Exams add stress to the holidays

National study suggests students underprepared for class, finals; have other priorities

By AARON STEINER
News Writer

According to a national survey, studying and preparing for class is not high on many students’ to-do list, and as finals approach, this leaves many students feeling nauseous at the thought of exams.

The most recent National Survey of Student Engagement, released last month, reported that about one in five students frequently come to class without completing readings or assignments — just one example of being underprepared. That may or may not be the case at Notre Dame, according to Learning Resource Center (LRC) director Nahid Erfan. She said that students at Notre Dame are typically “motivated and hard-working.”

But with final exams looming in the days ahead, many students reported feeling overwhelmed by coursework, especially exams.

Senior Apurva Adekar said he was “stressed” about the work he has to get done in the coming days. “I have 45 pages to write by next Monday,” he said. Junior Gavin Green said that part of the stress is “the build up at the end of the semester” that really makes things difficult.

“Usually when it’s more spread out, they don’t realize how much they have until they’re trying at the very last minute,” Green said.

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NDSP to offer free winter storage

Service will be available for bikes, cars and off-campus valuations beginning on Dec. 18

By LIZ O’DONNELL
News Writer

Two months ago, as the weather turned colder, Bike Storage Manager Tim O’Donnell began thinking about winter storage.

“Bikes are left in the snow on South Quad. After Dec. 18, students will be able to store bikes in Notre Dame Stadium for the winter,” O’Donnell said.

The Notre Dame Security Police (NDSP) are offering free winter storage for both on and off campus students, relieving them of worry about the safety of their bikes. NDSP offers three different storage areas for current Notre Dame students.

Starting Dec. 18, students will have the opportunity to store their bikes in Gate D of the football stadium. They can drop their bikes off between the hours of 10 a.m. and 4 p.m.

Senior Nick Ward and Kristine Murphy study in the basement of the Hesburgh Library to prepare for finals.

The release date for when the bikes will be available for pick-up is yet to be determined, but there is also an option of pick-up by appointment.

For students who will be leaving their cars on campus over the winter break, they can store their vehicles in the D2 South Parking Lot. After 5 p.m. on Dec. 20, the area will be locked and will reopen Sunday Jan. 11 at 9 a.m.

NDSP requested that students remove all personal belongings from the car and certify that it is locked before leaving.

As with the bike storage, there is no set date for when the cars will be available for pick-up. All cars must be picked up by Jan. 11.

Students present on social change

Returned volunteers cite health, education, language as causes of hardship

By ROBERT SINGER
News Writer

Barriers to health, education and language, as well as the corrupting influences of racism and sexism, cause economic hardship and social tension in the developing world, according to the 13 Notre Dame students who presented at the "Cultural Differences and Social Change Student Forum" Monday night.

Senior Caitlin Ivester taught English at a high school in the mountains of Costa Rica for two months this past summer. She recalled explaining to her students why it was important for them to learn English.

"As I spoke I realized that my students were not the only ones able to enjoy the Noble Family Dining Hall’s annual Student Christmas and Feast of the Immaculate Conception holiday dinner last night. About 35 guests, including babies and children, attended the event from the Center for the Homeless in downtown South Bend.

Senior Theresa Klinkhammer brought the idea to Carrie Call, the director for the Office of Civic and Social Engagement (OCSE). The OCSE is a resource center for the College with information on community service, one-time volunteer events, service-learning, special speakers and events relating to community engagement.

"We felt that it has a great academic focus," MacCaughy said of the current format, "but not as much the student life portion of it ... and that’s what we’re really trying to target."

The resolution seeks to encourage greater involvement of Student Affairs in the orientation. Currently, the Office of Admissions organizes the program.

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INSIDE COLUMN

Fearing winter in the Bend?

I can’t remember experiencing a winter without snow. I allegedly lived in the South as an infant, courtesy of an Air Force daddy, but if I lived through a winter without loads of that fluffy white stuff. I’ve chosen to block it out of my memory. I’ve been a proud resident of New Hampshire for the past fourteen years — well, when I’m not living in the Bend — and even if there’s no snow on Christmas day, you can safely have faith that the good stuff will come eventually. There’s skiing, sledding and — if you’re brave soul — dare to trek into the wilderness. You know what I’m talking about — or, if you’re freshmen, you will. I don’t mean more snow in general. I’m talking about the oppressive cold, bone-chilling winds and tundra-like treks for food. It must have been their tradition, it’s the spring semester winter blues.

What have you done to prepare? All the snow you will get for a while has made me spooked. What’s to come has left me a little less than confident. What’s got me so concerned? The timing of the winter blues. Turns out that it is the spring semester — with only minutes to get a Lego sign ... I sprinted in jail to the Bend? April Fool’s. Well, at least during fall semester.

As I look around a campus clothed in snow, I can’t help feeling a slight sense of dread. Like the ethanol perma-cloud that blankets our skyline in a neon wash of orange hue, the dread of what’s to come has me spooked.

The Inside Column expresses in the Inside Column the views of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer. Contact Analise Lipari at alipari@nd.edu.

CORRECTIONS

The Observer misprinted “The Salem Project” in Monday’s paper. The Observer regrets the error.

QUESTION OF THE DAY: WHAT ARE YOU DOING TO AFFECT SOCIAL CHANGE?

Katie Shakour senior off-campus

"And on Wednesdays, we wear pink.”

Sarah Lyons senior Lewis

Dismantling the patriarchy.

Julian Corona sophomore St. Ed’s

Nothing.

Mary DeAgostino senior Lewis

"Practicing my own talent, impressions, and research in women’s sexuality and HIV.”

Caroline Shakour sophomore Welsh Fam

"I proudly brew Starbucks coffee.”

OFFBEAT

Nagging wife, sausage help man win lottery

WELLINGTON, New Zealand — A “nagging” wife who pushed her husband to buy a lottery ticket helped scoop the $4.2 million ($7.7 million New Zealand dollar) first prize — with only minutes to spare. The man from New Zealand’s biggest city, Auckland, bought his ticket just two minutes before ticket sales closed Saturday night.

"My wife had been nagging me all week to get a ticket, so when saw the Lotto sign ... I sprinted in to get the ticket before they closed," said the man, who asked not to be identified — normal practice for lottery winners in New Zealand.

"I must have been their last customer of the night," he said, adding that the young married couple had had a "rough" couple of years, reduced to one income after having children.

"But Bandit!" gets 13 months in jail

VALENTINE, Neb. — A man dubbed the “But Bandit” for making greasy imprts of his nester parts on windows in the north-central Nebraska city of Valentine has been sentenced to more than a year in jail. Cherry County Attorney Eric Scott says police caught 35-year-old Thomas Larvie in the act on Nov. 19.

Scott says Larvie was sentenced Thursday to 13 1/2 months in jail after being convicted of nine misdemeanor counts of public indecency and one of disturbing the peace.

Information compiled from the Associated Press.

LOCAL WEATHER

TODAY TONIGHT WEDNESDAY THURSDAY FRIDAY SATURDAY

HIGH 37 HIGH 37 HIGH 32 HIGH 32 HIGH 32

LOW 27 LOW 27 LOW 25 LOW 25 LOW 25

The special lecture "What and When was the Christmas Star? An astrophysics perspective" will be given by Great Mather, professor of physics, in the Jordan Hall of Science Digital Visualization Theater. The event, held on Friday from 7:30 p.m. is sponsored by Department of Physics.

Glee Club will perform its annual Christmas Concert Saturday at 6 p.m. at the Leighton Concert Hall of DeBartolo Performing Arts Center. Tickets are $5 for students and proceeds will benefit the South Bend Center for the Homeless.

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

IN BRIEF

A public talk on "American Politics: A New Era" is taking place Tuesday at 7 p.m. in the Intercultural Studies Auditorium of the Hesburgh Library Center. Dr. William Kristol will be speaking on the impact of the recent elections.

The 6th annual Christmas at the CoMo featuring the ND Celebration Choir and Instrumentalists will be held on Wednesday at 7:30 p.m. in the Coleman-Morse Center. The event will feature reflections on Christmas traditions by ND international students. A freewill offering will support the Holy Cross Missions in Haiti.

SIBC will host a Cambodian dinner Wednesday at 6 p.m. in the Dooley Room of LaFortune Student Center. The club will sell food to benefit Cambodian dinner. The donation is $5 and all are welcome to attend.

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Woo speaks on business education

Dean emphasizes importance of broader role of industry in society

Special to The Observer
Carolyn Y. Woo, Martin J. Gillen Dean and Ray and Milann Siegfried Chair in Entrepreneurial Studies at the University of Notre Dame’s Mendoza College of Business, was a presenter at the first Global Forum for Responsible Management Education, held Dec. 4 and 5 at the United Nations headquarters in New York City.

