Dorm life, policies elicit mixed emotions

Students, administrators grapple with disciplinary future

By MADIE HANNA
Assoc. News Editor

And our hearts forever, love thee, Notre Dame. It's a lyric that evokes emotion for tens of thousands of swaying, flat-footed fans at the close of home football games. But even among the ranks of the Notre Dame faithful, there are disillusioned students for whom "forever" has lost its meaning. "I love this place, and now I'm to the point where I'm going to transfer... I never thought I'd be here," said a male junior who wished to remain anonymous. "It makes me sad. At this point last year, I wanted to stay in college forever. Now I can't wait to get out." The junior, who recently paid his fourth visit to the Office of Residence Life and Housing, said he felt the University had been excessively severe and unreasonable given his particular violations. He represents three generations of Domers, but he thinks it might end there. "Which is really sad, for the future," he said. "Kids like me are going to leave this school, and I don't know if I want my kids to come here." It's not even a majority, or even a large minority of students. But students who are frustrated with the University's judicial system and disciplinary policies raise important questions about what direction Notre Dame will take in the future.

see FUTURE/page 10

Faith, feminism fuse at SMC

Students juggle Catholicism and women's issues at Saint Mary's

By EMILY LAVELLE and LAUREN LAVELLE
News Writers

Editor's Note: This is the third in a three-part series examining the perception of feminism within the Saint Mary's community.

Some students at Saint Mary's College find it difficult to incorporate feminist ideals into their Catholic lifestyles because the two sometimes have different stances on social issues — finding a balance can be tricky, they said. But many students at the College claim feminism can

see FAITH/page 6

Minorities now urban majority, expert says

By KAITLYNN RIELY
News Writer

Stanford professor Alberet Camarillo said Thursday that due to demographic changes, racial populations generally considered minorities in the United States now make up the majority in urban areas.

In a lecture at McKenna Hall, Camarillo used U.S. Census statistics to show the dramatic increase in minorities in such areas. In 1970, the 20 largest United States cities were comprised of 38 percent minorities, but in 2000 the minority population grew to 60 percent, he said. It's going to mean greater interaction between various minorities that now constitute the majority of the country's largest cities,” he said. Camarillo demonstrated this new racial distribution through racial demographics in Compton, located in the metropolitan center of Los Angeles County. Born and raised in Compton, Camarillo said his interest in the sociology of the city began when he returned after 30 years away to find a different

see RACE/page 8

Final game prompts nostalgia from seniors

By KATIE PERRY
Assoc. News Editor

Within the walls of Notre Dame Stadium Saturday, amidst a sea of people who overlook a sea of gilded helmets, thousands of seniors will bid farewell to a tradition cherished for four years — but memories made under blue skies won't be soon feeling. "Despite feeling bittersweet about it being the last game, it's going to be really awesome reminiscing about four years of football — even if two of those years weren't so good," senior T.J. Tevesco said. "You can't really be too sad when you've gotten up at 8 a.m. and had a great time with your closest friends for 24 Saturdays of your college career." Saturday's 2:30 p.m. kickoff against Syracuse will mark the beginning of the end for nearly a quarter of Notre Dame's undergraduate student body. Seniors said though they are excited for the game, football nostalgia has already begun to set in. "I have my usual excitement heading into the game, but along with that is a sadness at it being the last game," senior Nick Plautz said. "I'm not ready to be done standing in..."

see FOOTBALL/page 8

Vet, 75, proud to be ND-enrolled

By MARY KATE MALONE
News Writer

When Ralph "Lefty" Guillette tells people he's a student at Notre Dame, he usually gets the once-over and a response along the lines of "Yeah, right." But Guillette can't blame them. After all, he is 75 years old. "I show them my student I.D. and say, "Eat your heart out — I'm a student," he said. In mid-July 2005, Guillette was accepted to the theology course the Korean and Vietnam War vet enrolled in this semester.

see LEFTY/page 9
Wash the "wave" out

It started out like any other beautiful Saturday afternoon at Notre Dame Stadium. The sun was shining, I couldn’t see my own breath and the two girls in front of me who found their cell phones more fascinating than the sixth-best football team in the country decided to leave early. It was just another Notre Dame romp, going off without a hitch.

And then it happened — people started doing the wave. I never thought I’d see the day when I would yell at the stand up with their arms raised and alumni to sit down, but low and behold, all of Notre Dame Stadium was jumping up and down as Unoriginal President Father John Jenkins had cancelled classes for the Wednesday before Thanksgiving (please?).

The Chambers 21st Century Dictionary defines the wave as "a rippling wave effect that passes right around a stadium full of spectators, achieved when all the spectators in turn stand up with their arms raised and then sit down again with their arms lowered." Thanks Chambers, but here’s our definition of the wave: stupid.

Notre Dame has a long history of touchy guys: Shula, Reheiser, Miller, Crowley and Larymle, not to mention Gipp. Pursglove, Bettis and Weis.

And then this is the best we fans can do? Find our arms stiffly and make a noise the Pillsbury Doughboycomparison was way too enough to make Knute Rockne cry.

According to Tony Burton, author of "Western Mexico: A Traveler’s Treasury," the wave first started popping up in the 1980s. While no one is entirely sure who gave rise to the very first wave, those claiming responsibility are the Oakland Raiders, the Seattle Mariners and the University of Washington.

Think about those origins for a second. First, anything to come out of 1980s pop culture is tacky and lame. I mean fancy packs? Are you serious? Second, it figures that the same geniuses who hired Tx, Willingham in 2005 also unleashed the low-point of human expression that is the wave.

The wave is done when one team is being blown out and the crowd has lost interest in the game. Thus, doing the wave is either a sign of disrespect to the away team or a sign of giving up on the home team. The wave doesn’t belong in Notre Dame Stadium, where we respect our opponents and we want our football team. It’s like someone starting the "arm wave" in the middle of the Our Father at the Basilica.

It’s no coincidence that immediately after the crowd started doing the wave, Brady Quinn threw his first interception in 131 attempts. The football gods had to punish our infidelity, so they came down from their heavens and clipped Brady Quinn’s anatomically perfect right arm so that the ball would land in the waiting hands of Navy’s DuJuan Price.

If you want to do the wave, go to Wisconsin, but if you want to see college football the way it was meant to be, then come the University of Notre Dame, where tradition means a little more. Oh, and alumni? Now you can stand up.

Contact Jack Thornton at j Thornton@nd.edu

The views expressed in the Inside Column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer.

CORRECTIONS

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

IN BRIEF

University President Emeritus Father Edward Malloy will be signing copies of his new book, "Michelle’s Notre Dame," today from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. in Hammes Bookstore.

The Notre Dame Choral and Chamber Orchestra will hold a concert tonight at 9 p.m. in the Leighton Concert Hall. General tickets $8 for faculty and staff and $3 for students.

Asian Allure, an event celebrating Asian heritage and culture at Notre Dame, will take place tonight at 8 p.m. in Washington Hall.

A TRANSPO bus will provide transportation to Alumni Field for students who wish to attend the men’s and women’s NCAA Tournament soccer games tonight at 5 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. respectively. The loop will run from 4 p.m. to approximately 9 p.m. and will make stops at Library Circle, the Grotto and McKenna Hall.

The Irish men’s basketball team will face Lafayette in Notre Dame’s season opener at 2 p.m. Sunday at the Joyce Center. Notre Dame defeated Lewis and Quincy in exhibition match-ups earlier this month.

The Vienna Choir Boys, touted as one of the most celebrate children’s choir in the world, will kick off the holiday season in 3 p.m. performance on Sunday, Nov. 27 at the Marie P. DeBartolo Center for the Performing Arts.

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

OFFBEAT

Singapore seeks to flush long toilet lines

SINGAPORE — After launching "Happy Toilet" rankings similar to hotel star ratings and directing tourists to the cleanest commodes in Singapore, the city-state is now aiming to flush away yet another problem when nature calls: queues at women’s toilets.

"Today in modern Singapore we are privileged to have adequate public toilets to keep our privacy and dignity," the local branch of the World Toilet Organization said in a statement.

"Looking closer, women here still have to queue up to use the public toilets now. It’s a common sight. And men do, too," it said.

The city-state’s National Environment Agency, in collaboration with the local branch of the World Toilet Organization, has its sights set on whittling down the waiting time for women in public restrooms.

Man calls mom after he was reported dead

OAKLAND, Calif. — Anthony Sheppard shocked his mother this week with a telephone call, a day after he was reported dead.

"When he called me I thought I was talking to a ghost," Verna McCowan said.

Oakland police on Tuesday bungled the identification of a man shot to death after finding Sheppard’s identification card on the victim. Authorities alerted his mother of the shooting, and released the details to reporters.

Sheppard, 23, said he was shocked when he walked up to a group of friends on Wednesday who were crying while reading a newspaper account of his death.

Information compiled from the Associated Press.

QUESTION OF THE DAY: WHAT ARE YOUR THOUGHTS ON THE LAST HOME GAME OF THE SEASON?

Matthew Zill
freshman
Dillon

"It makes me sad to see Samuirdz's year end."

Brendan Devitt
freshman
Dillon

"I hope it snows at the game."

Margaret Morgan
senior
Lewis

"It'll be sad, but at least it's a big rivalry to finish on."

Emily Newport
freshman
Lewis

"It's sad, but there's still the next three years."

Dana Gusky
freshman
Lewis

"There goes my eye candy."

An lone snowman stands guard in front of Morrissey Manor Thursday. Unseasonably cold temperatures swept the region late this week, bringing a blast of flurry and wind to campus that took some Domers by surprise.
Iraq weapons search leader visit campus

Special to The Observer

David Kay, senior research fellow at the Potomac Institute for Policy Studies and former head of the U.S. effort to find weapons of mass destruction in Iraq, will present a lecture titled "What is the Future of Non-Proliferation?" at 7:30 p.m. Monday in the McKenna Hall auditorium at Notre Dame.

The presentation is free and open to the public as part of a 10-lecture series titled "Thoughts on the Unthinkable: Perspectives on Nuclear Weapons and Warfare." It is sponsored by the Department of Physics, Center for Social Concerns, College of Science and Beilby Center for Science Technology and Values.

In June 2003, President Bush directed that oversight of the hunt for Iraqi weapons of mass destruction (WMDs) be transferred from the Defense Department to the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA), after which the director of the CIA appointed Kay to lead the search and direct the activities of the 1,400-member Iraq Survey Group. Kay reported in January 2004 that there had been no stockpiles of WMDs in Iraq at the time of the U.S. invasion of the country and resigned his position.

The report led to Congressional hearings and the appointment of an independent commission to investigate the causes of U.S. intelligence failures prior to the war, as well as how this intelligence was communicated and used by policymakers.

Kay earned his bachelor's degree from the University of Texas and his master's and doctoral degrees in international affairs from Columbia University. He served as the chief nuclear weapons inspector for the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) and the United Nations Special Commission, leading numerous inspections into Iraq after the first Gulf War to determine Iraqi nuclear weapons production capability. While in Iraq, he led teams that found and identified the scope and extent of Iraqi uranium enrichment activities, located the major Iraqi center for assembly of nuclear weapons, and seized numerous documents on the development of nuclear weapons. At one point, he spent four days as a hostage in a Baghdad parking lot.

Kay has 15 years of management experience with international organizations and trade associations and has received the IAEA's Distinguished Service Award and a commendation from the U.S. Secretary of State. He also has served on the Defense Science Board, the U.S. State Department's Advisory Commission on International Organizations, the Rockefeller Foundation's Advisory Group on Conflicts in International Relations, and the U.S. delegation to the UN General Assembly.

GE vice president speaks at SMC

Susan Peters, a notable alumna, lectures on leadership development

By SARAH VOS
New Writer

Susan Peters, alumna of Saint Mary's Class of 1975 and vice president of executive development at General Electric Company (GE) spoke about the roles of women in corporate America at the Morneau Center for the Arts Thursday.

Peters' lecture, "Leadership Development," was part of the 2005 Shannon Executive Scholar Lecture, an honor granted annually to a Saint Mary's alumna who has achieved exceptional success in the professional world.

Peters spoke to the audience about what she recognizes as good leadership skills among the CEOs and other top executives. She said skills such as problem-solving, courage, motivation, willingness to learn, effective communication and tenacity are valuable traits for management and executive positions.

"Find a place where early experiences give you stretch opportunities, because that's where development takes place," Peters said.

Peters said Saint Mary's students have above average "performance, values and integrity — which are library tickets into the game."

She said the important thing is what happens with a given ticket of talents — whether it is wasted or utilized efficiently.

Peters emphasized the importance of providing a possible place for everyone in the workplace.

"Provide an environment where everyone can excel," she said.

There is value in real-life experience in conjunction with formal education, she said.

"You can sit in a lot of classrooms or training sessions, but your development will happen each and every day," Peters said.

Peters said good leaders are able to swallow their pride and that "It's OK to say, 'I don't know.'"

"Every leader is also a worker," she said.

Peters' message resonated with many senior business majors in the audience.

"Being a senior and knowing that we'll be working at a company in less than a year, (Peters) gave good points on how to handle yourself and how to work your way up," senior Bridget Boyce said.

Senior Megan McElhiney said Peters had "a lot of valuable insights" on the business world.

"A lot of things she spoke about we had talked about in business classes, and it was great to see that what we learn in class is applicable in the real world," she said.

Contact Sarah Voss at vossof@ saintmarys.edu
SISTAR grant recipients present results at SMC

By LISA GALLAGHER

Three faculty-student team recipients of the 2005 Student Independent Study and Research (SISTAR) grants presented their research and findings in VanderVennet Theatre at Saint Mary's Thursday. According to the Center for Academic Innovation, the grants are awarded to support research and study for two months during the summer. The experience helps foster the student's personal development as a confident independent scholar, and the faculty member also benefits from collaborating with an advanced student.

Dr. Kitty Green, assistant professor in the Education Department, and senior Lauren Condon are using multicultural service learning to connect teachers, students and communities. During the summer, Green and Condon collaborated to design a unit that will be implemented in three high school English classes. Condon said many of the students she will be working with have no interest in school. They do not hand in their work and do not attend class on a regular basis.

Students will read "To Kill a Mockingbird" in conjunction with the theme "You Can't Really Know a Person Until You Have Walked in Their Shoes," and use the theme to gain a deeper understanding of others. "Kids need to know where things are going," Condon said. "I think this project will have a huge affect on the way I teach; teaching the heart, not just the head."

Green began her study in her class Theory and Practice Service-Learning. Using student responses and data, Green noted an increase in the students' own personal awareness, in the respect between teachers and students, in class unity and the appreciation for students' roles in the community. Though the team has not decided on a conference to present its findings, it is looking forward to spring. Condon said she would like to report her findings in a journal of education.

Dr. Mana Derakhshani, associate professor of French, and senior Megan McGee's research is themed "A Magic Carpet Ride." The idea derived from an article of the same title that said through teaching culture in a foreign language class, students cannot magically be transported to a cultural understanding. McGee said she wanted to study the impact of cultural sensitivity of high school students. She traveled for two weeks through rural England, France and Spain with 16 students from Val Christian High School in her hometown of Vail, Colo. McGee said the students would likely develop a higher level of cultural sensitivity through out the trip and post-trip reflections. Using qualitative and quantitative evidence, she found there was a big discrepancy between the students' perceived sensitivity toward a culture and their actual developing sensitivity.

There was also an increase in defensesiveness and a decrease in minimization, the idea that "we are all the same." McGee said the high school students made broad generalizations about different cultures and learning to negative experiences, such as the London bombings, but did not cling to stereotypes.

Derakhshani conducts her research in the college setting. Though her research will not be complete until the end of the spring semester, her method is to ask students in her French and Italian classes their initial ideas about the culture and language they are studying. She will then be able to evaluate whether studying a foreign language fosters development in cultural sensitivity.

Kurt Buhring, assistant professor of religious studies, received the Mary Jane R. Burke and Daughters SISTAR Award, which assists an untapped faculty member in his or her student partnership. Along with senior Joshua S. W., 2005, the team focused their research on divine and human responses to human suffering in liberation theology and process theology. The team struggled with the question of why suffering, injustices and oppression are present in the world.

Wolfe said she has learned it is everyone's responsibility to act and respond to suffering and oppression in the world. Liberation theology focuses on the idea that Jesus identifies with the poor and oppressors. "(People) understand God in the traditions sense," Buhring said. "There are lots of different ways of understanding God -- this is just one of them," he said.

Contact Lisa Gallagher at/lgallag1@ saintmarys.edu

Education trial affects 10 states

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — In a federal experiment, up to 10 states will be allowed to change how they measure yearly student progress, the cornerstone of President Bush's education law, The Associated Press has learned.

The latest shift in enforcement of the No Child Left Behind law, to be announced Friday, is significant politically. Frustrated states have been pleading for permission to try this "growth model," which may make it easier for them to meet their goals and avoid penalties.

Education Secretary Margaret Spellings plans to let states apply for the right to measure how much progress children are making, as they move between grades.

Currently, schools are judged based on how today's students compare to last year's students in math and reading -- such as fourth-graders in 2005 versus fourth-graders in 2004. Many state leaders don't like comparing two different groups of kids because there's no regard given to changes in population or credit given for kids who make gains but fall short.

Fall 2005 Schedule

Experience an intimate discussion with Notre Dame's most engaging faculty speakers on some of the most pressing issues of our times.

Friday: November 18, 2005

9/17--Michigan State
Linda Przybysewski, Associate Professor of History
"Catholic, Concubines, and the Constitution: 19th-Century Barteros Over Church and State"

10/15--UCSC
Thomas Slaughter, Andrew V. Tackes Professor of History
"Exploring Lewis and Clark"

10/22--BYU
James McDena, Rev. Edmund P. Joyce, C.S.C., Professor of Anthropology
"Caring for Babies, Caring for Parents: What Human Infants Really Need and Why"

11/5--Tennessee
Julia Braungart-Riker, Professor of Psychology
"Understanding Personality and Emotional Development: Babies and Children"

11/12--New
Lawrence Cunningham, John A. O'Brien Professor of Theology
M. Cathleen Kaveny, John P. Murphy Foundation Professor of Law, Rev. Richard McBrien, Crowley-O'Brien Professor of Theology
"A Change at the Top: Pope Benedict XVI (Sine Musei of Art"

11/19--Syracuse
Maria Tomasula, Michael P. Grace Associate Professor of Art, Art History and Design
"Vast: The Art of Maria Tomasula"

Maria Tomasula
Michael P. Grace Associate Professor of Art, Art History and Design

An award-winning painter, Tomasula's work recalls the work of 18th and early 19th-century Spanish Baroque religious painters. Her presentation will explore the inspiration and technique of her highly stylized, symbolic compositions. The presentation, held in the Snite Museum of Art, will include slides of Tomasula's work.

For more information, visit http://saturdayscholar.nd.edu

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INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Bush and Putin discuss issues

The two leaders meet to speak about terror and nuclear ambitions

Associated Press

South Korea

Bush and Putin discuss issues

Bush also met to speak with Southeast Asia leaders to underscore U.S. interest in the region, one of the battlegrounds in the fight against terrorists. Bush planned to ask the leaders to exert their influence on the military junta in Myanmar, which Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice said was "one of the worst regimes in the world" for its record on human rights and free speech. Putin has refused to support Bush in the president's eagerness to go to the U.S. Security Council with suspicions Iran is trying to build a nuclear arsenal. Over U.S. objections, Russia is building a nuclear reactor for a power plant in Iran, an $800 million project the United States fears could be used to help develop nuclear arms. Putin says that he shares the United States' goal of an Iran without nuclear arms but that Washington must also engage Tehran to resolve its mushrooming questions from both sides.

They want us to retreat. They want us to give in and hand over a nuclear arsenal to the terrorists of the world," said Putin. "We will not give in."

They are united against U.S. threats and we have become a competitor, a rival." Putin said.

"Our troops have become the primary target of the insurgency. They are being thrown at U.S. forces and we have become a catalyst for violence," he said.

In a biting response, Republicans criticized Murtha's position as one of abandonment and surrender and accused Democrats of playing politics with the war and recklessly pushing a "cut and run" strategy.

They generally agreed on a need to avert the spread of nuclear weapons technology to other nations, including North Korea. Russia is a partner with the United States, China, Japan and South Korea in talks aimed at persuading North Korea to halt its nuclear program in return for energy and security guarantees.

The political relationship between Bush and Putin has frayed, in part because of U.S. concerns that Putin is consolidating power in the Kremlin and creating democratic advances in post-Soviet Russia.

Local News

Outdoor smoke ban at state center

Democrats seek U.S. withdrawal

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — One of Congress' most vocal advocates of the U.S. war on terror said Thursday for the first time that the U.S. military's decision to withdraw from Iraq has eroded his credibility with his colleagues on both sides of the aisle. Rep. Tom Tancredo, a Republican from Colorado, told The Associated Press Thursday that he no longer supports the war in Iraq because it had become a "bigger distraction.

Bush and Putin have

President Bush touches hands with Jiji Sunim, a chief monk, during his visit to the Bulguksa Temple in South Korea, Thursday.

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The political relationship between Bush and Putin has frayed, in part because of U.S. concerns that Putin is consolidating power in the Kremlin and creating democratic advances in post-Soviet Russia.
"Feminism is so deeply connect- ed to our mission as a college in terms of empowering women and creating women leaders," said Astrid Henry, director of the Women's Studies Program. "I think students can see there is a connectivity between the two things and they are not in contradic- tion, even though some people feel like feminism is in contradic- tion to a Catholic women's col- lege."

Director of Spirituality Sister Kathleen Dolphi shares this view. "If you really explore what Catholic teaching has to say about the dignity of the human person, and what the Catholic Church has had to say about integrating human reason and faith, you've got a very strong background to foster the rights of women," she said. In her five years at Saint Mary's, Dolphi said she has noticed a pro- gression toward a better understand- ing of feminism at the College. This progression is a result of student's willingness to question and explore the Church's teaching, she said. "It's okay to ask questions because of the Catholic under- standing of the use of human reason and faith," she said. "As thinking human beings, we have a moral obligation to ask ques- tions — and ask hard ques- tions." Senior Jennifer Robbins, peer minister and Mission Commissioner, said Catholics should question the Church's teaching about women's rights. "As an institution committed to educating Catholic women ... we don't hide from challenges, we absolutely seek out challenges to our faith," Robbins said. "We don't hide from things we're afraid might contradict what we already know."

Director of Campus Ministry Judith Fean said as an institution of higher education, Saint Mary's is a place for women to be critical and ask questions. The question of balancing feminism and Catholicism is a common one, and Saint Mary's is a place for stu- dents to seek a better understand- ing of the issue, she said. "Feminism is about a dialogue, and Saint Mary's fosters that," Fean said. Fean said she supports the College's allowance for groups like Feminist United, the Straight and Gay Alliance (SAGA) and the Feminist United, the Straight and gay Alliance (FUSAG). "Groups like SAGA are here to ask questions," she said. "They wouldn't be here if there wasn't a value of why they are here."

Robbins said she supports the allowance of such clubs, and said it is the College's duty as a Catholic institution to support the open inquiry of its students. "Good for Saint Mary's for rec- ognizing the beautiful diversity we have on our campus, and for real- ly wanting to genuinely learn how to overcome what separates us and how to embrace each other," she said. "That's what the Catholic call."

Dolphin said once students question how to incorporate femi- nism into Catholic life, they will find answers to allow them to accommodate both. "Senior Women's Studies minor Maryann Sensore has found this to be true. She said the key in bal- ancing both value systems is to create a definition of feminism that tends to one's personal and reli- gious beliefs."

"Just like you can be conservative and liberal politically, you can be a liberal or conservative femi- nist," she said. "For example, I would never have an abortion but I believe women have the right to choose."

Dolphin advises students that in order to make educated decisions, they must consider both the Church's tradition and their expe- riences as women. "I always caution my students, don't just stand out there in the middle ground and be a fence-sit- ter. Know what you are talking about," she said. Robbins also said finding a middle ground between feminism and Catholicism is difficult, but there are plenty of resources on campus that can help students with diffi- cult questions.

"Take advantage of the opportu- nities at Saint Mary's," she said. "Talk to professors, because you've got [many] here who are ... willing to talk to students about things on a one-to-one basis."

"Feminism is about a dialogue, and Saint Mary's fosters that."

Judith Fean director SMC Campus Ministry Faith continued from page 1 indeed coexist with a Catholic environment. One of the conflicts students encounter is questioning the relationship between Catholicism and feminism the Church's stance on women's issues. "I think it's difficult for the Saint Mary's community to categorize itself as a feminist community while also being a Catholic col- lege, as the ideals of both cate­ gories, while great in thought, often conflict in practice," junior Molly McGuire said.

Senior Meghan Daley said because it is a Catholic Institution, Saint Mary's should not encourage femi- nist values that dis­ regard Catholic teach- ing. "I believe that as a Catholic col­ lege, Saint Mary's has a responsibility to foster only those feminist ideals that are in keeping with Church teaching," Meghan Daley senior.

"As a Catholic college, Saint Mary's has a responsibility to foster only those 'feminist' ideals that are in keeping with Church teaching."

"Feminism is about a dialogue, and Saint Mary's fosters that."
MARKET RECAP

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Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Senate Republicans back Democratic attempts Thursday to use a $10 billion tax bill to pinch oil and energy companies that have been reporting record profits while consumers pay high gasoline prices.

The bill, which would prevent a number of individual and business tax breaks from expiring, was defeated on a 59-41 procedural vote. Senate Majority Leader Tom Daschle, D-S.D., said he would vote against the bill if that tax increase remained intact.

"Is it a windfall tax by another name?" Craig said. Lawmakers were alarmed this week when a profit reports showed five major companies and their parent corporations earned more than $32.8 billion in the July to September quarter.

Consumers saw gasoline prices soar beyond $1 a gallon in the aftermath of supply disruptions caused by hurricanes, and the politicians called oil executives to Capitol Hill to explain their huge profits.

Democrat Sens. Byron Dorgan of North Dakota and Chris Dodd of Connecticut urged the oil companies to impose a temporary windfall profits tax of 50 cents per barrel on the sale of oil above $40 a barrel, applied to profits not reinvested in increasing domestic oil and gas supplies. They would have returned the money to energy consumers through an income tax rebate. A 35-64 procedural vote defeated their effort.

"The major integrated oil companies have all of the gain. Who has all the pain?" Dorgan asked before answering his own question: "All the American people who are trying to pay for the price of a tankful of gas or trying to figure out how they are going to heat their home in the winter."

Opponents said oil companies shouldn't be punished when consumers are being gouged during national energy emergencies.

The Senate defeated a proposal that would have eliminated a tax incentive for major oil and gas companies that allows them a credit for exploration and development cost. An amendment to ban price gouging during national energy emergencies declared by the president was defeated. A House measure to give the president the power to fix oil prices failed by short vote.

Broader economic news was more upbeat. The Labor Department reported that consumer prices edged up just 0.1 percent in October, the best showing in four months. In September, consumer prices had soared by 1.2 percent on record energy prices. That inflation increase was the largest one-month jump in 25 years. Sales of new cars were also up, but that couldn't offset the loss of jobs.

"We did get surprising oil inventory data, but it's still below that $60 range," said Peter Cardillo, chief strategist, senior vice president and market analyst, S.W. Bach & Co. "The market is running against options expiration, which is causing technical difficulty." The Dow fell 116.8, or 0.11 percent, to 10,674.76. The major stock indicators were barely higher. The Standard & Poor's 500 index rose 2.20, or 0.18 percent, to 1,231.21, and the Nasdaq composite index rose 1.19, or 0.05 percent, to 2,173.93.

Bonds rose sharply as stocks declined, with the yield on the 10-year Treasury note falling to 4.47 percent from 4.56 percent late Tuesday. The U.S. dollar was mixed against other major currencies in Europe.

