Students hopeful for upcoming season

Upgrades for team, re-tooling of pep rallies excite student body after last year’s 3-9 record

By TESS CIVANTOS
News Writer

Putting the debacle that was Notre Dame football 2007 in the past, students are excited about the possibilities this upcoming season holds, starting with tomorrow’s game against San Diego State.

“I’m excited to see how this first game will play out,” sophomore Octavia Ratiu said. “I don’t think it’s possible to do worse than last year.”

For members of the senior class, who have seen Notre Dame’s storied program plummet from being within seconds of the National Championship to being 3-9, this season represents a shot at redemption.

“I’ve experienced the highs of a BCS game and the lows of a loss to Navy,” senior Dennis Yap said. “So I’m excited to experience the highs again.”

San Diego State is anticipated to be an easier opening game than Georgia Tech last season, and many students say they expect a win.

“The schedule looks good, the offense seems really experienced,” sophomore Matt Robinson said. “I’m excited to get back in the football stadium and see an Irish offense really improved.”

College undergoes renovation

Construction takes place in dorms, classrooms

By MANDI STIRONE
Assistant News Editor

Saint Mary’s underwent a massive renovation effort this summer with 11 of the College’s buildings undergoing construction. According to an e-mail sent to the student body by Director of Facilities Bill Hambling, LeMans Hall, Havican Hall, Holy Cross Hall, Haggar College Center, Cushwa-Leighton Library, Angela Athletic Facility, Madaleva Hall, McCandless Hall, Moreau Hall, Regina Hall, Reidinger House and the Science Building have all been renovated.

LeMans Hall was under construction as early as spring semester last year, Hambling said in an April 29 Observer article.

“We have installed new drain lines to remove the water caused from the plugged down sanitary lines to remove the water shed and into our storm water system. This repair has eliminated the numerous leaks that were caused from the plugged down spouts and backing up into the walls, causing interior finish damage. Interior finishes that were damaged by the water, have been repaired.”

Band holds annual plaiding ceremony

By LIZ HARter
Saint Mary’s Editor

Tailgating, watching the football players head to the stadium after the teamMass, buying steak sandwiches from the Knights of Columbus on South Quad. Students and fans in town for the Notre Dame home opener against San Diego State have a lot of entertainment opportunities vying for their attention before the 3:30 p.m. kickoff.

If tradition is what catches their interest though, the Irish faithful can attend the Band of the Fighting Irish’s plaiding ceremony, which will take place before the traditional concert on the steps in front of Bond Hall at 1:35 Saturday.

At the ceremony the senior members will present plaid to the first year members of the band to complete their uniform.

After the seniors present their plaid they receive a special senior plaid that is distinguished by the gold cording along its edges from a family member or friend.

“It’s a way to honor the new band members for their first home game, and a way to recognize the seniors at the beginning of the season,” said Julia Doyle.

see BAND/page 4

College Dem, GOP clubs support their candidates

By KAITLYNN RIELY
Assistant News Editor

No matter who wins the presidential election this fall, there’s going to be a big celebration at Notre Dame.

“We’ll have the biggest party that Notre Dame’s ever seen,” Edward Yap, the president of the Notre Dame College Republicans, said. “Regardless of who ever wins, we’ll have tons of fun at it.”

But Yap is hoping for a victory by the Republican ticket of Sen. John McCain of Arizona and Gov. Sarah Palin of Alaska. He said the club might look into booking an off-campus location to watch the election returns Nov. 4.

Across the political spectrum, Notre Dame’s storied program plaid that is distinguished by the gold cording along its edges from a family member or friend.

see Parties/page 4

Nonpartisan ND Votes ‘08 helps register new voters

By KAITLYNN RIELY
Assistant News Editor

Since the beginning of the fall semester, NDVotes ‘08 has registered 91 new voters and added 410 people to its database, senior Mallory Laurel, a co-chair for the nonpartisan education campaign run by the Center for Social Concerns (CSC) said.

At the CSC’s opening picnic last week, the NDVotes ‘08 table was “just swarmed the entire time,” Laurel said.

“I think, because this election in particular is so exciting and monumental, more people are interested in registering to vote,” Laurel said.

see NDVotes/page 6

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see NDVotes/page 6
INSIDE COLUMN

Pageantry Rankings

Football weekend is here again! That, of course, means that campus will transform from a sleepy little place and turn into Disneyland for a couple days.

To celebrate the occasion, we decided to release the official Notre Dame Football Pageantry Power Rankings, 08. (Disclaimer: power rankings are not official.) Our goal is to rank football pageantry items 1-10. We might not get that far, but we will give it a college try.

1. The game. This is too obvious. It shouldn’t even really count.
2. The Alma Mater at the end of the game. People complained last year that we shouldn’t sing it after we lose, or at least the players shouldn’t sing it with us, but we should sing it and the players should join us. The Alma Mater is more than a school tradition. It’s a prayer. And it’s really cool that Charlie Weis and the players are willing to join in with everyone else in the stadium for it.
3. Knights of Columbus St. Slokas Saints Safe. Beer grab you can get before the game. Plus, the it raised over $60,000 for charity last year.
4. The Jig. I think the jig is more fun than the touchdown pushups. It gets even better when the band speed up the tempo cause someone in the row wins up messsing up and everyone falls over.
5. Officer Tim McCarthy from the Indiana State Police. Bad puns are so much fun.
6. A fan. Only not really. Think about this.
7. Candlelight Dinner. I like food. And the food at Candlelight Dinner is good. This would be higher, but the line is significantly longer than it is at 12:30 Tuesday.
8. Trumpets in the Dome. I didn’t know it until I complained my first year, but it’s worth fighting the crowds to see it. The Victory March is really powerful in the Dome. I like it more than Concert on the Steps because it doesn’t spoil the half-time show. But a friend just disputed the spoil factor of Concert via text message. She likes the concert because “you can listen to the music, then you can focus on watching halftime.”
9. Drummer’s circle. Between the people climbing the trees on God’s parts and the drummers on the roof of the Dome, and the mosh pit that develops, there’s plenty of fun to go around.
10. Going to the Grotto before the game. This is a tip from the same column contributor who advocated for Concert on the Steps. “You almost catch fire because of all the candles.”

The views expressed in the Inside Column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer. Contact John Tierney at jtierney18@nd.edu

QUESTION OF THE DAY: WHAT ARE YOU MOST LOOKING FORWARD TO AT THE GAME THIS WEEKEND?

The craziness of the student body in the stands.
Not being there.
“the fact that we’re going into the game undefeated. There’s hope.”
“I want to see a unified team that plays their strongest.”


day

Members of Saint Mary’s Student Activities Board (SAB) make cotton candy for students in the basement of the Student Center as part of SAB’s the annual Twilight Tailgate event. The event had to be moved from Library Green into the Student Center at the last minute because of rain.

OFFBEAT

UPS driver surpasses 1 million miles in truck

PALESTINE, Texas. A routine package delivery turned into a milestone for a UPS driver in East Texas. Brent Boyd, 51, on Thursday surpassed one million miles on his UPS delivery truck, the same vehicle he’s driven for 22 years with the company.

The odometer on Boyd’s 1987 GMC truck rolled over to all zeros as he began his delivery route near Palestine. He said he’s never had an accident with his company vehicle.

Boyd told The Associated Press that his truck’s gone through at least three engines, and he’s put in over 100,000 miles, so it’s not a surprise that he’s passed a million miles on his truck.

The Associated Press

The Notre Dame Glee Club will have a “Kickoff Concert” at 8 p.m. today at the Leighton Concert Hall in the DeBartolo Performing Arts Center. Tickets are $5 for general admission. The event is sponsored by the Department of Music.

GreenND will hold an informal meeting Wednesday, September 10, at 7 p.m. in the LaFortune Ballroom.

Michael Novak will be speaking regarding his book “Business As A Calling” on Sept. 11 at 7 p.m. in the DeBartolo Auditorium, room 101.

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

IN BRIEF

Community and Liberation at Notre Dame will be hosting its Beginning Day today from 4:30-6 p.m. in the Notre Dame Room of LaFortune. All students, faculty and staff are invited to attend.

The Office of Student Activities will host comedian Joel McFale, star writer and producer of E!’s “The Soup” for an hour of comedic relief at 10 p.m. today on South Quad.

The Disabilities Studies Forum entitled “Disability and Obsession: Can a psychiatric impairment have a history?” will be held today at noon in the Notre Dame Room of LaFortune Student Center.

The first pep rally of the season is today from 6 to 7 p.m. in the Joyce Center Arena.

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CORRECTIONS

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3. UPS driver surpassed 1 million miles in truck.
SMC co-hosts first pep rally of year

By EMILY DABISH  
News Writer

Saint Mary's will co-host the first pep rally today along with four Notre Dame dorms — Knott, Pasquerilla East, Pasquerilla West, and Siegfried. This year marks the third time the College has sponsored a pep rally, and the Board of Governance has stepped up efforts to advertise the event to students.

"I think having it at the beginning of the year is an excellent way for our students to show school pride and get excited for the year ahead," student body vice president Sarah Falvey said.

This year the Board of Governance hopes to get the student body more involved. Instead of just advertising through e-mail, they plan to go dorm to dorm to spread the word.

Also, inspired by Notre Dame's "The Shirt," Saint Mary's is selling the "SMC shirt." Saint Mary's freshmen Madison Thatcher and Hillary Ferguson said they were excited for their first Notre Dame pep rally.

"I'm so excited for my first pep rally as a Saint Mary's student. I think this football season is going to be much better than last one," freshman Madison Thatcher said.

"I'm so excited to show school pride and get excited for the year ahead," student body vice president Sarah Falvey said.

"I think it's really great that Saint Mary's supports Notre Dame in their athletic tradition."

Madison Thatcher  
Saint Mary's freshman

But he was uncertain what the agency would offer such a family, in part because various other factors — including the family's insurance coverage and whether their house was damaged — could come into play.

Also, the minimum number of days that would be covered had not been determined, and it was unclear whether food and fuel costs incurred while on the road would be covered.

A Georgia Emergency Management Agency spokesman said Thursday that the agency had received a handful of calls in recent days from evacuees asking for gas money to return home. The state is referring those people to FEMA and the Red Cross.

Some evacuees also wondered whether FEMA would cover their lost wages and other expenses after they return to New Orleans.

In the Birmingham shelter, Carlos Pavilus of New Orleans said he would give anything to be in a hotel.

"I'm so tired of smelling tennis shoes and diapers. We have no laundry. We have nothing," Pavilus said.

FEMA aids Gustav victims

Associated Press

NEW ORLEANS — The federal government says it will pay the hotel expenses of some of the nearly 2 million people who fled their homes ahead of Hurricane Gustav, but exactly who will be eligible for assistance and how much it will cost taxpayers was uncertain.

Officials from the Federal Emergency Management Agency planned a telephone news conference Thursday to answer questions.

Homeland Security Secretary Michael Chertoff said Wednesday in Baton Rouge that FEMA would pay hotel costs "to make sure that people don't feel economic pressure to return home prematurely, before it's safe."

He said FEMA would pay hotels directly, so it was unclear whether those who had already paid for rooms and checked out would be eligible for reimbursement.

With at least 50,000 people threatening the East Coast, the decision to pay for hotels could make it easier to evacuate residents during the next disaster. But doing so would also burden the agency with huge expenses.

The news that hotel costs might be reimbursed came too late for people who have been sleeping at public shelters, such as those in a convention center in Birmingham, Ala. Some of those evacuees said they had preferred a hotel if they had known FEMA money would be available.

"You can just get cat naps here," said Aaron Clark, 63, as he sat under a shade tree outside the center. "We didn't get breakfast this morning because they said something was broke down. It's just surviving, that's all it is."

"I'm so tired of smelling tennis shoes and diapers. We have no laundry. We have nothing."

Carlos Pavilus  
Hurricane Victim

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Parties continued from page 1

Spencer Howard is anticipating a win by the Democratic ticket, as Sen. Barack Obama and Delaware Sen. Joe Biden.

"I ran through Stonehenge to celebrate [Rep.] Joe Donnelly's victory," Yap said. "We're hoping for another one of those moments."

While a few days to go until the election, both Yap and Howard fully expect their party's ticket — and early indications his candidate will emerge victorious.

"We see this election as something that will really influence our futures," Yap said. "We are all in it together, so this election will really make a huge impact on our jobs and where we go after change, and the economy and nation that we head into after we graduate."

Howard said his outlook may be skewed by the fact that he is a political science major too in a rally right now. Yap, but he said he has been struck by the interest students are showing in the presidential campaign this fall.

"People seem to have gotten into it and become involved," he said. "They're curious to see what's going to happen after the election — what's going on in the world and what's in store for them."

President Howard and the College Republicans are both planning debate watching parties and college elections. More immediately, the College Democrats are joining with other college students in Northern Indiana to work for Sen. Barack Obama.