In her remarks during an address to U.N. Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon as part of the global forum, Woo urged attendees to rebuff business education away from a too-narrow agenda of wealth-creation for owners only to a broader perspective considering the role of business in solving the pressing global issues of poverty, disease and conflict.

"In subtle but understandable ways, through our focus and content, we have let our students walk away from the bigger picture and the big responsibilities," Woo said. "As we go forward, let it not be our negligence that we continue to foster an attitude of disconnectedness from the common good, a disconnectedness that sows the seeds of unbridled self-interest."

Attended by senior administrators from more than 150 academic institutions around the world, the forum provided platform to advance the concept of corporate responsibility and sustainability in management education.

At the close of her address, Woo also requested of the secretary-general two hours of programming time to further engage business school deans on this message. Immediately after the conference, Ban sent word to the dean that her request was granted.

The forum in particular centered on the Principles for Responsible Management Education (PRME), a U.N.-backed global initiative developed to promote corporate responsibility and sustainability in business education. Woo spearheaded an international task force of 60 deans, university presidents and official representatives of leading business schools who developed the initiative, which was launched under the patronage of Ban in July 2007.

Participating institutions, including the Mendoza College, make a commitment to align their mission and strategy, as well as their core competencies — education, research and thought leadership — with U.N. values embodied by the six PRME principles. Actions encouraged under the initiative’s framework include curriculum development around the corporate responsibility agenda and research in support of sustainable management systems, as well as public advocacy and opinion leadership to advance responsible business practices. Currently, more than 175 business schools have endorsed the initiative.

PRME is part of the U.N. Global Compact, a strategic policy initiative for businesses that are committed to aligning their operations and strategies with 10 universally accepted principles in the areas of human rights, labor, environment and anti-corruption.

"PRME is an important cornerstone to the direction that business education has taken over the last 60 years," said Woo, who added that the current analytical framework often turns human endeavors into competitive battles that glorify a winner-take-all mentality. In contrast, she described how PRME and the U.N. Global Compact re-orders priorities, shifting attention to the fundamental canons of human communities.

"First, human rights takes precedence over all other interests. As such, economic enterprises must serve people and uphold these rights, not the other way around," Woo said. "Second, as a community, by definition, we flourish and advance collectively, not individually." This last point calls for "mutuality," a balance between what a person or organization takes and what is given back.

Keane named director of Executive Education

Special to The Observer
Sharon E. Keane has been named the director of Executive Education of the Mendoza College of Business at the University of Notre Dame.

Keane will provide strategic direction to the Executive MBA programs in South Bend and Chicago, as well as executive non-degree programs, which include custom, online, international and open-enrollment offerings.

"The deeply rooted mission of Executive Education at Notre Dame has always been to prepare individuals for new levels of leadership that emphasizes not only work performance but also personal integrity and responsibility to the greater community," Keane said. "I’m excited to carry forward this tradition."

In her new role, Keane also will be responsible for overseeing the transition to a new Executive Education center. Notre Dame recently received a $20 million gift from alumni Ralph C. Stayer, chairman of the board and chief executive officer of Johnsonville Sausage, for the construction of the new center just south of the business school.

Keane joined the Executive Education program in August 2007, focusing primarily on developing custom programs, which earned a BusinessWeek ranking of 15th among Executive Education custom programs worldwide in 2007. Previously, Keane was a vice president of the Chicago-based Corporate Staffing Resources. She also worked for the federal government for nine years in policy analysis, sales and consulting positions, and served as a legislative assistant to Sen. Hank Brown, R-Colo.

Keane earned a bachelor’s degree in the Program of Liberal Studies from Notre Dame and a master’s degree in public administration from Syracuse University’s Maxwell School.

"Sharon brings to the position a strong understanding of the challenges faced by executives seeking additional education, particularly in today’s ever-more complex global business environment," said Carolyn Woo, Martin J. Gillen Dean of the Mendoza College.

Founded in 1989, Notre Dame Executive Education provides leaders in the executive and management ranks the opportunity to develop and strengthen their leadership abilities and business acumen skills with an emphasis on South Bend principles in keeping with the Notre Dame mission. Today, Executive Education offers degree as well as non-degree programs in South Bend and Chicago, awarding about 120 MBA degrees annually and delivering programs throughout the United States and abroad.
Exams continued from page 1
out during the course of the semester it isn’t as bad,” Green said.

Junior Bridget Tully agreed that the end of the semester is the hardest “when you have to cram everything in.”

“I think you have to get things done, no matter what. It’ll get done. It just might not be the best work you would have done with more time,” she said.

Erfan said that students often lack enough time to study, and may mismanage the time they do have.

“It’s a little bit of both,” she said. “Many students, especially first-year students, have not perfected their skills for managing time well.”

Other students just don’t have enough hours in the day to do it all.

“There are many students who have excellent time management skills, and are still unable to complete all assignments,” she said. “They simply do not have enough time between classes, meetings, meals and other commitments.”

The national study based on surveys earlier this year of close to 300,000 college students found that students spend about 3.5 hours a week preparing for each class, about half what instructors expect from a typical student.

Erfan said that it is normal for professors to expect more from students.

Higher expectations promote learning,” she said.

For those feeling stressed and overwhelmed, Erfan offered some suggestions to students as they approach exam week.

“First, students should not panic,” she said. “Second, they should take full advantage of the resources the University has to offer.”

Erfan said students should start by arranging a meeting with their instructors to get a better idea about their situation, and to find out what resources are available.

She also said not to “blame yourself” for past mistakes, but instead to correct them. This includes reviewing midterms, tests, and other assignments.

“Consider the final as the last opportunity to learn what the course is all about,” she said. “This way you remove some of the stress since you place the focus … on learning.”

Recently, the Dining Services suggested students should remain calm and prepared by taking care of themselves.

“Go to the exam room on a full stomach, in a calm and accessible state,” Erfan said. “Eating well and sleeping well the night before can help.”

Contact Aaron Seiner at aseiner@nd.edu

NDSP continued from page 1
also an option for early pick-up.

Students must call NDSP and have proper identification in order to exercise this option.

Students who live off campus have the option of storing items like electronics, musical instruments and other items of great value with NDSP.

The drop off for these items will take place in the second floor of the Hesburgh Library, located in the investigation room.

Students have the option of dropping off their belongings Wednesday from 8:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. for the first half of the week, there will also be drop-off times available on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday.

Forum continued from page 1
own answer to that question didn’t seem significant,” she said.

“Most of them would not travel outside Costa Rica,” she continued.

Iverner said that “larger forces were at work.” Since she said, local education initiatives are affected by the global economy.

Because of the drug trade and crime are commercially dependent on English-speaking countries, she said, the government mandates that English is a central part of the curriculum.

Many of the students who presented on the international service projects they completed over the summer reported their findings in the larger context of their host country’s cultural history and political context.

Senior Mary DeAngelo worked for the Global Service Corps’ AIDS education program in Tanzania while also conducting anthropological research. She said that in the region, gender roles have led to a high infection rate among women.

Tanya said that learning how to help themselves to maintain health, and increased education as part of a solution to the spread of the disease.

“General women’s empowerment can spill over into sexual education,” Tanya said. “First, they learn how to care for their bodies and then they learn about their rights.”

The problem with one of the major AIDS education programs is its focus on fidelity in marriage as a solution, DeAngelo said.

“Being faithful requires two things. One, you have to have the ability not to have sex if you cannot be counted as a married person,” she said.

Iverner said that in Costo Rica, Brazil, senior Casey Engelbert spent time at a prison for female aggressors. She said that many of the women came from South Africa and were imprisoned for smuggling small quantities of drugs into the country.

A lot of these prisoners are mothers,” she said. “Their mothers had to raise their children while they were in prison.”

Tanya added that the reason why they decided to smuggle drugs was to “cater for the world. They realized they are motivated by ‘desperation and love of their families’ to help make ends meet.”

Engelbert said the drug lords employ these women as "scapegoats,” knowing that they will be arrested when they arrive at the Sao Paulo airport. They tip off the authorities so that when the women are arrested, the smugglers who do carry large quantities of drugs will not be caught.

Senior Emily Newport focused on “the demonization of government directives and the local implementation of health initiatives.” In Curubamba, Peru that has kept hepatitis-B vaccination programs from working effectively.

Scarcity of resources is not the main problem, Newport said, but rather, programs should attempt to negotiate cultural attitudes and make understandings about medi­cal care. “People didn’t want the vaccine because they were afraid that it might cause their child to die,” she said.

Senior Kerry McGuire worked in Qaxa, Mexico over the summer to help reintroduce the plant amaranth into the local diet. High in fiber, protein, calcium, the crop is grown in the region and helps to prevent birth defects, but it was all but eliminated from the region when Spanish colonists destroyed the plant’s use in native religious rituals, McGuire said.

