

# THE OBSERVER

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NDSMCOBSERVER.COM

## Weis charity to stay in South Bend

*Hannah and Friends' location won't change despite coach's firing*

By JOSEPH McMAHON  
Associate News Editor

Despite former Coach Charlie Weis' firing Monday, his family's charity organization Hannah and Friends, named after Weis' daughter, will continue to be headquartered and operate primarily in the South Bend area.

"Our programs will not change," executive director Sharon Bui Green said. "We realize that there is a mission and a greater good here that we are doing for people with special needs, and [Hannah and Friends] is going to be a permanent place for people with special needs going forward."

Green said Weis' position as

see CHARITY/page 4



PAT COVENEY/The Observer

Maura and Hannah Weis cut the ribbon at the Hannah and Friends' first residential home, which opened on Sept. 29. The organization will remain in South Bend despite Charlie Weis being fired.

## Exhibit shows old, new Berlins

By MOLLY MADDEN  
News Writer

A new photography exhibit on campus juxtaposes images of Berlin from before and after the Wall fell, bridging the historical and ideological distance to a time most Notre Dame students can't remember.

The traveling photo exhibit "Icons of a Border Installation" is the result of a semester-long project that was undertaken by students at the University of Paderborn in Germany. The exhibit is on display in the Center for the Study of Language and Cultures in room 329 of DeBartolo Hall until Dec. 16.

see BERLIN/page 6

## Students learn about off-campus life, rights

By MEGAN HEMLER  
News Writer

Moving off campus involves contracts, and knowing the terms of agreement is an important factor in successful off-campus living, University Associate Vice President for Resident Life Bill Kirk said during an informational meeting Tuesday night.

Held at 8 p.m. in Montgomery Auditorium, "Moving Off Campus: What to Know Before — and After — Signing Your Lease," covered the basic points students should know if they decide to leave Notre Dame's residence halls.

There are many reasons why students choose to live off campus, like lower living costs and more lifestyle freedom, but Kirk also pointed out some of the burdens of life beyond the dorms.

"But there is a lot of responsibility involved in moving off campus," Kirk said. "Really do your homework and understand why you want to move. ...

see RIGHTS/page 4

## Early applicant pool larger, of higher quality

By LIZ O'DONNELL  
News Writer

Notre Dame's Assistant Provost of Admissions Dan Saracino said this year's early applicant pool increased both in number and overall quality, as measured by GPA and test scores.

He said the admissions office received 4,330 applications for the Early Action deadline, which is up 13.5 percent from last year's number.

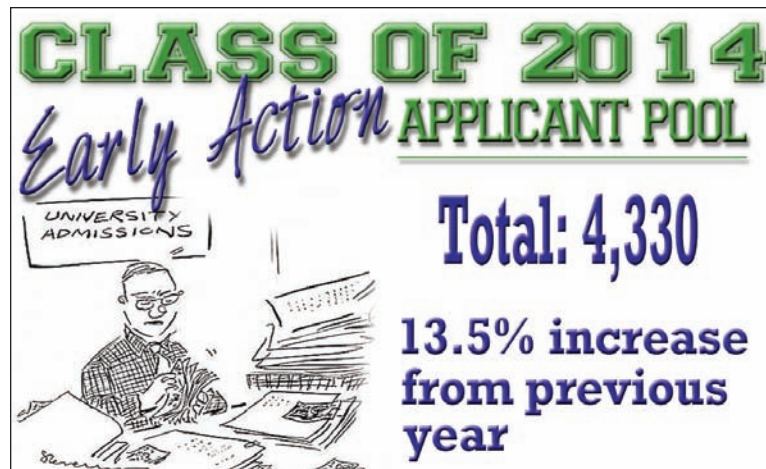
"The good news is that we saw an increase in applications. [In addition] we saw an even greater

increase in the number of minority and international applicants," he said.

Saracino said the percentage of applicants classified as either international or ethnically diverse rose more than the 13.5 percent of the overall applicants. He also said the overall quality of the applications was greater than they've received in years past.

"Good news for us as well was the fact that we saw an increase in the quality of the overall applicant pool as measured by transcripts and test scores," he said.

see EARLY/page 6



SOFIA ITURBE | Observer Graphic

## Decorations awake Christmas spirit



SUZANNA PRATT/The Observer

Two giant stockings hang outside of Sorin College in honor of the holiday season.

By MEGAN DOYLE  
News Writer

Football season may be over, but another is just beginning, as festive decorations have appeared on dorms and lights have been hung to brighten buildings and trees around campus to commemorate the holidays.

Pat McCauslin, Superintendent Landscape Services, described his department's role in the Christmas decorations as a service to the University that he works hard to perform.

"Landscape Services is responsible for hanging the

community lights around campus and decorating some of the buildings like Corby Hall, Old College and the guard posts," McCauslin said. "We also handle special requests from dorms to put up the decorations outside their halls, including trees over their porticos."

Some of the Christmas features around campus include a nativity scene by the Grotto, a towering pine underneath the dome in the Main Building, a Christmas tree in O'Shaughnessy Hall and strands of lights on large trees near the main entrance and by the fire station.

see CHRISTMAS/page 4



INSIDE COLUMN

Memo to Swarbrick

As of 3 p.m. Monday afternoon, Jack Swarbrick became the most important and most scrutinized member of the Notre Dame family. His task is daunting and his goals are lofty. After more than a decade of medi-

ocrity, he is the man tasked with finding the savior. Jack Swarbrick can either be Kevin White or Moose Krause. For the sake of the Notre Dame Nation, I hope it's the latter.

**Barrick Bollman**  
*Sports Writer*

So Mr. Swarbrick, I hope you are up to the task. As you conduct your search, I offer a few recommendations.

Your first task is gauging interest. This year, Notre Dame is the job. There is no Florida or LSU to compete with like last time. I would suggest you contact anyone and everyone who could remotely fill the post to gauge interest, starting from Bill Belichick down to Skip Holtz. Even if a coach has publicly denied interest, they are candidates until they say no to you. Be like David Abernathy asking out the much-older Kerry Piqua. Maybe they will say yes.

Once you have a list of interested coaches, your task gets far more difficult. History has shown that coaches with success as a college head coach have a better chance of succeeding at Notre Dame. So scratch Jon Gruden, Steve Marucci, Will Muschamp and others. We need a strong defensive foundation. It is no coincidence that the top four BCS teams also field the top four defenses. So extra emphasis needs to be placed on coach like TCU's Gary Patterson and Oklahoma's Bob Stoops. Lastly, whoever you select needs to have at least an understanding what it is to be a Notre Dame man. This was the area where Charlie succeeded, and our new coach needs to continue that. That means running a clean program, making athletes be student-athletes and giving back to the community. This is why I am afraid of Urban Meyer, with his 25-plus player arrests and lax discipline.

Whoever you choose Jack, now comes the hardest part of all. Getting the savior to South Bend, Ind. There are a couple recommendations I would make to do this. First, don't be cheap. If you believe the man you picked is the one, then offer him top dollar. And make sure it is clear that the school would also make sure he has the support to hire the best staff possible. Guarantee that he will have an unmatched recruiting budget to assist in the difficult national recruiting that Notre Dame is involved in. Second, remind him who we are. Remind him that we build statues for national championship winning coaches around here. Remind him of the unmatched tradition. Remind him that all but one game since 1992 has been nationally televised. Remind him that there is plenty of talent that can meet admissions requirements — this was one thing that Charlie proved. So Jack, the spotlight is on you. How will you be remembered? If you take away only one thing, remember to reach for the stars, aim high, and expect the best. Take nothing for granted and take all steps necessary. I believe you will be successful. Good luck.

*The views expressed in the Inside Column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer. Contact Barrick Bollman at jbollman@nd.edu*

CORRECTIONS

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

QUESTION OF THE DAY: WHAT IS THE BEST CHRISTMAS GIFT YOU'VE EVER RECEIVED?



**Alexis Hiner**  
*sophomore*  
*Le Mans*

*"I got a touch screen phone last Christmas. I had a Razor before, but those were getting old!"*



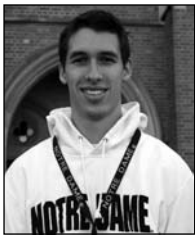
**Allison Bandeen**  
*senior*  
*Holy Cross*

*"My N'Sync CD, 1997. Best band ever!"*



**Matthew Sushinsky**  
*sophomore*  
*Alumni*

*"A teddy bear. I got it two years ago from my mommy."*



**Rob Goodale**  
*freshman*  
*Keough*

*"Probably my big wheel when I was five."*



**Cavanaugh Hannan**  
*sophomore*  
*Dillon*

*"It's a toss up. My brother gave me his old Lego castle, or there was this sword I got too, but it was plastic."*



**Kate Augustine**  
*sophomore*  
*off campus*

*"When I was four, my twin sister and I got matching pink Lion King bicycles."*

Have an idea for Question of the Day? E-mail [observer.questions@gmail.com](mailto:observer.questions@gmail.com)



COURTNEY ECKERLE/The Observer

**First year students Katherine Trainor and Lindsey Bisch pick up stockings and candy for their dorms in the Saint Mary's Student Center on Monday.**

OFFBEAT

Jesus Christ dumped from jury pool for disruption

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. — Court officials say a Birmingham woman who changed her name to Jesus Christ didn't live up to it when she reported for jury duty this week. The woman, previously named Dorothy Lola Killingworth, was sent to Judge Clyde Jones's courtroom for a criminal case Monday.

Court officials told The Birmingham News Tuesday that the 59-year-old was excused because she was disruptive and kept asking questions instead of answering them.

Efforts to reach Christ for comment were unsuccessful.

Court administrator Sandra Turner said people there were shocked when the woman insisted her name was Jesus Christ and some potential jurors laughed out loud when her name was called.

But Turner said unlike some Jefferson County residents, Christ didn't try to get out of jury duty and was "perfectly happy to serve."

Cowboy motorist helps Mass. troopers lasso 2 cows

SPRINGFIELD, Mass. — Two cows have escaped from a trailer onto a busy

Massachusetts highway, but a cowboy stuck in the traffic jam has come to the rescue.

State police say a man wearing a Western hat and boots lassoed the 500-pound heifers Tuesday morning as they wandered on Interstate 91 South in Springfield, one of the state's biggest cities.

Troopers shut down the highway for about 30 minutes as the man helped load the animals back into a trailer that was carrying them to nearby Enfield, Conn.

*Information compiled from the Associated Press.*

IN BRIEF

The Kellogg Institute is hosting a discussion on "The Role of University in Development" in the first floor Coleman-Morse Lounge today at 7 p.m. Refreshments will be served.

Hosted by the Notre Dame Energy Center, a lecture titled "Future Automobile Fuels: Fill Up or Plug In?" will be delivered by Michael Desmond, the distinguished advisor within BP's Refining and Marketing, Research and Technology division, Thursday at 4 p.m. in the Carey Auditorium of the Hesburgh Library.

The Kellogg Institute is sponsoring a lecture on "The Churches, Development, and Democracy in Uganda" Thursday at 4:15 p.m. in room C103 of the Hesburgh Center. Bishop Lambert Bainomugisha of the Archdiocese of Mbarara and Professor Peter Kanyandago of Uganda Martyrs University will speak.

"Bright Star," a film depicting the early nineteenth century love affair between John Keats and Fanny Brawne, will be shown in the Browning Cinema of the DeBartolo Performing Arts Center Friday at 6:30 p.m. Tickets are \$3 for students.

The track team will hold its indoor Blue & Gold Meet in the Loftus Sports Complex Friday at 5 p.m. There is no cost to attend.

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

	TODAY	TONIGHT	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
LOCAL WEATHER						
	HIGH 46 LOW 32	HIGH 40 LOW 32	HIGH 35 LOW 26	HIGH 30 LOW 23	HIGH 34 LOW 24	HIGH 33 LOW 27

Atlanta 60 / 44 Boston 44 / 32 Chicago 52 / 37 Denver 50 / 26 Houston 54 / 45 Los Angeles 68 / 46 Minneapolis 45 / 29 New York 49 / 36 Philadelphia 51 / 36 Phoenix 70 / 46 Seattle 49 / 36 St. Louis 59 / 38 Tampa 77 / 65 Washington 56 / 40



# Christmas

continued from page 1

McCauslin said approximately 30,000 to 35,000 lights adorn the trees and buildings throughout campus. Five or six Landscape Services employees hung the lights while students were away from campus over Thanksgiving break.

"I like the decorations that are up," sophomore Jason G'Sell said. "But I do wish that the trees on South Quad had more lights on them."

While Landscape Services factors cost and energy efficiency into its decorating process, changes to the campus decorations over the past several years have been minimal.

"Over the past few years, a few changes have been made, but mostly for when a tree just becomes too big to put lights on it or a case like that," McCauslin said. "Those sort of adjustments help with our budget."

Several of the buildings on campus, including the mail distribution center and the security posts, purchased more expensive LED lights in order to promote energy conservation.

Many of the residence halls personalize the decorations over their main entrances. For instance, McGlinn Hall hangs a giant shamrock above the front door in tribute to the hall mascot.

Father Ronald Veirling, Morrissey Hall rector, explained why the current decorations outside Morrissey may look a little comical.

"We do have a nativity scene

out in front situated within the word 'JOY.' The 'J' went astray last year, and so we're now reduced to 'YO.' I'm from Philadelphia, so it fits," Veirling.

Other dorms decorated with lighted signs, such as Pangborn's "Have a Foxy Christmas," or Keough's giant tree and presents.

"My favorite dorm is Keenan with all of the lights on the sides of the building, and the Christmas tree in O'Shag is another great one," Farley senior Katie Rose Quandt said.

"We put up our traditional giant stockings — one for Monk and one for Father Sorin," Sorin freshman Tom Oliver said. "Those are the best on campus."

"My favorite decorations are the ones right here in Keough Hall," Father Peter McCormick, Keough Hall rector, said. "However, if I had to choose some other options, I would say that the manger outside of the Grotto, followed by the Christmas tree in the Main Building."

Both dining halls also embraced the spirit of Christmas with lights, trees and nativity scenes. South Dining Hall reported using roughly 4,000 lights in the serving areas alone, as well as bright red and green strands in the dining rooms.

"The lights in South Dining Hall are my favorite on campus," freshman Alison Collins said. "I love eating surrounded by Christmas decorations because it really sets the mood for the holidays."

Contact Megan Doyle at [mdoyle11@nd.edu](mailto:mdoyle11@nd.edu)

# Charity

continued from page 1

head coach of Notre Dame never affected the mission of Hannah and Friends, and although he may no longer hold that position, Weis and his wife Maura are fully committed to the organization's mission.

"Regardless of Coach Weis' position at the University, we still realize that there is a great need to help out people with special needs and Coach Weis and his wife are still really committed to Hannah and Friends and helping us to further our mission," she said.

Green said there would be no change in Hannah and Friends' schedule moving forward, and added the organization is currently working on a holiday gift drive.

"We have a whole room filled with stuff right now, but we could always use more still," she said. "We're still serving a tremendous amount of families and a lot of families are directly involved in the organization through involvement in our programs."

Green also said the organization would continue to operate "the farm," a 30-acre residential community just north of South Bend "which aims to provide much-needed housing and care services for adult citizens with special needs," according to the Hannah and Friends Web site.

"This is going to be a permanent place and Hannah and Friends is going to stay," Green said. "Our mission is still the same. Our mission has not changed and we will continue to serve as many families as possible."

Although some Notre Dame students may be unhappy with

Weis' record as head football coach, Green said many students are still showing up as volunteers for Hannah and Friends.

