Study abroad programs focus on safety

Notre Dame, Saint Mary’s prepare students for dangerous situations in other countries

By KAITLYNN RILEY
News Writer

After studying abroad in locales such as Paris, Cairo and Toledo, students return to Notre Dame and Saint Mary’s with unforgettable memories of cities, of friends and, sometimes, of crimes.

Notre Dame senior Mary Corrigan was allegedly attacked by a man coming home from a bar a little more than a month into her semester in Angers, France last fall. Corrigan, who lived with a host family, said she walked the first 20 minutes home from the bar with others, then walked the last 10 minutes through the residential neighborhood by herself.

I got to my door, and then all of a sudden there was a man choking me from behind,” Corrigan said. “He said something to me very quickly, in a whispered voice — in French — and I couldn’t understand what he said.”

The man tried to push her key away from the door, but Corrigan said her host mom

viewing options
available

Away game to be shown on, off campus

By AARON STEINER
News Writer

While dorm residents and local cable subscribers won’t have direct television access to Saturday’s Notre Dame-Air Force football game, students will be able to watch their Fighting Irish take on the Falcons, both on or around campus.

Tomorrow’s game, which kicks off at 4 p.m., will be broadcasted by CTV, a three-year-old college sports network that won’t be available on Comcast Cable in the South Bend area, despite the network’s “free preview” offer to cable and satellite providers this weekend.

Local satellite subscribers, however, will have access to CSTV this weekend. A Dish Network representative said all customers already have access to CSTV, Direct TV public relations manager Jude Ekelott said that while some packages include CSTV already, Direct TV will make CSTV available to all subscribers during the “free preview” this weekend.

On campus, several groups have responded to the few options students have to watch the game. The Office of Student Activities has organized a game-watch event that will take place at St John Center tomorrow, said Associate Director of Student Activities Brian Wilkerson.

Legends of Notre Dame, with help from Student Activities and Lyons and Alumni Halls, will also

Contest seeks ideas to name hotel near SMC

Students may submit suggestions, win prizes

By LIZ HARTER
News Writer

Come next fall, the Inn at Saint Mary’s will have some competition.

The only problem is the name.

Perri’s message was distributed to Saint Mary’s students, faculty and staff via an e-mail sent Nov. 3.

“We want to have fun and get some really interesting ideas for the name of the conference center,” Perri said when asked why Holladay Properties was holding the contest. “We want to do a good job and pay particular attention to what the center is about and to give it a name that is appropriate.”

Juniors to start comprehensives

SMC departments tailor final project requirement to fit programs

By FALCON HOGERTY
News Writer

Simply mention the phrase “senior comprehensive” to any Saint Mary’s upperclassman and, more often than not, a look of terror crosses her face.

Next semester, nearly all Saint Mary’s juniors will begin the long process of creating their senior comprehensives, which, depending on the major, take roughly two semesters to complete.

“I’m so nervous,” junior Kristen Forney said. “I’ve heard so many stories from girls that it
Tales of the South

New Orleans — a city famous for its delicious cuisine, jazz music scene, and, of course, Mardi Gras. Not three days ago I rode my first paddleboat on the mighty Mississippi, along with a group of fellow civil engineers.

Though we enjoyed two of the three aspects of New Orleans' culture that night (a great buffet with Cajun and Creole cuisine accompanied by a live band, the Duke of DeKalb), our trip purpose was not solely to take in the sights. Almost one year ago, New Orleans and the surrounding area were thrown into the spotlight as Hurricane Katrina caused multiple levee breaches, flooding the land and displacing millions. The damage to the area's infrastructure was extensive, and the rebuilding process has been one of the largest civil works projects America has seen in quite some time.

During our time in the South, we got a chance to glimpse the damage caused by the hurricane, and learn about some of the new measures in future hurricane protection. An area called the Ninth Ward was in close proximity to one of the levee breaches and, as one would imagine, was hit hard. Here, the water did not simply flood the area — a tidal wave of siltive, and the rebuilding process has been slow but surely returning and rebuilding.

Though there is still a long way to go, the hurricane protection system has been restored and is stronger than ever. Being in a valley below sea level, New Orleans has to pump its rainwater out into Lake Pontchartrain. During Hurricane Katrina, water flowed backwards into these drainage canals, and it was almost as bad as some of the most destructive levee failures occurred. In Lake Pontchartrain, levees have now been built at the mouths of the canals, and the levees themselves have been redesigned and rebuilt.

Post-Katrina, levee failures were analyzed at the Army Corps of Engineers Research and Development Center in Vicksburg, Miss. — an extremely interesting set of laboratories we got a chance to see, with everything from small-scale physical models of the canal system to supercomputers. Too often I forget there is more to engineering than the calculations I do to complete my homework. Our trip was a special opportunity to see how engineers have responded to and solved real world problems.

Contact Dustin Mennella at dmennell@nd.edu

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

In Brief

Student Union Board will present the film "Scoop" tonight at 8 p.m. and 10 in 101 DeBartolo. Admission is $3 for students, faculty and staff.

Comedians Randy and Jason Sklar will perform at Legends tonight at 10 p.m. Admission is free for all students.

As part of the Holocost Film Series "Through the Eyes of Children," the film "Europe, Europa, Europa" will be shown in the Browning Cinema of the DeBartolo Performing Arts Center Saturday at 10 p.m. Tickets are $3 for students, $5 for staff and faculty and $6 for the general public.

The Japanese film "I Was Born, But..." will be shown at 4 p.m. Sunday in the Browning Cinema of the DeBartolo Performing Arts Center.

The play Celebrating Wendy: An Evening of Waterstein One-Aacts will take place today Saturday at 7:30 p.m. and at 2:30 p.m. Sunday in Saint Mary's Little Theatre. Tickets are $9 adults, $8 for seniors, $5 for staff and $6 for the general public.

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Kellogg research grants offer students abroad opportunities

By DANA GUSKY

When senior Kevin Overmann witnessed the grief in a small Ghanaian town after the death of two women during childbirth, he wanted to learn more about the country's cultural issues of maternity.

"It was a really powerful experience that affected me," he said. "When I got back to campus, I realized I wanted to do something about it."

Overmann, a pre-med and anthropology major, decided that he wanted to return to Ghana and study the practices and traditions that surround childbirth. He was able to realize his goal through a grant from the Kellogg Institute for International Studies.

"I observed the maternity ward in a major government hospital three days a week. The rest of the time I went to rural villages and talked to the traditional midwives, who all had their knowledge handed down from grandmother to mother to daughter," said Overmann, who is now writing a narrative about his experiences.

For more than 20 years, the Kellogg Institute and Kroc Institute for International Peace Studies have been jointly giving grants to students for undergraduate research, designed to promote students' initiative and spark interest in Latin America, Asia and Africa.

Students like Overmann must research and write a grant in the area of their choice, while partnering with a Notre Dame professor in the given field.

"Your advisor really helps you with the pre- and post-study, especially when you get back and analyze the data," senior Kristi Hingstrum said.

Lesczak had previously spent a summer in El Salvador before deciding to write a grant concerning the low levels of violence in Argentina.

"I wanted to see why other countries weren't looking to Argentina as this great example," Lesczak said.

For more than five years, the Kellogg Institute for International Studies has been providing grants to students for undergraduate research, according to Holly Rivers, the coordinator of the program.

"I think this program does a lot to realize that goal," Rivers said. "It is these type of programs that enable students to get Fulbright awards and other grants after graduation."

Each summer, the institutes send five to six rising seniors to their selected regions with a maximum grant of $4,000. Once there, it is up to the student to carry out his investigation to answer the questions proposed in his grant.

"I met with politicians, ex-labor leaders, and intellectuals, " senior Gustavo Rivera said.

Rivera studied in his native country of Mexico, as well as Argentina, and investigated leftist coutries and their relation to labor unions.

I also spent about five to six hours a day at the local library just reading everything I could," he said.

Senior Rachel Meeks used her research grant to go to north India and study a group of Tibetan refugees. She spent six weeks in a refugee center, interviewing older female refugees in a weaver and spinner group and discussing the effects of their exile and journey to India.

"I wanted to compare the memories of the exiles to how they raise their own children," Meeks said.

Meeks said it is difficult to try to get in touch with people who may not be very open.

"I spent my mornings in a hotel, helping people learn English and trying to get them not to see me as a waste of space," she said.

The returnees had plenty of advice for potential applicants.

"Come up with a concise and clear question, but know that question is a living thing and will change," Rivera said.

Senior Megan Westrum started her summer in India and Bangladesh and tried to determine if there was a link between democratization and economic liberalization.

"My study actually became a more qualitative view of how individuals and interest groups affect public policy," she said. "Make your study achievable and know why you question is important.

Applicants for the summer of 2007 must submit their grant proposals by March 2.

Contact Dana Gusky at dsgusky@nd.edu

Hotel

continued from page 1

Holladay wants everyone involved — including those in the Saint Mary’s community — to have a chance to weigh in on the name of the conference center.

The person whose name is chosen will win a weekend package for the conference center, which includes breakfast, lunch and dinner for two at the All American Grille, plus two nights of lodging at the hotel.

The American Grille will be the full service restaurant on the conference center. Second and third prize winners will also be chosen.

"I think it's really great that the Hilton is including us in the process," Perri said. "I mean, it is on our campus, junior Carole Deeter said.

"If they didn't include us, it could potentially be called asinine, but by including Saint Mary's students and faculty, they will appropriately be able to associate with us just enough to give us some legitimacy," Deeter said.

Sophomore Kristi Hingstrum agreed, saying the hotel would give more publicity to Saint Mary's.

"A campus confined to its own little area with no outside connection can seem a desolate place," Hingstrum said. "This conference center could open more people's eyes to Saint Mary's and that is a benefit to the College."

Sophomore Kellie Anderson said she saw the benefit of the conference center and contest but didn't understand the choice of prizes.

"The dinner and breakfast are kind of cool, but what's the point of getting a hotel room?" Anderson said. "Our beds aren't that far away."

Junior Katherine Frazier, however, saw some humor in the situation.

"What a way to break party etiquette," Frazier said. "I'll probably say, I'm not valid on football weekends, which takes away [many of] the legitimate reasons for students to use (the voucher for a free night)."

Contact Liz Harter at eharte01@saintmarys.edu
Veterans
continued from page 1

Maus explained, "It's a great way to raise awareness about the sacrifices that veterans have made in the past and that service members are making today," Maus said.

Veterans from the local community have attended Notre Dame’s Veterans Day ceremonies in past years, Theriot said. He said invitations were sent out to local veterans for this year's event.

"There is a strong number of individuals in this local community who are either currently serving in the military or who have served in the past, and we expect a good turnout for the concluding ceremony," Theriot said.

The concluding ceremony this afternoon will feature Taps played by buglers and a speech given by Major Celeste Ross, the Commanding Officer and Inspector-Instructor of the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve in South Bend, Theriot said.

One person who will definitely be at the concluding ceremony is Notre Dame’s oldest undergraduate student, Korean and Vietnam War veteran Ralph "Lefty" Guillette.

Guillette served in the Marine Corps, and his loyalty to the Corps runs as deep as his pride for the Irish. The message on his cell phone gives a Notre Dame football season prediction — 12 and 0 — and cites "semper fidelis," the Marine Corps motto, meaning "always faithful."

Guillette expressed his gratitude for the Notre Dame students who have made a commitment to serving their country.

"The ROTC kids are doing such a tremendous job of serving God, country and Notre Dame," he said. "They are my classmates and I am so proud of them."

"So many students have asked me, 'What's combat like'? I'll sit and hold court for an hour, an hour and a half — as long as they'll listen." Guillette said it is important for people to realize that we, as a nation, are "forgetting the veterans — we are losing one thousand World War II veterans a day."

"I think it's time that we wake up to the fact that we have veterans coming home without limbs, without eyesight, and we are turning our backs on them," he said.

"Veterans Day should not be a celebration, it should be a dedication to the heroes that have served and died in war."

Ralph "Lefty" Guillette
Vietnam and Korean War veteran
Notre Dame undergraduate

"The least students and members of the Notre Dame community can do is come to the ceremony on Friday to pay tribute to the veterans."

While Guillette was fortunate enough to come home safely from two wars, he said the names of friends and roommates are etched on war memorials honoring the dead.

"(Veterans Day should not be a celebration, it should be a dedication to the heroes that have served and died in war," Guillette said. "If I was governor, I would close every store on Nov. 11."

Veterans Day is an annual event held Nov. 11, although communities may hold ceremonies in recognition of the holiday on different days, according to the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs Web site.

The Clarke Memorial Fountain, the site of the vigil, was erected in memory of Notre Dame graduates who gave their lives in service.

In the case of inclement weather, the vigil's concluding ceremony will be moved to LaFortune Ballroom. All members of the Notre Dame community are invited to attend, Theriot said.

Contact Meghan Wons at mwons@nd.edu

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Friday, November 10, 2006
Iraq estimates 150,000 civilians dead

President Bush and Democratic House Leader Nancy Pelosi of California decided to cooperate despite party differences at a lunch in the Oval Office Thursday.

First female Speaker-to-be vows House Democrats will immediately move on agenda

Meeting reporters in the Oval Office, Pelosi and Bush shook hands for the cameras. The president and the woman whose party he led this year leaned forward in their silk-upholstered seats. They promised cooperation in a government that, come January, will be divided between a Republican White House and a Democratic Congress.

Though the two sought to portray they were getting along, they did not ignore the differences that they debated so hotly before the voting. Pelosi has made clear that House Democrats will move immediately on their agenda, much of it opposed by Bush, which includes cutting student loan interest rates, funding embryonic stem cell research, authorizing the federal government to negotiate lower drug prices for Medicare patients and imposing a national cap on industrial carbon dioxide emissions.

