Class of 2014 predicted to be strong

By JOSEPH McMATHON
Associate News Editor

The 1,801 students admitted early to Notre Dame might be one of the most talented classes as well as the most ethnically diverse in the history of the University, director of undergraduate admissions Dan Saracino said.

Because he still doesn’t know who will commit to Notre Dame, however, Saracino said it is still impossible to determine what the class will really look like.

“It’s safe to say the Class of 2014 will be every bit as talented and possibly more so than previous classes,” he said. “Based on projections, [the Class of 2014 could be] the most talented and ethnically diverse class in our history.

Saracino said the Office of Undergraduate Admission received 4,200 applications, representing an 11 percent increase from last year. Of those admitted, Saracino said he believed around 60 percent would commit to Notre Dame.

“You have a higher yield on the students who you admit early because they’re interested enough that they are applying early,” he said.

Saracino cautioned against declaring the Class of 2014 the

*See Class of 2014 page 4*

Crowley speaks at film’s advance screening

‘Extraordinary Measures’ tells inspirational story of 92 ND Law alum and family

By JENN METZ
News Writer

John Crowley, Notre Dame Law ‘92, introduces Thursday evening’s early screening of ‘Extraordinary Measures.’

John Crowley, Notre Dame Law ‘92, and Dr. Kasturi Haldar introduced Thursday night’s advance screening of “Extraordinary Measures” with words of hope about the fight against rare and under-researched diseases.

Crowley, a 1992 Notre Dame Law School alumnus, and his family are the inspiration of the film starring Brendan Fraser and Harrison Ford. The two youngest Crowley children, Megan, 13, and Patrick, 11, suffer from Pompe disease, a rare neuromuscular disorder.

Haldar, the director of Notre Dame’s Center for Rare and Neglected Diseases, described the film as “the amazing story of the success they’ve had at fighting back this disease and keeping their children alive.”

Crowley’s wife Aileen accompanied him to the screening. Haldar praised the couple for their “remarkable value of life.”

“In comparison, the rest of us have a very poor understanding of it because

*See CROWLEY page 6*
INSIDE COLUMN

Snowy transition

Getting back in the swing of things is never easy. This is a concept that is hitting home for all of us right now more than ever. Second semester always poses its own unique challenges that the fall does not. One of the more frustrating of these issues is without a doubt, the South Bend winter

It's funny because how I approach winter and the shock I get every season at the cold and snow here, you would think I came from the South. Sadly no though. I come from a place where winters are not the South Bend winter.

My roommate is from Georgia, and she always complains that she is colder and I should be used to it. I have found that a human simply cannot adjust to below freezing temperatures. Possibly we have been spoiled by the heaters and cozy fireplaces of our youth. It's hard to tell.

What puzzles me most is that I used to love the snow. It was magical to see the white snow fall and know that I would be able to get out of school and play all day long. I wouldn't have to worry about responsibility or going anywhere. All I had to do was play. I am not sure the exact day I stopped loving snow. Probably right around the time that I had to start warming up the car to go to work and school was about the time. Now, worst of all, a class day will not be cancelled because we can simply throw on our big boots and trudge through salty, previously ice-covered sidewalks to get there.

So, here we are in the vacation drought between Christmas and Spring Break, trying to wade our way through the perils of South Bend's winter weather. I have a proposition. How about we try and make the best of it. How about we take a little time out to play in the snow again? I really think that we can all do this if we simply throw out that we want to be a little more optimistic. I will be challenged in this endeavor. I do not necessarily believe that this is the right thing to do, but I am here to support you. I want to feel the happy mentality that the snow brings us and I think we can all do this together.

Many students plan to relax this weekend at Tyler Hilton's concert Saturday night. Attend for free and enjoy this talented performer. The show is from 8:30 p.m. to 11 p.m. at the DeBartolo Performing Arts Center tonight, the Martin Luther King Jr. Diversity Series, will take place Friday from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. Saturday from 8:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Sunday from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. in the Oak Room on the second floor of LaFortune. Notre Dame faculty, staff and students are welcome to attend with required registration. Contact Toby Blake at tBlake@nd.edu for more information or to register.

There will be a student skate night Saturday from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. at the Joyce Center Hockey Rink. There will be a $2 skate rental fee.

Student Union Board will show a movie, "The Box," Thursday at 10 p.m., Friday at 8 p.m. and 10:30 p.m., and Saturday at 8 p.m. and 10:30 p.m. at 101 DeBartolo Hall. The cost is $3.

OFFBEAT

Unhappy meal: woman charged in Mc'D's rampage

KANSAS CITY, Mo. – A woman has been charged with a McDonald's restaurant in Missouri because she was unhappy with her cheeseburger. Police said they received many tips after releasing video of the Dec. 27 incident.

In the video, which has been viewed hundreds of thousands of times online, a customer is seen throwing a sign and a water dispenser over a counter and pushing three cash registers to the floor.

On Tuesday, the Jackson County prosecutor's office charged 19-year-old Alesha McMullen of Kansas City with Class D felony property damage. It wasn't immediately known if McMullen has an attorney. A phone listing for her could not be found.

NC officers find underground pot garden in buried bus

KINSTON, N.C. – An undercover drug buy led North Carolina detectives to an underground marijuana garden in a buried school bus.

Multiple media outlets reported Thursday the Lenoir County Sheriff's Office had been looking for the source of the marijuana for three years and had been flying over the area with a helicopter.

Then sheriff's narcotics officers bought several pounds of pot in a recent undercover buy. Sgt. Eddie Eubanks says officers traced the pot to a rural residence.

A search dog fell through the camouflage trap door leading down to a full-length school bus buried 8 feet under a backyard tool shed.

Information compiled from the Associated Press.

The views expressed in the Inside Column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer. Contact Ashley Charney at acharney01@saintmarys.edu

CORRECTIONS

The Observer regrets indulging as a professional publication and strives for the highest standards ofjournalism at all times. We do, however, recognize that we will make mistakes. If we have made a mistake, please contact us at 631-4541 so we can correct our error.

QUESTION OF THE DAY: WHAT IS THE BEST ICE CREAM AT THE DINING HALL?

Gabe McDonald, sophmore

Laura McCarty, junior

Josh Zielinski, sophmore

Allie Hawkins, freshman

Sam Wilhite, freshman

“Rainbow sherbert.”

“Mint chocolate chip is God’s gift to ice cream.”

“Butter pecan, because butter makes everything better.”

“Vanilla froyo, in a cup, with Reese’s and sometimes sprinkles.”

“Mint froyo with a TON of sprinkles.”

Have an idea for Question of the Day? E-mail observer.questions@gmail.com

IN BRIEF

The film “A Ripple of Hope” will be shown at the Browning Cinema in the DeBartolo Performing Arts Center tonight at 7 p.m. Tickets can be purchased at the box office or online at performingarts.nd.edu.

“Try It, You’ll Like It” week continues across campus at recreation centers. Attend fitness classes for free today through January 17.

Night of Relaxation will take place Saturday from 9 p.m. to 12 a.m. in the LaFortune Ballroom, featuring free chair massages. The event is free.

An anti-racism workshop, part of the Martin Luther King Jr. Diversity Series, will take place Friday from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m., Saturday from 8:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Sunday from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. in the Oak Room on the second floor of LaFortune.

Notre Dame faculty, staff and students are welcome to attend with required registration. Contact Toby Blake at tBlake@nd.edu for more information or to register.

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

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SMC seniors offer money tips

By ALICIA SMITH
News Writer

With the cost of admission, room and board, and a variety of other school supplies, college students can be financially strapped at the beginning of each new semester. Saint Mary's seniors Sara Niemann and Aimee Cunniff, both business administration majors, have, however, devised several tips students can use to spend less and save their hard-earned cash.

I would say the first thing I really think I’m trying to say is that I’m trying to save money is that there really isn’t any way to save for some sort of goal,” Niemann said. “Like when I was a sophomore I knew I had to save money so I almost got into saving money over there so I should be more thrifty here.”

According to Cunniff, the best way to start building up a bank account is to sit down and set a budget. Having a budget can help you save money and prepare in students in advantages and expenditures they may have each month. Students can also plan ahead for upcoming expenses and plan a budget how much you want to spend off campus every semester. I know a lot of students get sick of the dining hall and like to eat off campus but that can get expensive really quickly. So the idea here is to set aside a certain amount every month of what you are willing to spend off campus,” she said.

Budgeting can be one helpful way to avoid overspending and avoid having to use money that is truly necessary. They will not be spending the money. “A lot of people don’t realize how much just a morning coffee can come add up as opposed to buying a coffee machine and making coffee in the morning, she said. "Take some time to do research every day about shop around if it’s clothes or books or just买东西 about if you really truly need it.”

Niemann agreed it is important to determine the value of an item before buying. “When I go shopping, whether it’s at the grocery store or at a department store, if I find something that I want at a good price and I walk around and decide if I actually really want to buy it and if it’s actually a good enough deal,” Niemann said. “In 10 minutes I wouldn’t want to be a good purchase the kind of walk away from it easier.”

Another helpful trick, Cunniff said, is to be knowledgeable of what is being pur- chased. If students only buy things that are truly necessary, they will not be spending the money. “I don’t really have a strong opinion either way,” Hackner said. “He’s had a lot of experiences as a reporter. It’s a lot better than I thought it’s going to be able to deliver a relevant controversy last year.” Hackner also said this phase of the renovation is completely obscure after all the backlash and criticism as last year’s choice, President Barack Obama, some stu- dents get sick of the dining hall and like to eat off campus but that can get expensive really quickly. So the idea here is to set aside a certain amount every month of what you are willing to spend off campus,” she said.

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Another way students can save money, she said, is by using the Library Services and Program Committee suggests, "We want the library to be able to respond more effi- ciently and effectively to the needs of the campus." The vision is still the same that we will have a chance to improve and increase our col- lections and that the library will be a place for social and intellectual interaction.”

One of the biggest goals of the renovation, Shorey said, is to improve the building’s presence as a library. “One of the roles that the library has always had is to be an intellectual environment. It’s also been a place people can walk away from it... it’s convenient and it’s a central point for undergradu- ate interaction,” he said. One of the most difficult parts of the library renovation, Shorey said, is the lack of space or off-campus. The campus community needs to be more aware of what’s going on in the world.” Perone said. “He’s got a lot of interesting experiences and if he do a good job transferring that in a speech then I think he’d make a really good speaker.”

Other seniors, such as study- er, have not generated as much debate and students as last year’s selection did. "The reaction is not someone’s not interested, but it’s not a lot better than I expected," Hackner said. "I really thought that I would pick someone completely obscure after all the criticism." Hackner also said this year’s choice has not generated as much debate as the last year’s students as last year’s selection did. "The reaction isn’t as strong this time," Hackner said. "I think there are people who could generate more contro- versy at Notre Dame than Obama.”

Senior Michelle Perone is optimistic that Williams will be able to deliver a relevant critique to the class of 2010, especially because of his diverse expe- riences, as a reporter. Among other things, Williams has covered the collapse of the Berlin Wall and has spent time with milit- ary units in Iraq. "It’s a really respected jour- nalist so he’s ideally well- informed. He’s said, "I’ve got a lot of interesting experiences and if he do a good job transferring that in a speech then I think he’d make a really good speaker.”

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Early
continued from page 1

ACE
continued from page 1

ber of the task force. “One way of addressing inequality in this coun-
try is not to continue with Catholic
schooling. According to the report, Latinos in Catholic schools are 42 percent more likely to graduate high school and 26 percent more likely to graduate college. The task force has also found that more than 50 percent of all public high schools and Catholic schools under the age of 35 are Latino.

The task force said the present schools aren’t meeting the needs of the Latino community, and in this area.”

Guzman said. “What is key for
increasing their access to educa-
tion is to see what they need. The whole structure of Catholic schools in the United States have to recog-
nize the importance of reaching out to the Latinos to have them feel included.”

Looking at probationer, the task force said that the present schools aren’t meeting the needs of the Latino students. “This is a group that is in great need of increasing both domestic eth-

The students admitted early had an average class rank in the top 3.3 percent, an average SAT score of 1460 (composite of the math and verbal scores) and an average ACT score of 3.3.

