Study abroad program options grow

ND ranked No. 6 among U.S. research universities

By GENE NOONE
News Writer

Students looking to study abroad next year have new cities to consider — Hong Kong, China, Cambridge, England, and, for those in Old College, Leuven, Belgium.

The deadline for 2008-2009 study abroad applications is Nov. 15, and the Office of International Studies (OIS) is expecting large numbers of students to apply.

Notre Dame is ranked sixth among American research universities in the percentage of students who study abroad according to the most recent International Education annual report, titled "Open Doors."

The report, released last year, compiled data from 2004 and 2005 and found that about 58 percent of Notre Dame students study abroad at some point during their academic careers. That percentage is expected to remain consistent in the next report, OIS director Claudia Kselsen said.

"We are very excited about our Hong Kong program," Kselsen said. "We’re really hoping it will expand and become bigger."

The Hong Kong program is open to all junior students; although Chinese language study is encouraged, it is not required. The program is a bilateral exchange with the Chinese University of Hong Kong (CUHK), a leading research university with 18,500 undergraduate and postgraduate students.

"The Hong Kong program is a result of a general initiative on the part of Notre Dame to move to the Far East," Kselsen said. She said an important aspect of the Hong Kong program is that students may choose to take courses taught in English.

The Leuven program is open to junior undergraduate students enrolled in the Old Academic Studies committee and may be reintroduced in a future Senate meeting.

The Senate has been discussing the issue of course packet prices for the past several weeks. At their Oct. 17 meeting, senators passed a resolution recommending that course packets no longer be sold exclusively through the Hammes Notre Dame reserves.

"We would raise the percentage," Hendrickson said.

According to the Building Tomorrow report, released last November, Jelm said.

"Open Doors." The policy change was made as a result of student requests to bring larger bags into the dining hall.

"In order to accommodate the requests of the students, we decided to implement it," Vice President for Student Affairs Karen Johnson said.

"There has been a lot of discussion about wanting to use books, laptops, etc. while dining, so we agreed to give it a try."

Bowles, the Board of Governance, Student Affairs and the administration have reached an accord concerning the parameters of the new "bring-in bag policy."

"Any and all members of the Food Services staff will be allowed to make random package inspections at meal periods if there is a reasonable suspicion of items being removed from the dining hall otherwise those items cur-

Large bags allowed in dining hall

Belongings could be subject to searches

By KATIE KOHLER
Sanct Mary’s Editor

Saint Mary’s students are now able to bring large bags, like backpacks and computer bags, into the Noble Family dining hall — but the belongings will be subject to searches if there is “reasonable suspicion” that items have been stolen.

Director of Dining Services Barry Bowles said this new policy is strictly under a trial run and contingent on student cooperation.

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Building Tomorrow raises money for Ugandan school

Organization works with local governments to provide education

By JENN METZ
Assignment News Editor

The Notre Dame chapter of Building Tomorrow is raising money to build a school for 350 Ugandan children.

The Primary Education For All sector of the ND-8 Millennium Development Initiatives club is working with Building Tomorrow, a national non-profit organization, this year. Sophomores Jenna Knapp, Erin Jelm and Barbara Ho are among committee leaders working on events to raise “a tangible goal” of $35,000, Jelm said.

"To break it down, if each Notre Dame student donated $3.02, we would raise the funds to build a brand-new school and give hope for the future to 350 impoverished kids," Jelm said.

Last spring, George Sour, the founder of Building Tomorrow, spoke during ND-8’s Millennium Development Goals Week, Jelm said.

"George talked to us about Building Tomorrow’s mission and work as well as the movement to get college cam-

puses across the nation involved in fundraising," she said.

According to the Building Tomorrow Web site, 46 million children in sub-Saharan Africa have no school to attend.

"Education is the foundation of change, and with an education these children will have more of the resources necessary to help their lives and the lives of their children," Jelm said.

In what Ho calls a "collabo-

see MD-8/page 6
Dear business majors,

A letter to Saint Mary's Business Majors,

I write this to you before I once again spend six hours, in an OBUS study room, slaving away. I cannot believe the paper, which compiles almost everything I have ever studied during my college career is due in four very short days. I wonder how we will ever get done, and how four girls with insanely busy lives will ever get together to meet.

On top of this, I also cannot believe I am almost at the end of this semester and one little Halloween of my college career. My non-business major friends are all getting ready for costume parties galore, and all I can think about is which strategy will be the best to choose to increase our profit margin. I remember thinking how stressed I was during different times throughout my past three years. It seems nothing will compare to the stress you and I will face in the next six weeks.

From Alex the accounting system to detailed Powerpoints on Saint Mary's identity, we thought those projects would just never end. We now face a project that makes those look like a cakewalk.

I know it sounds impossible. Just when you think you have finished a major project and found the perfect strategy, something comes along that changes your whole train of thought. I also must say I never thought I would grow to despise words such as matrixes and strategies.

As the frustration mounds in these next few days here are some things to keep in mind.

It is also most over! Just six weeks left of this semester and one little presentation in front of a friendly group of judges and hey, you are done! So as you stare for hours at the numerous pages of research you have done all semester, please try to keep that in mind.

Also, I know it sounds incredibly ridiculous, but try to have some fun and release some stress while you are in your room. I laugh as I say this, and I find it instantly difficult to do this myself. I mean, there has to be some fun about a senior comprehensive. There must be something, right?

Then there is the whole survival thing that we must remember. You need to eat and even try to sleep a little. Not eating and sleeping will just make you more irritable and possibly sick. We have been preparing for this monster for three years, and in just four days the hardest and largest part will be complete. It will be put behind us for the rest of our college career and we can once again breathe.

So grab your bowl of left-over Halloween treats and your drabbed case book and try to remember what I said. Good luck!

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

Contact Samantha Leonard at 

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**Correction**

Due to a reporting error, Ryan McGarry was misquoted in the City, March "Poof! Down the drain," column. In the piece, he quoted the Irish twin Tinshe Bercie Aber who had criticized what he described as "a form of aggressive education which would have the State and other institutions ignore the importance of this religious dimension." McGarry did not make the claim on his own. The Observer regrets the error.

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**INSIDE COLUMN**

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**QUESTION OF THE DAY:** Where would you study abroad if you could study anywhere and why?

**Ryan Pantages**

Sophomore Keough

"Dublin — gotta stay true to the Irish heritage (and the awesome accent, of course)."

**Kelly Levis**

Sophomore Walsh

"Siberia, because I could go snowboarding everyday after class."

**Dave Costanzo**

Junior off campus

"Probably somewhere in South America, because I've never been out of the country before, and that seems like a good place to start."

**Kate Gardner**

Freshman P.W.

"Cancun — for obvious reasons."

**Cynthia Weber**

Freshman P.W.

"I would go to Rome to see my friend Benedict."

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**OFFBEAT**

**Vulgar tattoo equals $50 and some probation**

WEST CHESTER, Pa. — A man accused of kicking an argument with his neighbor up a notch by removing his shirt to reveal a two-word expiective tattoo faces 90 days probation and a $50 fine.

Jason Kaminski pleaded guilty on Tuesday to a summary charge of disorderly conduct.

Neighbor Chris Carr said he asked Kaminski if he could keep the noise down following a noisy party. Carr said Kaminski cursed, bared his shirt to reveal a two-word "dimoose." Carr reported the incident.

Judge: Speeding not 'as bad' in miles

DUBLIN, Ireland — When police caught driver David Clarke flying down a road at 180 kilometers per hour this month, he looked likely to lose his license.

But a country judge shattered the legal road speed by reducing the charge and letting the 31-year-old information technology worker stay on the road.

McLoughlin was quoted as saying the speed seemed "reasonable" given the weather, light traffic and the road's unusual straightness.

McLoughlin suggested it was relatively safe to have shattered the legal road speed limit at the time, citing good weather, light traffic and the road's unusual straightness.

McLoughlin was quoted as saying the speed seemed "very excessive," but did not look "as bad" when converted into miles, or 112 mph.

"I am not excusing his driving. He should not have been traveling at that speed," District Court Judge Diane McLoughlin said in his verdict, delivered Tuesday in County Donegal, northwest Ireland.

The student was given a quantum of days probation and a $50 fine.

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**LOCAL WEATHER**

**TODAY**

HIGH

48

LOW

30

**TUESDAY**

HIGH

40

LOW

22

**FRIDAY**

HIGH

55

LOW

30

**GAME DAY**

HIGH

52

LOW

39

**SUNDAY**

HIGH

58

LOW

43

**MONDAY**

HIGH

47

LOW

27

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**IN BRIEF**

A collection of Douglas Kinsey's paintings is on display in the Great Hall of O'Shaughnessy Hall through Nov. 27.

The Notre Dame women's basketball team will have an exhibition game against Southern Indiana today at 7 p.m. in the Joyce Center.

The hockey team will play Lake Superior State today at 7:35 p.m. at the Joyce Center.

As part of the Boardroom Insights lecture series, Brenda Barnes, CEO of the Sara Lee Corporation will speak Friday at 10:40 a.m. in the Jordan Auditorium of the Mendoza College of Business.

The Black Cultural Arts Council is holding its annual talent show, "Black Images: Through the Seasons," Saturday at 8 p.m. in Washington Hall. Student ticket price is $5.

As part of the Military History speaker series, author David Bell will offer a presentation on his new book, "The First Total War," which focuses on the Napoleonic Wars, Monday at 4:30 p.m. in room 116, Delbartos Hall.

Gillian Sorenson, senior advisor to the United Nations Foundation, will deliver lecture titled "The State of Women Internationally: Where Are We and Where Are We Going?" Tuesday at 6 p.m. in the Hesburgh Center auditorium.

To submit information to be included in this section of The Observer, e-mail detailed information or links to obnews@moodle.com.
ND, South Bend build together
Partnership plans to develop industry complex south of campus

"When this park is completed, it will have significant long-term benefits that will continue to percolate and send ripples through the community's economy," said Patrick McMahon, executive director, Project Future.

The University, the City of South Bend and the regional economic development organization Project Future have joined forces to develop a technology incubator on a site south of the University's campus. The park's early operations have started.

‘We are truly the result of a team effort,’ said Dr. Maureen Lafferty, director of the University's Center for Entrepreneurial Studies. "This project, which Dave Brenner and I have been involved in for many years of experience, has been a appointed director of the project, which will be called Innovation Park at Notre Dame, and construction of the first building is expected to begin in the spring and be completed by the end of summer 2009.

"Irrigating Dave Brenner and the development of a plan to build Innovation Park have truly resulted from a team approach which has involved the private sector, city and state government, and the University," said Thomas G. Burton, Notre Dame's provost. "Our optimism that this partnership will result in a successful effort. Similar parks associated with other universities in the state and around the country have proven to be wonderful means for encouraging research, taking innovative ideas to the marketplace, creating industry-university relationships, and for spurring economic growth."

