THE OBSERVER
The Independent Newspaper Serving Notre Dame and Saint Mary’s

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NDSMCOBSERVER.COM

Officials review staff survey results

‘ND Voice’ poll reveals proud faculty, staff

By MARCELA BERRIOS
Assistant News Editor

The three highest-ranking Notre Dame officials addressed faculty and staff members Tuesday in an effort to inform them and gather feedback about the University’s direction, developments in research initiatives and employee satisfaction —a tradition that began last year to build up a synergistic relationship between the top administration and the rest of the staff.

University President Father John Jenkins, Provost Thomas Burish and Executive Vice President John Affleck-Graves spoke at the town hall-style meeting, which will be held again today from 2 p.m. to 3:30.

Burish introduced the three-man panel and thanked the University’s employees for their hard work, saying their efforts are not overlooked or taken for granted, before giving Jenkins the floor.

Later in the meeting, Affleck-Graves furthered Burish’s initial thought, speaking about the importance of getting feedback from the staff and faculty to improve Notre Dame in multiple facets. He talked about

A&L leaders promote doctoral studies

Jenkins’ speech to faculty addressed low levels of undergrads who go on for advanced degrees

By JOSEPH McMAHON
News Writer

Notre Dame has launched several programs to help encourage students to go past a Ph.D. — a goal expressed by University President Father John Jenkins during his speech to the faculty last week in which he expressed concern over the percentage of undergraduates going on to earn advanced degrees.

"Each department is trying to make students aware earlier of the option of graduate school," said Gretchen Reidams-Schils, associate dean for research, graduate studies, and centers at the College of Arts and Letters. "We are trying to get students, even freshmen, to think about Ph.D.s.*"

In his speech, Jenkins said only five percent of Notre Dame undergraduates between 1995 and 2004 earned a Ph.D. The number is low in comparison to leading liberal arts and liberal arts schools like Harvard, Rice and Princeton — and very low compared to leading liberal arts schools like Harvey Mudd and Swarthmore — Jenkins said in his address to the faculty.

"Earning a Ph.D. is a road to leadership, and we must do a better job of sending our students to Ph.D. programs," Jenkins said. "That five percent number must rise."

Reydams-Schils said the first step toward increasing the number is creating interest among the undergraduates through connections with the University’s own graduate students.

"We want graduate students to act as intermediaries, to be role models for the undergraduates, to identify and approach students, even freshmen, who are talent­ed and may be interested in Ph.D. programs," Toumayan said. "It is part of our Catholic mission to prepare students to become educators and professors. There is a service aspect."

Toumayan said there are other reasons why the number

Campus, Taco Bell to support Irish

Fast-food chain gives Weis ‘Nacho Day’ award for team’s struggles

By CHRIS KHOREY
News Writer

Despite three straight blowout losses to begin the season, coaches putting them through four-hour full-pads practices and ESPN mocking them at every turn, Notre Dame Football players still have support — from two very different sources.

Leaders of The Shirt Project 2007 and student body President Liz Brown are organizing a “green-out” of campus on Thursday, while local Taco Bells will distribute free nachos on Sunday, both in an attempt to gal­vanize the Irish.

The Notre Dame Football team sings the alma mater after its 38-0 loss to Michigan Saturday.

Student government launches Web page

Goal is to make administration accessible

By KATIE PERALTA
News Writer

Notre Dame student gov­ernment launched a new Web site Sunday in an effort to facilitate commu­nication with students.

Chief executive assistant Sheena Plamott­ill produced most of the material on the new site, which she began planning in the spring when Liz Brown and Markis Braun took over as student body president and vice president.

Plamott­ill said building a new Web site was long overdue.

The previous student gov­ernment home page alien­ated users, she said, since it was “not updated at all, and sort of archaic.”

One of the highlights of this new administration is to be more accessible to students,” Plamott­ill said.

The actual construction of the site began when Plamott­ill and Braun con­tacted junior Adam Lusch, a computer science engi­neering major, to help them design and build the Web pages.

"Initially when we were planning it, the Webmaster did not come through," Plamott­ill said. “We found

Filmmaker: border life crime-filled

Noted producer says factories exploit women

By AMANDA JOHNSON
News Writer

Film and television producer Barbara Martinez Jitner stressed Tuesday the dangers female fac­tory workers face in their jobs and on the streets in cities along the Mexican-American border.

Martinez Jitner spoke to an audi­ence in the Hesburgh Cen­ter Auditorium in a speech titled “Femicide at our U.S. Border: To be a Woman in Juarez is a Death Sentence.”

The Multicultural Student Programs and Services and the Gender Relations Center brought Martinez Jitner, the first Latina ever nominated for a Golden Globe and an Emmy — for her work on the PBS series “American Family” — to speak of her research in Juarez, Mexico.

She began working with Amnesty International in 2000 after spending time studying the effects of the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) on the lives of the Mexican people.

NAFTA, signed in December 1992, allows free trade between U.S. and Mexico. Analysts have

see DEGREES/page 4

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see BORDER/page 8

see WEB/page 4
On Sparta and Spartans

This weekend, the Michigan State Football team arrives in South Bend during Notre Dame's darkest hour. They call themselves Spartans, but as anyone who has seen the critically-acclaimed hit film "300" can tell you, they are not the real deal.

No, unlike the green and white double-gummers from the north, the real Spartans were a band of Greek soldiers, led by defiant King Leonidas, who weathered an onslaught from thousands of attacking Persians some time in ancient history.

In light of the Irish's recent struggles, there are many lessons we can draw from Leonidas and the 300. In light of the team suffering three consecutive road losses, there's the possibility that we, Notre Dame students, could lose faith. That the Notre Dame-Victory March could instead turn into a pity parade.

We're made of sterner stuff than that. I have never left a home game early, and I don't plan on it. Just as Spartan King Leonidas refused to heed the invading Xerxes, we should weather the heat as we would cheer the good; standing unyielding and fast.

We're known as the Fighting Irish, not the Fighting Irishmen! The loss against Notre Dame, the loss to USC... Even starting death in the eye, Leonidas refused to show fear, instead shouting to his soldiers, "Spartans! For glory!"

Let this serve as a lesson to us all. Don't think of it as losing, think of it as preparing for glory.

Besides, think of this season's competitive balance. Instead of our typical Wolfgang of certain teams, we could have some real realizers. Our annual annual shows would not turn out to be a regular barn burner, a high-octane wrangle with only pride and the desire not to lose to a service academy on the line. Likewise, ND-fanatics could wind up as a smiting battle for the ages. The point is, no mud game will be boring, especially come the end of the season, when we get into the easier fast-track non-conference gamedom.

Plan on burning a coach should we defeat Dido this year. Likewise, should we end up knocking off Navy and maintaining the nation's longest winning streak, watch out for homegating... because I'm coming through, potentially sans swim trunks.

Perhaps the offensive line would do well to work "300" and note the part where the impenetrable Spartan phalanx repels every opposing approach with doses of "pikes." The Spirit this year reads, "Shoulder to Shoulder: Chasing Her Golden Name." Shoulder to shoulder... a lot like a phalanx to me. Likewise, the student section should operate as a single, unified unit. The fans and students should march in formation with them their blazed mascot Sparty, whose dis- proportionate boots (30-45-35) would no longer be the overmatched and tepid Persian soldiers.

As the drags and arrows of outrageous fortune (and the ESPN LeBron-fuul barb of Mark May) hit out the sun, remember: this will not turn into a Chapel.

In conclusion, true Spartans never retreat. True Spartans never surrender.

And as for those who hate Notre Dame and revel in the schadenfreude of watching our struggles and suffering, people who look back at Fighting Irish fans 2007, you will remember that few stood against many.

The views expressed in the Inside Column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer. Contact Tate Andrews at tareadrew@nd.edu.

Corrections
The Observer regrets itself as a professional publication and strives for the highest standards of journalism at all times. We do, however, recognize that we will make mistakes. If you have made a mistake, please contact Tate Andrews at tareadrew@nd.edu to correct our error.

Question of the Day: How many Facebook friends did you have at ND before you got here?

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"Just one. I knew him in real life."
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"I don't know."

Tanner Ryan: freshman/Keenan
"I don't know."

Marco Rosales: freshman/Stanford
"I don't know."

IN BRIEF
An exhibit, "The Camera and Rainbow: Color in Photography," will show in the Snite Museum of Art on today from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. The exhibit is free and open to the public.

University President Father John Jenkins, Provost Thomas Burish and Executive Vice President John Silbeck-Carravos will brief the University staff on Notre Dame's status and future at a town hall meeting today from 2 to 3:30 p.m. in Washington Hall.

Employers will be meeting both undergraduates and graduate students from all colleges and majors during the Career Center's Fall Career Expo today from 4 to 8 p.m. in the Joyce Center.

Author Ann Cammins will read from her latest work, "Yellowake" in the Hospitality Room of South Dining Hall at 7:30 tonight.

Eric J. Brown, director of the Department of Microbial Pathogenesis at the University of California, San Francisco, will deliver the lecture "Can Fish Really Get Too Busy?" at 7:30 p.m. at St. Mary's Chapel.

The Dollarado Performing Arts Center will screen a screening of the film "The Namesake" Thursday at 7 p.m.

Warthog's chief financial officer, Ted Dcho, will speak Friday at 10 a.m. in the Jordan Auditorium as part of the Meredith College of Business Boardroom Insight lecture series.

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

OFFBEAT

SUN Mar 31 2008
MOSCOW, Idaho — A 25-year-old civil worker blames two friends having sexual intercourse in the back seat of his car for an accident in which his Chevrolet S-10 Blazer struck a telephone pole.

Joshua D. Frank, who is living in a trailer parked on the La相似 County Fairgrounds, pleaded guilty Monday to a misdemeanor charge of failing to notify a police officer of a traffic accident. That's after he left the vehicle at the site of the mishap. He was fined $198.

Frank told Moscow Police Department officers that he was driving the vehicle near downtown early Saturday while a man and woman were having sex in the rear of the vehicle.

"We're welcoming the SLUT into the neighborhood," said Jerry Johnson, 29, a part-time barista. Some claim — incorrectly, according to representatives of the Yale Co., the company that develops the arena — that South Lake Union Trolley is the original name and that it was changed when officials belatedly realized the acronym.

The $59.5 million project should be completed with streetcars running in December.

Information compiled from the Associated Press.

Breaking News

Local Weather

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COUNCIL OF REPRESENTATIVES

Leaders seek to involve students more through activities

Major topics of discussion include increasing football enthusiasm and the possibility of town-hall style meetings.

“Firstly, this could counteract dorm unity, which is a lot of what we’re all about. Secondly, freshmen and sophomores could dominate the events. I feel like juniors and seniors are a bit more apathetic.”

George Chamberlain
Sorin senator

Student government would be able to select which meetings would be open to the public, so the committees could “leave it up to (their) discretion, and not just have people drop in,” he said.

Student body vice president Maris Braun said it is natural to have more interest in student government when major issues arise.

“When popular issues come up, we’ve always gotten a huge influx,” she said.

Student government needs to do a better job of capitalizing on that interest without overwhelming its committees with new members, she said.

“If people are passionate about an issue, they do a good job of coming to student government,” Braun said.

Chief executive assistant Sheena Plamoottil questioned whether students would find time in their busy schedules to attend town-hall meetings.

In other COR news:
Schmidt proposed creating a new intramural sport conference between classes rather than halls.

The matches and games would occur during one week, he said.

Sorin senator George Chamberlain questioned the idea.

“Firstly, this could counteract dorm unity, which is a lot of what we’re all about,” he said. “Secondly, freshmen and sophomores could dominate the events. I feel like juniors and seniors are a bit more apathetic.”

Schmidt’s suggested athletic events included Capture the Flag.