The profile of the students that we admitted from that group have the highest yield and the highest in the main core program, the strongest classroom perform-
ance in terms of GPA and rank in class.

In addition, Saracino said this year’s early admits were 24 percent ethnic minority students, which is also a higher percentage than the international students, both of which are increases from last year.

We’ve seen a healthy increase in admissions and we’ve also admitted the largest number of ethnic minority students and international students that we’ve ever admitted in early action,” he said.

The goal is to continue our goal of increasing both domestic eth-
nic diversity as well as interna-
tional student numbers.

Saracino said those admitted are not only ethnically diverse, but also grow up with different leadership based on their high school backgrounds.

“This is a group of students with more ethnic and interna-
tional diversity, so at the same time a group of students that were just as involved in commu-

Diversity, involvement and leadership as before,” he said.

Saracino said while increasing the admission rates for ethnic

minorities bodes well for the future, the real key to boosting diversity on campus is increasing the yield, or the number of ethnically diverse student who commit to Notre Dame.

“The key is increasing the yield on ethnic and minority students,” he said. “We want to increase the number of admits and the per-
centage of students that say ‘yes’ to us.”

One of the most important fac-
tors for minority students, Saracino said, is financial aid, which of the much incoming class will require.

“When the incoming class will be financially needy as previous classes, so it is important for the University to continue to be need blind and meet 100 percent of the need, which we are,” he said.

Saracino said he expects the test scores of the regular action applicants to be lower, but he does expect them to be equally important in terms of community

service, leadership in their high schools and athletics,” he said.

Contact Joseph McMahon at jmcmahon@nd.edu

Over-exercising remains a concern

ND officials identify extreme working out as issue of control, competition

By KATIE PERALTA
Assistant News Editor

As students return to cam-
pus filled with ambitious New Year’s resolutions and goals for getting fit for Spring Break, Notre Dame recreation facilities see an influx of students and faculty eager to work out, especially in light of the recent regis-

tration for fitness classes.

Some, however, take their exercise to the extreme. Over-exercising, also called compulsive exercising, is when an individual engages in strenuous physical activity to a point that is no longer safe or healthy, according to the University of Pennsylvania’s Office of Health Education Web site.

Jennifer Phillips, assistant director of RecSports, said posters warning about the dangers of over-exercising were recently submitted by a group of design students for exhibition in Rolf’s Sports Recreation Center.

“The posters were not necessarily in response to anything in particular,” Phillips said, but added that compulsive exercising nevertheless is a problem on campus.

“It’s hard to quantify,” she said. “But you can tell it exists by casual observation. People need to know that there are resources available for campus.”

“When there is cause for concern about an individual in one of our programs or facilities, we seek the expertise of specialists on campus to provide guidance.”

Such resources are provid-
ed by the University Counseling Center (UCC) in St. Liam’s Hall.

“(Over-exercising) is a much bigger problem than we are aware of here,” Valerie Staples, a counselor and eating disorder specialist at the UCC said. “At any time of day, you can look around and see some-

one running on cam-
pus.”

Staples said identifying com-
pulsive exercising as a prob-

lem is difficult.

“Exercise is such an asset in our culture,” Staples said. “It’s really hard to see it as a bad thing. When people start planning their lives around exercise, however, it becomes a problem.”

Compulsive exercising, Staples said, for many can be a control issue as well that aligns with the high achiev-
ing mentality commonplace at an institution like Notre Dame.

[People think] ‘you can always do more,’” she said, and added that the differ-
ence between stress manage-
ment and maintenance of a healthy lifestyle ought to be examined critically with the issue of compulsive exercising.

Staples identified Notre Dame as an institution ram-
pant in competition in areas from academics to appear-
ance, further fostering envi-

r onments of extremism.

While over-exercising is not itself identified as an eating disorder, Staples said, it often comes hand-in-hand with disorders like anorexia and bulimia.

In the 2007-08 academic year, 12 percent of student cases at the UCC were identi-
fied as eating concerns, Staples said. This number fell to 10 percent the follow-
ing academic year.

These kinds of body image issues, she said, often arise at points of stress ful transition in a person’s life, often between the ages of 15-25 and also during mid-
dle age years.

Staples said is not uncommon for universities to limit the amount of time or the frequency with which stu-
dents utilize fitness facilities, but Notre Dame, Phillips said, has no such limitations in place.

“We don’t have any poli-
cies limiting the frequency of use by an individual,” Phillips said, although Rolf’s and the Rockne Memorial both have time limitations on certain exercise machines.

Students who have concerns about compulsive exer-
cising are encouraged to contact the UCC by visiting their St. Liam’s Hall office or by calling 631-7336.

Contact Katie Peralta at kperalta@nd.edu

"When people start plan-
ing their lives around exercise, ... it becomes a problem.”

Valerie Staples
counselor

University Counseling Center

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INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Beijing hosts Mr. Gay China pageant

BEIJING — The Mr. Gay China pageant is coming up and contestant David Wu is hit worried.

It’s not the underwear competition that’s making him jittery — he’s been working out harder than usual to get ready. And he’s looking forward to the opportunity to meet other “comrades,” as gay men in China are called.

Just one thing troubles the handsome 30-year-old: his parents don’t know he’s gay.

“Most Chinese media won’t cover it (the pageant), so I think it’s unlikely that my parents would find out about me because of this event,” said Wu, from the southwestern city of Chengdu. “But if they did, maybe it’s a good opportunity to tell them.”

Italy funds Somalian government

NAIROBI, Kenya — Italy will fund the operation of a key federal agency of the Somali government battling a long-running Islamic insurgency, the Italian foreign minister said on Thursday.

Italy, a former colonial ruler of Somalia, also will train an anti-terrorism police unit and a coast guard, and pay the salaries of police officers, Italian Foreign Minister Franco Frattini told reporters. His visit represents a major boost for Somali President Sheik Sharif Sheik Ahmed’s government.

Italy is doing this because Ahmed’s government “is the best option. We have no alternative but to support this government,” Frattini said after closed-door meetings in Nairobi with Ahmed and Kenyan leaders that centered on Somalia.

Haiti

Desperate Haitians find relief

Aid starts to arrive to area destroyed by Tuesday’s 7.0-magnitude earthquake

Deseated by the devastation wrought by Haiti’s earthquake, hundreds, if not thousands, of desperate survivors were scrambling on their own to save the trapped and injured and get relief supplies into the capital.

The international Red Cross estimated that at least 20,000 people were killed in Tuesday’s magnitude-7.0 earthquake.

President Barack Obama announced that “one of the largest relief efforts in our recent history” is moving toward Haiti, with thousands of troops and a broad array of civilian rescue workers flying or sailing to aid the stricken country — backed by more than $100 million in relief funds.

To the Haitians, Obama promised: “You will not be forsaken.”

The nascent flow of rescue workers showed some results. A newly arrived search team pulled U.N. security worker Tarmo Jover from the organization’s collapsed Collapse of the Haitian army. The government committed to rebuilding its forces has had to claw at the wreckage, often with bare hands, to try to free them.

Many dead bodies that were recovered still lay in the street, often covered by a white cloth, in 81-degree heat.

Some people dragged the dust-covered dead along the roads toward the morgue, where people came to hunt for relatives in a macabre sea of hundreds of bodies, just a few feet from where badly injured victims awaited a doctor from the neighboring hospital.

Planes from China, France, Spain and the United States landed at Port-au-Prince’s airport, carrying searchers and tons of water, food, medicine and other supplies — with more promised.

The Red Cross has estimated 3 million people — a third of the population — may need emergency relief.

The flow into the capital’s damaged airport was so great that the Federal Aviation Administration halted all civilian flights from the United States to Port-au-Prince for a time Thursday because there was no room on the ground for more planes and not enough jet fuel for planes to go back, an official at the FAA said, speaking on condition of anonymity because he was not authorized to talk publicly.

Civilian relief flights were later allowed to resume.

It took six hours to unload a Chinese plane due to a lack of equipment — a hint of possible bottlenecks ahead.

“We don’t have enough handling equipment or the people to run it,” said U.S. Air Force Col. Ben McMullin, part of the team handling traffic at the airport.

“Let’s try to control the flow of aircraft.”

In Geneva, Red Cross spokesman Jean-Luc Martinez said the Haitian Red Cross estimated 45,000 to 50,000 people were killed, based on reports from its volunteers in Port-

Port-au-Prince.

There seemed to be little official Haitian presence in much of the capital — or at the airport, where the U.S. Southern Command was. It was controlling flights from a fenced-off building at the end of the runway. The facility’s usual tower had collapsed.

McMullin said about 60 planes carrying 2,000 people had landed between Wednesday and Thursday, when the airport reopened, and noon Thursday.

LOCAL NEWS

Airline moves to Indianapolis

MINNEAPOLIS — Republic Airways Holdings Inc. said Tuesday it will move all of its operations to its base in Indianapolis as it further consolidates its two new airlines.

When they were independent carriers, Frontier Airlines and Midwest Airlines last year, says it will move all of its executives to its base in Minneapolis as it further consolidates its two new airlines.

Republic spokesman Carlos Bertolini said roughly 3,000 workers will continue to be based in Denver, mostly flight crews and reservations workers. About 1,200 work in Indianapolis and roughly 1,300 will work in Minneapolis, once all the transitions are done, he said.

Prime Minister warns against intimidation

Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki in the vote.

The recommendation to bar the parties — most of which are Sunni — potentially threatens the country’s fragile security because it risks leaving Sunni voters feeling targeted and disfranchised.

The de-Baathification policy was created under the U.S.-run Coalition Provisional Authority, which ran the country after the 2003 invasion and stripped senior Baathists of their jobs. In 2008, the policy was relaxed and thousands of former Baathists who were not involved in past crimes were allowed to take government jobs.

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Cocaine found in NASA hangar

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. — NASA is investigating how a bag of cocaine got into the hangar that houses shuttle Discovery at the Kennedy Space Center in Florida.

NASA spokesman Allard Beutel said Thursday that investigators found a tiny amount of the illegal substance. It was found by a worker in a secure part of the hangar that is accessible by about 200 NASA employees and contractors.

NASA is drug testing and interviewing workers, as well as using drug-sniffing dogs.

Beutel says there is no problem with any of Discovery’s hardware or any indication that any employees were under the influence while working in the facility.

Discovery is being prepared for a mission in March.

Man freed after 23 years in prison

CHICAGO — A man who contends Chicago police set him up into confessing to a murder he did not commit walked out of a courtroom a free man Thursday after more than 21 years behind bars.

Assistant State’s Attorney Andrew Levine said prosecutors agreed to drop the charges against Michael Tillman after concluding that without the coerced confession there was not enough evidence to convict him.

“This is a process of severe intimidation and threats,” Allawi said. “It’s clear that they want to get rid of their opponents.”

A parliamentary committee tasked with vetting political candidates for ties to the former Baath party regime recommended last week to Iraq’s electoral commission that 14 political parties and one individual be barred from the vote because of alleged Baathist ties.

Among those named was prominent Sunni leader Saleh al-Mutlaq, a political ally of Allawi’s in the Iraqi National Movement, a coalition challenging Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki in the vote.

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Haiti
continued from page 1

The director of the orphanage, Msgr. Daniel, runs several hospitals and clinics in the slums of Haiti.

"We're helping with the poverty I saw there when it was 'normal,'" he said. "I can't even fathom the problems now with all the destruction," Daly said.

FOTO is working with the fundraising efforts of students, government and individuals to improve the conditions of the student contemporary bands and M.O.R.

"We're trying to raise as much money as possible for these people," he said. "When I was there, there were no resources. Now they have no way of getting those resources shipped in. There's going to be no way to get necessities of life to these people."
daly@nd.edu

Daly said gang violence, poor health care and large-scale unemployment plagued the country when he Shadows Frechette this summer. Now, those problems are magnified.

"It's going to be hell," he said.

When Daly worked in the Haitian hospitals, he said, the resources were scarce and people could not afford basic health care. Daly said a water truck would drive through the streets daily plowing a long street to that of an ice cream truck.

"Naked children would literally jump into the streets to try to get clean water," he said.

