Pope discusses faith and education in talk at Catholic University

By BILL BRINK
News Editor

In an address to Catholic educators from across the country at Catholic University in Washington, D.C., Pope Benedict XVI discussed education and faith in the university setting.

Academic freedom is an important part of Catholic education, but is subservient to the teachings of the Catholic Church, the pope said Thursday. Notre Dame President Father John Jenkins and Saint Mary's president Carol Ann Mooney were in attendance.

The pope said Catholic institutions must be consistent with the faith and teachings of the Church both inside and outside of the classroom.

"Any appeal to the principle of academic freedom in order to justify positions that contradict the faith and the teaching of the Church would obstruct or even betray the university’s identity," Dobbins said.

The Office of Information Technology (OIT) recently informed students of an e-mail scam that has attempted to obtain personal information.

The scam, known as "phishing," works by sending out an e-mail designed to replicate an e-mail from OIT asking for students to enter their passwords, said Gary Dobbins, OIT Director of Information Security.

"The latest round has changed to asking for passwords under the guise of deleting [the student] e-mail account if you don't supply it to them," Dobbins said.

Once the creators of the false e-mails get a student’s password, Dobbins said, they use the account to send out massive amounts of spam.

"As organizations get better at fighting sources of spam, spammers get better at using legitimate sources," Dobbins said.

Formerly, it was possible for spammers to send such e-mails from their P.O.'s, Dobbins said. Now, however, internet access companies are enacting stricter rules about usage so spammers have to resort to using other people's accounts.

Dobbins said OIT did not know specific information about whether Notre Dame students had fallen victim to the false e-mails. Students at other colleges have had their accounts compromised.

The event also features a one-mile walk for those not wishing to run.

Race coordinator senior Clint Bergstrom said the idea for the event arose last spring.

"We seriously started taking a look [at planning the event] at the beginning of this semester once we got the approval of S.A.O. [Student Activities Office]," Bergstrom said.

Six Alumni race committee members were responsible for various planning aspects of the race. Bergstrom's fellow Alumni residents chose him to head the effort once it was underway.

"I used to do a lot of running [in high school], I thought this would be a cool opportunity for a good cause," Bergstrom said.

Although race coordinators initially entertained the idea of inviting the entire South Bend community, they eventually decided to keep it open to only Notre Dame, Saint Mary’s and Holy Cross College students.

Bergstrom said the event, although only in its first year, has seen an impressive number of registrants so far.

"As of Wednesday night, we had 300 signed up already," Bergstrom said.

The event, Bergstrom said, has received a great deal of support throughout its planning stages.

Adidas donated T-shirts, which each participant will receive with his or her registration fee, while colleague service organization Circle K provided volunteers.

Faith-science link examined

Lecturer Barbara Fiand discusses scientific discovery and spirituality

By KATLYN SMITH
News Writer

Lecturer and author Barbara Fiand explored the relationship between scientific discoveries, particularly in quantum physics, and spiritual views Thursday at Saint Mary’s 23rd annual Madeleva Lecture.

In her lecture, entitled "Awe-filled Wonder: The Interface of Science and Spirituality," at the College’s Little Theatre, Fiand said humans interpret their place in reality through a worldview, a perception currently being transformed by scientific discoveries.

Traditional perceptions, such as dualism, Fiand said, stress the division of spirit and science.

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**INSIDE COLUMN**

**Bye bye Bubble**

"Well, Katie, you will only be living on the Notre Dame campus for only another month," my mom said a few weeks ago. I had not really stopped to consider this phenomenon. No more parietals, no more lofted beds, no more Sunday morning recaps, no more communal bathrooms. I have taken these little things for granted. Leaving the Bubble seems all the more daunting.

While studying abroad for the next academic year, I won't see the girls from my dorm with whom I have become such great friends these two years. The good news is we will all be living in a house together senior year. 7.6.1. I am not going to start a tirade about the prospect of a complete change of scenery, I realize how much I will truly miss being on this campus.

I know we all complain about the parietals, the despot that is DuLac, the Indiana mornings and the hard water that strips your hair of any luster. But there also are those Saturday mornings on home football weekends. Walking home at night under the light of the Dome. And we cannot forget the ease of rolling out of bed 15 minutes before classes start.

I am starting to sound like a nostalgic high school senior again.

The fact of the matter is, though, that with the prospect of not being here for a year looming over my head like the University's in loco parentis, I am forced to start realizing the relative luxury we have here of living on campus.

I am not going to start a tirade about urgent people staying on campus as long as possible — trust me, I am as ready to move on as any other sophomore. I guess I am just starting to realize what seniors are going through.

Seniors are not only thinking about moving away from all their friends to different parts of the country, but also about moving onto their respective kid jobs, maybe about getting married, maybe about being broke and completely self-reliant for the first time.

To be honest, the prospect of being totally independent is terrifying at this point in time.

There is something about this place that makes us feel so safe and comfortable. There is definite truth to the reference of The Notre Dame family, and even more, the Notre Dame Bubble.

As much as it is easy to get comfortable in this, it obviously is the natural progression to be bootied away from here, ready or not.

As my Nana always said, "Healthy birds fly.

That is not to say you're done with this place forever, or even that you should forget anything that happened here that took you to where you are now.

I think we're all pretty lucky to have called this comfy nest our home for a time.

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**OFFBEAT**

Mayor finds cat inside of own wall

NORTH ARLINGTON, N.J. — Mayor Peter Massa put out a citywide cat call when his Maine Coon disappeared. Massa had an automatic call sent to 8,500 voters on Wednesday asking for help finding Max.

Turns out he didn't have to look that far. Massa's wife, Val, says 14-year-old Max was found inside a wall of their house Thursday morning. He had been missing since Tuesday.

Val Massa says she doesn't know how the 20-pound cat got in the 5-inch hole under the stairs. Max was dehydrated and hungry, but otherwise fine. The Massas had also offered a $500 reward.

Man rears lion in backyard until neighbors complain

BUCHAREST, Romania - Romanian media say a man was rearing a lion in his back garden until neighbors decided they had heard enough roaring and called police.

Roman state news agency said police found a caged 3-year-old lioness, as well as two deer, a stag and two peacocks roaming the garden of the man's home in the southern village of Pietrosita.

The agency's report Wednesday said the 28-year-old man is being charged with illegal possession of wild animals and could be sentenced to up to a year in jail.

The daily Evenimentul Zilei newspaper says the lioness will be taken to the Bucharest zoo.

Information compiled by the Associated Press.
Pope
continued from page 1

John Jenkins said in a telephone interview with The Observer Thursday.
Jenkins said the reaffirmation of the importance of Catholic education was the central point of the pope’s address.

“I think the pope gave a great affirmation and inspiration,” Jenkins said. “It's a chance to refocus on our central mission and I think that’s what it will bring.”

Mooney said the experience of being addressed by Benedict was a thrilling one.

“We were in the room a long time before he came in for security reasons so we were all anxiously awaiting him,” she said. “When he came into the room it was just electric.”

Monsignor James Hine at chine01@saintmarys.edu, Bill Brink at wbrink@nd.edu, Chris Hine at chine01@nd.edu.

The speech he gave was uplifting and personable, she said.

“It was sort of a pep talk,” she said. “He’s been a university professor and in one sense it was as if he was speaking to us as his fellow academicians.”

Jenkins said the pope’s message about the role of the Church in Catholic education was crucial and must continue to be a central commitment of the Church.

“Monsignor Hine said she was surprised with Benedict’s message concerning the definition of a Catholic institution.

“It was very pastoral, very encouraging and very eloquent.”

Carol Ann Mooney
Saint Mary’s president

“At one point he said that being a Catholic institution isn’t dependent upon statistics. It isn’t even dependent on the orthodoxy and the content of the courses offered at the institution,” Mooney said. “It’s more about the spirit of the place. It’s more about it being a place where people encounter the living God.”

The speech he gave was reenergizing to the Catholic educational community.

“He began the speech and ended the speech by thanking and affirming the work of Catholic education,” Jenkins said. “That kind of affirmation really hit everyone’s favorite part.”

Mooney said he also called upon the Priests, Brothers and Sisters in the audience to continue their educational ministry.

“He’s a quiet speaker and at times it was a little difficult to follow what he was saying, but when he said that, everyone knew what he was saying and responded very positively,” she said. “The place just erupted in applause.”

Mooney said she wanted to emphasize how pastoral the Pope was in speaking to the educators.

“He treated everyone in the room as sort of a coworker in a vineyard,” she said. “It was very pastoral, very encouraging and very eloquent.”

Contact Liz Harter at lizharter@saintmarys.edu.

“I think he’s absolutely right,” Jenkins said. “It’s a chance to refocus on our central mission and I think that’s what it will bring.”

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Contact Liz Harter at lizharter@saintmarys.edu.
**OIT** continued from page 1

accounts used for spam, he said. “As soon as a student [at another school] would send credentials back believing mail, the account sends out large amounts of spam mail,” Dobbins said. “We can tell that someone has responded to a phishing attack in some cases, but can’t tell what they said. Anecdotal wanted.”

Dobbins said “in some cases, people are getting smarter, and it is becoming harder to distinguish between real e-mail from OIT and an imposter.”

The first, he said, is the fact that OIT will never ask students for personal information through e-mail, a fact proclaimed on Webmail’s home page. “It wouldn’t make any sense,” he said. “We have it. We don’t need it for anything. We’re running the systems their password opens for them.”

The second sign, Dobbins said, is the presence of an unrealistic threat.

**Address** continued from page 1

and mission, a mission at the heart of the Church’s munus docendi and not somehow autonomous or independent of it,” he said. The Church is the body that is to uphold moral and ethical teachings, he said, and will continue to uphold those doctrines.

“Similarly, the Church never tires of upholding the essential moral categories of right and wrong, without which hope could only wither, giving way to cold pragmatic calculations of utility which render the person little more than a pawn on some ideological chess-board,” he said.

The pope said there was devaluation in the teaching of sexual relations and was concerned with the direction sexual education had gone.

“Particularly disturbing is the reduction of the precious and delicate area of education in sexuality to management of ‘risk,’ bereft of any reference to the beauty of conjugal love,” he said.

Regardless of the view of academic freedom, Pope Benedict said Universities are an important place for students to interact with Jesus.

“First and foremost every Catholic educational institution is a place to encounter the living God who in Jesus Christ reveals his transforming love and truth,” he said.

The Pope considered Catholic education a way for the Church to bear the message which originated with God. God revealed himself to the people, he said, which correlates with the human wish to know.

“God’s desire to make Himself known, and the innate desire of all human beings to know the truth, provide the context for human inquiry into the meaning of life,” he said.

The pope urged religious leaders not to abandon their apostolates and to continue to improve the Church’s presence in underprivileged areas.

“In places where there are many hollow promises which lure young people away from the path of truth and genuine freedom, the consecrated person’s witness to the evangelical counsels is an irreplaceable gift,” he said.

