

# THE OBSERVER

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## Leaders discuss building credibility

Panelists argue Central American democracies risk losing structure in face of problems

By JOHN TIERNEY  
News Writer

Panelists participating in a Kellogg Institute-sponsored discussion of "The Future of Democracy in Central America" agreed Central American democracies risk losing their governmental structure if they do not do something to improve their credibility.

Building credibility in government is not something that can be achieved instantly, according to panelist Ricardo Maduro Joest, who was president of Honduras from 2002 to 2006.

During his presidency, he

fought frequently with the nation's teachers in his quest to improve the nation's education. In negotiations with the teachers, Maduro said that "more often than not, we had to go find Cardinal Rodriguez" to verify the fairness of an agreement "because they didn't believe in anyone else."

"Who can we believe in? What can we fall back on?" are some of the questions that people ask when they feel that their government is not trustworthy, according to Maduro.

Maduro expressed frustra-

see KELLOGG/page 6



QUENTIN STENGER/The Observer

Richardo Maduro Joest, left, Autoro Cruz, middle, and Otton Solis discussed Central American Democracy Thursday.

## Syracuse game to be sustainable

Contest will be first carbon neutral event

By AARON STEINER  
News Writer

Notre Dame is bringing a green theme to one of its most treasured traditions — a football Saturday. This weekend's football game will be the University's first ever carbon neutral game.

"There are various aspects of the game that produce carbon emissions," Rachel Novick, education and outreach coordinator at the Office of Sustainability, said. She said things like lighting, fan travel and gameday waste are examples of activities that produce carbon emissions.

This weekend, the Office of Sustainability will make the game carbon neutral by using efficiency projects that reduce carbon emissions to offset the emissions normally produced at a game.

Various projects throughout the year have increased efficiency and reduced carbon emissions, and those reductions will be allocated towards making the game carbon neutral.

Novick cited the student-initiated gameday recycling project as a major contributor to reducing carbon emissions.

"Recycling really saves a lot of energy," she said. "Probably the most extreme case is that of an aluminum can."

It takes 95 percent more energy to make a new aluminum can —

see GREEN/page 8

## Groups hope Obama will close Gitmo

Students argue new administration should prioritize ending human rights violations

By KAITLYNN RIELY  
Associate News Editor

A month before the presidential election, senior Catherine McKinney stood on South Quad beside a makeshift prison in an orange jumpsuit, protesting the existence of the Guantanamo Bay detention center and asking people to sign petitions urging its closure.

Now, with President-elect Barack Obama planning his transition to the White House, McKinney is hoping the Obama administration's Guantanamo

policy will be "significantly different" from President Bush's.

McKinney, the president of Human Rights-ND, said she is in the process of analyzing Obama's plans to see what will actually happen when he takes office.

"It's going to be a priority of ours to make human rights a priority of the new Obama administration," she said.

McKinney acknowledged that the new president will be confronted with many other problems, but said she thinks closing Guantanamo Bay

see GITMO/page 6



VANESSA GEMPIS/The Observer

Students gather on South Quad to protest the detention facility at Guantanamo Bay and to gather petition signatures.

## Disability seminar hosts art show

Students team up with Logan Center as part of course project

By JOSEPH McMAHON  
Assistant News Editor

Students in the College of Arts and Letters Disability seminar hosted "Art from the Heart," a showcase of paintings and photographs by the disabled clients of the Logan Center, Thursday evening in O'Shaughnessey Hall.

Professor Essaka Joshua said her 16 students had to design a project with the clients of the Logan Center as a course requirement.

"It's developed as a project which is part of the assessment for the college seminar on disability," she

see DISABILITY/page 8



Photo courtesy of Nathalie Coombs

Students from the Disability seminar pose for a picture in the O'Shaughnessey's Great Hall, where the art show was held.

## Seniors prepare for final home game

By IRENA ZAJICKOVA  
News Writer

Tomorrow's matchup against Syracuse marks the last home game of the 2008 football season, leading Notre Dame's senior to reflect on their time at the University.

Senior Laura Schwartz said most seniors would consider the 2005 game against USC the best they saw while sitting in the student section.

"You'd be hard pressed to find a senior who doesn't say the USC game," senior Laura Schwartz said, referring to when USC defeated the Fighting Irish after running back Reggie Bush pushed quarterback Matt Leinart

into the end zone to score a last second touchdown.

Senior Jimmy Champlin agreed about the USC game, adding he was one of the students who prematurely rushed the field.

"USC got the touchdown, but by that time I was already twenty rows down headed for the field," Champlin said.

When how he felt about the end of his final football season, Champlin said he felt sad.

"It's pretty nostalgic and a little sad," Champlin said. "But I realize that part of what makes a game in the student section special is the knowledge that you only have a few."

Senior Kadeja Gaines said she

see GAME/page 8



INSIDE COLUMN

# Christmas too soon

I love Christmas. I mean, who doesn't? However, I love Thanksgiving more and it makes me sad that it has become Christmas season halftime. Christmas songs have already taken over the radio, Christmas shows are beginning to play on the television, and we have all seen the holiday aisles in the stores. So, when did this happen? It confuses me how every year people complain about the early onslaught of Christmas, yet every year it comes sooner and sooner.

**Ashley Charnley**  
News Production Editor

I think the first, and most annoying of the early holiday strikes, is the music. There are already whole stations devoted to the cheery tunes. Christmas music, no matter how happy it makes me, gets old. Too much of anything is not good, and the three and a half weeks after Thanksgiving can even be too much. I put on Perry Como as I help my family decorate the tree, and of course "Red Baron" will randomly play on my iPod. I can even take it all day Christmas Eve, but to hear Jingle Bells before the turkey hits the table is just too much for me.

My next grievance with the early attack of Christmas décor is the holiday items that go up in the stores as soon as Halloween costumes are taken down. As a matter of fact, I was shopping for a costume and I ran into three aisles of outdoor Christmas lights. I couldn't believe it. We all complain every year that Santa Claus starts popping up sooner and sooner, but every year I hold out hope that there has to be a limit. Clearly, stores want to make as much money as possible, but how much of these things are they really selling in October? I don't know what worries me more, the fact that they think we will buy decorations so early, or that we actually are buying them and that is why they are already out.

Lastly, are Christmas commercials. They infiltrate the networks earlier and earlier each year, not to be outdone by their fellow mediums. Advertising companies solicit us to subdue our selfish buying habits, and buy presents for others instead. Making needless items necessary for our family and friends. What other time of the year do we spend a vast portion of our money to buy things that we aren't really sure people will like and that will often be returned? I love presents, but I prefer the ones that have thought put into them more than money. Then again, that probably stems from my poor college student budget. Most of my family and friends will be getting smiles and hugs from me come December.

Please don't misunderstand, however, as I said, I love Christmas. But I love it most because of its uniqueness. It only comes once a year and that makes it special. People are thinking of others, making time to spend with each other, and in general happy with Christmas cheer. I just don't want the novelty of Christmas to wear off before the day even gets here.

The views expressed in the Inside Column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer. Contact Ashley Charnley at [acharn01@saintmarys.edu](mailto:acharn01@saintmarys.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: JET-PUFFED OR GENERIC MARSHMALLOWS?



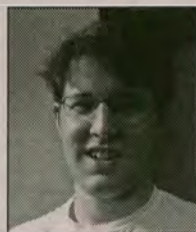
**Ali Buch**  
senior  
off-campus

"Jet-Puffed, because Notre Dame is all about tradition."



**Bethany O'Connor**  
senior  
off-campus

"Generic, because you're going to throw them away anyways."



**Jon Heintz**  
senior  
St. Edwards

"Generic — more will fit in my flask."



**Kevin Sonn**  
senior  
Alumni

"I'm not bringing any marshmallows."



**Ryan Oakley**  
senior  
off-campus

"Lucky charms, taste the rainbow..."



VENESSA GEMPIS/The Observer

**Brendan Short, author of "Dream City" and a Notre Dame alum, read excerpts of his book Thursday at Hammes Bookstore.**

## OFFBEAT

### Sky-high birth on Finnair flight at 11,000 meters

HELSINKI, Finland — Finnair says a Swedish woman gave birth to a girl 11,000 metres over Kazakhstan on a flight from Bangkok to Helsinki.

The Finnish national carrier's spokesman Christer Haglund says mother and baby are fine.

They were met at the airport by a medical team.

Two doctors and two nurses were among the 227 passengers on the

11-hour flight aboard the MD-11 aircraft.

They assisted the birth Thursday with the aid of a satellite link to a medical service.

It was the first time a baby had been born on a Finnair flight.

Haglund said the airline will give the family return tickets to Bangkok.

### Iowa zoo manages to recapture a flamingo

DES MOINES, Iowa — An Iowa zoo has recaptured a flamingo that flew over a Des Moines neighbourhood, a golf

course and the entire zoo during a seven-hour freedom flight.

Blank Park Zoo workers clipped the adult Chilean flamingo's wings a second time after it was recaptured. The zoo's flamingos usually don't fly because their wings have been clipped.

However, zoo spokesman Terry Rich says the birds can molt and regrow those feathers, enabling them to fly.

Information compiled from the Associated Press.

## IN BRIEF

Notre Dame Women's Soccer will compete against Minnesota in the NCAA Fourth Round Tournament today at 7:30 p.m. on Alumni Field.

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

The Graduate Student Union will be holding a Graduate Research Symposium from 3-5 p.m. today on the second floor of McKenna Hall. It is open to the public. Refreshments will be served.

Student Life is having an event called FlipSide: Meijer Madness today at 9:45 p.m. Students who would like to participate need to meet at Library Circle. It is a free scavenger hunt, food, contests, and shopping at the supermarket.

Arts and Entertainment is going to have a concert with the Anonymous 4: "Long Time Traveling" on Sunday at 2 p.m. in Debartolo Performing Arts Center. Tickets are \$38 for general admission and \$15 for students.

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

	TODAY	TONIGHT	GAME DAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY
LOCAL WEATHER						
	HIGH 32 LOW 15	HIGH 25 LOW 15	HIGH 37 LOW 23	HIGH 39 LOW 31	HIGH 41 LOW 34	HIGH 39 LOW 27

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



## Forum addresses food service issues

Saint Mary's dining hall general manager answers student questions

By ASHLEY CHARNLEY  
News Writer

Barry Bowles, general manager of Sodexo at Saint Mary's College, invited students to come ask questions and make comments about food services at an open forum held Thursday night in the Student Center.

"First things first, we are a contract food service company. We don't work for the College, per say ... We work for a company called Sodexo," Bowles said.

Sodexo is the second largest food service in the United States and Saint Mary's is a client of the company, he said.

One of the largest issues addressed was the lack of communication between students and the dining hall. The company is working on ways of improving this problem, Bowles said.

"One thing I want to point out, food services are probably one of the worst ones on campus on getting the word out," Bowles

said.

In order to improve the communication problem, Karen Johnson, Vice President of Student Affairs, suggested adding updates on the student home page. This would allow students to know when popular menu items will be served in the dining hall daily.

Executive chef, Ken Acsta, said it was hard to determine what variety of food to offer.

"We don't really know what everybody wants, but we get the varieties out there so that everybody can put together what they want," Acsta said.

Although the dining hall cannot accommodate everyone, Bowles said the opportunity for variety is there if students get creative with it.

"If you ask, they should be able

to get it for you," Bowles said.

The issue of communication again was addressed because students do not know all the services available to them in the dining hall. For instance, at the grill, hamburgers are served, but students can ask for grilled fish or chicken as well, Bowles said.

Bowles also addressed the boycott that was held against the dining hall in mid-October of this year. Two students anonymously slid fliers under the doors of student rooms calling for students to not eat in the dining hall.

"What hurt me more than anything is that I did not know," Bowles said.

He stressed his open-door policy for student concerns and issues and that comment cards are available to students.

"Feedback is feedback," Bowles said. "It can only make things better."

Bowles said he is hoping to hold another forum at the beginning of the spring semester that will allow him to get more input on student needs in the dining hall. With only ten students in attendance at this forum, Bowles would like to see increased interest as the year progresses.

*"Feedback is feedback. It can only make things better."*

**Barry Bowles**  
general manager  
Sodexo

Contact Ashley Charnley at  
acharn01@saintmarys.edu

## Rescue plan for auto industries collapses

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The \$25 billion rescue plan for the auto industry, desperately sought by Detroit's beleaguered Big Three, collapsed Thursday as Congress drew the line at one more bailout and Democrats said they wouldn't even consider it until the companies produced a convincing plan for rebuilding their once-mighty industry.

The demise of the rescue — at least for now — left uncertain the fate of General Motors Corp., Ford Motor Co. and Chrysler LLC, and sent Wall Street spiraling to its lowest level in years. The Dow Jones industrials dropped 445 points, the second straight plunge of more than 400, and hit the lowest point in nearly six years.

The carmakers have been clobbered by lackluster sales and choked credit, and are battling to stay afloat through year's end. Failure of one or more of the Big Three would be a severe further blow to the floundering economy — and to many Americans' view of the nation's industrial strength — and throw a million or more additional workers off the job.

Just Thursday, the government reported that laid-off workers' new claims for job-

less aid had reached a 16-year high and the number of Americans searching for work had soared past 10 million. Congress approved a measure to extend jobless benefits through the holidays, and the White House said President George W. Bush would quickly sign it.

But Democratic leaders scrapped votes on the auto rescue, postponing until next month a politically tricky decision on whether to approve yet another unpopular bailout at a time of economic peril, or risk being blamed for the implosion of an industry that employs millions and has broad reach into all aspects of the U.S. economy.

"Until they show us the plan, we cannot show them the money," Speaker Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif., said at a hastily called news conference in the Capitol.

GM and Ford quickly issued statements promising to submit the blueprint the Democrats demanded.

Pelosi and Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid, D-Nev., said Congress might return to work in early December for a vote on aid to the carmakers — but only if they show Congress they could use the funds to transform their struggling industry into a viable one.

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# Graduate students to present research

By EMMA DRISCOLL  
News Writer

Students curious to learn about the different types of research Notre Dame's wide variety of graduate students perform at the first Graduate Research Symposium today on the second floor of McKenna Hall from 3 to 5 p.m.

"The Graduate Research Symposium has two goals. One is to provide graduate students with a professional development opportunity...the second is to highlight the kind of work that graduate students do in the University," Caitlyn Shea, Graduate Student Union co-vice president and Ph.D. candidate in Civil Engineering, said.

Shea said presenting and communicating research is a "primary focus" of graduate students, but it is not uncommon for graduate students to not know what other graduate students are studying.

"Many different specific disciplines or departments will have their own research symposiums," Shea said. "I think this is the first one that encompasses all divisions of the graduate school."

The Graduate Research Symposium will seek to remedy this by creating a forum for graduate students to discuss their work with others who are interested.

"The goal is to provide an opportunity for graduate students, faculty, undergraduates or guests of the University to learn what graduate students do," Shea said.

Shea said since many graduate students are "largely unaware" of what their fellow graduate students are studying, it is likely that the rest of the Notre Dame community is also unaware.

"It's not unexpected that the rest of the University community would not know about some of the exciting and innovative projects going on around campus," she said.

Undergraduate students can also attend the symposium to learn more about possible research areas that they could pursue in graduate school, according to Shea, particularly since she said University President Fr. John Jenkins

encourages undergraduates so consider attending graduate school.

Presenters competed to be part of the symposium. A total of seventy-seven graduate students submitted abstracts of their research in hope of being presenters at the symposium. Twenty-seven students were selected, and each will display a poster to present their research at the symposium.

"It's kind of an informal environment," Shea said.

Guests will be able to walk around and see the posters describing the various research projects. This structure gives visitors the opportunity to be flexible with

their schedules and choose to learn about the research that most interests them, Shea said.

Students will present research in the divisions of Sciences, Social Sciences, Engineering and Humanities. There will also be a

division for the 2008 Notre Dame Forum topic of Sustainable Energy. One winner in each division will receive a prize of \$500.

"Each division has a panel of judges and we have judges from the administration, faculty and students," Shea said.

The Graduate Research Symposium is open to the pub-

lic and will be held in conjunction with the meeting for the Graduate School Advisory Council, Shea said.

Contact Emma Driscoll at [edriscoll@nd.edu](mailto:edriscoll@nd.edu)

*"Many different specific disciplines or departments will have their own research symposiums."*

Caitlyn Shea  
Graduate Student Union  
co-vice president

*"The goal is to provide an opportunity for graduate students, faculty, undergraduates or guests of the University to learn what graduate students do."*

Caitlyn Shea  
Graduate Student Union  
co-vice president

# Crafts sale helps developing nations

Local fair trade store selling goods from artisans all around the world

By SARAH MAYER  
News Writer

If you're looking to get ahead on your Christmas shopping and support a good cause in the process, stop by O'Shaughnessy Hall, where fairly traded crafts made by artisans in developing nations are being sold from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. today.

Ten Thousand Villages, a local fair trade store, works with 66,000 artisans from 36 different countries, said assistant manager Cheryl Schairer, creating a "long-term relationship" with artisans so that they can have a sustainable income to provide for their families.

Schairer said Ten Thousand Villages is unique in that they pay artisans fair wages before their products are sold, and then "it's up to us to sell it."

"Unlike most other companies that send money back if [the products] sell," she said.

Ten Thousand Villages is selling its products in honor of International Student Week, including a tea light made by industrial design professor Ann-Marie Conrado.

Conrado designed her product — a small copper tea light shaped like a lotus flower — in 2003 in Nepal. It is designed to float in water, such as in a pool. Because it is made of copper, "you'll have this wonderful greenish tint" that comes to resemble the flower the longer it stays in the water, Conrado said.

Conrado's product alone has

*"There will be products for sale there that were actually designed by ND students."*

Ann-Marie Conrado  
Industrial design  
professor



DAN JACOBS/The Observer

Ten Thousand Villages, a local fair trade store, is selling traded crafts in O'Shaughnessy Hall today.

helped to revive the dying copper industry in Nepal and since the creation of her product, the employment in the copper industry in Tansen-Palpa, Nepal has increased dramatically, she said.

"It has quadrupled in size just based on the orders of that tealight," Conrado said.

Conrado receives no profit, and said she does this because she wants to "use design to help support other people."

In addition to Conrado's tea light, the Ten Thousand Village

stand in O'Shaughnessy Hall is selling an array of hand-made crafts, including chocolate and coffee made from fairly traded beans, teapots, soap, scarves, wooden sculptures, plates made of recycled magazines, and jewelry.

Jewelry has been one of the best sellers at Notre Dame, assistant manager Cheryl Schairer said.

Conrado said that another opportunity to buy fair trade products is coming up on Dec. 5 in Badin Hall.

"We're going to be doing A Conscious Christmas. There will be products for sale there that were actually designed by ND students," she said.

Contact Sarah Mayer at [smayer01@saintmarys.edu](mailto:smayer01@saintmarys.edu)

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## INTERNATIONAL NEWS

### Copernicus' remains found in Poland

WARSAW — Researchers said Thursday they have identified the remains of Nicolaus Copernicus by comparing DNA from a skeleton and hair retrieved from one of the 16th-century astronomer's books.

The findings could put an end to centuries of speculation about the exact resting spot of Copernicus, a priest and astronomer whose theories identified the Sun, not the Earth, as the center of the universe.

Polish archaeologist Jerzy Gassowski told a news conference that forensic facial reconstruction of the skull, missing the lower jaw, his team found in 2005 buried in a Roman Catholic Cathedral in Frombork, Poland, bears striking resemblance to existing portraits of Copernicus.

The reconstruction shows a broken nose and other features that resemble a self-portrait of Copernicus, and the skull bears a cut mark above the left eye that corresponds with a scar shown in the painting.

### U.N. agrees to send troops to Congo

GOMA — The U.N. Security Council unanimously agreed Thursday to send 3,100 more peacekeeping troops to Congo, while rebels said they remained committed to a pullback from the front lines despite an army attack.

British Ambassador John Sawers said the 15-nation council wants to help contributing nations "as best we can in getting troops on the ground rapidly" once they decide to help out.

"Exactly how many weeks it will be, it's not clear. But this is a matter of urgency," Sawers said.

Countries have not worked out yet who will contribute the additional troops and police.

## NATIONAL NEWS

### Woman accused of killing FBI agent

PITTSBURGH — A judge denied bail on Thursday for a woman accused of killing an FBI agent during a drug raid that led to her husband's arrest on cocaine-dealing charges.

Christina Korbe, 40, was arraigned early Thursday on a homicide charge in the shooting death of Special Agent Sam Hicks on Wednesday.

Korbe told investigators she thought her home was being burglarized and that she was shooting at an intruder.

Hicks and other law enforcement officers went to Korbe's home to serve a warrant on her husband, Robert, as part of a drug sweep.

Christina Korbe called 911 during the raid and said her house was being robbed and that she had fired at a burglar. She was arrested while still on the phone with an emergency dispatcher.

### Syrian arms dealer convicted

NEW YORK — A wealthy arms dealer long suspected of aiding militants in some of the world's bloodiest conflicts was convicted Thursday of conspiring to sell weapons to informants who posed as arms suppliers for terrorists willing to kill Americans.

Syrian-born Monzer al-Kassar, 62, and a co-defendant, Luis Felipe Moreno Godoy, were convicted of conspiring over a four-month period last year to try to sell millions of dollars worth of heavy weaponry to Colombian militants.

## LOCAL NEWS

### Bookkeeper sentenced to house arrest

CROWN POINT, Ind. — A former bookkeeper has been sentenced to house arrest for stealing more than \$200,000 from the Merrillville clerk-treasurer's office.

Sixty-eight-year-old Rosemary Barath admitted Thursday in court that her gambling addiction had led to the thefts. Barath pleaded guilty to felony charges of theft and official misconduct as part of a deal with Lake County prosecutors.

Lake Criminal Court Judge Thomas Stefaniak Jr. sentenced Barath to nine months of house arrest and 39 months probation and ordered her to pay \$279,749.46 restitution.

## HAITI

# Storms ravage Haitian food supplies

*Children hardest hit as food becomes scarce, impoverished regions hard to reach*

Associated Press

PORT-AU-PRINCE — The 5-year-old teetered on broomstick legs — he weighed less than 20 pounds, even after days of drinking enriched milk. Nearby, a 4-year-old girl hung from a strap attached to a scale, her wide eyes lifeless, her emaciated arms dangling weakly.

In pockets of Haiti accessible only by donkey or foot, children are dying of malnutrition — their already meager food supply cut by a series of devastating storms that destroyed crops, wiped out livestock and sent food prices spiraling.

At least 26 severely malnourished children have died in the past four weeks in the remote region of Baie d'Orange in Haiti's south-east, aid workers said Thursday, and there are fears the toll will rise much higher if help does not come quickly to the impoverished Caribbean nation.

Another 65 severely malnourished children are being treated in makeshift tent clinics in the mountainous area, or at hospitals where they were evacuated in Port-au-Prince and elsewhere, said Max Cosci, who heads the Belgian contingent of Doctors Without Borders in Haiti.

One evacuee, a 7-year-old girl, died while being treated, Cosci said, adding: "The situation is extremely, extremely fragile and dangerous."

At a makeshift malnutrition ward at a Doctors Without Borders hospital in the capital, 10 emaciated children were under emergency care Thursday, their stomachs swollen and hair faded by pigmentation loss caused by malnutrition. Several had the puffy faces typical of kwashiorkor, a protein-deficiency disorder.

Five-year-old Mackenson Duclair, his ribs protruding and his legs little more than skin stretched over bones,



Mackenson Duclair, 5, sits with an unidentified woman in the Doctors Without Borders hospital in Port-au-Prince on Wednesday. Duclair is one of many malnourished children.

weighed in at 19.8 pounds, even after days of drinking milk enriched with potassium and salt. Doctors said he needed to gain another five pounds before he could go home.

Dangling from a scale mounted from the ceiling, 4-year-old Venecia Lonis looked as limp as a rag doll as doctors weighed her, her huge brown eyes expressionless, her hair tied with bright yellow bows.

Mackenson's grandmother, who has raised him since his mother died, said she barely has a can of corn grits to feed herself, the boy and her 8-year-old granddaughter each day.

"These things did not happen when I was growing up," 72-year-old Ticouloute

Fortune said.

Rural families already struggling with soaring food prices in Haiti, the Western Hemisphere's poorest country, lost their safety nets when fields were destroyed and livestock wiped out by the storms, which killed nearly 800 people and caused \$1 billion worth of damage in August and September.

U.N. World Food Program country director Myrta Kaulard said she fears more deaths from malnutrition in other isolated parts of Haiti, and search and medical teams were fanning out in the northwest and along the southwestern peninsula to check.

The World Food Program has sent more than 30 tons

of food aid — enough to feed 5,800 people for two weeks — into the remote southeastern region since September, and other groups funded by the U.S. Agency for International Development have sent food as well, she said.

But the steep, narrow paths and poor visibility make it difficult to deliver the food to the mountain communities where hunger is worsening. In one case, a WFP truck flipped over while struggling up a hill and slid into a ravine, killing an aid worker.

"There is always a bottleneck. The same situation that the people are facing is the same situation we're also facing," Kaulard told The Associated Press Thursday.

# Police close case on chairman's death

Associated Press

LITTLE ROCK, Ark. — City and state police have closed their investigations into last summer's shooting of Arkansas' Democratic Party chairman without offering an explanation of why the attack occurred.

Bill Gwatney died Aug. 13 after being shot three times by a man who lost his job at a Target store that morning. The shooter, Timothy Dale Johnson, was chased into Grant County, where he was shot and killed after threatening officers.

A police report said an autopsy found Effexor, an antidepressant, in Johnson's blood. Investigators said the drug may have played a part in

his "irrational and violent behavior."

Autopsy results said Gwatney died from a shot to the head. Johnson was shot six times.

"I wish there was a conclusion, but there wasn't," said Lt. Terry Hastings, a police spokesman.

Authorities discovered a note with a telephone number and the word "Gwatney" on it in Johnson's home, but the report found that it was a telephone number for Gwatney Towing Company in Jacksonville, which is no longer in business.

The FBI also reviewed the history on Johnson's computer, and found that he visited Wikipedia, Yahoo and news sites the day before the shooting. Johnson also visited the Web site

of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms that day, the report said.

The 986-page report says police searched through electronic and paper files at Gwatney's businesses for Johnson's name, but that it never turned up. Gwatney owned three General Motors car dealerships and was a state senator for 10 years before becoming the state's Democratic chairman last year.

A separate report released Thursday by Arkansas State Police found that the officers who fatally shot Johnson acted properly. Prosecutor Eddy Easley said no criminal charges would be filed in connection with Johnson's death.



## Kellogg

continued from page 1

tion with citizen's inability to trust a democratic government that he felt was trustworthy.

"The fact is, you don't build credible institutions overnight," Maduro said. "You need to change certain things for a long time and create credible institutions."

Nicaraguan ambassador to the United States Arturo Cruz said credibility is a major problem in Central American democracies. He attributes much of this to the government's inability to balance meeting people's immediate needs and planning for the future.

"Sometimes, I wonder how you govern a type of society that is always overwhelmed by the need of the people," Cruz said. "There's a fundamental problem with promising the future and not dealing with the present," especially in a society in which 79 percent of the population lives on less than two dollars a day, Cruz said.

In such impoverished societies, governments have difficulties fulfilling promises for the future when people are concerned about being able to find dinner.

"How do you manage expectations?" Cruz asked. "If you be patient, and let the market function, then you have a future. But the future isn't coming yet ... If we pretend to govern as we wish it to be, we have chaos and breakdown."

Cruz said that the best way to deal with this problem is by what he called "responsible or measured populism."

"That was my hope, a hope that withers away every day," Cruz said.

Otton Solis, a former presidential candidate of the Citizens Action Party in Costa Rica, attributes much of his country's problems to the negative impacts of free trade agreements.

These agreements, according to Cruz, neglected "inward oriented consensus building," while instead pursuing "outward secret pacts, like in the case of Structural Adjustment and CAFTA."

Solis also denounced corrupt governmental policies. "Decentralization of power and the elimination of populist practices" are areas in which better policies are necessary, according to Solis.

"People are used," he said. "Perhaps the worst country in this is my own country, Costa

Rica."

Because the governments are weak and take advantage of the people, according to Solis, the entire system of democracy is called into question.

"Will the governance weaknesses continue to be blamed on the institutions of democracy?" he asked.

He cited corrupt courts and legislatures, along with inefficient government programs overall, as a bulk of the problem.

"They have weakened democracy," Solis said. "Costa Rica is the worst case. More people think it would be better to have a dictatorship because some people have talked against the very institutions of democracy."

In spite of all the corruption, the panelists agree that there is hope for Central American democracies.

Solis attributes this hope a predicted return of "more pragmatic policies" under the

incoming administration of U.S. President-Elect Barack Obama.

Solis is also hopeful because of the American economy, growing practices of market intervention,

and "the fear of new populist leaders elected" in Central America.

Central American democracy has also not been without success, according to Cruz.

"We have finally had — my God, especially in my country — some level of peace," Cruz said.

"We're also having great statistics when it comes to crime," he said.

A third achievement of the Nicaraguan democracy is the electorate system, but that electorate system could begin to become problematic, according to Cruz.

"Since 1990, Nicaragua has realized that we can change government without killing or dying," he said.

Similar participation in the democratic system is essential in Honduras, according to Maduro.

"What can keep us from extremes? The only way to do it is to delegate more," Maduro said.

Under the current Honduran government, Maduro said citizens are scared to participate in democracy.

"Now we're being persecuted if we have an opinion against the government," he said. "How do we get back so people are willing to participate?"

Contact John Tierney at [jtierne1@nd.edu](mailto:jtierne1@nd.edu)

## Gitmo

continued from page 1

should be a top priority. Last week, advisors to Obama told the Associated Press that closing the prison is, in fact, a top priority of the incoming president.

The detention of approximately 250 people at Guantanamo Bay has negatively affected the "national image" of the United States, McKinney said, an image Obama can begin to repair if he shuts down the detention center.

"We need to make sure that we've got a very secure image in a global perception so that we are not discredited, because if we start criticizing a country for its human rights practices and abuses, then it's thrown back at us," she said.

Professor Mary Ellen O'Connell, a Notre Dame professor of international law and a specialist on the law of war, said keeping Guantanamo Bay open would weaken President-elect Obama's position on the world stage, especially at a time when the United States is negotiating with other countries about how to solve the global financial crisis.

"If he immediately takes away big, glaring examples of violations of international law, namely Guantanamo, then all of a sudden, the powers of the world, with whom we are negotiating, say 'this is a man we can trust,'" she said. "That's why I think he can't wait on Guantanamo Bay."

Obama stated during his campaign that he wants to close the detention center, and although his advisors are now increasing discussion about shutting down the facility, the details of the fates of the approximately 250 detainees at Guantanamo Bay are still unclear, the Associated Press

report said last week.

The new Obama administration must respect international law when planning for the closure of Guantanamo Bay, O'Connell said, specifically citing the Geneva Convention, which cover most of the detainees.

The two prisoners who were detained as teenagers should be repatriated to their home countries immediately, she said, and the United States should also begin negotiations to return persons not accused of any crimes to their home countries.

For those prisoners for whom evidence suggests they had been involved in planning terrorist attacks, O'Connell said they may lawfully be tried before regular federal courts with criminal jurisdiction in the United States. Many other prisoners should be returned to Afghanistan to be detained until the end of hostilities there or face trial, if there is evidence they have committed crimes, she said.

O'Connell stressed that the United States should now and should always have followed the law in place at the time and not create new courts for persons already in detention. The idea of new security courts is one that has been floated by Obama advisors in Associated Press reports.

The creation of new courts is

something Obama needs to stay away from, O'Connell said, because it would violate the Geneva Conventions.

"You can't go around creating new courts for the purposes of the people you don't like," she said.

While the exact details of a Guantanamo Bay shutdown remain unclear, O'Connell said she is "confident" that Obama will close the detention center as president.

McKinney agreed that her ideal — that Guantanamo Bay closes in Obama's first term — is realistic.

"I would like to think that in four years you can process, in our judicial system, 270 prisoners and figure out a just system for them," she said.

Human Rights-ND is considering sending people to Washington, D.C. in January to join Witness Against Torture, a campaign to shut down Guantanamo, in kicking off its planned 100-day presence in front of the White House.

"If we don't send people to D.C.," McKinney said, "then we are going to be doing a lot of campaigns here to make sure human rights, specifically Guantanamo Bay, but all human rights, are made a priority and words turned into action."

Contact Kaitlynn Riely at [kriely@nd.edu](mailto:kriely@nd.edu)

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**MARKET RECAP**

Stocks			
<b>Dow Jones</b>	<b>7,552.29</b>	-444.99	
Up:	Same:	Down:	Composite Volume:
334	39	3,413	1,683,014,892
<b>AMEX</b>	<b>1,157.44</b>	-87.98	
<b>NASDAQ</b>	<b>1,316.12</b>	-70.30	
<b>NYSE</b>	<b>4,651.21</b>	-360.78	
<b>S&amp;P 500</b>	<b>752.44</b>	-54.14	
<b>NIKKEI (Tokyo)</b>	<b>7,484.63</b>	-218.41	
<b>FTSE 100 (London)</b>	<b>3,874.99</b>	-130.69	
Companys			
COMPANY	%CHANGE	\$GAIN	PRICE
S&P DEP RECEIPTS (SPY)	-7.42	-6.05	75.45
CITIGROUP INC (C)	-26.41	-1.69	4.71
FINANCIAL SEL (XLF)	-10.74	-1.13	9.39
POWESHARES (QQQQ)	-4.84	-1.30	25.56
Treasuries			
10-YEAR NOTE	-7.28	-0.247	3.144
13-WEEK BILL	-92.31	-0.060	0.000
30-YEAR BOND	-6.87	-0.273	3.699
5-YEAR NOTE	-7.36	-0.154	1.937
Commodities			
LIGHT CRUDE (\$/bbl.)		-4.45	49.65
GOLD (\$/Troy oz.)		+12.70	748.70
PORK BELLIES (cents/lb.)		+3.00	87.60
Exchange Rates			
YEN			94.0650
EURO			0.8030
CANADIAN DOLLAR			1.2983
BRITISH POUND			0.6790

**Congress rushes to keep benefits alive**

*Unemployment funds running out on many; market drops to five-year low*

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Jarred by new jobless alarms, Congress raced to approve legislation Thursday to keep unemployment checks flowing through the December holidays and into the new year for a million or more laid-off Americans whose benefits are running out.

The economic picture was only getting worse, if Wall Street was any indication. The Dow Jones industrials dropped more than 400 points for a second straight day, reaching the lowest level in more than five years, and the Standard & Poor's 500 index fell below lows established six years ago.

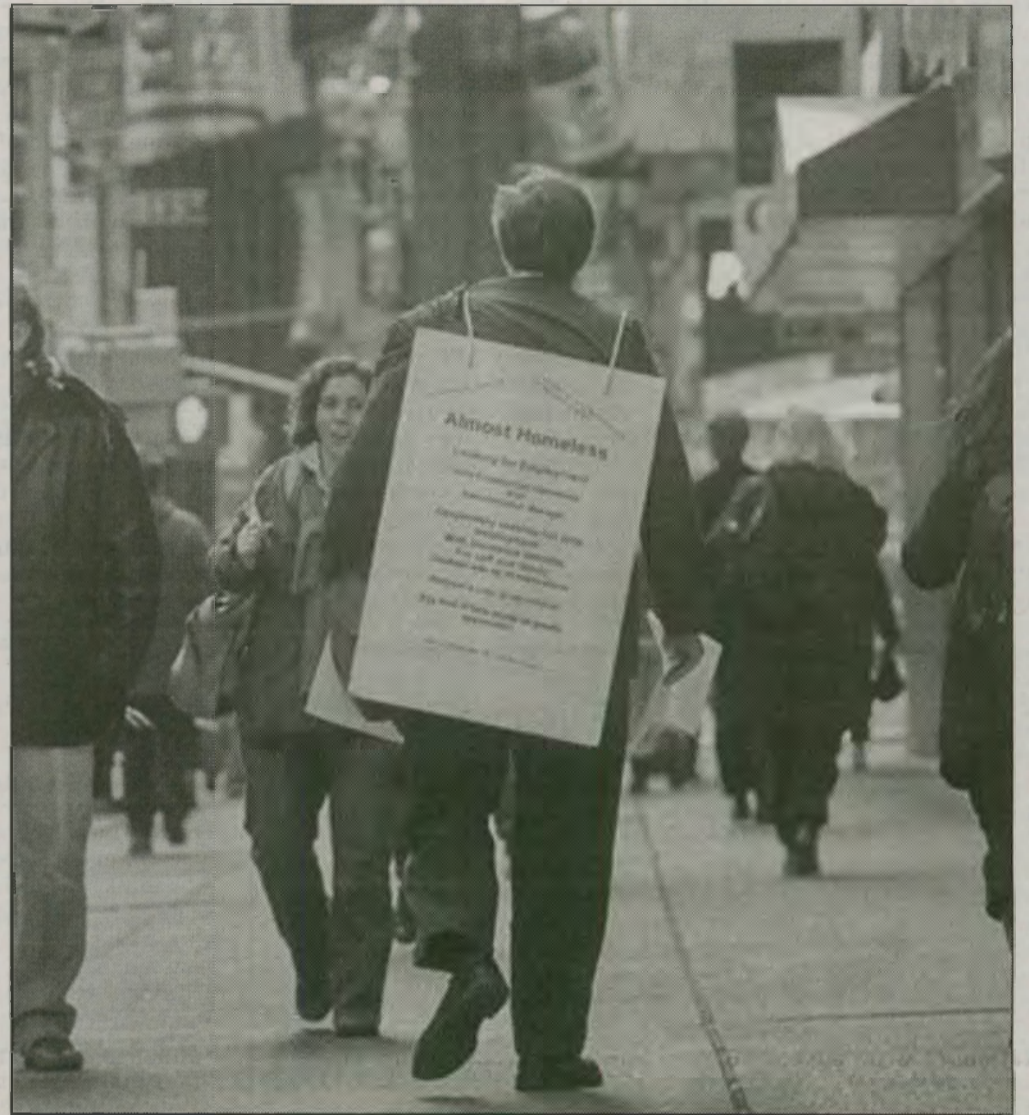
The Senate's vote followed Thursday's government report that laid-off workers' new claims for jobless aid had reached a 16-year high and the number of Americans searching for work had surged past 10 million.

The White House, which had opposed broader legislation containing the benefits extension, urged passage of the new version and said President George W. Bush would quickly sign it.

As Congress prepared to leave town — perhaps for the year — there was no such resolution on helping the auto industry, a disaster in the making that could lead to hundreds of thousands if not millions of additional lost jobs. Democratic leaders said they could return to Washington in mid-December to vote on rescue loans if the carmakers first present a plan on transforming and modernizing their operations.

Discouraged by the stalemate over auto aid, investors sent the Dow Jones industrials down to another big loss, 445 points.

As for the jobless benefits, about 1.2 million peo-



Paul Nawrocki, of Beacon, N.Y., walks through Times Square in New York City on Tuesday seeking employment. Claims for unemployment hit a 16-year high last week.

ple would exhaust their unemployment insurance by the end of the year without the extension, sponsors said. The measure is estimated to cost about \$5.7 billion, although economists put the positive impact at \$1.64 for every dollar spent on jobless benefits because the money helps sustain other jobs and restores consumer confidence.

"Putting money in the hands of unemployed families means they will be able to pay their rent and utility bills, buy groceries and clothe their children," Sen. Dick

Durbin, D-Ill., said after the voice vote in the Senate. "It is money that will create economic growth in America."

The House had approved the bill in October.

More than 1.2 million jobs have been lost so far this year, and the civilian jobless rate is at a 14-year high of 6.5 percent.

Thursday's Labor Department report said claims for unemployment benefits jumped last week to 542,000 the highest level since July 1992 and fresh evidence of a rapidly weakening job market that is expected to get

even worse next year.

The legislation as approved would provide seven additional weeks of payments to people who have exhausted their benefits or will exhaust them soon. Those in states where the unemployment rate is above 6 percent would be entitled to an additional 13 weeks above the 26 weeks of regular benefits. Benefit checks average about \$300 a week nationwide.

The benefits provided would be in addition to 13 weeks of federally funded extended benefits approved by Congress last June.

**IN BRIEF**

**Black Friday sales may disappoint**

NEW YORK — After pushing steep discounts throughout November that are usually reserved for the day after Thanksgiving, retailers from Kohl's to Toys "R" Us are offering even bigger cuts and promotions for Black Friday in a frantic bid to pull in shoppers.

But the bargain hunters showing up for the early morning specials on toys and TVs are not expected to buy with the same gusto as a year ago, as they fret about tightening credit, massive layoffs and shrinking retirement funds.

Not to mention that consumers are already jaded by all those "60 percent off" signs plastered on storefronts. Analysts say shoppers may stick to smaller gifts like cosmetics rather than \$1,000 flat-panel TVs in a holiday season expected to be the weakest in decades.

Another concern? There aren't any must-have items so far, even in toys — though some items have been popular, such as Spin Master Ltd.'s Bakugan.

**Congress aims for "greener" legislation**

WASHINGTON — Democrats steered the House toward more aggressively tackling global warming and other environmental problems Thursday, toppling veteran Michigan Rep. John Dingell, a staunch supporter of Detroit automakers, from an important energy panel in favor of California liberal Rep. Henry Waxman.

The switch could help President-elect Barack Obama on Capitol Hill with one of his favored issues: trying to curb global warming by limiting greenhouse gas emissions. But Waxman's combative stance on climate change and other issues also could alienate Republicans and moderate Democrats, making it harder to get the bipartisan support Obama will need.

Waxman is an avid environmentalist and booster of health care programs — and a home-state ally of House Speaker Nancy Pelosi. He defeated Dingell on a 137-122 vote in the Democratic Party caucus, capping a bruising intraparty fight.

The Energy and Commerce panel is one of the most important House committees, with sweeping jurisdiction over energy, the environment, consumer protection, telecommunications and health care programs such as Medicaid and the popular State Children's Health Insurance Program.