The city has made a $1 million commitment to the project, using resources returned from the Innovation Park Development Corp., according to Mayor Steve Luke.

"I'm especially excited about the entrepreneurs' creativity that will emerge from this place, as researchers from different disciplines interact and dream," Luke said.

"South Bend has a strong heritage of innovation - from Studebaker and Bendix to Crowe Chizek and the South Bend Chocolate Co. - and Innovation Park will continue to build on that great entrepreneurial spirit," Project Future has had the development of a technology park in the region among its priorities for several years, according to executive director Patrick M. McMahon.

Project Future has assisted with organizing and advancing the discussion of the park with the community and provided funds for development of the business and architectural plans. It also will help underwrite the staffing expenses associated with Innovation Park's early operations he said. "When this park is completed, it will have significant long-term benefits that will continue to percolate and send ripples through the community's economy," McMahon said.

Like similar ventures nationwide, Innovation Park will provide space for Notre Dame faculty and students, as well as others from higher education and the private sector, to develop and commercialize start-up business enterprises - many but not all related to the sciences, engineering and technology. The proximity to campus will allow for easy access to University laboratories, technology and other resources. Faculty and staff associated with the Gigot Center for Entrepreneurial Studies at Notre Dame also plan to take an active role in moving ideas forward.

Financial and operational details are still to be finalized, but potential have been identified as early occupants of the park.

Angels, a network of Notre Dame alumni and friends who are experienced in entrepreneurial endeavors and interest in helping to develop and human rights. From 1993 to 1996, Sorensen served as a senior advisor to the U.S. Commission on Human Rights, which serves as the United States's independent permanent representative on the Commission on Human Rights of the United Nations Security Council. She also served as a member of the Board of Directors and the Constitution Committee of the International Peace Bureau. Previously, she served as an advisor to the Corporation for Public Broadcasting.

Catholic Digest honors ND professor for work

Kristin Shrader-Frechette, F.J. and H.M. O'Neil Professor of Philosophy and executive director of the World Peace and Social Change Program, has been named " heroes for America" by the Catholic Digest magazine. The magazine cited Shrader-Frechette for involving students and I (in the spirit of the "heroes for America") spirit of the Faith. The magazine cited the work on environmental justice of Kristin Shrader-Frechette and the other honorees is profiled in the October issue of the magazine. The only other university selected as a Catholic Hero is Paul Farmer, the Harvard University physician and medical anthropologist who is the cofounder of Partners in Health and who was the recipient of an honorary Notre Dame degree last May. "The environment is not necessarily a social justice issue, but environmental effects of pollution are social justice issues," Shrader-Frechette said in an interview accompanying the Catholic Digest Feature. "Environmental injustice — and that I mean disproportionate pollution forced on children, poor people, minorities and workers — is a social justice issue, because unfair pollution burdens take away not only poor people's money, but something that's even more important: their lives and their health."

Kristin Shrader-Frechette for involving students in the fight against environmental justice and human rights. "I simply try to help so that people are able to protect themselves, especially our children. We can do more than be questions of life and death. That's a lot, but only because our Notre Dame students are so generous, so brilliant, and so committed to social justice and human rights."

Although cancer annually kills 600,000 Americans, the health risks associated with these premature deaths are often not recognized or measured because of scientific errors in impact assessment and by enforcing pollution laws. Government and health groups agree, noting that up to 90 percent of cancers are "environmentally induced and theoretically preventable."
It looks like the College of Arts and Letters isn't going to make the "not selling the course packets from the Bookstore" recommendation to the University," she said.

The Senators were less receptive to Wednesday's resolution, which said that most of the student body is "very dissatisfied" with the higher costs of the course packets and that a majority of students are "somewhat to very supportive" of switching from the course packets to electronic reserves as the primary way to access course materials.

The senators, after some debate, failed to gather the two-thirds vote needed to pass the resolution, with nine voting for it and six against. Eight senators abstained.

Fisher senator Stephen Bant, who gave a Powerpoint presentation about the course packet survey with Hendrickson at the last Senate meeting, said he supported the resolution's objective to encourage professors to increase use of electronic reserve, known as "e-reserves."

"E-reserves, we kind of look at it as the future coming," he said. "A lot of things are going electronic."

The resolution states that the University Library is "willing and able" to put course materials on electronic reserves, and that it is also "willing and able" to cover current and future copyright costs for the materials.

The resolution says a switch to e-reserves would be more environmentally-friendly, since it would cut down on paper usage.

"More than anything else, the other benefit of e-reserves is that it's more environmentally-friendly, because we don't have the paper waste of thousands of course packets," Bant said.

Some senators disagreed with the idea that e-reserves would be more environmentally-friendly, giving anecdotal evidence that many students print articles from the Internet to read the hard copy.

"Not everyone is going to print off every single article, so in the end it should be less paper use," he said.

Other senators argued that increasing use of e-reserves would mean students would have to increase their print quota, which allows $100 for printing at the beginning of the school year.

The Academic Affairs Committee is preparing a resolution to suggest that students be allowed to increase print quota online in the same way that Homer Dollars can be added, Hendrickson said.

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INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Bus bomb kills 8, injures 60 in Russia

MOSCOW - A strong bomb shredded a pas­senger bus Wednesday, killing eight people and injuring more than 60 in a central Russian city known for gang violence.

One official speculated the blast in Togliatti was part of a gang war, but others said that was only one possibility. They said investigators were also looking into whether it resulted from a turf battle between criminals or even the care­less handling of explosives.

Police in the Volga River city also weren't immediately sure whether the bomb was hidden inside or beneath the bus or carried on by a passenger, officials said.

With parliamentary elections coming up in December, the blackness of the second round of violence like that which has occurred before past elections.

Afghan civilians flee as Taliban invades

AFGHANISTAN - Afghan civilians fled their homes Tuesday onto trucks Wednesday and fled two vil­lages infiltrated by hundreds of Taliban milit­ants as the Taliban pressed on their south­eastward drive toward the capital.

The troops killed 50 militiamen in three days of fighting 15 miles north of Kandahar city, the provincial police chief said. Three policemen and one Afghan soldier also died.

"The people are fleeing because the Taliban are taking over civilian homes," said Agha Saqib. "There have been no aircrafs. We are trying to protect the areas where there are no civilians, only Taliban.

NATIONAL NEWS

NASA postpones space station repairs

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. - NASA put off Thurs­day's spacewalk to inspect a snarled joint for a set of solar panels and instead instructed its orbiting astronauts to go out a day later to try to fix a torn solar wing.

The roughly 7,000-pound wing is now the more press­ing of the two problems at the international space station, both of which involve the crucial power system and threaten to disrupt future construction work.

NASA fears the damage could worsen and the wing could lose all power-collecting capability and become unsafe. If that happened, the wing would have to be jettisoned.

No charges for Katrina bridge blockaders

NEW ORLEANS - Federal prosecutors said there was no evidence that any­one in a police blockade that kept hundreds of evacuees from crossing a Mississippi River bridge on foot after Hurricane Katrina flooded New Orleans, authorities said Wednesday.

Several hundred people claimed police from suburban Gretna blocked them as they tried to flee New Orleans on Sept. 1, three days after the storm hit.

Many evacuees, who had been stranded at the New Orleans convention center without food and water, said they were told to cross the bridge to be evacuated from the city, only to be forced to turn around upon reaching the other side.

Police later said they blocked the evacuees because there were no supplies or services for them on the other side.

LOCAL NEWS

Fire sprinklers damage 20,000 books

MOSCOW - At least 20,000 books that damaged thousands of books stored in a Moscow warehouse.

About 150 workers and employees evacuated Better World Books when firefighters arrived at thick black smoke billowing from the side of a building.

Fire officials are investigating the cause of the fire, but employees said it may have been electrical in nature. No injuries were reported.

The company collects donated textbooks from schools and libraries and uses the profits from sales to promote literacy programs.

Jury acquits prosecutor in terrorism

Associated Press

DETROIT — A federal former prosec­uter was acquitted Wednesday of with­holding evidence from the defense during the nation’s first major terrorism trial after the Sept. 11 attacks.

The government said Richard Convertino wanted so badly to win conviction of the accused that he broke the law. But Convertino’s lawyers alleged the photographs could have helped the defense at the 2003 trial undermine a government argument about how well a surveillance sketch of the hospital matched reality. The sketch was found in an apartment used by part of the suspected Detroit cell.

Prosecutors said Convertino also allowed Smith to testify that it would be difficult to get photos of the hospital, even though Convertino had such photos, and Smith knew the photos existed.

Government lawyer Daniel Schwegler said prosecutors "believe in the case and the importance to the system and respect the jury’s verdict.”

The defense said the government didn’t prove that Convertino intention­ally withheld the photos and insisted no conspiracy existed.

Convertino said the way the govern­ment pursued charges against him could have a chilling effect on current federal prosecutors engaged in the Justice Department’s anti-terrorism efforts.

“I’m hearing that it’s having a sti­fling effect,” Convertino said.

IRAQ

Soldier, civilian deaths on decline

Infall in death count shows Bush’s troop surge working better than expected, some say

Associated Press

BAGHDAD - Violent deaths of U.S. troops and Iraq civilians have fallen sharply in Iraq in October, according to the lat­est survey of those deaths.

The AP’s figures mirror other reports that the levels of bloodshed are falling here. But the meaning of these sta­tistics is disputed, and experts generally agree that the struggle for security and stability is far from over.

The number of Iraqi civi­lians killed fell from at least 1,023 in September to at least 475 in October, according to the AP count.

That’s the lowest monthly toll for civilian casualties in the past year, and is down sharply from the 2,116 recorded in October 2006.

The numbers are based on daily reports from police, hospital officials, morgue workers and verifiable wit­ness accounts.

The count is considered a minimum estimate, officials concede, and the actual number is likely higher, as many killings go unreported.

The drop in deaths among U.S. military personnel in Iraq was even more striking, according to AP’s records - down from 60 in September to at least 36 in October.

The October figure is by far the lowest in the last year, and is sharply lower than the 106 deaths recorded in October 2006.

The relative period of calm during the Muslim holy month of Ramadan, a time when mili­tants have been known to call off attacks, could explain the drop in civilian losses.

But Anthony Cordesman, an expert on the Middle East and military affairs with the Center for Strategic and International Studies, said the numbers he’s seen so far may not reflect a decline in the level of lethal violence against U.S. troops in Baghdad and Anbar province.

Data collected by the General Accounting Office, he said, don’t justify the conclu­sion that the overall level of fighting has fallen off, or that the number of civilian deaths is declining, because they don’t paint a full picture of the conflict.