Daly said he is hoping to schedule the benefit concert to use the money for the relief effort in the next two weeks.

The University released a statement Wednesday assuring the Notre Dame community that faculty members who are working with the Notre Dame Haiti Program in the country are safe.

Faculty member Sarah Craig, program manager, Logan Anderson, assistant program manager, MarieDenise Milford, a post-doctoral student, and Fr. Thomas Streit, the program director, were in Haiti at the time.

A Notre Dame student part of the program s service program in Haiti is also safe, the release said.

The University's program in Haiti focuses on research and medical care for such illnesses as filariasis and elephantiasis, which are common in the area.

The program is based in Léogâne, about 30 kilometers west of the Port-au-Prince, and there is no information yet about the damage to the facilities.

The University is organizing a Mass and a relief fund. A steel drum band has not yet been released.

Contact Madeline Buckley at mbuckley@nd.edu

Crowley
continued from page 1

we take it so much for granted," she said.

Crowley talked about valuing life in his remarks, sharing vignettes from his soon-to-be-released memoir titled "Chasing Miracles: The Crowley Family Journey of Strength, Hope and Joy." That book, which he co-authored with Aileen. Crowley said.

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Contact Madeline Buckley at mbuckley@nd.edu

ND to sponsor events honoring MLK

Special to the Observer

Martin Luther King Jr. Day will officially be observed nationwide Monday, and Notre Dame will present a number of events to mark the occasion.

An ecumenical prayer service will be held Monday at 4 p.m. in the rotunda of the University's Main Building University President Fr. John Jenkins and Rev. Hugh B. Page, dean of the First Year of Studies and associate professor of theology and African studies, will offer prayers in memory of Dr. King. The Voices of Faith Gospel Choir will provide sacred music for the event, and a reception will follow.

The Martin Luther King Jr. Series, sponsored by Notre Dame's Office of Multicultural Student Programs and Services (MSPS), also will honor one of the nation's foremost civil rights leader with two events.

A weekend workshop for Notre Dame students, faculty and staff on "Crossroads Anti-Racism by Organizing and Training" will be held today from 6 to 9 p.m., Saturday from 8:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Sunday from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. in the Oak Room of South Dining Hall.

"While the workshop involves serious time commitment, it provides a great opportunity for understanding and analysis of institutionalized racisms in America, and to provide professional strategies for eliminating them," Tobias Blake, assistant director of MSPS, said. Blake said MSPS will waive the workshop registration fee for students, faculty and staff who wished to attend. Interested participants may sign up by contacting Blake at 574-631-8503 or tblake@nd.edu.

Tim Wise, activist and author of four books on racism, including most recently, "Between Barack and the Hard Place: Racism and White Denial in the Age of Obama," will give a lecture Jan. 26 (Tuesday) at 7:30 p.m. in the Carey Auditorium of the Hesburgh Library. Wise's lecture, which will draw on his book, is free and open to the public.

Contact Jenn Metz at jmets@nd.edu

Please recycle this paper.
MARKET RECAP

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IN BRIEF

World's cheapest car comes to U.S. DETROIT — The world's cheapest car is being readied for sale in the U.S., but by the time India's Tata Nano is retrofitted to meet emissions and safety standards, it won't be that cheap.

Tata Technologies Ltd., the global engineering arm of the Tata group conglomerate, brought the car to Detroit as a publicity stunt for the engineering group.

Opponents said the state should first try to get the money for cleanup from Chrysler during its bankruptcy proceedings.

Wisconsin plans to clean up Chrysler MASON, Wis. — Wisconsin lawmakers have approved plans to clean up pollution at the site of the Chrysler engine plant in Kenosha. Supporters said the plan could help transform the 100-acre site of the plant that is closing into a viable location for future economic development.

The plan calls for cleaning up a dozen areas on the site contaminated by leaking underground tanks that stored petroleum and other chemicals.

The Legislature's budget committee on Thursday voted 11-3 to authorize the Department of Natural Resources to work with the city of Kenosha to begin the cleanup. The plan relies on $1 million in federal stimulus funds.

In Brief

Wisconsin plans to clean up Chrysler

Gay marriage ban costs San Francisco

SAN FRANCISCO — A state ban on gay marriage is costing the city of San Francisco millions of dollars a year in lost revenues and increased services, an economist testified Thursday in a lawsuit aimed at overturning the prohibition.

Chief city economist Edmund Egan testified during the fourth day of a federal trial on a lawsuit challenging Proposition 8, the ballot measure approved by statewide voters in 2008.

Egan has a negative material impact on the city of San Francisco,” he said. “These are impacts that are hard to quantify, but over the long term they can be powerful.”

Egan acknowledged he could not quantify many of the potential revenue and savings benefits San Francisco would realize if same-sex couples could marry. The most solid estimate he cited was $2.6 million the city was losing in hotel and sales tax revenue every year from weddings that can’t take place.

Gay marriage ban costs San Francisco

Google threatens to leave China

SAN FRANCISCO — Google Inc. co-founders Sergey Brin and Larry Page have always said they put their principles before profit, but this week Google’s threat to leave China’s rapidly growing Internet market in defense of free speech and its users’ rights privacy is the latest true to their ideals.

The billionaires’ idealism underlies a potentially expensive decision. Google’s attempt this week: Google’s threat to leave China’s rapidly growing Internet market in defense of free speech and its users’ rights privacy.

It’s a bold move unlikely to be made without the explicit support of Page and Brin, given the possible fallout. Departing the world’s most populous country could slow Google’s earnings growth and weigh on its stock.

Although Google has thousands of shareholders in two classes of stock, giving Page and Brin veto power over everyone else, including the company’s chief executive, Eric Schmidt.

Google said this week’s China bombshell was the result of an “incredibly hard decision,” but the company declined to elaborate on the internal debate. Google declined requests to interview Page, Brin and Schmidt.

Brin and Page, both 36, pledged to strive to do the right thing in a manifesto that they distributed just a few months before Google took stock in the Nasdaq.

“You don’t be evil,” they wrote, referring to the theme that has become Google’s motto. “We believe strongly that in the long run, we will be better served — as shareholders and in all other ways — by a company that does good things for the world.”

Criticists contended Brin and Page broke that promise in 2006 when Google created Chinese version of its search engine, at Google.cn, to be in a better position to profit from China’s booming economy.

To gain the toehold, Google complied with the Chinese government’s demands for censorship of Internet search results about political dissent and other hot-button issues.

Human rights groups and even some Google shareholders have been urging Google to pull out of China for the past four years, only to have Schmidt diplomatically reject the idea. He has maintained that Google needs to be in China to protect its franchise as Chinese becomes the Internet’s predominant language — a transition that Schmidt thinks could occur within five years.

Brin, though, has never been completely comfortable with Google playing by the Chinese government’s rules.

In the last two years, Brin abstained from voting on shareholder proposals demanding that Google defy China’s censorship policies.

The symbolic act was designed to show he shared some of the concerns outlined in the measures, according to Brin.

Some of Brin’s misgivings can be traced to family’s own experience under Communism. He was born in Moscow in 1973. He and his family fled the Soviet Union when he was 6 years old, but he has said the oppressive policies of the government and the anti-Semitism directed at his family and other Russian Jews helped shape his thinking on political and social issues.

Page, born in Michigan, voted against the shareholder proposals that tried to get Google to change its ways in China.

But those votes occurred before Google became a target of computer attacks originating in China.

In a blog posting about the assault, Google said hackers broke into the e-mail accounts of human rights activists who challenge Communism. He the chairman led Google to conclude “we are no longer willing to continue censoring our results on google.cn.” That act of defiance might be the first step toward leaving the country completely.

Google co-founders Sergey Brin, left, and Larry Page, shown in September 2008 at Google Inc. headquarters in California, have always said they put their principles before profit.

Gay marriage ban costs San Francisco

Higher mental health costs have always said they put their principles before profit.
Scientists warned Haiti in 2008

Associated Press

INDIANAPOLIS — Scientists who detected worrisome signs of growing stresses in the fault that unleashed this week's devastating earthquake in Haiti said Thursday they warned officials there two years ago that their country was ripe for a major earthquake.

Their sobering findings, presented during a geological conference in March 2008 and at meetings two months later, showed that the fault was capable of causing a 7.2-magnitude earthquake — slightly stronger than Tuesday's 7.0 quake that rocked the impoverished country.

Though Haitian officials listened intently to the research, the nearly two years between the presentation and the devastating quake was not enough time for Haiti to have done much to prevent the massive destruction.

"It's too short of a timeframe to really do something, particularly for a country like Haiti, but even in a developed country it's very difficult to start very big projects in that sort of timeframe," said Eric Calais, a geophysicist at Purdue University, who presented findings on the major quake risk along the Enriquillo fault during the conference in the Dominican Republic, which shares the island of Hispaniola with Haiti. Their conclusions were based both on geologic work and Mann conducted along the same fault and recent findings by Calais.

Calais said Haiti had detected rising stresses along the fault using global positioning system measurements. The Enriquillo fault, which traverses southern Haiti's capital, Port-au-Prince, may not have been able to do something, particularly for a country like Haiti struggling with so many problems.

"We were taken very seriously but unfortunately it didn't translate into action," he said. "The reality is that it was too short of a timeframe to really do something, particularly for a country like Haiti struggling with so many problems."

Calais said Haiti has no seismic stations for monitoring quake activity, while adjoining Dominican Republic has a small seismic network.

Although the specific risks of the fault zone near Haiti's capital, Port-au-Prince, may not have been known until recent years, the region has a long history of major earthquakes, said Carol Prentice, a U.S. Geological Survey research geologist based in Menlo Park, Calif.

Those include earthquakes that destroyed Jamiaca's capital, Kingston, in 1692 and 1907, that also occurred along the Enriquillo fault, which extends hundreds of miles through the Dominican Republic, Haiti and Jamaica. She said Calais' GPS studies were the first along the fault to quantify the potential quake risk in the heavily populated Port-au-Prince area.

Prentice said she, Calais and Mann had sought U.S. government funding over the years for detailed excavations in southern Haiti to document evidence of past quakes in soil layers along the fault but that work has not yet been funded.

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U.S., U.N. officials hope for agreement

Associated Press

UNITED NATIONS — The nonbinding Copenhagen Accord is at a critical moment that will decide whether it becomes a major breakthrough in the fight against global warming or will fade away like previous failed attempts to tackle the world’s most pressing environmental problem.

The Copenhagen accord fell short on specific steps to cool the planet, but urged deeper reductions in emissions of carbon dioxide and other gases blamed for warming the globe. It also set a goal of limiting global warming to 2 degrees Celsius above preindustrial levels.

The world has already warmed a little more than 0.8 degrees Celsius. A $30 billion fund over the next three years, scaling up to about $100 billion a year by 2020, was agreed to help poorer countries adapt to and cope with the impacts of climate change.

"The best way to make this agreement meaningful is for countries to make very specific actions that they're going to take to mitigate, to reduce their emissions," said Paul Mann, a senior scientist with the University of Texas' Institute for Geophysics.

"It's too short of a timeframe to really do something, particularly for a country like Haiti, but even in a developed country it's very difficult to start very big projects in that sort of timeframe," said Eric Calais, a geophysicist at Purdue University, who presented findings on the major quake risk along the Enriquillo fault during the conference in the Dominican Republic, which shares the island of Hispaniola with Haiti.

The conclusion was that the Enriquillo fault, which traverses southern Haiti's capital, Port-au-Prince, may not have been able to do something, particularly for a country like Haiti struggling with so many problems.

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Taliban chief believed alive after U.S. strike

Associated Press

ISLAMABAD — The leader of the Taliban in Pakistan, Taliban was apparently targeted in a U.S. missile strike on a meeting of militant commanders close to the Afghan border Thursday, but escaped unharmed, Pakistani officials and militants said.

The death of Hakimullah Mehsud, a major leader and governmen targets.

The U.S. strike was the eighth such attack in two weeks in Pakistan's North Waziristan tribal region, an unprecedented volley of drone attacks since the CIA-led program began in earnest two years ago. The surge signals President Barack Obama's Administration's reliance on the tactic despite official protest from Islamabad.