The pope focused much of his speech on the nature of truth as defined in Catholicism and as a way to include oneself in the Church. He said faith was the way it was to do that, but acknowledged that the Church was in a crisis of faith.

“Only through faith can we freely give our assent to God’s testimony and acknowledge him as the transcendent guarantor of the truth he reveals,” he said.

The Catholic identity of a university, he said, does not depend on statistics or course content, but on the devotion to the church exercised by students and faculty.

“Only in faith can truth become incarnate and reason truly human, capable of directing the will along the path of freedom,” he said.

Contact Bill Brink at wbrink@nd.edu
Bush, Brown showcase cooperation

WASHINGTON — President Bush and British Prime Minister Gordon Brown tried to dispel doubts about their relationship Thursday, showcasing personal bonhomie as well as countering speculation over vexing issues such as the Iraq war, a showdown with Iran, global trade and the crises in Sudan and Zimbabwe.

Brown, particularly, appeared to make an effort to move beyond the leaders’ frosty first meeting in April.

The prime minister, then only a month in office as successor to top Bush ally Tony Blair, was given a coveted invitation to the presidential retreat at Camp David. But he displayed steady familiarity with his host as to whether he would work as closely as Blair had, or much at all, with Bush.

That didn’t seem in doubt in the Rose Garden after Thursday’s nearly 90-minute Oval Office meeting.

Europeans move to ban cells on trains

VIENNA, Austria — The world has never been more connected, but in some corners, it’s developing a real hang-up over the ubiquitous cell phone.

Taking a cue from France’s national railway, which offers phone-free “green zones” on high-speed trains, Austria’s second-largest city this week introduced passing passenger conductors to keep their phones on silent mode.

The crackdown in the southern city of Graz has triggered a noisy debate between advocates of free speech and people who say they simply wish having to listen to annoying ring tones and intrusive cellular phone chatter.

CDC says flu vaccine was a poor match

ATLANTA — The current flu season has shown signs to be the worst in four years, partly because the vaccine didn’t work well against the viruses that made most people sick, health officials said Thursday.

This season’s vaccine was the worst match since 1997-1998, when the vaccine didn’t work at all against the circulating virus, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

The 2007-2008 season started slowly, peaked in mid-February and seems to be declining, although cases are still being reported, CDC officials said.

Pope meets with sex abuse victims

VATICAN CITY — Pope Benedict XVI, after a painful week of admissions and apologies to victims of sexual abuse, on Thursday joined him in person.

The Rev. Federico Lombardi, a papal spokesman, said that Benedict and Boston Cardinal Sean O’Malley met with a group of five or six victims for about 25 minutes in what was believed to be a first-ever meeting between a pontiff and abuse victims.

The Vatican has said it will conduct a “synodal process” to address abuse, in which bishops from across the world will be invited to Rome for a weeklong meeting.

The lack of numbers from the Pentagon was one motivation for the Vatican action, said Tanielian, who was present at an interview.

The most promising and detailed Pentagon study on the military’s mental health that is released regularly to the public is the Army’s survey of soldiers, taken annually at the battalion level since 2002.

The most recent one, last fall, found 18.2 percent of Army soldiers suffered mental health problems such as depression, anxiety or acute stress in 2007, compared with 20.5 percent the previous year.

Other studies have variously estimated that 10 percent to 20 percent of troops had symptoms of mental health problems.

First large-scale, private assessments of its kind, includes a survey of 1,965 service members across the country, from all branches of the armed forces and including those still in the military as well as veterans who have completed their service.

The Iraq war has been notable for the repeat tours required of many troops, sometimes for longer than a year at a time.

The results of the study appear consistent with mental health reports from within the government, though the Defense Department has not released the number of people it has diagnosed or who are being treated for mental problems.

The Department of Veterans Affairs said this month that its records show about 120,000 who served in the two wars and are no longer in the military have been diagnosed with mental health problems. Of those, about 60,000 are suffering from post-traumatic stress, and depression runs a close second.

Veterans Affairs is responsible for care of service members after they have left the military. The Defense Department covers active duty and reservist needs.

Troop risk depression, study says

One in five U.S. troops are facing postcombat ailments, states project co-leader

WASHINGTON

Roughly one in every five U.S. troops who have survived the horrors and dangers of Iraq and Afghanistan now suffers from major depression or post-traumatic stress, an independent study released Thursday. It estimated the toll is about 400,000 or more.

As many or more report possible brain injuries from explosions or other head wounds, said the study, the first major survey from outside the government.

Only about half of those with mental health problems have sought treatment, even fewer of those with head injuries have seen doctors.

Army Surgeon General Eric Schoomaker said the report, from the Rand Corp., was welcome.

“Their help is going to raise the visibility and the attention that’s needed by the American public at large,” said Schoomaker, a lieutenant general.

It’s not for nothing they are making this a national debate.

The researchers said 18.5 percent of current and former service members contacted in a recent survey reported symptoms of depression or post-traumatic stress.

Based on Pentagon data that more than 1.6 million have deployed to the two wars, the researchers calculated that about 300,000 are suffering mental health problems.

Nineteen percent — or an estimated 329,000 — may have suffered head injuries, the study calculated.

Those range from mild concussions to severe, penetrating head wounds.

There is a major health crisis facing those men and women who have served our nation in Iraq and Afghanistan,” said Terri Tanielian, the project’s co-leader and a researcher at Rand.

"Unless they receive appropriate and effective care for these mental health conditions, there will be long-term consequences for them and for the nation,” she said.

The study, the first large-scale, private assessment of its kind, includes a survey of 1,965 service members across the country, from all branches of the armed forces and including those still in the military as well as veterans who have completed their service.

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Other studies have variously estimated that 10 percent to 20 percent of troops had symptoms of mental health problems.

Carter meets with Hamas one more time

Associated Press

WASHINGTON

Carter’s meetings with Hamas, which Washington lists as a terrorist group, have drawn sharp criticism from Israelis, U.S. officials and some of Carter’s fellow Democrats, including presidential candidate Barack Obama.

Carter again strongly defended his efforts to reach out to Hamas, which won Palestinian parliament elections in 2006.

"You can’t have an agreement that must involve certain parties, unless you talk to those parties to conclude the agreement," he said in a speech at the American University in Cairo.

"You have to involve Hamas ... They have to be involved in some way," Carter said.

Carter said he told Hamas leaders from Gaza that they should stop rocket attacks on Israel, which have prompted deadly Israeli military assaults on the crowded Mediterranean coastal territory. Any "killings of civilians is an act of terrorism," he said.

He said that during his visit to Israel, the first stop on his trip, he saw rockets that had been fired by Hamas and "met with people who lost loved ones."

At the same time, he said, "if you live in Gaza, you know that for every Israeli killed in any kind of combat, between 30 to 40 Palestinians are killed because of the extreme military capability of Israel," Carter added.

Wooed Bannarco, an Iraq war veteran and college student, is overwhelmed as she looks at photographs of the Iraq conflict on Tuesday.

Associated Press

WASHINGTON

Cairo, Egypt — Jimmy Carter held another meeting with officials from the Islamic militant group Hamas on Thursday, arguing it is necessary to talk to all parties to achieve peace between the Palestinians and Israel.

The former U.S. president said he urged Hamas leaders from the Gaza Strip to stop firing rockets into southern Israel. The Cairo meeting came four days after Carter talked with Hamas officials in the West Bank, further angering Israelis when he embraced one of them.

Making what he calls a private peace mission, Carter was scheduled to be in Syria on Friday for talks with Hamas’ exiled political chief, Khaled Masaha, and Syrian President Bashar Assad.

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United Nations

U.N. takes action to bring peace to Darfur

Associated Press

UNITED NATIONS — The United Nations and the African Union said Thursday they want the 26,000-strong peacekeeping force on the ground in Darfur quickly.

The U.N. Security Council and the African Union's Peace and Security Council met behind closed doors, a day after the U.N. chief expressed extreme disappointment at the lack of progress in ending the five-year conflict in Darfur.

South Africa's U.N. Ambassador Dumaisani Kumalo, the current Security Council president, told reporters afterward that both organizations want the AU-U.N. peacekeeping operation in Darfur known as UNAMID "fully staffed as soon as possible."

"The message was very clear from both councils that we want UNAMID to succeed in Sudan," he said.

Only about 9,000 troops and police from the joint AU-U.N. force are currently deployed in Darfur. The United States is urging the U.N. to get 3,600 new peacekeepers on the ground by June.

In a report to the council Wednesday, U.N. Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon said he was "extremely disappointed at the lack of progress on all fronts in the efforts to address the situation in Darfur," he said.

"The parties appear determined to pursue a military solution; the political process stalled; the deployment of UNAMID is progressing very slowly and continues to face many challenges; and the humanitarian situation is not improving," Ban said.

More than 200,000 people have been killed and more than 2 million have fled their homes since ethnic African tribesmen took up arms in early 2003, complaining of decades of neglect and discrimination by the Sudanese Arab-dominated government.

On Somalis, Ethiopia's ambassador to the African Union, Sahle Work Zewde, reiterated that the U.N. take over peacekeeping quickly from the 2,600 AU troops from Uganda and Burundi currently deployed in the country.

"We really believe there is a peace to keep," Zewde said, stressing that the AU troops have been there for a year and are doing "a good job."

"So we don't understand why the full-fledged troops could not come. The main problem is funding, and we hope that the U.N. would be able to have an interim arrangement," he said.

Betrayal meant there was little hope of peace

Ban said the U.N. chief expressed extreme disappointment at the lack of progress in ending the five-year conflict in Darfur.

"It was a small block of time we had to work with. It is special, though. The only other race to finish in the Notre Dame stadium is the Sunburst race (in June)," Bergstrom said.

The race will take place Saturday morning at 9 a.m. and race registration is $15.

Contact Kasia Peralta at kperalta@nd.edu

Finish

continued from page 1

for the event, Bergstrom said. "The women's running club has also been involved with the race," Bergstrom said.

Because of the annual Blue-Gold game later in the afternoon, Bergstrom said race organizers must be out of the Stadium by 10 a.m.

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Airline strike reaches a climax

US Airways pilots ousted in their union in an attempt to reject an unfavorable arbitration

Associated Press

PHOENIX — Three years after their companies joined forces, pilots from America West Airlines and the former Virginia-based US Airways remain locked in a bitter seniority dispute that's become a cautionary tale as other carriers ponder a new wave of consolidation.

The internal fight at Temppe, Ariz.-based US Airways Group Inc. reached a climax Thursday when pilots ousted their union, ending two years of replacing it with another group. The US, the airline, the US Airline Pilots Association, is dominated by pilots from the former US Airways. It will be trying to bring “a whole new level of conflict and division among the pilots,” said Capt. Jim Stewart, chairman of the US Airline Pilot's Association for US Airways, said in a statement released after the vote was annouced.

"It's going to be extremely difficult for me personally and professionally to watch what happens to this pilot group now," Capt. Jim Stewart, chairman of the US Airline Pilots Association for US Airways, said in a statement released after the vote was announced.

