Students vote to amend Constitution

By KAITLYNN RIELY
Assistant News Editor

The Student Senate passed an amendment to the Student Body Constitution Wednesday that formally requires the president to share certain information with representatives, but failed to pass a second constitutional amendment as senators debated the role of the vote to abstain.

The Student Senate Charleston Hersey, it unanimously passed a resolution describing the role of the student body president in his or her interactions with the Community/Campus Advisory Coalition (CCAC). The CCAC was created by the South Bend Common Council to bring together city, resident, student and college representatives from South Bend.

The CCAC's goal is to help the Council identify neighborhood concerns related to the local colleges, to propose solutions, and to develop long-term strategies regarding community relations. It was created as a final amendment to the party permit ordinance passed by the Common Council on Sept. 24.

Siegfried senator Jim Lockwood proposed an amendment Nov. 7 that spelled out the responsibilities of the student body president regarding his or her interactions with the CCAC. A vote on the amendment failed to pass in a 16-21 vote, with 15 senators abstaining.

Aidan Fitzgerald was diagnosed with testicular cancer at the time of his diagnosis, moved his friend in a time of need. Fitzgerald's roommates, were trying to do something to support his friend in a time of need.

New FedEx Kinko’s draws business

By GENE NOONE
News Writer

Business has been strong for the new FedEx Kinko’s in the LaFortune Student Center, said Director of Administrative Services and Business Operations Dan Skendzel.

The new location, which is the second on campus, opened Oct. 29. The First FedEx Kinko’s opened in Grace Hall in 2003.

FedEx Kinko’s replaced The Copy Shop, a privately owned business under Copy Services, Inc., which operated in the LaFortune basement for 18 years. The business closed after a nearly two-year-long legal battle.

Compared to The Copy Shop, Skendzel said FedEx Kinko’s prices are “much more competitive” than the rates at The Copy Shop.

Pricing for black and white copies is $0.04, down from The Copy Shop’s charge of $0.08 per black and white copy.

Saint Mary’s sophomore Catherine G ancor paid $6.70 for 70 black and white flyers for the Equestrian Club of Notre Dame and Saint Mary’s.

World AIDS Week offers free testing

By MADALINE BUCKLEY
News Writer

A tree wrapped with 8,200 ribbons to represent the number of people who die every day from AIDS stands outside of DeBartolo Hall as one part of a weeklong project to raise money for and awareness of the worldwide AIDS epidemic.

The Center for Social Concerns is behind the project, which ends with World AIDS Day on Dec. 1.

Senior Teresa Hancock, who co-chaired the project with senior Erin Greenberg, hopes to “raise awareness and get students to really think about the issues and relate them to their own lives and their own situations.”

The week began with the sale of red shirts in the dining halls to create unity among students.

“The main incentive has been our theme: ‘Live solidarity. Keep the promise.’” Hancock said. “We are trying to push solidarity and inspire students to show support by wearing the shirts.”

The sale from the shirts sponsors a children’s choir from Watoto, a village in Uganda with 1,500 children who have been orphaned.

Students mentor children

Big Brothers/Big Sisters recruiting for next year

By GENE NOONE
News Writer

Senior Alex Melecki has been busy studying like many Notre Dame students — but his study partner is a fifth grader and the subject is spelling.

Melecki is president of the Big Brothers/Big Sisters program of Notre Dame and is involved with 100 Notre Dame students who spend time every week mentoring children in St. Joseph County.

The program is recruiting new volunteers, especially males, Melecki said.

“My work with Big Brothers/Big Sisters has been the most rewarding thing I have done during my time here at Notre Dame,” he said.

The Notre Dame Big Brothers/Big Sisters program works closely with the St. Joseph County branch of the Big Brothers/Big Sisters organization, which began in 1957.

The mission of the Big Brothers/Big Sisters organization, according to its Web site, is to provide children who lack sufficient adult support with the opportunity and skills necessary to develop positive personal growth.

“A lot of young people today do not get much of an opportunity to be friends with adults, especially ones who are going to listen to them and act as a positive role model,” said senior Devon Easter, vice president for the Big Brothers/Big Sisters of Notre Dame.

Statistics show that the Big Brothers/Big Sisters program have helped children stand out and get into college, and the program is always looking for new volunteers.

Students to make blankets, buy T-shirts to help chemotherapy patients

By MEG MIRSHAK
News Writer

The Notre Dame students, staff compare service, prices of LaFortune location to old Copy Shop

By GENE NOONE
News Writer

The FedEx Kinko’s LaFortune location, which opened on Oct. 29, is the second shop on campus.

The FedEx Kinko’s at The LaFortune Student Center, said Director of Administrative Services and Business Operations Dan Skendzel.

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Saint Mary’s sophomore Catherine Gancor paid $6.70 for 70 black and white flyers for the Equestrian Club of Notre Dame and Saint Mary’s.

Students make a fleece blanket at last year’s The Aidan Project, which produced more than 100 blankets for chemotherapy patients.

Aidan Project expects high turnout

Students, staff compare service, prices of LaFortune location to old Copy Shop

By GENE NOONE
News Writer

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Talking to Tebow

With only nine days remaining in the race for the most prestigious award in football, Florida quarterback Tim Tebow hopes to become the first sophomore to win the Heisman Trophy. Along with Chris Leak, dual-threat quarterback of the Florida Gators, Tebow is a strong candidate for the award. Tebow believes he has the skills to win this award.

Tebow says that he is driven by the desire to win and to help others. He says, "I think a lot of people could say that about me. I'm a person who wants to win. I believe in winning."

MM: What role has your Christianity played in your athletic career and your life, and how has it been tested in college?

Tebow: Faith is a huge part of my life. I grew up in a very religious family and have been around churches my entire life. I believe that faith is what has helped me stay grounded.

MM: Your Father's are both in the country, but only four in the NFL. How would you describe the competition in your father's best conference, and do you think it has helped or hurt your team this year?

Tebow: The competition in the SEC is as good as anywhere in the country, and that's one of the reasons I chose to go to Florida. Every week we play in a championship type atmosphere in amazing stadiums with players who will soon be playing in the NFL. The passion for football is unbelievable. This year I'd say it has helped us play great in every game, but that's been made even better. I wouldn't trade the experiences for anything.

MM: You've already won a national championship, broken school and SEC records, and you're the first person in NCAA history to rush and pass for 20 touchdowns in a season. Are you considering going to the NFL?

Tebow: Right now, I'm not considering it. Later, sure, but I'm being at the University of Florida, I love being a Gator, and I want to get my education. Professional football is not something I'm focused on right now. Staying here for four years will allow me to understand the business of football. Plus, I'm having too good of a time to leave early.

MM: Right now, you're the top candidate for the Heisman Trophy. How does it feel knowing that in a little over a week you could be the first sophomore to ever win this award?

Tebow: It's an honor just to be mentioned with the Heisman Trophy. I'm more focused on doing what I can to help our team win games. My only goal is to win the SEC title and have a chance to play in the national championship.

MM: How do you balance your studies and your athletic career?

Tebow: I have a great support system at Florida. I have a great coach, and I have a great family. While I'm at Florida, I make sure I have time to study and work hard in the classroom.

MM: Some people believe you are more of a leader on the field than off the field. How do you describe yourself?

Tebow: I believe in being a good leader on and off the field. I try to be a good example for young people and to show them that hard work and dedication can lead to success.

MM: What advice would you give to someone who is struggling to balance sports and academics?

Tebow: I would say that it's important to stay focused and committed to both your studies and your athletic career. Don't compromise on either. It's possible to excel in both areas if you work hard enough.

MM: What are your future plans after football?

Tebow: I'm not sure yet. I'm focused on finishing my college career at Florida and then making a decision about what I want to do next. I believe in taking things one step at a time.

MM: What is your favorite memory from your college career so far?

Tebow: Winning the SEC championship and going to the national championship game will always be special memories.

MM: Do you have any hobbies or interests outside of football?

Tebow: I enjoy spending time with my family and friends. I also enjoy reading and watching movies. I try to stay as balanced as possible.

MM: What do you think you will miss most about college football?

Tebow: I will miss the atmosphere of football games and the sense of community within the team. I will also miss the opportunity to be successful and make an impact on my team.

MM: Thank you for taking the time to speak with us.

Tebow: Thank you.

The views expressed in the Inside Column are those of the author and are not necessarily those of The Observer. Contact Meghan McMahen at mmcmahen@nd.edu

CORRECTIONS

The Observer regrets an error in the professional publication and offers its most sincere apologies to the individuals and organizations affected. We take full responsibility for the error and will work to prevent similar issues in the future. The Observer regrets any inconvenience caused to our readers and apologizes for any inconvenience caused.

Pat Moran
freshman
Keenan
"Cheaper course packets."

Michelle Nguyen
sophomore
Farley
"Real life clones of football players."

Brendan Geisler
sophomore
Keenan
"Salsa con queso."

Paul Pokaski
sophomore
Keenan
"Call of Duty 4."

Jennie Weller
freshman
Welsh Family
"Those green and navy fleeces that the athletes wear."

IN BRIEF

Mass will be celebrated in the Alumni Hall Chapel at 5 p.m. Friday for the late Rev. St. Andrews, the Gregorian Scholar will sing Gregorian chant.

Carroll Hill will host "A Carroll Christmas" Friday at 7 p.m. This will feature a tree lighting ceremony, a performance by the Undertones and karaoke. Tickets are $15 in advance or $20 at the door.

The Notre Dame Choral and Chamber Orchestras will present Handel's Messiah Friday at 8 p.m. in Leighton Concert Hall, DeBartolo Performing Arts Center. Tickets can be ordered by calling ticket office at (574) 631-2700.

As part of the Solidarity film series, there will be a screening of the film "We are Together" in the DeBartolo Performing Arts Center Friday at 10 p.m. The film focuses on the story of the children of the Agape Orphanage as they overcome the adversity of growing up among Africa's 12 million AIDS orphans.

The Voices of Faith Gospel Choir will perform their final concert, "Come Back to Your First Love" Saturday at 7 p.m. in Washington Hall.

Habitat for Humanity will host "A Home for the Holidays" Sunday from 3:30 p.m. to 5 in the Stepan Center. Groups of students can register online to build a gingerbread house. The cost of registration ranges from $30 to $50 per group, depending on size of the house. There will also be arts and crafts, entertainment and food to raise money for the organization.

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

OFFBEAT

Lottery winner wasn't supposed to gamble

BOSTON — The winner of a $1 million lottery scratch ticket may not be so lucky after all. He's a convicted bank robber who isn't supposed to gamble. Timothy Elliott faces a Dec. 7 court hearing over whether he violated his probation when he bought the $10 ticket for the $800 Million Spectacular game at a supermarket in Hyannis.

Elliott was placed on five years' probation after pleading guilty in October 2006 to unarmed robbery for a January 2006 heist at a bank on Cape Cod. Under terms of his probation, he "may not gamble, purchase lottery tickets or visit an establishment where gambling is conducted, including restaurants where Keno may be played."

Elliott, 55, has collected the first of a 20 annual $50,000 checks from the Massachusetts lottery commission. A picture of Elliott, holding his first check, was posted on the lottery's Web site Monday, though it was removed by Wednesday.

Poem headstone uncovered at courthouse

BAR HARBOR, Maine — Workers on a courthouse renovation project have made an eerie discovery in the basement, the headstone of a man who died in 1874.

