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THE OBSERVER

Students work with NDSP on campus
Workers write parking tickets, volunteer with SafeWalk, among other jobs with police

By JENN METZ Assistant News Editor

Notre Dame students have been helping out the police for about three decades in different ways — including writing parking tickets and escorting other students to and from campus locations, said Phil Johnson, the director of Notre Dame Security/Police (NDSP). NDSP employs 40 or so students, Johnson said. These students work in a variety of areas, including administration, parking enforcement, lost and found and assisting dispatchers. Most student workers, Johnson said, are in SafeWalk, a group that students can call to walk them home at night. “Student responsibilities have changed somewhat through the years,” Johnson said. “For example, in the late 1970s, student employees worked in parking lot patrol and monitored the student parking lots late at night and in the early morning hours. And for a number of years, law students worked part-time at the Main Gate when it was located between the Morris Inn and Alumni Hall.” Now, student-ticket writers help out officers during what Maj. Jeff Korros called “busy times.”

Freshman finishes first novel in 29 days
Kaitlyn Conway completes national contest with 31 hours to spare, plans to compete again next year

By KAITLYN RIELY Assistant News Editor

It may not be the next great American novel, but at least it’s done. Starting at midnight on Nov. 1, Notre Dame freshman Kaitlyn Conway set out to write a 50,000-word novel in 30 days. As a participant in the National Novel Writing Month competition, Conway joined thousands around the world in a feverish attempt to create a work of fiction by midnight on Nov. 30.

Conway has been writing “The Name Game,” a futuristic crime story, in between classes and homework. At 5 p.m. Thursday, more than 24 hours before the deadline, Conway surpassed the necessary word count by 113 words, bringing her page total to more than 50,000. She remem­bered times, though, when 50,000 words seemed like an insurmountable objective in just 30 days. But Conway said she never lost sight of her goal. “I was determined,” she said. “I told myself, ‘I’m going to do this. I didn’t think I was going to make it for a while this past weekend because I was so behind. I didn’t have any time to work, but then I started cranking stuff out, and I was like, ‘I can do this.’”

Conway only had about 38,000 words written Tuesday evening. But she was confident — and rightly so — that she would finish by the deadline. She’s done 7,000-word laps for the past two days,” she said Tuesday. “So I’m going to move forward and see what happens.”

‘Notre Dame Dating’ discussed
Paritals, dorm scene affect gender relations

By ANN-MARIE WOODS News Writer

Boy meets girl. Boy and girl date. Boy gives girl a ring by spring semester of their senior year. Welcome to “Notre Dame Dating.”

Ratings, prevalent questions not often discussed in an open forum, the Gender Relations Center (GRC) focused on how single-sex dorms and partials affect gender relations at Notre Dame in its “Notre Dame Dating” Wednesday night in the Coleman-Morse Center lounge.

Gender Relations Center director Heather Bakke moderated the event and the discussion along with the GRC’s FIRE starters.

The FIRE starters, whose acronym stands for “Finding Identity Relationships Equality,” are student peer educators who facilitate greater awareness, discussion and solutions to gender issues on campus.

The program began with a discussion comparing “the culture around dating and relating” at Notre Dame to that of high school. Students in attendance were able to voice thoughts and concerns about specific gender issues on campus, particularly with dating and single-sex dorms.

Many described varying experiences in high school, but most students shared similar stories about Notre Dame. Students spoke of a “hook-up culture” and pervasive ideas and examples of “people

‘A Carroll Christmas’ held tonight
Dorm hopes hundreds will attend annual event for carols, food and Santa Claus

By ROHAN ANAND News Writer

Carroll Hall will unof­ficially kick off the Christmas season at Notre Dame with its 37th annual “A Carroll Christmas” tonight at 7. The men of Carroll have been working hard through­out the week to promote the event and hope to exceed last year’s attendance of 400, hall president Derek Sanchez said.

“It’s a great intermediate

Business manners taught at session

By BRIAN MCKENZIE News Writer

About 100 students joined 15 alumni at a formal business etiquette dinner led by the Student Alumni Club and the Alumni Association Thursday night in North Dining Hall. “The dinner is a different way of learning,” said Morgan Mousaw, the assis­tant director of Early Alumni Services. “You’ve got to be pro­fessional. It makes you feel more comfortable presenting yourself in a business setting.”

She said business etiquette “comes out mostly when you’re dining.”

The dinner was adapted from a program at the University of North Carolina, Mousaw said.

Carroll Hall is known for its alum network — it’s the best in the world,” she said. “We wanted an alum at every table because it’s important to learn

‘The Name Game’

Excerpt

Jack chuckled, pulling himself up from the wall he was leaning against. “Sally?” he imitated me, smirking. “I’ll bet you’re going to see me again soon.”

“I didn’t expect to see you again ever.” It was true. I hadn’t. But I was glad I was seeing him again for some unexplainable reason, I felt safe with him. Mistake number two.

Jack’s smirk grew into a true smile, and the machismo in his eyes was gone. “Really? I know I’d see you again.”

That’s what I thought. I added, taking a step towards him despite myself.

He shrugged, but his smile remained firmly in place. There was a teasing glint in his eyes. “So walk away.”

“I’m going to.”

“Really?”

I was only a few feet away from him. I forced my feet to stop when I had gotten so close. “Really?” He smirked again and snickered softly. “I don’t think you’re going to.”

“What makes you think that?”

His smirk grew. “The fact that you’re going to have dinner with me?”

My jaw dropped slightly. I was astounded by his audacity. It was both refreshing and exasperating.

“I’m not even...” My growing stomach interrupted me.

“Hungry...” I finished lamely.

His smirk grew even more, if possible. “My treat.”

Photo courtesy of Kaitlyn Conway

“A Carroll Christmas” revelers pose for a picture with Santa.
Censoring Santa

It’s about time someone told Santa that just because mommy was kissing him under the mistletoe, it doesn’t make her a ho, ho, ho.

That merry man in red, who urges children all around the world to be good for the sake of candy, is getting the equivalent of coal in his stocking from a Santa training company in Australia this Christmas season.

In a story this week by the Australian news media, Santas-in-training are being encouraged to trade in the ho, ho, ho because it could frighten children and may be derogatory to women.

The trainers at Westaff, a company that supplies Santas to department stores and malls across Australia, reportedly told the prospective Santas that the traditional greeting of “ho, ho, ho” was too similar to the American slang for prostitute.

Many have spoken out against the notion of saying “too, oo, no” to the “ho, ho, ho,” claiming it takes political correctness too far.

Santas children who sit on Santa’s lap during the holiday season have no idea that the word “ho” can be used as an insult. And yes, most people old enough to know that “ho” means whore are assumed to say the word three times as part of its traditional greeting, not to insult women.

That doesn’t mean we can’t sing some controversy along with our gifts this Christmas season.

Perhaps, in the interest of giving ourselves a politically correct Christmas, we should consider Westaff for pointing out the derogatory speech that has been hiding in plain sight — or hearing rather — ever since Santa first invited children to climb up on his lap. Perhaps we’ve been too distracted by candy canes and Christmas carols to hear S. Claus’s critical comments.

So thank you, Westaff, for your bravery in defying this tradition of tradition. But next Christmas, give Kringle a pass on his work. He’s only made one small step toward ridding Australia, and the world, of its politically incorrect language. Once the “ho, ho, ho” debacle of December has passed, perhaps we can work toward eliminating additional uses of the word “ho” from our vocabulary.

A Curious Google search reveals many hos that need-hung. Ho Chi Minh is a city in Vietnam. Ho Hsueh, the deceased striptease dancer.

The list goes on. Ho is a city in Ghana and a language spoken in India.

Sometimes we feel gung ho, sometimes we go westward ho.

It seems like the North Pole isn’t the only place in need of a politically correct makeover. Perhaps Westaff should give up its campaign and remember that “ho” the season to be jolly, not politically correct.

And nothing says jolly like a holly laugh from Santa and a deep “ho, ho, ho.”

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

Kathlyn Riely
Assistant News Editor

Question of the Day: What do you think of the writer’s strike?

Kim Fitzgibbon
sophomore
Budin

“I write the stall notes for Budin Hall. They can hire me.”

Tiffany Nelson
junior
Walsh

“If they get the money and the thing come back so that I can watch ‘The Office’.”

Thank Le
freshman
off campus

“Good for them. They deserve recognition.”

Kristin Yuenn
sophomore
McGinn

“I just want Conan back.”

John Henry
senior
Alumni

“It’s unfortunate that I miss my weekly show.”

Offbeat

Man finds lost bracelet in chicken after 25 years

FAIRMOUNT, Minn. — It won’t fit him anymore, but a Massachusetts man has his metal identity bracelet back after it was found inside a chicken gizzards in this southern Minnesota city — more than 25 years after he lost it in his grandfather’s barn.

Aaron Giles, 31, of Glencoe, Minn., lived in Fairmont as a child and played hide-and-seek and other games with his brothers in their grandfather’s barn near Sherburn.

“I would spend most of my time out at his farm and that’s the only place I can think of that I would have lost it,” Giles said Thursday, adding that he thinks it was lost when he was 4 or 5 years old.

The barn was demolished a few years ago, and the materials were used to construct another barn in rural Elmore, about 45 miles away, he said. Giles thinks his bracelet was imbedded in the barn materials when they were moved.

Salvation Army finds $50 gold coin in kettle

PRESCOTT, Ariz. — Now that’s quite change.

Salvation Army volunteers were doing a routine count of donations dropped into area bell-ringers’ kettles when they came across a $50 gold coin.

The one coin — a 1998 American Eagle containing an ounce of gold worth about $800 — made up in one package a shortfall in collections so far this year.

Salvation Army Maj. Kyle Trimmer said Wednesday.

Trimmer said an anonymous donor placed the coin in a small envelope and dropped it in a kettle outside a Prescott Valley church.

The coin was found Tuesday as Trimmer joined volunteers counting the change and paper money from 28 kettles in Prescott and Prescott Valley.

Information compiled by the Associated Press.

In Brief

Carroll Hall will host a “Carroll Christmas” tonight at 7. It will feature a tree-lighting ceremony, a performance by the Undertones and karaoke. Ugly Christmas sweaters are encouraged.

The Notre Dame Chorale and Chamber Orchestra will present Handel’s Messiah tonight at 8 in Leighton Concert Hall, DeBartolo Performing Arts Center. Tickets can be ordered by calling (574) 631-2800.

