

# THE OBSERVER

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NDSMCOBSERVER.COM

## New bus route packed on first trips

Students flood new service as ridership is 'much higher than expected,' no behavioral issues reported

By MADELINE BUCKLEY  
News Editor

For senior Tommy Schanzer, riding the weekend Transpo bus home after a night out was like an after party.

"I got on and saw so many people I knew," Schanzer, who rode the bus to his off-campus home from the Blarney Stone, commonly referred to as Finnegan's. "It was a really fun, cool atmosphere."

On Friday night, the first run of the new weekend bus route, 496 people rode the bus, according to Chip Lewis, chairman of the Board of

Directors for Transpo.

"That number was much higher than expected," he said. "We expect ridership will build from there."

Lewis said it is likely that all the riders were students and there were no behavioral issues this weekend.

"Everyone was excited to have this option and we didn't have any problems and we don't anticipate any problems," he said.

The new Transpo route is an initiative of student government and partially funded by the Office of Student Affairs.

Student body president

see TRANSP0/page 6



Photo courtesy of Matthew Degnan.

Students crowd into a Traspo bus on their way to local establishments this weekend. Almost 500 people rode the bus.

## Mendoza expands nonprofit program

By LAURA McCRYSTAL  
News Writer

The Mendoza College of Business is expanding its non-degree Nonprofit Executive Programs, which began in 2006, to offer more specialized training for people who work with nonprofit organizations, Marc Hardy, director of the Programs, said.

These programs are part of the Nonprofit Professional Development department of Mendoza, which includes both non-degree programs and a master's degree in nonprofit administration, Hardy said.

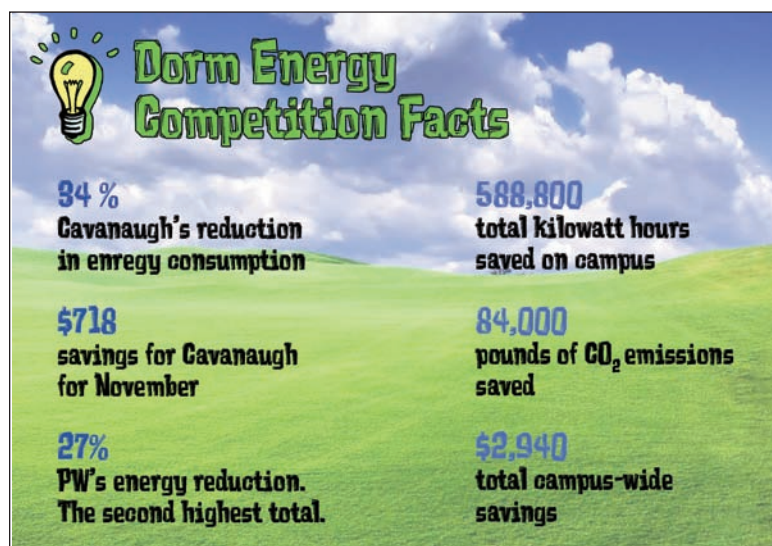
"All of our programs ... are really focused on helping leaders in nonprofits become better at what they do," he said.

The master's degree is a two-year time and financial commitment, Hardy said, but the non-degree programs offer crucial training opportunities without the commitment of the degree.

"Our [non-degree] program is really geared toward people who are working in the sector and just need to know specific information," he said. "Nonprofit organizations are becoming so complex and so large that people need to be

see NONPROFIT/page 6

## Cavanaugh wins energy competition



ANDREA ARCHER | Observer Graphic

By IRENA ZAJICKOVA  
News Writer

Despite some fierce competition, Cavanaugh Hall was announced the winner of the Dorm Energy Competition that lasted through November.

The contest, which was sponsored by the Office of Sustainability and Notre Dame student government, measured how much energy each residence hall used during the month of November and compared those figures to previous amounts.

The Chaos reduced their

energy usage by \$718, which will be donated to the Global Water Initiative and will be used to drill wells in Africa that will provide clean drinking water.

Alicia Vasto, Cavanaugh's sustainability commissioner, said she was surprised when she found out her dorm won, especially since Cavanaugh was not even among the top five energy-saving dorms at the contest's halfway point.

"We are all really excited that we won the compe-

see ENERGY/page 6

## Dance Marathon hosts breakfast with Santa

By MEGAN LONEY  
News Writer

It may be crunch time at the North Pole, but Santa took a break from the workshop to visit Saint Mary's College with one of his elves Sunday morning as part of the Dance Marathon's Santa Breakfast Fundraiser.

The event was hosted in the Stapleton Auditorium and was attended by not only College students, but also members of the local community.

"We had a really great turnout," Dance Marathon president Kelly Deranek said. "We had lots of families in the communi-

ty attend as well as students. We expected a lot of people, but we had even more than we thought we would."

Deranek said there were many members of the community and children from Notre Dame and Saint Mary's ECDC (Early Childhood Development Centers).

"The kids were all very excited to see Santa and make crafts," Deranek said. "The kids asked Santa all sorts of questions."

Santa visited with the guests, but gave special attention to the kids. All of the kids took pic-

see SANTA/page 4

## Aidan Project makes 400 blankets

Event aims to help provide comfort for young cancer patients

By KRISTIN DURBIN  
News Writer

In keeping with the spirit of Christmas, students gathered in South Dining Hall yesterday to make about 400 fleece blankets for cancer patients at this year's Aidan Project.

The Project, sponsored by Circle K, Knott Hall and the class of 2012, was started in 2006 after current senior Aidan Fitzgerald was diagnosed with cancer. His roommate was involved with Circle K and thought the club's annual blanket bash could be turned into a larger, more personal event for students



VANESSA GEMPIS/The Observer

A student volunteer helps work on a blanket as part of the Aidan Project yesterday in South Dining Hall.

see AIDAN/page 4



INSIDE COLUMN

Best of the blog world

I love blogs. There are two blogs I read every day and plenty more I read regularly. It's so much fun to get life advice and laughs from people all over the world. Here are a few of the hilarious, uplifting, and generally awesome blogs out there:

1. ThePioneerWoman.com. Pioneer Woman's real name is Ree Drummond. She was a city girl living in LA until she fell in love with a cattle rancher and real-life cowboy from Oklahoma. Now she's a home-schooling mom of four who writes a hilarious blog about her crazy experiences as a ranch wife. She's darn good at it too — she won Blogger of the Year for 2008 and her recently published cookbook hit No. 1 on the New York Times bestseller list. If you check out her blog, don't miss the mouth-watering recipe section, the "Black Heels to Tractor Wheels" section that tells the adorable story of how she met her husband and the fantastic photography tutorials.

2. NieNieDialogues.com. Nie Nie, or Stephanie Nielson, didn't used to be famous. She was just a normal stay-at-home mom, raising her four cute kids and madly in love with her husband. Her blog was unique because it celebrated her love for domesticity instead of griping about motherhood like many mommy blogs do. But she was still relatively unknown and happy to stay that way.

Then Stephanie bought her husband flying lessons for his birthday. And one day in August 2008, they were riding in a small plane with his flight instructor. And that plane crashed.

Stephanie spent two months in a coma, burned over 80 percent of her body. Her sisters took in her little kids who didn't understand why they couldn't see their mom. Today she is sadly scarred but overjoyed to be back home with her family. Her blog is beyond words. Want to see the triumph of the human spirit and the beauty of family and love? Nie Nie is the role model. Her amazing story has also gained national attention. She's been on Oprah and The Today Show. And now she's in the Notre Dame Observer.

If you're looking to waste time and those blogs just don't cut it for you, here are a few other Web sites I love:

MyLifelsAverage.com. It's so, so much better than FML.

SomeECards.com. You remember back when Facebook bumper stickers were cool? You remember those bumper stickers that had black-and-white pictures of people with some completely absurd caption? And they were always hilarious? This site is where those stickers came from.

StumbleUpon.com. This tool is addictive. You choose from a list of interests and it finds random sites that match your picks. Warning: It's easy to spend hours "stumbling" so install with caution.

HassleMe.co.uk. You pick something you want to be "hassled" about and this Web site sends you random e-mails to remind you about it. Very useful.

Enjoy!



Tess Civantos  
News Writer

The views expressed in the Inside Column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer. Contact Tess Civantos at tcivanto@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: SNUGGIE: ABOMINATION OR GIFT FROM GOD?

					
<b>Lauren Buck</b> <i>grad student Pasquerilla East</i>	<b>Ryan Lion</b> <i>freshman Sorin</i>	<b>Jordan Matulis</b> <i>sophomore Howard</i>	<b>Stephen Santay</b> <i>junior Alumni</i>	<b>Sarah Spieler</b> <i>sophomore Pangborn</i>	<b>Johanna Kirsch</b> <i>senior McGlinn</i>
<i>"Gift! How else could I read a book and enjoy a snack while staying warm in my drafty dorm room?"</i>	<i>"Acceptable only when shared with a lady friend."</i>	<i>"Without question a gift from God. I love my blanket with sleeves."</i>	<i>"Why wear a Snuggie when I can wear my tux?"</i>	<i>"Absolutely a gift from God, but only when worn to outdoor sporting events."</i>	<i>"Abomination. Wearing them right makes you look dumb."</i>

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



PAT COVENEY/The Observer  
**Irish fans are greeted by Notre Dame women's soccer coach Randy Waldrum after the team's loss at the 2009 Women's College Cup in College Station, Texas. The Irish fell in the semifinals to North Carolina on Friday night.**

OFFBEAT

**Tenn. man arrested after allegedly drunk-dialing 911**  
MURFREESBORO, Tenn. — A Middle Tennessee man was arrested after police said he drunk-dialed 911 and has called police 47 times over the last year. Murfreesboro police arrested a 57-year-old man on Thursday after police responded to an emergency call to find him intoxicated in his home. According to the police report, officers asked him why he called 911 and he replied that he was "just drunk."

The Daily News Journal reported that police later learned that the man has

repeatedly called 911 since September 2008.

He was charged with abuse of the 911 system and booked into the Rutherford County Jail.

**Man dressed as elf threatens Santa with TNT, arrested**  
MORROW, Ga. — A man dressed as an elf is jailed after police in Georgia say he told a mall Santa that he was carrying dynamite.

Police say Southlake Mall in suburban Atlanta was evacuated but no explosives were found.

Morrow police arrested 45-year-old William C. Caldwell III, who was being

held without bond Thursday in the Clayton County jail. He was not part of the mall's Christmas staff.

Police say Caldwell got in line Wednesday evening to have his picture taken with Santa Claus.

Police say when Caldwell reached the front of the line, he told Santa he had dynamite in his bag. Santa called mall security and Caldwell was arrested.

Caldwell faces several charges, including having hoax devices and making terroristic threats.

*Information compiled from the Associated Press.*

IN BRIEF

A lecture, "Coordination among Opposition Parties in Authoritarian Elections," will be held Tuesday at 12:30 p.m. in Room C-103 of the Hesburgh Center. The lecture is free and open to the public.







An exhibit, "Darkness and Light: Death and Beauty in Photography," will continue at the O'Shaughnessy Galleries in the Snite Museum of Art through Dec 20. The Snite is open 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and admission is free.

An exhibit, "Sculptural Vessels," will continue at the Milly and Fritz Kaeser Mestrovic Studio Gallery in the Snite Museum of Art through Dec 20. Artist William Kremer is also a Notre Dame professor. The Snite is open 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and admission is free.

An opera, Puccini's "Turandot," will be shown at the Browning Cinema in the DeBartolo Performing Arts Center. The showing will begin at 1 p.m. on Dec 11 and tickets can be purchased online at [performingarts.nd.edu](http://performingarts.nd.edu) or at the box office.

The Notre Dame Glee Club will perform two Christmas concerts on Dec 12 at 6 p.m. and 8:30 p.m. in the Leighton Concert Hall in the DeBartolo Performing Arts Center. Tickets are \$3 to \$8. Music will include carols, classical works and popular standards.

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

	TODAY	TONIGHT	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
LOCAL WEATHER						
	HIGH 34 LOW 27	HIGH 30 LOW 27	HIGH 36 LOW 31	HIGH 35 LOW 12	HIGH 18 LOW 15	HIGH 26 LOW 19
	Atlanta 56 / 43 Boston 42 / 29 Chicago 35 / 29 Denver 27 / 19 Houston 62 / 57 Los Angeles 56 / 41 Minneapolis 21 / 15 New York 45 / 34 Philadelphia 46 / 32 Phoenix 58 / 51 Seattle 34 / 21 St. Louis 42 / 31 Tampa 77 / 60 Washington 45 / 36					



# SMC doctors club promotes science

By ALISON MEAGHER  
News Writer

The Saint Mary's College Future Women's Doctors Club held an event at Coquillard Primary Center on Dec. 3 and 4 to promote interest in science to young girls.

"We wanted to empower young girls and get them interested in science," Catherine Cleary, the vice president of the Future Women's Doctors Club, said.

The club was originally created to encourage and assist peers looking at gaining acceptance to medical, dental and graduate schools, but the group also arranges volunteer and internship positions with local doctors.

"Coquillard is a title one school. There is a lot of poverty there," Cleary said. "Our group wanted to give them the same chance that other schools might have."

The two-day program, enti-

tled "The Girl Power Workshop," was created for third and fourth grade girls. During the two days, the girls were able to dissect fish, make volcanoes, analyze fingerprints, play with magnets and pretend to be doctors.

"[The event] went well," Cleary said. "At first the girls were hesitant, but by the end they were showing me fish eyeballs. They thoroughly enjoyed it."

The club began the workshop at Coquillard last year. The club is planning a similar workshop next semester to promote science to high school girls.

The club is also planning to volunteer at Healthworks and organize a drive for single mothers at a homeless shelter.

"Education is the way out of poverty. [Education] breaks the cycle," Cleary said.

Contact Alison Meagher at  
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*"[The event] went well. At first the girls were hesitant, but by the end they were showing me fish eyeballs. They thoroughly enjoyed it."*

**Catherine Cleary**  
vice president  
Future Women's Doctors Club

# Puzzles help raise awareness, funds

By MEGAN DOYLE  
News Writer

Students and families from around the Notre Dame community pieced together puzzles to raise awareness and funds for autism in a puzzle competition Sunday afternoon sponsored by Special Friends, Ryan Hall and the Class of 2011.

Approximately 75 people competed in individual and

team competitions for prizes including gift cards and a Nerf gun. The Special Friends Club pairs Notre Dame students with autistic children in South Bend and Granger, and many of the families and students involved with the club could be found gathered around puzzles in North Dining Hall.

Special Friends coordinator Lauren Schmitt said the event was oriented both towards raising awareness and fundraising.

"The symbol of autism is a puzzle piece because puzzles really help kids with autism work on their fine motor skills and focus their attention," Schmitt said. "The event uses this symbol to raise awareness and to help fundraising for this cause."

The money collected from

entry fees and ticket sales will be donated to Special Friends and to the Sonya Ansari Center for Autism at the Logan Center in South Bend.

According to Ryan Hall president Courtney Vargas, Schmitt and Kayla Coggins, both residents of Ryan Hall, approached the Hall Council at the beginning of the year to find out how Ryan could get involved with Special Friends.

"The special part of the puzzle competition is that it is a combination of families from the community and students from Notre Dame," Vargas said. "I think that it is a great event, and I hope that this is something that our dorm could be involved with in the future."

Students from Notre Dame have a history supporting causes such as special needs and autism. Special Friends in particular is tied to a seminar on autism and early development taught by Professor Thomas Whitman.

Special Friends vice president Sean Kickham assembled a puzzle while discussing his involvement with the club.

"I volunteered with autistic kids in high school, and when Special Friends started up two years ago, I knew that it was a good option for me to keep up

that work," he said.

The partnerships between the kids and Notre Dame students are the most integral part of the club's work.

South Bend mother Deanna Finfrock watched her four-year-old son Nolan play games with volunteers from Ryan Hall and his Special Friend partner Coggins.

"Nolan has a great time with the college kids," Finfrock said. "These students are incredibly patient, and I love to see him having such a good time here."

Finfrock said Nolan was recently diagnosed with autism and free events like the puzzle competition are the perfect option for her family in the midst of high medical costs. The programs sponsored by Special Friends focus on community participation from families like Nolan's.

"I was drawn to Special Friends because I love to work with kids, and Professor Whitman's autism class got me interested in the group," Coggins said. "I think that the student interaction with the kids is what really makes the work that Special Friends does a great idea."

During Disabilities Week in the spring, Special Friends will be hosting an autism conference featuring a Yale neurologist who will discuss some of his recent research on this handicap and raise awareness for ways to help the cause.

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*"The symbol of autism is a puzzle piece because puzzles really help kids with autism work on their fine motor skills and focus their attention."*


**Lauren Schmitt**  
Special Friends coordinator

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# Aidan

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by naming it after Fitzgerald.

"This is a unique opportunity on campus because you always see things about cancer fundraisers, but this is a way to treat cancer patients like human beings," Fitzgerald said. "You wouldn't think to give someone a blanket, but something that simple is personal and provides an opportunity to make a huge, lasting difference in someone's life."

In the Project's first year, 250 students made 100 blankets in the LaFortune ballroom. It has since grown into the largest service event on campus and changed locations to South Dining Hall to accommodate for yearly growth. In addition, the event won a national award for the best service project last year.

After the fleece used for the blankets ran out in the first hour of last year's Aidan Project, the event's sponsors spent over \$4,000 on fleece this year to be more prepared for a large volunteer turnout.

This year, the Project's sponsors also decided to change the organizational structure of the event in order to get the dorms more involved.

"We have commissioners in each dorm to get the word out," Fitzgerald said.

"It's not just about making blankets, it's more about awareness of cancer, especially in people our age."

Circle K president emeritus Katie Teitgen said coordinators of the Project spoke to the Hall Presidents' Council to get representatives from each dorm to promote the event.

"We noticed that the best participation came from dorms with a direct connection to the Aidan Project, so we decided having someone talking about the event is better than just putting up posters in the dorms," Teitgen said.

Another change this year was the blankets use one layer of fleece instead of two at the request of local hospitals whose patients receive the blankets.

According to Teitgen, the double-layer blankets were too warm for young cancer patients because the hospitals are climate controlled.

The Project focuses on raising awareness for youth cancer, so the majority of the blankets made go to children's hospitals in South Bend, Mishawaka, Indianapolis and other

*"The Aidan Project is a pretty well known event, and there's been a huge response so far. It will be different because the event will have less of a personal connection."*

**Aidan Fitzgerald**  
senior

Indiana communities, though some blankets also go to adult patients. According to Fitzgerald, the event's coordinators hope to start sending more blankets to hospitals in the Chicago area as well.

