Duncan wins construction award

By JOHN TIERNY
News Writer

Duncan Hall was honored with an award of merit in Midwest Construction's "Best of 2008" competition in the residential/hospitality category, the University announced Friday.

Midwest Construction is a monthly magazine focused on the construction industry in Illinois, Indiana, Wisconsin and Eastern Missouri. It is one of 10 regional magazines published by McGraw-Hill Construction.

The University did not submit Duncan Hall for consideration for the award, according to University Vice President of Business Operations Jim Lyphout.

"I and the University Architect (Doug Marsh) were pleasantly surprised to learn of the award," Lyphout said in an e-mail to The Observer Monday.

"We are extremely pleased with Duncan Hall," Lyphout said. Duncan Hall shares the award of merit honor from Midwest Construction with Dana Hotel and Spa, which is located in Chicago. The project of the year distinction in the residential/hospitality category was awarded to One Museum Park East, the tallest residential structure in Chicago.

An independent jury of experts judged the 128 considered projects on criteria including quality, project management, team work, and

Duncan wins construction award

While there were many people running for each position, Clitheroe said that this election was not as competitive as last year's contest.

"The freshmen are really more enthusiastic than competitive. They really weren't cutthroat about it. They're all pretty good friends by now," Clitheroe said.

Phelan, Kenney chosen by peers to serve as president, vice president for academic year

By SARAH MERVOSH
News Writer

Notre Dame's Freshman Class Council (FCC) elected its officers last Thursday and is already working on its plans for the coming year, Malcolm Phelan, who was voted president, said.

The Council's main goals are to introduce students to dorm life, to help freshmen transition to dorm life and to build a sense of family that is so characteristic to Notre Dame.

"As we go forward we want us to be the class that people talk about years later, the class that just clicked," said Phelan. "We want to build that sense of family that keeps people coming back for years... to build the incredibly sense of community that is so characteristic to Notre Dame."

Phelan was elected FCC president. Jay Kenney said he was voted vice president, Shannon Crotty treasurer and Michael Ryan secretary.

"He said the FCC was responsible for the Halloween dance last month and has plans to sell t-shirts and make peanut butter and jelly sandwiches for homeless shelters in the area. There is also talk of a possible dance in the spring and giving out free hot chocolate on the quad," said Phelan.

Phelan was elected FCC president. Jay Kenney was voted vice president, Shannon Crotty treasurer and Michael Ryan secretary.

Students support hotel workers

Coalition for Economic Justice hosts HEI employees at LaFortune

By JOSEPH MCAHON
Assistant News Editor

Socially-conscious students concerned about where the University's endowment is being invested gathered in LaFortune Monday to support the Hotel Workers Rising movement, which is attempting to form a union for workers in HEI Hotels.

"Rising in the sense that there's a poverty level and we're trying to bring back the hotel workers up," Coalition for Economic Justice member Thanh Le said.

HEI Hotels is a large chain that receives much of its endowment from HEI Hotels.

College notified of Sisters' passings

By MANDI STIRONE
Assistant News Editor

Saint Mary's students were sent an e-mail Thursday, informing them that a Sister of the Holy Cross, who had been residing in the on-campus convent, had passed away on Nov. 4.

The e-mail, sent by Michelle Vasquez, secretary to Sister Rose Anne Schultz, vice president for Missions, invited students to attend the funeral Mass and burial on Friday and included a link to a biography of Sister Margaret Mary Duggan available on the Mission Web site.

The Mission section of the College notified of Sisters' passings

Saint Mary's Web site has a list of biographies of deceased Sisters of the Holy Cross beginning with Sister Agnes Eileen Walsh who passed away on Jan. 7, 2007. The list, entitled "In Memoriam," began in 2007. The department of Missions has been keeping these records long before then, Sister Schultz said.

The Department began mass e-mailing students as a result of several people coming to Sister Schultz and asking why they weren't being informed of the Sisters' deaths, she said.

The information can go on

by SISTERS/page 6
INSIDE COLUMN

Don't knock YouTube

Are you guys fans of viral video? Are you amazed by YouTube's ability to promote the next big thing and make them famous? It's all about the content and marketing, isn't it? In fact, the marketing potential of YouTube is so high, it's almost scary.

Many people are using YouTube to become internet celebrities. There are even people who have made a career out of it. For example, the popular YouTube series "Squidly and Friends" has over 3 million subscribers and has earned its creators a significant income.

But not all content on YouTube is of high quality. Some videos are low-quality and only last a few seconds. These are called "Vine" videos and they are often used for humor and entertainment.

In conclusion, YouTube is a powerful tool that can help you become a celebrity. But it's important to remember that quality content is key to success. So, if you want to be a YouTube celebrity, make sure you create high-quality content that will keep viewers coming back for more.

— Brian Smith, Senior Columnist

QUESTION OF THE DAY: WHAT MUSICAL ARTIST WOULD YOU BE HAPPY TO NEVER HEAR FROM AGAIN?

Casey Martin junior Stanford

"Celine Dion, I hate everything she's ever done in life."

Daniel Nolan senior off-campus

"Jessica Simpson, because she's an expert at destroying music but an acceptable country singer."

Leora Wallace senior McGinn

"Akon, because he has a whiny high-pitched voice."

Jay Wade junior off-campus

"Nickleback, because they are all that's wrong with music. And they're Canadian."

Chris Godia senior off-campus

"Rihanna, because some body's got to stop the music."

Kara Coyle junior P.W.

"Aaron Carter, because I have doubts that he actually beat Shag."

OFBEAT

Big purge stops bullet from hitting student

MURFREESBORO, Tenn. — Don't knock those trendy, oversized purses — they could save your life, as one college student found out. Police say the contents in an oversized purse saved Elizabeth Pittenger, a 22-year-old Middle Tennessee State University student, by stopping a bullet during an attempted robbery.

Pittenger was walking to her car on campus Thursday evening when a man confronted her and demanded her purse, cell phone and laptop, university Police Chief Buddy Feaster said. She fought the man off, but he fired a gun shot before fleeing.

The bullet wound inside the purse, along with a calculator, umbrella and small case that had been punctured. Pittenger was not injured.

Counselman tells teens to hold saggy pants

DALLAS — Dallas Councilman Dwaine Caraway is on a mission. He wants those wearing low-hanging, baggy pants to pull up their trousers.

As part of his ongoing campaign against saggy, underwear-exposing pants, the mayor pro tem held a summit Saturday. More than 100 adults, children, students, ministers, law enforcement officers and representatives from local organizations attended the hours-long derrierie affair.

Local youth counselor Calvin Glover even brought a contingent of saggy-bottom teens. The group piled into two elevators and made its way to the council chamber. Saggy britches, big belt buckles and untucked T-shirts were in abundance.

Information compiled from the Associated Press.

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

Contact Analyse Lipari at alipari@nd.edu

CORRECTIONS

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OFFBEAT

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TUESDAY

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THURSDAY

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SATURDAY

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TODAY

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TUESDAY

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THURSDAY

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South Mary’s to commemorate Kristallnacht anniversary

Event organizers seek to remember the Holocaust and speak out against human rights abuses in Darfur, Burma, and the Congo

By MEGAN LONEY
News Writer

This week, Saint Mary’s chapter of the White Rose Society is commemorating the 70th anniversary of Kristallnacht, when over 20,000 men were sent to concentration camps. Kristallnacht, or the Night of Broken Glass, is known as the event that marked the beginning of the Holocaust. The Saint Mary’s White Rose Society is the second chapter of this group in the United States — the first is at the University of Texas-Austin. Senior Sarah Testa, president of the White Rose Society chapter at Saint Mary’s, discovered the group in a class her junior year.

“I took a class on the Second World War where the White Rose was briefly mentioned in conjunction with other resistance groups,” Testa said. “The name struck me so I looked it up and I found out there was an incredible story few knew about.”

After learning that the University of Texas-Austin had a student-run White Rose Society, Testa contacted them to receive information about the group. Although Testa worked on the idea her junior year, the chapter was not formally recognized until the beginning of this school year, said Testa.

“Currently, there are 60 official members in the chapter,” Testa said, “but people are always expressing interest in joining. There are a lot of first years and sophomores involved in the chapter, which hopefully means that it can continue on past this year.”

The White Rose Society, Testa said, applied the ideas of the original White Rose Society, but integrated them with issues that are prevalent today.

“The Saint Mary’s White Rose Society seeks to honor the White Rose and speak out against current human rights abuses,” Testa said. “Right now we have a marriage of Holocaust remembrance and activism for Darfur, Burma and the Congo.”

Testa worked closely with faculty members involved in the planning of last year’s Kristallnacht Commemoration. She said she feels it is important to mark the anniversary of the start of the Holocaust and to make sure that the memory of the Holocaust does not die.

“It’s easy to say that the world will never forget the Holocaust,” Testa said, “but it’s actually more of an issue than many realize. In our lifetime, those personally affected by the Holocaust will perish. In addition, people are actually denying that the Holocaust ever existed. These things are such dangers to Holocaust remembrance that now, more than ever before, we need to come together and remember.”

Events to mark the anniversary of the start of the Holocaust began Sunday with a viewing of "Sophie Scholl: The Final Days," a documentary about one of the original members of the White Rose Society, college student Sophie Scholl. Scholl stood up to the Nazis and was executed for her involvement with the Society along with two other members.