Senior Jonathan Kennedy traveled to Bugeriga, Uganda to help with a local program that partnered with the Foundation for Sustainable Development.

He criticized development programs of recent decades that have attempted to stimulate growth by providing funds to governments, currently on official leadership to implement policies effectively. According to Kennedy, frequently helping the communities and building trust with the people who need help is the best model.

“Empowerment as the grassroots level is the most essential element for development,” Kennedy said.

Jonathan Kennedy senior

CLC continued from page 1
Fresh-O, which they feel wasn’t appropriate for transfers who already have college credits.

“We’re trying to not necessarily have a freshman orientation for them,” Green said. “We said that there are definitely aspects of freshman orientation that certain students might need to get their bearing for,” Green said.

MacCaughey said, being able to know your rector and dorm better were examples of what they would like to see.

Council member Sr. Susan Dunn, associate director for Student Affairs, said that the resolution is “offered in the spirit of utilizing resources with other people — including people that we have.”

The various departments within Student Affairs could contribute greatly to the orientation, she said.

“We’ve created a resolution that we hope will enhance the lives of transfer students,” MacCaughey said.

Student Body President Bob Reish said that he would create a cover sheet and submit the reso­lution to Poochmow this week.

In other CLC news:

u Nicole O’Connor, the student government liaison chair of the Task Force on Student Safety said her task force has spent the past two weeks with the University Architect about concerns about safety and lighting near Ryan Hall, the newest women’s dorm on campus. She said administrators were aware of concerns.

O’Connor said meetings are being held that will lead to creation of the off-campuses Web site. The context is based today and will carry over into the coming weeks, and student government — in conjunction with the Office of Student Affairs — hopes to launch the site in February.

u Student body executive Student Grant Schmidt, chair of the Task Force on Technology and Study Spaces in Dorms, said his task force will also continue to investigate the increased use of Google Calendar to create online study spaces across campus, with the help of the Office of Student Affairs.

Contact Aaron Seiner at aseiner@nd.edu

Dinner continued from page 1
could help welcome guests to Saint Mary’s by eating with them at tables set as the West Wing of the Dining Hall.

While students attending the Holiday Dinner had to swipe a meal from their meal plan to enter the Dining Hall, tickets for non-students were made available for those living off-campus to attend for free.

Many students gave the guests a warm welcome by helping families with childcare as parents enjoyed the candlelit dinner until around 9:30 p.m. Many families moved to Regn Hall. Call said about half the family’s who would attend a Vespers, or evening prayer, service for the Feast of Saint Mary, the Conception and Advent.

The other half went to the Regn Hall gym to play games with students, Call said.

Contact Liz Harter at chartel1@圣marys.edu

ATTENTION: DON’T MISS OUT: DIRTY SEXY MONEY

AN ABSOLUTE MUST-SEE TV: WEDNESDAYS, ABC, 10:00 P.M. EST.

WITH A STELLAR CAST OF ACCLAIMED, AND SEXY, ACTORS: WILLIAM BALDWIN [OF "BACKDRAFT" FAME & A GREAT NOTRE DAME FAN], PETER KRAUSE, DONALD SUTHERLAND [OF "MASH" THE MOVIE & KIEFER SUTHERLAND FAME], JILL CLAYBURY & BLAIR UNDERWOOD.

TUNE IN AND GET "SEDUCED" BY THE FILTHY AND WEALTHY "DARLING" FAMILY OF MANHATTAN.

[FICTON, OF COURSE.—OR, IS IT??$#+$#+$#+$]
INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Greek riots continue for third day

ATHENS, Greece — Gangs of youths smashed
troops searching for a truly one-of-a-kind holiday gift, one that could bestow a bit of immorality andIRTH.

Taliban vows increase violence

Taliban leader said the planned increase in U.S. troops in Afghanistan will prompt the insurgents to step up their attacks on U.S. and NATO forces and civilians.

Violence in Afghanistan has spiked in the last two years, and 2008 has been the deadliest year for U.S. troops since the 2001 invasion to oust the Taliban for al-Qaida chief Osama bin Laden.

NATIONAL NEWS

Military jet crashes, kills three

MIDLAND, Texas — A fighter jet returning to a Marine base after a training exercise crashed in flames in a San Diego neighborhood early Monday, killing three people on the ground, leaving one missing and dozens injured.

The pilot of the F/A-18D Hornet jet ejected safely just before the crash around noon at Marine Corps Air Station Miramar. Explosions rocked a neighborhood of half-million-dollar homes, sending flames and plumes of smoke skyward.

Police said they were investigating the cause of the crash, which occurred near a school and a shopping center. It was the first major aviation accident in San Diego County since 2001.

Calling in gay to work is last protest

SAN FRANCISCO — Some same-sex marriage supporters are urging people to "call in gay" to work to draw attention to the issue.

"The gay" was a phrase used by civil rights activists in the 1960s and 1970s to draw attention to the struggle for equality.

Dawn and Jen Barbou-Roske, pictured here with their two daughters in Redwood Estates, Iowa, are plaintiffs in a challenge against Iowa's ban on same-sex marriage.

PAKISTAN

Suspected Mumbai plotter arrested

ISLAMABAD, Pakistan — Troops raided a militant camp and arrested a senior member of the Lashkar-e-Taiba group, officials said Monday. The group is suspected of planning attacks in Mumbai.

The arrest in Pakistani Kashmir follows a wave of violence in the region, including a deadly attack on a military base last week.

Lakshkar-e-Taiba is a banned group based in Pakistan and has been blamed for attacks in India.

The United States says Lashkar is linked to al-Qaida. In May, the U.S. blocked the assets of Lakshar and three other alleged members of the group, including its leader, Hafiz Mohammad Saeed.

Indian officials in New Delhi and Islamabad were not available for comment.

State Department spokesman Sean McCormack did not confirm Lakshar's arrest, but said the reported raid was a "positive step."

India says the 10 gunmen who killed 171 people in the country's financial hub on Nov. 26-29 were Pakistani members of Lashkar-e-Taiba. Washington said Sunday the attack was planned in Pakistan.

Associated Press

WORLD & NATION

Five men seek to formally confess, throwing Gitmo 9/11 trials into confusion

Associated Press

As the Pentagon formally cast aside the death penalty, the defendants who stand accused of planning the Sept. 11 attacks on the United States said Monday they would confess to their crimes.

Associated Press
Defense leaders: Marines to shift from Iraq to Afghanistan

International think tank estimates that the Taliban has "permanent presence" in nearly three-quarters of country

Associated Press
WASHINGTON — There is a growing consensus among defense leaders to send a substan­
tial contingent of Marines to Afghanistan, probably
beginning next spring, while dramatically reducing their
presence in western Iraq, the top Marine general told The
Associated Press on Monday.
Gen. James Conway, the Marine Corps commandant,
said in an interview that Marine units tentatively
scheduled to go to Iraq next spring are already incorpo­
rating some training for Afghanistan into their prepa­
rations.
He said he has had discus­sions with Defense Secretary
Robert Gates, and believes the
Pentagon chief "would not object to the idea of a fairly
strategic shift of focus of Marines from Iraq to Afghanist­
ian."
"I don't want to put words in his
mouth," said Conway, who has made no secret of his
belief that Marines could be put to better use fighting in
Afghanistan than in Iraq. Gates under­
stands, he said, "my public
stance on the fact that we can do it
better used elsewhere. And
he certainly hasn't told me to
give it up. So I like to think he
understands the logic of it."
At the same time, Conway
said that when the 22,000
Marines in Iraq's Anbar
province leave, he believes they should all go, and not
leave training teams behind.
More than a year ago, when
early discussions of sending
more Marines to Afghanistan
became public, Gates signaled
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tration on Iraq.
At that time, Conway said that
Gates and others believed the timing wasn't right
to shift the Marines out of Anbar province.
On Monday, however, Conway
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time, understood we don't want to
take the focus away from
Afghanistan, such
as was rumored when we first
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forces," Conway said.
Instead, he said officials now realize
that the Marines are an expe­
ditionary fighting force that is
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Conway went on to say that, while
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Geoff Morrell
Pentagon press secretary

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The report described the
Taliban as "the de facto gov­
erning power" in some towns
and villages in southern
Afghanistan, and it said the
militant group has managed to
advance into Afghanistan's
western and northwestern provinces, as well as some
areas of northern Kabul, the
capital.
Gen. David McKiernan, the
commander of U.S. and NATO
troops in Afghanistan, has
said he needs up to 20,000
additional troops, including
four combat brigades and
thousands of support troops.
Other military leaders have
cautions, however, that they
first need to build the infra­
structure to accommodate the
Marines — including housing
and helicopter pads.
Conway countered that the
Marines could move in far
more quickly because they
don't need to wait for such
logistical improvements.
"We're prepared to live out­
ter for a time in order to take
the fight to the enemy and
build our infrastructure
around us on deck," said
Conway. "We have done that
before, we can do it again.
Marines units generally enter
combat with whatever
resources they need, including
their own combat aviation
units and helicopters that
would enable them to move
through the mountainous
rain.
In particular, Conway said
that there are serious prob­
lems in southern Afghanistan
that the Marines can address.
Insurgents there, he said,
have lines into Pakistan, much
like the Sunni Arab insurgents
in Iraq's western Anbar
province had remote passages
from Syria, to move fighters
and finances.

