**Irish fans flock to Georgia to show support**

By EILEEN DUFFY, Assistant News Editor

Welcome to Atlanta where the Irish play this weekend, at least. When the Irish hit the road, similar to any university's band, there are many factors that go into picking them.

Senior Nathan Catanese will be squeezing six people into a car - meaning one person will be sitting between the driver and the front passenger. It's going to be tight, but Catanese might have a little more tolerance for leg cramps, as this is the first Notre Dame game he's seen in nearly two years, having studied abroad in London last fall.

"Since we missed last football season, we are going to as many games as we can to make up for it this year," he said.

Junior Fritz Shadle can relate. On Tuesday, he'll board a Spain-bound airplane that will fly him away from Notre Dame football for the fall. He's still heading down to Atlanta, though.

"The only games I can go to are this one and the National Championship game," he said, without knocking on wood.

Students like Shadle and Iowa resident Emree Chapman, who flew home Thursday for the game, are confident in the team's ability to win.

"I have a lot of high school friends that go to Georgia Tech. It'll be fun to beat them," she said, adding a "hopefully!" for good measure.

**ND students help Katrina relief**

One year after devastating storm, the clean-up effort continues with volunteers

By MARCELA BERRIOS, News Writer

Tuesday marked the first anniversary since Hurricane Katrina's raging winds and waters destroyed the homes and lives of countless families living in and around New Orleans.

It may have happened a year ago, but that does not mean the victims of Katrina have moved on — neither have the members of the Notre Dame community tied to the disaster.

"I saw the destruction on the suffering emotionally, psychologically and occasionally financially from Hurricane Katrina," senior Radhika Deva said.

Deva spent her summer in New Orleans rippling out mold walls and egressing homes that were evacuated immediately after the levees collapsed and sinked for more than nine months.

"It's tragic to see entire families coming back to their homes for the first time and finding everything destroyed and scattered," she said.

Deva, and several Notre Dame students, traveled to New Orleans as part of a Center for Social Concerns Summer Service Project.

In the last year, the CSC has sent more than 65 students to the Katrina-ravaged region, said Bill Purcell, associate director of Catholic Social Tradition and Practice.

"As a student body at a religiously affiliated institution of higher learning, we need to act in solidarity with the folks in the Gulf Region to address the systemic problems which will take a decade to overcome," he said.

The CSC recently began a Gulf Coast Task Force designed to assist with interest in continuing the relief and recovery efforts in the Gulf.

**Budget, scheduling restrict band away game travels**

Group will only play at Michigan State

By KATHLEEN MCDONNELL, News Writer

As the 2006 Irish football team runs onto Georgia Tech's field for the season opener, an element almost as synonymous with Notre Dame football as Knute Rockne will be missing — the Band of the Fighting Irish.

The band will take only one road trip this season, as opposed to its typical two away appearances. Tight budgeting and scheduling issues forced the band to choose Michigan State on Sept. 23 as its only away game visit, according to Larry Dwyer, assistant director of bands.

The band traditionally travels to away games in buses to defray costs. While in the past buses have taken the band as far as Tennessee and Florida State, Dwyer said this year the band chose to save money by traveling only a state away.

"By saving the money from a second away game, it will enable us to go to the Penn State game next year, which is a longer trip," he said.

This season the Irish play seven home games and only five on the road. With the other away games spreading across the country — Georgia Tech, Navy in Maryland, Air Force in Colorado and USC — distance plays a large role in choosing which games are feasible.

But money is not the only reason the Band of the Fighting Irish does not make appearances nationwide.

"Even if there were money to send the band to every away game, it would almost certainly be the University's policy not to do that," Dwyer said. "Our band members have academic schedules and need to study. There are very good academic reasons why we don't go."

Unlike athletes on scholarship, band members are volunteers. Home game weekends are packed with band performances, including step-off, drummer's circle, the concert on the steps and the march to the Stadium, as well as the game. All this adds to a full academic load.

However, if the team qualifies for a bowl game, the band will travel as well.

"For the band members to see ARREST/page 4

**Police arrest suspect**

Man in custody for Turtle Creek incident

By MADDIE HANNA, News Writer

Police arrested a Mishawaka man Wednesday in connection with the alleged assault at Turtle Creek Apartments Aug. 23.

Bruce Smith, 24, was arrested Wednesday night on "preliminary charges" related to the incident in which a female Notre Dame junior, 21, was held at knifepoint in her Turtle Creek apartment, South Bend Police Captain John Williams said Thursday.

Williams said he could not specify how Smith was found and arrested — "I didn't look into all that" — or what charges were made.

"The [St. Joseph County] prosecutors will decide what he will be formally charged with," Williams said. "It will take a decade to overcome," he said.

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**On the one-year anniversary of Hurricane Katrina, non-ND volunteers in New Orleans.**

Miss. paint the outside of a house damaged by the storm. Notre Dame students took on similar projects in New Orleans.

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INSIDE COLUMN

Life at the bottom

Rare light bulbs, unfinished walls and cold concrete floors. Typical things you would find in a basement. It is the bottom of the building, the place in your house you were afraid to go by yourself when you were little. Some people might call a basement spooky. I call it my home.

This year I am living in the basement of my dorm, the result of an unfortunately low lottery number during room picks. The first, second, and third floors filled quickly last year, so I resigned myself to living in what widely regarded as Panghorn’s least desirable room because during an introductory exercise on the first day of Spanish class, a classmate asked me what dorm I am in and what floor I live on. “Coro,” I replied, since I have not spoken a word of Spanish all summer and could not remember how to say basement.

“The basement,” I said in English after he looked at me with a confusion behind his eyes. Immediately I look a look of what can only be described as pity registered on his face. “They have rooms down there?” he asked incredulously. “Rooms and much, much more. After only two weeks living in the basement, I am officially converted to a willing basement dweller. Climbing stairs to go to my room has become a thing of the past. The easy access to the laundry, the printer and the close proximity of my friends, the bar and the dining hall are all pluses to lower level living. The temperature is cooler, it’s easier to move in and move out and there is a routine to my day. I turn on the radio in my room at midnight.”

Basement, is marred only by the sound of a door alarm always kept on at midnight.

This basement life is not new to me. Over the summer, I moved from the second floor bedroom I had lived in for six years to another room in the basement of my home.

My extensive basement dwelling experience allows me to identify certain pluses to lower level living. The temperature is cooler, it’s easier to move in and move out and there is a slight feeling of detachment from the other floors that can easily be misconstrued as living on your own.

Now, from my dorm room I can walk right outside and do homework in the sun at a picnic table in the courtyard. My neighbors are about two minutes shorter. And without a couple flights of stairs to lug my laundry basket up and down, I think I can get through the whole year without breaking it like I did last year.

When room picks start at the end of the year, even if I have a high lottery pick, I think I will choose to live in the basement again. So, to my Spanish friend, don’t worry about my living situation. I may barely be above ground, but I still enjoy windows, plumbing, electricity and a room identical to every other room in the dorm. If you need me, I’ll be in the basement.

Contact Kaitlynn Riey at kriely@nd.edu.

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

QUESTION OF THE DAY: WHAT’S YOUR PREDICTION FOR THE FOOTBALL GAME THIS WEEKEND?

Anna Konger senior Holy Cross

“ND will win because they’re going to win every game.”

Brie Anne Eichhorn junior LeMans

“We’ll win because Weis is a god.”

Catherine Wagner senior LeMans

“They’ll win because I am an RA and what I say goes.”

Kate Van Damme senior LeMans

“They’ll win because they have the support of the Belles behind them.”

Maggie Jespersen junior LeMans

“They’ll win because they have the support of the Belles behind them.”

Sarah Patten junior McCandles

“They’ll win because The Shirt is actually cute this year.”

OFFBEAT

Bartender gets $10,000 tip on $26 tab

HUTCHINSON, Kan. — Cindy Kienow, a bartender at Applebee’s, got a $10,000 tip from a man — for a $26 meal — on Sept. 10 tonight.

“I couldn’t move,” Kienow said. “I didn’t know what to say. He said, ‘This will buy you something kind of nice, huh?’ And I said, ‘Yeah, will.’”

Kienow said the man, whom company officials have declined to name, comes in several times a month and eats at the end of the bar. “He usually signs his ticket and flips it upside down,” said Kienow. 35, who has worked at the restaurant for eight years. “But this time, he had it right-side up for eight years. “But this time, he had it right-side up for eight years.”

Stripper helps Las Vegas area schools

LAS VEGAS — Las Vegas County School District kicked off the first day of school Wednesday with scant resources. But it got a major donation from the scantily clad.

The same day the nation’s fifth largest school district began the year with some 400 teaching vacancies, the nonprofit corporation that supports it, the Public Education Foundation, accepted a $2,500 donation from a strip club, Scores Las Vegas.

Scores raised the funds at an Aug. 23 back-to-school event called “Detention” that featured strippers dressed as teachers, schoolgirls and librarians. “It’s back to school time and you know what that means. Detention for everyone who has been bad,” one advertisement read.

Information compiled from the Associated Press.

IN BRIEF

Chicago’s “Howl at the Moon” dueling pianos will perform at Legends at 10 tonight. ND, SMC or HCC student ID required for admission.

“An Inconvenient Truth” will be shown at 7 and 10 tonight in Browning Cinema at The DeBartolo Performing Arts Center. Admission is $6 for general public, $2 for faculty, $4 for seniors and $3 for students.

The women’s soccer team will take on USC tonight at 7:30 at Alumni Field. The game is part of the Inn at Saint Mary’s ND Classic.

The Student Activities Office will host a Game Watch on North Quad for the Georgia Tech game on Saturday beginning at 8 p.m. Free food and drink will be provided while it lasts.

The Suite Museum of Art will showcase Mexican migration to the United States through a multimedia exhibit that includes Chicano and Mexican visual arts beginning Sunday, Sept. 3 in the museum’s O’Shaughnessy Galleries, Mestrovic Studio Gallery and the entrance atrium.

The sixth annual Saturday Scholar Series will feature six lectures and a performance by leading faculty members on each home football game weekend this fall. The first lecture, “More Than a Movie? Assessing ‘The Da Vinci Code’” will be held, as always, three and a half hours before kickoff on Sept. 9 in DeBartolo 101.

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

Correction

The Observer regrets any errors made in the weather forecast or any other errors that make us look bad. If we have made a mistake, please contact us at 631-4141 so we can correct ourselves.

