

THE
OBSERVER
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 2008

★★★★ In focus ★★★★★
Election 2008



**'CHANGE
—HAS—
COME'**

what's inside:

- p.2** A Night in Chicago:
Obama's Rally
- p.3** Scenes from Grant Park
- p.4-5** Timeline: The Race Unfolds

- p.6-7** Electoral Vote Breakdown
- p.8** Indiana Election Outcomes
- p.9** Results from
Around the Nation

...and more

'Yes, we did'

Victory chant fills Chicago in celebration of momentous election

By KAITLYNN RIELY
Associate News Editor

CHICAGO — Standing before a crowd of thousands in Chicago's Grant Park, with millions more watching on television in the United States and around the world, president-elect Barack Obama announced that "change has come to America."

Obama, with his wife Michelle and their two daughters, took the stage at Grant Park Tuesday night, less than an hour after CNN, the station broadcasting the election results on giant screens throughout the park, announced he had been elected the 44th and first black president of the United States.

Following CNN's announcement, cheering broke out in Grant Park. Obama supporters, numbering over 100,000 broke out into cheers of "Yes, we did," an evolution of the "Yes, we can" cheers performed at Obama rallies during his campaign.

Obama defeated Sen. John McCain, leading 338 electoral votes to McCain's 159 electoral votes at press time.

"If there is anyone out there who still doubts that America is a place where all things are possible, who still wonders if the dream of our founders is alive in our time, who still questions the power of our democracy, tonight is your answer," Obama said.

But his win in the presidential race is not the end of the campaign, Obama said.

"The victory alone is not the change we seek," he said. "It is only the chance for us to make that change."

Obama acknowledged that his presidency will face great challenges, with two wars, schools to build, a financial crisis to heal and threats from America's enemies.

"The road will be long," he said. "Our climb will be steep. We may not get there in one year or even in one term. But, America, I have never been more hopeful than I am tonight that we will get there."

Speaking in the land of Lincoln, Obama quoted from the 16th president's Gettysburg Address, and used Lincoln's words to urge the victorious Democratic Party to celebrate with "humility and determination to heal the divides."

Obama spoke to those who did not vote for him, saying he will need their help in his presidency. He addressed those watching the election from outside the borders of the United States.

"To those who have wondered if America's beacon still burns as bright: Tonight we

proved once more that the true strength of our nation comes not from the might of our arms or the scale of our wealth, but from the enduring power of our ideals: democracy, liberty, opportunity and unwavering hope."

Obama told the story of a 106-year-old African American woman who cast a ballot for him Nov. 4 in Atlanta, Ga. He reflected on all the change she has seen in America in her lifetime. And he asked Americans to ask themselves, if they or their children live to see the next century, what progress will they have seen?

It was this story of the 106-year-old woman, who voted for an African-American president in the same lifetime as segregation and who was born not long after the Civil War ended, that resonated with Valerie Jefferies, a 44-year-old African American from the Chicago suburbs.

"I understand her story because that is my grandmother's story," she said. Jefferies' grandmother, who is 90 years old, voted Saturday for Obama.

"It was a historic moment, for her as well as Sen. Obama," she said. "Her arthritis is so bad, she could barely fill out the ballot, but she made it through."

It was a proud moment for Jefferies as well.

"I voted this morning," she said. "I was overcome with emotion. I never

thought that would happen."

Emotions were running high all night in Grant Park, and when CNN announced that Obama had secured the electoral count, and won the presidency, the crowd broke out in a sustained cheer.

Joseph Colson, 34, was standing in the non-ticketed section of the Grant Park Election Night rally when Obama's victory was announced. He said he was ecstatic.

"Words cannot describe," he said. "I did not think I would see this day."

He said he could not have asked for a better evening.

"I was very nervous all day, and came down cautiously optimistic, but as the polls came in I got more excited," he said.

George and Laurie Morgan, both 54, are self-described "political freaks." They were also watching the Election Night coverage in the non-ticketed lot.

"We've been following this for two years now," George Morgan said. "Every night we sit and watch TV, and this whole buildup of two whole years, but just like everyone else we had this fear that it wouldn't happen. So it's a com-

bination of exalting and this great release. And, oh my God, this is finally over. And thank God it turned out the way it did."

George Morgan said he was in Grant Park to see the Pope in 1979, but said he did not remember the crowds being this big.

Laurie Morgan almost didn't come to the rally Tuesday night, but George convinced her.

"He said, you've got to be part of something bigger than yourself, so we came," she said.

The Silas family, Shana, 32, Earl, 36, and R.J., 6, were standing near the Morgans on Election Night in Grant Park.

They came to watch the returns, with thousands of others, to "breathe living history."

"It's been wonderful," Shana Silas said. "People from all walks of life, no fighting. We were hugging total strangers."

The election results are significant to Shana and Earl Silas, who are African-American, and especially for their son.

"It means I can tell him he can do anything and really mean it," she said.

Ann Wanserski, 19, a student at Loyola University Chicago, came to Grant Park with her friends to watch the Election Night activity.

"It's a complete adrenaline rush being here around all the people," she said. "I really felt like my vote counted."

When the 270-mark was reached, Ryan M. Fleisher unfurled a large banner that read, "Happy days are here again."

But Fleisher, 40, said he was anxious, not optimistic for an Obama victory earlier that day. When the results came in and victory was declared, he felt relieved.

And following the Obama speech, Fleisher had packed a bottle of champagne in his backpack to celebrate with.

But in Phoenix, McCain supporters were not celebrating, and the contrast to the Obama event was evident when the scene from Arizona was broadcast in Grant Park. In his speech, Obama congratulated McCain for his hard-fought campaign.

"Sen. McCain fought long and hard in this campaign," Obama said. "And he's fought even longer and harder for the country that he loves."

The crowd at Grant Park watched McCain give his concession speech. McCain congratulated Obama, who he said has "inspired the hopes of so many Americans."

"Sen. Obama has achieved a great thing for himself and his country," McCain said. He encouraged all Americans who supported him in the election to support the next president.

Obama thanked his supporters as well as his campaign staff, his running mate Sen. Joe Biden and his wife and his two daughters, who, he said, have earned a new puppy to

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ALISON AMBROSE/The Observer

Thousands of supporters gathered Tuesday in Grant Park in Chicago for president-elect Obama's rally.

The Obama rally: Minute-by-Minute

By KAITLYNN RIELY
Associate News Editor

CHICAGO — Thousands of people, many clad in Obama gear, most from Chicago, descended onto Grant Park Tuesday night to take part in the Election Night rally, a night that ended happily for Obama supporters, as their candidate was named the 44th president of the United States.

Approximately 70,000 members of that mass of humanity had tickets to the main event, the part of Grant Park where they were herded to await the results, and at 11 p.m. CST, to hear president-elect Barack Obama speak.

The thousands more who had no tickets were directed to the non-ticketed section of Grant Park. The Observer composed two of the thousands. Here's our minute-by-minute account of Election Night in Grant Park.

4:43 p.m. CST

We check into our hotel, then walk across the street to the Grant Park entrance. Ronnie "Woo Woo" Wickers, 67, catches our eye. He is dressed in a Cubs uniform, with Obama '08 inscribed on the back.

"He'll win by a landslide," he says. The last time Wickers went to an Election Night rally, it was in 1960, for then-Sen. John F. Kennedy.

4:50 p.m.

We go to grab dinner, but first run into Gregory Simon, 44. He's selling T-shirts that proclaim Obama the 44th president. "This is the victory shirt right here," he says. "This is the official victory shirt." Simon says he voted

earlier today for the man on the shirt. We leave Simon and his shirts to make our way through to the non-ticketed area.

5:25 p.m.

Catherine Matthews, 71, marched with Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. from Selma to Montgomery. She did not think she would see a black man become president in her lifetime, so she says she wouldn't miss Election Night at Grant Park for the world. She is not nervous about the results.

"At all of the previous elections, it's been cold weather, it's been rainy. God has showered us with a beautiful, sunshiny day and so I do believe that everything is going to be in his favor."

5:37 p.m.

Maggie Campbell, 31, has brought her children Henry, 4, and Liam, 2 mos., to Grant Park. She said she didn't think they would be at the event that late.

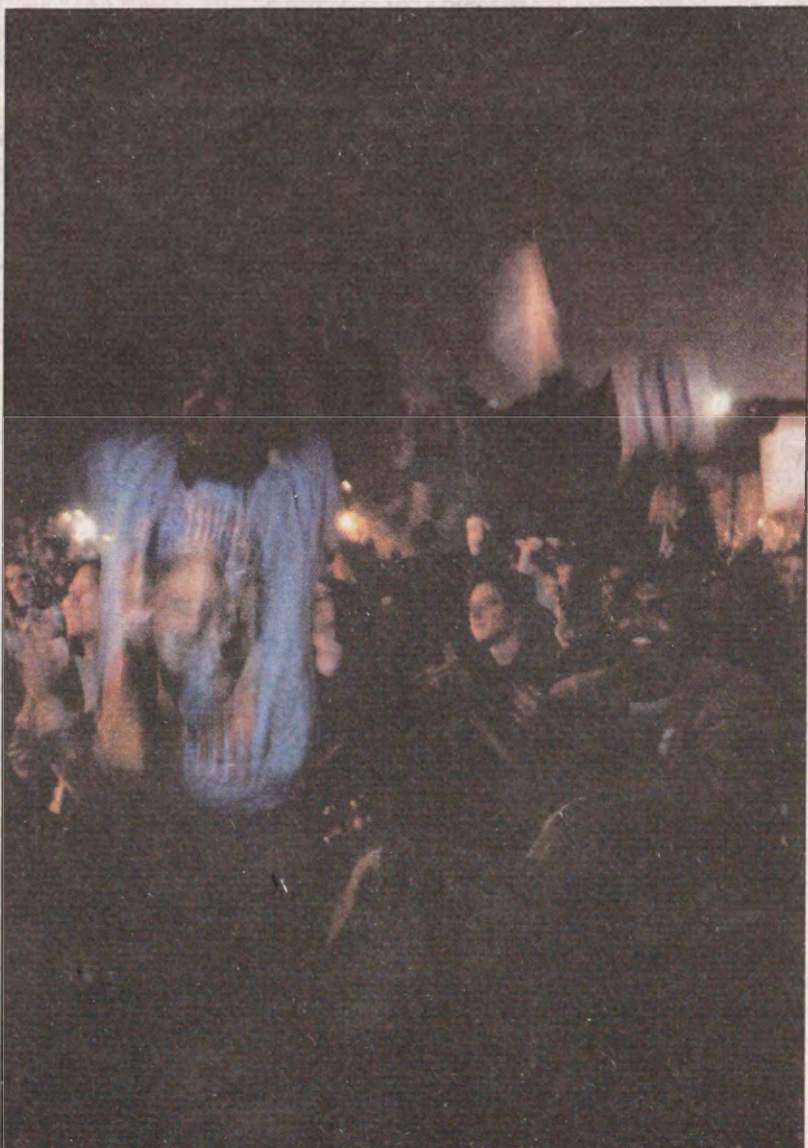
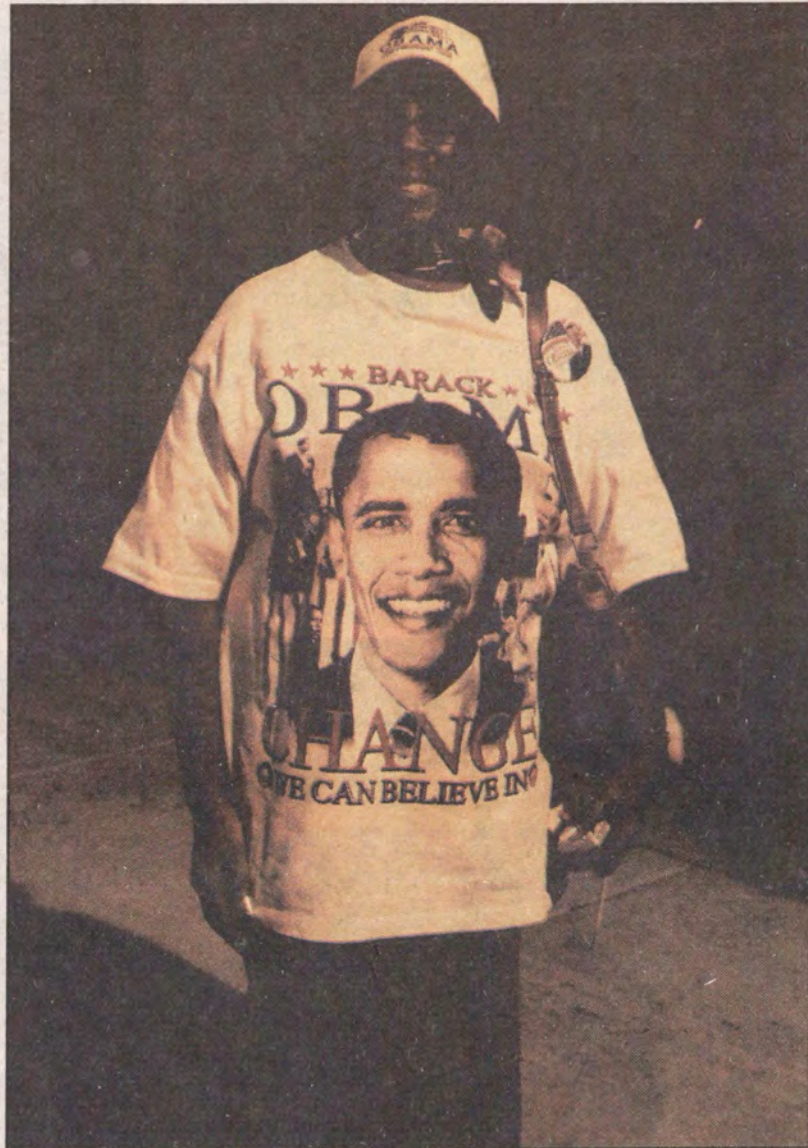
"It's such a historic event, that I wanted to be a part of it, and have my kids be a part of it, so even if we could only stay an hour, we wanted to say we were there." She said she hopes Henry will remember. "I keep telling him what a big deal it is. In 20 years, I want him to be able to say he was here."

5:42 p.m.

Andrew Kang, 18, a freshman at Northwestern, has come to Grant Park with several of his college friends. Kang said he is a moderate Republican, but said he voted for Obama. He says there is a lot of excitement at Northwestern for the Illinois

see CHICAGO/page 10

scenes from grant park



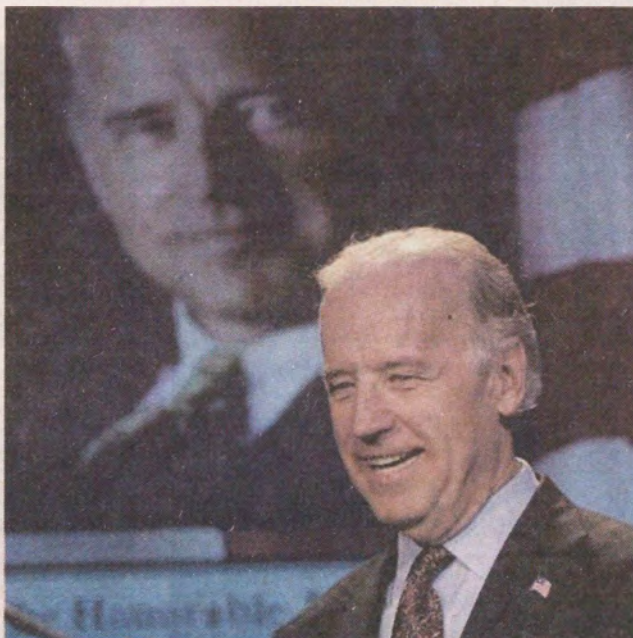
Clockwise from top left: Crowds watch the election returns projected on large television screens on the perimeter of Grant Park, with Chicago's skyline behind them. Catherine Matthews, 71, clad in Obama gear, came out to support the Democratic candidate; she marched with Martin Luther King, Jr. from Selma to Montgomery, and told The Observer she would not miss Election Night in Grant Park "for the world." Excited Obama fans cheer when their candidate makes history, becoming the first black man to be elected to the United States presidency. A young child in attendance holds up a sign calling for peace, as those around him watch the returns in anticipation of an Obama victory. Members of the crowd celebrate the Obama win, and welcome the president-elect to the stage.

ALLISON AMBROSE/The Observer

Joe Biden announced as Obama's running mate, Aug. 23 ♦ Obama accepts Democratic nomination, Aug. 28

The Race

Defining moments in the



Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Barack Obama swept to victory as the nation's first black president Tuesday night in an electoral college landslide that overcame racial barriers as old as America itself.

The son of a black father from Kenya and a white mother from Kansas, the Democratic senator from Illinois sealed his historic triumph by defeating Republican Sen. John McCain in a string of wins in hard-fought battleground states — Ohio, Florida, Virginia and Iowa.

A huge crowd in Grant Park in Obama's home town of Chicago erupted in jubilation at the news of his victory. Some wept.

McCain called his former rival to concede defeat — and the end of his own 10-year quest for the White House. "The American people have spoken, and spoken clearly," McCain told disappointed supporters in Arizona.

Obama and his running mate, Sen. Joseph Biden of Delaware, will take their oaths of office as president and vice president on Jan. 20, 2009.

As the 44th president, Obama will move into the Oval Office as leader of a country that is almost certainly in recession, and fighting two long wars, one in Iraq, the other in Afghanistan.

The popular vote was close, but not the count in the Electoral College, where it mattered most.

There, Obama's audacious decision to contest McCain in states that hadn't gone Democratic in years paid dividends.

Obama has said his first order of presidential business will be to tackle the economy. He has also pledged to withdraw most U.S. combat troops from Iraq within 16 months.

Fellow Democrats rode his coattails

to larger majorities in both houses of Congress. They defeated incumbent Republicans and won open seats by turn.

The 47-year-old Illinois senator was little known just four years ago. A widely praised speech at the Democratic National Convention, delivered when he was merely a candidate for the Senate, changed that.

Overnight he became a sought-after surrogate campaigner, and he had scarcely settled into his Senate seat when he began preparing for his run for the White House.

A survey of voters leaving polling places on Tuesday showed the economy was by far the top Election Day issue. Six in 10 voters said so, and none of the other top issues — energy, Iraq, terrorism and health care — was picked by more than one in 10.

"May God bless whoever wins tonight," President Bush told dinner guests at the White House, where his tenure runs out on Jan. 20.

The Democratic leaders of Congress celebrated in Washington.

"It is not a mandate for a party or ideology but a mandate for change," said Senate Majority leader Harry Reid of Nevada.

Said Speaker Nancy Pelosi of California: "Tonight the American people have called for a new direction. They have called for change in America."

Shortly after 11 p.m. in the East, The Associated Press count showed Obama with 338 electoral votes, well over the 270 needed for victory. McCain had 127 after winning states that comprised the normal Republican base.

The nationwide popular vote was remarkably close. Totals from 58 percent of the nation's precincts showed Obama with 51 percent and McCain with 47.9.

Interviews with voters suggested

Timeline of election night

8:40 p.m.

Pennsylvania, the first battleground state called of the night, went to Obama, despite McCain's increased campaign efforts in the Keystone State in the days before the election.

Obama wins Ohio's 20 electoral votes.

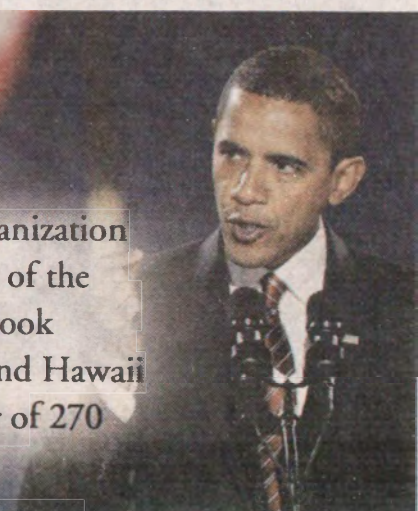
9:34 p.m.



McCain calls Obama to concede.

11 p.m.

NBC is the first national news organization to name Obama the 44th president of the United States after the Democrat took California, Washington, Oregon and Hawaii to put him over the magic number of 270 electoral votes.



McCain accepts Republican nomination, Sept. 4 ♦ Sarah Palin announced as McCain's running mate, Aug. 29

Unfolds

battle for the White House



that almost six in 10 women were backing Obama nationwide, while men leaned his way by a narrow margin. Just over half of whites supported McCain, giving him a slim advantage in a group that Bush carried overwhelmingly in 2004.

The results of the AP survey were based on a preliminary partial sample of nearly 10,000 voters in Election Day polls and in telephone interviews over the past week for early voters.

Democrats also acclaimed Senate successes by former Gov. Mark Warner in Virginia, Rep. Tom Udall in New Mexico and Rep. Mark Udall in Colorado. All won seats left open by Republican retirements.

In New Hampshire, former Gov. Jeanne Shaheen defeated Republican Sen. John Sununu in a rematch of their 2002 race, and Sen. Elizabeth Dole fell to Democrat Kay Hagan in North Carolina.

Democrats also looked for gains in the House. They defeated Republican incumbents Rep. Tom Feeney and Ric Keller in Florida, 22-year veteran Chris Shays in Connecticut and Rep. Robin Hayes in North Carolina.

At least two Democrats lost their seats. Rep. Kevin Mahoney fell after admitting to two extramarital affairs while serving his first term in Florida. In Louisiana, Democratic Rep. Don Cazayoux lost the seat he had won in a special election six months ago.

The resurgent Democrats also elected a governor in one of the nation's traditional bellwether states when Missouri Attorney General Jay Nixon won his race.

The White House was the main prize of the night on which 35 Senate seats and all 435 House seats were at stake. A dozen states elected governors, and ballots across the country were dotted with issues ranging

from taxes to gay rights.

An estimated 187 million voters were registered, and in an indication of interest in the battle for the White House, 40 million or so had already voted as Election Day dawned.

Obama sought election as one of the youngest presidents, and one of the least experienced in national political affairs.

That wasn't what set the Illinois senator apart, though — neither from his rivals nor from the other men who had served as president since the nation's founding more than two centuries ago. A black man, he confronted a previously unbreakable barrier as he campaigned on twin themes of change and hope in uncertain times.

McCain, a prisoner of war during Vietnam, a generation older than his rival at 72, was making his second try for the White House, following his defeat in the battle for the GOP nomination in 2000.

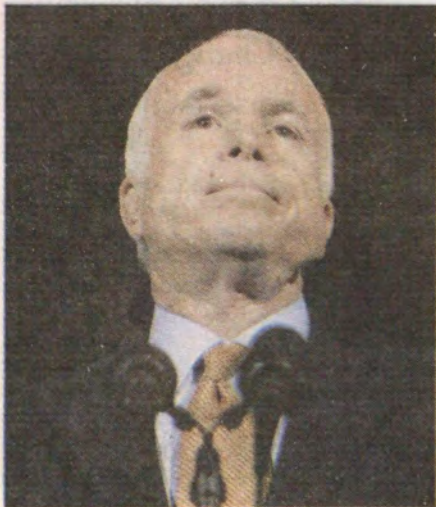
A conservative, he stressed his maverick's streak. And although a Republican, he did what he could to separate himself from an unpopular president.

For the most part, the two presidential candidates and their running mates, Biden and Republican Gov. Sarah Palin of Alaska, spent weeks campaigning in states that went for Bush four years ago.

McCain and Obama each won contested nominations — the Democrat outdistancing former first lady Hillary Rodham Clinton — and promptly set out to claim the mantle of change.

"I am not George W. Bush," McCain said in one debate.

Obama retorted that he might as well be, telling audiences in state after state that the Republican had voted with the president 90 percent of the time across eight years of the



"We've come to the end of a long journey ..."

■ **11:18 p.m.**

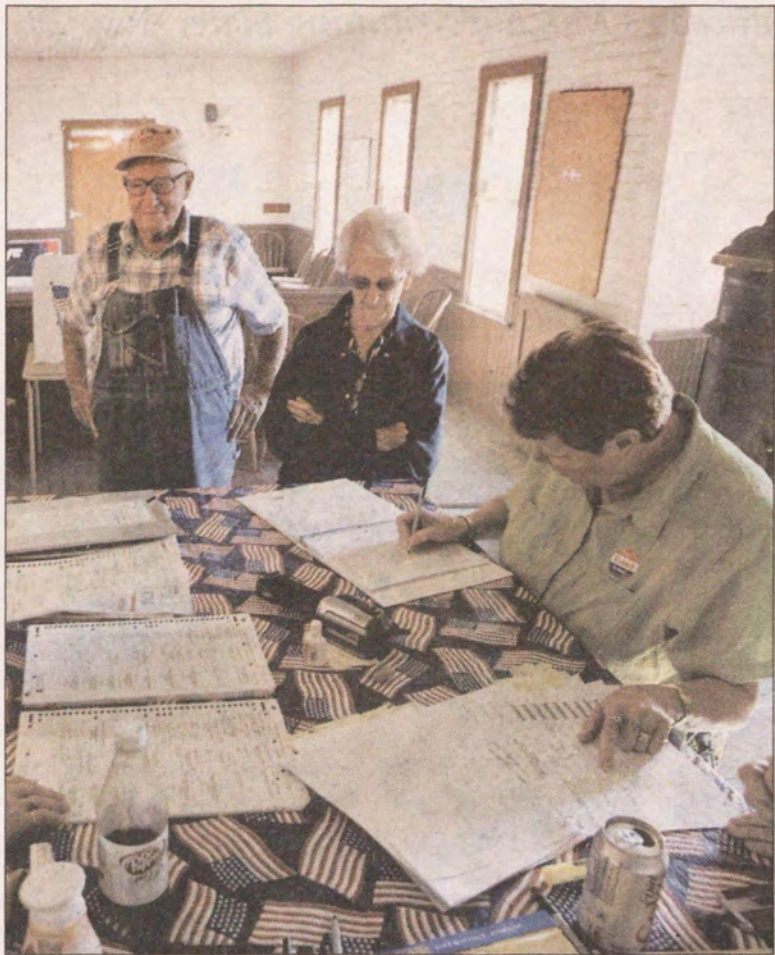
McCain spoke to a group of supporters at The Biltmore in Phoenix, encouraging them to find ways to come together as Americans after a disappointing result for the Republican camp.