Contact John Tierney at jtierney1@nd.edu

ND VS MICHIGAN STATE
BOOK SIGNINGS
SEPTEMBER 21 & 22

FRI., SEPT. 21

11 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Ralph McInerney
“Mish Albo”

1 p.m. to 3 p.m.
FR. NICHOLAS AYO, CSC
“Gloria Pahri”

1 p.m. to 3 p.m.
Connie McNamara
“Go Irish”

3 p.m. to 5 p.m.
Angi Jurkovic
“ND Coloring and Activity Book”

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 22

9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.
SEAN CALLAHAN
“A Is For Ara”

11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.
Margie Lapana
“Notre Dame: A Fan’s Companion”

11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.
Frank Maggio and Jim Harper
“Notre Dame and the Game That Changed Football”

3 p.m. to 5 p.m.
Diane Zuber
“The Broken Doll”

3 p.m. to 5 p.m.
Lisa McKay
“My Hands Came Away Red”

9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.
JIM WALSH
“Here Come The Irish 2007”

11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.
PAMELA OGREN
“Creating Happy Memories”

11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.
Digger Phelps
“Undertaker’s Son”

12 noon to 2:00 p.m.
Gerry Faust
“Tales From The Notre Dame Sidelines”

Please Recycle The Observer.
Web
continued from page 1
Adam and were able to start really putting things together."
Lusch had taken a class with Braun, and she remem-
bered he had already put together various Notre Dame
Web sites, including the homepages for the Student
Union Board, the Class of 2009, The Show and
Morrissey Manor. Plamontiull said Lusch glad-
ly volunteered his time during the summer to help them
with the project.
The finished product boasts a layout that is not only aera-
esthetically pleasing but also user friendly, Plamontiull
said. "I wanted it to have a
Notre Dame identifying theme," Lusch said, referring to
the gold and blue fonts and
the home icon at the top of
the home page.
Plamontiull said the site has links to the Student
Government Constitution, updates from various com-
mitties and groups — includ-
ing the Student Senate, the
Council of Representatives
and the Center for Social
Concerns — as well as an
online application for stu-
dents who wish to become
involved with student gov-
ernment.
The site also contains the
minutes of Senate and CAB
meetings and a calendar of
upcoming events — informa-
tion not readily available to
students before.
Student government will
"continue to make changes
to improve our capacity to
correctly represent and
respond to student con-
cerns," Brown said.
Contact Katie Peralta at
kaperalta@nd.edu

Degrees
continued from page 1
"The number is skewed beca-
use after getting their bache-
r's degree, students will go
do a service project, get a
job, and then go back to grad-
uate school, and they are
counted in that statistic,"
Tosunyan said. "In fact, most
of the students that tell me they
are interested in earning a Ph.D.
tell me that they do not want to
do so right after college, and
they would not be included in
that statistic."
She said the college is cur-
rently trying to come up with a
way of tracking these students to
make their figures more accurate.
In addition to poor calcula-
tions, Notre Dame's strong pre-
professional programs deflate the number considerably, she
said, because they push stu-
dents directly into their profes-
sions and away from the Ph.D.

Support
continued from page 1
Jason Gott, vice president of the The Shirt Project, said he
and other leaders want students to wear either The Shirt 2007 or
another green shirt to classes
Thursday to show spirit.
"We just want to show that we're all solidly behind our foot-
ball team and that we still care
and that we still believe," Gott
said.
Irish coach Charlie Weis said
the green shirts will be another sign
that the team's success or failure on
the field is the success or failure of the student body as
a whole.
"Having been a student here, one thing that this team is
counting in is the support of the
students," he said. "When
you're a student, you're not just a
student, you're part of it."
Weis also said that student support can and will improve
the team's morale going into the
game against Michigan State
Saturday.
"The greatest thing that could happen, whether its Thursday
or Friday at the Pep Rally, is for the
students to say, 'Hey, we're
on your side,'" Weis said.
Fifth-year senior captain and
tight end John Carlson agreed.

We appreciate all the support we
can get," he said. "We're not
giving up. We hope the fans
don't give up either.
The support isn't just coming
from South Bend. As far away
as Irvine, Calif., at the world
headquarters of Taco Bell, mar-
keting executives decided to
give Weis the "Nacho Day Award."
"We like to call it a Na-cho
Day — as in 'not your day,'
Taco Bell spokesman Will Bortz
said. We're trying to put some
levity into the situation.
In honor of Weis' award, par-
ticipating South Bend area
Taco Bells will give out free nachos to
Notre Dame fans between 2
p.m. and 5 p.m. on Sunday.
"The chips are down, and we
want everyone to know we have
your back," Bortz said. "To the
students, we're saying, 'Hey
guys, you've been at the top,
and while it might be a little bit
difficult this year, you can still
have some free food.'
Bortz said that the nacho pro-
motion, which the company has
done for organizations and
groups before, is not designed to
be a joke about Weis' weight.
"We would never ever walk
that line as far as giving some-
things offensive to somebody," he
said.
Contact Chris Khorey at
ckhorey@nd.edu

Wednesday, September 19, 2007
The Observer • CAMPUS NEWS

CAMPUS NEWS
Wednesday, September 19, 2007

Information:
September 20 or September 21
5:30 p.m. - 117 DeBARTOLO
http://www.nd.edu/~ois/

DISCOVER MODERN CHINA
STUDY IN BEIJING or SHANGHAI

UNIVERSITY OF NOTRE DAME
INTERNATIONAL STUDY PROGRAMS IN

DUBLIN, IRELAND
Fall 2008, SPRING 2009, AY 2008-9,
SUMMER 2008

INFORMATION MEETING
Wednesday, September 19, 2007
5:00 pm - 141 DeBartolo

Application Deadlines: NOVEMBER 15, 2007 FOR FALL, SPRING, AND ACADEMIC YEAR 2008-9
MARCH 1, 2008 FOR SUMMER 2008

Applications Available www.nd.edu/~ois/

Write News.
Call 631-5323.
INTERNATIONAL NEWS

North Korea denies nuclear charge

Seoul — North Korea strongly denied Tuesday that it has provided North Korea with secret nuclear cooperation, claiming that the country was fabricated to block progress in the North's relations with the United States.

North Korea's Foreign Ministry said the country has upheld a pledge made last October, when it conducted its first-ever nuclear test, that it would "be a responsible nuclear weapons state" and not transfer any nuclear material out of the country.

The North "never makes an empty talk but always tells truth," the ministry said in a statement delivered by the official Korean Central News Agency.

The comments were the first by the government in Pyongyang on the issue since suspicions arose after an alleged Israeli air raid earlier this month on unknown Syrian targets.

Trapped reporter returns home

TEHRAN — An Iranian-American reporter for the U.S.-funded Radio Farda has been freed by the Iranian government Tuesday, returning to the United States, the state Department said.

Parvaz Azima was one of four Iranian-Americans suspected by Iran of involvement in a plot to form a revolution against the Islamic government. Another of the four was released earlier.

Azima "left Iran today and is on her way to the United States," Sania Winter, a spokeswoman for Radio Farda, said The Associated Press from Washington. She would not give further details saying Azima would be "reunited with her family."

NATIONAL NEWS

Congress investigates official

WASHINGTON — A congressional committee has launched an investigation of the State Department's inspector general, alleging he blocked fraud investigations in Afghanistan and Iraq, including potential security lapses at the newly built U.S. Embassy in Baghdad.

Also under scrutiny is whether Blackwater USA, the private security firm banned this week from working in Iraq over the killing of civilians, was "illegally smuggling weapons into Iraq," according to a letter to IG Howard J. Krongard issued Tuesday by The Associated Press.

The letter cited a U.S.-funded investigation accused Krongard of trying to protect the White House and the State Department.

Police Tase Florida student

MUNCIE, Ind. — A member of the Muncie Police Department has been cleared of police Tase a persistent questioner of Sen. John Kerry because of his "equal sensitivity," Tuesday, generating fierce debate over free speech and the motives of the college student involved — a known prankster who often posts practical jokes online.

University of Florida President Bernie Machen said Monday's takedown, in which the student loudly yelled, "Don't Tase me, bro!" was "regretful.

He asked for a state probe of campus police actions and placed two officers on leave.

The student in the middle of it all, 21-year-old Andrew Mayer, had no comment after he was released on his recognizance on various charges following a night in jail.

LOCAL NEWS

Alligator rescued in Indiana

MUNCIE — A nearly 5-foot-long alligator nicknamed Vader Gator was heading to Florida after living a life of misery for weeks after being rescued from the streets of Muncie.

The Muncie Animal Shelter sent Vader off Monday to Croc Encounters, a reptile park and wildlife center in Maryland, according to The Muncie Star Press.

Shelter workers rescued Vader on Sept. 5 after it was found wandering through a neighborhood. The 4-foot-tall reptile had escaped an outdoor kennel by climbing over a fence, said Karen Gibson, the shelter's superintendent.

Democratic Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid calls for a vote on pullout legislation

NATIONAL NEWS

Democrats continue anti-war push

Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid calls for a vote on pullout legislation

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — After weeks of suggesting Democrats would temper their approach to Iraq legislation in a bid to attract more Republicans, Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid declared abruptly Tuesday that he had no plans to do so.

The Democratic leader said he will call for a vote this month on several anti-war proposals, most notably one by Sen. Carl Levin that would insist President Bush and U.S. combat next summer. The proposals would be read to imply that the General Accounting Office has concluded that the U.S. can do without the 150,000 troops now in Iraq.

Reid's hardline stance, announced after the party's weekly policy lunch on Tuesday, reflects a calculation that Democrats hold the war issue in check.

"The war is lost," Senate Majority Whip Ted Kennedy of Massachusetts, said Monday, "and if we don't act now, the war will be lost forever.

"There are no goals." It's all definitive timelines," he told reporters of the planned legislation.

Levin, D-Mich., chairman of the Senate Armed Services Committee, said Monday the Senate should have agreed to turn his summer deadline into a "blandishment" that will allow the administration to meanfully extend the war.

Several Republicans have said they are uneasy about Bush's war strategy but do not like the idea of setting a firm timetable on troop withdrawals.

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Several Republicans have said they are uneasy about Bush's war strategy but do not like the idea of setting a firm timetable on troop withdrawals.

"I think they've decided definitely they want this to be the Senate Republicans' war, not just Bush's.

"They're jealous," he said with a smile.

Democrats are in a box on the Iraq war debate, lacking the votes to pass legislation ordering troops home but tied to a support base that wants nothing less. Several Democrats, including Sens. Christopher Dodd of Connecticut, Russ Feingold of Wisconsin and Barbara Boxer of California, have said they will not vote for anything short of a firm deadline to end the war.

Those members say they are responding to polls that show Americans want to end the war, despite Gen. David Petraeus' report to Congress and President Bush's nationally televised address.

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A poll released Tuesday by the nonpartisan Pew Research Center found that 54 percent of Americans still favor bringing troops home as soon as possible.

And despite slight improvements in peoples' views of military progress, more said the U.S. will likely fail in Iraq than succeed by 47 percent to 42 percent, about the same margin as in July.

Other lawmakers, including Levin and several moderate Republicans, have tried to strike bipartisan deals they think would attract enough moderates of either party to pass.

Sen. George Voinovich, R-Ohio, suggested Tuesday that Congress pass legislation that would restrict the mission of U.S. troops but allow Bush to determine the timeframe for doing so.

Sen. Ken Salazar, D-Colo., has attracted the support of several GOP lawmakers with legislation that would call on Bush to embrace the recommendations of the Independent Iraq Study Group. The independent panel called on Bush to hand off the combat mission to the Iraqis next year.

But while Democratic leaders say the concept of compromise legislation is not off the table, no proposals have gained steam. Reid on Tuesday said Salazar is working to add requirements to his bill, but as written it was too weak.

State upholds gay marriage ban

Associated Press

Baltimore — Maryland’s high court on Tuesday upheld a state law defining marriage as a union between a man and a woman, ending a lawsuit filed by same-sex couples who claimed they were being denied equal protection under the law.

Maryland's 1973 ban on gay marriage does not discriminate on the basis of gender and does not deny any fundamental right, the Court of Appeals ruled in a 4-3 decision. It also said the state has a legitimate interest in promoting opposite-sex marriage.

"Other options should by no means be read to imply that the General Assembly may not grant and recognize for homosexual persons civil unions or the right to marry a person of the same sex," Judge Glenn T. Harrell Jr. wrote for the majority.

Plaintiffs said that the judges "missed a historic opportunity to strike down a discriminatory law, and that they would continue the fight in the Legislature. Legislators on both sides of the debate predicted action on the issue in the next session.

"I think history will hold them in contempt," plaintiff Lisa Poyark said of the judges. "To create a legal solution in a vacuum, that doesn't recognize the constitution is there to support the people, is to create an ignorant and irrelevant solution.

State Sen. Richard Madaleno, who is openly gay, said he plans to introduce a bill to allow same-sex marriage. He also expects a proposal to create civil unions.

"I think we'll have a lengthy discussion next session about what the options are for legal recognition for gay people," Madaleno said.

Dion Drewry, one of the General Assembly's most conservative members, said he would introduce a constitutional amendment banning gay marriage as "insurance."

The ACLU of Maryland, which provided legal representation for the plaintiffs, said the fight to legalize gay marriage in Maryland would continue.

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Feedback
continued from page 1
NO Voice, a series of surveys and focus groups conducted in 2006 to understand the opinions of different University employees about their experience at Notre Dame.

