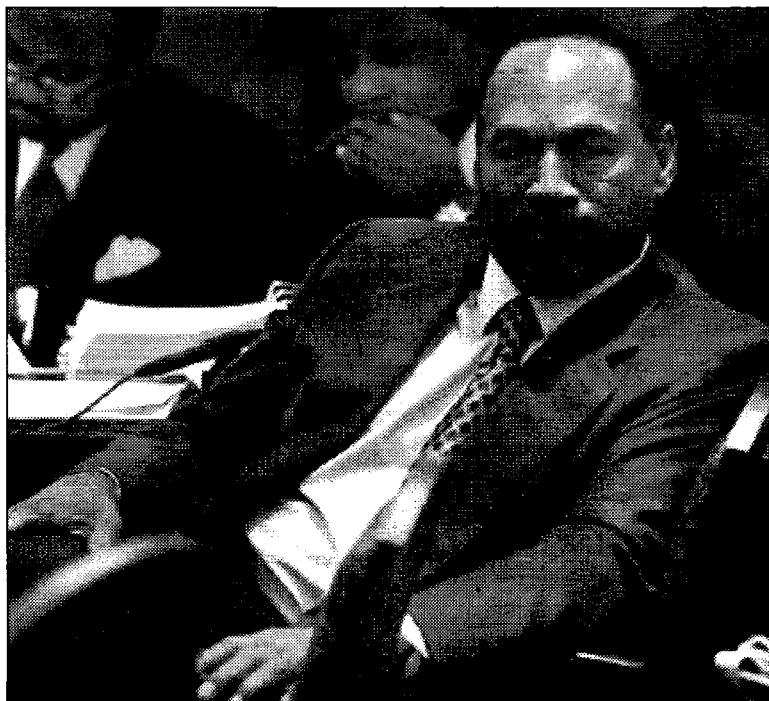
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O.J. SIMPSON TRIAL

Simpson witness contradicts self



Former USC running back O.J. Simpson sits in court Thursday. Simpson is on trial for 12 charges, including felony kidnapping.

Associated Press

LAS VEGAS — A key witness in the O.J. Simpson robbery trial was confronted with contradictions in his testimony Tuesday, including his claim that he didn't try to profit from the casino hotel room confrontation that led to charges against the former football star.

Memorabilia dealer Bruce Fromong, who returned to the stand after becoming ill Monday, told defense attorney Gabriel Grasso he didn't have money on his mind while allegedly being robbed of sports collectibles by Simpson and a group of other men.

"You were not trying to profit off this?" asked Grasso. "I was not trying to profit from it," said Fromong.

The attorney played a tape recording of the 2007 incident in which Fromong said, "It's not [expletive] over. I'll have 'Inside Edition' down here for us tomorrow. I told them I want big money."

Fromong acknowledged it was his voice and he conceded that he later advertised memorabilia on eBay with the statement, "The same ones stolen by O.J. in Las Vegas."

On redirect questioning, District Attorney David Roger asked to play more of the tape excerpt in which Fromong raged against Simpson.

"Nobody puts a (expletive) gun in my face. I stood up for this (expletive) when he was in jail. I stood up for him when he was on trial. I set up his offshore accounts," he yelled.

Testimony came on the first anniversary of Simpson's Las Vegas arrest. He and co-defendant Clarence "C.J." Stewart are charged with 12 counts of robbery, kidnapping, assault with a deadly weapon and coercion. They have pleaded not guilty.

Tempers in the case boiled as Roger referred to the confrontation as "the robbery." The defense, which claims Simpson was trying to recover stolen personal items, objected on grounds that was a legal conclusion.

"He can call it alleged. I'm calling it a robbery," snapped Roger.

The judge admonished Roger to say "at the time of the incident" or "at the time of the event." She told jurors to disregard his remark and then yelled at objecting lawyers: "Sit down!"

"Listen folks," she said. "The last thing you want me to do as the judge is to start losing my temper in front of the fine ladies and gentlemen of the jury and having to deal with all of you. You've been warned, folks."

Fromong's contradictions continued. He acknowledged that he said previously, "I felt my life was being threatened."

But moments later, under inquiry by Stewart's lawyer Robert Lucherini, Fromong said, "I was not scared."

He insisted the memorabilia Simpson sought was not stolen but said he didn't know where some of it came from.

"I believe those items belong to Mr. Simpson's kids. They should go back to him," he said, claiming that if he and Simpson had discussed it, they could have reached "an arrangement" by which he would trade the items for Simpson's signature on photos he could sell.

Jurors Tuesday also saw surveillance video from the Palace Station casino hotel which showed the comings and goings of Simpson, Stewart and seven other men on the night of the alleged robbery. The tapes showed men walking about and eventually leaving with boxes.

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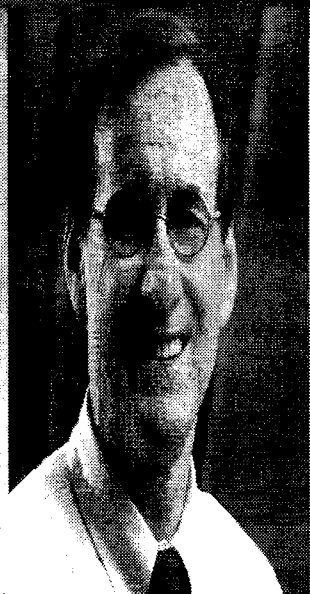
at 4:00 p.m. in the

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NFL

Big Ben's shoulder sprained, coach says

Associated Press

PITTSBURGH — Pittsburgh Steelers coach Mike Tomlin clarified the status of quarterback Ben Roethlisberger's shoulder: Sprained but not separated.

The injury will likely keep Roethlisberger from fully participating in practice Wednesday, but not from playing on Sunday against Philadelphia.

The Steelers said last week that their quarterback was nursing a sore shoulder, but a TV commentator on Sunday night termed the injury a shoulder separation.

During his weekly news conference Tuesday, Tomlin appeared agitated by the latter description.

"I have no idea where that report came from," Tomlin said. "It didn't come from me or my medical staff. If anybody in here has got any information about where that report came from, send them to me."

Tomlin said Roethlisberger sprained his AC joint, an injury to the ligaments that attach the collarbone to the shoulder blade.

Asked if Roethlisberger was the source of the disputed information, Tomlin said, "Not to my knowledge."

