Fans still support Irish on road trip

By AMANDA MICHAELS
Assistant News Editor

Senior Preston Carter, who is road trippeing for the Michigan State game and looks forward to watching the Irish in East Lansing on Saturday.

Despite the loss last week, LeBlancq is extremely confident about the outcome of Saturday's game and looks forward to watching the Irish in East Lansing on Saturday. Carter said he is leaving for the game on Saturday and then spending the night at the University of Michigan "Game Day." Fans pack Notre Dame Stadium at the Michigan State game last September. This year, the matchup is in East Lansing on Saturday.

Honor Code violations high among first-years

By AMANDA MICHAELS
Assistant News Editor

Incoming University students who sign the Academic Code of Honor pledge — as a member of the Notre Dame community, I will not participate in or tolerate academic dishonesty — are assumed to be familiar with all the Code entails.

However, based on statistics collected by the University Honor Code Committee, that assumption may not be entirely correct — especially for first-year students.

Thomas Flint, faculty officer for the Honor Code Committee, said 58 honor code violations were reported during the 2005-06 academic year. Of those, 40 were from 100- and 200-level courses — classes predominately populated by freshmen and sophomores, Flint said.

Of the remaining 18, 10 came from 300-level courses, seven from 400-level and one from a 500-level (an undergraduate taking a graduate level course).

"The vast majority of students found responsible for Honor Code violations at Notre Dame are first-year students or sophomores," Vice President and Associate Provost Dennis Jacobs, also co-chair of the Honor Code Committee, told The Observer in September 2005. Jacobs could not be reached for comment.

Students grapple with visual impairments

Junior Jim Lockwood is one of the visually impaired (including two blind) students feeling their way through their college careers at Notre Dame. Through a combination of their own skills and the University's support, they seem to be succeeding.

Dr. Tim Cordes, who is blind, felt his way right to the top of his class — he was the valedictorian of the Class of 1998, earning a 3.99 in biochemistry. He then went on to earn a medical degree from the University of Wisconsin.

Actor promotes persistence 'Selena' co-star, TV personality speaks at Hispanic Heritage event

By SONIA RAO
News Writer

The keys to success are persistence, the ability to stand up for yourself and having the courage to make your own decisions, said actress, author, TV host and jewelry designer Jackie Guerra, who spoke at the Hesburgh Center for International Studies Wednesday as part of Hispanic Heritage Month.

Guerra, perhaps best known for her role alongside Jennifer Lopez in "Selena," described her transition from growing up as a "Mexican American to being a star in Hollywood."
What are you running from?

“I ran until my muscles burned and my veins pumped battery acid. Then, I ran some more.” There’s a nice Fight Club quote for you, I know what Chuck Palahniuk was talking about with the burning muscles, although Allison Ambrose would be lying if I said I had personally experienced battery acid going through my veins. There have been other harmful liquids in my bloodstream — and by that, of course, I meant that one time I drank pancake syrup as a child — but no battery acid thus far.

Honestly, I don’t like running. I wish I could run five miles every day like it was nothing. The only redeeming part of running, I think, is finishing. That’s really a good feeling. I have plenty of reasons why I don’t run: I don’t have time if I’m PLS; enough said, my friends are all going out to eat, I’d rather take a nap, “Andromeda” is on TBS... and yet, last year I ran the Holy Half Marathon. It was the most uncharacteristic thing I have ever done in my whole life (if this statement is an exaggeration, it’s a very small one). I did it for the cause (hurricane Katrina relief) and the promise of ending on the line of the stadium, a promise which was unfortunate ly broken.

I called my father to tell him that I was doing it and the first thing he said was, “I’ll pray for you next week at Mass.” He hardly even believed me. Furthermore, since I’ve played basketball my entire life, I run like a sprinter, landing on the balls of my feet and not the heels. This is not the best skill to have when you have 13.1 miles to go. My feet burned, my legs ached—even my arms hurt from straining in a runner’s legs, the sweat beading on my forehead and the tattoo to identify Kujawski as a convict-auto thief, police said during the hearing. The state prosecutor wanted to put the national anthem at school events, saying the Tokyo Metropolitan government’s orders to do so infringed upon freedom of thought. The surprise ruling comes as conservative lawmakers, including Shizuo Abe, poised to become prime minister next week, seek to put more patriotism into classrooms in an effort to revive a Japanese sense of identity they see as lacking in modern-day society.

**LOCAL WEATHER**

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**IN BRIEF**

Dr. John Seely Brown, former Chief Scientist of Xerox Corporation and the Director of its Palo Alto Research Center will be speaking at the Jordan Auditorium in the Mendoza School of Business at 3 p.m. today. The workshop is entitled "High Tech, High Ed, and the New World Order.

Rising star and Chicago native comedian Sebastian Maniscalco will be performing tonight at Legends at 10 p.m. All ND, SMC and HCC students are welcome at no charge.

Legends will have a Reggae Night starting at midnight tonight. All ND, SMC and HCC students are welcome at no charge.

The Homer Run will kick off on Saturday at 11 a.m. The event will be on Moose Krause Brice. There will be 4-mile and 3-mile runs, as well as a 2-mile fun walk.

Morrissey and Welsh Family Bands will be hosting a Michigan State game watch starting at 7 p.m. Saturday on South Quad. There will be a live DJ, trivia, and prizes.

The CROP Walk will take place this Sunday at 2 p.m. at Howard Park in South Bend as parishes and community groups will raise money to battle hunger and poverty.

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

**THE QUESTION OF THE DAY:** Are you going to go to the MSU game this weekend? Why or why not?

Rachel Stewart

sophomore

Badin

Peter Kelly

sophomore

St. Ed’s

Paul Maclas

sophomore

St. Ed’s

Lindsey Timpone

sophomore

Pasperilla West

Paul Laughtlin

Junior Alumni

**Pinwheels filled Alumnae Green at Saint Mary’s College Thursday as part of Pinwheels for Peace. Participants were asked to write either a prayer for peace or their idea of peace on the pinwheels. The event, sponsored by the Center for Spirituality, marked the end of 10 days of prayers that began on Sept. 11.**

**OFFBEAT**

Auto theft tattoo tips off police

VANCOUVER, British Columbia — A Canadian man’s apparent fondness for the video game “Grand Theft Auto” has led to his arrest in connection with an auto theft, police said on Wednesday.

The Royal Canadian Mounted Police said Shylo Kujawski — who has “Grand Theft Auto” prominently tattooed on his back — was spotted acting suspiciously in a Vancouver suburb where several stolen cars had been reported.

Using the tattoo to identify Kujawski as a convicted auto thief, police said they then set up a stakeout that nabbed him attempting to drive away in a stolen car.

Police said during the stakeout they also watched Kujawski thwart his own attempt to drive away in another stolen vehicle by accidentally disabling the car with the owner’s steering wheel lock.

Teachers win suit over forced anthem singing

TOKYO — A Japanese court ruled in favor of teachers who objected to being forced to sing the national anthem at school events, saying the Tokyo Metropolitan government’s orders to do so infringed upon freedom of thought. The surprise ruling comes as conservative lawmakers, including Shizuo Abe, poised to become prime minister next week, seek to put more patriotism into classrooms in an effort to revive a Japanese sense of identity they see as lacking in modern-day society.

**Correction**

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

**Contact Allison Ambrose at ambrose@nd.edu**

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

**COLUMN**

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sophomore

Badin

Peter Kelly

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St. Ed’s

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Bick nature trails at SMC fenced off

Area was often used for educational purposes

By LAURA BAUMGARTNER
News Writer

The nature trails that once offered Saint Mary's College and the surrounding community unique access to local wooded areas — for educational and personal benefits — have been blocked off this fall following the construction of a new fence that prevents access to the paths.

The city of South Bend has undergone construction of a new sewer line in the woods behind the Saint Mary's campus, which has resulted in the closing of the Bick Nature Area, facilities director Bill Hambling said.

The Bick Nature Area was named after two former biology professors — George and Juanda Bick — who created the nature trails and used the area as an instructional aid for students in their classes, according to the Saint Mary's Web site.

The fence around the nature area was installed during late summer and the area was closed to users beginning in September, Hambling said. The city will "be using heavy equipment, and a concern for the safety of everyone necessitated the closing of the trails," while construction of the sewer system is in progress.

"However, special consideration was granted to certain faculty and students to continue their academic activities in the woods," Hambling said.

Biology professors Dr. Richard Jensen and Dr. Doris Watt are two of the professors who have been permitted continued access to the trails. Chair of the biology department Dr. Thomas Platt said the professors were granted access on a "limited basis for educational purposes."

Platt said Jensen has been using the nature area "to study the local flora for more than two decades" as part of the field botany class he teaches. Watt "is working with students to document seasonal changes along the nature trail with the goal of providing an on-line pictorial guide," he said.

Due to the construction taking place, Jensen said he is no longer sure if he will venture into the woods with his class. However, according to Jensen, Watt will continue to access the trails to conduct field work with students.

