Weis charity to stay in South Bend

Hannah and Friends' location won't change despite coach's firing

By JOSEPH McMAHON
Associate News Editor

Despite former Coach Charlie Weis' firing Monday, his family's charity organization Hannah and Friends, named after Weis' daughter, will continue to be headquartered and operate primarily in the South Bend area.

"Our programs will not change," executive director Sharon Bui Green said. "We realize there is a minority and a greater good here that we are doing for people with special needs, and [Hannah and Friends] is going to be a permanent place for people with special needs going forward."

Green said Weis' position as Executive Director of Hannah and Friends will continue.

Early applicant pool larger, of higher quality

By LIZ O'DONNELL
News Writer

Notre Dame's Assistant Provost of Admissions Dan Saracino said this year's early applicant pool increased both in number and overall quality, as measured by GPA and test scores.

He said the admissions office received 4,330 applications for the Early Action deadline, which is up 13.5 percent from last year's number.

"The good news is that we saw an increase in the number of minority and international applicants," he said.

Saracino said the percentage of applicants classified as either international or ethnically diverse rose more than the 13.5 percent of the overall applicants. He also said the overall quality of the applications was greater than they've received in years past.

"Good news for us as well was the fact that we saw an increase in the quality of the overall applicant pool as measured by transcripts and test scores," he said.

Decorations awake Christmas spirit

By MEGAN DOYLE
News Writer

Football season may be over, but another is just beginning, as festive decorations have been hung to brighten buildings and trees around campus to commemorate the holidays.

Pat McCauslin, Superintendent Landscape Services, described his department's role in the Christmas decorations as a service to the University that he works hard to perform.

"Landscape Services is responsible for hanging the community lights around campus and decorating some of the buildings like Corby Hall, Old College and the guard posts," McCauslin said. "We also handle special requests from dorms to put up the decorations outside their halls, including trees over their porticos."

Some of the Christmas features around campus include a nativity scene by the Grotto, a Christmas tree in O'Shaughnessy Hall and strands of lights on large trees near the main entrance and by the fire station.

Exhibit shows old, new Berlins

A new photography exhibit on campus juxtaposes images of Berlin from before and after the Wall fell, bridging the historical and ideological distance to a time most Notre Dame students can’t remember.

The traveling photo exhibit "Icons of a Border Installation" is the result of a semester-long project that was undertaken by students at the University of Paderborn in Germany. The exhibit is on display in the Center for the Study of Language and Cultures in room S29 of DeBartolo Hall until Dec. 16.

Students learn about off-campus life, rights

By MEGAN HEMLER
News Writer

Moving off campus involves contracts, and knowing the terms of agreement is an important factor in successful off-campus living, University Associate Vice President for Resident Life Bill Kirk said during an informational meeting Tuesday night.

Heled at 8 p.m. in Montgomery Auditorium, "Moving Off Campus: What to Know Before — and After — Signing Your Leases," covered the basic points students should know if they decide to leave Notre Dame's residence halls.

There are many reasons why students choose to live off campus, like lower living costs and more lifestyle freedom, but Kirk also pointed out some of the burdens of life beyond the dorms.

"But there is a lot of responsibility involved in moving off campus," Kirk said. "Really do your homework and understand why you want to move. ..."
I got a touch screen phone last Christmas.
I had a Razor before, but those were getting old!

Jeffrey Hiner
sophomore
LeMans

My N'Sync CD, 1997. Best band ever!

Allison Bandeen
senior
Holy Cross

A teddy bear. I got it two years ago from my mom.

Matthew Sushinsky
sophomore
Alumni

Probably my big wheel when I was five.

Rob Goodale
freshman
Keough

It's a toss up. My brother gave me his old Lego castle, or there was this sword I got too, but it was plastic.

Cavanaugh Hamman
sophomore
Dillon

"When I was four, my twin sister and I got matching pink Lion King bicycles."

Kate Augustine
sophomore
off campus

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**IN BRIEF**

The Kellogg Institute is hosting a discussion on “The Role of University in Development” in the first floor Coleman-Norse Lounge today at 7 p.m. Refreshments will be served.

Hosted by the Notre Dame Energy Center, a lecture titled “Future Automobile Fuels: Fill Up or Plug In?” will be delivered by Michael Desmond, the distinguished advisor within BP’s refining and Marketing, Research and Technology division, Thursday at 4 p.m. in the Carey Auditorium of the Hesburgh Library.

The Kellogg Institute is sponsoring a lecture on “The Churches, Development, and Democracy in Uganda” Thursday at 4:15 p.m. in room C103 of the Hesburgh Center.

Bishop Lambert Bainomugisha of the Archdiocese of Mbarara and Professor Peter Kanyamazye of Uganda Martyrs University will speak.

"Bright Star," a film depicting the early nine-teenth century love affair between John Keats and Fanny Brawne, will be shown in the Browning Cinema of the DeBartolo Performing Arts Center Friday at 6:30 p.m. Tickets are $3 for students.

The track team will hold its indoor Blue & Gold Meet in the Loftus Sports Complex Friday at 5 p.m. There is no cost to attend.

To submit information to be included in this section of The Observer, e-mail detailed information about an event observer.questions@gmail.com
College’s candygrams raise money for charity

By ALICIA SMITH
News Writer

With the hope raising money for charity while getting students in the holiday spirit of giving, Saint Mary’s College is selling candygrams as a part of the 12 Days of Christmas program.

Students can purchase the candygrams in the Student Center Atrium during lunch from December 1 to December 12. An additional sale will be held on Dec. 7 during dinner.

The candygrams can be delivered to anyone on Saint Mary’s College campus. This is the second year the College has offered the treats to students.

“We hope to help make someone’s day a bit brighter during finals week and also help people learn more about the 12 Days program,” Carrie Call, director of the Office for Civic and Social Engagement, said.

There are a variety of candygrams to purchase this year. One candygram comes with a card. If you want to send a candygram, you come to the table in the atrium of the student center,” Call said. “There you can pick from three different styles of cards. Each card has a holiday design and a different message. Once you hand your card in, you then choose which candygram you wish to send.”

Students can choose one of three different designs to send. Students then must decide between three different styles of candygrams. The basic candygram comes complete with four Hershey’s kisses and costs 50 cents. For the same price, students can buy the Ghirardelli candygram, which contains a square of Ghirardelli chocolate. The final option is the Rittergram, which holds a Russell Stover Chocolate Santa and costs one dollar.

“The candygrams are a way for students to do a little something special to someone on campus during finals week,” Call said.

All of the proceeds from the candygrams sale will benefit the families that Saint Mary’s College has adopted for the 12 Days of Christmas program.

Candygrams will be delivered to the front desk of each residence hall for students, and to the offices of faculty and staff.

The 12 Days of Christmas program will continue to hold various events to students from December 1 through December 12. The program is designed to help raise money for families and individuals in need during the holiday season.

The program offers a variety of social activities, volunteer opportunities and worship services. It will sponsor the annual Christmas Craft Show to provide local artisans with an opportunity to sell their goods with proceeds from table rental fees going to charity.

Contact Alicia Smith at asmith01@saintmarys.edu

COUNCIL OF REPRESENTATIVES

New SUB controller appointed

By KATIE PERALTA
Assistant News Editor

In its weekly meeting Tuesday, the Council of Representatives discussed a number of pressing campus issues, first being the appointment of Matt Howard to the position of Chief Controller for the Student Union Foundation.

Howard will replace senior Kim Kyrouse, who was accepted early into the Master of Science in Accounting Program and therefore cannot maintain her SUB position, according to a letter from Kyrouse to the representatives. Howard is the new SUB controller.

“Matt is far and away the best candidate,” board manager Kat Burke said.

Howard, a senior accounting major who has worked with SUB for the past two years, has interned with PwC for the past two summers and said his proudest event so far with SUB is the Josshun Ruid concert that will be held on Legends next Saturday.

The board approved Howard’s appointment in unanimous 14-0 vote.

COR’s second item on Tuesday’s agenda was discussion geared toward ideas initiatives in the student government office, which displays suggestions and concerns voiced by students.

Student body president Grant Schmidt said one of the main topics on the Wall are comments about University Health Services.

“Students complain that it always takes a long time to push people in and pushing people out ... and not really examining them thoroughly,” he said.

Schmidt proposed the implementation of a Health Services advisory board, to which student government would appoint six students to address the concerns students have with Health Services.

“It would be a neat concept because we don’t have a medical school and this would be something different for students to get involved in,” student body chief of staff Ryan Brethellin said.

The board, Schmidt said, would also address student concerns as to where to seek specialized care like dermatologists.

COR voted in favor of the implementation of such a council 12-1-1.

In other COR news:

Schmidt addressed the issue of handicap accessibility on campus, noting the need for functional elevator buttons in buildings like downtown bars and restaurants.

“It’s going to be fairly efficient,” Schmidt said. “This weekend will be a learning experience ... as it is the first weekend this will be run.”

