Study abroad program options grow
By GENE NOONE
News Writer

Students looking to study abroad next year have new cities to consider — Hong Kong, China, Cambridge, England, and, for those in Old College, Leuven, Belgium. The deadline for 2008-2009 study abroad applications is Nov. 15, and the Office of International Studies (OIS) is expecting large numbers of students to apply.

Notre Dame is ranked sixth among American research universities in the percentage of students who study abroad. Based on the most recent International Education annual report, titled "Open Doors." The report, released last year, compiled data from 2004 and 2005 and found that about 58 percent of Notre Dame students study abroad at some point during their academic careers. That percentage is expected to remain consistent in the next report, OIS director Claudia Kselman said. Notre Dame offers 35 semester and year-long abroad locations. "We are very excited about our Hong Kong program," Kselman said. "We're really hoping it will expand and become bigger." The Hong Kong program is open to all junior students: although Chinese language study is encouraged, it is not required. The program is a bilateral exchange with the Chinese University of Hong Kong (CUHK), a leading research university with 18,500 undergraduate and postgraduate students.

The Hong Kong program is a result of a general initiative on the part of Notre Dame to move to the Far East," Kselman said. She said an important aspect of the Hong Kong program is that students may choose to take courses taught in English. The Leuven program is only open to junior undergraduate students enrolled in the Old Course packet costs stir further debate
By KAITLYNN R1ELY
Assistant News Editor

The conversation about high course packet prices continued at the Student Senate meeting Wednesday, as senators failed to pass a resolution that encouraged professors to choose electronic reserves over course packets as the primary means of disseminating readings. Though the resolution did not pass, it will be discussed within the Senate Academic Affairs committee and may be reintroduced in a future Senate meeting.

The Senate has been discussing the issue of course packet prices for the past several weeks. At their Oct. 17 meeting, senators passed a resolution recommending that course packets no longer be sold exclusively through the Hammes Notre Dame

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Building Tomorrow raises money for Ugandan school
By JENN METZ
Assistant News Editor

The Notre Dame chapter of Building Tomorrow is raising money to build a school for 350 Ugandan children. The Primary Education For All sector of the ND-8 Millennium Development Initiatives club is working with Building Tomorrow, a national non-profit organization, this year. Sophomores Jenna Knapp, Erin Jeln and Barbara He are among committee leaders working on events to raise a "tangible goal" of $35,000, Jeln said. "To break it down, if each Notre Dame student donated $3.02, we would raise the funds to build a brand new school and give hope for the future to 350 impoverished kids," Jeln said.

Last spring, George Srour, the founder of Building Tomorrow, spoke during ND-8's Millennium Development Goals Week, Jeln said. "George talked to us about Building Tomorrow's mission and work as well as the movement to get college campuses across the nation involved in fundraising," she said.

According to the Building Tomorrow Web site, 46 million children in sub-Saharan Africa have no school to attend. "Any and all members of the Food Services staff will be allowed to make random package inspections at meal periods if there is a reasonable suspicion of items being removed from the dining hall otherwise those items cur-
DEAR BUSINESS MAJORS

A letter to Saint Mary's Business Majors:

I am writing to you before I once again spend six hours, in an Open study room, slaving over B-Policy. I cannot believe

Samantha Leonard
Sports Wire
Editor

"Dublin — gotta stay true to the Irish heritage (and the awesome accent, of course)."

"Siberia, because I could go snowboarding everyday in my class."

"Probably somewhere in South America, because I’ve never been out of the country before, and that seems like a good place to start."

"Cancun — for obvious reasons."

"I would go to Rome to see my friend Benedict."

SOPHOMORE Robin Link walks with young trick-or-treaters in a costume parade on North Quad Wednesday. The Student Senate Community Relations Committee organized the Fall Festival.

OFFBEAT

Vulgar tattoo equals $50 and some probation

WEST GIBSTON, Pa. — A man accused of kicking an argument with his neighbor up a notch by removing his shirt to reveal a two-word expletive tattoo faces 90 days probation and a $50 fine.

Jason Kaminski pleaded guilty on Tuesday in a summary charge of disorderly conduct.

Neighbor Chris Carr said he asked Kaminski if he could keep the noise down following a noisy party. Carr said Kaminski cursed, barred the expletive tattoo on his chest, kicked Carr’s vehicle and mumbled as though to break off his rear view mirror.

Judge: Speeding not ‘as bad’ in miles

DUBLIN, Ireland — When police caught driver David Clarke flying down a road at 130 kilometers per hour this month, he looked likely to lose his license.

But a country judge reduced the charge and let the 31-year-old information technology worker stay on the road after concluding the speed did not look as bad when converted into miles, or 112 mph.

“I am not excusing his driving. He should not have been traveling at that speed,” District Court Judge Irene McLaughlin said in his verdict, delivered Tuesday in County Donegal, northwest Ireland.

McLaughlin suggested it was relatively safe to have shattered the legal road limit at the time, citing good weather, light traffic and the road’s unusual straightness.

McLaughlin was quoted as saying the speed seemed “very excessive,” but did not look “as bad” when convert-

Information compiled by the Associated Press.

In Brief

A collection of Douglas Kinney paintings is on display in the Great Hall of O’Shaughnessy Hall through Nov. 29.

The Notre Dame women’s basketball team will have an exhibition game against Southern Indiana today at 7 p.m. in the Joyce Center.

The hockey team will play Lake Superior State today at 7:35 p.m. at the Joyce Center.

As part of the Boardroom Insights lectures, Brenda Barnes, CEO of the Sara Lee Corporation will speak Friday at 10:40 a.m. in the Jordan Auditorium of the Mendoza College of Business.

The Black Cultural Arts Council is holding its annual talent show, “Black Images: Through the Seasons,” Saturday at 8 p.m. in Washington Hall. Student tickets are $5.

As part of the Military History speaker series, author David Bell will offer a presentation on his new book, “The First Total War,” which focuses on the Napoleonic Wars, Monday at 4:30 p.m. in room 116, Dibeliaro Hall.

Gillian Sorensen, senior advisor to the United Nations Foundation, will deliver lecture titled “The State of Women Internationally. Where Are We and Where Are We Going?” Tuesday at 6 p.m. in the Hesburgh Center auditorium.

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

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

Contact Samantha Leonard at deswin01@saintmarys.edu.

CORRECTION

Due to a reporting error, Patty McGarry was misquoted in the Oct. 19 article "Faith, discovery enrich religious in Ireland." In the piece, she spoke of the Irish Tesaegh Berce Abren who had envisied what he described as a "form of aggressive eviction which would have the State and local institutions ignore the importance of the religious denounce them."

McGarry did not make the claim on his own. The Observer regrets the error.
ND, South Bend build together
Partnership plans to develop industry complex south of campus

The University, the City of South Bend and the regional economic development organization Project Future have joined forces to develop a technology incubator on a site immediately south of the campus.

"When this park is completed, it will have significant long-term benefits that will continue to percolate and send ripples through the community's economy," McMahon said.

Like similar ventures nationwide, Innovation Park will provide space for Notre Dame faculty and students, as well as others from higher education and the private sector, to develop and commercialize start-up business enterprises - many but not all related to the sciences, engineering and technology. The proximity to campus will allow for easy access to University laboratories, technology, libraries and other resources. Faculty and staff associated with the GigaCenter for Entrepreneurial Studies at Notre Dame also plan to take an active role in moving ideas forward.

Financial and operational details are still to be finalized, though projects with potential have been identified as early occupants of the park.

Angels, a network of Notre Dame alumni and friends who are experienced in entrepreneurial endeavors and interested in supporting new venture development.

"With nearly 30 years of experience in leading successful start-up companies, acquisitions, partnerships and divestitures, Dave brings precisely the kind of background and entrepreneurial spirit that will be needed to build a technology park in the region among its priorities for several years, according to executive director Patrick M. McMahon.

Project Future has assisted with organizing and advancing the discussion of the park with the community and provided funds for development of the business and architectural plans. It also will help underwrite the staffing expected to be associated with Innovation Park's early operations he said.

"When this park is completed, it will have significant long-term benefits that will continue to percolate and send ripples through the community's economy," McMahon said.

"We are optimistic that our partnership will result in a successful effort. Similar parks associated with other universities in the state and around the country have proven to be wonderful means for encouraging research, taking innovative ideas to the marketplace, creating industry-university relationships, and for spurring economic growth."

The city has made a $1 million commitment to the project, using resources returned from the Business Development Corp., according to Mayor Steve Luke.

"I am especially excited about the entrepreneurial creativity that will emerge from this place, as researchers from different disciplines interact and dream," Luke said.

"South Bend has a strong heritage of innovation - from Studebaker and Bendix to Crowe Cichock, Press Gannay and the South Bend Chocolate Co. - and Innovation Park will continue to build on that great entrepreneurial spirit," Project Future has had the development of a technology park in the region among its priorities for several years, according to executive director Patrick M. McMahon.

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Senator Claudia Kselman, the chair of the Senate Academic Affairs committee, presented the results of a survey, which found a majority of students unhappy with the increased costs of course packets.

The senators unanimously passed a resolution two weeks ago that encouraged the University to revert to the former method of selling packets from various copy centers, rather than the Bookstore. The Oct. 17 course packet resolution was "unofficially handed" to the College of Arts and Letters after it was passed, Hendrickson said.

"It looks like the College of Arts and Letters is going to make the "not selling the course packets from the Bookstore" recommendation to the University," she said. The Senators were less receptive to Wednesday's resolution, which said that most of the student body is "very dissatisfied" with the higher costs of the course packets and that a majority of students are "somewhat to very supportive" of switching from the course packets to electronic reserves as the primary way to access course materials. The senators, after some debate, failed to gather the two-thirds vote needed to pass the resolution, with nine voting for it and six against. Eight senators abstained.

"We look at everything," Kselman said. "The statement of interest is very important along with recommendations. One thing we always do is look at transcripts, but we will not do so until the fall grades are posted." Students who would like to study abroad in the summer have until March 1 to apply for seven of the nine locations. The London summer program operates on a rolling admissions basis while the Kampala, Uganda program deadline is scheduled for Nov. 15.

"Study abroad is an essential part of an undergraduate education," Claudia Kselman OIS director

The overall objective, some senators said, should be to decrease costs for students. "I think the ideal is really to go back to the old way, the way it was done before it got put to the Bookstore," said Sorin senator George Chamberlain.