The results, he said, revealed 96 percent of the polled staff and faculty members said they were proud of working at Notre Dame, 92 percent would recommend the University as an enjoyable workplace and 91 percent said they clearly understood the school's goals, values and direction.

Affleck-Graves also said the surveys told him employees thought Notre Dame needed to improve its accountability—or the University's ability to deal with poor performances in its different offices—as well as its recognition of exceptional employees.

Notre Dame has tried to alleviate these concerns, he said.

Since NO Voice was conducted, he said, about seven percent of Notre Dame employees have received a salary raise more than five percent. Another six percent received a raise equal to or less than two percent, depending on their respective supervisor's performance reviews.

The salary raises fulfilled Affleck-Graves' promise from last year's town hall meeting, where he said annual salary increases would be tied to performance.

Furthermore, the University also created the Presidential Team Irish Awards to recognize its outstanding faculty or staff members publicly during home football games.

The 2006 poll indicated that some employees were unhappy with their level of respect and overall fairness—specifically Notre Dame's efforts to include its faculty and staff in administrative decisions.

We need to create more opportunities where you can offer feedback and speak up in either small group or large group settings, like this one,” Affleck-Graves said.

He read excerpts of some of the action plans different offices prepared as part of NO Voice last year, including a suggestion from the Central Receiving office proposing top administrators shadow staff members sporadically to understand their daily challenges.

"It is critical and essential every member of the Notre Dame family feels respected, valued and understood," he said.

Future NO Voice polls will be issued every two years, he said, to avoid overwhelming the staff and faculty with too many survey requests.

While Affleck-Graves' remarks were concrete and focused on tangible initiatives, Jenkins chose to talk about more abstract concepts, such as the University's core values and its mission to strike a balance between its Catholic character and its academic ambitions.

He spoke of Notre Dame's goal of becoming "a distinctive Catholic university that is counted among the prominent universities in the world."

To accomplish this mission, he said, the University must provide an unsurpassed undergraduate education and become a premier research institution while ensuring the University's Catholic character permeates these endeavors.

"These goals, Jenkins said, should always be approached through the University's defining core values—integrity, excellence, accountability, teamwork and leadership.

"To be a part of Notre Dame is to accept these goals and these values and let them inform your everyday lives and your work here," he said.

Jenkins said his trip last week to Congregation of Holy Cross founder Father Basil Moreau's beatification in Le Mans, France, helped him rediscover Notre Dame's origins.

"There was everywhere a sense of discovering this University's roots and where we came from," Jenkins said.

"I met people from Africa, Bangladesh, Peru, Chile and other countries where Father Moreau's work lives on. And with Notre Dame, they all shared this man's commitment to service, his faith and his sense of community."

During his trip to France, Jenkins said, he also met a descendant of the family of Father Edward Sorin, who founded Notre Dame.

Following Jenkins' remarks, Burish updated the audience on current academic initiatives as well as the University's achievements last year.

He said the freshman class had a record average SAT score of 1390. His address, however, focused less on statistics than on human-interest aspects that make the class of 2011 special.

Among the first-year students, Burish said, there are cancer survivors, a student who served in the Navy, a student that speaks four languages fluently and the great granddaughter of one of the famed Four Horses of Notre Dame.

He also praised certain faculty members for their outstanding research, including a science professor he said is working to design cancer-fighting drugs without side effects and another professor who is studying the psychology of middle-aged people.

To keep the faculty motivated and interested in conducting similar projects, Burish said, the University is developing a research park where it would present its findings to corporations and potential backers that might provide further exposure.

Researchers who develop new products, like drugs or software programs, might then find a company that commits to manufacturing the invention, Burish said.

"This park will help take your research findings and give them an avenue so they can actually impact society and people's daily lives," Burish said.

"We live in a world where it's impossible to avoid technology," Burish said. "We live in a world where it's impossible to avoid the Internet."
China

PRC enforces quality standards

Food products under close scrutiny after inspectors discover skew of violations

Associated Press

BEIJING — China is stepping up enforcement against unlicensed food vendors and plans to upgrade quality standards for thousands of food and consumer products by year's end, officials said Tuesday.

As of July, inspectors had unlicensed and unregistered 9,098 unidentified food makers and other types of vendors, the director of the State Administration for Industry and Commerce said Tuesday. Zhou Bohua, said at a news conference.

Zhou did not give comparable figures for the same period last year but said the administration was pursuing violators more vigorously; an indication of the seriousness the government is placing on China’s endemic product safety problems.

"This is a special type of battle to preserve people’s health and basic interests, to preserve the trust in and international image of Chinese products," Zhou said.

He said the crackdown was part of a previously announced four-month campaign to step up product safety controls. Zhou’s agency does not inspect imported products and the information he described appeared mainly to involve domestic vendors.

Many of China’s problems have been blamed on lax and often murky supply chains. To address that, Zhou said the government will require before the end of the year that all grocery stores, convenience stores, and roadside stalls to keep records showing invoices to trace the origin of food products.

Another product safety watchdog said standards had lagged behind the development of China’s economy and needed to be upgraded.

"Rapidly developing trade must have the guarantee of rapidly developing inspection standards," the report said. "The only way to ensure that Chinese products receive fair treatment in the international community," Liu Pingjun, director of the Standardization Administration of China, was quoted as saying at a national conference on Monday.

Liu’s comments were posted on the Web site of the General Administration of Quality Supervision, Inspection and Quarantine, one of the government’s main product safety watchdogs.

The administration’s notice said 3,395 standards for food and consumer products would be amended by the end of this year. All food and consumer product "closely related to human health and safety" would be required to meet international standards and "foreign advanced standards," it said without giving specific examples.

Chinese government officials inspect the quality of mooncakes in Chongqing, China, Sept. 13. Officials plan to upgrade the quality of food products by the year's end.

In Brief

Number of foreclosures increases

LOS ANGELES — The number of foreclosure filings reported in the U.S. last month more than doubled versus August 2006 and jumped 36 percent from July, a trend that signals many homeowners are increasingly unable to make timely payments on their mortgages or sell their homes amid a national housing slump.

The filings include default notices, auction sale notices and bank repossessions. Some properties might have received more than one notice if the owners have multiple mortgages.

Kroger announces jump in profits

CINCINNATI — Kroger Co. said Tuesday its profit jumped 28 percent in the second quarter, topping analyst expectations. The nation’s largest traditional grocery chain boosted its outlook for the year.

The supermarket operator said it earned $267.3 million, or 38 cents per share, for the three months ended Aug. 18, up from $209 million, or 29 cents per share, a year ago. Revenue rose 7 percent to $16.14 billion in the quarter from $15.14 billion last year.

Analysts polled by Thomson Financial expected a profit of 34 cents per share on revenue of $16.02 billion.

The company said it was able to pass along cost increases for staples such as milk to customers while continuing to build customer loyalty with initiatives that include improved service, wider selections and incentive programs. Profits also were helped by reductions in distribution and advertising costs and in inventory loss because of theft, mistakes and other factors, Kroger said.

Health care costs vary around U.S.

WASHINGTON — Staying healthy is a costly business in the United States, particularly in the Northeast, where per capita health care spending increased on average 6.3 percent per year from 1998 to 2004, the report said.

Among those measures are increased scrutiny of vegetable exports that have sometimes been cited for high levels of pesticides.

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Border

continued from page 1

linked the agreement's implementa-

tion to an increase in factories in Mexico, where labor is cheaper, Martnnez Jitner said.
The population of border towns sky-

doped, and some three million workers aren't allowed to work longer hours for less pay, Martinez Jitner said. Female workers with their children face a 99 per-

cent of the force. But, in reality, "many of the women aren't women," she said.
"There are fourteen, fifteen, six-

teen-year-old girls working these factories for approximately fifty cents an hour."

Since they live on the border—a kind of middle-ground between the U.S. and Mexico—they receive third world country wages but pay first world country prices. It takes six hours of work to buy a gallon of milk, Martinez Jitner said.
Women are among the plights of the workers on unsafe, exploiting factories. In the factory life, outside the workplace is also plagued with dangers, she said. Border towns have a rich history of smuggling among other criminal activities, she said.
"Traditionally it's been trafficking of drugs, but now it also now there is a new kind of trafficking—traf-

ficking of human beings," Martinez Jitner said.

Women in these towns are being kidnapped, raped, tortured and sometimes sold into slavery, she said. The majority of bodies that are found weeks later often have their organs missing, she said.
In 2002, Martinez Jitner followed Eva Camasco from Tijuana to the U.S., in her documentary, "La Frontera." Camasco experienced the horror of the border factory life Martinez Jitner spoke about.

While filming the documentary, Martinez Jitner's tapes were stolen repeatedly, to the extent she hired a bodyguard to protect her camera. One of her assistants was abducted and beaten by the Juarez police, she said.

Martinez Jitner chose to continue filming her documentary, she said, feeling she had the seed and duty to docu-

ment Camasco's story and share it with the world.

Camasco worked in a factory to earn money to pay off the taxes on her farm. She quickly realized, after moving to Tijuana, that "the worker is the product."

With a face deeply scarred because the factory would not provide masks for its welders, Camasco received a pink slip.
At 30, she is too old for factory work, Martinez Jitner said. The managers in Juarez want younger women with more nimble fingers.
The film focuses on her journey to the United States, where she hopes to seek out an opportunity to pro-

vide a better life for her family. Martinez Jitner said she has been able to enact some change with her film.
She said she knows her docu-

mentary struck a chord with the factory managers because now workers aren't afraid to speak to journalists and filmmakers about their jobs. She said they must even sign confidentiality waivers to get hired.

Toward the end of her lecture Martinez Jitner showed a short clip of the opening scenes of her upcom-

ming movie "Torterdorm."
The film—due out later this year—features Antonio Banderas and Jennifer Lopez in the lead roles. Martinez Jitner served as the movie's executive producer. The movie will follow two journalists, Lopez and Rondoros, as they travel to Juarez to investigate the disappear-

ance of several women.
In the last fourteen years, more than 475 women in Juarez have been brutally murdered, Martinez Jitner said. More than 5,000 are still missing.
"People are worse worth more than alive," she said.
"Torterdorm," which is mostly in Spanish and features English subtitles, is inspired on the story of a 14-

year-old girl in Juarez who was raped by a bus driver and another man then left her for dead in a shal-

low grave.
The girl managed to climb out of the grave, received amnesty in the U.S. and American police arrested the bus driver who raped her. But the Mexican authorities let the convicted rapist walk free, Martinez Jitner said.

Martinez Jitner encouraged the audience to visit amnestyorg/torterdorm, a Web site Lopez launched, where users can download digital petitions asking the United Nations to put pres-

sure on Mexico to end the violence against women, as well as encour-

aging the U.S. to push Mexican fac-

tories to set up safer working condi-

tions.

Follow the Leader

Simpson indicted on 10 felonies

Count of robbery may carry life sentence

for former football star

Associated Press

LAS VEGAS — Prosecutors filed five new charges Tuesday against O.J. Simpson, alleg-

ing the former football star committed 10 felonies, including kidnapping, in the

armed robbery of sports memorabilia collectors in a casino-hotel room.

Simpson was arrested Sunday after a collector reported a group of armed men charged into his hotel room and took several items.

According to the charges, Simpson and the others went to the hotel room under the pretext of brokering a deal with Alfred Beardsley and Bruce Fromson, two long-

time collectors of Simpson memorabilia.

According to police reports, Simpson and the other men entered the room and at gun-

point ordered the longtime collectors to hand over sev-

eral items once owned by the Heisman Trophy winner. Beardsley told police that one of the men with Simpson brandished a semiautomatic pistol, frisked him and impersonated a police officer.

"If I'm a cop and you're lucky this ain't LA or you'd be dead," the man said, accord-

ing to the report. The man who arranged the meeting of the former athlete and the collectors, Tom Riccio, also told police a Simpson associa-

tate was "acting like a cop," the report said.

As his associates tried to seize cell phones, Simpson yelled and cursed the collect-

ors, who Simpson has said were trying to sell items that had been stolen from him.

The kidnapping charges filed Tuesday accuse Simpson and three other men of detaining each of the collectors "against his will, and without his consent, for the purpose of committing a robbery."

The memorabilia taken from the room included foot-

ball game balls signed by Simpson, Joe Montana litho-

graphs, baseballs autographed by Pete Rose and Hille Snyder and framed awards and plaques, togeth-

er valued at as much as $100,000.

Some of the loot was stuffed into plastic cases stripped off the bed, accord-

ing to the police report.
McConnell discusses Protect America Act

National intelligence director considers major changes to current wire tapping law

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — No Americans' telephones have been tapped without a court order since at least February, the top U.S. intelligence official told Congress Tuesday.