She also has said that the election results mean Democrats not only want — but expect — Bush to make a change of direction in Iraq. "I look forward to working in a confidence-building way with the president, recognizing that we have our differences and we will debate them," Pelosi said at the president’s side. "We’ve made history. Now we have to make progress.”

For his part, Bush has said that he’ll listen to all suggestions on Iraq, except for those that involve pulling troops out before the mission is complete. He also says he still wants congressional approval for war-terror tools that Democrats have vigorously questioned.

As Bush’s press secretary, Tony Snow, put it, echoing what Bush said a day earlier, the White House’s intention is to cooperate but “don’t trim back on your principles.”

Bush and Pelosi have met dozens of times before. But with both just getting accustomed to new roles with each other, aides to both said it was more of a tone-setting session than a time for brass-stands negotiating.

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Chicago Sun-Times loses more revenue

CHICAGO — Sun-Times Media Group Inc. is considering a complete overhaul of the Chicago Sun-Times amid a continuing steep decline in advertising and circulation revenue at the city's second-largest newspaper, its chief executive said Thursday.

Gordon Paris' comments on a conference call came a day after the company, which also publishes community newspapers around Chicago, reported a $34.9 million third-quarter loss.

The CEO, who is stepping down from the top spot Nov. 29, told analysts the company needs to go beyond the "new media" initiatives and post Dec. 29, told analysts the company needs to go beyond the "new media" initiatives and take a second look at election results, questions the political depth of the Sun-Times, the largest newspaper in the nation's third-largest city.

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been a required part of the Saint Mary's curriculum since the 1936-37 school year, when it was first mentioned in the College's annual academic bulletin. It was strictly regulated at the time.

The senior comprehensive is "a test of not less than six hours," according to the bulletin. "It may be written or oral or both depending upon the character of the major."

Since then, it has gradually evolved into different types of projects, research papers and exams. The College allows each major to tailor her comprehensive to fit her program.

"There are two metaphors that quite often are used for a senior project: a capstone and a bridge," communication studies professor John Pauly said. "Capstone is building on top of everything we've learned to far. Some programs are preparing students for a particular career, such as nursing, education, etc.

"[The Communication Studies] program looks at the senior project as a capstone experience. It builds on communication theory, understanding skills acquired through the program."

Pauly recommends that the comprehensive paper be between 20 and 30 pages, but it is not unusual to receive papers that are 60 to 70 pages or even upwards of 80 pages long.

"A paper is never merely a matter of quantity, always a matter of quality," he said. "Could someone write a five page comp? I suppose, if they were the greatest, discerning writer out there."

Professor Mary Ann Merriman, chair of the Department of Business Administration and Economics, will spend the first week in January evaluating the Business Administration majors' comprehensives. She said it is definitely a capstone project.

"Business students create and present a case based on real companies like Kellogg's or Hershey's," she said. "These case studies demonstrate a student's competency on ethics, analytical and technical skills, problem solving and, quite honestly, good presentation skills."

"These are all real-life skills.

We want students to show what they've learned.

Saint Mary's views the senior comprehensive as a rewarding and educational experience. It supports the goal for an integrative liberal arts education, allowing students to achieve a higher level of learning, said Susan Vanek, the associate dean for Advising and director of First Year Studies.

"When taking major courses, there is no time to step back and put it all together," Vanek said. "The senior comprehensive gives a student the chance to do this. Students, when they finish, see their project as rewarding and meaningful."

Contact Fallon Hogerty at fhogert01@stmarys.edu

Football continued from page 1

hold a game watch beginning a half hour before kickoff. Legends general manager Aaron Perri said.

Wilterson said Student Activities organized the events "given the demand for this game" and hopes to reach its 1,800-student capacity for at the Leftwich Center.

"We're working with a satellite company out of Indiana," Wilterson said. "They will provide us with a one-time deal."

The Stepan doors will open at 3 p.m. and the game will be shown on a big screen with concert style seating, Wilterson said. He said Student Activities was pleased "to be able to come through in the clutch" this weekend, Perri said.

"Legends renewed its Direc TV subscription after learning that Comcast would not carry CSTV this weekend, Perri said.

The game will be shown on four televisions and a projection screen, as well as outside in a heated tent, Perri said — a larger event than a normal Legends game. He said they will be able to seat 800 students.

Area bars and pubs are also preparing for this weekend's game broadcast. Establishments that will be able to show the game expect more business than usual.

"We have extra staff coming in," said Jodi Thipson, a manager at the Linebacker Lounge on South Bend Avenue. Sarah VanDusan, an employee at Corby's Irish Pub on Lassalle Avenue, said Corby's will have the game via satellite and is "looking forward to the extra traffic."

Both Buffalo Wild Wings locations on Grape Road and Washington Street will show the game. Casa del Rio and K's Grill & Pub on South Bend Avenue will not show the game, nor will CJ's Pub on North Michigan Street.

For fans that don't want to bother with finding a location with satellite access, the game will be broadcast online, said ESPN spokesperson Leslie Ann Wade.

Viewers who sign up at UND.com or CSTV.com before Saturday's game will pay $14.95, and those who sign up after the game begins will pay $19.95, Wade said.

Contact Aaron Steiner at asteiner@nd.edu

SMC

takes up a lot of time and it is a lot of extra work.

"I've never done a research project like this before. Everyone dreads it."

Mary's curriculum since the 1936-37 school year, when it was added to the program. Everyone continues to change and evolve with the changes in the field of communication."

"This course requires no textbook purchases, exams or term papers.

This one credit-hour course will explore issues, ideas and trends likely to affect business and society during the next decade. A series of separate lectures on selected Friday mornings will feature a wide range of experts.

January 26

Projecting U.S. Fiscal Health - Challenges in Balancing the Books

David Walker, Comptroller General, United States of America

February 9

Shifts in Global Financial Power

Dr. David E. Martin, CEO, M-CAM

March 2

Global Warming - A Cool Appraisal

Dr. Patrick Minnis, NASA Langley Research Center

March 30

Up Front on the Future of Global Security

Gen. Richard B. Myers, Armed Forces Chief of Staff

April 13

The Enhanced Human Being - Future Technologies Under Current Development

Jes Gasreau, Author, Reporter & Editor, The Washington Post

April 20

Immigration Reform - The New Face of America

Honorable Roman J. Maziel, former member, U.S. House of Representatives

Ten Years Ago

This one credit-hour course will explore issues, ideas and trends likely to affect business and society during the next decade. A series of separate lectures on selected Friday mornings will feature a wide range of experts.

Ten Years Hence is listed as BAUG-30210 and MESGR-60210, and is open to all Notre Dame undergraduate and graduate students, and Saint Mary's students. There are no prerequisites to enroll. See your academic advisor or your department chair for additional detail. You are expected to attend all lectures and be prepared to engage speakers. No unexcused absences. This is a "Satisfactory/ Unsatisfactory" course.

This course requires no textbook purchases, examinations or term papers. Use an add form to register; registration is not available online.

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Friday, November 10, 2006

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Abroad continued from page 1

heard the commotion and her arrival scared him away.

Criminal incidents can happen anywhere, said Lesley Sullivan, the Office of International Studies program coordinator for Notre Dame's Angers program and four other international study programs. Associate Director Kathleen Opel said the most common crime Notre Dame students experience abroad is pickpocketing.

But Notre Dame, through orientation sessions, tries to ensure that students — especially female study abroad participants — know how to stay safe in foreign countries.

Sullivan organizes an information session called Women and Study Abroad mandatory for female study abroad participants.

The purpose, she said, is "really to outline areas of concern that students might have or encounter and to provide resources for those students about how to deal with those areas.

The 90-minute session provides health and safety tips and features insight from returning students. The Office of International Studies addresses "cultural cues and miscues" students can encounter even when they are overseas. University Health Services, the Counseling Center and student representatives from PILLARS also present issues students may encounter while abroad.

In the second part of the session, returning female students describe situations their peers may face when they are in a foreign country. One scenario, Sullivan said, is how to handle a student going for a run in a country like Mexico.

"With the culture difference, the returning students can give their peers advice on how to handle this type of situation, Sullivan said.

"The point there is to put things in their heads that hopefully will light up if they find themselves in a situation which is uncomfortable and they will remember something that was told to them at these sessions," she said.

Alice Sigj Yung, the assistant director of International and Intercultural Learning at the Center for Women's Intercultural Leadership, said she sends an e-mail that Saint Mary's takes a "treMendous number of preconceptions" to ensure student safety abroad. The College holds mandatory pre-departure orientations for program participants that address health and safety issues.

Saint Mary's junior Maggie Madden said she felt safe during her semester in Rome last spring.

"I thought that Saint Mary's did a really good job preparing us," she said.

Notre Dame senior Christa Laneri, who also went to Angers last fall, said she thought safety was a concern for Angers program participants mainly because the students were spread throughout the town with her family and the student club always avoided walking home alone.

"Since it is a residential area, people would go to bed by nine nine times out of ten. If you are coming home late, it's dark and it's really no one else on the streets," she said.

Her host family's house was also on a street where classes were held and Sullivan, who lives within walking distance of the downtown area, Laneri said. But one of her friends lived off campus and she had to walk the last 5 to 10 minute walk home.

To avoid walking alone home, Sullivan said, students need to plan in advance what they will do for the evening. Many times, the men in the program can walk women home before returning to their own houses, she said.

The program's resident director can also reimburse students for a certain number of taxi rides each semester, Sullivan said.

"If a female student feels uncomfortable or threatened, all she needs to do is call us and then talk to the resident director about it afterwards," she said.

Notre Dame sophomore Marianna Castro said she had a good semester in Angers and feeling and said she never felt unsafe.

"My advice is just stay close (no campus), and if you are going somewhere farther away, take a cab," Castro said.

Notre Dame's Women and Study Abroad session is only one of a series of orientation sessions that give students tips to stay safe overseas, Sullivan said. Sullivan also provides participants with numbers they can call in an emergency. The Office of International Studies also stay up to date on State Department warnings and gives students information about the country they are visiting.

Associate director Julianne Mayinja, who oversees the Cairo program, said she advises students how to respect the Arab culture through their dress and behavior.

"Obviously, presentation is a big thing in Arab culture and the perception that was that women in the West are loose and easy is great to prepare so you can educate all students understand this," Mayinja said.

Notre Dame senior Anne Kroeger studied in Cairo the spring of her senior year. Kroeger dressed conservatively while she was there — no skirts shorter than mid-calf length and never any low-cut shirts, she said. And she always kept a scarf in her backpack to wrap around herself if she entered a restaurant.

"You had to be conscious of what the reality was," she said.

The security at her dorm in Cairo was so strong that she never felt unsafe in the building, Kroger said.

"Even if you weren't smart, unless you made bad decisions, for the most part you were fine," she said.

Self-responsibility is the bottom line, Sullivan said. The Office of International Studies promotes a "growing sense of responsabil- ity, but students must make an effort to absorb and utilize this information," she said.

"After all is said and done, the students are responsible for this or her own safety," she said.

Contact Kaitlynn Riely at kriely@nd.edu
Throwing da bums out of congress

The Observer
May 1, 2006

A letter to the Editor

Nonpartisan, but not apolitical

To the Editor:

Your Planet editorial from last week was a bit too much. The author of this column is simply wrong. It's true that they are not a Democrat or Republican, but one can still be nonpartisan and be a political person.

There are a lot of nonpartisan political candidates running in this year's general election. If one candidate wins, it doesn't mean that the other candidate is wrong. The writer of this column seems to be confusing nonpartisanship with neutrality.

The author also mentions that they don't want to support any candidate. This is understandable, but it's not fair to the other candidates. They put a lot of effort into their campaigns, and just because you don't want to support them doesn't mean that they shouldn't be supported.

Finally, the author states that they don't want to be part of a winner-take-all system. This is a valid point, but it's not the only way to run an election. There are other systems, such as proportional representation, that could be used.

Overall, this letter is well-written and thought-provoking. It's important for people to think about these issues and make informed decisions.

Sincerely,

[Your Name]
Both political parties imperfect

Just before a football game begins, after the band has come out and played all the fight songs they know, they read just their emboucheurs and play "America the Beautiful" while the flag is raised and presented above the stadium. During the presentation of colors, the wonderful announcer in the stadium recites both the Preamble to the Constitution and the closing lines of the Declaration of Independence.

Now, I don’t profess to be particularly patriotic, but when I hear those words, and remember what America is really about, I can’t help but get a little choked up while I yell at the top of my lungs: "When in the Course of human events, it becomes necessary for one people to dissolve the political bands which have connected them with another, and to assume among the Powers of the earth, the separate and equal station to which the Laws of Nature and of Nature’s God entitle them, a decent respect to the opinions of mankind requires that they should declare the causes which impel them to the separation." According to the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists, pregnancy is "established only after implantation can be confirmed" (www.acog.org). Since an aborti on is "established only after implantation can be confirmed," merely preventing implantation cannot be "forced" (www.acog.org). Since an abortion is "established only after implantation can be confirmed," merely preventing implantation cannot be "forced" (www.acog.org).

I realized CNN’s graphics kicked everyone else’s behinds. I enjoyed watching their columns in one attempt after another; their approach ideas from a different angle, but their latest two columns have been disappointing, to say the least.