"We also send proceeds from Aidan Project T-shirt sales to Riley Children's Hospital in Indianapolis," Teitgen said. "It's the biggest children's hospital in the state, and Aidan is from Indianapolis, so it was natural to donate money and blankets there."

Volunteers and project committee members are also encouraged to bring a blanket home with them to their hometown hospitals or to loved ones who suffer from cancer.

"We want to keep track of where the blankets are going, and we would love to spread word of the event more," Teitgen said.

Although Fitzgerald will graduate this year, he and Teitgen are both confident the event will continue to be popular and successful in years to come.

"The Aidan Project is a pretty well known event, and there's been a huge response so far," Fitzgerald said. "It will be different because the event will have less of a personal connection."

Teitgen said Circle K will continue the Project because its officers enjoyed it so much and students anticipate the event at the end of first semester because of its



VANESSA GEMPIS/The Observer

**Student volunteers help make 400 blankets as part of the Aidan Project in South Dining Hall yesterday.**

popularity and past success.

In addition, some of the event's popularity derives from musician Pat McKillen's annual performance at the event. McKillen's friendship with Fitzgerald initially got him involved in the Project.

Students responded very positively to the event this year. Freshman Kristin Ruekert said the sense of community fostered by volunteers working together was a unique and important part of the Project.

"What made me smile the most were the volunteers who weren't students," Ruekert said. "I thought

their selflessness proved this world still has a lot of goodness in it, and I love that we can make a difference when we work together."

Sophomore Meg Larson said it was great that so many people participated in the event even when everyone is busy during the Christmas season.

Although the Project is steadily becoming a larger event, it still promotes the same simple mission of making a difference in the lives of cancer patients.

**Contact Kristen Durbin at**  
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# Santa

continued from page 1

tures on Santa's lap and told him what they wanted for Christmas.

"One little boy wanted to know how he got down the chimney and what his elves were doing," Deranek said. "It was fun to see the kids interacting with Santa."

Geared towards families, the Santa Breakfast offered opportunities to make ornaments, candy cane reindeer, mini-Christmas trees and mini-stockings for the children who attended.

Guests were served pancakes, sausage and eggs all made by students. Target, Meijer, Krispy Kreme, Studebagels and Gordon's

Food services all made contributions for the event, Deranek said.

Dance Marathon raised over \$350 for the Riley Children's Hospital from this Santa Breakfast, and raised community awareness for the cause.

The event was so successful that it may become an annual event, Deranek said. She believes that the event could become even bigger for future years.

"This event was a great fundraiser for us," Deranek said. "The event focused on Christmas and having a fun breakfast with Santa for kids, but in doing so we were able to raise a lot of money for Riley Hospital."

**Contact Megan Loney at**  
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## INTERNATIONAL NEWS

### Iraq prepares for elections

BAGHDAD — Iraqi lawmakers approved plans Sunday to hold parliament elections early next year that are seen as an important step toward political reconciliation and easing the withdrawal of U.S. troops.

The vote — during an emergency session convened just before a midnight deadline — followed marathon talks by political leaders to break an impasse over balloting provisions that would satisfy the nation's rival groups.

"I would like to congratulate the Iraqi people for this historical victory," said Vice President Tariq al-Hashemi, who had held up the elections for weeks with a veto. He also hailed political leaders for compromises that "got Iraq out from the bottleneck and out of a problem."

### Civilian rule called for in Guinea

CONAKRY — A regional African bloc on Sunday called for Guinea to return to civilian rule as the junta's No. 2 assumed control of the country following an assassination attempt on its leader.

Gen. Sekouba Konate, the vice president of the military junta, rushed back to Guinea's capital from overseas to take charge following a Thursday assassination attempt on the junta's president.

Guinea's military leader Capt. Moussa "Dadis" Camara was airlifted Friday to Morocco where he received surgery for trauma to the cranium, Morocco's chief military doctor Brig. Gen. Ali Abrouq said Sunday.

## NATIONAL NEWS

### Ohio innate gets new execution drug

COLUMBUS — Condemned killer Kenneth Biros could become the first person in the country put to death with a single dose of an intravenous anesthetic instead of the usual — and faster-acting — three-drug process if his execution proceeds Tuesday.

The execution could propel other states to eventually consider the switch, which proponents say ends arguments over unnecessary suffering during injection. California and Tennessee previously considered then rejected the one-drug approach.

Though the untested method has never been used on an inmate in the United States, one difference is clear: Biros will likely die more slowly than inmates put to death with the three-drug method, which includes a drug that stops the heart.

### Sex abuse claims filed against Jesuits

SPOKANE, Wash. — More than 500 people in the Northwest filed claims against the Oregon Province of the Society of Jesus in advance of a November deadline, alleging members of the Catholic order sexually abused them as children.

The Spokesman-Review in Spokane reports the claims against the Jesuits span decades and range from Native Alaskan children to students at Spokane's Gonzaga Preparatory School.

A federal judge overseeing the Chapter 11 reorganization of the province set a Nov. 30 deadline for people to file the claims. The organization includes Jesuits in Oregon, Washington, Idaho, Montana and Alaska.

The Jesuits already have settled 200 additional sex-abuse claims.

## LOCAL NEWS

### Teen charged with murder of brother

RISING SUN, Ind. — Showing no emotion and with his parents a few blocks from the courthouse, an Indiana teenager pleaded not guilty to killing his 10-year-old brother. His mother and father were greeting mourners who came to pay respects to their slain younger son.

Andrew Conley, 17, was charged as an adult in Ohio Circuit Court with murdering his brother, Conner Conley, a decision that the boys' parents supported, said Dearborn-Ohio County Prosecutor Aaron Negangard. In front of a few of his friends, the teen answered only basic questions during Friday's hearing. His attorney, Gary Sorge, entered a not guilty plea on his behalf.

# Tiger Woods faces more scrutiny

*Golfer's actions widen his distance from the African-American community*

Associated Press

Amid all the headlines generated by Tiger Woods' troubles — the puzzling car accident, the suggestions of marital turmoil and multiple mistresses — little attention has been given to the race of the women linked with the world's greatest golfer.

Except in the black community.

When three white women were said to be romantically involved with Woods in addition to his blonde, Swedish wife, blogs, airwaves and barbershops started humming, and Woods' already tenuous standing among many blacks took a beating.

On the nationally syndicated Tom Joyner radio show, Woods was the butt of jokes all week.

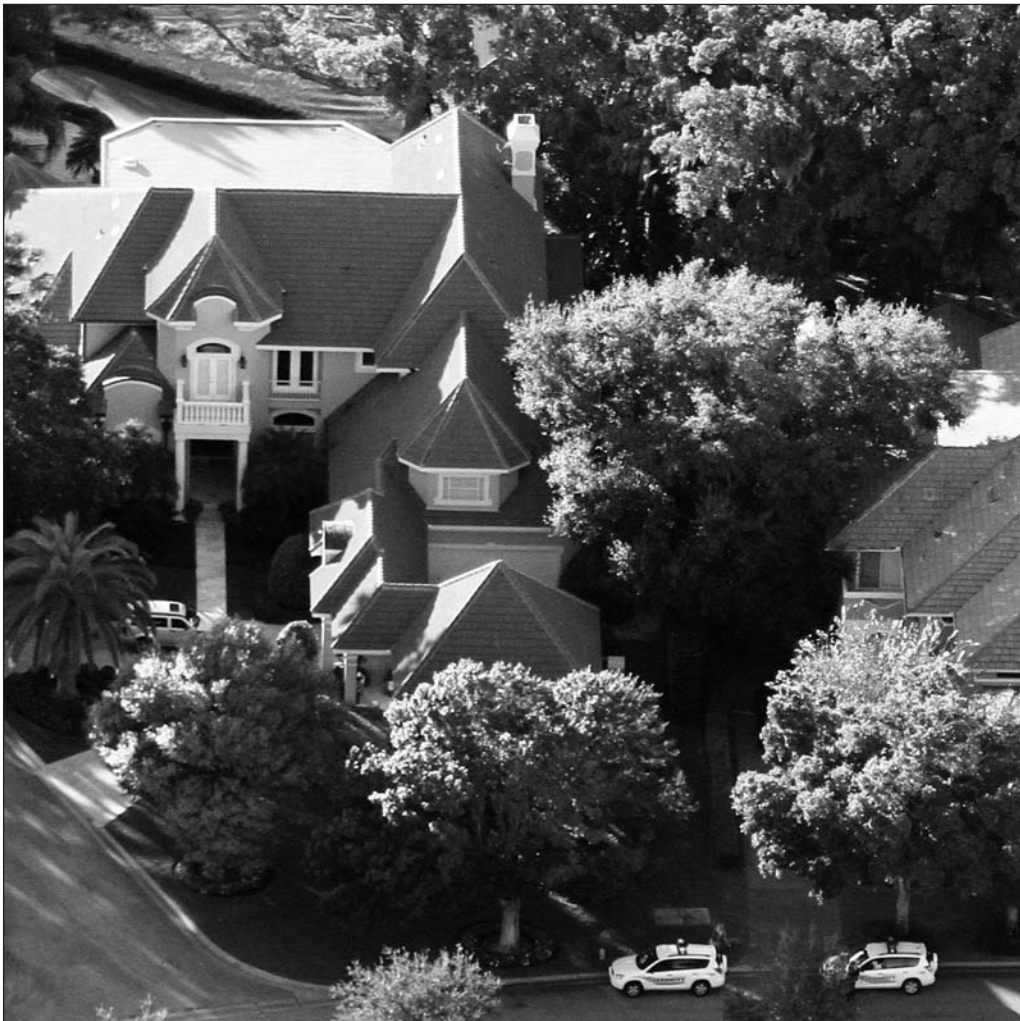
"Thankfully, Tiger, you didn't marry a black woman. Because if a sister caught you running around with a bunch of white hoochie-mamas," one parody suggests in song, she would have castrated him.

"The Grinch's Theme Song" didn't stop there: "The question everyone in America wants to ask you is, how many white women does one brother waaant?"

As one blogger, Robert Paul Reyes, wrote: "If Tiger Woods had cheated on his gorgeous white wife with black women, the golfing great's accident would have been barely a blip in the blogosphere."

The darts reflect blacks' resistance to interracial romance. They also are a reflection of discomfort with a man who has smashed barriers in one of America's whitest sports and assumed the mantle of the world's most famous athlete, once worn by Muhammad Ali and Michael Jordan.

But Woods has declined to identify himself as black, and famously chose the term "Cablinasian" (Caucasian, black, Indian and Asian) to describe the racial mixture he inherited



AP

Security guards gather near Tiger Wood's home on Friday, Nov. 27 in Windermere, Fla. Woods was injured in a car accident early Friday outside his Florida mansion.

from his African-American father and Thai mother.

This vexed some blacks, but it hasn't stopped them from claiming Woods as one of their own. Or from disapproving of his marriage to Elin Nordegren, despite blacks' historical fight against white racist opponents of mixed marriage.

On the one hand, Ebonie Johnson Cooper doesn't care that Tiger Woods' wife and alleged mistresses are white because Woods is "quote-unquote not really black."

"But at the same time we still see him as a black man with a white woman, and it makes a difference," said Johnson Cooper, a 26-year-old African-American from New York City. "There's just

this preservation thing we have among one another. We like to see each other with each other."

Black women have long felt slighted by the tendency of famous black men to pair with white women, and many have a list of current transgressors at the ready.

"We've discussed this for years among black women," said Denene Millner, author of several books on black relationships. "Why is it when they get to this level ... they tend to go directly for the nearest blonde?"

This tendency may be more prominent due to a relative lack of interracial marriages among average blacks. Although a recent Pew poll showed that 94 percent of blacks say it's all

right for blacks and whites to date, a study published this year in Sociological Quarterly showed that blacks are less likely to actually date outside their race than are other groups.

"There is a call for loyalty that is stronger in some ways than in other racial communities," said the author of the study, George Yancey, a sociology professor at the University of North Texas and author of the book "Just Don't Marry One."

The color of one's companion has long been a major measure of "blackness" — which is a big reason why the biracial Barack Obama was able to fend off early questions about his black authenticity.

## FRANCE

# Europe still shows signs of Obama-mania

Associated Press

PARIS — Europeans might have reason to feel disappointed with Barack Obama.

The American president arrives this week in Europe to pick up his Nobel Peace prize just as he has nearly doubled the U.S. troop presence in Afghanistan. This fall, Obama found plenty of time to tour Asia, while missing the 20th anniversary celebrations of the fall of the Berlin Wall.

And Obama originally planned to spend just hours at the Copenhagen conference on global warming, which for many Europeans is the world's No. 1 problem.

Nevertheless, Obama-mania lives on in the hearts of millions here.

A poll released Friday and conducted in the five major European powers — France, Germany, Italy, Great Britain, Spain — and the United States, showed that Obama has retained the support of the vast majority of the Europeans polled, even as his rating sagged in the U.S.

The president's continued high standing in Europe may be due in part to the deep-rooted hostility Europeans have harbored for his predecessor, George W. Bush.

Europeans seem to sense that even if he only shows his face at Copenhagen and has failed to sway his own Democratic Congress to do more on global warming, Obama will likely be bringing far more to the climate table than

they could ever have expected from Bush.

Obama on Friday altered his plans and will join the crucial last week of the meeting amid shifts in the Chinese and Indian positions, reviving some hope of a major breakthrough.

"It sounds like he's still the bees knees for everyone in Britain. He's fabulous," said Sarah Hodgkin, a civil servant from Essex, England.

In the small Spanish town of Arroyo de Luz, about 180 miles (300 kilometers) southwest of Madrid, Miguel Angel Bernejo Carrero made news when he renamed his bar in honor of Obama during the Democratic primary battle, even before it was clear Obama would be his party's candidate.



# Transpo

continued from page 1

Grant Schmidt and student body vice president Cynthia Weber began working on creating a bus route for students to use on the weekends as a safe and reliable way to travel off campus for the weekend.

“Hopefully this will become a staple in how students get on and off campus on the weekends,” he said.

The route starts at Library Circle, runs through student neighborhoods and stops near the Linebacker Lounge, Fiddler’s Hearth, Madison Oyster Bar and Corby’s Irish Pub, as well as Finnegan’s.

Schmidt said he was happy to hear about the high number of student riders on Friday. Numbers for Saturday’s ridership were not available on Sunday.

“It was really important for this weekend to be successful,” he said. “But the buses were literally packed.”

He said the only issues he heard from students were people not knowing the time schedule of the bus route.

“People just need to get used to approximating when the buses arrive,” he said.

Overall, riding the bus was a good time, Schmidt said.

“On Saturday night, people were singing Christmas Carols together,” he said. “People were legitimately having a good time.”

Junior Ryan Hawley rode the bus both Friday and Saturday night and was able to flag down the bus on Twyckenham Drive after walking from his Irish Row apartment.

“It was really easy. I just stood on the route and



Photo courtesy of Matthew Degnan

**Students used the new weekend Transpo bus route 7a to travel around South Bend and avoid high cab fares.**

flagged the bus down,” he said.

Hawley said the bus he took was packed on Friday night.

“You literally couldn’t move,” he said. “There weren’t as many people riding on Saturday but it was still pretty full.”

Schanzer took the bus home from Finnegan’s by chance as it was outside of the bar when he was leaving.

“The fact that the bus was there when the bar closed was really convenient,” he said. “You can save the three dollars you would pay for a cab with and buy another drink.”

When he got on the bus at the end of the night, Schanzer said there were

about 80 other students on the bus.

“All my friends were able to get on and it dropped us right by my house,” he said.

Schmidt said the buses will run this weekend during study days, but he does not think it will run the weekend after, and then it will start up again the first weekend of the spring semester.

“When people get back from Christmas break, we want to have a laminated card with the schedule for students to put in their pockets or purses,” he said. “And then we want to make a more student friendly version with all the bars labeled.”

**Contact Madeline Buckley at mbuckley@nd.edu**

# Energy

continued from page 1

tion,” Vasto said. “Honestly, it was really unexpected.”

Cavanaugh reduced their energy usage by 34 percent — significantly more than the runner-up Pasquerilla West Hall, who used 27 percent less energy.

Vasto said one of the first things the dorm did for the contest was to participate in the compact fluorescent lightbulb (CFL) exchange. Cavanaugh exchanged more than 50 CFL bulbs for more eco-friendly incandescent bulbs.

In addition to the CFL exchange, Cavanaugh’s residents also tried other ways of cutting their energy usage, Vasto said.

“We set our lights to parietal settings for the entire month. I think that

was what really put us over the top and it was such a simple thing to do,” Vasto said. “One of the girls said that her eyes were actually hurting when we set the lights back to normal. I also sent out a lot of reminders to unplug everything, especially before Thanksgiving break, which was really key.”

Vasto said the e-mail reminders were very helpful because her dorm mates wanted to win the competition and the e-mails helped them stay on top of everything.

“I think Cavanaugh girls are already pretty conscious about their energy use so simple reminders were all I really needed to do to get people to participate,” Vasto said. “Plus, we are pretty competitive.”

Vasto said her dorm’s residents were especially eager to participate because the winner’s sav-

ings were being donated to such a good cause.

“Because the money was going to the Global Water Initiative, we had greater incentive to reduce our energy consumption,” Vasto said.

Besides helping provide clean water to people in need, one of the greatest benefits the competition provides is educating Notre Dame students about how they can be more environmentally conscious, Vasto said.

“The competition does a good job of raising awareness about our energy consumption on campus and how often we are unnecessarily wasteful,” she said. “There are so many simple things we can be doing to reduce our energy usage on a daily basis.”

**Contact Irena Zajickova at izajicko@nd.edu**

# Nonprofit

continued from page 1

constantly updated and retrained on this information.”

The current expansion of the nonprofit offerings is a result of a grant that the program received to create an endowment and offer programs to nonprofits at a low cost, Hardy said. Nonprofit organizations cannot always afford to send executives to educational and training sessions, but there is a constant need for education and training in this field, he said.

Two new training programs are scheduled to begin during the summer of 2010, Hardy said.

“We are going to be doing a program for alumni of the ACE program,” he said. “So they can better

serve Catholic schools and organizations.

