It's a Fiesta: Bowl excites Irish fans

By MARY KATE MALONE

Notre Dame learned Sunday it will face Ohio State in the Fiesta Bowl Jan. 2, securing a payout of $14.8 million for the University and placing some Notre Dame students from Ohio in a tense tug-of-war between hometown Buckeye pride and a fighting Irish spirit.

The Ohio State University is practically in sophomore Chris Doughty's backyard. He grew up a loyal Buckeye fan — so passionate that he hated Notre Dame when it looked like the two teams would face each other in a bowl game during his sophomore year of high school.

"This is pretty much the worst thing that's ever happened to me," Doughty said. "It was just a dagger in my heart because I've been a diehard OSU fan my entire life. I went when they won the (2002) national championship and now I have to root against them — it's kind of a big deal."

He said he might lose friends over it, but after a year and a half under the Dome, there's no doubt Doughty will be cheering for Notre Dame.

"Hopefully I'm gonna go because it's not too often that the two teams I would kill for...

Better than Ezra concert a moderate success

By KAREN LANGLEY

While the instant sellout crowd for the Student Union Board's first event of the semester — a comedic visit on Oct. 8 from Vince Vaughn and crew — was an obvious hit, reactions were mixed after the concert Friday night.

Brandon Hoyte and Brady Quinn field questions during a press conference Sunday after it was announced the Irish will play in the Fiesta Bowl.

Better Than Ezra performs Friday at Stepan Center. Approximately 1,000 tickets were sold for the concert.

During his sophomore year of Notre Dame, a school known for its Irish Catholic heritage, student demand ceased a third year of formal Arabic study to be added for the 2005-06 academic year, while study beyond the third year is available through directed independent study.

The demand for Arabic grew in popularity.

By KAREN LANGLEY

The two young women, clad in dark, floor-length robes, gesture excitedly as they greet one another. "Salama," they say, and proceed to converse for a few moments in Arabic. The other young people around them add their own comments in the language and laugh at a joke.

Then, one of the young women turns to Professor Li Guo to ask a grammatical question. Guo, lounging by a window overlooking Notre Dame's snowy South Quad, answers her in Arabic.

This classroom scene — now common at Notre Dame — would have been unheard of prior to 1989, when the first Arabic language courses were offered at the University. In subsequent years, Arabic has become an increasingly popular offering at Notre Dame, a school known for its Irish Catholic heritage. Student demand caused a third year of formal Arabic study to be added for the 2005-06 academic year, while study beyond the third year is available through directed independent study.

The demand for Arabic grows in popularity.

Arabic study to be added for 2005-06 academic year

By MARY KATE MALONE

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This has been one of the better shows they've seen, in the quality of the band and the way they played to the audience.

Approximately 1,000 tickets were sold, a figure not far off the 1,088 capacity that fire regulations assigned to Stepan Center that night.

The building did not appear full to all the students in attendance. Freshman Bridget Callen said she thought she would see more people at the show but still enjoyed the performance.

"I was expecting more people, but there were a good number of people there," she said. "I really liked it. It was a lot of fun."

Attendance levels were

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**Smile! You’re on candid camera!**

Nuclear warfare is not an area I am well-versed in, so when I went to LaFortune to write an article on the issue, I needed to concentrate. I sat down in a booth at 6:45 p.m. with the intent of finishing the article by 8. With my laptop out and several pages of notes beside me on the table, I should have been obvious to anyone passing by that I was working.

Fifty-five minutes later, I was still writing when a guy came in and sat down on the booth right across from me and started playing a game of solitaire with his cards. I looked at him for a minute, wondering why he was sitting at the table with me and not at one of the several other available tables or chairs in the room. He avoided eye contact and continued playing an intense game of solitaire, partially covering my notes with his cards. (Yes, solitaire can be intense.)

Having grown up with five younger siblings, I can handle more distractions and noise when working than the usual person, but I moved my notes a little closer to me and continued writing.

A few minutes later, another guy came over to my table and greeted me. He sat down and they started playing a game of War. I kept expecting one of them to look up and notice me, but it never happened. It was as if I was not even there. Time was passing quickly and I needed to finish my article, so I returned to my computer and tried to ignore the card battle taking place just inches away from me.

At 10 minutes before eight, a girl came to my booth — or what had been my booth — and sat down right next to me. She asked the guys if she could show them a magic trick.

By this time, I am sandwiched in the corner. My backpack is close and my note pad rests on my lap. My five siblings have never produced distraction like this.

I decide it is not even worth it to ask them to leave, since I have such little time to finish and I am not sure these people will be receptive to my request to move the magic show elsewhere. I begin to gather my things, and suddenly another student emerges from behind a pillar with a video camera.

I was the target of a sociology class’s project to see how people react when social norms are violated. Now when I am in LaFortune, I keep an eye out for wandering card players and hidden cameramen. If I can help it, I will not be starring in any more hidden camera shows.

Contact Kaitlynn Riey at krey@nd.edu

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

**OFFBEAT**

All G sued by Kazakhstan

ALMATY, Kazakhstan — A British comedian who uses a boorish, sexist and racist Kazakh alter ego called Borat to poke fun at interviewees has responded to a legal threat from the Kazakh authorities by satirically welcoming the move.

Sacha Baron Cohen, who plays the spoof Kazakh television reporter in his “Da Ali G Show,” incurred the wrath of Kazakhstan’s Foreign Ministry this month after appearing as Borat at the annual MTV Europe Music Awards.

He described shooting dogs for fun and said his wife could not leave Kazakhstan as she was a woman. The Foreign Ministry said his behavior was unacceptable and that Cohen might be serving political orders to tarnish Kazakhstan’s reputation.

Responding in character as Borat, Cohen, who is Jewish, said “I like to state. I have no connection with Mr. Cohen and fully support my government’s position to sue this Jew.”

Enormous straw goat burned by vandals

STOCKHOLM, Sweden — Vandals set light to a giant straw goat Saturday night in a central Swedish town, police said, an event that has happened so frequently it has almost become a Christmas tradition.

It was the 22nd time that the goat had gone up in smoke since its first appearance in Gavle, 150 kilometres (90 miles) north of Stockholm, began erecting it to mark the holiday season. Police spokesman Margareta Olander said officials received a call just after 9 p.m. to report that the goat was ablaze.

"In just a couple of minutes only a sooty wooden skeleton remained," she added.

Information compiled from The Associated Press.

**IN BRIEF**

Andrij M. Hlahse will perform a senior recital on the jazz saxophone for his undergraduate degree from 7 p.m. to 8 today in the Carey Auditorium of the Hesburgh Library. The recital will feature songs by Herbko Hancock, and George Gershwin as well as the self-composed “KreeFish.” Additional performers include Larry Dwyer, Bill Nicks, and Darrel Tidaback.

The Saint Mary’s Center for Women’s Intercultural Leadership will sponsor speaker Rachel Harding tonight in the Vande Venet Theater in the Student Center from 7 p.m. to 9. The event is free and open to the public.

The ND Breastfeeding Encouragement Support Team (BEST) will meet from 12 p.m. to 1 Tuesday in the Notre Dame Room of the LaFortune Student Center, BEST supports nursing and pregnant moms at Notre Dame and babies are welcome to meetings. E-mail Tracy Weber, bstweber1@nd.edu to be added to the BEST listserv and get more information.

*A Christmas at the CoMe* benefit concert will be held Wednesday, Dec. 7 in the Hammond Student Lounge of the Coleman Morse Center from 8 p.m. to 9. ND Celebration and instrumentalists will perform, and the public is invited to attend.

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

End of fall 2005 semester first for new process

By STEVE KERINS
New Writer

During the summer, the University restructured the process by which faculty members submit their students' end-of-term grades. This month will mark the first time faculty use the new system during the school year.

Several aspects of the process have been redesigned, but the largest change has been a move to online grade submission.

"The new system is very straightforward," assistant registrar Chuck Hurley said. "Faculty members log on to insideND to gain secure access to online grad­ing ... The faculty member can submit their grades from home in South Bend or New York or Paris. Because we are no longer tied to a machine-readable forms at the deal of time and paper," he said.

Hurley said part of the impetus for the change to Internet-based grade submission was the logistical difficulties associated with having faculty submit grades on machine-readable forms at the end of each semester.

"The whole process took a great deal of time and paper," he said. "On the day grades were due each semester, several hundred instructors would have to walk over to the Office of the Registrar, often through sleet, rain or snow, and turn in their grade list."

The Registrar's Office does not expect the switch to online grad­ing to cause problems with grade submission on this semester's Dec. 19 deadline.

"During Summer Session 2005, over 600 classes were graded online ... the process was simple, and many of the comments we received from the faculty were quite positive," Hurley said.

Hurley also said the office has set aside a room equipped with computers, which will have staff on hand to assist professors with concerns about submitting grades via the Internet.

Hurley said the recent changes might affect students anxious awaiting first-semester grades over winter break.

"The new procedures should improve the speed and accuracy of grades," he said. "An instructor ... out of town can now grade a class online. Or, a person who might have accidentally missed the deadline previously because of a torn paper copy ... will now make the deadline."

The Office of the Registrar expects first-semester grades to be available on Tuesday, Dec. 20. Once grades are posted, students will be able to access them within the Student Services channel of insideND.

Contact Steve Kerins at skerins@nd.edu

College plans 12 days of giving

Several Saint Mary's groups join together in Christmas donation efforts

By MEGAN OSBERGER
News Writer

As department stores nation­wide prepare for the yuletide shopping season, Saint Mary's students prepare for the 12 Days of Christmas, a campus-wide charity drive that will benefit 12 local families.

Spearedhead by the senior class board, the drive includes the participation of every club and organization on campus, and there is an event scheduled for each of the first 12 days in December.

"I thought it would be a really great idea to have unified proj­ects because all of the class boards, campus clubs, athletic teams and offices have separate events every year," said senior class president Lauren Condon. "While these do work, everyone is competing for money, and if we could all work together, we were more likely to be successful."

After asking the presidents of the other class boards for help, Condon said senior class officers presented the idea to Carrie Call, director of the Office for Coil and Social Engagement, Linda Timm, vice president of Student Affairs, and Patrick White, dean of fa­culty.

The project is an expansion of previous charitable efforts, according to Call. Saint Mary's will help families through REAL Services and the Minority Health Coalition.

"I was also put in touch with (Sex Offense Services) so we can provide for women who can't go home for Christmas due to sexual assaults," said Call.

The families from the Minority Health Coalition are the ones who need the help the most. They are recent immi­grants who have almost nothing.

Three families were also suggest­ed by Marquette Primary School, Saint Mary's partner school, said Call.

"The idea," Call said, "is that we give students more than one opportunity to help, and that is exactly what the 12 Days of Christmas is going to do."

Each year the Business Office, Admissions Office and the Psychology Honors Society Psi Chi sponsor a family themselves. This year, lead by residence advis­or Becky Winston, second floor Regia North will also adopt its own family.

"I just think the campus is going to be oozing with Christmas spirit," Condon said.

"No one on campus will be able to ignore the drive."