The proposed amendment requires the student body president to attend all meetings of the Community/Campus Advisory Coalition (CCAC), a group created by the South Bend Common Council and designed to facilitate dialogue between city, university, college and student representatives. The proposed amendment requires the student body president to attend the CCAC meeting and provide any and all documentation from the meeting to the Senate.

Contact Kaitlynn Riely at kriely@nd.edu

**Coffee at the Como**

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

Tuesday, November 6

7:30 p.m. – 9:30 p.m.

316 Coleman-Morse

The Core Council invites gay, lesbian, and bisexual members of the Notre Dame family, their friends, and supporters to an informal gathering of the Core Council.

Everyone is welcome and confidentiality is assured

**Contact Gene Noon at cnoon@nd.edu**

#14 Notre Dame vs. Lake Superior State

Thursday, November 1 @ 7:35pm

Students - pick up your JACCO WACCONS T-shirt (First 500)

Free mini-stick to early arriving fans

Allegiant

Friday, November 2 @ 7:35pm

Early fans will receive a cowbell

FREE ADMISSION FOR ND/SMC/HCC

STUDENTS WHILE SPACE IS AVAILABLE
INTERNATIONAL NEWS

**IRAQ**

Soldier, civilian deaths on decline

Fall in death count shows Bush’s troop ‘surge’ working better than expected, some say

Associated Press

BAGHDAD — Violent deaths of U.S. troops and Iraqi civilians have fallen sharply in Iraq in October, according to the latest Associated Press tally.

The AP’s figures mirror other reports that the levels of bloodshed are falling here. But the meaning of these statistics is disputed, and experts generally agree that the situation’s improved stability is far from over.

The number of Iraqi civilians killed fell from at least 1,023 in September to at least 757 in October, according to the AP count.

That’s the lowest monthly toll for civilian casualties in the past year, and is down sharply from the 1,216 recorded in October 2006. The numbers are based on daily reports from police, hospital officials, morgue workers and verifiable news accounts.

The count is considered a minimum based on the lack of reporting; the actual number is likely higher, as many killings go unreported.

The drop in deaths among U.S. military personnel in Iraq was even more striking, according to AP’s records — down from 60 in September to at least 36 in October. The October figure is by far the lowest in the last year, and is sharply lower than the 106 deaths recorded in October 2006.

The relative period of calm — if that’s what it is — came during the Muslim fast of Ramadan, when militants in the past escalated their attacks on U.S. forces.

Max Boot, a senior fellow at the Council on Foreign Relations in Washington, said the apparent decline in deaths reflects the success of the surge in Baghdad and Anbar province.

"I assume it’s happening because the surge is working,” said Boot, who was an advocate of expanding the deployment of U.S. troops here. “This is pretty dramatic.”

But Anthony Cordesman, an expert on the Middle East and military affairs with the Center for Strategic and International Studies, said the numbers he’s seen so far are “drastic in a decline in the level of lethal violence against U.S. troops in Baghdad and Anbar province.”

Data collected by the General Accounting Office, he said, don’t justify the conclusion that the overall level of fighting has fallen off, or that the number of civilian deaths is declining, because they don’t paint a full picture of the conflict.

The statistics don’t reflect attacks that result in injuries, he pointed out. Nor is there reliable reporting of civilian deaths outside of Baghdad.

"I don’t question that the level of violence has gone down in Baghdad and Anbar,” he said. "But what is not clear is that you have reduced the level of tension between Kurd and Arab, that the level of Shiite-on-Shiite violence is down, that the level of ethnic cleansing is down."

The reduction in U.S. losses, he said, is mostly a result of the revolt of the Sunni tribal leaders in Anbar against al-Qaida in Iraq, and not the U.S. military buildup.

And he warned that that revolt against al-Qaida was in jeopardy unless Sunni leaders get more support from the U.S.-dominated government in Baghdad.

"Does or does it on one set of numbers tell you that the country is moving toward stability, security and political accommodation?” Cordesman asked. "The answer is no."

There may be other, gimmers that the civilian death toll has receded. Sunnis have been driven out of Shiite neighborhoods, Shiites from Sunni areas and Christians out of both. Many Iraqis have fled their country, or seldom venture out of their communities, offering fewer targets for suicide bombers or kidnappers.

Jury acquits prosecutor in terrorism

After a month-long trial in Detroit, a federal judge on Wednesday acquitted former U.S. Attorney John D. Keker of all charges.

Keker had been on trial for conspiracy and obstruction of justice, but the jury couldn’t reach a verdict.

"It’s a just end to a politically motivated trial,” Convertino said. "I’m hearing that it’s having a stalling effect," Convertino said.

The verdict ended a controversy that had dragged on for almost a year. Convertino was accused of threatening a witness in the case, and the judge had ruled that there was probable cause to believe Convertino had obstructed justice.

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continued from page 1

The first fundraiser this year was called “Brick by Brick,” and took place before fall break. Club members sold paper bricks for $5 in LaFortune.

“They were symbolic bricks,” Ho said.

The bricks said “I’m building Brick Tomorrow for...” and students were encouraged to write the name of “someone who reminded them how important education is,” he said.

The first fundraiser was planned in conjunction with The Promise Banner, where students put hand prints on a banner symbolizing “their promise to help,” Ho said.

Project Fresh performed during The Promise Banner signing and the Brick by Brick sale, Ho said.

“This is a unifying force within Notre Dame,” Ho said.

“We are all working for one goal,” Bricky Brick raised $10,830 for the organization, she said.

Building Tomorrow is set apart — at least in my mind — from other non-profit organizations because of the direct involvement that those who donate have with the communities in Uganda,” Erin Jelm

ND-8 Building Tomorrow

“Building Tomorrow is set apart — at least in my mind — from other non-profit organizations because of the direct involvement that those who donate have with the communities in Uganda.”

The school will have 10 rooms, including seven classrooms and an outdoor soccer field. The World Food Program will provide students with daily lunches and the government will sustain teachers’ salaries.

“One of the really neat things is once the kids are there, they wear the color of the school that built it,” said Ho. “So the students at our school will be wearing blue and gold.”

Building Tomorrow is selling T-shirts for $10 this week in South Dining Hall and LaFortune Student Center and next week in LaFortune. It is their second fundraiser this year.

All proceeds from T-shirt sales will go to the organization. Ho said, Paul Johnson, a father of a Notre Dame student, donated the T-shirts for the fundraiser.

Bags continued from page 1

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All proceeds from T-shirt sales will go to the organization. Ho said, Paul Johnson, a father of a Notre Dame student, donated the T-shirts for the fundraiser.

Bags continued from page 1

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The bricks said “I’m building Brick Tomorrow for...” and students were encouraged to write the name of “someone who reminded them how important education is,” he said.

The first fundraiser was planned in conjunction with The Promise Banner, where students put hand prints on a banner symbolizing “their promise to help,” Ho said.

Project Fresh performed during The Promise Banner signing and the Brick by Brick sale, Ho said.

“This is a unifying force within Notre Dame,” Ho said.

“We are all working for one goal,” Bricky Brick raised $10,830 for the organization, she said.

Building Tomorrow is set apart — at least in my mind — from other non-profit organizations because of the direct involvement that those who donate have with the communities in Uganda.”

The school will have 10 rooms, including seven classrooms and an outdoor soccer field. The World Food Program will provide students with daily lunches and the government will sustain teachers’ salaries.

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WASHINGTON — The Federal Reserve sliced an important interest rate Wednesday, its second reduction in the last six weeks, to help the economy survive the strains of a deepening housing slump that is likely to crimp growth in coming months.

Fed Chairman Ben Bernanke and all but one of his colleagues agreed to lower the federal funds rate by one-quarter percentage point to 4.50 percent at the end of a two-day meeting.

"The pace of economic expansion will likely slow in the near term, partly reflecting the intensification of the housing correction," the Fed acknowledged in a statement following its action.

The funds rate affects many other interest rates charged to millions of individuals and businesses and is in the Fed's most potent tool for influencing economic activity.

In response, commercial banks, including Bank of America, Wells Fargo and KeyCorp, announced that they are cutting their prime lending rate for credit cards, home equity lines of credit and other loans — by a corresponding amount, to 7.50 percent.

The rationale behind the cuts is that the lower borrowing costs will induce individuals and businesses to boost spending, energizing economic activity.

Wall Street was cheered by the Fed's action, Dow Jones industrials jumped 137.54 points to close at 10,854.57.

The Fed policymakers supporting Wednesday's rate cut said the action — along with a rate reduction in September — was needed "to forestall some adverse effects on the broader economy" that might arise from the housing and credit troubles that have wrecked havoc on Wall Street over the past few months.

Fed policymakers indicated the two rate cuts ordered so far may be sufficient to help the economy make its way safely through the trouble spots.

"We are saying the risks to the economy from inflation "roughly balance," or are equal to, the risks of a serious downturn in economic growth. Previously, the risks of a recession were seen as more of a threat to the country's economic health. "The message. They are now done for the time being," said Lynn Reaser, chief economist at Bank of America's Investment Strategies Group. "They have taken out a significant insurance policy and now they believe they are fully covered against a recession risk — at least for the near term," she said.

For now, Reaser and other economists think the Fed probably will leave the funds rate alone when its meets next on Dec. 11, the last session of the year.

The 9:1 decision to cut rates on Wednesday was opposed by Thomas Hoenig, president of the Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City. He preferred no change in the funds rate.

So far, the economy has shown amazing resilience to the housing and credit strains.

In Brief

Economy grew fast, despite credit woes

WASHINGTON — The economy picked up speed in the summer, growing at a brisk 3.9 percent pace, the fastest in 1/2 years and an improvement over the 3 percent growth rate in the first quarter, which was believed to have been inflated by a credit crunch that plunged the housing market deeper into turmoil.

The latest snapshot of the country's economic health, released by the Commerce Department on Wednesday, suggested the economy is growing resilient and holding up well despite strains in the housing and credit markets. Those problems appeared muffled during the third quarter and rocked Wall Street.

A second report from the department showed construction spending rose 0.3 percent in September, the best showing in four months.

All-time high spending in both commercial construction by private builders and government projects more than offset weakness in home building.

For the entire July through September period, individuals increased spending. U.S. businesses said more goods abroad and boosted some investment at home. Those were main factors helping to push up overall economic activity during that period.

Government workers endorse Clinton

WASHINGTON — Hillary Rodham Clinton won the presidential endorsement of the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees on Wednesday, an important union boost for her Democratic front-runner campaign.

The union is the largest for workers in the public service sector with 1.4 million members nationwide. AFSCME represents government and private workers including nurses, bus drivers, child care providers, customs and librarians.

The New York senator will officially accept the endorsement later Wednesday.

