ND student robbed at gunpoint

By HEATHER VAN HOEGARDEN
News Writer

A Notre Dame student was robbed at gunpoint Thursday night outside the Eek Visitors' Center on campus, Notre Dame Security/Police assistant director Chuck Hurley said.

The student, who was walking east from his dormitory on campus, saw a man sitting alone on a bench on the north side of the Eek Center about 9 p.m., Hurley said. The man showed a gun and told the student to give him his wallet.

"The student gave him his wallet, and the guy told him to walk away," Hurley said. "The student turned and looked over his shoulder and the guy ran southbound on Notre Dame Avenue."

The student, a senior at the University, was unharmed. Hurley said the student went into the Hammes Bookstore, which was in the process of closing up for the night. He called NSP about three minutes after the incident, which occurred while several games of the Bookstore Basketball Tournament were being played at the nearby basketball courts.

The suspect, described as a black male in his late 20s to early 30s, was estimated to be six feet tall and weigh 180 pounds. He was wearing an unzipped black leather jacket with a gray T-shirt and a red baseball hat, Hurley said.

After the student contacted NSP, officers attempted to find the suspect.

"We checked the area down by Notre Dame Avenue and alerted South Bend Police," Hurley said. "Nobody matched the description in that area."

Hurley said there was no one in the area when the incident occurred and that the student was unsure if he could identify the suspect if he was asked to.

NSP has assigned a detective to the case, and he will meet with the student to develop a comprehensive sketch of the suspect, Hurley said.

Belles bless new Student Center

By JEN MALL
News Writer

A sense of community was truly the aura on the Saint Mary's campus Thursday as hundreds gathered to dedicate the new Student Center and Noble Family Dining Hall. Among those attending were students, faculty, staff, sisters, alumni, donors and the Board of Trustees.

"The new Student Center is a wonderful addition to the campus," said Father Joe Carey, in the blessing of the new Student Center at Saint Mary's Thursday.

Parking spots may be scarce for game day

By KATE ANTONACCI
Associate News Editor

"It's an area south of Edison and it is owned by the University," assistant director of Notre Dame Security/Police Philip Johnson said.

Those attending Saturday's Blue-Gold spring football game may face more problems than just nabbing a good seat in the stadium, finding a parking spot may pose a challenge, due to the construction currently underway on the soccer fields on Edison Road, previously used for parking on football weekends.
**INSIDE COLUMN**

I climbed the Dome

I believe I am the only under­graduate to climb the scaffolding on the Dome to the top this year. That is, the only student with per­mission. First I had to sign my life away. That is, the only student with permission.

"Yes! With or without the scaffolding." - Lindsay Till, senior off campus

"Yes, I'd hate for the security guards to sit there all night for nothing." - Jenn Heller, sophomore Lewis

"Yes, so I could stand next to Mary and be closer to Heaven." - Nathan Lohmeyer, senior off campus

"Yes — I heard Mary is huge." - Annemise Succata, senior off campus

"Of course, because I heard Mary is made of sugar, spice and chocolate." - Tom Raaf, senior off campus

Our guide was Tony Polotto, sen­ior project manag­er for the University Architects. Ed Cohen and Matt Cashmere from The Notre Dame Magazine had requested this ascent to the top and I was lucky enough to come along with them. I considered myself mildly acropho­bic (afraid of heights) but the scaffolding was very stable. With every few steps up the scaffolding stairs, the people on the ground became smaller and smaller until finally they looked like moving specks. I clung onto the railing with one hand and clutched my camera with the other.

At roof top level we began to see the damage on the Main Building. Paint on the outside was flaking away. As I cautiously followed the others along the scaffolding walk­way I saw gold gleam in front of me and picked it up. It was a flake of gold leaf.

I suddenly felt like I understood the fervent obsession with gold that the forty-siders had. As we got closer to the top I began to pick up as much as I could and put it in my pocket. Polotto told us that only one bar of gold is used for all of the gilding on the dome and this amount of gold is valued at $109,000.

Once we reached Mary’s base (she is 18 feet high) we had to start climbing little ladders and then awkwardly clamber over the railing to get to the top. The size of Mary’s head is surprisingly huge and she has a lighting rod coming right out from the top of her head. On the way up Mary was being stripped of her shimmering top layer because putting more gold on top would not fix the cracks and damage to the statue. Workers were coating the gold surface with paint stripper and then scraping it off. Clumps of gold were falling on the snake, openmouthed in agony under Mary’s foot.

It is an utterly breathtaking view from the top scaffolding level. The perfectly symmetrical crisscroses of the gold give way to the straight line of Notre Dame Avenue and the flat Indiana landscape beyond.

I think my favorite moment was looking over Mary’s shoulder to see the campus from her point of view. Waving over us and protecting us, she is our mother, Notre Dame.

**IN BRIEF**

Student Union Board, Saint Mary’s Board of Directors, and the class of 2007 will host a six­hour “Battle of the Bands” at Legends tonight. The event, part of the AntTostal festivities, will begin at 6 p.m.

The Bookstore Basketball Tournament will continue tonight with the Elite Eight teams bat­tling for first place. The event will take place tonight from 6 p.m. to 9 on the basketball courts outside the Hammes Bookstore.

The film, Television and Theater department will sponsor the play “Arcadia” tonight and Saturday at 8 p.m. and 10:30. Tickets are $3.

The Saint Mary’s Music Department will host a junior recital by vocalist Charlotte Orzel and flute courtesy Leigh Harmon Sunday from 2:30 p.m. to 4:30 in the Little Theater in Moreau Hall. The two will perform several solo and combined works.

The film “Downwind: Depleted Uranium Weapons in the Age of Virtual War” will be shown in Vander Venet Theatre in the Saint Mary’s Student Center at 7 p.m. Sunday.

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

**THE LANDSCAPE TODAY**

**LOCAL WEATHER**

**TODAY**

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**ATLANTA**

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Student Center boasts a dozen new offices, high-tech theater

By MEGHAN DALEY
New Writer

Costing an estimated $17 million, the new Saint Mary's Student Center boasts a lot more space for students, clubs and offices as well as some new additions to campus, including a Cyber Café, a convenience store and a new theater.

The plans for the new center, drawn up by the Architecture Design Group of South Bend, began in 1998 and the structure was completed in two phases, starting with the new Noble Family Dining Hall and wrapping up this spring with the completion of the Student Center.

Offices in the center include Multicultural Affairs, the Office of Civic and Social Engagement, the Student Government Association, Sodexo Food Services, First Source Bank, Student Activities, the Blue Mante, The Observer and the Women's Resource Center.

Shannon McManus, the Board of Governance's Tri-Campus Commissioner, said she and other students and members are enjoying the new facilities.

"It is a real luxury to have the new meeting rooms — we no longer have to coordinate meeting times around other campus groups' schedules," McManus said.

In the basement wing and several large meeting rooms which can be partitioned into smaller spaces for groups of varying size.

The first floor has a spacious, well-furnished student lounge, which student activities director Georganna Vander Ven and her staff will coordinate.

The landscaping outside of the Student Center has received some finishing touches in the last several days and the cement patios should be furnished sometime in the near future.

According to Rosenbush, the new student center was financed mostly by contributions from the Saint Mary's Board of Trustees, parents of students and the Student Government Association.

A complete list of donors can be found on a plaque inside the Student Center on the first floor.

Contact Kelly Maus at kmaus01@stmarys.edu

The $17 million Saint Mary's Student Center, the new home for the Shaheen bookstore, Cyber Café and student government offices, opened for use in March and was blessed in a ceremony Thursday. Hundreds, including students, faculty, donors and trustees, gathered for the event.

Building wins praise of current students, visiting prospects

By KELLY MAUS
New Writer

Since its opening last month, Saint Mary's students, faculty and staff are finally settling into the new Student Center.

With the introduction of the new Cyber Café, theater, convenience store and offices for many of the clubs and organizations here on campus, the Student Center is becoming the center of student life at Saint Mary's.

Sophomore Colleen Brunagan said that what she likes most about the new Student Center is that "it provides students with a quiet place to study outside the library."

The new café was a convenient alternative to the dining hall and a great place to grab coffee in the mornings before heading to class," freshman Mary Frantz said.

Many students are pleased with the center as a whole, some students working inside the new facility feel, as if they weren't fully prepared for the demands of their new positions. All Grimmer, a student resident employee at the Cyber Café, felt that "some of the student workers are being expected to accomplish more than they are able to," stemming from the fact that little training was offered to them before the café officially opened.

Despite these concerns, the facility has earned many compliments from both students and non-students alike. This past Sunday during the college's annual Spring Day on Campus, prospective students and their families were impressed by the new Student Center.

Maggie Siefert, a tour guide for Sunday's event, said she felt the building made the College more appealing to prospects.

"Visiting students thought the Student Center was a good asset to have on campus and that the café would be a great place to socialize and do homework," Siefert said.

Contact Kelly Maus at kmaus01@stmarys.edu
Students unite to end racism

By KATIE LAIRD
News Writer

This weekend Notre Dame and Saint Mary's students will participate in Challenge Day, a program intended to reach out to youth with experimental workshops and discussions to help break down various diversity barriers that exist in groups and to dispel social stereotypes.

Challenge Day was started in California in 1987 to help juvenile delinquents and has since won various awards for its groundbreaking programs. It has been featured in an Emmy award-winning documentary and the bestselling Chicken Soup for the Soul books.

From Friday night to Saturday evening, seven Notre Dame and three Saint Mary's students will travel to Ypsilanti, Mich., to help high school students learn how to deal with important issues that come up in society such as race, gender, religion or ethnicity.

"Challenge Day is a vehicle for alumni players to connect with the current team," Heisler said. "It's a great opportunity for young fans to experience the Notre Dame football atmosphere."

"We'd love a great student turnout," Berlo said. "They make the atmosphere."
**INTERNATIONAL NEWS**

**China, Japan to discuss dispute**

JAKARTA, Indonesia — China’s president will stopover conversation Thursday in his country’s deepening dispute with Japan, which has suggested a meeting on the sidelines of the Asia-Pacific Economic Summit to diffuse the crisis.

Massive anti-Japanese protests in China have erupted in recent weeks over World War II history, natural gas exploration and territorial disputes. Japan has denied an apology for damages to its embassy and consulate, but the Chinese government has blamed Japan for the troubles.

The dispute threatens to overshadow a conference of Asian and African leaders, which both Chinese President Hu Jintao and Japanese Prime Minister Junichiro Koizumi are attending.

**Canada apologizes for corruption**

TORONTO — Prime Minister Paul Martin apologized to the nation Thursday night for a corruption scandal that has shaken his Liberal Party, delivering a rare televised address aimed at rescuing his government’s credibility.

Acknowledging the alleglations of money laundering and kickbacks have created an "unsustainable mess," the embattled leader pledged to call an election within a month after an investigation, expected to be completed by March.

"Those who are in power are to be held responsible, and that includes me," Martin said. "That is the challenge, which have disrupted Canadians and promptedit the opposition Conservative Party to threaten a no-confidence vote that could take down the government.

**NATIONAL NEWS**

**Air tanker crashes during training**

SACRAMENTO, Calif. — An air tanker designed to drop retardant during wildfires crashed on a training flight in a remote forest, killing all three pilots on board, federal officials said.

The cause was under investigation, said Federal Aviation Administration spokesman Don Politte.

The tanker was set to begin fighting fires next month after several concerns grounded it and similar planes a year ago, federal officials said.

The tanker, a U.S. P-3 Orion, went down Wednesday evening in a rugged area of the Lassen National Forest, about 120 miles north of Sacramento.

**Police fatally shoot murder suspect**

COLUMBUS, Ohio — A 78-year-old strike victim was shot and killed by police apparently by his wife, who was killed by police at his home in the day when he ignored warnings to drop his gun, authorities said.

Inge Brown, who had Alzheimer’s disease and was to be placed in a nursing home, was shot twice in the head Tuesday at Mount Carmel East Hospital, Franklin County Coroner Brad Lewis said. Authorities said her 76-year-old husband, Harry, was believed to be the shooter, and they were investigating whether it was a mercy killing.
alerted to reports of people gaining access to the scaffolding at night. Lyphout said this prompted collaboration with NDSP to ensure "total diligence" concerning the site's safety.

Neither Hurley nor Lyphout was aware of any students being apprehended while climbing the structure, and Jeff Shoup, director of the Office of Residence Life and Housing, would neither confirm nor deny the existence of any such cases.

Shoup did however, say that "climbing the scaffolding would be considered very serious."

According to on-duty officer George Heeter, the new installation consists of two NDSP officers posted in vehicles on either side of the quad-side Main Building steps, with rotating shifts over a period of 10 hours starting when the construction workers leave each night at approximately 8 p.m. Officers began these shifts April 14.

Heeter said he assumed the service would last at least until summer break, but that no schedule of dates had been released. Hurley refused to confirm any specific security detail information, citing official NDSP administrative policy. Lyphout said officials were undecided in regards to the watch's length.

The University concerns were perhaps well-founded, as tales of daredevils who escaped the eye of NDSP and ResLife to scale the scaffolding without a mark on their bodies—or permanent records—have been circulating around the student body.

One such student, who spoke to The Observer only on the condition of anonymity for fear of University repercussions, recounted his story.

"There was a small group of us, and we climbed the scaffolding at about nine or 10 at night. We climbed all the way to the Dome so that we could touch it," he said.

"To me it seemed like fun and it would be something I could enjoy looking back on after graduation. How many people can say they've touched the Dome?"

The student said he did not feel that what he did was particularly dangerous, but could understand the University's concern.

"I never felt myself in any danger, but if a drunk or careless student finds their way up there, it would be a totally different story," he said.

Though he realized in retrospect that the climbers were quite visible and punishment could be severe— and felt "almost certain" he would not attempt the climb again—he said the risk seemed worth it at the time.

"We could see downtown South Bend from up there and we got to actually touch the Dome," he said. "I got a huge adrenaline rush from sneaking all the way up and all the way down the scaffolding."

Contact Amanda Michaels at amichael@nd.edu

Dome

continued from page 1

Clockwise from top left, NDSP guards the dome, Mary is hidden beneath the scaffolding and Mary's view.

PHOTOS BY CLAIRE KELLEY

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Robbery

continued from page 1

said.

The student had $25-$30 in his wallet at the time, along with one credit card. Hurley said the card was cancelled right away.

"The student was shook up," he said.

Contact Heather Van Hoegarden at hvanhoeg@nd.edu
Enron fraud trial set to begin next year

Associated Press

HOUSTON — Enron founder Kenneth Lay's trial on charges related to his personal banking will be held next year, a judge decided Thursday.

Lay, who faces a separate trial on fraud and conspiracy charges scheduled to begin in January, is accused of lying to banks about his intention to use their loans to buy Enron stock and to Enron officers on the company crushed in December 2001. Prosecutors had wanted the banking trial to begin only a few months.

"The desire to try this case fairly outweighs any expecially to the start of deliberations in that and conspiracy case, Lay said. The fraud and conspiracy case, which includes former Enron CEO Jeffrey Skilling and former top accountant Richard Causey, is expected to last several years.

Lay's late-afternoon hearing capped a busy day in the Houston courthouse involving Enron cases.

Earlier Thursday, two former Enron executives were sentenced to years behind bars, the company's sale of power plants, although the terms fell far short of what the government sought. Dennis Bayly, former head of investment banking for Merrill Lynch, got 2 1/2 years in prison. James A. Brown, former head of the brokerage's asset lease group, received five years. Each had faced sentences as long as 30 years.

Bayly's sentence was recommended up to 15 years for Bayly and up to 33 for Brown. Meanwhile, testimony continued for a fourth day in the trial of Enron's failed broadband operation. The government contends Enron's former broadband executives made false claims of advanced network capabilities so they could get rich by selling company stock inflated by the hype. Lay said in court papers last week and repeated in court that Lay wanted to hear and decide the banking case as jurors deliberate the verdict of the fraud and conspiracy case.

Prosecutors expressed concern that Lay may decide later he wants a jury trial on the bank charges. Lay questioned Lay to make sure he understood he was giving up his right to a jury trial.