The decision to construct the fence and close the trails during construction was made by the Congregation of the Sisters of the Holy Cross.

"We are grateful to the [Sisters] for recognizing the educational value of the nature area and allowing our faculty to continue to use this resource while construction is underway," Platt said.

Saint Mary's security is in charge of regulating and enforcing the closure of the nature area. Jensen said "access must be arranged through (security), who must be on hand to unlock the.

Contact Laura Baumgartner at lbaumg01@saintmarys.edu
Guerra
continued from page 1

valley girl from Los Angeles” to becoming a public figure advocating for social improvement. Growing up in a network of activists, she was always aware of social injustices and became a prominent figure in the Los Angeles community.

"There are so many times when someone is going to say "No, you’re not good enough..." and if you listen to those people and you let them define what you’re going to do in your life then you’re always going to lose," Guerra said. "Those fools do not know what it is to live in your head." Guerra also spoke of other obstacles in her life besides those concerning acting, including her struggle with weight loss. After undergoing gastric bypass surgery, she proclaimed to be "the best thing I ever did for myself," Guerra lost 170 pounds. "If you could be the color you were born with, then you could be the color you were born with," she said.

Guerra has recently been named spokesperson for obesity health and has made a deliberate decision about working away from acting and more towards activism. She is currently the host of "Working It," a syndicated radio show.

Contact Sonia Rao at srao1@nd.edu
UNITED NATIONS

Iranian president speaks at G.A.

Ahmadinejad tries to improve image amid controversy over nuclear program

Associated Press

UNITED NATIONS - Iraq's President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad tried Thursday to improve his image amid controversy over his nuclear program and remarks about Israel and the Holocaust.

Ahmadinejad was vague when asked if Iran would stop arming Hezbollah and comply with a U.N. Security Council resolution to disarm the Lebanese guerrilla group, which fought a 34-day war with Israel this summer.

He reserved his harsh words for the United States, saying he will fall short of no measure in promoting this goal. Whether it's in the cultural or spiritual support that we can render or whether it is the role that we can play in the international arena, we will do our best.

Iran's President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad listens to a question during a news conference Thursday at UN headquarters while attempting to improve his image.

And this is the fundamental principle of our foreign policy, and it does not preclude Lebanon," he said.

At the news conference, Ahmadinejad also expressed love and affection for the American people, just as President Bush reached out to the Iranian people a couple of days earlier, Ahmadinejad said he wished he had more time here to spend with them in person.

"The people of the United States are highly respected by us, he said. "Many people in the United States believe in God and believe in justice."

He thanked the New York City police and security forces for protecting him during his stay here and apologized to New Yorkers for traffic disruptions from the arrival of world leaders to attend the U.N. General Assembly session.

"It's not the nuclear bomb that the American government is worried about, for there are countries in our region that are armed with a nuclear bomb and are incidentally supported by the U.S. government. Now, how is this?" said Ahmadinejad.

Iranian president speaks at G.A.

Ahmadinejad tries to improve image amid controversy over nuclear program

Associated Press

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Ahmadinejad was vague when asked if Iran would stop arming Hezbollah and comply with a U.N. Security Council resolution to disarm the Lebanese guerrilla group, which fought a 34-day war with Israel this summer. He said Iran gives only spiritual and cultural support to the Shiite Muslim group.

"We support ... peace, he said.

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Iran's President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad listens to a question during a news conference Thursday at UN headquarters while attempting to improve his image.
Honor

continued from page 1

reached for comment

Thursday.

Flint said while it was diffi-

cult to know for sure why younger students would be more prone to honor code viola-

tions, he had some ideas.

"Younger-level courses tend to be required of students. Every student is required to take

Intro to Philosophy, but a lot of them might not have any interest, so it may be that the

temptation to cheat is going to be a little bit greater," Flint said.
British mogul invests $3 million
'Rebel billionaire' Branson pledges funds to help Clinton Global Initiative

Richard Branson, right, passes the pen to Bill Clinton after signing a commitment to the Clinton Global Initiative Thursday to help promote alternative energy.

The Observer
Friday, September 22, 2006

In Brief

Pension law includes tax reforms
NEW YORK — Americans are going to have to keep better records of their charitable contributions if they want to claim them as tax deductions in coming years. Older Americans, meanwhile, will get a break on taxes when they make donations from their Individual Retirement Accounts.

These are among the charitable tax reforms tucked into the huge Pension Protection Act of 2006 that was approved by Congress this summer. Although much of the legislation focuses on keeping workers’ pensions safe and fully funded, there are a number of provisions aimed at encouraging charitable giving while, at the same time, tightening reporting requirements.

Diana Aviv, president and chief executive of Independent Sector, a Washington, D.C.-Based lobby group for foundations and charitable organizations, said it was too early to assess the impact of the tax changes on charitable giving.

Marsh supermarket suit goes to court
NEW YORK — The Marsh family feud has spilled over into the courts days before the company’s shareholders vote on a buyout offer from a Florida-based investment firm.

David A. Marsh, the former chief operating officer of Marsh Supermarkets Inc., sued the Florida-based grocery chain Wednesday in U.S. District Court in Indianapolis, claiming it owes him thousands of dollars in severance and benefits. The family-run company ousted him in February as president and chief operating officer.

The lawsuit claims Marsh is entitled to severance pay based on his base salary and bonuses for three years following his termination, totaling more than $700,000 annually.

Wal-Mart lowers prescription costs

Wal-Martstores.com Inc. will launch the program Friday at 65 Wal-Mart, Neighborhood Market and Sams' Club pharmacies in Florida's Tampa Bay area. It will be expanded statewide in January and rolled out to the rest of the nation next year, company officials said Thursday.

The so-called “rebillionaire” — wearing a dress coat with no tie and denim pants — made the announcement on the second day of the Clinton Global Initiative, an annual conference of business, political and nonprofit leaders hosted by former President Clinton.

"Our generation has inherited an incredibly beautiful world from our parents and the generations that came before their parents," Branson said at a news conference, with Clinton at his side. "We must not be the generation that is responsible for irreversibly damaging the environment. We must hand it over to our children in as near pristine a condition as we were lent it from our parents."

Branson said he was inspired to contribute after a meeting with Al Gore, who served as Clinton’s vice president and has been highly visible in raising awareness about global warming and environmental issues. Gore was scheduled to speak Thursday afternoon.

Wal-Mart, the world’s largest retailer, plans to drop prices of almost 300 generic prescription drugs, offering a big lure for bargain-hunting customers and presenting a challenge to competing pharmacy chains and makers of brand-name drugs.

The drugs will be sold for as little as $4 for a month’s supply and include some of the most commonly prescribed medicines such as Metformin, a popular generic drug for diabetes, and the high blood pressure medicine Lisinopril.

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Richard Branson, right, passes the pen to Bill Clinton after signing a commitment to the Clinton Global Initiative Thursday to help promote alternative energy.
Surviving a most difficult week

Outside Notre Dame, there are some things more important than football.

The balance of power in the House and the Senate is up for grabs, and only if the two sides that speak soon will have their voices heard at all. With core issues like those on the war, the economy and health care — your voice matters. It is imperative for students to start the voting process now.

Across America, absentee ballot application deadlines are approaching for the most contested midterm elections since 1994.

In an age when frequently incumbents win 95 percent of their congressional races, political observers are astounded that up to 20 races in the House of Representatives and eight in the Senate are toss-ups.

Right here, in Indiana's 2nd Congressional District, incumbent Republican Chris Chocola trumps Democratic challenger Joe Donnelly by 10 points, despite a huge early lead in funds. And the story is the same across the country.

In Connecticut, three-term Senator Joseph Lieberman has his pragmatic primary to Ned Lamont but is mounting an independent campaign.

In Virginia, once-aspiring presidential candidate George Allen went from a fairly safe senate re-election to a six-point deficit in just two months.

In Pennsylvania, former state attorney general and pro-life Democrat Bob Casey leads two-term senator and conservative stalwart Rick Santorum by nearly 10 points.

But the true importance of the 2006 election is not in who will be elected, but what they will do when elected. Even a shift in just one of the two houses of Congress or a decrease in the Republican majority in both could dramatically alter the course of the next president.

Domestic policies like suspected terrorist interrogations, immigration and homeland security are in the balance. So are America's foreign policies with Iraq, Afghanistan and Iran.

This election means something — probably more than most.

And so do you. As an educated U.S. citizen, it's not just your privilege to vote — it's your job. No one else can do it for you.

Now is the time to print your absentee ballot application and mail it in. Or in your state — and your country — won't hear your voice.

For more information on how to apply for an absentee ballot, visit your home state's board of elections website or simply Google your state's and the words "absentee ballot."
Winning isn’t for losers

WILLIAM A. STEWART

defining Notre Dame football

The unique loyalty of the Notre Dame fans is demonstrated in many ways, especially during the game. Notre Dame fans/supporters are a community that is strong and loyal. They are always ready to support their team no matter what the score. They are passionate about their team and want it to succeed. They are committed to the Notre Dame tradition and want to be a part of it. 