"I am honored to receive the support of AFSCME," Clinton said in a statement. "In my administration, America's working families will again have a partner in the White House." 

Gerald McFate, president of the union, said Clinton "will help rebuild America's middle class and make sure everyone shares in our country's prosperity."
SPAIN

Suspects in terror attack convicted

Associated Press

MADRID — Spain's National Court on Wednesday convicted three main suspects in the Madrid commuter train bombings of mass murder and sentenced them to terms of thousands of years in prison for Europe's worst Islamic terror attack.

But the verdict was a mixed bag for prosecutors, who saw four other key defendants—convicted of lesser offenses and an accused ring leader acquitted altogether.

With much of the case resting on circumstantial evidence, the threejudges may have been wary after a number of high-profile Spanish terror cases were overturned on appeal.

Spain's prime minister said the verdict still upheld justice. But victims of the attack, which killed 191 people and wounded more than 1,800 when bombs exploded on four trains on March 11, 2004, expressed shock and a sense of loss over the court's decision.

"The verdict seems soft to us," said Pilar Manjon, mother of victim Abdulmajid Osman, an Egyptian already convicted and jailed in Italy for the Madrid bombings.

Italian authorities said Osman bragged in taped Arabic-language phone conversations that he was the brains behind the Madrid plot. But translations of the taped conversations by two sets of Spanish translators indicated his comments were more nuanced and did not amount to a confession.

The Spanish verdict came just two days after an Italian court upheld Osman's conviction there, but shaved two years off his prison term, sentencing him to eight years.

Osman watched the Spanish proceedings on a videoconference link from the Justice Palace in Milan. The Europa Press news agency reported that he broke down in tears and shouted: "I've been acquitted! I've been acquitted!"

Four other top suspects — Youssef Belhadj, Hassan el Haski, Abdul majid Bouzer and Ilaa Zouhier — were acquitted of murder but convicted of other charges that included belonging to a terrorist organization. They received sentences of 10 to 18 years in prison.

Fourteen other defendants were found guilty of lesser crimes and six others were acquitted.

Much of the evidence in the 57-session, five-month trial was circumstantial. Bouchac, for instance, was seen on one of the bombed trains shortly before the attack, but at trial no one could definitively identify him and there were no fingerprints or other forensic evidence placing him at the scene.

A senior court official privy to the decision-making told The Associated Press after the verdict that the case against Osman was "flimsy," and that there was "no hard evidence" that Belhadj or Haski were masterminds. The official agreed to discuss the verdict only if not quoted by name.

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Rejoicel! Mass

For information, contact Judy. Madden 631-8508 or jmadden2@nd.edu

SPAIN

Nation strengthens foreign ties

Success in nuclear standoff sparks new diplomatic missions

Associated Press

SEOUL — Buoyed by progress in its nuclear standoff, reclusive North Korea has begun reaching out to the world beyond its closed borders, forging formal relations with a series of countries and sending high-level delegations overseas.

The communist nation has opened or restored relations with five countries since July. Senior officials have visited Russia, southeast Asia, Africa and the Middle East — a rare burst of international activity move by one of the world's most isolated nations.

"By broadening its external relations, the North also wants to show the U.S. the look of a normal country," Kim Yong-hyun, a North Korea expert at Seoul's Dongguk University, said Monday.

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Kim Yong-hyun North Korea expert Dongguk University

progress in the nuclear issue has enabled Pyongyang to focus on diplomacy with other countries because it is no longer preoccupied with fears that the U.S. is attempting to topple the regime, Kim said.

Pyongyang shut down its sole functioning nuclear reactor in July, and a team of U.S. officials was visiting North Korea this week to start disabling the facility by year-end.

But the verdict was a mixed bag for prosecutors, who saw four other key defendants—convicted of lesser offenses and an accused ring leader acquitted altogether.

With much of the case resting on circumstantial evidence, the threejudges may have been wary after a number of high-profile Spanish terror cases were overturned on appeal.

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Physically disabled sue large cities for accessibility to subway stations

New York — For handicapped New Yorkers, a trip aboard the city's subway system means confronting a series of obstacles — and indignities.

First, they must be at a station with an elevator that descends to the platform. In places, it's so narrow that a wheelchair rolls just inches from the edge of the electrified tracks. And once the train arrives, the wheelchair often gets stuck while crossing the gap between the platform and the subway car.

Navigating the nation's largest mass transit system by wheelchair "takes a certain degree of strength," said Michael Harris, an advocate for the disabled who uses a wheelchair "takes a certain amount of strength." In New York, about 60 of the city's 486 stations are accessible to wheelchairs, and about 40 more are under construction to become accessible.

"We're more than 100 years old, and we're trying to retrofit stations with elevators and ramps. Space constraints are a big factor," said James Anyansi, a spokesman for New York City Transit, acknowledging that Harris is probably right in describing New York's system as the worst in the country for handicap-accessibility.

Associated Press

Harris, 23, recently demonstrated the pitfalls of an underground ride by wheelchair. He left his lower Manhattan office near City Hall, heading uptown to Herald Square at West 34th Street — a trip that normally takes about 10 minutes on one subway line from the station across the street. But the station is not wheelchair-accessible.

So Harris powered up his motorized wheelchair and rolled to a different station, where he caught an uptown train to Grand Central Terminal. Then he rolled down the sidewalk to another station and boarded a train for his destination.

Instead of 10 minutes, the trip lasted about 40.

When there are problems with access, Anyansi said, transit officials post information on station signs and on a Web site, and they update a hot line four times a day. Transit employees are also supposed to be available to answer questions.

In addition, a van can be reserved ahead of time to pick up a passenger at a specified address — at $5 a shared ride.

Harris, who has sued transit agencies for other accessibility barriers, said he was not surprised by the delays. He said the subway system was now "dedicated to making that Harris is probably right in describing New York's system as the worst in the country for handicap-accessibility.

Disabled passengers report the same difficulties in several other large cities, and some have sued transit agencies for improvements.

Because of a lawsuit, Chicago officials installed devices that make it easier for wheelchair users to get on and off trains. In Boston, disabled train and bus riders used over broken elevators and inaccessible stations, leading the city's transit agency to spend more than $800 million on improvements.

"It's not something that happens overnight, but they're moving along diligently," said Bill Hennessy, director of the Boston Center for Independent Living. He said the transit system was now "dedicated to improvements and trying to change the culture of an entity that hadn't given this the high priority or quite understood how to be handicap accessible."

In New York, only about 60 of the city's 486 stations are accessible to wheelchairs, and about 40 more are under construction to become accessible.

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This is a column about black Americans.

It's not political; it's not prescriptive. I don't know what to do about the facts I present below, nor do I know how to answer the questions they pose.

But I'm certain they matter. If nothing else, they illuminate the American racial division that too many of us still deny.

It's almost embarrassing to have to write a column that observes such a thing so obviously. But, unfortunately, columns that write about race are still rare.

According to one study in 2000, black seventh- and eighth-graders were three times more likely than their white counterparts to have had sexual intercourse (37 percent versus 11 percent). By 12th grade, meanwhile, 67 percent of black teenagers had engaged in intercourse, compared to 46 percent of white teenagers.

In a presidential debate at Howard University, John Edwards observed, "African-American women are 25 times as likely to be infected with AIDS today in America than white women," in the same debate, Hillary Clinton noted that HIV/AIDS is the leading cause of death among black women ages 25 through 34.

Zero: the number of black professors I have had at Notre Dame. Zero: the number of black males in my section in my dorm. Zero: the number of black undergraduates in three of my four classes.

We shouldn't need Jena, Louisiana, or Hurricane Katrina to remind us that racial differences still plague our country. As Leonard Pitts, Jr., a columnist for the Miami Herald, recently observed, "It feels as if in recent years we've lost our way." But just because we sometimes lack spectacular examples like Jena or Katrina, we must not continue to ignore the fundamental problems that persist.

Andrew Nesi is a junior American Studies major at Fairfield, Conn. As you read this, he is probably on his dorm's fourth floor,吟唱着《问题来了》的问题。

Meanwhile, Notre Dame Law School students-Dennis E. Bellia, president of the law school's conservative group, Notre Dame Law & Justice, and a student of Justice Samuel Alito, the U.S. Supreme Court's newly appointed conservative justice—emphasized that students at Notre Dame are, indeed, concerned about the recent events.

"The political ramifications of this glaring problem are a question for another column. But just because we have I gone wrong?'" Then a voice says to me, 'This is going to take more than one night.'"
We can all be saints

Certainly you can remember times when you've heard people say of someone heroic, or who has endured great suffering with patience and grace. "She's a saint!" or "He's a saint!" Perhaps you've even heard it said of one of your own family members. But all this is not because not raising you caused them suffering. Though we most often think of the big names like Francis of Assisi or Augustine when we hear "saint," the Church from its beginnings used the term saint to mean any baptized Christian. On this feast of All Saints, then, which we celebrate today, we ought to give thanks for the folks we know and those we'll never know whose lives have allowed of or seen God at work in the world a little more clearly.

Contrary to criticisms that we worship the saints lavishly with our statues and feast days and prayers, the Church teaches us to honor the saints: "Just as we would honor people who excel in the sciences, literature, peacemaking or the arts with Nobel or Pulitzer Prizes or Lecture Medals, so we would also honor people who, by their courageous faith and love, first hand and often die to bring the world around them closer to the Kingdom of God. We can best honor a saint, in fact, by making a work worthy of the imputed or anonymous holy man or woman, not with medals or prizes, but by imitating Christ in our lives. For the merit of the kind of discipleship we can speak out about God's love.

Our culture holds up an almost constant stream of men and women who have achieved fame for their accomplishments in sports, film, music, or simply for having a widely-photographed celebrity. Most of them, if we're honest with ourselves, are not people whose lives we truly wish to emulate. What a great idea, then, for our culture to celebrate saintly faces: day by day, reminding ourselves throughout the year of people we really would like to imitate in the many and various ways a person can serve God. Have an urge for world travel? St. Francis Xavier Cabrini spent her whole life on the move, from Italy to the United States to Nicaragua and Panama and Peru and back. Long to serve the poor? St. Martin de Porres learned his respect and compassion for money he used for poor families in Lima. Want to get the right thing to the poor? St. Vincent de Paul was a master at it. Today we honor not one particular saint, however, but all those who are imitating our anonymous holy man or woman, not with medals or prizes, but by imitating Christ in our lives.

By making all the saints known, the Church reminds us of the Church's mission and purpose.

Letters to the Editor

Inclusion and exclusion in Victory March

While we're at it...