Gates has not yet approved
additional forces for
Afghanistan, but it's expected
he may do that fairly soon.
After that, military leaders
will decide which units will go.
Conway said several Marine
units will be moving into Iraq
in January and February, and
it is too late to redirect them
to Afghanistan. Instead, he
said another large turnover of
units in Anbar around April
could be shifted to
Afghanistan if they are noti­
fied soon.
To plan for that possibility,
Marines training at Twentynine Palms, Calif.,
are preparing for battle in both
countries.

"I think [Secretary of
Defense Robert Gates] understands
the Marine's desire to be
in the fight. And there
certainly is more of a
fight these days in Afghanistan than in
Anbar."

Conway acknowledged there's
a running joke in the military
that his Marines want to leave
Iraq because there's not
enough action there.
Peacekeeping and nation­
building — roles that troops
are playing to a larger degree
in Iraq now — are "not our
forte," Conway said.

RING IN 2009 WITH #1 IRISH HOCKEY!

Jan. 2:
MINNESOTA-DULUTH vs. UMass-Lowell (5:05 p.m. CT)
NOTRE DAME vs. UNION (8:05 p.m. CT)

Jan. 3:
UNION vs. UMD or UMass-Lowell (4:05 p.m. CT)
NOTRE DAME vs. UMD or UMass-Lowell
(7:05 p.m. CT)

ND Students:
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The nation's grim economy now...
Each Christmas Day, the Pope delivers a message "Urbi et Orbi" to the City and the World. Last year, Benedict XVI said that at Christmas, "the great hope that brings happiness entered the world." Perhaps in his Urbi et Orbi this year, Benedict will take a lead from the Christmas note of hope. It would be familiar to the American people who have just elected a President who promises "change" through the audacity of hope. That political hope, however, is different from the hope Benedict sees in the Christmas event.

In his 2007 annual Christmas address to Rome’s university students, the Pope urged them to reaffirm "hope of the modern age" as described in his encyclical Spe Salvi ("in hope we were saved"). From the 17th century on, he said, "human progress" was seen as the only way of "science and technology." Reason and freedom were separated from God so as to construct the "kingdom of man ... in opposition to the kingdom of God." In this "materialistic concept ... changing the economic and political structures... could finally bring about a just society where peace, freedom and equality reign." The "fundamental error" in this, said Benedict, is that man is not merely the product of economic and social conditions. "Without ethical principles, science, technology and politics can be used, as ... still happens ... for ... the harm of individuals and humanity.

Some changes promised by our president-elect could serve as Exhibit A for the truth of that last comment. Barack Obama not only pledges that "the first thing I’d do as President is sign the Freedom of Choice Act," which would remove all restrictions on the "fundamental right" to abortion. He also strongly supports, and co-sponsored as a Senator, federal funding of embryonic stem-cell research (ESCR) beyond the limited funding allowed heretofore. Each embryo is a living human being. In ESCB, human embryos are produced, by cloning or otherwise, for the purpose of killing them by removing their stem cells which are then used for biomedical research. This is not only wrong in itself. It opens the door to the mass production of human beings as objects of science, the creation of "designer" human beings, etc. In his 2002 book, "God and the World," Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger, now Benedict XVI, discussed the description in Genesis 3 of the posting of angels east of Eden with flaming swords to keep man, after the Fall, from eating of the Tree of Life (p. 133-134). After the Fall, man was forbidden to eat of that tree which gave immortality, "since to be immortal in this [fallen] condition would ... be perdition." People are now, Ratzinger said, perfecting the crossing of the final boundary. Man makes other men his own artifacts. Man no longer originates in the mystery of love, by ... conception and birth ... but is produced industrially, like any other product.

This is serious business, indeed. "We can," said Ratzinger, "be certain of this: God will take action to counter an ultimate crime, an ultimate act of self-destruction, on the part of man. He will take action politically, that is, by deanominating mankind by the production of slave-beings. There are indeed final boundaries we cannot cross without turning into the agents of the destruction of creation itself, without going far beyond the original sin and the first Fall and all its negative consequences." In this presidential interregnum we already know that the "hope" offered by the political moral code, the utilitarian abuses described above. In that "hope," man can be treated as an object and the intentional killing of the innocent is an optional problem solving technique. Perhaps some Catholics, especially in the professoriate, will come to reconsider the enormity — and frivolity — of their voting into power a politician committed to the implementation of such a "hope."

Christmas tells a different story. Christmas overturned "the world-view of that time, which ... has become fashionable ... again today. It is not ... the laws of matter and of evolution that have the final say, but reason, will — a Person ... who in Jesus has revealed himself as Love." Pope Benedict XVI, No. 5.

The smart guys of the media, the academy, and the political world can’t tell you where you came from, where you are going and how you get there. But "Christians ... have a future; it is not that they know the details of what awaits them, but they know in general terms that their life will not end in emptiness. Only when the future is certain — a positive reality is it possible to live the present as well." SS. No. 2. We know this by experience. We ask ourselves, "What’s it all for?" We look for answers here but we know there has to be more. "We need," said SS, "the greater and lesser hopes that keep us going day by day. But "any one who does not know God, even though he may entertain all kinds of hopes, is ultimately without hope, without the great hope that sustains the whole of life." SS. No. 27. So what is the lesson of Christmas? As Pope Benedict last year said, it gives us the "great hope" that is true. That true hope against all the facts because the Person born at Christmas is, himself, Truth with a capital T. In him we have a "future. Merry Christmas.

Charles E. Rice is professor emeritus at the Law School. He may be reached at rice@nd.edu or 574-633-4415. The following columnists and associates are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer.
Thanks, women's soccer

On behalf of the entire Notre Dame community, I would like to thank the women's soccer team. Your season was an inspiring show of excellence that made every fan proud to be Irish. Throughout the year, you constantly demonstrated your fighting spirit by being an example of how to overcome obstacles and never give up. You have shown what it means to be a Fighting Irish fan.

I was watching a sports program this past weekend in which one of the talking heads proclaimed that in the minds of today's athletes, Notre Dame was no longer a special place to play football. While the reporter was a much older genius who seemed unlikely to know about the world of today's athletes, his comment caught my attention. In our critics, Notre Dame football is a privileged program living on past performance. The mystique that attracted a national following in the past is gone. And there really has been nothing special about the on-field performance in some time. Maybe so, but I think the mystique goes much deeper than that. For Notre Dame's football program, while building a whole new image of the Fighting Irish as champions...you'd have to say he's the exact opposite—an obese, foul-mouthed, uninspiring leader...

Students' interests at mind

As Associate Dean for Undergraduate Students in the College of Arts and Letters, I would like to address the concern that Professor Emeritus expressed in the Observer on December 4. In writing, I wish to reaffirm the Assistant Dean's commitment to helping undergraduates flourish while they are at Notre Dame and well after they graduate. We try to meet the needs of every student who comes to see us, whether it's about fulfilling a requirement or inquiring about the availability of funding for research, attending graduate or professional school, or applying for post-graduate fellowships, finding the right study-abroad program, or acquiring an internship.

We want to maintain that we have students' best interests at mind — as is the case when sophomores like Eric Prister ask for an overload. Over the years, we have seen many number of students make a similar request only to drop a class within a few weeks after a new semester begins. It is easy for students to feel overwhelmed by the demands of coursework and the other activities they participate in. Thus our response is to be a bit protective. We want to help students avoid getting into an overload.

However, Eric makes the very legitimate point that the Assistant Dean should give some thought to students who may have a very good reason to depart from standard policy. There is much at stake for each student. I met with Eric, and we were able to resolve the issue about which he wrote in the Observer.

Still, it is worth keeping in mind that the demands upon the Assistant Deans at the end of the semester can be very overwhelming because the requests we receive are so urgent. Students have exam conflicts that we try to resolve, we are doing graduation checks for students who plan to complete their degrees by the end of the semester, and we are trying to insure that students who are struggling can finish the semester. We also meet with many students who are trying to finalize their schedules. It would be unfair to allow students like Eric to overload before every student has an opportunity to complete their schedules. This is why we ask students who want to "overload" to wait until after a new semester begins.