The statistics don’t reflect attacks that result in injuries, he pointed out. Nor is there reliable reporting of civilian deaths outside of Baghdad.

"I don’t question that the level of violence has gone down in Baghdad and Anbar," he said. "But what is not clear at all is that you have reduced the level of ten­sion between Kurd and Arab, that the level of Shiite-on­Shiite violence is down, that the level of ethnic cleansing is down.

The reduction in U.S. hos­se, he said, is more a result of the revolt of the Sunni trib­al leaders in Anbar against al-Qaida in Iraq, and not the U.S. military buildup.

And he warned that that revolt against al-Qaida was in jeopardy unless Sunni lead­ers get more support from the Shiite-dominated govern­ment in Baghdad.

"Does for one set of numbers tell you that the country is moving toward sta­bility, security and political ac­commodation?" Cordesman said. "The answer is no.

There may be other, grim­mer reasons the civilian death toll has receded.

Syrians have been driven out of Shiite neighborhoods, Shiites from Sunni areas and Christians out of both.

Many Iraqis have fled their country, or seldom venture out of their communities, offering fewer targets for sui­cide bombers or kidnappers.

A worker operates machinery at the Mosul Dam 225 miles northwest of Baghdad. The United States is supporting repair efforts to the dam, which was built on the Tigris in the 1930s.
continued from page 1

A sales center, built by chapters at universities like Notre Dame, will house a T-shirt plant. The proceeds will go to the communities in Uganda. Erin Jelm

ND-8 Building Tomorrow

"Building Tomorrow is set apart — at least in my mind — from other non-profit organizations because of the direct involvement that those who donate have with the communities in Uganda."

The school will have 10 rooms, including seven classrooms and an outdoor soccer field. The World Food Program will provide students with daily lunches and the government will sustain teachers' salaries. "One of the really neat things is once the kids are there, they wear the colors of the school that built it," Ho said. "So the students at our school will be wearing blue and gold." Building Tomorrow is selling T-shirts for $10 this week in South Dining Hall and LaFortune Student Center and next week in LaFortune. It is their second fundraiser this year.

All proceeds from T-shirt sales will go to the organization, Ho said. Paul Johnson, a father of a Notre Dame student, donated the T-shirts for the fundraiser. The first fundraiser this year was called "Brick by Brick," and took place before fall break. Club members sold paper bricks for $5 in LaFortune.

"They were symbolic bricks," Ho said.

The bricks sold for $1 and students who wore them were encouraged to write the name of "someone who reminded them how important education is," Ho said.

The first fundraiser was planned in conjunction with The Promise Banner, where students put hand prints on a banner symbolizing "their promise to help," Ho said. Project Fresh performed during The Promise Banner signing and the Brick by Brick sale, Ho said.

"This is a uniting for with Notre Dame," Ho said. "We are all working for one goal."

"Brick by Brick" raised $10,830 for the organization, she said. Building Tomorrow is raising awareness and funds.

"We're grateful for all those who have helped us thus far and hope that people will continue to support this effort," Jenna Knapp ND-8 Building Tomorrow.

Dining hall workers like Dianna Holland have noticed students taking more than the one item they are allotted to take from the dining hall at each meal.

"Students have a tendency to take advantage," she said. Bowles said the new policy will be permanent if inventories remain consistent. "I cannot allow the policy to continue if more things are being stolen," he said.

Kristen Eideen contributed to this report.

Contact Katie Kohler at kkohle01@stmarys.edu

Please recycle. The Observer.
Fed cuts funds interest rate to 4.5%  
Second reduction in six weeks designed to boost spending after credit crunch

**Market Recap**

**Stocks**

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**In Brief**

Economy grew fast, despite credit woes

WASHINGTON — The economy picked up speed in the summer, growing at a brisk 3.9 percent pace, the fastest in 1 1/2 years and an important sign that a credit crunch plunged the housing market deeper into turmoil.

The latest snapshot of the country's economic health, released by the Commerce Department on Wednesday, suggested the economy is growing resilient and holding up well despite strains in the housing and credit markets. Those problems intensified during the third quarter and rocked Wall Street.

A second report from the department showed construction spending rose 0.3 percent in September, the best showing in four months. All-time high spending in both commercial and residential later this year helped the economy survive the strains of a deepening housing slump that is likely to crimp growth in coming months.

Fed Chairman Ben Bernanke and all but one of his colleagues voted to lower the federal funds rate by one-quarter percentage point to 4.50 percent at the end of a two-day meeting.

"The pace of economic expansion will likely slow in the near term, partly reflecting the intensification of the housing contraction," the Fed acknowledged in a statement explaining its action.

The funds rate affects many other interest rates charged to millions of individuals and businesses and is in the Fed's most potent tool for influencing economic activity.

In response, commercial banks, including Bank of America, Wells Fargo and KeyCorp., announced that they were cutting their prime lending rate — for certain credit cards, home equity lines of credit and other loans — by a corresponding amount, to 7.50 percent.

The rationale behind the cuts is that the lower borrowing costs will induce more people and businesses to boost spending, energizing economic activity.

Wall Street was cheered by the Fed's action. Dow Jones industrials jumped 137.54 points to close at 13,930.01 Wednesday. The Standard & Poor's 500, the most widely watched benchmark, rose 18.36, or 1.42 percent, to 1,349.38, and the Nasdaq composite index rose 42.41, or 1.51 percent, to 2,859.12.

The Russell 2000 index of smaller companies rose 11.87, or 1.45 percent, to 828.05.

Fed policymakers indicated the two rate cuts ordered so far may be sufficient to help the economy make its way safely through the troubled spots.

They said the risks to the economy from inflation "roughly balance," or are equal to, the risks of a serious downturn in economic growth. Previously, the risks of a recession were seen as more of a threat to the country's economic health.

"The message: They are now done for the time being," said Lynn Reaser, chief economist at Bank of America's Investment Strategies Group. "They have done out a significant insurance policy and now they believe they are fully covered against a recession risk — at least for the near term," she said.

For now, Reaser and other economists think the Fed probably will leave the funds rate alone when it meets next on Dec. 11, the last session of the year.

The 9.1 percent cut to rates on Wednesday was opposed by Thomas Hoenig, president of the Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City. He preferred no change in the funds rate.

So far, the economy has shown amazing resilience to the housing and credit strains.

**Stocks on the rise as credit crisis eases**

**NEW YORK** — Wall Street closed higher Wednesday after the Federal Reserve assuaged some investors' fears about a sinking economy, stating that risks to the financial markets from the summer's credit crisis have eased. The Dow Jones industrial average gained more than 130 points on the opening bell.

Stocks initially zigzagged after the Fed lowered interest rates as expected because investors appeared at the notion that the Fed might not lower rates again at its December meeting. However, investors eventually appeared relieved that the Fed's move would energize the economy and reduce a perceived concern — signaled the central bank was able to return to somewhat more parochial worries and focus less about upheaval in the credit markets when it met last month.

Wall Street was heartened by the fact that investors, businesses and consumers alike will be getting cheaper or access to cash because of the widely anticipated quarter-point rate cut. The Fed funds rate now stands at 4.50 percent. Last month, the Fed surprised the market with a larger-than-expected half-point cut in the funds rate — the rate banks charge each other for overnight loans.

After months of agonizing over an anemic credit market, investors appeared to take some solace that the Fed found room to offer a less accommodative statement than some had expected.

"A rather stingy Fed suggests that they see an economy that is in pretty good shape," said Bruce McCain, head of the investment strategy team for Key Private Bank.

"They're saying now we can turn back to the issue of inflation and implicit in that is that the economy is getting back on track," he said.

The Dow, which had dipped briefly into negative territory after the decision, rose 137.54, or 1 percent, to 13,930.01.

Broader stock indicators also advanced. The Standard & Poor's 500 index rose 18.36, or 1.20 percent, to 1,549.38, and the Nasdaq composite index rose 42.41, or 1.51 percent, to 2,859.12.

The Russell 2000 index of smaller companies rose 11.87, or 1.45 percent, to 828.05. Treasury bond prices fell after the Fed's decision. The yield on the 10-year Treasury note, which moves inversely to its price, rose to 4.47 percent from 4.39 percent late Tuesday.

In comments following its two-day meeting, central bank policymakers said recent spikes in energy and commodity prices are among the forces that could be adding to inflation pressures and that with its latest move "the upside risks to inflation roughly balance the downside risks to growth."

Associated Press

**WASHINGTON** — The Federal Reserve sliced an important interest rate Wednesday — its second reduction in the last six weeks. The central bank helped the economy survive the strains of a deepening housing slump that is likely to crimp growth in coming months.

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Associated Press
Spanish law, operational trash orras of Spain — association. "I old son in Zougarn shock "im train and right-hand man of was placing us,", killed morn ovPr the verdict and has received death penalty they exploded in jail for the Madrid bombings.

But the verdict was a mixed bag for prosecutors, who saw four sober key defendants convict of lesser offenses and an accused ring leader acquitted altogether. With much of the case resting on circumstantial evidence, the three judges may have been wary after a number of high-profile Spanish terror cases were overturned on appeal.

Spain's prime minister said the verdict still upheld justice. But victims of the attack, which killed 191 people and wounded over 1,800 when bombs exploded on four trains on March 11, expressed shock and sadness over the court's decision.

"The verdict seems soft to us," said Pilar Manjon, mother of victim Osman, an Egyptian already convicted and jailed in Italy for the Madrid bombings. Italian authorities said Osman bragged in tapped Arabic-language phone conversations that he was the brains behind the Madrid plot. But translations of the taped conversations by two sets of Spanish translators indicated his comments were more nuanced and did not amount to a confession.

The Spanish verdict came just two days after an Italian court upheld Osman's conviction there, but shaved two years off his prison term, sentencing him to eight years. Osman watched the Spanish proceedings on a videoconference link from the Justice Palace in Milan. The Europa Press news agency reported that he broke down in tears and shouted, "I've been acquitted! I've been acquitted!"

Four other top suspects — Yousef Belhadj, Hassen el Haski, Abdul majid Houali and Mafa Zouhier — were acquitted of murder but convicted of other crimes, including belonging to a terrorist organization. They received sentences of 10 to 18 years in prison.

Fourteen other defendants were found guilty of lesser crimes and six others were acquitted.

Much of the evidence in the 57-session, five-month trial was circumstantial. Bouchard, for instance, was seen on one of the bombed trains shortly before the attack, but at trial no one could definitively identify him and there were no fingerprints or other forensics evidence placing him at the scene.

A senior court official professed to the decision-making told The Associated Press after the verdict that the case against Osman was "flimsy," and that "there is hard evidence" that Houali and Haski were masterminds. The official agreed to discuss the verdict only if not quoted by name.