The commemoration continued Monday with showing of Testa’s personal interview with Holocaust survivor Jacob Hennenberg, shown during lunch at the Student Lounge. She said she first met Hennenberg when she was 13.

“When I was 13, I wanted a Holocaust survivor to come speak at my grade school,” she said. “I contacted a synagogue and met Jacob Hennenberg. Mr. Hennenberg agreed to preserve his personal story on tape for the White Rose Society. This personal interview will also be shown Tuesday, same place and time.

“It’s easy to say that the world will never forget the Holocaust, but it’s actually more of an issue than many realize.”

Sarah Testa
White Rose Society
Saint Mary’s Chapter president

Monday evening in Vander Vennet Theater, David Stefancic, an associate professor of history, introduced "Cabaret," a film set in Berlin in 1931. After showing the movie, Stefancic led a discussion about the subjects presented in the film.

The Kristallnacht commemoration ends Tuesday night with a viewing of "Hotel Rwanda" at 7 p.m. in Vander Vennet Theater. Edith Miguda, assistant professor of history, will introduce the movie and lead a discussion after the viewing.

For the commemoration, the White Rose Society will be giving away white roses to remind people of the importance of the anniversary. Allied Cut Flowers, a company in Cleveland, donated the 500 roses that will be given away.

Contact Megan Loney at mloneyO1@ saintmarys.edu

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A Special Information Session for Mendoza College of Business Students
(Others are welcome to attend)

Leave May 13th 2009  Return June 14th 2009

- All returning ND & St. Mary’s undergraduates eligible
- Four and one-half week study in London
- Mid session study/travel to Paris, Normandy, Belfast, Spain, or Amsterdam
- Earn 6 credit hours
- Still have 2 months of summer left when you return!

Information Session for 2009 & 2010 Programmes

Wednesday 12th November 2008
5:00 pm to 6:00
JORDAN AUDITORIUM

Applications are available at 305 Brownson Hall or on-line at www.nd.edu/~sumlon
Duncan Hall, the recipient of the "Best of 2008" award from Midwest Construction, houses 232 male undergraduate students.

In his response, Jenkins praised the University's social investment policy and suggested the students begin meeting with Notre Dame's Chief Investment Officer Scott Malpass.

"Our position regarding those issues is well known and unambiguous. A situation in which we find that the legally protected rights of workers are infringed upon is unacceptable," Jenkins said in his letter.

"We very open, has done a lot of good research, and has been very supportive," Angulo said.

However, the University remains invested in HEI, prompting the Coalition for Economic Justice to invite the HEI Workers Rising movement and four actual workers from HEI's Ritz-Carlton Hotel in San Francisco — Richard Quan, Vincent Mac, Eliza Ancheta and Michael Ancheta — to campus.

"They shared their stories of how the workload has increased under HEI and how they've cut back on the staff working there, basically increasing the work for everyone else," Tatiana Estrada, Coalition member said.

"They were very well received, and there was a lot of discussion that day," Ancheta said.

"He said he spent years toiling for the university, and if they don't support the movement, the workers would be "incredibly angry," Ancheta said.

"We came to talk to you guys so basically we can work together," he said. "We're not going to do nothing without the support of the coalition." Ancheta said he agreed with the Coalition's call for divestment from HEI Hotels until they enact fair labor practices.

"I don't think that this school would want to be a host for a business that treats its workers unjustly," he said.

Estrada said one of the workers major demands was a request for card check neutrality and a chance for workers to sign a statement saying they are in a fair process so that everything will be legal.

"There won't be any intimidation tactics, and instead of doing a secret ballot election, there will be a direct mail-in action."

Le said the problems actually run much deeper, including major violations of privacy.

"They actually clock the time for how long they spend at the restrooms," he said. "There are serious privacy concerns."
**INTERNATIONAL NEWS**

Iraq suffers deadliest attack in weeks

BAGHDAD — A suicide bomber Monday struck a crowded rushing to help schoolgirls trapped in a bus by an earlier bombing. The Interior Ministry said at least 31 people were killed — the deadliest in a string of blasts that raise doubts about Iraqi security forces as the U.S. prepares to reduce troops.

The ministry said another 71 people were wounded in the twin blasts, the deadliest attack in Baghdad in six weeks. A third bomb exploded about 130 meters from the scene of the mostly Shia Karada section of north Baghdad but caused no casualties, police said.

No group immediately claimed responsibility for the attacks during the morning rush hour. But suspicion fell on al-Qaeda in Iraq, which has made suicide bombings against Shiites civilians its signature attack.

In recent weeks, there has been an uptick in small-scale bombings in Baghdad. An Associated Press tally showed at least 19 bombings in the city this month as of Sunday, compared with 28 for all of October and 22 in September.

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**NATIONAL NEWS**

2,000 year old ring found in Israel

JERUSALEM — A luxurious gold, pearl and emerald earring found this week next to the walls of Jerusalem’s Old City. It dates to the Roman period just after the time of Jesus, said Doron Ben-Ami, who directed the dig.

The earring was uncovered in a destroyed Byzantine structure built centuries after the piece was made, showing it was likely passed down through generations, he said.

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**ELECTION 2008**

Obama vists Bush in White House

Obama, Bush and their wives take part in traditional tour, begin transfer of power

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — All smiles and compliments, President-elect Obama and Michelle, called on President Bush and First lady Laura Bush Monday in a White House visit that was part political symbolism, part introduction and a striking symbol of the historic transfer of power to come.

The president and Obama talked war and financial crises.

Laura Bush and Michelle Obama talked about raising daughters in the nation’s most famous home.

Then Obama flew back to Chicago to work on setting up the now administration that will take over on Jan. 20.

Mrs. Obama went out hunting a new school for the kids, visiting the city’s best-known private school.

If first impressions matter, Obama and his wife displayed familiarity to the super-punches Bushes, pulling up to the White House’s South Portico 11 minutes early.

The couple traded warm and easy greetings in the crisp autumn sunshine, with the wives exchanging pleasantries about the fall hues each wore — Mrs. Bush in a brown dress and Mrs. Obama in a red one.

While Obama and Bush, in business suits, proceeded waving and smiling down the White House Colonnade for nearly two hours of private talks, Mrs. Obama and Mrs. Bush had their own agenda — talk of raising children in most unusual circumstances.

Mrs. Bush conducted a tour of the long-planned gift to the White House, the first for any American president.

Michelle Obama had toured the White House before with daughters Malia, who is 10, and Sasha, who is 7. But the two women had never met.

The 43rd president and the man who will be the 44th — and first black — commander in chief met alone in the Oval Office, with no handlers or staff. It was Obama’s first time in the storied work space, even though he had been to the White House previously for events.

Neither the Bushes nor the Obamas spoke to reporters, and details about their meetings were few.

Neither the president and president-elect talked about an automotive industry now in deep crisis, mortgages and the prospect of a second economic stimulus package. According to two officials familiar with their conversations, the officials wanted anonymity so they could speak candidly about a private conversation.

White House press secretary Dana Perino said Bush described the meeting as “constructive, relaxed and friendly,” covering problems at home and abroad, and that he personally pledged a smooth transition.

Bush gave Obama a sneak peek at White House highlights, such as the Lincoln Bedroom and the president’s office in the residence, after their hourplus in the Oval Office.

Obama transition spokeswoman Stephanie Cutter said the president-elect thanked Bush for both his hospitality and transition help. “They held a broad discussion about the importance of working together throughout the transition of government in light of the nation’s many critical economic and security challenges,” she said.

Such White House meetings have a history going back decades. They are discussions that can range anywhere whatever the two men choose, whether focused on specific issues, how best to make decisions, the extraordinary resource that accompanies any American president, the special weight of the office or even the secrets about the building that few people are privileged. It’s also a chance to establish personal rapport with strangers, though that is by no means guaranteed.

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**ELECTION 2008**

Obama plans to close Guantanamo

WASHINGTON — President-elect Obama’s advisers are crafting plans to close the Guantanamo Bay prison and prosecute alleged war criminals in the U.S., the president-elect announced Monday as he met with Bush and other top officials.

If nothing else, the Obama administration’s plan to close the prison would be a dramatic shift from the Bush administration’s approach.

Obama campaign aides have said the president-elect would like to close the prison if he wins the presidency. But the administration has not made any decisions on the future of the prison.

The plan being developed by Obama’s team has been championed by legal scholars from both political parties. But as details surfaced Monday, it drew criticism from Democrats who oppose creating a new legal system and from Republicans who oppose bringing terrorism suspects to the U.S. mainland.

Obama foreign policy adviser Denis McDonough said the president-elect wants Guantanamo closed, but no decision has been made “about how and where to try the detainees, and there is no process in place to make that decision until his national security and legal teams are assembled.”

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**LOCAL NEWS**

Boy left in Nebraska returned

INDIANAPOLIS — The South Bend Tribune reported Monday that a 5-year-old boy who was left at an Omaha hospital under Nebraska’s safe haven law has been returned to authorities in Indiana.

A court hearing is scheduled for Friday in Willow Creek County to determine what happens to the boy next.

Officials with Nebraska’s Department of Health and Human Services Division of Children and Family Services said the boy was left by his mother Thursday morning at Bergan Mercy Hospital.