County Administrator Bill Collins said no one knows why the headstone was kept in the basement of the court house, but he guesses it may have been evidence in a case. The front bears the name Isaac Cobb, who was 72 when he died.

Adding to the mystery is the poem scrawled on the back of the 3-foot-high grave marker.

The ditty on the flip side appears to have been printed in black paint, by jail inmates. It's titled "Pretty Boy Flooded Redmond" and tells the story of someone who came to town "to do the dirt."

Information compiled by the Associated Press.
**Board holds glasses drive to help needy**

**By ASHLEY CHARNLEY**  
New Writer

As part of Disabilities Week, the Student Diversity Board (SDB) at Saint Mary’s is sponsoring an eyeglasses drive to benefit the poor in Africa and Latin America who cannot afford new lenses. Jana Blake, disabilities representative for SDB, is in charge of the drive, which began on Monday.

"This year the Board decided to take a proactive step in actually helping the segment of the world’s population who struggles with visual impairments by collecting glasses," she said. Students are asked to donate any pair of prescription reading glasses or sunglasses to the drive. Collection boxes are located in all Saint Mary’s residence halls at the front desk.

This year, the Board worked with New Eyes For The Needy, a group that has helped more than 6.5 million people since its founding in 1932. New Eyes For The Needy sends donated eyeglasses to countries in Latin America and Africa, where the price of eyeglasses can sometimes be more than the average annual household income, Blake said.

"It is probably unfathomable to many of the students here that there are people in the world who cannot afford something as simple as a pair of glasses," Blake said. "I think this drive is an excellent opportunity for Saint Mary’s students to share some of the many luxuries we, as Americans, have that many people throughout the world do not.

When Americans get new frames, they tend to leave their old ones lying around, and through the drive, these old glasses can go to good use, she said.

The prescription lenses will be sent to people who work in schools. Blake said, Sunglasses that are donated will be sent to areas near the equator to protect people’s eyes from UV rays.

The Board is also showing the movie, "Emmanuel’s Gift," during Disabilities Week. It will be today in Vander Vennet Theater at 6:30 p.m. Popcorn and pop will be served.

Disabilities Week is an annual event. Each year, the Board chooses a different disability as its focus. This is the first time the SDB decided to hold an eyeglasses drive.

Contact Ashley Charnley at acharn01@smn.edu

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**Coins hidden for treasure hunt**

**By AMBER TRAVIS**  
News Writer

The Sophomore Class Council and American Airlines are sponsoring a campus-wide treasure hunt that begins at 8 a.m. today as part of a nationwide event that includes 40 colleges and universities.

"The airline sees this as an opportunity to serve students in a way that will build a loyal relationship in the future," said sophomore class president Grant Schmidt.

Schmidt said 221 gold coins labeled with "treasure hunt" and "American Airlines" have been placed all over campus in various locations, possibly including residence halls, recreational facilities and the DeBartolo Performing Arts Center. Putting the coins all over campus allows all students to be involved in the treasure hunt, he said.

The coins can be redeemed for golden envelopes in the Dooley Room of Lafortune Student Center between 1:30 and 4 p.m. today, and student IDs are needed. Each student can only turn in one coin.

All Notre Dame undergraduates and graduate students are eligible to participate in the treasure hunt, a choice made by the Sophomore Class Council.

"So many of the events on campus are dorm related, class related, or tied to specific events or causes, and we are trying to bring all of that together," Schmidt said.

The prizes were made possible by a donation from American Airlines.

"The airline sees this as an opportunity to serve students in a way that will build a loyal relationship in the future," said sophomore Scott Andrews, campus representative for American Airlines. "American Airlines believes that it is very important to invest in students." Schmidt said the best part of the treasure hunt is its convenience.

"This isn’t an event that requires attendance. You don’t have to change your schedule," he said. "I could be walking to Theology at 9 a.m., and I happen to see a gold coin, which makes me a part of it."

Contact Amber Travis at atravis@nd.edu

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**Write for News. Call 631-5323**

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**THIS WEEKEND AT LEGENDS:**

**FRIDAY**

**10PM**

10pm - Mega 80's DJ  
Midnight - Totally 80's DJ

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**SATURDAY**

10pm - The Format  
Midnight - Hip Hop Nightclub

**AS ALWAYS...NO COVER!**

ND, SMC, HCC ID Req’d
Kinko’s continued from page 1

"I thought the pricing was really reasonable," Garver said while picking up her copies.

Bridgeport Kent, an administrative assistant for the University Writing Program, agreed. "I like that the prices are a lot less," she said. "But I liked The Copy Shop more on service."

Kent is part of the Fredrix branch with the former campus-based Copy Shop.

"I think a lot of people liked that The Copy Shop was campus people, rather than anyone where you don’t have when there’s a corporate business in there," Kent said. "I think there’s a certain comfort in working with people, in dealing with people, not just sort of being another cog in the machinery.

Skendler said the benefits of having a corporate copy center.

"With the new Kinko’s, you have access to the multitude of Kinko’s services," be said. These services include online ordering and shipping. Also, the cheaper Norton-Dane rates apply to the 24-hour FedEx/FedEx Road location on a student ID card.

The legal battle over The Copy Shop’s LaFortune location began in August 2005 when the University argued Executive Vice President John Affleck-Graves. The School Mentor argued that its lease contained an option "to renew" which would allow it to stay in the LaFortune location until the owner decided or he no longer wanted the space, or until they violated a rule of the lease.

The case went to the Indiana Court of Appeals, which ruled against The Copy Shop.

In March, The Copy Shop closed its doors, citing the cost of the lawsuit with the University as the primary reason for its closing.

In a letter to customers, Tim Work, president of The Copy Shop and 1963 Notre Dame graduate, wrote that the University intended to "to purchase the property, clean it up, and sell our business to a corporate company."

Fredrix Kinko’s first came to Notre Dame in 2005 after a campus advisory committee researched ways to provide more efficient copy services to the University, at the request of Executive Vice President John Affleck-Graves. Skendler said there are no plans to add additional Fredrix Kinko’s to campus.

Contact Gene Noone at econne@nd.edu

Senates continued from page 1

The original version of the amendment called for the student body president to attend all CCAC meetings and compiled the president’s own copy of any “day and all documentation” from the meetings to the Senate at the next regular meeting.

During discussions of the resolution, the Senate unanimously agreed to enact the resolution. The resolution passed over second reading, and the Senate paved the amendment with unanimous consent against the amendment.

The resolution addressed the abstain vote, which is a vote senators may make instead of "yea or nay when the Student Senate considers a resolution. The resolution’s amendment states that, except when voted otherwise in the Constitution and its bylaws, "all votes taken in the Senate shall be taken from those senators voting aye or aye, provided there is a quorum, and not necessarily from every voting member of the Senate or the voting member present at a given meeting."

With the way voting currently takes place in the Senate, Sevciar said, a vote to abstain negatively affects the outcome of the voting. He gave a scenario to illustrate the intended effect of the resolution.

"If we have all 28 senators voting in favor, 6 members voting against and 10 members abstain, the bill would pass 12 to 6," he said.

The amendment would change the meaning of the abstain vote, Sevciar said. A senator who voted to abstain would excuse themselves from the vote, and the bill would pass 17 to 6.

The resolution failed to meet the two-thirds majority required for it to pass, with 16 senators voting in favor, 7 against and 2 abstaining.

In other Senate news:

- Residence Life chair Rebecca Montes said Notre Dame Security/Police has approved three new locations for emergency call stations in the 16 parking lot, behind Lewis Hall and next to McKown Hall.
- University Affairs chair Callie Pogge said her committee is launching an environmental campaign next semester.

Contact Kaitlynn Riely at kriely@nd.edu

Dec 2, 6 p.m.

Chapel of Notre Dame Our Mother
Coleman Morse Center

Mass in the African-American Tradition
Pizza to follow!

For information, contact Judy Madden 633-8508 or jmadden2@nd.edu
IRL

6,000 Sunnis sign pact with U.S.
Alliance with tribal militia considered a critical step in blocking escape routes for extremists

Associated Press

HAWIJA — Nearly 6,000 Sunni Arab residents joined a security pact with American forces Wednesday in what U.S. officers described as a critical step in plugging the remaining escape routes for extremists flushed from former strongholds.

The new alliance — called the single largest single volunteer mobilization since the war began — covers the "last gateway" for groups such as al-Qaida in Iraq seeking new havens in northern Iraq, U.S. military officials said.

U.S. commanders have tried to build a ring around insurgents who fled military offensives earlier this year in the western Anbar province and later into Baghdad and surrounding areas. In many places, the U.S.-led battles were given a big boost from tribal militias — mainly Sunnis — that had turned against al-Qaeda and other groups.

Extremists have sought new hot spots in northern areas once loyal to Saddam Hussein's Baath party as the U.S.-led gians have mound across central regions. But their ability to strike near the capital remains.

A woman wearing an explosive-rigged belt blew herself up near an American patrol near Baqubah, about 35 miles north of Baghdad, the military announced Wednesday. The blast on Tuesday — a rare attack by a female suicide bomber — wounded seven U.S. troops and ripped Iraqi, the statement said.

The ceremony to pledge the three new fighters is presided over by dozen sheikhs — each draped in black and trimmed with gold braiding — who signed the oath on behalf of the tribesmen at a small U.S. outpost in north-central Iraq.

For about $275 a month — nearly the salary for a typical Iraqi policeman — the tribesmen will man about 260 security checkpoints beginning Dec. 7, supplementing hundreds of Iraqi forces already in the area.

About 77,000 Iraqis nationwide, mostly Sunnis, have broken with the insurgents and joined U.S.-backed self-defense groups. Those groups have played a major role in the lull in violence: 648 Iraqi civilians have been killed or found dead in November to date, according to figures compiled by The Associated Press. This compares with 2,155 in May as the so-called "surge" of nearly 30,000 additional American troops gained momentum.

U.S. troop deaths in Iraq have also dropped sharply. So far this month, the military has reported 34 deaths, compared with 38 in October. In June, 101 U.S. soldiers died in Iraq.

"They killed 476 of my citizen, and I will not let them continue their killing," Issa said.

With the help of the new Sunni allies, "the Hawiija area will be an obstacle to militants, rather than a pathway for them," said Maj. Sean Wilson, with the Army's 1st Brigade, 10th Mountain Division. "They're another set of eyes that we needed in this critical area."

By defeating militants in Hawija, U.S. and Iraqi leaders hope to keep them away from Kirkuk, an ethnically diverse city that is also the hub of Iraq's northern oil fields.

"They want to go north into Kirkuk and wreak havoc there, and that's exactly what we're trying to avoid," Army Maj. Gen. Mark P. Hertling, the top U.S. commander in northern Iraq, told The Associated Press this week.

States sue for information on toxic chemicals

Associated Press

ALBANY, N.Y. — Twelve states sued Wednesday the Bush administration to force its release of data on toxic chemicals that companies store and release into the environment.

The lawsuit was filed on behalf of the New York City Office of Environmental Protection, which asked the federal Environmental Protection Agency to provide the data to New York City officials. The lawsuit argues that such data is crucial for environmental protection.

The lawsuit comes as states across the country are stepping up their legal efforts to get information about toxic chemicals in their communities.

The lawsuit seeks to require the EPA to disclose the data it receives from companies on toxic chemicals, and to make that information available to the public.

