Faculty, administrators discuss hiring

Conversations center on ad hoc committee's report regarding recruitment of Catholic professors

By MARCELLA BERROS
Assistant News Editor

A series of discussions between faculty members and administrators on the hiring of Catholic faculty will continue Wednesday when University Provost Thomas Burish attends this month's Faculty Senate meeting.

Burish will hear its recommendations on a recent report addressing the issue of the steadily decreasing percentage of Catholic professors at Notre Dame.

The private report — which the Office of the Provost sent to the entire faculty during the last week of October — specifically addressed the administration's concerns that "without a critical mass of Catholic faculty, the distinctive identity of Notre Dame would waver, perhaps be lost," the report said.

Burish created an ad hoc committee of 13 professors and administrators, who met from January through June 2007, to produce the report.

If Notre Dame is to be a truly Catholic university, the faculty must include — as University President Father John (Jenkins) Jenkins has said — a critical number of devoted followers of the Catholic faith," Burish said in his charge to the committee.

"Indeed, the University's mission and raison d'etre is to be a Catholic University," said the report.

--selectled recommendations to increase the percentage of Catholic teachers at Notre Dame--

"Having departments keep records of all promising applicants... who expressed interest in Notre Dame because of our Catholic identity," the report said.

Hosting invited seminars and conferences that regularly bring to the University potential Catholic faculty members.

"All advertisements for faculty positions... should state that the University is especially interested in recruiting women, minorities and scholars interested in teaching at a Catholic university. Phrasing of this kind invites individuals to self-identify as Catholics..."

"All schools and colleges now discuss the Catholic mission... with prospective candidates... effectively asking them, 'How do you think you might contribute to the Catholic mission of the University?..."

founded in 1983 by a group of report by the Ad Hoc Committee on Recruiting Outstanding Catholic Faculty.

She would not comment today on a speculation by former President of California organization speaks about social change

By B LIZ MILLER
News Writer

Recalling her experiences as a minority who faced discrimination, Antonia Hernandez spoke about the importance of generating social change in America in her lecture Friday titled, "Latinas, Philanthropy and Civic Engagement.

"If you're really a Catholic, you should be a revolutionary," Hernandez said.

Brenda Hernandez is currently the president and CEO of the California Foundation, a $670 million foundation that is one of the largest philanthropic organizations in Southern California. In her lecture, Hernandez shared her personal story and beliefs as a Latina woman.

Born in Mexico and raised in East Los Angeles, Hernandez worked, changed her mind. While she initially hoped to continue her academic career and become a historian, an incident at Theodore Roosevelt High School in 1968, where she worked, changed her mind.

At that time, thousands of students walked out of schools and marched for an improvement in the school. A day later, many of the students that she worked with were put in jail. Hernandez said.

Hernandez had found her calling.

"I went to law school for one purpose and one purpose only — to use the law as a tool to be an agent of change to improve the quality of life for my society," she said.

She ignored the criticism she received from her family members over her decision. Her uncle told her, "You're a girl, and you'll cry when you go to court."

"The only one who ever cried was my uncle when he needed my help," she said.

As a young lawyer, Hernandez was invited by a friend to apply
The writer's strike has been pulling the plug on all the popular network television shows since Nov. 5. False. While "Grey's" and "Colbert" are showing reruns, there is another brand of television thriv­ing in their absence. You guessed it: reality TV. No actors, no writers, no problem. The reality surge is heating up even more with season finales coming up this week. Who will New York choose: Buddha, Punk or Taylor Mode? What's next for the loveable girl-next-door Lauren Conrad? Who really is America's Most Smartest Model? All of these questions will be answered during primetime this week, with no interruptions from those sitcoms and dramas. While some viewers hate reality TV, it is the only option if you're too bored to watch reruns. I, for one, love reality TV. I never miss a minute of "I Love New York" or "The Hills" and I am not ashamed of that. Sure, I enjoy "Grey's" and "The Office" as much as the next person, but there's something about the rawness of reality in "The Real World" and "Tila Tequila." Unpredictable. Riveting. Awesome.

Reality TV is a guilty pleasure because although you know the shows are ridiculous, stupid, heart wrenching, it's so hard not to watch. Do you really want to be the only person who doesn't know who America's Next Top Model is? Probably not.

The other great thing about reality TV is that it's real — or as real as it can get with 15 bar­be­quetes fighting for the affection of one undeserving guy. No regular person can relate to a brain surgeon, but we can relate to someone who is just livin' the life and lookin' for love. Lorettes fighting for the affection of one undeserving guy. No regular person can relate to a brain surgeon, but we can relate to someone who is just livin' the life and lookin' for love.

There's no telling how long the strike will go on, but even though reality TV has been compensating for its absence, all good things must come to an end.

In the coming weeks, there will be no more "Kid Nation." No more "Real World" and "Tila Tequila." Probably not.

While some viewers hate reality TV, it is the only option if you're too bored to watch reruns. I, for one, love reality TV. I never miss a minute of "I Love New York" or "The Hills" and I am not ashamed of that.

The experimental indie rock band Cloud Cult performed at Legends Saturday. Cloud Cult is an independent group that promotes environmentalism.

**OFFBEAT**

**35-year-old Scotch sells for $54,000**

NEW YORK — A bottle of 81-year-old Scotch sold for $54,000 at this New York's first liquor auction since Prohibition.

An anonymous collector bought the pricey potable at Christie's sale of wines and spirits on Saturday. The 100-lot auction sold a total of $304,800 worth of rare wine and liquor. The top lot was a collection of 729 bottles of whisky, which went for $102,000.

The $54,000 bottle was distilled at Macallan in Scotland in 1926, bottled in 1986 and rebottled in 2002. Prohibition lasted from 1920 to 1933, but New York State did not allow auctions of spirits until this year.

**Horse survives plunge into frozen pool**

DORSET, Vt. — A horse was rescued after acciden­tally taking an icy plunge in a swimming pool. Let's not be too quick about the "I Can't Breathe" story.

The animal shook uncontrollably and was losing strength as several rescue attempts failed, according to Vermont State Police Cpl. Gary Shuhart, who responded to the incident after being flagged down by a passerby.

Finally, rescuers broke the ice in the corner of the pool and got a rope around the horse's neck, pulling him to safety and wrapping him in a blanket. He was taken to a veterinarian and treated for a cut to his hind leg.

**IN BRIEF**

The rosary will be said tonight at 6:45 at the Grotto. The rosary is said daily.

Student body president Liz Brown and vice president Maria Braun will speak at the fireside chat/luncheon, "Telling HERstory" today at noon in the Coleman-Morse Study Lounge. Drinks and cookies will be provided. This initiative is sponsored by First Year of Studies and takes place monthly.

The last day of classes at Notre Dame will be tomorrow.

There will be an Advent Penance Service tomorrow at 7 p.m. at the Basilica of the Sacred Heart. The service will include prayer, music, reflec­tion and Confession.

The ND Celebration Choir, Voices from Campus and instrumentalists will perform at a benefit concert for Christmas at the first floor lounge, Coleman Morse Center, tomorrow at 7:30 p.m. Admission is free with a donation. All proceeds benefit the Holy Cross Literacy School and Hoy's Home, Dhaka, Bangladesh.

The last day of classes at Saint Mary’s will be Wednesday.

A mass for the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe will be held Wednesday at 5:15 p.m. in the Basilica of the Sacred Heart.

To submit information to be included in this section of The Observer, e-mail detailed information about an event to obsnews@nd.edu.
Belmont's students ring for charity group
Saint Mary's students collect money for Salvation Army campaign

By MANDI STIRONE
News Write

Saint Mary's students got in the Christmas spirit by volunteering at the University Park Mall this weekend, ringing Salvation Army's famous little bell for the "Red Kettle Campaign." The first "Bells for Belles" took place Dec. 1 and continued this past Saturday. Community members signed up with the Office for Civic and Social Engagement (OCSE) and took hour-long shifts either alone or with a club or cause.

"This past Saturday we had about twenty people participate in the bell ringing at the UP Mall, in front of Mary's," OCSE director Carrie Call said. As of Wednesday, there were 12 people signed up with one spot still open, she said.

So far the success of "Bells for Belles" has looked promising, Call said. She hopes that with the support she has received from the student body, the program will be able to continue to become an annual event.

"The response was very positive, so I hope to do it every year," Call said.

"Bells for Belles" is run entirely through OCSE, with no student organization, Call said. It is unaffiliated with any club on campus, she added. They are working specifically through the Salvation Army.

"The Salvation Army, an evangelical part of the universal Christian church, has been supporting those in need in His name without discrimination since 1865," according to ringbells.org, the official Web site of the "Red Kettle Campaign."

After discovering how easy it is to sign up for the campaign, Call decided to make it available to the Saint Mary's community, she said.

"I thought that it would be an easy, fun way for us to help make a difference. Our students consistently look for ways to give back to the community, and this was a particularly easy one," Call said. The "Red Kettle Campaign," is an important fundraiser for the Saint Mary's community to support, Call said. The campaign, which has been in existence since 1991, is the Salvation Army's "most prominent fundraiser," according to ringbells.org.

"The Red Kettle Christmas campaign enables the Army to provide food, toys and clothing to over six million people during the Christmas season and helps more than 34 million Americans recovering from all kinds of personal disasters nationwide," the Web site said. It brought in over $100 million in 2004.

"The Salvation Army depends on the Red Kettle campaign for the bulk of their money raised for the year. I think it's important for us to support this as they do wonderful work in the community," Call said.

Another reason for Saint Mary's participation this year is exposure.

"It gets the faces of students, faculty and staff out into the community so people can see that we care about service as a college," she said.

Students participate for a variety of reasons — from clubs to dorm social events. Call said.

"I thought it would be an easy, fun way to make a difference," Carrie Call
OCSE Director

"We wanted to do a service project with the section," she said. "We had five girls come."

For junior Emily Tetzlaff, it was a rewarding experience.

"I did it to get into the holiday spirit, and I thought it was for a good cause," she said. "I really enjoyed myself and everyone was friendly and generous. I would definitely do it again next year."