The Alliance for Catholic Education (ACE) is a program offered by Notre Dame in which

participants teach for two years in Catholic schools and earn their Master’s degree in Education. Hardy said the new four-day training session for graduates of ACE will teach them how to be better board members and leaders in Catholic schools.

The University will also launch a new 10-day program this July “specifically for Catholic nonprofit organizations,” Hardy said.

“The program is to help educate leaders of Catholic organizations learn how to become better nonprofit leaders,” he said.

In addition to these philanthropic programs, the University is looking to expand the training programs it offers to specific organizations for a fee, Hardy said. For example, the nonprofit professional development faculty already provides specialized training for Volunteers of America.

“Our goal is to add three

national partners in the next three years,” he said. “We are currently in negotiation with two national partners ... We partner with nonprofits to create programs that fir their needs.”

Currently, the nonprofit executive programs include Leaders in Transition, an annual program that guides its participants in a transition from a year of post-graduate volunteer service into the rest of their lives as they look to enter the workforce, Hardy said.

“How to maintain that philanthropic spirit even through you’re entering the marketplace,” is a major theme of the Leaders in Transition program, Hardy said.

He said the University also offers a 10-day training program in Cicero, Ill., in partnership with the Cicero Youth Task Force, which works with

nonprofits serving the Hispanic population.

Also included in the current programs is the Civic Sector Leadership Fellows Program, for rising stars nationwide in nonprofit

organizations, Hardy said.

Hardy said Nonprofit Professional Development is currently working on a new marketing strategy in addition to expanding the non-degree programs.

“We’re planning on a major marketing push in the next six months to a year,” he said.

Mendoza College of Business’ Dean Carolyn Woo and Thomas Harvey, the Luke McGuinness Director of Professional Development, have been instrumental in reinventing Notre Dame’s offerings to nonprofit organizations in the past several years, Hardy said.

**Contact Laura McCrystal at lmccryst@nd.edu**

# Have a story idea?

# E-mail the News team at

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MARKET RECAP

Stocks				
Dow Jones	10,388.90	+22.75		
Up:	2,186	Same: 102	Down: 879	Composite Volume: 2,093,453,733

AMEX	1,792.48	+5.10
NASDAQ	2,194.35	+21.21
NYSE	7,182.71	+25.66
S&P 500	1,105.98	+6.06
NIKKEI (Tokyo)	10,022.59	+0.00
FTSE 100 (London)	5,322.36	+9.36

COMPANY	%CHANGE	\$GAIN	PRICE
BK OF AMERICA CP (BAC)	+3.30	+0.52	16.28
CITIGROUP INC (C)	+0.25	+0.01	4.06
S&P DEP RECEIPTS (SPY)	+0.57	+0.63	111.01
FINANCIAL SEL SPDR (XLF)	+1.88	+0.27	14.63

Treasuries			
10-YEAR NOTE	+3.05	+0.103	3.48
13-WEEK BILL	0.00	0.00	0.04
30-YEAR BOND	+1.94	+0.084	4.41
5-YEAR NOTE	+5.64	+0.120	2.25

Commodities			
LIGHT CRUDE (\$/bbl.)	-0.36		76.10
GOLD (\$/Troy oz.)	-49.30		1,169.0
PORK BELLIES (cents/lb.)	+1.73		82.80

Exchange Rates	
YEN	90.5450
EURO	1.4857
CANADIAN DOLLAR	1.0588
BRITISH POUND	1.6480

IN BRIEF

Bashas’ grocery declares Bankruptcy

PHOENIX — A bitter four-year fight between Arizona grocery chain Bashas’ Inc. and a grocery union will end under an agreement hammered out in U.S. bankruptcy court.

The Chandler-based grocery chain and the United Food and Commercial Workers union will call off their respective publicity campaigns against each other and settle a raft of lawsuits that allege defamation and harassment, court records show.

The union also will suspend its efforts to organize Bashas’ employees.

The agreement is seen as overcoming a key hurdle for the company, which hopes to emerge from bankruptcy early next year.

“It’s a very important step in reorganizing Bashas’,” said Michael McGrath, the grocer’s Tucson bankruptcy attorney.

A tentative reorganization plan calls for the Bashas’ family to continue to run the 77-year-old business and possibly close additional stores.

Bashas’ operated nearly 160 Bashas’, Food City and AJ’s Fine Foods markets when it filed for bankruptcy in July but has since closed 30 stores.

‘Buy local’ movement excels

PROVIDENCE, R.I. — A lot of things have helped Deb Dormody and her partners turn their annual holiday craft show, Craftland, into a year-round permanent store: a growing appreciation for handmade, unique goods, a desire to support the arts, and — surprisingly — the bad economy, which she says has pushed people to examine how they spend their money.

“People can feel really good about what they’re purchasing,” she said. “Being able to say to the recipient, ... ‘I know the person who made this. This person lives here in town.’ ”

Providence is among many cities and states pushing a “buy local” philosophy this holiday season. Mayor David Cicilline says businesses are critical to the economy of Providence, the capital of a state where unemployment is 12.9 percent. New Mexico Gov. Bill Richardson urged residents of his state to spend \$25 at each of two local stores this month, saying it could have a \$27 million economic impact. Cities including Cambridge and Somerville, Mass., and Portland, Maine, have similar pushes.

THE OBSERVER  
BUSINESS

Obama makes Copenhagen trip

As prospects brighten, President shifts visit in order to promote climate change action

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President Barack Obama is shifting the timing of his visit to an international climate summit in Copenhagen as prospects for a political agreement at the event seem more likely.

The U.S., India and China all have specific proposals on the table for the first time, and world leaders are aiming for a deal that includes commitments on reducing emissions and financing for developing countries. They no longer expect to reach a legally binding agreement, as had long been the goal.

Obama is hoping to capitalize on steps by India and China and build a more meaningful political accord, the White House said.

The move means Obama will be at the summit on Dec. 18, considered a crucial period when more leaders will be in attendance, as opposed to his scheduled stop in Denmark on Wednesday on his way to receive the Nobel Peace Prize in Oslo.

It also means that Obama will be squeezing in a separate, 10th foreign trip before Christmas — a record pace of travel for a first-year president — as a means to giving momentum to a deal aimed at combatting global warming.

Obama will now leave for Oslo late Wednesday, attend Nobel events Thursday and return to Washington on Friday.

The president had said that he would travel to the Copenhagen conference if his appearance would help clinch a deal. His decision to go early to the two-week meeting had been seen by many as a sign that an agreement was still a long shot.

The possibility of an agreement may be improving, however.

“There are still outstand-



AP

Arundhati Baden-Mayer Eidinger, 5, of Washington holds up a banner calling for climate change action on Friday in front of the White House.

ing issues that must be negotiated for an agreement to be reached, but this decision reflects the president’s commitment to doing all that he can to pursue a positive outcome,” White House press secretary Robert Gibbs said in a statement. Gibbs said the U.S. will have negotiators involved throughout the Dec. 7-18 conference.

It is also possible that Obama could tack on another agenda item to his revamped, final trip of the year: the signing of a broad treaty with Russia to reduce both nations’ nuclear arsenals. The White House had hoped that deal would be ready in time to coordinate it with

his receiving the Nobel Peace Prize, but talks have not produced a final breakthrough.

On climate, India pledged Thursday to significantly slow the growth of its carbon emissions over the next decade. China announced its own targets for cutting carbon emissions last week, a day after Obama announced the U.S. goals.

None of the three countries — which are among the top five emitters of carbon dioxide in the world — were subject to limits put in place by the 1997 Kyoto Protocol, the treaty that negotiations in Denmark seek to replace.

The development came one day after India said it

would cut the ratio of greenhouse gases pollution to production by 20 percent to 25 percent from 2005 levels by 2020 but would not agree to a hard limit on the amount of heat-trapping gases it could release. India’s pledge, like the one made earlier by China, is a cut in carbon intensity.

That means emissions can keep rising as their developing economies grow, but they would do so more slowly. China pledged weeks ago to commit to a 40 percent to 45 percent reduction in carbon intensity from 2005 levels over the next decade. That means its emissions would grow at half the rate they would otherwise.

U.S. campuses support geothermal power

Associated Press

MILWAUKEE — While solar and wind power get most of the headlines, geothermal power is quietly gaining traction on college campuses where energy costs can siphon millions each year from the budget.

Schools from Wisconsin to New Mexico have geothermal projects in the works. There are 46 schools divvying up millions in federal stimulus dollars to advance technology that uses the temperature of the Earth, rather than coal-fired power plants, to heat and cool buildings.

So far this year, the Department of Energy has announced \$400 million in grants to advance geothermal projects like those under way on a handful of campuses.

Geothermal technology has been around for decades, it works and it’s increasingly affordable. At colleges that must maintain dozens of large buildings, the savings are magnified.

Those involved in the decision to pursue geothermal technology say they wanted to use less coal-fired power, although the schools also had to save money to justify the move.

The technology is a natural fit for schools like Boise State that sit atop geothermal springs. The school recently announced it expects to save as much as \$80,000 per year in heating costs by doing so, and even more as the project expands. Yet schools in the Midwest and East are also turning to geothermal power using a different type of technology.

A typical geothermal system works like this:

On a warm day, the system draws heat from a hot building and pumps it underground where the soil absorbs it. On a cold day the process reverses — the system extracts heat from the earth and returns it to the building.

The process is so efficient that even though the underground temperature remains about a constant 55 degrees, the system can be used to chill water to 45 degrees or heat it to 170 degrees.

“That makes heating and cooling a whole new ball game,” said Robert J. Koester, a Ball State University architecture professor overseeing one of the nation’s most aggressive installations.



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Questions regarding Observer policies should be directed to Editor-in-Chief Jenn Metz.

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# How to keep tradition alive

Notre Dame is a special place. Perhaps more than any other university, it holds almost mythological importance to its faithful. To many the future of Notre Dame is the future of morality or Catholicism or tradition itself. As Notre Dame goes, so go the giant intangible constructs, as they say. When it comes to creating devotion, this is excellent. But I am sure it has already occurred to you (looking at you here, Fr. Jenkins) that this can be problematic when trying to make decisions. Because everyone's investment feels so large, everyone believes that what they want for the University must be accomplished, or we court disaster.

And what represents the University to these faithful? Football. So I am sure your decision is a nerve-wracking one. Choosing a coach to please one faction of the faithful may upset another faction. You are, perhaps, tempted to choose a "compromise candidate," one who will be the least objectionable to all concerned. One that makes no one angry. I write to urge you not to do this. Not when an ideal candidate exists — one who will make everyone overjoyed.

I write to nominate for the position of head football coach a life-size cardboard cutout of Lou Holtz. Or perhaps, if the previous coach hasn't put as large a drain on University coffers as has been speculated, you could even spring for a Lou Holtz Fathead.

Listen to this: For a fraction of the cost of luring a successful coach from another school you can put one on the wall of the locker room. Research shows these things are about 100 bucks. Expensive as far as stickers go,

sure, but better than a fire sale in the world of Division I coaches. No private jets required to fly him around. Lou Holtz Fathead travels United States Postal Service. No worries about Lou Holtz Fathead getting distracted by family, charity work or dying children wishing for play-calling privileges, about jumping ship for an NFL team. Lou Holtz Fathead is as focused as they come. Once you put him in the locker room he won't even go home to sleep. And for that price you can even get a second Lou Holtz Fathead on a cardboard stand for the sidelines, halftime interviews and press conferences.

Lou Holtz Fathead is unflappable. No more worries about how a coach will interact with the media. Lou's winning smile will never leave his face. It will inspire players on and off the field. Imagine halftime with players circled around Lou Holtz Fathead, all anxiously taking a knee. Lou Holtz Fathead smiles. His enthusiasm makes everyone want it just a little more. At practice, Lou Holtz Fathead will never tell anyone it's okay to be undisciplined, and he'll never berate a player. He will handle all situations with characteristic aplomb.

Most importantly, Lou Holtz Fathead would embody Notre Dame history and tradition without endangering it. In The Observer, the wider sports media, even in dorm rooms and classrooms, well-meaning fans, students and alumni pontificate without a hint of irony about the sacred tradition that is Notre Dame winning football games. Lou Holtz Fathead speaks directly to this group. By selecting an image of 1988 Lou Holtz for Lou Holtz Fathead we get all that he meant to the school without that thing at South Carolina, or that kind of lisp thing he does. No one will

ever be able to claim Lou Holtz Fathead is anything but emblematic of a time when Notre Dame really meant something, as a team and also a school.

Lou Holtz Fathead has never done a single thing to advance the legality of abortion. Put that in your pipe, Randall Terry, and smoke it. In fact he's never challenged the hierarchy of the Catholic Church at all. Lou Holtz Fathead has never lied on a resume, has never been accused of infidelity, of poor sportsmanship, of racism or of aiding or abetting terrorism. He has never, even once, suggested that Notre Dame should lower its academic standards to improve its football program. I have it on good authority he would keep his views on homosexuality to himself. Mark May would still disagree with him, but come on. That's part of the fun.

It's time to return Notre Dame to a tradition of supporting Notre Dame tradition. Allow our football team, and by implication Notre Dame itself, and by further implication the Notre Dame faithful, to mean something again.

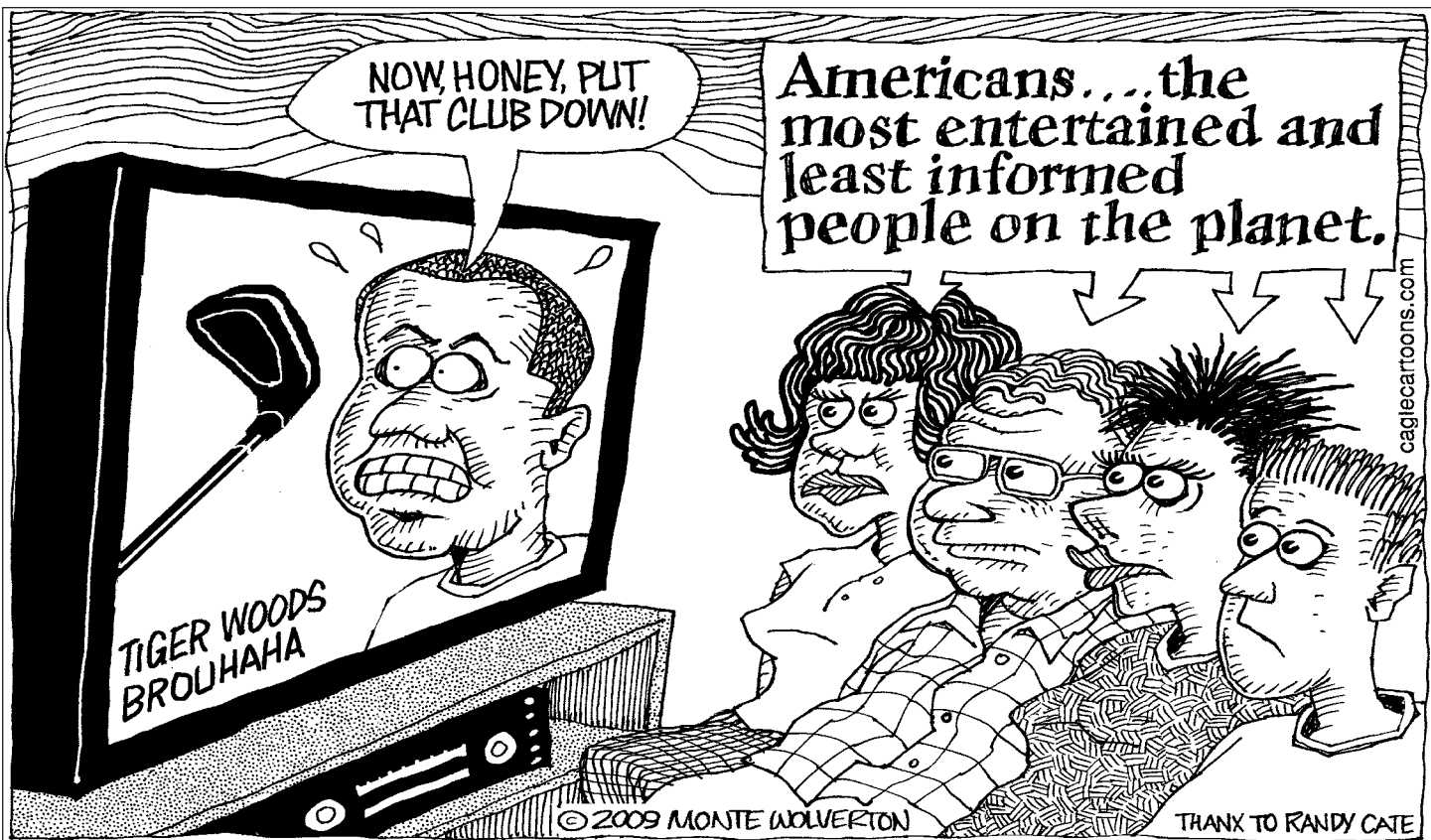
Imagine, if you will, players running out of the locker room, helmets gleaming in expectation of the victory to come. One by one they good-naturedly slap Lou Holtz Fathead on the behind, only on his front, since Lou Holtz Fathead, will, admittedly, not have a behind.

Do you have goosebumps? I just got goosebumps there.

*Chris Manley is a member of the class of 2004 and a visiting faculty member. He can be reached at cmanley1@nd.edu*

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

## EDITORIAL CARTOON



## OBSERVER POLL

Who will be the next Notre Dame head football coach?

Brian Kelly  
Bob Stoops  
Skip Holtz  
Other

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

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

## QUOTE OF THE DAY

*"In three words I can sum up everything I've learned about life: it goes on."*

**Robert Frost**  
U.S. poet



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## Long home games hurt team

Notre Dame's endowment was \$400 million in the late '80s when it began negotiating with NBC. It is now \$8 billion.

I mention this because I think Notre Dame football will not really prosper until the NBC contract is abolished. We can afford it.

Four-and-a-half-hour football games hurt the team. While it is true that opposing teams also have to play during that four-and-a-half-hour span, they don't have to do it seven times a year. And while the game is still only

60 minutes in terms of pure playing time, having to muster concentration into that fourth hour is difficult. For visitors, who often make the Notre Dame game their marquee game, this is feasible — once a year. In addition, the length of the games hurt the running attack, as it allows opposing D-lines to catch their breath. (Granted, Notre Dame will have to field a running game before this becomes a real problem.) The numerous time-outs also give opposing defensive backs time to rest — this has mattered a lot in recent

years as Notre Dame has grown more dependent on the pass. Despite problems in recent years, Notre Dame usually has more talented and stronger athletes than the opposition; this advantage is mitigated when the game is stopped repeatedly, allowing people to rest. The cumulative effects over the length of a season mean that Notre Dame teams are less effective at the end of the year — this probably contributed to the numerous losses of Weis-led teams in November. Even Holtz's teams in the early '90s suffered

let-downs at home late in the second half.