Associated Press

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*No images provided.*
Sisters
continued from page 1
the Web site, but if students
don't know it's there, they
would have no way of finding
out about it, she said.
"It's just communicating," Sister Shultz said. "Students
don't have to open the e-
mails if they don't want to," she said.
The idea is to keep students involved with their
founders, Sister Schultz said.
"Here's this group who are
our sponsoring body, they've
served through the world
and they deserve to be
remembered," she said.
The on-campus Convent, which happens to be the
"Motherhouse of the congrega-
tion," according to Sister
Schultz, is a vital part of the
Saint Mary's community.
Keeping students informed and
involved with the Sisters is
important, she said.
"Because Saint Mary's is so
close ly tied to the Sisters," this has more meaning for
students here," she said.
The program that has
helped with building student
relationships with the Sisters is
the Friends With Sisters program, organized by Sister
Louisita Welsh. Many stu-
dents who were involved with
the program and had their friend pass away have been
involved in the program and
attended their wakes, Sister
Schultz said.
One student involved in the
program, junior Brooke
Draktenis developed a
friendship with Sister
Margery Mittersigh, who passed away on Sept. 16, she
said.
"I had been visiting Sister
Margery for 12 months
even over the summer
since I was working in
South Bend," she said.
"She was my bed-
bound, so it was easy
to find time in her schedule for
me to come visit, which is not
always true since the Sisters
of the Holy Cross are so
active for the most part," Draktenis said in an e-mail.
She was informed of her
friend's death and was in
attendance at the funeral, she
said.
"Sister Margery's funeral
was the first funeral I had
ever been to so it was tough
for me since she was the
only person I have ever had
to grieve and celebrate the life
of. The Sisters of the Holy
Cross' funerals are truly a
celebration of life and I was
surprised at how upbeat the
funeral was," she said.

Liz Brown
SMC sophomore

WHY CHOOSE A MINOR OR A SUPPLEMENTARY MAJOR IN LATINO STUDIES AT ND?
Changes in American demography make it imperative for professionals and
leaders, in all fields, to understand the politics, economics, and history of the US
Latinos/Hispanic community. Health professionals, for example, are
already implementing programs tailored to the needs of
Latinos/Hispanics; the private sector is recognizing their growing purchasing
power; and policymakers and political leaders have come to realize that
Latinos/Hispanics may play a decisive role in the US electoral vote.
The minor or the supplementary major in Latino studies will deepen stu-
dents' knowledge of the history, art, history, literature, religious life, politi-
cal expression, and public policy issues of nearly 40 million
Latinos/Hispanics in the United States.
The programs encourage research into new issues such as changing immigra-
tion patterns, remittances, emerging transnational communities, and cultural
flows between Latinos/Hispanics in the United States and their families'
countries of origin.
While the emphasis is on domestic communities, consideration of globalization,
immigration, and border issues introduces an international dimension.
For more information contact Yolanda Lizardi Marino, Director of Academic
Affairs, Institute for Latino Studies, 230 McKenna Hall; (574) 631-0940; or at
ymarino@nd.edu.

Visit The Observer’s Web site at
ndsmscobserver.com

Page 6
The Observer • NEWS
Tuesday, November 11, 2008
Harvard considering cutting spending
Economy hurting University's endowment

Advertiser

BOSTON - Harvard University is considering spending cuts because the economic slowdown may
reduce federal grants and the school's substantial endow-
ment, President Drew Faust said Monday.
Harvard's endowment post-
ed an 8.6 percent return and
grew to $36.9 billion in the
fiscal year that ended June
30. The school, however, lost
12.7 percent on its U.S. stock
portfolio and 12.1 percent on
its foreign equity portfolio
during that time, Faust's spokesman on Monday
deprecated to say much the
endowment has lost during the
current economic turmoil.
Still, Faust warned in an e-
mail to faculty, staff and stu-
dents that "we must recog-
nize that Harvard is not
inseparable to the seismic
financial shocks in the larger
world. Our own economic
landscape has been signifi-
cantly altered."
"We need to be prepared to
absorb unprecedented endowment losses and a greater
percentage of our budget for a period of greater finan-
cial restraint," she said.
Harvard is the nation's largest university endowment and
provides about a third of the annual operating budget.
Faust said the school is look-
ing at ways to cut spending and
will review compensation
costs, which account for near-
ly half of the budget.
Harvard also is reviewing its ambitious expansion pro-
gram, including plans announced early last year to
expand across the Charles
River from its Cambridge campus into Allston, she said.
"We will need to plan and act in ways that reflect that reality, to assure that we con-
tinue to advance our priorities for teaching, research and
service," she said.

This photo shows Langdell Hall at Harvard University, where the
economic downturn is causing reduced revenue from the endowment.

Associated Press

<table>
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<th>Harvard considering cutting spending</th>
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<td>Economy hurting University's endowment</td>
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| Harvard's endowment posted an 8.6 percent return and grew to $36.9 billion in the fiscal year that ended June 30. The school, however, lost 12.7 percent on its U.S. stock portfolio and 12.1 percent on its foreign equity portfolio during that time, Faust's spokesman on Monday deprecated to say much the endowment has lost during the current economic turmoil. Still, Faust warned in an email to faculty, staff and students that "we must recognize that Harvard is not invariable to the seismic financial shocks in the larger world. Our own economic landscape has been significantly altered." "We need to be prepared to absorb unprecedented endowment losses and a greater percentage of our budget for a period of greater financial restraint," she said. Harvard is the nation's largest university endowment and provides about a third of the annual operating budget. Faust said the school is looking at ways to cut spending and will review compensation costs, which account for nearly half of the budget. Harvard also is reviewing its ambitious expansion program, including plans announced early last year to expand across the Charles River from its Cambridge campus into Allston, she said. "We will need to plan and act in ways that reflect that reality, to assure that we continue to advance our priorities for teaching, research and service," she said. |  |
DHL cuts to higher shipping prices and greatly scale back a possible venture between UPS and DHL, said it will no longer offer delivery network for

The decision announced Monday could lead to heavy losses and fierce competition, is significant and cutting to airmail, after announcing a financial collapse. It's the first time money from the government for more help as part of a new, multibillion-dollar stimulus package for the economy if Democrats push it through Congress when a lame-duck session convenes next week.

President-elect Barack Obama has said his transition team would "listen to" Congress at a financial conference even the more affluent consumers who aren't spending, and cutting to airmail, after announcing a financial collapse. It's the first time money from the government for more help as part of a new, multibillion-dollar stimulus package for the economy if Democrats push it through Congress when a lame-duck session convenes next week.

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The financial rescue package lifeline swelled to more than $850 billion on Monday, a record for a private company. But the head of the broader financial rescue package was cool to other companies reading for a piece of the bailout pie.

The new AIG package includes a $40 billion chunk of the $700 billion financial bailout bill. DHL, said it will no longer offer delivery network for

The financial rescue package lifeline swelled to more than $850 billion on Monday, a record for a private company. But the head of the broader financial rescue package was cool to other companies reading for a piece of the bailout pie.

The new AIG package includes a $40 billion chunk of the $700 billion financial bailout bill.
With hyper-liberal Senator Barack Obama ascending to the presidency, in conjunction with a near-fluid, bi-partisan majority in the Senate and a clear majority in the House, Democrats can now refocus on agenda and campaign. Of course, the administration affirms the principles they hold most dear: bigger government, spineless foreign policy, and increased spending on ineffective social programs.

In the deeply prophetic words of Bob the Builder, "Yes we can!"

In the back of their collective mind, there remains the stubborn fact that Obama managed to clinch the election on November 4th largely by riding a wave of personal popularity and widespread reversion toward the previous administration. He campaigned, not as a Democrat, but as a symbol of a new, bipartisan era that transcends the petty political bickering of the past. And although his electoral and popular vote victories were decisive, the question of what his election means for the direction of his presidency has yet to be answered.

If we attempt to look at Obama's campaign for some clues, we are left just as mystified. His call to arms can be summed up in a single word: change. But let's face it, when saying for the presidency when the approval rating of the outgoing incumbent from the opposite party has flat-lined around 28 percent, the campaign script was practically written for him. All he was offered was the chance to be "none of the above." If you overstep your authority. If he tries to reconstruct the government, spineless liberalism and aggressively attempts to reconstruct the government in this manner, he risks losing much of his popular support, along with any chance to make the change he promised a reality.

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The views expressed in this column are not necessarily those of The Observer.
Tropic Thunder: not so funny

The summer before my freshman year here at Notre Dame, I volunteered at the Special Olympics Games. I helped with the skill division of tennis. One particular athlete, Ben, was very excited to go first. He came out on the court, and I asked him if he needed any practice rounds, and confusion filled his face. "I'm ready!" Ben confirmed his challenges and was pretty good at all of them. I complimented him on his skill and he proudly responded, "I know I'm good. I'M PERFECT!" Truer words have never been spoken. Ben had Down syndrome.

This past week SUB movies hosted the film, Tropic Thunder. This film repeatedly degrades those with disabilities. Men and women with disabilities are the greatest gift God has given to our world. They are full of pure, unconditional, perfect love. My sister, Marita, has physical and mental handicaps. While some students here at Notre Dame struggle with trying to make the division one sports team, Marita struggles with walking. While students here struggle with Aristotle's philosophy, Marita struggles with learning how to read. While students here struggle with relationships and learning how to love one another—well Marita's got that one covered. Marita never gives up—not only can she walk, but she can run and play sports too. Not only can she read, but she writes her own stories and spells a whole lot better than I do. Not only does she love, but she loves unconditionally, unselfishly, and unreservedly. She sees people for who they are, not for what they look like or what they wear or how smart or athletic they are. She simply loves the person. Marita never makes fun of any-one—but each day when I walk around campus, I hear people using the word "retarded" with a negative conotation.