Contact Mandi Stirone at astirone01@saintmarys.edu

Foundation awards $500,000 science grant

The National Science Foundation recently acknowledged Notre Dame's growing influence in a resource for high school science teacher enrichment with a $500,000 grant for continuing support of the Research Experience for Teachers (RET) program.

The three-year grant was awarded to Wolfgang Porod, Frank M. Freimann Professor of Electrical Engineering, and Alexander Hahn, professor of mathematics and director of the Kavoch Center for Teaching and Learning, to support RET@ND.

As RET educators bring their summer experiences back to the classroom, they inspire a new, younger generation of potential scientists. The program addresses "a shortage of teachers and a shortage of students going into science and engineering," Porod said.

"A parallel motivation," Hahn added, "is to enhance the success of faculty in science, engineering and mathematics who seek to respond to the broader impact criteria that so many grant applications include."

Grants from the National Science Foundation, in particular, increasingly demand that projects demonstrate this broader impact. RET@ND establishes a structure of community outreach to educators.

While on campus, RET teachers become both Notre Dame employees, who earn research stipends, and scholar-ship students, who earn tuition-free course credits.

Besides performing research side-by-side with some of Notre Dame's most accomplished scientists and engineers, RET teachers are asked to infuse their experience into their high school curricula.

"Nevin knows how to transform discoveries made in the laboratory into classroom enriching elements," Hahn said.

The NSF grant specifically funds engineering RET activities. A parallel set of high school teachers receive stipends and credit for work in College of Science labs and mathematics workshops. Stipends for science and mathematics are supported by such sources as the College of Science, the Siemens Foundation, the Community Foundation of St. Joseph County, and Teachers Credit Union.
Faculty continued from page 1

The report recommended all advertisements for faculty positions state that the University is especially interested in hiring women, minorities and scholars interested in teaching Catholicism, the statement said.

The percentage of Notre Dame faculty who identify themselves as Catholic has dropped from approximately 64 percent in 1986 to approximately 53 percent in 2006, Burish told the committee.

Father Robert Sullivan, who chaired the committee, said the steady decrease in those numbers became the cause of widespread concern among the trustees, alumni and administrators charged with preserving the University's Catholic identity.

And if "persons of other faiths and none [within the faculty] contribute decisively to forging and advancing Notre Dame's identity," as the report said, then their concerns could be justified, said Sullivan, a history professor. He said the 1968 book "The Academic Revolution," by sociologist David Riesman and Christopher Jencks, pointed the way in which universities compete for outstanding scholars and professors, the faculty that are in a strategic position to influence policies. In other words, the faculty really steer a university's course, the book says.

"If this book has any single message," Jencks and Riesman wrote, "it is that the academic profession increasingly determines the character of undergraduate education in America." Sullivan said Riesman and Jencks visited Notre Dame while they were writing the book for their specific analysis of the faculty in Catholic schools.

The committee [determined] that the only thing that could actually give a Catholic school a religious identity is having brothers, sisters and priests teaching and running the place.

But Notre Dame has changed a lot since Riesman and Jencks visited.

While the University's president is still a Holy Cross priest and many residence halls are run by priests and nuns, the percentage of Catholics in the faculty has eroded considerably.

"It was almost inevitable," Sullivan said. "As the University expanded, hiring could no longer be centralized in the Main Building. It was during the University President Emeritus Father Theodore Hesburgh era."

He said each growing department and discipline began hiring professors as it deemed fit and some fields - like psychology and biology - slowly became secularized.

But the administration would put forth policies to fight that erosion of Catholic professors, including "frequent information-gathering" techniques to identify Catholics in a pool of potential hires, the report said.

Some committee members praised the report as fair and helpful to use information available in the public domain for evidence that an academic's possible Catholicism is "an improper intrusion of individual privacy."

But Sullivan did say he expected many faculty members - especially those who are not Catholic - to be "scratching their heads, thinking, 'Is there a place for me here?'" after reading the report.

The document, however, through all of its recommendations, reiterates that it is imperative that the University maintain an environment where faculty of other faiths and none are included as full members of the community.

But some of the report's recommendations might make achieving that goal complicated. The report, for example, said the University "must of course" appoint leaders who believe in the necessity and value of Catholic hiring, both as deans and chairpersons.

While Sullivan could not comment directly on that recommendation, he did say a person's religious affiliation "has no bearing in getting tenure or promoted to higher positions." But the people appointed to those positions, he said, should support the University's Catholic mission.

The report also suggests funding a program that would bring campus more academics that combine their scholarly, scientific or artistic work with Catholicism as lecturers, short-term scholars-in-residence or as visiting professors.

"Departments that have identified multiple outstanding candidates might be permitted to make simultaneous offers for a make opening. This practice can increase the probability of hiring Catholic faculty," the report said. But the committee made it clear throughout the document that any faculty recruited by these initiatives should not be perceived as academically inferior to other hires. Among qualified candidates and on a case-by-case basis, however, "mission fit may well be determinative," when hiring a new professor, the report said.

The report also expressed fears of misunderstandings and damaging rumors both within the University and outside about any distinctive policy of recruiting Catholics in all departments because of their Catholicism.

Contact Marcela Berrios at aberrios@nd.edu

Notre Dame Football Annual Walk-On Tryouts

The Notre Dame Football Program will be holding walk-on tryouts at the beginning of the spring semester.

If you are interested: Pick-upFill-out & Return Information Form & Medical Forms

Forms to be filled out are at the Reception Desk at the Football Office in the Guglielmino Complex.

You must have the forms filled out and returned by January 18, 2007.

Following our receipt of all information & medical forms, we will have an informational meeting and a series of tryouts/workouts.

The Observer - CAMPUS NEWS Monday, December 10, 2007

Contact Marcela Berrios at aberrios@nd.edu
**INTERNATIONAL NEWS**

**Iraq prepares crackdown in province**

Baghdad — Iraq's defense minister promised on Sunday to wage a new crackdown in a volatile province north of Baghdad where militants are trying to regroup after being routed from their urban strongholds last summer.

Suicide attacks have killed more than 20 people in the last three days in Diyala province, a tribal patchwork of Sunni Arabs, Shiites and Kurds that stretches from Baghdad to the border with Iran.

Defense Minister Abdul-Qader al-Obeidi told The Associated Press that preparations had begun for a fresh military operation in the provincial capital, Baqouba, about 35 miles from Baghdad.

**Sharif party to participate in elections**

Islamabad — The party of former Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif said Sunday that it would participate in Pakistan's parliamentary elections next month after failing to convince rival Benazir Bhutto to run.

Greater participation will make the ballot box as open, bolstering President Pervez Musharraf’s democratic credentials, which took a hit over his Nov. 3 declaration of a state of emergency and his dismissal of independent judges.

The Sharif party, having by the opposition in the field also will siphon votes and seats from Musharraf's party, weakening the U.S.-backed leader.

While some parties still say they won't participate in the Jan. 8 polls, the prospect of a general opposition boycott has now collapsed with declining support by the two largest opposition groups to field candidates.

**National News**

6 killed in Colorado church shootings

Colorado Springs investigators.

A 21-year-old Loyola Marymount University student arrested for threat of violence

Colorado Springs police Lt. Fletcher Howard said a suspect had been detained in the shootings at the New Life Church, but a source who was locked down the church Sunday afternoon said a security guard had shot and killed the gunman.

Authorities in Arvada, a Denver suburb about 65 miles north, said no one had been hit in the shootings there.

It was not immediately known whether the suspect attended Arvada authorities said they were sharing information with Colorado Springs investigators.

Student arrested for threat of violence

Los Angeles police arrested a 19-year-old student in connection with an online threat to shoot people on campus, officials said Saturday.

Police arrested Carlos Huerta, a senior at Pepperdine University, for investigation of making criminal threats.

Huerta was taken into custody on Saturday night near his apartment on campus.

Huerta is suspected of posting a message that he would shoot and kill as many people as possible on campus before being killed himself.

**Local News**

Gary woman faces 10 years in prison

Crown Point, Ind. — A Gary woman was sentenced to up to 10 years in prison last week for having sex numerous times with a 14-year-old neighbor boy.

Johanna Marie Kalinowicz, 32, pleaded guilty Nov. 27 to a felony charge of sexual misconduct with a minor and was sentenced in Lake Superior Court on Friday by Judge Thomas P. Smith.


The boy's father told the court that the crime continues to affect the family. His son, now 16, changed from a typical student to a chronic run away who now is a ward of the state.

**Diocese secedes from Episcopal Church**

SAN FRANCISCO — The conservative Diocese of San Joaquin voted Saturday to split from the liberal-leaning Episcopal Church, becoming the first full diocese to secede from the denomination in the debate over the Bible and homosexuality.

Clergy and lay members of the Episcopal Diocese of San Joaquin voted 173-72 at their annual convention to remove all references to the national church from the diocese's constitution, the Rev. Van McCalister, a diocesan spokesman.

The diocese, based in Fresno, plans to align with the like-minded Anglican Province of the Southern Cone, based in South America.

The decision is almost certain to spark a court fight over control of the diocese's multimillion-dollar real estate holdings and other assets.

The Episcopal Church is the U.S. member of the global Anglican Communion, a 77-member-fellowship that traces its roots to the Church of England.

Anglicans have been moving toward a worldwide schism since 2003, when the Episcopal Church consecrated the first openly gay bishop, V. Gene Robinson of New Hampshire. San Joaquin is also one of the three Episcopal dioceses that will not ordain women.

**South Korea**

**Thousands help clean up oil spill**

The South Korean Coast Guard mobilizes a volunteer effort to clean up the country's worst oil spill in history. Nearly 2.8 million gallons of oil were dumped after a supertanker was hit Friday.

Associated Press

**MALLIPPO BEACH**

Thousands of people mobilized by South Korea's Coast Guard shovelled oil slicks and buckets Sunday to clean up a disastrous oil spill following a wreck off the country's scenic and environmentally rich western coast.

About 100 ships, including Coast Guard vessels and private fishing boats, were also to help contain and clean up South Korea's worst oil spill, said Coast Guard official Kim Young-hwan.