As part of the Solidarity Film Series, there will be a screening of the film “We are Together” in the DeBartolo Performing Arts Center tonight at 10. The film focuses on the story of the children of the Apartheid resistance as they overcome the adversity of growing up among Africa’s 12 million AIDS orphans.

The Format will perform Saturday at Legends at 10 p.m. Admission is free for Notre Dame, Saint Mary’s and Holy Cross students with a student ID.

The Voices of Faith Gospel Choir will perform their fall 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 8 in the Stepan Center. Groups of students can register online to build a generous-sized house. The cost of registration ranges from $30 to $50 per group, depending on size of the house. There will also be performances, 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 daven@nd.edu.

Local Weather

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By LINDSAY SENA
News Writer

More than 100 students dined on cheese and crackers and listened to classical music as they viewed student artwork on display Thursday at the Badin Hall art show.

The show, hosted by Badin’s Academic Commission in the hall’s social space, is the dorm’s annual art show. Students were invited to submit works for the show, and 22 participants submitted 45 works of art this year.

“We were pretty surprised by the response,” said Brandy Mader, Badin Hall’s academic commissioner, who helped organize the show. “We got a lot more [works] than we expected.”

Brandy Mader
academic commissioner
Badin Hall

She said she was pleased with the quality and diversity of works received.

“I think we got a good variety of stuff, including a table, which was our most unique entry,” Mader said.

Chris Andrews, a first-year photography graduate student; Adam Fung, a third-year painting graduate student; and Gina Costa, a marketing and public affairs specialist for Notre Dame’s Snite Museum, judged the art and decided the winners.

Freshman Affandi Setiawan won and received a $100 prize for his Indonesian fashion photography. A second went to sophomore Garrett Goggin for his black and white landscape photography and junior Adri Notti came in third place, receiving $50 for her spray paint and oil paint painting. Runners-up included seniors Amelia Hirschauer for her ultrachrome print and freshman Danielle Filgueira for her three-dimensional etching on Japanese paper.

On display were works of various techniques, including a table, oil pastel, spray paint and oil paint painting, charcoal, ink graphic, ink pen, etchings, photography, and chalk.

All works of art will be on display until Dec. 5 in Badin’s social space.

Contact Lindsay Sena at lsena@nd.edu

The 80’s Miss You...

Come Give Them a Visit!

The 80’s Miss You...

The 80’s Miss You...

The 80’s Miss You...

Dating continued from page 1

searching for ‘the one’ said a ‘ring by spring’ and said the single-sex dorms and parietals seem to foster these strained attitudes and interactions between the sexes.

While weighing both the good and bad aspects of dorm life at Notre Dame, students seemed to agree with the unique sense of community dorm life promotes within sexes.

“Same-sex dorms perpetuate being all together as females or all together as males,” which can help foster great relationships and bonds with those of the same sex, FIRE starter Jordy Brooks said. However, the negative effects on gender relations were considered in both the small group discussions and within the panel of FIRE starters, which evaluated the tension and awkward relations between males and females on campus.

“You don’t get an in-between—guys are here for dating, girls are here for friends,” and vice versa, FIRE starter Mackay Gunn said. The poor gender relations can be seen in the single-sex groups of students in the dining halls, the labored interactions between the opposite sexes at dorm parties and dances and the lack of dating on campus, students said.

In addition, students discussed the topic of parietals in terms of its positive and negative influences on campus life.

While parietals “force us to learn how to set boundaries and foster community,” many students feel that single-sex dorms “sexually charge” opposite-sex interactions on campus, Gunn said.

The midnights or 2 a.m. time limit placed on contact between the sexes within the dorms means parietals are “encouraging hookups and discouraging friendships,” sophomore Chrissy Andrews said. With this forum and others to follow, the GRC hopes to propose “alternatives to help improve gender relations with same and different sexes,” FIRE starter Brad Mathen said.

The GRC hopes to work toward more natural interactions among students on campus by encouraging social group interactions, “actual” dating, improved 24-hour space, continued discussions on the topic and increased communication between the sexes.

Contact Ann-Marie Woods at awoods4@nd.edu

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Students get cultured at art show

Badin Hall awards cash prizes to top campus artists in annual event

Badin Hall's annual dorm's annual art show included a table, oil pastel, spray paint and oil paint painting, charcoal, ink graphic, ink pen, etchings, photography, and chalk.

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The 80’s Miss You...
ND senior receives Ireland scholarship
Mitchell award gives Laidman year of study
By GENE NOONE
News Writer

Notre Dame senior Andrea Laidman was named one of 12 recipients of the 2008-2009 George J. Mitchell Scholarship in Washington on Nov. 17.
The scholarship is a fellowship sponsored by the U.S.-Ireland Alliance. It affords a dozen students the opportunity to pursue one year of post-graduate study at an university in Ireland.

Laidman, a political science and international peace studies double major, said several professors encouraged her to look into various scholarships. Of all the awards she had seen, the Mitchell Scholarship was the best for her.

"It seemed to fit my profile," Laidman said, "My experiences, my work..." She paused for a moment. "I have been involved in a lot of different organizations. It actually all fits very well together for the scholarship."

Mitchell scholarships, which are given to a maximum of 25 students each year, honor the late Sen. George Mitchell of Maine, a key figure in bringing about an end to the Troubles in Northern Ireland.

Laidman was chosen among winners from other schools, including Georgetown University, Duke University, and Dartmouth College.

"These young leaders are the perfect heir to Sen. Mitchell’s legacy," said Mary Lou Hartung, director of the Mitchell Scholarship program.

"And I am confident this young community will build on his legacy in impressive fashion in the years ahead."

Laidman plans to return to the United States after the yearlong trip. She has been involved with the Mitchell Education Alliance, an international development and human rights program. Laidman plans to return to the United States after the yearlong trip. She has been involved with the Mitchell Education Alliance, an international development and human rights program.

"I hope to work in shaping leadership development and human rights policies, either in a government agency or for an NGO or other organization," Laidman said.

Laidman was selected from about 250 candidates for the scholarship. It will afford her the opportunity to study in Ireland for about 20 weeks, and the student will return to the United States for three weeks to pursue further study.

"I didn’t know what to expect at first," Laidman said. "I was very happy to get the chance to have this experience."

"I’ve been interested in politics for the last few years," Laidman said. "I really wanted to have a chance to study human rights, and I thought this would be a good opportunity."
INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Venezuelans protest Chavez plan

By CARLOS JUAREZ

Caracas — Dressed in black, thousands of people flooded the streets of the capital Thursday to protest President Hugo Chavez's plan to eliminate term limits for himself and other lawmakers.

Blowing whistles, waving placards and shouting "Not like this," the marchers carried flags in the chosen color of the opposition — as they traveled along Bolivar Avenue.

"This is a movement by those of us who oppose a change to this country's way of life, because what this demand is is to impose totalitarianism," said former law­maker Pedro Carneiro, who is talking of any boycotts to the press. "They won't be a communist Venezuela, and that's why our society is reacting this way."

Bin Laden criticizes European aid

In a speech broadcast Thursday, al-Qaida leader said.

Al Qaeda chief Osama bin Laden called on Europeans to stop help­ing the United States in the war in Afghanistan, according to excerpts of a new audiotape broadcast Thursday on Al­Jazeera television.

Bin Laden said it was unjust for the United States to have invaded Afghanistan for shel­tering him after the Sept. 11 ter­ror attacks, saying he was the "only one responsible" for the deadly assaults on New York and Washington.

"The events of Manhattan were retalia­tive acts by the Afghan-Islamic alliance against our people in Palestine and Lebanon, and I am the only one responsible for it. The Afghan people and government know nothing about it. America knows that," the Al­Qaida leader said.

National News

FEMA evacuates federal trailer parks

NEW ORLEANS — Displaced levee workers are being evacuated from federal trailer parks.

The move is intended to help the hurri­cane victims move into more stable, per­manent housing. The Federal Emergency Management Agency said.

The Housing and Urban Development Department said it would begin moving residents of the federal trailer parks in New Orleans and other areas to other federal properties.

Former officers arrested for beating

MILWAUKEE — Three white police of­ficers were arrested on Tuesday for beat­ing a black man to death.

A judge sentenced Jon Bartlett to 17 years and four months, with three years of supervision and $16,365 in restitution.

Daniel Masarik was sentenced to 15 years and eight months, and Andrew Spengler received the same sentence.

The two other officers in the case also were charged with a hate crime.

Local News

Teen steals $10,000 for gas money

INDIANAPOLIS — A teenager says he held up a dozen businesses in part to get "gas money.

The teenager was sentenced to 15 years and six months, with three years of supervision and $16,365 in restitution.

He was convicted of first-degree murder in the death of David Miller, 22, who was killed during the robbery.

The teenager said he planned the robbery to get gas money to buy a car and a new bike.

He told detectives he robbed a dozen businesses of an estimated $10,000 this year for "money to fix his car, to buy jewelry, to keep up with everyone else," Indianapolis police Sgt. Kerry Burkner said.

Pakistan

Musharraf to lift state of emergency

In an effort to restore democracy, Pakistan president swears to uphold constitution, elections

Associated Press

ISLAMABAD — Pervez Musharraf, newly sworn in as a civilian president and minus his trademark gener­al's hat, promised Thursday to lift the state of emergency that has crippled Pakistan's constitu­tion ahead of parliamentary elections.

If he keeps his word, Musharraf will have addressed a key demand of his opposition parties as well as the United States, an impor­tant supporter increasingly worried that Pakistan politi­cal turmoil could weaken the government's resolve to con­front Islamic militants.

Musharraf ordered opposition parties to participate in the elections and strengthen democracy, returning to his usually force­ful personality after a back­track two days when he resigned as commander of Pakistan's military and ended a 16-year army career.

"This is a milestone in the transition of Pakistan to the complete return of democ­racy," he told officials, diplo­mats and generals at his oath-taking ceremony in the presidental palace. "Anyone who is talking of any boycotts should hear this out: Come hell or high water, elections will be held on Jan. 8. Nobody derailed it."

Former Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto said his party, one of the country's two main opposition parties, would compete in the election "under protest." She predict­ed the broad-based opposition would win the elec­tion to pro-Musharraf parties.

Reflecting the anger at Musharraf and political uncertainty that have under­cut the president's domestic and international support, the other key opposition leader, Nawaz Sharif, contin­ued to urge a boycott as a way to attack the elec­tion's legitimacy.

