Tragedy strikes Ebersol family

By CLAIRE HEININGER
News Editor

Notre Dame senior Charlie Ebersol survived a plane crash that injured his father, NBC Sports chairman Dick Ebersol, and killed his youngest brother Teddy Ebersol and two crewmen in Montrose, Colo. Sunday.

The family said in a release Monday night that Dick and Charlie Ebersol were in stable condition at St. Mary's Hospital in Grand Junction, Colo. and are expected to make a full recovery, according to Kim Williams, director of public relations at the hospital.

The private jet, carrying six people, crashed during takeoff from Montrose Regional Airport at approximately 10 a.m. Mountain Standard Time, according to a press release from the Montrose Fire Protection District (MFPD). The airport is located 185 miles southwest of Denver and serves the Telluride Ski Area.

The pilot and a flight attendant of the CRJ-601 Challenger plane were killed on impact, the Montrose County Coroner's Office said in a press release. A body matching the description of Teddy Ebersol, 14, was recovered underneath the plane wreckage at 5 p.m. MST Monday, following an extensive search of the wooded crash site, according to a statement released Monday by the Montrose County Coroner's Office.

The pilot and flight attendant were both ejected from their seats. The only one not ejected was Mr. Ebersol, and his son, Charles, pulled him out.

The Ebersols have been longtime friends of the McNallys.

COUNCIL OF REPRESENTATIVES

Group discusses updates

By MARY KATE MALONE
News Writer

The Council of Representatives discussed business from last week and coordinated various events being planned for the week Monday. At last week’s meeting student body president Ed Malloy presented a resolution to representatives that proposed changes that the Council felt needed to be made to the new constitution. Before members approved the resolution, Student Union Board manager Jimmy Flaherty had expressed concern with one provision that suggested Financial Management Board meetings take place on an as-necessary basis, and members chose not to remove it.

COR discussed the issue further Monday, and representatives agreed the current constitutional requirement for FMB to meet on a bi-weekly basis is necessary and no constitutional changes should be made.

Still, hall presidents’ co-chair Claire Fazel, who attends FMB meetings, said although last week’s meeting was very effective, many in the past have failed to be productive due to poor attendance.

If we are going to meet on a bi-weekly basis, the representatives here are going to have to push the members of your respective groups to come to our meetings. We cannot vote if we do not have enough members present, she said.

Representatives agreed to do so.

Students feel pain of USC losing streak

By MADDIE HANNA
News Writer

After watching the football team lose to USC on Saturday, Notre Dame students returned from Thanksgiving break saddened by the season-ending loss. That was an absolute embarrassment, sophomore Mac Murray said of the football 41-10 loss to No. 1 USC.

Murray, who is from Chicago, traveled to Los Angeles with his family to watch the Irish play the Trojans.

We shouldn’t have even been on the same field with that team, Murray said.

Junior Steve Sweeney, who traveled to USC from Northern California with his dad, shared
INSIDE COLUMN

‘Saved by the Bell’ bliss

In recent weeks, my friends and I have devoted a good chunk of time to watching every episode of every season of “Saved by the Bell.” But, watching the show now, when I am mature enough to recognize that I will never actually become Kelly Kapowski and date the ever-desirable Zack Morris, it is interesting to see how our culture has changed in just 10 short years.

The show had a real innocence and sweetness to it. All of the episodes had reassuring morals and the characters always made the right decisions — no drugs, no racism, no sex and no serious problems. Our generation seems utterly out of control in comparison. While I am glad that my wardrobe does not consist of fluorescent spandex and tacky patterned dresses, at times, I wish life mirrored “Saved by the Bell” just a little. The perfection of the characters, their relationships and their morals, no matter how “made-for-TV” they may have been, were enviable.

For one, Kelly and Zack’s “going steady” was the epitome of pure, high school love. Zack solicited parental permission before asking Kelly out and made deals with her to get her out of work early for a date. A kiss on the cheek was always followed by an “awwaww” from the audience. Now, such courting and dating is a virtual has-been, while random hook-ups and casual meaningless relationships dominate high school and college life. When and how did that become the norm?”

Joscie heart caffeine pills, Scrunch made fake lips it is art everyone into an 18-and-up dance club, and Zack snuck out of detention. Today, people deal with police citations, court hearings and Real Life trials all the time without blinking an eye. Though at the core the problems seem the same, everything today is in excess and taken much more casually.

When did the innocence disappear? Did it ever exist? Everything in “Saved by the Bell” was sugarcoated. The real life angst of teens was underplayed and problems were unrealistically resolved in 30 minutes flat. But, I can’t help but think that the show set a moral standard — it encouraged hand-holding and courtship and sticking up for your friends. As outdated as the show may seem, it manages to touch your heart, and we all end up trying to find our inner Bayside character.

The views expressed in the Inside Column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer. Contact Kate Antonacci at kantonn@nd.edu

QUESTIONS OF THE DAY: WHAT DID YOU THINK OF THE FOOTBALL GAME?

Tim Feldmann
junior
Dillon

“I don’t think it’s appropriate for the newspaper to print.”

Daniel Klauser
junior
Dillon

“D.J. Fitzpatrick is awesome.”

Kat Moravek
junior
Caven

“Expected.”

Gabriel Samudio
sophomore
Keenan

“Go Irish!”

Roger Knight
junior
Siegfried

“I didn’t watch it.”

Chris Dougher
sophomore
Zahn

“It was football-rific.”

OFFBEAT

Smiling frowned upon in visa photographs

PITTSBURGH — Imagine being denied a passport for, of all things, your teeth. It could happen, but not because they’re crooked. Under new rules for visa photographs that began this summer, the State Department doesn’t want to see them at all, according to a story published in Sunday’s Pittsburgh Post Gazette.

The new guidelines permit people to smile for passport and visa pictures but frown on toothy smiles, which apparently are classified as unusual or unnatural expressions.

“The subject’s expression should be neutral (non-smiling) with both eyes open, and mouth closed. A smile with a closed jaw is allowed but is not preferred,” according to the guidelines.

Man shoots cells phones into Swedish prison

STOCKHOLM, Sweden — Authorities in Sweden arrested a man who shot mobile phones into the yard of a high-security prison with a bow and arrows, police said Saturday.

The 25-year-old man is charged in planning to aid a prison escape and could get up to a year in jail, police said.

The suspect, whose name was not released, tangled two cell phones and a battery charger to three arrows, and fired them over the 12-foot wall into Mariefred prison outside Stockholm on Friday night, police spokeswoman Susanne Abrahamsson said. The man was not spotted by guards when he fired the arrows, but was arrested after police found his car parked about 650 feet from the prison walls, with a bow hidden underneath it, she said.

Information compiled from the Associated Press.

IN BRIEF

The Center for Social Concerns will sponsor a summer service project meeting from 7 to 8 p.m. in the Coleman-Morse lounge today.

UNICEF will sell Christmas cards and other materials from 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. today in the Hesburgh Library concourse. Proceeds will benefit needy children throughout the world.

Theology professor Bob Krieg will lead a seminar on “Catholic Theologians and Nazi Germany,” Wednesday from 3:30 to 5:30 p.m. in C-104 Hesburgh Center.

Sally Winn, vice president of Feminists for Life of America, will speak today on the topic “Refuse to Choose: Reclaiming Feminism” from 7 to 9 p.m. in 126 DeBartolo Hall.

Pasquella East Hall will sponsor its Silent Night Silent Auction Wednesday from 7 to 9 p.m. The event will include free food, K-Doke and a free iPod giveaway.

University of Iowa professor Mary Wilson will speak today from 4 to 5 p.m. in 238 Calvin Life Science building about “Molecular mechanisms of host-parasite interactions in leishmaniasis.”

Political science professor Luc Blydams will discuss “Universal Jurisdiction over Gross Human Rights Violations: Back to Square Zero?” Wednesday from 4:30 to 6 p.m. in the Law School Courtyard.

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

By NICOLE ZOOK
News Writer

For nearly a hundred years, Saint Mary's students and faculty have taken shelter from the South Bend snow and rain by walking through underground tunnels, which are now closed to students and faculty.

"As Dalloway's Promotions Manager I am very concerned about the tunnels connecting the residence halls to the library," said Dalloway. "With many residential hall doors being locked at 6 p.m., I am afraid that students won't be able to walk around to get to Dalloway's in the evenings." Dalloway added that she agreed not having easy access would keep them from visiting the campus eateries during inclement weather.

"As for Hagar, I probably won't go there anymore if the weather is bad," Ellison said. "I usually only go there at night if the weather's too nasty to walk outside to the dining hall."

The board agreed the tunnels are an important part of the Saint Mary's campus and said they would be sad to see them closed.

"It is such a wonderful advantage of being at Saint Mary's," said Mady. "We usually come up here from the South Bend snow and rain by walking through underground tunnels, which are now closed to students and faculty."

Contact Nicole Zook at zooknk72@ saintmarys.edu.

Football
continued from page 1

Murray's sentiment. "We weren't prepared to play with the number one team in the country for four quarters," Sweeney said.

Sweeney pointed out the growing gap in performance between the Notre Dame and USC teams.

"It's amazing how the series with USC has changed in the last three years. Four years ago we beat them - they weren't that good. But they get a new coach and have beat us by 31 every year since," Sweeney said.

Sweeney said he pointed to the administration and head coach Tyrone Willingham for the team's poor performance.

I feel that the current administration is fine with having a mediocre coaching staff," Sweeney said. "Some people say that's their first recruiting class is only in their sophomore season, and that they need time, but our recruiting classes have been worse now than under former head coach Bo Dawson."

Freshman Neil Hawley, who lives in Los Angeles, attended the game with family and friends. "Going into the game, I felt we had a shot," he said. "USC doesn't have the practice that we have in the rain, so the weather was on our side. We had a good turnover for the game, and in the first quarter the ND fans were much louder."

According to Hawley, momentum shifted once USC settled down and found their offense.

"We lost our energy, and from there it was all downhill," Hawley said.

But students who were upset by the game still watched USC.

"The SoCal fans were great, very intense, and an amicable rivalry. Outside of us getting pounded a little bit, I think we had a really fun time," said Murray.

Hawley enjoyed himself, but noted the difference between ND and USC fans.

"USC fans don't have the heart Notre Dame fans do - when they're down, they don't cheer. With or lose, USC football just isn't Notre Dame football," Sweeney said.

Sweeney said he has attended Notre Dame-USC games since he was little.

"It's a great rivalry and must USC fans are respectful, at least on the ones I've been around," he said.

Contact Maddie Hanna at mhanna1@nd.edu.

WHAT'S AN ACTUARY?

Information Session Presented by Allstate Insurance Company

Tuesday, November 30, 2004
6:30 p.m.
Foster Room, LaForte

Strong math, computer, analytical, and communication skills are valuable assets for students pursuing an Actuarial Career. All majors are welcome to attend this session to learn about the many opportunities available to those interested in an Actuarial Career.

Professor edits book on human migration

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Ebersol continued from page 1

University and we are deeply saddened by their loss," Malloy said. "We pray for a full recovery for Dick and Charlie Ebersol, and ask God's grace on their family."

Father Mark Poorman, vice president for student affairs, offered similar words of prayerful thoughts and support. "As treasures of members of the Notre Dame community, Charlie Ebersol and his family are in our thoughts and prayers at this very difficult time," Poorman said in a statement released Monday. "We all draw strength from our faith, and pray that God will provide healing and hope for the Ebersols."

Students, especially those closest to Charlie Ebersol, are still reeling from the shock.

Clay Nungesser — where Charlie Ebersol lived for two years before moving off-campus — said the dorm is hailing together for strength, but the cold, cold information has made it hard to cope.

The news of the tragic incident, it's been difficult, especially for the guys who knew him the closest," Nungesser said, clearly. "It's been tough, especially for some guys earlier, not knowing the whole situation is just a part of the problem. It's just really difficult.

The family — and sometimes controversial figure on campus, Charlie Ebersol, was under heavy criticism during both of his presidential campaigns and his term as a student body president — criticized from misperception because they don't know what he was really like.

Ebersol faced tough criticism born from misperception because they don't know what he was really like.