At total of 7,500 military and police officers and some 10,000 volunteers had been working to clean up the oil, which3

The oil started hitting beaches Saturday, a day after a 31,000-ton supertanker was slammed by a South Korean-owned built that came unmoored from its tugboat in rough seas about seven miles off Mallipo, one of South Korea's best-known beaches. The area also includes a national maritime park.

On Saturday, tides of dark brown water crashed ashore at Mallipo beach, while the odor reached areas a half-mile away.

Kim Sun-soon, who works for an ocean clean-up business on South Korea's southeast coast, wore rubber gloves and a mask to cope with the strong smell.

"We don't know when we can finish this work," she said. "We have been shoveling oil since yesterday, and I feel dizzy.

Nearly 2.8 million gallons of crude gushed into the ocean, more than twice as much as in South Korea's worst previous spill in 1996.

Thick, smelly waves of crude washed ashore, turning seagulls black and threatening fish farms along an 11-mile stretch of coast, defying efforts to contain it by dropping oil foams into the ocean and using chemicals to break it up.

Mats were placed on the beach to absorb the oil.

The Coast Guard said the last of three leaks in the tanker had been plugged Sunday morning.

Mallipo, an important stopover for migrating birds including storks, mallards and great crested grebes, also has an abundant fishing industry.

Choi Kyung-hwan, a 58-year-old fisherman, came to the beach Sunday to help, but despaired for the area where he has lived for 30 years.

"Mallipo is finished," he said.

Choi, wearing a thick winter coat, said the strong odor of oil had sickened his wife.

"But I came here because I have to do something," he said. "I don't know when we can finish. But we have to continue.

"Choo Sun-soon, who runs a raw fish restaurant at Mallipo beach, 95 miles southwest of Seoul, said the situation was overwhelming.

She said restaurants in the area were closing, and she could not pump fresh sea water into her tanks.

"Without fresh sea water, the fish will start going bad after a week," she said. "We can't even walk around here because Mallipo beach is covered with a oil."
continued from page 1

"It wasn't everything that was going on," Mindu Moghtadi said. "It was just a better way of life." Moghtadi and her family left Iran in 1994 to escape the war and hardships they faced. She now volunteers at a local community center, where she helps other immigrants who are struggling to adjust to life in the United States.

While Moghtadi had to leave her home and family, she found a new community in which she could thrive. "I think it's really important for people to come together and support each other," she said. "It's about making connections and building bridges." Moghtadi's journey reminds us of the importance of community and the power of coming together to support one another.

Service: continued from page 1

zations, pastors and leaders who do community organizing in Chicago," program director Jay Caponigro said.

Student Coordinator Stuart Mora emphasized that this program fully involves students, providing an opportunity for students with service experience to learn how community leaders become involved with their line of work. "The whole idea is to build a community organization, which means creating a common language and weaving them together to work on common issues," Mora said.

The Border Issues Seminar also has a large educational component. Twenty-five students will spend a week at Ammunition House, which is on the border of El Paso, Texas, and Ciudad Juárez, Mexico. According to Campus Minister Don Allen, students will meet with groups of people who are thinking about changing a new life in America or reuniting families who have been separated.

"Lessons and Carols" is the centerpiece of "Sacred Sounds," a four-day seminar for students. The seminar addresses social justice and the communal nature of our religion, said Program Coordinator Joel Hernandez. "We believe that religion is essential to human flourishing," he said.

Hernandez emphasized that the seminar is not just about learning about different cultures and traditions. "It's about engaging in the world and finding ways to make a difference," he said.

Hernandez concluded by asking students to think about the power of storytelling. "Stories are a way to connect with others and to share our experiences," he said. "I hope you find the stories and music of "Sacred Sounds" inspiring and thought-provoking."

Contact Joel Hernandez at jehernandez@iupac.edu
WASHINGTON — Consumer borrowing rose in October at a slightly faster rate than the previous month as shoppers continued to depend on their credit cards to finance purchases.

The Federal Reserve reported Friday that consumer credit increased at an annual rate of 2.3 percent in October, faster than the 1.6 percent growth rate for September. The gain reflected an acceleration in the growth of credit card debt which offset a second straight month of declines in the category of debt that includes auto loans.

Credit has become harder to obtain as a rate of 4.3 percent in October, following a gain of 6 percent in September, and an even steeper rise of 10.6 percent in August. Credit card debt has been surging in recent months as consumers have started borrowing more heavily on their credit cards now that home refinancings have slowed. That slowdown has reflected tighter bank lending conditions as a serious slump in housing has sent home prices falling and increased the level of mortgage defaults.

In Brief

WASHINGTON — What a difference in economic conditions since the Federal Reserve last met not in October.

Credit has become harder to obtain as the rate of 4.3 percent in October, follows the falls of 6 percent in September and an even steeper rise of 10.6 percent in August. Credit card debt has been surging in recent months as consumers have started borrowing more heavily on their credit cards now that home refinancings have slowed. That slowdown has reflected tighter bank lending conditions as a serious slump in housing has sent home prices falling and increased the level of mortgage defaults.

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — What a difference in economic conditions since the Federal Reserve last met not in October.

Credit has become harder to obtain as the rate of 4.3 percent in October, follows the falls of 6 percent in September and an even steeper rise of 10.6 percent in August. Credit card debt has been surging in recent months as consumers have started borrowing more heavily on their credit cards now that home refinancings have slowed. That slowdown has reflected tighter bank lending conditions as a serious slump in housing has sent home prices falling and increased the level of mortgage defaults.

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — What a difference in economic conditions since the Federal Reserve last met not in October.

Credit has become harder to obtain as the rate of 4.3 percent in October, follows the falls of 6 percent in September and an even steeper rise of 10.6 percent in August. Credit card debt has been surging in recent months as consumers have started borrowing more heavily on their credit cards now that home refinancings have slowed. That slowdown has reflected tighter bank lending conditions as a serious slump in housing has sent home prices falling and increased the level of mortgage defaults.

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — What a difference in economic conditions since the Federal Reserve last met not in October.

Credit has become harder to obtain as the rate of 4.3 percent in October, follows the falls of 6 percent in September and an even steeper rise of 10.6 percent in August. Credit card debt has been surging in recent months as consumers have started borrowing more heavily on their credit cards now that home refinancings have slowed. That slowdown has reflected tighter bank lending conditions as a serious slump in housing has sent home prices falling and increased the level of mortgage defaults.

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — What a difference in economic conditions since the Federal Reserve last met not in October.

Credit has become harder to obtain as the rate of 4.3 percent in October, follows the falls of 6 percent in September and an even steeper rise of 10.6 percent in August. Credit card debt has been surging in recent months as consumers have started borrowing more heavily on their credit cards now that home refinancings have slowed. That slowdown has reflected tighter bank lending conditions as a serious slump in housing has sent home prices falling and increased the level of mortgage defaults.

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — What a difference in economic conditions since the Federal Reserve last met not in October.

Credit has become harder to obtain as the rate of 4.3 percent in October, follows the falls of 6 percent in September and an even steeper rise of 10.6 percent in August. Credit card debt has been surging in recent months as consumers have started borrowing more heavily on their credit cards now that home refinancings have slowed. That slowdown has reflected tighter bank lending conditions as a serious slump in housing has sent home prices falling and increased the level of mortgage defaults.

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — What a difference in economic conditions since the Federal Reserve last met not in October.

Credit has become harder to obtain as the rate of 4.3 percent in October, follows the falls of 6 percent in September and an even steeper rise of 10.6 percent in August. Credit card debt has been surging in recent months as consumers have started borrowing more heavily on their credit cards now that home refinancings have slowed. That slowdown has reflected tighter bank lending conditions as a serious slump in housing has sent home prices falling and increased the level of mortgage defaults.

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — What a difference in economic conditions since the Federal Reserve last met not in October.

Credit has become harder to obtain as the rate of 4.3 percent in October, follows the falls of 6 percent in September and an even steeper rise of 10.6 percent in August. Credit card debt has been surging in recent months as consumers have started borrowing more heavily on their credit cards now that home refinancings have slowed. That slowdown has reflected tighter bank lending conditions as a serious slump in housing has sent home prices falling and increased the level of mortgage defaults.

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — What a difference in economic conditions since the Federal Reserve last met not in October.

Credit has become harder to obtain as the rate of 4.3 percent in October, follows the falls of 6 percent in September and an even steeper rise of 10.6 percent in August. Credit card debt has been surging in recent months as consumers have started borrowing more heavily on their credit cards now that home refinancings have slowed. That slowdown has reflected tighter bank lending conditions as a serious slump in housing has sent home prices falling and increased the level of mortgage defaults.

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — What a difference in economic conditions since the Federal Reserve last met not in October.

Credit has become harder to obtain as the rate of 4.3 percent in October, follows the falls of 6 percent in September and an even steeper rise of 10.6 percent in August. Credit card debt has been surging in recent months as consumers have started borrowing more heavily on their credit cards now that home refinancings have slowed. That slowdown has reflected tighter bank lending conditions as a serious slump in housing has sent home prices falling and increased the level of mortgage defaults.

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — What a difference in economic conditions since the Federal Reserve last met not in October.

Credit has become harder to obtain as the rate of 4.3 percent in October, follows the falls of 6 percent in September and an even steeper rise of 10.6 percent in August. Credit card debt has been surging in recent months as consumers have started borrowing more heavily on their credit cards now that home refinancings have slowed. That slowdown has reflected tighter bank lending conditions as a serious slump in housing has sent home prices falling and increased the level of mortgage defaults.

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — What a difference in economic conditions since the Federal Reserve last met not in October.

Credit has become harder to obtain as the rate of 4.3 percent in October, follows the falls of 6 percent in September and an even steeper rise of 10.6 percent in August. Credit card debt has been surging in recent months as consumers have started borrowing more heavily on their credit cards now that home refinancings have slowed. That slowdown has reflected tighter bank lending conditions as a serious slump in housing has sent home prices falling and increased the level of mortgage defaults.

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — What a difference in economic conditions since the Federal Reserve last met not in October.