The issue may be one of semantics. The American Academy of Orthopedic Surgeons describes a mild shoulder separation as a sprain of the AC ligament. It differs from more severe shoulder separations in which the ligament

is torn.

Whatever the injury, Roethlisberger threw for 186 yards and a touchdown during Pittsburgh's 10-6 win over Cleveland on Sunday and is expected to play this Sunday against the Eagles.

"He said it feels better than it did a week ago, which is good," Tomlin said.

Roethlisberger was sacked three times Sunday but perhaps endured his hardest hit — from 350-pound Browns defensive tackle Shaun Rogers — after releasing the ball. Roethlisberger appeared to hold his arm gingerly after that play.

Tomlin said Roethlisberger can do no further damage to the shoulder by playing. The coach was asked if it was a worry that his quarterback was missing so much practice time.

"It really depends on the quarterback," Tomlin said. "Some guys require a great number of snaps to get prepared to play. Some guys can learn visually, film room and so forth. Thankfully with Ben he's a pretty quick study and sharp guy. ... It doesn't take him a great number of reps to be prepared to play."

"Hopefully it won't be an issue this week. I know it won't be an excuse."

In other injury news, defensive end Brett Keisel has a calf strain. He is out for the Eagles game and likely for at least a month overall, though Tomlin said he would be evaluated "week to week."

U.S. WOMEN'S SOCCER

Top players join new league

Associated Press

NEW YORK — U.S. national team players received phone calls Monday night informing them of which club each would join in the new Women's Professional Soccer league.

Then they sat down for dinner together.

"We were kind of afraid to see one another, because we were certain somebody would not be happy," goalie Hope Solo said. "That wasn't the case at all. People were having glasses of champagne and cheering, and the competition had already begun."

The WPS announced the allocation of its biggest stars Tuesday, with each of the seven squads receiving three players. The league is scheduled to debut in April.

Solo will suit up for St. Louis — she donned a Cardinals cap as she was introduced. Kristine Lilly, the second-leading scorer in the sport's history, will play for Boston. Offensive star Abby Wambach heads to Washington.

The league will also have franchises in the Bay Area, Chicago, Los Angeles and New York/New Jersey.

A contract between the WPS and the national team players association has yet to be com-

pleted, commissioner Tonya Antonucci said. Antonucci had said in July that she expected to have the agreement finalized by now. Some small details remain to be resolved, she said Tuesday.

Two-time NBA MVP and soccer buff Steve Nash, a part-owner in the league, helped Antonucci announce which players will play where.

"I think it's only time that we had the best women in the world playing here in America, representing themselves, representing the game, representing us at the highest level, setting the standard for women's soccer around the world," Nash said.

The WPS seeks to succeed where the Women's United Soccer Association failed. WUSA was launched after the success of the 1999 World Cup, but folded in 2003.

"One of the biggest lessons learned was to be fiscally disciplined on the business side and have an eye toward starting out realistically and growing it, and having a growth plan without trying to be at the end of your growth plan immediately," Antonucci said.

WUSA had the star power of Mia Hamm, Julie Foudy, Brandi Chastain, Joy Fawcett and Lilly. The 37-year-old Lilly is the only one still playing. She'll return to

the field after taking off 2008 to have a baby.

Can she add one lasting pro league to her long list of accomplishments that includes five World Cups and three Olympics?

"It's important because I think I've been a part of so much in soccer, from the first World Cup, the first Olympics, a part of the WUSA, now a part of this," Lilly said, as she held 2-month-old daughter Sidney Marie. "Now to bring it home with all these new faces to start here is great."

Wambach, who broke her leg before the Olympics, expects to be ready for the league's first game. Walking without an apparent limp Tuesday, she's able to swim and ride a bike. By late January or early February, she hopes to be playing again.

First she needs to build back the 15-20 pounds of muscle she lost after surgery.

The underdog U.S. team won in Beijing without her.

"The league was going to happen regardless, so whatever kind of publicity and promotion we can piggyback off of from the gold medal that they won, we're going to take it," Wambach said. "I know that they're going to use it, because this league is so important to all of us."

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2010 WORLD CUP

Blatter happy with visit to Cape Town

Associated Press

CAPE TOWN, South Africa — FIFA president Sepp Blatter says he danced for joy after arriving in South Africa to check on preparations for the 2010 World Cup.

Glossing over concerns about delays, rising costs, rampant crime and lack of transportation, Blatter visited Cape Town's new "jewel" of a stadium Monday. The project has been beset by political wrangling but now is slightly ahead of schedule.

He was less flattering about the national soccer team, which failed to qualify for the 2006 World Cup, seems likely to miss the 2010 African Nations Cup and hasn't won any of its last five matches — including against lowly Guinea — since June.

Blatter said South Africa should have taken advantage of the four years since it was awarded the tournament to build up a strong team.

"In 1996 they were African Champions ... and where are they now? It's incredible and I cannot understand that," he said. "Do something; move it."

Blatter said he would raise his concerns with the South African Football Association on Tuesday, when he tours the venue for the opening and final match at Johannesburg's Soccer City and meets anti-apartheid icon Nelson Mandela, whose lobbying helped bring the tournament to South Africa.

Blatter stressed his trip was a courtesy visit rather than an official inspection. He played down fears that the ongoing turmoil in South Africa's ruling party, pitting incumbent President Thabo Mbeki against likely successor Jacob Zuma, could have repercussions for the World Cup if key ministers involved in the preparation are dismissed.

"We are absolutely not concerned about the internal political problems in South Africa," Blatter said. "We are going to organize and deliver this World Cup and it will be a great, great event."

For Blatter, the success of the 2010 tournament has become a personal crusade. He hopes it will create a legacy benefiting millions on the continent.

"When I left the plane and arrived on African soil, I started dancing," the 72-year-old Swiss said during a news conference with Mbeki on Sunday.

He may need to muster his nimblest footwork to avoid the many obstacles that loom. At the top of the list is public transit, or the lack of it.

The government has set aside \$1.7 billion to improve rail and road links in venue cities. Organizers hope the much-vaunted and hugely expensive Gautrain connecting Johannesburg's international airport with the city center will be ready in time, but there is nothing similar planned for either Cape Town or Durban.

In an interview with a local radio program, FIFA general-secretary Jerome Valcke gave reassurances about the gov-

ernment's ability to rein in violent crime in a country where more than 50 people are killed each day, often for as little as a cell phone.