Nation strengthens foreign ties
Success in nuclear standoff sparks new diplomatic missions

Associated Press
SEOUL — Buoyed by progress in its nuclear standoff, reclusive North Korea has begun reaching out to the world beyond its closed borders, forging formal relations with a series of countries and sending high-level delegations overseas.

The communist nation has opened or restored relations with five countries since July. Senior officials have visited Russia, southeast Asia, Africa and the Middle East — a rare burst of international activity move by one of the world's most isolated nations.

Analysts say the main reason for the drive is Pyongyang — branded as part of an "axis of evil" by President Bush — wants to show Washington it can behave like a "normal" country.

"North Korea has judg hed that the U.S. was squeezing its throat. But now, confidence is building as efforts to resolve the nuclear issue speed up," said Kim Yong-hyun, a North Korea expert at Seoul's Dongguk University.

Progress in the nuclear issue has enabled Pyongyang to focus on diplomacy with other countries because it is no longer preoccupied with fears that the U.S. is attempting to topple the regime, Kim said.

Pyongyang shut down its sole functioning nuclear reactor in July, and a team of U.S. nuclear experts is to visit the North this week to start disabling the facility by year's end.

"By broadening its external relations, the North also wants to show the U.S. the look of a normal country," he said. "The idea is that, 'We've been so close because of you, but if you go easy on us like this, we can also act like other ordinary countries.'"

In September, North Korea established diplomactic relations with the United Arab Emirates, Switzerland, Dominican Republic and Ethiopia. Pyongyang also has opened ties with Montenegro and in recent months restored relations with Myanmar and Nicaragua.

The North still does not have relations with the U.S., but it has been exploring the idea of negotiating with Moscow because it is not a party to the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty and thus may be able to get around U.S. objections to processing Pyongyang's spent fuel.

In any case, the goal of the outreach is to show Washington it can manage to get along with others without having to rely on Russia and China, which Pyongyang used to be able to turn to in times of need.

Adopting a more diplomatic approach to the world is a key preoccupation for Kim Jong Il, as his regime seeks to present itself as a "normal" state.

But the changes also reflect Kim's desire to make the North Korean leader appear as a world statesman capable of dealing with the world beyond his isolated country's borders.

Relations with countries of this nature will also help the North carry out its plans to trade with its neighbor Japan.
Physically disabled sue large cities for accessibility to subway stations

NEW YORK — For handicapped New Yorkers, a trip abroad the city's subway system means confronting a series of obstacles — and indignities.

First, they must be at a station with an elevator that descends to the platform. In places, it’s so narrow that a wheelchair rolls just inches from the edge of electrified tracks. And once the train arrives, the wheelchair often gets stuck while crossing the gap between the platform and the subway car.

Navigating the nation's largest mass transit system by wheelchair "takes a certain kind of emotional stamina," said Michael Harris, an advocate for the disabled who uses a wheelchair himself.

Disability rights advocates say large cities are failing to make adequate improvements and are not being held accountable. The result, they say, is a system that discriminates against people with disabilities.

"It's physically and emotionally very difficult," said Harris, 23, recently demonstrated the pitfalls of an underground ride by wheelchair.

He left his lower Manhattan office near City Hall, heading uptown to Herald Square at West 34th Street — a trip that normally takes about 10 minutes on one subway line from the station across the street. But the station is not wheelchair-accessible.

So Harris powered up his motorized wheelchair and rolled to a different station, where he caught an uptown train to Grand Central Terminal. From there, he rolled down the sidewalk to another station and boarded a train for his destination.

Instead of 10 minutes, the trip lasted about 40.

When there are problems with access, Anyansi said, transit officials post information on station signs and on a Web site, and they update a hot line like four times a day. Transit employees are also supposed to be available to answer questions.

In addition, a van can be arranged ahead of time to pick up a passenger at a specified address — at $2 a shared ride.

Harris, 23, recently demonstrated the pitfalls of an underground ride by wheelchair.

"We're more than 100 years old, and we're trying to retrofit stations with elevators and ramps. Space constraints are a big factor," said James Anyansi, a spokesman for New York City Transit, acknowledging that Harris is probably right in describing New York's subway system as the worst in the country for handicapped-accessibility.

But there are steps for people with disabilities to take to make their transit experiences more comfortable.

For instance, Harris said he has learned that the 14th Street station, which he found so inaccessible, is making improvements.

"It's been a great spiritual experience," Harris said. "It's taught me to be patient and to persevere."

But there are still frustrations for people like Harris.

In New York City, where the subway system is supposed to be accessible, more than 25,000 people are using the service, according to the transit agency.

In Chicago, where the subway system is also supposed to be accessible, about 20,000 people are using the service, according to the transit agency.

"What the community may regard as immoral conduct is not necessarily what the outside world would consider immoral conduct. He could be talking about thoughts, or some affectionate or physical conduct," Driggs said.

A half-brother, Ward Jeffs, said he doesn't think his brother was married or had children at age 20. Warren Jeffs was a teacher at a private FLDS school in Salt Lake City in 1976.

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The widening racial divide

Scalia’s visit deserved publicity

Letter to the Editor

Andrew Neis
Spicy Sea Nuggets

Surely the sponsors of the recent Notre Dame Law School conference addressing what one conference organizer called “fundamental questions of American constitutional governance” can appreciate the irony in their decision not to inform the public that U.S. Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia was a featured speaker (“Scalia spoke at Notre Law conference,” Oct. 30).

Defending their decision, a spokesperson for the law school was quoted as saying that had Scalia’s visit been publicized, “it would have been a mob scene.” That is one way to characterize it.

Another is to say that citizens of a democracy, had they known Scalia’s presence, might have chosen to exercise their constitutional rights to organize and dissent. Justice Scalia is often characterized as one of the most intellectually vigorous members of the Supreme Court. He has been both lauded and reviled for his controversial decisions — decisions that affect the lives of all U.S. citizens. When the justice comes to our campus, then, he should not be shunned and ignored in and out of Notre Dame like a criminal. Rather, his visit should be made public so that ordinary citizens can express their opinions about the kind of nation that Justice Scalia seeks to create.

While such expressions may not be welcome to Justice Scalia, who reportedly requested that his presence not be made public, or to the conference organizers, they would nonetheless be evidence of a vibrant — and fundamental — democratic impulse.

John Duffy
English professor

Editor’s note: In e-mail to The Observer Tuesday, Law School spokespersons indicated they would modify her earlier remarks and said the decision not to publicize Scalia’s appearance was conference organizer A.J. Bellina’s preference, not Scalia’s. The justice’s column. But just because we sometimes lack spectacular examples like Jena or Katrina, we cannot continue to “deride” them.

Andrew Neis is a junior American Studies major from Fairfield, Conn. As you read this, he is probably on his way to Visit Walt Disney World for a research trip. No, seriously, he is. He can be reached at anesi@nd.edu.

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The Observer reserves the right to edit letters for length and clarity.
We can all be saints

Kate Barrett

FaithPoint

While we're at it ...

Dear Caity and Erin Schneeman,

We think that's a great idea for the fight song and should be promptly added into the Notre Dame repertoire. While we're at it, they should also consider making the Notre Dame men's and women's football teams have a march that can be addressed in our school songs.

"Rally sons and daughters of Notre Dame" Sing her glory and sound her fame! Cheer, cheer, for old Notre Dame! While her loyal sons and daughters march onward to victory! (Notre Dame men wear gold and blue.

Then Notre Dame men and women will sing:

For Notre Dame men and women are marching into the football field to fight for you, Notre Dame ... When Notre Dame men and women fight for gold and blue, it's time to rally all Notre Dame fans, faculty and alumni to instill our opinions, view-points and make our feelings known! This is a truly unique opportunity to remind ourselves throughout the year of the many ways a person can serve God. Have an urge for world travel? St. Francis Xavier Cabrini spent her life on the move, from Italy to the United States to Nicaragua and Panama and Peru and long to serve the poor? St. Martin de Porres loved his women, especially for money used for poor families in Lima. Want to get the right "feel" for the song? Vincent de Paul was a master at it. Today we honor not one particular saint, however, but all those who are working in a work of love or anonymous holy man or woman, not with medals or prizes, but by imitating Christ in our lives. This, for the kind of disciples Christ can speak out about of Love's love.

We think that's a great idea for the fight song. It is an injustice rivaling comic strips about fat chicks that males often sing the "Victory March" with the ignorant and insensitive phrase "while the people sitting around us ..." We fully expect a reaction and we will continue to sing, "one," but it would work either way.

Don't leave anyone out

This is in response to the letter entitled "Reconsidering the Victory March" (Oct. 30). We feel the aforementioned letter included some valid points, but it was still slightly exclusive in its message.

Even small exclusions breed both sadness and Viewpoint articles. As The Observer's Viewpoint editor, I can see how everyone's goal, in every aspect of life, is to have the example of another person. It is an injustice rivaling comic strips about fat chicks that males often sing the "Victory March" with the ignorant and insensitive phrase "while the people sitting around us ..." We fully expect a reaction and we will continue to sing, "one," but it would work either way.

It is unfair, as well as an act of discrimination, to continue to exclude women by not changing the term, "sons," to something which includes both genders. Please allow women to be considered, for example, we're a greater part of this wonderful university. Exclusion is never a good thing for anyone. Both male and female students should feel "equal" at this university in every way. After all, this is a Christian university, which reverses the judgment of the kings of the world. We are a mother, too, and I have a son (class of 2003) and two daughters, so I am not writing this with any personal agenda in mind. I am writing it on behalf of women, as well as everyone who has ever felt discriminated against, unwanted, or rejected, through no fault of their own — just because of "who" they are.

Holly Miller

Viewpoint Editor

Inclusion and exclusion in Victory March

We are all for overlooking the fact that these songs were written during a period when Notre Dame was an all-male school, that these songs were written to cheer on a male dominated sport i.e. football and that this University is a university full of tradition, a tradition that is marked by these songs that have endured from their composition. We fully support changing all of these lyrics to allow an inclusive and correct atmosphere here at Notre Dame so that everyone feels equally welcome. It's like a mad band stadium cheering on the football team won't feel belittled because we have to punch the air at "her" instead of "daughters."
Owen Smith, a 1995 Notre Dame graduate and stand-up comedian, will perform his one-hour special, "Anonymous," at the Century Center on Thursday, November 1, at 7:30 and 10 p.m. Smith's movie, "Unhitched," made skeptical during its opening, is an animated comedy starring Orlando Jones. Smith has no experience in acting or directing, but he has been an inspiration to college students as a comedian and stand-up performer.

"Yeah, I would watch it they would buy it," said Smith. "I thought it was very emotional. People who curses can't think of anything else to say," said Smith, quoting Bill Cosby. "I emulate this theory in my routines now, but uses the occasional expletive only when necessary. When he came to Notre Dame last April, an advisor told Smith that his routine "crossed the line."