One or more unmanned U.S. spy planes fired at least two missiles into a large complex that had been used as a religious school in the past. The school was forced to close the border with South Waziristan soon after dawn broke, Pakistani intelligence officials said.

The school was attended by two foreigners, while at least eight others were wounded, said the officials, who spoke on condition of anonymity because they are not authorized to speak to the media on the record.

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Young men dig through debris as they attempt to recover bodies buried underneath a collapsed church after the earthquake in Port-au-Prince, Haiti Thursday.
Ariz. may close state parks

Associated Press

PHOENIX — Arizona is on the verge of permanently closing more than half of its state parks to ease its budget woes — the most drastic such proposal in the nation and one that could mean shutting down some iconic Old West locations.

The plan would close the Tombstone Courthouse and the Yuma Territorial Prison, and shut down parks that draw tens of thousands of tourists a year such as Red Rock State Park in Sedona.

“We don’t have a choice. It’s either shut them all down right now or shut them down in phases, and we’re picking the ones that cost the state money,” said Reese Woodding, head of the Arizona Parks Board, which plans on Friday to take up a staff recommendation to close 13 parks by June 3. State officials closed five parks last year.

If the additional closures are approved, two-thirds of the state parks in Arizona will be shut down.

Arizona is not the only place where lawmakers are targeting parks, but it is taking the most aggressive action, said Phil Murtz, executive director of the National Association of State Parks Directors.

California Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger last year proposed closing 220 of California’s 279 parks in the face of a multi-billion-dollar deficit. But the governor backed off four months later after protests from park activists.

Schwarzenegger returned to the issue this month by proposing to expand oil drilling off the Santa Barbara coast to provide $40 million in state park funds. Officials in Louisiana, Iowa and Idaho have said they may close all or parts of state parks in response to budget problems. Other states have transferred parks to local control.

Idaho Gov. C.L. “Butch” Otter hopes to disband the state parks agency, saving $10 million by selling the headquarters building and moving management of 30 state parks to other agencies. Opponents have raised potential legal issues, but Otter’s office hopes to find a way around them.

In Arizona, cities are fretting about losing the tourists who visited because of the state parks. Some communities are trying to find ways to run the parks themselves, but they too have money problems.

Arizona lawmakers cut parks and other expenses last year as they tried to fill a nearly 30 percent gap between revenues and spending in a $10.7 billion budget. The budget year that begins on July 1 has similar gaps.

Since last July, the Legislature has cut 61 percent of the parks department’s $193.9 million budget, including taking revenue from entry, tour and event fees, as well as camping permits and cabin rentals. The agency now needs cash to replenish the drained account so it can continue operating in the next fiscal year.

Doing so requires closing most of the unprofitable parks, officials said.

With that threat looming, some rural communities are digging deeper into their already tight budgets. Governments in Payson and Camp Verde contributed money to help cover operational costs at Tonto Natural Bridge and Fort Verde state parks.

But those parks are again on the proposed closure list, and city officials have told parks administrators that they want to find new ways to keep them open.

John McReynolds hopes they’re successful. He estimates he gets about five Fort Verde visitors on an average day at Babe’s Round-Up, the restaurant he owns in nearby Camp Verde. It doesn’t sound like much, he says, but “in this economy, one person is a lot.”

Visitors to Fort Verde spent nearly $1.7 million on food, lodging and other services in the fiscal year that ended June 30, 2007, according to a report last year by the Arizona Hospitality Research & Resource Center at Northern Arizona University. The report also found that parks around the state generated $163 million in direct spending.

Other communities are finding partners to put up money and share some of the operating costs. When the Parks Board voted to close Yuma Quartermaster Depot last year, the city of Yuma worked out an agreement that moves the city’s visitors center to the park.

Charles Flynn of the Yuma Crossing National Heritage Area hopes to make another deal that would keep open the historic prison, which housed hundreds of Old West outlaws and was portrayed in the film “3:10 to Yuma.”

The proposal before the Parks Board spares some of the system’s most popular and profitable parks, including Kartchner Caverns, Slide Rock and Lake Havasu. Parks officials hope the profitable parks can quickly replenish the raided funds and allow them to reopen other parks.

Ohio pediatrician gets 13 years in abuse case

Associated Press

HAMPTON, Ohio — A pediatrician who faces charges against former patients pleaded guilty Thursday to two counts of unlawful sexual contact with a minor and was sentenced to 13 years in prison.

Scott Blankenburg, 54, also pleaded guilty to compelling prostitution, alleging he was a member of a minor in a nudity-oriented material or performance, pandering sexually oriented material involving a minor, and complicity to deception to obtain a dangerous drug and two counts of bribery.

He agreed to the 13-year term in a plea deal made with Butler County prosecutors in exchange for his pleas. The only guilty plea involving one of the doctor’s former patients was one count of bribery.

He will begin serving the sentence Feb. 15. He also must pay a $7,500 fine and agree to pay $27,500 fine levied against his twin brother in a similar case.

The brother, Mark Blankenburg, a fellow pediatrician, was sentenced in 2003 to 21 to 27 years in prison for sex crimes involving former patients, money laundering and theft charges.

Scott Blankenburg, who lived in Hamilton with his brother, had offices in nearby Fairfield while his brother mostly practiced in Hamilton. They were indicted in March.

Scott Blankenburg remained calm and composed throughout the hearing. His sister was in the courtroom and could be seen crying as he was entering his pleas.

“This is the best option,” he said.

Authorities say the unlawful sexual conduct involved a 15-year-old boy, now in his 20s, who came forward after the original indictments were filed.

Blankenburg performed sex acts on the teen between 2002 and 2003 and bragged about it to other patients, authorities said.

Defense attorney Greg Howard said the plea agreement seemed the best conclusion to the case.

“Today concludes a two-and-a-half-year investigation and prosecution of two doctors who preyed on innocent victims and teenage boys,” he said.

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“Today concludes a two-and-a-half-year investigation and prosecution of two doctors who preyed on innocent victims and teenage boys,” he said.
The Observer apologizes for offensive comic

The editors of The Observer would like to publicly apologize for the publication of “The Mobile Party” in the Jan. 13 edition. The burden of responsibility ultimately lies on us for allowing it to go to print.

There is no excuse that can be given and nothing that can be said to reverse the damage that has already been done by this egregious error in judgment. The Observer, though an independent newspaper, is representative of the community of the University of Notre Dame and the values it so cherishes: family, understanding, respect, and love.

Allowing this cruel and hateful comic a place on our pages disgraced those values and severely hurt members of our Notre Dame family — our classmates, our friends. For this, we sincerely apologize.

Unfortunately, the language of hate is an everyday reality in our society. Earlier this week, surprising comments made by Sen. Harry Reid about President Barack Obama’s accent and skin color were made public and caused uproar. Now, at Notre Dame, a comic strip including hurtful language was printed in this publication, also causing — and rightly so — serious concern. It becomes clear that hurtful language is still present among some circles, and, too often, it’s not until comments like these become public that their true hatred is acknowledged.

The truth is, these comments should not be made at all, and we will not allow our pages to be a forum for such hatred. Publishing commentary that seems to encourage or support hate against fellow human beings is inexcusable. We must, however move forward, and look to promote instead a culture of acceptance and support for all.

The Office of Student Affairs and the Gender Relations Office at Notre Dame and Saint Mary’s College in a way that is respectful of the community of the University of Notre Dame and Saint Mary’s community with the dignity it deserves.

We would like to thank all of those who have called, e-mailed, written and visited our offices this week in outrage.

The content of “The Mobile Party” is in no way representative of the views and opinions of The Observer or the Editorial Board. We hope that as we work together to address this serious issue, we will be able to regain your trust.

We vow to continue to represent the University of Notre Dame and Saint Mary’s College in a way that is respectful and accepting of each member of our community.

We want to apologize for the offensive, distasteful and completely humorless joke that was made and acknowledge the grave error in its production. We cannot begin to express how apologetic we are for everyone who has been hurt by our comic and its implied message.

We do, however, believe that something positive can come from this ugly mistake and hope that we, as members of the Notre Dame community, can take this as an opportunity to readdress the complex issues surrounding homosexuality and its treatment on our campus. Intolerance of homosexuality is a major problem on Notre Dame’s campus. We tried to address it in our comics — using the tool characters to emphasize our mindset that we simply find ridiculous. In our last comic, we had the human character, our voice of reason, not understand the joke because of its absurd nature. Reasons, however, are not excuses. We consistently try to write comics that rely on shock value and now that we have gone too far, we realize that we have abused the privilege and responsibility of contributing to The Observer, and therefore, the Notre Dame community as a whole. This is not a joke that should have been made — either in private or public. Poking fun at someone’s identity in such a discriminatory manner is not funny. We wholeheartedly apologize for our comic and are aware of and truly sorry for the hurt that it has caused.

Colin Hofman, Lauren Rosemeier and Jay Wade
I'm not a big fan of mission statements. They usually either just state something that everyone already knew or are so meandering and vague they couldn’t possibly guide anything. But a good one can actually be kind of useful, something about our outcomes of our work. In the case of Saint Mary’s, one of the most important outputs is the character of our students — and our mission statement says so: “The University seeks to cultivate in its students not only an appreciation for the great achievements of human beings, but also a disciplined sensitivity to the poverty, injustice, and oppression that burden the lives of so many. The aim is to create a sense of human solidarity and concern for the common good that will bear fruit as students stand for human dignity.”

Note especially the phrases “a disciplined sensitivity to the poverty, injustice and oppression” and “a sense of human solidarity and concern for the common good.” If students walk away from Notre Dame without these, we have failed. These failures should both sadden us and strengthen us, make us strive for a better outcome, especially when confronted with the language of the lawyers.

Case in point: Wednesday’s comic “The Mobile Party.” In case you missed it, the comic posed the question “What is the easiest way to turn a fruit into a vegetable?” And answers, “A baseball bat.” The strip was pulled from the blog as well (themobileparty.blogspot.com). Can the authors (students here at our beloved university) explain how this comic is an example of the expression of a disciplined sensibility to injustice and oppression, or reflecting human solidarity, or concern for the common good?

What’s worse is that the blog also posts a version of “AIDS,” “AIDS.” Again, solidarity? Concern for the common good? The post also includes a gmail chat in which the Observer staffer rejects the AIDS version because they “prefer not to make light of a fatal disease.” They don’t seem to realize that to literally kill another human being with a baseball bat is not a joke, but a treatment from the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops in its pastoral letter “Always Our Children, the Catholic Church teaches that, “Nothing in the Bible or in Catholic teaching can be used to justify prejudicial or discriminatory attitudes or laws.” We call on people of all faiths and citizens of good will to confront our own fears about homosexuality and to curb the hate and discrimination that offend homosexual persons” (emphasis my own). Further, Jesus preached a gospel of tolerance and acceptance. Our Christian faith can be summarized in a single word: love. The issue of your personal beliefs regarding homosexuality, you are called to talk to your gay and lesbian brothers and sisters as children of God. Calling something a “comic” when it suggests beating a homosexual into a permanent vegetative state with a baseball bat is a far cry from Jesus’ radical call to love.

It may be a joke to you, but to members of the LGBTQ (lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer) community, it is a constant reality that there are people out there who would harm us for who and what we are. Something like this would never be allowed to be published if it was about women. What would you do if it happened to you and you were a women? We have a different standard for different? Advocating violence toward a group of people and passing it off as a joke demeans the inherent dignity of all people created in the Divine loving image of God.

To Colin Hofman, Jay Wade, Lauren Rosemeyer and Jenn Metz, Editor-in-Chief

I am writing on behalf of the Saint Mary’s Straight and Gay Alliance and all students who support human dignity. Your comic strip from Jan. 13 was offensive for two very serious reasons. It encourages violence and is about to support Notre Dame and Saint Mary’s family members and it shows a complete lack of knowledge or understanding of Catholic teaching on the issue of homosexuality.

Whether or not you realize it, when you write such a comic, or in the case of the editor, allow it to be printed, you are responsible for the message it carries and speech. However, when expressing someone’s fears about homosexuality and to curb the hate and discrimination that offend homosexual persons. Fr. Daniel Myers is a professor of Sociology at the University of Notre Dame. The views expressed in this column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer.