Sharif, a bitter critic of Musharraf since the genera­tion ousted him as prime minister in a coup eight years ago, said he would try to persuade other parties to join him in a boycott — a tough goal given the rivalry and animosities that divide Pakistan's many political groups.

A day after giving up the powerful post of military chief, Musharraf took the oath for a new five-year term as president, dapperly dressed in a long, dark tunic that contrasted with the medal-studded, khaki uni­form he wore as a general.

He led his 15-year army, defended his record and castigated foreign diplo­mats in the audience for their "obsession" with fast-track relations with the United States and Western stan­dards of democracy and human rights.

He didn't announce his plan for ending emergency rule, his first act as a civilian politician, for several hours, starting into a television cam­era during a sometimes halt­ing address broadcast to the na­tion from his office.

"I am determined to lift the emergency by Dec. 16," Musharraf said, seated between a portrait of Pakistan's founding father, Mohammed Ali Jinnah, and a green-and-white national flag.

He urged Sharif and Bhutto not to boycott the parliamen­tary elections.

"A level playing field is in place for the ballot and their parties should participate fully," he said. "The election is about God willing, will be held free and transparent under the constitution."
Dinner continued from page 1

how to connect to your alum- inum.

Mousaw said etiquette was highly relevant to job placement.

She offered an example where an interviewer at a restaurant mentioned the soup was good.

"The appli-
canarder pro-
orand tast-
ed some of his soup," he said. "He didn't even get the bill.

Paul Mousaw, an engineering graduate student, said business etiquette is important even to engineers and other sciences.

"They are in fewer situations with customers, but they will have engineering experts come in to consult or collaborate," he said. "They will have to sell themselves as someone employers and colleges will want to work with, sometimes at the same time.

"It's a rea-
sonable expectation to send a handwritten note to the interview-
er and dress profes-
sionally, he said.

"You can't too well-
dressed," he said. "Consider everything you're wearing. Your attire is your first chance to make an impression. Dressing poorly defi-
nitely affects how well you are evaluated."

Maureen Costello, an image consultant

"Employers are looking for people with discernment and integrity, so they can continue to make good judgments to uphold the corporate brand.

"You ran.

Costello said she adjusted her dinner to Notre Dame by placing a special emphasis on ethics and integrity.

"Many other places aren't asking me to talk about that," she said. "Employers are looking for people with discernment and integrity, employees they can count on to make good judgments to uphold the corporate brand."

"Employees with poor judgment might cross the line from hosting business partners to making bribes, which is a federal crime, she said.

Contact Brian McKenzie at bnmckenzie@nd.edu

Carroll continued from page 1

which consisted of Sanchez and seniors Peter Hadley and Jimmy Buhi, has examined some fun activities that may keep attendees and guests engaged.

The decorations begin at the entrance to the dorm on Carroll Hall, where luminaries — candle lanterns made from two-liter soda bottles — will line the road to provide the dorm entrance a warm glow.

Just outside the building, a large Christmas tree will be lit and landscaped for visitors to appreciate.

Insidesnowflakes, lights, and garlands will be hanging from the ceilings and walls. Each Carroll resident will have a Christmas stocking bearing his name. A giant pole — to represent the North Pole — will be the centrepiece of the lounge, along with blow-up polar bears and snowmen.

Best of all, there is a designated space for Santa's workroom, where people will have the opportunity to take pictures with Santa and meet his reindeer, who will be the centerpiece of the lounge, along with blow-up polar bears and snowmen.

In the past, the pictures with Santa have been a huge hit.

Peter Hadley
Carroll Hall senior

"In the past, the pictures with Santa have been a huge hit."

Carroll's funding last year of $1,200.

With an expected attendance four times Carroll's population, the members of Carroll's junior class are hoping to have the event for the first time in Carroll Hall. They have organized a holiday dinner on Monday.

"We've been putting a lot more work into it and it has been improving dramatically, and HPC has realized that it has become the premier Christmas event on campus," Hadley said.

Sanchez said he worked hard to make this signature event for Carroll stand out when he applied for funding earlier this year.

"They evaluate past history, the event's contribution to Notre Dame, significance, and allocate funds based on those criteria," he said. "In submitting our application, I was audacious in talking about ways to design the event, and noted how each year we have attracted more people.

"If the funding distributions were announced, the planning committee was shocked to discover that an event that was tied with the Keanan Revue and the Fisher Book Machine last year, the prize is now off the market. We feel like we need to make this big and important event that we've done."

Contact Rohan Anand at ranand@nd.edu

Novel continued from page 1

make it.

Writing at a consistent pace, a NaNoWriMo contestant produced 1,667 words a day. Sitting down and writing each day to meet the word count goal was the biggest challenge, Conway said.

"There would be some days, when I would talk to myself. "I don't have time to write from here to there," and then something would come up and I wouldn't sit down and do it," she said.

"Writing the novel didn't get in the way of her school work or her social life," Conway said. She speculated that could be the reason she was so far behind in the word count at the beginning of the week.

"We have a lot of meetings with the planning committee, I met with the college after it ended. It is gratifying to welcome students from other parts of the world to the writing."

"I felt a slight amount of assurance when we were awarded this sum of money," Sanchez said. "But now that I have seen the enthusiasm show, especially from our freshmen, I am excited. The prize is now off the market. We feel like we need to make this big and important event that we've done."

Contact Brian McKenzie at bnmckenzie@nd.edu

Carroll continued from page 1

about the World's different Holidays? Have your own experiences to share?

Come to Interface Forum!!

Interface Forum
Wednesday December 5th
Coleman Morse Student Center
RSVP by Monday Dec.3 msps@nd.edu or call 631-6841

**Student panel discussion**

- And Great food!!

Dame, both graduate and undergraduate students, par-
ticipated in the NaNoWriMo contest. During October, the freshmen put up signs around campus to encourage people to join in their NaNoWriMo writing expedition. Seven or eight people responded, they said.

During November, Conway and Crave occasionally met with five of the respondents to work on their novels together.

They also went to a writing session held by the South Bend Chapter of NaNoWriMo writers at the Barnes and Noble in Mishawaka. Mostly older adults, but also some graduate students, were at the event.

Conway said she thought the writing sessions helped her brainstorm the direction of her story.

"It's nice to be able to be like, 'Oh, I don't know what I'm talking about here,' and then someone else may know," she said.

Conway sent her story to NaNoWriMo's Web site Thursday for a final word count validation. The site announced her a winner and displayed a certificate with her word count for her to print.

Conway and Crave said their friends have asked to read their novels after they are done. Conway said she will put her novel aside until after she then plans to edit it.

"It is a nice moment when it's pretty good and then moments where it's pret-

Horrible," she said. "It's a first draft."

Will Conway and Crave be writing another novel next November?

"Definitely," Conway said.

"Absolutely," said Craven.

Contact Kaidlyn Risty at kristy@nd.edu

Please recycle the Observer.
**MARKET Recap**

**Dow Jones**

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**In Brief**

**FCC may regulate cable monopolies**

Washington. The Federal Communications Commission may consider a long-dormant proposal that would cap the number of customers a single cable television company may serve, agency officials said Thursday.

Chairman Kevin Martin is circulating the proposal among his fellow commissioners for a possible vote at the agency's next meeting, scheduled for Dec. 18.

Martin, fresh off a marathon meeting that featured verbal jousting with some of the industry's largest companies, said Thursday he wants the FCC to establish limits on how many subscribers a cable company could serve.

Fearing the potential monopoly power of cable television companies, Congress in 1992 directed the FCC to establish limits on how many customers cable television companies could reach nationwide.

The FCC settled on a 30 percent cap, but the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit rejected the rule in 2001, saying the agency had failed to adequately justify its reasoning.

**China agrees to eliminate tax breaks**

WASHINGTON — The Bush administration announced Thursday it had settled a major trade dispute with an agreement in which the Chinese government has pledged to end several trade-distorting tax subsidies.

The deal represents a breakthrough in tense economic relations that have been strained by the United States' efforts to resettle refugees from Cambodia and to open up its market to American businesses.

**Bernanke suggests interest rate cut**

Federal Reserve chairman Ben Bernanke warns at a conference Thursday that a recession may occur due to the housing slump, high energy prices and low consumer spending.

"Bernanke is leaning in the direction of a rate cut," said Brian Bethune, economist at Global Insight.

Twice this year the central bank has trimmed rates to keep the housing collapse and credit crunch from throwing the economy into a recession. Those cuts came in September and late October.

In December, Bernanke and his Fed colleagues signaled that further rate cuts might not be needed. Since then, however, financial markets have endured more turmoil. The housing slump has deepened, financial conditions have plummeted and consumer spending "has been on the soft side," Bernanke said Thursday.

"Bernanke spoke hours after the White House lowered its economic growth projection for 2008 due to the deteriorating housing market," said Thomas D'Angelo, editor of the influential Dow Jones Newswires.

"Bernanke said the economy grew at a 4.9 percent rate from July through September, the fastest pace in four years. The impressive performance, though, was not expected to carry into the final three months of the year, when analysts expect growth of 1.5 percent or less.

"Just a day before Bernanke's speech, the Fed's No. 2 official suggested the central bank may be inclined to slice rates again because of Wall Street's turbulence and the worsening problems in housing and in credit markets."
Scientists map gene switches
New research shows why some are vulnerable to diseases, obesity

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Remember biology class where you learned that children inherit one copy of a gene from mom and a second from dad? That’s a twist: Some of those genes arrive switched on or off, making you more vulnerable to disorders from obesity to cancer.

Duke University scientists now have identified those “switched” genes, creating the first map of this unique group of about 200 genes believed to play a profound role in people’s health.

More intriguing, the work marks an important step in studying how our environment — food, stress, pollution — interacts with genes to help determine why some people get sick and others do not.

“If we have a bag of gold nuggets,” lead researcher Dr. Randy Jirtle said about the collection of “imprinted” genes. The team’s findings were published online Friday by the journal Genome Research.

Next comes work to prove exactly what role these genes play in the real gold and some will be fool’s gold,” Jirtle added.

Usually, people inherit a copy of each gene from each parent and both genes are active, programed to do the same job whenever needed. If one copy of a gene becomes mutated and cannot work properly, often the other copy can compensate.

Genetic imprinting knocks out that backup. It means that for some genes, people inherit an active copy only from the mother or only from the father. A gene may signal “on,” or “imprint,” the copy from the other parent to be silent.