Gold prices were higher.
Football
continued from page 1
the student section for every game." Tudesco said some of his own sadness has been offset by the apparent resurgence of the foot-
ball program.
"It's nice to see the future sessions more crowded than what we got here," he said. "Even when we started 8-0 as fresh-
men, I never got the sense it was going to last — the luck was going to eventually run out. I'm jealous that the current freshmen have three more years of great football to watch." Tudesco said his "hat is off" to head coach Charlie Weis — and other seniors as well.
"I'm very glad that I was lucky enough to be here for Coach Weis' first season," senior Bob Rodlington said. "There were a lot of exciting games I was able to attend, in particular the USC game. Even though we lost, it was still an amazing game — one that people won't forget for a long time."
Many seniors said the Irish's performance against USC — tandems with their overall success this season — has helped appease feelings of melancholy that will accompany Saturday's home closer.
"Coming in with [former coach Tyrone] Willingham was great, because everyone was excited to be having a winning season," senior Amy Lyrek said. "But this year, Saturday is already our last home game, I'm looking forward to going to a bowl and watching Notre Dame win its first bowl since the 1993 Gator Bowl win over Texas A&amp;M," he said.
"But before the Irish's faithful look ahead to January, seniors said they will make this weekend's game as memorable as possible.
"For the first time, I'm having a tailgate with my dad," Tudesco said. "It'll be nice to celebrate the last game with someone who has been such an important part of me being here."
Plantan said he plans to wake up "earlier than usual" so as to cherish every moment. "This last home football experience as a Notre Dame student.
"I'm going to — spend the whole day hanging out with friends tailgating (to make the last game last as long as possi-
ble)," he said.
While seniors will spend the weekend in reflection, the University's newest generation of Doners said the winning season has primed them for three more years of Notre Dame football.
"This football season has been everything I could have asked for, and way more than I expected," freshman Brad Blomstrom said. "We've witnessed close games, blowout wins and the stadium has been full of energy."
Freshman Kyle Lee Andrews also said the season was "a lot more than [he] expected."
"After the past few years this is a great change," he said. "The games are so much fun and all of my friends at other schools are jealous. This season is making me very excited for seasons to come — next year should be amazing."
Students said though the sea-
son's excitement will dwindle somewhat with the arrival of the Orange Bowl, which have closed just one win this season — they haven't disappointed with Saturday's opponent.
"They'll be looking to salvage their season, and I doubt they will just roll over for our BCS hopes," Tudesco said.
Rodlington said Notre Dame home games are always an enjoyable experience — regardless of the opponent.
"I'm not really disappointed with our matchup this season against Syracuse because we've already been lucky to see exciting games against Michigan State, Southern California and Tennessee at home," Blomstrom said.
Andrews said he anticipates a good game, but the only thing he knows about the Orange is that their record this season "isn't too hot" — much like the weather forecasts that predict a blustery atmosphere Saturday.
Plantan said he hopes the win-
team weather will continue through the weekend.
"I want it to snow on Saturday," he said. "I've hoped for a snow game for all four years I've been here and it hasn't happened yet. I think it would be cool for some snow to fall."
Contact Katie Perry at kperry@nd.edu

Race
continued from page 1
community.
In his travels to different areas of the country, Camarillo said most people perceive Compton in a negative light and connect the city with gangster rap, gangs and its reputation as the U.S. murder capital of the 1980s and 90s.
"We must look beyond these images. We must allow the media to understand what is real-
ly going on in minority-majority populations," Camarillo said.
Camarillo showed the migration of African-Americans in Los Angeles County over the past five decades using distribution maps that showed areas of predominant race. Prior to the Civil Rights Act, real estate access in Los Angeles County dictated where African-Americans could or could not buy property. Consequently, African-Americans and Latinos lived in the most densely populat-
ed racial areas in the United States in the 1950s and 60s, he said.
Camarillo said African-
Americans were prohibited from living in Compton, but liberal whites bought homes for their African-American friends in the city. In seven years, Compton became predominately black as whites left the city for fear that the house values would decline with the presence of African-
Americans. Camarillo described the flight of whites from the city as a "white exodus.
As an extension of the white exodus, major banks left Compton and the infrastructure necessary to run the city began to collapse. Camarillo said they left Compton — as did crack cocaine.
"Now we have turf battles over who's selling or profiting from the sale of drugs," he said.
The city government was forced to put 60 to 70 percent of all reve-
 nue into policing the streets, and as a result the quality of schools declined. The rush of Mexican migration into Los Angeles County also influenced the social structure of Compton. By the year 2000, the Latino population was at 50 per-
cent.
Camarillo said the integration of Latino and African-American Indians was not smooth because African-Americans retained a monopoly on city counc-
el positions, even as the Latino population comprised the major-
ity.
"African-Americans are experi-
cing a sense of special belong-
ing — this is their city," Camarillo said. "They see Latinos as chang-
ing their neighborhoods, taking over their neighborhoods. This has a strong, reactive conse-
quence for people."
The schools in Compton present further breeding ground for con-
lict between the two groups. Schools run by African-
Americans are not pesquisa helping new immigrants learn English, so many Latinos are fall-
ing behind, he said.
Camarillo said the prospect for a more peaceful Compton lies with cooperation and understand-
ing between African-Americans and Latinos.
"There is a young group of people — young Latinos and African Americans — that are forcing ahead," Camarillo said. "They have a certain vision of what the future for Compton of which they want to be a part."
Camarillo is a professor of American history, the founding director of the Stanford Center for Chicago Research and the found-
ing executive director of the Inter-
University Program for Latino Research, headquartered at Notre Dame's Institute for Latino Studies.
The lecture, titled "The New Border Frontier in America: Minority-Majority Cities, the Case of Compton," was sponsored by the Institute for Latino Studies, the Institute for Scholarship in the Liberal Arts and the History, American Studies and Africana Studies departments.
Contact Kaitlynn Ridley at kridley@nd.edu

ECDC ANNUAL BOOK FAIR
When: Nov. 14-18 & 21, 2005, 8:00 a.m.-5:15 p.m.
Where: ECDC-ND and ECDC-SMC
(ECDC-ND is located on Bulla Road across from O'Hara Grace Residences, ECDC-SMC is located in Havican Hall on the Saint Mary's Campus)
What: Scholastic Book Fair with a wide selection of quality children's books for preschoolers through upper elementary grades, including chapter books. Cookbooks and other books great for families are also available for purchase.
How: Come and check out the wide selection of quality books available. Pay by cash, check or credit card.
Why: SUPPORT ECDC! Great holiday gifts. All funds raised will go towards the purchase of educational materials for ECDC.

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Lefty

continued from page 1

take one class at Notre Dame during the fall semester. So on Aug. 15, he loaded five suitcases and seven boxes into his black Chrysler, said goodbye to his wife and traveled 868 miles until he was beneath the Dome.

Guillette is currently enrolled in "War, Law and Ethics" — a theology course that fulfills a second theology credit and explores the ethical and legal considerations related to war.

He gets tears in his eyes when he talks about Notre Dame. He is considered the oldest undergraduate to ever walk Notre Dame's campus. And he might be the proud- est, too.

"I can't believe I'm here," Guillette said. "I sit in my class and it's like, pinch me. Am I really awake?"

Ralph "Lefty" Guillette student

"I can't believe I'm here. I sit in class and it's like, pinch me. Am I really awake?" Guillette pauses, his eyes turn glossy. He can't finish.

So how did this former Marine gunnery sergeant come to take a class at one of the most prestigious schools in the nation? Perseverance. Ambition and some string-pulling with the higher-ups, he said.

"In March of last year, I realized I was going to be in South Bend for the Michigan State game and the Southern California game, so I thought, why don't I just go to Notre Dame for the semester? So I made some phone calls, first to [Executive Director of Alumni Association] Chuck Lennon, who referred me to [Director of Admissions] Dan Saracino, who referred me to [Associate Director of Admissions] Michael Guillette," he said.

After two months, Guillette called Guillette and told him the University would not be able to accept him as a full-time student. Ganti suggested he get in touch with Arts and Letters Associate Director Ava Penrith, who could get him into one class for fall semester.

"[Preacher] had a class that she thought would be appropriate for me," Guillette said. "She said she could see what she could do. In mid-July, I was accepted into the class. So I really had to hustle to buy my computer, make travel arrangements and pack my car up.

Despite the age difference, Guillette's reaction wasn't unlike that of most Notre Dame hopefuls who receive the coveted acceptance letter.

"I bawled my head off. I yelled and screamed. I couldn't catch my breath. My wife thought I was having a heart attack," he said.

Guillette served in both the Korean and Vietnam wars. In 1969, after being accepted by shrapnel during combat in Vietnam, he committed himself to a list of 32 life goals — scribbled in pencil on the back of a phone number list.

"The naval nurse came up to me and asked What are your plans after the war? I was 26 years old, and had no idea," he said. "So that night I decided to make a list of what I wanted to do, called Goals and Objectives and Here's What I Want to Visit." I kept writing the goals for two days, and I believed that if I could do them all then I would be successful.

Attending Notre Dame was on that list — and 37 years later Guillette is living his dream.

"I enjoy life twice as much as anyone alive my age and I love this country," he said. "We're not here to crawl into a corner and meditate. Have dreams. Set goals."

There are still 13 goals left on his list, and Guillette continues to check them off as he ages, though he has never shown the list to anyone else.

Guillette estimates it is costing him about $22,000 in total for his class, lodging and meals. He lives alone in an apartment off of Bendix Road, and calls his wife — and I, my list to — Vermont twins.

"I have no clue what my grade is," he said. "I'll be happy with a B. We just took an exam; I'm hoping just to pass it. When you're over 50, you don't retain half as much as what you read."

His professor, Margaret Pfeil, teaches the class with military science professor Lt. Kelly Jordan. The class explores the ethical considerations of just war.

"I was surprised when I found out he was going to be in my class, but I am so excited for him," Pfeil said. "He clearly appreciates it. Because of his experience in the military, he was added a rich dimension to our discussion."

Guillette plans to go home for Thanksgiving, and he's considering applying to take another class at Notre Dame during the spring semester. He pointed his fis in the air when he talks about being a student at the University.

"If you want it bad enough, don't take no for an answer."
Future
continued from page 1
"You should leave here and go to Michigan State," University founder Father Edward Sorin had a vision that Notre Dame would become "one of the most powerful means for good in this country."

Today's vision of the future Notre Dame is a little more concrete: four new dorms, cable and wireless in every dorm, an off-campus commercial district and a new or renovated student center. And Notre Dame's traditional residence life system is a big part of that picture.

"I think of one thing that multiple studies we've done in the last couple of years has told us is that in many ways, residential life is working at Notre Dame really well," Assistant Vice President for Student Affairs Ann Firth told The Observer in September. "Students enjoy the experience -- they might like more space, they might like a few more features, but overall there's a great sense of community." But some students say that community is pushing them away.

A female junior said when she tried to reason with a staff member of the Office of Residence Life and Housing this fall, explaining that she would pay her fine and do her service hours but didn't need counseling, she was told Notre Dame would not accept her.

"In an unnecessarily confrontational tone, the staff member told me, 'That's not the way we work here at Notre Dame. We see people like you who are obviously heading down the path to destruction, and we want to stop you before you hurt yourself even further. If you just want punishment for what you've done, you should leave here and go to Michigan State," the junior said.

"By the time you're a senior, you're ready to move out," Evans said. "The support is great when you're a freshman, but if you try it it can become kind of restrictive."

"This place is not a paradise" No co-ed, all-female dorms in the office of the main campus. "There is a reason," the director continued. "I was really upset about this guy dumping me and I just wanted to go to bed. Upon hearing this, the rector said, "Well, I've been dumped by a guy before and I've never acted like this."

She said she was sent to the Office of Residence Life and Housing for "being intoxicated under the dorm."

The process wasn't "as bad as everyone says ... it was 10,000 times worse," she said.

Her bigger problem, however, was with the way she said her rector handled the situation.

"The day after the incident I described, I went to my rector's office, and my dad is up in it's one of the major reasons that Notre Dame is going to develop the social life."

But Saracino mentioned the "natural tension" about discipline that exists between students and administrators at an "intense academic institution."

"I am concerned," he said. "I am concerned the students don't have as many options in terms of social life. Drinking, I think, is more under control."

His thoughts on the future?

"We're not trying to be a Harvard, a Stanford or whatever -- we're just trying to be Notre Dame," Saracino said. "I think the campus development plan is really going to develop the social life."

"The male junior mentioned above, however, has serious doubts about Notre Dame's social scene.

"I think what's going to happen is with housing, whenever you're going to get a school that's not as social. You're going to find kids who find out from other people that Notre Dame's not that social," he said. "As far as the future's concerned ... if they continue to alienate the student body, know what you're getting into, because I certainly didn't."

His first three ResLives came during his sophomore year. Two of the three happened after he had been "drinking responsibly," he said.

After the third ResLife, he was told he had a week to move out of his dorm and placed on disciplinary probation until the end of the year, he said.

"You sit here telling me you think I have a problem, and you're telling me to go sleep on somebody's couch," he said.

He said his fourth violation came when he was at a tailgate hosted by his parents celebrating his sister's engagement to another recent Notre Dame graduate, eating with champagne petals flying around.

Then he was approached by a group of Notre Dame football players, Iowa State Excise Police and St. Joseph County Police officers and cited for minor in possession, he said.

He went to the Office of Residence Life and Housing and was given disciplinary probation through his senior year and 40 hours of community service.

Twelve days later, he received a letter from the Office saying "they, as a group, have decided" to send him to an intensive outpatient program to deal with his alleged alcohol problem, he said.

"My dad is up in arms," he said. "I'm an 18-year-old freshman who found out from other people that Notre Dame's not that social."

He believes the University will try to alienate the students through their disciplinary actions.

"They do crack down, its so like, why did I get picked out, when there's a tailgate three cars down the road with girls gunking?" the junior said. "A kid sitting in a truck with his parents shouldn't be ticketed. The University either has to take a stand on wet or dry. If it's going to be wet, they should wet and they shouldn't crack tight, they'd be concerned about enforcement."

"He's been confined by policy enforcement since his freshman year, but he said his assistant rector appealed to him after he threw a party with more than 100 hours of community service.

"I was told I did a great job, let's not do it again, but that was a model for other kids, to the point that he would tell other kids to come talk to him," he said. "I'm an 18-year-old freshman, I just held a party with a ton of people and beer, and I'm a role model, you know?"

"The disciplinary actions frustrate students, he said. And they "alienate the student body.""
Jury convicts Smith of kidnapping, murder
Case of 11-year-old girl brutally raped, strangled to death with conclusive evidence

Associated Press

SARASOTA, Fla. — The grainy images captured by a car wash's security camera were chilling: a bare-footed man in a mechanics uniform grabs the wrist of an 11-year-old girl walking home from a friend's house and leads her away. Carlin Brucia's half-naked body turned up several days later outside a church.

Jury returned Thursday that a former mechanic was the man in those images, which were broadcast nationwide during the search for Carlie's killer. After deliberating five hours, they convicted Joseph Smith, 39, of kidnapping, raping and strangling the girl.

Prosecutors built their case on the footage, the testimony of Smith's friends and co-workers who said they recognized Smith in the video, DNA and hair-analysis evidence, and the word of the defendant's brother, who said Smith confessed.

Smith, who did not take the stand, showed no emotion when the verdict was read. The jury will return for the sentencing phase on Nov. 28.

Carlie's mother, Susan Schorpen, wept softly with her head bowed when the verdict was read, and the girl's father, Joe Brucia, nodded when each of the three convictions was announced. As he left court, he said that only he was happy with the verdict.

"I can never hold her again. Where's the closure?" Schorpen said outside the courthouse. "I've lost one of the most precious things to me in my life because of an animal, a disgusting, perverted animal."

When asked if she was satisfied with the verdict, she responded: "When he's dead. When he meets his maker."

Carlie's killing spurred the introduction of federal and state legislation to crack down on probation violations.

At the time of the slaying, Smith was in violation of the terms of his probation on a cocaine charge because he failed to pay $411 in fines and court costs. But a judge declined to put him in jail, saying Florida does not have a "debtor's prison."

At the trial, Smith's lawyers raised questions about the reliability of the FBI lab where the evidence was analyzed and challenged the motives of Smith's brother, John, suggesting he was interested in the reward money.

The brother told the jury Smith had confessed to having "rough sex" with the girl and killing her, and told him where the body was. Prosecutors played taped jailhouse conversations Smith made with his brother and others in which Smith talked of being on drugs while committing the crime.

An FBI agent breathertransmitted an encrypted letter Smith wrote his sibling saying he had left Carlie's clothes and backpack in four trash bins.

Also, DNA analysis connected him to a semen stain on Carlie's shirt, and strands of hair from Smith's vehicle were found to match the girl's hair.

Before Carlie's slaying, Smith had been arrested at least 13 times since 1993, mostly on drug offenses. In one case, he was charged with kidnapping a 20-year-old woman, but was acquitted. He pleaded no contest in another case in which a woman said he hit her in the face with a motorcycle helmet. He was sentenced to 60 days in jail. He also served 17 months in prison on drug possession and fraud charges.

After the slaying, Rep. Katherine Harris, R-Fla., introduced legislation, named Carlie's Law, that would expand the reasons that could get a convicted criminal on federal probation sent back to prison. A version limited to sex offenders ultimately passed. Smith had not been convicted of sex offenses before Carlie's death.

Police find 54 guns in Pa. home

LITITZ, Pa. — Police seized 54 guns from the home of an 18-year-old man accused of killing his girlfriend's parents and fleeing the state with her, according to court documents filed Thursday.

Warwick Township police removed the weapons, which included an array of rifles, shotguns, handguns and ammunition, on Sunday afternoon from the home where suspect David Ludwig lived with his parents. The search occurred as police were still trying to find him and 14-year-old Kara Borden.

David Ludwig is being held without bail on murder and kidnapping charges after being flown back to Lancaster County on Tuesday from Indiana, where police captured him following a chase.

Police allege Ludwig shot Michael and Cathryn Borden shortly before 8 a.m. Sunday at their home in Lititz following an argument over his relationship with Kara. The two had been dating, apparently secret­ly, friends and witnesses said.

Ludwig was arrested around midday Monday after he crashed his parents' car into a tree in Belleville, Ind., about 60 miles from the murder scene, during a police chase. Neither Ludwig nor the girl, who has not been charged, was injured in the crash.

Investigators have said they are treating Kara Borden as a crime victim but that the investi­gation is continuing.

Ludwig's parents, Gregory and Jane Ludwig, issued a statement Wednesday expressing their sorrow over the slayings but have not spoken pub­licly.

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Notre Dame vs Syracuse Book Signings

Friday, November 18

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| Play for |
| Notre Dame | ted Mandell |
| 3:00 pm - 5:00 pm |

Saturday, November 19

| Future Doners |
| Sharon Bui | 10:00 am - 12:00 pm |
| The Spirit of Notre Dame | 10:00 am - 12:00 pm |

| My First Notre Dame Words: GO IRISH |
| Connie McNamara | 10:00 am - 12:00 pm |

| The Christmas Quilt Jennifer Chaveroni | 10:00 am - 12:00 pm |
| Mr. Notre Dame | Jason Kelly | 11:00 am - 1:00 pm |

| Notre Dame vs The Klan |
| Todd Tucker | 11:00 am - 1:00 pm |

| Legendary Notre Dame Quarterbacks |
| will be in the bookstore signing their new DVD "inside the Irish Huddle" | 10:00 am - 12:00 pm |

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Letter to the Editor

Sexual assault dialogue needed

In response to Sean Hoban’s Nov. 17 letter to the editor “Keeping Perspectives,” I think he misunderstood the argument. Katie Kelly and others are making. He said “these e-mails should be thought of as a tool for fighting rapists rather than a sinner of the victims.” Had I just been sexually assaulted the next day and a neighbor informed me to respond to my assailants warning others to take precautions, watch their drinks and not to wander off with strangers, the implication is that I did not take these precautions. Sexual assault occurs whether we watch our drinks or not. All students are at risk, and that is what these e-mails are for. 

And I’m not saying all men are rapists or that all rapists are men because this isn’t true. Sexual assault affects men, women, and children, so it is not only women only girls talk to about rape? How come nobody ever talks to men about it? Now not is it okay to sexually assault and/or commit rape? We talk to women because they are more likely to be assaulted but we don’t talk to men who are more likely to be the assailants. I believe Kelly’s quote in the Nov. 15 Observer article, “Group voices concern over e-mail wording,” was “I think it is great and important to know about sexual assault incidents on campus, but how is it put out there that is the problem.” Nobody is saying that safety precautions aren’t necessary or helpful, but I think it’s important to examine the information we put out, leave out, who we address and who we don’t address. Kelly also acted in response to anonymous postings in an online forum page, some of which say things about a woman’s personal responsibility to not lead men on and to watch what they wear because women can send mixed signals. When we have people who believe that a vic­ tim holds some responsibility because of what she was wearing then having an e-mail that states what precautions women need to take to avoid sexual assault enhances that belief. This is an important dialogue that needs to take place and I’m glad it’s finally being addressed. Sexual assault is never okay. And if you are a victim, it is never your fault.

Lery Verdugo
Assistant Director for Community Connections
Center for Women’s InterCultural Leadership
Saint Mary’s College
Nov. 18

Observer Poll

Are you planning to go to the last pep rally?

a. Yes, no enough student seats b. No, my legs are tired c. Yes, I won’t miss it for anything

*Phony answer makes V-ball polls look bad to non-respondents.

Observer Editorial

A dulac compromise

Notre Dame is not paradise. It’s not prison, either, despite what many disgruntled post-ResLife students may say.

The rules aren’t going anywhere, and reasonable students and rectors who detest parietals violations, and those with a clear policy that should always be encouraged, it’s in students’ best interest to recognize that the rules aren’t likely to collapse anytime soon under the weight of their complaints. Policies that are the University’s trademark — strict punishments for parietals violation — are not to be lightly looked down on, because they are grounded in the University’s values, as administrators stand by all rules that, they say, protect the community’s status as a positive, Catholic educational environment.

Immersion into that environment and all its values — the “ndam experience” ranging from academics to athletics to campus life — also means immersing into residence life and the regulations that come with it. Students who subscribe themselves to the University’s student life seminar while simultaneously blasting its rules might question the hypocrisy in their arguments. Like it or not, these rules are a part of the package, and choosing to attend Notre Dame implies consent to these consequences.

But that doesn’t mean the University should have to forego these rules irregularly or alter their consequences on a whim — which is how many frustrated and often confused students perceives the current system. Interviews and statistics indicate that enforcement hinges on a variety of factors, including the offending student’s gender, dorm and residence hall location. Unlike in most other institutions, the University’s ability to enforce its rules isn’t only depends on the will of those who make the rules, but also on the students themselves. (For example, I was just sexually assaulted the next day and a neighbor informed me to respond to my assailants warning others to take precautions, watch their drinks and not to wander off with strangers, the implication is that I did not take these precautions. Sexual assault occurs whether we watch our drinks or not. All students are at risk, and that is what these e-mails are for. We don’t talk to men who are more likely to be the assailants. I believe Kelly’s quote in the Nov. 15 Observer article, “Group voices concern over e-mail wording,” was “I think it is great and important to know about sexual assault incidents on campus, but how is it put out there that is the problem.” Nobody is saying that safety precautions aren’t necessary or helpful, but I think it’s important to examine the information we put out, leave out, who we address and who we don’t address. Kelly also acted in response to anonymous postings in an online forum page, some of which say things about a woman’s personal responsibility to not lead men on and to watch what they wear because women can send mixed signals. When we have people who believe that a vic­ tim holds some responsibility because of what she was wearing then having an e-mail that states what precautions women need to take to avoid sexual assault enhances that belief. This is an important dialogue that needs to take place and I’m glad it’s finally being addressed. Sexual assault is never okay. And if you are a victim, it is never your fault.

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*Phony answer makes V-ball polls look bad to non-respondents.
It all began for me in the fall of ’86. Some of the details may be a little fuzzy renown; however, one fact that was clear was that when I first came to South Bend for a Notre Dame game. From what I am told, we arrived in the “Bus of Fun.” — an RV that was painted green and gold. We ended up playing the Fight Song when you honked the horn. You could tell that I was one of those little girls dressed in Notre Dame cheerleaders’ uniform.

Not that first time in 1996, I have always made it down to Notre Dame for football season. I remember being awe-struck by the fight song with a brief log and having to go in a wheel chair because it was too long of a walk to the stadium. When I was 8 we had front row seats and the LeBron came on the court to make the free throw and then I asked what we talked about and I replied, “I wasn’t listening to him. He had read some things sometimes when there was too cold to tailgate outside we’d go to the Mert’s and just hang out in trouble for playing football down the halls.

While my first few years were mostly spent watching the cheerleaders and beg-
‘Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire’
Release date: Nov. 18
Distributor: Warner Bros.
Budget: $150 mil.

**Mike Newell**
eleventh career film

*HARRY POTTER AND THE GOBLET OF FIRE*

*Difficult times lie ahead, Harry.*

Harry Potter (Daniel Radcliffe)

Having faced many challenges in the previous films, Harry must get ready for a big one: adolescence. He, as well as many of his classmates, must begin the arduous process of growing up, and must face a new magical world that has been threatened by the resurgence of evil. Harry has the added burden of his mysterious entry into the Triwizard Tournament and learning more about his relationship to Voldemort.

Codirector (Clemente Potanne)

As another participant in the Triwizard Tournament, Harry hopes to prove Harry’s past, even though he is now being challenged. Though he has no control over the affection, Harry must figure out what to do.

**CAST**

Mike Newell is the third director in four films for the “Harry Potter” franchise. He is a veteran director but he has a tough act to follow in Alfonso Cuaron, whose “Prisoner of Azkaban” was easily the best of the series so far. Newell’s credits include mostly romantic comedies.

**PLOT**

“Harry Potter” scribes Steven Kloves has handled the writing duties for all four films in the series. His writing has become tighter and more effective with each ensuing effort. Here he has the mammoth task of condensing a 734-page book into a 157-minute feature film.

The real strength of the acting corps of “Narnia” lies with its wisedom supporting cast, which includes Tilda Swinton, who plays the wicked witch.

Newell’s filmography is uneven at best and he has yet to be tested in a project as big as “Harry Potter.” Fortunately, he is supported by a top-notch ensemble cast in the Harry Potter world. Newell has been in his stride in “Narnia,” in his first live-action directorial venture.

**DIRECTING**

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“Harry Potter” scribes Steven Kloves has handled the writing duties for all four films in the series. His writing has become tighter and more effective with each ensuing effort. Here he has the mammoth task of condensing a 734-page book into a 157-minute feature film.

The inaugural “Narnia” picture has the challenge of integrating a vast world to uninitiated viewers, much like the first film in Peter Jackson’s “Lord of the Rings” trilogy. In the novel, Lewis presents a world that is both whimsical and scary, often at the same time.

“Goblet of Fire” signals the turning point in the series as the plot is deeper and darker than the previous films. The crux of the action—the Triwizard Tournament—and the growing threat of Lord Voldemort return as a pall of foreboding doubt over the proceedings.

**SPECIAL FEATURES**

**ACTING**

“Potter” returns its core cast of young actors, who have only improved with each successive film. The series also features a solid supporting cast anchored by Robbie Coltrane as the lovable half-giant Hagrid and screen veteran Alan Rickman as the sneering Professor Snape.

**SCREENWRITING**

Adamson is no stranger to fantasy, as his skewered “Shrek 2” proved to be the best or the worst, depending on your point of view. The first installment in a proposed “Narnia” franchise features no less than four accredited screenwriters, including Adamson himself. Whether or not he can emerge with a cohesive vision remains to be seen. This unique challenge may prove to be the key to the film’s success.

Kloves, finally, has his stride in “Aakabah,” the third “Potter” film, and hopes to continue the trend in “Goblet of Fire.” Adamson’s screenplay for “Shrek 2” proves that he is a capable writer but splitting time with the movie and other collaborators may impede a cohesive vision.

**ANALYSIS**

Mike Newell faces the daunting task of shepherding the $2.8 billion “Harry Potter” film franchise into lighter territory. Andrew Adamson’s experiences directing the charming “Shrek” films will be the difference in the first “Narnia” film’s ability to fill the mighty shoes vacated by the “Lord of the Rings” trilogy. “Narnia” pulls ahead by the length of Adamson’s whiskers.

“Harry Potter” has established itself as a successful franchise, commercially if not artistically. “Narnia” already has a solid foundation, but the transition from book-to-screen is still a potentially difficult task. “Harry Potter” has proven that it can be done. “Narnia” hasn’t—yet. Both hit theaters with massive expectations, but expect the familiar “Potter” pull to win out over the uncertain “Narnia.”
RIVALS TO THE END
Keenan and Zahm renew their heated series with a highly anticipated interhall championship at Notre Dame Stadium.