"It's a great opportunity to be part of the presidential campaign," Howard said. "It's our job to help get out the vote for him."

"I think the band pick is a unique part of the Notre Dame community. The blue and gold in the design not associated with any clan in Scotland. The green is for the Fighting Irish, red signifies the Church and the Holy Cross fathers who founded the University and black outlines the design."

While the band staff choses which senior member will play the new members, the seniors are voting on who they want to be a part of the ceremony, though Dwyer said they might not choose a family member or friend.

Senior saxophone player Katie Putz said she has been looking forward to this ceremony since her freshman year in the band.

"For us the senior pick the first day in band," she said. "It's really exciting to know when." Senior bass player Joe Thompson said he was especially excited about playing new member of the college band young adults in general.

"When I was a freshman I didn't really appreciate it, but I imagine it'll be a lot more emotional this year," he said.

Howard said he thinks the ceremony is an honor, said he thinks the band and faculty secretaries who are asked to participate get more emotional than the band members during the event.

"We're up there every weekend during on the steps," he said. "For them it's something different and special."

Puckett — who has asked a fellow Saint Mary's student to plaid her because her family, who live in New Mexico, won't be attending this game — said she's happy she gets to be part of the ceremony. She also said a lot of students who might not be in band. It's someone who has been there through all the hardships and fun times of band and now they get to be a part of the band.

Contact Liz Harter at LizHarter@SaintMarys.edu

Football continued from page 1

Winn...

Sophomore Luke Flapan said he hopes the team gained some valuable experience last year, and this weekend's game will be a chance for the student body to witness the new and improved Fighting Irish.

"I think they learned a lot from last year, and there will be major improvements," Ragon said. "I'm excited to see how the team's looking."

The team will not be the only aspect of the football season that is improved, as organizers have also been revamping the pep rallies.

"At pep rallies in the past, the dorms hosting the pep rally would scream and chant, and by the time the other dorms got there, they would be kind of worn out," Hall President's Council athletic co-chair Laura Burdick said. "We know something had to change."

Burdick said this year's rallies will feature the Dorm's Championship League, where dorms will compete against each other for prizes.

"The new pep rallies will pit dorms against each other through obstacle courses," Burdick said. "Every week there will be a different prize for the winners, this weekend, the winning dorm gets free Chipotle. Then at the big 'championship' round for the Syracuse pep rally, the winners will get a trophy."
**INTERNATIONAL NEWS**

**Gas explosion kills 24 in China**

BEIJING — A gas explosion inside a mine in northeastern China on Thursday killed 24 people and injured six, the local authorities and state media said. Three others were trapped inside.

**Syria’s regime seeks to grip power**

County, fight to gain permanent and a grieves of TI(:n

Detroit mayor guilty in sex scandal

**U.S. raid strains Afghan relations**

KAIRUL — The Afghan president said a deadly raid on a village by American and Afghan commandos has strained relations with the United States and promised Thursday to punish those responsible.

U.S. officials have said that at least 30 militants, including a Taliban commander, and no more than seven civilians were killed during the Aug. 22 raid. Afghan officials, backed by the United Nations mission, said that 21 civilians died, including dozens of children.

President Hamid Karzai’s comment came a day after he spoke to President Bush about the raid and how to prevent civilian casualties, his office said.

"President Bush told President Karzai that he grieves anytime innocents die," White House national-security spokesman Gordon Johndroe said Thursday.

**National News**

**Muslim leader given U.S. citizenship**

NEWARK — An influential New Jersey Muslim leader was given U.S. citizenship by some federal officials of having terrorist ties but praised by others as being an important ally won his fight to gain permanent U.S. residency Thursday.

A federal immigration judge in Newark ruled that Mohammad Qatanani, the spiritual leader of the Islamic Center of Passaic County and a key figure in city government, has lived in the United States for more than 30 years.

The ruling brought cheers, tears and applause from about a dozen Qatanani supporters who gathered in the courtroom.

"I would like to thank the judge for working hard in this case," Qatanani said. "This is a beautiful thing. The justice system in this country is great."

**Detroit mayor guilty in sex scandal**

DETROIT — Mayor Kwame Kilpatrick was convicted of an charge that embarrassed this chronically struggling city and protracted its government for months.

The 38-year-old "Hop-Hop Mayor" who brought energy and excitement to City Hall when he took office in 2002 pleaded guilty to obstruction of justice and will get four months behind bars.

The Democrat will also pay a $1 million fine and lose his license to practice law, and cannot run for any elected office for five years. His resignation will take effect in two weeks.

**Medical helicopter crashes killing 3**

BUSHVILLE — Bush County is suspending use of the Missouri-based Air Evac Lifeline helicopter after a fatal crash involving one of its medical helicopters.

Three crew members were killed Sunday when the helicopter, on its way to its base at Bush Memorial Hospital, crashed in a farm field near the town of Burney in neighboring Decatur County. Air Evac, which also has Indiana bases in Brazil, Evansville and Paoli, suspended operations at all four bases temporarily.

**Bush poised to punish Russia**

White House planning to take action after Moscow’s invasion of Georgia

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President Bush is poised to punish Moscow for its invasion of Georgia by canceling a once-celebrated deal for civilian nuclear cooperation between the U.S. and Russia.

With relations between the two nations nearing a Cold Warlike freeze over Russia’s actions against its neighbor last month, planning is under way at the White House for the symbolic move by Bush, according to senior administration officials, who spoke on condition of anonymity because the decision was not yet final.

Action could come quickly, within days at the most, and officials said the deal need to wait until Vice President Dick Cheney returns next Wednesday from an overseas trip that includes stops in three former Soviet republics.

Withdrawing the agreement from Capitol Hill would have little actual impact, as the deal very likely would not gain approval during Bush’s presidency.

But taking the overt and public step of pulling it would be intended to send a message to Russia and the world that its actions in Georgia last month are not acceptable and will not go unanswered.

It would require a statement by Bush to Congress that the agreement provides for the "national security interests of the United States. A future president could reverse that and send the agreement back to Congress."

Signed in May by the two nations, the administration originally described it as a landmark, break-through agreement.

It represented a significant reversal in policy for the U.S. on cooperation with Russia on nuclear issues. It would give the U.S. access to state-of-the-art Russian nuclear technology and clear the way for Russia to establish itself as a lucrative center for the import and storage of spent nuclear fuel from American-supplied reactors around the world. Such a deal was seen as crucial to boosting relations with Russia, and to fulfilling Bush’s vision of increasing civilian nuclear energy use worldwide as a way to counter rising energy demands and climate change.

But key lawmakers were suspicious of it even before the disastrous Russian war in Georgia war.

Some feared it would undermine efforts to rein in Iran’s nuclear program, because of Russia’s extensive business and expertise in the energy industry, including nuclear — ties with Tehran. That has so far prevented a move to approve the deal, and now there isn’t enough time left in the full legislative calendar for the required review period to run out and have the agreement take effect without congressional action.

After years of tensions between Russia and Georgia, the recent fighting began Aug. 7 when Georgia’s military tried to re-establish control over its breakaway province of South Ossetia. Russia joined the battle, brutally repelled the Georgian offensive and then pushed deep into Georgia proper, where many of its forces remain.

The sides signed a cease-fire, but Russia has ignored its requirement for all forces to return to prewar positions.

Administration officials determined almost immediately that Russia must suffer some consequences for its actions and wanted to take punitive measures in concert with Europe. But they have been frustrated at the lack of similar resolve among allies, who have offered condemnation of Russia but little else.

If Bush decides against pulling the deal, there are other penalty options available.

The administration could insist that Russia continue to be quietly left out of any discussions among the elite Group of Eight nations, essentially denying Russia membership in the club of major industrialized democracies without actually kicking it out.

**Syria offers peace proposal to Israel**

Associated Press

DAMASCUS — Syria’s leader said Thursday he offered a proposal for a peace with Israel but also refused to break off diplomatic ties with two Muslim nations and militant Palestinians — a key Israeli demand.

President Bashar Assad also said indirect negotiations with Israel were on hold until the U.S. recognizes Syria as a full-fledged government.

Assad said his proposal for Israel and Syria was intended to serve as a basis for direct talks. He said he would wait for a similar document laying out Israel’s positions before any face-to-face talks.

So far, negotiations between the two foes have been held indirectly through Turkish mediators.

Although Assad didn’t divulge details of his proposal, the move reflected a desire to break with Syria’s past policies. The quest was given a boost by France’s President Nicolas Sarkozy, who visited Damascus on Wednesday and Thursday, becoming the first Western leader in several years to come to Syria to negotiate.

Sarkozy has encouraged face-to-face Syria-Israel negotiations and offered to sponsor such talks in the future. The French president has been trying to forge better relations with both Syria and Libya, a long-time international pariah that has significantly improved ties with the West.
Bernhard makes three new office appointments

Vice president welcomes new colleagues

Special to The Observer

Robert J. Bernhard, vice president for research of the University of Notre Dame, has made three new appointments to his office.

Randi Ruthi, professor of physics, has joined the office as associate vice president for research in a part-time capacity. He will continue his teaching and research activities in the Department of Physics in a reduced role.

Ruthi will assist primarily with research development, which includes helping faculty indenstly and secure contracts and grants, and with the launch and management of centers and research cores, particularly in the area of new awards.

Ruthi’s research areas include elementary particle physics and experimental high energy. A Notre Dame faculty member since 1997, he is the founder of the Notre QuarkNet Center, a nationwide program that gives high school students and their teachers an opportunity to be involved with ongoing experiments at particle accelerators, such as Fermilab. He recently returned to Notre Dame after a three-year assignment as a program director at the National Science Foundation.

Liz Balli, formerly director of financial affairs in the office of the vice president for research at Purdue University, will become assistant vice president for research on Sept. 15.

Her Purdue career includes six years in sponsored program administration of industrial, foundation and state of Indiana projects, two years as business manager in the Department of Physics, five years as the business manager for the College of Science, six years as director of financial affairs in the office of the vice president for research, and two years in the enterprise software effort at Purdue.

In office of the vice president for research at Purdue, Balli supervised several of the business managers in significant research units, including Discovery Park, Purdue’s new interdisciplinary research campus.

Tracey Poston has been named director of research compliance for the office.

She previously served as associate director of research compliance at Missouri State University and as special projects/research integrity officer in the office of the vice chancellor for research at St. Louis University.

Poston, who recently earned a doctorate from St. Louis University, will evaluate, implement and manage Notre Dame’s research compliance programs.

ND Votes continued from page 1

The aim of NDVotes ’08 is to simplify the voter registration process and, if students are already registered, to send them instructions, tailored to the student’s state, about how to register for an absentee ballot.

Laurel has taken her own advice. She is already applied to vote by absentee ballot in her home state of Texas.


Not only is there the racial factor, she said. But there’s also the gender factor with Sarah Palin’s selection.

Malory Laurel ND ’08 co-chair

ND Votes ’08 has been working to increase student civic participation and political knowledge through programming events. The group will continue hosting its popular “Pizza, Pop and Politics” nights, Laurel said.

The first of the semester is scheduled for Monday in Coleman-Morse Lounge at 5 p.m., where professors in Notre Dame’s political science and journalism programs will hold an informal discussion about the race in the White House.

“People this election season are really interested in what the professionals have to say,” she said.

ND Votes ’08 has several other events planned for the two months leading up to the Election Day on Nov. 4, including a politically-themed film series and an outdoor screening for the first presidential debate on Sept. 26.

Contact Kaidynn Riely at kriely@nd.edu
Comcast appeals FCC blocking ruling

WASHINGTON — Jack Abramoff, once powerful lobbyist at the heart of a far-reaching political corruption scandal, was sentenced to four years in prison Thursday by a judge who said that he had shattered the public's confidence in government.

Abramoff, who fought back tears as he declared himself a broken man, appeared crestfallen as the judge lengthier than prose­
cut him much differently:

Walker, 49, will have spent about
in prison by the time he is released, far longer than he and his attorneys expected for a man who became the key FBI witness in his own corruption case.

With Abramoff's help, the
the seriousness of the
motions. The infection, which mimics the
in the body. For patients with rheumatoid arthritis, the treatment provides relief from
and painful joints, but it's

"This case
began the sentencing of convicted lobbyist Jack Abramoff.

Although Abramoff expressed remorse Thursday, he also has spent
in prison cooperating
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The book, set for publica­

McCain, the Republican presidential
"It never expected that I
would have to go to prison."

Abramoff says in the book, "until it became clear that
the media could not allow this play to close without the
hanging of the villain."

"We can have
But that's the
record. A modern-day Dr.
"I'm
a
man," said Abramoff.

He added later that, "My
name is the half of a joke
and the title of a scandal."

Abramoff, who
from a separate case in Florida, Abramoff, 49, will have spent about six
in prison by the time he is released, far longer than he and his attorneys expected for a man who became the key FBI witness in his own corruption case.