Jirtle compared it to flying a two-engine airplane with one engine cut off. If the other engine quits, the plane crashes.

In genetic terms, if one tumor-suppressing gene is silenced and the active one breaks down, a person is more susceptible to cancer.

Only animals that have live births have imprinted genes. It was not until 1991 that it was proved that humans have them. Until now, only about one-third of imprinted genes had been identified.

The Duke map verified those 40 and identified 156 more.

Researchers fed DNA sequences into a computer program that decoded patterns pointing to the presence of actually imprinted genes instead of active ones.

Many of the newly found imprinted genes are in regions of chromosomes already linked to the development of obesity, diabetes, cancer, and other diseases, the researchers said.

“Imprinting is a fascinating paper,” said Dr. Nora Volkov, director of the National Institute on Drug Abuse. Volkov praised the new mapping method for speeding the slow discovery of these genes.

She said finding which genes are imprinted is important for a bigger picture of how do behavioral or environmental factors tip the balance for someone who is genetically predisposed to a health problem.

Previous work by Jirtle and others shows the environment can reprogram how some genes operate, making them speed up or slow down or work at the wrong time.

A ground-breaking project led by Jirtle fed pregnant mice different nutrients to alter the coat color of their babies. The feed affected chemical signals that control how hard a certain gene worked, determining when the babies had yellow coats like mom or brown ones.

“It’s not just about the sequence of your genes, but how that sequence is turned on and off by environmental exposures that is likely to determine whether you will be healthy.”

Nora Volkov

National Institute on Drug Abuse

“It’s a problem of our common humanity, and we are called to respond with love, with mercy and with urgency.”

Hillary Rodham Clinton

U.S. Senator

Clinton calls for action against AIDS

On Thursday, speaking to about 1,700 conference attendees, she said as president she would also call for spending $1 billion a year to fight HIV/AIDS in Africa. She set a goal of eradicating malaria deaths in Africa by the end of her second term.

Many conservative leaders dreads the possibility of a Clinton White House, a point of agreement in a year when prominent leaders in the movement have divided their loyalties among GOP contenders.

There was a sprinkle of criticism from conservatives in response to Clinton’s appearance at the church, but it was muted compared to last year when more than a dozen conservative leaders signed a letter urging Warren to rescind an invitation to Sen. Barack Obama, D-Ill., who supports abortion rights. The church defended his appearance.

Warren is ideologically and politically an outlier among Democrats, who is known for avoiding the political perils of taking stands on social issues.

The author of the “Purpose-Driven Life” has devoted a great deal of his time in recent years mobilizing evangelicals to fight AIDS. The speech gave Clinton a chance to appear on stage with the popular pastor — who greeted her with a hug — as a third point of reference in her campaign.

“I’ve been raised to understand the power and purpose of prayer,” she said at one point.

Warren thanked her for attending. “We invited all of you to come, talk to me, and the one who showed up,” she said.

Study in DC during the Fall 2008 Elections or Spring 2009 Presidential Inauguration and New Congressional Session!

WISCONSIN PROGRAM

INFORMATION OPEN HOUSE

Thursday, December 6, 2007
163 Hurley, 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

DEADLINE FOR 2008-2009 EXTENDED!!!
Deadline to apply for Fall 2008 or Spring 2009 is January 23, 2008.
First Year students and Sophomores may apply; all majors welcome.
Contact Liz.LaFortune.3@nd.edu, 163 Hurley, 631-7251; www.nd.edu/~wp
Saturday, December 1st
10:00 pm @ Legends
There is a movement on campus to support U.S. Sen. Barack Obama in his push for the Democratic nomination for president, but it's unfortunate that most students will never know how to join. Nor will they see posters for student groups backing Rudy Giuliani, or John Edwards, or Ron Paul. Primary groups can't get official club recognition from the Student Activities Office because they are inherently temporary. Student Activities officials told The Observer that prospective clubs must meet two main criteria: the ability to fit within the Catholic character of the University, and the ability to be sustained and use funds responsibly. And the Club Coordination Council, the money-alleviating body of student government, doesn't fund groups formed to support specific candidates. In theory, that makes sense. It would be unfair to send student activity fees toward a certain candidate's campaign. And sure, we don't want students knocking on our dorm room doors five times a night to pitch one candidate after another. In practice, however, the system is flawed, governed by excessively rigid rules and tangled in too much bureaucratic tape. Groups with a temporary, but important focus — such as primary clubs — should be able to apply for the right to hang posters and meet regularly on campus. It's true that du Lac allows students to apply to host one-time rallies. But how can anyone effectively inform and mobilize interested students without continued campus advertising? But that's not the only problem. It takes the majority of an academic year for groups to earn club status: Apply in November; hear back in March. That kind of timeline makes it impossible to do anything quickly. In effect, that's what the University wants — the chance to evaluate prospective clubs and weigh their potential value to the campus community. But student primary groups present a convincing case for an exception and a quicker timetable. Notre Dame has the undesirable reputation of being a politically apathetic campus. While the University certainly isn't alone in that regard, situations like this only worsen the problem. Allowing primary groups to advertise and meet — without necessarily allotting them any funds — would encourage greater political participation among students. And it wouldn't hurt anyone. This is one of those times when a specific case displays a rule's excessive scope. Allowing for an exception is a simple change, but an important one.

**Editorial Cartoon**

**What Do You Consider To Be Your Greatest Qualification To Become President?**

I Studied Under Bill...

This is a political cartoon. Email is viewpoint.1@nd.edu. See it in the paper.

**Quotes of the Day**

"Pride stands for 'personal responsibility in daily excellence.'"

Lou Holtz
American football coach and philosopher

"You cannot depend on your eyes when your imagination is out of focus."

Mark Twain
American author and humorist
Letters to the Editor
De-mystify admissions

As the alumni schools representative for the Jackson, Mich. area, I was very pleased to read the viewpoint expressed by Andrew Nesi (“Mysterious admissions standards,” Nov. 29). Each year, I find it more and more difficult to answer questions of parents whose qualified kids are not admitted to Notre Dame. Many of these people are friends and acquaintances which makes the chore all the more difficult. And, yes, some are alumni whose legacy children did not make it for reasons that cannot be explained. The admissions office has not been helpful to us in dealing with these situations. I think the recommendation of Nesi has merit and should be seriously considered.

Jack Freeneu
Class of 1971

Support women’s soccer

Help! Our Lady has been watching over us during these NCAA playoffs, and now we need not only her help, but we need your (our students) help as well. We will host the NCAA quarterfinal round of the women’s soccer playoff this Friday night at 7 p.m. against Duke. The winner will go to the College Cup Final Four the following weekend in College Station. Duke is a very talented team, and we could really use your help by coming out to Alumni Field this Friday to help cheer us on. Last year you supported us in a tremendous way (more than 3,000 people), and it was a huge factor in our win over Penn State. We need your help once again, and are asking that you brave the weather and come out with the true Irish spirit that represents this great University. Thank you so much to all of you who have supported us so far this year, and to all the dorms in particular that have adopted this team. I hope to see you all Friday night! Go Irish.

Randy Waldrum
Assistant Women’s Soccer Coach
Nov. 26

U-Wire

Black Friday ruins the holidays

The calendar may still say that it’s November, but for retailers, every day before Thanksgiving simply becomes “Black Friday.” Thanksgiving simply becomes “Christmas.” Or, Thanksgiving doesn’t happen at all if you walk outside of Best Buy at 5 a.m. for the next day’s free gadget that you don’t have a practical use for, but only want because you get it for nearly freezing to death the night before. Plus, receive a bonus gift that you don’t care for if you have frostbitten fingers when the store opens.

While watching the news this past week, the impression I received from the multiple reports on “Black Friday” was that it was the make or break moment for retailers. It almost becomes like Christmas for the retail industry. Each company waits in anticipation to see if they will get the Christmas financial miracle of getting into the black, or a giant lump of coal of staying in the red. Forget the other 10 months of the year, November and December are the only months that matter.

In fact, “Black Friday” was originally a name for the day within the retailing industry. It seems to be christened by the media as the day’s official title. Sure, there may be some fair deals to take advantage of on Black Friday that is, unless the stores have only ordered two of the item you want, and you’re the third customer, but overall, the day simply serves to kick off a fully fledged and over hyped phat outside of Thanksgiving known as “The Holiday Season.”

It’s had enough that I began seeing Christmas commercials on the week before Halloween (and I thought Nov. 1 was bad last year!), but it’s frustrating to see Thanksgiving has all but dissipated into “Black Friday Eve.” There is no longer a sense of separation between Thanksgiving and Christmas to the retailers and the market that excessively cover their ups and downs in the market. Thanksgiving is supposed to be a time to settle down and relax with a nice meal with your family. But on the day after? Anything goes. People are given free reign to max out their credit cards and buy large amounts of material goods that like the retired politician are for the beneficiary. We’re supposed to have a slice of humble pie on Thanksgiving and count our blessings, but the media’s incessant coverage of the sales and people waiting in line the night before and the day of the sales, I had heard so much about the sales being offered at the stores on the news that I didn’t even need to look in the newspaper or on the stores’ Web sites to find out what was being offered! Of course, in case I didn’t know how to find the sales on the Internet, the news outlets advertised their shows several days in advance even integrated mentions of the sales, special gifts and store openings into their general newscasts.

The line was blurred between news and advertisements this week, and in my eyes, the news simply became a product placement showcase. There was no need for commercial airtime; retailers got their free time for free right during the show! Viewers were sold everything good in the retailing industry. Now it seems to be christened by the media as the day’s official title. Sure, it’s bad enough that I began seeing Christmas commercials on the week before Halloween (and I thought Nov. 1 was bad last year!), but it’s frustrating to see Thanksgiving has all but dissipated into “Black Friday Eve.”

For now, though, they give the safe answer. Do you want me to talk about what’s wrong, or that you shouldn’t look to get good deals when you are buying them. Christmas can be a joyous time of giving, but the consumerist feelings that are evoked throughout the stores too soon. If you celebrate Christmas, the season should be focused on December 25th, not on the false holiday created by retail and propagated by the media known as Black Friday. And the 31 days of Christmas to follow.

This column first appeared in the Nov. 29 edition of The BG News, the daily publication of Bowling Green State University. The views expressed in this column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer.
By TAE ANDREWS

Carey Denha is the singer.
Jason Gittinger is the drummer.
Mick Madness is the guitarist.
Takashi Ito is the bass player.

