

THE OBSERVER

The Independent Newspaper Serving Notre Dame and Saint Mary's

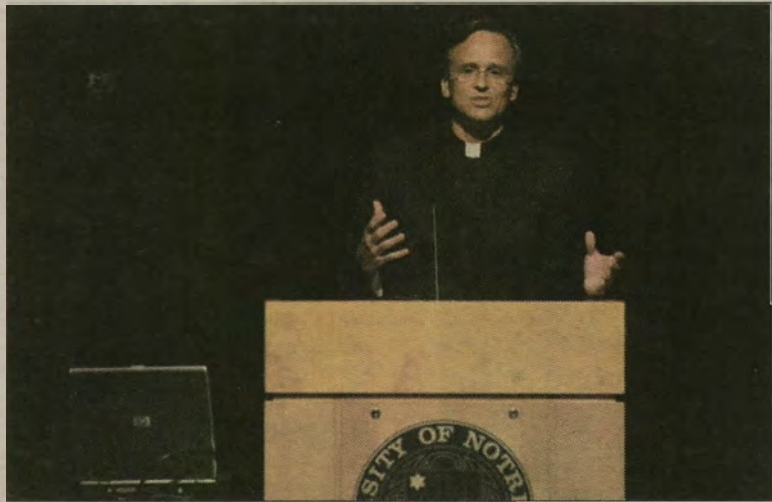
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Jenkins reflects, shares goals in faculty address

University president calls last year challenging but rewarding, expresses desire for faculty diversity and stable school finances



Fr. John Jenkins speaks to a full auditorium at the DeBartolo Performing Arts Center in his annual faculty address.

By MADELINE BUCKLEY
News Editor

University President Fr. John Jenkins said the 2008-2009 school year was his most challenging and rewarding year as president of the University, and he named increasing faculty diversity and continuing to stabilize the school's finances as goals for this year in his annual address to the faculty Tuesday.

"We faced a world financial crisis that continues to have an enormous impact on higher education in this country," Jenkins said in his speech to a full auditorium in the

DeBartolo Performing Arts Center. "We also had a Commencement that may have been watched by more people than any Commencement in the history of American higher education."

Jenkins thanked the students and faculty — both those that agreed and disagreed with his decision to honor President Barack Obama at the 2009 Commencement — for their "commendable behavior" in light of the controversy.

"Both groups acted according to their convictions, engaged in serious discussion and did not let the frenzy outside of campus undermine the respectful interchange," he

said.

Regarding the struggling economy of the past year, Jenkins said the University is in a better financial state than many other comparable schools around the country because of the University's "conservative financial policy."

But the University has been affected by the ongoing economic crisis.

Jenkins said rising student financial aid costs and a decrease in giving, among other factors, have put pressure on the University's finances.

"The endowment ... was

see JENKINS/page 6

SMC dinner honors Moreau

By ALICIA SMITH
News Writer

Since his beatification two years ago, Saint Mary's has honored Blessed Fr. Basil Anthony Moreau, founder of the Order of the Holy Cross, with a student and faculty-wide dinner each fall.

This year's event was held Tuesday on the day of Moreau's beatification, Sept. 15.

"The dinner is to honor Blessed Fr. Basil Anthony Moreau, founder of the sisters brothers and priests of Holy Cross. [The] dinner, which features a French menu, marks the second anniversary of Moreau's beatification, took place in Le Mans, France on Sept. 15, 2007," Barry Bowles, general manager of Sodexo Campus Dining Services said.

According to Bowles the idea for such an event originated from the Vice President of Mission, Sr. Rose Anne Schultz, in 2007.

"We decided to have two dinners, one a semester, every academic year to remember the founder of the sisters, brothers and priests of Holy Cross," Bowles said.

The first dinner took place on Sept. 14, 2007, the eve of Moreau's beatification. Since that time the College has continued the tradition each fall.

"This meal is near and dear to us in Dining Services and something we really enjoy putting on," Bowles said. "It takes an awful lot of work, but it's worth it to cele-

see MOREAU/page 6

Church holds mass for off-campus students

Little Flower Church adds an 8 p.m. Sunday celebration, offers alternative to dorm masses

By MADELINE BUCKLEY
News Editor

When senior Molly Sullivan lived on campus, attending Sunday Mass was easy.

But now that she lives in Legacy Village, a student housing complex north of campus, Sullivan said dorm Masses are not as convenient to attend.

"I think one of the things that's so great at Notre Dame is mass on campus is so convenient," she said. "A lot of students miss that convenience when they move off campus and maybe don't go as often."

With a number of new stu-

dent housing complexes in the area northeast of campus — including Irish Crossing and Irish Row — many students are looking for nearby churches at which to attend Sunday Mass.

Fr. Neil Ryan, pastor of Little Flower Church on Ironwood Rd., is adding an extra Mass at 8 p.m. on Sunday to accommodate the students living off campus.

"We have these student residences very close to the Parish and I thought it would be good for them if there was a parish nearby within a comfortable walking distance," Ryan said. "And I figured that most students are not going to be up for

my 8 a.m. Mass on Sunday."

The first Mass at 8 p.m. on Sunday will be offered Sept. 27, once the parish completes the logistical tasks involved in adding an extra Mass.

Ryan said he got in touch with Sullivan to find out what time of day on Sunday students would most likely come to Mass.

"I listened to students and let them suggest a convenient time for them to pray," Ryan said. "Many of them would like to get reintegrated into parish life. It's really a family praying together."

As a varsity cross-country runner, Sullivan said she can-

not attend Sunday morning Masses, so the nightly service offers a welcomed alternative.

"I think this will give us back the convenience that dorm Masses offered," she said. "They are going out of their way to accommodate our schedules."

Sullivan said she often misses the dorm Masses and will probably still attend them from time to time.

But she said she is excited at the opportunity to get involved in Little Flower Church.

"I think Notre Dame dorm Masses are a great thing for

see CHURCH/page 6

Police discuss football games with community

By SARAH MERVOSH
News Writer

Police officers addressed community members about home football game Saturdays and gave them advice on traffic, parking and tailgating safety at this month's "Creating A Safe Community" meeting Tuesday in South Bend.

"Eighty thousand people descend on campus in a community where we normally have 11,000 students. So it's a big, big deal for us as a community," director of the Notre Dame Security Police (NDSP) Phil Johnson said.

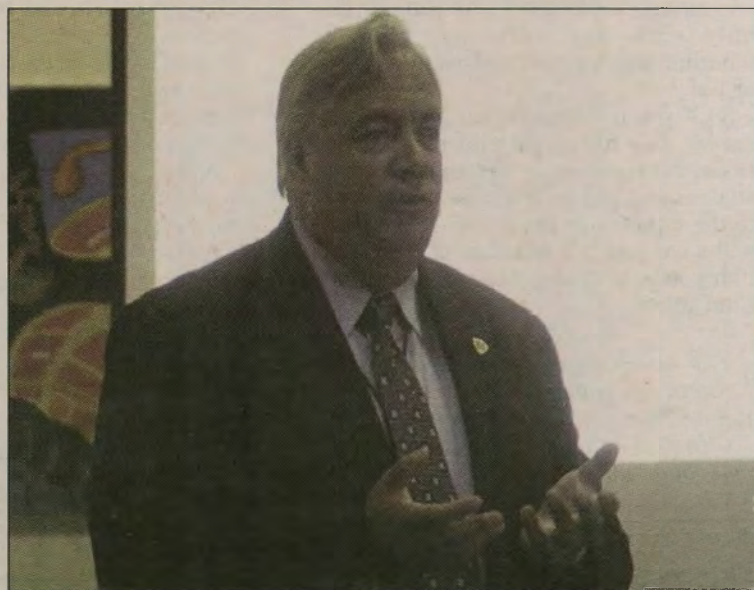
Johnson said the goal of the game day safety team is to "have a safe experience

for our community members" and "to provide emergency routes" so that ambulances have access to the campus and surrounding neighborhoods.

"I didn't say anything about fan convenience because that isn't our mission," he said. "A byproduct of our good work is that we have a great experience for our fans too."

A major side effect of game days on the community is the influx of people and changing traffic patterns to accommodate those attending the game. Three and a half to four hours before the game begins and one to two hours after the game ends

see FOOTBALL/page 4



NDSP Director Phil Johnson speaks to community members Tuesday at the Crossroads Gallery Notre Dame Downtown Office.

INSIDE COLUMN

Career Fair a Joke

So the Career Fair is today. Great. I've received 12 e-mails and read 15 posters letting me know that my best opportunity to get an internship is a 4-hour event in the Joyce Center. Now all I have to do is update my resume, show up, and I'll be spending the summer in a cubicle making little to no money for "work experience." Sweet.



Chris Masoud

Sports Wire
Editor

If you've never been to the famous career fair before, allow me to show you the really fine print that the recruiters from the Big Four and every other company that shows up doesn't want you to read.

The career fair is a joke. Everybody dresses up in monkey suits and classy outfits like they're getting ready for an interview with Steve Jobs himself. And if you don't dress up you look like you go to some junior college down the road.

Next, the real premise of the career fair is to make students walk around the Joyce Center in a complete circuit with a stack of resumes in hand in the hopes that they talk to recruiters.

The first lap is basically a warmup. It allows you to get a sense of the pointlessness of why you're there, how many people got duped into coming, and what you could be doing on a Wednesday afternoon if you weren't there.

The second lap is different. Now you really have to stick your neck out there and find the recruiter who looks underdressed compared to everybody else (my initial prediction is Under Armour).

Here comes the best part of the entire career fair. After you've found that special someone, the career fair suggests that you will introduce yourself to the recruiter, hand him or her your interview, and receive a notification of an internship later in the month.

But this is what really happens, the abridged version. You stand in line for about 10 minutes at a time for most stations, at least 15 for Under Armour (for some reason people think that because we go to ND Under Armour owes us internships or something). When it's your turn you walk up to the recruiter, you tell him your name, tell him your grade, and then shoot the breeze for about 2-3 minutes about why you always liked this company, or why you're so qualified.

But the recruiter probably stopped listening after you told him you were a freshman, sophomore, or junior. The only thing they really care about is whether you've reached senior status or not.

So if you're planning on going to the career fair today, just do me a favor. Instead of putting your name on the sticker, just put your grade and stick it to the top of your forehead. Trust me, it will save you 2-3 minutes of conversation you won't remember the next day. Guaranteed.

The views expressed in the Inside Column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer. Contact Chris Masoud at cmasoud@nd.edu

CORRECTIONS

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

QUESTION OF THE DAY: IF YOU COULD JUMP INTO A POOL OF SOMETHING, WHAT WOULD IT BE?



Chris Damian
freshman
Dillon

"Jello,
preferably
blueberry."



Anne Robles
freshman
Pasquerilla East

"Billions of tiny
styrofoam
balls."



Johanna Kirsch
senior
McGlinn

"Lots and lots
of chocolate
fro-yo."



Sarah Spieler
sophomore
Pasquerilla West

"Is water not
an acceptable
answer?"



Jordan Matulis
sophomore
Howard

"Silly string. It
would be soft
and fluffy."

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



TOM LA/The Observer

The Notre Dame bagpipe band practices outside LaFortune Tuesday afternoon. The band performs at every home game.

OFFBEAT

Snuggle debuts at New York Fashion Week

NEW YORK — All the big names came out for New York Fashion Week: Marc. Vera. Snuggie. Yes, Snuggie — the blanket with sleeves — staged a runway show on Tuesday, complete with high-fashion models and a new "urban jungle" line of zebra and leopard prints.

The silhouette, if you can call it that, remained the same — a cross between monk robes and "Alvin and the Chipmunks" sweaters. Accessories included

remote controls.

"You're here at — let's just say it — the future of fashion," said host Ross Matthews, better known as Ross the Intern from Jay Leno's "Tonight" show.

Man loses son while buying drugs

PHILADELPHIA — Philadelphia police said a man out buying drugs flagged down officers after he couldn't find the car he'd parked with his 6-year-old stepson inside. The man, 31, was charged with endangering the welfare of a child

and recklessly endangering another person.

Police said the suspect had driven from Lehigh County to Philadelphia to buy drugs before he flagged down a police car around 4:30 Saturday morning. Authorities said he explained that he couldn't find the car with the boy inside.

Police found the car two hours later about a half-mile from where the suspect hailed officers.

Information compiled from the Associated Press.

IN BRIEF

"Latino Studies Past, Present and Future," which is the Institute of Latino Studies' 10-year anniversary symposium, will take place today from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the auditorium of McKenna Hall.

The "Fritz Scholder Contemporary Artist Influences" exhibit will be held at 10 a.m. today. The display includes art from Native American artist Fritz Scholder. The exhibit will be shown in the Milly and Frits Kaeser Mestrovic Studio Gallery in the Snite Museum of Art.

"In Praise of Donors Selections from Dr. and Mrs. R. Stephen Lehman Collection" will be shown in the Scholz Family Works on Paper Gallery in the Snite Museum of Art. The exhibit will open at 10 a.m. today.

An exhibit entitled "Para la Gente: Art, Politics, and Cultural Identity of the Taller de Gráfica Popular" will open at 10 a.m. today. The display will be located in the O'Shaughnessy Galleries in the Snite Museum of Art.

"Thin: Photographs by Lauren Greenfield" will be displayed at 10 a.m. in the O'Shaughnessy Galleries in the Snite Museum of Art today.

Mass will be held in the Basilica of the Sacred Heart at 11:30 a.m. and 5:15 p.m. today.

There will be a town hall meeting for Notre Dame staff today at 2 p.m. in the Leighton Concert Hall at the DeBartolo Performing Arts Center. A reception will follow.

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

	TODAY	TONIGHT	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	GAMEDAY	SUNDAY
LOCAL WEATHER						
	HIGH 73 LOW 50	HIGH 60 LOW 57	HIGH 75 LOW 51	HIGH 74 LOW 50	HIGH 70 LOW 48	HIGH 71 LOW 55

Atlanta 78 / 67 Boston 60 / 50 Chicago 73 / 55 Denver 70 / 52 Houston 87 / 70 Los Angeles 82 / 64 Minneapolis 78 / 57 New York 65 / 56 Philadelphia 68 / 57 Phoenix 100 / 78 Seattle 74 / 57 St. Louis 80 / 60 Tampa 87 / 75 Washington 75 / 64

COUNCIL OF REPRESENTATIVES

Members discuss how to increase involvement with DPAC

By ANN-MARIE WOODS
News Writer

Anna Thompson, the executive director for the Marie P. DeBartolo Center for the Performing Arts, spoke at the Council of Representatives's (COR) meeting Tuesday to increase collaboration between the student body and the Center.

COR members asked Thompson how students can get involved and take advantage of the resources at the Center.

A common complaint among student groups is the lack of availability at the Center for student performances. Thompson explained the difficulties she faces in scheduling and availability, as academic programs always take precedence.

"It's not that we don't want student groups on the calendar, we just don't always have the time," Thompson said.

Student body president Grant Schmidt suggested an "art dollars" program, with money on student identification cards earmarked for purchasing tickets at the Center.

There are so many events that students would enjoy but they don't know about them, according to Schmidt. The "art dollars" would be a way to encourage students to attend performances and showings

at the Center.

The Center is trying to improve its main modes of advertising, with surveys given at the end of screenings and performances, e-mail, print media and advertisements in Scholastic magazine,

Thompson said.

"We are trying to be very reactive in our marketing," Thomson said. "We also want to get into podcasting like the University is trying to get into."

Thompson said the Center is open to new ideas for collaboration with the student body, including post parties, a mixer-like event following Center performances.

"Two dorms that want to come to an event can partner together and buy tickets, and we'll have a post party," Thompson explained.

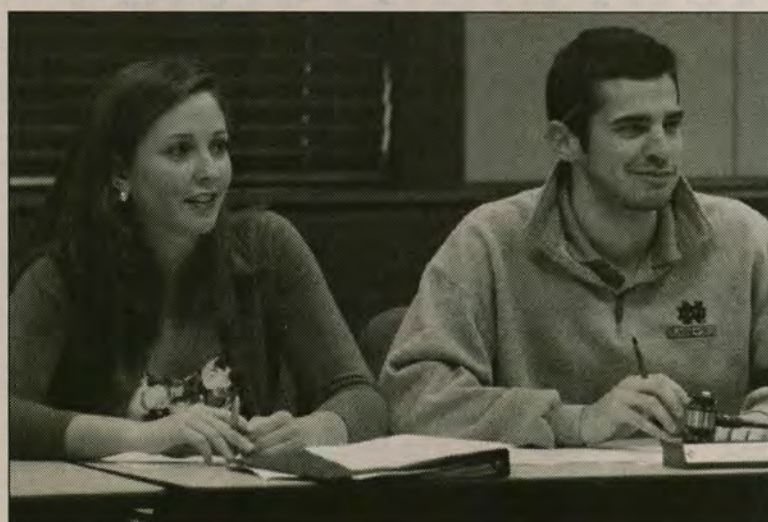
Thompson also encourages proposals from the student body and faculty to bring a particular artist or group into the Center.

"If you have any groups you want to see in the season, just e-mail me," Thompson said.

Thompson recommends students and faculty go to the Center's Web site for the complete schedule for the year.

In other COR news:

♦COR discussed the renovation of the LaFortune Student



TOM LA/The Observer

Student body vice president Cynthia Weber and president Grant Schmidt participate in discussion at the COR meeting Tuesday.

Center arcade, which is scheduled for the summer of 2010. Once a committee is formed, planning will begin assessing the necessary changes to be made.

for the year. Schmidt and director of external affairs Gus Gari worked on the proposal last year. They hope to work with Notre Dame and local businesses to enact this program.

♦Schmidt reintroduced the use of Domer Dollars off campus as a potential initiative

Contact Ann-Marie Woods at awoods4@nd.edu



CONGREGATION OF
HOLY CROSS
EDUCATION • PARISH • MISSION

Corby Night



Men of Notre Dame . . . Is God calling you?

*Think you might have a vocation
to serve as a priest or brother?*

*Join the Holy Cross
community at Notre Dame
for an hour of prayer, pizza,
and informal discussion.*

*Wednesday, Sept. 16, 8pm
at Corby Hall*

vocation.nd.edu

Questions? call 1-6385

Please recycle The Observer.