The bus schedule will be posted on the student government Web site.

Contact Katie Peralta at kperalta@nd.edu

Blood drive held at SMC

By ASHLEY CHARNLEY
Saint Mary’s Editor

The Office of Civic and Social Engagement (OCSE) gave students the opportunity to save lives with a Red Cross blood drive in the Student Center lounge from noon until 6 p.m. yesterday.

Olivia Barzydlo Critchlow, assistant director of OCSE, said this is the second blood drive of the year, and this drive is being used to kick off OCSE’s 12 Days of Christmas.

“We’re doing this because it’s another way to give back,” Critchlow said.

OCSE had a goal of collecting 80 units of blood during the six-hour drive. Lizzy Pugh, senior, volunteered her help with the drive, said 100 students had set up appointments for the day.

Critchlow said they raised their goal this time because the previous target was “exceeded by an astounding percent.” There were also chances for prizes for the donor who could get the most referrals. An e-mail was sent out to the students encouraging them to bring others with them. The student with the most referrals at the end of the day would receive a long-sleeve OCSE shirt.

Donating blood takes about 10 to 15 minutes, Critchlow said, and the whole process takes about an hour for students.

Pugh said this gives students the opportunity to conveniently give blood.

“Donating blood gives students the chance to give back in an easy way and in a comfortable environment,” Pugh said.

Some students have donated a few times before. Sophomore Emily Schmitt said she donates because she has a rare blood type, and feels the need to.

“It doesn’t hurt me, and it helps people,” Schmitt said.

She suggests students eat and drink a lot before they come to give blood, but to keep in mind that it isn’t a bad experience.

A couple of first time donors agreed with Schmitt, and said they would return again.

For those who were hesitant, Pugh said she would definitely do it again. She said everyone was grateful and made her feel comfortable.

“The nurses were all really nice and cared how I was feeling,” Burke said.

Pugh, a junior at the College, said she would also give blood again. She also suggested a swing of drinking before donating and to know your blood history.

According to the e-mail Critchlow sent out, every two seconds someone in the U.S. needs blood and more than 38,000 blood donations are needed each day.

“It’s just an hour of your day, and you can give so much,” Pugh said.

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Charity
continued from page 1
head coach of Notre Dame never affected the mission of Hannah and Friends, and although he may no longer hold that position, Weis and his wife Maura are fully committed to the organization’s mission.

“Regardless of Coach Weis’ position at the University, we still realize that there is a great need to help out people with special needs and Coach Weis and his wife are still really committed to Hannah and Friends and helping us to further our mission,” she said.

Green said there would be no change in Hannah and Friends’ schedule moving forward, and added the organization is currently working on a holiday gift drive.

Rights
continued from page 1
You can live off campus for less money than living in the residence halls, but you’re not going to get the same convenience and location.

The terms a lease can legally include, the basics of paying rent, late fee rules and subletting were all topics discussed at the event.

“I can’t tell you how many students don’t read their lease. If you’re going to make a deal, at least read the darn thing,” Kirk said.

A common problem students face when leasing occurs with staff right now, but we could always use more staff,” she said. “We’re still serving a tremendous amount of families and a lot of families are directly involved in the organization through involvement in our programs.”

Green also said the organization would continue to operate the “farm,” a 30-acre residential community just north of South Bend “which aims to provide much-needed housing and care services for adult citizens with special needs,” according to the Hannah and Friends Web site.

“This is going to be a permanent place and Hannah and Friends is going to stay,” Green said. “Our mission is still the same. Our mission has not changed and we will continue to serve as many families as possible.”

Although some Notre Dame students may be unhappy with Weis’ record as head football coach, Green said many students are still showing up as volunteers for Hannah and Friends.

“We have Notre Dame students coming tomorrow to help with cooking class,” she said. “So Notre Dame students are still going to be actively involved.”

Ultimately, Green said Weis’ standing at the University never affected his passion for working with Hannah and Friends, and both he and his wife will be actively involved in the organization moving forward.

“This is something [the Weis family] is very passionate about and its not going to go away tomorrow,” she said. “Hannah and Friends has been very fortunate that we have two very passionate founders of the organization.”

Contact Joseph McMahon at jmcmao6@nd.edu

Contact Megan Hemler at mhemler@nd.edu

Charity continued from page 1
McCauley said approximately 30,000 to 35,000 lights adorn the trees and buildings throughout campus. Five or six Landscape Services employees hung the lights while students were away from campus over Thanksgiving break.

“I like the decorations that are up,” sophomore Jason O’Gell said. “But I do wish that the trees on South Quad had more lights on them.”

While Landscape Services factors cost and energy efficiency into its decorating process, changes to the campus decorations over the past several years have been minimal.

“Over the past few years, a few changes have been made, but mostly for when a tree just becomes too big to put lights on or a case like that,” McCauley said. “Those sort of adjustments help with our budget.”

Several of the buildings on campus, including the mail distribution center and the security posts, purchased more expensive LED lights in order to save on energy.

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**INTERNATIONAL NEWS**

**Climate scientist to step down**

LONDON — The chief of a prestigious British research center caught in a storm of controversy over claims that he and others suppressed data about climate change has stepped down pending an investigation, the University of East Anglia said Tuesday.

The university said in a statement that Phil Jones, whose emails were among the thousands of pieces of correspondence leaked as the Internet late last month, would relinquish his position as director of Climatic Research Unit until the completion of an independent review.

**Actress’ wardrobe to be auctioned**

PARIS — Audrey Hepburn fans got a sneak peek Tuesday of dozens of garments and personal effects once belonging to the movie star that will hit the auction block next week.

A Givenchy black lace dress that Hepburn wore in “How to Steal a Million” and a demure ivory wedding gown that never made it down the aisle are among the items.

The fans, fashionistas and those looking to score a slice of film history were given the preview of the collection in Paris before the de luxe sale in London.

“For her, what was important was not decoration and lots of embellishment. She liked very simple things — less was always more for Audrey,” said auctioneer Kerry Taylor, whose eponymous auction house is handling the sale.

**Black Friday shoppers forget kids**

WASHINGTON — For a Georgia couple who had joined the group as of Tuesday afternoon.

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**Iran**

The one-time chairman of the country's national AIDS council may never live down the shower comment. But Zuma has won praise for appointing Dr. Aaron Motsoaledi as his health minister. AIDS activists say Motsoaledi trusts science and is willing to learn from past mistakes.

South Africa, a nation of about 50 million, has an estimated 5.7 million people infected with HIV, more than any other country.

**HIV-positive patients to be treated**

South Africa plans to expand treatment of infected infants and pregnant women

**South Africa**

HIV-positive patients to be treated

South Africa plans to expand treatment of infected infants and pregnant women

Associated Press

PRETORIA — South Africa announced ambitious new plans Tuesday for earlier and expanded treatment for HIV-positive babies and pregnant women, a change that could save hundreds of thousands of lives in the nation hardest hit by the virus that causes AIDS.

President Jacob Zuma — once ridiculed for saying a shower could prevent AIDS — was cheered as he outlined the measures on World AIDS Day. The new policy marks a dramatic shift from former President Thabo Mbeki, whose health minister distrusted drugs developments to keep AIDS patients alive and instead promoted garlic and beet treatments. Those policies led to more than 200,000 premature deaths, a Harvard study concluded.

The changes are in line with new guidelines issued a day earlier by the U.N. Health Organization that call for HIV-infected pregnant women to be given drugs earlier and while breast-feeding. By treating all HIV-infected babies, survival rates should also improve for the youngest citizens in South Africa, one of only 12 countries where child mortality has worsened since 1990, in part due to AIDS.

Zuma compared the fight against HIV, which infects one in 10 South Africans, to the decades-long struggle his party led against the apartheid government, which ended in 1994 with the election of Nelson Mandela in the country’s first multiracial vote.

“At another moment in our history, in another context, the liberation movement observed that the moment comes in the life of every nation when there remain only two choices — submit or fight,” Zuma said.

“What we do from this day forward will write, or rewrite, the story of AIDS across Africa,” Zuma said in his speech broadcast across South Africa on state radio and television that the policy changes would take effect at April. They include treat- mental for all children under 1 year old, regardless of their level of CD4 cells, a measure of immune system health.

Patients with both tuberculous and HIV will get treatment if their CD4 count is 350 or less, compared to 200 now, which means treatment would start earlier. Pregnant women who are HIV-positive also would start treat- mental earlier.

**IRAQ**

Russia, which has cooperated with Iran in the past to develop its nuclear program, supported the resolution, earning it Ahmadinejad's censure.

“Russia made a mistake. It has no right to enrich uranium to produce fuel for nuclear reactors to generate electricity,” Ahmadinejad said in a speech broadcast across South Africa on state radio and television.

“Russia must rewrite the story of AIDS across Africa,” Zuma said in his speech broadcast across South Africa on state radio and television that the policy changes would take effect at April. They include treatment for all children under 1 year old, regardless of their level of CD4 cells, a measure of immune system health.

