Officials review staff survey results

By MARCELA BERRIOS

The three highest-ranking Notre Dame officials addressed faculty and staff members Tuesday in an effort to inform them and gather feedback about the University’s direction, developments in research initiatives and employee satisfaction — a tradition that began last year to build up a synergistic relationship between the top administration and the rest of the staff.

University President Father John Jenkins, Provost Thomas Burish and Executive Vice President A&T Leaders promote doctoral studies

Jenkins’ speech to faculty addressed low levels of undergrads who go on for advanced degrees

By JOSEPH McMAHON

Notre Dame has launched several programs to help encourage students get on the path to a Ph.D. — a goal expressed by University President Father John Jenkins during his speech to the faculty last week in which he expressed concern over the percentage of undergraduates going on to earn advanced degrees.

"Each department is trying to make students aware earlier of the option of graduate school," said Gretchen Reydams-Schils, associate dean for research, graduate studies, and centers at the College of Arts and Letters. "We are trying to get students, even freshmen, to think about Ph.Ds."

In his speech, Jenkins said only five percent of Notre Dame undergraduates between 1995 and 2004 earned a Ph.D. The number is low in comparison to institutions like Harvard, Rice and Princeton — and very low compared to leading liberal arts schools like Harvey Mudd and Swarthmore — Jenkins said in his address to the faculty.

"Earning a Ph.D. is a road to leadership, and we must do a better job of sending our students to Ph.D. programs," Jenkins said. "That five percent number must rise."

Reydams-Schils said the first step toward increasing the number is creating interest among the undergraduates through connections with the University’s own graduate students.

"We want graduate students to act as intermediaries, to be role models for the undergraduates, to demonstrate that this option of graduate school is open," Reydams-Schils said. "We are constantly trying to improve the quality of our graduate institutions. That being said, graduate students will be an additional mentoring resource, and they will never take the place of professors."

see DEGREES/page 8

A&L leaders promote doctoral studies

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see DEGREES/page 8

Campus, Taco Bell to support Irish

Fast-food chain gives Weis’ Nacho Day award for team’s struggles

By CHRIS KOREY

Despite three straight blowout losses to begin the season, coaches putting them through four-hour full-pads practices and ESPN mocking them at every turn, Notre Dame Football players still have support — from two very different sources.

Leaders of The Shirt Project 2007 and student body President Liz Brown are organizing a "green-out" of campus on Thursday, while local Taco Bells will distribute free nachos on Sunday, both in an attempt to galvanize the Irish.

The Notre Dame Football team sings the alma mater after its 38-0 loss to Michigan Saturday.
**INSIDE COLUMN**

On Spartan and Spartans

This weekend, the Michigan State Football team arrives in South Bend during Notre Dame’s darkest hour. They call themselves Spartans, but as anyone who has seen the critically-acclaimed hit film “300” can tell you, they are not the real deal.

No, unlike the green and white double-jugglers from the north, the real Spartans were a breed of brave soldiers, led by defiant King Leonidas, who weathered an onslaught from thousands of invading Persians some time in ancient history.

In light of the Irish’s recent struggles, there are many lessons we can learn from the L(environment and the intergalactic 300. In light of the team losing three consecutive games this season, there’s the possibility that we, Notre Dame students, could lose faith. That the Notre Dame Victory March would instead turn into a pity parade.

We’re made of sterners stock than that. These never let a home game end, and I don’t plan on it. Just as Spartan King Leonidas refused to yield to the invading Xerxes, we should weather the bad as well as we would the grest: standing with unbent knee, proud and tall.

We’re known as the Fighting Irish, not the Sitting Down Irish or the Leaving Hairy Irish. As for those who hate Notre Dame and just want to see our mascots, our very own leprechaun would cheer the good: standing with unbent knee, proud and tall.

Shoulder: Chanting Her Golden Name.”

**QUESTION OF THE DAY:** How many Facebook friends did you have at ND before you got here?

-Chelsea Carey
-freshman from Badin
-Kyle Mitchell
-freshman from Stanford
-Meg Fitzgerald
-sophomore from Cavanaugh
-Kyle Weich
-freshman from O’Neill
-Tanner Ryan
-freshman from Keenan
-Marco Rosales
-freshman from Stanford

**TIEBREAKER:**

-“Just one. And I knew him in real life.”
-“Like 150.”
-“Twenty-ish, but they were all from my hometown.”
-“50 or so. About half people I actually knew.”
-“50 or 51. Mostly girls.”
-“Probably 20.”

**OFFBEAT**

Man says wild sex caused SUV accident

M E S O W , I d a h o — A 22-year-old carnival worker blames two friends having sexual intercourse in the back seat of his car for an accident in which his Chevrolet S-10 Blazer struck a telephone pole.

Joshua D. Frank, who is living in a trailer parked on a main road outside of town, said that his friends were having sex in the back seat of his car for an accident in which his Chevrolet S-10 Blazer struck a telephone pole.

In conclusion, true Spartans never retreat.

And as for those who hate Notre Dame and revel in the schadenfreude of watching our team suffer, people who look back on the turning point in Notre Dame football history, the team’s third consecutive loss this season, they should operate as a single, defiant unit.

For instance, if he trains with Barry Bonds’ pals at BALCO.

Ruggeri, without question, is developing the area and Spartans deserve more credit than they’ve received so far.

**CORRECTIONS**

The Observer regrets itself as a professional publication and strives for the highest standards of journalism. We do, however, recognize that we will make mistakes. If you have made a mistake, please contact obsnews@nd.edu so we can correct our error.

**LOCAL WEATHER**

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**IN BRIEF**

An exhibit, “The Camera and Rainbows: Color in Photography,” will show in the Snite Museum of Art on today from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. The exhibit is free and open to the public.

University President Father John Jenkins, Provost Thomas Bassich and Executive Vice President John Sillick-Graes will brief the University staff on Notre Dame’s status and future at a town hall meeting today from 2 to 3:30 p.m. in Washington Hall.

Employers will be meeting both undergraduates and graduate students from all colleges and majors during the Career Center’s Fall Career Expo today from 4 to 8 p.m. in the Joyce Center.

Author Ann Cammings will read from her latest work, “Yellowcake” in the Hospitality Room of South Dining Hall at 7:30 tonight.

Eric J. Brown, director of the Department of Microbial Pathogenesis at the University of California, San Francisco, will deliver the lecture “Can Fish Really Get Tuberculosis?” Thursday at 4 p.m. in 233 Galvin Life Science.

The DeBartolo Performing Arts Center will show a screening of the film “The Nameless” Thursday at 7 p.m.

Whirlpool’s chief financial officer, Ted Dosch will speak Friday at 10 a.m. in the Jordan Auditorium as part of the Mendoza College of Business Boardroom Insight lecture series.

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

**TODAY**

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Leaders seek to involve students more through activities

Major topics of discussion include increasing football enthusiasm and the possibility of town-hall style meetings.

By JOHN TIERNEY

Finding ways to increase student enthusiasm - both for football season and student government - dominated discussions at the Council of Representatives meeting Tuesday night.

The Notre Dame Bookstore and the Shirt Project are partnering to sponsor a campus-wide spirit display Thursday by asking students to wear The Shirt 2007. Shirt Project President Brad LeNoir announced at the Council of Representatives (CORI) meeting Tuesday.

"When everyone else thinks we're done, we have to do something as students. We have to show we're behind our team. It's still early in the season and we still have a chance."

Brad LeNoir
The Shirt 2007 president

"When everyone else thinks we're done, we have to do something as students. We have to show we're behind our team. It's still early in the season and we still have a chance."

LeNoir said. "We have to show we're behind our team. It's still early in the season and we still have a chance."

"Firstly, this could counteract dorm unity, which is a lot of what we're all about. Secondly, freshmen and sophomores could dominate the events. I feel like juniors and seniors are a bit more apathetic."

George Chamberlain
Sorin senator

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Schmidt proposed creating a new intramural sport conference between classes rather than halls.

"When popular issues come up, we've always gotten a huge influx," she said. Student government needs to do a better job of capitalizing on that interest without overwhelming its committees with new members, she said.

"If people are passionate about an issue, they do a good job of coming to student government," Braun said.

Chief executive assistant Sheena Flammoit questioned whether students would find time in their busy schedules to attend town-hall meetings.

In other COR news: Schmidt proposed creating a new intramural sport conference between classes rather than halls.

"When popular issues come up, we've always gotten a huge influx," she said. Secondly, freshmen and sophomores could dominate the events. I feel like juniors and seniors are a bit more apathetic." Schmidt's suggested athletic events included Capture the Flag.

Contact John Tierney at jtierney@nd.edu
Web
continued from page 1

Adam and were able to start really putting things together.
Lusch had taken a class with Braun, and she remembered he had already put together various Notre Dame Web sites, including the homepages for the Student Union Board, the Class of 2009, The Show and Morrissey Manor.
Plamoottil said Lusch gladly volunteered his time during the summer to help them with the project.
The finished product boasts a layout that is not only aesthetically pleasing but also user-friendly. Plamoottil said, "I wanted it to have a Notre Dame identifying theme," Lusch said, referring to the gold and blue font and the Notre Dame icon at the top of the home page. Plamoottil said the site has links to the Student Government Constitution, updates from various committees and groups — including the Student Senate, the Council of Representatives and the Center for Social Concerns — as well as an online application for students who wish to become involved with student government.
The site also contains the minutes of Senate and COB meetings and a calendar of upcoming events — information not readily available to students before.
Student government will "continue to make changes to improve our capacity to accurately represent and respond to student concerns," Brown said.
Contact Katie Peralta at kperalta@nd.edu

Degrees
continued from page 1

said by Jenkins is so low. "The number is skewed because (after getting their bachelor’s degree) students will go do a job, and then go back to graduate school, and therefore are not counted in that statistic," Toumayan said. "In fact, most of the students that tell me they are interested in earning a Ph.D. (tell me that they do not want to do so right after college, and they would not be included in that statistic.)"
She said the college is currently trying to come up with a way of tracking these students to make their figures more accurate.
In addition to poor calculations, Notre Dame’s strong pre-professional programs deflate the number considerably, she said, because they push students directly into their professions and away from the Ph.D.

Support
continued from page 1

Jason Gott, vice president of Student Life, said, "We all think we have a great student body as far as giving some support to each other."
Weis also said that student support can and will improve the team’s morale going into the game against Michigan State Saturday. "The greatest thing that could happen, whether its Thursday or Friday at the Pep Rally, is for the students to say, 'Hey, we’re on your side,'" Weis said.
Sixth-year senior captain and tight end John Carlson agreed.

Fifth-year senior captain and tight end John Carlson agreed.

We appreciate all the support we can get," he said. "We’re not giving up. We hope the fans don’t give up either.
The support isn’t just coming from South Bend. As far away as Irvine, Calif., at the world headquarters of Taco Bell, marketing executives decided to give Weis the "Nacho Day Award."
"We like to call it a Nacho Day — as in ‘not your day,’" Taco Bell spokesman Bill Bortz said. "We’re trying to put some levity into the situation.
In honor of Weis’ award, participating South Bend area Taco Bells will give out free nacho chips to Notre Dame fans between 2 p.m. and 5 p.m. on Saturday. "The chips are down, and we want everyone to know we have your back," Bortz said. "To the students, we’re saying, ‘Hey guys, you’ve been at the top, and while it might be a little bit rough this year, you can still have some free food.’"
Bortz said that the nacho promotion, which the company has done for organizations and groups before, is not designed to be a joke about Weis’ weight.
"We would never ever walk that line as far as giving something offensive to somebody," he said.
Contact Chris Khorey at ckhorey@nd.edu

Information
September 20 or September 24
5:30 PM 117 DeBartolo
http://www.nd.edu/~ois/

Internal Study Programs in
Dublin, Ireland
Information Meeting
Wednesday, September 19, 2007
5:00 pm 141 DeBartolo
Applications Available www.nd.edu/~ois/

Write News.
Call 631-5323.