Letter to the Editor

Dear Sir,

I am writing in response to the self-righteous tone of the letter on Notre Dame football (Sept. 21). I think it is important to remember that Notre Dame is a special place where things are, in fact, more enduring than wins and losses. Notre Dame has a tradition of excellence that is built on a foundation of commitment and dedication. 

The players, who may also have to leave prematurely, should be supported by the community that has been supporting them. They and all of us are hurting from an embarrassing defeat, but years from now they and we will remember that Notre Dame is a special place where things are.

—The Observer

The Observer
One of the latest fads appearing in new movie theaters is making going to the movies an experience once again. In the National Amusements’ Cineplex De Lux theaters, there are full service restaurants and bars where patrons can order full meals and have them waiting before they even arrive at the theater. While this is becoming trendy as a high-end movie-going experience, going to the movies used to always be about the experience — as opposed to the carbon-copy theaters that dominate the nation today. There are still theaters, however, that since the 1930s have made going to the movies an experience that everyone can enjoy — the drive-in.

History of the drive-in

The drive-in movie theater was the product of a young sales manager, Richard Hollingshead, who, while working at his father’s auto products store, had the idea to invent something that would develop in later designs for these theaters.

Arguably, the most innovative theater to develop during this time was the one created by Edward Brown, Jr. who had the idea to invent something that would develop in later designs for these theaters.

John, the first “Drive-in and Fly-in” theater for both cars and small planes. It had capacity for 500 cars as well as 25 airplanes. An airfield was placed next to the drive-in parking grounds and the planes would taxi into the last row of the theater. When the movies ended, Brown would provide a tow for the planes to be brought back to the airfield.

In the 1970s, many drive-ins began to close. However, most drive-ins were still making money when they closed. The closings were primarily due to rising property costs in spaces occupied by the theaters.

Location, as well as seasonal operation, is often cited as the biggest problem to face drive-ins. By the 1990s, there were less than 600 drive-ins left operating in the nation. As of 2003, there are currently 432 drive-in theaters still operating throughout the country.

At the Tri-Way Drive-In

Indiana is known as the “Crossroads of America” due to the fact that more major highways intersect in the state of Indiana than in any other state in America. Indiana also contains more miles of interstate highway per square mile than does any other state — even though Indiana is only the 35th largest state in the country. This may help to explain the traditional popularity of drive-in theaters in the Hoosier state.

During the late 1960s, the heyday for the drive-in cinemas, there were more than 120 theaters located in Indiana alone. Over the years, more than 82 percent of those theaters have gone dark or have been demolished. Currently, Indiana is one of America’s top ten drive-in states with 23 theaters still in operation. Located less than half an hour away from Notre Dame, in Plymouth, Ind., is one of these valuable movie theater treasures, operating every weekend and showing six new releases.

The Tri-Way Drive-In opened in 1953 with only a single screen. Tri-Way was the theater’s original name — its name did not come from its now-three screens, but rather from its location near three major highways (30, 31 and 6). The Tri-Way can accommodate over 500 cars, has a full-service concession stand and features the famous vintage intermission trailers such as the “dancing hotdogs.”

Alongside the movie theater is the popular Tri-Way Theater miniature golf course, which is the only championship realistic miniature golf course in the area. The golf course also includes an arcade room and a separate concession area.

The 2006 theater season is the 54th consecutive season for the theater. Their season runs April through the end of September and each of their screens is lit-up with double features of current releases. The Tri-Way Theater recently just installed new “technohit” technologies on its screens — one of the first drive-ins in the country to undergo this installation — showing a picture two to three times brighter than regular drive-in screens.

With no home game this weekend, consider spending some time at the local drive-in and experience a pastime which is really fading into obscurity.

The double features running this weekend are Gridiron Gang with Talladega Nights, Barney’s Version and Eat Fried Worms and The Covenant with Wicker Man.

Contact Erin McGinn at emcginn@nd.edu
Money, audiences drive major TV mergers

By BRIAN DOXTADER and MARTY SCHROEDER
Scene Editor

 Anyone flipping through channels on the new Cable in the dorms may have noticed something — two major net- works: The WB and UPN, no more. In their place is a single network, The CW.

A joint venture between CBS (who owns UPN and Time Warner, The CW launched this fall with programming designed to draw from each respective channel. With its formal opening on Sept. 20, The CW aired the season preme of "America's Next Top Model." The opener showcases The CW's target audience — the younger generation of America that are less interested in news and sports reports than sitcoms and reality television. However, The WB's top sitcom, "Reba," was picked up at the last minute even though it's outside of The CW's target audience. With shows like "Veronica Mars," "Buffy the Vampire Slayer," and "Beverly Hills, 90210" already on the small screen, "Veronica Mars" and the reality show "Veronica Mars" are both already popular with The CW.

The new network will reach many people, but the only question is whether people will watch it. Les Moonves, the chairman of CBS, may claim, "This new network will serve the public with high-quality programming and maintain our ongoing commitment to our diverse audience," but that same diversity means an uneven split between programming.

After all, do CBS and Warner really believe that the people who watch "Gilmore Girls" are also interested in "WWE: Smackdown?"

Contact Brian Doxtader at bdooxtade@nd.edu and Marty Schroeder at mschroe@nd.edu

FILM REVIEW

'Crank' gives an adrenaline thrill-ride at a non-stop pace

By TAE ANDREWS
Assistant Scene Editor

You might say Chev Chelios is having a bad day. He wakes up feeling like death, then finds out he might literally be a dead man running after watching a DVD left by an enemy, which reveals to him that he's been poisoned to death.

The antitode? There is none. After consuming the blood from the head of his Neanderthal boss, the character is left with a sleep-deprived student pulling all-nighters. Chev snorts cocaine, pops pills like Skittles, and drinks more fluids than he does pop into one's head, as in "awesome." The movie is a bullet-ridden joy-ride that wouldn't the bad guys just kill him in his sleep?" is the question that Chelios finds out that the only way to for him to stay alive is to keep his adrenaline flowing in order to stave off the chemical compound which is not-so-slowly killing him.

Enter the world of "Crank." If you're asking yourself questions like, "Why wouldn't the bad guys just kill him in his sleep?" then you're asking the wrong questions and missing the point. This movie is a bullet-ridden joy-ride that apologizes for absolutely nothing and never questions and missing the point. This movie is a bullet-ridden joy-ride that wouldn't the bad guys just kill him in his sleep?

Chevy is a survivor, hell-bent on doing all it takes to stay alive long enough to kill his one-time mentor. He wakes up feeling like death, and you've got what Isaac Hayes would call a "sweet" combo of testosterone, blood and sweat (no tears here) to propel itself along at its frenetic pace.

Statham just looks the part. As the consummate man's man, he's balding on the back of his head, looks like he's been sleep-deprived, and sports a short, sweet vengeance.

The main idea for Chelios is to load up on enough stimulants (and "stimulating activities") to stay alive long enough to kill off his enemies. As such, he has sleep deprivation and other medical conditions that medicates with copious amounts of drugs in a desperate attempt to prop himself up.

Crank

By Mark Neveldine and Brian Taylor

Starring: Jason Statham, Amy Smart

The WB and UPN had very different audiences, and it's difficult to believe that the programming The CW chooses will appeal to both. Indeed, it's more likely that the network will have difficulty balancing its demographics — network mergers typically don't have the audience's desires as the foremost concern. No, the ultimate motivation in these types of deals is money.

Due to the fact that neither the WB nor UPN could compete with the big three (CBS, ABC, NBC), nor attain the miracle that Fox was able to muster, the parent companies for the two channels decided to merge and hopefully bring both audiences from their respective channels to the new network.

On a more positive note for the new network, the affiliates on board include 16 stations from the Tribune Company previously associated with The WB, which brings Chicago's WGN, Los Angeles and New York among others on board. Also, CBS Television Stations group has committed 11 stations previously associated with UPN. Off LSI, Detroit, Philadelphia and Atlanta are the biggest.

The CW's top sitcom, "Reba," has been cancelled. Among other affiliations, "The WB's top sitcom, "Gilmore Girls." The show is now part of The CW.

This new network will reach many people, but the only question is whether people will watch it. Les Moonves, the chairman of CBS, may claim, "This new network will serve the public with high-quality programming and maintain our ongoing commitment to our diverse audience," but that same diversity means an uneven split between programming.

Contact Tae Andrews at tandrew1@nd.edu

Lauren Graham, left, stars as Lorelai Gilmore and Alexis Bledel stars as Rory Gilmore in the former WB sitcom "Gilmore Girls." The show is now part of The CW.

"That was awesome!" or "Dude, this movie is sweet" (two comments made several times during and after the viewing of "Crank"). So fear not, "Brokenback Mountain" fans — "Crank" doesn't threaten to join "Brokenback Mountain" in the annals of five-clover reviews. However, like the drug laden cocktails Statham throws down his throat to propel himself along, "Crank" has the perfect combination of adrenaline, testosterone, blood and sweat (no tears here) to propel itself along at its frenetic pace all the way to its heart-stopping conclusion.