The views expressed in the Inside Columns are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer.
College expands handicap access

Ramp to be added to Le Mans west entrance

By LIZ HARTER
News Writer

Students returning to Saint Mary’s campus this fall noticed a new addition to one of the oldest residential buildings. A handicapped ramp is being installed on the west entrance of Le Mans, a building that houses not only students but also many of the College’s administrative offices, the Department of Residence Life and the counseling center.

Bill Hambling, director of Facilities at Saint Mary’s, said while there is a handicapped ramp to the south of the one being built, the new ramp will provide an entrance to the basement.

“This new ramp will provide a more convenient entrance (and) exit to (and) from Le Mans to the center courtyard area,” Hambling said.

The new ramp was designed to fit in with the architecture of the building so as to be aesthetic while serving its purpose, he said.

While the existing ramp was believed adequate and served its purpose, students found it to be in an awkward place and poorly marked.

“I had no idea that there were any ramps or anything in Le Mans, there was nothing to indicate it,” said Kellie Anderson, a sophomore who lived in Le Mans her freshman year.

The new ramp, Hambling said, is “strategically placed to make it more readily visible and available to use.”

The other residential buildings on campus are not being updated, Hambling said.

Four students were assigned to live together in the house, along with a live-in supervisor, for a period of nine weeks. Hambling said.

While there, the students learned advanced home management skills by practicing efficient budget management, planning and preparing meals, shopping, cleaning, sewing and guest hosting and entertaining.

While defiant by the mid-1960s, the College’s domestic science programs were considered rather advanced for the time, and students with concentrations in dietetics or nutrition were required to take several rigorous courses in biology and chemistry in addition to fulfilling laboratory requirements.

House guards memories of past

Riedinger used for student practicum

By KIM ABEEL
News Writer

A mystery for many students and source of fond memories for many alumnae, the Riedinger House stands as a remembrance of things past on Saint Mary’s Campus.

Though no longer used for its original purpose, the house was built in 1909 for use for the student practicum required of all seniors majoring in domestic science, according to Barb Henry of the SMC Alumnae Relations Office.

Four students were assigned to live in the building near the Security Office, next to the Post Office.

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While defiant by the mid-1960s, the College’s domestic science programs were considered rather advanced for the time, and students with concentrations in dietetics or nutrition were required to take several rigorous courses in biology and chemistry in addition to fulfilling laboratory requirements.

The program’s courses and laboratory sessions were conducted in what is now Holy Cross Residence Hall. The cost of the construction of the Riedinger practicum house was $21,712, a large portion of which was donated by the Adaline Crowley Riedinger Family. Riedinger, Class of 1864, was the first alumna to send her daughter, Mary Adaline Riedinger, Class of 1889, to Saint Mary’s.

After an unexpected increase in expenses, however, plans for the house were changed to 7/8 scale. This reduction in size is noticeable primarily in the lowered ceilings, especially upon entering the powder room off the main foyer.

The house was furnished in Early-American style, and the bedrooms contained Georgian-period style furniture. Much of the original furniture remains today.

The kitchen was considered state-of-the-art at the time of its construction and even included a dishwasher.

There were two bedrooms for the students and one spacious room with a fireplace for the supervisor.

The bathroom was also unique for its time and was designed in such a way that all four students could use it simultaneously, yet with relative privacy. One area of the bathroom housed a tub, shower and sink; another area, a toilet and a sink; the third area, properly called a “dental lavatory,” contained two sinks and a full mirror.

The basement originally served as a state-of-the-art laundry facility, containing an electric wringer-washer and an automatic in-wall steam, dry and press unit.

After the domestic science program ended, Riedinger House was occupied in 1968 by Mrgr. John McGrath. The house underwent a major renovation in the mid-1970s, and has been suitably maintained since. Much of the original furniture remains and has been reupholstered throughout the years.

Maintaining nearly all of its charm, the house still bears the original copper scalloped gutters, original eavestrough windows and blue toile adorning dining room with original Hitchcock dining chairs. The house also contains one of Mother Madeleva’s personal bookcases, a silver tea service formerly of the Sisters of the Holy Cross and an original painting of Norman Laliberte, artist and former art instructor at the College from 1960 to 1965.

Today, the Riedinger House is used by official guests of the College, Alumnae or Trustee Board members or for faculty functions. The rich memorial gardens surrounding the House are open for public use.

The House is not available for any alumnae weddings or reunions.

Contact Kim Abeel at kabeel01@saintmarys.edu
Russo offers financial aid advice to British

Faculty member back after summer abroad

Special to The Observer

The names of the British universities Oxford and Cambridge mean academic excellence even to Americans. And supported as they and other British universities are by the national government, British college tuition does not present the challenge to family finances that U.S. tuition does.

Just home from a summer appointment to the Oxford University faculty, Joe Russo, director of student financial strategies at Notre Dame, has returned with a key belief reaffirmed: The broad opportunity to attend college in the U.S. is a significant national asset.

"The U.S. can offer a chance for further education beyond high school virtually for anyone who wants to pursue it," he says. "They can do it, and do it with support if they need it."

The variety of opportunities is another major strength: Two-year, four-year, public, private, big, small, suburban, religious, affiliated," he says, ticking off the options. "We are recognized around the world as the best."

The United Kingdom itself has recognized the importance of improving accessibility to higher education and is phasing in new approaches toward that end.

Russo served this summer as a fellow in the Centre for Higher Education Policy Studies (OxCHEPS), part of New College at Oxford University. The Centre's work includes developing reports that can be of assistance to university leaders and national policymakers.

"The British were seeking a bit of Yankee ingenuity because their system for financing higher education is on the cusp of change. Historically, fewer than 40 percent of Britain's secondary school graduates continue onto college. But the lucky minority who do enroll face relatively small tuitions—the equivalent of about $2,000."

In 2004, the British Parliament passed new legislation intended to make higher education accessible to more students. To underwrite the cost of that expansion, tuition would increase. Students entering their first year this fall will pay nearly the equivalent of about $6,000.

The station, the Siegfried juniors doused their friend's hat with lighter fluid, ignited it and "went crazy" in front of the camera. They then hoisted the flaming-head friend up for push-ups.

"I think the push-up are a good idea," Shadley said.

As the road trip ends, though, the game begins — and students hope they’ll soon be doing push-ups for a different reason.

Contact Eileen Duffy at eduffy@nd.edu

Contact Kathleen McDonnell at kmcdonn3@nd.edu

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**Georgia**

continued from page 1

Chapman is hosting 15 students at her home for the weekend. Road-tripping students without friends in Atlanta said they plan to stay at hotels, other colleges near Atlanta like University of Georgia, or even in their own dorm. A student ticket lottery did not offer the Notre Dame Tech game. Director of Student Activities Brian Fremeau said the lotteries are reserved for games "within a short driving distance" from campus, although Director of Ticket Operations Josh Berlo noted that 300 tickets would be available for the game at University of Southern California. Without Notre Dame's help for this game, students found their tickets in a multitude of ways.

Senior Mike Sciortino's plan was to buy tickets from scalpers while he was in Atlanta, entered a radio contest there offering 20 tickets at its prize: 10 for the group that could prove itself at Georgia Tech, and the same for Notre Dame Tech.

"The people down there are different," Deva said.

"The U.S. can offer a chance for further education beyond high school virtually for anyone who wants to pursue it," he says. "They can do it, and do it with support if they need it."

"There is one of those cases where the student body, Dwyer said. "We're excited. Our first priority is the student body," Dwyer said. "We try to give a good show to the parents, alumni and fans everyone — will like it, but the first priority is the students."

Contact Maddie Hanna at mhanna1@nd.edu

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**Arrest**

continued from page 1

The student, who wished to remain anonymous, told The Observer Sunday that 10 minutes after the man entered her apartment she was increasingly certain "this guy wasn't supposed to be in my apartment.

Several minutes later, the student said, the man was holding a knife to her neck.

Despite his threats — "If you screw with me, I'll kill you" — the student said she managed to get away by grabbing the knife and pushing his arm away.

As she tried to escape, the man ran out of her apartment, she said. Williams said he could not give a timeline for the review of the case, to be conducted by the St. Joseph County Prosecutor's office.

Contact Maddie Hanna at mhanna1@nd.edu
**INTERNATIONAL NEWS**

Rocket attack kills 47 in Baghdad

BAGHDAD — A barrage of coordinated bomb and rocket attacks on eastern Baghdad neighborhood killed at least 47 people and wounded more than 200, within half an hour on Thursday, police officials said.

The latest spasm of violence — which included explosives planted in apartments, car bombs and mortar and rocket attacks on mainly Shiite neighborhoods in the capital — came even as Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki said Iraqi forces should have control over most of the country by year’s end.

The Baghdad bombings brought the day’s death toll across the country to at least 68.

Attacksers rented apartments and shops in buildings within a few miles of the office US peacekeepers to go into the volatile area.

The pullback came as an international donors conference in Sweden pledged nearly $1 billion to help Lebanon rebuild, after the country’s prime minister told the gathering that Israel’s war with Hezbollah wiped out “15 years of postwar development.”

Israel sent up to 30,000 soldiers into Lebanon during the 34-day war, and when the fighting ended they occupied a zone extending about 10 miles north from the border.

**NATIONAL NEWS**

Possible melanoma treatment found

WASHINGTON — Mark Origer entered the walk in the warm waters of the Atlantic and lost power at 1,000 feet, Sheriff Craig about 6 p.m. when the plane apparently wiped out “15 years of postwar development.”

Israel sent up to 30,000 soldiers into Lebanon during the 34-day war, and when the fighting ended they occupied a zone extending about 10 miles north from the border.

Israel turns over small border area

JERUSALEM. The Israeli’s turned over a small border area in south Lebanon to Lebanon and the U.S. military moved into the area Wednesday, said Maj. Gen. Jihad Laiabhi, director of the Interior Ministry’s counterterrorism unit.

Israel is believed to have been occupying the area since last week and then agreed to hand it over to Lebanon. The Lebanese army said it had deployed onto the border.

**LOCAL NEWS**

Two walk away from plane crash

GROSVENOR, Ind. — A plane crashed in a cornfield Wednesday, but neither the pilot nor the instructor was injured.

Both men walked away from the plane after it turned upside down during the crash, which happened near a farm about 40 miles north of Indianapolis.

Steven N. Stants, Kokomo, was giving a flying lesson to Scott E. Post, Noblesville, about 6 p.m., when the plane apparently lost power at 1,000 feet, Sheriff Craig Hendeged said.