"We have Notre Dame students coming tomorrow to help with cooking class," she said. "So Notre Dame students are still going to be actively involved."

Ultimately, Green said Weis' standing at the University never affected his passion for working with Hannah and Friends, and both he and his wife will be actively involved in the organization moving forward.

"This is something [the Weis family] is very passionate about and its not going to go away tomorrow," she said. "Hannah and Friends has been very fortunate that we have two very passionate founders of the organization."

Contact Joseph McMahon at [jmcmah06@nd.edu](mailto:jmcmah06@nd.edu)

# Rights

continued from page 1

You can live off campus for less money than living in the residence halls, but you're not going to get the same convenience and location."

The terms a lease can legally include, the basics of paying rent, late fee rules and subletting were all topics discussed at the event.

"I can't tell you how many students don't read their lease. ... If you're going to make a deal, at least read the darn thing," Kirk said.

A common problem students

face when leasing occurs when roommates unexpectedly cannot pay rent. Usually, students are still "on the hook" for the total rent, according to their lease agreement, Kirk said.

With off-campus safety a top concern among students, Kirk cautioned that choosing the right location is important.

"Do your homework. ... Some places are safer than others," he said. "Everyone should also have renter's insurance. ... It's cheap and affordable."

"One of the things that's most important for people in the area is we don't want houses for single families with sixteen students living in them next door to us," said Kirk. "Make sure

you know how your house is zoned."

Kirk also stressed the importance of student bargaining power.

"It's completely acceptable to bargain and negotiate," he said. "There's been an explosion of supply in housing."

"Don't jump on the first place you find because you're afraid you're not going to get another one. If what you want is a reasonable, clean, safe place close to campus — you could go and get it now and be in it in a week. Ten years ago I couldn't have said that."

Contact Megan Hemler at [mhemler@nd.edu](mailto:mhemler@nd.edu)

## CLOVER VILLAGE

&

## CLOVER RIDGE

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- On Site Management and 24/7 Maintenance
- On Site Security Officer

- Swimming Pool, Tennis Court, 24 Hour Fitness Center, Basketball Court
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- Free Washer and Dryer in each unit
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## INTERNATIONAL NEWS

### Climate scientist to step down

LONDON — The chief of a prestigious British research center caught in a storm of controversy over claims that he and others suppressed data about climate change has stepped down pending an investigation, the University of East Anglia said Tuesday.

The university said in a statement that Phil Jones, whose e-mails were among the thousands of pieces of correspondence leaked to the Internet late last month, would relinquish his position as director of Climatic Research Unit until the completion of an independent review.

### Actress' wardrobe to be auctioned

PARIS — Audrey Hepburn fans got a sneak peek Tuesday of dozens of garments and personal effects once belonging to the movie star that will hit the auction blocks next week.

A Givenchy black lace dress that Hepburn wore in "How to Steal a Million" and a demure ivory wedding gown that never made it down the aisle are among the items.

The fans, fashionistas and those looking to score a slice of film history were given the preview of the collection in Paris before the Dec. 8 sale in London.

"For her, what was important was not decoration and lots of embellishment. She liked very simple things — less was always more for Audrey," said auctioneer Kerry Taylor, whose eponymous auction house is handling the sale.

## NATIONAL NEWS

### Black Friday shoppers forget kids

COMMERCE, Ga. — A Georgia couple got so carried away with snagging Black Friday deals that authorities said they left their kids alone in a shopping cart. Banks County Sheriff Charles Chapman told WSB radio that a 35-year-old man and and 31-year-old woman were charged with reckless conduct.

Chapman said the two left their 9-year-old and 9-month-old children in a shopping cart at the Banks Crossing Walmart so they could go shopping.

Chapman said he figured the couple thought the kids would slow them down. The children were not harmed.

### D.C. council votes on gay marriage

WASHINGTON — The D.C. City Council on Tuesday took the first of two votes it needs to pass a bill that will allow same-sex marriage in the city, voting to accept the bill 11 to 2.

A second, final vote is expected later in the month, and D.C.'s mayor has promised to sign the bill. The bill had been expected to pass, as 10 of the 13 council members co-sponsored it.

Marriages would begin in the city as soon as the bill passes a period of Congressional review, but it is unlikely Congress will alter the law.

Massachusetts, Iowa, Vermont and Connecticut already allow same-sex marriage. New Hampshire will join them Jan. 1.

The two council members who voted against the bill were Marion Barry and Yvette Alexander.

Barry, who served three terms as mayor of the city, defended his position before the vote.

## LOCAL NEWS

### Facebook helps singer quit smoking

BLOOMINGTON — John Mellencamp's 14-year-old son has started a social networking campaign on Facebook that he hopes will get his rocker dad to quit smoking.

The 58-year-old Mellencamp has said many times since his 1994 heart attack that he's failed in trying to kick his decades-old habit. Mellencamp's youngest son, Speck, says his dad has promised to quit if he gets 1 million people to join the Facebook group. More than 7,000 people had joined the group as of Tuesday afternoon.

Mellencamp publicist Bob Merlis told The Associated Press that the challenge is legitimate.

## SOUTH AFRICA

# HIV-positive patients to be treated

*South Africa plans to expand treatment of infected infants and pregnant women*

Associated Press

PRETORIA — South Africa announced ambitious new plans Tuesday for earlier and expanded treatment for HIV-positive babies and pregnant women, a change that could save hundreds of thousands of lives in the nation hardest hit by the virus that causes AIDS.

President Jacob Zuma — once ridiculed for saying a shower could prevent AIDS — was cheered as he outlined the measures on World AIDS Day. The new policy marks a dramatic shift from former President Thabo Mbeki, whose health minister distrusted drugs developed to keep AIDS patients alive and instead promoted garlic and beet treatments. Those policies led to more than 300,000 premature deaths, a Harvard study concluded.

The changes are in line with new guidelines issued a day earlier by the World Health Organization that call for HIV-infected pregnant women to be given drugs earlier and while breast-feeding. By treating all HIV-infected babies, survival rates should also improve for the youngest citizens in South Africa, one of only 12 countries where child mortality has worsened since 1990, in part due to AIDS.

Zuma compared the fight against HIV, which infects one in 10 South Africans, to the decades-long struggle his party led against the apartheid government, which ended in 1994 with the election of Nelson Mandela in the country's first multiracial vote.

"At another moment in our history, in another context, the liberation movement observed that the time comes in the life of any nation when there remain only two choices: submit or fight," Zuma said. "That time has now



A man passes outside an office building on World AIDS Day in Johannesburg Tuesday. Signs encourage citizens to "Know Your Status" and to "ACT Now."

come in our struggle to overcome AIDS. Let us declare now, as we declared then, that we shall not submit."

Zuma was greeted with a standing ovation when he entered a Pretoria exhibition hall filled with several thousand people.

In some ways, Zuma is an unlikely AIDS hero. As his Zulu tradition allows, he has three wives — experts say having multiple, concurrent partners heightens the risk of AIDS. And in 2006, while being tried on charges of raping an HIV-positive family friend, he testified he took a shower after extramarital sex to lower the risk of AIDS. He

was acquitted of rape.

The one-time chairman of the country's national AIDS council may never live down the shower comment. But Zuma has won praise for appointing Dr. Aaron Motsoaledi as his health minister. AIDS activists say Motsoaledi trusts science and is willing to learn from past mistakes.

South Africa, a nation of about 50 million, has an estimated 5.7 million people infected with HIV, more than any other country.

UNAIDS executive director Michel Sidibe, who took the podium shortly before Zuma, told the president: "What you do from this day forward will write, or

rewrite, the story of AIDS across Africa."

Zuma said in his speech broadcast across South Africa on state radio and television that the policy changes would take effect in April. They include treatment for all children under 1 year old, regardless of their level of CD4 cells, a measure of immune system health.

Patients with both tuberculosis and HIV will get treatment if their CD4 count is 350 or less, compared to 200 now, which means treatment would start earlier. Pregnant women who are HIV-positive also would start treatment earlier.

## IRAN

# Officials consider reducing ties to U.N.

Associated Press

TEHRAN — Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad said Tuesday that Tehran is reviewing the option of decreasing cooperation with the U.N. nuclear watchdog after it issued a resolution critical of Iran last week.

Speaking in a live television interview late Tuesday, Ahmadinejad also criticized Russia's support for International Atomic Energy Agency's resolution, calling it a mistake.

"Friendly relations with the agency are over. We will cooperate as much as they offer us compromises. We are reviewing this," he said.

The sharply worded IAEA resolution on Friday demanded Iran halt all uranium enrichment and stop construction of a newly discovered nuclear facility near the Iranian city of Qom. Iran responded by saying it would build even more such facilities.

Iran says its nuclear program is peaceful, insisting it has a right to enrich uranium to produce fuel for nuclear reactors to generate electricity. The United Nations has demanded Iran freeze enrichment, because the process can also be used to develop a warhead. The U.S. and its allies accuse Iran of secretly planning to build a weapon.

Russia, which has cooperated with Iran in the past to develop its nuclear program, supported the resolution, earning it Ahmadinejad's censure.

"Russia made a mistake. It has no correct analysis about current situation of the world," he said, maintaining that Britain and Israel had swayed the opinion of the U.N. body because of their animosity toward Iran.

The president's threats follow up those made by parliament speaker Ali Larijani last week to cut ties with the international agency, whose inspectors are the world's only eyes into Iran's controversial nuclear program.

Want more Notre Dame news?  
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MARKET RECAP

Stocks			
Dow Jones	10,471.58	+1.23	
Up: 3,025	Same: 86	Down: 788	Composite Volume: 708,9712,364
AMEX	1,806.10	+43.64	
NASDAQ	2,175.81	+31.21	
NYSE	7,212.08	+119.72	
S&P 500	1,095.63	+4.14	
NIKKEI (Tokyo)	9,572.20	0.00	
FTSE 100 (London)	5,312.17	+121.49	
COMPANY	%CHANGE	\$GAIN	PRICE
CITIGROUP INC (C)	-0.24	-0.01	4.10
S&P DEP RECEIPTS (SPY)	+1.24	+1.36	111.30
BK OF AMERICA CP (BAC)	+0.32	+0.05	15.90
FORD MOTOR CO (F)	-0.11	-0.01	8.88
Treasuries			
10-YEAR NOTE	+2.31	+0.074	3.28
13-WEEK BILL	0.00	0.00	0.05
30-YEAR BOND	+1.93	+0.081	4.28
5-YEAR NOTE	+1.25	+0.025	2.03
Commodities			
LIGHT CRUDE (\$/bbl.)		+1.47	78.75
GOLD (\$/Troy oz.)		+17.901	200.20
PORK BELLIES (cents/lb.)		-1.45	84.60
Exchange Rates			
YEN			86.7450
EURO			1.5076
CANADIAN DOLLAR			1.0462
BRITISH POUND			1.6609

IN BRIEF

Government funds transit projects

NEW ORLEANS — The federal government is making available \$280 million for street cars and other public transportation projects aimed at creating jobs and more walkable, environmentally-friendly communities.

U.S. Transportation Secretary Ray LaHood made the announcement Tuesday at a street-car barn in New Orleans. The city, which has been trying to overhaul its public transit system since Hurricane Katrina in 2005, was LaHood’s first stop on a listening tour on federal transportation policy.

The last transportation spending bill expired in September. While President Barack Obama’s administration has sought a reprieve into 2011, given the federal stimulus package that passed earlier this year and was aimed largely at public works projects, Congress hasn’t agreed to an extension past mid-December.

General Motors’ CEO resigns

DETROIT — General Motors Co. CEO Frederick “Fritz” Henderson stepped down Tuesday after the board determined that the company wasn’t changing quickly enough. Chairman Ed Whitacre Jr. said at a hastily called news conference that he will serve as interim CEO, and an international search for a new CEO and president is planned.

Whitacre thanked Henderson for his work during a period of challenge and change, but said it is time to accelerate the pace of rebuilding the largest U.S. automaker.

The resignation comes just eight months after Henderson, 51, replaced former chairman and CEO Rick Wagoner, who was ousted March 29 by the Obama administration’s government’s auto task force.

Henderson has been with GM his entire career and was the government’s choice to run the beleaguered company after Wagoner left. Whitacre, picked by the government in June to be chairman of the new GM, is considered an industry outsider, having run AT&T Inc. for 17 years.

Whitacre and the board have become increasingly active in the company’s decisions, at times challenging some of Henderson’s decisions. In November, the board voted to abandon plans to sell GM’s European Opel unit.

Comcast to buy ownership of NBC

In light of economic downturn, General Electric returns focus to industrial divisions

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — For General Electric Co., the NBC entertainment division was always an odd fit.

One of the nation’s iconic industrial businesses, GE has spent 23 years making sitcoms and blockbuster movies along with jet engines, dishwashers and light bulbs. The pairing of glitzy entertainment and gritty manufacturing has often confounded investors and even has been ruthlessly satirized by NBC’s own show “30 Rock,” in which a fictional network executive also heads a division that programs microwave ovens.

It’s a marriage that will likely soon end. As GE prepares for an expected \$30 billion deal that will give control of NBC to cable TV operator Comcast Corp., the conglomerate is shifting its focus back to its industrial divisions.

GE is shrinking its finance arm that has been severely buffeted by the financial crisis. It has sold some businesses and shopped others around. And it is chasing nearly \$200 billion in stimulus money from worldwide governments, much of it earmarked for such products as medical equipment and wind turbines. This new GE will likely look a lot like GE did before it acquired NBC in 1986.

“When you are running a company like GE, your roots are ultimately in manufacturing,” said Nicholas Heymann, an analyst with Sterne Agee who once worked for GE as an auditor.

GE has reached a tentative agreement to buy out the 20 percent stake in NBC Universal that is held by French media company Vivendi SA, according to a person with knowledge of the deal. GE and Comcast are then expected to turn NBC Universal into a joint venture, with Comcast



AP

General Electric CEO Jeffrey Immelt speaks at a conference in New York. Immelt said he hopes to find stability for GE in a flurry of new products.

holding a 51 percent stake. GE would likely fully leave the partnership in a few years.

The financial crisis and recession of the past year have been difficult for GE, which is based in Fairfield, Conn., and has 323,000 employees. The company was forced to slash its dividend by 68 percent. It lost its coveted top bond rating and its stock fell as much as 90 percent below the peak it had hit in 2000. GE is still trying to work through big losses at its GE Capital lending unit, once the source of half the conglomerate’s profits, in areas like commercial real estate and credit cards.

GE earned \$8.1 billion over the first nine months of this year on revenue of

\$115 billion — but that marked a 43 percent drop in profit and a 15 percent revenue decline.

NBC Universal has been one headache. The unit includes Universal Pictures movie studios, the NBC network, the Universal Studios chain of theme parks, and such cable channels as USA, Bravo and Syfy. The unit has suffered from the recession, with a drop in broadcast advertising, and some flops at the box office, such as “Land of the Lost.”

Operating profit fell 27 percent in the first three quarters of this year. The NBC network ranks fourth in ratings and is cutting down on scripted shows to save money — reflected in its heavily

promoted move of comedian Jay Leno to the 10 p.m. slot.

That’s a contrast to NBC’s stature when GE took it over in 1986 as part of its acquisition of RCA Corp. for about \$6 billion.

The move was part of then-CEO Jack Welch’s shake-up of GE, which included selling major business divisions and growing the financial division. Buying NBC, the eventual home to such hit shows as “The Cosby Show” and “Seinfeld” and the Olympics, was Welch’s way of generating a reliable source of cash to counterbalance the challenges GE’s manufacturing businesses faced from overseas competitors, Heymann said.