But National Intelligence Director Mike McConnell could not say how many Americans' phone conversations have been overheard because of U.S. wiretaps on foreign phone lines.

"I don't have the exact number — considering there are billions of transactions every day," McConnell told the House Judiciary Committee at a hearing on the law governing federal surveillance of phone calls and e-mails.

McConnell said he could only speak authoritatively about the seven months since he became the new director.

In a newspaper interview last month, he said the government had tapped fewer than 100 Americans' phones and e-mails under the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act, which requires warrants from a secret intelligence court.

McConnell is seeking additional changes to the law, which Congress hastily modified just before going on vacation in August based in part on the intelligence chief's warnings of a dire gap in U.S. intelligence.

The new law eased some of the restrictions on government eavesdropping contained in the 1978 Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act, which requires warrants from a secret intelligence court.

Under the new law, the government can eavesdrop without a court order, on communications conducted by a person reasonably believed to be outside the United States, even if an American is on one end of the conversation — so long as the American is not the intended focus or target of the surveillance.

Before McConnell can convince Congress to make the Protect America Act permanent, he must and agree to even more changes easing the provisions of FISA — he first has to allay concerns that the law passed so hastily earlier this year does not subject Americans to unwarranted government surveillance.

"The right to privacy is too important to be sacrificed in a last-minute rush before a congressional recess, which is what happened," said Rep. John Conyers, D-Mich., the panel's chairman.

Democrats worry that the law could be interpreted to open business records, library files, personal mail, and homes to searches by intelligence and law enforcement officers without a court order.

Assistant Attorney General Kenneth L. Wainstein said the new surveillance powers granted by the Protect America Act apply only when the assistance of a communications company is required to conduct surveillance.

"Therefore, he said, the government could not use the law to search homes, open mail or collect business records because no communications provider would be involved in such a transaction.

Many Democrats in Congress are now seeking to narrow what they consider to be overly broad language by rewriting the law. Wainstein warned that inserting specific prohibitions on government surveillance to protect civil liberties could have unintended consequences.

"Anything you put in limiting language, you've got to make sure it doesn't have unintended limiting consequences," Wainstein said.

McConnell said that as long as his office can examine every word of the new language to scrutinize for unintended consequences, he would be open to the changes.

However, Bush administration officials say concern about the new powers is unfounded. They contend the Protect America Act only allows the government to target foreigners for surveillance without a warrant, a change that was needed because of changes in communications technology.

Addressing the controversy over the law, the Justice Department and the White House Tuesday issued a "myth and facts" paper meant to ease the concerns of civil liberties advocates and privacy groups that believe it gives the government broader powers than intended.

Rep. Jerrold Nadler, D-N.Y., chairman of the subcommittee on the Constitution, Civil Rights and Civil Liberties, called the effort a troubling "charm offensive."

"Let's have some truth in advertising. The act gives the president almost unfettered power to spy without judicial approval — not only on foreigners but on Americans," Nadler said.

McConnell said the new eavesdropping powers are needed not just to spy on terrorists but also to defend against more traditional potential adversaries.

"It's a matter of national security," he said.

FRANK P. MAGGIO and JIM HARPER

(son of legend Jesse Harper)

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 22

11:30AM - 1:30PM

Hammes Notre Dame Bookstore

Between 1880 and 1905, more than 125 deaths were reported in college football, and several major football schools, including Princeton, Harvard, Columbia, and Penn, threatened to drop the sport. Enter Jesse Harper, head football coach at Notre Dame. Harper recognized the potential of the forward pass, and, by the summer of 1913, along with star players Knute Rockne and Gus Dorais, had perfected an efficient overhand throwing motion.

Frank P. Maggio brings the classic victory to life and recounts Jesse Harper's role in Notre Dame's evolution into college football's most successful and storied program, and an elite university.

Frank P. Maggio is the author of Why the World Loves Notre Dame Football and was awarded the Silver Quill Award from the American Society of Journalists and Authors for his work on Notre Dame. He has also written for the Washington Post, the New York Times, and Sports Illustrated, and he is the founder of Maggio Communications.

Did you know?

* N A T I O N A L A T T E N T I O N

Deficit Awareness Day

September 19

Help promote awareness and empower individuals with AD/HD

Get informed about AD/HD from reputable sources:

www.add.org

www.helpforadhd.org

www.addresources.com

http://add.about.com

'Brought to you by the University Counseling Center and Disability Services'
War disability claims create problems for VA

Sec'y Nicholson steps down, admits difficulties

WASHINGTON — Outgoing VA Secretary Jim Nicholson acknowledged Tuesday that he's struggling to reduce backlogs in disability claims from Iraq war veterans, saying current efforts won't be enough to cut down waits that take months.

Addressing Congress for a final time before stepping down Oct. 1, Nicholson also pointed to persistent problems between the Pentagon and Department of Veterans Affairs in coordinating care for veterans and urged Congress to embrace proposals by a presidential commission to fix gaps.

"They have some very good ideas in there," he said.

Nicholson's testimony to a House Veterans Affairs Committee painted a mixed picture of a VA that has initiated measures to boost mental health and other care but has struggled to keep up with growing demands due to a prolonged Iraq war.

Nicholson, who took office in early 2005, said the department has hired 1,100 new processors to reduce delays of up to 177 days in processing disability payments. But he predicted another rise in compensation and pension claims this year, citing additional applications pouring in during "the midst of war."

The increase, he said, is coming from Iraq war veterans as well as veterans from previous conflicts who were prompted to file additional claims for new or additional benefits amid the current public focus on war-related injuries in Iraq.

Even with new staff, the VA can only hope to reduce delays to about 145-150 days — assuming that the current level of claims doesn't spike higher.

"The claims backlog is an issue that has bedeviled me and many that have come before me," Nicholson said. "In fact, VA can influence the output — claims decided — of its work product, but it cannot control the input — claims filed."

Nicholson abruptly announced in July that he was resigning. His appearance Tuesday comes amid intense political and public scrutiny following reports of substandard outpatient treatment at the Pentagon-run Walter Reed Army Medical Center and at VA facilities.

ACLU, Muslims sue FBI

Leaders believe U.S. government has been spying on them since 2001

Associated Press

SANTA ANA, Calif. — The ACLU and Muslim advocacy groups sued the FBI and the Justice Department on Tuesday, alleging that authorities failed to turn over records detailing suspected surveillance of the Muslim-American community.

The complaint, filed in U.S. District Court in Santa Ana, alleges that the FBI has turned over only four pages of documents to community leaders, despite a Freedom of Information Act request filed more than a year ago.

The request sought records that described FBI guidelines and policies for surveillance and investigation of Muslim religious organizations, as well as specific information about FBI inquiries targeting 11 groups or people.

The lawsuit states that all the plaintiff — who include some of the most prominent Muslim leaders in California — have reason to believe they have been investigated by the FBI since January 2001.

"It sends a message that Muslim-Americans have been, and continue to be, cooperating with law enforcement, but they're concerned there might be a disproportionate focus... on their religious practices," said Ranjana Natarajan, an ACLU attorney.

One plaintiff, Shakeel Syed, said that his organization and others have spent three years building a relationship with the FBI but that the agency's resistance to the request was troubling.

"It think it is in the best interests of the government to come clean and be transparent and forthcoming," said Syed, executive director of the Islamic Shura Council of Southern California. "This is a credibility issue."

FBI spokeswoman Laura Eimiller said she could not comment on pending litigation but released a statement from J. Stephen Tidwell, the FBI's assistant director in charge for Los Angeles.

"The FBI does not investigate individuals or groups based on their lawful activities, religious or political beliefs," Tidwell said.

J. Stephen Tidwell
FBI assistant director
Los Angeles office

The groups filed an initial FOIA request in May 2006, several months after federal law enforcement officials confirmed the existence of a classified radiation monitoring program used in surveillance at mosques, homes and businesses.

The FBI responded to the request first by saying it couldn't identify any records that met the criteria requested. After an appeal, the agency turned over four pages that dealt with the Council of American-Islamic Relations and Hassan Alyounis, the council's executive director for Southern California.

Those documents dealt with a suspected hate crime at a mosque that the council had reported to the FBI and a conversation Alyounis had with an FBI agent about cooperation with federal law enforcement, Natarajan said.

She said she believes there are many more records because each plaintiff has been interviewed by the FBI or stopped at airports for questioning. The FBI, in its responses, implicitly searched only files that held information on active criminal investigations instead of more general files that could encompass surveillance activities, she said.

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Wednesday, September 19, 2007
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AUSTRIA

American leadership called for in U.N. treaty

U.S., 9 others have yet to ratify nuclear testing ban

Associated Press

VIENNA - Diplomats at a U.N. conference urged the United States on Tuesday to take the lead among 10 countries that have yet to ratify a global treaty banning nuclear test explosions.

U.N. Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon has urged all 10 countries to ratify the deal, saying it would ensure that North Korea's October 2006 test blast is the world's final experiment with atomic weaponry.

Although 140 countries have ratified the treaty, the accord will not enter into force until it has been ratified by all 44 nations that took part in a 1996 disarmament conference and have nuclear power or research reactors.

Only 34 of the 44 have done so. The 10 holdouts are China, Colombia, Egypt, India, Indonesia, Iran, Israel, North Korea, Pakistan and the United States.

The foreign ministers of Austria and Costa Rica, who led a two-day conference on the treaty in Vienna, said the pact was key to ridding the world of nuclear weaponry and called for U.S. leadership in sealing the deal.

"The message from here in a way is, yes, we want U.S. leadership," Austrian Foreign Minister Ursula Plassnik told a news conference.

The Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty, opened for signature in September 1996, bans all nuclear test explosions. Its aim is to eliminate nuclear weapons by constraining the development of new types of bomb.

U.S. senators who voted against the treaty in 1999 argued that ratifying it would have threatened national security by closing off U.S. options to test. The Bush administration also rejects the treaty.

Ban, in a message relayed through an envoy, called the treaty "a major instrument in the field of disarmament and nonproliferation" that would help rid the world of nuclear weaponry.

The conference was attended by more than 100 countries, including seven of the 10 holdout countries. India, the United States and North Korea were not present.

Applications available at http://ace.nd.edu/outreach.
"The Constitution: It's not just a good idea. It's the Law." - Michael Badnarik

Monday was Constitution Day. Constitution Day was created in 2004 when a law was passed mandating any school receiving federal funds to teach about the Constitution on or around Sept. 17, the anniversary of its ratification. If you had no idea that Constitution Day was Monday, you’re not alone. A survey released Monday by the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation revealed less than 50 percent of high school students have heard of Constitution Day and only 10 percent remember how it was celebrated last year in their high school. This comes at a time when the need to educate Americans on the founding document of this country seems ever more pressing. Consider some of these statistics from the 2007 "State of the First Amendment" survey:

When asked which rights were guaranteed by the First Amendment, only 16 percent of Americans could name the freedoms of press and assembly. Only three percent could name the right to petition.

28 percent of Americans believe freedom of religion was never meant to apply to religious groups that the majority of people felt were extreme or on the fringe.

65 percent agree that the "nation's founders intended the U.S. to be a Christian nation," and 55 percent believe "The Constitution establishes a Christian nation."

60 percent believe you should be allowed to say things in public that might be offensive to religious groups, but only 41 percent believe you can say offensive things about racial groups. 34 percent of Americans believe the press has too much freedom, while only 13 percent say there is not enough freedom of the press.

Perhaps the most disturbing fact came from the "Future of the First Amendment" survey of 2007. It reported that only 67 percent of high school students agree with the statement "Newspapers should be allowed to publish freely without government approval of a story."

If these are our attitudes toward the First Amendment, the most well-known and publicized part of our Constitution, imagine what our attitudes might be for the rest of the document. As important now as it was in 1787, our elected officials and we the people have a responsibility to uphold the guarantees contained in the Bill of Rights.

The Constitution was written to restrain the power of the government. With the memory of an oppressive king fresh in their minds, the framers of the Constitution wrote it down to protect the freedoms of the American people. It was written to restrain both the federal and state governments. It is this restraint that is the guarantee of our freedom, and the way we must continue to live up to it.

As we approach the 200th anniversary of the Constitution, we have the opportunity to return to the principles that the framers intended the Constitution to represent. We have the responsibility to serve a Constitution that is not anachronistic, but to imagine how our Constitution might be more relevant today than ever. Only then can we continue to uphold the Constitution of which we are so proud.
As concerned students of this University, we write regarding this year's Job Expo sponsored by the Career Center of Business. Having read over the list of participating organizations, we are very much alarmed at the presence of a number of the groups seeking to recruit students from our University. We question the moral and social responsibility of two organizations in particular. We feel that the inclusion of the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) and Raytheon directly contradicts the mission of our University.