"I really think Charlie Ebersol is a very strong spirit who worked as a student body president and losing by narrow margins in the Denver Post office to conduct a preliminary investigation, the results of which should be available Tuesday. The National Transportation Safety Board said Ebersol was presumed dead and that the investigation had begun at the auspices of the Federal Aviation Administration's National Transportation Safety Board in the wreckage, burned on the exterior but protected by a layer of asbestos, according to the Associated Press. It was flown to the NTSB's Denver office to conduct a preliminary investigation, the results of which should be available Tuesday.

"At this point there are still a lot of questions unanswered," Montrout Sports Information Director Kevin Scott Brownlie said in the first news conference, broadcast by a CNN.

Brownlie added he did not know if the plane's wings had been de-iced before takeoff, saying it was the pilot's choice.

Steve McLaughlin of MFS Sports, which de-ices private planes at the airport, told the Denver Post his company did not de-ice the Ebersols' plane before it took off.

The Challenger plane was operated by the Airline Corporation on behalf of Jet Alliance, CA. Charter Russell, president of Jet Alliance, issued a statement Monday morning that offered condolences to those involved.

Charlie Ebersol played a vocal role in Notre Dame student government, twice running for student body president and losing by narrow margins in 2003 and 2004. Ebersol served as manager of the Student Union Board and a member of the Council of Representatives during the 2003-04 term. He was a key actor in the recent restructuring of student government and the rewriting of the student union constitution.

A film, television and theatre major, Ebersol lived in Kegou for two and half years before moving off-campus.

Dick Ebersol, 57, became president of NBC Sports in 1989, and was a chief negotiator in agreements to televise Notre Dame home football games on NBC. Most recently, he, University President Father Edward Malloy and athletic director Kevin White collaborated on a December 2003 contract extension that granted NBC rights to nationally broadcast the Irish through 2010.

Dick Ebersol also led NBC's successful negotiations to televise the Olympics and NASCAR events, and in the early 1980s he served as executive producer of Saturday Night Live.

The Associated Press, CNN, the Montrout Daily Press and the Denver Post contributed to this report.

Contact Claire Heininger at cheining@nd.edu

University of Notre Dame Department of Music Presents
University of Notre Dame Chorale & Chamber Orchestra
Alexander Blachly, Director
George Frideric Handel's

Messiah

8:00
Thursday, December 2, 2004
Friday, December 3, 2004

Leighton Concert Hall
Marie P. DeBartolo Center for the Performing Arts

General admission $6; faculty / staff $5; seniors $4; students $3
phone 747-631-2800 for tickets
International News

Congo to send reinforcements

Kinshasa, Congo — Congo intends to send 10,000 reinforcements toward its eastern border with Rwanda, a presidential spokesman said Monday, after credible reports that thousands of Rwandan troops moved into the remote forested hills of east Congo — an account supported by police, rangers and locals near the border of the two neighbors and wartime enemies.

Rwanda refused to confirm or deny the reported incursion, and the U.N. mission in Congo acknowledged that its helicopter pilots and other forces had failed to turn up any immediate sign of Rwandan troops.

Victims compensated for torture

BRUSSELS — Victims of torture at the hands of Spanish soldiers will double their accounts as the country's highest court approved the compensation of thousands of former victims. In addition, a Spanish court agreed Monday to send reinforcements to the Congo.

The compensation law, approved by the Constitutional Court, is the result of a lengthy legal battle by victims of torture and their relatives who have been demanding compensation for decades.

The Congo's second deadliest month for U.S. forces

Iraqi police, killing seven Iraqi police and guardsmen Monday in a suicide attack on a police station north of the capital.

Two American soldiers from Task Force Baghdad were wounded Monday in a roadside bomb explosion in northwest Baghdad, the military said. No further details were released.

Medical marijuana laws disputed

The Supreme Court on Monday rejected a challenge to Oregon's law allowingiling security forces, killing seven Iraqi police and guardsmen Monday in a suicide attack on a police station north of the capital. The military reported five new U.S. deaths.

Thirteen Marines were wounded Monday in a roadside bomb explosion in northwest Baghdad, the military said. No further details were released.

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Iraq

Insurgent attacks kill American soldiers

Baghdad — Insurgents stepped up attacks against U.S. security forces in the city on Monday, setting off a deadly explosion in a crowded street, officials said.

A U.S. military spokesman said more than 70 people were killed or wounded in the attack, which targeted a police station in the city's Sadr City district.

Local News

 Favor for mom leads to death sentence

Binghamton, N.Y. — A woman convicted of helping her husband kill his ex-girlfriend has won a stay of execution from the state's highest court, after a judge overturned her sentence.

The case of Maryann H. Versland has been one of the most high-profile death penalty cases in New York in recent years.

WithonDonald Evans already having announced his resignation, Carlos Gutierrez, CEO of Kellogg Co., will become the new secretary of Commerce pending Senate approval.

Bush chooses secretary of commerce

With Senate approval, Kellogg Co. CEO Carlos Gutierrez will join the cabinet

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President Bush on Monday chose Carlos Gutierrez, a native of Cuba who rode from truck driver to chief executive officer of Kellogg Co., to be the next secretary of Commerce.

If confirmed by the Senate, Gutierrez would succeed Commerce Secretary Donald Evans, a Texas confidant of Bush's, who announced his resignation shortly after the Nov. 2 election. The president called the 51-year-old Gutierrez, a "great American success story" and a visionary executive, who understands the world of business from the "first rung on the ladder to the very top."

"Carlos's family came to America from Cuba when he was a boy," Bush said in the Roosevelt Room. "He learned of the American dream in a bellhop in a Miami hotel and later became an American citizen. When his family eventually settled in Mexico City, Carlos took his first job for Kellogg as a truck driver, delivering Frosted Flakes to local stores."

Gutierrez, who was joined by his wife, son and two daughters, is the first new member of Bush's economic team to be confirmed since the presidential election.

"It's very special for us, who were kept anonymous for almost 31 years, that the state admits that we were tortured," Garcia told The Associated Press Monday. "Telling the nation that we were tortured is the first act of reparation. Little by little, this begins to be a healing process."

While the payments are small — about $190 a month — they will double the pensions of many former victims. In addition, victims and their relatives will receive free education, housing and health benefits.

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China forges free trade pact with Southeast Asian nations

Associated Press

VIENGTHANE—Rising power China moved Monday to expand its influence in a region long dominated by the United States, signing an accord with Southeast Asian nations aimed at creating the world’s largest free trade area by 2020 — a sprawling market of nearly 2 billion people.

According to the agreement Monday, China is removing tariffs on goods and trade disputes. The accord was signed by 10 ASEAN members — Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam.

China’s concerns about securing vital sea lanes and feeding its booming economy’s ravenous appetite for oil and raw materials were seen as key motivations for the trade pact with the 10-nation Association of Southeast Asian Nations at the group’s annual summit in Laos.

"China is using its huge market as a bait to lure ASEAN countries away from the United States, Japan and build closer relations," said Chao Chumin, a China watcher and political science professor at China’s National Chengchi University.

"I think what Beijing has in mind is to forge good economic and trade relations now and then increase exchanges in other areas, particularly in the military and security sectors," Chao said.

The agreement signed Monday removed tariffs on goods and created a mechanism to resolve ASEAN-China trade disputes. The accord aims to end all tariffs by 2010, drawing ASEAN’s combined economies — worth $1 trillion — closer to China’s $4.4 trillion economy.

Ong Keng Yong, ASEAN’s secretary-general, said trade with China would speed up with the free trade agreement. "So by the time this whole FTA (free trade agree-ment) is done, as we want to by 2010, it should become quite substantial: $130 or $140 billion, perhaps," he told reporters.

In comparison, the annual ASEAN-U.S. trade is $120 billion. In 2009, China’s China-EU trade was $130 billion per year, he said.

Ong said it would be a long time before China surpassed the United States because the Americans are bigger investors in the region.

China’s deal with the Association of Southeast Asian Nations was sealed as the 10-nation group agreed to another pact that would build an ASEAN community, much like the European Union, by 2020.

The run-up to the ASEAN summit in the Laotian capital was clouded by concerns that Thailand’s crackdown last month on a protest that left 83 Muslims dead could inflame militants, and over Myanmar’s failure to deliver on pledges to move toward democracy.

Some member countries indicated they might call those ASEAN colleagues to task — in a break with the group’s tradition of keeping out of domestic affairs. But both issues were kept off the table during the summit’s ASEAN-only agenda Monday. Thai government spokesman Jakraphob Penkair said.

Thailand’s ravenous appetite for oil and raw materials was seen as key motivations for the trade pact with the 10-nation Association of Southeast Asian Nations at the group’s annual summit in Laos.

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Ong said it would be a long time before China surpassed the United States because the Americans are bigger investors in the region.

China’s deal with the Association of Southeast Asian Nations was sealed as the 10-nation group agreed to another pact that would build an ASEAN community, much like the European Union, by 2020.

The run-up to the ASEAN summit in the Laotian capital was clouded by concerns that Thailand’s crackdown last month on a protest that left 83 Muslims dead could inflame militants, and over Myanmar’s failure to deliver on pledges to move toward democracy.

Some member countries indicated they might call those ASEAN colleagues to task — in a break with the group’s tradition of keeping out of domestic affairs. But both issues were kept off the table during the summit’s ASEAN-only agenda Monday. Thai government spokesman Jakraphob Penkair said.
Ringer tones debut in US
NEW YORK — Ringer tones are so yesterday. If wireless companies have their way, the next multimillion-dollar opportunity in the cellular business will be "Ringer tones." Instead of the usual dialing noise that people hear when placing phone calls, callers to Verizon Wireless subscribers may soon find themselves listening to a new one until the phone is answered.

The service, pioneered by SK Telecom of Korea, is debuting in the United States in California and is slated to be available nationally by mid-2005.

Verizon Wireless, a partnership between Verizon Communications Inc. and Vodafone Group PLC, is charging 99 cents per month plus an annual fee of $1.99 for each ringer tone chosen. Other U.S. carriers are said to be considering a similar service.

Verizon subscribers can assign specific tones for different callers to hear, choosing among 2,000 ringer sounds from 13 music genres provided by Warner Music Group and Sony BMG Music Entertainment.

Carolyn Labarbar clutches her selections during the early-morning shopping blitz at a Wal-Mart in Texas. Wal-Mart, among others were disappointed in this weekend's sales.

The Observer
Business

Retailers experience modest start

Spending faded after Friday's surge of shoppers leaving businesses disappointed

The Observer
Business

Associated Press

NEW YORK — The holiday shopping season began with a surge in spending, but consumers fended by the stings of the Thanksgiving weekend and many retailers were facing decent, but hardly impressive sales.

Big chains, including J.C. Penney and Sears, filed sales, were pleased with their, sales. But Wal-Mart chief executive Wal-Mart said its sales in the seven days that ended Friday were 9.1% below the year-ago period and it lowered its forecasts for November.

The holiday shopping season traditionally begins the day after Thanksgiving.

"Friday overall was strong, but Saturday was weak and disappointing, so together it was only a modest two-day performance," said Michael P. Niemira, chief economist at the National Bureau of Economic Research Group, based in Charleston, S.C. "The retailers that won this weekend were the ones that were super aggressive in special purchases and special pricing."

Wal-Mart said Saturday it now expects same-store sales in November to be up only 0.7 percent, instead of the projected 2 percent or so.

Without any must-haves in apparel and toys, the main attractions were electronics, particularly flat-screen TVs and DVD players, benefiting stores like Best Buy and Circuit City.

Total retail sales were up 10.8 percent on Friday compared with the day after Thanksgiving last year, but dropped 6.5 percent on Saturday compared with a year ago. ShopperTrak said. As a result, total sales for Friday and Saturday combined increased a modest 3.5 percent. ShopperTrak is expected to release sales for the three-day weekend later Monday.

Consumers were clearly hunting for good deals. "I want a flat-screen TV to put in the family room," said Gladys Wright, from Elkton, Md., who was among the crowds.

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Monday on the New York Stock Exchange.

"Wal-Mart was a big loser because they didn't get the same numbers of early bird shoppers as they did a year ago," said C. Britt Beemer, chairman of America's Research Group, based in Charleston, S.C. "The retailers that won this weekend were the ones that were super aggressive in special purchases and special pricing."