If Notre Dame has to join a conference in order to recruit at the top level, a positive side effect might be the end of that goofy contract — three-and-a-half-hour games are acceptable; four-and-a-half-hour games without roman numerals after them are a joke.

Peter Zavodnyik  
alumnus  
class of 1992  
Dec. 4

## Grab and Go system unfair

Grab and Go is flawed because we are overcharged for what we can get and it limits our choice on what food and the quantity of that food we can eat.

It takes a quick look at the Notre Dame food Web site and a few calculations to find that for each meal swipe we are charged \$10.52. With each point costing \$1.50, the seven points' worth of food we get does not add up anywhere close to that. You could get this meal at the grocery store for a few dollars, yet we spend almost 11 dollars on it.

Not only that, but with the cost of attending this school, most of us don't have money to throw around. Baylor University, which is 15 minutes away from my house, uses the system of filling a box with as much food from the regular dining hall as can fit for a Grab and Go meal, and both my sisters who went there really liked it, as did their friends. For more than 10 bucks, I'd like to be able to stuff as much food as I can into a box and save some for later.

Not only are we limited as to how much food we can take to go, but we have a set variety of food. Sure, the dining hall has a set variety of food as well, but that selection is much greater than that of Grab and Go. Also, being able to get our food to go from the dining hall would allow us to be able to select hot food, refrigerate it and heat it up later instead of being constricted to cold food.

Skinny people or those of us on diets who enjoy eating small amounts of monotonous food day-to-day may enjoy Grab and Go as it is, but I feel that a change is needed. I appreciate the fact that we have an alternate choice for when we don't have time to sit down and eat, but a switch to packing a take-out box with a wider variety of food from the dining hall seems to be a much better way to feed students on the go.

Mitchell Myers  
freshman  
Keough Hall  
Dec. 4

## Global warming skeptic

There is a lot of research taking place these days that points to global warming as an imminent threat. The great leader, Barack Obama and his Congressional cronies are moving ahead with legislation and international meetings to begin limiting greenhouse gas emissions on a grand scale. Europe, in its infinite wisdom, is also pushing climate change legislation internationally. When the global economy is hurting so much already, they want to handicap our economic capacity with these kinds of regulations that likely won't yield any positive results.

Allow me to explain: In most environmental issues there is a direct effect on human and ecological well being. When air pollution is too high, air quality becomes intolerable and has a direct human effect. When an oil spill turns the ocean and beaches black, there is a direct ecological impact and humans cannot use the water until it is cleaned up. These are problems with a direct cause traced back to us that we should resolve. Climate change is a little fuzzier. Right now, there is no direct cause. Sure, we are releasing a lot of different gasses into the atmosphere while manufacturing goods, but need I remind you that every year wild fires release immeasurable cubic tons of greenhouse gases? A single volcanic eruption can spew out huge amounts of carbon dioxide. How are you going to regulate those kinds of phenomena? With all these other variables added to the mix, plus the daunting task of measuring the temperature of the earth given its sheer size (do they average the North Pole temperature with the temperature in Ecuador?), it is impossible to conclusively say that humans are the sole cause of climate change. In fact, going by current

scientific findings, the climate of the earth shifted several times before humans were even around. North America was once pure ice and the Middle East was once a dense jungle. That was all before we had cars and factories.

At the recent Commonwealth summit, climate change was at the forefront in preparation for the Copenhagen talks. The poor countries requested that at least \$10 billion per year be offered up by the richer countries in order for the topic to even be on the table. The facts are that even if you believe in man-made climate change, you can't make any gains unless emerging nations cooperate with climate change regulation. The other fact is that cheap energy is a big creator of greenhouse gases. Are you going to deny the prosperity of poor countries for the sake of maybe keeping the earth cooler? Are you going to make people who live on less than a dollar a day foot the bill for your regulations? We had our chance to grow without regulation and now you are going to tell others they can't do the same?

The argument can definitely be made that the climate is changing considering its cyclical pattern. However, there is still no way to prove we are the ones who are causing the climate to change. So before we go spending a lot of time and resources, we should make sure what we're doing is actually solving a problem in the first place. All that money would be really nice to fund any number of things that are way more important at this point in history.

Mark Easley  
sophomore  
Keenan Hall  
Nov. 30

## PE must be worth something

As a freshman, there are many things you have to just get used to here at Notre Dame. Parietals are a big one that I imagine will never seem to make sense. The fact that the University can put such harsh regulations on the new freedom college is supposed to bring doesn't seem right. The amount of work that has to be done each day is also something that you just have to accept and push through during the first year. But one thing that a college freshman shouldn't have to accept is taking a class for a full year and not getting credit for it. There is no good reason physical education should be a zero-credit course at Notre Dame.

PE is required for all Notre Dame freshmen, but while it is a graduation requirement, there is no credit given for the class. It meets twice a week and consists of 20 weeks of four different physical activities and 10 weeks of Contemporary Topics. Attendance is mandatory at each and every class and multiple tardies result in an absence and require a make-up class or assignment. In Contemporary Topics there is a paper to write and other various assignments to do outside of class. So far this doesn't sound at all different from some of the Arts and Letters classes offered on campus. Actually, the required attendance and make-up classes make PE seem more difficult in some ways.

If these reasons aren't enough to make PE a two-credit course per semester, then there is absolutely no reason it shouldn't be worth one credit. I am in Liturgy Choir, and it was my surprise to find out that I could get credit for it. I am receiving one credit hour this semester for it. Now, I attend two rehearsals a week and we sing at Mass on Sunday. While attendance is kept, there are excused absences. There is never work outside of choir, except the occasional requirement to work a couple hours at a concession stand or something. This is less regulated than PE, but I am getting credit for Lit Choir and not PE. Something here is not right at all.

Some people may argue is that since every single student has to take PE before they can graduate, then it doesn't matter. But everyone has to take a lot of similar classes their first year. For example, everyone has to take a University Seminar their freshman year. Should that class be not worth any credit? The answer to that question is obvious. So why isn't the answer to the question about whether PE should count as a credit just as simple?

Given these facts, I can see no reason that PE is a zero-credit course. Attendance is mandatory and work is assigned for Contemporary Topics outside of class. Also, other things, such as Liturgy Choir, can be taken as one-credit courses and even though PE is a graduation requirement, that doesn't mean it shouldn't count as some sort of credit for students. This is a great example of the University adding things to freshman year without giving students any recognition for completion and is just nonsensical. PE should be worth credit for Notre Dame freshmen. End of story.

Lindsey Marugg  
freshman  
Pasquerilla West Hall  
Dec. 5

## EDITORIAL CARTOON







## THE WINNERS

By COLIN RICH  
Scene Writer

### Woodie of the Year – Kings of Leon

After living in the shadows of alternative rock since the early 2000s, Kings of Leon emerged as one of this year's hottest acts following the release of their fourth album "Only By The Night" in 2008. Comprised of three brothers and their cousin, this quartet tore up American airwaves with Grammy-award winning singles "Sex on Fire" and "Use Somebody." While the band garnered an impressive reputation in the U.K. in the past several years, "Only By The Night" launched a wave of commercial success in the U.S., reaching No. 5 on the Billboard Charts and receiving critical acclaim from pop culture paragons Rolling Stone and Spin. Basking in their American ascent, Kings of Leon headlined the Lollapalooza and Austin City Limits music festivals and recently released a live DVD of their performance at London's O2 Arena.

Woodie for his 2009 releases "K.O.D.," "Sickology 101" and "The Box Set." In Sept. 2008, Tech N9ne officially hit a milestone in his career, accumulating over a million album sales to date thanks to the release of his double album "Killer." Tech N9ne also co-owns the record label Strange Music, and his 10-year film and music career demonstrates a repeated embrace of a bizarre and brutal hardcore rap.

### Performing Woodie – Green Day

Following the release of their eighth studio album and subsequent tour circuit, punk rock vets Green Day earned top performing honors for everything from their sold-out shows to their impromptu soundcheck-turned-30-minute-set at the MTV VMAs this year. 2009 witnessed the relative revival of Green Day, who began their current world tour in April following a three-year hiatus from live events. The Performing Woodie salutation pays tribute to a band once considered faded but poised for another confident run at the top. Their May release "21st Century Breakdown" achieved Green Day's best chart-performance to date, reaching Gold or Platinum status in 14 countries.

### Good Woodie – Jamie Tworkowski

Becoming the first ever non-musician to take home a Woodie, Jamie Tworkowski founded To Write Love on Her Arms (TWLOHA), a non-profit movement dedicated to the spread of awareness and help for those who struggle with depression, addiction, self-injury and suicide. TWLOHA seeks to encourage, inform, inspire and invest directly into treatment and recovery. Today the distinctive slogan appears on T-shirts, bracelets and yes, even the arms of major international celebrities and musicians such as Paramore, Switchfoot and Panic at the Disco. Check out the TWLOHA Web site to browse merchandise and learn details on how to get involved.

### Best Music on Campus Woodie – Hotel of the Laughing Tree

This year's best campus musicians reside in Long Island at Suffolk County Community College, where Hotel of the Laughing Tree's astute lyricism and instrumental range amounts to more than just another indie also-ran.

### College Radio Woodie – KUPS 90.1

Sorry WVFI, the University of Puget Sound apparently holds top college radio honors this year, but we tried to put in a good word.

Contact Colin Rich at [crich@nd.edu](mailto:crich@nd.edu)

### Best Video Woodie – Matt and Kim's "Lessons Learned"

With one of the most impressively jaw-dropping and imaginatively simple music videos ever made, Matt and Kim streaked off with the Best Video Woodie of 2009. The video featured Matt and Kim coolly exiting a van in a chilly Times Square before (un)comfortably stripping and running naked from the NYPD. This constituted their second MTV win for "Lessons Learned" which garnered Breakthrough Video honors at the 2009 MTV Video Music Awards. Matt and Kim's genuine affability, gratitude and spunk permeated the Woodies as the sprightly duo's opening performance paid a likewise skintastic homage to their audacious video.

### Breaking Woodie – Never Shout Never

The success of 18-year-old acoustic pop musician and devout vegan Christofer Ingle (a.k.a. Never Shout Never) lies in his gifted musicianship and rampant Internet exposure. Set for release this week, his fifth EP "Hot Topic" is only his second after signing with Warner Bros. Records this past May. His spring and summer consisted of touring with smaller acts and surfacing repeatedly on college playlists nationwide. Never Shout Never's debut full-length album "What is Love?" hits iTunes in January 2010.

### Left Field Woodie – Tech N9ne

Well known for his collaborations with a broad range of other artists, a good spirited Tech N9ne took home the Left Field

## THE NOMINEES

By ALEXANDRA KILPATRICK  
Assistant Scene Editor

The annual mtvU Woodie Awards aired on Friday for a target audience of college students. The awards ranged from best college station to best new artist and mainly focused on musical artists that would appeal to the wide-ranging music tastes of the college student audience.

The Breaking Woodie, which awards the year's best new developing artist, had a wide range of nominees, from 18-year-old acoustic pop artist Never Shout Never to Brooklyn-based psychedelic indie rock band Grizzly Bear to Nigerian-American rapper Wale. Other nominees included British synth-pop duo La Roux, dance punk band Friendly Fires and Cambridge, Mass.-based electronic indie rock quintet Passion Pit, who played at Lollapalooza this summer.

The Left Field Woodie goes to the most genre-busting musical artists, those classification-resisting bands and solo artists who come out of so-called left field. Nominees this year included hip hop artist Tech N9ne, eclectic collaborative rapper Amanda Blank, futuristic Afropunk funk singer Janelle Monae, British DJs and producers Major Lazer and combined blitzkrieg punk garage artist Jay Reatard.

The Performing Woodie commemorates the musical artist who always gives a memorable live performance. Alternative punk rock band Green Day, eclectic 80s rock-synth French quartet Phoenix, Boulder, Colo.-based goofy electronic rap duo 3OH!3, folky, noise-pop alt rock band Animal Collective and punk rapper P.O.S. were all nominated for the award.

The College Radio Woodie rewards the

college station breaking out the latest and greatest in music as pioneers of the music industry, and nominees this year included KUPS 90.1 at the University of Puget Sound, WCRD 91.3 at Ball State University, Coyote Radio at California State University: San Bernardino, KCOU 88.1 at University of Missouri and WPTS 92.1 at the University of Pittsburgh. The Best Music on Campus Woodie, which goes to the top college band, nominated rapper G-Eazy from Loyola University New Orleans, pop-rock band Oh, the Story! from Loyola College, pop-punk quintet The OverUnder from Baruch College, indie rock Long Islanders Hotel of the Laughing Tree from Suffolk County Community College and indie quartet VulpesVulpes from Five Towns College.

The Best Video Woodie's nominees included Matt & Kim's "Lessons Learned," which basically consists of the duo getting out of a van in Times Square in New York and going streaking. The Dead Weather's "Treat Me Like Your Mother" has Jack White and Alison Krauss decked out in black leather shooting rounds of ammo into the other's chests. Death Cab for Cutie's "Grapevine Fires" is a touching animated video with a pretty much literal interpretation of the song's lyrics. Anjulie's "Boom" showed the singer falling through the sky into various scenes like Alice in Wonderland, while Yeah Yeah Yeahs' "Heads Will Roll" went to a nightclub where a monster in a business suit knocks off people's heads and spills confetti streams of blood. Kid Cudi's "Day N' Nite" had the rapper walking around town watching everything in sight turn into vibrant animation.

The big award, Woodie of the Year, commends the musical artist who's made

the most noise on the college scene in the past year. Nominees for this sought after acclamation included Asher Roth, Drake, Kings of Leon, MGMT and Silversun Pickups. Asher Roth, himself a young college-educated prodigy, rose to success in the mainstream rap scene with his debut 2008 single, "I Love College," playing on college student iPods throughout the nation. The Canadian rapper and actor, Drake, perhaps best known for portraying the character of Jimmy Brooks on the Canadian teen drama, "Degrassi," quickly came onto the college scene with his debut 2009 single, "Best I Ever Had."

After the overwhelming success of their fourth album, 2008's "Only By The Night," no one will forget Nashville-based alternative rock band Kings of Leon, previously referred to as the Southern version of the Strokes. The all killer, no filler album brought singles, "Sex on Fire," "Use Somebody," "Revelry" and "Notion" to college stations and dorm rooms everywhere. Brooklyn-based electro pop duo MGMT, previously known as Management, and their 2007 album, "Oracular Spectacular," received plenty of airplay on campuses nationwide over the past year with singles "Time to Pretend," "Electric Feel" and "Kids." LA-based alt rock band Silversun Pickups delivered clear-cut rock with their new album, "Swoon," and a sound similar to that of 90s style Smashing Pumpkins.

Overall, the 2009 mtvU Woodie Awards had an excellent lineup of nominees. From Asher Roth to MGMT to Matt & Kim, there was something for every college student.

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## THE AWARD SHOW THAT PARTIES LIKE A DORM PARTY

By NICK ANDERSON  
Scene Writer

Behind closed doors, there are whispers that MTV has finally been found guilty of at least one of their many, many crimes against humanity ("The Hills," we're looking at you). After a long but secret trial, MTV was sentenced to thousands of hours of community service and thinking about what they've done. While this may not be true, it is the leading theory explaining the existence of the MTVU Woodie Awards, the leading college music awards show.

MTV provided necessary stage, performers, music and bar with little respect for the legal drinking age declaring boldly, loudly and in its own edgy manner, "This ain't your father's award show." The night quickly transformed into a manic display of uninhibited college antics, over-hyped musicians, malfunctioning Teleprompters and unrefined hipness.

Matt & Kim, backed by some incredibly confident back-up singers, opened the show, bursting onto the main stage on fixed gear bicycles. An inspired performance, backed by nearly naked singers started the show on a high note, capped off by Kim's stage dive off her bass drum.

Never a network to miss an opportunity to

force more commercialization into an event, Matt & Kim were followed, for the first

and likely final time in their career, by Pete Wentz, who opened with a toast. In a normal situation, the hipster-heavy audience would have alternatively booed or laughed the Fall Out Boy front man off-stage. They instead welcomed him loudly cheering heavy with enthusiasm and alcohol. He's a celebrity; he deserves at least the much respect.

The presenters, equipped with shoddy but high concept jokes, mainly fell flat, either from bad writing or a clear lack of celebrity. All presenters were vexed by a slow Teleprompter, leading to either awkward pauses in their speeches or clear and inappropriately interjected vulgarity. David Cross' extended sciencology introduction for Death Cab for Cutie left the audience confused and disappointed. The pairing of Cyndi Lauper and Leighton Meester proved that knowledge of one is mutually exclusive of the other. Pac Div and Janelle Monae clearly had the best agents. Both acts somehow made it on stage without anyone in attendance actually being familiar with music of either. 30h!3 were the only presenters who clearly energized the crowd, largely thanks to their imitation Lady Gaga apparel, which both wore with pride and elegance.

The musical performances were a completely different matter. Every act that played was a veteran of the college circuit, navigated the stage smoothly and worked the crowd despite

the availability of a limited set list. Drawing solely from indie rock and rap, and clearly mined from the depths of the college music scene the selection was a perfect match for a packed room of college kids.

Death Cab for Cutie provided an incredibly important lift around the midpoint of the show. Performing "Meet me on the Equinox" from the New Moon soundtrack. A favorite of the college crowd for the last decade, Death Cab played a strong, indie-worthy though short-lived show. Following closely on the heels of their performance, Clipse also kept the crowd on its feet, assisted markedly by guest spots from Rick Ross and Cam'ron. While rap often comes off as a novelty to the college crowd, Clipse stuck to a street-worthy persona and performance, showing a strong argument for the conversion of many nonfans.

While Matt & Kim provided a more than adequate start to the show, Jack White's latest side project, The Dead Weather, absolutely killed to end the night. Always a strong presence on the stage, White finally found a female vocalist who can match his intensity, dynamics and style and only slightly some off as a complete carbon copy. Pasty and marginally crazed, The Dead Weather ripped through three songs, culminating in "Cut Like a Buffalo." Dancing crowds, frantic performance and thrashing guitar provided the perfect end point. Following the show, one could only agree with Cindi Lauper's assessment, "We make music because music is awesome."