Gannett Company imposes new cutbacks

Associated Press

NEW YORK — Newspaper publisher Gannett Co. imposed a new round of cutbacks Tuesday, with USA Today reducing its newsroom staff by 5 percent, as the industry continues to suffer through an extended advertising slump.

Along with 26 newsroom jobs at USA Today, 11 positions will be cut at USA Weekend magazine, a weekly insert in other newspapers. And nonunion workers at other Gannett newspapers will have to take more unpaid furloughs, after already taking forced time off this year.

USA Today, which sells many of its copies in hotels and airports, has been hit especially hard by the advertising slump and a falloff in travel, which knocked it out of the No. 1 position in

U.S. newspaper circulation.

The Wall Street Journal has grabbed that spot, although that includes online subscriptions, as it is one of the few major newspapers that charges Web readers. USA Today still has the top print circulation.

Gannett shares rose 12 cents, 1.2 percent, to close Tuesday at \$10.01.

Other media companies have been shedding workers as well. The New York Times, The Associated Press and Time Inc. have announced job cuts in recent weeks.

“While advertising is showing some signs of picking up, the economic outlook for 2010 remains weak and the decline in travel has contributed to a recent drop in circulation,” USA Today’s executive editor, John Hillkirk, told employees in a memo.

Hillkirk said the laid-off employees would get severance pay equal to the difference between their salaries and what they can get from state unemployment benefits. He said the severance would come for one week for each year worked at the company.

USA Weekend is cutting seven positions immediately and four more in March, according to a staff memo from Marcia Bullard, the magazine’s president. Its remaining staff is being combined with that of USA Today.

Bob Dickey, who heads Gannett’s U.S. community publishing unit, told employees at the division’s 82 newspapers that nonunion workers will have to take one unpaid week off during the first quarter of next year, amounting to about a 2 percent cut in pay.



## THE OBSERVER

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## Four years with Charlie

There are a lot of ways to look at my last four years of Notre Dame football. I could be disappointed. I could be enraged. It's hard not to get a little nostalgic. But it's also hard not to be a little bitter. Let's take it year by year.

Coming into Notre Dame, the hype was unbearable. Notre Dame was No. 2 pre-season and had a big opener with Penn State. Before choosing Notre Dame, I wasn't well-versed in college football, and was excited to get my education, as we crushed teams all the way to a championship. As a resident of Zahm, we were allowed to go into the stadium early to pass out those green "9-3 isn't good enough" towels. I excitedly called my parents about that, and looked forward to the game the entire week. Looking back, that first 41-17 victory over then No. 19 Penn State would be the best game of my four years. It would be all downhill from there. We got through the rest of the season with ten wins, suffering only serious breakdowns to Michigan and USC.

Sophomore year, as we all know, was a total disaster. It took us quite a few tries to get a win. Regardless, I

went up to Ann Arbor to witness the first time Michigan and Notre Dame had ever played each other without a win between them. The weekend was great and there was a certain camaraderie among both sides as a result of our less than stellar records. When all was said and done, Charlie's magic had certainly diminished, but we were willing to give him the benefit of the doubt. After all, he had lost a ton of talent.

The last two years have played out pretty much the same. We started out strong, win some games, and then tank. The class of 2010 has the distinct privilege of losing to Navy twice at home, USC twice at home, Michigan once at home and twice in Ann Arbor, and of course the crowning loss to UCONN on Senior Day. After the first year, we kept him, as in good faith that that the program was back on the rise. However, after another break-even season, one remembers the old saying, "fool me once, shame on me; fool me twice, shame on you." And with that, the Weis era comes to a close.

I don't mean to sound bitter, but it's hard not to when looking back over the on field disappointment. However, I have a great satisfaction with my four years of football. We didn't get a championship, but I did get to go to Ann Arbor twice and see the huge tradition behind that game. I did get to

witness Brady Quinn come into his own, and I did get to stand off against rabid LSU fans on Bourbon St. This year almost every game day was perfect weather, allowing for historic tailgates, great pre-game traditions and a hope every week that we would win. Nearly every game this year was exciting, with most of them settled only in the closing minute or two, and the marshmallow fight was the best of all.

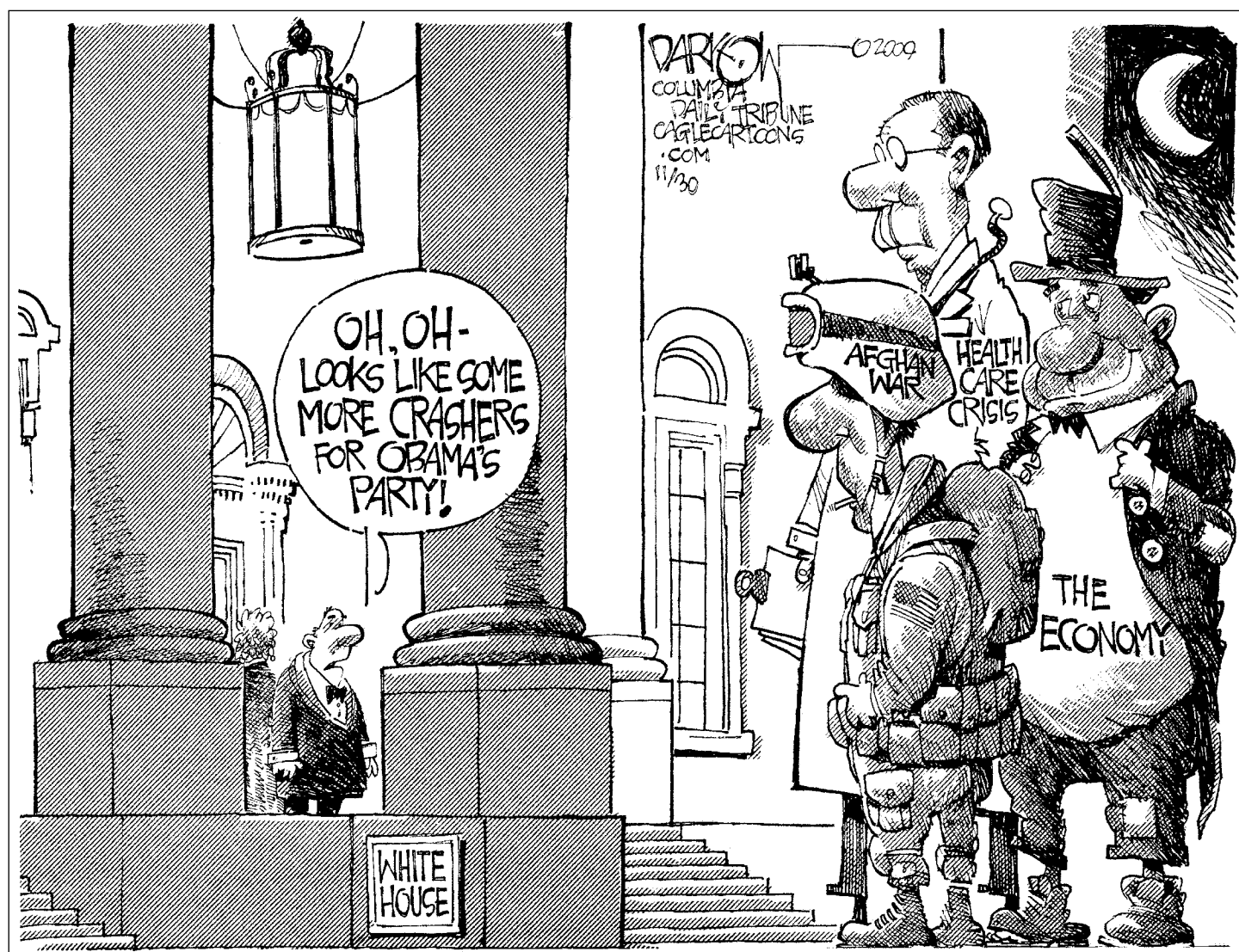
There are also the positive take-always. I will always be able to tell future generations of Notre Dame students who complain about losing a game here or there that they didn't have to live through the 2007 season. Even better, once I become an alumnus, my horizon for a national championship effectively goes to infinity. That is to say, I've got all the time in the world now.

Charlie may have never given me the year-in, year-out title runs that I hoped for, but he still gave us a team worth rooting for, a no-nonsense approach to the game, and an exciting couple of years. For that I am thankful.

Jason Coleman is a senior accounting major. He can be contacted at coleman.70@nd.edu

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

## EDITORIAL CARTOON



## QUOTE OF THE DAY

"Learn to value yourself, which means: to fight for your happiness."

Ayn Rand  
Russian American novelist

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

## QUOTE OF THE DAY

"If I have ever made any valuable discoveries, it has been owing more to patient attention, than to any other talent."

Isaac Newton  
English physicist



# What about Thanksgiving?

It's that time of year, again. Everyone comes back from Thanksgiving break, refreshed, excited (kind of) and ready to stare down finals. The best way to celebrate this, of course, is to start hanging Christmas lights, playing Christmas music and doing other assorted holiday activities. After all, the day after Thanksgiving marks the beginning of the Christmas season ... right?

Andy Ziccarelli

*Moment of Inertia*

I've noticed a disturbing trend these past few years, particularly on this campus. It is one that, if left unchecked, is capable of spiraling out of control. That trend is the creeping of the beginning of the Christmas season to earlier and earlier days each year. It has gotten to the point where people begin to celebrate so early that it doesn't even feel like Christmas when they do it. Think all the way back to the first week of November, when the temperature was still unseasonably warm and the football team was 6-2 and still harbored hopes of a BCS bowl (seems like forever ago, right?). It was during that week that Starbucks began to give out coffee in their trademark red holiday cups. Less than a week after

Halloween!

But Starbucks is far from the only offender. Radio stations have started playing Christmas music before Thanksgiving and Comcast cable offers their entire Christmas On-Demand section way too early, complete with a video of a burning yule log in a fireplace (that's seriously the entire video). And don't think I didn't notice those wreaths and Christmas lights hanging from DPAC on my way out of campus last Tuesday.

At the risk of being labeled a scrooge, it was just far, far too early for all of that stuff, and the problem is that the date for the beginning of the holiday season just keeps barreling forward on the calendar, without regard for anything it may eclipse, most notably Thanksgiving. Fortunately, however I happen to be one of the world's biggest supporters of Thanksgiving. And since it clearly can't stand up for itself, I am going to take it upon myself to defend Thanksgiving for its rightful honor of best holiday of the year.

First of all, and most superficially, Thanksgiving is all about football. All throughout my childhood and up until we graduated high school, I gathered with the friends I made in elementary school every Thanksgiving morning

on the same field in the same park with our dads for a game of touch football. Then, once you got home, all you had to do was flip on the TV, and football was already on, and the Lions were already losing. Once the first game was over, you just picked up the remote, changed the channel to the Cowboys game, and you were set. The addition of night games has been awesome, as well (it gives you something to fall asleep to on the couch). When Friday morning rolls around, nothing cures your turkey hangover like another full slate of college football games, followed up by a full Saturday and Sunday of more games. It's like a four-day football nirvana.

Perhaps just as superficially, Thanksgiving is synonymous with food (and overeating). As a guy, there is nothing better than getting carte blanche to overindulge in some of the most delicious food you will eat all year. No one judges you for going back for a fourth helping of turkey, mashed potatoes and stuffing because they are probably on their sixth.

The real reason that Thanksgiving is the best holiday all year is that it truly does still retain all of its meaning. Ask a lot of suburban moms about "holiday stress" and they will talk your ear off for a week about it,

as they have to cope with the presents and everything that goes along with the ever-expanding commercialization of Christmas. However, Thanksgiving is about being with family and giving thanks for everything that we have. How many times have people welcomed in strangers (or people that they don't know well) into their house so that they didn't have to spend Thanksgiving alone? We all know stories like that. I know my family has done it for a number of years now. It is a time to reconnect with people you maybe don't see as much as you would like, and to forge bonds for years to come. And, most importantly, it is a time in which people reflect on what they have, and just how fortunate we are.

There is a reason Thanksgiving is the biggest volunteer day of the year. Even if it is only for one day, people become truly selfless, humble and loving. And that is why it's the best.

*Andy Ziccarelli is not a scrooge. He just thinks that everything has a time and a place. He is a junior majoring in civil engineering and 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

# One more year, one more chance

Dear Jimmy & Golden,

By writing this letter, I am not asking that you disregard your personal goals, but only that you consider the wishes of the student body and the University in the extremely difficult decisions you are about to make. We are all immensely proud of you both and have enjoyed seeing you progress over the past three years. Although saying goodbye to Coach Weis was a hard decision, I think everyone would agree that the program needs a fresh start. Jimmy, I hate to bring this up, but three and a half years ago, you came to the College Football Hall of Fame and said you wanted to "get four National Championship rings on our fingers." Needless to say, this hasn't happened. We haven't even had a winning season (unless you count the Hawaii Bowl). Next year, with you both returning as seniors and with rising talents like Michael Floyd and Manti Te'o, we have a chance to make the National Championship dream a reality; a chance to finally right the ship.

As you know, the Class of 2011

— your class and mine — has endured the worst three consecutive football seasons in Notre Dame history. It's been rough. While it is time for a new start, we cannot lose sight of the hopes and dreams we all have of a National Championship during our time here at Notre Dame. We have all dreamt of rushing the field after defeating Southern Cal on our way to a perfect season. We have all dreamt of watching our team raise their gold helmets in celebration after a BCS Championship victory. I think we all deserve a final attempt to make these dreams a reality during our senior season. You will both have successful NFL careers regardless of whether you stay for next season or not. Before walking away, please consider the dreams of your fellow classmates in your decision-making, and realize that next season is our best hope for a true return to glory. We can't do it without you.

Katie Pietrucha

junior  
Cavanaugh Hall  
Dec. 1

# Charlie Weis' buyout

I understand that Charlie Weis is getting paid millions of dollars — possibly as much as \$18 million — for not doing his job. Meanwhile, TAs like me get paid less than one-tenth of one percent of that amount, and we show up and do ours in the classroom every week. Does Notre Dame really mean to imply that firing Coach Weis is a

thousand times more valuable to the University's mission than the yearly contribution of each individual TA? In the words of GOB Bluth: come on!

Darryl Campbell

graduate student  
off campus  
Dec. 1

# Real leaders graduate

This is an open letter to Jimmy Clausen, Golden Tate and any other student athletes who are considering leaving Notre Dame instead of graduating.

Please reconsider your decision to leave Notre Dame following your coach's departure. The value of your education and life here at Notre Dame should not be taken lightly. You have become an important part of our family not just our history since you came here, and we support you as our ambassadors to the world. The true glory of your leadership is not calculated by how much money you can earn as a pro athlete, but how many lives you can touch through doing good work both on and off the field. That's one of the reasons that Notre Dame expects our athletes to graduate: there are a lot more important things in life than money. And at Notre Dame you are given the opportunity to do both.

As an Notre Dame football fan since the early 1970s, I look forward to every autumn with hope and high expectations. We sure seem to win a lot of close games that nobody thought we could — the house that Rock built is a magical place to be, that's for certain. And having been a student from 1986 to 1991, I recognize the pressure and stress that you must endure through winning years and losing streaks. But storied competitors going back as long as I can remember have gone the full distance to earn their degrees. Some of these men I still admire today, like Rocky Bleier, Bob Golic and Chris Zorich. They gave deeply of themselves not just for the University or for personal gain, but also gave back to their communities because they understood their greater responsibility to their world as a whole. Sure it's great to be popular, but it's more important to share love and mercy to those in need.