**Stocks tumble for second straight day**

Associated Press

NEW YORK — Stocks plunged for a second straight day Thursday, falling to levels not seen in at least five years as financial and energy stocks tumbled while demand for the safety of government debt spiked.

Stocks saw the most intense selling late in the session after hopes faded that lawmakers would quickly assemble an aid package for U.S. automakers and as the Standard & Poor's 500 index broke through lows established in 2002. That breach of a key technical threshold sent a shudder through the market and touched off further selling.

The Standard & Poor's 500 index fell 6.7 percent to its lowest close since April 1997. The Dow Jones

industrial average, meanwhile, fell 445 points, or 5.6 percent, to its lowest close since March 2003. The decline brings the Dow's two-day drop to 873 points, or 10.6 percent, its worst two-day percentage loss since October 1987.

Financial stocks plunged on worries that the government's financial rescue won't be sufficient to cover banks' losses. Meanwhile, a sharp drop in oil prices weighed heavily on energy companies.

Thursday's pullback came amid heavy volume, a welcome sign for some investors who are looking for the market to experience a cathartic sell-off that could lay the groundwork for a recovery. Heavier volume can signal investors are scared enough to sell rather than simply sit on the sidelines, which

can result in relatively light volume.

Observers said the selling highlighted the entrenched pessimism about the prospects for the economy.

"Unrelenting gloom has taken over the markets," said Dana Johnson, chief economist at Comerica Inc. "The economic news, the concerns about some major financial institutions, the concerns about the auto sector, earnings reports, everything is coming out in a way that is just provoking a massive selling in the stock market."

"Back in October we were looking at a potential catastrophic meltdown of the credit markets, and that didn't happen," he said. "But that doesn't mean tremendous damage hasn't been done to the economy."



## Green

continued from page 1

mining the aluminum and producing it — than it does to create a recycled aluminum can.

"Aluminum cans are a big percentage of the materials that are used at tailgates," Novick said. "By getting all that into recycling, we're having a big impact."

Novick said projects like Sunday evening's energy audits and light bulb exchange also help to reduce emissions and improve efficiency.

"Thus far we've exchanged 4,400 light bulbs in residence halls," she said. "We did an audit of dorm rooms, and we collected a lot of information about thermostats that don't work, rooms that overheat, windows that don't close. The maintenance staff on campus is now going to follow up on those reports."

Building renovation projects will also improve efficiency, she said.

The concept of a completely green football game was first suggested by NBC, Novick said. NBC has a contract to broadcast all Notre Dame home games.

"They contacted us because they have an annual Green Week where they do all kinds of environmental programming as part of their national broadcasts ... so they wanted to highlight some of the sustainability programs at Notre Dame and also Syracuse," Novick said.

NBC also decided to host a contest on the Web site Carbon Rally.

"The idea is to challenge the two schools to see how many they can get to commit to more eco-friendly lifestyles," Novick said.

The contest runs until the end of November, and the winning school receives \$10,000 to be used for sustainable initiatives.

Novick said the football game broadcast would feature various initiatives on Notre Dame's campus, including gameday recycling.

In addition, NBC sponsored an ad competition between Notre Dame and Syracuse. Students from both schools submitted 30-second films about sustainability issues, and the winning ad will be featured on the NBC Web site.

Contact Aaron Steiner at [asteiner@nd.edu](mailto:asteiner@nd.edu)

## Disability

continued from page 1

said. "It's a chance for the students to create, in partnership with the Logan Center, an event and a display of art."

Joshua said the project allowed her students to see the importance art plays in the lives of people with disabilities.

"It's a student project investigating how art impacts the lives of people with disabilities," she said. "What I wanted the students to do was to assume the idea of inclusive art in the context of the Logan Center. The idea was to put people with disabilities behind the cameras as well as in front of the cameras."

Logan Center community-based learning coordinator Nichole Maguire originally suggested the idea for the art show.

"I geared them towards doing an art show because it's really cool to see the artwork for our clients and how they express themselves," Maguire said. "It's visually stimulating for the clients and it's also just fun. I

like the idea of giving them a blank slate ... that way they can really be creative and express themselves."

Sophomore Jason Deska, who is a student in the seminar, said the project allowed the students to closely interact with the clients and was mutually rewarding.

"Once we started talking to the clients and saw how excited they were for it we knew it was definitely a good idea," he said.

Deska said he was often surprised by how many of the photographs were of high quality, and he said it was hard to decide which images were the best.

"There was one role where there was only one picture that was even usable, but there were some where it was hard to single out one as the best," he said.

Sophomore Casey Larkin said she was surprised by the creativity of some of the clients she worked with, who took pictures around the Logan Center with disposable cameras.

"We just kind of wandered around Logan Center and told them to take pictures of any-

body and anything they wanted," Larkin said. "It was a lot of fun. I did not expect the art to come out as well as it did."

Larkin said some of the clients had amazing artistic vision and were able to find amazing pictures.

"They had better eyes than I did. There were some where I was thinking, 'Why would you take a picture of that?' And they you see it and you think, 'Oh my goodness,'" she said.

Joshua said it was important for her students to become integrated into the work of the Logan Center clients, and the project helped teach them many valuable lessons about working with people with disabilities.

"The clients at the Logan Center did their own compositions and they've been going through classes learning how to hold cameras, and I think students were excited to be involved in that because it's a service placement and they're learning about the mechanics of charitable organizations and project management," she said.

Contact Joseph McMahan at [jmcmah6@nd.edu](mailto:jmcmah6@nd.edu)

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Notre Dame Women - Connect

## Game

continued from page 1

believes the Fighting Irish will be able to win tomorrow.

"I think we will win," Gaines said. "Hopefully winning will give us a better chance of going to a bowl game."

Gaines, who works for Notre Dame's recruiting department, has had some unique memories over the years thanks to her job.

"My favorite was seeing Notre Dame students doing push-ups with recruits five times their size," Gaines said.

For Schwartz, a highlight of the

game will be seeing all of the senior football players getting a chance to play.

"I'm really excited that it's senior day," Schwartz said. "It'll be fun to see my classmates get a chance to contribute to the game."

Champlin is excited for the marshmallow fights that take place in the senior section during the final home game.

"I just want to let the ushers know that if they do see me throwing marshmallows I'm just returning them to their rightful owners," Champlin joked. "Please don't throw me out. I'd probably start crying and make a scene."

Gaines will miss the end of foot-

ball games in the student section. "Notre Dame football has become such a part of our lives here and it's going to be really weird not having it in our lives," Gaines said.

Syracuse, who is 2-8 this season, is coming into the game off a 39-14 loss to Connecticut. In addition, Syracuse recently fired head coach Greg Robinson. However, he will finish out the season before stepping down.

The game kicks off tomorrow at 2:30 p.m. A pep rally will be held tonight at 6:00 p.m. in the Joyce Center.

Contact Irena Zajickova at [izajicko@nd.edu](mailto:izajicko@nd.edu)

# SYRACUSE PEP RALLY

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"Green Week" and efforts to Green ND

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# ONWARD TO VICTORY!



# THE OBSERVER VIEWPOINT

Friday, November 21, 2008

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## THE OBSERVER

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Viewpoint space is available to all readers. The free expression of all opinions through letters is encouraged. Letters to the Editor must be signed and must include contact information.

Questions regarding Observer policies should be directed to Editor in Chief Chris Hine.

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## 'Last Lecture' a success, could use more space

Notre Dame students are often called apathetic when it comes to their awareness of the goings-on on their campus and in the world. Talk of "the bubble" aside, students on this campus are busy people with busy lives, and that preoccupation can translate to a lack of involvement on the part of those students when it comes to campus organizations or events.

Without dwelling too much on the stereotype, it's safe to say that it's an ongoing task for those planning these campus events to get students involved.

Which is why Bob Reish, Grant Schmidt, the Academic Affairs Committee and Student Government deserve praise for the very successful beginning to their "Last Lecture" series, a featured lecture by Anthropology professor James McKenna.

The "Last Lecture" concept — asking professors and faculty to give a hypothetical final lecture on what matters most to them — is not new. It garnered nationwide attention in 2007 when Randy Pausch, a professor of computer science and design at Carnegie Mellon, gave a similar lecture titled "Really Achieving Your Childhood Dreams." Pausch had been diagnosed with pancreatic cancer a year prior, and his message and lecture have since been published and inspired a nationwide audience.

This year, the Reish-Schmidt administration decided to bring the Last Lecture series to Notre Dame. Through

polling and surveys, one name repeatedly came up: Professor McKenna, the University's Edmund P. Joyce C.S.C. chair in Anthropology and an expert in mother-child co-sleeping and primate behavior.

This feeling was reflected in the high attendance at McKenna's "Last Lecture" on Nov. 12. Students crammed into the Coleman-Morse lounge, most standing and crouching to see and hear McKenna's lecture. Some students were unable to stay and listen, due to a lack of space.

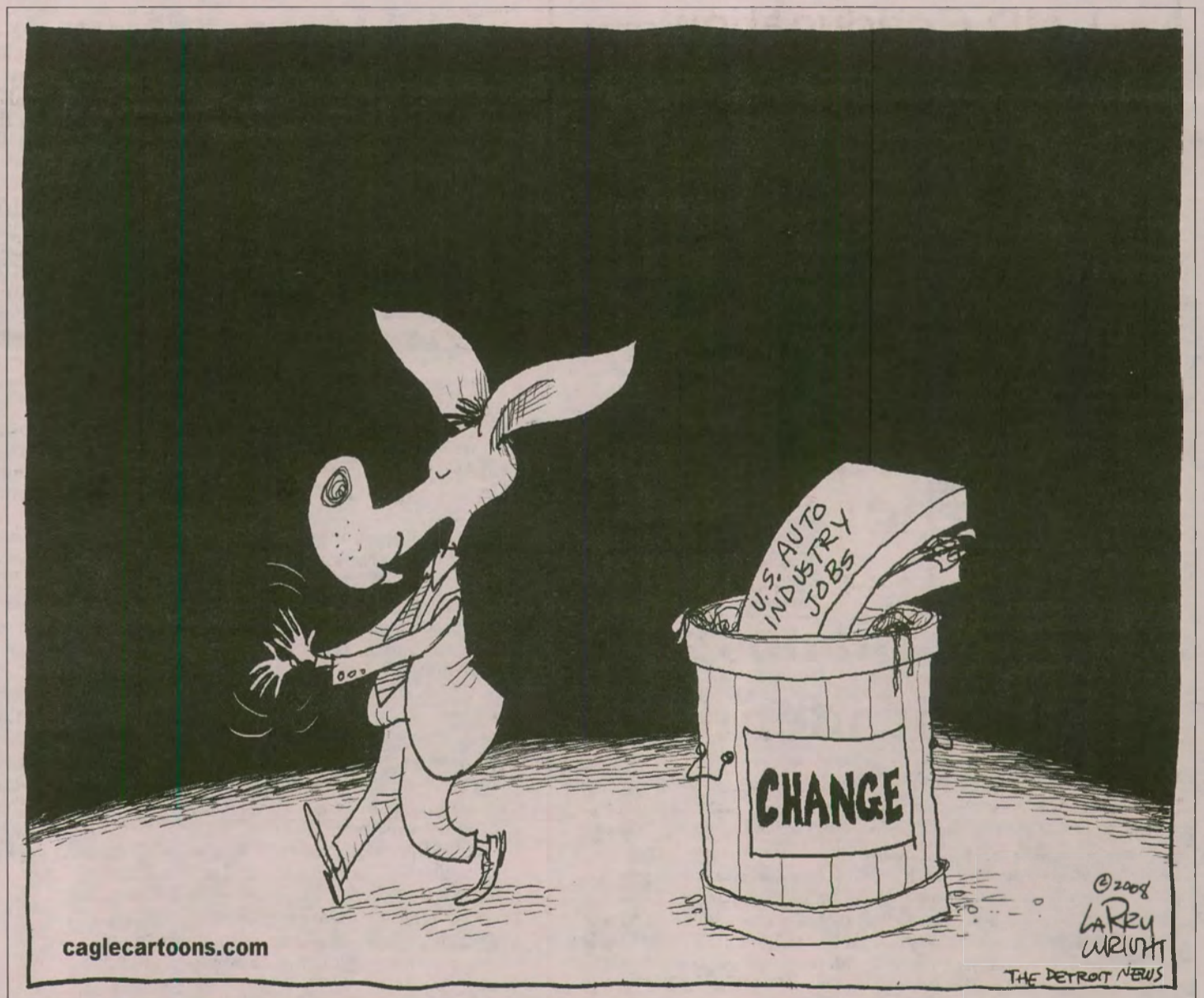
The choice in venue would have encouraged a more intimate setting for the lecture, an idea which has merit. However, with the high level of attendance, it was impractical and cramped.

Student Government should be encouraged for the stellar attendance levels at the first event in the "Last Lecture" series. It's clear proof that no matter how apathetic students may appear to be, their attention can be successfully grabbed by compelling events and speakers. Planning the lecture series took initiative and creativity, and that spirit should continue in other Student Government efforts as the academic year continues.

We also want to encourage the student body to continue to support the efforts of Student Government by attending these types of events when they're offered each semester. The best way to break the apathetic stereotype is to pop the bubble yourselves.

### THE OBSERVER Editorial

### EDITORIAL CARTOON



### OBSERVER POLL

What are your plans  
for Thanksgiving?

Stay on campus  
Stay home and have relatives over  
Visit family

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

### QUOTE OF THE DAY

"Glory is fleeting, but  
obscurity is forever."

Napoleon Bonaparte  
short French dude

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



## Giving thanks for the cathedral steps

On any evening in Washington, D.C., should you walk a few blocks north of the White House past the Cathedral of St. Matthew, you may notice a lump inconspicuously tucked away to the right of the main doors on the top of the cathedral steps. At times, especially after sundown, it is difficult to see since the lump blends into the shadows of the evening. During the summer, the lump takes on the outline of a cardboard square — or if it is raining, a large black open umbrella. Other times, including now with subzero-degree weather, the lump is completely wrapped in a black sleeping bag.



Gary Caruso

Capitol  
 Comments

Having served as a lector at St. Matthew's Cathedral for nearly two decades, I cannot recall a time when the lump was not at the top of our cathedral steps. While last Sunday our priest reminded us that cathedrals were made so that the homeless can meet the congregation, I did not obviously think of the woman who forms that daily lump. Yet, for some

unknown reason this year, I regularly think of her, and especially now as we approach Thanksgiving week. Does she give thanks for anything other than the reliable step upon which she seeks her nightly solace?

To see the woman in person, the average visitor at the cathedral would not know that she was homeless. She is tall and carries herself in a stoic manner. Her clothes are clean. Her makeup immaculately applied with bright red lips. She always wears a black dress, and her black hair is pulled back but has a large white streak which reminds me of the bride of Frankenstein. Most noticeably, though, her constant pacing on the top step or inside the cathedral reveals some personal uneasiness.

While I do not know her name, she assists the staff whenever the cathedral is open. She will replace the booklets in the pew holders and evenly stack the books at the main entrance. When I directly pass her, she nods slowly without saying a word. I oftentimes watch her walk past my home which is located four blocks from the cathedral. I imagine that she uses some facility nearby to groom herself, but I am at a loss to discover where that may be.

Recently, I thought of her while I ate dinner at the Democratic Club located next door to the Democratic National Committee

Headquarters building. It was karaoke evening when several talented congressional staff and a few congressional wives belted out tunes to the cheers and applause of the crowd. Television commentator Donna Brazill and campaign wizard Joe Trippi were among several congressional representatives and a European ambassador who were enjoying the amateur entertainment. Surely, none of them were ever curled up in a lump at the top of cathedral stairs.

Yet while sitting amidst these seemingly carefree, materially wealthy and nationally famous personalities, it struck me that everyone needs some type of safe place in life. I wondered to myself how many of the people around me are in reality an Ebenezer Scrooge whose life revolves around the security of a dollar. With all of the status and power in the room, I also imagined how many egos teetered simply on the number of votes cast during an election.

For my entire adult life, Thanksgiving has always been a trip over the Potomac River and through the woods of Southwestern Pennsylvania to be home with family. For most who attended karaoke night, that is considered the ultimate Thanksgiving. But with my parents now both passed on, my dog, Peso, and I

will remain in the nation's capital next week. My only scheduled event is a tour of the White House for one last glimpse of the Oval Office before the new president redecorates. It is a time killer like the Notre Dame — USC game will be the previous day.

Thanksgiving this year is not about bounty, friends or family for me. This year, Thanksgiving will be my own — a personal experience replete with introspection and solace. Ironically, I will think about how in many ways the lump at the top of the cathedral steps is an extremely lucky one. And in my mind, I will search for my own private set of cathedral stairs upon which I can find the comfort and stability that represents a meaningful Thanksgiving holiday. To all in the Notre Dame community and beyond, the best of holiday wishes from Peso and me.

*Gary Caruso, Notre Dame '73, is a communications strategist who served as a legislative and public affairs director in President Clinton's administration. His column appears every other Friday. He can be contacted at Gary.Caruso@alumni.nd.edu*

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

### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## Mike Anello: the new Chuck Norris

Mike Anello doesn't sleep ... he waits.  
 Mike Anello is the reason Waldo is hiding.  
 Mike Anello can believe it's not butter.  
 Mike Anello's tears cure cancer ... too bad he has never cried.  
 Mike Anello can slam a revolving door.  
 There is no theory of evolution, just a list of creatures Mike Anello has allowed to live.  
 Mike Anello can win Connect Four in three moves.  
 The way to a man's heart is with Mike Anello's fist.  
 If you can see Mike Anello, he can see you ... if you can't see Mike Anello, you are seconds away from death.  
 Mike Anello can judge a book by its cover.  
 Mike Anello is not afraid of the dark, the dark is afraid of Mike Anello.

Kevin Sullivan  
 senior  
 Stanford Hall  
 Nov. 20

## Have patience with Weis

While I understand that Notre Dame fans are very impatient when it comes to head coaches, I believe that many fans (Iacovo and Sullivan, "Weis Accountable," Nov. 18, included) are missing the point when it comes to Weis' job.

We have all heard the complaints about the record against teams with winning records. We have all heard the complaints about our team's lack of a "signature game." What students and fans like Iacovo and Sullivan fail to realize is that the process of building a football team can be painful and slow.

Iacovo and Sullivan bring up several instances where they question Weis' decisions. Let me be the first to say that I absolutely hate the Wildcat offense. However, if Weis decides to run a play from this formation, who would you rather have with the ball besides Tate? He is one of the fastest players on the team and its pretty obvious that the player taking the snap isn't supposed to be a real passing threat. That's why defenses are taught to stop the run first in that formation. Suggesting that Tate has to be a good passer in order to run that formation is ridiculous. Any pass made from the formation would only work if the receiver is wide open.

Secondly, Weis took out his starters because he wanted to respect Navy as well as give his younger players some real game experience. I agree that it happened a little too early, but his motive was correct. His gamble to run a play on fourth down was in an effort to not let Navy have the ball back. If we got a first down on that play, the game was over.

As for the example where you bring up about the Sugar Bowl and faking a punt, Weis knew that we were pretty big underdogs in that game. A fake punt is the type of play where if it succeeds, it completely changes the game in our favor and he was looking for any sort of upper

hand that he could find.

What this issue comes down to is that our football team needs to show improvement, and it has. Our team has scored over eight more points per game this season than last while allowing eight fewer per game. Our running game has increased 50 yards per game while giving up 60 fewer yards per game. We're passing for almost 80 more yards per game than last year. In total offense, we've increased by 130 yards per game. Our sacks have dropped from 58 last year to 14 this year. You might just dismiss these stats, but it shows remarkable improvement from last year.

The issue of Charlie Weis comes down to recognizing improvement and being patient with the system. You might not be happy because you're leaving at the end of this year and you want immediate results. Too bad, it won't happen.

Last year we had very few upperclassmen that made a difference on the roster. This year we are still extremely young. Our top three receivers include two sophomores and one freshman. Our top two running backs are sophomores. Our quarterback is a sophomore. Where do you think the leadership is coming from?

Results don't just happen when you have a very young team. We saw what Charlie could do when he has some upperclassman leadership. Wait until next year to judge Charlie's coaching job, and if he still isn't performing up to your standards, at that point you can claim to be disappointed. It is simply ridiculous to hold a coach to extremely high standards when he puts that young of a team on the field every week.

Todd Henkel  
 senior  
 off campus  
 Nov. 18

## Dueling pianos and Catholic identity

This past weekend, I attended the "Dueling Pianos" night at Legends. The music was rather enjoyable save for one song. Due to numerous requests from the students, the performers decided to play a song by Tenacious D entitled "F\*\*k Her Gently" (this is how iTunes writes the title. Tenacious D is more explicit). Many of you may know this song, but for those who do not, its content live up to its title.

Needless to say, this song completely degrades human sexuality and goes against Catholic teaching on this subject. Although the performers decided that they would play the song but sing only "95 percent of the lyrics," they encouraged the students to fill in the blanks aloud. Nonetheless, the message of the song was heard loud and clear.

I cannot help but feel that this is a perfect opportunity for the University to step up and defend its Catholic identity. As much as I enjoyed the rest of the show, the University should take a stand and stop allowing garbage like this to occur at Our Lady's University. Make an example of this group. Do not invite them back to campus. At the very least, inform them and other artists that come to perform here that songs like this should not be part of their performance. I firmly believe that Our Lady, Our Holy Father and Our Lord would not approve of such songs.

Notre Dame continues to claim to be the "Great Catholic University." It's about time to start showing it.

Tyler Deschamps  
 freshman  
 Alumni Hall  
 Nov. 15

## Salute the seniors

As seniors here at Notre Dame, we have stood through 25 regular season football games, and rain or shine, win or lose, we have proudly supported our team.

Our request is simple: that the football team recognize our commitment to them over the past four years by standing in front of the senior section for the Alma Mater at our last game as Notre Dame students.

Thank you for making our experience here unforgettable.  
 Sincerely,

Rachel Hoffman  
 Amy Wilhelmy  
 seniors  
 Nov. 18



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## Hooking-up normal

What's with all the hate? It took guts for Melissa ("The hook-up culture," Nov. 19), to come out and talk about something that so many girls refuse to acknowledge: she's kissed a few boys. Most girls I know are so uptight about discussing anything even related to sex with a guy that it is a breath of fresh air to hear a girl admit that she's kissed someone before, let alone yell it to the entire campus. If she had told me this personally, I would have given her a sassy z-snap and a "you go girl!"

Too many guys have such an awful view of hooking-up: just because you kiss someone — or even do something more — doesn't mean you can't treat them like a person afterwards and at least be cordial, rather than running away like a little son of a ...

Personally, I have tried to stay in contact with the girls I've hooked up: at the very least, I say "hi, how ya doing?" when I see them. However, I just have to say that although guys are pretty bad offenders at the whole not-making-the-next-time awkward thing, girls aren't perfect on this point by any stretch.

Of the girls I've hooked-up with — or, probably more common, struck out with — there have definitely been more than a few that just refused to even seek something as simple as a friendly acquaintance.

I remember the second week I was here, I kissed a girl on a bench. It was nothing too big, and I proceed to spend the rest of the night babysitting her "friend" — read drunk bull elephant — before walking her and the Baby Dee to a taxi. After multiple unresponded texts over the course of a week, I saw her again at Reckers. I talked to her a bit, and I walked with her and her friends to Blinky. She hasn't talked to me since, and that's not for my lack of trying.

I think that Notre Dame has a huge problem with hookups: people take things way too seriously. College is a time when thousands of young singles — many of whom are just starting to explore their sexuality — live basically as next-door neighbors. Obviously, some sparks are going to fly; some start fires that burn, some for an hour (or if you're from Fisher, as long as she needs).

People hooking-up is a healthy, natural part of life — don't swear off it, get jiggy with it — but that does not excuse disregarding people's feelings afterwards. Whether it is a guy or girl, no one enjoys another person avoiding them and pretending not to know them. It is true that most people who hook-up will not become b.f.f.s; however, a simple wave every once and a while never killed anyone. At least not yet.

Declan Sullivan  
 freshman  
 Fisher Hall  
 Nov. 20

## Hook-up a bad introduction

Although I guess I should've been distraught upon learning that a fellow school-mate's (Melissa Buddie, "The hook-up culture," Nov. 19) method of making pals has been failing her consistently, my concern for her social life was nothing compared to my shock that nearly a semester had passed before she began to think that hooking up with random boys isn't a reliable way of establishing meaningful friendships at Notre Dame.

Really?

I know I'm not the only one who read the letter with a look on my face that was much more distaste than pity. However, it may be comforting to hear that it's not unnatural for her to be suffering the cold shoulder treatment from the partners of previous hook-ups. It's standard fare.

The hook-up culture she proudly practices typically implies a no-strings-attached attitude. That's supposed to be the entire appeal.

So what's the big surprise? I don't blame those boys for being short on words after the act (I assume kissing was the extent of these six hook-ups, otherwise I would be writing another letter entirely), and I suspect that her very public announcement isn't going to make them any more eager to hang out with her.

A rearrangement of priorities could prevent future problems. Dropping the "kissing hobby" is a good start. If Buddie is looking for a phone call or a lunch companion, I suggest that she makes friends with the boy(s) first and kisses second, if at all.

That being said, I'm not sure that sharing Buddie's letter in the Viewpoint was anything short of Too Much Information for those of us who aren't a) among her six male addressees or b) also extremely baffled by why the people we're intimate with yet never intend to date feel awkward around us. Believe it or not, some of us college girls don't like to get our thrills by being the weekend conquest of a random dude. We'd prefer to read a piece that's a little more relevant and, dare I say, mature in nature.

Just a thought.

Marla MacMichael  
 senior  
 Howard Hall  
 Nov. 20

## In defense of Buddie

After reading the barrage of letters defaming Melissa Buddie ("The hook-up culture," Nov. 19) in yesterday's Viewpoint, I felt as though I would offer some words or encouragement.

I — like Melissa — have made out with six guys this semester. I have not received much anticipated phone calls or lunch offers, not even the curious poke on facebook.

And Melissa, if you think your lovely autumn strolls on South Quad are made awkward by your actions, eye contact with my former lovers is beyond awkward on so many levels.

Stay Strong Melissa! (And Easy!)

Sincerely,

Dan Kuzma  
 senior  
 off-campus  
 Nov. 20

## A product of the system

Stop talking about Melissa ("The hook-up culture," Nov. 19), stop talking about Will ("Dear Jane(s)," Nov. 20). The supposed hook-up culture at Notre Dame is not created by men, nor fueled by women, but instead a product of the system we call the University of Notre Dame. Since it is the reverends and alumni that run the school we love so much, the buck stops at every one of their desks. It is on them to change the problems that are popping up at this University.

Tradition is a wonderful thing, and helps Notre Dame boast at how storied it is; but there does come a time where you can be too steeped in tradition; and that time is now. I sit here three months into the school year and have no problem telling you that I still have not one legitimate girl friend like I did back home, and I know I'm not the only one.

And this is not because I am the kid that sits in the corner of the classroom hoping his Jedi mind tricks will actually lift the pencil in the air for once. If you know me you know I'm not exactly a shy person. So what exactly are parietals and single-sex dorms doing? They're stopping exactly what we're longing for.

Parietals are not stopping sex from happening, and are not making people do homework that they otherwise would not get done. Instead, they are preventing the casual movie watches, hang-outs, and friend-to-friend interaction that is absolutely necessary in a teenager's life.

In order to fix the gender relations at Notre Dame, we need to do something about the single-sex dorms. Like almost every other school out there (including other religious universities), our dorms should be single-sex by floor. This would fix a number of problems. Not only would it be extremely easy to meet girls by bumping into them but it would make it a thousand times more convenient to, God forbid, hang out. We have so much schoolwork here that we only get miniscule breaks in-between homework. But even then, our breaks are spent playing video games or joking around with a same-sex friend down the hall.

Instead, a new dorm system would allow me to walk down one flight of stairs to actually talk to a girl. While this is an enormous change from the system we have now, we can dull it down by starting with a choice. For example, over the summer the school could ask which housing you want, single-sex or multi-sex; and depending on the results, some dorms would become multi-sex and some stay single-sex. Students would still stay in the same dorms for all four years to keep the amazing comradery we have now, except this would now include girls as well.

The truth is, something needs to be done. But using the Letter to the Editor section in the Observer as an advertisement of how you're fun and up-for-anything is not productive at all. While ideas may seem radical to some, I'm sure the decision to admit women in the first place did too.

P.S. — I lied earlier. I do in fact sometimes find myself wishing that the Jedi mind trick would work for me.

Marko Pesce  
 freshman  
 Keenan Hall  
 Nov. 20

## Another perspective

Dear 23 girls I have hooked up with this semester,

Thank you for the hook-up. It was... spectacular, stimulating, mediocre, awful, mind-blowing, forgettable (is it 25?), awkward, heavenly, tricky, licky, sticky, and all together a solid time. From my experience, it was the typical senior year post-Feve hook-up.

Yes the hook-up itself was fine, but afterwards we've run into a problem. The problem isn't the dining hall, I'm a senior, I don't have a meal plan. It's the parties, in class, at bowling, Corby's, and Feve. It's the way you look at me, like you totally want it again. I want to scream, "Yes we did hookup once and I know I was great but there's no way you'll get that lucky again!" Other times we see each other and you totally eye me or you suddenly ditch the people you're with to throw yourself at me. To be fair, I think I may have been ignored by a few of you (actually that never happens, you all can't get enough).

What about your number, did I ask for it just as a matter of course? Yes. But you had to request mine and now my thumb is getting tired silencing your calls. Is this your way of saying, "Thanks for the hook-up. It was the best thing I've ever experienced and I'll never be the same?" Get over me. How many of you have deleted my number? The answer is none of you because you treat my digits like the winning lottery numbers.

Blame me for not calling you. I didn't break my phone and I haven't lost your numbers. I simply have no interest in seeing you again. If I do call, you know I am black out drunk looking for a booty call. Could we ever be friends? No. Ignoring you, apparently, is the only choice I have.

Of course, I'm not blameless. You were the most convenient form of instant gratification I could find, hoodrats and dimes alike. I realize that but won't admit I am as guilty as you are. Stop knocking at my door at 1 a.m. begging to come in. Stop climbing in my window and lying in my bed hoping you'll get another shot.

Even though I doubt you are willing to do this, I am sure of one thing: You 23 girls (25?) are not even close to where I draw the line. This weekend, and all weekends until I graduate, I will continue to add more conquests to my Excel spreadsheet. I will hook up with as many random girls as possible. Not because I am looking for a girlfriend or wife, but because I want to exploit your body. At Notre Dame, I am trying to get some play, and I'll never find a new hobby. Why should I? You still want it. Good thing I won't see you at the dining hall, I cook.

Sincerely,

Melissa Buddie's next hook-up

P.S. don't worry about our (insert whatever we did together here), I'm clean, you didn't get it from me.

Peter Leonard  
 senior  
 off-campus  
 Nov. 20





## 'The Spirit of Notre Dame' Alive and Well

JORDAN GAMBLE  
Scene Writer

A forgotten piece of Notre Dame legend returns to campus tonight.

Out of print for years, the 1931 film "The Spirit of Notre Dame" was eclipsed by 1940's "Knute Rockne All-American" and 1993's "Rudy." Even the most obsessive Notre Dame fans haven't seen it or even know it exists. Knute Rockne III, the grandson of the legendary coach, hopes that will change after this Friday, when "The Spirit of Notre Dame" screens at the Browning Cinema in the DeBartolo Performing Arts Center at 7 pm and 9:30 pm. Tickets are \$3 for students and \$5 for faculty and staff.

"I think it's a great idea they're reintroducing it," Rockne III said in a telephone interview from his home in Utah. "It leads to the history and mystique of Notre Dame. I hope that every time they show it, it's a sellout crowd."

Indeed, "The Spirit of Notre Dame" and the history of its production should be the stuff of legend.

"One of the tidbits about this movie is that this is the movie that killed my grandfather," said Rockne III. "When he was going to California, he was going to write this script and put it into production," and it was on that trip that Knute Rockne's plane crashed in Kansas.

The whole story can be found in Murray Sperber's book, "Shake Down the Thunder." Sperber, along with the help of University Archives, found letters from Knute Rockne to the University president. Rockne wrote that although the film's creators offered him \$50,000 to portray himself in the movie, he had no intention of accepting the money.

"The only thing is I thought perhaps there might be a chance to put out a picture that might be instructive and educational as regards Notre Dame in every sense of the word," Rockne wrote in a letter dated March 30, 1931, one day before he died.

Ted Mandell, a faculty member in the Department of Film, Television, and Theatre, said the University went ahead and allowed the film to be made, for the sake of Rockne's widow and in the hopes that it would fulfill Rockne's original intent.

"This film came out because of that (Rockne's death). Universal rushed out this film, and it came out seven or six months later, kind of taking advantage of the tragedy," Mandell said.

Universal Studios took the commercial approach for the story, focusing on football more than the University would have liked. The story has a

Rockne-esque coach butting heads with a George Gipp-esque player, with cameo appearances by none other than the original Four Horsemen.

"Notre Dame football players were these mythical characters. That's how the legend all began, and still persists 70 years later," Mandell said. "The University is now very careful to not be known as a football school, which started all the way back in 1931 when it got taken advantage of by Hollywood with this film."

*"Notre Dame football players were these mythical characters. That's how the legend all began, and still persists 70 years later...The University is now very careful to not be known as a football school, which started all the way back in 1931 when it got taken advantage of by Hollywood with this film."*

In his book, Sperber describes the film as "a sports potboiler exploiting the school's name."

But Rockne's grandson sees merit. "I think this movie really does go beyond football. Football is the vehicle by which the message and values of Notre Dame [are shown]." Rockne III thinks the movie is important because of, he says, "how it deals with the atmosphere and psychological makeup of Notre Dame in that particular period of time."

Christine Sopczynski, the outreach specialist at FTT, agrees with him. "The film itself isn't that strong" she said, "but it shows the football culture and what it was like. The film's screenwriter actually came and lived with the football players for a few weeks. From that

perspective it's fascinating." But just getting a copy of the film to show to any crowd has been a journey, said John Vickers, the Managing Director at the DPAC. The idea to resurrect "Spirit" came after the University announced its fundraising campaign also called "The Spirit of Notre Dame." But unlike the other Notre Dame films, "Spirit" was not on DVD, video, or even in the university archives. With funding from the College of Arts and Letters, Vickers used his contacts in the film industry to track it down.

"I basically went to Universal Studios and convinced them that we should have a copy of one of their film titles here on campus. They took one of their negatives and struck a new print," he said.

That new 35 millimeter print will be shown Friday night before finding a place in the Notre Dame library, and Vickers hopes other groups, such as alumni clubs across the country, give the film life outside of campus.

Rockne III, who will be at the screening Friday and will flip the coin to start the Syracuse game Saturday in honor of his grandfather, has high hopes for the future of "The Spirit of Notre Dame."

"I really hope that every student on campus goes to see it."

Contact Jordan Gamble at [jgamble@nd.edu](mailto:jgamble@nd.edu)





# IRISH INSIDER

Friday, November 21, 2008

—INTERHALL—

THE  
OBSERVER

## UP FOR THE CHALLENGE

Underdog Keenan hopes to take down Undefeated Siegfried in the Interhall Football Championship this Sunday





# Keenan challenges dominant Siegfried

By CHRIS MASOUD  
Sports Writer

David meets Goliath this Sunday as Keenan challenges Siegfried for the Interhall Championship in legendary Notre Dame Stadium.

No. 7 seed Keenan has faced an uphill battle in the postseason but has emerged with convincing wins in each contest. Likewise, No. 1 seed Siegfried has lived up to the high expectations, rolling past the competition in pursuit of a perfect season.

After reclaiming the Chapel last week in a 14-8 victory over rival Stanford, Keenan captain Barton Dear is confident his team can build upon its success and carry the momentum into its third championship game in four years.

"Beating Stanford was a huge achievement for us," Dear said. "Losing to our rival last year in the Stadium didn't sit well with us. We came out strong and played a great game against a great team."

The Knights have come a long way from the beginning of the season to earn a spot in the championship. After beginning the year 0-1-1, Dear said the team needed to rediscover its identity and make some serious changes to turn the season around.

"We realized that we had some players out of position," Dear said, "so we switched our quarterback to tight end and started a freshman in his place.

The offensive line also worked some stuff out, and it translated into positive results on the field."

Thrust into the offense as quarterback, freshman Terry Mahoney has thrived in a familiar role, leading the Knights to three victories.

"I've had experience in the quarterback position before," Mahoney said. "I was ready since the beginning of the season for a chance to play. I just had to wait for my opportunity. Thankfully I got it, and I've done my best for the team."

Led by Mahoney, the balanced Keenan offense hopes to continue moving the ball against a merciless Siegfried defense. Mahoney will try to establish a connection with senior wide receiver Jim Zenker, something he's been able to accomplish all season.

"Any time I throw Jim the ball I know he's going to come down with it and make a play," Mahoney said. "The chemistry is there, we just need to execute."

Siegfried, however, has been effective in disrupting opposing offenses and preventing them from getting into a rhythm. Led by middle linebacker Dex Cure, the Ramblers forced three turnovers en route to a 14-6 victory over Morrissey in the semifinals last week.

"We just keep things simple on both sides of the ball," Siegfried captain Kevin Kelly said. "As a team we're just going to keep doing what we've done all year: force turnovers

and give our offense a chance to score."

If the Ramblers maintain the same level of play they displayed in the regular season, a championship is well within their reach, as the Ramblers are undefeated and untied through six games. Siegfried's success has even brought back memories to many of the legendary Dillon teams of the late 50's that dominated the interhall circuit.

"I appreciate the responses, but we've still got one more game to go," Kelly said. "We can't lose focus and underestimate a good opponent. It's all about getting the job done in the Stadium."

Kelly and the Siegfried seniors remember the last time they were on the Stadium field when USC ended a premature Irish celebration in 2005. They expect a much more enjoyable experience when they step on the field this Sunday.

"I can't wait for it, and I know my teammates are just as excited," Kelly said. "This will probably be our last time on the field, and we want to remember it with a victory."

The seniors from both teams agree that playing in the championship game will be the most meaningful four quarters in their careers.

"If we win, it'll be a great ending to a hard-fought story over the last four years," Kelly said.

But for Keenan senior Alex Gonzalez, Sunday's game will be a bitter-sweet experience.



JESS LEE/The Observer  
Siegfried running back Marcus Young, left, takes a handoff from quarterback Max Young during the Ramblers' semifinal win over Morrissey.

Gonzalez, who has carried the Knight offense on the ground with his powerful running game, will be inactive with a broken thumb. This will be the third time in his interhall career he will be inactive for the championship game with an injury.

"It's a terrible feeling, but I just want to be able to motivate my team on the sidelines,"

Gonzalez said. "With the best quarterback and receiver combo in the league, my teammates are more than capable of stepping up. The seniors and I have been a big part of Siegfried football for four years. We want it bad."

Contact Chris Masoud at  
cmasoud@nd.edu

## Brothers Kelly lead Ramblers

By MOLLY SAMMON  
Sports Writer

For most players and coaches, the Interhall Championship is just a chance to play a little competitive football, but for the three Kelly brothers, it's a family affair.

As Siegfried's offensive coordinator, coach Rob Kelly oversees both of his younger brothers, senior team captain and tight end, Kevin, and sophomore defensive tackle, Patrick.

"It is humbling," Rob Kelly said of coaching his younger siblings. "My first attempt at coaching was with 4-year-olds and I've found there are a lot of similarities between 4-year-olds and college students."

Coincidentally, Siegfried's head coach, P.J. Zimmer, asked Rob Kelly to help him out with coaching this season, at the same time that the youngest brother, Patrick, a recent transfer from

Holy Cross College, was pulled into Siegfried and decided to go out for the team as well.

With both returning senior Kevin and newly-recruited Patrick trying out for the team, Rob found himself in a tough situation.

"I had to take myself out of that decision," Rob said. "I certainly had a conflict of interest."

But both made the team, and therefore, the Ramblers' Kelly Trio was formed.

"The fact that [my coach] is my brother made it a little awkward at first," Kevin Kelly said. "But he is really good at inspiring and being the devil's advocate on the team."

Initially, Rob didn't share his brothers' enthusiasm for football, but over time took to the sport.

"I was more interested in scholarly competitions in high school," Rob said. "I fell in love with football by the time I came to Notre Dame."

As a member of the class of 2003, Rob graduated with a degree in aerospace engineering and management, and currently works at Notre Dame as the director of procurement services.

But in offensive coordination, Rob found an area of football strategy where he had passion and expertise, despite never playing organized football.

"Coach Zimmer is the real offensive architect, but I bring the critical eye," Rob said. "This is an aspect of football that I can really get myself into, the intellectual component."

In contrast to their older brother, both Kevin and Patrick played together at Addison High School, a small public school in their southern Michigan town.

"It was an island for me," said Kevin of being the trailblazer of the family's football participation. "All the team dinners and the summer practices, they were a new venture for me."

The brothers all agree that having family members on campus and alongside on the playing field changed their collegiate experiences for the better.

"It's more relaxed now," Kevin said. "You always have someone to go to when you need something."

Quintessential of the Notre Dame culture of tradition in both family and football, Rob, Kevin, and Patrick will be representing both as the Interhall Championship game approaches this Sunday.

"I left Notre Dame, but found my way back," Rob said. "I always find it providential that we ended up back here."

Contact Molly Sammon at  
msammon@nd.edu

## Siegfried featured in ESPN.com story

By SAM WERNER  
Interhall Editor

Siegfried entered a new realm of interhall publicity yesterday.

The currently undefeated and untied Ramblers were featured in a 3,000-word feature about interhall football by Kieran Darcy on ESPN.com.

Darcy's story focused on the uniqueness of interhall football and its place in the Notre Dame tradition. Darcy interviewed many Siegfried players for the story, including captain Kevin Kelly. Kelly said that he believes Darcy was inspired by the story of David Ruffer, a former Siegfried player who is now a kicker on the varsity team.

After meeting with representatives from RecSports, Darcy wanted to focus on a particular team, and who better than the currently 6-0 Ramblers.