Contact Tae Andrews at tandrew1@nd.edu
Oakland's win lengthens team's lead to seven in AL West

Detroit loses; Tigers tied for first with Twins in AL central

OAKLAND, Calif. — Rich Harden wanted to keep going he can go to 105 pitches. Yet Oakland's star right-han­
dover knows he must pace himself in order to be on the mound in meaningful games come October.

The Athletics are in position to clinch the AL West this week­
ed against their biggest divi­sion rival and Harden is thrilled he helped his team take a step closer to that goal.

Harden struck out seven in an impressive return from the dis­abled list and Jason Kendall hit a pair of run-scoring singles in Oakland's 7-4 victory over the Cleveland Indians on Thursday.

"It felt great to be out there," Harden said.

"Having a healthy Rich Harden being able to go out and pitch seven innings is absolutely a tremendous plus for the club," manager Ken Macha said before the team's magic number to four to clinch the AL West.

"Win two out of three and we could be the team celebrating on that mound," said Oakland's Nick Swisher about Harden.

Chad Gaudin (3-2) pitched 1-1/3 innings for the win. Marco Scutaro and Milton Bradley both singled in runs and Mark Ellis added a sacrifice fly in his right elbow.

The A's are hopeful Harden's return will build up so he can pitch in the playoffs. Oakland has missed the postseason the last two years after four straight trips, all of which they lost in the first round.

"Having a healthy Rich Harden being able to go out and pitch seven innings is absolutely a tremendous plus for the club," manager Ken Macha said before the team's magic number to four to clinch the AL West.

"Win two out of three and we could be the team celebrating on that mound," said Oakland's Nick Swisher about Harden.

After a single loaded the bases, the runners advanced to high-fives and handshakes from his teammates.

Cleon Jones Street entered with no outs in the ninth after Jay Witasick allowed back-to-back singles to Marte and Kelly Shoppach, then the reigning AL Rookie of the Year finished for his 36th save in 44 chances. With a single,

Miguel Tejada had three hits for the Orioles and Gomez had two, extending his hitting streak to 11 games.

Baltimore loaded the bases in the seventh before Jamie Walker struck out for the third out.

Marlins's 5, Mets 3

Pedro Martinez looked more comfortable in his latest playoff tuneup, but he was outpitched by Florida rookie Anibal Sanchez in the Marlins victory over the New York Mets on Thursday night.

Sanchez went 2-0 in the first inning when Granderson led off with a double and Ordonez hit his 24th homer with two outs. That gave Ordonez 100 RBIs, the first Tiger to reach that number since Bobby Higginson and Dean Palmer had 102 in 2000.

Oakland's pitcher Rich Harden struck out seven from the mound to help the Athletics secure their 7-4 win over the Indians Thursday. Oakland is seven games ahead in the American League West.
Buffalo, hired Colts 12 Boston 4 9 13 7 11

MIAA Volleyball Standings

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>team</th>
<th>league record</th>
<th>overall record</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1  Calvin</td>
<td>5-0</td>
<td>12-1</td>
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<tr>
<td>2  Hope</td>
<td>3-1</td>
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<tr>
<td>3  Adrian</td>
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<tr>
<td>4  Saint Mary</td>
<td>2-1</td>
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<td>5  Tri-State</td>
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<td>7  Vermont</td>
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<td>4-1-0</td>
<td>10-3</td>
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<tr>
<td>9  Arizona State</td>
<td>3-0</td>
<td>9-12</td>
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NCAA Division I-A and I-AA coaches are not historically black institutions.

The BCA, in a report card released Thursday, says universities must appoint more minority coaches and more diverse search committees. The group says evidence shows more diverse committees lead to more consideration of minority coaches.

And if that means applying Title VII of the 1964 Civil Rights Act, which makes it illegal for employers to discriminate on the basis of race, so be it, Keith said during a conference call.

The third annual report card showed mixed results. While a record 12 of the 25 Division I-A and I-AA schools that hired head coaches received overall grades of A, a record six schools also received Fs, including five who received the falling marks for not reporting to the BCA on what steps they took to consider minority coaches. They included perennial Big Ten power Wisconsin and two other I-A schools, Rice and Boise State.

Among 414 coaching vacancies in Division I-A since 1982, only 21 blacks have been hired, a huge disparity given the number of minority athletes on the playing fields, the BCA said.

Black coaches pleased with progress

IN BRIEF

Braves ink Smoltz to $8 million contract extension

INDIANAPOLIS — The Atlanta Braves have exercised their team’s 2007 option with John Smoltz, ensuring the right-hander will return for his 19th season with the team.

The announcement was made before Smoltz started for the Braves at Colorado on Thursday night and is worth $8 million. It came one day after the Braves agreed on a 2007 contract with closer Bob Wickman.

I’m happy I know I’m going to be playing here next year,” Smoltz said before the game.

General manager John Schuerholz said he told Smoltz on Wednesday of his intention to exercise the option.

“John has been a constant for this organization, both with his pitching and his leadership, and our plan to exercise this contract option for next season was never in question,” Schuerholz said.

Associated Press

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IN BRIEF
Keough passing game to test O'Neill defense

By KATE DONLIN, JAY FITZ-
PATRICK and SARAH
THOMAS
Sports Writers

Keough vs. O'Neill

The Keough Kangaroos hope to rebound from a disappointing loss last week and upset the Angry Mob from O'Neill this Sunday at 2 p.m. The team will have its hands full, however, judging by the defensive dominance O'Neill demonstrated in its 27-0 victory over Dillon last week.

Besides seeking their first win of the season, the Keough offensive players are especially geared up for this weekend's game because O'Neill ended their season last year. The O'Neill defensive line managed to stop Keough’s 2-point conversion attempt, allowing the Angry Mob to walk away with a close 14-13 victory in the playoffs.

Last week the Keough offense had a tough time moving the ball down the field. In this week's matchup it will look for the open receivers and take advantage of holes in the Angry Mob's defense. The team is looking to put their best effort and put some points on the board early in the game.

But the men of O'Neill are ready.

"This week's game is a rivalry game between us and Keough. It should be fun and exciting," O'Neill captain Pat Conley said.

Although the O'Neill team showed the quality of its defense in last week's shutout versus Dillon, Conley said there is always room for improvement.

"We learned a lot from last week's game," he said. "Our offensive line and defense are the key players in our games. If they control the line of scrimmage, we control the game."

Alumni vs. Morrissey

Alumni is coming off a big win last weekend versus Stanford, and the team will look for similar results when it goes head to head with Morrissey on Sunday.

Morrissey had a bye in week one, so the team hopes to start the season on a positive note. The team has practiced for an extra week and feels prepared to take on the Dawgs.

"This week in practice we are focusing on being ready to play with higher intensity to get ready for a challenging game," Morrissey captain Steve Klein said.

Last week's defense led the team to victory. Stanford was unable to get any running game going against the Dawgs' defensive line. One defensive player size advantage Alumni has over the Munsters is that it has already played a game this season. Not only were the Alumni players able to see how things came together on the field, but they also learned what areas of their game need improvement. This week the Dawgs made a few minor adjustments to their game plan to fix issues they noticed during the first matchup.

Klein does not think the first week bye will negatively affect his team.

"We have high expectations for this year," Klein said. "With a lot of returning players and several strong additions to the team, we feel that we can play with anyone."

Stanford vs. Dillon

Stanford and Dillon both suffered losses in their season openers last weekend, and each squad has its own red eye on redemption this Sunday at Richard Field.

The tides are high. Only one team can walk away with the coveted 'W' and the other will have to settle for a 0-2 record.

Coming off a heart-breaking last minute fumble return resulting in a loss to O'Neill, the Big Red are hungry for another chance to prove themselves. Dillon spent this past week’s practices working in new plays and formations on both sides of the ball. Captain Justin Figueroa is confident the hard work his team put in all week will show on Sunday in an improved offensive execution.

The team is 'excited because it’s a new game," Figueroa said. "They have worked hard and [they] hope are up.

The Big Red focused on their offensive attack this week putting in spread formation and stilling the pass a lot more, he said.

Stanford coach Brandon McLeod said the Griffins will be much more prepared than they were for Alumni last week.

"We added some new plays and formations and we’re going to try to be a little bit more balanced this week," he said.

While McLeod thought the Stanford offense did well last week, but the Griffins plan to play even better this week with an enhanced strategy.

Like Dillon, the Griffins had a disappointing loss last week to start off their season 0-1 against Alumni. The team will look to focus on improving their long defensive front in the second half, but an interception returned for a touchdown in the first quarter was the last score of the game.
BMCC: Cross Country

Runners prepare for first MIAA Jamboree

By BECKI DORNER
Sports Writer

Saint Mary's has spent this week physically recuperating from a difficult weekend of training and racing for the MIAA Jamboree, which will be hosted by Hope College Saturday. At the National Catholic Cross Country Invitational last weekend, Saint Mary's came in last among 34 teams.