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I can't say that I'm a red carpet pro. Admittedly my first interview on the Woodie Red Carpet was disaster. Apparently the fact that I wasn't interviewing acts of U2-scale fame, instead these bands are minor, fringe group favorite bands, didn't occur to me. Nervous, panicky and so green to this type of experience, I clashed with the red carpet.

With a bit of practice, chatting with talent like Janelle Monae, 30h!3 or Friendly Fires became easier.

And of course with comfort, quickly came my tendency to mock relentlessly. In an inner commentary, I began to notice delightful nuances in an already strange environment. Alexa Chung plays Never Have I Ever with "Weeds" star, Mary Louise Parker. As Parker walks away from Chung, a priceless scoff escaped her lips in response to her interviewer — "Who the f\*\*k was that?!" David Cross, of "Arrested Development" fame, looks around confused and asking where his girlfriend, Amber Tamblyn ("Sisterhood of the Traveling Pants," "Joan of Arcadia") disappeared to. Maybe she's gone back to preschool, where she would have been when you were her age. A lanky character, dressed up as Waldo, wanders the carpet, posing with acts for no apparent reason.

Personal highlights of the night is an odd mixture of memorable highs and lows. I insulted Roxy from "The City," accidentally asking her about being on "The Hills." Her look of disgust was priceless. My only star-struck moment of the night is one of shame. Seeing Nick Cannon round a corner, what was my response? My mind blank cry of "What up Nick Cannon?!" This low point quickly gave way to a high point when Cannon responded with a smile, a wave, and a "Hey!" Though the Dead Weather remained reclusive on the Red Carpet, I did manage to get an awkward smile from lead singer, Alison Mosshart. Considering her red eyes, pale skin, generally lifeless demeanor and affinity for black clothing, I considered this the equivalent of seeing a dog walk on its hindlegs — confusing but somehow wonderful. Getting to banter with Matt and Kim and chat with Zoëy Deschanel pretty much made my night.

Inside the show, I managed to get accidently seated in the same bar area as the stars. Sitting next to the very band I offended with my horrible first interview, I looked around to see Asher Roth over my shoulder and Leighton Meester mere feet away. I tried to play it cool, until I was inevitably asked to leave the area by security. Yet another highlight. Then again, I'm particularly proud that the same security guard hassled model, Jessica Stam, until a frantic publicist ran over to rectify the situation. When it comes down to it, if it's good enough for Jessica Stam, it's good enough for me, particularly in a situation involving security.

The views expressed in this column are that of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer.  
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## BEHIND THE SCENES AND ON THE RED CARPET WITH COLLEGES' FAVORITE ARTISTS

The 2009 MTV Woodie Awards' Red Carpet brought out publications ranging from Rolling Stone to daily college newspapers, like yours truly, The Observer. While lights flashed and a long parade of absurdly thin, marginally famous starlets posed for pictures and answered questions, indie music's male stars blended into a mob of shabby, almost vintage-looking clothing and identical thickly rimmed glasses.

Ironically, many of the night's nominees and attendees, either dropped out of college early on or never even attended. Alexa Chung, who did on camera interviews while playing Never Have I Ever, admitted that she had never even heard of the drinking game before that night, never having attended university. As Zoëy Deschanel admitted, "I was only at college for nine months, but I enjoyed college actually. Leaving college was nice too. There were some good 'bonding sessions.'" 30h!3 declared that college "teaches you a way to work, a work ethic. And to party." Fall Out Boy's Pete Wentz called college "A thing I didn't go to for very long."

Other talent strongly held that college, and college audiences were crucial to their careers. The eloquent and bold artist, Janelle Monae, accredited her start to her fellow college students. "It's because of the college student word of mouth, giving me that confidence. They wanted to hear what I had to say and what I was thinking about was important to them. It empowered me." Jamie Tworkowski also praised that "on college campuses people are really open and willing to talk." College students and the Facebook/MySpace phenomena are largely responsible for Tworkowski's charity's, To Write Love on her Arm's, success. As he explained

of college student's favorite medium, the Internet, "we kind of look at it as a stage. But what's even more interesting is what you put on that stage, and it's used with story telling and communication."

While Asher Roth declared his affections for university life in his hit "I Love College," he wasn't planning on returning to the birthplace of his success any time soon, "We'll see, right now I'm going to keep the snowball rolling and see where it goes. I really do have a passion to teach, and I know I need that piece of paper to do that." He later confessed, "I don't want to be rapping at 35."

Though all acts were being honored for their popularity on college campuses, not all had had the best experiences with university audiences. Friendly Fires laughed that "The last gig we played in a college in America, it was possibly the most depressing experience of our lives. It was midday, and people were at lunch, and many people were eating sandwiches. Well there was just about 10 people there." Paradoxical to their Woodie recognition as a college favorite, the band didn't seem to give much credence to their college audience, saying "Great music should be for everyone." Contrary to this opinion, Janelle Monae praised college audiences saying "These are the early adopters, they know what's important in music before anyone else does."

Not all nominees were so talkative. Jack White's pale, red-eyed band, The Dead Weather breezed through the carpet, ignoring flashing lights and eager reporters. Additionally, Leighton Meester and Cyndi Lauper skipped the carpet, though they were notable presenters in the show.

The Woodie Awards Carpet oddly combined kitschy, retro indie vibes and inflated egos from off-the-radar fan favorites. The Woodie Awards Red Carpet highlighted talented acts and stars that may be much obsessed over by devoted enclaves of fans but are generally unfamiliar with the limelight. The endearing but bewildering Red Carpet was only the start to of a strange award show. Pete Wentz maybe said it best when he said "I think award shows are pretty pompous. But this one's cool because there are free drinks at it."

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NFL

# Vick victorious over former team in return to Atlanta

*Drew Brees takes advantage of a late Redskins' missed field goal to rally the Saints and remain undefeated*

Associated Press

ATLANTA — Michael Vick took the snap, sprinted to his right, made a quick cut to the left, broke a tackle and dove into the end zone.

He wasn't done, either. Turns out, No. 7 still rules Atlanta.

Making quite a return to the Georgia Dome, Vick accounted for a pair of touchdowns — one running, the other passing — and basked in the cheers of his former home as the Philadelphia Eagles thoroughly dominated the short-handed Atlanta Falcons 34-7 on Sunday.

The Eagles (8-4) pulled two games ahead of the reeling Falcons (6-6) in the NFC wild-card standings, bringing a little more clarity to the playoff race. But most of the attention was on Vick's first game in Atlanta since he went off to prison for dogfighting.

Vick, a three-time Pro Bowler with the Falcons and one of the NFL's most dynamic players before his stunning downfall, ran for a 5-yard touchdown in the third quarter, his first score since Oct. 15, 2006. With the game out of hand, he slipped a 5-yard scoring pass to Brent Celek early in the fourth, his first TD throw since that final season with the Falcons.

By then, all the fans who had showered Vick with boos when he came in for a couple of snaps on Philadelphia's opening possession had long since gone. Those who were left — many of them wearing No. 7 jerseys — were chanting "We want Vick! We want Vick!"

Deciding that two touchdowns was enough, Philadelphia coach Andy Reid let third-string quarterback Kevin Kolb finish out of the game, much to the chagrin of those fans who hoped the ex-Falcon would get even more playing time.

Still, the day was everything — and then some — that Vick could've

hoped for. He played sparingly in his first nine games with the Eagles, but coming back to the city that once hailed him as its biggest star finally gave him a chance to shine.

Vick went 2-for-2 passing, setting up his touchdown throw with a 43-yard completion to Reggie Brown, and ran four times for 17 yards.

The Falcons sure could've used their former quarterback.

Five offensive starters, including quarterback Matt Ryan, were sidelined by injuries. That was simply too much to overcome, even with the Eagles missing a couple of key offensive players, running back Brian Westbrook and receiver DeSean Jackson.

Atlanta scored on the final play to avoid a shutout.

Before the game, Vick chatted with Falcons owner Arthur Blank and several former teammates, including receiver Roddy White. When it was time to get down to business, No. 7 led the Eagles out of the tunnel, served as one of the captains for the coin toss and got a chance to take a couple of snaps on Philadelphia's very first drive.

After that, all he did was watch — until the Eagles faced third-and-1 at the Atlanta 5 on the opening drive of the third quarter and leading 13-0 in a game they had dominated. Trotting on the field to those familiar boos, Vick lined up in a shotgun and pulled off the sort of play that was so familiar when he played for the home team.

Spotting the hole and taking off, Vick darted into the end zone for a touchdown that looked as though it lifted a huge weight off his shoulders. With the boos now drowned out by thunderous cheers, Vick hopped off the turf, pulled away from his teammates and headed toward the stands.

He tried to flip the ball into the crowd, but was thwarted by the net being raised for the extra point.



Eagles quarterback Michael Vick points to the crowd after Philadelphia's 34-7 win over Atlanta on Sunday. Vick scored his first touchdown since October 2006 in his return to the Georgia Dome.

The ball deflected back into the hands of fullback Leonard Weaver, who turned toward Vick, apparently to ask if he wanted to keep it.

Already heading toward the Eagles bench, Vick just pointed toward the stands. Weaver managed to get it to a fan on the second try.

Vick did keep the ball after his TD pass. And when it was done, he lingered on the field for interviews, then trotted off with both arms raised before blowing kisses in all directions.

Chris Redman, filling in for Ryan, had a miserable game after leading the Falcons to a last-second win the week before. Redman was picked off twice, one of them returned 83 yards for a touchdown by Sheldon Brown.

## Saints 33, Redskins 30

LANDOVER, Md. — Oh, what a charmed life the unbeaten New Orleans Saints are leading these days. There's surely no other way to explain the shanked punt that turned into a 29-yard gain, the Drew Brees interception that somehow morphed into another touchdown for Robert Meachem, or the fact that the Washington Redskins missed a 23-yard field goal that would have sealed a victory with less than 2 minutes to play.

Therefore, it seemed inevitable that Brees, operating with no timeouts, would lead an 80-yard, game-tying drive that took just 33 seconds and tied the game with 1:19 remaining. And, of course, in overtime, the Saints benefited from a replay reversal and won Sunday's game on Garrett Hartley's 18-yard field goal 6:29 into the extra period.

The victory improved the Saints to 12-0 and clinched the NFC South, although it was a far-from-

perfect performance. The defense gave up 455 yards to the Redskins, and the offense had to make up a 10-point deficit in the fourth quarter. Washington (3-9) blew a late fourth-quarter lead to lose for the third straight week.

Brees finished 35 for 49 for 419 yards with two touchdowns and one interception for the Saints, who won a sub-40 degree game for the first time since 1995. Meachem caught eight passes for 142 yards and scored the late game-tying touchdown, a 53-yarder wide open over the middle that made the score 30-30.

Meachem also scored a fluke first-half touchdown by forcing a fumble after an interception.

After Meachem's late touchdown, the Saints had a chance to win in regulation after Jonathan Vilma's interception, but Hartley — playing his first game of the season in place of benched veteran John Carney — was well short with a 58-yard field goal attempt on the last play of regulation.

The Redskins won the toss and had the ball to start overtime, but Mike Sellers fumbled when he was upended by Chris McAlister after making a catch — a turnover that was only verified after a meticulous replay reversal — giving the Saints the ball at the Washington 37. Brees needed only seven plays to march New Orleans to the 1 before Hartley made the game-winning kick.

Jason Campbell completed 30 of 42 passes for 367 yards and three touchdowns with one interception for the Redskins. Campbell frequently picked on first-round draft pick Malcolm Jenkins, and much-maligned 2008 second-rounders Devin Thomas and Fred Davis had big games once again. Thomas had

seven catches for a career-high 100 yards and two touchdowns, and Davis had five receptions for 53 yards and a score.

The Redskins' season-high yardage output came against Saints defensive coordinator Gregg Williams, who ran Washington's defense from 2004-07 and was passed over for the head coaching job when Joe Gibbs retired. Players on both teams expected the fiery Williams to try to punish his old team relentlessly, but his players frequently missed tackles and couldn't shut the Redskins down when New Orleans was trying to mount a comeback in the fourth quarter.

Suisham's missed field goal bailed the Saints out, but it wasn't the first big New Orleans break of the game. Meachem's first-half touchdown was an especially unforgettable play.

Facing third-and-26 at the Redskins 44, Brees backpedaled under pressure and threw a desperation pass deep over the middle toward Jeremy Shockey in triple coverage. Kareem Moore dived over Shockey's back to make an interception, rolled over, got up and ran 14 yards before Meachem simply took the ball away from an upright Moore and started running down the sideline — high-stepping 44 yards for the team's ninth return touchdown of the season, tying the game at 17 with 22 seconds left in the first half.

Just as strange as that touchdown was a play that set it up. A few plays earlier, when the Saints punted from their own 30, Thomas Morstead shanked the kick so badly that it hit Washington's Kevin Barnes flush on the back near the sideline. New Orleans recovered at the Redskins 41.



Saints quarterback Drew Brees celebrates after throwing a touchdown pass in New Orleans' 33-30 win over Washington.

## CLASSIFIEDS

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You learned English?  
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Don't be obsessed with your desires Danny. The Zen philosopher Basha once wrote, 'A flute with no holes, is not a flute. A donut with no hole, is a Danish.' He was a funny guy.  
-----  
I'll bet you a hundred bucks you slice it into the woods.  
-----

He hauls off and whacks one - big hitter, the Lama - long, into a ten-thousand foot crevasse, right at the base of this glacier. Do you know what the Lama says? Gunga galunga... gunga, gunga-lagunga. So we finish the eighteenth and he's gonna stiff me. And I say, "Hey, Lama, hey, how about a little something, you know, for the effort, you know." And he says, "Oh, uh, there won't be any money, but when you die, on your deathbed, you will receive total consciousness." So I got that goin' for me, which is nice.  
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# AROUND THE NATION

Monday, December 7, 2009

COMPILED FROM THE OBSERVER'S WIRE SERVICES

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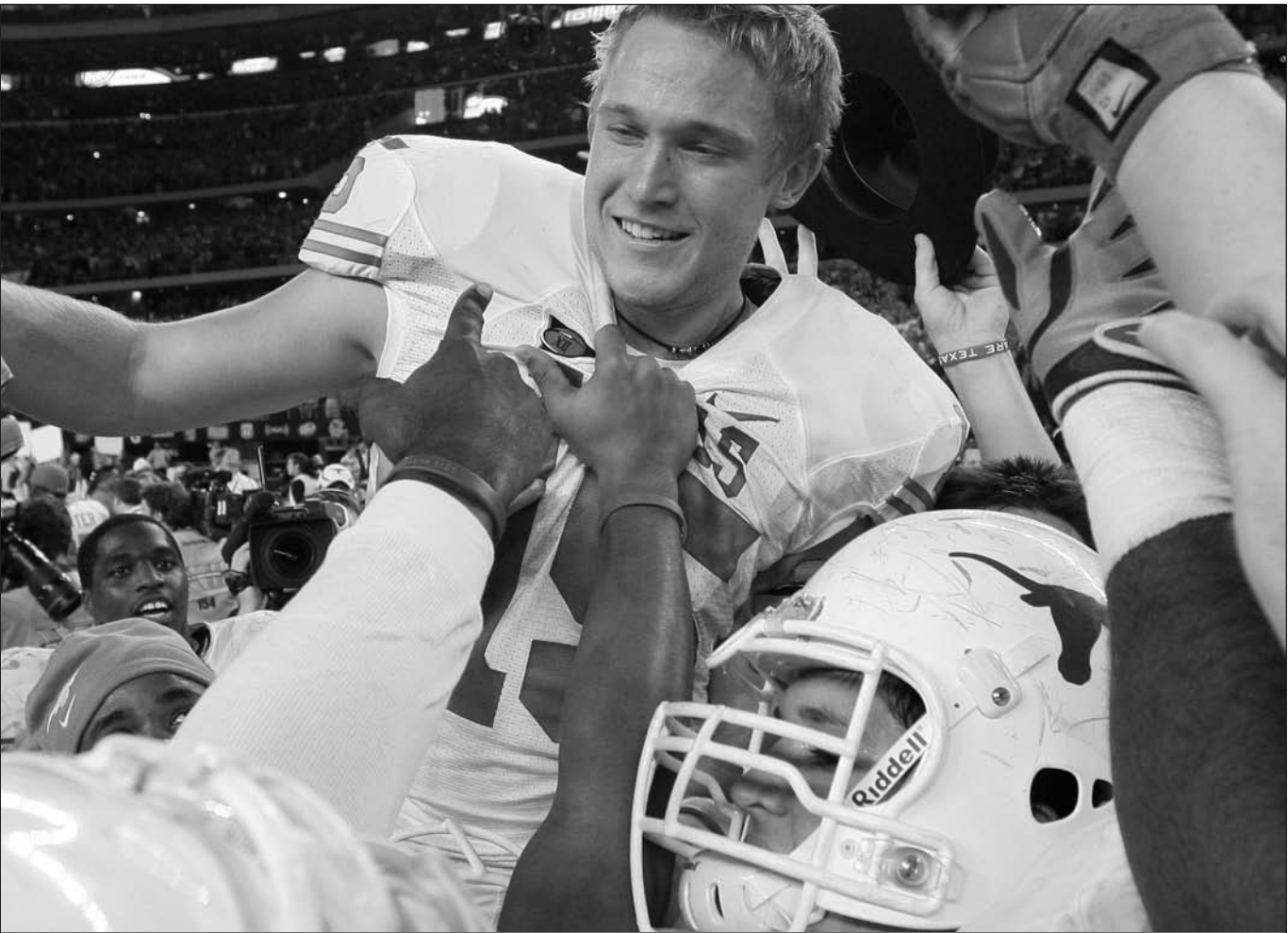
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## NCAA FOOTBALL



Texas kicker Hunter Lawrence is hoisted into the air by teammates after kicking the winning field goal with one second remaining on Saturday, securing the Big 12 championship and sending Texas to play for the national title.

## Alabama, Texas to meet for championship

Associated Press

NEW YORK — Alabama and Texas get to play in a national title game. For TCU, Cincinnati and Boise State, the math doesn't quite add up but they still get a spot in a BCS bowl.

The quirky, often imperfect method of choosing a national champion succeeded Sunday in matching top-ranked Alabama against No. 2 Texas in the BCS championship — a Jan. 7 game between undefeated teams that will bring together Heisman Trophy hopefuls Colt McCoy of the Longhorns and Mark Ingram of the Crimson Tide.