Smith said sophomore Cedric Joint approached him after the show and declared, "Yeah, you definitely crossed the line. And I loved every minute of it." Joint, who kept in contact with Smith and went on to Los Angeles for the past summer to work with him, has worked tirelessly on production for Thursday's show. Tickets for Smith's show are on sale for $5 online, at the LaFortune box office, and at the door of the Century Center. Doors for the first show open at 6:30 p.m. for the second. Free rides will be provided from McKenna Hall and Library Circle starting at 6 p.m.

"I just want everybody to come out," Smith said. "Even if you don't have a ticket. Just hop on the bus and we'll figure something out."

Contact Katie Peralta at kperalta@nd.edu

Affleck brothers show brilliance on both sides of camera

By JAMES COSTA
Assistant News Editor

When I first heard that Ben Affleck was directing a movie, I felt a little sorry for the guy. After starring in a series of epic flops, it seemed impossible that he could step behind the camera and make something truly special happen. Yet, my first feelings were wrong. Rather than make a mediocre film, or even a good film, Affleck has risen higher than the critics and skeptics. In his first effort as a director, he has constructed a deeply moving and powerful film, "Gone Baby Gone," that will compel the viewer to contemplate the very essence of what is right and wrong.

The movie is a drama, pure and simple. It has no comic relief, no funny man, no cheap laughs or stunts to lighten the mood. From the first frame, it starts hard and only gets harsher and darker. Functioning as drama without gimmicks, it succeeds in delivering the viewer deep into a world of broken lives, drug addiction, violence and corruption. The film centers on the idealistic ways in which man views the world and then falls from these perceptions after experiencing the world. It only to hopefully regain the idealism that has been lost along the way.

The film is based on the novel, "Gone Baby Gone" by Dennis Lehane, the author of " Mystic River," which Clint Eastwood adapted to the screen. From the very beginning of "Gone," it almost feels as if we're watching "Mystic River II." This is because Affleck is ripping off Eastwood. It's simply that Affleck also understands the South Boston world in which Lehane writes and masterfully captures its essence on screen.

While the film is still young and the jury is still out on its future appeal, it is quite possible that Affleck has created in "Gone" a film as powerful an insight into the good and evil spheres of human consciousness as Eastwood created in "Mystic River." The story is complex. Amanda McCready, a cute four-year-old from South Boston, is abducted from her home. A few days go by and no progress is made in finding the kidnapper. Distressed, Amanda's aunt goes to a private investigator (Casey Affleck) and seeks his help. There isn't much more to say without giving away secret. However, it is a plotline that only thickens in complexity before the dramatic and classic climax between Affleck and the kidnapper.

Beyond the details of the plot, the film truly succeeds in exposing a world that most of us know little about. It is a world of ugly lies — thrown away and forgotten because of criminality, drug use and complacency. This is the epic of the snarled mother from the underworld. She is a druggie, a user, a villain to herself and her family, and yet there is also an element of sad hope and love for her child that makes her impossible to hate. Casey Affleck delivers a powerful and commanding performance. He is clearly the start that he has ingrained himself deep into the sublieies of his character. There is something laying beneath the veneer of the character that adds an additional element of tension to the already nail-biting storyline.

The film is extraordinarily compelling. It contains a remarkable sensitivity to the struggles people face and the difficulties in doing what is right when there is already so very much wrong.

Contact James Costa at jcosta1@nd.edu
"We are just about 140 nautical miles out of Chicago O'Hare." While this may sound like a pleasant statement, it's really just nonsense. Note what follows: "Hope you're enjoying your flight." Now back to that first comment. Let's play "one of these things is not like the other..."

"First comment. Let's Now seem like P..."

This is just one of the many oddities that pervade air travel. It seems that even the oft-repeated phrase, "pleasant trip" is a contradiction in terms. I mean, what's really fun about cramming into a tin can that is about 20 yards long, but only 15 feet wide? And moreover, what's fun about being in this cramped space with 100 other people? What's appealing about coming across people like that guy who dozes off on your shoulder or the inevitably screaming babies? Of course, there are a few options: burritos, tacos (hard or soft shell), burrito bowls (a burrito minus the tortilla) and a salad. But the possibilities within these choices are endless. Four-year-old kiddy guacamole is delicious, four kinds of salsa, two types of beans and, oh, you like sour cream and cheese on that? These ingredients ultimately become the real way we gauge their success or taste. So often lost in the restaurant atmosphere-battle (see also, the "how much stuff can we put on our way to the point") is, ironically, good food. Chipotle founder Steve Ells is a cook at heart, and it shows. The adobe rub lemon and steak is delicious, the thickly guacamole is flavorful and the rice and salsa is simple and robust. Chipotle boils its menu down to a few things and does them very well. It has an admirable appeal on a regular basis. Interestingly enough, some don't choose Chipotle for its taste or convenience. Rather, it's its stock is now worth $13 per share, which is a testament to the Fresh-Mex madness. So often lost in the restaurant atmosphere-battle (see also, the "how much stuff can we put on our way to the point") is, surprisingly, good food. Chipotle's motto. A burrito is big enough for a lunch, and it's well worth it. With tasty options, reasonable prices, and a penchant for morality, why not join the craze?

Burritos fill bellies of ND students

By CHRIS McGRADY

Students have been caught up in the craze for Chipotle, the bur­ro­ge­ni­on­ing em­pire of burrito restaur­ants built on the backs of organic meat, beans, and guacamole. Chipotle, a Colorado-based Fresh­­Mex chain, has hit the Michiana area with all the force of, well, a three­bun­dled burrito.

Chipotle opened on Main Street in Mishawaka a little more than a year ago. The restaurant was popular initially, but mostly with those students who had been to Chipotle in other cities. But as time went on, the phrase, "Wanna go to Chipotle?" became as much a campus mainstay as, "What did you think of the game?" Now, if you head to Chipotle at 6 a.m. or 11 p.m., you can expect the line to reach the door.

Chipotle's secret is simplicity. Its menu includes a few options: burri­ tos, tacos (hard or soft shell), burrito bowls (a burrito minus the tortilla) and a salad. But the possibilities within these choices are endless. Four-year-old kiddy guacamole is delicious, four kinds of salsa, two types of beans and, oh, you like sour cream and cheese on that? These ingredients ultimately become the real way we gauge their success or taste.

The views expressed in Scene and Heard are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer. Contact Jess Shaffer at jshaf@nd.edu

Unfortunately, friendly smiles don't always greet us when we fly. The first one out of your seat — an all consuming desire to be one of the few who get to stand at full height in the center aisle. And while the rest crouch under the overhead compartments, the vicious carry-on luggage rains down from the sky, attacking at random with a roller bag to the head. The Dora the Explorer backpack comes out of nowhere, again! At least baggage claim is out in the open: it gives more space for bag fling. But unfortunately, here you are subjected to the little boys and old men's delusions of strength. Inevitably you always get an only half-retrieved bag thumped onto your foot. That last yank of your bag off the belt is about all any sane person can take. It's enough to send anybody straight to bed as remedy for exhaustive irritation. I'm considering not leaving my bed until Christmas so that I can start recouping for my next flying disaster. Sorry, Frank, it's disappointing for me, too.

The views expressed in Scene and Heard are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer. Contact Jess Shaffer at jshaf@nd.edu

This popular cartoon character may look innocent, but her merchandise could distract and injure you on flights.

O4 Blue Eyes adds whimsy to flying in "Come Fly With Me," but real-life traveling experiences are never so romantic.
NBA

Net's big three pace squad in win over Bulls

Hornets open season with win in front of home crowd; Lewis' debut in Orlando's win over Milwaukee

Associated Press

EAST RUTHERFORD, N.J. — Antoine Wright has learned to deal with rejection very well.

Told by the New Jersey Nets last week that they won't be picking up the option on his contract next year, Wright started his walk year by making a statement.

Wright scored 14 of his career-high 21 points in the fourth quarter and overtime to lead the Nets to a 112-103 victory over the distracted Chicago Bulls on Wednesday night.

"I am a little excited," Wright said. "I am looking at this as an opportunity to show people I can be consistent and play every night. At the end of the year, hopefully everything will take care of itself."

Wright spent $25,000 this summer to work out three times daily on his overall game at a camp in Las Vegas, and it certainly paid off.

"For him to have a game like this on opening night to save us, I'm just happy for him," Frank said. "It's nice to see him have a big game like this and hopefully, he'll have more like this."

Richard Jefferson, who battled injuries in recent years, added 29 points and 10 rebounds as the Nets won their 12th straight against the Bulls in New Jersey. Vince Carter had 24 points and a big steal late and Jason Kidd handed out 13 assists.

Kidd was impressed with Wright, whose previous high was 16 points last season.

"I think it gives him confidence and puts him on the radar," Kidd said. "He played extremely well last year and he's picked up where he left off."

The Bulls struggled at times in the season opener, the possible victims of rumors of a major trade with the Lakers for Kobe Bryant.

Ben Gordon had 27 points and Luol Deng added 22 points and 11 rebounds for the Bulls, who rallied from a 1-point second-half deficit to force the overtime.

"There's never a deadline when it comes to trades," Deng said. "I guess I have to learn to take it easy for the rest of my career. There's always someone who wants you. I didn't think it would really bother us."

Hornets 104, Kings 99

Chris Paul and the rest of the Hornets' starting five got their team's full-time return to New Orleans off to a promising start. Paul had 22 points and 12 assists, while Peja Stojakovic showed some of his All-Star form of old with 19 points to help the Hornets beat the Sacramento Kings on Wednesday night.

Tyson Chandler, fresh from a stint playing for the U.S. national team, had 15 points and 13 rebounds for New Orleans, while David West showed no signs of a recent ankle sprain in scoring 17.

Newly acquired shooting guard Morris Peterson chipped in with 13, including three 3-pointers.

Stojakovic missed all but 13 games last season because of back surgery. New Orleans will need him to stay healthy this season, and he looked fine against his former team, playing 31 minutes and hitting four 3-pointers.

Defensively, Sacramento missed Ron Artest, who is serving a 7-game suspension for being charged to related to domestic violence. With Mike Bibby out at least 3 months recovering from back surgery, Sacramento's firepower was diminished as well.

Kidd Martin led the Kings with 26 points, while John Salmons scored 22, Francisco Garcia 19 and Brad Miller 12.

The Hornets took a double-digit lead in the first half and maintained it for most of the game.

NBA commissioner David Stern was in New Orleans to announce a season-long league-wide community service initiative in New Orleans that will include a day of service by players, coaches, team employees and their families two days before each homegame in the city here on Feb. 17.