"We have confidence in your honor and think a bench trial is the most appropriate way for it to be decided," Lay told the judge.

"I think it's a very wise ruling. There obviously has been a lot of gamesmanship by the task force and by me," said Mike Ramsey, Lay's attorney. He called Lay "the best fact-finder." In the Merrill Lynch case, U.S. District Judge Ewing Werlein, who sentenced the Durkin, Conn., men, criticized the government's pursuit of a term longer than the one former Enron finance chief Andrew Fastow received.

Fastow, who ran bogus schemes that ruined Enron, had faced 98 counts including fraud, conspiracy, insider trading and money laundering. Last year he pleaded guilty to two counts of conspiracy for hiding Enron debt and inflating profits while pocketing millions for himself.

A decade is the maximum sentence for two conspiracy counts, though Fastow can serve a year and a half from that with good time credit.

Yahoo provides family with Marine's e-mail

Associated Press

WIXOM, Mich. — E-mail provider Yahoo has pledged to give the family of a Marine killed in Iraq full access to their son's e-mail account, ending a legal tangle that began after his parents sought messages he wrote before his death.

An Oakland County probate judge signed an order Wednesday directing Yahoo Inc. to provide the contents of the e-mail account used by Lance Cpl. Justin M. Ellsworth, 20, who had killed a terrorist while inspecting a bomb in Anbar province.

Yahoo, which originally refused the family's request to hand over the e-mails, did not object to the order and gave the family a CD containing more than 10,000 pages of materials.

But John Ellsworth, Justin's father, said he found only e-mails his son received and nothing he had written, even e-mails the younger Ellsworth had sent home. "Maybe that's all he had. Maybe that's all he did," John Ellsworth said. "I'm not sure what I've got in front of me."

The family found only their own messages to Justin, Ellsworth, as well as spam and a few e-mails from people they had never heard of.

A spokeswoman for Sunnyvale, Calif.-based Yahoo said the CD should have contained the Marine's outgoing as well as his incoming e-mail messages.

"We will do whatever it takes to help Mr. Ellsworth access all of the e-mail on the disc," Mary Okano said Thursday. She said Yahoo would deliver a paper copy of the contents to the family early next week.

Brian Dailey, the family's attorney, acknowledged Thursday that Yahoo "had a responsibility to Justin to maintain the confidentiality they had promised him."

"This wasn't a big fat fight going on," he said. "They approached us as a partner and worked with us to do the right thing."

Yahoo's policy states accounts terminate at death, but John Ellsworth argued his son would have wanted him to have the account. The Marine told his dad that kind e-mails kept him going, and his family wanted to make a scrapbook out of them.

"It's a great comfort," Ellsworth told Detroit radio station WJR. "Justin Ellsworth's job was to locate and destroy hidden bombs. He discovered one while on patrol and noticed the device lacked wires, suggesting it was remote-controlled. He warned fellow Marines to clear the area but was caught by the blast."
Provost

continued from page 1

speaker who is "articulate." Professor of electrical engineering Ken Sauer agreed.

"I think it's very important that both our president and our provost be people ... who have a good public presence, who are very well-spoken and who will be able to put the best face of the institution to the rest of the world," Sauer said.

During the search committee's meeting with the College of Arts and Letters' college council, Doordan said a need was also expressed for someone who was sensitive to the needs of female and minority faculty members. Bradley also cited the importance of the provost's relationship with the faculty, saying it was important for the provost to gain their trust and confidence.

"From my point of view, with the new [DeBartolo Performing Arts Center], Notre Dame's

crossed a threshold, made a real commitment to the arts," Doordan said. "I don't want to see that momentum lost. I want to see the next provost committed to the visual and performing arts."

Bradley focused on the importance of liberal arts as a whole.

"One of the important things about Notre Dame is the high value it puts on liberal arts," he said. "I hope the new provost will maintain, at least, if not extend Notre Dame's educational commitment to liberal education and especially the humanities disciplines."

Sauer said the College of Engineering simply wants someone who recognizes the importance of engineering — not just in society, but also in the University itself, because of the college's small size. Chemistry professor Richard Taylor said he would like to see someone with "an appreciation for experimental sciences."

"I think that both things are very important for a strong university," Lewis said. "But the way that both will really benefit is if there's a meaningful connection between the two."

Associate Dean of the Mendoza College of Business Bill Nichols expressed a desire for a provost who would keep with Notre Dame's traditional Catholic identity.

"Taylor, though, emphasized the future along with the tradition."

"Some may say Notre Dame tends to look too much toward tradition and not enough toward evolution of the University," he said. "I want someone who is interested in projecting a strong vision for the future of the University, who looks equally toward the future as is to the past."

"That ability to look in many directions was also recognized by mathematics department chair Bill Dwyer."

"It's a matter of judgment," he said. "It's not obvious where resources should go. We need someone at the top who looks at the whole picture and makes judicious decisions and sometimes, bold and visionary decisions."

Contact Eileen Duffy at eduffy1@nd.edu

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Parking continued from page 1

According to the University Architect's office, however, Johnson said that there will be plenty of parking available to campus visitors this weekend and in the fall. "Parking! Just won't be south of the stadium," Johnson said. "There is also a shuttle that will run from White Field lot down to the library, just like on a typical football Saturday." On difference between the Blue-Gold Game weekend and typical football Saturdays, however, is that traffic is usually one way in front of the Joyce Center, a change that will not occur for the Blue-Gold game. "We will have additional officers to facilitate traffic as best we can, but there may be some extra buildup because of two-way traffic," Johnson said.

Lots still open for parking are the Joyce Center lot, B2 Lot and B2 North Lot, as well as space near the Notre Dame Federal Credit Union and White Field North, Brown said. Additionally, Notre Dame Sports Properties has organized a fan festival from 10 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. in the Joyce Center parking lot, which is also usually filled with cars for football weekends. "The fan festival is taking up some of the additional parking," Johnson said.

According to the Sports Properties office, there will be interactive inflatable games for kids, a DJ and a performance by the Irish Dancer Club. Chick-fil-A will be handing out free samples and Meijer and other sponsors will have booths set up.

Contact Kate Antonacci at kantonac@nd.edu

Center continued from page 1

"St. Mary's really needed a gathering place that was centered around students." Mary Lou Eldred, former SMC president

"I think we exceeded students' expectations to a certain extent... "Wow! is pretty much what we heard."

Linda Timm
vice president for Student Affairs

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Center for the first time yesterday. Eldred said she worked very hard to see the addition of a student center at Saint Mary's, "Saint Mary's really needed a gathering place that was centered around students," Eldred said.

Linda Timm, vice president for Student Affairs, has seen the Student center go from the very first visions to the finished product. She said she was overjoyed that the Student Center has only been open for a month and is already being utilized.

"Every time I walk by and see students studying, attending lectures or even sleeping in the lounge, I know it is being used exactly as it should be," Timm said. "I think we exceeded students expectations to a certain extent... "Wow! is pretty much what we heard."

Many of the students are also thrilled with the opening.

"The building is an awesome addition to the campus," said freshman Amber Zila. "It is something everyone whether freshman or senior, living on or off campus, can use."

Contact Jen Mall at jmall1@stmarys.edu

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Contact Jen Mall at jmall1@stmarys.edu
Traffic death rates hit record low
Still overall number of traffic deaths increased, government says

Associated Press
WASHINGTON — There’s mixed evidence on highway fatalities for safety experts and auto groups engaged in a long-standing debate over reducing casualties on the nation’s roadways.

The highest death toll in a decade, or a record low last year, the government estimated Thursday, but the overall number of traffic deaths increased slightly, leading the Bush administration to urge a national focus on seat belt use.

The number of deaths of motorcyclists and drivers and passengers in sport utility vehicles and large trucks increased. Alcohol-related fatalities, meanwhile, were projected to decline for the second straight year.

“You are riding a motorcycle and you’re wearing a helmet versus not wearing a helmet,” said Joan Claybrook, president of the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

NHTSA Administrator Jeffrey Runge said seat belt use is at 80 percent, an all-time high. But he added, “We could save thousands more lives each year if everyone buckled up.”

The fatality rate dropped even as the total number of traffic deaths crept up because more drivers were on the road.

The fatality rate slid from 1.48 deaths per 100 million vehicle miles traveled in 2003 to 1.46 deaths in 2004. It was the lowest since records were first kept in 1966, when the rate was 5.50 deaths.

In 2004, the number of vehicle registered grew to 235.4 million from 230.5 million in 2003. Vehicle miles traveled increased slightly, from 2.89 trillion in 2003 to 2.92 trillion last year.

Jocqueline Gillian, vice president for the watchdog group Advocates for Highway and Auto Safety, called the results “bad news” for the American public.

“The government wants us to believe that even though more family members and friends were killed in crashes last year that things are really getting better because we spent more time driving,” Gillian said. “The cold hard reality is that we are stuck in neutral.”

The figures were released as Congress considers safety programs in the pending federal highway bill. Runge has sought incentives for states with seat belt laws that let police stop motorists for failing to use belts or states that reach 90 percent belt use for two years.

For those debating the safety of sport utility vehicles, the numbers offered varying evidence.

Deaths of drivers and passengers in sport utility vehicle were projected to grow from 4,446 in 2003 to 4,666 last year, an increase of 4.9 percent. Bicyclist fatalities in those popular vehicles increased by 6.9 percent, to 2,821 last year.

SUV rollover injuries dropped 3 percent, from 67,000 in 2003 to 65,000 last year. Supporters of the vehicles said there were roughly 10 percent more registered SUVs on the road in 2004 and the fatality rate for the vehicles has declined since the late 1990s.

“Things are getting better as it relates to SUVs,” said Ron DeFore, spokesman for the Sport Utility Vehicle Owners of America.

The number of deaths dropped 2.4 percent for people in passenger cars and 2 percent for pickup trucks. Among large trucks, the number of people killed grew 3.7 percent.

Alcohol-related fatalities slid 2.1 percent last year, to 16,654. Wendy Hamilton, president of Mothers Against Drunk Driving, said the organization was “cautiously optimistic” but urged the nation “not to become complacent” about impaired driving.

Meanwhile, motorcycle fatalities rose for the seventh straight year, up 7.3 percent to 3,927. Former NHTSA Administrator Joan Claybrook, who is now president of the watchdog group Public Citizen, said the increase in motorcycle deaths was tied to a lack of helmet laws in 30 states.

Fatality crashes involving drivers between the ages of 16 to 20 increased slightly, from 7,353 in 2003 to 7,405.

The data released Thursday are considered projections. NHTSA plans to release final 2004 fatality figures in August.

NHTSA collects crash statistics from all 50 states.

Airlines must disclose passenger identities

WASHINGTON — The Bush administration is considering requiring foreign airlines to check the names of passengers on all flights over the United States against government watch lists.

The proposal would most affect airlines in Mexico and Canada because the majority of the hundreds of flights each day come from those countries.

Currently, foreign airlines planning to land in the United States must submit passenger and crew lists to the government within 15 minutes of departure. The names are checked against lists of people considered terrorists or who otherwise could present a danger.

Airlines must do the same for crew members on flights over the United States. Now the Transportation Security Administration is considering requiring airlines to check the names of passengers on those flights, agency spokesman Mark Haskill said Thursday.

The goal would be to add one more level of protection against hijackings, the tactic used on Sept. 11, 2001.

TSA Administrator拿出来, president of the Air Transport Association of Canada, said Canadian and U.S. officials are discussing the idea.

One question, Mackay said, would be whether U.S. authorities would want passengers checked on east-west flights that might skirt U.S. airspace or only on those flights that significantly go into U.S. territory.

Also, because Canada is developing its own no-fly list, he wondered whether U.S. airlines will face the same requirement when flying into Canadian airspace.

The TSA declined to provide details about the discussions.

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U.S. teenagers abusing prescription narcotics

Associated Press

NEW YORK — About one in five teenagers have tried prescription painkillers such as Vicodin and OxyContin to get high, with the pill-popping members of "Generation Rx" often raiding their parents' medicine cabinets, according to a study by the Partnership for a Drug-Free America.

The 17th annual study on teen drug abuse, released Thursday, found that more teens had abused a prescription painkiller in 2004 than Ecstasy, cocaine, crack or LSD. One in 11 teens had abused over-the-counter products such as cough medicine, the study reported.

"For the first time, our national study finds that today's teens are more likely to have abused a prescription painkiller to get high than they are to have experimented with a variety of illegal drugs," said Partnership Chairman Roy Bostock. "In other words, Generation Rx has arrived."

According to the study, the most popular prescription drug abused by teens was Vicodin, with 18 percent — or about 4.3 million youths — reporting they had used it to get high. OxyContin and drugs for attention-deficit disorder such as Ritalin/Adderall followed with one in 10 teens reporting they had tried them.

Chat-room guard faces charges

Lawsuit claims AOL moderator seduced teenager for two years

Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — America Online markets itself as a safe place for children, with parent-friendly features and a force of employees who monitor chat rooms and watch out for adults prowling for youngsters.

But is AOL doing enough to monitor the monitors?

That question is central to a lawsuit filed by a California teenager who claims a chat-room monitor tried to seduce her online.

The employee allegedly used his position to proposition the girl over two years, during which they exchanged graphic images, e-mails and phone calls — exactly the kind of scenario the man was hired to prevent.

AOL fired the man, Matthew D. Wright, and referred the case to the FBI and other law enforcement agencies, none of which pursued criminal charges. Attempts to locate Wright, listed in the lawsuit as a resident of Oklahoma, were unsuccessful.

The girl's lawsuit, filed April 1, is the first such claim made against an employee at AOL or any other major Internet service provider, according to online child safety organizations and law enforcement agencies. It alleges negligence and false advertising and seeks at least $25,000 from Wright, AOL and its parent, Time Warner Inc.

AOL says it closely screens its chat-room monitors and acted quickly in this case.

"This case isn't so much are they properly monitoring chat rooms for kids; this is more a question of what are they doing to monitor the qualities and qualifications of the people they're hiring," said Parry Afshar, an Internet lawyer in New Jersey who runs online safety workshops for parents and children.

Claims of online abuse by an employee are rare, said Afshar, who has heard of no more than a dozen against chat-room monitors or moderators.

"Chat-room monitors are cybersecurity lifeguards. They typically watch over the messages that participants post, and warn users when they cross the line with offensive or otherwise prohibited remarks. They can delete offending remarks, kick violators out of the chat room, even ban them from returning.

"AOL is a rarity — a major service provider that offers its own chat service, as well as one of the few online companies that have paid, full-time employees monitoring some chat rooms. The company markets its KOL, or Kids Online, chat area as a safer online experience."

It was inside one kids-only chat room where Wright, then 23, first contacted the then-15-year-old girl, who was living in Kern County, according to the lawsuit. She is now 19 and living in Los Angeles.

They grew close, according to the lawsuit, the girl gradually confiding in him about her parents' divorce and her troubles making friends. She and Wright were preparing to meet on her 17th birthday and have sex, the lawsuit said, when one of the monitor's co-workers became suspicious and blew the whistle.

AOL spokesman Nicholas Graham said monitors undergo rigorous screening, including drug testing and background checks, and receive specialized training for the area and age group they will be monitoring.

"That monitoring is itself actively monitored and scrutinized by internal compliance and investigation teams with close, longstanding working relationships with both law enforcement and children's safety advocacy groups," Graham said. "The bottom line is, AOL's self-policing and self-monitoring efforts worked."

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**The Observer**

**Blue-Gold Game a good start**

Thousands of fans will watch a football game tomorrow in Notre Dame Stadium. And not one will care which team wins.

The Blue-Gold Game, kicking off at 1:35 p.m. Saturday, is a chance for fans to quench their thirst for Irish football during the season.

But this year there’s a fresh feel surrounding the annual scrimmage that marks the end of spring practice.

It’s first look at the Irish under new coach Charlie Weis, the 1979 Notre Dame alum expected to lead the football team back to national prominence. Whether he can get the Irish back in the championship race is yet to be determined. But one thing is for sure — Weis has energized a campus, a fan base and a tradition that has been relatively lethargic for the past decade.