Dear Caity and Erin Schneeman,

We think that's a great idea for the fight song and should be promptly added into the Notre Dame repertoire. While we're at it, there are a few more "gender issues" that could be addressed in our school songs.

"Really sons and daughters of Notre Dame" Sing her glory and sound her fame Cheer, cheer, for old Notre Dame While her loyal sons and daughters march onward to victory!

"Fight!" Forget the fact that it's written for football, a sport predominately a man's sport. And now that we've fixed the fight song, let's fix the fight for you, Notre Dame...

"While Notre Dame bears her hive, blue, white..." How about "Even Notre Dame bears her hive, blue, white, and...?"

Or even "Irish backs"... used when the Irish backs go marching by.

The cheering thousands shout their battle cry For Notre Dame men and women marching into the stadium Fighting the fight for you, Notre Dame... When Notre Dame men and women fight for gold and blue Then Notre Dame men and women will win the game

While we're at it, we can make "Notre Dame" non-gendered, and insist on referring to it as "hierarchy." We are all in favor of forgetting the fact that these songs were written during a period when Notre Dame was an all-male school, that these songs were written to cheer on a male dominated sport (i.e. football) and that this University is a university full of tradition, a tradition that is marked by these songs that have endured from their composition.

We fully support changing all of these lyrics to enter into an inclusive and accurate corrective atmosphere here at Notre Dame so that the lady in the stadium cheering on the football team won't be felt belittled because we have to punch the air at "her" instead of "daughters.

Katie Barrett
FaithPoint

Original version cherished

At this point, I've grown accustomed to biographers' grumbling and hissing at me whenever Notre Dame students, faculty and alumni try to instill their opinions, viewpoint and credentials into other Notre Dame songs. This has been true until I recently read Caity and Erin Schneeman's letter to the editor "Reconsidering the Victory March" (Oct. 30).

"While few people would refer to me as "old fashioned," I am still a firm believer that certain traditions should remain unchanged. It would help to have the "Notre Dame Victory March." I am a proponent for equal rights and opportunities for all. But question: Can anything be left sacred anymore? The reason that most Notre Dame fans love this song is because of its tone and the access of people and pride associated with the University. When I hear the song, I do not appreciate the minority by making it into a tradition as politically correct as possible, they isolate the majority and forget about what most people care about. I've witnessed many great Notre Dame traditions die since I started as a student and the very mention of changing the lyrics to the "Victory March" fills me with the same sadness and rage I usually associate with watching Tyrone Willingham coach a football game.

What's next? Should we start rethinking the Declaration of Independence because it doesn't state that "all men and women are created equal?" Words might just be words, but like the Declaration of Independence, the "Victory March" has meant a great deal to a number of people and to change it now would be an injustice to every person who has walked the steps beneath the Golden Dome.

The thing that you must remember, Caity and Erin, is that this University was founded in 1842, not 1972. So, while I find Caity and Erin's family traditions to be "interested" and "cute," I, along with the rest of the Notre Dame family, will continue to sing the original and real version of the fight song, as written by the O'Shea Brothers in the early 1900's.

Honestly, if Caity and Erin feel oppressed or shuttled in any way by reading my opinion, then I would like to remind them of the beautiful gates of Saint Mary's College are always open. Last time I checked, there was no discussion of incorporating a woman's presence into its fight song.

Carol Lambert
Junior
Paquita Eau Hall

Christine Morris
Junior
Walsh Hall
Oct. 31

Matthew Whalkin
Class of 2006
Los Angeles, Calif.
Oct. 30

Substitution can keep tradition

I read with interest the letter from Caity and Erin Schneeman, "Reconsidering the Victory March" (Oct. 30). I am in total agreement with these two ladies. Women have been attending the University for decades...and I have a son (class of 2003). And I have a son (class of 2003).

I think that's a great idea for the fight song...

Don't leave anyone out

This is in response to the letter entitled "Reconsidering the Victory March" (Oct. 30). We feel the aforementioned letter included some points, but was still slightly exclusive in its message.

Even small exclusions breed both sadness and Viewpoint articles. As The Observer's Viewpoint editor, I would like to add everyone's goal, in every aspect of life, is to be included. If you feel left out, you are not alone. Every group of people has ever felt excluded from society, from school, from church, from home. When I sit with people who have ever felt excluded from society, it is often the one's most of us have never heard of. Christianity proclaims God's unconditional love, and some people have a special capacity to disclose this love of God to the world.

We have been at the University for decades...and I have a son (class of 2003).

Holly Miller
Walsh Hall
Oct. 51

It is unfair, as well as an act of discrimination, to continue to exclude women by not changing the term, "sons," to something which includes both genders. Please allow women to make an even greater part of this wonderful university. Exclusion is never a peaceful thing for anyone. Both male and female students should feel "equal" at this university in every way. After all, this is a Christian university, which reveres a woman: the Virgin Mary. I would think it only right that women and men have the same labels. If we really would like to imitate, and emulate. What a great idea, then, for our culture to value each of us if we let him. We honor the saints by the way we live our lives, standing on the foundation of an immaterial communion of saints who have offered us the saving love and example of Jesus Christ.

Katie Barrett is the director of Resources and Special Projects in the Office of Campus Ministry. She can be reached at kbarrett@nd.edu

The views expressed in this column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer.
Owen Smith, a 1995 Notre Dame graduate and stand-up comedian, will perform his one-hour special, "Assuming Name," at 7:30 p.m. on Thursday at the Century Center. Doors for the first show open at 6:30 p.m, and for $5 online, at the LaFortune box office, and at the door of the Century Center. Free rides will be provided from McKenna Hall and Library Center. Circle starting at 6 p.m.

Contact Katie Peralta at kperalta@nd.edu

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By KATIE PERALTA
News Writer

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Comedian Owen Smith performs tonight at 7:30 and 10 at the Century Center, 120 S. St. Joseph St. Smith is a 1995 Notre Dame graduate.
"We are just about 140 nautical miles out of Chicago O'Hare." While this may sound like a pleasant trip, it's really just nonsense. Note what follows: "Hope you're enjoying your flight."

Now back to that first comment. Let's play "one of these things is not like the other." You guessed that the word "nautical" makes no contextual sense when you're miles above any water mass, you're 100 percent correct.

This is just one of the many oddities that pervade air travel. It seems that even the oft-repeated phrase, "pleasant trip" is a contradiction in terms. I expected the continents would be the only thing that one would not associate with flight. Put on Frank Sinatra's "Come Fly With Me," and I'd probably be persuaded to repeat my combined 27 hours of fall break travel. I'm sticking with Frank when I insist that there is a charm in seeing towns dissolve into what looks like a distant monopoly board.

But, with that said, this little slice of sky heaven is enveloped in an environment discordantly akin to what I imagine hell is like. After enduring traffic and getting rid of your burdensome luggage, the daunting obstacle of security hoons. Somehow, I'm almost always the one pulled out of line for an extra-thorough check. I thought there was a limit to how many times I could be searched by airport security in a single year. Apparently not.

In those mundane lines of "remove your laptop" and "no liquids exceeding four ounces," I just can't seem to do anything right. Case and point: I accidentally forgot to remove my centimeter-thin flip flops, and was forced to repeat the entire process. I was additionally subjected to the glares and jostles from the irritated people behind me. I guess my threadbare trash-bag washome cargo everybody carries on extra weapons. They were so well disguised that even I, the woman who told them out as dangerous. Good thing I have airport security to protect me from myself. It's probably for the best that I couldn't harness my shoes' nano-chromatic potential or else the guy who kept coughing his infectious germs onto me would definitely have not had such a "pleasant trip."

You'd think that walking at the departing gate would be unexciting and therefore not irritating. First of all, the gate is intended for sipping your morning latte before you endure a claustrophobic's nightmare. But regrettably the gates, once havens from airport anxiety, have now become locales for positioning yourself for optimal boarding capacity. Using totes, backpacks, and briefcases as weapons to defend their turf, passengers prepare to charge the gate. Those soccer moms pack a hard punch with their kid's Dora the Explorer backpack. I'm considering not leaving my bed until Christmas so that I can start recouping for my next flying disaster. Sorry, Frank, it's disappointing for me, too.

The views expressed in Scene and Heard are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer.

Contact Jess Shaffer at jshafjer@nd.edu

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**Burritos fill bellies of ND students**

By CHRIS McGRADY
Assistant Scene Editor

Students have been caught up in the craze for Chipotle — the burgeoning empire of burrito restaur-

ants built on the backs of organic meats and guacamole. Chipotle, a Colorado-based Fresh-Mex chain, has hit the Michiana area with all the force of, well, a three-pound burrito.

If Chipotle opened on Main Street in Mishawaka a little more than a year ago. The restaurant was popular initially, but mostly with those students who had been to Chipotle in other cities. But as time went on, the phrase, "Wanna go to Chipotle?" became as much a campus mainstay as, "What did you think of the game?" Now, if you head to Chipotle at 6 a.m. this very Monday, expect the line to reach the door.

Chipotle's secret is simplicity. Its menu only has a few options: burritos, tacos (hard or soft shell), burrito bowls (a burrito minus the tortilla) and a salad. But the possibilities within these choices are endless. Four different types of meat, four kinds of salsa, two types of beans and, oh, you like sour cream and cheese on that? These ingredients ultimately become the real weapon behind their success in taste.

So often lost in the restaurant atmosphere—see also, the "how much stuff can we put on our way to Chipotle?"—is how deliciously, good food. Chipotle founder Steve Ellis is a cook at heart, and it shows. The adobe red and steak is delicious, the chunky guacamole is flavorful, and the beans, is spicy and robust. Chipotle boils its menu down to a few things and does them very well, rather than having dozens of mediocre choices. The recipe works.

Many appear to call out to me.

At least baggage claim is out in the open; it gives more space for bag flinging. But unfortunately, here you are subject to the little boys and old men's delusions of strength. Inevitably you always get an only half-retrieved bag thumped onto your foot. That last yank of your bag off the belt is about any same person can take. It's enough to send anybody straight to bed as remedy for exhaustive irritation. I'm considering not leaving my bed until Christmas so that I can start recouping for my next flying disaster. Sorry, Frank, it's disappointing for me, too.

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Contact Jess Shaffer at jshafjer@nd.edu

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**FASTEN YOUR SEATBELTS**

**AIR TRAVEL IS NOTHING BUT A BUMPY FLIGHT**

**Unusually, friendly smiles don't always greet us when we fly.**

The first one out of your seat — an all consuming desire to be one of the few who got to stand at full height in the center aisle. And while the rest crouch under the overhead compartments, the vicious carry-on luggage rains down from the sky, attacking random with a roller bag to the head. The Dora the Explorer backpack comes out of nowhere, again!