Contact Chris Khorey at ckhorey@nd.edu

Text generated from images using a text-based OCR process.

The Observer ♦ CAMPUS NEWS
Wednesday, September 19, 2007
INTERNATIONAL NEWS

North Korea denies nuclear charge

SEoul — North Korea strongly denied Tuesday that it has provided Syria with secret nuclear cooperation, claiming the charge was fabricated to block progress in the North's relations with the United States.

The North "never makes an empty talk but always tells truth," the ministry said in a statement carried by the official Korean Central News Agency.

The comments were the first by the government in Pyongyang on the issue since suspicions arose after an alleged Israeli air raid earlier this month on an unknown Syrian target.

The Democratic leader said he will call for a vote this month on several anti-war proposals, including one by Sen. Carl Levin that would insist President Bush end U.S. combat next summer.

The proposals would be managed by Secretary of Defense Rumsfeld, who has opened an investigation of the State Department's inspector general, alleging he blocked fraud investigations in Afghanistan and Iraq, including potential security lapses at the Pentagon in Pyongyang on the issue since

The student in the middle of it all, 21-year-old Andrew Meyer, had no comment after he was released earlier.

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — After weeks of suggesting Democrats would temper their approach to Iraq legislation in a bid to attract more Republicans, Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid declared abruptly Tuesday that he has no plans to do so.

"There are no goals. It's all definite timelines," he told reporters of the planned legislation.

Levin, D-Mich., chairman of the Senate Armed Services Committee, said Monday that he has agreed to turn his summer deadline into a "nonbinding goal if doing so meant attracting enough votes to pass. Several Republicans have said they are uneasy about Bush's war strategy but do not like the idea of setting a firm timetable on troop withdrawals.

Reid's hardline stance, announced afterward the party's weekly policy lunch on Tuesday, reflects a calculation by Democrats that Levin's proposal probably would have failed either way. Democrats hold a thin majority in the Senate and in similar legislation in the House, repeatedly fallen short of the 60 votes needed to break a GOP filibuster.

When asked why Democrats vote this week, the minority leader said the majority and confidence Republicans are willing to challenge Bush on the war. "I think we've decided definitely they want this to be the Senate Republicans' war, not just Bush's. They're jealous," he said with a smile.

Democrats are in a box on the Iraq war debate, lacking the votes to pass legislation ordering troops home but tied to a support base that wants nothing less. Several Democrats, including Sens. Christopher Dodd of Connecticut, Russ Feingold of Wisconsin and Barbara Boxer of California, have said they will not vote for anything short of a short of a firm deadline to end the war.

These members say they are responding to polls that Americans still oppose the war, despite Gen. David Petraeus' report to Congress and President Bush's nationally televised address.

A poll released Tuesday by the nonpartisan Pew Research Center found that 54 percent of Americans still favor bringing troops home as soon as possible. And despite slight improvements in peoples' views of military progress, more said the U.S. will likely fall in Iraq than succeed by 47 percent to 42 percent, about the same margin as in July.

Other lawmakers, including Levin and several moderate Republicans, have tried to strike bipartisan deals they think would attract enough moderates of either party to pass.

Sen. George Voinovich, R-Ohio, suggested Tuesday that Congress pass legislation that would restrict the mission of U.S. troops but allow Bush to determine the timeframe for doing so.

Worried that we'll have a lengthy discussion next session about what the options are for legal recognition for gay people," Madaleno said.

But while Democratic leaders say the concept of compromise legislation is not off the table, no proposals have gained steam. Reid on Tuesday said Salazar is working to add requirements to his bill, but as written it was too weak.

State News

Alligator rescued in Indiana

MUNCIE — A nearly 5-foot-long alligator nicknamed Vader Gator was heading to a reptile park and wildlife center in Florida two weeks after being rescued from an Indiana home.

The Muncie Animal Shelter sent Vader off Monday on the first leg of his journey to Croc Encounters, a reptile park and wildlife center in Tampa.

Shelter workers rescued Vader on Sept. 5 after it was found wandering through a neighborhood. The 4-foot-long reptile had escaped an outdoor kennel by climbing over a fence, said Karen Gibson, the shelter's superintendent.

Associated Press

Baltimore — Maryland's highest court on Tuesday upheld a state law defining marriage as a union between a man and woman, ending a lawsuit filed by same-sex couples who claimed the law denied them equal protection under the law.

Maryland's 1973 ban on gay marriage does not discriminate on the basis of gender and does not deny any rights to the Gender-Bias Act, the State Court of Appeals ruled in a 4-3 decision. The law also held that the state has a legitimate interest in promoting opposite-sex marriage.

"Our decision should by no means be read to imply that the General Assembly may not grant and recognize for homosexual persons civil unions or the right to marry a person of the same sex," Judge Glenn T. Harrell Jr. wrote for the majority.

Plaintiffs said that the judges missed a historic opportunity to strike down a discriminatory law, and that they would continue the fight in the Legislature. Legislators on both sides of the debate decided action on the issue in the next session.

"I think history will hold them in contempt," plaintiff Lisa Poykay said of the judges. "To create a legal solution in a vacuum, that doesn't recognize that the constitution is there to support the people, is to create an ignorant and irrelevant solution."

Democratic Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid calls for a vote for pullout legislation

Associated Press

Democratic Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid attends a news conference Sept. 12, Reid plans to call for amendment proposals in the near future.

State News

Attorney General Madaleno, who is openly gay, said he plans to introduce a bill to allow same-sex marriage. He also expects a proposal to create civil unions.

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Local News

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Associated Press

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Feedback

continued from page 1

ND Voice, a series of surveys and focus groups conducted in 2006 to understand the opinions of different University employees about their experience at Notre Dame.

The results, he said, revealed 96 percent of the polled staff and faculty members said they were proud of working at Notre Dame, 92 percent would recommend the University as an enjoyable workplace and 91 percent said they clearly understood the school's goals, values and direction.

Affleck-Graves also said the surveys told him employees thought Notre Dame needed to improve its accountability — or the University's ability to deal with poor performances in its different offices — as well as its recognition of exceptional employees.

Notre Dame has tried to alleviate these concerns, he said.

Since ND Voice was conducted, he said, about seven percent of Notre Dame employees have received a salary raise more than five percent. Another six percent received a raise equal to or less than two percent, depending on their respective supervisor's performance reviews.

The salary raises fulfilled Affleck-Graves' promise from last year's town hall meeting, where he said annual salary increases would be tied to performance.

Furthermore, the University also created the President's Team Irish Awards to recognize its outstanding faculty or staff members publicly during home football games.

The 2006 poll indicated that some employees were unhappy with their level of respect and overall fairness — specifically Notre Dame's efforts to include its faculty and staff in administrative decisions.

We need to create more opportunities where you can offer feedback and speak up in either small group or large group settings, like this one," Affleck-Graves said.

He read excerpts of some of the action plans different offices prepared as part of ND Voice last year, including a suggestion from the Central Financial Office proposing top administrators shadow staff members sporadically to understand their daily challenges.

"It is critical and essential every member of the Notre Dame family feels respected, valued and understood," he said.

Future ND Voice polls will be issued every two years, he said, to avoid overwhelming the staff and faculty with too many survey requests.

While Affleck-Graves' remarks were concrete and focused on tangible initiatives, Jenkins chose to talk about more abstract concepts, such as the University's core values and its mission to strike a balance between its Catholic character and its academic ambitions.

He spoke of Notre Dame's goal of becoming "a distinctive Catholic university that is counted among the premier universities in the world."

To accomplish this mission, he said, the University must offer an unsurpassed undergraduate education and become a premier research institution while ensuring the University's Catholic character permeates these endeavors.

These goals, Jenkins said, should always be approached through the University's defining core values — integrity, excellence, accountability, teamwork and leadership.

"To be a part of Notre Dame is to accept these goals and these values and let them form your everyday lives and your work here," he said.

Jenkins said his trip last week to Congregation of Holy Cross founder Father Basil Moreau's beatification in Le Mans, France, helped him rediscover Notre Dame's challenges.

"There was everywhere a sense of discovering this University's roots and where we came from," Jenkins said. "I met people from Africa, Bangladesh, Peru, Chile and other countries where Father Moreau's work lives on. And with Notre Dame, they all shared this man's commitment to service, his faith and his sense of community."

During his trip to France, Jenkins said, he also met a descendant of the family of Father Edward Sorin, who founded Notre Dame.

Following Jenkins' remarks, Burish updated the audience on current academic initiatives as well as the University's achievements last year.

He said the freshman class had a record average SAT score of 1390. His address, however, focused less on statistics than the human-interest aspects that make the class of 2011 special.

Among the first-year students, Burish said, there are cancer survivors, a student who served in the Navy, a student that speaks four languages fluently and the great granddaughter of one of the famed Four Horsemen of Notre Dame.

He also praised certain faculty members for their outstanding research, including a science professor who said he was working to design cancer-fighting drugs without side effects and another professor who is studying the psychology of middle-aged people.

To keep the faculty motivated and interested in conducting similar projects, Burish said, the University is developing a research park where it would present its findings to corporations and potential backers that might provide further exposure.

Researchers who develop new products, like drugs or software programs, might then provide further exposure.

"This park will help take your research findings and give them an avenue so they can actually impact society and people's daily lives," Burish said.

Similar innovation parks already exist at major research universities like Purdue.

Burish stressed the importance of investing in infrastructure to draw new faculty members and graduate students to Notre Dame. This manpower, in conjunction with state-of-the-art facilities, would help bring more undergraduates into the research heat, Burish said.

Affleck-Graves ended the town-hall meeting with a video presentation of the Eddy Street Commons project. He showed the audience an animation of the finalized project — which was scheduled for completion in 2009. In the virtual tour, people are seen strolling down Eddy Street with shops, cafes and restaurants in the background. He also showed new artist renditions of other buildings under construction on campus in the near future, including the engineering buildings, the law school, Geddes Hall which will replace the current building occupied by the Center for Social Concerns and the Purcell Pavilion inside the Joyce Center.

A short question-and-answer session followed the three officials' speeches, and they later joined the meeting's attendees in the Laffer Center's ballroom for an informal reception.

Contact Marcela Berrios at aberrios@nd.edu
China

PRC enforces quality standards

Food products under close scrutiny after inspectors discover skew of violations

Associated Press

BEIJING — China is stepping up enforcement against unlicensed food vendors and plans to upgrade quality standards for thousands of food and consumer products by the year's end, officials said Tuesday.

As of July, inspectors had uncovered and punished 9,989 unlicensed food makers and other types of vendors, the director of the State Administration for Industry and Commerce, Zhou Bohua, said at a news conference.

Zhou did not give comparable figures for the same period last year but said the administration was pursuing violators more vigorously, in an indication of the pressure the government is under to tackle China's endemic product safety problems.

"This is a special type of battle to preserve people's health and basic interests, to preserve the trust in and international image of Chinese products," Zhou said.