"I am not so much concerned by security today. I think we are going the right way," he said, adding it was impossible to be 100 percent safe even in cities like Paris and Zurich. He said local organizers were working closely with Interpol and foreign police and security forces to keep out hooligans.

The government plans to increase police to 190,000 by the time of the tournament, and he notes that such major events like the rugby and cricket world cups were held without serious incident. Police and the armed forces have staged high-profile dress rehearsals to prove they can protect South Africa's skies and seas from potential attack.

So far, less than half the 55,000 rooms needed for visitors have been secured. FIFA plans to step up marketing to persuade hotel and guest house owners to sign up. South Africa has 80,000 graded rooms — more than enough to satisfy FIFA, according to government figures. Although there is plenty of accommodation in tourist centers like Cape Town and Durban and the economic hub of Johannesburg, rooms may be hard to find in more outlying areas like Polokwane.

Earlier concerns about the speed of stadium construction have eased. The stadium in the southern coastal city of Port Elizabeth will not be ready for the 2009 Confederations Cup but should be ready for 2010.

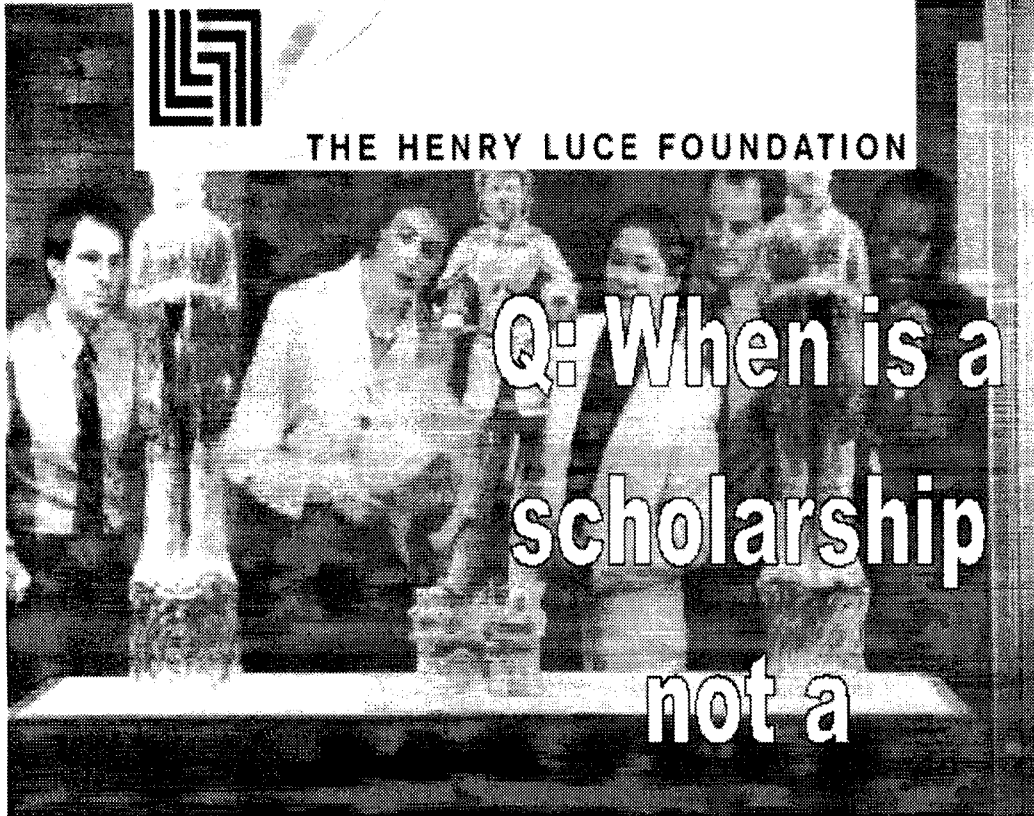
Work is ahead slightly ahead of schedule at Durban's semifinal venue, and at the two stadiums in Johannesburg. Valcke said that even Beijing's Bird Nest Olympic stadium looked small compared to Soccer City. Even Cape Town's \$490 million stadium — the most controversial because it is in the middle of prime real estate — is on track.

Cape Town Mayor Helen Zille said the 68,000-seat stadium, the site of one semifinal, would be the "world's most spectacular stadium in the world's most spectacular city."

The big unknown remains the weather, given that it will be winter. Temperatures are near freezing at night in Johannesburg. Gales and torrential rain are buffeting Cape Town, and even balmy Durban feels distinctly chilly. Valcke conceded it would be a challenge to persuade supporters to stay and celebrate in frigid fan parks at night.

South Africa's last white president, F.W. de Klerk, joined Blatter's entourage on a wet, windy day to visit the muddy Cape Town stadium site. De Klerk, who helped steer in multiracial democracy in 2004, said the nation was united behind the success of the World Cup.

"All of us want 2010 to recapture the spirit of 1994 when we launched the new South Africa," he said.



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MLB

Nationals score one, shutout first-place Mets

Loss to last-place Washington puts New York second in the NL East, despite a small cushion in the wild-card race

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — It took six days for the New York Mets to squander a 3-game cushion in the NL East. Now, the only race they lead is for the wild card — and not by much.

Odalis Perez shut down the slumping Mets and scored the only run of the game, sending Washington to a 1-0 victory Tuesday night that knocked New York out of first place.

Philadelphia moved a half-game in front with an 8-7 win at Atlanta. It's the first time the Mets, who have lost four of five, have been out of first place since Aug. 26. They lead struggling Milwaukee by a half-game in the wild-card standings.

Needing wins in a tense pennant race, the free-falling Mets can't find a way to beat the lowly Nationals.

Sounds the same as last September — only this flop happened faster.

"We've got to dig down deep," David Wright said. "This is what makes it fun. You've got, what, 12, 13 games left and that's going to decide the season? This is what you work hard for, this is what you prepare for, and as an athlete, a competitor, you love this."

The Mets and their fans aren't loving the flashback to last season, when New York held a

seven-game advantage with 17 to play only to lose the division crown to Philadelphia and miss the playoffs in one of the worst collapses in baseball history.

They were up by 3 games with 17 to go this year, but that lead is gone. And on Tuesday night, New York also lost outfielder Fernando Tatis for the rest of the season to a separated shoulder.

The Mets went 1-5 against the Nationals over the final two weeks last season — a big reason for their massive meltdown. This time, New York has dropped the first two in a four-game series at Washington mainly because it can't find any offense.