V VS.
Zahm follows a traditional championship formula

Rushing attack and defensive prowess power the Rabid Bats

By JAY FITZPATRICK
Sports Writer

If a team is going to be inter­hall champion, it has to do two things: run and play defense. And there is no better example of this in 2005 of this championship formula than the Rabid Bats of Zahm.

Zahm, led by running backs Theo Ossei-Anto and Cameron Muhlenkamp, has run over all its opponents throughout the regular season and in the playoffs. In the Bats’ most recent game, the semifinal match against Morrissey Manor, the two running backs combined for more than 100 yards — 71 from Ossei-Anto and 42 from Muhlenkamp. More importantly, Zahm scored its sole touchdown on a one-yard run by Ossei-Anto.

The Rabid Bats might not have made the playoffs — and certainly would have been the top-ranked undefeated team — without the play of Theo Ossei-Anto.

"Theo has a great impact on this year’s team,” Zahm captain Pat Gourley said. “He’s quick, and even though he is a little guy, he still is very tough.”

Muhlenkamp, who lines up in front of Ossei-Anto at fullback, has also been a vital component of the Rabid Bats’ successes this season. With his size and strength, Muhlenkamp has been able to find the holes in opposing defensive lines and create holes of his own where there are none to get short-yardage gains needed this season.

Zahm’s offense this year scored nine touchdowns, and although the scores were about evenly distributed between passing and rushing, the drives were clearly propelled by the powerful running back duo of Ossei-Anto and Muhlenkamp. But the rushing touchdowns are not the sole glory of the running backs as the team is content with its offensive balance in the red zone.

With a solid offensive line that can create holes for the running backs, Zahm’s rushing offense is often overpowering.

“The offensive line has been essential in our offense this year,” Gourley said. “They open all the holes and help us get the scores.”

Zahm’s defense has also played exceptionally well, forcing turnovers at opportune times and, more importantly, not allowing big plays by its opponents.

With the semifinal on the line, Muhlenkamp, who doubles as running back and outside linebacker, stepped up and made a game-changing interception that propelled the Rabid Bats into the Championship.

Zahm’s offense-contained and crushed opposing offenses all year and hopes to do so one more time Sunday.

To shut down any pass attempts by the opponent’s quarterback, corners Kris Patterson and Eddie Gutierrez have kept opposing receivers in check. But Gourley said the entire defense deserves the credit for the Bat’s unblemished record.

“There are no single [defensive] players that I can identify as the best,” he said. “Our corners have been stepping up all year, the whole defensive line is playing great this year and our middle linebackers have been relentless rushing attack against a defense that has proved itself in all six games this year.”

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**Women's Interhall Football**

**PW's Weasels seek redemption against Pangborn**

**Teams ready for tough championship game Sunday in Stadium**

By TIM KAISER
Sports Writer

Two teams will enter the Stadium this Sunday to play for the 2005 Women's Interhall Football Championship, but the paths they took to this point couldn't be more different.

The Purple Phoxes, the No. 2 seed with a 5-1 regular season record and upset victory over Walsh of the semifinals, will face the Pasquerilla West Purple Weasels, the No. 5 seed that compiled a 3-1-2 regular-season record but upset top-seeded Cavanaugh last week in an overtime thriller to make it to the championship game.

The two teams played once in the regular season, with Pangborn coming out on top 20-12 on Sept. 29, but both squads know this will be a totally different game.

"We played PW before and won," Pangborn sophomore linebacker Ali Fargomeni said. "But they've gotten better, so we're not overconfident."

The Purple Weasels also think they've struck the right balance between caution and confidence.

"We're not overconfident, but we're not lacking confidence. We're really excited, really proud to be in the championship game," Pasquerilla West captain Julie Putnam said. "We're going to bring our game, just like we have in every single game. We have a lot of spirit and we really love the game and going out there, and we'll try our best."

"We don't doubt that we have the ability. We're going to bring it," the Purple Weasels feel they learned from the loss and said they'll be ready this time.

"The first game against Pangborn was before we developed a couple of new things on offense and defense," Putnam said. "That game was the ignition to our new strategies that we've used this season."

Neither team has reached the championship in the last four years, so this is a first-time experience for all of the players on both teams.

"It's really fun to be a part of all the excitement of playing in the Stadium," Pangborn freshman defensive lineman Nicole Koons said. "We haven't won a championship since 1993," Putnam said.

"Though playing in the Dome in Notre Dame Stadium is a dream for many," the team said it will not let its nerves get to it during the game — channeling players' excitement into playmaking instead.

"Both teams are doing some extra preparation for the big day to prepare in that regard," Pangborn's Brynn Johnson avoids the grasp of a Walsh defender.

"Our practice this week is geared towards perfection, perfecting all of our plays," Pangborn sophomore defensive lineman Kristin Drach said. "We're not in the Stadium just to be there, we're there to win. This is going to be Pangborn week."

Fargomeni and Drach said the Phoxes are especially excited on their pass defense, and Koons said Pangborn was "a good pass team."

"We're a physical, fast-linebacking team and Pangborn players said they are looking forward to showcasing the team's running game, which took a backseat in the semifinal due to strong wind."

"We're not just a half-team anymore; we can play the whole game," she said.

Putnam said Pasquerilla West will look to "continue our defensive strength, and not let up. We won't run anything too tricky, we'll just play our game. We're having normal practice, nothing special."

"We'll stick with our regular game, fight hard and play to win," PW receiver Maureen Spring said. "There will be nothing new or fancy, just what we've been doing the whole season."

Johnson in turn running back Brynn Johnson to carry the offense along with working his in the passing game, and the Phoxes are confident they will get big games from Katie Riesman and Stephanie Lewis on both sides of the ball. But they know the whole team will have to play well for them to win.

"All the girls are crazy," Drach said. "In the Stadium, anyone could have great game."

Both teams think they will come out on top on Sunday and acknowledge their paths to the Stadium were very different.

"The first game was a thriller to make it there, one play at a time, even, and it all added up," Putnam said.

The Phoxes displayed confidence since the beginning of the season.

"It was our goal all season, we worked hard and we hoped for it," Fargomeni said. "But they had an even stronger opinion."

"It was expected," she said. "We knew it from day one."

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**Putnam and Schmidt are the Weasels' unsung heroes**

Two Pasquerilla West linemen take pride in helping rest of defense shut down opposing offenses all season

By CHRIS HINE
Sports Writer

Caroline Schmidt and Julie Putnam, two juniors who comprise the defensive line of Pasquerilla West, describe themselves as "the brains of the team" — and linebacker Gretchen Ryan agrees.

"They always have a great practice, they're so smart at practice," Ryan said. "They are always quoting 'Napoleon Dynamite' and entertaining themselves. We just stand back and shake our heads.

All kidding aside, Schmidt, a chemistry tutor, and Putnam, a marketing and political science major, are a large part of the reason the Weasels were playing at Notre Dame Stadium Sunday in the championship game against Pangborn.

After winning just three of six regular season games, the Weasels won their first two playoff games in overtime to advance to the finals.

But the duo's contributions often go unnoticed in the game summary.

"They do a great job pressuring the quarterback, which makes the job of the defensive backs a little easier," PW coach Joo-Ann Earthy said. "They are the first in line of a chain reaction that leads to many interceptions. They have the ability to corral the quarterback, get pressure on her and make her throw a bad pass."

Schmidt and Putnam said there is more to their defense's success than just the pressure.

"We've realized our role and we're not the only ones," Schmidt said. "It's the defensive backs, offensive line, and every part of the team. We might not be the rah-rah stars, but if you play your position well each time and do your part, it might not have a huge significance then, but over the course of the game you make your impact."

Putnam said that impact began before the snap.

"The huddles are ridiculous," she said. "There's this fire and intensity we have that wasn't there before. Last year there was a lot of rotating of positions, but now there's a set number and the same people play the same positions."

This lack of rotation has enabled Schmidt and Putnam to specialize in their positions.

"Last year, our defensive line coach, Jess Greenwood, helped us learn how to zig-zag around and do spin moves that are good to have because they give you strategy on how to get to the quarterback," Putnam said.

In the first game of the year against Fairley, the Weasels defense had three goal-line stands.

The unit recorded two against McGlinn in the first round of the playoffs, and on Sunday, it was Schmidt's sack in overtime on third-and-goal from the 3 that helped seal the Weasels' victory over Cavanaugh.

"Our defense prides itself on goal-line stands," Ryan said.

Those stops begin and end with the defensive line, and that's why Schmidt and Putnam are so important to PW.

When the duo takes the field, all their energy is focused on winning.

"It's very easy to get comfortable on the field," Schmidt said. "At the end of a play, we say to ourselves, 'Gez, we should actually try on this next play.' And we say, 'We have nothing else to do but workhorse when the game is over, so we might as well give it all we got.'"

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**The Pasquerilla West defensive line stands ready to make a stop on third-and-goal against Breen-Phillips on Oct. 6. The Weasels' defensive line has been a key component of their success.**

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Pangborn and Pasquerilla West are set for the final showdown in the Stadium this Sunday.
A review of "The Chronicles of Narnia" by Andrew Adamson


There are a thousand stories in the land of Narnia... the first is about to be told.

Aslan (Voice by Liam Neeson)

The presence of Aslan in Narnia is supposed to end the reign of the White Witch, and it is part of the battle between the sides of good and evil for control of the magical land. He appears to be a Christ-like figure. He is shut up, he is killed but rises from the dead.

Peter (William Moseley)

The oldest of the Pevensie children, Peter usually leads his friends, as the chosen son of Aslan's army in the battle of good and evil in Narnia.

Lucy (Georgie Henley)

The youngest of the Pevensie children, Lucy is the first to gain this winter. She is patient, clever, and ready to make sacrifices.

Susan (Sophie Okonedo)

The Pevensie sister who is basically a cool, collected everyman. The role is written for an older actress, but her assertiveness and grounding presence is clear.

Susan (Dakota Fanning)

The newest character in Narnia, Susan is a straightforward and sincere young actress.

The success of the "Lord of the Rings" trilogy — including its 11 Oscar nominations two years ago — has raised awareness of Lewis's own fantasy masterpieces. The underlying Christian messages have been a key platform for the film's market strategy, similar to "The Passion of the Christ." The principal threat in the "Potter" series, Lord Voldemort — played by Ralph Fiennes — finally makes his long-awaited physical debut in "Goblet of Fire." Adding to the intrigue is the fact that no images of Voldemort's appearance have escaped the film's net, losing its Cthulhu's mystery.

The recent summer release of the massively successful "Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince" has heightened the excitement around the Pottermania juggernaut. A PG-13 rating has raised some eyebrows and piqued interest around the darkest "Potter" film to date.

The new "Potter" film — "Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince" — is expected to be another huge hit for the film industry.

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**INTANGIBLES**

While Harry Potter is undoubtedly the world's most popular living fictional character, he has yet to completely capture the "Harry Potter" moviegoers. His reputation has been reserved. Lewis's reputation as a timeless story is an invaluable asset for the movie.

The world of Narnia itself revolves around the benevolent Aslan, who guides the Pevensie children as they explore their strange but fascinating surroundings. Akin to the "Harry Potter" series, the first "Narnia" film boasts its own strong core of young characters. The successful "Lord of the Rings" trilogy — including its 11 Oscar nominations two years ago — has raised awareness of Lewis's own fantasy masterpieces. The underlying Christian messages have been a key platform for the film's market strategy, similar to "The Passion of the Christ." The principal threat in the "Potter" series, Lord Voldemort — played by Ralph Fiennes — finally makes his long-awaited physical debut in "Goblet of Fire." Adding to the intrigue is the fact that no images of Voldemort's appearance have escaped the film's net, losing its Cthulhu's mystery.

There's little doubt that "Goblet of Fire" will follow in the proven financial track of its predecessors. But the future success of the "Narnia" series hinges on this first effort. Therefore, this film has greater immediate and potential to more than "The Passion of the Christ." The principal threat in the "Potter" series, Lord Voldemort — played by Ralph Fiennes — finally makes his long-awaited physical debut in "Goblet of Fire." Adding to the intrigue is the fact that no images of Voldemort's appearance have escaped the film's net, losing its Cthulhu's mystery.

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**THE OBSERVER SCENE**

"The Chronicles of Narnia" tallies above "Harry Potter" in literary history. While audiences will finally get a chance to see Lewis's works translated into a big-budget film, the "Harry Potter" series holds the upper hand for its ability to enthral the children of this generation. Narnia has a fair chance for box office glory, but "Harry Potter" will reign supreme this winter.

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**ADDITIONS TO THE CAST**

*Andrew Adamson, Director*

*Michelle Pfeiffer, Aslan*

*Emma Watson, Hermione Granger*

*Daniel Radcliffe, Harry Potter*

*Emma Watson, Hermione Granger*

*Daniel Radcliffe, Harry Potter*

*Emma Watson, Hermione Granger*

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*Emma Watson, Hermione Granger*
Howard's 25 lead Mavs past winless Hawks

Garnett, Timberwolves overcome 33 points from Arenas to down Wizards; Spurs' defense grounds Rockets' attack

NBA

Mavericks shot under page 16 and committed 16 turnovers. Garnett, Timberwolves overcome losing streak to eight games. That was still enough to extend the Hawks were never able to get closer than three the rest of the way.

"It was a weird game for us," Nowitzki said. "We never got going. It was an ugly basketball game but at the end we made the right plays to win the game."

Keith Van Horn added 14 points, and Al Harrington added 15 points and 10 rebounds for Atlanta.

Dallas held a 65-57 lead heading into the fourth quarter. The Hawks got within 91-77 on Johnson's three-point play with 2:12 left, but the Mavericks finished with a 6-1 run over the final 1:36 to seal the victory.

"The Mavericks missed 15 of 20 shots from the field in the opening quarter, and Nowitzki added five blocked shots, and Dirk Nowitzki added 20 points and 10 rebounds for the Mavericks led 40-33 at the break.

Timberwolves 109, Wizards 98

Kevin Garnett's play drew nearly as much attention as his 27 points for Minnesota. Timberwolves vice president of basketball operations David Kahn had praised Garnett 25 points, 13 rebounds and nine assists to lead the Spurs to a 109-98 victory over the Washington Wizards. 'He dominates in the first three quarters and in the fourth quarter everybody has to find him and everybody else,' Gilbert Arenas said. 'That's why he's No. 1 in the world.'

Wally Szczerbiak scored 17 points, and Richie Frahm and Troy Hudson added 16. "It took a little load off of me," said Garnett, of his teammates scoring 49 points.

Garnett then handled questions about his pregame combo with Zaza Pachulia, who won their fourth straight, improving to 3-0 at home and 6-2 overall. Garnett said he had a bad shooting night.

"Kevin had a very, very high IQ," Garnett said after the game. "But managing egos and things, I don't think he wants to do that.

McHale said he knew Garnett was frustrating Atlanta, in which the Hawks failed to make the playoffs for the first time in eight seasons.

"I hope he wants to be here," McHale said after the game. "There's a lot of unmannedness in the changes we've made."

One of major changes being hired Dwane Casey, and Garnett made note to say that he thinks the Hawks are on the right track. Garnett did not express any unhappiness about being with Minnesota.

There has been no one negative thing, we're building with in response to the pregame comments.

Six Timberwolves players scored in double figures as Minnesota won a two-game losing streak.

Arenas had 33 points and Curry 30 for Washington, which has lost two straight. The Wizards had five players in double figures, but no one could prevent a defeat from filling up the stat sheet.

Spurs 86, Rockets 80

Needing a score to hold off the late-surging Houston Rockets, Robert Horry scored once again with a clutch, 3-pointer for the San Antonio Spurs.

"I'm just happy we got a win," said Horry, who had 16 points in the Spurs' 56-80 victory Thursday night.

Tracy McGrady led Houston with a game-high 27 points and 12 rebounds, but was held to 0-7 shooting in the first half. Yao Ming had 19 points, and just one in the second half.

Tim Duncan had 19 points and nine rebounds and Manu Ginobili had 15 points and four steals. San Antonio, which shot 46 percent compared to Houston's 38.9 percent, dominated on the glass inside and scoring 32 points in the paint in a game that seemed as if the Rockets would cruise to victory.

After Juwan Howard's layup put Houston's deficit to 64-52 with 2:58 left in the third quarter, San Antonio scored the next eight points to stretch their lead to 20 points. Horry scored the last six points of the run, capped by a pair of free throws for a 72-52 lead with 11:19 remaining in the game.

However, the Rockets scored six straight points to make it 72- 58 on David Wesley's jumper with 9:43 left.

McGrady began to score rapidly late, including two jumpers and a three-pointer that cut the lead to six with 2:24 to go.

"We just have to make sure that we don't make mistakes in the fourth quarter like we did tonight," said Tony Parker, who had 17 points and six assists.

McGrady seemed on track to possibly finishing his heroics from last Dec. 9 when he scored nine points in the final 35 seconds against the Spurs, including a last-second three, that gave the Rockets an improbable 81-80 win at home.

McGraedy "scares me from the time I get up in the morning until the game ends," Spurs coach Gregg Popovich said. "He's a guy that game after game after game.... He's like a Robert Horry in a lot of ways, he's confident. He single-handedly brought us back."

McGraedy credited the Spurs' Bruce Bowen, who guard­ed him most of the night, in helping stop the surge.

"Facing a guy like Bruce Bowen, it's hard to try to block everything out and concentrate on the moment," McGraedy said. "That's a tough night of work.

The Observer accepts classified every business day from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Notre Dame office. 524 South Duane Hall. Deadline for next day's classifieds is by 4 p.m. All classified must be prepaid. The charge is 5 cents per character, including spaces. The Observer reserves the right to edit all classifieds for content without issuing refunds.
**Georgia Tech on probation for 2 years**

Associated Press

**ATLANTA — The NCAA placed Georgia Tech on two years of probation Thursday for using 17 academically ineligible athletes in four sports, including 11 in football.**

It is the first time Georgia Tech has been placed on probation. The school had proposed self-imposed sanctions, including one year on probation. Georgia Tech, which argued the violations were not intentional, is considering an appeal of the penalties.

"We are disappointed by the ruling of the NCAA Committee on Infractions," said Georgia Tech athletic director Dave Braine. "Yes, mistakes were made, but they were inadvertent and concerned a small number of cases when you consider that we reviewed more than 800 transcripts."

The NCAA's Committee on Infractions accepted the school's proposed scholarship reductions in football and men's and women's track. A violation also was found in the women's swimming program, but the swimmer involved was not on scholarship, so that program was not penalized with a scholarship reduction.

There were no TV or bowl restrictions placed on the football program. Georgia Tech already reduced its 2005 football signing class by six and also will reduce its 2006 signing class by six.

The NCAA added a limit of 79 total grants-in-aid for the 2006-07 and 2007-08 academic years in football, down from the normal limit of 82. Georgia Tech's self-imposed reduction of scholarships this year did not include a corresponding limit on scholarships.

There are 81 scholarship players on Tech's football team. Also, the NCAA vacated Tech's records in the sports between the 1998-99 and 2004-05 academic years and issued a public reprimand and censure.

Gene Marsh, a law professor at Alabama who chaired the investigating committee, said Tech's registrars and academic advisors were inadequate trained in NCAA regulations.

Marsh said the committee concluded the "institutional failure" to train the employees on NCAA rules "constitutes a non-dischargeable lack of institutional control."

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**Sixteen old jockey dies in horse race**

**GROVE CITY, Ohio — Josh Radoshevich was born into the life of racing horses, so he didn't think of himself as young among jockeys when he started racing professionally at 16.**

"That's always what his dream was — to ride, ride, ride," his grandmother, Jacqueline Radoshevich, said Thursday at the 40-horse farm south of Columbus run by Jake and Shelly Radoshevich, the boy's parents.

On Wednesday, six weeks into his career, the jockey was killed when the horse he was aboard broke a leg and rolled over him during a race at Beulah Park.

Staff at the track had known the younger Radoshevich since before he began hot-walking his father's horses on the backstretch. They say he was a surprisingly steady rider despite his lack of experience and gangly build of roughly 5-foot-7, 115-pounds, which earned him ribbons in the Jocks room.

England leads at Golf World Cup in Portugal

**VRAMOURA, Portugal — Just four days after beating Tiger Woods, David Howell teamed with Luke Donald for a 13-under 59 to give England a one-stroke lead after the first round of the World Cup.**

"Things can't go any better for me at the moment," said Howell, who beat Woods by three strokes Sunday to win the ISBC Champions tournament in Shanghai, China.

The defending champion and the favorite, England took advantage of calm conditions Thursday on Portugal's southern coast. And the English weren't alone, with half the 24 teams recording scores of 64 or lower at the 7,174-yard Arnold Palmer-designed Victoria Clube de Golfe.

Tied for second after rounds of 60 were the Indian pair of Jyoti Randhawa and Arjun Atwal, and Australians Mark Llesliey and Peter Lunnard. The Welsh team of Bradley Dredge and Stephen Dodd, and Sweden's Henrik Stenson and Niclas Fasth hit 61s.

**Pirates sign Bay to $18.25 million, 4-year contract**

PITTSBURGH — For a player who doesn't show much emotion on the field, Pittsburgh Pirates outfielder Jason Bay almost displayed a rarely seen side of himself after signing a contract that sets him up for life.

He nearly cried — an understandable sentiment for a 22nd-round draft choice who went through four organizations before becoming a major league regular.

Coming off two of the best career-starting seasons in Pirates history, Bay agreed Thursday to an $18.25 million, four-year contract that covers his arbitration-eligible seasons.

I just came from a wedding for one of my best friends, and I started to cry and got all emotional like you do at weddings," Bay said.

---

### NBA

#### Eastern Conference, Atlantic Division

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Team</th>
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<th>Points</th>
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<td>Sacramento</td>
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#### Western Conference, Southwest Division

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### USCH0.com Hockey poll

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**around the dial**

### NHL

#### Atlanta at Philadelphia

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<th>Time</th>
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| 7:00 p.m., TSN | ESPN 

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**NCAA**

Virginia's Deyon Williams drags Georgia Tech's Day Jones into the end zone on a touchdown during Virginia's 27-17 win Nov. 12, 2005. Georgia Tech is on probation for 2 years for using 17 academically ineligible players.
SMC BASKETBALL

Belles look to kick off season with a tournament victory

Bender hopes team can improve on rebounding and intensity in two games at the Hanover Tip-Off Classic

By TIM KAISER
Speno Weir

After a two-game exhibition schedule, Saint Mary's will kick off it's regular season this week-tonight at 6 p.m. and then face Franklin at 1 p.m. tomorrow afternoon.

First-year coach Steve Bender's team has a lot of new faces this season, with only five returning players on the roster of 13.

Bender comes from coaching basketball and tennis at Buchanan High School in Buchanan, Mich. He led the boys' tennis team at Buchanan High to the 2003 Michigan state championship and will continue to coach the team this year. The Belles hope that he can parlay his considerable coaching success at Buchanan into a winning season for Saint Mary's.

Saint Mary's takes on two new seniors in Shelly Bender and Nicole Tucker, as well as five freshmen in Nicole Beier, Meghan Comay, Calli Davison, Emily Light, Erin Newsom and Katie Rashid. Bender is pleased with both his veteran players as well as the incoming ones, and the team looks to be deeper than it has been in a while.

"We have a lot of depth, which is key. But we also have great leadership from our two captains," Bender said in an interview earlier this season. "Our athleticism, and the depth that we have, will help us extend pressure on teams throughout the game.

Saint Mary's is ranked No. 7 in the MIAA pre-season coaches' poll after an 11-15 overall record and a 6-10 MIAA record last season to help the Belles.

Saint Mary's is ranked No. 7 in the MIAA pre-season coaches' poll after an 11-15 overall record and a 6-10 MIAA record last season.

"We've got to get a lot more physical on the boards," Bender said after last Friday's scrimmage against Lake Central College. "We've got to develop more of a post presence, and pick up our intensity. Hanover and Franklin are going to come at us tough.

Contact Tim Kaiser at tskaiser@nd.edu

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**NHL**

**St. Louis tallies winning goal in first game back**

Lindros' goal and assist give Toronto its third straight win

Associated Press

TAMPA, Fla. — Martin St. Louis' surprise return gave the Tampa Bay Lightning a much-needed lift.

St. Louis scored a tiebreaking, rebound goal with 1:43 left, leading the Lightning past the New York Islanders 3-2 on Thursday night.

St. Louis was back in the line-up less than a week after breaking a bone near the tip of his left ring finger. It was first thought that St. Louis, who sat out two games, would miss two-to-four weeks. The 2004 NHL MVP also damaged his nail bed to-four weeks. The Islanders coach Steve Stirling said. "It's a good play by VINNY. I just happened to be at the right place at the right time and I'll take those." St. Louis said his hand felt a little uncomfortable.

"I think I'll be playing with that for a little while," St. Louis said. "It's just getting used to it."

New York goalie Rick DiPietro stopped 28 shots, but no chance on St. Louis' winner.

"The puck's going way over the net," DiPietro said. "It catches Vinny in the back and then it just falls right to his feet. You've got to give them credit. They worked hard. They were in the right spot, but that's a tough one for us to drop."

The defending Stanley Cup champion Lightning have won two of three after a six-game losing streak.

"You can just sense it's going to be a year that's a dog fight every game," Tampa Bay coach John Tortorella said. "We have to realize that, buckle in and get ready for the ride here as far as each and every night."

Alexei Yashin had a goal and an assist for the Islanders, who lost its fourth in a row to its Northeast Division rivals.

"It definitely feels good," St. Louis said. "It's a great play by Vinny. I just happened to be at the right place at the right time and I'll take those."

St. Louis said his hand felt a little uncomfortable.

"I knew what was wrong, " said Tampa Bay's John Grahame, who made 34 saves. "But that's the type of player he is. He's got the biggest heart of anybody in the league. Probably just kept his experience out there really helped us."

St. Louis scored from in-close after Vincent Lecavalier, who last his stick, kicked a loose puck toward the goal. The sequence started on Pavel Kubina's shot from the point.

"It definitely feels good," St. Louis said. "It's a great play by Vinny. I just happened to be at the right place at the right time and I'll take those."

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Alexei Yashin had a goal and an assist for the Islanders, who lost a season-best three straight. He got New York even at 1-0 at 2 after picking up a loose puck and scoring from the right circle 57 seconds into the third.

"We gave away a point," Islanders coach Steve Stirling said. "That's a disappointment we got beat. Played hard, played against a good team and played pretty well for 57, 58 minutes but it's not enough."

Robert Nilsson put New York ahead 1-0 at 5:35 of the first. He scored from the right circle off a nifty backhand pass by Yashin.

The Lightning tied it at 1 on Ruslan Fedotenko's goal with 1:28 left in the first. Fedotenko scored off a pass from behind the net by Vinny Prospal.

Brad Richards gave Tampa Bay a 2-1 lead on a second-period goal at 11:49.

**Maple Leafs 4, Bruins 1**

Toronto turned to its power play and backup goal tender to beat Boston.

Eric Lindros had a goal and an assist, and Mikael Tellqvist made 31 saves to lift the Maple Leafs to a victory over the Bruins on Thursday night.

"He [Tellqvist] was focused all day," Lindros said. "He faced a lot of shots in the first period, but we have a lot of confidence in him."

Toronto has won three straight for the first time this season and scored two power-play goals. The Maple Leafs began the night with the top power-play unit in the NHL.

"Our power plays have worked because of our quickness," Leafs coach Pat Quinn said. "We work on moving quicker as well as moving the puck quicker."

Lindros and Mats Sundin broke open a 1-1 game in the third period when they scored two minutes apart. Darcy Tucker made it 4-1 with 2:27 left.

"The third period was our best period of the year," Sundin said. "We kept it simple and played smarter without the puck."

Boston 17-8-5 lim its fourth straight and fell to 17-1-7 against its Northeast Division rivals.

"It's the type of game we need for the final five minutes."

"If I knew what was wrong, we would have won the last six," Bruins goalie Andrew Raycroft said.

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University of Notre Dame Department of Music
MEN'S SWIMMING

No. 18 Notre Dame will host St. Bonaventure

By DAN MURPHY
Sports Writer

Notre Dame hosts its first home meet in almost a month Saturday when St. Bonaventure comes to South Bend.