The lawsuit is the latest in a series of legal challenges by states to the Bush administration's efforts to cut back on regulations that they say are needed to protect public health and the environment.

The lawsuit argues that the Bush administration has failed to follow the law when it comes to protecting the public from toxic chemicals.

The lawsuit seeks to prevent the EPA from continuing to undermine its own regulations, and to require the agency to release the necessary information to the public.

The lawsuit is being handled by the State of New York, and is being filed in U.S. District Court in New York City. The lawsuit is seeking a court order to force the EPA to release the data.

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**Rite of Welcome**

This Sunday at the 11:45 am Mass in the Basilica of the Sacred Heart, we will recognize those members of the Notre Dame community who are seeking to become fully initiated into the Catholic faith community in the Rite of Welcome. These women and men have met together over the past several months to explore their faith and the Catholic Church more deeply through the RCIJA process. Catechumens seek full initiation through the sacraments of Baptism, Eucharist, and Confirmation; Candidates are already baptized and seek to be received into Full Communion with the Catholic Church through the sacraments of the Eucharist and Confirmation. The Rite of Welcome gives all of us an opportunity to encourage these men and women as they continue their journey of initiation in the months ahead.

Candidates and their Sponsors
- Matthew Belton/Dan Allen
- Brian Bodnar/Katie Dugan
- Emma Brizius/Kelly Levis
- Brook Buck/Maria Jourdan
- Jimmy Buffi/Heather Keane
- Stewart Carlin/Megan Carlin
- Josh Cook/Mandy Lewis
- Ryan Fischer/Bethany Fischer
- William Hayman/John Kyler
- Blake Jones/Christina McCool
- Sara Loveless/Agata Michalaski
- Jessica Martinez/Allison Muscolino
- Joe McNamara/Jake Greiner
- Christian Minella/Cheerly Sieve
- Stacey Moon/Richard Kim
- Jessica Morris/Erin Locke
- Sadia Murphy/Brad Mattan
- David Ray/Brian Barrett
- Kristy Schlueter/Meli Barber
- Sarah Skileen/Erika Meyer
- Katlyn Springstead/Kathryn Zellweger
- Kathleen Sullivan/Laura Bradley
- Matt Swift/Santiago Rosado
- William Zech/Thao Tran

**AIDS**

continued from page 1

"I hope the Notre Dame students will realize that there are things we can do to fight AIDS."

Teresa Hancock, senior

"There are kids that come from nothing, and our goal is to raise $2,500 to send back with the choir."

Hancock said.

"AIDS affects young people from the ages of 18-24 in huge numbers more than ever," Hancock said. "That's our age. It really does affect everyone. It doesn't discriminate."

Hancock, along with her task force, enabled free HIV testing on campus for the first time.

"This is something I have been really passionate about getting because there is such a stigma about testing. People think, why do we do it here? But the reality is that some are at risk. It does affect everybody," she said.

AIDS Ministry and AIDS Assist of South Bend, a nonprofit organization that helps people with AIDS, will provide free testing today from 6 p.m. to 8 in the Health Center, Saint Liam Hall.

"This is to show how close­ly it hits home," Hancock said.

Hancock said the week has already inspired responses, "both positive and negative," from the Notre Dame community.

"We had a really good response tonight at the concert, and we had a good response at the testing (Tuesday), but people still feel uncomfortable coming," she said.

Hancock said she believes AIDS is "the modern day lep­ro­sy.

"The thing that separates it from something like cancer is that people blame the vic­tim, and therefore they suf­fer on both ends," she said. "They have no support and they are physically suffer­ing.

However, Hancock's goal this week is to change that attitude.

"I hope the Notre Dame students will realize that there are things we can do to fight AIDS," she said. "There are treatments, but no cure, and the numbers are increas­ing. No one is immune."

Contact Madeline Buckley at mbuckley@nd.edu

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**Blankets**

continued from page 1

As the Vice President of Service for Circle-K, the largest organizer of service opportunities on cam­pus, Eder presented the idea of a service project to raise cancer awareness.

Last December, The Aidan Project brought 250 students together to make more than 100 blankets.

Circle-K is encouraging stu­dents in give whatever time they can to The Aidan Project, an open-house-type event. Making blankets requires no sewing and instructions will be provided, Circle-K President Katie Teigen said.

The event will include refresh­ments and musical entertainment by Pat McKellen, a Knot resident and friend of Fitzgerald.

The completed blankets will be dona­tioned to the Indiana Cancer Pavilion at Indiana University Medical Center, where Fitzgerald underwent treatment last year. Teigen hopes a large turnout at the event will make 150 blankets, which would surpass the amount from last year's event. Circle-K is also selling T-shirts this week to support The Aidan Project and to further cancer awareness on campus.

"People don't always realize that a healthy nineteen-year-old like Aidan can have cancer," Teigen said.

Last year, the money raised by T-shirt sales was dona­tioned to the Richard A. Child­ren's Hospital in Indianapolis.

Early detection is the key to cancer survival and people should embrace cancer aware­ness, said Fitzgerald, who is back at Notre Dame this semester after undergoing treatment last fall.

I hope (The Aidan Project) increases knowledge that cancer is a disease of our generation," Fitzgerald said. "Cancer is a big part of my life and I am looking forward to seeing people at the Aidan Project excited about can­cer awareness.

"When Fitzgerald, a Knot resident, appeared to be injured playing a game of football last fall, he never imagined how the next 24 hours would impact his life.

A CAT scan administered to diagnose Fitzgerald's football injury revealed a more serious problem. His father, a doctor at Indiana University, viewed the x-ray and was startled to find evi­dence of cancer.

Fitzgerald immediately left Notre Dame for his home in Indianapolis. He was diagnosed with stage II testicular cancer the following morning.

After evaluating his options, Fitzgerald left Notre Dame for the semester to be treated at Indiana Univer­sity. There was no cure, but complications from treatment forced him to take the entire year off from school.

"You don't expect it to happen to someone you see walking down the hall every day," said Mike Sullivan, who lives in Knott Hall.

Circle-K, Knott Hall, and the Class of 2009 are co-sponsoring The Aidan Project, which will be held Saturday in the LaFortune Center Ballroom from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Contact Meg Mirshak at mmirshak@nd.edu

Please recycle The Observer.

Contact Madeline Buckley at mbuckley@nd.edu
Dow on rise as Fed hints at rate cuts

In Brief

Ford settles Explorer safety lawsuits

WASHINGTON — Ford Motor Co. Wednesday agreed to settle class-action lawsuits covering plaintiffs in four states who claim Explorer sport utility vehicles were prone to rollovers, the company and an attorney for the plaintiffs said.

The settlement applies to about 1 million people in California, Connecticut, Illinois and Texas, said Kevin P. Reddy, a New Jersey attorney and co-counsel for the SUV owners who brought the lawsuit.

He said the settlement will be filed later Wednesday in Sacramento County Superior Court.

It will allow vehicle owners to apply for $500 vouchers to buy new Explorers or $300 vouchers to buy new Ford or Lincoln Mercury products, Reddy told The Associated Press.

The settlements apply to Explorers in model years 1991 through 2002.

WASHINGTON — President Bush announced on Wednesday that he will name his top economic adviser, saying the move signaled growing confidence in the nation's economic recovery.

Donald Kohn, Vice Chairman of the Federal Reserve, said the central bank may lower interest rates again during a speech at the Council on Foreign Relations Wednesday.

The possibility for lower rates seemed more compelling to investors than persistent concerns about a slowdown in economic growth.

The Fed has already reduced rates at its last two meetings, and continues to inject billions of dollars into the financial system through repurchase agreements to help calm the shaky markets.

The central bank will hold its final rate-setting meeting of the year Dec. 11.

Plunging oil and gold prices also lifted investors' hopes for a rate cut if inflation is in control, policy makers have less reason to keep rates high.

The Fed's Beige Book of economic activity around the country said with the economy expanding at a reduced pace, most core prices are stable or down slightly.

The Dow soared 331.01, or 2.55 percent, to 13,289.45, adding to the blue chip index's 215 point gain on Tuesday and giving the market's best-known indicator its largest two-day point gain since Oct. 11, 2002, and largest two-day percentage gain since Nov. 21, 2002.

A speech by Ben Bernanke, the Fed chairman, is expected on December 11, and is likely to push the Dow above the 13,300 level.
Illegal immigrant rescues child

Migrant abandons walk to the U.S. to save boy stranded in desert

Associated Press

PHOENIX — An illegal immigrant who gave up his long walk into the U.S. to help a boy whose mother was killed in a van crash in the desert said Wednesday that he never thought of leaving the child.

"I am a father of four children. For that, I stayed," Manuel Jesus Cordova Sobneran said in Spanish from his home in the Mexican state of Sonora. "I never could have left him."

Authorities said Cordova may have saved the life of a 9-year-old Mexican consulate worker's brother, whose mother was killed when their van ran off a cliff in a remote area north of the Mexican border on Thanksgiving Day.

A spokeswoman for the Mexican consulate in Nogales said the officer is working to obtain a short-term visa for Cordova so he can come to Arizona and be recognized for his actions.

The 26-year-old bricklayer was two days into his walk and about 30 miles from Tucson when he saw the boy, who had walked away from the crash.

In a telephone interview with The Associated Press from his home in Magdalena de Kino, Cordova said Christopher had scraped his leg and was dressed in shorts despite the desert cold.

The boy had his dog with him and was holding a side mirror from the wrecked van. Neither Cordova nor Christopher spoke the other's language, but the boy took the migrant to the edge of a canyon and showed him the accident site.

Cordova gave the boy the sweater he was wearing, climbed down to the van, and found chocolate and cookies to feed him.

He then built a bonfire, and the two hunkered down. The boy slept most of the night. Cordova kept watch and tended the fire.

Fourteen hours later, a group of hunters found the pair and called for help. U.S. Border Patrol agents took Cordova into custody, and Christopher was flown to a hospital in Tucson.

Christopher was reunited with family over the weekend; a message left with his uncle was not immediately returned Wednesday.

Santa Cruz County Sheriff Tony Estrada said Cordova is "very, very special and compassionate" and may have saved the boy's life.

Adriana Hoyos Rodriguez, the mayor of Magdalena de Kino, called Cordova a hero. "He left everything to save that boy," she said.

Cordova said he wanted to come to the United States to earn money to support his four children, who live with their mother, and help support his girlfriend's three children. "I have two families, many mouths to feed," he said.

He said that even though his trip was thwarted, he is glad to be back home and wishes Christopher the best.

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Kansas student, porn star missing

Associated Press

EL DORADO, Kan. — A missing Kansas college student believed to be the victim of foul play apparently led a double life as an Internet porn star by the name of Zory Zane.

Nude photos of 18-year-old Emily Sander appeared on a Zory Zane Web site before she vanished, and investigators are looking into whether her modeling had anything to do with her disappearance last Friday.

"She enjoyed it. She is a young teenage girl and she wanted to be in the movies and enjoyed movies. She needed the extra money," Nikki Watson, a close friend of Sander, said.

Sander's brother, Jacob Sander, confirmed that the nude woman pictured on the site is his sister.

El Dorado Police Chief Tom Tomko said Sander had met FBI and state experts on Internet crime have been called in.

"Investigators are aware that Miss Sander was apparently involved in a Web site situation," he said. "Allegations that this may factor into her disappearance are being thoroughly investigated."