Combined, they form Mega 80's, perhaps the most awesome cover band this side of East Lansing, Mich. Mega 80's takes Legends back a few decades tonight as it takes the stage with its 10 p.m. show.

"The 80's decade of music was a wonderful and exciting time in the world of music," Gittinger said in an e-mail interview. He has been drumming for the Mega 80's since 2002. "With the advent of MTV and synthesizer keyboards there were tons of artists doing creative and fun things both musically and visually. Also, with the Cold War raging and the threat of 'global-thermo-nuclear-war' (to quote Matthew Broderick from 'WarGames') music became a fun place for people to escape and live. We love to bring a bit of this escape to our audience every night."

With its extensive musical supply of all things 80s, it would be fair to say Mega 80s brings more than just "a bit" to its show. The band features more than 200 songs in its repertoire, but given that it only has a limited amount of time to rock out onstage at each of its shows, Mega 80's has taken to creating medleys that combine several songs. Its "Mega Metal Medley," for example, boasts 24 songs.

Denha formed Mega 80s in East Lansing, Mich. Since then, band members have come and gone, but one thing has remained the same: its commitment to musical excellence. The band members have also committed themselves and their music to their source material.

"Although all of the members of the production are involved in the creation of musical circles, we choose not to muddy the waters of this production with music that does not come from the 1980s," Gittinger said. As such, Mega 80's is strictly a cover band. "This project is all about having a fun time listening to music the audience knows and loves."

Mega 80's has built a reputation as a fun, high-energy hunch and was named "Best Cover Band" in Real Detroit's "Best of" issue twice, in 2003 and 2005. "80s has the most danceable music in my opinion," said bassist Ito, who joined the band three and a half years ago. Ito learned to play the bass as a member of his high school jazz band and cites Prince as his favorite act of the 80s, although he says "Paradise City" by Guns 'N Roses is his favorite song because he can "jump up and down and act silly" while performing it.

While he has opened for The Tubes, Culture Club, Cheap Trick, Loverboy, Men at Work, Romantics, The Go-Go's and 38 Special, Gittinger said he doesn't have any particular favorites. "All of these acts have become favorites in my book because the music they created has touched so many people," he said. "It's an honor when we get to bring a bit of the 80s to the same stage as them."

Mega 80's has played at Detroit Pistons games and Detroit Fury Arena football games at the Palace of Auburn Hills, but band members say they don't discriminate in terms of venue size when bringing their enthused approach to the stage.

"One thing I like about The Mega 80's is this: No matter how big or how small a venue or an audience is, we all always show up to rock," Gittinger said. "It's really amazing how much energy you can infuse into 12 people at a small private event or 60,000 people in front of Ford Field. I love that I'm a part of something so positive and bringing joy to so many people. I guess that makes every venue 'the best venue I've ever played.'"

When asked what Notre Dame students can expect to tonight's show, Gittinger replied, "They can expect to rock!" Ito agreed, saying that concertgoers can expect a "high energy show" and "lots of fun."

"It is amazing to see people's faces light up when we start one of their favorite Devo songs, or the crowd's arms in the air during 'Living on a Prayer,'" he said. "I'm not going to dance' guy in the back checking out all of the 80s video references on the video wall behind us and high-fiving his buddy."

Gittinger said, "To take so much time to re-create all of the minute details of a decade and put them on a stage for people to enjoy is definitely one of the joys of my life."

Contact Tae Andrews at tandrew1@nd.edu
By JESS SHAFFER
Scene Writer

The, may I say, "winning challenged" football season is over. Television is officially being ravaged by a writer's strike that is "still in full swing." Television is cold to be outside, and too close to the end of the semester to be "in the library, God forbid, letting collegiate studying begin this weekend. But this Saturday, musical salvation can rescue you from boredom and homework. At 11 p.m., trendy fan favorite The Format will take the stage at Notre Dame's Legends night club. This Arizona-based band is sure to satisfy music needs, in the sometimes artistically starved South Bend. There's no cover charge, thanks to the Student Union Board, so there is no reason not to take the time to go and check out this group that plays across the country, this would be a sold-out concert for roughly $30. Notre Dame's intimate free viewing of the group would make any urban indie aficionado more than happy. Please don't let the band's indie label fool or intimidate you. While The Format's indie inclination falls under what is often called alternative rock, don't anticipate the angst of emo or artistic superiority. This group is not about musical elitism. The Format is stellar at defying the stereotypes of its genre to create genuine tunes that are just plain good.

Even if you are typically more of a Top 40’s fan, you’ll find this band's underground vibe to be a welcome departure from conventional music. The Format draws on influences from a hodgepodge of music, combining smart, musical sound hints of everything from classic and modern rock to pop to jazz and folk. Its melodic instrumentalism are reminiscent of Queen. And its consistent heartiness captures the energy of the British punk movement in a more contained, easy-on-the-ears package. Its cohesive, developed style is not hindered by its diverse background. Rather, The Format has discovered a master balance of fluid musical variety that it delivers with distinct execution. The Format offers fun music that is mature and intelligent. Whether you’ve been a fan for years or haven’t heard of the group until now, the Format is worth taking time in going to see. Staying attuned to what makes a good listen, this group manages to keep an enjoyable musical experience.

Contact Jess Shaffer at jshaf@nd.edu

By STEPHANIE DEPREZ
Scene Writer

Every six months or so a new band comes out that has been picked, produced and promoted from its MySpace page, so you’d better get used to it. TheFormat's "Dreaming Out Loud" is the album you've been jonesing for. It oper- as its MySpace page, demon-strating how little record companies really need to do today. OneRepublic has a story quite similar to that of another wildly going-for-roughly-$30 band, The Fray. Like the Denver band we’ve come to love, OneRepublic began in Colorado when Ryan Tedder met up with a few high school buddies and started the band in Colorado Springs. They moved to Los Angeles and began working with Timbaland, appearing on his album in a remix of their song "Apologize." They quickly began to dominate MySpace and have finally released their full album, "Dreaming Out Loud." It’s easy to hear a reason for this band’s success. The three songs are pleasant enough. The lyrics are applicable to anyone’s current situation. The melodies are somewhat reminiscent of much of what’s been done before, but with new charisma. The Format has the recognition of Wikipedia, the brain and the head behind the band, has worked in the business for years. He’s written for artists like Hilary Duff and Natasha Bedingfield. Instead of blaming him for it, rock is back to the Teddy Bear recognition he deserves. "Dreaming Out Loud" opens in epic fashion, as synthesized voices vaguely remind the listener of parts to perform. In past years, directors often choose only certain parts to perform. In past years, director Alexander Blachly chose for his choir to sing primarily Part I, which focuses on texts about the prophecy of and birth of Jesus Christ, and Part II, which focuses on texts about Jesus Christ’s sacrifice and resurrection. He also included two numbers from Part III, which focuses on texts about general resurrection, and ended with the most famous section of "Messiah," the "Hallelujah" chorus.

The Chorale is Notre Dame's 55-voice official concert choir, which specializes in works that range from the Renaissance to the present, including pieces by Bach, Mozart, Schubert, Mendelssohn and Stravinsky. The Chamber Orchestra is a select ensemble of the University Orchestra with the Chorale in its on-campus concerts and independently in its own concerts. Handel's "Messiah" is one of the Notre Dame Chorale and Chamber Orchestra's most successful performances in the DPAC this season, so don't miss out. Performances will take place in the DeVilbiss Performing Arts Center, on the DeVillbiss Performing Arts Center at 8 p.m. and Saturday. Tickets are $15 for adults, $10 for students, $6 for faculty and staff, $5 for seniors and $10 for general admission. For more information, contact the DPAC ticket office at 574-631-2800.

Contact Michelle Fordice at mfordice@nd.edu
NHL

Ottawa's Chris Kelly, right, checks Nashville's Dan Hamhuis during the Predators' 6-5 win over the Senators Thursday.

Ottawa has 9-4-2-1 in its last 14 games.

Associated Press

OTTAWA — J.P. Dumont and Martin Erat combined once again to give the Nashville Predators a spectacular 5th and final goal.

Erat scored with 22.2 sec.

ond left to give Nashville a 6-3 victory over the slumping Ottawa Senators on Thursday night.

Dumont got his fourth point of the game as he stripped the puck from Ottawa's Dean McAmmond and fed it to Erat, who beat Martin Gerber from the slot for his third point of the game.

Senators captain Daniel Alfredsson had drawn Ottawa even for the fourth time in the game just 23 seconds earlier with his 12th goal.

"There was no panic, actually," Dumont said. "All game long we tried to keep our composure on the bench and it worked. Our game tonight, of course, if we do that too many nights, we're going to get burned. Tonight was just a big two points."era scored on a one-time shot from Chris Cheilos. The Red Wings won the Lightning 1-1 in their first period. That's the fewest shots Tampa Bay has faced this season.

They had the puck, we didn't for the first 20 minutes," Richards said.

Ottawa had no problem with the inactivity.

"I didn't think that," he said. "If they have only one shot, it's a pretty good chance they're not going to score in the peri-

od."

Ottawa is 16-0 against Tampa Bay.

The Red Wings also held NHL scoring leader Vincent Lecavalier and St. Louis, who is in the top 13, pointless.

"We're playing for our lives," Detroit coach Mike Babcock said. "I don't want any of our players, Detroit coach Mike Babcock to have to be discri-


ed and have great goal-


tending."

Dumais's power-play goal 4:04 into the second period made it 2-0. He took a rebound out of an open net for his eighth goal of the season and fourth in three games.

Kopecky, who returned after missing three games with a sore shoulder, got his first goal of the season 7:39 into the middle period on a breakaway off the right wing. He made a fake on Denis and but a back-


hand shot just under the cross-


bar.

Richards put the Lightning on the board with 7:57 left in the period on a one-time shot from the left circle for his eighth goal.

Cleary added his eighth goal 2:05 into the third period when he shot in a rebound from the right circle.

"I thought our team played well," he said. "We got a lot of shots and we were physical." Darche scored with 3:06 left.

Maple Leafs 4, Thrashers 2

Mats Sundin scored his 13th goal, and Nik Antropov had two assists to help the Toronto Maple Leafs end a four-game losing streak with a victory over the Atlanta Thrashers on Thursday night.

Ilya Kovalev scored his NHL-leading 20th goal 16:20 into the second, breaking an offensive drought for Atlanta that lasted seven-plus periods and covered 166 minutes.

In losing their third straight, the Thrashers never really threatened Toronto, which scored four goals for the first time in 14 games.