FINDING THE GOOD IN FINALS

Oh, syllabus week. It’s an indescribable fact of life at this school, each of the class is, the best week of your studies. Labs are canceled, no one really learns anything, the idea of homework is laughable and teachers mostly just go through the motions. Coursework is a collection of quizzes, set to a timer. Sporcle is full of questions, some have to do with sports and some can’t be classified into any particular category (like words that begin and end with the letter T). There is something for, literally, everyone to do.

The reason I like Sporcle so much is that I actually feel like I am doing something productive with my brain while I am procrastinating, rather than letting it rot by watching Youtube videos. If you like reminiscing about old movies, songs or TV shows, Sporcle is full of quizzes that will test your memory and keep you hooked for hours at a time. There is a head start, for instance, if you involving typing on your computer, so it looks like you are typing a paper to anyone who can look over your shoulder. So when you go back and brag about how you spent eight straight hours at the library, you have on your conscience that you were doing work the very kind. Of Andy Ziccarelli is a junior majoring in Civil Engineering. He can be reached at aziccare@nd.edu

The views expressed in this column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer.
They’re creepy and their kooky, mysterious and spooky, they’re all together ooky, the Addams Family! And so goes for the new Broadway-bound musical, which just finished its preview run in Chicago, based on the infamous kooky, spooky and ooky family first created in comic strips by Charles Addams. “The Addams Family,” with music and lyrics by Andrew Lippa (“The Wild Party”) and a book by Marshall Brickman and Rick Elice (“Jersey Boys”), takes those original cartoon characters to craft a new story about Gomez, Morticia, Uncle Fester and the rest of the gang. Anjelica Huston (star of the 1990s films) and John Astin (Gomez in the original television series) are long gone, but have been fondly replaced with a group of seasoned Broadway veterans and a few promising newcomers.

Nathan Lane, star of both the Broadway musical and the film “The Producers,” stars as Gomez Addams, the tango-loving patriarch of the family, while Bebe Neuwirth (“Fame,” “Cheers”) plays Morticia, the sultry first lady of the Addams clan, who feels she has lost her edge with the onset of wrinkles. When their daughter Wednesday, played by Krysta Rodriguez (“Spring Awakening”), invites her boyfriend, Lucas Beineke (Wesley Taylor), over for dinner, shenanigans ensue. Unlike the bizarre Addams family, the Beinekes, including father Mal (Terrence Mann of “Les Miserables”) and mother Alice (Carolee Carmello of “Urinetown”), are just too normal. And while the love-struck Uncle Fester (Kevin Chamberlin of “Seussical”) just wants to spread the love, scheming little brother Pugsley (Adam Riegler of “Shrek”) gets into some trouble with a mysterious potion, and the dinner party goes awry.

“The Addams Family” starts off a little slow and really doesn’t seem to click. But, after a few more scenes and a bit more time for the actors to get into character, the show finally hits its stride when the whole Addams family appears on stage and snaps along to the memorable television theme song. You know the one. The infectious snaps signal the start of something awe-inspiring, riddled with innuendos, connotations and cultural references (such as “This little piggy had swine flu”), plus some great music and a few funny twists and turns.

The story is unexpected, perhaps a little too upbeat for typical “Addams Family” fare, but is lead by such an exciting cast of characters, that the change seems just right. Lane’s comedic timing is perfect, as always, and he plays Gomez with a little less swagger, but a lot more wit than his predecessors. And while Neuwirth’s voice sounds a bit odd as Morticia, she plays the character with enough conviction that you can’t take your eyes off her. Their chemistry is palpable and their scenes together are some of the best.

The supporting characters are great as well. Mann and Carmello channel Brad and Janet from “The Rocky Horror Picture Show” and never fail to surprise and impress the audience. Chamberlin makes a great Fester, really standing as the centerpiece to the whole show. Rodriguez proves to be a talented young performer and certainly has a big career ahead of her.

A testament to the potential that this show has to be a big Broadway hit, the chorus numbers are just as infectious and entertaining as the songs centered solely on the family. The overall ensemble atmosphere is excellent. What’s more, the set might be the most staggering part of the show. It’s beautifully crafted and the special effects are stunning and seem hardly possible.

While admittedly flawed, “The Addams Family” is a truly entertaining musical that keeps the audience in stitches without sacrificing emotion or poignancy. There are plenty of flukes to be cleaned up before the show hits Broadway in April, but, mostly in part to a truly great ensemble, it has the potential to take Broadway by storm. However, only time will tell if it can hold its own and please the crowds on the Great White Way.

“The Addams Family”

Creators: Marshall Brickman & Rick Elice
Starring: Nathan Lane, Bebe Neuwirth, Krysta Rodriguez, Kevin Chamberlin

By MAIJA GUSTIN
Assistant Scene Editor

THE NEW YEAR’S RESOLUTION PLAYLIST

by Adriana Pratt

1. “Alejandro” – Lady Gaga
2. “Be Italian” – Fergie
3. “Babylon” – David Gray
4. “Give It Up To Me” – Shakira (feat. Lil Wayne)
5. “Sex on Fire” – Kings of Leon
6. “Mr. Brightside” – The Killers
7. “Haven’t Met You Yet” – Michael Buble
9. “Hey Soul Sister” – Train
10. “Escape” – Enrique Iglesias
11. “Faded” – SoulDecision
13. “Mr. Jones” – Counting Crows
14. “Please Forgive Me” – David Gray
15. “Party in the USA” – Miley Cyrus

The New Year is still new and at this point, so are the promises to make a new you! At hand is a fabulous playlist that promises a feel-good vibe and a mix of rhythms to keep your heart pumping as you run those tedious miles, study those extra hours or sit on the couch and twiddle your thumbs instead. Some might roll their eyes at the song selection, but with one listen the eye-rolls will end and those broken New Year’s promises will begin to mend!
The Observer

Friday, January 15, 2010

page 13

By CAITLIN FERRARO
Assistant Scene Editor

DETERMINED DAD DEFIES ODDS IN 'EXTRAORDINARY MEASURES'

When explaining it to his children, to prevent the potentially fatal enlargement of their organs. And Crowley truly does give this extraordinary length. Fraser, who tends to play ridiculous, goofy characters, instead succeeds at the serious role of the determined father who will literally stop at nothing to save his children's lives.

When his daughter Megan (Meredith Droegner) nearly dies, Crowley suddenly decides to give up his hard-earned and successful career to do everything he can to save his children. He seeks out Dr. Stonehill, a difficult scientist who has never actually created a drug, only theories, but his research is far more advanced than anyone else in the field. Crowley must be quite persuasive in order to convince Dr. Stonehill to work with him, but they quickly form a formidable duo.

The two men must work together to overcome many different obstacles that take shape in the form of staggering costs, powerful pharmaceutical companies and their difficult executives. But the largest hurdle of all is the race against time since the life expectancy for children with Pompe Disease is 9 years. When the film starts, Megan has just had her 8th birthday.

The film is being promoted as similar to other inspirational dramas like “Erin Brockovich” and “The Pursuit of Happyness,” but unfortunately it does not quite live up to those films. While the story is an incredible one that is indeed inspiring, it can also be a bit over the top at times. The dialogue brings a few laughs, but almost every other moment is filled with high drama. This is understandable, since the film centers on a life or death situation, but it can be daunting to the viewer. Luckily, due to the quality of acting of the three stars and the adorable child actors, the film is safe from being just another Hallmark movie.

“Extraordinary Measures” is a well-produced film that displays the astonishing determination and perseverance of not only the characters of Crowley and Dr. Stonehill, but also all families and children affected by Pompe Disease. If you can appreciate the absolute dedication of a father who wants to save his children, then this film is for you.

“Extraordinary Measures”

Director: Tom Vaughan
Starring: Brendan Fraser, Harrison Ford, Keri Russell

Contact Caitlin Ferraro at cferrar1@nd.edu

By CAITLIN FERRARO
Assistant Scene Editor

Saturday night at 10 p.m. at Legends, singer/songwriter Tyler Hilton will perform an hour-long acoustic set. You may recognize Hilton from his recurring role on “One Tree Hill,” the small part of Elvis in “Walk the Line,” or even as Taylor Swift’s love interest Drew in the music video “Teardrops on my Guitar.” But Hilton ought to be best known for his husky voice and memorable lyrics. His musical style is difficult to label, but has sometimes been called indie pop/rock with folk influences.

Hilton’s latest record, “The Way I Was,” released in 2004, which includes his Top 40 singles “When It Comes,” and “How Love Should Be.” After its debut, his fans began posting clips online of themselves performing his songs, subsequently creating an online fan base via YouTube and Myspace. Hilton encourages this online community by posting his own videos of new songs, random adventures on the road, and even a silly cooking show. Further, Hilton updates his fans by blogging a blog on his website.

The 26-year-old California native has accomplished much in his career thus far. Besides his 2004 record, Hilton previously released an independent, self-titled album. In addition to his venture into acting, AOL, VH1 and MTV have recognized Hilton as an up-and-coming artist. He has performed many times on TRL, and even “The Tonight Show with Jay Leno.” Furthermore, he has starred on his own show and with the likes of Michelle Branch, Nelly Furtado, the Goo Goo Dolls and Rooney. Both his covers and original songs have been featured on all three “One Tree Hill” soundtracks. Hilton, who began writing songs at age 14, has come a long way from his days in coffee shops and open mic nights, but he continues to aspire for more. He spent most of 2009 writing and recording songs in Nashville for a new album. Last year he also released an EP entitled “Better on Beachwood” featuring three new songs.

Hilton also has his own charity, “TH Books for Kids” in which books are donated to children in need. In the past, Hilton has performed charity concerts to fundraise and garner support for the organization.

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Be sure to get to Legends on Saturday night in order to rock out and hear old favorites as well as enjoy new songs. Admission is free; simply bring your student ID.

Contact Caitlin Ferraro at cferrar1@nd.edu
NHL

Toskala makes 38 saves in shutout victory

Senators take down Rangers in final minutes; Sabres win in overtime; Stars struggle to get on the board

Associated Press

TORONTO — Vesa Toskala made 38 saves for his first shutout since October 2008, Tyler Brodeur scored his first NHL goal and the Toronto Maple Leafs beat the Philadelphia Flyers 4-0 on Thursday night.

Toskala, in his fifth NHL season, made his 25th start of the season and his first shutout of the year. Toskala, who has given up seven goals in six losses, leaped in a hug of Michael Leighton high to the glove side.

The Flyers lost for just the third time in 11 games.

Bozak opened the scoring at 8:44 of the second period. The 21-year-old forward, who was in the lineup in place of the injured Luke Schenn, fired a shot off the post behind Owen Nolan for his first NHL goal.

The Senators got the jump on the Rangers in the opening minute of the second period, when he stretched his arm across the start, but couldn’t solve Brodeur the hand.

Although it was disallowed, Brodeur put a puck in the net — AHL callup Jay Rosehill even Toronto had more energy than saying. “We’ve got to get back on a vote of confidence in the team, giving coach Ron Wilson questions about his struggling defense.”

Ilya Kovalchuk scored his 27th goal for Atlanta, which has dropped six of its last seven games overall. Dallas has dropped six of its last seven games overall. Cammalleri scored the Stars’ second goal of the game with 1:12 left in the third to make it a two-goalie shutout.

Larque scored 2:51 into the second to tie it at 2. Larque, who had four points in his previous 62 games, put his own rebound past Turco from in close since March 28, 2008, when he scored for Philadelphia in a 3-1 win over the New York Islanders.

Pouliot put Montreal ahead 2-1 with an unassisted goal at 6:47 of the third period, taking advantage of a fortuitous bounce after an errant shot by teammate Toni Lydman.

The Buffalo defensemen missed the net with a shot from the point, but the puck ricocheted off the boards and straight to Kaleta standing on the opposite side of the crease. As Pavelcik scrambled to get back into position, Kaleta flipped a perfectly placed shot just under the crossbar for his seventh goal.

The Thrashers, after failing to convert on their first five power plays, finally took advantage when they were a man-up the sixth time. Slava Kozlov guided the power play from the center of the ice, just past the left point, and the Atlanta star had time to settle it on his stick, move inside the faceoff circle and flip one for Miller’s glove.