As the mission statement reads, the intent of the University "is to create a sense of human solidarity and concern for the common good that will bear fruit as learning becomes service to justice." Instead of fostering a sense of solidarity and justice, as we are called, these organizations are founded on the propagation of a society that creates and maintains a system that subordinates one group to another.

In the Iraq war, which has been strongly and repeatedly condemned as unjust by secular and religious leaders around the world, Raytheon received $9.1 billion dollars in weapons contracts in only one year (2005). Its 5,000 pound "bunker buster" bombs have been raining down on the people of Afghanistan since 2001. Raytheon's profits increase only as American actions take the lives of hundreds of thousands of civilians.

The Central Intelligence Agency, while claiming to be our nation's "first line of defense," has become one of the most mistrusted tools in America's unjust foreign policy. Its tactics has recently been charged by the New Yorker and the Washington Post that the CIA maintains secret detention centers. A new report released by six leading human rights groups, including Human Rights Watch and Amnesty International, charges the CIA with the disappearance of 39 individuals. The secret detention and disappearance of these individuals comes in addition to the CIA's use of torture tactics, including waterboarding, in their morally questionable involvement in the War on Terror.

We believe that Notre Dame should act in accordance with the Mission Statement upon which it was founded. We believe that the presence of both the CIA and Raytheon cannot be reconciled with our responsibility to "assist the world in creating justice grounded in love." We call on University President Father John Jenkins and the administration to reevaluate the presence of such organizations on our campus.

Michael Angulo, Kristi Haas and Alicia Quiros are writing on behalf of Notre Dame Peace Fellowship, Human Rights Notre Dame and Progressive Student Alliance.

Michael Angulo  
Senior  
Kristi Haas  
Alicia Quiros  
September 9, 2007

ND fans show class

As a Wolverine fan, I hate Notre Dame football. But I just wanted to thank your university and students for being so friendly on their visit to Michigan Stadium. There was no bitterness to be seen, only "good game" and "glad to be here." The Fighting Irish faithful proved to be terrific fans and visitors.

Good luck on the rest of your season.

Jane Coonan  
Junior  
University of Michigan  
Sept. 17

EDITORIAL CARTOON

ND fans show class

U-Wire

One of the largest and most covered issues of the 2008 presidential elections is the issue of health care and health care reform in America. In a recent poll conducted by Time Magazine, 90 percent of respondents said the American health care system needs a change.

With such an overwhelming portion of the population wanting reform, candidates of both parties are trying to come up with a solution to deal with not only the rising costs of health care but also the 47 million uninsured Americans the government should provide health care at a higher cost to you could wait 25 weeks for heart surgery and more than a year for hip surgery.

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

Elizabeth Mealey  
Editor  
The Observer  
Sept. 18

Universal health care not feasible

One common solution offered is some rendition of a single-payer universal health care system. The reason is simple: as the single payer in which everyone is guaranteed medical insurance. Surprisingly, in the same Time poll, 54 percent of respondents believed the government should guarantee medical coverage for citizens.

With such a large backing, it might seem strange that some sort of universal health care was not initiated earlier. The reasons it hasn't are quite simple: cost and quality. When asked if the government should guarantee health care at a higher cost to taxpayers, support falls to 45 percent. Americans may be open to the idea of universal health care, but they are far from sold on it.

It is not a secret that the cost of starting, maintaining and operating a universal health care plan is phenomenal. John Edwards, the first Democrat to outline a health care plan with the federal government as the single payer, traveled four hours with his five-year-old son to Vermont on a bus to receive his treatment. He doesn't wait a couple months on a waiting list, he flies or drives to the U.S., and pays out of pocket for faster and higher quality treatment. The poor and middle class wait on lists while the rich get what they want when they want it. Don't believe me? Just look at the numerous health care providers lined up at the U.S.-Canada border.

The answer to the health care reform question is not simple. Besides universal health care, another possible solution is to create tax-free accounts that allow people to save money tax-free for future unexpected health care costs.

A second solution is to provide working Americans with tax breaks if they purchase their own insurance. The most realistic approach is some sort of hybrid system that allows for personal choice and responsibility, but is subsidized by the government.

It is unacceptable for almost 30 million people in the wealthiest country in the world to be without the means to receive non-emergency medical treatment. However, universal health care, as being discussed today, is not a feasible option. If the money required to pay for universal health care comes from raising taxes on corporations and citizens, it will become less competitive with foreign firms. Health care reform is needed in America, but not at the price of American jobs and national security.

This column originally appeared in the Sept. 18 edition of The Pitt News, the daily publication of the University of Pittsburgh. The views expressed in this column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer.
50 Cent is the epitome of what is wrong with rap music nowadays. But we still love him anyway.

From the time "In Da Club" reached the airwaves, 50 Cent had the musical formula down for crafting catchy hits that at the same time could not be accused of being corny — a direct contrast to his then competitor Ja Rule. After bringing his entire group of friends and cronies into the music industry and letting them put out group and solo albums — standard practice in the rap world — it was time for 50 Cent to return with a solo album of his own.

What followed was "The Massacre," in which 50 Cent further tweaked this formula and provided an album that failed to live up to the standard set by its predecessor. While not a complete failure, the bar was set too ridiculously high for "The Massacre" to surpass expectations.

Fast forward two years to "Curtis," 50 Cent's most recent offering to fans. The album starts with a movie clip about purchasing powerful weapons, which transitions into the opening track "My Gun." For the next couple songs, 50 Cent raps about killing people, accompanied by the standard Akon guest appearance. The next song, "I Get Money," steals the show, resonating through the speaker system and lodging itself firmly in the listener's memory. This song is so good it should make it onto a top 10 list for this entire decade.

Unfortunately, the buildup gets derailed on the very next song, "Come and Go." 50 Cent recovers quite nicely in the next group of songs, which includes "Ayo Technology," "Amusement Park," "Straight To The Bank," and "Follow My Lead," one of the album's better collaborations with R & B crooner Robin Thicke. The next track up is the obligatory diss record "Fifty Loaded Clip," which is pretty standard musical fare if you are familiar with 50 Cent's catalogue of material.

The weirdness of the Eminem-assisted "Peep Show" doesn't do much to add to the album, and starts the rest of the songs on a slow downward spiral until "Curtis" comes to a close.

During the two years which passed in between albums, 50 Cent did nothing to try to reinvent the wheel. In other words, all of the tracks sound as if you've heard them before — even though you and some pretty good songs on this album, wonder whether his newfound fortune shilling Vitamin Water has taken away some of the hunger and angst that once filled the heart and tracks of the original mixtape superstar. Believe it or not, "Curtis" is actually a self-titled album ("Fifty's" real name is Curtis Jackson). The egomaniacal 50 Cent could not rap again another day in his life and still be financially stable forever, but does he have to make it so obvious during this hour-long bragging and boasting extravaganza? It might be time for him to get his resume ready, because it doesn't look like he has much of a future in this line of work much longer.

Contact Corbin Hicks at chicks2@nd.edu
By CORBIN HICKS

If Kanye West keeps putting out albums of this caliber, Beethoven just has a knack for staying in the "Graduation" expectation from the man who has collaborated with Common, "Walks" into the headlines and into people's conversations. Perhaps taking a cue from his mentor Jay-Z, he walks the perfect balance between appeasing the more active hip hop listeners as well as the core hip hop audience. That's what makes his music so different, for the better or for the worse.

Fortunately for music fans everywhere, these gambles are pretty much a no-brainer. The album begins with the introductory track "Good Morning", in which he compares himself to a "fly Malcolm X" as the instrumentation prepares you for the musical journey you are about to undergo. The energy shifts from the mellowness of the first track to the high energy "Champion" and the second single from the album "Stronger." This song is perhaps the one that people are most familiar with, as the Daft Punk-sampled chorus and electronic beats make for a musical experience that is sure for a party mix mainstay until the New Year. We all know Kanye West plays with new music, so if you have your stuff on rotation now, then you've for sure got a hit on your hands.

The album continues on the musical high note with "I Wonder," and the singles "Good Life" and "Can't Tell Me Nothing." The fact that "Stronger" and "Can't Tell Me Nothing" were recorded by the same artist speaks volumes about not only Kanye's creativity as an artist, but also the freedom that fans allow him to have when they receive new material from him. There is nothing out right now that sounds like that song, but to have it be so well received explains how much fans trust him for new music and also how he is looking to seminally conquer new frontiers.

The album seems to flow perfectly from one song to the next until the end of the album. That is, of course, if you don't forget that "Drunk and Hot Girls" exists (which you should anyway). Even though this album peaks from beginning to end, the inclusion of this god-awful song takes the rating down a full notch. However, don't let that turn you away from this masterpiece of an album that Kanye has released. To answer Nas, hip hop is not dead; it was just waiting for Kanye to get his money right.

Contact Corbin Hicks at chicks2@nd.edu

Graduation
Kanye West

Release Date: Fearless Records
Recommended Tracks: "I Wonder," "The Good Life" and "Can't Tell Me Nothing"

With his feel-good party jams and penchant for eccentricity, Kanye West has cast himself as a foil to harder, edgier rap personas such as 50 Cent.
By CASSIE BELEK

From SNL to 30 Rock: Comedy pals reunite for Emmy-winning new comedy.
**AROUND THE NATION**

**Wednesday, September 19, 2007**

**NFL**

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**MIAA Women's Golf**

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**Former Bear Johnson signs with 'Boys**

Associated Press

IRVING — Suspended defensive tackle Tank Johnson signed a two-year contract Tuesday with the Dallas Cowboys.

Johnson, who played the last three seasons for the Chicago Bears, can’t play for the Cowboys and won’t be paid until he completes his eight-game NFL suspension for violating probation on a gun charge. He has served the first two games of that suspension and will still have to apply for reinstatement.

Johnson signed after visiting with the Cowboys and taking a physical. He will make about $255,000 this season, the prorated portion of a minimum contract.

"For a lot of reasons, he really just felt the Cowboys were the right fit," said Johnson’s agent, Jerrold Bramlet. "He’s so thankful to them for giving him this opportunity. He is very determined to prove they made a wise decision in believing in him."

The team issued a news release confirming the signing and announcing that Johnson will discuss the signing in a conference call Wednesday.

The Cowboys also said that Calvin Hill, a former player who is now a consultant specializing in monitoring troubled players, will be available for comment Wednesday, as will coach Wade Phillips, owner Jerry Jones and Johnson’s new teammates.

NFL spokesman Greg Aiello said the earliest Johnson would be eligible to play is Nov. 13 at the New York Giants, the Cowboys’ ninth game of the season. Dallas has an open date in the NFL’s eighth week.

Johnson could provide late-season depth on a defensive line that lost its starting nose tackle Jason Ferguson for the year because of a torn right biceps in the opener. But Johnson will have to adjust to Cowboys’ 3-4 scheme, which is different from what he’s played in Chicago.

Although Johnson can’t work out with Dallas until the week of the Giants game after his suspension ends, the team had to make room for him on the 53-man roster. The Cowboys released backup cornerback Nate Jones on Tuesday.

The Cowboys will place Johnson on the reserve-suspended list Wednesday. This creates a roster opening.

Jay Ratliff, a third-year player, replaced Ferguson as the starting nose tackle. Ratliff has five tackles, a sack and a fumble recovery for the Cowboys (2-0).

**IN BRIEF**

Gibbons meets with league officials in steroid probe

NEW YORK — Baltimore outfielder Jay Gibbons met with two officials from the baseball commissioner’s office to discuss a report he received performance-enhancing steroids and human growth hormone after both substances were banned by baseball.

Gibbons met Monday with Rob Manfred, baseball’s executive vice president for labor relations, and Jon Cayoie, the sport’s director of drug testing.

There was no indication whether there would be any follow-up, a person familiar with the meeting said, speaking on condition of anonymity because no details were announced.

"I met with Major League Baseball representatives yesterday and was happy to answer all of their questions," Gibbons was quoted as saying.

NFL pushes for authority on disability claims

WASHINGTON — Under fire from injured retirees who say they were denied sufficient benefits, the head of the National Football League Players Association asked Congress on Tuesday for greater authority to approve disability claims.

Gene Upshaw, director of the players association, said the union currently is limited in what it can do for the scores of former players who are battered and broken from years of playing the violent sport.

At the same time, Upshaw and NFL Commissioner Roger Goodell said league pensions are improving.

"We have made great progress, and we are not finished," Upshaw told a Senate committee. "Congress can help."