ILS celebrates 10th anniversary

By PUJA PARIKH
News Writer

The Institute for Latino Studies (ILS) celebrates the 10th anniversary of its creation today by holding an academic symposium entitled "Latino Studies: Past Present and Future" in the McKenna Hall auditorium.

The event, which will run from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., will feature several prominent speakers, including the keynote address by Fr. Virgilio Elizondo, professor of pastoral and Hispanic theology. The symposium is moderated by Fr. Daniel Groody, assistant professor of theology.

Cliberto Cardenas, ILS director, Julian Samora, professor of Latino studies, Allert Brown-Gort, ILS associate director, Ramona Hernandez, Jose Limon, Maria Cristina Garcia, Alicia Gaspar De Alba, Silvio Torres-Saillant, Arlene Davilla, and Roberto Goizueta will be featured as panelists.

"One of the things we feel we have done here is create a new vision for Latino studies outside of the ethnic studies paradigm," Brown-Gort said. "Now, we have to ask ourselves some questions. Where are we going to from here as the demographics in the US change? What can we do for the University?"

The 10th anniversary celebration began on Monday with the screening of the film "A Forgotten Injustice," a documentary that tells the story of two million Mexican-Americans and United States citizens who were forced to leave the United States during the Great Depression due to their ethnicity. The film was chosen by a Notre Dame student leader from the Latino group on campus, Movimiento Estudiantial Chicano de Aztlan de Notre Dame.

"Our goal is to serve the whole university," Brown-Gort said. "We can serve the whole university directly by some of the work we do. We also affect Notre Dame in obvious ways. One of the things we aim to do is be a place for community. We want to be a place where Latino people can be happy and feel comfort-

able."

Julian Samora, a professor of sociology, founded the ILS in 1999 in order to foster understanding of the U.S.-Latino experience.

"The Institute supports interdisciplinary initiatives in Latino studies as a key component of the University's academic mission," Zoe Samora, the ILS publications manager, said. "By advancing research, expanding knowledge and strengthening community, the Institute is true to the mission, tradition, and distinctively Catholic values of Notre Dame."

"Students, alumni and faculty were really complaining that there was no representation for a group that were becoming increasingly important to the Catholic Church," Brown-Gort said. "So the ILS was created as a result of the wishes of alumni and students. The University also understands that we can help the University with their mission."

Due to these initiatives, the ILS program has helped Notre Dame consistently rank amongst the top 25 Colleges for Latino. Currently, the program has 23 students enrolled, comprised of both Latino and non-Latino individuals.

"What has me the most excited is that so many of our students are not Latino," Brown-Gort said. "So many faculty are not Latino, so many counselors are not Latino, but they are people that understand the basic proposition on why we are here. We are here to help the university become a leader and understand how a rapidly emerging population will be integrated into American lives. Not only for the benefit of Latinos, but for all."

Then anniversary celebration continues Thursday with a literary presentation entitled "Sharing our Stories, Sharing our Poem," featuring award-winning poet Orlando Ricardo Menes and poet, novelist, and activist Alicia Gaspar de Alba at 9:30am in McKenna Hall.

Contact Puja Parikh at
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Football

continued from page 1

roads around campus become one way.

"Most of the roads around the campus become one way into the campus and you have to have a special pass to get down some of these roads," Johnson said. "We have this relatively sophisticated plan that directs cars to the lots that they're going in. Police officers are at all the key intersections."

"All of these things come together to provide a great, safe experience to people who live in South Bend and who come to the game."

Although Johnson said some community members get frustrated because the one-way streets interrupt their daily errands, the goal is to have the traffic flow be as efficient as possible.

"If you don't want to go to the game and you want to go to Martins, Krogers or Meijer, that you can still get your business done too," he said.

Johnson warned that this weekend's game versus Michigan State will see the highest volume of automobiles because of the proximity of the two schools.

There are also new parking opportunities for game days on and near campus this year, he said.

"We're opening part of that golf course for parking. We think we can accommodate somewhere between 1,500

and 2,000 cars," he said. "We're going to be able to do that and still keep the integrity of the course."

"I'd really recommend that as a parking area," he said.

Johnson also said Eddy's Street Commons will provide extra parking.

"There's a brand new parking garage with 1,250 parking spaces. There's a covered garage with a lot of parking available. We're excited that Eddy Street will be open post game and provide us with another exit from campus following the games to help us expedite the process."

In response to a community member's complaint that the campus does not provide enough parking for those coming in from the outside,

"The increased number of people can be a cover of criminal activity of all difference kinds because it's easy to blend in with the crowds."

Keri Kei Shibata
Notre Dame Police

Johnson acknowledged the problem, but also explained why it exists.

"Our campus beckons back to a time long ago where we haven't put the car at the center of the uni-

verse. The implication of that is that we have to walk more," he said. "It is important to us that our neighbors and our friends feel welcome on campus. It is a difficult balance between running a major university ... and also be welcoming so people can drive the way that they're

used to."

Notre Dame Police Officer Keri Kei Shibata spoke at the meeting about safety during game days and recommended that fans be aware that an increased number of people on campus paves the way for an increase in crime.

"Keep your property secured in your vehicle or some place else," she said, and warned against leaving out tailgating supplies during the game. "We haven't had a lot of incidents of theft but when we do it's when things are left out."

"We've seen people break into cars for as little as 50 cents in a cup holder, a pack of cigarettes."

Pat Hechliniski
corporal
South Bend Police

Corporal Pat Hechliniski from the South Bend Police also warned against leaving personal items in cars.

"The easiest way to do that to prevent something from getting stolen from your car is to pretend you're the bad guy," Hechliniski said. He suggested walking around the car and seeing if anything of interest is visible.

"We've seen people break into cars for as little as 50 cents in a cup holder, a pack of cigarettes," he said.

Shibata advised being extra vigilant on such weekends, even when crime is normally low in the area.

"When we have a home football game, it affects pretty much everyone in the city," Shibata said. "Just be aware that the increased number of people can be a cover of criminal activity of all different kinds because it's easy to blend in with the crowds."

Contact Sarah Mervosh at
smervosh@nd.edu



Fostering the Baptismal Priesthood in the "Year for Priests"

Cardinal Roger Mahony
Archdiocese of Los Angeles

Friday, September 18
4:00 pm Hesburgh Center Auditorium

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WORLD & NATION

Wednesday, September 16, 2009

COMPILED FROM THE OBSERVER'S WIRE SERVICES

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INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Cuba OKs religious services in prisons

HAVANA — Cuba will allow inmates to attend Roman Catholic Mass and Protestant services inside prisons, a top religious leader said Tuesday, in a significant easing of the communist government's policy toward organized religion.

Authorities from the religious affairs wing of the Cuban Communist Party agreed to authorize organized worship behind bars after a meeting with prison officials and the Protestant Cuban Church Council last week, said Jose Aurelio Paz, a council spokesman who attended the gathering.

Paz said Cuban prisoners could previously worship "on a personal level." When inmates sought guidance from a Catholic or Protestant leader, they were allowed to meet with one individually.

Automakers energize electric cars

FRANKFURT — The race is on among the world's auto companies to make electric cars go farther on a single charge, bring the price down to compete with gas-powered vehicles, and give drivers more places to recharge them than just the family garage.

Electric is the big buzz at the 63rd Frankfurt Auto Show this week, and nearly every major automaker has at least one on display. Renault introduced no fewer than four electric models, while Tesla, the only company producing and selling purely electric cars, handed over the keys to its 700th all-electric vehicle, a blue Roadster Sport, to a German buyer at the show.

NATIONAL NEWS

Critics slam Leno, viewers tune in

NEW YORK — The critics savaged Jay Leno's prime-time experiment. Viewers gave it the biggest audience for an entertainment show since the "American Idol" finale in May.

What's next is anybody's guess.

An estimated 18.4 million viewers sampled the first night of "The Jay Leno Show" Monday, Nielsen Media Research said. But the most hyped debut of the fall season had the added advantage of being piggybacked onto one of the country's biggest stories. Leno interviewed Kanye West about why he had interrupted Taylor Swift the night before on the MTV Video Music Awards.

The challenge will be holding on to viewers.

Ex-Blagojevich aide commits suicide

CHICAGO — A former fundraiser for ousted Illinois Gov. Rod Blagojevich tried to commit suicide last Tuesday after pleading guilty to fraud charges, four days before he died of an apparent overdose, police said Tuesday.

Christopher Kelly, 51, died Saturday morning, hours after his girlfriend found him slumped over the steering wheel of his Cadillac Escalade in a lumberyard parking lot in Country Club Hills, a city just south of Chicago.

Country Club Hills Police Chief Regina Evans said Kelly had set up a sleeping bag inside a rented trailer at the lumberyard and set out photos of his children before taking a suspected overdose. She said an unopened box of rat poison was found in the trailer, and someone later turned in empty containers of Tylenol and aspirin that had been removed from the scene.

LOCAL NEWS

IU sets statewide enrollment mark

BLOOMINGTON — Indiana University says it has set a statewide fall semester enrollment record with 5 percent more students than last year.

University officials announced Monday that 107,160 students enrolled at its campuses across the state. A record 42,347 students are at the main campus in Bloomington, with records also set at campuses in Indianapolis, Richmond, South Bend and New Albany.

Ivy Tech State College surged passed IU in statewide enrollment as it saw a 28 percent jump to 110,359 students. Purdue University reported a 3 percent statewide enrollment increase.

Rep. Wilson faces admonishment

House divided over South Carolina legislator's 'You lie' outburst

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Bitterly divided over an accusatory outburst — "You lie" — lawmakers on Tuesday prepared to admonish one of their own for his jarring interruption of President Barack Obama.

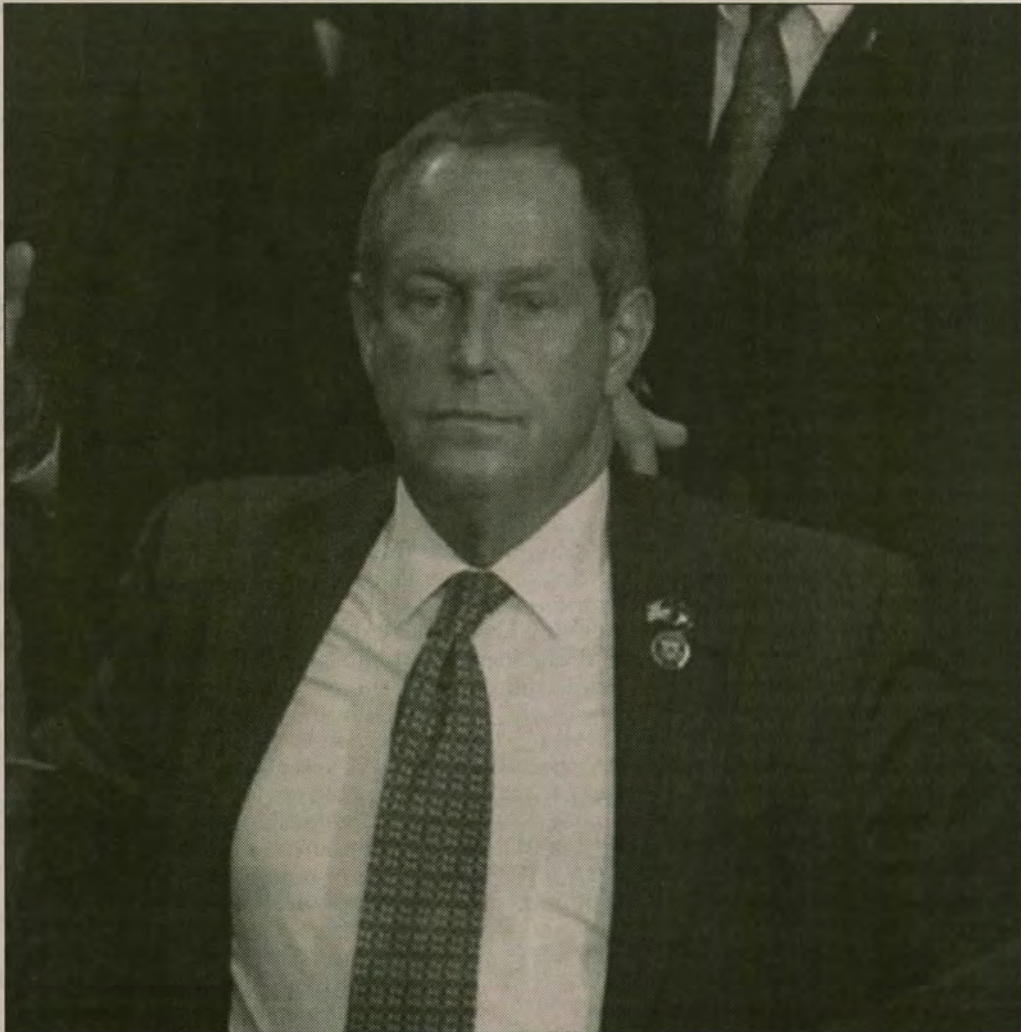
The proposed resolution of disapproval against Republican Rep. Joe Wilson of South Carolina added to the already-toxic atmosphere of partisanship in the House. Democrats said Wilson's behavior during Obama's speech to Congress last week was an egregious display of disrespect that could not be ignored. Republicans accused the majority party of hypocrisy and wasting the taxpayers' time.

"At issue," declared House Majority Leader Steny Hoyer, "is whether we are able to proceed with a degree of civility and decorum that our rules and our democracy contemplate and require."

Wilson, speaking after Democrat Hoyer, refused to back down. "I think it is clear to the American people that there are far more important issues facing this nation than what we're addressing right now." He said Obama had "graciously accepted my apology and the issue is over."

The Office of the House Historian said the resolution, if approved, would mark the first time in the 220-year history of the House that a member had been admonished for speaking out while the president was giving an address. A resolution of disapproval is less severe than other disciplinary action available to the House, including censure or expulsion.

The resolution said Wilson's conduct was a "breach of decorum and degraded the proceedings of the joint session, to the discredit of the House."



Rep. Joe Wilson, R-S.C., seen on Capitol Hill in Washington on Sept. 9. A highly partisan debate has resulted from his interruption of President Obama's speech to Congress.

Wilson's "You lie" outburst came as Obama, during a joint session speech on health care legislation, said that illegal immigrants would not be eligible for federal subsidies to purchase health insurance.

The shout drew gasps from other members, and Wilson, at the urging of Republican leaders, called White House chief of staff Rahm Emanuel to apologize. But he has resisted later suggestions that he go to the House floor to express further remorse.

"I think that Mr. Wilson could have resolved this himself" by speaking directly to his House colleagues, Hoyer, D-Md., said.

House Republican leader

John Boehner of Ohio dismissed the resolution as a "witchhunt" and a distraction from the health care debate. "My goodness, we could be doing this every day of the week," he said.

House Speaker Nancy Pelosi initially said it was time to move on to health care and other substantive issues. Republicans agreed. But other Democratic leaders, including third-ranked James Clyburn of South Carolina, pushed for a House vote.

Clyburn, in an interview last week, said Wilson's behavior was "indicative of the combativeness he displays all the time when it comes to politics."

A leading member of the

Congressional Black Caucus, Clyburn perceived it as a snub that Wilson held a town hall meeting on health care this summer at a school in Clyburn's district — where Clyburn's children attended — without telling Clyburn.

There also have been suggestions that recent harsh criticism of Obama has been at least partly motivated by race. Rep. Barbara Lee, D-Calif., current head of the Congressional Black Caucus, said that "today is about the civility and decorum of the House." But she added that we "can't sweep race under the rug — racism is still a factor and must be addressed."

GAZA

Investigation reveals evidence of war crimes

Associated Press

UNITED NATIONS — A U.N. investigation concluded Tuesday that both sides in the Israeli-Palestinian conflict in Gaza committed war crimes and possible crimes against humanity, raising the prospect that officials may seek prosecution in the International Criminal Court.

The probe led by former South African judge Richard Goldstone concluded that "Israel committed actions amounting to war crimes, possibly crimes against humanity," during its Dec. 27-Jan. 18 military operations against Palestinian rocket squads in the Gaza Strip.

In a 575-page report, Goldstone and three other investigators also found evidence "that Palestinian armed groups committed war crimes, as well as possible crimes against humanity."

Goldstone said the probe, which included interviews as well as a review of documents, photos and 30 videos, was completed Tuesday morning, just hours before the hastily called news conference.

"There should be no impunity for international crimes that are committed," said Goldstone, a veteran war crimes investigator who has served as chief prosecutor for the U.N. criminal tribunals for the former Yugoslavia and Rwanda. "It's very important that jus-

tice should be done."

The report said that Israel's attacks in the Zeitoun neighborhood of Gaza City, including the shelling of a house where soldiers had forced Palestinian civilians to assemble, amounted to war crimes.

It found seven incidents in which civilians were shot while leaving their homes trying to run for safety, waving white flags and sometimes even following Israeli instructions, as well as the targeting of a mosque at prayer time, killing 15 people, were also war crimes.

A "direct and intentional attack" on the Al Quds Hospital and an ambulance depot "may constitute war crimes," the report said.

Church

continued from page 1

that age, but moving forward, I'm going to graduate this year so getting involved with a parish then is a great step," she said. "I plan on going to Mass and I would like to get involved in service. They have one of the top food pantries in the area."

The Parish has already reached out to the students at Legacy Village, Sullivan said.

"Fr. Ryan had contacted me, welcoming the students to the neighborhood," she said. "He invited all of Legacy Village over for a barbeque."

Ryan said he wanted to give the students a feel for parish life.

"Little Flower has always had a relationship with Notre Dame students, but now with so many living close by, the students should have Masses scheduled at times they feel comfortable coming to," he said.

And Ryan said he hopes students will take advantage of being a member of the parish.

"There are opportunities for students to participate in Parish activities and the liturgy and they will discover they have a lot to offer," he said.

Contact Madeline Buckley at mbuckley@nd.edu

Jenkins

continued from page 1

about \$7 billion before it dropped substantially," he said. "It has now rebounded to about \$5.5 billion, which is still the third highest close ever for a financial year."

Jenkins said he has organized an office to evaluate threats and plan for the future to keep Notre Dame financially stable.

"We must continue to make informed planning part of the culture of the University," he said. "With this financial environment in the near future, we cannot count on additional resources to begin worthy new initiatives while continuing all previous efforts."

In some cases, Jenkins said it will be necessary to reallocate funds to "take advantage of opportunities."

"Those decisions will no doubt be difficult," he said.