I appreciate Eric Prister's concern that the Assistant Deans and I treat each student as an individual. This is what we strive to do in the Office for Undergraduate Studies. And this is what I do when I set Notre Dame apart from other universities. We can always do better.

I enjoyed Ryan Shestak's letter Monday for its Frankness about Weis...you'd have to say he's the exact opposite—an obese, foul-mouthed, uninspiring leader...

Dear Editor,

I was watching a sports program this past weekend in which one of the talking heads proclaimed that in the minds of today's athletes, Notre Dame was no longer a special place to play football. While the reporter was a much older genius who seemed unlikely to know about the world of today's athletes, his comment caught my attention. In our critics, Notre Dame football is a privileged program living on past performance. The mystique that attracted a national following in the past is gone. And there really has been nothing special about the on-field performance in some time. Maybe so, but I think the mystique goes much deeper than that. For Notre Dame's football program, while building a whole new image of the Fighting Irish as champions...you'd have to say he's the exact opposite—an obese, foul-mouthed, uninspiring leader...
by Jess Shaffer
Assistant Scene Editor

It's undeniable that the time of the week again. It's snowy and, windy and cold and
simultaneously cozy. North faces and sweats have become ubiquitous in Notre
Dame campus. The three "S's" are on the rise: sloppiness, shapelessness and sleepi-
tness. It's an unfortunate development that we should just settle for! Tasteful fashions
on this campus deserve more than perma-

nent ponytails, never ending stacks of sweats, jeans and paj and other tired looks.
But you don't necessarily need a Paris size-budget to manage a sharp, current, and
exciting wardrobe. Here are some winter styling tips for those of us confined by stu-
dent budgets and South Bend weather.

Layering Love
This might seem like the most obvious
ND fashion advice ever. It's probably a
message that has been crammed down your
throat since Fresh-O. But that doesn't
make it any less true. This is the easiest
to stay warm and (b) make you
summer pieces last longer. You save body
heat and cash, who doesn't love that?
Summer tops, dresses, and skirts are all
excellent candidates for your winter
wardrobe. Simple, neutrals and cool tones
are ideal qualities to look for when try-
ing to transition a piece from a sultry sum-
er look to a chic winter wonder. Using these
pieces, tank tops, long sleeve less, leg-
gings, tights and sweaters build off your
summer piece. The possibilities are end-
less, and it's easier than you'd think to cre-
ate a completely new look. Break away from
the heard and ignore Gap ads and
American Eagle models, instead have some
confidence and look through magazines for
inspiration. Mix and match with confi-
dence, and layering can be a novel way to
stand out in a wintry crowd.

Not So Standard Staples
Scarves, mittens and hats are obvious
choices — cute and comfy. It's nice when
the elements coordinate, but not necessary.
Overall, pick colorful, vibrant accessories,
like a patterned hat, bright gloves and a
funky scarf. Or combine neutrals like
cream, grey, navy or tan.

But winter accessories do extend outside
of the standards. Scarves are not just for
cross campus trekks. They can be used a
nice accessory over sweaters and tees to
change it up. Look in LaFun and check out
the recent craft fairs (Italian crafts are
being sold almost every week in the South
Room) and free trade sales. Sarongs can also be
used as colorful, bright scarves. Just
because South Bend is bleak doesn't mean
your wardrobe has to be. Scarves and
accessories can provide the pop of color
needed to keep your outlook bright.

Not Your Tree's Trimmings
Deck your tree, but don't forget to deck
yourself in style. Fashionistas such as Blair Waldorf, are very in right now.
But the trend does extend outside of per-

nantly patterned and solid colored headbands are for you. If you're
more on the trendy side, look for head-

bands with lace, sparkle, feathers, and vin-
tage frill. Looks like this add interesting
detail in an intricate but contained way.

Bold bracelets, earrings, and necklaces can also add some detail to tired looks.
Bright, big accessories can hold their own
against chunky sweaters and other heavier
winter pieces. Once again sparkle, knit (yes,
knit, they make knit earrings and such!),
and vintage are crucial to being a worth-
while accessory that is fresh.

Beyond North Face and Ugg
This is clearly a beloved staple of the col-
legiate population, but there is a whole
world to explore outside of these overused
standards. pea coats with fun details like
jingle buttons or cool patterns are not just
for Northeastern shoppers. Additionally,
parkas are fantastic for keeping warm and
are far more practical than Northface
vests. And there is also winter shoe ware
outside of Ugg boots. Casual boots typical-
ly are flat and therefore, perfect for class.
Flat boots should be knee high and
have a multitude of styles, colors and fabrics. So there is something for

every one. And for the weekends, heated ankle boot is affordable and com-

fortable when paired with patterned tight and leg-
gings.

Hair Situation
We've all done it. We've all gone just a
bit too long with that messy ponytail. But it
doesn't have to be that way. Even gym-
junkies have to let their hair down every
once in a while. So braid, create cool
updo's with stylish pins, cuff, straiten, clip. Whatever it takes give your hair a chance
to escape the confines of rubber bands.

Fashion should be fun, even when the
weather isn't. So don't limit yourself by fol-

lowing the crowd. Have confidence and fol-

low your inspiration. No matter the weath-
er, style doesn't take a more day! So keep it
fresh, hip and cozy while rocking "round
the Christmas tree and the Bend.

Contact Jess Shaffer at jshaff@nd.edu.
You can sing. Yes, you can. "But I sound terrible." You speak. You phonate. Therefore, you can hold a pitch. "I can't carry a tune." Most likely, if you are singing along with a song, you are carrying its tune. "I'm tone deaf." Alright, this does happen, but not as often as you think, and probably not true, unless you've specifically had a musician say to you, "Shut up, you're tone deaf!"

Too often I see people singing along with a song while dancing or humming a Christmas carol only to shrink away from the idea of singing when specifically asked to do it. There are a myriad of excuses as to why a person doesn't feel comfortable singing, when in reality most of us do it all day long.

There is some stigma that comes with offering to sing at mass or in a choir that assumes anyone willing to do it has openly declared themselves to be God's gift to the musical world. This isn't the case.

Most people who sing for fun (i.e., are anything other than a voice major) do it because it's just that — fun. They don't necessarily think they're hot stuff, but they don't feel uncomfortable of letting their own musical light shine.

So why are so many people afraid to sing in public? This is a problem that frustrates me to no end. I am a voice major. It’s my job to sing. For some reason, whenever I ask other people to sing with me at dorm mass or just because, some inevitably excuse themselves and say, "You’re the voice major." Okay, kids, just because I’ve devoted my time here to studying music doesn’t mean my presence makes you sing any worse. In fact, I am far more interested in hearing other people sing that myself a lot of the time because I spend most of the day listening to myself.

Everyone can sing. Everyone who talks has the physical capability of making noise with his or her vocal chords. I would like to erase this stigma that the only people who should sing are the few who are devoting their life to it. This just isn’t the case. People sing not only to sound beautiful, but also to express feelings on a higher level. To sing is to pray twice, which means God doesn’t matter if you’re tone deaf; he still wants you to have the experience of lifting your voice in song, even if you have no idea what pitch you’re lifting it to.

On Saturday night I went to the Voices of Faith Gospel Choir concert. It was a phenomenal, moving experience not only because the music and performing was, itself, very good, but also because every person there was singing for the right reasons. No one was there because they felt it was smart to join a choir and appear well rounded on their resume; or because their parents thought it was a good idea, but because they wanted to fulfill a primal human need — to raise one’s voice in higher praise. There is something basic and satisfying about letting go of all inhibition and crying out with a voice. Not every soloist was perfect, but if they all had been, it would have been boring. Each singer brought their own conviction and story to the music, and it was the joy in singing that they each displayed that made the concert so filling for the listener.

This is why true singers sing. It’s not to show off or prove their talent, but to rejoice in their ability to transcend this earth-bound existence. Therefore, I am calling you to sing. You who claim to be awful, you who can’t carry a tune in a bucket, I call you to sing and sing out. Sing ye loud, and with reckless abandon.

Contact Stephanie DePrez at sdeprez@ind.edu.
Crennel working despite job fears

Associated Press

But this time it’s true — as speculation about his shaky future mounted and the rumor mill churned, Charlie Wellbon, the Browns      coach with Cleveland ties, floated Crennel pushed ahead. He has to be his job.

For at least three more weeks,

Crennel, who will likely be fired once the Browns finish their one-week, retro-   grated Monday that he isn’t working on his future, says he will be replaced after his fourth year. It’s out of his hands, so Crennel, down to playing his third-string quater-   back because of injuries, is focusing only on getting his team ready to play its last three games.