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- **Empire Brass Christmas Concert**
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- **Amen**
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- **Napoleon Dynamite**
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  - Stephen Hunter, WASHINGTON POST

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Violence in schools drops over 10 years

WASHINGTON — Violent crimes at public schools fell by 50 percent between 1992 and 2002, with young people more often targeted for violence away from school.

Violent crimes at public schools fell from 1,793,000 in 1992 to just over 1,000,000 in 2002, according to a report Monday from the National Center for Education and Justice departments.

The reduction mirrored the trends in other crimes — overall crime is at a 30-year low across the nation.

The report of the rate of instances of school violence involving students have dropped steadily since a string of fatal shootings in the 1990s, notably the 1999 killings of 13 people at Columbine High School in Colorado by two heavily armed students.

"There has been a drop, and we believe a lot of that is due to facts that schools are focusing on the issue more," said William Lassiter, school safety specialist at the Center for the Prevention of School Violence in Raleigh, N.C.

Schools have taken a number of steps, from installing metal detectors and hiring more security personnel to implement prevention programs aimed at curbing bullying, which can lead to more serious crimes, said Lassiter. A recent analysis of more than 200 studies show that school-based violence prevention programs reduce school violence by up to 50 percent, said Dewey Cornell, director of the Virginia Youth Violence Project at the University of Virginia.

"Prevention programs have been quietly successful but tend to get overlooked. If you have one fight at school, it gets a lot of attention," Cornell said.

Others say the scope of the problem is understated by the federal study, which relies on limited surveys and self-reporting, leaving unreported actual reported crimes. In addition, the data used is already outdated, said Kenneth Trump, president of National School Safety and Security Services, a consulting firm.

"To tell the American public that school crime is dramatically declining based upon underreported, outdated and limited data is misleading and creates a false sense of security," Trump said.

The report found students are more apt to be victims of violence outside schools. In 2002, there were about 659,000 violent crime incidents involving students at school and about 720,000 away from school property. For the most common crimes — rape, assault and robbery — students were more often victims of crime than were their classmates.

A third of students in grades 9-12 said that someone had offered, given or sold them an illegal drug on school property in 2003. That number has essentially remained the same over the past decade.

About 21 percent of students in 2003 said that street gangs were a problem at their school, the same level found in 1993. 

About 24 percent of public school students in 2002 said they had at least one alcoholic drink in the 30 days before they were surveyed, about the same as in 1993 and down from a recent high of 52 percent in 1995.

A report this month showed that 3.4 million crimes in school against students between the ages of 12 and 17 were reported in 1992, the most recent year for which a report was estimated. That included more than 2.2 million thefts — by students — a category of violent crime in school and over 11,000 violent crimes.

By 2002, the report found the total number had dropped to 1.7 million crimes, just over 1 million thefts and about 659,000 violent crimes.

Teachers are also targets of schoolhouse crime. The report from 1993 through 2002 teachers were victims of an annual average of 233,900 crimes at school, more than 90,000 of them violent. That is about one in every 51 crimes per 1,000 teachers.

The report shows that inner-city teachers are more than twice as likely to be victims of violent crimes than those in suburban or rural school districts, and that male teachers are more often attacked than female teachers. The report does not give year-to-year comparisons because the sample sizes studied are too small, Baum said.

Five flags in the report:

• In 2003, 22 percent of students in grades 9-12 were reported using marijuana during the preceding 30 days. That compared with 23 percent in 1993 and 27 percent in 1999.

• About 45 percent of high school students in 2004 said they had at least one alcoholic drink in the 30 days before they were surveyed, about the same as in 1993 and down from a recent high of 52 percent in 1995.

• A third of students in grades 9-12 said that someone had offered, given or sold them an illegal drug on school property in 2003. That number has essentially remained the same over the past decade.

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• About 24 percent of public school students in 2002 said they had at least one alcoholic drink in the 30 days before they were surveyed, about the same as in 1993 and down from a recent high of 52 percent in 1995.
I take my assertion of last week back that there is nothing left to rant about in the realm of politics. While it is true the behavior of grown men that act like children is an easy target, by no means is it limited to the NBA. Specifically, our government has sunk to record lows in its quest to squander the hard earned tax dollars of the American people. By no means do I limit my criticism to the traditional Great Society Democrat pork-barrel spending, but the new breed of Republican pork-barrel spending as well.

Contrary to promises made in 1994 after forty years of Democratic control in Congress, Republicans have gone back on the original promises that regained them the House and Senate. Discretionary spending over the past few years has gone through the roof. In 2003, inflation adjusted federal spending topped $250,000 per household for the first time since WWII. Overall for 2003, the federal government spent $2,300 per household, taxed $16,700 per household, and ran a budget deficit of $520 per household. Spending outside of defense and Sept. 11-related expenses is increasing as a percentage of GDP. From 2001 through 2004, discretionary spending increased 16 percent from 2001 through 2003, according to research from The Heritage Foundation. Of course, it is reasonable to expect a tight budget with increased spending for Iraq and Homeland Security. However, discretionary spending increases of 16 percent are utterly inexusable. Looking further into the research done by Heritage's budgetary expert Brian Riedl, I came across an extremely interesting list of what exactly your federal tax dollars are paying for.

I hope all of you like baseball and rock 'n roll, because almost a million dollars was earmarked in this past spending bill toward both of those Halls of Fames. One and a half million dollars will be used to transport naturally chilled water from Lake Ontario to Lake Onondaga. I also hope you all like grapes as much as I do, because $5 million is going to a center for Grape Genetics in Geneva, New York. As well, $950,000 will go to the Please Touch Museum in Philadelphia. $2,000,000 will be given for kitchen relocation in Fairbanks, Alaska, and $150,000 will fund therapeutic horse-back riding in California. Across many states, $6,253,000 will also go to wood utilization research.

The list goes on for municipal swimming pools, parks, etc. in red and blue states. Contrary to Democratic assertions, none of these problems have to do with lower taxes or defense spending. They have everything to do with the business as usual politics of Washington. It is a time tested rule of self-interest and common sense that "those who bring home the bacon" to higher respective states will have a 6-5 percent advantage. From 2001 to 2004, discretionary spending has leaped 39 percent, from $649 billion to $900 billion. Excluding defense and Sept. 11-related costs, discretionary spending increased 16 percent from 2001 through 2003, according to research from The Heritage Foundation.

The policy prescriptions needed to fix these problems are not of the mixed message nature proposed by Democrats, or the "please everyone" nature of Republican proposals. What is needed is national public outcry against frivolous government waste in Washington. Being a Republican, I feel there is something wrong when the Democrats can run on a platform of fiscal responsibility. As bitterly divided as the election was, the American people have given Republicans a genuine opportunity to accomplish the conservative vision of limited government. Hopefully the next few years will be different, and they will begin to put prudent conservative policy before pork barrel waste.

Tom Ripplinger is a senior political science major. He supports President Bush and is the co-President of the Notre Dame College Republicans. He can be contacted at trrippin1@nd.edu.

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

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Pray for the Ebersol family

As many of you may have heard, one of your classmates and my roommate, Charlie Ebersol, and members of his family were involved in a tragic plane crash on Sunday morning after Thanksgiving. I can not begin to fathom what has constantly made efforts to improve the quality of our Notre Dame undergraduate experience. From countless less and kindhearted people you will ever meet. I know for a one of my best friends, is like a brother to me. As part of the University, Hire Urban Meyer! Go Irish!

Austin Chen
senior
off-campus
Nov. 29

We supposed "returned to glory" in 2002 with our new coach and fancy new offense. Since then, we have lost three straight games and Notre Dame has won 11 of its last 25 games. We were blown out by BYU (29-17), Pittsburgh (41-38) and Michigan State (22-16); run over by NCS (29-6), Syracuse (43-12), LSU (37-0) and Michigan (38-0); dominated by Purdue last year (43-10) and this year (41-16); and USC, our biggest rival, effortlessly blew us away like never before the last three years, humiliating us by an average of each time (44-13, 45-14 and 41-10). On a positive note, we are barely above .500 after three seasons, I think that calls for an Irish jg. It's mediocre enough to make one sick, especially considering all the talent on our team this year.

We can't reasonably expect to win many single games. Even great Knute Rockne lost. That's part of the game and why we play each week. What's not part of the game, especially at Notre Dame, is a tragi­tic series of inconsistent appearances with few (if any) signs of improvement, adjustment or driving leadership. That's not acceptable or fair to the players and loyal fans.

We see a clear and undeniable trend emerging these three seasons thus far. Our team has not been as well prepared as our opponent too often. We've even been drilled and patent­ed adjustments that must be made during the season and games to produce greatness and improve athletes. When we play weak opponents or gain leads, we play to not lose rather than to win. And when clutch decisions have to be made in key situa­tions, there is no confidence or even clear competence displayed. Too often the team looks like a giant chicken with its head cut off, which is why I have finally come to the conclusion that the head must be replaced. Consider this my call to action.

With no disrespect intended because I love the man, I say "Goodbye, Ty. Notre Dame, Hire Urban Meyer! Go Irish!"

Dave Dadey
junior
Dillon Hall
Nov. 28

U-WIRE

NASAs new budget doesn't deserve recent harsh criticism

The recent approval of NASAs 2005 budget has taken a lot of flak in the political arena and the scientific commu­nity, but both groups, for one reason or another, fail to see the scope of budget. For example, George Rush's vision for future space explo­ration.

The House of Representatives voted in favor of the budget increasing $344 to 51. But some complained that the two-foot-thick stack of budget documents it came with gave them almost no time to review it thoroughly, according to Florida Senator Jim Foreman.

"It's true that in the face of tragedy, people come together, and it's true that in the face of tragedy, they come together, but it doesn't always have to be that way. Perhaps we've forgotten that the great achieve­ments of a handful of individuals can have the same if not greater effect. Sacrifice is a resource that is inexhaustable, but regardless of what the political scientists think or say, the money appropriated to NASA should not be replaced. It will supplement the thousands of jobs that NASA has created and, in turn, it will spend more money which will bolster the economy. It will also save the ingenuity and creativity of the NASA workers with which the possibilities are endless. The space shuttles will once again be able to fly, and a decade's worth of missions by their long overdue sisters will once again come to light in exploration.

This column originally appeared in the Nov. 29 issue of The Battalion, the daily publica­tion at Texas A&M University. The views expressed in this column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer.

"Poke'this

Since there is nothing so well worth having as friends, never lose a chance to make them. " — Francesco Guicciardini

As Internet community and networking sites continue to spring up and prosper in cyberspace, we are reminded that popularity is still a factor in determining one's self-con­fidence.

Sites like Friendster and, more recently, The Facebook, have enabled students across the country to "connect," "associate," "poke" and "friend" one another in creative new ways that other sites have not been able to accomplish.

The Facebook has received more atten­tion and certainly more users than Friendster and its fore­runners ever did. The site is currently active at 145,000 schools and the Facebook's features are being awaited at thousands more. With that in mind, the demand for students to be "connected," "associated," "poked" and "Facebooked" with each other has gone from a small Internet trend to universi­ty-aged jargon.

But why?

Sure, it may be great to be virtually connected to a group of people, let alone friends, but sites like Friendster and the Facebook begin to push quantity over quality. Without a doubt, this was not the site's original intention, but it slowly has evolved into a major underlying theme of its use.

Certainly the harsh stereotype does not describe all users. If one is truly "loved," though, they do not need an online service to tell them so; and the same goes for friendships. As many elders would tell us, were we to try to count on our hands the number of truly close, loyal and dedicated friends we have, we may be very surprised at the amount of fingers we still have there. With The Facebook, there will be at least a few fingers up, we should consider ourselves quite lucky.

Simply put, friends are invaluable.

And for the way, by you were wondering: Aside from being quotable, Guicciardini was also a politician.

This editorial originally appeared in the Nov. 29 issue of The Daily News, the daily publication at Ball State University. The views expressed in this column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer.

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"Poke' this
Depp shines as the author behind Peter Pan classic

By CHRISS KEPNER

"Finding Neverland" explores the life of famous playwright J. M. Barrie (Johnny Depp) and the experiences that inspired him to write the classic story of Peter Pan, the boy who refused to grow up.