Saturday, four Irish legends, Joe Montana, Chris Zorich, Joe Theismann and Tim Brown, are back as honorary coaches for the game. Weis might be considered a play-calling genius, but this is the smartest thing he’s done so far.

He flew to South Bend from New England. Having four of the best players in Irish football history around for the weekend, that’s more help than just signing a few free agents.

These four men know what it feels like to win at Notre Dame. At least a little of that knowledge — and more importantly, that attitude — should rub off on the current team.

Football is the heartbeat of Notre Dame. And it’s been more than 12 years since the campus blood pumped as it does now. The joy of a fan is a different feel around campus when the Irish are winning. There is a little more to celebrate at dorm parties and waking up for that 8:30 class doesn’t seem so bad.

At least for Saturday, the campus heartbeat will be as strong as ever. There will be alums — actual and suburban alike — grilling brahminutwists in the Joyce Center lot, students dusting off their Victory March CDs and ushers making sure their yellow jackets still fit. Amongst all this typical game day commotion, there is an optimism that hasn’t been felt for too long. A belief that Notre Dame is back on top.

**The cosmos in a grain of sand**

It is July 2004. The day slowly turns to dusk as I sit at the edge of the Ganges River in Rishikesh, India. Rishikesh claims to be the yoga capital of the world. Its famous visitors include four young British men who called themselves the Beatles; they came looking for enlightenment.

Determining whether they found what they sought would demand a rather thorough analysis of late Beatles’ recordings. If I had to venture a guess I would say George came closest, with Lennon not too far behind. I myself was addicted to this sacred river not in search of enlightenment, but simply in hope of observing a ritual. I am one of a dozen or so obvious Westerners searching for a piece of the eternal until a few hundred Hindus at the edge of a sacred river.

More precisely, I am waiting for the evening puja ritual in Britain. Brahmin priests prepare the grounds for singing, chanting, prayers and the release of lighted offerings into the river. As the large crowd waits for the main ritual to begin a group of 10 or 12 small candles wrapped around a small candalabrum of sorts with a young Brahmin priest. He leads the small circle in chants and, at certain points in the ritual, each devotee drops a small bit on incense onto the burning flames.

Viewing this all through eyes formed by my Catholic upbringing, I imagine that the rising smoke symbolizes prayers traveling heavenward. Perhaps the sweet smell of incense gives the offering a aroma pleasing to the Lord.

Yet I think there is something more to work in Hindu faith and popular piety. A religion that emphasizes the presence of the Divine around every corner can infuse the world with a sense of the sacred that might appear foreign to our Western perception and its more trans­cendent frame of reference. In this blurring of distinction it should not surprise us that the profound and the profane can be so “closely” connected. Like this ritual, I find that the cosmic and the mundane are not entirely foreign to one another.

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Celebrate Earth Day through positive action

Earth Day is a time when we examine our impact on the planet and make personal resolutions to do better. "The Observer" column which ran in the April 21 issue of The Observer was about the need for increased awareness and action. It was written by Bill O'Leary, who came out and said it in his syndicated column this January. We should be concerned about the culture wars raging throughout the USA and blaming the world's problems on "secular forces that see any Christian public display as an affront." Or ask House Majority Leader Tom DeLay, who wrote in a letter to the Traditional Values Coalition that "for the last 40 years, the anti-Christian left in America has waged a sullen assault against faith in God, traditional moral norms, the role of law and the traditional marriage-based family." O'Leary and DeLay are right about one thing: There is undoubtedly a cultural war taking place in the United States, one that will have repercussions for generations to come. But it was not started by godless liberals, as they would have you believe. It was started by a group of extremists who want the world created in their image and who are becoming more influential by the day.

In the summer I have spent writing this volume column, my research has been on the Internet and at dailyPennsylvanian.com and in a 19-column column by Jennifer Weiner, of being anti-Christian. That is not the case. Indeed, I believe that Christianity has often been a force for good in modern times. Christians led the civil rights movement, they are active in front of many of the country's major charities. Many are led by their faith in wonderful acts of kindness and compassion. I attended a Quaker school for 14 years, and I saw there the incredible power that Christianity can have to change the world for the better.

My problem is with the forces of evangelical Christianity, ever more prevalent in the highest levels of government and media, that are seeking to remake the country as a theocracy. These people don't want you to be able to live your life the way you want to lead it; they don't want you to have access to anything they personally disagree with. They don't want your children to learn about evolution, and all too many of them don't want your children to learn about evolution, too.

In a column entitled "Suicide by Secularism," which ran in The Washington Post in this past Sunday, commentator Os Guinness wrote about what he perceives as an increasing secular-Itary that threatens the very survival of European and American civilization. What many of us have yet to discover is that one of the most important actions we can take for the planet has to do with the environment. Most animals raised today for food are forced to live inside huge warehouses known as factory farms. Almost 98 percent of egg-laying hens are restricted to cages too tiny for them to spread their wings. They're often starved for up to two weeks to shock their bodies into another egg-laying cycle. These birds are never able to partake in natural behavior, breathe fresh air or even go outside. They are deformed and treated selectively bred and given loads of antibiotics to reach market weight as quickly as possible. This process takes only 45 days, twice as fast as it did in the 1950s. Forced rapid growth means an immense amount of suffering, including heart problems and painful leg disorders. These chickens, like their egg-laying counterparts, never escape the stench of their own feces nor do they step foot outdoors.

Pigs are also intensively confined in factory farms. Mother pigs are held in crates too narrow for them to turn around or move to change direction, while their piglets have their tails cut off and are castrated, both without painkillers. Right here at the Notre Dame campus, several animals raised for food by using dining services not only to offer more vegetarian meals, but to stop purchasing the most abusive animal products. It's hard to imagine a better way to celebrate Earth Day.

Josh Balk
Outreach Coordinator
The Human Society of the United States
April 21

U-WIRE

Culture war underway in the U.S.

It was reported in The Tennessean that last August Judge Barry Tatim, from Lebanon, Tenn., ordered Felipa Berrera to learn English. The consequence of she did not was losing her child. The mother is currently in a battle to keep her parental rights for other reasons, and while there may be cause to remove Berrera's child from her home, the language she speaks is not one of them. Parents have the right to raise their children in the manner that they feel is appropriate as long as this does not endanger the well-being and development of the child.

For that reason, the only cause to remove a child from a home should be an action that does endanger the welfare of the child. Unfortunately, Tatim has crossed the line by ordering Berrera to learn English. It has not yet been decided in other courts if Berrera is guilty of neglect or abuse, and if that is the case then her child should be placed elsewhere. If the court finds that she is not guilty of these acts then the language she speaks should not be the deciding factor.

There are many people who are concerned about the family and extended family, family history and unique traditions of some of them. Language is a part of the family history and tradition, and a language other than English should not be looked on as less important in the family teachings of a child.

The family heritage and support system is not something that should be taken lightly, and should always be considered when there is the possibility of removing a child from a home. In many ways a child's identity is related to his or her upbringing and the influence of the child's family.

There are unique situations for families from various cultural backgrounds who move to the United States, but those situations could have a greater influence in creating a positive outcome for the child than being taken from his or her home in order to be placed with a family that seems to better fit the mold.

In an English-speaking country, it would be considered useful for a child to learn the language. However, that does not mean that English should be the only language the child speaks, or that the parents should be fluent in the language.

Forcing someone to either learn a new language or lose their child is not only unreasonable to the parents, it is unfair for the child.

This column originally appeared on April 21 in SideLines, the daily newspaper of Middle State Tennessee University. The views expressed in this column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer.

Want to be a columnist, copy editor or illustrator for Viewpoint?

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Anti-American, or just anti-Bush?

Sandi Van Orden
Middle State Tennessee University

It was reported in The Tennessean that last August Judge Barry Tatim, from Lebanon, Tenn., ordered Felipa Berrera to learn English. The consequence of she did not was losing her child. The mother is currently in a battle to keep her parental rights for other reasons, and while there may be cause to remove Berrera's child from her home, the language she speaks is not one of them. Parents have the right to raise their children in the manner that they feel is appropriate as long as this does not endanger the well-being and development of the child.

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Bajawalla hits Battle of the Bands and Pigtostal

Notre Dame alumni Laurence Santiago, David Miller, Peter Miller and Mike Miamone and junior Bobby Seus from Station One reform and head back to the stage with a new name

By MOLLY GRIFFIN
Scene Writer

The lives of the members of Bajawalla have taken different directions since most of the primary members graduated, but they are reuniting for Notre Dame's Battle of the Bands and a few other performances before they spend the summer touring Chicago.

The band's upbeat performances and catchy songs made it a prominent figure on the campus music scene, and the band survived graduation, changing members and a range of monikers in order to return to performing this weekend.

Members of Bajawalla include vocalist Lawrence Santiago, guitarist David Miller, drummer/trumpeter Peter Miller, keyboardist Mike Miamone and bassist Bobby Seus. Justin Branden will be joining the band for this weekend's shows and for the summer. Lee Elsey will fill in as bassist for this weekend's shows while Bobby Seus is studying abroad in Dublin.

The band formed in spring 2000 and has gone through a variety of names, including the Island Boys and Station One, and they won NAZV in 2002. The band has changed lineups many times since then, and its current lineup was solidified in September 2003 when Bobby Seus joined the band.

The band took a break so that the members, many of whom had graduated, could pursue other things in their lives. Lawrence Santiago pursued a modeling and acting career and just finished work on his Ph.D. in Organic Chemistry. Peter Miller went to medical school while Bobby Seus continued to study music at Notre Dame.

While they were all focused on their various careers this past year, they decided to reunite for the summer because, according to Peter Miller, "There was a void in all of our lives during this break — music. There was still a dream in all of us — pursuing music with full force and trying to make it. So we decided this is the summer to pursue our dream."

The musicians are currently in the process of booking shows and continue to work promoting their shows and honing their performance skills.

Bajawalla has a distinct sound, somewhat reminiscent of surf music from California, and is not exactly the kind of music that you would expect to come out of Indiana. The variety of performers that influenced the band might have something to do with this geographical anomaly.

"We have a very eclectic sound, drawing on influences from Rob Marley, Phish, Sublime, Ben Harper, punk, ska, bluegrass, blues, jazz, funk and reggae," David Miller said.

"Many people compare us to a fusion of Sublime, Maroon 5 and Ben Harper to name a few."

Its songs, especially ones like "Cinderella," are catchy and sound extremely polished and radio-ready. The band has played in many of the main South Bend venues, including Lula's, the State Theatre, Reekers, Legends and Club 23. It typically draws somewhere between 100 and 250 people to its shows, and its members are all moving to the Chicago area for the summer in order to pursue music full time and to tour.

"I'm really excited that we're really just jumping right into it because we haven't played together in a long time," Seus said. "I'm confident that we can do some great things."

Downloads from the band's first album "The Breaks" can be found on its Web site, located at www.bajawalla.com or www.liceund.com/bajawalla.

The band has been advised by former executives and vice presidents from major record labels like Columbia, and has been encouraged by its mentors to continue playing and recording music.

Bajawalla will be performing at the Notre Dame Battle of the Bands on Friday, April 20 (check their Web site to find out what time they play). It will also perform at Pigtostal on Saturday, April 21 with The Overtone, Dave Mosian, Da Natural and others, and it will be at the State Theatre from 9 p.m. to midnight the same day with The Uplogs, Dave Mosian, Da Natural and DJ Kirsh. It will be touring the Chicago area this summer, and information about dates and locations will be available on its Web site as well.

Contact Molly Griffin at mgriffin@nd.edu

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Michael Tolcher covers diverse hits to Tag Team's "Whoomp, There It Is"

By BOB COSTA
Scene Writer

Although he has never visited Notre Dame's storied campus, Michael Tolcher feels he has been there a million times in his mind. A popular emerging singer-songwriter and lifelong Fighting Irish fan, Tolcher excited about playing at Legend's Hideaway.

Irishpalooza

By BOB COSTA
Scene Writer

Since the late 1970s, "Saturday Night Live" has been considered the premier television show on which an up-and-coming artist can appear. But, if you ask many Notre Dame students, the real place to see hot, but still relatively anonymous, rock bands is on Fox's "The O.C.,” which broadcasts every Thursday. From Death Cab for Cutie to Modest Mouse to The Killers, "The O.C." creator Josh Schwartz has been instrumental in building the momentum behind the recent indie rock resurgence through his television show.

"One of the trendiest, biggest, up-and-coming bands I have seen on ["The O.C."] were The Walkmen,” said freshman Phil Drew as an avid watcher of "The O.C.". "I've been enjoying seeing bands, kind of out of the mainstream, get some props on TV."

The Walkmen, who recently released their second album "Bow and Arrow,"

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Bajawalla may be a new name to the Notre Dame campus, but it's not a new sound. The band has played under the name Station One at Lula's, the State Theater, Reekers, Legends, Club 23 and at Battle of the Bands in previous years.
Saturday evening as one of the headlining acts in the Student Union Board's annual concert.

"When I was growing up, I had all the interlocking-NF sweatsuits and harem pants," Tolcher said in an interview earlier this week. "[Notre Dame] was the place I always thought I'd go. I really identify with the community spirit and sense of spirituality." 

"I was a completely different world," and we're down to a core group of four members that I was growing up, but hey, it paid really well and was lots of fun." 

"It was just a completely different world, and we were in the middle of a long tour, but hey, it paid really well and was lots of fun." 

Hamilton Leithauser 
The Walkmen

"We've been together for about a year and four months. Tolcher is known to cover a diverse array of tunes in concert, from Buffalo Springfield's "For What It's Worth" to Tribe's "Wooly Bully" which earned a raucous ovation for Tolcher at Muhlenberg College last week. Notre Dame will surely be exposed to a montage of Tolcher's hip-hop, soul and rock influences.

"Tolcher is eager to finally come to Notre Dame tomorrow evening and see what Notre Dame is really all about. His music has already been playing on WVF and being spread around dorms through numerous CD samplers and MP3 files. "There might be conflict around the world, but our group of people on Notre Dame's campus will be together, enjoying life and all that's to come, just for a little while," Tolcher said. "It's going to be a great party. I just want to have a little that vibe, join that vibe, and feel it myself. I hope to leave Notre Dame inspired."

Contact Bob Costa at costac@fnud.edu

Photo courtesy of www.michaelmtolcher.com

The Walkmen and Ambulance LTD will be playing at Legends tomorrow evening with co-headliners Ambulance LTD and Michael Tolcher. The show starts at 9 p.m.

Hamilton Leithauser, the lead vocalist and guitarist for The Walkmen, spoke with The Observer in a phone interview earlier this week. For him, being on "I was really weird because lots of people were in this room with us, a bunch of extras, and all acting like they were huge fans whenever the director said action," Leithauser said. "It was just a completely different world, and we were in the middle of a long tour, but hey, it paid really well and was lots of fun." 

"I was growing up, but hey, it paid really well and was lots of fun." 

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"I was growing up, but hey, it paid really well and was lots of fun." 

"I was growing up, but hey, it paid really well and was lots of fun."
Philly's starting pitcher Jon Lieber throws a pitch in a game against the Rockies. The Phillies won, 6-3.

The Observer classifies every business day from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Diane Dave office, 20 South Dining Hall. (Deadline is 3:30 p.m. All ads must be prepaid.) The charge is $5 per character per day, including all spaces. The Observer reserves the right to edit all classifieds for content without incurring refunds.

Philly's starting pitcher Jon Lieber throws a pitch in a game against the Rockies. The Phillies won, 6-3.

Losing ground in the Tampa Bay Devil Rays victory over the Texas Rangers.

Brazelton (1-1) allowed two runs and four hits in 6 1-3 innings and struck out five. He is off to a 2-3 scoreless innings, Danyz Ranz came on for the ninth. He put runners on first and third with two outs before getting Garret Anderson to line out to center for his first save.

Mark Teixeira and Kevin Mench homered for the Rangers. Kenny Rogers (0-2) gave up three runs on seven hits and two walks over six innings. He struck out four batters fell to 8-2 in 11 career starts against the Devil Rays.