I see our beloved Notre Dame sponsoring a film, Tropic Thunder, that openly degrades those with disabilities. If a movie openly made fun of Jewish people or black people or women we wouldn't show it—it would be deemed as offensive. So why, when a movie openly makes the joke about those with disabilities, is it deemed as funny? It's not funny—it's hurtful. It is degrading a group of people who should be praised and commended by society—not made fun of. This is a Catholic university named after our Blessed Mother—and right now, I'm pretty sure she is ashamed of us.

Mary Forr
sophomore
Pasquerilla West
Nov. 9

Take a step back

We all know that Thanksgiving is just around the corner. I love this day. What are the first thoughts that this holiday brings to mind? Food, obviously. Gathering with family, playing football with the cousins, cooking classic dishes, and discussing religion and politics are just a few of the day's activities. At some point, however, I do sit back and thank God for all He has given me (and I should be doing this more often). Family, friends, faith, freedom, education, health, and the list goes on and on. But there is one especially prized gift that God has given my family: two incredible people with special needs.

My brother Patrick has Asberger's Syndrome, a high functioning form of Autism. My sister Meg has Acondroplasia, a form of dwarfism. These two people may be the greatest blessings in my life. And that's why it hurts so much when I hear daily the words "retarded" and "midget" thrown around. It hurts because I have lived through the suffering they have endured from this reckless or malicious use of language. I suspect that we all react similarly when someone mocks or demeans one of our siblings— for any reason. I think that most, if not all, of us immediately become defensive and want to support our siblings. At least that's how I respond every time I hear those words used in disparaging or negative contexts.

I am so grateful for Pat and Meg in my life. I wish everyone could have the gift of someone with special needs in their family life. Those with special needs have a deep, genuine love of life. They may lack intellectual or physical capabilities, but their abilities to love and to forgive are admirable. They are much younger than I am, but I sincerely look up to each of them. So, I invite all of us to take a step back, thank God for all He has given us and reflect upon ways we may misuse words and commit to stereotypes that really do inflict great harm to those with special needs and to their Creator. Thanks Pat and Meg for being who you two are.

Mary Connoy
sophomore
Pasquerilla West
Nov. 9

Drunken revelry justified by 'Change and Hope'

Last week seemed to be the pinnacle of my existence as an American when I learned from my on-campus miles away that Barack Obama was to become my future president. I became overwhelmed and on the verge of tears while observing the millions of people cheering for our nation's soon to be first African American president. Although I was watching from a computer all the way from Yauji, a small Chinese city conveniently sandwiched between Russia and North Korea, and had only two other Americans to share this historic occasion with, my overwhelming happiness could not escape me for several days.

Unfortunately, my elation came to a screeching halt upon learning of the viewpoint article titled "Drunken Revelry Inappropriate." Does this student realize what had just happen in our beloved nation last Tuesday? A smart, intelligent man who had only two other Americans to share this historic election. Although, I am sure the clueless, studious students. Furthermore, it is tradition for ND male student to go home off-campus to focus on his studies which seems to be way more important than this historic election. Although, I am sure the students of South Bend took to the streets as well, like the rest of the world did. Who knows? But in the words of Obama, I can only HOPE that his upright ways CHANGE in order for him to realize the joy of being a college student and a proud American under the new guidance of Barack Obama.

Eric Sales
alum
class of '08
Nov. 9

The real American spirit

After living through an exhausting presidential campaign and all the good and the ugly connected with it, I just wanted to comment on a bright spot. As an "old grad" who loves Notre Dame and is interested in the current state of the union and opinions on campus, I must say that Nicole Burson's letter on "America the Beautiful" in the November 10 Observer Email Edition re-affirms my hope and shows the real spirit of America shining through. This country was founded upon a deep faith in God and trust in His guidance and blessings. Congratulations, Nicole, as you have beautifully expressed the greatness of our democracy and the responsibility of all Americans to continue in a positive way to support our country, affirm the sacredness of human life, and pray for the well-being of this great nation.

Wyn Norris
alum
class of '65
Nov. 10

The Observer is accepting columnist applications for the Spring semester!

Are you excited yet?

Email Kara at kkings@nd.edu for more information.
ROLE MODELS

SZYMON RYZNER
Scene Writer

The latest in a seemingly endless stream of R-rated comedies is "Role Models." Starring Paul Rudd, Sean William Scott and Christopher Mintz-Plasse, "Role Models" provides viewers with an Apostavian humor and sentimentality hybrid that has been a box office success since 2005's "The 40-year-old Virgin.”

It's the story of two co-workers who are forced to volunteer their time in a Big Brother Big Sister type agency to avoid jail time, after an energy-drink-filled accident on the job.

Danny (Rudd), a bitter cyenic, and Wheeler (Scott), a carefree party boy, are then stuck with two of the most difficult prospects the Sturdy Wings program has to offer: Angie (Mintz-Plasse), a teenager who is obsessed with laden action role playing, and Ronnie (Robbie Thompson), a foul-mouthed little boy who is obsessed with a certain characteristic of the female anatomy.

The interactions between these four characters are the core of the film: each character humor relevant to their personality. Even the supporting cast is memorable. Jane Lynch plays an ex-coke addict who founded Sturdy Wings and gives the two leads a lot of trouble while reasserting her dominance through absurd dialogue. Elizabeth Banks, who has so far this year played both the first lady and an aspiring porn star, plays Danny's frustrated girlfriend.

Though the story starts with the four characters at odds with each other, it culminates in a sentimental fashion where they gain mutual respect and resolve their problems successfully. The whole film, scattered with humor throughout, finally reaches its pinnacle moment in a scene that can simply be described as epic. It's as though every moment in the film built up to this last scene and the payoff is grand pulling from the entire story to create a truly memorable finale.

This film is quite the stepping stone for all the actors involved. It was truly surprising to see Paul Rudd and Sean William Scott, usually accomplished in other films, carry the entirety of this story successfully. It is hard to imagine any other actors finding so much success in these roles. Their winning performances in "Role Models" will perhaps lead to more films for them in leading roles.

Christopher Mintz-Plasse also excels in the role he was born to play. He is the perfect pale, scrawny kid with a lisp, and his acting is top-notch. Ronnie (Thompson) no doubt has a future in comedy. His slapping and cursing at immature man-children would be delightful in a reprise of Ronnie in a future feature.

The film is neither directed nor produced by the comedy guru Judd Apatow, but it resembles his technique quite significantly. The casting reflects strongly on the direction of the film and each actor plays an all too familiar role but that's what makes "Role Models" work so well. The jokes are fresh, the references charming, and the payoff is grand. The actors may play the characters that they have always been known for, but they do it successfully and entertainingly. With a strong supporting cast and an even stronger chemistry between the four main characters the film works. It works, and it's funny, and the final payoff is legendary.

Contact Szymon Ryzner at sryzner@gmail.com.

TIDBITS

His debut was in the extremely popular "Superbad," where he played the awkward nerdy friend of the two main characters. He auditioned with his two high school friends, who, despite the lack of a headshot and any true acting classes, he was cast. Though his characters name was Fogell, he will no doubt be forever known as the Hawaiian organ donor.

His second film role is in the recently released "Futile Models" where he plays a geeky youth that is obsessed with I.A.I.R.E., Live Action Interactive Roleplaying Explorers. He is fond of a roleplaying "goddess" but is too afraid to talk to her. Betrayed and kicked out of L.A.I.R.E. he makes a dramatic comeback in an attempt to rekindle the old Mintz-Plasse role.

In 2009 he will be a supporting cast member of two potential blockbusters. "Year One," a Python-esque comedy taking place in biblical times, has Mintz-Plasse playing the role of Samael alongside Michael Cera, Jack Black, Hank Azaria as Abraham, David Cross as Cain, and Paul Rudd as Abel.

The second film will be "Kick-Ass," a film version of a self-parodying comic book in which Mintz-Plasse will fill the role of Kick-Ass' nemesis The Red Mist. He is doing voiceover work for "How to Train Your Dragon", an animated film based on the novel. Mintz-Plasse will be the voice of the character Fishlegs.

Contact Szymon Ryzner at sryzner@gmail.com.
Opening with the edgy, steady guitar rhythm of "The Resistance," Anberlin's newest album, "New Surrender" is a fresh affirmation of the band's talent. Anberlin has released five albums (if you include their CD of B-sides, demos, and acoustic songs, "Lost Songs," in the count) since their conception in 2002, and each one has offered something new to their sound. And each album has been touted as better than the last. "New Surrender" is the first album by the band to be released with a major record company. But this did not concern fans. Anberlin has consistently stayed within their genre while noticeably altering their sound. The band is not afraid of experimenting, and does so with skill. In fact, each track on "New Surrender" displays a different aspect of their sound, while maintaining some of their classic touches. The end track, "Miserable Visu (Ex Malo Bonum)", is in the vein of their other ending tracks, like "(*Fin)", which concluded their last CD, "Cities." As with the band's past final tracks, "Miserable Visu (Ex Malo Bonum)" is the longest track on the album and adds a nice sense of closure to the work as a whole. Additionally, the pop ballad "Breathe," a rewrite from their second CD "Never Take Friendship Personal" (released in 2005). The mellow rock song alternates in intensity, starting soft and intensifying in the chorus. Alone in this one song, Anberlin displays their array of talent, both in terms of vocals and musicianship. "New Surrender" can be called nothing but a success. Anberlin has once again created an amazing, diverse album that anyone can enjoy. This band is talented, and they're not afraid to show it. Stephen Christian has the vocals to carry the songs, and is backed up strongly instrumentally by band mates Deon Rexroat, Joseph Milligan, Nathan Young, and Christian McAlhaney. This band talent only continues to please fans in their most recent release. Contact Kaitlyn Conway at kconway2@nd.edu.