**NEWS & TECHNOLOGY**

**WORLD & NATION**

Compiled from The Observers Wire Services

Friday, September 1, 2006

**INTERNATIONAL NEWS**

**Iran**

President defies U.S., deadline

Country refuses to abide by U.N. request, insists on right to use nuclear technology

Associated Press

TEHRAN — Iran defied a U.N. deadline Thursday to stop enriching uranium, opening the door for new negotiations, but U.S. and other officials said no action would be taken before a key U.N. diplomat talks to Tehran’s atomic chief next week to seek a compromise.

Iran’s hard-line president, Mahmoud Ahmadinejad, lashed out at the United States, calling it “tyrannical” and insisting Tehran would not be “bullied” into giving up the right to use nuclear technology. Other Iranian officials said the country could withstand any punishment.

President Bush called for “consequences to Iran’s defiance,” saying the “world now faces a great threat from the radical regime in Iran.”

“We must not allow Iran to develop a nuclear weapon,” Bush said in a speech in Salt Lake City.

He said Washington hoped for a diplomatic solution, but insisted “it is time for Iran to make a choice” whether to cooperate with the United Nations.

John Bolton, U.S. ambassador to the United Nations, said the Security Council would wait to consider possible actions until after the European Union’s foreign policy chief, Javier Solana, met with the Iranian Foreign Minister, Iran’s top nuclear negotiator, sometime in the middle of next week.

“We’re certainly ready to proceed here in New York when we’re given the instructions to do so,” Bolton said.

U.N. Secretary-General Kofi Annan also was expected to raise the issue during a visit to Tehran this weekend.

Midnight Thursday — the last day of the Security Council deadline — passed with no change in the Iranian position.

The formal trigger for possible sanctions was provided by the International Atomic Energy Agency, based in Vienna, Austria.

In a report Thursday, the United Nations agency confirmed Tehran had not halted uranium enrichment, and asked the IAEA to report on Tehran’s compliance, dangling the threat of sanctions if Iran refused.

Still, with permanent council members Russia and China opposed to quick and harsh penalties, the council appeared ready to delay such action. Senior U.N. diplomats told The Associated Press that Iran had agreed to meet with European negotiators to try to find a compromise.

**Manned spaceship in the works**

WASHINGTON — NASA on Friday, September 1, 2006 ran by a multinational dollar deal and shortly after the contract was awarded.

NASA spent $912 million and the ship, called X-33, never got built because of technical problems.

The nation’s space agency chose Lockheed Martin, the biggest government aerospace and defense contractor, to build the Orion crew exploration vehicle, which is once again supposed to replace the space shuttle fleet, take astronauts to the moon and perhaps on to Mars.

The only other competitors for the contract was a team made up of Northrop Grumman Corp., the world’s largest shipbuilder and third-largest military contractor, and Boeing Co.

In picking Lockheed Martin for Orion, described by NASA’s chief as “Apollo on steroids,” NASA bypassed Apollo throwbacks Northrop Grumman of Los Angeles and its chief subcontractor Boeing of Chicago. An early version of Northrop Grumman built the Apollo lunar lander. Companies bought by Boeing built the Apollo, Gemini, and Mercury capsules, Skylab and the space shuttle.

“NASA decided to do something different and go with a company that has not been in manned space business before, sort of spreading the wealth and making sure they’ve got two contractors that know the manned space business,” said aerospace industry analyst Paul Nesbit, president of JSA Research.
WE’VE BEEN PUTTING OUT EVERY NIGHT FOR ALMOST 40 YEARS.

*WE’RE TALKING ABOUT NEWSPAPERS. HAVEN’T YOU HEARD OF PARIETALS YET?

Meet editors from News, Sports, Viewpoint, Scene, Photo, Graphics, Ads & Business to find out what you could do for the Notre Dame and Saint Mary’s daily.

Please Join Us for

The Observer Open House at

Saint Mary’s
Sunday, September 3
3:00 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.
Student Center basement
Silver futures surge to 3-month high

NEW YORK — Silver futures surged to their highest level in three months Thursday, as analysts cited good investment demand a day after the amount of metal held by an exchange-traded fund climbed above 100 million ounces.

Gold followed, helped by both silver and a sharp drop in copper, analysts said. Continuing tension over Iran's nuclear program was another factor underpinning precious metals.

On the New York Mercantile Exchange, December silver settled 36 cents stronger at $13.03 a troy ounce. The contract peaked earlier in the day at $13.08 an ounce, which was its strongest level since May 31.

December gold futures added $8.10 to close at $635.50 an ounce, after hitting a one-month high of $635.58.

Copper turned in a strong performance, as the market discounted news that striking workers at Chilean mine Escondida had come to a provisional settlement, which threatens to end a 25-day strike.

Judge halts sale of generic Plavix

NEW YORK — A federal judge blocked a sale of a generic version of blood thinner Plavix Thursday in a case that could set a precedent for two-thirds of total economic growth. A slowdown in consumer spending in the spring contributed to a sharp drop in overall economic activity and raised worries that further consumer setbacks could short-circuit the economic expansion.

Analysts said Thursday’s reports should ease concerns of that occurring.

"Consumers are hanging tough and will continue to support the expansion," said Mark Zandi, chief economist at Moody’s Economy.com. Some analysts said they were surprised by the strength of the consumer spending report.

The Conference Board reported that consumer confidence in August fell to its lowest point since last November, reflecting such adverse factors as the surge in gas prices, the tumbling housing market and the discovery in London of a new terror threat against airline travel.

"Although consumer sentiment has deteriorated, consumers are still spending," said Nigel Gault, an economist at Global Insight, said regarding Thursday’s reports.

Many analysts said consumer spending should rebound further as long as the employment situation does not falter. There was good news in that area as well Thursday, with the Labor Department reporting that the number of Americans filing new claims for unemployment benefits dropped by 2,000 to 316,000 last week.

The government will release the August unemployment report Friday and many analysts are predict- ing the jobless rate will decline from a five-month high of 4.8 percent in July to 4.7 percent with a moderate 125,000 new jobs created.

On Wall Street, the Dow Jones industrial average edged down 1.76 points to close at 11,381.15 in a day of listless trading as investors awaited Friday’s release of the jobs report.

Federal Reserve Chairman Ben Bernanke struck a positive note about the economy in a speech Thursday in South Carolina, predicting that the strong productivity growth the country has enjoyed since 1995 "is likely to continue for some time."

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Investors await employment data

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Consumers increased their spending in July at the largest amount in six months and the back-to-school season was off to a strong start in August, boosting hopes that the economy will not stumble into a recession this year.

The Commerce Department reported that July spending rose by a hefty 0.8 percent, double the 0.4 percent gain in June, reflecting a rebound in auto sales.

Meanwhile, many of the nation’s retailers reported solid gains for back-to-school shopping in August, led by better-than-expected increases at retailing giant Wal-Mart Stores Inc. and many teen retailers such as Abercrombie and Fitch Co. and Wet Seal Inc.

The new report provided evidence that consumers are continuing to spend despite rising interest rates, a cooling housing market and gasoline prices that hit records this summer above $3 per gallon.

That is good news for the economy, given that consumer spending accounts for two-thirds of total economic growth. A slowdown in consumer spending in the spring contributed to a sharp drop in overall economic activity and raised worries that further consumer setbacks could short-circuit the economic expansion.

Analysts said Thursday’s reports should ease concerns of that occurring.

"Consumers are hanging tough and will continue to support the expansion," said Mark Zandi, chief economist at Moody’s Economy.com. Some analysts said they were surprised by the strength of the consumer spending report.

The Conference Board reported that consumer confidence in August fell to its lowest point since last November, reflecting such adverse factors as the surge in gas prices, the tumbling housing market and the discovery in London of a new terror threat against airline travel.

"Although consumer sentiment has deteriorated, consumers are still spending," said Nigel Gault, an economist at Global Insight, said regarding Thursday’s reports.

Many analysts said consumer spending should rebound further as long as the employment situation does not falter. There was good news in that area as well Thursday, with the Labor Department reporting that the number of Americans filing new claims for unemployment benefits dropped by 2,000 to 316,000 last week.

The government will release the August unemployment report Friday and many analysts are predict- ing the jobless rate will decline from a five-month high of 4.8 percent in July to 4.7 percent with a moderate 125,000 new jobs created.

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New technologies open campus

Notre Dame students often criticize the University for being shielded by a seemingly impenetrable screen. Now, thanks to the efforts of campus organizations, that screen is becoming more transparent.

With access to more than 60 cable television channels, wireless Internet and three of the nation's best newspapers stacked high in those dining halls — the world and its liabilities are only getting closer.

The increased exposure to national and world events is striking — and, more importantly, permanent.

Unlike the myriad of "awareness" weeks that periodically flood campus with information about a select issue or cause, continuous exposure to national news makes the world outside Notre Dame more real than ever before.

The habit of picking up a paper every day or tuning into the local news every night will serve students not just this fall, but throughout their lives.

Whatmore, the "bubbles"-bursting effort is not the product of a single campus office or organization. Cable television and wireless Internet come from the Office of Residence Life and Housing. The College Readership Program — delivering 1,600 copies of USA Today, The New York Times and the Chicago Tribune — is the brainchild of a student senator and backed by student dollars.

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Western role in the Middle East
Stereotypes versus statistics

Clare Feeney raises a valid-sounding objection ("Beware stereotyping," Aug. 30) to my recent Letter to the Editor ("An invalid assumption," Aug. 29), suggesting somewhat sarcastically that I am merely propagating negative stereotypes, and falling only about half an inch short of simply calling me a racist.

This is a brilliant rhetorical move, but not stopping at simply lacking in substance, Feeney goes on to engage in moral equivocation worthy of Ward Churchill. She suggests that our possession and historic use of nuclear weapons makes us the moral equivalent of Iran displays moral blindness of the first order.

I never made the argument that the West is morally blameless. It is possible for a civilized state to engage in terrible acts. Everyone has blood on their hands. But I did advance the suggestion that terrorists are uncivilized and that dealing with them as if they were civilized is a grave mistake.

Civilized people do not deliberately launch rockets into densely populated areas with the express intention of killing civilians. Civilized people do not strap dynamite to women and children as human shields. Civilized people do not use hospitals and churches as staging areas. Civilized people do not routinely use civilians as human shields. Civilized people do not execute women for unfriendly purposes. Civilized people do not execute children as human shields. Civilized people do not fly passenger liners into office buildings.