I found it trite that he would sink to such levels in his attempt to convert others. Then I read his thinly disguised attack on Joe Donnelly. Allow me to clarify my position before I continue: I am not a Hoosier, and so my contact with Hoosier values is limited to my few months here at Notre Dame. I also have not been keeping track of Donnelly or Chris Chocola’s policies or personal track records, beyond laughing in derision at both of their lowbrow campaign commercials.

The real winner of Tuesday’s elections was CNN. The news was boring, and I was beginning to worry about liberal Democrats gaining too much power in Washington. I was beginning to worry about liberal Democrats gaining too much power in Washington. As I recall, on Oct. 24 he informed us (in intellectually elite language) that Jesus was a Republican (“A call to arms”). Aside from the obvious theologi cal and historical errors of this conclusion (starters, Jesus is God, and God is inde finable; and never mind how far apart he is from our petty political squabbles), I found it trite that he would sink to such levels in his attempt to convert others.

Hoosier and so my contact with Hoosier values is limited to my few months here at Notre Dame. I also have not been keeping track of Donnelly or Chris Chocola’s policies or personal track records, beyond laughing in derision at both of their lowbrow campaign commercials.

Klinger begins his argument by assur ing his readers that he is not in the business of keeping track of Donnelly or Chris Chocola’s policies or personal track records, beyond laughing in derision at both of their lowbrow campaign commercials.

Perhaps it’s one of the few times I can get a little choked up when I hear those words, and remember what America is really about. I can’t help but get a little choked up while I yell at the top of my lungs: "When in the Course of human events, it becomes necessary for one people to dissolve the political bands which have connected them with another, and to assume among the Powers of the earth, the separate and equal station to which the Laws of Nature and of Nature’s God entitle them, a decent respect to the opinions of mankind requires that they should declare the causes which impel them to the separation." According to the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists, pregnancy is "established only after implantation can be confirmed" (www.acog.org). Since an abortion is "established only after implantation can be confirmed," merely preventing implantation cannot be "forced" (www.acog.org). Since an abortion is "established only after implantation can be confirmed," merely preventing implantation cannot be "forced" (www.acog.org).
SUB BRINGS BEN FOLDS FOR FALL CONCERT

By MARTY SCHROEDER
Assistant Scene Editor

Rockin' the suburbs since 1994, Ben Folds will be rocking the Stepan Center tonight in his first appearance at Notre Dame. The concert, organized and sponsored by SUB, promises to be one of the most influential and highly-anticipated concerts to ever hit the Notre Dame student body in recent memory. Ben Folds, as is evidenced by the sold-out status of the show, holds a special place in the hearts of students with his blend of pop, punk and piano rock alongside smart, emotive and creative lyrics.

This concert has been in the works for some time now. According to SUB president and Notre Dame senior Patrick Vassel, Ben Folds has been consistently at the top of polls SUB uses to gauge which musicians and acts the student body would like to see.

"He is one of the most popular musicians among Notre Dame students and the demand for him has been there for some time, as the speed with which the concert sold out proved," Vassel said.

Sadly, not all who would have liked to see Folds will not get the chance. But the decision to him in for the fall concert was made by the Student Activities Office and therefore, according to Vassel, is easier to book and cheaper to set up and staff than the JACC.

"The capacity of 1,800 is larger than any other indoor venue on campus besides the JACC, which would have been prohibitively expensive for us to use," Vassel said.

The JACC's involvement in this debate raises the question regarding why Ben Folds was not brought in as a participant in "The Show," especially when considering that many more students would have been able to debate tickets. However, Folds was touring in Australia at the time, making this arrangement impossible. SUB then decided to bring him in for the fall concert and the Stepan Center is a quick, quiet and unique venue that displays the success of this decision.

Vassel also noted the hard work of SUB staff in bringing Folds to Notre Dame.

Power pop and nerd-rock musician Ben Folds, known for his creative and smart lyrics, will be playing to a sold-out crowd at Notre Dame's Stepan Center tonight.

SUB staff in bringing Folds to Notre Dame. Specifically, junior co-concert programmers Chris Land and Matt Larew have worked on budgets and logistics and handled contacts with Folds and his agent to bring Folds to Notre Dame.

Opening for Ben Folds in Corn Mo, the stage name of Jon Cunningham. He is a one-man act who performs an admixture of circus music, glam rock and humorous novelty songs. He plays the accordion and keyboards, which still fit in nicely with Ben Folds and his piano rock. He helped They Might Be Giants with their cult classic "Particle Man." His debut album, "I Hope You Win!" has been described as heavy metal vaudeville. A little wierd and a little crazy, he promises to be anything but unentertaining.

Folds' visit marks a return to campus for the musician, following a show the Five played on campus in the '90s. The sold-out show and his general popularity promise to make this show one of the most exciting shows at Notre Dame in years.

Contact Marty Schroeder at mschroed@nd.edu

BEN FOLDS: POWER POP AND NERD ROCK MASTER

By MARTY SCHROEDER
Assistant Scene Editor

Ben Folds proves pop music can still be good. In the mid-'90s he, Robert Sledge and Darren Jessee formed the band Ben Folds Five. With no guitars to be seen anywhere, this band took off with catchy pop songs and entered the scene just as the "nerd rock" movement was about to break it big in the mainstream.

Sadly or no, Ben Folds Five dissolved in 2000 but Folds launched a solo career and is at the top of his game. The music that made him famous with the Five is now keeping him famous on his own. Tonight, he will play some of his most -mood, piano and pedals was not what band managers and record executives wanted to record and sell.

Enter bassist Robert Sledge and drummer Darren Jessee as Folds made his way back to his home state of North Carolina, ending up in Chapel Hill. They cut an indie self-titled debut with Passenger Records and found themselves suddenly popular. With that, the bidding wars for this up and coming band began. Finally signing with Sony, their sophomore album — which many consider to be their best — materialized in the form of "Whatever and Ever Amen." With hits such as the exciting "Kate" and the melodic and cathartic "Brick," it seemed the public was finally ready for a rock band whose main instrument was a piano.

Two years later saw "The Unauthorized Autobiography of Reinhold Messner." Although it was not as popular as the preceding album, it was still a strong showcase of the interesting and unique sound Ben Folds Five had come to call their own. A creative-force in the crescent of anarchistic '90s pop, Folds brought in a horn section on "Don't Change Your Plans," talked about growing up in the catchy "Army" and let his muse get a little silly with "Your Redneck Past." Through all three albums, Folds remained the creative force and namesake of this most unique pop band.

However, Ben Folds Five was destined for a dissolution in 2000 after releasing only three, yet all top-notch, albums. Folds, never one to stop making some of the best power pop ever heard, worked for a year after the split and released the solo "Rockin' the Suburbs" to high critical acclaim. Proving himself a master musician, he played most if not all the instruments used in the album. "Annie Waits," "Rockin' the Suburbs" and "Zak and Sara" are prime examples of the power pop fans have come to know and love, while the introspective "Fred Jones, Pt. 2" and "The Luckiest" bring the album back down to earth and infuse it with a heart that counters the fun of other songs. This album is not as groundbreaking as "Forever and Ever Amen," but then again, fans know what to expect from Folds and "Brockin' the Suburbs" is Folds at his best — which is definitely definable.

Folds has toured all around the world and has come to define power pop for the generation that grew up, and is still growing up, with him. Creating music that is catchy, fun and full of heart all at the same time, he is a singular figure in the world of popular music. He may be famous, but that hasn't gone to his head and he continues to produce music that is artistic and fun. Folds is popular because he makes good music people can identify with. He doesn't need powerful producers to make his music — all he needs is his muse.

Contact Marty Schroeder at mschroed@nd.edu

Folds has toured all over the world, but it took a return to his home state of North Carolina at the right time in pop music history to break it big.
LEGENDS SPOTLIGHT

Pete Francis brings solo funk, jam to Legends

By BRIAN DOXTADER
Scene Editor

Take a shower, shine your shoes, you’ve got no time to lose because Pete Francis is playing at Legends on Saturday. It will be the musician’s first time performing at Notre Dame, a venue he actively sought out.

“As a matter of fact, Pete came to us,” said Aaron Perri, general manager of Legends. According to Perri, Francis was looking for a gig in the area, and e-mailed Legends about possibly performing in South Bend on Notre Dame’s campus.

“I think it says a lot about Legends,” Perri said. “A high-profile artist like Francis coming to us shows that we’ve become the ‘must-play’ venue in the area.”

Francis was a member of the Boston-based band Dispatch between 1995 and 2004. Comprised of Francis (under his full name, Peter Francis Heimbold), Brad Corrigan and Chad Urmston, Dispatch first came to national prominence in 1996 with the release of their debut album, “Silent Steeples,” which showcased their unique reggae/jam blend. Francis was only in his early 20s at the time. Their follow-up, “Bang Bang,” was well-received and featured one of their most famous songs, “The General.”

Dispatch combined elements of acoustic pop, folk and rock, with touches of reggae and funk. The band was notable for its musicianship, as members switched instruments and vocal duties from song-to-song. Francis is an accomplished singer, bassist and guitarist and has been featured on both instruments. Dispatch’s triple harmonies and jam band tendencies made them a fan favorite, and they regularly played sold-out shows across the nation. After the band decided to take an extended hiatus in 2001, Francis staked out on his own, releasing his solo album “Untold” in 2003. Dispatch officially broke up later that year, and their

farewell concert, performed at the Hatch Shell in Boston, was attended by roughly 110,000 fans. Francis is currently touring to promote “Everything Is One,” which was released earlier this year.

Francis’ solo work often resembles his material with Dispatch, with creative touches and showcases of his musicianship. His first two albums are softer, more refined and more contemplative than Dispatch, which demonstrates that they are clearly the work of a solo artist, rather than a band. Yet the sense of songwriting and craft that made Dispatch so successful is evident on both “Untold” and “Everything Is One,” alleviating concerns that Francis has lost his touch.

The singer-songwriter will be bringing a full backing band and is expected to perform both songs by Dispatch and his own material with Dispatch, with credits among other things. Perri stressed that they are clearly the work of Pete Francis and it would cost you $40,“ Perri remarked.

Perri also noted that Francis is part of a solid fall lineup at Legends, which included former Stone Temple Pilots singer Scott Weiland and Tally Hall, among others. Perri stressed that Legends is committed to keeping their shows free.

“You could go to Chicago and see Pete Francis and it would cost you $40,” Perri said. “Or, if you’re a student, you can see it here for free.”

Pete Francis will be one of Legends’ biggest shows of the semester, and should provide an evening’s worth of great music. The concert begins at 10 p.m.

Contact Brian Doxtader at bdoxtade@nd.edu

Pete Francis, center, former lead singer of the college jam band Dispatch, will be bringing his solo funk style to the Legends of Notre Dame Saturday at 10 p.m.
NHL

Cole's hat trick leads Canes in rout of Caps

Yashin's two goals, DiPietro's 3 saves prove an unbeatable combo as Islanders send Flyers to fourth straight loss

Associated Press

RALEIGH, N.C. — First, Cam Ward won the Conn Smythe Trophy. Then, he posted his first regular-season shutout. Carolina's star goalie seemingly is reaching his career goals in reverse order, and Hurricanes coach Peter Laviolette doesn't seem to mind.

Ward stopped 20 shots and Erik Cole scored three goals to lead the Hurricanes to a 5-0 victory over the Washington Capitals on Thursday night.

"Working backwards a little bit," Laviolette said that's OK. "We're happy with the order.

Eric Staal and Trevor Letowski also scored, and Scott Walker had two assists for Carolina.

Ward, the MVP of the Hurricanes' run to the Stanley Cup last season, has two shutouts in the 2006 playoffs.

In the best regular-season performance of his career, Ward said he picked up momentum midway through the second period when the Hurricanes, leading 1-0, killed off Washington's two-man advantage, which lasted 2:18, and went on to a lopsided win.

"Up until that 5-on-3, I didn't see a whole lot of shots," Ward said. "I can really change the momentum of a game if you kill that off.

Cole kept the pressure on Capitals goalie Brent Johnson, recording his fourth career hat trick and first since an 8-2 win over Montreal on Jan. 31, 2006.

It also was his first multip game since March 4 against Pittsburgh, but that a game Cole probable would rather forget.

Later in that one, he was run over from behind by Brooks Orpik, breaking his neck in an injury that cost Cole three months.

"I felt like I was just racing up and down the ice" in the first period, Cole said. "As the game went on, I kind of slowed down and tried to make more plays rather than sprint up the ice. Pucks were going in the net.

Islanders 3, Flyers 1

The Islanders found the best way to bust out of a mini-slump and prove to their coach there was no quit in them: Play the Flyers.

Alexei Yashin scored twice and Rick DiPietro stopped 32 shots to lift New York to a win over Wsh-north Philadelphia on Thursday night.

"We have to realize the effort the last couple of games, but I wasn't concerned with the people we have here," Nolan said.

"They're a good group of guys, but we have to make sure when we're on them a little bit and don't take anything for granted.

The Islanders started a five-game road swing after playing nine of 10 at home. They scored twice in the first period, never giving the Flyers a chance to get going early and DiPietro made the goal stand up with a stellar effort, coming up with a stellar effort, coming up with 20 saves on power-play chances.

Maple Leafs 6, Bruins 4

Andrew Raycroft's return to Boston mirrored his career with the Bruins. He got off to a great start, but has seen an undying finish.

Raycroft made 28 saves in the Toronto Maple Leafs' victory over the Bruins. He didn't make it to the end though Thursday night because of a groin strain.

In his first game back in Boston since being traded by the Bruins during the offseason, Raycroft stayed around long enough to win his fifth straight start. Toronto was leading 5-2 when Raycroft was forced out late in the second period.