With his stardom has recently soared to new heights on the incredible success of "Pirates of the Caribbean," a trend that promises to continue with his forthcoming role as Willy Wonka in "Charlie and the Chocolate Factory" and another stint as Capt'n Jack Sparrow in "Pirates of the Caribbean 2."

But as one of the finest craftsmen in modern American cinema, the depth of Depp's acting extends well outside the Hollywood blockbuster. One's attention is called to another of his nonfictional characters, the brilliant portrayal of eccentric author J. M. Barrie in Thompson in "Fear and Loathing in Las Vegas." Depp prepared for that role by spending four months with Thompson, learning his mannerisms and vocal inflection. He borrowed Thompson's car and some of his clothes for the film, and even bullied his author shave his beard. Now that's dedication.

Unfortunately this approach wasn't available to Depp for "Finding Neverland," as J. M. Barrie passed away in 1937. The famous playwright's absence might actually work to Depp's advantage, however, as he is afforded the opportunity to interpret the character in his own way, adding plausible nuances and really making the character his own.

The resulting performance is another bright gold star on the ever-more-impressive list of cast credits for Depp. He captured the film's prevailing theme of undying youth brilliantly, setting the tone for the rest of the cast — even the children.

Barrie is already a successful playwright in turn-of-the-century London when the film opens. He is just coming off a flop, however, when he meets a widow and her four sons at the park. Before he knows it, he's helping the boys to put on impromptu performances in their backyard. As he becomes more and more a part of their family, he distances himself further from his already unhappy wife.

But simply trying to show these kids how to grow up without losing their childhood innocence is not what Barrie is inspired to write — it's "Peter Pan." This classic children's tale tells the story of a magical place called Neverland, where children are held on to their innocence.

Kate Winslet shines as Sylvia Llewelyn Davies, the mother of the four boys. Dustin Hoffman also appears as Charles Frauman, the producer of Barrie's plays, but his screen time is unfortunately sparse. "Finding Neverland" is clearly Depp's film from start to finish.

Freddie Highmore does an excellent job playing the character of Peter Llewelyn Davies, the inspiration for Peter Pan. Depp enjoyed working with Hightower so much that asked director Tim Burton to cast the young man as Charlie Bucket in next year's "Charlie and the Chocolate Factory."

Powered by Depp's performance, "Finding Neverland" is as innocent and touching a tale as the original "Peter Pan" classic.

Contact Chris Kepner at ckepner@nd.edu

‘National Treasure’ anything but buried gold

By BRANDON HOLLIHAN

"National Treasure" is as clichéd and as movie that concerns itself with uncovering ancient artifacts in the name of public good, all while fending off foreign bad guys and getting your own government to hate you. "Raiders of the Lost Ark" came out over 20 years ago, and studios are still using the same formula to make a cheap profit.

But at least "National Treasure" isn't afraid to hide the fact that it's recycling the same material again, just as long as its audience understands this and enlists the capers of the treasure-hunters.

The cast for "National Treasure" is actually quite solid, given the backdrop of a plot line: archeologist Benjamin Gates (Nicholas Cage) descends from a family bred to believe that the founding fathers of the United States left clues to the burial of a priceless treasure all across the world. Trailing up with Riley Poole (Justin Bartha), a boy genius (Sean Bean), the pair travels to the Arctic Circle to begin searching for clues regarding the treasure.

After Riley fl一如s and his cronies turn on Poole and Cage, the pair escapes and heads to Washington, D.C. to warn officials of a plan by Ian to steal the Declaration of Independence, which apparently contains another clue leading to the treasure. Of course, one takes them seriously — most notably Abigail Chase (Blaze Kruger), head of the National Archives. Ultimately, Gates has no choice but to steal the Declaration himself to ensure its safety, and ends up dragging Abigail alongside himself and Poole as they race against Ian towards the treasurers' whereabouts.

The decision to make a PG version of the film is very smart; there is plenty of action to keep adults interested, but it won't offend younger viewers. For example, instead of killing the security guards at the Archives, the bad guys rely on taser guns to knock them out. The bad guys, obviously, are blessed quite unwillingly with the ability to not hit Gates at point blank range with a semi-automatic pistol, but what else can we expect from a standard action film.

All the actors in this film turn in decent performances, but they still seem uninspired. Bartha was really difficult to watch at times because he is forced into the clichéd role of the comic relief while working too hard to get laughs from the audience. You wonder, though, what he really could have done with a better part.

Bean, too, has had more interesting roles in the past, and he deserves better than the carbon copy villain he plays in this film. Cage, meanwhile, has played the unlikely action hero a bit too often, and he's running out of tricks.

"National Treasure" won't come across as anything new to its audience, but it has some good moments, and the top of American monuments is pretty interesting to watch unfold.

"This season, indeed, for taking a break from weekend shopping, catching a matinee at the mall's cinema and giving your brain cells a couple of hours of rest. At least for that purpose, "National Treasure" will provide some temporary escape from reality.

Contact Brandon Hollihan at bhollihan@nd.edu

"Finding Neverland" is clearly Depp's film from start to finish. His performance, "Finding Neverland" is as innocent and touching a tale as the original "Peter Pan" classic.

Contact Chris Kepner at ckepner@nd.edu
Los Angeles — Different year. Different teams. Same 31-point result.

Two years after allowing Southern California quarterback Carson Palmer to throw for 425 yards and four touchdowns on route to winning the Heisman Trophy, Notre Dame let Matt Leinart make his own case for the nation's most prestigious award on Saturday.

The Trojan quarterback tallied a career-high 400 yards and five touchdowns while leading No. 1 USC to an easy 41-10 victory in Los Angeles. It was the third straight season USC beat Notre Dame by 31 points.

"They are No. 1 for a reason," Irish head coach Tyrone Willingham said. "They demonstrated tonight that if you take something away from them ... they will find some other way of getting past you."

The Irish shut down USC's running attack for most of the game, holding the Trojans to just 91 yards on 28 attempts. But it was USC's passing game — led by Leinart and his arsenal of receivers — that was simply too powerful for Notre Dame.

Leinart threw two touchdown passes to 6-foot-5 freshman wide receiver Dwayne Jarrett of 12 and 57 yards, a 69-yarder to Reggie Bush, a 35-yarder to Steve Smith and a 23-yarder to Jason Mitchell.

"What we have to do is make the plays," Willingham said. "They made big plays tonight. We had opportunities in some cases and we didn't live up to them. To me, that was the difference.

Notre Dame began the game like a team poised for the improbable upset. Behind 6-0 of passing from quarterback Brady Quinn, the Irish marched 92 yards in 13 plays to take a 7-0 lead. On fourth-and-goal from the 1-yard line, Quinn found tight end Billy Walker for a 12-yard pass and the score.

Southern California added a field goal on the ensuing drive to cut the Notre Dame lead to 7-3. The Irish outgained the Trojans 124 to 72 in the first quarter.

Steadily throughout the game, USC made adjustments and began taking control mid-way through the second quarter. Down 10-3, Leinart led the Trojans on a seven-play, 80-yard touchdown drive, capped off with a 12-yard pass to Jarrett on a slant pattern.

Southern California's defense held Notre Dame on its next possession, and Leinart went back to work. This time finding Jarrett for a 57-yard score. The freshman wide-out streaked through a leaky Notre Dame secondary and Leinart tossed a near-perfect strike for the go-ahead score.

"They have some great receivers and some great speed," Irish defensive coordinator Kent Baer said. "We were in positions at times, but we just didn't make the plays. That's the bottom line. I thought we did some things that probably confused them at times, especially in the first half. But they're a pretty good second half team."

The Trojans dominated the Irish in the second half as Leinart continued building a strong resume for the Heisman Trophy. When the junior signal-caller found a streaking Bush for a 69-yard touchdown with 3:06 left in the third quarter to put USC ahead 27-16, the game was all but over.

"Matt played great tonight," USC coach Pete Carroll said. "He made some great throws and had some great protection. We had guys running down the field and he found them. He just made another statement tonight. He's done it all."

Meanwhile, Notre Dame's offense struggled after its promising first quarter. Quinn finished the game 15-of-29 for just 105 yards, one touchdown and zero interceptions.

"We just didn't make the plays we needed on defense and then we didn't make the plays we needed on offense," Irish running back Darius Walker said.

Leinart's five touchdown passes tie for the most ever against Notre Dame. The Irish yielded five scores to Pittsburgh's Tyler Palko on Nov. 13 in a 41-38 Panther victory.

"I know coming into this game, everybody really believed we could win, that we were going to win. I think you saw that in the first half," Irish linebacker Mike Goolsby said. "Coming out in the second half, they were more successful than us — bottom line."

"All I can say is there's a reason [Leinart's] a Heisman candidate and there's a reason they're No. 1."

Contact Joe Hettler at jhettler@nd.edu

Irish Insider

California creamin'

Leinart throws for 400 yards and 5 touchdowns as USC destroys Irish 41-10

By JOE HETTLER

Sports Writer

Irish linebacker Mike Goolsby pursues USC running back Reggie Bush during Notre Dame's 41-10 loss to the Trojans Saturday. Bush scored a 69-yard touchdown in the third quarter, one of five passing touchdowns from quarterback Matt Leinart.

Irish running back Darius Walker said:

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player of the game

Matt Leinart

The USC quarterback was 24-for-34 with five touchdowns and 400 yards.

stat of the game

38 number of unanswered points scored by USC after the Irish took an early 10-3 lead.

play of the game

Reggie Bush's third-quarter touchdown

The speedy back's score made the margin 27-10 in favor of USC and all but eliminated any chance of the upset.

quote of the game

"It was kind of like taking candy from a baby." - Matt Leinart

USC quarterback referring to Reggie Bush's third-quarter touchdown.
Irish quarterback Brady Quinn walks dejectedly off the field and looks in the direction of the USC fans after Notre Dame's 31-point loss to the Trojans Saturday. The Irish have made a habit of losing big under the direction of coach Tyrone Willingham. Notre Dame has lost eight games by more than 21 points in the last two years.

The talent gap isn't to blame for the blowouts a disturbing trend.

**The Irish leading the Pac-10 in 10 of the 20 most important categories.**

**The Trojans cruised to a 41-10 win on Saturday night, another blowout for the Irish.**

**The Trojans are a good team, but the Irish should have kept this one close. Losing by 31 points to anybody is embarrassing.**

**2.26**

adding up the numbers

**number of third down conversions out of 15 chances by the Irish Saturday — Notre Dame converted 3 of its last 4 4th downs in the game**

4

**number of games in USC's current winning streak**

20

**minutes left in the third quarter when the game's first penalty was accepted**

3:18

**completion percentage for Matt Leinart (50-68) in his last two games against the Irish**

73.5

**number of times the Irish have allowed an opposing quarterback to throw for five touchdowns in the team's history — both have come in the past two games**

2

**number of yards gained by USC in the second quarter after getting only 72 in the first quarter**

174

**marginal victory in points for each of USC's last three wins over Notre Dame**

31

**number of times a Notre Dame athletic director lost his seat in the press box to a Scholastic writer**

1

**Report Card**

**quarterback Quinn had one of his least productive games this season, throwing for only 105 yards. He didn't turn the ball over, but also only had one touchdown.**

**running backs: Despite the work of Ryan Fitzpatrick, 94 yards and Darwis Walker (64 yards), the Irish were still only able to muster one touchdown. You can't blame the backs for that.**

**receivers: Palmer was the only receiver with a touchdown, and nobody had more than two catches. Nowall and Holtach had some drops at key points in the game.**

**defensive line: The offensive line did a good job opening holes for the backs but allowed three sacks.**

**defensive backs: This unit was probably adding up much pressure on Leinart. They did shut down the Trojans running game, making White a non-factor.**

**special teams: Fitzpatrick was outstanding on points and kickoff, keeping the ball away from Bush all day. The return game struggled yet again and Fitzpatrick's missed field goal was cruddy.**

**coaching: The Irish looked great in the first quarter, then seemed to lose it for the next 45 minutes. The team was prepared, but couldn't sustain momentum from a positive start.**

**overall: The Trojans are a good team, but the Irish should have kept this one close. Losing by 31 points to anybody is embarrassing.**

