Fans and band flock east to Pittsburgh

Students travel to support Irish football

By KATE ANTONACCI and MARCELLA BERRIOS

At noon today, Alumni juniors Mike Ferkoivic, R.J. Kornhaas, P.J. Hoffman, Chris Bistro, Liam Moran and sophomore Steve Barbera will pile in a Buick Park Avenue and endure a six-hour car ride to the University of Pittsburgh.

After buying season ticket booklets for Pittsburgh in mid-July for $85, the Notre Dame students are ready to cheer on the Irish in their opening football game.

Nothing — not even a city that Ferkoivic calls “the dirtiest city of all time” — will stand in their way. For these and hundreds of other Notre Dame students driving east this weekend, seeing Saturday night’s game up close and personal is a necessity.

“I definitely have to see Charlie’s first game,” Kornhaas said.

“Charlie Weis is the man,” said Ferkoivic, who will wear

New Web site shows complete ND calendar

All-encompassing schedule includes arts, entertainment, academics, religious events

By JOE TROMBELLO

Students will have another link today to add to their Internet favorites of espn.com and nytimes.com: agenda.nd.edu.

Directed by university calendar editor Jennifer Laiber, the Agenda is the University’s new comprehensive calendar launched today encompassing events from arts and entertainment to religious life, and conferences and lectures. Although the need for a comprehensive calendar has been recognized for some time, Laiber said the necessity to first complete the University overhaul of the accounting system prevented attention from being focused on new calendar software.

Another reason that a new all-encompassing calendar never got off the ground was because no other office on campus appeared to want to take administrative ownership of the project,” Laiber said. “The Office of News and Information did this year.”

The Agenda has been the outgrowth of a number of other more specific calendars. The Under the Dome calendar, begun in the spring of 2003, was an attempt to classify the majority of events that would pertain to students. The McKenna Center for Continuing Education used to sponsor a calendar — well before Under the Dome — that listed academic events. However, no calendar existed to integrate these kinds of events with other activities such as arts and entertainment and religious life, and the Agenda will serve to fill that gap, Laiber said.

“We needed something to bring the two sides together,” Laiber said. “So we decided to have student, faculty, and staff events listed, and if a

Males adapt to SMC campus life

Students, faculty, staff, sisters, alumnas, donors and the Board of Trustees congregate outside the newly opened Saint Mary’s Student Center during opening ceremonies last April.

By KELLY MEEHAN

The decision to send the band to the Pittsburgh game was made after the directors analyzed which away games were within a reasonable traveling distance and which games would be most beneficial to attend to boost student and team spirit, said Dwyer, who will be accompanying the band to Pittsburgh, along with director of

Editor’s note: This is the second in a three-part series exploring the role of men at Saint Mary’s.

By NICOLE ZOOK

“Hi, I’m Tony Sylvester, and I go to Saint Mary’s.”

While this statement may be a joke for Notre Dame senior history major Tony Sylvester and his friends, it also rings true when Sylvester enters his education classroom — and sits at a desk in the middle of 25 women.

Sylvester, who is a social studies secondary education student at the College, is one of a handful of male students who comprise part of the small fraction of men at the all-women’s school. These men face the challenge of being a minority among the school’s students, faculty and staff.

Big man on campus

Off course, there are challenges presented to men in an all-female environment outside the classroom. Professors on campus find they have a hard time in the small men’s locker room or even finding a men’s bathroom — of which most buildings only have one. There are challenges for men that are specifically tailored to an all-women’s school.

Sodexo General Manager Harry Bowles, the man in charge of dining services at the College, sees the Saint Mary’s women who eat in the Noble Family Dining Hall more often than even their professors do and notices all the quirks and habits that come with 1,300 females.

“Yes, it was a culture shock,” he said. “But I think we deal with these challenges extremely well.”

Bowles, who worked at Notre Dame for nine years before coming to Saint Mary’s, said the differences between a mixed-gender population and
INSIDE COLUMN

Culture for outlanders

We were a ragtag bunch. We few, we happy few, we band of outlanders.
We came from all over. Some of us met in the airport and suffered through a transatlantic flight in coach. Others we first encountered at curbside, grinning through the sun as it filtered over the tops of the mountains. Still others we waited a while to meet—our roommates and hall buddies, the ones we stumbled over in pronouns picked at random from frantic searches through his or her brains.

We were the foreigners. French, German, Swedish mostly—and of course American. Little held us in common. For every one of us who skied or rode the breathtaking slopes overlooking the Inn valley, another had tried and given up on the idea, or, if they had spoken Tirolian, there was another who halted and stumbled over premonitions picked at random from frantic searches through his or her brains.

We guessed there was one common thread. Not a one among us had a clue what the Tirolers were saying.

They say Notre Dame is a conserva­tive place, and it is. But socially Austria, and mountainous Tirol in the west especially, is a place charitably described as “tight-knit;” more honestly, “slow to welcome,” at least from my perspective. Even their language is something other: German, yes, but like no German you’ve ever met in a classroom or an old war movie. When they want it to be, it is a secret code.

They say it is all about preserving the old ways, when each valley had its own argot—no, that’s French, let’s use the German term, their dialect. Not a one among us had a clue what the Tirolers were saying.

The Tirolers shared their cooking supplies with us Americans, dished plastic cups of beer with us at dear parties, beat us handily at football and welcomed us onto their soccer team. But we had to meet them halfway—and though my German started to sound like theirs after the long train ride to Vienna for the tour­ament and back, I didn’t understand much more of what they said to me, and much less still of what they said to each other.

They say that study abroad enriches people, exposed them to Austrian, blended plastic cups of beer with us at dear parties, beat us handily at football and welcomed us onto the soccer team. But we had to meet them halfway—and though my German started to sound like theirs after the long train ride to Vienna for the tour­ament and back, I didn’t understand much more of what they said to me, and much less still of what they said to each other.

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Band
continued from page 1
an all-female crowd are evident. "Saint Mary's students' menu

taste and portion sizes are extremely different," he said. "Dining is based on the same
courses las on co-ed campuses, but here we'll put a smaller sized portion on a smaller sized plate.
It's not a self-serve."

Keegan said the unique challenge Saint Mary's offers him and especially likes the
campus is quite an experience.
"It wasn't really a shock to be around all the girls," he said. "But the first few times I walked over to
SMC it felt like I was entering another world. It was weird and pretty cool at the same time."

Perhaps the biggest challenge for males on the Saint Mary's campus is simply fitting in, a prob-
lem Notre Dame Law student Tim Keegan encounters on a daily basis.
Keegan is married to Opus Hall
director Katie Keegan, making him the sole male to actually live in the Saint Mary's campus in a building with more than 70 women.
"I suppose the funniest or most awkward incidents have been times in which I have gotten
looks from students' parents who are visiting when they see that I have a key and ID card to get into the
building," Keegan said. "I always try to be quick to explain, 'I live here, my wife is the building
director.'"

"As far as the women in the building, I just try to keep to myself so as not to make any of
them uncomfortable by having a man walking around," Keegan said. "Since our apartment is right
near the entrance of the building, I pretty much just go in and out of
the apartment and try to be low.
Other males at the College are not lucky enough to 'be low.'
"I've really grown to like and love Saint Mary's," he said. "The Saint Mary's girls are just amazing. Over the years, I've watched the difference that they make in the College, and now I really appreciate the times when Notre Dame was a more co-ed place."

Nagorski and Dampeer also said in the days when McCandless Hall was relatively new the residents liked the short visitation hours-especially because it allowed them to walk freely in the hallways with such attire as 'pajamas and hairy legs.'
"All the seniors used to live in McCandless, believe it or not," she said. "Every day I was here we would vote on guys in the dorms - visitation - and we voted it down every year. We overwhelmingly voted it down.
Dumpee said the students back then appreciated the times when men were not allowed to be in the residence halls and the distinction between men and women on campus.
"We liked that. We liked that separation," she said. "It's just a totally different culture now."
Perhaps the reason the women enjoyed the male-free dorm atmosphere at night was the high-
er number of men enrolled in classes on campus compared to the present, when relatively few men take Saint Mary's courses.
In Dumpee's day, men from Notre Dame - which at the time was an all-male school - were more likely to cross the street to take classes at Saint Mary's, she said.
Both Dumpee and current College president Carol Mooney, also a 1972 graduate, are married to Notre Dame graduates who took humanistic studies and education courses in the all-female environment.
"There was a lot of going back and forth for classes between the schools," Dumpee said.
While he did not attend classes at Saint Mary's, he was an undergraduate student at an all-male school.
Kevin McDonnell now teaches them as a philosophy professor at the College. McDonnell, like Dumpee, believes the cultural differences have changed since he was in college, when "there was nothing unusual about single-sex education.
While McDonnell said Saint Mary's has changed 'a great deal' in the almost 30 years since he began teaching at the College, he thinks the benefits of the all-female environment remain the same.
"I believe that women's colleges are more important than ever," he said. "Many students bring specific matters, but also for insuring the continuation of gen-
ine diversity in higher education."

Contact Nicole Zook at Zook8928@saintmarys.edu
Students anxious to score Michigan tickets

By BRIDGET KEATING
News Wrester

The Irish faithful exiting Legends Thursday were one step closer to scoring tickets to the Sept. 10 Notre Dame-Michigan game in Ann Arbor thanks to a flawless Student Union Board (SUB) ticket lottery.

More than 2,000 student IDs were swept, which officials say is the highest number in the past two years. Ten minutes was the maximum wait incurred during the noontime rush. Students expressed appreciation for SUB's smoothly run operation.

"There was no wait, I arrived," sophomore Andy Makieleski said. "The whole event was extremely efficient and student friendly." Fellow ticket-seeking sophomore Megan O'Hara agreed with Makieleski.

"I was surprised at how quickly the line moved," she said. "It was very easy and enjoyable." Even the students working the event seemed happy to be there.

SUB president Jimmy Flaherty said he was glad the Board could play a role in helping students get to Ann Arbor.

"Students seemed to be really excited about the upcoming season and the chance to watch the Irish play in Ann Arbor," Flaherty said. "Anyone who has been to an away game knows how much fun it is to be there with other Notre Dame fans hoping to see a win on the road. Hopefully, the band will be as successful as the lottery was today!"

Winning numbers when printed in The Observer today. Students need to bring the winning ticket and their ID to the LaFortune Box Office by the close of business on Tuesday, Sept. 6 in order to purchase the tickets, which cost $50 each.

Contact Bridget Keating at bkeating@nd.edu

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Independent of the University
Chaos plagues city in storm aftermath
Gunshots, looting, riots and rapes frighten New Orleans residents and tourists

Associated Press

NEW ORLEANS — New Orleans descended into anarchy Thursday, as corpsuses abandoned in street medians, fights and fires raged out of control as survivors battled for seats on the buses that would carry them from chaos. The tired and hungry teetled, saying they had been forsaken.

"I'm not sure I'm going to get out of here alive," said Canadian tourist Larry Mitel, who handed a reporter his business card in case he goes missing. "I'm scared of the locals. We wouldn't get caught in the crossfire.

Four days after Hurricane Katrina razed with a devastating blow that inflicted potentially thousands of deaths, the frustration, fear and anger mounted.

There's $7 million still out there," he said.

"I'm scared of the locals. We wouldn't get caught in the crossfire.

There's an effort to stop people inciting anyone to commit terrorist acts ..."

..."In every way possible."

"There are governments to stop extremists who incite terrorism.

..."For every country, but that's not an excuse for what they did in the Caribbean last February."

..."We have to get out of here alive."

"I'm not sure I'm going to get out of here alive," said Canadian tourist Larry Mitel, who handed a reporter his business card in case he goes missing. "I'm scared of the locals. We wouldn't get caught in the crossfire.

..."I'm scared of the locals. We wouldn't get caught in the crossfire."

..."I  don' t treat my dog like

..."The bedlam made that difficult."

..."The bedlam made that difficult."

..."But the rushing crowd..."
visited the University came to

Call the Agenda calendar will be especially helpful to
prospective students and their
parents, who may be in need of
an activity to fill a space in time
during their campus visit. Before
the Agenda, visitors needed to
search any number of specific
departments, College, or Notre
Dame organizations’ Web sites to
find out about a variety of events.
Now all that information will be in
one place.

"If they wanted specifics, they
would have to go to 50 to 60 Web
sites," Laiber said. "It would take
far too long to find everything that is
going on on-campus within a
small time frame."

The main component of the cal-
endar is its nine specific tabs,
including topics like religious life
or health and recreation. On the
right hand side of the Web page,
additional event searches can be
conducted in more specific areas
like the College of Arts and
Letters or the School of
Architecture. Web site visitors can
search using one of these specific
tabs for events pertaining to that
day, week, two weeks, month or
year, or they can search by a spe-
cific date.

Laiber said she is also promot-
ing the Web site to the community
at large, through such mechani-
isms as local Chambers of
Commerce and advertisements in
the football programs sold at
home football games.

"(We are just trying to spread
the word) to the full-time campus
occupants as well as visitors," she
said.