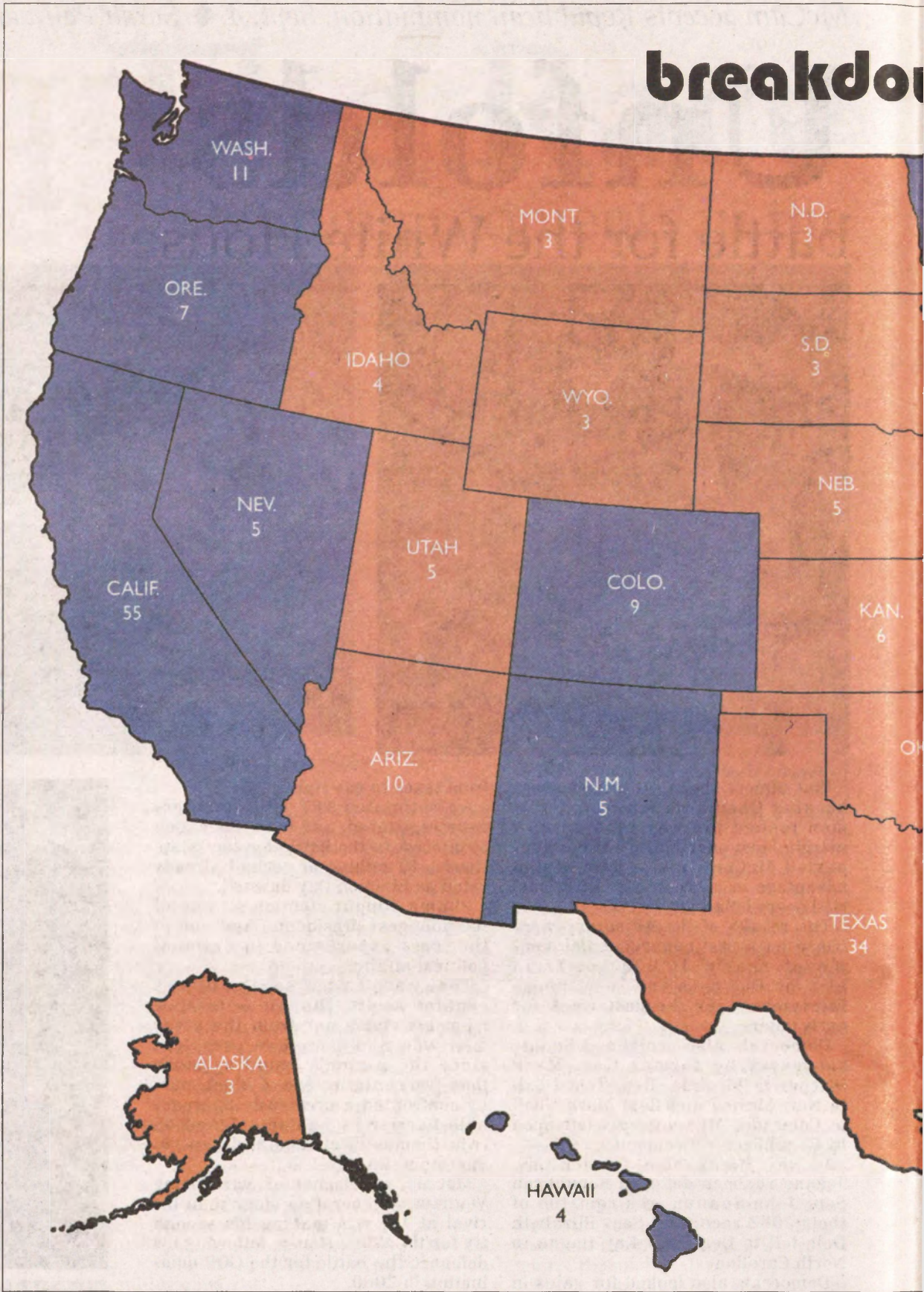
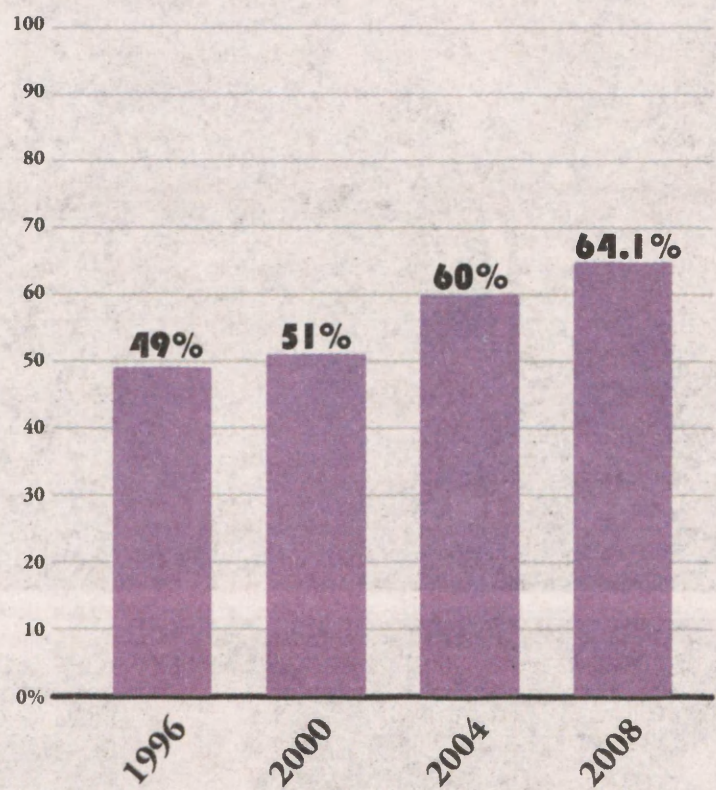
"Tonight is your answer."

■ **11:57 p.m.**

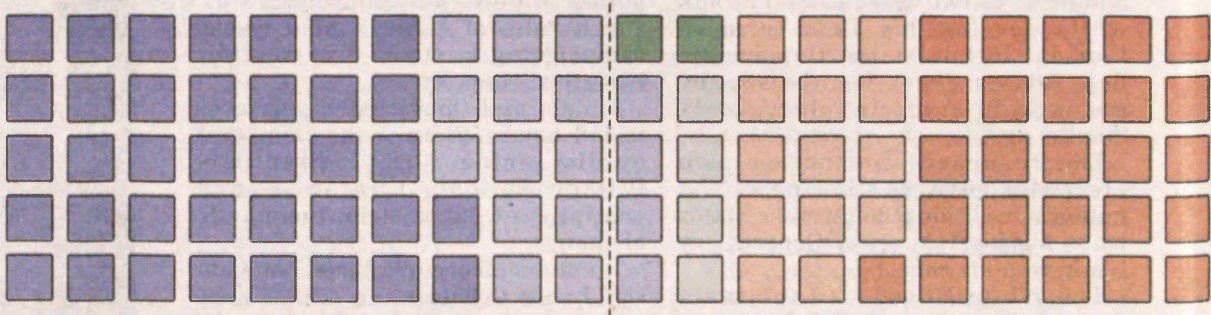
President-elect Obama takes the stage with his family to deliver his victory speech to over 100,000 people in Chicago's Grant Park, becoming the first black man elected to hold America's top office.



trends in voter turnout



the race for the senate



New Democrat Seats

Total = 54
Change = +5

Undecided

Total = 4

New Republican Seats

Total = 40
Change = -9

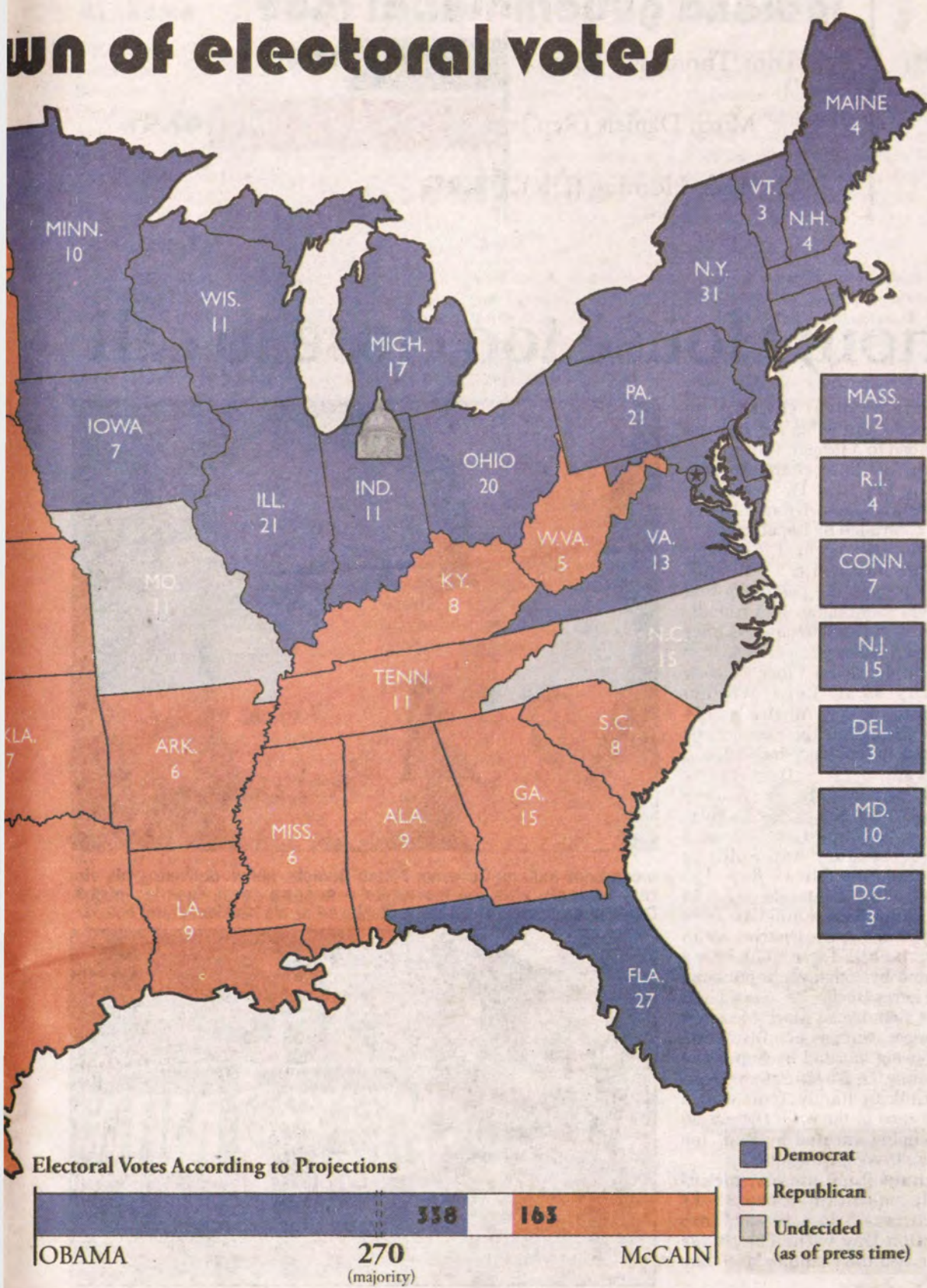
Number of seats not up for election, 2008

Democrat Republican
Number of seats won, 2008
Democrat Republican

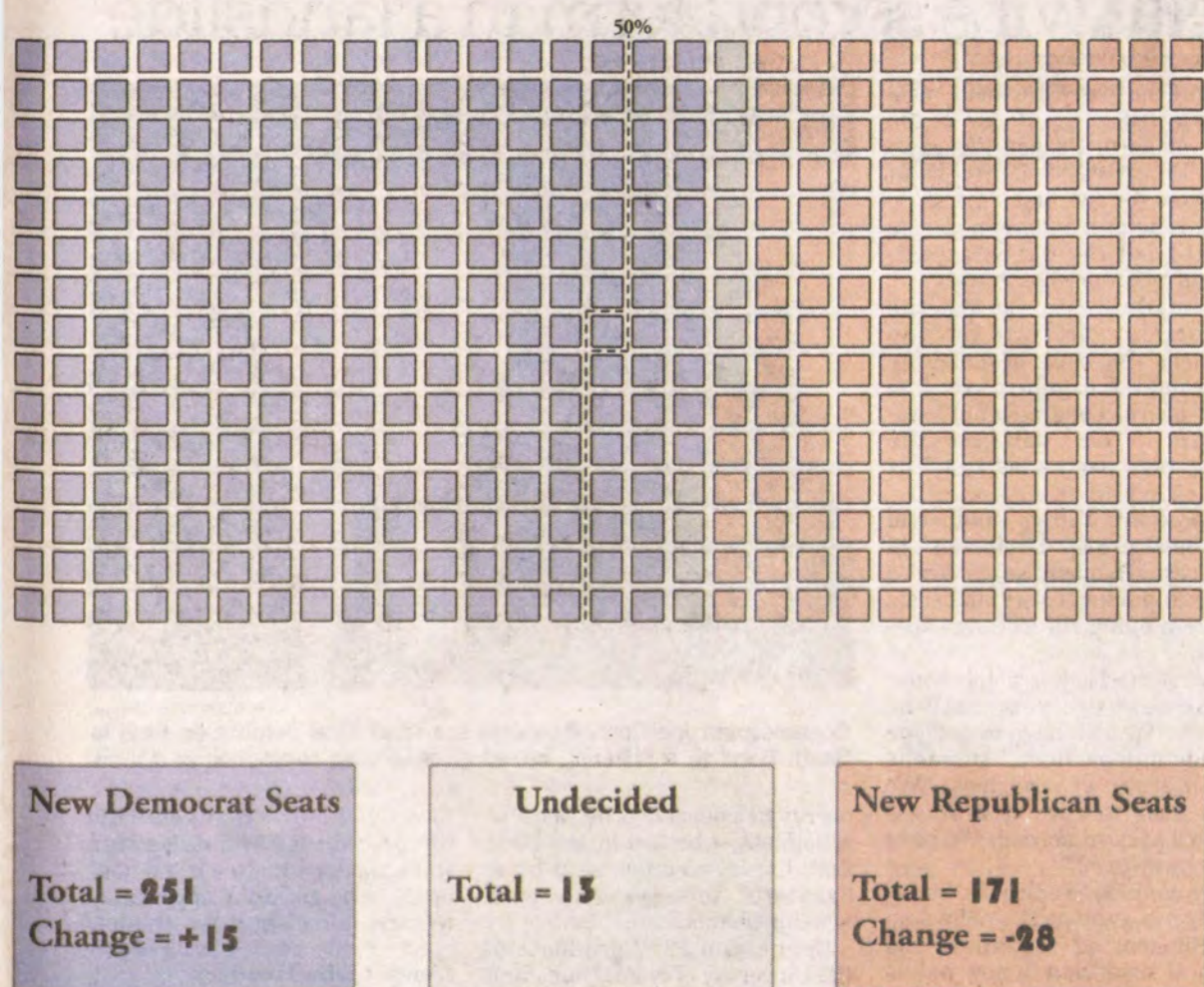
Undecided (as of press time)

Independent
*caucus with Democrats

win of electoral votes



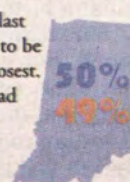
the race for the house



hot races in battleground states

Indiana

Indiana was one of the last key battleground states to be called and one of the closest. McCain held a slight lead over Obama before the election, but Obama pulled out the win.



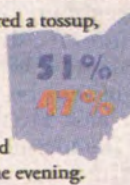
Florida

Polls showed Obama leading McCain by a small margin, and Obama turned that lead into a win. Florida, the pivotal state in 2000, voted Republican in the past 10 presidential elections.



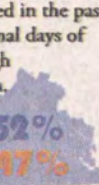
Ohio

Ohio was long considered a tossup, and was subject to heavy campaigning. Polls showed the state leaning towards Obama, and he clinched this key state early in the evening.



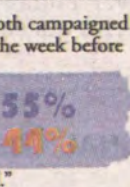
Virginia

This state has been solidly red in the past, but McCain's push in the final days of the campaign weren't enough to keep the state Republican. Obama garnered 13 electoral votes here.



Pennsylvania

McCain and Obama both campaigned heavily in this state in the week before the election, and for Obama, the work paid off. McCain had famously called this state his "last stand."



Georgia

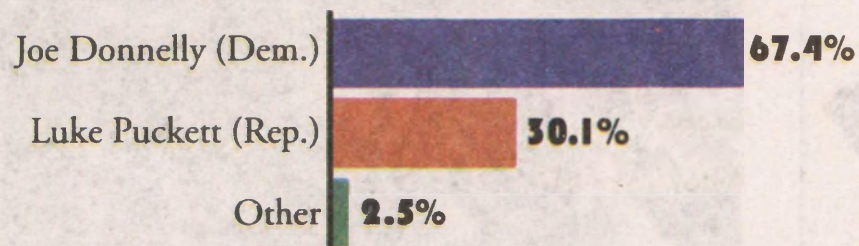
A state that went decidedly for Bush in 2000 and 2004 stayed with the GOP as McCain carried the state, despite Obama's efforts to increase turnout among black voters.



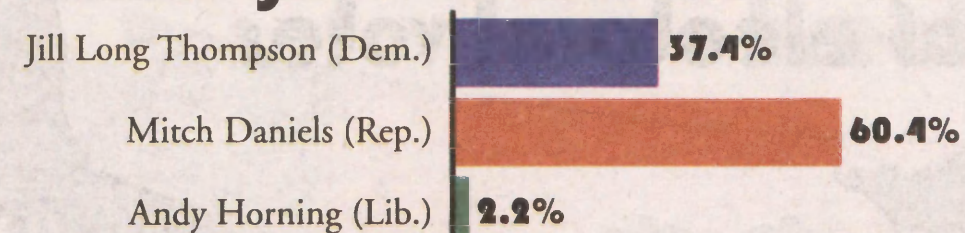
Democrat Republican Undecided (as of press time)



indiana 2nd district race



indiana gubernatorial race



INDIANA GUBERNATORIAL RACE

Daniels wins re-election; House too close to call

Associated Press

INDIANAPOLIS — Republican Mitch Daniels defeated former Democratic congresswoman Jill Long Thompson on Tuesday to win a second term as governor, but early Wednesday morning it remained unclear which party would control the Indiana House.

Republican control of the House could make it easier for Daniels to get what he wants, since Republicans maintained their lock on the Senate and the governor's party would rule the General Assembly as it did the first two years of his first term. House Democrats went into the election with a 51-49 advantage.

But it was possible the House would end up tied 50-50 for the second time since 1997 and 1998, and if so, Daniels victory would give control of the chamber to Republicans through a tie-breaking law.

The parties traded control of three seats each, but Republican Kelly Gaskill led Rep. Scott Reske, D-Pendleton, by 34 votes in District 37 with nearly 12,000 absentee votes left to be counted in Madison County. The counting was to resume Wednesday morning, and if Gaskill holds on, the chamber would be tied and Republicans would wield the gavel.

Daniels wasn't shy about advancing his call for change into a second term as he celebrated his victory with supporters at Conseco Fieldhouse about 9:30

p.m.

"The movement for change is moving ahead," he declared.

"This is less an endorsement than an instruction, this is less a victory than an assignment," Daniels said. "And what the people of Indiana have said is that they want us to press forward with change and improvement and reform to make education better, taxpayers better protected and make this the great state it can be."

With 99 percent of Indiana precincts reporting, Daniels won 58 percent of the vote, according to unofficial returns tabulated by The Associated Press.

Long Thompson conceded the race shortly after 9 p.m. A victory would have made her the first woman elected governor in Indiana history.

"This didn't turn out as we had hoped, but we put a big crack in that glass ceiling," she told supporters at the downtown Marriott in Indianapolis. "And it's only a matter of time before that thing shatters here in Indiana."

Daniels, a former policy adviser to President Reagan and President George Bush, had a huge fundraising advantage throughout the campaign and outspent his Democratic rival by at least \$10 million.

Democrats had hoped to capitalize on the momentum of Barack Obama's presidential campaign and voter unhappiness over changes in Daniels' first term, which included decisions to

observe daylight saving time statewide and lease the Indiana Toll Road to a foreign venture.

Many of those changes came during his first two years in office, with help from a House then controlled by Republicans.

Democrats regained the House in 2006 but held a 51-49 edge that left open the possibility that Daniels could again find friendly territory in House chambers after Tuesday's votes were tallied.

Republican Ed Clere of New Albany beat Rep. William Cochran of New Albany by 114 votes for a seat the Democratic incumbent had held since 1974.

Former Democratic Greencastle Mayor Nancy Michael beat Rep. Amos Thomas, R-Brazil, in District 44, and Democrat Mary Ann Sullivan defeated Republican Rep. Jon Elrod in District 97 in Indianapolis. Democrat John Barnes also won District 89 in Indianapolis for a seat being vacated by longtime Republican Rep. Larry Buell.

But Republican Mark Messmer of Jasper won an open District 63 seat being vacated by Rep. Dave Crooks, D-Washington. And Republican Randy Truit won a close race in the open District 26 seat being vacated by Rep. Joe Micon, D-West Lafayette.

Senate Republicans, meanwhile, maintained the 33-17 advantage they went into Election Day with. They have controlled the chamber since late 1978.



Incumbent Indiana Governor Mitch Daniels, above delivering his victory speech, was re-elected to a second term Tuesday night. Daniels' campaign signs were displayed at his headquarters, below.



INDIANA 2ND CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT RACE

Moderate Democrat Donnelly wins second term in a landslide

By JOHN TIERNEY
News Writer

Joe Donnelly was re-elected Tuesday to a second term as congressman from Indiana's 2nd Congressional District by winning 67 percent of the vote.

"It's hard to put into words just how lucky and how fortunate I feel to have friends like you," Donnelly said in his victory speech at the West Side Democratic Club in South Bend.

"We've worked so hard to make the country we love a much better place," he said.

Donnelly stressed a non-partisan approach to the way he views politics.

"I want what's best for Indiana, for working families and for our country," he said in his speech. "That's what we are going to do in the next two years."

The pro-life Democrat also reached out to all the candidates on the ballot, both Democratic and Republican.

"To all candidates, on our side and on the other side, I thank you for standing up for our country," Donnelly said.

Donnelly addressed the crowd

before Barack Obama's election was guaranteed.

"I believe Barack Obama is going to win Indiana and will be the next president of the United States," Donnelly said.

He suggested that Obama's election will make the United States a better place.

"We all want a better country where we stand up for our families, our jobs, and our soldiers who protect our country," Donnelly said.

In an interview with The Observer, Donnelly said that despite the Democratic sweep of both houses of Congress and the presidency, bipartisanship will be necessary.

"We're going to try to work together with Republicans and Democrats to get things done," he said. "We need to balance the budget, create new jobs and make our country a better place."

"People understand that I don't worry about partisan politics," Donnelly told The Observer. "I care about family, jobs, our troops ... That's what Indiana is about."

Not all of the Democrats elected to the House and the Senate are representatives from the left-

wing of the party. Donnelly, who was elected to the House in the 2006 midterm election that gave the Democrats control of Congress for the first time since 1994, is himself a more moderate member of the party, as evidenced by his pro-life views.

Donnelly said that the Democratic Party will have to reconcile the views of moderate rank-and-file members with the more liberal Congressional leadership. "This will be the Democratic party's big test," he said.

"There are a large number of additional pro-life Democrats" in Congress, Donnelly said. "We're going to pursue a very moderate policy moving the country forward."

One of the biggest single issues of the next two years will be energy. "We still have to become energy independent," Donnelly told a group of reporters. "We can't think that we have \$2 gas and it's back to normal. We have a long way to go."

The creation of new jobs will be another issue that Donnelly said he will focus on. Job growth will be most significant in new industries and is closely related to



JOHN TIERNEY/The Observer

Congressman Joe Donnelly enters the West Side Democratic Club in South Bend to a cheering crowd after winning re-election in a landslide.

energy independence, he said.

Donnelly, who lost in the 2002 2nd district election, said he is "grateful to have run with Senator Obama."

Donnelly, a 1977 graduate of the University of Notre Dame and a 1981 graduate of Notre Dame

Law School, thanked his Congressional and campaign staffs and said that he is "so honored" to be given the opportunity to serve his district for another

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Around the Nation

ALABAMA

Republican incumbent Jeff Sessions trounced his Democratic challenger, State Senator Vivian Figures by winning over 60 percent of the vote in a state that traditionally votes for the GOP in major elections.

ALASKA

Sen. Ted Stevens, who was convicted on seven felony counts last week, held a narrow lead over Democratic challenger Anchorage Mayor Mark Begich with three-quarters of the ballots counted. Stevens maintains his innocence and will appeal his conviction.

ARIZONA

Democrat and former state legislator Ann Kirkpatrick narrowly defeated Republican lobbyist Sydney Hay to claim the seat in rural northern Arizona. Incumbent Rick Renzi was forced to resign after being indicted on federal corruption charges.

ARKANSAS

Incumbent Democrat Mark Pryor didn't even face a Republican opponent for his Senate seat, and won nearly 80 percent of the vote against Green party candidate Rebekah Kennedy. Voters also approved a ban on adoption by same sex cou-

CALIFORNIA

A proposed ban on same-sex marriage, which would overturn a recent state Supreme Court decision, is too close to call as of early Wednesday morning.

COLORADO

The retirement of Republican Wayne Allard left one of Colorado's Senate seats vacant, opening the door for the Democrats in a state that has long been a GOP stronghold. In a tight race, Democratic Representative Mark Udall edged out Republican

CONNECTICUT

New England's only Republican representative Christopher Shays lost his seat to Democratic challenger Jim Himes in a hard-fought contest. Himes will now represent Connecticut's 4th District, which is composed of one of America's wealthiest constituencies.

DELAWARE

Former banker and Democrat Jack Markell parlayed his large fundraising advantage into a victory over Republican Bill Lee, a retired Superior Court Judge. The seat was vacated by Democrat Ruth Ann Minner, who was forced to retire due to term limits.