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Senators lead boycott in underfunding protest

440 children seized in polygamist raid

Prison officials get digital TV

440 children seized in polygamist raid

Child welfare working to find homes for underage boys and girls

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THAILAND

Protestors work to oust prime minister
Leader refuses to cede or compromise amidst economic chaos

Associated Press

BANGKOK — Thailand’s prime minister refused again on Thursday to cede to protest­ers determined to oust him, but offered an unconventional compromise — a referendum on his fate that could end the political crisis that has paralyzed the government and raised fears of economic chaos.

Prime Minister Samak Sundaravej hopes the vote will allow him to keep his job while placating the People’s Alliance for Democracy, which has vowed to continue its campaign, including occupying the seat of government, until Samak quits.

The referendum will ask the public to choose between the alliance and the government, but many analysts say a simple yes-no vote is insufficient in the face of a complicated political crisis.

The alliance ridiculed the plan, saying Samak will manipulate the vote, just as they allege he did during general elections in December 2007.

“The referendum is an attempt by Mr. Samak to buy himself some more time in the office,” Sonthi Lumbhongkla, a media tycoon and one of the protest leaders, told The Associated Press.

Before announcing the refer­endum, which caught the nation by surprise, Samak delivered a combative speech on national radio, again refusing to step down.

“I will remain on the ship, and I will take responsibility for the crew on board,” Samak said, peppering his speech with folksy language. “I am not resigning. I have to protect the democracy of this country.”

But some have said the refer­endum could aggravate rather than alleviate the political deadlock.

“A referendum is normally used to test public approval on whether to go to war or pass an important law. It would not be effective as a tool to solve a complicated political crisis with many conditions and layers,” said Panithan Wattanayagorn, a political science professor at Bangkok’s Chulalongkorn University.

“The problem is complex and nuanced and asking a yes or no question will only further divide the country,” Panithan said.

Before any referendum can be held, the Senate must pass a law because current statutes do not provide for the possibility. Samak said once the law is passed, it would take about a month to hold the vote.

The alliance, which claims to be apolitical, is a loosely knit group of royals, wealthy elite, media and telecom tycoons, and union activists. It wants Parliament to be revamped so most lawmakers are appointed rather than elected, arguing that Thailand’s impoverished rural majority is too susceptible to the influence of the Bangkok elite.

The group has already had a hand in bringing down one government, when it staged demonstrations in 2006 that paved the way for the bloodless coup that removed then Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra from office.

Thaksin, a telecommunications tycoon, recently fled to Britain to escape corruption charges. The protesters say Samak is Thaksin’s stooge and is running the government for him by proxy. They accuse Samak’s government of corruption and making unconstitutional decisions.

After months of protests in the capital, thousands of urban workers are putting on 12-hour to 24-hour shifts and running on skeleton staff, many only treating emergency cases. Many clinics are closed.

“I want to ask something. The doctors and nurses that went on strike, if their son or brother is sick, will they watch him die?” asked Mohammed Musa, an unemployed, 36-year-old father who could not find a doctor to treat his son’s fever.

Union leader Osama Najjar said hundreds of medical staff were called in for interrogations, and dozens of pro-­Fatah employees have been fired and replaced with Hamas loyalists.

Mahmoud Zahar, a top Hamas leader and physician by training, said the government had to take action because key staff were not turning up. He said there was water in the mains because medical workers in Gaza to replace strikers, prompting police to force them to work.

Medical staff strike cripples hospitals

Associated Press

BANGKOK — A walkout of medical staff throughout Gaza has strained services at hospitals and clinics throughout the territory, the latest in a series of crippling strikes that are deepening bitter divisions between Gaza’s militant Hamas rulers and loyalists of moderate Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas.

The strike has forced non­-complying doctors to pull double shifts and left residents struggling for treatment, adding to the hardships in a territory suffering from international isolation since Hamas wrested control of Gaza from Fatah-allied security forces in June 2007.

The Medical Workers’ Union, dominated by Abbas’ Fatah movement, called the strike last week to demand Hamas reinstated workers Fatah says have been fired for their political loyalties.

The union said Hamas police have forced some essential staff to report to duty under the threat of arrest.

Hamas has accused Fatah of calling the walkout at state-run hospitals and clinics as a political ploy — but has aggravated the crisis by shutting down private clinics run by striking doctors.

Around half of Gaza’s thousands of doctors, nurses and administrative medical workers have walked off the job since last week, according to the World Health Organization. Hospital workers carried out a similar strike last year after Hamas fired several senior doctors, but the doctors weren’t rehired and the slowdown flared after five days.

Gaza hospitals are barely grinding along because working doctors and nurses are putting in 12-hour to 24-hour shifts and running on skeleton staff, many only treating emergency cases. Many clinics are closed.

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Recently, Dillon Hall rector Fr. Paul Doyle cancelled the Dillon Pep Rally, the dorm’s signature event. Fr. Doyle was vague in his reasoning and emphasized his decision, but did not give what many residents of the dorm felt was sufficient reasoning for abandoning the pep rally so definitively, because of the abrupt nature and the lack of clear rationale of the cancellation. The Observer believes that it was unfair to the students of the dorm to cancel their event. In an interview with The Observer, Fr. Doyle explained his decision by saying that things were not coming together in a “timely fashion.” However, by Sunday—the day pep rally tryouts normally begin—a crowd of 30 students gathered in Dillon Hall with a 25 page script ready to begin rehearsals. Moreover, those in charge of the pep rally already had confirmed guests of Notre Dame football coach Charlie Weis, new Notre Dame athletic director Jack Swarbrick, and two Notre Dame football players. After announcing to the dorm that the pep rally was canceled, Fr. Doyle had to call these guests and inform them that they did not have to attend the pep rally.

Fr. Doyle also mentioned the lack of an approved T-shirt design as a reason behind cancelling the event, and the took the blame for that as an important part of the pep rally; the important parts (guests, a script and actors) were already taken care of. The issue of the “timely fashion” in which the pep rally must be completed is also suspect. Fr. Doyle denied requests to postpone the pep rally to later in the football season, saying that instead planning for the pep rally must begin in April and continue throughout the summer. However, with a script fully written by Sunday night, the pep rally was on the same timeline it had been in previous years.

The Observer has been on the issue throughout. The Student Activities Office and the Office of News and Information have denied involvement, claiming that the cancellation was done entirely by Dillon Hall’s staff with no outside pressure. In a meeting with Dillon Hall residents interested in performing in the Dillon Pep Rally, Fr. Doyle explained his decision, and expanded upon the reasoning behind the dorm’s signature event, mentioning complaints he received after last year’s pep rally about the vulgarity in the script. However, Fr. Doyle did not read this year’s script’s first draft to see if that same level of crudeness that had been present in previous years was used.

Overall, the Dillon Pep Rally is an annual event not just for that dorm, but for the University as well. It does not stand for just Fr. Doyle wants to suppress, but instead for bringing Notre Dame football fans together to get ready for the season.

Fr. Doyle single-handedly undid 30 years of tradition over a decision, according to his reasoning, a t-shirt and a few complaints—clearly not important enough to deprive a dorm of a key part of its identity.

The news is reported as accurately and objectively as possible. The views expressed are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer. Viewpoints space is available to all readers. The free expression of all opinions through letters is encouraged. Letters to the Editor must be signed and include contact information.

Questions regarding Observer policies should be directed to Editor-in-Chief Chris Hine.
Eulogy for my ND classmate, Steve Pallucca

Fair-trade in line with mission statement

If we do away with fair trade coffee for the sake of cost efficiency, we are only ensuring the exploitation of the very people who are in need of our assistance. In the case of fair trade coffee, we are paying a premium to the coffee farmers to ensure that they are treated fairly and paid a living wage. This is in line with our mission statement, which encourages things like fair-trade coffee and other efforts to promote social justice.

Impossibilities of our ethics

Dan Kamp ("Stop wasting my money," Sept. 4) seems to argue that we do not have a common criterion to construct a better and more just world. He contends that the fair-trade coffee on campus is an imposition of the ethics of a "subset of the student body." It would be one thing to criticize the choice of fair-trade coffee, but not on ethical grounds. We cannot be gambling millions of dollars on our lives, our society and university should reflect our community's ongoing conversation about how best to promote social justice and human dignity.

Be considerate

Dear students, we hope you've had a great start in these first few weeks. We are looking forward to a very successful year. As we prepare for the first football game of the season, it is important for all of us to remember to be considerate to those around us, particularly residents of the South Bend area. In order to sustain a positive relationship with the local community, we encourage you to be good neighbors this weekend. By demonstrating mature judgment, we, as a student body, will continue to improve the relations between Notre Dame and South Bend.

Go Irish!
It has the largest collection of Olmec art in North America, with artifacts covering more than 3000 years of Mexico's mother culture—the Olmec Civilization's history. It contains Native American art depicting European contact, countless paintings from the last five centuries, and is currently exhibiting Richard Serra's groundbreaking Arc of the Curve and Paths & Edges. But most Notre Dame students have never been inside. The Snite Museum of the Arts sits in the silhouette of Notre Dame Stadium, but its collections are anything but overshadowed.

Located immediately to the east of the museum's main entrance is The Dragon and the Goddess: Olmec Art and Its Legacy exhibit, which houses over 270 works of art, more than 80 of which are Olmec, and 169 of which were made before A.D. 250. The gallery is the museum's largest collection and one which Gina Costa, the Museum's Public Relations and Marketing Specialist, says is the most important Mesoamerican collection outside of Mexico City. And it is.

The gallery contains artifacts and sculptures from the Aztec, the Toltec, the Mayan and the Teotihuacan Civilizations, to name a few. Notable among these is the "God L. Relief Panel," attributed to Toltec and Mayan culture of the Late Classic and Early Post Classic periods (A.D. 850-950). God L, the Lord of Hell, can be seen smoking a cigar in the stone sculpture. Also eye-catching is the basalt sculpture "Palma depicting the God of Death as a ballplayer holding a knife and a severed head" from the Classic Veracruz Culture (A.D. 700-900), which nearly resembles the shape of a tiara.

In the center of the exhibit there are selections from the museum's collection of Spanish Colonial Christian art interpreted by Indian and Latino artists, including a stone Atril Cross with the face of Christ and instruments of the passion, i.e. torture devices, carved into it. The cross predates the conquest of the Aztec Empire.

But the Olmec collection is only one of many at the Snite Museum of the Arts. On the upper level of the museum are the 18th and 19th Century Galleries, the American Gallery and the Beardsley 20th and 21st Century Gallery. The 18th and 19th Century Galleries contain works by numerous European artists including Jean-Baptiste Camille Corot, Francois Boucher, Gerard de Lairesse and Charles Louis Muller, who's "Roll Call of the Last Victims of the Reign of Terror" calls out pertinently from a wall in the Virginia A. Marten Gallery.

In the American Gallery, Father William J. Corby, CSC, can be seen addressing troops of the Irish Brigade on July 2, 1863 at Gettysburg, Pennsylvania in Paul Henry Wood's "Absolution Under Fire," which he painted at the age of 19 in 1891. Demanding attention from the other side of the room is the strikingly bright color scheme hangs Jeanette Pasin Sloan's more modern, acrylic on canvas, "Mercado Stripes." (1983) which shows chalets reflecting off one another. Inside the Beardsley Gallery are a number of contemporary art pieces including Kenneth Snelson's "Mozart," whose shadow is almost as impressive as the intricate brass tubing and wire design creating it.

The lower level of houses the Arts of Africa Gallery whose pieces include a 19th century brass ceremonial sword of the Ghana Ashanti people, Libyan facial masks from the early 20th century and numerous Cameroon earth and marble depiction, "Virgin Embroned Nursing Infant Jesus," by Italian sculptor Giovanni Antonio Amadeo.

There are more than 23,000 works of art inside the Snite Museum of the Arts and that's not including the exhibits on the main floor which change regularly.

The aforementioned Serra exhibit is on display in O'Shaughnessy Gallery (located behind the Native North Americans Gallery) until mid-October and selections from Maximo Kantor's Wasteland and Metropolis are on display in the Milly and Fritz Kuenzi Mestrovic Studio Gallery on the first floor northeastern most wing.

The title of the Olmec gallery, The Dragon and the Goddess, according to Museum Curator Douglas E. Bradley, refers to two important features of the Olmec template—the concept of the land of Mexico as a giant dragon's body, and the role of the Great Goddess as the primary deity involved in human life.