"The top finnisher for the Belles at the meet — which was hosted by Notre Dame — was sophomore Caitlin Brodmorikel with a time of 23:19."

For both of their last two meets, the Belles have faced a few internal challenges in addition to those presented by the fast pace of Division-I teams such as Indiana University, Notre Dame and Marquette.

Many of the Belles were dealing with colds, soreness and injuries, including captain Katie White, who couldn't finish Saturday due to shin splints. The team also had to deal with conditions outside of its control.

"I think the weather played a factor this weekend, having it so cool and damp all week, only to race in 85 degrees and sunny," said Coach Jackie Bauters.

Strategy-wise, the Belles will continue to focus on their team goal of closing the gaps among the top five runners.

"Closing the gap for the top runners will not be easy, but it certainly can be done," said Sara Otto, Belles senior.

Last year, Saint Mary's came in fifth out nine teams in the Jamboree, with Calvin taking the overall title. The overall individual winner, Camille Medema, led Calvin with a time of 18:43. Otto had the best time of the Belles' returnees at last year's event, which she finished in 20:07.

The Belles will compete against all members of the MIAA at the Jamboree, giving them their first glimpse into the competition they face in competing for the league championship.

Belles' coach Jackie Bauters said, "Closing the gap for the top runners will not be easy, but it certainly can be done."

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Strategy-wise, the Belles will continue to focus on their team goal of closing the gaps among the top five runners.

"Closing the gap for the top runners will not be easy, but it certainly can be done," Otto said. "I think right now our bodies are at various levels of fitness and training, and I suspect we will see the time gaps becoming much smaller in the next few weeks."

Contact Becki Dorner at rderner1@nd.edu

Men's Tennis

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Men: Saturday, September 23rd @ 7:00pm vs. Pittsburgh

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**Phoxes continued from page 20**

than enough points on the board to win this weekend.

"(This week) we worked on bet­
er passing routes and just wanted
ed our receivers to establish a bet­
ter relationship with the quarter­
back," Remerova said. "We just want a more polished offense."

Badin vs. Welsh Family

Badin has a lot on its plate this week as it faces off against Welsh Family Sunday at 2 p.m. on West Quad, attempting to make up for a sloppy 13-0 loss to Covenant Tuesday.

"Tuesday night was tough, es­
pecially since the weather and slip­
pery field gave us a few injuries, but we are excited to move ahead to the next game," Bullfrogs cap­
tain Meghan Charlebois said. "(Welsh Family) sounds like a solid team so I am sure it will be great competition and we are excited for the chance to have to step up our game."

The Bullfrogs (1-1) have confi­
dence in their team — especially with their offense — which pulled their offense — which pulled
dence in their team — especially
to the next game."

"Hoping to rebound from a 20-0 shutout loss at the hands of defending champion Pasquerilla West."

"We were definitely disappoint­
ed in the result," Breen-Phillips cap­
tain Melissa Meagher said. "We saw a lot of improvement from last game."

Meagher noted that the team focused on running tight routes during practice this week in an effort to improve an offense that failed to find the end zone.

"I tried to improve my move­
pment in the pocket, and try and roll out a bit so that I could find my open receivers," Meagher said.

"Breen-Phillips also focused on improving its pass defense, more specifically defending long passes."

"We also have experienced coach­
es, and a lot of enthusiastic girls who are good to play," Boyer said.

"The pass-catching combo of Tara Johnson and Tara McCarron will test the freshman-laden Shamrock’s style."

"Boyer hoped Breen-Phillips’ strengths would continue — at least for another game."

"They’re probably down after that loss," she said. "Hopefully, we’ll be able to keep them down.""

Contact Andrew Kovach at
akovach@nd.edu, Michael
east@nd.edu and Colin
Reimer at creimer@nd.edu

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**SMC GOLF**

**Liga year gets started**

By BECKY SLINGER
Sports Writer

The Belles have a chance to show their new improved attitude coming into this weekend’s Martian Jamboree conference tour­
nament this weekend, the Comet Classic.

"These past few tourna­
ments have been testing, but all of our issues should now be dealt with," soprano co-captain Alex Sei said. "We’ve been practic­
ing hard. I think it should show at the Jamboree."

With several disappoint­
ing conference tournaments this year, the Belles hope to record a low score to start strong at the conference tournaments.

Olivet will host the two­
da annual conference tour­
nament at the Medalist Golf Club in Marshall, Mich. The tour­
ament originated from an ini­
tially intended to host, was limited last week.

Three golfers on the Belles team played the course, which will be a tough test for the relatively young team.

Junior captain Katie O’Brien believes having played the course before doesn’t provide too big of an advantage.

"Whether they have played it or not, all of the team will have an opportuni­
ty to play very well here," she said.

Coach Mark Hamilton said the team would travel with eight girls, three of which will participate in the tourna­
ment as individuals.

"We have a lot of good skills on the team," Hamilton said. "It just seemed the wheels were falling off some of the girls (the past few week­
es). We fixed those problems pretty easily and now we’re ready to go.""

The top three of the team will include Sei, who will focus on personal goals as she sees this past as the team. "I’ll just take one shot at a time," Sei said.

O’Brien has high hopes for the Jamboree and knows this conference tournament has the ability and desire to finish strong.

"If we keep our heads in it this weekend, we are going to do very well," she said.

Contact Becki Slinger at
rslingo1@stmarys.edu

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Notre Dame forward Joseph Laplra, Illinois over includes wins over opponents that have given Notre Dame the Irish 2-1 last Saturday, and a Clark to take them one at a time. That one point better than Notre of 2-1-1 is good for seven points, us," last four games and hold the Friday, September 22, Comeback Although Pittsburgh's overall The Panthers began this season the girls are going to be up and Santa Clara, you know the girls are going to be up for top ranked teams." The Bearcat and Cardinal programs enter their respective games from different directions. Head coach Meridy Glenn of Cincinnati who defeated the Irish 2-1 last Saturday, and a 0-0 tie against South Florida, who beat Notre Dame 2-0 earli­er this season. Although Pittsburgh's overall record of 3-4-2 is not as impres­sive as its record in conference play, Clark feels that the Panthers' recent performances are more suggestive of their true quality. "They started off very slowly, but they're on an uprising now," Clark said. "I don't know where they were at the beginning of the season, but they obviously have tons of momentum right now."

Momentum is something Notre Dame could use. The Irish are 0-1-1 in their last two games, with their last win coming one Friday ago against Louisville. Notre Dame has only managed to win two consecutive games one time this season, and the team's start is taking in toll.

"We're doing what I call start­ing along," Clark said. "As a top class athlete, though, you can't let that affect your focus. I feel like there's some frustra­tion, but I feel like we're going to stay focused on what we're trying to get done." Notre Dame began this season with dreams of a conference title and a deep run into the NCAA Tournament. For Clark and the team, though, the focus is on the here and now. "We're not going big Big East tournament or NCAA tournamen­t any consideration right now," Clark said. "You don't overly concern yourself with things that are months away. You concern yourself with what's right in front of you, and, for us, that's Pitt."

Contact Greg Arbogast at garbogas@nd.edu

"These are two very important games because of the end of the year, and they are conference games." Randy Waldrum Irish coach

Notre Dame forward Joseph Laplra, right, beats a Northern Illinois defender to a loose ball in the teams' game Wednesday. laplra said. "I don't think there's any doubt they're better [this year]," he said. "Years ago Cincinnati had a very good program. We're another year or two away to see if they're going to do it in that direction but they're clearly on their way. Top-ranked Notre Dame will clearly be the most important game on Cincinnati's schedule, as they are advertising a "C of Red Night" to encourage fans to watch them try to knock off the nation's top team. With the protection of freshman standout keeper Andrea Kaminski who ranks second in Big East saves, the Bearcats hope to pose a tougher challenge than they did in last year's 4-0 Irish victory. Unbeaten 6-0-1 Louisville, on the other hand, is a pro­gram on the attack. Its momentum was confirmed this week when Soccer Buzz awarded the Cardinals votes in its weekly poll — the first time in seasons the women's soccer program has received such honors from any national publication. But Waldrum won­dered whether Louisville can continue playing at a level it hasn't experi­enced before. "They have a lot at stake in this game. But so do we," said Waldrum, whose Irish beat the Cardinals 3-0 last year. "These are two very impor­tant games because of seed­ing at the end of the year, and they are conference games." Waldrum said the Irish will look to stop Cardinals senior forward Jamie Craft, the reigning Big East Offensive Player of the Week after scor­ing two goals and an assist to defeat Cincinnati 4-1 in each team's confer­ence opener. The Cardinals will also be backed by keep­er Joanna Haig, a teammate of s o p h o m o r e defender Carrie Dow and sophomore midfielders Clara, Meridy Glenn of Cincinnati who defeated the Irish 2-1 last Saturday, and a 0-0 tie against South Florida, who beat Notre Dame 2-0 earli­er this season. Although Pittsburgh's overall record of 3-4-2 is not as impres­sive as its record in conference play, Clark feels that the Panthers' recent performances are more suggestive of their true quality. "They started off very slowly, but they're on an uprising now,"
Coach
continued from page 20
chance to see the Irish up close for the first time. “I was able to see the team play last weekend because we were paired together, which was a good thing for me,” she said. “I think we can also do better.”