Best of You

Penguin Slip

Help get yourself prepared for those unfortunate run-ins with icy patches. It's consolation to know that penguins fall too!

Seven-Year-Old:
Hood Rat Stuff with My Friends

Fender-benders, angry grandmothers, cops, and a seven-year-old priming himself for a life of crime make a hilarious combination.

My Hardcore Three-Year-Old Brother

You think you're hardcore? Well, after checking out this pre-k pageant gone wrong, one little brother might just change your mind.

Yes Dance

If you are dead after too much homework, the yes dance could bring you back to life. Just like Kiki.
NBA

Celtics edge Raptors on back of Pierce's strong finish

Wade has big fourth quarter to lift Heat over Nets; Roy leads Blazers past Magic; Ford has double-double

Associated Press

BOSTON — Paul Pierce scored 26 of his 36 points in the fourth quarter to lead the Boston Celtics to a 94-87 comeback win over the Toronto Raptors on Monday night. Kevin Garnett added 21 points and 10 rebounds, and Ray Allen had 19 points for the Celtics (11-7). Boston scored 58 points in the second half, rallying from the opening 24 minutes.

Jermaine O'Neal recovered from a rough night in Sunday's win over Charlotte, leading the Raptors (8-10) with 31 points and 11 rebounds. Anthony Parker scored 15 and Jason Kapono 14 for Toronto.

With the ball remaining with the Celtics on the in-bounds at the buzzer of the opening half, Garnett went 5-for-7 from the field over six seconds later and the Heat held on from there.

Down two, Boston, New Jersey had one more chance, but Carter was called traveling on 6.7 seconds left, and the Nets clawed their way back into the game in the final seconds for Miami.

Former Heat guard Keyon Dooling scored 18 points for New Jersey, which also got 12 from Jarvis Hayes and 11 from Bobby Simmons.

Steve Dunn, who has struggled on the road in this one swished — later, and the Heat never looked back from there.

Boston — The Celtics closed the gap to three before Jason Kapono hit a 3-pointer to give the Raptors a 65-62 lead, but Pierce hit two of his last five free throws with 1:07 left, giving Miami its first lead since the opening seconds of the second half, and the Heat never trailed again.

Portland 106, Orlando 99

Brandon Roy led 27 points to lead the Portland Trail Blazers to their first road win with a victory over the Orlando Magic on Monday night.

Wade made a pair of free throws with 1:07 left, giving Miami its first lead since the opening seconds of the second half, and the Heat never trailed again.

The Trail Blazers held a 91-79 lead with 7:04 left when Turkgolu did his best to keep Orlando close, scoring 11 of his next 13 points. His 3-pointer cut it to 98-90 with 50 seconds left, but the Blazers were 8-10 from the foul line after that to seal the victory.

Howard, who was struggling at the line this season shooting just 46.4 percent (15-for-33) was 9-for-12 in the first half after missing four of six in the fourth quarter as the Magic tried to cut into Portland's lead.

Greg Oden, the No. 1 pick who sat out all of last season after knee microfracture surgery, made a right foot injury sustained in the season-opener.

Wade led the Heat in scoring with three more points and eight rebounds, continues to start in his place.

Przybilla did not score in the first half and finished with two points.

The Magic embark on a three-game road swing, including a Friday stop in Dallas. Portland stays on the road for three more games before returning home.

Indiana 107, Oklahoma City 99

T.J. Ford had 24 points and 10 assists to help the Indiana Pacers beat the Oklahoma City Thunder on Monday night.

Ford scored 11 points in the final period as Indiana (3-3) pulled away. Danny Granger added 20 points and seven rebounds for the Pacers, who won their second straight. Kevin Durant led the Thunder (1-5) with 37 points and eight rebounds, but no other Oklahoma City player scored more than 14 points in the team's fourth consecutive loss.

Ford took over when Granger, the Pacers' leading scorer this season, got into foul trouble. Indiana led 96-75 in the fourth quarter, but Oklahoma City had a chance to take the lead when Indiana's Jeff Foster took a charge from Russell Westbrook.

Indiana's Marquis Daniels made a layup to make it 98-95, then another turnover by the Thunder led to a 65-foot pass from Foster that gave the Pacers a 100-95 lead.

Ford drained a 3-pointer with 1:14 to go, then made a layup with 37 seconds left to make it 105-99 and put the Pacers in control for good.

There were nine lead changes and three ties in the fourth quarter.

Oklahoma City shot 52 percent in the first quarter to take a 34-24 lead. The Thunder led 39-24 before the Pacers went on an 11-0 run to climb back into the game.

The Observer accepts classifieds every business day from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the News-Daily office, 1024 South Dining Hall. Deadline for next-day classifieds is 3 p.m. All classifieds must be prepaid. The charge is $5 per line per character, including all spaces. The Observer reserves the right to edit all classifieds for content without issuing refunds.

Oklahoma City guard Kevin Durant, right, drives the ball on Indiana guard Marquis Daniels in the Pacers' 107-99 win. Durant had 37 points and eight rebounds in the game.

Oklahoma City guard Kevin Durant, right, drives the ball on Indiana guard Marquis Daniels in the Pacers' 107-99 win. Durant had 37 points and eight rebounds in the game.
MLB

Oakland reaches deal for Holiday

Associated Press

SACRAMENTO, Calif. — Star outfielder Matt Holliday appears headed to the Oakland Athletics in a surprising move for a franchise looking more for shedding stars than adding them.

Two people familiar with the proposed deal said Monday the A's and the Colorado Rockies have reached a tentative agreement. Both people spoke on condition of anonymity because the trade had not been finalized and details were still in the works.

It was unclear whether Colorado would get for the trade a leader. He was a veteran guy that played well and we’ll just have to find guys to step up."

Colorado outfielder Matt Holliday throws baseballs to fans while taking part in the team's walk around Coors Field to mark the final regular-season home game in Denver. A proposed trade has Holliday headed to Oakland.

IN BRIEF

Pats’ Thomas possibly out for season with broken arm

FOXBOROUGH, Mass. — Adalius Thomas is the latest Patriots starter who might miss time after the linebacker suffered what could be a long-term injury.

Thomas didn’t return after leaving the Patriots 28-10 win over the Buffalo Bills midway through the second quarter Sunday. The Patriots said only that he hurt his arm, but ESPN.com, quoting unnamed sources, reported Thomas broke his left forearm and "likely" will miss the rest of the season.

Team spokesman Stacey James said Monday the injury update would come after Tuesday’s practice. A spokesman for Thomas’ agent, James "Bub" Cook Jr., said the player had not returned a phone call to Cook.

"I think it'll be difficult" to replace Thomas, said Mike Vrabel, the team’s other starting outside linebacker. "He was a leader. He was a veteran guy that played well and we’ll just have to find guys to step up."

Women files lawsuit against Chiefs Johnson over bar spat

KANSAS CITY, Mo. — A Kansas woman filed a lawsuit Monday against Chiefs running back Larry Johnson a month after claiming he spit a drink in her face at a bar and threatened to kill her and her boyfriend.

The lawsuit, filed by 24-year-old Tavis Tilis, was among the six cases reported by SL.com and ESPN.com.

"Talks are continuing. They're very fluid and at this point, everything’s speculation," Rockies spokesman Jay Alves said, speaking on behalf of general manager Dan O'Dowd.

Oakland owner Lew Wolff, attending a regional luncheon of Associated Press Sports Editors, wouldn’t confirm or deny a trade but said he had already spoken with general manager Billy Beane three times on Monday.

"Billy's doing different things right now," Wolff said.

The A's are known for making big trades, cutting payroll during a rebuilding process that Beane is committed to at all levels in the organization. Gonzalez and Smith were among the six players Oakland acquired last winter when it traded arm and All-Star Dan Haren to Arizona.

Back in January 2001, the A's acquired Johnny Damon from the Kansas City Royals in a three-team, nine-player deal — and this might be the club’s closest thing since then to the magic formula of that blockbuster move.

Oakland has watched Damon, Jason Giambi, Miguel Tejada and the Big Three pitchers of Tim Hudson, Mark Mulder and Barry Zito depart for big money elsewhere. Yet there is doubt Giambi, now a free agent, could be back in Oakland if this deal goes through.

The 26-year-old Holliday, playing half his games at Coors Field, has 128 home runs and 483 RBIs in five big league seasons. His best year was 2007, when he won the NL batting title with a .340 average and had 36 home runs and a league-best 137 RBIs in helping the Rockies reach the World Series. He was run-up-to Philadelphia shortstop Jimmy Rollins for NL MVP.