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Berlin
continued from page 1
The exhibit, which brought to campus on by the Department of German and Russian as well as the Goethe Institute, the official internation- al German cultural center, features photographs of residents who took their photos to the Wall images capturing the culture surrounding the Berlin Wall and a visual demonstration of the border area during the height of the Cold War and the same location today.

“This exhibit is very signifi- cant and shows students who didn’t live through the Wall what it was like during that time,” Dr. Katja Fullard, director of the Goethe Institute in Chicago, said. “These photos really are worth a thousand words.”

Notre Dame German profes- sor Hannetolle Weber, who worked with Fullard to bring the exhibit to campus, said the photographs are important to Notre Dame students who “have no personal perception of the Wall,” because it gives them a window. “We don’t believe in living in Berlin during the Cold War.

What is really unique about this exhibit is that it comes from a student-to-student perspec- tive,” Weber said. “A lot of American students aren’t touched by the Wall and Berlin like German students are because it is all so far away from us.”

Students who visited the exhibit’s opening on Monday afternoon agreed the photos gave them a new outlook on a tumultuous time in history that came to an end just as many of them were being born.

“The photos really make you think about the seriousness of that time,” sophomore Maureen Vigland said. “To see photos of the Wall during commu- nism and to see a photo next to it of that same area today really lets you see the difference in the做梦 to see how much has changed.”

Sophomore Alex Gafin said the photos were important because they show how the once divided cities reunited, but also that they highlight the effects of the Cold War era still feel in Berlin.

“It’s incredible to see how far the city has come since the fall of the Berlin Wall, but also to see how much presence the Wall and the division still has in the city today,” he said. “The Wall is a symbol to people who live there. It’s a symbol to keep and an important memory to have.”

Fullard said one of the inten- tions of the exhibit was to show how much development has occurred since the fall of the Berlin Wall twenty years ago.

“We can agree that these images are still new enough to show what a difference a few years can make,” she said.

Senior Chris Meister said the photos gave him a new outlook on the Wall’s legacy today.

“Most of the images that Americans see of the destruct- ion of the Wall are very tri- umphant,” he said. “These pho- tos allow you to see it as it is and connects you to the Wall’s presence today rather than twenty years ago.”

Weber said she hopes “icons of a Border Installation” will serve as a testament to a trans- formative time in history.

“I honestly did not think that the Wall would come down in my lifetime,” she said. “I think this exhibit can be shown as an example of having hope, work- ing toward a goal and combat- ing repression. It really was a revolution.”

Contact Molly Madden at mmadden@nd.edu

Early continued from page 1
This fall, some schools have reported declines in early appli- cations, which some reports attribute to the down economy. Saracino said, however, that there is no current trend in early appli- cants this year among highly selective schools.

“We saw an increase in the quality of the overall applicant pool as measured by transcripts and test scores.”

Dan Saracino assistant provost for admissions

Outstanding Faculty Member for 2008.

In conjunction with the book’s release, Kelly also has launched a new Clever Student blog, which can be found on the Web at http://thecleverstudent.com. "It allows students and prospective students to stay connected with the latest developments in the field of social intelligence," she said. "It’s a great way to keep students informed both during and after college."
IN BRIEF

Government funds transit projects

NEW ORLEANS — The federal government's auto task force, led by General Motors Co. Chairman Ed Whitacre Jr., said at a hastily called news conference that he will serve as interim CEO, and an international search for a new CEO and president is planned.

Whitacre thanked Henderson for his work during a period of challenge and change, but said it is time to accelerate the pace of reducing the large U.S. automaker.

The resignation comes after just eight months after Henderson, 51, replaced former chairman and CEO Rick Wagoner, who was ousted March 29 by the Obama administration's government-auto task force.

Henderson has been with GM his entire career and was the government's choice to run the beleaguered company after Wagoner left. Whitacre, picked by the government in June as chairman of the new GM, is considered an industry outsider, having run AT&T Inc. for 17 years.

Whitacre said the board have become increasingly active in the company's decisions, at times challenging some of Henderson's decisions. In November, the board voted to abandon plans to sell GM's European Opel unit.

General Electric CEO Jeffrey Immelt speaks at a conference in New York. Immelt said he hopes to find stability for GE in a flurry of new projects.

In light of economic downturn, General Electric returns focus to industrial divisions

WASHINGTON — For General Electric Co., the NBC entertainment division was always an odd fit.

One of the nation's iconic industrial businesses, GE has spent 23 years running sitcoms and blockbuster movies along with jet engines, dishwashers and light bulbs. The pairing of glitzy entertainment and grubby manufacturing has often confounded investors and even has been ruthlessly satirized by NBC's own show "30 Rock," in which a fictional network executive also heads a division that programs microwave ovens.

It's a marriage that will likely soon end. As GE prepares for an expected $30 billion deal that would allow the control of NBC to cable TV operator Comcast Corp., the conglomerate is shifting its focus back to its industrial divisions.

GE is shrinking its finance arm that has been severely buffeted by the financial crisis. It has sold some businesses and shuttered others around the world. And it is churning nearly $200 billion in stimulus money from worldwide governments, much of it earmarked for such products as medical equipment and wind turbines. This new GE will likely look a lot like GE did before it acquired NBC in 1986.

"When you are running a company like GE, your roots are ultimately in manufacturing," said Nicholas Heymann, an analyst with Sanford C. Bernstein.

GE has reached a tentative agreement to buy out the 20 percent of NBC Universal that is held by French media company Vivendi SA, according to a person with knowledge of the deal. GE and Comcast are then expected to turn NBC Universal into a joint venture, with Comcast holding a 51 percent stake. GE would likely fully leave the partnership in a few years.

The financial crisis and recession of the past year have been difficult for GE, which is based in Fairfield, Conn., and has 323,000 employees. The company was forced to slash its divi-
dend by 68 percent. It lost $15 billion — but that marked a 43 percent drop in profit and a 15 percent revenue decline.

NBC Universal has been one headache. The unit includes Universal Pictures movie studios, the NBC network, the Universal Studios chain of theme parks, and such cable channels as USA, Bravo and Syfy. The unit has suffered from the recession, with a drop in broadcast advertising, and some ratings at the box office, such as "Land of the Lost."

Operating profit fell 27 percent in the first three quarters of this year. The NBC network ranks fourth in ratings and is cutting down on scripted shows to save money — reflected in its heavily promoted move of comedian Jay Leno to the 10 p.m. slot.

That's a contrast to NBC's stature when GE took it over in 1986 as part of its acquisition of RCA Corp. for about $6 billion.

The move was part of then-CEO Jack Welch's shake-up of GE, which included selling major business divisions and growing the financial division. Buying NBC, the eventual home to such hit shows as "The Cosby Show" and "Seinfeld" and the Olympics, was Welch's way of generating a reli-
sable source of cash to counterbalance the chal-
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Gannett Company imposes new cutbacks

NEW YORK — Newspaper publisher Gannett Co. imposed a new round of cutbacks Tuesday, with USA Today reducing its newsroom staff by 5 percent, as the industry continues to suffer through an extended advertising slump.

Along with 26 newsroom jobs at USA Today, 11 positions will be cut at USA Today's Sunday tabloid USA WEEKEND, which a fictional network executive also heads a division that programs microwave ovens.

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There are a lot of ways to look at my last four years of Notre Dame football. I could be disappointed. I could be enraged. It’s hard not to get a little nostalgic. But it’s also hard not to be a little bitter. Let’s take it 11 years by year.

Coming into Notre Dame, the hype was unbelievable. Notre Dame was No. 2 pre-season and had a big opener with Penn State. Before choosing Notre Dame, I wasn’t well-versed in college football, and was excited to get my education, as we crushed teams all the way to a championship. As a resident of Zahm, we were allowed to go into the stadium early to pass out those green “9-3 isn’t good enough” towels. I excitedly called my parents about that, and looked forward to the game the entire week. Looking back, that first 41-17 victory over No. 19 Penn State would be the best game of my four years. It would be all downhill from there. We got through the rest of the season with ten wins, suffering only serious break-downs behind that game. I did get to Ann Arbor twice and see the huge turnout for the championship, but I did get to go to UC-Denver. As a resident of Zahm, we were allowed to go into the stadium early to pass out those green “9-3 isn’t good enough” towels. I excitedly called my parents about that, and looked forward to the game the entire week. Looking back, that first 41-17 victory over No. 19 Penn State would be the best game of my four years. It would be all downhill from there. We got through the rest of the season with ten wins, suffering only serious break-downs behind that game. I did get to Ann Arbor twice and see the huge turnout for the championship, but I did get to go to UC-Denver.