Tampa Bay scored twice in the seventh, but Jonny Gomes had a leadoff single in the ninth. Tampa Bay's single when Hidalgo made an errant throw attempting to get Gomes at third. Halladay gave up four runs on seven hits in six innings against Nick Green's single to make it 3-2.

Texas had just one base runner — a second-inning walk to David Dellucci before Teixeira hit a solo homer with two outs in the fourth. Benny Rodriguez worked a hitless inning on both ends to keep the lead.

Gotay got caught stealing home on a botched squeeze play when Troy Glaus twirled on his one-out bunt attempt in the sixth. Gotay gloved ball to draw-in second baseman Mike Lowell who had two runners in scoring position.

Gottay bounced to draw-in second baseman Carl Crawford who had two runners in scoring position.

John Buck and Emil Brown homered, hit his career shutout and his first victory since last Aug. 26 at Denver and it was also his first nine-inning complete game since 2001.

Chicago had two runners on in an inning three times, but Carpenter also retired 11 in a row at one point early in the game, kept escaping.

Twins, Royals, Cardinals, Cardinals:

The Cardinals broke open a one-run game in the eighth inning on homers by Larry Walker and Rolen, who are as expedient as his usual .228.

Rolen homered, hit his career double and had two runners on in the sixth. Carpenter also retired 11 in a row at one point early in the game, kept escaping.

Twins, Royals, Cardinals:

Carpenter struck out six in the ninth inning on homers by Larry Walker and Rolen, 3-2 at home against the Cardinals and after the Twins last six wins and the Cardinals denied them a sweep of a two-game series.

Carpenter, who broke left-handed pitcher Jon Lieber ended his season-long homer drought to back another four-game winner in the Cardinals. St. Louis Cardinals victory. "Hitting isn't hard. If you make good contact, then those that aren't elevated in the zone and keep people off-balance, you're going to have success."

Scott Rolen homered, hit his 300th career double and had three RBIs for St. Louis. Rolen, the cleanup hitter most of the season, was moved down to No. 3 for only the second time, and his big day raised his average to only .228.

"My last at-bat I was able to relax a little bit," Rolen said. "Not until you relax do you realize how much you're pressing."

The Cardinals, who broke open a one-run game in the eighth inning on homers by Larry Walker and Rolen, are 3-2 at home against the Cardinals and after the Twins last six wins and the Cardinals denied them a sweep of a two-game series.

The Twins, however, learned the game that shotstop Nomar Garciaparra should be out two to three months because of a torn groin, hasn't had a sweep in St. Louis since 1998.

"That's tough for us, regardless of what he's hitting," pitch­er Ryan Dempster said of Garciaparra's injury. "Anytime you lose a guy like that, it's tough."

Carpenter (3-1) struck out six and walked in his sixth career shutout and first since Sept. 4, 2001, against the New York Yankees. It was his 14th career complete game and first since last Aug. 26 at Denver and it was also his first nine-inning complete game since 2001.

Chicago had two runners on in an inning three times, but Carpenter also retired 11 in a row at one point early in the game, kept escaping.

Twins, Royals, Cardinals:

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ND WOMEN'S CREW

Rowers will take on Ivy League teams in regatta

By KYLIE CASSILY
Sports Writer

Springtime along the Charles River in Boston — normally punctuated by cries from nearby Fenway Park — will be interrupted by the crews of Notre Dame, Harvard and Yale this weekend.

The Irish women's crew team will travel to Massachusetts to face off in the regatta along the Charles before heading south to nearby Worcester for the Big East Championships. Both regattas will present the Irish women with some of their toughest competition of the season.

At the prestigious Ivy League schools of Harvard and Yale, rowing has been a tradition that was established decades prior to the formation of many other varsity crews. Thus history and past accolades do not scare Irish coach Martin Stone.

Stone and his team will cruise into New England expecting to emerge with victories over the Ivies and the best the Big East has to offer. His confidence in his team prevails any doubt of defeat to present itself.

"We are Notre Dame," Stone said. "We are expecting to emerge with victories over the Ivies and the best the Big East has to offer. His confidence in his team prevails any doubt of defeat to present itself.

Currently, the unranked Irish varsity eight is fighting for its NCAA-eligible status. A victory over Harvard and Yale followed by a Big East Championship would place the Irish in a much stronger position in the committee's eyes leading up to the Central Regionals.

This year is the first year that the Big East organization will host a true championship. The league organized what it called a "Challenge" five years ago. Syracuse emerged victorious for the first three years that the Challenge was held, with the Irish finishing in second each time.

But last year the Irish headed east to knock Syracuse off its pedestal and succeeded. The Big East Challenge victory was one of many wins that year that propelled the varsity eight into the NCAs.

With the first Big East Championship looming, Syracuse is yet again the major threat to an Irish victory. The Orangemen are ranked 16th nationally and seek to garner their fourth Big East title in five years.

Stone feels with a victory over Syracuse, his varsity eight will be able to push its way back into the top-20 national rankings, yet another key step towards an NCAA bid. And it will all begin on Saturday if the Irish women can handle the storied Crimson on their home river.

Contact Kyle Cassidy at kcassily@nd.edu

SMC TENNIS

Belles snap four-game skid

Bethel College falls to Saint Mary's in close 5-4 matchup

By TIM DOUGHERTY
Sports Writer

After an agonizing two weeks of losses against a brutal conference schedule of the best the MIAA had to offer — Hope, Kalamazoo, Albion and Calvin — the Belles looked outside their conference Thursday for a victory to lift their confidence.

They snapped their four-game skid by defeating Bethel College 5-4 despite the absence of two regulars.

"Cassie did really well. She really hung with it. That was really awesome because she's never played that competitive a match before."

Kristin Palombo
Belles co-captain

Quaglia also won her No. 6 singles match with veteran composer. Up 4-1 in the third set, Quaglia lost four straight points to fall behind 5-4, but, unfazed by the sudden m o m e n t u m swing, she quick­ly recovered to take the next and final two points for the match.

"Cassie did really well," Palombo said. "She really hung with it. That was really awesome because she's never played that competitive a match before. She didn't let her nerves get to her when she started getting down."

In Palombo's absence, sopho­more Caile McDavid and Caile McFadyen dominated No. 1 doubles with a 9-0 showing.

Palombo said the long overdue victory was critical for the team as a whole.

"Everyone felt a lot more relieved and felt 'oh, we can do this now.'" she said. "I mean we expected to win because we've always beaten them in the past, but it's definitely nice to know we can win a match again. It was good to get some confidence back in us."

The victory brings the Saint Mary's record to 5-9, and the Belles remain tied for fifth in the confer­ence at 1-4.

This Saturday the Belles will trav­el to Grand Rapids, Mich., for the second time in one week to face on the Saints of Aquinas College (8-2) in another non-conference match. Saint Mary's has dominated the Saints the past two years winning 8-1 last year and 9-0 in 2003. Both dominated Tri-State University, their only common foe this year, as the Belles won 9-0 and the Saints beat them 8-1. Sull, Palombo holds the same expectations as she did for the match against Bethel, as the three-time defending tournament champions are again looking to their second consecutive non-conference match to steer them back towards a solid tour­nament showing.

"We're just going to try and get some confidence back and get on a good roll going into the (MIAA) tournament next weekend," she said.

Contact Tim Dougherty at tdougher@nd.edu

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MEN'S GOLF

Irish host Big East tourney

By KEN FOWLER
Sports Writer

For the Irish, this weekend's Big East Championship is a time to play the role of selfish host.

Sure, they'll be cordial to the competition, but head coach Jim Kubinski wants the team to run away from its opponents as fast and as far as possible.

"Our goal is going to be to try and get off to a fast start," he said. "Whenever you're the top seed, if you get off to a fast start, you can take away from the other teams' confidence."

After a dismal showing at the Aggie Invitational in College Station, Texas, the team returns home to the Warren Golf Course this weekend to host its most important tournament of the season.

"I think we've got plenty of momentum coming off this spring we've had," Kubinski said. "The Aggie Invitational] was just a bump in the road."

Despite Notre Dame's last-place showing in Texas, Kubinski said the defending champions head into the tournament "confident and upbeat."

Two Irish juniors Mark Baldwin and Eric Deutsch. The trio's play will be important tournament of the spring.

Despite Notre Dame's highest rankings in school history, the Irish are the No. 2 seed for the Big East. The Scarlet Knights won four tournaments this fall and leads the Big East in scoring per round. Rutgers' senior Brent Pittman leads the Big East in scoring average at 72.67 shots per round.

The winner of the tournament receives an automatic bid into one of the three NCAA Regional Championships. The Southeastern Conference will host the East Regional at the Golf Club of Tennessee, while Notre Dame will host the Central Regional at Warren. Stanford will host the West Regional at the Stanford Golf Course. Each Regional will take place from Thursday, May 19, through Saturday, May 21.

If the Irish want to play off on their own course, they may have to win this week. A strong spring season that included a victory at the Nokia Sugar Bowl/Fulance Invitational may propel the Irish into the Regional field if they do not defend their title, but a victory this week would take any doubt the team would have.

Also part of the reason Coach Kubinski wants the team to get out to a fast start. With rain, snow and wind in the forecast for the weekend, he wants his team to be ahead wire-to-wire in the event that the tournament is stopped and shortened.

"If they shorten the even from 54 holes — if you're trailing at that point, you're out of luck," he said. "If a tournament goes according to schedule and actually lasts the scheduled three rounds, two will be played on Saturday and one on Sunday. Irish golfers are slated to tee off between 8:50 and 9:30 a.m. each morning.

Notes:

* Both the men's and women's championships are this weekend at Warren. The Big East rotates which tournament tees off from the first tee and which tees off from the third tee last year. The women began on No. 1, so this year the men will.
* The Irish beat Virginia Tech by six strokes last year to win the ACC Championships. In fact, Notre Dame won three consecutive Big East Titles from 2001 through 2003.
* Last year, the women began on No. 1, so this year the men will.

Contact Ken Fowler at kfowler@nd.edu

MLB

Angels rally to defeat Indians in 6-5 victory

Associated Press

ANAHEIM, Calif. — Orlando Cabrera homered leading off the bottom of the 10th inning to cap the Los Angeles Angels rally from a 5-0 deficit in a 6-5 win over the Cleveland Indians on Thursday night.

Cabrera hit a 3-1 pitch into the lower seats in the left field corner against Jason Davis (1-1), the seventh Cleveland pitcher.

Francisco Rodrigues (1-0) pitched a perfect 10th inning for the victory.

The Angels tied the game at 5 on Garret Anderson's bloo single to center off Bob Wickman with two outs in the ninth. Darin Erstad walked and was sacrificed to second by Juan Rivera before Vladimir Guerrero struck out. The blown save was Wickman's second in six tries. The Indians led 5-0 after a two-out, three-run double by Jose Mesa Jr. in the first and a two-run homer by Ronnie Belliard off Jarrod Washburn.

Cleveland starter Kevin Millwood gave up three runs and eight hits in 5 1-3 innings, struck out five and walked two. The Indians have lost all four of Millwood's starts.

Washburn gave up five runs and 10 hits in five innings and struck out five. The left-han der had no decision in each of his four starts — all of them coming in extra innings games.

The Indians had 13 hits, just their third game this season with 10 or more. They had been limited to four hits or less three times in their first 13 games.

Joe Molina's RBI single off Bob Fosse cut the Angels' deficit to 5-4 in the eighth.

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Major League Baseball

American League East

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American League West

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National League East

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National League Central

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National League West

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The Chicago Cubs' Nomar Garciaparra is helped off the field after pulling a groin muscle during an at-bat Wednesday night. The shortstop is expected to be out 2-3 months.

Garciaiparra out 2-3 months with injury

Associated Press

ST. LOUIS — Chicago Cubs shortstop Nomar Garciaparra will be sidelined at least two to three months because of a torn left groin.

Garciaparra was placed on the 15-day disabled list Thursday, one day after he hurt himself while leaving the batter's box during a game against St. Louis. Cubs trainer Mark O’Neal said the muscle pulled away from the bone.

"The Cubs, doctors and Garciaparra will decide in the next 10 days whether an operation is needed," Garciaparra said.

"The surgery is really going to be determined by something that Nomar wants to do," O’Neal said. "We’re trying to make a determination of what would be the most predictable outcome."

If Garciaparra opts for surgery, O’Neal said the procedure should be done fairly soon so the muscle heals properly.

"The Cubs, who lost 4-0 to the Cardinals on Thursday without either of their opening-day middle infielders, recalled Ronny Cedeno from Triple-A Iowa. Cedeno was batting .348 with three home runs and six RBIs in 13 games in the minors."

"It’s a setback," manager Dusty Baker said. "We don’t know yet what is going to happen. We’ll have to wait and see."

Garciaparra was carried off the field after grounding into a double play and collapsing just in front of the batter’s box in the third inning. Garciaparra is hitting just .157 with 10 starts and five pinch hits this season.

"I’m not going to blame the rain," Nomar said.

"The field was in great condition, the grounds crew did a great job, and the field was definitely playable and all of that stuff I just slipped."

The injury is the latest in a series of setbacks for Garciaparra since he won at batting titles in 1999 and 2000 with the Boston Red Sox. He was limited to 83 at-bats in 2001 after wrist surgery and he missed more than two months last year with Achilles’ tendinitis.

IN BRIEF

Armstrong struggles in Tour de Georgia

HOME, Ga. — Lance Armstrong has plenty of work to do if he wants to win a seventh straight Tour de France.

Armstrong finished a disappointing ninth in Thursday’s time trial at the Tour de Georgia, nearly two minutes behind the winner in a go-all-out style of cycling he usually dominates.

Another American, Floyd Landis, won the third stage in 59 minutes, 58.69 seconds. The other spots on the podium also were claimed by U.S. riders — David Zabriskie in second and Christopher Baldwin third.

Shockingly, Armstrong was not among them. Racing in a light rain, he failed to make up ground on the climb up Mount Alto and had no chance of closing the gap by the time he pedaled onto the slick streets of downtown Rome.

"Clearly, I’m disappointed," said Armstrong, who could only manage a time of 41:44.87. "I didn’t feel great, but I thought I’d do a better ride."

Paxson fired as GM

CLEVELAND — Their shocking collapse complete, the Cleveland Cavaliers began to rebuild on Thursday — from the top.

Jim Paxson was fired as the club’s general manager, dismissed by new owner Dan Gilbert one day after the Cavs failed to make the playoffs.

"It’s the greatest day of my life," Gilbert said, laughing when told of his new title.

Another American, John Daly, was hired as the team’s new general manager.

"You’ve got a lot of work to do that you can make some mistakes," Gilbert said. "It’s going to be a great, but you’ve got to make some mistakes."

Gilbert’s decision came exactly one month after the Cavaliers’ chaotic season ended short of the NBA playoffs for the seventh consecutive year.

Expected for weeks, Paxson’s firing came exactly one month after coach Paul Silas was fired with 18 games left by Gilbert, the online mortgage banker who has had a rough introduction into operating a pro sports franchise.

Singh ties course record at Houston Open

HUMBLE, Texas — Fresh from inclusion in the World Golf Hall of Fame, Vijay Singh tied the course record with an 8-under-par 64 for a one-shot lead Thursday after the first round of the Houston Open.

The 42-year-old Fiji, No. 2 in the world rankings, extended his streak of par or better to 56 holes at the Redstone Golf Club, where he won the event a year ago.

Singh laughed when told of his bogey-free string going back to last year, when he finished 11 under and won by two shots.

"Don’t mention that," he said. "I struck the ball really well today, had a very good feel of the greens and my speed was good, and when you do that you can make some birdies."

After Singh came John Daly, who fired 69 to tie for second. Daly was 15 shots better than anyone else in the field.

"I struck the ball really well today," Singh said. "I was hitting my irons very well, and I was putting good.

"I really enjoyed today. It's a beautiful day out here."

Armstrong, who has won the Tour de France seven times, is not the only man in cycling's drug-ridden past to be fighting for his career.

"It's definitely going to be a shot in the dark," Gilbert said. "You’ve got to be a little bit of a gambler."