FLORIDA

In a night where Democrats won a number of victories, one of their major losses came in Florida's 16th District, where concern over incumbent Tim Mahoney's extramarital affairs allowed Republican Tom Rooney to score a large win.

GEORGIA

Incumbent Republican Senator Saxby Chambliss held a narrow lead over Democratic challenger Jim Martin with 95 percent of precincts reporting. However, the fate of this election will not be decided until all absentee ballots are accounted for.

HAWAII

Democrats Neil Abercrombie and Mazie Hirono coasted to re-election in the House of Representatives. Meanwhile, Mufi Hannemann won re-election as mayor of Honolulu over Councilwoman Ann Kobayashi.

IDAHO

In the election to fill the seat of longtime Republican Senator Larry Craig, who decided not to run for re-election after drawing national attention for his escapades in an airport bathroom, Lt. Gov. Jim Risch easily defeated Democrat Larry LaRocca, a former Congressman.

ILLINOIS

The departure of Republican Jerry Weller allowed the Democrats to add another Congressional seat. Debbie Halvorson, a state senator, gathered nearly 60 percent of the vote in her victory over Republican Marty Ozinga.

INDIANA

Incumbent governor Mitch Daniels easily won re-election against Democratic challenger Jill Long Thompson, a former Congresswoman. Daniels held a nearly three to one advantage in campaign contributions and won close to 60 percent of the vote.

IOWA

Riding the wave of Democratic support for Barack Obama, incumbent Senator Tom Harkin easily defeated his opponent, Republican Christopher Reed. Harkin emphasized his experience in the Senate and his work on the Agricultural Committee.

KANSAS

Incumbent Republican Senator Pat Roberts coasted to victory in his bid for a third term over former Democratic Congressman Jim Slattery. Kansas has not elected a Democrat to the Senate since the Great Depression.

KENTUCKY

Facing the nationwide backlash against Republicans, Senate minority leader Mitch McConnell barely edged out Democratic businessman Bruce Lunsford. It was the toughest challenge McConnell had faced since he was elected in 1984.

LOUISIANA

Incumbent Democrat Mary L. Landrieu won her third term in the Senate after defeating Republican state treasurer John Kennedy. Landrieu was the only Democratic Senator to face a serious challenge, but shored up support by securing billions of dollars in aid for Katrina vic-

MAINE

Incumbent Republican Susan Collins defeated Democratic Representative Tom Allen by a 20-point margin. Collins, who has risen through the ranks in the Senate during her previous two terms, portrayed herself as a moderate during her campaign.

MARYLAND

The 1st District race between State Sen. Andy Harris, a Republican, and Frank M. Kratovil Jr., a Democrat, was closely-contested with Kratovil edging a win. Democrats now hold seven of state's eight seats in the House.

MASSACHUSETTS

Sen. John Kerry, a Democrat, retained his seat, defeating Jeff Beatty, a Republican. Democrats overwhelmingly won all four contests for seats in the House.

MICHIGAN

Sen. Carl Levin, a Democrat, easily defeated his seat against several challengers. Two house seats were tossups — the 7th district and 9th district, which were not called at press time.

MINNESOTA

Incumbent Senator Norm Coleman faced comedian and writer Al Franken in a race that is still too close to call. Coleman originally enjoyed a large lead over Franken, but the economic downturn allowed the one-time "Saturday Night Live" writer to

MISSISSIPPI

Incumbents in the House retained their contested seats Tuesday. Sens. Thad Cochran and Roger Wicker, Republicans, kept their positions as well. Wicker's seat was the more contested of the two.

MISSOURI

Jay Nixon, a Democrat who is the state attorney general, won the governorship with nearly 60 percent of the vote. Of the nine House seats contested, four were won by Democrats, five by Republicans.

MONTANA

Incumbent Sen. Max Baucus, a Democrat, won his sixth term handily. Democratic Governor Brian Schweitzer maintained his seat with over two-thirds of the vote. The only House seat up for grabs went Democratic.

NEBRASKA

Mike Johanns, a Republican, won the Senate seat vacated by Chuck Hagel, defeating Scott Kleeb, a Democrat. Two Republican House members defended their seats against Democratic challengers, with a

NEVADA

The 1st district was won by Shelley Berkley, a Democrat. The remaining House seats in the 2nd and 3rd districts were closely contested and uncalled at press time.

NEW HAMPSHIRE

Former Democratic Governor Jeanne Shaheen scored a major upset in a narrow victory over Republican incumbent John Sununu. Shaheen linked her opponent to President Bush while riding the wave of support for Barack Obama.

NEW JERSEY

Democratic State Senator John Adler defeated Republican mayor of Medford Chris Myers in a h o t l y - c o n t e s t e d Congressional election that was decided by less than one percentage point.

NEW MEXICO

Two Congressional representatives squared off in a contest for New Mexico's Senate seat, and Democrat Tom Udall was able to soundly defeat his Republican opponent Steve Pearce. Both men were forced to vacate their Congressional seats, which were both won by

NEW YORK

Democrats gained ground in the race for the House in New York. In the 13th district, Michael McMahon, a Democrat, defeated Republican Robert Stranieri for a seat currently held by a Republican. Democrat Daniel Maffei won the 25th district seat against Republican Dale

NORTH CAROLINA

Kay Hagan, the Democratic state senator, defeated Sen. Elizabeth Dole, a republican. This is the first time the seat has been held by a Democrat in 16 years. In the races to fill North Carolina's 13 House seats, seven Democrats and five Republicans won re-election. Democrat Bev Perdue won the gover-

NORTH DAKOTA

Governor John Hoeven, a two-term incumbent, defeated Democratic state senator Tim Mathern in a landslide. The race was influenced by the state's strong economy based on oil and gas production.

OHIO

Democrat Dennis Kucinich defended his seat in the House in a highly contested election. In the first district, the race between Steve Chabot, a Republican, and Steven Driehaus, a pro-life Democrat, remained uncalled early Wednesday.

OKLAHOMA

Incumbent Sen. James Inhofe, a Republican, won re-election, defeating State Sen. Andrew Rice, a Democrat. The only incumbent Democrat, Dan Boren, won re-election to the House. Republicans won the rest of the House seats.

OREGON

Democrat Jeff Merkley, speaker of the state house, held a narrow lead over Senator Gordon Smith with half of the ballots counted. Merkley is riding the coattails of a voter registration surge spurred by the campaign of Barack Obama.

PENNSYLVANIA

In a closely watched race, Rep. John Murtha, a Democrat, retained his seat in the House against challenger William Russell, a Republican, in the 12th district. In the 3rd district, Democrat Kathy Dahlkemper won an upset against Republican Rep.

RHODE ISLAND

With nearly 70 percent of the votes in their respective elections, Democratic Reps. Patrick Kennedy, an incumbent, and Jim Langevin, won their seats in the House. Sen. Jack Reed, a Democrat, kept his seat.

SOUTH CAROLINA

Incumbent Republican Sen. Lindsey Graham held his seat against challenger Bob Conley, a Democrat. In the House races, all six incumbents — of which two are Republican — won re-election.

SOUTH DAKOTA

Sen. Tim Johnson, a Democrat, won re-election up against Joel Dykstra, a state legislator and Republican. Longtime House Rep. Stephanie Herseth Sandlin, a Democrat, also won re-election.

TENNESSEE

Sen. Lamar Alexander, a Republican, easily defended six opponents to win re-election Tuesday. Of the eight House seats up for grabs, four went to Democrats, four went to Republicans.

TEXAS

Challenger Rick Noriega, a Democrat, was not able to take the Senate seat held by Republican John Cornyn, who is in his first term. In a closely watched House race, Rep. Nick Lampson, a Democrat, lost his seat to Republican Pete Olson.

UTAH

Jon Huntsman Jr., a Republican, defeated two challengers to win re-election to the governorship. Republican Jason Chaffetz won a three-way race for the 3rd congressional district.

VERMONT

Popular Republican Governor Jim Douglas coasted to re-election over Democratic House Speaker Gaye Symington and independent Anthony Pollina. Democrat Peter Welch won re-election to the U.S. House without a Republican challenger.

VIRGINIA

Democrat Mark Warner won against Republican James Gilmore III in the election for the state's open senate seat. Rep. Eric Cantor, the chief deputy whip for the House Republicans, won his fifth term.

WASHINGTON

Returns early Wednesday showed Gov. Christine Gregoire, a Democrat, holding a slight lead over Democratic challenger Dino Rossi. The race remained uncalled at press time. Of the nine House seats up for election, two went

WEST VIRGINIA

West Virginians re-elected Gov. Joe Manchin III, a Democrat, in his race against Russ Weeks, a Republican, and Jesse Johnson of the Mountain Party. Sen. John D. Rockefeller IV, a Democrat, defeated Republican Jay Wolfe.

WISCONSIN

Rep. F. James Sensenbrenner, a Republican, widely defeated Robert Raymond, an Independent challenger, to win his 16th term. Republicans unsuccessfully sought to pick up a Congressional seat in the 8th district, where Rep. Steve Kagen kept his seat.

WYOMING

Sen. Michael Enzi, a Republican, won his third term in Wyoming against Democrat Chris Rothfuss. In a special election, Sen. Barrasso, a Republican, defeated Nick Carter, the Democratic candidate.

President-elect faces unprecedented challenges

Obama recognizes 'enormity' of various issues facing next administration, urges patience on 'long road ahead'

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Now the hard part. Barack Obama essentially came out of nowhere, beat the Democratic establishment, conquered doubts about his experience and overcame questions about his race to be elected the first black president after a grueling campaign that lasted nearly two years.

But for Obama there's no time to savor his unprecedented victory.

Now he faces unprecedented challenges.

The president-elect must immediately confront the worst economic conditions since the Great Depression, determine the next steps in two lingering wars, and lead his Democrats, including liberals expecting that the change he promises will come instantly.

It won't.

On the heels of a campaign in which cash wasn't a concern, Obama has to tackle all of those tasks with no room in the budget as the nation heads for a painful, perhaps long-lasting, recession.

Even as he celebrated, Obama acknowledged "the enormity of the task that lies ahead," and offered a sobering assessment.

"We know the challenges that tomorrow will bring are the greatest of our lifetime — two wars, a planet in peril, the worst financial crisis in a century," Obama said. "There's new energy to harness, new jobs to be created, new schools to build, and threats to meet, alliances to repair."

He warned: "The road ahead will be long. Our climb will be steep. We may not get there in one year or even in one term."

No new president has faced so much since Franklin Delano Roosevelt — and even he didn't have two wars on his plate.

Roosevelt had four months to come up with programs to address the Great Depression before he took office on



President-elect Barack Obama delivers his victory speech on Election Night at a rally at Grant Park in Chicago.

March 4, 1933.

Obama gets just 27 to put together his government; inauguration is Jan. 20.

He will chart the country's course against this dreary backdrop: Unemployment is at 6.1 percent and predicted to rise as high as 7.5 percent next year; pessimistic consumers have curtailed borrowing and spending; home foreclosures are rampant; Medicare, Medicaid and Social Security face huge financial problems; and, 152,000 U.S. troops are in Iraq more than five years after the initial invasion, while 32,000 are in Afghanistan in the sixth year of the war against terrorism.

With Democrats expanding their majorities in both the House and Senate, Obama will have to figure out how to lead a country that's more conservative

than liberal while trying to satisfy the left wing of his party. He will face demands for a quick pullout from Iraq. He's promised withdrawal, but carefully.

Perhaps addressing his party faithful, Obama said: "There are many who won't agree with every decision or policy I make as president. And we know the government can't solve every problem. But I will always be honest with you about the challenges we face."

From the outset, how Obama acts to deal with these conditions will set the tone for his presidency.

Voters got an early glimpse of his style last month when Wall Street collapsed, stocks fluctuated and the government intervened. He struck a cautious stance and deferred to lawmakers dealing directly with the problems. He was delib-

erative and careful in his response — perhaps just the approach voters were seeking after eight years of what critics call President Bush's cowboy approach.

Yet, Obama may be blamed for recession woes despite the fact that he inherited the mess from Bush. The troubles are on Obama's watch now even if there's little he can do about them. The president in power always suffers when the economy tanks. Just ask the first President Bush in 1992.

Indeed, coming in with a big victory doesn't guarantee success.

Democrat Lyndon B. Johnson won with 61 percent of the vote in 1964. He won his Great Society programs in his first two years but his administration essentially collapsed in the final two with the escalation of the Vietnam War.

In choosing Obama as the 44th president, the nation took a historic leap beyond its legacy of slavery and toward healing racial tensions just four decades after the tumultuous Civil Rights movement.

Politically, Obama's election amounted to a wholesale rejection of the status quo after eight years of Bush and Republican rule.

Voters were willing to take a chance on a relative newcomer to the national stage. Obama is a 47-year-old black man from Chicago with a liberal voting record who is in just his first Senate term and has offered few specifics on how he would govern.

Culturally, Obama's victory was so much more for a nation on the verge of becoming a true melting pot; government estimates say white people will no longer make up a majority of Americans by 2042.

The son of a black father from Kenya and a white mother from Kansas, Obama's call for change created a movement at a time of great upheaval in the country. And, that proved to be a large enough force to overcome lingering prejudices.

Chicago

continued from page 2

people showing heavy support for the candidate."

5:50 p.m.

We finally run into some Notre Dame people. Betsy Dwyer, a member of the class of '74 and Fred Nelson, a member of the class of '66, have entered the park.

Dwyer, a community organizer, said Obama is her hero. She says he is the only politician she has ever prayed for.

He's going to win in a landslide, Nelson predicts. He tells us to tell Charlie Weis last Friday's pep rally was the worst he's ever attended, high school or college.

5:59 p.m.

We head over to the large television screen set up on the lawn, one of several screens all over the park, broadcasting CNN.

6:00 p.m.

CNN projects Obama for Vermont, and Kentucky for McCain.

6:15 p.m.

CNN introduces its new holographic feature, which gets laughs from the crowd in Grant Park. The station predicts as many as half a million to a million people could be in Grant Park this evening.

6:28 p.m.

Three years ago, some people that Delisa Staples, 41, worked with told her Barack Obama would be the next president.

Staples came to Grant Park to see if that would happen. "I wanted to be a part of history."

6:45 p.m.

We realize that the Electoral Count is only eight for McCain and three for Obama. This could be a long night.

6:56 p.m.

CNN mentions Notre Dame while discussing its predictions for what the Indiana results will look like.

7 p.m.

Members of the crowd who had been sitting stand up to watch CNN project Illinois for Obama.

7:10 p.m.

Annie Hamel, 27, a citizen of Canada, said she thinks if Obama wins, it will be good for the way that other countries look at the United States. She says elections are not this exciting in Canada.

8:06 p.m.

Cody Heiden, 22, is standing in Grant Park in an Obama sweatshirt he has made himself.

8:24 p.m.

We receive a text message that Oprah Winfrey has arrived in Grant Park. A few

hours later, we see her for ourselves on television.

8:34 p.m.

CNN projects Ohio will go for Obama. A few minutes later, CNN's John King said he does not think McCain can possibly pull out a win. The crowd at Grant Park is ecstatic.

8:47 p.m.

Michael Phillips, 39, says he's feeling "absolutely elated" after the Ohio and Pennsylvania projections. If Obama wins, he says he will kiss the person standing next to him.

9:23 p.m.

The crowd at Grant Park tries to start the wave. Seconds later, they give up.

9:52 p.m.

Dan Townson, 45, is watching the final returns, victory cigar in hand, ready to be lit.

9:58 p.m.

CNN declares an Obama win in Virginia. CNN's Wolf Blitzer can't be heard over the cheers.

10:00 p.m.

CNN declares Obama the 44th president of the United States. The crowd explodes.

3:30 a.m.

We finally go to sleep, just half a mile away from where history was made.

Contact Kaitlynn Riely at kriely@nd.edu

Voter turnout could be highest in century

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — America voted in record numbers, standing in lines that snaked around blocks and in some places in pouring rain. Voters who queued up Tuesday and the millions who balloted early propelled 2008 to what one expert said was the highest turnout in a century.

It looks like 136.6 million Americans will have voted for president this election, based on 88 percent of the country's precincts tallied and projections for absentee ballots, said Michael McDonald of George Mason University. Using his methods, that would give 2008 a 64.1 percent turnout rate.

"That would be the highest turnout rate that we've seen since 1908," which was 65.7 percent, McDonald said early Wednesday. It also would beat the old post World War II high of 63.8 percent in the famed 1960 John F. Kennedy-Richard Nixon squeaker. The 1908 race elected William Howard Taft over William Jennings Bryan.

The total voting in 2008 easily outdistanced 2004's 122.3 million, which had been the highest grand total of voters before.

But another expert disagrees with McDonald's calculations and only puts 2008 as the best in 40 years. Different experts

calculate turnout rates in different ways based on whom they consider eligible voters.

Curtis Gans, director of the nonpartisan Committee for the Study of the American Electorate at American University and dean of turnout experts, said his early numbers show 2008 to be about equal to or better than 1964, but not higher than 1960. He said it looks like total votes, once absentees are tallied (which could take a day or so), will be "somewhere between 134 and 135 million."

What's most interesting about early results is not just how many people voted but the shifting demographic of American voters, said Stephen Ansolabehere, a political science professor at Harvard and MIT.

Using exit polling data, Ansolabehere determined that whites made up 74 percent of the 2008 electorate. That's down considerably from 81 percent in 2000 because of increase in black and Hispanic voting, he said.

"That's a big shift in terms of demographic composition of the electorate," Ansolabehere said early Wednesday.

Breakdown by party voting also shows that Republican turnout rates are down quite a bit, while Democratic turnout rates are up, Gans said.

Democrats gain ground in both House, Senate

Dems grab seats from Dole, Sununu, and three other GOP Senators but will likely fall short of 60-seat target



Republican Sen. Elizabeth Dole, shown voting above, was unseated by Democratic challenger Kay Hagan, in one of the seats gained by Democrats in the Senate.

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Democrats fattened their majority control of the Senate on Tuesday, ousting Republican Sens. Elizabeth Dole of North Carolina and John Sununu of New Hampshire and capturing seats held by retiring GOP senators in Virginia, New Mexico and Colorado.

Piggybacking on the excitement level raised by presidential victor Barack Obama and his voter-registration and get-out-the-vote drives, Democrats increased their effective majority to at least 56 seats in the 100-member Senate.

They did not turn over a single seat to Republicans. All Democratic incumbents on the ballot prevailed.

But Republicans stopped a complete rout, holding the Kentucky seat of Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell and a Mississippi seat once held by Trent Lott — two top Democratic targets.

North Carolina state Sen. Kay Hagan, little known politically before her run, defeated Dole — a former Cabinet member in two Republican administrations and 2000 presidential hopeful. Dole had tried to tie Hagan, a former Presbyterian Sunday school teacher, to atheists in an ad that appeared to backfire.

In New Hampshire, former Democratic Gov. Jeanne Shaheen defeated Sununu in a rematch of their 2002 contest.

In pair of western races, Reps. Tom and Mark Udall took over Senate seats held by retiring Republicans. Tom Udall, the son of former Interior Secretary Stewart Udall, defeated Republican Rep. Steve Pearce to succeed Pete Domenici in New Mexico. Tom's cousin Mark, the son of the late Rep. Morris Udall of Arizona, won the Colorado seat held by Republican Wayne Allard, who did not seek re-election.

Former Democratic Gov. Mark Warner

breezed to victory in Virginia to take a Senate seat held for five terms by retiring GOP Sen. John Warner, beating another former governor, Republican Jim Gilmore. The two Warners are not related.

Democratic vice presidential candidate Joe Biden won another six-year term representing Delaware in the Senate. It became moot when Obama won the presidential election.

Democratic Sen. Mary Landrieu of Louisiana, the only serious GOP target, won her re-election over Republican state treasurer John Kennedy.

Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid, D-Nev., attributed the Democratic gains to Obama's coattails.

"It's been a really good night," Reid said in an interview with The Associated Press. "Obama ran a terrific campaign, he inspired millions of people."

McConnell, the Senate Republican leader, had been a target of national Democrats after leading successful filibusters against much of their legislative agenda the past two years. He won re-election against two-time Democratic gubernatorial candidate Bruce Lunsford in a contentious race.

"Winston Churchill once said that the most exhilarating feeling in life is to be shot at — and missed," McConnell said late Tuesday. "After the last few months, I think what he really meant to say is that there's nothing more exhausting."

In a tight Mississippi contest, Republican Roger Wicker, defeated former Democratic Gov. Ronnie Musgrove to serve another four years of the term originally won in 2006 by Lott. Wicker was appointed to the post temporarily after Lott stepped down.

With Warner's victory in Virginia, Democrats now control both Senate seats and the governor's mansion. Virginia usually votes Republican in presidential elections, but Obama also won there Tuesday.

Democrats expand their House lead with broad gains, Speaker Pelosi calls House wins a 'wave upon a wave'



Kentucky 2nd Congressional District candidate, Democrat David Boswell, fourth from left, watches a campaign volunteer, Brett Mills, call up election returns Tuesday.

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Democrats expanded their control of the House and pushed for historic gains in their majority Tuesday by solidifying their dominance in the Northeast and making inroads in the South and West.

Ousting 22-year veteran Rep. Chris Shays in Connecticut gave Democrats every House seat from New England. Their victory in an open seat on New York's Staten Island gave them control of all of New York City's delegation in Washington for the first time in 35 years.

Democrats also rode the coattails of a decisive victory by Barack Obama in New Mexico to win one House seat they haven't controlled in four decades and another the GOP had held for 28 years. Both were left up-for-grabs by GOP retirements.

"Tonight, the American people have called for a new direction. They have called for change in America," said House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif. Exit polls showed voters troubled by the battered economy and deeply dissatisfied with President Bush.

Democrats unseated eight Republican incumbents and captured nine open GOP seats, capitalizing on the unusually high 29 Republican departures. Republicans were only able to knock off three Democratic incumbents.

With less than three dozen races still undecided, Democrats had won 242 and were leading for another 14. Republicans had won 160 and were leading in 13. If those trends held, Democrats could have a net gain of 20 seats. And Republicans were on track for their smallest numbers since 1994, the year a Republican Revolution retook the House for the first time in 40 years.

The Democratic edge in the current Congress is 235-199 with one vacancy in a formerly Democratic seat. Two Louisiana seats, one Democratic and one Republican, won't be decided until December because hurricanes postponed

their primaries until Tuesday.

It was the first time in more than 75 years that Democrats were headed for big House gains in back-to-back elections. They picked up 30 seats in 2006.

"This will be a wave upon a wave," Pelosi said.

Republicans were licking their wounds and cheered themselves mostly by the prospect that Democrats — now holding the White House and bigger House and Senate margins — might overreach and position the GOP for gains in 2010.

"We sort of got through this, we think, a little bit better than some people might have expected," said Rep. Tom Cole of Oklahoma, the head of the Republican House campaign committee. "Our worst days are behind us."

Still, in the first sign of what promises to be a bitter round of GOP recriminations, Rep. Adam Putnam of Florida, the No. 3 Republican, told colleagues in a letter released near midnight that he was "reluctantly" stepping down from his post.

In the northeast, GOP Reps. John R. "Randy" Kuhl of New York and Phil English of Pennsylvania were defeated. Democrat Eric Massa unseated Kuhl in New York's southern tier, and Kathy Dahlkemper, a 50-year-old mother of five, toppled English in a swing district of rural communities and old industrial steel towns in Pennsylvania's northwest corner.

In Connecticut, Democrat Jim Himes, a Greenwich businessman, defeated Shays despite the Republican's highly publicized late criticism of McCain's presidential campaign.

In upstate New York, former congressional staffer Dan Maffei won election to succeed retiring GOP Rep. Jim Walsh, becoming first Democrat in nearly 30 years to represent the district around Syracuse. Downstate, Democratic city councilman Mike McMahon won the race on Staten Island to succeed GOP Rep. Vito Fossella, R-N.Y., who was forced to resign amid drunk driving charges and revelations that he fathered a child from an extramarital affair.

ELECTION 2008: REACTION AROUND THE GLOBE



Japan



Kenya



Russia

OUTSIDE COLUMN

Global appeal

Ten months ago, I was standing in line for the coat check at a posh London club when a man tapped me on the shoulder.

He'd heard my American accent and wanted to get my opinion: Who did I think would win the Democratic primary, Clinton or Obama?

Kaitlynn Riely

*Associate
News Editor*

His curiosity surprised me, and not just because it was a serious inquiry in a shadowy night club, a place where the men all wore skinny jeans, "The B-52's" (you know them, they sang Love Shack) were deejaying and we'd heard rumors that Peaches, the British socialite, was in the building.

I've paid little attention to elections that happen in other countries, but in pubs and parks, in line for shawarma and on the Tube, Londoners asked me about my thoughts on the dramatic race for the American presidency.

They weren't just being friendly. Elections in the United States attract the attention of the citizens of the world, because the outcome of the Nov. 4 election has a global impact.

When I left the United States last January for London, I was worried I would be disconnected from the exciting races for the Democratic and Republican nominations. But an ocean away, news about the debates, the primaries and the speeches were front page news as well.

"It's just like 'West Wing,'" one woman told me.

But Aaron Sorkin's creation never got ratings this good.

The world watched as Hillary Clinton made it closer to the presidential nomination on a major party ticket than any woman ever had before her. They saw John McCain, a former Vietnam prisoner of war, capture the Republican nomination, and months later, they saw him pick Gov. Sarah Palin to be the first woman on the Republican Party presidential ticket. The world watched a black man accept the Democratic Party's nomination, in a country where slavery existed only 150 years ago.

In January, the man in the queue said he didn't think Americans would ever elect a black man to the highest office in the land. And he didn't think Americans would elect a woman to the executive branch, either.

But the long presidential campaign has produced many surprises, and, regardless of the winner, he would have been wrong today. On Election Day, Americans crossed a threshold, and the front pages of the Telegraph in London, Le Monde in Paris, The Moscow Times, and papers from Argentina to Thailand will tell the great story of the election, a story that is only possible in the United States of America.

It was illuminating to see the election from abroad, but I'm glad to be a long way from the nightclub queue.

The people I met in London were just watching the election story. We lived it.