"Industry consolidation is inevitable, and the economy is slowing. I believe that these challenges will be too much to ask of an untested, under-funded union," Stewart said.

The struggles of US Airways pilots have become a highly visible example of the problems of consolidation. Pilots at Delta Air Lines helped management fight off a hostile bid from US Airways last year. At the same time, some Delta pilots said they wished US Airways would finish its current combination before looking to join with another company.

This year, Northwest Airlines Corp. and Delta Air Lines Inc. gave their pilots time to work out seniority issues before announcing plans to join forces earlier this year. However, Northwest pilots refused to go along and the companies moved ahead with a pilot agreement.

Pilots problems have "made almost every merger in the past messy, expensive and time-consuming for management," said Calyon Securities analyst Ray Neidl. "If you can get them in the boat and paddle with you, you're going to go much smoother."

Although US Airways' profit surged the first year after the companies combined, problems among its pilots have festered. Pilots have said that disagreements over seniority have led to shortages in airports and terminals. Supporters of rival pilots unions have sent each other threatening e-mails, engaged in at least one showing match and called each other to the parking lot to settle their differences.

Seniority is extremely important for pilots. Their place in the company pecking order decides what planes they can fly, what routes they'll take, and when they can go on vacation. The US Airline Pilots Association was created last year by a disgruntled group of pilots who were unhappy with their seniority.

Poor job numbers fan recession fears

NEW YORK — Higher unemployment claims and weak readings from two economic indexes reinforced recession worries Thursday.

The Labor Department said Thursday that applications for unemployment benefits rose to 372,000, an increase of 17,000 from the previous week. Employment benefits rose to 372,000, an increase of 17,000 from the previous week. The Dow Jones industrial average, which measures economic activity, has also deteriorated

that claims were in line with economists' expectations, those expectations, overall, are grim.

"The economy is slowing. I believe that these challenges will be too much to ask of an untested, under-funded union," Stewart said.

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**SOUTH AFRICA**

**President refuses to resign**

Political leader claims to have won election, accused of treason

Associated Press

JOHANNESBURG — Protests are Darling at home, and his efforts to rally the world to the cause of democracy in Zimbabwe are being stymied by fellow Africans.

Morgan Tsvangirai — who has been beaten, accused of treason and nearly killed since founding Zimbabwe's main opposition movement in 1999 — wouldn't hazard a guess as to when the crisis over an election he says he will won be resolved.

If he knows who could persuade Zimbabwean President Robert Mugabe to step down, he said in an interview with The Associated Press, "certainly that person can change the government." Tsvangirai was relaxed, even able to joke about reports from his homeland Thursday that Mugabe's regime considers him a traitor. But he is a man under considerable pressure.

Nearly three weeks have passed since the presidential vote. No official results have been released, and the opposition, which says Tsvangirai won, accuses Mugabe of withholding the results to stay in power after a campaign that focused on Zimbabwe's shell-shocked economy.

There has been talk of a recount or a runoff. But Mugabe could win simply continue to suppress the results and cling to power.

Human rights groups report increasing violence against Tsvangirai's supporters. Zimbabwe Doctors for Human Rights said Tuesday its members had treated more than 150 cases of injuries consistent with assault and torture since March 29.
Archbishop to give lecture on solidarity

Special to The Observer

Archbishop Diarmuid Martin of Dublin, Ireland, will speak on social solidarity today at 7:30 p.m. in Washington Hall.

Archbishop Martin’s lecture, “Solidarity: Past, Present, Future: Reflections On Social Concern,” is one of several events celebrating the 25th anniversary of Notre Dame’s Center for Social Concerns.

The former secretary of the Pontifical Council for Justice and Peace, Archbishop Martin was appointed Archbishop of Dublin in 2003. Prior to that appointment, he represented the Vatican at the major United Nations international conferences on social questions in the 1990s. He also took part in activities of the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund, especially those concerning international debt and poverty reduction.

Earlier on Friday, at 2 p.m. in the LaFortune Student Center ballroom, Notre Dame alumni and students will attend “Stories of Faith and Service.”

A groundbreaking ceremony for Geddes Hall, the new building for the Institute for Church Life and the Center for Social Concerns, will be held tomorrow at 9 a.m. at the construction site on the west side of Notre Dame’s Hesburgh Library.

A special Mass marking the 25th anniversary will be celebrated at 10 a.m. Saturday in Notre Dame’s Basilica of the Sacred Heart.

University President Father John I. Jenkins, and Archbishop Martin will be concelebrants.

KENYA

Opposition leader elected into office

Nairobi — Kenya’s opposition leader was sworn into office as the country’s prime minister Thursday, fulfilling a key step in a power-sharing deal aimed at ending a deadly political crisis in the East African nation.

Within hours, a feared gang promised to heed new Prime Minister Raila Odinga’s call to stop its campaign of terror in the capital — one small sign that resolving Kenya’s political crisis could help return peace and stability to the fragile nation.

More than 1,000 people were killed and 300,000 displaced following the December elections that both Odinga and President Mwai Kibaki claimed to win. With the violence escalating, the rivals agreed in February to share power — but then wrangled for weeks over how to divide up their coalition Cabinet.

On Thursday, ministers finally took up their positions, 20 each from Kibaki’s and Odinga’s camps. Kibaki’s party retained the key finance and internal security ministries and Raila’s allies will head up agriculture and oversee local government.

The entire government, including Odinga, swore an oath of loyalty to the president.

"Kenyans will be watching your performance and they’ll judge you by the services you deliver," Kibaki said at the inauguration ceremony.

Odinga said Kenya was embarking on a new era of unity.

"We have been to hell and back. Never in our history will we return to this time," he said. "We are not creating two governments in one. It is one government."

He used his inauguration to address the Mungiki gang that has been terrorizing the capital. At least 14 people have died since the banned gang launched a protest against police Monday that has paralyzed parts of Nairobi.

"I want to tell our brothers the Mungiki we shall talk to them. We should stop beating each other. We should stop killing each other," Odinga said in Swahili. "We should speak together as Kenyans."

Later, he told local Citizen TV he was expressing a personal view that had yet to be decided as policy.

But the Mungiki responded by promising to call off their violent protests at Odinga’s request.

"We have waited for Raila to be prime minister for 20 years," senior gang leader Stephen Njenga said, adding that gang leader Maina Njenga prophesied Odinga’s rise two decades ago. "Raila has asked us to call off the strike and because we respect him, we will honor his request."

"We will give him time to look into our issues." Kenya is a key U.S. ally and regional economic and military powerhouse that for years was one of the most stable nations in East Africa. But the disputed December elections laid bare frustrations over poverty and corruption — and ethnic rivalries in a country where Kikuyu, the tribe Kibaki belongs to, are perceived to dominate others, including the Luo, Odinga’s ethnic group.

The apparent olive branch offered to the Mungiki, a gang dedicated to spreading Kikuyu culture, by Odinga, a Luo, is another strange strand in Kenya’s web of politics, ethnicity and violence.

Many Mungiki say they were approached during the violence by Kikuyu politicians to act as an ethnic militia but refused to get heavily involved because the gang was covered by the extrajudicial killings of more than 450 Kikuyu youths last year.

"The privilege to carry God forth into His own world, and worship Him in the beauty and joy of holiness."

Scholars Magazine, June 1, 1875

4th Annual

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April 20, 2008

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When a Saint Mary's student in Regina Hall reported a trespasser on the roof of Regina Hall on April 5, it took the College's security department two phone calls and approximately 15 minutes to send a security guard to the scene and investigate the reported suspicious activity.

For a department that is on campus to maintain the safety and security of its students, the fact that it took two phone calls for Security to arrive on the scene is unsettling. There are too many things that could have happened, too many things that could have gone wrong between the time of the first phone call to Saint Mary's Security and the time an officer arrived at the scene. In this instance, Security dropped the ball and left the safety of the College's campus in jeopardy.

Saint Mary's Security needs to look into this problem, ask how it could have occurred in the first place and make sure this slow response doesn't happen again.

Saint Mary's mission states, "Safety and security on campus is of paramount importance to the College and is a major focus of certain departments." This is the case, why are student needs not being met with immediate response and concern? Security personnel are employed by the school to keep them safe. Any failure to respond to even the most minor threat undermines the confidence that students have in Security.

The Observer is the independent, daily newspaper of the University of Notre Dame. The Observer reserves the right to refuse advertisements based on content. Unsigned editorials represent the opinion of the Observer's editorial board.

Observer Poll
Which do you prefer?

Blue 28%

Red 57%

Gold 17%

Observer Online
www.ndsmcobserver.com

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Today's Staff
Katie Peralta - News
Kara McKay - Sports
Mary Jesse - Graphics
Cheryl Bonzack - Viewpoint

Dear Reader:

You may have seen the ads for Irish rugby teams throughout the city. The Notre Dame Rugby Football Club is one of these teams. Come support the Notre Dame Rugby Football Club as they take on the No. 25 team in the nation, Ohio State, on March 28.

The match is at 12 p.m. on the new rugby pitch, next to the Bookstore Basketball courts. Don't know the rules yet? Don't be afraid, for I come before you with this basic guide to rugby.

A rugby match is played over two 40-minute, running-clock halves. Each side has 15 players; eight players make up the forwards (similar roles to the backs and linebackers in American football) and seven players who make up the backs (similar roles to the backs and receivers in American football).

The ball can be moved by carrying it, passing it laterally or backwards, or kicking it at any time during play. A "knock on" is called if the ball is hit or passed forward accidentally, resulting in a scrum to the opposition.

When a tackled player goes to the ground, they must release the ball immediately. As soon as that happens, the opposition will want to get their hands on the ball and the team in possession will not want to give it away. So to gain possession, both sides must try to drive over the ball to make it available for their teammates, which is called "rucking.

A scrum is used to restart in a number of situations and involves each teams' forwards coming together, binding together by the shoulders over the 'mark' and trying to hook the ball back to their team's side once the ball is placed in the channel. If a ball is kicked or taken out of bounds, the ball is restarted by a kickoff, similar to a soccer throw-in. Try a throw, five points, is awarded when a player touches the ball back in the opponent's try zone. A conversion kick, worth two points, is attempted after a try is scored.

We hope that you have enjoyed this basic guide to rugby. We encourage you to attend the Notre Dame Rugby Football Club's match and support our Saint Mary's student athletes.

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Extend parietals, save your soul

The other weekend, while preparing for a delicious dining hall dinner and pretended to try to do homework, I overheard a conversation between a student of the University of Michigan and another student to whom he was giving some advice about his studies. While I wasn’t listening very intently, I couldn’t help but catch some commentary on the difference in policies between the two schools. “Yeah, we’re on the same campus but you can’t have girls in your dorm past 2 a.m.” the Michigan student inquired. “That’s so [insert derogatory adjective here]. How the hell do you get laid?”

Now, I have come to expect such remarks from visitors; I receive them all the time from my friends back home. What I did not expect, however, was the response from the Notre Dame student: “Yeah, we still hate [parietals]. It’s by far the worst part of going to school here.”