The wrongs may or may not have been done are completely irrelevant — there is absolutely no justification for acts such as the ones listed above. These things are beyond the pale and bar the people who committed them from the ranks of the civilized world. Attempting to deal with those who perpetrate such unspeakable acts as equals or acting as if we’re no better than they is moral blindness of the first order.

Ryan Davidson
grad student
off campus
Aug. 31

How many letters can Clare Feeney get published in one week discussing her thoughts on the current situation in Middle East? We get it. It’s always the West’s fault. That line of thinking is obviously in her first piece ("Israel’s a terrorist state?" Aug. 28) considering her complete failure to mention the thousands of indisputable rocket launches at civilian targets in Northern Israel by Hezbollah (some of which, along with the kidnapping of Israeli soldiers, happened prior to Israel’s response) or the fact that those launches came from civilian locations within Lebanon, thus forcing the IDF to retaliate in kind. She also fails to mention that a considerable amount of the infrastructure in Lebanon that was destroyed was done so with the expressed purpose of preventing the re-supply of weapons from Syria and Iran.

In Syria and Iran’s case, I would characterize countries known for their complete lack of women’s rights, minority rights (both ethnic and religious), gay rights and the rights of political prisoners to be uncivilized. Call me crazy, but that probably fits the description in any belief system. The Left in this country only focuses on those rights when the leader or country in question is an ally of the US. Otherwise, dictators and religious fanatics the world over are given free reign. If you don’t believe me, ask Kim Gandy or Jimmy Carter what they’re doing about forced marriages in the Islamic world. One would think they’d be interested.

As to what Feeney considers our most uncivilized act, the use of nuclear weapons against Japan ("Beware stereotyping," Aug. 30), it is pointless to discuss this topic without any historical context. The appropriateness of their use will be debated until the end of human history, but two parts of the debate are fact. First, 500,000 Purple Hearts were produced to be given to wounded soldiers during the invasion of Japan. The military would still be using them if they hadn’t changed the design. Let that sink in. Second, Japan is our ally and North Korea is not. When debating the merits of ceasefire vs. unconditional surrender in the Far or Middle East (or elsewhere), the historical results speak for themselves.

Matt Alles
alumnus
Class of 2001
Aug. 30

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

A modest proposal

Skipping the tedious business of refutation, Clare Feeney devotes most of her August 30 letter ("Beware stereotyping") to diagnosing Ryan Davidson as suffering from a severe case of "savage Arab" stereotyping. This has led him to accuse Iran (which is not an Arabic state) of, in Ms Feeney’s words, "making nuclear weapons for unfriendly purposes." In fairness to Davidson however, it seems possible that his conclusion might be based more on than just repeated views of Lawrence of Arabia. After all, Iran’s President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad has been known to call for the Zionist entity (i.e. Israel) to be "wiped off the map." Admittedly, the accuracy of the translation has been questioned, with some experts suggesting that the phrase is better rendered as "wiped off the pages of history." Maybe it sounds friendlier in the original Farsi.

Having said that, when Feeney says that America is in no position to make accusations of unfriendly purposes, she is naive. What do you mean? We’ve given free reign to unfriendly purposes, more often than not: the invasion of Japan. The military would still be using them if they hadn’t changed the design. Let that sink in. Second, Japan is our ally and North Korea is not. When debating the merits of ceasefire vs. unconditional surrender in the Far or Middle East (or elsewhere), the historical results speak for themselves.

Peter Wicks
grad student
off campus
Aug. 31

EDITORIAL CARTOON

BRING ON!!

SHORTEST DEBATE IN HISTORY...
It's an awful feeling. You're watching your favorite program or a big game and one of the commercial breaks features the utterly worst commercial you've ever seen. Whenever a commercial featuring Willie Nelson, Joan Cusack, old men dressed up as monkeys, and promoting Foxman, Dr. Scholl's, or any other South Bend car dealer-ship pops on the screen, anger and disgust start to arise like bile. I had this exact experience recently with a certain Dr. Scholl's commercial. Part of the "Are you gelly?" series, the commercial plays on the word "gelly" and rhymes it with as many words as possible in an attempt to be funny. I became painfully aware of the fact that the writers of the commercial were trying far too hard to be funny, and the end result was just a lack of humor.

"Why," I wondered, "can't all commercials be funny and enjoyable?"

I had in mind such commercials as the Geico caveman ads, Aflac commercials, anything featuring Bob Saget and the Vonage commercials where a middle-aged comedian does not lack the capacity to humor intelligent audiences. Some comedians, such as Dane Cook, completely failed to achieve — a disaster for the disparity in funniness of the writers of the commercial — for the disparity in funniness of the best commercials originating from Super Bowl ad spots. Given large amounts of money and a large public forum, writers overexaggerated themselves and turn out horrible advertisements that in turn make it all right for more ads like those to be produced at times other than the Super Bowl.

In the face of poor advertisements like the ones mentioned here and many others flooding around the airwaves, it is necessary to ask what can be done to end the pain and bring about better commercial watching. Doing Away with Super Bowl ads is not an option given that some of the best commercials originate here. Simply muting the television or changing the channel when a horrible commercial airs also serves no purpose. The offending ad will still play even if you try to stage a one-person revolt against the television powers that be.

I propose that a reality television show be developed in which commercial writers are subject to a jury of "ordinary Americans" that has the power to sentence writers of bad commercials to punishments of watching their own commercials for hours on end. In one or two seasons, a show like this could weed through the entire population of commercial writers — for how many can there possibly be?

In this way, I believe we can rid America of bad, unfunny commercial advertisements forever. Until then, we return you to your regularly scheduled programming.

Contact Sean Sweany at sweany@observer.com

The views expressed in this column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer.
It's been more than a year since Tom Cruise took to the couch on an unassuming broadcast of "The Oprah Winfrey Show," declaring his love for much younger actress Katie Holmes. Viewers were intrigued — albeit somewhat shocked — at this up-close-and-personal exposure to Cruise's formerly very private life.

Cruise's antics during the year that followed only added to the perception he was odd, or even slightly disturbed. Few could forget his famously calling Matt Lauer "glib" while discussing anti-depressants on "The Today Show," while still level-headed on watching a Cruise film without the thought of his bizarre endorsements for technology on his mind.

It is true that "Mission Impossible III" did yield more than $400 million dollars worldwide during its on-screen run. However, Cruise's recent split with former partner Penelope Cruz, along with his recent behavior, suggests that the power of negative public opinion remains an indelible factor in Hollywood.

The experiences of Cruise and other celebrities, such as the recently maligned Mel Gibson, call to mind the question public perception in an entertainer's career. When entertainment magazines scald the details behind the gates of Neverland Ranch, that information undeniably altered Americas' opinion of Michael Jackson.

Sheen's recent redemption from the bowels of Tinseltown has been hampered yet again — this time by the announcement of former spouse Denise Richards filing for a second time and nailing down their brief marriage.

Be it through tabloids, E! Entertainment Television, or the Oval Office's opening ceremonies. FOX practically shunned the formerly beloved playwright Terence Winter, upon discovering that he had been convicted of engaging in homosexual behavior. Politicians are clearly not immune from public scrutiny, as Americans have seen in the damaged reputations of Trent Lott, Bill Clinton and even John F. Kennedy.

It is a peculiarity of entertainment, however, that success is so tightly linked to public opinion. To put it bluntly, if an actor or actress has no audience, they simply will not act. The crux of the problem lies where the public's adoration of celebrities' screen personas and its fascination with celebrities' personal lives intersects. Where one ends and the other begins is the question that must be asked.

Disconnection with that audience due to personal behavior casts a negative influence on career. Despite being a nation of self-proclaimed free thinkers, American sensibilities still concur that a strain of Puritan ethic, and social全新感覚たちが出現する今日、AIとコンピュータが協力して業務を効率的に遂行する。未来の社会を形づくる技術の進歩は、新たな可能性をもたらす。
American League MVP last season was down in the dugout. That's the mystery of baseball.

The focus is on what the team does. Thursday's game? It was a welcome change for New York Yankees third baseman Alex Rodriguez. "It's a little of everything," he said. "It's nice we've hit 200 home runs, but we need to win this game."

After winning two of three from Tampa Bay, the White Sox head to Kansas City for a weekend series.

"Two out of three from now on, I'll take that," Guzman said.

Delmon Young led off the 10th with his fourth hit of the game, took second on a wild pitch and advanced to third on Carl Crawford's single. Pat Burrell followed with his 34th home run and Boston right-hander Esteban German's just-barely double.

"I don't try to put pressure on myself or anything like that," Santana said. "I just want to do my job." Fueled by teammate Jason Varitek's two-run home run in the ninth, the Twins are trying to stay in post-season contention.

Johan Santana shrugged off consistent pain in his right shoulder, a victory by Esteban German's just-barely double and then scored an extra run in the eighth, when he stole home.

"It's a matter of getting a good pitch and putting a good swing on it," Rodriguez said after he had three hits including his 27th home run of the season in a win against the Tigers. Rodriguez ended his 1-2-3-4 groundout with the swing.

"I didn't have one in awhile," he said. "It's a matter of getting a good swing on the ball and get on base so the people behind me could drive me in," Young said. "Cantu came through."

Two of Minnesota's best starting pitchers are ailing, and the White Sox are trying to stay in post-season contention.

Johan Santana shrugged off some trepidation over Detroit on Thursday. "You don't do any good when Detroit is losing and we're losing," White Sox manager Ozzie Guillen said. "It's a matter of getting a good swing on the ball and get on base so the people behind me could drive me in," Young said. "Cantu came through."

The Observer accepts classifieds every business day from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Notre Dame office, 204 South Doudrius Hall. Deadline for next-daily classifieds is 3 p.m. All classifieds must be prepaid. The charge is 5 cents per character per line, including spaces. The Observer reserves the right to edit all classifieds for content or to avoid confusing entries.

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**Former Red Sox pitcher David Wells throws against the Seattle Mariners on August 26. Wells was traded back to the San Diego Padres Thursday for minor leaguer George Kottaras.**

**Slumping Red Sox trade Wells to Padres**

**IN BRIEF**

**Tigers skipped stops arguing for 'God Bless America'**

NEW YORK — Jim Leyland put his argument with umpires on pause of a moment of patriotism.

The Detroit Tigers manager was ejected in the seventh inning of Thursday's 6-4 loss to New York, and came on the field to argue with plate umpire James Hoye. Leyland got to the plate and started jawing with Hoye when Yankee Stadium public address announcer Bob Sheppard called for a moment of silence followed by the playing of Kate Smith's rendition of "God Bless America." Leyland backed off, stood respectful. But you don't tell the shape or form would I ever be disrespectful.