The Buffalo goalie had made 23 saves in the Stars’ first appearance in Montreal since Jan. 16, 2006. Dallas has won 15 of its last seven games overall.

Cammalleri scored the go-ahead goal for the second straight game with 16:43 left in the third to make it a two-goal lead.

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In Brief

**Giants hire PerryFewell as defensive coordinator**

**East Rutherford, N.J. —** Buffalo Bills interim coach Perry Fewell has been hired as the New York Giants’ defensive coordinator.

Coach Tom Coughlin announced the move late Thursday evening after Fewell spent the past few days weighing offers from the Giants and the Chicago Bears.

Fewell also interviewed for the vacant Bills coaching job but he has said for a while that he felt he was a long shot for that position.

Giants rookie defensive coordinator Bill Sheridan was fired the day after the regular season ended. The Giants gave up more than 40 points in each of their last two games and 427 points for the season, ranking third from the bottom in the NFL.

Only the Detroit Lions and St. Louis Rams gave up more.

Fewell and Coughlin have known each other for years.

**Garcon makes contact with family in Haiti**

**Indianapolis —** Indianapolis Colts receiver Pierre Garcon was contacted by some family members in Haiti and received some good news.

U.S. national soccer team member Jermaine Jones was not so fortunate and planning to travel to Haiti to search for his relatives.

And two days after the island nation was devastated by an earthquake, donations to help relief efforts were flowing from around the world.

Garcon said Thursday he got calls earlier in the day from relatives, who let him know they had suffered the earthquake that devastated Haiti two days earlier.

Garcon said his mother received a call from a relative on Wednesday night.

“I heard from some family, got some good information,” he said.

“We’re still looking for the rest of them.”

**Mets upset with Carlos Beltran knee surgery**

**New York —** The New York Mets are upset Carlos Beltran had knee surgery this week after the team reconvened for practice two days later. There have been conflicting published accounts as to whether Crintettion had a gun and whether he drew it on Arenas.

**Arenas’ lawyer, Crintettion’s lawyer and the NBA had no immedi- ate comment on the crimi- nal charge. Arenas has previously said he did nothing wrong, and his agent, Mark Bartelstein, said his client was there during the apartment search.**

“It went as smooth as it could have gone,” Bartelstein said.

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**USCHO/CBS Division I Men’s Hockey Rankings**

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**NCAA Division I Women’s Ice Hockey Rankings**

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**USA Today Division I Wrestling Poll**

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**Around the Nation**

**Wizards guard Gilbert Arenas charged with felony gun possession in response to a Dec. 21 incident involving teammate Javaris Crittenton. Crittenton was not charged for the incident.**

**Associated Press**

**Washington —** Gilbert Arenas has a court date and an apparent plea deal is in place, signaling a possible quick resolution to at least one side of a guns-in-the-locker-room confrontation that stained the NBA and jeopardized the career of the three-time All-Star.

Arenas was charged Thursday with felony gun possession — one count of carrying a pistol without a license — a crime that carries a maximum penalty of five years in prison. The charges were filed in D.C. Superior Court in an “information,” a document that indicates a plea bargain has been reached.

The charge came directly from prosecutors and not in the form of an indictment — even though a Maryland grand jury has been investigating — and Arenas was listed on the docket for a court appearance Friday afternoon.

Arenas has acknowledged storing four unloaded guns in his locker at the Verizon Center, saying he wanted to keep them away from his young children and didn’t know it was a violation of the city’s strict gun laws. He says he took them out of the locker Dec. 21 in a “misguided effort to play a joke” on a teammate.

The criminal charge came on the same day that the teammate, Javaris Crittenton, had his southern Virginia apartment searched by police looking for a silver- or chrome-colored semiauto- matic handgun with a black handle. The search warrant indicated police were investigating crimes that include brandishing a weapon. No evidence was seized, according to court documents, and Crittenton has not been charged.

Two league officials have said a spat between Arenas and Crittenton began Dec. 19 while players were playing cards and gambling on the team plane during a flight home from a West Coast road trip. Their dispute became heated when the team reconvened for practice two days later. There have been conflicting published accounts as to whether Crittenton had a gun and whether he drew it on Arenas.

“Unfortunately we were never afford- ed the opportunity to do that.”

**In Brief**

**Rams gave up more.**

Only the Detroit Lions and St. Louis Rams gave up more than 40 points after the regular season ended. The Rams have said for a while that they felt they were a long shot for that position.

**Giants hire Perry Fewell as defensive coordinator.**

East Rutherford, N.J. — Buffalo Bills interim coach Perry Fewell has been hired as the New York Giants’ defensive coordinator.

Coach Tom Coughlin announced the move late Thursday evening after Fewell spent the past few days weighing offers from the Giants and the Chicago Bears.

Fewell also interviewed for the vacant Bills coaching job but he has said for a while that he felt he was a long shot for that position.

**Garcon makes contact with family in Haiti.**

Indianapolis — Indianapolis Colts receiver Pierre Garcon was contacted by some family members in Haiti and received some good news.

U.S. national soccer team member Jermaine Jones was not so fortunate and planning to travel to Haiti to search for his relatives.

**Mets upset with Carlos Beltran knee surgery.**

New York — The New York Mets are upset Carlos Beltran had knee surgery this week after the team reconvened for practice two days later. There have been conflicting published accounts as to whether Crintettion had a gun and whether he drew it on Arenas.

“Arenas’ lawyer, Crintettion’s lawyer and the NBA had no immedi- ate comment on the crimi- nal charge. Arenas has previously said he did nothing wrong, and his agent, Mark Bartelstein, said his client was there during the apartment search.**

“It went as smooth as it could have gone,” Bartelstein said.

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**NBA**

**Wizards’ Arenas charged with felony gun possession for Dec. 21 incident.**

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“It went as smooth as it could have gone,” Bartelstein said.
Associated Press

Skip Holtz to coach at USF

TAMPA, Fla. — Skip Holtz is the new football coach at South Florida, taking over a program recovering from a scandal that led to the firing of Jim Leavitt.

The 45-year-old Holtz led East Carolina to the past two Conference USA champi-

onshp titles but inconsistent team that’s tanted the national limelight while also under scrutiny after a goal of winning the Big East.

Holtz informed his old team of his decision during a meet-

ing with players Thursday in Greenville, N.C. USF will introduce him as the second coach in the Bulls’ 13-year history on Friday.

AOL Fanhouse was first to report the hiring.

The hiring was a natural annual fixture on the list of top candidates for coaching vacancies. He flirted with Cincinnati and Syracuse in recent years, but insisted he waited to leave the program he rebuilt from its miserable state earlier this decade.

East Carolina had lost 22 of 25 games — 19 by double-digit margins — and was picked by at least 32 points — when he arrived after the 2007 season. The Pirates steadily rose from there, reaching a bowl game in his second season and winning one the following year. The consecutive league titles were the first conference crowns for the program since 1976, sending it to the Liberty Bowl each time. East Carolina was an independence from 1977-96 before joining C-USA.

South Florida has been one of the nation’s fastest-rising programs over the past decade. Leavitt was hired in December 1995, launched the Bulls from scratch into the Top 25 and the program had reached a bowl game before tumbling out of the Top 25.

Fast starts the past two seasons, carrying the Bulls into the Top 25, also were followed by mid-season swoons that undermined bids for Big East titles.

Leavitt, who just completed the second season of a seven-year, $12.6 million contract, was dismissed following a three-week investigation into an accusation that he grabbed sophomore walk-on Joel Miller and struck him during half-

time of a game against Louisville on Nov. 21.

Although Leavitt told investigators he didn’t strike Miller and was only trying to moti-

vate the players when he grabbed Miller’s shoulder pads, the school concluded the coach’s account was not credi-

ble.

Miller, who also told investiga-

tors Leavitt did not hit him, said during a news conference Thursday that he attempted to cover up what happened because he feared it would cause the team to lose the season and also cost Leavitt his job.

The player and his attorney called for a public apology, saying they may consider filing a lawsuit if he doesn’t admit wrongdoing.

“We don’t want to play hard ball,” attorney Barry Cohen said. “We can, and we will, to protect the dignity of this young man.”

The athletic director Doug Woolard contacted Holtz last weekend and met with him Tuesday while Holtz was in Orlando for the American Football Coaches Association convention.

Holtz said at the time the South Florida opening was appealing for several reasons, including an opportunity to work in a BCS conference.

Robert Turken said, “If you have a right to give a license, you have a right to give a license. If you have a right to give a license, you have a right to give a license.” Turken said.

Marra said he would rule on the request to dismiss the case, “as soon as possible” but didn’t specify when.

Bruce Fein, attorney for the former partners, said Wade’s decision to abandon the project triggered the antitrust violation because it removed a competitor in the memorabilia business.

D. Wade’s Place was envisioned as a national chain of upscale sports restaurants that would sell Wade items at its locations and on the Internet. Only two Florida locations opened and they quickly closed.

Wade’s contract gave the venturers rights to use his name and like-

ness forever, Fein said.

Wade ranks fifth in the NBA with a scoring average of 27 points per game, and he has lucrative deals with Nike’s Jordan Brand, T-Mobile and Gatorade.

NCAA FOOTBALL

Titan’s Johnson the top choice for All-Pro team

NEW YORK — Chris Johnson didn’t think he’d win the Associated Press Player of the Year award Wednesday. “Because I feel like if you put a season out there, out of those dudes who got votes or the dude who won votes, they had a better season than I had,” he broke down in tears.

For setting the league mark for yardage last season and putting together the second highest rushing total in NFC history, Johnson got all 40 votes from a nationwide panel of sportswriters. One player. San Francisco inside line-

backer Patrick Willis came close, with 49. The runner-up was Green Bay, the Defensive Player of the Year, and Darrelle Revis of the New York Jets each got 48, as did Oakland punter Shane Lechler.

I just think Patrick is a very unique guy,” said Duke Singletary said. “He’s a guy who’s always going to be around the ball. He has the instincts. He has the speed. He can be wherever he wants to be.”

He’s on the All-Pro team for the second time in his three pro sea-

sons. The other inside linebacker, Baltimore’s Ray Lewis, made it for the seventh time.

Other All-Pros include Manning, chosen for the fifth time, as were Minnesota guard Steve Hutchinson and Viking defensive tackle Kevin Williams, and Lechler.

The Vikings had the most play-

ers on the team with four — run-

ning back Adrian Peterson and defensive end Jared Allen also made it. Next was Indianapolis with three: Manning, tight end Dallas Clark, and DE Dwight Freeney.

New Orleans guard Jahri Evans and safety Darren Sharper, Dallas (outside linebacker DeMarcus Ware and defensive end Jay Ratliff), the Jets (Revis and center Nick Mangold), Denver (tackle Ryan Clady and defensive end Elvis Dumervil) and Cleveland (tackle Tommie Harris and kick returner Joshua Grbivin) had two players.

To be selected for the All-Pro team is really overwhelming to me,” Johnson said. “There are so many great tackles playing right now. To be recognized among them is truly a blessing. I would like to thank my teammates and coaches for this honor.”

In all, there were 15 AFC players and 12 from the NFC selected.

NBA

Wade working to have lawsuit dismissed

Associated Press

WEST PALM BEACH, Florida — An antitrust lawsuit against Dwyane Wade should be dis-

missed because the NBA star has the right to control licensing of his name and image, Wade’s attorneys told a federal judge on Thursday.

But lawyers for Wade’s former partners in a failed restaurant ven-

ture contended that Wade had a right to license his own image as he sees fit, attorney
MLB

Owners and umps sign new contract

Associated Press
PARADISE VALLEY, Ariz. — Baseball owners unanimously ratified a five-year contract with umpires on Thursday, wrapping up a decade of labor peace in a sport once plagued by work stoppages.

The deal, expected to be ratified by Major League Baseball on Monday, would remove a ban on umpires appearing in consecutive World Series, according to a person with knowledge of the agreement. The person spoke on condition of anonymity because umpires had yet to vote on the pact.

The agreement also would allowing management to use video to evaluate umpires and establish new programs for early retirement, a person with knowledge of the agreement said. That person spoke on condition of anonymity because owners didn’t reveal those details.