People ask me all the time why I choose Notre Dame out of all of the possible University choices. There are various reasons, but one of which is the emphasis on academics, the sense of community, the strength of the athletic programs. One of the biggest reasons for me, though, is the conservative Catholic background. The fact that religion is integrated into every part of this university makes students kider to one another and provides a greater atmosphere of trust and understanding. No one is critical of going to Mass because half the student population goes to Mass. There is very rarely any crime on campus; I feel as though I can safely leave my backpack in the cubby holes outside the dining hall without risk of theft. However, one cannot pick and choose Catholic values to follow. I know several people who consider themselves devout Catholics, yet have openly admitted to being sexually active. Any true Catholic knows that premarital sex is very much against religious teachings, but it seems that religion is consistently cast aside in favor of convenience and lust. Enter the University of Notre Dame. Here, the institution has the ability to regulate the actions of its students, and to a certain extent, it does. We all know that premarital sex is prohibited by the University, and that parietals prevent members of the opposite sex in any dorm past midnight, or 2 a.m. on weekends. These policies have reduced the amount of debauchery compared to other schools, and I applaud them for that. The biggest thing being done, or at least secret, is that casual sex is abundant on campus, despite the University guidelines. Students either ignore parietals, or they merely work around them, committing the sin earlier in the evening instead. By contrast, examine the service academies such as Navy and Air Force, which practice the strictest of disciplines with regards to cross-gender interaction. In order to prevent any “extra-social” behavior, guys and girls are never allowed to be in the same dorm room if the door is closed. Extreme? A bit, but it gets the job done.

Now, I’m not saying that duLac should adopt a policy like the service academies. However, the University does have a Catholic identity to maintain, and it cannot be denied that the current rules in place don’t completely fulfill their purpose. Something needs to be done to change the world that Notre Dame is a true Catholic institution that does not simply look the other way when it comes to premarital sex.

My proposal: extend the restricted hours of parietals. Parietals are an excellent way to prevent sexual relations, particularly after events such as dorm parties where alcohol is inevitable. If parietals were to begin two hours earlier (10 p.m. on weekdays) and 3 a.m. being done on Friday and Saturday), this would serve to further reduce overly intimate situations. Unless a couple has intentions of having sex, there is no reason why they can’t hang out in a public place.

Every dorm has a 24-hour space, and there are plenty of other places to past parietals such as Rockers or LaFortune. Not only that, but this change only adds two hours to the system already in place and wouldn’t change much as it is, and of course students that are sexually active will be adamant against my proposal. However, something needs to be done to prevent the casual sex on this campus, regardless of how inopportune it seems at first for the students.

In a world full of sin, it is essential for a Catholic university to promote its values, and that includes abstaining.

Lenny Meehan is a junior computer science major. He can be contacted at jmeehan@nd.edu.

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

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Letters to the Editor

Catholic crossroad

While there has been much discussion of the immigration of the "Vagina Monologues" and the proportion of Catholic faculty, these two issues have largely been treated as separate and isolated. Of course, they are not unrelated, but are part of the larger question of the identity and future of the University.

Is Notre Dame at a crossroad? Is it turning away from its tradition? If it is true that we become the sum of our choices, then the answers to these and a host of seemingly less than weighty questions will make a difference. The fact that religion is consistently cast aside in favor of convenience and lust. Enter the University of Notre Dame. Here, the institution has the ability to regulate the actions of its students, and to a certain extent, it does. We all know that premarital sex is prohibited by the University, and that parietals prevent members of the opposite sex in any dorm past midnight, or 2 a.m. on weekends. These policies have reduced the amount of debauchery compared to other schools, and I applaud them for that. The biggest thing being done, or at least secret, is that casual sex is abundant on campus, despite the University guidelines. Students either ignore parietals, or they merely work around them, committing the sin earlier in the evening instead. By contrast, examine the service academies such as Navy and Air Force, which practice the strictest of disciplines with regards to cross-gender interaction. In order to prevent any “extra-social” behavior, guys and girls are never allowed to be in the same dorm room if the door is closed. Extreme? A bit, but it gets the job done.

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Olympics symbolize peace

Recently, there have been protests in the U.S. against the Chinese government for their treatment of Tibet and Uyghur issues. That’s fine by us. We are willing to listen to different voices.

Unfortunately, things are turning in an ugly direction. Some demonstrations became overly exaggerated, some media coverage was seriously distorted and some organizations have even started to advocate boycotting the Beijing 2008 Olympics.

This is not acceptable. As Chinese students here, we feel deeply hurt by this situation, and it hurts even more for millions of hospitable Chinese people who have been working very hard to prepare for the games. We do not intend to step into your protests, but we hope you can leave the Olympics alone. Studying at Notre Dame, a school with a strong sports tradition, we all understand that the Olympics, from the beginning of their history, have always been a celebrated opportunity for the whole world to set aside their differences; to take a break from the war; to gather together with people with different backgrounds; to cheer for the victories; and to witness the realization of dreams.

The Olympics are not about politics, and should never be sacrificed for any political purpose. We are here to ask you to step away from boycotting the Olympics. Let’s make the Beijing Olympics an event to bring people closer, instead of separating people from each other.

For those who still want to boycott the Beijing Olympic, give it a second thought — Beijing’s hosting the Olympics is a move on China’s part to open up its door and its mind to different people and voices. If you boycott it, you are actually closing the door from your side. It will be a pity, and not only for the Chinese people.

Yue Li
Lili Li
g graceful students
campus

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Importance of high school

In the April 15 column titled “Let’s talk about alcohol, baby,” Greg Yatarola stated that high school students may be more challenged than college students. It is not about the topic of his column that I have concern.

To begin, he wrote: “High school’s largely a waste anyway, needlessly long and hardly challenging!” I say this as a high school teacher! If I find some student with a statement not only degrading to the profession of teaching but also to Greg himself. As a former high school teacher I know that high school can be very challenging for some students. It can be the place where a student develops a vision of the world and his/her place in it. It can be the opening of minds to conflicting ideas. It is a time to learn to read with criticism, write with persuasion and participate in the visual and performing arts. It is where the initial knowledge base for a scientific career is garnered. It is the place to find one’s passion. Who sets the expectations and tasks for the students? This is the job of the teacher! If Greg finds high school needlessly long and hardly challenging for his students, may I suggest that he look for a different profession, or at least get some assistance from someone with experience in the field.

Not only high school students but all students at every level need to be challenged. They need teachers who are willing and able to do so.

Mary Les Dermion
Science major
University of Michigan
April 15

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Please submit your letters to the editor:

The Observer

www.ndsmcobserver.com

jmeehan@nd.edu

The Observer is the student newspaper of the University of Notre Dame, Wilbur Hall, South Bend, Indiana 46614. It’s published weekly from Fall through Spring. It’s distributed free to all campus residents. Contact articles@ndsmcobserver.com for submissions. The Observer is a publication of the Notre Dame Student Media Corporation. Copyright © 2008. All rights reserved. No part of this newspaper may be reproduced in any form without permission.

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Beautiful Minds

The Observer

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By RYAN RAFFIN
Assistant Scene Editor

The eclectic and unique indie rock of Minus the Bear, which has been unparalleled since their formation in 2001, is coming Saturday to Legends. Though the most often-noted feature of their sound is guitarist Dave Knudson’s finger-tapping, their originality stretches far beyond their sound in the form of a band with multiple, often unconventional arrangements. Their music can take the form of laid-back, nine-minute jams or dance-pop, yet they never sound uncomfortable with what they play. Even when playing in sophisticated time signatures, every-thing is executed with precision and grace. Possessing the musical matur-ity of a more experienced group, their experimentation always satisfies, leaving listeners awed that such a relatively young group could be so accomplished.

The band's most recent release, 2007's "Planet of Ice," marked a further refinement of their sound. The album received widespread critical accolades, receiving high marks from Pitchfork, the Onion A.V. Club, Kerrang magazine and Alternative Press. Its fine balance between pop and progressive rock guitar wizardry, with tasteful incorporation of electronic-tuned producer Peter Wood, not only in critical circles, but expanded their fan base even further. From the quick, upbeat "Knight's" to the extended, yet never boring, "Lotus" and "11:11," the group showed that pro-gression and acces-sibility are not mutually exclusive. The dichotomy between the futuristic and the tradi-tional is what sets them apart; music that you can both dance to and think about. When added to an already ac-claimed back catalogue, including their 2003 debut "Highly Refined Piranhas" and 2005 follow-up "Menos El Oso," it is clear Minus the Bear is one of the best indie rock outfits playing music today.

Often bands of this sort are crippled with Talent. Possessing the musical maturity of a more experienced group, their experimentation always satisfies, leaving listeners awed that such a relatively young group could be so accomplished.

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"Juno" entranced audiences spanning the country and generations during Oscar season, and now, the witty and sarcastic title character with an affinity for blue slushies has made her way to DVD. Juno, Bleeker, Leah, Mark, Vanessa, Evans and Mac are the characters who comprise the quirky, orange Te-Tac-filled world that shows us the journey of a young girl dealing with adult problems and the loss of her innocence.

The indie comedy follows Juno Macfuff (Ellen Page), a wise-cracking pregnant teen who decides to give up her baby for adoption. Enter perfect couple Mark and Vanessa Loring (Jason Bateman and Jennifer Garner), who decide to take in Juno and Bleeker's (Michael Cera) offspring. Helping Juno through her nine months of pregnancy are best friend Leah (Olivia Thirlby), father Mac (U.K. Simmons) and step-mother Vanessa (Allison Janney).

"Juno" was a critical and box office success and is even garnering an Oscar nomination for Best Picture. It was the "Little Miss Sunshine" of 2007, but its appeal and popularity may have even exceeded beyond Steve Carell and Abigail Breslin's indie hit. Something miraculous happens when Diablo Cody's Oscar-winning screenplay, Jason Reitman's Oscar-nominated directing, Kinnon Dawson's music and the cast's acting meet in "Juno." And, yes, all these elements together produce a truly great film, but they also create a cinematic experience that allows the audience to identify with and participate in the story. We feel what each character feels, and regardless of their flaws, we cannot help but like and understand every one of them because their characters are complex, well-developed and of course, funny. It's a comedy after all, but it's a comedy with a bigger heart than most of last year's films.

Page's performance earned her an Oscar nomination for Best Actress, but two other outstanding performers who were overlooked in awards season are Jennifer Garner and Allison Janney. Garner slowly unveils the character of the initially icy Vanessa and shows us the pain of a woman who longs to be a mother. Meanwhile, Janney is a scene-stealer every chance she can get as Juno's mail technician step-mother. Bleeker. The crucial scene where Bleeker off the ultrasound technician is one of the film and Janney's best. The DVD's special features are comprised mostly of behind-the-scenes features, that offer some insight into the making of "Juno" and how everyone involved in the film came together to work on the project. We are reminded more than once that screenwriter Cody is an ex-strapier and that Ellen Page is so much like the title character in real life. Other extras include a gag reel, a gag take in which director Reitman blows the DVD's special features, the commentary shows the ease of recording the film. The only criticism of the DVD is that it must be watched in its original form when shooting began, and she had the freedom to be on set and work with Reitman in making sure that the final product was the "Juno" that both of them envisioned. The commentary shows the ease of their relationship and offers insight into all production aspects of "Juno" — not just the directing.