It is the first time the union has asked Congress for help with the problem, which was the subject of a House hearing earlier this year.

QB Leftwich signs deal with Atlanta Falcons

FLOWERY BRANCH — The Atlanta Falcons signed former Jacksonville quarterback Byron Leftwich on Tuesday, giving the team immediate depth and a potential contender for the starting job.

"First of all, I'm a football player and the last couple of weeks have been tough on me," said Leftwich, who was cut the week before the season by the Jaguars. "I appreciate the opportunity and I look forward to doing whatever I can to help our team."

Leftwich’s agent, Tom Condon, said the former first-round draft pick passed a physical, worked out for the team and signed a two-year, $7 million deal. The 27-year-old Leftwich is set to join the Falcons for Wednesday’s practice.

To clear a roster spot for Leftwich, the team released third-string quarterback Casey Bramlet, whose only professional experience came in Europe...
Unusual offense leads Angels to 10-7 victory

MLB

Rockies pitcher Francis keeps hopes alive; Royals' Meche holds White Sox to only four hits and two runs

Associated Press

ANAHEIM — The Los Angeles Angels' versatile offense overcame another shaky outing by Kelvim Escobar.

Clown Higgins and Casey Kotchman each had three hits and two RBIs, and the Angels lowered their magic number for clinching the AL West to five with a 10-7 victory over the Tampa Bay Devil Rays on Monday night.

This was the 17th time the Angels have scored 10 or more runs, and the 11th time in their last 50 games. And they did it without the benefit of a home run.

"Our team is not a home run running team and our park's not built for that," Fitzgerald said. "We've got guys who can run. And when you've got athletes, you can do a lot more things."

Darren Oliver (3-0) allowed two hits in 1 2-3 scoreless innings for the Angels, who had 18 hits. Los Angeles overcame deficits of 2-0 and 4-3 and also wasted leads of 3-2 and 6-4.

Escobar gave up six runs, eight hits and two walks in four-plus innings, the fourth straight start in which he failed to pitch through the sixth. One of the runs against him was a straight steal of home by B.J. Upton in the third.

The Angels' right-hander has a 10.19 ERA during his last four outings, raising his overall ERA from 2.77 to 3.46.

'It's been tough on me my last four games," Escobar said. 'For some reason, I'm out of sync and I'm fighting with myself to get back into my rhythm. I just have to find a way to fix it and finish strong."

Escobar left with a 6-4 lead after Tampa Bay loaded the bases with none out in the fifth, and Oliver relieved. Akinori Iwamura scored on the second baseman Howie Kendrick's fielding error, and Greg Norton came home on a fielder's choice grounder by Delmon Young - a bases-loaded flyout.

Edwin Jackson (4-15) lost his third straight decision, allowing seven runs - four earned - and 14 hits over 4-2-3 innings.

Figgins chased the right-hander with a tiebreaking, two-out RBI triple over the head of Upton, who was playing shallow in center and appeared to have trouble picking up the ball off the bat.

"Most defenses are taking away McCann's stuff in front, that's really where he predominately hits and our center fielder Jake Scioscia said. "But once in a while, he's got that power. That ball was squared up."

Rockies 3, Dodgers 1

Accoudes can wait for Jeff Francis.

The Colorado left-hander rebounded from a rare bad outing to lead the Rockies to a victory over the Los Angeles Dodgers in the first game of a double-header Tuesday.

So centered on keeping the Rockies' slim playoff hopes alive, Francis didn't realize until afterward that he struck out a career-high 10 batters or that he had set a franchise record with 10 strikeouts in the fourth.


"When the season is over you can look back at things like that and be proud of them," Francis said. "But I think there's something bigger we're working toward right now."

The teams played a split doubleheader to make up for a rainout on July 27 at Coors Field, and both teams looked at it as crucial to their hopes of capturing last Sunday in the NL wild-card chase.

The Dodgers entered the day three games behind the Padres and Colorado started five games back.

Francis allowed one run on six hits and stranded eight runners in 6-2-3 innings. His 10 strikeouts were the most by a Rockies pitcher since Jason Jennings fanned 10 Giants on Aug. 3, 1999, in a span of 661 games.

"Great time to pitch a great game," Rockies manager Hustle said. "Very resilient, pitched through a lot of traffic early, left seven men on base in the first four innings, topped it off with 10 strikeouts. Nice bounce-back outing."

Royals 3, White Sox 2

Gil Meche picked up his ninth victory Tuesday night, but he could have a whole lot more if he got any run support this season.

Meche scattered four hits over seven innings, and Billy Butler drove in two runs as the Kansas City Royals beat the Chicago White Sox.

Meche (0-12) has a 2.90 ERA over his past eight starts, and has not allowed more than three runs in any of them. But he is just 2-3 over that stretch, and the Royals have scored only 10 runs while he was on the mound in his 12 defeats.

"I think you could conservatively say he could have won 16 to 17 games the way he's pitched," Royals manager Buddy Bell said. "We got three runs in the first and that's all we needed. I felt like we were on the edge all night long and kind of held on."

The right-hander, who the Royals signed to a five-year, $55 million contract during the offseason, has worked 202 innings to become the first Kansas City pitcher to surpass the 200-inning mark since left-hander Darrell May logged 210 innings in 2003.

"It's something I've never done," Meche said. "To come in here with a big contract and establish myself as a good pitcher who eats up a lot of innings and gives us a chance to win, for the most part I've done that all year. I've been real pleased."

Meche gave up two runs, one earned, while striking out five and walking two.

"We get three runs off the bat and it let me go out there and relax a little," Meche said. "It seemed like I got better as the game went along. In the seventh inning, I had almost a full count and I had the whole game."
MLB

Brewers move into first place in NL Central

Vargas relieves Sheets, pitches four scoreless innings; Estrada hits his second grand slam of season

Associated Press

HOUSTON — The Milwaukee Brewers lost their ace, then moved into first place in the NL Central.

Johnny Estrada hit his second grand slam of the season against Houston and Milwaukee overcame an injury to Ben Sheets to beat the Astros 9-1 on Tuesday night, moving the Brewers less than a percentage point ahead of the Chicago Cubs in a tight division race.

Claudio Vargas (11-4) pitched four scoreless innings in relief of Sheets, who left with tightness in his left hamstring after giving up a run in the first. Team officials said Sheets would be evaluated on Wednesday. His status was uncertain for his next scheduled start, in Atlanta on Sunday.

"I guess I'll see tomorrow," said Sheets, still in pain after the game. "It was just grabbing me back there. I felt great in the first inning. I thought I was going to get into a nice groove."

The Brewers didn't need Sheets against the Astros — Vargas and three relievers held them without a hit over the final seven innings to win their third straight game.

"The grand slam was big," Estrada said. "But Claudio sucking up those innings was bigger. That was a huge effort by the bullpen."

Ryan Braun added a two-run homer and Prince Fielder stretched his hitting streak to 16 games with an RBI single for the Brewers, who have won four of their last six.

"I was telling the guys a few days ago, whoever puts together a good seven-game win streak is probably going to pull away and win this thing," Estrada said. "Hopefully, we can keep it going."

Estrada's second career slam capped a five-run fourth inning off rookie Felipe Paulino (0-1), who was making his first major league start. The 23-year-old right-hander was recalled from the minors on Sept. 4.

"There was an excitement in the ballpark," said Houston manager Cecil Cooper. "But they put five up in that inning and that kind of took the fans out of it."

By then, Vargas was cruising. He allowed singles to Mark Loretta and Brad Ausmus in the second, a walk to Lance Berkman in the third and retired the other 12 hitters he faced.

"I've pitched out of the bullpen before," Vargas said. "I just take the ball, try to get loose and try to make my pitches. That's what I did."

Houston took 1-0 lead in the first inning before Sheets departed.

Rookie Josh Anderson led off with a double down the left-field line, went to third on Craig Biggio's bunt and scored on Berkman's single up the middle. Anderson is 12-for-25 since the Astros recalled him from the minors on Sept. 1.

Sheets came out to start the second inning, threw a few warmup pitches, then signaled to the dugout that he was hurt. Manager Ned Yost walked to the mound with a trainer and the right-handed Sheets pointed to his lower left leg.

"It didn't pop," Sheets said. "It just gradually grabbed worse and worse every time."

Sheets jogged around the infield and threw a warmup pitch before walking off the field. He's already missed a month this season with a sprained finger and strained his groin in April.

"I'm mentally fried from injuries this year," he said. "The guys picked me up nicely. That made me feel better. I don't know about the injuries. They keep happening."

Paulino allowed only one hit through the first three innings before crumbling in the fourth. After Joe Dillon led off with a ground out, Braun tripped over Anderson's head in straightaway center and Fielder followed with a broken-bat single to left that tied the game at 1.

Corey Hart doubled down the left-field line and Paulino intentionally walked Gabe Gross to load the bases for Estrada, who hit a grand slam off Astros reliever Rick White at Miller Park on June 26.

"It took me five years to hit one," Estrada said. "After I hit the first one, I figured it would take five more to hit another one."

It turns out it took less than three months.

This time, Estrada drove a 2-2 pitch from Paulino over the right-field wall, just inside the foul pole. Estrada is 6-for-10 with 19 RBIs with the bases loaded this season.

Left-hander Trever Miller relieved Paulino to start the fifth. He walked Dillon before Braun lined his 31st homer of the season a few feet inside the left-field foul pole.

Geoff Jenkins and Rickie Weeks hit back-to-back homers off Brian Moehler in the ninth.

Seth McClung, Derrick Turnbow and Greg Aquino combined to shut out the Astros without a hit over the final four innings. Houston has lost 10 of its last 13 games.

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NCAA FOOTBALL

Purdue quarterback Taylor breaks left arm

Associated Press

INDIANAPOLIS — Purdue running back Jaycen Taylor could return in six weeks after he broke his left arm Saturday against Central Michigan, coach Joe Tiller said Tuesday.

Tiller originally thought Taylor might be out for the season, but the fact that the injury was a clean break changed the prognosis.

"He possibly could come back another day," Tiller said during his weekly teleconference. "Whether or not that comes to fruition, of course, remains to be seen.

The junior left Saturday's game for good after a 5-yard run late in the first quarter, and later found out that he broke both bones in his lower arm. He had successful surgery on Monday, and plates were put on both bones.

"A clean break is not a good deal, but apparently, this was the best we could have hoped for, and that Jaycen could have hoped for, running out of this," Tiller said.

Tiller said he expects Taylor to say he's ready before six weeks pass.

"He probably will," Tiller said. "I don't know if we can believe him, but I'll be surprised if he doesn't.

Taylor, a junior college transfer, entered last season expecting to have to work his way into the rotation because starters Kory Sheets ran for 571 yards and 10 touchdowns as a freshman. Instead, Taylor finished with 677 rushing yards and four touchdowns and played regularly as Sheets' backup. Tiller promoted Taylor to starter in the spring.

Taylor rushed for 197 yards on 28 carries this season before the injury.

"I'm concerned quite a bit about the running back position," Tiller said. "I think the loss of Taylor was pretty big." Sheets, who will resume his starting role, had career highs of 21 carries and 144 yards against Central Michigan, but fumbled twice. The junior has rushed for 1,422 yards and 24 touchdowns at Purdue.

Dan Dierking steps in at the No. 2 running back spot. His father, Scott, ran for 2,863 yards from 1973 to 1976. Tiller thinks he's a fast learner.

"I think he's a fast learner," Tiller said. "He's been coached well, certainly by his high school coaches, and maybe by his daddy.

Quarterback Curtis Painter believes Dierking will succeed in his expanded role.

"I think he's very similar to Kory and Jaycen in that he plays extremely hard," Painter said. "He picked up a couple blocks in this past game. That's always a good sign, that they're not so worried about not getting the ball that they won't block."

Zook hopes to defeat Indiana on home turf

Coach currently 0-2 in series vs. Hoosiers

Associated Press

CHAMPAIGN, Ill. — Ron Zook says he won't use the fact that Illinois hasn't beaten Indiana in his two-plus seasons in Champaign as a motivator for Saturday's game between the two teams.

Not his style, Zook said.

But don't believe that the Illini's 0-2 record since 2005 against their eastern neighbor is far from Zook's thoughts.

"Like I told our team last night, this is the third time we're going to play and we haven't won yet," Zook said during his regular Tuesday news conference.

"Our programs are very, very similar. We're both kind of struggling at the same rate. The thing that they've done is they've beaten us twice," he said.

If the Illini's back-to-back losses against Indiana don't give Saturday's game Bloomington extra significance for Zook, those similarities might.