Planned activities included a showing of "Home Alone" in Vander Weimor Theater Dec. 4, sponsored by the Student Activity Board. The first-year board will be raffling off the second round-pick number for each of the classes, and Christmas-grants sponsored by the Student Diversity Board will be sold throughout the drive.

Students around campus are responding posi­tively to the drive thus far.

"I'm really happy about all of the chances we get to help other people to enjoy Christmas," said junior Sarah Lavelle. "The hol­i­days are all about giving to others."

Sarah Lavelle 
junior

Contact Megan Osberger at mosber01@saintmarys.edu

ACE goes Latin

Ensenar es tanto vida una vida siempre

Friday, December 9
9PM - 11PM
Legends
Free t-shirts to the first 50 people
D.J. *** Food ** Dancing

Monday, December 5, 2005
The Observer • CAMPUS NEWS
Ezra continued from page 1

where senior Lee Regner expressed his hope.

"When I e-mails (SUB) said it was going to sell out, I knew from my college friends, that probably wasn't the case," he said.

Regner also said he enjoyed Better Than Ezra's performance and decided to see them again Friday.

"I didn't know the new songs but it was still pretty entertaining," he said. "I think they were a good choice — a relatively well-known band — but it would have been nice if they had brought in someone totally new.

SUB's selection of Better Than Ezra was based on survey results. "Better Than Ezra was far and away the most popular choice," Flaherty said.

The opening band, Marking Twain, went over well with the crowd.

"A lot of people at Notre Dame went to high school with the [Marking Twain] members in Ohio," Flaherty said.

Agreed that Better Than Ezra was a band of my peers, said senior Jake O'Neil. "I think Ezra was a band of more of [my] friends," he said. "They're just a little bit before I started listening to pop music.

Against her own expectations, Fernandes did enjoy the show.

"I went to their show only knowing one song and wasn't expecting too much, but the band just had so much personality," she said. "The lead singer mixed in other songs with the band's and it was just right.

Ezra is a particular Better Than Ezra concert may have stood out in its quality, Flaherty said, a fact he attributed to the hard work of Chris Lund, the SUB Event Planner, and the members of SUB.

"In our mind, it was a huge success," he said. "The concert reviewers on Better Than Ezra's Web site said it was one of the best Better Than Ezra concerts they've ever seen."

Contact Karen Langley at klangle@nd.edu

CSC continued from page 1

bowl game has seriously affected student participation in its seminars.

Several students said that while they would have to miss a bowl game, it has not affected their plans for the break.

"I decided I was going myself and others, and a discourse if I didn't participate," said sophomore Regina Gesicki, who will participate in the New York City Policeman. "It is a decision I've had to make, to see what social responsibility is and to step away from apathy."

The Urban Plunge seminar is the largest of all CSC seminars, accommodating up to 600 students from Notre Dame, Saint Mary's, Holy Cross, and Saint Mary's. Urban Plunge sends students to various cities across the nation, with 43 different sites available this year.

During their 48-hour immersion, the students will be exposed to the problems of poverty in these urban centers.

Notre Dame senior Sara Urben said she will be considering problems that are close to home — literally.

"I chose to do Urban Plunges in Chicago because as someone who lives 15 minutes outside of the city in the suburbs, I only see one side of the city," she said. "After doing a Summer Service Project in Chicago, I realized that it's an ugly side to the city that I love so much. I wanted to do an Urban Plunge to learn more about the issues that affect our nation's big cities.

While students participating in the Urban Plunge seminar usually serve in areas near their own home, other seminars require students to travel across the country.

Participating in the Border Issues Seminar will serve in both El Paso, Texas and Ciudad Juarez, Mexico.

Eliass Moe, who participated in this seminar last winter break, is now serving as one of its two student coordinators.

"The seminar experience has impacted me in a way that I feel it is an experience I need to pass on to others, to help other students see the lives people live who may not have the same opportunities as the people in the border area and our broken immigration policy," Moe said.

The seminars show students a side of life some have never experienced before.

"I'm expecting to be shaken up and upset from what I see," Gesicki said. "I hope I can learn from the people I meet or the situation and use that to make decisions and take something with me.

Moe said he hoped this new perspective might have a serious impact on students.

"I think the greatest challenge of these seminars is allowing ourselves to be open to the realities of the situations and to dispense with socially and economically in the U.S.," he said.

Contact Sarah Wheaton at swheaton@nd.edu

Wings continued from page 1

Field Day, an occasion that takes months to plan, according to Arnold Air Society director of operations Ashley Shelnut.

"The main goal is just to throw a huge Christmas party for kids who might not otherwise get to celebrate in this way," Shelnut said.

Shelnut said the children in attendance came from a variety of community centers throughout the Notre Dame service area, Madison Center, Logan Center and the Boys and Girls Club of South Bend.

The service area, children who live in the University Village were also invited to attend.

Field Day is tailored specifically for children ages 4 to 14 years old. "It's held here to build parents, such as women from St. Margaret's House, also attended.

A junior, Shelnut said she has participated in Field Day for the past three years and emphasized the program has existed for seven years.

"It is a great opportunity for us as college students to get involved with these kids," Shelnut said. "We end up learning a lot from them.

In past years, Field Day was held at the South Bend Armory. However, Saint Mary's provided a more accessible location for volunteers coming from Notre Dame, Shelnut said. The College also allowed Arnold Air Society and Silver Wings to use Angela B. Liddy's program, free of charge.

The community also rallied around the children and the event, according to Shelnut. "Papa John's said the group would have pizzas at a discounted price, and the toys were donated and collected by the Marine Corps through the Toys for Tots program.

Silver Wings secretary Elizabeth Clifton, who has volunteered at Field Day for the past three years, said other community organizations succeeded in their goal of making sure the children felt special, or at least underprivileged kids as possible.

"One of the kids came up to me after the game and said, 'This is the best field trip ever,'" Clifton said.

Shelnut said Arnold Air Society and Silver Wings members who were responsible for the event continued to get better at carrying it out each year, and Field Day will likely continue for many years to come.

"It was wonderful," Shelnut said. "We had a really good time with the kids. I think everyone went home happy."

Contact Megan O'Neil at mon0607@ndmail.nd.edu

DeBartolo Hall: Open Study Hours:
December 8 8:00am to 3:00am Midnight Snacks!
December 9 8:00am to 3:00am Midnight Snacks!
December 10 8:00am to 3:00am Midnight Snacks!
December 11 8:00am to 3:00am Midnight Snacks!
December 16 DeBartolo closes 30 minutes after last scheduled exam through the Registrar's Office.
* December 16 DeBartolo Hall closes 30 minutes after last scheduled exam through the Registrar's Office.
* Free Midnight Snacks on study days only!

24 Non-technology rooms, first come/ first serve

Free Island Snacks — Check dates Listed above. Always-Free Snacks!

O'Shaughnessy: Rooms available for open study except when scheduled by the Registrar's office.
December 8 8:00am to 3:00am
December 9 8:00am to 3:00am
December 10 8:00am to 3:00am
December 11 8:00am to 3:00am
December 13 8:00am to 3:00am
December 15 8:00am to 3:00am
December 16 8:00am to 3:00am
Finals Week: December 12-16 8:00am to 3:00am
Sunday — Closed
* Contact person if you have specific needs: Room 103, 104.

Coffman-Morse: 1st Floor Lounge 7:00am-4:00pm

Non-open study days listed above.

Alises-Free Snacks!

Snacks during Study Days courtesy of: Business Operations

***Good Luck with Finals***
INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Election boycotted by opposition

Candidates aligned with President Hugo Chavez were widely expected to increase their legislative majority Sunday as Venezuelans voted for a new National Assembly in an election boycotted by the opposition parties.

William Lara, a leading lawmaker in Chavez's governing party, said internal tallies of the vote showed pro-Chavez candidates could sweep all 167 of the assembly's seats.

Chavez earlier dismissed the boycott as a failed ploy to sabotage legitimate elections and blacks decried the opposition officials later blamed a pipeline explosion on government officials. "The whole world knows a true democracy is in motion here in Venezuela," Chavez said after voting at a school where cheering supporters greeted him outside.

Volunteers rebuild after tsunami

A man who lives near the tsunami struck, Andy Chagnon gave up his engineering job in England and returned to Thailand to help rebuild homes near where his girlfriend was swept to her death. "It's been a year since I lost my old job and work for a profit-making company," said Chagnon. So now he manages a housing project for some 150 Thais in the village of Thap Tawan, in the Khao Lek resort area 360 kilometers west of Bangkok.

The killer wave that struck on Dec. 26 killed 5,400 people in Thailand; 2,450 were foreigners. But a 2,400-march was missing. In 11 countries affected by the earthquake and tsunami, more than 276,000 people died. The disaster left 50,000 missing and hundreds of thousands homeless across the region.

NATIONAL NEWS

Singers honored at Kennedy Center

Etheridge sang "River Deep, Mountain High" by rhythm "Fly Me to the Moon," by chanteuse Diana Krall. "Macarena" and spoke of seeing Turner Turner sang "Proud Mary." chop's "I Left My Heart in San Francisco," by trompeteer Wynton Marsalis, "For Loners."

PHILADELPHIA — Roman Catholic Church officials in Pennsylvania say a proposal to let sexual-abuse victims file lawsuits decades after they were abused would be "fundamentally unfair" and could financially ruin dioceses across the state.

Pennsylvania has a strict statute of limitations that foreigners were living in their neighborhoods.

A senior Pakistani intelligence official said that he is dead. But if he is, that is a good thing for the war on terror," said Pieke." "WMaterials and that he is dead. But if he is, that is a good thing for the war on terror," said Pieke. "When you have hot lists, you have a lot of those."

Pakistani top leaders and responsible for planning overseas attacks, was dead or that the attack was carried out by a pilotless U.S. plane.

"At this point we are not in a position publicly to confirm that he is dead. But if he is, that is a good thing for the war on terror," said Pieke. "When you have hot lists, you have a lot of those."

Pakistanis show wreckage of a missile they found in the house where authorities reportedly killed five people, including a key associate of al-Qaida, Hamza Rabia, Sunday.

FRANCE

First partial face transplant successful

Associated Press

PARIS — The recipient of the world's first partial face transplant was thriving medically and psychologically a year after her groundbreaking surgery, her doc­ tors said Sunday.

The 54-year-old woman whose face had been partially disfigured by a dog, appeared relatively normal after the operation and doctors were pleased with her mental state, Dr. Jean-Michel Dubernard said in a telephone interview. Doctors had been worried about the potentially negative psychological effects of receiving part of someone else's face.

"She is perfect," Dubernard said. "Psychologically, she is doing very well."

Dubernard, one of the woman's two lead surgeons, said that the 38-year-old would remain hospitalized in the southeast city of Lyon for four to six weeks. She must take drugs to prevent her body from rejecting the donated facial parts, which Dubernard has said carry "a slightly more elevated risk of cancer."

The woman received a section of a nose, lips and chin in the 15-hour transplant surgery on Nov. 27 in the northern city of Antwerp, near her home. The woman, who is a 61-year-old divorced mother of two teenage daughters, has not been identified by name.