The only criticism of the DVD is that "Juno" has some of its magic when transferred to the DVD format. Films are made to be viewed on giant screens in darkened theaters in order to totally immerse audiences in the worlds of those films. It's harder to recreate that immersion into the "Juno" universe when watching from home. However, that is no fault of the screenwriter, director, cast or crew. "Juno" remains one of the best films of 2007 for all its humor, intelligence and warmth. There's no getting around its brilliance.

Contact Cassie Belck at cbeck@nd.edu

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**Opera a truly rewarding experience**

I never honestly contemplated the thought that I might one day be in an opera. I like most folks of the artform, but I didn't really know much about it. When I think of music, I think of sound, not placing it in a theater. I loved singing and dancing on stage, especially musical comedy and I considered Broadway to be the end-all of singing entertainment.

I came to Notre Dame as an interdenominational music major, having not the slightest idea of what I was getting myself into. Suddenly, the choral music theory that had been so strong grace while singing for years was incepted in the face of Music Theory I. I was asked to analyze classical pieces in a fashion I had never heard of. I began to understand what it meant to be a true music major here at Notre Dame. And, on a bit of a whim, I tried out for the opera.

I was chosen to be in the opera, but I didn't have the slightest clue what I was going to be doing. I'd never heard of an opera. Not the opera, the man, or anything. However, I figured it would be a hard-core version of musical theater. Because, instead of doing individual songs, we would be singing the whole show. I also had this idea in my mind that if I could sing in this archaic art form, of fat ladies in a white dress, and singing in a language I couldn't understand.

Rehearsals began in January, as members of the double cast started playing each principle role on alternating nights. Because of the individual music, it was quite intimidating to be standing next to seniors who had done this for years. I was lucky enough to have the golden voices and watch them work. They knew what they were doing. I tried to see that the music of classical music with some English (thank God words thrown on top). I didn't know how I was going to do it.

Rehearsals with the complete chorus began a few weeks after starting shape. The classical music began to make more sense in its different settings. An aura was no longer placed over the song. The Devil himself. I have spent every rehearsal trying to start taking shape. By the end of our final run-through, I was in tears. The music and the story had hit me hard.

I have never been a part of something so moving, so graceful, or so intrinsically satisfying. "Faust" is an example. There is love. There is drama. There is the story of Faust, his deal with the devil, his damnation, and the Devil might win. There is love. There is drama. There is suicide, I did theatre in high school, as Marguerite and their journey. I have spent every rehearsal trying to start taking shape. By the end of our final run-through, I was in tears.

The views expressed in Scene and Heart are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer. Contact Stephanie DePrez at sdep@nd.edu.
CHICAGO — Hey man... as Dusty Baker likes to say... the Reds were relieved to get out of Wrigley Field with a victory and a five-game winning streak.

"It was a tough five days. We needed this game badly," Baker said Thursday after Joey Votto and Ken Griffey Jr. led Cincinnati over Chicago Cubs 9-2.

Baker's return to Chicago, where he managed the Cubs from 2003-06, started with two losses but the Reds had been swept three games in Pittsburgh.

"We didn't want to have back-to-back sweeps. Five in a row felt like it was a month," Baker said.

Votto doubled with the bases loaded, homered in five runs and made a nice defensive play, while Griffey hit his 964th career homer.

"The most important thing is the win. The home run is irrelevant. I hit one the other day and what happened? We lost," said Griffey, also homered in Tuesday's series opener.

Griffey, who also homered in the win. The home run is irrelevant. I hit one the other day and what happened? We lost," Baker said.

Baker paused to consider the game early grinding out an 11-10 haltime lead.

"It is a disappointing loss obviously," said freshman Mike "Large Garlic" Garcia said. "We needed this game badly, "

"Large Garlic" Garcia said. "We needed this game badly, "

"It felt really good. I'm glad I took the game into my hands and set my team up for the victory. Reed drove down on two defensive stops, and we clearly credit to them," Griffey said.

"It is a disappointing loss obviously," Baker said.

"I'm just losing patience at this point," Griffey said. "I feel I owe that to my teammates." Reed's home run powers Reds over Cubs

The Monstars stormed out to a 1-0 lead and kept it close until the end.

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Air McNair’ hangs it up after 13 years

Associated Press

OWINGS MILLS, Md. — John Paxson said Thursday McNair announced his retirement Thursday. McNair, who received a standing ovation from teammates and opponents alike in a last season, ended a 13-year career in which he was selected co-MVP, led the Tennessee Titans to the Super Bowl and orchestrated the most successful regular season in the Ravens history.

Not to the capacity that I need to help my teammates win a football game. The 35-year-old McNair guided the Ravens to a franchise-best 13-3 record in 2006, his first season in Baltimore. But he injured his groin during the season opener last season and never regained the form that enabled him to earn a berth in four Pro Bowls.

McNair developed back and shoulder injuries and played in only six games in 2007. He threw only two touchdown passes, was intercepted four times and lost seven fumbles before being placed on injured reserve in December, ending his most frustrating season in the NFL.

He underwent surgery on his non-throwing shoulder in December and spent much of the past three months getting ready for his 14th NFL season. But McNair had an inkling that all the running and weightlifting might be for naught.

“My mind was telling me, ‘Yes,’ and my body was like, ‘No, what are you doing?’ I came up with the idea of retiring two or three days ago, but it’s been lingering ever since December.”

Steve McNair, the 13-year NFL veteran quarterback, announced his retirement at a press conference Thursday. McNair spent 11 years playing for the Tennessee Titans; his last two with the Baltimore Ravens.

Bulls coach fired after disappointing season

DEERFIELD, Ill. — John Paxson used words like “disappointing” and “disturbing” while describing the Chicago Bulls’ nightmare of a season. The general manager talked about pride and accountability, too.

“I’m most accountable,” he said.

But Paxson took the fall.

The Bulls fired their interim coach on Thursday, likely the first of several changes after a disappointing season in which individual agendas wrecked whatever chance the team had at getting back to the playoffs.

While Paxson went out of his way to praise Boylan and said there was no “defining moment” that led to his dismissal, it was clear a change was coming. That happened during a morning meeting at the team’s practice facility, and Boylan left without comment.

Krystkowiak might indeed have a chance to sneak into the playoffs every few years, which would temporarily allow him to keep playing for UCLA.

“Coming out and making this decision, it was hard,” he said. “In your mind, you feel like you can play, that you can still compete. But when your mind and your body are not in accord, it’s not going to work in the National Football League.

“My mind was there. Mentally, I could go out and play. But physically, I couldn’t do it anymore.”

In Brief

UCLA star Kevin Love decides to go pro

LOS ANGELES — UCLA’s Kevin Love is NBA-bound.

Less than two weeks after losing the Bruins to the Final Four, the All-American freshman announced Thursday that he’ll skip his final three college seasons and enter the NBA draft.

“I feel like I’m in the right spot to take my game to the next level,” Love said Thursday. “Since I was 5 years old this has been a dream of mine.”

Love made his announcement at a news conference while sitting between his father, former NBA player Stan Love, and UCLA coach Ben Howland.

The 6-foot-10 Love said he did not immediately plan to hire an agent, which would temporarily allow to keep playing for UCLA.

“I want to maintain my eligibility in case something happens,” Love said. He later added that it’s “definitely a possibility” that something could prompt him to change his mind.

Associated Press

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Men's Golf

Golfers head to Ky. for Big East tournament this weekend

By PETE REISENHUAER
Sport Writer

Notre Dame hopes to carry momentum from its top finish two weeks ago to help them end strong at the Big East Tournament starting this Sunday in Hebron, Ky.

The Irish believe that they can continue on a path that however, because their last championship was done on their home course, but they still feel that they can carry momentum from it.

They will once again need strong performances by Josh Sandman, who got his fourth consecutive top-10 finish in the last tournament. They will also need a solid performance by freshman Dustin Zhang who was also able to finish tied with Sandman for fourth at the Invitational. These two were just two of the six Irish golfers that finished in the top-10 for the tournament.

The seeding for the tournament is completely random and goes as follows: Seton Hall, USF, Marquette, Connecticut, Cincinnati, Louisville, Villanova, Notre Dame, Georgetown, St. John's. Although the tournament is being held in Kentucky, not far from Louisville, it will be hosted by the University of Cincinnati and will run from the 20th to the 22nd at the Traditions Golf Club.

Contact Pete Reisenhauer at preisen@nd.edu

No. 25 Irish head to Elk Run with high hopes

Squad has won a program-record four first-place finishes this season, including three-tournament streak

By MICHAEL BLASCO
Sports Writer

“IT feels like all the pieces are coming together.”

Head Coach Susan Holt’s words on the eve of the Big East tournament encapsulate No. 25 Notre Dame’s season so far — one of unprecedented success fueled by youth and mental toughness. The Irish hold the No. 1 seed heading into their penultimate tournament — the Big East Championship — at the Elk Run Golf Club in Batavia, Ohio. The tournament will be composed of three rounds played at the par-71, 5,724-yard course, from April 20-22.

Coach Holt, whose squad has earned eight top-five finishes this year, is optimistic of the team’s chances.

“Our goal all year has been winning the Big East Championship,” Holt said. “That’s what we expect to do, and we deserve to have that happen. We’ve been playing good golf lately and it seems like our time.”

Although Notre Dame has been set firmly in the crosshairs with the No. 1 seed, Holt is confident in her team.

“We’ve been in this position a number of times because of the successes we’ve had. We’re used to it. The team is tough.”

This season has been marked by historic successes for the Irish. The squad has had a program-record four first-place finishes this season, including a program-first three consecutive tournament victories. Notre Dame also collected honors at Golf World Magazine’s mid-season awards banquet, being named the most surprising women’s team, while Irish freshman So-Byun Park was named most surprising women’s player. Park is on pace to shatter the program’s single-season scoring record of 74.12 with a season average of 73.26, and has carded eight consecutive top-10 finishes, including two first-place finishes.

Junior captain Lisa Maunu has also performed strongly, second behind Park with a 75.35 scoring average and two podium finishes. In addition, every Notre Dame golfer has carded at least one top-10 finish this year.

The Elk Run Golf Club is favorite ground to the Irish, but Coach Holt feels her team will perform well regardless.

“It’s a neutral site, and we’ve never played it,” Holt said. “But we’ve had success this year on new courses so we’re not too worried. We haven’t changed our preparation, and it’s been nice this week so we’ve been able to play every day. We made a commitment to do exactly what we’re doing. We’re on track.”

The tournament will be the final of the year for Notre Dame before the NCAA tournament next month.