The views expressed in the Inside Column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer
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TODAY'S STAFF

Jenn Metz
Aaron Steiner
John Tierney
Joseph McMahon
Mary Jesse

QUESTION OF THE DAY: WHAT IS THE HIGHLIGHT OF ELECTION DAY?

"Loving democracy."

Alex Wheeler
*junior
Keough*



"Not having to wait in line since I voted early."

Maureen Bauer
*junior
McGlenn*



"Being old enough to perform my civic duty for the first time."

Lucy McEmte
*junior
Farley*



"Sleeping-in and skipping my first class."

Richard Paulius
*sophomore
Alumni*



"Having my Ohio vote count more than everyone else's."

Stephanie Weber
*freshman
Lewis*



"That my home state of Alabama voted the right way."

Kyle Mahoney
*sophomore
Anselme*



"I took a drug test."

Greg Klazura
*sophomore
O'Neill*



"Finally having an end to the commercials."

Caitlin Sajbel
*senior
off-campus*



"The ability to tease my roommate Cheng for not being able to vote."

Albert Garcia
*freshman
O'Neill*



"The marathon showing 'House.'"

Cheng Chung
*freshman
O'Neill*



ELECTION OFFBEAT

Determined Texas woman votes while in ambulance

SAN ANTONIO — Betty Owen is 92 and after a stroke four years ago, needs a feeding tube and can't walk. But she was determined not to miss Tuesday's election. She arrived at her polling place on a gurney in an ambulance, where an election judge and support worker climbed aboard with an electronic voting machine and let her cast her ballot.

"And you have voted," precinct judge Sam Green said after Owen pushed the red button finalizing her choices. "You know, you look so pretty in that red dress."

Owen grinned, the San Antonio Express-News reported in Tuesday's online edition.

Her daughter arranged for the ambulance ride at the last minute after Owen failed to get an absentee ballot.

Owen, a Marine Corps veteran who served in World War II, cast her first ballot for Wendell Willkie, a Republican running against Franklin D. Roosevelt in 1940.

She became a Democrat after voting for John Kennedy in 1960. She cast a straight Democratic ballot Tuesday.

Obama-linked town celebrates while awaiting results

MONEYGALL, Ireland — More than 100 people packed into the local pub of this

small Irish town Tuesday that was home to an ancestor of Barack Obama, drinking to his hoped-for victory in the US presidential vote.

Knocking back Guinness and dancing to Irish music, the party at Ollie Hayes's Bar was in full swing hours before the results were due from Tuesday's White House face-off between the Democrat and Republican John McCain.

American flags and campaign boards spelling out Obama's slogan were dotted around the pub, where locals — one wearing an Obama t-shirt — watched coverage of the election on television.

Two "Welcome to Obama Country" billboards have gone up at either side of Moneygall, a town of 250 in County Offaly, central Ireland, that hopes Obama will visit if he wins.

"Senator Obama's connection goes back six generations, to when his ancestor Fulmuth Kearney emigrated" in 1850, said Church of Ireland Canon Stephen Neill on Monday.

"There is a lot of excitement in the area," Neill added.

The entire Kearney family has emigrated from the area, though some cousins by marriage still live locally. Gone, too, is the Kearney family shoe shop, with remaining traces of the building demolished three years ago.

About 34 million people in

the United States claim Irish heritage, and past presidents Bill Clinton, Ronald Reagan and John Kennedy all had Irish roots.

Desperate Obama fans barter for Chicago rally tickets

CHICAGO — Obama supporters are offering to trade everything from math tutoring to massage therapy for a ticket to the Democratic presidential hopeful's sold-out victory rally in Chicago Tuesday.

The Obama campaign has done its best to prevent sales of the free tickets by requiring supporters who managed to sign up for the 65,000 passes to show photo identification.

But there is no name attached to the "plus one" part of the ticket which allows ticket-holders to bring a friend, and scores of people are capitalizing on their luck.

Sam Cooper offered his extra ticket on the online website Craigslist to anyone willing to hand over the keys to "an old running car for my son."

"I have a teenage son who'll need a car soon, as long as the car you have is in running condition and is not a complete clunker, we can do business," the ad said.

Reached by AFP on Monday evening, Cooper said he has had a number of interesting offers — including "very polite offers of sex"

which he had no interest in — but hasn't decided who to give the ticket to yet.

He also posted an ad offering the ticket to a "Bible-thumping Christian" and said in an email, "I have 'faith' in some more crazy answers about their religion."

Some people are using their tickets to try to find love, or even a job while others are simply looking for cold, hard cash.

One person with two passes to the rally in Chicago's downtown Grant Park offered to sell the two "plus one" spots for 1,000 dollars.

"No sob stories need apply — we're saving to put 3 kids through college, so I don't need to hear about your student loans and how you can only afford 20 dollars," the ad said.

The big prices have offended a number of people, whose angry rebukes can be found scattered through the more than 600 posts linked to Obama.

One person gave their location as "Leftout" and wrote, "This is seriously disgusting (sic) Especially where there are volunteers like myself and others who can't even get it."

About a million people who were unable to get tickets to the rally are expected to make their way to the sprawling lakefront park on Tuesday night. City officials have promised to try to accommodate them.

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ELECTION 2008

Some students experience ID problems at polls

Over 40 voters encounter identification difficulties at Legends, an on-campus polling location; 6 to 8 were turned away



ANDREW WEBER/The Observer

Former Notre Dame basketball coach Digger Phelps, far right, casts his ballot at Legends of Notre Dame Tuesday.

By AARON STEINER
News Writer

Students made their way to the polls Tuesday at Legends of Notre Dame, where Norman Chadwick, Precinct Director, said a steady stream of people voted throughout the day.

"There were about 14, 15 people in line at 6 a.m.," Chadwick said, and while there were rarely lines, "all six booths [were] always full."

"There's never been a time when there's no voters in those booths," he said around 4 p.m. Tuesday.

Most voters cast their ballots successfully, but election officials and volunteers at the polling location said some encountered problems stemming from misunderstandings because of Indiana's regula-

tions about proper identification needed to vote.

"The law is strict and clear that you need a federal or Indiana-issued ID to vote in Indiana," said Mark Fennel, a law student volunteering at the polls.

John Lehner, Precinct Sheriff for the district that includes Notre Dame's campus, said by 4 p.m., around 45 to 50 people had encountered problems with having insufficient identification, with many students bringing out of state IDs.

Fennel said that he encountered one student who was misinformed by officials about regulations regarding identification.

"There was one student who actually called the county registration office, and the county actually told him that a Texas ID would work with a proof of

residency," Fennel said. "So that was frustrating, because he actually called, and they told him wrong information."

The situation especially affects students from out of state, Fennel said.

"It's a pretty targeted law," he said.

Many were discouraged by the situation, Fennel said, but Lehner said only a few voters became particularly irritated.

"This one girl, she left here with big crocodile tears," Lehner said, after the girl was not able to cast her first vote after turning 18.

Lehner said there are a few ways to fix the problem. Voters can get the proper ID — or a copy of the ID — or obtain an Indiana issued ID card at the Bureau of Motor

see POLLS/page 3

Digger talks politics

After casting his ballot at Legends Nov. 4, former Notre Dame basketball coach Richard "Digger" Phelps told The Observer while voting is important, he says the nation desperately needs to refocus attention to the issues that matter.

"We are so out of focus about the real issues," Phelps said.

Phelps is no stranger to the political realm, having served in President George Bush's administration in 1992 and 1993 as special assistant to

the Executive Office of the President for National Drug Control Policy.

Phelps' criticized the current campaign cycle, calling it "out of control." He specifically called for caps on campaign spending.

"After seeing both Obama and McCain spend a billion dollars in this campaign," Phelps said. "Why don't we, the people, say, look ... have the Republican Convention, the Democratic Convention, pick a candidate, give us two months to decide which we

want, and here's a cap on what you guys can spend."

Phelps cited the high cost of Obama's Election Night rally in Chicago's Grant Park, costing \$1.5 million. He said the money spent during campaigns would be better spent addressing some of the challenges facing the country.

"The fact that [Obama] spent a half million on a half hour of television last week, and the kids in Chicago don't have textbooks," Phelps said.

"Every 26 seconds we're losing a kid out of high school

in the United States," he added.

He tied this to incarceration rates.

"80 percent of those in our federal, state and local prisons are high school dropouts. If we're dropping out a million kids a year ... that's 800,000 kids a year getting ready for the prisons," he said.

Yet politicians find it necessary to spend massive amounts of money to get into office, while the real issues get pushed to the side, Phelps

said.

"A billion dollars for this campaign? And what do they do? All the ads are negative," Phelps said.

However the campaigns might be run, though, Phelps said that voting is an integral part of preserving American freedom.

"We live for one reason in this country — freedom, and people forget at times," he said. "We vote for freedom. We vote to protect the red, white, and blue, the flag."

— Aaron Steiner

ELECTION 2008

Area GOP reacts to McCain loss, criticizes campaign

By ROBERT SINGER
News Writer

At St. Joseph County's Republican Party Headquarters Tuesday night, the evening hit a high point when West Virginia was called for Sen. John McCain. But that ended up being one of the few moments of celebration for the over 200 people in attendance.

The evening soon turned sour for the Republicans, as soon-to-be president-elect Barack

Obama continued to pile up electoral votes and culminated when a cameraman had to encourage those in attendance to appear excited for a live shot.

Early in the night, eating sloppy joe's on tables adorned with red, white and blue tablecloths, attendees, like sophomore Ashley Meklis, found reason for optimism, suggesting that pre-election polls, which mostly favored Obama, used older methods not adapted to newer voting

techniques.

"I definitely expect an interesting night," she said. "I'm really hesitant to trust the polls, because of all the people who've turned out."

Taylor Wilson, a first-year law student, had worked as a poll challenger earlier in the day to ensure that voting regulations were followed. Having sensed Obama was gaining widespread support at her precinct, she was not so hopeful.

see GOP/page 6

ELECTION 2008

South Bend Democrats celebrate win in community

By JOHN TIERNEY
News Writer

"Yes we did!" was the resounding cry at the West Side Democratic Club in South Bend as Barack Obama was elected as the 44th president of the United States.

"This is historic. Great. This is the United States of America," said Alvin Levy, a South Bend resident. "We came together to elect an African-American, an American, as president of the United States of

America."

"This is everything that America stands for," Levy, a former Air Force reservist, said. "The United States has its mission supported by all its people. That mission is to be the leader of the free world. I'm proud to be an American."

Obama's election is "amazing and hard to put into words," according to Notre Dame College Democrats co-president Spencer Howard. "There are so many people around the country have been

inspired by what he has brought to the table."

Marilyn Florey-Krecina, an area resident who is not a United States citizen, was equally thrilled by Obama's election.

"I am absolutely exhilarated," she said. "He's going to be an amazing president."

Maxine Crawford was in tears following Obama's victory.

"I am so happy and so proud that we have elected a man who has compas-

see DEMOCRATS/page 6

INSIDE COLUMN

Stay politically active

Up until recently, I'll admit, the only real politics I was interested in were fictional. I have seen every episode of *The West Wing* — logging many hours watching C.J. Cregg's press conferences, President Josiah Bartlet's States of the Union and senior staffers' policy debates.

However, breaking national news aside, I didn't really feel the urge to watch the characters' real-life counterparts in the Bush administration on C-SPAN. I was appalled at myself to find, in attempting to answer a question at a trivia night, I could not name those next in the presidential line of succession after Cheney, something I could have done in a heartbeat if I was asked about the Bartlet White House.

Jenn Metz
News Editor

So, I may not be the ideal politically-active and politically-informed citizen. But, when it became time for me to observe my civic duty and vote for our nation's next president, my personal involvement in national politics increased dramatically. I found myself, for example checking Politico instead of re-watching another box set.

The rest of the country, the people on this campus included, it seems, has followed suit. This election has done wonders for our national culture — introducing new catch-phrases like "Gotcha" and "Change," reminding U.S. citizens of our proximity to Russia and boosting "30 Rock's" Nielson ratings.

It's also made us active. It's made us passionate. And it's made us really think about the candidates and their platforms.

We've been bombarded with all sorts of media coverage — factual, editorialized and satirical — about the election and its players. Like most of America, I sat through about 12, horrible segments of SNL's "Magruber" sketches to see Tina Fey as Sarah Palin and Chris Parnell's eerily accurate impersonation of Tom Brokaw.

While watching last Saturday's episode, a commercial addressed both my own tendencies toward political apathy and the nation's inclination to get very excited about politics only when politics are very exciting.

The commercial asked, "What will you be thinking about Nov. 5?"

Nov. 5 — today — does mark a turning point in our nation's history, and also, in our nation's mindset.

For the next few days, weeks, months, the media will still focus on politics — analyzing the election outcomes and the next administration's transition into the White House.

But slowly, the regular news cycle will return, and the dialogue about the issues that decided this election will change back to dialogue about celebrity baby names, the new vampire movie is coming out and whatever fantasy movie is in season.

The percentage of us that watch the news, that regularly read newspapers, and that tune in for SNL, will decrease, and soon. The current problems, however, will not disappear just because we stop watching them on TV.

Being politically active doesn't have to be popular only during election season. As college students, we will personally feel the effects of the changes that may or may not be made by the new administration, and our elected representatives can continue to hear our voice if we take the time to make it heard.

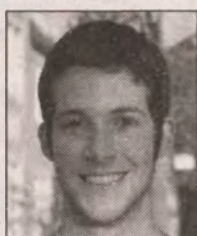
Keep the conversation going. Keep watching 30 Rock. And keep thinking about the issues — today on Nov. 5 and afterwards.

The views expressed in the Inside Column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer.
Contact Jenn Metz at jmetz@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: WHO WOULD YOU WRITE IN FOR PRESIDENT?



Casey Englebert

senior
off-campus

"Fergie."



Jeannine Decanantonio

senior
Howard

"Sr. Katherine."



Leeah Kohley

senior
off-campus

"Leonardo from the Ninja Turtles because he's a leader."



Christopher Aguiar

senior
Keough

"Michael Dukakis because he would honestly provide for this country."



Jon Russ

Holy Cross College

"Ronald Reagan. He was a great president."



NICK SIMONSON/The Observer

Notre Dame senior Nick Krafft speaks to a South Bend resident while canvassing neighborhoods for Barack Obama on Tuesday.

IN BRIEF

Saint Mary's College Right to Life will sponsor Right to Life Week. It includes a Celebration of Life party in Reignbeaux Lounge in LeMans Hall at 7 p.m. today, and a panel discussion from 6 to 7 p.m. in Haggard College Parlor on Thursday.

A colloquium entitled "What the most metal-poor stars tell us about the early Universe" will be held today from 4 to 5:30 p.m. Dr. Anna Frebel, of the McDonald Observatory, University of Texas at Austin will present in 118 Nieuwland Hall of Science. The event is sponsored by the Department of Physics.

Downtown Lunch & Learn/Eco Film Series: "Six Degrees Could Change the World" will be held at the Crossroads Gallery (Notre Dame Downtown, 217 S. Michigan Street, South Bend) on Thursday at 12:05 p.m. The event is for a free environmental film series.

Frank Baseman will present a lecture sponsored by the Snite Museum of Art and the Department of Art, Art History, and Design on Thursday at 7:30 p.m. in the Annenberg Auditorium of the museum. The main event on Thursday is free and open to the public. Baseman is on campus to meet with and critique the works of design students.

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

OFFBEAT

92-year-old Texas woman votes in ambulance

SAN ANTONIO — Betty Owen is 92 and after a stroke four years ago, needs a feeding tube and can't walk. But she was determined not to miss Tuesday's election. She arrived at her polling place on a gurney in an ambulance, where an election judge and support worker climbed aboard with an electronic voting machine and let her cast her ballot.

"And you have voted," precinct judge Sam Green said after Owen pushed the red button finalizing

her choices. "You know, you look so pretty in that red dress."

Owen grinned, the San Antonio Express-News reported in Tuesday's online edition.

Her daughter arranged for the ambulance ride at the last minute after Owen failed to get an absentee ballot.

Son allegedly attacks mom in Myspace altercation

HAYDEN, Idaho — An 18-year-old Hayden, Idaho, man was accused of stabbing his mother after she forbade him to use the Internet social networking

site MySpace. The man was arrested last week for investigation of aggravated assault after his mother said he cut her wrist.

The mother said she confronted her 6-foot-2, 320-pound son, after which he became aggravated and packed his belongings to leave their home.

Police said he pulled a black and silver knife from his pocket as his mother tried to take his cellular telephone charger from him.

Information compiled from the Associated Press.

	WEDNESDAY	TONIGHT	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
LOCAL WEATHER						
	HIGH 72 LOW 50	HIGH 62 LOW 40	HIGH 69 LOW 47	HIGH 52 LOW 34	HIGH 43 LOW 33	HIGH 40 LOW 31

Atlanta 74 / 45 Boston 63 / 49 Chicago 75 / 56 Denver 43 / 30 Houston 84 / 65 Los Angeles 72 / 52 Minneapolis 68 / 53 New York 62 / 53 Philadelphia 64 / 53 Phoenix 75 / 54 Seattle 51 / 43 St. Louis 80 / 57 Tampa 79 / 57 Washington 63 / 55

ELECTION 2008

Election night unfolds at Notre Dame

Observer writers visit election watches at ND, SMC and off campus to gather student reactions to coverage

By BECKY HOGAN and
EMMA DRISCOLL
News Writers

After the first polls started closing in the east, we decided to experience the election scene at Notre Dame and Saint Mary's to see how students would react to the results of the general election throughout the night.

8:15 p.m.

We started at Reckers and found a handful of students watching the early election results on the TVs there. The first two states

had announced their results: Sen. John McCain won eight electoral votes in Kentucky and Sen. Barack Obama has secured three from Vermont.

College Democrats member Sy Doan was taking in some of the election coverage while working at Reckers and he was optimistic that the night would pan out the way he hoped.

"I like what I'm seeing," he said. "I've been a supporter of Senator Obama and everything is going according to schedule I guess."

Doan said he thought the gap between the two candidates would be slightly closer than the polls showed, but that the results would be clear as the night unfolded.

"I think Obama is going to win by a healthy margin," Doan said. "I definitely don't think it will come down to the wire."

8:35 p.m.

We stopped at the Coleman Morse Lounge and found students studying with both televisions displaying the election

coverage. Everyone seemed to be working hard, so we continued on to the LaFortune Student Center.

8:40 p.m.

Once we arrived at LaFortune, we saw that Obama had 102 electoral votes and McCain had 34. The gap was widening.

Freshmen Cavanaugh and Nathan Sergio were watching the election coverage for a few minutes at a table in LaFortune. Both planned to continue watching on their laptops throughout the night.

Sergio said that the race was going pretty much as he expected.

Although Hannan said nothing would surprise him from the election, he was amused by the initial uncertainty over Texas.

"[I'm] still in shock that Texas is pretending to be blue for a while ... I think it's funny," Hannan said.

Sergio said that either candidate could have won the election, and that a winner would be determined by the end of the night.

Hannan said he felt a bit more certain about what the night would bring.

"I've had a feeling since the primaries that Obama would win that I couldn't shake," Hannan said.

9:10 p.m.

We heard that there was an election watch in Cavanaugh, and wanted to check it out. There were about 20 girls gathered in the social space watching the coverage on CNN together.

"I think [the elections] are

going well," freshman Maggie Fahrenbach said.

As Obama supporters, Fahrenbach and freshman Laura Wetterer agreed that Obama's victory in Pennsylvania was "reassuring."

They expected to know the results of the election by the end of the night.

"I think soon there will be [a definitive answer] with the way things are going," Fahrenbach said.

Both liked CNN's coverage of the events and said that they did not think that it had been biased.

They said the group of residents they were watching the elections with seemed to be split between supporting Obama and McCain.

"No one's giving up yet and no one's celebrating yet," Fahrenbach said.

On our way back from Cavanaugh, we passed through LaFortune again and found sophomore Jackson Bangs filling in the electoral college map he found in Tuesday's Observer as the results came in. He said he had his "fingers crossed for Obama," but that he wished he had given more thought to voting in Indiana so his vote would have had more of an impact.

"I wish I hadn't voted in New Jersey. I realize now how close it's going to be," he said.

Regardless of where he voted though, he was excited about fulfilling his civic duty.

"It's just really awesome for this to the first presidential election I'm voting in," Bangs said.

9:25 p.m.

We decided to venture out to Duncan Hall since one of us had

yet to visit the newest residence hall on campus. It was a good thing we did because the Highlanders were enjoying old American classics such as peanut butter and jelly sandwiches and root beer floats in their social space.

Freshman Davin Sakamoto had been keeping up with the election results for a few hours and now the count was Obama 195, McCain 90.

Sakamoto said he was pleased with Obama's lead.

"I think it's pretty cool that we're going to make monumental change for our country's future," he said.

9:40 p.m.

Our election trail was about to take us to the home of the Belles. This took some time, however, since we had to search for the Saint Mary's election watch.

Our sources told us that the event would take place in Vander Vennet Theatre in the basement of the Student Center, but by the time we arrived, it had relocated to LeMans Hall.

Senior Andrea Ortiz had been on a campaign trail of her own, as she had watched election coverage in three different places throughout the day — the Multicultural Affairs Office in the Student Center, Vander Vennet Theater and finally in LeMans. She said she continued to move because buildings began to close for the night.

Senior Siobhan Gordon was surprised that Obama was taking such a large lead in the election.

"We all expected it was going to be a little more close and hard fought," she said.

"We all expected it was going to be a little more close and hard fought."

Siobhan Gordon
student

10:30 p.m.

Since Obama had promised throughout his campaign to put "Main Street" first, and he was close to clinching the necessary 270 electoral votes, we headed to Main Street Pub in South Bend to find some students taking in the results off campus.

Playing pool with his friends, junior William Kemp said he had been watching Fox News and CNN closely, which brought election coverage discrepancies among different news networks to his attention.

As a pre-medical student, Kemp said the greatest issue in this election was healthcare and he supported McCain for his healthcare policy.

"I'm pre-med, and I think my career is on the line. For me, [it's] McCain as far as healthcare," he said.

11:00 p.m.

We were about to wrap up our tour of the election, and decided to make one last off-campus stop to Lafayette Apartments.

Senior Mike Folger was celebrating the results with his roommates.

"I assume Obama is going to win, and it's great to be on the right side of one of the most historic elections," Folger said.

Folger also said he was disappointed with the election coverage on the major news networks because he felt the "fancy graphics" and large number of analysts distracted from the results of the election.

"All we want to know is who is going to win," Folger said.

Deadlines are calling — we have to cut our trip short. However, the results of this historic election will continue to be analyzed long into the night, and for weeks afterward.

Contact Becky Hogan at
rhogan2@nd.edu and Emma
Driscoll at edriscoll@nd.edu

Polls

continued from page 1

card at the Bureau of Motor Vehicles by surrendering an out of state driver's license. If identification cannot be obtained, citizens do have the option of filling out a provisional ballot.

"I try to give them as many options as possible," Leher said. "I just want to see them vote."

Lehner said of the 40-plus people with improper identification, he estimated that only six to eight people were turned away. Fennel said more than 20 people filled out provisional ballots.

"Most of them came back with proper ID," Lehner said.

Provisional ballots are not

counted on Election Day, and the voter must go to the county election board within 10 days with proper identification to get their ballots counted.

"The provisional balloting procedure is complex. You really don't want to vote provisional if you can possibly help it," Chadwick said.

Colin Fath, a Notre Dame senior, said he had to fill out a provisional ballot and couldn't get necessary identification in time to vote with a regular ballot.

"I didn't have an Indiana issued ID, so [they] wouldn't accept my Michigan driver's license," he said. "I did go down to the Bureau of Motor Vehicles ... and the only thing they could do in time is give me a photo ID there."

"Unfortunately if I did that,

I had to surrender my license, and I couldn't have driven myself home."

Fath said he does not have a passport or any other form of federal identification.

This isn't the first time Fath has had problems voting.

"My initial thought was actually, 'Not again,'" he said. Fath said that Michigan residents are not allowed to vote absentee in their first election, which prevented him from voting in a previous election. Fath thought he would be able to vote in person in Indiana after registering, but he was unaware of the identification regulations.

"I hadn't thought about it. If I really had paid attention, I probably would have read [about it]," he said.

Freshman Mike Della Penna said he was fully aware of the

laws about identification, but there was simply no way for him to get proper identification in time.

Della Penna, originally from Illinois, said he registered in Indiana and attempted to get an Indiana-issued ID over fall break, but was unable to without surrendering his Illinois state driver's license.

"That's the only way ... but I don't want to do it, because my driver's license is hooked up to my bank accounts [and car insurance]," Della Penna said.

He came to the polls Tuesday expecting to have problems voting.

"I figured I'd at least go over there and try," he said.

After discussing the problems and "pleading his case," he walked out of the poll after filling out a provisional

ballot.

In researching the issue, Della Penna said he found Indiana has some of the strictest laws about voter identification.

Freshman Raymond Fagan said he wasn't on the list of registered voters when he went to the poll Tuesday, which led him to fill out a provisional ballot.

"I registered in Indiana, and I mailed it in on the date of the deadline," he said, but his registration material wasn't received in time.

Fagan said he was still "definitely" going to go in to try to get his provisional ballot counted.

"I just want to get my vote counted," he said.

Contact Aaron Steiner at
asteiner@nd.edu

Please recycle The Observer.

COUNCIL OF REPRESENTATIVES

Group addresses game day arrests

By JOHN TIERNEY
News Writer

The Council of Representatives (COR) decided that education is the key for students looking to secure their rights in dealing with police and ushers on football weekends at its meeting Tuesday.

Student Body President Bob Reish opened the floor for COR members to give their advice on how he should approach meetings with the Ad Hoc Committee to Review Campus Safety, Security, and Hospitality Protocols and Practices for Football Gamedays, which was convened by University President Fr. John Jenkins.

Reish has been selected as the student representative for the committee.

COR members expressed a general feeling that there is a lack of information on what the rules are and that there are major differences in how rules are enforced by individual ushers and at different games.

"There's a lack of information regarding the law," student body vice president Grant Schmidt said. "That's a very tangible role for us to fill by informing them what is legitimate and what is not."