At least baggage claim is out in the open; it gives more space for bag flinging. But unfortunately, here you are subject to the little boys and old men's delusions of strength. Inevitably you always get an only half-retrieved bag thumped onto your foot. That last yank of your bag off the belt is about any same person can take. It's enough to send anybody straight to bed as remedy for exhaustive irritation. I'm considering not leaving my bed until Christmas so that I can start recouping for my next flying disaster. Sorry, Frank, it's disappointing for me, too.

*The Observer*
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Hornets guard Peja Stojakovic, left, drives past Kings guard John Salmons during New Orleans' 104-90 win Wednesday.

NBA

Nets' big three pace squad in win over Bulls

Hornets open season with win in front of home crowd; Lewis' debut a success in Orlando's win over Milwaukee

Associated Press

EAST RUTHERFORD, N.J. — Antoine Wright has learned to deal with rejection very well.

Told by the New Jersey Nets last week that they won't be picking up the option on his contract next year, Wright started his walk year by making a statement.

Wright scored 14 of his career-high 21 points in the fourth quarter and overtime to lead the Nets to a 112-103 victory over the Championships Chicago Bulls on Wednesday night.

"I'm a little excited," Wright said. "I'm looking at this as an opportunity to show people I can be consistent and play every night. At the end of the year, hopefully everything will take care of itself."

Wright spent $25,000 this summer to work out three times daily on his overall game at a gym in Las Vegas, and it certainly paid off.

"For him to have a game like this, on opening night to see us, I'm just happy for him," Frank said. "It's a big day. It's nice to see him have a big game like this and hope he'll have more like that."

Richard Jefferson, who battled injuries in recent years, added 29 points and 10 rebounds as the Nets won their 12th straight against the Bulls in New Jersey. Vince Carter had 24 points and a big steal late and Jason Kidd handed out 11 assists.

Kidd was impressed with Wright, whose previous high was 16 points last season.

"I think it gives him confidence and puts him on the radar," Kidd said. "He played extremely well.

The Bulls struggled at times in the season opener, the possible victims of rumors of a major trade with the Lakers for Kobe Bryant.

Ben Gordon had 27 points and Luol Deng added 22 points and 11 rebounds for the Bulls, who rallied from a 17-point second-half deficit to force the overtime.

"There's never a deadline when it comes to trades," Deng said. "I guess I have to learn to play without the security for the rest of my career. There's always someone who wants you. I didn't think it really bothered us."

Hornets 104, Kings 90

Chris Paul and the rest of the Hornets' starting five got their team's full-time return to New Orleans off to a promising start. Paul had 22 points and 12 assists, while Peja Stojakovic showed some of his All-Star form of old with 19 points to help the Hornets beat the Sacramento Kings 104-90.

Tyson Chandler, fresh of a stint playing for the U.S. national team, had 15 points and 13 rebounds for New Orleans, while David West showed no signs of a recent ankle sprain in scoring 17.

Defensively, Sacramento missed Ron Artest, who is serving a seven-game suspension for a control charge related to domestic violence. With Mike Bibby out at least three weeks with a broken hand, the Kings' firepower was diminished as well.

Kevin Martin led the Kings with 26 points, while John Salmons scored 22, Francisco Garcia 17 and Brad Miller 12.

The Hornets took a double-digit lead in the first half and maintained it for most of the game.

NBA commissioner David Stern was in New Orleans to announce a season-long, league-wide community service initiative in New Orleans that will include a day of service by players, coaches, team employees and their families two days before the NBA All-Star Game here on Feb. 17.

For the first time, the NBA was allowed to attend the game, the first of 41 regular-season contests the Hornets will play here this year that have been moved to New Orleans since Hurricane Katrina wiped out the Superdome in 2005.

The team spent most of the past two seasons in Oklahoma City and the last nine regular-season games in the Big Easy during that time.

Lewis got a Magic 3-point barrage that put him in an early 9-point deficit in the opening quarter. As Orlando hoped, he stretched halfcourt sets to open up the paint for Dwight Howard, and vice versa.

"He obviously makes it easier for us because he draws so much attention down low," Lewis said. "And when we're knocking down 3s, he's left with his man on-on-one."

Orlando, one of the league's worst 3-point teams by attempts last season, shot better from 3-point range (54 percent) than the field (44 percent). Besides Lewis, Hedo Turkoglu keyed the effort with 24 points on 9-for-13 shooting from behind the arc.

NBA.com, AP

Lynn, OP, at 1-781-9.
Boston pitcher Curt Schilling celebrates the Red Sox’s second World Series win in four years during the team’s victory parade in Boston Tuesday. The veteran hurler is a free agent sorting through his options.

Schilling considering other listed teams

Associated Press

BOSTON — Although his first choice remains Boston, Red Sox pitcher Curt Schilling said on his blog that he would consider a dozen other teams for a “last year” based on quality of life and a chance to make it back to the playoffs.

Schilling previously said he would only rule out the rival New York Yankees.

On Tuesday evening, he posted on his blog, 38pitches.com, the following list: Cleveland, Detroit, Anaheim, New York Mets, Philadelphia, Atlanta, L.A., S.D., Arizona, Chicago Cubs, St. Louis, Milwaukee.

"Teams we didn’t include aren’t for any one reason," he wrote. "There are a million little things that go into this from stadiums to school districts to travel to spring training to etc. etc. etc. but the list represents the teams after Boston that have some of the off the field things that are big to us, plus the potential to go into October next year."

Only the Red Sox can sign the right-hander, who turns 41 this month, until Nov. 13; other teams can express an interest but not negotiate over money.

Schilling, who isn’t represented by an agent, said he called the baseball players’ association and told them he wanted to file for free agency.

"Weird," Schilling wrote. "Something that can be so life altering was pretty much a 50-second phone call."

Catcher Jason Varitek and Doug Mirabelli stopped by the Red Sox clubhouse to box up their belongings on Wednesday afternoon after being honored at the Massachusetts Statehouse. Varitek took care to label and preserve the bars he used during the World Series.

The two locker next to the catcher, which had been used by Schilling, were cleared of any personal items and name tags.

Varitek repeated his hope that Schilling is able to finish up his career in Boston, but said he wouldn’t be running to his teammate’s blog to keep up on his status.

"I haven’t checked a blog, so I’m probably not going to start now," he said. "I may call him now and then to see what’s going on."

Varitek said he was one of the players who received a note from Schilling.

"It’s something I’ll keep," the catcher said.

In Brief

Stugger Adam Dunn becomes highest paid Reds player

CINCINNATI — Adam Dunn became the Cincinnati Reds’ highest-paid player Wednesday when the team picked up his contract option for $13 million next season.

The Reds answered their most expensive offseason question by keeping their top power hitter, the only one in franchise history to have 40 homers in four consecutive seasons. Dunn wanted to stay with the team that drafted and developed him.

Owner Bob Castellini was consulted about the decision. Earlier this month, Castellini said he wanted Dunn to stay, even if it cost $13 million.

Anytime you have a deal of this magnitude, ownership deserves to be part of the process," general manager Wayne Krivsky said.

Mike Cameron suspended 25 games for stimulant use

SAN DIEGO — Mike Cameron, the Padres’ Gold Glove center fielder, was suspended for the first 25 games of next season on Wednesday after testing positive a second time for a banned stimulant.

Cameron, who plans to file for free agency, said he believes he took a tainted supplement.

"The one thing I wanted to make sure was explained is, no steroids," Cameron told AM 1090, the Padres’ flagship radio station. "I never took anything like that before in my life. That would have been 50 games, and that would affect me a whole lot more."

Cameron issued a statement through his agent, saying doctors for the players’ association helped him narrow down what triggered the positive test.

Lisa Leslie back after a year off and a newborn baby

COLLEGE PARK, Md. — It would have been easy for Lisa Leslie to walk away from playing basketball and begin a broadcasting career.

The three-time Olympic medalist had just become a mom in June with the birth of daughter Lauren and had nothing left to prove.

But the 36-year-old star still yearned to play.

"Honestly, I didn’t know if I was going to be able to play or not," Leslie said. "Being back out on the floor, I just love basketball, and regardless of whatever my age is, as long as I’m keeping up and able to contribute, I’ll play."

"And when I can’t do that anymore, I have no problems hanging up the shoes and going over and getting behind the mike and talking about the game. But I think right now I’m still effective enough to help the team win."

A R O U N D  T H E  N A T I O N

Thursday, November 1, 2007

Compiled from The Observer’s Wire Services

page 15

around the dial

NCAA FOOTBALL

Virginia Tech at Georgia Tech

7:30 p.m., ESPN

MLS PLAYOFFS

Chicago Fire at D.C. United

7:30 p.m., ESPN2
MLB

Torre leads candidate pool for Dodgers job

L.A. GM Colletti admits he has spoken with former Yankees skipper, no deal has been reached between the two sides

Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — General manager Ned Colletti acknowledged Wednesday he had spoken with former New York Yankees manager Joe Torre about managing the Los Angeles Dodgers.

While Colletti insisted they had not agreed on a contract, he indicated the former New York Yankees manager was the leading candidate to replace Grady Little, who resigned on Tuesday.

"We've had some conversations with him very recently," Colletti said. "Certainly as you look at his resume and what he's done and the market he's done it in, you've certainly got to start there."

Having said that, Colletti was quick to point out other candidates were also being considered.

"We're talking about a number of people," Colletti said. "We're crossing off names. It may be a very short list."

Colletti said he was aware of baseball's directive regarding minorities being interviewed for open managerial jobs, but wouldn't say whether the Dodgers would honor the request.

"We're taking it into consideration. We'll see how things go," he said. "I'd rather look at what we've done. What we've done speaks well. I think it's pretty indicative of a thorough thought process.

By any reasonable gauge, Torre's name is at the top of the Dodgers' list. However, when asked whether the parties had discussed money and if they were close to a deal, Colletti retreated.

"We have interest," he said. "It may be mutual, that's really a question for the other side.

I don't categorize anything as close, far, it's either done or it's not done. We're still trying to learn about each other. There's been some light discussions to try and get a feel. I'm not going to get into where the negotiations are. It's still early in the process in some ways.

Torre's agent, Maury Gostfrand, declined comment Wednesday.

Source: Torre Little resigned Tuesday, published reports said Torre and the Dodgers had already reached a deal, some claiming he had agreed in principle to a three-year contract worth $14.5 million.