He said the crackdown was part of a previously announced four-month campaign to step up product safety controls. Zhou's agency does not inspect exporters and the measures he described appeared mainly to involve domestic vendors.

Many of China's problems have been blamed on long and often murky supply chains. To address that, Zhou said the government will require before the end of this year all grocery stores, convenience stores, and vendors to keep records, allowing inspectors to trace the origin of food products.

Another product safety watchdog said bad eggs had dragged behind the development of China's economy and needed to be upgraded.

"Rapidly developing trade must have the guarantee of rapidly developing inspection standards. This is the only way to ensure that Chinese products receive fair treatment in the international community," Liu Pingjun, director of the Standardization Administration of China, was quoted as saying at a national conference on Monday.

Liu's comments were posted on the Web site of the General Administration of Quality Supervision, Inspection and Quarantine, one of the government's main product safety watchdogs.

The administration's notice said 3,995 standards for food and consumer products would be amended by the end of this year. All food and consumer product "closely related to human health and safety" would be required to meet international standards and "foreign advanced standards," it said without giving specific examples.

Chinese-made products have come under intense scrutiny around the world over the past six months after toxins were found in exports ranging from pet food ingredients to toys.

Overcoming its initial reluctance, Beijing has launched an aggressive campaign to win back consumer confidence by issuing new regulations, cracking down on violators and setting up a Cabinet-level panel to monitor quality.

Among those measures are increased scrutiny of vegetable exports that have sometimes been cited for high levels of pesticides.

Health care costs vary around U.S.

Wednesday, September 19, 2007
Border
continued from page 1
linked the agreement's implementa-
tion to an increase in factories in
Mexico, where labor is cheaper, Martinez Jitner said.

The population of border towns skyrockets thousands upon thousandsof factories are located in those regions between Mexico and the U.S., she said, and the number of factories there has increased from 300,000 to over 3 million — and most of the people, she said, are workers.

The factories in Mexico prefer female workers because they are willing to work longer hours for less pay, Martinez Jitner said. Female workers earn 50% less pay than the bus driver and another man then left her for dead in a shallow grave. The girl managed to climb out of the grave, received amnesty in the U.S. and was able to hire a bus driver and another man then left her for dead in a shallow grave.

"People are worth more than alive," she said. "Bordertown," which is mostly in Spanish and features English subtitles, is inspired on the story of a 14-year-old girl in Juarez who was raped by a bus driver and another man then left her for dead in a shallow grave.

Martinez Jitner encouraged the audience to visit amnestyusa.org/bordertown, a Web site Lopez launched, where users can download digital petitions asking the United Nations to put pressure on Mexico to end the violence against women, as well as encouraging the U.S. to push Mexican factories to set up safer working conditions.

Contact Joseph McMahon at jmcmahon6@nd.edu

Simpson indicted on 10 felonies
Counting on future

Everyone wants to be admired. GE's global reputation speaks volumes, but don't take our word for it: GE was named both World's Most Admired Company and America's Most Admired Company by FORTUNE seven times in the past eleven years. GE is most admired because of the people we hire. If you consider yourself the top talent, we would like to talk with you.

Come visit us at these events:

Global Employers Night:
For engineering students at
Engineering Industry Day Career Fair:
At the Heritage Hall, Joyce Center
Fall Career Expo:
Wednesday, September 19, 2007
Thursday, October 4, 2007
Thursday, October 18, 2007
Wednesday, October 24, 2007
Thursday, November 8, 2007
Thursday, October 18, 2007
Thursday, December 6, 2007
Location: Joyce Center, Fieldhouse

Join GE and find out how we... 

Come visit us at these events:

Global Employers Night:
DATE: Monday, September 17, 2007
TIME: 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.
LOCATION: McKenna Hall

Engineering Industry Day Career Fair:
DATE: Tuesday, September 18, 2007
TIME: 5:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.
LOCATION: Heritage Hall, Joyce Center

Follow the leader

Imagine at work

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McConnell discusses Protect America Act

National intelligence director considers major changes to current wire tapping law

Associated Press
WASHINGTON — No Americans' telephones have been tapped without a court order since at least February, the top U.S. intelligence official told Congress Tuesday.

But National Intelligence Director Mike McConnell could not say how many Americans' phone conversations have been overheard because of U.S. wiretaps on foreign phone lines.

"I don't have the exact number...considering there are billions of transactions every day," McConnell told the House Judiciary Committee at a hearing on the law governing federal surveillance of phone calls and e-mails.

McConnell said he could only speak authoritatively about the seven months since he became DNI.

In a newspaper interview last month, he said the government had tapped fewer than 100 Americans' phones and e-mails under the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act, which requires warrants from a secret intelligence court.

McConnell is seeking additional changes to the law, which Congress hastily modified just before going on vacation in August based in part on the intelligence chief's warnings of a dire gap in U.S. intelligence.

The new law eased some of the restrictions on government eavesdropping contained in the 1978 Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act, to let the government more efficiently intercept foreign communications.

Under the new law, the government can eavesdrop without a court order, on communications conducted by a person reasonably believed to be outside the United States, even if an American is on one end of the conversation — so long as American is not the intended focus or target of the surveillance.

Before McConnell can convince Congress to make the Protect America Act permanent, he says he needs to agree to even more changes easing the provisions of FISA — he first has to allay concerns that the law passed so hastily earlier this year does not subject Americans to unwarranted government surveillance.

"The right to privacy is too important to be sacrificed in a last-minute rush before a congressional recess, which is what happened," said Rep. John Conyers, D-Mich., the panel's chairman.

Democrats worry that the law could be interpreted to open business records, library files, personal mail, and homes to searchers by intelligence and law enforcement officers without a court order.

Assistant Attorney General Kenneth L. Wainstein said the new surveillance powers granted by the Protect America Act apply only when the assistance of a communications company is needed to conduct surveillance.

"Anytime you put in limiting language, you've got to make sure it doesn't have unintended limiting consequences," Wainstein Assistant Attorney General said.

Many Democrats in Congress are now seeking to narrow what they consider to be overly broad language by repealing the law. Wainstein warned that inserting specific prohibitions on government surveillance to protect civil liberties could have unintended consequences.

"Anytime you put in limiting language, you've got to make sure it doesn't have unintended limiting consequences," Wainstein said.

McConnell said that as long as his office can examine every word of the new language to scrutinize it for unintended consequences, he would be open to the changes.

However, Bush administration officials say concern about the new powers is unfounded. They contend the Protect America Act only allows the government to target foreigners for surveillance without a warrant, a change that was needed because of changes in communications technology.

Addressing the controversy over the law, the Justice Department and the White House Tuesday issued a "myth and facts" paper meant to ease the concerns of civil liberties advocates and privacy groups that believe it gives the government broader powers than intended.

Rep. Jerrold Nadler, D-N.Y., chairman of the subcommittee on the Constitution, Civil Rights and Civil Liberties, called the effort a troubling "charm offensive."

"Let's have some truth in advertising. The act gives the president almost unfettered power to spy without judicial approval — not only on foreigners but on Americans," Nadler said.

McConnell said the new eavesdropping powers are needed not just to spy on terrorists but also to defend against more traditional potential adversaries.

FRANK P. MAGGIO AND JIM HARPER
(son of legend Jesse Harper)
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 22
11:30AM - 1:30PM
Hammes Notre Dame Bookstore

Between 1880 and 1905, more than 325 deaths were reported in college football, and several major football schools, including Princeton, Harvard, Columbia, and Penn, threatened to drop the sport.

Enter Jesse Harper, head football coach at Notre Dame. Harper recognized the potential of the forward pass, and, by the summer of 1913, along with star players Knute Rockne and Gus Dorais, had perfected an efficient and winning form of the sport.

Frank P. Maggio brings the classic victory to life and recounts Jesse Harper's role in Notre Dame's evolution into college football's most successful and storied program, and an elite university.

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**Notre Dame and the Game That Changed Football**

*By Frank P. Maggio & Jim Harper*

*With foreword by Knute Rockne*
War disability claims create problems for VA
Sec'y Nicholson steps down, admits difficulties

Associated Press
WASHINGTON — Outgoing VA Secretary Jim Nicholson acknowledged Tuesday that he's struggling to reduce backlogs in disability claims from Iraq war veterans, saying current efforts won't be enough to cut down wait times that take months.

Addressing Congress for a final time before stepping down Oct. 1, Nicholson also pointed to persistent problems between the Pentagon and Department of Veterans Affairs in coordinating care for veterans and urged Congress to embrace proposals by a presidential commission to fix gaps.

"They have some very good ideas in there," he said.

Nicholson's testimony to a House Veterans Affairs Committee painted a mixed picture of a VA that has initiated measures to boost mental health and other care but has struggled to keep up with growing demands due to a prolonged Iraq war.

Nicholson, who took office in early 2005, said the department has hired 1,100 new processors to reduce delays of up to 177 days in processing disability payments. But he predicted another rise in compensation and pension claims this year, citing the additional applications pouring in during "the midst of war."

The increase, he said, is coming from Iraq war veterans as well as veterans from previous conflicts who were prompted to file additional claims for new or additional benefits amid the current public focus on war-related injuries in Iraq.

Even with new staff, the VA can only hope to reduce delays to about 145-150 days — assuming that the current level of claims doesn't spike even higher.

"The claims backlog is an issue that has bedeviled me and many that have come before me," Nicholson said. "In fact, VA can influence the output — claims decided — of its work product, but it cannot control the input — claims filed."

Nicholson abruptly announced in July that he was resigning. His appearance Tuesday comes amid intense political and public scrutiny following reports of substantial oversignature treatment at the Pentagon-run Walter Reed Army Medical Center and at VA facilities.

The Observer
WASHINGTON — The ACLU and Muslim advocacy groups sued the FBI and the Justice Department on Tuesday, alleging that authorities failed to turn over records detailing suspected surveillance of the Muslim-American community.

The complaint, filed in U.S. District Court in Santa Ana, alleges that the FBI has turned over only four pages of documents to community leaders, despite a Freedom of Information Act request filed more than a year ago.

The request sought records that described FBI guidelines and policies for surveillance and investigation of Muslim religious organizations, as well as specific information about FBI inquiries targeting 11 groups or people.

The lawsuit states that all the plaintiffs — who include some of the most prominent Muslim leaders in California — have reason to believe they have been investigated by the FBI since January 2001.

"It sends a message that Muslim-Americans have been, and continue to be, cooperating on their religious practices," said Ranjana Eimiller, an ACLU attorney.

One plaintiff, Shakeel Syed, said that his organization and others have spent three years building a relationship with the FBI but that the agency's response to the request was troubling.

"I think it is in the best interests of the government to come clean and be transparent and forthright," said Syed, executive director of the Islamic Shura Council of Southern California. "This is a credibility issue."

FBI spokesman Laura Eimiller said she could not comment on pending litigation but released a statement from J. Stephen Tidwell, the FBI's assistant director in charge for Los Angeles.

"The FBI does not investigate individuals or groups based on their lawful activities, religious or political beliefs," Tidwell said.

"The FBI does not investigate individuals or groups based on their lawful activities, religious or political beliefs," Tidwell said. "If we are interested in the activities of an individual or a group, we do so on the basis of specific, articulable, and objective facts and circumstances."
Austria

American leadership called for in U.N. treaty

U.S., 9 others have yet to ratify nuclear testing ban

Associated Press

VIENNA — Diplomats at a U.N. conference urged the United States on Tuesday to take the lead among 10 countries that have yet to ratify a global treaty banning nuclear test explosions.