**Los Angeles — Coming into a game as more than a 20-point underdog, allowing five touchdown passes to an opposing quarterback for the second consecutive game, after it never happened before in Notre Dame history.**

**Matt Leinart essentially wrapped the Heisman Trophy by dismantling the Irish secondary. Reggie Bush blew past Brandon Hoyte off the line, cut left to avoid Quentin Burrell and outran Dwight Ellick for a 69-yard touchdown. The Trojans eventually cruised to win their 20th straight overall and 21st consecutive at the Coliseum and moved to one game away from playing for their second straight national title.**

**Those events weren’t shocking — they were expected. The talent gap isn’t to blame for these embarrassing losses. The wins over Michigan and Tennessee put that argument to rest.**

**The schedule isn’t too difficult. Yes, the Irish have one of the toughest slates in the country, but it’s not unreasonable, and they had two weeks to prepare for USC.**

**The coaches and the players are saying what they’ve said all the time in these blowouts — it comes down to big plays on Saturday.**

**What I look at is our inability, overall in all the areas, not just one in particular area, to really make big plays and sustain drives.” Willingham said. “That’s where I think we fall short.”**

**But it’s hard to believe only big plays are the reason USC is 31 points better than Notre Dame. More than one player has questioned the attitude and focus of the team in weeks where the opponent wasn’t a big name.**

**Just watching the teams come out after halftime, the Irish showed few signs of life despite being down by only seven points and getting the ball.**

**The Trojans came out fired up, and you could just see them shedding blood. They went for and got the kill.**

**With an opportunity to knock off the best team in the country, the Irish seemed defeated before the second half even started.**

**Not only have the results taken a 180-degree turn since the Return to Glory, but so has the attitude to play four quarters of Notre Dame football.**

**The attitude, that 60-minute mentality, I think we played a great 15 minutes in the beginning, there were times we pieced 30 seconds of it together,” Irish center Bob Morton said. “We just didn’t have the mentality in here to go the entire game.”**

**How can anyone say progress has been made in the past three seasons? How can the University expect students, fans and alumni to continue to support a team that looks more like a team that belongs in the Insight Bowl and watching on New Year’s than playing on Jan. 1? How can the coaching staff expect top recruits to commit when after this loss an ESPN analyst is saying Notre Dame came to play?**

**Something needs to change.**

**If not, it’s realistic to expect more games like Saturday’s and more seasons like the past two.**

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

Contact Matt Lozar at mlozar@nd.edu
Irish surprised by USC's fake punt

By JOE HETTLER
Sports Writer

With a comfortable 34-10 lead midway through the fourth quarter Saturday, Southern California coach Pete Carroll surprised Notre Dame by calling for the punt with the Trojans facing a fourth-and-three at the Notre Dame 29-yard line.

"We've been looking for a chance to do something," Carroll said after the game. "I think with 1:05 remaining, we had to take a risk. We had to go for it."

But Leinart was more than up to the task, shedding the Irish secondary as he completed 24 of 34 passes, with no interceptions. His 400 yards Saturday were also a career high.

"I was very proud of the way we played," Leinart said. "We knew that [Notre Dame] had a very tough defense, especially their secondary, and we had some difficulty running the ball at times."

"We just kept pounding and knew that things would start to open up eventually."

Leinart was aided by a bevy of talent-ed and speedy wide receivers — headlined by true freshman Dwayne Jarrett, who had two touchdowns of 12 and 57 yards. Sophomore running back Reggie Bush, and wide receivers Steve Smith and Jason Mitchell also scored for the Trojans.

Leinart's touchdown pass to Bush was perhaps the play that broke Notre Dame's resolve. The quick back lined up in the slot on third-and-two and took a shot pass from Leinart before running Irish defensive backs Quentin Burrell and Dwight Ellick to the end zone.

The touchdown made the score 27-10 in the Trojans' 34-10 win over USC and all but eliminated any hope the Irish would pull off the upset in their top-10 meeting.

"We ran that play earlier in the game and this time when they lined up we knew that [Notre Dame] was going to try to cover that," Leinart said of Bush's touchdown.

"I thought we were in man coverage when the motioned out, and all I had to do was get Bush the ball and he'd do the rest."

Leinart's performance Saturday evoked memories of USC quarterback Carson Palmer's game against the Irish just two years earlier. Palmer threw for 425 yards and four touchdowns as the No. 6 Trojans defeated No. 7 Notre Dame 44-13 in Los Angeles on Nov. 30, 2002. Palmer's performance all but wrapped up his Heisman Trophy, and Leinart's impressive showing could do the same for him this season.

But Leinart and the Trojans still have big fish to fry. With a victory this week against rival UCLA, USC will finish the season No. 1 and head to the Orange Bowl, the national championship game.

"We're going to relish this victory, but then we have to get ready to play against [UCLA]," Leinart said. "I wouldn't really focus on [talking about the Heisman]. I just wanted to go out there and do the same thing I've done for this team all season — lead the offense, make plays, hit the open guys."

"All that other stuff is more what other people say; I just want to go out there and help this team to win games."

Contact Joe Hettler at jhettler@nd.edu

By JUSTIN SCHUVER
Assistant Sports Editor

LOS ANGELES — It took 117 years before Pittsburgh's Tyler Palko became the first quarterback to throw for five touchdowns against the Irish. It only took two weeks for USC's Matt Leinart to repeat the feat.

Leinart passed for 400 yards and five touchdowns Saturday as he made his case for the Heisman Trophy in No. 1 USC's 44-13 rout of Notre Dame. He played an excellent ball game," Irish coach Tyrone Willingham said of the Trojan quarterback. "What he was so strong at was that he did not turn the ball over. USC is No. 1 for a reason."

The Irish all but stopped the Trojan ground game, keeping running backs Leinart and Reggie Bush corralled for only 83 rushing yards. But Leinart was more than up to the task, shredding the Irish secondary as he completed 24 of 34 passes, with no interceptions. His 400 yards Saturday were also a career high.

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Contact Joe Hettler at jhettler@nd.edu

scoring summary

1st 2nd 3rd 4th Total
Notre Dame 1 0 0 10 11
USC 7 14 14 0 35

First quarter
Notre Dame 7, USC 0
Billy Palmer 1-yard reception from Brady Quinn (23-yard field goal) Driver: 3 plays, 8 yards, 2:64 elapsed
Notre Dame 7
Ryan Kellen 39-yard FG with 1:26 remaining Driver: 13 plays, 46 yards, 4:58 elapsed
Second quarter
Notre Dame 10, USC 0
Pat Fitzpatrick 28-yard FG with 11:51 remaining Driver: 12 plays, 75 yards, 6:26 elapsed
Notre Dame 10
USC Dwayne Jarrett 12-yard reception from Matt Leinart with 5:53 remaining (Kellen kick) Driver: 7 plays, 80 yards, 2:30 elapsed
Notre Dame 17, USC 10
Jarrett 57-yard reception from Leinart with 2:06 remaining (Kellen kick) Driver: 4 plays, 73 yards, 1:55 elapsed
Third quarter
USC 20, Notre Dame 10
Reggie Bush 65-yard run against 9:18 remaining Driver: 11 plays, 49 yards, 3:33 elapsed
USC 27, Notre Dame 10
Reggie Bush 69-yard reception from Leinart with 3:06 remaining (Kellen kick) Driver: 6 plays, 70 yards, 1:38 elapsed
Fourth quarter
USC 34, Notre Dame 10
Steve Smith 35-yard reception from Leinart with 27:22 remaining Driver: 6 plays, 67 yards, 2:41 elapsed
USC 41, Notre Dame 10
Jason Mitchell 23-yard reception from Leinart with 10:00 remaining (Kellen kick) Driver: 4 plays, 79 yards, 3:43 elapsed

statistics

total yards

USC 488
rushing yards

USC 193
passing yards

USC 295
return yards

USC 405

time of possession

USC 26:20

returning kickoffs

3 119-0 28-83
15-93 (comp-alt) 25-30-0
8-43.8 35-37.5
3-6 9-9
25-3 1-1
23

returning punts

Notre Dame 0 22-72
0 0
0 0
0 0
0 0
0

returning fumbles

Notre Dame 0 0
0 0
0 0
0 0
0 0
0

returning first downs

Notre Dame 0 0 23

returning receivings

Notre Dame 15-30 24-34-0

rushing

Grant 0-0 15-94
Bush 2-9
Herring 8-25
Leinart 3-30
Elliot 1-6
Sweeney 2-10
Thomas 1-2
Dennis 1-1

receiving

Walker 3-15 2-10
Jarrett 2-29
Smith 4-96
Wilson 2-17
Hobbs 4-44
Smith 2-24
Bryd 2-23
Collins 2-18
Mitchell 2-38
Stowell 1-17
Herr 1-99

 tackles

Tuck 5 Tatum 6
Gossett 5 Grogadoo 6
Barrett 5 Cody 5
Hoyte 5 Bing 5
LOSING THE TROJAN WAR

Notre Dame went to Los Angeles in hopes of pulling off the biggest upset of the year. Instead, USC showed its No. 1 ranking is no fluke, dismantling the Irish secondary en route to an impressive 41-10 victory. It was the third year in a row Notre Dame lost to the Trojans by 31 points, and the second straight game the Irish have allowed an opposing quarterback to throw for five touchdowns. After scoring the initial touchdown of the game, the Irish simply could not get anything else done on offense and couldn't stop Heisman candidate Matt Leinart and the rest of the Trojans.
Animated antics, characters soar in beloved sequel

By MARK BEMENDERFER

Most students are familiar with the typical fairy tale or princess, taken and locked in a tower guarded by a ferocious dragon. It is the duty of the honor­able, perfect rescuer, Prince Charming, to slay the dragon, rescue the princess and win her heart. The original "Shrek" took a slightly different route, with the princess being rescued by an ogre, and his sidekick falling in love with the dragon. Those twists from the ordinary were repeated for the original film's charm and success, both at the box office and with critics.

"Shrek 2" begins with Prince Charming finally arriving at the tower to rescue the fair princess. Needless to say, he is a little irked to find her missing, having already been rescued by some­one else. And then the scene is set for the rest of the movie.

While a lot of sequels are content to star the original characters in an unin­spired plot, "Shrek 2" continues in the vein of the first by consistently being original and fresh for the viewer. The characters include everything from an assassin cat to a 100-foot Gingerbread Man named Mongo. All of the original characters return, so fans of the origi­nal will not be disappointed.

Since the first movie established the main characters, and the roles that they play, it was the job of the sequel to place the characters into new situations that would shake up their roles. This is done very well as all of the returning characters are given a chance to shine in humorous situations that keep "Shrek 2" fresh and distinct from the original.

This keeps the movie from getting stale, and falling into the typical bad sequel realm. However, this movie keeps the same formula learnt if you didn't like that one, this one has little to offer.

The picture quality on this DVD is excellent and is one of the finest trans­fers ever released on DVD. With the entire film generated completely by computers, the film is of the highest clarity. Typical hard points to animate, such as water and hair, are done with ease within "Shrek 2." The movie is beautiful, and could be the reason alone.

The sound doesn't play evenly on all the speakers. There appears to be an emphasis on the front speakers. But that should only bother the harshest of DVD critics, not the average Notre Dame student.

The special features mirror those found on the original's DVD, with com­mentaries, behind-the-scenes docu­mentaries and specials. The commentaries are a little flat, as they consist of people talking about the technical aspects of the film. None of the stars participated in the commentaries, although they did make appearances for some of the interviews.

In response to the first film's inclusion of a karaoke snippet starring all of the characters from the movie, "Shrek 2" has "Far, Far Away Idol." A parody of a certain popular television show and starring the notorious Simon Cowell, this one is pretty humorous and gives the audience a chance to listen to the characters within the movie sing their favorite songs.

"Shrek 2" is a great movie, filled with parodies and humor. No fairy tale is spared, nor any piece of pop culture. It would almost be impossible to watch and not enjoy it.