She was married to a pet Labrador in May, leaving her with severe facial injuries that her doc­ tors said made it difficult for her to speak and eat. The dog was put down. ..
courses has taken off in recent years.

"Every semester we get more and more requests," said Professor Joseph Amar, director of the Program in Arabic Studies. "It's a small industry. The numbers are growing."

Amar said the three sections of Arabic offered in spring 2003 will grow to five when the program is fully implemented by spring 2006.

"Even those, unfortunately, have cut sections with 30 students," he said. "We try to accommodate as many people as we can."

In spring 2005, the five sections of beginning Arabic classes did not provide enough seats for all of the students who requested to enroll, and an extra section was scheduled. Amar has to leave the small Arabic program to fulfill his responsibilities as a research professor, but engineering professor Ramzi Bizri, a native Arabic speaker, agreed to teach the class.

Upper-level courses in spring 2006 have just one section, but Amar predicted that multiple sections will be available in coming years as students advance in the language.

Amar, a Catholic priest born in Lebanon, has been responsible for the program in Arabic since its inception in 1999. The program is housed under the Department of Classics, features courses in Arabic language, history, religion and literature in translation. While all majors must take at least four seminars in Arabic language, Amar said it is also important for students to develop a familiarity with the culture of the Arab world.

"People who study Arabic do it for the professional advantage they get in business, government and the media," Amar said. "But I think there are few students who don't look twice, but Arabic jumps out."

"Because the program is difficult, it has trouble retaining students. Lots of students didn't make it through the second semester." Kyle Bocinsky sophomore

"People who study Arabic do it for the professional advantage they get in business, government and the media," Amar said. "If someone has a few credits in Spanish, [employers] don't look twice, but Arabic, jump out."

"If you finish with some Arabic and a knowledge of the Middle East, you're one in a million in this country."

"Most students just zap it, they love it," he said. "Mikha said that when Americans do have difficulty learning Arabic, it is because the language incorporates sounds that are unknown to English speakers."

"It's difficult because it's like nothing you've heard before." In Arabic, only long vowels are written, Mikha said. "Certain words are spelled the same but the short vowels make them different, so in reading a newspaper, that can make them difficult for beginners," she said.

For Mikha, the hard work of teaching Arabic has paid off.

"At least on a resume, I will put that I can speak, read and write reasonably well," she said. "I'm not fluent after five semesters, but I'm comfortable enough to pause and fish for words."

While Mikha has done well with regaining her Arabic, some students have more difficulty learning the language.

"The difficulty does not stem from the professors," he said. "Because the program is difficult, it has trouble retaining students.

"I thought learning a new language is difficult, but it's something people go into journalism need to know."

Bocinsky said he had difficulty studying Spanish and Latin in high school and wanted to try a totally different language.

"I thought learning a new language would b better experience," he said. "I added it through the first half of the semester while we were learning the alphabet, but when we started learning vocabulary, I realized that I was having the same problems I'd had with other languages."

Bocinsky said the highly motivated Arabic faculty was not the problem.

"The difficulty does not stem from the professors," he said. "Because the program is difficult, it has trouble retaining students."

Still, the Arabic program's increasing popularity and relatively high retention rate speak to the increased awareness of issues in the Middle East among college students.

"For a long time, education has been European-centered, but clearly the trajectory is now towards Asia and the Middle East," Amar said. "Our students have realized that and are putting students in touch with the direction that things are going."

Contact Karen Langley at klangle1@nd.edu

Questions?

Contact the Judicial Council at jcouncil@nd.edu
B U S I N E S S

Monday, December 5, 2005

MARKET Recap

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Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — The largest union representing actors has promised a new, tougher stance in contract talks with powerful media conglomerates.

But the Screen Actors Guild may self-destruct before it ever gets the chance.

The labor union's long-running infighting has escalated into what could become a mutiny after the election of a new leader, President Alan Rosenberg.

Rosenberg and his allies gained a majority on the national board by pledging to squeeze more money from the studios on the sale of DVDs and new technologies, including downloading of films and TV shows. He also pledged to unite SAG's founding factions.

Instead, Rosenberg, 55, divided the union even more by almost immediately firing popular SAG executive director Greg Hessinger. He had been hired by the previous leadership, which Rosenberg accused of surrendering too easily on key economic issues in contract talks last year.

Many union members see the firing as an arrogant display of power. Rosenberg had been so confident that he could finally split the union into two groups. The one representing film and TV actors, primarily based in Hollywood, and another mostly comprised of members in New York, Chicago and elsewhere who do commercials and voiceovers.

Paul Christie, president of SAG's New York branch, said at a talk of a split has been heated among elected leaders. Rosenberg had spoken of major network over the prime-time schedule of major networks, among other areas.

Rosenberg's agenda mirrors that of the newly elected president of the Writers Guild of America, west. Patric Verrone also ran on a promise to get tougher


Car wheel maker files bankruptcy

Associated Press

GAS CITY, Ind. — A new auto parts supplier has filed for bankruptcy for the second time in a year, citing a loss of business from General Motors Corp.

Amcast Industrial expected new and existing programs with GM — the source of about 80 percent of Amcast's revenue — after it reorganized and emerged from Chapter 11 bankruptcy and all benefit programs will continue

Lindemann, Amcast interim chief executive officer. "We have funding arrangements in place with our existing lenders to continue operations during the bankruptcy case. We hope to conclude the process as promptly as possible.

You have people living in all different areas of the country who feel like they're muzzled and don't have a voice or are afraid they're going to be muzzled," he said.

He has visited the New York and Miami branches in recent weeks and plans on visiting other locals in the hope of creating a more unified front for upcoming contract talks.

In an attempt to restore its own profitability, GM recently announced that it would cease production at 12 facilities within the next two years and eliminate 30,000 jobs.

GM officials were aware of Amcast's bankruptcy filing, but would not comment on any loss of business, said Tom Hill, a spokesman for the automaker.

In the meantime, employees will be paid their normal wages and bonuses and all benefit programs will continue uninterrupted," said Richard A. Lindenmuth, Amcast interim chief executive officer. "We have funding arrangements in place with our existing lenders to continue operations during the bankruptcy case. We hope to conclude the process as promptly as possible.

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Homeowners hand holiday decorating over to contractors

Time-consuming task of festively furnishing, decorating homes proves too much for elderly, creatively challenged

Associated Press

PORTLAND, Maine — The last thing John Gendron wants to do during the holidays is climb high on his steep-pitched roof to hang a wreath from his chimney. These days, he doesn’t have to. Instead, he hires a contractor to put one wreath on his chimney and two others high on the house, and to hang Christmas lights on his home and in the crabapple trees in his front yard.

Tens of thousands of Americans this year will do the same.

short on time, weary of ladders and lacking expertise for sometimes-elaborate lighting displays, homeowners are opening their wallets and hiring others to do the work.

This is the third year that Gendron has hired Lucas Tree Experts, a Portland tree service company that installs Christmas lighting and decorations for homeowners and businesses during the holiday season.

As part of it, while also enjoying the lights and wreaths put up by Lucas Tree.

“Those people are professionals in what they do, much like we’re professionals at what we do,” said Gendron, who owns a commercial real estate firm. “We’re not able to do what they do as well as they can do it.

Lucas Tree is a franchise for Christmas Decor Inc., a Texas-based company with 375 franchises in 45 states and Canada that will put up holiday decorations for 40,000 customers this year, according to Christmas Decor marketing director Brandon Stephens. The company has been adding 30 to 40 franchises and 5,000 to 6,000 customers a year, he said.

For a price, the company will design a Christmas display, install the lights and decorations, take them down after the holidays and store them until the next year. The average initial cost is $1,500, with the cost going down in subsequent years because the commercial-grade lights already have been purchased.

In Maine, Lucas Tree will put up lights, wreaths, silhouetted Santas and other decorations on about 50 homes and businesses for prices ranging from $500 to $10,000. Gendron declined to reveal what he paid, other than to call it a “good value for the money.”

Customers include working couples who have little spare time and older folks who don’t want to climb ladders, said Chuck Cotton of Lucas Tree. Others don’t have the skills or the equipment needed to put up intricate displays.

“...more a convenience than anything,” he said. “They don’t have the time or the ability to do some of the things that we can do.”

Hiring people to hang lights was once considered something only the wealthy could afford. But with the cost of lights going down and companies able to install them in an efficient manner, the jobs are no longer reserved just for the rich, said Virginia Postrel, author of “The Substance of Style,” a book that examines the link between aesthetic pleasures and American commerce and culture.

Many people who hire contractors to install Christmas decorations could be described as upper-middle class who simply want nice-looking holiday displays, she said.

“Their time is worth more than their money,” Postrel said. “And if you don’t have a giant mansion, it’s not that expensive of a job.”

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The White House is experimenting with a nontraditional Christmas tree decoration this year — laboratory test tubes.

As part of the ‘All Things Bright and Beautiful’ theme selected for the 2005 holiday season, first lady Laura Bush came up with the idea of decorating Christmas trees with ferns.

That left White House Chief Florist Nancy Clarke with the problem of finding all those roses, lilacs and azaleas properly hydrated.

"One of my suggestions was that we take a test tube, a regular test tube from any kind of lab and wrap it with wire," Clarke said. "We could fill it up with water and actually make a Christmas ornament and still give our flowers a water source." It worked, and on Wednesday, when Bush presented 1,600 Pennsylvania Avenue’s living decorations, the flower-bedazzled Christmas trees stood in the State Floor rooms.

The centerpiece, Bush said, is the official White House Christmas tree, a 18 1/2-foot Fraser fir adorned white roses, crystal ornaments and white Christmas lights. The tree is so tall the Blue Room’s chandelier had to be removed.

"I think it is one of the most beautiful Christmas trees I’ve ever seen," Bush said.

Wearing a Carolina Herrera two-piece suit — what she called “her new red suit” — she also presented simple one-color bouquets of tulips that grazed mantels, and boxwood garlands with gold trim that adorned mirrors. Wreaths with gold-trimmed lime sashes hung in windows and Floor decorators played prominent roles in table centerpieces.

Bush said they deliberately took a simpler approach to the decorations, holiday cuisine and the official Christmas card to highlight the elegance of the official residence.

“‘We used natural and real flowers, fruits and garlands to show how beautiful nature is,’ she said.

The natural theme could be scene in the holiday food choices as well. Samples of the cuisine to be served at upcoming parties included cheese from Vermont and Minnesota, Virginia ham and traditional fruit cake and apple cobbler.

Straying from the simplicity, however, was an enormous and elaborate gingerbread White House, made by White House pastry chef Thaddeus Delahanty.

Brite Ideas Decorating Inc., a national Christmas decoration installation company based in Omaha, Neb., says its distributors will decorate more than 23,000 homes this year — up from just over 1,000 five years ago. Customers include tennis player Andre Agassi, country singer Travis Trit, boxer Evander Holyfield and basketball player Grant Hill, said Beed Nyfeler, national sales director.