"I've watched stuff in the last 72 hours that I can't believe I'm watching," Colletti said. "I can tell you we do not have an agreement. I've seen more inaccuracy than I can ever remember."

Still, it would be a surprise at this stage if Torre doesn't follow in the footsteps of Hall of Famers Walter Alston and Tom Lasorda in what would likely be the final chapter of his own Hall of Fame career.

Colletti acknowledged the buzz surrounding Torre might cause other potential candidates to decline to be interviewed.

"That's certainly a factor," Colletti said. "I believe it will play a role."

The 67-year-old Torre, who managed the Yankees to four World Series titles and 12 playoff appearances in 12 seasons, completed a $19.2 million, three-year contract this year. He ranks eighth on baseball's career list with 2,067 victories and has won a record 76 postseason games.

On Oct. 18, Torre rejected a $5 million, one-year offer from the Yankees with an additional $3 million in performance bonuses. He earned $7.3 million this season, by far the most of any manager.

Colletti said he sensed Little was leaning toward stepping down, so he began discussing the job recently with potential replacements. One of those candidates, the GM acknowledged, was Joe Girardi, hired by the Yankees as Torre's successor earlier Tuesday.

The Dodgers entered this season as the clear-cut favorite to win the NL West. They had the league's best record in mid-July, but lost 11 of their last 14 games to fade out of contention, finishing at 82-80.

"We've discussed it to some extent," Colletti said. "We've discussed it in some extent. I think whoever the manager is, there will have to be a comfort level on his part and my part."

Colletti said he hadn't spoken directly with potential managerial candidates other than Girardi and Torre personally, but added there had been conversations with others "in a secondary way, not directly, through other people."

"I'm not going to get into the numbers," he said.

Former Yankees manager Joe Torre, left, watches a spring training game with new Yankees manager Joe Girardi on March 1, 2005.

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THIS WEEK IN INDIANA UNIVERSITY

Men's Basketball
LSU fans look for payback on Saban Saturday

Tiger faithful haven't forgiven Alabama coach for jumping ship to NFL, returning to coach rival SEC school

Associated Press

Nothing gets college football fans more riled up than a coach who bolts for a big-money contract in the NFL. That's why Nick Saban is so reviled in Cajun country, this week more than ever as his former team, No. 3 LSU, gets set to play his current team, No. 17 Alabama.

At least Saban has the good fortune of playing Saturday's game in Tuscaloosa, where he'll be in the safe confines of adoring fans who have already nominated him the second coming of Bear Bryant. Saban's successor, Les Miles, anointed him the second coming of the guy coaching LSU, which had fired Mike Saban, his predecessor. "Look, I had a lot of great relationships with a lot of people at LSU," Saban said, offering up his version of a truce. "I'm sure some of those people are anxious for this game. I'm sure you know somebody and have relationships with people, it creates a tremendous opportunity when you compete against them. You don't really have to hate somebody to compete against them." Maybe not, but there are plenty of fans in Louisiana who despise Saban for abandoning Baton Rouge. LSU stumbled through the 1990s with more national** championship** runs than Saban's first two years there. Saban arrived in 2000 and immediately turned things around, taking advantage of the state's enormous high school talent base and shutting off other teams from swooping in to take the best players.

In Saban's second year, the Tigers won their first Southeastern Conference championship since 1988. That was only a prelude to the 2003 season, when LSU nearly clinched the SEC title game to claim a share of the national championship. At that point, Saban was so popular he probably could have been elected governor of Louisiana. Instead, he hung around just one more season before taking a lucrative offer to coach the NFL's Miami Dolphins.

While the money was good, Saban wasn't a good fit for the pro game. He yearned for another college job and, after vehemently denying that he was leaving, he took a $4-million-a-year offer from the Crimson Tide, which had fired Mike Shula after a disappointing season.

Back at LSU, there was an angry outcry against Saban, whose name was accompanied by words such as "betrayal" and "turmoil." Everyone in purple and gold circled one date on their calendars Nov. 3. "I don't think it surprised anyone that he returned to college football," said Herb Vincent, who served as a listserv between LSU's athletic department and its fundraising group. "He always talked about how much he enjoyed coaching college players. What took everybody by surprise was that he would come back to not only the SEC, but right into our division. That adds a little bit of an edge to this game."

A little bit of an edge? That's an understatement. When LSU started taking orders for the 7,000 tickets it allotted for Saturday's game, it was bombarded with 33,000 requests. "That exceeds most bowl game requests," Vincent said. "That in itself shows the anticipation for this game. I'm sure a lot of our fans are going just to go even though they may not have tickets." Saban recruited most of LSU's starters, but the players have largely gone along with the company line. Yes, this is a very important game. No, it has nothing to do with the guy coaching the other team. "This game is more than coach Saban," senior defensive end Kirston Pittman said. "It's about winning the game and being at the SEC West. I have a lot of respect for coach Saban. He brought a lot of fire to the table. He expected excellence. He didn't expect you to make a mistake. He wouldn't go out of his way to make a mistake."

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Kitna proves to be prophetic

QB's prediction of 10 wins for Lions appears possible after 7 games

Associated Press

Allen Park, Mich. — Jon Kitna subjecte[d] himself to ridicule, saying before the season he would be disappointed if the Detroit Lions didn't win at least 10 games. Now, he's laughing at Detroit's quarterback anymore.

The Lions are 5-2, the lone NFC North team without a loss in the division and only one in the conference undefeated at home. Detroit's strong start — and startling turnaround — gave Kitna enough confidence to say special things are possible.

Such as: "I don't play this game for any other reason but to win a Super Bowl," Kitna said with conviction and a steady glare as he grabbed a reporter's recorder. "I'm not trying to go to the playoffs. I'm not trying to win 10 games. I'm not trying to do many victories.

"I'm trying to win in a Super Bowl."

On the eve of training camp, Lions coach Rod Marinelli insisted he didn't have a problem with Kitna's bravado.

As the team prepares to hit its midway point of the season at home against Denver, Marinelli wasn't bothered by the latest bold statement from his quarterback.

"Every team in this league has a vision of what they want to be," Marinelli said after Wednesday's practice. "But in reality, it's the day-by-day preparation."

The Lions have embraced Marinelli's one-snap-at-a-time mantra, and it has appeared to help them win five times in the final quarter with clutch plays by all three units.

Detroit was routed 56-21 at Philadelphia and 34-3 at Washington, but bounced back to win the last two games. Suddenly, people outside the locker room are believing in the franchise coming off one of the worst six-season stretches in NFL history.

The former laughingstock of the league is slowly gaining respect, but Marinelli insists he doesn't care.

"It doesn't mean anything," Marinelli said. "If it helped us win, I'd care."

"It certainly doesn't mean anything as we prepare to play Denver this week."

If Detroit beats the Broncos, it will double last season's win total; match the most victories from the Matt Millen era; and reach six wins halfway through the season for the first time since 1999, the last season it made the playoffs.

The Lions are vastly improved mostly because they're creating turnovers — five more than they've given up — and taking advantage of them.

They lead the NFL with 20 takeaways, 11 interceptions and 69 points off turnovers. At this point last year, Detroit was 1-6-1 after forcing 11 turnovers, including just three interceptions.

"The first thing you look at is their turnover ratio," Denver coach Mike Shanahan said. "Anytime you win the turnover battle, you've got an excellent chance to win football games."

"It's also another year of the 'Tampa Two' defense being implemented much better than it was last year because of Barry."

"It's everything," Marinelli said.

Barry learned the popular system as an assistant in Tampa Bay under coach Tony Dungy and coordinator Monte Kiffin.

"When I hired him people were like, 'Well, that's your son-in-law,' but he's here because he knows this system as well as anyone in the league," Marinelli said. "Coach Dungy hired both Mike Tomlin and Joe, then he trained under Monte Kiffin, one of the elite coordinators ever."

Marinelli fired defensive coordinator Donnie Henderson, replacing him with Barry.

"With Donnie, that was my fault 100 percent," Marinelli said.

Marinelli also got rid of some players who didn't fit his system or did not seem willing to practice hard with pads after going through lighter workouts under former coaches Steve Mariucci and Marty Mornhinweg.

Detroit reshaped its roster in part by trading cornerback De'Vico Bailey to Denver, defensive end James Hall to St. Louis and choosing not to re-sign safety Terrence Holt. "He broke the whip out last year and demanded attitudes change," defensive tackle Cory Redding said. "He said, 'We're not rebuilding this year. We're going out to win. It wasn't personal when he got guys out of here. It was business.'

"The incidence the "Tampa Two" defense is being implemented much better than it was last year because of Barry."
FOXBOROUGH, Mass. — Quarterbacks should keep their eyes on Mike Vrabel, whether he’s trying to tackle them or getting open to catch a touchdown.

Defenders should do the same when the Patriots linebacker lines up at tight end.

The Redskins left Vrabel unblocked in Sunday’s game when he caught a 2-yard scoring pass from Tom Brady that gave New England a 14-0 lead in their 27-7 rout. That was his 10th reception in his 13 NFL seasons, one every a touchdown, but now longer than 2 yards.

By now, you’d think opponents would pay attention to him more.

"Sometimes they do and sometimes they don’t," he said Wednesday. "When they do, I don’t get the ball, and when they don’t, I get the ball. You can only stop so much down there."

If a player covers him there would be more room for the Patriots to run the ball. That also would divert a defender from more dangerous threats: wide receivers Randy Moss, Wes Welker and Donté Stallworth.

"I would always cover Randy before me," Vrabel said with a smile. "When he does get into the pass pattern, Brady has confidence.

"He’s very good at evading defenders and getting off the line of scrimmage," Brady said. "Sometimes they do and sometimes they don’t," he said Wednesday. "When they do, I don’t get the ball, and when they don’t, I get the ball. You can only stop so much down there."

The Patriots improved to 8-0 when they beat Washington. Vrabel had 13 tackles. He had three sacks of Jason Campbell, forcing a fumble on each one. Russell Clewiston returned the last one 91 yards for a touch- down. To Warren recovered the other two.

"It was like I was out there Easter egg hunting or picking up a golden egg," Warren said. "You just have to continue to play and sometimes the ball might literally bounce in your direction."

The 6-foot-4, 241-pound Vrabel has a combination of speed, strength and smarts that make him a threat on both sides of the ball.

"You can be out there in the game and he’ll say, ‘Watch out for this or he looking for that. It may be a screen or a draw,’ just calling out the plays," defensive end Richard Seymour said. "We always joke at the end of the game. He says, ‘Hey, Sey, at the end of the game I’m going to hand him back their playbook,’ because he’s in tune.”