He attended the game, the first of 41 regular-season contests the Hornets will play here in their first full season in New Orleans since Hurricane Katrina took down the roof in 2005. The team spent most of the past two seasons in Oklahoma City, playing only nine regular-season games in the Big Easy during that time.

"I am looking at this as a buying opportunity for us," Stern said. "I am looking at this as the first half and I'm just happy for him.

"There was really a deadline when it comes to trades," Deng said. "I guess I have to learn to take it easy for the rest of my career. There's always someone who wants you. I didn't think it would really bother us."

Hornets guard Peja Stojakovic, left, drives past Kings guard John Salmons during New Orleans' 104-90 win Wednesday.

Hornets guard Peja Stojakovic, left, drives past Kings guard John Salmons during New Orleans' 104-90 win Wednesday.

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Q: What do you call a holding that has had its sides removed? A: A halalwwe.
Boston pitcher Curt Schilling celebrates the Red Sox's second World Series win in four years during the team's victory parade in Boston Tuesday. The veteran hurler is a free agent sorting through his options.

Schilling considering other listed teams

Associated Press

BOSTON — Although his first choice remains Boston, Red Sox pitcher Curt Schilling said on his blog that he would consider a dozen other teams for a "last year" based on quality of life and a chance to make it back to the playoffs. Schilling previously said he would only rule out the rival New York Yankees.

On Tuesday evening, he posted on his blog, 38pitches.com, the following list: Cleveland, Detroit, Anaheim, New York Mets, Philadelphia, Atlanta, L.A., S.D., Arizona, Chicago Cubs, St. Louis, Milwaukee.

"Teams we didn't include aren't for any one reason," he wrote. "There are a million little things that go into this from stadiums to school districts to travel to spring training to etc. etc. but the list represents the teams after Boston that have some of the off the field things that are big to us, plus the potential to go into October next year."

Only the Red Sox can sign the right-hander, who turns 41 this month, until Nov. 13; other teams can express an interest but not negotiate over money.

Schilling, who isn't represented by an agent, said he called the baseball players' association and told them he wanted to file for free agency.

"Weird," Schilling wrote. "Something that can be so life altering was pretty much a four-second phone call."

Catcher Jason Varitek and Doug Mirabelli stopped by the Red Sox clubhouse to bow up their belongings on Wednesday morning after being honored at the Massachusetts Statehouse. Varitek took care to label and prepare the bats he used during the World Series.

The two locker next to the catcher, which had been used by Schilling, were cleared of any personal items and name tags.

Varitek repeated his hope that Schilling is able to finish up his career in Boston, but said he wouldn't be running to his teammate's blog to keep him on up his status.

"I haven't checked a blog, so I'm probably not going to start going," he said. "I may call him now and then to see what's going on." Schilling said he was one of the players who received a note from Schilling.

"It's something I'll keep," the catcher said.

**IN BRIEF**

**Stugger Adam Dunn becomes highest paid Reds player**

CINCINNATI — Adam Dunn became the Cincinnati Reds' highest-paid player Wednesday when the team picked up his contract option for $13 million next season.

The Reds answered their most expensive offseason question by keeping their top power hitter, the only one in franchise history to have 49 homers in four consecutive seasons. Dunn wanted to stay with the team that drafted and developed him.

Owner Bob Castellini was consulted about the decision. Earlier this month, Castellini said he wanted Dunn to stay, even if it cost the $13 million.

Anytime you have a deal of this magnitude, ownership deserves to be part of the process," general manager Wayne Kravsky said.

**Mike Cameron suspended 25 games for stimulant use**

SAN DIEGO — Mike Cameron, the Padres' Gold Glove center fielder, was suspended for the first 25 games of next season on Wednesday after testing positive a second time for a banned stimulant.

"The one thing I wanted to make sure was explained is, no steroids," Cameron told AM 1090, the Padres' flagship radio station. "I never took anything like that before in my life. That would be 50 games, and that would affect me a whole lot more."

Cameron issued a statement through his agent, saying doctors for the players' association helped him narrow down what triggered the positive test.

Lisa Leslie back after a year off and a newborn baby

COLLEGE PARK, Md. — It would have been easy for Lisa Leslie to walk away from playing basketball and begin a broadcasting career.

The three-time Olympic gold medalist had just become a mom in June with the birth of daughter Lauren and had nothing left to prove.

But the 36-year-old star still yearned to play.

"Honestly, I didn't know if I was going to be able to play or not," Leslie said. "Being back on the floor, I just love basketball, and regardless of whatever my age is, as long as I'm keeping up and able to contribute, I'll play.

And when I can't do that anymore, I have no problems hanging up the shoes and going out and getting behind the mike and talking about the game. But I think right now I'm still effective enough to help the team win."
L.A. GM Colletti admits he has spoken with former Yankees skipper, no deal has been reached between the two sides

Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — General manager Ned Colletti conceded Wednesday he had spoken with Joe Torre about managing the Los Angeles Dodgers.

While Colletti insisted they had not agreed on a contract, he indicated the former New York Yankees manager was the leading candidate to replace Grady Little, who resigned on Tuesday.

"We've had some conversations with him very recently," Colletti said. "Certainly as you look at his resume and what he's done and the market he's done it in, you've certainly got to start there.

"Having said that, Colletti was quick to point out that other candidates were also being considered.

"We're talking about a number of people," Colletti said. "We're crossing off names. It may be a very short list.

Colletti said he was aware of baseball's directive regarding minorities being interviewed for open managerial jobs, but wouldn't say whether the Dodgers would honor the requirement.

"We're taking it into consideration. We'll see how things go," he said. "I'd rather look at what we've done. What we've done speaks well. I think it's pretty indicative of a thorough thought process.

By any reasonable gauge, Torre's name is at the top of the Dodgers' list. However, when asked whether the parties had discussed money and if they were close to a deal, Colletti retreated.

"We have interest," he said. "It may be mutual. That's really a question for the other side.

"It's far from impossible. It's far from not happening as close, far. It's either done or it's not done. We're still trying to learn about each other. There's been some light discussions to try and get a feel, I'm not going to get to where the negotiations are. It's still early in the process in some ways.

Torre's agent, Maury Gostfrand, declined comment Wednesday. Soon after Little resigned Tuesday, published reports said Torre and the Dodgers had already reached a deal, some claiming he had agreed in principle to a three-year contract worth $14.5 million.

'I've watched stuff in the last two days that I can't believe I'm watching," Colletti said. "I can tell you we do not have an agreement. I've seen more inaccuracy than I can ever remember.

"Still, it would be a surprise at this stage if Torre doesn't follow in the footsteps of Hall of Famers Walter Alston and Tom Lasorda in what would likely be the final chapter of his own Hall of Fame career.

Colletti acknowledged the buzz surrounding Torre might cause other potential candidates to decline to be interviewed.

"That's certainly a factor," Colletti said. "I believe it will play a role." The 67-year-old Torre, who managed the Yankees to four World Series titles and 12 playoff appearances in 12 seasons, completed a $10.2 million, three-year contract this year. He ranks eighth on baseball's career list with 2,667 victories and has won a record 76 postseason games.

On Oct. 18, Torre rejected a $5 million, one-year offer from the Yankees with an additional $3 million in performance bonuses. He earned $7.5 million this season, by far the most of any manager.

Colletti said he sensed Little was leaning toward stepping down, so he began discussing the job recently with potential replacements. One of those candidates, the GM acknowledged, was Joe Girardi, hired by the Yankees as Torre's successor Tuesday.

The Dodgers entered this season as the clear-cut favorite to win the NL West. They had the league's best record in mid-July, but lost 11 of their last 14 games to fade out of contention, finishing at 82-80.

Once one of baseball's glamour franchises, the Dodgers have struggled in recent years, failing to win a single playoff series since winning the 1988 World Series. In fact, they've won only one playoff game since winning their sixth World Series championship.

Since Lasorda stepped down during the 1996 season after suffering a heart attack, the Dodgers are 1-9 in postseason action. The lone victory came three years ago, when they lost to St. Louis 3-1 in an NL division series.

The Dodgers won the NL wild card in 2006, Little's first year as their manager, but were swept by the New York Mets in the first round of the playoffs.

Torre and his former bench coach, Don Mattingly, have discussed the possibility of joining the Dodgers together, according to a person with knowledge of those talks. The person spoke on condition of anonymity because the manager's position in Los Angeles was vacant.

"We don't have a coaching staff in mind, we haven't gotten there," Colletti said. "We've discussed it to some extent. I think whoever the manager is, there will have to be a comfort level on his part and my part."

Colletti said he hadn't spoken directly with potential managerial candidates other than Girardi and Torre personally, but added there have been conversations with others "in a secondary way, not directly, through other people."

"I'm not going to get into the numbers," he said.

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LSU fans look for payback on Saban Saturday

Tiger faithful haven't forgiven Alabama coach for jumping ship to NFL, returning to coach rival SEC school

Associated Press

Nothing gets college football fans more riled up than a coach who bolts for a big-money contract in the NFL.

Wait, there's one thing that's even worse: When that same coach returns to the same school in the same division as the opponent, and standing in the way of a possible run at the national championship.

At least Saban has the good fortune of playing Saturday's game in Tuscaloosa, where he'll be in the same division as LSU and standing in the way of a possible run at the national championship.

Saban's successor, Les Miles, chose his words carefully when asked if there was a different feeling about this game.

"I probably got more ticket requests from boosters than I normally do," he said. "Knowing the opponent's coach as well as they do around here has certainly made it a little bit more interesting."

The Web was buzzing with plenty of talk about Saban facing his former team. For instance, a chat room run by The Times-Picayune of New Orleans allowed people to vent behind the anonymity of the Internet.

"When you talk, you don't know what to believe," one blogger wrote. "He always says he is happy where he is and wants his family to stay there, and then denies entertaining job offers and then before you know it he is gone. It's just want someone who is upfront and honest."

"I don't hate him," another LSU fan chimed in, "but let's flip it around. Truthfully, think of any former UA coach you have a few to choose from). When Bama was to play them, wouldn't you want Bama to win just a little more so as to remind him what he left behind? That's how I feel about Saban. He's a good coach, but I want LSU to beat him pretty good."

"This game is more than coach Saban."

Kirston Pittman

LSU defensive end

"This game is more than coach Saban."

"This game is more than coach Saban."

Saban after a disappointing season.

Back at LSU, there was an angrier outcry against Saban, whose name was accompanied by words such as "betrayal" and "turncoat." Everyone in purple and gold circled one date on their calendars — Nov. 3.

"I don't think it surprised anyone that he return to college football," said Herb Vincent, who serves as a liaison between LSU's athletic department and its fundraising group.

He always talked about how much he enjoyed coaching college players.