U.N. Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon has urged all 10 countries to ratify the deal, saying it would ensure that North Korea's October 2006 test blast is the world's final experiment with atomic weaponry.

Although 140 countries have ratified the treaty, the accord will not enter into force until it has been ratified by all 44 nations that took part in a 1996 disarmament conference and have nuclear power or research reactors.

Only 34 of the 44 have done so. The 10 holdouts are China, Colombia, Egypt, India, Indonesia, Iran, Israel, North Korea, Pakistan and the United States.

The foreign ministers of Austria and Costa Rica, who led a two-day conference on the treaty in Vienna, said the pact was key to ridding the world of nuclear weaponry and called for U.S. leadership in sealing the deal.

"The message from here in a way is, yes, we want U.S. leadership," Austrian Foreign Minister Ursula Plassnik told a news conference.

The Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty, opened for signature in September 1996, bans all nuclear test explosions. Its aim is to eliminate nuclear weapons by constraining the development of new types of bomb.

U.S. senators who voted against the treaty in 1999 argued that ratifying it would have threatened national security by closing off U.S. options to test. The Bush administration also rejects the treaty.

Ban, in a message relayed through an envoy, called the treaty "a major instrument in the field of disarmament and nonproliferation" that would help rid the world of nuclear weaponry.

The conference was attended by more than 100 countries, including seven of the 10 holdout countries. India, the United States and North Korea were not present.

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Representatives from Sankaty Advisors will be visiting campus throughout the year, speaking with undergraduate students about internships and full-time positions that will put your education to work on global, multi-million dollar investment decisions.

Please look for us on campus in the coming months to learn more about the great opportunities we offer in Boston and London.

Info Session:
Thursday, September 20th
Reckers/South Dining Hall (Hospitality Room), 6:30pm

Resume Deadline:
Tuesday, September 25th

1st Round Interviews:
Friday, October 5th

For more information, visit us at www.sankaty.com.
Remember the Constitution

"The Constitution: It’s not just a good idea. It’s the Law." - Michael Badnarik

Zach Einterz

Bulletproof Ideas

Monday was Constitution Day.

Constitution Day was created in 2004 when a law was passed mandating any school receiving federal funds to teach about the Constitution on or around Sept. 17, the anniversary of its ratification. If you had no idea that Constitution Day was Monday, you’re not alone. A survey released Monday by the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation revealed less than 50 percent of high school students have heard of Constitution Day and only 10 percent remember how it was celebrated last year in their high school. This comes at a time when the need to educate Americans on the founding document of this country seems even more pressing. Consider some of these statistics from the 2007 "State of the First Amendment" survey:

When asked which rights were guar­anteed by the First Amendment, only 16 percent of Americans could name the freedoms of press and assembly. Only three percent could name the right to petition.

28 percent of Americans believe free­dom of religion was never meant to apply to religious groups that the majority of people felt were extreme or on the fringe.

65 percent agree that the “nation’s founders intended the U.S. to be a Christian nation,” and 55 percent believe “The Constitution establishes a Christian nation.”

60 percent believe you should be allowed to say things in public that might be offensive to religious groups, but only 41 percent believe you can say offensive things about racial groups.

34 percent of Americans believe the press has too much freedom, while only 13 percent say there is not enough freedom of the press.

42 percent disagreed that musicians should be allowed to sing songs with lyrics others might find offensive.

Perhaps the most disturbing fact came from the “Future of the First Amendment” survey of 2007. It reported that only 67 percent of high school students agree with the statement: "Newspapers should be allowed to publish freely without government approval of a story."

If these are our attitudes toward the First Amendment, the most well-known and publicized part of our Constitution, imagine what our attitudes might be for the rest of the document. How many Americans can name all, or even half, of the 10 Amendments in the Bill of Rights? How many understand the balance of powers and know which powers are delegated to each branch of government? American citizens are not expected to be experts in Constitutional law or political science majors, but a basic knowledge of the Constitution and an understanding of its purpose are necessary for the protection of our Republic.

The Constitution was written to restrain the power of the government. With the memory of an oppressive king fresh in their minds, the framers of the Constitution wrote up a document that prescribed limits to the federal government. If we are ignorant of the limitations placed on government, how can we defend our rights? When we lose respect for the Constitution and the rule of law, we concede authority to the government to act on its own voli­tion.

We have seen over the past several years the abuse of our Constitution by the very people who swear to uphold it. Military commanders approve the use of torture. Politicians from the legisla­tive and executive branches support everything from warrentless wiretapping to the suspension of habeas corpus to the centralization of power at the federal level. Politicians abuse the Constitution because they can get away with it. Americans voters have become too ignorant and too complacent, and too often we don’t hold them account­able.

The Constitution turned 220 years old Monday, but its mandates remain time­less. Freedom from unreasonable searches and seizures is just as important now as it was in 1787. Authoritarians will make the argument that the Constitution is anarchistic, or as President Bush infamously declared in 2005, “Shoving the Constitution in my face. It’s just a piece of paper.” If we don’t educate ourselves about the Constitution and demand that our elected leaders follow it, it will become just that — a meaningless piece of paper.

Zach Einterz is a junior majoring in economics and environmental sciences. He has turned to politics after giving up on an unsuccessful sports career. Contact him at zeinterz@nd.edu to get your opinions expressed on The Observer.

Wednesday, September 19, 2007

Submit a Letter to the Editor at www.ndsmcobserver.com

Observer Poll

Vote by Thursday at 5 p.m. at www.nddsobserver.com

QUOTE OF THE DAY

"Don’t compromise yourself. You’re all you’ve got." - Janis Joplin

American singer and songwriter
Recruiters incompatible with Notre Dame mission

As concerned students of this University, we write regarding this year's launch of the Notre Dame Peace Fellowship, an activity sponsored by the Career Center and the Mendoza College of Business. Having read over the list of participating organizations, we were very much alarmed at the presence of a number of the organizations that we oppose. We question the moral and social responsibility of two organizations in particular. We feel that the inclusion of the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) and Raytheon directly contradicts the mission of our University.

After a discussion of the situation, the intent of the University is "to create a sense of human solidarity and concern for the common good that will bear fruit as learning becomes service to justice." Instead of fostering a sense of human solidarity and concern for the common good that will bear fruit as learning becomes service to justice, these organizations are founded on the propagation of a society that creates and sustains injustice and conflict.

The CIA is described by the American Bar Association's Center for Human Rights as "the most misused tools in America". The CIA is strongly and repeatedly condemned as "unjust by secular and religious leaders around the world". Raytheon is described by the Center for International Development at Harvard University as "a company that has a highly negative record in violent land occupations". The CIA and Raytheon target and eliminate innocent people, and our University's funds support the same agenda.

We believe that Notre Dame's mission statement, heeded with not only the rising costs of health care and the issue of health care reform, candidates of both parties are running on health care plans with the federal government as a guarantor of medical insurance. Surprisingly, in a survey conducted by Time Magazine, 90 percent of Americans believe that the government should guarantee medical insurance. With such a large backing, it might seem that the spread of such a program may be imminent; however, the reasons behind this program are not as simple as the original column in The Observer suggests.

When asked if the government should guarantee medical insurance, support falls to 48 percent. It is not a secret that the cost of starting, maintaining, and operating a universal health care plan is phenomenal. John Edwards, the first Democrat to outline a health care plan would cost up to 120 billion dollars a year. He believes that this cost could be covered by simply undoing the Bush tax cuts, a move that could dampen economic growth.

Universal health care reforms are needed in America, corporations and citizens, we risk becoming less competitive with foreign firms. Health care reform is needed in America, but not at the price of American jobs and national security.

One solution is to provide working Americans with tax breaks if they purchase their own insurance. The most realistic approach is some sort of hybrid system that allows for personal choice and responsibility, but is subsidized by the government. It is unacceptable for almost 50 million people in the wealthiest country in the world to be without the means to receive non-emergency medical treatment. However, universal health care, as being discussed today, is not a feasible option. If the money required to pay for universal health care comes from raising taxes on corporations and citizens, we risk becoming less competitive with foreign firms. Health care reform is needed in America, but not at the price of American jobs and national security.

This column originally appeared in the Sept. 18 edition of The Pitt News, the daily publication of the University of Pittsburgh. The views expressed in this column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer.
After becoming the face of rap music with his smash single "In Da Club" in 2003, has the bullet-ridden rapper lost his hip-hop touch?

The bulletproof 50 Cent returns with "Curtis," the artist's second album after his breakthrough smash "Get Rich or Die Tryin,'" which was released in 2003. In the next group of songs, which includes "Ayo Technology," "Amusement Park," "Straight To The Bank," and "Follow My Lead," one of the album's better collaborations with R & B crooner Robin Thicke. The next track up is the obligatory diss record "Fully Loaded Clip," which is pretty standard musical fare if you are familiar with 50 Cent's catalogue of material.

The weirdness of the Eminem-assisted "Peep Show" doesn't do much to add to the album, and starts the rest of the songs on a slow downward spiral until "Curtis" comes to a close.

During the two years which passed in between "Curtis" and "The Massacre," 50 Cent did absolutely nothing to try to reinvent the wheel. In other words, all of the tracks sound as if you've heard them before — even though you haven't. While there are some pretty good songs on this album, wonder whether his newfound fortune shilling Vitamin Water has taken away some of the hunger and angst that once filled the heart and tracks of the original mixtape superstar. Believe it or not, "Curtis" is actually a self-titled album ("Fitty's" real name is Curtis Jackson). The egomaniacal 50 Cent could not rap again another day in his life and still be financially stable forever, but does he have to make it so obvious during this hour-long bragging and boasting extravaganza? It might be time for him to get his resume ready, because it doesn't look like he has much of a future in this line of work much longer.

Contact Corbin Hicks at chicks2@nd.edu

By CORBIN HICKS

50 Cent is the epitome of what is wrong with rap music nowadays. But we still love him anyway.

The controversial 50 Cent has courted criticism from the news media throughout the country due to his profane lyrics and espousal of violence.
West is Best: Kanye Returns to Stardom

By CORBIN HICKS
Staff Writer

If Kanye West keeps putting out albums of this caliber, Beethoven should watch his back.

Kanye West's latest album "Graduation" is nothing short of spectacular, which is what you would expect from the man who has contributed some of the best music of this decade. From producing hits for Jay-Z, Common, Ludacris, John Legend, Alicia Keys, and just about every other hip hop act out, Kanye found the time to become an accomplished lyricist and songwriter of his own.

From the Grammy-winning "Jesus Walks" on his first album, high profile collaboration with the in the intro track "Good Life," Kanye intended to follow up this album with the final installment titled "Good Ass Job." One has to ask how that is going to fly in a media world after Janet Jackson wardrobe malfunction, but you have to applaud him for being able to see the bigger picture and try to put together a cohesive group of work that is meant to withstand the test of time. Just the fact that he is recording as if he were making a box set means that he is not simply trying to cash in on the relative fortunes to be made from the music industry. This passion for music and seemingly perfectionist attitude is what makes his music that much different, for the better or for the worse.