Increasing faculty diversity, another goal for the 2009-2010 school year, will be a priority, Jenkins said.

The percentage of faculty of color at Notre Dame has increased from 12 percent to 14 percent since 1999. The percentage of female faculty has grown about five percent since 1999. Jenkins said the University hopes to increase both numbers.

"Working together, we can build a fully diverse community," he said. "We recognize that a more diverse faculty and student body is a richer community for learning, discussion and inquiry."

Jenkins said members of the Office of the Provost have been appointed to work with deans and department chairs to increase hiring and retention of women and faculty of color.

The Office is also launching a postdoctoral fellowship program for scholars from historically underrepresented groups.

Jenkins additionally noted retaining the University's status as a "premier research university" as a significant goal of the coming year.

Jenkins said the University's research expenditures are climbing and approaching about \$100 million per fiscal year from about 500 grants.

"All this work is part of the University's essential mission of seeking a deeper understanding of truth, and it is cherished for that reason," he said of the faculty's research.

The University is also prioritizing community relations, Jenkins said.

"Notre Dame needs a thriving local community to reach its highest potential," he said. "Our students, faculty and staff are a part of that community, and we will attract faculty and students to Notre Dame only if our community is thriving."

Jenkins said Eddy Street Commons is a visible sign of the University's collaboration with the local community.

Jenkins thanked the faculty for contributing to what he named as the University's three central goals: "Superb undergraduate education, preeminence in research and ensuring our Catholic mission informs all our endeavors."

"I am proud of the way you have continued to make the education of undergraduates a cornerstone as we strive to be even stronger in research," he said. "Our commitment to our Catholic mission creates its own set of challenges and tensions. Yet it is precisely because we hold these goals simultaneously that we have such a special mission and play such a distinctive role."

"And our achievements are due to the efforts of you and many others."

Contact Madeline Buckley at mbuckley@nd.edu

Moreau

continued from page 1

brate the heritage of the College. [It] is not a normal day and we want to make it special."

Dining Services had been planning the event even before the academic year had begun, Bowles said.

"We start planning the meal before the start of school. We expect 1150-1200 guests, about 300 more people than a normal night because in addition to students, we have invited faculty and staff," Bowles said. "The cooks have been preparing some aspects of the meal since

Saturday."

The dinner's French-inspired menu remains popular amongst diners each year.

"The offerings have been the same for the last three dinners because it's a very popular menu that features food from the country where Moreau is from and from which Holy Cross came," Bowles said. "It's a wonderful meal, but we do expect to make some changes for January's banquet."

Another special dinner will be held in Moreau's honor this spring.

"We celebrate Moreau and his significance to the College twice a year. In September, on or around the date of his beatification, and

in January, on or around his Feast Day, which is Jan. 20," Bowles said.

Next semester's dinner is scheduled for Jan. 20, 2010. January is also the College's Heritage month, another ample time to reflect on Moreau's legacy.

These dinners are an important part of the longstanding heritage of the College.

"It's so important to Sodexo that we hold these dinners in honor of Moreau that I wrote it into our contract with the College," Bowles said.

Contact Alicia Smith at asmith01@saintmarys.edu

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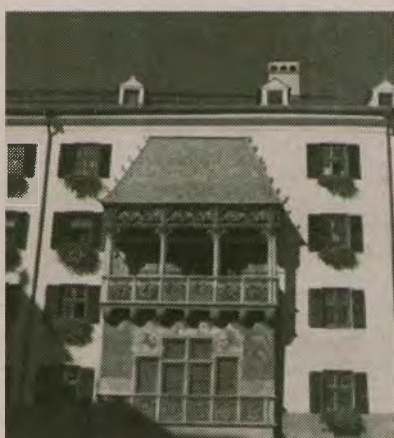
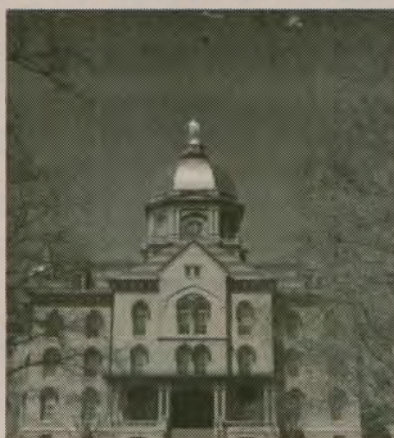
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Up:	Same:	Down:	Composite Volume:	
2,664	92	1,092	2,763,222,208	

AMEX	1,805.12	+16.60
NASDAQ	2,102.64	+10.86
NYSE	6,917.07	+37.08
S&P 500	1,052.63	+3.29
NIKKEI (Tokyo)	10,217.62	0.00
FTSE 100 (London)	5,042.13	+23.28

COMPANY	%CHANGE	\$GAIN	PRICE
CITIGROUP (C)	-8.85	-0.40	4.12
GEN ELECTRIC CO (GE)	+4.23	+0.65	16.00
S&P DEP RECEIPTS (SPY)	+0.42	+0.44	105.72
BK OF AMERICA CP (BAC)	-0.20	-0.20	16.79

Treasuries			
10-YEAR NOTE	+1.35	+0.046	3.45
13-WEEK BILL	-3.85	-0.005	0.125
30-YEAR BOND	+1.12	+0.047	4.26
5-YEAR NOTE	+1.79	+0.040	2.39

Commodities		
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GOLD (\$/Troy oz.)	+5.20	1006.30
PORK BELLIES (cents/lb.)	+0.80	87.80

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IN BRIEF

Gov. signs clean power order

RANCHO CORDOVA, Calif. — Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger signed an executive order Tuesday giving California the nation's most aggressive alternative energy standards, requiring utilities to get a third of their power from renewable sources by 2020.

Schwarzenegger said the order signed at a field of solar panels will reduce California's dependence on fossil fuels and help clean its air while creating a reliable power supply for a state with 38 million people.

It also will ensure that California remains a pioneer in clean energy by harnessing wind, solar, biomass and other renewable resources, he said.

"This is really a great day today because we are creating major action to create more green jobs and more green energy," Schwarzenegger said while signing the order in the Sacramento suburb of Rancho Cordova.

"Right now we are relying too heavily on dirty coal-fired power plants and this pollutes the air and it sickens our children," Schwarzenegger said. "We can do much better than that."

Judge: SEC too soft on bank

WASHINGTON — A judge's condemnation of the Securities and Exchange Commission in rejecting its \$33 million settlement with Bank of America over bonuses at Merrill Lynch dealt a stinging rebuke to an agency seeking to mend its image after its failure to detect Bernard Madoff's fraud scheme.

The SEC must weigh its options after the judge's finding that it was too gentle with one of the biggest U.S. banks. It must also struggle anew to gain credibility for its enforcement efforts. The ruling also marks a setback for the SEC's relatively new chairman, Mary Schapiro.

The agency may be forced to mount a court fight against Bank of America over one of the touchiest issues of the financial crisis — executive pay.

The case stemmed from revelations that Merrill, with the knowledge of Bank of America executives, paid employees \$3.6 billion in bonuses just before the bank acquired Merrill on Jan. 1.

Blockbuster to close 960 U.S. stores

Movie rental company increases DVD kiosks to compete with Redbox and Netflix

Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO — Blockbuster Inc. may close as many as 960 stores by the end of next year, shedding more dead weight as the struggling video rental chain tries to reverse its losses and fend off rapidly growing rivals Netflix Inc. and Redbox.

The cuts outlined in documents filed Tuesday would leave Blockbuster with about 20 percent fewer U.S. stores. The previously confidential documents didn't identify the locations of the endangered stores.

Blockbuster hasn't made any final decisions on the possible store closures, Chief Executive James Keyes said in an interview Tuesday.

Keyes described the closures as something that Blockbuster is considering as it sets up more DVD-rental kiosks in the stores of other merchants. It's a concept that has been popularized by Coinstar Inc.'s Redbox.

By the middle of next year, Blockbuster hopes to have 10,000 kiosks scattered around the country. It had just 500 kiosks at the end of August.

"We could have fewer physical stores and still have more rental points for our customers," Keyes said.

Blockbuster's shift serves as another reminder of video stores' waning appeal as consumers buy and rent movies through the mail, on the Internet and through cable connections and standalone kiosks.

The shift has threatened to turn once-mighty Blockbuster into a dinosaur. The Dallas-based company has been trying to evolve by embracing kiosks and expanding into rentals delivered through the mail and the Internet.

But it hasn't been enough to justify keeping so many stores open,



A pedestrian walks past a Blockbuster Video store in Boston. The company is planning to close as many as 960 stores by the end of next year in an effort to reverse losses.

prompting management to consider cutting much deeper than it anticipated to save money and keep its lenders happy. About 18 percent of Blockbuster's stores aren't making money, according to the documents filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission.

Blockbuster is thinking about closing between 810 and 960 of its U.S. stores before 2011, up from the 380 to 425 stores that normally would be closed during that time span, according to Tuesday's filing.

As of mid-August, Blockbuster had closed 276 stores so far this year.

Besides closing stores, Blockbuster indicated that it will convert at least 250 stores into smaller outlets.

If Blockbuster hits the high end of the new target for store closures, it will represent 22 percent of its 4,356 stores in the United States.

Netflix's DVD-by-mail service, launched a decade ago, has hit Blockbuster particularly hard as more households have embraced the concept of picking out their rental choices online before the DVDs are delivered through the mail for a monthly subscription fee that usually runs from \$9 to \$17. In the last two years, Netflix lured even more customers by building up its library of movies available for instant viewing over high-speed Internet connections.

Netflix now has 10.6 million subscribers and,

unlike Blockbuster, is becoming more profitable. The Los Gatos-based company earned \$55 million through the first half of this year while Blockbuster lost \$15 million.

Redbox also has been hurting Blockbuster with its red kiosks that rent DVDs for just a \$1 per night. That low price has proven particularly compelling during the recession as more people pinched pennies.

In a Tuesday research note, Barclays Capital analyst Douglas Anmuth said Blockbuster's accelerated store closures should bolster Netflix. Investors seemed to agree as Netflix shares surged \$1.69, or 3.9 percent, to close Tuesday at \$44.97.

Barclays accused of taking \$8.2 billion

Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO — Lehman Brothers has accused Barclays Capital of taking \$8.2 billion more than it should have when it bought key assets of the failed investment bank a year ago.

Lehman made its claim in a court filing Tuesday, the one-year anniversary of its chaotic bankruptcy filing. The court approved the sale of its U.S. banking business to Barclays less than a week after it filed.

Now Lehman wants a judge to force Barclays to give back some of the money it took as part of the deal, including \$5 billion it said was given as extra collateral. Lehman said the extra value was not disclosed to the court.

"Because of these undisclosed and unauthorized features of the deal, Barclays received billions more than the value it paid," Lehman lawyers wrote in an argument to the court.

A Barclays spokesman, Michael O'Looney, said Lehman is simply making "an opportunistic claim."

"Now that the economy has begun to stabilize the Lehman Estate is trying to re-trade the deal on the basis of a meritless argument," O'Looney said by e-mail.

Lehman said Barclays took the \$5 billion as well as another \$2.3 billion in margin deposits on its Options Clearing Corp. accounts, and about \$2.7 billion in other assets added before the court's approval of the sale. It said Barclays took on about \$1.7 billion in liabilities.

"The number may be even larger" than \$8.2 billion, Lehman lawyers wrote in their brief, saying there were other assets that Lehman has yet to calculate.

The are also likely being explored in an independent investigation by Anton Valukas, a lawyer at the Jenner & Block law firm who was appointed as the examiner in the case.

Valukas, a former federal prosecutor and a specialist in white-collar crime, started his investigation in January and has yet to file his report. He will determine, in part, whether Lehman executives lied, committed fraud or mismanaged the company.

Lehman Brothers Holdings Inc.'s bankruptcy case was filed in the Southern District of New York.

VENEZUELA

Chavez looks to acquire nuclear capabilities

Leader looks to Russia for assistance, claims his intentions are peaceful; U.S. fearful of technology exchange with Iran

Associated Press

CARACAS — Hugo Chavez wants to join the nuclear energy club and is looking to Russia for help in getting started.

The Venezuelan leader is already dismissing critics' concerns over his nuclear ambitions, offering assurances his aims are peaceful and that Venezuela will simply be following in the footsteps of other South American nations using atomic energy.

Yet his project remains in its planning stages and still faces a host of practical hurdles, likely requiring billions of dollars, as well as technology and expertise that Venezuela lacks.

Russia has offered to help bridge that gap, and Chavez has announced that the two countries have created an atomic energy commission.

"I say it before the world: Venezuela is going to start the process of developing nuclear energy, but we're not going to make an atomic bomb, so don't be bothering us afterward ... (with) something like what they have against Iran," Chavez said Sunday.

The socialist president is closely allied with Iran and

defends its nuclear program while the U.S. and other countries accuse Tehran of having a secret nuclear weapons program.

"We're going to develop nuclear energy with peaceful aims as Brazil, Argentina have," Chavez said.

U.S. State Department spokesman Ian Kelly on

Monday expressed misgivings about Venezuela's nuclear ambitions. Responding to a reporter's question about whether the United States would be worried about nuclear transfers between Iran and

Venezuela, Kelly said: "The short answer is, to that, yes, we do have concerns."

Kelly noted that Venezuela is a signatory of the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty, which would restrict any nuclear program to nonmilitary purposes.

Some of Chavez's critics among American lawmakers are alarmed. U.S. Rep. Connie Mack urged the U.S. and its allies to "unite to prevent Chavez from gaining access to new nuclear technology." Rep. Ileana Ros-Lehtinen, a fellow Florida Republican, said Russia's plans to sell Venezuela more arms, along with plans for nuclear cooperation, "create

an eerie sense that the history of Iran's Russia-backed military and nuclear buildup is repeating itself almost identically in Venezuela."

Chavez said he discussed the nuclear issue last week with Russian President Dmitry Medvedev and Prime Minister Vladimir Putin during a visit to Moscow.

"Putin himself has said it: 'We're going to support Venezuela so that it has nuclear energy,'" Chavez said.

Sergei Novikov, a spokesman for Russian state nuclear agency Rosatom, said a framework agreement signed last year that pledges cooperation is "all there is for the moment."

"There are no concrete projects that have been worked out and agreed upon," Novikov told The Associated Press in Russia on Tuesday.

Any joint work on mining uranium or the radioactive metal thorium is likely "a long way" off at this point, Novikov said. He noted that Venezuela says it has deposits but needs to decide whether it wants Russian help exploring them and, if so, create a joint venture for

the purpose.

If an agreement is reached for Russia to help Venezuela create a nuclear research center, Russian specialists would likely participate closely to ensure nuclear safety and security, he said.

A Venezuelan delegation visited Moscow last month,

and discussed creating programs for training Venezuelan specialists in nuclear safety and in the use of reactors, the Russian nuclear agency said in a statement. It said they also discussed training Venezuelans on designing and building "a

cyclotron or research reactor with the aim of producing radioisotopes for medical purposes."

Venezuela already has a small, experimental reactor that was completed in 1960 at the Venezuelan Institute for Scientific Studies near Caracas. In the past decade, it has been used as a sterilization plant that treats pharmaceuticals, surgical supplies and other products using cobalt-60 radiation.

"Its objective was lost due to technological obsolescence, but we're going to start, and we're working on that with Russia," Chavez said.

It remains unclear what sort of nuclear technology, if any, Venezuela could seek from Iran. Chavez as early as 2005 expressed interest in developing nuclear energy and mentioned Venezuela could discuss it with Iran.

He said while visiting Iran on Sept. 4 that "we're carrying out the visualization of the nuclear energy project, so that the Venezuelan people can also count on that marvelous resource for peaceful uses in the future."

He said Venezuela and Iran agreed to work together on geological studies in the Venezuelan Andes and the foothills in his home state of Barinas, because "we already have satellite information that indicates there are good mineral resources, different minerals that are very important for the country's development." He didn't elaborate, and didn't mention uranium.

It also remains unclear how much Chavez intends to spend on the nuclear project. His government has been coping with a sharp decline in revenue in the past year due to lower prices for Venezuelan oil, which funds nearly half the national budget.

Elsewhere in South America, Argentina already has two operating nuclear plants, as does Brazil.

Brazil is also planning to invest \$3.7 billion to build a third nuclear plant after receiving environmental approval earlier this year.

Pollution cleanup at Great Lakes lagging

Associated Press

TRAVERSE CITY, Mich. — Cleanup of the most polluted sites in the Great Lakes is moving so slowly it will take 77 more years to finish the job at the existing pace, according to a federal report.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency still does not know the full extent of the problem even though the highly contaminated spots were identified two decades ago, said the report by the agency's inspector general.

"Without improved management, coordination and accountability, EPA will not succeed in achieving the results intended" for the recovery program, said the report, issued Monday.

Toxic sediment cleanup is among the goals of a \$20 billion Great Lakes restoration plan developed by government agencies and nonprofit groups in 2005.

President Barack Obama has pledged \$5 billion toward carrying out the plan and requested \$475 million in his 2010 budget. Roughly one-fourth of that amount would be devoted to the cleanups.

The plan estimates the total cleanup price at \$2.25 billion in federal money, with

state and local governments kicking in an additional \$1.2 billion.

The inspector general's report analyzes the government's handling of Great Lakes "areas of concern" — rivers, harbors and other locations where bottomlands are laced with toxic chemicals such as mercury, PCBs and heavy metal wastes.

Forty-three of the areas were identified in the late 1980s, including 26 within U.S. territory; 12 entirely within Canada; and five that straddle the border. Only two Canadian sites and one in the U.S. — the Oswego River in New York — have been fixed and dropped from the list.

The areas range from less than 1 square mile to hundreds of square miles. Because of their location near river mouths and harbors that flow into the Great Lakes, they are considered a leading source of pollution systemwide.

Between them, they have 68 sites believed to contain more than 76 million cubic yards of contaminated sediments, according to state officials. But the report says accurate estimates have not been developed for more than 30 percent of the cleanup sites.