A recent road trip was good to the Irish, who return home with two close wins over Pittsburgh and Michigan State. The team improved its overall record to 3-1 and a No. 18 national ranking. Despite its success on the road, the team is excited to be competing in South Bend.

"We're glad to be home," Irish coach Tim Welsh said. "We like our pool and we are happy to be racing here again."

"It's nice not having to endure the long bus rides for the away meets," Notre Dame captain Patrick Hefernan said. "Everyone swims better at home."

The Irish welcome one of their oldest foes in St. Bonaventure. The two teams have met a total of 39 times, the most of any opponent on the current Irish schedule. Notre Dame has dominated the series (28-10) to this point, and won last season's mee 150-87.

The Irish will come in from a big victory over LaSalle last weekend, boosting their record to 2-1. Their only loss in a dual meet this season came to Pittsburgh. St. Bonaventure's last victory over Notre Dame came in 2003, a loss that still irks the Irish.

"We didn't swim well at all on our last trip (to St. Bonaventure). We earned the loss," Welsh said.

The coaching staff knows that after two close wins in Notre Dame's last two meets it would be foolish to look past the Bonnies.

All members of the team have also made sure that they are focused on this weekend's meet and will be ready to go Saturday.

"This is one more chance to race before a lot of us will be resting up, and we will be ready to go," Hefernan said.

The Irish are hoping for a good homecoming to set them up for the much-anticipated Notre Dame Invitational. The program's signature event begins Dec. 1 and is the next competition following St. Bonnie's.

"A lot of guys preparing for the invite want to know where they are at this point," Welsh said. "This meet will be a good checkpoint to see how much they have improved."

The team has been working hard this past week on getting a stronger push off the wall and maximizing the time underwater before its first strokes.

The swimmers should be able to get a little extra experience with this meet's 16-event format. Most collegiate meets only have 12 races, the four additional contests will give the Irish an opportunity to work on things they do not use on a regular basis.

This Saturday will mark the last meet of the fall semester and with a win Notre Dame can move to 4-1 on the season, putting it in good position for the string of tournaments coming during the winter months.

Contact Dan Murphy at dmurphy6@nd.edu

MEN'S BASKETBALL

Irish open season at home against Lafayette College

Rebuilding team will look to make statement

By BOBBY GRIFFIN
Associate Sports Editor

Irish coach Mike Brey said the only goal for this year's basketball team is to make the Big East tournament, and that quest will begin Sunday when Notre Dame hosts Lafayette College at the Joyce Center in the team's first game of the season.

Brey has a lot of options as far as playing people in different spots, but the Irish coach plans on sticking to a specific game plan and forcing his opponent to play accordingly.

"We'll play the rotation we want to play and won't react to them," Brey said. "(Rob) Kurz and (Luke) Zeller played against shooting four-men in the exhibitions and had to run the floor and step out on them. We want to do what we do and make them react a little bit."

Notre Dame knows what it has on offense when everything is clicking. It is handling a Lafayette team that has changed over the last season and might present defensive problems.

"Lafayette has gone from having two big kids pounding the ball inside to having younger kids and spreading it out and shooting a lot of threes," Brey said. "They kind of spread it out and like to run, so we have to play transition defense. We have to get back."

The Irish may be without freshman point guard Kyle McAlarney, who has been sidelined with a back injury. Brey said McAlarney worked out for half of Thursday's practice but was not 100 percent.

"He's got to see some increases in workload," Brey said. "They kind of spread it out and like to run, so we have to play transition defense. We have to get back."

Mike Brey Irish coach

Notre Dame improved the last meet of the fall semester and with a win Notre Dame can move to 4-1 on the season, putting it in good position for the string of tournaments coming during the winter months.

Contact Bobby Griffin at rgriffin3@nd.edu

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The Observer • SPORTS
Friday, November 18, 2005

Cold Weather Experts
ND Women's Swimming

Tough crowd awaits Irish at tournament

Minnesota features three-way scoring

By GREG ARBOGAST / Sports Writer

The Notre Dame women's swimming and diving team did not have long to enjoy its win over Minnesota last weekend. That same Minnesota team, along with several others, will be eager to prove that they are a superior team to the Irish when the teams gather this weekend for the three-day Minnesota Invitational.

Unlike a regular meet, in which two teams compete against each other for only one day, the Minnesota Invitational will involve multiple teams that will compete against each other this Friday, Saturday and Sunday.

The Irish enter this weekend's meet confidently, as they have won two consecutive meets over Pittsburgh and Minnesota. The team seems to be gaining momentum as more and more swimmers are elevating their level of performance. While Katie Carroll has been the standout performer on the team so far, Jessica Stephens, Julia Quinn and Rebecca Grove all won multiple events for Notre Dame in the meet against Minnesota. This bodes well for the Irish, as they will need an entire team effort to attain the desired results this weekend.

Contact Greg Arbegast at garbogast@nd.edu

Men's Cross-Country

Runners travel to the Bronx

Seven Irish athletes to compete in IC4A

By CHRI S KNOREY / Sports Writer

While the top seven runners on the Notre Dame men's cross country team focus on the NCAA Championships on Monday, some other members of the team have their own level of performance. While Kyle Lawson, Jaekson said. "It's the oldest conference in the country. You might even call it the "NIT" of cross country."

The Irish have unique in sending a team of runners to both the IC4As and NCAAs. "We're not going out there just to keep the kids more involved," Plane said. "Everyone is there for a reason, and a good performance out of them." The top seven Irish runners will compete for the NCAA Championship in Terre Haute, Ind. Monday.

Plane said he will be in New York for the IC4As then will fly back to Indiana for the NCAAs. The runners competing for the national championship will travel to Terre Haute Friday and work out on the course over the weekend.

Contact Chris Khorey at ckhorey@nd.edu

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-Brett

University Gardens

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Yale

continued from page 28

lot of people are underesti-
mating. And I think they are
looking forward to proving
everyone wrong.”

The Bulldogs are one of just
two unseeded teams left in
the tournament, and Irish
coach Randy Waldrum said
he expects a tough game from
a well-coached squad.

“We’re not a team that
feels it’s going to go
wants to do all she can to win.
now, Thorlakson said she
stands the gravity of playing in
seniors, so this is their cham-

There’s no way we
should not be
confident coming
into this game.

Kerry Hanks
Irish forward

In Thorlakson and Notre
Dame’s seven other seniors,
Hanks’ hope is magnified.
Thorlakson said her main
goal is to end her career with
a win.

“That’s the kind of
approach we’ve
taken — every
game is the
national champi-
onship.”

Candace
Chapman
Junior midfielder
Yale’s hope to beat
its game against
Bulldogs are used
to the kind of
football we’ve
had lately. I’m just
trying to get out
there and play as hard as
I can,” she said.

Waldrum said
Thorlakson and Notre
Dame’s other for-
drick Chapman,
Hanks, and
forward
Kerry Hanks.

Thorlakson and Hanks
are the nation’s leading scoring
leaders.

“I don’t think we can
be looking past anything
beyond this. And that’s
kind of the approach we’ve
taken — everything is the
national championship.”

Randy Waldrum
Irish coach

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Midfielder Alex Yoshinaga works for ball control during Notre Dame’s 4-2 penalty kick win over Syracuse on Nov. 12. The win came in the first round of the Big East Tournament, the last game the Irish played at Alumni Field.

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SOCCER

MEN’S

1st Round of NCAA tournament vs. Western Illinois 6:30 pm

Free admission for IU students and 18 and under

3rd Round of NCAA tournament vs. Yale at 7:30 pm

MEN’S BASKETBALL

Joyce Center Arena
Sunday November 20 vs. Lafayette at 2 pm

First 1000 fans will receive a BE THERE SHIRT.

HACIENDA WILL GIVE ONE LUCKY NOTRE DAME, HOLY CROSS, OR SAINT MARY STUDENT A CHANCE TO WIN TUTION FOR A YEAR!

NCAA

continued from page 28

the team to the tournament every year since coming to South Bend. Western Illinois (0-9-4) is one of only two squads (Stetson is the other) in the 48-team tournament with a losing record. The Leathernecks qualified for the tournament by winning the Mid-Continent Conference tournament last weekend. Eastern Illinois edged Oakland 4-3 in overtime in the conference championship match.

Despite the poor record, Clark expects a stiff challenge from the Leathernecks. "They must be the best 6-9 team in the country," Clark said. "I spoke to several coaches that have played them. I've heard they are a very good team with some very good players."

Clark said that the momentum Western Illinois built up in its conference tournament makes the Leathernecks a very dangerous opponent. "Early in the season they lost some close games," the coach said. "They're going to come in very confident."

The Leathernecks are in the NCAA tournament for the second consecutive season, after captur­ ing the Mid-Continent Conference title in 2004.

Notre Dame is coming off an up-and-down regular season. The Irish finished the regular season outside of the NCAA top 25 for the first time in Clark's tenure.

However, Clark attributes Notre Dame's inconsistencies to a challenging schedule. A record seven Big East teams made the NCAA tournament. The Irish also played several top out of conference teams, including Indiana. The Hoosiers, who beat the Irish 3-0 in Bloomington Oct. 26, will host the winner of Friday's game on Tuesday in the second round.

The Irish have the benefit of hosting a first round game, but Clark hopes his players do not put too much stock in that.

"The home field is always an advantage, but it's what we do on the home field that's going to be more important," Clark said. "At the end of the day, the home field doesn't win it for you. We've got to take care of that. The players themselves have got to take care of that."

Clark is optimistic, however, because of the improvement he has seen from his team over the season. The coach thinks the Irish have the talent to make a run in the tournament.

"This team has gotten better every week," Clark said. "We're now looking as good as any team that I've ever coached at Notre Dame."

"This team is looking very good."

Notes:

• Junior tri-captain Greg Dalby was named one of 15 semi­ finalists Tuesday for the presti­ gious Hermann Trophy. The award is given each year to the top player in Division I soccer.

Dalby, who has played as a midfielder and defender for the Irish in 2005, is only the third player in program history to be named a semifinalist. Last sea­ son, defenders Kevin Goldsbrough and Jack Stewart both made the semifinalist list for the trophy.

• For those wanting to escape the chilly walk to this afternoon’s game, buses will be shuttling students in a loop from Library Circle, the Grotto and McKenna Hall to Alumni Field between 4 p.m. and 9 p.m.

Contact Kevin Brennan at kbrenna4@nd.edu
The Irish send the seniors out the right way on Saturday, dominating the Orange and getting revenge for 2003. Syracuse has won just one game for a reason. Notre Dame's multi-dimensional offense will be the demise of the Orange. Every senior will play on Saturday and the Irish will be one step closer to a bowl.

Jeff Samardzija and Maurice Stovall have been steady receivers for Quinn this season, combining for 106 receptions, 21 TDs and 1,715 yards. Anthony Fasano has 40 catches and two touchdowns at tight end and Walker has proven a capable receiver with 28 catches in 2005.

Syracuse has only given up eight scores through the air in 2005. The Orange are led by free safety Anthony Smith, who has six INTs and seven pass breakups. They give up an average of 12 yards per reception and 163.2 yards per game.

One of the closer battles in the game should be Quinn's arm against Smith's knack for takeaways. Quinn's arm against Smith's. Quinn has a firm control over the field and Stovall, Fasano and Walker have proven to be a couple of the closer battles in the game should be Quinn's arm against Smith's. Quinn's arm against Smith's. Quinn has a firm control over the field and Stovall, Fasano and Walker have proven to be a couple of the closest battles in the game should be Quinn's arm against Smith's.
**ORANGE RUSHING**

Defensive tackles Derek Landri and Trevor Law have teamed for eight tackles for loss and three sacks. Outside linebacker Brandon Hoyte has 20 stops entering his senior year. Maurice Crum Jr. has 41 tackles as a sophomore.

The Orange have limped their way to a 1-8 record, with a loss to Syracuse in 2005.

**ORANGE PASSING**

Notre Dame defensive back Ambrose Woodson and Mike Richardson have played above expectations this season, combining for five interceptions. Safety Tom Zbikowski leads the Irish with five picks and has one sack while also breaking up four passes this season.

Patterson has completed only 48.1 percent of his passes this season and thrown twice as many interceptions (eight) as touchdowns (four). Tim Lave leads Syracuse with 24 receptions and one touchdown on the season. Fields has completed nine passes and three INTs.

Weis was concerned last week that the Irish gave up too many long runs to the No. 2 rushing team in the country in Navy. But Syracuse should not throw the Irish like the Navy option did. Lave and Landri are quicker than the Orange fullbacks and will stuff the middle.

**SPECIAL TEAMS**

Zbikowski has returned two punts for touchdowns and averages 19 yards per return. David Glines has 10 kickoff returns, highlighted by a long of 40 yards. D.L. Fitzpatrick is in his third season starting at kicker and punter and has made nine out of 11 field goals with a long of 48 yards.

Punter Brendan Carney has had plenty of time to work on his form, kicking 67 times for an average of 43.3 yards per attempt. Steve Gregory has 10 punt returns with a long of 11.5 yards and Kurem Jones is averaging 24.1 yards per kick return. John Barker has made 6-9 field goals.

**INTANGIBLES**

Notre Dame's seniors will be making their final home appearance and the Irish will do everything possible to make sure they end their careers on a successful note. The team also must win this game and its season finale against Stanford if it wants to make the BCS.

Syracuse is reeling from a nightmare 1-8 season. The Orange have nothing to lose and would love to spoil the day for the Irish seniors and give Syracuse fans hope that Robinson has the program on the upswing headed into next season.

Carney is a solid punter and he will get many chances to show his skills on Saturday. Zbikowski is a danger to score every time he returns a kick. The Irish will break the game open in the return game and set the offense up with a short field, making for easy TDs.

Syracuse has all the motivation to upset Notre Dame this season and win a shot at the BCS. But they don’t have enough talent to match their desire, while the last home crowd of the year will be loud and eager to send the Irish seniors off with a victory.

**SYRACUSE 2005 Schedule**

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Michigan

continued from page 28

like, 'Gosh!, can we just play a game,'" McGraw said. "So I think that's the point we're at right now — they're ready for a game, I'm ready for another week of practice. ... We have a lot of stuff to put in that we haven't worked on.

But if the No. 15 Irish win tonight against Michigan, it will be McGraw's 300th career win, making her the 27th NCAA Division I coach to reach that milestone and the 10th to do so before age 50.

However, Michigan won't be as easy to defeat as its 5-23 record and last-place finish in the Big Ten a year ago may indicate. "I just think they're a threat," McGraw said. "You can't look at last year's record. It's a whole new team, a whole new attitude, and we're a whole new team too. We're still trying to figure ourselves out."

Michigan, which has played two regular season games already this year, has been led by freshman Stephany Skrba, who averaged 13.5 points and six rebounds per game. Skrba earned all-tournament honors at the Women's Sports Foundation Challenge in Eugene, Ore., in addition to being named the Big Ten Player of the Week. Skrba was joined by fellow freshman Jessica Minnfield, who averaged 10.5 points per game. The Wolverines lost their first game 65-48 to No. 21 Temple, but defeated St. Francis (Pa.) 80-52 in the second game. These two games were in addition to the two exhibitions played by Michigan, something McGraw sees as a distinct advantage.

"They've had four games already," she said. "That's a big difference when you're talking about the opening night." McGraw also said she is concerned with the defense of the Wolverines. "They press a lot, they're quick, they're very active defensively," McGraw said. "(Michigan head coach) Cheryl Burnett is kinda known for her defense. She's just a really good defensive coach. They play hard, they get up in the passing lanes, they deny, they're really going to make it tough for us."

Meanwhile, the Irish are led by senior point guard Megan Duffy, who should be joined in the backcourt by sophomore Tahlia Gaines. Freshman Lindsay Schrader is expected to start her first ever collegiate game, and rounding out the lineup will likely be forwards Crystal Erwin and Melissa D'Amico.

Erwin is a player who McGraw has been very happy with in the early part of the season. "Crystal's attitude has been fantastic, in that she's in here all the time saying, "(Coach) Angie (Potthoff), can I watch film?"" McGraw said. "She came in great shape and really ready, but she's like a sponge. She's just trying to learn everything she can, and we've just been really thrilled with her work ethic in every way."

Tipoff is set for after the football pep rally tonight at 9 p.m. in the Joyce Center.

Contact Heather Van Hoegarden at hvanhoeg@nd.edu.

Jackson is the fourth wide receiver to commit to the Irish and reminds Frank of a larger version of current Notre Dame receiver Rheema McKnight. The 6-foot-2, 195-pound Clermonton, Fla. native had 46 receptions this season for 536 yards and five touchdowns. This might be a result of being double- teamed by opponents after he burned his competition his junior season for 72 receptions, 1,272 yards and 11 touchdowns.

"It seems like he gets faster the more he runs," Frank said of Jackson, who has been timed at 4.6 seconds in the 40-yard dash. "He's just got that extra gear to pull away from people."

Contact Mike Gilloon at mgilloon@nd.edu.

Stewart

continued from page 28

met there was intelligent. The football players were intelligent and I just had a good feeling about it. Stewart is the third offensive lineman to commit to Notre Dame this season and Frank expects Weis to bring in at least two more offensive linemen.

He received four out of a possible five stars and is rated the No. 30 offensive lineman in the nation according to Scout.com. But Frank said Stewart might be underrated.

"You can pretty much flush those rankings down the toilet," Frank said. "All you need to know is that he was one of the first offensive linemen that Weis and his staff offered. He impressed them that much that they said 'heck, we want this kid. Let's go after him.'"

Boasting an impressive 390-pound bench press and a 500-pound squat, Stewart had his choices narrowed down to LSU, Texas A&M and Ole Miss before choosing Notre Dame.
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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CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Isaac Hanson, 25, Dixie Friers, 39; Danny DeVito, 61; Javier Maricel, 61

HAPPY BIRTHDAY: Prepare to take on challenges this year. You will have no people standing in your way, but you may have some trouble dealing with the people involved. Have a clear-cut idea of what you are trying to accomplish. Don't be afraid to make a mistake — confidence is key. Your numbers are 9, 23, 34, 37, 44

ARIES (March 21-Apr. 19): Be honest with yourself and others. Take any opportunity to do things with friends, relatives or neighbors. You can teach others what you know and learn something yourself.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): You need to be social, especially with people who can help you move in the direction of prosperity. Keep things simple and don't lead people to believe that you have more to offer than you do.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): You'll find it difficult to contain your emotions. If you don't want things to get out of hand, clear the air and let it be known you are not afraid to boost your confidence, and by participating, you will do just that.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): A sudden change of events may not be looked at as a negative. If you are quick to react, you can see the benefits of change. As older relatives or friends offer you some good advice.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Don't get too caught up because you were dreaming and having. Make plans early so you don't end up sitting at home alone. You need to boost your confidence, and by participating, you will do that.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Watch what you say to others. A problem with friends or relatives will make you feel emotionally tired. Do your best to avoid arguments, but don't let anyone get the better of you.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Love, romance and adventure should all be on your mind and in your plans. It's one you confirmed the way you feel and what your intentions are to the people around you. Travel plans should be discussed.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Money will come to you in an unusual way. You earn hard work and dedication to others will pay off. Thinking big can't hurt — you can always dream your dreams and have interest in your extra money.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): You have added discipline so why wait? The more you participate in activities that will keep you at your best, the better you will do in all aspects of your life. An emotional issue may come to light.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): An out-of-the-ordinary trip to an exotic location will mean you can make more money than just your goal. Someone will be willing to do a favor for you. Take advantage of any opportunity to make things happen.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): You will have a very unusual effect on the people you interact with today. Talk about your ideas and thoughts, and you will be able to attract the attention of someone who can make a difference to your future.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): You need to be in a position to do great work. There is a better time for you to put your best foot forward. You can do small things, and you will be able to do great things when you are ready.

Birthday Baby: You know how to charm your way into anything. You are bright, officious and worldly. You have a sharp sense of what will work, and you are capable of doing whatever it takes to succeed.
Offensive lineman Stewart commits to team

By MIKE GILLOON
Sports Editor

Notre Dame literally received one of the biggest recruiting in school history Thursday when 6-foot-5, 360-pound offensive lineman Chris Stewart gave his verbal commitment to the Irish.

"He's a guy that absolutely engulfs people," Mike Frank of Irisheyes.com said. "He's committed to Notre Dame on Thursday, Weis now has 22 known verbal in his first full recruiting class.

None of the recruits can sign official letters of intent until February. However, Stewart said he has met with Notre Dame Director of Admissions Dan Saracino and will be enrolling in school in January along with running back recruit James Aldridge.

They are believed to be the first Irish football recruits in the modern era to enroll a semester early at Notre Dame.

The chance to enroll before the majority of his teammates was one of several reasons the massive offensive lineman chose Notre Dame.

"There's no school in the world like it," Stewart said in an interview with The Observer Thursday. "There's a unique blend of atmosphere and people from around the world.

Stewart intends to major in history and Spanish — a combination that he feels will help him achieve his career goal of being a foreign ambassador.

"Being able to graduate from Notre Dame would be incredible." see STEWART/page 26

NCAA SOCCER TOURNAMENT

Irish face Western Illinois in a first-round home matchup

By KEVIN BRENNAN
Sports Writer

The recent turn in the weather does not bother Bobby Clark.

"It's great to think that we're playing still when there is snow on the ground," the Irish head coach said. "Think about all the other 152 teams that aren't lucky enough to play in the snow now. They're out. Their seasons are over.

"When you are in the tournament, you are usually playing in bad weather. And that's great because that means you are in the tournament."

Notre Dame (10-7-3, 6-4-1) opens the NCAA tournament against Western Illinois tonight at Alumni Field at 5 p.m. Clark, in his fifth season at the helm for the Irish, has led the Irish to a two-game winning streak, the Irish their first home meet in five seasons that aren't lucky enough to play in the tournament, you are in the tournament, you are over.

The two wins last weekend over Western Illinois in third round of tournament

By KEN FOWLER
Sports Writer

Notre Dame doesn't want to do what Duke did.

Five days after Yale stunned the over-confident No. 10 Blue Devils with a last-second goal to advance to the round of 16 in the NCAA Tournament, the defending national champion Irish will host the Bulldogs in a battle of two of the hottest teams in the country tonight at Alumni Field, which will kick off 40 minutes after the conclusion of the men's game.

"I think any team coming off a momentous win, like scoring in the last second of a game, they are on a huge upswing," senior Irish midfielder Annie Schefter said. "I think that Yale is a team that a

ND WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Wolverines travel to JACC

By HEATHER VAN HOEGERDEN
Sports Writer

Notre Dame coach Muffet McGraw wishes she had another week of practice instead of tonight's first regular-season game, despite what her players may say.

"I always feel like we need another week of practice, and the players always feel

Sophomore guard Charel Allen takes the ball down the court in a Nov. 10 win over Ferris State. see MICHIGAN/page 26

SPORTS

WOMEN'S SWIMMING

Carrying a two-game winning streak, the Irish will compete in the Minnesota Invitational this weekend.

PHOTOS

MEN'S SWIMMING

The No. 18 Irish have their first home meet in nearly a month, facing St. Bonaventure.

MEN'S BASKETBALL

Notre Dame vs. Hanover Tip-Off Classic Sunday, 2 p.m.

The Irish open their season at home.

SMC BASKETBALL

Today, 1 p.m.

The Belles will begin their season at this annual tournament.

IRISH INSIDER

ZAHE I ACES KEANU, AND PANG-BORN BATTLES PASQUERILLA WEST IN THE INTERHALL CHAMPIONSHIPS SUNDAY IN NOTRE DAME DORM.
No Easy Layups

Senior point guard Chris Quinn has the ball in his hands and the Irish on his back as Notre Dame begins the post-Chris Thomas era.
Performance clashes with transition

There is no more NCAA talk. There are no more guaranties. There are no more preconceptions of the team they have, the league they're in or the team they should be.

All the Irish know right now is that they are not the same team they were last season.

And in some ways, that may be the best realization.

This team could come to believe opening the 2005 season against Lafayette on Sunday. Chris Thomas to redshirt means a new era and a new start.

Going into Thomas' senior season last year, Notre Dame had high expectations of a player-weaver for the team.

Chris was excited when he was backcourt alongside all the guys do their thing served the edge to tournament game last season. 

He swaggered into the gym on media day in Oct. 2004, and the team seemed staggered in behind him.

Coach Mike Brey, his assistant coaches and the players all knew they had the potential to accomplish as much, if not more, than the program had in recent memory — and that's taking account a Sweet 16 bid in March 2003.

Brey had Thomas (an explosive guard), Torrey协同 (an athletic, offensive threat) and Dennis Latimore (a relatively unknown but promising wing) as his key reserves.

So Brey strived to the preseason polls, saying in the Joyce Center Auditorium and with confidence. "We've got to get back the NCAA tournament."

That's the goal, because he knew the Irish could achieve it.

Expectations did not motivate him the next year, though.

Notre Dame bowed out of NCAA consideration with a first-round Big East Tournament loss to Rutgers, only to further self-destruct with a first-round NIT home loss to Holy Cross.

So Brey is responding by removing lofty expectations from his new team and replacing them with realistic ones.

"We're not picked in any polls," the coach said on this year's media day. "For this group, that's probably a very good atmosphere for this group to be in.

The key for Brey, then, is to establish that mentality early to leave room to work with lineups, younger players and offensive schemes to get the best out of this particular group.

More than any other team Brey's tenure at Notre Dame — he is in his Irish season — this Irish team will go as far as its coaches take them.

And this isn't because the players are unskilled or unable to compete. They are able.

It's because in the 2005-06 season, the Irish will be trying their hardest to reach Madison Square Garden. In contrast to serious wins and postseason berths, while simultaneously transitioning from the Thomas era to the McAuley era, the Ayers era, the Hillebrand or Zeller era — a chapter in Notre Dame basketball history that has not begun.

And right smack in the middle of all stands Chris Quinn, a reliable ball-handler and consistent shooter who finally has the opportunity to prove himself at his natural position.

And there are countless other factors weighing on Brey's mind.

Rick Cornett is a senior but has not yet seen significant minutes. Francis began his career at Notre Dame with a bang and then fizzled into single digit averages in points and rebounds last season. He even tested NBA waters in June before returning for his final season.

But what some may perceive as uncertainty — junior Omari Israel left the team last Friday — is really just the evolution of a program and a team. In a point-guard-dominated offense the past four years, Notre Dame knew where the ball was, who had it and for whom they would draw last-second plays.

Brey's offense has been successful and will not change. The point guard will continue to run the show on both ends of the floor. But that point guard can only create the team's new, lasting identity when he has time to do so.

And that is why, though late in his career, Quinn is the obvious and best candidate to become Notre Dame's viable leader.

It's just a shame he graduates in May. The Irish could have used him at the point last season.

The views expressed in this column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer. Contact Pat Leonard at pleonard@nd.edu

Carter cracks starting five

By BOBBY GRIFFIN
Associate Sports Editor

After spending most of last season as a role player used primarily to provide intensity on the offensive end, Russell Carter was excited when he was informed of his starting spot on this team.

Carter started both exhibition games against the University of Wisconsin and Quinnipiac University in the backcourt alongside Chris Quinn and Colin Falls.

The three-guard set is nothing new for Irish coach Mike Brey, who used Falls, Quinn and Chris Thomas together last season.

And in Brey, it is relieving to relax on the court without having to cheer a first-round NIT home seed into the March madness.

"Sitting on the bench watching all the guys do their thing served as an ease," Carter said.

"I want to be able to play with the guys that are my teammates and play fast." "I want to play for the team that everyone loves, " Carter said.

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But Brey will be asked to do more than shoot this season if he is going to be a productive player. He has to trust the ability of his teammates to score points just as easily as he can.

Irish coach Mike Brey said throughout the preseason that Carter's main focus should be on becoming easier to play with. Much of that has to do with Carter's need to trust himself as a team player as well as a scorer.

"The coaches have helped me learn to put more trust in my teammates and that everyone can score," Carter said.

Carter proved he was willing to take this role in the team's final exhibition game against Quincy, when he only attempted four field goals in 25 minutes.

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Schedule adjusts to Big East

Cincinnati, St. John's absent from 2005-06 Notre Dame slate

By PAT LEONARD
Sports Writer

In the 'new' Big East, with 16 teams and a limited amount of conference games before the postseason begins in March, Notre Dame will not play all of its conference foes — and neither will any Big East team, for that matter.