The Mets' four hits Tuesday wasted an outstanding start by Mike Pelfrey. The one real threat by the Mets was thwarted when Willie Harris made another key catch against New York, something he's done regularly over the past year or so.

"We're a better-hitting club than what we've shown here," manager Jerry Manuel said. "We've just got to do a better job, period, offensively."

A day after John Lannan held the Mets to one hit over seven innings, New York mustered just two in the first seven innings against Perez (7-10).

The lefty retired 13 in a row between those two hits — which

came in the first and sixth innings — and never let a Mets runner advance beyond second base. Perez struck out six and did not walk a batter in 7 1-3 innings, his longest outing since Aug. 11, 2005.

"He had the best command of the season so far," Washington manager Manny Acta said. "He threw every one of his pitches for strikes. He was able to stop the middle of the lineup. He was just tremendous."

Perez gave way to Mike Hinckley after giving up singles to pinch-hitters Ramon Castro and Robinson Cancel in the eighth. Hinckley got Jose Reyes to ground into a fielder's choice, putting runners on first and third with two outs. He then struck out Ryan Church to end the threat.

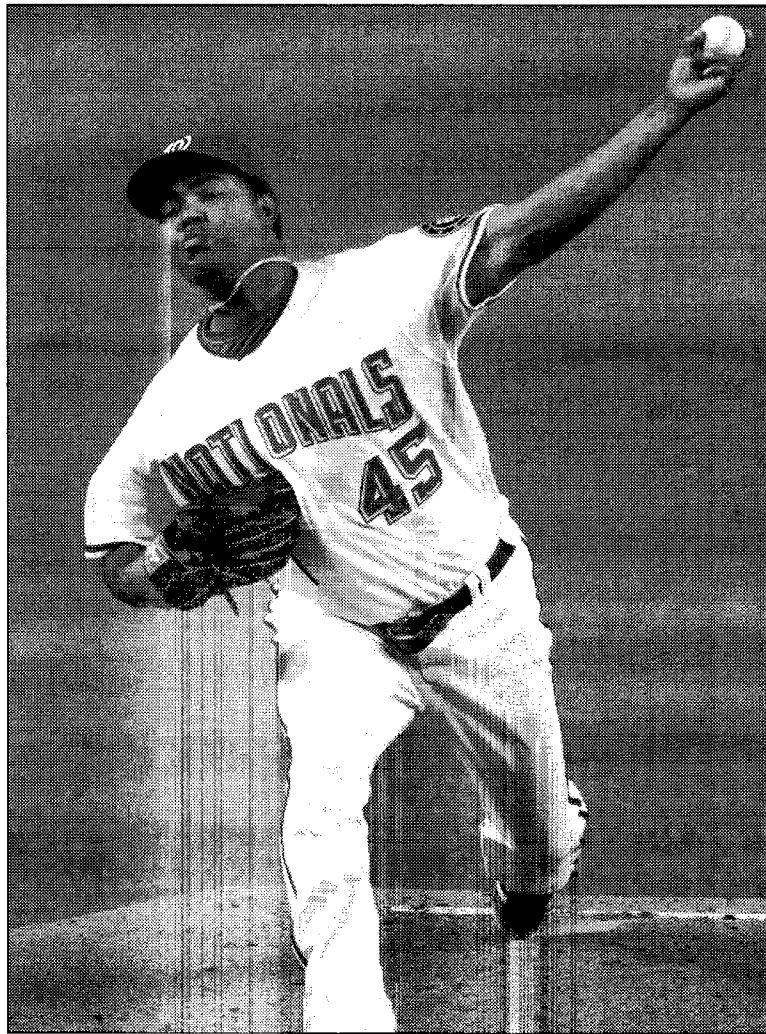
Hinckley has opened his major league career without giving up a run in his first nine innings.

"I said to him, 'Great job,'" Perez said. "'You saved my game.'"

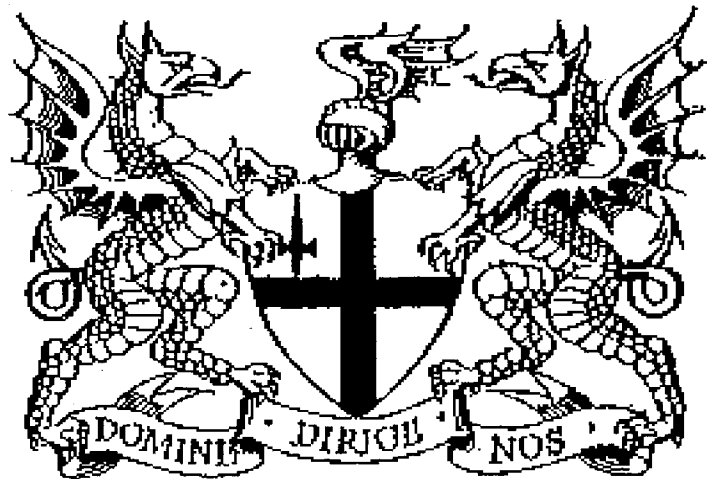
Joel Hanrahan worked a perfect ninth for his ninth save. He struck out Wright and Carlos Delgado.

Pelfrey (13-10) was the hard-luck loser. He allowed seven hits and four walks in seven innings.

"Sometimes you go up against someone that's very good, and Odalis Perez was very good tonight," he said.



Nationals starting pitcher Odalis Perez delivers a pitch in a 1-0 victory over the Mets Tuesday.



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NFL

Hurricane Ike forces Texans from playing at home

Houston hopes repairs to the structural damage on the roof of Reliant Stadium will be completed by early October

Associated Press

HOUSTON — Mario Williams dodged downed trees to get out of his neighborhood and worried about the safety and security of his home as he left for practice with a tree splayed on one end of it.

He and the rest of the Houston Texans returned to practice Tuesday for the first time since Hurricane Ike, trying to concentrate on football when most didn't have electricity and many were dealing with significant damage to their homes.

"I feel very lucky," said Williams, the top overall pick in 2006. "My area is very bad. There's tons of trees that are down, lots of trees that fell through houses, but thank goodness no one was injured."

Williams said a tree crashed into his house during the storm, but he's still living there despite the damage and lack of electricity.

"It's really difficult, not just for myself, but for everyone," he said. "You've got to go work and you've got to make a living. But at the same time you're thinking: 'I hope my place is still all right.'"