Eighty-plus Notre Dame staff
members will have the proper
passwords and administrative
authority to upload events to the
Agenda calendar. Laiber said stu-
dents wishing to contact any of
these people can do so using the
Agenda’s contact tab, which will
list all of the specific administra-
tors for a variety of functions.

Harriet Baldwin, director of
academic conferences, is the
administrator for events relating
to the College of Arts and Letters
and lectures and conferences. She
said the new calendar will be
especially helpful in promoting
the academic activities that occur
on-campus to people outside of
the area, such as visitors or
prospective students and faculty
members.

The scholarly atmosphere of
Notre Dame has been a well-kept
close to the public for a long
time," she said. "The new calen-
dar presents not only to the
University but to the outside
world a real picture of the lively
academic debate that goes on at
this campus.

Baldwin also said the calendar
will help to address a number of
campus event planners’ concerns
about how the lack of a compre-
hsive calendar caused prob-
lems with scheduling conflicting
events that actually drew from
the same audience.

"The new calendar is an improve-
ment evolved out of event planners’ on-campus ... frustration at not seeing a master
calendar on conflicts," she said.
"Now they can check from that
calendar and see what else is going
on to plan that event with less
conflict."

Priscilla Wong, assistant direc-
tor of administration and cross
cultural ministry for Campus
Ministry, said the comprehensive
calendar will be of particular help
to home football game visitors,
many of whom inquire about when Masses or other liturgical
events will occur at particular
residence halls.

"Now they can check from
home and know that or plan that
while they are here," she said.
Wong also said she believes an
advantage of the calendar is its
ability to classify one event in
multiple places, increasing the
exposure to a program that might
encourage both student and reli-
gious life, for example.

She also noted that the new cal-
endar will not alter Campus
Ministry’s ongoing efforts to pro-
mote their events through resi-
dence hall commissioners or
advertisements.

"For the immediate future, we
will still have the posters,
Observer ads, (and) Campus
Military commissioners in the
dorms," Wong said. "I think that
the calendar is a real plus, but not
necessarily to replace those
mechanisms that go directly to
the students."

Peggy Hnatusko, assistant
director of student activities, said
the Agenda is an improvement
over Under the Dome in its ability
to publicize events that were
closed to the general public.

Contact Joe Trombello at
jtrombel@nd.edu

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Want To Be On TV Cheering On Your #1 Ranked Women's Soccer Team?

This Friday, Sept. 2nd College Soccer Game Day Invades Alumni Field

Meet at Alumni Field at 6:15 pm and YOU will receive...

• A FREE 2004 National Champion shirt, while supplies last
• FREE face paint to show your Irish pride on TV
• FREE Pizza, while supplies last

The women's soccer team is looking for crazy students to show their Irish pride to thousands of TV viewers!

Stick around to watch...#1 Notre Dame battle it out against #13 Florida at 7:30 pm

Admission is FREE, with a valid student ID!
Northwest warns of bankruptcy threat

America's fourth-largest airline could lose $400 million this business quarter

MINNEAPOLIS — Northwest Airlines Corp. warned on Thursday that it is running out of time to avoid bankruptcy because of spiking fuel prices, and that it will lose as much as $440 million this quarter. Compan y officials said they would negotiate a new round of pay cuts.

The carrier said in a filing with the Securities and Exchange Commission that its cash had fallen to $1.7 billion as of Wednesday, down from $2.1 billion on June 30. Some of the decrease is due to holdbacks required by the company that processes its credit transactions, a situation that has also squeezed rival Delta Air Lines Inc. in recent weeks.

Northwest said its third-quarter losses would be $350 million to $490 million, but possibly worse depending on the financial impact of Hurricane Katrina.

Euphem-based Northwest has been seeking $1.1 billion in annual labor cost saving s. It said it will probably increase that target because of rising fuel prices, though the company didn't offer a new dollar figure.

Northwest said it expects to pay $1.90 to $1.96 per gallon of jet fuel, for a total of $900 million for the quarter. It expects to spend at least that much in the fourth quarter, totaling $3.4 billion for all of 2005. That's a 50 percent increase over the $2.2 billion it spent on fuel in 2004.

Northwest mechanics are on strike, but the nation's fourth-largest carrier has continued to fly by using replacement workers. On Thursday, it said the strike has not had a significant impact on revenue.

Northwest said it has run out of collateral for additional loans.

Pilots said Northwest's financial troubles are driving them back to the bargaining table.

"We feel that the threat of bankruptcy is high," said Capt. Mark McClain, Northwest's chief pilot.

"We will not allow bankruptcy to happen, and we will fight this," said 2nd Vice President of the Air Line Pilots Association.

"If we cannot avoid bankruptcy, we feel that we can get a better settlement in negotiations voluntarily with Northwest management than we can get through the bankruptcy court.

Northwest is in talks with flight attendants and ground workers. But only the pilots have agreed to pay cuts, accepting a 15 percent cut last fall that contributed $300 million in savings toward Northwest's $1.1 billion goal when combined with a cut for managers.

The pilot talks are voluntary, their pay-cuts agreement last year called for Northwest to avoid asking for additional cuts until other unions had also agreed to concessions.

In the SEC filing, Northwest repeated its claim that it needs pension law changes and employer pay cuts to avoid a Chapter 11 filing.

"As a result of the recent spike in jet fuel prices, the time period for the Company to resolve these problems has been reduced," it said.

Northwest mechanics on strike shut down a replacement mechanic outside of a Minneapolis hotel Tuesday. In the midst of a mechanic strike, the airline is facing the possibility of bankruptcy.

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Northwest mechanics on strike shut down a replacement mechanic outside of a Minneapolis hotel Tuesday. In the midst of a mechanic strike, the airline is facing the possibility of bankruptcy.
Service seminars remain popular

Despite early due date, over 300 students apply for six projects

By ANTHONY IANNAMORELLI
News Writer

The Center for Social Concerns (CSC) received over 330 applications for this fall’s service seminars, despite a much earlier application due date.

This year, applications were due early, before school began — as opposed to within the first few weeks. But the change of date is intended simply to coincide with the Registrar’s add/drop class schedule, and students who applied did not seem to mind the timing change.

"I really didn’t feel any rush for the fall service project because the application was really simple and it only took 20 minutes of my time," said Dan Geffre, who will be attending the Appalachian Seminar. "I’m very happy I’m going to be able to go to Appalachia this semester because my friends have told me so many good things about the things they did and people they met.

The seminar requirements extend beyond the week of Fall Break.

"For those that are accepted, there are required classes and reading prior to the immersion and written reflection and analysis afterward," said Jay Bradenberger, CSC director of experiential learning and developmental research.

But the extra work does not deter many students. Those who have participated say the experience proved invaluable.

"It is one of the most enriching experiences the University offers," Jeff Mullin said.

Last year, over 700 students participated in 20 different seminars. This fall, six different immersion projects are being offered. The cost of each seminar varies from $175 to $260, plus $100 for expenses.

"The Center seeks to promote, in the words of the University mission statement, ‘a disciplined sensibility to poverty, injustice and oppression,’" Bradenberger said.

Through each service project, this mission is fulfilled along with everyone who participates, learning and growing not only academically but spiritually.

CSC seminar descriptions:
◆ Appalachian will allow students to work closely with people while being immersed in the history, culture, and landscapes of the region.
◆ The Gospel of Life Seminar will focus on controversial and pressing issues such as stem cell research, euthanasia and abortion. Discussions will be conducted with public servants and Church leaders.
◆ Students will be immersed in the interesting Gullah culture in the Gullah Seminar, held on the Sea Islands of South Carolina and Georgia.
◆ The Cultural Diversity seminar will take place in Chicago. It will examine the "problems of urban life and racism." Students will enter into dialogue with community leaders while fully experiencing the ethnic cultures that thrive there.
◆ Pre-professional and health-care minded students will get a chance to examine the shortcomings of our health care system while gaining hands on experience at the Global Health Initiative Seminar.
◆ The Washington, D.C. Seminar is meant to allow students to gain a deeper understanding of the workings of our healthcare system. They will meet key players in the decision making process, while covering a variety of issues.

Contact Anthony Iannamorelli at ainnamo@nd.edu

Pitt

continued from page 1

a Joe Montana jersey

instead of The Shirt, which he calls "ugly."

The five Alumni juniors will be staying at Ferkovic’s sister’s house at a nearby university in Pittsburgh, which will see a disproportionate number of Domers flocking to Heinz Field for the season opener. Some students traveling to Pittsburgh, like junior Patrick Schafer, are away-game veterans.

"I try to go as many away games as possible, and I’m very excited about this one," Schafer said. "A group of people and I are driving there, and it should be a lot of fun."

Others are looking forward to their first football road trip.

"I haven’t been to a Notre Dame away game yet, but I’m from Pittsburgh so this sounds like the perfect one to attend," senior Ryan Brennan said. "Me and eight friends are driving over there in the morning, and we’re really excited."

On the home front, students are preparing dorm room game watches, while campus-wide watches will be held on North Quad and Legends. For freshmen, this will be the first exposure to the football frenzy on campus.

"I’m dying to see it, the atmosphere of the school as the football season begins," freshman Stephanie Grandits said. "I’ve watched the games before but now that I’m actually here there’s definitely a new excitement to it."

Much of the excitement revolves around Weis, who already has students wearing shirts in his honor, bearing slogans like "Straight Nasty" and "Weis Guy." Last year, the Irish fell to the Panthers 41-38 at Notre Dame after a last-second field goal. But Notre Dame has won 16 out of its last 19 season openers and is 7-3-1 in five of its last six trips to Pittsburgh.

Contact Kate Annannoski at kanan@nd.edu and Marcella Berrios at berrios.1@nd.edu

Congregation of Holy Cross

Join us as our brother in Holy Cross, Nate Wills, CSC, celebrates his profession of perpetual vows and consecrates himself to Christ forever.

Saturday, September 3, 2005
Basilica of the Sacred Heart
1:30pm

vocation.nd.edu

Friday, September 2, 2005
Congress approves hurricane aid

Emergency $10.5 billion allocated for victims of Katrina disaster

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Congress rushed to provide a $10.5 billion down payment in relief aid for Gulf Coast victims of Hurricane Katrina on Thursday as President Bush ordered new action to minimize disruptions in the nation’s energy supplies.

“Don’t longer get if you don’t need it,” he urged consumers already hit by sharply rising prices.

Avoid lawsuits over flooded, chaotic New Orleans, Homeland Security Secretary Michael Chertoff announced plans to deploy 4,000 additional National Guard personnel each day for the next several days.

“Frankly, what we’re doing is putting probably more than we need in order to send an unambiguous message that we will not tolerate lawsuits or violence or interference with the evacuation,” he said.

Despite fresh pledges of help from Bush and other officials, there were stirrings of discontent from officials over the amount of aid at rebuffing to the response to the storm.

Katrina roared ashore on Monday, claiming lives and spreading destruction along the Gulf Coast. Breaks in New Orleans’ levees left the city defenseless against disastrous flooding.

“This is a national emergency. This is a national disgrace,” said Terry Ebbert, head of Emergency Management Agency. “We can send massive amounts of aid to tsunami victims, but we can’t bail out the city of New Orleans.”

Bush, who intends to visit the devastated area on Friday, expressed sympathy with the victims. “I know this is an agonizing time … I ask their continued patience as recovery operations unfold,” he said.

Congressional officials said $10 billion in relief aid would go to the FEMA, the government’s first-line defender in case of natural disasters. The remainder is ticketed for the Pentagon, which has dispatched ships and other assistance to aid the relief effort.

With the Republican-controlled Congress officially on vacation, top leaders said they would pass the relief measure without putting out waiting for lawmakers to return to the Capitol. Instead, they announced the moves would be cleared — as Friday — without the formality of a vote, as is often the case on non-controversial measures.

“America stood with New York in its time of need and we will stand with the people of the Gulf states now that they need us.”

Sen. Charles Schumer D-New York

“America stood with New York in its time of need and we will stand with the people of the Gulf states now that they need us.”

Sen. Charles Schumer D-New York

Cholera epidemic spreading in Africa

Associated Press

DAKAR, Senegal — A cholera epidemic spreading across West Africa has sickened tens of thousands of people this year and killed nearly 500 amid a long-term deterioration in health services in one of the world’s poorest regions, the United Nations said Thursday.

Cholera has stricken 31,259 people in nine West African countries since June and 488 are reported dead in what the United Nations said was an “unusually high incidence” of the disease. Year-ago figures weren’t provided.

“We have a crisis that needs immediate attention,” said Herve Ludovic de Lys, head of the U.N.’s humanitarian affairs coordination efforts in the region. “This crisis needs a rapid response.”

As heavy rains continue across West Africa, the disease often transmitted by infected water is likely to spread into Nigeria, Cameroon and Chad in coming months, the world body said in a statement.

The increase in cholera this year is part of a longer-term deterioration of health services in the West African, de Lys said.

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Cholera epidemic spreading in Africa

Associated Press

DAKAR, Senegal — A cholera epidemic spreading across West Africa has sickened tens of thousands of people this year and killed nearly 500 amid a long-term deterioration in health services in one of the world’s poorest regions, the United Nations said Thursday.