Singh is a leader in the anti-doping movement, and he said he was pleased with the response to his example.

"I thought it was a great idea," Singh said. "I think it’s a great step for us to take."

"I want to get this out of the way. I want to move on."

The 35-year-old's previous best at the Houston Open was a third-place finish in 2005.
SMC Golf

Team to compete at Pine Hills

Saint Mary’s golfers set to wind up their outstanding season

By ANNA FRICANO
Sports Writer

For the three seniors on the Saint Mary’s Golf team, this weekend will mark the last regular season tournament in which they will compete. The Belles will travel to Baldwin-Wallace College in Berea, Ohio this afternoon for the annual Yellowjacket Invitation.

The event, which begins tomorrow at 9 a.m., is a two-day competition taking place at the Pine Hills Golf Course in Hinckley, Ohio.

Last year’s event, which the Belles did not attend, featured such schools as Wilmington College, Capital University and John Carroll University. Few of the schools that will be at the event are likely to pose any major competition for the Belles, who are hoping to take the tournament.

Conference competitor Olivet College will be at the invitational and the Belles are hoping to perform well against them. "Olivet is in our conference and we’d like to beat them," said Julia Adams. "The other teams we don’t face much." "The most difficult thing for Saint Mary’s this weekend may be to focus on the task at hand and not look too far ahead of the NCAA Championships, which will take place in a couple of weeks. The team is intent on doing everything necessary to get themselves ready for the event. "We know that we need to focus on this weekend because each round helps us prepare for nationals ... but we have to be able to play well this weekend too," Adams said.

"Olivet is in our conference and we’d like to beat them. The other teams we don’t face much." Julia Adams
Belles golfer

"We know that we need to focus on this weekend because each round helps us prepare for nationals." Julia Adams
Belles golfer

The Belles want to make sure that they don’t get too ahead of themselves so as to compromise the task at hand, especially considering the unfavorable weather conditions that they will most likely be facing. For seniors Julia Adams, Chrissy Dunham and Stefanie Simmerman, this weekend will be something more than just one more tournament before nationals. All three women have been involved with the golf program throughout the duration of their time at Saint Mary’s, and all three have contributed significantly to the growth of the program in recent years.

Saint Mary’s Golf team was named to the first team All-MIAA for the 2004 fall season. She has shown immense improvement in the past three seasons, with her average score dropping from a 90.6 in the fall of 2002 to 81.73 in the fall of 2004. Adams has taken numerous MIAA honors in the past few years, including being named All-MIAA first team in 2003 and 2004. She was an MIAA medalist for the 2004 season, and a conference tournament medalist in 2002 and 2004.

Simmerman rounds out the trio, having been named first team All-MIAA for the past four seasons. She was a conference co-medalist in 2003, and finished in twelfth place at the 2004 NCAA Tournament, and won the national title in 2003. All three girls have earned three varsity letters so far for the team this spring, particularly because the team only returned five players from last year’s championship squad, not to mention bringing in a new coach who was a rookie herself. The Belles last played a week ago tomorrow, against conference leader Alma College. Alma was too much for Saint Mary’s, blanking them in both ends of a double-header by the score of 4-0 on Tuesday and Kalamazoo College, 6-0 on Wednesday.

Senior pitcher Leigh Ann LaFave, who scored twice, and drove in three runs on three hits, including a double and a home run. As a team, Alma had four round-trippers, five extra-base hits, and no errors as opposed to the four miscues by Saint Mary’s. After Rockford College, the Belles will finish out their season with two home games against MIAA conference opponents. Olivet College (17-11, 6-6) on Tuesday and Kalamazoo College (12-21, 2-18) on Thursday, both of which will start at 3:30 p.m.

Contact Anna Fricano at africanoJ@nd.edu

SMC SOFTBALL

Belles are hopeful for happy ending

After finishing 0-12 in MIAA, team needs a win to close season

By TOM STILES
Sports Writer

Saint Mary’s (5-21, 0-12) will try to wind up its season on a positive note this Saturday afternoon at 1 p.m. against non-MIAA conference foe Rockford College.

The Belles are still fighting to get that elusive sixth win of the season despite their inability to get off the snide for an 18-game losing streak.

It has been a frustrating season for the Belles, especially coming off a successful 2004 campaign in which the team won its first MIAA postseason title. Dealing with adversity has been difficult for this year’s team, particularly because the team only returned five players from last year’s championship squad, not to mention bringing in a new coach who was a rookie herself.

The Belles last played a week ago tomorrow, against conference leader Alma College. Alma was too much for Saint Mary’s, blanking them in both ends of a double-header by the score of 4-0 on Tuesday and Kalamazoo College, 6-0 on Wednesday.

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Contact Tom Stiles at stilesL@nd.edu
ND Women's Track & Field

Irish women continue tournament running

By RYAN KIEFER
Sports Writer

With the Big East Championship meet two weeks away, the Notre Dame women's track team can quite literally see the finish line.

The main concern now is getting there as fast as possible.

After sending a group of athletes to the highly competitive Mt. SAC relays last weekend, the Irish will spend this weekend in Champaign, Ill., at the University of Illinois for the Central Collegiates meet.

The conference meet was very much in the minds of the Irish coaches when they made the lineup for Saturday. Notre Dame will keep its best distance runners home this weekend, allowing them to turn their focus to the Big East meet, where the Irish will be looking to overtake defending champion Pittsburgh. Distance coach Tim Connelly explained his team's strategy.

"They (athletes staying home this weekend) are qualified all the way to NCAA's, so we probably won't have them run again until conference," Connelly said.

The off week also gives the runners a chance to recover from last weekend's intense competition.

"A weekend like we had in California (last weekend) takes a toll on the girls, not only with the competition, but with the travel. We were really careful with runners like Stephanie Madrigal and Sunni O'Leary (today) this week. In fact they won't have their first hard workout until today," Connelly said.

Sprints coach John Millar is expected to employ the same strategy.

Sprinters such as Maryann Erigha, who won both the 100 and 200 last weekend, will be resting.

As for the athletes heading to Illinois Saturday, the goals will be the same as they have been in previous weeks — hitting conference and NCAA regional qualifying times, establishing relay combinations and gaining racing experience. The Irish have posted 25 Big East qualifying marks to this point, ten of which also met the standard for the NCAA regional.

The team will place a special focus Saturday on the middle-distance and technical events such as long jump and high jump.

Connelly felt that these events needed competition every weekend to stay sharp.

He was also excited about Stacey Cowan's return to the high jump event. The junior All-American missed the Mt. SAC meet due to a Death in the family.

Connelly also mentioned that the focus is strictly individual this weekend and that there will be time for team competition later in the season.

"We won't start looking for teams until the Big East meet," he said. "We have to get kids qualified first."

Contact Ryan Kiefer at rkiefer@nd.edu
Men's Tennis

No. 1 seed Irish take on St. John's

By KATE GALES
Associate Sports Editor

A lot has changed in the Big East, but the strength of the Irish remains the same.

Notre Dame enters the No. 1 seed Irish take on top seed after finishing the

Irish remains the same.

regular season 16-7 and

weaker this year, as it will be

on the

field as it has

for most of the sports that

of winning than

come into the

East, but the strength of the

Miami and Virginia Tech are

the regular

not as strong a

a better chance

injured in the

Bayliss said.

Bayliss explained. "So you

have to submit it—-if you have

an irry player, say like Brent,

you have to put

him at his

normal spot and

then you have to

hope he can

play." Eric Langen-

kamp was also questionable for

the Irish after

he was unable to travel to the

University of South Florida; the tour-

ament's venue, with the team
due to illness. However,

Bayliss is confident that

Langenkamp is ready to play.

"We had a litt­

tle scare," he

said. "Eric didn't

make the trip with us, he was

hospitalized Tuesday evening

with some sort

of intestinal virus that has

come and gone, and he flew up

separately and practiced today

—he looks good,

I think he's

okay."

The Irish take on St. John's

after riding a bye into the

Storm.

Bobby Bayliss

Irish coach

"If we can win the
doubles point and

start off in control,

I think they're going

to realize

they have to do

something special to beat us," he said.

"The second key is just to

play within ourselves. It's

the end of the year, you're not

going to invent any new shots

—I think staying with the

fundamentals has worked for

us all year really will be key."

The transition to muggy Tampu was Bayliss' main con-

cern, but the Irish arrived in

Florida on Wednesday and

managed two days of practice

before today.

"We went in yesterday,"

Bayliss said. "The biggest

thing is just to get used to the

heat, we've had two days—

we're pretty kind of

burned.

The Irish began defending

...their title at 9 a.m. today.

Contact Kate Gales at

kgales@nd.edu

Irish Women's Golf

Irish women look for tourney trifecta

By KEVIN BRENNAN
Sports Writer

The Irish will look to capture

their third straight Big East Championship this weekend at

Notre Dame's Warren Golf Course.

The tournament, which kicks

off Saturday morning, is in a

"five count four" format. Each

of the four participating teams

sends five golfers, and the top

four individual scores for each

team in each round combine to

form the team's total for the

round.

Senior Karen Lotta, juniors

Katie Brophy and Suzie Hayes,

sophomore Noriko Nakazaki,

and freshman Jane Lee will tee

it up for the top-seeded Irish.

Third-seeded Georgetown

and fourth-seeded Boston

College will try to stand in the

way of Notre Dame's third con-

secutive title. The biggest chal-

lenge for the Irish should come

from second-seeded St. Johns,

though.

"St. John's will be our closest

competition," Notre Dame head

coach Debby King said. "They

have really improved this year."

Golfstat.com ranks St. John's

125th nationally, while the Irish

are ranked 45th overall. The two

teams met once earlier this sea-

son at the Indiana Invitational

on April 2-3. The Irish defeated

the Red Storm by 26 strokes en

to route to capturing the tourna-

ment championship.

The Big East Championship
does not give Notre Dame a

chance to significantly improve

its chances at landing its second

straight at large bid to the

NCAA Central Regional

Championship.

Since the three other tourna-

ment participants are all from

the Eastern Region, the Irish

will not be able to outplay any

Central Region foes.

"It's unfortunate for us that

women's golf has to be in the

Big East Conference," King said.

"We don't have a choice

there. We just have to try to

keep our scoring averages low.

Irish players have practiced

hard all week in pursuit of this

goal; working on the fundamen-

tals of their games. King stressed

that the team simply needs to

continue doing the things that

told to

led the tournament.

Contact Kevin Brennan at

kbrennan@nd.edu

FRIDAY, April 22, 2005

FRIDAY, April 22, 2005

FRIDAY, April 22, 2005
The Observer • SPORTS

Honing Women of Notre Dame

The Women in Social Service and Health are pleased to honor Heather Racozy and Susan Bruno for their outstanding contributions to the community and the inspiration they have enhanced with so many lives.

Here are their stories:

Heather Racozy

Racozy earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in Philosophy and Theology. Racozy graduated with honors from the University of Notre Dame in 1995 with a degree in Philosophy and Theology. She received full-ride scholarships to the University of Notre Dame and the University of Chicago, where she was involved in community service and a women's basketball team. After graduation, Racozy entered the Society of the Divine Word and served as a nun in a community in Tarka, India. She currently lives in the United States and is a Sister of the Divine Word.

Racozy has been honored for her work in the community, including her service as a Sister of the Divine Word. She has received awards from the University of Notre Dame and the American Academy of Religion. Racozy is also a member of the Notre Dame Women's Basketball Team.

Herphee Racozy has been honored for her work in the community, including her service as a Sister of the Divine Word. She has received awards from the University of Notre Dame and the American Academy of Religion. Racozy is also a member of the Notre Dame Women's Basketball Team.

Susan M. Bruno, OSF

Bruno earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in Philosophy and Theology. Bruno graduated with honors from the University of Notre Dame in 1995 with a degree in Philosophy and Theology. She received full-ride scholarships to the University of Notre Dame and the University of Chicago, where she was involved in community service and a women's basketball team. After graduation, Bruno entered the Society of the Divine Word and served as a nun in a community in Tarka, India. She currently lives in the United States and is a Sister of the Divine Word.

Bruno has been honored for her work in the community, including her service as a Sister of the Divine Word. She has received awards from the University of Notre Dame and the American Academy of Religion. Bruno is also a member of the Notre Dame Women's Basketball Team.

Women in Social Service and Health Club would also like to express our gratitude to the following women who were nominated for this honor. They have contributed so much to all of us and to our university, and we are grateful to have met them as role models for our generation.
Teams

continued from page 28

the offense. On the defensive side, linebackers Brandon Hoye and Corey Mays, safety Tommy Zbikowski, and defensive tackle Trevor Laws will lead the group.

The Blue team will also feature kicker D.J. Fitzpatrick, and all five returning offensive linemen.

On the other sideline, the Gold team will be led by quarterbacks Marty Monney and David Wolfe; running backs Travis Thomas, receivers Chase Anastasio, Michael O’Hara, and Chris Vaughn; and tight end Marcus Freeman.

On defense, Joe Brockington will lead the linebackers, defensive line.

Hoyte and Dan Chervanick will lead the group.

Marcus Freeman.

With that said, Weis threw in five returning offensive line-

practice. "Weel is-

changing the rules for a minimum
timet of the score will regain posses-

sions at the 35-yard line.

Notes:

Before announcing the rosters of Saturday's game, Weis
announced that Justin Hoskins was back in practice today and has officially been reinstated by the

team that is losing at the time

down or touchdown.

"We have an issue that has been resolved and he was back out there today in practice," Weis said. "It's not going to be talking to you [but he would have said we have an issue]." Hoskins will not be playing in the Blue and Gold game because he has not met the NCAA rules for a minimum amount of practices this spring.

"On Tuesday, Weis announced that Trepp Duerson was no longer playing with the
team, citing unstated personal reasons as the cause. Duerson is still enrolled at the University and there is no official word about his future status.

ND WOMEN'S TENNIS

Irish look to dominate with a No. 1 seeding

For ninth time in 10 years, Irish lead Big East Championships

By ANN LOUGHERY

Sports Writer

After weeks of preparing for the postseason, the No. 26 Irish are finally taking off their training wheels and taking on the Big East Championship.

For the ninth time in 10 years, the Irish (12-9) have secured a No. 1 seed as the only nationally ranked team in the conference. The team's impressive seeding has earned it a bye in the first round of the Big East.

"I think the No. 1 seeding shows the tradition we have in Notre Dame tennis," coach Jay Louderback said. "It's a lot about the type of players we have and the schedule we play."

However, despite their established presence at the top of the seedings, the Irish aren't underestimating any of their opponents.

"Everyone wants to beat Notre Dame," senior captain Sarah Jane Connolly said. "It's always hard coming in and knowing you're the team that everyone's gunning to beat."

Fourth-seeded St. John's (8-3) will be the first team looking to defeat the talent-laden Irish. Notre Dame's will take on St. John's in its first match of the tournament Friday at 9 a.m. at the University of South Florida in the semifinals.

St. John's defeated West Virginia (15-7) this morning, 4-1, after taking an early 1-0 advantage in the match following doubles. The Red Storm claimed victories at Nos. 1 and 3 doubles and secured the victory after three singles matches, as tournament play dictates teams play to four points.

After facing St. John's, Louderback expects the team's next opponent will be second-seeded Boston College. The last time the two teams met, Notre Dame shut out the Eagles, 7-0.

The Irish secured wins across the board in both singles and doubles.

"As the Irish head into Friday's meet against St. John's, they hope this first match of the tournament will be the start of a successful and storied post season.

"We've had a tough schedule all season, so I think that should help us peak," Louderback said. "We'll be playing some good tennis this weekend."

Contact Ann Loughery at alougher@nd.edu.

Sports Writer
Akron
continued from page 28

boasted did disappoint, lead-
ing the Irish to a 2-1 win while
turning in a magnificent com-
plete game one-hit shutout,
including 11 strikeouts and
only two walks. The win moves
Booth to 15-5 on the year.