The Patriots first saw that when he was a rookie with Pittsburgh in 1997. Like he did against Campbell, he sacked New England’s Drew Bledsoe, forcing a fumble in the final minutes of a second-round playoff game. The Steelers held on for a 4-0 win.

He has 77 sacks this season, fifth in the NFL and first among line backers. Just two more and he’ll match his career high set in 2003.

His three sacks last Sunday led to 17 points.

The first came midway through the second quarter on the fourth play after his touch- down and set up Stephen Gostkowski’s 36-yard field goal. He got the second with 1:49 left in the half, setting up Brady’s 6- yard scoring pass to Moss.

Then, on the Redskins third play of the third quarter, Vrabel sacked Campbell again and Clewiston scooped up the ball and ran it in. Vrabel had lined up at left end and got a free shot at the quarterback when the right tackle and running back both tried to block Junior Seau coming up the middle.

"Any time that somebody can make a play, more times than not other (defensive) guys are involved," Vrabel said. "Probably the worst ball security guy on the field is the quar- terback. When he’s looking to try to make a play and if you have some awareness, you can usually get it out.”

Vrabel didn’t force Manning to fumble, but did sack him with 10:42 left in last season’s AFC championship game. The Colts punter two plays later and the Patriots followed with a field goal for a 31-28 lead. But Indianapolis won 38-34.

"I think we certainly are aware of it,” Vrabel said of the sack next to none. "It’s not going to have any bearing on this week.”

Associated Press

Flexible Vrabel a dual threat

Patriots linebacker confortable catching quarterbacks and TDs

Associated Press

Patriots linebacker Mike Vrabel stretches before practice Wednesday as the Patriots prepare to play the Colts this weekend.

NHL

Owner works to keep Predators in Nashville

NASHVILLE, Tenn. — Predators owner Craig Leipold decided Wednesday to give more time to the local investors trying to buy the NHL team and keep it in town.

The local investors put down $10 million as a deposit in August for the $193 million purchase and faced a midnight deadline Wednesday to finalize the sale or lose exclusive negotiating rights.

They have been working with Metro Nashville officials to revise the team’s arena lease to give them a better chance of making rather than losing money. Leipold is selling because he estimated he has lost $70 million in his 10 years of ownership.

Leipold said in a statement released by the team late Wednesday afternoon that he had met with Mayor Karl Dean for an update on where the city is in the lease negotiations with the group led by David Freeman. Leipold also met with Freeman for an update on the group’s progress toward finalizing this deal.

Leipold didn’t say how much more time he is giving them to finish the deal but said he looks forward to completing the sale.

"Riddle how long this transaction is and how much time and effort David, his group, the Mayor’s office and others have invested into the process all with a goal of keeping the Predators in Nashville and mak- ing the franchise viable for the long-term," Leipold said.

"Based on the progress being made, I am convinced all parties will benefit from extra time to complete this transaction so we will extend the purchase agree- ment with David’s group with a goal of completing the sale as soon as possible.”

The investors declined to com- ment after Leipold announced the extension. But the group does have a new partner. Doug Berenger is a businessman and friend of California venture capitai- talist William “Boo” Del Biaggio — who had been the only non- Nashville investor.

Freeman said in a statement that nothing is changing in the ownership group.

"Roots is simply diversifying or diluting his personal interest and bringing another very bright, high quality, hockey-loving investor into his group. We are very happy that Mr. Berenger will be part of our ownership group,” Freeman said.

Leipold didn’t say much more himself.

"We do not plan to comment further on the sale status until there is significant and definitive news," Leipold said.

Leipold originally announced a deal to sell his team in May to Canadian billionaire Jim Balsillie for $220 million. But the deal fell through in June when the Canada’s government, the co-CEO of Blackberry makers Research in Motion Ltd. started taking season ticket deposits in Hamilton, Ontario.

He remains interested in pur- chasing the team. Balsillie retained a local attorney who shared a letter with the Nashville Sports Authority recently in which he called Nashville a great hockey mar- ket.
Parbhul and Helgeson look to continue good play in Williamsburg

By KATELYN GRABAREK Special Writer

Notre Dame travels to Virginia this weekend hoping to put an exclamation point on the end of an already strong fall season. The Irish played well at the Olympic Field’s Invitational in Chicago Sept. 13-16, sweeping all six matches against last spring’s national runner-up Illinois. Notre Dame then went on to win 27 singles matches while host Connecticut beat Tom Fallon’s Invitational in South Bend Sept. 28-30.

Tip off continued from page 24

Mallory, was ranked 11th in the nation by Blue Star Basketball. Notre Dame has now had a top-25 recruiting class for 11 consecutive seasons.

The task lost only two players to graduation, Crystal Erwin and Breona Gray. The pair averaged 12.2 points per game last season. Erwin and Breona Gray. The pair averaged 12.2 points per game last season.

The team also has continued to improve the team’s perimeter offense this season, in part to Alex Simmons’ strong shooting. Simmons’ serving abilities in his semifinal match to Ryan Row of Illinois 6-1, 6-4. With the win, he would have earned an automatic bid into this weekend’s ITA National Intercollegiate Tennis Championships. Instead, Helgeson will go with the rest of the Irish to the William and Mary Invitational.

Parbhul also played well this past weekend,” Bayliss said. “We played the tournament winner in the Round of 16 and didn’t quite play well enough to win.”

Parbhul and 2007 graduate Stephen Bass reached the National Championships last season.

Freshman David Anderson also had a promising performance at the last weekend’s tournament. He won his first round match over Marquette’s Nick Boulieu, but lost a close match in the next round to Jeremy Sonkin of Wisconsin. Senior Andrew Roth has rebounded well after spraining his ankle in the Olympia Field’s Invitational.

“Roth has done well for us after he sprained his ankle,” Bayliss said. “He had a convincing win in round one, but fell in the round of 32 against much better opposition.”

Irish junior Brett Helgeson lines up a forehand shot during Notre Dame’s match with Indiana on Nov. 26, 2006 in the Eck Center.

The Screaming Eagles finished last season with a 10-12 (10-9 Great Lakes Valley Conference) record and received votes in this year’s USA Today/ESPN Division II Top 25 Preseason Coaches Poll. Senior forward Jasmine Raines, who averaged 19.3 points per game last season, is the team’s top returning scorer. Tonight’s game will be the first preseason game for Southern Indiana as well.

Senior All-America guard Charell Allen was named as a pre-season candidate for the John R. Wooden Women’s Award, given to the top player who best represents the term “student-athlete.” Allen led the Irish in scoring and rebounding (17 rebound, 12 points per game, 6.2 rebounds last season. She is expected to be the leader of McGraw’s new four-guard offense and continue to put up big numbers for the Irish in her final season in South Bend.

The Irish were picked to finish fifth in the Big East by the conference’s coaches, behind Cincinnati, Rutgers, West Virginia and Pittsburgh. The Irish finished fifth in the conference last season after being picked to end their season in 11th place at the beginning of the 2006 campaign.

Tip off is set for 7:00 tonight.

Contact Bill Brink at wbrink@nd.edu

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No Chinese language required
**Luke**

continued from page 24

went backwards," the sopho­
more said.

At the time, the prognosis
was that Harangody
would be out
for three to six
weeks. At this
point, the for­
ward will miss
both of the
team's exhibi­
tion games —
Friday against
St. Ambrose;

Wednesday
against St. Ed­
ward's — but
will certainly be back when
the Irish travel to the Paradise­
Island tournament in the Virgin
Islands Nov. 16.

Brey said a decision will be
made on Harangody's status
for the Long Island game
sometime next week.

In the meantime, Harangody
has been trying to work out
and practice with the team as
best he can without full use of
his right hand.

"It's been tough, but there's
only one more week, so I can
wait I guess," Harangody
said. "It could have been a
lot worse."

Harangody has used the
injury as an opportunity to
improve his ball handling
with his left hand, some­
thing the big
forward felt he needed to
improve on anyway.

"I've only been working
with my left hand and
I've been in the gym all
the time."

Luke Harangody
sophomore forward

"I've only been working
with my left hand and
I've been in the gym all
the time."

Luke Harangody
sophomore forward

When he gets the hard cast
off, Harangody will most likely
wear a soft cast or glove to
protect and support his hand
during games.

I'll probably have to have to
wear something on it," Harangody said. "I'll probably
wear like a leather sort of
glove or something."

Harangody said while the
injury is not likely to affect his
play, he could continue to have
pain throughout the season.

"The doctor warned me
about it maybe being a recur­
rence," he said. "But I can't
worry about that. I just have
to play."

Note:

♦ Irish junior forward Luke
Zeller missed yesterday's
practice and was limited today
with an ankle injury. Brey said
he is expected to be at full
speed tomorrow and will play
Friday against St. Ambrose.

Contact Chris Khorey at
ckhorey@nd.edu

With the defense leading the
way, Notre Dame went 11-1 in
Big East play and enters the
conference tournament as the
top seed.

Weber's offensive pedigree
has allowed her to be an
impact player on both sides of
the field. She is tied for fourth
on the team with 10 points,
and she stands alone in second
place with six assists.

Once she got comfortable on
the back line, Weber said she
became more apt to get
involved in the attack.

"It took a little while to get
used to it but I've just been
aggressive as far as going for­
ward and playing offense," Weber said.

According to Waldrum, that
aggressiveness has paid off for
Weber — and the rest of the
Irish.

"She might be the best out­
side attacking back [Notre
Dame has] ever had and that's
a long list," Waldrum said. "As
a coach, I couldn’t be more
proud of her and what she's
done this season."

Weber isn't done yet. She
and the rest of her teammates
will start the Big East postsea­
son tournament this Saturday
with a game at Alumni Field.

Contact Fran Tolan at
ftolan@nd.edu
Practice
continued from page 24

NG

or the ice — you actually perform on the ice. Most hockey players are not visual or audible learners.

Notre Dame has been forced to do a lot of on-ice learning during games, which it will have to do again tonight when it hosts Lake Superior State (1-2-1) at the Joyce Center. However, it's not an excuse for the team's play, Jackson said, and the young Irish are working on fixing their many problems.

One of those holes that only recently developed is in the power play. Prior to last week, when the Irish defeated Bowling Green in a midweek game, split with Ferris State over the weekend, they had scored at least one power-play goal in each of their five games. In the last three games, the Irish went 0-for-24 and allowed a short-handed goal.