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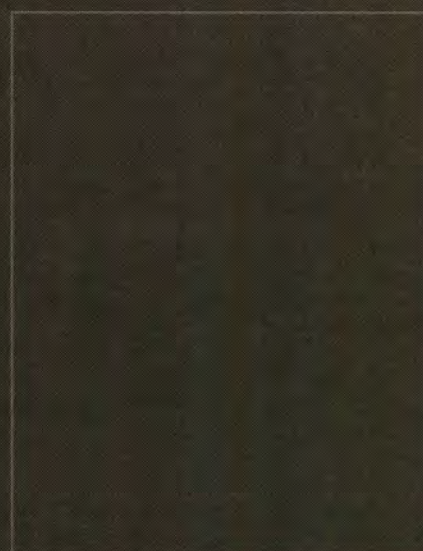
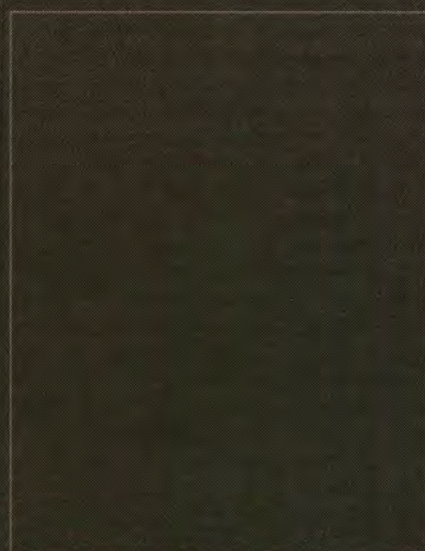
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THE OBSERVER VIEWPOINT

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Wednesday September 16, 2009

THE OBSERVER

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On the road again

Maybe I should just stay home. I haven't been able to figure out why, but every time I follow Notre Dame to a football road game, the Irish lose. After last week's gut-wrencher in the Big House, my record stands at 0-4. Yes, that means over the last 24 calendar months I have personally watched Notre Dame lose on five separate locations. One would have to question whether it is worth all of the missed classes, the traffic, the car trips through nowhere, the hostile opposing fans and, of course, losing. And after all of that, would I do it again? Absolutely, I would, and I wouldn't even hesitate. Allow me to explain why.

We all love Notre Dame. After all, every one of us chose to be here, presumably over other (good) options. However, it is pretty hard to deny that we seem to exist in our own little bubble here in South Bend, a safe distance away from other major universities and big cities. Fortunately, however, football is something we share with a number of other schools that are within a reasonable distance, and it gives us a perfect excuse to visit these other schools. If you have ever wondered what life would be like if you went to Michigan, Purdue or Boston College, you can go and get a snapshot to see what other schools have to offer. At least for me, sometimes I get so wrapped in my life around here, it is easy to forget that the experience we have here is only one out of a countless number of college experiences.

If you road trip, you get to spend another weekend tailgating. I don't think I really need to explain this very much.

I think it goes without saying that the vast majority of the college football world has a deep resentment for Notre Dame. Whether the true origin is our collective arrogance or everyone else's envy of what we have (or some combination of the two) it won't take you very long to find a football fan who has a strong, occasionally startling dislike for Notre Dame (even if they support a school we never play). It is easy to avoid this negativity by staying on campus, where reassurance comes in the form of 80,000 other like-minded fans. I, however, embrace the fact that the world seems to hate us and love to play the villain. Being in the minority creates an "us against the world" mentality, something that can be extremely fun, provided you don't take it too far (and that you have some pretty thick skin). Hugging complete strangers, doing push-ups, singing the fight song after Armando Allen's go-ahead two-point conversion on Saturday, while the rest of Michigan Stadium sat in stunned silence, was a unique feeling of euphoria that would be impossible to recreate at a home game. Obviously, it all came crashing down at the end. But the high points and low points of the game were amplified, creating a unique roller coaster ride of emotions that left us all physically and emotionally spent.

More importantly, however, is the fact that by road-tripping, you get the opportunity to experience a college football atmosphere one more

Saturday than if you had stayed and watched it on TV. For me, there is nowhere in the world I would rather be than on a college campus the day of a football game. Gamedays provide a combination of friendship, tradition, rivalry, food and competition that I have yet to find in any other venue.

Plus, we have to remember that we are in college and that, for as much as we want to be, we are not going to be students forever. In fact, some of us upperclassmen can already hear the clock ticking on our time left here and once that time runs out, it never comes back. College is the time to be slightly irresponsible, the time to spend money you might not have on tickets, the time to make some decisions that seemed like a good idea at the time and the time to travel all over the country to support your school. Because once we leave and are forced out into the proverbial "real world," the costs of following the team grow exponentially. That being the case, I would encourage all students to take advantage of the unique opportunity we have to follow the team while we still can and go on at least one road trip during your time here and make some new memories. If you are with me, hit me up next weekend. You know where to find me: at the Purdue game. See you in West Lafayette.

Andy Ziccarelli is a junior Civil Engineering major. He can be reached at aziccare@nd.edu

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

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

We are ND band

The Band of the Fighting Irish is a proud student organization on Our Lady's campus. We can think of no better way to spend our time and energy than by representing Notre Dame on the field each week with the Victory March, Alma Mater and other galvanizing school songs. We appreciate all students that show their appreciation and love for us, a student organization that puts so much passion, enthusiasm and life into supporting our beloved Notre Dame. We love you guys and we love the football team. We will continue our post-game traditions on Saturday with a huge Irish victory over Michigan State's Spartans.

Catherine Carrell
senior
Lewis Hall
Sept. 15

Fear-mongering unwelcome

As a staunch liberal (and thus a minority on this campus), I often find The Observer's Viewpoint section highly amusing. But in the Viewpoint for Tuesday the 15th, Christie Pesavento crossed the line from amusing to downright vile and disturbing ("Politicizing 9/11"). How dare the right accuse President Obama of politicizing Sept. 11? The entirety of the Bush administration was defined by the politicizing of one of the most tragic events in American history. Our military is currently bogged down in Afghanistan and Iraq because former President Bush and his cronies were able to capitalize on the fear and confusion of the aftermath of the attacks on New York and Washington D.C.

You demand we remain in mourning, Ms. Pesavento? No, you and the other neo-conservatives care little for mourning. You demand we stay in fear. Fear of the outside world is what allowed President Bush to convince the American public that war in Iraq was a necessary course. Fear is what allowed the Bush administration to violate Constitutional and international law by spying on American citizens, profiling Arabs and torturing prisoners. Fear is the reason Bush, despite being incompetent and corrupt (which is now apparent to anybody with hindsight and a brain), was able to grab himself a second term in the White House. Now President Obama has forsaken the politics of fear for the politics of hope and service, and the right wing comes up swinging.

The Republicans' stance against community service is one I'll never comprehend. During the campaign, Republicans made a mockery of Obama's service as a community organizer and now that he has the presidency and is attempting to use it to make us all community organizers in our own way, the hypocritical right accuses him of political motives. I will never forget the 9/11 attacks. Nobody will. But when it comes to politicizing the tragedy, nobody could beat the Republicans, no matter how hard they might try.

Tim Ryan
sophomore
Keenan Hall
Sept. 15

OBSERVER POLL

Are you going to the career fair?

Yes

No

Who cares, I'm not going to get a job anyway
What career fair?

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

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

QUOTE OF THE DAY

"The trouble with the rat race
is that even if you win,
you're still a rat."

Lily Tomlin
comedian

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Alma Mater not just a song

Notre Dame Football is supposed to be a program set apart from all others. For this reason, I vehemently disagree with Corey McNeilly's dismissal of the alma mater and its importance to Notre Dame ("Post-game conduct no big deal," Sept. 15). Our team strives to be a part of the Notre Dame community. Nowhere else in major college football, it's often said, do the players live, eat, study and pray with the rest of the student body like they do at Notre Dame.

Part of this show of community and solidarity happens at the end of every football game where all the students stay and the players join them in singing "Notre Dame Our Mother." The players and (most of the) students stayed after every game in 2007. They stayed after that awful Syracuse game last year. It's part of what makes Notre Dame special.

Our Alma Mater isn't just a song, Corey McNeilly. It's not Chuck Berry's "My Ding-a-Ling." It's a tribute to the Blessed Mother, the glue that holds our community together. We play and sing it after every game, win or lose. There are perfectly reasonable explanations for why the team didn't or couldn't stay after Saturday's game. However, there is no reasonable explanation for calling "Notre Dame Our Mother" merely "a song." It is what we stand for — literally and figuratively — at Notre Dame and nothing less.

Brian Wysocki
senior
Fisher Hall
Sept. 15

On hypocrisy

Dear Corey McNeilly,

You are a hypocrite. You mock someone for sharing a feeling of victory or defeat with the team and in the same letter, claim to come to the team's defense. You do not have enough invested in Notre Dame to feel wins and losses, yet you feel like you have the authority to berate a faithful supporter for a humble request? Not only that, but you infer that the Alma Mater is "just a song"? You take for granted the privilege of attending the University of Notre Dame. Please transfer. You're taking up a spot that should be occupied by someone who realizes how special Notre Dame is.

With all due respect, Steve Simeonidis

To the team:

Your fans know that you left it all out on the field last Saturday. Michael Floyd telling Coach Weis that he would be ready if the game went into OT despite the gash on his knee is but one example of that. Losing despite that effort and the fact that you seemed to be the better team is awful and you were rightly upset. However, if you are ever in a similar situation, I ask that you do not forget about your student body or the rest of the Notre Dame family. When you join them in singing the Alma Mater after a loss, it acts as an important reminder: We are still ND. God Bless.

Steve Simeonidis
alumnus
class of 2009
Sept. 15

Marching band a big deal

After reading Corey McNeilly's Letter to the Editor regarding the band ("Post-game conduct no big deal," Sept. 15), I can only say that it is probably safe to assume that the reason McNeilly dropped out of the Naval Academy was that he grew tired of wearing a funny costume and pretending to be a sailor.

I should say that I mean no disrespect to servicemen and women serving at home and abroad. Anyone who knows me will understand that my statements above are meant to be sarcastic and point out how ridiculous McNeilly's comments were.

The NCAA mandates that football players practice a maximum of 20 hours per week. Including the football game, this means that the team puts in roughly a required 23.5 hours per week. Including the football game, members of the marching band put in 17 hours per week. While this is fewer hours than the team commits to football each week, it is still a major time commitment from each member of the band.

As a band member, I am wondering about the amount of time McNeilly puts into supporting the football team. Perhaps an extra one or two hours of tailgating before each game? Maybe he even stays for the Alma Mater after a blowout win. Hardly a meaningful show of support. McNeilly has no right to claim that all we do is "wear funny costumes and play an instrument." Marching band members deserve for the team to respect our thoughts and wishes, more so than any other students at this University, except for organizations like the cheerleaders who put in the same amount of effort to represent Notre Dame on the same level as the band.

While you are all free to leave the game whenever you like no matter what the score, we will be there playing our hearts out until the game is over, win or lose, and we will always perform the Alma Mater for those fans who actually care enough to stay and show their respect for Notre Dame and the team.

Peter Rowlands
senior
off campus
Sept. 15

9/11 not old news

I would like to echo the sentiments of Kaitlin Spillane ("Lack of remembrance shameful," Sept. 14). Like society, have we become complacent as a university, as the University of Notre Dame? Do we not remember the day that changed everything we had known — the day when we realized we aren't invincible? Comments I heard from friends and by-passers like "eight years already" and "Oh, that's right, it's 9/11" are unacceptable. I am extremely disappointed with the happenings (or lack thereof) last Friday. September 11, 2001 is not old news and it never should be. Shame on the school that is remembered and cherished by many for not remembering those unsung heroes that softened the blow America endured that fateful day.

Kevin Kimberly
junior
O'Neill Hall
Sept. 14

Not a partisan issue

While reading Christie Pesavento's column, "Politicizing 9/11" (Sept. 15), I was struck by the irony of her calling Barack Obama's Edward M. Kennedy Serve America Act an attempt to politicize 9/11, when she is actually doing quite a bit of politicizing herself, turning a way to remember 9/11 and encourage people to give back to this country a little bit into a left-wing indoctrination attempt. In regard to her assertion that the new act will not prevent any terrorist attacks, I think the same argument can be made about Patriot Day. I, too, have trouble imagining terrorists backing down from a planned attack just because Americans are being patriotic in September.

Another issue I have is the idea that Obama is turning 9/11 into a day of service, when in reality it actually was a day of service. How many firefighters, police officers and citizens rushed to the aid of those in need on that day, sacrificing their own lives so that others would have a chance to live? Maybe I am just naïve, but I think that dying to save someone else is a form of service.

Another issue Pesavento brings up is the issue of 9/11 fading from people's

minds. She mentions a man who lost his daughter that day and who, understandably, will hold that day clearly in his mind forever. Most of the American public, however, will indeed think about it less as the years go by. Just consider the Titanic or Pearl Harbor. Those events were incredibly poignant when they happened, but because of reasons other than democratic presidents, the passage of time has swept them from the forefront of our consciousness.

The column that Pesavento wrote is little more than a partisan attack against a president with whom she disagrees on every issue. Remembering the horrible tragedy and working to make America a better place with charity work that benefits others are not mutually exclusive activities. Hopefully, Ms. Pesavento decides to participate in Patriot Day by serving those less fortunate, instead of pettily dividing the country with her partisan rhetoric.

Eric Routen
junior
Keenan Hall
Sept. 15

EDITORIAL CARTOON



By JACK THORTON
Scene Writer

This past weekend the city of Chicago hosted Irish band U2 as they opened the North American leg of the U2 360° degree tour. What a weekend it was.

Playing on one of the most ambitious stages ever created for a rock tour, U2 proved that they are still the biggest and best band in the world. The spectacular stage consisted of a circle within a circle (the two were connected with bridges that moved like the staircases in the "Harry Potter" movies), underneath a massive structure that can best be described as a giant spaceship with four spindly legs and a giant TV screen for a belly. Designed to offer fans in every corner of the stadium a good view, the stage was just as ambitious as the band it was made for. Only U2 would think of such a set and only U2 could pull off playing in it.

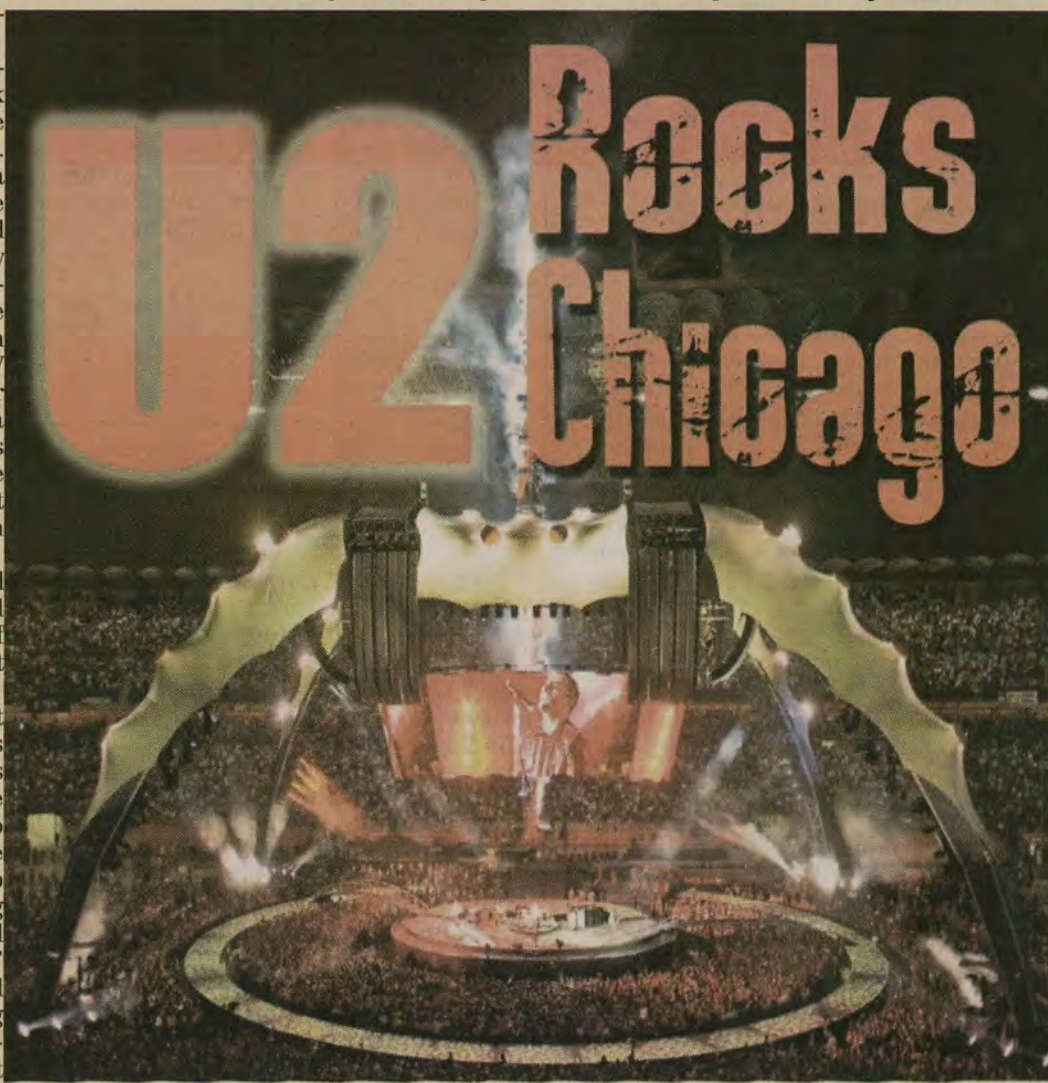
After opening band Snow Patrol played for 45 minutes, U2 electrified the crowd for nearly two and a half hours in one of the single greatest musical events ever to grace the city.

On opening night they played a set list of new songs and old classics with a few delightful surprises thrown in. They opened with three songs from their newest album, "No Line On The Horizon," including the title track and the catchy rock romp "Get On Your Boots" before moving into older material with crowd pleasers "Beautiful Day," "Elevation," the classic "I Still Haven't Found What I'm Looking For," and a wonderful acoustic rendition of the hit "Stuck In A Moment You Can't Get Out Of."