“It’s tough when you lose. I don’t care what the circum-   stances,” Crennel said of the engulfing distractions. “If you’re in this profession, you don’t like losing. But you have to get up every day and do the best you can, and if the coach doesn’t get up and do the best he can then it’s up to his players to do the best they can.

On Sunday, the Browns (4-9) lost for the fifth time in six games, 28-9, to the Pittsburgh Steelers.

Crennel’s loss guaranteed Cleveland’s eighth losing season in the past nine years, the Browns would be affiliated with an NFL as an expansion team.

The Browns, who have not won a division title since three weeks, are on the verge of another rebuilding.

The hammer will come down soon.

Charges are coming, with Crennel expected to be the first to go. Lerner has said he will not make a decision on his coach or general manager until after the season.

But Crennel has had three years to make his mark, and his future appearance is enough to justify a switch.

For the Pittsburgh Steelers coach Bill Cowher is believed to be Lerner’s top choice. However, Cowher, who now works as an analyst for CBS, has said he will not return to coaching. Cowher enjoys his TV gig and said he’s leaning toward staying in broadcasting for another year.

If Cowher isn’t an option, or is signed elsewhere, former Browns coordinator Romeo Crennel could be.

NFL.com reported that Crennel is formulating a backup plan to bring back

Schottenheimer if Cowan’t be lured out of semi-retire-   ment. Schottenheimer coached the Browns from 1984-88, one of the franchise’s most success-   ful stretches in the past 45 years. Schottenheimer, who was fired in 2006 by San Diego despite leading the Chargers to a 14-2 mark, won three divi-   sion titles and made two AFC championship games with the Browns.

Schottenheimer did not immediately return a phone message seeking comment.

On his weekly show on Sirius NFL Radio, the 65-year-old deadpanner talked about his shaky future and the Browns’ performance.

“I don’t see that as being likely at all,” he said. “First of all, nobody could have presented me with an overture and, secondly, I’m kind of aligned myself and my life kind of where it is and if they want to pay me $30 mil-   lion a year I have to think about it. I don’t see it (as being) likely.”

Obviously, Schottenheimer was joking about the salary, but that’s the kind of thing that Schottenheimer’s needed to get his team, which won 10 games last season, turned around quickly. Schottenheimer has three years remaining on a contract extension he signed after last sea-   son. That deal is worth close to $4 million a season.

Schottenheimer was driven out in San Diego because of a rift between Sparano, who always has general manager A.J. Smith. By the end of Schottenheimer’s tenure, he and Smith weren’t talking.

Cleveland’s situation hasn’t been much better.

“I don’t know what the status is with Schottenheimer, but Crennel and Savage don’t seem to have a problem,” Lerner said. “But that doesn’t put me necessarily in a situation where I want to stand there and have every moment that I’m there, making deci-   sions for everyone. The key for me is people. That is the most impor-   tant thing.”

Schottenheimer’s experience could make him attractive to Lerner in another role, possibly in Cleveland’s front office or on Cowher’s staff.

Crennel was an assistant defensive coordinator with the Browns and later in Kansas City, where he was Schottenheimer’s defensive coordinator.

Schottenheimer said that goal but beat the Browns, 37-34.

Olympic swimming star Michael Phelps poses for a photo during the US Olympic Committee Media Summit in Chicago. Phelps’ autobiography is set to be published today.

Phelps to publish autobiography

Associated Press

Jason Lezak was nearly a full length behind Frenchman Alain Bernard on the final turn of the 400-meter freestyle relay at the Beijing Olympics, matching Michael Phelps’ bid for a historic eight gold medals in jeopardy.

But Bernard was a clown stu-   pid, and what would turn out to be a colossal mistake allowed Lezak to pull out an amazing comeback victory.

Phelps recalls the moment in a new book, “No Limits: The Will to Succeed,” avail-   able in bookstores.

“I’ve kind of aligned myself and my life kind of where it is and if they want to pay me $30 mil-   lion a year I have to think about it. I don’t see it (as being) likely.”

“After the flip, instead of swimming in the middle of his lane, he drifted to the left,” Phelps writes. “That meant that Jason, now to-   ward the left, could again tuck in behind him. Bernard was doing the hard work.

Phelps was swimming like never before. He put the world on notice that he was capable of winning every individual stroke. Phelps placed second in the 400-meter medley, 800-meter freestyle and 4x100-meter freestyle relay.

Phelps placed third overall dur-   ing the week, including a lunchtime dose that

Phelps says. “Eventually, I stopped trying to include him in my activities and he, in turn, stopped trying to involve himself in mine.”

Phelps writes that the last time he saw his father was at his sister Whitney’s wedding in October 2005, and they didn’t speak.

“There just hasn’t been anyth-   ing to say for a while,” he wrote.

“Maybe there will be later.”

In November 2004, a few months after winning six medals at the Athens Olympics, an under-21 Phelps was charged with DUI. In the book he recounts how his first phone call was to his agent, rather than his mother or coach Bob Bowman, both of whom said he knew would yell at him.

Later, he called Bowman, who was supportive but told him, “Michael, just because you blow off some steam doesn’t mean you can be an idiot.”

Debbie Phelps cried at the news.

“That hurt, worse than, anything,” Phelps writes. “I had never seen my mother that upset.”

In Beijing, Phelps was asked after winning his sixth gold metal what he would say to people who suspected his feats were aided by doping.

“I know, for me, I am clean,” he said. “I purposely wanted to do more tests to prove it.”

Phelps, along with team-   mates Dara Torres and Natalie Coughlin, volunteered for extra drug testing leading up to the Olympics.

The Observer boasts classifieds every business day from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Noon Dave’s Emergency. 084 South Dying Daily. Deadline for core classifieds is 3 p.m. All classifieds must be prepaid. The charge is 5 cents per character per day, including all spaces. The Observer reserves the right to edit all classifieds for content without issuing refunds.
**Men's Basketball**

**Top 25**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Team</th>
<th>Points</th>
<th>Record</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 North Carolina (27)</td>
<td>1820</td>
<td>6-0</td>
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<tr>
<td>2 UConn</td>
<td>1710</td>
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<td>3 Pittsburgh</td>
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<td>25 Kansas</td>
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**Women's Basketball**

**Top 25**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Team</th>
<th>Points</th>
<th>Record</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 UConn (45)</td>
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<tr>
<td>2 North Carolina</td>
<td>1076</td>
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<td>4 Texas A&amp;M</td>
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**NCAA Cross Country**

**USTFCCA Rankings**

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<tr>
<td>2 Saint Mary's</td>
<td>2</td>
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<td>3 Alabama</td>
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<td>4 Cali</td>
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<td>5 Penn State</td>
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<td>6 Oregon</td>
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<td>7 Alamo</td>
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<td>9 Kalamazoo</td>
<td>0-2</td>
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**MLB**

**Hall of Fame bound Maddux retires**

LAS VEGAS — Greg Maddux grew up with the same weekend ritual as so many other American kids. Tagging along with his big brother, he would run down to the park to play ball against the older guys from the neighborhood in regular Sunday scrimmages. He met a pitching coach who preached movement over velocity, and pretty soon Maddux was striking out those stronger teenagers. Nearly three decades later, he walked away from baseball Monday as one of the greatest pitchers to put on a uniform.

After 355 wins and 23 major league seasons, Maddux held a 30-minute news conference to announce his retirement on the opening day of the winter meetings — just minutes from his Las Vegas home.

"I really just came out here today to say thank you," he said in a ballroom at the swanky Bellagio hotel. "I appreciate everything this game has given me. It's going to be hard to walk away obviously, but it's time. I have a family now that I need to spend some more time with. I still think I can play the game, but not as well as I would like to, so it's time to say goodbye."

"Next stop, the Hall of Fame." Wearing a casual shirt and slacks, Maddux spoke softly on stage and never appeared to get choked up. His parents and family — including brother Mike Maddux, the Texas Rangers pitching coach and a former big leaguer himself — sat in the front row.

A large poster with photos of Maddux hung behind the podium. He was introduced by agent Scott Boras, who said "Mad Dog" had a "model" career.

Maddux leaves with four career Cy Young Awards (1992-95) and a 3.16 ERA, especially impressive in the steroid era. He ranks eighth on the career wins list, with one more victory than Roger Clemens.

"I never changed," said Maddux, who turns 43 in April. "I think, hey, you locate your fastball and you change speeds no matter who's hitting." Maddux spent his final season with the San Diego Padres and Los Angeles Dodgers, finishing 355-227. His remarkable career includes a 18 Gold Gloves, including one this year.

**In Brief**

**Star quarterback McCoy to stay at Texas another year**

AUSTIN, Texas — Texas quarterback Colt McCoy confirmed that he'll return to the Longhorns for his senior season in 2009.