The Texans had been off since Thursday night. They returned to work Tuesday on their practice field across the street from Reliant Stadium, whose retractable roof lost five pieces in the storm allowing large chunks of debris to fall into it.

They had a more than hour-long workout in the shadow of the damaged stadium where dozens of 18-wheelers lined up to prepare to fan out and distribute food and supplies to areas that were ravaged in the storm.

Defensive tackle Travis Johnson's home was destroyed in the hurricane. He lives in a suburb near the home of

Williams' mother, whose roof was torn off during Ike.

"I lost the shingles first and then the water started coming in before my ceiling collapsed," he said. "I lost stuff. I lost a lot. But, you don't lose anything when you've still got your family."

Tight end Owen Daniels' home suffered extensive damage from Ike, with the ceiling in one room collapsing. Surprisingly he never lost power and despite its damage, his home became a refuge this weekend for teammates looking to escape from the sweltering heat.

Coach Gary Kubiak was encouraged by the workout on Tuesday and is trying to balance the need for his team to prepare for this weekend's game with concern for players and their families.

"Our families come first and we have to evaluate the situation with each player's family, each coach's family and do everything we can to put them in the best possible environment so they are comfortable and they can come up here and do their work," he said. "It's a juggling act right now but a lot of people are working extremely hard to make it work."

Andre Johnson's home was spared major damage in the storm, but he was without power until Monday night. Now that he has electricity, he's invited his teammates to hang out at his house until their service is restored.

Johnson, who dealt with several hurricanes growing up in Miami, said he was surprised by the extent of damage in the city.

"It was worse than I thought it would be," he said. "After the hurricane was over I just got in my truck and rode around to look at some of the things. I think the most shocking thing was when I saw

"It's really difficult, not just for myself, but for everyone. You've got to go work and you've got to make a living. But at the same time you're thinking: 'I hope my place is still all right.'"

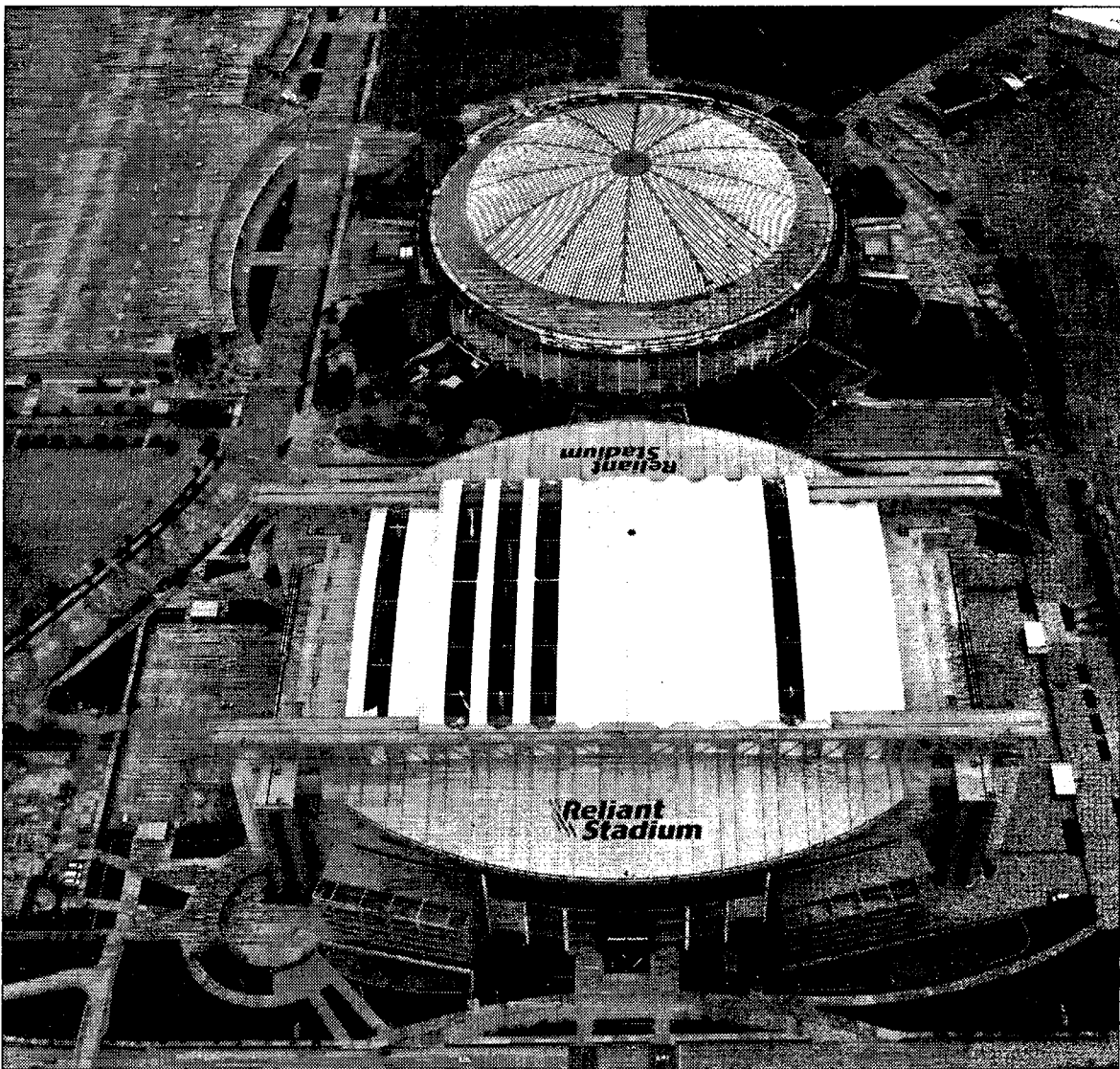
Mario Williams
Texans defensive end

"I lost the shingles first and then the water started coming in before my ceiling collapsed. I lost stuff. I lost a lot. But, you don't lose anything when you've still got your family."

Mario Williams
Texans defensive end

"I'm tired of sitting around the house and feeling sorry for myself and the fact that we don't have power and we have trees crashed across the front of the house and all that sort of thing."

Bob McNair
Texans owner



Hurricane Ike caused severe structural damage to Reliant Stadium, the home of the Houston Texans earlier this week, causing the team to relocate.

pieces of the stadium missing off the roof. You wouldn't expect it to happen to the stadium."