Nontraditional ornaments adorn national Christmas tree

First Lady chooses to substitute fresh flowers for ornaments to keep with ‘All Things Bright and Beautiful’ theme
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Down with Christmas

The perceptive eyes of Bill O'Reilly and the Reverend Jerry Falwell have once again failed the literal plot to sabotage the "Christmas" season, and it looks as if once again my fellow left-wingers and I will have no choice but to set aside our pugilistic passions and smoothly ship the coming of the "Savior" this December.

As many of you may have heard, Falwell recently launched his "Friend or Foe of Christmas Campaign" to determine, if so, who will be getting humps of coal in their stockings and who will get "Happy Holidays" instead of "Merry Christmas." Falwell's campaign is already off to a frighteningly fast start. Last Thursday, for instance, Boston Mayor Thomas Menino, who will be the lucky guy to determine, it to me, is missing him, then I am sorry; I am also sorry if you did not know him. Please take this letter to yourself a few times: "If one speaks or acts with a cruel word, it means that a whopping 23 percent of Americans will one day burn in the fiery chasms of Hell.)"

Dear Notre Dame

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Matt enrolled at Notre Dame in the fall of 2002. In an interview with The Observer, Matt said, "I am not saying I was a saint. I was so messed up that I was doing stupid things. I was trying to fight back against the Bible and have AIDS awareness.

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### Letters to the Editor

**Vatican declaration spurs discussion**

**Document carries dire consequences**

I write in response to Andy Barchecl's narrow conclusion that the dicastery's document on homosexuals and seminaries, I think Barchecl, in large part to the exclusion of his own feelings. By not carefully examining the document and by relying on emot­ion rather than logic, Barchecl misinterprets the document which, I believe, is, in very few words, a call for conciliation between the church and its fail­ings in dealing with the sex abuse crisis. Barchecl argues that anyone who has homosexual tendencies will be banned from entry into a Roman Catholic seminary. In reality, though, this assertion is just plain wrong, and Barchecl fails to tell the whole story. The dicastery states that the Church "may not admit to the semi­nary and Holy Orders those who practice homosexuality, show profoundly dev­eroped homosexual tendencies, or support the so-called gay culture."

The phrase "show profoundly deep-rooted homosexual tendencies" seems vague, the phrases that precede it and follow it clarify any vagueness that may seem to exist. The document is not at all unsympathetic to those men and women who have same-sex attractions - or even those who have rooted homosexual tendencies, or support the so-called gay culture. Rather, it is unsympathetic to those who have sexual orientations or identities that these gay folks are miscreants, bearing the fear of reprobation or rejection by others, and follow it clarify any vagueness that may seem to exist. The document is not at all unsympathetic to those men and women who have same-sex attractions - or even those who have rooted homosexual tendencies, or support the so-called gay culture. Rather, it is unsympathetic to those who have sexual orientations or identities that these gay folks are miscreants, bearing the fear of reprobation or rejection by others, and whom the Church "may not admit to the semi­nary and Holy Orders those who practice homosexuality, show profoundly dev­eroped homosexual tendencies, or support the so-called gay culture."

In the Dec. 1 Observer, Andy Barchecl commented on the insertion released in Lisbon on the discrimination of Vocations with Regard to Persons with Homosexual Tendencies in View of their Admission to the Seminary and to Holy Orders. Andy correctly pointed out that, "this document is profoundly embarrassing to this with no small amount of shame as a Catholic and a theologian-in-training, a complete commitment to the priesthood of the Church, regard­less of their commitment to celibacy." As a fellow theologian, I share Andy's conviction that this document is profoundly damaging to the integrity of the Church.

For this reason, I attended Mass Sunday with an informal group of a dozen students to pray for the person who will be forced into silence and shame, for the gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered Catholics who will receive yet another assault on their dig­nity as children of God and for the conver­sion of the heart of the Vatican authori­ties who again are asserting their raw power over us with this very religious and un­dermining of our most sacred human nature that cannot exist in a world ordered by the God of all. I pray for the liberation of queer folks.

No, we reject this ruthless division between bread and butter, survival, online, politics and Community. For Jesus, the task of announcing good news to the poor, to the captives and to the blind leads to the es­trangement of the Eucharist. Thus, those men and women who have same-sex attractions - or even those who have rooted homosexual tendencies, or support the so-called gay culture. Rather, it is unsympathetic to those who have sexual orientations or identities that these gay folks are miscreants, bearing the fear of reprobation or rejection by others, and whom the Church "may not admit to the semi­nary and Holy Orders those who practice homosexuality, show profoundly dev­eroped homosexual tendencies, or support the so-called gay culture."

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Better Than Ezra returns to campus after three years with same talent, new material

By CHRIS McGRADY
Assistant Scene Editor

After several years out of the national spotlight, Better Than Ezra is back. Although not on top of the charts quite yet, the New Orleans-based band is proving that it has the musical ability, the staying power and the charisma to make a run for the top. Better Than Ezra played to a packed house Friday night. True to the band's old form, it played a good show, proving to everyone there that the band had not lost anything with age.

The group opened with "Burned," the first song from the band's most recent CD "Before the Robots." This high-energy ballad that showcased Kevin Griffin's powerful lyrics showed the audience that the band meant business. In this lies the true beauty of Better Than Ezra — they are serious musicians who are seriously talented but who don't take themselves too seriously. Better Than Ezra continually joked around on stage, mentioning numerous times that "LSU-Notre Dame would be a great match up in the Sugar Bowl." This joke stems from the fact that several of the band's members went to Louisiana State University.

One detriment to the concert was the venue. Stepan Center is unfortunately one of the only places on campus available to host a concert the size of the one on Friday. The acoustics in Stepan Center are terrible. The opening act, Marking Twain, was talented, but from the back of the Stepan Center, the group's lyrics were inaudible. The distorted guitar cut into the lyrics and caused each of the group's songs to sound the same. Nonetheless, Marking Twain put on a good show and engaged the audience. However, as it should be, the headlining act stole the show.

Better Than Ezra played both new songs and hits from previous albums. Much to the crowd's delight, Griffin called out, "We aren't like some bands that will only play their new songs. We are going to play everything!" These were encouraging words and a far cry from many bands today that use concert tours solely to promote recent albums. Better Than Ezra gave off the feeling that the group wasn't just in existence to make money. They seemed to enjoy playing and making music and had a tremendous stage presence.

Perhaps the highlight of the concert was during "This Time of Year," a song from the 1992 release "Deluxe." Halfway through the song, Griffin called into the crowd for someone to come up on stage and play the guitar part to the song, making clear that this person would already have to know the song. A student was pulled out of the crowd and was outfitted with Griffin's gold Les Paul guitar. After some directions from Griffin, the student played along with the song before being instructed to climb the drum stand and finish the song. Much to the crowd's (and no doubt the band's) amazement, the student tore into a solo that rivaled anything Griffin had played all night. After the song, the student was led back to his seat and was greeted there by thunderous applause. The only mistake Better Than Ezra made was one of redundancy. The band never seemed to mix it up. There were no jam sessions of any kind, no acoustic sets and only a very brief encore.

Overall, the concert was a success. Part of the Student Union Board's job is to bring big name bands to campus, and that is exactly what Better Than Ezra is. Although perhaps not as familiar to students as some other bands, Better Than Ezra put on a good show and proved that they will again ascend to greatness.

Contact Chris McGrady at cmcgrad1@nd.edu
SHOW REVIEW

Dance Company shows rhythm, ‘Soul’

By LIZ BYRUM
Assistant News Editor

For such a new group on campus, the Dance Company of Notre Dame has collected a lot of talent. On Thursday and Friday night, this talent was showcased in a performance titled “Soul,” which was presented by the company in Washington Hall.

The Dance Company of Notre Dame, which is comprised of over 50 members, has only been in existence for three semesters. It recently split into two distinct companies, called the Blue and the Gold. It is entirely student-run and is currently led by president Ashley Lucchese.

We started preparation for the show during the summer, figuring out the theme and planning dances. Most of the choreography happened over the summer,” Maria Luppa, a sophomore Gold Company member, said.

The show both opened and closed with performances by the entire company, and the Gold and Blue Companies were hormonally other pieces including “Numb” by Jay-Z and Linkin Park, as well as “Don’t Let Me Be Misunderstood” by Santana Esmeralda. The mix of music to which the group dances varied and gave the show off their particular strengths. In “Fever,” which was choreographed by Gold Company member Stephanie Korn, a group of five dancers brought together

concert review

‘Messiah’ combines great music, performances

By MICHELLE FORDICE
News Writer

The Leighton Concert Hall in the Marie P. DellaForte Center for the Performing Arts filled with the sounds of “Hallelujah” and “Messiah.” The University of Notre Dame Chorale and Chamber Orchestra presented their annual performance of Handel’s “Messiah.”

With its soaring music and triumphant atmosphere of celebration, Handel’s “Messiah” is one of the most loved and beloved Christmas traditions. The University of Notre Dame Chorale and Chamber Orchestra did not fail to impress with their performance of this wonderful piece.

Handel’s “Messiah” is a fantastic performance for everyone audience. Its elegant melody is emphasized by its strong focus on choir, soloists and orchestra. It benefits from using all of these elements instead of just focusing on one. Familiarity also makes it a great performance for frequent attendees of classical musical performances. Likewise, it is just as enjoyable for new audience members.

The University of Notre Dame Chorale and Chamber Orchestra’s performance was a success. The orchestra and choir balanced each other throughout the show and gave a strong performance. Blachly showcased the talent of the Chorale by selecting eleven different singers for the work’s various solos. All did a commendable job with difficult solo parts. The Chorale and Chamber Orchestra worked very well together throughout the piece. The College of Ireland’s “Messiah” is one of the best reasons for its longevity.

The University of Notre Dame Chamber Orchestra and Chorale performed Handel’s “Messiah” on Friday and Saturday, a piece frequently performed during the Christmas season.

THE OBSERVER SCENE

Monday, December 5, 2005

page 13

The Notre Dame Chamber Orchestra and Chorale performed Handel’s “Messiah” on Friday and Saturday, a piece frequently performed during the Christmas season.

The Notre Dame Chamber Orchestra is a select ensemble of students that performs both with the Chorale and independently in its own concerts. Because there are only one or two instruments for each part, the musicians are all very skilled.

From the opening overture to the final “Hallelujah,” the Notre Dame Choral and Chamber Orchestra’s performance of Handel’s “Messiah” was a wonderful experience and a great beginning to the Christmas season.

Contact Michelle Furdice at mfordice@nd.edu

Contact Liz Byrum at chrysm@nd.edu

the audience loosened up (literally) during the “seventh inning stretch.”

The Dance Company of Notre Dame is a great way for dancers to continue dancing something they loved during college. The great variety of music, creative costuming and beautiful performances made “Soul” a very successful show. Whether someone is looking for a way to continue dancing, or just searching for entertainment for an evening, the Dance Company of Notre Dame is a great place to look.

The Notre Dame Chamber Orchestra and Chorale performed Handel’s “Messiah” on Friday and Saturday, a piece frequently performed during the Christmas season.