MCCoy has said all season he plans to return to the Longhorns for his senior season in 2009.

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MCCoy has said all season he plans to return to the Longhorns for his senior season in 2009.
“Be still and know that I am God.” —Ps 46:10

Silent Directed Retreat

January 5-11, 2009 at Moreau Seminary
(Open to all students, faculty and staff)

Applications available online: campusministry.nd.edu or in 114 Coleman-Morse. Deadline is December 17. Questions? Contact Tami Schmitz (tschmitz@nd.edu)
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WITH A STELLAR CAST OF ACCLAIMED, AND SEXY, ACTORS: WILLIAM BALDWIN [OF "BACKDRAFT" FAME & A GREAT NOTRE DAME FAN], PETER KRAUSE, DONALD SUTHERLAND [OF "MASH" THE Movie & KIEFER SUTHERLAND FAME], JILL CLAYBURGH & BLAIR UNDERWOOD.

TUNE IN AND GET "SEDUCED" BY THE FILthy AND WHiPpy DARLING FAMILY OF MANHATTAN.

FAVORITE, OF COURSE,—OR, IS IT??
Former Yankee Gordon elected to Hall of Fame

Associated Press

NEW YORK — Joe Gordon joined former teammates Joe DiMaggio, Lou Gehrig and Bob Feller in the Hall of Fame Monday by a 27 member Veterans Committee composed of Hall members and historians that studied pre-1943 players. A nine-time All-Star, the late second baseman won five World Series titles with the New York Yankees and Cleveland. But another panel made up of the living 64 Hall of Famers didn’t come close to picking anyone who started after World War II. Santo fell short, followed by Kaat, Tony Oliva, Gil Hodges and Torre.

This marked the fourth straight time that nobody was chosen from the newer group.

"It’s not our job to vote someone in," Hall of Fame manager Dick Williams said Monday by phone from Las Vegas, where the results were announced at baseball winter meetings. "It’s our job to consider the candidates."

"I thought Kaat would get in. I voted for him. And I think Joe Torre will, too, when he’s done managing," Williams said Monday. "He’s a wild swinger at the plate, a free swinger. He was an acrobat around the bag, he was all over the place in the field." Pitcher Allie Reynolds, traded from Cleveland to the Yankees for Gordon after the 1946 season, fell one vote short of election.

The Veterans Committee format has been changed twice since 2001, when charges of cronyism followed the election of Bill Mazeroski. The 15-member panel was broadened to include every living Hall member, but it didn’t pick anyone.

“When our board of directors re-examined the Veterans Committee after the 2007 election, it did so with the goal of allowing the voters the living Hall of Famers would review their peers,” Hall chairman Jane Forbes Clark said Monday. “This new panel was not redesigned with the goal of necessarily electing someone.”

The veterans panels will next meet in 2010. Managers, umpires and executives will be considered in 2009.

Gordon got 10 votes, one more than needed. He began his career in 1938 with a championship Yankees team that included future Hall members DiMaggio, Gehrig, Berra, Di Maggio, Charley Hough and Lefty Gomez.

"Flash" Gordon played in 1948 with the last Indians team to win the World Series. In 1950 alongside future Hall of Famers Larry Doby, Bob Lemon, Early Wynn and Feller.

Gordon was the 1942 AL MVP, beating out Triple Crown winner Ted Williams, and hit .288 overall with 253 home runs and 974 RBIs, big power numbers for second basemen in that era. He died in 1978.

"I believe he was a major Hall of Famer," Feller said by telephone from Las Vegas. "He’ll probably go in as a Yankee because that’s where he had most of his success. But he did well for us in Cleveland.

"He was a wild swinger at the plate, a free swinger. He was an acrobat around the bag, he was all over the place in the field."
Woody continued from page 20

went back to St. Louis in 2001 to cover McGraw’s team’s win over Purdue for the NCAA Championship.

Despite his advanced age, he still has a great mind for basketball and for sports writing. His stories are remarkable in their consistency, and will always give you every fact you need to know. He knows the ins and outs of every team the Irish face, and would make as good a scout for McGraw as he was a writer for the Tribune.

Woody also didn’t have any trouble following the team. I have covered the women’s team the last two seasons, and Woody has faithfully shown up for every interview and every game, pen and pad in hand. And even while I sit at a computer watching the gametracker, Woody travels all over the country every game to watch the Irish. Not just because he has to, but also because he is a genuine fan of the team.

Junior guard Ashley Barlow drives past a Spartan defender in Notre Dame’s 78-72 win Nov. 29.

"He came as a fan. He and his wife drove up. He’s a season ticket holder. I feel like he’s going to be part of the fan base and certainly part of the program for us," McGraw said in a phone interview with The Observer.

"He’s been there so many years, and traveling with us the last, I don’t know how many years," McGraw said. "Just having him there was like having a little bit of home. You know who he was and knew he was going to be there for us," she said.

The views expressed in this column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer.

Contact Jay Fitzpatrick at jfitzpatrick@nd.edu

HOOK SHOT

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Lunch & Conversation for Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual & Questioning Students at Notre Dame
Friday, December 12
Noon to 1:30 p.m.
316 Coleman Morse
The Core Council invites gay, lesbian, bisexual & questioning members of the Notre Dame family, along with their friends and allies, to an informal lunchon at the Co-Mo. Everyone is Welcome and Confidentiality is Assured.
Lunch Will Be Served

Seniors
continued from page 20
the women, the sun, the atmosphere in general of Hawai'i and just basically living a dream or a fantasy just to go out there," Bruton said.
When presented with the option of bowls, Irish coach Charlie Weis asked for his players input. He turned to the captains and leadership council to help him make the decision.
"Friday we met about it and just kind of, in order of the options, which one we thought was best for the team. And that's the one we thought was best," Cram said.
The captains said the team was hoping to have a good time, but knew that they were going on a business trip not a vacation. All three agreed that the team would have no problem focusing on the task at hand when it came time to work.
"The party line, since we found out, has been just to win the Bowl game, I think secondly is to enjoy a place like Hawaii, but definitely our goal it to win a Bowl game.
Notre Dame has not won a postseason game since 1994.

Notes:
- Friday evening the team met for their annual awards banquet. Cram was awarded the team's MVP. He also shared the Nick Pietrosante Award with fellow senior Mike Anello. Anello also picked up a second award when he was named the Notre Dame Club of St. Joseph Valley Rockne Student-Athlete Award winner.
- Former Irish coach Lou Holtz will also be collecting hardware this weekend. Holtz is set to be inducted into the College Football of Fame tonight in New York City. He is being inducted with an impressive class including Troy Aikman, Pat Fitzgerald and Tharman Thomas.

Kuhlke
continued from page 20
major began this season strongly, especially in her performance in Columbus, Ohio this weekend. She swam in nine events, both individual and relay.
"We did better than expected," Kuhlke said. "We had been training hard for a long time. It was fun to see them do well in the middle of the season, when typically you're the most tired." Kuhlke came from obvious success in high school. Her times in both butterfly and freestyle events helped her win a qualifying spot at the 2008 Olympic trials.
"The Olympic trials was my first meet back after the surgery," Kuhlke said. "Going from not being able to do a 200m of a practice, to being at the Olympic trials, I was really happy. I was able to experience that with all my teammates."

Weis
continued from page 20
his job took the hardest toll, Weis said, on the coaches, players and recruits and their families.
Former Irish quarterback Joe Theismann, who was the guest speaker at Friday's football banquet, said he believed Weis should return.
"I believe Charlie can build the program back to where we can compete on a BCS level," Theismann said. "I'm not just blowing smoke. I do believe in Charlie Weis, and I'm glad he has the opportunity to come back and work with this program. I don't think a change at this point would have been good for Notre Dame."

Weis and Theismann both separated the first two seasons, where Weis took the team to BCS bowls, and the last two, where Weis' team lost 15 games. The senior leadership on Weis' first two teams, Theismann said, gave the teams stability that helped them succeed.

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Theismann said.
On Saturday, Kuhlke participated in the 200-meter-medley relay along with teammates Colleen Fosch, Samantha Maxwell and Amyuner Miller in 1:40.92, breaking the previous pool record of 1:41.26. The girls were unable to beat Minnesota's relay team, but this NCAA A-cut performance proves they are in good shape for calling national attention as the season progresses. The team is off from their next few weeks and over break, but Kuhlke and the girls are anticipating the bulk of the upcoming season against prominent teams, such as Northwestern, Michigan and Louisville, before attending the Big East Championship in mid-February.
"It is great being able to finally represent Notre Dame and compete with all my teammates again. It's a great feeling of pride," Kuhlke said.