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Letters to the Editor

One more year, one more chance

Dear Jimmy & Golden,

By writing this letter, I am not asking that you disregard your personal goals, but only that you consider the wishes of the student body and the University in the extremely difficult decisions you are about to make. We are all immensely proud of you both and have enjoyed seeing you progress over the past three years. Although saying goodbye to Coach Weis was a hard decision, I think everyone would agree that the program you built has laid a foundation for Jimmy. I hate to bring this up, but three-and-a-half years ago, you came to the College Football Hall of Fame and said you wanted to “get four National Championship rings on our fingers.” Needless to say, this hasn’t happened. We haven’t even had a winning season (unless you count the Hawaii Bowl). Next year, with three returning as seniors and with rising talents like Michael Floyd and Manti Te’o, you will have the opportunity to make the National Championship dream a reality, a chance to finally right the ship.

As you know, the Class of 2011 — your class and mine — has endured the worst three consecutive football seasons in Notre Dame history. It’s been rough. While it is time for a new start, we cannot lose sight of the hopes and dreams we all have of a National Championship during our time here at Notre Dame. We have all dreamt of rushing the field after defeating Southern Cal on our way to a perfect season. We have all dreamt of watching our team raise their gold medals in celebration after a BCS Championship victory. I think we all deserve a final attempt to make these dreams a reality during our senior season. You will both have successful NFL careers regardless of who you stay for next season or not. Before walking away, please consider the dreams of your fellow classmates in your decision-making, and realize that it is our best hope for a true return to glory. We can’t do it without you.

Katie Pietrucha
Graduate Student
Cavanaugh Hall
Dec. 1

What about Thanksgiving?

Viewpoint

Wednesday, December 2, 2009

It's that time of year, again. Everyone comes back from Thanksgiving break, refreshed, excited (kind of) and ready to stare down the final. The best way to celebrate this, of course, is to start hanging Christmas lights, playing Christmas music and decorating your dorm with other assorted holiday decorations. After all, the day after Thanksgiving marks the beginning of the Christmas season … right? Perhaps not as much as you would think. For the past few years, particularly on this campus, it is one that, if left unchecked, is capable of spiraling out of control. That trend is the creeping of the beginning of the Christmas season to earlier and earlier days each year. It has gotten to the point where people wake up on the 1st of November and realize that it doesn’t even feel like Christmas when they do it. Think all the way back to the first week of November, when the temperature was still unseasonably warm and the football team was 6-2 and still harbored hopes of a BCS bowl (seems like for- getting the beginning of the Christmas season … right?). Inertia is to blame, of course, is to blame for much of this as well. We find ourselves, just like the rest of the country, succumbing to the holiday season just keeps barreling forward on the calendar, with no regard for anything it may eclipse, most notably Thanksgiving. Fortunately, however, I happen to be one of the world’s biggest supporters of Thanksgiving. And since it clearly can’t stand up for itself, I am going to take it upon myself to defend Thanksgiving for its rightful honor of being one of the best holidays of the year. First of all, and most superfluously, Thanksgiving is all about football. All throughout my childhood and up until we graduated high school, I gathered with the friends I made in elementary school every Thanksgiving morning on the same field in the same park where I dreamt of a game of touch football. Then, once you got home, all you had to do was flip on the TV, and football was already on, and the Lions were already losing. Once the first game was over, you just picked up the remote, changed the channel to the Cowboys game, and you were set. The addition of night games has been awesome, as well (it gives you something to fall asleep to on the couch). When Friday morning rolls around, nothing cures your turkey hangover like the biggest full slate of college football games, followed up by a full Saturday and Sunday of more games. It’s like a four-day football nirvana. Perhaps just as superfluously, Thanksgiving is synonymous with food (and overeating). As a guy, there is nothing better than getting carte blanche to overindulge in some of the most delicious food you will eat all year. No one judges you for going back for a fourth helping of turkey, mashed potatoes and stuffing because that’s probably on the table. The real reason that Thanksgiving is the best holiday all year is that it will always do its best to not get in the way of you living that life. Ask a lot of suburban moms about “holiday stress” and they will talk your ear off for a week about it, as they have to cope with the presents and the cards and the shopping lists, and the ever-expanding commercialization of Christmas. However, Thanksgiving is about being with family and giving thanks for everything that we have. How many times have people wel- comed in strangers (or people that they don’t know well) into their house so they could fall asleep with thanksgiving? It’s all a time to reconnect with people you maybe don’t see as much as you would, and to forge bonds for years to come. And, most importantly, it is a time in which people reflect on what they have, and just how fortu- nate we are.

There is a reason Thanksgiving is the biggest volunteer day of the year. Even if it is only for one day, people become truly selfless, humble and loving. And that is why it’s the best.

Andy Ziccariell is not a snore. He just thinks everything has a time and a place. He is a junior majoring in civil engineering and can be reached at ziccariell.6@nd.edu

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

Rental leaders graduate

Dear Class of 2011,

I understand that Charlie Weis is getting paid millions of dollars — possibly more – for not doing his job. Meanwhile, TAs like myself get paid less than one-tenth of one percent of that amount, and we show up and do our jobs in the classroom every week. Does Notre Dame really mean to imply that firing Coach Weis is a thousand times more valuable to the University’s mission than the years that he spent as your head football coach? The Class of 2011?

In the words of GOB Bluth: come on!

Darryl Campbell
geraduate student
off campus
Dec. 1

Charlie Weis buyout

I have received much more from my education at Notre Dame than my GPA might humbly suggest. At Notre Dame, I have built relationships with amazing people, learned to open my mind to new ways of looking at the world, and was able to share my skills with others for rewards that far outweigh my earnings hence. Our University or for personal gain, but also gave back to their communities because they understood their greatest responsibility to their world as a whole. Sure it's great to say, but it's more important to show, and we can't do that unless we share love and mercy to those in need. I am a proud Irishman, two sports, and the effect you have on others. I think in the end it's your choice to make, but I am praying that you will make the right one, that you will give Notre Dame the best effort you can. In the end it's your choice to make, but I am praying that you will make the right one, that you will give Notre Dame the best effort you can. I am a flesh and blood human being, and I have a strong enough will to follow in our footsteps.

Jeff Sepeta
Graduate Student
Class of 1991
Nov. 30

Thanksgiving

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Jeff Sepeta
Graduate Student
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Nov. 30
“Gossip Girl” — “Amends” — “Roman Holiday”

From “Seinfeld” to “Rugrats,” television series have turned out special Christmas (or Christmakkah and Festivus) shows. Some, like “Gossip Girl” and “Buffy,” go the lovey-dovey route, but others aren’t afraid to poke fun at holiday madness. The Scene staff highlights a few stand-outs in this article:

“Buffy the Vampire Slayer”— “Amends” — “Christmas Specials”

This season three episode is technically titled “Amends,” but just call it “A Very Vampire Christmas Carol.” Angel (David Boreanaz), the vampire with a soul, is all tormented and stuff because he has killed a lot of people in his 240 years of existence, as a demon keeps reminding him through a series of flashbacks. So he decides to go out on a deserted hilltop and wait for the Christmas morning sun to kill him (in Buffyverse, vampires don’t sparkle). But through Buffy’s true love and some meteorological magic, all is saved. It snows for the first time ever in Sunnyvale, Calif., so the sunlight doesn’t cook him into roast beast. It’s saved. It snows for the first time ever in Buffyverse. (Buffyverse, vampires don’t sparkle).

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“Gossip Girl” — “Roman Holiday”

No cuter couple could be found during 2007’s Christmas season than Dan and Serena. If you’re searching for romantic and original gift ideas in the 30-dollar price range, look no further than season one “Gossip Girl.”

In their Christmas special, “A Very Sunny Christmas,” the gang explores their past Christmases and trials to regain the Christmas spirit. Spoiling various holiday classics, the 45-minute episode, available on DVD, has all the usual shenanigans and hijinks in which Charlie, M a c, Dennis, Frank and Dee e m a n age to find themselves. Unfortunately, while many parts of the episode have the usual hilarity found in it, “It’s Always Sunny” episodes, sometimes the humor goes a little too far in the special, advancing beyond the regular offbeat comedy into the slightly disturbing. Overall, the episode is amazing, not one of the best, but worth seeing, though probably not buying.

“The Office” — “Christmas Party”

“The Office” has presented many classic Christmas episodes but “Christmas Party” was the first and the best. This second season episode featured a Secret Santa gift exchange that ends in equal parts disappointment and happiness for all the favorite employees. Any episode that combines the sweet will-they-or-won’t-they romance of Jim and Pam (we all know how that turns out) and a topless Meredith has to be a classic. The types of presents bought unmistakably fit the characters’ personalities, from Michael’s over-budget iPod for Ryan to Creed’s dirty, worn flannel shirt. Anyone who wants a lot of laughs this holiday season will not be disappoint ed after watching “Christmas Party,” which is available along with the rest of the season two on DVD.

“Pinky and the Brain” — “Pinky and the Brain Christmas”

Christmas specials tend to be a mash up of witty atmosphere, cheesy music and sappy lessons. While normally an exact recipe for disaster, mix in two laboratory mice, an Orson Wells impression and a plot to take over the world, and the end result will warm the coldest miser’s heart (and win a well-deserved Emmy). The Brain nearly achieves world domination but is once again befuddled by the actions of Pinky. While he fails to reach his elusive goal, he manages to spread joy to the world, find the true meaning of friendship and gives the gift that keeps on giving: a spellchecker. Despite Amazon solely stocking the VHS, this forgotten holiday classic merits an annual viewing.