The University of Notre Dame Chamber Orchestra is a select ensemble of students that performs both with the Chorale and independently in its own concerts. Because there are only one or two instruments for each part, the musicians are all very skilled.

From the opening overture to the final “Hallelujah,” the Notre Dame Choral and Chamber Orchestra’s performance of Handel’s “Messiah” was a wonderful experience and a great beginning to the Christmas season.

Contact Michelle Furdice at mfordice@nd.edu

Contact Liz Byrum at chrysm@nd.edu
NFL

Indy stays unbeaten with 35-3 win over Titans

Kansas City tops Denver in AFC West showdown; Dolphins overcome 20-point fourth quarter deficit to defeat Bills

Associated Press

INDIANAPOLIS — The Indianapolis Colts are making perfection look easier every time they step on the field.

Now they'll have a chance to keep their historic quest going in the playoffs, too.

With the Triplets in sync and the defense producing another physically dominant performance Sunday, Tennessee never had a shot. Colts rolls resulted in a 35-3 victory to clinch a playoff spot and remain the NFL's only unbeaten team.

"Anything that comes along with winning, you accept it," two-time MVP Peyton Manning said. "We're the fifth team in league history to go 12-0, but you must wait until next week at Jacksonville for a chance to wrap up their third straight AFC South title and first-round bye in the playoffs.

If the past few games are any indication, that's only a matter of time.

Indianapolis has won seven of its last nine by at least 17 points, averaging more than 35 points. The Colts even routed Tennessee on a day Manning threw only 17 passes, the second-fewest of his NFL career. He threw two passes in last year's season-final at Denver.

But the latest victory epitomized how Indy continues to win — by overcoming anything opponents try.

On Sunday, the Titans (3-9) wanted to play keep-away. It didn't work.

Manning completed 13 of 17 passes for 187 yards and three touchdowns, giving him a near-perfect passer-rating of 151.2 and extending his NFL record to eight straight seasons with at least 25 TD passes.

Edgerrin James carried 28 times for 107 yards, becoming the third-fastest player in league history to top 9,000 yards. In 93 games, James has rushed for 9,067 yards. Eric Dickerson (140 games, 18,088) and Jim Brown (131 games, 18,053) are the only players who did it in fewer than 130 games.

Kansas City Chiefs running back Larry Johnson cut up in the Chiefs 31-27 win over the Denver Broncos Sunday.

The Kansas City Chiefs received a favorable ruling when they challenged the spot on a run that appeared to give Denver a first down near midfield on a fourth-and-1 play with 2:01 left.

Then the Chiefs (8-4) ran the clock down to 1:47, preserving a 21-7 lead and a possible 20-point fourth quarter deficit to beat the Bills.

"We really like for everyone to get their money's worth," coach Nick Saban joked. "You talk about playing 60 minutes, and it's a chore, but this was an example of that today."

Alas, only 25,000 fans remained from the announced crowd of 72,051 when the Dolphins began their final march with 1:21 left trailing 13-7.

A catch by Chambers gave Miami a first down at the 1 with 50 seconds to go, but two incomplete passes, a penalty and a scramble by Rosenfels made it fourth down with the clock running and less than 30 seconds left.

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Around the Dial

B.C.S. Top 25

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<thead>
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A.P. Football Top 25

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Men's Big East Basketball

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MLB

Furcal signs 3-year deal with Dodgers

Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — Shortstop Rafael Furcal makes a leaping throw to first base during a contest with the New York Mets on May 2. Furcal reportedly agreed to a $39 million contract with the Dodgers Sunday.

In Brief

Colts' Manning, Harrison and James reach Milestones

INDIANAPOLIS — The Indianapolis Colts' Manning, Harrison and James reached Milestones in their most recent games.

Marvin Harrison became the 12th receiver in league history to top 12,000 yards receiving in the first quarter against Jacksonville. He did it on the Colts' opening drive, catching a 36-yard pass to put the mark and then catching a 10-yard TD pass from Peyton Manning to extend the duo's NFL record to 92 touchdowns.

In the third quarter, Manning and Edgerin James got their own accomplishments. On the opening drive, James carried for 8 yards with 11:29 left to give him 1,003 yards rushing. The only players to do it quicker were Eric Dickerson, who did it in 82 games; and Jim Brown, who did it in 88.

Manning completed the drive with a 27-yard TD pass to Reggie Wayne. That gave Manning 25 touchdowns this year, extending his NFL record to eight consecutive seasons with 25 or more.

Free agent pitcher Byrd signs contract with Indians

CLEVELAND — Free agent starter Paul Byrd is close to finalizing a $14.25 million, two-year contract with the Cleveland Indians, filling one of the club's biggest needs on the eve of the winter meetings.

Byrd, who went 12-11 with a 3.74 ERA in 31 starts for the Los Angeles Angels last season, was trying to complete a deal with the Indians, a person familiar with the negotiations said Sunday night, speaking on condition of anonymity because the deal was not yet in place.

Byrd's decision to sign with Cleveland was first reported by ESPN.com, which said the sides had reached an agreement. The person familiar with the talks told the AP that there were a few outstanding issues remaining but that a deal could be reached later Sunday or Monday.

The Los Angeles Angels, Baltimore and Texas also sought Byrd.

He signed a deal with the Indians would include an option that could raise the value to $22 million over three seasons.

Pacers finish road trip without Croshere, Tinsley

SEATTLE — The Indiana Pacers were without starters Juwan Howard and T.J. Ford as they faced the Seattle SuperSonics.

Croshere, who injured his abdomen against the Trail Blazers, started five straight games before Sunday. In 10 starts this season, Croshere averaged 9.3 points and 7.3 rebounds.

Around the Dial

NFL

Monday Night Football

Seattle at Philadelphia

9:00 p.m., ABC

NCAA Women's Basketball

Jimmy V Classic

North Carolina vs. Connecticut

7:30 p.m., ESPN2

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**NCAA Men's Basketball**

**Duke tops Virginia Tech on last-second shot**

Dean bounces back from slump to lead Louisville over Arkansas State; UCLA overcomes slow start to beat Coppin State

Associated Press

DURHAM, N.C. — Duke's magic in Cameron Indoor Stadium is alive and well.

Sean Dockery made a hover from about 40 feet with less than a second left, giving the top-seeded Blue Devils an impressive 77-75 victory over Virginia Tech on Sunday night in the Atlantic Coast Conference opener for both teams.

The frantic finish denied the Hokies a stunning upset after they rallied from an 11-point deficit in the final 4 1/2 minutes. Coleman Collins capped the comeback by hitting a three-pointer in the final minute.

Dean was the one who found Dockery with the winning shot.

He finished with a season-high 19 points — the first time he's been in double figures all season — and was 4-of-5 from three-point range. Of course, the final one was the most important.

Collins led the Hokies with 25 points on 12-of-17 shooting, and Hood added 15.

It proved to be short-lived.

**Louisville 67, Arkansas State 55**

Tazuan Dean's shooting slump didn't last long.

The Louisville guard made six 3-pointers and scored 24 points as the seventh-ranked Cardinals overcame a sluggish first half to pull away from Arkansas State at the Colonial Classic on Sunday. Dean knocked down three shots from beyond the arc during a decisive 19-4 run in the second half when Louisville (3-0) shook free of the Indians (2-4) in the final 10 minutes.

"It's the target on everybody's backboard," Louisville coach Rick Pitino said. "Tazuan is the man. Every coach is screaming 'Don't let him shoot.'"

Dean entered the game shooting just 27 percent from the field and 19 percent from three-point range, it looked like his struggles would continue against the Indians. He missed six of his first nine shots most of them long jumpers that bounced harmlessly off the rim.

A quick evaluation of his shooting motion by Pitino set Dean straight.

"I was moving back on my jump shot, I wasn't landing in the same place," said Dean. "Coach told me that at halftime, now I feel more comfortable with my shot. I feel I'm in a little groove now."

Juan Palacios had seven points and nine rebounds, Brandon Jenkins scored 11 points, and David Padgett added five points, five rebounds and four assists for Louisville.

Bereke Tipter led Arkansas State with 20 points, most coming in the final half on an array of circus shots that allowed the Indians to keep it close.

"We executed well and didn't back down," Arkansas State coach Dickey Nutt said.

**UCLA 69, Coppin State 57**

Fortunately for UCLA, college basketball is played in two halves. The Bruins needed the last 20 minutes to make up for another unpunished start.

Aaron Afflalo scored 20 points and keyed a second-half rally with Cedric Bouman that helped the 16th-ranked Bruins beat Coppin State Sunday.

The Bruins (6-1), win their fifth straight at Pauley Pavilion, but needed another comeback to put away an inferior opponent. Last Tuesday, they blew away all of a 19-point lead and trailed by one before closing out Albany 73-65.

We're definitely concerned because we play much better teams (in the future)," Afflalo said. "It's always tough when you know a team is 0-5. You just got to come out and play hard. We needed it a little bit in the second half."

The Eagles remained winless, falling to 0-6 for the first time since starting the 1999-2000 season. They are playing their first 14 games on the road, including a brutal December filled with stops at No. 3 Oklahoma, No. 12 Illinois, Pittsburgh, Michigan and No. 13 Michigan State.

"They have to play games on the road to raise money for their budget," UCLA coach Ben Howland said.

Tyrone McKee led Coppin State with a career-high 21 points and Augustine Wouadin added 12.

"We know we're small and young and they have the name and we don't, but we played extra hard. We were in it at the first half," McKee said. "We just have too many young players, but we're learning."

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NCAA Men's Basketball

Trailing by three, the Bruins ran off seven straight points to take their first lead, 42-38, since early in the first half. Roseman had four points and Afflalo added two free throws as UCLA went ahead for good.

"We lost our composure," Coppin State coach Ron Mitchell said. "We gave them a lot of easy baskets to start the second half. You can't do that if you want to win at a place like this."

Coppin State wasted five of its next six possessions on turnovers, while the Bruins put together a 25-10 spree that extended their lead to 60-48 with 4:23 remaining.

**NCAA Women's Soccer**

Portland beats UCLA to clinch NCAA title, 4-0

Associated Press

COLLEGE STATION, Texas — UCLA's near-perfect run in the NCAA tournament ended producing a thrill of its own and getting a record-setting performance from its star player.

Christine Sinclair scored two goals, setting an NCAA record in the process, and Portland beat UCLA 4-0 in the national championship game on Sunday.

Annie Woznik added a goal and two assists for the Pilots, who filled in for their second title in three years. Portland beat Santa Clara 2-1 in the 2002 championship game.

"This team just showed the way," Woznik said. "It was out of a lot of class, a lot of talent, a lot of hard work. We made a foundation that will always be with us," Portland coach Carrie Sargent said.

Sinelair, a member of the Canadian national team, scored both of her goals in the first half, giving her 39 this year.

Entering the game, Sinclair was tied for the NCAA season mark with SMU's Lisa Cole, who had 37 goals in 1998.

Sinclair was already the NCAA tournament's all-time goal scorer and finished her career with 25.