"He got in contact with us and came out to our practice," Kelly said.

Darcy went on to describe the Ramblers' 14-6 semifinal win over Morrissey, which sent the team to the championship game.

Kelly said he was grateful

for the exposure, and thought Darcy did a good job portraying interhall football's status at Notre Dame.

"It was really cool and well-written," Kelly said. "I really appreciate how he did that for us."

Not every interhall football player was happy with the article, though. Keenan, Siegfried's opponent in the championship, was disappointed that their team wasn't mentioned in the article. Several Knights players expressed their dismay at the team's practice Thursday night.

"It's just not cool," Keenan captain Brett Wilps said. "He didn't even mention last year's championship [where Keenan lost to rival Stanford]."

The Knights have made the championship four of the past five years, but Darcy's article focused almost on the Ramblers. Wilps said he planned to use the story as motivation on Sunday.

"I didn't realize only one team was playing in the championship," he said. "It's posterboard material for us. We're going to tack that up in the locker room."

Contact Sam Werner at  
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JESS LEE/The Observer  
Siegfried tight end Kevin Kelly, center, runs during the Ramblers' 14-6 win over Morrissey in the semifinals.



# Welsh Fam looks to stay perfect vs. McGlinn

By RYAN O'CONNELL  
Sports Writer

West Quad neighbors Welsh Family and McGlinn haven't played each other in more than three years, but the unfamiliarity will end Sunday when the teams face off in the Interhall Championship game.

"We haven't played them since my freshman year," Welsh Fam senior captain Jenni Gargula said. "We don't know what they look like as a team, but we never focus on who we play from week to week. We only focus on our game-plan and playing our best."

This strategy has worked well for the Whirlwinds, who are currently undefeated. However, going undefeated, at least in the regular season, is nothing new for Welsh Fam.

"The past two years we've gone undefeated in the regular season," Gargula said. "We lost last year in the stadium to Cavanaugh."

The Whirlwinds believe, though, that their recent history of losing in the playoffs will change, as Gargula said the team has learned how to overcome adversity and win games

after they've fallen behind.

"Last year we basically killed every opponent we faced in the regular season and playoffs," Gargula said. "We'd never been behind until Cavanaugh scored first in the championship game. This year, we've had a different experience in that we've had a lot of close games. We've learned to score when the pressure is on. For example, we ended up coming back to beat Pasquerilla West when we were down by a touchdown with only a minute or so left. I definitely think those kind of games have helped prepare us for the championship game."

It's more than just experience that has Welsh Fam confident, however.

"We have a talented, balanced team this year," Gargula said. "Both our offense and defense are great. Anyone on our team is capable of making a big play. As far as our passing game, we spread the ball around. No one receiver has caught most of the passes. Also, our secondary has made a lot of interceptions. All our players are talented and anyone is capable of making big play."

McGlinn, on the other hand, overcame low expectations for the season to make it all the way to the championship. The Shamrocks, though, are not

content with just what they've achieved so far.

"We are so excited to be playing in Notre Dame Stadium, but with that being said, we are not just satisfied getting there; we want to win," McGlinn captain Sarah deGroot said. "This season has been truly remarkable as no one expected us to make the playoffs or let alone make it to the stadium, but I had confidence in our team and knew that we had the players to make a run at a championship."

Like Welsh Fam, the Shamrocks are also very strong on both sides of the ball.

"Our offense has been great, especially at putting points up early in the game, and our defense has been lights out and played a near perfect game against Farley last week," de Groot said. "We have a lot of momentum going into Sunday's game and feel as though we are playing our best ball this year, and we will need to be on top of our game against a very good Welsh Fam team."

McGlinn knows that they have a formidable opponent in Welsh Fam, so they're aiming on bringing their "A" game to the championship.

"Welsh Fam comes into the game undefeated and has been playing some great ball, but so have we," de Groot said. "We are going to be the underdogs in this matchup, but we have been the underdogs all year and look where we have gotten so far."

Contact Ryan O'Connell at roconne3@nd.edu



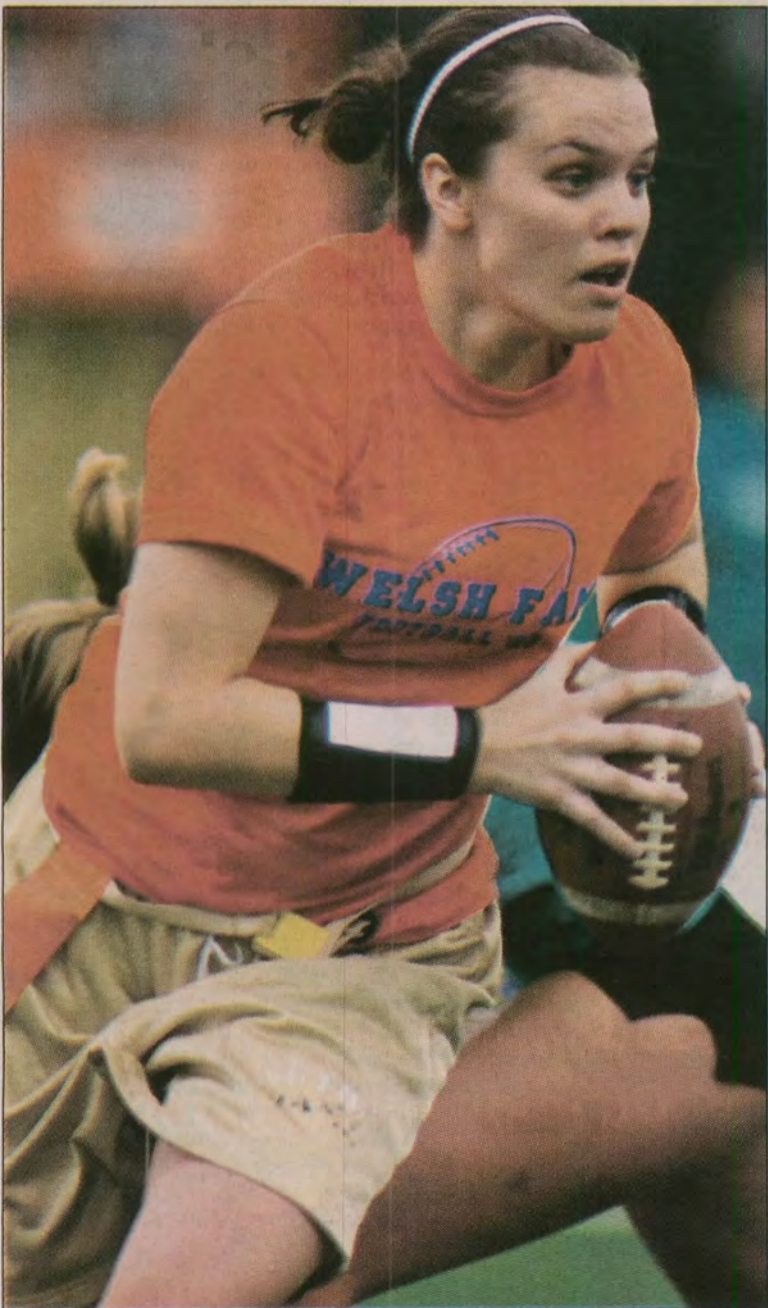
Welsh Fam's Natalie Baldasare runs through tacklers during the Whirlwind's Oct. 3 win over Farley.

IAN GAVLICK/The Observer

*"This year, we've had a different experience in that we've had a lot of close games. We've learned to score when the pressure is on us"*

Jenni Gargula  
Welsh Fam captain

# Gargula looks to end interhall career with championship



Welsh Fam quarterback Jenni Gargula runs with the ball during the Whirlwind's Oct. 3 win over Farley.

IAN GAVLICK/The Observer

By DOUGLAS FARMER  
Sports Writer

After starting at quarterback for four years, leading the way to three consecutive undefeated regular seasons, and to two Stadium appearances, Jenni Gargula has one goal left to attain.

On Sunday, the Welsh Family Whirlwinds will look to Gargula for leadership as they have all season — and most of the past four — in an effort to finally win the Interhall Championship.

Towards the end of her freshmen season, Gargula took over at quarterback for the Whirlwinds. Since then, Welsh Fam has not lost a regular season game. Along the way, Gargula has pushed herself to improve.

"Jenni has learned a lot about the game," senior receiver Meghan Mulhern said. "She has always been very knowledgeable, but she goes into each game each week knowing and remembering what the upcoming team has done in the past."

Not only does Gargula vividly remember her opponents, but every week she also needs to correctly remember the fifty plays Welsh Fam runs. It is this pursuit of knowledge that differentiates Gargula from typical team leaders, as

she shares it as much as she can.

"She has helped me learn about the game so much,"

freshmen receiver Natalie Baldasare said. "Her experience and knowledge help us learn about adjustments during the game."

Compliments such as these may be nice, but they do not ease the pressure Gargula feels every week, but especially concerning this upcoming game. The team's success throughout her career has only driven Gargula's aims higher, as well as her expectations of herself.

"I don't want us to have gone four years without getting a championship because we have been so successful," Gargula said. "It just doesn't feel right that we would end up without a championship."

"I do feel pressure on myself [to win the championship]. I think a lot of that pressure I put on myself as well. I have really high standards for myself. I feel pressure in every game; I

put pressure on myself every game to perform well. Even if we win and I don't play as well as I should have, I'm not happy about it."

The time nears for the pressure to produce the desired results for Gargula, and no one on the Whirlwind team is shy about the specificity of the desired results.

"Our goal has been to not only get to the championship, but definitely to win," Mulhern said.

"We know what it feels like to go into the Stadium and lose. We don't want that feeling again," Gargula said. "We're looking to end our careers on a high note and finally get that elusive championship, which has been our entire focus this year."

When teammates old and new say things such as "We know what to expect of Jenni," and "Jenni is the center of our offense," as Mulhern and Baldasare, respectively, did, it is clear that Gargula will be the focus of both teams on Sunday. Yet, the most pressure she feels will be from within herself. She would have it no other way.

"Our time is now," Gargula said. "Our goal is to win."

Contact Douglas Farmer at dfarmer1@nd.edu

*"I put pressure on myself every game to perform well. Even if we win and I don't play as well as I should have, I'm not happy about it."*

Jenni Gargula  
Welsh Fam captain

*"I don't want us to have gone four years without getting a championship because we have been so successful."*

Jenni Gargula  
Welsh Fam captain



# IRISH INSIDER

Friday, November 21, 2008

INTERHALL THE OBSERVER



## WILD, WILD WEST QUAD

Neighbors Welsh Fam and McGlinn square off Sunday in the Interhall Championship game... with West Quad supremacy on the line.





← image from The Spirit of ND



"The Spirit of Notre Dame," in a new print by Universal Studios specifically for the University of Notre Dame, will be screened tonight at the DeBartolo Performing Arts Center at 7:00pm and 9:30pm. Tickets are \$6, \$5 for faculty/staff, \$4 for seniors and \$3 for students.

University of Notre Dame  
Notre Dame, Indiana  
OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

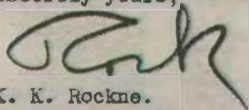
March 30, 1931.

Rev. Charles L. O'Donnell, C.S.C.,  
Office of the President,  
Notre Dame, Indiana.

Dear Father:

The enclosed letter speaks for itself. I came up to see you and found you would be out of town for the day. I leave this matter entirely in your hands. They have offered me fifty thousand (\$50,000.) dollars for this proposition, which, however, doesn't interest me at all. The only thing is I thought perhaps there might be a chance to put out a picture that might be instructive and educational as regards Notre Dame in every sense of the word.

Please wire me collect at the Hotel Biltmore, Los Angeles, where I will be Wednesday.

Sincerely yours,  
  
K. K. Rockne.

KKR:tm



letter from Knute Rockne regarding Universal's offer for him to play himself



## NCAA WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

## Toliver highlights an 18-3 run to lead Terrapins to win

Five Huskies score double-digit points in win over San Diego State; Poston sparks Boilermaker's victory

Associated Press

COLLEGE PARK, Md. — Maryland was locked in a tie game with James Madison when Kristi Toliver took it upon herself to end the Dukes' upset bid.

Slicing through the lane at every opportunity, the 5-foot-7 Toliver made three layups and two free throws during a pivotal 18-3 run that carried the 11th-ranked Terrapins to a 90-76 victory Thursday night.

Toliver finished with 27 points and 10 assists to help Maryland (2-1) extend its home winning streak to 23. The score was 57-all with 11:46 left before the Terrapins, led by their senior point guard, pulled away.

"When the game was getting close, that's the time to attack the rim," Toliver said. "I just wanted to attack their bigs, because I knew I was faster than them. You have to take advantage of what the defense gives you."

Toliver gave Maryland the lead for good with a layup, and a jumper in the paint by Marissa Coleman made it 61-57. After Dawn Evans hit a 3-pointer for the Dukes, the Terrapins peeled off 14 straight points to seal the win.

"We had a couple of mental breakdowns in the defensive end which led to some easy opportunities for them," James Madison coach Kenny Brooks said. "And even when they missed, they cleaned up with second-chance opportunities. We let it get away from us, didn't execute, and it cost us."

Evans led James Madison (1-1) with 33 points on 14-for-33 shooting and Courtney Hamner scored 12 of her 16 points in the second half.

The Dukes, who had their 30-game home winning streak ended by Maryland last year, are 1-7 against the Terrapins.

"We're not into moral victories, but I'm proud of the effort they gave," Brooks said. "If we continue to get that kind of effort, it will equate to wins for us."

Lynetta Kizer scored 18, Demauria Liles had 16 and Coleman added 14 for Maryland, which got only four points from its reserves.

"I'm very excited about the second half," Terrapins coach Brenda Frese said. "I thought we had some critical stops at really key points in the game. Our defense helped us execute on the offensive end."

Maryland trailed by one before Marah Strickland made two free throws to spark an 8-2 spree that made it 51-46. But a layup by Evans and three straight baskets by Sarah Williams got the Dukes within a point, and a 3-pointer by Hamner tied it at 57.

The Dukes, however, would make only one basket over the next six minutes.

Liles and Toliver each scored 10 points, and Maryland overcame 13 turnovers to take a 35-34 halftime lead.

There were five ties in the early going until the Terrapins used a 10-3 run to go up 29-22. The Dukes stayed close behind Evans, who accounted for 14 of JMU's first 22 points and had 16 at the break.

Evans gave the Dukes their only lead of the half, hitting a jumper to make it 34-33.

**Huskies 99, Aztecs 55**

Last season, Kalana Greene was having season-ending surgery on her right knee the day Connecticut played San Diego State.

Greene hit her first five shots Thursday to help UConn (2-0) to a rout of the Aztecs. The junior scored 13 points and was one of five Huskies in double figures.

"I'm playing with a little more confidence each game," Greene said. "I'm feeling better. I feel like I don't even think about my knee, like I've never been injured."

Maya Moore led UConn with 21 points, 17 in the first half. The sophomore also had nine rebounds and six assists while playing just 25 minutes. Tina Charles added 17 points for the Huskies, who now have won 26 consecutive home games and 89 straight games over unranked opponents.

Jene Morris scored 17 points and had five rebounds to lead San Diego State (2-1).

Greene, who went five-for-five in the Huskies' season-opening win over Georgia Tech, didn't miss against the Aztecs until a 3-pointer fell



Maryland guard Kristi Toliver, right, puts up a shot against James Madison's Dawn Evans during the second half of Maryland's 90-76 victory on Thursday.

off the rim with 16:24 to play.

"Kalana did a great job of being a leader tonight," Moore said. "It makes us feel invincible knowing that when Kalana's on, what's the other team going to do? It just gives us a whole lot of confidence."

Renee Montgomery also had 13 points for Connecticut and freshman Tiffany Hayes added 11, hitting 3 of 4 from 3-point range.

The Huskies, who hit 64 percent of their shots, made nine of their first 12, and opened on a 12-2 run. The Aztecs missed their first five shots and hit just 37 percent from the field.

"We have this saying that hard work beats talent when talent won't work hard, so when you put great talent that works hard against people who weren't working hard, I'm really disappointed," Aztec coach Beth Burns said.

San Diego State got as close as 28-18 before a pair of buckets by Greene, the second one coming on a no-look

pass from Caroline Doty. That started a 10-0 UConn run.

UConn shot over 65 percent from the floor in the first half and led 56-27 at intermission. The Huskies opened the second half with a 14-0 run, allowing coach Geno Auriemma to go deep into his bench early.

When Charles passed over a double team and found Meghan Gardler underneath with just under 11 minutes to go, it was 85-36. Twelve Huskies played, and 11 of them scored.

"We were in a real good rhythm offensively," Auriemma said. "We could score almost every time down the floor, and much of that had to do with the fact that we were intent on being aggressive and making the next play."

San Diego State, which opened its season with wins over Northwestern State and Long Beach State and making its first trip to the East Coast since playing at Penn State and Duquesne in 1997.

The Aztecs travel back to San Diego for a game Tuesday, and then head to Hawaii. That's over 10,200 miles in eight days.

**Boilermakers 70, Pilots 50**

FahKara Malone made four of six 3-pointers in scoring 17 points and No. 21 Purdue beat Portland Thursday night.

Chantel Poston scored 15 points off the bench for Purdue, which scored 26 points off turnovers. Lindsay Wisdom-Hylton shot 6-of-8 from the field and scored 14. Danielle Campbell chipped in 11 — nine on free throws — for the Boilermakers (2-0).

Laiken Dollente had 19 points to pace the Pilots (1-2).

The Boilermakers led by as many as 29, buoyed by 41.4 percent shooting from the field and 75 percent shooting on free throws. Portland managed just 34.8 percent from the floor and 68.4 percent from the line.

Purdue scored 18 points off offensive rebounds, while the Pilots scored just four.

## CLASSIFIEDS

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

## FOR SALE

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

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

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

## FOR RENT

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

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Furnished 2-bdrm, house. Living room, kitchen, dining room, full bath. 6.5 blks to ND. \$795/mo. Avail Jan. 1. Call 605-397-8135 or 574-234-3007 or 574-261-4444.

Student rentals 2009/2010. St. Peter/S.B. Ave. homes. \$1300-\$1960/mo. 5-7 bdrms 1st & 2nd floors. Contact Bruce Gordon 574-876-3537.

A 3-bedroom fully furnished house for rent from mid December 2008 through July 2009. Two bathrooms + renovated basement (potential additional bedroom). 10 minute walk from University of Notre Dame. \$1000 not including utilities. Call 574-233-2618 or 631-8213

## NOTICES

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## PERSONAL

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

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

ADOPTION - Loving Domer couple looking to adopt a baby (babies), please call Marie and James (301)977-5069 or (866) 202-1424 PIN 5448.

Sitting on a cornflake, waiting for the van to come.

Corporation tee-shirt, stupid bloody tuesday.

Man, you been a naughty boy, you let your face grow long.

I am the eggman, they are the eggmen.

I am the walrus, goo goo g'joob.



# AROUND THE NATION

Friday, November 21, 2008

COMPILED FROM THE OBSERVER'S WIRE SERVICES

page 15

## NCAA Football AP Top 25

team	points
1 Alabama	1601
2 Texas Tech	1574
3 Florida	1476
4 Texas	1437
5 Oklahoma	1369
6 USC	1310
7 Penn State	1178
8 Utah	1158
9 Boise State	1098
10 Ohio State	1017
11 Oklahoma State	987
12 Missouri	913
13 Georgia	864
14 Ball State	714
15 TCU	659
16 BYU	656
17 Michigan State	612
18 LSU	526
19 Cincinnati	413
20 Pittsburgh	406
21 Oregon State	389
22 Maryland	161
23 Miami	139
24 Oregon	126
25 North Carolina	116

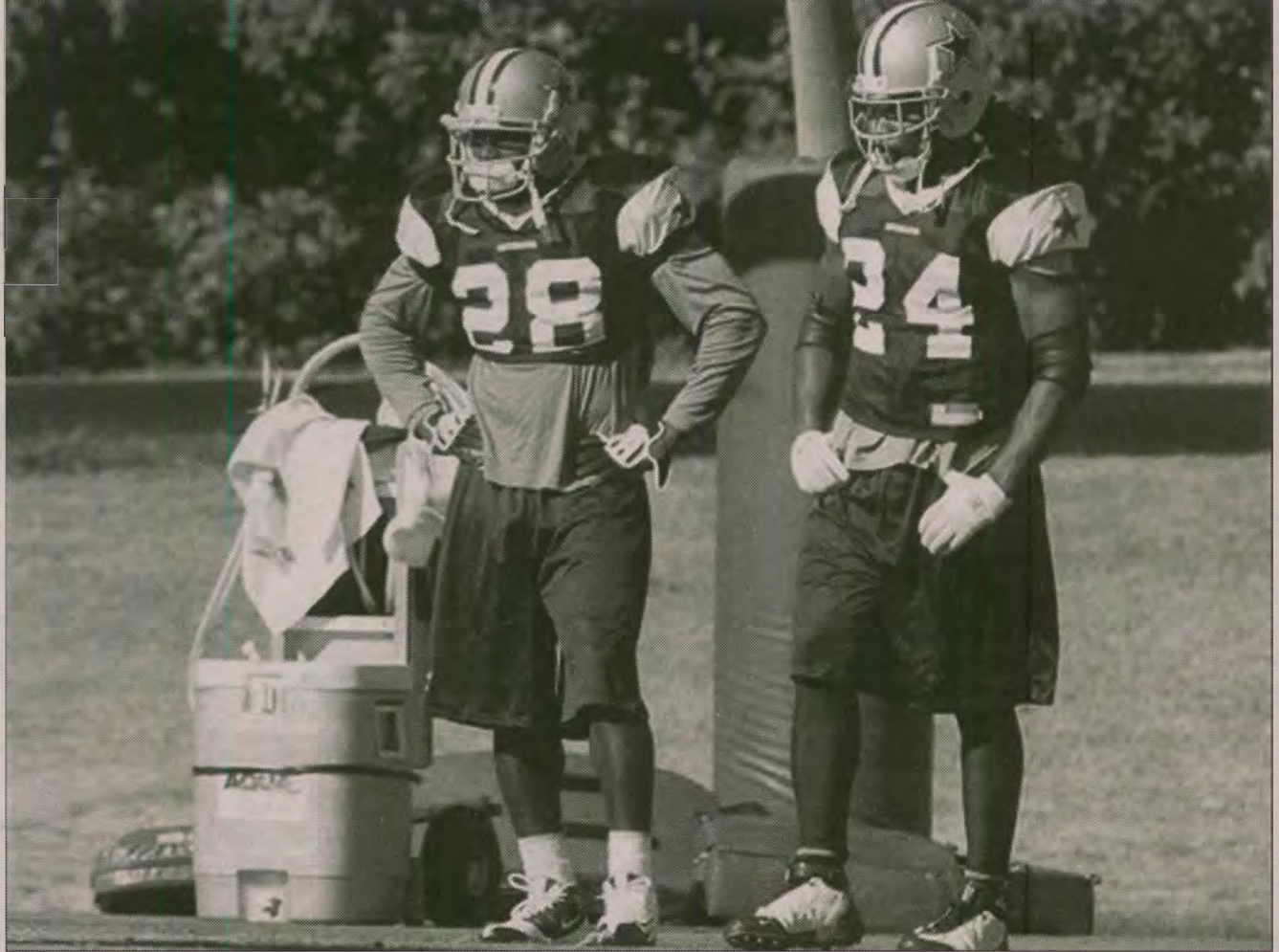
## NCAA Football Coaches' Poll

team	points
1 Alabama	1508
2 Texas Tech	1465
3 Florida	1373
4 Texas	1322
5 Oklahoma	1305
6 USC	1245
7 Utah	1113
8 Penn State	1093
9 Boise State	1023
10 Ohio State	957
11 Missouri	894
12 Oklahoma State	838
13 Georgia	832
14 BYU	690
15 Michigan State	654
16 Ball State	613
17 TCU	533
18 LSU	429
19 Pittsburgh	406
20 Cincinnati	358
21 Oregon State	321
22 Oregon	169
23 Maryland	140
24 Northwestern	117
25 BC	97

## NCAA Football BCS Standings

team	points
1 Alabama	9787
2 Texas Tech	9698
3 Texas	8911
4 Florida	8755
5 Oklahoma	8388
6 USC	7873
7 Utah	7643
8 Penn State	6957
9 Boise State	6559
10 Ohio State	6154

## NFL



Cowboys running back Felix Jones, left, stands next to Dallas running back Marion Barber during practice at their Irving, Texas, training facility on Wednesday. Jones tore a ligament in his left big toe two weeks ago.

## Dallas RB Jones out for rest of the season

Associated Press

IRVING, Texas — The mystery surrounding injured Dallas Cowboys rookie Felix Jones has been solved, and the running back will not play again this season.

Jones has a torn ligament beneath his left big toe, sustained two weeks ago while doing rehabilitation on the left hamstring he hurt Oct. 12. The hamstring is healed, but he will need surgery on the toe and up to six months to fully recover.

"Obviously disappointed, certainly for him and us," coach Wade Phillips said. "But long term, he's going to be all right."

Until Thursday, when announcing that Jones will be placed on injured reserve, the Cowboys had not reported the toe injury. The practice report released by the team Wednesday, after Jones had limited participation, listed only the hamstring.

The Cowboys now say Jones, one of the team's two first-round draft picks, practiced then so they could evaluate his ability to play with the toe injury.

Team spokesman Rich Dalrymple said in a statement that Jones' participation in practice "was designated as a day to obtain a thorough evaluation

on his current condition and his ability to perform all of the running tasks involved in playing in a game."

That was the first time Jones had practiced since hurting his hamstring.

Based on that practice session and an evaluation by Dr. Robert Anderson, a North Carolina-based foot and ankle specialist who reviewed an MRI of Jones' foot, the Cowboys decided Jones couldn't play again this season and that the best option for his long-term future was surgery.

Team owner Jerry Jones said the surgery would be done Saturday in Charlotte by Anderson.

Dalrymple said Felix Jones hurt his toe while doing some rehabilitation work Nov. 7, the Friday going into the team's open date. Phillips said Jones' toe bent back when his foot slipped while running on the grass.

In his six games, Jones rushed 30 times for 266 yards (8.9 yards per carry) with three touchdowns. The 22nd overall pick, the speedy Jones provided a change of pace to bruising Pro Bowl starting running back Marion Barber. Jones also returned 16 kickoffs for a 27.1-yard average, including a 98-yard touchdown.

## IN BRIEF

### Utley may miss opener due to surgery in right hip

PHILADELPHIA — Three-time All-Star Chase Utley, who anchored the middle of the lineup for the World Series champion Phillies, will have surgery and may not be ready for the start of the 2009 regular season.

Utley will have surgery next week to repair any bone or cartilage damage he may have in his right hip. He will be able to begin baseball activity in three to four months. But depending on the extent of the damage, full recovery could take until May, team officials said Thursday.

"Our feeling is that he's going to be fairly close to ready if not ready by opening day," general manager Ruben Amaro Jr. said. "We fully expect to have Chase Utley with us for the bulk of the season."

Utley was bothered by symptoms during the season but still hit .292 and led all second basemen with 33 home runs and 104 RBIs.

### Phillies and Rangers complete trade of first round picks

ARLINGTON, Texas — The World Series champion Philadelphia Phillies and Texas Rangers swapped former first-round picks Thursday.

Texas acquired outfielder Greg Golson from the Phillies for outfielder John Mayberry.

In another move, the Rangers designated right-hander Kameron Loe for assignment in anticipation of selling his rights to a team in Japan.

Golson, who is from Texas, was the 21st overall pick by the Phillies in the 2004 draft. He spent last season at Double-A Reading, where he hit .282 with 13 homers and 60 RBIs in 106 games. He went 0-for-6 as a September call-up for the Phillies, his only major league action.

Mayberry, drafted 19th overall by the Rangers in 2005, hit .263 with 16 homers and 58 RBIs in 114 games for Triple-A Oklahoma City this year.

### Kenseth signs mega-deal with Roush Fenway Racing

CONCORD, N.C. — Matt Kenseth signed a multiyear contract extension Thursday with Roush Fenway Racing to continue driving the No. 17 Ford.

The deal comes at the end of one of Kenseth's most disappointing seasons: He failed to win a race for the first time since 2001, and his 11th-place finish in the standings was his lowest since that season.

But the 2003 series champion has been with Roush since 1998, winning 16 Sprint Cup races and 24 Nationwide Series races. His championship was the first for owner Jack Roush at the Cup level.

"It's been a great 11 years at Roush Fenway Racing," Kenseth said. "We've had a lot of success together including a championship and I'm really proud of that. I'm looking forward to the next few years and winning another championship with Roush Fenway."

around the

NBA

New Orleans @ Oklahoma City  
8:30 p.m., ESPN



MLB

# Hal officially takes over the Yankees

Associated Press

NEW YORK — George Steinbrenner is boss of the New York Yankees no more.

The omnipresent owner's colorful 35-year reign of pronouncements, threats and firings ended Thursday when he passed control of baseball's most famous franchise to his youngest son, Hal.

The elder Steinbrenner has gradually withdrawn from the Yankees' day-to-day operations in recent years as his health faded, and brothers Hal and Hank were appointed co-chairmen in April.

"I realize it's a great responsibility," said Hal Steinbrenner, who turns 40 on Dec. 3. "My dad is, needless to say, a tough act to follow."

George Steinbrenner, now 78, headed a group that bought the club in January 1973 for an \$8.7 million net price and became one of the most high-profile owners in all of sports. He dominated the back pages of New York's tabloids, earning the nickname "The Boss" as he spent lavishly on players and changed managers 20 times during his first 23 years as owner, feuding with Billy Martin, Yogi Berra and Dave Winfield.

The Yankees regained their former glory, winning six World Series titles and 10 American League pennants from 1976-2003. They also transformed themselves into a sports empire that owns a cable television network and food concession company and is preparing to move into a \$1.3 billion new Yankee Stadium next year.

Steinbrenner was baseball's longest-serving current owner, but has cut back his role with the team following fainting spells that required hospitalization in December 2003 and October 2006.

His speech in public has been halting and weak since the second fall, and he has needed assistance when walking. From a golf cart, he delivered the balls for the ceremonial first pitches at July's All-Star game at Yankee Stadium, then stayed home in Florida to watch the 85-year-old park's final game on television in September.

Baseball owners unanimously approved the change in control during a meeting Thursday, ending an era in which Steinbrenner became the team's defining image as much as Babe Ruth and Joe DiMaggio did in earlier eras.

"He's been slowing down the last couple years," Hal

Steinbrenner said. "Really, for the last two years I have been intimately involved with all aspects and all departments of the company. It's what I've been doing day-to-day. My duties aren't really going to change and my workload isn't going to change much. So, I mean, it's as much a procedural thing within the family, I think, as anything at this point."

Hal Steinbrenner shuns attention as much as his father craved it. But while 51-year-old Hank has become the public voice of the team's ownership in the past year, Hal was at Yankee Stadium

far more frequently than his brother. Hal is responsible for financial operations of the club, and Hank oversees general manager Brian Cashman and the baseball operations.

"I'm not going to ask the people in the family why they picked one against the other," said baseball commissioner Bud Selig, who visited Steinbrenner in Tampa, Fla., before Game 2 of the World Series last month. "I get enough trouble as commissioner. I don't need to get into family squabbles."

Major League Baseball said George Steinbrenner requested the change in control be made, and the Yankees said Hank Steinbrenner voted in favor of it. George Steinbrenner retains his title as the team's chairman and his wife, Joan, is a vice chairperson along with their daughters, Jennifer Steinbrenner Swindal and Jessica Steinbrenner.

Before Hal, each son-in-law of the owner emerged as heir apparent, only to divorce the owner's daughters and depart the team.

Joe Molloy, married to Jessica Steinbrenner, was a general partner from 1992-97. Steve Swindal, married to Jennifer Steinbrenner, was a general partner from 1998-06, then became chairman of Yankee Global Enterprises LLC, the team's holding company. He was publicly designated by George Steinbrenner as his successor in June 2005 but Swindal departed after his driving under the influence arrest early on Feb. 15, 2007.

Hal Steinbrenner became more active in the team's operations following Swindal's arrest.

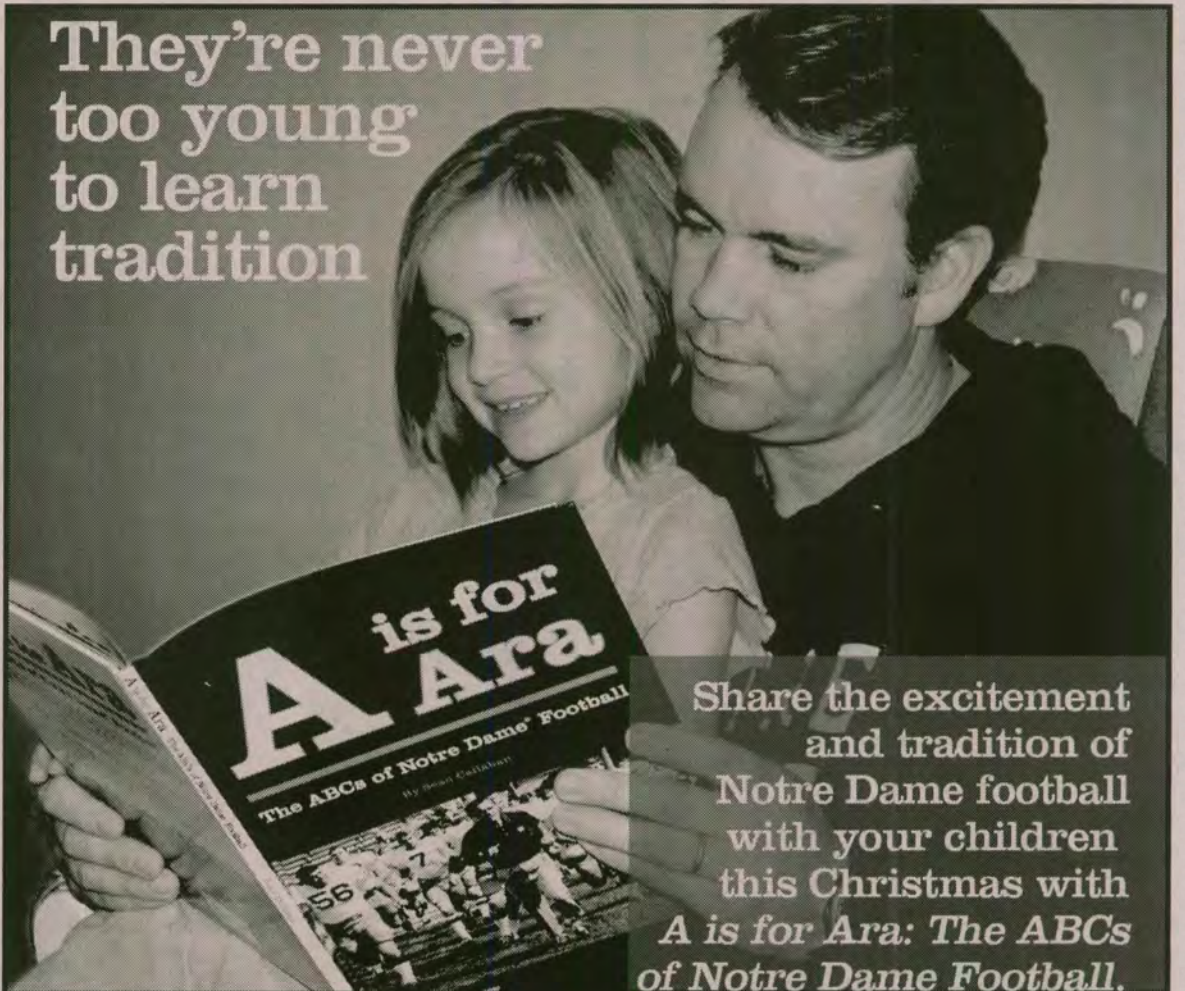
"George is still going to be involved," Yankees president Randy Levine said. "This is really just a codification, with the commissioner's help and input, of what's been going on the last several years."

*"I realize it's a great responsibility. My dad is, needless to say, a tough act to follow."*

**Hal Steinbrenner**  
Yankees owner

*"Really, for the last two years I have been intimately involved with all aspects and all departments of the company. It's what I've been doing day-to-day."*

**Hal Steinbrenner**  
Yankees owner



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NFL

# Quinn to play with broken finger

Associated Press

BEREA, Ohio — Brady Quinn got his first NFL win as a starter almost single-handedly.

Quinn broke his right index finger during the first half of Monday night's game against the Buffalo Bills, but Cleveland's new starting quarterback stayed in and led the Browns to a 29-27 victory.

Despite the injury, Quinn will try to play Sunday when the Browns host the Houston Texans.

"At this point, it's just a little sore," he said before practice on Thursday. "Just doing the best we can to take all the precautions to make sure it's all right."

Quinn didn't seem to be bothered by the finger while throwing during the 30-minute segment of practice open to the media. He didn't favor the finger while taking snaps and fired a few tight spirals while working out in the team's indoor practice facility. Later, the team's injury report said Quinn participated in the full practice.

The Browns initially thought Quinn only bruised his hand after banging it on the helmet of a Bills player. But after he complained of soreness following Wednesday's practice, X-rays

were taken and revealed a fracture on the tip of his finger.

Quinn was cleared to play by a specialist at the Cleveland Clinic.

"The hand specialist says because it's a fracture, soreness initially will be the thing that he has to deal with the most," coach Romeo Crennel said.

"Then probably after this week, the soreness will die down. We plan to monitor him on a regular basis, just to make sure that it's not getting worse or anything like that. But he's going to play, he's going to practice, he's going to try to help the team win."

*"At this point, it's just a little sore. Just doing the best we can to take all the precautions to make sure it's all right."*

**Brady Quinn**  
Browns quarterback

Making his second career start and first on the road, Quinn finished 14-of-36 for 185 yards against the Bills. He didn't throw a touchdown pass or an interception. Late in the fourth quarter, the former Notre Dame star completed passes of 12 and 16 yards to set up Phil Dawson's winning 56-yard field goal with 1:39 left.

*"But he's going to play, he's going to practice, he's going to try to help the team win."*

**Romeo Crennel**  
Browns coach

Quinn banged his hand on a helmet in the first quarter and then again in the second. He was surprised to learn that it was broken and said he has never had a similar injury.

Cleveland's most popular player, Quinn was promoted two weeks ago when Crennel benched Derek Anderson following a loss to Baltimore. Crennel said he didn't consider making the switch back to Anderson, a Pro Bowler last season, after Quinn got medical clearance.

"If the specialist had said he can't play, then we wouldn't play him," Crennel said. "But the specialist says he can practice and he can play. I think that the organization wants to do what's best for the player in conjunction with what the medical staff tells us. When the doctor said that he can play, then we're going to let him play."

"That's the way we treat all the players," he added. "If the doctor says they can play we let them play."

clue. I'm going to snap a little lighter, I guess."

Fraley said Quinn showed no signs of being slowed by the injury during practice on Wednesday.

"He looked fine," he said. "If you didn't say a word to me or anybody in this locker room, I don't think anybody else would have even known."

MLB

# Baseball institutes new postseason rule

Associated Press

NEW YORK — There has never been a rain-shortened game in the postseason, and now there never will be.

Baseball commissioner Bud Selig announced the sport will enact a rules change stating that postseason games cannot be shortened because of bad weather.

"All postseason games, All-Star games and that, will be full-length affairs, and the rule will be so written," Selig said Thursday following an owners' meeting.

Selig said the change also will apply to tiebreaker games that decide division titles and wild-card berths.

"Any game that has significance for the postseason," he said. "It will be very clear now. Everybody will know exactly."

Under baseball's rules, games are official as soon as the trailing team has made 15 outs.

During World Series Game 5 between Tampa Bay and Philadelphia last month, Selig decided that it wouldn't be cut short because of pouring rain. Just after the Rays tied it in the top of the sixth, umpires halted play and the game was suspended for 46 hours.

Selig said that if the Phillies still led 2-1 when play was stopped, the game would have gone into a rain delay until it could resume — even if that took several days.

"We'll stay here if we have to celebrate Thanksgiving here," he said.

Management lawyers will discuss the contemplated change with the players' association.

"I expect that will be having discussions with the commissioner's office about that rule in the weeks to come," union general counsel

Michael Weiner said. "I don't want to prejudge it one way or the other."

Selig had former Federal Reserve board chairman Paul Volcker address owners. Volcker, chairman of the Federal Reserve board from August 1979-August 1987 and an adviser to President-elect Barack Obama, served on Selig's economic study committees from 1990-92 in 1999-2000.

Selig saw no need to substantiate what Volcker said.

"Me substantiating Volcker would be like you substantiating Grantland Rice," he told a reporter.

Selig wouldn't speculate on whether the economy would slow the potential purchase of the Chicago Cubs, who were put up for sale when Tribune Co. agreed in April 2007 to be acquired by Sam Zell. The next round of bids is due Dec. 1, and representatives of four groups have met with MLB officials in recent weeks.

"The process is in Sam Zell's hands," Selig said. "Time will tell. The bids will come in and then we will be able to make a judgment — he'll be able to make the judgment."

There has been widespread speculation that the bidders will have trouble financing any deal given the lack of liquidity in the credit markets.

"I don't know what economic problems the bidders have or haven't had," Selig said. "And I don't know that the Tribune knows it, either, frankly."

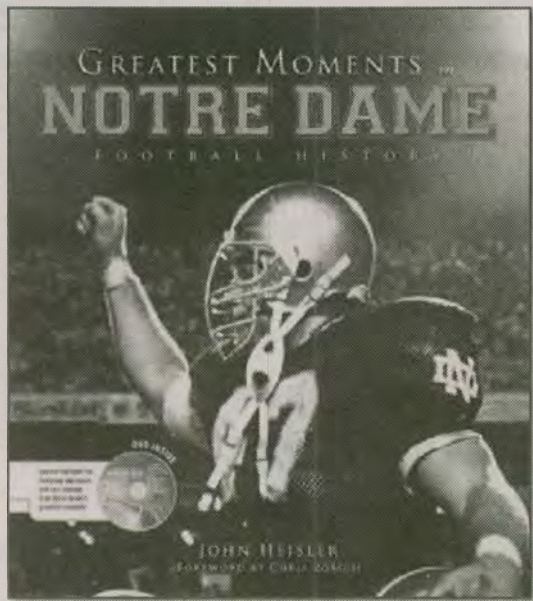
At the meeting, owners unanimously approved 39-year-old Hal Steinbrenner as controlling owner of the New York Yankees, ending the 35-year reign of George Steinbrenner, who is 78 and in declining health.