"The script was going to be too good to be true," Raycroft said. "Of course, something has to happen at some point to me. It would have obviously been really nice to finish that.

Raycroft doesn't think the injury is serious, and he should be back within a week.

Jean-Sebastien Aubin replaced Raycroft, and saved just 5 of 7 shots as Boston nearly came all the way back from a four-goal deficit.

Alexei Ponikarovsky had a goal and an assist, and Chad Kilger also scored for the Leafs.

Nik Antropov gave Toronto a 4-0 lead 4.42 into the second period and Ponikarovsky restored the four-goal-advantage 1.18 after Marco Sturm netted the Bruins' first goal.

The Bruins pulled to within 5-4 when Wayne Primeau poked Brad Boyes' pass in front of the net past Auhin at 13:31 of the third period. But Aubin held Boston scoreless the rest of the way, and Antropov's empty-net goal sealed it with 11 seconds left.

Hal Gill, who spent the first eight years of his career with Boston before signing with Toronto in the offseason, had an assist for Toronto. Darcy Tucker and Michael Peca also scored for the Maple Leafs, who have won seven of six.

Marc Savard and P.J. Axelsson added goals for the Bruins, who have lost three of four.

The Observer 14th birthday, Chris Thomas 15/0

ND Home Games, Haskell Free Lodging, 3 Bron Minivan/truck from stadium. A one-way trip of $99,000 to four-a-night, clean home for up for rent. $574-360-8707.

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NHL

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NCAA Men's Soccer

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A R O U N D  T H E  N A T I O N  
COMPILED FROM THE OBSERVER'S WIRE SERVICES

Friday, November 10, 2006

Nhl

Friday, November 10, 2006

C O M P I L E D  F R O M  T H E  O B S E R V E R ' S  W I R E  S E R V I C E S

Rutgers shocks Louisville, stays perfect

Associated Press

PISCATAWAY, N.J. — Rutgers arrived — and kicked No. 3 Louisville right out of the national championship scramble.

The program that once set the standard for college football finally jumped into the title picture Thursday night by rallying from a big deficit for a 28-25 victory over the Cardinals.

On his second chance, Jeremy Ito kicked a 28-yard field goal with 18 seconds left in regulation. Rutgers won 9-0, 4-0.

"This is the new Rutgers," said Scarlet Knights shut down the high-scoring Cardinals in the second half, erased an 18-point deficit and got the ball with 5:28 left in the fourth quarter at their own 9.

"You don't come back the way we did tonight unless you have believers," coach Greg Schiano said.

Leonard went 26 yards with a pass in the flats to get Rutgers into Louisville territory and Ray Rice broke a 20-yard run to get into field-goal range. He missed a 33-yarder with 18 seconds left, but Louisville was offside and it got another shot — and it was perfect.

The final play, appropriately, was a sack of Brian Brohm by a Rutgers defense that proved worthy of the No. 3 ranking in the country.

In Brief

Three tied for lead after first round of Tour Championship

RICHMOND, Texas — Gary Christian overcame back spasms. Answer: Buckle and Kresse were joined in the tournament by Christian, Kresse, and Cliff Kresse made a late night rally to grab shares of the first-round lead in the Nationwide Tour Championship.

Christian Buckle and Kresse opened with 5-under 67s in the season-ending event at The Housto.

The winner will earn $135,000, while the season money champion will be fully exempt on the 2007 PGA Tour and earn a spot in The Players Championship. No. 2-3 on the final money list will be conditionally exempt on the PGA Tour and Nos. 23-37 will get spots in the final stage of the National Qualifying Tournament.

Chris Tibsh, Steve Allen and Brandt Snedeker shot 64s.

"Sometimes it's a matter of survival," Buckle said. "Today I tried to think my way around the golf course."
GAME NOTRE DAME VS AIR FORCE
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STEPAH CENTER DOORS OPEN AT 3:00 PM

LEGENDS DOORS OPEN AT 3:30 PM

TWO LOCATIONS ND/SMC/HCC ID REQUIRED
Penn State coach will designate coaching duties to assistant

Associated Press

STATE COLLEGE, Pa. — Joe Paterno declared himself "out" for Penn State's next game Saturday, designating longtime assistant Tom Bradley to make any tough calls in the school's first contest without the coaching icon since 1977 Better make the right decisions, though, Tom. Paterno undoubtedly will be watching.

Heeding his doctor's advice, Paterno told his staff Thursday that he would not be at Beaver Stadium for Saturday's game against Temple. The 79-year-old coach had surgery Sunday to repair a fractured shinbone and two torn knee ligaments in his left leg, injuries sustained in a sideline collision in a loss last week to Wisconsin. His left leg fitted with a temporary brace, Paterno spoke with his assistants Thursday morning during a meeting at his Mount Nittany Medical Center room.

"You guys know what you're doing and what I want enough that I don't need to be there creating a huge distraction Saturday," he told them, according to a team statement. "Enough on me; let's get back to football."

Paterno is eager to check out, though he won't be released until team doctor Wayne Sebastianelli is satisfied with the progress of his recovery. So it's unclear whether Paterno will watch his squad Saturday from home or from his room at the hospital, just down the street from the stadium.

The coach "just realized he's going to be proactive," D'Elia said, "that in this condition it wasn't safe to be out and about."

So JoePa and his rolled-up khakis will be missing from the Penn State sideline for the first time since 1977, when he missed a game after his son, David, was involved in an auto accident. Paterno also missed a game as an assistant in 1955 after his father died.

Lion in bed: Paterno to miss his first game since 1977 season

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**Smokey Bones**

**Belles looking for first win of season**

Dombkowski hopes young team comes together for weekend

By BILL BRINK

Saint Mary's hopes to notch its first win of the young season against Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology in Terre Haute Saturday.

The 0-3 Belles have dropped meets to Olivet, Hope and Carthage so far this year. Facing an 0-1 Rose-Hulman team may provide an opportunity to turn their season around.

First-year coach Ryan Dombkowski sees similarities between Rose-Hulman and Saint Mary's.

"Rose-Hulman is a team that, like Saint Mary's, struggles with depth," Dombkowski said. "We're not quite deep enough to be extremely competitive in our conference."

The scoring system in swimming is heavily weighted toward first-place finishes, Dombkowski said, but the deciding factor of the meet will lie in every result — not just wins.

"A battle for every position (including second through fifth) results in multiple point swings in either direction," he said. "Winning these battles will be the key to winning the meet."

Attitude and focus will play a large role on Saturday as well, according to sophomore Melissa Gerbeth.

"The team needs to get in focus on Saturday and get in the mindset that they can do whatever they put their minds to," said Gerbeth, a distance, freestyle and individual medley swimmer. "They also need to have confidence in themselves."

Saint Mary's has a young team, including only one senior. Of the six swimmers who have won individual events this year, four are freshmen.

"On Saturday, I'm looking forward to a young team coming together to support one another to put the pieces together for a dual meet victory," Dombkowski said.

The team has had some success this season. The 200-meter freestyle relay team composed of Gerbeth, junior Kelly Tigh and freshmen Lindsey Nels and Sara Niemann, placed first against Hope. The Belles took that same event the next day against Carthage, this time with Gerbeth, Nels, freshmen Meredith Lierz and junior Amy Maloney.

Dombkowski expects the relay to be important yet again against Rose-Hulman.

"Both relays will be crucial," he said. "Not just our top team, but our second teams as well."

Gerbeth placed first in the 500-meter freestyle against Olivet and in the 1000-meter freestyle against Carthage. Tigh, Nels and freshmen Katie Ferguson and Katie Carroll have all won races for the Belles.

To Gerbeth, however, the meet still comes down to the right mindset.

"I've prepared by practicing hard, lifting and being positive," she said. "If you are not positive about swimming fast then you might as well not even get in the water."

Contact Bill Brink at wbrink@nd.edu

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**SMC CROSS COUNTRY**

**Belles continue postseason**

*The Observer* • **SPORTS**

Friday, November 10, 2006

**GRAY LEADS SAINT MARY’S INTO D-III TOURNAMENT SERIES THIS WEEKEND**

By BECKI DORNER
Sports Writer

Saint Mary’s starts its final run of the season this weekend as it begins the first part of the NCAA Division III Tournament Series at Hanover College. The Belles enter the Great Lakes regional championship after a two-week break following the MIAA Conference Championship, a meet that produced a fifth-place finish behind first-place Calvin College.

At the MIAA meet, Megan Gray posted the best ever individual race record-breaking – since the 1998 season when Saint Mary’s cross country first joined the MIAA, no Belle has ever finished in the top 10 at the conference contest.

The Belles will need top performances from Gray and all of the women competing, for they will be dealing with some of the best competition in the entire nation. Two of the top-10 teams in the country will battle the women’s six-kilometer regional championship.

The field of more than 30 squads features three teams ranked in the top 10 spots in the U.S. Track & Field and Cross Country Coaches Association (USTFCCCA) poll. Calvin College (Mich.) and Case-Western Reserve University (Ohio) enter the meet ranked among the nation’s top teams.

Calvin, ranked seventh overall, swept the MIAA finish with a 15-point effort. The Knights had the first five runners to cross the finish line and had three others in the top 10. Senior Camille Medema won the individual crown, posting a time of 22:58.6. Case-Western, champions of the University Athletic Association, is ranked ninth in the country in the latest USTFCCCA poll.

The Belles hope to work together in packs, especially with such a large field of runners.

The course is known as a fast one and is very flat, coach Jackie Bauers said last week. The course record is 20:00.2, set by Wartburg College’s Missy Buttry in the 2003 national championship. Buttry could not be reached this week, as she was out of town participating in a race.

Contact Becki Dorner at bdorner1@nd.edu

**FOOTBALL**

continued from page 24

Little as a wide receiver because he expressed a desire to play the position in college. But as Little’s body develops, Frank said, Notre Dame could use him anywhere from tight end to linebacker or strong safety.

“When you watch him on film, he looks a lot like [Dallas Cowboys’ wide receiver] Terrell Owens,” Frank said. “He certainly doesn’t have excellent hands at this point – probably because he is still learning to become a receiver — but he’s got lots and lots of potential.”

North Carolina, Florida, Michigan, Ohio State and USC were among a host of schools that had offered Little scholarships.

Benn, a 6-foot-2, 205-pound wide out from Washington, D.C. (Dunbar High School), had offers from Florida State, Maryland, USC and Miami, among others. Frank compared Benn to Irish senior Rhema McKnight.

“Benn’s more of a complete receiver because he’s played receiver forever,” Frank said. “He’s got very good hands, he’s pretty elusive [and] he’s got good speed.”

Frank said Notre Dame was “banking on” getting Benn because he had told the Irish he would come to Notre Dame but later changed his mind.

“Sometimes players feel like they belong or they don’t,” Frank said. “I guess it didn’t really seem like it was a good fit for him.”

Contact Ken Fowler at kfowler@nd.edu

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Sports Writer

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**Friday, November 10, 2006**

**Erl. Nov. 10th @ 7:30 PM**

#1 Women’s Soccer vs. Oakland

**Sun. Nov. 12th @ 1:00 PM**

#1 Women’s Soccer vs. Michigan vs. Win. Mil.

**Wednesday, November 15th @ 7:00 PM**

#12 Men’s Soccer vs. Winner of W. Illinois vs. Ill.-Chicago

*First 100 ND, HCC & SMC Students Each Game Receive FREE Admission!*

**NCAA TOURNAMENTS AT ALUMNI FIELD**

**Notre Dame #12 Men’s & #1 Women’s Soccer**

**Friday, November 10, 2006**

**Erl. Nov. 10th @ 7:30 PM**

#1 Women’s Soccer vs. Oakland

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#1 Women’s Soccer vs. Winner of Michigan vs. Win. Mil.

**Wednesday, November 15th @ 7:00 PM**

#12 Men’s Soccer vs. Winner of W. Illinois vs. Ill.-Chicago

*First 100 ND, HCC & SMC Students Each Game Receive FREE Admission!*
Notre Dame runs for NCAA Tournament bid

By JAY FITZPATRICK
Sports Writer

“We don’t want to be in that group,” junior Julie Opet said. “We just want to be in the pack. Jake Watson. For this race, Notre Dame’s top two runners hope to again stay at the front of the pack.

“Getting to nationals is our one and only focus,” Opet said. “A top-two finish would be awesome. But we are just trying to beat as many teams as possible. We’re looking at at least a top-four finish to get pushed in.”

To prepare for this race, Notre Dame has cut down on its practices, an attempt to save some leg strength for the tough competition. “We’ve cut back since this is the postseason now,” Connolly said, “not on the intensity of the training, but just how long our runs are to make sure our legs are in good condition for this race.”

Contact Jay Fitzpatrick at jfitpa5@nd.edu

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Little Theatre, Saint Mary’s College

For tickets, call the Saint Mary’s College box office at (574) 284-4626.

MoreauCenter.com
Justine Stremick, left, and Mallorie Croal jump for a block in Notre Dame's 3-0 win over Bowling Green Aug. 26 at the Joyce Center.
UNIVERSITY OF NOTRE DAME, NOVEMBER 12-14, 2006

Sunday, November 12 (Football Stadium Press Box)

- Keynote Speaker: Sir Mark Moody-Stuart, Chairman, Anglo American
  PLC, London, Chairman of the United Nations Global Compact Foundation

*Due to limitations on space, this lecture is not open to the public but a DVD is available.
  Contact Deb Coch at Coch.1@nd.edu

Monday, November 13

9:00 am - Opening Plenary: Overview of the Issues, Auditorium, CCE

- Business: Klaus Leisinger, President and CEO, Novartis Foundation for Sustainable Development
  Stretching the Limits of Corporate Responsibility

- NGO: Mary Anderson, Executive Director, CDA Collaborative Learning Projects
  False Promises and Promises? The Challenge of Peacebuilding for Corporations

- Academic: Timothy Fort, The Lindner-Gambal Professor of Business Ethics, The George Washington University School of Business
  Moral Maturity, Peace Through Commerce, and the Partnership Dimension

10:30 am - CONCURRENT SESSIONS:

I. Local Entrepreneurship, Room 100, CCE

- Francisco Ilunga de Almeida and Ofelia Eugenio, Angola Enterprise Program. They will discuss a public-private partnership between the UNDP (the United Nations Development Program), the Chevron Corporation and the government of Angola.