**Vinatieri still sidelined with injury to non-kicking foot**

INDIANAPOLIS — The Indianapolis Colts expect an update Friday on the condition of kicker Adam Vinatieri, who has an injured non-kicking foot and will probably miss the team's final preseason game.

Vinatieri's mother, Judy, told The Indianapolis Star that he told her several days ago that he had a fracture, the newspaper reported on its Web site Thursday.

"They sent him to a specialist," Judy Vinatieri told the Star. "They found a small broken bone in his foot."

Colts coach Tony Dungy declined Thursday to elaborate on Vinatieri's injury, saying he expected a team doctor to update about the kicker's recovery on Friday.

Colts spokesman Craig Kelly said that Vinatieri had not suffered any broken bones and that he was recovering from a sprained ligament.

**Ortiz released from hospital, expects to play Saturday**

BOSTON — David Ortiz said he is in good health after experiencing heart palpitations and expects to return to the lineup Saturday, welcome news for a Boston Red Sox team reeling from injuries.

"My health is fine. The doctors have told me to rest today and Friday so I can be ready to return to the playing field on Saturday," he said Thursday on radio station WEEI in his native Dominican Republic.

Manager Terry Francona was cautious about putting Ortiz back in the lineup.

"I talked to David today," Francona said before Thursday night's home game against the Toronto Blue Jays. "I think he was very upbeat. I think the medical people are also, but, at the same time, we sent him home to be careful. So to deviate from that plan now would be, in my opinion, stupid, and we're not going to be stupid."
Monarchs' future home for second Finals game

Laimbeer readies Shock to rebound from loss

Associated Press

DETROIT — The Sacramento Monarchs acknowledged their goal of grabbing home-court advantage coming from the Detroit Shock with a dominating performance in the opening game of the WNBA Finals.

But the coaches and players for the defending champion Monarchs expect to see a much different effort from the Shock in Game 2 on Friday.

Detroit coach Bill Laimbeer is demanding more from his players.

"We're a very confident bunch and when we get an attitude, we're even more confident about it," Laimbeer said. "We got frustrated and a couple players started getting moody and it affects how you make shots and how you get to loose balls quick-er and how you make rebounds.

That can't happen... I told them, in the last game, the coach's job is to help get you there. When you get to the finals, that's in the test of wills."

The Monarchs, who won at Connecticut to open last year's finals series, set new records for points in a game and in a half with their 91-75 victory Wednesday night. And they beat Detroit at its own physical game, getting in the faces of the Shock players on defense and taking the ball straight at its usually solid interior defenders, including power forward Cheryl Ford and center Ruth Riley.

Post players DeMya Walker and Yolanda Griffith each scored 17 points for Sacramento.

"At the end of the day, defense was what got us the win, and that's the type of team that we are," Walker said. "That's the type of team we've always been, and we know we can't win without it. We also know Detroit is going to come back at us in Game 2, so we've got to keep our focus and remain steady and not worry about Game 1. Game 1's over." When they weren't pounding it inside, the Monarchs were lighting it up from the outside. Former Shock draft pick Kara Lawson scored 22 points, 18 from 3-point range — another finals record.

The Monarchs forced 24 turnovers.

But the Shock did have a few bright spots they hope to build upon.

Ford scored a career playoff-high 25 points, many of which came from short range or the free-throw line after being fouled under the basket. And Kaije Smith scored 21 points, living up to her status as the all-time leading scorer in women's professional basketball in her finals debut.

"It's just a big game," said Ford. "I feel Deanna Nolan, who had 14 points, scored 60 of the team's 71 points. The key for Game 2 is to get more production from Riley and Swin Cash, the team captain and one of the stars of the 2003 championship team.

Riley managed only two points in 15 minutes of playing time.

Cash, who hasn't achieved the same level of consistency since she had a serious knee injury two years ago, was held scoreless in only 11 minutes of play in Game 1.

In this year's playoffs, she's had just two double-digit scoring nights and is averaging 7.5 points per game, a few points below her regular-season production.

"I just started focusing. She [Daniela Hantuchova] was doing everything right," Serena Williams tennis player

NEW YORK — Maria Sharapova switched outfits for a power lunch while Serena Williams changed her early luck, with both advancing to the third round of the U.S. Open with straight-set victories Thursday.

Lindsay Davenport served up the most impressive win -- a "double bagel" in tennis terms -- and joined fellow former Open champions Justine Henin-Hardenne and Svetlana Kuznetsova in posting easy wins.

"I'm really nervous," King said. "I don't know if I'll be more nervous for that than tomorrow again.

The inflammation was pretty bad, and I just don't want to go off the court limping," Agassi told USA Network. "It's not what I want to do."

While Davenport was enjoying her breakfast bagels, a crowd formed outside the fence at the practice courts to watch the 36-year-old Agassi warm up.

When he wrapped up, Agassi made a teenager's morning wait worth it, signing the boy's forehead with a Sharpie.

Former Open champion Andy Roddick said he expected a game effort from Agassi.

"We've had a corotisne shot, but from what I've been told, you feel like you can run through walls," Roddick said. "He's been playing through that pain for a couple of years now, so I think he's used to it now."

Davenport didn't face a break point, compiled 11, and produced a 24-2 edge in winners. The match took all of 40 minutes.

"I knew I had to come back tomorrow again and play, so I was trying to get out of here relatively fast. Not that fast," said Davenport, who quit during the final of a hard-court tuneup in New Haven, Conn., the week before because of fatigue and soreness in her right arm.

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Saturday, September 2, 2006
BASKETBALL
Coach K succeeds with NBA stars

USA to play Greece in Worlds semifinals

Associated Press

SAITAMA, Japan — As practice wound down, Mike Krzyzewski approached LeBron James, who was shooting baskets alone on a side court.

James listened intently as the coach spoke and motioned to a spot in the lane. The two talked for about 10 minutes before Krzyzewski rejoined his staff on another court and James went back to shooting.

Who said NBA stars would never listen to a college coach?

"You know the high-intensity coach that you see on TV," James said later. "You get a chance to really know him."

When USA Basketball appointed Krzyzewski coach last October, skeptics wondered whether a college coach, even one as respected as Duke's Hall of Fame, would be able to connect with pampered pros. But those questions have subsided as Krzyzewski has pros, even though he's enjoyed no interest in coaching in the pros, even though he's enjoyed no interest in coaching in the NBA. But having spurned a native. The 59-year-old Krzyzewski, when he left Miami in 1999, to an Olympic gold medal, in 26 years at Duke and five at the worlds.

This is an incredible, unique experience, and I love that experience," Krzyzewski said after a recent practice. "But I'm not going to be going to the NBA. I love coaching in college. Whenever I get through coaching in college, that’ll be it, whenever that is. I’m not saying that it’s imminent." The 59-year-old Krzyzewski, a West Point graduate, accepted this job because he wanted to restore the U.S. to prominence in world basketball. Krzyzewski has won 753 games and three national titles in 26 years at Duke and five at Army. But he hasn't led a team to an Olympic gold medal, although he was an assistant on the gold medal-winning Dream Team in 1992. No USO tour this summer, but fans of the legendary Krzyzewski will be able to connect with him one more tribute.

"He’s done the journey both from a player's perspective and what he’s been doing the last 30 years," Battier said. "And he is an individual who really gets off on those sorts of experiences and those challenges. At the outset, it was fair to wonder whether rich NBA players would be sufficiently motivated. But when Krzyzewski and Colangelo required players to commit through the Beijing Olympics, the likes of James, Kobe Bryant, Carmelo Anthony and Dwayne Wade bought in."

Once the U.S. had assembled its roster, Krzyzewski didn’t worry about his wealth of NBA talent. He dealt with his players as people, not celebrities.

During training camp in Las Vegas this summer, Krzyzewski spent much of his time talking to players individually, just as he did with James at practice in Japan. He understands this is the NBA offseason and knows not to push too hard.

"Even when we’re doing five-on-five, if a guy’s sitting out, I might go up to him and be able to do that instead of saying, ‘Will you come to my room and have this meeting?’" Krzyzewski said. "That’s relationship-building. At least the first three days in Vegas, that’s all I was doing."

"Somebody would say, ‘Well, who’s the head coach?’" Krzyzewski said with a grin. "I don’t know. There’s this guy walking around talking to everybody."

The players may have envisaged the sort of fiery speech Krzyzewski uses when Duke faces North Carolina. But his approach has been more low-key.

"I really didn’t know what to expect coming in," guard Kirk Hinrich said.

Northwestern athletic director Mark Murphy speaks at a ceremony honoring deceased head coach Randy Walker. The Wildcats beat Miami (OH) in their season opener.

NCAA FOOTBALL
Wildcats beat Red Hawks in opener

OXFORD, Ohio — With his number on their helmets and his nickname on their hearts, Randy Walker's players gave him one more tribute.

Eyrin Cobb blocked a punt and returned it for a touchdown Thursday night, helping Northwestern finally gain beyond two months of mourning with a 21-3 victory over Miami University.

The entire night was a tribute to Walker, the 52-year-old coach who took Northwestern from an unimpressive Big Ten team ever to visit Oxford. Walker was remembered during a pregame tribute behind one of the end zones, where a plaque with his likeness was unveiled.

There was a moment of silence before the kickoff, and Walker's wife, Tammy, went on the field for the coin toss. Players from both teams wore a decal with Walker's uniform number and nickname just as they did on the soccer ball. Northwestern players also had a rectangle that said "WALK" sewn on the front of their jerseys over their hearts.

Video and photos of Walker's career were shown on the scoreboard at halftime, lending the feel of a memorial instead of an opener. Two Bat­ ters offensive line provided little distraction in the scoreless first half, a reflection of the Wildcats' usual dominance at quarterback.

In Walker's wide-open offense, Wildcats averaged more than 500 yards per game last season behind Brett Basanez, the school's career passing leader. His replace­ ment started out playing like a frosh­ man.

Walker went 7-for-11 for a measly 26 yards in the first half. In two throwing throws, he bounced passes at the feet of wide-open receivers on back-to-back plays.

His counterpart had his own problems. Junior Mike Koka­ mal made only his second career start for Miami, which managed 34 yards in the scoreless half against a defense that finished last in Division I-A last season.

Maybe that was another appropriate tribute. Walker never minded a low-scoring game. A star tailback at Miami, he preferred the sog­ git-style — his spread offense was a matter of neces­sity, not deeply held philoso­ phy.