“The Irish coach

“We want to break 300 all three rounds. We feel confident knowing the course,” Mauu said. “Playing on our own course definitely gives us an advantage of a couple of strokes. We already know what to hit off the tees. It is a big difference from other tournaments when you only play one practice round. We’ve played this course hundreds of times.”

Susan Holt
Irish coach

“I was able to get a head start by seeing the team play. I feel we played well, but I think we can also do better.”

Alejandra Diaz-Calderon, who will miss her second year’s Invitational, said. “I was able to get a couple of strokes. We already know what to hit off the tees.”

Lisa Mauna
Irish player

“Playing on our own course definitely gives us an advantage of a couple of strokes. We already know what to hit off the tees.”

Schedule
continued from page 20
than the young Irish — that earned a 6-8 Big East record and an 11-16 overall mark. The team’s three wins this season have come against UNC-Ashville, James Madison and Maine.

Rutgers, however, has a potent offensive threat in senior outside hitter Lora Yankauskas. She was selected to the 2006 Preseason All-Big East Team and has averaged 4.03 kills per game, along with 3.39 digs. Freshman Christina Kaellen leads the Irish with 4.05 kills per game.

“We definitely remember (Yankauskas) from last year — she’s a very good player,” Brown said. “She’s definitely their go-to player, but we feel pretty confident that we can slow her down.”

Yankauskas is aided on her attack by senior setter Jocelyn Greenwald and sophomore Roxy Calder, who both average 5.28 assists per game.

On the defensive side, freshman Brittni Rendina leads the Scarlet Knights in digs per game with 3.97, Irish senior libero Danielle Herndon leads the team with 5.34 digs per game.

Villanova (5-8) hosts Notre Dame a day after the Wildcats open their Big East season against DePaul, while Rutgers will play DePaul at home a day after the Irish leave New Brunswick.

The Wildcats close out a six-game home stand against the Irish, and they have won the first four games against Holy Cross, Sacred Heart, Maryland-Baltimore County and La Salle, after starting the season 1-8.

“When we play back-to-back matches like this, we really play it one game at a time,” Brown said of her team’s preparation for Villanova. “We watched video to see if there’s one thing we needed to emphasize in practice.

Even though their record is bad right now, they’ve played a very strong schedule.”

Villanova senior Adriann Senrau was named this week’s Big East Player of the Week for her efforts in the four-game win streak. Senrau was also named MVP of the Villanova Classic for her 52-kill performance — a .590 hitting percentage — in the three matches.

On the season, Senrau leads the Wildcats in kills (141) and blocks (43), while averaging 1.05 blocks per game. Villanova compiled an 8-6 conference record last season and was 21-11 overall.

 Sporting News Staff

Contact Kyle Cassily at kcassily@nd.edu

Junior outside hitter Adrianna Stasuk, top, goes for a spike during a game against Bowling Green on Aug. 26.
**QUEENS OF THE HILL**

Irish finish road trip with game at Cincy

By TIM DOUGHERTY
Assistant Sports Editor

As No. 1 Notre Dame settles into its Big East schedule, the Irish travel to Cincinnati today to cap off a five-game road stretch before returning to play Louisville for their first home match in a five-game stand at Alumni Field.

Notre Dame dismantled its first conference foe DePaul last Friday 3-0 before edging out a sloppy 2-0 non-conference win against Michigan Sunday. From today until round one of the NCAA Tournament, the Irish will only see their familiar Big East opponents.

As the Irish enter the second part of the season, captain and defender Kim Lorenzen hopes this consistency will help their concentration.

"(The different stages of the season) are kind of like gradual steps until the final NCAA Tournament," she said. "Now that we're into conference play, it'll help us focus on the end goal to get good wins against these teams (in order to earn a top tournament seed)."

At the same time, Irish coach Randy Waldrum espoused the dangers that lie ahead.

Irish forward Kerri Hanks, right, tries to beat USC defender Lindsay Parker during a 2-0 Notre Dame win Sept. 1.

see UNBEATEN/page 17

**IRISH VOLLEYBALL**

Irish ready to open Big East schedule

By KYLE CASSILY
Assistant Sports Editor

Notre Dame opens its Big East schedule this weekend with a two-game East Coast swing, hoping to start the new season like it ended the previous one — with a win over Rutgers.

In the final game before Notre Dame went on a three-game run to take the 2005 Big East championship, the Irish defeated Rutgers 3-0 to share the regular season title with Louisville (both teams finished 13-1). The Irish (6-5) travel to New Brunswick, N.J., Saturday for a mid-week match against the Scarlet Knights, before a Sunday matchup in Pennsylvania against Villanova.

Rutgers (5-7) will play not only its first conference game of the year against the Irish but also its first home match of the season. Notre Dame is 13-0 all-time against the Scarlet Knights.

"I don't know that I even knew that — the team doesn't know that," Irish head coach Debbie Brown said when asked about Notre Dame's unbeaten record against Rutgers. "Just in terms of practice, we thought we had so much to work on, on our side of the ball. We know what Rutgers brings, but probably more important than that, we know how we execute and how we play our way, focusing on the fundamentals."

The Scarlet Knights return only six letter-winners from their 2005 squad — one less than Notre Dame, which has eight seniors.

see SCHEDULE/page 18

**MEN'S SOCCER**

Squad hopes to change fortune

By GREG ARBOGAST
Sports Writer

Notre Dame's 1-0 loss to Providence Thursday was a disappointment, but the offense did well. Irish forward Mike Beresford had a good chance to get the tying goal; Irish forward Mike Beresford had a good chance to get the tying goal.

"We played well but could have done more offensively," team captain Catherine Kuig said. "We would like to score more points."

This week in practice, both teams worked on their offenses, making sure they could put more

see PHOTOS/page 16

**WOMEN'S INTERHALL**

Pangborn to battle Howard

By ANDREW KOVACH, MICHAEL BURDELL and COLIN REIMER
Sports Writers

Two teams coming off very similar triumphs will match up this weekend at St. John's, as a clear path toward the playoffs on the line, when undefeated Pangborn and Howard both lost their first loss this Sunday at 5 p.m. on West Quad.

"This game will be very important. Pangborn is a great team and they have a lot of experience," Howard head coach Brenna Ketchum said. "We're looking forward to the match and hope to come out on top."

Howard's last match was against Mount Holyoke, which they lost 3-1. Pangborn's last match was against Mount Holyoke, which they won 1-0.

see COACH/18

**SMC SOCCER**

The Belles hit the road to play Illinois-Wesleyan in their last game before conference play begins.

see COMEBACK/page 17

**SMC CROSS COUNTRY**

Saint Mary's runners prepare for difficult course at Hope.

see COMEBACK/page 17

**MEN'S INTERHALL**

Stanford coach Brandon McLeod says the Griffins are prepared to overcome a first week loss.

see COMEBACK/page 17

**MLB**

Orioles 4 Tigers 3

Detroit falls into tie for first in AL Central.

see COMEBACK/page 17

**MLB**

Athletics 7 Indians 4

Rich Harden returns from the DL to help Oakland pick up win.

see COMEBACK/page 17
The Enigma

Michigan State's dramatic overtime victory over then-unbeaten Notre Dame in 2005 was just the latest in a long line of Spartan spoils since the 1966 Game of the Century.
Weis can earn his keep Saturday

Two weeks ago, Joe Paterno called Charlie Weis "one of the best" coaches in football at exploiting opponents' weaknesses. A week later, Weis was helpless in the face of the Michigan onslaught.

But Weis can't dwell on what people say or what happened a game ago. Weis must put the past behind him and do what he does best — find a soft spot in Michigan State and attack it.

Weis did just that against Pittsburgh, Purdue, BYU, Tennessee, Navy and Syracuse in 2005. Calling a swing pass after swing pass in the face of BYU's 3-3-5 defense helped Weis secure a 10-year contract extension worth somewhere in the neighborhood of $30-40 million.

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Weis must put the past behind him and do what he does best — find a soft spot in Michigan State and attack it.

Weis' job is to figure out what the Irish have not done thing the Irish have not done thing the Irish have not done thing the Irish have not done. Against Georgia Tech, the Irish used two-tailback set- another offensive line that moved down-field not because of a strong defense but because of the Wolverines' confusion.

At this point, Weis may have gone to the well too many times. So Weis' job is to figure out what this Notre Dame team can do to beat Michigan State.

On offense, he must figure out a way to neutralize Michigan State's speed rush­ers. Justin Kersey and Ervin Baldwin on the ends while not feeding into the hands of 300-pound behemoths Clifton Ryan and Ogemdi Nwagbogu in the middle.

That might mean utilizing counters and misdirections against the Spartans — something the Irish have not done a single time this year. Or it could equal running out of a two-tailback set — another void of the Irish offense. Or maybe Weis will have Notre Dame's guards pull more than they have this year to help clear a path for a struggling Darius Walker.