- Bruce McNamer, President, TechnoServe
  Leveraging Public-Private Partnerships to Create Hope and Economic Activity in the Developing World: Cases from Tanzania

II. Divesting or Investing in Peace, Auditorium, CCE

- John Bee, Director, Public Affairs, Nestlé, S.A. and Professor Lisa Newton, Fairfield University. They will discuss projects with a Colombian Dairy, Pakistani Female Extension Workers, and the Nigerian broadcast sponsorship partnership with the NGO Search for Common Ground that provides a conflict-resolving role modeling for Nigerians.

- David Lowry, Director, International Center for Corporate Accountability. (Retired from General Electric)
  Using the Food Chain to Create Peace

- Ian Gary, Policy Advisor for Extractive Industries, Oxfam America. He will address corruption and transparency in the extractive industries.

- Tim Slos, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, Cummins, Inc.
  Christian Much, German Foreign Ministry, Head of Task Force Global Issues, Berlin Investing in Peace

2:00 pm - CONCURRENT SESSIONS:

III. The Role of Business in Societies with Conflict, Auditorium, CCE

- Donal O'Neill, Lansdowne Consulting (Retired from Shell Oil)
  Impact Assessment, Transparency and Accountability – Three Keys to Building Sustainable Partnership between Business and its Stakeholders

- Patricia Wright, Vice President of External Affairs, BP

- Daniel Suarez, Peace Group of Bogota Business Leader’s Forum Colombia
  The Role of Local Businesses in Peacebuilding: The Case of the Colombia Business Leaders Peace Group

- Brigitte Scherrer, Project Manager, Business Humanitarian Forum
  Making Peace Within and Without Enterprises: The Role of Corporate Responsibility

IV. Community Relations, Room 100, CCE

- Ed Potter, Director, Global Labor Relations and Workplace Accountability, The Coca-Cola Company
  The Evolution of Labor Relations and Workplace Practices as part of Corporate Social Responsibility - the case of The Coca-Cola Company

- Stanley Litow, Vice President, Corporate Community Relations and President, IBM International Foundation.
  Technology Innovation to Address Global Social and Education Issues

- Helen Macdonald, Director, Community Relations and Social Development, Newmont Mining Corporation
  Human Rights and Conflict Management in Newmont: A Systems Approach to Implementing Human Rights

VI. Outreach Programs, Auditorium, CCE

- Ford Motor Co., Gerald F. Cavanagh, S.J. and Mary Ann Hazen, Professors at University of Detroit Mercy.
  Ford Motor Company, Human Rights and Environmental Integrity

- General Electric, Bob Corcoran, Vice President, Corporate Citizenship
  The Millennium Village Project: General Electric’s Contribution

- Daniel Malan, KPMG Sustainability Services, South Africa
  “Secure the Future”: Bristol-Myers Squibb’s Response to the HIV/AIDS Pandemic in Africa

- Dr. Daniel Shurgu, Executive Director, United Front Against Riverblindness (UFAR) Partnerships to Combat Riverblindness in the Democratic Republic of the Congo

- Ed Potter, Director, Global Labor Relations and Workplace Accountability, The Coca-Cola Company
  The Role of Local Businesses in Peacebuilding: The Case of the Colombia Business Leaders Peace Group

- Helen Macdonald, Director, Community Relations and Social Development, Newmont Mining Corporation
  Human Rights and Conflict Management in Newmont: A Systems Approach to Implementing Human Rights

- Ian Gary, Policy Advisor for Extractive Industries, Oxfam America. He will address corruption and transparency in the extractive industries.

- Multistakeholder Efforts in the Extractive Industries

3:00 pm - CONCURRENT SESSIONS:

V. Peace through Health: Some Contributions, Room 100, CCE

- Tom Cost, Vice President, International Policy and Government Affairs, Bristol-Myers Squibb
  “Secure the Future”: Bristol-Myers Squibb’s Response to the HIV/AIDS Pandemic in Africa

- Mark Holloway, Manager Corporate Outreach, Global Business Coalition on HIV/AIDS
  Partnership with Unilever and Virgin Airlines for the Treatment and Care of HIV/AIDS in Africa

- Dona! O'Neill, Lansdowne Consulting (Retired from Shell Oil)
  Partnerships to Combat Riverblindness in the Democratic Republic of the Congo

- Patricia Wright, Vice President of External Affairs, BP

- Ed Potter, Director, Global Labor Relations and Workplace Accountability, The Coca-Cola Company
  The Evolution of Labor Relations and Workplace Practices as part of Corporate Social Responsibility - the case of The Coca-Cola Company

- Helen Macdonald, Director, Community Relations and Social Development, Newmont Mining Corporation
  Human Rights and Conflict Management in Newmont: A Systems Approach to Implementing Human Rights

- John Fernandes, President and Chief Executive Officer, AACSB
  Human Rights and Conflict Management in Newmont: A Systems Approach to Implementing Human Rights

- John Bee, Director, Public Affairs, Nestlé, S.A. and Professor Lisa Newton, Fairfield University. They will discuss projects with a Colombian Dairy, Pakistani Female Extension Workers, and the Nigerian broadcast sponsorship partnership with the NGO Search for Common Ground that provides a conflict-resolving role modeling for Nigerians.

- David Lowry, Director, International Center for Corporate Accountability. (Retired from General Electric)
  Using the Food Chain to Create Peace

- Ian Gary, Policy Advisor for Extractive Industries, Oxfam America. He will address corruption and transparency in the extractive industries.

1:00 pm - Remarks: (Lower-Level Dining Room, CCE)

- Tim Slos, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, Cummins, Inc.
  Christian Much, German Foreign Ministry, Head of Task Force Global Issues, Berlin Investing in Peace

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  Christian Much, German Foreign Ministry, Head of Task Force Global Issues, Berlin Investing in Peace
Muffet
continued from page 24

things people can do when we're running.

Along with this new look offense will be a stingy Irish defense that shut down its two preseason opponents, limiting them to 26 percent shooting from the floor and forcing 67 turnovers. That swarming defense helped the Irish dominate those first two opponents — outscoring them by an average of 82-45.

Despite her team's performance in the preseason, McGraw said, "We really want to work on our defense. They do a lot of different things offensively, a lot of motion," McGraw said. "We're really working on our defense."

Challenging the Irish defense will be Central Michigan's long-range offense. The Chippewas are shorter than the Irish, their tallest player is 6-foot-2 senior forward Ann Skufka, whose specialty is shooting from beyond the arc. This three-point offense will test the athleticism of Notre Dame's two centers, Williamson and senior Melissa D'Amico.

"Their big guys can shoot threes, can play away from the basket, so I think defensively it is going to be a big challenge for our post to be able to handle a three-point shooter and someone who likes to put the ball on the floor," McGraw said. "We're better against a post-up player, where we can use our size. So I think they're going to have a tough time guarding them."

This game will also be the regular-season debut of Notre Dame's three talented freshmen: Williamson and guards Melissa Lechlitner and Ashley Barlow.

Williamson filled in well for D'Amico in Notre Dame's two exhibition games. Lechlitner and Barlow also have logged significant minutes running the point this season, enabling McGraw to operate an efficient four-guard set.

Now the Irish are ready for the games that matter. "I think as a team we're pretty prepared. We've been working ever since summer started," Williamson said. "We've been working hard, going through all of our offenses and everything. I think we're just most of all excited to get started.

The Irish showcased their new up-tempo style in their two preseason games — a 79-44 win over Rockhurst Nov. 1 and an 85-57 win over Bellarmine Monday. In both games, Notre Dame employed a full court press early and often and — even in its half-court defense — pressured the point guard one-on-one for most of the floor.

For people who haven't seen this team yet, they should come out and watch us, because we're fun to watch," Brey said. "There are some neat things going on with our young guys and we have an exciting style of play."

Brey
continued from page 24

all five starters, will try to take advantage of the young Irish roster and pull the upset it barely missed last year.

"This is a really good team coming in here and they think they can beat us," Notre Dame coach Mike Brey said.

McAlarney said the team is preparing exclusively on IPFW and not looking ahead to the preseason NIT, which the Irish will begin on Monday against Butler in Indianapolis.

"We need to take every team we play as seriously as possible," he said.

The Irish showcased their new up-tempo style in their two preseason games. Lechlitner and Barlow also have logged significant minutes running the point this season, enabling McGraw to operate an efficient four-guard set.

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McAlarney, along with freshman Tory Jackson, will draw the heavy duties of Mastrodon point guard Brad Pupney, who scored 10 points and dished out four assists against the Irish last year.

"I think we're going to pressure the ball as much as we can from start to finish," McAlarney said. "We're going to try to create some havoc."

But Brey admits that won't be easy against the veteran Mastrodons, "a very polished offensive team.

"He hopes the run-and-gun style will bring more fans to the Joyce Center, especially for a team like IPFW that is more dangerous than its name suggests. The two exhibition games drew less than half capacity.

"For people who haven't seen this team yet, they should come out and watch us, because we're fun to watch," Brey said. "There are some neat things going on with our young guys and we have an exciting style of play."

 Guards Russell Carter and Colin Falls will begin their senior campaigns tonight looking for their first career NCAA tournament berth. Carter, one of the team's most athletic players, averaged 11.5 points and 5.1 rebounds last year.

Falls, a deadly spot up shooter, averaged 14.8 points per game last season and shot almost 40 percent from behind the three-point arc.

Falls' big game will also mark the official collegiate debut of five Notre Dame freshmen — Jackson, guards Joe Harden and Jonathan Peoples and forwards Luke Harangody and Tim Andre.

Jackson spelled McAlarney at point guard in the two exhibition games and is expected to replay that role tonight. Harangody, who averaged 13 points and seven rebounds in the two exhibition games, will come off the bench for starting big man sophomore Luke Zeller and junior Bob Kurz.

Notes:
- Kurz, who suffered a broken nose in practice after a collision with Harangody, missed Monday's win over Bellarmine. He returned to practice Wednesday and is expected to play tonight with a protective mask on his face.

The Observer
Saturday, November 10, 2006

Notre Dame Freshmen —

"I want this group to be together longer, then we'll vote," he said. "We may vote after the NIT and we might vote at Christmas.

But even without captains, Brey said the Irish are not without leaders.

"Russell Carter, Colin Falls, and Kurz are our leaders," he said. "There's no question about that."

Contact Chris Khorey at ckhorey@nd.edu
THE OBSERVER

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THE OBSERVER • TODAY

page 23
THE OBSERVER
Sports
Show time

ND BASKETBALL

Notre Dame tips off against Mastodons

By CHRIS KHOREY
Associate Sports Editor

After conditioning all summer, trying to gel as a team during fall practice and winning two easy exhibition games, Notre Dame finally plays for real tonight against Indiana-Purdue Fort Wayne at 8 p.m. in the Joyce Center.

"This is the real deal," Irish point guard Kyle McAlarney said. "It's not an exhibition anymore. We have to be ready."

Without point guard Chris Quinn, the Irish beat the Mastodons last year 65-63 in Fort Wayne — a surprisingly close score given the supposed talent gap between the two teams.

This year, IPFW, which returns Wayne — a surprisingly close score of 1,166 yards on the ground. He also had 23 receptions for 375 yards and four interceptions. His 40-yard dash time is listed at 4.50.

"He brings a tremendous amount of athleticism to Notre Dame's team," said Mike Frank, who covers recruiting for Irisheyes.com. "The kid just flat out runs. You just don't see guys that size run ... as well as he can run. You just don't see guys that size run as well as he does."

As a junior, Little averaged 11 points — 155-145 in 2004 and 122-121 last season. The Irish also had 23 receptions for 375 yards and four interceptions.

Northern Illinois

At a press conference announcing his inclusion in this year's Army All-American game, Little said he would become the 11th Irish verbal commitment for the class of 2011. Players cannot sign binding letters of intent until February.

Little is a 6-foot-3, 205-pound senior at Hillside High School (Durham, N.C.) who has played running back, wide receiver and linebacker the past two seasons. His 40-yard dash time is listed at 4.30.

"He brings a tremendous amount of athleticism to Notre Dame's team," said Mike Frank, who covers recruiting for Irisheyes.com. "The kid just flat out runs. You just don't see guys that size run as well as he does."

As a junior, Little averaged 7.29 yards per carry while gaining 1,166 yards on the ground. He also had 23 receptions for 375 yards and four interceptions.

He's a very good running back," Frank said. "I wouldn't be surprised to see [Irish coach] Charlie Weis use him in that role. The guy has got good feet, good acceleration and he can really play."

Frank said schools recruited him 1,166 yards on the ground. He also had 23 receptions for 375 yards and four interceptions.

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"He's a very good running back," Frank said. "I wouldn't be surprised to see [Irish coach] Charlie Weis use him in that role. The guy has got good feet, good acceleration and he can really play."