Credit has become harder to obtain as the rate of 4.3 percent in October, follows the falls of 6 percent in September and an even steeper rise of 10.6 percent in August. Credit card debt has been surging in recent months as consumers have started borrowing more heavily on their credit cards now that home refinancings have slowed. That slowdown has reflected tighter bank lending conditions as a serious slump in housing has sent home prices falling and increased the level of mortgage defaults.

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — What a difference in economic conditions since the Federal Reserve last met not in October.

Credit has become harder to obtain as the rate of 4.3 percent in October, follows the falls of 6 percent in September and an even steeper rise of 10.6 percent in August. Credit card debt has been surging in recent months as consumers have started borrowing more heavily on their credit cards now that home refinancings have slowed. That slowdown has reflected tighter bank lending conditions as a serious slump in housing has sent home prices falling and increased the level of mortgage defaults.

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — What a difference in economic conditions since the Federal Reserve last met not in October.

Credit has become harder to obtain as the rate of 4.3 percent in October, follows the falls of 6 percent in September and an even steeper rise of 10.6 percent in August. Credit card debt has been surging in recent months as consumers have started borrowing more heavily on their credit cards now that home refinancings have slowed. That slowdown has reflected tighter bank lending conditions as a serious slump in housing has sent home prices falling and increased the level of mortgage defaults.

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — What a difference in economic conditions since the Federal Reserve last met not in October.

Credit has become harder to obtain as the rate of 4.3 percent in October, follows the falls of 6 percent in September and an even steeper rise of 10.6 percent in August. Credit card debt has been surging in recent months as consumers have started borrowing more heavily on their credit cards now that home refinancings have slowed. That slowdown has reflected tighter bank lending conditions as a serious slump in housing has sent home prices falling and increased the level of mortgage defaults.

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — What a difference in economic conditions since the Federal Reserve last met not in October.

Credit has become harder to obtain as the rate of 4.3 percent in October, follows the falls of 6 percent in September and an even steeper rise of 10.6 percent in August. Credit card debt has been surging in recent months as consumers have started borrowing more heavily on their credit cards now that home refinancings have slowed. That slowdown has reflected tighter bank lending conditions as a serious slump in housing has sent home prices falling and increased the level of mortgage defaults.

WASHINGTON — What a difference in economic conditions since the Federal Reserve last met not in October.

Credit has become harder to obtain as the rate of 4.3 percent in October, follows the falls of 6 percent in September and an even steeper rise of 10.6 percent in August. Credit card debt has been surging in recent months as consumers have started borrowing more heavily on their credit cards now that home refinancings have slowed. That slowdown has reflected tighter bank lending conditions as a serious slump in housing has sent home prices falling and increased the level of mortgage defaults.
Victory for socialism

With the defeat of Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez’s sweeping referendum, many are proclaiming a victory of democracy over socialism, freedom over totalitarianism and autocratic government. I would like to defend the notion that Chavez’s referendum defeat is actually a victory for socialism, rather than a defeat. This will provide us with several lessons about the nature of socialism.

Socialism is meant to introduce the apparatus for commumism, which is the most difficult and most significant of any political task because communism is politics with­­­­out a state. Chavez lost sight of this goal of holding socialism to be a medium for ridding politics of the intervention of bizarreries and states.

Of course, thinking of politics without a state seems to be entirely counterintuitive. I would argue that this is actually the most important aspect of the challenge of socialism and bureaucracies and states.

Fortunately, people have been dodging the expensive-gift bullet for years, and now their expertise can be passed to you. The microwavable necklace: This one is highly useful because if you replace the word “macaroni” with “diamond,” you realize the only difference between noodles and diamonds is tightly-bonded carbon.

And aren’t we sick of carbon? Isn’t it part of carbon dioxide emissions, the same thing causing $900 to put on a chain and wear on your neck is slowly boiling the Earth. This is a perfect gift for your significant other because it costs about $3 to make, but it shows you really care.

Granted, you only cared enough to put some noodles on a string, but if you give it in a really romantic way — or if your significant other is a 3-year-old — then you’ll still get a good response. If all else fails, you can take the noodles off the string and cook them.

Somebody else’s clothes: Let’s not mince words — clothes from Goodwill.

You find a wonderful cross-section of retro T-shirts, creepy trench coats and extravagantly cheap dresses.

And the best part is the most expensive thing in the store is a coat for $5. Just imagine what you could come up with if you look really hard. A DVD costs about $20 anywhere else, but that could buy you 10 awesome T-shirts at Goodwill! And washing a DVD doesn’t mean it’s as good the second time.

If the joke is about an object, it’s even easier. Either find your friends gifts. When you barely made the Christmas list happy?

If the joke is about a sundowner. Except, of course, the political activist.

Desmond Tutu  
"I wonder whether they have rum and Coke in Heaven? Maybe it’s too integral to our culture to be left out. Oh, man... this heaven is going to be making some pretty changes..."

 submit a Letter to the Editor at the Observer Submit a Letter to the Editor at the Observer

We look forward to hearing from you. Submit a Letter to the Editor at the Observer. Submit a Letter to the Editor at the Observer.
The Observer

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

I was shocked to read Donna Bromeling's Letter to the Editor (“Custodial staff deserves fair treatment,” Dec. 4) in which she detailed her plight as a custodial staff employee, who claimed that she has been unfairly compensated and experienced contempt from her supervisors. With her letter, she helped put a face on the working poor among us here at Notre Dame. Last fall, I was excited to hear influential public officials tackle immigration issues at the annual forum, but now I worry that Americans, and indeed even our Notre Dame community, are losing touch with more genuine citizens who work hard and follow the rules. I believe that as Catholics, we have a moral obligation to advocate social justice and help those in need, just as Jesus taught us to “feed the hungry and clothe the naked.” Furthermore, Catholic social teachings have long upheld the value of human dignity, which demands a “fair day’s wage for a fair day’s labor.” This in turn then, implies that we, as students, faculty, and staff, who fulfill our own job requirements should be paid fairly. I would argue that a fair day’s wage should at the very least be enough for a worker to remain above the federal poverty level or at least enough to secure the basic necessities of life, including food, shelter, clothing, and health care.

Our Notre Dame leaders challenge us with the question “What would you fight for?” After considering Bromeling’s concerns, I urge university officials and students to fight for human dignity and fair wages.

Sincerely,
every Notre Dame student

Lieber Bill Kirk,

Have a merry x-mas.

Sincerely, every Notre Dame student

Dec. 8

Ppl need abbrev

Dear Editor,

Most people need abbrev. The Observer thinking TGF, but instead they read “bout Bill Kirk’s assault on abbrev’s and acronyms.” The VP of Res Life, whose first name, job title, and department are all abbrevs, thinks its no prob to keep saying full words and phrases. He claims to want to “keep Christ in Christmas,” but if you ask us, that’s just TMI.

Worst abbrevs, humans would spend an xtra 200 mins speaking each day, to decrease our productivity and lowering our GPAs. Our ‘rents didn’t send us all the way to ND to attend ND and not learn how to max our time. (FYI, we think this is a BFD and this is not a jk.) This unprovoked aggression on the part of Res Life is def not adding anything to the ND fan. Maybea it think its NBD and we should MOOB, but this is a slippery slope and we need to take a stand now, not F & W’s next, the end of contractions as we know them?

Summaries, synopses, movie previews, and Cliff-notes are all in danger.

OK ‘bout u, but we’re not going to just sit back and say whatever as all forms of literary and verbal efficiency are lost. Obvi, we can’t fix this prob soon, and we need you ppl to help out. If you feel ur life would be worse w/out watching TR with your BFF, while a both 1L0 and LOL, then keep the X in Xmas this year.

El Bradley, Chris “X-opher” Ragni

off campus

Dec. 7

THE OBSERVER

Monday, December 10, 2007

page 9

FIGHT FOR UNDERPERFORMING ADOPTED CHILDREN

Keep ‘X’ in X-mas

Spend tuition dollars on something else

Dear Bill Kirk,

Have a merry x-mas.

Sincerely, every Notre Dame student

Dec. 8

Ppl need abbrev

Dear Editor,

Most people need abbrev. The Observer thinking TGF, but instead they read “bout Bill Kirk’s assault on abbrev’s and acronyms.” The VP of Res Life, whose first name, job title, and department are all abbrevs, thinks its no prob to keep saying full words and phrases. He claims to want to “keep Christ in Christmas,” but if you ask us, that’s just TMI.

Worst abbrevs, humans would spend an xtra 200 mins speaking each day, to decrease our productivity and lowering our GPAs. Our ‘rents didn’t send us all the way to ND to attend ND and not learn how to max our time. (FYI, we think this is a BFD and this is not a jk.) This unprovoked aggression on the part of Res Life is def not adding anything to the ND fan. Maybea it think its NBD and we should MOOB, but this is a slippery slope and we need to take a stand now, not F & W’s next, the end of contractions as we know them?

Summaries, synopses, movie previews, and Cliff-notes are all in danger.

OK ‘bout u, but we’re not going to just sit back and say whatever as all forms of literary and verbal efficiency are lost. Obvi, we can’t fix this prob soon, and we need you ppl to help out. If you feel ur life would be worse w/out watching TR with your BFF, while a both 1L0 and LOL, then keep the X in Xmas this year.

El Bradley, Chris “X-opher” Ragni

off campus

Dec. 7

U-WIRE

Facebook does not have your back

Facebook’s alarming rise to prominence has already reached mythic proportions. In the world of technology, Facebook is told with a “Sword in the Stone” type of esteem, the same way one might embellish a story about the time they had sex with two roommates in one night.

Launched early 2004 by sophomore Mark Zuckerberg and his three roommates, the site had 100,000 users by June of that year, and, as of this November, claims to have over 50 million members. Its numbers catalyzed when it altered the registration condition, requiring users to have a school e-mail address to access the site. Beforehand, having a Facebook account meant having a bit of pride. Users had gotten into college and as a reward they had this online community where they could interact with other sophomates devoid of the distraction of those undereducated brutes who plague the web. Facebook’s opening to the public was a source of minor outrage, mostly directed at the fact that high school kids could now access the hallowed site.