Colorado outfi1lder Matt Holliday throws baseballs to fans while taking part in the team's walk around Coors Field to mark the final regular-season home game in Denver. A proposed trade has Holliday headed to Oakland.

Judge orders NFLPA to pay nearly $30m to ex-players

SAN FRANCISCO, Calif. — A federal jury on Monday ordered the NFL Players Association to pay $28.1 million to retired players after finding the union failed to properly market their images.

The figure includes $21 million in punitive damages, just short of the $21.9 million award the players' lawyer had asked of the jury to reflect roughly 10 percent of the union's net worth at the start of the year.

A union lawyer had urged the jury to award a far lesser amount as not to damage the union's ability to represent its members.

Hall of Fame cornerback Herb Adderley filed the lawsuit last year on behalf of 2,056 retired players who contended the union failed to actively pursue marketing deals on their behalf with video games, trading cards and other sports products.

Adderley, 69, played cornerback for the Green Bay Packers and Dallas Cowboys and appeared in four Super Bowls.
Soto became the first NL rookie catcher to start an All-Star game. In addition to his productive hitting, Soto did a nice job handling a Cubs pitching staff that compiled a 3.87 ERA, best-third in the NL. He even caught a no-hitter by Carlos Zambrano.

Soto credited backup catcher, Henry Blanco and other veteran teammates for giving him confidence and pop talks that guided him through a “roller coaster” year.

“That’s what helped me have a strong season and just the way around,” Soto said. “I did try to be very sure about myself, very secure. But I had doubts.”

After his injury, Longoria, who turned 23 last month, returned in time for Tampa Bay’s playoff run. He homered in postseason at-bats against the White Sox, then connected four times against4 the Angels to win the AL championship series to set a rookie record with six homers. But his offensive tear ended in the World Series, when Longoria went 1-for-20 with nine strikeouts and two RBIs as the Cubs defeated the Red Sox.

“Obviously, I would have loved to play well and help the team,” Longoria said. “I was still pretty content that we had a great year.”

The 25-year-old Longoria hit .325 with 29 home runs and 86 RBIs. He became the first catcher to win NL Rookie of the Year in either league since Mike Piazza of the Los Angeles Dodgers in 1993.

The previous winner from the A’s was Robin Ventura in 1989.

“I just didn’t want to put extra pressure on myself, but I really just wanted to do my job as the team required,” Soto said.

“For me, it was a very, very good moment in my life.”

The NL Cy Young Award will be announced Tuesday.

Soto became the first rookie catcher and third baseman in NL history to win the Rookie of the Year award.

“I think in order to really be successful and to do what you want to do you have to be able to run the football,” said coach Norv Turner.

“We definitely could be running the ball better,” left tackle Marcus McNeill said. “We definitely want to run the ball, and we’ve got to get that offensive line starting to come down to the wire.”

The Chargers were porous often in falling behind 13-6 at halftime. They didn’t clinch the win until strong safety Clinton Hart jumped to bat down Tyger Tygen’s 2-point conversion pass to tight end Tony Gonzalez with 23 seconds left.

For what happened, the first half guys were a little mellow, there was a little chatter in the locker room and when we went back in we realized that hey, ‘Look, we can win this game if we don’t get it together.’” Hart said.

**Associated Press**

**Mike Brey**

Mike Brey steps by campus to talk Irish hoops

Join Coach for pizza, prizes, and Q&As on the upcoming season

**Wednesday at Host Dorms:**

Cavanaugh Hall @ 7 pm

Knott Hall @ 8 pm

Open to all students, meet in common areas
NFL

Home streak has Falcons flying

Associated Press

ATLANTA — Suddenly, it seems Matt Ryan and the Atlanta Falcons can’t lose. At least not at home.
Their 34-20 win over New Orleans on Sunday was the first of three straight home games for the Falcons, who are 4-0 at the Georgia Dome this season. Atlanta never trailed and led the Saints by 21 in the fourth quarter while improving to 6-3.

The Falcons have won four of their last five and are tied with Tampa Bay for second place in the NFC South, one game behind Carolina. Atlanta will play host to Denver next Sunday.

Evidence of the Falcons’ rising respect around the league came Monday, when the kick­off for their Nov. 23 home game against Carolina was moved up by six days to allow the team to accommodate a national TV audience.

“It’s confirmation that we’re doing things right,” Falcons coach Mike Smith said.

Atlanta fans who have only seen the Falcons at home may start to wonder if they’ve been missing the best of their team while it was on the road.

In four home wins, Ryan has completed 79 of 111 passes for 902 yards with five touchdowns against New Orleans.

Ryan has been especially impressive in games with opponents on the road. One week after losing the Falcons to a spirited San Francisco team, the rookie quarterback, will ever make the mistake.

He’s a good quarterback,” said Saints linebacker Scott Fujita. “He’s a good manager of the clock as he comes to the line and he does a good job in the hurry­up mode.

“I’m not trying to compare anybody to Peyton Manning, but for somebody to do this with so much maturity and control of the offense and be able to dictate to us the things that they wanted to do, I was impressed with him — and frustrated and angry at the same time.

The Saints couldn’t believe they were watching a rookie lead the Falcons’ offense. “It’s a good quarterback,” said Saints head coach Sean Payton.

“We weren’t able to affect our pass as well as they were,” Saints coach Sean Payton said. “I thought they did a good job of getting a push on Brees. He was awfully hurried. We weren’t able to do that with (Ryan).

I didn’t just look at one particular aspect of the game — Pass, run… but for somebody to do this, to have scored as many touchdowns as they have, you couldn’t have credit Atlanta. They were able to do that and we weren’t.

Ryan added a 67-yard touch­down pass to Jerious Norwood on the second play of the overtime period.

The Saints, who had only 215 yards and 24 pass attempts through three quar­ters, had 34 passes by Brees and 316 yards in the fourth quarter, when they scored two touchdowns.

The Saints’ first quarter left the Falcons with some ugly stats.

“We were on course to have a very solid game statistically,” Saints coach Sean Payton said.

Law told the NFL Network that the Jets plan to use him at both cornerback and safety.

Cornerback Darrell Revis, who has started every game in his first two NFL seasons, looked up to Law while growing up in the same hometown of Aliquippa, Pa., and even here and I don’t even want to get into that mode.

“I think they respect us, but for somebody to do this with that much maturity and especially their news media coverage, it just adds to their tails off and beat us fair and square,” Deedeker said.

Law, no longer the shutdown corner the Jets once had him play opposite Revis at times.

jumbotron in the third quarter.

On Friday, Law is back with the New York Jets as the Jets play at New England on Thursday night, against my former team and going to throw at me, but I trust them.

Tide coach Nick Saban doesn’t think his players need any reminders about the recent history against the Bulldogs.

I think they know it, and I think that they have respect for the team that we’re playing.

“I think there is a little more emphasis that we play well. I think that to me, that’s the emphasis is that we play well. I think that they have respect for the team that we’re playing.

“Because it doesn’t matter what your record is right now; everybody’s going to play you tough.”

Drew Davis

Alabama offensive tackle

Associated Press

TUSCALOOSA, Ala. — No. 1 Alabama’s road to a perfect regular season seems paved in crimson and white.

The next two opponents are Auburn and Mississippi State, after all, two teams mining in disappointing seasons who are a combined 3-8 in Southeastern Conference games.

By contrast, John Abraham and the Falcons’ defensive front constantly harassed Saints quarterback Drew Brees, who threw a season­high three interceptions.

Not for a team that has lost two straight to Mississippi State, Saturday’s opponent, and an excruciating six in a row to the Saints.

If somebody were to say that they have respect for the team that we’re playing, I’d believe them, they haven’t seen them,” Crimson Tide offensive tackle Drew Davis said.

“If somebody were to say that they have respect for the team that we’re playing, I’d believe them,” Crimson Tide offensive tackle Drew Davis said.

“But for somebody to do this, to have scored as many touchdowns as they have, you couldn’t have credit Atlanta. They were able to do that and we weren’t.

I didn’t just look at one particular aspect of the game — Pass, run… but for somebody to do this, to have scored as many touchdowns as they have, you couldn’t have credit Atlanta. They were able to do that and we weren’t.

The Tide secured a spot in the SEC championship game with Saturday’s overtime win at LSU, ending a five-year los­ing streak against the Southwest Division rival. Now, what defensive end Brandon Deaderick jokingly calls Alabama’s “revenge tour” resumes.

Law told the NFL Network that the Jets plan to use him at both cornerback and safety.

Cornerback Darrell Revis, who has started every game in his first two NFL seasons, looked up to Law while growing up in the same hometown of Aliquippa, Pa., and even here and I don’t even want to get into that mode.

“I think they respect us, but for somebody to do this with that much maturity and especially their news media coverage, it just adds to their tails off and beat us fair and square,” Deedeker said.

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“Because it doesn’t matter what your record is right now; everybody’s going to play you tough.”

Drew Davis

Alabama offensive tackle

Associated Press

TUSCALOOSA, Ala. — No. 1 Alabama’s road to a perfect regular season seems paved in crimson and white.

The next two opponents are Auburn and Mississippi State, after all, two teams mining in disappointing seasons who are a combined 3-8 in Southeastern Conference games.