Cholera has stricken 31,259 people in nine West African countries since June and 488 are reported dead in what the United Nations said was an “unusually high incidence” of the disease. Year-ago figures weren’t provided.

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Supplement becomes routine in teen athletes

Associated Press

BANCO CORDOVA, Calif. — Checking himself out in the weight-room mirror, 17-year-old Marshall Sailor flexes his right arm and smiles wide.

He labored in the new muscle that helped him win a spot as starting defensive tackle on the varsity football team at Cordova High School in suburban Sacramento. Sailor credits the

strength to hard work, a timely growth spurt and a hodgepodge of nutritional supplements he buys from a local health store.

“I saw what everybody else was lifting and I wanted to lift that, too,” he said, adding that he started using the products after failing to see results with the in-game supplements.

Like many high school athletes, Sailor is barely aware of the food companies that flood summer in California over Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger's support in: to fast-growing teenage how they think they work, when to take the products and what they cost and when to take them.

For Sailor and many of his peers, navigating the world of nutritional supplements has become part of the formula for success.

Eight percent of girls and 12 percent of boys age 12-18 said they used supplements in pursuit of a better body, according to a survey funded by the National Institutes of Health and published this month.

For high school athletes, the percentage may be far higher.

“Everybody’s trying them, pretty much,” said quarter-back Andrew Davis, surveying the Cordova Lancers weight room, where the team spends at least two hours a day.

Most popular are protein shakes and powders that add calories to fast-growing teenage bodies. They are often blends of whey protein and nitric oxide.
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California votes to allow gay marriage, sparks debate
Gay rights advocates cheer a historic victory as state becomes first legislative body in nation to back idea

**Gay rights advocates cheer a historic victory as state becomes first legislative body in nation to back idea**

**Very close," said Sen. Jacki Speier, a Democrat who supported the bill.**

**"This is not the right thing to do,\" said Republican Dennis Hollingsworth.**

**Schools serve Hawaiians, battles courts**

**The proposition was put on the ballot when it appeared that Hawaii might legalize gay marriages and was intended to stop that outcome from recognizing gay marriages performed elsewhere.**

**A non-Hawaiian teen aged boy saw as one of the ways to counter the Hawaiian ancestry, applicants for grade seven and higher at Kamehameha must pass an admissions test, undergo interviews with professors and write an essay.**

**"Their culture was shredded, their sense of sovereignty and independence was taken away,\" said Michael Chun, school headmaster.**

**Superintendent says white sergeant in traffic stop should not have used profanity but otherwise acted properly**

**Sen. James Meeks twice ignored orders to stop approaching and return to his vehicle.**

**Many of us are multi-race. We are not just Hawaiians.\"**

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Reaching out to our family

As images of death, anxiety and despair from one of the biggest natural disasters in American history splash across newspaper pages and television screens, even the so-called Notre Dame bubble is not immune from Hurricane Katrina’s damage. These horrific images exceed our realm of understanding. But the words of two Saint Mary’s professors in a New Orleans hotel and the worries of Notre Dame and Saint Mary’s students from affected areas are — fortunately — accessible and incredibly personal.

At a University with national roots, any national tragedy is bound to have spokes that strike close to home. The Notre Dame roots stretch to the flooding in Gulf Port, Miss., and the looting in New Orleans. We cannot keep this tragedy outside the Notre Dame bubble if we tried. In times of need, we depend on our family and close friends to support us. At this moment, members of our Notre Dame and Saint Mary’s families need our assistance. We need to find ways that need us to take care of them and comfort them. We must give them understanding and support when they need a shoulder to cry on. This is a pivotal time in their lives — a time they, and we, will never forget.

When the tsunami hit Southeast Asia last winter, Notre Dame and Saint Mary’s students and faculty members rallied together to raise thousands of dollars. But with a natural disaster hitting closer to home, we must come together once again to raise money and donate items to benefit those who need our help.

Give anything you can. Donate any clothes you can. Pledge money to the Red Cross or Catholic Charities. The American Red Cross estimates it will need almost $3.30 billion in relief aid and supplies for Hurricane Katrina’s after­start­village and disease — a figure equal to the total amount spent on all four of last year’s destructive hurricanes that hit the United States.

And with the threats of an oil crisis sweeping the country, we must also carefully consider our gasoline consumption. We realize that production facilities have been great­ly crippled by the storms.

So carpool to class or to the Pitt game. Leave the gas for those who need it most — the people who are helping with evacuation and cleanup efforts.

But most of all, pray. Pray for our fellow Americans who suffered and those who mourned the loss of their homes, possessions, friends and family to this storm. The other side of the bubble needs its family now more than ever.

How to be a Hemingway hero

One of the most appealing image of this heroic character is his determination to survive and thrive in a world that seeks to bring him down. Hemingway’s hero is a man who never gives up, no matter how much he is pushed. He is a symbol of resilience and strength, a reminder that even in the face of adversity, one can rise above it.

In his works, he often included characters that had certain traits that his readers admired and aspired to. Such a character has come to be known as the Hemingway Hero.

The Hemingway Hero is often described as one who exhibits the "principles of honor, courage, endurance and toughness." In other words, the Hemingway Hero displays qualities that, in a life of pain and tension, "make a man a man." When the world knocks him down, the Hemingway Hero always gets back up and never loses his integrity.

Though Hemingway wrote some 70 years ago, the characteristics of his Hero still remain valid. He would have to possess even today. It is for these reasons that I believe college students should look to this Hero as a model for how to live our lives and display grace under pressure.

As students juggling academic, extracurricular and social affairs, we often find ourselves pressed for time. Rather than get worked up over the fact that you have two meetings to go to, do a 10-page paper due tomorrow at 9 a.m., and plans to go out that night, be the Hero and take the bullet. Do what you must do and get the work done.

Sure, you may not think you cannot possibly get through it all, but by complaining to other people about it, you are simply wasting their time and your own.

Let’s take another situation. It’s late Saturday night. You look at the clock and, uh, oh, it is now technically Sunday morning. Unfortunately you are not ready to call it a night, but the last beer has been cracked, and there are no more to be found. Since it is Sunday, you cannot just pick up some around the corner at some place.

What does the modern Hemingway Hero do? He perseveres. He finds a sober driver or calls a cab and heads to Michigan where you can buy beer seven days a week. Though Hemingway was actually said to have preferred a glass of wine, I am sure that he would do his part to help. Perhaps it is football season, and you have old friends visiting from another school. Their seats are across the stadium from the student section, but they want to spend time with you. The Hero has the answer. He carefully gets ticket books from those surrounding him in his section. The Hemingway Hero sneaks his friends into the student section, so they may just enjoy the game together.

The Hemingway Hero is able to more than just improvise in trivial situations, he also demonstrates a big heart.

In the wake of natural disasters such as last year’s tsunami or this week’s Hurricane Katrina, the Hero would do his part to help. Perhaps this means donating money to help in relief efforts or organizing a drive to collect necessary items for those affected.

When this good deed is said and done, the modern Hemingway Hero does not brag about his generosity. Instead, the hero is humble and glad that he was able to assist in some way.

Maybe this modern hero has a car at school and two friends who need you to pick something up at Midway. With the current astronomical gas prices, you could refuse. Rather than having three people taking separate trips to the store, the Hemingway Hero offers to drive, so that the trio can travel together and save gas and money.

A car-pool to class would also be a good way to conserve energy and save yourself and your friends a little money.

In short, this modern day Hemingway Hero is someone to aspire to be or (at least be friends with). The Hemingway Hero realistically represents the concept of life and death (OK, maybe sneaking friends into the student section is not a matter of life and death). He recognizes those situations in which the easy way out is also the least honorable way out. He does not choose the easy way out, but he does not seek glory for making a difficult decision.

When life presents a question, the hero has an answer. He is humble, smart and lives life as he can living up to a high standard of moral codes.

The modern Hemingway hero is practical, creative and undeniably good to have around in a pinch.

Molly Acker is a senior at Saint Mary’s. She is a double major in communication studies and humanistic studies. Molly hopes you all have a great weekend. She can be reached at acker6798@ndmcsa.edu

The views expressed in this column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer.
In a letter dated Aug. 31, Sarah Harward complains, "The apathy of the global community to our disaster is utterly insulting to the donations of individual Americans last December." I don't expect a massive global contribution to the Katrina relief effort, but is it too much to ask for acknowledgment of our loss, or at least a break in the anti-Americanism?" However, five minutes of cursory research on news.google.com (Sept. 1, 11 a.m.) reveals that President Pervez Musharraf and Prime Minister Shaukat Aziz of Pakistan, Prime Minister Tony Blair and Queen Elizabeth of Britain and Kofi Annan, Secretary General of the U.N., have all issued public statements or sent letters to the White House expressing condolences, shock and sympathy for Katrina's victims. (And those are only the names I Googled; many other world leaders have probably sent condolences, as well.) Newsweek ran a news article dated Sept. 1 headlined, "Asia tsunami survivors sympathize with Katrina victims." It quoted "tsunami victims and disaster workers from Indian, Indonesian, Sri Lanka and of course Ibuku Aceh. All express sympathy and fellow feeling with Katrina's victims. In addition, the Houston Business Journal reports that Venezuela's energy minister, Rafael Ramirez, has offered to help supply fuel to the State of Louisiana during this emergency. And Newsweek reported that France is already examining ways of providing aid for Katrina's victims, probably from the French Antilles. "France recognizes its readiness to bring this aid based on the need of Americans," a spokesman from the French Foreign Ministry announced. Perhaps these international expressions of support and offers of aid will be reported in the American press. It is the American press rarely reports foreign news in much depth. What seems clear is that Harward jumped to conclusions about this alleged 'double standard.' Regardless of morality, those who have enough one aid and support to those who are suffering — and enlightened people, all over the world — must recognize and act on this fundamental principle.

Gail Bederman
professor
Sept. 1

Crisis over-politicized

Sarah Harward's Viewpoint letter to the editor regarding Hurricane Katrina ("Double Standards," Aug. 31) highlights a major problem with the response to this disaster. Rather than suggest ways of helping, Harward instead spends her time politicizing the crisis. Harward criticizes Green Day and Michael Moore for a major problem with the response to Katrina. Rather than suggest ways to jump to conclusions about this alleged "double standard," Regardless of morality, those who have enough one aid and support to those who are suffering — and enlightened people, all over the world — must recognize and act on this fundamental principle.

Rory Makielki
off-campus
Sept. 1

I am writing in response to Sarah Harward's Aug. 31 letter to the editor, "Double standard." The claim that the global community has turned a blind eye to our Gulf Coast's plight is false. I recommend you actually check with the global community on events such as news石榴r.co.uk, or www.careerre.it, or just about any other news organization based outside of the United States. You will find the latest about Katrina's wrath on every front page as at least I did. I beg of you, which country with a base in the vicinity of the Mississippi and Louisiana coast do you suggest send military and/or humanitarian aid? Every nation who cuts back on its foreign aid promises and obligations rightly gets criticized for doing so. If you believe the United States just righteously gives away free money to the needy, no strings attached, no agendas underlying, I would like to suggest you have some more reading to do.

Elizabeth McNicholas
graduate student
Sept. 1

Remember to always check facts

The Observer

Viewpoint

International support exists for U.S.

Jumping to conclusions

The suffering caused by Hurricane Katrina is nothing less than tragic. The horrific loss of life and extensive damage will have a lasting effect on Louisiana and the entire nation. The sympathies and prayers of the Notre Dame community are certainly with those affected. However, Sarah Harward's letter in the 31st issue of The Observer makes several inappropriate claims. She has "not heard report of a single foreign dignitary offering broader condolences of our loss." However, this reveals either her severe lack of research skills, at best, or her willful ignorance, at worst. A cursory Google News search for "Katrina foreign condolences" reveals that China, New Zealand, South Korea, the United Kingdom, and yes, even the allegedly totalitarian state of Venezuela, have expressed sorrow and offered aid.Harward also seems to consider international aid for the disaster insufficient compared to what is given to the countries affected by the tsunami. She probably should consider that the United States is richer than these Asian nations.

However, Thailand's GDP per capita is a mere 20 percent of the United States', while Indonesia's is less than 10 percent. This is an incredibly striking disparity, especially considering that between 170,000 and 230,000 people died in the tsunami while New Orleans mayor has declared that the death toll for Katrina is in the thousands. Simply put, the United States has significantly more money with which to assist significantly fewer people. We have the financial capability to manage natural disasters that other nations do not.

Both catastrophes are lamentable and both have no strings attached, no many. However, there are reasons that the international community has not come to the aid of the victims of Katrina to the same degree that it aided the victims of the tsunami. We must rationally investigating facts. Harward would rather blame Michael Moore, Green Day, the Rolling Stones and the ubiquitous fortunes of 'anti-Americanism.'