*"All postseason games, All-Star games and that, will be full-length affairs, and the rule will be so written."*

**Bud Selig**  
MLB commissioner

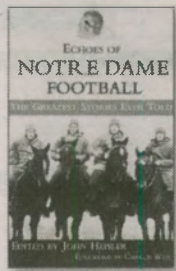
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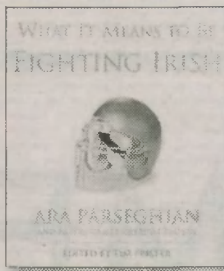


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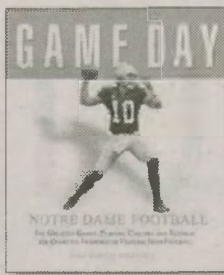
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## MLB

## Yankees pitcher Mussina hangs up the cleats after 18 years

Associated Press

NEW YORK — Mike Mussina took a secret to the ballpark every day this season. Maybe that's why he was so successful on the mound, so jovial in the clubhouse.

From Day One of spring training, he knew this was his final year — even if it meant giving up bids for 300 wins, a World Series ring and a better shot at the Hall of Fame.

The New York Yankees pitcher walked away from baseball Thursday after his only 20-win season, a month shy of his 40th birthday with a still-potent right arm.

"I don't have any regrets with what I decided. This is the right time," Mussina said on a conference call.

"I don't think there was ever a point where I looked around and said, 'You know what, I'm going to change my mind,'" he said. "It was like the last year of high school. You know it's going to end and you enjoy the ride."

Mussina finished 270-153 with a 3.68 ERA in 18 seasons with Baltimore and New York. A thinking man's pitcher who relied on sharp control and did more than overpower hitters, he ranks 32nd on the career wins list and 19th in strikeouts with 2,813.

His dad and brother tried to talk him out of retirement and Yankees general manager Brian Cashman called to ask about his future. Instead, "Moose" became the first healthy pitcher to leave on his own accord following a 20-win season in more than a century.

Sandy Koufax left the Dodgers after 1966 because of agonizing elbow pain, Eddie Cicotte and Lefty Williams got tossed in the Black Sox scandal. Henry Schmidt won 22 for Brooklyn in 1903 as a rookie, then decided to go West and return to the Pacific Coast League.

"I love baseball. I love playing, I love pitching," Mussina said. "This is good for me. This is it."

On Mussina's last day as a big leaguer, he pitched six shutout innings at Fenway Park to beat Boston and wind up 20-9 — it made him the oldest first-time 20-game winner ever.

"It was a nice way to finish," he said.

As for what's next, "I don't really have any plans," he said.

A man of diverse interests, no telling whether he'll get to enjoy the things he sometimes talked about — going to the Daytona 500, seeing his favorite Irish setters in the Westminster Kennel Club dog show.

A few hours before his official announcement, Mussina shoveled snow and cleaned closets at his home in Montoursville, Pa. He likes small-town life, often coached basketball and football at the local high school and intends to spend a lot of time watching his 10- and 5-year-old sons play ball.

In five years, Mussina will become eligible for the Hall of Fame, and it figures to be a lively debate. He acknowledged there are solid arguments on both sides.

"It's not my decision to make," he said.

Mussina never won a Cy Young Award

or a World Series championship and was a 20-game winner just on the final day of his career. He was 7-8 with a 3.42 ERA in postseason play.

He was amazingly consistent — after going 4-5 as a rookie with Baltimore in 1991, he became the only AL pitcher to reach double figures in wins for 17 straight years. He was a five-time All-Star and won his seventh Gold Glove earlier this month.

Tall and slim, Mussina spent his whole career pitching in the bruising AL East, smack in the Steroids Era.

His best outing came in 2001 at Boston, when he came within one strike of a perfect game before Carl Everett singled. Mussina's proudest moment came in Game 7 of the 2003 ALCS, when he made the first relief appearance of his career and

threw three scoreless innings against the Red Sox.

"My numbers match up well with guys who are in the Hall of the Fame," he said, adding other pitchers have won more games and been left out.

Said Yankees captain Derek Jeter: "Moose's accomplishments in the game over the last 18 years represent a Hall of Fame player."

Mussina said he couldn't envision himself working in baseball in the foreseeable future, though he was open to someday helping out young pitchers.

Money isn't an issue. He left Baltimore to sign an \$88.5 million, six-year contract as a free agent with the Yankees before the 2001 season and finished with a \$23 million, two-year deal.

Mussina graduated early from Stanford with an economics degree — he won the College World Series with the Cardinal — and came to the Yankees with a reputation as an ace pitcher with a prickly personality. He softened over the years, and by the end became a chatty clubhouse spokesman who kept reporters chuckling with his witty observations and thoughtful answers.

Mussina frequently sat in front of his locker doing crossword puzzles. In fact, he appeared in the 2006 documentary "Wordplay" and kept a thesaurus in his stall for knotty problems.

No words, however, could change his mind on calling it a career. Mussina said he decided last January that he had one more season.

"Good or bad, this is going to be the last year," he told himself. "That's just how I felt."

Mussina said most of his teammates knew his plans. More relaxed, he called it a fun year.

Now, he said, it was time to stay home. Spring training would have to come and go.

"I think February is going to be a little strange," he said. "It'll be different. It'll be weird."



Former Yankees pitcher Mike Mussina waves to the crowd during the seventh inning of game against Chicago earlier this year.

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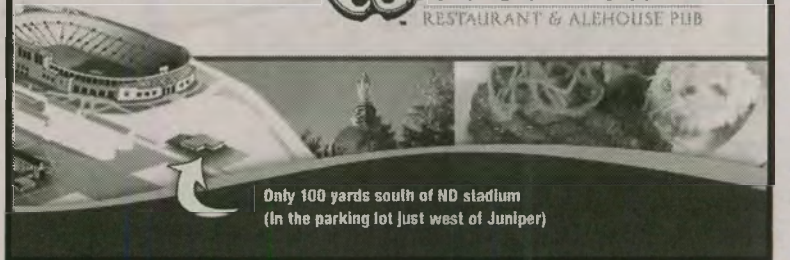
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**SMC BASKETBALL**

# Saint Mary's begins life without Kessler

By KATE GRABAREK  
Sports Writer

Tonight begins a new era for Saint Mary's basketball.

When the Belles take on Ohio Wesleyan tonight to open their season, they will do so without Alison Kessler, who graduated last spring as the program's all-time scoring leader.

"There certainly was a void to fill after the graduation of Alison," Belles coach Jen Henley said of Kessler, who holds five other school records. "But every program goes through that transition as your seniors graduate. The team has adjusted well."

The Belles will be led this season by their four seniors — guards Meghan Conaty and Katie Rashid along with forwards Nicole Beier and Erin Newsom.

Newsom had six double-doubles last season, and she combined with junior forward Anna Kammrath to amass 551 points, and 432 rebounds last season.

"I expect us to have more depth in our program this season," Henley said. "We need to improve our overall team defense and be more balanced in our offense from last season."

The Belles will get a boost from junior guard Mary Lynn Carlson, who missed significant time with a knee injury

last year. To combine with a strong veteran core, the team also has seven freshmen on the roster this season.

"Our freshmen need to learn our program and what we are trying to establish," Henley said. "We have a very talented young group that will have the opportunity to contribute early for us."

The Belles are coming off a fourth-place finish in the MIAA conference last season in which they went 13-13 overall, 8-8 in conference.

The MIAA preseason coaches' poll picked Saint Mary's to finish fourth again this season with Hope, Calvin and

Albion predicted to finish atop the conference.

Tonight's match-up with Ohio Wesleyan starts the Anderson College Tip-Off Tournament in Anderson, Ind.

"It's tough to be specific since it's the first game of the season for both teams," Henley said. "The only stats we have are from last season. Those do not give an accurate view of a team's potential."

The Belles will play in either the tournament's consolation or championship game on Saturday before their home opener against Wheaton on Tuesday at 6 p.m.

Contact Kate Grabarek at [Kgraba01@saintmarys.edu](mailto:Kgraba01@saintmarys.edu)

*"I expect us to have more depth in our program this season."*

**Jen Henley**  
Belles coach

**MEN'S SWIMMING**

# Buckeyes burst into Rolfs

By MIKE GOTIMER  
Sports Writer

Notre Dame faces its toughest challenge of the season when No. 11 Ohio State travels to the Rolfs Aquatic Center at 5 p.m. tonight with an undefeated 3-0 record on the season.

The Irish enter the meet with a 3-2 record on the year. In their most recent meet, they swept a dual meet at Cleveland State against the Vikings and Miami (OH). The Irish improved their record against Cleveland State to 22-

2 under Coach Tim Welsh.

But in their only meet against top-25 competition, the Irish fell to No. 16 Purdue, 187-108. Unfortunately for the Irish, it doesn't get much easier against the Buckeyes.

*"Ohio State may be the fastest team to visit Notre Dame this season."*

**Tim Welsh**  
Irish coach

"Ohio State may be the fastest team to visit Notre Dame this season," Irish coach Tim Welsh said. "They swim very well in dual meets, and we are

expecting this to be one of our toughest of the season. Hopefully this will bring out fast swims on our end as well."

The meet is the first of at least two times where the Irish will face off against the Buckeyes. Notre Dame returns the favor and travels to Columbus for the Ohio State Invitational, which runs from Dec. 5-7. This is Notre Dame's last meet before the trip.

Although the Irish and Buckeyes have not swam against each other in a dual meet in quite some time, they have participated in the Ohio State Invitational in each of the past two seasons. The Irish finished third in 2006 and fourth in 2007 while the Buckeyes placed second in both years. The University of Minnesota came in first in each meet.

Contact Mike Gotimer at [mgotimer@nd.edu](mailto:mgotimer@nd.edu)

**NCAA FOOTBALL**

# Pitt offense runs through McCoy

Associated Press

PITTSBURGH — If Pittsburgh's Top 25 game at Cincinnati is tight in the fourth quarter Saturday night, both teams know what will happen when the Panthers have the ball.

The same thing that happened in last year's Panthers-Bearcats game. The Pitt-Notre Dame game earlier this month. The Pitt vs. then-No. 2 West Virginia game last season.

LeSean McCoy, college football's road runner, is going to get the ball. A lot.

McCoy is only a sophomore, but he might be the Panthers' best big-game rusher since Heisman Trophy winner Tony Dorsett in the 1970s. McCoy doesn't pile up his yards against the lightweights on the Panthers' schedule or in games in which they're leading big.

McCoy is often at his best when the games are the biggest, a quality not all 1,000-yard rushers possess. Especially in road games, where McCoy has gained more than half of his career yardage.

"We don't want to take the ball out of Shady's hands," offensive coordinator Matt Cavanaugh said.

For good reason, too. During Pitt's 39-36, four-overtime win at Notre Dame on Nov. 1, McCoy rushed for 101 yards — from the fourth quarter on, finishing with 169 yards and a touchdown. That performance came during a four-week stretch in which he ran for 613 yards and 10 touchdowns against South

Florida, Navy, Rutgers and Notre Dame.

McCoy gained 137 yards as Pitt beat then-No. 23 Cincinnati 24-17 last season. Later in the season, he ran for 148 yards on 38 carries — on the road — as Pitt defeated West Virginia 13-9 in the biggest upset in school history.

McCoy's ability to get tough yardage in difficult circumstances has allowed Pitt to win its last five road games, beating two Top 10 teams (West Virginia and then-No. 10 South Florida), plus Notre Dame.

Now, No. 20 Pitt (7-2, 3-1 in Big East) will try to beat another ranked team on the road in No. 19 Cincinnati (8-2, 4-1), which is 0-7 against the Panthers.

"Playing good on the road, that's worked out real well for us," said McCoy, who has 1,043 yards and 16 touchdowns this season after running for 1,328 yards and 14 TDs as freshman. "This is in the point in the year where we really need it. We have a big game with Cincinnati on the road, so we have to keep our streak going."

His streak, too. McCoy has rushed for 142 yards or more in each of his last five road games, and has gained 120 yards or more in seven of his nine career games away from Heinz Field.

McCoy has been held below 100 yards only twice on the road and below 86 only once, a 60-yard game at Rutgers last season. He has gained 1,202 of his 2,371 career yards and has nine touchdowns in his nine road games, an average of 133.6 yards.

According to Stats, Inc., the only running backs on Top 25 teams who have gained more road yardage than McCoy the last two seasons are MiQuale Lewis of Ball State (1,287 yards in nine games) and Chris Wells of Ohio State (1,282 yards in nine games).

A big game from McCoy is almost a necessity if Pitt is to win at Cincinnati, which can all but wrap up the Big East title and a BCS bowl bid with a victory. The Bearcats' only remaining conference game after Saturday is against Syracuse (2-8, 1-5).

"Cincinnati, I'm sure they're going to do their best to stop the run," quarterback Bill Stull said. "Louisville put a lot of extra time into doing that and was successful, but that allowed us to mix in a couple of other things with some reverses and trick plays."

Louisville was so geared up to stop McCoy, limiting him to 39 yards and a touchdown on 17 carries on Nov. 8, that the rest of the offense pretty much did what it wanted. Stull passed for 216 yards and a touchdown and the Pitt defense scored two touchdowns during a 41-7 victory.

Cincinnati's rushing defense is the third best in the Big East, allowing an average of 112 yards.

"They probably have the toughest defense we'll face all season," Stull said. "They have a good secondary, but we believe they'll try to stop the run first. That's fine with us."

A victory opens the door for the Panthers to win the conference if they can beat West Virginia and Connecticut in their final two games.

"Maybe we can be the team to do what we did to West Virginia last year, we can knock everybody else out," McCoy said. "That's our mindset. We have three tough games left against three tough teams, so the way we look at it is, 'How bad do we want it?'"

"The leaders on this team, they want it bad. ... So does coach (Dave Wannstedt). Coach, he wants this real bad."

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# Recruits

continued from page 24

es in the country."

While Larson was selected by Calgary in the fourth round (108th overall) of last year's NHL draft, two of his future classmates have been tabbed as "Players to Watch" by the NHL.

Given an "A" rating, Palmieri was classified as a "Must See player" and a projected first or second round draft pick. Calabrese was given a "C" rating as a potential late-round choice.

Both Fowler and Sheahan are not eligible for the 2009 NHL Draft but are expected to be first-round choices in 2010, a und.com release said.

Calabrese is a 5-foot-10, 170-pound, right-handed defenseman who has four assists in 19 games with the national team this year. He joined the Team USA program after recording 10 goals and 62 assists in 70 games with Team Illinois in 2006-07.

"Sam is a very mobile defenseman with excellent offensive instincts who has improved his defensive game over the last two seasons," Jackson said.

At 6-foot-2, 190 pounds, Fowler brings sound offensive skills and a powerful left-handed shot to the defensive unit. He has three goals

and 11 assists in 19 games under the US Under-18 team this season and tallied two goals and 12 assists in 59 games for the Under-17 squad last season.

"Cam is a dynamic player at the defense position," Jackson said. "He'll be a great power-play quarterback and potentially is as talented a defenseman as we've ever had at Notre Dame."

Palmieri, the final member of the Team USA trio, is a 5-foot-10, 180-pound right wing who moved up to the Under-18 squad midway through last season after starting the campaign with the Under-17 team. He totaled 29 goals and 19 assists in 66 games between the two teams last year, and has five goals and four assists through 19 games this season.

"Kyle is a dynamic player who plays with a lot of jam. He's an offensively skilled with excellent hockey instincts and is a fierce competitor," Jackson said. "Kyle is one of those players that makes things happen on the ice."

At 6-foot-2 and 203 pounds, Larson is a prototypical, physical left wing who is a factor in front of the net. Last season, he played alongside current Irish freshman forward Billy Maday with the Waterloo Black Hawks, when he totaled 19 goals and 19 assists in the regular season and added three goals and two assists in the playoffs.

"Nick plays well without the pouck and knows how to put himself in position to score," Jackson said. "He's got a good shot with a quick release and is at his best when he plays with a physical edge."

A second cousin of former Irish defenseman Brock Sheahan, who graduated last year, Ryan Sheahan is a 6-foot-2, 195-pound center who is a quick, skilled offensive threat. His team, the St. Catharines Falcons, lead their division, and he leads the squad with 17 goals and 31 assists in 24 games - that's two points a game.

"Riley will be a dynamic player at the collegiate level," Jackson said. "He's got all the tools. He's as complete a player as we've recruited from an offensive perspective, and yet he's not afraid to get his nose dirty."

While the Irish are surely looking forward to the arrival of their five future teammates, this year's installment of Notre Dame hockey will begin a home-and-home weekend series with Bowling Green tonight.

The No. 5 Irish (7-3-1, 3-2-1-1 CCHA) host the Falcons (5-5-2, 4-3-1-0 CCHA) at 7:35 p.m. tonight before the same two teams meet tomorrow night in Bowling Green, Ohio.

Contact Matt Gamber at [mgamber@nd.edu](mailto:mgamber@nd.edu)

# T'eo

continued from page 24

Calif. Part of the reason as to why Gaffney is interested in Notre Dame is thanks to special teams coach Brian Polian's efforts in the Golden State.

"Brian Polian's done a great job of recruiting him all throughout, and Gaffney has always said he'd visit," Frank said. "It's just a matter of finding the right time since a lot of these guys are still in their

playoffs. It's really hard to know when they're going to be able to get out and take a look. I think Tyler Gaffney likes Notre Dame quite a bit. He likes the tradition and the school, and he likes the fact that it's a strong academic institution. He's got a lot of options, but I think he likes the

idea of Notre Dame."

In addition, a pair of junior wide receivers from the Chicagoland area is visiting this weekend. Corey Cooper, who committed early to the University of Illinois, is still keeping his options open and will take his second unofficial visit to Notre Dame Saturday. Cooper is from the same high school as Irish safety Sergio Brown, Proviso East High.

The other receiver is Kyle Prater who is a teammate of Cooper's and has had a solid junior campaign

*"Brian Polian's done a great job of recruiting him all throughout and Gaffney has always said he'd visit."*

Mike Frank  
Irish recruiting analyst

thus far. "Kyle's had a really nice year," Frank said. "He's put up some good numbers and he's a guy to keep an eye on because I know Notre Dame is pretty interested."

Contact Lorenzo Reyes at [lreyes@nd.edu](mailto:lreyes@nd.edu)

## ND VOLLEYBALL

# ND ready for rematch with Huskies

By JARED JEDICK  
Sports Writer

The Big East Championship starts up with a bang this morning in Pittsburgh with an opening round rematch against Connecticut.

After earning the number five seed last weekend with a win over that same Connecticut team, the Irish are poised to build on some late season momentum and make a run at the Big East Championship.

"I think we have a really good chance at winning the tournament," Irish coach Debbie Brown said. "We have been doing some things very well lately and I am very optimistic."

The Irish have always played inspired volleyball in the Big East Championship, especially in Pittsburgh. The Irish have won five of six league tournaments played in Pittsburgh with an impressive 12-1 record.

"In terms of preparation, we feel good. We know it will be a tremendously competitive tournament and we like that, because that type of environment brings out the best in us," Brown said.

The Irish are looking forward to the tournament where all the teams are now even and anything can happen.

"The Big East tournament is

always fun and exciting," Brown said. "As much as we'd like to go into the tournament as a higher seed, everyone is 0-0 at this point. We're excited to face a first-round opponent that we just played. Whether we had won or lost the previous match, I'd say the same thing. You know who the players are and you have a better feel for the team, opposed to someone you played in the season's first weekend."

The tournament will begin in unusual fashion, with the Irish playing the fourth-seeded Huskies for the second game in a row. The match last weekend ended in a 3-2 victory for the Irish. The win against Connecticut snapped the Huskies' seven game winning streak.

"I was very pleased with how the defense played against Connecticut," Brown said. "We held them to a very low hitting percentage."

The familiarity will be an advantage for the Irish, as they know what it takes to beat the Huskies.

"It helps that we just played them," Brown said. "It would be different if we played them earlier in the year; but we know exactly what to expect."

The Huskies come into the tournament on fire. The loss to Notre Dame was only the second loss Connecticut has suffered since

October 18. The Irish played some great defense against Connecticut that they would like to see again in the rematch along with a little more offense. Brown believes the key to the Irish's success this weekend will be a stronger and more diverse offense.

After the first round games the winners will play again on Saturday. If the Irish advance they will play the winner of the No. 1 St. John's and No. 8 South Florida game.

Assuming that St. John's can avoid the big upset, the Irish will play the other team that they faced last weekend. Once again the Irish will benefit from the experience they gained playing against the league's best team.

Brown believes that the Irish played one of their best games this year in the close 2-3 loss last weekend against St. John's, and the team is looking forward to the possible match-up in the semi-finals.

Sunday's title match will be on Sunday. If the Irish run the table and become the winner of the Big East Championship, they will receive the league's automatic bid to the 2008 NCAA Division I Women's Volleyball Championship.

Contact Jared Jedick at [jjedick@nd.edu](mailto:jjedick@nd.edu)

## SMC SWIMMING

# Belles look to push record over .500

By ERIC PRISTER  
Sports Writer

Saint Mary's will continue its 2008 season with the Patrick Woehner Invitational, a two-day event starting today.

The Belles are coming off a solid win against conference opponent Alma College, which improved their overall record to 2-2, not including a 4th place finish in Dennis Stark relays at the beginning of the season.

Saint Mary's has been led by stellar performances from underclassman. Sophomore Maggie Williams and freshman Eva Cavadini lead the

team with seven first-place finishes apiece, and freshman Audrey Dalrymple has performed well with six first-place finishes of her own.

Last year in the Patrick Woehner Invitational, the Belles finished in last place, but they hope to improve on that performance in this year's meet.

The invitational is hosted by Wabash College in Crawfordsville, IN. It will begin tonight at 6:00 P.M. in the Class of 1950 Natatorium in the Allen Athletics and Recreation Center.

Contact Eric Prister at [epriester@nd.edu](mailto:epriester@nd.edu)

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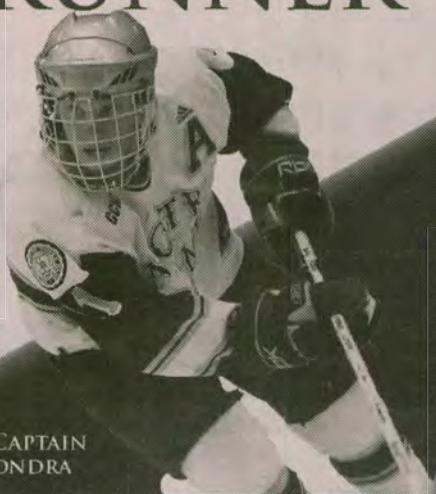
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# 2008 NCAA RUNNER-UP

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ERIK CONDRA

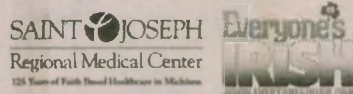
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# Diggins

continued from page 24

me next year.' And at first I thought she meant we had too many guards and I didn't think she was going to fit, and I had a moment of 'I better explain this right away.'

"And then I just realized she was saying 'Yes.' There was some pandemonium in the locker room.

Unlike with most players, who start getting heavily recruited later in their high school careers, Diggins' process began much earlier. McGraw said she first offered the 5-foot-9 guard a scholarship in eighth grade.

"We had seen her play and I knew she was going to be a great player," McGraw said. "... She was really special and I think we could tell that right away."

Previously, the earliest McGraw said she offered a scholarship was during the sophomore seasons of current juniors Ashley Barlow and Melissa Lechlitter.

"They both committed at the offer, so that's why we thought it was supposed to work," McGraw said jokingly.

One of the things that made signing Diggins more difficult than any other prospect during McGraw's long tenure at Notre Dame is that she is by far the highest ranked prospect to commit to the University in program history. McGraw said the national attention Diggins received made recruiting her a lot more stressful than her experience with other players.

"It is a long process, and I think it got a little more stressful as the process went on," McGraw said. "We were just trying to not put

pressure on her, and trying to let her come to the decision herself without trying to talk her into it."

The fact that Diggins is a South Bend native helped ease the process, McGraw said, since she and her staff could put in a lot of face time at Diggins' high school games. McGraw said she almost had to "guard her turf" because of the number of coaches flying into South Bend to watch Diggins play.

"We keep talking to people at the airport to delay the flights coming in, put that fence up around town, charge a toll to get in. We could have made a lot of money this year," McGraw said.

Regardless of the extra attention on Diggins, McGraw said the process remained the same as it has with all of her other players.

"Most of [the girls on the team] committed so early in the process, none of them except for [sophomore forward] Devereaux [Peters], took any other official visits," she said.

Diggins is currently 19th on the all-time scorers' list in Indiana high school girls basketball with 2,036 points. She has averaged 24.8 points, 5.6 rebounds, 5.4 assists, 4.1 steals and 1.3 blocks per game during her three years on the varsity team at Washington. She has also started 81 of 82 games at the school — which has a 76-6 record in the last three seasons — and won the state championship her sophomore season.

Diggins joins point guard Kaila Turner from Joliet, Ill., and Marian Catholic High School as this year's recruiting class — ranked between No. 13 and No. 18 by national recruiting services. This marks the twelfth consecutive top 25 recruiting class for the Irish, a feat matched only by

perennial powerhouses Tennessee and Connecticut.

McGraw said her recruiting is likely done, unless a big name post player comes up later in the process. If current senior guard Lindsay Schrader opts to take her redshirt fifth-year (earned after tearing her ACL two seasons ago), the Irish will have 13 players on the roster next season.

But looking into the more immediate future, the Irish will take on Boston College Sunday at Chestnut Hills, Mass.

The Eagles currently sit at 3-0, thanks in large part to their front court. Center Carolyn Swords stands at 6-foot-6 and forward Stefanie Murphy have helped lead the scoring so far this year for Boston College. Swords is first on the team, averaging a double-double through three games at 21.7 points and 10 boards, while Murphy is third with 11 points per game.

"We're going to count on Erica Williamson and hope our post defense can really come through for us," McGraw said.

McGraw said the team will be working on boxing out and rebounding this week at practice to make up for the size differential. In Notre Dame's last game, a 96-61 win over Evansville Wednesday night, the Irish were outrebounded 42-36.

McGraw said she doesn't expect her team to play as much man-to-man defense to avoid mismatches, but added that this game will come to which scheme will work best.

"We'll see if it's a speed issue or a size issue, what's going to win," she said.

Contact Jay Fitzpatrick at [jfitzpa5@nd.edu](mailto:jfitzpa5@nd.edu)

# Sweet 16

continued from page 24

go after it," he said. "They're very similar to Marquette or [North] Carolina in that way ... At the end of the day, I think we're gonna go out there and find a very good team."

But that's not to say that Minnesota has a weak back line.

"They're a very good defense, much like we are," he said.

"They haven't given up a ton of goals but we have the weapons, and if we stick to our game-plan I think we'll be alright."

The undefeated Irish, who are no strangers to hosting late-r o u n d Tournament

games, welcome a Golden Gophers team that is used to the cold weather.

"Usually we look at the cold [weather] as a homefield advantage for us," Waldrum said. "But that's not the case this time around."

For that reason, Waldrum said the Irish hope to see tremendous fan support tonight.

"That's where the crowd can really help us out," he said. "We really need their help so I hope to see a lotta students come out."

The Irish will play without co-captain Brittany Bock for the fourth straight game and Waldrum said the team is not optimistic that she can return

this season. Bock, whose injured leg has no structural damage, has been unable to practice due to the intense pain it causes her.

"To tell you the truth, I think we've gotten beyond the fact that we might have to play without her," Waldrum said. "... But [the team] hasn't skipped a beat with [out her]. We've played the last few games of the season without her and, in the beginning of the season, we played some big games without her."

Freshman Melissa Henderson, who has scored 17 goals, gives the Irish enough depth up front to replace Bock.

Waldrum said the Irish should play every game like it is their last because any of the remaining 16 teams is capable of winning the national title.

"I think when you look at the 16 that are left, there are no real surprises out there," he said. "At the end of the day, any of them can win it all and it wouldn't be a terrible surprise. It's the first year in a long time where there haven't been any big surprises."

So Notre Dame heads into tonight's matchup with the Golden Gophers with the intention of focusing on one game at a time. And Waldrum said the team cannot wait to take the field.

"I think everyone's ready to go, and excited," he said. "Even with the cold weather, we're ready."

*"Usually we look at the cold [weather] as a homefield advantage for us. But that's not the case this time around."*


**Randy Waldrum**  
Irish coach

Contact Fran Tolan at [ftolan@nd.edu](mailto:ftolan@nd.edu)

# IRISH #1 WOMEN'S SOCCER

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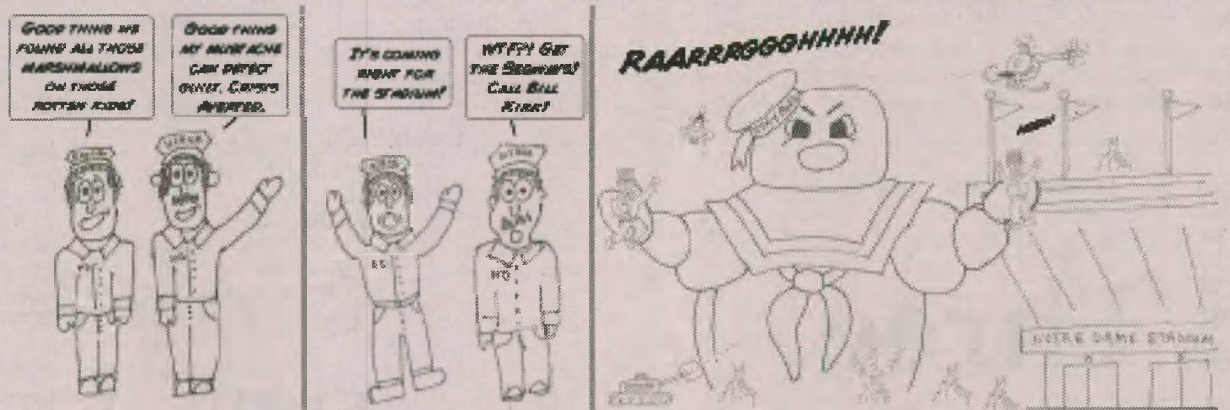
**BLACK DOG**

MICHAEL MIKUSKA



**DOME PIECE**

DAVID CAVADINI



**JUMBLE**

HENRI ARNOLD  
MIKE ARGIRION

**JUMBLE**

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

RUSIV  
 ○○○○○  
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GEISE  
 ○○○○○

RAWSEN  
 ○○○○○

SCAFIO  
 ○○○○○

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.

A: ○○○○○○, ○○○○○○

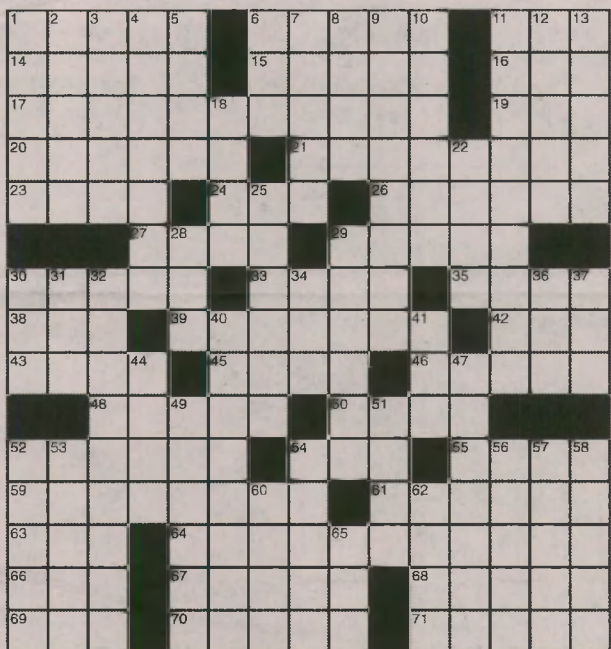
(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: DUSKY VIPER FEEBLE SLOUCH  
 Answer: What the beauticians did before the cosmetics exam — "BRUSHED" UP

**CROSSWORD**

WILL SHORTZ

- Across**
- 1 C-shaped gadget
  - 6 Breastplate, e.g.
  - 11 "Kinda" suffix
  - 14 Spokes, essentially
  - 15 Break from service
  - 16 E-file preparer, briefly
  - 17 Good-looking, briefly
  - 19 Part of a confession
  - 20 Oscar winner Tomei
  - 21 Like a woodland
  - 23 Inventor Rubik
  - 24 Bounty letters
  - 26 Thumbscrew ridges
  - 27 Final Four org.
  - 29 Dom or earl
  - 30 Low man
  - 33 Taylor Hicks, e.g.
  - 35 Sharp as a tack
  - 38 Cable network owned by NBC Universal
  - 39 Oh-so-cute carnival prizes, briefly
  - 42 Pirouette pivot
  - 43 Adoption agcy.
  - 45 Projector unit
  - 46 "Jerusalem Delivered" poet
  - 48 Of yore
  - 50 Fall setting
  - 52 Dry rot, e.g.
  - 54 Bustle
  - 55 "Don't forget ..."
  - 59 Prayer wheel inscriptions
  - 61 "Oops!" list
  - 63 Phoenix-to-Albuquerque dir.
- Down**
- 1 \_\_\_ fraîche
  - 2 Agent Swiftly
  - 3 Deck out
  - 4 Flunkies
  - 5 Places to refuel
  - 6 Toby filler
  - 7 Marine hazards
  - 8 Deli supply
  - 9 It's too much
  - 10 Take umbrage at
  - 11 Winter hazards, briefly
  - 12 Hawker's line
  - 13 Deck crew
  - 18 "That's a laugh!"
  - 22 Be a sourpuss
  - 25 Fair one?
  - 28 "Le \_\_\_ d'Or"
  - 29 Rang out
  - 30 H.O.V. lane user
  - 31 Shakespeare's "poor venomous fool"
  - 32 Student writing competition, briefly
  - 34 Buck's mate
  - 64 Risky person to do business with, briefly
  - 66 Holy ones: Abbr.
  - 67 Made public
  - 68 Possessive pronoun in an old hymn
  - 69 It may be cocked
  - 70 Some are proper
  - 71 Church assembly



Puzzle by Robert Zimmerman

- 36 Aurora, to the Greeks
- 37 Opposite of paleo-
- 40 Fortress of old Canals
- 41 Sault \_\_\_ Marie
- 44 Kelp, for one
- 47 Possible result of a natural disaster
- 49 Victim of Macbeth
- 51 Active sort
- 52 Crayola color changed to "peach"
- 53 \_\_\_ Mountains, home of King's Peak
- 54 Ghostly pale
- 56 Like most South Americans
- 57 Note taker
- 58 Propelled a shell
- 60 Hose shade
- 62 Mafiosi who "flip"
- 65 Online revenue sources

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**HOROSCOPE**

EUGENIA LAST

**CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY:** Kate Moss, 34; Sade, 49; John Carpenter, 60; Dr. Laura Schlessinger, 61

**Happy Birthday:** Think matters through before you take action. You may not have all the information you need to make a good decision. Be willing to research every aspect of what you want to see happen before you make your move. This is the year to be fully prepared so that you can make the most of the opportunities around you. Your numbers are 7, 13, 20, 25, 32, 46

**ARIES (March 21-April 19):** Don't let someone else's emotional trauma bring you down. You have plenty going your way and, if you stop to meddle in other people's problems, you will miss something special. You'll have a passionate approach to whatever you do. 3 stars

**TAURUS (April 20-May 20):** Don't expect to get help from others when you should be doing the work yourself. Someone from your past may propose something that interests you. A new project can turn into a long-term, profitable venture. 3 stars

**GEMINI (May 21-June 20):** Not everything will be out in the open or made readily available for you to see. Scrutinize what others are doing. A cheerful approach will help you to decipher what everyone around you is up to. 3 stars

**CANCER (June 21-July 22):** You may not like change but you are overdue. A little effort will result in comfortable surroundings. A good talk with someone you love will lead to a better understanding of one another. 4 stars

**LEO (July 23-Aug. 22):** You may feel more like having some fun but you should be focusing on what you can do to get ahead professionally, educationally or financially. The time you spend organizing, planning and manipulating your future will pay off. 2 stars

**VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22):** Deal with emotional issues quickly and you will spare yourself ongoing problems. Be precise about how you feel and what you expect and you will gain the respect of the people you are dealing with. A new challenge will inspire you. 5 stars

**LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22):** Put more effort into fixing up your place or looking for a new investment that will help you save. Getting out with friends or family and trying something new will inspire you to do more of the things that you find motivating. A love interest will develop. 3 stars

**SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21):** Your emotions will be tested today. Not everyone will be forthright regarding intentions and expectations. Instead of letting things get to you, make decisions that will set you apart and help you counteract any form of manipulation. 3 stars

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21):** Get serious about your future. Travel, education and picking up information that can transform your life should be considered. An older or more experienced individual will be able to shed some light on an interesting topic. 3 stars

**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19):** Spend time on yourself. If you look good, you will feel good. A property deal or investment can be put into play with the expectation of making a clear profit. A move from one location to another will revitalize you. 5 stars

**AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18):** Help others and you will help yourself. Taking action will prove that you are capable of being a leader and give you the respect of people who can influence your future. Your charm, electric personality and vision will be all that's required. 2 stars

**PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20):** Don't put too much trust into what others say they will do. Unless you have something in writing, it isn't likely to manifest into anything. Offer your time and expertise but don't give cash to a cause you know little about. 4 stars

**Birthday Baby:** You are aggressive, forthright and in command. You are capable of getting others to do things for you and can always come up with solutions when needed. You are a leader.

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**THE OBSERVER**

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FOOTBALL

# Irish say aloha to top outside linebacking prospect in country

By LORENZO REYES  
Sports Writer

Hailing from Honolulu, Hawaii and Punahou High School, Manti Te'o is perhaps the most sought-after outside linebacker prospect in the nation, thanks to his speed and tackling instinct. The blue-chip talent has received special

treatment from coach Charlie Weis, as he has personally flown to Hawaii twice in the past year to recruit Te'o.

Mike Frank, who covers Notre Dame football for Scout.com thinks very highly of Te'o, and would be an excellent addition to an already solid class of 2009.

"Manti is a game-changing type of linebacker," Frank said.

"He's a guy that can make big, big plays. He's a guy with incredible speed and the ability to run sideline to sideline. He's got the kind of speed and athleticism that they've been looking for at linebacker."

If Te'o were to give his verbal commitment to Notre Dame, Frank believes that the linebacker would have an immediate impact, even as a fresh-

man.

"He's the type of guy that if he comes in as a true freshman, he has the ability to get on the field quickly, maybe even start," Frank said. "He really has that kind of skill."

One of the more interesting aspects of Te'o's recruitment is that the high-school senior wishes to go on a Mormon missionary trip in between his

sophomore and junior seasons. Coach Weis has already granted Te'o approval to embark on the mission if he pleases.

Te'o will be on campus this weekend for the Syracuse game.

Another 2009 recruit that will be on hand is fullback Tyler Gaffney out of San Diego,

see T'EO/page 20

ND WOMEN'S SOCCER

## Round Three

*Notre Dame ready for Gophers' attacking style, cold weather*

By FRAN TOLAN  
Associate Sports Editor

In round one, Notre Dame delivered a series of punishing blows to its helpless opponent.

In round two, the team traded punches with its foe before the Irish delivered a late uppercut to gain the upper hand.

Now it's time for round three.

After blowing out Toledo and squeaking past Michigan State last weekend, No. 1 Notre Dame (23-0-0) prepares for a slugfest against No. 22 Minnesota (22-3-0) tonight at Alumni Field.

Irish coach Randy Waldrum said the Big Ten champion Golden Gophers play an up-tempo, attacking style.

"They love to attack, they love to pressure the ball, they really



JESS LEE/The Observer

Irish forward Michele Weissenhofer battles for the ball during Notre Dame's 5-0 win over SMU Sept. 12. Weissenhofer registered one shot during the game.

see SWEET 16/page 20

HOCKEY

## Recruits sign for Fall 2009

By MATT GAMBER  
Associate Sports Editor

Irish coach Jeff Jackson locked up five recruits Thursday that will arrive at Notre Dame next fall, continuing the tradition of strong recruiting that Jackson has developed since arriving in 2005.

Defensemen Sam Calabrese and Cam Fowler join forwards Kyle Palmieri, Nick Larson and Riley Sheahan to form one of the most highly touted five-man recruiting classes in the nation.

"We're very excited about this group of players and have been waiting a long time for their arrival," Jackson said in making the announcement. "This class is as good a class as we've ever had at Notre Dame. They will definitely be one of the elite recruiting class-

see RECRUITS/page 20

ND WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

## Diggins stays in South Bend

By JAY FITZPATRICK  
Managing Editor

After years of waiting, Muffet McGraw can finally relax.

That's because the Notre Dame coach finally landed Skylar Diggins — a five-star senior guard from Washington High School in South Bend. Diggins signed her letter of intent to play for the Irish beginning next fall earlier this week.

But that doesn't mean she didn't give McGraw one last scare.

"I kept looking over to the seats wondering when she was going to get there because she wasn't there at the beginning," McGraw said at a press conference announcing the signing Thursday. "And then after the game she came in to the locker room with the stat and she kind of looked down and said 'Boy, I'm just wondering where you're going to play



JESS LEE/The Observer

Forward Erica Solomon goes up for a shot during Notre Dame's 96-61 win over Evansville Nov. 19.

see DIGGINS/page 22

MEN'S BASKETBALL

## Weather, competition heat up for Notre Dame

By GREG ARBOGAST  
Sports Writer

Let the test begin.