You'd be silly to miss seeing either of them. The Snite Museum is open on Tuesday and Wednesday 10am-4pm, Thursday thru Saturday from 10am-5pm and Sunday from noon-4pm. Contact Mark Witte at mwwitte@nd.edu
By SHANE STEINBERG

The Observer

Viva la Coldplay

October 5, 2008

A Retrospective

By SHANE STEINBERG

Scene Writer

Coldplay

Viva la Vida or Death and All His Friends

Released by: Capitol Records

Recommended Tracks: "Viva la Vida," "Lost," and "Lovers in Japan"

with listeners as much as "A Rush of Blood to the Head" and it most certainly isn’t as dreamy and mostly dramatic as their debut album "Parachutes," but "Viva la Vida," despite its shortcomings, is in fact a resounding experimental success that has solidified Coldplay's status as one today's finest bands. From the band's newly formed 1990's French peasant army attire, to the album artwork, to the title track, Coldplay seems to zero in on a revolution from every which way. It's no "OK Computer" or "The Joshua Tree." Then again, Coldplay isn't exactly sticking to their formula this time around. Sure, tracks like "Lovers in Japan" and "Lost!" could have come from any other Coldplay album, but they’re still worthy nonetheless. Meanwhile "42" sounds like nothing before it while "Lost!" "Chinese Sleep Chant," and "Strawberry Swing," although not revolutionary are surely uncharted waters for Coldplay. Viva la Vida starts off quite appropriately with a beautifully celebratory instrumental prelude that truly lives up to its name, "Life in Technicolor." Next up is "Cemeteries of London," which despite its dreary name is actually mellow, and sees Martin's voice operating at a lower register, which is quite common throughout the album. Following "Cemeteries of London" are a host of truly engaging, contemplative songs, that includes the likes of "Lost!" with its drum-circle flare and engaging lyrics, "Lovers in Japan," a pure Coldplay to ballad with a great hook, the title track "Viva la Vida," a truly inventive, unbelievably catchy portrayal of a dethroned king recounting his fall from power, but the true standout in the album is "42." Ingeniously dark and artistically abrasively with its brooding lyrics and sudden change of course into what initially appears to be a different song, is the song the revolution Coldplay had been hoping to achieve with this album. Of course "Viva la Vida" does have its fair share of mistakes. To being with, it is over-produced and spotty in both quality and in delivering a central message with each song. Songs like "Chinese Sleep Chant" which, lets face it, is better off slipped than listened to, and "Reign Of Love" have no business being in the album. "Chinese Sleep Chant" sounds like a bad impression of My Bloody Valentine and "Reign Of Love" almost feels like a rehashed version of "A Rush Of Blood to the Head" minus the artistic genius. Redefining one's sounds isn’t always a good thing when an editing eye isn't used, and such is definitely the case with "Viva la Vida." When all is said and done, "Viva la Vida" isn't Coldplay's best album. It simply takes a longer time to digest, because, upon first listen it tends to bewilder rather than immediately pierce the listener like Coldplay's first two studio albums did. In the end, however, "Viva la Vida," which to this point has topped charts throughout the world and has produced its single "The Power of Love," a truly grand creative leap for a band that has already proven its immense artistic capacity as well as its ability to maintain a commercial success while staying true to itself.

Contact Shane Steinberg at ssteinb2@nd.edu

A flier outside the Laurel Tree, a local Camden club, read "January 16th, 1998, Starfish. + others live at the Laurel Tree." A one-man tech crew could be seen through the crowd of rowdy teenagers on the dance stage using up microphones for the night's act. Around one hundred and fifteen people were stuffed into a room, all of them unable to maneuver their way through the commotion. Backstage, ready to lay their musical ambitions on the line for the first time was the band Starfish. Yes, Starfish. Not exactly the name of a band anyone in the crowd would expect to make it in the music industry. But here we are, ten years, four studio albums, five EPs, and one name change later, and Coldplay is selling out the world's largest arenas and topping charts in every-where from Chile to Malaysia. Coldplay may have started out at the Laurel Tree by mak-ing the mistake of playing the same song twice in a row under a band name they had come up with an hour before taking the stage, but now, as lead singer Chris Martin said in a recent television appearance, "it doesn't get any bigger than us."

Of course Coldplay didn't start out selling millions of albums and headlining shows at Madison Square Garden. No, their humble beginnings as four Brits trying to make it big

with piano laden ballads started with a little-known song called "So Sad" and their first attention grabber, "Ode to Deodorant." From there they released five EPs, the most popular of which, Brothers and Sisters, helped garner them a spot with a major record label in 1999. The very next year, Coldplay released its first studio album, Parachutes, an incredibly well-crafted debut with a singular resonating message as well as a breakthrough hit, "Yellow," which put Coldplay into the public consciousness. Having earned a Grammy award and been nominated for the prestigious Mercury Prize, Coldplay returned in 2002 with what is arguably their best album, "A Rush of Blood to the Head." Both genuinely moving and consistently majestic from the first note to the last, "A Rush of Blood to the Head" received overwhelming critical acclaim and served notice that Coldplay was not just another flash in the pan.

2005 saw what may very well be Coldplay's only misstep in ten years. "X&Y" was Coldplay's way of creating more mainstream music and while it was successful commercially, it lacked in many ways and for a while it seemed as though the band had traded itself in to please the masses. Then, three years later, Coldplay finally released their fourth, much-anticipated album, the oddly but aptly titled "Viva la Vida or Death and All His Friends." This fourth effort saw the band aim for the stratosphere with bold experimentation that involved the use of new sounds, new dimensions of Chris Martin's voice, and evolved songwriting, all of which were completely successful.

Coldplay's formula for success mixes a knack for piercing song writing, a flair for moody-dramatic craftsmanship, and an ability to maintain a high quality from wire to wire without getting stuck on one note or time on each album. Their music manages to be dark one song yet vivid the very next. It is a culmination of thoughts on love, ruminations on fears and doubts, and reflections on the journey of finding oneself, all of which the band has managed to stay true to since their humble beginnings as four Brits trying to make it big. Their humble beginnings as four Brits trying to make it big.
Associated Press

DETROIT — The Los Angeles Angels showed the Detroit Tigers what a playoff team looks like.

Torii Hunter homered to back Ervin Santana and the Angels beat the Tigers 7-1 on Thursday to cut their magic number to six for clinching their fourth straight title in five seasons.

Los Angeles 7-1, Detroit 15-5) struck out eight in 7 1/3 innings, allowing one run and six hits. "He's as consistent as any pitcher I've seen," Angels manager Mike Scioscia said. "He's approaching 30 starts, and he's throwing as well as he did in start five or six."

Santana, who won his first six decisions this year, is 4-0 in seven starts since July 27. "It's about working hard," he said. "You just have to keep it up and keep throwing."

Detroit (67-73), which hasn't been at .500 since Aug. 2, advanced just two runners past first base before Curtis Granderson's homer in the eleventh inning.

Mark Teixeira and Juan Rivera each drove in a pair of runs for the Angels, who won six of their last seven.

Hunter homered in the eighth off Nate Robertson, reaching 20 homers for the third consecutive season and seventh time in eight years. The drive landed an estimated 434 feet away in the upper deck beyond the right field wall in Comerica Park.

"That's the longest ball I've ever hit here," said Hunter, who made frequent stops in Detroit during his first seven full seasons in the majors with Minnesota.

REDS, PIRATES 6

At this point in another dismaying season, the Cincinnati Reds are looking for any reason to feel a little better about themselves.

- How about this: At least the score is not in last place.

Joey Votto hit a solo homer and a tiebreaking, bases-loaded single in the eighth inning Thursday, completing the Reds' rally from a five-run deficit to a victory over the Pittsburgh Pirates, who got to stay all by their lonesome at the bottom of the NL Central standings.

"It was just trying to do too much in a situation like that," Russell said. "He wants to come in and throw hard and dominate the inning, and it got away from him.

Votto's run-scoring single off J.T. Beam put the Reds ahead for the first time, and Edwin Encarnacion followed with a sacrifice fly.

Nick Masset (1-0), who came to the Reds in the trade that sent Ken Griffey Jr. to the White Sox, got the victory despite giving up a solo homer to Nate McLouth in the eighth. Francisco Cordero pitched out of a threat in the ninth for his 27th save in 33 chances.

"Generally, we're just finishing off strong, trying to win as many as we can and hope it transfers to next year," Votto said.

The Pirates swept the first series at Great American Ball Park in 2003. Since then, the two mirror-image franchises, have shared miseries and, quite often, the bottom spots in the NL Central. At 62-78, the Reds are two defeats away from clinching their 16th straight losing season. They also have the major league record held by the 1953-54 Philles. The Reds are 62-78, leaving them within four defeats of their eighth straight losing season. It's their longest such slump in a century.

The Pirates pulled ahead 5-0 in the second inning against Josh Fogg, who left after three innings with a strained groin. Chris Gomez hit a two-run shot off Fogg, the 37-year-old infielder's first homer since April 14, 2007, when his grand slam off Kansas City's Joel Peralta accounted for his only homer of last season.

It was another poor showing for Fogg, who has only one victory in 10 starts since returning from a sore back. His ERA over that span is 6.30. He was another poor showing by Fogg, who has only one victory in 10 starts since returning from a sore back. His ERA over that span is 6.30. He's thought to be fighting a hernia.

Henderson's hit was the 435th of his career, seventh time in eight years. Since Aug. 2, the Angels have held a 2-0 lead in 14 of 24 games.

The drive landed an estimated 434 feet away in the upper deck beyond the right field wall in Comerica Park.

"That's the longest ball I've ever hit here," said Hunter, who made frequent stops in Detroit during his first seven full seasons in the majors with Minnesota.

Los Angeles reliever Justin Speier pitches during the ninth inning of the Angels' 7-1 win over the Tigers Thursday to help Los Angeles move to the brink of their fourth AL West title in five seasons.

Votto's heroics help Reds to late comeback win over Pirates who've lost eleven of their last thirteen games

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Cubs' Zambrano diagnosed with shoulder tendinitis

CHICAGO — Cubs ace Carlos Zambrano has right rotator cuff tendinitis and inflammation, an MRI confirmed Thursday, a potential obstacle to Chicago's chances of winning the World Series for the first time in a century.

Zambrano received a shot of anti-inflammatory medication and hopes to return to the rotation next week.

General manager Jim Hendry said Zambrano hopes to start throwing again when the team begins a series in Youngstown State, Saturday, Aug. 30, 2008 in Columbus, Ohio. He did not return after injuring his right leg.

Ohio State's Wells out for Ohio State running back Chris "Beanie" Wells, left, falls to the turf during the third quarter against Youngstown State, Saturday, Aug. 30, 2008 in Columbus, Ohio. He did not return after injuring his right leg.

COLUMBUS, Ohio — Ohio State coach Jim Tressel said tailback Chris "Beanie" Wells will not play when the third-ranked Buckeyes take on Ohio on Saturday.

Wells injured his right foot in last weekend's 43-0 victory over Youngstown State. He has not practiced with the team this week and has spent much of the time wearing a protective boot.

"Beanie won't go this week," Tressel said Thursday afternoon. "I feel good about his progress, but it wasn't enough progress to practice through yesterday."

Wells' inability to practice has not helped with the team this week and has spent much of the time wearing a protective boot.

"Beanie won't go this week."

Chris "Beanie" Wells will not play when the third-ranked Buckeyes take on Ohio on Saturday.

The junior running back was considered one of the top contenders for the Heisman Trophy before suffering an injury last year.

Ohio State has not allowed him to speak with reporters since he was injured, although he was quoted as saying by a team spokesman that he was relieved that X-rays had not shown any broken bones.

He was seen walking between meetings at the team's practice facility on Tuesday, carrying the protective boot while gingerly making his way to stockinged feet.

Running backs coach Dick Tressel, Jim's older brother, said on Wednesday night that Wells had not been permitted to have contact, or even put weight on his injured foot.

"Any time you have a foot injury and you have to tote around 238 pounds at high velocity, it's a day-by-day thing," he said.

Jim Tressel said Chris Wells' inability to practice all but prevented him from playing against Ohio.

"I think there's a little bit of risk when you don't practice, not just in the injury department but in the execution department," he said.

The Buckeyes will rotate Maurice Wells (who is no relation), Brandon Saine and Dan Herron at the position. Much of the state has been in an uproar since

IN BRIEF

Cubs' Zambrano diagnosed with shoulder tendinitis

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Zambrano received a shot of anti-inflammatory medication and hopes to return to the rotation next week.

General manager Jim Hendry said Zambrano hopes to start throwing again when the team begins a series in St. Louis on Sept. 10. If all goes well, Zambrano would start at Houston in the following series.

Zambrano, 13-5 this year, left his start Tuesday night against the Astros after five innings, saying he did not feel well. He was examined Wednesday by team orthopedist Dr. Stephen Gryzlo.

Zambrano is 1-1 over his last six starts and has made it past the fifth inning only twice.

NFL officially recognizes Bengals' 'Ocho Cinco' CINCINNATI — Call him Ocho Cinco.

The National Football League decided on Thursday to recognize receiver Chad Johnson's legal name change to Chad Ocho Cinco. The new name will be on the back of his Cincinnati Bengals uniform for the season opener in Baltimore on Sunday.