Jason James
assistant
Zahn
Sept. 1

Making inappropriate claims

U-Wire

Textbooks overpriced, underused

As I finally get done with all of my move-in and grocery expenses, and I'm ready to breathe a sigh of relief, I get my list of books. The relief dissipates immediately. Of course, I had looked at my book list earlier, but I was sure I would be able to find a great deal on the Internet for discounted prices. As I did last year I was wrong. All the books I found online cost me only a $4 difference from the listed bookstore price. Basically, it would cost more with shipping and handling.

My total so far is $510.35 and I am still missing two course books. Problem No. 1. According to the National Association of College Bookstores, wholesale prices of college textbooks have risen nearly 40 percent in the past five years. Add in the fact that a newer edition of a book is charmed every two to three years. These same books are found at cheaper prices overseas. My proposed solution? Publishers need to cut back on their profits rather than just a tax.

We all know the cost of paper isn't on the rise. We all know the cost of paper isn't on the rise. We all know the cost of paper isn't on the rise. We all know the cost of paper isn't on the rise. We all know the cost of paper isn't on the rise. We all know the cost of paper isn't on the rise. We all know the cost of paper isn't on the rise. We all know the cost of paper isn't on the rise. We all know the cost of paper isn't on the rise. We all know the cost of paper isn't on the rise. We all know the cost of paper isn't on the rise. We all know the cost of paper isn't on the rise. We all know the cost of paper isn't on the rise. We all know the cost of paper isn't on the rise. We all know the cost of paper isn't on the rise. We all know the cost of paper isn't on the rise. We all know the cost of paper isn't on the rise. We all know the cost of paper isn't on the rise. We all know the cost of paper isn't on the rise. We all know the cost of paper isn't on the rise. We all know the cost of paper isn't.
The nicknames "Rap Master," "Scat Girl" and "Lyric Queen" don't sound like the usual descriptions associated with an a cappella group. That is, until recently, when Toxic Audio burst onto the contemporary a cappella scene.

Tonight, the DeBartolo Center for the Performing Arts will kick off its second season with a show unlike any Notre Dame has seen before.

Toxic Audio is leaving its standing show at the Luxor Hotel in Las Vegas for a one-night appearance in the 900-seat Leighton Concert Hall in the DPAC.

Toxic Audio got its start in 1998 in Florida, where members of the group were working as singers in various different a cappella groups. The founder, Rene Ruiz, decided that it was time to "take this art form out of the barbershop and bring it to more modern times."

While the group was being formed, Ruiz was looking for a name that was as far from a barbershop quartet-type name as he could find.

"A group called Toxic Audio would be the last place a person would expect to find the types of a cappella sounds that our group creates," Ruiz said.

The group now includes five permanent members, as well as a few guest vocalists who perform in its Las Vegas show. Each member comes from an extensive performance background. They have attended a variety of music programs at universities around the U.S., and have since performed in many off-Broadway shows and other theatrical events.

Toxic Audio's performances are an entertaining mix of music, comedy and other theatrical elements. Using only their voices, the group members create sounds ranging from drumbeats and bass lines to guitar-like solos and other vocal stretches. The group's repertoire includes contemporary pop songs, such as Britney Spears' "Baby One More Time," classics, including "Hooked on a Feeling," and original compositions.

Toxic Audio is known to develop amazing improvisations while on stage, as well. While hearing a song about life at Notre Dame isn't out of the question, don't expect something ordinary from the band.

"If the venue and audience felt right, the chances are, we would probably make up a song on the spot," Ruiz said.

The group has received recognition in many areas since it came together in 1998. In 2004, Toxic Audio was awarded the New York Drama Desk Award for "Best Unique Theatrical Performance." Shalisa James, the group's resident "Vocal Queen" also received the award for "Favorite Female Vocalist" in the A Cappella Community Awards in 2005.

Some of Toxic Audio's more famous corporate clients have included Disney, Mitsubishi, IBM and McDonald's. However, the largest client yet seems to be the most recent, the Luxor Hotel in Las Vegas. Toxic Audio is in the middle of a successful stint at the famous hotel, the same venue where the Blue Man Group, a famed experimental music act, got its Las Vegas start.

The Vegas experience has been eye-opening so far for the group. Toxic Audio has enjoyed enthusiastic and attentive audiences during its run there.

"It's pretty exciting to get into Vegas and see your billboards up over the strip," Ruiz said.

After some time off for the holidays, the group will be off to Japan where it will be performing its unique style of music for entirely new audiences during a six-week tour.

Toxic Audio's performance in DPAC is promised to be one full of amazing vocal skill and laughs and could certainly be called a unique experience.

Student tickets for tonight's 8 p.m. show can be purchased for $15.00 at the Performing Arts Center ticket office by phone or by visiting the DPAC Web site at http://performingarts.nd.edu

Contact Liz Byrum at elbyrum@nd.edu
**THE OBSERVER**

**SCENE**

Friday, September 2, 2005

**DPAC REVIEW**

**German drama transcends language barriers**

By BRIAN DOXTADER
Assistant Scene Editor

"Head-On" is a relentless, deeply affecting melodrama, one of 2004's best films and a bold new work from Turkish director Fatih Akin.

The film won the Golden Bear at the 2004 Berlin Film Festival, and it's not hard to see why. This is an excellent picture that immediately draws you into its story, partly after the credits roll.

"Head-On" follows two characters, Cahit (Birol Unel) and Sibel (Sibel Kekilli), and their bizarre relationship over the course of several years. The two meet in a psychiatric ward after respective suicide attempts. Sibel uses in Cahit the opportunity to escape the scrutiny of her demanding family.

While Cahit, a depressed widower, resists initially, he eventually agrees to marry Sibel. This marriage of convenience is not based on love, but on the hope to escape the confines of their world, which does not feel well for either character. The essence of the plot begins after their marriage, as the film follows the relationship and the tragedies that ultimately ensue.

It would be easy to categorize "Head-On" as mere melodrama, but the film's plot is surprisingly unpredictable. Just when the audience thinks it knows where the picture is going, a new twist is introduced that somehow seems exactly right.

Ultimately, the various twists and turns serve the story, which tease the plot from sinking under the weight of its own pretenses. Many things happen to the two characters, much of it quite unpleasant, and somehow they endure. This works because "Head-On" is, at its core, not a movie about plot, but characters. Cahit and Sibel are sad, depressed people who feel trapped in their limited existences.

"I am not living. I am only surviving," Sibel says at one point, and that sentiment echoes throughout the whole of the picture.

The acting, especially of the two leads, is quite good. Akin, a German-born director, draws fantastically moving performances from the protagonists, who carry the movie with sensitivity and panache.

Birol Unel (who often looks like David Carradine in "Kill Bill") brings depth and sadness to the role of Cahit. Sibel Kekilli is equally compelling as Sibel, a character whose party-girl demeanor hides a startling perception. Since the two characters dominate the plot, their believability and forcefulness is essential, as it keeps the audience interested throughout.

"Head-On" is also doggedly cinematographic, at times recalling (or perhaps even explicitly referencing) the French New Wave's penchant for excess. From a technical perspective, the film is undeniably well-made, using camera angles, freeze-frames and rapid editing to provide emotional impact. At times, these elements recall the best tradition of Sierensose and Truffaut, two directors who also used cinematic technique to enhance (rather than substitute for) the narrative.

"Head-On" is a battering ram of a movie that tramples forward and takes no prisoners in its wake. For all its attributes, it is essentially a depressing movie about depressed characters. Though it is an unforgettable picture, its unfilching approach to its material may not sit well with all audiences.

Sex, drugs, violence and suicide all play prominent roles as the lives of Sibel and Cahit crumble around them.

Yet, the film is so well-made and so movingly indelible that it's impossible not to recommend. Movies as acute and affecting as "Head-On" are rare and a writer/director as sensitively attuned to the world as Akin are even rarer.

Contact Brian Doxtader at bdoxtade@nd.edu

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**Student cover band fills gap in campus music scene**

By CHRIS MCCGRADY
Assistant Scene Editor

An absence in the Notre Dame music scene has been filled at last. Hot Mildred, a student cover group that focuses primarily on music from 1945-95, has stepped into the spotlight, focusing on a decade of much musical growth and diversity. Many current Notre Dame students will relate to the hits from this era, songs that they grew up with.

Senior Larry Bailey, bassist and back up vocalist for Hot Mildred, refers to the band's time period of choices as "the fantastic musical decade that was 1965-1995." This decade was marked by a continuation of great music from bands such as U2, as well as debut tracks from current pop chart mainstays such as Third Eye Blind. Hot Mildred covers songs from both of these popular artists. In fact, U2 is the only band with more than one song in Hot Mildred's set.

The band has changed names several times, and was until recently known as GASM. However, the band's unique name is supposed to be an oxymoron. The name "Mildred" for a female is not seen as particularly attractive (although Bailey is quick to add, "It is possible.").

On a campus that often seems overrun by talented musicians constantly trying to push their musical limits, the members of Hot Mildred have a different vision on how their music should be played. "We choose songs that are within our ability level and try our best to make them sound good," Bailey said, an RA from Stanford Hall. Hot Mildred consists of four members who hope to play periodically at Legends this year. Playing alongside Bailey is senior Trish Murphy, lead singer and tambourine; graduate student Ron Thompson, who plays electric guitar; and graduate student Brian Zampell, who plays drums.

When asked why the band only plays cover songs, Bailey gives a frank and honest answer. "It's not for lack of ambition just lack of skill and writing," Bailey said. "Unless you're very talented at writing, it can be disastrous to write and play for your friends who are forced to act like they like it even though you've forced something upon them.

"We think people can relate to songs they have heard before." Bailey

Larry Bailey senior

"We think people can relate to songs they have heard before." Bailey

Larry Bailey senior

Contact Chris McGrady at cmcgrady@nd.edu

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**PHOTO CREDIT**

Cahit (Birol Unel), left, and Sibel (Sibel Kekilli) arrange a sexless marriage-of-convenience in Turkish director Fatih Akin's foreign language film, "Head-On."

Cahit (Birol Unel) and Sibel (Sibel Kekilli) arrange a sexless marriage-of-convenience in Turkish director Fatih Akin's foreign language film, "Head-On."
The New York Yankees thought the line drive that knocked Jarret Wright out of the game cost them a victory. Still, they were happy to leave Seattle with the pitcher on the team plane instead of in the hospital.

Raul Ibanez's sixth-inning liner Thursday hit Wright on the right collarbone and the right side of his neck, forcing him from the game. X-rays were negative, but the Mariners rallied for a win. If it was a question it was a momentum changer," Alex Rodriguez said. "He was brezzing along and getting stronger."

Leading 1-0 when Wright was struck, the Yankees lost after Miguel Ojeda's first home run with Seattle broke a 1-all tie in the seventh.

"He comes out of the game and everything turns around," New York catcher Jorge Posada said.

Despite the loss, the Yankees were happy that Wright appeared to escape serious injury.

In the clubhouse after the game, Wright pulled down his crew neck shirt and displayed an ugly, red, 3-inch knot on the side of his neck.

"It was a pitcher's worst nightmare," he said. "You throw the ball and then it's right there on you. He got me pretty good."

The right-hander stayed down on the mound for a few minutes as players rushed to his aid and then helped him to his feet. Without taking any warmups, he walked to the dugout under his own power.

"It hurts right now," an obviously uncomfortable Wright said. "My neck's real stiff and I have a headache. But it could have been worse."

Yankees manager Joe Torre feared the worst. He was afraid the ball hit Wright in the face. Instead, he said, it hit him in the collarbone and then ricochet off his neck.

"That's about as scary as it gets," Torre said. "We're just happy the results are what they were.

Playing three base, Rodriguez also was concerned.

"I was scared to death," he said. "That ball looked like it was 110 mph off the bat. Obviously, the health of your pitcher is the most important thing.

Wright pitched 5 1-3 innings, allowing one run and three hits. The 6-foot-4 right-hander switched stances after letting the eighth of the season, his fourth since coming off the disabled list on Aug. 15 following a shoulder injury. It was the eighth time he was on the disabled list in his nine-year career, the sixth because of a shoulder problem.

BOSTON, Tampa Bay 4

John Olerud homered twice and drove in six runs Thursday night as the Boston Red Sox came from behind for the third consecutive game, beating the Tampa Bay Devil Rays to complete a four-game sweep.

The Red Sox have won 19 of 20 games in which they scored at least seven runs in their last 14 games. "That's pretty nice," Torre said.

They've won five in a row overall.

Bronson Arroyo (11-9) allowed four runs and nine hits. He struck out six in seven innings for his first win since Aug. 19. Jonathan Papelbon worked a scoreless eighth before giving up consecutive singles to start the ninth. Mike Timlin got three outs for his fifth save.

Doug Waechter (5-9) allowed six runs — five earned — and eight hits in 6 1-3 innings.

Boston rallied from a 5-0 deficit. Trot Nixon hit a leadoff single and scored on an error before driving in two runs with a two-run shot in the fifth. In the sixth, Trot Nixon hit a leadoff single, Jason Varitek walked and, one out later, Olerud hit his fifth homer of the season.

It was the 17th multim homer game of Olerud's career. The two-time AL All-Star and former NL batting champ has been fighting for playing time with Kevin Millar, who homered on Wednesday.

Olerud added an RBI double in the eighth.