Frank said schools recruited him.
Revamped No. 9 Notre Dame hosts Bowling Green in its first conference home games.
College hockey crowds without equal

There's just something about a college hockey game that can't be replicated anywhere in sport. It's the student sections, bands, chants and traditions that all blend together within the walls of some very venerable old barn on campus. It's how all that noise crescendos into a fervor that is so thick around the rink that the concrete rumbles like a 6.2 on the Richter scale, and the walls sway under the pressure. It is almost impossible to describe unless witnessed, but it happens every weekend at rinks across New England, Michigan, Wisconsin, Minnesota and beyond — just not here, not at Notre Dame, not yet.

In the winter of 1993, mortal rivals Maine and New Hampshire played a hyped league game — it was the year of the hockey boom, and now NRH, great Paul Kariya led his Black Bears to a title — at UNH's now-extinct Snively Arena.

The Snively was a rectangular box with an arched tin roof, riveted metal walls and rotted wooden bleachers cut by low-lying lamps. In short it was a dump, but a Mecca for college hockey.

From the drop of the puck to the final buzzer, the crowd fed off the hell-bent energy of the teams' play. A friend turned toward me at one point, attempting to say something and from the red, strained faces he was making, he was trying hard. Not a word made it across the foot separating us — and the teams' play. A friend turned toward me at one point, attempting to say something, and from the red, strained faces he was making, he was trying hard. Not a word made it across the foot separating us — and the teams' play. A friend turned toward me at one point, attempting to say something, and from the red, strained faces he was making, he was trying hard. Not a word made it across the foot separating us — and the teams' play. A friend turned toward me at one point, attempting to say something, and from the red, strained faces he was making, he was trying hard. Not a word made it across the foot separating us — and the teams' play. A friend turned toward me at one point, attempting to say something, and from the red, strained faces he was making, he was trying hard. Not a word made it across the foot separating us — and the teams' play. A friend turned toward me at one point, attempting to say something, and from the red, strained faces he was making, he was trying hard. Not a word made it across the foot separating us — and the teams' play. A friend turned toward me at one point, attempting to say something, and from the red, strained faces he was making, he was trying hard. Not a word made it across the foot separating us — and the teams' play. A friend turned toward me at one point, attempting to say something, and from the red, strained faces he was making, he was trying hard. Not a word made it across the foot separating us — and the teams' play. A friend turned toward me at one point, attempting to say something, and from the red, strained faces he was making, he was trying hard. Not a word made it across the foot separating us — and the teams' play. A friend turned toward me at one point, attempting to say something, and from the red, strained faces he was making, he was trying hard. Not a word made it across the foot separating us — and the teams' play.

But college hockey is about more than just the noise — it's the fans telling the opposing goalie to fish the puck out of his net. It may be both, but either way it's an original — albeit smelly — and legendary college hockey tradition.

At Cornell, the student section holds the campus newspaper in front of its face while the announcer introduces the other team's roster. The students then crumple the papers up and toss them on the ice when the last opposing coach is announced. Cornell's student body has rocked its home at Lynah Rink for decades with witty, funny and delightfully nasty cheers. But the constant with the Big Red faithful has always been its counterculture energy. During every singing of The Star Spangled Banner, the student body will scream out "RED" in unison when the song reaches, "the rockets red glare" stanza. Against Colgate, they will point to the Raiders' goalie that he has found unique ways to tell the opposing goalie to fish the puck out of his net. It may be both, but either way it's an original — albeit smelly — and legendary college hockey tradition.

And, unbeknownst to northerners here, that kind of energy at a hockey game is far from rare at many games today. Not a word made it across the foot separating us — and the teams' play.

The origin of the tradition is disputed. One source says it came from the 1970s when the Division-II Wildcats played Division-II Bowdoin from across the border in Maine. A tiny campus called the Division-II fish would be thrown on the ice to show disapproval toward the program that had been a weird tradition.

But the man who has scraped the fish off the ice every night for years says that it is the fans telling the opposing goalie to fish the puck out of his net. It may be both, but either way it's an original — albeit smelly — and legendary college hockey tradition.

The Wisconsin band plays the national anthem at the Frozen Tundra Hockey Classic between the Badgers and Ohio State at Lambeau Field Feb. 11.

Irish predictions

The Irish will stretch their unbeaten streak to eight this weekend with two wins over Bowling Green. In the first contest, the quick Irish forwards will use the extra motivation of playing at home to blow the Falcons for a big victory. Bowling Green will settle in for the second game but Dave Brown will be too much for the Falcon as he earns his eighth career shutout Saturday night.

Kyle Cassily
Sports Writer

NOTRE DAME can be created here at Notre Dame — hell we can do better. It's just going to take a little creativity and some Irish touch. No sweeter than to inspire his students body at the games, and the bands already layed down the line for a solid crowd.

The views expressed in this column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer. Contact Kyle Cassily at kcas@nd.edu
Culture change
Jackson's massive overhaul of Irish hockey attitude has reaped large dividends before its completion

By KYLE CASSILY
Sporo Writer

There is very little in the way of decoration inside Notre Dame coach Mark Van Guilder's office. There is the obligatory team photo hung behind his desk and a framed picture of the first Irish hockey team on a side wall. The rest of the office is bathed in the off-white of its bare walls.

At the front of his desk, within constant view of him and anyone that enters to speak with him, are five smaller pictures hung on the wall. One is off-set to the left from the others and is differently sized, while the other four sit in identical frames and are aligned in a straight, vertical line.

The off-set picture shows then-Lake Superior State assistant coach Jackson shaking hands with President Ronald Reagan during a reception in the White House for the 1988 national champion Lakers.

But there is something different about the lowest frame. There is no picture inside it, only a piece of paper centered within blue matting. The paper was typed by Jackson and is centered within the frame.

"That's the golden number of five forward lines, eight defencemen and three goalies," Sophomore Vic Orekhov said. "That was the way they live."

The Gold Standard'  is painted on the wall throughout the transition,' Jackson said. "I thought he really made an effort to help everybody realize that this is a great opportunity, a great experience — we're at Notre Dame, we're getting a great education and that we can also do well in hockey, that we can make this a successful environment.

Jindra leads by example and will lay his body on the line every game to accomplish all the little things Standard team respects. Van Guilder said. "He said that Jindra is not a captain that stands up in the locker room and gives a speech, but the way he plays speaks more than his words.

"Jindra's been a nice buffer for us between coach,' Van Guilder said. "They kind of translate for each other."

Irish seniors, from left to right, Dave Brown, alternate captain Tom Sawatske, alternate captain Wes O'Neill, Noah Babin, alternate captain Jason Paige, Michael Bartlett, captain T.J. Jindra and Josh Sciba pose during practice Wednesday at the Joyce Center.

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Van Guilder said that "The Gold Standard'  display, a new set, the rules and goals that we found on the same awards their achievements in the program's modern era. The names of current plaques as Irish great Brian Walsh or current NHL players Rob Globek or Brett Lebeda. "And the Gold Standard isn't just a phrase, it has meaning."

A gold standard
A new display adorns the wall outside the Irish locker room. It is a season that Jindra said another part of Jackson's vision to create an atmosphere of excellence in Irish hockey.

"That's the standard that we have to live up to — the level that we expect ourselves to reach," Jackson said. "And we need to make that physical sacrifice for each other, and I'm talking about everything."

Jackson said that the team is making remarkable strides to make the transition into his philosophy, but some of what is left to do has not happened naturally.

"Until we have every guy in that locker room willing to make that physical sacrifice for each other, and I'm talking about every single part of the team — that's when I know that we have totally bought in," he said.

Jackson, however, doesn't know how long that will take.

"It's hard to say. It depends on how badly this group wants to win, how badly this group wants to make those sacrifices to be successful. The system that we have in place has the potential, but there are no guarantees — there never are," Jackson said. "But in the front of his desk, there's a piece of paper from his empty frame and may have to remove the piece of paper from his empty frame and fill it with this."

"That's when I know that we have totally bought in," he said.

Contact Kyle Cassilly at kccassily@nd.edu
Freshmen battle to replicate Condra's impact

Eight rookies have made timely contributions this season on both sides of the puck for the No. 9 Irish

By DAN MURPHY
Sports Writer

Sophomore center Erik Condra ran away with last year’s Irish rookie of the year award by leading all players with 34 points, but this year’s competition should be a little stiffer.

This year’s freshman class is stocked with talent and the eight fresh faces are wasting no time in proving themselves. The group has been led by Notre Dame’s first 24 goals this season. Three have come in the ice in all eight of the Irish games this season and two more have played in four games.

Condra’s two linemates — Kevin Deeth and Ryan Thang, both freshmen — have been a big part of the team’s early success.

“They’re both talented, smart players, so it’s easy to play with guys like that,” Condra said. “They’ve come in and made an impact right away.”

Deeth is currently second on the team in goals (four) and points (eight). The Washington state native is underutilized at 5-foot-7, 161 pounds, but he’s taken up for his speed and play-making ability, which he’s spent one year working on for the Green Bay Gamblers before coming to Notre Dame.

He finished that season 12th in the United States Hockey League (USHL) in points and 22nd in goals scored.

Thang has spent time in the USHL, with the Sioux City Stampede and the Omaha Lancers. Last season the power forward split time between the clubs and finished with 54 points and a plus-minus ratio of +34.

“A lot of us played against each other last year — had some good battles with one another — so we were pretty familiar with each other and it’s worked out well,” Deeth said.

Both players had breakout games in the win over then-No. 1 Boston College. Deeth and Thang were both part of the team’s seven goals and his fellow winger added a goal and two assists.

The following night, freshman man Kissel got a taste of the action when he registered his first college goals with a hat trick in a 6-1 win over Providence. The rookie became the first freshman in complete the feat since Chad Chipchase scored three times against Ferris State on Nov. 22, 1997.

Kissel, who was not heavily recruited out of high school, was a late signing for Jackson. He came on strong in the first four games of the year but hasn’t played since due to an injury.

“He had a big jump in his stride, was skating hard and even when he went down, he was good,” Jackson said. “He teased us a little bit.”

The team expects Kissel to be ready for action this weekend against Bowling Green.

“The Irish defensive unit is no question a top-10 unit in the nation,” says freshman Kyle Lawson, the youngest member of Notre Dame’s defensive squad, who signed with the team in the spring of 2004.

From Blachford’s position at the point, Lawson has assisted on two goals and gotten off six shots while playing regularly in every game this season.

—Although he is a rookie, Lawson played for the highly touted Honeybaked AA program and the U.S. Under-18 National Team two seasons of invaluable experience at an elite level. The Under-18s won a gold medal in the Czech Republic with Lawson as their alternate captain.

Brett Blachford, who has appeared in four games thus far, has added two assists in his freshman campaign.

Blachford also brings leadership experience, as he captained the NAHL’s Texas Tornado for two seasons and in 2005-06 led the league’s defensemen in scoring with 49 points.

“I’ve got nothing but good things to say about (the freshmen),” captain T.J. Jindra said. “Not just because how they’ve played on the ice, but also how they’ve done when we’re off the ice.”

Goaltender Tom O’Brien, defenseman Stewart Collins and winger Christiana Minella round out the class.

The group’s speed and enthusiasm has added a lot of depth to the Irish lineup and has also provided a spark on the offensive side that has the team scoring almost four goals a game.

As for who will take this season’s rookie of the year, there is still a lot to be decided, and the reigning winner is not quite ready to let any freshman take over his spot.

There are a couple guys that are up, they’ve got a big competition for it this year so it should be interesting,” Condra said.

Contact Dan Murphy at dmurphy6@nd.edu

Red-hot icers return home after poll-topping road trip

By DAN MURPHY
Sports Writer

Home, sweet home.

It has been almost a month since the No. 9 Irish, who are currently tied for the top of the Big Ten, faced off against a national powerhouse in the form of the University of Michigan, 8-4 winners over Lake Superior State in the first of a two-game CCHA series.

The Irish returned to the Joyce Center with a 4-2 win over Lake Superior State — after dropping the first game of the series to the Eagles, 5-1

“it should be interesting,” Condra said.

But, the Irish were ready to face the Eagles in the first of a two-game CCHA series. The Irish, ranked No. 11 in the country headed into the contest fresh off their first CCHA victory over No. 15-rank Lake Superior State — after dropping their first three conference games.

Notre Dame will look to stay unbeaten in conference play after a win and a tie last weekend over Ohio State.

“It’s always nice to play in front of your own fans, and after being on the road for so long it will be a nice little break for our team,” Irish head coach Jeff Jackson said.

The team has gone 5-1-1 this season playing for the Green Bay Gamblers before coming to Notre Dame.

“The key to Notre Dame’s success on the road has been its stingy defensive play, led by senior goaltender Dave Brown,” Brown said.

Brown was recently named the CCHA Goaltender of the Week for the second time in the young season, after stopping 46 of 49 shots in the two-game series with Ohio State. Brown first received the honor Oct. 23 after holding Hockey East opponents Boston College and Providence to one goal apiece.

“He makes the saves he needs to make and then makes some great saves when we break down,” Irish coach Jeff Jackson said. “He’s been our backbone.”

Brown credited his success to a sharpened mental focus and preparation, as well as good communication with the defense.

The Irish blue-liners are currently allowing only 1.12 goals per game, which ranks them first among all Division-I teams.

The team is giving up just over 23 shots a game this year, compared to 23.89 in the 2005-06 season.

That dominance has carried over to the penalty killers, who have allowed only four goals in 44 opportunities — again a major improvement from last season.

The Bowling Green power play has struggled so far this season, converting less than 10 percent of their shots.