Faced with arguably the most difficult schedule in the country, No. 9 Notre Dame will begin its difficult non-conference slate with a West Coast swing that begins tonight against Loyola Marymount.

The Lions aren't the difficult part. Loyola Marymount has lost all three of its games this season, falling to Milwaukee, Iowa State and UC Davis.

The Lions likely will bring emotion to Friday night's contest with the Irish, though, as the game will serve as the team's home opener as well as a commemoration for Hall of Famer and LMU alum Pete Newell, who died on Monday.

Things get tougher for the

Irish, as following the weekend they head to Hawaii for the Maui Invitational. The Irish have a potential stretch of three games in three days after battling Loyola Marymount only two days prior to the start of the tournament.

The Irish will face in-state rival Indiana in the first round in a nationally televised game on ESPN2 at 5:30 p.m. Eastern time. After the Hoosiers were faced with scandal under former coach Kelvin Sampson, they brought in a familiar face for many Irish fans, former Marquette coach Tom Crean, to lead the program.

Crean appears to still be settling into his new role. The Hoosiers have looked far from convincing in their first two games where they led

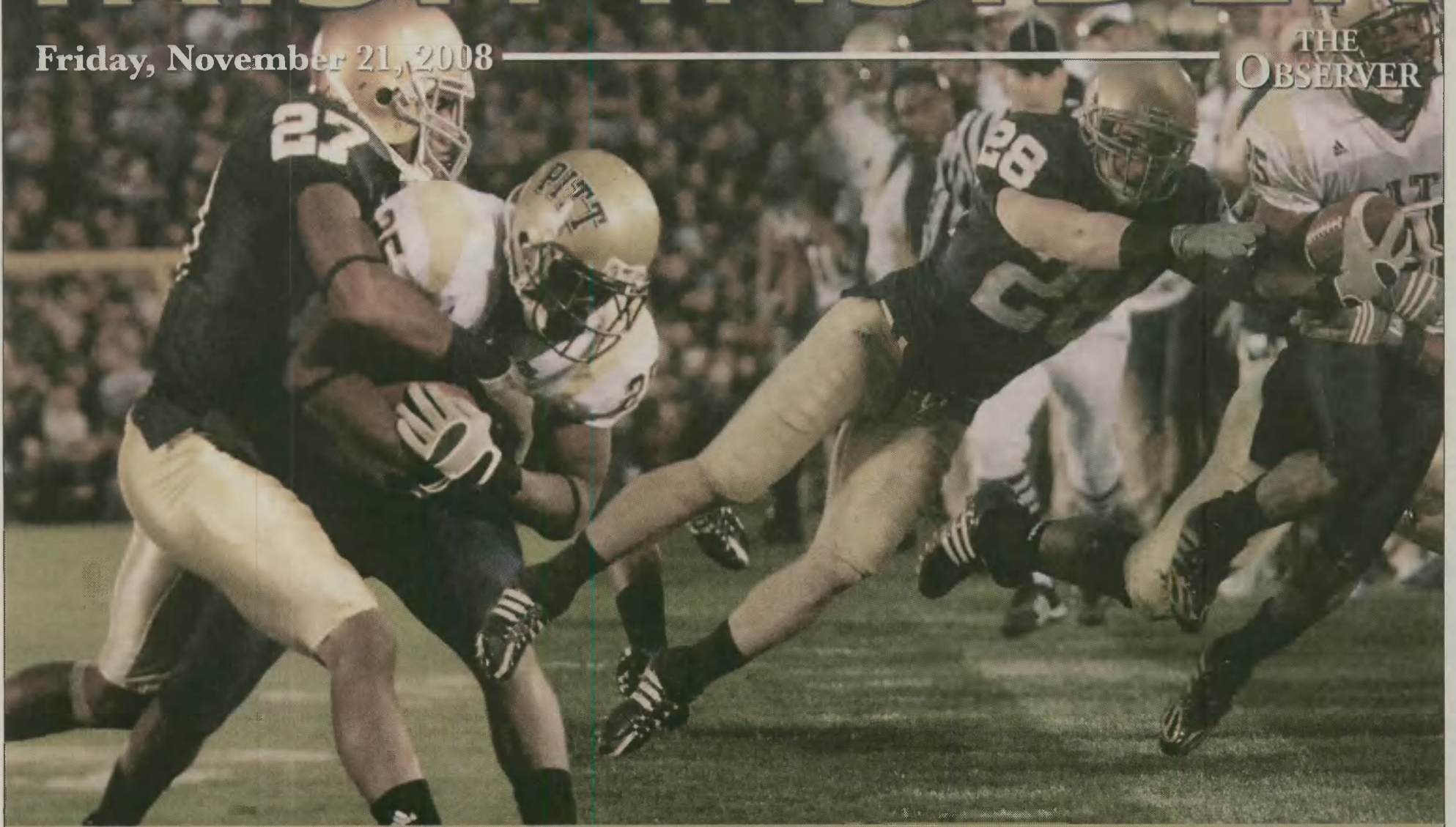
see MAUI/page 22



# IRISH INSIDER

Friday, November 21, 2008

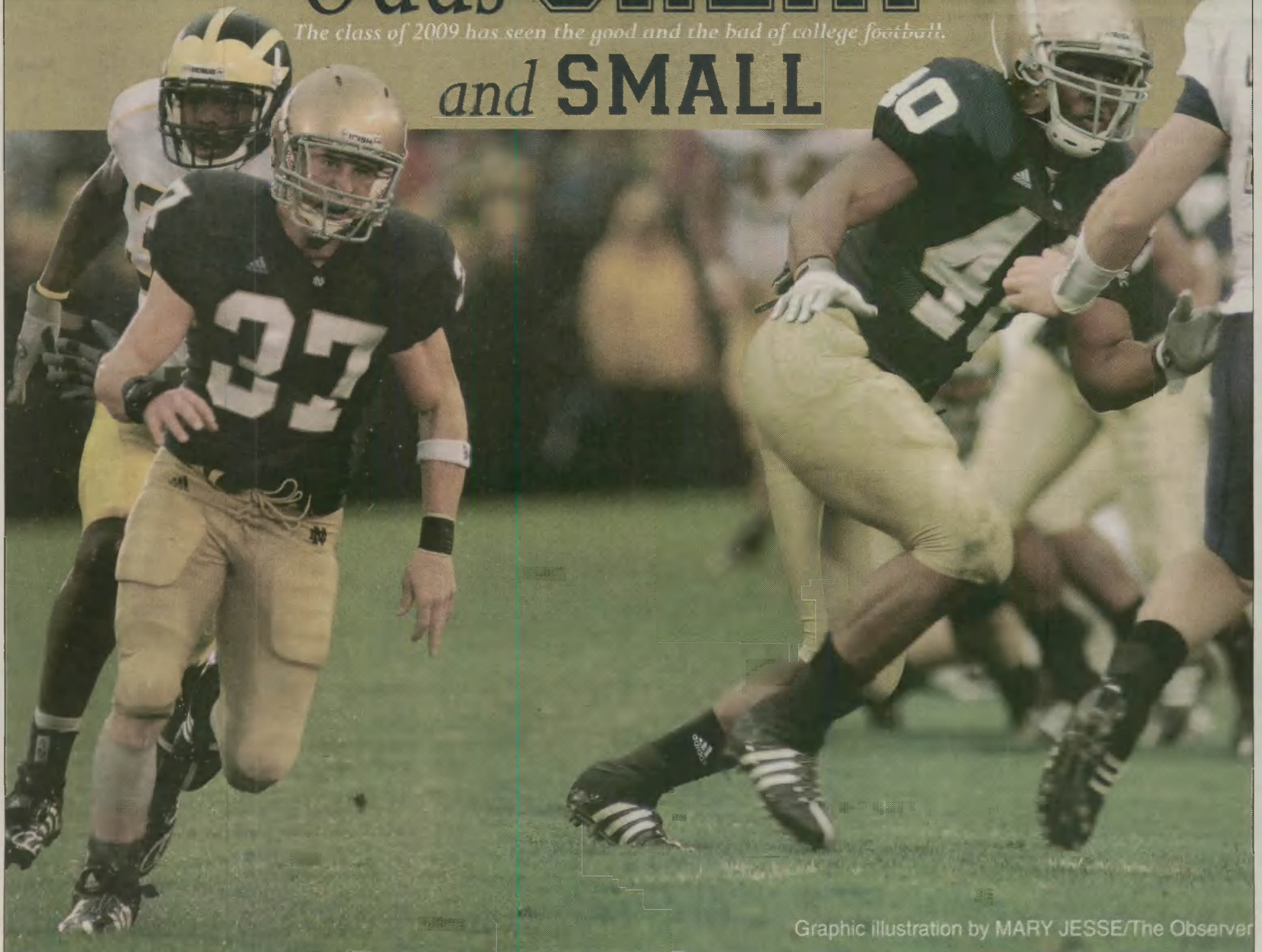
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OBSERVER



## Odds **GREAT**

*The class of 2009 has seen the good and the bad of college football.*

## and **SMALL**



Graphic illustration by MARY JESSE/The Observer



COMMENTARY

# There's no shame in shedding tears

"A League of Their Own's" Jimmy Dugan is arguably the most memorable coach in American cinematic history.

Dugan's legacy may not stack up against the likes of our own All-American Knute Rockne, Norman Dale from Hickory High, or even District Five's Gordon Bombay. But he will forever be remembered for his one famous rule: "There is no crying in baseball."



Dan Murphy

Sports Editor

The rule has been broken plenty of times, and if it is applied across all sports the number of infractions jumps exponentially. So, is it really wrong to shed a few tears in either pain or joy after an emotionally draining game, season or career?

Cowboys' star Terrell Owens certainly doesn't think so — he proved that during his blubbing defense of his "teammate" Tony Romo after a playoff loss last year.

Neither does the one and only Michael Jordan. MJ cried his eyes out after winning his fourth NBA title on Father's Day in 1996, only three years after his own father was murdered.

Any athlete worth his weight in Kleenex knows that sports are played with raw emotion. Sometimes those emotions spill over into the aftermath, and despite what Jimmy Dugan may have to say on the matter, it's part of the game.

So, don't be surprised to see some waterworks following Saturday's game against Syracuse as a group of 23 seniors leave the beloved tunnel for the very last time. Irish coach Charlie Weiss sure won't be.

"This is a tough game for a lot of players, personally," Weiss said. "You see them in the locker room before and after the game, you'll see kids after the game that you didn't even know how much they cared and they're bawling, just crying because how emotional it is."

This year's senior class, both those who have played and those who have watched, have had their up and downs inside Notre Dame Stadium.

The first time they saw "the greatest sight these eyes have ever seen" was a heartbreaking overtime loss to Michigan State. Two weeks later the Stadium hosted one of the most exciting football games in college football history against Southern Cal — we won't get into winners and losers in that game.

These seniors have witnessed back-to-back BCS bowl bids, and they have also witnessed the worst record in the program's history. If nothing else,

the past four years have certainly been packed with excitement and emotions.

Despite having gone through the highs and lows, this year's seniors still have no idea how they will handle their last trip to Rock's house.

Fullback Asaph Schwapp said he didn't know what would be going through his mind when the ride finally ends. He did say that he knew some guys would break down, but he didn't throw any of them under the bus.

"I don't want to name any names, that would be pretty embarrassing for those guys," he said.

But really, there is nothing to be ashamed of.

For four years the senior class has put in endless hours in the weight room, in practice and in meetings to perform on Saturdays. Many have overcome injuries and adversity throughout their tenure, and for most this is the end of the line for a game that has consumed their lives.

Leaving behind football will be like losing a family member — definitely grounds for weeping.

For the half dozen walk-ons, some that we now know better than others, the journey has been even harder. All of them started their careers in the dead of winter with 5:30 a.m. workouts every morning. While most of us were snug in our beds after a long night of complaining

about bowl losses, they were hard at work trying to fix the problem.

Who is going to tell Nik Rodriguez or John Leonis they don't deserve a good cry? They have already given the Irish their blood and sweat, why not their tears?

Ironically enough, 65 fictional years ago when Dugan first handed out his decree to Evelyn Gardner they were standing — where else? — in our very own South Bend, Ind.

Dugan's Rockford Peaches were taking on the South Bend Blue Sox when he put a ban on bawling in 1943. The same year that Frank Leahy won his first National Championship and Angello Bertelli won Notre Dame's first ever Heisman Trophy.

The Stadium has seen seven more championships and six more Heisman winners since then, but none of them were legally allowed to celebrate with tears.

This year, it is finally time that we lift the ban.

So, seniors, this Saturday when all is said and done leave everything you have on the field, the sidelines or even in the stands. And remember, it's your party so cry if you want to.

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

Contact Dan Murphy at [dmurphy6@nd.edu](mailto:dmurphy6@nd.edu)

## 2008 Irish opponents

	Last week	This week
	(1-10) L, 63-14, Utah	UNLV
	(3-8) L, 21-14, NW'ern	at Ohio State
	(9-2) Idle	at Penn State
	(3-8) L, 22-17, Iowa	Indiana
	(5-6) L, 45-23, USC	at California
	(7-3) L, 17-15, Maryland	NC State
	(0-9) L, 27-7, UCLA	at Wash. State
	(6-2) Idle	at Cincinnati
	(7-3) W, 27-17, FSU	at Wake Forest
	(6-4) L, 27-21, ND	at N. Illinois
	(2-8) L, 39-14, UConn	at Notre Dame
	(7-1) W, 45-23, Stanford	Idle

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# Steady hand

*While others transferred, Sharpley remained consummate teammate*

By CHRIS HINE  
Editor-in-Chief

After Brady Quinn graduated in May of 2006, Evan Sharpley was one of four possible candidates to replace Quinn as the starting quarterback. But Sharpley wouldn't lead the offense against Georgia Tech to open the 2007 season. Demetrius Jones did. Sharpley may have been upset, but he didn't show it.

Then when Sharpley was by-passed again for the starting job the following week, again he didn't show his disappointment. And when Sharpley wasn't named the starter after he relieved Clausen against Purdue and threw for 208 yards and two touchdowns, Sharpley didn't complain.

Sharpley didn't complain after he started against Southern Cal, but then lost the job following Notre Dame's loss to Navy and, finally, as he realized Clausen would be the quarterback this season.

"I didn't really expect that. That was something that was talked about in the spring. Jimmy's getting the job and it was his job to lose," Sharpley said. "We all backed him and supported him and he's doing a good job for us and as a team we need to support him. That's the type of guy I am, that's kind of my M.O."

Sharpley didn't transfer, as Zach Frazer and Demetrius Jones did, he didn't cause dissension amongst his teammates; rather, he stayed at Notre Dame and did all he could to help his team.

"Any time someone else is

named ahead of you, no one wants to sit the bench, everyone wants to play. When something like that happens, it's tough," Sharpley said. "We all put in hard work. I thought I put in a lot of hard work, but that's up to the coaches and you have to be supportive and be there for the rest of the team."

Sharpley's glad he stayed because his time on the team at Notre Dame has taught him a lot and prepared him for life after college.

"I have this conversation all the time with a lot of people and my teammates as well. They have my respect and it's a tough situation for our team, but I think I've earned a lot of people's respect and you

can never get too down," Sharpley said. "Even if something's bad, it's always in God's hands and you may not understand the reason why it's happening, and it maybe out of your control, but the only thing you can control is your attitude."

This year, Sharpley's attitude has been instrumental in helping develop Clausen and freshmen Dayne Crist and Nate Montana. Quarterbacks coach Ron Powlus said Sharpley has a calming effect on the team.

"Evan's been vitally impor-

tant," Powlus said. "Evan is a great teammate, he's got good leadership qualities. He's a guy the guys really rely on in the room for his experience and knowledge. Evan doesn't have a lot of experience on the field, but as far as the playbook and what to do and how to look at things, that can be invaluable to these younger guys. There's no doubt, he's a huge asset ..."

"I think Evan brings a certain level of normalcy to our room. He's been through it now for four years and he's not too off kilter and normalcy is what we need right now."

Sharpley said both freshmen have done a good job adjusting to Notre Dame, both on and off the field.

"I roomed with Nate during camp and both he and Dayne have done a great job picking up the offense," Sharpley said. "I think it's good for them to have guys like Jimmy and myself that have already been here for a while, not only running the offense and getting comfortable with college football, but also getting comfortable with the college life. It's a lot different than high school, the classes, the girls, different things like that. We've had a good time and we've really become pretty close."

Sharpley and the other quarterbacks are such good friends that they formed their own society — the red army.

"Early on in camp, I came up with a nickname for the quarterbacks," Sharpley said with a smile peaking through. "We all wear red jerseys during practice so I

*"Even if something's bad, it's always in God's hands and you may not understand the reason why it's happening, and it may be out of your control, but the only thing you can control is your attitude."*

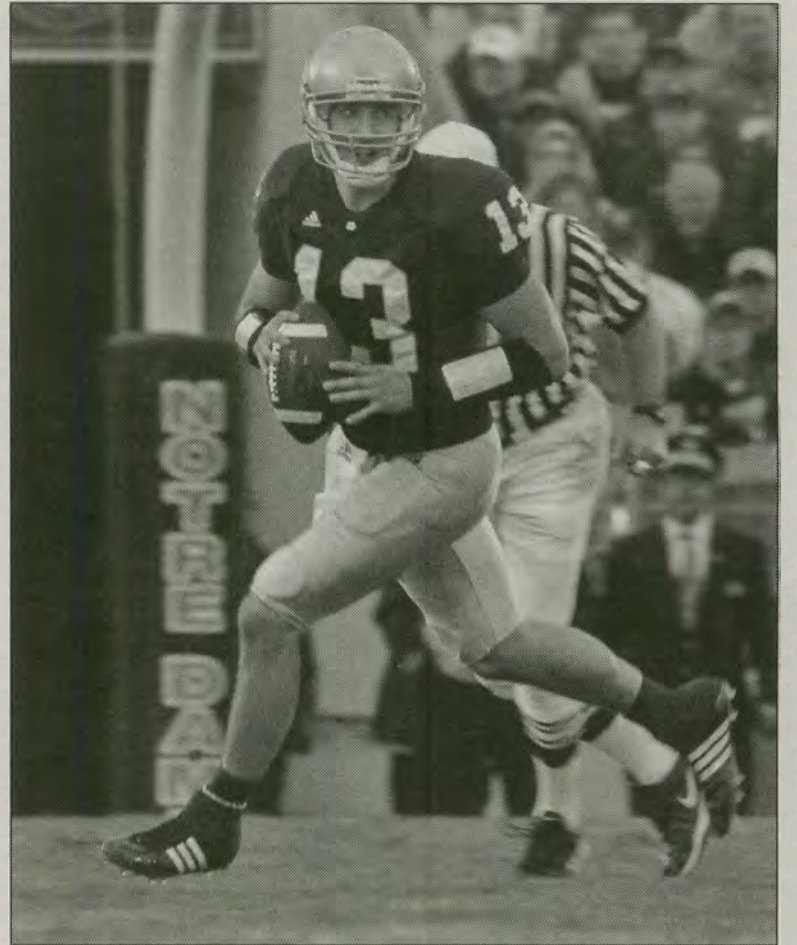
**Evan Sharpley**  
Irish quarterback

*"Any time someone else is named ahead of you, no one wants to sit the bench, everyone wants to play. When something like that happens, it's tough."*

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*"Early on in camp, I came up with a nickname for the quarterbacks. We all wear red jerseys during practice, so I coined ourselves the 'red army.' We have our own secret codes and we have secret missions."*

**Evan Sharpley**  
Irish quarterback



JESS LEE/The Observer

**Irish quarterback Evan Sharpley scrambles out of the pocket during Notre Dame's 27-14 loss to Boston College on Oct. 13, 2007.**

coined ourselves the 'red army.' We have our own secret codes and we have secret missions. It's pretty good stuff. We have our own secret names. I could probably give you some stuff, but there's too much classified information. We'll just put it this way, I'm the leader of the red army and they kind of follow my lead."

But when he's not joking around, Sharpley said he tries to pass along to the younger quarterbacks the same lessons Quinn taught him when he was a freshman and sophomore.

"I think I learned from the work ethic that he had, studying film off the field, the type of person that he was off the field and on the field and the type of leader he was with the guys and also the type of student he was," Sharpley said. "I was like that before, but I think it was also good to see someone doing it himself."

Sharpley said Quinn helped him navigate through his challenging freshman season, when Sharpley didn't see any action.

"Everybody usually comes from a situation where you're playing all the time, so it's kind of tough as a freshman to come in and not play, but I understood that obviously," Sharpley said. "It was an opportunity for the first two years to sit behind Brady, and watch him do well and learn from him and I think I've taken a lot of his game, a lot of his personality both on and off the field and

try to tailor it to my game." And Sharpley said his relationship with Notre Dame coach Charlie Weis has become stronger over the past few years.

"It's progressed greatly since freshman year," Sharpley said. "With me as a freshman and him coming in as a new head coach, it was a little different and I think now him and I have a very good relationship, him helping with my future and different talks. He's really become a pretty good player's coach. I think he's really on board with helping us players whether it's

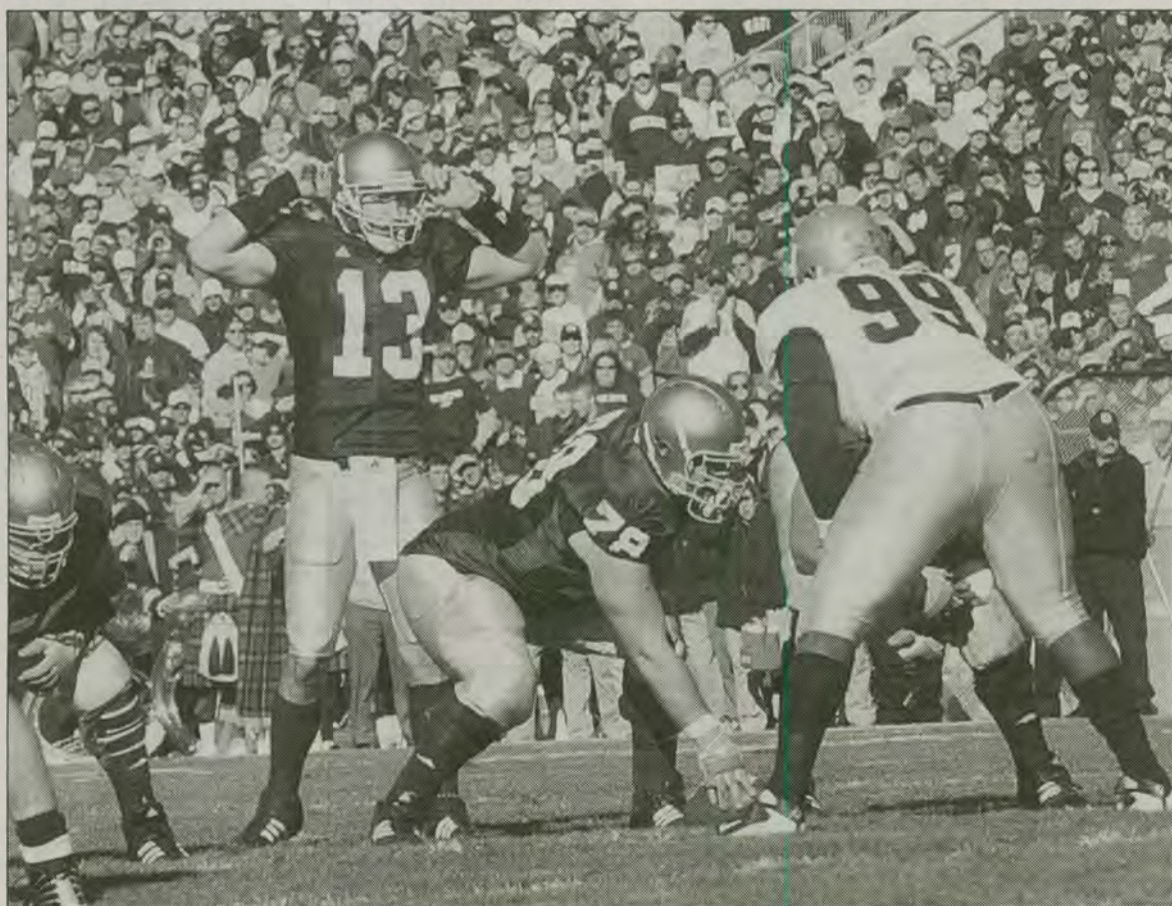
on the football field, playing professionally in the near future, or getting a job, something in the real world."

Sharpley, who's also a member of Notre Dame's baseball team along with his brother Ryan, can apply for a fifth-year on the football team, but not on the baseball team. He said he'll make that decision later this year.

"It's going to be all baseball in the spring and I need to do very well and help my team win and we'll take it from there, but once the spring comes around, we'll be focused on baseball," Sharpley said.

Sharpley may not have played as much he wanted to during his Notre Dame football career, but even if he doesn't come back for a fifth year, it's clear that his impact will be felt in the program for years to come.

Contact Chris Hine at [chine@nd.edu](mailto:chine@nd.edu)



VANESSA GEMPIS/The Observer

**Irish quarterback Evan Sharpley audibles at the line during Notre Dame's 46-44 loss to Navy on Nov. 3, 2007. Sharpley threw for 140 yards and two touchdowns in the game.**



MIKE TURKOVICH

# Turkovich eases into left tackle position

By JAY FITZPATRICK  
Sports Writer

*Editor's note: this story originally ran on Sept. 26, 2008.*

So far this season, Notre Dame's offensive line has given up three sacks, which is as many as it surrendered in the first quarter of last season. On major part of that is the personnel changes made in the trenches, especially at left tackle.

Senior Mike Turkovich took over the duty of protecting quarterback Jimmy Clausen's blind side this season, replacing senior Paul Duncan.

Turkovich played all of last season, starting every game at left guard, before making the transition in the spring. He said the transition was a result of the rotation the offensive linemen did during training camp to find the best fit.

"In the spring, we were rotating guys around and [offensive line] coach [John Latina] said, 'Could you go in at left tackle today?' And I was working with [the backups] because I was getting back in the rotation [after] an injury," Turkovich said.

Turkovich said he felt comfortable with the switch to the outside of the line right away.

"I thought, 'Hey, this is your

chance. Just play with reckless abandon.' You can't be thinking out there. Just do your job and do it fundamentally sound," he said.

Latina said that the transition from guard to tackle is a more difficult one than from tackle to guard because you are more isolated and facing a different kind of rusher. Playing in what the coach called "a phone book amount of space," a guard is generally matched up against a large defensive tackle. But an offensive tackle has to block speedier defensive ends and linebackers one-on-one.

One main reason Turkovich has been able to transition so easily is because he has played the position before. His first two years at Notre Dame were spent as a tackle before he moved inside last season. Turkovich said he made the switch to guard because Latina said it would be his best fit.

Turkovich also played tackle in high school, but started his football career as a tight end.

"In high school I was a tight end that ate himself into the tackle position," he said. "I weighed 215, 210 my junior year of high school, bulked up my senior year."

Turkovich also credited his teammates with easing his transition back to tackle, especially left guard Eric

Olsen.

"When you play next to a guy like Eric [Olsen], he's a good player and he makes it easier on you. You know he's going to do his job," Turkovich said. "You can trust him. Same thing with tight ends, you can trust them. It's made the transition easier."

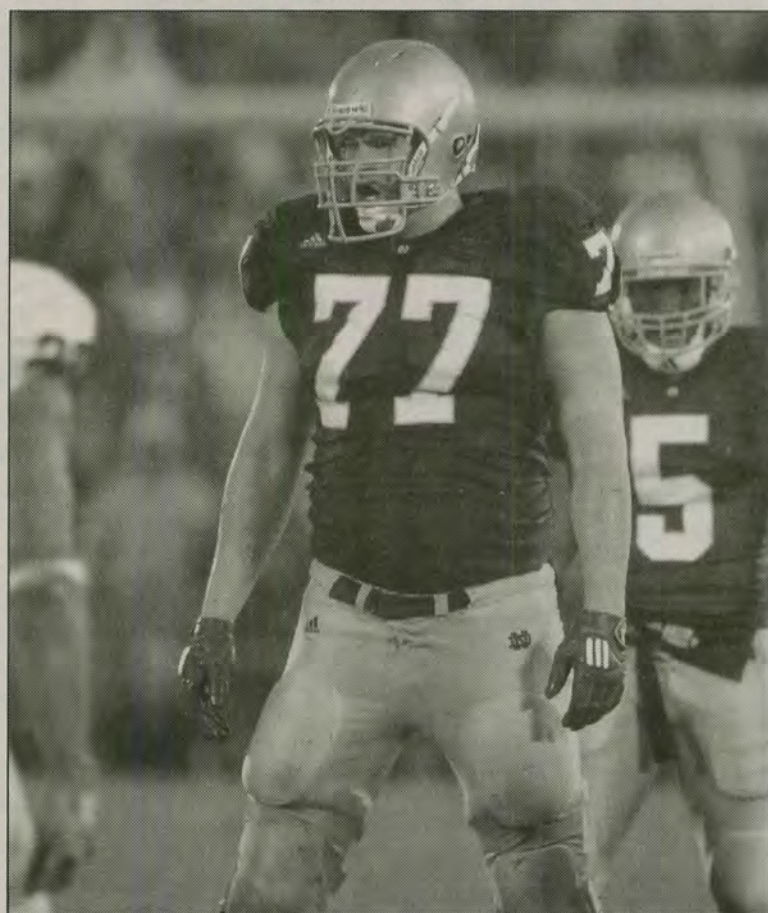
This season, Turkovich has been a solid performer on the line, as evident by the fact that Clausen has yet to be hit from his blind side. And during last week's 23-7 loss to Michigan State when the line surrendered its only three sacks of the season, the Spartans blitzed when the Irish were in empty backfield formations, putting the offensive line at a disadvantage.

Turkovich said the offensive line is better than it was last season, but still has room for improvement — especially after netting only 16 yards rushing against the Spartans.

"We can get better as far as the run game and get better with our fundamentals," he said. "... Last game they were getting pressure and getting sacks and we can't win if that happens."

But even with the line's marked improvement this season, something Turkovich has been a major part of, he remains his own harshest critic.

"Even if I make a block on a



ALLISON AMBROSE/The Observer

Irish tackle Mike Turkovich looks downfield during Notre Dame's 35-17 win over Michigan on Sept. 13.

play, I'll still [thinking] I could have done better," the senior said. "I think that I've done good things, but there's definitely room for improvement still."

Turkovich said the most important thing for him this year is to make sure he leaves Notre Dame on a high note. After last season's debacle for the linemen, he wants

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# Ups and downs

Through high school and college, David Grimes has seen the best and worst of football

By BILL BRINK  
Sports Editor

For David Grimes, growing up in Michigan made him want to beat Michigan.

The senior wide receiver from Detroit said he came to Notre Dame for the same reason many other athletes say they come here — the combination of good academics and solid athletic programs. But before giving the party-line response, Grimes mentioned the Wolverines.

This year, the win tasted particularly sweet.

"Last year, having that disappointing loss, and then to come back and get the win is huge," he said. "Eventually I had to go back home and put up with all the Michigan fans, and now I can talk a little trash myself."

Whatever his motivations for coming here, Grimes has made an impact. Heading into tomorrow's game, he is the active leader in career receptions with 79 and career receiving yards with 783. This year, Irish coach Charlie Weis rewarded him by naming him offensive captain.

He's had the best of both worlds, visiting two BCS Bowls before playing for the worst team in Fighting Irish history.

"It was disappointing and frustrating but I think the best part we got out of that season is that we made an effort not let that happen again," Grimes said. "I think that's kind of what we fed off into this year."

#### Sibling split

Grimes played with his older brother Carl for three years at St. Martin DePorres High School in Detroit. The pair

won two state championships, in David's sophomore and junior year. His junior year, Grimes caught an 80-yard touchdown pass in the title game.

In Grimes' senior year, DePorres lost in the state title game despite his stat line. Grimes, who also played defensive back, returned a fumble 36 yards for a touchdown and made seven tackles in addition to his five catches for 59 yards. Grimes caught 41 passes for 800 yards and eight touchdowns that year and was a team captain. The Detroit Free Press selected him as a first-team all-state wide receiver.

Carl went on to play at Michigan State. He graduated in May, but had a year of eligibility left, so he transferred to Saginaw Valley State.

"It's great to be out there with your brother and take it to the next level in college," Grimes said.

The rivalry between David and Carl when Notre Dame played Michigan State, David said, never got too serious. "Just a little friendly competition, talking trash here and there," he said.

"Bragging rights when we come home."

Grimes said he enjoyed high school because of the tight community and the interaction with teammates off the field.

"It was probably the best four years of my life," he said. "Just high school itself, the

school I went to was real closely knit. We did a lot of things together outside of sports. Some of my best friends come from high school."

#### Jolt of reality

That sentiment vanished during Grimes' first year at Notre Dame. Between the course load, the rigorous football schedule and being away from home, he said, freshman year took its toll on him.

"I got real homesick, even though it's close, I didn't have a car to go back," said Grimes, a marketing major. "It was not one of my better years here. School was real tough."

Still, he was not entirely unprepared.

"It's everything that my brother told me it would be," he said. "It would be demanding in the classroom and demanding sports-wise, but you got to get through it and make the most of it."

Off the field, Grimes said spending time with his friends helped him acclimate to campus life and take his mind off the stress. On the field, he began to see time as a kick returner. He averaged 22.5 yards and had a 40-yarder against Purdue. Even though he had success, he said he still wanted to catch the ball.

"I was fine with it, but I was also still competing to get in at wide receiver," he said.

He got there sophomore year, catching 26 passes for 336 yards and two touchdowns. He caught eight passes for 76 yards against UCLA. Meanwhile, he still returned kicks, and broke a 50-yard return against North Carolina. Against Navy, he caught his first touchdown pass, a 36-yard strike in the corner of the end zone.

*"It's great to be out there with your brother and take it to the next level in college."*

David Grimes  
Irish receiver

*"We had a lot of new faces coming in, and a lot of guys graduated and left. But that's the nature of college football, guys leaving, and new guys coming."*

David Grimes  
Irish receiver

*"It was disappointing and frustrating but I think the best part we got out of that season is that we made an effort not let that happen again. I think that's kind of what we fed off into this year."*

David Grimes  
Irish receiver



IAN GAVLICK/The Observer

Irish receiver David Grimes runs after a catch during Notre Dame's 29-24 loss to North Carolina on Oct. 11.

The chance to play with Brady Quinn was nice, Grimes said, considering he used to watch him play on TV.

"Seeing how far I've come, sitting at high school at home watching Notre Dame and Brady Quinn, and actually having the opportunity to play for him, play with him," Grimes said. "All my friends and family ask me, you played with Brady Quinn, how does it feel?"

During Grimes' first two seasons, Notre Dame reached the Fiesta Bowl and the Sugar Bowl. Both those experiences will stick with Grimes after he graduates.

"I think of it as if there was a sports clicker, going week by week," he said. "Notre Dame beats Michigan, Notre Dame goes to the Fiesta Bowl, Notre Dame goes to the Sugar Bowl against LSU."

One experience in New Orleans had a special impact. The team helped clean up a building that Hurricane Katrina had damaged, Grimes said, and he liked helping the hurricane victims. He said the trip was also a nice opportunity for his family.

"Down in New Orleans, it was a good opportunity after Hurricane Katrina to get down there and help the community with the little service that we did," Grimes said. "But we also had a good time down there. And it was an opportunity for my family to come down and experience some things that they would never get to see."

#### 9-3 to 3-9

In 2007, Grimes' junior year, the team fell from being a top-

25 contender and ended up losing nine games — two of them, to Michigan and USC, 38-0 losses. Grimes caught his share of passes (27) but his yardage dropped, to 224. He missed the UCLA and Boston College games because of an injured ankle, but still scored two touchdowns in the season.

Turnover, Grimes said, is a part of college football.

"We had a lot of new faces coming in, and a lot of guys graduated and left," he said. "But that's the nature of college football, guys leaving, new guys coming."

But the season strengthened the team, Grimes said — players worked out in the off-season and the team came together early in 2008. The Irish avenged the loss to Michigan with a 35-17 win at home in the rain. That game, Grimes said, signaled the return of good football.

"After the Michigan game, we actually had evidence," he said. "It wasn't just lip service, it actually came to fruition."

Grimes said he wants to give the NFL a try after graduation, but if that doesn't work out, he'll go into advertising. Whether he continues to play football or not, his memories of Notre Dame's successes will keep football in his head forever.

"It was one of the best times of my career here," he said of Notre Dame's two BCS Bowls, "and I'll remember it when I leave."



IAN GAVLICK/The Observer

Irish receiver David Grimes catches a touchdown pass during Notre Dame's 21-13 win over San Diego State on Sept. 6. Grimes had 5 catches for 35 yards in the win.

Contact Bill Brink at  
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## THOMAS BEMENDERFER

## Offensive lineman to enter medical school after graduation

By JAY FITZPATRICK  
Managing Editor

While some of his classmates will be looking into the job market and others will be preparing for the NFL draft in April, lineman Thomas Bemenderfer will be getting ready for medical school.

The Mishawaka native only applied at one school — preferring to stay in-state at Indiana — and said he feels confident about being accepted there. He has already taken his interview for IU, but has not heard back yet.

Bemenderfer is a Science Pre-Professional major enrolled in the College of Science, and has also made the Dean's List. He said that combining a rigorous academic schedule with football has been one of the more rewarding parts of his college experience.

"It's probably one of the most valuable things I've learned by taking hard courses and doing football at the same time is time management," Bemenderfer said. "You always have to realize what you have to get done, when you need to do it. To be successful, you have to put a lot of time in."

Bemenderfer added that the benefits that come from his busy schedule should pay off in the long run.

"One of the things you sacri-

fice is free time, but it's worth it. It's worth it to do well in school, it's really worth it to do well in football," he said.

Despite seeing limited playing time during his time with the Irish, Bemenderfer has taken his work ethic from the classroom and applied it to the practice field.

"You can never take a play off, you can never choose to be lazy, because if you're doing that you're not getting better," he said.

Offensive line coach John Latina said this hardworking personality is one of the things that has made Bemenderfer such an asset to the line during his time at Notre Dame. One major result of his hard work is that Bemenderfer can play at all three interior line positions.

"He's a guy who's been around a long time. Understands concepts, understands our blocking schemes and our plays. It's a great advantage when we can do that," Latina said.

Latina added that Bemenderfer has been a great role model for other players in terms of his work ethic and study habits.

"I think a lot of the younger players look up to him because they respect his hard work ethic, he's a tough kid, he's smart," Latina said. "They see that he's played multiple positions, and the only way you do

that is become a student of the game. And they also know his off-the-field habits in the classroom. I think he's a great guy to emulate if you're a young player."

Even though Bemenderfer grew up in South Bend and had two older brothers attend Notre Dame, his first choice was Northwestern, where he received a full athletic scholarship. However, after the death of former Wildcats coach Randy Walker, Bemenderfer decided to transfer to Notre Dame.

Bemenderfer said the decision was a tough one to make since he was walking away from a guaranteed free ride without any guarantee of making the football team.

"I took a leap of faith without any promises and without talking to the coaching staff and everything turned out really well and I got really lucky," he said.

But when it came down to it, Bemenderfer decided he had to follow his dreams.

"When it comes down to it, you only live life once, you might as well do it the way you want to and live your dreams," he said of his decision to transfer.

Going to Notre Dame was always a dream for Bemenderfer, one that started when his father would take him to games as a child.

"It was just an incredible



QUENTIN STENGER/The Observer

Irish offensive lineman Thomas Bemenderfer warms up before Notre Dame's 27-21 win over Navy on Nov. 15.

experience, walking around, seeing all the people, the emotion, walking around campus and seeing the tradition. Everything about Notre Dame is magical," Bemenderfer said.

All of Bemenderfer's hard work and gutsy decisions have paid off so far, as he has earned a scholarship each of the last two seasons.

"It puts you on top of the

world when you get that scholarship and you know that all your hard work had some kind of result.

But not even that could go to Bemenderfer's head.

"[The scholarship] just motivated me to work harder," he said.

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## PAUL DUNCAN

## Injured offensive tackle laments the loss of season

By MATT GAMBER  
Associate Sports Editor

The fact that he'll likely have the opportunity to return for a fifth year hasn't made it much easier for Paul Duncan to sit out his senior season with a hip injury.

"It's not cool at all," said Duncan, who started all 12 games at offensive tackle last season. "I've been pretty upset to miss the opportunity to be out there with a lot of the guys I came in with and aren't going to be here next year. But you know what, there's still a lot to look forward to."

The Dallas, Ga. native was expected to compete with fellow senior Michael Turkovich to start at left tackle. But torn hip cartilage sidelined Duncan during preseason drills, and Irish coach Charlie Weis announced on Oct. 21 that he was out for the year.

"We're buds, and I love the opportunity to see Turbo play," said Duncan, a management-entrepreneurship major. "It was really disappointing for me in camp when the real battle went down and I got hurt and couldn't fight for it. But I'm really happy for Turk, and he's played really well."

Though unable to suit up on Saturdays, Duncan has taken pride in the marked improvement of an offensive line that was much-maligned a year ago.

"We could have obviously after last year and going into the spring, just been like 'Oh geez, we're horrible,'" he said. "But we just kept pushing, kept growing and kept learning. You just learn how to keep fighting and get more game-time experience."

The lessons the unit learned during a disappointing 3-9 season have carried over into the line's revamped attitude this year, Duncan said.

"It's been really exciting just to see them do well. I like to think I have a little part of it, especially from the spring with a lot of the development, and just to see it come to fruition during the season has been great."

"The opportunity to sit back and watch [the offense], go more into the details, kind of coaching ... being able to sit back and help guys with different pointers and techniques has helped me."

Offensive line coach John Latina said Duncan's contributions to the line's continued development have not gone unnoticed.

"I obviously hate the fact that he's not out there for us now, but he's a very intelligent player and a smart player who understands our offense," Latina said. "I think the light-switch has really gone on for him."