With the Yankees' 5-1 loss to the Seattle Mariners earlier Thursday, Boston moved 3 1/2 games ahead of New York in the AL East. The Red Sox led by at least 5-1 as if two if they 1 2 games in August.

Olerud homered in the second to give the Devil Rays a 2-0 lead, but Olerud matched the two-run shot in the bottom half. Tampa Bay went up 4-2 in the fourth on Travis Lee's two-run homer.

Edgar Bixeria hit a sacrifice fly to cut the deficit to one run in the fifth. The sixth, Trot Nixon hit a leadoff single, Jason Varitek walked and, one out later, Olerud hit his fifth homer of the season.

It was the 17th multim homer game of Olerud's career. The two-time AL All-Star and former NL batting champ has been fighting for playing time with Kevin Millar, who homered on Wednesday.

Olerud added an RBI double in the eighth.

Baltimore Orioles shortstop Brian Roberts forces out Gregg Zaun of the Toronto Blue Jays Thursday. The Orioles won 5-3 with home runs from Jay Gibbons and B.J. Surhoff.

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574-299-8048.
The Astros won 3-1.

Washington Nationals on catcher Javier Valentin Thursday. Lane scored on the play, and seeming to hang up forever as the seats in left-center, the ball ahead in the count 1-2, then an 8-7 victory over the campaign another boost, leading MVP! MVP!" as Jones led off the bottom of the 10th inning, getting off the 1-0 fly to center and was easily doubled off by Andrew Jones' throw back to first.

In the fifth, the Nationals put the first two runners on, and newcomer Vinny Castilla lined a single to right with one out. Coach Dave Huppert wisely held up Byrd coming around.

But Huppert appeared to throw up his hands a little too late, and Carlos Baerga got caught in a rundown between second and third. Byrd and Baerga both wound up at third — Baerga was out — and Smoltz escaped the inning when Jamey Carroll flied out to right.

San Diego 6, Milwaukee 5

Khail Greene hit a two-run homer in the eighth inning and the San Diego Padres crept back above .500 with a victory over the Milwaukee Brewers on Thursday night.

Joe Randa hit his career-137th double with one out in the eighth. After Xavier Nady grounded out, Greene hit a foul ball that fell into the stands, three rows beyond the reach of Brewers first baseman Lyle Overbay. On the next pitch, and an 0-2 count, reliever Kane Davis (1-1) left a fastball over the middle of the plate, and Greene hit his 11th homer of the season.

It was the third straight win for the Padres (67-66), who are above .500 for the first time since Aug. 12. They remain in first place in the NL West, 5 1/2 games in front of Los Angeles — and have gained two games in the standings since last being above .500.

Rudy Sarzo (6-1) earned the win with one inning of relief. Padres starter Adam Eaton hasn't won in his last three starts after winning eight in a row. He gave up three runs and three hits in six innings.

The Brewers made it a one-run game when Wes Helms tied it in the fourth for his 35th save in 37 opportunities.

Rick Helling was trying to get his first win since joining the Milwaukee's starting rotation last week. He allowed two earned runs and six hits in 6 1-3 innings.

In the fourth, Eaton walked Rickie Weeks and Overbay singled to put runners at the corners with one out. Carlos Lee's sacrifice fly scored Weeks, and Geoff Jenkins followed with his 18th homer, a two-run shot that gave the Brewers a 1-2 lead.

After Helling retired the first six Padres, he ran into trouble in the third. San Diego stole three bases in the inning, two by Miguel Olivo and one by Dave Roberts, who leads the team with 21. Helling walked Mark Loretta to load the bases with two outs, and Brian Giles grounder deflected off Overbay's glove at first base to make it 1-0.

Ben Johnson hit a two-run homer in the ninth for the Padres.

Houston 3, Cincinnati 1

Roy Oswalt remained perfect against the Cincinnati Reds and the Houston Astros swept the three-game series with a victory on Thursday night.

The right-hander improved to 1-0 in 19 appearances against the Reds, the most wins without a loss by any pitcher against one team in major league history. Oswalt (11-1) is 4-0 against the Reds this season and the Astros remained one-half game behind the Philadelphia Phillies in the NL wild-card race.

He went 5 2-3 innings and had a season-high 11 strikeouts.

Oswalt, who allowed five hits and one walk, in 2-3 with two no-decisions in his last seven starts. Brad Lidge pitched the ninth for his 32nd save in 35 opportunities.

Cincinnati had won 14 of its previous 16 road games before this series. Aaron Harang (9-12) allowed three runs and five hits in seven innings.

In the second, Dunn doubled and scored on Casey's single to the left field corner. Casey was thrown out by left fielder Luke Scott trying to stretch the hit to a double. Scott's RIBI triple tied it in the fourth for Houston.

Willy Taveras singled to right-center to drive in Brad Ausmus with the go-ahead run in the fifth and Lance Berkman hit his 14th homer in the sixth.

Jason Lane of the Houston Astros collides with Cincinnati Reds catcher Javier Valentin Thursday. Lane scored on the play, and the Astros won 3-1.
Oakland wins 13-6 over New Orleans; Kerry Collins throws game's only touchdown to Randy Moss in 1st quarter

Associated Press

Joe Horn planned to head for Houston with the intent of helping one refugee family hurt by Hurricane Katrina. He'll go by limo, van or rental car.

Across the country from their devastated city, the New Orleans Saints somehow played a competitive football game when it's probably the last thing some of them wanted to do ... and then they turned their thoughts to assisting those in need and reuniting with family members over the weekend before returning to work Monday.

"It's not just the people in the (Astrodome), there are people in hotel rooms, 12 at a time with families piled on top of families, and they won't have the financial means," Horn said. "I'm going to stay there two days and see if I can help them out. I know I can't help everybody, but I'm going to try my best because I love the fans there and in Louisiana, Alabama and Mississippi."

Randy Moss caught a 27-yard touchdown from Kerry Collins in the first quarter for the game's only touchdown, leading the Oakland Raiders over the Saints 13-6 Thursday night in the preseason finale for both teams.

Transported 2,000 miles to California on Sunday, the Saints avoided the wrath of one of America's worst storms and prepared for this game under the sun at San Jose State University despite all the uncertainties back home.

A moment of silence was held before the game, and about 100 people turned out for a last-minute blood drive sponsored by the Raiders and the American Red Cross outside the Coliseum. The Raiders made a donation to the Red Cross and also ran public service announcements in the stadium, on their Web site and on their broadcasts encouraging people to help hurricane victims.

Players from both teams held a prayer circle when time expired.

"Everybody on our team is heartbroken," Saints coach Jim Haslett said. "They feel for the people."

Jim Haslett
Saints head coach

New Orleans Saints quarterback Todd Bouman passes against the Oakland Raiders Thursday. The Saints, recently displaced from the Louisiana Superdome, lost 13-6.

"I wouldn't say it's overwhelming," said general manager Mickey Loomis, who doesn't know whether the team will play in New Orleans again this season. "They understand they have a job to do. They know their families are safe. Once you know your family is safe, you go back to your business. What's overwhelming is what's going on in New Orleans, Mississippi and the entire Gulf Coast."

In the seats behind the Saints sideline, New Orleans resident Chad Seeger held a sign reading, "The Dome will rise again!" - a reference to the Louisiana Superdome, which became a temporary refugee camp for thousands of the city's stranded citizens but was heavily damaged in the storm.

Seeger came to California last week for vacation and was supposed to fly back Monday, when the hurricane hit. He is staying with his girlfriend and her family in San Francisco.

Another Saints fan, New Orleans native Jimmy Lashley, held a sign reading, "Forget Iraq. Help our own."

Third-string Oakland quarterback Andrew Walter, a third-round draft pick out of Arizona State, returned for missing the previous two exhibition games with a strained groin. He went 13-for-20 passes for 221 yards, including a 52-yard completion to Johnnie Morant.

The Saints chose to rest most of their regulars, including quarterback Aaron Brooks, Horn and running back Deuce McDallas.

New Orleans came into the game hoping to improve its run defense and appeared to make strides, limiting Oakland to 61 yards after allowing 151 yards to Baltimore's Chester Taylor in a 21-6 loss to the Ravens last Friday.

The Saints (1-3) celebrated good plays and were businesslike from warmups to the final tick of the clock. They don't yet know where they will play their home opener Sept. 18 against the New York Giants.

The Raiders (1-3) earned their first exhibition victory exactly a week before they open the season in a nationally televised game at Super Bowl champion New England.

Moss scored his second TD of the preseason in the only series he played and also had a 9-yard reception before taking a seat. Collins and almost all the other starters also played only one series.

"The first drive was good," Moss said. "One thing that we wanted to do was get out there and get ourselves ready for next week. With everything that we have gone through as far as training camp, preseason and today's game, we are headed in the right direction."

The Saints never considered not playing this game, even with heavy hearts.

"I wouldn't say it's overwhelming," said general manager Mickey Loomis, who doesn't know whether the team will play in New Orleans again this season. "They understand they have a job to do. They know their families are safe. Once you know your family is safe, you go back to your business. What's overwhelming is what's going on in New Orleans, Mississippi and the entire Gulf Coast."

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In Brief

Bowie leads early in LPGA State Farm classic

BROUNFIELD, Ill. — Heather Bowie chipped in for an eagle and had a bogey-free 7-under 65 Thursday to take a one-shot lead after the opening round of the LPGA State Farm Classic.

Bowie, who missed the U.S. Solheim Cup team after finishing 12th in the standings, was at even-par when she biffed a 14-foot wedge shot on the fourth hole at the Iliad Golf Club. She followed with five birdies in her bid for her second career title after winning the Jamie Farr Owens Corning Classic in July.

Sherri Turner, who missed most of last year with a shoulder injury, birdied five of her first six holes and was tied for the lead before hitting a 7-iron into the water and making a bogey at the par-3 16th. The 48-year-old Turner finished a stroke back at 6 under along with Natalie Gulbis and Tina Barrett.

Dina Ammaccapane, Jenna Daniels, Rachel Hetherington, Pat Hurst, Vikki Laing and Karrie Webb were tied at 5 under.

Rockets sign Ming to multi-year deal

HOUSTON — Yao Ming signed a five-year contract worth more than $75 million Thursday, keeping the 7-foot-6 center with the Houston Rockets through the 2010-11 season.

The extension, the maximum allowed under the NBA’s new labor deal, ended days of speculation about Yao’s future. Owner Leslie Alexander called the agreement “as important as anything I’ve done as an owner.”

“I think he could become one of the greatest players in the history of the game,” Alexander said during a conference call from New York. “To have the next great big man tied up for a long time is very, very important for this team and I believe it will give us a chance to compete for the championship for many years to come.”

After three tiebreakers, Agassi advances

NEW YORK — Size doesn’t matter in tennis.

Neither does age.

Andre Agassi stood 11 inches shorter than 6-foot-10 Croatian Ivan Karlovic, span serves about 50 mph slower, and logged far fewer miles on court.

The ace count went to Karlovic, 36-3, as he clocked serves consistently in the 130-142 mph range, but the second-round victory at the U.S. Open on Thursday went to Agassi, 7-6 (4), 7-6 (5), 7-6 (4).

At 35, nine years older than the gangly giant across the net, Agassi came up bigger on the big points to continue his run for one more Grand Slam title in his 20th visit to the Open. His wife, Steffi Graf, and 3-year-old son, Jaden, watched at courtside.

Colts sign all-Pro Simon, bolster defense

Indianapolis — The Indianapolis Colts, hoping to fix their one glaring weakness, reached a multi-year agreement Thursday with Corey Simon, a Pro Bowl defensive tackle released by Philadelphia in a contract dispute.

Simon wanted a long-term deal with Philadelphia and refused to sign a one-year franchise tender. The Eagles removed the franchise tag on the former first-round draft pick Sunday, making him an unrestricted free agent.

The Colts were quick to pounce. You can have a choice of these guys, but if they don’t have a motivation, you’re usually spinning your wheels,” Colts coach Tony Dungy said after Thursday’s practice. “When we talked to him early on, it was evident we were one of the places he was truly interested in. We felt we had something good to offer, and he felt the same way.

The negotiations didn’t take long.

Roosevelt Barnes, Simon’s agent, said he finished the deal with Colts president Bill Polian on Thursday morning and that Simon, who has 32 sacks in his five-year NFL career, would probably be in Indianapolis on Friday for a physical. Dungy said Simon might join the team in Cincinnati for the final preseason game Friday night, but he would not play.

“It’s going to be different for him,” Dungy said. “We play a completely different style than Philadelphia. He’s going to have to get used to that, get used to our terminology. It’s not going to be the type of thing where he’s going to come in and all of a sudden everyone’s going to click for us. We’re going to have to get him going.

“He played in a system similar to this at Florida State, so it’ll be a little bit of muscle memory. But he’ll help us very quickly, I think.”

Simon was the Eagles’ first-round pick and the sixth overall selection in the 2000 draft.

In five seasons with Philadelphia, he had 270 tackles and 32 sacks. He had 24 tackles and 5 1/2 sacks last season, but he did not sign a one-year, $5.13 million franchise tender the Eagles offered him because he wanted a long-term contract. He was selected to the Pro Bowl in 2003.