I admit, I am a bit selfish. I would love to see our football team win another national championship, or a major BCS bowl game, or perhaps have the opportunity to watch a great player like yourself earn the Heisman. And certainly you might find that revenge wins against Stanford or Navy would grant some sense of accomplishment. But with more thought, I real-

ize that I have received much more from my education at Notre Dame than my GPA might humbly suggest. At Notre Dame, I built relationships with amazing people, learned to open my mind to many new ways of seeing the world, and was able to share my skills with others for rewards that far outweigh my earnings hence. Our University's tradition of service permeates our culture and inspires us to walk that extra step and lend that helping hand. In fact I suggest participating in the Urban Plunge program over Christmas if you haven't already taken on a social project. I readily admit that such experiences changed and improved me in ways I could not have predicted.

I'm not certain how an anonymous letter from a stranger might influence your weighty decision, but I urge you to consider the consequences of abandoning your education, and conversely, those consequences of how you would benefit by sucking it up and showing your brothers and sisters at Notre Dame that you have the intestinal fortitude to do the right thing for both you and for your school. Earning a four-year degree isn't just some hobby — it's a commitment to yourself, to prove that you can succeed with your mind as well as your body. Graduating is an accomplishment that is fiercely personal, yet given your growing national popularity, it also sets a great example for your younger fans — something that you can't go back and do over a second time. While I can't give you much except a glimpse at how earning your degree from Notre Dame will make your life better, I strongly urge that you give Notre Dame the best effort you can. In the end it's your choice to make, but I am praying that you will make the right choice. Notre Dame graduates take on responsibilities greater than those from other schools, and I think you have a strong enough will to follow in our footsteps.

Jeff Sepeta

alumnus  
Class of 1991  
Nov. 30



By NICK ANDERSON, BRANDY CERNE, JORDAN GAMBLE, MAIJA GUSTIN, MARIE CLAIRE O'DONNELL, ADRIANNA PRATT and ERIC PRISTER  
Scene Writers

From "Seinfeld" to "Rugrats," television series have turned out special Christmas (or Christmakkuh and Festivus) shows. Some, like "Gossip Girl" and "Buffy," go the lovey-dovey route, but others aren't afraid to poke fun at holiday madness. The Scene staff highlights a few stand-outs in this article:

#### "Buffy the Vampire Slayer" — "Amends"

This season three episode is technically titled "Amends," but just call it "A Very Vampire Christmas Carol." Angel (David Boreanaz), the vampire with a soul, is all tormented and stuff because he has killed a lot of people in his 240 years of existence, as a demon keeps reminding him through a series of flashbacks. So he decides to go out on a deserted hilltop and wait for the Christmas morning sun to kill him (in Buffyverse, vampires don't sparkle). But through Buffy's true love and some meteorological magic, all is saved. It snows for the first time ever in Sunnyvale, Calif., so the sunlight doesn't cook him into roast beast. It's a holiday weepfest tempered with the requisite "Buffy" wit and drama.

#### "Gossip Girl" — "Roman Holiday"

No cuter couple could be found during 2007's Christmas season than Dan and Serena. If you're searching for romantic and original gift ideas in the 50-dollar price range, look no further than season one "Gossip Girl" Christmas

# Memorable episodes have brought HOLIDAY SPIRIT to TV

episode. Dan bought a Christmas tree and snuck it into Serena's hotel room, working his man muscles and dodging security. Serena, with the help of Dan's friend Vanessa, projected images of a snowy forest on the walls of an art gallery and swirled white confetti from the ceilings to create a winter wonderland for Dan. Though Dan and Serena have unfortunately drifted apart since that first perfect Christmas two years ago, fans can count on Chuck and Blair this season for some chic gift exchanging and precious holiday canoodling under the mistletoe.

#### "It's Always Sunny in Philadelphia" — "A Very Sunny Christmas"

In their Christmas special, "A Very Sunny Christmas," the gang explores their past Christmases and tries to regain the Christmas spirit. Spoofing various holiday classics, the 45-minute episode, available on DVD, has all the usual shenanigans and hijinks in which Charlie, Mac, Dennis, Frank and Deem manage to

find themselves. Unfortunately, while many parts of the episode have the usual hilarity found in "It's Always Sunny" episodes, sometimes the humor goes a little too far in the special, advancing beyond the regular offbeat comedy into the slightly disturbing. Overall, the episode is amusing, not one of the best, but worth seeing, though probably not buying.

#### "The Office" — "Christmas Party"

"The Office" has presented many classic Christmas episodes, but "Christmas Party" was the first and the best. This second season episode featured a Secret Santa gift exchange that ends in equal parts disappointment and happiness for all our favorite employees. Any episode that combines the sweet will-they-or-won't-they romance of Jim and Pam (we all know how that turns out) and a topless Meredith has to be a classic. The types of presents bought unmistakably fit the characters' personalities, from Michael's over-budget iPod for Ryan to Creed's dirty, worn flannel shirt. Anyone who wants a lot of laughs this holiday season will not be disappointed after watching "Christmas Party," which is available along with the rest of the season two on DVD.

#### "Pinky and the Brain" — "A Pinky and the Brain Christmas"

Christmas specials tend to be a mash up of wintery atmosphere, cheesy music and sappy lessons. While normally an exact recipe for disaster, mix in two laboratory mice, an Orson Wells impression and a plot to take over the world, and the end result will warm the coldest miser's heart (and win a well-deserved Emmy). The Brain nearly achieves world domination but is once again befuddled by the actions of Pinky. While he fails to reach his elusive goal, he manages to spread joy to the world, find the true meaning of friendship and gives the gift that keeps on giving: a spellchecker. Despite Amazon solely stocking the VHS, this forgotten holiday classic merits an annual viewing.

#### "Rugrats" — "Babes in Toyland"

Although not technically about Christmas, "Rugrats" once featured one of the best holiday-themed episodes of all time. An informative

episode, for all you gentiles out there, at least, it delved into the history of Chanukah, due to Tommy's half-Jewish parentage. What ensues is an epic reenactment of the plight of the "Maccababies", "Rugrats" slang for the Maccabees, and their fight against King "Antonica," played by one Angelica Pickles. Tommy, as Judas, leads them to victory. But, upon their arrival at the Holy Temple, they realize there is only enough oil left to light the Temple candle for one day. Can you guess how many days it miraculously stays lit for? If not, get your hands on this classic ASAP.

#### "Seinfeld" — "The Strike"

In a somewhat anti-Christmas episode of "Seinfeld," George introduces the non-denominational holiday of Festivus to the New York area. This holiday, created in the show by George's father, was a holiday meant to battle the commercialization of Christmas. Kramer discovers the holiday and wants to celebrate it, which brings back horrible memories of George's childhood, particularly the "feats of strength," a contest that forced George to attempt to subdue his father to end the holiday. As usual, hilarity ensues, focused mainly on the misery of George, as so often is the case in "Seinfeld."

#### "Six Feet Under" — "Pilot"

Ain't no party like a Fisher family Christmas party. Mostly due to the lack of Christmas songs, festive decorations, eggnog, presents and overall Christmas cheer. The first season of "Six Feet Under" starts off with a bang when, on one fateful Christmas morning, the fractured Fisher family is reunited for very sad reasons. When picking out your favorite holiday TV episodes, save this one for the day when you're allowed to be a little down. While not bubbling with Christmas excitement, though, the series premiere of "Six Feet Under" is still really, really awesome. You may just leave it finally able to truly appreciate those you spend your Christmas days with.

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By SHANE STEINBERG  
Scene Writer

“Fantastic Mr. Fox” is an aptly released Thanksgiving delight for Wes Anderson fans. Interjecting his patented quirky, unlike-anything-else-out-there-Wes-Anderson-ness into a stop-motion animated film, Anderson gives his faithful following a whole new look and feel in a film that harkens back to “Chicken Run,” except that this film is catchier and more tailored to adults than its unassuming PG-rating might let on. Taking risks is the name of Anderson’s game. His style, which by now we’ve grown to love, is a risk in and of itself, and this film is certainly no exception. But it works, it really does.

The film’s title character, Mr. Fox (George Clooney), is a retired chicken bandit who has settled down to a life of writing a newspaper column that no one reads. His life predictable and numb, the now not-so-fantastic Mr. Fox longs to return to his old lifestyle even though by doing so he’d be breaking a promise he made to his wife (Meryl Streep) before marrying her.

A new house though, in an above-ground neighborhood located right near the infamous Boggis, Bunce and Bean farms, presents him with the perfect opportunity to regain his sense of being. The problem is that stealing livestock and Mr. Bean’s coveted alcoholic cider carries with it consequences that not even Mr. Fox, with his elaborate three-stage plan, can foresee.

A portrait family and community, put together action-by-action in an incredibly laborious fashion, “Fantastic Mr. Fox,” is a story about realizing one’s true self while realizing the true value of those close to us. However, it’s not the film’s sappy message that carries it through its rather short run-



time, but rather moments which so effortlessly elicit an uproar of laughter so weird, yet for Anderson fans, so weirdly familiar. Think about it, what would Pixar films be without their trademark brand of comedy? The same goes for Anderson’s first foray into full-length animated filmmaking, as his engaging story of a fox living his dreams is brought to a whole other level by that aforementioned unlike-anything-else-out-there-Wes-Anderson-ness.

The film is meticulous, down to the very motion of the each fox’s tail, which swirls accordingly as the fox moves, and to the precision of character injected into each animal, which somehow, and definitely not coincidentally, matches up with the person playing the part. It’s as though these foxes were made for the actors playing them, or as though these actors were made for the foxes they play in Anderson’s chicken-centered world. For example, Clooney’s Mr. Fox acts in a pretentious yet elegantly reserved manner that elicits a sense of “cool” best captured by Clooney himself, while Mrs. Fox seems an almost cut-out version of the more relaxed, non-“Mamma Mia” side of Streep.

Wes Anderson’s folk-like animated film seems surreal on so many levels, yet so close to the heart in the end, that it seems as real as any one of his best quirky portraits of life—with its subtitled chapters, odd humor and wonderful music montages. Its inherently his, “Fantastic Mr. Fox” is, and you’d know it ten seconds into the film. “Up” perhaps not, but then again, “Up” is perhaps not



“Fantastic Mr. Fox.” There should finally be a race in this year’s Best Animated Film category, and dare I say, Pixar might not win this one. In Wes Anderson fashion, here’s a toast to you sir, on thinking outside the box and going that extra mile, and doing it oh so well.

Contact Shane Steinberg at [ssteinb2@nd.edu](mailto:ssteinb2@nd.edu)

### “The Fantastic Mr. Fox”

**Director:** Wes Anderson  
**Starring:** George Clooney and Meryl Streep



By KATHERINE GREENSPON  
Scene Writer

New Zealand’s edgy, indie pop duo, The Brunettes, recently released their new album “Paper Dolls.” Their passion for songwriting and their natural ability to belt a tune is obvious in this album, which is packed full of light melodies and catchy instrumental sound.

This pop group is original and fresh with both Jonathan Bree and Heather Mansfield playing off one another beautifully in every track. The album opens with the song “In Colours,” introducing their brilliant usage of the drums and chimes, which offer the listeners both heavy and light beats.

This 10-track CD is a joy to listen to because of the duo’s easy-going lyrics and simple approach.

Their songs offer a storyline that, if paid attention to, can be easily followed. Mansfield’s rhythmic voice in “The Crime Machine” illustrates passion and excitement with every verse as she pretends to live out her 1920s dream of being a “Queenpin.” “Bedroom Disco” is one track that would thrive at a house party scenario, with a guitar tremolo and various arrangements of imagination and pitch variations.

This album is a continuation from previous works but stays true to their upbeat, fun and celebrated works, which vocalists and instrumentalists have been known for. The album has a sort of fantasy effect with an array of electronic buzz and a childish undertone. Every song on this album seems to glorify the appreciation of a simple melody. With simple tambourine and guitar solos the whimsical duo does an extraordinary job in swaying their voices to mesh

Jonathan Bree shows off his drum machine sound with the assistance of Heather Mansfield’s smooth, charismatic voice. In songs like “Connection” and “Red Rollerskates,” listeners get a different electronic sound that entices the occasional head bob. Electronic elements are being tested throughout this album as both artists intertwine their sweet, light voices with chimes that give the songs an airy feel.

perfectly. This album is an easy listen that can calm or relax any stressful soul during finals. “If I” is only one of the many songs on this album that could act as a harmonic lullaby. The simple trickle of trumpet and synthesizers gives the effect of a dreamer with its creative tone and subtle vocals. It appears that The Brunettes are wandering from their comfortable cute pop to a more instrumental and technological kind of work. Their playful usage of keyboard and music technology achieves a more modern and humming sound that shows their progression as artists. This album has wide-spread appeal with songs like “It’s Only Natural” which begins with an almost islander feel that leaves people in a mellow state of mind. Fans of this band should thank them for once again delivering a masterpiece of eclectic songs that embrace instruments like the xylophone. This indie band versatile, and not afraid to try to new styles and beats. The Brunettes has a special air about them that is refreshing yet risky. They don’t play by the norms of popularity, they write about what inspires them and telling stories through song is their specialty. The Brunettes not only sing but they incorporate synth and other unique sounds that tie all their work together. Hearing about artists who step out of their comfort zones is refreshing and appreciated. The Brunettes have come a long way since their first album, “Mars Loves Venus” EP in 1998 so keep your eyes out for this dynamic duo as they continue to share their music with the masses.

Contact Katherine Greenspon at [kgreen01@saintmarys.edu](mailto:kgreen01@saintmarys.edu)

### The Brunettes “Paper Dolls”

**Recommended Tracks:** “Connection,” “Bedroom Disco,” and “In Colours”





NBA

Allen and the Celtics end Bobcats' win streak

D'Antoni leads Knicks' offense against Suns; Arenas back in double digits as Wizards take down Raptors

Associated Press

CHARLOTTE, N.C. — Ray Allen broke out of his shooting slump with 27 points, Kendrick Perkins added 21 points and 12 rebounds and the Boston Celtics cruised past the Charlotte Bobcats 108-90 on Tuesday night for their fifth straight victory.

Led by Allen, the Celtics had little trouble slowing the Bobcats, who had won four straight. Entering shooting 30 percent from 3-point range, Allen took only nine shots, but hit 5 of 6 3-pointers, including one from behind the plane of the backboard with 1 second left to give the Celtics a 62-39 halftime lead.

Charlotte never recovered as Gerald Wallace scored just five points after getting into early foul trouble. Nazr Mohammed had 16 points for the Bobcats, who entered giving up a league-low 87.9 points a game.

But the Celtics, on the second game of a four-game trip that next takes them to San Antonio, scored at will inside and out and quickly ended any hopes Charlotte had of erasing memories of their embarrassing 59-point performance in Boston on opening night.

That came before the Bobcats acquired versatile scorer Stephen Jackson , and Celtics coach Doc Rivers joked before the game that they were going to “do some tic-tac-toe” to figure out if the 6-foot-5 Allen guarded the 6-8 Jackson or 6-7 Wallace.

Allen started on Jackson, who immediately posted him and scored in the lane on the first possession. But Wallace picked up two fouls in 5 minutes and sat out the rest of the half, giving the Celtics matchup advantages.

Stephen Graham failed miserably trying to defend Kevin Garnett , who had 16 points and seven rebounds. Nobody could keep a body on Perkins, who hit 9 of 10 shots and was only five points shy of matching a career high. And the blowout took shape in the first half as Brown stubbornly kept Wallace on the bench.

Wallace entered as the reigning Eastern Conference player of the week, after twice topping 30 points in victories last week. The Bobcats shot 31 percent in

the first half without him, and trailed by as many as 26 points before he got his first points with 8:15 left in the third quarter.

But it may not have mattered with the Bobcats shooting 55 percent and Allen finding his touch.