The first change that threw the Facebook community into real turmoil was the introduction of the vaunted news feed. This feature compiled all moves made by its users and announced them for all to see on their friends’ homepages. People reacted like Facebook had started typing up their diary and sending it to their friends. It felt like Facebook was trying to teach a course in Stalking 101. The problem was trying to teach a course in Stalking 101. The problem was that Zuckerberg didn’t phase in this new development by letting users choose what is displayed; he just threw up the new feature. This resulted in a backlash that was, preeminently, unexpected. Or maybe it was expected. Maybe he was just experimenting with laws best known to sunbathers, or when we moved into our apartment and found that our rug was just taking the same approach that my landlords did when we complained.

Sure, they knew about the smell — I think people three Mexican-sounding substance is. With Facebook, a company can be absolutely sure about who is seeing their ad because of the individual nature of the site.

Most people didn’t even know the Beacon controversy was occurring. Obviously, it caused a minor outrage among those in the know. A petition was started, letters were written and finally Zuckerberg issued an apology, making the necessary changes; he switched Beacon to an opt-in program rather than an opt-out service.

Most people are in a fog now, the bravado with which Zuckerberg has marched around Silicon Valley is receding. Facebook’s new feature now appears to be one of arrogantly confident risk. The site has become such an addiction that people are primed to forgive it, no matter how for it pushes the limits — as long as Facebook rectifies the mistake.

Facebook, like most other websites, is designed so people will spend as much time as possible on the site. It really is an advertiser’s dream. The concern with Facebook, and the thing to keep in mind, is that it does not have its user’s interests at heart. It doesn’t. It is truly and utterly motivated by the business of the Internet. It’s the same reason that companies can pay a fee to look at prospective employees’ profiles and check their Facebook history. If it was really a network devoted to college students then this would not occur. I’m not saying this is necessarily a bad thing. For lack of a better expression, this is just how the world works. Just remember, Facebook is not your friend.

Christopher Douville

Sophomore

Sundial Hall

Dec. 6

The Daily Campus

University of Connecticut

X-mas

Christopher Douville

The Daily

Campus

W/lRE

Please limit letters to 400 words. Words and Guest Columns to 800 words.
E-mail your submissions to viewpnt@nd.edu
And yes. I'm crossing my fingers in hopes that "Malcolm & Eddie" is added here, Channel because it's one-stop shopping for the student body that live on Corbin Hicks' campus, which is also indicative of the student body here, channel number 75 is either skipped or stopped on as a source of amusement. The channel in question is none other than Black Entertainment Television, or BET.

BET is the destination for people looking for original programming, rehashed MTV reject shows with greater numbers of the imperial British, who generally disrespecting every hapless foe, leaving them only death and despair. Then again, fair has nothing to do with it. The outcome of next week's game against my beloved Jets already looks grim, due to the fact that the Camerataflame scandal took place in week one during the New York-New England matchup. Can you say, "revenge game?"

League officials caught the Patriots using cameras to tape opposing teams' signals. The Patriots paid a huge price for their indiscretion (to the tune of a half-million dollar fine for Belichick alone and another $250,000 for the team, plus the loss of its first-round draft pick in this year's draft), but the rest of the NFL may have paid a price far greater. By imposing the penalties on the Pats, the league incurred the wrath of the Beasts of the Northeast. The Patriots have three remaining games in their pursuit of season-long perfection against the New York Jets, Miami Dolphins and New York Giants, all decidedly Hobbit-sized underdogs. Of the three contests, two take place within the frigid and therefore cozy confines of Gillette Stadium, New England's home turf.

Unfortunately, no matter how hard it is to watch, it appears as though Bill Belichick and his visions of destiny will strut their way to yet another NFL Championship and an undefeated season with relatively few obstacles. Abandon hope, all ye who watch here: Unlike "Lord of the Rings," there will be no happy ending to this season. There is no hope for Mid-Earth. The views expressed in Scene and Heard are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer. Contact Corbin Hicks at chicks2@nd.edu

"The land of Mordor, in the fires of Mount Doom, the Dark Lord Sauron forged in secret, a master ring, to control all others. And into this ring he poured all his cruelty, his malice and his will to dominate all life. One ring to rule them all, One by one, the free peoples of Middle Earth fell to the power of the ring. But there were some who resisted."

Watching this year's NFL season has been very much akin to watching the critically-acclaimed "Lord of the Rings" trilogy. The New England Patriots head coach, like the Dark Lord Sauron, has consumed himself with a burning need for a ring. Perhaps not the One Ring of Power, but some might argue, an even more important piece of hardware: the NFL Championship ring. He's had it before. And now he wants it back.

Belichick's Gollum-like obsession for that most coveted of rings, yet another Super Bowl Championship, has spurred the Patriots to a perfect 13-0 record through the first four games of the season. It is a feat that is only surpassed by the 1972 Miami Dolphins, the only team to play an entire season without losing a game. The New England Patriots have dominated this season. For those of you who have never had the pleasure of watching one of the movies that I've listed, I strongly urge you to do yourself the favor.

"Baller Blockin'," serious film that it is, is only 50 minutes long and ends with the classic "To Be Continued" motif. Needless to say, seven years later there still hasn't been a sequel, but I will be first in line to buy a ticket when there is. The newest blockbuster movie is "The American Dream," starring the one and only Mike Jones. The movie is about an aspiring Houston rapper and the trials and tribulations that occur during his quest for fame and stardom. Sound familiar to anybody? During the movie, which was obviously filmed at the rapper's house or some other low-budget locale, the viewer is drawn in for the same reason most people watch trashy TV: because the girls look good. But I have digressed.

For those of you who have never had the pleasure of watching one of the movies that I've listed, I strongly urge you to do yourself the favor. New England Patriots coach Bill Belichick has dominated this season.
In the new film "The Golden Compass," the power of the evil Magisterium is rising. Only the holder of the golden compass can save humanity from its crushing grasp.

Based on British author Philip Pullman’s eponymous novel, the film is the "His Dark Materials" trilogy. "The Golden Compass" is the No. 1 film at the box office. With the rise of fantasy filmmaking in recent years, it seems likely that that trend will continue with director Chris Weitz’s new fantasy epic.

Lyra Belacqua (13-year old newcomer Dakota Blue Richards) is the young heroine at the center of Pullman’s novel, a quiet girl who holds the mythic golden compass. Lyra uncovers the mystery of the Dust, the source of man’s original sin, while encountering Mrs. Coulter (Nicole Kidman) and the underlings of the oppressive Magisterium. In a world inhabited by shape-shifting soul creatures called daemons, armored beasts and even James Bond — both Daniel Craig and his leading lady, Eva Green, appear in the film — Lyra must resist the Magisterium and fight for the freedom of the world.

Written as something of a response to C.S. Lewis’ Christian book series "The Chronicles of Narnia," Pullman’s trilogy has garnered much praise from critics who cite the books’ philosophical underpinnings as more sophisticated fare than the usual young adult novel. Secular groups and die-hard fans of the fantasy novels have criticized New Line Cinema for glorifying what they see as Pullman’s atheist agenda, as well as New Line for marketing the film as it would with "Harry Potter" or other children’s fare.

The strongest opposition to the film comes from Comic-Con-goers, but from their parents. Groups like the Catholic League (which is not officially tied to the Catholic Church) and others are speaking out against "The Golden Compass" for what they see as the film’s assault on Christian beliefs. The original novel voiced opposition to the film isn’t coming from Comic-Con-goers, however, but from their parents.

Groups like the Catholic League which is not officially tied to the Catholic Church and others are speaking out against "The Golden Compass" for what the Church has employed in its history, with an explicitly clear anti-establishment message in its epic final battle. It seems logical to think that similar ideas will surface in a film version whose advertising campaign is clearly targeted at fans of the "Lord of the Rings" films and the "Harry Potter" series.

The question at the debate’s center is whether or not the “kids are all right.” “My parents read me the books when I was nine,” Richards said in an interview with Entertainment Weekly, “and I fell in love with them. I really didn’t notice the religious themes back then.”

It was only during filming, Richards said later, that Pullman’s anti-establishment themes made her think of organized religion at all. If the books do aim to dismantle Christianity, the Church and the Almighty Himself, like Catholic League president Bill Donahue and others allege, then the kids would definitely not be all right. These groups target Weitz’ film for glorifying what they see as Pullman’s atheist agenda, as well as New Line for promoting the film as it would with "Harry Potter" or other children’s fare.

The problem with this movement, though, isn’t the film: It’s the ignorance of the protest. Yes, Pullman is an atheist. Yes, his books discuss complex philosophies, and yes, they also criticize organized religion and the historic abuses of the Church. But even the Catholic News Service, which gave the film a positive review, said later, that Pullman’s anti-establishment themes made her think of organized religion at all.

Groups of the protest.

If anything, a film like "The Golden Compass" is something to embrace. It’s a chance for constructive dialogue and debate about the beliefs we might take for granted. The world questions and challenges the beliefs we hold, whatever they are, every day. If history is any indication, backing away from those challenges is a misguided effort that can only keep your mind closed — an aim that, to Pullman, opposes the heart of "His Dark Materials." "I don’t think they promote anything," Pullman told Entertainment Weekly. "Except the good qualities of kindness, courage, curiosity, open-mindedness."

In the end, "The Golden Compass" is really asking moviegoers to find the answers themselves.

The views expressed in Scene and Heard are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer. Contact Analise Lipari at alipari@nd.edu
Patriots stay perfect at 13-0 with rout of Steelers

Romo's last-second touchdown to Witten thwarts Lions upset attempt; Giants edge Eagles as Akers misses late FG

Associated Press

FOXBOROUGH, Mass. — The Patriots are dominant once more. And still unbeaten.

Tom Brady threw four touchdown passes and the once-mediocre franchise in 2001. They were driven to the spotlight, as he had been on

But Brady has been sexually assaulted, visit

BRADFORD GILLIS

Patriots receiver Randy Moss leaps for a catch over Steelers cornerback Ike Taylor on Sunday in New England's 34-13 victory over Pittsburgh.

The Giants celebrated winning the AFC East title and a first-round bye for the first time since 2001. They had a short week to prepare for the Steelers (9-4) after beating the Ravens on Monday night on a touchdown with 44 seconds left.