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Netherlands

Nazi archives opened for first time

Documents could provide new information on inner workings of persecution

Associated Press

AMSTERDAM — After more than 60 years, Nazi documents stored in a vast warehouse in Germany were unsealed Wednesday, opening a rich resource for Holocaust historians and for survivors to delve into their own torment past.

The treasure of documents could open new avenues of study into the inner workings of Nazi persecution from the exploitation of slave labor to the conduct of medical experiments.

The archive’s 400 staff members, until now to help find missing persons or document atrocities to support compensation claims. The U.S. government also has referred to the ITS for background checks on immigrants it suspected of lying about their past.

Inquiries were handled by the archive’s 400 staff members in the German spa town of Bad Arolsen.

Few outsiders were allowed to see the actual documents, which number more than 50 million pages and cover 16 linear miles of gray metal filing cabinets and cardboard boxes spread over six buildings.

On Wednesday, the Red Cross and the German government announced that the last of the 11 countries that govern the archive had ratified a 2006 agreement to open the files to the public for the first time.

"Now is the time. The doors are open," said ITS director Reto Melder, speaking by telephone from the Buchenwald concentration camp where he was visiting with a delegation of U.S. congressional staff members.

Survivors have pressed for decades to open the archive, unhappy with the minimal responses — usually in formal letters — from the Red Cross officials responding to requests for information about relatives.

"We are very anxious," said David Memelab, 78, an activist for survivors’ causes in Miami, Fla., who wants to scour the files for traces of his two older brothers whom he last saw as he passed through a series of concentration camps.

"Now I hope we will be able to get some information. We have been waiting, and time is not on our side," said the retired businessman.

The U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington and the Yad Vashem Memorial in Jerusalem began receiving digital copies of the entire archive in August, allowing survivors and historians more access points.

Izzy Arbeiter, 82, the head of a survivor’s organization in the area of Boston, Mass., said he hoped to go to the museum next month to browse the files.

"My goodness, I don’t know where I would start, there are so many things I am interested in," he said. "The history of my family, of course. My parents. One of my brothers is missing. We never knew what happened to him."

Yad Vashem said the opening of the archive was "a breakthrough" for survivors and families.

"Our understanding and knowledge of the personal story of the Holocaust will be deepened," said Yad Vashem’s chairman Avner Shale.

The archive’s 400 staff members are there.

The doors are open, the list of deportees from the Netherlands to Auschwitz on Dec. 17, 1943, is missing. The north of the country’s top Muslim clerics have opposed the archive, calling it an isolated incident.

Among its files, seen by The Associated Press during repeated visits to Bad Arolsen in the last year, are the list of deportees from the Netherlands to Auschwitz on which Anne Frank’s name appears, the list of employees of Oskar Schindler’s factory who were sheltered from death, medical records showing the number of leprosy patients of the list to the RAF, the list of inmates evacuated by the Nazis from the Neuengamme labor camp who later died on prisoner boats mistakenly handled by the British air force.

Sudan

Teacher charged with inciting hate

Associated Press

KHARTOUM — A Sudan charged a British teacher Wednesday with inciting religious hatred — a crime punishable by 40 lashes — because she allowed her students to name a Teddy bear "Muhammad" as part of a class project.

The country’s top Muslim clerics pressed the government to ensure that the teacher, Gillian Gibbons, is punished, comparing her action to author Salman Rushdie’s "blas­phemies" against the Prophet Muhammad.

The charges against Gibbons angered the British government, which urgently summoned the Sudanese ambassador to discuss the case. British and American Muslim groups also criticized the decision.

Gibbons, 54, was arrested at her home in Khartoum on Sunday after some parents of her students accused her of naming the bear after Islam’s prophet. Muhammad is a common name among Muslim men, but the parents said it was blasphemous.

"I am a Muslim, and I would never do such a thing," Gibbons said. "I know I am not doing anything wrong."

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In a few months, we will ruin thousands of kids’ lives. And most people around here will hope that next time, we get to ruin more lives than we do this time around.

Last year, 14,500申请 became applicants to Notre Dame — and only 3,300 were admitted. So yes, we told more than 10,000 kids, “No, we prefer someone else.” And this year, if projections are right, we’ll deny even more. (Full disclosure: I work in the admissions office as a student e-mail responder. I have no influence, though, in making admissions decisions or on the decisions I discuss below.)

No doubt, some of those 10,000-plus kids had no place at Notre Dame. But the overwhelming majority of denied applicants, Admissions Director Dan Saracino told The Observer last year, "could do the work at Notre Dame." So why weren’t they admitted?

Because some other applicant — well, more than 3,000 other applicants — had stronger profiles. Something tipped the admissions sees in favor of their SAT scores and grades were higher, they were football stars, they seemed particularly involved in high school, etc. Some fit the class better — bringing a unique talent that other applicants simply could not. And then there are those who’d call “dirty strength” — “dirty” not because their strengths are actually less valuable, but because society seems to like to talk about them too frankly: their parents were better students, about the true meaning of diversity... Without acknowledging the gap and its magnitude, it’s easy to deny the need for diversity and preference. But the fact that an achievement gap will always be a prominent underlines the need for affirmative action programs — a need that many people cannot appreciate when considered only in abstractions.

Dismantle the "Black Bogyman" and extend a bit of Notre Dame education to everyone — even those 10,000+ to whom we say, "no thanks."

Andrew Nesi is a junior American Studies major from Fairfield, Conn. He has his own "dirty strengths," and he knows what he means. He can be reached at ands@nd.edu. The views expressed in this article are the author’s and not necessarily those of The Observer.
I’ve noticed that the Viewpoint section has gotten rather stale lately. I yearn for the days when the section brimmed so generously with lyric changes and hypothetical reactions to unlikely football victories. Unfortunately, it’s a little too early for the annual spring dust-ups, the unholy trinity of Vagina Monologues, meatless Fridays, and how the Keanan Biran is oh my god the most offensive thing ever. Did you hear they made fun of Saint Mary’s? Let’s work together to break this dull, plodding train of unoriginal objections. My part in this is simple, over the next 700 words or so I plan to take all manner of debatable positions on ridiculous issues. I will occasionally, as my privilege as a columnist, use unoriginal logic and I reserve the right to revisit demagoguery. Where do you come in, gentle readers? Why must you respond with equal vitriol, and even less reliance on logic, of course? I want you to flood the inbox of my editor with strongly worded pleas for reason, while demonstrating none yourself. If you think a position is unoriginal, you may choose to write a discussion on the editorial page, just remember this: There’s a freshman out there who’s more composing a letter stating that her class should be referred to as “freshpeople” in order to be more inclusive. There is something in here for everyone to argue about: music lovers, sports fans, and people of all major religions. I believe in at least half of these statements, and that I am willing to fake it on the rest. Do your worst, Notre Dame! I believe that Robert Louis Stevenson’s “The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde” is beyond question the greatest of all 19th-century British epistolary horror novels. “Dracula” and “Frankenstein” backers, this one is for you. The biggest fault to be found with Charlie Weis isn’t arrogance, foul language or occasionally questionable play-calling. It is his taste in music. I’m about as New Jersey as they come, but I can’t stand Ron Jovi, and the next time I respect someone after hearing that they love “Living on a Prayer” will be the first. “Mickey’s Christmas Carol” is the best version ever made of the Dickens story, Scrooge McDuck is much more convincing in the Ebenezer role than Alastair Sim. Longley seems to hate the calculus. And people who are truly refined only refer to it as “the calculus.” Family Guy is the most extensive work of plagiarism since Joe Biden’s law school. Typing “plagiarism” into Wikipedia in order to make a moderately acceptable objection. I removed a joke about Ron Paul from this column because I don’t want to give libertarians anything else to whine about. People who complain about the long line of American television but want to watch “30 Rock” are empty-headed pedants who do not have to be taken seriously. Bacon, ham and pork are all wildly overrated meats. I eat so few pig products that I’m afraid I’ll wind up on a government watch list. It shames me to admit this so many years of arguing for the positive aspects of the Hayek presidency, but Tilden really should have won in 1876. Your favorite beer is swill. All beer is swill. RedLife, you know where to mail my check. The worst result of the Cola Wars was that R.C. Cola got left in the dust because it was unable to lure Max Headroom or Michael Jackson to be its spokesperson. The best way to cure doubts of one’s sanity is to spend 90 seconds in conversation with a Chicago fan. The Cubs are not lovable. Your Rex Grossman jokes are funny. You’re not a Bulls fan if you can’t name more than five post-Jordan players. Go Play-by-Play and try to figure out if Luc Longley or Bill Wennington is still playing. I am as yet unsatisfied that Fermat’s Last Theorem has been proved. George Harrison had the best solo career of any of the Beatles. Anyone who cites “Imagine” while making the case for John Lennon is dearer than Beethoven. It is okay to make decaf jokes about Beethoven because he’s been dead for 180 years. It is not okay to make deaf jokes about him because he couldn’t hear them anyway is only an ancillary consideration, please contact jerevetten@nd.edu. The same goes for Ceylon and British Honduras. This column is an inane, irrelevant, and poorly thought out piece of tripe written at the last minute by a hack writer too ill-informed or lazy to form a cogent argument on top of a boisterous argument over 800 words. Alright, get going on your responses, even if you better not disagree with that last one. I happen to know it for a fact. John Everett is a senior English major. He is thought to be somewhere between 21 and 45 years of age. He is also considered to be somewhere and considered cantankerous. If you have any information regarding his whereabouts, please contact jerevetten@nd.edu. The views expressed in this column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer.

This season of longing

The title promises a story about this football season, so I should come clean up front — this is the weekly Faithpoint article. As we approach the season of Advent — which begins this Saturday night — we do so, barely, with many wants. We want to be close to our families. We want the Garden. And, please God, we want to win. We want more time with our kids. We want the primary motivations we have for the holidays. We want joy to overwhelm our sorrow. We want to be more inclusive. There is something in here for everyone to argue about: music lovers, sports fans, and people of all major religions. I believe in at least half of these statements, and that I am willing to fake it on the rest. Do your worst, Notre Dame! I believe that Robert Louis Stevenson’s “The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde” is beyond question the greatest of all 19th-century British epistolary horror novels. “Dracula” and “Frankenstein” backers, this one is for you. The biggest fault to be found with Charlie Weis isn’t arrogance, foul language or occasionally questionable play-calling. It is his taste in music. I’m about as New Jersey as they come, but I can’t stand Ron Jovi, and the next time I respect someone after hearing that they love “Living on a Prayer” will be the first. “Mickey’s Christmas Carol” is the best version ever made of the Dickens story, Scrooge McDuck is much more convincing in the Ebenezer role than Alastair Sim. Longley seems to hate the calculus. And people who are truly refined only refer to it as “the calculus.” Family Guy is the most extensive work of plagiarism since Joe Biden’s law school. Typing “plagiarism” into Wikipedia in order to make a moderately acceptable objection. I removed a joke about Ron Paul from this column because I don’t want to give libertarians anything else to whine about. People who complain about the long line of American television but want to watch “30 Rock” are empty-headed pedants who do not have to be taken seriously. Bacon, ham and pork are all wildly overrated meats. I eat so few pig products that I’m afraid I’ll wind up on a government watch list. It shames me to admit this so many years of arguing for the positive aspects of the Hayek presidency, but Tilden really should have won in 1876. Your favorite beer is swill. All beer is swill. RedLife, you know where to mail my check. The worst result of the Cola Wars was that R.C. Cola got left in the dust because it was unable to lure Max Headroom or Michael Jackson to be its spokesperson. The best way to cure doubts of one’s sanity is to spend 90 seconds in conversation with a Chicago fan. The Cubs are not lovable. Your Rex Grossman jokes are funny. You’re not a Bulls fan if you can’t name more than five post-Jordan players. Go Play-by-Play and try to figure out if Luc Longley or Bill Wennington is still playing. I am as yet unsatisfied that Fermat’s Last Theorem has been proved. George Harrison had the best solo career of any of the Beatles. Anyone who cites “Imagine” while making the case for John Lennon is dearer than Beethoven. It is okay to make decaf jokes about Beethoven because he’s been dead for 180 years. It is not okay to make deaf jokes about him because he couldn’t hear them anyway is only an ancillary consideration, please contact jerevetten@nd.edu. The same goes for Ceylon and British Honduras. This column is an inane, irrelevant, and poorly thought out piece of tripe written at the last minute by a hack writer too ill-informed or lazy to form a cogent argument on top of a boisterous argument over 800 words. Alright, get going on your responses, even if you better not disagree with that last one. I happen to know it for a fact. John Everett is a senior English major. He is thought to be somewhere between 21 and 45 years of age. He is also considered to be somewhere and considered cantankerous. If you have any information regarding his whereabouts, please contact jerevetten@nd.edu. The views expressed in this column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer.
By MARK WITTE