He skipped all of Philadelphia’s minicamps and its training camp.

Associated Press

around the dial

MLB

Philadelphia at Washington 6 p.m., Comcast
Chicago at Pittsburgh 6 p.m., Comcast
Cincinnati at Atlanta 6:35 p.m., TBS
St. Louis at Houston 7 p.m., Fox Sports
Midwest

NCAA FOOTBALL

Indiana at Central Michigan, 6:30 p.m., ESPN U
Arizona at Utah 7 p.m., ESPN

TENNIS

U.S. Open Day 5 Coverage 10 a.m., 6 p.m.
USA Network

LPGA Tour

State Farm Classic 6 p.m., ESPN 2

PGA TOUR

Deutsche Bank Championship 4 p.m., USA Network
Chargers beat 49ers, Giants knock off champs

Cleo Lemon throws game-winning TD in Chargers’ victory

Associated Press

SAN DIEGO — Alex Smith threw a touchdown pass in his homecoming game. Philip Rivers and Cleo Lemon had scoring passes, too. And now they all get to sit on the bench to open the season.

Lemon, San Diego’s third-string quarterback, threw a 12-yard scoring pass to Ruvell Martin with 19 seconds left to give the Chargers a 28-24 victory over the New York Giants on Thursday night.

Lemon’s second TD pass of the fourth quarter came shortly after Joe Nedney kicked a 25-yard field goal with 1:11 left to give the 49ers a 24-21 lead. That drive was keyed by fourth-stringer Cody Pickett, who had a 15-yard scramble and a 41-yard pass to Rashaun Harmon.

Midway through the fourth quarter, Lemon was flushed all the way across the field and, throwing off-balance and across his body, hit tight end Landon Trusty with a 30-yard TD pass to tie it at 21-21. But on opening day, Tim Rattay will start for San Francisco and DREW Brees for San Diego.

Smith, the No. 1 pick in the NFL draft, lost his starting job to Rattay after lackluster performances in the first two exhibition games.

Smith, who played at Relix High in nearby La Mesa before starting at Utah, was in for 23 plays over four drives, completing nine of 15 passes for 69 yards. He threw one interception and fumbled once, which he recovered.

Smith had a rough start. After two penalties against the 49ers, he was hit hard on two passes and fumbled once, which he missed his second straight game, missed a potential game-winning field goal against Denza, McNabb and Terrell Owens together.

Rivers watched from the press box and Owens looked on from the bench as the New York Jets’ backups dominated the Philadelphia Eagles junior varsity in a victory Thursday night.

"If there was a positive, it was" opportunity to see the young guys," Eagles coach Andy Reid said. "I'm not happy with their performance out there. It wasn't very good."

Rivers and Chad Pennington played one series for the Jets, completing all three of his passes and leading the offense into the end zone. Brad Washiington returned an interception 99 yards for a score, and Derrick Blaylock and Little John Flowers each had TD runs.

"If there was a positive, it was an opportunity to see the young guys," Eagles coach Andy Reid said. "I'm not happy with their performance out there. It wasn't very good."

No matter how tenuous their job, there was a chance to start against the Falcons.

"It's right where he's supposed to be," Jets coach Herman Edwards said of Pennington. "Everybody made a big deal of how he played last week. It wasn't his arm. It was his decision-making."

Falcons 20, Dolphins 17

MIAMI — The Atlanta Falcons did little to help the Miami Dolphins resolve their quarterback situation, stopping both Gus Frerotte and A.J. Feeley. Etire Fruit scored on a 51-yard interception return and the Falcons allowed no first downs in the opening 25 minutes, helping them win Thursday in the final exhibition game for both teams.

While Freerote and Feeley struggled, third-stringer Sage Rosenfels threw for 217 yards and two touchdowns against reserves in the second half. New Miami coach Nick Saban didn’t rule out giving Rosenfels the starting nod for the season opener Sept. 11 against Denver.

"I was pleased with the way Sage played," Saban said. "It looked like he had some command out there and did a good job. Those things are factors that need to be taken into consideration."

"We want to pick the quarterback that’s going to give us the best opportunity to win," he said. "I’m not prepared after watching that game to make a statement about that."
Steve Spurrier. A sellout crowd of 82,753 packed Williams-Brice Stadium for South Carolina's 24-15 win over Central Florida.

"Well, I'm not going to feel too bad, because a few plays here and there and they beat us," he said.

Spurrier's attitude? Forget the mistakes and let his young team enjoy a win.

"It was a tough night," Spurrier said. "But we're one and oh and we're not going to sit around and try it.

The Gamecocks' win over the Knights (0-1) overcame three fumbles and got them a fourth-and-goal stop from the 1 late in the game to send Spurrier out a winner.

The Knights' offense was led by two first-half touchdown catches to put the Gamecocks up 14-0 less than a minute into the game. His 283 yard to touchdown pass went for 64 yards. Tight end Andy Boyd capped the first-quarter scoring with a 12-yard touchdown from the 1 with 2:50 left.

Still, South Carolina could not stop the ball. Finding Mike Davis on a short dump pass that went for 64 yards. Tight end Andy Boyd capped the drive with a 12-yard touchdown catch to put the Gamecocks up 14-0 less than a minute into the game.

Mitchell, who had completed only 49 of 122 passes in his career, connected on 15 of 19 in the opening half. His 283 yards passing by halftime passed the Gamecocks totals of every game but one from last season.

"A few things fell into place the way we thought they would and we got some big plays out of it," Mitchell said.

"Once you get those few short ones and that nervousness out of you, you said it was just a very precisely.

With the ball in command, it looked as if the Gamecocks were headed for a typical Spurrier blowout.

Instead, UCF made a fourth-quarter charge. Mike Walker had a 13-yard touchdown catch and John Brown a 29-yard field goal in the fourth quarter.

"We started off a little big eyed, but I think we settled in and competed." -- George O'Leary

Central Florida head coach George O'Leary

South Carolina head coach Steve Spurrier celebrates after a key fourth-down conversion in the first quarter against Central Florida Thursday.

The sold-out crowd of 82,753 at Williams-Brice Stadium couldn't wait to see their newest hero take the sidelines. They packed the State Fairgrounds across from the stadium hours before kickoff and even cheered loudly in the middle of the pre-game prayer when Spurrier's name was mentioned.

Spurrier felt as if he'd never been away from the college game. "Chucked a few deep, hit some, missed some," he said.

But this was far from the scoring machine Spurrier built over 12 seasons at Florida.

Spurrier has said the Gamecocks are a ways out from competing for an SEC title. They showed that at times Thursday.

After Mitchell drove the Gamecocks to UCF's 16, he was sacked twice and South Carolina missed a 50-yard field goal try.

On another series South Carolina moved from its 8 to UCF's 5. Again, the Gamecocks faltered in the red zone, settling for Josh Brown's 22-yard field goal.

In the third quarter when backup quarterback Antonius Hefner fumbled the snap, Spurrier slammed his papers to the ground in disgust.

And things figure to get rougher next week when the Gamecocks go to Georgina in Spurrier's first SEC game in four years.

Bulldogs fans remember all too well how Florida scored a late touchdown in a 52-17 blowout in 1995 so the Gators could be the first opponent to hit the half-century mark at Sanford Stadium.

"We got to get better on defense, we got to get better on offense, we got to get better everywhere," Spurrier said.

"Simple as that.

WNBA

Swoopes leads Comets over Storm

Associated Press

Sheryl Swoopes converted two defensive stands by Houston into four points in the final three minutes, and the Comets rallied from a 10-point second-half deficit to beat the Seattle Storm 67-64 Thursday night.

The Comets, who scored their best three WNBA playoff series is tied at 1-1. Game 3 will be Saturday night in Seattle.

Swoopes scored 20 points for the Comets, 14 in the second half. Tina Thompson added 13 points, Janeth Arcain 12 and Michelle Snow 10.

Betty Lennox led Seattle with 16 points, but made just 6-of-20 shots. Nursing a sprained back

Lauren Jackson added 14 and Janell Burse had 12.

The Comets trailed 47-37 with 15:30 left after consecutive 3-pointers by Iziana Castro Marques and Sue Bird.

The Storm's shooting struggled from there, as they scored just eight points over the next eight minutes, allowing the Comets to rally and take a 57-55 lead with 6:14 left on a reverse layup by Janeth Arcain. It was Houston's first lead since 2-0.

Lennox drove and scored five straight points for Seattle, making a 20-foot jumper, then beating Dawn Staley on a baseline drive and converting a three-point play after being fouled by Snow with 4:08 left.

Thompson scored for the Comets and Burse responded for Seattle, giving the Storm a 62-59 lead. Snow scored on a tough reverse, then Swoopes stole a pass from Bird and scored to put the Comets up 63-62 with 2:06 left. Lennox was then called for a charge, and Swoopes was fouled at the other end, making both free throws.

Lennox scored on a layup with 10 seconds left, and Houston turned over the inbound pass. Lennox missed a short jumper, but Staley stole the rebound from Burse.

Arcain was fouled and made both free throws. Bird and Lennox missed tough 3-point attempts in the final seconds.
**Hurricane Katrina**

**Evacuees moved from Superdome to Astrodome**

The home of the New Orleans Saints became unsuitable for occupation due to extreme heat and overflowing toilets.

Associated Press

The first busloads of weary refugees began arriving early Thursday at Houston's Astrodome, where air-conditioned comfort awaited them. The Federal Emergency Management Agency provided 600 buses to transport people made homeless by Hurricane Katrina and then again by the floodwaters around the New Orleans' arena from the Superdome to the Astrodome. Houston developers detailed plans for turning the rarely used 40-year-old Astrodome into a hotel last month not knowing that within weeks the Dome would be retrofitted into a temporary home for up to 25,000 hurricane evacuees.

The first bus from New Orleans' damaged Superdome arrived at 12:30 a.m. Thursday, with 50 people aboard. An hour and a half later, four more buses arrived.

"We are going to do everything we can to make people comfortable," Red Cross spokeswoman Margaret O'Brien-Molina said. "Places have to be found for these people. Many of these people may have nowhere else to go.

Until temporary housing can be established in Louisiana, Texas Gov. Rick Perry said the evacuation was kept moving "to get them off the water and out of the hurricane's path."

A moment of silence was held before the game, and about 200 fans were on hand for a last-minute blood drive sponsored by the Superdome's Red Cross outside the Coliseum.

The Saints fled their ruined city late Sunday, beating the worst of the storm's worst over months by coming early to California and practicing early to California and practicing.

The Saints' struggle to focus on football

New Orleans played final preseason game Thursday in Oakland

**Associated Press**

OAKLAND, Calif.—Injured New Orleans linebacker James Allen, who had no idea where he would be playing minutes before kickoff with a cell phone in each hand.

The Saints' preseason finale against Oakland was far from his mind. He needed to check in with a few people first to make sure they were fine in the devastating aftermath of Hurricane Katrina.

"I've never witnessed anything so chaotic and disastrous," he said. "You always see things on TV or in the movies, but this is real life. Of course everybody says it puts football in perspective."

Larry Jr., left Donte's home in New Orleans native Edward Kendricks. Her older son, Wayne and Mark bell were recently evacuated and stayed with his girlfriend and cousins, brothers and sisters, nephews.

"I'm glad it flooded because we got a lot of help," he said.

New Orleans native Edward Lashley and brother, Jimmy, were still worried about all their family back home: cousins, brothers and sisters, nephews.

The NFL's Saints will be based in San Antonio for a while.

**SPORTS**

Friday, September 2, 2005

**The Observer**
Healthy Panthers anxious to play at full strength

Falcons another possibility as NFC South winner; newly homeless Saints may also contend; Bucs expected to struggle

Associated Press

No team was raved by injuries in 2004 more than the Carolina Panthers. Yet, they almost made the playoffs after a 1-7 start.

Imagine how a healthy Carolina might do? Maybe well enough to get back to the Super Bowl, which the Panthers lost to New England on the final play after the 2003 season.

The Panthers will need a strong turnaround to win a division that once was among the NFC's weakest and now is one of the best. Atlanta, which makes a habit of beating Carolina — winning nine of the last 10 meetings — will be a tough foe and their matchup on New Year's Day to end the season could decide the NFC South.

New Orleans also could challenge, provided it gets steady play from quarterback Aaron Brooks and a dangerous pass rush to overcome unimpressive linebacking.

Tampa Bay hasn't done much since winning the Super Bowl in January 2003, and probably won't do much this year, either. Coach John Fox never let the Panthers make up their minds even as many starters were going down a year ago. If DT Kris Jenkins, WR Michael Vick, WR Jerricho Cotchery and both top runners, DeShaun Foster and Stephen Davis, are all in the field, Carolina could be New England's main threat in conference.

Wiselv, the Panthers extended the contracts of middle linebacker Tank Morgan, one of their key players. Along with 12-year veteran CB Mike Alexander, the additions of S Idrees Bashir and SS Roman Harper to a defense that needs upgrading in January.