Still, the Patriots remain the fifth team with a 13-0 record, joining the 1972 Miami Dolphins, 1998 Denver Broncos and 2005 Indianapolis Colts. They can become the first team since the 1972 Dolphins to finish a regular season undefeated; those Dolphins were 14-0, then won their second game for the NFL's only perfect season.

The Patriots clinched a first-round bye, and the Patriots should be big favorites to become the first team since the 1972 Dolphins to finish a regular season undefeated; those Dolphins were 14-0, then won their second game for the NFL's only perfect season.

Two catches of over 50. There may have been extra satisfaction because Smith was

The Giants are dominant once more. And still unbeaten.

Cowboys quarterback Tony Romo celebrates Sunday after a late touchdown pass in Dallas' 28-27 win over the Lions.

The lopsided victory against the New England Patriots followed a two-game struggle in which the Patriots (13-0) needed late comebacks to beat teams with losing records, Philadelphia and Baltimore.

They had a short week to prepare for the Steelers (9-4) after beating the Ravens on Monday night on a touchdown with 44

They had a short week to prepare for the Steelers (9-4) after beating the Ravens on Monday night on a touchdown with 44 seconds left.

They had a short week to prepare for the Steelers (9-4) after beating the Ravens on Monday night on a touchdown with 44 seconds left.

They had a short week to prepare for the Steelers (9-4) after beating the Ravens on Monday night on a touchdown with 44 seconds left.

They had a short week to prepare for the Steelers (9-4) after beating the Ravens on Monday night on a touchdown with 44 seconds left.
 Falcons quarterback Michael Vick and his attorney, Billy Martin, enter a federal courtroom in Richmond, Va. Vick faces sentencing Monday and could receive up to five years in prison for his involvement in a dogfighting ring.

**Vick faces sentencing in dogfighting case**

**Associated Press**

**RICHMOND, Va. — How much, if any, will Michael Vick’s role as financier of a brutal dogfighting ring hurt him? What about his use of drugs while awaiting sentencing or his cooperation? His public apology? His report perc. PF PA

# CCHA Hockey Standings

**team** | **record** | **perc.** | **PF** | **PA**
--- | --- | --- | --- | ---
**NHL**

**AFC East**

**team** | **record** | **perc.** | **PF** | **PA**
--- | --- | --- | --- | ---
New England | 13-6 | 0.692 | 388 | 199
Buffalo | 7-6 | 0.526 | 278 | 291
N.Y. Jets | 3-10 | 0.237 | 236 | 315
Miami | 0-15 | 0.000 | 213 | 305

**AFC North**

**team** | **record** | **perc.** | **PF** | **PA**
Pittsburgh | 9-4 | 0.692 | 309 | 189
Cleveland | 6-5 | 0.541 | 356 | 265
Cincinnati | 5-9 | 0.353 | 310 | 320
Baltimore | 4-8 | 0.333 | 266 | 300

**AFC South**

**team** | **record** | **perc.** | **PF** | **PA**
Indianapolis | 10-2 | 0.833 | 337 | 197
Jacksonville | 3-10 | 0.231 | 305 | 229
Tennessee | 7-6 | 0.541 | 249 | 264
Houston | 6-7 | 0.462 | 291 | 305

**AFC West**

**team** | **record** | **perc.** | **PF** | **PA**
San Diego | 8-5 | 0.625 | 213 | 239
Denver | 6-7 | 0.462 | 287 | 336
Oakland | 5-9 | 0.353 | 236 | 250
Kansas City | 4-9 | 0.333 | 179 | 271

**NFC East**

**team** | **record** | **perc.** | **PF** | **PA**
Dallas | 12-1 | 1.000 | 503 | 222
New York Giants | 9-4 | 0.692 | 290 | 270
New England | 13-0 | 1.000 | 503 | 222
Jacksonville | 9-4 | 0.692 | 305 | 189
Baltimore | 4-9 | 0.462 | 236 | 250

**NFC West**

**team** | **record** | **perc.** | **PF** | **PA**
San Francisco | 3-10 | 0.231 | 206 | 316
St. Louis | 3-10 | 0.231 | 206 | 316
Arizona | 6-7 | 0.462 | 206 | 316
Seattle | 9-4 | 0.692 | 315 | 228
New Orleans | 5-7 | 0.417 | 266 | 279
Chicago | 5-8 | 0.385 | 253 | 296
Denver | 6-7 | 0.462 | 287 | 336
San Diego | 8-5 | 0.615 | 308 | 250

**NFC North**

**team** | **record** | **perc.** | **PF** | **PA**
Green Bay | 11-2 | 0.848 | 361 | 229
Minnesota | 7-6 | 0.541 | 305 | 229
Detroit | 6-7 | 0.462 | 254 | 330
Chicago | 5-6 | 0.462 | 251 | 286

**NFC South**

**team** | **record** | **perc.** | **PF** | **PA**
Tampa Bay | 8-5 | 0.625 | 205 | 215
New Orleans | 7-6 | 0.541 | 276 | 279
Carolina | 5-8 | 0.385 | 270 | 284
Atlanta | 3-6 | 0.333 | 217 | 272

**In Brief**

**Pacers' Tinsley unhurt in shooting**

**INDIANAPOLIS — More late night trouble for Jamaal Tinsley could present more problems for the Indiana Pacers. Tinsley and several companions were targeted in a shooting Sunday night that wounded one person. Tinsley was not injured, but he did not practice on Sunday, the team said.**

It was the third time since last October that Tinsley has been involved in a disturbance stemming from trips to bars or nightclubs. "I really didn't know what to think about it," team president Larry Bird told Pacers.com. "I was just hoping everybody was all right. You feel bad any time your players are in some situations, you feel bad for every­thing. It just makes it a little harder for the organization. We'll get through this, but it's tough right now."
Mayweather stays unbeaten with KO

Associated Press

LAS VEGAS — Floyd Mayweather Jr. didn’t need to dance to beat Ricky Hatton. His fists proved a lot more potent than his feet.

Mayweather remained unbeaten Monday night and retained his claim to being the best pound-for-pound fighter in the world by stopping Hatton in the 10th round of a brawl that featured none of the fancy footwork the American has shown in the ring and on reality TV.

Hatton wouldn’t let Mayweather move, but it didn’t matter as Mayweather used precisely placed punches to batter the challenger for his 147-pound crown. Hatton kept trying to get inside and score points, but Mayweather had an answer for everything.

The end came after Mayweather landed a crushing left hook that dropped Hatton on his back in Mayweather’s corner. Hatton got up at the count of eight, but Mayweather almost immediately got him on the ropes and landed another flurry of punches to the head.

It was the first loss for Hatton, a boxer from Manchester, England, who seemed to be cruising for a major upset. Mayweather had a different viewpoint.

“You never know in this business. You never know when it’s going to be your time,” Mayweather said.

Bradley agrees to terms with Bradley for year

Associated Press

NEW YORK — Outfielder Mike Bradley has agreed to a one-year contract with the Texas Rangers, according to a preliminary agreement Sunday in a one-year contract worth just over $5 million.

Bradley, who also had considered re-signing with the San Diego Padres, could play outfield or be a designated hitter with the Rangers. His deal also contains performance bonuses.

"It’s going to be very comfortable with Milton Bradley," Rangers manager Ron Washington said last week at the winter meetings. "If Milton were to become available to the Texas Rangers, we would like to have him."
Runners post positive results in Blue and Gold Invitational

By ALEX BARKER AND ANDY ZICCARELLI
Sports Writers

Notre Dame got off to a solid start on Friday when it hosted the annual Blue and Gold Invitational against DePaul, Marquette and Detroit Mercy. Sophomore Joanna Schultz captured the 200 and 400-meters and many of her team members posted Big East qualifying times at the meet.

"Only a few years ago, we were not yet at full strength and illness since training began in September and this gives us a chance to evaluate our team," Irish coach Tim Connelly said. "Connelly had plenty of good races to evaluate." The Irish swept the 500-meter dash. Out of the 14 competitors, the top seven finishers were all Irish runners. In addition, all seven qualified for the Big East championships with their times. The winner was freshman Cora Dayon, who ran a time of 1:14:37. In the distance races, the Irish were without their impact runners, senior Sunni Olding and freshman Marissa Treece. Both have struggled through injuries and illness since training began in September. Connelly said they were not yet at full strength and probably would not be fit until February.

The Irish throwers performed well under new coach Adam Beltran. Anna Weber qualified for the Big East meet in the weight throw with a toss of 17.24 meters. Weber and sophomore Jaclyn Espinoza finished first and second, respectively, in the shot put.

"It gives our team an opportunity to compete before going home for Christmas break. They have been training since September and this gives us a chance to evaluate our team," Irish coach Tim Connelly said. "Connelly had plenty of good races to evaluate." The Irish swept the 500-meter dash. Out of the 14 competitors, the top seven finishers were all Irish runners. In addition, all seven qualified for the Big East championships with their times. The winner was freshman Cora Dayon, who ran a time of 1:14:37. In the distance races, the Irish were without their impact runners, senior Sunni Olding and freshman Marissa Treece. Both have struggled through injuries and illness since training began in September. Connelly said they were not yet at full strength and probably would not be fit until February.

The Irish throwers performed well under new coach Adam Beltran. Anna Weber qualified for the Big East meet in the weight throw with a toss of 17.24 meters. Weber and sophomore Jaclyn Espinoza finished first and second, respectively, in the shot put.

By ALEX BARKER AND ANDY ZICCARELLI
Sports Writers

Notre Dame started its season strong with an impressive performance at the Blue and Gold Invitational at the Loftus center Friday, claiming first in 24 of 31 events against competition from DePaul, Marquette, and Detroit Mercy. Senior Kurt Benninger set a solid example for his team mates. Benninger's time of 8:05.32 in the 3,000-meter event was the highlight of the night and stands as the second-fastest time in the nation so far this season. Benninger finished 30 seconds before anyone else. Freshman Greg Driscoll added his rising talent to the team, placing first in the 800-meter throw and nabbing a Big East qualification with a distance of 17.76 meters. The freshmen are doing very well. We lost a lot of talented players but I am optimistic with what the young athletes are doing. Notre Dame head coach Joe Plane said. "It is good to see the underclassmen stepping up and helping us succeed."