By contrast, John Abraham and the Falcons’ defensive front constantly harassed Saints quarterback Drew Brees, who threw a season­high three interceptions.

Not for a team that has lost two straight to Mississippi State, Saturday’s opponent, and an excruciating six in a row to the Saints.

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“But for somebody to do this, to have scored as many touchdowns as they have, you couldn’t have credit Atlanta. They were able to do that and we weren’t.

I didn’t just look at one particular aspect of the game — Pass, run… but for somebody to do this, to have scored as many touchdowns as they have, you couldn’t have credit Atlanta. They were able to do that and we weren’t.

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Associated Press

PITTSBURGH — Maybe it’s the lit­tlest guy on the field, the one ban­ged up from all the sacks. Maybe it’s his slightly separated shoulder, the one he injured dur­ing prac­tice time or the spotty off­ensive line protection. Per­haps it’s all of the­se.

Whatever the rea­son, Roethlis­berger isn’t the quar­ter­back he was last season, or even a year ago. He’s not­ted his top­pform­ing week at any time in his six years in the NFL.

Roethlis­berger’s prob­lem is one more biff­ing a rook­ie than a five-year vet­eran. He’s had a Super Bowl. He’s played the ball to the guys in the oth­er’s shir­ts.

His mistakes — eight inter­cep­tions in 10 quar­ter­backs — have cost the Pitts­burgh Steela­rs (6-3) their last two home games, their once-com­fort­able AFI North lead over Balti­more (6-3) and even a bit of confidence.

Some­thing’s wrong with Big Ben, but neither the quar­ter­back nor his team is say­ing exactly what it is. The num­bers are tell­ing another story: one touch­down pass and eight inter­cep­tions in his last three games, com¬pared to one touch­down and three inter­cep­tions in his first six games.

“I am not concerned about his con­fidence,” coach Mike Tomlin said after Roethlis­berger’s three intercep­tions proved pivotal in a 24-20 loss to the San Fran­cisco 49ers on Sun­day. “He is our quar­ter­back because he is. If you play that posi­tion and have the success you have to remain un­awarded.”

Maybe­-unawarded isn’t a word, so if I’m hav­ing trou­ble find­ing the right one, I don’t blame you for not­ing it as well.

The 6-foot-4, 240-lb­. quar­ter­back is a 20-6­-forty years old­­-old Sherry N. Stewart, accus­es her hus­band of violat­ing the league’s per­son­al con­duct policy. He also mis­sioned the three previous games after being doc­tored by the team.

According to the lawsuit, Johnson offered to buy Stew­art a shot of alk­ohol on Oct. 3, but she refused. A week later, she alleged, Johnson became bel­ligerent toward her and said, “I’d­told you to sit out and you’re going to kill your­self.”

The suit claims that Johnson tried three more times to spit on Stewart as he was walk­ing to his car with his bodyguard.

NFL

Lawsuit filed against RB Johnson

Associated Press

KANSAS CITY — A Kan­sas­City­woman filed a lawsuit Mon­day against a quar­ter­back given her a drink after­wards by Mark­Anthony Leonard Johnson, a quar­ter­back for the Kansas City Chiefs.

Johnson was sitt­ing at a bar when he met Stew­art, who is a former member of the United States military, and they got into a dispute.

Johnson is accused of hitting Stewart, causing her con­scious­ness problems and a head inj­ury.

The lawsuit was filed at the Kansas City County Court, seek­ing pun­ish­ment, dam­ages, attorb­ers’ fees and any other relief she was awar­ded.

Johnson was arrest­ed and released on bond after the incident.

He was charged with prop­ing a woman and dis­trans­fer­ring a weapon.

The Chiefs announ­ced that they will not com­ment on the lawsuit.

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NFC

Pooh OG plays a senior citizen at Steelers

Associated Press

BARCELONA — Rafael Nadal will miss Spain’s Davis Cup final against Argentina because of a knee injury.

The top-ranked Nadal said Monday he was still strug­gling with tendi­nitis in his right knee follow­ing a week of treat­ment.

“T’ve gone through many diffi­cult moments, but I have done all that I could be ready for the final,” he said. “It was a huge objec­tive, and I’m used to playing with tendi­nitis, but I’m afraid it’s a new pain that I couldn’t control.”

Nadal’s absence deals a big blow to Spain’s bid for a third straight Cup title since 2000. Spain captain Emilio Sanchez Vicario has until Tuesday to name him­self as an alternate.

Spain plays Argentina in a hard court match at Mar del Plata from Nov. 21-22.

“We’re sorry for him, but it’s going to be the same thing with Nadal, and anoth­er thing without him,” Argentine captain Alberto Mancini told Buenos Aires­based radio station Continental.

Nadal was a key player when Spain beat the United States 4-1 in the semifinals, winning both his singles matches.

Sanchez Vicario most like­ly will replace Nadal with Tommy Robredo, clay-court specialist Nicolas Almagro or Marcel Gran­dallers. David Ferrer, Feliciano Lopez and Fernando Verdasco are also expected to be on the team.

This year won a fourth straight French Open and his fifth consecu­tive title at the Argentina’s tour­na­ment.

“T’ve grown in a more rel­a­tion­ship with the fans,” he said.

The injury has sup­planted Rafa­el Nadal’s presence in the top three of the world rankings, which he had held for more than a year.

Barcelona in the quarter­finals, as the result of the injury, will next face France, which has already made it to the semi­finals.

Spain’s team includ­ed Feliciano Lopez, David Ferrer, Fernando Verdasco and Guillermo Garcia-Lopez.

Germany in the quarter­finals, as the result of the injury, will next face France, which has already made it to the semi­finals.

Spain’s team includ­ed Feliciano Lopez, David Ferrer, Fernando Verdasco and Guillermo Garcia-Lopez.
"Our defense has been our strong point all year," senior captain Joe McRaeayer said. "They can take control of a game when we need them.

Sorin's defense, which had previously allowed only one other touchdown this season, ran nearly as stiffing. The Ottos forced three turnovers, which were recovered by defensive lineman Matt Gamber, and cornerback Jeremy Bruck, known to his teammates as "All-1-Dos-Is," intercepted a pass late in the game.

But Sorin had difficulty stopping a multifaceted running game that broke tackles left and right. Led by McRaeayer at quarterback and running back David Uley, the Ottos accumulated nearly 100 yards rushing.

Two plays after converting on a key fourth down situation, Sorin took a 6-point lead early in the second half when Uley powered the ball up the middle. The PAT made the score 7-0.

"The cold weather made us change our game plan," McRaeayer said. "We had to rely on our power running game, and that's what we did.

Morrissey will have a chance to redeem itself next week with a ball game that both teams in the Morrissey 12-yard line.

"We only offense the Gentlemmen had was one of our best in the second half," McRaeayer said. "I guarantee this team had the most fun all year."

Keenan 26, St. Edward's 0

On paper, St. Edward's defense was unbeatable heading into the playoffs and Keenan snuck in as a seventh seed, but when it came down to on-field performance, Keenan was usually steady.

Keenan running back Alex Gonzalez scored three touchdowns and quarterback Terry Mahoney threw for another. Meanwhile, Keenan's stunned second-seeded St. Edwards 26-0. Gonzalez scored on a one-yard run to put Keenan up 7-0 with a minute and a half left in the first half, then connected on a short touchdown pass to put the Knights ahead 13-0.

After the Knights intercepted St. Ed's quarterback Matt Abeling on the first possession of the second half, Alex Gonzalez put on a show, rushing 45 yards for a Knight touchdown. But Gonzalez's day wasn't finished. On the next possession, Gonzalez rushed for a 50-yard touchdown, sealing the game for the Knights.

"He's unbelievable," Mahoney said. "That's all we can say.

The Gentlemen couldn't adjust their passing game clicking in the first half, going three and out three times.

"The team was a good team," St. Ed's captain Andy Nester said. "They were the best team we played all year.

The only offense the Gentlemen had was a 60-yard pass from Abeling to receiver Derry Herthly, who was tackled at the 6-yard line. The Gentlemen couldn't get into points, though, and turned the ball over on downs.

Although St. Ed's didn't end the season they way they had been hoping, Siegfried still has hope for next year.

"We lose only three seniors and should have about twenty guys returning," Nester said. "I expect us to get better."

Keenan moves on to play Stanford in the semifinals next weekend in a rematch of last year's championship game.

Siegfried 20, Alma 0

Despite frigid temperatures and constant snowflurries, the Siegfried Ramblers rolled to a 20-point victory over the underdog Alumni Dawgs.

Without star running back Marcus Young for three quarters, Siegfried took advantage early in the game, which erupted a game-clinching goal that eliminated Alma. However, the drive culminated in a touchdown all season, was recovered by defensive lineman Matt Gamber, and cornerback Jeremy Bruck, known to his teammates as "All-1-Dos-Is," intercepted a pass late in the game.

"I think there'll have to be a whole lot of paper, St. Edwards was third seed and was happy it secured one.

"We were really focused on Toledo that season and it was a very good game," said Flanagan during that week to get ready for the selection show. But the Irish can expect it to be a tough game, especially for bowl-bounduals looking for next year.

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Helgeson continued from page 20

reached the quarters against a very strong field, losing to a road winner from Wisconsin. He demonstrated poise beyond what he had shown in college tennis in Wisconsin. He demonstrated poise beyond what he had shown in college tennis in Wisconsin. He showed great skill in finding more ways to get the net and put pressure on his opponent. I believe he can be one of the big surprise en college tennis this year. He and Stephen Hoven have four doubles titles between them, including in the quarters to the eventual winners.