“Rugrats” — “Babes in Toyland”

Although not technically about Christmas, “Rugrats” once featured one of the best holiday-themed episodes of all time. An informative episode, for all you gentiles out there, at least, it delved into the history of Chanukah, due to Tommy’s half-Jewish parentage. What ensues is an epic reenactment of the plight of the “Maccababies,” “Rugrats” slang for the Maccabees, and their fight against King “Antonica,” played by none other than Angelica Pickles. Tommy, as Judas, leads them to victory. But, upon their arrival at the Holy Temple, they realize there is only enough oil left to light the Temple candle for one day. Can you guess how many days it miraculously stays lit for? If not, get your hands on this classic ASAP.

“Seinfeld” — “The Strike”

In a somewhat anti-Christmas episode of “Seinfeld,” George introduces the non-denominational holiday of Festivus to the New York area. This holiday, created in the show by George’s father, was a holiday meant to battle the commercialization of Christmas. Kramer discovers the holiday and wants to celebrate it, which brings back horrible memories of George’s childhood, particularly the “feats of strength,” a contest that was held to determine George’s father to end the holiday. As usual, hilarity ensues, focused mainly on the family. While not all the episodes are work, this one, for all you gentiles out there, is still really, really awesome. You may just leave it finally able to truly appreciate those weeks you spend your Christmas days with.

Contact Nick Anderson at nanders5@nd.edu, Brandy Cerne at bcerne1@nd.edu, Jordan Gamble at jgamble@nd.edu, Maija Gustin at mgustin@nd.edu, Marie Claire O’Donnell at modonne5@nd.edu, Adrianna Pratt at apratt@nd.edu and Eric Prisner at eprisner@nd.edu

By NICK ANDERSON, BRANDY CERNE, JORDAN GAMBLE, MAIJA GUSTIN, MARIE CLAIRE O’DONNELL, ADRIANNA PRATT and ERIC PRISNER

Scene Writers
O’DONNELL, ADRIANNA PRATT
GUSTIN, MARIE CLAIRE
CERNE, JORDAN GAMBLE, MAIJA
By NICK ANDERSON, BRANDY
This pop group is original and fresh with both heavy and light beats. Brilliant usage of the drums and chimes, which offer the audience both heavy and light beats. The Brunettes not only sing but they are multitalented, embracing instruments like the xylophone. This indie band versatile, and not afraid to try to new styles and beats. The Brunettes has a special air about them that is refreshing yet risky. They don’t play by the norms of popular music, they write about what inspires them and telling stories through song is their specialty. The Brunettes not only sing but they incorporate synth and other unique sounds that tie all their work together.

Hearing about artists who step out of their comfort zones is refreshing and appreciated. The Brunettes have come a long way since their first album, “Mars Loves Venus.” In 1998 so keep your eyes out for this dynamic duo as they continue to share their music with the masses.

Contact Katherine Greenspon at kgreen01@saintmarys.edu

The Brunettes

Paper Dolls

Recommended Tracks: “Connection,” “Bedroom Disco,” and “In Colours”
Allen and the Celtics end Bobcats’ win streak

**New York’s David Lee, 42, shoots over Phoenix’s Grant Hill, 33, during the first half of a game Tuesday.**

D’Antoni leads Knicks’ offense against Suns; Arenas back in double digits as Wizards take down Raptors

Associated Press

CHARLOTTE, N.C. — Ray Allen broke out of his shooting slump with 27 points, Kendall Perkins added 21 points and 12 rebounds and the Boston Celtics coasted to its easiest victory of the season that’s happened.

Allen had 26 points in the first half without him, and trailed by as many as 26 points before he got his first points with 8:15 left in the third quarter.

But it may not have mattered since the Bobcats shot 31 percent and Allen finding his touch.

A Career 40-percent shooter from behind the arc, Allen had gone 6 for 23 in the past four games, Rivers said at shootaround that he had said nothing to him.

“I don’t say a word — if he’s a shooter,” he said. “If he’s a shooter, I’m going to tell him to stop shooting. ... He hasn’t forgot how.”

With Perkins and Garnett drawing attention inside, Allen was hitting from the outside and the foul line, where he made all 10 attempts. The Bobcats didn’t even need Paul Pierce (eight points) to move the way to doubling its 13-point lead. None of the Bobcats had come by more than seven points.

New York fell two points shy of its highest-scoring quarter of the season, opening a 39-28 lead. Wilson Chandler (12), Gallinari and Lee (10 points) were making three of five figures after the first 12 minutes.

The Knicks opened the second quarter with a 9-4 burst, extending the lead to 48-32 on Gallinari’s jumper. The Suns cut it to six later in the period, but New York pushed it back to 25, repeatedly getting a 39-28 and dunks, and led 71-58 at the half.

Amar’e Stoudemire, Jason Richardson and Alando Tucker led Phoenix’s which ends a four-game trip to San Antonio.

Wizards beat the Toronto Raptors on Tuesday night. A free throw by Amir Johnson gave Toronto an 83-77 lead with 9:52 to play but the Wizards regained the lead with a 13-2 run over the next 4:25, including three baskets by Arenas, whose driving layup with 5:27 left made it 90-85 for Washington.

Calderon’s driving layup with 2:45 remaining got it to 93-91 but Jamison made a jumper, then held his finger to his lips to quiet the crowd as he ran back down the court, and Arenas made two free throws to push the lead to six, 97-91, with 2:15 to go.

Toronto rallied once more, with a free throw from Turkoglu and two by Jack making it 99-97 with 38 seconds to play but the Raptors couldn’t get any closer. Andray Blatche made a pair from the line, Jamison made one of two and Earl Boykins hit two more, making it 104-97 with 23 seconds left.

Boh missed all six shots he took in the first but Calderon scored 11 points for a man who trailed 25-24 after one on Blatche’s fadeaway jumper as the balance.

Boh snagged out of his funk with an 18-point second but shooting. The Wizards used five 3-pointers to keep it close before the buzzer-beater-jumping, this one from Boykins, gave them a 55-54 edge at the break.

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 PGA

Woods cited for careless driving

ORLANDO, Fla. — Tiger Woods will be cited for careless driving in a car crash outside his Orlando-area mansion, but will not face criminal charges, the Florida Highway Patrol said Tuesday.

Woods faces a $164 fine and four points against his driver’s license, not close enough to have it suspended. The citation closes the investigation of last week’s crash.

The patrol “is not pursuing criminal charges in this matter nor is there any testimony or other evidence to support any additional charges of any kind other than the charge of careless driving,” Sgt. Kim Montes said.

According to an incident report, Woods crashed his SUV into a fire hydrant and a tree at 2:25 a.m. Friday. The airbags did not deploy and Woods’ wife told Windermere police she used a golf club to smash the back windows to help him out.

Woods withdrew Monday from his own golf tournament, citing injuries from the crash.

Since the accident, tabloids and gossip Web sites have fueled speculation about the events leading up to it, including that there may have been a domestic dispute between Woods and his wife.

The crash came two days after The National Enquirer published a story alleging that Woods had been seeing a New York nightclub hostess, and that they recently were together in Melbourne, where Woods competed in the Australian Masters.

The woman, Rachel Uchitel, denies the affair.

An attorney for the neighbors who dialed 911 after the crash said Woods did not appear to be driving under the influence and showed no signs of having been in a fight.

Montes said there were no claims of domestic violence and insufficient evidence to subpoena any medical information.

“Despite the celebrity status of Mr. Woods, the Florida Highway Patrol has completed its investigation in the same professional manner it strives to complete each traffic investigation,” Montes said.

Bill Sharpe, an attorney for the neighbors, said Woods’ injuries were “consistent with a car wreck and inconsistent with him being beat up. The scratches on his face were consistent with someone who maybe was in a minor car accident and hit his head on the windshield. None of his injuries looked like he was beat up by his wife.”

Sharpe said neighbor

NCAA Basketball

around the dial

NCAA Division I Hockey USCHO Rankings

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<td>Miami (Ohio)</td>
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NCAA Division I Women’s Basketball AP Rankings

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<td>St. Cloud State</td>
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<td>Dayton</td>
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NCAA Division II Men’s Basketball Coaches Poll

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<td>Richard Stockton</td>
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<td>Randolph-Macon</td>
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<td>Franklin &amp; Marshall</td>
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Sgt. Kim Montes of the Florida Highway Patrol speaks during press conference Tuesday concerning Tiger Woods’ car accident this weekend. Woods is to be fined $164 and receive four points against his driver’s license.

Associated Press

IN BRIEF

Molson family to purchase NHL’s Montreal Canadiens

MONTREAL — The sale of the Montreal Canadiens was approved Tuesday, days before the storied team’s 100th anniversary.