The receiver had his name changed in his home state of Florida last week. It's a reference to his uniform number — Ocho Cinco means "eight-five" in Spanish. When the NFL celebrated Hispanic Heritage month in 2006, he wore it on the back of his uniform for pregame warmups, but had to remove it for the game because of NFL rules — it wasn't his real name.

The Pro Bowl receiver asked the media to start calling him by his new name this week. The Bengals couldn't change the name on his uniform until the NFL gave permission.
MLB

Kazmir's strong start helps Rays avoid sweep

Jeter, A-Rod hit back-to-back homers in ninth in Yankees loss; Struggling Brewers lose fourth straight game

Associated Press

ST. PETERSBURG, Fla. — Scott Kazmir allowed one hit in six scoreless innings, and Tampa Bay's bullpen weathered ninth-inning heroics by Derek Jeter and Alex Rodriguez to hang on for a 7-5 victory over New York on Thursday night.

With Kazmir homerless and drove in three runs for the AL East-leading Rays, who avoided a three-game sweep and extended their lead in the division to 2 1/2 games.

The Red Sox, who face Tampa Bay six times over the next two weeks, were idle.

Kazmir (11-6) limited the Yankees to Cody Ransom's fifth inning double, walked five and struck out seven, and a high pitch-count (98) prevented him from going deeper into the game. Ransom also singled off reliever Trever Miller in the seventh for New York's second hit.

Chad Bradford worked a scoreless eighth but Tampa Bay lost its bid for its 13th straight win, 9-8 in the 11th inning after Jason Kendall made a crucial fielding error. Jeter and Rodriguez had back-to-back doubles in the ninth.

Rays manager Joe Maddon was fortunate to witness firsthand the spectacle of young athletes achieving greatness on the field. But football weekends at Notre Dame are about so much more than the game.

William Schmitt's book perfectly captures all the traditions that reflect the unique spirit that is the University of Notre Dame.
Fins circle around Favre

Associated Press

DAVE, Fla. — The messages are spread in black paint across the Miami Dolphins' locker room walls.

"The fastest way to lose is division from within," reads one wall.

"Miami Dolphins players have the makeup!" exclaims another slogan.

The new regime has tried all sorts of gimmicks to get players motivated. Defensive coordinator Paul Pasqualoni, inheriting one of the NFL's worst units, has fed players old stories and an intense attitude to get them hyped.

Despite all the off-season tricks, the greatest motivation Pasqualoni gave his defense came in the playoffs this week: stopping Brett Favre and the New York Jets.

"He's just such a veteran and has had such a great career and can take over a game," Pasqualoni said Thursday. "He's one of those quarterbacks that can beat you. It's just going to be your assignment, and know you your assignment. But perhaps nothing has resonated more with the defense than his description of the unit as an old car trying to be 'cranked up.'"

The metaphor has become a routine discussion among players, who were inspired to create a signature celebration named the "The Flywheel," where they crouch low to the ground and mimicking an antique car after a big play.

Pasqualoni also has tried to keep players' attention through intimidation, a change from the Cam Cameron-led coaching staff that seemingly babyed players. His defensive motto: Know your assignment, and know you your assignment.


Injuries, losing streak raise concerns for Cubs

Associated Press

CHICAGO — Ryan Dempster stepped out in front of the team's headquarters at the beginning of spring training nearly seven months ago and made a bold statement. He said he thought the Chicago Cubs would win the World Series.

Dempster's optimism remains intact, despite a recent funk that has seen the first-place Cubs drop five straight games for the first time this season.

And not only are the Cubs trying to weather the losing skid, they learned Thursday that ace Carlos Zambrano has rotor cuff tendinitis, a condition that required an injection of anti-inflammatory medication.

Zambrano, who will miss his turn Sunday in Cincinnati, hopes to begin throwing in St. Louis when the Cubs go there next Wednesday. 10. And if all goes well, he could rejoin the rotation for a series in Houston against the Astros.

"It's a relief knowing Z doesn't have anything more significant than what we thought. And hopefully he'll pitch in Houston, which means he will only miss one turn," general manager Jim Hendry said Thursday.

So, in the 100th anniversary year of their last World Series win, the Cubs are sorting out some major issues. They have 22 games remaining and just six are at Wrigley Field, where they are 51-24.

"Obviously you lose five in a row and don't play as well as you are capable, it's frustrating for everybody," said Dempster, who has 15 wins after being converted from a closer. "There are better times ahead. I promise that."

But will those days ahead include Zambrano?

Big Z left his start Tuesday night after five innings, telling pitching coach Larry Rothschild he didn't feel well and wanted to be taken out. He had been slated to pitch last Sunday but got two extra days rest for what was described as a tired arm.

Zambrano, on the disabled list in June with a sore shoulder, was examined by team orthopedist Dr. Stephen Gryzlo and then had an MRI on Thursday that confirmed the original diagnosis.

"Dr. Gryzlo has been right on with all his evaluations this year, and he felt this was not going to be a significant problem," Hendry said. "It wasn't like the situation where he had to be put on the DL after Tampa. And Carli was never going to be that serious either."

Chicago also is taking a cautious approach with hard-throwing Rich Harden — who will go 12 days between starts because he has some discomfort in his arm. Sean Marshall will start for Zambrano on Sunday.

"There's no good time when people are out," Hendry said. "We have a lot of confidence in Marshall. Dempster's had a great year and Lujan is tough as they come and (Jason) Marquis has been throwing the ball well."

Sure arms, bad luck and strange occurrences are part of the Cubs lore, especially since their 2003 collapse in the NLCS, when they lost five outs from their first World Series appearance since 1945. In the ensuing seasons, repeated arm problems for Kerry Wood and Mark Prior sidetracked the Cubs and eventually led to the departures of both manager Dusty Baker and chief executive officer Andy MacPhail. Wood has since returned as a top closer.
Culpeppers rolls out of NFL after 9 seasons

Former Vikings, Dolphins, and Raiders quarterback announces retirement after failing to land starting job

Associated Press

MIAMI — Daunte Culpepper summed up his thoughts Thursday in two words, which ushered in the start of a new era for the former Pro Bowl quarterback.

"Farewell NFL," he wrote.

With that, a career once filled with such promise came to a most unceremonious end.

Culpepper, who starred for the Minnesota Vikings before a major knee injury in 2005 curtailed his career, announced his retirement in an e-mail Thursday morning, saying he's simply grown tired of fighting for one more opportunity.

The 31-year-old was the Vikings' first-round draft choice in 1999, became their full-time starter a year later, and teamed with Randy Moss to pile up yards and touchdowns at an impressive rate.

But he hurt his right knee in October 2005, never played for the Vikings again, and never seemed to return to his past level, either.

"When Free agency began this year, I had a new sense of exercising about continuing to rebuild my career in the same way that I had rebuilt my knee after my catastrophic injury in 2005," Culpepper said. "Unfortunately, that's what I found out was that the league did not share any of the optimism that I did as an unrestricted free agent that I expected. In fact, there was an overwhelming sense that there was no room for me among this year's group of quarterbacks.

"The Miami Dolphins acquired him in 2006 in exchange for a second-round pick, but Culpepper played only four games before being shut down because of continued knee problems. He was sacked 21 times in those four games, and his brief stint with Miami had two compelling images — Getting sacked seven times in his first home game, where fans booed him by halftime.

— Walking off the field during minicamp in June 2007 because the Dolphins wouldn't let him play, and flanked by a team security official.

"Now that dream to get back on the field and prove everybody wrong is behind him," said Dolphins defensive lineman Vonnie Holliday, who talked to Culpepper about his ongoing comeback quest this summer. "It has to be tough. When he was healthy, he was definitely one of the best.

"Last season, the Oakland Raiders took a shot on Culpepper, and he made five starts there, albeit only getting five touchdown passes in those games. And over the past few months, he tried to get any opportunity around the league, even saying just last week that he'd be willing to be Aaron Rodgers' backup in Green Bay.

"There were no takers, and Culpepper saw no reason to keep waiting. 

"Since I was not given a fair chance to come in and compete for a job, I would rather move on and win in other arenas of life," Culpepper said.

In Minnesota, Culpepper's decision was met with disappointment, even though he hadn't played there for years.

"Very surprising. Surprising that he hasn't gotten it. Too bad. Too sad," Vikings safety Darren Sharper said. Last year I didn't think he played bad in Oakland. I've seen quarterbacks that are still playing in this league today play a lot worse. ... And they still have jobs. So I don't know the reason for it."

Culpepper completed 64 percent of his passes in a nine-year career, with 142 touchdowns, the 6-foot-4, 265-pounder out of Central Florida was a three-time Pro Bowl selection, and he was at his best in 2004, when he established career-highs in yards (4,717), touchdowns (39) and passing rating (110.9).

Then came the knee injury, and it all went downhill from there, even though Culpepper — who has served as his own agent and announced his retirement in an e-mail — believes he can still compete.

"No matter what I did or said, there seemed to be a unified message from teams that I wasn't welcome to compete for one of the many jobs that were available at the quarterback position," Culpepper said.

Culpepper said, without citing anyone by name, that he was told he'd get a chance with some teams this season when other quarterbacks got injured.

Friends, family members and "league personnel" also advised him, Culpepper said, to continue waiting for a chance and postponing any decision on retirement.

"I am a better person today as a direct result of the experience of playing in the NFL. I can now focus on the enjoyment of watching some of the greatest athletes in the world play the game I love without the distraction of waiting for those elusive return phone calls."

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Newman’s injury may make Pacman a starter

Associated Press

IRVING, Texas — Call him Adam Jones or Pacman. Maybe even call him a starter.

Because the Dallas Cowboys are wary of corner-back Terence Newman’s groin injury, there’s a chance Jones will make his Dallas debut as part of the starting lineup Sunday in Cleveland.

"Yeah, if we didn’t start Newman, Adam Jones would start," coach Wade Phillips said Thursday.

Even if Newman can play and starts, he’s likely to get more rest than usual — which still means more playing time for Jones in his first NFL game since the finale of the 2006 season, when he was with Tennessee.

"I don’t have a preference," Phillips said. "I wouldn’t want to hold back Adam if that was the case. I feel good about how he’s played and he is ready to play."

Newman missed nearly all of training camp, and the entire preseason, while dealing with a slightly torn groin muscle. He returned to practice last week and was listed as fully going through drills Wednesday. On Thursday, however, he was listed as limited participation.

Phillips said there was no setback, just a mistake in the way Newman was listed Wednesday. Phillips said Newman did the same thing both days.

"I don’t definitely say he’ll play. It looks good for him right now. But we’ll see where he is tomorrow," Phillips said. "I don’t think he’s completely back yet. We’re being cautious and I think that’s the right thing to do."

Newman missed the first two games last season because of a foot injury. The Cowboys eased him back into action, bringing him off the bench each of the next two games.

"We learned last year about Terence that you need to bring him along slowly when he’s missed rather than just throwing him in there," Phillips said. "We kind of winged him in last year and that’s pretty much the same process right now. ... it could be that situation again. Or it might be that he plays the whole game. I don’t have a feel for it yet."

We’ll see how he did after today’s practice and if we’re going to limit him some tomorrow or not.

Giants begin title defense

Super Bowl champs shut down Redskins offense in 16-7 victory

Associated Press

EAST RUTHERFORD, N.J. — The New York Giants won the Super Bowl with defense and they kicked off defense of that title with more of the same.

Playing without Pro Bowl linemen Michael Strahan and Osi Umenyiora, New York limited the new-look Washington Redskins to 11 first downs and 209 total yards and gave indications that these Giants are back for another run in a 16-7 victory that ushered in the NFL season Thursday night.

"We played well and it’s no surprise to us," defensive tackle Barry Cofield said. "We feel like we got capable guys and we held them for very few yards other than the two-minute situations where the got most of their yardage. We are confident in our defense and feel like if we stick with the scheme we’ll have success all year."

Super Bowl MVP Eli Manning, Plaxico Burress and the rest of the offense that started the Super Bowl against the New England Patriots also came up big in spoiling the debut of Redskins coach Jim Zorn and his West Coast offense.

Manning capped a game-opening 54-yard drive with a 1-yard touchdown run and recently signed John Carney kicked three field goals as the Giants scored on their first four possessions in post­ing a rare home win. They won their first 11 away from Giants Stadium in capturing their third Super Bowl, but they were 3-5 at home, losing the last four games.

The win capped a fun-filled opening night for Giants fans, who saw the retired Strahan hold up the Lombardi Trophy just minutes before the opening kickoff.

"It was a great opening to the season," said Manning, who completed 19 of 35 for 216 yards and an interception. "There was a lot of emotion, a lot of excitement. You could feel it in the crowd. It was great to see Michael holding the trophy."