Junior Derek Whitmore, who leads the Falcons with seven goals, has one of the team’s four man-advantage goals. His linemate, Jonathon Matsumoto, leads the team in points (10) and assists (7). Matsumoto, also a junior, led the team in scoring last year and is considered to be one of the most dangerous playmakers in the nation.

“It’s not much different than playing the guys from BC or Air Force, we face great players every week — you just have to be prepared for them,” Brown said.

Matsumoto had two goals in three losses and a tie to the Irish last season. The Irish took the games 9-4, 4-2, 7-4 and 1-1.

“Last year we ended up matching up fairly well, but that was last year,” Jackson said. “I have a lot of respect for (Bowling Green head coach) Scott Paluch, and I know they will be prepared.”

So far this season, the two teams have both faced off with Boston College, Providence and Windsor. The Irish beat all three teams with a combined score of 22-3, while Bowling Green came out on top against Windsor and Providence, but was beaten 5-1 by the Eagles Oct. 21.

“We just have to come out on Friday and get off to a quick start, then continue to do what we have been doing,” Jindra said.

Tonight’s action begins at 7:35, while Saturday’s game will start a half hour earlier at 7:05. Both games will be played at the Joyce Center.

Contact Dan Murphy at dmurphy6@nd.edu
The Road to the College Cup

Notre Dame begins the quest for its second national title in three years tonight at Alumni Field.
It's all or nothing for the nation's best squad

Two months and 21 games after it first started play, Notre Dame's season begins now. The No. 1 Irish have known since August that the one and only goal for this team is a national championship, and that quest starts tonight at Alumni Field against Oakland in the first round of the NCAA Tournament.

The Irish ran roughshod over their regular season opponents, going 29-0-1 and beating two top-10 teams in Santa Clara and West Virginia. They added a feather to their cap in the last Saturday's 4-2 victory over Rutgers in the Big East championship. And even an 8-10-1 Golden Grizzlies squad that snuck into the Tournament by winning on the freeway to the national title? For the most part, Irish fans will be gunning for them.

Hesitant when asked about the importance of the Big East championship, Senior midfielder Jen Buczkowski took it step further.

"Anything less than a national championship would be a disappointment," she said. "Losing is not acceptable for us.

Not acceptable, because in coach Randy Waldrum's program, national championships aren't just goals — they're expectations.

And why shouldn't they be, especially in years like this? Why should the nation's only unbeaten team — and arguably the best squad in Notre Dame history — be satisfied with anything less than a perfect run to a national title? The 2006 Irish feature several players who have national team experience, including two — Brittany Bock and Carrie Dew — who missed part of this season competing in the U-20 World Championships in Russia. The Irish have one of the nation's best scorers in Kerri Hanks, one of the country's best freshman in Michele Weissenhofner and a National Player of the Year candidate in Buczkowski. And that's not counting the best of the other players that would be stars on any other squad.

Of course, this team isn't just a collection of talent. It's also coached well and has a group of seniors who — at 86-7-2 over the course of their careers, with one national title already secured — know how to get the job done.

"As a senior, knowing what it feels like to win a national championship and knowing what it's like to get knocked out early, we've experienced it all," Buczkowski said. "Winning is a lot better feeling."

For the most part, Waldrum lets that senior leadership have free reign. While other coaches rant and rave, Waldrum sits calmly on the sideline, making the occasional (brilliant) tactical change and offering quiet words of encouragement. This low-pressure approach has worked like a charm; the Irish look loose every game and have outscored their opponents 67-7 this year.

The calm demeanor, however, masks Waldrum's high expectations. The team's unwavering focus on the lofty goal of a national title comes straight from the top. He strives for perfection, and so do his players.

After a miscommunication between Lorenzen and backup goalkeeper Kelsey Lysander resulted in a meaningless goal by Rutgers Sunday, Lorenzen was visibly frustrated and said pointedly after the game that it "won't happen again."

While a goal like that had little impact on Sunday's game, Lorenzen worried a repeat could derail an entire season.

After all, this is soccer, and so do dent, experience and coaching to do it. It has been clearly the best team in America all season, but right now that means nothing.

The Irish have six more games that they must win or this season will go down as a disappointment, and each of those teams will be gunning for them.

Notre Dame has been traveling on the freeway to the College Cup all regular season, but now comes the NCAA Tournament exit. And just because the Irish have the biggest and fastest car doesn't mean the traffic won't be heavy. The views expressed in this column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer.
Bock, Cinalli agree to switch positions for good of squad

By CHRIS KHOREY
Assistant Sports Editor

At halftime of Notre Dame’s 3-1 win over West Virginia Sept. 29, Irish coach Randy Waldrum made a lineup change that would alter the course of the season.

With his squad down 1-0, Waldrum switched sophomore Brittany Bock and junior Amanda Cinalli on the field, sending Bock to forward and Cinalli to midfield.

The adjustment worked like a charm, netting Cinalli a goal and enabling Bock as an assist as the Irish came back to win.

Not surprisingly, Lorenzen was surprised – not because she wasn’t used to winning awards, but because she thought her teammates deserved it.

“I felt like it could’ve been someone like Jill,” she said. “Because a lot of the time the back line’s job is a lot easier because of the pressure put on by the midfielders and the front line.”

Bock, Cinalli agree to switch positions for good of squad

Irish senior captain Kim Lorenzen boots the ball upfield in Notre Dame’s 2-0 win over Rutgers Oct. 8 at Alumni Field.

Bock, Cinalli agree to switch positions for good of squad

By TIM DOUGHERTY
Sports Writer

Every team has one — the player who elicits the highest praise from her teammates for her gritty work and unselfish attitude, yet always manages to be overlooked for postseason awards.

Such is the fill-in for Irish senior defender Kim Lorenzen, Notre Dame’s first solo captain since the inaugural 1988 Irish squad. Though Lorenzen has seen several teammates recognized for their performances like 2006 Big East defender of the year sophomore Carrie Dew and Notre Dame’s first four-time Big East honoree Christie Shaner, this year marks the fourth season in which the four-year starter has been shut out of Big East honors.

“The most important thing for me this year is my teammates elected me as captain,” Lorenzen said. “At the end of the day it’s what the team thinks of you that matters the most.”

An answer worthy of wearing the ‘C’ which stands as much for cliché as it does captain. According to senior midfielder Jill Krivacek, though, Lorenzen’s sentiments are really from the heart.

“The great thing about Kim is she really is all about the team,” Krivacek said. “I knew it probably seems really cliché, but I really feel that way about her. It doesn’t even faze her. Her priority is game-by-game making sure she’s playing well and that the team is playing well.”

Finally the Big East discovered the causal relationship between those two ideas, awarding Lorenzen tournament defensive most valuable player honors for her play in the three Irish wins.

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Irish host Golden Grizzlies to open tourney

By TIM DOUGHERTY
Sports Writer

When a team's sole goal is to win the National Championship, 21 regular season and Big East tournament games can feel like an eternity.

For No. 1 Notre Dame, the big showdown actually begins tonight at 7:30 as the Irish host Oakland (Mich.) in the first round of the NCAA Tournament at Alumni Field.

The Irish enter the match on the heels of their second Big East tournament championship in a row after taking down St. Johns 3-0, Marquette 2-0 and Rutgers 4-2 to earn a No. 1 seed and potential home field advantage until the Final Four Dec. 1-3 in Cary, N.C.

The Golden Grizzlies (8-10-1) earned a trip to South Bend after besting Western Illinois in the first round of the Missouri Valley Conference.

Randy Waldrum expects the Grizzlies to make things hard (Oakland). All indications lean to them bunkering in a little defense.

"The focus of the team is to make sure we're taking advantage of our opportunities but still being patient," Waldrum said. "We've been scouting Oakland. All indications lean to them bunkering in a little bit, Waldrum said. "We've played a lot of teams that play like that — sit in and really play a lot of teams that play that same shape."

And if you don't take advantage of your opportunities it could go to overtime and lead to penalty kicks.

"The most important thing is to take once game at a time," she said. "I know it sounds cliche, but if we don't take care of this on Friday there is no Sunday. At this point its tournament time and we are taking the chance that anything can really kicks."

If the Irish win Friday, they will play the winner of the Michigan vs. Wisconsin-Milwaukee game, to be played tonight at 5 at Alumni Field.

The first tournament weekend will be the only until the Final Four that contains two games, a situation that presents an added challenge when it comes to preparing for Sunday's potential match. If the Irish beat Oakland, they will only have one day to go over a game plan for the Wolverines or Panthers.

However, Irish captain Kim Lorenzen said the team refuses to look that far ahead.

"The most important thing is to take once game at a time," she said. "I know it sounds cliche, but if we don't take care of this on Friday there is no Sunday. At this point its tournament time and we are taking the chance that anything can really kicks."

If the Irish win Friday, they will play the winner of the Michigan vs. Wisconsin-Milwaukee game, to be played tonight at 5 at Alumni Field.

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"The focus of the team is to make sure we're taking advantage of our opportunities but still being patient," Waldrum said. "We've been scouting Oakland. All indications lean to them bunkering in a little bit."

Single elimination means no margin of error for the Irish come game time. Similarly, Lorenzen said practices are taking that same shape.

"We are really making sure this week our touches are on," Lorenzen said. "Every pass is perfect — making sure everything is perfect — making sure we have a good preparation for Friday. We feel if we practice in an environment that is completely focused then it will be easy to translate that into the game."

When it comes to their game environment, though, the Irish hope Alumni Field looks the same as it has been all season long. Notre Dame ranks third in the country in home attendance this year with an average crowd of 2,350.

With 15 Irish players hailing from Illinois, Indiana, Ohio and Pennsylvania, there is never a shortage of family in the stands. David and Susan Shaner, parents of senior defender and third team All-Big East selection Christie Shaner, make their presence felt; however, no matter where the Irish play—travelling to every game home or away in the unofficial Recreation Vehicle of Notre Dame soccer.

"The Shaner's RV has kind of become legend now," Waldrum said. "They come to almost every game. It's nice to know we're such a family friendly from a family. In fact, we're fortunate that we have a lot of families that do that."

Presence of the Shaner's RV has been about as dependable as Notre Dame's success this year. And both are linked to the closeness of the senior class, as the bonds extend to the players' parents.

"It has kind of become one of those meeting places here at home before the games," Waldrum said. "When we come out on the field all the families are in the RV hanging out with the Shaners. So it's kind of a neat thing that we have a group that really follows the team like that."

Those wheels will roll in again on Friday. But from here on out, the Irish are the driver's seat.

Contact Tim Dougherty at tduagher@nd.edu

2006 NCAA Division I Women's Soccer Championship

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*Host Institution.

NOTE: The first semifinal game will air live on ESPN2 and ESPNU. The second semifinal game will air live on ESPN2 and also tape delayed on ESPN2 Dec. 2 at noon ET.
Derek Landri has had a successful career on the field with the Irish and a unique experience seeking out his Italian roots in the greater South Bend area.
Emotional trip looms for Lewis

It's written so often. The column about Army, Navy and Air Force — the wave-the-flag, thank-a-veteran story recycled every Memorial Day.

But it isn't until you see a football coach's watery eyes at a press conference that you realize what it all means.

Gregg Lewis could have been an engineer. He could have been a career military man. If all had gone well, he would have attained the rank of Air Force major this year.

All didn't go well for him or his 11 buddies of the 66th Ranger Battalion that early September night gone.

Barely had that night. Barely an hour or so later, he was gone.

Tuesday, almost a decade after his death, Gregg Lewis was coaching the Dolphins in South Bend — after a long coaching career that included three head coaching jobs and a stint as an NFL assistant — because of Charlie Weis.

"Charlie is one of the most caring people in the world," Lewis said.

Lewis told about the day after Gregg died, when he was coaching the Dolphins in a game against New England. Weis, then an assistant with the Patriots, came up to Lewis before kickoff and gave his condolences.

"I'll always remember that," said Lewis.

Hearing Bill Lewis' voice quietly crack as he talks about his son, it's as if Gregg died yesterday.

"There's really no preparation for losing a child," Lewis said. "It's not something you ever get over."

Wednesday, in front of a suddenly softened, normally cynical pack of reporters, Lewis held up the sticker that the Irish and Falcons will wear on the back of their helmets — a green foot with six toes, the "Jolly Green Giant" logo of Gregg's squadron.

But the coach who smiles when he remembers a photo of his son that sits in his office, doesn't want the remembrance to cause a distraction.

Twelve kids in all died that day, and the patch represents every one.

Bill Lewis and his wife Sandy passed through Colorado Springs a few summers ago and decided to stop at the Air Force Academy. Near the campus chapel, Gregg's name was engraved on a wall — a memorial to all Air Force graduates who died serving their country.

"It was something we wanted to see," Lewis said. "Most never have to go through what Bill Lewis has endured."

But it's part of life at Air Force, where many have given everything for their nation.

Gregg was an engineering student, a smart kid who loved football and his school.

He "didn't hesitate a second" about choosing the Air Force atmosphere, Gregg once told his dad.

Like he always did on Thursday nights, Gregg talked by phone with his father. It was Sept. 3, 1998 and the two talked about the day and the training mission Gregg had that night. Barely an hour or so later, he was gone.

Lewis didn't make the varsity that senior year and decided to organize the project. He wrote letters to Irish coach Charlie Weis and Falcons coach Fisher DeBerry — both of whom were quick to agree.

That didn't surprise Lewis. He says he agreed to come to South Bend — after a long coaching career that included a freshman at the Air Force, student, a smart kid who gave everything for their team manager.

It was something we wanted to see," Lewis said. "It's not some-thing you ever get over."

"If you get off the Air Force sidelines he once-roamed."

But for at least a few hours tomorrow, he'll walk the visitor's side of the field.