Fortunately for music fans everywhere, these gambles are pretty much all for the better. The album begins with the introductory track "Good Morning," in which he compares himself to a "fly Malcolm X" as the instrumental prepares you for the musical journey you are about to undergo. The energy shifts from the mellowness of the first track to the high energy "Champion" and the second single from the album "Stronger." This song is perhaps the one that people are most familiar with, as the Duff-Punk-sampled chorus and electronic beats make for a musical experience that is for sure a party mix mainstay until the New Year. We all know Club Fever plays "old" new music, so if they have your stuff on rotation now, then you're for sure got a hit on your hands.

The album continues on the musical high note with "I Wonder," and the singles "Good Life" and "Can't Tell Me Nothing." The fact installations in Kanye's concept album plan. Continuing on the school theme from his previous works, "The College Dropout" and "Late Registration," Kanye intends to follow up this album with the final installment titled "Graduation." That is, of course, if you forget that "Drunk and Hot Girls" of the album. That is, of course, if you forget that "Drunk and Hot Girls" are recorded by the same artist speaks volumes about not only Kanye's creativity as an artist, but also the freedom that fans allow him to have when they receive new material from him. There is nothing out right now that sounds like that song, but to have it be so well received explains how much fans trust him for new music and also how he is looking to sonically conquer new frontiers.

The album seems to flow perfectly from one song to the next until the end of the album. That is, of course, if you forget that "Drunk and Hot Girls" exists (which you should anyway). Even though this album peaks from beginning to end, the induction of this god-awful song takes the rating down a full notch. However, don't let that turn you away from this masterpiece of an album that Kanye has released. To answer Nas, hip hop is not dead; it was just waiting for Kanye to get his money right.

Contact Corbin Hicks at chiches2@nd.edu

Graduation
Kanye West

Released by: Fearless Records
Recommended Tracks: "I Wonder," "The Good Life" and "Can't Tell Me Nothing"

With his feel-good party jams and penchant for eccentricity, Kanye West has cast himself as a foil to harder, edgier rap personas such as 50 Cent. 

Recommended Tracks: "I Wonder," "The Good Life" and "Can't Tell Me Nothing"

The fashionable West has found himself best suited to making hip-hop hits.
By CASSIE BELEK
Assistant News Editor

After its initial mediocre episodes, "30 Rock" found its footing and kept building throughout its entire first season. The result was not only the most improved comedy from its pilot, but also one of the funniest sitcoms this season. Too bad people don't watch it. However, "30 Rock Season 1," now on DVD, stands out as a shining example of outstanding comedy.

A few people predicted that by the end of the 2006-2007 television season "Studio 60 on the Sunset Strip" would die and "30 Rock" would live. After all, "Studio 60" marked the much heralded return of former SNL cast member Will Arnett, and brought in unbalanced comedian Tracy Jordan (Tracy Morgan) to grab the male 18-49 demographic, changing the show's name to "TGS with Tracy Jordan." A frustrated Liz is assisted by "TGS" producer Pete Hornberger (Scott Adsit), writers Frank (Judah Friedlander) and Toufee (Keith Powell), and the perpetually happy show Biz-knowing Kenneth the Page (Jack McBrayer).

Liz must face a whole mess of weekly obstacles. Most crises are "TGS"-related, like when Liz must deal with an overly psychotic Tracy before he appears on "Late Night with Conan O'Brien," but many of her problems delve into her personal life as well. In one episode she accidentally steals the makeup artist's baby when she feels her biological clock ticking. In another she has to find the courage and the time to break up with her loser boyfriend Dennis (Dean Winters), one of the only remaining beeper salesmen in New York.

What makes "30 Rock" particularly unique is its use of "Saturday Night Live" alumni Chris Parnell and Rachel Dratch. Parnell frequently appears on the show as Dr. Leo Spacecan (pronounced Space-chman), the go-to doctor for every illness or emergency imaginable. Dratch, who was originally slated to star as best friend Jenna before the character changed, appears as a variety of different characters including cat wrangler Greta Johansson, the Blue Duke and Russian prostitute Vlem. We even get to see her do her "SNL" Barbara Walters impression just like we get to see Tracy Morgan's Oprah and Star Jones impressions one more time. The only downside to the season one DVD set is the incredibly disappointing extras. The behind-the-scenes features appear to be thought out and filmed at the last minute. Even the episode commentaries are disappointing. It's a delight to listen to Fey's and McBrayer's commentaries, but the DVD set could have benefited from more actors doing commentary together. Lorne Michaels and his son do a commentary, but by the end a person wonders if they even know what a DVD commentary is.

Even the disappointing extras cannot undermine the hilarity and sophistication of "30 Rock." It employs the same self-referential humor that "Arrested Development" mastered and like " Arrested," it sticks strictly to comedy and doesn't dabble in the dramatic.

The guest stars are impeccable as well. Highlights include Will Arnett, Paul Reubens, Isabella Rossellini and Elaine Stritch, who won this year's Emmy for Outstanding Guest Actress in a Comedy Series for her role as Jack's mother.

After its win for Outstanding Comedy Series at Sunday's Emmy Awards, "30 Rock" needs to worry about attracting an audience or else it will suffer the same tragic fate as "Arrested Development." Fans of "The Office" will certainly appreciate the comedy of "30 Rock," but America has yet to respond to Baldwin, Fey and company.

If its first season is any indication of the future, then "30 Rock" will continue to be one of the best comedies on television. People just need to watch the show.

Contact Cassie Belek at cbelek@nd.edu
## Around the Dial

**Wednesday, September 19, 2007**

### NFL

#### AFC East

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## In Brief

**Gibbons meets with league officials in steroid probe**

NEW YORK — Baltimore outfielder Jay Gibbons met with two officials from the baseball commissioner's office to discuss a report he received performance-enhancing steroids and human growth hormone after both substances were banned by baseball.

Gibbons met Monday with Rob Manfred, baseball's executive vice president for labor relations, and Jonny Gomes, the sport's director of drug testing.

There was no indication whether there would be any follow-up, a person familiar with the meeting said, speaking on condition of anonymity because no details were announced.

"I met with Major League Baseball representatives yesterday and was happy to answer all of their questions," Gibbons was quoted as saying.

**NFL pushes for authority on disability claims**

WASHINGTON — Under fire from injured retirees who say they were denied sufficient benefits, the head of the National Football League Players Association asked Congress on Tuesday for greater authority to approve disability claims.

Gene Upshaw, director of the players association, said the union is now limited in what it can do for the scores of former players who are battered and broken from years of playing the violent sport. At the same time, Upshaw and NFL Commissioner Roger Goodell said league pensions are improving.

"We have made great progress, and we are not finished," Upshaw told a Senate committee. "Congress can help." It is the first time the union has asked Congress for help with the problem, which was the subject of a House hearing earlier this year.

**QB Leftwich signs deal with Atlanta Falcons**

FLOWER BRANCH — The Atlanta Falcons signed former Jacksonville quarterback Byron Leftwich on Tuesday, giving the team immediate depth and a potential contender for the starting job.

"First of all, I'm a football player and the last couple of weeks have been tough on me," said Leftwich, who was cut the week before the season by the Jaguars. "I appreciate the opportunity and I look forward to doing whatever I can to help our team." Leftwich's agent, Tom Condon, said the former first-round pick passed a physical, worked out for the team and signed a two-year, $7 million deal. The 27-year-old Leftwich is set to join the Falcons for Wednesday's practice.

**Former Bear Johnson signs with 'Boys**

Associated Press

IRVING — Suspended defensive tackle Tank Johnson signed a two-year contract Tuesday with the Dallas Cowboys.

Johnson, who played the last three seasons for the Chicago Bears, can't play for the Cowboys and won't be paid until he completes his eight-game NFL suspension for violating probation on a gun charge. He has still have to apply for reinstatement.

Johnson signed after visiting with Dallas coaches, saying in a statement he was making a wise decision in believing in him.

"I met with Major League Baseball, and I have a feeling they will discuss the signing in a conference call Wednesday," Johnson said, speaking on condition of anonymity because no details were announced.

Johnson's agent, Jerrold Aiello said the earliest he could to help our team."
Unusual offense leads Angels to 10-7 victory

Rocksitch pitcher Francis keeps playoff hopes alive; Royals’ Meche holds White Sox to only four hits and two runs

Associated Press

ANAHEIM — The Los Angeles Angels’ versatile offense overcame another shifty outing by Kelvim Escobar.

Chaz Chappell and Casey Kotchman each had three hits and two RBIs, and the Angels lowered their magic number for clinching the AL West to 6 by overwhelming the Tampa Bay Devil Rays on Monday night.

This was the 17th time the Angels have scored 10 or more runs, and the 11th time in their last 50 games. And they did it without the benefit of a home run.

“Our team is not a home run-hitting team and our park’s not built for that,” Higgins said. “We’ve got guys who can run. And when you’ve got athletes, you can do a lot more things.”

Haurston Oliver (3-0) allowed two hits in 1 2-3 scoreless innings for the Angels, who had 18 hits. Los Angeles overcame deficits of 2-0 and 4-3 and also wasted leads of 3-2 and 6-4.

Escobar gave up six runs, eight hits and two walks in four-plus innings, the fourth straight start in which he failed to pitch through the sixth. One of the runs against him was a straight steal of home by B.J. Upton in the third.

The Angels right-hander has a 10.19 ERA during his last four outings, raising his overall ERA from 2.77 to 3.46.

“It’s been tough on me, my last four games,” Escobar said. “For some reason, I’m out of sync and I’m fighting with myself to get back into my rhythm. I just have to find a way to fix it in my stride, and finish strong.”

Escobar left with a 6-4 lead after Tampa Bay loaded the bases with none out in the fifth, and Oliver relieved. Akinori Iwamura scored on second as Oliver’s wild throw to first was past Jeff Francoeur.

Ed Jackson (4-15) lost his third straight decision, allowing seven runs — four earned — and 14 hits over 4 2-3 innings.

Figgins chased the right-hander with a tiebreaking, two-out RBI triple over the head of Upton, who was playing shallow. The ball landed shallow in center, and appeared to have trouble kicking the ball off the bat.

“Most defenses are taking away most of Piggy’s stuff in front, because that’s really where he predominantly hits,” Rays manager Joe Maddon said. “Once in a while, he’s got that power. That ball was squared up.”

Rockets 3, Dodgers 1

Accolades can wait for Jeff Francis.

The Colorado left-hander rebounded from a rare bad outing to lead the Rockies past the Los Angeles Dodgers in the first game of a double-header Tuesday.

So centered on keeping the Rockies’ slim playoff hopes alive, Francis didn’t realize until afterward that he’d struck out a career-high 10 batters or that he had set a franchise record for strikeouts in a seven-inning game.


“When the season is over you can look back at things like that and be proud of them,” Francis said. “But I think there’s something bigger we’re working toward right now.”

The teams played a split doubleheader to make up for a rainout on July 27 at Coors Field, and both teams looked at it as a crucial game of catching San Diego in the NL wild-card chase. The Dodgers began the day three games behind the Padres and Colorado started five games back.

Francis allowed one run on six hits, striking out eight runners in 6 2-3 innings. His 10 strikeouts were the most by a Rockies pitcher since Jerson Jennings fanned 10 Giants on Aug. 28, 2003, a span of 661 games.

Great time to pitch a great game,” Rockies manager Clint Hurdle said. “Very resilient, pitched through a lot of traffic early, left seven men on base in the first four innings, topped it off with 10 strikeouts. Nice bounce-back outing.”

Royals 3, White Sox 2

Gil Meche picked up his ninth victory Tuesday night, but he could have a whole lot more if he got any run support this season.