Contact Mark Bemenderfer at mbemende@nd.edu
Men's water polo finishes 13th at Championships

Special to The Observer

Notre Dame finished 13th in the nation at the Water Polo Association national championships, hosted two weeks ago at Rollins College in Winter Park, Florida. The Irish dropped their opener to top seed Michigan, 16-3, down 4-0 at halftime, Matt McNicholas stated he lead a comeback with a pair of goals, but the Irish were not able to match the speed of the Wolverines. Ryan Wyant, one of two Wolverines on the first team all-tournament team, led all scorers with three goals.

The Irish dropped a heartbreaker in their second round to Florida International, 6-5. The Irish were up 4-1 at the half, but FIU goalie Alex Martinez made 3 saves to spark the comeback. Captain Mike Grow rifled home two goals for the Irish. Grow continued his hot scoring with three goals in the season finale for the Irish, as the team defeated Western Illinois 7-1.

In the championship game, Cal Poly earned a record fourth national title, and third in the past four years, with a 20-18 win over Arizona. Finishing below Cal Poly and Arizona in women's water polo were Yale, Grand Valley State, Miami (Ohio), Villanova, North Carolina, and Indiana, Illinois, Texas, Middlebury, Notre Dame, South Dakota and Western Michigan.

Men's volleyball

The Irish men's volleyball club captured its own invitational two weeks ago, as the Irish stormed back to defeat Michigan State in the feature match of the day. The Irish A team, the Gold Squad, opened with successive sweeps of Northeastern, 25-23, 25-13, Grand Valley State, 25-20, 25-21, Cincinnati, 25-23, 25-21, and Kent State, 25-21, 25-14 to set up the showdown with the Spartans.

Captain Mike Giampa, setter Brad Weldon and outside hitter Zibion, one of the best of a promising group of freshmen, led the Irish throughout the tournament. The young Irish team struggled with the MU squad, it was the play of John Tibble and Nolan Woodard that matched that swing momentum and victory to the Irish. After a poor performance in the opening game, 25-19, the Irish won 25-22 to force the deciding game to 15. With both teams giving everything on each point, the moment of truth came down to the final ball, what all expected would be a winning kill. However, Tibble had to make one more kill on the second hit, from 30 feet off the court, kept the ball in play. Kane then ran down that save to place an unplayable ball on the other side of the court. The Irish then rode the momentum to a 15-3 victory and a tournament championship.

The Irish B team, the Blue Squad, placed third in the field, with victories over Ohio (Miami), 25-23, 25-13, 15-11, Indiana, 25-22, 25-22, Northeastern, 25-20-18, 25-11, before falling to Michigan State, 25-18, 25-16. Kevin Overmann at setter and Rob Boddromski at 3rd receiver led the squad to its strong showing in the nine-team field.

Notre Dame's equestrian club captured high point honors two weeks ago in a show at Parbury Wed., the Irish edged the host Boilermakers 32-30 to claim first place in the exhibit. Chalyce Pialc capped a great individual performance by participating in a ride off for individual high point honors for the event. The performance included Mollin and Cristin LaStefa taking first in novice flat, with Katherine Linn second and 2nd in the same for first with Mary Borgan and Molly Kapcace first and fifth respectively in open flat. Although the Irish were not enough to win the field in intermediate flat as Caitlin Landys and Chelsea Brown second, Andrea Olivero fourth and Ana Richter fifth. Landys also tied for second in intermediate in fences. Strong performances by Kasey Barnos and Kelley Osberg earned them a tie for third in open fences. In a down-to-the-wire contest where every point was pivotal, the Irish also scored in the walk trot as Joanna Arfman fin-ished second and Nicole Gilman sixth, with Jessica Carron walk-trotter, as Heather LaDue and Katy Booth tied for fifth in walk, the Irish top performers, also earned a sixth-place ribbon in open fences.

Notre Dame's squash club continued to cut its teeth in its formative stage as it competed in the ISL league play two weeks ago, with the Irish competing only as the Irish line-up featur-ing two freshmen and two sopho- more fell to Purdue 3-2, and Lakeshore, 5-0. Against the Boilers Jamie and Zhang and Mike Gelman gained 3-0 wins at the top two spots, but it was not enough as the Irish dropped the next three. Team captain Sereregap Amnasirand played a very close match at the third spot, before falling 3-1. Mike McConnell and Randall Raisowuk picked up valuable playing expe-rience, but dropped matches at four and five respectively.

The Irish were blanked by Lakeshore, but Zan and McConnell both won games against veteran players. With McConnell being a former player and Zan a former college player who worked as a coaching assistant for four tournaments under veteran coaches for several years.

SMC Basketball

Belles post 3-game winning streak over holiday break

By KEN FOWLER
Sports Writer

Saint Mary's extended its winning streak to three against Mount Holyoke College Sunday with a 69-54 win.

The Belles opened up an insurmountable 3-point halftime cushion and comfortably coasted to a 15-point victory over the Fighting Scots.

Bridge Boyle had a career-high 24 points, shooting 9-for-15 from the field and 4-for-5 from three-point land. Maureen Buswell added 11 rebounds for the Belles, and Bridget Lipke netted 14 points.

Saint Mary's shot 64 percent from the floor in the opening half, including 3-of-4 from long distance.

The Belles put the Belles over 500 for the first time in three years, as they are now 3-2.

Saint Mary's 60, Knox 43

The Belles and Knox College in the opening game of the Pizza Hut-Economists Classic on Sunday, and Saint Mary's used all 16 of its players in 60 43.

Lipke and Bridge Boyle paved the way for the Belles, scoring 15 points apiece. Emily Murphy added 14 points and seven rebounds.

A stingy Belles defense forced turnovers and held the Prairie Fire to just 45 total shots.

Lipke had four steals to take on 13 of her points, and Creachbaum thrilled the Prairie Fire three times in the game.

Bridge Boyle was impressed with her defense on both offense and defense.

"Kathryn Boyle always had the edge on us. If we were even so much as a hairwitch she was clicking with the floor," she said. "Right from the get-go we were really good on steals, fast breaks and lay-ups."

Saint Mary's 61, Manchester 52

Allison Kessler and Emily Creachbaum stepped up and delivered big in the second half to lead Saint Mary's to its first win of the season last Tuesday.

The pair combined for 12 of the Belles first 13 points of the final period as Saint Mary's extended its four-game home lead over Manchester College to a comfortable 12-point margin with eight minutes left in the game.

Creachbaum began the second half with consecutive three-pointers, each after a break, leading the Belles lead.

Boys shot 9-for-9 from the free throw line in the second half en route to a breakout 13-0 scoring run, and performance.

Her skill at the line was emblematic of Saint Mary's success, as she delivered the Belles to a victory in a tough contest, scoring 19 of their 39 fourth quarter points (39 percent) from the stripe.

For Saint Mary's, double-teaming Manchester's Erica Sewell in the second half played a pivotal role in pre- cluding a comeback. Sewell scored 15 in the first half, but only 3 points in the second half.

"We really wanted to double team her to start the game," Belles coach Suzanne Bellina said. "We got it done in the sec- ond half:"

Saint Mary's is back to action soon as the Belles host Albright Wednesday when they travel to Albion for a 7:30 p.m. tipoff.

SAINT MARY'S 68, MANCHESTER 52 at the ANGELIC ACADEMY.

SAINT MARY'S (11-2, 0-0)

B. Boyle 2-3 7-14 12, Chacon 1-12 4-21, Bush 3-9 4-13 11, K.Michaud 1-10 1-20 2, M.Booth 0-0 0-0 0, Lipke 3-9 2-20 8, Kessler 0-2 0-0 0, Lipke 1-1, Newcomb 2-2 0-4 4, Creachbaum 4-5 0-10, McConnell 0-0 0-0 0. Combined 39-72 12-20 52.

MANCHESTER (0-1, 0-0)

K. Skinner 3-5 0-0 0, Widaman 0-1 0-0 0, D. Emmott 0-1 0-0 0, J. Koss 0-0 0-0 0, Peterson 0-0 0-0 0, B. Broderick 0-0 0-0 0, Koss 0-0 0-0 0, Brodnriek 0-4 0-0 0. Combined 6-15 0-0 6.

SAINT MARY'S 19, Knox 14 43

3 point: Saint Mary's 15, 5-8, Boyce 1-3, Lipke 0-1, Lipe 0-3, B. Broderick 0-0, Koss 0-0 0-0 0, 0-0 0-0 0, 0-0 0-0 0. Combined 6-15 0-0 6.

4th quarter: Saint Mary's 12, 4-9, Lipke 1-2, C. H. Boyle 0-0, Lipke 1-1, Lipe 0-1, K. Morrison 0-0 0-0 0, 0-0 0-0 0. Combined 6-15 0-0 6.

SAINT MARY'S 0-0 0-0 0, 0-0 0-0 0. Combined 0-0 0-0 0.

Contact Ken Fowler at klfowler@nd.edu

The Observer accepts classifieds every business day from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Notre Dame offices, 224 South Drive Hall. Deadline for next-day classifieds is 3 p.m. All classifieds must be prepaid. Classifieds are priced per character per inch, including all spaces. The Observer reserves the right to decline all classifieds for content without refunding payments.
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**AURORA HILLS, Mich. — Police believe they know the identity of the man who threw a chair in a brawl between players and fans during the Indiana-Detroit game on Nov. 19.**

Police did not identify the man Monday, though they said he is a 35-year-old Pistons’ season-ticket holder. He has not been interviewed and is not in custody. Police Lt. James Manning said police have met with the man’s attorney.

The lawyer, Kenneth Karasic, did not immediately respond to a telephone message seeking comment.

The fight among spectators and players broke out near the end of the game after an on-court dispute over a foul. A fan hurled a drink at Indiana’s Ron Artest, who then charged into the stands and began beating a man he thought had done it.

Oakland County Prosecutor David Gorcyca has said the man who threw the chair, which hit several people including a police officer, could be charged with felony assault. Other participants could be charged with misdemeanor assault and battery.

**Hokies, Hurricanes prepare for new league**

In their first meeting as ACC rivals, the Hokies and Hurricanes will play Saturday with a conference title and Bowl Championship Series bid on the line.

No. 10 Virginia Tech (9-2, 6-1) will claim the outright ACC title if it beats Miami for its second straight year, the Hokies could past the Hurricanes 31-7 last year in Blacksburg, Va.

“If No. 9 Miami (8-2, 5-2) wins, it’ll finish in a three-way tie atop the league with the Hokies and Florida State _ which would have at least a share of the ACC title for the 12th time in the last 13 years.”

**Clemson, South Carolina players suspended for fight**

COLUMBIA, S.C. — Six Clemson players and six South Carolina players were suspended one game by their conferences Monday for brawling during a game between the in-state rivals Nov. 20.

The Atlantic Coast Conference and Southeastern Conference handed down the punishment.

“The actions of these suspended student-athletes violate the letter and spirit of the SRL and NCAA rules and regulations of sportsmanshiplike conduct,” SEC commissioner Mike Slive said. “These suspensions are intended to send a clear and unequivocal message to all student-athletes in the Southeastern Conference that this conduct will not be tolerated now or in the future.”

Both schools declined bowl invitations last week as punishment for their teams. **IN BRIEF**

around the dial

**MEN’S COLLEGE BASKETBALL**

Michigan at Georgia 7 p.m., ESPN

Michigan State at Duke 9 p.m., ESPN

Florida State at Minnesota 7:30 p.m., ESPN2

Maryland at Wisconsin 9 p.m., ESPN2

**NFL**

St. Louis at Green Bay 7:30 p.m., ABC

**COLLEGE FOOTBALL**

Stanford head football coach Buddy Teevens watches his team lose a home game to Oregon 16-13 in the rain on Oct. 23. Teevens has been fired after three straight losing seasons.

**STANFORD, Calif. — Three years ago, Ted Leland thought he’d found the right offensive football mind for Stanford in coach Buddy Teevens.**

The results eventually told the athletic director otherwise, and Teevens was fired after three straight losing seasons.

“It was an extremely difficult decision, but I simply felt that the program was in need of new direction and leadership,” Leland said Monday. “It’s a tough day that we find ourselves in, a tough place, I guess. I am comfortable with the process we’ve gone through. I am comfortable with the decision.”

Leland, a close friend of Teevens, met with the coach last week after the Cardinal finished 4-7 for the second consecutive year. Stanford lost 41-6 to archival California in the Big Game on Nov. 20 for its fifth straight defeat, ending a season that began 4-2 with hopes of a bowl game.