Weis must make that call and figure out what will work best against a defense that has surrendered just 78.67 yards per game. No. 22 in the nation. It's what he's paid for. But it's not the only thing.

On the defensive front, he faces the challenge of getting more pressure on the quarterback — Notre Dame is just No. 65 in the country in sacks. And that quarterback currently happens to be the elusive Drew Stanton.

To make the challenge even tougher, the average weight of Notre Dame's defensive line­men 277 pounds. Compare that to the 10-pound advan­tage the Irish offensive line maintains over the Spartan defensive line, and all's easy to see the potential problem.

But Weis may have a solution. The Irish used "stunt" rushes more in their first two contests than they did in most of 2005. By creating a little confusion on the offensive lines of Georgia Tech and Penn State, the Notre Dame defense kept quarterback Reggie Ball and Anthony Morelli off balance enough to control the game.

Weis and his defensive staff — coordinator and linebackers coach Bob Diaco, defensive backs coach Jappy Oliver, and sec­ondary coach Bill Lewis — must figure out how to stop Stanton's Spartans, who have gained a Herculean average of 356.33 yards per game, third best in the NCAA.

They can.

"This is why you come to Michigan State, to play in rivalries like this. This is what it's all about." — Brady Quinn, Irish quarterback

Charlie Weis, Irish coach

"This has to be a collective effort. It starts with my message to the players and to the coaches." — Drew Stanton, Spartans quarterback

"I think people are ready to look forward, want to just get a win. That's what we're worried about." — Tom Zbikowski, Irish safety

The Observer • IRISH INSIDER

Friday, September 22, 2006
Seeing green

At left, Spartans linebacker Kaleb Thornhill tackles Irish quarterback Brady Quinn in Michigan State's 44-41 overtime victory at Notre Dame Stadium in 2005. At right, Spartans quarterback Drew Stanton eludes former Irish linebacker Corey Mayes.

Michigan State is now Notre Dame's nemesis

By MIKE GILLOON
Sports Writer

Fifty years ago, the Michigan State athletic department candle­eled 745 press credentials for a football game played on a dreary November day in East Lansing.

Fifty years ago, seven con­ Sensus All-Americans played in that contest.

Fifty years ago, Notre Dame ran out the clock on Michigan State as the game ended in a 10-10 tie.

This Saturday night, Notre Dame and Michigan State mark the anniversary of one of the greatest college football games ever played when the Irish and Spartans square off for the 38th time since their infamous deadlock.

And while Michigan State looks back on the 1966 matchup and cringes at a national title that slipped away, Notre Dame looks at more recent history with the thought that the team they so famously edged for the championship 40 seasons ago has finally gained the upper hand.

Immovable objects

Notre Dame was rolling in 1966. Three years into the Era of Ara, the Irish were No. 1 in the country, had outscores their opponents 301-28 through eight games and needed just two more victories to win Ara Parseghian's first national championship. Michigan State wasn't doing so bad itself. The Spartans were undefeated, No. 2 in the country and fresh off a 12-3 victory at Notre Dame one year earlier.

Notre Dame came one win from a national title in 1964 Michigan State almost won the championship in 1965, falling 14-12 to UCLA in the Rose Bowl. Now ranked first and second in all the major polls, the Irish and Spartans met to decide the national champion.

The Irish had four All-Americans on their side — defensive end Alan Page, offen­sive guard Tom Berger, halfback Nick Eddy and linebacker Jim Lynch (who would go on to win the Maxwell as the nation's best player).

The Spartans had three of their own in halfback Clinton Jones, defensive and Bubba Smith and defensive back George Webster. Smith, especially, was a force. Standing 6-foot-7 and weighing 243 pounds, he was a monster by 1966 stan­ dards. Comparatively, Page — who would become an NFL Hall­of-Famer — stood 6-5 and weighed in at 238 pounds.

Simply put, the only squad in the country that could stop Notre Dame was Michigan State and the only squad in the country that could stop Michigan State was Notre Dame.

Unfortunately, neither went anywhere.

"Tie one for the Gipper" It's hard to find anything bad about Ara Parseghian. A legendary coach, charismatic­ speaker and head of a founda­tion searching for a cure to a disease that has taken the lives of three of his grandchildren, Parseghian is known, respected and loved by millions. If there is a chink in his armor, it could only come from one event.


When Parseghian ran out the clock with the ball at Notre Dame's own 30-yard line and 1:10 remaining, he took plenty of heat.

Sports Illustrated writer Dan Jones whose most famous game is "tied one for the Gipper." Parseghian ended the Spartan season with a tie, winning all but four from Michigan State's 44-41 overtime victory at Notre Dame Stadium in 2005.

The front page of the Nov. 17, 1966 Observer guides students from South Bend to East Lansing before the "Game of the Century."
Notre Dame Fighting Irish

Record: 2-1
AP: 12
Coaches: 13

Charlie Weis Second season at Notre Dame career record:
11-4 at Notre Dame:
against Michigan State: 0-1

Roster

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Coaching

Confidence in Charlie Weis is bruised but not permanently damaged. He understands how much is riding on this game and on the season. Weis needs to bring his team out ready for this game — the way they weren’t ready against Michigan.

Quarterbacks

Brady Quinn had an off-game last week, but it was a total failure by the offense as well, with poor protection and some dropped balls by receivers. If anyone can take a confidence hit and then successfully rebound, however, it’s Quinn.

Two of the country’s most accomplished and veteran quarterbacks face off in this game. Stanton battled injuries last year and has been able to exploit the Irish secondary better. The Quinn is poised to again demonstrate the talent he’s shown.

Michigan State

Michigan State’s three opponents have passed for over 600 yards this season and average over six yards per pass. The team has three picks, two by linebackers. Both the strong and free safety are new starters, but the two lead the team in tackles.

Michigan State's defense is boasting some of the bestorcares in the country. They have allowed just 270 yards per game and have produced 14 sacks and 26 tackles for losses.

Irish Rushing

In three games, the Spartans have picked up five sacks and held their opponents to 236 rushing yards and two rushing touchdowns. They return six starters on defense, but one is out in the Irish defense, tackle Cliffy Ryan. A major strength is the linebackers.

Irish Passing

After gaining just four yards on the ground against Michigan, the Irish have spent the week trying to get the running game back on track. Darius Walker has proven to be a dual threat both rushing and receiving, as well as blocking and picking up blitzes.

Michigan State's quarterback, Brian Hoyer, has had an up-and-down season. He has completed 65 percent of his passes for 1,480 yards and 12 touchdowns. However, he has also thrown five interceptions.

Notre Dame's quarterback, Brady Quinn, has had a strong season. He has completed 64 percent of his passes for 1,288 yards and 11 touchdowns. However, he has also thrown four interceptions.

ANALYSIS

Weis has a lot to prove after last season's beating, and an experienced team like the Spartans to make a statement before the schedules cool off. Smith has talented players but lacks Weis’ preparation and playcalling abilities, as well as the motivation he has for this game.

Two of the country’s most accomplished and veteran quarterbacks face off in this game. Stanton battled injuries last year and has been able to exploit the Irish secondary better. The Quinn is poised to again demonstrate the talent he’s shown.

Irish experts

Mike Gillian
Editor in Chief

Bobby Griffin
Asst. Managing Editor

It's funny how quickly things can change. Heading into Michigan, Notre Dame was the No. 2 team in the nation — poised for a BCS title run. But with one bad game, the Irish have become overstated and over hyped by the same national media who lambasted their backs one week ago. Let's get serious. Notre Dame is still a very good team with a decided advantage on offense, defense and coaching over its opponent this week.

FINAL SCORE: Notre Dame 31
Michigan State 17
Michigan State

SPARTANS RUSHING
Notre Dame's defensive line has yet to stop the running game. The Spartans could explode for huge rushing totals.

SPARTANS PASSING
The Irish gave up a 69-yard bomb early to Michigan quarterback Chad Henne, who passed for three touchdowns in just one half. Chinedum Nwakwe has two picks on the season and Tom Zbikowski had his breakout game in 2004 against the Spartans.

SPECIAL TEAMS
Charlie Weis and special teams coach Brian Polian have stressed to their players that they must protect the ball after David Grimes' fumble and Tom Zbikowski's muff against Penn State. Notre Dame is expecting to break a return for a score.

INTANGIBLES
After struggling at Georgia Tech, Notre Dame came out firing on all cylinders against Penn State. It remains to be seen how the Irish will react in their first regular-season loss since last year's USC game—a contest the Irish avenged with a 49-23 win over BYU.

SPARTANS RUSHING
Sophomore Javon Ringer is averaging 7.7 yards per carry on 46 rushes this season, and the Irish will struggle to contain a more mobile quarterback in Stanton. Jehu Caulkridge is a 260-pound workhorse with three rushing scores.

SPARTANS PASSING
Stanton is entering his second year as starter with pressure to perform in the backfield. Matt Trannon is a dangerous receiver who has 19 catches and two scores this season. Jeramy Scott has a 41-yarder under his belt and Kenny Bead averages 13 yards per catch.