The Molson family won approval from the NHL’s board of governors, becoming the fourth group of Molsons to own the club since the 1950s. George Gillett put the team up for sale in the spring.

Geoff Molson and brothers Andrew and Justin are the lead investors in a group that reportedly paid $575 million for the franchise.

“This is a proud moment for my family and our partners in the transaction,” said Geoff Molson, who will be the chairman and chief executive officer. “As owners, we will be right there with management and the team, building and battling toward our next Stanley Cup.”

The Canadiens celebrate their 100th anniversary Friday when they host the Boston Bruins.

Steelers’ Roethlisberger expected to play Sunday

PITTSBURGH — Steelers quarterback Ben Roethlisberger has worked out without problems since missing Sunday night’s game in Baltimore with a concussion and is expected to play Sunday against Oakland.

Roethlisberger was held out of the 20-17 overtime loss to the Ravens after having post-practice headaches Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. A team doctor recommended Saturday that the quarterback not play, and coach Mike Tomlin agreed.

While the Steelers did not practice on Monday, Roethlisberger worked out on his own and did not have any problems, Tomlin said.

“All indications are he’ll be a full participant tomorrow (Wednesday) in practice and ultimately play in the game on Sunday,” Tomlin said Tuesday.

If the headaches should unexpectedly return, Tomlin said the Steelers will “act quickly.”

Yankees manager Girardi teaches Jets’ Sanchez to slide

FLORIAN PARK, N.J. — Joe Girardi is learning how to slide like a Yankee.

Don’t worry, Jets fans. The rookie quarterback isn’t looking to trade in his pads for pinstripes. He was just working on his sliding technique Tuesday with Yankees manager Joe Girardi, who guided New York to its 27th World Series title last month.

“I’ve never really been a slider,” Sanchez said. “In baseball, I slid head-first. In football, I’ve done the same thing or tried to get out of bounds or throw the ball away. It’s something that you need to learn at this level.”

Jets coach Rex Ryan wants Sanchez to make more of a conscious effort to slide and avoid potential injuries.

“When we bring Joe Girardi in, this is all about business,” Ryan said.

Mark understands that. We kill about the ‘Sanchise’ name, but he’s the face of our franchise.
**MLB**

Ilgauskas playing to set new record

Associated Press

INDEPENDENCE, Ohio — Zydrunas Ilgauskas never got off the bench during his first attempt at history. Given another chance, Cavaliers coach Mike Brown assured it will happen.

Ilgauskas will become Cleveland’s all-time leader in games played when he enters Wednesday’s game at home against Phoenix. He currently shares the record of 723 games with Cleveland general manager Danny Ferry.

Ilgauskas was expected to break the record at home last Saturday, but Brown didn’t play him during a 111-95 win against Dallas.

The perceived snub upset both players, but that provision was eliminated by James — Ilgauskas hasn’t spoken to reporters since the game and James criticized Brown for it on Monday.

“I definitely thought he should’ve played,” James said. “As a friend of his, I was very upset by it. I know he was, also.”

Brown explained on Monday that he liked the smaller, quicker lineup that was playing well against the Mavericks. But he said on Tuesday he had it to do again, he would have played Ilgauskas against Dallas.

“I won’t start Ilgauskas against Dallas,” Brown said on Tuesday if he had it to do again. “I’d like to see the number of games that we have left this season, with teams having until the deadline, 18 players. It’s not offered arbitration could not play Ilgauskas against Dallas.”

Ilgauskas declared interview requests for the second straight day Tuesday, while Brown stopped short of apologizing for keeping Ilgauskas from the record. “I hadn’t spoken to Ilgauskas yet about the incident, but that he would. He wasn’t sure what he would say.

“I don’t know. I haven’t wrote anything out,” Brown said. “We’ll talk. I don’t know when.

Ilgauskas has spent his entire 14-year career in Cleveland. He battled foot problems early on that forced him to miss essentially three full seasons.

Ilgauskas was among the free agents who became free agents. Players have until Monday to set new record.

**NBA**

Sixers offer Allen one-year contract

Associated Press

PHILADELPHIA — Allen Iverson and the Philadelphia 76ers are closer to a reunion.

A person with knowledge of the contract talks says the Sixers offered a one-year, non-guaranteed contract to Iverson on Tuesday. The person spoke to The Associated Press on condition of anonymity because the contract talks had not been made public.

Iverson, his agent and businessman manager met with team president Ed Stefanski, coach Eddie Jordan and two other members of the organization Monday during the first formal meeting between the Sixers and their former MVP.

Iverson announced his retirement last week after an ill-fated stint with the Memphis Grizzlies. The 10-time All-Star was NBA MVP in 2001 when he led the Sixers to the NBA Finals.

Iverson announced his intention to retire after last week after no other team expressed an interest is signing the four-time scoring champion. He was waived after the two sides agreed to part ways.

He’s on the brink of getting a second chance with the Sixers. The Sixers 6-foot Iverson have lost seven straight games entering Wednesday night’s game at Oklahoma City and need Iverson to spark sagging ticket sales and their playoff chances.

This reconciliation was once thought foolish after their acrimonious split three years ago. Iverson’s last game with Philadelphia was Dec. 6, 2006 in Chicago.

He refused to play the fourth quarter and was banished from the team two days later. He was eventually traded to Denver as part of the Andre Miller deal, and banned to Detroit then Memphis.

The Sixers finish their four-game road trip Saturday against the Charlotte Bobcats and Iverson’s former nemesis, coach Larry Brown.

“I don’t know. I haven’t wrote anything out,” Brown said. “We’ll talk. I don’t know when.

Iverson accepts the offer, his likely debut would come Monday night at home against Denver. In a double-dose of intriguing timing, the Sixers play at home Dec. 9 against Detroit.

Perhaps Iverson will show his former teams that he still has something left in the No. 3 jersey.

Dr. the Nuggets and Pistons will see they made the right choice to move on without the controversial guard.

CSNPhilly.com first report the offer.

Memphis Grizzlies owner Michael Heisley told the AP on Tuesday that he spent almost an hour on the phone with Stefanski before his meeting with Iverson.
Associated Press

ARLINGTON, Va. - Alex Ovechkin's latest on-ice indiscretion netted him a two-game suspension, a sore knee right and a new level of concern from his coach and the league's "pretty reckless" ways.

The league's reigning two-time MVP was suspended for two games without pay by the NHL after a knee-on-knee hit on defenseman Tim Gleason in Monday night's 3-2 win over Carolina Hurricanes.

Ovechkin's first NHL suspension will cost him $98,844.16 in salary, he'll sit out Thursday against Atlanta and Saturday against Florida and Saturday again against Carolina Hurricanes.

Ovechkin's latest on-ice indiscretion netted him a two-game suspension, a sore knee right and a new level of concern from his coach and the league's "pretty reckless" ways.

"I just play my game and I just enjoy my time and I enjoy my life," Ovechkin said. "It's me, and it is what it is."

"I play risky," he said. "I won't try and hit and make some people get hurt, but people sometimes just get away and I don't have time to realize and stop. What can you do? You can do nothing."

Coach Bruce Boudreau isn't so sure anymore. After two years of essentially letting Ovechkin do what he wants, Boudreau said it might be time for a heart-to-heart talk.

"It's a reckless," he said. "It's hard telling a guy that scores 60 goals a year to change the way he plays. At the same time, I don't want to see him getting hurt. Maybe he has to pick his spots a little better. The open-ice hits, you just look and say, 'Oh, no.' It's not only the hitter, it's the guy that gets hit. ... It's something that will have to be addressed by us. I guess ... maybe the way that he plays. As somebody who admires him, I just don't want him to put himself in harm's way, so we'll see."

Boudreau said Ovechkin isn't trying to play dirty.

"Alex plays hard," Boudreau said. "He's not out there to look for holes. I don't think there's a malicious bone of him trying to hurt anybody. He just wants to give every effort every day to win every shift. And it's a really fine line between taking that away from somebody else and saying: 'We don't want you to put yourself in that situation any more.' But once gets out there, you just want to win so badly he does whatever we can for that team to succeed."
Associated Press

ST. PETERSBURG, Fla. — Kelly Shoppach wants to get back to being the player he was in 2008. That’s exactly what the Tampa Bay Rays are counting on.

The 29-year-old catcher was acquired Tuesday by the Cleveland Indians for a player to be named, giving Tampa Bay depth at the position and new competition for incumbent starter Dioner Navarro.

“We’ve admired Kelly from afar for a while now,” Rays executive vice president Andrew Friedman said. “A two-time All-Star hitter, Shoppach struggled last season after posting impressive numbers while hitting for an injured Victor Marte with Cleveland in 2008.

“Obviously, it’s an opportunity to see how he plays. And we can get a feel of the abilities he has,” Friedman said, “but we feel like he has all the ability to be a much better player than that.”