"It was a great crowd. They were fired up. It was good to play well at home and to win a game at home. It’s been awhile."

Coordinator Steve Spagnuolo and his defense made sure the home team came to an end. In the process he might have made Redskins owner Dan Snyder think twice about trying harder to hire him.

Spagnuolo was a serious candidate to replace Joe Gibbs until the Redskins’ owner Dan Snyder think twice about trying harder to hire him.

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NOW LEASING FOR FALL 2009
Belles off to Wabash for first road meet of year

By KATE GRABAREK
Sports Writer

Saint Mary's will hit the road this weekend for its first away meet of the season.

The team will travel to the Wabash Invitational to compete against nine-team field of Anderson, DePauw, Franklin, Indianapolis, Indiana Tech, Marian, Rose-Hulman, Wabash and Vincennes.

The Belles ran their first race of the season at home last Saturday competing in the first annual Alumni Race.

"The team is looking great," Belles coach Jackie Bauters said. "I think the team ran well and really got a feel for racing together again. We have work to do, but I am very happy with the start to the season, and it was a really fun weekend for the team and those who came to join us."

The team is also dealing with the adversity of losing its top two runners from last season. Megan Galy graduated and sophomore Samantha Wieworek is out for the season with a knee injury.

"Everyone is stepping up," Bauters said. "We have a great group that is working hard together to push each other beyond their comfort zone. I don't know that anyone is taking charge, rather the team is realizing their roles and their potential."

This weekend's meet differs from the team's typical 5K race. In this grueling style, each Belles' tandem of two runners will run two miles — four miles per pair.

"I'm hoping to see us improve on the things we saw at the Alumni Race," Bauters said. "Small groups working together to push each other and see the importance of the team. I expect them to put their best effort forward."

With four new freshmen this year, the team is trying to help the girls get through their first couple of weeks on campus.

"So far I believe they are handling the balance of being a student-athlete well," Bauters said. "I believe the team and myself really try to create a supportive, positive environment for everyone to succeed in."

Following this weekend, the Belles will next compete in the Bradley Invitational in Peoria, Ill., on Sept. 12.

Contact Kate Grabarek at kgrabar@Saintmarys.edu

Saint Mary's starts year slowly

By MIKE GOTIMER
Sports Writer

Entering the first MIAA Jamboree of the season, Saint Mary's had hoped to make some noise and establish itself as the premier team in the conference and one of the premier teams in Division III golf.

The Belles, however, found themselves in a familiar position after the 18-hole competition, finishing in third place with a cumulative score of 340 behind defending champion Olivet College and Hope College, who finished with scores of 323 and 336, respectively.

Despite the third place finish, the Belles had their fair share of strong individual rounds. All five Saint Mary's golfers finished with one of the 25 lowest scores of the tournament.

Sophomore Rosie O'Connell's 83 was the low round for the Belles and 10th-best in the field.

The three Saint Mary's freshmen that started did not disappoint, as each golfer broke 90.

Freshman Natalie Matuszak continued her solid play and finished right on O'Connell's heels with an 84, good for 11th in the field.

Newcomer Christine Brown finished with an 85, which tied for the 12th lowest round in the field.

Matuszak and Brown's classmate Kaidly Jacob finished in a tie for the 17th lowest round in the field with her score of 88.

Senior Perri Hamma's 92 was tied for the 23rd lowest score in the field.

Olivet's 322 set a new MIAA course record at the Medalist Golf Club. Olivet's strong performance was a result of superb individual performances, as all five Olivet golfers finished with scores of 85 or lower.

Junior Megan Rimmel's 78 was the lowest score of the day.

Saint Mary's returns to the course on Sept. 20 at the Zolnier Golf Course, the home course of Trine University.

Contact Mike Gotimer at mgotimer@nd.edu

Collier showing progress

Associated Press

JACKSONVILLE, Fla. — Jaguars offensive tackle Richard Collier is making gradual improvement from gunshot wounds but is "not out of the woods yet," his agent told a newspaper Thursday.

Collier remained in critical but stable condition in the intensive care unit at Shands Jacksonville Medical Center, but agent Jeff Jankovich told the Associated Press that Collier's 92 on Sept. 11 was the lowest score of the tournament.

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NFL

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Collier remained in critical but stable condition in the intensive care unit at Shands Jacksonville Medical Center, but agent Jeff Jankovich told the Associated Press that Collier's progress has been gradual, though the family remains hopeful that his recovery will continue moving in a positive direction. The agent didn't give any specifics about where or how many times Collier was shot or what type of surgery he had.
Recruits

continued from page 24

an area he needs to continue to recruit to succeed.

Another New Jersey product that committed in the middle of May is inside linebacker Carlo Calabrese. Coming out of Verona High School in Verona, N.J., Calabrese is a force to be reckoned with in terms of stopping the run. More than anything, Frank feels, Calabrese has the type of attitude that the Irish are looking for in high school recruits.

Carlo plays the game like it should be played," Frank said. "The play stops when Carlo hits you. He's a guy that's going to hit you every play he goes out there. He's fast and I think some will be surprised with how effective he is on the field."

Over the summer, the Irish coaches hit the recruiting trail and picked up some big names along the way. The second week of July, however, proved to be one that solidified some of the key players of the class of 2009 thus far. In the span of seven days, Notre Dame picked up verbal commitments from cornerback Marlon Pollard, who originally committed to UCLA, tight end Tyler Eifert and offensive guard Chris Watt.

Pollard originally wasn't scheduled to visit the Notre Dame campus, but after the Notre Dame-Michigan game last week, he had an extra day in Chicago at the offense-Defense Sports Select Football Camp, he decided to visit the Irish. That was all the coaching staff needed as assistant coaches Brian Polian showed the four-star corner the Irish are one of North Carolina's main rivals, in part because the Irish are one of only two teams to beat the Tar Heels more than twice.

In addition, North Carolina will be seeking revenge after Notre Dame ended its season a year ago with a 3-2 win in the third round of the NCAA Tournament at FedExForum.

"The North Carolina-Notre Dame series has two of the most storied programs in women's soccer, so we really want to bring out the best in each other," Waldrum said.

If the Irish have any energy left after the showdown with North Carolina Friday, they will take the field Sunday against Duke, another team on the hunt for vengeance against Notre Dame. A week before knocking out North Carolina last season, the Irish knocked off the Blue Devils from the second round of the NCAA Classic.

The Irish defense has been impenetrable so far, allowing just five total shots on goal in the team's three games. The back line is anchored by senior co-captain Carrie Dew, who was named the best defensive player of the week for the second consecutive time on Monday. But the unit will be pressured by North Carolina's potent attackers. Led by senior midfielder Allie Long and junior forward Nikki Washington, who each have four points, the Tar Heels have averaged three goals a game in wins over Charlotte, Texas A&M and Tennessee.

"They're offense is certainly a big challenge," Waldrum said. "There's not many teams that can hold them to two or three shots a game like we've been doing to teams."

At the Fetzer Classic, the Irish will look to continue their offensive dominance. Senior forward Kerri Hanks, the reigning Top Drawer Soccer national player of the year, will lead the Irish with four goals to go with one assist.

"Their offense is great but we expect to have a lot of chances against them, too, with all the firepower that we have on our side," Waldrum said.

Notre Dame's 3-0 record stands in stark contrast to its disappointing 2-3-2 record to begin last season. The Irish look to add an exclamation point to their hot start when they go toe-to-toe with some of the best programs in the country this weekend.

Contact Fran Tolan at fosla@nd.edu.

---

Write Sports.
Contact Bill at
wbrink@nd.edu.
Valpo continued from page 24

Dame on Sept. 19. He said the meet is mostly a way to gauge the level of fitness and the competitive nature of his runners.

"They're going to be running tired," he said. "We'll see who can dig deep when it starts to hurt."

The Irish men have won the Crusader Open four times in a row and are looking to make it five with a host of upperclassmen returning.

Seniors Patrick Smyth, who finished 15th at last year's NCAA Championships, and a junior, will be leading the Irish on the men's side. Smyth has earned two All-American accolades in cross-country and one in track and field.

Chris Rodriguez, now a senior, is the Irish's top returning runner. He did not run last year. He was named Big Green returnee of the year after Nino Berticelli, his first career multi-goal scorer, scored two goals for the Irish, leading the team with six goals and four assists last year.

South Florida, like Notre Dame, competes in the Big East conference, but the two are not scheduled to play each other in the regular season. Sunday's match will not count toward conference standings.

The Irish will look to start this weekend on a better note than last time, when they fell to No. 12 Akron 3-0 on Friday night in Bloomington, Ind.

"We didn't play so very badly on Friday, but the goals came Sunday," Clark said. "We couldn't find the magic formula to that, it'd be easy."
The Observer is looking for artists interested in designing a daily comic. If you are interested, e-mail Chris Hine at chine@nd.edu or call (574) 631-4541.
WooD, Stockton highlight impressive early 2009 commitments

By LORENZO REYES
Sports Writer

Although the 2008 season has yet to start, Notre Dame has already received verbal commitments from many of the top players in the nation — some of these coming in positions of key needs.

The first notable player to jump on board was running back Cierre Wood from Santa Clara High School in Oxnard, Calif. Ranked as a five-star recruit at Scout.com, Wood brings an element of speed, explosiveness and playmaking ability from both the backfield and special teams. Wood committed during the weekend of the spring football game and his interest in the Irish turned some heads due to last season's record and the heavy competition at the running back position.

Tyler Stockton, a defensive tackle out of The Hun School in Princeton, N.J., also verbally committed to Notre Dame during the spring game. Irishreyes.com's Mike Frank thinks very highly of Stockton and feels that Irish fans will recall a recent standout along the defensive front when watching Stockton.

"He's a very big pickup for the coaching staff," Frank said. "He's short, compact and can penetrate and make some plays in the backfield. He's a huge pickup because defensive tackle has been a position that Notre Dame has struggled to recruit in the past. I think he'll remind a lot of people of Trevor Laws when all is said and done."

Weis and his staff have done a solid job of luring talent out of the Garden State, a place Frank feels is vital for success in the future. "Charlie has been putting a lot of effort into the recruitment of players out of New Jersey," Frank said. "It's a vital area that he can relate to because he's from there and it's..." see RECRUITS/page 21

ND WOMEN'S SOCCER

Headin' to Tobacco Road

Unbeaten Notre Dame to face ACC rivals North Carolina, Duke at UNC's Fetzer Classic

By FRAN TOLAN
Associate Sports Editor

The Irish (5-0-0) will face No. 21 North Carolina (3-2-0) and No. 1 Duke (5-0-0) this weekend, journeying all the way from Santa Clara. The Irish have not played since Loyola Marymount on Aug. 29.

The Irish will take on the No. 3/2 Tar Heels Friday and — as if the first contest won't be enough of a test — conclude the tournament with a match against Duke Sunday.

While the Irish have been impressive in the early-going, outscoring opponents 13-0 in three games, they will have a chance to prove they are among the top teams in the country this weekend. The team has not yet played away from Alumni Field, but the Fetzer Classic should provide one of the most difficult road tests imaginable.

"It's certainly a very difficult place to play," Irish coach Randy Waldrum said. "..." see FETZER/page 21

ND VOLLEYBALL

Road trip to provide tough tests

By SAM WERNER
Sports Writer

The Irish continue their early-season tournament play this weekend, journeying all the way to Moscow, Idaho, to take part in the Idaho Volleyball Classic.

Notre Dame will face off against Eastern Washington today and will take on Idaho and Washington State Saturday. The Irish are 2-1 in the young season after hosting last weekend's Shamrock Invitational.

"I thought she did a great job," Irish coach Debbie Brown said. "She took some really aggressive swings. I think she learned a lot from the weekend and I think she's just going to keep getting better."

Sophomore Kellie Seineca and junior Serenity Phillips have... see IDAHO/page 22

ND CROSS COUNTRY

Men, women to open season at Valparaiso

By LAURA MYERS
Sports Writer

The men's and women's cross-country teams open the 2008 season today at the Crusader Open in Valparaiso, Ind.

Both teams came in first place at the event last year and are looking to do the same this year. Women's head coach Tim Connolly said, however, the meet will not be a good indication for the rest of the season.

"There is no real strong competition at this meet," he said. "Our approach is fairly low-key." see VALPO/page 22

ND MEN'S SOCCER

ND hosts four-team tourney

By MATT GAMBER
Associate Sports Editor

No. 8 Notre Dame will host the seventh annual adidas/IU Memorial Tournament this weekend in memory of the late Irish coach who died suddenly in January 2000.