Unfortunately for the Irish
offense, Booth’s dominating
performance was matched pitch for
pitch by Akron’s Tina
McAuley. McAuley gave up
only four hits for the two outs in the third inning,
but Notre Dame managed to
gather their hits in key spots.
With two outs in the third inning,
senior Megan Colli drove in
sophomore Stephanie Brown
to give the Irish their lone run
of the game. The run proved to
be enough, and put Notre
Dame back in the win column.

In game two, the Irish
offense looked much more
confident against Akron pitch-
ing. Brown started the Notre
Dame rally in the bottom of
the second by blasting the first
pitch she saw over the center-
field wall for a solo homer.
Junior Katie Middleton then
got on with an infield single,
stole second, and moved to
third on a throwing error.
Junior Meagan Routhard’s RBI
single brought her home and
gave the Irish a 2-0 lead.

After Booth started game
two with a perfect first inning,
contact Deanna Gumpf inserted
Stengleimer for the next three
innings to keep her sharp for
this weekend’s Big East con-
ference games. Stengleimer
struck out five batters before
turning the ball over to Kodya
Fuemmeler, who was making
only her fourth appearance for
the season. After facing a bases-loaded jam with no outs,
Fuemmeler answered with a
strikeout and a fielder’s choice,
and appeared to be out of
the inning. However, Fuemme-
ler could not finish the inning,
giving up a single to left, and
two runs scored to tie the game.

Contact Ryan Duffy at
rduffy@nd.edu

Cooper
continued from page 28

Wednesday night’s blast was
a game-winner. Last night’s was a
grand slam. The slam was Cooper’s fifth
home run of the season.

In the bottom of the first
inning, the Notre Dame out-
fielder gave the Irish a 4-3 lead
over the Valparaiso Crusaders
(10-20) after knocking in his
sixth RBI of the last two games.
Valparaiso came back to score runs in the sec-
ond, third and fourth innings
and held an 8-5 lead heading into the bottom of the sixth.

But Notre Dame got another
four-run inning to take a 9-8
lead. Veteran shortstop Greg
Lowry drove a single through the left
side to start the rally. After an
Alex Netty single, a hit-by-
pitch and a couple of walks, the Irish
punched in a few runs. With the bases juiced, catcher
Mast Branfield singled — again
through the left side — for the
ty ing and winning run.

Contact Tom Dorwart at
tdorwart@nd.edu

Junior centerfielder Alex Netty swings at a pitch in a game against Bowling Green April 12.

Junior infielder Kelle Middleton races to second in Thursday’s game against Akron. The Irish won 2-0.
Soccer
continued from page 28

Both freshmen did not play for the team last fall because Pimnick sustained a season ending neck injury before the start of the season last fall and Hanks elected to play for the Under-19 team.

"We're going to start Pimnick because she has had a good spring season and we're also looking to give Hanks time," Waldrum said. "We are hopeful the public can see those two players and the rest of the group is in check from last season. But we are still adjusting to losing Tancredi and Guinan [starting defensive players to graduation]."

Despite the obstacles the Irish currently face, they are still looking for an exciting matchup between two highly skilled teams.

"We've presold 1,700 tickets so it is going to be a really good crowd. It will be a playoff atmosphere and the intensity is going to be fantastic," Waldrum said. "So it'll be a great opportunity for the fans to see something unique with an international flavor."

The men's team will feature Greg Dalby, who recently in international play for the Croatian Under-20 team.

Irish seek redemption on road

Notre Dame hopes to improve 1-4 streak, defeat Johns Hopkins

By MATT PUGLISI
Associate Sports Editor

Maybe a change of scenery will help — it certainly couldn't hurt.

After recording a disappointing 1-4 mark on a five-game homestand that concluded with a 14-6 loss to No. 3 Georgetown last Sunday, Notre Dame (3-9-1) will look to break the team's losing streak when they face Johns Hopkins (9-3-0) Sunday afternoon at 1 p.m.

Irish coach Tracy Coyne is looking forward to the opportunity to hit the road again.

"Going to Baltimore is always a good trip," Coyne said. "There will be a lot of people there, and a lot of alumni are going to come back, so that's exciting. We've been home for a couple weeks now — I think we're well rested and ready to go."

Including the Blue Jays, all three of the opponents left on the Irish schedule — No. 13 Syracuse and No. 19 Ohio State round out the year — are currently ranked by the Intercollegiate Women's Lacrosse Coaches Association (IWLCA). However, Coyne doesn't mind the tough schedule, currently listed as the ninth toughest in the nation. In fact, she prefers it.

"I'm looking forward to our next three games," Coyne said. "I told the team in the locker room [after the Georgetown game] that I'd much rather be playing teams that are ranked and nationally competitive, because I think we can compete on that level and I would like to see this team prove that they can win at that level."

“Our next three teams are all tough opponents — teams we care about and want to beat. If we can beat someone that matters, it will give us a sense of satisfaction, because we have that feeling of unfulfilled potential (right now).”

The Irish had little trouble putting the Hoyas to a comfortable 8-1 halftime lead.

But looks can be deceiving. Just over a minute after Zentgraf put Notre Dame in front, Hoya Catherine Elbe knots the contest at 1-1 and kicked off a streak of eight consecutive Georgetown tallies, staking the Hoyas to a comfortable 6-1 halftime lead.

While attack Crystal Foote netted a hat trick in the second half alone and midfielder Kaki Orr and attack Mary McGrath chipped in with single goals, the Irish were unable to get back into the contest, eventually falling 14-8.

"I wasn't happy with how the game went. I'm going to be honest about it," Coyne said. "I think that [Hoya goalie] Sarah Rohlston is a good goalie, but we were shooting right at her — we weren't placing our shots. It wasn't like they were forcing low-percentage shots — we were getting wide-open looks. If you're getting that wide open, you should be scoring."

Sunday's game against the Irish will wrap up a busy week for the host Blue Jays — Johns Hopkins knocked off Towsion 15-10 Tuesday evening and hosts No. 1 Northwestern this evening before Notre Dame comes to town.

With the season quickly winding down, thoughts turn to next year and returning the Irish to their place among the nation's lacrosse elite.

"I think that we have a bright future," Coyne said. "I think maybe losing six starters and three All-Americans has been more difficult to replace that we anticipated ... but we have a lot of younger players gaining a lot of experience. We definitely know how to compete."

Contact Matt Puglisi at mpuglisi@nd.edu

September 3, 2005
Heinz Field, Pittsburgh, PA

The Notre Dame Club of Pittsburgh is proud to host the opening game of the 2005 season and the final game in the PIT-ND rivalry...for now. Join us for exciting events throughout the Labor Day weekend:

Friday (9/2/05)
• Pep Rally at the Heinz History Center

Saturday (9/3/05)
• Pirates v. Cubs at PNC Park
• Tailgater at Carnegie Science Center
• ND v. Pitt @ Heinz Field

Hotel and weekend packages can be purchased through Anthony Travel.

www.anthonytravel.com

Individual club event information and tickets can be obtained through the ND Club of Pittsburgh.

alumni.nd.edu/~ndc_pitt/
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3. Angering a wrong 24
4. Coke's opening 29
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8. Relatives of Leopold 37
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12. Start of something big? 53
13. "Mystery", just kidding. Some shades head 54
14. Violinist 55
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16. They got back downstairs in its 60
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19. One of work: 63
20. Line of work: 64
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24. Fruit salad fruit 68
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28. Southwest 72
29. Went big-game hunting 73
30. Samson's pope of A.D. 401-17 74
31. Take a bow? 75
32. Take a bow? 76
33. Inseparable 77
34. Fictional Gray 78
35. Rigging supports 79
36. As in Archimedes 80
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38. One of 300 in the length of Noah's ark 82
39. Violinist 83
40. "Great French fiddler 84
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43. Hardly anyone 87
44. Fine French fabric 88
45. Carrying them 89
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48. Here, in opening Archimedes 92
49. Rose's 93
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51. Athletes go for 95
52. "Proves" 96
53. With someone who is 97
54. Fine French 98
55. Diplomatic 99
56. Unwanted result 100
57. With someone who is 101
58. "Whipped" 102
59. A massage, a hair appointment 103
60. Take a leap into something you've never tried before. A power struggle is likely, and if you don't know your wall, you may find yourself at a loss. This can be a fabulous year, but only if you put everything you've got into what you are trying to accomplish. Your numbers are 6 2, 29, 36, 38, 44
61. Aries (March 21-April 19): Avoid any sort of emotional upset. If someone is doing his or her best to pressure you into doing something, back away. You have plenty of other choices. An opportunity to meet someone who is good 106
62. Taurus (April 20-May 20): The more involved you are today in activities you enjoy, the better. Love is looking positive. Start something new, and it will open you up for a possibility for the future. Children can play a role in your life today.
63. Gemini (May 21-June 20): Do something so pleasant yourself because you won't be able to please anyone around you today. A massage, a hair appointment or a short trip to a mall will spark your imagination. Don't let trivial matters get to you. **
64. Cancer (June 21-July 22): You may like to spend time at home, but today you will be far better if you get out and do things with friends. A little romance will perk you up. You will discover some very interesting information. **
65. Leo (July 23-Aug. 22): No matter what you are working on it will be important for you to get out and do things with friends. A little romance won't be. You will have plenty of other choices. An opportunity to 108
66. Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): You may have a change of heart. Love is certainly in the picture, but how you handle it will be the question. Take a look at your past relationships, and you'll know what to do. **
67. Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Put your money into your taste at home comfort Get involved in any opportunity that is competitive or challenging. You can gain ground using your intuitive intelligence today. **
68. Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): You will have the discipline and the inventiveness to pull something off, far beyond anyone in your field. You will know exactly what you want to do, so don't hold back today. Love can be yours. **
69. Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): You may think you have everything under control, but in truth, you probably don't. Don't make any grand plans or big promises now. You may look into the months ahead, leaving you in a dilemma. Prepare for an unexpected turn of events. **
70. Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): A short trip or attending a trade show or conference will result in some fascinating ideas and opportunities. Love will be in a high cycle, so don't forget to include your partner or a single, someone to your taste. **
71. Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Money, health and legal concerns should all be taken care of quickly today. Make some changes in your home that will make your life less stressful. You will be lucky, so pick up a lottery ticket. **
72. Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20): Engage in family discussions. Someone you are close to will want to introduce you to a new friend. Relationships are looking good, so don't hold back. Things for others will bring tremendous satisfaction. **

Horoscope
Saturday: You have plenty of drive and determination, but you are also outspoken and willful. You are unpredictable and tend to be attracted to the unusual or unfamiliar.

Eugenics Web sites: antiquedove.com for fox, equinetics.com for candelabra consultations

THE OBSERVER
Published Monday through Friday, The Observer is a vital source of information on people and events in the Notre Dame and Saint Mary's Community.

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BOOKSTORE BASKETBALL XXXIV

‘Wet’ leaves ‘Anarchy’ out to dry

No. 2 We Get Wet cruises past No. 15 Anarchy 99, 21-12

By KEVIN BRENNAN and ANNE BRUSKY
Sports Writers

We Get Wet’s frontline once again proved too much for an opponent as the team downed Anarchy 99-21-12 Thursday night. The threesome of captain Justin Funk, Jordan Cornette, and Jim Kilroy proved too much for Anarchy 99.

The three big men controlled both the offensive and defensive boards for the entire game. Funk credited this rebounding edge with his team’s win.

ND SOCCER

Defending NCAA champs take on international opponents

By DAN TAPETILLO
Sports Writer

The defending NCAA champion women’s soccer team is set to take on the Mexican Women’s National Team in the first of a doubleheader tonight at 7:45 p.m. at Alumni Field. The matchup will be followed by the Notre Dame men’s soccer team against the Mexican Under-17 team at approximately 7:45 p.m.

In the women’s match, the Mexican National Team and 2004 Olympic Games quarterfinalist is led by former Irish defender Monica Gonzalez and includes recently signed midfielder Becca Mundow. This contest will be the fifth time the two teams have met in the spring, dating back to their first encounter in 2001. The Irish topped Mexico in the first three matchups, but suffered a 3-2 loss last season.

Tonight, Notre Dame is expecting another close contest. ’Every year we’ve played them it has been close,’” Irish coach Randy Waldrum said. ’The view we have of the past for matches and last season’s loss is that we recognize and respect how good Mexico has become. Both teams played really well last year, but we just didn’t get the result we wanted.”

Waldrum also attributed the different style of play in international soccer to American soccer as a challenge for the Irish. ’They’re [Mexico] more skillful and technical and don’t rely so much on their athleticism like we do,” Waldrum said. ’Their ball handling is so much better and you could get caught chasing throughout the game if you’re not careful.”

A potential individual threat includes UCLA forward Iris Mora, who last faced the Irish during the national championship game. Mora is the player who drew the penalty kick against the Irish during the second half of the NCAA final game. Erika Bohn made the memorable save on the kick and prevented a potential 2-0 deficit in the half.

“Offensively she’ll be one of their key players,” Waldrum said. However, the Irish are also looking to this game as an opportunity for several rising players to gain experience. It will also mark one of the first times the public can see freshman forwards Susan Patnick and Kerri Hanks play for the team.

BASEBALL

Power hitter Cooper blasts grand slam, secures 9-8 win

By TOM DORWART
Sports Writer

Craig Cooper is starting to hit left field. When he’s not catching fly balls or stopping groundballs in the lush green of the outfield, he’s belting them far over the left field fence.

For the second night in a row, Cooper blasted a home run over the left field wall.

ND SOFTBALL

Solid pitching sparks 1-0 shutout of Akron

In Stenglein’s absence, Booth steps up and throws 11 strikeouts

By RYAN DUFFY
Sports Writer

After seeing its 19-game win streak finally end, Notre Dame decided to respond in the most logical way it knew how — start a new one.

Behind strong pitching and clutch hitting, the Irish took both games of Thursday’s doubleheader against Akron (20-21) in their return home after nine straight away games.

After earning Big East Player of the Week honors for her dominant performance last week, senior starting pitcher Stacey Stenglein was rested for game one, allowing junior Heather Roos to take the mound.

FOOTBALL

Blue, Gold teams are introduced

By BOBBY GRIFFIN
Associate Sports Editor

There was a clear-cut division of the rosters Thursday when Irish coach Charlie Weis announced the lineups for Saturday’s Blue-Gold Game.

For the Blue team, quarterback Brady Quinn; running backs Darrius Walker and Hashon Powers; Neal; receivers Maurice Stovall and Rhema McKnight and tight end Anthony Fasano will lead the Irish.

On the Gold team, quarterback Matt Cassell; running backs Darius Walker and Hashon Powers; Neal; receivers Maurice Stovall and Rhema McKnight and tight end Anthony Fasano will lead the Gold team.

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SPORTS

WOMEN’S LACROSSE

The team is looking to improve its 1-4 streak with Sunday’s game against Johns Hopkins.

By BECKY MACE
Sports Writer

MEN’S TENNIS

The Irish are looking to capture their third straight Big East title.

By ANNE BRUSKY
Sports Writer

ND WOMEN’S GOLF

The Irish are looking to improve their 1-4 streak with Sunday’s game against Johns Hopkins.

By KELLY HIGGINSON
Sports Writer

SMC SOFTBALL

The Belles want to end the season on a positive note as they take on Rockford College.

By ERIKA DEWS
Sports Writer

SMC GOLF

Saint Mary’s aiming impress at this weekend’s competition at Pine Hills.

By JANNETTE BRUSKY
Sports Writer
RETURNING HOME

1978 Notre Dame graduate Charlie Weis comes back to lead the Irish
Charlie Weis, the dedicated early riser

The sun was just beginning to rise Early Wednesday, Notre Dame's campus lay still for a few more chirping birds. The cranes on site of the new Jordan Hall of Science along Juniper Road, now became more motionless. But across the street, in the Joyce Center, a car pulled up, and a man emerged. It was Charlie Weis, It was 5:38 a.m. And Weis was not only unlocking the doors to enter the football office for another day's work. There have been coaches with the same dedication. There have been coaches who did not sleep and who worked tirelessly to make a name for themselves. But right now, Weis is showing a relentless desire to make a name for Notre Dame, to become a man who lives up to the name Notre Dame.