And, of course, it also produced plenty for the little

guys to get upset about.

No. 3 TCU, No. 4 Cincinnati and No. 6 Boise State also finished undefeated. All three were included in the BCS, but none will play for the title, which will renew the annual debate about college football's way of determining the best team in the land.

"If we were going to talk about fairness, the first thing we'd do is destroy that whole structure," said Jay Coakley, a sociology professor who authored the textbook, "Sport In Society: Issues and Controversies." "That's the least fair thing in all of college sports. It doesn't even pretend to be fair."

Seeking its first national title since 1992, Alabama opens as a 3-point favorite

for the game at the Rose Bowl in Pasadena, Calif. That's the place where Vince Young almost singlehandedly led Texas to a victory over Southern California in 2006 to claim the national title.

The other BCS matchups: Oregon against Ohio State in the Rose Bowl; Iowa against Georgia Tech in the Orange; Florida against Cincinnati in the Sugar and TCU against Boise State in the Fiesta.

"We're here to prove a point," TCU coach Gary Patterson said after his team's fate was announced. "I voted for us No. 2 in polls today when we voted. We believe we have a great football team and we're out to show we could be the No. 1 team in the nation."

The Longhorns (13-0) have been on both sides of the BCS debate in the past.

Just last year, their chances for a national title were squashed when they lost a three-way tiebreaker for the Big 12 South title.

This time around, Texas defeated Nebraska 13-12 in the Big 12 title game Saturday to secure its spot in the national championship, though the less-than-dominating performance certainly left things open for debate. Still, there was a big gap between Texas and TCU in the BCS rankings, the coaches' poll and The Associated Press poll, which is not included in the BCS formula. The AP awards its own national championship.

## IN BRIEF

### NFL cuts revenue-sharing program, NFLPA to protest move

EAST RUTHERFORD, N.J. — The NFL has told the players' union it will cut a \$100 million annual supplemental revenue-sharing program that subsidizes lower-revenue teams.

That plan, which is a small portion of the \$6.5 billion shared in full by all 32 teams, will be cut because the 2010 season will not have a salary cap.

"We are simply going forward on the terms the union approved in March of 2006," NFL spokesman Greg Aiello said.

Those terms pertain to only years with salary caps, the league says.

The NFL Players Association will challenge the league's move this week, a person familiar with the union's plans told The Associated Press on Sunday. The person spoke anonymously because the NFLPA has not officially announced its intentions.

### Tiger's caddy Williams offers support for his boss

WELLINGTON, New Zealand — Tiger Woods' caddy said Saturday he supports his boss while the world's No. 1 golfer copes with allegations of extramarital affairs.

Steve Williams has been Woods' caddy the last 10 years. He refused to discuss Woods' private life, although he said the golfer had confided in him.

"That's what friends are for," he told the New Zealand Herald. "You support them through good and bad. It's like marriage, really."

Williams also told the newspaper he expected to carry Woods's bag in San Diego the last week in January.

He said Woods called to say he was withdrawing from the Chevron World Challenge in California because of injuries from a Nov. 27 car crash.

Williams was to have driven in a dirt track car race at Te Marua, north of Wellington, on Saturday night but withdrew because of engine trouble.

### Flyer Carcillo suspended by NHL for role in brawl

PHILADELPHIA — The NHL has suspended Flyers forward Dan Carcillo four games for his role in a fight that earned him a whopping 19 penalty minutes and a game misconduct.

Carcillo landed a big punch on Washington's Matt Bradley as he dropped his gloves Saturday night. Following Carcillo's punch, Bradley fell to the ice and left the game. Despite being in the process of dropping his gloves, Bradley wasn't penalized.

Flyers general manager Paul Holmgren said on Sunday that he did not agree with the decision.

Carcillo was tagged with 2 minutes for cross-checking, 2 minutes for instigation, 5 minutes for fighting, a 10-minute misconduct and a game misconduct in Philadelphia's 8-2 loss.

He will start the suspension beginning Monday at Montreal.

## around the dial

**NHL**  
Devils at Sabres  
7 p.m., Versus

**NFL**  
Ravens at Packers  
8:30 p.m., ESPN



FENCING

# Irish cap off successful weekend in Pittsburgh

By CHRIS MASOUD  
Sports Writer

The Irish have become accustomed to winning at the highest levels, capturing multiple medals at junior world cup events this season. This weekend's showing at the USFA North American Cup in Pittsburgh only confirmed those expectations.

"In general our fencers played very well, having strong bouts, and it was a good tournament for us," head coach Janusz Bednarski said. "It was a very tough competition with a lot of very good fencers from Canada, Mexico, even from Switzerland. In some competitions, like men's epee, it was more than 220 fencers, so it's a big tournament that requires good preparation."

The Irish took home the gold medal in women's epee as senior Kelley Hurley bested an elite field of international fencers, including her sister sophomore Courtney Hurley. Due to an improbable misfortune, the two siblings were seeded together in the single-elimination bracket.

"Whoever wins goes up, and it was bad luck that they were forced to face each other," Bednarski said. "It's the kind of system that is making decisions based on pairs, and they are both extremely good fencers. Only one can go up, and Kelley, a former junior

world cup champion and NCAA champion, won."

Hurley dispatched Canadian Eirn Selzer in the championship bout to complete her gold medal run.

"She beat Selzer after a very heavy bout, and it was tied until the last minute, but she demolished the Canadian in the last five touches," Bednarski said.

Heading into the invitational, Bednarski and the coaching staff said they fully realized the elite level of competition an open tournament brings. Nevertheless, they expected strong performances out of the entire squad, and were not disappointed.

Sophomore Gerek Meinhardt turned in a top-8 finish, while freshman Lian Osier continued her success on the international stage, finishing fifth in women's saber. Bednarski is very pleased with the progress Osier and the underclassmen have shown in recent bouts against stiff competition.

"You have to be very strong, and in addition it's open category, so all the best are competing for Olympic and national team points," Bednarski said. "For me, the most important thing was to look at the bouts, not only for medals, but how the younger fencers are performing, and I was very, very happy with some young fencers."

Contact Chris Masoud at [cmasoud@nd.edu](mailto:cmasoud@nd.edu)

NFL

# Chargers beat hapless Browns

Associated Press

CLEVELAND — Once they warmed up, the San Diego Chargers looked like they do every December.

LaDainian Tomlinson scored his 150th career TD and stiff-armed Hall of Famer Jim Brown for eighth place on the career rushing list as the Chargers won their seventh straight and 15th in a row in December by beating the Cleveland Browns 30-23 on Sunday.

Antonio Gates set a career high with 167 receiving yards for the Chargers (9-3), who dragged their cleats early and only led 13-7 at halftime. But Philip Rivers led San Diego on touchdown drives of 85 and 83 yards in just over nine minutes in the third quarter to open a 27-7 lead.

Tomlinson's 4-yard TD run with 5:58 left in the third put the Chargers up by 20, and placed the running back in elite company among NFL greats.

Tomlinson reached 150 TDs faster than any player in league history, hitting the milestone in his 137th game. Emmitt Smith needed 160 games to reach 150 and Jerry Rice didn't score his 150th until his 167th game.

In the fourth quarter, Tomlinson burst up the middle for 11 to give him 12,315 yards, three more than Brown, who attended the game. Tomlinson finished with 64 yards on 20 carries and has 12,321 yards. Tony Dorsett (12,739) is seventh all-time.

Rivers threw two TD passes — both on short routes — as

the Chargers continued their surge following a 2-3 start.

With Dallas and Cincinnati looming on the schedule, San Diego couldn't afford to overlook the Browns (1-11), who have lost seven straight amid mounting injuries.

At halftime, San Diego seemed to be in trouble.

At the end of the third quarter, the Chargers had little concern.

San Diego thoroughly dominated the Browns in the third, outgaining Cleveland 208-10 — 164-0 in passing yards — while holding the ball for 12:06.

Rivers was 7 for 8 in the quarter with four completions going to Gates for 114 yards. The highlight of San Diego's aerial assault came when Gates, the former Kent State basketball star, boxed out Abram Elam and Hank Poteat for a 56-yard reception.

Cleveland quarterback Brady Quinn threw three TD passes for the Browns, who have lost a franchise-record 10 straight home games and must get ready to play an angry Pittsburgh squad on Thursday. The Steelers lost at home to Oakland 27-24 on Sunday.

The Browns made the score look respectable by scoring 16 points in the fourth as Quinn hit running back Jerome Harrison for two TDs.

Phil Dawson's 49-yard field goal with 39 seconds left made it 30-23, but Tomlinson recovered an onside kick with 38 seconds remaining.

Quinn went 25 of 45 for 271 yards.

Nate Kaeding kicked field goals of 32, 42 and 22 yards for the Chargers, who amassed 286 total yards in the second half.

Leading just 13-7 at half, the Chargers quickly went to work against the Browns' banged up defense, which was missing four starters because of injuries. Rivers completed a short pass to the lightning-quick Darren Sproles, who did the rest and zigzagged his way 31 yards into the end zone.

The Chargers were sleepwalking during the first, giving up an early TD while barely resembling a team pushing for a playoff spot.

San Diego trailed 7-3 and was in danger of falling further behind when Dawson missed a 43-yarder.

Rivers needed just 13 seconds to give the Chargers their first lead. He threw a short pass in the flat to backup fullback Mike Tolbert, who ran away from linebacker Jason Trusnik, picked up a nice down-field block and went 66 yards for the TD.

The Browns drove inside San Diego's 5 and were poised to tie it or take the lead when Quinn was stripped from behind by linebacker Shaun Phillips and the Chargers recovered.

Browns Stadium was less than half full at kickoff and any late arrivals missed the Browns' first TD, Quinn's 11-yard pass to Mohamed Massaquoi. Running the no-huddle, Quinn was 6 for 6 for 61 yards on the scoring drive, Cleveland's first for a TD on the opening possession of game since Nov. 11, 2007 — a span of 35 games.

NCAA MEN'S BASKETBALL

# Kansas defeats UCLA in '07 tournament rematch

Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — Markief Morris scored a career-high 19 points and No. 1 Kansas pulled away in the second half to beat UCLA 73-61 on Sunday, sending the Bruins to their fourth consecutive loss.

Xavier Henry added 16 points and Sherron Collins had 14 for the Jayhawks (7-0), who led the entire game but allowed UCLA to get within four early in the second half.

Michael Roll scored 16 points and Nikola Dragovic added 14 for the Bruins (2-5), who haven't lost four in a row since 2003-04, coach Ben Howland's first season in Westwood.

The defeat capped a rocky week for the struggling Bruins, who lost forward Drew Gordon when he quit the team. The sophomore averaged 11.2 points and 5.3 rebounds.

The last time the schools met was in the 2007 NCAA tournament's West Region, when UCLA won by 13 points and went on to the second of three consecutive Final Four appearances.

But that run of success has taken its toll this season on the Bruins, who lost several key players early to the NBA draft leaving them with a slew of inexperi-

enced underclassmen. Tyler Honeycutt made his college debut after missing UCLA's first six games with a stress reaction in his right tibia. He finished with three points.


Kansas led by 13 points in the first half, when the Bruins committed 11 turnovers and shot 33 percent, missing several open shots.

Collins' jumper gave Kansas its largest lead of the half, 29-16. From there, the Bruins ended the half on a 12-6 run to close to 35-28. Dragovic and Roll had five points each in the spurt.

UCLA outscored Kansas 6-3 to start the second half and get to 38-34. Reeves Nelson, starting in place of Gordon, dunked to get the Bruins within seven with 14:40 remaining. He was poked in the right eye and had to leave the game for a few minutes before returning wearing protective goggles.

The Bruins closed within seven once more on a 3-pointer by Dragovic at 12:03 before Kansas soon restored its double-digit lead. Henry's fourth 3-pointer of the game extended the Jayhawks' lead to 69-54 in the final minutes.

Kansas' Marcus Morris finished with four points after being held scoreless in the first half.



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MEN’S SWIMMING

Irish finish fourth in Columbus

By MOLLY SAMMON  
Sports Writer

The Irish finished off the semester’s competitions with a fourth-place finish at this weekend’s Ohio State Invitational. Notre Dame coach Tim Welsh said he hoped the result would help the team figure out its strengths and weaknesses as the team takes a break before 2010.

“I think that the experience of this weekend helped us take a major step towards being ready for what we have next season,” Welsh said. “We put a lot of focus on preparing for this meet, and this is kind of like the final exam for the fall semester.”

Of the 12 teams that competed in Columbus, the Irish earned their fourth-place spot thanks to six first-place finishes. Three ninth place finishes helped the Irish against the Big Ten foes, which annually boasts some of the best programs in collegiate swimming.

“The Big Ten always provides really great competition,” Welsh said. “It was clearly the fastest competition we’ve seen all season.”

Senior MacKenzie LeBlanc

placed ninth in the 200-meter butterfly event in 1:48.03, which qualifies the swim to the NCAA B-cut standard. Ninth-place finishes also went to two other Irish swimmers during the weekend-long competition. Senior John Lytle (45.27) received a ninth-place finish in the 100-meter freestyle sprinting event, as well as sophomore Petar Petrovic (1:49.65) in the 200-meter backstroke competition.

Notre Dame totaled 442 points on the weekend, with help from the 400-meter freestyle relay team consisting of seniors Lytle and Andrew Hoffman, as well as two freshmen John McGinley and Kevin Overholt who came in sixth place against the field in 3:02.67.

“We had to earn those places in the finals,” Welsh said. “We were faster in our events tonight than we were when we left on Thursday.”

Ohio State won in their home pool, which the Irish hope to

return to later this season, as the Buckeyes will host the NCAA regional meet. Minnesota and Big East competitor West Virginia also placed above the Irish.

“West Virginia was in their championship mode,” Welsh said. “We definitely know to race fast against West Virginia when we see them again in January.”

Though they are done competing for the rest of the semester, the Irish will travel to San Juan, Puerto Rico for a winter training trip that will prepare them for the rest of the 2009-10 season’s upcoming events.

“We’ll go back into a very hard training phase, trying to strengthen our basic conditioning, working on the fundamentals and working on the things we need to improve,” Welsh said.

“We’ll start focusing on specifics and on the meet conditions ahead when we return.”

The team’s next competition will be a dual meet against the Northwestern Wildcats on Jan. 9 at the Rolfs Aquatic Center.

Contact Molly Sammon at  
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*“The Big Ten always provides really great competition. It was clearly the fastest competition we’ve seen all season.”*

Tim Welsh  
Irish coach

*“We were faster in our events tonight than we were when we left on Thursday.”*

Tim Welsh  
Irish coach

TRACK AND FIELD

Runners end on top in Blue & Gold meet

By JOHN HELMS  
Sports Writer

It was the first chance for many of the Notre Dame athletes to showcase their talents this year, as the Irish opened up their season on Friday with the annual Blue and Gold meet.

They didn’t disapoint, as the Irish posted 17 first place finishes against visiting schools DePaul, Detroit Mercy and Marquette.

While the Irish graduated 18 seniors from last year’s team, Notre Dame coach Joe Piane said he thought this year’s squad was just as talented, and that he was excited to watch his team perform in their first test of the season.

“We’re really interested in the sprinters and field events kids because they have had no opportunities to compete, whereas the cross country kids have been competing throughout the fall,” Piane said.

Piane’s team didn’t disappointed, as the sprinters and field event athletes helped the Irish to an impressive 48 Big East qualifying marks.

There were many highlights for the for the Irish on the field. Notre Dame dominated the men’s pole vault, in which Irish vaulters sophomore Kevin Schipper, senior Matt Schipper, senior Jim Merchun and junior Andrew Kolbeck posted four Big East qualifying marks. The Irish also took the top three spots in the women’s long jump as sophomore Maddie

Buttinger, senior Jaime Minor and Jasmine Williams finished in the top three spots.

“Our coaches were really happy with us,” Buttinger said. “A lot of people on our jump team made Big East so it went really well.”

Buttinger had quite a day for herself, with a fourth place finish in the women’s 60-meter hurdle, a seventh place finish in the women’s shot put, and a sixth place finish in the women’s 500.

“I was pretty happy with how I was able to do” said Buttinger.

On the track, senior Blake Choplin, sophomore Jack Howard, senior Cameron Eckert, freshman Jeremy Rae and junior Kevin Labus set five Big East qualifications for the Irish in the men’s 1,000. This was only one of the highlights in a dominant performance by Irish track athletes, which included a total of 12 first place finishes. Senior Jake Walker was the top finisher in the men’s 5,000, junior Kelly Langhans took the top spot in the women’s 800 meter and senior Brier Steenberge won the men’s 800. In the women’s 500, the Irish recorded three Big East qualifying marks by senior Joanna Schultz, junior Natalie Johnson and senior Samantha Williams.

The Irish are now off until Jan. 15, at which point they will host the Notre Dame Indoor Opener at the Loftus.

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NBA

Knicks prevent Nets from back-to-back wins

Associated Press

NEW YORK — Larry Hughes scored 16 of his 25 points in the third quarter, and the New York Knicks sent the New Jersey Nets back to their losing ways with a 106-97 victory Sunday.

Al Harrington had 26 points and 14 rebounds for the Knicks, who capped a strong week with their third win in four games. New York routed Phoenix and won at Atlanta during the week, with its only loss coming at Eastern Conference champion Orlando. David Lee added 24 points and nine boards.

The Nets beat Charlotte on Friday for their first victory after NBA-record 18 straight losses to begin the season and seemed headed toward a second straight after playing their best half of the season Sunday.

But Hughes woke the Knicks with his big third quarter, and they stormed back to continue their dominance of their local rival. New York has defeated New Jersey twice this season after sweeping all three preseason meetings.

Not that the fans seemed entirely happy about it. There were a few chants of “We want Nate! We want Nate!” as popular backup guard Nate Robinson was left on the bench by coach Mike D’Antoni for

the third straight game.

Chris Douglas-Roberts scored 26 points for New Jersey, which fell to 1-1 since general manager Kiki Vandeweghe took over as coach for the remainder of the season. Devin Harris and Brook Lopez each added 19.

Vandeweghe has the Nets playing a quicker tempo, and they shot 58 percent and scored a season-best 61 points in the first half. But they’re still the lowest-scoring team in the league, and their offensive woes returned in the second half, when they managed only 36 points after halftime.