The rest of the Irish squad traveled to the William & Mary Invitational. The team combined a 32-7 record in singles and doubles play led by senior captain Sean Tan. Sophomore Dan Stahl and Stephen Hoven combined for 10 wins on the weekend.

“My expectations for this team are that we continue to improve,” Bayliss said. “With a group like ours in which the majority of our opponents will be 20 years old or younger, the top 25 teams, we know that we had better meet that level quickly or we'll be left behind trying to get the number of the truck that just hit us. Certainly we will take some losses and our destiny will be shaped by how we respond to these challenges.

After losing Shima Parbhoo and Andrew Both from last year's starting lineup the Irish will look to Hammond, Stahl, among others to lead the Irish in doubles. Freshmen Casey Weiss and Niall Fitzgerald also oste up stepping into some big victories already for the Irish.

“Our freshman have been quite good, if somewhat inconsistent,” Bayliss said. “Sometimes the best thing about freshmen is they can become superbomness, but this group can really be good if they buy in. Casey Weiss is a real shotmaker, who needs only to improve his body language and become more consistent. He needs to learn that tennis is not like gymnastics in that there is no extra reward for the degree of difficulty in each shot attempted. Niall Fitzgerald needs to believe in himself more of a crunch time and firm up his backhand.”

Bayliss stressed that the Irish will have to rely on the underclassmen heavily to balance out the rest of the lineup. The Irish will have to rely on the team and senior Casey Weiss.

Senior year, Weiss stepped into a full-time starter role for the Irish, playing in all 114 games. He led the team in hitting percentage (.369) and blocks (156).


Stremick continued from page 20

Magazine Academic All-District V second team.

“We're really good about working on the road, on the buses and in the airport,” she said. “You just have to be able to study in non-optimal study environments.”

Stremick has excelled on the volleyball court as well as the classroom. Her freshman year, she was used mostly as a substitute to add depth to the Irish frontline, netting 15 blocks in only 23 matches. Stremick said that her favorite moment during her four years at Notre Dame was the team's trip to the U.S. Dome Rally in the Alamodome that season in San Antonio, where the Irish took down No. 8 USC and No. 6 Florida, propelling them to No. 8 in the AVCA National Poll.

“We beat them both in three and won the tournament,” Stremick said. “I had a lot of fun, being on the road with the team for the first time.

Her sophomore year, Stremick stepped into a full-time starter role for the Irish, playing in all 114 games. She led the team in hitting percentage (.304) and blocks (113).

Contact Katelyn Gebara at kgebara@nd.edu

Weis continued from page 20

The defense, however, played well, limiting Boston College to 10 offensive points (safety Paul Anderson ran an interception back for the Eagles' first touchdown). Eagles quarterback Chris Crane passed for only 79 yards. Weis said he may focus more on the offense because he feels comfortable with where the defense stands.

“We've gone the last game and a half without production on offense and I think that I feel very confident with the players I have on defense right now, and this allows me at this time to look at it, I'm trying to do this head coach thing where you kind of dig your heels in and say, "But I think that when there's a problem and it's an area where you believe that you can be part of the answer, you think you'd better go help.”

Weis said the defense played well enough to win, but the offense and special teams failed to hold up their end of things.

“Defensively, they actually played as good as they have been playing,” Weis said. “That was a pretty gutsy performance by the defense.”

Weis had not yet decided exactly what his role in the offense would be. He said he would discuss the matter with his coaching staff to finalize his role before the team game — planned on Tuesday.

Weis said he wanted to spend more time with the special teams, which had a multitude of problems on Saturday. Golden Tate fumbled a punt return and gave the ball to Boston College, which set up a touchdown. Panther Eric Maust had a punt blocked and only averaged 26.1 net yards per punt. The Irish also committed penalties during returns that cost them yards.

“Take that one in combination to what I just talked about with the offense, and that's two-thirds of the team who really didn't play very well yesterday,” Weis said.

Notes:

Weis pulled the defense aside near the end of the game to let them know that they had played well.

"I let them know that I thought they played very well and that we definitely keep their heads up because they were the reason why we were even in the game," he said.

Claussen was not feeling well before the game. Weis sent him to bed early Friday night, but he said he looked better Saturday morning.

"I think as the game went on he probably wasn't feeling as well, both physically and how the game was going," Weis said.

Contact Bill Brink at bbrink@nd.edu

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SCHOOL OF JOURNALISM
Hey, what’s with the football pads?

I’m trying out for our team. I went to try out for offense.

You mean your team?

No, the school’s team.

But you’ve never played football before, have you?

Wait, are you sure that’s a requirement?

There it is. I didn’t think the football pads were that important.

THE OBSERVER

PUBLISHED MONDAY THROUGH FRIDAY, THE OBSERVER IS A VITAL SOURCE OF INFORMATION ON PEOPLE AND EVENTS IN THE NOTRE DAME AND SAINT MARY’S COMMUNITY.

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ND WOMEN'S SOCCER

View from the top

Irish pick up top-seeded ranking in NCAA Tournament; games to be played at Alumni Field

By FRAN TOLAN
Assistant Sports Editor

There was no question top-ranked Notre Dame felt it deserved a No. 1 seed for the NCAA Tournament. The Irish were just happy they didn’t have to wait long to see their optimism validated.

On the NCAA Tournament Selection show Monday night on ESPN2, the Irish earned the top overall seed in the Tournament and the "Notre Dame Region." The team watched the telecast in the Joyce Center auditorium and cheered as its seed was the first one displayed.

"For it to come up right away on the No. 1 seed, that’s fantastic," Irish coach Randy Waldrum said. "I think it’s the seed we based on the year we’ve had."

But the top overall seed was not as much of a sure thing as it might have seemed for underseeded Notre Dame. Waldrum warned his team before the show that since its RPI was just it through Nov. 2, the selection committee might not award the

see NO. 1/ page 17

FOOTBALL

After loss, Weis’ role to increase

By BILL BRINK
Sports Editor

Notre Dame’s stagnant offense against Boston College has forced coach Charlie Weis to revisit his role in the

offense, Weis said during his press conference Sunday. He said he would confer with the other coaches and announce his specific role during his press conference today.

"I just told them that I was going to be taking a more active role and I’ll define that more for them [Sunday]," Weis said.

Notre Dame failed to score during Saturday’s 17-0 loss to the Eagles in Chestnut Hill, Mass. Quarterback Jimmy Clausen threw four interceptions and the Irish only rushed for 66 yards during the game.

see WEIS/page 18

MEN’S INTERHALL

Blocked extra point sends Stanford past Dillon

By DOUGLAS FARMER, CHRIS MASSOUD, ALEX WEST and TIM LANG
Sports Writers

Often times, what a team fails to do can define its season. On Sunday, Dillon failed to make an extra point, and lost to Stanford 7-6 in the first round of the playoffs.

The Stanford offense had a total of five possessions in the game, four of which ended in punts. Only the second drive garnered points, culminating in a 20-yard touchdown connection from senior quarterback Brian Salvi to receiver Tony Rizzo.

"Everyone stayed focused and made the plays they needed to in order for us to win," senior captain John Burke said. "Tony Rizzo really stepped up in fighting for the last few yards in the score."

But the Stanford defense was dominant, holding Dillon to 151 yards. Senior middle blocker Justine Stremick underwent application process

By SAM WERNER
Sports Writer

Notre Dame still has at least three games remaining in its 2008 season, hopefully more with postseason tournaments, but senior middle blocker Justine Stremick for already thinking about the next phase of her life.

Stremick was in Atlanta Monday, interviewing at Emory University Medical School, which she hopes to attend after graduating in May.

"I’m either going to go straight out of college or I’m thinking about taking a year off and doing service," she said. "But I’m doing all my interviews now."

After posting five blocks in a 3-0 win over Rutgers Sunday, Stremick flew straight to Atlanta, and didn’t return to Notre Dame until last night.

"I really liked Emory," she said. "I feel like that about every school, but I really think I liked this one more."

Doing work while traveling is something Stremick has become accustomed to. The Langdon, N.D. native posted a 3.76 grade point average last year, and was named to the ESPN The

see STREMIC/ page 18

TENNIS

Helgeson leads maturation

Senior is helping pave the way for Irish improvement this season

By KATELYN GRABAREK
Sports Writer

Brett Helgeson proved he deserved his preseason ranking of No. 25 in the nation.

Leading up his Round of 16 showing at the ITA National Indios this past weekend, Helgeson had a quarterfinal finish at the Midwest Regional event. Helgeson also made a run to the round of 16 in the 2008 A11-American Championships.

"I think Brett has had a very strong showing at Regionals," Irish coach Bobby Bayless said. "He

see HELGESON/page 18

ND VOLLEYBALL

Senior looking towards med school after college

Justine Stremick undergoing application process

By KATELYN GRABAREK
Sports Writer

Senior Carrie Dew, left, and Brittany Bock, right hold the Big East championship trophy after their 1-0 overtime win over Connecticut Saturday.

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see STREMIC/ page 18

Senior Brett Helgeson returns a shot at last September’s Tom Fallon Invitational.

see INTERHALL/ page 17

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see INTERHALL/ page 17