Sundin, 26th in NHL history with 536 goals, put the Leafs up 2-0 with a backhander from the left circle that beat goalie Johan Hedberg to the stick side.

Antropov earned his 13th assist on Andy Wozniak's bizarre goal that opened the scoring with 5:50 left in the first.

Wozniak might want to credit Hedberg, who inadvertently knocked in the puck with the back of his left glove.

Regardless, Wozniak raised his arms in triumph after watching his shot sail over the net, ricochet off the rear boards and bounce off the goalie.

Hedberg was in the crease and facing forward with the puck of his skates at the goal line when the puck went into the net.

Alex Steen's fourth goal gave the Leafs a 2-0 lead with 4 sec-


onds left in the first and ended a personal 11-game scoring drought.

Matt Stajan hadn't scored in his last 19 games before his fifth goal put Toronto ahead 4-1.

Tobias Enstrom's third goal for Atlanta, coming on the power play with 7:29 left in the game, made it 4-2.

Leafs goalie Vesa Toskala improved to 7-7-1 after stopping 18 of 20 shots. Hedberg made 21 saves.

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LSU coach Les Miles gathers his team after its Sept. 22 victory over South Carolina. Michigan officials were recently granted permission to meet with Miles about their vacant head coaching position.

Michigan allowed to talk with LSU's Miles

Associated Press

BATON ROUGE, La. — Michigan officials asked for and received permission from LSU to meet with Les Miles about the Wolverines' head football coaching vacancy.

LSU athletic director Skip Bertman granted the request on condition that Michigan representatives wait until after Saturday's Southeastern Conference championship game in Atlanta before starting negotiations.

LSU spokesman Herb Vincent said:

"We're just looking forward to the game Saturday and that's the focus of the entire program right now, Saturday's game against Tennessee," Vincent said.

Vincent said Bertman and LSU chancellor Sean O'Keefe also plan to meet with Miles next week to discuss his contract.

"We're trying to get the SEC championship-game behind us that's why we're scheduling these things for next week," Vincent said.

LSU was not prepared to make a statement about the extent to which the school was prepared to compete with Michigan's offer, should one be made, Vincent said.

"We're just looking forward to the game Saturday and that's the focus of the entire program right now, Saturday's game against Tennessee," Vincent said.

Miles, in his third season as LSU coach, went 11-2 his first two years. The Tigers are 10-2 this season and ranked fifth in The Associated Press poll.

Calls and e-mails seeking comment were left with Michigan athletic director Bill Martin on Wednesday afternoon and evening.

Martin, who has not commented on the search since Lloyd Carr's announcement, interviewed Michigan coordinators Ron English and Mike D'Antoni earlier this week.

"We're not going to make any comments on the search," Michigan spokesman Bruce Maday said Wednesday night.

Miles seems to have everything college football's winningest program is looking for, including ties to the school and the late-great coach Bo Schembechler.

He played at Michigan and was on the coaching staff in Ann Arbor, Mich., where he met his wife.

Last week, though, Miles pledged with the media to let the topic rest.

Even though Miles appears in a great situation leading the Tigers in a talent-rich area without a competing school nearby, LSU was concerned enough about him bolting for Michigan that it put a specific clause in his contract to make it an expensive move.

In the "termination by coach" section of his deal, Michigan is the only other school mentioned. It states that Miles will not seek or accept employment as Michigan's coach. If Miles does leave LSU to coach the Wolverines, he must pay LSU $1.25 million.

Martin has said he is looking for the next Carr, who led Michigan to the 1997 national championship and five Big Ten titles while keeping the school above even suspicions about NCAA violations.

IN BRIEF

Lakers and Jackson agree to contract extension

LOS ANGELES — Lakers coach Phil Jackson has agreed to terms of a two-year contract extension worth about $24 million, putting him under contract through the 2009-10 season.

A person with knowledge of the situation, speaking on condition of anonymity because the Lakers hadn't made an announcement, confirmed the agreement.

Lakers spokesman John Black said Jackson will discuss his contract situation before Los Angeles hosts the Denver Nuggets on Thursday night.

Jackson's decision to return was first reported by the Los Angeles Times on its Web site.

The 56-year-old Jackson signed a five-year, $30 million contract with the Lakers in June 1999, and coached them to three championships before they lost to San Antonio in the Western Conference semifinals in 2003.

Bonds book to become HBO movie

SAN FRANCISCO — HBO Films is planning to turn a best selling book about Barry Bonds' alleged steroid use and the federal government's wide-ranging probe into performance-enhancing drug use into a movie, one of the book's authors said Thursday.

Lance Williams, a reporter at the San Francisco Chronicle, said that Ron Shelton has been tapped to direct the film and will co-write the script with "True Cap" partner John Nerville once the Hollywood writers strike is settled.

The planned movie based on the book "Game of Shadows" was first reported Wednesday by Variety.

Williams co-wrote the book with sports writer Mark Farinru-Wada, who recently left the Chronicle to join ESPN.

Jury awards $5 million to Alabama booster

SCOTTSBORO, Ala. — A jury awarded $5 million Thursday to a former University of Alabama football booster who claimed the NCAA defamed him when it imposed penalties on the Crimson Tide in 2002.

The jury awarded Ray Keller $3 million in punitive damages, $1 million for mental anguish, $500,000 for economic loss and $500,000 for damage to reputation.

Keller, a timber dealer and fan whom the university severed ties with because of the probe, argued that the NCAA slandered and libeled him during the announcement of penalties by referring to him and others as "rogue boosters," "pariahs." and "pariahs."

The jury of nine women and three men deliberated an hour Wednesday and about five more Thursday before ruling against the NCAA.
Associated Press

IRVING, Texas — Tony Romo took a knee, waiting a playoff-clinching, record-setting victory over the team he grew up rooting for and the quarterback he’s obviously patterned himself after. So when it was time for hugs and handshakes, the kid from Wisconsin went looking for Brett Favre.

He had to settle for Aaron Rodgers.

Favre was already in the locker room getting treated for a banged-up right elbow and a separated left shoulder. Besides, the graying icon already had seen enough from Romo and the Dallas Cowboys.

For all his talk of Favre’s influence on him, Romo sure played a lot like a young No. 4 Thursday night — full of moxie and joy, but needing a bit of a high-wire act to send the Cowboys past the Green Bay Packers 37-27 and into the lead for home-field advantage throughout the NFC playoffs.

“When I got out to the field, (I realized) it was pretty neat, the atmosphere,” Romo said. “I looked around and was like, ‘This is why you want to play sports. You want to play in games like this. Your competitive juices get flowing and you want to prove what kind of player you are.’ ”

Romo led Dallas to two field goals, then three touchdowns on his first five drives. He finished with four TD passes, giving the Cowboys (11-11) their sixth straight win and guaranteeing a spot in the playoffs.

They also have a leg up on avoiding a trip to Lambeau Field should those teams meet again in the NFC championship.

“We’ve got ourselves in the driver’s seat,” Dallas’ Terrell Owens said. “Now we’ve got to stay there.”

The Packers (10-2) ended a six-game winning streak and are now essentially two games behind Dallas in the chase for the conference’s top spot with only four games left.

The bigger concern is Favre’s health.

Favre was hurt on a hit by cornerback Nate Jones in the second quarter. His run of 249 consecutive starts — a record that’s about six seasons longer than the next-best by a quarterback — might be in jeopardy, although he has 10 days to heal before the Packers play again, Dec. 9, at home against Oakland.

“I had a similar injury last year,” Favre said. “I felt giving in my fingers and I still have some tingling. But I think I’ll be fine.”

Rodgers, who spent the week preparing he was Romo in Green Bay practices, provided the kind of rally Favre usually specializes in, even throwing the first touchdown pass of his three-year career. But he’s no Brett Favre, so this comeback came up short.

Romo was 19-of-30 for 309 yards. He’s up to 13 TD passes, smashing the club season record. He tied another club mark by throwing a touchdown in his 16th straight game.

Owens caught seven passes for 156 yards and a touchdown. He tied a team record with his 14th TD catch of the season and tied another mark with a TB catch in seven straight games. Patrick Crayton caught two of the touchdowns and Anthony Fasano the other.

Dallas also extended the best start in franchise history. With four games left, the Cowboys already have their most wins in a season since going 12-4 in 1995, their last Super Bowl season, and they’re two wins from matching the franchise record.

“It’s pretty amazing to break a record with all the glory this team has had,” first-year coach Wade Phillips said.

The Packers are still in great shape for at least the No. 2 seed and a first-round bye because their next three opponents have losing records. And the idea of starting Rodgers next week may no longer be as dreadful to fans who have wondered if he was a wasted draft pick. In the most extended action of his career, he was 14-of-26 for 201 yards and a touchdown with no turnovers.

“I thought he played great,” Favre said. “He gave us a chance to win.”

Favre was 5-of-14 for 56 yards with two interceptions, one that looked like a punt and another on the play he was injured. At least two other holders could have been picked off, The Packers’ only touchdown during his action came on a 62-yard run by Ryan Grant.

It’s a shame most of the country missed seeing this game because it was sure worthy of a bigger audience than the NFL Network can provide.

There were historic teams and star players, dramatic plays and bizarre ones — like T.J. Jagodzinski a potential back-breaking touchdown, letting it turn into an interception that could have let Green Bay take the lead. And, of course, there was the Favre-Favre storyline, which got rolling when they smiled and laughed through a chat on the field about 17 hours before kickoff.

What did they say?

“Exchanging raspberries and stuff,” Romo said. “Guy talk. I don’t know. We just talked about hunting or something. I told him NFL Network was going to have a heart attack if I didn’t come over and say hi. They were running out of film waiting for it.”


cowboys wide receiver terrell owens celebrates with popcorn following a touchdown catch in dallas’ 37-27 win over green bay thursday.

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**NCAA BASKETBALL**

**Oregon downs KSU in OT**

Leuen has double-double, Tayler scores 18 points in second half

Associated Press

MANHATTAN, Kan. — Oregon had never in its 105-year history, been in this position: on the road, facing a ranked opponent in overtime.

Overwhelming? Maybe at first. Then the Ducks got over it.

Bryce Taylor scored 11 of his 18 points after halftime, and Maarty Leunen had 14 points and 14 rebounds to help No. 17 Oregon rally from a shaky start then hold off No. 15 Kansas State 80-77 in overtime Thursday night.