A career 40-percent shooter from behind the arc, Allen had gone 6 for 23 in the past four games. Rivers said at shootaround that he had said nothing to him.

“I don’t say a word — if he’s a shooter,” he said. “If he’s a non-shooter, I tell him to stop shooting. ... He hasn’t forgot how.”

With Perkins and Garnett drawing attention inside, Allen was hitting from the outside and the foul line, where he made all 10 attempts. The Celtics didn’t even need Paul Pierce (eight points) to move into a tie for the Eastern Conference lead with Orlando.

It was a setback for the Bobcats, whose winning streak came at the heels of a seven-game skid and included an impressive home win over Cleveland Friday. They shot just 41 percent and trailed by as many as 28 points.

Knicks 126, Suns 99

Mike D’Antoni’s offense was as spectacular against the Suns as it used to be with them.

Danilo Gallinari had 27 points and 10 rebounds, and the New York Knicks beat Phoenix on Tuesday night, snapping a five-game losing streak and giving their coach a resounding victory over his old team.

David Lee added 24 points and Al Harrington had 22 for the Knicks, who rang up a season-best 71 first-half points, then blew it open when Gallinari scored seven points in a span of barely a minute midway through the third quarter.

New York reached 100 points by the end of the third and coasted to its easiest victory of the season.

Steve Nash had 20 points and eight assists for the Suns (14-4), who came in with the NBA’s best record. They had won four straight by an average of 21.3 points, but this time found themselves on the other side of a blowout.

The Suns didn’t even reach

100 points, the first time this season that’s happened.

It was a sweet victory for D’Antoni, who rode his high-scoring offensive system to an average of 58 wins in his four full seasons in Phoenix before he and the Suns parted ways after a first-round loss to San Antonio in 2008.

He hasn’t been nearly as successful with an inferior roster in New York, where he coached his 100th game Tuesday and recorded just his 36th victory. He improved to 2-1 against the Suns, though said before the game the emotions weren’t the same as they were last season.

“I’ve got enough problems in New York that I don’t really reflect on what they’re doing,” he said.

Phoenix missed the playoffs last season, but has rededicated itself to playing fast under Alvin Gentry and was looking to start 15-3 for the first time since doing so under D’Antoni in 2004-05. But the Suns never slowed the Knicks down for long, even when they went to a zone in the third quarter.

By then, New York was on the way to doubling its 13-point halftime lead. None of the Knicks’ previous three wins had come by more than seven points.

New York fell two points shy of its highest-scoring quarter of the season, opening a 39-28 lead. Wilson Chandler (12), Gallinari and Lee (10 apiece) were already in double figures after the first 12 minutes.

The Knicks opened the second quarter with a 9-4 burst, extending the lead to 48-32 on Gallinari’s jumper. The Suns cut it to six later in the period, but New York pushed it back to 15, repeatedly getting layups and dunks, and led 71-58 at the half.

Amare Stoudemire, Jason Richardson and Alando Tucker scored 14 points for Phoenix, which ends a four-game trip Wednesday at Cleveland.

Wizards 106, Raptors 102

Antawn Jamison had 30 points and 12 rebounds, Gilbert Arenas had 22 points and nine assists and the Washington Wizards beat the Toronto Raptors on Tuesday night.

Caron Butler scored 19 points, and Brendan Haywood had 15 points and nine



New York’s David Lee, 42, shoots over Phoenix’s Grant Hill, 33, during the first half of a game Tuesday.

rebounds for the Wizards, who have won three of four.

Chris Bosh had 22 points and 14 rebounds, Andrea Bargnani had 20 points and 11 rebounds and Jose Calderon added 20 points for the Raptors, who have lost four straight and eight of 10.

Jarrett Jack had 18 and Hedo Turkoglu scored 13 for the Raptors.

Arenas had been held below 10 points in each of his past two games, the first time he’d failed to score at least 10 in back-too-back games since his rookie season in 2002. Thanks to a pair of 3-pointers in the second quarter, Arenas was back in double figures by half-time in this one.

Arenas scored 12 points and Jamison scored 10 in the fourth as the Wizards erased a five-point deficit in the final quarter by shooting 11 for 16. The Raptors shot 8 for 23 in the fourth.

A free throw by Amir Johnson gave Toronto an 83-77 lead with 9:52 to play but the Wizards regained the lead with a 13-2 run over the next 4:25, including three baskets by Arenas, whose driving layup

with 5:27 left made it 90-85 for Washington.

Calderon’s driving layup with 2:45 remaining cut it to 93-91 but Jamison made a jumper, then held his finger to his lips to quiet the crowd as he ran back down the court, and Arenas made two free throws to push the lead to six, 97-91, with 2:15 to go.

Toronto rallied once more, with a free throw from Turkoglu and two by Jack making it 99-97 with 58 seconds to play but the Raptors couldn’t get any closer. Andray Blatche made a pair from the line, Jamison made one of two and Earl Boykins hit two more, making it 104-97 with 23 seconds left.

Bosh missed all six shots he took in the first but Calderon scored 11 points for Toronto, who trailed 25-24 after one on Blatche’s fadeaway jumper as the buzzer sounded.

Bosh snapped out of his funk with an 18-point second but Jamison scored 11 and the Wizards used five 3-pointers to keep it close before another buzzer-beating jumper, this one from Boykins, gave them a 55-54 edge at the break.

CLASSIFIEDS

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

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to leave flowers.  
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Go Ladies

“It’s just like Santa’s workshop!  
Except it smells like mushrooms...  
and everyone looks like they wanna  
hurt me...”

The song written by a baby, a wolf,  
and a French person:

Rah-rah-ah-ah-ah-ah!  
Roma-roma-mamaa!  
Ga-ga-ooh-la-la!  
Want your bad romance  
I want your ugly  
I want your disease  
I want your everything  
As long as it’s free  
I want your love  
I want your drama  
The touch of your hand  
I want your leather-studded kiss in  
the sand  
I want your love  
Love-love-love  
I want your love  
You know that I want you  
And you know that I need you  
I want it bad, your bad romance



### NCAA Division I Hockey USCHO Rankings

	<i>team</i>	<i>previous</i>
1	Miami (Ohio)	1
2	Denver	2
3	North Dakota	4
4	Quinnipiac	9
5	Bemidji State	6
6	Colorado College	5
7	Cornell	7
8	Mass-Lowell	3
9	Massachusetts	10
10	Yale	11
11	Michigan State	8
12	Alaska Fairbanks	12
13	Minnesota Duluth	14
14	NOTRE DAME	13
15	Boston College	16
16	Wisconsin	15
17	Ferris State	17
18	Nebraska-Omaha	19
19	Vermont	18
20	St. Cloud State	NR
21	Michigan	NR
22	RIT	20
23	Colgate	NR
24	Union	NR
25	New Hampshire	NR

### NCAA Division I Women's Basketball AP Rankings

	<i>team</i>	<i>previous</i>
1	Connecticut	1
2	Stanford	2
3	Ohio State	3
4	North Carolina	4
5	NOTRE DAME	5
6	Tennessee	6
7	LSU	7
8	Baylor	8
9	Xavier	9
10	Texas A&M	11
11	Duke	10
12	Florida State	12
13	Georgia	14
14	Virginia	16
15	Arizona State	17
16	Vanderbilt	21
17	Texas	13
18	Oklahoma	20
19	Pittsburgh	24
20	California	22
21	DePaul	15
22	Michigan State	25
23	Georgia Tech	NR
24	Kansas	18
25	Dayton	NR

### NCAA Division III Men's Basketball Coaches Poll

	<i>team</i>	<i>Prev</i>
1	Washington-St. Louis	1
2	John Carroll	2
3	St. Thomas (Minn)	4
4	Guilford	3
5	Wisc.-Stevens Point	10
6	Wheaton (Ill.)	15
7	Wisc.-Whitewater	13
8	Richard Stocton	5
9	Randolph-Macon	19
10	Franklin & Marshall	6

## around the dial

**NCAA Basketball**  
Illinois at Clemson  
7:15 p.m., ESPN

Duke at Wisconsin  
9:15 p.m., ESPN

### PGA



Sgt. Kim Montes of the Florida Highway Patrol speaks during press conference Tuesday concerning Tiger Woods' car accident this weekend. Woods is to be fined \$164 and receive four points against his driver's license.

## Woods cited for careless driving

Associated Press

ORLANDO, Fla. — Tiger Woods will be cited for careless driving in a car crash outside his Orlando-area mansion, but will not face criminal charges, the Florida Highway Patrol said Tuesday.

Woods faces a \$164 fine and four points against his driver's license, not close to enough to have it suspended. The citation closes the investigation of last week's crash.

The patrol "is not pursuing criminal charges in this matter nor is there any testimony or other evidence to support any additional charges of any kind other than the charge

of careless driving," Sgt. Kim Montes said.

According to an accident report, Woods crashed his SUV into a fire hydrant and a tree at 2:25 a.m. Friday. The airbags did not deploy and Woods' wife told Windermere police she used a golf club to smash the back windows to help him out.

Woods withdrew Monday from his own golf tournament, citing injuries from the crash.

Since the accident, tabloids and gossip Web sites have fueled speculation about the events leading up to it, including that there may have been a domestic dispute between Woods and his wife.

The crash came two days after The National Enquirer published a story alleging that Woods had been seeing a New York nightclub hostess, and that they recently were together in Melbourne, where Woods competed in the Australian Masters. The woman, Rachel Uchitel, denies the affair.

An attorney for the neighbors who dialed 911 after the crash said Woods did not appear to be driving under the influence and showed no signs of having been in a fight. Montes said there were no claims of domestic violence and insufficient evidence to subpoena any medical information.

"Despite the celebrity status of Mr. Woods, the Florida Highway Patrol has completed its investigation in the same professional manner it strives to complete each traffic investigation," Montes said.

Bill Sharpe, an attorney for the neighbors, said Woods' injuries were "consistent with a car wreck and inconsistent with him being beat up. The scratches on his face were consistent with someone who maybe was in a minor car accident and hit his head on the windshield. ... None of his injuries looked like he was beat up by his wife."

Sharpe said neighbor

### IN BRIEF

**Molson family to purchase NHL's Montreal Canadiens**  
MONTREAL — The sale of the Montreal Canadiens was approved Tuesday, days before the storied team's 100th anniversary.

The Molson family won approval from the NHL board of governors, becoming the fourth group of Molsons to own the club since the 1950s. George Gillett put the team up for sale in the spring.

Geoff Molson and brothers Andrew and Justin are the lead investors in a group that reportedly paid \$575 million for the franchise.

"This is a proud moment for my family and our partners in the transaction," said Geoff Molson, who will be the chairman and chief executive officer. "As owners, we will be right there with management and the team, building and battling toward our next Stanley Cup."

The Canadiens celebrate their 100th anniversary Friday when they host the Boston Bruins.

**Steelers' Roethlisberger expected to play Sunday**  
PITTSBURGH — Steelers quarterback Ben Roethlisberger has worked out without problems since missing Sunday night's game in Baltimore with a concussion and is expected to play Sunday against Oakland.

Roethlisberger was held out of the 20-17 overtime loss to the Ravens after having post-practice headaches Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. A team doctor recommended Saturday that the quarterback not play, and coach Mike Tomlin agreed.

While the Steelers did not practice on Monday, Roethlisberger worked out on his own and did not have any problems, Tomlin said.

"All indications are he'll be a full participant tomorrow (Wednesday) in practice and ultimately play in the game on Sunday," Tomlin said Tuesday.

If the headaches should unexpectedly return, Tomlin said the Steelers will "act quickly."

**Yankees manager Girardi teaches Jets' Sanchez to slide**  
FLORHAM PARK, N.J. — Mark Sanchez is learning how to slide like a Yankee.

Don't worry, Jets fans. The rookie quarterback isn't looking to trade in his pads for pinstripes. He was just working on his sliding technique Tuesday with Yankees manager Joe Girardi, who guided New York to its 27th World Series title last month.

"I've never really been a slider," Sanchez said. "In baseball, I slid head-first. In football, I've done the same thing or tried to get out of bounds or throw the ball away. It's something that you need to learn at this level."

Jets coach Rex Ryan wants Sanchez to make more of a conscious effort to slide and avoid potential injuries.

"When we bring Joe Girardi in, this is all about business," Ryan said. "Mark understands that. We kid about the 'Sanchise' name, but he's the face of our franchise."

MLB

# Ilgauskas playing to set new record

Associated Press

INDEPENDENCE, Ohio — Zydrunas Ilgauskas never got off the bench during his first attempt at history. Given another chance, Cavaliers coach Mike Brown assured it will happen.

Ilgauskas will become Cleveland's all-time leader in games played when he enters Wednesday's game at home against Phoenix. He currently shares the record of 723 games with Cleveland general manager Danny Ferry.

Ilgauskas was expected to break the record at home last Saturday, but Brown didn't play him during a 111-95 win against Dallas.

The perceived snub upset both Ilgauskas and LeBron James — Ilgauskas hasn't spoke to reporters since the game and James criticized Brown for it on Monday.

"I definitely thought he should've played," James said. "As a friend of his, I was very upset and I know he was, also."

Brown explained on Monday that he liked the smaller, quicker lineup that was playing well against the Mavericks. But he said on Tuesday if he had it to do again, he would have played Ilgauskas against Dallas. He won't start Ilgauskas against the Suns — an idea first floated by James — but said he will play.

"I'll be just as happy as anybody when the record is accomplished," Brown said.

Ilgauskas declined interview

requests for the second straight day Tuesday, while Brown stopped short of apologizing for keeping Ilgauskas from the record. He said he hadn't spoken to Ilgauskas yet about the incident, but that he would. He wasn't sure what he would say.

"I don't know. I haven't wrote anything out," Brown said. "We'll talk. I don't know when."

Ilgauskas has spent his entire 14-year career in Cleveland. He battled foot problems early on that forced him to miss essentially three full seasons. He is one of James' favorite players on the Cavaliers roster and the only holdover from when James was drafted. James was a big proponent in Ilgauskas receiving a five-year contract extension during the summer of 2005. Ilgauskas, now in the final year of that deal, has hinted at retiring after the season.

"I'm not trying to stir up anything with coach or whatever is going on with the organization, but sometimes one game is the smaller things," James said Monday. "What was on the line was something way bigger than us playing the Mavericks. That was 'Z' breaking the record."

Brown was not upset with James for speaking out.

"LeBron is a loyal person," Brown said. "That's big on his agenda. That's what has made him the type of person he is today. You respect and understand that he was being loyal to Z. I have no problem with that at all."

MLB

# Matsui and Damon not offered arbitration

Associated Press

NEW YORK — World Series MVP Hideki Matsui, Vladimir Guerrero and Randy Wolf were among the free agents who weren't offered salary arbitration, moves that enable new teams to sign them without losing draft picks.

Tuesday night was the first big deadline of baseball's off-season, with teams having until midnight to make arbitration offers to their former players who became free agents. Players have until Dec. 7 to accept; if they reject, they still can re-sign with their former clubs at any time.

With about two hours left until the deadline, 18 players had received arbitration offers and only seven of them were position players: St. Louis outfielder Matt Holliday and third baseman Mark DeRosa; Boston outfielder Jason Bay; Los Angeles Angels third baseman Chone Figgins; Seattle third baseman Adrian Beltre; Texas catcher Ivan Rodriguez and Rangers outfielder Marlon Byrd.

Pitchers offered arbitration included Angels ace John

Lackey; Boston reliever Billy Wagner; Detroit's Brandon Lyon and Fernando Rodney; Oakland's Justin Duchscherer; Atlanta's Mike Gonzalez and Rafael Soriano; Colorado's Rafael Betancourt and Jason Marquis; Houston's Jose Valverde; and St. Louis' Joel Pineiro.