The Bruins (22-2-2), who outscores its first 14 opponents 25-10 the season, were put together a 25-10 spree that extended their lead to 60-48 with 4:23 remaining.

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Irish hold off Truman, win ND Invitational

Carroll breaks meet and pool records in 1,650 freestyle race

By GREG ARBOGAST

The women’s swimming and diving team got out of the blocks quickly and never looked back on their way to a comfortable victory in the Notre Dame Invitational this weekend. The Irish led from start to finish, accumulating 1,422 points while holding off five-time defending Division-I champions Truman State (1,443 points).

After starting the meet in strong fashion Thursday with nine of their 15 first-place finishes Notre Dame Receiveed and delivered stronger results on Friday and Saturday. During the final two days, the Irish garnered 12 top-three finishes, eight first-place finishes, and one season-best time, one NCAA “B” cut time and two meet records.

"You always want to finish the meet strong," Irish coach Carrie Nixon said. "I felt that our performance was on Saturday night, and that was very pleasing."

Carrie Nixon

By TOM DORWART

Sixth-seeded Notre Dame (30-32-30-28) made the NCAA Sweet 16 for the first time since 1991 after a second-round victory Friday evening over Northwestern (20-12) 30-27, 30-22, 30-28.

"We’re really excited about moving on to the next round, and being in the Sweet 16," Irish coach Debbie Brown said. "It’s been a long road for the program since we’ve been here."

Irish outside hitter Adrianna Stasiak spikes the ball Thursday against Dayton. Notre Dame beat Northwestern Friday.

Our best performance was on Saturday night, and that was very pleasing.".

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I Irish coach

By HY PHAM/The Observer

ND WOMEN’S SWIMMING

Team advances to Sweet 16

Sixth-seeded Notre Dame defeat Northwestern 30-32, 30-27, 30-28

"I think we were really determined," Brewer said. "I love championship games. We’ve been trying to get to the Sweet 16 for the four years we’ve been here, so that was a motivating factor for all of us.

Though the Irish took the third game from the Wildcats, it wasn’t easy. They went down 4-7 to start the game.

"I thought, ‘4-7, oh no, here we go again,’" Brewer said. "And the team did a great job of coming out of the timeout and then having the momentum and the resolve to get it done. The competitors came out.

Contact Tom Dorwart at tdorwart@nd.edu

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Hockey

Brown shuts out Western Michigan in 3-0 win

Junior earns fifth shutout of career in Saturday victory as Irish, Broncos split weekend home-and-home series

By CHRIS KHOREY

Early this season, Notre Dame coach Jeff Jackson said he was waiting for a goalie to show him something. Dave Brown may have finally become that goalie this weekend as the Irish split a home-and-home series with Western Michigan.

Brown relieved Freshman John1 Pesce in the third quarter of Friday's 4-3 loss to the Broncos in Kalamazoo. Mich. However, he never saw and did not allow a goal as Notre Dame staved back from a three-goal deficit in the final period. Brown started and earned the fifth shutout of his career Saturday in a 3-0 victory at the Joyce Center.

The win ended a five-game winless streak for the Irish and improved Notre Dame's record to 4-9-1 and 3-6-1 in the CCHA.

"Brown has played well all season," Jackson said of Saturday's performance. "I thought we played well in front of him, didn't give him a lot of chances. There were no back-door goals, no second shots, no saves we needed made, and he made some when we really needed them.

Junior defenseman Wes O'Neill opened the scoring for the Irish Saturday with a power-play goal 1:46 into the second period, giving the Irish an early lead. Junior forward Jonathan Lupica was credited for holding as time expired in the first period, giving the Irish a one-man advantage to open the second. O'Neill redirected a centering pass from junior left wing Josh Seiba past Western goalie Daniel Bellissimo.

"Actually, it was a broken play," O'Neill said of his goal. "The guy was pressuring me, so I cut down the wall and got a good pass from [Seiba]."

The game represented a renaissance for O'Neill, who also recorded an assist. He entered the day pointless for the last four games, but was 2-of-5 on Saturday.

"I thought we played well in front of him, didn't give them a lot of chances," Brown said of his play.

"It was good game because the official called the game," Jackson said. "He didn't call that everyone wants him to call. He didn't make things up, which added more tempo and flow to the game."

Western Michigan 4, Notre Dame 3

The Irish fell behind 4-1 Friday in Kalamazoo but mounted a comeback that gave them some momentum for Saturday night.

"Coach talked about us making sure we get back to the little things that make us a complete hockey team," O'Neill said of Jackson's second intermission speech that carried over to the next night.

The game got off to a fast start with a goal by both teams in the first 33 seconds. Notre Dame forward Tim Wallace took a loose puck off the opening face-off and skated down the ice to score just nine seconds into the game. Unfortunately for Notre Dame, it would give up four goals before finding the back of the net again.

Twenty-four seconds after Wallace's goal, Western right wing Dan Balint blasted a shot past Bellissimo from the point. The game was one of the cleaner the Irish have played this year, with only ten penalties committed between the two squads, including just one in the third period.

"It was good game because the official called the game," Jackson said. "He didn't call that everyone wants him to call. He didn't make things up, which added more tempo and flow to the game."

On Saturday, Notre Dame coach Jeff Jackson said his team was "ready to go."

"I can see it in their eyes," Jackson said of his team. "I can see they believe they can win."

The Irish would answer after Paige stole an errant pass in the Western zone and hanged home his first goal of the year. Brown replaced Pearce in goal and held the Broncos scoreless, but Notre Dame could only muster a Seiba goal at 10:04 of the third period and the comeback fell short.

The Irish get only two days off before returning to play in Mankato, Minn., against Minnesota State Tuesday.

Contact Tim Kaiser at ckhorey@nd.edu

SMC Basketball

Cold second half leads to loss for Saint Mary's

By TIM KAISER

The Belles took a 2-23 lead into halftime, but their second half shooting led to a 55-49 loss Saturday against North Park in Chicago.

Both teams shot poorly, but North Park's 29 percent from the floor was enough to defeat St. Mary's, which shot 25 percent on the game — 19 percent in the second half.

The Belles also had 38 rebounds to the Lady Vikings' 33, but their free throw line. The Belles also had 38 rebounds to the Lady Vikings' 33, but their free throw line. The Belles also had 38 rebounds to the Lady Vikings' 33, but their free throw line. The Belles also had 38 rebounds to the Lady Vikings' 33, but their free throw line.

The Belles had 20 of 25 second-half rebounds and 38 points from the floor line. The Belles also had 38 rebounds to the Lady Vikings' 33, but their free throw line.
Quinn proves to be a warrior despite loss

Plenty of very good players have the ability to take over a game. They just don’t have the heart. It’s the fire that burns inside a player after scoring six first-half points. It’s the pride and determination that forces a player to put the game on his shoulders, for better or worse. It’s the desire to take over a game.

Irish point guard Chris Quinn proved Saturday — at least for one afternoon — he simply has it. Quinn missed a potential game-tying floater after 17 seconds left. But that’s fine. He had a good look, and he had no intention of passing it up.

Many good basketball players could become special but fall short because they don’t have this heart. It happens all the time at the pro level.

Philadelphia 76ers forward Dony Harris scored 24.2 points per game in the 2002-04 season before scoring eight points on 3-of-12 shooting in a Game 7 against the Timberwolves.

There is a reason why Reggie Miller is a borderline Hall of Famer even though his career points per game average (18.2) is barely legal. He thrived under pressure and hit big shots in big spots.

Let’s not get ahead of ourselves, though. Quinn is clearly not at this level. But against Michigan he showed he is the type of player who can elevate his play when his team needs it most.

Anybody can score in the first half when the crowd is quiet, but only a special player wants the ball when it matters.

The numbers tell the story. In the first half Quinn was 3-of-6 from the field for six points. In the second half, Quinn exploded on 6-of-12 shooting for 20 points, including 4-of-5 from three point range. He played the entire 20 minutes and hit all four of his free throws down the stretch.

Quinn has been waiting for this moment. While former point guard Chris Thomas didn’t always live up to expectations, he always welcomed the pressure. Sometimes he forced shots and sometimes he made turnovers, but he did it knowing he had to step up more than anyone else.

Quinn has shown he is the poster boy for the motto that teams should live and die with their best player.

Quinn watched and learned. He read Kyle McAlarney’s layup that tied the game at 52 with 8:17 remaining. It was the last Irish basket that was not credited to Quinn. Michigan took a 30-second timeout, and Quinn scored Notre Dame’s final 15 points — only forcing one shot in that entire span.

“Looking at his numbers, I’m not sure anybody’s presence was going to stop Quinn this afternoon,” Michigan coach Tommy Amaker said.

And Quinn almost did Saturday what Thomas could not do his senior year, with the exception of last season’s St. John’s game — finish a big game with a bigger basket.

Thomas’s late missed shot does not discredit his performance. Irish forward Torin Francis said after the game that Quinn hits that shot nine out of 10 times. There is no doubt he will have more chances this season in close games, and Quinn will come through.

“I think he needed a game like this, as the man, this year,” Irish coach Mike Brey said. “The lights were on, and he answered the bell continuously.”

The only question that remains is where this attitude, this hustle, this determination will take Notre Dame in the long run.

Great players make good teams out of average ones. Let’s see if Quinn can do the same.

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

Contact Bobby Griffin at rgriffin@nd.edu

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http://ethicscenter.nd.edu/narnia.shtml
By DAN MURPHY
Sports Writer

Irish win fifth consecutive Notre Dame Invite

Bullfin, Stoner earn highest combined total of careers; team has not lost at Rolfs Aquatic Center since 2003-04 season

The Irish swimming and diving team continued to dominate at home this weekend with their fifth consecutive first-place finish at the Notre Dame Invitational.

Notre Dame has yet to lose at Rolfs Aquatic Center this year and has only suffered defeats once in South Bend since the 2003-04 season — a stretch that includes eight dual meet victories and six first-place finishes in tournaments. Its only loss came last year in a 163-134 loss to a strong Northwestern team.

"Being at Rolfs is where we are most comfortable," Irish captain Patrick Heffernan said. "It's where we train every day and everyone is always ready to swim at home."

The Irish were ready this weekend as they came out strong, opening up a 400-point lead on the first night of competition. The team led from the first race until the last.

Over the three-day meet, Notre Dame was able to pile up 2,813 points — almost twice as many as its closest competition. Utah, who ended with 1,366.

Many of the individual swimmers and divers had career best weekends while helping the team to their overall title. Junior Brendan Trier placed first in both the 500 and 1,650 free style races while posting his season's best times in both events.

The diving team helped out the Irish with Michael Bullfin and Sam Stover achieving their highest combined scores since arriving at Notre Dame.

Chris Barnes also had a career day by qualifying for the Big East conference meet for the first time in his career in both the 100 and 200 freestyle events.

"This was my last Notre Dame Invitational and our last meet of the semester, so it was crucial for all of us to get good swims in before our Christmas training trip," Barnes said.

The Irish begin training for the second semester almost immediately. Irish coach Tim Welsh gave his team little time to celebrate, as they will be back in the pool for practice on Monday morning, focused on their ultimate goal of the season, defending their Big East Championship.