The Irish (1-1-0) play Central Michigan at 7:30 tonight and No. 5 South Florida Sunday at 2 p.m. No. 3 Indiana, who hosted but did not play Notre Dame in last weekend's adidas/IU Credit... see BERTICELLI/page 22

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 5, 2008
ERIC OLSEN’S NEW TATTOO SHOWS THAT THERE ARE MORE IMPORTANT THINGS THAN FOOTBALL
Past is unspoken but not forgotten

The frightening images of 3-9 are still fresh in the mind. John Sullivan spraying the ball over Armando Allen's head to start a 38-0 debacle at Michigan. Southern Cal coming into the Stadium and laying another 3-0 beatdown on the Irish. Fans screaming, babies crying, gnashing of teeth and so on.

So frightening, in fact, that coach Charlie Weis instructed his team to not longer speak of last season.

But try as Weis might, those images are hard to repress for anybody.

For many of his players, it was a rude awakening to the college game.

Unspoken now, but still remembered.

The problems were well-documented — poor offensive line coupled with anemic offensive production, a defense that couldn’t stop the run.

Before the year, you could expect Notre Dame wasn’t going to match previous years’ success, but who knew they were going to be 3-9 but?

All the Irish can do now is learn from it. Don’t speak about it, but don’t forget it either.

Quarterback Jimmy Clausen and the rest of the offense showed signs of progress toward the end of the year, but in the back of their minds, motivating them this season, should be the memories of those early-season mishaps. Fear of failure can be the best motivational tool.

That fear of failure also resides deep within Notre Dame fans. Some fans on the surface are optimistic about the coming year, and will give you their rosy prediction. After all, look at that schedule, look at that talent, everyone’s a year older, and God can’t hate Notre Dame that much. Still, they know another 3-9 is still possible.

Others are more pessimistic, and project a defeatist attitude about the coming year as a defense mechanism because the thought of another 3-9 is too much for them to think about.

But next to that fear of failure resides the pride of being a Notre Dame fan, the intimate connection each fan feels toward this University. It’s a connection that’s forged with family, with tradition, and a connection forged in part by unprecedented success on the field.

Unspoken now, but still expected.

It doesn’t matter if Notre Dame was 3-9 last year. It doesn’t matter that this team is young and may still need a year or two to get back to national prominence. That’s not the attitude fans are accustomed to.

Notre Dame football is not allowed to go 3-9, it just isn’t supposed to happen. In the eyes of every Notre Dame fan, this year must be a success or else something needs to change.

That’s why Tyrone Willingham got fired. A middling Notre Dame team just won’t do. Not with the fans, and not with the administration, and not with NBC, who just re-negotiated its contract with Notre Dame. One year of 3-9 didn’t concern the NBC suits, but a few more, and these ad revenues will start to shrink, and the suits at NBC and Notre Dame will start to sweat a little bit.

Notre Dame is one of the few places where the term low expectations doesn’t exist, and it shouldn’t. And nobody knows that better than Weis, the former student who once met with then-University president Fr. Heshburg to complain about the football team. I wonder what Weis, the student, would’ve thought of 3-9.

And nobody knows better than Weis that last year can’t happen again. Yes, there are personnel holes on the team that Weis inherited and has done a great job recruiting to fill those holes, but at some point, those recruits have to produce.

Weis called his book “No Excuses,” and rightfully so. It’s the attitude you need at Notre Dame. There are no excuses for 3-9. And there will be no excuses should it happen again.

He was a student hero, he knows what it’s like to sit in the stands when the team stinks and he knows the anger fans and alumni feel when the team stinks. And he knows what those fans will be thinking if there’s a repeat of 3-9.

Unspoken now, but still very much understood.

The views expressed in this article are those of the writer and not necessarily The Observer. Contact Chris Hine at chine@nd.edu.
Eric Olsen

Irish guard Eric Olsen runs during practice Tuesday. Olsen recently covered his upper right arm with a tattoo.

Olsen (55) and the Irish offensive line face off against Navy during Notre Dame's 44-44 triple overtime loss to the Midshipmen last season. Olsen has taken over as a leader on the offensive line.

The fireman's son

By JAY FITZPATRICK
Sports Writer

This offseason, Notre Dame guard Eric Olsen's body changed. Not only did it get bigger while working with the rest of the offensive line, it got more colorful. The change was the addition of a tattoo covering his entire right upper arm.

"Being a fireman is like being a football player or a firefighter," said his father Andy - his friends, the people he knew - was really hard time for us," Olsen said. "Watching the tattoos last year and seeing the people who have them on their hands and the pain on my face, that's what it was. We're close, and it was a really hard time for us."

When the attacks initially happened, Olsen said "it was really long day, and like many other students that day, was unaware that the attacks had occurred. After he found out about the attacks, Olsen said he felt "a lot of anger that someone could do something like that."

"I felt a lot of anger toward the terrorists, a lot of pride in New York, knowing the pain that my dad had to go through - It just hit me on a real personal level," he said.

Olsen also said that he felt helpless and frustrated because, at only 14-years-old, he said he felt there was not much he could do to help his dad.

Olsen said one of the worst parts of the day was his dad's direct involvement in the rescue efforts. Olsen said some of his father's best friends had died in the effort.

"Being a fireman is like a brotherhood, like being on a football team or a fraternity. When the attacks were over, that's when my dad had to endure - his friends, the people he knew - was really hard time for us," Olsen said.

Olsen said every anniversary of the attack would bring his memories and emotions from that day. "It hits you when you are in class and on the corner of the page you write 'September 11.'" he said.

Olsen said that helping with the attacks was just one of the things his dad has had to go through. Andy Olsen has had 12 surgeries, including two for his anterior cruciate ligaments (ACL) and quadruple bypass surgery three years ago. He was also electrocuted at one point during his firefighting career, leading to some nerve damage.

Although Olsen still harbors bad memories from Sept. 11, 2001, he did move on, entering Brooklyn Poly Prep high school the next year.

Olsen was a stand-out player in two sports in high school - football and lacrosse - and the people that knew - was really hard time for us," Olsen said. "Watching the worst part of the day was his dad's direct involvement in the rescue efforts. Olsen said some of his father's best friends had died in the effort.

Watching the tattoos last year and seeing the people who have them on their hands and the pain on my face, that's what it was. We're close, and it was a really hard time for us."

"It was easy [playing lacrosse] because we're close, and the people that knew - was really hard time for us," Olsen said. "Watching the tattoos last year and seeing the people who have them on their hands and the pain on my face, that's what it was. We're close, and it was a really hard time for us."

"Watching the tattoos last year and seeing the people who have them on their hands and the pain on my face, that's what it was. We're close, and it was a really hard time for us."

Even though Olsen described playing lacrosse as one of the happiest times in his life, he said he never had the luxury of playing anything other than football in college.

"I have a passion for drawing. It's something I like to do. I'm a painter and I've been interested in marketing, so I figured I could somehow combine the two," Olsen said.

Olsen said the recent success of the program is due in part to the leadership of John Latina, his current offensive line coach, and the individual efforts of the players who have come before him.

"I also said managing his time as an industrial design major is tough because of the number and length of classes involved. "I have to take a couple studio classes each semester and the studio classes can be up to three hours long," he said. "It kind of fills up my schedule pretty quickly, but it's going to be worth it."

This season, Olsen is slated as the No. 1 right guard on the opening day two-deep depth chart. It's been a source of leadership for an offensive line determined to improve its play from a year ago.

Latina said he always envisioned Olsen playing as a guard, despite having been a tackle in high school. The coach said that is the easier transition to make than guard to tackle because tackles often play against faster opponents and have no one covering them outside. Latina said guards play "big guys like yourself," in this case, "good amount of space," making it an easier adjustment.

Latina said Olsen has done well since transitioning permanently to guard after his freshman season.

Olsen played sparingly as a freshman but saw increased playing time last season, including his first Irish start against Boston College. That added experience has given him more confidence to perform well, Latina said.

"He's just older, smarter, wiser, more confident," he said. "Now he gets to reflect back and pull from past experience."
Notre Dame Fighting Irish

Record: 0-0
AP: NR
Coaches: NR

Notre Dame 2008 Schedule

Sept. 6 SAN DIEGO ST.
Sept. 13 MICHIGAN
Sept. 20 at MICH. ST.
Sept. 27 PURDUE.
Oct. 4 STANFORD
Oct. 11 at UNC
Oct. 25 at WASH.
Nov. 1 PITTSBURGH
Nov. 8 at BC
Nov. 15 NAVY
Nov. 22 SYRACUSE
Nov. 29 at USC

COACHING

Charlie Weis handed over play-calling responsibilities to his coordinators so he could focus more on what is going on in the field. The once-overshadowed coach must be feeling the pressure to win quick after last year's 3-9 record.

Chuck Long may be pretty green as a head coach, but the 1985 Heisman runner-up knows the game. Long also won a national championship during his seven year stint as an assistant coach under Bob Stoops at Oklahoma.

The Irish struggled last season to find a quarterback. hiking pressure for the Irish with the blanket coverage of the secondary.

The Irish passing offense looked promising at the end of last year, but they have yet to establish themselves as a dominant force. A lackluster offense secondary will be able to hang with the Irish receivers throughout most of the game.

Robert Hughes will run the ball effectively — he'll gain 130 yards and score two touchdowns. San Diego State's rush offense splattered against Cal Poly, so don't expect the Aztecs to do much on the ground. Their passing offense, however, will take advantage of a sketchy Notre Dame secondary. It may not mater in the end, but it won't be a blowout.

FINAL SCORE: Notre Dame 27 San Diego State 17

Notre Dame

ANALYSIS

Irish experts

Bill Brink
Sports Editor

Jay Fitzpatrick
Managing Editor

Robert Hughes will run the ball effectively — he'll gain 130 yards and score two touchdowns. San Diego State's rush offense splattered against Cal Poly, so don't expect the Aztecs to do much on the ground. Their passing offense, however, will take advantage of a sketchy Notre Dame secondary. It may not matter in the end, but it won't be a blowout.

FINAL SCORE: Notre Dame 27 San Diego State 17

Chris Hine
Editor-in-Chief

Liken this game to Notre Dame's last-season win last year. The offense should be able to move the ball down the field and put up a few points, the defense should do a decent job shutting down San Diego State. It's probably not going to be pretty and first-guese jitters are likely to play a role. But San Diego State lost to Div. 1-AA Cal Poly last week. This should be a good warm-up for a young Irish team.

FINAL SCORE: Notre Dame 28 San Diego St. 14

Jimmy Clausen has an extra year under his belt and a healthy throwing arm for the first time in his career. A stronger O-line should keep him off of his back for a little longer, but it is still far from Brady Quinn under center.

A combination of speed and power in the backfield looks promising for Notre Dame's new "spread"mentality. However, it's all up to the big boys in the trenches who have yet to prove themselves as a force to be reckoned with.

Despite returning eight starters, the Aztecs gave up 263 yards on the ground against Div. 1-AA Cal Poly last week. They struggled to stop the option and will most likely struggle to slow down the speedy, youthful Notre Dame backfield.

With a pair of six-footers at corner back the Aztecs will match up well against the Irish receivers. They didn't see too much of a test last week but were able to shut down most of the Cal Poly passing attack.

Kumara and Floyd add some much needed height for the the Irish receivers. The team will miss tight end Simon's good hands over the middle, but as long as Clausen can stay on his feet passing game should be much improved from his rookie season.
San Diego St. Aztecs

San Diego St. 2008 Schedule

Aug. 30 CALPOLY - L
Sept. 6 NOTRE DAME
Sept. 13 at San Jose St.
Sept. 27 IDAHO
Oct. 4 at TCU
Oct. 11 AIR FORCE
Oct. 18 at New Mexico
Oct. 25 COLO ST.
Nov. 1 at Wyoming
Nov. 8 at BYU
Nov. 15 UTAH
Nov. 22 UNLV

San Diego St. Aztecs

Fifth year linebacker Ma'Crum anchors a group of linebackers that could only improve. Smith and Neal are some much-needed braking line and a bigger, stronger defensive line should be able to chug up some holes against San Diego State.

SDSU running back Brandon Sullivan picked up only 43 yards on 14 carries. The offensive line is smaller than average and will have trouble pushing around an Irish defense that spent the summer in the dining halls and weight rooms.

Brandon Walker went 6-for-12 kicking field goals last season, one of those was 30 yards or more. The Irish lost their kicker returner Tom Zhikowski but still have some speed in their return game with Armando Allen and Golden Tate returning kicks.

Punter Brian Stahovich averaged 39.5 yards per kick last week including two pinned inside the 20. The placekickers were perfect on extra points but did not attempt any field goals. The Aztecs also averaged 25 yards per return in the punt game.

In case you have been living under a rock for the last season, only one of those was a win. The Irish. Notre Dame was embarrassed on their own turf after last week's loss. Expect them to be fired up and looking to make a statement.

San Diego State takes this category partially because they're an impressive numbers in their opening week and partially because Notre Dame's ______ doesn't deserve to be listed here any teams special teams at this point in the season.

The Aztecs play in front of less than 30,000 fans on a regular basis. If 80,000 people and a national television spotlight don't get these guys crying with goosebumps, it's time to check for a pulse.