Cobb, a senior tight end, broke the stalemate by breaking through the line on Miami's first punt in the sec­ ond half and batting Jake Redhawk's kick back to the ground. The ball bounced straight up, and Cobb caught it cleanly and ran 8 yards for his first career touchdown.

Coffee and Conversation

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

Tuesday, September 5
7:30 — 9:30 p.m.
316 Coleman-Morse

The Core Council for Gay and Lesbian Students, diverse gay, lesbian, and bisexual members of the Notre Dame community, and their supporters present Coffee and Conversation.

Coffee and refreshments will be served.
Sanchez leads league in average

Unknown third baseman outfitting superstars

Associated Press

PITTSBURGH — Batting championships once came with relentless regularity for the Pittsburgh Pirates, who won nearly one-quarter of all the National League titles during the 20th century. But who expected Freddy Sanchez, the Red Sox castoff and a utility infielder at the start of the season, to challenge for their 25th title and first since 1937? Certainly the Pirates didn’t.

Sanchez, in his first season as a regular at 28, takes an NL-leading .347 average into September after hitting .301 or above the season, to challenge for their batting championship. If he can maintain that consistency, and no one behind him gets unstoppably hot, Sanchez could join former Pirates such as Honus Wagner (eight titles), Roberto Clemente (four) and Paul Waner (four) as an NL champion.

He would be their biggest out-of-nowhere winner since Matty Alou, once a journeyman outfielder, changed his batting approach after being traded by the Giants and jumped his average from .231 in 1965 to .342 in 1966.

Can he do it? Sanchez doesn’t know, and doesn’t talk much about his unanticipated pursuit of the silver bat. But after hitting .354 in August (39-of-110) — he hit .360 in May and .380 in June — he has answered the doubters who suspected he couldn’t stay in the race long-term after moving into the lead July 3.

"I do have confidence in my ability, but I was always labeled as a utility guy and it can be hard to shake that label," he said. "This isn’t something I thought about and that just happened."

If anyone with the Pirates says he saw this coming, he’s not telling the truth. As manager Jim Tracy said, "Did I expect him to contend for the batting championship? No."

Sanchez hit .291 in 453 at-bats last season, mostly at third base, yet the Pirates went out and signed Joe Banda to a $4 million contract to be their third baseman. Sanchez? He was supposed to be their super sub, a guy who would get regular at-bats at every infield position.

If nothing else, this illustrates why the Pirates are one loss from a 14th consecutive losing season. They had a potential batting champion and NL All-Star on their roster, yet didn’t make him a regular until he forced them to do so in early May.

"He never complained," Tracy said. "Gave him a lot of credit. He handled it very professionally."

The 5-foot-10, 180-pound Sanchez is more than a singles hitter. He has 45 doubles, two off the club record for a right-handed hitter, a total never approached even by Hall of Famer Clemente.

"He can flat out hit," said Pirates pitcher Matt McLeary, who came up in the Red Sox system with Sanchez. "He’s always found a way to get it done."

Sanchez also has been exceptional in the clutch. His two-run single in the 11th inning Wednesday gave the Pirates a 10-9 win over the Cubs and raised his average with runners in scoring position to .419, the highest among NL players with 40 or more such at-bats.

And while Albert Pujols often is called the NL’s best clutch hitter, consider this: Going into Thursday’s games, Sanchez had 62 RBIs with runners in scoring position to Pujols’ 68, even though Pujols had 39 homers to Sanchez’s 6.

Pujols, by the way, is making $14 million this season to Sanchez’s $342,000.

"He’s been Mr. Clutch all year," Jason Bay said of Sanchez, who is trying to become the Pirates’ first batting champion since Bill Madlock in 1983.

Sanchez’s enthusiasm, always-on personality and love of the game have turned his teammates into his biggest fans. He still likes taking batting practice, much as he did when he passed up Friday night dates as a California high schooler to hit in batting cages.

In the minors, he had averages of .339, .328 and .341 in scoring position to .419, the highest among NL players with 40 or more such at-bats.

"There isn’t a guy in that clubhouse who isn’t rooting for this kid to win the batting championship," Tracy said. "He’s just amazing. If you handed out hall-of-fame votes, he’d have been on the list. Now he’s a player who people will keep an eye on for years to come."

Teammates such as Jack Wilson are urging Sanchez to not read the newspapers and skip watching TV sports highlights so he doesn’t get caught up in the race and starts pressing for hits. Not that they expect that from a hitter who has had consecutive starts without a hit only twice in 10 seasons.

"All you try to do is put the ball in play," Sanchez said. "And find some holes.”
Irish forward Kerri Hanks tracks down a ball during Notre Dame's 9-0 victory over Iowa State at Alumni Field Saturday. Notre Dame hosts the Inn at Saint Mary's Classic this weekend.

Belles

continued from page 20

mark at the 6K MIAA Championship.

Belles hopes to pick up where she left off at the end of last year after a summer of track workouts and hill training.

"Bauters has really taken our program to the next level," White said. "Jackie has a strict plan for our team, but I think that kind of seriousness of effort is needed.

Saint Mary's sophomores also add experience to the fold. Kelly Biedron was a steady performer all last season, posting times that were among the top half of the field in each race. Caitlin Stevenson will also be counted on to provide consistency after improving her times during the final three races of the 2005 season. In addition, Grace Fey looks to continue her improvement after posting several low times last season.

The regular season kicks off Sept. 8 with the Aquinas College Invitational in Grand Rapids, Mich.

Contact Becki Dorner at rdoner1@nd.edu

Irish forward Kerri Hanks tracks down a ball during Notre Dame's 9-0 victory over Iowa State at Alumni Field Saturday. Notre Dame hosts the Inn at Saint Mary's Classic this weekend.

Broncos

continued from page 20

soccer because two top teams play each other early every year."

Notre Dame's first game of the Classic will be tonight at 7:10 against USC. Despite Notre Dame's intense football rivalry with the Trojans, the two women's soccer teams have not played a regular season game during Waldrum's tenure.

Certainly, the two institutions have a lot of competition with each other, but the only time we've played them while I've been here was in a spring (exhibition) game," Waldrum said. "I'm hopeful that after getting them here this year, this is a relationship we can continue after this year."

The Broncos and Irish, on the other hand, have played several hard-fought games over the last few seasons. In 2003, Notre Dame won 2-1 in Santa Clara on a goal by then-sophomore Katie Thorkelson. In 2004 the Irish beat the Broncos twice — once by a score of 5-2 in the regular season and then 1-0 in the national semifinal.

Last season, Santa Clara ended its losing streak, breaking the Notre Dame 1-0 at the Broncos' home field.

The Broncos are generally known for the explosive offense, but have only scored two goals in their first two games — a pair of 1-0 victories over Wake Forest and Utah. Irish defender and senior captain Kim Lorenzen said Notre Dame still has to respect Santa Clara's forwards.

"Santa Clara is a challenge for us because they're very technical and creative where they're on the attack," Lorenzen said. "They're one of the best attacking teams in the NCAA."

The Irish back wall will be once again without sophomore defender Carrie Dew who, along with sophomore forward Brittany Rock, is competing in the U-20 World Championships in Russia.

Freshmen Amanda Clark and Haley Ford have alternated in Dew's spot and will be called upon to help slow down the powerful Bronco attack.

"Clark and Ford have really stepped up," Lorenzen said. "We haven't missed a beat with Carrie gone, but at the same time we're really excited to have her back starting next week."

As for the Trojans, they come into tonight's contest 1-0-1, with a 4-1 win over UC-Santa Barbara and a scoreless tie with UC-Irvine last weekend. While the two teams haven't played in a while, Lorenzen said the Irish have been focusing on USC this week and trying not to look ahead to Sunday against the Broncos.

"We haven't played [USC] since I've been here," Lorenzen said. "I don't know anyone personally on their team, but most California schools are really good programs. We're not looking past them at all."

Notes:

♦ Lorenzen, sophomore forward Kerri Hanks, and freshman midfielder Courtney Rossen saw reduced playing time last week due to muscle pulls in their legs, but Waldrum said all three are healthy for this weekend.

♦ Waldrum said he has not decided which goalie — freshman Kelsey Lysander or junior Lauren Karas — will start against USC tonight. Lysander started last Saturday against Iowa State, while Karas started last Sunday against Ole Miss.

"We'll make a decision of who we start on Friday and then maybe we'll decide to start the other one on Sunday] again, or not," Waldrum said.

♦ USC and Santa Clara will both play Harvard this weekend as part of the Inn at Saint Mary's Notre Dame Classic, but the Irish will not face the Crimson, nor will the Broncos and Trojans play.

♦ Waldrum said he expects big crowds for the two home games, especially tonight.

"I'm hoping that we get a really good crowd," he said. "I'm sure the students want to do something the night before football season gets started."

Contact Chris Khoere at ckhorey@nd.edu

Irish forward Kerri Hanks tracks down a ball during Notre Dame's 9-0 victory over Iowa State at Alumni Field Saturday. Notre Dame hosts the Inn at Saint Mary's Classic this weekend.

Sharp Aim

NOTRE DAME WOMEN'S SOCCER

The Inn at Saint Mary's Soccer Classic

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The Irish expect the competition to be just as stiff this year. "Whereas last weekend's tournament had three top-20 teams, you're talking about four top-20 teams this weekend," Notre Dame head coach Bobbie Clark said, referring to Saint Louis, Indiana and No. 10 Connecticut. "These are all potential Final Four teams.

Competitive games are nothing new when Notre Dame and Indiana take the field together. Over the past five seasons, the two teams have split their six contests, and it was the Irish who ended the Hoosiers' bid for a second consecutive national title last November with a 2-0 win in the second round of the NCAA tournament.

"There's a very healthy respect for the other in both camps," Clark said. "It's been a great rivalry with great games, and we're lucky to have those two teams next season."

Clark sees this as a positive in the high levels of competition this weekend for his team. "I believe in playing the best possible schedule you can," he said. "You only have eighteen games, and you want to make every game as good as possible. Athletes love pitting themselves against good competition, and that's when you find out who the true competitors are."

Plus, two wins this weekend will send a message.

"It's an early opportunity to make a statement," he said. "We can either pass that opportunity or grab it with both hands. I hope we grab it with both hands."

Contact Greg Arbogast at garbogas@nd.edu

Irish senior forward Justin McGeeney lines up a kick during Notre Dame's 4-1 win over Creighton Sunday. Notre Dame faces No. 8 Indiana and No. 25 Saint Louis this weekend.