Duncan's teammates have helped him keep that light-switch on — literally. Duncan lives off-campus with Turkovich, defensive lineman



NICK SIMONSON/The Observer

Senior Paul Duncan, right, participates in blocking drills with tackle Taylor Dever in practice during September.

Pat Kuntz, safety Kyle McCarthy and linebacker Steve Quinn in a house dubbed "The Kingdom."

"We try to keep it low-key, don't get too crazy, which is nice. We keep it nice and clean," Duncan said. "In the house, you rely on [your roommates] so much more [than in dorms] — for the gas bill, the electric bill, all that

stuff. It's just a different aspect of life."

But living on campus for three years — two in O'Neill, then one as a junior in Knott — is not something he would trade, Duncan said.

"I've got great bonds with the guys in O'Neill. I love those guys and I spent a lot of time with them," Duncan said. "And to be honest, if I

had always lived with just athletes, I probably wouldn't have met my girlfriend [who graduated last spring]. Just being a regular student, hanging out — you've got to be with other people in different roles of just being in college."

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# Heart of Gold

*Maurice Crum Jr. has given all he can over the past five years, on and off the field*

By DAN MURPHY  
Sports Editor

*Editor's note: this story originally ran on Nov. 7, 2008.*

It takes a pretty good excuse for Irish coach Charlie Weis to allow a player to miss practice. This summer fifth-year senior Maurice Crum Jr. came up with one that was good enough to miss a whole week of workouts.

Crum spent a week in Accra, Ghana bringing much-needed computers and books to a local orphanage.

Crum along with several others from Students Bridging the Information Gap (SBIG) arrived in Africa on June 10 to spend a week at the orphanage and deliver 15 new computers and over 2,000 donated books to the children there. The group also raised enough money to construct a brand new, air-conditioned computer lab to house the new machines.

"The trip was really special," Crum said. "Having a chance to see someone else's lifestyle and being welcomed into their culture really put my life in perspective."

SBIG was founded by Crum's former teammate Abdel Banda who started the organization after suffering a career-ending injury in his sophomore year. Banda included Crum in the project from the start.

"I got a pretty big heart as far as giving back, so naturally when he first started talking about it, one of the first people that he was talking to about it was me," Crum said.

While in Africa, Crum helped set up the new library and taught some of the 300 children living at the orphanage how to use the computers. They also had some time for fun.

"I got to play a soccer game with the kids. They were younger kids, but they killed us," he said. "Next time I go back, I think I'll bring a football."

The program intends to visit and donate to a different orphanage in Africa each year. Crum said he plans to attend and do as much as he can to help out.

Playing soccer with the kids inspired Crum to want to start his own charity called Cleats for Kids to distribute cleats throughout the continent. He is currently in a graduate class that teaches the ins and outs of getting help from the United Nations. Crum said that he plans on doing work to set it up once the football season slows down.

In the meantime, Crum has a few things to keep him busy on the field.

This Saturday against Boston College, Crum has a chance to crack the Irish record books. He is currently five tackles away from joining the top 10 tacklers in Notre Dame history. Crum is third on the team this season with 49 tackles through eight games, bringing his career total to 290.

"That is stuff you dream about. I've been in the right place a bunch of times to make a bunch of tackles," Crum said.

He is also only 10 tackles away from passing former safety Tom Zbikowski for eighth place all-time. Bob

Crable, who played in the late 1970s, has a safe hold on the No. 1 spot with 521 career tackles.

"Leaving my mark on this place is something special and something that at least I'll be in the books for something," he said.

## Ironman

Crum already holds an impressive spot in the books with the longest games played and games started streaks in the program's rich history. Crum was red-shirted his freshman season, since then he has played in every single game for the past four years.

"I feel like my greatest attribute is my toughness," Crum said. "If I can help the team and be effective, I'm going to play."

Crum has also started 44 of those 45 including 43 in a row to start his career. Crum's one miss was two weeks ago against the Huskies in Washington. Crum sat out the first play because of the formation Washington opened the game with.

And he has never missed a game due to injury.

"It has a lot to do with will power. You're going to get beat up, but for me the greatest cure for pain is for the next play to occur," he said. "As long as you are out on that field and the adrenaline is pumping, nothing else really matters."

Crum needed all the adrenaline he could muster during his sophomore season when he played the majority of the season with a back injury. Crum said that he frequently had back spasms throughout the season, but didn't want to get the necessary surgery until the season had ended.

"Needless to say, it hurt, but my will power and my desire to help the team kept me on the field," he said.

The back hasn't been a problem since his surgery, but



VANESSA GEMPIS/The Observer

**Irish fifth-year senior middle linebacker Maurice Crum Jr. makes a hit during Notre Dame's 29-24 loss to North Carolina on Oct. 11.**

there are plenty of other bumps and bruises that a middle linebacker picks up during games.

"Bruised legs, turf toe, you know, just the regular kind of football stuff."

Crum said that a big part of his will to play through injuries comes because he wants to set a good example for whomever may be watching.

"I don't know who's watching me or who wants to be like me and I don't want them to get the wrong idea. There's a difference between being hurt and being injured."

## Leading the way

Crum is very conscious of his role as a leader of the Irish team. He is one of only 17 players to be named captain twice. He was the only

captain who was not a fifth-year senior and this year he was a shoe-in for the spot along with offensive captain David Grimes and special teams captain David Bruton.

"Being a leader of a team means that you have to be whatever your teams needs you to be," Crum said.

Crum said that in a season full of many highs and lows, his job has changed on a weekly, or even daily basis. As middle linebacker and the oldest player in a young defense, Crum has had to be a rock for his team on and off the field this season.

Crum attributes most of his leadership skills to his father, Maurice Crum, Sr. who was a linebacker at the University of Miami.

"My dad has always been a very important factor in my life. Him being around and knowing the game, it helps," Crum said.

Crum said that he was forced into being a veteran player

pretty quickly with such a young team. He did get the chance to watch players like Brandon Hoyte and Corey Mays, which helped him learn how to work well together.

"They all had a role, one was the hammer one provided the energy. I had a different group of guys to study and take their skills and apply them to my own play," he said.

Crum couldn't define a specific role for himself because he has had to wear about every hat there is in the past four years for his team.

All of his hard work has certainly paid off. The entire nation is starting to recognize Crum's work on and off the field. He is currently a finalist for the Lowe's Senior CLASS Award, which is given to

a senior from each sport every year for their leadership on the field, in the classroom and in the community.

Crum graduated from Notre Dame last May with a degree in Sociology and enrolled in graduate school after the University approved him for a fifth year on the field.

Crum attributes the praise of that award to his family.

"The way that raised me and teaching me values, teaching me to be that well-rounded guy. [The award] is just a result of my upbringing," Crum said.

The winner of the award is based on nation wide fan voting and will be decided on Dec. 10.

Between a degree from Notre Dame, a place in the Irish record books and annual trips to African orphanages Crum certainly has the résumé to win.

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ALLISON AMBROSE/The Observer

**Irish fifth-year senior middle linebacker Maurice Crum Jr. prepares for a play during Notre Dame's 28-21 win over Stanford on Oct. 4. Crum had four tackles in the game.**



## RAY HERRING

## After injury, Herring still has unfinished business

By GREG ARBOGAST  
Sports Writer

Ray Herring is no stranger to grabbing the attention of tens of thousands of people.

Before his senior year at Holy Trinity High School, Herring was asked by the Florida Today newspaper to keep a diary of his final season. Plenty of people were interested in what Herring, a starter both ways during the first four years of varsity football at Holy Trinity, had to say.

"Anytime I had thoughts, I wrote them down on the website for Florida Today," Herring said. "The day I committed [to Notre Dame], I think I had 100,000 people

visit my site. [Florida Today] said that was the most they'd ever had, even more than when the Challenger blew up, so I broke that record on that."

While Herring is a bit of a celebrity in his tiny hometown of Melbourne, Florida, he's still trying to achieve the same status in South Bend.

Pegged by the Notre Dame coaches as a strong safety, Herring came to South Bend behind Tom Zbikowski on the depth chart. The former Irish All-American didn't leave much

opportunity for Herring to play over the next three years.

Herring did make one start, in 2006 against Stanford when Zbikowski was out because of an injury. Herring made the most of his opportunity, recording nine tackles during a 31-10 Irish victory, and he recalls that game as one of his favorite memories of his Notre Dame career to-date.

"It was good because it was my first start," Herring said. "I was pretty nervous."

*"It was kind of hard. But at a good program like this where you have good players, sometimes you got to wait your turn."*

**Ray Herring  
Irish Strong Safety**

Other than the Stanford game, Herring was primarily assigned to special teams duty his first three years. His freshman year, Herring made his first appearance on special teams against

Washington, and he recorded five tackles in 115 special teams appearances on the year.

Herring's role expanded slightly his sophomore year as he became a mainstay on special teams and received playing time at safety late during several games. On the year, he finished 13th on the team with 18 total tackles, and he also added two pass break-ups. After playing both ways for four straight seasons in high school, Herring had to adjust to more limited playing time at Notre Dame.



VANESSA GEMPIS/The Observer

Irish strong safety Ray Herring runs stride-for-stride with wide receiver George West during a practice April 5, 2008.

"It was kind of hard," Herring said. "But at a good program like this where you have good players, sometimes you got to wait your turn. I believe everything happens for a reason."

Herring may still be searching for the reason why his junior season went down the drain. Four games into the year, Herring injured his groin and wouldn't

play for the rest of the season. Although Zbikowski's decision to return for his senior year in 2007 meant that Herring was still blocked on the depth-chart, Herring's injury opened the door for teammate Kyle McCarthy. McCarthy hasn't looked back as he assumed the starting strong safety spot and currently leads the Irish in tackles in 2008 with 89.

"I kind of had to start over on the depth chart," Herring said on the effect of his injury. "I had Kyle [McCarthy] behind me, and he's a good player. He got in front of me, and it was kind of hard to pass him because he's a good player too, so I kind of have to wait right now."

Herring has received academic eligibility for a fifth season, and he

This Saturday will be the first carbon-neutral game in Notre Dame history. Be a part of it: wear green to the game and go to [green.nd.edu](http://green.nd.edu) to learn more.

Join the Office of Sustainability for a celebration and tailgate between 10 and 2. Find us by lamppost 9 in the Joyce Lot.



# Tough it out

Whether it's opponents' offensive lines or teammates' sanity, Pat Kuntz is a disruptive force

By BILL BRINK  
Sports Editor

Editor's note: this story originally ran on Oct. 3, 2008.

No matter what Pat Kuntz faces — opposing offensive linemen, public speaking engagements or Halo challengers — he toughs it out.

That's why, in his senior year of high school, he played his last four games with a broken right arm.

Not a hairline fracture that didn't show up on an X-Ray. A teammate's helmet squashed his arm as Kuntz made a tackle, and Kuntz had a cast from his wrist to above his elbow. He played anyway.

After one game without elbow flexion, he decided he needed more mobility and cut the cast down so his arm could flex.

"It hurt a lot, but it was my senior year," he said.

It's that attitude that helped Kuntz become what defensive line coach Jappy Oliver calls his most disruptive player and what defensive coordinator Corwin Brown calls a "tough guy."

"I'd say that I kind of have some of those qualities," Kuntz said.

Before he was disruptive, he was tough at the high school level. Kuntz holds the career sack record at Roncalli High School in Indianapolis with 25.5 sacks, something he is quite proud of. He bet an older teammate who previously held the record that he would break it, then did just that.

"Seeing him pay me off was probably one of the best feelings I've had," he said.

Playing high school football meant a great deal to Kuntz.

"That was probably one of my best experiences of my life," he said. "People take it for granted playing with guys you've known your whole life that would basically die for you. With the success my football team had — we won three consecutive state championships — it was just one of the best times of my life."

Notre Dame was a logical choice coming from a Catholic high school in Indianapolis, Kuntz said. He grew up a Notre Dame fan. But for Kuntz, coming to South Bend was about more than fandom.

"What made me want to come here was tradition and being the guy from my town who went here," he said. "I didn't care who offered me. I wanted to come here the whole time."

Kuntz said playing behind defensive lineman Derek Landri helped

him learn essential skills to playing his position.

"Being the first guy off the ball, being relentless and having a motor that never stops. That's probably the best thing I learned from him," Kuntz said.

Kuntz played for two years in the 4-3 defensive scheme, where four players start on the line of scrimmage and only three linebackers play. For the past two years, he's played in the 3-4 scheme, which reverses those roles. This year, however, Kuntz said his role mimics what he played his first two years.

*"What made me want to come here was tradition and being the guy from my town who went here."*

**Pat Kuntz**  
Irish senior



Irish senior Pat Kuntz lines up in the rain against the Michigan offensive line. Kuntz helped Notre Dame to a 35-17 win over the Wolverines on Sept. 13 at Notre Dame Stadium.

ALLISON AMBROSE/The Observer

"It's a lot more attacking defense," he said. "I played a lot of 3-technique my first two years. It's definitely different, but it reminds me a little bit of it."

Stanford's running backs, Toby Gerhart and Anthony Kimble, present a two-sided challenge to Notre Dame's defense Saturday. To quell the running game, Brown said, the defense has to control the line of scrimmage.

"All running backs run the same when there's no hole," Brown said. "When there's no hole or the holes are small, it's harder for them to be effective."

For that to happen, he said, Kuntz has to cause problems up front.

"We need him to play hard, be disruptive in there," Brown said. "He's the oldest guy out there for the most part. He's gotta show them. When he's out there he needs to be a problem."

Disruptiveness isn't a physical trait, Oliver said. It's a mentality.

"The way we call our defenses help that because we call an aggressive style of defense," Oliver said. "It's their attitude, just wanting to get there."

That aggressive play-calling hasn't produced much in the way of tangible results this season — only one sack — but that didn't concern Kuntz or Brown. Kuntz said there were other stats, like completion percentage or turnovers forced, that showed the success of a defensive scheme. Brown's philosophy, he said, is to keep the offense short of the sticks at all cost. The other team could complete 70 percent of their passes, he said, but as long as

they were short passes and the defense forced three-and-outs, he'd be okay with it.

"You can be very effective with the pass rush by not getting sacks," Kuntz said. "Getting your hands up, altering throws, things like that."

If disruptive describes Kuntz on the field, messy describes him off of it. He's an eccentric guy, outgoing with a vibrant personality. His hair reflects the many sides of his psyche;

so far this season, it went from long, flowing brown hair to a thoroughly terrifying skulllet to a shaved dome. Now he sports a buzz cut.

Kuntz's roommates at their off-campus house known as "the Kingdom," tackles Paul Duncan and Mike Turkovich, linebacker Steve Quinn and safety Kyle McCarthy, describe him as the untidy child of the house. He's not proud of it, but it's a stigma he's stuck with.

He's got them all beat at Halo, however. He said he's a level 48, out of 50, on Xbox Live, and scoffs at the idea that guard Eric Olsen is anywhere near his level.

"He's not even in my league. He's in double-A, and I'm in the MLB," he said.

No one on the team escapes Kuntz's insults and jokes. The defensive linemen alone offer him enough fodder most of the time, but he's not afraid to spread the love around the

locker room.

"They love to play practical jokes," Oliver said of the defensive linemen. "You better watch them, because they'll get you. They will get everybody and anybody."

Kuntz agreed.

"Everybody's open game. It doesn't matter if you're a freshman or a senior," he said. "If you do something stupid, everybody's going to get after you."

*"Everybody's open game. It doesn't matter if you're a freshman or a senior. If you do something stupid, everyone's going to get after you."*

**Pat Kuntz**  
Irish senior

Recently, Kuntz had a problem with nose tackle Ian Williams' dreadlocks shedding hair onto his table during meetings. After Williams ignored Kuntz's warnings to stop, Kuntz pulled out wads of his long locks and spread them all over Williams.

"And I didn't tell him until after the meeting," he said.

Kuntz's act will soon go public; he's scheduled to speak at tonight's pep rally. He won't give any hint as to what he'll say, but he has "a little something something" planned.

"I'm a pretty good public speaker. Let's just say I'm probably going to have a good time," he said. "People might like it, people might not. We'll see what happens. I told somebody that they better put Jimmy first because I'm going to be a tough act to follow."

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DAN JACOBS/The Observer

Senior defensive lineman Pat Kuntz attempts to break up a pass in Notre Dame's 23-7 loss to Michigan State on Sept. 20.



## JOHN LEONIS

## Walk-on balances football with aerospace engineering

By LAURA MYERS  
Sports Writer

Most students would disagree with John Leonis when he says he is nothing special. The walk-on cornerback spends his time watching hours of tape in order to help prepare the offense for the next opponent. Whatever time is left goes to studying, because Leonis is an aerospace engineering major.

"It's a lot of balance between work and football," Leonis said. "You sacrifice your social life a little bit. I enjoy trying to spend time with my friends — I can't go out with them much, but I drive them around sometimes."

Leonis did not arrive at Notre Dame expecting to play football. Though he played varsity football all four years at his small Oregon high school, he had no plans to continue. However, after meeting a football player in his dorm and playing interhall for Stanford, he decided to try out.

He was unsuccessful his freshman year, but that did not stop him.

"I wasn't really prepared to try out so I came back after that and just rededicated myself, refocused, came out my sophomore year, and, well, here I am," he said.

Leonis said tryouts were diffi-

cult, especially in the early stages when the potential players had to work out at 5:30 a.m. three times a week.

"It was shell-shocking, really, because you didn't really make it until after the Spring Game, and even then you don't know if you'll be invited to camp," he said. "And you can't be running out of the tunnel, hands down. I mean, I got to run out for the Spring Game, the Stadium was half full, and it was crazy. I didn't know what to do with myself."

Leonis is part of the defensive show team, which simulates the opponent's defense to help the offense gain the right looks during plays. He performs a similar function on special teams. However, the positions do not come with a lot of glory.

"We each have our own role. I still do what I can to get the offense ready with show teams," Leonis said.

Despite the negatives, though, Leonis said he would not do things differently.

"It's been really fun, he said. "I wouldn't trade my experience for the world."

Leonis said he would miss the football team's camaraderie

once the season ends.

"It's a special group of guys in there, and I'm just glad to be a part of them. We have a lot of fun in the locker room and out of practice," he said. "It's going to be different in the spring not being able to see these guys every day, but you know, it's kind of the nature of the business."

Leonis grew up as a Notre Dame fan, because his grandfather graduated in the 1940s and his mother went to Saint Mary's.

"It was cool actually being here after all that," he said. "It's going to be sad to graduate, and I kind of don't want to, but real life knocks on the door and you have to answer it."

Unlike those of some of his teammates, however, Leonis' future does not lie in football. His plans after graduation no doubt reflect the rest of his class.

"I'd like to get a job, that's priority number one," he said. He said he hopes to get a job with Lockheed Martin or a similar

company, and preferably on the West Coast, so he can be closer to home.

Leonis said there is one thing he wants people to remember about him.

"I am not Mike Anello,"

he said. "Last year when we did show team, Patrick Graham, our defensive graduate assistant who runs our show team, used

*"I don't consider what I did anything special. I just came out here and did what I wanted to do."*

John Leonis  
Irish cornerback



QUENTIN STENGER/The Observer

Irish walk-on cornerback John Leonis, right, participates in a stripping drill in practice.

to just call all of us — me, Mike Anello, and a guy who graduated named Wade Iams — 'The Anellos.' He would say 'Anello, get in there,' and we wouldn't know who he was talking about."

Anello and Iams were both part of the defensive show team and walk-ons with Leonis in 2007.

Despite the tremendous amount of work he did during

his time at Notre Dame, Leonis does not think of himself as distinctive in any way.

"I don't consider what I did anything special. I just came out here and did what I wanted to do," he said. "I just came to the school, and football presented itself as an opportunity, so I took it."

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## NIKOLAS RODRIGUEZ

## Walk-on halfback refuses to let injuries stand in his way

Nikolas Rodriguez fought on despite disappointing setbacks and enjoyed a 'special' experience as a result

By ALEX BARKER  
Sports Writer

It isn't easy walking on to one of the most storied programs in all of college football. Throw an injury into the mix and that task almost becomes downright impossible.

Nikolas Rodriguez found that out the hard way his freshman year after a severe hamstring injury left him unable to finish walk-on tryouts at spring practice.

"I made it all the way through the tryouts before I got injured," Rodriguez said. "But since I couldn't play spring ball, they didn't know if I could really play and they had to let me go."

Coming off injury and with the odds already stacked against him, giving up and going the interhall route

seemed to be a more likely scenario. But that option just wasn't in the playbook for this San Antonio, Texas native.

"I just couldn't see myself being done with football.

After going through a lot of rehab, it took nearly 11 months for me to get back to full speed," Rodriguez said. "When the next year's tryouts came up, I was just starting to get back into shape. I told myself that this is what I wanted to do and I went out and gave it another shot."

The second time went according to plan for Rodriguez who successfully made the Irish squad as a running back.

"The whole thing was definitely a trying experience for me," he said. "But I wouldn't have traded it for the world."

Things didn't get any easier once he joined the team.

During spring practice earlier this year, Rodriguez suffered another injury that threatened to end his final season with the Irish before it even got started. Rodriguez suffered a

torn rotator cuff that normally requires season-ending surgery to fix.

But much like before, calling it quits just never seemed to be a viable option for

Rodriguez. He elected to play through it.

"The doctor told me my shoulder was going to require surgery at some point,"

Rodriguez said. "But the surgery would have prevented me from playing this season and I didn't want that to happen. It's painful to play with, but it's not like it's going to get any worse."

Heading into his last home game as a player at Notre Dame, Rodriguez still isn't sure how he'll feel when he takes the field at Notre Dame Stadium for the final time.

"It hasn't fully hit me yet. It's hard to believe my athletic career is about to come to an end," he said. "I'm just going to take it all in and hopefully this last month of the season

and the bowl game will be a memorable experience."

Although the past few seasons have not been ideal for the Irish, Rodriguez has one

*"The whole thing was definitely a trying experience for me. But I wouldn't have traded it for the world."*

Nikolas Rodriguez  
Irish halfback

memory that he won't soon be forgetting.

"This may sound a little cliché, but I won't ever forget the feeling I had the first time I walked out of the tunnel," he said. "My mom was in the crowd too so it was

even better to be able to share that experience with her."

As for the future, Rodriguez hopes to get a job in advertising before returning to school to get his MBA. Rodriguez attributes what he learned on the field at Notre Dame as helping prepare him for what is to come after football.

"It has certainly improved my time management," he said. "Having to deal with school and then

*"It hasn't fully hit me yet. It's hard to believe my athletic career is about to come to an end."*

Nikolas Rodriguez  
Irish halfback

football on top of that is pretty stressful. But when I have to prioritize my things at work, I think I will be prepared."

Rodriguez also said that playing under Charlie Weis taught him some things that he would not have learned playing in another program.

"Since [Weis] comes from the professional ranks, he expects us to be more mature than your average program," he said. "It's a good thing because he treats us like grown men and that helps you grow up faster and know what to expect when you get out in the real world. He's a professional and expects you to always give your best effort."

Rodriguez doesn't take for granted the opportunity he enjoyed representing the Irish as a member of the football team.

"It's definitely an honor to be a part of this team," he said. "There a ton of people who would do anything to be in the position that I was in, to play football for Notre Dame. This is the top program in the history of college football and it was truly special to be a part of this great tradition."

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# From hardwood to gridiron

Justin Brown didn't play football until his senior year of high school, but he is making up for lost time

By JAY FITZPATRICK  
Managing Editor

Editor's note: this story originally ran on Nov. 14, 2008.

During his career at Notre Dame, Justin Brown has been a solid, steady presence on the defensive line. The fifth-year end has 60 tackles, including nine for loss and 2.5 sacks, in his career for the Irish while adding depth to the front four.

Not bad for a guy who didn't start playing football until senior year of high school.

## From the hardwood...

Brown grew up a basketball player, as a forward who played competitively during middle school and high school.

Brown said he was a solid basketball player, starting for the varsity team at Bishop McNamara High School in Forestville, Md., during his junior and senior seasons.

Brown was originally going to go to college to play basketball, he said. Starting his junior season, he began to shop himself around to some Div. I programs for a scholarship.

"Going into the summer time, I focused more in on trying to get scholarships for basketball. What was happening was I started getting injuries — ankle injuries. Just going to camps and going to AAU tournaments where a lot of scouts are, I just had ankle injuries," Brown said.

Those ankle injuries kept him out of competing in other camps and tournaments later in the summer. Brown said his inability to play basketball during the offseason — and in turn impress college scouts and

coaches from big time programs — led to Brown not getting the offers he wanted.

But Brown had another plan to get his scholarship after basketball fell through — start playing football.

## ... to the gridiron ...

Throughout his time at Bishop McNamara, Brown said head football coach Bernard Joseph would half-jokingly tell him that he needed to start playing football.

Three games into the 2003 season, Brown took him up on the offer.

"I talked about the football thing with my dad and my brother and decided to try it out. I came three games late and played seven or eight games, and things worked out well," he said.

Brown played a sort of hybrid defensive end/outside linebacker that season, but said that his position didn't matter to his game plan. Joseph and the other coaches gave Brown simple instructions for playing.

"Just go get the ball carrier. Just go and run and make plays. And that's what I did. I was only 200 pounds. They just put me on the field and let me run around and make plays," Brown said of his high school coaching.

This plan was immediately successful, and Brown finished his first year of organized football with 65 tackles, nine sacks and three fumble recoveries. As his senior season wore on, he started getting more looks for that big-time college scholarship he did not get in basketball.

While Brown was initially recruited mostly by local, smaller Div. I schools, like Richmond and Towson, eventually Boston

College started showing more interest in him. After the Eagles, teams like Notre Dame, Penn State, Michigan and Florida all started looking at Brown.

Brown said that the biggest reason for this increased attention was the work of Joseph and his father, Michael Brown.

"After a couple of games, I played really, really well and my dad was just, 'We need to send some of these tapes out.' So between my dad and my coach, they made some tapes. My dad just sending tapes everywhere, probably like 50 schools, or something like that," Brown said.

Brown said he didn't know how he was so lucky that he could wind up playing football at Notre Dame after only one year, but said that he was meant to be here.

"That was God's work, I say. It's interesting, I play for Notre Dame and through God in there, and it's such a religious institution. There's a reason for everything happening. I'm supposed to be here, I guess," he said.

Brown said that when Notre Dame first started recruiting him, he had no idea about the school's history or tradition, but knew it must have been a special place because of how others treated it.

"The thing that struck me was this place had to be special because of the reaction I would get from everyone. It was the reaction that people gave me that kind of gave me the sense that this was some place special. And when I came up here, it sort of proved itself true," he said.

But after giving the Irish another look, he said the school was a perfect "three-for-three" fit for him.

"One of the things that stood out to me was that people talk about — you get a degree from Notre Dame, you're set for life. The fact that the school was a very religious institution, very



DAN COOPER/The Observer

Irish defensive lineman Justin Brown tries to deflect a pass during Notre Dame's 38-21 win over Purdue on Sept. 27.

religion-conscious, very faith-based — that was important. And then, I believed in the football coaches and what they were telling me. Coach [Tyrone] Willingham recruited me, and I felt like I wanted to come here and play," he said.

Once he got to Notre Dame, the biggest adjustment Brown had to make was learning how to play technical football.

"I didn't know so much technique and knowledge of the game [was involved]. And everything that's going on — because there is so much going on, on a football field. There was a lot I had to learn. Probably for the first two or three years here I felt like I was playing catch-up to everybody else, physically and mentally," he said.

*"Probably for the first two or three years here I felt like I was playing catch-up to everybody else, physically and mentally."*

Justin Brown  
Irish defensive end

Brown said the most difficult part of that adjustment period was learning how to take on blockers, something which has become much easier as he has put on 77 pounds during his five years with the Irish.

But off the football field, one big adjustment for Brown was a coaching change after his freshman year. Brown said that, while he sat out the year and was not fully integrated into the system and therefore the change did not have as big of an impact on him, Willingham's firing was still difficult for him to deal with.

"You always see those things happening to other teams on ESPN. When it happened to us, it was kind of shocking. It was shocking and surprising, but it was something we had to deal with and move on," he said.

## ... and beyond

After this season, Brown said his dream would be to play in the NFL. But, just like in high school, he has a contingency.

"And if that doesn't work, I always have my Notre Dame degree to fall back on," he said.

Brown graduated in May with a double major in Film, Television and Theater and Sociology. He started with the FTT major with a concentration in television, something he has always been interested in, he said.

"I'm really interested in media. Coming into college, I wanted to work with advertising, so that's where I went. I really like the creative aspect of things. I was happy when I saw that they have a film program here," he said.

Brown said he added the second major because he thought it would be a good fit with the FTT.

He is currently enrolled in a

non-degree graduate studies program, taking some psychology courses and a special studies class. For the special studies, he is working on a multimedia CD for his brother's wedding, which was in October.

But in the much more immediate future, Brown said he is excited to play Navy and excited to see his family.

"I guess, it's kind of like my Thanksgiving. I don't get to go home before Thanksgiving, so that's always good to see my family around this time of year. People don't always get to see their families, so I'm fortunate to see mine."

Brown said he didn't know how much time he would get to spend with them, but it won't be enough if this year is anything like his last trip to Maryland two years ago.

"Last time, they were calling me to get on the bus because I wasn't ready to leave yet."



VANESSA GEMPIS/The Observer

Irish defensive lineman Justin Brown, right, and linebacker Brian Smith pursue Air Force quarterback Shaun Carney during Notre Dame's 41-24 loss on Nov. 10, 2007.

Contact Jay Fitzpatrick at [jfitzpa5@nd.edu](mailto:jfitzpa5@nd.edu)



# Notre Dame Fighting Irish

Record: 6-4

AP: NR

Coaches: NR



Charlie Weis head coach

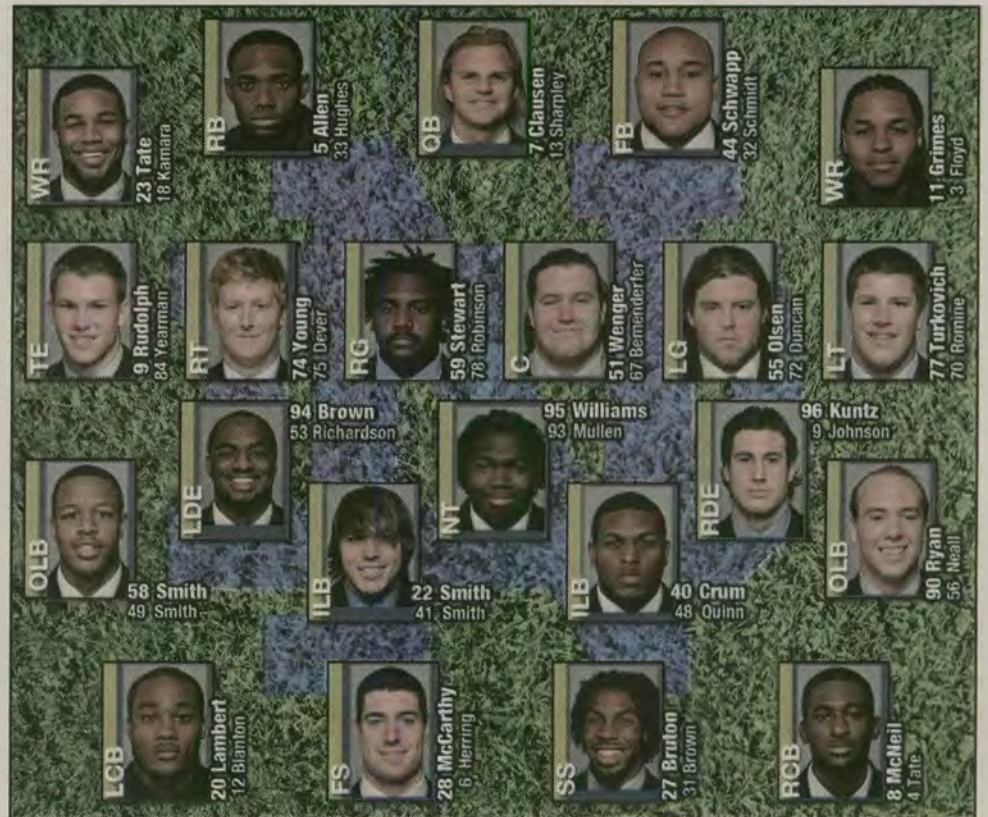
Charlie Weis  
Fourth season at  
Notre Dame  
career record:  
28-19  
against  
Syracuse:  
1-0

## Roster

No.	Name	Pos.	Ht	Wt.	YR
1	Deion Walker	WR	6-2	188	FR
3	Michael Floyd	WR	6-3	215	FR
4	Gary Gray	DB	5-11	188	SO
5	Armando Allen	RB	5-10	195	SO
6	Ray Herring	DB	5-10	198	SR
7	Jimmy Clausen	QB	6-3	217	SO
8	Raeshon McNeil	DB	6-0	190	JR
9	Ethan Johnson	DE	6-4	275	FR
9	Kyle Rudolph	TE	6-6	252	FR
10	Dayne Crist	QB	6-4	233	FR
11	David Grimes	WR	5-10	177	SR
12	Nick Lezynski	QB	5-8	157	SO
12	Robert Blanton	DB	6-1	180	FR
13	Evan Sharpley	QB	6-2	215	SR
14	Brandon Walker	K	6-3	202	SO
15	Brian Castelle	QB	6-2	191	SO
15	Dan McCarthy	DB	6-2	200	FR
16	Nate Montana	QB	6-4	200	FR
18	Duval Kamara	WR	6-5	219	SO
19	George West Jr.	WR	5-10	196	JR
20	Terrill Lambert	DB	5-11	195	SR
21	Barry Gallup Jr.	RB	5-11	200	JR
22	Harrison Smith	DB	6-2	206	SO
23	Golden Tate	WR	5-11	195	SO
24	Leonard Gordon	DB	5-11	187	JR
24	Brian Coughlin	WR	6-0	232	JR
25	Jonas Gray	RB	5-10	230	FR
26	Jamoris Slaughter	DB	6-0	182	FR
27	David Bruton	DB	6-2	212	SR
28	Kyle McCarthy	DB	6-1	203	SR
29	Jashaad Gaines	DB	6-0	202	JR
29	Michael Garcia	WR	6-1	178	SO
30	Steve Paskorz	FB	6-2	235	SO
31	Sergio Brown	DB	6-2	205	JR
32	Luke Schmidt	TE	6-3	246	JR
33	Robert Hughes	RB	5-11	237	SO
34	James Aldridge	RB	6-0	225	JR
35	Kevin Smith	LB	5-8	200	SR
35	Kevin Brooks	TE	6-2	241	JR
36	Joe Bizjak	K	6-2	165	JR
36	David Postuszny	LB	6-0	220	FR
37	Mike Anello	DB	5-10	170	SR
37	Eras Noel	RB	5-8	190	SO
38	Chris Bathon	DB	5-10	192	JR
38	Christopher Gurrles	WR	5-10	181	SO
39	Ryan Burkhart	K	5-11	190	JR
40	Maurice Crum Jr.	LB	6-0	235	SR
41	Scott Smith	LB	6-3	235	SR
41	Nikolas Rodriguez	RB	5-11	205	SR
42	Kevin Washington	LB	6-1	250	SR
42	Dan Franco	WR	5-10	188	JR
43	John Leonis	DB	5-9	169	SR
43	Eric Maust	P	6-2	177	JR
44	Asaph Schwapp	FB	6-0	257	SR
45	Darius Fleming	LB	6-1	236	FR
45	Kris Patterson	WR	5-11	185	SR
46	Steve Filer	LB	6-3	236	FR
47	Joe Vittoria	LB	5-11	44	JR
47	Mike Narvaez	FB	5-11	231	JR
48	Steve Quinn	LB	6-2	225	SR
49	Toryan Smith	LB	6-1	244	JR
51	Dan Wenger	C	6-4	302	JR
52	Hraxston Cave	C	6-3	315	FR
53	Morrise Richardson	DE	6-2	255	JR
54	Anthony McDonald	LB	6-3	225	FR
55	Eric Olsen	OG	6-5	303	JR
56	Kerry Neal	LB	6-2	246	SO
57	Mike Golic Jr.	C	6-3	280	FR
58	Brian Smith	LB	6-3	245	SO
59	Chris Stewart	OG	6-5	337	JR
61	Martin Quintana	LB	6-1	242	JR
62	Bill Flavin	C	6-3	252	SO
63	Jeff Tisak	OT	6-3	306	SR
64	Tom Burke	LB	5-10	242	JR
65	Mike Hernandez	OL	6-2	275	FR
67	Tom Bemenderfer	C	6-5	300	SR
69	Carl Brophy	OL	6-4	278	FR
70	Matt Romine	OT	6-5	292	SO
71	Dennis Mahoney	OL	6-6	290	FR
72	Paul Duncan	OT	6-7	308	SR
74	Sam Young	OT	6-8	330	JR
75	Taylor Dever	OT	6-5	308	SO
75	Lane Clelland	OT	6-5	281	FR
76	Andrew Nuss	DE	6-5	304	SO
77	Mike Turkovich	OG	6-6	305	SR
78	Trevor Robinson	OC	6-5	301	FR
79	Hafis Williams	DE	6-2	302	FR
81	John Goodman	WR	6-3	197	FR
82	Robby Parris	WR	6-4	210	JR
84	Will Yeatman	TE	6-6	265	SO
85	Sam Vos	WR	5-10	199	JR
86	Paul Kuppich	TE	6-3	232	SR
87	Joseph Bauria	TE	6-7	245	FR
89	Kapron Lewis-Moore	DE	6-4	257	FR
90	John Ryan	LB	6-5	264	JR
91	Emeka Nwankwo	DE	6-4	295	SO
93	Paddy Mullen	NT	6-3	300	JR
94	Justin Brown	DE	6-3	277	SR
95	Ian Williams	NT	6-2	310	SO
96	Pat Kuntz	DE	6-3	283	SR
97	Kallen Wade	LB	6-5	255	JR
98	Sean Cwynar	DE	6-4	283	FR

## Notre Dame 2008 Schedule

- Sept. 6 SDSU —W
- Sept. 13 MICH — W
- Sept. 20 at MSU—L
- Sept. 27 PURDUE —W
- Oct. 4 STANFORD—W
- Oct. 11 at UNC —L
- Oct. 25 at WASH —W
- Nov. 1 PITT —L
- Nov. 8 at BC —L
- Nov. 15 NAVY—W
- Nov. 22 SYRACUSE
- Nov. 29 at USC



## COACHING

Offensive coordinator Mike Haywood will miss practice again this week, putting Charlie Weis in charge of play-calling once again. On the other side of the ball, Corwin Brown has his defense playing as consistently as they have in a very long time.

Syracuse announced following last week's loss to the Huskies that head coach Greg Robinson will be gone after this season. After four years as the leader of the Orange he has racked up a grand total of nine wins.

Weis has had to hear plenty of rumors about his own job security in the past few weeks, but compared to Robinson they seem absurd. From top to bottom the Irish staff takes this category.

## QUARTERBACKS

Jimmy Clausen has turned the ball over six times in his last two games. But last week against Navy he seemed to be getting back on track completing 15 of his 18 pass attempts. Senior Evan Sharpley might also see the field in his final home game.

Former walk-on Cameron Dantley and Andrew Robinson are expected to split time under center this Saturday. The duo has thrown for less than a touchdown per game and completed less than 50 percent of their passes.

As the old saying goes, if you are playing two quarterbacks you probably don't have any who deserve to play. Clausen's talent and experience are both superior to what Syracuse has to offer.

## IRISH RUSHING

Last week Notre Dame dedicated itself to the run against a smaller defensive line. It paid off as the Irish picked up 230 convincing yards on the ground with each back contributing to the effort.

The Orange have given up over 200 yards on the ground in four of their past five games. The linemen range from 240 to 290 pounds and will be undersized against the Big Notre Dame front five.

This may be the first time all season Notre Dame holds the edge on the ground. Weis proved last week that he could establish the run and is expected to do so again against the undersized Orange defense.

## IRISH PASSING

For the first time in four years the Notre Dame passing offense has taken a back seat to the ground game. Clausen threw only 18 times last week, but did so efficiently after a few early miscues. The passing game will be hurt with the loss of star receiver Michael Floyd.

Syracuse doesn't crack the top 100 in FBS pass defenses, but they are experienced at cornerback and have come up with seven interceptions so far this season.

Without Floyd in the line-up the Irish lose a major playmaker. Clausen will have to spread out and work further through his reads than he is used to doing. The numbers don't need to be gaudy, only sufficient.

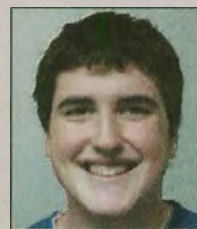
With Charlie Weis manning the helm once again this week, the Irish offense will continue to thrive. Jimmy Clausen plays better than he's shown the past two games; he's just been in a funk. The running game continues to succeed, especially if Weis



Bill Brink Sports Editor

can adjust at halftime like he did against Navy. The defense hasn't had a problem so far, and against the 2-8 Orange, problems won't begin now.

FINAL SCORE: Notre Dame 34 Syracuse 14



Jay Fitzpatrick Managing Editor

After an up-and-down season so far this year, Weis has finally taken back the offensive reins and is ready to show how fancy a Jimmy Clausen-led offense can be. The seniors step up and make their last game at the Stadium one of their best. Throw in a reeling Syracuse team with an interim head coach and you have the makings of a blow out win.