After leading American League catchers with 21 home runs two years ago, the Indian岭 catcher has been hit by some big things from Shoppach in 2009. But he batted just .214 with 12 home runs and 97 RBIs in 89 games, striking out 89 times in 271 at-bats.

“You can look at (last season) any way you want,” Shoppach said. “Obviously, it was a disappointing year for me. But of course, I would have liked to play better. I think everyone would have liked to play better.

Shoppach, who spent four seasons with Cleveland after being acquired in a 2006 trade with Boston, likes the idea of joining a young team that’s only a year removed from its first World Series appearance.

“Yes, it’s an opportunity for me to compete now rather than the rebuilding process that Cleveland was going through,” Shoppach said during a telephone conference call. “Ultimately that is what I want to do, help a team win.”

Shoppach’s departure from the Indians could make Lou Marson, acquired in the deal that sent ace pitcher Cliff Lee to Philadelphia, Cleveland’s starter behind the plate. Wyatt Toregas likely will be the back-up.

Highly touted prospect Carlos Santana is expected to begin the season at Triple-A Columbus, but the Indians hope he will emerge in the majors at some point next season.

“This is most about our young players,” Cleveland general manager Mark Shapiro said. “We are excited about giving them an opportunity to play. It’s an area of strength for us.”

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“Most likely for Carlos some time this year to compete to develop his game-calling, his leadership skill and his young offensive game will be beneficial,” Shapiro said. “I would expect at some point (next) season, between April and September, we’ll see him in Cleveland.”

Shoppach acknowledged financial considerations were involved in the trade. Shoppach, who made $1.95 million last season, is eligible for salary arbitration and could earn close to $3 million in 2010.

Adding a catcher was one of Tampa Bay’s top priorities this off-season. The switch-hitting Navarro was an All-Star in 2008 but slumped to .218 this year — down 75 points from the previous season. He batting average ranked 219th out of 222 major leaguers with 400 or more plate appearances.

In five seasons with the Indians and Red Sox, the right-handed hitting Shoppach has 43 home runs and 141 RBIs. He is a .295 career hitter against left-handed pitching.

“Kelly’s a guy who has great talent and the ability to be a complete catcher,” Shapiro said. “He’s a good game. He throws well and, obviously, he hits for power. I know he strikes out a lot, but he’s got great power. The more contact he makes the more a run producer he will be.”

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“Kelly was in complete agreement on the expectation to return the football program to its competitive stature,” Yow said. “He has assured the university and fans of his intentions to do whatever is necessary to become a top 25 program again. He continues to have my full support.”

All of our offensive linemen are back, except one, with a full year of experience under their belts. We had a very young team this season. We took our lumps this year, but we won’t be taking our lumps next year.

Friedgen, a former player at Maryland, took the Terrapins to the 2001 Atlantic Coast Conference title in his first season as a head coach. But Maryland had the worst overall record of any ACC team this year and won only one league game.

In February, offensive coordinator James Franklin signed a contract that would enable him to take over for Friedgen after the 2011 season gained a $1 million buyout. Franklin is sure to receive the rest of his staff before deciding whether to make any changes.

Associated Press

Friedgen to return as coach in 2010

College Park, Md. — A grateful Ralph Friedgen will return in 2010, eager to rebound from his worst season as Maryland’s head football coach.

Friedgen’s job status appeared shaky after the Terrapins lost a school-record 10 games this season. But after meeting for two consecutive days with athletic director Debbie Yow, Friedgen was given the go-ahead to make plans for a 10th season as coach at his alma mater.

“I’m very thankful for the opportunity,” Friedgen said. “I hope I wasn’t just judged on this year. But this shows the confidence the administration has in me and our program. I’m willing to repay that with everything I have to make this the team we expect it to be.”

The 62-year-old Friedgen has two years left on a contract that pays him $2 million annually. He is 66-46 at Maryland and has gone to six bowl games in each of the past six years.

Although Maryland went to bowl games in each of the previous three seasons before this one, Friedgen wasn’t surprised that his performance this year came under scrutiny by Yow.

“Obviously, when you’re 2-10 you’re going to be evaluated,” he said. “She’s my supervisor. We sat and we talked, and she decided to stay the course.”

Friedgen acknowledged that he entered the discussions with more than a small measure of angst.

“It was a concern to me,” he said. Maryland began the season had only 14 seniors and 58 players with at least three years of eligibility remaining. The hope is that the experienced underclassmen in this season will translate into victories in 2010 and beyond.

“We have three impressive young quarterbacks that are pretty good. We have all our running backs returning, as well as our wide receivers,” Friedgen said.

Associated Press

Maryland athletic director Debbie Yow:

“We’ve admired Kelly from afar for a while now.”

Andrew Friedman
Rays executive vice president

“You can look at (last season) any way you want,” Shoppach said. “Obviously, it was a disappointing year for me. Of course, I would have liked to play better. I think everyone would have liked to play better.

Shoppach, who spent four seasons with Cleveland after being acquired in a 2006 trade with Boston, likes the idea of joining a young team that’s only a year removed from its first World Series appearance.

“Obviously, it’s an opportunity for me to compete now rather than the rebuilding process that Cleveland was going through,” Shoppach said during a telephone conference call. “Ultimately that is what I want to do, help a team win.”

Shoppach’s departure from the Indians could make Lou Marson, acquired in the deal that sent ace pitcher Cliff Lee to Philadelphia, Cleveland’s starter behind the plate. Wyatt Toregas likely will be the back-up.

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The Observer.

Wednesday, December 2, 2009

Please recycle the Observer.

Intolerance, Censorship and the Other Requirements of Rationality

Alasdair MacIntyre
O’Brien Research Professor
Department of Philosophy

Friday, December 4, 2009
3:30 pm
McKenna Hall Auditorium

reception to follow

for information, call 574.631.6471
Welsh continued from page 20

student working toward becoming an English teacher. “I learned through observation and reading and attending clinics,” Welsh said.

After a few seasons of working his way up the coaching hierarchy from a YMCA coach to a division I collegiate swimming program, Welsh was offered a position at Notre Dame in 1985.

“Most of what I wanted to do when I got here was to help the team get faster and compete at a higher level,” Welsh said. “I had the advantage of arriving when the Rolfs Aquatic Center was built, so since we had a great facility, we wanted to build a team that was worthy of the facility and the university.”

When Welsh started at Notre Dame, he coached the men’s and women’s teams before they split into two programs, at which point he took over the men’s program. The team has grown from offering one scholarship per recruiting class to the NCAA’s maximum 9.9 scholarship per recruiting class to a division I collegiate swimming program, Welsh was offered a position at Notre Dame in 1985.

“The plan is simple; achieving the basket.” Welsh said. “We are getting closer each year, but there is still a lot to be done.”

Each season, the men’s swimming and diving team works towards winning the Big East conference meet at the end of the regular season, a goal that if achieved this season would be the program’s third in a row.

“Our ambition is to become a nationally prominent NCAA team,” Welsh said. “We are getting closer each year, but there is still a lot to be done.”

So far this season, the men’s swimming and diving team works towards winning the Big East conference meet at the end of the regular season, a goal that if achieved this season would be the program’s third in a row.

“The plan is simple; achieving it is where the challenge lies,” Welsh said. “One step at a time, and year by year, we are trying to get faster each time.”

Contact Molly Sammon at msammon@nd.edu

Brey continued from page 20

been the most important improvement he made. “He finds the basket.” Brey said. “He’s one of those guys that finds the net. People ask me about him and I say he finds the basket.”

It may not look orthodox, and it comes from all areas of the floor now — 3-point line, the short corner, underneath the backboard, the free throw line. It’s a great player.”

“After a back and forth first half that saw 12 lead changes and five ties, the Irish turned a three-point halftime lead into a 21-point margin after starting the second half on a 25-7 run, a lead that did not drop under 16 until Notre Dame’s starters were off the floor late in the game.”

Senior Ben Hansbrough scored 14 for the Irish, and juniors Tim Abromaitis and Carleton Scott chipped in nine and eight points, respectively.

“We were better defensively to start the second half, and I think that really helped us,” Brey said. “In the first half, I didn’t have us out pressuring the ball maybe as much as I should have, so that’s on me, and they kind of got comfortable and made some shots. In the second half, we did a better job of that. I thought we were very efficient offensively, unselfish again. Scott and Abromaitis continue to give us a great lift. I’m really pleased with their development.”

Defensively the Irish were sparked by senior point guard Tory Jackson, who added two steals and a block to his eight points.

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SMC Basketball

Irish return north to face Eastern Michigan

By MEAGHAN VESELIK

Saint Mary’s hosts Ohio Northern University today for its second home game of the season. The Belles (3-1) defeated North Central 91-57 over the holiday weekend.

Saint Mary’s opened up its home season at Anderson University on Nov. 17, defeating the Ravens 72-51. The team’s only loss this season came in the first round of the Bluffton University Tournament when it faced Wheaton College. The two teams battled through 13 lead changes and 12 ties until the Thunder ousted the Belles 78-73.