No Country for Old Men" is a movie about evil. It is a movie about murder and it is a movie about uncertainty. It may be the Coen Brothers' (LA) logo, "The Big Lebowski's) finest work. Based off of author Cormac McCarthy's novel of the same name, "No Country for Old Men" begins its merciless brutality with Anton Chigurh (Javier Bardem). Chigurh is a man who speaks softly and carries a big tank of compressed air, which he uses to punch holes in the heads of his victims. The killing begins when he strangates a police officer, breaking out of jail. The movie then follows the path of destruction he leaves in his wake. For the most part, his motive for killing falls upon the unfortunate head of Llewelyn Moss (Josh Brolin), a poor Vietnam veteran living in a trailer with his wife Carla (Samantha Morton). The overarching story is set in Texas near the Mexican border. Llewelyn's trouble starts when, while deer hunting one day, an unruly tigre comes upon the aftermath of a bloody shootout, involving a slew of dead bodies, a truckload of drugs, a dying Mexican pleading for "agua" and a suitcase of cash. Llewelyn decides to take the money and return home. Later that night, against his wife's pleading, he returns to the bloody scene with a jug of water, but his charitable action quickly puts his life in danger. He returns to find the man dead, the drugs gone, and an angry truckload of Mexicans who slated on his truck's tires before chasing him into a nearby river. Chigurh soon arrives at the scene with a couple of well-dressed Americans and, upon finding Llewelyn's truck and a transgender for tracking the briefcase, he promptly executes his companion. The movie spends the rest of the film hunting down Llewelyn and the money.

There is another part to this tale as well, seen through the eyes of an aging gay Ed Thomasson (Dennis) and "In the Defense of the Genre"aran's young teenage girlfriend. "The papers said it was a crime of passion, but he tol me there weren't none passionable about it. Said he'd been fixin' to kill someone for a song as he could remember. Said if I let him out of there, he'd kill somebody again. Said he was goin' to bell. Hecocked he'd be there in about 15 minutes."

I'll continue saying, 'I don't know what to make of that, I really don't.' The incomprehension of such evil lies at the heart of this film and none of the characters understand it. Bell spends most of the film in Chigurh and Llewelyn's footsteps, helplessly trying to catch up. Bell never once judges the decision Llewelyn made in taking the money, and the film doesn't either. Instead it focuses on dealing with what came next.

Carson Wells (Woody Harrelson) is the danciable first single featuring an Electronic beat, sure to make diehard fans cry foul.

With 27 songs, some of them are sure to be fairly horrid. "Hangover Song" on disc two is one of the album's worst songs. (A sample of one: someone's vomitting isn't really that attractive, not to mention completely unnecessary.) Any who necessarily the song "Hangover Song (In the Jew)," which has some lyrics so awful they shouldn't even be dignified with an example here. As with most double albums, a lot of the songs could be cut out, or should have beers. Filler is a serious problem on this album, especially on the second disc. Aside from the couple of duds already mentioned, a lot of the songs just aren't noteworthy. They are not necessarily bad or good, but completely forgettable. This CD would have been much better as a tight, less bloated double disc.

The best songs are usually the angriest, such as: "Skinny Mean Man," "Surgically Removing the Tracking Device" and "People Like You Are Why People Like Me Exist." There are some good quiet songs as well, such as "Spores" on the second disc. If you have the patience to sift through the filler, there are some real gems here. Max Bemis certainly a wit, fast-talking hitman hired to track down Chigurh, and he provides some comic relief in the mostly-serious film. On the whole, the movie moves at a slow pace. However, there's something fascinating about the way the Coen Brothers' film their character. It's hard not to be captivated by their struggles. The Coen Brothers create suspense through the actions of their actors. From the sound of Chigurh's boots, to the heavy breathing of Llewelyn, down to the rocking of a gun, a serious suspense pervades the film.

The story's desert setting is barren, not only in landscape, but in people, too. There aren't many extras in this film and the ones who are in it die quickly. The barren backdrop makes for quite a few shots in which only one character appears in the frame. You'll feel Llewelyn's loneliness and his fear as Chigurh chases him through empty streets.

The Coen Brothers' film was nominated for the prestigious Palme d'Or at Cannes Film Festival this year. The film never once descends into cliché, and sticks to a serious plot. The film won't rile your emotions, but it will make you think.

Contact Mark Witte at mwitte@nd.edu

By RYAN RAFFIN

Concept albums are notoriously hit or miss. Double albums are infamous for their self-indulgent filler. So it’s pretty easy to be apprehensive about the new 27-song effort by L.A.’s Say Anything, titled "In Defense of the Genre." The hype surrounding the album and the band is enormous. Frontman and lead singer Max Bemis has been heralded as "the new Bob Dylan" as often as the New England Patriots get called "the best team in the NFL.

In Defense of the Genre
Say Anything

For the most part, though, the pop-rock song "In Defense of the Genre" is a half-decent listen. The lyrics are occasionally cringe-worthy, sometimes hilarious (in a good way) and always honest. It’s obvious they wrote this album about how they write an overachieving story of the lyrics pertains to Bemis' struggles with love, drugs and his bipolar disorder. An alternate title of the songs just distract and not necessarily bad or good, but just strangely. It features some of the funniest lyrics on the record, such as: "Though once I was emot-ing and Bono lyric quoting..."

"Baby Girl, I’m A Blur" is the danceable first single featuring an Electronic beat, sure to make diehard fans cry foul.

With 27 songs, some of them are sure to be fairly horrid. Say Anything might technically be a full band, but it’s really all about Bemis here.

Unfortunately, Bemis isn’t entirely successful in pulling his sonic experiences off. A myriad of guest singers changes things up a little, but often they just distract and annoy.

One of the most memorable songs in "That Is Why," a bizarre cabaret piece, which is not only good or bad, but just strange. It features some of the funniest lyrics on the record, such as: "Surgically Removing the Tracking Device" and "People Like You Are Why People Like Me Exist." There are some good quiet songs as well, such as "Spores" on the second disc. If you have the patience to sift through the filler, there are some real gems here. Max Bemis is certainly a capable songwriter. He puts his entire self onto paper in a way that never seems forced or clumsy. While a solid chunk of the songs are not memorable, few are awful. The first half of the album is better than the second.

The album is definitely not for everyone, and the only people who will truly enjoy it are diehard Say Anything fans.

Contact Ryan Raffin at raffin@nd.edu
Our favorite retired rapper is back. Again.

Following his supposed retreat from the music world, Jay-Z proves once more why he deserves the self-proclaimed title, "The Best Rapper Alive." With the release of his latest, "American Gangster," the rapper's first concept album, which follows the storyline of Ridley Scott's recently released film bearing the same title, breathes fresh air into a hip-hop industry that reeks of banality. Smart and innovative, "American Gangster" does not claim to "Walk It Out" or "Superman." Instead, as Jay-Z proclaims on the song "No Hook," he simply does not need one. He also does not need to be backed by canonical hip-hop controversy (think Kanye and 50 Cent). Jay-Z is able to stand on his own and show why he continues to be relevant in the music industry. Revisiting many themes explored on past albums, "American Gangster" reveals an updated and more refined Shawn Carter. A few tracks stand out as the brightest of the bunch.

- "Party Life." While performing this song on VH1's "Storytellers," Hov requested red lighting — and justifiably so. This song is hot. Transporting us "To the baby's" into the Super Fly era, this track is the definition of swagger, Brooklyn. With an infectious beat and "Ugly Betty," this song has an element of blithe. From the moment the horns start, it's impossible to not invoke the gods of funk. With brilliant instrumentation and lyrical content, this song is sure to be a Roc-A-Fella anthem.

- "Fallin." Laced with Bilal's vocals, "Fallin" is introspective and thought-provoking. Both the lyrics and the beat have an element of sadness. Strategically placed after the track titled, "Success," "Fallin" examines the juxtaposition of success and failure. Alluring his listeners with a sort of intimacy detailing his own "rise and fall," Jay-Z reminds us why he continues to rise and rise again.

- "Hello Brooklyn." One of the more upbeat tracks on the album, "Hello Brooklyn," exudes energy. Personifying Brooklyn, the duo recognizes the importance of the city to hip-hop. While Lil' Wayne's verse is not his best, both he and Jay prove why they are considered rap royalty.

- "Blue Magic." Surprisingly not featured on the soundtrack to the film, "Blue Magic" outlines one of the major themes of the movie and album — the bundle. Hova teams up with Pharrell Williams on this track to reiterate the power of the collaboration.

Contact Brittney Flint at bflint@nd.edu and Amelia Thompson at atombs@nd.edu

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**American Gangster**

**Jay-Z**

**Label:** Rock-A-Fella

**Recommended Tracks:** "Party Life," "Roc Boys," "Hello Brooklyn," and "Blue Magic"

Combining sultry vocals with Jay-Z's undeniable cool, "Party Life" makes you want to do just that. "Roc Boys." This track is sure to have us all throwing up the Roc. As declared in Beyoncé's "Honeymoon," "Roc Boys" proves that Jay runs the game with the grace and the snare. Termined "black superhero music" this song has an element of bithie. From the moment the horns start, it's impossible to not invoke the gods of funk. With brilliant instrumentation and lyrical content, this song is sure to be a Roc-A-Fella anthem and classic.

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NBA

Bucks unable to stop Johnson, lose second straight
76ers late push not enough as Jazz close out win; James sprains finger in second quarter of Pistons win over Cavaliers

ASSOCIATED PRESS

ATLANTA — Atlanta's bench provided the spark the Hawks needed to beat Milwaukee 96-90.

With each team playing for the second straight night, depth was crucial as Atlanta pulled away late and beat the Bucks on Wednesday night, including a dominant 43-7 advantage in bench scoring. "Our bench was great," Hawks coach Mike Woodson said.