Senior Adam Currie did miss a step after earning Big East honors last year in the 1,900-meter race, as he streaked past all runners to first place, beating the second place runner by two seconds. Another Big East qualification was earned by senior Bob Kueny also earned a Big East qualification with his time of 49.56 in the 400-meter race. Taking after his teammate, freshman Miklos Szepenyi took first in the 200-meter run with a time of 21.93 seconds, which also earned a spot in the Big East meet.

"The freshman are doing very well. We lost a lot of talented players but I am optimistic with what the young athletes are doing. It is good to see the underclassmen stepping up and helping us succeed."

"The freshman are doing very well. We lost a lot of talented players but I am optimistic with what the young athletes are doing. It is good to see the underclassmen stepping up and helping us succeed."

Joe Plane
Irish coach

By PAT STYNES
Sports Writer

The Irish took 24 of 31 events for the Big East meet, surpassing last year's Blue and Gold Invitational with a team score of 105.7. The team will be off until returning from winter break. Their next meet will be the Notre Dame Indoor Opener on January 18.

Contact Alex Barker at abarkerl@nd.edu and Andy Ziccarelli at aziccarelli@nd.edu

Irish junior Mary Saxer became a conference qualifier in the pole vault with a mark of 3.4 meters. Sophomore Jamee Minor finished first in place in the triple jump with a mark of 11.24 meters.

The Observer - SPORTS
Monday, December 10, 2007

Follow Relevant
- Notre Dame Football
- Notre Dame Basketball
- Notre Dame Men's Track & Field
- Notre Dame Women's Track & Field

For more information, visit www.nd.edu/~prolife

Register Online Now:
www.nd.edu/~prolife

Write sports.
E-mail Chris at sports@nd.edu

REGISTER ONLINE NOW:
www.nd.edu/~prolife

or Monday & Tuesday in the Dining Halls

Write sports.
E-mail Chris at sports@nd.edu

REGISTER ONLINE NOW:
www.nd.edu/~prolife

or Monday & Tuesday in the Dining Halls

Write sports.
E-mail Chris at sports@nd.edu

Register Online Now:
www.nd.edu/~prolife

Write sports.
E-mail Chris at sports@nd.edu

REGISTER ONLINE NOW:
www.nd.edu/~prolife

or Monday & Tuesday in the Dining Halls

Write sports.
E-mail Chris at sports@nd.edu

REGISTER ONLINE NOW:
www.nd.edu/~prolife

or Monday & Tuesday in the Dining Halls

Write sports.
E-mail Chris at sports@nd.edu

REGISTER ONLINE NOW:
www.nd.edu/~prolife

or Monday & Tuesday in the Dining Halls

Write sports.
E-mail Chris at sports@nd.edu

REGISTER ONLINE NOW:
www.nd.edu/~prolife

or Monday & Tuesday in the Dining Halls

Write sports.
E-mail Chris at sports@nd.edu

REGISTER ONLINE NOW:
www.nd.edu/~prolife

or Monday & Tuesday in the Dining Halls

Write sports.
E-mail Chris at sports@nd.edu

REGISTER ONLINE NOW:
www.nd.edu/~prolife

or Monday & Tuesday in the Dining Halls

Write sports.
E-mail Chris at sports@nd.edu

REGISTER ONLINE NOW:
www.nd.edu/~prolife

or Monday & Tuesday in the Dining Halls

Write sports.
E-mail Chris at sports@nd.edu

REGISTER ONLINE NOW:
www.nd.edu/~prolife

or Monday & Tuesday in the Dining Halls

Write sports.
E-mail Chris at sports@nd.edu

REGISTER ONLINE NOW:
www.nd.edu/~prolife

or Monday & Tuesday in the Dining Halls

Write sports.
E-mail Chris at sports@nd.edu

REGISTER ONLINE NOW:
www.nd.edu/~prolife

or Monday & Tuesday in the Dining Halls

Write sports.
E-mail Chris at sports@nd.edu

REGISTER ONLINE NOW:
www.nd.edu/~prolife

or Monday & Tuesday in the Dining Halls

Write sports.
E-mail Chris at sports@nd.edu

REGISTER ONLINE NOW:
www.nd.edu/~prolife

or Monday & Tuesday in the Dining Halls

Write sports.
E-mail Chris at sports@nd.edu

REGISTER ONLINE NOW:
www.nd.edu/~prolife

or Monday & Tuesday in the Dining Halls

Write sports.
E-mail Chris at sports@nd.edu

REGISTER ONLINE NOW:
www.nd.edu/~prolife

or Monday & Tuesday in the Dining Halls

Write sports.
E-mail Chris at sports@nd.edu

REGISTER ONLINE NOW:
www.nd.edu/~prolife

or Monday & Tuesday in the Dining Halls

Write sports.
E-mail Chris at sports@nd.edu

REGISTER ONLINE NOW:
www.nd.edu/~prolife

or Monday & Tuesday in the Dining Halls

Write sports.
E-mail Chris at sports@nd.edu

REGISTER ONLINE NOW:
www.nd.edu/~prolife

or Monday & Tuesday in the Dining Halls

Write sports.
E-mail Chris at sports@nd.edu

REGISTER ONLINE NOW:
www.nd.edu/~prolife

or Monday & Tuesday in the Dining Halls

Write sports.
E-mail Chris at sports@nd.edu

REGISTER ONLINE NOW:
www.nd.edu/~prolife

or Monday & Tuesday in the Dining Halls

Write sports.
E-mail Chris at sports@nd.edu

REGISTER ONLINE NOW:
www.nd.edu/~prolife

or Monday & Tuesday in the Dining Halls

Write sports.
E-mail Chris at sports@nd.edu

REGISTER ONLINE NOW:
www.nd.edu/~prolife

or Monday & Tuesday in the Dining Halls

Write sports.
E-mail Chris at sports@nd.edu

REGISTER ONLINE NOW:
www.nd.edu/~prolife

or Monday & Tuesday in the Dining Halls

Write sports.
E-mail Chris at sports@nd.edu

REGISTER ONLINE NOW:
www.nd.edu/~prolife

or Monday & Tuesday in the Dining Halls

Write sports.
E-mail Chris at sports@nd.edu

REGISTER ONLINE NOW:
www.nd.edu/~prolife

or Monday & Tuesday in the Dining Halls

Write sports.
E-mail Chris at sports@nd.edu

REGISTER ONLINE NOW:
www.nd.edu/~prolife

or Monday & Tuesday in the Dining Halls

Write sports.
E-mail Chris at sports@nd.edu

REGISTER ONLINE NOW:
www.nd.edu/~prolife

or Monday & Tuesday in the Dining Halls

Write sports.
E-mail Chris at sports@nd.edu
ND WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Career game brings Irish win

Barlow nets 19 points in second half to halt Purdue in West Lafayette

By JAY FITZPATRICK
Assistant Sports Editor

Ashley Barlow had the best game of her college career when Notre Dame needed it most.

The sophomore guard finished Saturday's 61-48 win over Purdue with a career-high 22 points — 19 of which came in the second half.

"I thought that [Barlow] took over the game in the second half," said coach Muffet McGraw, who finished the game with 23 points, seven assists and five steals. "I thought she was really where she was," McGraw said. "You know, she got some steals. She really did a good job in the first half and really just made things happen in the second half, the game really fell in line.

"And we've worked on it a lot. She's really coming into his own."}

Barlow's performance was especially important because Notre Dame's leading scorer -- senior forward Danielle Campbell -- was held to just three points.

"One key part of the zone defense, and Ashley steps up, it takes the pressure off of everybody," McGraw said.

"And we've worked on it a lot. I'm feeling good about my decision to come back with three games left. If we could get a second-half performance like that, I think that's the great thing about this team is our depth and our bench," McGraw said.

"I don't know if too many people give us a shot at this point," said senior forward and team co-captain Ashley Barlow. "It was great. It feels good to finally know that I can go out there every night trying to contribute in some way," she said.

"I thought the zone was really where she was," McGraw said. "We kept her on the perimeter and didn't really give her the driving lanes, and I thought that was really working for us."

"I don't think the cold didn't have anything to do with it," said senior guard Alison Kessler. "It was really just making things happen in the second half."}

Need Another?

2 Large 2 Topping Pizzas for $17.99

or

XL 2 Topping Pizza for $12.99

PUPPY JOANS

Enjoy your Study Break?

Students...

PIZZA

PAPPAJOANS

Assistant Press

GREEN BAY, Wis. -- The Green Bay Packers are getting back to business.

And maybe they're bringing a running game with them.

Green Bay didn't need Brett Favre to throw the ball all over the field to clinch the NFC North on Sunday, relying on the rushing of Ryan Grant and a pair of special teams touchdowns.

"Getting back to business" was a fitting description for Grant, who finished the game with 23 points, seven assists and five steals. "I thought it was a great thing to do. And our zone was really, really good. I was pleased because we played about 39 minutes of zone," she said.

"And we've worked on it quite a bit, and so I was happy to see it work really good."}

One key part of the zone was to shut down Boilermakers forward Takesha Freeman. Freeman entered Saturday's game scoring 14.1 points per game, but the Irish zone held her to 1-of-9 from the floor with her only basket coming from beyond the arc.

"I thought the zone was really where she was," McGraw said. "We kept her on the perimeter and didn't really give her the driving lanes, and I thought that was really working for us."}

"We played a good game out there, but still made his 250th start of the season when Notre Dame needed it most.

The sophomore guard finished Saturday's 61-48 win over Purdue with a career-high 22 points — 19 of which came in the second half.

"I thought that [Barlow] took over the game in the second half," said coach Muffet McGraw, who finished the game with 23 points, seven assists and five steals. "I thought she was really where she was," McGraw said. "You know, she got some steals. She really did a good job in the first half and really just made things happen in the second half, the game really fell in line.

"And we've worked on it a lot. I'm feeling good about my decision to come back with three games left. If we could get a second-half performance like that, I think that's the great thing about this team is our depth and our bench," McGraw said.