Contact Michael Blasco at mblasco@nd.edu

BLUE AND GOLD GAME BOOK SIGNINGS
SATURDAY, APRIL 19

9:30AM-11:30AM

Maura Weis
Miles From The Sideline

Bill Schmidt
Football Weekends At Notre Dame

Frank Maggio
Notre Dame And The Game That Changed Football

Scott Baker Sweeney
Tears Of Mary

Matt Cashore/ Kerry Temple
Celebrating Notre Dame

Dorothy Corson
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**Men's Lacrosse**

Laxers preparing for two-game weekend

By GRIFFIN DASSATI
Sports Writer

In the spirit of baseball season, Notre Dame is making this a double-header weekend.

Coming off a heart-breaking 9-8 loss to No. 19 Denver two weeks ago in Chicago, the Irish will look to bounce back with two games this weekend. They begin Friday, taking on the Quinnipiac Bobcats at the School Field in South Bend at 4 p.m. Then the team will travel to Bethlehem, Pa. to play the Mountain Hawks of Lehigh Sunday at 1 p.m.

The Irish have never lost in five total games against Quinnipiac and Lehigh.

With the April 5 loss to Denver, the Irish, who are currently tied for the No. 10 ranking in the USILA coaches’ poll, fell to 7-2 overall and 1-1 in the Great Western Lacrosse League. Quinnipiac (7-2, 1-2 GWLL) is coming off an 11-10 overtime win over Air Force and will undoubtedly be looking to pull off a late-game comeback of their own against the Irish.

**Women’s Lacrosse**

Irish fall again to Vanderbilt squad

By ANDY ZICARELLI
Sports Writer

For the second straight year, the Notre Dame women’s lacrosse team entered its showdown with Vanderbilt with momentum, coming off of a win over Big East rival Georgetown.

And for a second straight year, the Irish walked away on the losing end, this time falling to the Commodores 9-6. It was the lowest offensive output of the year for Notre Dame.

“We weren’t on our game. I don’t know why,” coach Tracy Coyne said. “I did, I would have fixed it.”

Junior attack Jillian Byers led the Irish in scoring with three goals, two of which came in the second half. However, it would prove to be too little to late for Notre Dame, which fell to 10-5 on the season.

“We just couldn’t find an answer,” said Coyne.

The Irish have very little time, however, to recover from the loss. On Saturday, the Irish will travel to Piscataway, N.J. to take on Rutgers. The Scarlet Knights are 2-2 in the Big East Conference and 7-8 overall.

While each game has been important for Notre Dame, this game could have extra significance on the season. The Irish were riding high after a 4-1 road trip that saw them defeat two top ten teams, but the loss to Vanderbilt has taken away considerable momentum. How coach Tracy Coyne’s team responds on Saturday could determine Notre Dame’s fate for the rest of the season. The game will be the final regular season game to take place before the Big East tournament, which will be held at home in Notre Dame, and the Irish are looking to come in on the right foot.

“We want to solidify our number two seed in the (Big East) tournament,” Coyne said.

The game at Rutgers caps off an eventful week for the team. In addition to the numerous awards and honors that each have received already earlier in the season, Byers and senior midfielder Caitlin McKinney have each been selected as nominees for the Tewaaraton Award, given annually to the top lacrosse player in the nation. Out of the 18 nominees, 5 will be named finalists later in the year.

As for Saturday’s game, do not expect another slow start from the Irish. Coyne called the game, “a way to get back on track,” and went further.

“We didn’t capitalize on our opportunity (Wednesday),” she said. “But I’m happy we have another chance to go out and be the team that we want to be in 2008.”

Contact Andy Zicarelli at azicarelli@nd.edu
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“SOLIDARITY: PAST, PRESENT, FUTURE”
ARCHBISHOP DIARMUID MARTIN
FRIDAY, APRIL 18, 2008
7:30 PM
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Since his appointment as Archbishop of Dublin in 2004, Archbishop Martin has established himself as an international diplomat for peace and justice. He has represented the views of the Vatican as a delegate to many major international agencies, most notably the United Nations and the World Trade Organization. In his efforts to promote global solidarity, Archbishop Martin has actively worked to address the issues of international debt, poverty reduction, racism and other related forms of intolerance.

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Music by the Notre Dame Folk Choir
Reception to follow.

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Rowers sweep field in Indianapolis

The Irish were victorious in the varsity eight, second varsity four, novice eight and second novice eight races.

The No. 16 varsity eight crew posted a time of 6:25.0, followed by Indiana (6:31.01) and Purdue (6:39.41).

In the second varsity eight race, the Irish boats took first and fourth with times of 6:32.5 and 6:52.0.

Notre Dame took the top two spots in the varsity four race with times of 7:29.2 and 7:37.5.

In the novice eight race the Irish had a winning time of 6:48.3.

The second novice eight crew came in with another victory with a time of 7:19.5.

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The Observer.

THIS WEEK IN IRISH SPORTS

FOOTBALL
SAT, APRIL 19TH @ 1:30PM
BLUE-GOLD GAME

MEN'S LACROSSE
FRI, APRIL 18TH @ 4PM
VS. QUINNIPAC
@ SCHOOL FIELD

SPORTS WRITER

By MEAGHAN VESELIK
Sports Writer

Saint Mary's attained its third consecutive win Thursday as the Belles crushed conference rival Adrian in a 9-0 sweep. The Belles lift their record to 8-9, 3-3 MIAA as the Bulldogs fall to 5-12, 2-6 MIAA.

"It was nice to get another win, especially our third in a row," Belles coach Chuck Rubino said.

Thursday's win is the Belles second conference win in a row, the first being their 8-1 win over Tri-State on April 12.

Saint Mary's started off strong in the doubles division and made winning all three doubles matches look easy.

The Belles No. 1 duo of sophomore co-captain Camille Gebert and freshman Jillian Hurley took out Adrian's Rohyn Bahr and Katalyn Simcina 8-4 for their ninth win of the season. Gebert and Hurley move to 9-8, 5-1 MIAA as Saint Mary's No. 2 doubles pair.

Sophomore co-captain Lisa Rubino and freshman Betsy Reed easily knocked out Kaitie MacFarlan and Leann Brooks 6-0, 6-0 in the No. 2 doubles match, putting them at 7-8, 3-3 MIAA.

Freshman Franco Peluso and Jessica Koinski won 6-0, 6-2, moving her to 7-9, 3-3 MIAA. No. 5 Rubino quickly took out Brede 6-1, 6-0 for her eighth singles win, moving her to 8-8, 3-3 MIAA.

Freshman Laura Arnold played at No. 6 singles for the Belles for the second time this week, defeating Kuss 6-1, 6-0.

"This win will hopefully give us confidence going into Kalamazoo," coach Rubino said. "I expected Adrian to be a stronger team, but a win's a win. Kalamazoo is going to be tough competition."

Chuck Rubino
Belles coach

This week against Bethel Tuesday and versus Adrian Thursday.

At No. 1 singles, Gebert went up against the Bulldog's Simcina in a tough match that eventually led to Gebert asking for a line judge when she was up 4-3 in her second game. Gebert managed to come out successfully, winning 6-3, 6-3.

At No. 2 singles Hurley took out Baby 6-0, 6-1 for her fiftieth win of the season, putting her at 12-2. Saint Mary's energy continued on the courts as No. 3 Reid defeated Brooks 6-1, 6-2, moving her to 8-7, 3-3 MIAA.

No. 4 Jessica Kosinski won her seventh match as she beat MacFarlan 6-0, 6-0 in the No. 3 doubles pair.

Saint Mary's continued its momentum into the singles division, a trend they started against Tri-State Saturday and have carried over into the match against Bethel Tuesday and versus Adrian Thursday.

Saint Mary's co-captain Mary Atallah has been injured lately and not performing at her usual level.

"Kalamazoo is a big conference competition," Lisa Rubino said. "We just hope to keep our success going."

Contact Meghan Veselik at mcveelb1@smaind.edu
Freshman thrower Denes Veres winds up to toss the hammer down the range in a meet on Jan. 25th at the Notre Dame Invitational.

By ALEX BARKER and EUGENIA ALFONSO
Sports Writers

Just two weeks shy of the Big East Outdoor championships, Notre Dame will compete at both the Central Collegiate championships and at the Mount SAC Relays. The Irish will send eight of their top runners to the prestigious Mount SAC relays in Walnut, Calif. There, they will compete against some of the toughest competition in the nation.

During last weekend’s meets, the Irish had success from their middle distance runners. Freshmen Natalie Johnson and Kelly Langhans had a wonderful meet last week competing at the Mississippi Invitational taking first and second, respectively, in the 800-meter race. Sophomore Lindsey Ferguson also ran well taking first place in the 3000-meter steeplechase.

Notre Dame will send the field athletes and the rest of the runners to the Central Collegiate championships in West Lafayette, Ind.

Last week, the Irish also had great results in the field events. Junior Anna Weber-led the Irish in the throws events posting a landslide first-place finish in the shot put and a second-place finish in the hammer throw. Behind Freshmen Jessica Sullivan and Jasmine Williams, the Irish took second in the pole vault and fourth in the long jump.

Each of these three-day meets will prove grueling for the athletes, but they will need every chance they get to improve before the Big East championship and to qualify for the NCAA meet in May.

Notre Dame prepares once again to get some qualifying marks for the upcoming Big East Outdoor Championship meet during the weekend of May 3 and 4. The team again will be split between its meets to get the best possible competition for their event. Some of the team members will be heading to the Mount SAC Relays in Walnut, California while others will head for the Central Collegiate Championships in West Lafayette, Indiana.

Freshman thrower Greg Davis will be participating in the Central Collegiate Championship meet. He has been working on his technique this past week and is optimistic about the results this weekend.

"My technique is getting closer to where I would like it to be," he said. "I feel that if I continue to work on my technique in practice I will be able to let loose and just go after some throws in the meet."

The Irish can expect some good competition at Mount SAC. "Mount SAC is an awesome meet and there is always great competition," senior Austin Wechter said.

The next meet after this weekend will be the Drake Relays at Des Moines, Iowa and the Hillside Relays at Hillside, Mich.

Contact Alex Barker and Eugenia Alfonso at abarker1@nd.edu and cafonso@nd.edu.

Freshman Rosie O’Connor. She has led the Belles in the past three tournaments including a second-place overall individual performance last week at the Vassar Invitational. "She has really hard this spring and now it is really starting to pay off for her," Hamilton said. "She has made the adjustment to playing on the collegiate level."

"There are going to be four of the top-10 teams in the country at the tournament this weekend. Last weekend we were able to beat five different teams that were ranked ahead of us so I’m not worried," said Mark Hamilton, Belles coach.

Contact Alex Barker at abarker1@nd.edu.

Saint Mary’s will compete in Illinois-Wesleyan’s Spring Fling this weekend, the last tournament before the NCAA qualifiers are set to conclude.

"We need to get some karma going for us before the qualifiers," coach Mark Hamilton said.

The Spring Fling will be a very competitive field for the No. 28 ranked Belles. However, competing with and beating tough teams is nothing new for them.