Schmidt said there are two issues in regard to law enforcement before the football games when students enter the stadium and when they are at tailgates in parking lots.

Sophomore class president Cynthia Weber said that information is critical. She also suggests including alcohol related policies in the dissemination of information to students.

"Students don't know exactly what the rules are off-campus and on-campus," she said. She attributed this general ignorance to the fact that most students are

not from the Michiana area.

"We need to cause understanding because there's a lot of misunderstanding," Weber said.

COR advisor Amy Geist agreed that information is important, but said student government must be careful in how they disseminate information to students.

"You don't want to present it as you're the authority of everything in the spectrum," she said.

She also cautioned students about the ramifications of alumni withholding donations because they are upset about alcohol-related arrests.

"Think about your experience as a student and as an alum as being greater than football," Geist said.

COR also discussed the newly-formed Off-Campus Safety Committee, which will be chaired by Off-Campus President Billy Lyman.

"We need to show students that we are dealing with this problem," he said. "Show them that we are dealing with it immediately, and we are dealing with it tangibly."

Lyman said that the committee hopes to find ways to better inform students about safety concerns. He hopes to establish an off-campus listserv and schedule events with the South Bend Police that will inform students on how to stay safe off-campus.

Lyman also hopes to establish a database that will track student safety incidents and the police response with these incidents.

"This database is an immediate solution but we're going to keep it going all year and it will help us figure out long term solutions," Lyman said. "As long as we keep it going, it will definitely help."

The committee's first meeting will occur Wednesday.

Contact John Tierney at
jtierne1@nd.edu

College celebrates women in politics

By EMILY DABISH
News Writer

In recognition of the political season, the Cushwa-Leighton Library at Saint Mary's has displayed a collection of memorabilia representing the transformative nature of women's role in politics. Consisting mainly of buttons, the Joyce Shell collection includes pieces from the 1940's convention to the current race.

Saint Mary's librarian Joyce Shell began the collection of memorabilia when her husband took her to political conventions. After visiting a few her interest in political memorabilia grew and she found particular interest in pins relating to women in politics.

The buttons show women's ambition, suffrage and contribution. It also shows the progress of women in government.

There are many buttons from various women's rights organizations and issues including women's rights, voting and equal pay as well as political parties.

"These presented issues help to start an investigation," Saint Mary's librarian Robert Hohl said.

Some buttons illustrate events that aren't commonly known, like women who ran for presidency before they even had the right to vote. Others show more widely acknowledged movements, such as women rebelling against inequality during the Women's Rights Movement.

One of the earliest buttons, stating "Edith Not Eleanor," dates to the candidacy of Franklin D. Roosevelt. The button not only shows the support of Roosevelt's opposition, but also signifies the influence the first lady has in a presidential campaign.

Other buttons show support of First Lady's Hilary Clinton, Nancy Reagan, and Barbara Bush.

Several buttons asked for the First Lady to "pack up the white house" as though the old candidate was going take everything with him.

Hohl explained such an idea is

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Health Care for the World's Poorest; Is Voluntary (Private) Health Insurance An Option?

November 6, 2008 at 5:00 p.m.

136 DeBartolo Hall

Sponsored by the Department of Economics and Policy Studies and the Poverty Studies Interdisciplinary Minor

UNIVERSITY OF NOTRE DAME

Jacques van der Gaag is a Distinguished Visiting Fellow in the Global Economy and Development Program at the Brookings Institution, Washington DC. His research interests include the economics of health, education economics, poverty, and social policies. He has published widely in refereed journals and books, and served on the editorial board of the Journal of Human Resources, the Journal of Health Economics, the World Bank Economic Review, and The Lancet. He is co-founder and co-director of the Amsterdam Institute for International Development, and senior economic advisor of the Health Insurance Fund. He currently holds the position of Distinguished Visiting Fellow of the Brookings Institution in Washington, where he studies international health care financing as well as the economic consequences of AIDS.

very relevant in the latest presidential race, and that some displayed slogans are still current. For instance Shirley Crisholm, a black politician who ran for presidency in the 70's, used the

slogan a "catalyst for change", which is reminiscent of Barack Obama.

Certain pieces in the collection conveyed a sense of humor, one referring to Hilary Clinton as the

"wicked witch of the west wing" and another to Barbara Bush as "first mama."

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WORLD & NATION

Wednesday, November 5, 2008

COMPILED FROM THE OBSERVER'S WIRE SERVICES

page 5

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Fears rise of more Congo warfare

GOMA, Congo — Congo's warring rivals traded accusations Tuesday that Angola, Zimbabwe and Rwanda are mobilizing forces to fight in Congo, as the prime minister flew into this besieged city to assess weeks of fighting that has displaced a quarter million people.

The accusations of foreign involvement, reminiscent of a disastrous 1998-2002 war that drew in eight African nations, stoked fears of a wider conflict in this mineral-rich nation.

The fighting has forced tens of thousands of refugees to struggle through the countryside with what belongings they can carry. Tropical rainstorms, which drench eastern Congo every day, add to their misery.

On Tuesday, downpours sent refugees lucky enough to have shelter rushing to tents and huts made of woven banana leaves, while others huddled under plastic sheeting as they trudged through the thick red mud.

Iraqi views mixed on US election

BAGHDAD — Wasan Salah hopes Barack Obama will win the presidency because "he wants to withdraw the troops." An Iraqi Christian woman thinks he will too — and so she's rooting for John McCain.

Iraqis have nearly as big a stake in Tuesday's presidential contest as Americans, since the new president will face tough decisions on how to draw down U.S. forces without sacrificing security gains and vital American interests in the Middle East.

Many Iraqis are eager to see an end to a U.S. military presence they consider foreign occupation; American officials insist the troops are here to defend the Iraqi people against terrorists.

NATIONAL NEWS

Arrows only for donated venison

BISMARCK, N.D. — A North Dakota program that distributes venison to the needy will accept only deer killed with arrows, fearing that firearm-shot meat may contain lead fragments.

"We're calling out to bow hunters to spend a little more time in the tree stand," said Ann Pollert, executive director of the North Dakota Community Action Partnership, which administers the Sportsmen Against Hunger Program.

Officials in North Dakota and other states have warned about eating venison killed with lead ammunition since the spring, when a physician conducting tests using a CT scanner found lead in samples of donated deer meat.

Sister to testify that stepdad beat girl

SPRINGFIELD, Mass. — Prosecutors in Massachusetts say the younger sister of a girl who suffered a severe brain injury will testify that her stepfather pushed the child down a flight of stairs.

Prosecutors made the revelation during opening statements Tuesday in Springfield for the trial of 34-year-old Jason Strickland, who is charged in the 2005 beating of his stepdaughter Haleigh Poutre.

Strickland's lawyer says Strickland believed the claims of his wife, Holli, who told him Haleigh caused her own injuries.

Haleigh, then 11, was comatose after suffering the injury. Her case led to a right-to-die battle, and she was nearly removed from life support before she suddenly began breathing on her own. She remains in a rehabilitation center.

LOCAL NEWS

Ticket splitting an election issue

INDIANAPOLIS — Indiana's reputation for ticket splitting is a cause for worry for the candidates for attorney general and schools superintendent, two races in which longtime incumbents aren't seeking re-election.

The candidates have run commercials and held debates in an effort to grab voters' attention in a year dominated by the races for president and governor.

But the outcome of Tuesday's election will be influenced, at least in part, by what happens on the larger stage, said James McCann, a political science professor at Purdue University.

Israel launches airstrike against Gaza

Fighting erupts on Israeli-Palestinian border for the first time since June truce

Associated Press

GAZA CITY — Israel launched an airstrike on Gaza early Wednesday after its troops clashed with Hamas militants who fired mortars into Israel, leaving six Palestinians dead. It was the first battle since a June truce mostly quieted violence in the volatile territory.

The Israeli army said the clashes erupted late Tuesday after its forces uncovered a tunnel in central Gaza that militants planned to use to abduct Israeli soldiers. It said a special army unit headed to the area to destroy the tunnel. One Palestinian was killed in fierce gunbattles that ensued.

Hamas then fired mortars across the Gaza border into southern Israel and Israel answered with the airstrike in the early hours of Wednesday, killing five suspected Palestinian militants, Israeli and Palestinian officials said. The army said the airstrike aimed at the mortar launchers and hit them.

The clashes threatened to unravel the cease-fire between Israel and Palestinian militant groups reached in June after months of indirect negotiations. The deal halted a deadly cycle of Palestinian rocket attacks and Israeli reprisals, though sporadic rocket attacks on southern Israel have persisted.

There has been only one other fatality since the truce, in July when Israeli troops shot and killed a teenage Palestinian militant along the border with Gaza.

The Islamic militant Hamas, which controls Gaza, quickly vowed revenge.

"Our response will be harsh, and the enemy will pay a heavy price," Hamas said in a statement on its military wing's Web site.



Palestinians gather around the body of Hamas militant Mazen Seda, 32, in the hospital in Deir El Bahlah in the central Gaza Strip, early Wednesday, Nov. 5.

Taher Nunu, a Hamas government spokesman, said the group considered the Israeli airstrike a violation of the truce.

"This is a serious breach of the truce understandings reached through Egyptian mediation," he said in an e-mail message to reporters. "We consider this the most serious in a string of breaches."

The Israeli army claimed the move against the tunnel did not violate the truce, but instead was a legitimate step to remove an immediate threat.

A top military official said troops had discovered

a "ticking tunnel," which was about to be used to abduct an Israeli soldier. The official, who spoke on condition of anonymity because of the sensitive nature of the matter, said the tunnel was dug from inside a Gaza home and showed that Hamas was using civilians for cover.

The official said Israel did not intend to break the truce, noting that some 60 mortar have been fired since the cease-fire and Israel has chosen not to respond.

Hamas also insisted it had not violated the truce and was acting to prevent an Israeli incursion.

Moaiya Hassanain, a Palestinian Health Ministry official, said the initial gunbattles killed one Palestinian and wounded three, including one woman. Residents identified the man killed as a Hamas militant. Hassanain said rescue officials were having a hard time reaching the site of the fighting and getting precise information on casualties.

Israel has maintained a blockade of Gaza, where 1.4 million Palestinians live, since Hamas overran the territory in June 2007, seizing it by force from the rival Fatah faction.

Budget woes hit police, health services

Associated Press

NEW YORK — New York City will cancel the police academy's next class, cut hundreds of jobs and close dental clinics for poor children to trim its budget amid an economic crisis, a city official said Tuesday.

Mayor Michael Bloomberg will announce those cuts and others Wednesday when he gives an update on the \$59 billion budget, an administration official said. The official spoke on condition of anonymity because the update had not been officially announced.

Bloomberg did not give details on his budget plan at a news conference Tuesday but said he would likely ask for a "slowdown, but not really for a meltdown."

"We don't know just how deep this recession is going to go or for how long," he said.

For now, his update will show that the city faces budget gaps of \$4 billion this fiscal year and next, the administration official said.

To help bridge those deficits, Bloomberg asked all city agencies in September to come up with their own plans to cut spending by 2.5 percent this fiscal year, which ends

next June, and additional cuts of 5 percent the following year.

Those are targeted to save \$500 million this year and \$1 billion in fiscal 2010.

The plans include canceling the January 2009 police academy class, which means that approximately 1,100 would-be cadets will not enter the six-month program as planned. The next class would begin in July 2009.

Canceling an academy class is an unusual move. Past mayors have delayed the start of a class by a few months and then accelerated later classes.

GOP

continued from page 1

Obama was gaining widespread support at her precinct, she was not so hopeful.

"People seem hopeful but not overly optimistic, at least from my perspective," she said. "I mean, it's a long shot."

A trash-barrel sized red elephant, which sat on the podium, was soon removed so County Republican Chairman Chris Riley could host the evening.

Despite many local candidates taking the podium to give concession speeches, Riley remained optimistic throughout the evening.

"We all believe the same things, we're all in touch and we're coming back," he said. "Eat, drink and be Republican."

About 10 members of the College Republicans were on hand to lend support to their party.

Treasurer Stephen Bant said that an unusually close presidential race in Indiana did not



Students watch election coverage at the G.O.P. headquarters in South Bend Tuesday.

bode well for local candidates hoping to ride a wave of support for McCain.

"With it being a tight race in Indiana, there isn't going to be a coattail effect," he said.

A Democrat hasn't won Indiana in a presidential elec-

tion since 1964.

Vice president Erica Hatstrom criticized McCain's campaign strategy, arguing that he took "too much of a passive stance" and should have focused more on Obama's character and policies.

"I wish he would have pointed

out the flaws of Barack Obama," she said.

President Edward Yap said Obama has a brilliant campaign manager who is adept at giving minority candidates an appealing economic message.

"I think he should have had Karl Rove," Yap said of McCain.

The officers also questioned the effectiveness of McCain's message. Compared to Obama, they said that McCain did not convey his ideas well. While Obama's sound bytes of "hope and change" resonated with many Americans, they said that McCain's "country first" slogan never took off.

"There's a level of brain washing that exists in America," said Hatstrom, who argued that many people are unaware of the policies behind Obama's slogans.

Bant was also critical of the McCain campaign's strategy early in the race.

"I don't think the campaign laid the right ground work," he said. "A lot of organization didn't get done because the campaign was so decentralized."

They also expressed their

concern about the future of the country.

Saying that there were limits to diplomacy, Hatstrom said that Obama could make major missteps in foreign policy.

"I feel that he's so inexperienced that it's going to be dangerous for our country," she said.

When asked about the future of the Republican Party with the Democrats poised to win both the Presidency and majorities in Congress, Yap, alluding to former Republican Speaker of the House Newt Gingrich, said that the party "needs to find a new contract with America."

Yap, however, expressed optimism about the future of the GOP.

"I don't think the Republican Party is dead at all," he said. "We're still going to remain pro-life, fiscally responsible, for small government, and pro-second amendment. Those are values that a majority of Americans believe in."

Contact Robert Singer at rsinger@nd.edu

Democrats

continued from page 1

compassion," Crawford said. "We are going to do a lot better, but it's going to take everybody to help."

"Color isn't an issue anymore," she said.

Crawford was happy that she was able to see an African-American be elected president.

"Martin Luther King is very happy. We've seen that he's like a prophet. His dream came true," she said. "I am proud to be an American. I've always been proud to be an American, but especially so today."

Paul Grzeszczyk, a 75-year old union member who grew up in New Carlisle, Ind., and has lived in the area all his life, is, like Crawford, most impressed by the historic moment of putting an African-American in the White House.

"I didn't think in my lifetime I would see a black president," Grzeszczyk, whose ancestors were Polish immigrants, said. "When I was growing up, I remember New Carlisle [had a strong Ku Klux Klan base]. They came in front of the Church and

burned crosses. We went to the Church making sure the Church wasn't burned down. And the KKK came on horseback hooded under their wives' and grandmothers' skirts."

David Janes, a Notre Dame graduate from 1970 and a local activist, said he was happy about the winds of change that Obama's election signifies.

"There are a lot of people in this room who are trying to change the hopelessness," Janes said.

"We got everybody to close the circle tonight," Janes said. "We need to keep that circle closed than we can do it. We can change the course of this country."

"I am crazy with love for these people [in the West Side Democratic Club]."

Janes said the movement that got Obama elected is all about being positive.

"Love is all around us," he said. "It's a public kind of love that's called justice. That's what justice is — it's the love of lots of people. And all you can do is work for justice."

"There's nothing more important than justice and love."

Billy Gene Easton Singer, a longtime associate of Janes, said

Obama's election should be empowering.

"There's no reason for anyone black to say we can't do something," he said.

Lee Gloster, a union member, was more focused on the tangible results of Obama's election. "We're going to bring the troops home, get single payer medical coverage," and fix the mortgage crisis, he said.

Gloster and Janes are both "old refugees from the 1960s," Gloster said. "We've been waiting 30 years for this. One and a half years ago, I said it couldn't happen."

Janes fired up the crowd prior to Obama's election by leading the club in a singing of what he called "The Freedom Song," or "Ain't nobody going to turn me around." He said he learned the song from Mississippi civil rights workers in the 1960s, but that Tuesday was the first time it had been sung in the West Side Democratic Club.

The song shows that "we are a sea of togetherness," and that "that circle is this room," Janes said.

Local candidates helped show that Indiana is a part of the change sweeping across America.



Members of the community celebrate Sen. Obama's win at the West Side Democratic Club in South Bend Tuesday.

"This is a great night in St. Joe County," said Ryan Dvorak, a victorious candidate for state representative. "We're showing the world and the country that Indiana isn't automatically a red state."

The crowd was captivated by president-elect Obama's victory speech. The room cheered "Yes we can" in unison with those at

Grant Park in Chicago. During the speech, many people in the room began to cry or to hug each other in joy.

One voice cried out, "It's all about love, it's all about love," and people at the table around the voice burst out into cheers.

Contact John Tierney at jtierne1@nd.edu

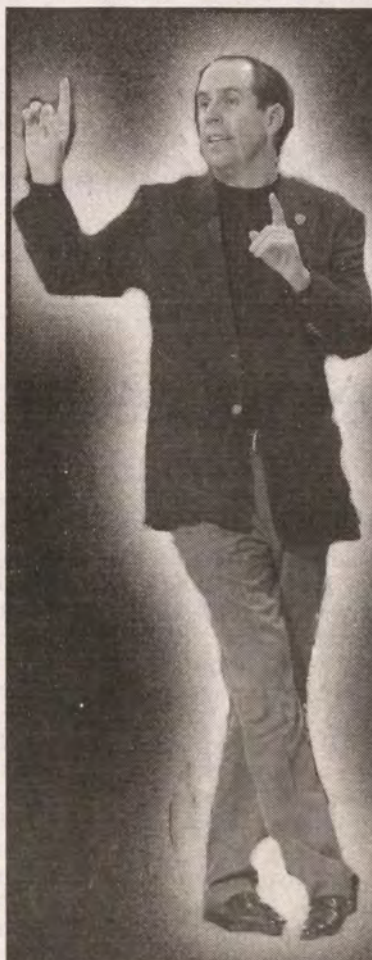
Attention Sophomores! The Sophomore Class Council is proud to sponsor two fantastic events this week.

All men in the Class of 2011 are invited to participate in our first annual Poker Tournament at the Knights of Columbus on Thursday from 7:30-10 PM. Compete for one of our fabulous prizes including a Nintendo 64 game pack, Xbox, and gift certificates to Chipotle, Best Buy and Jimmy John's.

Ladies are invited to attend our first annual Spa Night on Friday in the LaFortune Notre Dame Room from 5-8 PM! Enjoy massages, makeup, manicures and mocktails and relieve all your stress from the week before heading out on Friday night.

And last but not least, don't forget Karaoke at Reckers on Saturday night from 1:30-3:30 AM!

We hope to see you this week!



MEET COACH BREY

Mike Brey stops by campus to talk Irish hoops

Join Coach for pizza, prizes, and Q&As on the upcoming season

Tonight at Host Dorms:

Dillon Hall @ 7pm

Walsh Hall @ 8pm

Open to all students, meet in common areas

MARKET RECAP

Stocks
Dow Jones 9,625.28 +305.45

Up: 2,799 Same: 49 Down: 731 Composite Volume: 1,340,112,907

AMEX	1,527.74	+52.42
NASDAQ	1,780.12	+53.79
NYSE	6,345.09	+290.11
S&P 500	1,005.75	+39.45
NIKKEI (Tokyo)	9,352.15	+237.55
FTSE 100 (London)	4,639.50	+196.22

COMPANY	%CHANGE	\$GAIN	PRICE
SPDR S&P 500 (SPY)	+3.40	+3.30	100.41
POWERSHARES (QQQQ)	+2.83	+0.93	33.75
ISHARES MSCI E.M.I.F. (EEM)	+9.13	+2.30	27.50
GEN ELECTRIC CO (GE)	+7.62	+1.47	20.77

Treasuries			
10-YEAR NOTE	-3.56	-0.139	3.765
13-WEEK BILL	+10.71	+0.045	0.465
30-YEAR BOND	-2.29	-0.099	4.222
5-YEAR NOTE	-5.25	-0.142	2.564

Commodities		
LIGHT CRUDE (\$/bbl.)	+7.59	71.50
GOLD (\$/Troy oz.)	+30.50	757.30
PORK BELLIES (cents/lb.)	+0.75	84.65

Exchange Rates	
YEN	99.7000
EURO	0.7720
CANADIAN DOLLAR	1.1556
BRITISH POUND	0.6273

IN BRIEF

NYC construction rules overkill

NEW YORK — It takes a lot of paper to raise a crane in New York City these days.

On top of maintenance records and operator certification tests, engineers have to sign off before cranes are raised or dismantled. The city also requires documents that prove a safety meeting was held before work begins.

It may seem like a lot to ask for, but New York is seeking to become a national example after two deadly crane collapses in Manhattan killed nine people this year.

This year's spate of recent accidents in New York and other U.S. cities, including Houston, Miami and Las Vegas, triggered the federal government in September to propose updated crane regulations for the first time in 40 years.

But New York has introduced more stringent rules governing constructions in addition to those required by the federal government, including laws that require training for tower crane workers, limit the use of slings that hold loads, and overhaul licensing requirements for mobile crane operators.

"We have worked closely with industry officials to develop checks and balances that are making construction sites safer than ever before," city Department of Buildings spokesman Kate Lindquist said. "There are thousands of construction sites in New York City that are managed without incident every day, and there is no reason why developers cannot build safely to avoid any preventable delays."

Fierce competition in music war

As one historic duel — the presidential race between Barack Obama and John McCain — ends, another is heating up. The stakes are high: nothing less than the soul of rock 'n' roll. The competition is fierce.

And you will decide — with your wallet.

In one corner is "Guitar Hero," the franchise that revolutionized the rhythm-game genre in 2005. In the other corner is upstart "Rock Band," which rewrote the rules last year by adding drums and vocals to the mix. Several third-party candidates are waiting backstage, hoping that one of the two major contenders hits a false note.

SAUDI ARABIA

Oil prices rise to highest level in 2 weeks

Erratic oil costs are unique to 2008; presidential elections likely a factor

Associated Press

HOUSTON — Oil prices surged above \$70 a barrel Tuesday in the final hours of a two-year U.S. presidential campaign, mirroring global stock markets that strengthened from Asia to Europe. A weaker dollar helped too.

At home, the Dow Jones industrial average jumped 300 points despite a new Commerce Department report that said factory orders fell 2.5 percent in September from August, much worse than analysts had predicted.

As the pace of industry has slowed and businesses consume less crude, the price of oil has fallen \$30 from just over a month ago. The price of retail gasoline dipped below \$2.40 Tuesday for the first time since early in 2007.

Crumbling home prices, a shaky job market and gasoline that spiked above \$4 per gallon have dramatically changed how Americans use fuel. While plummeting gas prices have certainly been welcomed by consumers, much of that exuberance has been lost amid broader economic fears.

"The volatility and huge price swings we've seen this year are unmatched," said Ben Brockwell, director of data, pricing and information services for the Oil Price Information Service. "These erratic changes are a 2008 phenomenon."

On Monday, U.S. manufacturers reported lethargic numbers for October, showing the worst reading in more than a quarter century, according to the Institute for Supply Management.

The presidential election could be influencing the market, said analyst and trader Stephen Schork.

"There may be a lot of money moving from the



An SUV drives past a filling station advertising gas for \$1.95 per gallon Nov. 4 in Cleveland. Oil prices surged above \$70 a barrel Tuesday.

sidelines that's waiting to see how this election is going to shake out," Schork said.

Oil has not traded above \$70 in nearly two weeks. Some industry experts, including Schork, also attributed Tuesday's spike to the weaker dollar.

Commodities such as oil are used as a hedge against inflation and a weak dollar. Investors flood the crude futures market when the greenback falls. A weak dollar also makes oil less expensive to buyers dealing in other currencies.

The euro rose nearly 4 cents Tuesday to \$1.296. The dollar lost ground to the yen, the pound and other currencies as well.

Light, sweet crude for December delivery rose \$6.62 to settle at \$70.53 a barrel on the New York Mercantile Exchange after rising as high as \$71.77.

"Anytime oil rises more than \$4 a barrel, it's usually myriad items at play," said Jim Ritterbusch, president of energy consultancy Ritterbusch and Associates. "When the Dow is up, the world is good and nobody

wants the dollar as a safe haven."

The week has thus far been characterized by volatile trading.

Crude prices fell \$4.46 on Monday, but those losses were erased early Tuesday.

Oil industry analysts earlier this year believed that the booming economies of India and China would pick up any slackening of demand if Western nations went into recession. Few still hold onto that view, as the economic crisis in the United States has spread across the globe.

FCC probes cable, Verizon pricing policies

Associated Press

PHILADELPHIA — The Federal Communications Commission has opened an investigation into the pricing policies of major cable operators and Verizon Communications Inc.

The agency wants to ensure that customers are being treated fairly, FCC Chairman Kevin Martin said in an interview with The Associated Press.

"I'm certainly concerned with the increasing cable prices that consumers are facing," Martin said. "They are getting less and being charged the same or more."

The FCC wrote to Verizon and 11 cable companies last month about their practice of moving analog channels into digital tiers to free up bandwidth for other uses, such as high-def-

inition channels.

To watch channels that have been moved, subscribers to analog service must either subscribe to a more expensive digital tier, rent a digital set-top box or use an adapter, which service providers are starting to offer for free.

The FCC's Oct. 30 letter went to Comcast Corp., Time Warner Cable Inc., Cox Communications Inc., Charter Communications Inc., Cablevision Systems Corp., Bright House Networks, Suddenlink Communications, Bend Cable Communications, GCI Cable, Harroon Entertainment, a unit of Harroon Communications, RCN Corp. and Verizon. Verizon was included because it offers pay-TV through its FiOS service.

Cable providers are in a race with

satellite TV and phone companies to offer the most high-definition channels. About half of the nation's 65 million cable households buy only the analog basic or "enhanced basic" tiers.

The agency also will investigate whether providers are misleading customers into thinking that when analog television channels move to the digital tier of service the shift is related to the federal government's mandate that all broadcasts be digital by February, Martin said.