The rest of the opening set contained some unexpected songs such as "The Unforgettable Fire," a techno rave version of "I Know I'll Go Crazy

If I Don't Go Crazy Tonight" where all four band members, including drummer Larry Mullen Jr., strutted around the outer stage playing their instruments, as well as the popular "Vertigo" and "Sunday Bloody Sunday" before closing with the epic

Tutu, and the magnificent "Bad" from the "Unforgettable Fire" album. The second encore opened with "Ultraviolet (Light My Way)" which was perhaps the most surprising and pleasing song of the entire show before closing with U2's greatest hit



"Where The Street Have No Name." Their first encore consisted of the famous ballad "One," which was introduced by Archbishop Desmond

"With Or Without You" and the new "Moment Of Surrender." The second night was very similar to the first, but there were some differ-

ences including a completely new song, the slow and moving "Your Blue Room" which will appear on the next U2 album, and the emotional "Stay (Far Away, So Close)." These replaced "Stuck In A Moment You Can't Get Out Of," "Pride (In The Name Of Love)" and "Bad." Although it was disappointing to not hear these classics a second time, the new songs were just as good and showed the diversity that U2 is capable of.

Each song featured an incredible display of lights and effects that, with any other band, would have taken center stage and distracted from the music. But not this band. Led by charismatic frontman Bono, the band and the music was the focal point of the evening. All the special effects in the world could not distract the audience from the incredible artistry and passion of each musician. The Edge, perhaps the greatest effects guitarist in the world, complimented Bono's vocals and lyrics with tact and force, while the drums of Mullen Jr. and the bass of Adam Clayton drove each song to unimagined heights of intensity, precision and power.

Bono was Bono. He went from comedian to wounded lover to political activist, keeping the crowd enthralled with his antics. At times he merely stood at his mike-stand and crooned. At others he strutted and danced. At others he raced around the outer circle of the stage before collapsing dramatically to the ground.

The two incredible shows proved that U2 is still as relevant as ever. Even after three decades of music they are arguably the best band in the world and are undoubtedly one of the greatest live acts ever. One can only look forward to the next opportunity to see the legendary band perform again.

Contact Jack Thorton at jthornt8@nd.edu

By ADRIANA PRATT
Assistant Scene Editor

On Sept. 22, fall will officially be here. Will you be ready?

Fall conjures up images of chic women in snugly sweaters, sassy ankle boots and long stovepipe jeans. However, this year's fashion trends call for only a pinch of those standards and instead rely on a good dose of the dramatic.

Prepare to see plenty of plaid (that trend is on its way out but college students haven't gotten the memo yet); metallic hues of blue, black and silver; an emphasis on feminine draping; structured shoulders emulating the 80s and ornamental earthy jewelry. So whip out those credit cards and head to the University Park Mall stores. Time is running out to turn that wardrobe from drab to fab!

Trend 1: Take it back to those Country Days

This fall, fashion magazines might have mentioned that the country look is in, but that doesn't mean you should bum back to the rural frock styles reminiscent of a few years ago. Instead mix earthy tones and do as InStyle says by investing in a thin brown leather belt to cinch sweaters, vests, etc. to emphasis a feminine shape. Try a long off-white knit turtleneck complimented with a thin belt at the waist, skinny jeans and brown leather ankle boots for a day of class. Match this with long loose waves and statement earrings that peek out under your hair, and you'll look enviably put-together.

Stores to visit: Forever 21 (check out their Heritage 1981 line for pieces that compliment this look) or Ann Taylor Loft for staple pieces.

Trend 2: Sparkling like Metallica

Both Balenciaga and Versace emphasized swirls of magical metallic dazzle in their Fall 2009 fashion lines. Deep blues, blacks and grays with shimmering silver overtones (think Kate

Winslet's 2009 Yves Saint Laurent gown at the Oscars) are in this season. Feel free to combine this look with another of fall's trends, ladylike draping, for a double whammy in the fashion world. This look can easily go from day to night depending at what level you want to set the volume. Make sure not to overdo it because, like a Metallica song played at extremely loud decibels, too much may damage the senses.

Store to Visit: See Charlotte Russe's belted cowl neck top in charcoal for \$21.99

Trend 3: Salute that Military Look

March down South Quad in a tailored military cropped jacket and you'll have the ROTC boys loving a woman in uniform. Don't shy away

from this ever-present trend for fear of looking too masculine because plenty of cute form-fitting options exist. Contrast a feminine skirt with a tailored blazer and the balance will fall right in line.

Store to Visit: See Charlotte Russe's twill military blazer for \$36.99 or Coach's poppy jacket for \$398.00

Trend 4: Work those Legs

Alicia Keys brought this look center-stage during her Sunday night MTV VMA performance. Audiences might have become distracted when Kanye's career (R.I.P.) got

smashed like Serena Williams's racket, but hopefully they still managed to catch a glimpse of one of fall's most fabulous and embraceable looks. It's taken a while to transition from no leggings to black leggings to something more exciting, but the wait is over. Summon the sparkles, dramatic patterns and eye-catching glory that consume this

year's legwear. Spice up a weekend outfit of all black with a touch of color or lace and you'll be rocking a stage of your own.

Store to visit: Forever 21 for awesome tights ranging from \$3.50-\$6.80

Side Note:

And for the love of all that is fashionable, always remember the most important part of an outfit is the fit. If the clothes are so baggy that your feminine shape can't shine through, ditch them. If they're too tight, making the dreaded muffin top the most seen trend on campus, ditch them. Proportion is everything and a well put-together outfit that compliments your body shape will not only leave you feeling confident, but will also draw the eye to your best features. Be bold and beautiful this fall and strike that Blake Lively pose (Facebook photo-stalking has proven that this is the new college girl picture trend) with confidence.

Contact Adriana Pratt at apratt@nd.edu

TUNING IN

Local Radio



ON-CAMPUS

By JOEY KUHN
Assistant Scene Editor

A Brief History of Notre Dame Campus Radio

The long and storied tradition of campus radio at Our Lady's University all started in 1935. The golden age of radio was in full swing, and the Notre Dame Radio Club, a group of students interested in this new medium, began making occasional broadcasts on the South Bend station WSBT. The club continued regular broadcasts on WSBT until 1947, when a group of students started broadcasts on an early carrier current system. The signal spread only as far as the Notre Dame campus. They tried out several different locations unsuccessfully until the University gave them a spot in the old Fieldhouse, where Stonehenge presently stands. This original station was called WND.

WND became a commercial operation in 1950, supporting itself by selling on-air advertisement to local businesses. In 1952, University President Emeritus Fr. Theodore Hesburgh offered the station a space in the soon-to-be constructed O'Shaughnessy building, and by 1954 the station was broadcasting from the tower of O'Shag. It was renamed WNDU and was a full member of the Intercollegiate Broadcasting System, grossing \$10,000 yearly in advertising sales and broadcasting 12 hours a day on channel 640 AM. Shortly after, the station's call letters were changed to WSND ("We Serve Notre Dame") because the University wanted the letters WNDU for its new television station.

In 1955, about 68.5 percent of the student body listened to WSND. The programming followed a "something for everyone" approach, with music, news, sports, occasional dramas and other specials. A second AM station that mostly played classical music was created in 1960 and converted to FM in 1962; this was the forerunner of the present-day WSND-FM.

Then the original AM station changed its approach from "something for everyone" to progressive rock in 1967, evolving closer to present-day WVFI. The station still retained some variety in its programming, such as a successful superhero spoof called "The Green Gaper" that poked fun at campus issues.

In 1968, "The Pop Stand," a "veritable aural orgy of progressive rock," started running on WSND-FM. It was broadcast Monday through Thursday from midnight to 1 a.m. and was the precursor to the present-day Nocturne program on WSND.

For a long time, the FM station had been looking for a way to increase its broadcast area beyond the campus. Finally, in 1971, a new transmitter was installed at WNDU's facility, utilizing the television antenna to increase the broadcast radius to 25-30 miles. This made WSND-FM a Class-A station, which meant that they could not simply go off the air during school breaks and summer as they had done before. To keep the station on the air year-round, new volunteers were brought in from the surrounding community. The new transmitter made WSND really a community endeavor.

For years, the stations continued in the same way; WSND-FM broadcasted mainly classical during the day, with more varied programming at night, while WSND-AM played mainly contemporary rock with some sports and specialty shows. At some point, WSND-AM changed its name to WVFI-AM ("Voice of the Fighting Irish"). The AM station did not have a strong signal and could barely be heard even by students on campus. But a big change came in 1987 when WVFI moved into LaFortune Student Center and renovated its transmitter to greatly reduce static. Because the FM station remained in O'Shaughnessy, this was when the two stations really diverged into independent entities.

The last major transformation came in 2000, when WVFI started broadcasting online. For the first time, people could listen to the station from anywhere in the world, opening the audience up to friends and family back home. Eventually WVFI stopped broadcasting on AM altogether. And that is how the stations got to be how they are today.

The State of the Stations

WSND is an FM radio station that bills itself as a "Fine Arts" station. It plays mainly classical music with some news breaks during the day, and at night it offers a variety of programming including jazz, reggae, big band, blues and Celtic music. WSND also has an alternative or "college rock" program, called Nocturne. One of the most popular programs with students, it is broadcast from midnight until 2 a.m. every night. You can listen to WSND at 88.9 FM.

WVFI is an Internet-only station that plays mostly independent label "college rock" music, although it also offers a variety of specialty programming. Announcers broadcast live from all home football games, and the station hopes to broadcast all home basketball games this year, too. Some slots are given to specialty shows featuring a specific genre of music, be it rap, punk rock, hip-hop, metal, or anything else. Students also broadcast their own sports, comedy, or general talk shows. You can listen to WVFI and view its full schedule at www.nd.edu/~wvfi.

Both radio stations are a great opportunity for students interested in communications to gain some practical experience. WSND is unique in that its listeners are from all over the Michiana area. In the most recent information available, from 2004, about one out of every 20 radios in the area was tuned to WSND at any given time.

Station manager Patrick Brown said, "Our audience tends to be a little older because we play a lot of classical music, but we have a very dedicated, loyal group of listeners. They listen regularly and call in frequently."

Because WSND runs year-round, the disc jockeys are both students and volunteers from the community, although students have the priority.

WVFI provides a different experience because student DJs can get their friends and family back home to listen along with their friends at Notre Dame. Many students join WVFI to meet other students who love the same type of music they do.

Michelle Nguyen, public relations and events director for WVFI, said, "It creates a space for people with a common interest to come together and exposes them to new kinds of music they might not have experienced otherwise."

The station has a wide variety of sports, talk, and specialty music shows hosted by a diverse bunch of students. "It really is a comprehensive radio station, not just the weird indie kids hanging out as some people might think," Nguyen said.

The only overlap between the two stations is the college rock Nocturne show on WSND, which does not significantly cut into WVFI's audience. Because the two stations have fairly different target audiences, Brown does not see them as being in competition with one another. "We [at WSND] focus on different things from WVFI. If anything, it would be nice to have a stronger working relationship with them."

Contact Joey Kuhn at jkuhn1@nd.edu

By ERIC PRISTER
Scene Writer

In a world of iTunes, personalized online music stations and YouTube, radio stations have become somewhat dated. When a music listener can choose his or her own songs, why tune into a station that makes those decisions for you and interrupts with annoying commercials? But for those who still enjoy listening to DJs talk, or those who are just too lazy to make their own musical decisions, South Bend offers a wide variety of stations.

Rock

South Bend offers a spectrum of stations for those who enjoy listening to good ol' rock and roll. 95.3 WAOR claims to be the first "classic rock" station in the country, since at its outset, it aimed to bring listeners "album-oriented rock," rather than just the most popular songs. They have strayed from this ideal now, but still offer a wide variety of rock from the 60s, 70s, 80s and even some 90s groups such as Metallica and Nirvana.

For those who prefer newer hard rock, 103.9 The Bear is the station for you. Besides broadcasting the popular comedy duo Bob and Tom in the morning, The Bear balances recently released rock with music spanning the past decade, along with a few classic hard rock songs from artists like Black Sabbath and Alice Cooper.

97.7 WZOW is a balance between these other two stations. It started as an almost purely classic rock station, but has now moved to a station that plays almost equal parts new rock and classic rock.

Pop

The pop station of choice for South Bend listeners is U93, which can be heard at 92.9 FM. U93 is a basic top-40 station which plays the most popular hits of the current week, and they play those songs over and over again. Recently, however, U93 has made some changes, including offering a rap-free work day and fewer commercials, both of which have been replaced by some occasional 90s pop music sprinkled in with the current hits.

Rap/Hip-Hop/R & B

South Bend offers two rap/hip-hop stations for those who prefer that type of music. Power 95.7 tends to play more popular, top-40 rap and steers clear of slower-paced hip-hop and R&B music. It tends to play music that is currently popular, rather than older, classic rap.

WSMK 99.1 prides itself on playing contemporary rhythm and blues and expands its horizons outside of the top-40 rap played on 95.7. WSMK also plays older rap, hip-hop and R & B along with the contemporary songs.

Country

The two country stations in South Bend are conveniently located near each other on the dial, which allows for easy switching between the two. Both Cat Country 99.9 and B100 100.7 play similar music, combining modern, popular country songs with older, classic country tunes. Cat Country extends its reach slightly further back, unlike B100, which claims to offer "today's best and most country."

Other Options

If none of these sound appealing, South Bend does offer other options that may be more appealing. Sunny 101.5 offers music for "the 80s, 90s and today." Sunny's music tends to be adult contemporary and older popular music. Most people will recognize most of the songs played on 101.5.

102.3 The Steam is very similar to Sunny 101.5, though its selection is more limited. They tend to play songs on a more strict rotation than most radio stations, so the same song could be heard 10 times in a week and then not again for a year.

Oldies 94.3, as its name suggests, plays the popular songs from the 50s, 60s and 70s. It is the best station of its kind in South Bend, and also happens to be the only South Bend station to consistently play The Beatles.

South Bend also has its own ESPN radio station, 1620 AM. 1620 features popular ESPN shows such as Mike and Mike in the Morning, the Herd with Colin Cowherd, and the Scott Van Pelt show. The sports talk on 1620 is up to typical ESPN standards, but does play commercials often, which takes away from its appeal.

Contact Eric Prister at epriester@nd.edu

MLB

Braves extend streak to five after beating Mets

Lee tosses six-hit shutout against Nationals; Oswalt roughed up by Reds in loss; Matsuzaka returns from injury and wins

Associated Press

ATLANTA — Adam LaRoche homered twice and drove in three runs, rookie Tommy Hanson pitched seven innings and the Atlanta Braves won their fifth straight, beating the New York Mets 6-0 on Tuesday night.

The winning streak has likely come a little late for the Braves, who began the day 7 1/2 games behind Philadelphia in the NL East and six games back in the wild-card race.

New York has lost seven of eight.

LaRoche went 4 for 4, including solo homers in the second and the sixth, giving him 25 this season — 12 since he was acquired from the Boston Red Sox on July 31. He had an RBI double in the fourth, and a lead-off double in the eighth.

LaRoche scored four runs and became the first Braves player to have four extra-base hits in a game since doing it himself during his first stint with the team, on Aug. 30, 2006.

Hanson (10-3) had another strong outing, allowing three hits and striking out eight.

This was the second straight scoreless start for the 23-year-old Hanson, who has quickly established himself as one of baseball's top young pitchers. He pitched eight innings at Houston last week, but closer Rafael Soriano squandered it in a 2-1 loss.

Nate McLouth's two-run double off Pat Misch (1-3) finished off a three-run fourth that gave the Braves a 4-0 lead before a sparse crowd at Turner Field.

Omar Infante had three hits for the Braves.

The Mets managed only one hit off Hanson through the first six innings. They finally strung together a couple of hits in the seventh, but Anderson Hernandez grounded out to end the threat.

Hanson didn't allow a runner past second base. Mike Gonzalez and Eric Flaherty finished off the four-hitter, the Braves' ninth shutout of the season.

Misch went five innings, surrendering eight hits and four runs. He walked one and didn't strike out anyone.

Phillies 5, Nationals 0

Cliff Lee threw a six-hitter, Carlos Ruiz hit a three-run double and the Philadelphia Phillies beat the Washington Nationals on Tuesday night.

The NL East leaders have won six of eight and reduced their magic number for clinching their third consecutive division title to 12 with 19 games

remaining.

In his best outing in three weeks, Lee (7-2) struck out nine and walked three to record his second shutout and sixth complete game this season. He was 1-2 with a 9.60 ERA in his previous three starts after giving up three earned runs in his first five with Philadelphia.

The defending World Series champions acquired the reigning AL Cy Young award winner from Cleveland in late July to strengthen the top of their rotation. Lee has been outstanding for the most part, posting a 2.67 ERA in nine starts. Overall, he is 14-11 with 3.00 ERA.

Nationals starter Garrett Mock (3-8) allowed five runs and seven hits in six innings. He settled down after the second inning, giving up one hit over the next four.

Lee hardly broke a sweat except in the fourth inning. He walked the bases loaded after going 39 innings without issuing one. But Lee struck out Josh Bard to escape the jam.

He fanned the last two batters in the ninth, firing a 92 mph fastball past Bard on his 124th pitch to end it.

The Phillies scored one run off Mock in the first and four in the second. Jimmy Rollins led off the first with a double to right and Chase Utley singled him in after Shane Victorino sacrificed.

Raul Ibanez started the second with an opposite-field double to left and Jayson Werth followed with a single. After Pedro Feliz walked to load the bases, Ruiz hit a bouncer down the left-field line. The ball rolled into the corner, allowing all three runners to score. Rollins singled in Ruiz to make it 5-0.

Ruiz, the No. 8 hitter in Philadelphia's potent lineup, has been hot lately. Since Aug. 15, he's batting .371 (26 for 70) to raise his average from .224 to .258.