Weis emphasized upon his arrival that improvement does not happen immediately and cannot be expected to take place right away. However, he is going to great measures to ensure the program receives the proper support, support from himself and from various members of the Notre Dame community. Most recognizably, Weis invited alums Tim Brown, Joe Montana, Joe Theismann and Chris Zorich to be honorary coaches during Saturday's Blue-Gold game. All four accepted the invitation. One would think a man with four Super Bowl rings and a reputation as one of the top offensive minds in all of football would never stop selling himself. To an extent, Weis never stops. He jokes often about how he hopes his championship jewelry will attract top talent to South Bend.

But the new head coach also understands the need to show the components of Notre Dame that can make the Irish football program so identifiable and successful. "There's a lot of rich tradition at Notre Dame that I'd like our players to be a part of," the coach said. "I just know that I feel I'm just a part of Notre Dame, I'm not Notre Dame myself." Weis did not play a sport during his college years, but he was a student who lived in the dorms. That is why the coach met with students in the Joyce Center on his first day of work.

That is why he visited each campus dorm and spoke for 45 minutes to an hour on football and on life for the first few weeks of his coaching tenure. And that is why, when Weis has found any opportunity to sell and promote and improve Notre Dame, he has understood he must take advantage of it.

Weis had received three verbal commitments as of Thursday morning and could have more when the Blue-Gold weekend concludes. Eighty junior recruits visited campus on Feb. 27, the weekend of the Notre Dame-UCLA basketball game, and prospects Zach Frazier, Barry Gallup and Munir Prince are all expected to sell. Sold, also, are all of the gold seats of Notre Dame Stadium to the Blue-Gold game. Many observers at the team's first spring practice were not sold on the strict beginning being unscripted, when Weis made his offensive run the first play from scrimmage three times. However, scripted or not, Weis had set a tone for the team and every person on the sideline was forced to realize it was what this program needed.

Weis has become the leader Notre Dame needed—a visible leader whose intensity and purpose remain constant, even at 5:38 a.m. when nobody's watching. "The opinions expressed in this column are those of the writer and not necessarily those of The Observer."

Contact Pat Leonard at pleonard@nd.edu

Blue-Gold Game Schedule of Events

9:00 a.m. Brunch
9:45 a.m.-10:30 a.m. Autograph Session
10:00 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Fan Fest
11:30 a.m.-12:15 p.m. Alumni Flag Football Game
1:35 p.m. Blue-Gold Game Kickoff*
*Tickets free to students

Players to Watch

By BOBBY GRIFFIN
Associate Sports Editor

A certain player or group of players emerge from relative obscurity and perform well on the field every season. However, who those players are is a matter of question coming into a season.

The Irish are no different this year, as a few, including senior tight end Anthony Fasano, and two junior tight ends, Marcus Freeman and Chinedum Nwokwo, have emerged from relative obscurity as key contributors this season.

Joe Brockington (52)

Last season, Joe Brockington was a 6-foot-2, 220-pound sophomore looking to see some playing time. This year, Brockington is looking to take his game to another level.

Brockington is a tremendously gifted athlete who doubled playing varsity basketball as a freshman in high school, but because of his athletic ability and coordination, could become a receiving threat, as well.

Carlson is a tremendously gifted athlete who doubled playing varsity basketball as a freshman in high school, but because of his athletic ability and coordination, could become a receiving threat, as well.

Anthony Vergnago (4)

Anthony Vergnago was a highly touted recruit coming to Notre Dame last year's freshman class. As a sophomore next season, Vergnago should start to prove why he received such high acclamations.

Vergnago, a 6-foot-3, 230-pound safety from Anaheim Hills, Calif., was rated No. 95 on ESPN's top 100 players nation wide and No. 98 on collegefootballnews.com when Notre Dame recruited him.

Like Ferrine and Jabbie, Vergnaglia should be one of the young athletes in the secondary that will need to step up in order to improve Notre Dame's difficulties against the pass last season.

Contact Bobby Griffin at ngriff3@nd.edu

By BOBBY GRIFFIN
Associate Sports Editor

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Contact Bobby Griffin at ngriff3@nd.edu
**THE STARTERS**

**OFFENSE**

### Running Back

**Darius Walker**

Sophomore

As a true freshman, Walker led the Irish last season in virtually all rushing categories. He gives the Irish a backfield threat to break a big run every time he touches the ball.

### Tight End

**Anthony Fasano**

Junior — Captain

A physical tight end, Fasano was second on the team in catches and touchdown last season. Fasano is the most experienced and talented member of a very deep tight end unit.

### Wide Receiver

**Rhma McKnight**

Senior

McKnight enters this spring as the leading receiver during the past two years, catching 47 and 42 passes, respectively. In addition to his speed, McKnight is also a strong downfield blocker.

### Tackle

**Ryan Harris**

Junior

Harris might be smaller than most offensive tackles, but he is quick and displays good technique.

### Guard

**Bob Morton**

Senior

Morton started 11 games at left guard in 2004, after moving from center, where he started 11 games in 2003.

### Center

**John Sullivan**

Junior

Sullivan started all 12 games at center in 2004 and returned to anchor the line, but he has been injured during the spring.

### Defensive End

**Victor Abiamiri**

Junior

Despite missing most of spring practice with a bruised shin, Abiamiri needs to be a force next season as the most experienced returning lineman.

### Defensive Tackle

**Trevor Laws**

Junior

Laws is a strong defensive tackle who can use his experience as a Prep wrestling champion to get leverage against offensive linemen. He recorded 17 tackles and two sacks last season.

### Inside Linebacker

**Brandon Hoyte**

Senior — Captain

Hoyte will be the leader of the defense after making 74 tackles last season, the most of any returning lineman. He's also an academic All-American the past two seasons and will get his chance to shine.

### Inside Linebacker

**Corey Mays**

Senior

Mays will join Hoyte as the other fifth-year senior in the linebacker corps, adding depth and size to the unit. He hasn't broken through in his first four years but has the athleticism to be a playmaker.

### Apache Linebacker

**Chinedum Ndukwe**

Junior

Moved to linebacker at the beginning of the spring but will see reps both here and at safety. Mauricr Crum, who has had good spring practice at linebacker, may also be a possibility at Apache backer.

### Strong Safety

**Tom Zbikowski**

Junior

Zbikowski's starting position, the rest of the Irish secondary is very much up in the air.

After being the team's biggest liability in 2004 — the pass defense ranked 114th in 117 Division I teams — the secondary is up with by far the biggest question marks. Freddie Parish, who saw action in all 12 of Notre Dame's games, including a start against Southern California, is a leading candidate for free safety. However, he has been challenged by rising sophomore Leo Ferrine, who has impressed the coaching staff this spring. Ferrine, along with classmate Junior Jablonski, has also been taking reps at cornerback, and both could potentially complement — or perhaps even challenge — senior Mike Richardson, who played in all 12 of last season's games and started four of them at cornerback. Chinedum Ndukwe, who has been seeing time at Apache backer, could also factor into the mix.

**Quaterback**

**Brady Quinn**

Junior — Captain

Much of the team's success next season will be contingent on Quinn's continued improvement and his absorption of Charlie Weis' offensive system, especially with no clear backup.

**Fullback**

**Rashon Powers-Neal**

Senior

Powers-Neal provides the Irish with an experienced power and consistent blocker out of the backfield, and 2005 will mark his third year starting at fullback. Weis said he also will get more touches this season as a fullback.

**Wide Receiver**

**Maurice Stowell**

Senior

Stowell's presence gives Notre Dame a talented and experienced pair of receivers. At 6-foot-5, Stowell is a big, intimidating receiver who can use his muscle cornerbacks when going for the ball.

**Guard**

**Dan Stevenson**

Senior

Stevenson is another experienced lineman, starting 22 games during the past two seasons, all at right guard.

**Tackle**

**Mark LeVoir**

Senior

LeVoir started all 12 games at right tackle last year and enters the 2005 season with 24 consecutive games started.
Charlie Weis returns to his alma mater with intentions of winning.

By HEATHER VAN HOEGARDEN
Sports Writer

Charlie Weis is constantly surrounded by reminders of his accomplishments. Behind his desk is a framed photo of Weis with his son and Patriots quarterback Tom Brady after the Super Bowl this year. He sometimes flashes a gaudy Super Bowl ring, one of four he has won.

Weis entered a New England franchise under a defensive-minded coach and made sure that the offense wasn’t forgotten about. Everyone knows Charlie Weis is a winner on the football field. But Charlie Weis isn’t just about football.

Weis, a father of two, one with special needs, founded Hannah & Friends with his wife to help children with autism and global delays. “He’s really family-oriented,” wife Maureen Weis said. “He’s not the kind of coach that’s out golfing or with his buddies when he has time off, so his family is his family. He’s working, or he’s with us, one or the other.”

Charlie Weis is about football and family. That’s why the 1978 graduate was hired in December to lead Notre Dame’s football program.

“Charlie is very family-oriented, as anyone I’ve met in all around college athletics within the coaching profession.”

Kevin White
Irish athletic director

The start of something great
Charlie Weis was teaching English at Morristown High School in New Jersey when he learned of an opening as a freshman football coach.

“He heard about me and asked if he could interview for the job,” said John Bavaro, Morristown head football coach at the time. “I interviewed him and I was very impressed with him. He came to work and worked diligently, and as a result, you can hook the two with what you see.”

Weis worked with Bavaro from 1980–84, the first of many coaches who would show him the way.

“He was the first guy who really taught me about coaching,” Weis said. And Bavaro knew Weis had a lot to learn.

“Charlie was very intelligent,” Bavaro said. “He was very organized. When he would meet with the Giants full-time after head coach Bill Parcells offered him a position as the assistant special teams and defensive assistant coach in 1990, Giants head coach Bill Parcells took him from the high school thought process to the college thought process.”

“Charlie was a very, very intelligent guy,” Bavaro said. “And I’ll tell you, he’s got to make it big, I always said that.”

The road to success
After five seasons at Morristown, Weis in 1989, Weis returns to high school, this time as a head coach in New Jersey state championship while working in the New York Giants pro-personnel department.

One year later, he was working with the Giants full-time after head coach Bill Parcells offered him a position as the assistant special teams and defensive assistant coach in 1990. Giants tight end Mark Bavaro, a 1985 Notre Dame graduate, helped the Giants win the Super Bowl that year. He remembers Weis as a guy he could relate to because of his Irish ties.

“We’re more friends than a coach-player,” Bavaro said. “We were very close, and I was somebody who was on my last leg, so we didn’t really have a working relationship, we were just good friends. We were both Notre Dame guys, we would sit and talk about Notre Dame.”

Bavaro said Weis knowledge of the game was at a”—family a—

Charlie Weis was the main coach behind taking New England quarterback Tom Brady from a sixth-round pic to a two-time Super Bowl MVP.

**WEIS’ COACHING CAREER**

1979-84 After graduating in 1978, Weis begins his college coaching career as an assistant coach at Boonton (N.J.) High School in 1979 and then becomes an assistant coach at Morristown (N.J.) High School. 1985-88 Starting as a defensive graduate assistant, Weis spends four years at the University of South Carolina as an assistant football coach and coordinator during his last season.

1989 After South Carolina head coach Joe Morrison dies in February, Weis returns to high school, this time as a head coach leading Franklin Township (N.J.) High School to a state title.
d football
of leading Notre Dame back to the top of college football

Weiss reached stage that which the Patriots' offensive coordinator might call "I think he is an absolute brilliant game planner," former Patriots fullback and 1991 Notre Dame graduate Marc Edwards said. "He changed from week to week what we did, which we didn't have, but he always had an answer for what the defense would do." Weiss won three Super Bowl rings with the Patriots, earning an innovative and unpredictable offense, while earning the respect of his players and players all around the NFL.

"He's very confident in what he's doing, and he knows he's good," Edwards said. "And that definitely shows in what he does.

Developing a talent
Outside of the inventive schemes, Weiss was known for something else — the development of Tom Brady from a sixth round draft pick to a two-time Super Bowl Most Valuable Player.

"I think that Charlie has had a significant role in Tom's development and overall strategy and some fundamentals and techniques until we were coaching together," Weiss said in a press conference before the Super Bowl.

Under the tutelage of Weiss, Brady was a two-time Pro Bowl selection and won numerous player of the year awards. His first quarterback to start and win three Super Bowls by the age of 28.

"He sets the tone for every meeting, every practice, and he has since the day I got here," Brady said before the Super Bowl. But with Brady and Weiss it wasn't always just about football.

A close call
In 2004, Weiss weighed more than 300 pounds — a weight he knew was a problem, especially since his father died at 56 due to a second heart attack in his 30s. Weiss decided to have gastric bypass surgery to help him control his weight and his life.

"I was on a yo-yo diet for about 15 years, where I would yo-yo over 300 pounds, under 300 pounds, over 300 pounds," Weiss said. "At the time I had the gastric bypass, I was well over 400 pounds, and I felt that I was headed toward a heart attack.

Weiss said he owed it to his family to stay alive as long as he could, and thought the surgery was the only way to do so, even though his family was vehemently opposed.

"To all my little victories in life and my circle of successes in life, I had reached a frustration point where I just didn't think the yo-yo diet was the way to continue to live a long life," Weiss said.

However, complications from the surgery arose, and what was supposed to be an overnight stay in the hospital turned into much worse, as Weiss suffered internal bleeding from the surgery and was in a coma for two weeks.

That's when Tom Brady came into Weiss' family, and became what Weiss called him last week — his "second son."

"He was coming Saturday morning just so that he didn't have to listen to me get off on him not coming to see me," Weiss said. "But when he got there I was in intensive care in that last stage. So what he did, he actually for the next 48 hours hung out with my wife, because it was touch and go the whole time, until reinforcements could get in to help out but the last thing we expected was something bad happening."

For Charlie's wife, Maura, it was tough to watch him suffer.

"It was a really hard period," she said. "Especially because he's such a strong individual — one of the strongest guys I know, physically and mentally really tough.

We talk all the time. So it was really weird not to hear his voice for over two weeks. And I know that if anyone could get through it, it would be my husband, and he did."

The importance of family
When Kevin White sat down with Charlie Weiss in December, he saw that family was a priority. In fact, it was one of the things that made White think Weiss would be a good fit for him.

"Charlie is very family-oriented, as much so as anyone I've met in all my years around college athletics within the coaching profession," White said. "And I found that very appealing for a place like Notre Dame."

So Weiss was contacted once again by Notre Dame, and he talked to several committees who interviewed him. After that, Notre Dame called him back to offer him the job.

"His track record of success is second to none," Weiss said. "Everywhere he's been, Charlie Weiss has been highly successful."

And so now Weiss, 49, brings his family — wife Maura, a son Charlie who will be entering the seventh grade, and a special needs daughter, Hannah — to the Notre Dame family.

"It's a really exciting time for us, and it's great," Maura Weiss said. "It's everything we ever thought it would be." And Weiss is happy because his family is happy.

"Probably one of the reasons Notre Dame was such a good fit for me," Weiss said, "is because I love my family so much." Back where he started
It's been 27 years since Charlie Weiss sat in the student section waiting for warm-ups to start. Now he is the one running the show.

"I think it's somewhat inspiring to go back to the place where you went to school and you lived and have the opportunity to get Notre Dame back to the top," Weiss said. "Now whether that matriculation or not, there's never any guarantee, but that's what the interest is.

Despite only having been the full-time Irish football coach for a few months, Weiss has his eyes on the future of Notre Dame football.

"He's real intense," safety Tim Zirkowski said. "I love the way he coaches — just making sure you're doing things right, and perfectionizing everything. He's a perfectionist, and that's the way you gotta play football." Irish players and assistant coaches have already seen what he can do this spring, and are learning exactly why he has the reputation he does.

"To go against him and some of the things he likes to do, you can see where he's got that label [of an offensive genius], defensive line coach Jappy Oliver said. "He keeps you on your toes. It's hard to get a beat on Coach Weiss, which is great on our side because we feel after going against him that he's going to be hard to stop."

And if Weiss has it the way he wants it, he won't have a problem with that.