But remember that Atlanta never has had two straight winning seasons.

New England is the team that once was among the NFC's weakest and now is one of the best. Atlanta, which makes a habit of beating Carolina — winning nine of the last 10 meetings — will be a tough foe and their matchup on New Year's Day to end the season could decide the NFC South.

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Belles take reputation into weekend tournament

Saint Mary’s travels to Ferris State this afternoon for tee off

By ANNA FRICANO
Sports Writer

The weekend marks the start of more than one varsity sport in the Notre Dame-Saint Mary’s community. Before the football team will even get a chance to call the coin toss, the Saint Mary’s golf team will have completed the first round of its first tournament of the fall season.

The Belles won’t be facing tens of thousands of fans, and there are unlikely to be any pre-game press conferences. What the team will face, however, are expectations — the kind of expectations that come from being one of the most successful women’s golf programs in the nation. In the last three years, Saint Mary’s golf has captured three conference titles and made three NCAA appearances. Coach and players alike have much hopes for an successful year, and this weekend will be a good opportunity for them to see what kind of a season they can expect.

The Belles will travel to Ferris State University this afternoon to compete in the Bulldog Invitational, a tournament consisting of two 18-hole rounds to be played on Saturday and Sunday. The team has performed well at the event in past years, but this year the invitational takes place at a new course, one that the Belles have yet to face. The competition will have little effect on the outcome of the fall 2005 golf season, however. It’s not a conference tournament, and although the results will factor into early-season rankings, scores will not have any effect on conference standings.

What this weekend will be for the Belles is a good indicator of what they can expect for the rest of the season. For the freshmen on the team, it’s the beginning of what could be a highly successful collegiate career. And for the seniors on the team, it’s the beginning of an already accomplished career. The veterans of the team are hoping to take advantage of the fact that two freshmen will be traveling with them this weekend.

“I feel like it’s our job to show the freshmen how to act, to represent us well and to play well. I believe they will do a good job,” said Megan Mattia, Belles golfer.

“I think that we’ve got a good group of fresh- men. They’re going to do well,” said Saint Mary’s golf coach.

Belles often jumped out to big leads and then allowed Chicago to claw it’s way back in the games. But Schroeder-Biek was proud of her team’s performance.

"We had a couple times we were down and Chicago closed the gap on us," Schroeder-Biek said. "For us to be able to maintain our confidence and come back and finish the match up strong, I think it’s a good sign for the girls."

Saint Mary’s is coming off of a disappointing 2004 campaign. The Belles finished the year in seventh place in the nine-team MIAA conference, recording a team overall record of 6-19 and a conference mark of 3-11. However, Schroeder-Biek is confident her team will turn things around this year. Saint Mary’s returns a core group of veterans, highlighted by Turley, junior outside hitter Kristen Pinsky and senior middle hitter Shirley Bender.

Turley thinks this group will lead Saint Mary’s to a big season.

"I think that we’ve got a good group of freshmen. They’re going to do well," said Schroeder-Biek. "I think if we play the best we can play, we’re going to do a good job."

Belles will be a good opportunity for the team to see what kind of a season they can expect.

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Texas
continued from page 28

Jenny Andrew, sophomore
Texas finished 26-5. Though the experience at setter, middle game in the three matches. She
Longhorns are nationally swept by UNLV, all on the road.
men ButAnn Feist and Lauren
blocker and opposite in junior
Paolini. The Longhorns have
kills and 10 digs. The Sun
match as well, with at least 10
Heather Schreiber. Last year,
Leticia Armstrong and senior

Travel
continued from page 28

Duke Hashimoto. SMU will look to make up for two exhibition losses, after falling to Akron and UConn two weeks ago at the Rock Nuffin Cup in Akron, Ohio.
Like SMU, Wake Forest is coming off a big 2004 season. The Demon Deacons won the ACC and entered last year's NCAA tournament as the top seed. But the team was upset in the round of 16, losing to VCU on penalty kicks.
Wake Forest enters 2005 ranked 10th in the NCAA pre-season poll. Head coach Jay Vidovich must replace four players who were selected in the 2005 MLS Superdraft. The Demon Deacons have gone 2-0 in exhibition play, defeating Charlotte and Furman.
Notre Dame is excited to face two high quality teams so early in the year.
"It's a great challenge for us and we're looking forward to it," tri-captain Dale Relias said. "They're both going to present different challenges for us, but it's something that we look forward to and we're excited about." 
The Irish have played two exhibition games already, tying the Westside Wolves in New Mexico Aug. 22 and edging Michigan 2-1 in Ann Arbor on Sunday. Junior Nate Norman has led his team's play thus far, but it's up to [him] to clinch the deal.
"There is going to be an opportunity for one of them against SMU. And then after that it's going to be up to him to capitalize on that opportunity." Notre Dame views this weekend's tournament as a valuable opportunity to pad its resume with impressive wins over highly ranked teams.
"Any time you get to play a ranked team it helps with NCAA selection," Relias said. "It will also boost our confidence. If we beat these teams, then we've got a lot of confidence going into the Big East."
Clark is hopeful about the tournament that wins the tournament could create.
"We've got a great squad of players," Clark said. "If we can get it right then we can build from here. If we can keep it moving, then it could be very exciting season." 
Contact Kevin Brennan at kbrennan@nd.edu
 continued from page 28

Orr

tournament Saturday and Sunday featuring schools from the state universities of New York in preparation for their first real test against Illinois Wesleyan on Wednesday. Orr will be asked to lead a young team that lost seven seniors from last year’s team.

In changing from a flat-four back to a new three-player zone defense focused on speed, the Belles look to generate a faster tempo, relying on high-energy play from the extra midfielder to take advantage of the solid middle of the lineup. With the shift to the zone defense higher intensity practices to get the team adjusted to the new style of play.

“Our keys to winning are going to be high energy and being the first to put pressure on the other team.”

Carrie Orr
Belles captain

Home continued from page 28

special! equates to losing only one regular-season home game in the past two years, a 3-2 loss to Michigan in November 2003.

Now, it’s Florida’s turn to try to snap Notre Dame’s 11-game regular-season home unbeaten streak. Including post-season play, the Irish haven’t lost in their past 15 home games.

But the Gators pose a significant challenge. The team posted a 16-4-2 record last year en route to an appearance in the NCAA Tournament. This year, led by sophomore midfielder Jasmine Johnson and freshman forward Megan Kerns, the No. 15 Gators look like a legitimate title contender.

Waldrum said that Florida comes into the game with a history as rich as the Irish.

“They’ve got this tradition of being a really good athletic team,” he said.

Florida kicked its season off on the right foot Saturday with a 3-1 victory over Jackson State.

Johnson, a former Irish recruit, scored the team’s first goal of the season at 17:01 in the first half.

“Jasmine obviously is a very athletic kid,” Waldrum said. “That was a kid who was... on our radar screen in the recruiting process.”

Waldrum said the team also recruited Kerns last year. From that, he said the Irish “know they’ve [Florida] got a couple of really good weapons offensively.”

The Irish, though, have quite a few offensive weapons of their own. Reigning national player of the week Kerri Hanks leads the team with 15 points (7G-1A) in her first two collegiate games, and preseason Big East player of the year Katie Thorlakson is second with eight (4G-4A).

“T.J., really happy with where we are now. The mindset is good — I think we’ll come out with a good weekend(ends).”

Randy Waldrum
Irish coach

“We still have a great defense because our middles will still be strong.”

Shannon Cubertson
Belles captain

What’s on the agenda?

This will be a question asked often on campus, beginning today as Notre Dame launches a new, unified, Web-based calendar system that will list events for all segments of the University community.

It will be the one place where students, faculty, staff and the general public can read about all the major events scheduled on campus.

Agenda will organize events by category, such as Arts & Entertainment, Academic Dates, Student Life, Health & Recreation, Lectures & Conferences, and Service as well as by day, week, month and even year.

Come visit our multipurpose calendar for your one-stop calendar experience

http://agenda.nd.edu
Jockular

At it was in the beginning...

So shall it be in the end.

Alec White and Erik Powers

Crossaintworld

As it was in the beginning...

Oh, I've got some plans.

Adam Fairholm

Crossword

ACROSS
1. It's seen in the middle of a quarter
9. Name of many Jewish schools
15. Goes for
16. Program with sins
17. Huge number
18. Trick collection
20. More like fuse
22. Words of warning
24. Opera part
28. Fabric pattern
34. Faulkner's "Thirteenth"
35. X-ray for flex, say

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE
WHEN some leather produces the ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE
30 X-ray for Rex,
24 Opera part
22 Words of
21 More like fudge
18 Put up
17 Figureheads
16 Program with
15 Goes for
14 Suck in your home.

H. C. White and E. R. Powers

Jumble

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each rep, to form four ordinary words.

CROWE

YURMK

MEEZAC

NOXEGY

Horoscope

Eugenia Last

Celebrities born on this day: Gloria Estefan, 48; Dr. Phil McGraw, 53; Barry Gibb, 59; Lily Tomlin, 69.

Happy Birthday: You will have added discipline this year, but if you engage in controversial topics or projects, you may find yourself standing alone. Choose wisely what you are going to pursue and with whom you are going to do. Once you have made up your mind, you will find it much easier to move forward without opposition. Your numbers are 4, 8, 17, 39, 42.

Aries (March 21-April 19): Travel or educational pursuits that will aid you or getting ahead in the future should be on your agenda. Multitasking will be your thing today. Love, money and new partnerships are all looking good.****

Taurus (April 20-May 20): You will be very lucky today. The weather and your mood will be on your side. Healthy foods will be your thing today. Your affairs will be going well.****

Gemini (May 21-June 20): You will have plenty of options today, but if you decide you want to take advantage of all of them, you will fall short of all counts. Get organized and spread out what you can do over the next few days. That way you will enjoy your success.****

Cancer (June 21-July 22): Work and money should be your concern today. If you are willing to put in the hours, you will do quite well. Don't let an emotional state mess up your way from getting things done.***

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22): You may not be able to change what's going on around you or what other people want to do, but if you are true to yourself, you will end up winning in the end. Creative projects will turn out better than anticipated and will draw attention. ****

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): You'll have trouble winning today if you are involved with other people. Don't meddle or try to help someone who doesn't really want help. Work on your own projects and avoid debates or controversial topics.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Everything is turning in your favor, so don't miss a bet. Go after your goals and put faith in motion. You can make financial gains if you put your mind to it. Travel will be an extraordinary opportunity.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): There will be so much going on around you that it will be important to keep things simple and clear. Today you need to create a plan that you can control. You are the one who will be in control. You are in control, but don't be afraid to let your feelings be known.***

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): There will be so much going on around you that it will be important to keep things simple and clear. Today you need to create a plan that you can control. You are the one who will be in control. You are in control, but don't be afraid to let your feelings be known.***

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20): A chance to make money through an unusual route or investment. Don't ignore the signs that someone is sending you. The more open you are, the easier it will be to resolve issues. Love is apparent, so don't be afraid of heartbreak.

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THE OBSERVER

Published Monday through Friday, The Observer is a vital source of information on people and events in the Notre Dame and Saint Mary's Community.

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Enclosed is $100 for one academic year

Enclosed is $55 for one semester

Name

Address

City  State  Zip
After dominating New Hampshire and Vermont on the road to start the season, the Irish return to Alumni Field tonight at 7:30 p.m. for the team's home opener against the Florida Gators.

The game is the first of two for the Irish this weekend in the Inn at St. Mary's Notre Dame Classic, as they are set to play Maryland Sunday.

"I think everybody is really excited to open at home," Notre Dame coach Randy Waldrum said. "There's something special about getting out there [on Alumni Field]."

Waldrum said. "There's something about getting out there [on Alumni Field]."

For the Irish, "something special about getting out there [on Alumni Field]."
SPOTLIGHT ON THE SIDELINES

CHARLIE WEIS AND DAVE WANNSTEDT KICKOFF THEIR COLLEGE COACHING CAREERS, LEAVING STORIED NFL PASTS BEHIND
Charlie Weis era finally begins

Finally, it's here.
The day Tom Zbikowski has been waiting for since the end of last season. The day Irish fans have been anxiously anticipating since Dec. 13. Finally, on Saturday, the Charlie Weis era of Notre Dame football begins.

The 1978 Notre Dame grad returns to face former Pitt offensive tackle Dave Wannstedt, who makes his own coaching debut for the Panthers. True, the coaching matchup is a nice side show, but the real story lies in what happens Saturday night on Heinz Field.

"I think a lot of times the fanfare and the attention goes toward the coaches and the coaching staff, but in reality it comes down to which team executes the best," Weis said.

Although Weis tries to deflect the media attention, he's already spent almost nine months in the spotlight. Weis is 0-0 as the head football coach at the University of Notre Dame, yet he has already been lauded as the man to turn the program around. Most agree that he is the right man for the job. But the fact remains — his career record, 0-0 — Saturday, that will change, for better or worse.

"I've been wearing the same white jersey every single practice since the beginning of spring ball," Irish center Bob Morton said. "I hate putting it on. I hate putting on the same old raggedy helmet — the gold paint hasn't been put on in a long time. We're ready to get off the Carrier Fields and back into the light that we're here for."