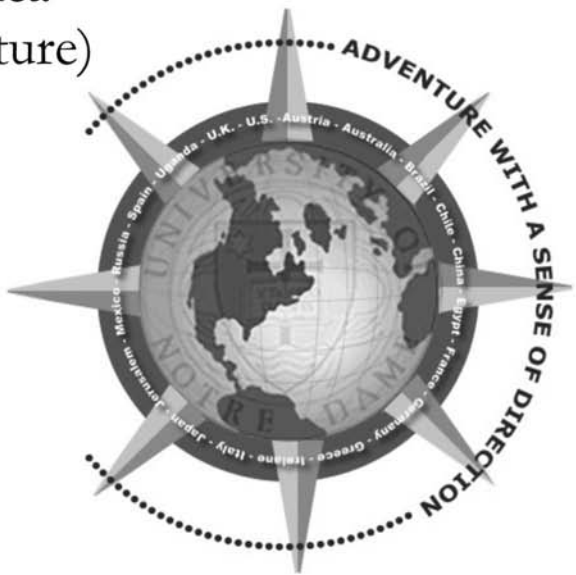
The Knicks were 28 of 34 at the free throw line, while New Jersey was only 12 of 15.

New York trailed by eight at the half, but quickly came back behind Hughes, who was 14 of 17 from the line in the game. His 3-pointer tied it at 67, and Harrington later had three baskets in an 8-0 run that made it 82-74. New York outscored New Jersey 33-18 in the period and took an 86-79 lead to the fourth.

The Nets cut it to three on Courtney Lee’s basket with 7:38 remaining, but Wilson Chandler and Harrington had consecutive baskets on offensive rebounds before Danilo Gallinari’s free throws made it 99-90 with 4:33 left, and the Nets never got close again.

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## NFL

# New England loses second straight to Miami

*Colts stay perfect after cooling off red-hot Titans; Seahawks win on last-second field goal by Mare*

Associated Press

MIAMI — When Tom Brady missed repeated chances to put the game away in the fourth quarter, Chad Henne and the Miami Dolphins took advantage.

Henne threw for a career-high 335 yards and directed a 51-yard drive for the winning field goal with 1:02 left, and Miami rallied past New England 22-21 on Sunday.

The Dolphins (6-6) overcame an early 14-point deficit to keep their slim playoff prospects alive, while AFC East leader New England (7-5) remained winless in five games in opponents' stadiums this season.

For the third time on the road, the Patriots lost after leading in the fourth quarter. The defeat was sealed when Channing Crowder made his first career interception, picking off Brady at the Patriots 40 with 35 seconds left.

Brady left the field briefly early in the game to treat an arm injury, but returned without missing a play. He finished 19 for 29 for 352 yards and two long touchdowns, but also threw two fourth-quarter interceptions.

Leading 21-19, the Patriots had first-and-goal at the 4 with 10 minutes left, but Brady was intercepted in the end zone by rookie Vontae Davis, who stepped in front of Randy Moss to make the play.

New England subsequently forced Miami to punt twice, but each time Brady and the Patriots went three and out. On one play Brady overthrew an open Sam Aiken deep.

The Dolphins started from their 26 with 3:44 to go. On fourth-and-6, Henne hit Greg Camarillo for 13 yards to the Patriots 28. That set up Dan Carpenter's third field goal, a 41-yarder.

Brady threw touchdown passes of 58 yards to Moss and 81 yards to Aiken, and he also had a 58-yard completion to Wes Welker.

But New England twice failed to score inside the Miami 10. The Patriots were stopped on downs at the 6 in the second quarter.

Henne went 29 for 52 with one interception. He drove the Dolphins 88 yards for their first score, which came on a 13-yard pass to Davone Bess.

Henne drove the Dolphins 83 yards in the final 1:55 of the first half for a field goal, and they trailed 14-10 at halftime.

Henne hit Brian Hartline with 7-yard touchdown pass in the third quarter to cut the margin to 21-19, but his ensuing 2-point conversion pass was tipped away by Ty Warren.

Brady hurt his arm taking a hit as he threw the touchdown bomb to Moss on the opening series. While the Patriots celebrated, their quarterback trotted off the field and kept going, vanishing through the tunnel.

He returned five minutes later, and following a Miami punt he was back in the game to direct a 13-play, 80-yard drive for a 14-0 lead.

On the Patriots' first play of the second half, Aiken caught a pass near midfield by snatching the ball away from rookie Sean Smith, who fell and then watched the receiver dash to the end zone.

But the Patriots didn't score again.

## Indianapolis 27, Tennessee 17

Peyton Manning keeps finding new winning formulas, and the

Colts keep making history.

Instead of another patented comeback or impressive air show, Manning opened December by playing keepaway from Tennessee and leading the Colts to a victory for their record-tying 21st consecutive regular-season win.

"You try to tell these guys that when you win a couple in a row, or three or four in a row, this is not normal," the three-time MVP said. "It's not normal to win 10 or 11 or 12 games every year. But these guys that have been here five years would tell me it is normal for us. That's all they've done."

For Indy (12-0), the milestones all seem commonplace.

Sunday's list included:

◆ Matching New England's record, set from 2006-08, with a chance to break it next week at home against Denver. Broncos coach Josh McDaniels was on Bill Belichick's staff during the Patriots' record run.

◆ Extending their own NFL record of consecutive 12-win seasons to seven.

◆ Remaining undefeated, the first time in league history two teams — New Orleans is also 12-0 — have been unbeaten this late in the season.

◆ And tying the 1990s San Francisco 49ers for most wins in a decade (113), a mark they could also break against Denver.

"It (the record) is one of those things we talk about. We kind of identify the milestones on Wednesday morning when we get in. We talk about some of the things we're accomplishing," coach Jim Caldwell said. "The guys appreciate it, but it's not something that goes to their heads."

It showed.

Colts players celebrated with a nonchalant stroll toward midfield, then shaking hands and trotting into the locker room as though it was no different than the previous 20 wins.

But the script was different. This time, Manning took a page out of Tennessee's playbook, relying on an effective ground game and a ball-control offense to stymie the Titans' comeback hopes.

Tennessee (5-7) was the last team to beat the Colts, on Oct. 27, 2008, and it wanted to bookend the streak.

While Chris Johnson ran for 100 yards in his seventh straight game, tying Earl Campbell's franchise record, he finished with 113 yards and fell just short of a seventh straight 125-yard game, the Titans struggled in the red zone.

Twice in the second half, the Titans went for it on fourth down deep in Colts' territory and failed both times. Tennessee also recovered an onside kick after scoring a late TD, then turned the ball over on downs.

"We just didn't finish in the red zone," quarterback Vince Young said. "Our guys made some big plays, but we just didn't finish. Against a team like this, with an MVP quarterback, you have to score touchdowns."

The Colts, however, took another approach.

Joseph Addai ran 21 times for a season-high 79 yards and two touchdowns. Manning was 24 of 37 for 270 yards and one TD, Pierre Garcon caught six passes for a career-high 136 yards and the combination of quick scores in the first half, and Manning's ability to run clock in the second sealed



**Patriots' quarterback Tom Brady looks at the scoreboard during New England's 22-21 loss to Miami Sunday. Brady threw for 352 yards and two touchdowns in the defeat.**

Tennessee's fate.

Indy needed just 1:58 to take a 7-0 lead, on Addai's 8-yard run. After Rob Bironas' short field goal, Addai scored on a 1-yard run to make it 14-3.

And when Young was picked off, Manning hooked up with Austin Collie on a 4-yard TD pass to make it 21-3 with 1:55 left in the first half.

Young answered with a 6-yard TD pass to Kenny Britt, but left Manning 20 seconds and two timeouts — too much time.

## Seattle 20, San Francisco 17

The San Francisco 49ers blew a career day from quarterback Alex Smith, more opportunities to win than they could have wished for — and a chance to keep pressure on Arizona in the NFC West.

Olindo Mare kicked a 30-yard field goal as time expired to send the Seattle Seahawks to a victory on Sunday over inopportune and angry San Francisco.

After the 49ers called timeout to try to ice the veteran on a cold day, Mare made his second field goal of the final quarter and extended his team record of 18 consecutive makes for the Seahawks (5-7). They also kept alive hopes for a winning season, if not a playoff berth.

The Seahawks also severely damaged the postseason hopes of San Francisco (5-7).

Smith, who had never had a 300-yard passing day in his first 38 NFL games, threw for a career-high 310 yards in the 49ers' new spread offense. The No. 1 overall pick in 2005, reinstalled as San Francisco's starter in October, completed 27 of 45 throws and had two touchdown passes.

One was to Vernon Davis, who had six catches for a career-high 111 yards. Davis' 10th touchdown of the season set a single-season record for a 49ers tight end.

Yet San Francisco will regret its blown chances: two incompletions from the Seahawks 1 in the opening quarter; a fumble on punt

reverse; another fumble by Gore at Seattle 22; and an ill-timed three-and-out in the final minute that left Seattle time and field position for the winning drive.

The final quarter was full of misfires by both teams, epitomizing the mild, mild West.

Four consecutive completions by Hasselbeck, three to T.J. Houshmandzadeh got Seattle to the San Francisco 40 with 1:19 left. Then came the game's fourth negative-yardage completion, a screen pass to Julius Jones destroyed by Patrick Willis for a 5-yard loss. A false-start foul by center Chris Spencer pushed Seattle back to midfield for a third-and-19 with 1:03 left. Hasselbeck lofted a perfect throw in stride into Deion Branch's arms at the 49ers 12, but the ball skidded through his hands.

Hasselbeck bent over in disbelief, and Seattle punted for the 10th time.

But the 49ers went three-passes-and-out from their own 11 — the last pass would have been an interception by Deon Grant at midfield had he not dropped it.

Nate Burleson returned the ensuing punt 21 yards to the Seattle 48 with 21 seconds to go. Two plays later, rookie Deon

Butler ran past cornerback Keith Smith and Hasselbeck's laser pass hit him in stride for a 32-yard gain. One run later, Seattle called timeout, and Mare calmly made 21st field goal in 23 tries this season as holder Jon Ryan and then the rest of the Seahawks mobbed him on the field.

"We hung in there in that last minute," Seattle coach Jim Mora said. "Hopefully, it's an indication of what we're building here."

Smith had moved San Francisco from its own 2 to the Seattle 26 in a tied game earlier in the period. Gore then darted inside and had a 4-yard gain before Jordan Babineaux poked the ball out. Josh Wilson scooped it up and ran 43 yards the other way before Smith saved a touchdown with an open-field tackle.

Gore punched the air in frustration, as Seattle took over at the San Francisco 41. Mare converted that into a 25-yard field and Seattle led 17-14 with 5:30 left.



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# UCF

continued from page 20

another typical performance, as the preseason All-American scored 29 points and brought down seven rebounds. After a slow start shooting the ball early, Harangody made eight of his 10 attempts from the field and helped Notre Dame dominate the second half.

“We’ve done that this season, and every time we’ve been at home we’ve had a second half surge,” Harangody said. “I don’t know what it is but we just come out there and pick up the defensive intensity. This is a great team tonight, and this is big for us.”

Notre Dame got off to a quick start behind Abromaitis, with the junior making an early 3-pointer and then converting the free throw after being fouled to put the Irish up 11-4. The Knights then responded with a 9-0 run to take the lead, and the first half was back-and-forth the rest of the way.

“They were hard to guard in the first half, making some tough shots on us,” Irish coach Mike Brey said. “I thought our poise to start the second half was really good.”

After the score was even at 41-41 at halftime, Notre Dame went on an 8-0 run to start the second period. After the Knights settled down a bit, the Irish stretched the lead to 70-55 with just nine minutes remaining.

The scariest part of the second half for Notre Dame

occurred with 13:28 remaining, when senior point guard Tory Jackson went down with an ankle injury after going up for a shot.

“I didn’t even see the guy under me when I went up for the shot, and I just came down on his foot,” Jackson said.

While Jackson left the game and did not return, the early evaluation of the injury was that it was just a light sprain.

“I think I’ll be fine,” Jackson said. “I was scared when it happened though. Especially senior year, you don’t want that to happen to anybody. I’m very, very thankful that it’s not a big deal.”

Brey was relieved to hear his floor general would not be missing significant amounts of time.

“We’d have to say he’s questionable for Wednesday [against IUPUI],” Brey said. “If we are betting men on Tory Jackson, that guy is going to take a couple Motrin and be out there.”

Junior guard Ben Hansbrough also scored in double digits for the Irish, tallying 10 points and four assists. Jackson had nine assists and four points before leaving following the ankle injury.

Central Florida was led by forward Keith Clanton, who scored 14 points off the bench. The Knights reserve players outscored the Irish bench 34-8.

The Irish will next play IUPUI at Purcell Pavilion Wednesday at 7:30 p.m.

Contact Michael Bryan at mbryan@nd.edu



PAT COVENEY/The Observer

Irish fans cheer on their team during the College Cup this weekend. Notre Dame lost to North Carolina 1-0 Friday night. The Tar Heels went on to win the NCAA Championship Sunday.

# UNC

continued from page 20

Noguiera scored two goals to beat Notre Dame in last year’s Final, and in Friday’s semifinal, the Hermann Award candidate netted the only goal of the game.

Was it realistic to think the Irish defense could keep Noguiera and the high-powered Tar Heel offense quiet for 90 minutes?

Friday night, as was obvious to anyone who watched the game, North Carolina was the superior team on the field.

“They were the better team,” Irish coach Randy Waldrum said. “There is no question about it.”

Maybe this weekend it was unrealistic. But certainly in the future, beating North Carolina in the College Cup will be more realistic as the gap between the perennial powerhouse Tar Heels and the rest of college soccer — especially the Fighting Irish — has closed to a nearly negligible margin.

Don’t get me wrong — the leveling of the playing field is still a work in process. North Carolina has won three College Cups in the past four years, but the combined score in those three title games was 5-2, with Notre Dame falling by a 2-1 deficit twice in that span. Compared to the fact that the Tar

Heels won their first 12 National Championships in a span of 13 years by a combined score of 45-3, the last four years show a true change in the times.

“[North Carolina] certainly is the standard [all women’s college soccer programs are measured by], and has been for 25 or 30 years,” Waldrum said. “They are the standard everybody is trying to reach.”

Waldrum continued to distinguish between two Tar Heel eras — two eras in the sport as a whole.

“I think you’ve got to look at Carolina in the first 25 years and what they had done, and look at Carolina in the last five or six years,” he said. “You have a lot of teams that can boast a lot of success against them in the last few years.”

And that is a true statement. Notre Dame may be able to boast of the most success against them in the latter half of this decade.

In 2007, Notre Dame traveled to Chapel Hill in the third round of the NCAA Tournament, and jumped out to a 2-0 first half lead en route to a 3-2 victory.

That makes four NCAA Tournament matches between the two teams in the last four years, all decided by one goal. In any sport, a one-score margin is nothing to be very sure of, and this is especially true in soccer. If Irish junior Rose Augustin’s arcing

shot which glanced off the crossbar had been two inches shorter, it would have slipped in. In all of reality, if only one Irish forward had run under the shot, the other could likely have knocked in the slow bouncing rebound.

A few minutes later in the second half Irish senior Michele Weissenhofer had a chance at a goal, but her shot curved wide right.

If either one of those chances hits net, this column could be celebrating a Notre Dame title. The fact that the game was that close is still something to be noted.

North Carolina no longer owns women’s soccer. Are the Tar Heels still the favorite? Twenty College Cup titles earn them that respect.

“They are always going to be good,” Waldrum said. “They will always compete for national championships, but I think there a lot of really good programs in the country now.”

And with players like Lauren Fowlkes, Rose Augustin, Jessica Schuveiller and Melissa Henderson, Notre Dame is one of them, possibly poised for its own title in the next season or two.

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

Contact Douglas Farmer at dfarmer1@nd.edu

# Herman

continued from page 20

match was the exceptional play of Bobcat outside hitter Ellen Herman, who tallied three aces, 19 kills and 17 digs to lead all players. Herman’s success against Notre Dame dates back to the last meeting between the two schools, a 2007 matchup in which Herman logged 26 kills.

Although Friday’s loss is a bitter pill to swallow for a senior class that was one of the most highly touted recruiting classes in program history, it has made a remarkable run over the last four seasons. Although the seniors’ greatest legacy to Irish fans will be an outright Big East regular-season title and a 15-game winning streak, Brown believes their chemistry was just as significant.

“To say that any of them that don’t play in the matches as much as the others aren’t as important is entirely false,” Brown said prior to the match. “They all bring special things to the team. I think the attitude of all of them is great, and they all lead in different ways. They’re a very close class, and they have great comradery. It’s just a tremendous class, a tremendous group.”

In addition to Sciacca and Dealy, starting sophomore libero Frenchy Silva and sophomore Megan Barnicle will be called upon to fill up the gaps left behind the seniors.

Although the hopes of an NCAA title were dashed with a loss to Ohio, the Irish are poised to make a return to the tournament next year and beyond.

Contact Chris Masoud at cmasoud@nd.edu

# Bowl

continued from page 20

think it’s a tough situation, especially with younger guys and those who aren’t in the mix for playing. It extends the season even further with finals coming around and we don’t know where it will be or who our opponent is going to be with our 6-6 record. It’s tough to think that Stanford might be the last football game I ever play in my life.”

Even though the Irish will not be playing post-season football, wide receivers coach and recruiting coordinator Rob Ianello will continue to oversee football operations until a new coach is named.

Contact Sam Werner at swerner@nd.edu

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# Waldrum

continued from page 20

said. "But it doesn't take away how proud I am of our girls and their effort."

Tar Heel midfielder Lucy Bronze made a strong run down the right side, slipping past the Irish defense, and put a low cross into the six-yard box that Nogueira touched in for the game-winner.

The Irish were forced to play much of the game in their own defensive end, managing just eight shots against North Carolina's 26. The Tar Heels also held a 10-2 advantage in corner kicks.

"I think through the course of the season Notre Dame has matured tremendously," Tar Heel coach Anson Dorrance said. "The game plan [Notre Dame] had was a good one. They made it very difficult for us to score."

In the first half, North Carolina wasted no time putting pressure on the Irish defense. The Tar Heels took the ball straight down the field in the first minute and drew a foul just outside the penalty box. Notre Dame dodged an early bullet when Nogueira's shot sailed over the crossbar.

The Irish bounced back with their best opportunity of the half just a few minutes later when sophomore Melissa Henderson led a counterattack that caught the North Carolina defense out of position. Henderson hit Augustin on a through-ball inside the penalty box, but Augustin's shot was deflected wide by Tar Heel goalkeeper Ashlyn Harris.