SPECIAL TEAMS
Michigan State's return game has been weak this season, but the team has punted just six times in 2006 thanks to its potent offense. Spartans punter Brandon Fields has boomed those few chances, accumulating a 49.2-yard average.

INTANGIBLES
The Notre Dame game is Michigan State's biggest every year. The Spartans can take advantage of the adrenaline they will have flowing at home—much like Michigan did in South Bend last week. The Spartans are confident and are primed for an upset.

SPARTANS RUSHING
The Spartans have three stout running backs in Ringer, Caulkridge and Stanton. The offense line returned just two starters but has given up only three sacks. If the Irish are unable to stop the running game, the Spartans could explode for huge rushing totals.

SPARTANS PASSING
Michigan State has an explosive offense and will be able to overwhelm Notre Dame in the air and on the ground. Only bruising hits by the secondary will help quench the aerial firepower and force the Spartans to be conservative.

INTANGIBLES
Averaging 48 yards a boot, Notre Dame punter Geoff Price is able to turn field position into Notre Dame's favor with long, hanging kicks. Punt returner Tom Zbikowski is always a danger to score, unlike the Spartan return men.

SPARTANS RUSHING
The Irish gave up a 69-yard bomb early to Michigan quarterback Chad Henne, who passed for three touchdowns in just one half. Chinedum Nwakwe has two picks on the season and Tom Zbikowski had his breakout game in 2004 against the Spartans. The Spartans will tear through the Irish defense in a blowout. Expect Drew Stanton to eat the game early in the fourth quarter and the Irish to score late to narrow an otherwise huge deficit.

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Michigan State

2006 Schedule

Sept. 2 IDAHO — W
Sept. 9 E. MICH. — W
Sept. 16 at Pitt — W
Sept. 21 NOTRE DAME — W
Sept. 30 ILLINOIS — W
Oct. 7 at Michigan
Oct. 14 OHIO STATE — W
Oct. 21 at Northwestern
Oct. 28 at Indiana
Nov. 4 PURDUE — W
Nov. 11 MINNESOTA — W
Nov. 18 at Penn State

Roster

Michigan State

John L. Smith
4th season at Michigan State
career record: 128-78
at MSU: 21-18
against Notre Dame: 2-1

Notre Dame

John L. Smith
Spartans coach

Michigan State

Roster

Michigan State

ANALYSIS
The wheels fall off the bus Saturday for Notre Dame. The Spartans will tear through the Irish defense and shut down the inconsistent Notre Dame offense in a blowout. Expect Drew Stanton to eat the game early in the fourth quarter and the Irish to score late to narrow an otherwise huge deficit.

Michigan State

FINAL SCORE: Michigan State 47 Notre Dame 21

Ken Fowler
Sports Editor

The Observer • IRISH INSIDER

Kate Gales
Associate Sports Editor

Michigan State

FINAL SCORE: Notre Dame 38 Michigan State 24
Sizing up the Irish and the Spartans

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<th>Notre Dame</th>
<th>Michigan State</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Points Scored</td>
<td>25.33</td>
<td>39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Points Allowed</td>
<td>24.67</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Yards Gained</td>
<td>342</td>
<td>506.33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Yards Allowed</td>
<td>327.33</td>
<td>299.33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rushing Yards Gained</td>
<td>84</td>
<td>258</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rushing Yards Allowed</td>
<td>132.33</td>
<td>78.67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Passing Yards Gained</td>
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<td>248.33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Passing Yards Allowed</td>
<td>195</td>
<td>220.67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Turnovers Lost</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Turnovers Recovered</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
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</table>

Michigan State combines speed and massive size on a defensive line that has held its first three opponents to 78.7 yard rushing.

The interior of the Irish offensive line has struggled, which is where Spartans tackles Clifton Ryan (picted) and Igemdi Nwagbuo feast.

Ryan and Nwagbuo have combined for 13 tackles this season, including 2.5 for losses.

If Michigan State can control the line of scrimmage when Notre Dame is on offense, it will be an easy day for the Spartans.

The Notre Dame offensive line must put in its best performance of the year to allow Notre Dame's offense to keep up with Michigan State's.

Darius Walker has had no holes to run through, Brady Quinn has been pressured, and penalties are piling up on the unit.

Center Bob Morton and guards John Sullivan and Dan Santucci have to control the inside of the line of scrimmage against the Spartans' 300-pound tackles.

If the Irish can establish a running game, the offense can put points on the board.
Notre Dame downs plays rushing troubles

Walker says he will rally back after 25-yard performance

By KATE GALEs
Associate Sports Editor

There's more to a game than statistics. Even so, the Notre Dame will have to generate a potent rushing threat than the four yards they gained against Michigan last Saturday.

"Of course it was a hard time for us and a tough game that we went through," Irish running back Darius Walker said. "I definitely think we can rally back and be good.

After running for 138 yards against Georgia Tech and 110 against Penn State, the Irish could not establish any sort of a ground game against Michigan. Part of that may have been the Wolverines' early lead, and part of it may have been the strong Michigan defense. Either way, Notre Dame doesn't think it can afford a similar performance against Michigan State Saturday.

Toeing the company line, the Irish say they are worried about the rush defense. "Outside Latina, and from the offensive line, Morton said. "We've got to work hard and understand blocking schemes and make sure we know who we're blocking. That's always something in the running game that can be difficult, because defenses like to jump around and juggle players in and out of box and whatever."

Basics have also been a focus of the defensive line, Morton said. "It's just a matter of practicing low pad level and working cohesively as a unit and that's what you really strive to do every single day, make sure that the hips stay loose," Morton said. "We practiced helmet to helmet, what we call face-mask to face-mask, [to] get proper leverage."

Protecting the quarterback and opening holes for the running backs are important jobs of the offensive line, Morton said. The two work together to create a balanced offense — usually a hallmark of Weis' schemes. "It's important to have a balanced offense," Walker said. "A balanced offense always keeps a defense off-balance and you never really know what to expect whether you're going to run the ball or pass the ball so it's definitely something that we can do." As a veteran running back on a veteran offense, Walker understands that even if the Irish are trailing, every play doesn't have to be an 80-yard dash. Although Notre Dame's deficit in the Michigan game changed the scheme slightly, panic can set in, and Walker knows the danger of that. "You can fall into trouble thinking that you have to have it all in one play, and I think that's where experience and stuff comes in," Walker said. "You understand that football is still played play by play and you still have to do the necessary things to try to get another yard on the ball."

Walker, the line and the rest of the running backs want to work together to make the rushing game more successful against a Michigan defense that may be more susceptible to the run.

But after the game, Walker won't be checking the box scores. He'll just be looking at the scoreboard. "I think Double D better get over running up here today," Walker said referring to freshman quarterback Demetrius Jones, another dual threat who is being used to mimick Stanton this week in practice. "He get him self a workout here this week.""Zbikowski expects Stanton and the Michigan State offense to spread across the field by running various screens.

"I'm not so sure that's what the back seven is preparing for," Zbikowski said. "I think Double D better get used to running up here today."

"Stanton can throw, he can throw in the pocket, he can throw across his body," Charlie Weis Irish coach.


Stanton strikes dangerous pose for MU

By BOB GRIFFIN
Sports Writer

It's taken four full seasons, and a unique progression from spectator to standout to NFL quarterback prospect, but Michigan State's Drew Stanton has finally made a name for himself on the national stage.

It was only a matter of time. Irish coach Charlie Weis recalled Wednesday his first memories of encountering the dual-threat quarterback two years ago. "Stanton has finally made a name for himself on the national stage," Zbikowski said. "He came in late in the game and kind of started moving the ball, just taking over. Ever since then, they've had just a prolific offense that puts up a lot of points — a lot of yards."

"No kidding," Weis said. "In 2005, Stanton was a dual-threat weapon who was equally dangerous on offense as he is stepping up in the pocket — pretty good for a kid who as a red-shirt freshman in 2003 was mostly relegated to punt coverage. "Stanton's definitely going to be one of the best we go against this year," Zbikowski said. "Any time you have that dual threat, that's why they're so successful on third down. You have that run or throw option that he has, a lot of weapons around him, it's going to be a challenge for us."

Stanton has lived up to his billing this year. The quarterback has completed 68.3 percent of his passes for 1,018 yards and six touchdowns in three games. He also has 30 carries for 195 yards and three rushing scores.

"To put that in perspective, Irish running back Darius Walker has carried the ball 52 times for 180 yards this season. "Obviously the key person, the one who makes this all go, is Drew Stanton," Notre Dame coach Charlie Weis said Tuesday in his press conference. "He's the heart of a player. He's a dual-threat weapon who can run, he can throw, he can throw in the pocket, he can roll from the pocket, he can throw across his body."

"Stanton can throw, he can throw in the pocket, he can throw across his body," Charlie Weis Irish coach.
Learn more about Xavier Flores and tell us more about you. Visit pwc.com/bringit.

Your life. You can bring it with you.