This weekend's invitational, which Welsh referred to as a "dress rehearsal" for the Big East Tournament, left Notre Dame feeling confident about the second semester of their season.

"We have a little ways to go, but compared to this point last year, I think we are doing very well," Heffernan said.

No. 19 Notre Dame does not swim again until Jan. 13 when they take on Evansville on the road. Only a month remains before the conclusion of the season in Long Island, N.Y.

"If we continue to swim as well as we have been and then exceed some of our own lofty expectations, then the Big East championship will be something special to see," Barnes said.

Contact Dan Murphy at dmurphy6@nd.edu
**Fietsa continued from page 24** are now," Hoyte said Sunday evening after the pairing were announced. "I think it's something that you gotta define, and you gotta reach out to it as that motivation."

 avocado cutlet, which became BC-seligible with its ninth win on Nov. 26 at Stanford, moved up to sixth in the BCs after Saturday's games, earning an automatic at-large bid. Ohio State continued to improve by finishing fourth in the final BC standings, earning an automatic spot. No. 6 Oregon was squeezed out of the BCs picture, despite finishing fifth in the BC standings with a 10-1 record. However, since both the Buckeyes and the Irish moved into the top six in the final BC standings, both teams were guaranteed a BCs bid, leaving the Ducks to play in the Holiday Bowl where they once faced Oklahoma.

 Ohio State coach Jim Tressel said Sunday his team was looking forward to playing the BCS's top two teams, adding, "I think it's a good chance to watch them on tape again against them."

 And Weis says though his team has come a long way, the Buckeyes, who have lost to only two BCS teams — Penn State (Orange Bowl vs. Florida Nov. 19) and Texas (Rose Bowl to Texas Nov. 19) — are ready for that stretch to end.

 "We were an automatic at-large bid. Ohio State has not changed its tradition. It's a symbol for just being a true professional. Why he does that is because he believes in playing a good game, and not those of The Observer.

 **FOOTBALL**

 **Quinn, Samardzija named co-MVPs at banquet**

 by HEATHER VAN HOEGARDEN

 Brady Quinn and Jeff Samardzija were named co-MVPs at Friday night's Football banquet, which was highlighted by the announcement of head coach Lou Holtz as the guest speaker.

 Holtz spoke in front of a sold-out Coliseum — as was his usual Sunday Night Football viewing of Tyrone Willingham. Holtz said Friday before the banquet that he was going to be back at the place where he coached from 1986-96.

 "It's just special every time you come back into Notre Dame," Holtz said. "You just get upbeat and uplifted."

 Quinn and Samardzija have shattered Notre Dame records this year, Quinn setting records for touchdown passes and passing yardage — both single-season and career — and Samardzija for touchdown receptions and single-season receiving yards.

 Senior offensive guard Dan Santucci won the Guardian of the Year Award as the top offensive lineman, while junior defensive end Vinter Aabamiton won the lineman of the year.

 Three seniors and one junior won the Nick Pietrosante Award as individuals who best exemplified that spirit and loyalty, teamwork, dedication and pride shown by the late Notre Dame fullback. Linebacker Cory Mays, wide receiver Maurice Stovall, tight end Anthony Fasano and safety Tom Zbikowski shared the award.

 Meanwhile, co-captain Brandon Hoyte won the Knute Rockne Student-Athlete award, as he boasts a 3.14 grade point average as a double major in psychology and management.

 Finally, defensive tackle Trevor Laws and offensive guard Dan Santucci won the Westwood One/State Farm Student-Athlete of the Year award.

 Before the banquet, Holtz talked about a number of different things, from comparing his Irish teams to today's team to his relationships with Mark May of ESPN.

 On the Guglielmino Athletics Facilities

 "It's really fantastic. Notre Dame's changed an awful lot. You have tremendous facilities. You pay coaches now. But the one thing that you didn't do — Notre Dame has changed its facilities, its program, and its mission. All the things you're talking about, facilities and stuff, that doesn't just enhance Notre Dame. It's not like you want to build a great football program at the expense of certain things. Notre Dame will always be the same, regardless."

 On whether any of his teams compare to the current Irish teams

 "It doesn't remind me of mine. Number one, I wouldn't throw the ball as much. We had the luxury of having other players. We had the luxury of having other athletes who were outstanding and some are in recent Irish history."

 "And finally a head coach with so many years of collegiate head coaching experience as the Irish have bowl wins since 1994."

 Yet this season the Irish have proven they can throw, they can catch, they can run, and they have a coach who has managed it all. The Guglielmino as Flawlessly as Stovall has handled in Irish quarterback Brady Quinn's playbook. They seem to have all the answers.

 As Quinn alluded to in Sunday's press conference, the Irish are focused on a serious run at the national title next season. And the perfect runway for them to take off from is in Tempe.

 "It was fun watching and learning and studying them," Tressel said. "They're just a great football team. Well schooled, and it will be exciting to watch them against them."

 And Weis says though his team has come a long way, the Buckeyes, who have lost to only two BCS teams — Penn State (Orange Bowl vs. Florida Nov. 19) and Texas (Rose Bowl to Texas Nov. 19) — are ready for that stretch to end.

 "I think that the fact that they've developed as one of the top eight teams in the country is remarkable. It's a great achievement for these players," Weis said of his team Sunday night. "They certainly had a long way from walking off the field last year and ending up 6-6. But I do know that as rewarding as this year has been, they realize there's a long road ahead of them. And it's going to be a tough task."

 For Notre Dame quarterback and co-captain Brady Quinn, a native of Dublin, Ohio, a Cleveland Buckeye, the matchup holds special meaning.

 Quinn running back Darius Walker hurdles defenders in Notre Dame's 34-10 win over Syracuse on Nov. 19.

 **As Quinn alluded to in Sunday's press conference, the Irish are focused on a serious run at the national title next season. And the perfect runway for them to take off from is in Tempe.**

 Contact Heather Van Hoegarden at hvangoeg@nd.edu

 **Weis continued from page 24**

 "It was more or less an ideal situation," Quinn said. "Playing in a bowl game out there in the Fiesta Bowl against a team I always grew up watching, basically in my backyard."

 The last time Notre Dame won a bowl game was also the last time the Irish finished the regular season in the top five in the polls.

 In 1993, the Irish finished No. 4 with a 10-1 record and then went on to defeat No. 7 Texas A&M in the Cotton Bowl, finishing the season as the No. 2 team behind Florida State, who they beat earlier that season 31-24, before losing to Boston College in the final game of the regular season.

 But since then, the Irish have lost straight bowl games. The Irish lost in the Fiesta Bowl to end the 2000 and 1999 seasons, the Orange Bowl to end the 1997 season and the Independence Bowl to end the 1997 season.

 Most recently, the Irish lost the Gator Bowl to end the 1998 and 2002 seasons and the Insight Bowl at the end of last season. But both Irish captains are ready for that streak to end.

 "I think it's something that's a motivational factor," Hoyte said. "Just to be able to for me personally to leave this program the way it should be and make sure Notre Dame stays on top through my tenure."

 Quinn smiled at the question, knowing the answer immediately.

 "That's something that obviously needs to end," Quinn said of the losing bowl record. "It's something that's gone on far too long and we're working toward that as one of our goals, ending that streak."

 Contact Heather Van Hoegarden at hvangoeg@nd.edu

 **As Quinn alluded to in Sunday's press conference, the Irish are focused on a serious run at the national title next season. And the perfect runway for them to take off from is in Tempe.**

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**Badgers continued from page 24**

also had five assists, six rebounds and four steals. Tulyah Gaines was one of four Irish players to play more than 39 minutes. Wisconsin had 13 points on 6-0-6 shooting, including her career-high three-pointers with Taylor. Brey added 13 points and he and Tulyah Gaines and Melissa D’Amico each had 11 points. Washington joked about her game, saying, “We needed that. Every first career 3-pointer, and Tulyah was one of four Irish players to play more than 39 minutes.”

**Harris continued from page 24**

Badger guard Monique Fuentes scored 13 points on 6-0-6 shooting, making all her shots from the field and hitting all her free throws. She helped lead her team to victory after a slow start in the game. Fuentes, who had scored in each of the first three games of the season, was a key player for the Badgers in their game against Notre Dame. She finished with 13 points and six rebounds in the game, helping Wisconsin to win the match.

**Quinn sank two free throws to stretch the lead to four with 2:19 remaining, but Brown made a layup and two free throws on an offensive possession to tie it at 67. Notre Dame forward Jean Ziele, who had 2-3-2 from the arc in the game already, missed a 3-point attempt that gave Michigan the ball, then led to the game-winning layup.**

Irish guard Russell Carter was 3-of-10 shooting but had seven rebounds when Brey called for a 2-2-3 zone, intending to force Michigan into a ball-handling situation. Quinn stepped out to meet Horton and jumped to tip the pass to the corner, but no one remained in the corner to contest Carter. Quinn sank two free throws to stretch the lead to four with 2:19 remaining, but Brown made a layup and two free throws on an offensive possession to tie it at 67. Notre Dame forward Jean Ziele, who had 2-3-2 from the arc in the game already, missed a 3-point attempt that gave Michigan the ball, then led to the game-winning layup. Then led to the game-winning layup.

**Irish coach Mike Brey made adjustments with spacing on the offensive end of the floor to free up more scoring chances and create better flow. Notre Dame benefited from scoring more points than it had scored against Wisconsin in the past game as far as a team effort.**

Quinn sank two free throws to stretch the lead to four with 2:19 remaining, but Brown made a layup and two free throws on an offensive possession to tie it at 67. Notre Dame forward Jean Ziele, who had 2-3-2 from the arc in the game already, missed a 3-point attempt that gave Michigan the ball, then led to the game-winning layup. Then led to the game-winning layup.**

Irish guard Russell Carter was 3-of-10 shooting but had seven rebounds when Brey called for a 2-2-3 zone, intending to force Michigan into a ball-handling situation. Quinn stepped out to meet Horton and jumped to tip the pass to the corner, but no one remained in the corner to contest Carter.

**We wanted to cheat a little bit, and (Horton) made a senior play,** Brey said.

Notre Dame had limited Horton and Harris, two experienced seniors, to 1-2 scoring shots in the first half. But the Irish even went to a zone defense in the second half to contain Horton, Quinn and freshman guard Kyle McAuliffe, who was sharing the responsibilities as primary defender.

**We just tried to do anything to slow Horton down,** Brey said. "It's tough when you make a play for them, instead of him making a play like he did at the end of the game."

**While Horton and Harris (12 combined points, Quinn received no help from his mate in the starting backcourt, Colin Falls. Falls did knock down all seven shots and attempted only two shots, missing all of them.** Falls' absence on the offensive end also contributed to Notre Dame's deficit of 10-3 in first-half points. The second time the Irish have not hit a free throw three times during Brey tenure. The last time was a 63-52 win over West Virginia on Jan. 24.