"They were a good team and they pressed us a lot," Augustin said. "We tried to settle it down and we almost got through on a few."

Just before the end of the half, North Carolina had two opportunities to capitalize on loose balls inside the Irish penalty area, but those shot attempts were cleared off the end line by sophomore Molly Campbell.

Early in the second half, the two teams traded a number of offensive opportunities, with the Notre Dame defense standing strong to keep the game scoreless.

Just as the Irish were gaining the momentum, senior defender Haley Ford, who has struggled with injuries for much of the season, went down with a leg injury minutes into the half that forced her to sit out the rest of the game.

But as they have done all season, the Irish continued to fight through adversity.

In the 67th minute, Notre Dame looked to have taken the lead, but Augustin's volley from the left side of the penalty area bounced off the crossbar and the Tar Heels were able to clear.

From that point on, North Carolina regained control of the match forcing play onto the Irish's defensive third. Nikki Weiss made several saves down the stretch, finishing with six on the night, before allowing Nogueira's go-ahead goal.

"We were a little frustrated [in our inability to score], but we're used to taking lots of shots," Nogueira said. "But we kept taking them and it paid off eventually."

The Irish had one last opportunity to get the equalizer in the final seconds, but Henderson's through-ball



PAT COVENEY/The Observer

**Senior defender Molly Campbell throws the ball into play during Notre Dame's 1-0 loss to North Carolina Friday night.**

intended for senior Michele Weissenhofer was cleared away by a sliding effort from Tar Heel defender Rachel Givan.

North Carolina advanced to the finals Sunday where it knocked off previously unbeaten Stanford to claim a record 20th NCAA Championship, its third in four years.

The seven members of the Irish senior class, led by Weissenhofer and Ford, boast a career record of 91-11-4, including four appearances in the College Cup and two trips to the NCAA Championship final, but again fell just short of claiming a national title.

"It's been a really great group [of seniors]," Waldrum said. "They have had a lot of ups and downs and helped the rest of the team persevere. It makes the rest of the team cherish and appreciate more the time they have on the field when they see all that this class has had to go through."

While Friday's result was another disappointment in a season filled with tough breaks, the Irish made a graceful exit with their heads held high.

"We're going out proud tonight," Henderson said. "Our team has overcome so many obstacles and the players have really stepped up and made some great things happen. I've never been prouder to be on a team, the way everyone stepped up and played for each other was phenomenal."

Contact Alex Barker at [abarker1@nd.edu](mailto:abarker1@nd.edu)

## HOCKEY

# Irish fall in pair of shutout losses

By MATT GAMBER  
Sports Editor

No. 15 Notre Dame failed to light the lamp in a pair of shutout losses to top-ranked Miami as the Irish suffered their first weekend sweep in more than a year, falling 1-0 Friday and 4-0 Saturday.

"Friday we had scoring chances and we just didn't put the puck in the net," junior left wing Calle Ridderwall said. "Saturday we had a couple chances that probably should have gone in, but the bottom line is that you've got to bury the puck in the back of the net and we're not doing that right now."

Notre Dame (7-7-4, 4-4-4-2 CCHA) had not been swept since Oct. 24-25, 2008, when the RedHawks (11-2-5, 8-1-3-1) handed the Irish consecutive losses at the Joyce Center. Miami has now beaten Notre Dame six straight times dating back to 2007.

The lone goal of Friday night's contest came at 18:42 in the first when freshman defenseman Joe Hartman beat Irish freshman goaltender Mike Johnson, who was oth-

erwise perfect in making 25 saves.

"Johnson was good in both games," Ridderwall said. "You obviously can't win a game not scoring any goals though. And Saturday we didn't help him enough [defensively]."

Saturday's game was closer than the score indicated, as the Irish only trailed 1-0 for most of the game after Tommy Wingels' goal midway through the opening period. But third-period goals by Pat Cannone, Carter Camper and Justin Vaive put the game out of reach.

"I think we can learn a lot from Miami," Ridderwall said. "Their special teams were fantastic all weekend. Just a very fast team, and we've been wanting to play quicker. Definitely the speed of their game and their offensive abilities."

The Irish will try to right the ship this weekend, but they'll have another tough series when they play a home-and-home with conference rival Michigan.

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

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18 Step after "write"

19 Baseball catcher's position

20 Spring egg distributor

23 Cartoonist Browne

24 Verdi aria "\_\_\_ tu"

25 Gasoline additive

28 Wad of gum

30 Jetsam's partner

34 One who leaves money under a pillow

37 Fork part

38 Cove

39 "Yoo-\_\_\_!"

40 Beauty parlor

41 Greenish-blue

42 Head of a major toy outfit

44 Largest city in Pakistan

46 "Big Love" aier

47 Depot: Abbr.

48 Greek letter X

49 Kind of date for an expectant mother

51 Ripley catchphrase that's apropos to 20-, 34- and 42-Across

59 "Keep your \_\_\_ the prize"

60 E-mail woe

61 Band's schedule

63 Disagree (with)

64 Heavy book

65 Poet Pound

66 Sloppy

67 Adam and Eve's first residence

68 Landlord's check
- Down
- 1 Distant

2 Lighted sign above a door

3 Net

4 Posed, as questions

5 Mention

6 Agrees nonverbally

7 Disembarked

8 \_\_\_ Best of the pre-Ringo Beatles

9 Owner of Scrabble

10 Result of a "not guilty" verdict

11 Gobsmack

12 Means \_\_\_ end

13 Pretentious

21 Start of prime time, generally

22 Depend (on)

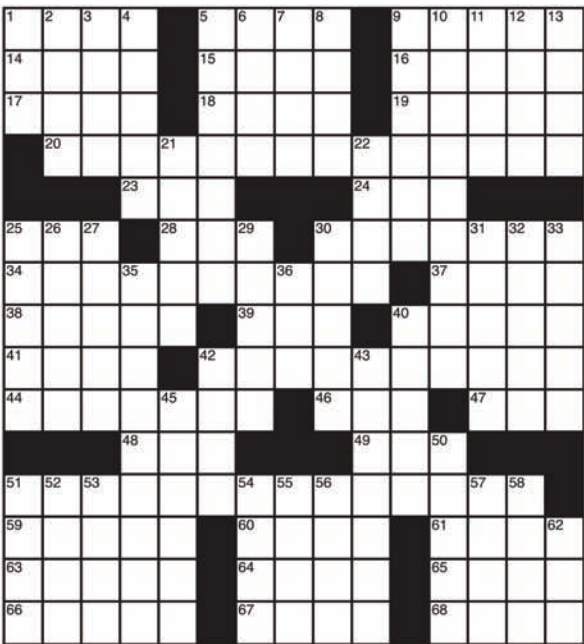
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27 From the extreme north and south of the earth

29 Persian-founded faith

30 Possible sign of rabies



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- 31 George Eliot's "\_\_\_ Marner"

32 Provide \_\_\_ (allow to escape)

33 Group for geniuses

35 Stubborn

36 Charged particle

40 Search high and low

42 Prison weapon

43 What situps tighten up

45 Biden's predecessor as vice president

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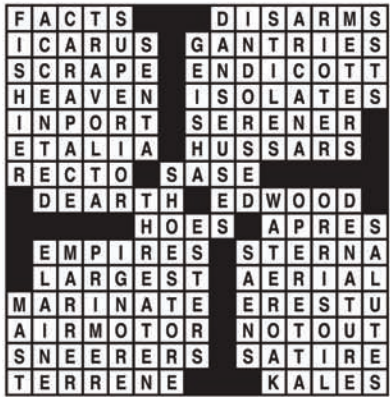
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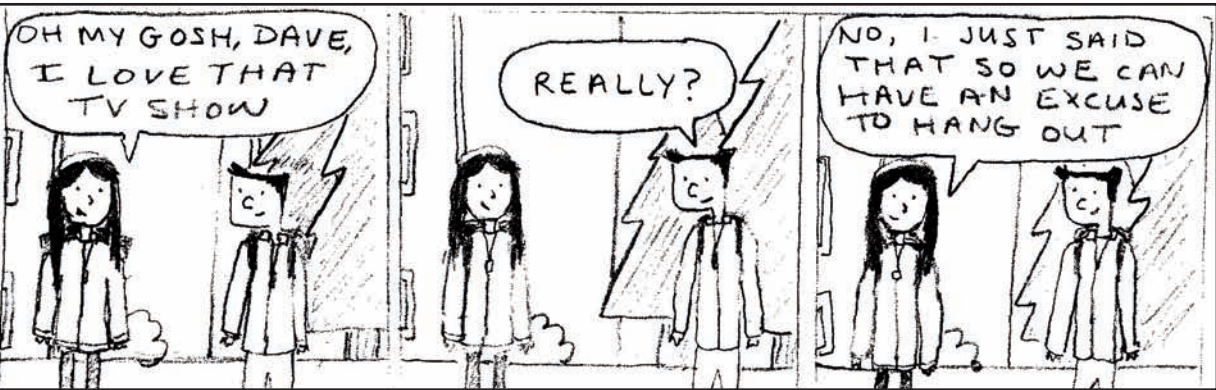


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**Happy Birthday:** You will show great ability this year, especially when manipulating a situation that can help you get ahead. Don't be too sure of the outcome -- overconfidence can lead to a costly mistake. Now is not the time to try to outdo others but rather to excel for your own satisfaction. Hard work and dedication will be recognized and appreciated. Your numbers are 3, 5, 11, 23, 31, 35, 44

**ARIES (March 21-April 19):** Interacting with others will broaden your outlook and help you realize you are not alone in the way you feel or in the things you want to pursue. You can push forward with a project. ★★★★★

**TAURUS (April 20-May 20):** Make your plans in secret. The fewer people who know what you are up to, the less interference you'll get and the more likely you'll be to reach your goals. Emotional issues at home will leave you feeling in need of a change. ★★

**GEMINI (May 21-June 20):** Pull in all the help you can get but make sure you work just as hard as everyone else. Taking part in a neighborhood or community event will lead to the possibility of a new romance if you are single or a connection that is business-oriented. ★★★★★

**CANCER (June 21-July 22):** Memories can be wonderful things. You can find your way to the right path by relying on past experiences. You can establish a new set of rules that fit into your lifestyle and will satisfy the people you are interacting with. ★★

**LEO (July 23-Aug. 22):** Ups and downs can leave you feeling confused. Take a back seat until things settle down and you have a better idea what everyone else is doing. Going against the current is tiring and often leads nowhere. ★★★

**VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22):** Don't leave anything undone. Year-end is fast approaching. You may be stretched for time but clearing matters up now will be valuable later on. Do the things you enjoy instead of only doing for others. ★★

**LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22):** Volunteering your services or offering help to your community will result in new friendships that can be very entertaining and inspiring. Include your family and friends and you can contribute as a leader. ★★★★★

**SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21):** More people are counting on you than you realize. Stop being so me-oriented. Finish the paperwork or chores, freeing up your time. Make your presence felt. ★★

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21):** Idle time will not bode well. Make sure that you have enough to do. Travel, love and enjoying what life has to offer should be part of your agenda. What you share now will be the beginning of a new lifestyle. ★★★★★

**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19):** Don't give in to anyone testing your patience or questioning your beliefs. Someone will try to get you to take on responsibilities that don't belong to you. Feeling guilty is not a good reason to give in. ★★

**AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18):** Put someone you like at ease by being upfront about the way you feel and what your intentions are. Pay close attention to the response you get. You can make better choices if you clear up unfinished business. ★★

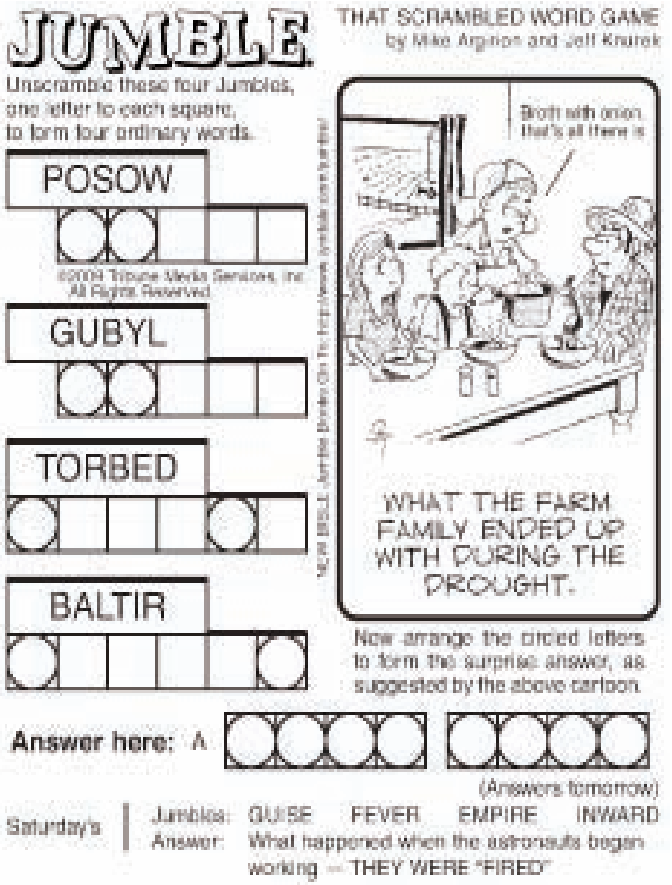
**PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20):** Nothing will be clear-cut. You have to ask questions and find out what everyone around you is thinking and doing if you want to fit in and excel. Don't leave anything to chance. Make changes at home that will please others. ★★

**Birthday Baby:** You are outgoing, entertaining and generous. You are a great teacher and are eager to explore new methods and avenues. You see and you do without waiting to be told.

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THE OBSERVER

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ND WOMEN'S SOCCER

# Twice denied

*Team falls to Tar Heels in College Cup for second year in a row*

By ALEX BARKER  
Sports Writer

COLLEGE STATION, Texas — For the second straight year, the Irish were beaten in the College Cup by a late second-half goal off the foot of North Carolina forward Casey Nogueira.

Nogueira's finish from close range with 7:58 remaining sent the Irish home with a 1-0 defeat in the NCAA Semifinals Friday night at Aggie Soccer Stadium.

"They were the better team tonight, no question about it," Irish coach Randy Waldrum

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PAT COVENEY/The Observer

Senior forward Michele Weissenhofer looks back on the field after Notre Dame's 1-0 loss to North Carolina in the NCAA semifinals Friday night.

*Despite loss, Irish are closing the gap on North Carolina*

In some ways, it now seems as if it was always inevitable.

North Carolina has nine more College Cup titles than Notre Dame has appearances. Was it really realistic to think the Irish could beat the Tar Heels on the biggest stage in women's college soccer?



Douglas Farmer

Sports Writer

North Carolina senior Casey

see UNC/page 17

FOOTBALL

# Swarbrick says team will not participate in bowl game

By SAM WERNER  
Associate Sports Editor

Notre Dame will not be participating in a bowl game this year, director of athletics Jack Swarbrick said in a statement Friday.

"Notre Dame institutionally always has been a strong advocate of the bowl system,

and we sincerely appreciate the bowls and individuals representing them who reached out to us," Swarbrick said. "However, the unique circumstances surrounding our program at the current time prevent us from making the commitment required to compete in a bowl game. If the landscape had been different, we would have been

thrilled to take part — and we certainly look forward to being part of the bowl system in the years to come."

After a 6-2 start, the Irish lost their last four games to finish 6-6 for the second consecutive season. On Nov. 30, two days after Notre Dame's season-ending loss to Stanford, Swarbrick announced that Charlie Weis

would not be retained as the head coach for next season.

Last year, the Irish went to the Hawaii Bowl to play Hawaii. Notre Dame defeated the Warriors 49-21 for its first bowl win in 15 years. After the loss to the Cardinal, the most likely postseason destinations for the Irish were either the Little Caesars Pizza Bowl in Detroit on Dec.

26 or the GMAC Bowl in Mobile, Ala. on Jan. 6.

When players spoke to the media after Weis was fired, reaction to a possible bowl game was mixed.

"Obviously I want to get this taste out of my mouth and end on a high note," senior center Eric Olsen said. "I

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MEN'S BASKETBALL

# Abromaitis nets 31 in win

By MICHAEL BRYAN  
Associate Sports Editor

The first half of Notre Dame's game against Central Florida Sunday featured 17 lead changes and 11 ties scores. The second half had none, as the Irish stormed out after halftime to outscore the Knights 49-31 and secure a 90-72 victory.

With NBA legend Michael Jordan in the press box to watch his son Marcus, a freshman guard at UCF, junior forward Tim Abromaitis had the best game of his career. Moved into the starting lineup, Abromaitis scored 31 points on 10-of-17 shooting to lead the Irish effort.

"I think it's really my teammates who set me up for those 31 points," Abromaitis said. "I got a lot of easy shots out there, just off good penetration and getting good cuts. It's a lot of the teamwork that went into it."

Senior Luke Harangody had

see UCF/page 17



VANESSA GEMPIS/The Observer

Junior forward Tim Abromaitis goes after a loose ball during Notre Dame's 90-72 win over Central Florida Sunday.

VOLLEYBALL

# Notre Dame falls in first round of NCAs

By CHRIS MASOUD  
Sports Writer

Highlighted by a 15-game winning streak, Notre Dame's 2009 season culminated in the longest losing skid of the year on Friday. Notre Dame fell to Ohio University in the opening round of the NCAA championships, the third straight loss and the final match in the careers of a senior class defined by winning.

"Although the outcome was not what we had hoped for, I'm extremely proud of our team and their effort tonight, and Ohio deserves plenty of credit for earning the win," Irish head coach Debbie Brown said to und.com. "We've battled through injuries lately and persevered many times throughout the season. This team will miss our very special six-person senior class."

The Irish (21-7) battled the Bobcats (27-6) to five sets (23-25, 25-16, 20-25, 25-15, 15-7), but in the end could not stop an overpowering offense defined by execution of the fundamentals. Lifted by 10 aces, Ohio finished with a .236 attacking percentage compared to Notre Dame's .125.

Nevertheless, the stat line featured the impressive numbers Irish fans have come to expect from their main contributors. Junior middle blocker Kellie Sciacca led the Irish offensive with 16 kills, and sophomore outside hitter Kristen Dealy recorded her ninth double-double of the season with 10 kills and 16 digs. Senior outside hitter Christina Kaelin added 10 kills to round out the attack.

But the real story of the

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