Oh, the chemistry and confidence of a team. We know that we're going to learn a lot from the team. We need some time to work out the kinks.

Christina Kaelin
Irish freshman
Sunday showdows

Clark ready to take on perennial power Indiana on Sunday

By GREG ARBOGAST
Sports Writer

After two difficult games in the Mike Berticelli Memorial Tournament last weekend, Notre Dame will have no time to relax this weekend as it takes on No. 8 Indiana and No. 13 Missouri as part of the Inn at Saint Mary's Notre Dame Classic at 1 p.m. on Alumni Field Sunday.

"Santa Clara is always a great rivalry," Notre Dame coach Randy Waldrum said. "It's a series that [Broncos head coach] Jerry Smith and myself have decided to continue in year and year out. It's great not only for our two programs, but for all of women's soccer.

ND VOLLEYBALL

Shamrock attracts top foes

Squad set to host six-team Invitational at Joyce Center this weekend

By KYLE CASSILY
Sports Writer

No. 21 Notre Dame looks to improve its offensive game this weekend as it hosts the 12th annual Shamrock Invitational at the Joyce Center.

The three-day tournament's first serve is today at noon with No. 6 Santa Clara facing off against Valparaiso. The Irish play Valparaiso in their opener at 7 p.m. The two other teams in the tournament are No. 13 Missouri and Idaho.

Notre Dame's 5-2 victory over the Bluejays Sunday. Right, Irish senior Jen Buczkowski scores the first goal in Notre Dame's 5-2 victory over Santa Clara Sept. 5, 2004.

SMC CROSS COUNTRY

MIAA Alumnae Meet opens year for Belles

Exhibition race kicks off Bauters' second year as head coach

By BECKI CORNER
Sports Writer

Before every race, acclaimed running coach Mike Fanelli would give his runners the same piece of advice: "Run the first part with your intellect, the middle part with your personality and the last part with your heart.

"It's a series that [Broncos head coach] Jackie Bauters stressed that the exhibition will be "a good opportunity to see where the team is at and what we need to work on." "Hopefully it will be a good time for the team and I can get a better idea of the talent," Bauters said.

Indeed, the squad is relatively young and unproven, with nine freshmen after graduating three seniors last season.

But the Belles do enjoy a solid core of experienced returning runners. Senior captains Meaghan Herbst, Sara Otto and Katie White will guide the freshmen. The three have been consistent in the past and hope to usher in a new era for the program.

Last season Otto finished first or second for the Belles in every single meet she entered, with her best time of 26:07 clocked at the MIAA Jamboree.

White's peak came at the perfect time last season when she posted a career-best 24:45.
The Return of Rhema

Last year's offense was the most prolific attack in school history with Rhema McKnight on the sidelines. Now the fifth-year senior is back on the field and ready to contribute on the No. 2 team in the nation.
Irish remain underdog despite polls

Hang up your "Herbstreit for President" T-shirt for just a minute. Scrap the latest Las Vegas lines. Don't book a flight to Arizona just yet. If Notre Dame is still an underdog, then it's not in the traditional sense. Even Mark May's mother has the Irish at the top of her contender's list this season.

Notre Dame is an underdog because it must be one. Aside from his headset, Charlie Weis' best tactic against the Yellow Jackets will be making the Irish believe they aren't better than they really are. For the Irish to win their season opener Saturday night, they don't have to win with style. Brady Quinn doesn't have to be a Heisman finalist — he just needs to avoid interceptions. Tom Zbikowski doesn't need to knock anyone out in 49 seconds — he just needs to make sure Calvin Johnson doesn't have any 49-yard touchdowns.

Sam Young doesn't have to set a school record for pancake consumption and give Darius Walker a little room to run. A win over Georgia Tech won't cause much celebration. The big victories are reserved for Penn State in a week.

The best way for the Irish to make headlines this Sunday is if they have read their headlines all summer long. The Irish beat Pittsburgh in last year's season opener because they weren't sure just how good they were. They fell behind big to Michigan State early in last year's home opener because they knew how good they could be — they just didn't play that way for three quarters.

The talent — and the home crowd — on Notre Dame's side last September against Spartans should have put the Irish over the top. But if didn't take a miracle photo by Dacty L. Smith to deprive Charlie Weis a win in his first game at Notre Dame Stadium. It took one player — Matt Trannon.

Aside from his headset, Charlie Weis' best tactic against the Yellow Jackets will be making the Irish believe they aren't better than they really are.

Trannon. Apologies to quarterback Drew Stanton, but without Trannon and his five receptions for 135 yards and two touchdowns, the Spartans didn't have a chance. Calvin Johnson is this year's Matt Trannon.

If you haven't seen the picture of the Tech wide receiver's hands smothering a football on the cover of the Yellow Jackets media guide, check it out.

The guy could palm a Volvo. That's why this game might rest in his hands. The Notre Dame defense must keep Johnson in front of them and out of the end zone. If not — and the Irish fell behind early — the self-confidence that oozed out of every magazine cover from Sports Illustrated to ESPN The Magazine will plummet.

A fourth-quarter comeback attempt in front of an electrified Bobby Dodd Stadium crowd and against a suddenly confident Tech squad isn't the easiest way to start a season. Despite that kickoff is at 8 p.m. under the moonlight in a Southern crowd filled with moonshine.

Notre Dame is expected to win. Despite that Calvin Johnson is a second-year professional playing in college — Notre Dame is expected to win.

The Irish are expected to win. Despite that Georgia Tech has beaten a ranked team each season since 1995 — Notre Dame is expected to win. The Irish are expected to do much more than beat Georgia Tech in 2006. But the only way Notre Dame can meet those expectations is to ignore them.

The opinions expressed in this column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer. Contact Mike Gilloon at mgillon@nd.edu.

We have to play close to a perfect game and they are going to be a great team.
McKnight and day

By BOB GRIFFIN
Sports Writer

Our Dame wide receiver Rhema McKnight stood anxiously by the sideline, frantically tugging at his shoulder pad before the first-year head coach Charlie Weis blew his whistle, preventing him from being part of the process.

McKnight witnessed teammate Maurice Stovall go from a junior with 21 catches for 312 yards to a third round NFL draft pick. He saw his replacement, Jeff Samardzija, transform himself from an unknown receiver to a national celebrity.

He observed his battery mate, quarterback Brady Quinn, pick apart opposing defenses in the air, often with help from wide receivers such as Samardzija and Stovall.

And while he watched his teammates find success, his own place on the sidelines was a reminder of how close he came to being a part of it. McKnight and Stovall, and had been the third receiver, behind Samardzija and Stovall, and would share a unique relationship. It’s unlikely the two have been able to capitalize on the opportunity just to sit around and watch, McKnight said.

And while McKnight stored the information for a time when he would return to the field, he also shared it with his teammates — notably Samardzija and Stovall — who would benefit from his observations.

"Any time you have a veteran like that on the sidelines, unfortunately on the sidelines, he adds to what you see," Samardzija said after practice Tuesday. "He sees things that you can’t.

"I’ve had the opportunity to sit back on the sidelines, just watch other defenses, see how they rotate, watch corners ... I’ve been able to capitalize on the opportunity just to sit around and watch," McKnight said.

Finding his own role

Regardless of his status as one of Notre Dame’s most talented offensive players, he is still faced with a glaring reality — having not played during the Irish resurgence, McKnight is in the rare position of having to form his own identity as a fifth-year senior.

"It’s documented that Quinn and Samardzija have one of the top receiver tandems in the country as a quarterback-receiver tandem. The two hooked up for 14 touchdowns last year.

"Any time you have a veteran like that on the sidelines, unfortunately on the sidelines, he adds to what you see," Samardzija said after practice Tuesday. "He sees things that you can’t.

"I’ve had the opportunity to sit back on the sidelines, just watch other defenses, see how they rotate, watch corners ... I’ve been able to capitalize on the opportunity just to sit around and watch," Rhema McKnight Irish receiver

When McKnight puts on his jersey, this time covering No. 5’s first six points since last September.

Contact Bob Griffin at
rgriff@nd.edu

by the numbers

Notre Dame players to finish in the top 5 of the Heisman balloting, including Brady Quinn in 2005.

6

Georgia Tech players to finish in the top 10 of Heisman balloting. Quarterback Joe Hamilton was the last Yellow Jacket finalist, coming in second in 1999.

3

Years Bill Lewis, Notre Dame’s current defensive backs coach, was Georgia Tech’s head coach. Only one coach of the modern era had a shorter term with the Yellow Jackets than Lewis.

Meetings between Georgia Tech and Notre Dame in the series’ history.

32

Wins Georgia Tech has had in each of the four years since Chan Gailey became head coach in 2007.

27

Games won by Lewis’ 1994 Georgia Tech team — a win in Week 2 against Western Carolina.
## Notre Dame Fighting Irish

### Record: 0-0

### AP: 2

### Coaches: 3(tied)

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### Irish Rushing

- Brady Quinn completion: 64.6 percent of his passes for 3,919 yards and 32 touchdowns — the best year in history for an Irish quarterback. He also managed to escape the pass rush, being sacked just 10 times, and threw just seven picks in 2005.

- Darius Walker doesn't have breakout speed but does have impeccable vision. His successes include a 186-yard performance against Stanford in 2005 and 90 yards on just 16 carries against a top-10 OSU defense. Walker will have Asaph Schwapp blocking for him.

---

### Irish Passing

- Charlie Weis has mixed experience with a long layoff. To start the 2005 season Notre Dame tore through the Pittsburgh defense. But Notre Dame struggled mightily against Ohio State in the Fiesta Bowl as the defense couldn't do the job against the speedy Buckeyes.

- Chan Gailey doesn't mind a 14-10 win over Miami in the 2005 season opener and a 14-10 win over Miami in late November.

- Chan Gailey said Walker's skill at running back is comparable to Quinlin's at quarterback. walky's skills are one of the nation's most effective — running backs playing against top defenses will be tested against the Yellow Jackets.

---

### Georgia Tech

- Chan Gailey has never won more than seven games in a season at Georgia Tech but has a penchant for beating top teams early in the season, including a 23-14 road win over No. 15 Auburn in the 2005 season opener and a 14-10 win over Miami in late November.

- Georgia Tech's Reggie Ball is an inconsistent passer, completing less than 50 percent of his career passes and throwing more than 4 interceptions (41) than touchdowns (37). But his ability to run has led to 1,097 yards and nine scores for the Yellow Jackets.