Each team in the Big East will play 13 separate conference opponents, including three home-and-home series.

Notre Dame plays DePaul, Marquette and Providence all twice this season. But Big East newcomer Cincinnati (from Conference-USA) and longtime conference member St. John's do not appear on the Irish slate.

In arguably the most critical stretch on any team's schedule, Notre Dame has an abnormal nine games scheduled during the school's winter break. In the transition from non-conference to Big East competition, Brey and the Irish will face Niagara — the reigning Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference (MAAC) champion — along with IUPW, Columbia, Fordham and Wolfrord. Then, the squad will dive into Big East play with two consecutive road games.

Notre Dame also got its first conference game against Syracuse, before University students return.

Contact Pat Leonard at pleonard@nd.edu

The New Big East Conference

Big East Preseason Teams

Boston College has decided to join the Big East for the Atlantic Coast Conference after last season did not live up to the Big East's once 14-team schedule. In response, the Big East has accepted into a 14-team superconference with the addition of five former Conference USA programs.

Big East Gains:

Cincinnati

DePaul

Louisville

Marquette

South Florida

Big East Loses:

Boston College

The New Big East Conference Schedule

BIG EAST GAINS:

Cincinnati

DePaul

Louisville

Marquette

South Florida

BIG EAST LOSES:

Boston College

THE OBSERVER - IRISH INSIDER

Friday, November 15, 2005
Point guard Chris Quinn will lead his team and teach his final season

By BOBBY GRIFFIN
Associate Sports Editor

Notre Dame's success this season rests on the shoulders of point guard Chris Quinn. It's a lot of weight to bear, but the undersized, underaged senior wouldn't want it any other way.

Quinn came into summer prac-
tice focused. His team missed the NCAA tournament last season and graduated its most recognizable player, Chris Thomas. Quinn is the Irish on a pressure cooker.

And if anyone is suited to be the successor to Thomas, it's Quinn.

Quinn averaged 13.5 points, three rebounds and three assists while shooting 42 percent from three-point range and 78 percent from the free throw line this season. More impressive is his career 2.9-to-1 assist-to-turnover ratio.

But Quinn knows taking over the offense involves more than statistics. "It's about leading, and it's about winning," Quinn said. "I think when you get down to the stretch of the game, guys are going to be looking up to their leader." Quinn said, "That's our job to step up in those situations and find a way to win.

Brey has a unique relationship with his point guards because of Greencastle, N.C., where Quinn was born. Quinn has the luxury of knowing that Quinn would develop alongside of him, no matter where Coach Brey will pull on (co-captain) Torin (Francis) and I in the office and talk to us a little bit about different teams about our team," Quinn said. "I think that goes with being experienced and also being a point guard. It's going to coach me even more."

Simultaneous learning and coaching

Quinn has earned a certain amount of respect from his team in these roles, but with this respect comes a lot of responsibility. He must balance the pressures of leading the Irish on the court with teaching his younger teammates off it.

That's why another first-year starter will be running the team next season, even though the Irish want to win now. The young guys need experience this season, and Quinn knows the senior who needs to make sure it happens. Quinn has been the most benefit Kyle McAlarney, his most likely successor. The Staten Island native scored 2,066 points in high school while earning two state titles and making the All-State team.

"If I do anything I can do to help Kyle especially," Quinn said. "He's doing pretty much his team after this year. Anything I can do to help him to become a better player, I want to, be a better leader, become a better point guard for this team. I'm going to definitely try to do that."

Quinn was once in this position with his Irish as a senior.

That lineup, (Thomas) and Matt Carroll were guys I used to look up to," Quinn said. "They had been through the Big East season, and if they (McAlarney) or Quinn. And in this role with Thomas, he's more or less playing off the court and on the court.

But this situation was different. Those Big East games showed Quinn the ropes while they were playing together for three years. Thomas had the luxury of knowing that Quinn would develop alongside of him, no times where Coach Brey will pull on (co-captain) Torin (Francis) and I in the office and talk to us a little bit about different teams about our team," Quinn said. "I think that goes with being experienced and also being a point guard. It's going to coach me even more."

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Israel's departure illustrates Brey's dilemma

Israel's departure illustrates Brey's dilemma

By PAT LEONARD
Sports Writer

When junior forward Omar Cook committed to leaving the Irish last Friday, Notre Dame coach Mike Brey expressed di­lemma. But the coach remained re­fined his team would persist.

That's where Notre Dame's departure still leaves Brey with 10, able scholar-athletes to play in the lineup and run a team, a running lineup.

When you have young guys like we do, there's just no telling where they're going to be in another week, in another month, in another six weeks," Brey said.

The coach has the task not only of allowing Chris Quinn to become this team's on-court leader. He also must prepare the Irish for the next season and play freshman point guard Kyle McAlarney, who was sidelined with lower back spasms as of Wednesday evening.

Those two could use the court time together, or McAlarney could cut loose Quinn brothers. Freshman guard/forward Ryan Ayers has auditioned at the point in McAlarney's absence, as well. At the two-guard slot, Falls is the current starter, but he and Brey can take a similar position. Against bigger teams, both have shown the option of playing forward Zach Hillesland or freshman for­ward Luke Zeller spell them at small forward.

Brey's substitution dilemma continues into the frontcourt, as Francis and Kurz have dis­tanced themselves from the park in the early going but are not proven, consistent inside threats.

Senior Rick Cornett spells Francis at center or Kurz at for­ward, though Brey is hesitant to play Francis and Cornett together because it decreases speed and transition offense. And Zeller has shown, with a 6-foot-11, 240-pound frame, that he can run down low, one the block, as well, making him a viable option to provide more wing flexibility at the frontcourt.
MEN'S OUTLOOK

DATE

Toronto

FORWARD

GUARD/FORWARD

6'8", 203 lbs.

No. 34

Senior H.S. stats

Points

15.0

Rebounds

8.4

Assists

4.0

2005-06 expectations

Ayers was the Most Valuable Player of the Year in Pennsylvania. The slight versatile shooter has a long wingspan and also has auditioned at point guard.

Louisville

FORWARD

GUARD

6'4", 223 lbs.

No. 43

2004-05 stats

Minutes

8.5

Points

3.5

Rebounds

1.4

2005-06 expectations

Carter started both preseason games and brings an offensive boost. If his defense and decision-making improve, he could become a dangerous threat.

Syracuse

FORWARD

GUARD

6'9", 238 lbs.

No. 33

2004-05 stats

Minutes

9.4

Points

3.7

Rebounds

2.6

2005-06 expectations

Cortez went to a big man camp in the summer and lost significant weight. He will be asked to rebound, defend and begin the season as Frasells backup.

St. John's

FORWARD

GUARD

6'9", 244 lbs.

No. 11

2004-05 stats

Minutes

10.5

Points

3.9

Rebounds

2.4

2005-06 expectations

Hammontree is fighting lower back spasms but brings an explosive and confident presence in the backcourt. He scored 2,566 points in high school.

Fordham

FORWARD

GUARD

6'2", 185 lbs.

No. 2

2004-05 stats

Minutes

26.1

Points

12.3

Rebounds

5.0

2005-06 expectations

Murphy is playing his natural position for the first time in four years. He commits few turnovers and will have high expectations.

Miami (Ohio)

FORWARD

GUARD

6'11", 244 lbs.

No. 22

Senior H.S. stats

Points

15.3

Rebounds

9.0

Assists

4.0

2005-06 expectations

Ayers was the Mr. Basketball in Pennsylvania. The slight versatile shooter has a long wingspan and also has auditioned at point guard.

Kennesaw State

FORWARD

GUARD

6'1", 200 lbs.

No. 20

2004-05 stats

Minutes

10.0

Points

3.0

Rebounds

2.0

2005-06 expectations

McAlarney is fighting lower back spasms but brings an explosive and confident presence in the backcourt. He scored 2,566 points in high school.

*Walk-on

FORWARD

GUARD

6'7", 216 lbs.

No. 24

Senior H.S. stats

Points

15.8

Rebounds

8.5

Assists

3.0

2005-06 expectations

Murphy, who played at Benet Academy and bails from Downers Grove, Ill., is in his second straight season as a skilled Irish walk-on.

MEN'S PRESEASON POLLS

RANK

1. Duke (41)
2. Texas (6)
3. Connecticut
4. Villanova
5. Michigan State
6. Oklahoma
7. Gonzaga
8. Georgia
9. Kentucky
10. Arkansas
11. Boston College
12. Memphis
13. Stanford
14. West Virginia
15. Alabama
16. Iowa
17. Illinois
18. Wake Forest
19. UCLA
20. Iowa State
21. Georgia Tech
22. Temple
23. Missouri
24. Illinois State
25. Iowa State
26. Iowa State
27. Iowa State
28. Iowa State
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32. Iowa State
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42. Iowa State
43. Iowa State
44. Iowa State
45. Iowa State
46. Iowa State
47. Iowa State
48. Iowa State
49. Iowa State
50. Iowa State

Photo by PHIL HUELENS/The Observer

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**WOMEN’S OUTLOOK**

**CHAREL ALLEN**
GUARD
No. 2 — SO
2004-05 stats
Points 7.7
Rebounds 4.2
Assists 1.4
2005-06 expectations
Allen returns after having off-season knee surgery. She burst onto the scene as a freshman and could be key for the Irish as she gets to 100 percent.

**BRITTNEY BOLDEN**
GUARD
No. 14 — FR
High school stats
Points 13.3
Rebounds 6.1
2005-06 expectations
Bolden is a late addition to the Irish and should provide depth at guard. Her physical play will help the Irish prepare for more physical opponents.

**MELISSA D’AMICO**
CENTER
No. 33 — SO
2004-05 stats
Minutes 6.3
Points 1.9
Rebounds 1.4
2005-06 expectations
D’Amico is much-improved and should be a force down low for the Irish. She will be right in the mix for a starting spot from the beginning.

**MEGAN DUFFY**
GUARD
No. 13 — SR
2004-05 stats
Minutes 37.0
Points 12.3
Assists 5.4
2005-06 expectations
Duffy is the floor general for the third straight year and is the team’s multi-talented leader. She is the face of the program now that Batteast is gone.

**CRYSTAL ERWIN**
FORWARD, 6’5”
No. 34 — JR
2004-05 stats
Minutes 17.5
Points 5.3
Rebounds 3.8
2005-06 expectations
Erwin is a physical presence in the post for the Irish. She will be looked upon for more scoring and leadership as an upperclassman this year.

**TULYAH GAINES**
GUARD
No. 1 — SO
2004-05 stats
Minutes 13.7
Points 2.4
Rebounds 2.0
2005-06 expectations
Gaines has played in control this year, limiting turnovers that plagued her as a freshman. She will complement Duffy in the backcourt.

**BREONA GRAY**
FORWARD
No. 32 — JR
2004-05 stats
Minutes 23.9
Points 5.5
Rebounds 3.3
2005-06 expectations
Gray is still coming back from some off-season injuries. Once healthy, she will be the defensive stopper, but she has to score more this year.

**COURTNEY LAVERE**
FORWARD
No. 41 — SR
2004-05 stats
Minutes 20.8
Points 7.5
Rebounds 3.0
2005-06 expectations
As a freshman, LaVere showed signs of being a dominating presence. She needs to return to that form to have the senior year McGraw wants her to have.

**LINDSAY SCHMIDT**
GUARD
No. 24 — FR
2004-05 stats
Minutes 19.7
Points 7.6
Rebounds 2.4
2005-06 expectations
Schmidt ran the score. But can she play enough defense to please McGraw? Either way, the freshman will see the court because the Irish need a scorer.

**CHRISTINE TREZZA**
FORWARD
2004-05 stats
Minutes 10.4
Points 12.0
2005-06 expectations
Trezza is another body for the Irish who was a late addition this year. She was an all-conference performer her senior year in high school.

**AMANDA TSIPIS**
GUARD
No. 11 — SO
2004-05 stats
Minutes 2.7
Points 0.5
Rebounds 0.1
2005-06 expectations
Tsipis provides the Irish with depth in the backcourt. The niece of assistant coach Jonathan Tsipis, she will give the Irish another solid guard on the bench.

**THE SCHEDULE**

| Nov. 18 | Michigan |
| Nov. 20 | at Western Michigan |
| Nov. 23 | at Indiana |
| Nov. 27 | USC |
| Nov. 29 | Iowa |
| Dec. 4 | at Wisconsin |
| Dec. 17 | at Arkansas |
| Dec. 18 | at North Carolina |
| Dec. 28 | Valparaiso |
| Jan. 4 | at St. John’s |
| Jan. 7 | Seton Hall |
| Jan. 10 | Marquette |
| Jan. 14 | at Louisville |
| Jan. 21 | at Georgetown |
| Feb. 4 | Providence |
| Feb. 7 | Villanova |
| Feb. 19 | Connecticut |
| Feb. 22 | West Virginia |
| Feb. 25 | Pittsburgh |
| Feb. 28 | Mar. 4 | Big East Tournament |
| Mar. 18 | NCAA Tournament |

**WOMEN’S PRESEASON POLLS**

1. Duke (17)
2. Tennessee (13)
3. LSU (10)
4. Ohio State
5. Rutgers
6. Baylor
7. Texas
8. Maryland
9. Georgia
10. Michigan State
11. Stanford
12. Temple
13. Tennessee
14. Notre Dame
15. Arizona State
16. Oregon State
17. Mississippi State
18. DePaul
19. Purdue
20. St. Louis
21. Michigan
22. Pittsburgh
23. Tulsa
24. Oklahoma State
25. Oklahoma

1. Tennessee (22)
2. Duke (16)
3. LSU (1)
4. Ohio State (1)
5. Baylor
6. Rutgers
7. Texas
8. Maryland
9. Arizona State
10. Oregon State
11. Mississippi State
12. DePaul
13. Purdue
14. St. Louis
15. Michigan
16. Pittsburgh
17. Tulsa
18. Oklahoma State
19. Oklahoma

2004-2005 Schedule

| Nov. 18 | Michigan |
| Nov. 20 | at Western Michigan |
| Nov. 23 | at Indiana |
| Nov. 27 | USC |
| Nov. 29 | Iowa |
| Dec. 4 | at Wisconsin |
| Dec. 17 | at Arkansas |
| Dec. 18 | at North Carolina |
| Dec. 28 | Valparaiso |
| Jan. 4 | at St. John’s |
| Jan. 7 | Seton Hall |
| Jan. 10 | Marquette |
| Jan. 14 | at Louisville |
| Jan. 21 | at Georgetown |
| Feb. 4 | Providence |
| Feb. 7 | Villanova |
| Feb. 19 | Connecticut |
| Feb. 22 | West Virginia |
| Feb. 25 | Pittsburgh |
| Feb. 28 | Mar. 4 | Big East Tournament |
| Mar. 18 | NCAA Tournament |
The floor general

Senior point guard Megan Duffy returns to lead a young but talented Irish team

By KEVIN BRENNAN
Sports Writer

Practice was over, but Megan Duffy was not ready to leave just yet. While all of her coaches and teammates had already exited the Joyce Center practice gym last week, Duffy remained on the floor, taking jumper after jumper.

"I just kind of realized with my own personal game that I'm not one of those naturally gifted athletes," Duffy said. "I've got to be in the gym, and I've got to manufacture my productivity. And I know I have to get in the gym a lot to have my shot feeling good." The hard work has paid off, as Duffy has developed into one of the nation's top point guards.

The second-year Irish captain prides herself on being fundamentally sound in all facets of the game — and she is.

Last season, Duffy was Notre Dame's second leading scorer at 15.8 points per game. The point guard led the Big East Conference in free throw percentage and steals, and she finished second in the conference in assists, averaging 3.39 per game. Duffy plays smothering defense, dives for loose balls and can shoot with both hands. The captain hopes the manifestations of her work ethic will rub off on her teammates.

"I want to be the example for this team," Duffy said. "If they see me in the gym, hopefully they'll kind of look at that, and they'll stay a few more minutes extra and get some shooting in."

Early accolades

Duffy enters her senior season surrounded by hype. The Big East coaches voted her to the preseason all-Big East team, and she is a preseason candidate for Big East Player of the Year. In August, Duffy was one of 30 players named to the watch list for the John Wooden Women's Award, an honor given annually to the top player in women's college basketball.

"I think they're staying confident out there because they have to stay confident," Duffy said. "It's definitely a different role for me to have these preseason accolades coming into the season," said Duffy, who until this year had played in the shadow of All-American Jacqueline Batteast. "But my biggest focus is concentrating on the team and getting us prepared for our first game against Michigan."

A general and a cheerleader

Duffy is entering her second season as a captain for the Irish, but head coach Muffet McGraw says the point guard has been playing that role since she first arrived on campus.

"Megan has been the leader of the team pretty much for four years," McGraw said. "Even as a freshman, she stepped in and when she was on the floor, she was unquestionably the leader out there."

In a testament to her leadership capabilities, Duffy was voted a co-captain of the United States team that participated in this summer's World University Games in Turky. Duffy led the Americans to an undefeated record en route to a gold medal.

"I took a lot of leadership skills from it from the standpoint of managing a team of eleven all-stars," Duffy said of captaining Team USA. "I think I honed my own skills a little bit out there. And I'm trying to relate what I learned over the summer to the girls today."

Duffy's duties as captain are magnified this season with eight of the 12 players on Notre Dame's roster being sophomores or freshmen. Duffy said having so much youth changes her approach somewhat.

"We have to make sure that they're staying confident out there because they are young," Duffy said. "We have a propensity some time to get down on ourselves when we make mistakes. I have to be the general out there and also kind of being the cheerleader too because they have to stay confident."

Changing roles

With the graduation of Batteast, Notre Dame's leading scorer each of the past three seasons, Duffy will now be the focus of the Irish offense.

"I think she is going to look to score a little bit more," McGraw said. "Certainly, we want Megan to shoot the ball as much as she can."

Duffy is not necessarily concentrating on upping her scoring, but on improving across the board.

"From the whole standpoint of my game, I'm looking to increase my stats a little bit more in each category," Duffy said. "I'm not looking at it that I have to completely change my game, but elevate it a little more in each area."

Coach on the court

McGraw, a former point guard herself, has come to rely on Duffy as the coach's eyes on the court. McGraw knows she can always count on her point guard to be in the right spot and do the right thing.

"She really has developed into somebody whose opinion I really respect," McGraw said. "So a lot of times ... I'll just ask her, 'What do you think of this? What do you think we should do here?' And just kind of get her input on things because she has a little different sense of it from the floor than we do from the bench."

Duffy has valued McGraw's mentorship both on and off of the court.

"I think we've always had a very strong relationship," Duffy said. "Coach McGraw is one of those people that I can come in and talk to about anything basketball related or not."

Duffy and McGraw hope to cultivate this positive relationship for one final season and have it translate into positive results on the floor. The pair helped guide the Irish to a consecutive NCAA Tournament Sweet 16 appearances in 2003 and 2004. Duffy knows the Irish, who were picked to finish third in the Big East in the coaches' preseason poll and are ranked No. 15, enter the season a little less heralded than in seasons past. But the point guard is optimistic about her young team's capabilities.

"I think coming into the season there is a lot of uncertainty knowing who is going to step up for this team," Duffy said. "But I'm very confident with what we have on the floor, and I think it's getting better every day."

"I'm excited to see what we have when game one comes along. We're a little bit under the radar right now, but I think we have a lot to prove."

Contact Kevin Brennan at kbrennan@nd.edu
Besides Duffy, this team has a lot of ‘ifs’

There’s about one thing that is certain about this Irish team—Megan Duffy is its point guard. But beyond that, the Irish are going to have to figure out a lot of things if they are to have a season like the one in the past two years in which they finished second in the Big East, won the PreserveON WNIT, and defeated seven ranked opponents on the year. Without senior guard of American Jacques Baitost and shot blocker Teresa Horton, Notre Dame has big shoes to fill this year, and it starts with its senior point guard.

Megan Duffy is the core of this team, both on and off the court. Chanors are she will have a good senior year, but she can’t win games on her own. And so the Irish, who have just one senior besides Duffy, look to their younger players to step up and fill the void left by Baitost, Notre Dame’s go-to scorer.

"I think it’s going to be a balanced attack," Irish coach Muffett McGraw said. "I think it’s going to be a game-day game-to-go-player.

"I think we have a lot of choices, but the question is going to be who’s going to be the consistent one, and that’s going to determine who the go-to player going to be, is coming McGraw.

Surrounding Duffy will be sophomore Melissa D’Amico, junior Crystal Erwin and senior Courtney Lavelle in the post, and sophomore Tylah Gaines and junior Brenna Gray on the perimeter.

D’Amico will have to develop into a force in the post. Erwin is going to have to score and Lavelle must return to the player she was three years ago when she was named to the Big East All-Rookie team.

Meanwhile, freshman Lindsay Schrader, who averaged more than 20 points in high school, is needed to score again at the next level. She just has to make sure she plays good enough defense to please McGraw.

Guards Gaines and Gray must take the pressure off Duffy in the backcourt, with Gray stepping up as not only the defensive stopper, but a threat to score as well.

But regardless, the Irish need someone to score, because when the shot clock is winding down, Baitost is no longer going to be there for the Irish to find.

"I think that’s a little different mindset for this team, in that they’re going to be called to score and they don’t have the experience yet," McGraw said.

There are a lot of question marks with this team, and none bigger than Allen, who is back from a knee injury that held her out all summer. Allen was named to the Big East All-Freshman team last year, and if she can return to that form, the Irish will benefit greatly.

However, all of these points are ‘ifs’. If Lavelle returns to her freshman year form, if Erwin can score, if Allen can get back to 100 percent—"ifs."

And so McGraw is a little worried about this team, but no more than she has worried about teams in the past.

"No, I don’t think we’re where we want to be," he said. "But I don’t think I’ve ever felt that way since Ruth (Willie)’s senior year."

Sophomore Melissa D’Amico will start for the Irish this season, and she must be a presence in the paint.

But, amongst these ‘ifs’, one thing is certain—Duffy is the point guard. Duffy is the leader. Duffy will be the center around which this young team is rebuilt.

The opinions expressed in this column are those of the author and not those of The Observer. Contact Heather Van Hoearden at hvhoearden@nd.edu

Freshman Schrader ready to jump right in for Irish

ND guard brings a scorer’s mentality to Irish starting lineup

By KEVIN BRENNAH

Sports Writer

Notre Dame will miss All-American Jacqueline Baitost in a number of ways. But the most obvious area where Baitost’s absence will be felt is in the scoring department. Baitost, who graduated in May, led the Irish in points scored each of the past three seasons as its go-to scorer.

One of the players head coach Muffett McGraw will rely on to fill in the role of a college basketball experience—freshman shooting guard Ashley Sprague.

"She’s an offensive-minded point guard," McGraw said of Schrader. "She’s somebody that is comfortable in the scoring role. And that’s what we want her to be."

Schrader had no problem playing the role of scorer in her first two exhibition games. In a Nov. 1 win over Indianapolis, Schrader recorded 13 points. The talented guard then poured in 19 points—beating St. Cloud State from the field—in a Nov. 10 victory over Ferris State.

Schrader said she was nervous at first in the Indianapolis game, but quickly settled down. "After a couple of minutes I got relaxed and started just getting into the flow of the game," she said. "I was really excited."

The early productivity from Schrader came as no surprise to Irish coach Muffett McGraw.

"Right off the bat, we know that Lindsay is very talented," Duffy said. "She can score in different ways.

"I think scorer in just about every possible way as a stand-alone at Bartlett High School in Bartlett, Ill. The versatile star played all five positions during her four years at Bartlett and scored in double figures in 114 of her 117 career games. As a senior, Schrader averaged 22.1 points per contest and scored more than 30 points in five different games. She was selected to the McDonald’s All-American team and was named Illinois Miss Basketball."

"I think offensively she really can do in 116 different ways," McGraw said.

Standing six feet tall Schrader is bigger than most guards. "Schrader believes Schrader’s size will create matchup problems for opposing teams all year. If she is defendeed by a player as tall as she is, Schrader should be able to use her quickness to beat the defender off the dribble. And if a smaller, faster defender is guarding her, Schrader will move down low."

"When a smaller guard takes her, we are going to try to get her on the block," McGraw said. "And that’s something she’s pretty comfortable doing."

But the transition to college basketball was no seamless one for Schrader. It took time for the freshman to adjust to the pace of the collegiate game. "I went home for fall break and watched some of the games from high school," Schrader said. "I thought it was in slow motion the game is so much quicker when you are at the college level. So I think that was one big adjustment for me — the speed of the game."

But Schrader’s shift to the next level was aided by her confidence in her abilities. She understands that expecting to play right off the bat.

"In the women’s game it is so important that you come in with confidence," McGraw said. "Schrader believes Schrader’s confidence is very important."

"I’ve got as good a chance of starting as anybody. It’s time for her to come and start playing right away."

Thanks to that confidence, Schrader has already accomplished her goal of starting in her freshman year. He has started each of the two exhibition games and will likely be in the lineup when the Irish tip-off the regular season against Michigan tonight at 9 p.m. Schrader’s focus, though, is firmly set on giving maximum effort and helping the Irish past another successful season. "I want to help the team as much as possible," she said. "I just want to play in most every single game. If I do that, then I’ll be perfectly happy with my performance. I just want to play 100 percent every single game."

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MAKING HER POINT

Senior Megan Duffy leads a young Irish team hoping to find a way to win without Jacqueline Batteast.
THE CLASS OF 2006 HAS ENDURED BOWL-LESS SEASONS, COACHING CHANGES AND RELENTLESS SCRUTINY. AND NOW, IT'S ALL PAYING OFF.
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QUOTING THE IRISH

"I consider myself very fortunate to be in the spot where things are going right, and I expect them to continue the rest of the year."
Brian Beidatsch  defensive lineman

"It has been a great experience for me... I don't really know what to feel -- it's excitement, it's sadness, a whole bunch of stuff rolled up in one."
Matt Shelton  wide receiver

"Right now, I'm just trying to soak it up. I'm enjoying every minute. This is one of the greatest opportunities any person could ever have -- to be here at Notre Dame and play for this team."
Dan Chervanick  defensive lineman

Give seniors credit for ND team’s progress

Somebody tell them it's a bad dream. Somebody tell them it's just some cruel trick. Somebody tell the Notre Dame senior class of 2006 that they will be back next season, that they aren't really leaving when they have been the ones front and center, turning the tide of Notre Dame’s football current. Unfortunately for Brandon Hoyte, Corey Mays, Maurice Stovall and the other 23 seniors playing their last game in Notre Dame Stadium tomorrow, they aren't coming back next season. They won't have a chance to experience how far Irish coach Charlie Weis leads this team in years to come. If not for a couple plays against Michigan State and USC, running back Reggie Bush’s helpful push of quarterback Matt Leinart into the end zone, the Irish might be on the verge of a senior trip to sunny Pasadena this season.

Much of the credit for the turnaround has to be given to Athletic Director Kevin White and the Notre Dame administration. They flexibly hit the jackpot with Weis. This season isn't built on luck or a forgiving schedule. Weis is a darn good football coach who has a job in South Bend as long as he wants it. His play calling is world class, and he evidently knows how to motivate college kids.

For this success, Weis too deserves a lot of credit. But more of the applause for the marvelous season should be directed right at these seniors. When Weis was hired last December as the fourth (counting George O’Leary) Irish coach in the past five seasons, it was this class that held the team together. None of these men knew Weis would be a success. None of them knew whether the first-year coaching staff would abandon them, preferring to fold for the future by utilizing younger players. None of them knew if sticking around for their last season at Notre Dame would be worth it. They could have transferred to a Division I-AA school, where their talent would ever find a coach who could handle the massive expectations under the Golden Dome. But they’ve done something so monumental it overshadows any past failure. They’ve set the foundation for a championship.

If these seniors didn’t stay, this team would have fallen apart. Without the leadership of Hoyte and Mays, the Irish aren’t 7-2. Without the strength and heart of Mark LeVoir and Dan Stevenson, Notre Dame’s offense wouldn’t have. They needn’t bow to the tank. They’ve done something so monumental it overshadows any past failure. They’ve set the foundation for a championship.

"Too many recent seniors have ended their time at Notre Dame on a dreary note. Nick Seta, Julius Jones and the rest of the class of 2003 finished up their careers in the Carrier Dome, on the ugly end of a 38-12 score. Carlyle Holiday and his class of 2004 fell to Walt Harris and Pittsburgh in their final home game last season.