“It was all about confidence,” Oregon coach Ernie Kent said. “I didn’t think we were playing with much confidence in the first half. We just talked about being free, just go out and play, have fun. This is a great environment, it’s a great experience, it’s a fun game.”

The Ducks sure did, though only after getting caught up in the moment.

Kansas State, a ranked nonconference opponent for the first time in five years, Oregon (16-1) came out flat, missing open shots — 3- for-15 from 3-point range in the first half — and struggling defensively as Kansas State rode the momentum of a raucous crowd to jump to an early lead. But the Ducks settled down late in the half, hit some big shots down the stretch in regulation, then finished it off by over-powering the Wildcats in overtime.

Jovan Caron had 15 points and Tajuan Porter added 14 for Oregon, still trying to find its identity with Aaron Brooks, last year’s leading scorer, playing in the NBA.

“I just turned out to be a great road win for us because this is a team that’s still in transition, trying to find which man or men is going to be that Aaron Brooks,” Kent said.

Oregon wasn’t the only one in unfamiliar territory.

Kansas State (5-2) hadn’t faced a ranked nonconference opponent at home since 2000, and Manhattan hadn’t seen two ranked teams on the same court since No. 1 Missouri beat 14th-ranked Kansas State by one in 1962.

The Wildcats, ranked this year for the first time since 1993, didn’t seem bothered by the new environment, slowing down the high-scoring Ducks to take an early 10-point lead. But Kansas State struggled from the perimeter — 6- for-13 from 3-point range — and missed four free throws in overtime, finishing 5-for-12 from the line.

The difference, though, was experience. While Oregon has four of its five starters back from last season, Kansas State starts three freshmen. The Wildcats were fine early, when things were going well, but made some mistakes late that cost them a chance at what would have been their biggest win of the season.

“There’s a reason why IBM doesn’t go out and hire 18-year-old high school graduates,” Kansas State coach Frank Martin said. “They go out and hire guys that graduated from college, and there’s a reason for that.”

The first mistake came at the end of regulation.

Freshman Michael Beasley, who led Kansas State with 24 points and 14 rebounds, had just given the Wildcats a 71-70 lead with a hard post move with 26 seconds left. Needing a defensive stop, Kansas State instead gave up three offensive rebounds to Leunen, who was fouled and made one free throw with 6 seconds left to tie it.

“I didn’t think we were playing with much confidence in the first half,” Kent said.

The Wildcats had a chance despite the missed free throws in overtime, trailing by three and the half in Andre Gilbert’s hands. But instead of pulling up for a 3-pointer, Gilbert, who finished with 16 points and 14 rebounds, found a way to get it into the basket.

The crowd screamed and Gilbert tried to kick the ball out, but not in time to get off a shot.

“Just talked about being free, just go out and play, have fun.”

Ernie Kent

Oregon coach

Associated Press

LOUISVILLE, Ky. — Art Carmody filled the one hole in his resume just in time to salvage Louisville’s disappointing season.

The record-setting kicker drilled a 33-yard field goal with 20 seconds left to lift the Cardinals to a 41-38 victory over stunned Rutgers on Thursday, upstaging the going away party of hometown kid Brian Broman.

“I couldn’t ask for a better ending,” Carmody said. “One of my goals when I came here was kicking a game-winning field goal. I had to come down to the last quarter, the last play.”

The senior, who set an NCAA record for career points on a kicker, had never made one like this during his career. He went out in style though, calmly drizzling the ball through the uprights.

Carmody finished his career with 433 points, breaking the old record held by Houston’s Roman Anderson, who had 423 points for the Cougars from 1988-91.

Carmody’s feat wouldn’t have been possible without Broman, who threw for 237 yards, including a 46-yard strike to Harry Douglas to put Carmody in range to win it.

“We just wanted to send everybody out the right way,” said Broman, who threw for a touchdown and ran for a first down.

“We talked about regaining,” Broman said, “the 20-game home winning streak, all the excitement that was in the stadium. We wanted to get it back, and back one last time.”

The Cardinals (6-6, 3-4 Big East) got it back with a stunning comeback from 18 points down in the second half, one that was similar to the rally Rutgers (7-3, 4-3) put together to upset the Cardinals last year.

Louisville was ranked No. 3 last season when it went to Rutgers, and had just knocked off West Virginia. But the Cardinals let an 18-point lead slip away, ruins their shot at a perfect season.

The Cardinals have been far from perfect this year, but Broman and couple of late stands by one of the nation’s worst defenses left Louisville with remote hopes for a bowl bid.

“A fitting end to the way the season went,” said Louisville coach Steve Kragthorpe. “We never seemed to be able to make a play through the season. We were playing with much confidence, just turned out to be a fitting end to the way the season went.”

Broman and Carmody had been key to Louisville’s rise. Broman ran for 117 yards and two touchdowns and Bilal Powell added 91 yards as the Cardinals offset a fierce Rutgers pass rush by running quick-click plays right by the blazing Scarlet Knights.

Bice ran for 120 yards and three scores for Rutgers, Mike Teel threw for 262 yards and two touchdowns to Kenny Britt, but Rutgers couldn’t hold the ball in the Cardinals in the second half.

You have a quarterback like Brian Broman and you have a head coach that at no point is it ever out of reach for these guys,” said Rutgers coach Greg Schiano. “In the second half, we just never got it back. We had a lead and I was a step behind, it felt like.”

Bremen singers from Saint Mary’s College, along with period instruments, jugglers, jesters and a Master of the House entertain royally during a feast fit for a king or queen!

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For tickets call (574) 284-4626.

MoreauCenter.com
Luongo's shutout streak intact in Canucks win

Goalie has not allowed a score in 193 minutes

Associated Press

VANCOUVER, British Columbia - Roberto Luongo wasn't focused on any shutout records, but his teammates certainly were.

Luongo made 26 saves for his third straight shutout, setting personal and franchise records with the leading the Vancouver Canucks to a 2-0 victory over the Columbus Blue Jackets on Thursday night. Luongo, who began the streak against Chicago and Anaheim, hasn't allowed a goal in 193 minutes, 36.15 seconds.

"It's nice, but I think right now we need to look at the way we're winning games and the type of hockey we're playing and I think the whole group should feel good about themselves," said Luongo. "If you look at a result of vastly improved team defense through the month of November."

"You just get to make sure you're on top of your game and challenging. That helps to know the guys around you are doing a good job taking away bounces and slot rebounds and plays and stuff. It gives an opportunity to challenge a little bit more.

He got some help from Brendan Morrison, who swept a dangerous loose puck away from the goal line with 17 seconds left, but Luongo was on his own for the remaining 0:01.9.

With the exception of robbing Sergei Fedorov in alone 5 minutes in, Luongo made his best saves late in the second. He made point-blank stops on Maxim Noreau and Todd Marchant that required a fine glove save, and fed defensemen".

Associated Press

OAKLAND, Calif. - Al Harrington gave up 9 inches and 60 pounds to Yao Ming. Yet by using his quickness to front and harass the 7-foot-6 Yao, Harrington is somehow able to shut down Houston's All-Star center.

Harrington outplayed Yao for a second straight meeting, shutting him down at one end and scoring 18 points on the other to help the Golden State Warriors beat the Rockets 113-94 on Thursday night for their second win in nine games after an 0-6 start.

Yao shot 4-for-12 and had five turnovers, finishing with a season-low 10 points. Andrei Riefedrins started the game guarding Yao but coach Don Nelson quickly changed to Harrington. In two games against the Warriors since Harrington joined the team last season, Yao has only 19 points on 6-of-16 shooting.

"I definitely do not own Yao Ming. If I play behind him, he will kill me," Harrington said.

Al Harrington

Warriors forward

"I definitely do not own Yao Ming. If I play behind him, he will kill me."

Warriors beat Yao, Rockets

Stephen Jackson announced 19 points for the Warriors (8-7), who became the fastest team in NBA history to post a winning record after losing its first six games. Cleveland took 23 games to do it in 1995-96.

Jackson's return from a season-opening seven-game suspension has played a big part in the resurgence, as the Warriors defense has stiffened up since getting their stopping back.

"He definitely feels good," Jackson said. "He was hard work. We want to continue to stay above .500. We don't want to go on another slide where we lose six in a row."

Nelson gave the credit for this win to Harrington, who pulled Yao away from the basket on the offensive end by making four of five 3-pointers and frustrated him on the defensive end.

"Yao is not able to guard Harrington yet we could guard him at the other end by some techniques that were successful tonight," Nelson said. "Al did a marvelous job. If anybody gets the game ball tonight, I think it's Al. He did such a great job on Yao with his fronting and then he made his shots and just made it a miserable night for Yao. That doesn't happen very often."

Golden State even held its own on the boards against the taller Rockets, outbounding them 45-41. Ellis and Biedrins led the way with 10 boards each. Houston had outrebounded its last three opponents by at least 10 each game.

After the teams traded runs in the first half, Golden State opened the game up early in the third quarter. Harrington hit a 3-pointer, a driving layup and fed Ellis on an alley-oop during a 15-2 run that gave the Warriors a 74-55 lead midway through the third.

Ellis had six points during the spurt, ending it with a layup and a driving layup and fed Ellis on an alley-oop during a 15-2 run that gave the Warriors a 74-55 lead midway through the third.

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Garrard gives Jags 'clarity'
Quarterback's performance exceeds preseason expectations

Associated Press
JACKSONVILLE, Fla. — When Jaguars coach Jack Del Rio turned his offense over to David Garrard a week before the season opener, he expected to see long-term backup work up.

He never envisioned this, though.

Garrard has a higher passer rating than Super Bowl MVP Peyton Manning, has beaten Miami's John Collin, who was first overall pick in 2002, and Tennessee's Kerry Collins (one start) are the only other quarterbacks in the league without any interceptions.

"I've been lucky," said Garrard, who missed three games because of a sprained left ankle. "But there's been a couple of games where there was no chance of having any interceptions."

"These games are becoming more common for the sixth-year pro who began his NFL career as a quarterback of the future, waiting his turn while learning from Mark Brunell. But Garrard's path took a turn when first-year coach Del Rio chose Byron Leftwich with the seventh overall pick in 2003.

Garrard spent the next four years on the bench and has spent the past two years as a part of the team's quarterbacking rotation.

"I'm very pleased to see where he is now and have the idea that he's going to continue to get better," Garrard said. "We have the clarity that this is your team."