In addition to Matsui, the Yankees declined to offer arbitration to left fielder Johnny Damon and pitcher Andy Pettitte. The Angels turned down pitchers Kelvin Escobar and Darren Oliver in addition to Guerrero. Besides Wolf, the Dodgers said no to pitcher Jon Garland and second baseman Orlando Hudson.

Among others declined arbitration were Detroit pitcher Jarrod Washburn, Seattle lefty Erik Bedard, Mets first baseman Carlos Delgado, Milwaukee center fielder Mike Cameron and Kansas City catcher Miguel Olivo.

Before 2006, players not offered arbitration could not re-sign with their former clubs from Dec. 8-April 30, but that provision was eliminated in the latest collective bargaining agreement.

NBA

# Sixers offer Allen one-year contract

Associated Press

PHILADELPHIA — Allen Iverson and the Philadelphia 76ers are closer to a reunion.

A person with knowledge of the contract talks says the Sixers offered a one-year, non-guaranteed contract to Iverson on Tuesday. The person spoke to The Associated Press on condition of anonymity because the contract talks had not been made public.

Iverson, his agent and business manager met with team president Ed Stefanski, coach Eddie Jordan and two other members of the organization Monday during the first formal meeting between the Sixers and their former MVP.

Iverson announced his retirement last week after an ill-fated stint with the Memphis Grizzlies. The 10-time All-Star was NBA MVP in 2001 when he led the Sixers to the NBA Finals.

Iverson announced his intention to retire last week after no other team expressed an interest in signing the four-time scoring champion. The 6-foot Iverson played three games this season with Memphis before taking a leave of absence to attend to personal matters. He was waived after the two sides agreed to part ways.

He's on the brink of getting a second chance with the Sixers. The Sixers (5-13) have lost seven straight games entering Wednesday night's game at Oklahoma City and need Iverson to spark sagging ticket sales



Allen Iverson brings the ball upcourt for the Grizzlies against the Lakers on Nov. 6. He has been offered a one year deal with the 76ers.

and their playoff chances.

This reconciliation was once thought foolish after their acrimonious split three years ago. Iverson's last game with Philadelphia was Dec. 6, 2006 in Chicago. He refused to play the fourth quarter and was banished from the team two days later. He was eventually traded to Denver as part of the Andre Miller deal, and bounced to Detroit then Memphis.

The Sixers finish their four-game road trip Saturday against the Charlotte Bobcats and Iverson's former nemesis, coach Larry Brown.

If Iverson accepts the offer, his likely debut would come Monday night at home against Denver. In a double-dose of intriguing timing, the Sixers play at home Dec. 9 against Detroit.

Perhaps Iverson will show his former teams that he still has something left in the No. 3 jersey.

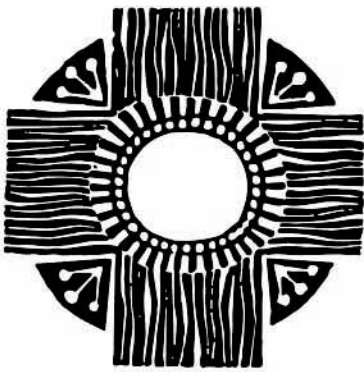
Or, the Nuggets and Pistons will see they made the right choice to move on without the controversial guard.

CSNPhilly.com first reported the offer.


Memphis Grizzlies owner Michael Heisley told the AP on Tuesday that he spent almost an hour on the phone with Stefanski before his meeting with Iverson.

# Mass

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(aka Rejoice! Mass)



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For information, contact Judy Madden 631-8508 or [jmadden2@nd.edu](mailto:jmadden2@nd.edu)



NHL

# Ovechkin suspended after knee-on-knee hit

Associated Press

ARLINGTON, Va. — Alex Ovechkin’s latest on-ice indiscretion netted him a two-game suspension, a sore right knee and a new level of concern from his coach about his “pretty reckless” ways.

The league’s reigning two-time MVP was suspended for two games without pay by the NHL on Tuesday for a knee-to-knee hit on defenseman Tim Gleason in Monday night’s 3-2 win over the Carolina Hurricanes.

Ovechkin’s first NHL suspension will cost him \$98,844.16 in salary. He’ll sit out Thursday against Florida and Saturday at Philadelphia, although his sore knee might have kept him out of one of the games anyway.

“I regret that this has happened,” Ovechkin said in a statement released by the team. “I’m glad that Tim wasn’t injured because I never ever want to see anyone get hurt.”

The initial concern was Ovechkin would be sidelined longer — with a serious knee injury. The hit on Gleason was scary, but the Russian forward was back on the ice Tuesday morning in a red Capitals track suit about 25 minutes before the start of practice. He skated for less than five minutes but did not move at full speed. The Capitals said he was day to day with a sore knee.

“It’s not a bad injury,” Ovechkin said. “I thought it was going to be worse, but thank God I can walk, I can skate. Of course, it’s a little bit sore, but it’s not that serious.”

Ovechkin was given a 5-minute major penalty for kneeling and a game misconduct for the hit on Gleason, the second time in three games he’s been ejected. Last week he was whistled for a 5-minute boarding major and game misconduct for a hit on Patrick Kaleta of the Buffalo Sabres.

Before hearing of the suspension, Ovechkin tried to plead his case. He said he didn’t have time to pull back when Gleason changed directions while attempting to push the puck out of the Hurricanes’ zone.

“I can do nothing about it,”

Ovechkin said. “It’s just a moment of the game. I turned and realize I don’t have time to stop.”

Ovechkin was more defiant when asked about his style of play. No one scores goals better, but he also loves to hit. He leads the Capitals with 18 goals, 30 points — and 44 penalty minutes. He missed six games earlier this season with an upper body injury, the first time in his career he’s had an injury that cost him more than one game.

“I just play my game and I just enjoy my time and I enjoy my life,” Ovechkin said. “It’s me, and it is what it is.”

“I play risky,” he said. “I won’t try and hit and make some people get hurt, but people sometimes turn right away and I don’t have time to realize and stop. What can you do? You can do nothing.”

Coach Bruce Boudreau isn’t so sure anymore. After two years of essentially letting Ovechkin be Ovechkin, Boudreau said it might be time for a heart-to-heart talk.

“He’s pretty reckless,” he said. “It’s hard telling a guy that scores 60 goals a year to change the way he plays. At the same time, I don’t want to see him getting hurt. Maybe he has to pick his spots a little better. The open-ice hits, you just look around the league. It’s not only the hitter, it’s the guy that gets hit. ... It’s something that will have to be addressed by us, I guess. ... Not only as a coach, but as somebody who admires him, I just don’t want him to put himself in harm’s way, so we’ll see.”

Boudreau said Ovechkin isn’t trying to play dirty.

“Alex plays hard,” Boudreau said. “All the time. I don’t think there’s a malicious bone of him trying to hurt anybody. He just plays hard and he plays to win every shift. And it’s a really fine line between taking that away from him, and I don’t see how you can take it away other than talking to him and saying, ‘We don’t want to put you in that situation any more.’ But when he gets out there, he just wants to win so badly he does whatever we can for that team to succeed.”

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MLB

# Stimulant exemptions rise

Associated Press

NEW YORK — There was just one positive steroids test in the major leagues over the full first year of the toughened program, but the number of players authorized to use otherwise banned stimulants because they have ADHD rose by a small amount for the second straight year.

Baseball granted 108 therapeutic use exemptions for attention deficit hyperactivity disorder during the year ending with this World Series, according to the annual report released Tuesday by MLB’s independent drug-testing administrator. That was up from 106 a year earlier and 103 in 2007.

“Today’s report contains good news and bad news,” said Rep. Henry Waxman, who has held hearings on drug use in sports.

“The good news is very good — only one positive steroid test. But the bad news is deeply disturbing,” the California Democrat said. “It is hard to believe that the ADD prevalence rate in baseball is that high.”

Rob Manfred, Major League Baseball’s executive vice president for labor relations, said the level of ADHD exemptions, known as TUEs, was not cause for alarm. Manfred said concerns were not justified because ADHD is more prevalent among males and young people.

“These TUEs are based on diagnoses that originally are made by a doctor and they are reviewed by one if not more doctors to verify the diagnoses,” Manfred said. “And I’ve got to rely on the medical people.”

Dr. Gary Wadler, a frequent critic of baseball’s drug-testing program, also praised the

sport’s overall progress but said the amount of the TUEs was a concern.

“Is there something unique about the sport of baseball that attracts individuals with ADD? I suspect not. It seems to me an excessively high number,” said Wadler, chairman of the committee that determines the banned-substances list for the World Anti-Doping Agency. “This is a problem that merits some independent analysis. Is the TUE process as tight as it needs to be or does it represent some sort of a loophole?”

Other than ADHD, there were just seven TUEs: two each for hypertension and hypogonadism, and one each for narcolepsy, obsessive-compulsive disorder and post-concussion syndrome.

“I first raised concerns about these therapeutic use exemptions in

hearings in 2008, and baseball promised they would look into the matter. But it appears that no progress has been made,” said Waxman, now chairman of the House Energy and Commerce Committee. “I hope that MLB-sanctioned use of ADD drugs has not become a substitute for the rampant steroid use that the league and its players worked so hard to eliminate.”

There were 12 positives for banned stimulants among 3,722 tests under the major league program. Since no players were suspended for stimulants, they either were

initial positive tests, which don’t cause suspensions, or are still in the arbitration process. Eleven of the positives were for Adderall, the other for Clobenzorex.

The one positive for a performance-enhancing substance was for nandrolone. Baseball’s only announced suspension for a positive test taken this year under the major league program was given in March to San Francisco Giants pitcher Kelvin Pichardo, who was banned for 50 games.

There also was one positive not related to a test. In March, Los Angeles Dodgers outfielder Manny Ramirez was suspended for 50 games after baseball obtained records that showed he used the female fertility drug HCG, or human chorionic gonadotropin.

Baseball conducted 3,722 tests, up from 3,486 the previous year.

“We had a very low number of positives, low numbers on the stimulants and steroids, which is a very good development,” Manfred said.

Wadler agreed with Manfred’s assessment of the overall program.

“Baseball has done a good job over the last several years in cleaning house over the whole issue of performance-enhancing drugs, anabolic steroids,” he said.

Dr. Bryan Smith issued the report under toughened rules baseball adopted last year at the recommendation of former Senate majority leader George Mitchell.

NCAA FOOTBALL

# TCU to extend coach’s contract

Associated Press

FORT WORTH, Texas — Gary Patterson is close to a contract extension with BCS-bound TCU, the deal coming amid speculation that the coach of the undefeated Horned Frogs could be a candidate to fill the Notre Dame vacancy.

A person with direct knowledge of the situation said Tuesday that Patterson’s current contract, which runs through 2014, would be extended at least two years, and his assistant coaches would get pay raises. The person spoke on condition of anonymity because the deal hadn’t been finalized.

An official announcement could come Wednesday.

Patterson has an 85-27 record in his ninth season as the Frogs’ head coach, winning at least 11 games in five of the last seven seasons. The last time TCU had an 11-win season before that was its undefeated national championship team in 1938 with Heisman Trophy winner Davey O’Brien at quarterback.

Patterson didn’t return messages left Tuesday by the AP.

The person who said a contract extension was in the works said Patterson had not been contacted by Notre Dame, which Monday fired Charlie Weis after five seasons.

TCU (12-0, 8-0 Mountain West) is waiting to find out Sunday which of the big-money Bowl Championship Series games it will play in. The Frogs are fourth in the BCS standings, the highest ever this late in the season for a team from a conference without an automatic bid.

There is still a chance the Frogs could be the first BCS buster to play for the national championship, if No. 3 Texas loses to Nebraska in the Big 12 championship game Saturday night and they stay ahead of Cincinnati in the final BCS standings. The other spot will be filled by No. 1 Florida or No. 2 Alabama, who face off in the SEC championship game.

TCU wrapped up its undefeated regular season and outright Mountain West title with a 51-10 victory over New Mexico on Saturday. It was the

Frogs’ seventh consecutive victory by at least 27 points, a stretch that included BYU and Utah, last year’s BCS buster.

The Frogs have a 14-game winning streak, matching the seven decade-old school record set in 1938.

Patterson, 49, came to TCU as a defensive coordinator with coach Dennis Franchione after the 1997 season, when the Frogs were coming off a 1-10 season.

When Franchione left for Alabama after the 2000 regular season, TCU promoted Patterson after a national search. Only Dutch Meyer, who won 109 of his 201 games from 1934-52, has more victories as the Frogs coach.

Patterson’s contract was extended through 2014 at the end of last season, weeks after strong speculation that Kansas State was interested in hiring Patterson to lead his alma mater. Kansas State instead lured Bill Snyder out of retirement. TCU was 11-2 last season, including 17-16 win over Boise State in the Poinsettia Bowl that is the Broncos’ only loss the past two seasons.

## MLB

# Indians trading Shoppach to Rays

Associated Press

ST. PETERSBURG, Fla. — Kelly Shoppach wants to get back to being the player he was in 2008. That's exactly what the Tampa Bay Rays are counting on.

The 29-year-old catcher was acquired Tuesday from the Cleveland Indians for a player to be named, giving Tampa Bay depth at the position and new competition for incumbent starter Dioner Navarro.

"We've admired Kelly from afar for a while now," Rays executive vice president Andrew Friedman said.

A .241 career hitter, Shoppach struggled last season after posting impressive numbers while filling in for an injured Victor Martinez with Cleveland in 2008.

"He's coming off a disappointing '09 season," Friedman said, "but we feel like he has all the ability to be a much better player than that."

After leading American League catchers with 21 homers two years ago, the Indians were expecting big things from Shoppach in 2009. But he batted just .214 with 12 homers and 40 RBIs in 89 games, striking out 89 times in 271 at-bats.

"You can look at (last season) any way you want," Shoppach said. "Obviously, it was a disappointing year for me. Of course I would have liked to play better. I think everyone would have liked to play better."

Shoppach, who spent four seasons with Cleveland after being acquired in a 2006 trade with Boston, likes the idea of joining a young team that's only a year removed from its first World Series appearance.

"Obviously, it's an opportunity for me to compete now rather than the rebuilding process that Cleveland was going to do," Shoppach said during a telephone conference call. "Ultimately that is what I want to do. Help a team win."

Shoppach's departure from the Indians could make Lou Marson, acquired in the deal that sent ace pitcher Cliff Lee to Philadelphia, Cleveland's starter behind the plate. Wyatt Toregas likely will be the back-up catcher.

Highly touted prospect Carlos

Santana is expected to begin the season at Triple-A Columbus, but the Indians hope he will be in the majors at some point next season.

"This is most about our young players," Cleveland general manager Mark Shapiro said. "We are excited about giving them an opportunity to play. It's an area of strength for us."

Marson and Toregas both spent time with the Indians late last season, but the 23-year-old Santana is clearly

Cleveland's catcher of the future. He batted .290 with 23 homers and 97 RBIs last season at Double-A Akron and was selected MVP of the Eastern League.

"Most likely for Carlos some time at Triple-A continuing to develop his game-calling, his leadership skills and honing his defensive game will be beneficial," Shapiro said. "I would expect at some point (next) season, between April and September, we'll see him in Cleveland."

Shapiro acknowledged financial considerations were involved in the trade. Shoppach, who made \$1.95 million last season, is eligible for salary arbitration and could earn close to \$3 million in 2010.

Adding a catcher was one of Tampa Bay's top priorities this offseason. The switch-hitting Navarro was an All-Star in 2008 but slumped to .218 this year — down 75 points from the previous season. His batting average ranked 219th out of 222 major leaguers with 400 or more plate appearances.