"I would really like to be here for at least 10 years," Weiss said. "And sometimes after Charlie graduates [from Notre Dame], I'll be ready to ride into the sunset. But I'm hoping that by the time I leave, the Notre Dame fans, the alumni, anyone who has a positive light on Notre Dame will be able to look at me and say we're glad we hired that guy."

Contact Heather Van Hoogard at hvangoog@nd.edu
Western Pa. native always has been fond of the Irish

By KATE GALES

Assoc. Sports Editor

He may not have attended Notre Dame, but John Latina has always had a special place for the school in his heart. A native offensive line coach is a native of West Penn-Sylvan-van for an hour north of Pittsburgh, big Notre Dame fans have been growing up. "Growing up as a kid, it's one of those schools that you're just enamored with - I lived a big Notre Dame upbringing," Latina said.

Latina graduated from Virginia Tech in 1981, where he started for four years on the offensive line. After he graduated, he joined the coaching staff and also spent a year as an assistant at Pennsylvania State - before being named offensive line coach at Temple.

In 1989, Latina joined the staff at Notre Dame as the offensive line coach. He also worked as the running backs coordinator, but left in 1994 to work with Clemson.

This fall, Latina's six years were spent at Ole Miss, where he worked under then-head coach David Cutcliffe.

Cutcliffe named the assistant head coach for offense and the quarterbacks coach on Carl Uliano staff at Notre Dame.

The off-season and transition to life in South Carolina have been busy time for Latina and his new co-workers.

"It's been fun," Latina said. "Anyone you go to a new place, new environment, there's a lot of things you have to do, it's been long hours and a lot of fun. It's been a great experience.

Aside from getting to know the players, Latina said he's had a chance to build relationships with other staff members.

"Coaching is sort of a fraternity," he said. "I obviously know David Cutcliffe and worked for him but I didn't know the rest of the staff. But everybody on our staff is a very, very good group of people and I'm becoming more and more familiar with Bernie Parmalee or Rick Minter or so forth. So you have a tendency to get a sense of how they act and how they talk when they're not around other people.

With a new staff in place and a number of returning veterans on the offensive line, Latina is ready to rebuild Irish football program with Uliano.

"Given his experience and what he's accomplished in his career as an offensive coordinator, I was excited to add him to our staff because offense and about being a part of a new beginning at Notre Dame," Latina said.

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Haywood returns to learn offense from Weis

By MIKE GILLOON

Sports Editor

Michael Haywood didn't know if he would return to the job. He was the running backs coach and recruiting coordinator at Texas, working for a program that was 21-4 during the past two seasons and boasting some of the finest facilities in the nation.

So when Charlie Weis offered him the position of offensive coordinator for the Miami Dolphins, Haywood accepted the challenge, deciding to pack his bags and move back to South Florida.

He lettered at flanker during his freshman year at Notre Dame in 1982 and suited up for 13 games at cornerback from 1984-86. He started his coaching career at Ohio State in 1988. Haywood then spent short stints at Sehio State and Michigan before moving back to Notre Dame to become the running backs coach at LSU in 1995.

Haywood was a senior at Notre Dame in 1982 when the Rebels to a 44-29 record. By MIKE GILLOON

"That was when I first thought I wanted to coach," Haywood said. "I had an opportunity to come back to the SEC's. I turned out to be the last game he ever played. Once his knee hit the ground during the 28-30 loss to the then-No. 2 Crimson Tide."

"When the opportunity came, I felt like it was time for me to get back into coaching," Haywood said. "What a great opportunity to get back in the mix on a day by day at the University of Notre Dame."

Contact Mike Gillon at mgillon@nd.edu

Parmalee's playing career influences style

By MIKE GILLOON

Sports Editor

Bennie Parmalee earned a spot on the Miami Dolphins roster in 1992 as an undrafted free agent. He spent his time with the Dolphins as an assistant coach with the defense. He served as assistant special teams coach in 2002 and 2003 under Bill Parcells.

Parmalee spent the next three years as an assistant coach with the Dolphins. He served as assistant special teams coach in 2002 and 2003 under Bill Parcells.

Parmalee was promoted to tight ends coach in 2004 before being hired by Notre Dame on Eli Manning (New York Giants) and Olli Miss running back Deuce McElruther (New Orleans Saints).

At Tennessee, Cutcliffe was the mentor when Eli's brother Peyton was a quarterback and became the SEC's all-time leading passer. Cutcliffe also coached tight ends at Southern Mississippi, where he led the Rebels to a 44-29 record.

Prior to his stint with the Rebels, Cutcliffe spent six seasons on the Tennessee staff, bringing a kind of developing high quality college-level talent into NLC-caliber players.

Cutcliffe is known as a player who became first-round NFL draft picks, including quarterback Eli Manning (New York Giants) and Olli Miss running back Deuce McElruther (New Orleans Saints).

"We're going through a rebuilding process," Parmalee said. "It's going to be a fun ride. We're going to watch because it kind of keeps him excited. He said, "Rather than him feeling like he's not part of it, it makes him feel like he's part of the process."

Once Cutcliffe fully recovers, he will return to the signal-caller position and the team's W offense.

So Quinn can only imagine what Cutcliffe will add.

Cutcliffe, Notre Dame's new assistant head coach of offense and quarterback backs coach, is currently recovering from back surgery to remove blockage related in a routine stress test, according to Bernie Parmalee.

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Ianello leaves Alvarez in Wisconsin to turn around Notre Dame recruiting

By BOBBY GRAFFIN Associate Sports Editor

Bob Ianello came to Notre Dame with one heck of a pedigree. He became the wide receivers coach and the recruiting coordinator for the Irish last year. In the 2005 season, Ianello has already worked with an established coach in Wisconsin's Barry Alvarez.

Ianello spent the last two seasons with the Badgers, coaching tight ends under Alvarez — the winningest football coach in Madison, Wisconsin.

"When my time with Coach Alvarez was great, it was a great background for me," Ianello said. "Working with Alvarez enlightened me to some things that I never knew about myself or to myself coming here."

In a few months into his new job, Ianello already has expressed how much he enjoys working with Notre Dame coach Charlie Weis.

"It's been a very valuable experience," Ianello said. "It has been very positive."

Ianello feels the coaching strength to be of two coaches, as both have unique ways of running their programs.

"Everybody has their own way of doing things," he said. "Both guys have had incredible success in doing things their way, and we'll have that kind of success here, too."

Last season, Ianello helped the Badgers in a 9-2 record and an appearance in the Outback Bowl.

The Irish could use that type of success following two subpar years under Tyrone Willingham.

Before joining Wisconsin, Ianello spent six seasons as wide receivers coach at Arizona.

As an IU assistant coach, Ianello expects much out of a talented group of Irish receivers including Rhema McKnight, Maurice Stovall, Matt Shollen and Jeff Samardzich.

With the maturation of Brady Quinn under Weis, those expectations might not be hard to fulfill.

"As a group, I'm really pleased with (where we are mentally)," Ianello said. "I think they are learning what to do. Now the next step is learning how to do it."

Notre Dame's first public indication of the spring was a Miami (Ohio) signee, second on the team with 20 receptions for 515 yards and six scores.

Ianello said the improvement he's seen this spring is noticeable to the "Irish special-visitor group, when you have a veteran group of guys that have played a lot then there are some things that maybe do it naturally," he said.

Notre Dame fans will have the opportunity to see how well the receivers are coming along when their Spring Saturday will take place at the Blue-Gold game.

"That first round of the competition success at Wisconsin is any indicator of what is to come for Notre Dame, the Irish have a bright group," Ianello said.

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Experiences, Paths to South Bend

Former Irish defensive coordinator under Holtz returns to same post

By ERIC RETTER Special Writer

Like his boss, Rick Minter already knows his way around town.

In a much less publicized homecoming than that of head coach Charlie Weis, Notre Dame's new defensive coordinator and interim head coach comes to South Bend as a returning member of the Irish community, working as the defensive coordinator under Lou Holtz in 1989-92, when the Irish went back-to-back Cotton Bowls and finished ranked No. 4 and No. 2, respectively.

Prior to joining Holtz he had a job short-lived after being hired this winter, Minter took the opportunity to come back to what he saw as a unique environment.

"I've been here 11 years ago, Notre Dame was a special place, and it's a great place to work," Minter said. "It's the quality of Ohio, the quality of people, and it's a fantastic university and an atmosphere I like to be in."

Without a doubt, Minter's return is also due in large part to Weis's influence and the optimism following his hire.

"It's fun to be around a guy who's kind of known as this offensive guy," Weis said.

Minter served as the defensive coordinator and linebackers coach at South Carolina — again under Holtz — and before that, he was the head coach at Arkansas from 1998-2003, where he led the Razorbacks to four bowl game appearances, including the 1997 Humanitarian Bowl championship.

Certainly, Minter's decade of head coaching experience has helped him quickly.

"When you're a head coach for ten years, all the decisions primarily rest on you. Now, you basically have to make choices, make decisions and have players do the things and tell them, but you also have to learn by being around so many fine assistant coaches over the years as I was as a head coach," Minter said.

"I've learned a lot from a lot of other people since I've been here about how to do certain things."

In the same way, that experience has helped him grow as a mentor and a leader outside of football to the young men with whom he works.

"Relationships in sports are all about trust, showing trust in players, aiding them in any way possible for them to move in the right direction," Minter said. "I think I have sat in front of so many people, those last two years in the head coach's chair from a problem solving viewpoint that I'm really pleased with the progress that he's made."

"Obviously, Minter's experience — both as a coach and as a member of the Notre Dame community — should help him maximize his impact on his players, both on and off the field."

With Ianello shown up Dame last to have to go through to be successful and the demands placed on his time here only grow increasingly mentally, Ianello said.

"You have to admire the guys who choose to come here and make this a part of their life."

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Former Georgia Tech head coach and Dolphins assistant always respected ND

By MATT PUGLISI Associate Sports Editor

For assistant defensive head coach and defensive backs coach Bill Lew­is, the decision to return to college football after nine years as a defensive backs coach under Weis was a no-brainer. "It's the two reasons why I came back," Lewis said.

"One was because coach (Charlie) Weis was searching for a defensive backs coach and Notre Dame was a recruiting possibility."

It was just the third Super Bowl ring Weis' fiancé, that lured Lewis away from the NFL.

"Number one is I think he is a caring person," Lewis said. "Coach Weis cares about people. That's important for me.

"I know that I'm working for a man that cares about the people that he's surrounded by — players and coaches."

After graduating from East Stroudsburg State in 1963, Lewis wasted little time beginning his lengthy coaching career, immediately stepping on as special teams, receivers and secondary coach at his alma mater.

He held assistant positions at Pittsburgh, Georgia Tech, Wake Forest and Arkansas before getting hired as head coach at Wyoming in 1977. Lewis went on to be head coach at East Carolina, where he was named national coach of the year in 1991, and Georgia Tech. Prior to going to East Carolina, Lewis was the defensive backs coach at Georgia from 1981-1988.

While Weis and Lewis first met during Holtz's time as a graduate assistant coach at Notre Dame, the two coaches have been friends ever since. During the 2001 season, England Patriots and Lewis' Dolphins were regularly looking bumps in the AFC East. Lewis and Weis became more familiar with each other.

"The relationship came over the last nine years," Lewis said. "Both of us were in the AFC East, and we com­peted against each other a minimum of two times a year. We developed a friendship as competing coaches, and I developed a tremendous admiration and respect for Charlie because of the way he goes about his business and attempt to stop."

While the past 39 years have brought and paid with the wealth of emotions and praise, he points not to rings or trophies, but accomplishments, but instead to the relationships he's maintained over the years through his years as a mentor in the most is having players that I've been around for 39 years now, for having worked with them," Lewis said.

"Most of that has come from college coaches that have gone on to other careers in football and beyond that, the coaches there, the business and thank you and see them going on to better careers and being successful."

If the past is any indication, don't be surprised if most Notre Dame players pay Lewis a visit after their playing days are done.

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Staff's youngest member brings experience from Central Florida

By MATT PUGLISI Associate Sports Editor

Contrary to popular belief, ESPN isn't the only employer offering a "dream job." In fact, the opportunity to work with his childhood coaches and special teams coach Brian Polian was a "dream come true" for Carlos Carnes, a member of the Browns' 1997 staff.

"I'm an Irish Catholic from New York, so this is pretty much the dream job," Polian said. "The chance to work with Coach Weis and this staff was really exciting for me, and I knew I was going to come here and learn from some of the best in the business."

"It's the second year of my career, and being an offensive graduate assistant in 1997, Polian switched to the defensive side of the ball and got his first taste of special teams coaching two years later with Baylor, where he worked as a defensive graduate assistant and special teams assistant from 1999-2000. While Polian was at Baylor, he said, "It was an opportunity to see which one is the better choice to do blue and gold on fall Saturdays."

"I personally have absolutely no complaints," Polian said. "For the most part, this is a new experience for me. The program, it's great. It's been in place for a long time, and we've got a couple of guys there that's been with us for the whole ride."

The minute recruiting ends, everybody's focus is "What are we going to be on offense? What are we going to be on defense? What are we going to be in the kicking game?"

Prior to working with Central Florida, Polian was a graduate assistant coach and special teams coordinator with the Browns.

The 1997 John Carroll University graduate is certainly no stranger to the gridiron, ranking up a trio of letters with the Division III Blue Streaks and earning a spot on the Ohio Athletic Conference squad in 1996. Graduating with a history degree, Polian wasted little time starting his career as he was. In mid-June 1997 as a defensive graduate assistant and special teams assistant from 1999-2000. While Polian was at Baylor, he said, "It was an opportunity to see which one is the better choice to do blue and gold on fall Saturdays."

"I personally have absolutely no complaints," Polian said. "For the most part, this is a new experience for me. The program, it's great. It's been in place for a long time, and we've got a couple of guys there that's been with us for the whole ride."

The like the mentality we've seen so far in the off-season. I think we've been working hard, and we want to get where they'll soon have their chance."
Notre Dame's new coaching staff ties together through both the collegiate and professional ranks of football.

Charlie Weis
Head Coach
Coached with New England Patriots and New York Jets (against Lewis and Parmalee in both instances) and with New York Giants.

Bill Lewis
Asst. Head Coach (Defense)/Def. Backs
Nickel package coach with Dolphins (against Weis, who was in New England and New York, and with Parmalee).

David Cutcliffe
Asst. Head Coach (Offense)/Quarterbacks
Head coach at Ole Miss from 1998-2004. While Weis made Tom Brady a star quarterback in the NFL, Cutcliffe is known for pumping out quarterback talent from college, including Peyton Manning, Heath Shuler and Tee Martin at Tennessee and Eli Manning at Ole Miss.

John Latina
Offensive Line Coach
Offensive line coach all six seasons with Cutcliffe at Ole Miss offensive coordinator the past five years.

Michael Haywood
Offensive Coordinator & Running Backs
Four-year football letterwinner at Notre Dame (1982, 84-86).

Rick Minter
Defensive Coordinator & Linebackers
Ball State defensive coordinator while Parmalee played there. Two-year defensive coordinator at Notre Dame (92-93). Defensive coordinator under Lou Holtz at South Carolina in 2004, with Oliver as defensive line coach.

Jappy Oliver
Defensive Line Coach
Defensive line coach at South Carolina under Lou Holtz last season with Minter as defensive coordinator.

Rob Ianello
Receivers Coach & Recruiting Coordinator
Regarded as one of the top recruiters in the country, Ianello was on-campus recruiting coordinator and recruiting coordinator for two seasons each under Wisconsin head coach Barry Alvarez, who was Notre Dame linebackers coach (1987), defensive coordinator (1988) and assistant head coach (1988).

Bernie Parmalee
Tight Ends & Special Teams Coach
Coached alongside Lewis in Miami as assistant special teams, offensive assistant and tight ends coach in three seasons (2002-2004). Also played at Ball State when Minter was the team's defensive coordinator.

Brian Polian
Asst. Defensive Backs & Special Teams
The son of Indianapolis Colts president Bill Polian, Brian was the running backs coach and recruiting coordinator in 2004 at the University of Central Florida. He brings recruiting experience from yet another area of the country.