- Both blockers have started since they were seniors. All-American offensive tackle Asaph Schwapp blocking for him.

- There isn't a more imposing receiver in college football than Calvin Johnson. And at the end of the Fiesta Bowl, there didn't look like a more beaten defense than Notre Dame's. But this is a new year and the Irish have too much to lose to allow the All-Americans to spoil a championship season before it begins. Brady Quinn keeps the ball moving as 2006 kicks off with an efficient performance.
Jackets Rushing

Notre Dame returns five linemen with at least six career starts, with Victor Abiamiri a skilled left end and Landri a solid force against the run on the inside. The Irish front four held five of its 12 opponents in 2005 to less than 110 yards rushing.

Tashard Choice studied under Oklahoma standout Willback Adrian Peterson for a year before Choice transferred to Georgia Tech. Choice averaged 4.4 yards on 114 carries in 2005 as the backup to P.J.osa. Choice has the touch for a year before Choice

Choice averaged 4.4 yards on 114 carries in 2005 as the backup to P.J. Choice has the touch for a year before Choice

Opponents scored the Irish pass defense in 2005, gaining 264.6 yards per game in the air. Tom Zbikowski had five interceptions last season but often was fooled by play-action fakes, while Ambrose Woodson and Mike Richardson are serious questions at corner.

Calvin Johnson has made his fair share of outstanding catches, but he has been wildly inconsistent, catching four or less passes eight times in 2005, while gaining more than 100 yards in three of the team's other four games. Meanwhile, James Johnson has just two career starts.

Georgia Tech must be able to solidly run the ball early to create windows of opportunity for Balas, but the two Johnsons, in the Irish secondary, will be a big thing that can happen. But a scrambling ability will cost the Irish on broken third-down plays.

If Johnson shows up, his athletic ability will be enough to allow the Yellow Jackets to be successful through the Irish secondary.

Junior Travis Bell has never missed an extra point for Georgia Tech and is 19-for-22 on field goals. Bell's 136 career points place him eighth on the Yellow Jackets' all-time list, and he likely will climb to third by the end of the season.

In 1976, Georgia Tech beat Notre Dame without throwing a pass. Now the Yellow Jackets have beaten a ranked team in each of the past 13 seasons.

Notre Dame's attention to detail -- from top down -- is perhaps the greatest edge the Irish will have. Quinn's stellar instincts result from his ability to see the little things quickly, and Walker has a knack for putting just past the first down marker on third-down runs.

Notre Dame will pick apart the three inexperienced starters in the Georgia Tech secondary and put up a big number on the Yellow Jackets. Expect Quinn to throw 15-to-20 passes in the first half as the Irish use the passing game to set up a Darius Walker-led rushing attack that will eat up the clock once Notre Dame takes a commanding lead. Georgia Tech will score some, but not nearly enough.

GEORGIA TECH 2006 Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Opponent</th>
<th>Result</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sept. 2</td>
<td>Notre Dame</td>
<td>52-22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept. 9</td>
<td>Samford</td>
<td>28-22</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sept. 16</td>
<td>Troy</td>
<td>28-22</td>
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<td>Sept. 21</td>
<td>Virginia</td>
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<td>Sept. 30</td>
<td>Georgia Tech</td>
<td>28-22</td>
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<td>Oct. 7</td>
<td>Maryland</td>
<td>28-22</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oct. 21</td>
<td>At Clemson</td>
<td>28-22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct. 28</td>
<td>Miami</td>
<td>28-22</td>
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<td>Nov. 4</td>
<td>At NC St.</td>
<td>28-22</td>
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<td>Nov. 11</td>
<td>At UNC</td>
<td>28-22</td>
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<td>Nov. 18</td>
<td>Duke</td>
<td>28-22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nov. 25</td>
<td>At Georgia</td>
<td>28-22</td>
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GEORGIA TECH Yellow Jackets

Chan Gailey
5th season at Georgia Tech career record: 52-33 against Notre Dame: 0-0

Irish experts

It will be a sweet victory for the Irish, who roll past a strong defense in the perfect warm-up for the big Ten trifecta up next. McKnight and Samardzija shine, Walker's dreams are realized and Quinn is rarely off target. Notre Dame's defense is a surprising strength and shows off a suffocating pass rush. The Yellow Jackets give it their best, but the Irish dominate the line of scrimmage.

FINAL SCORE: Notre Dame 48
Georgia Tech 14

Mike Gilloon
Sports Editor

Kate Gales
Associate Sports Editor

Ryan Goldenberg
Managing Editor
Sizing up the Irish and the Jackets

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Notre Dame</th>
<th>Georgia Tech</th>
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<tr>
<td>Points Scored</td>
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<td>18.5</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
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<td>Turnovers Recovered</td>
<td>24</td>
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</tr>
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</table>

Reggie Ball has rushed for nearly 1,097 yards in his career, scrambling around defensive ends and slic­ing through linebackers. If Notre Dame's corners are able to cover the two Johnsons well, Ball will try to make the most of broken plays by using his speed and shiftiness with the ball tucked in his arm.

His main cohort in the backfield will be Tashard Choice, who is taking over in a starting role for the Yellow Jackets. Choice averaged 4.4 yards per carry in limited action last season.

The Notre Dame's linebackers were strong against the run last season, but had trouble in pass coverage and against dual-threat quarterbacks, including Michigan State's Drew Stanton. With junior Maurice Crum the only returning starter, it remains to be seen whether new starters Travis Thomas and Mitchell Thomas bring enough of an upgrade in speed to mitigate the unit's lack of experience. Even if they can keep up with Ball and Choice, it's no guarantee they can tackle them.

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Johnson's big play ability worries Irish

Size, strength, speed will test vulnerable secondary in opener

By KEN FOWLER
Sports Editor

It's his height, it's his speed and he's got better hands than almost anyone on college football. And his name, that is, Georgia Tech junior Calvin Johnson is just a serious receiver.

The 6-foot-5, 235-pound wide receiver was a second-team All-American in 2005 with 54 receptions for 888 yards. After just two years at Georgia Tech, Johnson is in the school's all-time top-10 in career receptions (103), yards (1,725) and touchdown catches (13).

Notre Dame defensive backs coach Bill Lewis thinks Johnson is just as good as advertised.

"When you read the comments that the coaches there in the ACC make about him ... he lives up to everything that's been said," Lewis said after Wednesday's practice. "He's among the best receivers in college football."

Lewis said Johnson's combination of size and strength - along with his jumping ability - is something usually reserved for the NFL.

"He's got a 45-inch vertical jump. You just look at top of a 6-foot-4, 6-foot-5 guy - that's what he makes him play so big," Lewis said. "You could be in perfect position. You could be in perfect position with two people. And he'll go up and outjump two people for the ball because he's that kind of athlete."

But wait, there's more. "He makes some catches that are circus catches. So you look at him and you say, This guy lacks nothing as far as being a great receiver."

For Lewis', defensive unit that is trying to demonstrate it is better than the 264.8 passing yards per game given up a season ago and the unit's 617 yards surrendered to Ohio State in the Fiesta Bowl, Johnson creates quite the task.

"I think we have an awful lot to prove," Lewis said. "Johnson will be one of the toughest physical receivers we will see all year."

Lewis didn't name the other receivers in that class.

"Inconsistent" is the way.

Although unlike most receivers in many ways, Johnson may have a downside. His 2005 season earned him national honors, but he was often criticized for being inconsistent.

"He makes some catches that are circus catches. So you look at him and you say, This guy lacks nothing as far as being a great receiver."

Bill Lewis
Irish defensive backs coach

Johnson was held to less than five receptions on 10 occasions last year. Not that alone, however, is considered a bad sign for Georgia Tech.

The Yellow Jackets lost 17-14 to Notre Dame last season, the last year when Johnson set personal records with 10 catches for 130 yards. His five catches and 108 yards also were Notre Dame's best in a 27-17 loss to Virginia Tech.

Still, Johnson's sheer athleticism is both captivating second-guessing and a penalty for Irish corner-back Mike Richardson, who said one factor that could mitigate Johnson's ability would be the Notre Dame defense faces in practice every day.

After Wednesday's practice, Richardson had learned Johnson to former Irish wide-out Maurice Still and senior All-American Jeff Samardzija.

"They're similar receivers - big players," Richardson said of Johnson and Stovall. "It's helpful having guys like that - and Jeff - to practice with."

"[Johnson] will be one of the best receivers we have on the team this year," Richardson said. "He makes some catches that are circus catches. So you look at him and you say, 'This guy lacks nothing as far as being a great receiver.'"

By KATE GALES
Associate Sport Editor

When the nation's great college football rivalries are discussed, the Notre Dame-Georgia Tech series is seldom mentioned.

It doesn't have glamour and prestige that Notre Dame-USC possesses. The Yellow Jackets don't have the same significance in Notre Dame history as the Navy Midshipmen. And there is little emphasis on all-time winning percentages, a topic always at stake when the Notre Dame plays Michigan.

And while Notre Dame has dominated Georgia Tech in the past, possessing a 26-5-1 record, the rivalry extends well beyond what has been seen on the field.

"First of all, the Notre Dame-GT series is seldom mentioned. It's almost considered as something that would be reserved for the NFL," said Notre Dame's senior wide receiver Rhema McKnight.

"It doesn't have glamour and prestige that Notre Dame-USC possesses. The Yellow Jackets don't have the same significance in Notre Dame history as the Navy Midshipmen. And not much emphasis on all-time winning percentages, a topic always at stake when the Notre Dame plays Michigan."

Notre Dame-GT series history is rich in tradition

Joe Montana attempts to evade Georgia Tech's Reggie Wilkes in the first quarter of Notre Dame's 69-14 win in 1977.

"Whenever you mention that series and you bring up the name Joe Montana, it brings back visions of a time when Notre Dame's football team was on top of the nation and people were saying Notre Dame was the team to beat," McKnight said.

McKnight said he has fond memories of Montana's play in the 1977 win over Georgia Tech.

McKnight said Montana's number of catches that are circus catches. So you look at him and you say, 'This guy lacks nothing as far as being a great receiver.'"

By KATE GALES
Associate Sport Editor

While Sammerzija said he will be one of the big play receivers for the Irish, Richardson compared Johnson to North Carolina State last season.

"When he sees a mismatch, he will go up and get the ball because he's that kind of athlete," Richardson said. "He's got unbelievable hands."

"He makes some catches that are circus catches. So you look at him and you say, 'This guy lacks nothing as far as being a great receiver.'"

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