Even the 1993 team — whose 31-24 win over Florida State was one of the few games in Irish history that can match the excitement of this season’s near-upset of USC — walked out of Notre Dame Stadium in tears after being booted by David Gordon and Boston College.

There should be no tears this weekend — at least no tears of frustration. These seniors have nothing to regret about their time at Notre Dame. Yes, they spent four years wondering why their talent wasn’t being used properly and if the administration would ever find a coach who could handle the massive expectations under the Golden Dome. But they’ve done something so monumental it overshadows any past failure. They’ve set the foundation for a championship.

Offensive lineman Dan Stevenson, center, salutes the student section with the rest of the team after a dominating 49-28 win at Purdue.

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

Notre Dame's hard-hitting defensive captain has led the team in play and in attitude

By PAT LEONARD
Sports Writer

At first glance, this is the story of two men. This is a Division I football player with 261 career tackles and a knack for making the big play. He's in his fourth year playing linebacker, and he bits as hard as any of the rest. The second glance, the two men are the same person. It's fitting that fifth-year senior Brandon Hoyte — multitalented and respected — was named Notre Dame's defensive captain for his senior year. Coach Charlie Weis took over for the 2005 season.

"He may seem quiet to everyone else, but once he puts on the pads on, puts the helmet on, he's a different person," Notre Dame linebacker Brady Quinn said Wednesday.

Quietly, Hoyte 15-foot-11, 235 pounds has become a forceful leader for the Irish defense. He leads by example and alongside departed linebackers like Courtney Watson, Mike Goody, Rocky Bolman, Tyree Harrison - even living with Derek Carey - the Furby, N.J. native has grown through experience and inexperience, in game situations and in a red-shirt freshman season.

Going into the fall, Hoyte made the preseason Butkus Award watch list to honor to nation's top collegiate line-backer. He was named a Lott Trophy quarterly-finalist last week in honor of on- and off-field performance.

But Hoyte — the player and the person — doesn't lead a double-life. He just lives a complete one.

"Anything you would ever ask for in a model football player, student-athlete and person and captain is what he is," defensive coordinator Rick Minter said Wednesday. "He's our coach on the field, make no mistake about it."

Erik, remember me?

On second-and-eight, from its own 32-yard line with less than 30 seconds remaining in the second quarter, Tennessee lined up in the shotgun. Volunteers coach Phillip Fulmer would regret the play call.

Tennessee quarterback Erik Ainge fumbled the snap, and as he scrambled to recover, Hoyte steamrolled into the backfield and drilled Ainge, falling to the turf with an orange jersey beween him.

Ainge had a separated right shoulder. Notre Dame had the momentum and, eventually, a 17-13 road win in Knoxville, Tenn. Over the last season, Hoyte made his presence known with a devastating and mostly season-saving hit.

"You don't just hit people to tackle them," Hoyte said following the game. "You tackle them so they won't get back up."

The Irish would lose to Pittsburgh the following week, eliminating the possibility of a perfect season to the finish. But Hoyte had set the tone of how the Irish defense should play — and of how Hoyte would become their leader.

"I think if I lead first and foremost by production on the field," Hoyte said. "You can say what you want, but you have to produce."

Hoyte leads the team in tackles this season with 54 (33 solo). He has four sacks and 11.5 tackles for loss — five more than the next closest player, defensive end Victor Abiamiri. Hoyte is averaging eight tackles per game and on pace to shatter his previous season-high of 74 (2003 and 2004). But he always shifts his concentration away from previous accomplishments when he discusses his football career.

Following last season's 6-6 finish, for example, Hoyte outright did not play his best and that he was glad he had another year to rectify it. Now, with only four regular season games and a possible bowl berth looming on the horizon of his days wearing No. 39, Hoyte refuses still to give a final evaluation.

"I'd say [I'm] not finished because the season's not finished," Hoyte said Wednesday when asked to assess his career's progress. "Game to game, I see myself getting better."

A way with words

Hoyte strives to improve in other endeavors, as well, but they present different obstacles. In football, for example, you can't run out of ink.

Hoyte writes poetry in his spare time and even recites it publicly, proof that when people or teammates label him as "quiet," they don't mean he keeps to himself. They mean he is thoughtful and both soft- and well-spoken.

"He's one of those guys who I think is obviously quiet, I wouldn't say soft spoken," Quinn said, searching for words to accurately describe his co-captain. "But at the same time when he speaks I think everyone listens because of ... his passion."

The linebacker's passion and empathy rub off on the people he has worked with off the field ever since he arrived in South Bend.

On Oct. 5, Hoyte joined a group of fellow Notre Dame and Saint Mary's students for a bonfire at the soccer field behind Angola Athletic Center. Hoyte recited two original poems to the Literary Council of St. Joseph's County's eighth annual Luncheon for Literacy.

"He was wonderful to work with," said Brenda Green-D'Oonnell, the council's executive director. "He's such a generous person."

In a nationwide sports atmosphere of scandal and debate, athletes like Hoyte seem to bridge the gap of understanding. His tendency is mingle with any person — athlete or non-athlete — makes him a natural favorite of those he runs into, those he has class with and those he takes snaps with.

The only question remains: how many people in the world can knock a quarterback out of a game and also write poetry regularly?

"I would say it's a normal person, to be honest with you," Hoyte said, laughing at any hint of abnormality in the situation.

"I just like having fun, and that's my way to have fun and my way to get away. I get away from life when I get onto the football field, and I get away from life when I write poetry."

Closing out

Getting on with life after Notre Dame should not be any more difficult for Hoyte. He is not the tallest player, either. But his vocal leadership and hard hitting contribute in new respect teams have for Notre Dame's defense — a team with 16 turnovers forced in seven games.

"We don't take him off the field," Weis said Tuesday. "We're earned our trust as the most dependable guy we have in all situations."

So maybe, as the saying goes, Hoyte is not a warrior poet at all. He is, instead, a poetic warrior, writing his final verse.

The Volunteers are in town, and Notre Dame's defensive captain has three home games remaining to close out what has been — but what he won't yet admit to being a memorable career, on and off the field.

"I don't think you can ever sell yourself short with effort," Hoyte said. "I think that's one thing I've learned over the years playing this game is that sometimes effort beats talent, sometimes effort beats smarts."

"And I hope that at the end of the day people say, 'You know, what? That kid plays really, really hard.'"

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Brandon Harris

Soul of a musician: Harris chose ND for fine arts

By KEVIN BRENNAN
Sports Writer

Brandon Harris came to Notre Dame to perform, but not on the football field. Harris took up the violin at age six and chose Notre Dame for the sterling reputation of its music department rather than the historic mystique of its football program.

Harris starred on the gridiron at Benjamin Harris High School in New Orleans, La., playing running back, wide receiver and defensive back and earning team MVP honors his senior year. He contemplated playing football in college at a smaller program like Davidson College in North Carolina, but was not offered any scholarships.

"I was debating between going to college for music or going to college to play football," Harris said. "But in the end I chose to go to college for music." Harris came to Notre Dame and focused on the violin, initially pursuing a major in musical performance and eventually switching to the music theory. But soon his thoughts drifted to football again. "I went to the football games, and it was so exciting," Harris said. "I just wanted to go out there and play at that moment."

In the second semester of his sophomore year, Harris decided to try to walk on to the football team. He hadn’t put on a helmet since his senior year of high school, not counting playing interhall football.

"It wasn’t too hard getting back into it because I had still been working out," Harris said. "But, yeah, it was hard moving my body up to speed to the level of college football." Harris, who has 4.4 speed in the 40-yard dash, made the team as a receiver. He chose wideout over defensive back, feeling he was more experienced on the offensive side of the ball.

Harris was immediately impressed with the treatment of the walk-ons by both the coaches and the scholarship players.

"Basically, the life of the walk-ons is similar to the life of everyone else," Harris said. "You do the same things as everyone else. When you first come in, you get thrown right in basically."

To his own surprise, Harris played in one game in 2004. With the Irish leading lowly Washington 38-3 late in the fourth quarter, Harris saw 1:24 of action at receiver. While not recording any receptions, he was thrilled to see actual game time.

"I was real excited to be out there," Harris said. "I just had no idea what it would feel like out there. I finally got out there and had a good time."

Since Charlie Weis replaced Tyrone Willingham, Harris has moved from receiver to corner back. During 2005 spring practice, talk spread that Harris could possibly contribute as a kick returner and defensive back.

The coaching staff was so impressed with Harris that they granted him a scholarship before the start of his senior season. Harris said he was shocked by the offer.

"It was so exciting getting the scholarship because, for one, it made my parents happy and it made me really happy, feeling that all my hard work had finally paid off," Harris said. Harris entered the 2005 season listed as a starting kick returner on the depth chart. In the season opener against Pittsburgh, Harris returned one kickoff for 11 yards. In the home opener against Michigan State, Harris returned another two kickoffs for 42 yards.

"I was having a whole lot of fun going out there and being with the team," Harris said. "Every week it’s a challenge, but at the same time it’s so thrilling."

Harris has since fallen on the depth chart as freshmen receivers David gravelle and D.J. Hord are currently the first team kick returners. Harris is not upset about losing his starting job.

"No, I’m not disappointed," Harris said. "I know the coach is doing what’s best for the team, and you just have to wait your turn."

But Harris still has his first love — music. — to rely on. Harris plans on pursuing a career in music after graduating, possibly as a composer of film scores.

"I love composing music," Harris said. "I do it in my spare time. I’m pretty good at it. I can see myself doing that in the future at some point."

Wherever Harris goes in life, he says he will always treasure his memories of the 2005 football season.

"I’m going to be really happy to say that I was a part of something that was really special, something that I can always look back on and remember, something that I can be really proud of."

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Art Gallery & Gift Shop
Offensive tackle Mark LeVoir is no stranger to protection, of his quarterback and his family

By MIKE GILLOON

Taking care of others tends to come naturally to Mark LeVoir.

He is the most experienced player on an offensive line that has given Irish quarterback Brady Quinn time to throw for 27 touchdowns and 2,931 passing yards this season. He has helped clear defenders out of the way for Notre Dame running backs Harris Walker and Travio Thomas to run for 1028 total yards. He even gives Irish tight end and fellow Minnesotan John Carlson rides to the airport. But growing up, the senior Notre Dame offensive tackle kept watch over someone closer to him than any teammate — his brother Andy, who has Down syndrome.

"Andy's older than me, but I felt like I was the older broth­er," LeVoir said. "We'd take him out, do stuff and watch him. I'd just really look out for him when we were out playing with other kids because they didn't really understand he has Down syndrome. They know he's different, just because of physical features and stuff. You have to watch out for him and stick up for him."

LeVoir has learned well from his brother on how to stick up for his own.

The Irish right tackle has started every game since the 2003 season opener against Washington State and is cur­rently teaming with left tackle Ryan Harris, guards Dan Stevenson and Dan Samucci and centers John Sullivan and Bob Morton to vault Notre Dame's offense to one of its most productive seasons in recent memory.

The Irish are averaging just under 39 points through nine contests in 2005.

"LeVoir is just command­ing the offensive line," Irish running back Darius Walker said. He's just an overall leader, and he understands the game so well. It's just great to have him out there."

Despite this praise, LeVoir feels there's a lot of room to improve. There are still two regular season games left on the slate and, he hopes, a shot at a major bowl game in the future.

"We just have to keep improving, keep sharp­ening it up and hopefully be the top offensive line at the end of the season," LeVoir said. "I think I've improved a lot from last year. A lot of that credit can start with ... Coach [Ruben] Mendoza's strength and con­ditioning on down the line, especially with offensive line coach [John] Latina, who's come in here and taught me a lot of things and Coach Weiss, as well. Just the experience of having played a couple of years ... each year you just keep getting better and bet­ter, or hope to at least."

High school standout

With 33 career starts and the team's current No. 6 national ranking, LeVoir's Notre Dame career has to be considered a success. But he also had plenty of experience with winning during his time at Eden Prairie High School outside of Minneapolis.

LeVoir led his team to the 2000 Minnesota class 5A state title with a win over Cre­tin-Duluth Hall, a team that fea­tured current Irish players Rashon Powers-Neal, Ryan Harris and Marcus Freeman.

In the 13-0 season that propelled him to a national ranking, LeVoir caught four touchdowns and also recorded 156 passes playing not tackle, but tight end. This play attracted the attention of former Irish coach Bob Davie, whose staff recruited LeVoir and then moved him in tackle in full­time practice his freshman year.

LeVoir didn't see the field in 2001 but played tackle for eight games in 2002 under former Irish coach Tyrone Willingham. Athletic enough to play full­back, wide receiver, full­back and punter in add­i­tion to his reg­u­lar duties as a tight end in high school, LeVoir moved to guard in 2003, starting every game that season. He then made one final switch back to tackle for the past two seasons.

Despite all of this move­ment, LeVoir seems to have found a home at right tackle, opposite fellow Minnesotan and left tackle Ryan Harris. It is for this stability and other reasons that he is happy he made the decision to come to Notre Dame.

"It's a place I've always wanted to go," LeVoir said. "It's the total package. Every weekend you're playing against the top talent in the country and I wanted to measure myself against that."

And that is where champi­onship game? LeVoir says it really hasn't been an issue since he became a teammate, not an opponent, of Powers-Neal, Harris and Freeman.

I joke with them every­now and then," LeVoir said. "It was high school, it's not like it's a big deal."

Versatile in the classroom

All of LeVoir's versatility on the football field is reflected in his interests in the class­room. Beginning college as a business major, LeVoir befriended anthropology pro­fessor James McKenna during his freshman year. The tackle wasn't too thrilled with the business track he was on and McKenna encouraged him to take a few anthropology classes.

"It was inter­esting, it was more enjoyable to me," LeVoir said of the sub­ject that would become his major. "You could pick and choose classes. It wasn't as structured. This is a great liberal arts school so I thought... Well I might as well do something I enjoy instead of regretting it every day."

Later adding a second major in computer applica­tions, LeVoir isn't sure what he wants to do after he leaves Notre Dame and possibly, a career in the NFL.

"I don't know," LeVoir said. "My dad has a degree in chemistry and he's never done one thing with chem­istry in his whole life. He's in sales now, I decided I might as well do something I enjoy."

Predicted by most experts to be a selection in next April's NFL draft, LeVoir again has a lot of hun­dred explo­rations placed on him — just like he did as a blue-chip prospect coming out of high school. But it doesn't appear LeVoir is too impressed with himself to be willing to take it easy.

"All the honors from high school meant that I had potential, but potential doesn't really mean anything, you've got to make your potential."

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Irish offensive lineman Mark LeVoir blocks against Michigan State on Sept. 17.

"Every weekend you're playing against the top people in the country, and I wanted to measure myself against that."

Mark LeVoir Irish offensive lineman

Mark LeVoir, a stalwart on the offensive line, blocks for Darius Walker against Pittsburgh on Sept. 3. The offensive line has been crucial to a near 39-point season scoring average.

KELLEfThe Observer

Irish offensive linemen Mark LeVoir blocks against Michigan State on Sept. 17.

"Every weekend you're playing against the top talent in the country, and I wanted to measure myself against that."

Mark LeVoir Irish offensive lineman

Mark LeVoir, a stalwart on the offensive line, blocks for Darius Walker against Pittsburgh on Sept. 3. The offensive line has been crucial to a near 39-point season scoring average.
MAURICE STOVALL

Welcome to Motown

The veteran receiver has trimmed down and stepped up as a leader of a potent offense

By PAT LEONARD
Sports Writer

When Notre Dame proclaimed its "Return to Glory" three seasons ago, Maurice Stovall — a freshman from Philadelphia — became the face of the campaign.

Stovall, 6-foot-5, 225 pounds, possesses the same talents and be able to do that consistently on a basis with the type of offense that we have."

Maybe that explains why Stovall is on pace to catch more passes this season (63) than he did in his first three seasons combined (61). Maybe it explains why he’s caught the same amount of touchdowns through eight games (six) that he did from 2002 to 2004. Or maybe it has nothing to do with football.

Through the grapevine

"It's old school. His teammates tell him, and he knows it. The description doesn't fit his personality, though, as much as it fits his musical tastes. But then maybe again it does describe Stovall's personality since, as running back Darius Walker puts it, "Off the field and on the field, Mo is a singer."

Stovall constantly keeps a tune, and not only in his head. The senior receiver takes his vocals and his smooth attitude from the shower to the locker room to the practice field, ranging in musical tastes from Barry White to Marvin Gaye to the Temptations and beyond.

"He'll throw on ... all sorts of things from back in the day," Walker said.

Stovall has a laid-back, laid-back attitude, combined with a resilient work ethic, that makes Stovall a well-liked and respected member of the Irish squad.

Since playing at Archbishop Carroll in Philadelphia, Stovall has always brought the same attitude to football and to life — he has fun and works hard.

"Every time we see him, he's singing," Walker said. "Every time we're at practice, he's singing. And it really helps to sort of create a calm atmosphere for us. It's not so serious all the time."

"It's really good to be able to let go a little bit and to play around a little bit in the huddle. Even sometimes in the game he'll joke around."

But once the huddle has broken, this season, Stovall has reversed roles, wiping the smiles one-by-one off opposing defenders' faces.

The senior receiver has 42 catches in eight games for 666 yards (an average of 15.9 yards per catch, second only to Jeff Samardzija (17.2). Stovall's 83.2 yards per game average also establishes him as an immediate threat to upcoming opponents.

But catching more passes was only half the battle. Stovall climbed back not only into a rhythm, but he always played significant minutes — but into a complete receiver.

A firm stance

Samardzija broke two records in Notre Dame's win against Tennessee last Saturday. Strong safety Tom Zbikowski scored two return touchdowns. But Irish coach Charlie Weis had only one favorite individual performance after reviewing the game tape.

"The guy I was pleased with the most was actually Maurice Stovall," Weis said at his Sunday press conference. "He only had a couple catches on the game and one for a touchdown, but he made several critical blocks in this game and ended up leading us to having production. Sometimes we single out stats guys rather than things that happen in a game that help us win."

At two turning points in the win over the Volunteers, Stovall made key blocks to free up big plays for Notre Dame.

The final block that sprung tight end Anthony Fasano for Notre Dame's first touchdown of the contest. He also helped pave the way for Samardzija on a 73-yard completion down to the Tennessee 2-yard line.

And Walker said Stovall's role in those plays must not go unnoticed.

"The receiver's block is not only important for me, but it's important for the other receivers as they're running their routes," Walker said. "In order for a play to work and in order for it to be a big play, I think the receivers have to get the blocks."

"Whenever you see me running down the sideline or tight end Anthony Fasano running down the middle, that may be one of the receivers made their block."

Stovall's example on the field has caused players like Walker to view him as a leader. And the production — he is catching passes or planting defenders on their backs — could have NFL scouts licking their chops for a proven threat.

Stovall, though, said his focus remains at Notre Dame — for now.

"I think about (the NFL) sometimes but not a lot," he said. "I'm just basically trying to enjoy the rest of my college season with my teammates, this great facility here, this campus and then we'll take it from there."

A lighter option

Stovall's sudden resurgence has provoked numerous conjectures on its origin. Some, as Stovall suggested, credit Weis' prolific offense. Some credit quarterback Brady Quinn. But Stovall is sick of hearing how his weight affects his play following the well-documented story of Weis telling Stovall to drop a few pounds at the beginning of spring practice.

"My weight loss has been a factor in my change of play, but that's not everything," Stovall said. "That's not it. I think a lot of people think that the reason I'm doing so well is just because of my weight. It's not that at all. It's a building of things mentally, physically and emotionally."

He has proven that be, as an experienced senior, can use those emotions to benefit himself — and the Irish on the field.

"When you see a player like that, it really rubs off on everybody else," Walker said.

But some of the emotion sneaks out in the form of song, and Walker is not as quick to throw praise Stovall's way.

"He thinks he's a good singer. He's an alright singer in my opinion, but he really thinks he's a good singer," the running back said. "You know how those guys are when they really think they can do something? They sort of overshadow it."

But after shrugging off early career setbacks, Stovall now easily dispatches of any critics.

"No, I don't think I'm a good singer," Stovall said, a wink all but implied. "My teammates do."

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CLAIRE KELLEY/The Observer

Wide receiver Maurice Stovall stretches to catch a deep pass from quarterback Brady Quinn against Michigan State on Sept. 17.

Maurice Stovall has the strength and speeded for yards after the catch, such as this one against Michigan State on Sept. 17.
Bent was ‘caught up in the moment’ at Heinz Field

By CHRIS KHOREY
Sports Writer

There were a little more than nine minutes left in the game, and Pittsburgh had just punted the ball luck to Notre Dame. With the Irish leading 42-21, coach Charlie Weis and the coaching staff decided to put in some reserve offensive players.

And that was how James Bent finally got on the field for the Irish. The walk-on senior center lined up over the ball and snapped it to back up quarterback David Wolke. Wolke handed off to Travis Thomas, who ran for nine yards off the right side, giving Bent the first official playing time of his career.

"Coming off the sideline after the first series I was in, some of the guys who play a lot were really happy to see me and some of the other guys, who have working so long, finally got in the game," Bent said.

"I got caught up in it for a second, but then we got the ball back and I had to go back in again." The Irish offense returned to the field charged with the task of running out the clock, but thanks to a long run by Wolke, they advanced the ball all the way to the 4-yard line before the game ended.

"I was lined up when the clock ran out, so I had my hand on the ball," Bent said. "When the whistle blew, I looked up and it finally dawned on me that I had just played at Heinz Field. It was kind of surreal." Bent has played in five more games this year. He was on the field for his first touchdown drive during the Purdue game.

Bent grew up in the South Bend area and graduated from Mishawaka High School. His father and two of his brothers attended Notre Dame.

Still, it wasn't a foregone conclusion that he would play for the Irish. Bent considered playing football at Butler, DePauw and Washington University in St. Louis and even took a recruiting trip to Stanford.

But in the end, nowhere compared to Notre Dame. "The fact that both my father and brothers went here, and the opportunities that Notre Dame opens up later in life, I just felt it was the best option for me," Bent said.

During his visit to Stanford, Bent met Tyrone Willingham, who would later become his coach for three years at Notre Dame.

"I went out to Stanford when I was coach, then I got an award in high school where he was the keynote speaker," Bent said. "Then I had a meeting with him talking about walking on, and then I got a letter in the summer inviting me to fall camp."

Bent toiled on the scout team for three seasons, an experience he said made him a better person and football player. "I think that being on the scout team and then finally my senior year getting on the field made me realize that not everything in life comes easily," he said. "Plus going against the starting defense makes you a better player. I've gotten a chance this year to play in five games and I don't think I would have been able to if I'd just been in the back somewhere."

Bent, who is majoring in marketing, has had several interviews about possible jobs after graduation.

"I'm interviewing with a few companies," Bent said. "I'm seeking a position in marketing, or just business somehow, maybe consulting."

But Bent said he's looking outside the region.

"I'd like to get out of the South Bend-Mishawaka area," he said. "I love the area, but I feel like I should get out for a while."

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Did you work for The Observer?

The Observer will be celebrating its 40th Anniversary with a reunion during the weekend of the Blue & Gold Game this spring. We would love for you to attend.

Please contact Maureen Reynolds at mreynold@nd.edu for more information.
By KEN FOWLER
Sports Writer

Scott Raridon knows about responsibility. He's a husband, a father and a senior offensive lineman for Notre Dame to boot. The former linebacker and...
Inspiration comes from many places for Chervanick

By KATE CALES
Assistant Sports Editor

Dan Chervanick is only one man.

But the senior defensive lineman is also an accounting honor student and active volunteer who makes time for a social life outside the football team.

For Chervanick, it's hard to believe he's reached the end of his time on the storied fields of Notre Dame Stadium.

"Right now I'm just trying to soak it up," he said. "I'm enjoying it every minute. This is one of the greatest opportunities any person could ever have — to be here at Notre Dame and play for this team."

Although he's played primarily on the scout teams, Chervanick saw time at the linebacker position last season and this season against BYU and Navy. He considers the highlight of his career to be recording two tackles against Navy on Nov. 12 in a 42-21 Irish win.

Playing for a scout team is a different sort of challenge for Chervanick, the valedictorian of Holy Name High School in Bridging, Pa., who was named to the all-academic team as well as all-league offensive tackle and defensive interior lineman in Berks County, Pa.

"You don't specialize in one thing — you're kind of a jack-of-all-trades," Chervanick said. "You know how to do everything all right so you've got to be able to adapt."

Although Chervanick has played in several games, he focuses on practices in order to make his impact on the team.

"From my perspective, the way I look at it, my game day isn't necessarily Saturday," he said. "My game day is Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday at practice. That's the attitude I take to it."

There has been more to Chervanick's experience than what happens on the field.

"The best experience I've had is getting to meet all the guys on the team and really developing friendships — that's been one of the one of the greatest things," he said. "It's these guys you went through the hard times, the training camp, the early-morning lifting, when you're going through that it's like going through a war together. You really bond together and the bonds I've made throughout that, that's the best thing about it."

Aside from bonding with the team, coaches have had a big influence on Chervanick's life, especially former defensive line coach Greg McTighe, who Chervanick said "took me under the wing."

Another important influence has been family. His parents drive out from eastern Pennsylvania for the home games — he calls them "the rock" through the more difficult times.

Chervanick's brother Mike was a walk-on at the University of Pittsburgh and encouraged him to try out for the Notre Dame team.

"I wanted to come here and see what the brothers were," Chervanick said. "It was college. I didn't know what to expect. Gradually it's became obvious that if it's a workload I can handle I'm going to go out for the team. And I went out and I made it and it's been a great experience.

Academies have been a priority for Chervanick, who interned in public accounting in New York last summer and plans to pursue an MBA degree.

"You learn to multitask and manage your time so quickly when you're on such a regimented schedule ... I'm two weeks ahead of everything in terms of thinking," he said.

"You're always thinking ahead. Planning ahead and just trying to stay ahead of the game, keep your head above water."

The former resident of Stanford, who now lives off-campus, has a full social life.

"The social life is part of football and academics."

"At the same time with the work, you have to balance your social life," he said. "It's an important part of school and I've definitely been able to go out and have a good time with my friends and kind of separate school from football and socializing, enjoying what Notre Dame has to have outside of all that."

His friends off the team have never been impressed with his status as a Notre Dame football player, Chervanick said.

"They're always keeping me grounded, and that's a good thing to have," he said.

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Quarterback's journey includes Yale and interhall

By KYLE CASHLY
Sports Writer

Irish quarterback Marty Mooney has been on two different Divison I college football teams, taken his high school team to the heights of Ohio football, played a little interhall and even found time to defeat Brudy Quinn on the gridiron.

Mooney was the star of prestige St. Ignatius High School football in Cincinnati, Ohio, and captained his Bombers to the Division I Ohio State Championship game in 2001. On the road to the finals, where the Bombers fell, he impressed St. Ignatius, Mooney and his St. Xavier team had to battle future teammates Quinn and Chinedum Nwokwo of Dublin-Coffman High School in Ohio.

The foot-long 2-quartahback threw three touchdowns passes and fought through a hand injury that made it nearly impossible for him to throw the ball in the second half, as he helped lead the Bombers to victory.

"Every once in a while, I give [Quinn] a hard time about it," Mooney said.

The Cincinnati native didn't come directly to Notre Dame after his days at St. Xavier — he took an East Coast detour to the Ivy-covered walls of Yale. Mooney was Yale's second-string quarterback as a freshman, but the punt of Notre Dame became too great.

"My whole family is an ND family," Mooney said. "This is really where I wanted to be, and I really wanted to play football here.

The 6-foot-4, 220-pound redshirt freshman coordinator Bill Dierdick during the summer prior to transferring about going out for the football team. After a successful winter try-out, Mooney officially became a member of the Irish squad and worked his way up the depth chart.

"When you go home, everyone says, 'You play football for Notre Dame.' They just want to talk about football, and that's all they ever want to talk about." Mooney said. "Which when you say the same thing over and over and over, it kind of gets tiring, but at the same time, it's great. To say you play football for Notre Dame, everyone knows what you do."

In the time between coming to Notre Dame and becoming a full-time player for the Irish, Mooney honed his skills in interhall football. He had free reign over his Morrissey Hall offense and '95 the Marky's in a semi-finals bout.