The 46-year-old Teevens, who had two years remaining on his contract, is the first Stanford football coach to be fired since Jack Elway was dismissed in 1980 after going 3-6-1. Teevens learned of his fate Sunday morning, then met with his players Monday afternoon.

Respected for his class and loyalty, Teevens even showed up for the official announcement of his firing.

“Unfortunately, it’s a winless business and I didn’t win enough ballgames,” Teevens said. “The attitude I have is I do believe I improved the quality of the program. I appreciate the opportunity. When you look back, there are a lot of things that could be had, should have had.”

Leland said a search for a successor would begin immediately, but he doesn’t have a timeline for making a hire. His focus is an offensive-minded coach.

Stanford has six recruits coming to campus this weekend and Leland wanted a decision on Teevens’ job status to be resolved before then.

“The things that he’s built here, they’re going to stay,” Steinbacker Jon Alston said. “He started the boat rolling. Unfortunately with the nature of this business, 10 wins in three years at Stanford is just something that people don’t tend to accept. The outlook is very positive among the team.”

Fans and alumni seemed to lose faith in Teevens for good following the embarrassing Big Game defeat.

**WOMEN’S BASKETBALL Top 25**


**MEN’S BASKETBALL Top 25**


**MEN’S CCHA HOCKEY Conference**

- Ohio State 7-2-1
- Michigan 7-1-0
- Nebraska-Omaha 5-4-1
- Bowling Green 4-6-0
- Northern Michigan 4-3-1
- Lake Superior 4-5-1
- Minnesota-Duluth 3-4-0
- Alaska Fairbanks 4-4-0
- Western Michigan 3-6-1
- Miami Ohio 3-6-1
- Michigan State 3-6-0
- Ferris State 1-6-1

**AP Rankings**


Associated Press

**MEN’S COLLEGE BASKETBALL**

- Michigan at Georgia 7 p.m., ESPN
- Michigan State at Duke 9 p.m., ESPN
- Florida State at Minnesota 7:30 p.m., ESPN2
- Maryland at Wisconsin 9 p.m., ESPN2

**NFL**

- St. Louis at Green Bay 7:30 p.m., ABC

**Around the Nation**

Compiled from The Observer’s Wire Services

Tuesday, November 30, 2004
Bowl
continued from page 24
Dame's 26th postseason appearance, and its first in the Insight Bowl. The payout for the bowl is $750,000 for both teams.
Willingham hopes the bowl game will give the Irish positive momentum for next season.
"It makes the winter a lot easier," Willingham said.
"Number one. it's a chance to get a win," Willingham said. "It's also a great opportunity for our underclassmen to continue their preparation because what we hope and believe is there are great things on the horizon for this football team. So, this is an opportunity to do that." The Irish will have to wait until this weekend's games in the Pac-10 Conference. California against Southern Mississippi and USC against UCLA to see who they will face.
"I think that this team, coming off of two losses, is hungry for a win," Irish quarterback Brady Quinn said. "But at the same time, there's a lot of things that we need to fix within ourselves, fix some things that we weren't executing to the best of our ability."
Contact Heather Van Hoegarden at hvanhoeg@nd.edu

Of course, the big thing there for us is to win a bowl game. That's something that Notre Dame hasn't done in about 11 years.
Tyrone Willingham
Irish coach

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Irish struggle to score, still come away with win

By PAT LEONARD
Associated Sports Editor

Mike Brey was disappointed after his team scored only 66 points against Harvard. He said if the Irish were going to average 60 points a game this season, they would be in serious trouble.

After three games, Notre Dame is averaging 64.3 points. But despite offensive problems in the first half against Charleston Southern Friday, No. 19 Notre Dame held the Buccaneers to the second-lowest opponent point output in the season so far, and was able to come away with a 54-38 victory to improve to 3-0.

"I'm just glad we held them to 38 points," guard Chris Quinn said. "I was just glad we held them to 38 points."

Mike Brey was disappointed with the defense. "I think we played well enough defensively," he said. "We did some good things."

On Friday, the Irish shot just 26.9 percent from the field in the first half. But Notre Dame held its opponent to the same shooting percentage in the second half and limited Charleston Southern — with no free-throw attempts in the game — to 16 points in the final 20 minutes of play.

The Buccaneers' Thomas Harrison tied the score at 29, with a 3-pointer at the 13:30 mark. But Irish forward Jordan Cornette scored on a put-back off a Thomas miss and ignited a 14-0 run from which Charleston Southern would never recover.

Chris Quinn, who has led Notre Dame in scoring in all three games thus far, scored 14 of his team-high 17 points in the second half. Thomas added 15 points. The senior point guard also had four steals, six assists and no turnovers.

The Irish did not shoot well from 3-point range (5-40) or from the field overall (18-for-48). But the guard play was the difference. Notre Dame got just 10 points and 11 rebounds from the frontcourt of Rick Cornette, Torin Francis and Dennis Latimore. Francis, who committed four turnovers to match his four points, sat the bench in the second half and played just 14 total minutes.

"I wasn't active on the defensive end so coach took me out, put in a smaller lineup and they were effective," Francis told the South Bend Tribune.

The record low point total for a Notre Dame game was 49, in a 50-35 defeat at the hands of Notre Dame on Jan. 23, 1984.

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Irish don't play well at USC, but survive

LOS ANGELES — Muffet McGraw looked like a helpless leader Friday night, watching her team slowly fall apart apart to a less-talented, more-energetic USC squad.

She paced. She shook her head. She yelled and screamed. But little McGraw did — could change Notre Dame's performance.

Trailing by five points with seven minutes remaining, Notre Dame looked dead.

In a game like this last season on the road, the Irish would have surely lost. But Friday, Notre Dame picked itself up off the Los Angeles Sports Arena floor after blowing a nine-point halftime lead in less than four minutes to make the big plays and ultimately sneak away with a 60-56 victory.

The team can take much from this hard-fought victory.

The good news — the Irish faced stiff adversity, and came out on top in their first road game of the season. The bad news — Notre Dame looked nothing like the team that beat top-10 Duke and Ohio State just a few days ago.

For much of the contest, it appeared like the Irish had taken out the blueprint from the 2003-04 season on ‘How To Lose Road Games,’ and then followed it to a T. The Irish made uncharacteristic turnovers, couldn’t hit key shots, didn’t rebound, missed free throws, got into foul trouble and didn’t play anywhere near their potential.

Breona Gray summed up most of Notre Dame’s night when she stole a pass with 7:13 left in the game. Gray raced down the court for the layup, looking to cut the Trojan lead to one. Instead of making a seemingly easy layup, Gray lost control of the ball out of bounds — despite not being touched.

Much like that play, Notre Dame stumbled themselves in the second half and again Friday against a much weaker opponent.

Yet, the Irish didn’t quit or fold. They didn’t panic when USC sprinted to a 20-7 run to begin the second half. Instead, Notre Dame found a way to win.

“We weren’t running our offense. Mentally I don’t think we played a great game,” McGraw said.

“Breona’s (Gray) but you have to accept that for the first road game, I think they’re still a little gun-shy on the road, so this gives them a lot of confidence.”

The biggest surprise about this come-from-behind victory was that Notre Dame’s freshmen led the charge. Specifically, Melissa D’Amico.

With Notre Dame’s lead cut to 18-16 in the first half, the center checked in and promptly scored five straight points — including a 3-point play — then blocked a shot that led to the Trojans’ downfall.

Just like that, the Irish had a nine-point edge at 25-16.

D’Amico and the Irish played with resilience in their first road game of the season. They struggled for much of the game, but never quit. It takes a certain level of toughness to win on the road and the Irish showed that Friday evening.

Courtney LaVere battled in the paint all game, before painfully hitting the court after spraining her ankle in the second half. With tears in her eyes, LaVere hobbled to the end of the bench, stuck watching her team during the final minutes.

Guard Megan Duffy got jackoned at the neck with an elbow, which limited her speaking abilities for some of the second half. Being that, she performed the best of any Notre Dame player.

Simply put, Notre Dame wouldn’t allow USC to win. The Irish made the big shot when it mattered the most. They created the crucial turnovers when USC started to regain momentum. They secured the key rebound when the Trojans desperately needed another shot.

“We really showed our poise at the end,” McGraw said.

That they did. The Irish found a way to pass their first road test of the season — albeit barely. But “W” is a “W” — no matter how ugly or painful it is to watch.

The opinions expressed in this column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer.
ND VOLLEYBALL
Spikers sweep weekend over UCI

By ANN LOUGHERY Sports Writer

After this weekend's success, coach Debbie Brown has been quick to admit to the players...
Advance

continued from page 24

To get to that point, the Irish had to deal with Mother Nature as well as the Pilots. After a 15-minute delay, a plow had to clear a layer of snow off the field to make conditions playable. However, the ground had not yet frozen, and the field quickly turned to mud.

"It just was really really wet," Irish coach Randy Waldrum said. "But it really didn't seem to change the quality of the play on the ground that either team would be able to."

Irish players moved the ball well and kept it more on the ground than I thought it would be.

Despite the messy condi-
tions, Cinalli got Notre Dame off to a quick start when she scored in the game's fourth minute. Junior Annie Schefter took a pass from Cinalli and then lifted a high crossing pass which Cinalli headed into the left side of the net. She notched her second goal with just over 24 minutes to go in the first half. This time Waldrum set her up right in front of the goal to give the Irish a 2-0 halftime lead.

"The first half, (Portland) really held the game back in the first half," Waldrum said.

However, the Pilots respond-
ed with a goal in the second half with a much more aggressive offensive attack. Portland's player of-the-year candidate Christine Sinclair cut the Notre Dame lead in half with a goal 12 minutes into the second half.

But the Irish put the game with a goal from its own player-of-the-year candidate. Thorlakson scored directly off of a corner kick just five minutes before halftime to halt Portland's momentum. The kick curved as it headed towards the goal and snuck under the cross-bar for Thorlakson's team-leading 22nd goal of the season.

"We picked it up right after (Portland's) goal and started playing well again," Gunnarsdottir said. "They had a span of maybe 20 minutes when they had control in the middle and just that we just picked it up.

The Notre Dame defense played its usual solid game despite yielding its first goal of the NCAA tournament to Sinclair. The defense still limited the Pilots to only three shots on goal and only two corner kicks.

Meanwhile, the Irish offense was high in gear, led by the play of Cinalli. The three goals gave her the most the Pilots defense has allowed all season.

"It says how well Amanda has really done this year. Ten goals in the last two seasons for a freshman is incredible," Waldrum said.

"My teammates make it easy," Cinalli said. "The passes they gave me for the goals were beautiful passes.

Her two goals produced a win that has a two-fold significance for her coach. The victory gives Waldrum 300 wins as a collegiate head coach and the Freshman of the Year award.

With 7:59 left in the game, the Irish made a jump run, the freshman sparked a Pilots.

"I thought she was the difference in the first half," McGraw said. "I don't think she was strong in the post, blocked a shot, got a couple of rebounds and scored. That's what we needed her to do."

With a 29-20 halftime lead, the Irish came out cold scoring seven points and making two field goals in the first nine minutes of the second half. The Trojans used a 20-7 spurt to gain a 40-36 lead. The Irish led the game at 40 only to see the Trojans open up a 14-point lead at 45-30. McGraw called a timeout and had a simple message for her team.

"I told them to get back to running our offense, we were going one-on-one too much," McGraw said. 'We thought we were putting too much on Jackie — save us, Boy (throwing) her the ball," McGraw said.

"Then we got into the offense we did the first half off where Megan (Duffy) got the layup. That's what we need to do."

With 5:39 left in the game, the Trojans played their last play of the season. Citron fired a pass from McGraw's mes-sage, were patient with their offense we were the rest of the game.

She went to the bench a couple of plays after getting hit, but returned later and finished the game.