"When LSU started taking orders for the 7,000 tickets it was allotted for Saturday's game, it was bombarded with 33,000 requests," Vincent said. "That exceeds how many bowl game requests."

"When LSU hit the SEC, it's a very important game. No, it has nothing to do with the guy coaching the SEC, but right into our division. That adds a little bit of an edge to this game."

A little bit of an edge? That's an understatement.

When LSU started taking orders for the 7,000 tickets it was allotted for Saturday's game, it was bombarded with 33,000 requests.

"This game is more than coach Saban."

Kirston Pittman said. "That in itself shows the anticipation for this game. I'm sure a lot of our fans are going just to see even though they may not have tickets."

Saban recruited most of LSU's starters, but the players have largely gone along with the company line.

Yes, this is a very important game. No, it has nothing to do with the guy coaching the other team.

"This game is more than coach Saban," senior defensive end Kirston Pittman said. "It's about winning the SEC West. I have a lot of respect for coach Saban. He brought a lot of fire to the team. "He'll probably win this year, but I wouldn't expect him to make a mistake. He would get in your face if you did make a mistake."
Kitna proves to be prophetic

QB’s prediction of 10 wins for Lions appears possible after 7 games

Associated Press

ALLEN PARK, Mich. — Jon Kitna subjected himself to ridicule, saying before the season that he would be disappointed if the Detroit Lions didn’t win at least 10 games.

No one is laughing at Detroit’s quarterback anymore.

The Lions are 5-2, the lone NFC North team without a loss in the division and only one in the conference undefeated at home. Detroit’s strong start — and startling turnaround — gave Kitna enough confidence to say special things are possible.

Such as: “I don’t play this game for any other reason but to win a Super Bowl,” Kitna said with conviction and a sure smile as he grabbed a reporter’s recorder. “I’m not trying to go to the playoffs. I’m not trying to win 10 games. I’m not trying to do more victories. I’m trying to win in a Super Bowl.”

On the eve of the training camp, Lions coach Rod Marinelli insisted he didn’t have a problem with Kitna’s bravado.

As the team prepares to hit its midway point of the season at home against Denver, Marinelli wasn’t bothered by the latest bold statement from his quarterback.

“Every team in this league has a vision of what they want to be,” Marinelli said after Wednesday’s practice. “But in reality, it’s the day-by-day preparation.”

The Lions have embraced Marinelli’s one-snap-at-a-time mantra, and it has appeared to help them win five times in the final quarter with clutch plays by all three units.

Detroit was routed 56-21 at Philadelphia and 34-3 at Washington, but bounced back to win the last two games. Suddenly, people outside the locker room are believing in the franchise coming off one of the worst six-season stretches in NFL history.

The former laughingstock of the league is slowly gaining respect, but Marinelli insists he doesn’t care.

“It doesn’t mean anything,” Marinelli said. “If it helped us win, I’d care.

“It certainly doesn’t mean anything as we prepare to play Denver this week.”

If Detroit beats the Broncos, it will double last season’s win total: match the most victories from the Matt Millen era; and reach six wins halfway through the season for the first time since 1999, the last season it made the playoffs.

The Lions are vastly improved only because they’re creating turnovers — the more than they’ve given up — and taking advantage of them.

They lead the NFL with 20 takeaways, 13 interceptions and 69 points off turnovers. At this point last year, Detroit was 1-6 after forcing 11 turnovers, including just three interceptions.

“The first thing you look at is their turnover ratio,” Denver coach Mike Shanahan said. “Anytime you win the turnover battle, you’ve got an excellent chance to win football games.

“It’s also another year of the defensive and offensive system under their belt.”

While Marinelli and offensive coordinator Mike Martz are in their second season with the Lions, defensive coordinator Joe Barry, Marinelli’s son-in-law, is in his first.

Marinelli said it’s not a coincidence the “Tampa Two” defense is being implemented much better than it was last year because of Barry.

“It’s everything,” Marinelli said.

Barry learned the popular system as an assistant in Tampa Bay under coach Tony Dungy and coordinator Monte Kiffin.

“What I hired him people were like, ‘Well, that’s your son-in-law,’ but he’s here because he knows this system as well as anyone in the league,” Marinelli said. “Coach Dungy hired both Mike Tomlin and Joe, then he trained under Monte Kiffin, one of the elite coordinators ever.”

Marinelli fired defensive coordinator Donnie Henderson, replacing him with Barry.

“With Donnie, that was my fault 100 percent,” Marinelli said.

Marinelli also got rid of some players who didn’t fit his system, or did not seem willing to practice hard with pads after going through lighter workouts under former coachess Mariucci and Marty Mornhinweg.

Detroit reshaped its roster in part by trading cornerback Ty Law to Denver, defensive end James Hall to St. Louis and choosing not to re-sign safety Terence Wheat. “He broke the whip out last year and demanded attitudes change,” defensive tackle Cory Redding said. “He said, ‘We’re not rebuilding this year. We’re going out to win.’

“It wasn’t personal when he got guys out of here. It was business.”
**NHL**

**Owner works to keep Predators in Nashville**

Associated Press

NASHVILLE, Tenn. — Predators owner Craig Leipold decided Wednesday to give more time to the local investors trying to buy the NHL team and keep it here in town.

The local investors put down $10 million as a deposit in August for the $193 million purchase and faced a midnight deadline Wednesday to finalize the sale or lose exclusive negotiating rights. They have been working with Metro Nashville officials to revise the team's arena lease to give them a better chance of making rather than losing money. Leipold is selling because he estimated he has lost $70 million in his 10 years of ownership.

Leipold said in a statement released by the team late Wednesday afternoon that he had met with Mayor Karl Dean for an update on where the city is in the lease negotiations with the group led by David Freeman. Leipold also met with Freeman for an update on the group's progress toward finalizing this deal.

Leipold didn't say how much more time he is giving them to finish the deal but said he hopes to forward to completing the sale.

"We understand how complex this transaction is and how much time and effort David, his group, the Mayor's office and others have invested into the process all with a goal of keeping the Predators in Nashville and making the franchise viable for the long-term," Leipold said.

"Based on the progress being made, I can confirm all parties will benefit from extra time to complete this transaction so we will extend the purchase agreement with David's group with a goal of completing the sale as soon as possible."

The investors declined to comment when Leipold announced the extension. But the group does have a new partner. Doug Bergeron is a businessman and friend of California venture capitalist Mark "Boots" Del Baggio — who had been the only non-Nashville investor.

Freeman said in a statement that nothing is changing in the ownership group.

"Roots is simply diversifying or diluting his personal interest and bringing another very bright, high quality, hockey-loving investor into his group. We are very happy that Mr. Bergeron will be part of our ownership group," Freeman said.

Leipold didn't say much more himself.

"We do not plan to comment further on the sale status until there is significant and definitive news," Leipold said.

Leipold originally announced a deal to sell his team in May to Canadian billionaire Jim Raskillle for $220 million. But the deal fell through in June when the co-CEO of Blackberry makers Research in Motion Ltd. started taking season ticket deposits in Hamilton, Ontario.

He remains interested in pur- chasing the team. Raskille retained a local attorney who shared a letter with the Nashville Sports Authority recently in which he called Nashville a great hockey mar- kett.

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Irish finish fall season with tourney in Virginia

By KATELYN GRABAREK Special Writer

Notre Dame travels to Virginia this weekend hoping to put an exclamation point on the end of an already strong fall season.

The Irish played well at the Olympic Field's Invitational in Chicago Sept. 13-16, sweeping all six matches against last spring's national runner-up Illinois. Notre Dame then went on to win 27-0 singles matches while hosting the Tom Fallon Invitational in South Bend Sept. 28-30.

"This Irish will look to close the fall season with the same success at the William and Mary Invitational, which starts this morning in Virginia." The singles players have excelled so far, the doubles teams have been a weak spot for the Irish throughout.

Tip off
continued from page 24

Allergy, was ranked 11th in the nation by Blue Star Basketball. Notre Dame has now had a top-25 recruiting class for 11 consecutive seasons.

The team lost only two players to graduation, Crystal Erwin and Broome Gray. The pair averaged 12.2 points per game between them. Scholar, who averaged 10.5 points per game as a freshman, will contend for Gray's spot.

Irish coach Muffet McGraw plans to use a four-guard offense for this season, in part to improve the team's perimeter defense. Opponents shot from the outside often and effectively against Notre Dame last season — teams made 40 percent or more of their three-point attempts 10 times last season.

"It fits our team. This is the offense for our team," Schrader said at the Women's Basketball Media Day on Oct. 10.

The Screaming Eagles finished last season with a 16-12 (10-9 Great Lakes Valley Conference) record and received votes in this year's USA Today/ESPN Division II Top 25 Presession Coaches Poll. Senior forward Jasmine Raines, who averaged 11.1 points per game last season, is the team's top returning scorer. Tonight's game will be the first preseason game for Southern Indiana as well.

Senior All-America guard Churel Allen was named as a pre-season candidate for the John H. Wooden Women's Award, given to the top player who best represents the term "student-athlete." Allen led the Irish in scoring and rebounding (177 points per game, 6.2 rebounds per game. She is expected to be the leader of McGraw's new four-guard offense and continue to put up big numbers for the Irish in her final season in South Bend.

The Irish were picked to finish fifth in the Big East by the conference's coaches, behind Connecticut, Rutgers, West Virginia and Pittsburgh. The Irish finished fifth in the conference last season after being picked to end their season in 11th place at the beginning of the 2006 campaign.

"It's our team. This is the offense for our team," Schrader said.

Irish junior Brett Helgeson lines up a forehand shot during Notre Dame's match with Indians on Nov. 26, 2006 in the Eck Center.

Irish finish fall season with tourney in Virginia

By KATELYN GRABAREK

Men's Tennis

Parbh and Helgeson look to continue good play in Williamsburg

NOVEMBER 18, 2007

An Exceptional Event for Brides.

The Bella Bridal Show is the only bridal show in the Midwest that is completely dedicated to bridal stationery, accessories, men's and women's suits and tuxedos for your upcoming wedding. The Bella Bridal Show is a unique show with a variety of products that you would expect only at a national bridal show. Bella Bridal shows are a great way to see many products in one place and are a must for brides who are looking for a quality show with the latest in wedding style.

Tickets are $5 per adult and children are free. Tickets are available at the Bella Bridal Show Office 637-813-2137 or online at www.bellabridalshow.com

AUSTIN OPPORTUNITY

Irish Junior Brett Helgeson lines up a forehand shot during Notre Dame's match with Indians on Nov. 2, 2006 in the Eck Center.

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AUSTIN OPPORTUNITY

Irish Junior Brett Helgeson lines up a forehand shot during Notre Dame's match with Indians on Nov. 2, 2006 in the Eck Center.
Luke continued from page 24

went backwards," the sophomore said.