"It was fun just to play, I mean to go out there and make my own plays," Mooney said of the interhall experience. "Basically I could do whatever I wanted, so it was a fun experience."

Since dooming the blue and gold, Mooney has been an integral part of the scout team and saw snaps on Oct. 1 against Purdue.

He counts his Purdue plays as one of his favorite football moments, as well as a high school game against bitter rival Elder High School. In the midst of a record-setting crowd at the University of Cincinnati's Nippert Stadium, he and his Bombers knocked off their cross-town rivalry in a grudge match.

Mooney will close out his football career in these next few weeks and move into the field of investment banking, recently having accepted a position with Morgan Stanley in Chicago. But his experiences at this University and with this football team will remain with him.

"To see how this place has changed over the last two years from when Coach Weisk came in, and we really felt like about ourselves after losing to Oregon State to see where we are now — it's been a great experience," he said.

He is looking forward to embarking on a new endeavor and likes the close proximity that his new job will have to campus, but he's saddened to have to leave the gridiron behind.

"The only thing I regret is not coming here as a freshman," he said. "I just really loved it then that much."

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Brian Beidatsch is a character. You just have to know him. "He's a real quiet guy, unless he knows you and you're buddies," nose tackle Derek Landri said of the backup defensive tackle. "Then he's your typical buddy who messes around, we'll play pranks on each other, all that good stuff. So, have any good stories, Brian?" "Yeah," Beidatsch said with a smile. "Too good to share with you." The 6-foot-3, 294-pound senior has made friends like Landri by being just as all-business on the field as he is easy-going off of it.

After redshirting his freshman season, Beidatsch (pronounced "by-dash") has become one of the most reliable players on Notre Dame's defense. Landri and Trevor Laws start on the outside of a defensive line, but Beidatsch must be on call — like a doctor on the sidelines — to jump into either position, left or right tackle, at any point during a game.

"You've got to know your guy," Beidatsch said, explaining how he handles the hectic backup role. "You've got to be flexible in that you can play both sides, because I could go in for Landri at one moment and I could go in for Trevor the next moment."

Beidatsch has played in all nine games this season, recording 11 tackles (four solo) — a career high for a single season — and his first full sack.

And as his career peaks, Beidatsch has the opportunity to go out on a personal, and team, high. The human plug

Opponents who throw the ball often do not see as much of Beidatsch because Landri (263 pounds) and Laws (293) have proven themselves to be better pass rushers.

Landri even speeds into the backfield on run plays and makes several tackles for loss, including an immediate wrap-up of Navy quarterback Lamar Owens in last Saturday's 42-21

But Beidatsch becomes invaluable to defensive coordinator Rick Minter and the Irish front line when the ball stays on the ground. "He's a big kid, bigger than both Trevor and I," Landri said. "When me and Trevor are in there, we bring that quickness. When Beidatsch is in there, he takes up three guys and basically lets the linebackers run free, which is what every linebacker wants to do."

The trio of interior linemen is coming off perhaps its best statistical performance of the season against the Midshipmen. Landri made seven tackles, Laws had six and Beidatsch finished with four.

"The guys that did really stand out for me on defense were really the interior guys," coach Charlie Weis said in his Sunday press conference. "All our problems really were on the perimeter, on the edge. They really got very little done inside because I thought that those guys were disruptive and they made a bunch of plays. Corey [Maya] has a big day numbers wise in terms of tackles, but a lot of that had to do with the play of Landri and Beidatsch.

Beidatsch is more than happy to help out Maya, his roommate, who also has shined in his final season wearing the blue and gold. But he also believes that help comes from all three of the linemen, not just himself. And he attributes the gelling of himself, Landri and Laws to familiarity and chemistry. "Usually you get in good with people from your class and the people who you've been around for a long time," Beidatsch said. "I've been here with them for three and four years, and they're definitely guys I enjoy being around. It's easier to enjoy being around teammates, also, when the team is winning at the exact, appropriate time."

Going out a winner

The same goes for Maya, wide receiver Maurice Stovall or any player who has been on the roster longer than one season — nothing feels better to Brian Beidatsch than to go out on top.

"It's very special to win in my final season," Beidatsch said. "My freshman year (fomer Irish defensive linemen) Anthony Weaver and Grant Irons were here. It seemed like a 500 season, and they were great players on the D-line, but they didn't get that winning season senior year. "So I consider myself very fortunate to be in the spot where things are going right, and I expect them to continue the rest of the year."

Notre Dame is 7-2 with two games to play and momentum on its side. Players Beidatsch's age endured a difficult couple seasons and can recall in detail the emotions, lows and struggles of playing on a 500 team or worse.

But Beidatsch believes his situation couldn't have worked out any better as a member of Notre Dame's team. "There's been highs and there's been lows, kind of like life," he said. "During Williamson's first year, it was kind of a nice ride we had for a while, and then this year's been a great time as well. But then again you've had those years when you've been .500, and through that you've learned it's nothing but hard work and effort, and if you want it, you have to go out there and get it done."

Side to side

Beidatsch was not always a full-time defensive player. As a high school senior in 2000, he was a two-way, all-state selection from Marquette High School in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, lining up at both defensive end and offensive guard. He also blocked kicks and recovered fumbles.

Certain schools recruited Beidatsch as offensive lineman, as well. But he felt defense fit his personality better — his football personality, at least. "I probably had just as many honors if not more for offense (in high school), but I always liked the defensive side of the ball," he said. "You could just go out there, and it's a little less thinking. There's thinking, but you could play with emotion and really get into the game. You didn't have to slow yourself down, and I always enjoyed laying a hit to someone, so that's what fueled my defensive love or passion."

That side of the ball is suiting him just fine in 2005. His 11 tackles are one more than his 10 combined tackles from 2002-2004.

Off the field, Beidatsch believes he has success waiting in the wings with a marketing degree. But that's only his second option. "I'd love to continue playing football if the good Lord wills that," Beidatsch said. "But you never know." No one knows, just like no one knew Beidatsch would factor so much into Notre Dame's defensive success, or that he is so quiet and reserved sometimes off the field.

"Really he's just a funny guy, a goofy guy that we enjoy having around," his roommate Maya said.

If only he'd tell the story.

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Rob Woods

Academics, athletics complete experience for Iowaan

By KEVIN BRENNAN
Sports Writer

Charlie Weis likes to give Rob Woods, his 6-foot-2, hard-nosed fullback, a hard time. Carrying a 3.9 grade-point average in mechanical engineering, Woods is one of three top students on the football team. And his boys' basketball coach makes sure he doesn't forget it.

"When you've got a 3.9 something you can't really make a mistake," Woods said. "The first thing out of [Weis'] mouth is, 'You know for a smart guy you are pretty stupid. You're pretty dumb.'"

Woods said one of the smartest decisions he ever made was deciding to walk on to the Notre Dame football. Coming out of Atlantic High School in Atlantic, Iowa, Woods had planned to play football, but he was not recruited at all to play in college. Woods was levy of trying to play because he felt he might not be talented enough.

"They kicked me out because I was a pretty practicing guy, and I didn't think I was good enough," Woods said.

Encouraged by his high school coach, Woods contacted the Notre Dame coaching staff in December of his senior year of high school and began plans to walk on. When he arrived on campus for freshman orientation in August, Woods went through a combine tryout and began practicing with the team.

"They never really told me I was on the team," Woods said. "I figured it out eventually."

Woods embraced the life of a walk-on, viewing his contribution to the team as a service. Woods worked hard as a wide receiver on scout team offenses to prepare the first team defense for each upcoming opponent. Eventually, the coaches began to recognize Woods' contributions.

"After a couple of years of showing up every day and giving that effort, they give you a look," Woods said. "When you get that opportunity, you've got to seize it and do everything you can to never let it go."

For Woods, that opportunity came midway through the 2004 season when the coaching staff started inserting him on the first kickoff coverage team in practice. Former coach Tyrone Willingham and his staff wanted to see if Woods could hold his own with the scholarship players.

"For a couple of practices, I literally spotlighted every rep," Woods said. "So it's kind of a pressure packed situation." Woods apparently convinced the coaches he was worthy. On Oct. 23, Woods saw his first action on kickoff coverage against Boston College. He went on to record three tackles on special teams during the season.

Woods received an even greater thrill this fall at the end of training camp. Weis called Woods into his office and told the senior that he had earned a scholarship.

"I was the most surprised guy in the world," Woods said. "It just blew me away. They said I was smiling from ear to ear."

"It's definitely a great gift from Charlie Weis and the University." In 2005, Woods has continued to contribute on special teams. And in the Oct. 1 contest at Purdue, Woods finally broke through as a wide receiver, recording his first career reception in the fourth quarter of Notre Dame's blowout win.

"That was really kind of a surreal feeling," Woods said of the catch. "I consider myself a big while still from Iowa — nobody that should be catching a ball or trying to make a play, that's for sure."

Woods knows his football days are numbered, and he is now concentrating on finding a job in engineering.

"I've gone through some interviews at this point and had some success so I'm going to weigh out my options. I definitely have the self-awareness to know that I'm not NFL material unless I gain about 50 pounds and lose about half a second on my 40-yard dash time." Woods will be sad to leave football, but he is proud of all that he has accomplished at Notre Dame.

"If you had talked to me four years ago about what I was doing at this point both academically and on the football field, I would never have laughed at you," Woods said. "It's definitely an exciting time."

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Anthony Salvador

Salvador finds a home on field with special teams

By CHRIS KOHERE
Sports Writer

Anthony Salvador has always loved playing on special teams. The walk-on senior linebacker was an award at De La Salle High School for being the team's punt- and field-goal-blocking unit.

"I really enjoy playing special teams," Salvador said. "When I came to Notre Dame, one of my goals was to get on the field, and I knew my best way to achieve that was to play special teams."

While Salvador has come on several different kicking situations throughout his four years with the Irish, he said his favorite was blocking a field goal.

"That was the most fun," he said. "Whenever I'm playing football I love coming down with the kicks. You get to come down full speed. You have some responsibility, but it's not something coming down and being reckless. You can fly at your top speed and have some fun."

Salvador suffered a knee injury last season against Pittsburgh while blocking for a kickoff return.

"It was the opening kickoff," he said. "I got a little twisted and tore my MCL."

Fortunately, Salvador was only held out of the USC and Oregon State games and returned to practice at full strength.

"If I had first I've been seriously injured, so it was a little frustrating, but the training staff was great," he said. "During Christmas break and the bowl game I rested."

Salvador, along with Irish defensive lineman Derek Landri, was at De La Salle for part of the school's famous 12-year, 121-game winning streak.

"You really have to be a part of that program to really understand," Salvador said. "When we were there it was great. There was a lot of tradition and a great team atmosphere."

Both Landri and Salvador graduated in 2002, two seasons before the Spartans lost their first game since 1991.

Salvador said the reason he came to Notre Dame was one of the reasons he came to Notre Dame.

Salvador said there were other factors, as well.

"The academics, also I had a great time when I visited, and the third factor was that I'd get to play football if I came here," he said.

One factor Salvador did not consider was the Irish head coach. During his senior year of high school, Notre Dame fired then coach Bob Davie and replaced him with Tyrone Willingham.

"When I was picking a college to go to, I was trying to find a school that I wanted to get a degree from," Salvador said. "I had nothing to do with who was coach." Salvador will graduate from the Mendoza College of Business and said he has not yet figured out what he will do after graduation, which is quickly approaching.

"I guess right now I'm just still trying to focus on the season," he said. "When that ends, then I'll start looking at things. I've been talking to some companies, but nothing really formal."

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Corey Mays

Finally his turn

After four years on the team, Chicago native Corey Mays is making his presence felt.

By HEATHER VAN HOEGARDEN
Sports Writer

Corey Mays has spent five years as a Notre Dame — four of them waiting. But his time finally came this year, and the senior linebacker took advantage of it.

"It's been a great experience," Mays said of this year, his fifth at Notre Dame. "We're really just trying to finish it all out on a great note.

But Mays hasn't always been the well-known energetic, fan-favorite linebacker for the Irish — he had to wait his turn.

From the South Side to South Bend

Mays hails from Morgan Park High School, a Chicago public school on the city's south side. He is expected to suit up for the Irish as well. Jones, a quarterback, verbally committed to the Irish since his freshman year, and the next three years have him playing mostly special teams. Mays played behind the likes of Courtney Watson (now with the NFL's New Orleans Saints), Derek Curry and Mike Goolsby.

And although Mays admits it was hard to wait at times, he knew that he would get his chance at some point, as long as he kept working hard.

"It was hard to be patient at times, because you feel like you should be out there because you've put in the work and you've practiced. But you may not be getting your fair share," Mays said. "You have to accept some things. That's a part of life. You just have to continue to work hard because you never know whether you're going to happen, or who's going to notice you, or who's going to take your opportunity.

And this year, Mays has stepped up in his starting role. He has 52 tackles on the year, two sacks and has recovered three fumbles, while forcing two.

"You got a guy like Corey Mays, who didn't get a lot of playing time throughout his career," Hoyte said. "But this year, he has been unbelievable and he deserves it more than anybody else."

Hoyte's not the only one who has admired the way Mays has waited his turn.

"Corey's been very talented since he came here," defensive lineman Brian Bednack, who is also Mays' roommate said. "And he got stuck in the position where there were great players in front of him. So he's kind of had to wait his turn and I respect it. He never complained, just worked hard, made an impact on special teams and did what he could do filling for those guys. So this year's his to shine. He's learned a lot from those guys and through his hard work, he's become a great linebacker... and a great leader."

Mays also brings an unprecendented energy to the Irish on and off the field, something he takes pride in.

"Every time I've stepped on the field for a game or practice, it's about energy," Mays said. "Because you never know when the last play will be your last, so enjoy everything you have."

And his teammates like the energy he brings, including his distinct hand-to-top of his dreadlocks-filled head sign that he started at the SC pep rally when he was one of the speakers.

"I'm always happy to be around Corey, no matter what," sophomore linebacker Maurice Crum said. "He always has energy for the guys around him, and that's something that on the field, everybody can feed off of. I enjoy playing with him."

Crum, also a first-year starter, said Mays' energy never stops.

"Corey's like that all the time," Crum said. "Weight room, 6:00 in the morning, 6:00 in the morning, 6:00 in the morning, 6:00 in the morning, 6:00 in the morning."

Irish linebacker Corey Mays brings down a Navy runner in a 42-21 Irish win over the Midshipmen. In his first year as a starter, Mays has been a key part of Notre Dame's run and pass defense.

Not all about football

And as good as he is on the field, Mays tries to be just as good off of it. When he got to Notre Dame, he founded a nonprofit organization, Positive Concepts, designed to help underprivileged children. Mays is the CEO of the organization, which he formed when he arrived at Notre Dame.

"I was doing different volunteer activities, and I finally realized I wanted to do something with my name," he said. "It really just mentors children and at-risk teens all over, but the best work we can do with it is with at-risk teens."

Mays said one of the goals of his program is to help provide teens both in his hometown and in South Bend with positive role models. He brings his team-mates from Notre Dame, teammates from high school, and even his parents to help mentor.

"Everyone needs a role model," Mays said. "It's really great when someone can have someone to look up to and follow in their footsteps."

Weis said he found out about Mays' mentoring when one of the groups he visited sent Weis a thank-you card and a picture, thanking him for Mays' efforts.

"He obviously is a very well-respected person, and I think it's great to have a guy from Morgan Park here, a Chicago kid, that is such a good role model," Weis said.

And Mays, who graduated in May with a degree in sociology and psychology said sometimes it gets difficult to balance school, football and Positive Concepts.

"I [aren't] easy," he said. "But Notre Dame has really prepared me to multi-task and be responsible and balance a bunch of things.

Not all about football

Saturday will be the last time Mays plays at Notre Dame Stadium, but according to Weis, he may be able to play in the NFL next year, especially because of his three years of experience on special teams.

"He'll have an opportunity at the next level," Weis said. As a backup linebacker in the NFL, the one thing you need to be able to do is you need to play special teams. He already can play from tackle-to-tackle with the big boys. Then it's going to be a question of what else can you do because the NFL is all about versatility and creating a niche for yourself.

And for now, Mays is focused on closing out his five years at Notre Dame, time that he thinks has flown by.

"It goes fast," he said. "It doesn't feel like it your freshman year, but it goes fast."

And Mays said he doesn't know what the feeling will be like when he plays his last game at Notre Dame Stadium.

"I have no idea really," he said. "I just have to see when I get there. I can't even imagine what it will feel like."

But one thing is for sure — he will bring the energy.

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Photo by CLAIRE KELLEY/Chronicle

Corey Mays watches the ball carrier intently in Notre Dame's 44-41 loss to Michigan State on Sept. 17.
Mike O’Hara

EARNED a place among Notre Dame’s defensive line as a freshman, but a former Irish player feels like many Notre Dame players have this year.

O’Hara, who has been to two away games in four years, was an Irish birthday present this fall. Par- don the pun, O’Hara, a 6-foot-5, 310-pound receiver, fell in love with Notre Dame the first time he visited.

He was born on St. Patrick’s Day, being an Irishman is to him what it’s so far to his Irish name and his Irish birthday.

“I really fell in love with it,” he said. “It was an incredible experience — the game was awesome. And, being born on St. Patrick’s Day, being an O’Hara, I thought it was a filling place for me.”

And so O’Hara, a second team all-county selection as a senior, was prepared to give up football. But a former coach for Washington, whose grandchil-

dren were teammates of O’Hara, convinced him to try out.

“He talked me into trying out, so I got in contact with [former] coach [Tyronel] Willingham’s crew, and they offered me to come out before school started for camp,” O’Hara said. “I’ve been on the team ever since.”

The senior takes pride in being on the scout team and watching opposing teams’ offenses against the Irish on Saturday, knowing he helped prepare his team-
mates.

“It’s fun to be able to out there and do everything against our defense and hopefully get them ready for the week ahead,” O’Hara said. “It’s nice to see when you’re watching the game and see the offense run the exact plays that we ran and then our defense stops it. It makes you feel like you’re actually con-
tributing to the team. It’s been fun; it’s been a great experi-
ence.”

O’Hara said although it hasn’t hit him that his career at Notre Dame is almost over, the experi-
ce of dressing for every home game this year and running out of the tunnel is a special one.

“It doesn’t hit me yet that it’s winding down,” the finance major said as he recalled the first time he dressed for a game. “The first time I remember running out was in the BYU game and it’s so far. It’s with screaming fans to be yelling. Your heart’s pounding, you feel like you can do anything.”

Attitude, determination help lineman through injury

By BOBBY GRIFFIN

David Fitzgerald had a deci-

sion to make during the sum-

mer.

The senior offensive guard

broke his wrist last spring, but doctors

overlooked the severity of the injury, so he cleared him to play.

Fitzgerald only made the injury worse when he played it throughout spring practices.

Then, towards the end of the year, Fitzgerald was told his wrist had not fully healed and that he would need surgery. That was only the begin-

ning.

“It was supposed to be a 90-

minute procedure, and instead in turned into like nine hours on the table for two days,” Fitzgerald said. "I was there with the long opera-

tion, the bone failed to heal. It didn’t heal, and we had to go to an ultima-

tum — undergo a final operation and miss his senior season or go with a cast.

It didn’t take long for Fitzgerald to choose the sec-


DAVID FITZGERALD

Attitude, determination help lineman through injury

over but that remains to be

seen.”

At least his attitude is con-

sistent.

Fitzgerald has been used mostly as a scout team player over his four years at Notre Dame and is used to sacrific-

ing himself for his team. The greatest lesson he has learned playing for the Irish is to always keep a focused atti-

dude regardless of the circum-

stances.

“Just keep fighting and if you keep working hard things will break for you eventually,” Fitzgerald said. “Sometimes things don’t always work out the way you want them to, but just keep plugging away.

We all got our roles to play and we just go do whatever we can to help the team.”

Fitting words from a senior who — like many Notre Dame students — grew up cheering for the Irish.

Fitzgerald did not start playing football until high school. He grew up in a small town (Godfrey, Ill.) about 400 miles south of Notre Dame. The Marquette Catholic standouid had 117 tackles, nine sacks, six fumble recov-

eries, one interception and one blocked punt during his senior year.

Around this time he began getting offers to play Division-

I football, including one from Boston College. But when Notre Dame came calling in the spring during his senior year, everything else went out the window in terms of the injury.

“I grew up as a Notre Dame fan, and I wasn’t sure where I wanted to end up,” Fitzgerald said. “I probably had a better chance of playing at Boston College if I had gone there, but you can’t pass up Notre Dame, so when I got that chance I just jumped at it.”

Fitzgerald has had more of an opportunity this year to get on the field. The offensive line has played in games against Purdue, BYU, Tennessee and Navy.

“We’ve got some good games, so we’ve all had a little more [playing] time,” Fitzgerald said.

Fitzgerald is College-unaware of what he will do once he graduates, but he knows that coaching is not in his future — at least for the time being. Instead he plans on using his finance degree to get a job and possibly move to Chicago.

Whatever Fitzgerald choos-

es, he has proven that he has character and knows how to sacrifice himself for others.

Just consider his wrist.
Matt Shelton just wanted a chance to translate his play in practice to a game. And last year, that's exactly what he did, catching six touchdown passes to lead the Irish receiving corps, en route to breaking a record and becoming quarterback Brady Quinn's favorite deep threat.

"The stuff I was doing, it wasn't anything new, I just hadn't been able to do it during the games," Shelton said of last year. "So it was definitely nice to get the opportunity and do what I did.

Last year, Shelton entered the Notre Dame record books by setting the single-season yards per reception record, averaging 27.5 yards per catch.

### Coming to Notre Dame

Shelton was a senior in high school, and he was considering other schools when his dad suggested he go to Notre Dame for camp. So the Collierville, Tenn. native did and was offered a scholarship as a senior. But when he went back home, he tore his ACL, throwing a kink in the recruiting process.

"As soon as I tore my ACL, a lot of people just ended up running away and saying, 'Good luck with everything in your future, but we're going to back away now," Shelton said. But the upshot senior said he is not bitter towards those schools that stopped recruiting him. After all, it didn't stop him from coming to Notre Dame.

"That's fine," Shelton said of teams losing interest after his injury. "It's understandable. I decided this was definitely the place I wanted to be because of tradition, academics, all that.

### Waiting his turn

Before last season, the speedy wide receiver was mostly used on special teams. As a junior, he caught just three passes for 80 yards, and one catch was for a 63-yard touchdown. The year before, he caught just one pass. Shelton says the turnaround came against Stanford in 2003, when he caught that 63-yard pass and also returned three kickoffs for 51 yards. In this game, he showed what he could do in a game for the first time in three years.

"The Stanford game two years ago, I had an opportunity, and they started throwing me the ball more," the speedy 6-foot-5, 212-pound receiver said. "They finally realized I could actually do it during the game and not just in practice.

So Shelton took that game, the second to last game of the 2003 regular season, and built upon it for 2004.

### The breakout season

Last season, Shelton emerged as the team's big-play threat. He played in all 12 games, starting three and catching a team-high six touchdown passes. His high game came against Pittsburgh when he caught only three passes for a career-high 128 yards. He said he was just being "opportune.

"I waited around for two or three years for an opportunity here and there, and last year I finally got it and took advantage of it," Shelton said. "And I'm trying to take advantages of my opportunities this year and do what I can whenever I'm called upon.

Last year, he caught 20 passes for 515 yards, second on the team, and good for a 25.75 yards per catch average, a Notre Dame single-season record.

But going into the Insight Bowl, Shelton was one reception short to qualify for the record, and he had injured his knee again and could not play in the game. But interim head coach Kent Baer let Shelton play one snap, and on a forward shovel pass from quarterback Brady Quinn, Shelton recorded his 20th catch of the season, putting his name in the Notre Dame record books.

"It meant the world to me," Shelton said of breaking the record. "That's something not a lot of people can say they've done at a University, in general, but especially at a place like this, where there are so many great football players. But with this offense and Coach Weis at the helm, I don't see that lasting too long.

### One more year

This season Shelton has taken a backseat to a pair of 6-foot-5 receivers, Jeff Samardzija and Maurice Stovall, who are breaking Notre Dame records left and right themselves. But Shelton, who has caught 18 passes for 184 yards and no touchdowns with a long of 33 yards, is not bitter. Instead, he is happy to be 7-2 going into the Syracuse game.

"Each year means a lot, and each year means a lot to different people in different senses of the meaning," Shelton said. "This year's definitely going to mean a lot in my mind, no matter what I've done personally on the field, this team's done great. It's a great group of guys - can't say enough about them.

His high game this year came against Purdue, when he caught seven passes for 68 yards against the Boilermakers. He also caught six passes for 87 yards, including a 33-yard completion against Michigan State, his third game back after his knee injury.

Shelton, who has fully recovered from his second injury, said the two injuries have forced him to work harder than ever before.

"It's an injury that I wouldn't wish upon anyone," he said. "The actual injury when it happens, it hurts, you yell, you moan, do whatever you have to do to get through it. But the rehab is really just horrible. I was in there five days a week, sometimes six days during rehab, once, twice a day. It's just horrible.

And so with two knee surgeries under his belt, where did Shelton get his lightning-quick speed?

"My dad says he was fast. I say I'm adopted," Shelton said with a laugh. "So there's a little bit of a discrepancy there. I don't really know. My father and my grandfather both say they were fast when they were younger, so it came from there I guess.

### Taking a shot

After Saturday, Shelton's football career under the Dome will be complete, but he may not be done in South Bend just yet. He plans to take a shot at the NFL, and if that doesn't work, the marketing graduate will be back at Notre Dame working in the development office with fundraising.

"I'm taking my shot with football," he said. "I've gotta do it, if I didn't, I'd always wonder, 'What if?' After that, I'm going to come back and work for the University.

But for now, Shelton is focused on his last game at Notre Dame Stadium after five years playing for the Irish.

"I thought about it a little last week, just because Mom and Dad bring it up a little bit," he said. "I don't really know what to feel - it's excitement, it's sadness, a whole bunch of stuff rolled up in one."

But while his record may be broken, Shelton says he has the most important thing from Notre Dame - his degree. "It has been a great experience for me," Shelton said. "The degree is the biggest thing I'm taking away from it. That's something nobody can take away from me. Somebody can take away records, memories can fade. And most of all, Shelton will miss his teammates, who have played with him for three different coaches.

"This group of guys I've had for five years with me is a great group of guys," he said. "The older guys that were here before me that I had a chance to play with and the younger guys, all a bunch of great guys. I'm going to miss each and every one of them."
Craig Cardillo
Receiver balances Naval ROTC with football duties

By MIKE GILLOON
Sports Editor

Cardillo, who has also played last game at Notre Dame, intends to stay friends with Jenkins for quite some time.

"Because we live in the same dorm (O'Neill Hall), he's always been there for me when I've had bad times off the field and on the field," Stovall said. "I feel as if I've known him my whole life and he's a good friend of mine."

The last chapter of Jeff Jenkins' football dream, as well as his father's, will be written Saturday when he suits up for the Irish one more time. Jenkins hopes to score a touchdown, just like every running back does, he said. His mom and dad will be in the crowd. So will his girlfriend, Jihan Rush.

Thoughts of his family and the goals he has achieved will rush through his mind as he runs onto the field. So will the memory of his teammates who have stood tall with him for those quiet four years.

"Just coming out one last time with those guys at the University of Notre Dame will be unbelievable," Jenkins said. "The last time... it won't set in until I put that helmet on and walk out of the tunnel."

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A career highlight for Jenkins, a Midwest native, was playing in the Purdue game this season on Oct. 1.
Joe Boland

Boland lives family dream by playing for the Irish

By KEN FOWLER

Joe Boland is living a dream, and his family knows it.

"I've wanted to play football here since the time I was about four years old so there was never a choice. It was always Notre Dame," said Boland, a native of Philadelphia and non-scholarship player who has played on the scout team for four years, said his family and friends appreciate the amount of work he puts into the football team all year.

"No one went to Notre Dame in my family. We're all just big fans — Irish Catholic," Boland said.

"You go home and you get treated nice so it's pretty cool. The family's proud of me."

Though he moved up on the depth chart during his senior year of high school at Monsignor Bonner in Philadelphia, he said he hopes to use the skills he has developed at Notre and eventually coach high school football.

"I'd like to coach high school football some day and see where that takes me," Boland said.