Meche scattered four hits over seven innings, and Billy Butler drove in two runs as the Kansas City Royals beat the Chicago White Sox.

Meche 0-12 has a 2.90 ERA over his past eight starts, and has not allowed more than three runs in any of them. But he is just 2-3 over that stretch, and the Royals have scored only 10 runs while he was on the mound in his 12 defeats.

“I think you could conserva-

tively say he could have won 16 to 17 games the way he’s pitched,” Royals manager Buddy Bell said. “We got three runs in the first and that’s all we

needed. I felt like we were on the edge all night and kind of held on.”

The right-hander, who the Royals signed to a five-year, $55 million contract during the offseason, has worked 202 innings to become the first Kansas City pitcher to surpass the 200-inning mark since left-hander Darrell May logged 210 innings in 2003.

“It’s something I’ve never done,” Meche said. “To come in here with a big contract and establish myself as a good pitcher who picks up a lot of innings and give us a chance to win, for the most part I’ve done that all year. I’ve been real pleased.”

Meche gave up two runs, one earned, while striking out five and walking two.

“We get three runs off the bat and it let me go out there and relax a little,” Meche said. “It seemed like I got better as the game went along. In the seventh inning, I had the best stuff! I had the whole game.”

The Observer accepts classifieds every business day from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Notre Dame office, 624 South Dining Hall. Deadlines are for next day classifieds is in 3 p.m. All classifieds must be prepaid. The charge is $3 per word per day, including all space. The Observer reserves the right to edit all classifieds for content without considering

MLB

Rockies first baseman Matt Holiday reacts after he struck out looking against Dodgers pitcher Chad Billingsley.

Devil Rays third baseman Akinori Iwamura tags out Angels’ Casey Kotchman during a rundown after a pickoff attempt.
Brewers move into first place in NL Central

Vargas relieves Sheets, pitches four scoreless innings; Estrada hits his second grand slam of season

Associated Press

Wednesday, September 19, 2007

The Observer

Wednesday. His status was going to get into a nice groove.’

The Brewers didn’t need Sheets against the Astros — Vargas and three relievers held them without a hit over the final seven innings to win their third straight game.

‘The grand slam was big,’ Estrada said. ‘But Claudia sucking up those innings was bigger. That was a huge effort by the bullpen.’

Ryan Braun added a two-run homer and Prince Fielder stroked his hitting streak to 16 games with an RBI single for the Brewers, who have won four of their last six.

‘I was telling the guys a few days ago, whoever put together a good seven-game win streak is probably going to pull away and win this thing,’ Estrada said. ‘Hopefully, we can keep it going.’

Estrada’s second career slam capped a five-run fourth inning off rookie Felipe Paulino (0-1), who was making his first major league start. The 23-year-old right-hander was recalled from the minors on Sept. 4.

‘There was an excitement in the ballpark,’ said Houston manager Cecil Cooper. ‘But they put five up in that inning and that kind of took the fans out of it.’

By then, Vargas was cruising. He allowed singles to Mark Loretta and Brad Ausmus in the second, a walk to Lance Berkman in the third and retired the other 12 hitters he faced.

‘I’ve pitched out of the bullpen before,’ Vargas said. ‘I just take the ball, try to get loose and try to make my pitches. That’s what I did.’

Houston took 1-0 lead in the first inning before Sheets departed.

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Houston took 1-0 lead in the first inning before Sheets departed.
Associated Press

INDIANAPOLIS — Purdue running back Jaycen Taylor could return in six weeks after he broke his left arm Saturday against Central Michigan, coach Joe Tiller said Tuesday.

Tiller originally thought Taylor might be out for the season, but he found out that the fact the injury was a clean break changed the prognosis.

"He possibly could come back sooner, maybe in six weeks," Tiller said during a weekly teleconference. "Whether or not that comes to fruition, of course, remains to be seen."

The junior left Saturday's game after a 5-yard run late in the first quarter, and later found out that he broke both bones in his lower arm. He had successful surgery on Monday, and plates were put on both bones.

"To me, any break is not a good deal, but apparently, this was the least we could have hoped for, and that Jaycen could have hoped for, coming out of this," Tiller said.

Tiller said he expects Taylor to say he's ready before six weeks pass.

"He probably will," Tiller said. "I don't know if we can believe him, but I'll be surprised if he doesn't."

Taylor, a junior college transfer, entered last season expecting to have to work his way into the rotation because starter Kory Sheets ran for 571 yards and 10 touchdowns as a freshman. Instead, Taylor finished with 677 rushing yards and four touchdowns and played regularly as Sheets' backup. Tiller promoted Taylor to starter in the spring.

Taylor rushed for 197 yards on 28 carries this season before the injury.

"I'm concerned quite a bit about the running back position," Tiller said. "I think the loss of Taylor was pretty big."

Sheets, who will resume his starting role, had career highs of 21 carries and 144 yards against Central Michigan, but fumbled twice. The junior has rushed for 1,622 yards and 24 touchdowns at Purdue.

Dan Dierking steps in at the No. 2 running back spot. His father, Scott, ran for 2,863 yards from 1973 to 1976. Tiller thinks some of that talent rubbed off.

"I think he's a fast learner," Tiller said. "He's been coached well, certainly by his high school coaches, and maybe by his dad."

Quarterback Curtis Painter believes Dierking will succeed in his expanded role.

"I think he's very similar to Kory and Jaycen in that he plays extremely hard," Painter said. "He picked up a couple blocks in this past game. That's always a good sign, that they're not so worried about not getting the ball that they won't block."

**Purdue quarterback Taylor breaks left arm**

Associated Press

CHAMPAIGN, Ill. — Ron Zook says he won't use the fact that Illinois hasn't beaten Indiana in his two-plus seasons in Champaign as a motivator for Saturday's game between the two teams.

"Not his style, Zook says."

But don't believe that the Illini's 0-2 record since 2005 against their western neighbor is far from Zook's thoughts.

"Like I told our team last night, this is the third time we're gonna play and we haven't won yet," Zook said during his regular Tuesday news conference.

"Our programs are very, very similar. We're both kind of improving at the same rate. The thing that they've done is they've beaten us twice," he said.

If the Illini's back-to-back losses against Indiana don't give Saturday's game in Bloomington extra significance for Zook, those similarities might.

Illinois enters the game at 3-0, with talented sophomore quarterback Kellen Lewis leading an offense that's averaging 478 yards a game. Illinois is 2-1, and has consecutive wins for the first time since Zook's first two games in 2005 and comes off its first loss this season against Syracuse on the road.

The winner opens Big Ten play this weekend in a non-conference game against Eastern Illinois.

Linebacker Brit Miller compared Lewis to Illini quarterback B.J. Skuterud. Both can run the ball, and are sometimes more dangerous when a play breaks down than when sticking to the playbook. Miller said: "He's a quick thinker, and he's a quick thinker who can make a lot of big plays -""""I don't know if we can believe him, but I'll be surprised if he doesn't."

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Zook hopes to defeat Indiana on home turf

Associated Press

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"Our programs are very, very similar. We're both kind of improving at the same rate. The thing that they've done is they've beaten us twice," he said.

If the Illini's back-to-back losses against Indiana don't give Saturday's game in Bloomington extra significance for Zook, those similarities might.

Illinois enters the game at 3-0, with talented sophomore quarterback Kellen Lewis leading an offense that's averaging 478 yards a game. Illinois is 2-1, and has consecutive wins for the first time since Zook's first two games in 2005 and comes off its first loss this season against Syracuse on the road.

The winner opens Big Ten play this weekend in a non-conference game against Eastern Illinois.

Linebacker Brit Miller compared Lewis to Illini quarterback B.J. Skuterud. Both can run the ball, and are sometimes more dangerous when a play breaks down than when sticking to the playbook. Miller said: "He's a quick thinker, and he's a quick thinker who can make a lot of big plays -""""I don't know if we can believe him, but I'll be surprised if he doesn't."

Taylor, a junior college transfer, entered last season expecting to have to work his way into the rotation because starter Kory Sheets ran for 571 yards and 10 touchdowns as a freshman. Instead, Taylor finished with 677 rushing yards and four touchdowns and played regularly as Sheets' backup. Tiller promoted Taylor to starter in the spring.

Taylor rushed for 197 yards on 28 carries this season before the injury.

"I'm concerned quite a bit about the running back position," Tiller said. "I think the loss of Taylor was pretty big."

Sheets, who will resume his starting role, had career highs of 21 carries and 144 yards against Central Michigan, but fumbled twice. The junior has rushed for 1,622 yards and 24 touchdowns at Purdue.

Dan Dierking steps in at the No. 2 running back spot. His father, Scott, ran for 2,863 yards from 1973 to 1976. Tiller thinks some of that talent rubbed off.

"I think he's a fast learner," Tiller said. "He's been coached well, certainly by his high school coaches, and maybe by his dad."

Quarterback Curtis Painter believes Dierking will succeed in his expanded role.

"I think he's very similar to Kory and Jaycen in that he plays extremely hard," Painter said. "He picked up a couple blocks in this past game. That's always a good sign, that they're not so worried about not getting the ball that they won't block."
U.S. defeats Nigeria in World Cup quarterfinals

Chalupny scores sole goal within first minute of play; the favored squad looks for its third championship title

Associated Press

SHANGHAI — Lori Chalupny gave the United States the fast start it was looking for in a 1-0 victory over Nigeria on Tuesday, a win that put the top-ranked Americans into the Women’s World Cup quarterfinals.

Chalupny’s goal after only 55 seconds set up a quarterfinal match against England on Saturday in the northern city of Tianjin. The Americans have won six of nine games against England (with two losses and a tie). The last game was a 1-1 draw eight months ago.

Sweden defeated North Korea 2-1 on Tuesday in Tianjin. Despite the loss, North Korea advances to a quarterfinal against defending champion Germany on Saturday in Wuhan.

Looking for its third title to go with World Cups in ’91 and ’99, the United States finished with seven points in Group B, considered the toughest in the tournament.

The wet field and driving rain slowed many attacks and kept the crowd down to several thousand in the 34,000-seat stadium. Nigeria had only one shot in the first half; the Americans had a half dozen.

Wambach headed the ball just over the bar in the 20th minute and Kristine Lilly’s free kick from 18 yards sailed just high in the 25th. Dede also leaped to stop a header in the 36th. In the 41st, Lilly found Chalupny in the box, but she headed the ball just wide.

In the 43rd, Wambach’s close-in header was deflected just over the bar by Dede following Lilly’s cross.

U.S. forward Abby Wambach, left, and Nigeria’s Christie George fight for the ball during their Group B match of the 2007 FIFA World Cup soccer tournament Tuesday.

LONDON PROGRAM

APPLICATION MEETING

FOR FALL 2008 & SPRING 2009

Wednesday, September 19, 2007

101 DeBartolo

6:00 pm

SOPHOMORES FROM ALL COLLEGES ARE WELCOME!
WNBA

Mercury captures first WNBA championship

Associated Press

PHOENIX — The Phoenix Mercury's slogan for the 2007 WNBA playoffs was "One team, one city, one goal." On Tuesday, it was one big party as the new WNBA champions and about 1,000 of their fans celebrated at a U.S. Airways Center rally. A championship banner was unfurled as purple and gold confetti fluttered from the ceiling.