Ernest Wilford, Jaguars receiver

"There's a difference in knowing that you've got a key position here and in knowing that this is your team."
ND Men's Swimming

Irish prepare for OSU meet

Team looks for continued success after win over Cleveland State

By ELLYN MICHALAK
SUNSHINE, Fla. — Zdeno Chara came up big at both ends of the ice.
The 6-foot-9 defenseman scored two goals and kept Florida’s leading scorer Olli Jokinen mostly in check to lead the Boston Bruins to a 4-3 victory Thursday night.

Boston won for the sixth time in eight games, and broke a six-game losing streak to the Panthers.

Glen Metropolit and Phil Kessel added goals, and Tim Thomas stopped 32 shots.

Steve Montador, David Boeth and Jokinen scored for Florida, and Craig Anderson made 34 saves in his first start since Nov. 13 against the Bruins.

“We outplayed them and deserved to get the win,” Thomas said. “Jokinen is one of the best forwards in the league and I was able to frustrate him most of the night.”
The loss snapped Florida’s winning streak at a season-best four games and prevented the Panthers from breaking the 500 mark for the first time this season.

“As a forward you have to make yourself available and find a way to get it,” Jokinen said. “That was a big problem for us tonight. We couldn’t get out of our end of the zone.

Florida, coming off a 1-0 victory over Buffalo on Wednesday night in Washington, started slow and was outshot 17-6 in the first period.

“Traveling and playing the night before you want to keep it simple,” Montador said. “You could say that’s the reason we didn’t come out strong in the first period.

That’s the only thing we can look in right now to define that first period. We started to battle back but it was too late.”

Booth shot wide at shot 17:41 of the third made the score 4-2, and Jokinen took a pass from Nathan Horton in front and pushed the puck past Thomas at 19:30.

“We’re happy with the win but not satisfied with the ending,” Chara said.

Boston stretched its lead to 3-1 on Chara’s second goal, which was partly a result of the game at 16:24 of the second period. He溜ed past inside the blue line when between Anderson’s pucks.

Kessel’s goal at 4:57 of the third pushed Boston’s advantage to 4-1. His shot from the top of the right circle went over Anderson’s high stick side into the net.

Reycle The Observer.

NHL Chara leads Boston to win

Associated Press

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The Observer • SPORTS

Friday, November 30, 2007

NCAA Football

Slaton excited despite reduced offensive role

Associated Press

CHARLESTON, W.Va. — A season that began with Heisman Trophy expectations for Steve Slaton could end up with the West Virginia running back playing for a national title.

That would be just fine with him.

“As long as you’re winning, that’s the only thing that really matters,” Slaton said, repeating his season-long mantra. “A lot of guys that are here aren’t big-star guys.”

Slaton hasn’t consistently been the feature back like he was last season, when he set a school record with 1,744 yards rushing while holding on for the Associated Press national title.

But after yielding personal success to that of the team, the 10th-ranked Backyard Brawl will be the biggest game of his career.

Slaton is a legitimate Heisman candidate for the first season.

Freshman quarterback Pat White, who has been a part of four of West Virginia’s five back-to-back losses, is a Heisman candidate.

Slaton said he’s “not really thinking about the Heisman at all right now.”

“I’m just trying to do my job and help the team,” Slaton said.

The Mountaineers have solid running games in those years, too.

West Virginia is averaging 310 yards per game on the ground this season, even without a significant contribution lately from Slaton. He started with four straight 100-yard efforts but has only two in his past seven starts.

Despite being healthy, Slaton has 44 carries in the past three games. The Mountaineers have relied on a running game of more than 150 yards but none this season.

He’ll have just the third-biggest rushing total in the Backyard Brawl, behind Pitt freshman LeSean McCoy with 1,380 yards and White’s 1,144 last season.

None of that fazes coach Rich Rodriguez, who believes Slaton is becoming a more complete player.

“His team’s a second-leading receiver with 24 catches for 339 yards, and when he isn’t carrying the ball he’s a great decoy for White, who will capitalize on any time he’s given,” Rodriguez said.

Last week against Connecticut, Slaton delivered several crunching blocks that helped spring freshman Noel Devine for 115 yards.

“Just that goes to show the toughness of the Mid-American of a Steve Slaton,” Rodriguez said. “His blocks were huge.

Even though defenses are jamming the trenches and shrilling off the backfield, Slaton has resolutely maintained the offense’s offensive line.

Slaton has still managed 5.2 yards per carry and 95 yards per game. His 17 touchdowns rushing match those from 2005 and surpasses last season by one.

Rushing against a Virginia defense that surrendered an average of 444 yards rushing and 27 TDs to the Mountaineers in the past two seasons.

Seemingly the perfect tonic for Slaton, even if he’s more concerned about the ticket to New Orleans than the numbers.

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Michigan continued from page 24

As a team, Michigan hits 36 percent of its 3-point attempts. Against Cincinnati, Michigan made 11 of 29 attempts from behind the arc. McGraw said, "They have a knack for hitting their threes every time they get off a shot. We've got to have good communication."

In order to keep confidence in check on a team that has won four of its six games by more than 30 points or more, McGraw said, she has pointed out problem areas during film study. "I keep telling them when we watch film of our opponents, 'This isn't going to be good enough against Michigan.'" McGraw said. "They've been receptive at how we express it.

McGraw expressed disappointment in her team's free-throw shooting after Notre Dame.An Irish guard Tulyah Gaines trips over a defender in Notre Dame's 78-59 win over Western Kentucky on Nov. 13.

- Both 6-foot-5 — provides many shot-block opportunities. Freshman forward Devereaux Peters, while only 6-foot-2, has a knack for rejecting the ball and averages 2.6 blocks per game. Notre Dame has four players with double-figure steals — and a team average of 12.7 per game.
- The season has been one of offensive explosion for the Irish. They average 85 points a game and have three players — guards Ashley Barlow, Charel Allen and Lindsay Schrader — who average double-figure points.

Irish guard Tulyah Gaines trips over a defender in Notre Dame's 78-59 win over Western Kentucky on Nov. 13.

Michigan continued from page 24

As a team, Michigan hits 36 percent of its 3-point attempts. Against Cincinnati, Michigan made 11 of 29 attempts from behind the arc. McGraw said, the Irish, who have struggled to defend the 3-pointer, must work hard to slow the perimeter attack. "We've got to identify where they are," McGraw said. "They are running a motion offense and set a lot of screens. We've got to have good communication."

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Irish guard Tulyah Gaines trips over a defender in Notre Dame's 78-59 win over Western Kentucky on Nov. 13.
continued from page 24

Home continued from page 24

prety good hockey team."

Note that in November and can set or break the program record for wins in a month this weekend.

A big part of Notre Dame's recent success has come from newly-hired coach Jack Jackson pushing forward and playing a more aggressive style of offense.

"I put more emphasis on puck control because our system is more attack-oriented and our team handles the puck better," Jackson said.

Jackson's defensemen have made strides as well, particularly in pushing the puck up the ice.

"They're very good at making long passes to get the puck to the wide-open spaces on the ice," Jackson said. "Our defensemen are starting to understand the concept of playing with the puck instead of against it."
**DEUCES MANOR**
MATT HUDSON, ANDY MANZA & PAUL TASSINARI

Friday's Yuletide events around Campus
Sit on Santa's lap, 1 - 4 P.M. Lafayette
I went some Ugg boots and a lack of Ready Quinn's hair

A Carroll Christmas
7 - 9 P.M. Carroll Hall

Deuces Manor Christmas Sweater Party
7 P.M. - 4 A.M. Deuces Manor
I don't know where everyone is
They stand for $200 on inflatable

TASTES LIKE FAILURE
RICH PROTIVA & ANDY SPANGLER

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**CROSSWORD**

**BLACK DOG**

**JUMBLE**

**HOROSCOPE**

Virgo — Don't ever close your eyes anymore when you kiss his lips ... He's very sneaky.
Libra — Your life will have three stages: birth, the middle, and death. Oh, I forgot about the fourth stage: pooping yourself. Make that four stages.
Scorpio — WWRWD: What would Ricky Williams do?
Sagittarius — Happy birthday to the horoscope maker! Call (645) 729-0367 to wish him/her a happy b-day.
Capricorn — When in doubt, buy a yarmulke.
Aquarius — We can make sandwiches together. You can be my bread and I'll be your hamburger.
Pisces — Raise your own Chia Pet. You can taste the satisfaction. Plus you can taste the Chia leaves (they taste like lettuce).
Aries — If you want to see where you are, enter your cell number at phonetrace.org.
Taurus — You love Henry Ford.
Gemini — You are extremely pretty.
Cancer — Which letter is missing? abedfhijklmnopqrstuvwxyz.
Leo — Sure, everyone knows diarrhea. But what's monorrhea???

Celebrity Birthdays: Suge Knight, 43 (unless dead); Dunston from "Dunston Checks In," 12; Air Bud, 17 (119 dog years); Rosie O'Donnell, 350 dog years (534 pounds)

**TODAY**

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**MEN'S BASKETBALL**

**Freelance offense goes to work against EMU**

**ND WOMEN'S BASKETBALL**

**Wolverines come to JACC**

By BILL BRINK

After winning four of its first six games by 20 points or more, Notre Dame will face a tough opponent Sunday when Michigan visits the Joyce Center at 2 p.m. Although the Wolverines have only one loss, like the Irish, Michigan has played harder competition than Notre Dame — it defeated a strong Cincinnati team on the road on Nov. 13. Now it's Michigan coach Muffet McGraw said Michigan presents the toughest challenge since Maryland. She also said that 6-foot-6 Wolverines center Krista Phillips would give the Irish headaches. "She's good, she's agile, she can shoot the 3, she can score around the basket," McGraw said of the Saskatchewan native. "She's playing really well right now." Phillips leads the Wolverines with 11.4 points per game. No other player averages in double figures. "Teams with good balance are harder to guard," McGraw said. "That's a concern of ours, how to guard all of them. That's something we're looking at, different defenses."

**HOCKEY**

**Icers set for CCHA home series**

By DAN MURPHY

No. 7 Notre Dame plays its final home series of the semester this weekend when it takes on Nebraska-Omaha in the Joyce Center tonight and Saturday. The team will travel to Princeton next weekend before a three-week hiatus at the end of the month. The Irish (12-2-0) come into the game riding a five-game winning streak. Their last loss was on Nov. 10, to No. 1 Miami on the road. "I think we've made good progress, but I want us to get better," Irish coach Jeff Jackson said. "This will be a big test for us this weekend. We're facing a