Boland said his experience at Notre Dame will have helped him toward that goal.

"It has helped tremendously. I always wanted to coach high school ball," he said. "But I love the teaching, the coaching. I get here, and playing another position, you learn all different parts of the game."

Boland expressed nothing but appreciation for Notre Dame, even though he has yet to make the field during a game in his four years with the Irish.

"I haven't played a down yet, so I'm a little nervous," he said. "I want to get in there."

"I haven't played a down yet, so I'm a little nervous," he said. "I want to get in there."

Boland said he hopes to one day get into the football team they all love.

Joe Boland, shown here in a November practice, plays football because he loves the game and Notre Dame.

Boland played tight end and safety during his senior year of high school at Monsignor Bonner in Philadelphia. He said he hopes to use the skills he has developed at Notre and eventually coach high school football.

Joe Boland Irish defensive lineman

MATT MITCHELL

Rewarding experiences surround scout-team senior

By BOBBY GRIFFIN

Matt Mitchell got the news of his football career in one of the more tumultuous moments in Notre Dame history.

Former head coach Tyrone Willingham had recently fired after a 6-5 regular season, and the Irish were preparing for their Insight Bowl game against Oregon State without their head coach.

Then defensive coordinator Ken Baez approached Mitchell and told him that he would be moved up on the depth chart for the bowl game. The defensive back nodded and continued going about his practice routine, but inside, the walk-on junior was elated.

"Everything worked out and I got in during the game and it was just a rush," Mitchell said. "I can't describe it — it was awesome being out there."

But for Mitchell, it wasn't always easy. In the course of his four years, he said there were times when he was frustrated. Being a scout team player, he knew coming in that he would be working hard and rarely seeing the field.

"We look at practice as our game," Mitchell said. "We're out there giving offense a look, making plays, knocking people down and getting interceptions. That's very rewarding for us."

That's why his time in the Insight Bowl was that much more important to him.

"It made all that hard work and dedication pay off," Mitchell said.

Playing as a senior this year on a team that is currently ranked No. 6 in the AP poll and No. 9 in the BCS standings is exciting for Mitchell.

"It's a great opportunity we have in front of us," Mitchell said. "Just the respect you get around the country. When you say Notre Dame it actually means something to people."

Being a part of the team that is putting Notre Dame back in the national forefront is important to Mitchell. The senior from Memphis, Tenn., always had his heart set on Notre Dame.

Mitchell was recruited by several Ivy League teams to play football but instead focused on getting into Notre Dame academically and then worrying about football.

Once accepted, Mitchell sent film to the Notre Dame coaching staff, which welcomed him as a non-scholarship player.

And even though Mitchell knows he could have played — and started — at other colleges, he has no regrets.

"I don't look back on that," Mitchell said. "I don't really consider what-if's because this experience right here, it doesn't get any better than this."

"It's a unique feeling you get, running out of that tunnel. You can't that anywhere else."

Matt Mitchell Irish defensive back

It doesn't get any better than this. It's a unique feeling you get, running out of that tunnel. You can't get that anywhere else.

Matt Mitchell raises his helmet while walking off the field in a practice during training camp.

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Family tragedy motivates Whitney to walk onto team

By HEATHER VAN HOEGARDEN
Sports Writer

Rich Whitney III couldn’t stand it anymore. Two seasons as a Notre Dame football fan, and he was done — he wanted to play.

And so he did. The senior defensive back tried out for the team the winter of his sophomore year, and has been on the team ever since.

"Freshman year it bothered me, and another season watching from the stands, it drove me nuts," Whitney said. "That was a driving force. I had always talked about doing it, and I had had enough talk."

Another driving force for Whitney was the death of his father, who passed away at the end of Whitney’s freshman year, about eight months after being diagnosed with cancer. And so he was given even more motivation.

"He was like if you want to do it, if you don’t want to, don’t do it," Whitney said. "It was just something I had talked about with him; it was one thing that I had talked about for so long."

Whitney made the team that winter and has been a member of the Irish ever since. This year he’s played against Purdue, Navy, Brigham Young and even USC, going in on special teams to replace an injured player.

"I understand my role, so I wasn’t expecting it, but of course I wanted it," Whitney said of his USC experience. "Once I got that opportunity to be on the field and be on TV and stuff, it’s a great feeling. You just go out there and nothing else is around except what’s going on in the game."

Whitney said he is glad he tried out, and he thinks his dad would have loved to watch him play for the Irish.

"He would be happy," Whitney said. "He loved watching me play."

And his dad never strays far from his thoughts, especially before and after a game.

"Before the game I think about it," the 6-foot-2 senior said. "I’m not a big ‘get all pumped up guy,’ so I think about my dad, especially right before the game, when I’m walking down the tunnel. When we first run out onto the field and I’m running to the other side, I’m thinking about him. But once that’s over with, that’s when I stop thinking about it until the game’s over."

Whitney said his mom is elated he finally decided to try out for the team after declining the opportunity to walk-on before his freshman year. And she will get to make it out for two games this year. She loves it.

Whitney, who will graduate in December with a degree in science, business, said he is glad he finally stopped just talking about trying out for football, and actually did something about it.

"No regrets," he said. "It’s a tough road, there’s definitely been some bumps in the road, but that’s life. That’s the way life is. Nothing’s easy. We have to evaluate things as ‘What is it worth?’ Just because it’s really hard, is what you’re working for worth it?"

"It’s the right thing to do. The opportunities I’ve gotten, the friends I’ve made, and being a part of Notre Dame football is worth all the hard work I’ve put in."

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FAMOUS Native did not foresee ND career path

By PAT LEONARD
Sports Writer

Former Irish coach Tyrone Willingham let his team score, score, and score against his former Stanford squad Nov. 29, 2003 in Palo Alto, Calif.

Sc n e c r i t i e s took umbrage with Notre Dame’s 57-7 whooping, but offensive lineman James Bonelli must have approved of the wide margin. The then-sophomore lineman saw his first game action of his Irish football career — a 2:26 minute stretch.

"It was a lot of fun," Bonelli said. "You finally got to get out on the field and do what you love to play again. Because I didn’t get a chance to play earlier, it was exciting. So I made it worthwhile and tried to do my best for someone besides my own team."

Bonelli (6-foot-5, 280 pounds) was used to hitting his own teammates because he had been relegated to scout team, where he has played for the majority of his four-year career. The senior redshirted as a freshman and has one year of eligibility remaining if he decides to return.

This season, as Notre Dame’s offense has consistently distanced opponents late into game, Bonelli has seen a combined 9:43 of action. He has played against Purdue, BYU, Tennessee and Navy this season, with his longest stint coming in a 4:58 time period against the Cougars.

He has not decided on future plans to return or depart Notre Dame, but Bonelli did intimate his feelings about his current situation.

"Playing on the scout team is not as rewarding as I’d like it to be," Bonelli said. "And it’s not that much fun. Actually it’s not much fun any day. Most days, you’ve got to just bear down and do what you gotta do.

Bonelli’s attitude reflects the frustration of a highly-recruited prospect who did not fit well into the situation at the University of his choice.

"I was getting recruited by USC and a lot of west coast schools," Bonelli said. "I was getting recruited pretty much all over. I got about 30 scholarships coming out of high school. I just figured Notre Dame was the best fit for me personally, socially and athletically.

Being a Camarillo, Calif., native, Bonelli wanted to distance himself from home but ensure himself of an opportunity to see the field and achieve academic success. Notre Dame seemed like the logical choice.

"I didn’t want to just be a half-hour drive or so from home, because USC was my second choice," Bonelli said. "When I came to visit Notre Dame, I really liked the coaches under former head coach Bob Devine. I liked the school. Since I was young, I always grew up watching Notre Dame."

Bonelli has had the opportunity to see the field during a record-breaking, successful Irish season. But his individual career has not panned out the way he planned.

"Football hasn’t really gone the way I’ve wanted it to," Bonelli said. "It’s been a good experience overall. I haven’t been disappointed, but I think it was the right choice — school-wise.

Bonelli is a double major in sociology and computer applications. He said he is currently contemplating whether to get his masters degree.

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Always aware

Stevenson has been key in protecting Quinn in the first year of Charlie Weis’ offensive scheme

By MIKE GILLOON
Sports Editor

As a high school freshman in Barrington, Ill., outside of Chicago, Dan Stevenson made a decision that his teammates still kid him about today. A decision not typical for a near-ly 300-pound offensive lineman.

He went out for the junior varsity football team, a sport that is relatively popular in the Chicago area.

"It’s a fun sport to me," Stevenson said. "The guys on the team give me a hard time about it a little bit. We played sand volleyball in the summers... I just saw the opportunity to do it and a bunch of my buddies and I went out. We just had a good time... I don’t know how much I took away from it."

But looking at Stevenson’s play, some of the quickness and nimble feet needed for volleyball might have rubbed off on him. He is a powerful, blasting blocker and makes a particular impact on sweeps and traps when he pulls to block a defensive end or linebacker.

Stevenson has started 32 games in his career — the second most experienced lineman after senior tackle Mark LeVoir. His play this year has helped Notre Dame to one of the finest offensive seasons in school history — as the Irish are averaging almost 39 points per game and have totaled 4,297 yards of offense.

Much of his improvement has been due to playing with the same unit for several seasons, but a lot of it can also be attributed to first-year Notre Dame head coach Charlie Weis and offensive line coach John Latina.

"The coaching staff... did a great job of motivating me and motivating the rest of the team," Stevenson said. "Obviously the experience helps, it’s something you can’t teach. I think over the years I’ve built my game up and these new coaches have definitely had a huge impact. I think hopefully people will say the offensive line was one of the strengths this year."

"Going out with a bang"

He seems relieved in a way that Irish head coach Charlie Weis was hired during the off-season and has the Irish back in the top 10. Stevenson knew he and his teammates had a lot of talent and he’s ecstatic his final year at Notre Dame has worked out successfully.

"There’s no better feeling than going out with a bang," he said. "It’s a goal we set to begin 2006. When coach Weis came in and we were able to put this season together. We knew we had a good team. It was just a matter of putting the pieces together."

"Hopefully with two more games and the bowl game we can keep building on it. But this season’s success really helps the bumps the older guys have taken over the years."

As he alluded, the situation hasn’t always been so rosy for Stevenson. Playing under former coaches Bob Davie, Tyone Willingham and, for less than a week, George O’Brien, Stevenson has been difficult since he left Barrington High School, as the No. 1 rated offensive lineman in the Midwest and a Parade All-American.

"It hasn’t turned out the way I expected when I came here," Stevenson said. "It’s been a pretty wild ride with three and a half different coaches — there aren’t many people who can say they’ve done that. I don’t know if that’s a good thing."

"They’ve always been there for me."

He made his first start in the 2003 Gator Bowl at tackle in place of the injured Brennan Curtin after logging 82:23 of playing time in the 2002 season as one of the most active reserve linemen.

Stevenson used the momentum of his bowl game start to crack into the starting lineup at right guard as a sophomore. In 2003, a season highlighted by a game against Pittsburgh in which former Notre Dame running back Julius Jones rushed for a school-record 262 yards, Stevenson was named 37th Irish loss to Florida State that season, Stevenson did not play in games against Brigham Young and Navy.

He firmly entrenched himself in the starting lineup in 2004, starting all 12 games and clearing the way for Irish running back Darius Walker’s freshman record 786 rushing yards last season.

Throughout his extensive playing time, Notre Dame Stevenson is thankful for the support of his father, who played for the University of Missouri and in the National Football League for the Detroit Lions, and his brothers Tony and Joey who suited up for Arizona State and Arizona Western, respectively.

"It’s nice to always have somebody that’s been there, that’s played [college football]," Stevenson said. "They can give me advice when I’m down and humble me when I’m high. They’ve always been there for me and that’s something that’s definitely helped me through this process."

If course growing up as one of six children with a father who played pro football, Stevenson said the sport just came naturally to him.

"It was never something my parents really made me do," he said. "But it’s something that I fell in love with the first time I stepped on the field."

"It hasn’t hit me yet"

Stevenson will probably have another opportunity to strap on a pair of shoulder pads after the Irish season ends. But he isn’t quite ready to talk about the end of his time at Notre Dame.

"I don’t think it’s really hit me yet, playing my last home game in that stadium," he said. "I think it’s one of those things that doesn’t really hit you until you’re gone, and you look back on all your memories. Right now I think there’s just too much for us to finish... We have a game ahead of us that we can’t look past. There’s no time to worry about myself and wallow in my own self pity."

When asked what he will remember most fondly about the school and team he devoted five years of his life to, Stevenson didn’t talk about the near-upset of No. 1 USC this season or the 262 yards Jones ran for against Pittsburgh in 2003.

What he will remember most are the times spent laughing and goofing around with his teammates.

"Just messing around in the lockerroom, the buses, the hotels... it’s things like that I’m going to miss," said. "I don’t know now you can make a closer bond with a group of guys. The relationships I’ve built with my teammates is what I will miss the most."
RASHON POWERS-NEAL

Fullback's season steeped in speculation, mystery

By MATT PUGLISI
Associate Sports Editor

Heading into the 2005 campaign, speculation on Irish fullback Rashon Powers-Neal centered on his role in the upcoming season: would he play running back every down, continue to function primarily as a fullback or split time almost evenly between the two positions? Three months later, Powers-Neal's name still conjures speculations but of a significantly different nature.

After scoring six touchdowns in his first four games, Powers-Neal hasn't seen the field since Oct. 1 against Purdue.

While Irish coach Charlie Weis called Powers-Neal's coaching staff have refused to comment on the source of Powers-Neal's mysterious absence from an offense in which he was expected to be a large contributor, Weid did drop a hint at a press conference.

Weid was asked if he's been in contact with Powers-Neal and if the St. Paul, Minn., native may return for his final game at Notre Dame Stadium tomorrow against Syracuse.

"There's a possibility he will return," Weis said. "And if he stays to the promise that I would make to him."

While Powers-Neal's 2005 season has certainly been unconventional, it started on a similarly unusual note.

Entering the anxiously awaited season opener at Pittsburgh Sept. 3, Powers-Neal, a player with three career rushing touchdowns in as many seasons, matched his college total in a little more than half a game.

Experiencing little trouble controlling an overwhelmed Panthers defense, the Irish frequently found themselves in the Pittsburgh red zone. And nearly every time they reached the red zone, Weis and Notre Dame turned to Powers-Neal.

Carrying the ball eight times, the fullback demonstrated just how strong his knee for the end zone is, scoring three times on runs of two, nine and four yards in the second and third quarters of a 44-41 Notre Dame victory.

After picking up 19 yards on six carries in Ann Arbor against rival Michigan the following week, Powers-Neal was strangely missing from Notre Dame's heart-breaking 44-41 overtime loss to Michigan State in the Irish home opener.

As freshman fullback Aspaugh Schwapp fumbled at the goal line — a mistake that ultimately proved to be the difference in the game and led to a touchdown for the Spartans.

When Charlie Weis was hired after the 2004 season, Schwapp was moved to defense to better utilize his combination of speed and size.

He played linebacker in the spring, but was moved to defensive end in the fall.

"Talking to [Weid and defensive coordinator Rick Minter] and all, they were impressed with my ability to blitz as a linebacker so he thought I'd do a good job as a rush end on the defensive line," Schiccatano said.

While Weid said he maintains a unique skill set to defensive end.

Despite weighing only 230 pounds, he said his quickness gives him an advantage.

"Being as big as I am and as fast as I am, although I may have lost a step here and there, fast guys are always fast," he said. "I think it's an advantage for me on the line. I'm not the biggest defensive lineman, but I'm the quickest and the fastest."

Despite his experience at several different positions, most on Schiccatano's playing time has come on special teams.

"One of the highlights of my career was against Boston College in 2002 when we were down," he said.

"I beat my guy to the inside and I blocked the punt and we scored a touchdown to take the lead."

Schiccatano has no concrete plans for immediately after graduation, but he did say that he would like to coach.

"My dad's a coach, so I'd like to take after him," he said. "Someday I'd like to do that as a future career."

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NATE SCHICCATANO

Schiccatano endures hand of position changes

By CHRIS KHOREY
Sports Writer

One requirement to be a success in football is to be familiar with all facets of the game of football. Notre Dame senior linebacker Nate Schiccatano, who dreams of following his father into coaching, has already passed that requirement.

While at Southern California High School in Catawissa, Penn., Schiccatano played quarterback, wide receiver and running back. Since arriving in South Bend, he's moved to fullback, linebacker and finally defensive end.

Schiccatano said many of his moves have been his own idea.

"Most of the time I went to the coach and asked, and the coach thought it was a good idea, the best way for me to be utilized," he said.

Growing up in Catawissa, Schiccatano grew up dreaming of playing for the Irish.

"Ever since I was little, I always liked Notre Dame," Schiccatano said. "Everyone else was Penn State fans. When I hit sixth grade, my dad came out here for a coaches clinic. I got to meet Coach [Lou] Holtz. Ron Pulius was the quarterback and he's from twenty minutes from where I live.

"That day I made a promise that I would do whatever it takes to get a college scholarship and come to Notre Dame."

Schiccatano worked hard and was good enough in high school to be a four-star recruit at running back. While his heart was set on playing for the Irish, other schools had their hearts set on getting him.

"You hear about the recruiting process and people say its bad, but you still have no idea," he said. "Six or eight, nine nights talking to coaches, schools coming around every few days offering a scholarship."

Once in South Bend, Schiccatano was a rookie tailback on Tyrone Willingham's 10-3 Gator Bowl team.

After that season, he was asked to bulk up and provide depth at fullback, where freshman Ashley McConnell was the only other scholarship player.

Schiccatano ended up behind fellow converted tailback Rashon Powers-Neal and inter­national legend-turned-varsity-coach Josh Schmidt.

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IRISH fullback Rashon Powers-Neal avoids Pittsburgh defenders in Notre Dame's 42-21 drubbing of the host Panthers Sept. 3.

By Chris Khorey

Schiccatano and all, they were impressed with my ability to blitz as a line­backer so he thought I'd do a good job as a rush end on the defensive line," Schiccatano said.

While Weid said he maintains a unique skill set to defensive end.

Despite weighing only 230 pounds, he said his quickness gives him an advantage.

"Being as big as I am and as fast as I am, although I may have lost a step here and there, fast guys are always fast," he said. "I think it's an advantage for me on the line. I'm not the biggest defensive lineman, but I'm the quickest and the fastest."

Despite his experience at several different positions, most on Schiccatano's playing time has come on special teams.

"One of the highlights of my career was against Boston College in 2002 when we were down," he said.

"I beat my guy to the inside and I blocked the punt and we scored a touchdown to take the lead."

Schiccatano has no concrete plans for immediately after graduation, but he did say that he would like to coach.

"My dad's a coach, so I'd like to take after him," he said. "Someday I'd like to do that as a future career."

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IRISH fullback Rashon Powers-Neal avoids Pittsburgh defenders in Notre Dame's 42-21 drubbing of the host Panthers Sept. 3.
D.J. Fitzpatrick

Special talent

An unlikely source brought Fitzpatrick to one of the highest-pressure positions on the field

By MIKE GILLOON
Sports Editor

A lot of D.J. Fitzpatrick's knowledge about kicking wasn't learned on the football field.

Instead, it was the golf course where the Irish place-kicker and punter says he learned quite a bit about the mental part of kicking — maintaining body control, his smooth leg swing. In particular, a round of 18 with former Notre Dame football coach and Fitzpatrick family friend Lou Holtz made him realize the similarity between the two.

"I had a chance to play golf with Coach Holtz one time," Fitzpatrick said. "It was almost every other hole he was telling me how golf and kicking relate. It's the principles of keeping your head down, having good body position, following through and being balanced.

Holtz, who was the coach at South Carolina when he and Fitzpatrick hit the links, reminded Fitzpatrick that most of kicking is mental.

"He always said kicking is 80 percent mental and 20 percent physical," Fitzpatrick said. "Everybody kind of has the capability to do it, but point blank 80,000 with 11 guys coming at you and trying to get the field goal off in under 1.3 seconds ... it's hugely mental."

Learning the trade

But getting on the field didn't take Fitzpatrick quite as long as originally thought it might. When former Irish kicker and punter Nick Setta went down with an injury in the first quarter of Notre Dame's 20-14 win over Pittsburgh in 2003, Fitzpatrick took over both roles. He has held the jobs ever since, using knowledge gained from Setta and former Irish punter Joey Hildbold to maintain a high level of play.

"Very rarely do you have a kicking coach who knows the ins and outs of the technique of kicking," Fitzpatrick said. "So whatever guys are ahead of you, they kind of pass down the knowledge to the guys in back of them. Those two taught me everything I know about kicking. They were great role models for me."

Fitzpatrick certainly had a lot of time in the beginning of his career to soak up knowledge from Hildbold and Setta. Even after kicking 13 field goals and 13 extra points in high school, he practically had to relearn everything when he joined the Irish squad.

"From the time you get here it's almost like they reconstruct your whole kicking style — it's sort of like redoing a golf swing," said Fitzpatrick, who captained Marian's golf team to the state championship as a senior.

All of the hard work paid off for Fitzpatrick during Notre Dame's 27-24 win over Navy in 2003 when he kicked two fourth-quarter field goals — a 30-yarder to tie the game and then a 40-yarder as time ran out for the victory.

"I grew up here, so moments like that you dream about," Fitzpatrick said. "It was just a great opportunity for me to show what I can do. I was just happy that my teammates put me in that position and we got it done."
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Fourth year seniors

MARCUS FREEMAN

While fellow tight end Anthony Fasano gets most of the attention, Marcus Freeman has been a constant contributor all season on both offense and special teams. Utilized more as a punishing, physical blocker, Freeman has yet to catch a pass this season after snatching five balls for 50 yards last year. After picking up a tackle on special teams last season, Freeman has recorded a pair of tackles in 2005.

A St. Paul, Minn. native, Freeman was a two-time all-state selection in high school. He attended the same high school as his cousin — fullback Rashon Powers-Neal — and played in multiple tight end sets. Freeman should develop into a target for Quinn.

BRIAN MATTES

A backup offensive tackle, Brian Mattes has appeared in five games this season, including the season opener against Pittsburgh and each of the last three contests. Mattes started his career at defensive tackle, switching to the offensive line in 2003. A graduate of Wyoming Valley West High School in Plymouth, Pa., Mattes was a dual-threat in high school. In addition to 70 tackles, 13 sacks and nine tackles-for-loss as a defensive end his senior year, Mattes also caught 34 passes for 400 yards and two touchdowns to garner Associated Press Big School all-state honors.

Should he return, Mattes will provide valuable depth on the line.

ANTHONY FASANO

A candidate for the John Mackey Award — awarded annually to the top tight end in college football — Anthony Fasano has continued to build on his already successful college career. After catching four touchdowns last season, Fasano has managed to exceed lofty expectations in 2005. He has been a force on offense and a favorite target of quarterback Brady Quinn this season. Catching at least two passes in all nine contests so far this year, Fasano has racked up 40 catches for 538 yards and a pair of touchdowns, including a score each of the past two weeks.

In addition to the numbers, Fasano has contributed in other areas, developing into a talented blocker. The combination of soft hands and strong blocking skills makes the Verona, N.J. native particularly attractive to NFL teams.

Fasano is completing his third year of action with the Irish, leaving him eligible to return for a final season next year. But with the high level of interest held by many professional teams, Fasano has the option of entering the next NFL draft in April, and his career with Notre Dame may be all but finished.

CHRIS FROME

After starting the first six games of the season at defensive end, Chris Frome injured his right knee in the second quarter of Notre Dame’s 34-31 heart-breaking loss to Southern California Oct. 15. Frome had surgery on his knee following the week, but damage was determined to be worse than originally expected, and the Saugus, Ca. native will miss the remainder of 2005.

Frome entered the season on the heels of a solid spring campaign that saw him not only start for the Blue team in the annual Blue-Gold Game, but play extremely well. Frome finished the exhibition with four tackles, including three for loss and a pair of sacks.

A graduate of Newhall Hart High School, Frome earned first-team all state honors from the Los Angeles Times his senior year and was rated No. 91 overall by the Chicago Sun-Times coming out of high school. Frome also participated in the prestigious U.S. Army All-America bowl following his senior year.

Frome is expected to return next year and provide veteran leadership on the defensive line.

DEREK LANDRI

A starter at right tackle in all nine games this season, Landri has helped anchor a defensive line that holds opponents to only 131.2 yards per game.

After missing all of spring practice as a result of injury, Landri has avoided the injury bug thus far. He is currently eighth on the team with 32 tackles and ranks third with 2.5 sacks on the year. Coming into the year, he had just 40 career tackles and one sack.

Hailing from Concord, Ca., Landri was a first-team USA Today All-American his senior year of high school. Landri was considered one of the most talented linemen in the nation.

En route to leading his De La Salle High School team to a perfect 12-0 record and status as consensus national prep champion in 2001, Landri posted 9.5 sacks in only 32 quarters of play.

With one year of eligibility remaining, Landri, like Frome, is expected to return and help anchor an experienced, talented Irish defensive line in 2006.
have one more year

**MIKE RICHARDSON**

Irish cornerback Mike Richardson, right, makes a diving tackle against Navy's Karlos Whittaker during Notre Dame's 42-21 victory over the Midshipmen Nov. 19.

**BOB MORTON**

After starting the first four games of the season on the offensive line, Bob Morton didn't see action against Purdue, yet returned to play in Notre Dame's last three games.

**RHEMA MCKNIGHT**

Wide receiver Rhema McKnight entered the 2005 season as Notre Dame's No. 1 receiver in coach Charlie Weis' revamped offensive system.

But McKnight's season came to an abrupt end just over a game into the year when his right knee buckled on a hit against Michigan.

After an undisclosed procedure on his knee, rumors had McKnight suiting up for Notre Dame's showdown with Southern California Oct. 15, yet the receiver wasn't able to return. As a result, McKnight will miss the rest of the 2005 season, and the Irish will seek a medical red shirt, clearing McKnight to return to a deep receiving core in 2006.

The La Palma, Ca., native started the year on the heels of two straight seasons atop the Notre Dame receiving rankings. As a freshman in 2002, McKnight played in 12 games (two starts), grabbing nine passes for 91 yards.

But McKnight took off in his second year with the Irish, catching 48 passes for 600 yards and a trio of scores. It was more of the same for McKnight in 2004, as he pulled in 42 pass for 610 yards and three more touchdown receptions.

The emergence of Jeff Samardzija as one of the top receivers in college football coupled with consistent play from tight end Anthony Fasano, the deep threat provided by receiver Matt Shelton and the recent record-breaking performance by receiver Maurice Stivall — the senior caught a Notre Dame record four touchdown passes in a 49-23 route of Brigham Young at Notre Dame Stadium Oct. 22 — McKnight's absence hasn't been as damaging to the Irish passing attack as originally expected when McKnight was injured in Ann Arbor in early Sept.

Nevertheless, with Fasano potentially headed to the NFL and Shelton and Stivall both set to graduate, the Irish will be counting on McKnight to provide some veteran leadership when Notre Dame takes the field in 2006.

Along with Samardzija and young talent including David Grimes and D.J. Hord, McKnight should help round out what is expected to be a potent Irish passing attack next season controlled by a more mature Quinn and an offensive mastermind in Weis.

Entering the season as the only experienced member of a vulnerable Notre Dame secondary, Mike Richardson has joined Ambrose Wooden in holding down the corners for the Irish all season — both players have started all nine of Notre Dame's games at cornerback.

While safety Tommy Zbikowski has emerged as the unofficial leader of the group, Richardson has still provided valuable veteran leadership, in addition to solid statistics — he ranks fifth on the team with 31 total tackles and second in interceptions with three.

Richardson has also picked up a couple sacks, three tackles for loss, a fumble recovery and two forced fumbles this year.

Coming into the 2005 season, the Warner Roberts, Ga., native had played in all 12 Irish games each of past two seasons, yet started only five of those 24 contests. Richardson has already topped his career numbers heading into the 2005 season he had just 49 tackles and one interception in his first two years combined.

Although Richardson still has a year of eligibility remaining — he didn't see action as a freshman in 2002 — his role on the 2006 team may be more hazy than it was entering the 2005 season.

With Wooden at the other corner position and talented, 5-star defensive back recruit Darrin Walls a verbal to play at Notre Dame next season, Richardson could find himself a backup.