The Hawks recovered from a disappointing 90-78 loss at Chicago on Tuesday night in which they were outrebounded 60-37. Atlanta outrebounded Milwaukee 38-34.

"To come out and play the way we did tonight, I think is a great sign of maturity," said Joe Johnson, who led Atlanta with 21 points. "We've been playing with a great sense of urgency month after month, and we've been all year.

The Bucks lost for the second straight night following a five-game winning streak. "Atlanta did a nice job attacking," said Bucks coach Larry Krystkowiak. "We had a hard time keeping the ball in front of us, because they broke us down off the dribble consistently. It was the type of attack that got us in trouble before.

Jazz 106, 76ers 95

Carlos Boozer is developing quite a reputation.

Despite tweaking his right knee before the game, the Jazz had it re-taped and scored 12 of his 26 points in the fourth quarter to lift Utah Jazz to a victory over the Philadelphia 76ers Wednesday night.

Ronnie Brewer added 19 points and Mehmet Okur had 16. Deron Williams had 15 points and assists for the Jazz (11-5), who rebounded after a 113-109 loss at New York two nights earlier.

Boozer entered the game ranked fourth in the NBA in scoring (25.3) behind LeBron James, Kobe Bryant and Tracy McGrady. Boozer was 12-for-17 from the field and it was only the fourth time this season he didn't register a double-double.

"I think he (Boozer) definitely an MVP candidate," Williams said of Boozer. "A lot of game where we put him on his back. He does everything well and he's tough." Boozer replied said his team needed him.

"I told Paul (Milwaukee), 'I can't elevate so you get every rebound and I'll score,'" Boozer said. "It couldn't jump. I couldn't box out like I wanted to. I knew I had to score.

Boozer is 44-of-62 from the field (71 percent) over the past four games.

"We're executing our offense," Boozer said. "Deron Williams is doing a great job of running the offense and getting us good shots on pick-and-rolls.

The Jazz shot 53 percent from the field and finished with 32 assists on 39 made field goals.

"We're a very confident team," Williams said. "When we execute, we'll get a lot of assists and convert easy baskets.

Andre Iguodala led the Sixers with 20 points while Andre Miller added 16. Lou Williams chipped in with 13 while Willie Green and Samuel Dalembert had 11 each.

It was a frustrating night for the Sixers (10-10), who wound up a win at Milwaukee 114-99 on Tuesday.

"We talked before the game about eliminating layups and they (Jazz) had 20-plus layups," Sixers coach Maurice Cheeks said. "That's something I'm trying to stop." Utah surged ahead to a 14-point lead, 67-53, on a basket by Williams with 5:25 left in the third quarter.

The Jazz jumped out to a quick 13-2 lead, but the Sixers quickly rallied and the lead wound up changing hands six times in the first half.

Utah shot 54 percent from the field and led 49-44 at halftime.

Pistons 109, Cavaliers 74

LeBron James was grounded at The Palace after lifting his game to rarified air in his previous visit.

James sprained his left index finger in the second quarter Wednesday night, and did not return, and the Detroit Pistons went on to beat the Cleveland Cavaliers Wednesday night.

The Pistons insisted the victory didn't mean any less to them even though it came against a team missing its first, second and third option on offense.

"A win is a win," said Richard Hamilton, who led Detroit with 18 points. "LeBron is a big part of their team, but they've still got five wins with an NBA jersey on the court.

The Cavs said James' X-rays were negative, adding he would be evaluated again Thursday.

"I think he's day to day," Cleveland coach Mike Brown said. "We'll see how he is tomorrow before we worry about anything beyond that.

James returned to Cleveland's bench late in the third quarter, sporting a suit and turtleneck, with tape wrapped around his index and middle fingers on his non-shooting hand. Late in the half, ice was packed and wrapped briefly over his left hand.

James did not respond to a few questions as he walked to the team bus after the game carrying a pizza.

He appeared to be injured with 4:41 left in the first half, when Detroit center Nazr Mohammed fouled him.

"I didn't hit him that hard, but I did grab a finger," Mohammed said. "I'm sure he's good.

James made both free throws and stayed in the game.

He had 15 points and three assists in the first half, accounting for more than one-third of the Cavs' points, in a 94-87 loss to the Eastern Conference finals.

Cleveland was left without him.

Bucks guard Mo Williams splits Hawks defenders Josh Childress and Zaza Pachulia during Milwaukee's 96-60 loss Wednesday.

The Observer accepts classifieds every business day from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Notre Dame office, 214 South Dining Hall. Deadline for next-day classifieds is 2 p.m. All classifieds must be prepaid.

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NCAA FOOTBALL

Jackson, Miss.—Mississippi athletic director Pete Boone thinks he’s finally found his man. He had to pay dearly to land Houston Nutt, though. Nutt will make $1.7 million to start and $2 million in the fourth year of his contract, plus incentives. Former coach Ed Orgeron made just $900,000, among the lowest salaries in the Southeastern Conference.

“The price of poker’s gone up,” Boone said.

Nutt will be introduced as Ole Miss’ coach at a news conference Wednesday in Oxford. He resigned from Arkansas on Monday after 10 years, and accepted an offer from Boone less than four hours later. He will get an immediate raise of about $500,000 for coming to Ole Miss and could make as much as $2.3 million if he picks up each of three one-year options after his four-year contract ends.

Boone said a recent salary survey showed Southeastern Conference coaches average about $2 million per year and he felt he had to be competitive in land Nutt, the 2006 SEC coach of the year. Officials at Arkansas said they offered Nutt a one-year extension and an unspecified raise, but he turned them down to move to Oxford.

“In looking at these (salaries), they’re high but reasonable numbers for the market as is,” Boone said.

Nutt signs four-year deal to coach Ole Miss

Associated Press

Jackson, Miss.—The highest-paid college coach in the nation with an average of $4 million a year over the life of his eight-year contract.

Boone would have preferred to pay a lower base salary and load the new coach’s contract with incentives. But he said the initial outlay was worth it to bring in a proven coach, one of football’s rarest commodities.

“I think it’s important to have a person like Houston Nutt, a proven success,” Boone said. “This time we have to get it right, and so when (his resignation) came about we just had to move fast.”

“He’s going to fit in not only at Ole Miss, as well as anybody.”

Mississippi was without a coach for less than three days. Orgeron was fired after Saturday’s loss to Arkansas and a 10-25 record.

Boone wiped away worry that he fired Orgeron a year too early with the hire. Nutt led Arkansas to an 8-4 record and a likely Cotton Bowl berth before resigning. The 50-year-old is 111-70 in 15 years as a head coach at Arkansas, Boise State and Murray State, and he’s been a winner in the SEC.

The Little Rock, Ark., native revived the Arkansas program, going 75-48 since he replaced Danny Ford in 1997. Nutt was 42-38 in conference with one of his biggest wins coming last season when the Seahawks take their two-game lead in the NFC West to Philadelphia.

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In Brief

Cardinals’ La Russa pleads guilty to DUI charges

SAN FRANCISCO — The perjury case against former San Francisco Giants slugger Barry Bonds will be heard by the same federal judge who presided over cases against others linked to a steroids ring centered at a Bay Area lab.

Court documents released Tuesday show the case has been transferred to U.S. District Judge Susan Illston. The move comes at the request of federal prosecutors, who said having Illston preside over the case would be more efficient.

Illston is also presiding over the cases against Tammy Thomas, a cyclist, and Trevor Graham, the coach for dismissed Olympic sprinter Marion Jones. Both face federal charges they lied to either federal agents or to the grand jury investigating a performance-enhancing drug ring centered at the Bay Area Laboratory Co-Operative, or BALCO.

New judge appointed in Bond’s perjury trial

Alexander expected to play Sunday against Eagles

 Kirkland, Wash. — Shaun Alexander looked rested and lively while getting most of the running back plays with the offense, his first work since he sprained his left knee Nov. 4 in a loss at Cleveland.

“Everyone kept saying ‘Man, it looks like you’re fresh,’ Alexander said.

“This is the best I’ve felt since the second week of the season.”

So does fresh mean all healed? “Uh, no,” the 2005 league MVP deadpanned. "This is football. Nothing’s healed. But it’s definitely something I can play with.”

Alexander said he will play Sunday when the Seahawks take their two-game lead in the NFC West to Philadelphia.

NBA

Atlantic Division

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NSCAA/adidas Women's Soccer Top 25

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<td>23. Wisconsin</td>
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<td>25. BYU</td>
<td>14-3-2</td>
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Saturday, December 1st
10:00 pm @ Legends
Simpson enters not guilty plea in court

O.J. faces charges of armed robbery and kidnapping

Associated Press

LAS VEGAS — O.J. Simpson stood before a judge Wednesday and firmly spoke a phrase he has uttered in other courtrooms in the past: "Not guilty."

This time the former football star was arraigned, along with two other men, on suspicion of kidnapping and armed robbery of sports memorabilia dealers in a strange case that has ballooned to 12 charges that could send Simpson and the others to prison for life.

Mr. Simpson is glad that the arrangement is over with. He's glad that he doesn't have to come back to Vegas until April," Galanter said.

While the lawyer said he would be pleased to have the case resolved without a trial, he said that seemed unlikely unless prosecutors dismissed all charges. A plea bargain, he suggested, was not on the table.

"I don't know what my client did wrong," Galanter said. "And that's why it would be difficult for us to enter into any kind of a plea agreement. It wasn't a trespass because he was invited into the room. It wasn't a robbery because it wasn't the unlawful taking of someone else's property."

The prosecutor declined to comment outside court.

Simpson landed in court after a Sept. 13 hotel room confrontation with two sports memorabilia dealers to take collectibles and family heirlooms he claimed were his.

Simpson’s co-defendants, Charles "Charlie" Ehrlich, 53, and Clarence "C.J." Stewart, 53, also entered not guilty pleas, and Clark County District Judge Jackie Glass set trial for all three men on April 7.

Ehrlich's lawyer, John Moran Jr., said he would challenge the most recent charging document as vague and a list of potential witnesses as violating his client's Fifth Amendment rights.

District Attorney David Roger listed 74 potential witnesses, including Ehrlich and Stewart, an odd choice since prosecutors may not compel defendants to testify.

Moran said it would be impermissible for the prosecutor to call them "if this tortured process does proceed to trial."

Glass appeared impatient with Moran's argument and said she would consider written motions when they are filed. She moved quickly through the arraignments, requiring Simpson and the others to state their ages, education and that they could understand English.

Simpson appeared relaxed and cheerful before court convened, chatting with his lawyers and a few friends in the courtroom. He did not comment about the case and confirmed his remarks to small talk.

"People are going to have opinions," Simpson's lawyer, John Moran said on the courthouse steps. "People are going to have opinions."

Simpson's co-defendants, Charles "Charlie" Ehrlich, 53, and Clarence "C.J." Stewart, 53, also entered not guilty pleas, and Clark County District Judge Jackie Glass set trial for all three men on April 7.

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Hunter to sign with Angels

L.A. acquires seven-time Gold Glove center fielder from White Sox

Associated Press

ANAHEIM — Torii Hunter had a news conference with the Los Angeles Angels even before completing his contract.

Hunter was introduced Wednesday along with starting pitcher Jon Garland, acquired this month in a trade with the Chicago White Sox. A seven-time Gold Glove center fielder, Hunter reached a preliminary agreement Nov. 21 on a $90 million, five-year contract with the Angels but has yet to finalize the deal.