In five seasons with the Indians and Red Sox, the right-handed hitting Shoppach has 43 homers and 141 RBIs. He is a .295 career hitter against left-handed pitching.

"Kelly's a guy who has great talent and the ability to be a complete catcher," Shapiro said. "He calls a good game, he throws well and, obviously, he hits for power. I know he strikes out a lot, but he's got great power. The more contact he makes the more a run producer he will be."

The Indians will complete the trade before Dec. 20. Shapiro said the player the Indians receive could be on the 25-man roster when the season begins.

*"We've admired Kelly from afar for a while now."*

**Andrew Friedman**  
Rays executive vice president

*"Kelly's a guy who has great talent and the ability to be a complete catcher."*

**Mark Shapiro**  
Cleveland general manager

## NCAA FOOTBALL

## Friedgen to return as coach in 2010

Associated Press

COLLEGE PARK, Md. — A grateful Ralph Friedgen will return in 2010, eager to rebound from his worst season as Maryland's head football coach.

Friedgen's job status appeared shaky after the Terrapins lost a school-record 10 games this season. But after meeting for two consecutive days with athletic director Debbie Yow, Friedgen was given the go-ahead to make plans for a 10th season as coach at his alma mater.

"I'm very thankful for the opportunity," Friedgen said. "I hope I wasn't just judged on this year. But this shows the confidence the administration has in me and our program. I'm willing to repay that with everything I have to make this the team we expect it to be."

The 62-year-old Friedgen has two years left on a contract that pays him \$2 million annually. He is 66-46 at Maryland and has gone to six bowl games, but the Terrapins have endured four losing seasons over the past six years.

After Maryland's final game Saturday, a 19-17 defeat to Boston College that extended the team's losing

streak to seven games, Friedgen made it clear he intended to retain his job.

He got his wish.

"Coach Friedgen and I are in complete agreement on the expectation to return the football program to its competitive stature," Yow said. "He has assured the University and fans of his intentions to do whatever is necessary to become a top 25 program again. He continues to have my full support."

Although Maryland went to bowl games in each of the three seasons before this one, Friedgen wasn't surprised that his performance this year came under scrutiny by Yow.

"Obviously, when you're 2-10 you're going to be evaluated," he said. "She's my supervisor. We sat and we talked, and she decided to stay the course."

Friedgen acknowledged that he entered the discussions with more than a small measure of angst.

"It was a concern to me," he said.

Maryland began the season had only 14 seniors and 58

players with at least three years of eligibility remaining. The hope is that the experienced underclassmen gained this season will translate into victories in 2010 and beyond.

*"He continues to have my full support."*

**Debbie Yow**  
Maryland athletic director

"All of our offensive linemen are back, except one, with a full year of experience under their belts. We had a very young team this season. We took our lumps this year, but we won't be taking our lumps next year."

Friedgen, a former player at Maryland, took the Terrapins to the 2001 Atlantic Coast Conference title in his first season as a head coach. But Maryland had the worst overall record of any ACC team this year and won only one league game.

In February, offensive coordinator James Franklin signed a contract that would enable him to take over for Friedgen after the 2011 season or receive a \$1 million buyout. Franklin is sure to return; however, Friedgen said he will evaluate the rest of his staff in the weeks ahead before deciding whether to make any changes.

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## Welsh

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student working toward becoming an English teacher.

"I learned through observation and reading and attending clinics," Welsh said.

After a few seasons of working his way up the coaching hierarchy from a YMCA coach to a division I collegiate swimming program, Welsh was offered a position at Notre Dame in 1985.

"Most of what I wanted to do when I got here was to help the team get faster and compete at a higher level," Welsh said. "I had the advantage of arriving when the Rolfs Aquatic Center was built, so since we had a great facility, we wanted to build a team that was worthy of the facility and the university."

When Welsh started at Notre Dame, he coached the men's and women's teams before they split into two programs, at which point he took over the men's program. The team has grown from offering one scholarship per recruiting class to the NCAA's maximum 9.9 scholarships.

In September, Welsh was elected president of the American Swimming Coaches Association by the board mem-

bers of the organization for a two-year term.

"This position is more than I would have asked for myself," Welsh said. "The ASCA is the first professional organization I joined many, many years ago, and over the years I have done a lot of work for ASCA, writing articles, speaking at conventions, serving on the Board of Directors, and overseeing the ASCA Fellows Program, a leadership program for young coaches which will select its 10th class in January."

So far this season, the men's swimming and diving team is 2-1 in dual meets with an important conference win over Pittsburgh.

"Our ambition is to become a nationally prominent NCAA team," Welsh said. "We are getting closer each year, but there is still a lot to be done."

Each season, the men's swimming and diving team works towards winning the Big East conference meet at the end of the regular season, a goal that if achieved this season would be the program's third in a row.

"The plan is simple; achieving it is where the challenge lies," Welsh said. "One step at a time, and year by year, we are trying to get faster each time."

Contact Molly Sammon at [msammon@nd.edu](mailto:msammon@nd.edu)

## Brey

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been the most important improvement he made.

"He finds the hoop," Brey said. "He's one of those guys that finds the net. People ask me about him and I say 'he finds the basket.' It may not look orthodox, and it comes from all areas of the floor now — 3-point line, the short corner, underneath the backboard, the free throw line, tip in — but he finds the basket."

After a back and forth first half that saw 12 lead changes and five ties, the Irish turned a three-point halftime lead into a 21-point margin after starting the second half on a 25-7 run, a lead that did not drop under 16 until Notre Dame's starters were off the floor late in the game. Senior Ben Hansbrough scored 14 for the Irish, and juniors Tim Abromaitis and Carleton Scott chipped in nine and eight points, respectively.

"We were better defensively to start the second half, and I think that really helped us," Brey said. In the first half, I didn't have us out pressuring the ball maybe as much I as should have, so that's on me, and they kind of got comfortable and made some shots. In the second half, we did



VANESSA GEMPIS/The Observer

**Senior forward Luke Harangody takes a shot over two Long Beach State defenders during Notre Dame's 82-62 victory on Nov. 19.**

a better job of that. I thought we were very efficient offensively, unselfish again. Scott and Abromaitis continue to give us a great lift. I'm really pleased with their development."

Defensively the Irish were

sparked by senior point guard Tory Jackson, who added two steals and a block to his eight points.

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

## SMC BASKETBALL

# Irish return north to face Eastern Michigan

By MEAGHAN VESELIK  
Sports Writer

Saint Mary's hosts Ohio Northern University today for its second home game of the season. The Belles (3-1) defeated North Central 91-57 over the holiday weekend.

Saint Mary's opened up its home season against Anderson University on Nov. 17, defeating the Ravens 72-33. The team's only loss this season came in the first round of the Bluffton University Tip-Off Tournament when it faced Wheaton College. The two teams battled through 13 lead changes and 12 ties until the Thunder ousted the Belles 78-73.

"So far, our offense has been great in games, and the defense has been following behind closely," senior forward Anna Kammrath said. "We are a young team, but with quite a bit of experience."

Among the top returning players this season, all of whom have made strong appearances on the Saint Mary's court thus far, are Kammrath, junior Liz Wade and sophomores Patsy Mahoney and Kelley Murphy.

The sole senior on the team, Kammrath came into the season with 598 rebounds. Four games into the season, the 6-foot forward leads the team with 41 to go along with her 37 points, the fifth-best on the team.

Wade, a junior guard and the MIAA Defensive Player of the Year, was one of the league's leaders in both assists and steals. Thus far, she has 28 assists and 18 steals.

Both Mahoney and Murphy

had outstanding freshman seasons for the Belles last year as two of the team's top scorers.

Alongside Kammrath, the pair accounted for more than 690 points. Murphy, a forward, leads Saint Mary's in points with 57, as well as having 29 rebounds, second only to Kammrath. Mahoney, a guard follows close behind with 49 points. She also has nine assists this season, second to Wade and tied with newcomer Annie Doyle, a freshman guard.

Murphy scored a team-high 18 points at North Central. Kammrath was not far behind with 14 while leading Saint Mary's with nine rebounds. Mahoney had 13 as sophomore guard Maggie Ronan put up 12. Wade had a career-high 11 assists in the win, one away from tying a College record.

Coming off one of their most successful season and losing four seniors to graduation, the Belles are continuing their hard work in hopes of besting last season's conference finish of second place.

"Although at times our discipline is not quite there, I have been impressed with the amount of talent on the team," Kammrath said. "We are so deep and that is a great thing to be, especially in our conference. We still need to keep improving on our defense and rebounding, but the season has been exciting so far and I am anticipating great things from us."

The Belles will return to their home court at 7 p.m. as they host the Polar Bears and work to move their record to 4-1.

Contact Meaghan Veselik at [mvesel01@saintmarys.edu](mailto:mvesel01@saintmarys.edu)

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# Eagles

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maintain their intensity and focus.”

The Irish won three straight games from Nov. 26-28, two against ranked teams, at the Paradise Jam in the Virgin Islands. Just three days later, they have to take on an Eagles team off to its best start since 2004.

“I think Eastern Michigan is a really good team,” McGraw said. “They’re playing well. For us, we need to stay sharp.”

The Eagles are also playing on short rest — they won a 93-81 decision against Missouri State Sunday. In that game, guard Tavelyn James scored 31 points. She averages almost 20 points per game.

James and guard Cassie Schrock form a tough combination for Eastern Michigan. Schrock, who averages 37.2 minutes per game, is second in the team in points and rebounds per game.

“They’ve got a really good back court,” McGraw said. “[Schrock is] really good. She played well against us last year. They’re both good. They shoot a lot of 3s.

They’re going to really challenge our defense.”

McGraw said the Irish have continued to work on their defense after the Paradise Jam.

“We’re working on our defense in general, I’m not happy with it after coming off the Virgin Islands trip,” she said. “I think we can get better defensively. That’s an individual effort as well as a team effort.”

Notre Dame will start the same lineup it did for its win over No. 20 Oregon, which includes freshman guard Skylar Diggins in her second start of the season. Though she has played mainly from the bench, Diggins currently leads the Irish in total points and total minutes and is second in both assists and steals.

However, the Irish will once again rely heavily on its bench to ensure everyone is able to go.

“We’re going to have to find the right combination of who’s ready to play,” McGraw said. “We’re playing well, we want to get out and play again. We just want to come out hard with a lot of intensity and keep on playing.”

The game will begin at 7 tonight at the Purcell Pavilion.

Contact Laura Myers at lmyers2@nd.edu

# Ruth

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this year. I changed a lot about myself and my physical ability so I was pretty bummed about it.”

The injury forced the Irish blue line to make adjustments.

“I think we were getting used to everybody during training camp and then a week before the season he gets hurt, so it just threw off the chemistry on the back half,” said senior defenseman Kyle Lawson, Ruth’s defensive partner.

Ruth said after he went down, he talked to former teammate and friend Erik Condra, who suffered a season-ending leg injury in the 2008 CCHA Playoffs.

“[Condra told me] it’s just one of those things that you can’t really control,” Ruth said. “You’ve just got to work through it.”

One of the hardest parts of the injury, Ruth said, was not being with the team, especially as the Irish struggled through a mixed bag of early season results.

Lawson, though, said Ruth, an alternate captain,

remained an integral part of the team.

“To be honest, he did a great job, whether it was in between periods or after games, he would just come in and tell guys like it is,” Lawson said. “That’s the type of guy he is. He’s real up front and honest.”

Physically, Ruth said the most difficult step in the recovery process was just getting back in “hockey shape.”

“There’s nothing like hockey,” Ruth said. “You can run and bike as much as you want,

but as soon as you touch the ice you’ll be sucking wind like it’s nothing.”

Once he got back into game shape, Ruth said he didn’t have mental problems trusting his leg.

“It was more getting back in the groove, in the pace of things, getting my legs back under me,” Ruth said.

Jackson said the plan was to ease Ruth back into the lineup, but not take away from his hard-nosed style of play.

“We didn’t give him normal minutes right away, but now he’s back to playing 20 minutes a game,” Jackson said. “It’s a matter of him playing to his strengths, being physical and being a force in our end.”

As each game passes, Lawson said the duo gets more and more comfortable with

one another.

“Our chemistry has definitely been improving a little bit as well, and he’s only beginning to show what he’s capable of,” Lawson said.

With his return, Ruth also added a boost of much-needed depth to a defensive unit that had been relying primarily on only a handful of key players.

“He’s made a big difference on our back end,” Jackson said. “Not just his presence, but minimizing minutes played by other guys, which has helped those guys be more effective in transition.”

Lawson, though, said Ruth also brings his own unique skill set to the Irish blue line.

“He brings a new dimension to our game,” Lawson said. “Obviously he’s a great physical presence. He’s got a big body and he uses it to his advantage.”

Ruth echoed his defensive partner, saying his injury won’t stop him from playing his own way.

“I try to bring a tough physical presence on the ice,” he said. “I want to get my nose dirty.”

Contact Sam Werner at swerner@nd.edu

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# Ianello

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period of time and when we have a new coach in place.”

As recruiting coordinator, Ianello helped land three top-10 classes from 2006-2008. As receivers coach, he’s coached prolific Irish receivers from Maurice Stovall and Jeff Samardzija to Golden Tate and Michael Floyd.

So now that he’s assumed responsibility for football operations, what exactly will the 44-year-old be doing?

“Well, it’s a threefold thing right now. First of all, to supply the support to our current student-athletes that they need during this transition,” Ianello said Monday. “The second thing is to help secure the recruiting that we have so far ... And the third thing is to supply any support that I have for our coaches and our support staff and our administrative staff during this time [of] transition. So that’s how I see this breaking down.”

Nowhere in that breakdown did Ianello mention his own best interests. And while he said Monday that he would “reach out to some other people to make sure to secure my future,” his firm commitment to the Irish program is both admirable and crucial, especially because Swarbrick has not set a timetable indicating when a new coach might be in place.

Ianello has an impressive resume, particularly with regard to recruiting — and that should be his top priority in his current position, with Notre Dame still in the running for several of the country’s top prospects. Ianello has been recognized as one of the nation’s top recruiters by ESPN.com, Sporting News, Rivals.com and recruiting analyst Tom Lemming, according to und.com, and he has previously coached at Alabama, Arizona and Wisconsin.

Though recruiting is undoubtedly more difficult in times of uncertainty like the present, Ianello said Monday he would continue to sell prospective Irish players on the range of opportunities and advantages Notre Dame presents.

“You come to school here because everybody that comes here is going to get a degree,”

Ianello said. “You’re going to play on college football’s biggest stage. You’re going to be on television 32 guaranteed times in your career before you ever set foot on campus here.”

“Those are great resources that this University has, and those things won’t change. I think that message is clear to the guys that we’re dealing with at this time, and that will be what we go out throughout the country and continue to be on the forefront here in the next few weeks.”

Aside from recruiting, Ianello’s role largely depends on whether the Irish choose to accept a potential Bowl bid, which Swarbrick, Ianello and several players all said had yet to be decided Monday. Ianello said the team would be back in the weight room Tuesday under his guidance, and then several coaches would hit the road recruiting early this week in an attempt to strengthen current verbal commitments and seek further commits as well.

“I think we’ll have some guys in some homes [Tuesday] night and we’ll be out on Wednesday and Thursday,” Ianello said. “Our coaching staff will come back to campus on Friday, we’ll regroup as a staff Friday afternoon in preparation for our team banquet on Friday evening, and then during that time there will be discussions about if and when we’re in a Bowl.”