Texans owner Bob McNair said getting back to football was a welcome respite from the events of the past few days.

"It certainly is for me," he said. "I'm tired of sitting around the house and feeling sorry for myself and the fact that we don't have power and we have trees crashed across the front of the house and all that sort of thing."

"We just have to get on with it and it's nice to get out here and start thinking about football and sort of get away from some of the other every day problems. That's one of the benefits of sports."

The Texans travel to face the Titans on Sunday after moving last weekend's game with Baltimore to Nov. 9. General manager Rick Smith said he's gotten advice on how to deal with his team in the wake of the hurricane from something

of an expert on the subject.

"I've got Mickey Loomis on my speed dial," Smith said of the Saints general manager.

"Obviously they have experienced it, so I've actually been talking to Mickey over the last couple of weeks about lessons that they learned, things that they would do differently and how we can try to approach our situation to try and work through it."

The Saints played all of their games away from the city after they were displaced by Hurricane Katrina in 2005. Four games were played at LSU, three in San Antonio and one in East Rutherford, N.J., against the New York Giants.

The Texans are hoping that

repairs to their damaged stadium can be completed in time for their next home game against Indianapolis on Oct. 5.

Johnson knows the Texans face a tough road in playing 15 straight games after their bye was moved to last weekend to accommodate the change in the schedule because of the hurricane. He hopes the team can fight through this and become an inspiration to the area as it recovers.

"I think we could be a bright spot for the city," he said. "A lot of people are going through tough times and maybe us going out winning games could make a lot of people around here happy."

THIS WEEK IN IRISH SPORTS

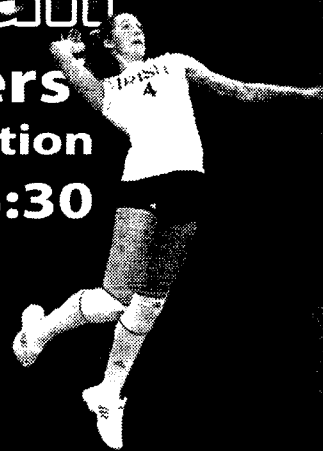
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Big East

continued from page 28

and advance significantly in the NCAA Tournament," Brown said earlier this year.

Sophomore middle blocker Kellie Sciacca was named to the Diet Coke Classic All-Tournament team after she registered a team-high nine kills on a .350 average against No. 8 Minnesota.

Based on non-conference play, Cincinnati, Connecticut and Georgetown all sit atop the standings with 6-3 records, but those marks could be a little misleading.

"Nobody is tearing it up right now," Brown said.

Senior middle blocker Jessie Nevitt, who was named Big East Player of the Week as she moved past 1,200 career kills with 46 in the ASU Sheraton Invitational over the weekend, leads Cincinnati.

"They have a good balance of youth and experience," Brown said. "Their middle blocker Justine Nevitt is very strong leading their team."

Connecticut blasted their way to a 6-3 record by beating up on some non-conference foes, but their losses to unranked Albany, Michigan State and UW-Milwaukee raise questions.

Huskie junior libero Jessica Isaac earned a spot on the MSU Showcase All-Tournament team as she combined for five assists and 36 digs, including a 20-dig performance against the Panthers.

Freshman libero Tory Rezin earned Big East Rookie of the Week honors and has been a pleasant surprise for the Hoyas. Junior outside hitter Jessica Hardy and sophomore middle blocker Vanessa Dorismond were

also named to the Georgetown Classic All-Tournament team this weekend.

Losses to unranked American, North Carolina and Missouri State also make Georgetown's early success suspect to a much tougher Big East schedule down the road.

Preseason favorites St. John's (5-5) and Louisville (3-4) have had much more trouble opening their seasons, but they have also been subject to much tougher competition.

"St. John's and Louisville both have had the toughest schedules so far," Brown said. "They are both very strong and very physical."

Much of the two teams strength comes from their connections to players from Eastern Europe, Brown said.

"They both rely pretty heavily on foreign players, which gives them a lot of big, physical, experienced players," she said.

St. John's has losses to No. 9 California, Missouri, and LSU in its fight to .500.

Leading St. John's is senior libero Lena Lee with 164 digs.

The Red Storm has not lost at home since Nov. 11, 2005, going 24-0 during that time. St. John's has won all 10 home matches in each of the last two seasons.

Louisville has also had a very difficult road, losing to No. 1 Penn State over the weekend. Senior outside hitter Tatyana Kolesnikova earned all-tournament honors at the Chicago Classic this weekend.

The Irish will start up Big East play in two weeks after hosting non-conference Liberty, UC Irvine, and Western Michigan this weekend in the Golden Dome Invitational.

Contact Jared Jedick at jjedick@nd.edu

O-line

continued from page 28

out of the ring. It was hard work," Young said.

Offensive line coach John Latina said that his players are definitely pulling their weight but the lack of sacks should be attributed to the entire offense.

"Our tight ends block, our receivers are doing a good job getting open, those are team stats and I've always believed that," he said.

Jimmy Clausen has helped his own cause several times already this year by feeling pressure and getting rid of the ball, something he struggled with in his first year.

"It really is a combination of everything — the backs and the quarterback making good reads," left tackle Mike Turkovich said.

Turkovich said he struggled last year when he played guard, but was committed to make himself a better player in his final season at Notre Dame.

"[Last year] I wasn't seeing the whole picture, I was just kind of doing my own thing," he said. "As an offensive line you have five guys out there and you have to see the bigger picture."

The Irish have also shown that their line is deeper than before in their first two games. Last week starting guard Chris Stewart was playing injured throughout the first half. In the second half true freshman Trevor Robinson stepped in and took over right where Stewart left off.

"I thought Trevor really did a nice job for us," Latina said. "The good thing was I didn't notice him. On the offensive line if you are doing your job you don't get noticed."