At the time, the prognosis was that Harangody would be out for three to six weeks. At this point, the forward will miss both of the team's exhibition games — Friday against St. Ambrose and Wednesday against St. Edward's — but will certainly be back when the Irish travel to the Paradise Jam tournament in the Virgin Islands Nov. 16.

Brey said a decision will be made on Harangody's status for the Long Island game. The forward felt the injury is not likely to affect his play, he could continue to have pain throughout the season.

"I've only been working with my left hand and I've been in the gym all the time." Luke Harangody sophomore forward

"I've only been working with my left hand and I've been in the gym all the time." Harangody has used the injury as an opportunity to improve his hand handling with his left hand, something the big forward felt he needed to improve on anyway.

"I've only been working with my left hand and I've been in the gym all the time," he said. "I almost feel more comfortable with my left hand now." Once he gets the hard cast off, Harangody will most likely wear a soft cast or glove to protect and support his hand during games.

"I'll probably have to wear something on it," Harangody said. "I'll probably wear like a leather sort of glove or something."

Harangody said while the injury is not likely to affect his play, he could continue to have pain throughout the season.

"The doctor warned me about it maybe being a recurrence," he said. "But I can't worry about that. I just have to play."
Practice
continued from page 24

on the ice — you actually perform on the ice. Most hockey players are not visual or audible learners."

Notre Dame has been forced to do a lot of on-ice learning during games, which it will have to do again tonight when it hosts Lake Superior State (1-2-1) at the Joyce Center. However, it's not an excuse for the team's play, Jackson said, as the young Irish are working on fixing their many problems.

One of those holes that only recently developed is in the power play. Prior to last week, when the Irish defeated Bowling Green in a midweek game and split with Ferris State over the weekend, they had scored at least one power play goal in each of their five games. In the last three games, the Irish went 1-for-24 and allowed a short-handed goal.

"We're not doing enough in and around the net to be successful," Jackson said. "We're getting opportunities, if you see some of the scoring chance that we had in Ferris State on the power play. We're not finishing."

The personnel on the power play has changed frequently, which Jackson said may be happening a little too much. But it will continue to shift until the right chemistry is found on the unit.

Notre Dame has had trouble in the third period as well, giving up 10 of its 17 goals allowed in that frame. Against Wisconsin in the season opener, the Irish surrendered three third-period goals after the game was tied 1-1. The same thing happened against Denver, when they let up a late goal to blow a tie and then an empty-netter to put the game out of reach.

The late goals aren't because of poor conditioning, Jackson said, but the team has not yet learned in "value the puck" to the level that Jackson expects. The team tries to do too much with the puck and turns it over, which has led to the late goals. It happens in every period, but has tended to lead to goals more in the third period than any other, he said.

The players who were a large part of last season's championship run to national No. 1 have put much pressure on themselves to do better than last year, and Jackson said that each one has put the responsibility of generating offense on themselves. This has led to valuing the puck much less than Jackson would like to see.

"It was the biggest fear I had going into the season and it's actually happening," Jackson said. "That's the pressure of high expectations — not just team expectations — but personal expectations."

Irish goalie Jordan Pearce, who has started every game and been the only goalie to see any action, will start in net tonight as well. Earlier in the season Jackson said he wanted to work on goalies Tom O'Brien and Brad Phillips into the mix, but Pearce now leads the nation in minutes played with just over 416.

Pearce has been sharper when the pipes than he was expected to be, Jackson said. But he will not play every game, and O'Brien and Phillips will get a shot in the near future. It will only happen, however, when Jackson has full confidence in the younger goalies.

"Just when I'm about ready to pull the trigger, they have a bad practice or they don't look good. I need to see consistency in them," Jackson said. "A coach always deals with his confidence level and who he's putting on the ice."

Jeff Jackson
Irish coach

"We're not doing enough in and around the net to be successful."

Jeff Jackson
Irish coach

"That's the pressure of high expectations — not just team expectations — but personal expectations."

Jeff Jackson
Irish coach

University of Notre Dame's Study Abroad Program in Angers, France

"Should I stay or should I go?"

INFORMATION MEETING

FINAL INFO SESSION BEFORE APPLICATION DEADLINE

With Angers' Program Coordinator and returnees of the program

Thursday, November 1, 2007
5:30 — 6:45 PM
118 DeBartolo Classroom Building

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Fall 2008 and Spring 2009
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Matthew Hudson, Andy Manza & Paul Tassinari

Tastes Like Failure

Rich Prottva & Andy Spangler

Jumble

Henri Arnold

Crossword

Eugenia Last

Horoscope

Celebrities Born on This Day:

Happy Birthday: Today we note your emotional outlook to hold you back. Cast out your programmed blocks to help you reach your goals. You'll attract unusual people who can offer you information, inspiration and help. Cast your fate to the winds and enjoy the ride. The answers are 1, 21, 31, 32, 49.

Aries (March 21-April 19): Work from home if you feel you will get more accomplished. Letting others distract you or take up your time will not pay the bills or allow you to advance. Today is about finishing what you start. 2 stars

Taurus (April 20-May 20): You can help those less fortunate and, at the same time, make others think of you. Your ability to bring about reforms will lead you to a position of power. Follow through with your beliefs and ideas. 4 stars

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Money will be the issue today. You can make a wise decision and put it to a better future. Fix any wrongs and you will help to bring the people you love and be happy and you will make the people you care about feel good. 5 stars

Cancer (June 21-July 22): Emotional issues may be difficult to discuss but, if you take action and do things to improve your home environment, you will be able to make a difference to the ones you love and yourself. Change is good today. 3 stars

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22): Today, it will be your contribution that enables you to reach out to those who can help you succeed. Home improvements will be surprisingly satisfying and functional. Follow through with your dreams, hopes and wishes. 3 stars

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Whatever you decide to think what you start, do what you say and take a serious approach to what you believe in. This may mean you need to set aside at least one area of your life. 2 stars

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Don't let your emotions and anger cross over or you will make a mistake that is hard to reverse. This is not the time for high bridges. Consider your options and do what is best for yourself and those influenced by your actions. 2 stars

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Make changes at home to help you pave the way to a better future. Fix any wrongs and you will help to bring the people you love closer. Now is the time to solve problems not create more. Love issues can be resolved. 4 stars

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): You may have to get involved in an unusual unexpected scheme. Think twice before you trust your money to someone else. You have to be careful not to be too trusting, generous or flirty. Don't joga, walk or massage. 3 stars

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Make changes at home to help you pave the way to a better future. Fix any wrongs and you will help to bring the people you love closer. Now is the time to solve problems not create more. Love issues can be resolved. 4 stars

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Apply yourself to work and projects that have the potential to bring in extra cash. Good ideas may appear to be unusual but they can work. Home and fashion can play a large part. This is the time for a strong or fashionista who can be happy and be happy and you will make the people you care about feel good. 5 stars

Birthday Baby: You are quick to respond and eager to get to the bottom of things. You won't waste time but can be a铺手p with the issues you love. You are accomplishing, caring and strong-minded.

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HOCKEY

Talkin’ about practice

Notre Dame prepares for LSSU in another short week of practice

By KYLE CASSILY
Sports Writer

Notre Dame worked on pulling its goalie mid-play for the first time this season during Wednesday's practice.

The run-through was their last before taking on Lake Superior State tonight at 7:35 in the Joyce Center.

The drill, which was conducted over three weeks since online practices started, went over a very small portion of a hockey game, but its timing is a sign of the struggles the Irish have had with their schedule so far this year.

The No. 13 Irish (4-3, 2-1 CCHA) have played several mid-week games in order to avoid conflicts with the home football schedule, a decision that has severely limited their number of practices. And when they do practice, the sessions are shorter so the team is not fatigued for games.

"We’re trying to adjust by film now," Irish coach Jeff Jackson said. "Most hockey players are what you call kinesiologic learners. They have to learn by doing. You walk them through the screen, and the defense comes off."

By CHRISS KOREY
Sports Editor

The hard cast on Notre Dame forward Luke Harangody’s thumb will be removed next week, and he might play in the team’s regular season opener against Long Island University on Nov. 12.

Irish coach Mike Brey said on Wednesday, "I’m holding out just hope that he’s able to play in our first game," Brey said. "We’ll have a really good look at it next Tuesday when the cast comes off.”

Harangody injured his thumb during a pick-up game in practice this weekend.

"I came off of a ball screen and my hand got against someone’s hip, and my thumb just went."

WOMEN’S BASKETBALL

Irish tip off season tonight

Strong freshman class makes Joyce Center debut in exhibition

By BILL BRINK
Sports Writer

Notre Dame welcomes Southern Indiana to the Joyce Center tonight for its preseason opener, its first game since a second-round exit in the 2007 NCAA tournament.

The lost context, a 60-51 loss to No. 1 North Carolina that was closer than the score indicated, displayed the team’s ability to play with anyone when they chose to, a theme of the 2006-07 season.

The Irish put together winning streaks of four and six games last season, but also lost three straight on the road against Big East opponents and three straight to end the regular season. Their losses in the final game of the regular season and in the first round of the Big East tournament both came at the hands of DePaul.

Notre Dame finished 20-12 (10-6 Big East) last season,

Welsh adds spark to offensive attack

Junior transfer has boosted Irish defense

By FRAN TOLAN
Sports Writer

After Elise Weber committed to Wisconsin as a senior in high school, Irish coach Randy Waldrum assumed he would not get many opportunities to see the midfielder play again.

"We don’t play Wisconsin regularly — just every three or four years," Waldrum said. "I kind of lost track of her.”

But Weber transferred to Notre Dame this summer and her play this season has made it extremely difficult for Waldrum — and opposing teams — to lose track of her.

Now a junior defender for the Irish, Weber has become a regular fixture on the Big East weekly honor roll. Waldrum said there are few players at her position that impact a game as much as she does.

"We haven’t seen a better attacking back this season.”

Waldrum said. "Not only are her stats great but she’s just so dangerous in the attack."

Weber has racked up two goals and six assists from her defensive position this season, though she had played a primarily offensive role in her two years with Badgers.

Weber only played three or four games as a defender at Wisconsin, she said, but when she decided to transfer to Notre Dame, Waldrum knew he could find a spot for her.

"Once she got her release and fixed it over, we were a little surprised, but I knew she was a good player,” Waldrum said.

After moving into her spot on the Irish back line, Weber is giving some early-season growing pains. Weber has helped anchor a defense that surrendered just six goals in its 12 Big East regular season games.

By ALLISON AMBROSE/The Observer

Senior guard Charell Allen drives during a 76-60 loss to Rutgers in 2006. Allen leads a revamped Irish offense this season.

For LSSU in another short week of practice

By KYLE CASSILY
Sports Writer

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