The efforts of Ianello and the rest of the staff have already paid off, as it was reported that defensive tackle Louis Nix gave Notre Dame his verbal commitment Tuesday night. Nix was previously considered a soft verbal commit to Miami but had been interacting with members of the Irish coaching staff for most of the fall. The Jacksonville, Fla., native is a future Under Armour All-American.

As might have been expected, though, Notre Dame lost its first verbal commitment Tuesday, when blue-chip defensive end Chris Martin not only decommitted, but also eliminated the Irish from consideration, according to an ESPN.com recruiting service. Martin was said to have been wavering throughout the fall, and he will consider California, Florida, Oklahoma and USC, according to reports.

Contact Matt Gamber at mgamber@nd.edu

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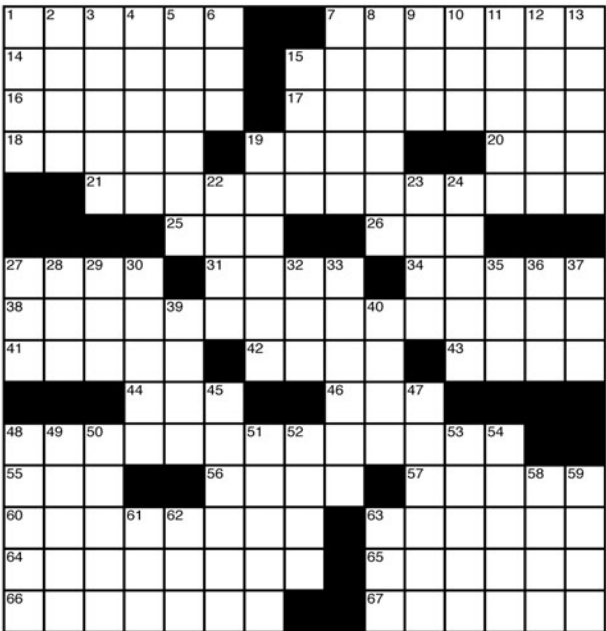
## Recycle The Observer.



CROSSWORD

WILL SHORTZ

- Across**  
1 Slightly sharp or flat, as a voice  
7 Insects in swarms  
14 Encroachment  
15 Retired Big Apple basketball player?  
16 What tests test  
17 Expounds upon  
18 English racing site  
19 "Das Rheingold" goddess  
20 Brit's oath  
21 Was well-versed in a will?  
25 Sawbones  
26 Hot time in la cit   
27 Make in a cauldron  
31 R-rated, maybe
- 34 Lock  
38 Guinevere, to Lancelot?  
41 Like some suspects  
42 Lunch site  
43 Kids' stuff  
44 What you might get in a booth  
46 Roxy Music co-founder  
48 Macram  company's goal?  
55 Cyclades island  
56 Sorrows  
57 Bloopers, e.g.  
60 Miss the start, maybe  
63 Theme song from "American Gigolo"  
64 Select a sweater?  
65 Even
- Down**  
1 Torre Pendente city  
2 Prepares, as the presses  
3 What a king may win  
4 List preceder  
5 Stopped  
6 Upholsterer's meas.  
7 Oafs  
8 Think up  
9 Bank drafts: Abbr.  
10 "Gimme \_\_\_\_!" (repeated cry of a University of Mississippi cheerleader)  
11 Griminess  
12 Follow, as advice  
13 Woman's golf wear  
15 Meanie  
19 Blah, blah, blah  
22 Woman-chaser  
23 Ltr. routing aid  
24 Earn  
27 \_\_\_\_-ray Disc  
28 Dorm heads, for short  
29 E-mail address ending  
30 Jane of "Father Knows Best"  
32 "Huh?"  
33 Puts off  
35 Kind of boost  
36 Short
- 66 Trigonometric ratios  
67 Run in



- Puzzle by Mike Torch
- 37 Many figs. on stained-glass windows

49 "\_\_\_\_ Is to Blame" (1986 hit)

58 Aussie runners
- 39 Norwegian king

50 Of element #76

59 Number of dwarfs with Blanche Neige
- 40 Numbers game

51 University mil. programs

61 Theta preceder
- 45 "Uh, hold on! That's wrong!"

52 Look through half-closed blinds, e.g.

62 Hosp. staffer
- 47 Like things said after cutting to a commercial

53 Less healthy

63 Windy City transportation org.
- 48 Fun

54 Type squiggle

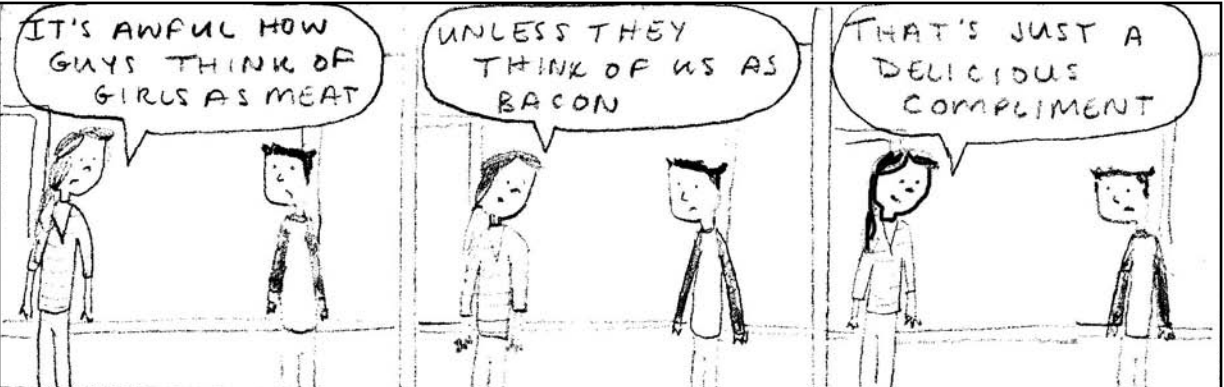
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ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE



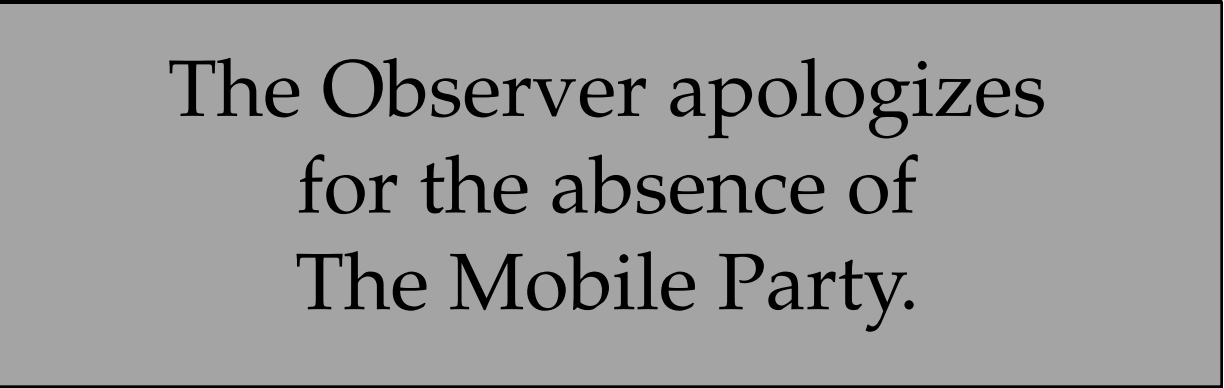
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THE MOBILE PARTY

COLIN HOFMAN, JAY WADE AND LAUREN ROSEMEYER



HOROSCOPE

EUGENIA LAST

- CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY:** Brad Delson, 32; Nestor Carbonell, 42; Bette Midler, 64; Woody Allen, 74
- Happy Birthday:** Don't give in to pressure this year. Keep things simple and don't allow temptation to cost you a bundle emotionally or financially. Set a budget to ensure a safe and worry-free year. Handle sudden and unexpected changes with discretion. Don't spend irresponsibly in the year ahead. Your numbers are 3, 8, 17, 21, 28, 33, 47
- ARIES (March 21-April 19):** Rethink your strategy and make inquiries that help you chose the right course of action. You can obtain goals that were not accomplished in the past. Success is just around the corner. ★★★★★
- TAURUS (April 20-May 20):** The people you have to deal with professionally and personally will test and challenge you. Listen carefully to what's required before you put your time and effort into what's being asked of you. Don't feel guilty if you don't want to participate. ★★
- GEMINI (May 21-June 20):** Don't take chances when it comes to getting things done and dealing with others. Changing your mind will lead to conflicts you can do without. Don't lead someone on when you have no intention of accommodating the requests being made. ★★
- CANCER (June 21-July 22):** Your intuitive insight will enable you to choose what will work best for you. You will be able to see the possibilities that exist if you make some changes. Love and romance will be beckoning you. ★★
- LEO (July 23-Aug. 22):** It's the generosity and kindness you offer the underdog that will help you realize what's truly important to you. Socializing with people you don't know well will bring you the greatest returns and lead to new friendships. ★★★★★
- VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22):** Getting together with old friends will give you a better perspective on your present situation. Greater personal growth can be expected from the experiences you engage in now. A much clearer view of what's ahead will develop. ★★★★★
- LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22):** You have to think matters through carefully, especially when they have to do with your financial future or position. You have to find out first hand before making a promise or signing up for something. Rely on your own resources. ★★
- SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21):** Someone who is withholding information or who is difficult to deal with will confuse you if you are too gullible. Keep your distance in order to finish what you started so you don't disappoint someone who is depending on you. ★★
- SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21):** Temptation will set in, causing you to get involved in something that may be dubious. Consider how the choices you make will alter your future as well as the future of the people close to you. Don't get involved in something questionable. ★★
- CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19):** Combine business with pleasure and you will leave a lasting impression. You will discover the importance of following through with your plans and enjoying what you do. Get in touch with someone from your past. ★★★★★
- AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18):** Keep the peace, no matter how hard it is. If you overreact or do things that someone doesn't like, you will pay dearly for your lack of consideration. Exaggeration will lead to conflicts. ★★★★★
- PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20):** Don't brag. Someone you know will be jealous and cause problems. You will have to defend yourself in order to save your reputation. A cash payout is heading your way -- be quiet about your good fortune if you want to hang onto it. ★
- Birthday Baby:** You are quick-witted and fast to make a decision. You are determined and dedicated to your own cause and can easily get others to follow you.

JUMBLE

JEFF KNUREK  
MIKE ARGIRION

### JUMBLE

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

PIRAD

YUNNF

BEMMER

BUESAD

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

Ans: " \_\_\_\_\_ " OF \_\_\_\_\_

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: BURST COWER NOZZLE FEDORA  
Answer: What the boy said when he flew his kite on a windy day — IT WAS A "BREEZE"

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME  
by Mike Argirion and Jeff Knurek

WHEN THE SURGEON HUNG THE BRAIN ILLUSTRATION ON THE WALL, IT BECAME A ---

THE OBSERVER

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## MEN'S BASKETBALL

# Harangody breaks two thousand points in ND victory

By ERIC PRISTER  
Sports Writer

Senior Luke Harangody's first basket of the night gave him 2,000 career points on a night in which he led the Irish to a 80-70 victory over the Idaho State Bengals.

He is the seventh Irish player to achieve the feat, and became the first to scored 2,000 while also recording 1,000 rebounds.

"It's one thing I never thought would happen in my career," Harangody said. "Never once did I think about that, and last year I never thought about that really. I just wanted to come in here as a freshman and do the small things. I'm just going to concentrate on every game. I'm not worried about the numbers that I'm putting up or the records I'm breaking. I'm just worried about the next game."

Irish coach Mike Brey agreed,

saying he expected big things out of Harangody, but nothing quite this big.

"The first time he put a jersey on, I said 'we have somebody here who can put some numbers up,'" Brey said. "I knew he'd be really good for us. I didn't know we were going to get this, but I knew we were going to need that motor and that toughness. But it is staggering, really. I use the phrase 'machine-like,' and you see it on game nights — this is

practice too. These are the kind of things in practice too. He only knows one way."

After being named Big East Player of the Year after his sophomore season and averaging 23 points and 12 rebounds per game last year, Harangody briefly considered entering the NBA Draft before deciding to return to Notre Dame.

"He came back for all the right reasons," Brey said. "He loves being a senior, trying to lead his

team. He's still too hard on himself sometimes. I have to get him to loosen up, but he's come a long way in the department."

Harangody's 27 points and 12 rebounds led the team, and he scored from every area of the floor. He shot 12-of-17 from the field and hit both of his 3-point attempts. Brey said his scoring game has evolved from where it was freshman year, and that has

see BREY/page 17

## FOOTBALL

# Ianello insight

*Recruiting coordinator takes over program reins*

By MATT GAMBER  
Sports Editor

When Tuesday morning rolled around, a new man was leading the Notre Dame football program.

No, director of athletics Jack Swarbrick had not named a full-time replacement for Charlie Weis, whose dismissal was announced Monday. But effective Tuesday, assistant head coach Rob Ianello was the man in charge, at least for the time being.

"I have asked Rob Ianello to step in and take over the program during this period of time," Swarbrick said at Monday's press conference. "Rob is a skilled coach and has already played a central role in coordinating our recruiting, and I know he will provide us with the leadership we need going forward between this

see IANELLO/page 18



IAN GAVLICK/The Observer

Interim head coach Rob Ianello speaks at a press conference Monday where Director of Athletics Jack Swarbrick announced Ianello will lead the football team during a coaching search.

## MEN'S SWIMMING

# Welsh leads swimmers for 25 years

By MOLLY SAMMON  
Sports Writer

After embarking on his 25th season at Notre Dame and being named the president of the American Swimming Coaches Association, men's swimming and diving coach Timothy Welsh has established this season as one to remember.

"What draws me to swimming is the commitment swimmers make to be at their very best on a given day at a given time and then doing it," Welsh said. "In our sport, the clock never has a bad day, so it is always clear and precisely measured when a person does his best."

Welsh never swam in high school or college, but began coaching to make money as a

see WELSH/page 17

## ND WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

# Notre Dame returns north

By LAURA MYERS  
Sports Writer

In a twist that makes sense only in sports, the Irish are happy to be back in South Bend after a trip to the Virgin Islands.

No. 5 Notre Dame (6-0) will host Eastern Michigan (5-1) tonight at the Purcell Pavilion.

"This time of the year it's really great to be home," Irish coach Muffett McGraw said. "We need to be playing at home. We're going to need the energy of the crowd to get us going tomorrow. This is a tough week academically. There's a lot going on. Everybody's got things to do. We haven't gotten the rest we needed this week. It's going to be a challenge for them, I think, to

see EAGLES/page 18



PAT COVENEY/The Observer

Freshman guard Skylar Diggins drives against Indianapolis on Nov. 3. Diggins will start for the second time of her young career tonight.

## HOCKEY

# Ruth works way back to ice from leg injury

By SAM WERNER  
Associate Sports Editor

As the Irish try to turn the corner and reestablish themselves as a top-flight team in college hockey, they'll be doing so with a familiar face on the blue line that hasn't always been there this season.

After missing the first five weeks of the season because of a leg injury, junior defenseman Teddy Ruth returned for Notre Dame three weeks ago against Northern Michigan, and has taken the last six games to get readjusted as the Irish enter the meat of their CCHA schedule.

"I mean my first game back, I was working some serious rust off," Ruth said. "After that I feel like I've picked up things pretty fast."

After strong freshman and sophomore campaigns, Ruth was considered to be a stalwart of the Irish backline heading into the season. But in the last week of training camp before the season opener against Alabama-Huntsville, the junior went down with what Irish coach Jeff Jackson described as a "fluke injury."

"I was pretty disappointed," Ruth said. "I did a lot this summer to prep myself for

see RUTH/page 18