Ending the World Series restriction would allow the best umpires to work those games in repeated seasons. A restriction would allow the best umpires to work those games in repeated seasons.

Owners and umps signed the pact on Friday, a person with knowledge of the agreement said. The person said the agreement was ratified by owners and umpires.

The agreement also would allow the league to remove a ban on early retirement, a person with knowledge of the agreement said. The person spoke on condition of anonymity because owners didn’t reveal those details.

Owners heard an economic report from conservative columnist George Will, among 14 members of a committee appointed by Selig to discuss on-field matters.

Associated Press

Baseball has not had a serious labor problem since 1995, when a dispute led to mass walkouts in major league games.

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USF player looks for public apology

Associated Press

TAMPA, Fla. — The player who first told South Florida football coach Jim Leavitt grabbed him by the neck and hit him in the face wants a public apology.

The attorney for Joel Miller said Thursday that the 18-year-old walk-on is not interested in filing a lawsuit, but could if Leavitt doesn’t “man up” and admit wrongdoing in that February 2008 locker room incident that cost the coach his job.

Leavitt was first fired more than a week after a university investigation concluded he grabbed Miller — hitting a half-time of a game, slapped him twice in the face and openly referred to him as a “juvenile.”

“We’re ready for a fight,” said Barry Cohen, Miller’s attorney. “We don’t want a lawsuit. We don’t want a law school. We don’t want to pursue any criminal cases. We just want you to say, I made a mistake.”

Speaking publicly for the first time since Leavitt’s dismissal, Miller spoke briefly during a news conference but did not answer questions.

Miller, whose allegation first was reported by AOL FanHouse, said he attempted to contact Leavitt after the incident happened because he feared it would damage his football career, create problems for Leavitt and possibly force the coaching staff to become a distraction for the team.

“If he grabbed me by the neck and he hit me twice,” said Miller, flanked by Cohen and sitting in front of his parents.

“Everyone knows the truth inside that locker room. All the players know the truth. All the coaches know the truth. ... I covered it up, and I think it got to be where it was too big for me to handle any more. All I was doing was trying to get out, and I want coach Leavitt to just admit that he did grab me and did hit me twice.”

Miller has known Leavitt since the player was 12 years old and a regular participant in the coach’s football camps.

“Playing football, growing up, you’re taught that your head football coach is like a father figure. When he came over to me that day and grabbed me and hit me, I was more stunned than anything. I didn’t really know what to do. I wasn’t going to lash out at my head football coach. You just don’t do that as a player.”

Leavitt launched South Florida’s program from scratch in the mid-1990’s and compiled a 95-37 record in 13 seasons.

The fired coach told investigators his team has never struck a player, and that he was trying to lift the spirits of a player who was “down” when he grabbed Miller’s shoulder pads during half-time of a game against Louisville on Nov. 21.

The university investigation concluded the coach’s account was not credible because it was not supported by statements obtained from others, who either witnessed the incident or were told of it by Miller.

“There’s a difference in being tough with your players and being humiliating,” Cohen said.

“Being pushed and being motivated is one thing. He’s been motivated and pushed all of his life. But being grabbed by the throat and being slapped in the face is not being a football coach. It’s being a bully. That’s not part of the game.”

Leavitt’s attorneys contend the firing was unwarranted. The coach just finished the second season of a seven-year, $12.6 million contract extension that called for a base salary of $800,000 in 2010.

The school says he was fired for cause, meaning he’s entitled to an one-month’s base pay — $66,667.

If fired without cause, the university would owe Leavitt about $7 million, which is 75 percent of the remainder of the contract.

Cohen said Miller retaining legal counsel is about the coach doing the right thing, not a lawsuit or money.

Looking into a row of television cameras, the attorney made a direct appeal to Leavitt.

“You tell these kids to man up. Manning up is about stepping up to the challenge,” Cohen said. “I know you’ve got $7 or $8 million out there. You know what, you’re not going to win this case. There’s too much evidence against you.”

Devine and Sanders to return

Associated Press

CHARLESTON, W.Va. — West Virginia running back Noel Devine and wide receiver Patrick Sands have decided to stay for a final season.

“I’ve been talking about unfinished business on the field and in the classroom,” Devine said Wednesday. “I want to get a chance to finish what I can out of my university record.”

Devine and Sanders, both Florida natives, entered the program together in 2007 and Devine has shadowed the pair Batman and Robin.

Both are fathers and would be the first in their families to earn college degrees.

Quarterback Jarrett Brown exhausted his eligibility this season and Devine left West Virginia would have entered the 2010 season with its most inexperienced backfield in five seasons.

Devine and Sanders made their decisions on the final day eligible underclassmen could declare for the draft.

“I have seen these two really mature and grow, not only on the football field, but in their quest of life,” coach Bill Stewart said. “Obtaining the degree, preparing for life after football is of utmost importance to them and to our program.”

Devine became the focal point of West Virginia’s running game in 2009 with the departure of Pat White, the top rushing quarterback in the NCAA for 1,465 yards last season.

Devine rushed for 1,465 yards this season, ninth-best in major college football and the fourth-highest total in school history. He scored 13 touchdowns and was an all-Big East selection.

He ran for 168 yards and a score in a 33-21 loss to Florida State in the Gator Bowl. His 3,381 yards in three seasons are the fifth highest in school history.

He’ll need 1,783 yards to break the school career record of 5,164 yards set by Avon Cobourne from 1999-2002.

Devine lost both of his parents to AIDS, witnessed a friend’s murder and spurned attempts by former NFL star Deion Sanders to adopt him while in high school.

“Each year on the team has been important and each of us has given a little bit more. Now it’s time for my senior season with my teammates — and I want it to be a special one, so I am going to give even more,” Devine said. “I really enjoy playing in front of the greatest fans in America, but the ultimate goal is to earn my degree.”

Sanders led the Mountaineers with 72 catches for 688 yards and three TDs. He would need 55 catches next season to break the school career record of 191 set by David Saunders from 1995-98.

For further information visit http://osa.nd.edu/
The Observer
SPORTS
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FENCING
Irish head to San Jose for weekend tourney

By KEVIN BALDWIN
Sports Writer

The Irish men and women will go to San Jose, Calif., to compete in the NCAA tournament from today until Jan. 18.

Competing in the epee tournament will be junior Chris Pfarr and freshman Jack Piasio. Sisters Courtney and Kelley Hurley will be competing in the women's epee competition.

Sophomore Nicholas Crebs, junior Steve Kubik, sophomore Gerek Meinhardt and junior Zach Schirz will lead the men's foil. The women's squad will be represented by freshman Grace Hartman, sophomore Darsie Malynn, freshman Phoenix Messersmith, junior Harley Reese and sophomore Radmila Sarkisova.

Freshman Jason Choy, sophomore Keith Feldman, sophomore Marcel Frenkel, junior Barron Nydam will represent the men's sabre competition, while sophomore Beatriz Almeida, junior Sarah Borrman, freshman Abigail Nichols, as well as upcoming freshmen Lian Osiier and Maria Stepien will represent the women.

Courtney Hurley is coming off a gold medal victory at the women's Junior World Cup in November while Kelley Hurley captured the USFA North American Cup in December.

NCAA WOMEN'S BASKETBALL
No. 2 Stanford routs WSU

STANFORD, Calif. — Nnemkadi Ogwumike had 22 points and 13 rebounds, Kayle Pedersen added 13 points and 10 rebounds and No. 2 Stanford rolled to an 80-43 win over Washington State on Thursday night, though it might have been a costly victory for the Cardinal.

Jayne Appel added 14 points, nine rebounds and matched her career-high with six blocks for Stanford (14-1, 4-0 Pac-10), which lost guard Jeanette Pohlen to a right ankle injury early in the second half.

With J.J. Hones out with a sore left knee, the injury to Pohlen thinned Stanford's ranks but it didn't slow the Cardinal down against the smaller, slower Cougars (5-11, 0-5).

KiKi Moore scored 14 points to lead Washington State, which has never defeated the Cardinal in 49 games in a series dating to 1983.

Ogwumike, who was selected Pac-10 Player of the Week on Monday, recorded her sixth double-double of the season despite playing with a sore right elbow she injured midway through the first half. The injury forced the Stanford sophomore sensation to the bench twice for treatment but didn't seem to affect her shot much.

The conference's leading scorer, Ogwumike went 11 of 15 from the field while topping the 20-point mark for the fourth straight game and the ninth time this season.

She had plenty of help while leading Stanford to its 37th straight win at Maples Pavilion.

Pedersen, who is second in the Pac-10 scoring race behind Ogwumike, had her fourth double-double in five games while helping the Cardinal outrebound the Cougars 58-35. Pedersen showed her athleticism late in the first half when she grabbed a defensive rebound, dribbled the length of the court and scored on a layup while being fouled.

Her free throw gave Stanford a 40-16 lead with 2:56 to play and she later added a 17-foot jumper to cap a 22-4 run.

The Cardinal have won five straight since an 80-68 loss to No. 1 Connecticut on Dec. 23.

Washington State scored the first six points of the second half but got no closer than 20 points the rest of the game.

The Cougars, 0-25 on the road against Stanford, shot 18.4 percent from the field in the first half and went just 4 of 28 from 3-point range while losing their sixth straight.
Palmieri continued from page 24

take home gold at the World Junior Championships. He finished third on the team in scoring, with a goal and eight assists alongside a plus-eight rating for the tournament.

Palmieri’s return is even more welcome as Notre Dame will be without the services of sophomore wing Billy Maday for at least six weeks. Maday, who leads the Irish with 19 points, is sidelined because of a separated shoulder.

“We’re going to need somebody to replace Maday for six to eight weeks,” Jackson said. “With [Palmieri] coming back, I gave him some time off specifically to be able to come back and not be tired. I know what kind of a drain that tournament is. The intention is that he comes back in and makes a difference immediately.”

With things seeming bleak for Notre Dame, senior captain Ryan Thang recognized the importance of picking up some points this weekend.

“Our backs are against the wall,” Thang said. “In the earlier parts of the season, you’re trying to right the ship and mess with the system. We don’t have that option anymore. We either win hockey games or the season is over.”

Friday’s game will begin at 8 p.m. at Notre Dame and Saturday’s will begin at 7 p.m. in East Lansing.

Contact Michael Blasco at mblasco@nd.edu

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Swim

continued from page 24

Northwesterners, are hoping that the back-to-back meets will give them a chance to reap the benefits of their recent training in Puerto Rico over the holidays.

“This is a toughness test for us,” Welsh said. “We want to see how we’ve recovered from our training trip. Our team showed positive signs, but of course we would like to swim faster against Northwestern, but of course we would like to swim faster against Michigan State and Louisville.”

Though the back-to-back meets, which will be followed up by the Shamrock Invitational at the end of the month, certainly put a physical strain on his team, Welsh is going into the weekend with a clear plan in mind.

“As we look ahead to the conference championship, we swim seven sessions in a row at that meet and we want seven good ones,” Welsh said. “We’re trying to build into that experience of saying, being tough every time out.”

The Irish will look to ride the momentum of freshman Bill Bass and junior Steven Brus, who posted the team’s first two individual victories this season against Northwestern in the 100-yard butterfly and the 1,000-yard freestyle, respectively.

Welsh, however, isn’t getting complacent, setting high goals for his swimmers.

“Our goal is to be present and contributing at the National Championships,” Tim Welsh Irish coach

SNC SWIMMING

Belles to face conference foes

By MEGAN FINNERAN

Saint Mary’s is off to Michigan this weekend for two meets against NCAA rivals Hope and Olivet. With the championship meet one month away, the Belles are looking to perform well both Friday and Saturday. 

Unfortunately, the new semester marks the loss of one of the best swimmers for the Belles: Sophomore Audrey Beidler, who swam freestyle and backstroke, is looking for a strong weekend while missing Lierz. Niemann is joined by sophomore Barbra Parrell’s, who swam backstroke.

The stronger group of the Belles may be the freemens for the Belles and besides the two young freshmen, have shone since the beginning of the season in October. Elle Griffin, a distance swimmer, and Katie

Griffin, who swims freestyle, butterfly and backstroke, have promising careers ahead.