The two moves are unrelated. Linking the two in customers' minds could prompt more people to opt for digital video services.

The FCC has asked companies being probed to submit information about their pricing and channel switching practices within two weeks.

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

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Why the rush?

Have patience, guys ("Hark," Nov. 4). Having attended Notre Dame from 2004-2008 I got two opportunities to rush the field: our 2004 win over top-5 ranked Michigan and the 2005 loss to USC (fieldrusher interruptus thanks to the Bush-Push).

In both cases, I (and most of my fellow students) did not expect a win in those two games but obviously relished the wins when they happened. One thing that didn't happen was a ridiculous idea such as this last year when we went 3-9. I would have been embarrassed to see my fellow students rushing onto the field after the last game, let alone capping my senior year with going on the field after that "epic" win over Duke (a team that is doing a lot better than Syracuse this year).

You have a lot to look forward to next year, highlighted by home games against Michigan State, USC and BC, three teams which could be pretty good next year. If you are that hungry to rush the field once in your four years here, save it for one of those games.

Dave McBride
alumnus
Class of 2008
Nov. 4

To My Fellow Irish:

As a 1994 graduate whose last game as a student was the loss at home to BC, I sympathize with your feeling somewhat frustrated by the absence of a definitive celebratory moment in Notre Dame Stadium ("Hark," Nov. 4). I implore you, however, not to rush the field after the Syracuse game. Dress up, jump around, even throw marshmallows (gasp!), but please do not attempt the spectacle of rushing the field after the game.

One of only two possible perceptions will result: the student body has laughably low expectations for the Fighting Irish; or the student body is being disrespectful to Syracuse who surely will leave the stadium in defeat. Imagine the headlines Sunday morning atop the less-than-friendly sports periodicals.

We will win the game, of that have no doubt. Save rushing the field for our victory over USC in November 2009. Your restraint today will make that moment all the more glorious then.

Yours in Notre Dame,

Stephanie Joyce
alumna
Class of 1994
Nov. 4

That has to be one of the worst suggestions I have ever heard. Please, take it from me, for the rest of the senior class, if you want to do something for us, stay off the field!

Sure, it looked like a blast when the kids from Texas Tech were rushing the field last week. However, please don't forget the reason they did it. They earned it by defeating the No. 1 ranked team in the land. I know you haven't had many chances to celebrate our team's victories, but our class had our opportunity. We played against No. 1 ranked USC here our freshman year, and just like the kids from Texas Tech, we rushed the field when we thought that we won. Unfortunately, it didn't turn out quite the way we hoped, but that was our chance.

There are great teams yet to play at Notre Dame. All of you who weren't here for that game will get your chance. Just be patient. Again, for our sake, don't run out onto the field against Syracuse. The whole point of students rushing the field is to make a statement. Texas Tech's statement was to announce themselves as a championship contender. What statement are you trying to make? That we're excited to beat one of the worst teams in college football? I would rather be remembered as the class that rushed the field preemptively against USC than the class that rushed the field against Syracuse.

If you don't like the rich tradition of Notre Dame that ties the students together with the alumni for one of the strongest bonds in college sports, please apply to transfer. Don't taint our traditions by stomping all over our field for no good reason. It's not worth it. Rushing the field would make us the laughing stock of the college football world. Please, for the sake of the senior class, all those who've already graduated and all those who will graduate from our great University in the years to come, stay off of our field.

Tony Ceravolo
senior
off campus
Nov. 4

It's that time again ...

[Insert pleas for columnists here]

Viewpoint is now accepting applications
for the Spring 2009 semester. E-mail Kara at
kking5@nd.edu for more information.

U WIRE

The eternal election comes to an undignified end

When I go to my local polling station to vote today, I'm bringing a football with me. When I emerge from behind that curtain, my sense of democracy fulfilled, I am going to spike that football. Hard. I will not spike it because I'm excited at the prospect of a new president, but because I want that little piece of sewn-together synthetic pigskin to feel the pain I've dealt with for the last year. For too long I've been tortured with attack ads, debates, staged public appearances and substance-free stump speeches. This was not a race, but a poorly scripted, prime-time TV show. And judging by how the public made out after this endurance test of negativism and rhetoric, I'd call that show "Lost."

Remember Rudy Giuliani? Or how about John Edwards? The marathon for the presidency has run so long it's hard to remember the starting players. There was a time when nobody thought Barack Obama could beat Hilary Clinton, and even fewer people thought

John McCain was actually alive. It's easy to see why presidents appear to age physically at an incredible rate; I swear, this campaign lasted decades. Arguing that Obama lacks experience is foolish when he's pretended to be president for the last three months. He's not a politician. He's an actor. Or as a puckish McCain ad I've seen a mere 100 times would say, he's a "celebrity."

But it was unfair of McCain to label Obama like that. Ultimately, they've both become celebrities. They've both toured the talk show circuit, basking in constant media spotlight. Obama bought a half hour of airtime to remind America how horrible the middle class has it, and McCain sent his VP to the Rockefeller Center to smile at jokes. Do McCain and Obama think the American public spends all its time watching TV? Apparently, as evidenced last night, they think we do.

Monday night, with their final moments of airtime before the levers start falling Tuesday, both candidates were on TV in an exclusive interview with, you guessed it, ESPN's Chris Berman. John "Still Raising" McCain

and Barack "The Boat, Baby" Obama sat down with a man whose political credibility is only matched by his ability to narrate a Home Run Derby. This is demeaning to the job of commander in chief, and Congress should get together to pass a law banning any person with presidential aspirations from appearing on a show with a Hank Williams Jr. theme song. I'm relatively confident his intro to Monday Night Football is pumped into cells at Guantanamo Bay.

At this point, it isn't even important who wins. It just needs to be a landslide. I want a good, clean election with a projected winner by 9 p.m., and I'm looking at you, Fox News. I don't want stories of disenfranchised voters; I don't want talk about lawsuits or recounts. If this election takes any more time, it will qualify for Medicare benefits, assuming they'd exist under the new president's health plan. If this job requires decisive action and "3 a.m. phone calls," there's no need to wait this long to vote. Cardinals manage to elect a new pope within weeks, and their choice needs to be unanimous. All-Star balloting takes a month or two, but it determines home

field advantage in the World Series, and something that's a little more important than the head of the executive branch. The American public might watch too much "Dancing With The Stars," but it's not totally devoid of brain cells, and I'm pretty sure we've been ready to check the right box for a while now.

It just feels like that third "Lord of The Rings" movie: As soon as the screen fades and you think you've finally hit the end, there's another scene full of small people with hairy feet. I want to see the credits roll on this election. In fact, I'd like to see them fast-forwarded, like they do with movies on TV. No Jackie Chan-style outtakes, no extra scene with Ben Stiller in a fat suit, just a bunch of thank yous followed by blackness. This election needs a black ending, so make it happen. And don't make it close.

This column first appeared in the Nov. 4 edition of The Badger Herald, the daily paper at the University of Wisconsin.

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



Brian Wilson's 'That Lucky Old Sun' shines

By JOSEF KUHN
Scene Writer

Brian Wilson's done lying in bed. He's up and at 'em again with a new album, "That Lucky Old Sun." The former singer, bassist and lead songwriter of the Beach Boys is widely known for the enormous impact he has made on pop music, but also for his long history of drug abuse and mental issues. With this new album, though, Wilson seems to proclaim his final redemption and his newfound love for life.

"That Lucky Old Sun" was released on Sept. 2, a strange choice for a distinctly summer-flavored record. The album cover features oranges and bright flowers, while the lyrics are chock full of images of the beach, the sun, and Southern California. What else would you expect from a former Beach Boy? The music is pop at its most exuberant, combining the warm vocal harmonies of the Beach Boys with more complex song arrangements and instrumentation.

The album centers on a theme that is initiated in the title track and then reprised several times throughout the album. In addition to this running theme, four so-called "narratives" intersperse the album. The narratives — spoken pieces of poetry placed over top of music — contain some of the best moments of the album, with Wilson almost channeling Jack Kerouac.

The songs and narratives all flow seamlessly into each other, making the album

play like one long, sustained musical piece instead of a chopped-up assortment of individual parts. What with the spoken pieces, the "Lucky Old Sun" theme, and the related subject matter of all the songs, the album is undoubtedly best when played all the way through.

Although the Beach Boys' influence can clearly be heard, the music departs from the surf rock genre in several key ways. One of the first things you will notice is Brian Wilson's voice, which is clearly that of an older man, not the fresh falsetto of the adolescent Beach Boys.

The music is more complex and challenging than that of the Beach Boys, although it is still highly accessible pop. Most significantly, the lyrics are more mature. Most of them express a joyful passion for life, using the vibrant locales of California as a backdrop. In a few songs, Wilson deals with his dark years of depression, but always with a happy resolution.

It is clear that he has left his despondency behind and now has a much more positive outlook on life. Some other songs wax sentimental about the bygone days of youth, but Wilson avoids melancholy, instead looking back with rosy glasses.

While the album is enjoyable and definitely worth listening to, it is not without flaws. To some people, the pop music might seem overly cheerful. Sometimes the simple pop melodies and chord progressions might even seem tired and boring. Since Wilson's music has influenced so much of modern music, it is inevitable that listeners will feel like they've heard this stuff before.

Likewise, many of Wilson's lyrics seem trite and cliché (though there are flashes of poetic brilliance). Nevertheless, the record's simplicity is its beauty. Often a happy song with a catchy melody and uplifting lyrics are just what our jaded college souls are yearning for. When that's the case—when it's negative 30 degrees outside and seasonal affective disorder is setting in—look to "That Lucky Old Sun" to give you a little warmth.

Contact Josef Kuhn at jkuhn1@nd.edu

The Beach Boys Are



Do it again with Brian Wilson

By STEPHANIE DEPREZ
Assistant Scene Editor

Most of us inherit our musical tastes early on in life, growing up listening to our parent's favorites. We drive around in the car with our mom's radio station on and we watch dad fix things while listening to his CDs.

At some point in your life, you probably heard the harmonic, sunny tunes of the Beach Boys. Beginning in the 1960s, these southern Californians came out with a series of surfer-friendly songs that are hard to resist.

Their impact continues to be felt, often through the movies that still feature their songs, such as "50 First Dates" ("Wouldn't It Be Nice"), "Love Actually" ("God Only Knows") and "Happy Feet" ("Do It Again"). Their presence in pop culture is undeniable and they've managed to gain

a fan-base in every generation.

The man behind most of the magic is Brian Wilson, who formed the Beach Boys with his two brothers, Carl and Dennis, his Cousin Mike Love and their friend Al Jardine. After a series of hits Wilson fell on some bad times as he dealt with drug use for years. He continued to write as he fell deeper into seclusion, but his bouts with drugs weren't really over till the late 1980's.

Now he takes the stage with a completely new album, "That Lucky Old Sun," an ode to LA that Wilson is fit to deliver. He will perform live in South Bend at the Morris Performing Arts Center on Nov. 13, about which Scene talked with him.

After noting the lasting impact of the trademark Beach Boy harmonies, Wilson explained that he wanted to paint a picture of LA using carefully chosen images. He also answered questions about his feelings on the Beach Boy's long history. Part of the interview can be read below.

Interview with Brian Wilson

Scene: This is a very revealing album and it seems to reflect on much of your life. What kind of experience is it for you when you perform it live?

Wilson: Well, it's quite a thrill, actually.

Scene: How does the audience usually respond?

Wilson: Very well. They like it a lot.

Scene: Is it fun for you when you perform it?

Wilson: Yes, I love to perform it.

Scene: What do you think a 20 year old coming to your show would get out of it?

Wilson: He would get a bang out of it because he would love the lyrics!

Scene: Where do you want to go from here? How do you see your music evolving?

Wilson: I see the music turning into some good soft rock and some rock and roll.

Scene: Throughout your career you have seen and often times initiated the growth and development of rock music. What is your take on rock music today?

Wilson: I don't listen to the rock music of

today. I listen to oldies but goodies on records.

Scene: What's your favorite song to perform?

Wilson: "California Girls" is my favorite.

Scene: What is the greatest song you ever wrote?

Wilson: "God Only Knows"

Scene: If you were stranded on a desert island and got to bring the entire work of one musical artist, whose music would you want to have?

Wilson: The Beatles

Scene: What has had the strongest impacts on your music?

Wilson: I think maybe the Beatles, and the Rolling Stones, and Phil Spector.

Scene: What inspired you to take this album and do a solo tour?

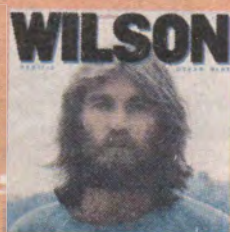
Wilson: My wife.

And so, with his wife's blessing he takes the stage at the Morris Performing Arts Center Nov. 13 to perform "That Lucky Old Sun," along with classic fan favorites. Tickets are \$27-\$62. Call 574-235-9190 for more information.

Contact Stephanie DePrez at sdeprez@nd.edu



e Back



Dennis Wilson Remastered: Returning to 'Pacific Ocean Blue'

By ANALISE LIPARI
Scene Editor

Lindsey Buckingham, a member of Fleetwood Mac, once described Dennis Wilson, drummer for the Beach Boys, as halfway to his famous brother, Brian Wilson. "He was crazy just like a lot of other people," Buckingham said, "but he had a really big heart, and he was the closest thing to Brian [Wilson] there was, too. He was halfway there." A founding member of the Beach Boys, Dennis Wilson is not Brian or Carl, but a drummer, musician and songwriter in his own right.

"Pacific Ocean Blue" was his only solo record, originally recorded and released in 1977. Legacy Records, a division of Sony BMG, has released a re-mastered version of "Pacific Ocean Blue" as part of a 2-disc set. The release's second disc is comprised of Wilson's additional recordings with Caribou/CBS Records, which would have composed his second solo effort.

The release is a fascinating glimpse into the life and art of a virtually forgotten man, overshadowed in music history by his famous siblings and former project.

"River Song" opens the album with a vocal style similar to the Beach Boys, but in a way that feels distinct, both lyrically and in scope, from the most famous hits in that band's recorded past. The experimental sounds of Beach Boys albums like "Pet Sounds" clearly paved the way for Wilson's work here, but "River Song" helps this album take a new turn. "Pacific Ocean Blue" has elements of seventies folk, funk and beach music, but its occasionally eclectic feel somehow retains a cohesiveness that helps the album feel complete.

"What's Wrong," the second track, has elements of his previous style, with strains of brass and piano thumping emphatically through the

track. That signature vocal sound, that Beach Boys harmony, is hard to escape, but Wilson effectively makes it his own here and elsewhere.

"Moonshine" has a quieter start and more melancholy feel. The following track, "Friday Night," is dark and waning, with a nearly two minute instrumental intro. It shifts in tone from the previous tracks, but in a way that still jives with the rest of "Pacific Ocean Blue."

The vocals on "Dreamer" are grainy and distant, an effect that's expanded and developed on "Thoughts of You." The latter track uses electronic effect to its benefit, alternating between the stark piano and Wilson's gruff, honest vocal style, and a more stylized studio sound. The effect is an intriguing one.

The album's title track, "Pacific Ocean Blue," is a study in contrasts. The song makes use of blended, harmonic background vocals, an almost funk-style musical arrangement and Wilson's gruff, almost Loudon Wainwright-esque singing.

"Farewell My Friend" plays with background sounds — cooing birds, electronic effects and even the occasional ukulele. Wilson repeats the lines, "Farewell/I want to see you again," leaving the listener to think they're hearing a surfer's funeral dirge. Ironically, it was Dennis' surfer style that influenced the look and feel of the Beach Boys — of the band's original members, he was the sole surfer by trade.

Other highlights on the first disc include "Tug of Love (Feel the Pull)," "You and I" and "Only with You," but truthfully the entire album deserves a listen. Its final track, "Mexico," is a solid cap on an intriguing effort.

The second disc, "Bambu," picks up where "Pacific Ocean Blue" left off and develops it further, and is well deserving of its own review. Briefly, the sweeping anthem "Remember Me," the gruff stylings of "Wild Situation" and the Randy Newman-like "He's A Bum" are all excellent. "I Love You" takes a turn for the pseudo-psychedelic in its latter half, and "Constant Companion" is an energetic, brass-laden romp.

In the liner notes to "Pacific Ocean Blue," guitarist and producer Earle Mankey describes recording with Wilson saying, "People would start talking about notes, parts, the melody or the rhythm and [Wilson] would say, 'I just want the truth.' That's all that mattered to him." For a real sense of Wilson, the man, the artist and admittedly the former Beach Boy, check out "Pacific Ocean Blue."

Pacific Ocean Blue Dennis Wilson

Released by: Sony Records

Recommended Tracks: "Mexico,"
"You and I," "Pacific Ocean Blue"



Contact Analise Lipari at alipari@nd.edu



NHL

Islanders top rival Rangers thanks to short-handed goal

Hurricanes waste three-goal lead only to win in overtime; Fisher scores first goal of season to lift Senators

Associated Press

NEW YORK — The New York Islanders finally had a third period to brag about.

After two straight late meltdowns at home, the Islanders turned a strong effort by backup goalie Joey MacDonald into a 2-1 victory over the New York Rangers on a pair of short-handed goals by rookie Nate Thompson and Richard Park.

"It was a huge morale-lifter for us," Thompson said after his first NHL point broke up the deadlock in the third period. "I can't say enough for our team and Joey MacDonald for sticking with the game plan."

Just 4:42 after Thompson scored, during a different Rangers power play, Park netted the Islanders' league-leading sixth short-handed tally. The Islanders got out of a frustrated Madison Square Garden with their best win of the season despite being outshot 36-19.

In their previous two games, the Islanders squandered three-goal leads in the third. The first on Saturday resulted in a 5-4 regulation loss to Montreal. On Monday, they recovered to beat Columbus 4-3 in overtime at home.

The Islanders own a two-game winning streak following six straight losses (0-5-1), and they moved out of last-place in the league standings (4-7-1).

"After the second period, we made a point to say, 'Let's let them beat themselves. Let's let them make some mistakes and try to capitalize on some opportunities. If we can do that and sneak two points out of here, then it's a good win,'" Park said.

Markus Naslund wrecked MacDonald's bid for his first NHL shutout when he scored with 1:41 left.

Despite the Rangers having a 29-12 shots advantage through two periods, this one was still too close to call. The Rangers entered with a league-high 21 points, but they ended the night with a more dubious distinction of having allowed an NHL-worst five short-handed goals this season.

The Rangers have dropped two straight after their franchise-best 10-2-1 start. This effort against their biggest rival came on the heels of a disappointing loss at Toronto on Saturday when they led 2-0 in the third period only to

fall 5-2.

They went 0-for-4 on the power play, while giving up two goals, after connecting at least once with the advantage in five of the previous six games.

"Unacceptable performance," Rangers coach Tom Renney said. "The power play let us down. Take responsibility for it. Power play structure, if people are committed to it and work hard at it, it can work. We are playing outside of what we have been teaching our guys."

MacDonald entered the third period with a shot at his first NHL shutout for the second straight night. Subbing for injured No. 1 goalie Rick DiPietro, MacDonald settled for his seventh career NHL win in his 26th game.

He admitted to being a bit disappointed to lose the shutout, but was happy to get out with a victory.

"This time of the year, the wins are more important," MacDonald said.

Thompson finally solved Rangers goalie Henrik Lundqvist after Frans Nielsen's shot hit the post. The puck popped in the air, and Thompson swatted it in with a baseball swing at 3:18.

"I envisioned it going off my shin pad or something like that. Definitely not like that, but it felt great," Thompson said. "I played baseball for two years. I don't know what my batting average was, but I don't think it was too good."

Park then broke up Michal Rozsival's cross-ice pass at the blue line and streaked down the left side. His drive eluded Lundqvist at 8:00.

The Rangers dominated on the shot clock in the second period, but couldn't dent MacDonald. He made 18 saves in the frame, while the Islanders sent only five shots in on Lundqvist.

"We had the momentum on our side, and I take responsibility for having two mistakes on the power play that cost us the game," Rozsival said. "There's no excuse for that."

Gordon used his timeout with 7:57 left after MacDonald reached over his head and behind it to snare Rozsival's rising drive. At that point, the Rangers held a 14-2 shots advantage in the second and 25-9 overall.

Carolina 5, Toronto 4

Niclas Wallin scored 1:52 into overtime as Carolina Hurricanes blew a three-goal



Rangers defenseman Paul Mara checks Islanders center Mike Comrie into the boards in the third period of the Islanders' 2-1 win at Madison Square Garden in New York on Tuesday.

lead before pulling out a victory over the Toronto Maple Leafs on Tuesday night.

Tuomo Ruutu, Dennis Seidenberg, Chad LaRose and Ryan Bayda also had goals for Carolina (7-3-2).

Mikhail Grabovski had two goals and Niklas Hagman and Mike Van Ryn also scored for the Maple Leafs (5-4-4).

There were 10 goals scored when the teams faced each other in Raleigh on Sunday, so it wasn't all that surprising to see the offense carry over to the second half of the back-to-back series.

The Hurricanes grabbed a 3-0 lead before the first period was half over.

Ruutu beat Vesa Toskala with a low shot at 2:20, Seidenberg scored on a power play at 5:06 and LaRose tallied his fourth goal of the season at 8:53 after the puck bounced out from the end boards.

Toronto started its comeback when Hagman finished a give-and-go with Nikolai Kulemin by beating Cam Ward with a high shot at 13:52 of the first period.

The Hagman-Grabovski-Kulemin unit was easily Toronto's best on this night, providing energy and the team's second goal after Bayda had made it 4-1 for

Carolina. Grabovski got his fourth of the season at 3:40 of the second period by cashing in a great cross-crease pass from Hagman on a power play.

Van Ryn set up a dramatic third period by ripping a shot behind Ward at 14:32 to narrow the Hurricanes lead to 4-3. Toronto outshot Carolina 16-5 in the middle frame and carried all the momentum into the final 20 minutes.

That was evident early as Grabovski's second of the game at 1:29 of the third period tied things up. That gave the flashy Belarusian four goals in two games.

Toronto had the chance to pull ahead during a 5-on-3 power play that lasted 1:13 but Ward stood tall, setting the stage for overtime.

Ottawa 2, Washington 1

Mike Fisher scored his first goal of the season with just under 40 seconds left in overtime to give the Ottawa Senators a win over the Washington Capitals on Tuesday night.

Fisher took Daniel Alfredsson's pass and shot past Brent Johnson into an open left side with 39.9 seconds remaining in the extra period.

Dany Heatley scored his

eighth goal of the season early in the second for Ottawa, which improved to 3-0-1 in its last four games.

Tomas Fleischmann drew Washington even at 1 with his fourth goal just 2:13 after Heatley scored.

Alexander Ovechkin returned to the Capitals' lineup after he missed two games in order to visit his ailing grandfather in Russia.

Johnson turned aside 42 shots, including 13 in the first, which saw the Capitals successfully kill a Senators 5-on-3 advantage for 1:57 midway through the opening period.

Alex Auld stopped 26 shots in his sixth straight start for the Senators.

Heatley opened the scoring 1:13 into the second to give Ottawa a brief 1-0 lead. The high-scoring forward got behind Washington defenseman Jeff Schultz in the neutral zone to receive a breakaway pass from Mike Fisher.

Heatley drove the net and deked Johnson before stuffing the puck inside the left post and past the goalie's outstretched right pad.

Fleischmann drew Washington even at 3:26 when he took a pass from Alexander Semin and put a backhand past Auld.

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AROUND THE NATION

Wednesday, November 5, 2008

COMPILED FROM THE OBSERVER'S WIRE SERVICES

page 13

Football AP Top 25

	team	point	previous
1	Alabama	1,600	2
2	Texas Tech	1,528	6
3	Penn State	1,525	3
4	Florida	1,398	5
5	Texas	1,353	1
6	Oklahoma	1,324	4
7	USC	1,250	7
8	Oklahoma State	1,198	9
9	Boise State	1,030	11
10	Utah	1,028	10
11	TCU	958	12
12	Ohio State	898	13
13	Missouri	830	14
14	Georgia	808	8
15	LSU	746	15
16	Ball State	594	18
17	Brigham Young	536	17
18	Michigan State	456	22
19	North Carolina	418	21
20	West Virginia	303	NR
21	California	288	NR
22	Georgia Tech	286	NR
23	Maryland	242	25
24	Florida State	128	16
25	Pittsburgh	96	NR

Football BCS Top 25

	team	average	previous
1	Alabama	.975	2
2	Texas Tech	.937	7
3	Penn State	.929	3
4	Texas	.853	1
5	Florida	.826	8
6	Oklahoma	.822	4
7	USC	.755	5
8	Utah	.697	10
9	Oklahoma State	.666	9
10	Boise State	.653	11
11	Ohio State	.555	12
12	TCU	.544	13
13	Georgia	.536	6
14	Missouri	.493	14
15	BYU	.374	20
16	LSU	.371	19
17	Ball State	.356	16
18	Michigan State	.336	21
19	North Carolina	.264	22
20	Georgia Tech	.189	NR
21	California	.113	NR
22	Florida State	.087	15
23	Maryland	.082	NR
24	Northwestern	.081	NR
25	West Virginia	.081	NR

NSCAA/Adidas Soccer Rankings

Men	Women
1 Wake Forest	NOTRE DAME
2 Creighton	Portland
3 St. John's	UCLA
4 Akron	North Carolina
5 Maryland	Florida State
6 Loyola, Md.	Stanford
7 Tulsa	Florida
8 Northwestern	Oklahoma State
9 UIC	USC
10 Saint Louis	Boston College

CYCLING



American cyclist Lance Armstrong warms up before riding a Trek prototype bicycle at the Low Speed Wind Tunnel in San Diego on Tuesday. Armstrong is considering a return from retirement.

Armstrong still considering Tour de France

Associated Press

SAN DIEGO — Lance Armstrong has yet to decide whether he will try for an eighth Tour de France title in 2009.

"I want to say I'm not trying to be coy; I'm not playing games with them (the Tour) or with fans or with media. I simply don't know," Armstrong said Tuesday during wind tunnel testing at the San Diego Air & Space Technology Center. "I'm not in a hurry. It's Nov. 4."