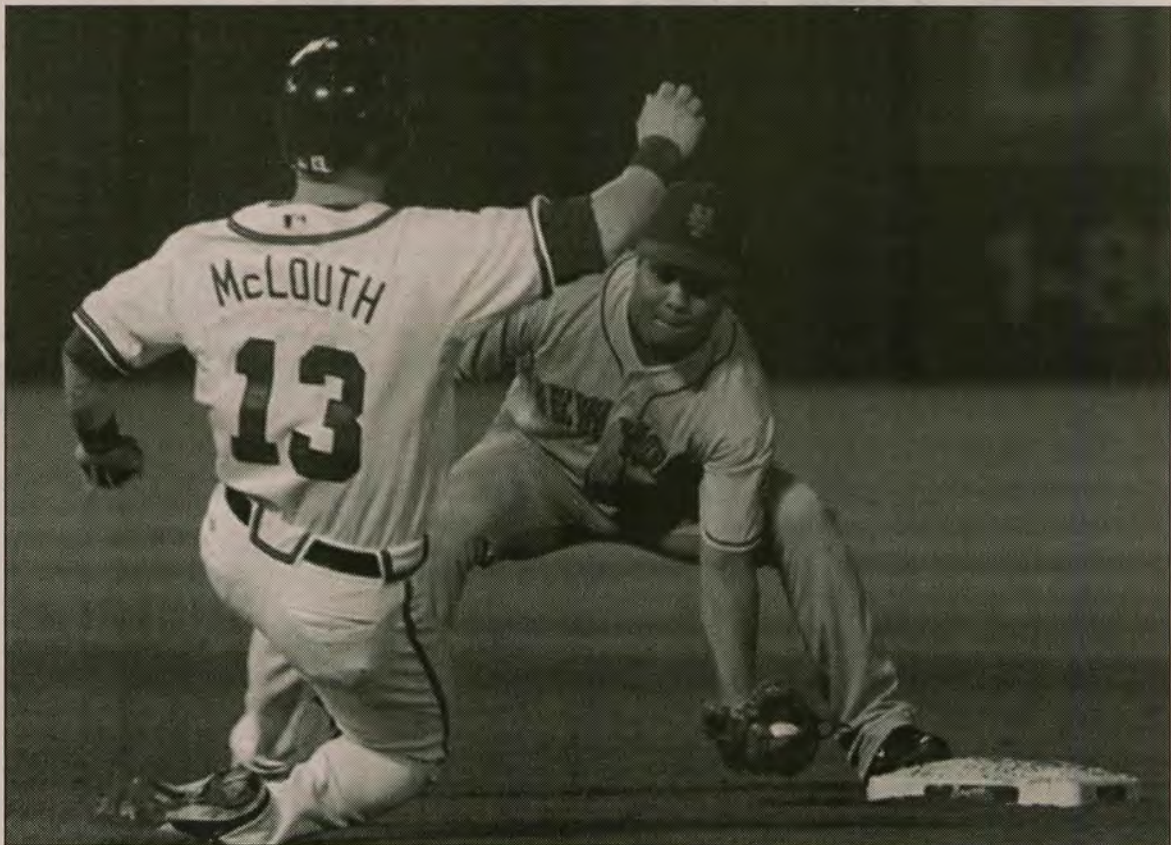
Reds 5, Astros 4

Paul Janish drove in the go-ahead run in the seventh inning with his third double, leading the Cincinnati Reds to a victory over the Houston Astros on Tuesday night.

Houston reliever Sammy Gervachio (1-1) opened the seventh by hitting Corky Miller. Pitcher Bronson Arroyo ran for Miller and was sacrificed to second by pinch-hitter Drew Sutton.

Drew Stubbs struck out, but Janish lined up an opposite-field double to right-center to help send the Astros to their third consecutive loss.

Daniel Ray Herrera (4-4) struck out Michael Bourn, the only batter he faced, to end the



Mets shortstop Anderson Hernandez prepares to tag Braves outfielder Nate McLouth in the fourth inning of the Braves 6-0 win Tuesday. Atlanta has a five game winning streak.

seventh and earn the win.

Nick Masset allowed a hit and struck out the side in the eighth, and Francisco Cordero pitched the ninth for his 36th save.

The Reds have won three of four.

Houston starter Roy Oswalt, roughed up for six runs and 10 hits over two innings while dealing with a bad back in his last start on Sept. 10, pitched into the sixth. He allowed six hits and four runs with no walks and three strikeouts.

Kip Wells rebounded from a 28-pitch first inning and lasted 6 2-3, giving up five hits and four runs with two walks and one strikeout. He retired 13 consecutive batters before Jeff Keppinger's one-out single in the seventh.

Wells got himself immediately into trouble by walking Bourn on four pitches to lead off the game. Bourn, who entered leading the National League with 55 stolen bases, swiped second and scored on Kaz Matsui's lined single to center field.

Matsui stole second, moved to third on a groundout and scored on a single by Miguel Tejada, who stole second and scored on Geoff Blum's single, a sharp grounder that just eluded the diving backhand stab of second baseman Brandon Phillips.

Stubbs led off the bottom of the first by hitting the first pitch he'd ever seen from Oswalt into the lower deck in left field for the rookie's sixth home run

since being called up on Aug. 19. Two pitches later, Janish doubled to deep right-center and later scored on Scott Rolen's sacrifice fly.

Matsui led off the third inning with his sixth homer of the season and first in 139 at-bats since Aug. 3 against San Francisco.

The Reds tied the game in the sixth. Janish and Joey Votto led off with doubles, though Janish could only get to third after waiting to see if left fielder Carlos Lee would make a sliding catch of Votto's bloop — he didn't. Doug Brocail relieved Oswalt. Phillips grounded to second to drive in Janish, and Rolen hit a fly ball to deep center field over the head of the drawn-in Bourn for a ground-rule, tying double.

Red Sox 4, Angels 1

Daisuke Matsuzaka returned from a three-month stint on the disabled list and pitched six shutout innings on Tuesday night to lead the Boston Red Sox to a 4-1 victory over the Los Angeles Angels, their likely first-round playoff opponent.

David Ortiz hit his record-breaking 270th homer as a designated hitter and also added an RBI single after Boston broke a scoreless tie in the sixth thanks to a throwing error by John Lackey (10-8). The Red Sox have won six straight since returning to Fenway Park after Labor Day.

Jonathan Papelbon pitched the ninth and gave up an RBI double

to Erick Aybar before Howie Kendrick hit a soft roller to third to end the game.

An 18-game winner last year, Matsuzaka (2-5) did not allow a hit through four innings and got a standing ovation when he was relieved after one batter in the seventh. In all, Matsuzaka gave up three hits and three walks while striking out five for his first win since June 2.

Lackey gave up three runs — two earned — on eight hits and three walks, striking out six and leaving after J.D. Drew tripled and scored on Jason Bay's single to make it 3-0 in the eighth. Ortiz hit Jose Arredondo's second pitch to straightaway center to surpass Frank Thomas atop the all-time DH home run list.

The Angels won eight of their previous 11 and entered the night with a six-game lead over Texas in the AL West; Boston led the Rangers by 4 1/2 in the wild-card race. If the standings hold, the Red Sox and Angels would meet in the first round of the playoffs for the third consecutive season.

That hasn't worked out too well for the Angels, who have lost 12 of their last 13 playoff games against Boston dating to 1986 and are 0-4 all-time in postseason series against the Red Sox.

Matsuzaka was the MVP of the World Baseball Classic for the second time this spring, but he never found his form when the season started.

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AROUND THE NATION

COMPILED FROM THE OBSERVER'S WIRE SERVICES

Wednesday, September 16, 2009

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NCAA Men's Football AP Top 25

team	previous
1 Florida	1
2 Texas	2
3 Southern California	3
4 Alabama	4
5 Mississippi	6
6 Penn St.	7
7 BYU	9
8 California	10
9 LSU	11
10 Boise St.	12
11 Ohio St.	8
12 Oklahoma	13
13 Virginia Tech	14
14 Georgia Tech	15
15 TCU	16
16 Oklahoma St.	5
17 Cincinnati	23
18 Utah	17
19 Nebraska	22
20 Miami (Fla.)	20
21 Houston	NR
22 Kansas	24
23 Georgia	21
24 North Carolina	19
25 Michigan	NR

NCAA Women's Soccer NSCAA Division I Rankings

team	previous
1 North Carolina	1
2 Portland	3
3 Stanford	4
4 Florida State	5
5 NOTRE DAME	2
6 UCLA	9
7 Purdue	14
8 Wake Forest	17
9 Virginia	8
10 Boston College	16
11 Illinois	11
12 West Virginia	7
13 Texas A&M	10
14 Florida	6
15 Georgia	18
16 California	RV
17 Rutgers	RV
18 South Carolina	RV
19 Oklahoma State	20
20 Colorado	15
21 San Diego	12
22 Kansas	RV
23 Minnesota	19
24 Penn State	13
25 Indiana	NR

NCAA Women's Volleyball AVCA Division I Coaches Poll

team	points
1 Penn St.	1489
2 Texas	1438
3 Washington	1393
4 Hawaii	1243
5 Florida	1224
6 Michigan	1202
7 UCLA	1165
8 Nebraska	1089
9 Minnesota	995
10 Iowa St.	891

NFL



Philadelphia Eagles QB Michael Vick is shown after arriving for the Eagles' season opener against the Carolina Panthers last Sunday. Vick was added to the team's 53-man roster, making him eligible to practice with the team.

Eagles add Vick to roster, release WR Baskett

Associated Press

PHILADELPHIA — Michael Vick can throw passes to his teammates instead of ball boys.

The Philadelphia Eagles elevated Vick to the team's 53-man roster Tuesday, a move that allows the quarterback to practice with the team.

Wide receiver Hank Baskett was released to make room for Vick, who is eligible to play Sept. 27 against the Kansas City Chiefs. Vick will begin practicing with the team Wednesday, though he cannot play in Sunday's home opener against the New Orleans Saints. Vick was suspended for the

first two regular-season games as the final league penalty for his role in running a dogfighting ring.

Kevin Kolb is expected to take the snaps with the starters Wednesday because Donovan McNabb has a cracked rib. Jeff Garcia was signed to back up Kolb in case McNabb can't play.

Vick was brought in to give the Eagles another dimension on offense. He ran Philadelphia's version of the wildcat offense and took some snaps as a traditional QB under center in two preseason games.

The Eagles were heavily criticized by animal rights activists for signing Vick

less than a month after he finished serving 18 months in federal prison. Dozens of protesters voiced their outrage outside the team's practice facility the day after Vick was signed, and many fans threatened to give up their tickets.

A month later, Vick's jersey is the fourth-highest seller in the NFL behind Brett Favre, Jay Cutler and Troy Polamalu. The league rankings are based on the sales period from April 1 to Aug. 28, so Vick — and Favre, for that matter — had plenty of catching up to do since both joined their teams last month.

Vick hasn't played in a

regular-season game since Dec. 31, 2006, when he was with the Atlanta Falcons. It's highly unlikely he would have started even if he were eligible to play this week. Eagles coach Andy Reid has maintained all along that Kolb is McNabb's backup.

Baskett was one of seven receivers the Eagles carried on their 53-man roster through Week 1. He became expendable after Philadelphia selected Jeremy Maclin in the first round of April's draft and added Brandon Gibson in the sixth round.

Baskett had 72 catches for 1,052 yards and six touchdowns in 48 games with the Eagles.

IN BRIEF

Astros' Hampton to miss 2010 season with surgery

HOUSTON — Oft-injured Houston Astros pitcher Mike Hampton is already out for next year.

Hampton has undergone surgery for a torn left rotator cuff and other damage in his shoulder that will sideline him for the 2010 season, the team said Tuesday.

The 37-year-old lefty was 7-10 with a 5.30 ERA in 112 innings over 21 starts this season, his most in a year since making 29 starts in 2004 with Atlanta.

Hampton is 148-115 lifetime with a 4.07 ERA in 2,264 career innings despite spending considerable time on the disabled list with groin, calf, back and forearm problems.

Hampton left a game on Aug. 13 at Florida after five innings because of pain in his shoulder. He went on the disabled list the next day, and decided about two weeks later to have the surgery.

Eagles' lineman Andrews done for the season

PHILADELPHIA — Shawn Andrews won't play with his brother and college roommate this year.

The Philadelphia Eagles placed Andrews on injured reserve Tuesday, ending the two-time Pro Bowl lineman's season. Andrews missed the entire preseason and season opener with a back injury. He briefly returned to practice, but his surgically repaired back flared up again.

"It's disappointing to lose any player for the entire season, but we have full confidence in the other lineman we have on this roster to help this team succeed," coach Andy Reid said. "We wish Shawn all the best as he recovers and rehabilitates from this injury."

Quarterback Jeff Garcia took Andrews' spot on the roster. Garcia was signed to provide insurance because Donovan McNabb has a cracked rib and is uncertain to play this week.

NFL probing Mangini's role in Favre injury case

CLEVELAND — Browns coach Eric Mangini can't seem to escape from New York.

The NFL is investigating Mangini's role in the Jets' failure to list quarterback Brett Favre's arm problem on injury reports last season. Mangini coached the Jets during Favre's one season in New York before he was fired after the team collapsed down the stretch.

Last week, Jets general manager Mike Tannenbaum admitted the club should have listed Favre, who had a torn biceps tendon, as "probable" on the injury report for the last four or five games. Favre said the Jets knew of the injury, which required offseason surgery.

Spokesman Greg Aiello said Mangini's actions will be examined as part of the league's inquiry.

around the dial

MLB

Los Angeles at Boston
7 p.m., ESPN

WNBA Playoffs

Atlanta at Detroit
8 p.m., ESPN2

NBA

Sessions ready to fill Rubio's shoes

Associated Press

MINNEAPOLIS — When Ricky Rubio told the Minnesota Timberwolves he was planning on staying in Spain for at least the next two years, word quickly spread to restricted free agent Ramon Sessions.

His agent, James Wells, called Sessions and told his client they should consider contacting Minnesota to see if there was any interest in bringing the 23-year-old point guard in as a replacement.

Sessions quickly agreed, but the Timberwolves president of basketball operations David Kahn was even faster on the dial.

"When I found out he wasn't coming over, me and my agent talked about it, and not five hours later (the Timberwolves) were calling," Sessions said Tuesday. "It was the best situation for me and I'm happy to be here."

Sessions signed a four-year, \$16 million offer sheet with the Wolves. When the Milwaukee Bucks declined to match the offer Friday, Sessions packed his bags for Minnesota, where he will join rookie point guard Jonny Flynn in a young Timberwolves backcourt.

"Clearly if Ricky would have come, there wouldn't have been an opportunity to add Ramon," Kahn said at Sessions' introductory press conference. "We would have been filled up in the backcourt and there wouldn't have been enough playing time for somebody of Ramon's caliber to join us."

"When Ricky made his decision that he wanted to spend another two years over there, within in the next 36 hours is when we did decide to move forward with Ramon."

The Timberwolves selected the 18-year-old Rubio with the fifth overall pick in June, then commenced on a summer-long dance with him, his agents and the Spanish pro team that still had him under contract.

Kahn made three trips to Spain in hopes of negotiating a deal to bring the precocious passer to the United States. He reached an agreement with DKV Joventut at the end of August. But Rubio backed out less than 48 hours later, telling Kahn he preferred to stay in Spain for at least the next two years to get more ready for the NBA and reduce the amount of a multimillion dollar buyout in his contract.

Without Rubio, the Timberwolves needed another point guard to take some of the burden off of Flynn, the sixth overall pick in the draft.

Sessions, who averaged 12.4 points and 5.7 assists for the Bucks last season, talked earlier in the summer with the New York Knicks and the Los Angeles Clippers. But he never received an offer from either team and was starting to get a little antsy with training camps opening in less than a month.

"It was a long, crazy period

for me and I wound up losing a lot of sleep over this," Sessions said.

In Minnesota, the 6-foot-3 Sessions will play the point guard position he's played his entire life, but also will move to shooting guard on occasion and pair with Flynn in a small, but dynamic, backcourt.

"In the times that they do play together it's going to be pretty fun to watch because of their ability of both of them to create for other people, to get inside the lane, either to draw a foul or find a teammate," Kahn said.

Sessions got plenty of time at shooting guard last season after Olympian Michael Redd went down with a knee injury. He topped 20 points

11 times in 79 games, including a 44-point, 12-assist game against Detroit on Feb. 7.

"This past year was really my first year playing off the ball and I felt really comfortable with it," Sessions said. "With Michael Redd going down in Milwaukee, that gave me the opportunity to show that I can off the ball a little bit so I'm definitely looking forward to that challenge."

Kahn has said time and again all summer long that the rebuilding Timberwolves are probably a year or two away from being competitive in the Western Conference playoff race. But he also said that adding Sessions, instead of Rubio, will help them more in the short term.

"I think that Ramon is clearly more capable of helping us right now than Ricky would have been because of where he is in his development stage," Kahn said. "In a weird way, the team became more mature and improved with this move in particular."

"It was the best situation for me, and I'm happy to be here."

**Ramon Sessions
Timberwolves guard**

HORSE RACING

Harrah's completes race track sale

Associated Press

WILMINGTON, Del. — A Delaware bankruptcy judge on Tuesday approved the sale of two of Magna Entertainment Corp.'s horse racing tracks — Thistledown in Ohio and Remington Park in Oklahoma City — for a combined total of almost \$170 million.

Judge Mary Walrath approved the results of a spirited auction on Monday that ended with a winning bid of \$89.5 million for the Thistledown track near Cleveland from Harrah's Operating Co., a wholly owned subsidiary of Nevada-based casino giant Harrah's Entertainment Inc.

Harrah's offered \$42 million in cash at closing and contingent payments of \$47.5 million.

The contingent payments hinge upon successful resolution of various legal challenges to Ohio's plan to install slot machines at the state's seven horse tracks. Plaintiffs have filed lawsuits seeking to have the issue put to voters in a referendum, and challenging whether slot machines are permitted under Ohio's constitution and meet the state's definition of a lottery.

Also Tuesday, Walrath approved the sale of Remington Park for \$80.25 million to Global Gaming Solutions RP LLC, a subsidiary of the Chickasaw Nation that plans to continue casino and racing operations at the track.

Ontario-based Magna Entertainment, the largest horse-track owner in the United States, filed for bankruptcy protection in March, saying it was unable to obtain new financing while supporting its existing debt.

Its holdings also include Gulfstream Park in Florida, Lone Star Park in Grand Prairie, Texas, and Baltimore's Pimlico racetrack — host of the Preakness Stakes, the second leg of the Triple Crown.

Brian Rosen, an attorney

representing Magna, said the Thistledown auction involved more than 40 rounds of bidding after a lead, or stalking-horse bid, by Penn National Gaming of \$22.3 million in cash.

"This track has taken on a tremendous amount of interest because of the expected commencement of gambling permitted at seven race tracks in Ohio," Rosen added.

Rosen told Walrath that he would submit a sale order for her signature later Tuesday, the deadline for Ohio horse track owners to make \$13 million payments toward their \$65 million slots licensing fees.

"We are excited to be entering Ohio and look forward to developing a first-class facility in Cleveland which will create significant employment opportunities in the region," Harrah's said in a statement issued after the hearing.