Indiana enters the game at 3-0, with talented sophomore quarterback Kellen Lewis leading an offense that's averaging 478 yards a game. Illinois is 2-1, and has consecutive wins for the first time since Zook's first two games in 2005 and comes off a 24-30 defeat of Syracuse on the road.

The winner opens Big Ten play with a must-win game against another tough competition Indiana at Iowa and Illinois at home against Penn State.

Indiana's defense versus Lewis figures to be one of the game's key matchups.

The Illini haven't allowed an opposing back to run for more than 100 yards this season, while Lewis has 317 yards rushing, including 199 last weekend in a 41-24 win over Akron. He's sixth in the Big Ten in rushing yards, right behind Illinois running back Rashard Mendenhall.

Lewis, a sophomore, also has passed for 643 yards, 214 yards a game, and nine touchdowns while throwing three interceptions.

"He can beat you with his feet and his arm," Zook said. "How do you defend that?"

Zook also said Tuesday that hasn't forgotten that Lewis had one of his first strong games last season in Champaign.

Lewis punched holes in the Illinois defense with his feet, rushing for 47 yards and a touchdown, and his arm with 249 yards passing. The Hoosiers came back from a 15-point first quarter deficit to win, 34-32.

"He was just using athletic ability and the skill around him," Zook said.

Linebacker Brit Miller compared Lewis to Illini quarterback Juice Williams. Both can run the ball, and are sometimes more dangerous when a play breaks down than when sticking to the playbook, Miller said.

"For the most part, you don't account for the quarterback in a lot of breakdown situations," he said. "It's not about the straightaway speed, it's about their elusiveness."

Williams is coming off what some may be his best college game. The sophomore threw for 97 yards and a touchdown, ran for 90 more and another TD and, most importantly, didn't make a fatal mistake.

He and Mendenhall will, at times, face eight- and nine-man fronts, Zook said Tuesday.

Mendenhall, who ran for 150 yards and three touchdowns last weekend at Syracuse, is practicing this week with a slight ankle sprain, Zook said, adding that the running back should be fine by Saturday.
FIFA WOMEN’S WORLD CUP

U.S. defeats Nigeria in World Cup quarterfinals

Chalupny scores sole goal within first minute of play; the favored squad looks for its third championship title

Associated Press

SHANGHAI — Lori Chalupny gave the United States the fast start it was looking for in a 1-0 victory over Nigeria on Tuesday, a win that put the top-ranked Americans into the Women’s World Cup quarterfinals.

Chalupny’s goal after only 55 seconds set up a quarterfinal match against England on Saturday in the northern city of Tianjin. The Americans have won six of nine games against England (with two losses and a tie). The last game was a 1-1 draw eight months ago.

Sweden defeated North Korea 2-1 on Tuesday in Tianjin. Despite the loss, North Korea advances to a quarterfinal against defending champion Germany on Saturday in Wuhan.

Sluggish in the first two games against North Korea and Sweden in Group B, the Americans raced ahead in a heavy downpour at Hongkou Stadium and pushed their undefeated streak to 50 games.

“You take any goal you can, but getting a quick one — now they’ve got to come at you,” American coach Greg Ryan said. “It gives you better chances going the other direction. It’s a great way to start.”

Off a throw-in from Cat Whitehill, Abby Wambach headed a ball to midfielder Chalupny, who settled it off her chest and then chipped a close-in right-footed shot that deflected off a Nigerian player behind keeper Precious Dede. It was her fifth goal for the national team and the quickest of the tournament.

“It’s a set piece we’ve been working on,” Chalupny said. “Abby just got the perfect flick on it, kind of what we drew up in practice, and it just happened to bounce right to me. So I was able to get a touch on it and slide it away.”

Looking for its third title to go with World Cups in ’91 and ’99, the United States finished with seven points in Group B, considered the toughest in the tournament.

The wet field and driving rain slowed many attacks and kept the crowd down to several thousand in the 34,000-seat stadium.

Nigeria had only one shot in the first half; the Americans had a half dozen.

Wambach headed the ball just over the bar in the 20th minute and Kristine Lilly’s free kick from 18 yards sailed just high in the 25th. Dede also leaped to stop a header in the 36th. In the 41st, Lilly found Chalupny in the box, but she headed the ball just wide.

In the 43rd, Wambach’s close-in header was deflected just over the bar by Dede following Lilly’s cross.

U.S. forward Abby Wambach, left, and Nigeria’s Christie George fight for the ball during their Group B match of the 2007 FIFA World Cup soccer tournament Tuesday.

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WNBA

Mercury captures first WNBA championship

Associated Press

PHOENIX — The Phoenix Mercury’s slogan for the 2007 WNBA playoffs was “One team. One city. One goal.”

On Tuesday, it was one big party as the new WNBA champions and about 1,000 of their fans celebrated at a U.S. Airways Center rally. A championship banner was unfurled as purple and gold confetti fluttered from the ceiling.

“You stuck with us through thick and thin, and there was quite a bit of thin,” All-Star forward Penny Taylor told the crowd. “We fought for you.”

Taylor wasn’t kidding. She bore four bruises and an inch-long scratch on her arm, evidence of an intense, physical series with the Detroit Shock.

The Mercury have had a small but ardent fan base since their inception in 1997. Some of the rally’s loudest cheers were reserved for Mercury assistant coach Bridget Pettis, who scored the first basket in team history. “I feel like I’m asleep right now, and I’m having the best dream of my life,” an emotional Pettis said.

It was a dream season for the Mercury, who scored a WNBA-record 99 points per game and became the first team in league history to clinch a title on the road.

Phoenix rallied from a 2-1 deficit to beat Detroit in the best-of-five series. The final score of the clincher — 108, 92 — flashed on a scoreboard above the dais. Championships are rare in this city. Among the four major pro sports teams, only the Arizona Diamondbacks, in 2001, have brought a trophy to the desert. Perhaps that’s why the rally stirred so many emotions.

Arizona fans haven’t been spoiled by success. “From the bottom of our hearts, thank you so much,” All-Star Diana Taurasi said. “We’re going to do it all again next year.”

Before the 12:30 p.m. rally, the Mercury gathered on an underground practice court to have a team photo taken with the WNBA trophy.
NFL

McNabb says black QBs scrutinized

Associated Press

NEW YORK — Philadelphia Eagles star Donovan McNabb says black quarterbacks face greater scrutiny than their white counterparts.

In an interview on HBO's "Real Sports with Bryant Gumbel" to be broadcast Tuesday, McNabb said black quarterbacks "have to do a little bit extra" because there are relatively few of them, adding "people didn't want us to play this position."

McNabb said if he passes for 300 yards and his team wins by a touchdown, critics will say, "Oh, he could have made this throw here. We would have scored more points if he would have done this."

Asked if white quarterbacks such as Peyton Manning and Carson Palmer are held to the same standards, McNabb replied: "Let me start by saying, I love those guys. But they don't get criticized as much as we do. They don't."

McNabb is one of six black starting quarterbacks in the NFL. The others are David Garrard of Jacksonville, Vince Young of Tennessee, Steve McNair of Baltimore, Jason Campbell of Washington and Tarvaris Jackson of Minnesota.

McNabb, a five-time Pro Bowl selection, is 91/2 months removed from major knee surgery and has missed 13 games the past two seasons because of injuries. On Monday night, he misfired on several throws and couldn't create big plays during the Eagles' 20-12 loss to Washington.

In 2003, conservative commentator Rush Limbaugh, briefly part of ESPN's pregame show, said he didn't think McNabb was as good as perceived.

"I think what we've had here is a little social concern in the NFL," Limbaugh said. "The media has been very desirous that a black quarterback do well."

STERIOS

St. Louis company fined $10.5 million

Associated Press

BOSTON — A company that distributed human growth hormone to "well known athletes and entertainers" has agreed to pay a $10.5 million penalty and cooperate with ongoing law enforcement investigations, federal prosecutors said Tuesday.

Under the terms of the agreement, Specialty Distribution Services Inc., a subsidiary of Express Scripts Inc., will not face prosecution for three years if it fully complies with terms of the agreement.

Steve Littlejohn, a spokesman for St. Louis-based Express Scripts, said the company fully cooperated in the federal investigation and has already implemented procedures to prevent the illegal distribution of human growth hormone. "Express Scripts does not condone the use of human growth hormone for anti-aging, cosmetic or performance enhancement purposes," the company said in a news release.

Specialty Distribution Services "knowingly distributed human growth hormone to certain well-known athletes and entertainers, including a well-known athlete in Massachusetts, knowing that their intended use was athletic performance enhancement, cosmetic or anti-aging," in violation of federal law, the U.S. attorney's office said in a news release.

Prosecutors did not mention any names of those believed to have bought HGH from the firm.

The drug in question was approved by the Food and Drug Administration only for specific purposes, including treatment of children with growth failure due to inadequate growth hormones, prosecutors said.

"The public should also realize that human growth hormone has not been shown to be safe and effective for athletic, cosmetic or anti-aging uses, and it must not be promoted or distributed for such uses," U.S. Attorney Michael Sullivan said in a statement.

The company illegally shipped the drugs five times between October 2000 and December 2005, according to court documents prosecutors filed with the agreement.

Human growth hormone was sent to a "well known professional athlete in Massachusetts" in January 2002 and again in October 2003 following a doctor's request, the documents said.

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NBA

Thomas allegedly used slurs, curses

Associated Press

NEW YORK — Just months after berating her in exploitive- ly filmed letters, New York Knicks' coach and president Isiah Thomas moved from cursing to court ing a fellow executive now suing the basketball Hall of Famer for sexual harassment, a former team employee testified Tuesday.

Jeffery Nix, a 15-year employee of the NBA team, took the stand in U.S. District Court on a series of conversations he had with his former boss, Anucha Browne Sanders, throughout 2004.

After four fires, in tones of disgust, detailed how Thomas informed him with contempt shortly after his December 2003 arrival in New York to take the Knicks.

At one meeting meant to resolve the controversy over Browne Sanders and Thomas, the two-time NBA champion gave his former boss the message by announcing, "Don't forget, you f—-bitch, I'm the president of this f—- team," Nix said his friend told him.

Browne Sanders also told Nix, he testified, that Thomas had asked her in March 2004, "What the f— is your job? What are your job responsibilities, you f—-er?"

By the end of the year, though, Nix testified that he saw Thomas embracing Browne Sanders in Madison Square Garden after a Knicks' victory — and watched as his friend pushed the coach away.

"You're not going to believe what he just said," Nix quoted Browne Sanders as saying. "He just said, 'I'm in love with you. It's like [the movie] 'Love and Basketball.'"

Browne Sanders is suing Thomas and Madison Square Garden for $10 million in a sex- ual harassment suit that also seeks reinstatement to the job that she held for five years with the once-storied franchise that won its last title in 1973.

Attorneys for Browne Sanders rested their case Tuesday afternoon after calling the plaintiff's sister, Ruth, and her ex-administrative assistant to buttress her claims. They also played a videotaped deposition from MSG Chairman James L. Dolan, who said the decision to fire Sanders was his alone.

The witness was appropriate for MSG employees to refer to co-workers as a "black bitch," as star Knicks guard Stephon Marbury allegedly did to Browne Sanders, Dolan quickly said it was not.

"It is also not appropriate to murder anyone," Dolan continued. "I don't know that that has happened either.

Thomas, who has denied the allegations, sat with his hands folded in front of his face at the defense table, tilted his head slightly and listened intensely as Nix testified. Nix, who held a variety of bench and front office jobs with the Knicks, was let go by the Thomas regime at the end of August.

The defense case, with Thomas expected to testify at some point, should begin Wednesday morning.

SMC VOLLEYBALL

Belles travel to last-place Albion

By SAMANTHA LEONARD

Saint Mary's returns to the court after six days off to face last-place Albion (1-7, 0-4 MIAA) tonight at 7 in Albion, Mich. Albion may be in last, but it boasts the most recent MIAA player of the week. Britons outside hitter Morgan Walter had a combined 52 kills and 26 digs in Albion's league losses to Alma and Olivet.

Saint Mary's has had two honor- able mentions for the MIAA player of the week — senior setter Amanda David and sophomore outside hitter Lorna Slupczynski.

The Belles meet the Britons with a 2-2 conference record and an overall record of 3-6. Players strive to be the MIAA player of the week, but the Belles want to go beyond that prize.

"This season our goals are a little higher than last year both on and off the court," David said. "We have raised our team GPA goal to a 3.4 or higher, which is very feasible. On the court we are pushing hard for a regional ranking, which is also very possible."

In their six days off, the Belles kept up the work. "We will be working on really making both our offense and our defense crisper," coach Julie Schroeder-Biek said. "Our game is coming together nicely, but we still have a lot of work to go to get to where we want to be."