“So far, our offense has been great in games, and the defense has been following behind closely,” senior forward Anna Kammrath said. “We are a young team, but with quite a bit of experience.”

Among the top returning players this season, all of whom have made strong appearances on the Saint Mary’s court thus far, are Kammrath, junior Liz Wade and sophomores Paisley Mahoney and Kelley Murphy.

The sole senior on the team, Kammrath came into the season with 598 rebounds. Four games into the season, the 6-foot forward leads the team with 41 to go along with her 37 points, the fifth-best on the team.

Wade, a junior guard and the MIAA Defensive Player of the Year, was one of the league’s leaders in both assists and steals. Thus far, she has 28 assists and 18 steals.

Both Mahoney and Murphy had outstanding freshman seasons for the Belles last year as two of the team’s top scorers. Alongside Kammrath, the pair accounted for more than 600 points.

Murphy, a forward, leads Saint Mary’s with 57 points, as well as having 29 rebounds, second only to Kammrath. Mahoney, a guard, allows close behind with 49 points. She also has nine assists this season, second to Wade and tied with newcomer Annie Doyle, a freshman guard.

Murphy scored a team-high 18 points at North Central. Kammrath was not far behind with 14 while leading Saint Mary’s with nine rebounds.

Mahoney had 13 as sophomore guard Maggie Ronan put up 12. Wade had a career-high 11 assists in the win, one away from tying a College record.

Coming off one of their most successful seasons and losing four seniors to graduation, the Belles are continuing their hard work in hopes of besting last season’s conference finish of second place.

“Although at times our discipline is not quite there, I have been impressed with the amount of talent on the team.” Kammrath said. “We are so deep and that is a great thing to have, especially in our conference. We still need to keep improving on our defense and rebounding, but the season has been exciting so far and I am anticipating great things from us.”

The Belles will return to their home court at 7 p.m. at the convocation center for Saint Mary’s University Tip-Off Tournament when it faces Anderson University. The team’s second home game of the season.

Contact Meaghan Veselik at mvesel01@stmarys.edu
maintain their intensity and focus.”

The Irish won three straight games from Nov. 26-28, two against ranked teams, at the Paradise Jam in the Virgin Islands. Just three days later, they have a chance to get a boost to off to its best start since 2004. I think Eastern Michigan is a really tough place to play,” McGraw said. “They’re playing well. For us, we need to stay sharp.”

The Eagles are also playing on short rest — they won a 93-81 decision over Missouri State Sunday. In that game, guard Twynlyn James scored 31 points. She’s averaging just under 20 points per game. Ianello and guard Cassie Schrock form a tough combination for Eastern Michigan. Schrock, who averages 17.2 minutes per game, is second in the team in points and rebounds per game.

“They’ve got a really good back court,” McGraw said. “Ianello is really good. She played well against us last year. They’re both good. They shoot a lot of 3s.” They’re going to really challenge our defense,”

McGraw said the Irish have continued to work on their defense after the Paradise Jam.

“We’re working on our defense in general. I’m not happy with it after the losses against Virginia,” she said. “I think we can get a lot better. That’s an individual effort as well as a team effort.”

Notre Dame will start the same lineup it did for its win over No. 20 Oregon, which includes freshmen guard Skyler Diggins in her second start of the season.

Though she has played mainly from the bench, Diggins currently leads the Irish in total points and total minutes and is second in both assists and steals.

However, the Irish will once again rely heavily on their bench to ensure everyone is able to “go,” McGraw said.

“I want to find the right combination of who’s ready to play,” McGraw said. “We’re not ready to get out and play again. We just want to come out hard with a lot of intensity and keep on playing.”

The game will begin at 7 tonight at the Purcell Pavilion.

Contact Laura Myers at
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McGraw said.

“You’re going to play on college football’s biggest stage. You’re going to be on television. You’re guaranteed times in your career before you ever set foot on campus here.”

“I want to get my nose dirty.”

Ruth said.

“You want to play every minute of every game, is second in the game. We’re going to have to find the chemistry has its own unique advantage.”

“If Condra told me it’s just

Ruth said. “I want to get my nose dirty.”

Ruth also brings his own unique skill set to the Irish blue line.

“Obviously he’s a great physical presence. He’s got a big body and he uses it to his advantage.”

Ruth echoed his defensive partner, saying his injury won’t stop him from playing on his own way.

“I try to bring a tough physical presence on the ice.” he said. “I want to get my nose dirty.”

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Rhodes Scholarship (for two years of graduate study at Oxford)

Marshall Scholarship (for two years of graduate study in the United Kingdom)

Mitchell Scholarship (for one year of graduate study in Ireland)

Fulbright Grantee/ETA (for one year of research, study teaching English around the world)

Come to an information meeting on Thursday, December 3 at 5pm
in Geddes Hall Auditorium

If you cannot attend but would like information, please contact the CUSE Fellowships Office, 346 O’Shaughnessy fellow@nd.edu

Contact Matt Gamber at
mgamber@nd.edu

If you are interested in applying for a
The Observer apologizes for the absence of The Mobile Party.
FOOTBALL

Harangody breaks two thousand points in ND victory

By ERIC PRISTER
Sports Writer

Senior Luke Harangody's first basket of the night gave him 2,000 career points on a night in which he led the Irish to a 80-70 victory over the Idaho State Bengals.

He is the seventh Irish player to achieve the feat, which became the first to score 2,000 while also recording 1,000 rebounds.

“It’s one thing I never thought would happen in my career,” Harangody said. “Never once did I think about that, and last year I never thought about that really. I just wanted to come in here as a freshman and do the small things. I’m just going to concentrate on every game. I’m not worried about the numbers that I’m putting up or the records I’m breaking. I’m just worried about the next game.”

Irish coach Mike Brey agreed, saying he expected big things out of Harangody, but nothing quite this big.

“The first time he put a jersey on, I said we have somebody here who can put some numbers up,” Brey said. “I knew he’d be really good for us. I didn’t know we were going to get this, but I knew we were going to need that motor and that toughness. But it is staggering, really. I use the phrase ‘machine-like,’ and you see it on game nights — this is practice too. These are the kind of things in practice too. He only knows one way.”

After being named Big East Player of the Year after his sophomore season and averaging 23 points and 12 rebounds per game last year, Harangody briefly considered entering the NBA Draft before deciding to return to Notre Dame.

“He came back for all the right reasons,” Brey said. “He loves being a senior, trying to lead his team. He’s still too hard on himself sometimes. I have to get him to loosen up, but he’s come a long way in the department.”

Harangody’s 27 points and 12 rebounds led the team, and he scored from every area of the floor. He shot 12-of-17 from the field and hit both of his 3-point attempts.

“I said his scoring game has evolved from where it was freshman year, and that has... see BREY

Recruiting coordinator takes over program reins

By MATT GAMBER
Sports Editor

When Tuesday morning rolled around, a new man was leading the Notre Dame football program.

No, director of athletics Jack Swarbrick had not named a full-time replacement for Charlie Weis, whose dismissal was announced Monday. But effective Tuesday, assistant head coach Rob Ianello was the man in charge, at least for the time being.

“I have asked Rob Ianello to step in and take over the program during this period of time,” Swarbrick said at Monday’s press conference. “Rob is a talented coach and has already played a central role in coordinating our recruiting, and I know he will provide us with the leadership we need going forward between this... see IANELLO

ND Women’s Basketball

Notre Dame returns north

By LAURA MYERS
Sports Writer

In a twist that makes sense only in sports, the Irish are happy to be back in South Bend after a trip to the Virgin Islands.

No. 5 Notre Dame (6-0) will host Eastern Michigan (5-1) tonight at the Purcell Pavilion.

“This time of the year it’s really great to be home,” Irish coach Muffett McGraw said. “We need to be playing at home. We’re going to need the energy of the crowd to get us going tomorrow. This is a tough week academically. There’s a lot going on. Everybody’s got things to do. We haven’t gotten the rest we needed this week. It’s going to be a challenge for them. I think, to... see EAGLES

HOCKEY

Ruth works way back to ice from leg injury

By SAM WERNER
Associate Sports Editor

As the Irish try to turn the corner and reestablish themselves as a top-flight team in college hockey, they’ll be doing so with a familiar face on the blue line that hasn’t always been there this season.

After missing the first five weeks of the season because of a leg injury, junior defenseman Teddy Ruth returned for Notre Dame three weeks ago against Northern Michigan, and has taken the last six games to get readjusted as the Irish enter the meat of their CCHA schedule.

“I mean my first game back, I was working some serious rust off,” Ruth said. “After that I feel like I’ve picked up things pretty fast.”

After strong freshman and sophomore campaigns, Ruth was considered to be a stalwart of the Irish backbone heading into the season. But in the last week of training camp before the season opener against Alabama-Huntsville, the junior went down with what Irish coach Jeff Jackson described as a “fluke injury.”

“I was pretty disappointed,” Ruth said. “I did a lot this summer to prep myself for... see RUTH