"I thought that was an excellent route to the Irish opening up a lot of the game against the Trojans that has a two-fold signif-

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Sawyer and the Irish goal. "I was very upset, we did not run up to our potential," Piane said. "To a man, each guy, to the severe that competed, each could have run a little better. Some could have run a lot better." Piane attributed part of the disappointing finish to certain runners simply not doing what they were supposed to do. "A couple guys didn't do what they were told to do, and that certainly did hurt them," Piane said. The culmination of their brilliant season was slightly disappointing, but considering where they were at the beginning there is something to be proud of. "At the outset of the season, if you had said, 'Coach, you could be No. 3 in the country,' I would have said 'Thank you' and walked away a happy man," Piane said. "But after the way the season went, which went exceptionally well, than it was disappointing." Piane compared the team's loss to a situation where the football team is expecting to go 6-5, and suddenly finds themselves at 11-0, only to then lose in the BCS championship. Meanwhile, the women had a lot more success in the race as they finished fourth. "There were a whole lot of them that were far from 100 percent, they just ran and gave every everyone they had," Irish women's coach Tim Connelly said. "It was a great effort." Stephanie Madia led the Irish with a 23rd place finish overall, running a 20:58. Sunni Olfing and Kerry Meagher were not too far behind Madia, finishing 32nd and 34th, with times of 21:10. All three were All-Americans. Molly Huddle, who was running as a broken foot, missed in 40th place for the Irish. "We really were happy, I mean going in we had a couple kids injured, and we really didn't know what to expect," Connelly said. "Our kids competed really, really well." Connelly spoke at length about how proud he was of his team, a team that had a season full of injuries and problems that had to deal with on a weekly basis. "Its kind of funny because a year ago, we had a great season all the way until we lost at the end we kind of fell apart at nationals," Connelly said. "This year the whole season was a struggle ... and at the end they were able to put it all together and really accomplish something great." Connelly also discussed how the attitude of the team slowly changed because of the injuries over the course of the season. "At the start of the year, our goal was to be top three or four in the country, and to be quite honest, going into nationals we had stopped worrying about that," Connelly said. "Our goal wasn't to where we were going to place, it was just to have several people coming out of that meet feeling like they ran as well as they could. That was the most important thing that we accomplished the other day." Both the men and the women should be excited for 2005. "We're bringing back some great kids," Connelly said. "Our expectation is to every year be one of the better teams in the country, and whether that means top four or top-10, that's kind of our expectation." Piane agreed. "We should be pretty strong next year. We retain six of our top seven, but the fellas that were eight, nine, 10 and 11 are also all back," he said. "So that gives us 10 guys back." Contact Bobby Griffin at rgrif33@nd.edu
crossword puzzle

ACROSS
1 Fall (over) 36 Hydrox senator?
5 Stadium walkways 22 Westward tie
10 At a distance 43 Jerry or Jerry
15 10 out of 10, e.g. 44 Have dog breath?
20 Random tie 47 Take home
22 Aloe 48 Queen for...
23 Keep... (peristyle)
25 Queue before Q 49 Go ahead, shoot?
6 Gambling senator?
15 Random tie
22 Aloe
23 Keep...
25 Queue before Q
26 Gambling baseballer?
34 Pile up
36 Hydras alive forever
37 Avoiding the craft
38 "Hi!"
39 Hardhearted
40 Mrs. Dithers, in "Blonde"
41 Getting... years
54 Have dog breath?
59 Have dog breath?
66 Fee blindly
67 Cold-shoulder
70 Takers

DOWN
1 Shoe lace problem
2 Bronte heroine
3 In... (actually)
4 A tie of kim
5 Steakhouse offering
6 Sidewalk stand beverages
7-9 Down, e.g.
8 Follow with a camera
10 180° turn
11 Mary Wickham
12 Saik, neighbor
13 Piece next to a knight
14 Barber shop-boo-boo?
15 1,022, in old Rome
16 Some of them are secret
17 "Hi!" locale
18 Fat cat
19 Musical native
20 Michael of "Monty Python"
21 Public
22 Maine college town
23 Hearing-related
24 Teetotum's org.
25 Campbell of "Flight of Fifty"
26 Fee blindly
27 Cold-shoulder
28 Boxing star
29 Russian city
30 My life
31 Taken wing
32 Bone-dulling
33 You'll get a rise out of it
34 Asian city-state
35 Human grp.
36 Popular disinfectant
40 Work of praise
41 Quick pic
42 Lambs native
43 Water tiles
44 Lovers
45 Work of praise
46 Fight it out
50 Has memorized
51 Tell me more?
52 Liqueur
54 Take home
56 It
57 Cinderella
59 Goose
60 What "it" plays
61 Capek play
62 Scissors
63 Jelly
64 Lovers
65 It
66 It
67 It

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Across:
1 Fall (over)
5 Stadium walkways
10 At a distance
15 10 out of 10, e.g.
20 Random tie
22 Aloe
23 Keep...
25 Queue before Q
6 Gambling senator?
15 Random tie
22 Aloe
23 Keep...
25 Queue before Q
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34 Pile up
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37 Avoiding the craft
38 "Hi!"
39 Hardhearted
40 Mrs. Dithers, in "Blonde"
41 Getting... years
54 Have dog breath?
59 Have dog breath?
66 Fee blindly
67 Cold-shoulder
70 Takers

Down:
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2 Bronte heroine
3 In... (actually)
4 A tie of kim
5 Steakhouse offering
6 Sidewalk stand beverages
7-9 Down, e.g.
8 Follow with a camera
10 180° turn
11 Mary Wickham
12 Saik, neighbor
13 Piece next to a knight
14 Barber shop-boo-boo?
15 1,022, in old Rome
16 Some of them are secret
17 "Hi!" locale
18 Fat cat
19 Musical native
20 Michael of "Monty Python"
21 Public
22 Maine college town
23 Hearing-related
24 Teetotum's org.
25 Campbell of "Flight of Fifty"
26 Fee blindly
27 Cold-shoulder
28 Boxing star
29 Russian city
30 My life
31 Taken wing
32 Bone-dulling
33 You'll get a rise out of it
34 Asian city-state
35 Human grp.
36 Popular disinfectant
40 Work of praise
41 Quick pic
42 Lambs native
43 Water tiles
44 Lovers
45 Work of praise
46 Fight it out
50 Has memorized
51 Tell me more?
52 Liqueur
54 Take home
56 It
57 Cinderella
59 Goose
60 What "it" plays
61 Capek play
62 Scissors
63 Jelly
64 Lovers
65 It
66 It
67 It

THE OBSERVER

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Horoscope

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Gaby Shandling, Cathy Moriarty, Andy McCarthy, Kim Delaney.
Happy Birthday! Prepare to take advantage of the creative opportunities just ahead of you. Don't let anyone discourage you from following through with your dreams. This is the year to discover who you are and what your potential really is. Believe in yourself. Your numbers are 8, 13, 19, 28, 33, 42.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Things are becoming hectic. So don't let that lead to a confrontation with someone you are no odds with. Don't let anyone take advantage of your abilities to get things done. *** TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Family and friends will be on your mind. Call one or see someone that you don't get to see often. Your kind gesture will result in something good. **** GEMINI (May 21-June 20): You can get a lot accomplished and even add a little extra zest to your work today. You will be rewarded for your hard work and dedication. Focus on advancement. **** CANCER (June 21-July 22): Put negativity behind you and do your best to impress the people who really count. Using above those who are critical. Your wisdom will shine through. *** LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Money ventures are looking good. Prepare your books for your end and don't leave anything to chance. Be sensitive about your findings. **** VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Get involved in volunteer work and you will make a newly formed family happy. Give to receive this year by offering your time - you will realize something special about yourself. **** LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Watch out for someone who is under your radar. There's no telling what anyone trying to hold you back. *** SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Everything will turn out just fine if you follow your gut feelings. Love and romance are in a high cycle. A short trip or planned vacation will turn a little negativity behind you and do your best to rise to the occasion. **** SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): An investment made today will bring fabulous results this time next year. Check over your finances and see what you can do to ensure that your future is financially secure. **** CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): It won't take much to get you off track or upset. Try your best to control negative actions. Children may test your patience. Consider taking a break. *** AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Everything is turning in your favor, but that doesn't mean you can slack off. Put on the pressure and you will turn a little pressure into a milestone in your life. **** PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): You'll get the most from pampering yourself and doing something that you have wanted to try for a long time. It's time to revamp and live the life of your dreams. ****

Birthday Bites: You believe in love and romance. You are sensitive but strong and you intuitively know what other people need and want. You are thorough and stick to whatever you start.
FOOTBALL

Team accepts invitation to Dec. 28 Insight Bowl

By HEATHER VAN HOEGERDEN
Sport Editor

After closing out the regular season with a 4-1-1 loss to USC Saturday, Notre Dame announced Sunday it has accepted an invitation to the Insight Bowl Dec. 28, in Phoenix. "We're excited and I think our young men are excited," Irish coach Tyrone Willingham said Sunday evening. "There are a lot of places in this country where you could spend the holidays and Phoenix will be a delightful spot for our team and our fans. "Hopefully, we can go in there with a positive mindset and a lot of energy, and get a win. I think it gives our football team another opportunity to play football and I think they will enjoy doing that. I believe the game gives us that feeling that we still have some business to take care of and we'd like to be able to do that." The Irish finished the regular season 6-5 and will face a Pac-10 opponent, who will be announced Dec. 5. The game will be held at Bank One Ballpark, capacity 42,915 and home of the Arizona Diamondbacks of Major League Baseball. The bowl appearance is Notre Dame's first appearance in a New Year's Day Bowl since 1990. "I think it was a day that we weren't destined to win for..." see BOWL/page 24

ND WOMEN'S SOCCER

Finally, four

By MATT MOONEY
Sports Writer

The Irish shouldn't have to deal with any more snow where they're headed. Fourth-seeded Notre Dame (23-1-1) will make the trip to Cary, N.C., for the Final Four of the Women's College Cup following Friday's 3-1 NCAA quarterfinal win over fifth-seeded Portland (20-4-0) at Alumni Field. Despite the cold and sloppy conditions, Irish freshman Amanda Cinalli lit up the scoreboard with two goals and teammate Katie Thorlakson tacked on a goal and two assists to send Notre Dame to its seventh national semifinal appearance in program history. "It's indescribable, this feeling," Cinalli said. "I don't think it's hit me yet, I don't think it will until I get to Cary." see ADVANCE/page 21

ND CROSS COUNTRY

Irish runners finish among nation's best

By BOBBY GRIFFIN
Sports Writer

As the Grateful Dead once sang, "What a long strange trip it's been." No truer words could be spoken about the men's cross country team, who started the year unranked, ran its way to No. 5 in the nation, and then finished 11th in the NCAA championships Monday, Nov. 22 in Terre Haute. On the other side, the Irish women finished fourth in the nation, an impressive finish.

ND WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Close USC game is Irish victory

By MATT LOZAR
Sports Writer

LOS ANGELES — Last season it took five games. This season it only took one, but it wasn't pretty. Struggling in its first road game of the season, Notre Dame (6-0) was able to put it together late in the second half and escape with a 46-36 win at Southern California (1-2) Friday night. "I thought they played a great defensive game," Irish coach Muffet McGraw said. "They are terrific defensively. They are physical, strong inside, rebound like crazy. I thought that was the difference in the game." USC outrebounded the Irish 42-36, including 18-7 on the offensive boards. The Irish committed 23 turnovers and the teams combined for 48 overall. "It was a little bit of a trap meet especially in the beginning," McGraw said. "We want to run too, but maybe a little smarter... I did expect a very physical game, and we certainly see ESCAPE/page 21

MEN'S BASKETBALL

Another first-round loss ends Irish season

By MATT PUGLISI
Sports Writer

Welcome to Upsctville. Again. For the second consecutive tournament, the Irish bowed out in their first contest as No. 5 seed Notre Dame (13-3-3) dropped a 2-1 heartbreaker to Ohio State in the second round of the NCAA Tournament at Alumni Field Nov. 23. In their previous match Nov. 6, also at home — the conference-favorite No. 1 seed Irish were upset by Seton Hall (0-0, 8-7 if penalty kicks) in the quarterfinals of the Big East Championships. The Irish joined No. 12 seed Old Dominion and No. 10 seed Penn State as the only seeded squads to fall in the second round of the NCAA Tournament — 16 teams received seeds at the beginning of the tournament. "I think it was a day that we weren't destined to win for..." see LOSS/page 22