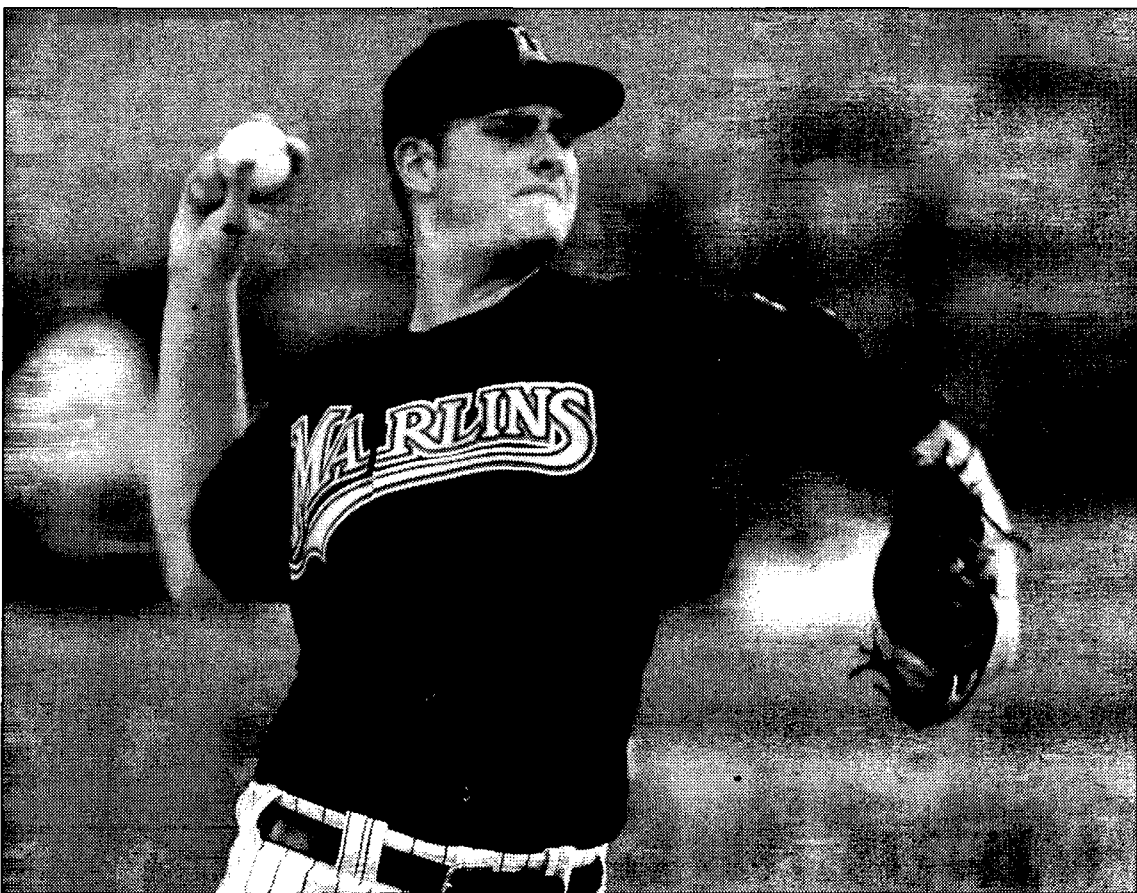
So far this year the line is doing so well that they are getting noticed. After the Michigan win, Clausen told the media that he would be taking the entire line out to dinner this week for all of their hard work. He hasn't made good on his promise yet, but the guys up front aren't going to let him forget.

"We're still working on it. We're in negotiations," Young said.

Contact Dan Murphy at dmurphy6@nd.edu

MLB

Marlins solve Oswalt, beat Astros



Marlins pitcher Chris Volstad delivers a pitch against the Houston Astros in a 5-1 Florida victory Tuesday night.

Associated Press

MIAMI — The Houston Astros are running out of time to solve their problems at the plate.

Jorge Cantu hit a three-run homer and rookie Chris Volstad allowed one run in eight innings to lead the Florida Marlins to a 5-1 win over the Astros on Tuesday night.

The Astros, who have lost three straight, entered the game 2 games behind Milwaukee and Philadelphia in the NL wild-card race.

"We've got to figure out a way to get our offense going a little bit," Astros manager Cecil Cooper said. "Either they're making good pitches or we're not making good swings. Something's not happening."

Cantu's three-run homer in the first inning stopped Houston ace Roy Oswalt's franchise-record scoreless innings streak at 32 1-3 innings. Oswalt (15-10), who had lasted at least eight innings in five

of his previous six starts, allowed five runs — three earned — and six hits over six innings. He struck out 10 to tie his season high.

"We're playing the same way we did a month ago. We're just trying to go out there and play nine innings and see if we can win," Oswalt said. "Tonight, we got behind early and never caught up."

Volstad (5-3) gave up four hits in his first start against the Astros and the second-longest outing of his career. The rookie right-hander struck out four and didn't walk a batter.

"After the game someone told me 97 pitches, 72 fastballs," Volstad said. "I just mixed in some off-speed pitches to keep them off balance but it was mostly the

two-seamer."

Florida's lineup rattled Oswalt early. After Cantu's home run — his 27th of the season — Dan Uggla scored on a double by Cody Ross to give the Marlins a 4-0 lead. Oswalt then hit Alfredo Amezaga with a pitch, which drew warnings for both teams.

In the second inning, Mike Jacobs doubled to the deepest part of Dolphin Stadium to score Hanley Ramirez and make it 5-0. Oswalt settled down after Jacobs' double, but the damage was done.

Michael Bourn doubled to open the eighth inning and advanced on Brad Ausmus' fly to right. He scored on pinch-hitter Kazuo Matsui's groundout to make it 5-1.

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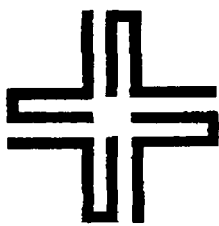
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*Women, Religion, and Agency: Some Reflections on
Writing American Women's Religious History*

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FOOTBALL

Hold the line

Irish offensive line showing major improvements through first two games, hasn't allowed a sack

By DAN MURPHY
Sports Editor

After two games in 2007, Notre Dame quarterbacks had been sacked 11 times for a loss of 87 total yards.

Two games into the 2008 season the Irish have yet to give up a single sack. Last Saturday the line held strong against virtually the same Michigan defensive front that got to the quarterback eight times last season.

"I think it's a step forward," junior tackle Sam Young said. "We're only two games in and having no sacks is definitely something we're proud of, but we recognize that we have to keep that up and keep Jimmy's jersey as clean as possible every week."

The improved offensive line has been a huge part of Notre Dame's 2-0 start this year. The guys up front attribute their early success to a new attitude and an off-season of hard work.

The group's core spent their summer in Florida working together to get better. They spent long days pushing sleds, flipping tires and even playing some improvised games of sumo wrestling.