And despite the fact that the players are itching to play, there are still many unanswered questions about this team. How is third-year quarterback Brady Quinn going to run the new offense? What about the inexperienced secondary, which faces a quarterback in Tyler Palko, who tore them apart last year for 334 passing yards and five touchdowns? What about the rest of the defense that is unproven — can it stop freshman tailback Rashad Jennings and get pressure on Palko? Special teams going to be as pitiful as last season? What about sophomore tailback Darius Walker — how effective will he be now that he is no longer a surprise to opposing defenses? The fact of the matter is that no matter how "nasty" Weis is or how many recruits he has gotten to commit, it is yet to be seen what he will do with this Irish team on Saturdays. Optimism abounds, but there are still so many unanswered questions. Once on the field the Irish will have to prove in the ration that it is not about to have another 6-6 season. And nobody knows that better than Weis himself.

"We'll see how popular I am Sunday," the first-year coach said. "You know how that goes. I think that I've done a lot of things to bring a positive vibe to the program, but it still really comes down to how you play."

This game is important, no doubt about it. And it won't be easy. Playing on the road against a top-25 team is never a walk in the park, especially for a team that's unproven — can it stop freshman tailback Rashad Jennings and get pressure on Palko? Special teams going to be as pitiful as last season? What about sophomore tailback Darius Walker — how effective will he be now that he is no longer a surprise to opposing defenses? The fact of the matter is that no matter how "nasty" Weis is or how many recruits he has gotten to commit, it is yet to be seen what he will do with this Irish team on Saturdays. Optimism abounds, but there are still so many unanswered questions. Once on the field the Irish will have to prove in the ration that it is not about to have another 6-6 season. And nobody knows that better than Weis himself.

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Back to the future

Two first-time college head coaches face off in the season opener at Pittsburgh

By PAT LEONARD
Sports Writer

It isn't about just them.
In fact, both Notre Dame coach Charlie Weis and Pittsburgh coach Dave Wannstedt would argue Saturday's game is not about them at all.
"I think Dave [Wannstedt] would say the same thing that I would say, is that this game is between players, not between coaches," Weis said.
Sure, the players will decide the final score come Saturday at Heinz Field. But on that day, any fan with a ticket or a television set will have the unique opportunity to watch two men, each coaching at his alma mater, in their first attempt to lead these respective programs back to becoming national powerhouses.

Weis has three Super Bowl rings. Wannstedt has won one Super Bowl and two national championships—one as a player and one as an assistant coach.
On Saturday, the two men will be only a football field—a college football field, that is—apart.
"Everything that's happening around the city and around the nation—is an exciting time," Wannstedt said. "You can just start to sense that a little bit."

Returning home
Weis played left tackle for Pitt in the early 1970s, blocking for Tony Dorsett and helping the 1973 squad win its senior year a 6-4-1 record and a Fiesta Bowl berth. He was a coach at both schools by 1974 but built a program that went on to win a national championship three seasons later.
His history has caused every fan with a ticket or a television set to circle Sept. 3 on their calendar.
"The same goes for Weis at Notre Dame," Wannstedt said. "Though he did not play a varsity sport in college, the new Irish captain had love and knowledge for sports that sent him as high as the NFL ranks after he graduated in 1974. In NFL, Weis coached beneath the likes of Bill Parcells and Bill Belichick.
But he also felt he had the ability and the attitude to coach a team on which, unlike the NFL players also had to attend class. These would be students-athletes without million dollar contracts.
"I think that college has been more enticing to guys in the NFL because if you have the personality to coach in college—it doesn't fit for everyone—but certain people kind of enjoy it," he said. "I do, and I haven't talked to Dave recently, but I think he enjoys it, too."
Numerous coaches have made the NFL-to-college move recent-ly, and many also have done so with great success. Nick Saban, the current Miami Dolphins head coach, was once an assistant with the Houston Oilers (1988-89) and Cleveland Browns (1991-94) before coaching college for 11 seasons at Michigan State (1995-99) and Louisiana State. Al Groh (New York Jets to the University of Virginia) and Pete Carroll (New England Patriots to Southern Cal) each gave up their pro football jobs to run their own programs. And especially in Carroll's case, things seem to be working out just fine.

As Weis attempts to assemble a Notre Dame powerhouse reminiscent of the 1977 national championship team under coach Dan Devine—who while Weis was a student—he understands there are certain aspects of the game that will immediately reflect on his ability to coach in college.
"It basically comes down to how our players actually were mentally prepared and that shows up on the field," he said.

Honing experience
One of the biggest adjustments to the college game for both coaches has been the time element.
"Oddly enough, each coach has a different take."

For the playmaker Weis, having spring and fall camps with two-a-day practices has given him more than enough time to install a thick playbook, at least what will prepare the team for Pittsburgh Saturday. Weis is almost best-known anyway for his ability to adapt his game plan within a game, like he did in the Patriots' recent Super Bowl win over the Philadelphia Eagles.
"From a preparation standpoint, this is as good as it gets because you have so much time," Weis said. "We've had a lot of practices, we've had plenty of practices to get ready to go for Pittsburgh and get the season started. I think that right now the No. 1 thing is to make sure we're just peaking on Saturday night."

Wannstedt, on the other hand, has more experience in the college game but indicates he would like more time to prepare his team.
"My experience has been that there's never enough time," he said. "I don't care if you were in the Pro Bowl, I'd like to have a little more time."
As Weis and Wannstedt have faced each other personally, it will still be the same school.
Contact Pat Leonard at pleonard@inad.edu

by the numbers
Number of passing touchdowns by Tyler Palko against the Irish in 2004 — then a Notre Dame Stadium record
8
Notre Dame head coaches, out of 13, who won their first career road game — including Rockne, Leahy, Devine and Williams, and in a win over BYU.

Yards Darrius Walker rushed for against Pittsburgh last year, with two touchdowns
112
Times Weis and Wannstedt have faced each other as opposing coaching staffs.
22
Weis' staffs have won 12 of the 22.
Preseason rank for Pittsburgh's receivers and tight ends
3
Collective years of coaching experience by the Irish staff
214
Passes completed by third-year starter Brady Quinn — fourth on Notre Dame's all-time list
348
Notre Dame's record in night games in 2004, including a loss in the road opener at BYU
1-3
Notre Dame Fighting Irish

**Record:** 0-0

**AP: NR**

**Coaches:** NR

---

**NOTRE DAME FIGHTING IRISH 2005 Schedule**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Opponent</th>
<th>Result</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sept. 3</td>
<td>at Pittsburgh</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept. 10</td>
<td>at Michigan</td>
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<td>Sept. 24</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oct. 15</td>
<td>at USC</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Oct. 22</td>
<td>at BYU</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nov. 5</td>
<td>at Tennessee</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nov. 12</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nov. 19</td>
<td>at Syracuse</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nov. 26</td>
<td>at Stanford</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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**COACHING**

**QUARTERBACKS**

Brady Quinn has started every Notre Dame game since Purdue in 2003. His experience, talent and receiving corps should help him in his junior year. Weis took Tom Brady to the Super Bowl, and Quinn will benefit immediately from his new tutor and head coach, also.

**IRISH RUSHING**

Darius Walker is a quick, shifty back running behind an offensive line that is thin, though it returns all starters from last year. Travis Thomas and Rashon Powers-Neal add depth, while freshman Asaph Schwapp might be a nice surprise at fullback.

**IRISH PASSING**

The loss of three-year starters Vince Crochunis and Dan Stephens leaves the Panther D-line with little depth. Ends Chris McGillop and Leo Chesmond must not let Walker break outside or the Irish could have another performance like Julius Jones’ 262-yard day in 2003.

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**PITTSBURGH**

Like Weis, Wannstedt is back at his alma mater. His love for Pittsburgh experience as a head coach in the NFL for 11 years and defensive expertise make the Panthers dangerous. His move back to college mirrors the path of USC head coach Pete Carroll.

**WEIS VS. WANNSTEDT**

Weis is on the field. He will move back to college coaching following 11 years as an NFL offensive coordinator. Neither has been a successful head coach in the NFL. In 2004, Weis had a 7-5 mark at Notre Dame, while Wannstedt was at 8-4.

Brady Quinn is in a third-year starting role with Weis as his head coach. He will be a key player in the Irish offense.

---

**ANALYSIS**

Weis vs. Wannstedt is a matchup of offensive guru vs. defensive specialist. Neither has been a college head coach, but both are encouraging their respective offenses and defenses. The two coaches will have to adjust their schemes to college talent and gameplay.

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**Irish experts**

**Managing Editor**

Pat Leonard

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**Quartersbacks**

Brady Quinn and Tyler Palko will have outstanding games, but Darius Walker will be the difference on this year. The Notre Dame secondary will keep Palko out of the endzone a reasonable amount, and the Irish will come out on top on the road. Wells will have his first win at Notre Dame, and a big one it will be.

---

**Fighting Irish Coaches: NR**

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**Seniors Ibemba McKnight and Maurice Stovall enter their last season hoping to fully realize their potential. Jeff Samardzija, Matt Shelton and a deep tight end group led by Anthony Fasano could post plenty of points on the board for Notre Dame.**

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**Managing Editor**

Pat Leonard

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**Fighting Irish Coaches: NR**

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**Notre Dame Fighting Irish**

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Pat Leonard

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Pat Leonard

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**Fighting Irish Coaches: NR**

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Pat Leonard

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**Fighting Irish Coaches: NR**

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**Managing Editor**

Pat Leonard
PITTSBURGH

2005 Schedule

Sept. 3 NOTRE DAME
Sept. 9 at Ohio
Sept. 17 at Nebraska
Sept. 24 YOUNGSTOWN ST.
Sept. 30 at Rutgers
Oct. 8 CINCINNATI
Oct. 15 SOUTH FLORIDA
Oct. 22 SYRACUSE
Nov. 3 at Louisville
Nov. 12 Connecticut
Nov. 24 at West Virginia

Roster

Head coach

Dave Wannstedt

Record: 0-0

AP: 23

Coaches: 25

Pittsburgh Panthers

Notre Dame

Panthers

Record: 0-0

AP: 23

Coaches: 25

Pittsburgh has every main player back from one of the worst gusting squads in the nation last year. Three Laws remained dominant in the spring game and will resettle with Derek Landri to clog the middle and stall the Panthers' new emphasis on running the ball.

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Notre Dame has the offensive talent and a coaching mind capable of manufacturing a slew of points. But a question mark secondary and Palko's competitive fire will keep the Panthers close. The Irish sound like they believe in Weis. If they play to their potential for him, Notre Dame will win with a win.

FINAL SCORE: Notre Dame 31
Pittsburgh 20

Irish experts

Pittsburgh

Pittsburgh Panthers

Notre Dame

Panthers

Record: 0-0

AP: 23

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Pittsburgh 20
Sizing up the Irish and the Panthers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>AVERAGE PER GAME</th>
<th>NOTRE DAME'S OFFENSE vs PITTSBURGH'S DEFENSE</th>
<th>PITTSBURGH'S OFFENSE vs NOTRE DAME'S DEFENSE</th>
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<tr>
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</tbody>
</table>

Notre Dame yards penalized
Michigan yards penalized

| 548  | 560 |

The Observer ♦ IRISH INSIDER
Friday, September 2, 2005

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RAK PATEL, ANALYST
TECHNOLOGY

citigroup
Panthers’ Palko prepared for breakout year

By MIKE GILLOON
Sports Editor

Darins Walker showed his ability to adapt well to college life in 2004. He scored 12 touchdowns when he used profanity — to go along with 334 yards and no interceptions on 26-of-42 passing — sparked a three-game winning streak, carved into the Irish record book. "We're all kind of antsy right now," Walker said. "We're kind of tired of playing against ourselves ... We just want to go out there and do our best and go down there and whoop Pittsburgh." Darius Walker Irish running back

"I think I thrive on competition," Walker said. "I thrive on being marked man. It's well documented that [Lee's] one of the best receivers in college football, so that will present a challenge," defensive backs coach Bill Lewis said. "They have some talent, and I think it's well documented that [Lee's] one of the best receivers in college football." Bill Lewis defensive backs coach

By MIKE GILLOON
Sports Editor

The last time Pittsburgh quarterback Tyler Palko took the field against Notre Dame, he left game behind — carved into the Irish record book. "We've got great respect for Tyler Palko," Irish defensive coordinator Rick Minter said. "I think he's kind of a Brett Favre-type guy with better arm and grittiness." After all the talk of last season's defensive meltdowns against the Panthers, Minter is more concerned about tomorrow's contest than what has already happened. "He's a guy that came in here last year at our house and did a heck of a job rallying his team," Minter said. "We respect what he's done, but our coaches weren't here last year — now we're here. We want to be known more for the way we play this Saturday than last year's Saturday." Contact Mike GillIon at mgilloon@nd.edu
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#1 Notre Dame vs. #13 Florida at 7:30 pm
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#1 Notre Dame vs. #24 Maryland at 1 pm
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