**Notre Dame started the game quicker than the actually sluggish Wolverines, who missed six of their first seven shots and committed a few early fouls. The Irish scored 18 points in the first half but did pull away further than eight with 11-59 remaining in the half. Michigan scored seven straight points out of a TV timeout at the 5:50 mark to make the score 27-25.**

McAlarney sank two free throws before half into the locker room with a 27-27 tie. Notre Dame is now 7-14 all-time against Michigan.

**Notes:**

- Quinn's first of two free throws with 5:42 remaining made him the 44th player in program history to reach 1,000 career points. Quinn reached the milestone against the Buckeyes (9-21) to Temple, Ariz. instead of a one-loss Buckeyes.

- "It seems that the lessons we learned last year apply in the same way this year," Brey said.

- "It's a good win for us and a bad loss in terms of our season," Brey said.

- "We're still behind in the conference, but we're not where we were a month ago," Brey said.

- "We have a lot of work to do in the second half," Brey said.

**BSC continued from page 24**

hearing — scheduled for Wednesday — to discuss the controversial postseason system. Chairman Joe Barton, R-Texas, said his House Energy and Commerce subcommittee "cannot ignore" a system he described as "deeply flawed." The subcommittee also invited Weiberg to testify. Although Congress has investigated the BCS before, Weiberg believes any significant change in the system must occur through the consensus of its members.

**"It is true that we have a BCS arrangement that we have all agreed to — all 11 conferences, Notre Dame — for another full year for this past one," Weiberg said. "And I really do believe, if ultimately we are going to change it is the conferences and Notre Dame agree to that change.**

"We very much have collective support at this juncture of the 11 conferences and Notre Dame about the direction (of the BCS), so I don't think there is a conference that is pushing this matter. This is a little different perhaps than some of the other times in the past," Weiberg said. "I'm going to Washington, D.C." Though it currently governs four bowl games — five beginning next season — the BCS was originally founded to determine the national champion. The system accomplished its primary goal this year and also got six of the top seven teams in the final standings into BCS bowl games.

"This particular year, of course, the at-large positions were really filled automatically under the rules that all of the conferences and Notre Dame agreed to," Weiberg said.

The BCS selections, but not their destinations, became predetermined once LSU and Virginia Tech lost Saturday to slide down in the final rankings. No. 6 Notre Dame and No. 4 Ohio State both received automatic bids due to current BCS rules — top-six, non-affiliated conference teams receive automatic bids, and so do top-four teams, regardless of conference affiliation. Weiberg said the top-six rule that locked in Notre Dame has been in place since the BCS was first established. But Oregon finished at No. 5 and did not receive a BCS bowl bid, which challenges the rule that is sending the Buckeyes (9-21) to Temple, Ariz. instead of a one-loss Buckeyes.

"There seemed to be some support for [ending the rule] this past year," Weiberg said. "There's a general feeling that the more you ask the conferences to do outside of determining the 1-2 matchup, the more it can lead to controversial situations."

Kevin Weiberg
BSC coordinator

**Contact Pat Leonard at plenoard@nd.edu**

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**Lunch and Conversation**

For Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and Questioning Students at Notre Dame

**Thursday, December 8th**

12:00 - 1:30 p.m.
316 Coleman-Morse

The Standing Committee on Gay and Lesbian Student Needs invites gay, lesbian, and bisexual members of the Notre Dame family, their friends, and supporters to an informal lunch and study break at the Co-Mo.

Everyone is welcome and confidentiality is assured.

"Lunch will be served"
JOCKULAR

ALEC WHITE AND ERIK POWERS

JUMBLE

HENRI ARNOLD AND MIKE ARGIRION

CROSSWORD

MAN, A LOT OF STRIFE COPPERS ON WITH THESE TINY PAPER LEGAL DOCUMENTS, FOR THE CABLE INSTALLATION.

WE HEARD ON THE NEWS THAT WE WERE NOT TO INSTALL THE CABLE NOW.

WHAT? I WANT SPIKE TO TAKE THE PACKAGE WITH ALL THE ENSUING WE WERE "SPIKE", "HIT", AND "HULK", WHICH WERE ALL CLEAR TO A STUPID CHANNEL SO WE DIDN'T MINCE IF WE LOSE IT.

AND I DON'T CARE ABOUT MNZ.

GOTCHA!

ADAM FAIRHOLM

CROSSWORD WORLD

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AND I DON'T CARE ABOUT MNZ.

GOTCHA!

ADAM FAIRHOLM

CROSSWORD WORLD

CROSSWORD

WILL SHORTZ

ACROSS

1 Wood for crossword clues (15)
3 "Gotcha!"
5 Where to set books
9 Community service group
14 Outskirt
15 Four-bagger
17 Pipe problem
18 Breathing
19 Universe
20 Hopping mad
21 Mother hog
22 Chokes
25 Tax-parking sentiment
27 In good spirits
30 Obsoletery
31 Wrestling maneuvers
33 Lose-weight last plan
37 Antipodium organ
41 Like good wine
45 Sheets
46 Outranking article
50 Fed. watchdog
52 Change defeat
58 Cigar waste
60 N £A H, WAS

33 Lose-weight plan
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14 Queue
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62 Hawaiian strings
61 One with a
52 Change defeat
45 Sheets
43 Outranking
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43-Down sentiment
67 Visionaries
66 Urge on

DOWN

1 Musical symbol
2 1953 Leslie Carol film
4 36-Down Stadium
7 Not too
8 "The 16 in a row" North Carolina
9 "Straus & Co.
10 Complimentary ticket
11 Tether
12 Musical instrument for the nonmusician
13 Distort
14 Owned jointly by M.J. and M.U.
15 Sport
16 One of the
17 Person who's often sent compliments
18 Indian tribe with kachina dolls
19 Spirit
30 W.V. II German general Rommel
31 Sound off
33 Morose

34 Denny's alternative
35 Roof overhang
36 Next
38 They may sit in a glass at night
41 He could "float like a butterfly, sting like a bee"
42 Boost
43 See 46-Across
44 Ferry operator
45 Wedding helpers
47 Get ready to run, in baseball
48 Three-line poem
50 Beachinized swimmer
53 Fan part
54 In the raw
55 Shakespearean villain
56 Fidgity cut
57 Whirlpool
59 Demolishes
60 Cigar waste

Solved by:

Richard Lord
Sandra James

By: EUGENIA LAST

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY:

Tyra Banks, 32; Mira Sorvino, 41; Josef Siebels, 41; Jeff Bridges, 60

Happy Birthday: Take a chance this year by getting involved in something really difficult. This is a perfect year for a panhandler who will comply with you personally or professionally. This is a year of growth and expansion. Your numbers are 6, 17, 26, 39, 40

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Take a position this year that will put you in the driver's seat. Use your energy wisely and begin making some of the changes you've been planning to do in your home. Leave time to relax. **

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Stay active today. Downtime will lead to dissatisfaction. Having friends or attending an interesting exhibit will stimulate ideas. A relationship with someone special will take an interesting turn. ****

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Put a little extra push on a passing deal. The more you do to position yourself, the better. An opportunity will develop through someone you used to work with. Emotional matters can be dealt with. **

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Your emotions will take over, making it easier for you to let others know your thoughts. This is a perfect day to explore the possibility of a new relationship. **

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): You may find yourself thinking more about something you met through work. Don't turn out on an opportunity because you don't know how to approach the career. Your determination will bring good results. ***

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Much will evolve from the conversations and interactions you have with others today. Get involved in community events or special activities that interest people from different backgrounds. *****

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): You will be inspired to try something that is not for you. Think before you take a chance that could ruin your reputation, relationship or even your health. **

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): You owe it to yourself and the one you love to put a little energy into what life is all about. A time to relax, share thoughts and understand what's best for you in the future will give you a lift. ****

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Changes in your personal life will take you by surprise, but will also help you make a decision you have been putting off. Secrets may be revealed, giving you a much better understanding. A partnership will develop.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Consider what's best for you this year. Doing things for someone else will leave you feeling cheated and may ruin the connection you have with that person. Get out and meet new people. **

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Nothing will be set in the open or made available for you to see. You will have to act on your own instinct, especially in relationships. Be observant and listen to someone else who has the situation.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): You have plenty of opportunities when it comes to love, friendship or even business partnerships. Money is coming in your direction but do not let the notion you expect. A last minute may be required. **

Birthday Baby: You are solid and stable, with charm, insight and a thought-provoking mind. You have skill in finding solutions, empowering others and seeing yourself and your loved ones through thick and thin.

Eugenia's Web sites: astronomy.com for fun, organizations.com for confidential contributions

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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Name:
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BCS coordinator Kevin Weiberg pleaded with this year’s selection process despite Congress

By PAT LEONARD
Sports Writer

The Bowl Championship Series (BCS) generates annual controversy over the college football postseason. But Sunday’s announcement of this year’s matchups did not follow that lead. BCS coordinator Kevin Weiberg, also the Big 12’s conference commissioner, was especially pleased that the 2005 version of the constantly evolving playoff formula slotted the consensus top two teams — USC and Texas — into the national championship game Rose Bowl.

"I really feel like we have a marquee championship game of two unbeaten teams that wouldn’t be together in a bowl game if not for a BCS arrangement," Weiberg said during a 6 p.m. EST teleconference following the announcements.

Critics as high up as Capitol Hill are continuing to pressure the BCS and its methods despite this year’s "consensus" results. On Friday, the Associated Press article reported the chairman of a congressional subcommittee had called a

Men’s Basketball

Harris jumper beats Irish

By PAT LEONARD
Sports Writer

Michigan guard Dion Harris sunk a corner jump shot with 17 seconds remaining to take a 69-67 lead and send the Wolverines to a 71-67 victory in the Joyce Center Saturday afternoon, despite Notre Dame’s attempt at its own late-game heroics.

Irish point guard Chris Quinn scored 26 points, including Notre Dame’s fi nal basket of the game, but it came with 11.4 seconds left, which wasn’t enough to tip the scale.

"I’m surprised we won," Harris said. "I thought we were down 67-64 after Chris’s basket." Quinn said he was surprised, too.

Irish forward Rick Cornett guards Wolverines forward Courtney Sims in Saturday’s 71-67 loss at the Joyce Center.

ND Volleyball

Duffy pushes Notre Dame past Badgers

By HEATHER VAN HOEGARDEN
Sports Writer

In their second game playing without head coach Muffett McGraw, the No. 11 Irish found a way to defeat Wisconsin 77-72 at the Kohl Center in Madison, Wis., winning their sixth straight game to open up the season.

McGraw missed her second straight game due to illness and did not make the trip to Wisconsin. She also missed Tuesday’s game at the Joyce Center against Iowa.

Irish associate head coach Constance Washington, who coached the team for the second straight game in McGraw’s absence, said she was content with her team’s play on Sunday.

"I was pretty pleased with our overall team play, Washington said. "We got a lot of contributions from everybody. It was a wonderful team effort and a big win. This was a huge win for us."

Senior point guard Megan Duffy led all scorers with 29 points, including 9-for-10 from the free throw line and six free throws down the stretch.

ND Women’s Basketball

Duffy pushes Notre Dame past Badgers

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