“We’re going to need somebody pretty much no one else and who has double practices every day, so everyone is meshing pretty well together,” Dombkowski said.

The Belles will compete at Hope in Holland, Mich. at 6 p.m. Friday and at Olivet in Olivet, Mich. at 1 p.m. Saturday.

Contact Megan Finneran at mfinnera@nd.edu

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Break

continued from page 24

Returning from last year’s squad are All-American seniors Jackson Welsh and Athena Schneider. The Belles will be looking to make a strong showing are returning Big East competitor Eric Quick in the 100- and NCAA decathlon performer Justin Schneider. Returning Big East competitor Jaime Minor in the jumps and freshman standout Natasha Schneider in the sprints should also perform well.

Coming off strong performances in the Big East outdoor championships last season with a junior men’s and a solid fifth place finish for the women, expectations are high for the talented Irish on both sides.

“We want to make it to the Big East and win,” Pame said. “That is certainly our goal in the short term. For the long term, we want to send as many individual men and women and relay teams as possible to the NCAA Tournament.”

The Irish will begin competition today at 7 p.m. at the Notre Dame Indoor Opener in the Loftus Sports Center.

Contact Matt Robison at mrobinson@nd.edu

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SMC BASKETBALL

Tough Olivet team awaits

By ALLAN JOSEPH

Saint Mary’s will travel to Olivet Saturday for a conference match that may prove to be a challenge for the Belles. Coming off a tough loss to top-ranked rival Hope Wednesday, Saint Mary’s is working to recover before jumping into one of its busiest times of the season.

“We are preparing to play four games in eight days and three of those games are on the road,” Belles coach Jennifer Henley said. “We need to stay focused as we near the end of the first round of conference play.”

The Comets (8-5, 3-2 MIAA), though seemingly an easy opponent due to their record, nevertheless will pose a unique set of challenges for the Belles (8-5, 3-2 MIAA), though seemingly an easy opponent due to their record, nevertheless will pose a unique set of challenges for the Belles.

“Olivet is playing very well right now, despite their record,” Henley said. “They have a lot of new faces this season and play very up-tempo basketball.”

Leading the Comets is 5-foot-9-inch center Olivia Parrell, who has been averaging more than 11 points and six rebounds per game for Olivet. Parrell will face the Belles’ record-setting senior forward Anna Kamrath in the paint. Kamrath averages 9.8 points this season while leading the Belles in rebounds with 8.9 rebouds per game. Kamrath and a strong Saint Mary’s defense will be key to stopping Parrell’s second chances in hopes of coming out with a win.

Along with stopping the Comets in the paint, Henley identified other weaknesses from the team’s recent loss to Hope which the Belles hope to improve.

“We need to rebound and concentrate on cutting down our turnovers,” Henley said. “On the defensive end, we need to find a way to make the most of our rebound.”

Currently tied for third in the MIAA with Adrian, the Belles are looking for a win over Olivet to keep within striking distance of top-ranked Calvin and Hope as they enter the second round of conference competition.

Saint Mary’s will battle Olivet at 1 p.m. Saturday at the Cutler Event Center.

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The worst earthquake in over 200 years has caused death and devastation in Port-au-Prince, Haiti, adding to the misery of so many people who live in severe poverty.

All collections at the Basilica of the Sacred Heart this weekend and next will be forwarded in their entirety to provide assistance to the victims of this latest natural disaster.

Campus Ministry will continue to accept and forward donations all next week at 319 Coleman-Morse Center.

The Haiti Province of the Congregation of Holy Cross, which is composed of 75 Haitian priests and 22 professed seminarians, works with the poor through schools, parishes and social service ministries.
The Irish are two of just four remaining undefeated teams in Division I. Notre Dame’s lower rank places the team in the unfamiliar position of underdog.

“You look at your schedule, and you know, we’ve played some ranked teams but we have not really had to play a game where we were the underdog,” McGraw said. “It’s kind of a nice opportunity for us to look at this game as a game where we see where we are.”

McGraw said this year’s additions to the roster will be able to make a difference in the game.

“We have three new players,” McGraw said. “We have Brittany Mallory back, and I think she’s playing great basketball. I think she’s the best sixth man in the Big East. We’ve got Devereaux Peters back ... and then we’ve got Skylar [Diggins]. I think the addition of those three players makes us a very different team than we were last year.”

Though just a freshman, Diggins has been leading the Irish attack this year and averaged 13.5 points per game. Overall, Notre Dame has a balanced attack, featuring five players scoring more than nine points per game.

One of the Irish’s main concerns Saturday will be to contain Connecticut’s center, Tina Charles. Charles averages 17.9 points per game along with 8.5 rebounds per game. Notre Dame is particularly low on big post players this year, leaving the Irish to rely on strong team defense from junior forwards B e c c a Bruszewski and Peters.

“We will not be intimidated. We will not back down. They will hit us and we will hit right back. We are not going to let anybody push us around.”

Ashley Barlow
Irish captain

“I think we’ve got to play our best,” McGraw said. “Who can defend 40 points at the half of that game? I think we need to find a way to play with a mindset that we can rise to the occasion and snatch a big victory.

“The perception is that UConn has to play poorly and the other team has to play well.” McGraw said. “I would say that’s pretty true. I think UConn is an incredibly talented team, and if they play well they’re going to win. I don’t think there’s anybody in the country that would disagree with that. I would say that yes, they’re either going to shoot poorly or have foul trouble, or something has to go wrong for them, and we’ve got to play really well.”

McGraw sees a light at the end of the tunnel if the Irish can focus on what they do best.

“I think we’ve got to play our game,” McGraw said. “We’ve got to do the things that we’ve been successful at.”

Notre Dame and Connecticut tipoff at 9 p.m. Saturday in the Gampel Pavilion.
The Observer is looking for comic submissions. Contact Jenn Metz at jmetz@nd.edu
ND Women’s Basketball

Irish face biggest test of season in Huskies

By JARED JEDICK
Sports Writer

The Irish will take the court Saturday in Storrs, Conn., for a clash with top-ranked Connecticut to determine who will maintain a perfect record and gain supremacy in the Big East.

“It’s always a good measuring stick when you play UConn, to find out where you are and where you need to be,” Irish coach Muffet McGraw said.

No. 3 Notre Dame (15-0, 2-0 Big East) and No. 1 Connecticut (15-0, 3-0 Big East) both enter the weekend undefeated. The Huskies are riding a 55-game winning streak, the second longest in NCAA women’s basketball history. The Huskies also hold the longest streak, of 70 straight wins in the 2001-2003 season.

Despite the pressure to win, the Irish hope they can find out where they are and gain supremacy in the Big East.

“I approach every game the same way,” Jackson said. “I’m not going to change my approach because we’re not as successful as we’d like to be from game to game. We’ve got time. Every game is important, but we’ve got to get that light switch to turn on somehow. Our backs are against the wall, especially with the injuries.”

Those injuries have hit Notre Dame hardest on the blue line, with freshman Sam Calabrese out of the lineup and senior defenceman Matt Killian in a three-way tie for seventh in the CCHA, the Irish will need to pick up at least a few points this weekend against a very tough Michigan State team to have any hope at making a run in the conference. While first place is out of reach, only six points separate Notre Dame and fourth-place Alaska.

“Despite the pressure to win quickly, Irish coach Jeff Jackson maintains that his team is doing just fine. “I approach every game the same way,” Jackson said. “I’m not going to change my approach because we’re not as successful as we’d like to be from game to game. We’ve got time. Every game is important, but we’ve got to get that light switch to turn on somehow. Our backs are against the wall, especially with the injuries.”

Those injuries have hit Notre Dame hard end on the blue line, with freshman Sam Calabrese and sophomore Eric Ringel dealing with lingering injuries.

Junior defenseman Teddy Ruth will also be out of the lineup as he serves a game disqualification penalty incurred during a fight against Ferris State’s Travis Ouellette on Jan. 10. Ouellette checked Ruth from behind, earning a major misconduct penalty and game disqualification penalty in addition to a one-game suspension for the hit.

Jackson said he believes that a stiffer punishment was warranted.

“I think it was even more severe,” Jackson said. “Watching that hit on film, there was intent there. What I saw, to me, that was intent. Add Ruth to the list of our defensemen who’ve been hit from behind this season.”

The Irish will also be welcoming freshman wing Kyle Palmieri back to the lineup. Palmieri returns after helping the U.S. Junior National Team to a 5-2 victory over Canada at the World Junior U18 Championships in Hull, Canada.

In preparation for the 2010 NCAA Tournament, the Irish wrapped up its 2009-10 season with a perfect record and will be ranked third in the NCAA polls with the win.

The Irish are ranked No. 3 in the nation for the third consecutive week and are looking to improve on that ranking as it heads into the NCAA Tournament.

The Irish have seen how successful it can be and how tough the Big East is during the first four games in the conference season.

The Irish are ranked 1-3 in the Big East and are looking to get back into the swing of things. Today’s meet at the Loftus Sports Center will give the Irish a chance to see how the athletes have been conditioning over the past semester.

In preparation for the meet, the Irish are taking a good look at all of his athletes to see what shape they are in heading into Big East competition.

“We’ve had good workouts the last couple days,” Plane said. “We’re looking to see what kind of shape these men and women are in this Friday.”

The Irish have standout performers across the board including the jumps, throwing events, sprints and distance events. The Irish can count on solid performances from each event heading into Big East tournaments.

In the pole vault, the Irish took all top spots in the Blue and Gold Invitational in December. Leading the pack were standout sophomore Kevin Schipper and his brother Matt, a senior.

Hockey

Team searches for wins in matches with No. 7 Spartans

By MICHAEL BLASCO
Sports Writer

In a desperate search for wins, the Irish hope they can stop looking this weekend.

Notre Dame (9-10-5, 5-7-4-2 CCHA) will play a home-and-home against No. 7 Michigan State (15-6-3, 10-3-3-0 CCHA) both enter the weekend undefeated. The Huskies are riding a 55-game winning streak, the second longest in NCAA women’s basketball history. The Huskies also hold the longest streak, of 70 straight wins in the 2001-2003 season.

Despite the pressure to win, the Irish hope they can find out where they are and gain supremacy in the Big East.

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Men’s Swimming

Spartans, Cardinals come to ND

By CHRIS ALLEN
Sports Writer

Fresh off of a training trip in Puerto Rico, the Irish men will face a pair of tough tests in back-to-back home dual meets against Michigan State and the No. 16 Louisville Cardinals.

“These are two very big meets for us this weekend,” Irish coach Tim Tedulund said. “This closes out our dual meet season, and by swimming back-to-back on consecutive days, we’re inching closer in our preparations for the Shamrock Invitational and Big East championships. Both of the visiting teams are very competitive so we’ll want to be at our best.”

The Irish (4-2), who lost at home on Jan. 9 to South Florida and a two-point loss to No. 17 Memphis, will face the Spartans (9-0-0, 6-0-0 Big East) and the Cardinals (2-5-2, 1-2-1 ACC) in a home and home series.

In preparation for the meet, Notre Dame has seen both how successful it can be and how tough the Big East is during the first four games in the conference season.

The Irish (14-3, 3-1 Big East) travel to Fifth Third Arena Saturday to take on the No. 1 Huskies on ESPN’s College Gameday.

The Irish have standout performers across the board including the jumps, throwing events, sprints and distance events. The Irish can count on solid performances from each event heading into Big East tournaments.

In the pole vault, the Irish took all top spots in the Blue and Gold Invitational in December. Leading the pack were standout sophomore Kevin Schipper and his brother Matt, a senior.

Men’s Basketball

Irish to face more challenges

By BILL BRINK
Sports Writer

Notre Dame has seen both how successful it can be and how tough the Big East is during the first four games in the conference season.

The Irish (14-3, 3-1 Big East) travel to Fifth Third Arena Saturday to face Cincinnati (11-6, 2-2) in a game senior guard Ben Hansbrough said would be as tough as any league game.

“You go on the road in Cincinnati, that’s one of the toughest games to win in the country right now,” he said.

The Irish have won two straight games by two points or less, a one-point win over South Florida and a two-point