"We're just working out the final details of Torii's contract and that should be done relatively quickly," new Angels general manager Tony Beengins said. "He hasn't officially written his name, but we're agreed to all the terms."

Hunter, who hit .297 with 28 homers and 107 RBIs for Minnesota this year, was obtained two days after the Angels dealt Gold Glove shortstop Orlando Cabrera to Chicago for Garland. But owner Arte Moreno denied the team acquired Hunter as insurance in case incumbent center fielder Gary Matthews Jr. gets caught up in baseball's investigation into performance-enhancing drugs.

"That never really entered our minds, to be honest," Moreno said. "I think it's a Paino's box. I don't know what's going to happen here. Hopefully we've spent time with Gary, and we're pretty sure Gary's been clean for three years. We've had communication with the commissioner's office, but to be able to get an athlete and a person like Torii Hunter was something we wanted to make an investment in."

Hunter acknowledged he always admired the Angels after afar — especially since they beat his Twins in the 2002 AL championship series en route to the club's only World Series title. He hammed it up Wednesday with a rally monkey given to him by an Angels staffer, keeping the stuffed animal on his shoulder as he answered questions.

"I told myself years ago that if I ever become a free agent, I'm going over here with the Angels," Hunter said. "But at the time of my free agency, they had a center fielder already, so I kind of threw them on the back burner and looked at other teams — and then they came out of nowhere."
Thursday, November 29, 2007

**SWIMMING**

### Coughlin advances to national championships

Associated Press

ATLANTA — Have suit and goggles, will travel.

That’s Natalie Coughlin’s motto as she goes just about anywhere in pursuit of competition: Singapore, South Africa, Brazil.

Starting Thursday, the five-time Olympic medalist will hit the water, along with Michael Phelps, at the U.S. short-course national championships, a meet contested in yards instead of Olympic meters.

Phelps will test his surgically repaired right wrist for the national championships, a race at a World Cup meet last Sunday. “Regardless of what happens this weekend, I’m pretty happy with where I am physically. My World Cups are all just off my best times, if not my best times,” he said.

Coughlin trains with the women’s team at California. But having completed her college eligibility in 2005, the 25-year-old swimmer can’t compete with her teammates in meets.

“That’s half the reason I travel so far,” she said. “Frankly, it’s hard to find meets when you’re older and it’s a good excuse to go to Brazil and Singapore and South Africa.”

And she loves the dry-land benefits.

“Singapore was incredible,” she said, smiling at the memory. “Great shopping — I got a new camera there. Great food. I had a very nice week in Singapore.”

Besides the new stamps in her passport, Coughlin has honed her ability to travel across multiple time zones, get off a plane and dive in the water.

“It’s a really great skill for athletes to have,” she said. “A lot of people kind of freak out about time changes and morning finals.”

In Brazil, Coughlin competed in finals that began at 9:30 a.m. in Beijing, finals will be in the morning and preliminaries at night for the first time in several Olympics.

“It’s going to affect everyone exactly the same,” she said. “It’s the Olympics. People are not going to be tired and sluggish in the morning.”

Coughlin is considering swimming six events in Beijing, one more than she swam at the 2004 Athens Olympics when she won five medals, including three in relays.

“No way am I going to try and swim more events if it hinders my performance,” she said. “I’m not going to try to be an ironwoman just to be one.”

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USA’s Natalie Coughlin competes during the women’s 100m butterfly semi-finals at the World Swimming Championships in Melbourne on March 25.
Former Houston coach Art Briles answers questions Wednesday after he was introduced as the new football coach at Baylor.

Bears to replace Morriss after long stay in Big 12 cellar

Associated Press

FORT WORTH, Texas - Houston coach Art Briles is next to take on the task of pulling Baylor out of the Big 12 basement.

Briles confirmed he was leaving in a news conference Wednesday at Houston after meeting with his players.

Baylor spokesman Nick Joos said a news conference was scheduled later in the day on the Waco campus to announce the school's new football coach.

Briles led Houston to four bowls in his five seasons. He was offered the job Wednesday, a day after meeting with Baylor athletic director Ian McCaw in Dallas.

"Life is full of decisions. Sometimes, you have in look at things from a professional, personal standpoint," Briles said. "Professionally, (Houston) ... is great university with a situation I'm proud to be a part of. Personally, the move allows a person of my nature a little more security. When you're getting up in my age, that's an important factor in life."

The Houston Chronicle reported on its Web site that Briles will get a seven-year contract for about $1.8 million per season. Briles, who turns 52 Monday, had four years left on his Houston contract with a base salary of $900,000 annually.

Briles replaces Guy Morriss, who was fired Nov. 18 after five seasons. Morriss' firing came the day after the Bears (3-9) completed their 12th straight losing season with their 12th consecutive Big 12 loss, 45-14 to Oklahoma State. Houston (8-4) has already accepted an invitation to play in the Texas Bowl on Dec. 28 in Houston against an undetermined opponent. The Cougars won the Conference USA title last season.

Briles was 34-28 in five seasons at Houston with only one losing season. Before his arrival, the Cougars had only two winning seasons in the previous 12 years.

Before going to Houston, where he was a four-year letterman as a receiver and played in the 1976 Cotton Bowl, Briles spent three seasons as running backs coach at Texas Tech.

His previous head coaching job had been at Stephenville High School, where in 12 seasons he was 136-29-2 and won four Texas state championships.

Before going to Houston, Briles was 34-28 in five seasons at Houston with only one losing season. Before his arrival, the Cougars had only two winning seasons in the previous 12 years.

Morriss was 18-40 overall, 7-33 in conference games. The Bears were 0-8 in the Big 12 this season.

The top candidate initially was Mike Singletary, the assistant head coach for the San Francisco 49ers. But the Pro Football Hall of Fame linebacker and Baylor icon took his name out of consideration after a lengthy meeting with McCaw last week in California.

Brees was also on Baylor's short list, along with Houston Nutt, who resigned at Arkansas on Monday and was hired by Mississippi on Tuesday.

Baylor's 12 consecutive losing seasons have come under the four coaches since Grant Teaff left in 1992 after 128 victories and eight bowl appearances in 21 seasons.

The Bears are the only Big 12 team without a bowl appearance since the conference's inception in 1996. Only two teams from Bowl Championship Series conferences have gone longer without a bowl, but Indiana (7-5) is expected to play its first postseason game in 14 years. Vanderbilt (5-7) lost its season finale to miss making its first bowl in 25 years.
Taylor shooter is unknown

Associated Press
ASHBURN, Va. — Sean Taylor's father urged the Washington Redskins to make a playoff push, while Miami police asked for the public's help to solve the security's death in what they suspect was a random burglary.

Miami-Dade police director Robert Parker said Wednesday there were no indications the slain 24-year-old was targeted or knew his assailant.

"There's nothing that indicates thus far that there's some kind of involvement on the victim's part," said Parker, adding it was "more like a random event."

Police have no suspects in the fatal shooting.

"We have no reason to think this was anything other than a burglary or a robbery involving an intruder," Parker said.

Police are still investigating, however, a possible link to a Nov. 17 break-in at Taylor's home, in which police said someone pried open a front window, rifled through drawers and left a kitchen knife on a bed.

Taylor's brother, sister and uncle were also in attendance, in addition to his girlfriend, Jackie Garcia, who also addressed the team.

"Both of them, they kind of echoed Sean's passion for things," coach Joe Gibbs said. "And the way he cared about things.

"The team then began to attempt to focus on its preparations for Sunday's home game against the Buffalo Bills. Players went to their game-planning meetings — which were shorter than normal, and later held a quieter-than-usual afternoon practice.

"Nothing was normal about today," linebacker London Fletcher said. "We had the meetings, but it wasn't the normal type of meetings. Practice, it was practice, but it just wasn't the same type of feeling, so to speak. We tried to make it feel the same, but it just didn't feel the way about Sean and imagining him out on the football field playing free safely for us.

"Taylor's locker remained untouched, but the Redskins made the uncomfortably necessary move of dropping him from the official roster as part of a series of personnel moves. Defensive lineman Andre Carter was having to cope with the loss of a teammate for the second time in three years. He played for the San Francisco 49ers when offensive lineman Thomas Herrion died of a heart attack after a preseason game in September 2005.

"I've experienced the death of two teammates," Carter said. "No person wants to say that."

Carter said he was on his experiences in San Francisco to help him through the week. Also, Gibbs received a call from 49ers coach Mike Nolan, who was Carter's defensive line coach.

Players found it difficult to stay focused on Fs and Vs in the meetings, while the physical nature of the practice was somewhat therapeutic. Even so, many players did not wish to speak to reporters, including Clinton Portis and Santana Moss, Taylor's closest friends on the team.

"The mentality of it all is you really want to do nothing," Carter said. "You just have these moments of sadness. ... The focus level is tough. But your teammates up in the sky looking down on you, they would want you to keep on pushing, keep on moving.

The Redskins are 5-6 and remain in contention for a playoff berth despite three straight losses. Fuller said Taylor's father didn't explicitly say the team should win and make the playoffs, but "I think he's on our side," he said. "I think players took the field with that feeling.


Belts continued from page 24

Hanson brothers in the movie Slapshot

The Irish hold a shoot-out after every Thursday practice before the season started. The tradition is that thought to have started in 1995 under former coach Dave Poulin and that is also a staple on college rings across the country.

The competition is simple: Every player skates down from center ice and takes on the Irish goalie one-on-one. If a player scores, he moves to the next round. If he doesn't, he takes the skates of the loser's side out of the ice. The sniper then battle in the second round to score again but if no one does, then the goalie wins.

If the sniper gets more than a little locker room cred — he receives a large leather title belt for the week with WSF (World Shooter Federation) Champion lettered on a nameplate riveted into the belt. Gil designed the belt years ago and cut out two monogram ND patches from the WSF logo on each side.

"It's like a World Wrestling Federation title belt and you're the champ for the week," said Irish right wing, and occasional goalie, Condra said.

Condra also said he could never imagine winning the belt in his four years at Notre Dame.

"I haven't seen Hanson's dad shoot a puck in a while," Condra joked. "I'm just looking down on you, they would want you to keep on pushing, keep on moving.

The Irish have no problem picking Hanson to win the belt in his four years at Notre Dame.

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Oakland continued from page 24

the shot and fed a streaking Alex Yoshinaga at the post. Yoshinaga tapped the cross in to give the Irish a 3-0 lead.

"I knew it was a (substitution) soon, so I knew I had one more run to make," Yoshinaga said. "I just took off and the guy that was on me was watching the ball, and I finished it.

Oakland struggled to control the ball for the rest of the half as strong winds killed every ball the visitors sent down the field. The Irish were able to maintain offensive pressure for the remainder of the half. "(Oakland) is a very direct team. The way they play, with the wind being a big advantage for them," Irish coach Bobby Clark said.

Ten minutes into the second half, Lapira added an insurance goal for the Irish. Fifth-year senior Ryan Miller crossed the ball and Lapira timed the play perfectly, sneaking behind his defender for a slide-in.

"I was trying to get in front of your man at the near post like that, that was a thing of beauty," Clark said.

Lapira, a 5-foot-10 senior, holds the record for career NCAA Tournament goals at Notre Dame — five — and a habit of beating up at the right time of the season.

"Coach always preaches about getting to the near post. I kind of made a habit of it last year, but this year I haven’t been doing it as much," Lapira said.