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

Mike Gilloon
Editor in Chief
Making his presence felt
Irish senior Derek Landri has a key role in Notre Dame’s defense, strong love for his community

By BOB GRIFFIN
Sports Writer

Derek Landri’s journey through Notre Dame — athletically and socially — exactly followed the classic path: He was a top recruit out of California high school powerhouse De La Salle.

On the outside, he’s a fierce competitor who blocked two extra points in Notre Dame’s 45-26 win against North Carolina. He is third on the team with 44 tackles this season (8.5 for a loss) and second in sacks with four.

He teams with senior defensive tackle Trevor Laws (39 games to offer congratulations. "I never really got the West Coast thing until I came out," Landri said. "When he came into the area, he seemed like one of those people that aren’t necessarily affiliated with Notre Dame," Landri said.

"You definitely have to have balance if you’re a big guy," Landri said. "I don’t watch it nearly as much as I used to because I don’t want to listen to someone who doesn’t know too much about the in and outs." But Landri doesn’t need the support of those on television who criticize his team. He has returned home to the few nice local Italians, those friendly waves back home in California and the overmatched offensive lines he encounters every Saturday.

Contact Bob Griffin at griffi3@nd.edu

Defensive tackle Derek Landri sacks Michigan State quarterback Drew Stanton in Notre Dame’s 40-27 win in East Lansing on Sept. 23, interesting guy for sure.

California upbringing
But while Landri spent time developing his Italian roots with doctors, lawyers, family and team mates, he’s an animal," Oliva said. "We hit it off pretty quick, he’s an animal, when he’s on the field and whatever happens, happens."

And there’s nothing more that Landri would want than to join his old high school team in Notre Dame community. "I really never got the West Coast thing until I came out here and people started putting me in the category with (Chris)rome and (Anthony) Verraglia, the surfer type wearing shades," Landri said.

"I don’t watch it nearly as much as I used to because I don’t want to listen to someone who doesn’t know too much about the in and outs."

But Landri doesn’t need the support of those on television who criticize his team. He has returned home to the few nice local Italians, those friendly waves back home in California and the overmatched offensive lines he encounters every Saturday.

Contact Bob Griffin at griffi3@nd.edu

by the numbers

Virtue Air Force coach Fisher DeBerry has over the Irish in his career with the Falcons.

2-5 The all-time record in the Air Force-Notre Dame series, heavy favoring the Irish.

Irish quarterback Brady Quinn’s current streak of consecutive passes without an interception.

2 Games between Notre Dame and Air Force that have gone into overtime. The Irish have played in just six overtime games overall.

49 Notre Dame’s rank in rushing defense, giving up 126.33 yards per game.
HEAD TO HEAD

Notre Dame Fighting Irish

**NOTRE DAME 2006 Schedule**

Sept. 2 at Ga. Tech — W
Sept. 9 PENN ST. — W
Sept. 16 MICHIGAN — L
Sept. 23 at MSU — W
Sept. 30 PURDUE — W
Oct. 7 STANFORD — W
Oct. 21 UCLA — W
Oct. 28 at Navy — W
Nov. 4 UNC — W
Nov. 11 at Air Force
Nov. 18 ARMY
Nov. 25 at USC

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**COACHING**

**NOTRE DAME**

Charlie Weis has the mark of an impressive winning percentage through 21 games for the Irish of any coach since Ara Parseghian.

**FIGHTING IRISH**

Fisher DeBerry has the Falcons trailing at the end of the game time winningest coach at Air Force.

**QUARTERBACKS**

Brady Quinn’s 23-of-35, four-touchdown showing against North Carolina was just one more stellar game for the likely No. 1 quarterback drafted in 2007. Quinn’s best asset may be limiting his mistakes. He’s thrown 204 passes in a row without an interception.

Shaun Carney has completed 64 percent of his passes to give him quarterback rating of 133.8, though he has only 70 attempts this year. The key to Carney’s game is his rushing, as the junior has 331 yards on 134 attempts.

**IRISH PASSING**

The Irish have four players — receivers Rhema McKnight and Jeff Samardzija, tight end John Carlson and tailback Darius Walker — with more than 45 catches on the season. Defenses have struggled to shut down all Quinn’s options.

Air Force has nine interceptions by seven juniors John Rabold and Julian Madrid. The Falcons also have 11 pass break-ups and 13 quarterback hurry against opposing offenses.

**IRISH RUSHING**

Darius Walker averages 4.3 yards a carry and 131.9 yards per game on the ground. Most impressively, the Falcons held Tennessee to just 3.9 yards a carry and 131.9 yards per game on the ground.

**AIR FORCE**

Fisher DeBerry is the all-around most impressive week-long coach who has done more for the Air Force program than anyone else. Week has him and his team up against a tough Air Force team in 13 game-day adjustments and playing call.

Carney is a good option quarterback, but his offense is not nearly as efficient as Quinn’s. Notre Dame’s offense relies heavily upon Carney’s high intelligence and deadly accuracy, which he delivers fully nearly every week.

Air Force has an above-average secondary, but it is not good enough to contain the Irish air attack. Quinn’s ability to find and go to his second, third or fourth options makes it hard to stop by focusing on any one player.

**ANALYSIS**

**DeBerry is, by all counts, a tremendous week-long coach who has done more for the Air Force program than anyone else. Week has him and his team up against a tough Air Force team in 13 game-day adjustments and playing call.**

The Falcons’ defensive line isn’t the largest in the world, but it has been very effective. The line’s natural athleticism allows them to win double-ups on offense and use different alignments to keep Air Force’s offense at bay.

Early in the season this looked like one Air Force could pull out — at home, against a Notre Dame team looking past the Falcons toward USC. After the way Brady Quinn and the Irish offense performed last week, it’s now down in the books. Fisher DeBerry has the Falcons pumped and Air Force breaks a few long runs. But Jeff Samardzija has his career touchdown total and the Irish roll on their way to the BCS.

**FINAL SCORE: Notre Dame 42 Air Force 17**

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Mike Gillon  
Editor in Chief

Bob Griffin  
Asst. Managing Editor

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**Irish experts**

**Mike Gillon**

Editor in Chief

**Irish experts**

**Bob Griffin**

Asst. Managing Editor

Because Air Force likes to keep the ball on the ground, the Falcons are playing at home and Notre Dame hasn’t had a consistent running game all season — the Irish might lose the time of possession battle. But that doesn’t mean Notre Dame won’t show the ball on the Falcons secondary and score on its first few possessions. The Irish get out to a quick lead, and Air Force takes a late touchdown to make it a 14-point game.

**FINAL SCORE: Notre Dame 38 Air Force 24**
The Falcons average an absurdly high 14.8 yards per kickoff return, but have been surrendering just 12.4 when they kick off. Zach Sasser handles both the punting and the place kicking for Air Force. He averages 42 yards per punt and is 7-of-9 on field goals this season.

FALCONS PASSING

The Falcons passing offense may not be as intimidating as its rushing counterpart, but it has been effective enough to keep teams on their heels. Air Force has completed over 50% of its passes this season and boasts a solid ground game to boot.

FALCONS RUSHING

Air Force has a strong rushing attack led by fullback James Aldridge. The Falcons average 200 yards on the ground per game, which is good for 11th in the country. Air Force also has a potent passing game led by quarterback Pete Forcier. The Falcons have thrown for over 2,000 yards and 16 touchdowns so far this season.

SPECIAL TEAMS

Tom Zbikowski, the Irish's top return man, has been very effective. He averaged a career-high 26.9 yards per return and has scored three touchdowns on special teams. Air Force's special teams have been solid, with punter Carl Sommers averaging 40.5 yards per punt and place kicker Zach Sasser hitting 7-of-10 on field goals.

INTANGIBLES

Notre Dame has an experienced and aggressive defense that can shut down Air Force's high-flying offense. The Irish have forced turnovers and held opponents to low yards on the ground. Air Force, on the other hand, has a strong and versatile offense that can score quickly.

This rivalry was more lopsided in the early 1980s but now is more of a novelty game. Notre Dame doesn't have much to gain by playing a blowout win on CSTV and Air Force doesn't have much to lose against a good team.

Air Force isn't going away easily, but the Irish offense has found its rhythm and is able to score at will. The Irish likely will give Air Force a run for its money, but the game is closer to just another matchup.
Sizing up the Irish and the Falcons

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<td>Passing Yards Allowed</td>
<td>287.3</td>
<td>67.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Turnovers Lost</td>
<td>194.4</td>
<td>191.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Turnovers Recovered</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Falcons Rushing Offense
Air Force runs as efficiently as any team in the nation. The Falcons average 266.9 yards per game. Chad Gall comes in at 5.6 yards per carry and quarterback Shaun Carney, above, is dangerous on the run.

### Irish Run Defense
The Irish rush defense is 49th in the nation, allowing 126.3 yards per game. The team gave up 211 yards to Navy in just the first half of that game, although the second half saw a much-improved Irish defense. Victor Ahamari (above) had two sacks against the Midshipmen.

But the fact remains that the Midshipmen totaled 271 yards running an offense similar to that the Falcons will use against the Irish.

The defensive line looked good against North Carolina last weekend, but to shut down the triple option, the linebackers will have to be more involved.

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Air Force offense is more diverse than Midshipmen option

By KEN FOWLER  
Sports Editor

Two weeks ago, Notre Dame's defense started slowly, surrendering three drives of 60 or more yards to the option-running Midshipmen to start the game. The Irish recovered and held Navy to the 14 points it scored in the first half.

On Saturday, the Irish are hoping to play a more complete, 60-minute game against the Falcons' option offense. But just because Notre Dame figured out how to sink one team's option, it doesn't mean it can ground the other.

And the problems for the Irish begin with the seemingly simple inclusion of a tight end.

Air Force enters the contest with an average of 267 yards per game rushing, largely thanks to its wishbone formation and multiple threats. Much like the offense Navy showed Notre Dame, Air Force employs a kill-you-with-speed offense, though the Falcons' formations are somewhat different. Air Force often uses a one-receiver formation with a tight end on the other side of the field. By comparison, Navy played two receivers far from the tackles on almost every play — and the Falcons have run that formation, as well.

Irish safety Tom Zbikowski said the contrast was so stark that most of the few things he could take from the Navy game and apply to this one were "fundamentals." "There's some similarities to them running the option, but Navy definitely has got a much different attack (than Air Force)," he said. "The Falcons will definitely use the tight end a lot more than Navy does (and) a few more counters. So it's actually a lot different than Navy's option attack."

When asked what preparations from the Navy game would carry over, Irish coach Charlie Weis offered sentiments similar to Zbikowski's. "It helps with half of their package. The only problem is (the Falcons) have another whole half of the package. One half of the package has a lot of similarities to what Navy did, but they have a whole other package that Navy didn't have," Weis said.

Against the Midshipmen, Zbikowski had 14 tackles as he focused on containing the pitch man turning upright on running plays. But the senior have more pass coverage assignments this Saturday as Air Force throws the ball more, though not much, than Navy. And Zbikowski will have to keep his eye on the Falcons starting tight end Chris Evans, a 240-pound Travis Dekker, who has 10 percent of Air Force's receptions on the season.

They have tight ends in their system and they want to use them," Zbikowski said. "It can definitely help out in passing situations where (Air Force has) a little bigger body in there."

Dekker and Falcons backup Chris Evans frustrate defenses by adding an extra blocker on the line of scrimmage who also releases on pass routes more than a quarter of the time he is on the field.

But even with Air Force's aerial arsenal, the way to stop Falcons is to beat them on the ground. Quarterback Shaun Carney has averaged 6.5 yards per game this season on nearly 17 carries a contest. "Their offense starts with Carney," Irish coach Charlie Weis said. "He's the guy who makes their offense go."

Chad Hall, the Falcons' 5-foot-10, 180-pound wingback from Georgia is Air Force's most dangerous threat with the ball in his hands. Hall has 594 yards on 107 attempts for a 5.6 yards-per-rush average to go along with five touchdowns and a long rush of 38 yards.

But Notre Dame has more to worry about than just the speedsters who make their living on the outside. As teams have concentrated on pitches towards the sidelines because of the added tight end, the Falcons have exploited weakness in the interior of defenses with their two bruisers fullbacks, each averaging more than 4.7 yards per carry.

Backup Ryan Williams, a 5-foot-9, 215-pound product of Mesquite, Tex., has 332 yards on the season with a 4.4-yard average. Jacobo Kendrick, who has taken over the starting jobs from Williams, has averaged a 4.8 yards-per-carry average and 295 yards in seven games this season.

"The two of them (Kendrick and Williams), you'd better stop them, first of all, because if not, they'll just hand it off to them all day and let them gash you for a while," Weis said. "You're going to have to play a ... technically sound, fundamentally sound game with a high level of energy to get production (off defense)." Weis said.

That's the challenge for the Irish.

Contact Ken Fowler at kfowler@nd.edu

Great Moments in Notre Dame-Air Force History

Last Time (2002)  
#7 ND tops  
#15 Air Force in a battle of undefeated teams. Carlyle Holiday has a 53-yard TD run and a 1-yard run, and Ryan Grant runs for 190 yards on 30 carries with 1 TD.

FINAL: 
ND 21 AF 14

Nov. 18, 1995  
#8 ND 44 AF 14  
at Falcons Stadium  
Irish go on to play in Orange Bowl

1996  
AF 20 ND 17  
at ND Stadium  
Falcons' last win in series

Oct. 10, 1964  
First Meeting  
ND 34 AF 7  
at Falcons Stadium

1982 - 85  
Air Force wins four straight games
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