"You stuck with us through thick and thin, and there was quite a bit of thin," All-Star forward Penny Taylor told the crowd. "We fought for you." Taylor wasn't kidding. She bore four bruises and an inch-long scratch on her arms, evidence of an intense, physical series with the Detroit Shock.

The Mercury have had a small but ardent fan base since their inception in 1997. Some of the rally's loudest cheers were reserved for Mercury assistant coach Bridget Pettis, who scored the first basket in team history.

"I feel that I'm asleep right now, and I'm having the best dream of my life," an emotional Pettis said.

It was a dream season for the Mercury, who scored a WNBA-record 89 points per game and became the first team in league history to clinch a title on the road.

Phoenix rallied from a 2-1 deficit to beat Detroit in the best-of-five series. The final score of the clincher — PHX 108, DET 92 — flashed on a scoreboard above the dais.

Championships are rare in this city. Among the four major pro sports teams, only the Arizona Diamondbacks, in 2001, have brought a trophy to the desert. Perhaps that why the rally stirred so many emotions.

"From the bottom of our hearts, thank you so much," All-Star Diana Taurasi said. "We're going to do it all again next year."

Before the 12:30 p.m. rally, the Mercury gathered on an underground practice court to have a team photo taken with the WNBA trophy.

Kellogg Institute International Film Series

A Decent Factory

TONIGHT! at 7pm
Hesburgh Center for International Studies Auditorium

Can the Finnish electronics firm Nokia balance profit-making with social morality? Filmmaker Thomas Balmès covers three years of Nokia's investigative journey.

Kellogg Institute Cosponsored by the Higgins Labor Research Center

For a list of all the Kellogg Institute events, visit kellogg.nd.edu/events

Fall 2007 Schedule

Experience an intimate discussion with Notre Dame's most engaging faculty speakers on some of the most pressing issues of our times.

9/01—Georgia Tech
"Why is Goethe's Faust the Greatest Work of German Literature?"
Vittorio Hilde, Paul G. Kimmell Professor of Arts and Letters

9/22—Michigan State
"Health Care Reforms: An Economist's Assessment"
William Evans, Keough-Hesburgh Professor of Economics

10/13—Boston College
"Global Ireland: From Celtic Twilight to Celtic Tiger"
Luke Gibbons, Donald R. Keough Family Professor of Irish Studies

10/26—USC
"Combating Extremism: Democratic Virtues and Pluralism in Islam"
Asma Asfaruddin, Associate Professor of Arabic and Islamic Studies

11/03—Navy
"Cops, Protest, and Rioting"
Daniel Myers, Director of Research and Faculty Development, Joan B. Kroc Institute for International Peace Studies, Professor of Sociology

11/10—Air Force
"Theological But Not Religious: The Case of John Milton"
Stephen Fallon, Professor, Program of Liberal Studies

11/17—Duke
"Words and Music, Music and Words: The Songs of Franz Schubert"
Susan Youens, J.W. Van Gorkom Professor of Music

3-1/2 hours before kickoff in the Annenberg Auditorium, Snite Museum of Art (unless otherwise noted).

For more information, visit http://saturdayscholar.nd.edu

"Health Care Reforms: An Economist's Assessment"

William Evans
Keough-Hesburgh Professor of Economics

12:00 Noon
Saturday, September 22, 2007
Annenberg Auditorium, Snite Museum of Art
McNabb says black QBs scrutinized

Associated Press

NEW YORK — Philadelphia Eagles star Donovan McNabb says black quarterbacks face greater scrutiny than their white counterparts.

In an interview on HBO's "Real Sports with Bryant Gumbel" to be broadcast Tuesday, McNabb said black quarterbacks "have to do a little bit extra" because there are relatively few of them, adding "people didn't want us to play this position."

McNabb said if he passes for 300 yards and his team wins by a touchdown, critics will say, "Oh, he could have made this throw here. We would have scored more points if he would have done this."

Asked if white quarterbacks such as Peyton Manning and Carson Palmer are held to the same standards, McNabb replied: "Let me start by saying, I love those guys. But they don't get criticized as much as we do. They don't."

McNabb is one of six black starting quarterbacks in the NFL. The others are David Garrard of Jacksonville, Vince Young of Tennessee, Steve McNair of Baltimore, Jason Campbell of Washington and Tarvaris Jackson of Minnesota.

McNabb, a five-time Pro Bowl selection, is 9 1/2 months removed from major knee surgery and has missed 13 games and 13 games because of injuries. On Monday night, McNabb was as good as perceived.

"I think what we've had here is a little social concern in the NFL," McNabb said. "The media has been very desirous that a black quarterback do well."


Steroids

St. Louis company fined $10.5 million

Associated Press

BOSTON — A company that distributed human growth hormone to "well known athletes and entertainers" has agreed to pay a $10.5 million penalty and cooperate with ongoing federal investigations, federal prosecutors said Tuesday.

Under the terms of the agreement, Specialty Distribution Services Inc., a subsidiary of Express Scripts Inc., will not face prosecution for three years if it fully complies with the agreement.

Steve Littlejohn, a spokesman for St. Louis-based Express Scripts, said the company fully cooperated in the federal investigation and has already implemented procedures to prevent the illegal distribution of human growth hormone.

"Express Scripts does not condone the use of human growth hormone for anti-aging, cosmetic or performance enhancement purposes," the company said in a news release.

Specialty Distribution Services "knowingly distributed human growth hormone to certain well known athletes and entertainers, including a well known athlete in Massachusetts, knowing that their intended use was athletic performance enhancement, cosmetic or anti-aging," in violation of federal law, the U.S. attorney's office said in a news release.

Prosecutors did not mention any names of those believed to have bought HGH from the firm.

The drug in question was approved by the Food and Drug Administration only for specific purposes, including treatment of children with growth failure due to inadequate growth hormones, prosecutors said.

"The public should also realize that human growth hormone has not been shown to be safe and effective for athletic, cosmetic or anti-aging uses, and it must not be promoted or distributed for such uses," U.S. Attorney Michael Sullivan said in a statement.

The company illegally shipped the drugs five times between October 2000 and December 2005, according to court documents prosecutors filed with the agreement.

Human growth hormone was sent to a "well known professional athlete in Massachusetts" in January 2002 and again in October 2003 following a doctor's request, the documents said.

Men of Notre Dame.
Is God calling you? Join us.

Think you might have a vocation to serve as a priest or brother?

Join the Holy Cross community at Notre Dame for an hour of prayer, pizza, and informal discussion.

Wednesday, Sept. 19, 8pm
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vocation.nd.edu

Questions? call 1-6385
The Observer • SPORTS
Wednesday, September 19, 2007

NBA

Thomas allegedly used slurs, curses

Associated Press

NEW YORK — Just months after berating her in explosive-filled tirades, New York Knicks coach and president Isiah Thomas moved from cursing to courting a fellow executive by suing the basketball Hall of Famer for sexual harassment, a former team employee testified Tuesday.

Jeffrey Nix, a 15-year employee of the NBA team, took the stand in U.S. District Court to recount a series of conversations he had with his friend and co-worker, plaintiff Anucha Browne Sanders, throughout 2004.

"I'm not a thinker, in tones of disgust, detailed how Thomas initially treated her with contempt shortly after his December 2003 arrival in New York.

At one meeting meant to resolve a dispute between Thomas and Nix, Browne Sanders and Thomas, the two-time NBA champion glutted out at her by announcing, "Don't forget, you f—-ing bitch. I'm the president of this f—-ing team," Nix said his friend told him.

Browne Sanders also told Nix, he testified, that Thomas had asked her in March 2004, "What the f— is your job? What are your job responsibilities, you f—-ing b—-h?"

By the end of the year, though, Nix testified that he saw Thomas embracing Browne Sanders in Madison Square Garden after a Knicks' victory — and watched as his friend pushed the coach away.

"You're not going to believe what he just said," Nix quoted Browne Sanders as saying. "He just said, 'I'm in love with you. It's like [the movie] 'Love and Basketball.'"

Browne Sanders is suing Thomas and Madison Square Garden for $10 million in a sexual harassment suit that also seeks reinstatement to the job that she held for five years with the once-bangled franchise that won its last title in 1973.

Attorneys for Browne Sanders rested their case Tuesday afternoon after calling the plaintiff's sister, Ruth, and her ex-administrative assistant to buttress her claims. They also played a videotaped deposition from MSG Chairman James L. Dolan, who said the defendant's friend, Browne Sanders was his alone.

And if it was appropriate for MSG employees to refer to co-workers as a "black bitch," as star Knicks guard Stephon Marbury allegedly did to Browne Sanders, Dolan quickly said it was not.

"It is also not appropriate to murder anyone," Dolan continued. "I don't know that that has happened either.

Thomas, who has denied the allegations, sat with his hands folded in front of his face at the defense table, tilted his head slightly and listened intently as Nix told his story.

"We have raised our team GPA goal to a 3.4 or higher, which is very possible," he testified, that Thomas had cursed at the plaintiff. During the questioning, Thomas also said he would find it more offensive if a white male called a black female a "bitch," than if a black male made the same comment.

Nix said Browne Sanders was upset and confused by Thomas' switch from verbally abusive to amorous. When the two spoke in spring 2005, Nix recalled, Browne Sanders telling him, "It went from last year bitch and he to now he's in love with me."

Browne Sanders, a married mother of three and former Northwestern basketball star, joined the Knicks in late 2000. The vice president of marketing and business operations was fired in January 2006; she claimed the dismissal came after she complained to MSG management.

The Garden claims she was dismissed for a failure to "fulfill professional responsibilities."

Nix appeared one day after jurors watched a videotaped deposition where Thomas insisted that he had never cursed at the plaintiff. During the questioning, Thomas also said he would find it more offensive if a white male called a black female a "bitch," than if a black male made the same comment.

Saint Mary's return to the court after six days off to face last-place Albion (1-7, 0-4 MIAA) tonight in Albion, Mich. Action may be in last, but it boasts the most recent MIAA player of the week. — senior setter Amanda David and sophomore outside hitter Lorna Sipezynski. The Belles meet the Britons with a 2-2 conference record and an overall record of 3-4.

Players strive to be the MIAA player of the week, but the Belles want to go beyond that prize.

"This season our goals are a little higher than last year both on and off the court," David said. "We have raised our team GPA goal to a 3.4 or higher, which is very possible. "In the end we are pushing hard for a regional ranking, which is also very possible."

In their six days off, the Belles kept up the work. "We will be working on really making both our offense and our defense crispier," coach Julie Schroeder-Biek said. "Our game is coming together nicely, but we still have a lot of work to go to get to where we want to be."

Although Albion is in last, its stats are competitive with...
Walsh continued from page 24

After a punt return to mid-field, Chaos junior quarterback Katie Dunn completed three straight passes to get her team within five yards of a touchdown. After a two-yard scramble by Dunn, Cavanaugh faced a fourth-and-goal from the Walsh 2-yard line. Senior captain Tarah Brom attempted to cross the plane on a sweep but was stopped behind the line by Walsh defender Julie Campbell.

The Chaos was given a second chance when Lauren Cummings intercepted a Sullivan pass moments later. On third down, Dunn was pressured by Walsh’s defense, but managed connect while on the run with receiver Sarah Van Mill, who was standing unguarded in the corner of the end zone. An extra point would have tied the score, but Dunn was stopped just before she could dive across the goal line, leaving the Wild Women with the slim edge.

Cavanaugh got another chance to win the game with 1:23 remaining, but three straight incomplete passes ensured victory for the Wild Women.