Although Albion is in last, its stats are competitive with Saint Mary's. Both teams average about 12 kills, 11 assists and two blocks a game. Albion is ahead of Saint Mary's in digs per a game with 22.21 digs to the Belles' 14.7.

But the statistics haven't meant much for Albion. The Belles will return home Friday to face Kalamazoo.

Contact Samantha Leonard

sleonard@stmarys.edu

The Belles travel to last-place Albion.

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Walsh

continued from page 24

After a punt return to midfield, Chaos junior quarterback Katie Dunn completed three straight passes to get her team within five yards of a touchdown. After a two-yard scramble by Dunn, Cavanaugh faced a fourth-and-goal from the Walsh 2-yard line. Senior captain Tarah Brom attempted to cross the line but was stopped behind the line by Walsh defender Julie Campbell. The Chaos was given a second chance when Lauren Cummings intercepted a Sullivan pass moments later. On third down, Dunn was pressured by Walsh's defense, but managed connect while on the run with receiver Sarah Van Mill, who was standing unguarded in the corner of the end zone.

An extra point would have tied the score, but Dunn was stopped just before she could dive across the goal line, leaving the Wild Women with the slim edge.

Cavanaugh got another chance to win the game with 1:23 remaining, but those straight incomplete passes ensured victory for the Wild Women.

After the game, Sullivan was awarded the offensive MVP for Walsh, with Campbell winning defensive MVP. Both players received a piece of the rock as a reward.

"(Campbell's) stop at the end of the game was absolutely crucial," Walsh coach Mike Schaefer said.

Sullivan, meanwhile, enjoyed the moment after defeating her team's arch rivals. "It's a pretty intense rivalry," she said. "It's always competitive, and it feels really good to win my senior year."

Though disappointed with the loss, Cavanaugh coach Hunter Land refused to look at the negatives and was already looking forward to exacting revenge.

"Our defense played really well the second half," he said. "Walsh played a hell of a game and we wish them the best of luck this season. We definitely hope to play them one more time, though."

Pe 14, Howard 14

Although Howard's defense had been powerful against McGlinn in the past, it collapsed against Pasquerilla East in a hard-fought tie.

The Ducks started the game with a long pass from freshman quarterback Kayla Bishop to freshman receiver Leslie Allen, but were stopped shortly thereafter.

Howard's defense played well; Emily Stewart made a diving interception and Laura Giseman had two picks of her own. After her second interception, Howard's rushing and passing attack took the Ducks down the field.

Pasquerilla East's coaches attributed Howard's passing success to the height of their receivers. Howard's two touchdowns came on deep passes.

"Howard is a small team of girls, but they are pretty good," Pyros co-coach Larry Tremulis said. "I bet one of them is over 5-foot-10." Pasquerilla East worked their way down the field and eventually scored a touchdown, but neither team could pull ahead.

Pyros co-coach Kyle Carter admitted didn't have a solid game plan. "We just go out and make up plays, pretty much," Carter said. "...P.E. was a lot faster than we were. They've got speed."

Howard coach Tim Baumgartner said the team needed a tough opening game to reverse things and that they just weren't ready for, "They kept us guessing with their playing styles. They always change their defensive alignment."

"I've got to give credit to Christine Pasquerilla during our timeout she told us the offense wasn't working, and then she came up with a scheme that held P.E. back for the rest of the game," Carter said.

McGlinn 0, Farley 0

Defense was the name of the game as McGlinn and Farley blocked and tackled their way to scoreless tie Tuesday at Ribble Field.

The Finest defense got going early, when they drove McGlinn to a three-and-out on its first possession and forced a punt. Farley senior quarterback and captain Jenny Rollf completed four passes in a row to senior receiver Kim Crehan. But the Finest were stopped short of a first down and yielded the ball to the Shamrocks.

Rollf completed 15-of-19 passes but threw three interceptions. In addition, a five-yard false start penalty in the second half caused the offense to stumble.

"The offense has a lot of new players," Rollf said. "I think we did a good job of moving the ball."

McGlinn's offense was based on the run, with sophomore running back Tina Noranja getting the majority of the carries. The Shamrocks, playing starring running back quarter back Christie Haller, were held to only one first down.

Haller was 2-of-7 passing with two interceptions.

"You've got to hand it to Farley's defense," senior McGlinn coach Jeff Farley said. "They really stopped our run."

The football changed hands many times at the end of the second half.

With two minutes left on the clock, McGlinn turned the ball over on downs. The Farley possession began with a 25-yard rush by Rollf, followed by three passes to Crehan. But Shamrocks freshman Kathleen Stanley had several tackles to prevent the Finest from scoring.

McGlinn took over with 30 seconds remaining, but Farley senior linebacker Christie Zedler intercepted Haller's pass. The Finest regained possession with time for one more play, but Rollf's pass attempt was intercepted by senior Shamrocks captain Katie Zedler to end the game.

"We showed a lot of promise today," Zedler said. "We are implementing a new offense, and have a lot of new players. The rest is yet unwritten."

Senior Farley coach Matt Barcus also saw potential in his team.

"I think we can win with this team," Barcus said. "Six ties and we go to the playoff.

The Farley Finest played Chaunnaugh 73-73 last Tuesday, and McGlinn's next challenger is also Cavanaugh, on Sept. 25 at 7 p.m.

Contact Sam Werner at Owener@nd.edu, Rachel Plassmeyer at rplasmey@nd.edu and Laura Myers at lmyers2@nd.edu.
Camp
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of the ball," Weis said. "We want to run the ball with more physicality—and pass block for that matter."

Weis said that aside from improving physicality, tackling to the ground and allowing for better tackling is something the staff to get a better read on a players’ performance. When the Irish were nearly playing from their own 40, they ran full back carries before a whistle blow; the coaches had no way of knowing how well a defender could tackle or how well a running back could get past him. "There’s no way to hide," Weis said. "If you’re a running back, you’re going to the ground. If you’re a receiver, you’re going to the ground. If you’re a tackle, you have to take them all the way to the ground. There’s no whistle that’s going to blow the play dead."

Weis said the team took the transition to more physical practices well. "I didn’t know on Sunday how they would respond having just played a game and having lost by a lopsided score—and then being called to the weight pads," he said. "I’ve been encouraged by the tempo we’ve had." All of the hitting is in lieu of a specific game plan, Weis said, Notre Dame plays Saturday on West Virginia, said the Irish will look forward to "No. a day this week and more on doing the little things well." "We’ve kept it very simple on both sides of the ball," Weis said. "We’re letting people line up on each other and see who wins." Weis introduced specific game plans for both Georgia Tech and Michigan, utilizing the spread option to try to neutralize his team’s inexperience. In both cases, the offense struggled. He said the days of special offenses week-to-week are over, at least for now. For the next few weeks, the Irish will work on mastering their base playbook. "Sometimes when you try to find the Xs and Ys schematics to exploit best the other team’s weaknesses, you don’t really have an idea," Weis said. "The identity that I’ve always dealt with is running the offensive side of the ball is multiple formations and multiple formations that can run all the same plays. We haven’t gotten that yet. Right now we’re trying to get to the core, because that can build off the core." Weis also said that the special offenses were designed to mask his team’s weaknesses, but he’s now drilled his back on the field and correct the weaknesses. "You have to start force-feeding who’s who," he said. "At this point you can’t try to figure out what your defenses can do. You have to say we’re going to do this. And then you have to do it, and do it, and do it, until you get it right." The emphasis on Weis’ face comes true and the Irish improve significantly this week. The coach said he is keeping his team hitting hard in practice for most of the season. "I think you have to keep some element of this in your planning so you don’t have a setback," he said. "Say you go and win on Saturday. That doesn’t mean you’re okay. You still got the crap kicked out of you in three straight games and you’re 1-3." and pass

Cinalli
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dribble.”
Cinalli attributed her creativity in large part to her relationship with Flanik, with whom she has developed an off-the-field rapport. "She’s so creative, so technical, she knows the game so well," Cinalli said. "It’s really fun to play with her because you can do a lot of good fun combinations with her. Since we’ve been playing together for the past three years we kind of understand where we’re going to go with the ball. We kind of anticipate... each other and work really well together."
It’s Cinalli’s ability to cooperate with her teammates that allows her to play multiple positions. She started the first three games at forward, but

Victory
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The Cardinals finished the tournament second at 811 (289-303-229). Georgia State was fourth at 896 (303-329-302), and Middle Tennessee State was fifth at 919 (321-326-372).
Weis said that he talked to his team after Monday night that quarterback Delmerius Jones will not play for the Irish this season. "He’s got his hand down, meaning he will have to pay his dues at Georgia Tech," Weis said.

Weis confirmed Tuesday that sophomore offensive lineman Dan Wonger has suffered an injury, but would not comment on the specifics. "He’s doing all right," Weis said.

"Suspended nose guard Darrell Hand will be back in uniform and is expected to play against Michigan State after missing the first three games of the year," Weis said. The identity that I’ve always dealt with is running the offensive side of the ball is multiple formations and multiple formations that can run all the same plays. We haven’t gotten that yet. Right now we’re trying to get to the core, because that can build off the core.” The emphasis on Weis’ face comes true and the Irish improve significantly this week. The coach said he is keeping his team hitting hard in practice for most of the season.
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FOOTBALL

Weis says starters to stay

Coach pleased with week's two practices

By CHRIS KHOREY
Sports Editor

A smiling Charlie Weis walked into the media room at the Guglielmino Athletics Complex Tuesday to address reporters.

The Notre Dame coach hasn't had much to smile about this season, with three blowout losses, negative total rushing yards, and a roster transfer for the opening day starting quarterback looming over his head - but the smile was genuine anyway.

After losing 38-0 to Michigan Saturday, Weis said his team was going to "back to training camp." But that change hasn't resulted in any significant changes to the starting lineup, Weis said. He said that, while the coaching staff is learning more about the players this week, most starters will retain their position on the depth chart - even along the offensive line, which has allowed 23 sacks this season.

"I didn't want to start making massive changes because then you're making sacrificial lambs," Weis said. "You're saying, 'You're the problem' or 'You're the problem.' Well, when you lose 38-0, there are a lot of problems."

For four hours Sunday and for two more hours Tuesday, the Irish were in full pads, simulating game hits and tackling to the ground for the first time this fall - all in an effort to fix the blocking and tackling deficiencies that have led to more than 230 yards per game in rushing by opponents and negative-4.7 per game on the ground for the Irish.

Judging by Weis' demeanor, those deficiencies must be slowly disappearing.

"I'm trying to develop a more physical mentality on both sides of the ball," he said.

ND WOMEN'S SOCCER COMMENTARY

Cinalli leads Irish by example, puts squad ahead of self

Amanda Cinalli will be the first to tell you that one player does not make a team. But when watching her play, that can be hard to believe.

The day is Sept. 14. Cinalli, the senior captain, was held out of practice all week because of big problems and is not in the starting lineup. She checks into the game in the 25th minute. Within seconds, she streaks up the middle of the field and sends a shot into the right side of the net for her first goal of the season. She'll score again, tapping in one of sophomore forward Michelle Weissenhofer's flip throws, and will also notch an assist on junior forward Kerri Hanks' goal. Notre Dame wins 4-2.

"Cinalli's talent has not gone unnoticed," Cinalli said. She was placed on the 45-player preseason Hermann Trophy watch list and was named to the preseason All-Big East team. She shared the 2007 Francis Patrick O'Connor award - which honors characteristics such as team spirit and inspiration for Notre Dame student athletes - with hockey captain T.J. Jindra. She was also a member of the Under-21 National Team that has played in the past two Nordic Cups. Despite her individual honors, Cinalli remains humble.

"Obviously our whole team is critically important for our entire offense," said Cinalli, only the third Irish captain in the program's 20 years. "It's not just one person. I think everyone brings a unique part to the game."

Cinalli isn't just being modest; instead, she's using what coach Randy Waldrum refers to as her "soccer brain" to understand that while she clearly has talent, she's still a cog in a system that requires that the necessary pieces be present for completion.

Waldrum said each of Notre Dame's forwards brings a different skill set to the offense, and that the combination of those skill sets keeps opposing teams from focusing on one player.

"The thing we've always liked about our team, and Amanda fits into that puzzle piece, is we have three different kinds of players up front," Waldrum said. "She's the one that has that ability to be creative, she's got probably the most overall skill level of the three forwards. She's more technical, she's more clean with the ball, she can beat you off the ball or you're making sacrificial lambs," Weis said. "You're saying, 'You're the problem' or 'You're the problem.' Well, when you lose 38-0, there are a lot of problems."