"You just lock into each other and push until someone comes

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Junior right tackle Sam Young awaits an oncoming San Diego State pass rusher during the 21-13 Irish victory September 6.

IAN GAVLICK/The Observer

WOMEN'S GOLF

Team ends up eighth at Classic

Observer Staff Report

Notre Dame finished eighth at the Cougar Classic, as senior Lisa Maunu paced the squad with an overall score of two-under par (214).

The Georgia Bulldogs took the title with their six-under par (858) on the tournament.

Participating in her first collegiate tournament, freshman Becca Hunter was second on the Irish with her seven-over par (223) effort, good for 37th place overall. To get to that point, Hunter hit her tournament-high round of one-over par (73) on the final day of the Classic.

Sophomore So-Hyun Park came in third for Notre Dame, thanks in part to her two-over par (74) on the final day to end up in 11-over par (227), finishing in a tie for 47th.

Coming up even with Park was junior teammate Annie Brophy who also reached the 11-over par mark. Finishing off the Irish was junior Kristen Wetzel, who came in a tie for 50th with a 15-over par (231).

The Irish return to action this weekend when they will head to East Lansing, Mich. to participate in the Mary Fossom Invitational.

SMC SOCCER

Belles to face Hope in non-conference match

By MIKE GOTIMER
Sports Writer

Fresh off its second consecutive victory in the Sal Vacarro Tournament this past weekend, the Saint Mary's soccer team opens its home schedule with a non-conference match against Hope College.

Although the match is considered a non-conference match, the Belles are very familiar with Hope, who is also a member of the MIAA. Saint Mary's always see Hope as a formidable opponent who is always at the top of the conference.

Hope, who enters the match with a 3-3-0 record, ranks third all-time in winning percentage in the MIAA and had at least a share of the conference title for three consecutive seasons from 2003-2005.

The Belles have a lot to build on from their performance in last weekend's Sal Vacarro Tournament, where they took home their second consecutive title in a shootout victory. However, according to first year coach Ryan Crabbe, the Belles will not rest on their laurels.

"We have an incredibly big challenge ahead of us," he said,

"Hope is a quality program and playing them in a non-conference match will certainly test everything we have worked on up to this point."

Despite the quality of their opponent, coach Crabbe has high expectations for the match.

"In terms of expectations for tomorrow, I simply want the team to continue improving upon the positive strides we made over the weekend," Crabbe said. "Roles are becoming more defined on the field and we are getting better organized with each day. I think we can come out and compete and make it a good match."

The Belles desire for a competitive match will hopefully reverse their fortunes against Hope. Saint Mary's dropped both of its regular season matches against Hope last season, falling both times by a score of 3-1, and the Flying Dutch eliminated the Belles from the first round of the MIAA tournament in a tightly contested 1-0 match. Dating back to 2006, the Belles have a four-match losing streak against the Flying Dutch.

The match is scheduled to begin at 4 p.m. at Saint Mary's.

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ND VOLLEYBALL

Irish looking for fresh start

Big East play to start in two weeks, brings clean slate for 3-6 squad

By JARED JEDICK
Sports Writer

The best thing about Big East play coming up for the Irish is that everyone's records are still the same within the conference.

Notre Dame (3-6) has a steep hill to climb, however, after being ranked fourth in the Big East preseason coaches' poll behind Louisville, St. John's and Cincinnati and having below .500 non-conference start.

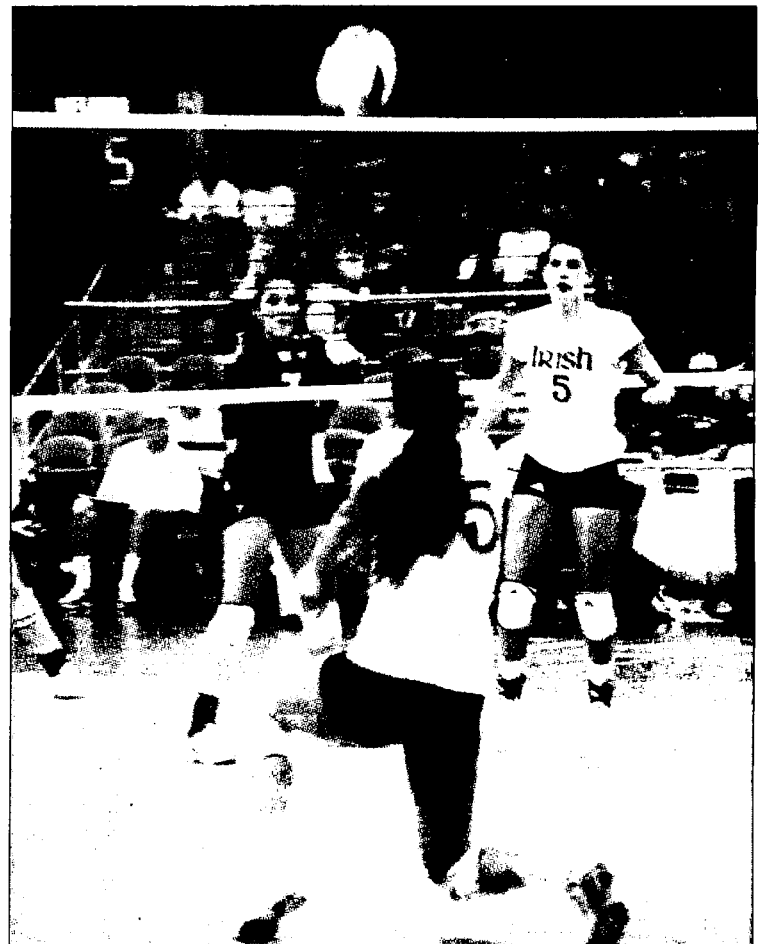
The main positive that the Irish can take out of their early losses is that they were against top quality opponents. Three of their losses came against No. 8 Minnesota, No. 9 California and No. 19 Cal Poly in the Network/AVCA Division I coaches' poll.

"The fact that our schedule has been very good is a real positive for us," Irish coach Debbie Brown said. "This is a pivotal time to get on a winning streak and gain momentum heading into the Big East."

Notre Dame has its focus set squarely on the Big East, and these non-conference losses cannot ruin the season.

"We want to win the Big East

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CASEY CARNEY/The Observer

Freshman outside hitter Kristen Dealy bumps a shot in a 3-1 win over Nevada August 30.