After the game, Sullivan was awarded the offensive MVP for Walsh, with Campbell winning defensive MVP. Both players received a piece of “the rock” as a reward.

“(Campbell’s) step at the end of the game was absolutely crucial,” Walsh coach Mike Schaefer said.

Sullivan, meanwhile, enjoyed the moment after defeating her team’s arch-rivals.

“It’s a pretty intense rivalry,” she said. “It’s always competitive, and it feels really good to win my senior year.”

Though disappointed with the loss, Cavanaugh coach Hunter Land refused to look at the negatives and was already looking forward to expecting revenge.

“Our defense played really well the second half,” he said. “Walsh played a hell of a game and we wish them the best of luck this season. We definitely hope to play them one more time, though.”

PE 14, Howard 14
Although Howard’s defense had been powerful against McGlinn Sunday, it collapsed against Pasquerilla East in a hard-fought tie.

The Ducks started the game with a long pass from freshman quarterback Kayla Bishop to freshman receiver Leslie Allen, but were stopped shortly thereafter.

Howard’s defense played well; Emily Stewart made a diving interception and Laura Geisman had two picks of her own. After her second interception, Howard’s rushing and passing attack took the Ducks down the field.

Pasquerilla East’s coaches attributed Howard’s passing success to the height of their receivers. Howard’s two touchdowns came on deep passes.

“Howard is a small team of girls, but they are pretty good,” Pyros co-coach Laura Lassens said. “I bet one of them is over 5-foot-10.”

Though disappointed with the loss, Howard’sources awarded Howard’s passing attack.

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Pasquerilla East’s coaches attributed Howard’s passing success to the height of their receivers. Howard’s two touchdowns came on deep passes.

“It’s a pretty intense rivalry,” said best of luck this season. We definitely hope to play them one more time, though.”

Wednesday, September 19, 2007
The Observer

Howard coach Tim Baumgartner said the team faced a tough challenge.

“They kept us guessing with their personnel. We never reversed and things that we just weren’t ready for,” he said.

One of Howard’s players accused Pasquerilla East of changing their defensive alignment.

We just go out and make up plans, pretty much,” Carr said. “P.I. was a lot faster than we were. They’ve got speed.”

McGlinn 0, Farley 0

The name was the game as McGlinn and Farley blocked and tackled reverses and things that we definitely hope to play them one more time, though.”

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“You’ve got to hand it to Farley’s defense,” senior McGlinn coach Jeff Parmare said. “They really stopped our run.”

The football changed hands many times at the end of the second half.

With two minutes left on the clock, McGlinn turned the ball over on downs. The Farley possession began with a 25-yard rush by Rolfs, followed by three passes to Crehan. But Shamrocks freshman Kathleen Stanley had several tackles to prevent the Finest from scoring.

McGlinn took over with 30 seconds remaining, but Farley senior quarterback Kyle Carter intercepted Haller’s pass. The Finest regained possession with time for one more play, but Rolfs’ pass attempt was intercepted by senior Shamrocks captain Katie Zedler to end the game.

“We showed a lot of promise today,” Zedler said. “We are implementing a new offense, and have a lot of new players. The rest is yet unwritten.”

Senior Finest puller Matt Barcus also saw potential in his team.

“I think we can win with this team,” Barcus said. “Six ties and we go to the playoffs.”

The Finest played Cavanaugh Sunday at 1 p.m., and McGlinn’s next challenger is also Cavanaugh, on Sept. 25 at 7 p.m.

Contact Sam Werner at scarner@nd.edu,
Rachel Plassmeyer at rplasmey@nd.edu and
Laura Myers at laweys@nd.edu
Camp
continued from page 28
of the ball," Weis said. "We want to run the ball more physically — and pass block for that matter."
Weis said that aside from improving physically, tackling to the ground and keeping the ball carrier staff to get a better read on a players' performance. When the Irish were merely "running back, you're going to the ground. If you're a receiver, you're going to the ground. If you're a tackler, you have to take them all the way to the goal. There's no whistle that's going to blow the play dead."
Weis said the team took the transition to more physical play Monday night.
"I didn't know on Sunday how they would respond having just played a game and having lost to a boidsided score — and then being forced to play with pads," he said. "I've been encouraged by the tempo we've had."
All of the hitting is in lieu of a specific game plan for Michigan State, whom Notre Dame plays on Saturday. Weis said the Irish will focus less on "Xs and Os" this week and more on doing the little things.
"We've kept it very simple on both sides of the ball," Weis said. "We're letting people see off on each other and see who will win.
Weis introduced specific game plans for both Georgia Tech and Michigan, utilizing the spread option to try to neutralize his team's inexperience. In both cases, the offense struggled. He said the days of special offenses week-to-week are over, at least for now. For the next few weeks, the Irish will work on mastering their base playbook.
"Sometimes when you try to do things, you're thinking a lot. A lot of the things we've done in the past, you have to have an identity," Weis said. "The identity that I've always done is the offensive line of the ball is multiple formations and multiple formations that can all run the same plays. We haven't gotten that yet. Right now we're trying to get to the core, because that can build off the core."
Weis said that the special offenses were designed to mask his team's weaknesses, but he's now decided to buckle down and correct the weaknesses.
"We've got to start force-feeding who they are," he said. "At this point you can't be trying to figure out what they can do. You have to say we're going to do this. And then you have to do it, do it, and do it, and do it, and then you go to the right."
"I think on one side Notre Dame's defense comes true and the Irish improve significantly this week," the coach said he will keep his team hitting hard in practice for most of the season.
"I think you have to keep some element of this in your planning so you don't have a setback," he said. "You say go and win on Saturday. That doesn't mean you're okay. You still can get the crap kicked out of you in three straight games and you're 1-3."
Cinalli
continued from page 28
dribble." Cinalli attributed her creativity in large part to her relationship with Hanks, with whom she has developed an off-field rapport.
"She's so creative, so techni-
cal, she knows the game so well," Cinalli said. "It's really fun to play with her because you can do a lot of good cut-and-dry combinati-
ions with her. Since we've been playing together for the past three years we kind of under-
stand where we're going to go with the ball. We kind of anticip-
ate... each other and work really well together."
"It's Cinalli's ability to cooper-
ate with her teammates that allows her to play multiple posi-
tions. She started the first three games at forward, but played the last three at midfield."
"We felt like, with the three forwards, we were struggling a little bit to hold the ball up front," Cinalli said. "We just didn't have anybody that was ready to step up and do a good job of holding it."
Waldron made an allusion to the low-post position in basket-
ball. The Irish struggled at times with getting the ball in the box. The offense had four players that can open for a shot.
Cinalli, who likes both posi-
tions and has played both sides of the ball, understands the roles she is expected to fill.
"If I'm playing in the mid-
field, my rule is try to con-
trol the ball and playmake and play up to the forward's feet," Cinalli said. "It's up to me, it's being able to hold on to the ball and turn and get some goals.
Cinalli's soccer brain knows exactly what she should be doing on every possession.
Victory
continued from page 24
The Cardinals finished the tournament second at 881 (292-295-294) at the Michigan Golf Course. Augusta State took third with an 890 (289-
303-298). Georgia State was fourth at 896 (303-291-302), and Middle Tennessee State rounded out the top five, shooting a 912 (302-300-310) on the tournament.
"There is a little bit of luck involved in golf," Holt said. "I think they're getting commit-
ted to the game plan and exe-
cuting it."
The Irish charge was led by a freshman competing in her second collegiate tournament. So-ryan Park claimed medal-
ist honors with her thre-
emoving at the 57th-73-
121. After placing first in the Cougar Classic, the co-capt-
tain netted her second top-
10 finish after she placed in a four-way tie for sixth.
Her freshman team, Katie Conroy, shared a spot at her 21st with a 226 (78-75-73) for the first time when it tees off at the Wolverine Invitational on Sept. 29 and 30 at the University of Michigan Golf Course.
Despite the team's early success, Holt said, the golfers are not worried about any other teams and focusing on themselves.
"I'm not concerned of what other people think or about our program," Holt said. "We're just out there playing golf. We're not playing for anyone else. We're playing for Notre Dame, and each other."
Contact Lorenzo Reyes at lreyes@nd.edu
Hi, I'm Tom Brady. Today we will talk about high-profile celebrity relationships.

Actresses are fun, but they may use pregnancy as an excuse for you to stick around.

If this happens, I recommend moving on to a younger, more famous celebrity, perhaps a supermodel... they don't eat enough to get pregnant.

Crossword

ND WOMEN'S SOCCER COMMENTARY

Cinalli leads Irish by example, puts squad ahead of self

Amanda Cinalli will be the first to tell you that one player does not make a team. But when watching her play, that can be hard to believe.

The day is Sept. 14. Cinalli is the senior captain, was held out of Saturday's game and the transfer of the opening day starting quarterback looms over his head — but the smile is on her face anyway.

For losing 38-0 to Michigan Saturday, Weis said his team will retain their position on the depth chart — even along the offensive line, which has allowed 23 sacks this season.

"I didn't want to start making massive changes because then you're making sacrificial lambs," Weis said. "You're saying, 'You're the problem' or 'You're the problem.' Well, when you lose 38-0, there are a lot of problems."

For four hours Sunday and for two more hours Tuesday, the Irish were in full pads, simulating game hits and tackling to the ground for the first time this fall — all in an effort to fix the blocking and tackling deficiencies that have led to more than 230 yards per game in rushing by opponents and negative-4.7 per game on the ground for the Irish.

Judging by Weis' demeanor, those deficiencies must be slowly disappearing.

"I'm trying to develop a more physical mentality on both sides of the ball," Weis said.

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"I'm trying to develop a more physical mentality on both sides of the ball," Weis said.

ND WOMEN'S GOLF

Perfection continues for team

By LORENZO REYES

As Notre Dame coach Susan Holt was traveling back to campus with her team from their second straight victory Tuesday, her golfers told her the main reason behind the unit's success.

"Good chemistry," they shouted to her as she fielded questions about the team's promising start.

Notre Dame is a perfect two-for-two this week. A week after their triumph in the Cougar Classic, the Irish took the Napa River Grill Cardinal Cup in Simpsonville, Ky.

The Irish edged out host team Louisville by three strokes with a 878 (292-290-296) mark over three rounds.

see VICTORY/page 26

WOMEN'S INTERHALL FOOTBALL

Walsh tops Cavanaugh; Ducks' defense falters

By SAM WERNER, RACHEL PLASSMEYER & LAURA MYERS

Walsh seems to have found a rallying point for its season. As the team's pre-game cheer indicates, they "have the rock" — a small piece of stone that was once a part of the Berlin Wall. The team rallied around the rock, its unofficial mascot, to defeat Cavanaugh 7-6 at Ritchie Field on Tuesday night.

After receiving the ball to start the game, the Wild Women wasted no time taking advantage of a Chaos defense that was playing its first game of the regular season.

On the opening drive, senior quarterback Mary Claire Sullivan led her team down the field almost single-handedly, rushing the ball three times and connecting on three long passes to sophomore receiver Sierra Smith.

On a third-down play from the Cavanaugh 15-yard line, Smith, surrounded by three Chaos defenders, brought the ball in to secure the touchdown. After a 7-0 lead.

After the opening drive, both defenses buckled down and neither offense could generate any momentum. The teams exchanged punts until midway through the second half.

see WALSH/page 25

see WEIS/page 26

see CINALLI/page 26