"There are going to be four of the top-10 teams in the country at the tournament this weekend," said Hamilton. "Last weekend we were able to beat five different teams that were ranked ahead of us so I’m not worried."

Peaking at the right time this spring has been their biggest challenge, but they are hoping that the weekend will prove grueling for the athletes and the rest of the runners.

By ALEX BARKER
Sports Writer

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**SPORTS**

**SOFTBALL**

Squad set to face Big East leaders

Irish to play South Florida and Louisville for pair of road games

By JARED JEDICK
Sports Writer

Notre Dame will enter into its most important weekend of the year, taking on Big East leaders South Florida and Louisville in a bid to gain the advantage in the regular season race to win the Big East. The Irish (27-13, 7-3 Big East) are coming off of a 5-0 loss to No. 13 Northwestern Tuesday in which they only managed one hit and an 11-5 win over Wisconsin on Wednesday in which they rediscovered their bats.

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Freshman catcher/oufielder Sadie Pitzenberger leads the Irish with a .343 batting average, while senior second baseman Katie Laking adds some pop to the lineup, hitting .341 with six home runs and 41 RBIs.

Junior Brittany Burger (20-7) leads the league in wins and strikeouts with 157. Freshman Jody Valdivia has been regaining much of her dominant form from earlier in the season, giving two solid innings in relief in the loss to Northwestern.

The Cardinals (23-15, 9-3 Big East) will go into Saturday’s games second in the Big East standings, giving the Irish a chance to grab the advantage with a sweep.

**WVU continued from page 24**

Senior Tyler Kuhn leads the team and has become one of the top hitters in the conference this season. Kuhn leads the Big East in batting with a .447 average and has seven home runs and 42 RBI on the year.

"Everybody’s hitting well and picking their teammates up," said Dave Schrage. "We really like our lineup all the way one through nine.

Notre Dame coach Dave Schrage

Junior pitcher Brittany Burgar goes through her wind-up prior to releasing a pitch in an 11-5 Irish win over Wisconsin Wednesday.

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**SPORTS**

**SOFTBALL**

Squad set to face Big East leaders

Irish to play South Florida and Louisville for pair of road games

By JARED JEDICK
Sports Writer

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the undersized, a 4-10 lead. Pat Nolan's squad took control quickly through. The Waivers were just too strong down low, forcing their opponents to settle for outside shots.

"We had a little bit of a size advantage," Waivers captain Matt Gibson said. "And we tried to use it."

Wakim's Pat Richel said that his team was used to playing against a bigger squad. "Every game we've had a disadvantage in side," he said. "They were good, though."

To compensate, his team was forced to take outside jumpers, and make enough to stay competi-

ive for most of the game.

"You've just got to take what they give you," Richel said.

Waikam kept it close for most of the game, until the Waivers went on a 4-1 run to start the sec-

ond half. Gibson attributed to the strong second half to his team's improved outside shooting. Robert Heroman, one of those guards, was cold in the first half. In the second stanza, though, he caught fire and began draining long-

range bombs. His final shot, a jumper from the quarter, ended the game and sent the Waivers on to victory.

"Our guards shot decently well in the second half," he said. "And we just stepped up and played good defense."

-- Contact Sam Werner at swerner@nd.edu

Recruits continued from page 24

Craig Roh

Roh is a 6-foot-5, 225-pound defensive end out of Chaparral High School in Scottsdale, Ariz. -- and one of the most sought-after recruits in the country for next year.

"Tons of offers, everybody under the sun has offered this kid," Frank said. Roh had 99 tackles and 15.5 sacks as a junior last season, in route to being named all-state. Frank called Roh a good, physical pass rusher who loves to pursue the quarterback.

"I think Notre Dame would like to get a little extra motivation to the team, because they wanted to live up to the high expectations.

"There's at least one time every practice when I think, 'Oh, this is what he used to do,' " she said.

Sarah Montelongo

Belles sophomore Sarah Montelongo summed up the love Miller had for his team.

"I think he really cared for us, like we were his granddaughters or something," she said. "I don't know — there was just that certain something.

"The Belles play three double-headers this weekend beginning today, against Hope, Adrian College, and North Central College. They plan to play well for Miller.

"He still expects the best out of us, and we have extra motivation knowing he's watching us, " sophomore Ashley Peterson said.

Contact Laura Myers at lmyers28@nd.edu

Miller continued from page 24

field.

Corrigan said Miller loved to throw batting practice, and wouldn't stop regardless of whether his arm was tired or if it was a ball hit him.

"He would always race out there, " she said. "He loved to throw trick pitches, even though they weren't really tricks. He had a lot of fun trying to get us out.

Miller served as the faculty advisor for the team, helping them to keep up with their majors, grades and other scholastic matters. When he was unable to fulfill this role in the fall following his diagnos-

sis, the players noticed the dif-

ference.

"For some of us, academics slipped a bit, and we realized that coach Miller was always on top of it. He knew if you weren't doing well, and he always asked about education," said Corrigan. Sullivan agreed that Miller always made sure the girls had their priorities straight, pushing "academics first, athletics second."

Miller showed his fun side during Christmas, when he regularly dressed up like Santa Claus, not only for the team, but also for community events.

"He did this in like eight different places. He lived in this costume," Sullivan said.

Miller was unable to attend games and practices regularly in the spring due to his illness. Hashid said this gave him a little extra motivation to the team, because they wanted to live up to the high expectations.

"I think that's why they offered him, " Frank said.

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BLACK DOG

MACBETH: ORIGINAL ENDING

LET FALL THY BLADE ON VENOMOUS CRESTS, I BEAR A CHARMED LIFE WHICH MUST NOT YIELD TO ONE OF WYMAN BORN.

CRASH!

Climbing Mt. Everest, for Sir Edmund Hillary.

The Observer • TODAY

Friday, April 18, 2008

THE SINGLE LIFE

TODAY

LINDA PAEK

The heretycity untruthful

Youthful, but it won't be too many more

The Pedestrian

The baby

Crossword

Across
26 Coast Guard boat
47 Only if it's worth the trade-off
27 It's hard to recall
50-50
28 London Zoo locate
48 MACBETH
29 Cowboys, but not Indians
49 Earled Studed
30 Sacramentor

Down
26 Coast Guard boat
47 Only if it's worth the trade-off
27 It's hard to recall
50-50
28 London Zoo locate
48 MACBETH
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Horoscope

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY

Victoria Beckham, 34; Jennifer Garner, 36; Liz Phair, 41; Olivia Hussey, 57

Happy Birthday: Success for perfection this year and you will get much more than you expect in return. Your ability to cover every detail and to stay on top of what everyone is doing will put you in a strong position. Your numbers are 1, 14, 21, 26, 40.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Business will help you keep things in perspective. As soon as you bring personal or emotional matters into the picture, you will probably make poor choices. Don't overextend, overact or take on others' responsibilities. 3 stars

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Give whatever you do your all and you will reap the rewards. There is money to be made, advancements to be gained and plenty of opportunity as long as you stick to what's being asked of you. 3 stars

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Problems with a friend, relative or child will cause worry and will take up your time. You will have to make some last-minute adjustments and adjustments in order to balance everything. 2 stars

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Put it in a little extra time and effort as at home. It will make a difference in situations you care about. An emotional matter can be dealt with and all changes made will help you what you have and how much you want to remain or maximize it. 4 stars

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Keep your cool - any change in plans that people around you make will make it four your game plan if you are prepared for what others do. Money can be made but don't spend irresponsibly. 3 stars

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): You will find it hard to keep your emotions in check, especially when dealing with partnering mercurial matters. An opening in a group is wise to join looks promising. 3 stars

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Taking a strong position will have an impact on those around you and help you to what you are in aIf you don't throw in. 4 stars

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): An interest from someone you least expect may appear to be a compliment at first. However, be careful - this person may want more so you don't want to give up. A change in home will and how at home will help you. 4 stars

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Keep things and you will see. Try to take advantage and someone will call you to. A change will get him to the deals. 5 stars

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Changes will be pushed at you if you are difficult to get along with. You will have to compromise if you don't want the deal you've been working on. Someone you love may agree with you for the wrong reasons. 2 stars

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): You may not be totally sure of what others might do but, if you follow your heart and act on your feelings, you will come out on top. When it comes to business, don't get involved socially with your colleagues or authority figures. 3 stars

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): An emotional deal can be reached if you are forthright about the way you feel and what you expect from those with whom you are dealing. They need to know what the rewards. There is money to be made, advancements to be gained and plenty of opportunity as long as you stick to what's being asked of you. 2 stars

Happy Birthday: You have vision, persistence and the ability to make things happen.

Jumble

HENRI ARNOLD

MIKE ARGIRION

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

Jumbles: MINER BAGGY GUITAR UPHELD

Jumper's Answer: MOTHER BAGGER

One letter to each square to form a special word.

Jumbles: THFAL IYLW

Jumper's Answer: LITHIUM

The Observer • TODAY

Friday, April 18, 2008

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THANKS FOR YOUR SUPPORT
FOOTBALL RECRUITING
Spring recruiting

Highly-touted recruits visit campus for 79th annual spring game

By JAY FITZPATRICK and CHRIS WEST
Sports Writer

Most of Notre Dame's freshmen recruits for next season haven't graduated high school, let alone participated in a single practice for the Irish so far.

But the recruiting cycle for next year has already started, and the Irish welcome eight of the best recruits in the country to campus this week for the annual Blue-Gold Spring Game.

Notre Dame has offered scholarships to all eight players.

Clire Wood
Wood is the No. 3 running back for next year, and a five-star recruit according to the recruiting website scout.com, said part of Wood's appeal is that he can also play special teams.

He's a guy who's electrifying on special teams, a great return man, very explosive player, and can hit the home run, he said. Frank added that the Oxnard, Calif., native has a chance to make an impact for Notre Dame immediately.

He's a difference maker. Notre Dame has a lot of great players, but they don't have a lot of difference makers. And he's a good size at 6-foot, 205 pounds. He averages over 14 yards a carry, the guy is tremendous, he said.

Anthony LaLota
LaLota is a defensive end who recently began playing football. The 6-foot-6, 260-pounder from Princeton, N.J., played his first full season of football last year, when he had 40 tackles and 10 sacks for the Hun School.

Frank said LaLota's experience may force him to sit a season, but that he has the athleticism and potential to be a good player.

When you watch him, he's just an extremely athletic kid. He runs really well, plays aggressively, pretty big kid that just plays very well, he said.

Frank said the most important thing for LaLota is to work on technique between now and when he starts playing college ball.

I think he's one of those projectable guys, a guy who's not ready to play from day one because I think he might need a little work on technique. But he's a guy that's got so much athleticism that you get him a short time before you see him on the field, Frank said.

Frank also called LaLota an ideal candidate defensively.

Tyler Stockton
Stockton is LaLota's teammate at the Hun School in Princeton, N.J., and was also a strong prospect on the defensive line.