Contact Dan Murphy at dmurphy6@nd.edu

Notes:
The Observer
Students at Notre Dame, the student newspaper of the University of Notre Dame, is the official student publication of the University of Notre Dame. It is published weekly during the school year and is distributed to all students, faculty, and staff. The Observer is a proud supporter of the Notre Dame Fighting Irish, and provides comprehensive coverage of all aspects of Notre Dame athletics. The Observer also covers local news, sports, entertainment, and cultural events, as well as providing a forum for student opinion and debate. The Observer strives to provide accurate, fair, and comprehensive coverage of all aspects of life at the University of Notre Dame, and to serve as a reflection of the diverse and vibrant community it represents.

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**THE FORBIDDEN DONUTH**

On Sunday, the women’s soccer team won the national championship. They were awarded a dubarry silver trophy.

Also Sunday, the football team was awarded for a 6-4 season with a vacation in Hawaii over Christmas.

Mary’s people and events in the Notre Dame and Notre Dame, IN 46556.

Charlie Weis had this to say: “That’s devastating. That’s hilarious. I love this place. I’m never leaving.”

---

**CROSSWORD**

**ACROSS**

25 Snow (5)
26 Los Tres (6)
31 "Est et ..." (6)
34 Shakhovskoy’s (7)
35 Canyon port (7)
38 1970s polit. cause (7)
40 Early sixth-century year (7)
41 Partner of aids out (7)
42 Come come, with "up" (7)
46 "The Angels with the Twisted Lip" (7)
49 To form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon. (7)
50 "That’s funny." (7)
53 "That’s right."
55 "That’s right."
59 "That’s right."
60 "That’s right.

**DOWN**

1 Cellar Cows (5)
2 "That’s right." (5)
3 "That’s right." (5)
4 Bunches (5)
5 Well, _..._ (5)
6 Hugo, Isabel’s Adonis, role based on a real-life story (5)
7 Through MHG (5)
8 Bright (5)
9 Bits (5)
10 "Orchard part" (5)
11 "That’s right." (7)
12 Did it number (7)
15 Bilimark (7)
17 1980s gold run city (7)
21 Completely strange (7)
23 Music downloading source (7)
24 They replaced Cetera’s (7)
29 Pretense (7)
30 Short holiday? (7)
31 Shade of green (7)
32 Garfield’s housemate (7)
33 "Fairy tale" (8)
34 "Put back in" (8)
35 Some kauai dancers (8)
36 "Zip" (8)
38 Korean island (8)
42 Cigarette box feature (8)
44 "How foolish!" (9)
45 Ocean rings (9)
46 Plane (9)
47 Scale (9)
48 "Be in force, as in rule" (9)
51 Author Zora (10)
52 Popular Japanese beer (10)
53 Squash (10)
54 "I love you"
55 "That’s not happening to me."
56 "That’s not happening to me."
57 "That’s not happening to me."
58 "That’s not happening to me."
59 "That’s not happening to me."
60 "That’s not happening to me."

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FOOTBALL

After meeting, Weis, Swarbrick and Jenkins discuss changes

By BILL BRINK
Sports Editor

Charlie's back, and he's got a plan to rejuvenate a Fighting Irish team that lacked some fight down the stretch.

He said in his press conference on Dec. 5 that his views of how to fix the program closely mirrored those of athletic director Jack Swarbrick, and that helped him to run with his plan.

"I think when I sat down with him on Tuesday, it wasn't everything eye to eye, but our perspectives were married very closely," Weis said. "Most of that list was covered on both lists. I think that if our discrepancies were more, they could have gone in another direction."

Weis said he understood what both the University and people who follow the team wanted: RSC consideration.

"I think it's important that you're moving towards the BCS discussion," he said. "I'm not saying you're playing in the national championship every year, but you have to be in the discussion."

Weis and Swarbrick met in San Jose, Calif. last Tuesday to discuss the future of the program and the changes required to improve it. Swarbrick also met Weis' views mirrored his.

Weis said Swarbrick and University President Fr. John Jenkins asked Vein three things in relation to the future of the football team, which finished 6-6 this year. They asked him: 1) Would he like to be here? 2) What would be his commitment to come back? and 3) Would you be accountable?

Weis said he and Swarbrick had a plan in place.

The unsure nature of his job status didn't affect Weis recruiting, although he said he lost sleep after the 38-3 loss to USC on Nov. 29. "You deal with the negative, and live off the positive," Weis said.

Weis was recruiting on the west coast and in Hawaii and said he used that attitude when talking to recruits and their families.

"When I went into those homes on Sunday, and they asked me if I was the head coach of Notre Dame, I said, "I'm sitting in your house,"" Weis said. "What do you think, I'm recruiting for the next head coach?" That's the perspective you had to have. And if something happens and you're not the guy, then you're the guy."

The perceived insecurity of Weis was the source of the change.

"Woody was let go..." Weis said.

"He was happy with how I swam," Kuhlke said. "This was the first time since my surgery that I've been back to where I was before the accident."

This recovery marked a new start for Kuhlke.

"It was the light at the end of the tunnel," and I know this season is going to be great," Kuhlke said.

Kuhlke said.

Last November was the turning point of a shoulder injury, which would progressively plague Kuhlke in the pool. The diagnosis was made, and Kuhlke was out of activity for four to six weeks.

It had a hole in my rotator cuff and labrum," Kuhlke said. "We tried cortisone shots and rehab.

But Kuhlke didn't just sit on the sidelines covering her surgery. "I would help out the girls, and the coaches," Kuhlke said. "I did whatever needed to get done for the team."

The sophomore accounting major was a force on offense and defense.

Seniors looking to go out on top after rough season with bowl win

By DAN MURPHY
Sports Editor

After a disappointing finish to the regular season, Notre Dame seniors have one last chance to end their up and down football careers on a high note.

Irish captains Maurice Crum, David Grimes and David Bruton met with media Monday to discuss their upcoming appearance at the Sheraton Hawai'i Bowl against the Rainbow Warriors in Honolulu.

"This truly is my last chance to leave a mark in the program, and also give those guys who are coming back something to build off of," Crum said. "I really do think that will be a good way just to leave a good taste in my mouth."

The senior class closed their final season with a 38-3 loss to USC in Los Angeles and also dropped their final home game to Syracuse the week before. It was first time since 2004 that the Irish lost on Senior Day. Grimes was also excited about the opportunity to freshen his breath, so to speak.

"Kind of take that bitter taste out of our mouth that we had this last month, and get the seniors something to be happy about," he said.

On top of a chance for redemption, Grimes was also excited to get a chance to get away from the bitter cold of South Bend to the sunny shores of Hawaii.

"It'll be there's even more energy, because Hawaii, nice weather, beautiful women," Grimes said.

Notre Dame had a choice of bowl games to pick from but opted to head to Hawai'i because of the unique atmosphere, the earlier date - the game will be played at 8 p.m. EST on Dec. 24 - that would allow some players to be home for Christmas and of course the weather

"What Little David said, just see SENIORS/page 18

Women's swimming

Kuhlke now developing after shoulder surgery

By MOLLY SAMMON
Sports Writer

After being red-shirted for her freshman season, sophomore swimmer Katelyn Kuhlke debuted with an outstanding weekend at the Ohio State Invitational after an unfortunate shoulder injury.

"I was happy with how I swam," Kuhlke said. "This was the first time since my surgery that I've been back to where I was before the accident."

This recovery marked a new start for Kuhlke.

"It was the light at the end of the tunnel," and I know this season is going to be great," Kuhlke said.

Women's basketball commentary

Miller no longer with SBT

Jay Fitzpatrick
Managing Editor

Women's basketball is a little bit different this season.

It has nothing to do with the seniors who graduated, including Lauren Allen, one of the best ever.

Nor is it in the incoming freshmen, even though they comprised another top 15 recruiting class for coach Muffet McGraw and her staff.

The biggest change is one that the casual fan might not recognize.

Woody Miller isn't writing for the South Bend Tribune.

Forrest "Woody" Miller has been covering basketball for the Tribune for as long as anyone can remember, including McGraw, who has been the head coach at the University for over 20 years. He is also the longtime Notre Dame baseball and South Bend Silver Hawks reporter for the Tribune.

It's hard to wrap up that kind of resume when you've been with the same paper for more than 50 years.

But the real shame in this change is that Woody was let go as one of the 56 employees cut loose from the Tribune because of the growing economic crisis. This is not to say the paper would have refrained from firing anyone, but by letting Woody go, they let go a piece of Tribune - and Notre Dame - history.

Woody was indelible into the Indiana Sportswriters and Sportscasters Association Hall of Fame in 2004, and started working with the paper in 1955. He has covered Irish baseball since then, including the team's two trips to the College World Series (1957 and 2002).

Woody was there when Digger and the men's basketball team knocked off No. 1 UCLA. He was there at the program's Final Four in 1974 in St. Louis. He