In approving Harrah's bid for Thistledown, the judge said Penn National, bidding through an entity called Cleveland Gaming Ventures LLC, was not entitled to breakup fees and expense reimbursements that could have totaled more than \$500,000.

Attorneys for Magna, its creditors committee, and Penn National argued that Penn was entitled to the fees for setting the stage for a successful auction.

"We were the starting gun for the race," an attorney for Penn argued.

But Craig Reimer, an attorney for Harrah's, said the stalking horse bid was not presented to Harrah's or the other bidder, a subsidiary of Pinnacle Entertainment, until the scheduled auction time. Reimer argued that there was

no time for Penn's stalking horse bid to be marketed in an effort to increase interest in the auction and solicit higher offers, or any evidence that Penn would not have participated in the bidding without the breakup fee, which Harrah's would have had to cover as the winning bidder.

Walrath agreed, noting that the stalking horse bid was signed at the moment of auction and was not used to market the Thistledown assets, as is normally case in a bankruptcy sale.

"We can all try to guess what would have happened without it," said Walrath, whose approval of the Remington Park sale came without any discussion of the bidding procedures.

"A five-minute auction?" Walrath asked when handed a transcript of the Remington Park sale meeting.

"It was not frothy bidding, as they say, your honor,"

Rosen responded, noting that a backup bidder had no interest in participating in the final auction.

In addition to the sales of Thistledown and Remington Park, Walrath also approved the \$8 million sale of about 490

acres of undeveloped property owned by Magna in Ocala, Fla., where the company had once hoped to build a race track or a horse training facility.

On Tuesday, Walrath agreed to schedule a hearing on bid procedures for the sale of Lone Star Park, which includes a stalking horse bid of \$27 million submitted by Global Gaming, the purchaser of Remington Park. The proposed sale procedures call for qualified bids to be submitted by Oct. 5, with an auction two days later and a court hearing on Oct. 14.

"We are excited to be entering Ohio and look forward to developing a first-class facility in Cleveland."

**Official statement
Harrah's Entertainment Inc.**

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WNBA

Fever and Mercury charge into playoffs

Associated Press

The Indiana Fever got off to a dominant start and were all but assured of getting in the playoffs long ago.

After stumbling down the stretch, the Eastern Conference champions know they need to regain their intensity when they open the postseason against fourth-place Washington on Thursday night.

"It is quite difficult when you know you are in and you can relax a little bit," veteran guard Tully Bevilacqua said. "Now that we are coming into the playoffs, it is going to be a totally different mentality. ... We know that if we don't bring our 'A' game, then we might be exiting early and that is certainly not on the plan."

Despite losing seven of their last 10 games, the Fever (22-12) still set a franchise record for victories with All-Stars Katie Douglas and Tamika Catchings leading the way. Indiana also got strong contributions from rookie Briann January and veterans Tammy Sutton-Brown and Ebony Hoffman.

Catchings, who had 99 steals to finish one short of the WNBA record, isn't concerned by the team's finish.

"It is a change of mentality," she said, "but I think the last 10 games we really tried to focus into changing into a playoff mentality and even though we have not won all of them, I think going in we are going to have to use the positive things that came out of it. Our bench played more minutes and getting them accustomed to playing, hopefully they will be ready for us."

The Phoenix Mercury (23-11) won the West with the league's best record and open as the conference favorite to reach the WNBA finals as they seek their second title in three years. However, don't count out Lisa Leslie and the surging Los Angeles Sparks.

For the second straight year, Los Angeles opened the season as the overwhelming favorites to win the championship, especially after bolstering the backcourt and adding veteran forward Tina Thompson.

The Sparks (18-16) struggled in the early going while playing without Candace Parker, who missed the first nine games after giving birth to her daughter, and Leslie for 10 games due to an injury in her final season. But since Leslie returned on Aug. 4, the Sparks have looked like the championship contenders they were expected to be, winning 10 of 13 to close the season.

"I think we're coming together a little bit more, hopefully at the right time and we can pull it together," said Leslie, who is headed for retirement. "I think our chances are as good as anyone else's. It'll be 0-0 and we're definitely going to have to fight hard."

Los Angeles finished third in the West and will host second-place Seattle (20-14) in their series opener Wednesday night. The Sparks won the teams' first-round matchup in three games a year ago, and they split their four regular-season meetings this year.

The Storm had three All-Stars this season in Lauren Jackson, Sue Bird and Swin Cash, but could be vulnerable without Jackson, who hasn't played since Aug. 27 due to a stress fracture in her

back and could miss this series. Sue Bird missed the last three games due to a sore neck, but the Storm had already secured the No. 2 seed.

The Mercury's high-octane offense was again led by Diana Taurasi, who won her second straight scoring title, and Cappie Pondexter, who finished third. DeWanna Bonner had a sensational rookie season and Penny Taylor — a key cog in Phoenix's title run two years ago — returned for the final 14 games after missing last season.

The Mercury visit San Antonio (15-19) for the opener of their first-round series on Thursday. The Silver Stars, led by career-best scoring seasons from their star duo of Becky Hammon and Sylvia Young, were inconsistent this year after reaching the WNBA finals last season.

"They're a veteran team ... the Western champs last year," Mercury coach Corey Gaines said. "You've got to go through them and take it away to get to the championship."

The teams split four regular-season matchups, with the home squad winning each time.

"It's one of the teams that has probably given us the most trouble in the regular season," Taurasi said. "In the games we did well, we obviously rebounded well and did a good job on their key players, which isn't easy."

The Mystics (16-18) return to the playoffs after a two-year absence in their first season under general manager Angela Taylor and coach Julie Plank. The additions of Lindsey Harding, Chasity Melvin and Matee Ajavon bolstered an offense led by All-Star guard Alana Beard.

Beard missed four of the last six games due to an ankle injury, but is expected to be back for the playoffs. Even with Beard, the Mystics could struggle to score against a Fever team that set a WNBA record with 373 steals and gave up the third-fewest points in the league.

"They're an excellent defensive team, they force a lot of turnovers," Plank said. "Tamika Catchings is a great player, one of the best in the league, and they have a great inside-outside game."

The other East series that opens Wednesday features the defending champion Detroit Shock (18-16) against the second-year Atlanta Dream (18-16), who earned the conference's No. 2 seed a year after setting the league record with 30 losses.

Atlanta, which won three of four from the Shock this year, was helped by a roster overhaul that included the return of seven-time All-Star Chamique Holdsclaw from a nearly two-year retirement and the addition of No. 1 overall draft pick Angel McCoughtry. However, Holdsclaw had arthroscopic knee surgery on Aug. 27 and her status for the postseason is uncertain.

Detroit, led by the veteran tandem of Deanna Nolan and Katie Smith, won nine of its last 11 to reach the playoffs for the seventh straight year. The Shock recovered from a bad start that included the resignation of coach Bill Laimbeer three games into the season. The final push came while Smith missed the last seven games due to lower back pain, and her status for this series is also uncertain.

MLB

Yanks and Sox to open next year

Associated Press

NEW YORK — The Yankees will open and close the 2010 season against the Red Sox at Fenway Park, just the fifth time in 50 years the rivals both start and finish against each other.

Most openers are set for April 5, Major League Baseball said Tuesday. In the past 50 years, the Yankees also opened and closed against Boston in 1960, 1970, 1992 and 2005, according to STATS LLC. The only times they both started and finished in Boston were 1938 and 1950.

"I don't know why we open up north, anyway. It makes more sense to open on the West Coast or somewhere warm," Yankees captain Derek Jeter said.

It seems likely ESPN will shift the Yankees and Red Sox for the Sunday night game on April 4.

"It'll be cold. We know that for sure," Yankees pitcher CC Sabathia said, laughing. "To get in there right away and mix it up will definitely be good for baseball. I'm sure it'll be like a Sunday night baseball game or something like that, so that'll be cool."

New York plays Boston six

times in its last 10 games.

"When they start selling tickets, people will start rushing to get that last series," Jeter said.

Other AL openers April 5 are Cleveland at Chicago, Detroit at Kansas City, Minnesota at Los Angeles, Seattle at Oakland and Toronto at Texas. Baltimore starts at Tampa Bay the following day.

All NL teams are to open April 5: San Diego at Arizona, Chicago at Atlanta, St. Louis at Cincinnati, San Francisco at Houston, Colorado at Milwaukee, Florida at New York, Los Angeles at Pittsburgh and Philadelphia at Washington.

Outdoor baseball officially returns to Minneapolis on April 12 when the Twins host Boston in the first game that counts at Target Field. Minnesota is to host St. Louis in exhibitions on April 2-3.

Other AL home openers include Cleveland at Detroit and Toronto at Baltimore (April 9); Texas at Cleveland, Oakland at Seattle and Chicago at Toronto (April 12); and Los Angeles at New York (April 13).

In the NL, remaining home openers have San Diego at Colorado, Los Angeles at Florida and Atlanta at San Francisco (April 9);

Milwaukee at Chicago, Washington at Philadelphia, Houston at St. Louis and Atlanta at San Diego (April 12); and Arizona at Los Angeles (April 13).

The 14th season of inter-league play starts with series from May 21-23 and continues with interleague games from June 11-27. Among the pairings are the Mets at Baltimore in a rematch of the 1969 World Series (June 11-13), Atlanta at Minnesota in a rematch of the 1991 World Series (June 11-13), the Yankees at Arizona in a rematch of the 2001 World Series (June 21-23), Cincinnati at Oakland in a rematch of the 1972 and 1990 World Series (June 21-23), Boston at Colorado in a rematch of the 2007 World Series (June 22-24) and Philadelphia at Toronto in a rematch of the 1993 World Series (June 25-27).


The Yankees and the Dodgers, who met in 10 World Series, play in Los Angeles from June 25-27. The Dodgers, led by former Yankees manager Joe Torre, are the only NL team that hasn't been to the Yankees in interleague play.

"It's always good to see Mr. T. It will be kind of weird to face him in another uniform. I'm sure it will be awkward, though it will be stranger to see Donnie in another uniform," Jeter said, referring to coach Don Mattingly. "We've seen Mr. T in different uniforms, but I've never seen Donnie in anything but a Yankees uniform."

"I don't know why we open up north, anyway. It makes more sense to open on the West Coast or somewhere warm."

Derek Jeter
Yankees captain

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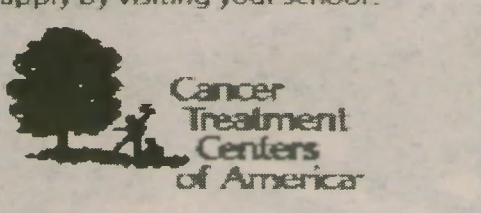


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NFL

Chargers depleted after injuries in first game

Associated Press

SAN DIEGO — The San Diego Chargers go into their home opener against Baltimore with concerns on the offensive line after center Nick Hardwick and rookie right guard Louis Vasquez were hurt in Monday night's win at Oakland.

Hardwick sprained his left ankle and Vasquez sprained a knee in the 24-20 comeback win, the Chargers' 12th straight against their biggest rival. Running back LaDainian Tomlinson also sprained an ankle.

Coach Norv Turner said Tuesday that Hardwick, Vasquez and Tomlinson aren't expected to practice Wednesday as the Chargers begin preparing for the Ravens.

The Chargers were down to five healthy offensive linemen Monday night, which forced left

tackle Marcus McNeill to stay in the game after he rolled an ankle. Under normal circumstances he would have come out, Turner said.

Turner said that when McNeill was on the ground, tight end Antonio Gates told him: "What are you doing, man? Get up, we've got enough of this. Someone's got to play now."

Hardwick, a Pro Bowler in 2006, said in a text message that he felt "good," but declined to say if he'll be able to play against the Ravens.

Vasquez went out first, and fifth-year pro Scott "Mooch" Mruzkowski replaced him. After Hardwick went out, Mruzkowski moved to center and Brandyn Dombrowski, a

backup tackle playing in his first regular-season game, took over at right guard.

It was Mruzkowski's first

regular-season action at center.

"I thought I played solid," he said in a text message.

"It is a concern, but the exciting thing to me is, we've talked about this all along, that every

guy needs to be ready to play," Turner said. "I can't say enough about what Mooch did at center, you know, what Brandyn Dombrowski did at right guard, to go in and do the things he did, that's tough."

"We are fortunate to have depth. Some of it is very, very young depth and they are going to learn as they go through it."

Hardwick was taken off the field on a cart.

"I had real concerns after the game on Nick. Those concerns aren't as great right now," Turner said.

"Hardwick, what he means to this team, and for Vasquez to go out in his first game, it's tough," quarterback Philip Rivers said

after the game. Rivers led the winning drive, which was capped by Darren Sproles' 5-yard run with 18 seconds left.

"You're never going to have an injury-free season, but you hope you don't get too banged up in Week 1."

The Chargers dressed only seven offensive linemen. Backup guard Tyronne Green was inactive.

There are two offensive linemen on the practice squad. The Chargers

are expected to look outside the organization. General manager A.J. Smith didn't return a call seeking comment.

"We have not done anything yet," Turner yet. "Obviously the first and most pressing need is to make sure that we will dress eight linemen next week and that we're sound there. You play the odds and very rarely do you have two linemen get hurt in a game. I think maybe once

or twice in my career I've gone with seven linemen because you know it can't happen. Obviously we had needs defensively so we went with seven."

Tomlinson, slowed last year by toe and groin injuries, managed only 55 yards on 13 carries. He sprained his ankle while losing a fumble in the first quarter.

Sproles, the speedy little running back-returner, had 246 all-purpose yards and also took some hard shots.

If he were to take that much of a beating all year, "They'd probably have legal issues with me for whatever you call that," Turner joked.

"We've got to get Darren some help," Turner said, saying there are options to give him a break on special teams if he's involved more on offense, and vice versa. "He wants to stay in there. I told him after the game, 'We can't do that to you.' He said, 'Hey coach, I was fine.'"

Sproles carried nine times for 23 yards, caught five passes for 43 yards, returned three punts for 10 yards and five kickoffs for 170 yards.

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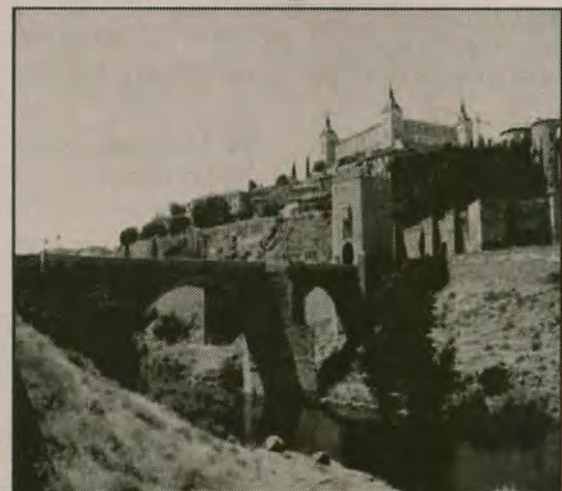
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Please recycle The Observer.

Tacl

continued from page 24

"I think it is always a little nerve-wracking going into the first race because you are not exactly sure where you are at fitness-wise," Tacl said. "Overall though, I am trying to just stay relaxed and confident. I love cross country, and it is hard to believe it is my last season, so I want to just put it all out there one last season and see what happens."

At the 2008 Catholic Invite, Tacl finished 11th in 18:24 and helped the Irish obtain the overall win.

"Last season went pretty well," Tacl said. "I was a bit more inconsistent than I would have liked, but I ran well at the regional meet when it was imperative that I ran well."

Tacl did not race in the team's first event, the Crusader Open in Valparaiso, Ind., as Irish coach Tim Connelly reserved his best runners for the tougher competition they will see at the Catholic Invite. Her only preparation for Friday's race has been her training over the sum-

mer.

"Our coach gives us a summer training schedule with a goal mileage and workouts," Tacl said. "Unfortunately this summer, I had some injury problems. My running was a bit more inconsistent than usual, so I spent a lot of time cross-training."

Because she is one of the team's top returning runners, the team's ultimate goal of returning to the N C A A Championships at the end of the season will be greatly aided by Tacl's potential to place well this season. The team finished 29th last year at the national championships after making their first appearance after three years of not

qualifying.

This year, the women's team has a good chance of receiving a bid in the NCAA's most competitive race and hope to place better there than they did last season.

"Last year, we made it to nationals and that was exciting, but we are really hoping to get back there and do some damage this time," Tacl said.

Contact Molly Sammon at msammon@nd.edu

"Last year we made it to nationals and that was exciting, but we are really hoping to get back there and do some damage this time."

Beth Tacl
Irish senior

MIAA

continued from page 24

es.

The recipe for success against Alma seemed to be the improvement on the mental game, something that was lacking in their two previous MIAA losses to Trine and Adrian.

"We were very focused on eliminating our errors and communicating with one another out on the court," Belles coach Toni Kuschel said. "It is very important that we work hard to improve every day."

The Belles have used the first few games to introduce their young freshman athletes, in particular Autumn Nelson, Christina Barra, Emily Caltrider and Stephanie Bodien, to college-level volleyball.

"We have shown that we are not going to give up on each other," Kuschel said. "They have continued to show a lot of mental toughness and the drive to win very close matches."

On the other end of the

"We were very focused on eliminating our errors and communicating with one another out on the court. It is very important that we work hard to improve every day."

Toni Kuschel
Belles coach

court, Hope's success this year comes as no surprise, as they ended the season in 2008 first in the MIAA standings with a conference record of 15-1. The Flying Dutch defeated the Belles in both meetings last year, winning in three sets each time.

Hope will be led on offense by sophomore Jacie Fielder and junior Cassidy Bulhuis, who have 57 and 51 kills on the season, respectively. Both individual totals are more than the total number of kills conceded by the entire team on the season.

On defense, the Flying Dutch will feature junior Sara DeWeerd and senior defensive specialist Kristen Johnson, who have already recorded 41 and 39 digs, respectively.

Following the match against Hope, the Belles will have a break from play for six days before they come back home to play Olivet.

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Foot

continued from page 24

said. "I was running back to the fields and it simply gave out."

The players immediately feared the worst. Their fears were soon confirmed by x-rays at the hospital.

"It was like a death in the family when she broke her foot," Weissenhofer said. "That just shows how big of a part of the team she is."