The Aztecs will be excited, but Notre Dame based coaches are used to having fans on their side. This year's Notre Dame team will have more fans behind them this game and they'll be having a field day.

The Irish are coming off a big win Saturday afternoon.

Arizona State

azaics Rushing

The loss of Darrin Walls at corner hurts the already inexperienced defensive backfield. McCarthy and Parris should be strong over the middle but the front seven will have to provide a consistent pass rush for the Irish to keep the ball on the ground.

Long, who knows a thing or two about quarterbacks, is excited about his passing attack which gained 352 yards through the air and threw for three touchdowns last week. The learning curve is still pretty steep for a young, talented group.

An impressive first day under center for Lindley may help him get a legiti- mate threat through the air. Notre Dame will have some question marks at the defensive backfield and will have a lot of opportunities to try to find some answers.

Mike Golic co-hosts the popular radio show Mike & Mike in the Morning. Golic played football and wrestled for the Irish from 1981-1985. He was drafted by the Houston Oilers and also played for the Eagles and the Dolphins. Golic now works for ESPN on NFL Live as well as his radio show. His oldest son, Mike Jr., is a freshman on the Notre Dame team.

San Diego St. 2008 Schedule

Aug. 30 CALPOLY - L
Sept. 6 NOTRE DAME
Sept. 13 at San Jose St.
Sept. 27 IDAHO
Oct. 4 at TCU
Oct. 11 AIR FORCE
Oct. 18 at New Mexico
Oct. 25 COLO ST.
Nov. 1 at Wyoming
Nov. 8 at BYU
Nov. 15 UTAH
Nov. 22 UNLV

Celebrity Pick

Each week in the Celebrity Pick, the writer makes a pick in support of all athletes. This week's pick is:

Mike Golic

ESPN Host

I expect the Irish to try to grind down the clock and control the ball with the running game. Weis is going to try to wear San Diego down even if they aren't picking up many yards. The defense will be aggressive and going after it on each play.

I think people will be excited and surprised to see how aggressive and quick this defense is going to be.

Final Score: Notre Dame 30
San Diego St. 10

San Diego St. Aztecs

Record: 0-1
AP: NR
Coaches: NR

Chuck Long
3rd season at San Diego St.
career record: 7-11

against Notre Dame: 0-0

Roster

Notre Dame

Name Pos. Ht. Wt. Year

1. Dallin Moore HWR 5-11 175 SR
2. Kyle Cronin WR 6-4 170 SR
3. Team Crist DB 5-11 170 SO
4. Brian Stahovich P 6-1 200 JR
5. Miles Mosley WR 6-1 175 SR
6. Tony Demartinis TE 6-5 220 FR
7. Mike Golic FB 5-10 215 JR
8. Ryan Lindley QB 6-3 215 SR
9. Brandon Davis DB 5-10 185 JR
11. Danon McPherson TE 6-4 220 JR
12. Mike Golic OL 6-6 300 SR
13. Brandon Davis DB 5-10 185 JR
14. Ryan Lindley WR 5-10 175 FR
15. Eron Moses DB 5-10 195 JR
16. Jon Mortiz TE 5-9 220 FR
17. Ryan Golic FB 5-9 200 FR
18. Anthony Franks LB 6-1 230 FR
19. Jon Mortiz TE 5-9 220 FR
20. Tony Demartinis TE 6-5 220 FR
21. Robert Gregory OL 6-4 300 FR
22. Andrew Pedrotti OL 6-4 300 FR
23. Brandon Sullivan LB 6-1 270 FR
24. Kyle Banks LB 6-2 240 JR
25. D.J. Boyte OL 6-4 300 FR
26. Cole Shute TE 6-5 220 FR
27. J.J. Ault FA 6-1 225 FR
28. Danon McPherson TE 6-4 220 JR
29. Brian Stahovich P 6-1 200 JR
30. Denor Brown RB 5-9 180 FR
31. Dacario Lewis DB 5-11 175 FR
32. Logan Kestech LB 6-5 220 FR
33. Tyler Carrillo LB 6-2 195 JR
34. Jerry Miller LB 6-1 220 FR
35. Kerry Lewis LB 6-1 215 FR
36. Rob Andrews LB 5-11 220 FR
37. Cole Shute TE 6-5 220 FR
38. Josh Uribarri FB 5-10 210 FR
39. andrew Pedrotti OL 6-5 300 FR
41. Jon Mortiz TE 5-9 220 FR
42. Sam Buss OD 6-1 250 FR
43. Mattemilani OL 6-4 300 FR
44. Robert Brasier DB 5-11 185 FR
45. J.J. Ault FA 6-1 225 FR
46. Mike Matamua DL 6-2 295 JR
47. Ernesto Davon Brown DL 6-2 270 JR
48. Mike Matamua DL 6-2 295 JR
49. Simon Eron Moses DB 6-1 195 FR
50. Simon Eron Moses DB 6-1 195 FR
51. Jimmy Martin OL 6-3 300 JR
52. Simon Eron Moses DB 6-1 195 FR
53. Simon Eron Moses DB 6-1 195 FR
54. Simon Eron Moses DB 6-1 195 FR
55. Neil Spencer DL 6-5 260 FR
56. Jeremy Allen DL 6-4 220 JR
57. Mike Golic FB 5-11 185 FR
58. Mike Golic FB 5-11 185 FR
59. Ryan Golic FB 5-9 200 FR
60. Sam Buss OD 6-1 250 FR
61. Sam Buss OD 6-1 250 FR
62. Mattemilani OL 6-4 300 FR
63. Bryan Fulk DB 6-2 220 FR
64. Bryan Fulk DB 6-2 220 FR
65. Bryan Fulk DB 6-2 220 FR
66. Bryan Fulk DB 6-2 220 FR
67. Mike Golic FB 5-11 185 FR
68. Bryan Fulk DB 6-2 220 FR
69. Bryan Fulk DB 6-2 220 FR
70. Bryan Fulk DB 6-2 220 FR
71. Mike Golic FB 5-11 185 FR
72. Bryan Fulk DB 6-2 220 FR
73. Bryan Fulk DB 6-2 220 FR
74. Brian Milholland OL 6-4 250 FR
75. Nick Garcia OL 6-4 300 FR
76. Dominique Sander GT 6-4 300 FR
77. Dave Garcia DT 6-1 300 FR
78. Simon Apisa 6-3 300 FR
79. Simon Apisa 6-3 300 FR
80. Simon Apisa 6-3 300 FR
81. Simon Apisa 6-3 300 FR
82. Simon Apisa 6-3 300 FR
83. Bryan Fulk DB 6-2 220 FR
84. Bryan Fulk DB 6-2 220 FR
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88. Bryan Fulk DB 6-2 220 FR
89. Bryan Fulk DB 6-2 220 FR
90. Bryan Fulk DB 6-2 220 FR

Dan Murphy

Sports Editor

Notre Dame fans will finally have something to cheer about Saturday, but don't hold your breath. Weis's smash-mouth mentality will make for a slow first half with plenty of work for both punters. A bigger, stronger Irish line will run away with this one in the second half and Michael Floyd will earn himself a spot in the starting lineup with some big catches and most likely a trip to the end zone.

Final Score: Notre Dame 31
San Diego St. 17

Chuck Long head coach

IRISH INSIDER
### Crunching the numbers

**2007 Season Averages Per Game**

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### Observer Classified

**IAN WILLIAMS #95**

**NT**

**HT:** 6'2  **WT:** 310

**HOMETOWN:** Altamonte Springs, Fla.

Where did you get the nickname "Tank"?

Some of the trainers started calling me that last year and I guess it stuck.

Who do you like to hang with off the field?

Most of the guys in my sophomore class, Ragone, Emeka, Golden, Armando.

If you could play any other sport than football what would it be?

Probably basketball. I played it back when I was in middle school.

If you could play any other sport than football what would it be?

Most of the guys in my sophomore class, Ragone, Emeka, Golden, Armando.

What's your favorite spot around campus?

That's gotta be my room — in my bed in Fisher. I'm always just trying to catch up on some sleep now.

You're a long way from home, how has the transition been?

My uncle and my mom have been there to help me out, I talk to them three or four times each week.

How did you survive your first winter in South Bend?

It was tough. It took a little bit of getting used to, but I kind of like the cool weather over the warm water.

So no regrets that you didn't stay in Florida or anywhere else warm?

No, no regrets at all.

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Smith handles position switch with aplomb

By BILL BRINK
Sports Editor

Brian Smith isn’t happy about his nickname.

"Poppy," he’s been called. It started after defensive coordinator Corwin Brown introduced him to coaches at a clinic before he came to Notre Dame. He’s just "a young pup," Brown said.

The genre is fine, Smith now wants a fiercer canine moniker.

"Rot, Doberman, I don’t care. Just give me a masculine dog name," Smith said.

He hopes for that because he will more, will have a chance to make his case for a more intimidating label tomorrow — and from a new spot on the field. A former outside linebacker, Smith will start this year at middle linebacker along with fifth-year senior Maurice Crum Jr. He’s not moving too far, about six yards on the field. But he said he handled the transfer well.

"It’s been smoother than expected," he said. "Playing outside linebacker, you don’t have to know too much. But as a Mike (middle) linebacker, you have to know what’s going on in front of you. Behind you. All over the place." Assistant head coach/defense Jon Tenuta offered a reason why Smith has made the transition.

"He’s a line­backer, first and foremost," Tenuta said. "We used to have a quarter box set up in coaches' meetings. If you swore, you paid a quarter. Joe never went near that box." Ara Parseghian former Irish coach

We used to have a quarter box set up in coaches’ meetings. If you swore, you paid a quarter. Joe never went near that box.

"I remember most about his leadership. He’s a coach's coach no doubt, but off the field he was a regular guy. A lot of coaches will just talk football all the time, that wasn’t Joe," former Irish defensive lineman Mike Golic said. "He was first not Yonto when the coach was recruiting his older brother, Brian, he very likely recruited out of high school, but both Golic brothers were filled with nervousness. They were signed with an Irish coach coming on board."

When he asked Yonto to put out his hand, but when he asked Golic to put out his hand, Golic moved it away just enough to get his thumb in the line. "It’s a move that, my brother, but when he asked Golic to put out his hand, Golic moved it away just enough to get his thumb in the line. "It’s a move that, you never need to do," Golic said. "Just a trick that you lived to use to break the ice with young players."

The coach won three national championships, in 1966, 1973 and 1977. He also produced 12 All-Americans on the defensive line. In different seasons his defense lines held opponents to an average of less than 100 rushing yards per game.

"He never used profanity, but he could yell at you. He knew how to get the most out of his players," Parseghian said.

Smith always had coaching in his blood. His first job was as an assistant coach for the freshman team after a leg injury ended his playing career in 1946. Prior to his injury Yonto played fullback and guard for the Irish starting in 1945.

After graduation, Yonto coached high school teams for several years in the Chicago area. Parseghian was coaching at Northwestern at the time and met Yonto while recruiting some of his players.

"When I got the job (at Notre Dame) Joe contacted me and we had dinner. He was a great guy," Parseghian said.

Yonto suffered a heart attack earlier this year and was also on kidney dialysis, but was able to live out his final days playing golf and enjoying life. He is survived by his wife, six children and the hundreds of players he improved on and off the field.

Contact Bill Brink at wbrink@nd.edu

Players, coaches remember Yonto’s ways

By DAN MURPHY
Sports Editor

On Aug. 4 Notre Dame foot­ball lost a legend. At the age of 83, long­time defensive line coach and former Irish player Joe Yonto passed away.

Yonto spent 19 years on the Notre Dame sideline when all was said and done. He also spent nine years as an assistant to the Athletic Director and remained close to the team until his death. Beyond any shadow of a doubt, he changed the history of Notre Dame football, but he never let football change him.

"Joe was a great family man, he always was," former Irish coach Ara Parseghian said. "He was a very sincere guy who had a wonderful, unbreakable set of principles he lived by." Parseghian hired Yonto as defensive line coach in his first year at Notre Dame in 1964. He said they became good friends and practically all together during the last few years of Yonto’s life.

The one thing Parseghian remembered most about his friend was that he never swore — something that is pretty rare in the world of football coaches.

"We used to have a quarter box set up in coaches’ meetings. If you swore, you owed a quarter. Joe never went near that box," Parseghian said. "Players remember him as a man who could talk to you about anything in the world. Most of the time it had nothing to do with football."

"He was a coach’s coach no doubt, but off the field he was a regular guy. A lot of coaches will just talk football all the time, that wasn’t Joe," former Irish defensive lineman Mike Golic said. "He was first not Yonto when the coach was recruiting his older brother, Brian, he very likely recruited out of high school, but both Golic brothers were filled with nervousness. They were signed with an Irish coach coming on board."

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