"I know there is tension. There is tension with French cycling fans, with French media and certainly tension with the organ-

izers. And right now I don't want to deal with tension. And I don't know if I want to deal with tension in July."

Jean-Etienne Amaury, the new president of the Tour's organizer, said last month that Armstrong had "embarrassed" the event.

Armstrong suggested his safety might be at risk if he enters the Tour again. The Austin, Texas, resident recalled watching his hometown college football team, the Texas Longhorns, lose at Texas Tech last weekend.

"(Texas Tech fans) hated, hated Texas; they hated them. ... I'm at home watching it and the trick there is that you're in a

stadium and you're sort of protected," Armstrong said. "Cycling's not that way. So if they hate you and you're on the roads and they want you, they can get you."

His last Tours "weren't good," Armstrong said.

He doubted that the animosity would subside between now and the Tour's start in July.

"The only way it would change is if I gave up my American citizenship and became a French citizen, which is obviously not going to happen," Armstrong said. "And that might not even change it."

Armstrong questioned why he seems to be embraced by fans in other

parts of Europe but not in France.

"It's very weird and the psychology of it, I can't figure it out," he said. "In a sense it's a historical event to them; no one had ever won more than five. The way I race the Tour, even today, the thought and methodical approach, and the robotic approach to racing, not showing emotion, not showing suffering or pain, is not a popular style of racing in France."

"To them panache is the guy who suffers and is swinging all over his bike and looks like he's about to fall off. And I've never found that to be an effective way to try to win."

IN BRIEF

Burnett decides to opt out of contract with Blue Jays

DANA POINT, Calif. — A.J. Burnett told the Toronto Blue Jays on Tuesday that he will opt out of the remaining two seasons of his \$55 million, five-year contract.

The pitcher will forfeit \$24 million and can file for free agency. His contract called for a \$6 million signing bonus, a \$1 million salary in 2006 and \$12 million in the remaining seasons.

Blue Jays general manager J.P. Ricciardi said talks will continue on the possibility of a new deal for the hard-throwing right-hander, who turns 32 in January.

"We have a good dialogue going," Ricciardi said at the general managers' meetings. "They're going to get back to us later in the week."

Burnett went 18-10 with a 4.07 ERA in 34 starts this season and led the American League with 231 strikeouts.

Cardinal pitcher Carpenter has surgery on right elbow

ST. LOUIS — Cardinals pitcher Chris Carpenter had surgery Tuesday to transpose a nerve in his right elbow, the same procedure St. Louis slugger Albert Pujols had last month.

The Cardinals did not say whether Carpenter remained on a timetable to return by spring training.

The 33-year-old righty pitched only 15 1-3 innings over four appearances last season after recovering from reconstructive elbow surgery. The 2005 NL Cy Young winner went 0-1 with a 1.76 ERA and was shut down in early September.

After Carpenter visited four specialists, the Cardinals announced Oct. 1 that he would not undergo a procedure on his right shoulder brought on by nerve irritation in his elbow.

Nadal ailing from tendinitis in knee, doubtful for Davis Cup

MADRID, Spain — Rafael Nadal has tendinitis in his right knee and could be in doubt for Spain's Davis Cup final against Argentina.

Medical tests Tuesday confirmed the tendinitis, and Spain team doctor Angel Ruiz-Cotorro said the top-ranked player would undergo treatment through Saturday.

Nadal will have more tests Monday to assess the injury. Spain plays Argentina in the final on indoor hard court at Mar del Plata from Nov. 21-23.

Spanish Davis Cup captain Emilio Sanchez Vicario will not pick Nadal if he is unfit, Nadal's uncle and coach Toni said Tuesday.

On Monday, Nadal pulled out of the season-ending Masters Cup in Shanghai citing fatigue after a season in which he's played in 111 matches.

around the dial

NBA

Bulls at Cavaliers
7:00 p.m., ESPN

NFL

Leftwich likely to start next week

Associated Press

PITTSBURGH — Byron Leftwich has already shown the Pittsburgh Steelers he can finish. He may get the chance Sunday to prove he can start.

With starter Ben Roethlisberger's status for Sunday's game against the Colts uncertain due to his reinjured right shoulder, the Steelers (6-2) may give Leftwich his first start since last Nov. 18 with Atlanta.

Roethlisberger underwent an MRI exam Tuesday, but the Steelers did not immediately release the results. He reinjured his separated right shoulder on a quarterback sneak near the end of the second quarter Monday night.

Leftwich took over to set up a touchdown with a long completion on his first throw, threw for a score and led another TD drive during a 23-6 win in Washington.

Leftwich's linescore for a short but productive night's work: 7 of 10 for 129 yards, no interceptions and one satisfied locker room as the Steelers preserved their AFC North lead.

"He made a lot of friends in there," coach Mike Tomlin said.

The sore shoulder has bothered Roethlisberger, though he hasn't said how much, since he was hurt Sept. 7 against Houston.

"I'm sure his shoulder has affected him," Tomlin said. "How much it has affected him, I don't know. It really is kind of irrelevant. We really don't look for or seek excuses. We don't make them, whether we're talking about Ben or anybody else."

Unless Roethlisberger's injury heals in a hurry during a shortened week of preparation, the Steelers may need Leftwich to bail them out again.

"No, it does not surprise me," Tomlin said Tuesday of Leftwich's ability to come off the bench and throw quickly and effectively. "That's one of the characteristics of Byron. That's who he is. He's a quick decision maker. ... That's what makes him who he is."

A former first-round pick and starter in Jacksonville, Leftwich spent last season with the Falcons after being cut by the Jaguars.

"He's an experienced player. He's not new to this," running back Willie Parker said. "Nobody was surprised by how well he came out and played. Ben went down and Byron seamlessly came in and did what he had to do."

Leftwich's mobility doesn't match Roethlisberger's, but his arm may be as good or better. Surprisingly, Leftwich was out of the league when NFL training camps opened

and signed with Pittsburgh only after former backup Charlie Batch broke his collarbone Aug. 8. Batch is out for the season.

"I truly don't know the offense yet," Leftwich said. "I just got here late in the pre-season, so that's what makes it tough."

The Steelers felt they were equipped to handle a Roethlisberger injury with Batch around; he was 3-0 as a starter in 2005 and 2006. They feel the same way with Leftwich, who is expected to seek a starting job elsewhere in the league after this season.

"That's the hardest position, backup quarterback," wide receiver Hines Ward said. "To come into the game after really not taking a lot of reps in practice, he did a phenomenal job. Byron gave us fits down in Jacksonville for a long time, so it's great he can come off the bench with the guys trying to rally around him."

Depending on Roethlisberger's status, the Steelers may have to rally around Leftwich again Sunday.

"He practices every week like he is going to help this team win the next game," linebacker James Harrison said. "He did the job we expected him to do."

Tight end Heath Miller (sprained ankle) is doubtful for Indianapolis (4-4), but Tomlin said safety Ryan Clark (shoulder) could return after missing one game. Tomlin offered no update on left tackle Marvel Smith (back), who hasn't played in a month.

"We really don't look for or seek excuses. We don't make them, whether we're talking about Ben or anybody else."

Mike Tomlin
Steelers head coach

NHL

Devil's Brodeur out for 3 to 4 months

Associated Press

NEWARK, N.J. — For the next three to four months, the New Jersey Devils are going to learn about life without Martin Brodeur.

The 36-year-old Brodeur, a four-time Vezina Trophy winner who is on the verge of becoming the NHL's all-time winningest goaltender, will be sidelined until at least February after tearing a distal biceps in his left elbow last weekend.

Brodeur will undergo surgery Thursday.

"It's shocking because you expect my knee is going to go or my groin or my thumb, something I use as a goalie," Brodeur said Tuesday in a conference call. "I didn't expect my biceps could be a big factor in an injury. It was a freak accident. That's why I am shocked about the injury. That's not something I expected to hurt."

The biceps attaches to the big bone (proximal radius) in the forearm at the elbow joint. Brodeur was injured Saturday against Atlanta making a second-period glove save on a shot that was going wide of the net.

"I just extended my arm real quick and I just felt a pop, and a tapping kind of feeling in my biceps," said Brodeur, who stayed in the game for another minute before being replaced by Kevin Weekes, the man who will now be asked to take over for the 15-year veteran who has led New Jersey to three Stanley Cups.

The injury was originally

diagnosed as a bruised elbow, and Brodeur had hoped that it was not serious because there was no swelling, discoloration and much pain.

Brodeur was taken to see several specialists before being told that the biceps had torn from the elbow and would require surgery.

"This is not a career-ending injury," Devils president and general manager Lou Lamoriello said. "This is a bump in the road. (He'll have) a total recovery, 100 percent, and with this type of surgery there is no doubt about — and I have total confidence that he will be back in a short period of time."

Brodeur said it will take two months before he can start moving the elbow again, and then he would begin rehabilitation.

"Then it depends on how it responds," said Brodeur, who had never had a major injury in his

career in which he has played in at least 67 games every NHL season since 1995-96.

"It is an unfortunate situation for me and for my team," Brodeur said. "It is what it is. My spirits are pretty good. I might as well stay positive. There is no reason to be negative. It is not something that will affect my career. My mobility, nothing is going to be a factor. It is just a question of

getting my biceps back into shape."

The starting job now falls to Weekes, who was outstanding on Monday night in a 2-0 loss to Buffalo, making 28 saves, including 19-of-20 in the first period.

Brodeur called Weekes a great goalie and teammate, noting that the 33-year-old who is now in his 10th season was always upbeat last year despite playing in nine games.

Brodeur started 77 games, and had a streak of 56 straight starts before missing Monday's game.

"I think it's a great opportunity for him to go out and prove himself to be the top goalie," Brodeur said. "He is going to play in front of a great team like I did for a lot of years and, hopefully, he will do well for us and hold the fort until I come back."

Brodeur has won the Vezina Trophy as the NHL's top goaltender four times, including last season when he posted a 44-27 record and a 2.17 goals-against average. His seven seasons with 40 or more wins are an NHL record, and his 2.20 career goals-against average

is the lowest in the NHL's modern era. He set a single-season record for wins with 48 in 2006-07, breaking Bernie Parent's old mark of 47.

Brodeur has 544 career wins, eight shy of breaking Patrick Roy's NHL record of 551. Brodeur is five shutouts from tying Terry Sawchuk's NHL record of 103.

"It's unfortunate. It's too bad," New York Rangers coach Tom Renney said. "You want to see the best players in the game playing, obviously. We all have a lot of respect for Marty and what he's done and we want to see him get healthy. But in the meantime, let's make hay."

"It's shocking because you expect my knee is going to go or my groin or my thumb, something I use as a goalie."

Martin Brodeur
Devils goalie

"I think it's a great opportunity for [Weekes] to go out and prove himself to be the top goalie."

Martin Brodeur
Devils goalie

"I didn't expect my biceps could be a big factor in an injury. It was a freak accident. That's why I am shocked about the injury."

Martin Brodeur
Devils goalie

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MLB

Canseco pleads guilty to charges

Associated Press

SAN DIEGO — Jose Canseco went to a Tijuana pharmacy looking for something to boost his testosterone level — low after years of admitted steroid use — and got himself in trouble again.

Limping slightly and saying he's tired, depressed and nearly bankrupt, the former slugger pleaded guilty Tuesday to a misdemeanor offense of trying to bring a fertility drug across the Mexican border. He was sentenced to 12 months' unsupervised probation.

The 44-year-old Canseco apologized to U.S. Magistrate Judge Ruben B. Brooks, saying, "I made an honest mistake."

Brooks wondered aloud whether to make community service and drug testing conditions of Canseco's sentence. The judge decided against those stipulations after attorney Greg Emerson said Canseco is dealing with physical difficulties due to his steroid use and is doing his best to turn around his life.

"It was ignorance on my part, is all it was," Canseco told The Associated Press afterward.

Canseco, who said he also has a bum knee, faced a maximum sentence of one year in prison and a maximum fine of \$1,000. The former star was ordered to pay a \$25 special assessment.

"I didn't realize you needed a prescription, and obviously I'm paying for it," he said. "I do have a prescription for it now. I wish I would have gotten it sooner. I wouldn't be going through all this."

In his 2005 book "Juiced," Canseco admitted to using steroids and also alleged steroid use by other baseball players, which attracted Congress' attention.

On Tuesday, Canseco said a gel he was using to try to restore his testosterone level wasn't working, so he went to a Tijuana pharmacy seeking something better.

"I didn't go down there looking for steroids," Canseco said while seated on a bench outside the courtroom with his girlfriend, who gave only her first name, Heidi. "I needed something to help me get my own levels back to normal, just to get me to, you know, normal working conditions, I guess."

"Well, when you have no testosterone level, you're depressed, you lose muscle mass, no sex drive, no libido, you have nothing," he added. "You're kind of like tired, depressed all the time. You just don't want to do anything."

The former AL MVP and Rookie of the Year was a six-time All-Star who hit 462 home runs in 17 seasons.

NFL

Quinn introduced as Browns QB

Associated Press

BEREA, Ohio — Derek Anderson answered the final question, bowed his head and stared blankly at the floor. He then walked slowly toward a door at the far end of Cleveland's locker room, pausing to exchange a fist bump with linebacker and fellow team captain Andra Davis on his way out.

Seconds later, Brady Quinn entered to face a media semicircle in front of Anderson's stall.

Quietly, the quarterbacking torch was passed.

On a Tuesday in which change was the buzzword across the country, power shifted for the Cleveland Browns.

The team began a new era with fan favorite Quinn as its on-field leader. He'll replace Anderson, benched by coach Romeo Crennel who said he based his decision on the Pro Bowl QB's inconsistent play, Cleveland's poor offensive ranking and the club's disappointing 3-5 record at the season's halfway point.

"I felt like we needed a different dynamic on the offense," said Crennel, who added that he had been considering a Quinn-for-Anderson swap "for a while now."

The switch came one day after Anderson threw a costly interception late in the fourth quarter of Sunday's 37-27 loss at home to the Baltimore Ravens. Thousands of Cleveland fans, who have been enamored

with idea of Quinn under center almost from the moment he arrived, responded to the pick by chanting "Bra-dy! Bra-dy!" in the final minutes.

The timing of the change — coming in a short week with the Browns hosting Denver on Thursday night — has prompted some to wonder if Crennel was obeying orders from higher in the organization or perhaps reacting to public pressure. Crennel, though, maintains it was his decision alone to go with Quinn, the former Notre Dame star who will make his first NFL start against the Broncos (4-4).

"The short week had nothing to do with it," Crennel said. "It was just time, so I did it. We're not throwing in the towel. We're not giving up on the season. We're going to beat Denver."

Browns linebacker Willie McGinest, who also played for Crennel in New England, said the abruptness of the decision seemed to go against the coach's steady-as-she-goes nature.

"There you go," said McGinest, who plans to retire following this season, his 15th. "You figure out where it's coming from then. Your guess is better than mine. I can't get involved in those type of theories, or who made the call. ... it's a decision somebody decided to make, or a collective group decided to make."

Anderson, who led the Browns to 10 wins last season,

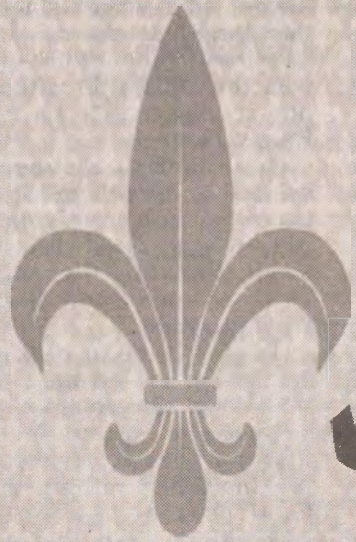
was shocked by his demotion. But the soft-spoken, rocket-armed, 25-year-old understands the rationale behind the change.

"We didn't win enough games," he said. "We're 3-5. That's how it is in this league. It's a bottom-line thing. RAC (Crennel) has always told us that, you've got to win. That's kind of how things go and a lot of times it goes to the quarterback."

Anderson threw six interceptions in his first four games, but he had just one in his previous four and seemed to be getting himself turned around. It didn't help him that No. 1 wide receiver Braylon Edwards had dropped 14 passes and that he hasn't had his full complement of targets with Joe Jurevicius out for the season and Donte Stallworth slowed by injuries.

"Obviously it is a team game and I can only control what I can control," Anderson said. "Obviously it's tough getting your job taken away from you. It means a lot to me, I put a lot of effort into it, and that's probably the hardest thing for me."

The Browns now turn to the wildly popular Quinn, whose No. 10 jersey was already in demand and should see another spike in sales. Quinn has prepared for the possibility he'll get into a game by studying film, directing the scout team and helping Anderson get ready. Now, he's the one in the spotlight — and under the magnifying glass.



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NBA

Billups fills Nugget's big need

Associated Press

DENVER — Denver coach George Karl has been petitioning for a pure point guard, a player with a proclivity for passing.

He got his wish when the Nuggets acquired Chauncey Billups from Detroit on Monday in a trade involving Allen Iverson.

Now, Karl needs to tweak the offense, restructuring it from Iverson's shoot-first mentality to Billups' pass-often mind-set.

Not that he minds the challenge.

"We all get excited when you've got a point guard that's special," Karl said Tuesday. "I think he's an orchestrator of winning. He'll help everybody get better shots. He'll help me coach the game."

Karl has been searching for just such a point guard since surrendering Andre Miller to the Philadelphia 76ers in the trade that brought Iverson to town in December 2006.

"I think it fits, it fits what we need," said Karl, who's not expected to have Billups available Wednesday at Golden State, but should have him Friday against Dallas. "But when you make a trade, there's a nervous depression — 'Is this the right thing? Will it work out? How's it going to work out?'"

Besides acquiring Billups, the Nuggets got Antonio McDyess and Cheikh Samb from the Pistons.

If McDyess ends up playing for the Nuggets, it will be his third time with the team. But

there's a chance the cost-cutting Nuggets could buy out his contract.

"We'll let you know something when we know something," Nuggets vice president of player personnel Rex Chapman said after practice Tuesday.

Karl wouldn't mind having McDyess around, a forward who's retooled his game after serious knee injuries.

"Antonio used to be a runner, an athlete, a rebounder, a rim-hitter," Karl said. "Now, he plays the game. He'd be good for us."

After a day to digest the news of the deal, the Nuggets were looking forward to the arrival of Billups for his second stint in Denver. They don't think he will take long to get acclimated.

They can't afford any lag time.

"He's got to learn quick, because he's going to get put in the rotation quick," guard Anthony Carter said.

Part of the reason the trade took place was because the Nuggets saw shooting guard J.R. Smith's growth stymied. By trading Iverson, they cleared more minutes for him and received a coveted point guard in return.

Smith appreciates the faith.

"They're putting trust in me," he said. "I've got to go out there and play the way I'm supposed to play."

He's eager to see what Billups can bring to the Nuggets. Although, Smith already has a pretty good idea since Billups led Detroit to six straight Eastern Conference finals, winning it

all in 2004.

"His reputation is unbelievable," Smith said. "He's a great leader."

But he's quite a different player than Iverson, which will take some getting used to.

"Chauncey's more of a distributor, but he can score, he can shoot the ball," Smith said. "A.I. was more of a scorer who could score in bunches. When he's hot, he's unbelievable. He played hard every day."

Does Smith prefer a passer at point?

"That's tough," he said. "You always want people who can score, but you also need someone who can distribute the ball."

Billups brings both. That's why Karl can't wait to work with him, telling his new point guard as much in a phone conversation Monday night.

"He's excited, but there's a part of him that will miss Detroit," Karl said. "I think every day he'll be more excited to see this new team. There's a freshness to being with a new team. There's an enjoyment to being with a new team."

It's not really a new team, though. Billups played parts of two seasons for the Nuggets and remains a popular figure in the Mile High City, a Denver high school prodigy who went on to play at the University of Colorado.

"There are very few players that have a connection as much as Chauncey has with the city of Denver," Karl said. "That specialness has an excitement."

NBA

Iverson ready to run with Pistons

Associated Press

AUBURN HILLS, Mich. — Allen Iverson spoke at length about the ways he's grown as a person and a player, saying he's willing to make sacrifices to complete his career with a championship as a Detroit Piston.

The former NBA MVP then set himself up Tuesday for an exchange that showed he's mature enough to be the butt of the joke.

"One thing is for sure, I'm going to do whatever the coach wants me to do," Iverson said.

"Even practice?" Joe Dumars asked, mockingly.

"PRACTICE?!" Iverson replied with a sparkling smile, using the word he spoke over and over in Philadelphia in 2002.

Dumars, the Pistons' president of basketball operations, welcomed Iverson at a packed news conference and delved into a deal that has created unprecedented excitement for a storied franchise with three NBA titles.

"I can't think of one that has created this kind of buzz," said Dumars, who has been a Pistons player and executive for two-plus decades. "He brings a certain stature with him that only a handful of guys in this league can bring."

The Pistons were close to trading for Iverson from Philadelphia entering the 2000-01 season, but 76ers center Matt Geiger used a clause in his contract to nix the deal.

Then, the Pistons watched Iverson lead Philadelphia to the NBA finals and become league MVP.

Eight years later, Detroit is hoping "The Answer" was worth the wait.

Iverson does, too.

"I want to be the piece that gets us over the hump," he said. "I've done so many things in this league, being an All-Star and scoring champion and things like that, but I haven't accomplished my No. 1 goal and that is to win a championship."

The Pistons acquired Iverson in a blockbuster trade Monday, sending All-Star point guard and former finals MVP Chauncey Billups, top reserve Antonio McDyess and project Cheikh Samb to the Denver Nuggets.

"This is a big day for us, but I would be remiss if I didn't say how much we appreciated how much Chauncey Billups and McDyess did for us," Dumars said. "Much love to those guys because they helped build a foundation to help us become who we are today."

Detroit is desperate for another shot at an NBA title after getting eliminated in Game 6 of the Eastern Conference finals the past three years following its third championship in 2004 and falling just short of winning a fourth the next season.

"We think he is going to fit with exactly what we stand for here," Dumars said. "It's

all about winning and being in the big dance at the end of the year. Those are his goals along with ours."

"I don't think we're going to sit here today and make any grand promises, but everybody knows our goals."

If Billups completes a physical and paperwork in time, Iverson will play Wednesday night in Toronto. McDyess and Samb have not been required to report to Denver. Barring injury, the 33-year-old Iverson will make his home debut Sunday night against the Boston Celtics in an NBA game as intriguing as one could be in early November.

If McDyess ends up playing for the Nuggets, he will land on their roster for the third time.

The Pistons kept McDyess off the free-agent market last summer by giving him a \$13.5 million, two-year extension. Detroit would love to have the former Olympian and All-Star back next month if the cost-cutting Nuggets buy out his contract.

"I'll be talking with Antonio and his representative directly," Nuggets executive Mark Warkentien said Monday. "But we think he's a heck of a player and know he's a quality guy. One step at a time."

The Pistons have reached six straight Eastern Conference finals — the longest such streak since the Los Angeles Lakers' dominant run in the 1980s — and won the 2004 title without a player expected to be in the Hall of Fame.

Their lack of a superstar seemed to hurt them the past three seasons, exiting the playoffs against Boston's Kevin Garnett, Cleveland's LeBron James and Miami's Dwyane Wade.

Iverson brings plenty of star power to Detroit.

The deal also clears a lot of salary-cap space for the Pistons because Iverson is making \$20.8 million in the final year of his contract while Billups is in the second season of a four-year contract worth a guaranteed \$46 million with a \$14 million team option for a fifth year.

Iverson has acknowledged being excited about being a free agent for the first time next summer.

Iverson's agent, Leon Rose, said he is not negotiating a contract extension with the Pistons for his client and the team is not pushing to get a deal done to keep him around beyond this season.

"We'll see how it goes and how it unfolds," Dumars said.

Iverson's life has unfolded publicly for more than a decade, bringing to light run-ins with the law, feuds with coaches and complaints about practice during that infamous news conference in which he said "practice" about 20 times during a rambling monologue.

"I don't do the same things I used to do. If I was still doing those things, I'd be a damn fool," he said. "I've learned from my mistakes."

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Notes

continued from page 20

against Pittsburgh and had an MRI on Monday to determine the extent of the injury.

"Just from looking at him, I would imagine he'd be gone for a little while. And based off of MRI [results], it could be when they come back he might have to get it scoped," Weis said. "But I don't want to be premature in what I'm saying, but just looking at him it didn't look like he'd be ready for a while. So that just means we move [freshman] Trevor [Robinson] up and let's go."

The Irish will lose depth at guard, but not too much experience. Robinson has been rotating into the lineup with Stewart in every game this season and has played tight end in the

Notre Dame jumbo packages.

♦ Weis said he talked with former Notre Dame quarterback Brady Quinn Monday night about Quinn's promotion to starter for the Cleveland Browns this week.

"He said, 'Well, it's the same as every week. I prepare the same every week.' I said, 'Hey, Brady that's a bunch of garbage; you can tell it to someone else who wants to hear that stuff.' I go, 'You can say you're preparing the same every week, but it's the one thing when you're the back-up, the other thing is when you're the starter,' which is exactly what I said, 'you can tell somebody else that wants to

hear that,'" Weis said of the conversation.

Contact Jay Fitzpatrick at jfitzpa5@nd.edu

"Just from looking at him, I would imagine he'd be gone for a little while. And based off MRI [results], it could be when they come back he might have to get it scoped ... So that just means we move [freshman] Trevor [Robinson] up and let's go."

Charlie Weis
Irish coach

Man-up

continued from page 20

box."

Jackson said he also shifted his special teams units around after going 0-16 with the man advantage in two losses to Miami the previous weekend. These changes included moving Kyle Lawson to the front of the net, and forming a unit that had three right-handed shooters playing with powerful point man Ian Cole.

"We're trying to create more emotion on our power play," Jackson said. "We just try to give them a basic outline to follow, then they have to make plays once they break the box down. It's up to them to use their hockey instincts and their skills to make plays to finish it off."

These changes resulted in a weekend where five of the seven total Irish goals came with the man advantage. Ryan Thang, Dan Kissel, Christian Hanson, Billy Maday and Lawson tallied power-play goals for Notre Dame in two wins over the Wildcats.