It turned out that Rosen had unknowingly been playing with a stress fracture in her foot, a symptom she has grown used to over the years of injuries.

She first broke her right foot her senior year in high school. Doctors placed a screw in the foot, and preached caution in the future. Rosen then reinjured the foot in her freshman and sophomore years at Notre Dame. She played through most of the pain with the Irish, missing a total of only eight games.

"I have constantly had issues with stress fractures, but since I had a screw in that foot, I have played through it being broken and with stress fractures because that screw holds it together," Rosen said. "My right foot has always been my biggest worry, and now my left foot is the one broken."

A week after this August's injury, doctors operated on

Rosen's foot. Rosen has been limited to crutches since then, not allowed to put any weight on the foot, and she will continue as such for another month. At that point, eight weeks removed from the surgery, she will slowly ease weight back onto the foot, in hopes of possibly taking the field her senior year.

In Rosen's absence, Notre Dame has opened the season less impressively than expected; currently the team's record stands at 3-3.

"I can't even begin to say how big of a loss [Rosen] is," Irish coach Randy Waldrum said. "Her loss to us was a huge blow this year."

The loss of Rosen has been compounded as Weissenhofer has battled hamstring issues all season long. Weissenhofer was limited to seven minutes of playing time against Santa Clara in Notre Dame's 2-0 defeat Friday.

"Losing those two has really hurt us because they give the team a lift when they are on the field, and we are struggling with that right now," Waldrum said.

As the team has struggled, Rosen has done her best to remain upbeat on the bench, the last spot she saw herself

spending the majority of this season.

"I have accepted the fact that I have to take on a completely different role with the team," Rosen said. "I try to be as positive as I can and provide the players with feedback as they come off the field. I try to be as helpful as possible, even though it is hard to sit and watch practice and the games."

Waldrum said he expects Weissenhofer to be off the bench and on the field again this season, but Rosen's fate is very much up in the air. Doctors hope she will be able to play at the time playoffs begin. If that is the case, Rosen will have to choose between playing in the most critical games of the season or applying for a medical redshirt and coming back next season.

"Courtney and I have spoken about it briefly," Waldrum said.

"The good thing about it is she does not have to make her decision today or next week. She has time to sort through that."

Waldrum did not keep his preference quiet though.

"Selfishly I would like to have her back next year for a full year, but at the same time if she decided to come back for the last month of the season, we would certainly welcome that," he said.

Contact Douglas Farmer at dfarmer1@nd.edu

"[Rosen and Weissenhofer] give the team a lift when they are on the field, and we are struggling with that right now."

Randy Waldrum
Irish coach

"It was like a death in the family when [Rosen] broke her foot."

Michele Weissenhofer
Irish captain

Health

continued from page 24

ever. Fullback James Aldridge is doubtful for Saturday's game, Weis said.

"He's gonna run around some today. We'll have to test the shoulder out," Weis said.

Running back Armando Allen is fine, Weis said, suffering nothing more than a "bruised ego."

Wide receiver Michael Floyd had his knee stitched at the end of the Michigan game

and is ready to go this week. Weis said he'll keep Floyd off the ground and try to keep the cut from opening up, but he joked that Floyd's background ensures he'll be okay.

"He's from Minnesota. We gave him a hockey analogy. If you get 15 stitches in a hockey game usually you're out about five minutes and then you're back in there," Weis said.

To improve the run defense, Weis said the offense and defense would practice full speed against each other Tuesday with an emphasis on the play of the defensive line. Weis wouldn't elaborate on what, if any, changes were made.

"Obviously they had gotten the message across: quit feeling sorry for yourself and let's go to work."

Charlie Weis
Irish coach

He did elaborate on how freshman linebacker Manti Te'o was progressing. He said Te'o doesn't yet have the mental grasp that senior linebacker Toryan Smith does. "Toryan knows the game, really understands the game," Weis said. "That means that Toryan can let loose and not be inhibited to go through some-

body to finish the play because he knows he's in the right spot.

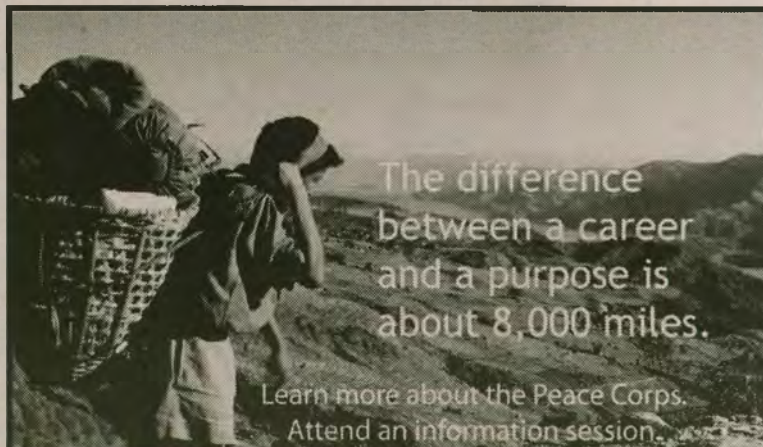
"I think that Manti is just a matter of time. The more confidence he has that he knows what to do all the time, then he'll be able to play a little bit less inhibited."

Note:

◆ Weis said the team had responded well to Saturday's 38-34 loss to Michigan. They came in Sunday ready to move on to Michigan State, he said, and their day off, for film study.


"I thought they did a very, very good job Sunday," Weis said. "Obviously they had gotten the message across: quit feeling sorry for yourself and let's go to work."

Contact Bill Brink at wbrink@nd.edu



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CROSSWORD

WILL SHORTZ

- Across
- 1 Cause for an eyelift

4 Playground shout

9 With 59-Across, novel of 1851

13 Benzoyl peroxide target

14 Bitter

15 Shield border

16 Complain

17 Frigid temps

18 Head of the Egyptian god Thoth

19 Take the lead

21 Sig Ep and others

22 Fish tail?

23 At sea

24 Stable display

25 Stylize anew, as a car seat

27 Rushed (by)

29 Warhol associate — Sedgwick

30 Israel's Barak and Olmert
- 31 Character in 9- & 59-Across

36 Chills, so to speak

37 Sorvino of "Mighty Aphrodite"

40 Cordial offering?

44 "_____ is gained as much by good works as by evil": Machiavelli

46 St. Stephen, notably

47 Pronoun in the starts of many letters

49 Netflix offering

50 Simon Says players, say

51 Displays

53 Designate "commercial" or "single-family," e.g.
- 54 Incline (and a hint to the location in this completed puzzle of the first line of 9- & 59-Across)

55 Recipe direction

56 Hollywood's Kazan

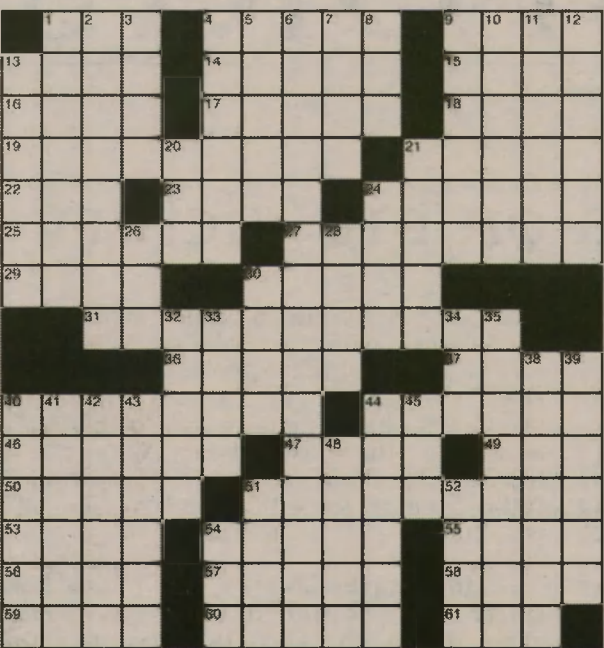
57 Lumberjack competition

58 Change of address, for short

59 See 9-Across

60 Does what a good dog does

61 Halftime features



Puzzle by Peter A. Collins & Joe Krozel

- 26 "Fool (If You Think It's Over)" singer Chris

28 Onetime Asiatic nomads

30 New York's _____ River

32 Hunts, with "on"

33 Numerical prefix with oxide

34 Qty.
- 35 What a swallow may swallow

38 Displays

39 Supplements

40 Blown away

41 "In _____ where love is king" (start of "That's Amore")

42 Peaceful

43 Word with hot or blue
- 44 Reading for home mechanics

45 Rambler maker, once: Abbr.

48 Baklava ingredient

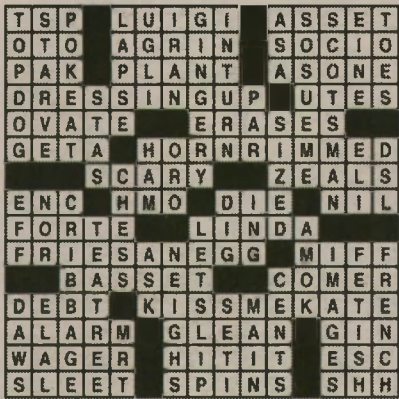
51 One whose shirttail is always untucked, maybe

52 Start of an incantation

54 Sign of success

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ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE



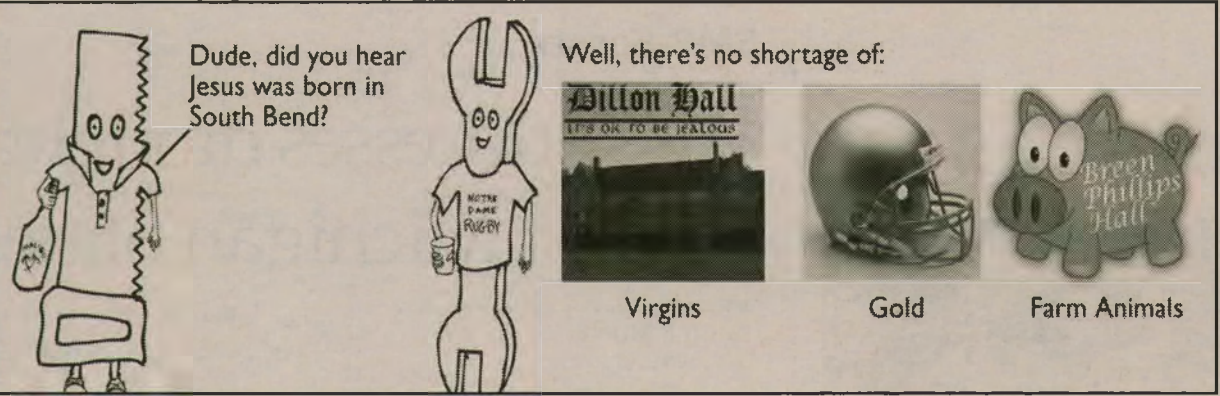
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WILL GUAPPONE & BRI KRAFCIK



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Happy Birthday: Allow yourself the time you need to make decisions. Depression caused by poor choices could send you in the wrong direction. Taking control will set the stage for bigger and better times ahead. You can set a new standard that will lead to greater respect and a life that suits your own needs. Your numbers are 7, 12, 22, 29, 31, 40, 42

ARIES (March 21-April 19): You may be able to take advantage of an interesting situation that arises because you are in the right place at the right time. Being prepared to act fast will turn you into a hero. Follow your own path. ★★★★★

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): You may know what you are doing or what's expected of you but someone else will have a different plan and could cause you grief. Be perfectly honest about what you will and won't do. Be well-prepared and professional. ★★

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): By opening up your house to friends and family, you will create a special rapport with people who will offer you something in return. Expect someone who is jealous to criticize or try to put a halt to your plans. ★★★★★

CANCER (June 21-July 22): You may be forced to give in to some alterations being made. Before you get upset about what's going on, consider the outcome and you will realize you can benefit in the end. Compromise rather than complaining. Greater security is heading your way. ★★★★★

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): You may like to call the shots but, before you do, make sure that your motives are in the right place. Emotional issues are likely to cloud your vision. Think about what you are going to say and how you want things to turn out. ★★★★★

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Don't let someone else's uncertainty bog you down. You have to move forward if you want to get things done in a timely fashion. Fostering an alliance with someone you feel is doing a good job could lead to future projects. ★★★★★

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Dreams can come true if you put in time and effort. Don't be afraid to put your ideas on the table. A partnership will give your plans a boost. Mix a little fun into your day. ★★★★★

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Don't get distracted by someone who is possessive, jealous or trying to make your life difficult. Concentrate on the here and now and what needs to be done. Before making an assumption, check the facts. ★★

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): You'll have to act fast and efficiently to avoid critical comments and alterations to your plans. Being covered by someone financially may be nice but it will come with a price tag. Love will be flawless if you play by the rules. ★★★★★

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Don't question what you are doing when it's someone else you should be watching. A sudden financial change can go either way, depending on how conscientious you are about your money and who has access to it. ★★★★★

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): You'll be drawn to someone unusual, interesting and available. Open up discussions about your talents as well as your preferences. Money is likely to come your way because of the information you share. ★★★★★

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Don't count on others doing things the way you want them to be done. Fine-tune every detail, reflecting your ability to do a good job. Don't mix business and pleasure — you'll be taken advantage of. ★★★★★

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JEFF KNUREK
MIKE ARGIRION

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

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[] [] [] [] [] []

LAPEAT
[] [] [] [] [] []

DRYBOW
[] [] [] [] [] []

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Print your answer here: [] [] [] [] [] []

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: ABOVE CHAIR AFFIRM UNFOLD
Answer: What the executive and politician had in common — RAN FOR OFFICE

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME
by Mike Argirion and Jeff Knurek

9/16

HOW THE LONELY BANK ROBBER FELT WHEN HE SAW HIS POSTER.

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THE OBSERVER

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SMC SOCCER

Squad looks to build on big victory over Manchester

By ALEX BARKER
Sports Writer

After a brief stint at home that saw Saint Mary's claim its most convincing win of the season, the Belles are set to begin a three-game road trip beginning Wednesday with Illinois Wesleyan.

This weekend, after dropping their first match of the

Saint Mary's Invitational against No. 7 Otterbein, the Belles (2-3) put together their biggest offensive performance of the season in route to an impressive 5-2 victory over Manchester College. The victory could not have come at a better time for the struggling squad, which had been outscored 9-0 in its previous three matches.

Seniors Micki Hedinger

and Colleen Ferguson each scored goals within a 22 second period, which opened the flood gates for Saint Mary's. Hedinger's goal gave her two on the season, tying her for the team lead with fellow senior Katy Durkin, who had a goal of her own in the match.

Senior goalkeeper Patty Duffy had another strong game in net for the Belles, recording three saves in 75

minutes of action. Duffy already has 32 stops on the season.

In its last three meetings with Illinois Wesleyan, Saint Mary's has registered two losses and a tie while being outscored 7-2. With nearly the entire squad returning from last season's narrow 2-1 loss, the Belles are eyeing this opportunity as their best yet to get over the hump.

In its final two matches of

the three-game set, Saint Mary's will take on Wilmington and Hiram College over the weekend. Hiram dealt the Belles a 3-1 loss last season at the Case Western Invitational.

The Belles will not return home until Sept. 25 when they will host the Saint Mary's Fall Classic.

Contact Alex Barker at
abarker1@nd.edu

ND WOMEN'S SOCCER

Tough Breaks

Rosen forced to sit out most of senior season

By DOUGLAS FARMER
Sports Writer

Courtney Rosen earned second team All-Big East honors last fall, but this year the senior captain has yet to set foot on the field during a game.

Rosen was named a captain long before the season started, along with fellow senior Michele Weissenhofer and sophomore Courtney Barg. Before Rosen could lead the Irish onto the field, she broke her left foot, her fourth broken foot in the past five years.

"I had run over to get something from the locker room during practice," Rosen



IAN GAVLICK/The Observer

Senior captain Courtney Rosen goes for the ball during the 2008 College Cup. Rosen, who broke her left foot prior to the 2009 season, will be unable to play for most of the year.

see FOOT/page 21

SMC VOLLEYBALL

Hope to be challenge for Belles

By CHRIS MICHALSKI
Sports Writer

Saint Mary's will get a chance to notch back-to-back MIAA victories Wednesday, but it will be no easy task.

The Belles (4-4, 1-2) will face undefeated Hope (6-0, 2-0) at 7 p.m. in DeVos Arena.

The Flying Dutch are coming off a sweep of Olivet Saturday. The Belles are also coming off a sweep of their own, over Alma Saturday, and will now try to get a winning streak going amidst a string of five straight conference match-

see MIAA/page 20

ND CROSS COUNTRY

Tacl begins final season

By MOLLY SAMMON
Sports Writer

As she prepares for the first race of her final season, Beth Tacl knows that all good things must end — but is looking to delay that end for as long as possible.

The Irish senior will run for the first time in 2009 as Notre Dame hosts the National Catholic Invitational Friday.

"It took a while to have the confidence that I could compete at this level," Tacl said. "As time has gone on, I feel a lot more confident going into races."

Though it is Tacl's fourth year running cross country for the Irish, she still has the same pangs of nervousness associated with the beginning of a season.



Observer File Photo

Senior Beth Tacl, center, runs during the Notre Dame Invitational on Oct. 3, 2008.

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SMC SOCCER

Weis addresses drought against Michigan State

By BILL BRINK
Sports Writer

The stigma of Michigan State cannot be ignored. The Spartans have won six straight games against Notre Dame in South Bend.

"That's one stat that I'm certainly well aware of," Irish coach Charlie Weis said.

Weis said he will address the issue with the team as well.

"The best point I can make is if you think this team is going to come in here after losing this week thinking they have no chance to beat you, well, the last six times they've done it," Weis said.

The Spartans fell in a close game to Central Michigan Saturday.

A Spartan invasion certainly weighs on Weis' mind — he is 1-3 against Michigan State. But

another invasion, of the H1N1 flu variety, also has Weis worried.

"Because it's running round all the high schools and colleges around the country, that's always a concern of mine, kids coming down at the last minute and getting sick," Weis said. "Knock on wood we continue to be relatively healthy."

There were no cases as of yet, he said, but if anyone shows symptoms the team will take precautions.

"First thing we do is if a guy gets any symptoms of being sick at all we, A, get him tested but B, keep him away from everybody else," Weis said. "I'm concerned because at any university when you get thousands and thousands of students in close proximity."

Not everyone is healthy, how-

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