"We're not doing enough in and around the net to be successful," Jackson said. "We're getting opportunities, if you see some of the scoring chance that we had in Ferris State on the power play. We're not finishing." The personnel on the power play has changed frequently, which Jackson said may be happening a little too much. But it will continue to shift until the right chemistry is found on the unit. Notre Dame has had trouble in the third period as well, giving up 10 of its 17 goals allowed in that frame. Against Wisconsin in the season opener, the Irish surrendered three third-period goals after the game was tied 1-1. The same thing happened against Denver, when they let up a late goal to blow a tie and then an empty-netter to put the game out of reach.

of poor conditioning, Jackson said, but the team has not yet learned in "value the puck" to the level that Jackson expects. The team tries to do too much with the puck and turns it over, which has led to the late goals. It happens in every period, but has tended to lead to goals more in the third period than any other, he said.

The players who were a large part of last season's conference championship and run to national No. 1 have put much pressure on themselves to do better than last year that each one has put the responsibility of generating offense on themselves. This has led to valuing the puck much less than Jackson would like to see.

"It was the biggest fear I had going into the season and it's actually happening," Jackson said. "That's the pressure of high expectations — not just team expectations — but personal expectations."

Irish goalie Jordan Pearce, who has started every game and been the only goalie to see any action, will start in net tonight as well. Earlier in the season the younger goalies. Tom O'Brien and Brad Phillips will get a shot in the near future. It will happen in every game, and O'Brien and Phillips will get a shot in the near future. It will only happen, however, when Jackson has full confidence in the younger goalies.

"Just when I'm about ready to pull the trigger, they have a bad practice or they don't look good. I need to see consistency in them," Jackson said. "A coach always deals with his confidence level and who he's putting on the ice."

Jeff Jackson Irish coach

"We're not doing enough in and around the net to be successful."

Jeff Jackson Irish coach

"That's the pressure of high expectations — not just team expectations — but personal expectations."

Jeff Jackson Irish coach

"Just when I'm about ready to pull the trigger, they have a bad practice or they don't look good. I need to see consistency in them," Jackson said. "A coach always deals with his confidence level and who he's putting on the ice."
**Horoscope**

EUGENIA LAST

**CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY:**
- Adam Remirowski, 41; Peter Jackson, 46; Larry Martin, 48; Issey Miyake, 57

**HAPPY BIRTHDAYS:**
- You must not allow your emotional outlook to hold you back. Focus on your determinations and roles to help you reach your goals. You will attract unusual individuals who are not your usual, inspired in mind and body.

**ARIES (March 21-April 19):**
- Work from home if you feel you will grow more or less. Let others know you that you are not growing.
- Your ability to bring down Reform will lead you to a position of power. Follow through with your beliefs and ideas. 4 stars

**TAURUS (April 20-May 20):**
- You can help those less fortunate and, at the same time, make others think more of you. Your ability to bring down Reform will lead you to a position of power. Follow through with your beliefs and ideas. 4 stars

**GEMINI (May 21-June 21):**
- Money will be the issue today. You can make a unusual moneymaking scheme. Think twice before you trust your money to unusual Rug.

**CANCER (June 22-July 22):**
- Your ability to bring about Reform will lead you to a position of power. Follow through with your beliefs and ideas. 4 stars

**LEO (July 23-Aug. 22):**
- Today, it will be your capacity that enables you to reach not once to show them who can help you reach! Home improvements will be satisfying and fundamental.

**VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22):**
- You are quick to respond and eager to get to the bottom of things. You don't waste time but can be a spendthrift with the ones you love. You

**LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22):**
- Answer: When expenses were computed, the owners were "NON-PLUSSED".
- Emotional issues may be difficult to discuss but, if you take action and do things to improve your home environment, you will be able to make a difference to the ones you love and to yourself. Change is good today.

**SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21):**
- You are quick to respond and eager to get to the bottom of things. You don't waste time but can be a spendthrift with the ones you love. You

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21):**
- Make changes at home to help you pave the way to a better situation. Fix any wrongs and you will help you keep the people you love.

**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19):**
- You may be torn between what someone you think highly of wants you to do and what you want to do. Weight the pros and cons.

**AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18):**
- Apply yourself to work and projects that have the potential to bring you extra cash. Good ideas may appear to be unusual but someone will see the possibilities. Put love and passion into play. 3 stars

**PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20):**
- Now arrange the circled letters to form the number answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

**TODAY'S CROSSWORD**

**Across**
- 1 What (2)
- 5 Tell
- 10 Andrew of "Menace II Phace"
- 14 Longtime Vicki Lawrence's character
- 15 Burn slowly
- 16 One of the Munchers
- 17 Popular deity
- 18 Static
- 19 Baryshnikov's drink
- 20 "Only good"
- 21 Pioneer in I.Q. testing
- 23 Honors
- 24 Takeoff choice
- 25 Home of Silva
- 27 Miguel Island
- 28 Lab container
- 30 British general in the American Revolution
- 31 Light-colored
- 32 Dales-to-in Austin de
- 35 Author of a 1962 novel published in full in Life magazine
- 39 No
- 40 Octopus
- 41 Nutritionist Paul who founded a D.C.
- 42 A D.C.
- 43 Down 1 Paipenelleian War participant 2 Port of a Three 3 Phlegmatic shock 4 Ch signed 5 "Love & Order" 4 Happy-go-lucky 5 "That's a Dog's Life" and "Anyway You Want Me" 6 Some chain hotels 7 Gave up one's hand 8 Eyes with two 9 Mosel 10 10-D's of profession 11 German poet who wrote "Don't send a poet to London" 12 Presses 13 Flow out 14 Formerly known as 15 Animal on the backs of three small guinea pigs 16 Surgical aid 17 Mata 18 Faux cough 19 Author, Nestle Hunter 20 Presses (up to) 21 Part of an old garden 22 Dusty made 23 End of a fly? 24 The start of a pie? 25 All the ___

**Down**
- 1 Polish Pan-Polian War participant 2 Port of a Three 3 Phlegmatic shock 4 Ch signed 5 "Love & Order" 4 Happy-go-lucky 5 "That's a Dog's Life" and "Anyway You Want Me" 6 Some chain hotels 7 Gave up one's hand 8 Eyes with two 9 Mosel 10 10-D's of profession 11 German poet who wrote "Don't send a poet to London" 12 Presses 13 Flow out 14 Formerly known as 15 Animal on the backs of three small guinea pigs 16 Surgical aid 17 Mata 18 Faux cough 19 Author, Nestle Hunter 20 Presses (up to) 21 Part of an old garden 22 Dusty made 23 End of a fly? 24 The start of a pie? 25 All the ___

**ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE**

HUGAL

**JUMBLE**

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME

by Henri Arnold and Mike Argirion

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words:

**PLEEO**

**NOOSAL**

**TUGELL**

**HUGAL**

**ANSWERS TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE**

"Melrose Place" Author of a 1952 testing pet food Video game org. and the backs of three state quarters Answer: When expenses were computed, the owners were "NON-PLUSSED."
HOCKEY

Talkin’ about practice

Notre Dame prepares for LSSU in another short week of practice

By KYLE CASSILY
Sports Writer

Notre Dame worked on pulling its goalie mid-play for the first time this season during Wednesday’s practice.

The run-through was their last before taking on Lake Superior State tonight at 7:35 in the Joyce Center.

The drill, which was conducted over three weeks since practice practices started, went over a very small portion of a hockey game, but its timing is a sign of the struggles the Irish have had with their schedule so far this season.

The No. 13 Irish (4-3, 2-1 CCHA) have played several mid-week games in order to avoid conflicts with the home football schedule, a decision that has severely limited their number of practices. And when they do practice, the sessions are shorter so the team is not fatigued for games.

“We’re trying to touch by film now,” Irish coach Jeff Jackson said. “Most hockey players are what you call kinesthetic learners. They have to learn by doing. You walk them through and they see it and they feel it. And then they begin to understand.”

photo courtesy of THE OBSERVER

Weber has racked up two goals and six assists from her defensive position this season, though she had played a primary offensive role in her two years with the Badgers.

“We don’t play Wisconsin regularly — just every three or four years,” Waldrum said. “We’ll take a really good look at that next Tuesday when the first comes off.”

Harangody injured his thumb during a pick-up game in practice on Oct. 15.

“I came off of a ball screen and my hand got against someone’s hip, and my thumb just came off,” Harangody said.

see TIP OFF/page 20

ND WOMEN’S BASKETBALL

Irish tip off season tonight

Strong freshman class makes Joyce Center debut in exhibition

By BILL BRINK
Sports Writer

Notre Dame welcomes Southern Indiana to the Joyce Center tonight for its season opener against Big East opponent, its first game since a second-round exit in the 2007 NCAA tournament.

The last contest, a 60-51 loss to No. 1 North Carolina that was closer than the score indicated, displayed the team’s ability to play with anyone when they chose to, a theme of the 2006-07 season.

The Irish put together winning streaks of four and six games last season, but also lost three straight on the road against Big East opponents and three straight to end the regular season. Their losses in the final game of the regular season and in the first round of the Big East tournament both came at the hands of DePaul.

Notre Dame finished 20-12 (10-6 Big East) last season.

Senior guard Charel Allen drives during a 76-60 loss to Rutgers in 2006. Allen leads a revamped Irish offense this season.

ND WOMEN’S SOCCER

Weber adds spark to offensive attack

Junior transfer has boosted Irish defense

By FRAN TOLAN
Sports Writer

After Elise Weber committed to Wisconsin as a senior in high school, Irish coach Randy Waldrum assumed he would not get many opportunities to see the midfielder play again.

“We don’t play Wisconsin regularly — just every three or four years,” Waldrum said. “I kind of lost track of her.”

But Weber transferred to Notre Dame this summer and her play this season has made it extremely difficult for Waldrum — and opposing teams — to lose track of her.

Now a junior defender for the Irish, Weber has become a regular fixture on the Big East weekly honor roll. Waldrum said there are few players at her position that impact a game as much as she does.

“We haven’t seen a better attacking back this season,” Waldrum said. “Not only are her stats great but she’s just so dangerous in the attack.”

Weber has racked up two goals and six assists from her defensive position this season, though she had played a primarily offensive role in her two years with the Badgers.

Weber only played three or four games as a defender at Wisconsin, she said, but when she decided to transfer to Notre Dame, Waldrum knew he could find a spot for her.

“Once she got her release and fixed it over, we were a little surprised, but I knew she was a good player,” Waldrum said.

After moving into her spot on the back line and suffering some early-season growing pains, Weber has helped anchor a defense that surrendered just six goals in its 12 Big East regular season games.

see WEBER/page 21