Oakland turned up the pressure after the second Irish goal, but only saw a 3-2-4 formation and pushing the ball deep into Notre Dame territory.

Grizzlies forward Endre Oses collected the deflected ball off an unassisted goal with just under 25 minutes remaining in the game. Oses collected a loose ball inside the penalty area, spun several defenders and senior keeper Chris Cahill in the lower left corner. The goal was the third of the

Contact Dan Murphy at dmurphy@nd.edu

Husky continued from page 24

Maxwell finished with a time of 1:03.31 in the 100-yard breaststroke and 2:15.65 in the 200-yard breaststroke.

Both finishes were personal bests for her and season-bests for the Irish. Miller finished just behind her in the 100-yard breaststroke.

Other bright spots for the Irish have been freshman Lauren Parni, who finished third in the 200-yard backstroke against Wisconsin.

NW.

The divers, who will attend the Ohio State Invitational, are the only consistent performers all season. The field in Columbus will consist of 11 teams, including Minnesota and Purdue.

Sophomore Natalie Stitt and senior Laura Rings have been key contributors to the squad. Stitt holds the team's season-bests in the one-meter and three-meter, with scores of 275.40 and 294.55, respectively.

The Irish had Thanksgiving break off all five straight weeks of competition.

Contact Jared Jedlick at j Jedlick@nd.edu

The core council for Gay and Lesbian Students Seeks New Undergraduate Student Members For 2008-2009

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• Assist in implementing campus-wide educational programming on gay and lesbian issues

Please visit our web site for more information:
http://corecouncil.nd.edu

The Observer • SPORTS
Thursday, November 29, 2007
The Observer apologizes for the absence of Tastes Like Failure. It will return in tomorrow’s paper.

Across

1. Lady abode
2. With 50-Down, steak go-with
3. 10th month
4. 44 Across
5. 33 With 44-Across
6. 25
7. 16 Water, for one
8. 15 Wedding
9. 14
10. 9 Big name in bodybuilding
11. 36 Jazzy James
12. 34 Like waves on a lake
13. 33
14. 32
15. 31
16. 30
17. 29
18. 28 Suffix with "per"
19. 27 Dragged out
20. 26
21. 25
22. 24 Musician Brian Harden
23. 23
24. 22
25. 21 Harden
26. 20
27. 19 Unnerve
28. 18
29. 17
30. 16 Unisex dress
31. 15
32. 14
33. 13
34. 12
35. 11 Female gametes
36. 10
37. 9
38. 8
39. 7
40. 6
41. 5
42. 4
43. 3
44. 2
45. 1

Down

1. With 69-Across, burger go-with
2. Treat splendidly
3. Ona saying "I do"
4. Letters before Liberty or Constitution
5. Sprung (from)
6. x, y and z
7. Toy sometimes seen on a beach
8. Order
9. Big name in bakers
10. Unisex dress
11. Female gametes
12. 1995 showgirl biography by C. David Heymann
13. December 31, e.g.
14. Hardon
15. Musician Brian
16. Breezed through
17. Ona series of jokes
18. Soviet U.S. space salesales
19. Dragged out
20. Suffix with absob
21. Shake, in a way
22. Cat
23. Cat
24. The Beef is see on it
25. The very
26. The Rams of the
27. Lil Jon and the East Side Boyz
28. "...This a Lovely Day"
29. Go-getter
30. Woman's name of a character in a drama
31. Cat's neighbor to the north
32. Go-getter
33. Some wines
34. See 9-Across
35. Space (up)
36. Ingredient
37. Underwater cave dweller
38. "...This a Lovely Day"
39. Go-getter
40. Some wines
41. See 9-Across
42. Space (up)
43. Ingredient
44. Underwater cave dweller

ANSWER

Puzzle by Lucy Gardner Armstrong

39 Fred Astaire's 46 Cat
40 The Beef is seen on it
41 "The very"
42 The Rams of the
43 Lil Jon and the
44 "...This a Lovely Day"
45 Go-getter
46 Cat
47 Ter's neighbor to the north
48 Some wines
49 Woman's name of a character in a drama
50 See 9-Across
51 Space (up)
52 Ingredient
53 Underwater cave dweller
54 Cat's neighbor to the north
55 Go-getter
56 Woman's name of a character in a drama
57 Ter's neighbor to the north
58 Some wines
59 Woman's name of a character in a drama
60 Space (up)
61 Ingredient
62 Underwater cave dweller

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EUGENIA LAST

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Scarlett Pomer, 19; Joe Stewart, 65; Id Harris, 51; Paul Shaffer, 56.

Happy Birthday: If you expect too much or equivalently, overindulge or exceed the line, your desires will be frustrated. Changing the right parameters, limits and control will stop by facing facts. You can achieve everything you want if you expect too much or, alternatively, if you don't. Overindulge or fall short of the mark. You need to compromise and listen to what others have to say. Talk face to face if you want to resolve issues without deals. An added burden may cause you some worry.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21): Do things a little differently and you will be recognized. Whatever you do, stick to your guns, but don't be inflexible. Life is not a follower will set a standard that others will admire and try to imitate. A change in direction, career or the use of your talents will lead to greater freedom and more opportunities.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): You will be able to make changes that are overdue and will contribute to your advancement. More responsibility is heading your way but you will come higher status and respect. Aggressive on your part will help you overcome obstacles.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): You can't waste time spinning your wheels when there is so much to do and so much to gain. You will be the one with the solutions and the spark that ignites everyone else. Love is definitely present and a friendly romance can develop today. You can see a lot of change in your immediate environment. A new friend can help you solve a problem.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Get involved in activities or events that will expand your knowledge of different cultures or will introduce you to someone who will help you in your career. A change in direction and with such a change may help you break into a crowd. Have the confidence to take your talent. Love, live and be happy.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Don't trust what others are offering or promising. Get what you want in writing. Someone you thought you knew well will prove otherwise. Don't be afraid to inquire about these matters. You can make up your mind about others.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): You can't stop now when you are close to accomplishing your goal and will accept any offers you get from the crowd. Have the confidence to take your talent. Live, love and be happy.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): You've got a whole lot of issues to deal with. If you keep ignoring what needs to be done, you will continue to stall and stop. Put your mind on solving old conditions and letting go of what you no longer need or want. Work hard and inspire others to do the same with you. Check out good investments and refuse to let emotions, love or personal situations distract you. A change in direction, career or the use of your talents will lead to advancement and new connections.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): You've got to put your money on the table, do things a little differently and you will be recognized. Whatever you do, stick to your guns, but don't be inflexible. Life is not a follower will set a standard that others will admire and try to imitate. A change in direction, career or the use of your talents will lead to greater freedom and more opportunities.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): You'll be motivated, up for whatever comes your way. Be careful with whom you deal. Choosing the right partner will help you find out how you will need. Revamp. reconcile or release. You've got to put your money on the table, do things a little differently and you will be recognized. Whatever you do, stick to your guns, but don't be inflexible. Life is not a follower will set a standard that others will admire and try to imitate. A change in direction, career or the use of your talents will lead to greater freedom and more opportunities.

PISCES (Feb. 19-Mar. 20): Be careful with whom you deal. Choosing the right partner will help you find out how you will need. Revamp. reconcile or release. You've got to put your money on the table, do things a little differently and you will be recognized. Whatever you do, stick to your guns, but don't be inflexible. Life is not a follower will set a standard that others will admire and try to imitate. A change in direction, career or the use of your talents will lead to greater freedom and more opportunities.

The Observer • TODAY
Men's Soccer

Moving on

Irish defeat Oakland 2-1, advance to NCAA round of 16

By DAN MURPHY
Associate Sports Editor

No. 10 Notre Dame survived a late flurry of Oakland shots to advance to the NCAA round of 16 with a 2-1 victory at Alumni Field Wednesday night.

With the wind at their backs, the Irish dominated the first 45 minutes of play, outshooting the Grizzlies 8-2 in the first half. They also had a 5-1 advantage in corner kicks in the half.

Grizzlies goalkeeper Steve Clark managed to keep the game scoreless until the 35th minute when senior forward Joseph Lapira beat his defender to a pass near the goalmouth. Lapira passed up a wide open shot on the goal but quickly redirected the ball in Clark's direction.

Sophomore midfielder Justin Morrow controls the ball during Notre Dame's 2-1 victory over Oakland Wednesday at Alumni Field. The Irish advanced to the NCAA round of 16 with the win.

This is Notre Dame's first appearance in the Husky Invitational, which will take place today through Saturday. The event follows the same format as the NCAA Championships, providing the team with some much-needed practice for the style and pace of that meet.

The Irish came into the weekend with a disappointing 1-5 dual-meet record. Their only win so far this season was at the Dennis Stark Relays earlier this year. But Nixon said the record is not indicative of her team's progress this year.

"Our main focus in Washington this week will be to swim fast times so we can get more girls qualified for the NCAA Championship in March," head coach Carrie Nixon said.

ND Women's Swimming and Diving

Swimmers travel to Washington for Husky Invitational

Divers leave for Ohio State Invitational in Columbus this weekend

By JARED JEDICK
'Sports Writer'

Notre Dame travels to the 58th annual Husky Invitational in Federal Way, Wash., today with hopes of earning qualifying time for the NCAA Championships at the end of the season. The diving team, meanwhile, will head to the Ohio State Invitational in Columbus, Ohio.

"Our main focus is in Washington this week will be to swim fast times so we can get more girls qualified for the NCAA Championship in March," head coach Carrie Nixon said.

The field at the Husky Invitational consists of 10 squads, including USC, who the Irish lost to earlier this season.

Freshmen Sam Maxwell and Amy Miller have been key competitors for the Irish, providing the team with high hopes for the future.

Two weeks ago, against Wisconsin and Northwestern, the Irish defeat Oakland 2-1, advance to NCAA round of 16.

Hockey

Shootout belt eludes Hanson

Practice tradition important part of icer's weekly routine

By KYLE CASSILY
'Sports Writer'

Notre Dame hockey equipment manager Dave Gilbert put the odds of center Christian Hanson winning a shootout at a trillion to one.

"And in the minds of the team and staff, that's no exaggeration. "He thinks he's got skills. His dad has more skills - even now," Irish hockey radio announcer Mike Luckert said, referring to Dave Hanson, a 10-year pro hockey player known for his legendary role as one of the

Irish junior center Christian Hanson looks down the ice during Notre Dame's 2-1 win over Bowling Green on Nov. 20.

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ND Women's Basketball

Team's depth has left opponents confused

Irish boast ten players in regular rotation

By JAY FITZPATRICK
Associate Sports Editor

After recording its third straight win of 30 points or more Tuesday, Notre Dame is proving it should be considered one of the top teams in the country.

The Irish have been getting production on both ends of the court from 10 players this season. The depth has enabled Irish coach Muffet McGraw to run a variety of offensive and defensive sets, often allowing the Irish to confuse opponents.

"When the other team is looking at their scouting report, I'm not sure who they're going to try not to guard," McGraw said. "It's just great. I was worried about it at the beginning of the year, but the depth has been the thing that has been making us good because it's competitive and there's just so many people who can get in and do something good.

McGrath has run three- and four-man sets effectively, mixing and matching from among Notre Dame's deep talent pool in the backcourt. This system has helped spark the Irish offensively, with three guards averaging double figures in points this season.

Sophomore Ashley Barlow leads the team with 13.7