FINAL SCORE: Notre Dame 45 Syracuse 10

# Irish experts



# HEAD

## Syracuse Orange



### Syracuse 2008 Schedule

- Aug. 30 at NW'ern — L
- Sept. 6 AKRON — L
- Sept. 13 PENN ST. — L
- Sept. 20 NE'ern — W
- Sept. 27 PITT — L
- Oct. 11 at WVU — L
- Oct. 18 at USF — L
- Nov. 1 L'VILLE — W
- Nov. 8 at RUTGERS — W
- Nov. 15 UCONN — L
- Nov. 22 at NOTRE DAME
- Nov. 29 at CINCINNATI

### Syracuse

Orange  
Record: 2-8  
AP: NR  
Coaches: NR



Greg Robinson  
Fourth season at  
Syracuse  
career record:  
9-36  
against  
Notre Dame:  
0-1

Greg Robinson  
head coach

### Roster

No.	Name	Pos.	Ht	Wt.	YR
2	David Legree	QB	6-4	214	FR
3	Delone Carter	RB	5-10	214	JR
4	Cameron Dantley	QB	6-1	218	SR
5	Marcus Sales	WR	6-0	184	FR
6	Da'Mon Merkerson	CB	6-1	185	FR
7	Donte Davis	WR	6-0	173	JR
8	Cody Catalina	QB	6-3	221	FR
9	Andrew Robinson	QB	6-3	222	JR
10	Dorian Graham	CB	5-11	185	FR
11	Lavar Loddell	WR	6-3	210	SR
12	Tyrell Harris	CB	6-1	190	FR
14	Grant Mayes	WR	5-10	180	FR
15	Bruce Williams	S	6-0	200	SR
16	Ryan Nassib	QB	6-3	215	FR
17	A.J. Brown	S	6-0	201	JR
18	Trey Fairchild	WR	5-11	185	FR
20	Randy McKinnon	S	5-10	198	FR
21	Ryan Howard	CB	5-8	185	SR
22	Curtis Brinkley	RB	5-9	203	SR
23	Daniel Bailey	RB	5-7	167	SR
23	George Mayes	DB	5-10	182	JR
24	Max Suter	S	5-11	190	FR
25	Derrell Smith	LB	6-1	225	JR
26	Kevin Scott	S	5-11	197	FR
27	Frank Satterfield	WR	5-11	179	FR
28	Nico Scott	CB	5-10	180	JR
28	Averin Collier	RB	5-10	200	FR
29	Antwon Bailey	TB	5-8	196	FR
30	Vincenzo Giruzzi	DE	6-3	241	SR
31	Ryan Ahern	DB	6-2	197	JR
31	Dan Vaughan	LB	6-2	221	FR
32	Doug Hogue	RB	6-2	215	FR
33	Ben Maljovec	TE	6-3	237	JR
34	Paul Chiara	S	5-11	205	JR
35	Mike Holmes	CB	5-11	185	FR
36	Jerry Harden	RB	5-9	188	FR
36	Malcolm Conway	P	5-11	175	SO
37	Daniel Collier	FB	6-0	240	JR
37	Michael Jones	RB	5-11	205	FR
38	Ryan Novak	K	5-11	170	SO
39	Austin Wallis	K	5-10	185	FR
40	Ryan Donnelly	TE	6-3	234	SR
41	Ryan Cillum	LB	5-11	220	FR
42	Quintez Scott	DB	5-10	185	FR
42	Patrick Shadle	K	5-8	209	SR
43	Tony Fiammetta	FB	6-1	239	JR
45	Jake Flaherty	LB	6-1	228	JR
46	Parker Cantey	LB	6-3	218	JR
46	Robert Nieves	FB	6-0	211	FR
47	Rafael McCrae	DB	5-9	175	FR
47	Rob Long	P	6-4	175	FR
48	Carl Cutler	TE	6-2	234	FR
49	Darnell Pratt	TE	6-4	222	FR
50	Mike Mele	LB	6-0	218	FR
51	Andrew Lewis	DE	6-3	267	FR
51	Boah Kwaku	LB	6-2	245	SO
52	Oliver Haney	OL	6-3	288	FR
53	Chad Battles	LB	6-3	224	FR
54	Mikhail Marionvich	DE	6-4	230	FR
56	Cory Boatman	DE	6-2	260	FR
57	Elon Mitchell	DT	6-2	245	SR
57	Maximilian Leo	LS	5-11	210	JR
58	Michael Stenclik	LB	6-0	229	SR
60	Jim McKenzie	C	6-4	286	SR
61	Dan Pena	DT	6-2	266	SR
63	Dave Zaske	LS	5-10	250	SO
64	Corey Chavers	T	6-5	295	JR
65	Michael Kay	OL	6-2	281	FR
66	Jason Ross	LB	5-10	202	JR
69	Chris Basile	DE	6-4	280	SR
70	Ryan Bartholomew	G	6-3	290	JR
71	Adam Rosner	G	6-6	303	JR
72	Nick Lepak	OG	6-4	318	FR
73	Jonathon Meldrum	T	6-5	305	FR
74	Nick Speller	T	6-5	310	FR
75	Ryan Durand	G	6-5	303	JR
76	Ian Allport	OL	6-4	300	FR
77	Tucker Baumbach	T	6-5	307	JR
78	Josh White	T	6-5	294	FR
79	Dalton Phillips	C	6-3	278	SR
81	Dan Sheeran	WR	6-3	217	SR
82	Van Chew	WR	6-1	165	FR
83	Chaz Cervino	WR	5-10	180	FR
84	Michael Accchione	WR	6-0	159	FR
84	Nick Provo	TE	6-4	232	FR
85	Mike Owen	TE	6-4	251	JR
86	David Stevens	TE	6-4	220	FR
87	Brett Hoffman	TE	6-3	215	FR
88	Lamar Middleton	DE	6-3	254	FR
89	Roland Burke	TE	6-5	267	SR
90	Jared Kimmel	DE	6-6	255	JR
92	Shane Kimmel	LB	6-1	238	FR
93	Jarel Lowery	DT	6-4	285	FR
94	Bud Tribbey	DT	6-1	288	FR
94	Niko Rechul	P	6-2	195	SR
95	Nick Santiago	DT	6-3	294	SO
96	Zary Stewart	DE	6-4	229	FR
97	Arthur Jones	DT	6-4	291	SR
98	Romale Tucker	DE	6-4	231	FR
99	Chandler Jones	DE	6-5	238	FR

### ORANGE RUSHING

Syracuse's strength is undoubtedly the rushing attack. Curtis Brinkley recently moved to 14th all time on the Orange rushing list. He averages over five yards every time he touches the ball and has a supporting cast of other impressive backs.

### ORANGE PASSING

True freshmen Antwon Bailey and Marcus Sales have come on late in the season and present big play threats for the Orange. The team also likes to use their tight ends a lot in the passing game.

### SPECIAL TEAMS

Last week, Toryan Smith had the highlight of the game with a blocked punt for a touchdown. Brandon Walker has established himself as a consistent field goal kicker and Ryan Burkhart had the best game of his career kicking the ball off.

### INTANGIBLES

It's senior day in South Bend. The Irish defense is led by three seniors who will undoubtedly be fired up for a memorable farewell. The rest of the team will also be intent on sending out their elders on a high note.

The Irish have struggled throughout the year to shut down feature backs allowing several hundred-yard rushers. However, last week they held the No. 1 rushing offense in the country to 180 yards on the ground.

With three seniors starting in the defensive backfield the Irish bring a level of experience that Syracuse cannot match. Bruton, McCarthy and Lambert will be eager to make the most of their Senior Day with some big plays.

Patrick Shadle has only missed one field goal of less than 50 yards and has 12 total on the season. Syracuse opponents have only punted eight times so low numbers can't be blamed on the special teams in that department.

The Orange learned early this week that this was the end of the line for head coach Greg Robinson. Those announcements can often give a team a spark and of course a big underdog is always dangerous.

Strength meets strength in this category as Brinkley presents the Irish defense with its biggest challenge this week. He will have plenty of carries to wear them down, but if the Irish defense from last week shows up, that might not be enough.

The Irish defensive backs have been tough since day one. Syracuse lacks consistency at the quarterback position and will have trouble getting anything going this weekend in a cold, windy South Bend.

Special teams miscues almost cost the Irish a sure win over Navy last week. The Irish have looked good of late, but Syracuse has shown consistency all year.

Notre Dame has yet to lose its final home game under Charlie Weis. This team wants to make sure that the seniors get the goodbye that they deserve.



Chris Hine  
Editor-in-Chief

When I was a sophomore, my friends and I agreed that, since I'm kind of a big guy, I would only go up for push-ups if Notre Dame hit 40 points. That hasn't happened in a few years. I think this week I'll finally get another chance in my last home game as a senior. Hopefully the Irish can put this one away early and let some of those seniors get in their final home game in the Stadium.

FINAL SCORE: Notre Dame 42  
Syracuse 17



Dan Murphy  
Sports Editor

Syracuse has absolutely nothing to lose this weekend, which makes them scary. Expect to see plenty of trick plays and weird risks from the Orange. But even the Annexation of Puerto Rico (see Little Giants) wouldn't be enough for 'Cuse this weekend. The Irish run game dominates again in a freezing cold, possibly snowy, game. Picking a win against Syracuse isn't a bold statement to go out on, so don't be surprised if the Irish finally pick up that goose egg they've been looking for.

FINAL SCORE: Notre Dame 24  
Syracuse 0

## Irish experts



# Man of the house

Irish safety Kyle McCarthy anchors both a tough Irish defense and his off-campus home

By BILL BRINK  
Sports Editor

Editor's note: this story originally ran on Oct. 19, 2008.

"Take off your shirt!"

Kyle McCarthy shakes his head, unable to hide a sheepish grin.

"Take off your shirt!" the yell comes again. It's not from a female student dying to see a football player topless, but rather from nose tackle Pat Kuntz, one of McCarthy's housemates. Once he heard McCarthy, a senior safety, would have his picture taken, Kuntz had to be a part of it, and he kept asking — no, pleading — for McCarthy to undress.

McCarthy refused. So his housemates — Kuntz, offensive tackle Paul Duncan and linebacker Steve Quinn — along with linebacker John Ryan and receiver Robby Parris, conspire to create the most ridiculous setting imaginable for a picture.

McCarthy, who acts respectful and intelligent, put up with the nonsense. He reserves himself for the most part but exudes a quiet sense of humor. He looks surprised,

however, when told he led the nation in solo tackles with 17.

"You're honestly the first person that told me that," he said after a pause.

Before long, it will be hard to ignore.

## Full house

McCarthy painted quite a picture of his off-campus home. There's Pat Kuntz, the resident child, making a mess and playing Halo 3. There's Paul Duncan, the nicest person McCarthy's ever met. There's Steve Quinn, who loves gummy bears for some reason McCarthy can't fathom. There's also tackle Mike Turkovich, who ... McCarthy couldn't think of anything, so he asked Kuntz.

"He always wears boxers," Kuntz offered.

"Yeah, he never wears clothes

in the house," McCarthy said. "He's got boxers on, but that's about it."

Quinn called McCarthy the dad of the house, but Kuntz called him the mom. McCarthy agreed with Quinn.

"I'm the dad of the house," he said. "Pat's a child. I have to whip him into shape every once in a while."

The five of them carpool to campus, but not everyone pulls their weight. McCarthy and Kuntz are the main drivers — the "workhorses," Kuntz said — while Duncan slacks in the transportation department.

"Duncan, I don't think he's ever started his car," McCarthy said. "He's trying to save gas money."

Lest one get the wrong idea, McCarthy was quick to mention that the five of them clean the house once a week.

"I don't want you guys to get the wrong impression, it's not a shack. It's a nice house," he said.

And McCarthy would, reluctantly, call himself a nice guy. "I don't want to be boastful, but I'd say I'm a nice, hardworking Midwestern kid," he said.

## Path to success

But years before he was man of the house, McCarthy played quarterback at Cardinal Mooney High School in Youngstown, Ohio. He rushed for 1,273 yards and 14 touchdowns and passed for 557 yards and five touchdowns as a senior. He also played safety, recording 70 tackles and five interceptions his senior season.

When colleges came calling, McCarthy heard from MAC schools as well as service academies who were interested in him as a quarterback.

Tempting, but not right for him. "It was a tough decision, but the lure of playing big-time college football really won me over," he said. "When you're playing for Notre Dame, it's a whole different story."

When he arrived at Notre Dame, however, he battled both injury and the depth chart. He had safety Tom Zbikowski, who



Irish senior safeties David Bruton (27) and Kyle McCarthy wrap up Wolverines running back Sam McGuffie during Notre Dame's 35-17 victory Saturday.

now plays for the Baltimore Ravens, in front of him, but he said the two became close.

"Zibby and myself became real good friends right off the bat," he said. "We both play the same position and have the same interests. I felt like his style of play and my style of play were pretty similar, but we're both our own player."

McCarthy said he learned the workings of the defense from watching on the sideline, but the transition from being a big deal in high school to a relative no-name his freshman year humbled him.

"It taught me that no one's going to give me anything, you've got to work for it," he said. "I've tried to keep my head down, keep working."

He knew he was on the right track, however, near the end of his junior season, when he started getting more playing time. His confidence has never wavered, he said, but playing in front of 80,000 people can take some getting used to.

McCarthy's older brother Brian graduated from Notre Dame in 2006, and his younger brother, Dan, is a freshman safety on the team this fall. McCarthy said he enjoys having his brother around, both during football and outside of it.

"We pick on him a little bit, myself and my friends included. I think they think he's their brother too," he said. "We're excited for him to come along next year, and he's going to be a great player."

To make sure his brother takes care of himself, McCarthy said he checks up on Dan from time to time, but that to some extent, he's on his own.

"I can guide him in certain areas he needs to be guided," he said. "I keep an extra close watch on him in the meeting rooms, to make sure he's doing

what he needs to be doing. But he's a big boy now."

## Tackling machine

So far this season, the big boys on the field have had to fear McCarthy.

The style of the Irish defense and its opponents have somewhat inflated McCarthy's tackles. Notre Dame has been in the nickel

package for the first two games of the season to neutralize the spread offense, and running backs have been funneled to McCarthy and safety David Bruton.

Irish defensive coordinator Corwin Brown said McCarthy is a reliable guy and someone who does what he's taught.

"Up until this point, he's a guy that you give him rules and assignments and he tries his best to execute them," Brown said. "He doesn't get all of the flash and the flair, and everybody isn't hollering his name, but at the end of the day when you look at the film and you look at the stat sheets and he's doing his job."

McCarthy said it wasn't a negative that other offenses focused more on Bruton; in fact, it gets him going.

"I'm the new guy, right? I hope they underestimate me," he said. "It kind of makes me excited. And it kind of motivates me, to be honest, to get my respect."

McCarthy and Bruton got to know each other well coming in as freshmen from Ohio, and despite disagreements over music — Bruton likes rap, McCarthy likes rock, and they

can't reconcile the two — they get along both on the field and off.

"We'll watch film together, we'll talk about schemes together," he said. "We've got our differences, but we generally like each other."

## Targeting Ringer

McCarthy, Bruton and the rest of the Irish defense have a new task this weekend: stop Spartans running back Javon Ringer, who has nine touchdowns in three games this season.

"The guy that they've got, he's a Heisman hopeful, he's got that kind of talent," McCarthy said. "We've got to be prepared, the defensive line, linebackers and safeties to come up and tackle him."

Tackling Ringer, he said, was not so much a matter of positioning as one of prepping oneself for a potential big hit.

"Honestly, you probably just have to buckle up a little bit tighter," McCarthy said. "He's a guy that will juke you, but he's

*"[Javon Ringer is] a Heisman hopeful, he's got that kind of talent. We've got to be prepared ... to come up and tackle him."*

Kyle McCarthy  
Irish safety

got some weight to him, some muscle to him, he'll try to run you over at times."

If one were to look at his teammates' stage theatrics for his photo shoot, however, one might think McCarthy capable of stopping

anyone. In various poses, with Kuntz as the art director, he has a foot on Parris' gut while Kuntz holds on for dear life. Duncan, who wanted no part of any of this, stood in hysterics in the background.

Will McCarthy to live up to his teammates' view of him, as well as his lead in solo tackles? He doesn't know, but he's not worried about it. His thoughts are elsewhere. After learning he had the lead, he said, "I guess I hope I lead at the end."

Contact Chris Hine at [chine@nd.edu](mailto:chine@nd.edu)



HALEY BEAUPRE/The Observer

Irish safety Kyle McCarthy, right, defends wide receiver David Grimes during the Blue-Gold game on April 19.



# Brute determination

Senior safety David Bruton works toward career in NFL

By CHRIS HINE  
Editor in Chief

*Editor's note: this story originally ran on Sept. 26, 2008.*

This time last year, the NFL was still a distant dream to senior safety David Bruton.

He was having a solid season in an otherwise miserable year for Notre Dame, but to Bruton, the idea of playing on Sundays was still unfathomable.

But to some people, it wasn't so incomprehensible. Bruton started to notice these people showing up to watch him play. Bruton may have not have known them, but they certainly knew who he was. They were NFL scouts.

This season, Bruton has given those scouts a lot to praise — he recovered a fumble in the fourth quarter on Notre Dame's 1-yard line against San Diego State. And against Michigan, Bruton forced another fumble and had an interception inside the Notre Dame 5-yard line. Bruton, now playing in his final season for Notre Dame, has developed a knack for getting turnovers at key times — certainly something that will help him get to NFL.

"I realized it wasn't that far," Bruton said. "I'm in my final year here, and I have a really good chance to go to the next level."

But just a few years ago for Bruton, getting to that next level meant going somewhere other than the NFL — the Olympics.

## Finding football

In high school, Bruton dreamed of becoming an Olympic sprinter, much like his cousin, Tyson Gay.

"I wanted those 200- and 400-meter races," Bruton said with a smile.

Football was merely an afterthought.

Bruton, who played wide

receiver and safety for Miamisburg High School in Miamisburg, Ohio, hardly saw the field in his freshman year and prior to his sophomore season, he was close to giving it up for good.

"My heart wasn't really set on football," Bruton said. "I didn't play much freshman year and I wasn't

a big fan of being a receiver and not getting many looks at defensive back. I felt like I'd never play anyway or see the field."

But Notre Dame fans can be thankful Bruton had a conversation with his friend and teammate, Kelly Lewis. Lewis, his coach's son, convinced Bruton to give football another shot. Bruton saw some action early in the season at wide receiver due to an injury to one of the starters. Then, Bruton earned the starting spot at safety his junior year and parlayed that into a scholarship at Notre Dame.

Now, the Olympics were an afterthought.

But even a free-ride to one of the most storied programs in college football history wasn't enough to give Bruton the kind of focus he needed to make it to the NFL.

## Getting his priorities straight

In November 2005, during his freshman year, Bruton's son Jaden — who Bruton affectionately calls "Knucklehead" — was born.

When interviewed for a Sept. 28, 2007 article by The Observer's Jay Fitzpatrick,

Bruton said Jaden's birth caused him to make the decisions in his personal life that it was time to grow up.

"Am I going to college to have fun, or am I going to college to support Knucklehead?" Bruton said last year. "And I narrowed it down to 'I'm going to school and playing football to support Knucklehead.'"

Without Jaden, Bruton said he wouldn't be the man — or the football player — that he is today. And the NFL would just be something he watched on TV every Sunday.

"It put my life in perspective," Bruton said. "I'm zeroed in a lot more than I was. Of course it wasn't easy first becoming a father; you don't know left or right anymore and your head's just spinning, but I found a way to turn it into a positive and use it as a motivational force."

Bruton is not one to go out much on the weekends. He said he doesn't go to many house parties. Instead, he said he does work, watches TV or, in keeping with his love of the Olympics, play "Mario and Sonic at the Olympics" on his Nintendo Wii.

"I feel like that's only fair," Bruton said. "Jaden's mom is taking a whole lot of responsibility on herself and that kind of hinders her from going out. It feels like the right thing to do. I'm not here to just shoot the crap. I'm here to provide and hopefully get a good future for my son."

## Getting ready for the future

But before Jaden can see his father play on Sundays, Bruton has to go through the laborious and highly-scruti-

*"I'm zeroed in a lot more than I was. Of course it wasn't easy first becoming a father...your head's just spinning, but I found a way to turn it into a positive and use it as a motivational force."*

David Bruton  
Irish safety



PHIL HUDELSON/The Observer

Safety David Bruton brings down a ball carrier during Notre Dame's 21-14 win at Stanford on Nov. 24, 2007.

nized pre-draft process where every bench press and 40-yard dash time could raise or lower your value in the draft. Still, Bruton said that doesn't worry him too much.

"I plan to be a lot more ready than I am now when I go to train," Bruton said. "My 40-time will drop. I'm not really worried about that. My vertical jump, I'm really not worried at all because that's me, I just jump. The bench might be the only thing that's suspect but when you train you can always put on weight and up your reps."

And if he ever needs advice he has former teammates now in the NFL — John Carlson, John Sullivan and Tom Zbikowski — to ask for advice. He also can call up a new friend of his that he made at last year's Blue-Gold game — former Tampa Bay and Denver safety John Lynch.

"He told me to just be aggressive," Bruton said. "You have to showcase your abilities, show you can hit and get your respect that way."

Bruton has taken the Pro-Bowler's advice to heart. His teammates respected him enough to make him captain this season, a distinction he carries with pride.

"You're not just a guy who made plays and got voted because of popularity, you were voted because you were a hard worker and you've made plays and you have guys' respect," Bruton said.

On the field, his teammates in the secondary play a little differently because they know Bruton is there to back them up.

"He's got range back there that not a lot of safeties have," cornerback Raeshon McNeil said. "It allows me, Terrail Lambert, Robert Blanton, Gary Gray, whoever's in there, to play with a

little more confidence and be a little more aggressive ... because you know anytime on a deep ball, Bruton's going to be in the vicinity."

And if Bruton has anything to say about it, he'll be in the vicinity of a lot of deep passes for years to come after his final season at Notre Dame is over.

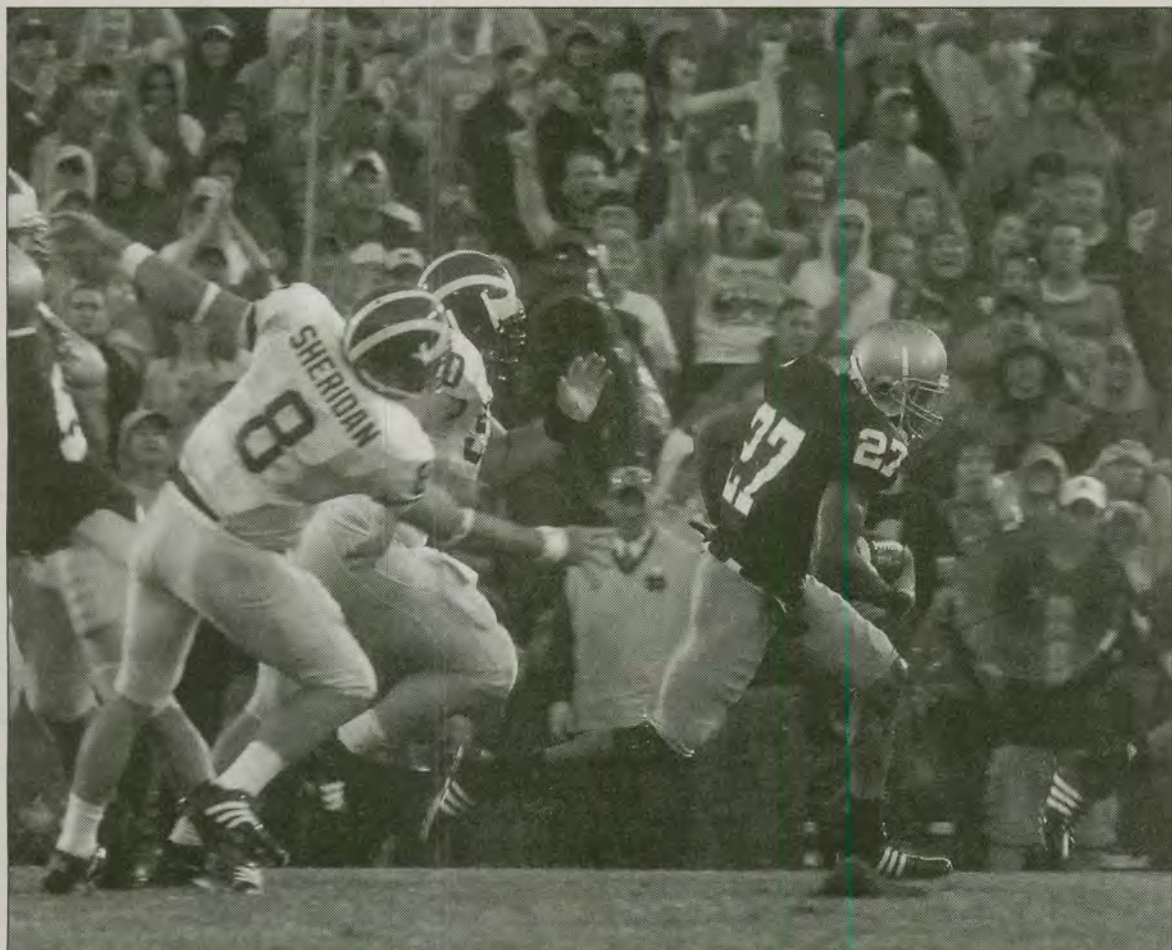
But Bruton in the NFL is something Irish defensive coordinator Corwin Brown doesn't want to imagine right now.

"Oh, I'm not going to go down that road," Brown said Wednesday. "But I will say that I've been around guys and I've seen guys that have done it at a pretty good

level and if he does things the right way he can do it. I'll just leave it at that. I want to focus on him being a good college player right now. I don't want to put him in Canton."

Canton may seem far away for Bruton at this point, but a few years ago, so did the NFL.

Contact Chris Hine at [chine@nd.edu](mailto:chine@nd.edu)



IAN GAVLICK/The Observer

Irish safety David Bruton runs the ball back after recovering a turnover during Notre Dame's 35-17 win over Michigan on Sept. 13 at Notre Dame Stadium.



**PAUL KUPPICH**

# Tight end joins squad after transferring from Columbia

By SAM WERNER  
Sports Writer

Even though senior tight end and long-snapper Paul Kuppich is a walk-on in his first, and last, year with the Irish, he is trying to make the most of his Notre Dame experience.

Kuppich transferred to Notre Dame from Columbia after his freshman year, and he said the biggest difference he has experienced between the two schools is Notre Dame's sense of community.

"[It's] more of an undergraduate feel," Kuppich said. "People are really supportive of each other. Not only supportive of the team, but just everyone in general."

"It's kind of cliché to say 'We are Notre Dame,' but it's real once you get here."

Kuppich did not apply to Notre Dame out of high school, as he wanted to play football in college and Notre Dame did not offer him a scholarship.

At Columbia, Kuppich was the Lions' second-string tight end and played regularly on special teams. However, during his freshman year, the Columbus, Ohio native decided that the New York City school just wasn't for him.

"Because there's so much going on outside of school in New

York City, it kind of takes away from campus life and support," he said.

Kuppich said he contacted Ron Powlus, who was at that time Notre Dame's director of player personnel, to gauge whether or not he'd be able to walk-on with the Irish, though Kuppich said that football was not the primary factor in his decision to transfer.

"It played a small part," he said. "But it wasn't the end-all, be-all."

After sitting out his sophomore year due to NCAA transfer regulations, Kuppich walked on in the winter of his junior year, and suddenly realized that he had stepped up a level from Columbia. But he didn't back down from the challenge.

"In a sense it's humbling, because you realize you've stepped up a level and so the competition's going to rise, but I think that's everything that everyone wants," he said. "As an athlete, you thrive on competition, being able to compete and make the team better."

That competition was highlighted in Kuppich's first training camp with the Irish this fall. He was listed as a co-starter at long-snapper with four other players.

"Every time you go into a training camp, from my experience at Columbia too, is that it's really a

competition. That's to push people to become better themselves, but also to push others to become better. They put people on equal footing to see who comes out."

Kuppich said his goal as a walk-on is to work his hardest to improve the rest of the team.

"You realize as a walk-on, it's not about yourself," he said. "You're supposed to be making the guy across from you better."

He also said that, even though he's a walk-on, the rest of the team doesn't treat him any differently than any scholarship player.

"There aren't divisions or labels. Everyone's a Notre Dame football player," he said.

With the glory and prestige of being a Notre Dame football player though, comes the responsibilities associated with it.

"The players treat you the same, the coaches are going to treat you the same as a scholarship player," Kuppich said. "They're going to expect you to know the plays, they're going to expect you to be on time, they're going to expect you make every meeting."

That hard work paid off for Kuppich against San Diego State, though, when he put on the gold helmet for the first time and got to run out of the tunnel as a Notre Dame football player. Even though he wasn't a Notre Dame fan growing up, he said it was definitely a special moment for him.

"It's kind of surreal in a way. As a kid, you always dream of playing for a big-time college program. Once you're here,



Irish tight end Paul Kuppich runs with the ball at practice in August during Notre Dame's preseason camp. JESS LEE/The Observer

you're seeing everything you always dreamed of."

That feeling wore off quickly, however, when Kuppich realized that he had work to do.

"You have to actually become what you've always looked up to," he said. "You expect to kind of take it all in, but in reality you're so focused on the game, you weren't in awe any more. You had to take it seriously."

While he wasn't with the team last year, Kuppich said he suffered through the team's 3-9 season as a student, and was

working hard to fix it.

"While I didn't experience it first-hand, I'm still working as hard as I can for those guys who did because everyone deserves to be respected as a Notre Dame athlete, especially a football player," he said.

Kuppich, who plans to attend law school after graduation, will have one more chance to take the field as an Irish player this weekend against Syracuse.

Contact Sam Werner at [swerner@nd.edu](mailto:swerner@nd.edu)

*"You realize as a walk-on it's not about yourself. You're supposed to be making the guy across from you better."*

**Paul Kuppich**  
Irish tight end

## "Before and Beyond Modernism: Icons as Art"

Charles E. Barber,  
Professor and Chairperson,  
Art, Art History, and Design

11:00 a.m.  
Saturday, November 22, 2008  
Annenberg Auditorium,  
Snite Museum of Art

The icon is both ubiquitous and a highly successful medium for religious art with visual qualities that appear archaic and strange. Yet it also embodies the comfort of a timeless tradition and can be found in churches and homes of all denominations. Barber will discuss these qualities in light of modernist aesthetics and postmodern theology.

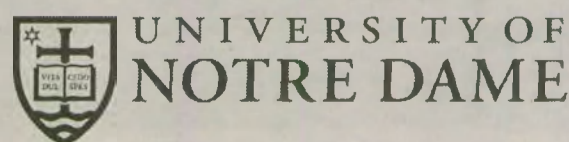
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"Before and Beyond Modernism: Icons as Art"  
Charles E. Barber, Professor and Chairperson, Art, Art History, and Design

3-1/2 hours before kickoff in the Annenberg Auditorium, Snite Museum of Art (unless otherwise noted).  
For more information, visit <http://saturdayscholar.nd.edu>



College of Arts & Letters



# Walking tall

Former walk-on Anello earns scholarship, playing time and respect

By DAN MURPHY  
Sports Editor

*Editor's note: this story originally ran on Sept. 13, 2008.*

Less than a month ago, Mike Anello walked into Notre Dame Stadium and was told by an employee he had to leave. The area was for players only.

"I walked down and they told me to stop," Anello said. "I think they confused me for a student manager."

At a press conference earlier this week Anello found himself surrounded by reporters jamming microphones and cameras in his face. They all knew exactly who he was.

Last week the former walk-on was just another name on the depth chart. But after four big special teams tackles against San Diego State, the secret is out.

The 5-foot-10, 170-pound former walk-on plays gunner on the Irish punt team and is also on the kickoff team. Anello made his debut on the field last year in Notre Dame's 38-0 loss to Michigan in the Big House.

"I remember I had a good week on the scout team the week before," he said. "During practice, Coach [Charlie] Weis started yelling 'Where's Anello?'"

I thought I had done something wrong."

Weis told him that he had cracked the depth chart and would be going to Ann Arbor that weekend. Anello waited all week for the coaches to pull him out of the spot, but it never happened. On his second trip down the field he got to the ball and recorded his first collegiate tackle.

"It was kind of a surreal experience, if you had told me a few years ago that I would even be on the Notre Dame team I would've probably laughed at you," Anello said.

The road to where he is now was not an easy one. As a 120-pound sophomore at Carl Sandburg High School

outside of Chicago, he didn't see the field once. His coaches told him that if only he was a little bit taller or weighed a few more pounds he could get some playing time.

After a frustrating year, Anello quit the team to focus on wrestling. By his senior year, the coaches realized their mistake and convinced Anello to join the team again.

"I missed it a lot," Anello said. "My junior year I just felt like something was missing, I don't like to have too much free time."

Anello was named a weekly captain eight times and helped lead the team to the state quarterfinals that year.

He was all set to head to the University of Illinois the following fall, where he had been accepted into an exclusive business program. But after a trip to South Bend and some sound advice from an old coach, he knew Notre Dame was the place for him.

Anello decided almost immediately to give football a try.

"I figured at the very least I would stay in shape for another nine months," he said.

## Wrestling Background

Anello's top sport throughout all of high school and his childhood was wrestling. He had the opportunity to wrestle in college but decided against it because of the wear and tear on his body.

"I've seen the guys who wrestle in college and it just doesn't seem like fun. I didn't want to spend four years doing that and worrying about cutting weight all of the time," Anello said.

But all of that work in the ring wasn't lost. Anello said that a lot of his work ethic and ability to train as hard as he

does comes from wrestling. Weis and the coaching staff also found that wrestlers often make good football players.

"The few [wrestlers] that I've had, their track record is good," Weis said. "You have to be a sicko to wrestle anyway and I think that it kind of helps in your development as a football player."

## Move over Rudy

He's an undersized, Midwestern special teams walk-on, and he even wore No. 45 last season. Anyone who has ever heard of Irish football before could make the connection with Notre Dame's most famous player, Rudy.

After last year's Michigan game, when Anello went to pick up his jersey, No. 45 was sitting there waiting for him for the first time.

"I saw it and turned to our equipment manager and said 'You've got to be kidding me,'" he said. The equipment manager asked what he was talking about and Anello said, "Come on, 45, that's Rudy's number."

Anello said he didn't mind the comparisons and just kind of laughed about them now. Being compared to anyone who got the chance to run out of the tunnel and take a snap on the field is fine with him.

This year, Anello wears No. 37 on game days but said the change in number had nothing to do with creating his own image or getting rid of the Rudy stigma.

"Coach Weis just came up to me when we were getting our jersey and told me I wasn't wearing Rudy's number again this year, he pointed to 37 and that was fine with me," Anello said.

Anello actually knew Rudy before he stormed down the sidelines with No. 45 on his back. He and Rudy's son, Danny Jr., wrestled against one another several times as they were growing up and got to know each other pretty

*"That was really tough, doing all that [hard work] and not even knowing that you would make the team. They were only about 30 minutes long, but man, sometimes you would leave those workouts crawling out the door."*

Mike Anello  
Irish defensive back

*"I walked down and they told me to stop. I think they confused me for a student manager."*

Mike Anello  
Irish defensive back



IAN GAVLICK/The Observer

Irish senior defensive back Mike Anello chases after a punt during Notre Dame's loss to Boston College at Alumni Field.

well.

Anello said he called Rudy after the Michigan game last year to tell him about the new number and the Irish legend congratulated him on the game.

## Nothing comes easy

Anello's ascent from unrecognized to a fan favorite may seem like it happened fast, but it was the result of years of tireless work.

The process started four years ago when Anello first started training for walk-on tryouts. Every day he forced himself to run sprints and lift for hours on top of his classes and the other work he had. After a long, lonely few months, things only got tougher.

When he returned to campus for spring semester freshman year he started working out with the other walk-ons. The group got together at 5:30 a.m. to run sprints and get ready for tryouts.

"That was really tough, doing all that and not even knowing that you would make the team," he said. "They were only about 30 minutes long, but man, sometimes you would leave those workouts crawling out the door."

Anello made the team that spring, but as so often happens, his reward for hard work was more hard work. He continued to train hard to move up the depth chart and make himself and the team better.

After his sophomore season, Anello got an internship at an investment banking firm that had him logging upwards of 80 hours per week, but still he found time to get up early and

go for a run or hit the gym after a full day's work.

"That was probably the toughest part, working that hard and then having to go work out afterwards. There were plenty of days when I didn't want to be there," he said.

Despite the challenges, Anello never once thought of giving up. The thrill of throwing on the gold helmet every day was enough to keep him going.

## Hard work pays off

Those sunrise workouts and 100-hour weeks paid off in a big way this August when Weis announced Anello was given a full scholarship for his contributions to the team.

"I didn't give the kid a scholarship because of his appearance. I gave it to him because he earned it," Weis said.

Anello's parents were in town to watch the practice and witnessed the moment.

"I was the last one he called so I was getting a little bit nervous," Anello said. "But when coach started saying 'This next guy is 5-foot-2, about 12 pounds,' I knew who he was talking about."

Weis continues to remind Anello how undersized he is on almost a daily basis.

"At first I was 5-4, then 5-2, now I think I'm under five feet according to him. For some reason, I keep on shrinking," he said.

Anello might be shrinking in Weis' eyes, but to the rest of the Notre Dame football world, he can't get much bigger.

Contact Dan Murphy at [dmurphy6@nd.edu](mailto:dmurphy6@nd.edu)



ALLISON AMBROSE/The Observer

Irish senior defensive back Mike Anello runs downfield on kickoff coverage in Notre Dame's 17-0 loss to Boston College on Nov. 8. Anello had three tackles in the game.



## SCOTT SMITH

## Linebacker matures "physically and mentally" at ND



QUENTIN STENGER/The Observer

Irish linebacker Scott Smith lines up during Notre Dame's 27-21 win over Navy on Nov. 15.

By DEIRDRE KRASULA  
Assistant Managing Editor

What you see is what you get. At least that's what senior linebacker Scott Smith thinks about himself.

"I like to think I'm a pretty

simple guy," Smith said.

But even though Smith isn't the most boisterous presence in the room, he's made himself known over his years on the field, improving as the years went on.

As a freshman Smith saw

field time primarily from special teams. But his first tackle for Notre Dame was one that came at a crucial moment on a reverse against Michigan. And even though Smith's tackle was a big one, adjusting to the college game wasn't necessarily an easy thing.

"When I came in as a freshman I kind of didn't know what to expect, everything was a lot faster, the guys were a lot bigger, the things you usually hear when you first play college football," Smith said.

But with three years under his belt, things look a little different.

"I think I've matured both physically and mentally and just having the opportunity is something I've just kind of relished, every time I've gone out there just to practice, being able to put that gold helmet on every week is a special feeling and one that I'm going to appreciate for a long time."

Smith didn't see the field in 2006, but he was back and stronger in his junior season. Smith saw action in all 12 games and recorded a career-best 18 tackles (seven solo).

And so far Smith is on track to match last year. 2008 has brought Smith playing time in 10 games along with 9 tackles (seven solo). And not having played in 2006 leaves the ques-

tion open for a fifth year of eligibility. But Smith isn't thinking about that quite yet.

"Right now I'm just focused on finishing out the rest of the season strong and finishing this game against Syracuse," Smith said. "It's a possibility and its something I've thought about and considered, but when the time comes make a decision, but now, worry about the rest of the season and finish this season out strong and kind of worry about it after that."

With Brian Smith out, this Smith is likely to see a lot of playing in what could possibly be his last home game — both on special teams and at linebacker. And transitioning back and forth between the two has never been a problem.

"It's really just staying in game mode because no matter what you're doing you really just have to stay attacking you have to play physical you have to play fast," Smith said. "A lot of what you do on defense transfers over to special teams and vice-versa, just being able and willing to go and make a play when you're number's called, and that's something I've just tried to do is go out there and make things happen to help this team win."

A home win that could possibly be the last one Smith sees as a student-athlete. With a

fifth year not a guarantee, Smith has started thinking about life beyond the gridiron — a possible career in consulting.

Both being a student and a player at Notre Dame has allowed Smith to realize that no matter what happens a year from now, he'll be ready.

"I know that this place prepared me to do well whatever I decide to do after I leave here. I'll be confident that I'll find the right fit for me," Smith said.

But like every Notre Dame student, senior year is bittersweet. And even though Smith may be leaving his golden helmet behind, he'll also be leaving the Golden Dome soon — and that's something every student can appreciate.

"Being on campus, walking around, seeing the dome, kind of just being around everyone, being around your friends, being around your peers that you've been here with for four years and gone to class with everyday and studied with and hung out with, that whole atmosphere is something that you can never quite have again," Smith said.

Sweet and simple from player who tells it how it is.

Contact Deirdre Krasula at [dkrasula@nd.edu](mailto:dkrasula@nd.edu)

## KEVIN SMITH

## Smith takes time off from football to head to Beijing

By MIKE GOTIMER  
Sports Writer

As a linebacker on Notre Dame's scout team, Irish senior Kevin Smith spends much of his time on the practice field mirroring many of Notre Dame's opposing linebackers to help his teammates prepare for what opposing defenses will show them on the field each Saturday. However, most of the players that Smith mirrors each day on the field would have an extremely difficult time mirroring Smith's accomplishments off the field.

Smith walked on to the Notre Dame football team in the spring of his sophomore year, and he is nearing the end of his second fall on the Irish roster. Before joining the Irish, Smith had a busy extracurricular life. Although Smith was very active in RecSports as a member of Knott's inter-hall football team and the rugby team — before it was officially reinstated — he was as equally involved in student government. Smith served as Knott Hall vice president, was a member of Student Senate and a representative on the freshman class council.

This past summer, however, Smith was absent from

the team's training camp as he traveled across the world to participate in the experience of a lifetime. Smith was an intern with NBC, and he traveled to the Olympics in Beijing to work as a logger for the network's coverage of the games. As a logger, Kevin would log video and sound clips so that they could be called up faster at a later time.

He specifically worked on some of the lesser-known events, such as BMX, road cycling, and the triathlon. In addition, his press credentials allowed him to attend many of the other events, including a number of United States men's basketball games.

As a student majoring in political science and peace studies, the experience was an interesting academic experience for Smith. During his time in China, Smith

was able to see China and how impressive their operation was.

"The Olympics were extraordinary, and the Chinese put on a good show," Smith said. "The Chinese were very nice people."

Family life is an important aspect of Kevin's life. Kevin is one of four children in what he describes as a very close, very athletic family. The three Smith boys all play college football. Smith's older brother James is a

fifth-year long snapper at the University of Florida in their hometown of Gainesville, Fla. Kevin's identical twin Brian is a linebacker on Navy's undefeated sprint football team.