"I don't know if too many people give us a shot at this point," said senior forward and team co-captain Ashley Barlow. "It was great. It feels good to finally know that I can go out there every night trying to contribute in some way," she said.

"I thought the zone was really where she was," McGraw said. "We kept her on the perimeter and didn't really give her the driving lanes, and I thought that was really working for us."

"I don't think the cold didn't have anything to do with it," said senior guard Alison Kessler. "It was really just making things happen in the second half."}

Need Another?

2 Large 2 Topping Pizzas for $17.99

or

XL 2 Topping Pizza for $12.99

PUPPY JOANS

Enjoy your Study Break?

Students...

PIZZA

PAPPAJOANS
VeNard's first goal, the Irish the game.


Overtime

continued from page 20

seen it was an imminent dan- Irish coach Bobby Clark said.

No. 10 Notre Dame built up momentum after halftime and looked to be on the attack going into the over-
time period. The Irish outshot the No. 2 Demon Deacons 3-4 in the second half and also held a 3-2 advantage in cor-
er kick attempts. The highly talented Wake Forest defense kept Notre Dame from creat-
ing many scoring chances throughout the game.

"They are a very good team; they pressure very hard. They do a lot of the same things we do, there are a lot of similari-
ties," Clark said. "I feel in the first half that hurt us a little bit. We couldn't get into our rhythm to play because their pressure was very good."

Wake Forest, who has yet to lose a game at home this year, outshot Notre Dame 9-1 in the first half and controlled the pace of the game.

The home team fed off of the energy of the sold-out Pur Stadium on a warm, windless night and put relentless pressure on the Irish for the first five minutes.

"It certainly may have been an advantage [for Wake Forest], the field was pretty much perfect, the stadium was crammed full; it was an absolute perfect environment for the players to play in," Clark said.

Notre Dame has played all of its noncon-

Ottorino Respighi's beautiful Nativity the Nativity and the world premieres of new works by

day, January 10, 2007

Sports

Nine

continued from page 20

VeNard's first goal, the Irish the game.


Overtime

continued from page 20

seen it was an imminent dan- Irish coach Bobby Clark said.

No. 10 Notre Dame built up momentum after halftime and looked to be on the attack going into the over-
time period. The Irish outshot the No. 2 Demon Deacons 3-4 in the second half and also held a 3-2 advantage in cor-
er kick attempts. The highly talented Wake Forest defense kept Notre Dame from creat-
ing many scoring chances throughout the game.

"They are a very good team; they pressure very hard. They do a lot of the same things we do, there are a lot of similari-
ties," Clark said. "I feel in the first half that hurt us a little bit. We couldn't get into our rhythm to play because their pressure was very good."

Wake Forest, who has yet to lose a game at home this year, outshot Notre Dame 9-1 in the first half and controlled the pace of the game. The home team fed off of the energy of the sold-out Pur Stadium on a warm, windless night and put relentless pressure on the Irish for the first five minutes.

"It certainly may have been an advantage [for Wake Forest], the field was pretty much perfect, the stadium was crammed full; it was an absolute perfect environment for the players to play in," Clark said.

Notre Dame has played all of its noncon-

Ottorino Respighi's beautiful Nativity the Nativity and the world premieres of new works by

Day, January 10, 2007

Sports

Nine

continued from page 20

VeNard's first goal, the Irish the game.


Overtime

continued from page 20

seen it was an imminent dan- Irish coach Bobby Clark said.

No. 10 Notre Dame built up momentum after halftime and looked to be on the attack going into the over-
time period. The Irish outshot the No. 2 Demon Deacons 3-4 in the second half and also held a 3-2 advantage in cor-
er kick attempts. The highly talented Wake Forest defense kept Notre Dame from creat-
ing many scoring chances throughout the game.

"They are a very good team; they pressure very hard. They do a lot of the same things we do, there are a lot of similari-
ties," Clark said. "I feel in the first half that hurt us a little bit. We couldn't get into our rhythm to play because their pressure was very good."

Wake Forest, who has yet to lose a game at home this year, outshot Notre Dame 9-1 in the first half and controlled the pace of the game. The home team fed off of the energy of the sold-out Pur Stadium on a warm, windless night and put relentless pressure on the Irish for the first five minutes.

"It certainly may have been an advantage [for Wake Forest], the field was pretty much perfect, the stadium was crammed full; it was an absolute perfect environment for the players to play in," Clark said.

Notre Dame has played all of its noncon-

Ottorino Respighi's beautiful Nativity the Nativity and the world premieres of new works by

Sunday, December 10, 2000

SPORTS

You are invited to a Hanukkah Celebration

7:00 Tuesday December 11
Welsh Family 24 Hour Lounge

JOIN US FOR AN EVENING OF FOOD,
ENTERTAINMENT AND CULTURE

Sponsored by the Jewish Club of ND & Welsh Family Hall

Irish defender Carrie Drew, right, and forward Michele Weissenhofer celebrate a goal in Notre Dame's 3-2 loss on Friday.

Irish defender Carrie Drew, right, and forward Michele Weissenhofer celebrate a goal in Notre Dame's 3-2 loss on Friday.

Irish defender Carrie Drew, right, and forward Michele Weissenhofer celebrate a goal in Notre Dame's 3-2 loss on Friday.

Irish defender Carrie Drew, right, and forward Michele Weissenhofer celebrate a goal in Notre Dame's 3-2 loss on Friday.

Irish defender Carrie Drew, right, and forward Michele Weissenhofer celebrate a goal in Notre Dame's 3-2 loss on Friday.

Irish defender Carrie Drew, right, and forward Michele Weissenhofer celebrate a goal in Notre Dame's 3-2 loss on Friday.
**ND WOMEN’S SOCCER**

No easy way down

Irish season ends with disappointment in semis

By BILL BRINK
Sports Writer

COLLEGE STATION, Texas — Notre Dame fought hard to reach the national championship game on Friday, but did not have quite enough to gain the upper hand on Florida State. Seminoles midfielder Amanda DaCosta’s goal in the 72nd minute gave her team a 3-2 victory over Notre Dame in the College Cup semifinals.

The loss ended the season for the Irish.

"I’m certainly disappointed for our team," Irish coach Randy Waldrum said. "I thought we had every opportunity to win today."

The Seminoles lead 1-0 and 2-1, but the Irish evened the score minutes into overtime in Notre Dame’s 3-2 loss to Florida State on Friday in the College Cup semifinals.

see SEMINOLES/page 18

**MEN’S BASKETBALL**

Home win streak reaches 25 with defeat of N. Illinois

By CHRIS HINE
Sports Editor

Notre Dame junior forward Zach Hillesland dribbled the ball in front of the scorers’ table and attracted the attention of every Northern Illinois defender. Hillesland, meanwhile, had his eye behind the defense on freshman forward Tim Abromaitis, who was cutting toward the basket.

Hillesland lofted the ball toward the right side of the rim. Abromaitis jumped and slammed the ball home, completing an electrifying alley-oop on a night when Notre Dame could do little wrong in capturing its school-record 25th consecutive victory at the Joyce Center with a 109-62 drubbing of Northern Illinois on Saturday.

"It feels really good to be a part of history," said junior forward Ryan Ayers, who finished with 11 points. "You can always mark that down when you come back in 20 years and say, 'Hey, I was a part of that team.'"

Junior guard Kyle McAlarney and senior forward Rob Kurz each had 17 points while a leaping, diving and dunking Luke Harangody added 14 points and 12 rebounds. The Irish shot 36-for-58 (62 percent) from the field and 14-for-25 (56 percent) from 3-point land. From the opening tip, the Irish were confident in their ability to dominate.

"I think he’s playing with confidence," Jackson said. "He really feels like he’s a guy that’s ready to play, and I didn’t think we’d have to expect that." McAlarney spurred Notre Dame early on, draining four straight 3-pointers in the first four minutes of the game. Notre Dame had 22 points on the board before the first media timeout with 14:35 left in the half.

"The first six minutes of the game, have you ever seen anything like that?" Irish coach Mike Brey said. "I mean, are you kidding me? That was a clinic. I’m hitting [assistant coach Sean Kearney] and going, ‘This is fun.’ See I would’ve bought a bunch of tickets for tonight if I knew that was going to happen. You get your money’s worth."

Despite Notre Dame’s fast start, Northern Illinois never seemed to realize its team had dodged a bullet.

"Overall, they probably dominated the game a whole lot more than we did," Krikorian said. "I’m hitting [assistant coach Sean Kearney] and saying, ‘What are you freaking about?’ And they had a couple of 3-point shots go down. It’s going to happen and you’ve got to realize it’s going to happen."

The following night, the Irish lost by an 80-67 score.

see STREAK/page 17

**MEN’S SOCCER**

Golden goal ends season

Wake Forest downs men 1-0 in overtime

By DAN MURPHY
Associate Sports Editor

Wake Forest sophomore Austin da Luz ended a scoreless tie — and Notre Dame’s season — with a goal seven minutes into overtime in Winston-Salem, N.C. on Saturday.

Junior forward Marcus Tracy carried the ball up the right side and cut it back to Da Luz just outside of the goalie box. The 160-pound midfielder ripped a low shot that snuck under Irish keeper Chris Cahill into the bottom left corner of the net.

"It was a great shot. It was a funny goal because it didn’t see OVERTIME/page 17

**HOCKEY**

Irish make it nine in a row with road victories

By DAN MURPHY
Associate Sports Editor

No. 6 Notre Dame extended its winning streak to nine games with a pair of wins against Princeton on the road this weekend, and defenseman Dan VeNard had the first multi-goal game of his career, continuing the offensive success of a senior who has had an up-and-down collegiate tenure.

After falling behind early Friday night, the Irish scored three straight goals and later added an insurance goal from freshman Ben Ryan to win 4-2. The following night, the Irish dominated from start to finish, winning 7-0.

"I thought that our guys were ready to play, and I didn’t think Princeton was as energetic as on Friday night and our guys capitalized on it," Irish coach Jeff Jackson said. "We really had them Wolf Pack Tuesday night and then played well against Princeton."

VeNard has racked up eight points so far this year in Notre Dame’s first 20 games, which matches his total for the previous three years.

see NINE/page 17