While Jackson said the mid-week changes contributed to this success, other factors were in play as well.

"Northern plays a more passive system on penalty kill, which could've had something to do with it too," he said. "Being on the Olympic ice sheet might have been a factor, too, in a positive way."

Defenseman Brett Blatchford also had a big weekend against Northern, notching four assists, three with the man-advantage. Jackson said after the series that he hoped Blatchford would develop into

a better point man on the power play, and that playing at an off-point position has actually helped him in that regard, allowing Blatchford to play primarily on his forehand instead of backhand.

"He's walking across instead of pulling it across," Jackson said. "Also, it allows him to potentially see the ice better."

This power play success is a far cry from the struggles that plagued Notre Dame in the middle of last season, when the Irish fell into an 0-for-39 slump at one point.

But the Irish will be tested next weekend when they take on Boston College in a rematch of last year's national championship game. Jackson said the Eagles' speed on the

penalty kill could give the Irish some troubles.

"On the power play, it's going to be more challenging because they're a quick team," he said. "They're fast, they rotate aggressively, so they close up those passing lanes rather quickly because they're quick and we have to make sure that we can get

them out of position and shoot the puck."

Notre Dame will also face stiff competition when the Eagles have the man advantage. The Irish will go up against a power play that has scored 13 goals in six games this season and has been called the best power play unit in the country.

"We have to make sure that we don't give up cross-ice pass or cross-seam passes through the box," Jackson said. "And if we can avoid doing that, we give ourselves a better chance to have success."

Contact Sam Werner at swerner@nd.edu

"On the power play, it's going to be more challenging because [Boston College is] a quick team. They're fast, they rotate aggressively ... and we have to make sure that we can get them out of position and shoot the puck."

Jeff Jackson
Irish coach

Gannon

continued from page 20

and for the players to sprint out of traps and throw a hand in the shooter's face.

"I think it's getting a lot better," McGraw said. "The sense of urgency, the awareness is much better. I've really been pleased with that."

The Irish finished last season 25-9, 11-5 in the Big East, but shooting guard and leading scorer Charel Allen and starting point guard Tulyah Gaines both graduated. This year, Lechlitner will lead the offense.

"What I see is that she's really leading the team," McGraw said. "She's definitely in charge when she's out there, the team really looks to her."

Lechlitner said the team's offensive production can come in a variety of different ways.

"There are a lot of opportunities, a lot of different ways you can score out of it," she said.

The freshman are adapting to the struggles of learning a new offense well, McGraw said. Since

the team has so many veterans, however, McGraw said the freshman will have difficulty cracking the lineup.

"The veterans are a little bit ahead of them in just knowing what we're doing," McGraw said. "We're doing a lot of the same stuff we did last year so it's been easier for them. There's a big learning curve for the freshman but they're handling it really well."

Novosel said learning the offense will allow her stop focusing on what she's doing and simply play the game.

"You don't have to think about it, you just go out there and play," she said.

Sophomore forward Devereaux Peters is nearing full health after missing the second half of last season with a torn ACL. McGraw said she was surprised by Peters' level of participation this fall.

"She gets a little stronger every day. She hasn't missed anything," McGraw said. "She's been really working hard."

Lechlitner said it will be nice to have Peters back to assist with shot-blocking and the press, which Peters played a large role

in last year.

McGraw said she will tinker with some lineup changes during the game. What she said she wants to avoid, however, is putting all of the freshmen in at once, so she wants to mix one or two of the younger players in with the veterans.

"We're going to start with a veteran group and try to get the freshman in as quickly as we can," she said.

Gannon finished last season 16-12 and 10-7 in the Pennsylvania State Athletic Conference. The Golden Knights scored 71.5 points per game and made seven 3-pointers per game.

Junior guard Kristina Freeman made 48 3-pointers last season and hit 37.8-percent of her shots from behind the arc. Junior guard Kim Vargas led the Golden Knights in scoring last season with 16.2 points per game.

Notes:

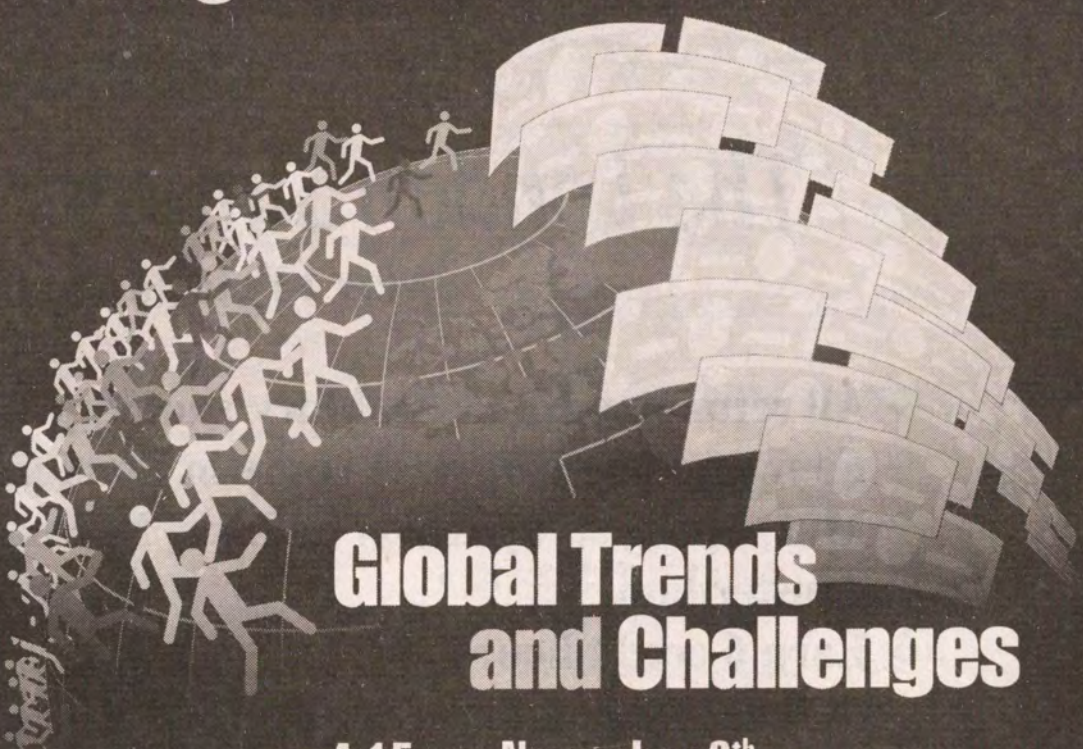
♦ Peters will not play in the Gannon game because she missed a tutoring session.

♦ McGraw said Lechlitner, senior guard Lindsay Schrader, junior guard Ashley Barlow, sophomore forward Becca Bruszewski and junior center Erica Williamson will start.

Contact Bill Brink at wbrink@nd.edu

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Belles

continued from page 20

tough victory in an MIAA mini-tournament later that month. Each match, despite the straight-set outcomes, were grinding, defensive battles that favored the team that made the fewest offensive mistakes.

Tuesday night's match followed suit, with the teams combining for 14 blocks and 163 digs in four closely-fought sets. In the end, Adrian was able to capitalize on errors from the Saint Mary's squad, while the Belles struggled late in each set and squandered several leads.

In the first set, the Belles came out of the gate forcefully and established a 14-7 lead at one point. The Bulldogs took advantage of Saint Mary's miscues while getting some key kills to come back and tie the score at 19-19 before a kill by sophomore hitter Jacee Watson and two more by senior hitter Kaela Hellmann provided the Belles some breathing room. Saint Mary's closed out the set 25-21 to gain the 1-0 advantage.

In the second and third sets, both teams traded points in the early going and were unable to gain an early lead.

In the second set, Adrian's defense, a strength all season long, clamped down in the late going to seal a 25-22 victory. In the third set, the Belles gained an early edge before mistakes allowed the Bulldogs to rebound and seize a 25-21 victory.

The Saint Mary's offense sputtered throughout much of the fourth set, and several late errors sealed their fate as Adrian claimed a 25-19 victory, clinching the match.

Hellmann led the Belles offensively and defensively with a .318 attacking percentage and 18 kills alongside 25 digs and 1.5 blocks. Sophomore defensive specialist Meghann Rose added 21 digs and four service aces. Junior setter Liana Rohr kept the offense running with 43 assists in the absence of the regular setter, freshman Danielle Brink.

Quiet throughout the match was hitter Lorna Slupczynski; the junior provided the spark for Saint Mary's all through the season, leading the team in kills while providing 2.82 digs per game. Slupczynski finished the night with 10 kills against seven errors in 36 attempts for a .083 attacking percentage.

Contact Michael Blasco at mblasco@nd.edu

NBA

Boston's Big 3 proves superior

Associated Press

HOUSTON — Boston's Big 3 outplayed Houston's trio of stars Tuesday night.

Ray Allen scored 29 points, Kevin Garnett added 14 points and 11 rebounds and the Celtics shut down Ron Artest and Yao Ming in a 103-99 victory over the Rockets.

Tracy McGrady scored 26 points for Houston and tried to rally the Rockets (3-1) down the stretch against the defending NBA champions.

The Celtics led 101-97 when McGrady rose for a 3-pointer and was fouled by Tony Allen. McGrady landed awkwardly and grabbed his sore left knee as Boston coach Doc Rivers protested the call, claiming McGrady was trying to pass.

Referees reviewed the play as McGrady walked off the blow to his knee. He was given three foul shots and made two, cutting Boston's lead to 101-99.

Eddie House hit two free throws at the other end with 9.6 seconds remaining. Brent Barry then shot an airball and Garnett caught it to secure the win.

Paul Pierce added 13 points and nine rebounds for the Celtics (3-1). Yao went 4-for-14 from the field and

scored eight points, while Artest missed 13 of 16 shots and scored 15.

Since acquiring Artest in the offseason, the Rockets have boldly talked about contending for the NBA title. The Celtics proved Houston still has a ways to go.

Yao, Artest and McGrady went a combined 0-for-8 to start the fourth quarter and the Celtics led 93-86 with 3 1/2 minutes left. McGrady converted a three-point play, but Ray Allen hit a 3-pointer at the other end. McGrady then hit a shorter shot and Ray Allen answered again.

Luis Scola scored twice to cut Boston's lead to 98-95. Out of a timeout, Garnett swished a shot from the wing with 59.6 seconds left and McGrady missed a long jumper on Houston's next trip down.

The Celtics ended the Rockets' 22-game winning streak last season with a 94-74 win at the Toyota Center on March 18. Yao missed that game with a stress fracture in his left foot.

Houston feels more equipped to win games like this with defensive specialist Artest. He guarded Pierce from the opening tip and stole the ball on Boston's second possession. Yao, guarded by 6-foot-10

Kendrick Perkins, had a dunk and two hook shots in the first five minutes as Houston took the early lead.

But Yao went to the bench with his second foul with 6:35 left in the quarter and the Celtics went on a 15-4 run, hitting seven of nine shots. Pierce scored only four points in the first quarter, but Rajon Rondo had 10 and Boston led 28-22.

Yao returned with 10:52 left in the first half. With Yao backing off, Glen Davis grabbed an offensive rebound and scored, part of a 15-5 Celtics run. Davis converted a three-point play, drawing Yao's third foul, to put Boston up 43-27 with 7:56 remaining in the half.

Yao went out again and the smaller Rockets' lineup mounted a 25-4 run, sinking nine straight shots, including three 3-pointers. The Celtics hit only one field goal and committed three turnovers in the five-minute stretch, and Aaron Brooks' jumper put Houston ahead 52-47.

Ray Allen stopped the Rockets' run with a three-point play and swished a 3-pointer on the next possession to put the Celtics back in front. Pierce hit a 3-pointer in the final minute and Boston led 58-53 at the break.

Recycle The Observer.

A Special Information Session for Arts and Letters Students

(Others are welcome to attend)

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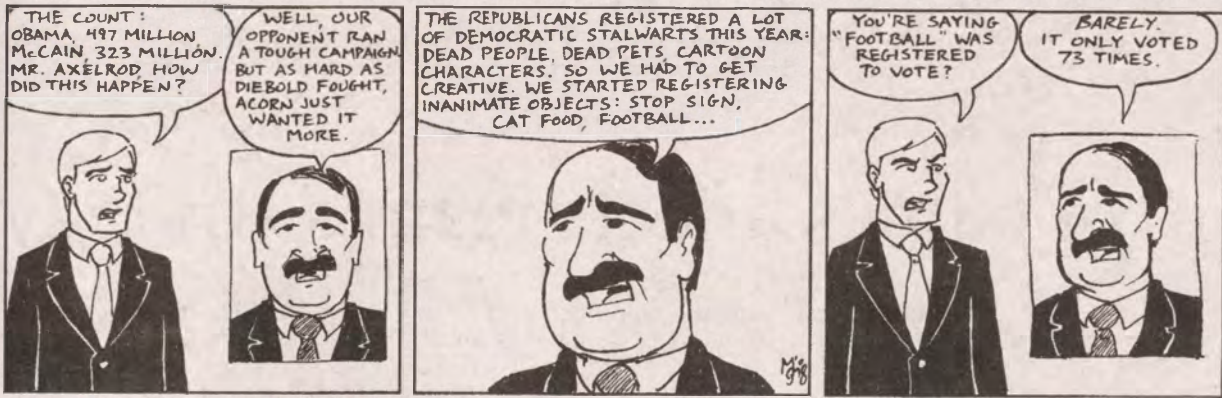
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BLACK DOG

MICHAEL MIKUSKA



THE DOME PIECE

DAVID CAVADINI



JUMBLE

HENRI ARNOLD
MIKE ARGIRION

JUMBLE

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

PRIGE
□ □ □ □ □ □

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ROCKA
□ □ □ □ □ □

DEIBES
□ □ □ □ □ □

www.jumble.com

THORUG
□ □ □ □ □ □

Answer here: "□ □ □ □ □ □" □ □ □ □ □ □

(Answers tomorrow)

Saturday's Jumbles: CRAZE SYLPH JOCKEY DULCET
Answer: What the optician turned into at the party — A "SPECTACLE"

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME
by Henri Arnold and Mike Argirion

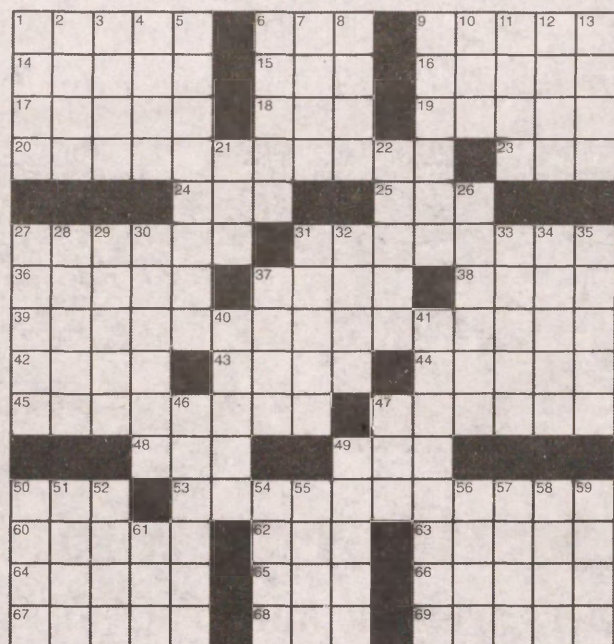


Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

CROSSWORD

WILL SHORTZ

- Across**
- 1 Put out, as a fire
 - 6 Furry TV extraterrestrial
 - 9 Arouse, as interest
 - 14 "In my opinion ..."
 - 15 Place for sheep to graze
 - 16 Mrs. Bush
 - 17 Utensil used with flour
 - 18 Perry Mason's field
 - 19 Out of kilter
 - 20 Old "Tonight Show" intro
 - 23 Fork over
 - 24 Word after show or know
 - 25 Bygone Rambler mfr.
 - 27 Classic arcade game
 - 31 Set free
 - 36 Pungent-smelling
 - 37 Expensive tooth filling material
 - 38 Sport with beefy grapplers
 - 39 Admonition to a showboating athlete
 - 42 Notes after do
 - 43 Doll's cry
 - 44 Almost any doo-wop tune
 - 45 What a driver's license shows proof of
 - 47 Makes tough
 - 48 Understood
 - 49 By way of
 - 50 "Cheers" bartender
 - 53 Kid's book with a hidden character
 - 60 Atlantic or Pacific
 - 62 Buddhist sect
 - 63 Squirrel away
 - 64 Suspect's story
 - 65 Stephen of "The Crying Game"
 - 66 Out of favor, informally
 - 67 Derby prize
 - 68 The whole shebang
 - 69 Activities in 57-Down
- Down**
- 1 Satellite TV receiver
 - 2 Garfield's pal, in the funnies
 - 3 ___-friendly (simple to operate)
 - 4 Put money in the bank
 - 5 Poker player's headgear
 - 6 Give the O.K.
 - 7 Wife of Jacob
 - 8 Young Bambi
 - 9 Benchwarmer's plea
 - 10 The Beatles' "___ the Walrus"
 - 11 Wit's remark
 - 12 Celestial bear
 - 13 "Piece of cake!"
 - 21 Rock's Bon Jovi
 - 22 Nita of silent films
 - 26 Windsor, notably
 - 27 Father: Prefix
 - 28 Felt sore
 - 29 Oreo's filling
 - 30 Sinking in mud



Puzzle by Fred Piscop

- 31 Hardly cramped
- 32 Director Kazan
- 33 Napped leather
- 34 Cybermessages
- 35 Stadium toppers
- 37 Pesky swarmer
- 40 Most common U.S. surname
- 41 Zero
- 46 Local noncollegian, to a collegian
- 47 Bro's sibling
- 49 Open to bribery
- 50 Suds maker
- 51 Rights org.
- 52 Golda of Israel
- 54 Poet Pound
- 55 Walk drunkenly
- 56 Top-rated
- 57 Features of science classes
- 58 "Dangl!"
- 59 5:2, e.g., at a racetrack
- 61 Muscles to crunch

For answers, call 1-900-285-5656, \$1.49 a minute; or, with a credit card, 1-800-814-5554.

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HOROSCOPE

EUGENIA LAST

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Sean "Diddy" Combs, 39; Matthew McConaughey, 39; Ralph Macchio, 48; Markie Post, 58

Happy Birthday: Put yourself on the line this year. Happiness does not come without work. Now is a time of initiation but do not go overboard. A chance to get back into something you always wanted to pursue will be possible. Stop waiting for things to drop in your lap. Your numbers are 12, 17, 20, 23, 31, 35, 41

ARIES (March 21-April 19): You may get stuck doing all the work if you let someone take advantage of your experience, enthusiasm and quick response. Look out for your own interests and refuse to give too freely, even if you are asked. ★★

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): There may be a lot going on in your head but this isn't the time to let things fester. Discuss what's really bothering you and solutions will be found. Be firm but not obstinate. ★★★★★

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Talk your way into a new group and you will experience a lifestyle change that is long overdue. You have just as much to offer as the next person so believe in yourself. A business trip will pay off. ★★

CANCER (June 21-July 22): You're a softy but, if you give in to someone, he or she will want even more from you. Offer your advice and guidance but don't do the work for others. Build a strong group of people around you not a bunch of hangers-on. ★★

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Temptation must be kept at arm's length. Question anyone who is too willing to sacrifice his or her position or reputation. Be strong. An indiscretion will cause personal problems with family. ★★

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Share your concerns with someone you trust and you'll come up with a solution to a family problem that has been keeping you awake nights. Honesty is the only way to clear these matters up so you can move on. ★★★★★

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): You are probably not seeing things clearly so, before you say something you may regret, busy yourself with hobbies, pastimes or unfinished business. Problems with loved ones will escalate. Ask an older, experienced relative to mediate. ★★

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Taking a serious position regarding something you believe in will help you hook up with like-minded people. Someone considering you for a particular position will recognize your compassionate nature. A change is upon you. ★★

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Be the one to take advantage, not the one being used to benefit others. Emotions will be difficult to control if money is an issue. If you or someone you are close to has gone over budget, find ways to raise extra cash. It could turn into permanent income. ★★

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): You will be left dangling by someone trying to get you to pay for or join something that may not be the best for you. Saying no will be your only option. Don't commit to anything that isn't ironclad and to your advantage. ★★

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Don't be upset or angered by someone who is continually changing his or her mind. Show good faith by offering to help a good cause. A love interest will develop with someone who has a lot in common with you. ★★

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): By helping others you will position yourself for success. The choice you make now can alter your financial future for years to come. An unusual development will occur regarding a gift, something you find or an inheritance or settlement. ★★

Birthday Baby: You are sensitive -- a humanitarian, a Good Samaritan and a loyal friend and lover. You aren't afraid to take an unusual route and question anyone who fears the unknown.

Eugenia's Web sites: eugenia1ast.com for confidential consultations, myspace.com/eugenia1ast for Eugenia's blog, astroadvice.com for fun

THE OBSERVER

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FOOTBALL

Weis says 'complexion' of games affects team's strategy

By JAY FITZPATRICK
Managing Editor

Notre Dame coach Charlie Weis said that the offensive game plan isn't rigidly set before a game, but rather has to adapt throughout it, at his weekly press conference on Tuesday.

"Well, I think that when you're running things on offense, it isn't just grinding it out and the running game," he said. "I think the complexion of how a game goes has a lot to do with how you call a game."

Weis was responding to com-

ments about his team's inability to close out games in the second half. The Irish had two-score leads in two of their three losses on the season — at North Carolina on Oct. 11 and Saturday against Pittsburgh.

After the loss to the Panthers, sophomore wide receiver Golden Tate said that he felt the team has the tendency to get complacent. Weis was not pleased with Tate's comments, and said as much during his press conference on Sunday.

"Let's just say that I'll have a talk with Golden and he won't be saying that any more. He

seems to be the team spokesman for two weeks in a row now, just like Michael Floyd was trying to lateral the ball in the North Carolina game," Weis said of Floyd's fumble on the final play of the North Carolina loss, which Tate also commented on.

Although Weis said his team is not complacent, he did say that shifts in a game's tempo can sometimes change the entire dynamic of the game.

"I mean, sometimes as you're grinding it out and getting first downs or not getting first downs, you're content with playing a field position game ...

But the complexion of games sometimes changes as all of a sudden — let's say you're shutting the team's offense down and all of a sudden they start kicking it into gear," he said. "The complexion of the game, there's ebbs and flows that happen in a game. So I think each game has its own set of circumstances that come with that."

Weis commented specifically on the performance of his defense against Pittsburgh. The Panther offense could only muster 71 yards of total offense in the first half Saturday, but an early

Harrison Smith personal foul jumpstarted the Pittsburgh offense, rejuvenating the team for the second half.

"You're feeling pretty good about your chances, just as long as you keep on doing what you're doing," he said. "And all of a sudden the momentum starts to go the other way, then you have to go ahead and react accordingly."

Notes:

◆ Irish right guard Chris Stewart injured his knee running onto the field Saturday

see STEWART/page 17

ND WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Bring it on

Melissa Lechlitner ready to lead squad, starting with tonight's home exhibition game

By BILL BRINK
Sports Editor

Muffet McGraw means what she said during media day about stopping the 3-pointer this year. So much so that in practice, if a 3-point shot goes uncontested, the players must run sprints.

"In the beginning it was pretty atrocious actually," freshman guard Natalie Novosel said. "We were running a lot during practice. But it's gotten a lot better."

Notre Dame's exhibition game against Gannon tonight will test its progress in perimeter defense — Gannon shot 604 3-pointers last year.

"We're going to be tested right away," McGraw said. "It's definitely one of the big things we're going to look at."

Junior guard Melissa Lechlitner said McGraw wants the team to contest all perimeter passes to prevent easy looks,



IAN GAVLICK/The Observer

Junior guard Melissa Lechlitner will take over much of Notre Dame's leadership and scoring duties with a pair of starting guards graduating, Irish coach Muffet McGraw said.

see GANNON/page 17

SMC VOLLEYBALL

Belles out in MIAA's first round

By MICHAEL BLASCO
Sports Writer

Saint Mary's season ended Tuesday night with a first-round loss to Adrian in the MIAA Tournament, dropping the match in four sets to the Bulldogs, 21-25, 25-22, 25-21, and 25-19.

The loss capped a 9-7 MIAA season for the Belles, who went 18-11 overall.

The Belles' regular-season MIAA record had earned them the No. 4 seed and first-round home court advantage against No. 5 Adrian, who finished 8-8 in the conference and 15-15 overall.

The Belles previously clashed with the Bulldogs twice this season, with each team picking up a victory in straight sets. While Adrian's defense shut down Saint Mary's in a home match on Sept. 2, the Belles scratched out a

see BELLES/page 17

MEN'S SOCCER

Irish wait, watch as Big East tourney opens

Observer Staff Report

After Saturday's 1-0 win at West Virginia clinched the Big East Blue division, No. 13 Notre Dame will get to watch the 12-team conference tournament field narrow itself to eight without playing a game.

On Saturday, the Irish (11-5-2, 7-2-2 Big East) will host either the Mountaineers or Louisville, who play at 2 p.m. today.

A win Saturday would place the Irish in the semifinals Nov. 14 in Tampa, Fla., one victory

away from the Nov. 16 championship game.

In other first-round action, Villanova plays at Providence, with the winner set to face St. John's, the Red division's top team. DePaul hosts Pittsburgh today for the right to play at Connecticut.

Cincinnati plays at Georgetown tomorrow in the final first-round game, the winner of which will play at South Florida.

If the seedings hold, the Irish would draw USF in the semifinals.

HOCKEY

ND shores up power play

By SAM WERNER
Sports Writer

Last week's five power-play goal explosion may have come as a surprise to some Irish fans, but for Notre Dame coach Jeff Jackson, it was just a culmination of something the team had been working on all week in practice.

"We work on power-play skills and then we work on tactics," Jackson said. "We want our players to be creative, but we want to give them some guidelines to break down the

see MAN-UP/page 18



WU YUE/The Observer

Irish junior right wing Ryan Thang handles the puck during Notre Dame's 3-2 home loss to Miami on Oct. 25.