Because Kevin's brother plays for the Naval Academy, he had a specific goal set forth for last weekend's game against Navy. Kevin knew that each week, the scout team player of the week was allowed to travel with the team for the upcoming game. Knowing that this would be his last chance to play in front of his brother, with whom he says he is extremely close with, Smith was determined to win the chance to travel to Navy.

"Each week the scout team player of the week travels with team, so I worked really hard in practice," Smith said.

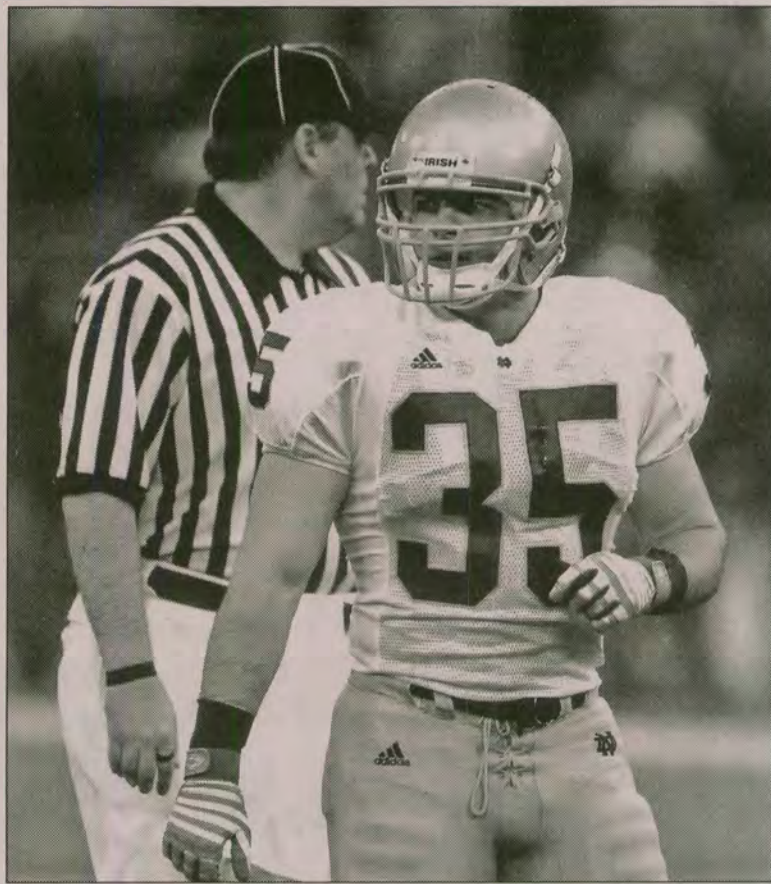
Smith was thrilled when he learned that he would be traveling to Navy.

"Normally they announce who the player of the week is at the end of practice, but coach Weis called me into his office on Thursday morning to let me know so my family would have enough time to make arrangements to get to the game," Smith said.

Kevin said his brother Brian was very excited when he learned that he would be making the trip.

"He was excited for me," Kevin said. "He has a really sarcastic sense of humor and told me how they were going to destroy us."

Kevin's parents and older sister wound up making it to



QUENTIN STENGER/The Observer

Irish linebacker Kevin Smith returns to his position during Notre Dame's 27-21 win over Navy on Nov. 15.

the game to see the youngest Smith boys on the field with each other. The trip wound up being Kevin's fondest memory of his time on the Irish football team.

"Navy was amazing," Kevin said. "Traveling with the team makes you feel so involved, and I even got to play on a few plays."

Heading into his final game at Notre Dame Stadium on Saturday, Kevin is thankful for the opportunity to play

for the Irish.

"I'm really happy that I've been able to be a part of it," he said. "I'm grateful that I've had the chance to do it."

After graduating from Notre Dame, where he has had a unique and extraordinary college experience, Kevin hopes to join Teach for America and eventually attend law school.

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# Muscle Man

*Asaph Schwapp has had to work hard his whole life to get where he is, and he wouldn't have it any other way*

By DAN MURPHY  
Sports Editor

At six feet tall, 260 pounds, Asaph Schwapp is an imposing figure, and that's after losing weight during the offseason.

Despite dropping nearly 20 pounds last winter, Notre Dame's fullback remains a bruising force on the field — a force that is perhaps topped only by his handiwork in the weight room. Schwapp is widely regarded at the team's strongest player. This summer, he bench pressed 530 pounds, that is more than double his body weight.

"Yeah, I still hold that title," Schwapp said. "I love bench pressing and that type of stuff."

Schwapp said he's been a gym rat since his days in high school and still likes to get in a few extra sets in the off-season after he is done with the team's regularly-scheduled lifts.

"I do the program with the team and then I have some stuff my high school coaches showed me that I'll do over in Rolfs [Fitness Center]," he said.

Schwapp has gotten so big that he has to redo some of the tattoos on his biceps. His right arm now features a trio of Aces — in honor of his nickname — originally, he only had the canvas for one.

"The centerpiece was my first tattoo, but my arm got a little too big so I had to add some to fill it out a little bit," Schwapp said.

The Aces are hardly the most important ink that Schwapp has on his big frame. A pair of tattoos on his inner forearms reminds him daily of his family. On the left arm, the Latin trans-

lation of "United in Brotherhood" spans a banner above his initials.

On the right arm, is a portrait of his mother, Evelyn, who died of cancer when Schwapp was only nine years old.

"It was tough but I learned to deal with it," he said. "I believe it made me a stronger person."

Schwapp said that the picture on his arm serves as a constant reminder of her and drives him to succeed in everything that he does.

"I always think she's looking over me and wants me to do the best, so I always try to do the best," he said.

After his mother's death, Schwapp was raised by his aunt and uncle who encouraged him to play football.

"I always liked football, but my uncle used to always want me to play because he figured I would make a good football player," he said.

Schwapp's uncle will be in town this weekend for his nephew's last pep rally and home game.

On the field Schwapp has also had to deal with his fair share of adversity on the field during his career at Notre Dame.

As a freshman, he was thrown right into the mix appearing in all 12 Irish games that year. He racked up 67 yards on 27 carries including eight in his biggest game of the year against BYU. The Irish won that game 49-23.

Schwapp looked like he would continue to be a major part of the Irish offense at the start of his sophomore season. However, his season ended less than two games in against Penn State.

Late in third quarter of a 41-17 win over the Nittany Lions,



Irish fullback Asaph Schwapp lines up before the snap during Notre Dame's 29-24 loss to North Carolina on Oct. 11.

VANESSA GEMPIS/The Observer

*"I'm always fired up to play, every time I hit the field I'm just trying to bash somebody."*

**Asaph Schwapp**  
Irish fullback

Notre Dame ran a toss play and Schwapp was hit awkwardly, aggravating an old knee injury. This time, it required surgery that would leave him on the sidelines for the remainder of the season.

"It definitely set me back a little bit, but I worked it out and rehabbed pretty hard and I was able to get back into the swing on things," Schwapp said.

After surgery in October, it was back to the familiar confines of the weight room. He put in two or three sessions every day in order to rebuild some of the strength he had lost in his legs. Schwapp did countless hamstring and quadriceps workouts to regain the muscle mass he lost as a result of the surgery.

"It wasn't fun," he said. "It

was tough, I had never had anything like that in my life, never had surgery in my life. It took some getting used to."

Schwapp's hard work put him back on the field at full strength for the season opener in 2007 against Georgia Tech.

"It was great not having to wear that knee brace anymore and being able to run with no worries," Schwapp said.

With the brace gone, Schwapp was able to get back to doing what he loves the most — making holes.

In 36 career games, No. 44 has racked up exactly 44 carries for 99 yards, but that's just fine with him. Schwapp said he gets the most joy out of leading the way for his fellow running backs.

"I'm always fired up to play, every time I hit the field I'm just trying to bash somebody," he said.

That's the way it's been for the senior since his days playing midget football in Hartford, Conn.

"I was always a blocking fullback just because I was pretty good at it," he said.

When he moved up to high school football at Weaver High School in Hartford,

Schwapp continued to focus on blocking. But his strength and speed allowed him to stack up some impressive numbers despite the minimal amount of touches. As a junior he rushed for over 1,300 yards, averaging 12 yards per carry.

"I really didn't carry the ball more than six or seven times in a game until my senior year, so that really didn't take any getting used to here," Schwapp said.

His senior year he racked up another 1,100 yards on his way to being named Connecticut's Gatorade Player of the Year.

Schwapp's hard-nosed style of play is slowly disappearing from the game, especially at the next level. Spread offenses and limited player rosters have caused most NFL teams to cut down to one or no true fullbacks on their rosters. Schwapp isn't discouraged.

"I'm still trying to turn this into a career," he said. "I think I'm good at what I do and if I can get to a team that will use a fullback, I think they'll like me."

Schwapp is scheduled to graduate this May, but because of his injury he is eligible for one more year with the team. He has decided not to make the decision about whether or not he will apply for a fifth year until after this season comes to a close.

Whether he decides to enter the draft or not, Schwapp still has at least one more game at Notre Dame Stadium and right now that's all that's on his mind.

"It's gonna be emotional for a lot of guys and I wouldn't be surprised if it was pretty emotional for me too," he said. "Even if I do end up playing next year, it's the last time I'll be playing with a lot of these guys."

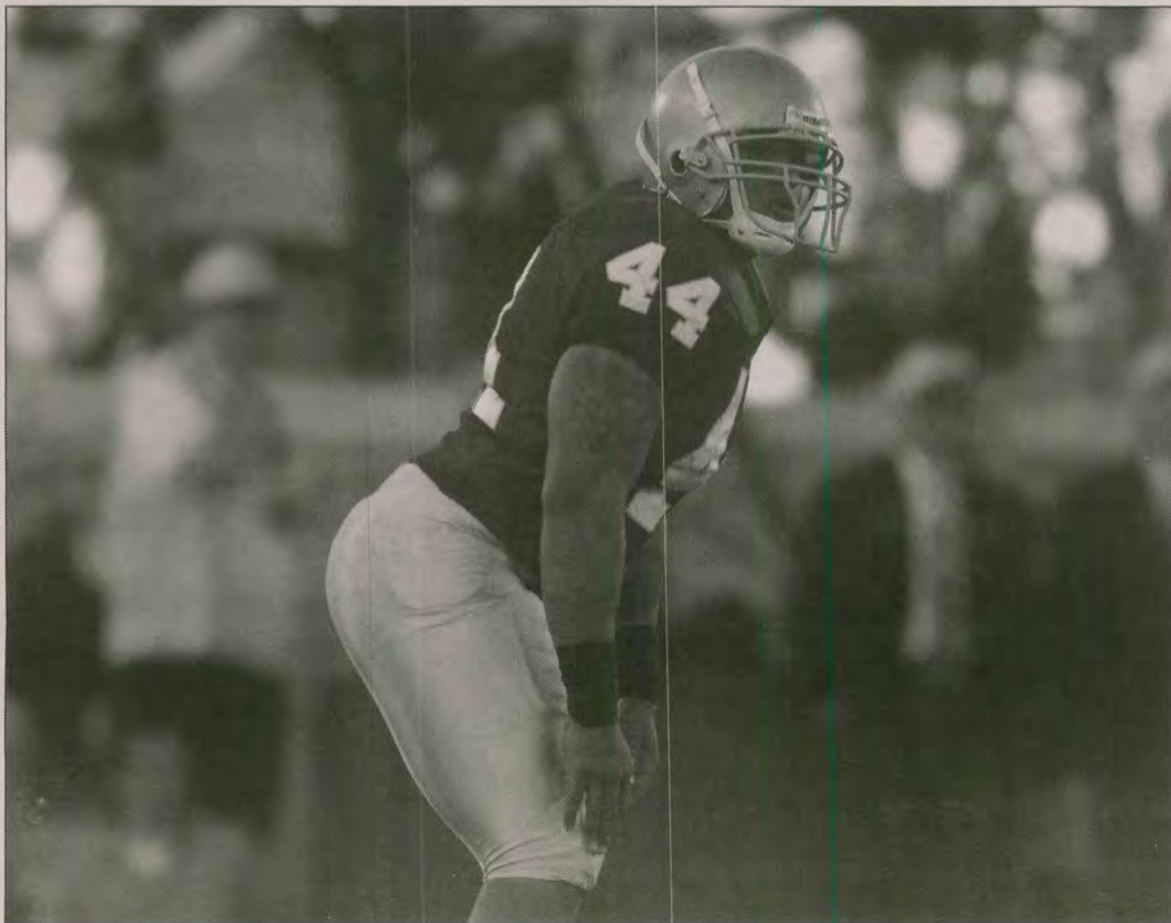
The senior said it's just starting to hit home that this could be the end of the road.

"First thing that goes through my mind is, man I'm getting old. Time flies," he said.

Schwapp said that he feels that he has grown up a lot in the past four years. His time at Notre Dame has prepared him for whatever is next whether it is a trip to the NFL or another year in South Bend trying to push that bench press up to 540.

*"Yeah, I still hold that title. I love bench pressing and that type of stuff."*

**Asaph Schwapp**  
Irish fullback



Irish fullback Asaph Schwapp settles into his position behind the line before the snap during Notre Dame's 28-21 win over Stanford on Oct. 4

ALLISON AMBROSE/The Observer

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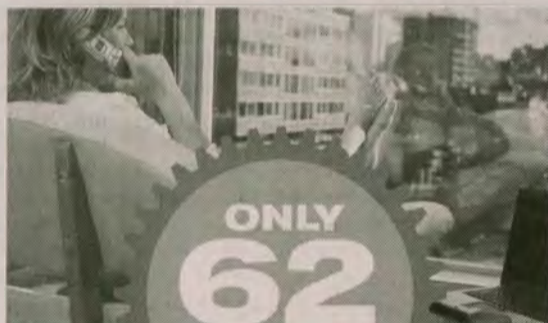
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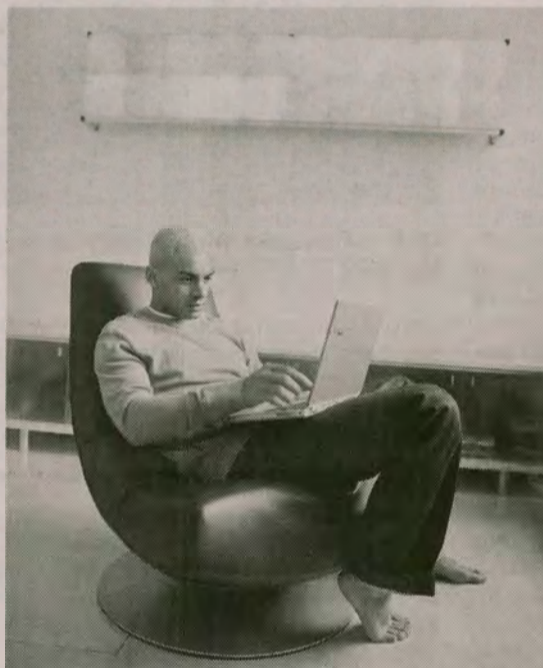
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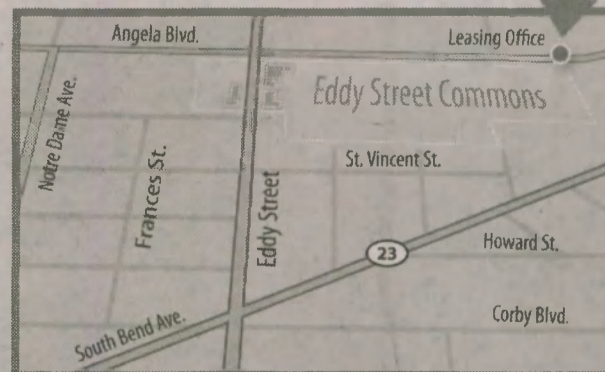
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# More than MSU

*A mainstay in the secondary for the past three seasons, cornerback Terrail Lambert leaves an extensive legacy*

By FRAN TOLAN  
Associate Sports Editor

Many Notre Dame fans will always remember cornerback Terrail Lambert for his two interceptions against Michigan State in 2006, which helped the Irish erase a 17-point deficit before winning 40-37.

But Lambert, now a fifth-year senior, hopes the comeback against the Spartans is just a small part of his legacy.

"Honestly, I just [want] to be remembered as someone that just became part of the Notre Dame family and be remembered as a guy that did everything in his power to leave it better than it was when I first got here," he said.

Lambert first got here by the grace of a position change in high school.

### Picking a position

Lambert did not even play on the defensive side of the ball until after he entered high school. As a freshman at

St. Bonaventure High School, he played running back and backed up his cousin Lorenzo Booker, who went on to play running back at Florida State.

But St. Bonaventure coach Jon Mack saw that Lambert might be a good fit at defensive back.

"Interestingly enough, it was a playoff game ... I got a toss, and needless to say I was in the backfield, the corner came up, I ran him over and he had a concussion," Lambert said. "And then the following spring my coach, he was like we're gonna see how

this works on defense because obviously [I've] got a lot of aggression."

Even though Lambert became a defensive back by an accidental event, he has assimilated well to the position. He said he loves the pressure cornerbacks face on every play.

"Playing defensive back, especially corner, is a lot like sky-diving," he said. "You're living life on the edge and it's a rush. All these things can happen in the blink of an eye so it's just a challenge itself just being able to think on your feet and having that chess match, one-on-one with the receiver you're lined up across from. It's just a euphoric experience to say the least."

### Excelling at the position

Because Lambert had the mindset of a cornerback before adopting the position, he said the switch from offense to defense was not very difficult for him.

"I think from the defensive standpoint, I decided on that side of the ball and particularly to focus on D-back. I think at this level is just because it just seemed like the right position for me, it suited me," he said. "I've always been the type that, high-pressure situations, I thrive off of it. It would make somebody else nervous or a little bit uneasy. I just love being in that position."

Lambert anchored the St. Bonaventure secondary and was named to the California all-state second team. He chose to attend Notre Dame because of its tradition, and

he said he is satisfied with his decision. "I played pretty decent, had a pretty good [high school] career, part of what's now a formidable program on the West Coast," he said. "I sort of got my name out there and somehow reached here and by the grace of God I'm here."

Lambert said his best memories at Notre Dame are the 2006 game against Michigan State and the team's win over



IAN GAVLICK/The Observer

Irish cornerback Terrail Lambert drops back into coverage during Notre Dame's 21-13 win over San Diego State on Sept. 6. Lambert had six tackles in the game.

UCLA the following year. Against the Bruins, Lambert made an interception with his mother in attendance.

"The only reason I say that was a great memory was a) that was another comeback win for us and b) my mother was able to see me make a play in college, live in person," he said. "That was the first time I really made a great play that she was there to see."

And against Michigan State, every Irish fan should know the story. Lambert said he hopes the two interceptions against the Spartans don't define his career. But certainly no recap of his career would be complete without the story of that game.

In the driving rain in East Lansing, Lambert said he knew he and his teammates had their backs up against the wall. But before the Spartans set up at the line of scrimmage for a third down late in the fourth quarter, the Irish got a sign that their fortunes might be changing — the rain stopped.

"I remember breaking the huddle, the rain had just stopped the series before that because it was just pouring rain like coming in sideways," he said. "And fans were screaming, everyone's just getting on their feet and it's just super loud."

Lambert said he got in his

cornerback position and anticipated the receiver he was covering would run an outside route. Lambert was wrong, but fortunately for the Irish, it didn't cost him. As Irish linebacker Maurice Crum blitzed Michigan State quarterback Drew Stanton, Stanton hurried his pass.

"[The receiver] takes off inside so I just chased him on his hip and Mo's blitzing and Stanton gets rushed and he sort of overthrows him," Lambert said. "And the ball just kind of falls into my hand and I catch it with one hand because I had one hand on the receiver."

Lambert said he noticed a change in the crowd as soon as he made the pick.

"I just looked down and as soon as I had seen the ball in my hand it was like dead silence, I could have heard a pin drop," he said. "As loud as it was, I couldn't hear anything all the way to the end zone."

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After the interception, Lambert took the ball 23 yards to the endzone. He then capped off the win for the Irish when he picked off another Stanton pass on the final play of the game. Lambert said he did not fully realize the magnitude of his performance at the time.

"It really didn't hit me until I woke up in the morning [the next day] and I see my highlights on ESPN," he said. "... It was a blessing to be a part of that."

Many Irish fans would undoubtedly echo Lambert's sentiment.

Contact Fran Tolan at ftolan@nd.edu

*"Honestly, I just [want] to be remembered as someone that just became part of the Notre Dame family and be remembered as a guy that did everything in his power to leave it better than it was when I got here."*

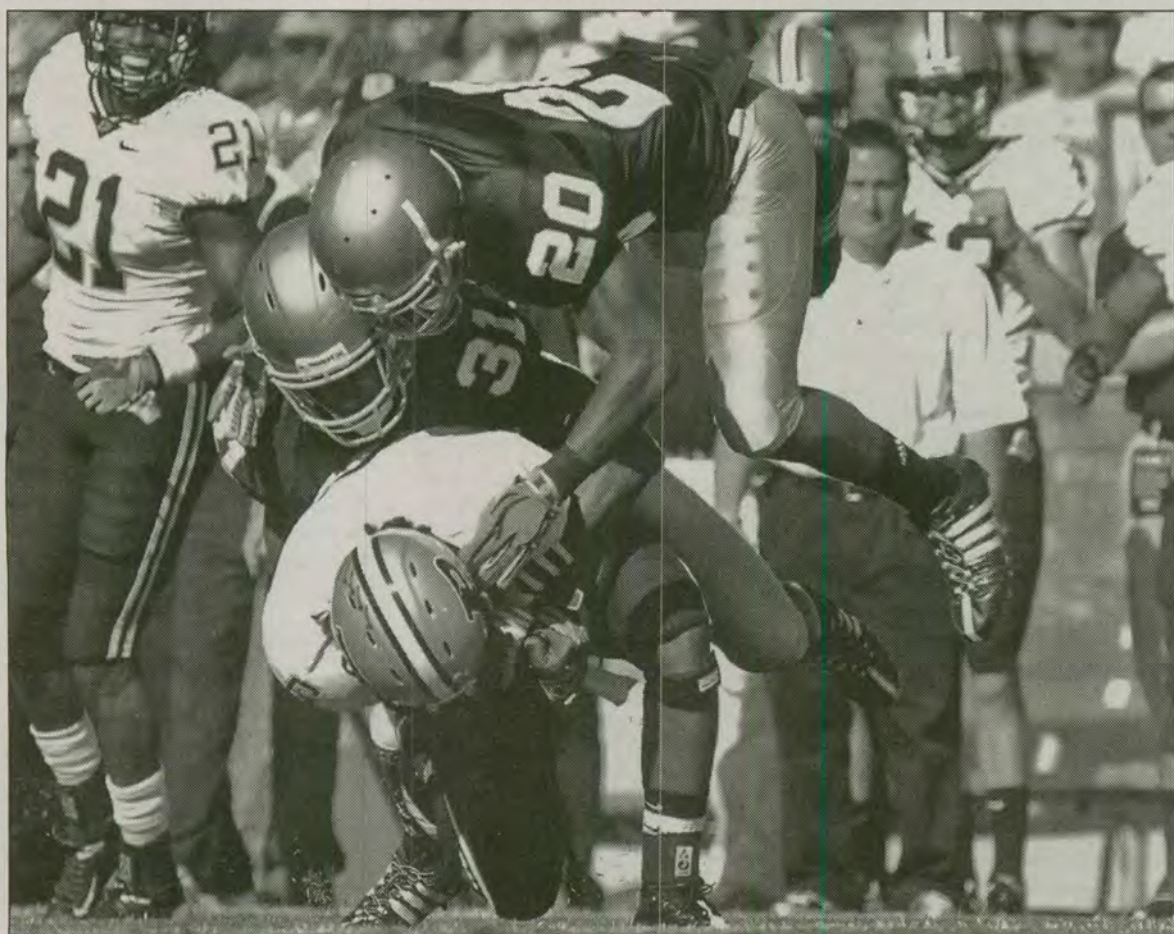
**Terrail Lambert**  
Irish cornerback

*"Playing defensive back, especially corner, is a lot like sky-diving. You're living life on the edge and it's a rush"*

**Terrail Lambert**  
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*"It really didn't hit me until I woke up in the morning [the next day] and I see my highlights on ESPN."*

**Terrail Lambert**  
Irish cornerback



JESS LEE/The Observer

Irish cornerback Terrail Lambert, 20, and safety Sergio Brown make a tackle during Notre Dame's 38-21 win over Purdue on Sept. 27.



## JEFF TISAK

## Walk-on tackle living the life he never thought he could

By JARED JEDICK  
Sports Writer

Offensive tackle Jeff Tisak took the long and hard road of a walk-on to the Notre Dame football team, but he doesn't regret a second of it. Being a part of the Notre Dame football tradition has been an experience beyond what he ever imagined.

"Notre Dame is something that you do not even think is real," Tisak said. "It is something that you see on television and could never imagine being a part of. It goes way beyond just being a fan. It is like being a part of a fable or a legend."

Tisak said he is honored that he was given the chance to just keep playing.

"I love being part of the tradition, being around a great group of guys and a great bunch of coaches, and play for the University," Tisak said.

Growing up in the small steel town of Ambridge in western Pa., with his two younger siblings Becky and Jon, Tisak never knew that he could be a part of something as special as playing football at Notre Dame. But Tisak drew inspiration from his father who was both a lieutenant colonel in the marines and is now an FBI agent in Duluth, Minn.

"We came from a blue-collar town," Tisak said. "With my father being an FBI agent and a member of the military, he has really been an inspiration to me."

The beginning of Tisak's love for Notre Dame really came seven years before his acceptance into the University when his family would make trips between the Pittsburgh area and Duluth. They would make stops along the way that would inevitably include the Notre Dame campus.

"By the time I got into Notre Dame, it was already like a second home to me," Tisak said. "I had been here all the time, I knew the ins and outs of the campus and knew a lot of people already on campus."

But getting on campus and joining the football team was not as easy as just being familiar with them — it would take a lot of hard work. Tisak had to first get into Notre Dame academically and then go through the arduous process of walking on under Irish coach Charlie Weis.

"In high school, I had to work really hard to get all the grades to even get in," Tisak said. "Then I had to work very hard every day on the practice field and in the weight room."

That hard work has to extend even further, as Tisak is a double major in the fields of political science and sociology. Balancing that heavy workload with playing on the football field has not been easy.

"You don't sleep very much. You come out of practice late, get something to eat, and start studying," Tisak said. "You have to make do with what you've got. You have to just make do."

Tisak finds relief from the work

and inspiration from his two siblings, Becky and Jon.

Becky is a trainer on campus and Tisak gets a chance to see her from time to time around the facilities.

"It is great to just see her around every once in a while," Tisak said.

Tisak is also proud of his younger brother Jon, who is currently at the end of his high school career and is looking at possibly coming to Notre Dame as well.

"My brother Jon plays football and baseball and he has excellent grades," Tisak said. "He is hoping to get in, but it is up to the coaches. He is a good student and a good player."

Tisak's first experience on the field at Notre Dame Stadium in his junior year was an odd but exciting one, as he did not get to block for quarterbacks Brady Quinn or Jimmy Clausen, but instead he was blocking for former safety Tom Zibikowski, who lined up in the quarterback position.

"It was great just trying to open up a hole for Zibby," Tisak said.

But the experience was more a novel one for Tisak, it was the experience of a lifetime.

"It was amazing," Tisak said. "You are wearing maybe 20 or 30 pounds of pads, but you don't even feel it. I felt the fastest I have ever been, I felt the lightest I have ever been, and I felt the strongest I have ever been. I went out there and played hard-



Irish tackle Jeff Tisak came from a small town in Pennsylvania to walk on to the Notre Dame football team.

er than I ever thought I could."

But what Tisak expects to remember the most when he moves on are the little things, like the relationships he has formed with his teammates.

"The things you remember the most are just messing around with your teammates," Tisak said. "Trying to survive camp together and just spending all that time together, you cannot help but form strong friendships."

Tisak said some of his best friends on the team are center Thomas Bemenderfer, junior guard Chris Stewart and junior tackle Sam Young, who love to tease him, as all good friends should.

One of those little things that he will always remember is his nickname, Theodore Gabriel. According to Tisak there is no reason why his teammates call

him 'Ted,' but it's a name that stuck. That type of camaraderie and rapport among the offensive linemen is something that he will keep with him for a long time to come.

Following his graduation, Tisak would like to stick around Notre Dame and try to get into the law school. After that, he may look to join the Association of the United States Army as a lawyer.

"I want to go to law school," Tisak said. I would like to see if I can end up being an AUSA, or something like that. But I want to stick around here."

When asked what he would like people who knew him here to remember his as, Tisak remained humble. "I want people to remember that I was a good guy," Tisak said.

Contact Jared Jedick at [jjedick@nd.edu](mailto:jjedick@nd.edu)

## KEVIN WASHINGTON

## Despite a diversion from planned outcome, Washington thrives



Irish linebacker Kevin Washington, 42, along with lineman Morrice Richardson, make a tackle during Notre Dame's 28-7 win over Duke on Nov. 17, 2007.

By MATT GAMBER  
Associate Sports Editor

Asked at his Tuesday press conference to talk about the positive attitudes of upperclassmen who have been surpassed on the depth chart by younger players, Irish coach Charlie Weis highlighted one name in particular.

"Kevin Washington has been here for four years, hardly has played at all — a little bit on special teams," Weis said of the

senior linebacker. "I can tell you, this year if we wanted to, we could make him the defensive show team player of the week every single week. And what we do is we use guys like him as examples ... this is the way it's supposed to be done, this is the way you practice ... [I have] a lot of respect for players like that."

Washington said the motivation behind his practice habits comes from the sense of family that he and his teammates have developed over the last four

years at Notre Dame.

"My role on the team didn't play out as most recruits like myself would have wanted it to," Washington said. "But you wouldn't want to go out and say 'OK, since I'm not playing, I'm not going to try my hardest or give the best looks I can.' That would just be letting the team down ... Any time you have the chance to make your team better and prepare them for what they're going to see, you're going to take that as seriously as possible — even if it's not what you want

but it'll help your family out."

Though he didn't even see game action until his junior year, Washington said he thought of transferring only "fleetingly."

"Going back down to Texas, to me that would be like turning my back on something that has so much more for me," said Washington, a native of Sugar Land. "Football, you don't know how long that's going to take you, and Notre Dame can take you a lot further than that."

Washington — a film, television and theatre and sociology double major — hopes his degree can take him to law school.

Though he had expressed an interest in the law before arriving at Notre Dame, Washington initially set his sights on a career in broadcast journalism. But a series of law-related classes and some LSAT preparation have pushed Washington toward pursuing a law degree at an undecided school that must meet only one criterion.

"Somewhere back down where it's warm," Washington said with a laugh. "As much as I love this snow and all the cold weather, I love my 50-degree winters a lot better."

If not for a realization he made as a sophomore, however — that even though his football career wasn't quite panning out, he could still progress academically — Washington might not have that choice to make at all.

"There's always another

aspect to where you could devote time or energy that will also have a positive [outcome]," Washington said. "You can't just look at one negative thing and hope that it changes when you can also be doing other different things."

But that doesn't make actual playing time any less significant for Washington, who made the only solo tackle of his career in last year's home finale against Duke.

"Anytime you get on the field and actually play, that's what you came here for," Washington said. "You're going to be excited about it, regardless of what capacity it's in ... Your parents are still going to call you anytime they see you on the sidelines, let alone in the game. Anytime you get on the field it's gratifying."

And perhaps more than anything, a sheer lack of playing time taught Washington the most valuable lesson he'll take away from his time at Notre Dame.

"If anything, it's just being able to roll with the punches, honestly," Washington said. "It's not how I exactly pictured or maybe I wanted it, but there's still positives you can bring of that — the relationships I've built with teammates, a lot of the connections I've made outside of football. There's so much more I can take from that."

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STEVE QUINN

# Linebacker earns larger role in final season of play

By LORENZO REYES  
Sports Writer

Come Saturday, Steve Quinn will walk out of the tunnel at Notre Dame Stadium for the last time as a football player. For the senior linebacker, the experience is one that will surely be a bittersweet moment that will return him to friendly memories.

"I'll have mixed emotions," he said. "It will obviously be my final game so to go out of the tunnel and see all the fans going crazy. I get excited for every game so in that sense it will be the same, but at the end of the game, when we walk out, it will be a much different feeling."

Knowing well that his time is almost done as a player, Quinn has learned to appreciate what remaining time he has as a student-athlete.

"I mean, I've only got a couple of games left," Quinn said of the waning moments of his career at Notre Dame. "I've really got to give everything I've got because I want to take advantage of the couple of games I have in me, so I won't have any regrets."

The path hasn't always been so clear for the Cherry Hill, N.J., native, as he was relegated to special teams duty for the

majority of his career and played the role of a reserve linebacker. This season, Quinn has seen his minutes increase, as he is beginning to understand the ins and outs of his position. Part of the reason for the added contributions was the switch in defensive philosophy that came when Corwin Brown was appointed as the defensive coordinator.

"I think it really has kind of clicked for me," Quinn said.

"Dating back not too long ago with the defense that was installed really kind of made sense to me and I was able to pick it up and I wasn't thinking as much and just reacting because I knew what I was doing

out there more. It was just working, coming early in the summers, working hard in the spring and it's kind of paid off this year for me."

Brown has also seen the progression Quinn has made, and as a result, has put his confidence in the senior in an array of situations.

"I think Quinn has worked his way into this position," Brown said. "The light bulb, I think has come on, but it's because of things he's done. He's put himself in that position. We haven't given him anything. He's earned it. He kind of deserves it and that's what happens when you're an older guy

*"I guess that's what I'll remember forever — that I was that kid who blocked that punt at USC."*

**Steve Quinn**  
Irish linebacker



ALLISON AMBROSE/The Observer

Irish linebacker Steve Quinn, 48, shouts to teammate John Ryan prior to a play during Notre Dame's 35-17 win over Michigan on Sept. 17.

and it matters to you."

Earlier this season, Quinn picked up a sack that forced a punt against Pittsburgh. Perhaps his most memorable moment of the field, however, dates back to 2006, when he blocked a punt against Southern Cal that sparked a touchdown.

"Honestly most people, when I tell them who I am, they say, 'Oh are you that kid that blocked the punt at USC,' so I guess that's what I'll remember forever — that I was that kid who blocked that punt at USC," he said with a laugh.

What he will remember the

most, however, is the friendships that he has acquired through the years in the program.

"Oh yeah, I mean, there have been a lot of great guys since I was a freshman, that I've had a lot of fun with," Quinn said. "Guys like [Pat] Kuntz, [Kyle] McCarthy, Robby Parris, some of those guys that I'm close with."

As the time winds down on Quinn's career as a football player and graduation looms on the horizon, the senior wants to have a career in federal law enforcement. One thing that

Quinn can take with him once he ventures into that field is the early mornings he has had to endure at Notre Dame.

"Getting used to all those early morning workouts," he said. "Getting up early and working hard. I guess in that sense, I'm already ready for the working world."

So in the near future, if you ever run into an Officer Steve Quinn, be sure to ask him about that kid who blocked that punt at USC in 2006.

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KRIS PATTERSON

# Patterson achieves career goal, gets to travel with team



ALLISON AMBROSE/The Observer

Irish receiver Kris Patterson helps a teammate stretch before practice earlier this season.

By FRAN TOLAN  
Associate Sports Editor

Just several weeks into his junior season, wide receiver Kris Patterson finally reached the biggest goal he set as a walk-on — he was named scout team player of the week. For every away game, the outstanding scout team performer earns an

automatic spot on the Irish roster that weekend.

For Patterson, it was a dream come true. But the dream did not play out as he had planned. He sustained a severe knee injury before he had a chance to see the field against Michigan that Saturday.

"It was actually pretty bittersweet because I [got hurt] the second-to-last play

of Thursday practice and I got scout team player of the week," Patterson said. "... I mean, they let me travel to Ann Arbor but I was kind of hopping on the sidelines."

But Patterson didn't give up on his goal of logging game action for the Irish. He rehabbed for the remainder of the school year and suited up again for summer training camp.

This season, before the Irish were set to travel to Washington, Patterson was again named the top player on the scout team. But this time was different — and probably worth the wait. Patterson, a Seattle native, finally got into a game and his family and friends were there to see it.

"Obviously that's my hometown so it was special, but it was also about the one-year anniversary of when I got hurt. So it had a lot of special meaning," Patterson said.

Patterson, who did not even join the Irish until he was a sophomore, said he located his family in the stands during the game.

"I could hear them. They

had pretty good seats so they were really excited," he said. "[After the game] they just said they were proud of me."

Patterson said before he made Notre Dame's team, he could never have imagined suiting up for the Irish.

"Growing up and being a Notre Dame football fan, I always wanted to play for the Irish," he said. "But as I got older, I only got interest from smaller schools and I didn't think it was a possibility."

And even after making the squad, Patterson said at

*"Just being able to play every day with my friends and my teammates, being able to strap on that gold helmet and run out of the tunnel ... it's indescribable."*

**Kris Patterson**  
Irish receiver

first he was not sure if the person that mattered most — coach Charlie Weis — recognized him. It didn't take long for that to change, though.

"I remember the first time coach Weis knew who I was. Fall of my sophomore year we had a scrimmage in the Stadium and I caught a touchdown," Patterson said.

"The next day, he called me aside and I thought I was in trouble. He just said, 'Nice catch.' It was kind of funny."

Patterson has already accepted a job as a business analyst for Target in Minnesota for next year. He said he knows his experience at Notre Dame will pay dividends when he heads out into the real world.

"The Notre Dame network, they just watch out for each other," Patterson said. "... I can't say enough about Notre Dame. I'm a better man because of it."

And Patterson said the best decision he made at Notre Dame was to try out for the football team after winning the Interhall championship with Zahm as a freshman.

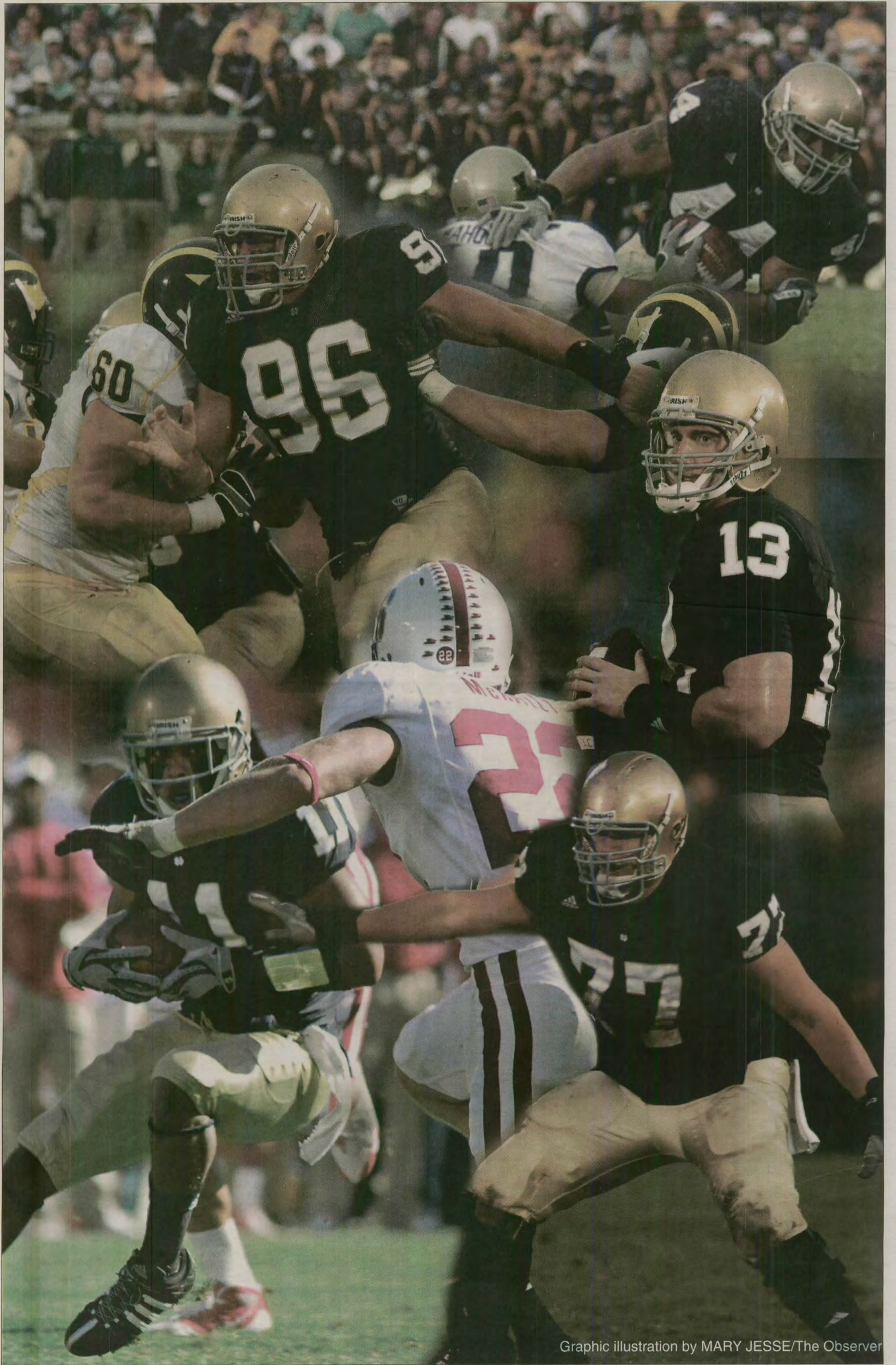
"Just being able to play every day with my friends and my teammates, being able to strap on that gold helmet and run out of the tunnel ... it's indescribable," he said. "I mean, you really can't explain it until you run out of the tunnel. It never gets old."

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*"I can't say enough about Notre Dame. I'm a better man because of it."*

**Kris Patterson**  
Irish receiver





Graphic illustration by MARY JESSE/The Observer