Frank said Stockton could play nose guard or defensive tackle and that Stockton has attended Notre Dame's football camps a few times. He also said Stockton is "exactly what Notre Dame is looking for.

S M C  S O F T B A L L
Belles mourn loss of coach

Assistant coach Don Miller died after six-month battle with cancer

By LAURA MYERS
Sports Writer

Saint Mary's lost a colleague, teacher, and coach Sunday night when assistant coach Don Miller died after a six-month battle with cancer.

Miller, 67, a mathematics professor who had been at the College since 1967, began working with the softball team during the 2000-2001 academic year. Current head coach Erin Sullivan was a freshman on the team at the time.

I knew him as a player and then as a coach, and it was fantastic, she said.

Sullivan said he spent his early years with the team as a first-base coach and statistician.

Miller's daughter, Katie Rashid, said Miller was a man of few words, but that the words he did say were always powerful.

He demanded perfection. He expected the best of us all the time, Rashid said.

The players all agreed that Miller seemed intimidating at times.

"He wasn't a little gruff when you first got to know him, but he cared more than anyone," Sullivan said.

"If he asked you for anything, he would always help you." His care was evident through his actions both on and off the field, she said.

See MILLER/page 22
Funny business

Notre Dame's offensive line has developed a comical camaraderie as it tries to remedy last year's problems.
Selective memory necessary for Irish success

An essential part of becoming a man in today's society is developing an effective selective memory. Every man has it and every woman complains about it.

For example, a guy sits down to watch his favorite TV show or some sporting event. His wife (or, in some cases, the girl whom he settled for) is in the other room barking at him. He knows she's talking and that what she's saying is important to her. He doesn't want to listen to her because what's on TV is so captivating, but he doesn't want to get caught ignoring her either.

So he pulls a trick on his significant other. Every now and then, he'll chime in with a “Huh-huh,” “sure” or “OK,” but he never takes his eyes — or his attention — away from the TV. His selective memory has kicked in. He selected not to pay attention to his wife. He has no clue what his wife just said, though she thinks he memorized every word and will do everything she tells him.

Then, the next day, when his wife complains about the vacuum not being run, he responds with a casual, “Oh, I didn't know Chris Mine you wanted me to do it.” His wife, now infuriated says, "Well, I told you yesterday, don’t you remember?" He just says, "Nope, sorry. I'll do it now," and then proceeds to perform a (likely mediocre) running of the vacuum cleaner.

Selective memory is a part of every marriage and a sitcom cliche, but it's just what Notre Dame needs. Last season requires selective memory. It's simply too painful to remember. But that doesn't mean Notre Dame should forget everything about last season. The Irish should erase completely disasters like the 38-0 loss to Michigan from their memories. Nothing good can come from remembering what happened in that game. But they shouldn't forget how they felt after that game was over - and should resolve to never have that feeling again.

The offensive line should put the nine sacks it allowed against Georgia Tech in the past, and remember how they began to improve toward the end of last year, when the Irish protected the quarterback better and began to develop a running game.

The defense needs to put the Navy and Air Force losses behind it, and focus on the potential it showed during the Boston College and Stanford games.

Developing a selective memory doesn't mean forgetting every thing that went wrong. After all, that's how you get better as a team, improving on what went wrong. But you can't let the memory haunt you, or it'll affect you at the most inopportune time, like late in a close game. As with any disaster, you have to be able put the worst of it behind you while still learning from the experience. For the Irish, they have to strike that fine line between learning from last season and being overwhelmed by last season. That's where selective memory helps. It can separate the bad from the truly awful and enable them to move on and become better for having gone through such a bad experience.

Let's face it, last season, a lot of people shut off Notre Dame games early. Husbands everywhere sat down to watch four hours worth of football, which meant they thought they had four hours to selectively listen to their wives. But nobody wants to sit through a blowout, so a lot of men were forced to turn off the games and lend an extra ear to their wives — almost as bad as going 3-9.

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

Contact Chris Mine at chine@nd.edu
Six pieces of the puzzle

After a season under intense scrutiny, Irish O-line bonds over fitness, fights and food

By JAY FITZPATRICK
Sports Writer

When Notre Dame football players walk into the Irish Audition in the Guglielmino Athletics Complex for interviews, they normally walk in individually, one at a time. When the offensive line came through the door Wednesday night, all six arrived at once, and sat in a row awaiting reporters.

This is all part of Irish coach Charlie Weis’ plan. The linemen are a unit on the field and are treated like one off of it. But Weis didn’t have to institute this plan; the linemen already did everything together anyways.

Together as one

The offensive linemen are a self-proclaimed tight-knit group, on and off the field.

Guard Mike Turkovich said they hang out together outside of practice and go out to eat together. They even have their lockers close together in the Irish locker room.

Center Dan Wenger said playing and fraternizing with his linemates has been great so far this spring.

“We’re having a lot more fun, we’re understanding what each other is doing, we’re playing as a unit,” he said.

This camaraderie mostly manifests itself when the team travels as a group, Olsen said. When they go to Bruno’s Pizza after most practices, Wenger said the topic of conversation is always the same:

“The food on the table, pretty much just ‘Pass it here,’” he said.

Guard Eric Olsen agreed.

“Tough, mean offensive line is always the norm.”

Even though building team chemistry is important, winning is always the most important metric for a football team.

The offensive line is an integral part of that.

So what do the linemen see themselves blocking like next year?

“Our line is going to be better,” Olsen said.

“We got the linemen that are going to block for us this year,” Young said.

Even though these workouts are a normal part of the winter, Olsen said he thought the linemen felt some accountability from last season’s debacle.

“It all starts with the fact that this is a prideful group that is embarrassed by how we played last year,” Weis said.

The players themselves agreed, saying they took accountability for working to improve in the weight room.

“We’re on a mission. We got embarrassed last year and nobody wants that to happen again,” Olsen said.

Weis said the players need to take control of the team, and Olsen said the lifting is just one example of how this is true with the linemen.

“This is our O-line now. This is our offense,” Olsen said.

“This kind of pride really pushes us to be the best we can be.”

Olsen said this attitude kicked in early in the season, but that everyone realized what improvement would take.

“Some of had to do a little more cardio than others,” said Stewart, referencing the diet Mendoza put him on.

Even though building team chemistry is important, winning is always the most important metric for a football team.

As the offensive line is an integral part of that.

So what do the linemen see themselves blocking like next year?

“Tough, nasty, mean offensive line we’ve always been,” he said.

Contact Jay Fitzpatrick at jfitzpatrick@nd.edu
Players to watch

Mike Ragone
No. 83 TE

Dan Wenger
No. 51 OL

Chris Stewart
No. 59 OL

With John Carlson departed and Will Yeatman's status unclear, the pressure of the tight end position falls squarely on Ragone. The rising sophomore caught one pass last season for seven yards.

After an injury to starter John Sullivan, Wenger started the last two games of the season — both Irish victories. The rising junior will take over the starting center position full time next fall.

Stewart, who weighs a mammoth 339 pounds, played guard, tackle and even tight end in short yardage situations last season. This year, he will use that experience as a full-time contributor.

Offense Roster

No. Name Pos. Ht. Wt. Class
1 D.J. Hord WR 6-1 197 JR
5 Armando Allen RB 5-10 190 FR
7 Jimmy Clausen QB 6-3 207 FR
11 David Ginn WR 6-3 187 JR
12 Nick Zaremba QB 5-8 197 SR
13 Brain Hopple QB 6-2 215 JR
14 Brant Melo WR 6-3 185 JR
15 Daniel Larusso RB 6-3 222 FR
18 George Mott WR 5-8 172 SO
21 Barry Galage Jr. WR 5-10 145 SO
23 Colton Day TE 6-3 240 FR
24 Brian Coughlin WR 6-6 212 JR
26 Michael Luscz OL 6-2 317 SO
27 Robert Hughes RB 5-10 238 FR
32 Luke Schmidt RB 6-3 248 SO
33 Robert Hughes RB 5-11 238 FR
34 James Fahy TE 6-6 242 FR
35 Arlando Garrett RB 5-11 180 SO
39 Ryan Bartholomew OL 6-2 170 JR
40 Kevin Brooks OL 6-5 241 JR
41 Nick Morgante OL 6-4 265 SR
42 Don Foster OL 6-3 238 SO
43 Mike Manchester OL 6-3 238 FR
45 Kim Paterson WR 5-11 190 SR
46 Ian Vena RB 5-10 248 JR
47 Mike Naves RB 5-10 221 JR
51 Dan Wenger OL 6-4 287 SO
52 Erik Olson OL 6-6 305 JR
53 Charlie Schwartz OL 6-5 316 JR
54 Jeff Tauck OL 6-5 310 FR
57 Ken Ayersome OL 6-7 326 JR
70 Matton Miller OL 6-5 276 FR
71 Paul Durum OL 6-7 316 JR
72 Sam Young OL 6-8 320 JR
75 Taylor Rice OL 6-3 309 FR
77 Mattar Tachrach OL 6-6 301 JR
78 Thomas Edelman OL 6-6 306 FR
80 Erich Persia OL 6-6 319 FR
82 Brian Riley OL 6-3 310 SO
83 Mike Ragone TE 6-5 204 FR
85 Sam Vos WR 5-10 199 SO
86 Paul Kupich K 5-11 196 SO
89 Kevin Brooks TE 6-3 241 JR

The Notre Dame Sports Information Office is looking for student assistant workers during the 2008-09 school year in the areas of broadcasting, writing and photography for its web site www.und.com.

Students with a specific interest and background in these areas can contact Bernie Cafarelli at 631-8458 before the end of the school year. These are paying positions.

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**Defense Roster**

| No.    | Name            | Pos. | Ht.   | Wt.  | Class  
|--------|-----------------|------|-------|------|--------
| 1      | Quares Wally    | DB   | 6-1   | 180  | FR     
| 4      | Cory Glyn       | DB   | 5-11  | 183  | FR     
| 5      | Roy Henry       | DB   | 5-11  | 197  | FR     
| 6      | Rashaun McNeil  | DB   | 5-11  | 187  | FR     
| 20     | Terrell Lippold | DB   | 5-11  | 181  | SR     
| 24     | Leonard Gordon  | DB   | 5-11  | 184  | SR     
| 27     | David Brown     | DB   | 5-11  | 197  | JR     
| 28     | Patrick Hill    | DB   | 5-11  | 203  | FR     
| 29     | Jordan Givens   | DB   | 5-11  | 205  | FR     
| 30     | Jordan Givens   | DB   | 5-11  | 205  | FR     
| 31     | Jordan Givens   | DB   | 5-11  | 205  | FR     
| 36     | Chris Bedem     | DB   | 5-11  | 205  | FR     
| 40     | Maurice Craft Jr.| DB  | 5-11  | 205  | JR     
| 41     | Maurice Craft Jr.| DB  | 5-11  | 205  | JR     
| 42     | Kevin Washington| LB   | 6-0   | 241  | SR     
| 43     | John Lewis      | LB   | 5-11  | 197  | SR     
| 44     | Mike Allen      | LB   | 5-10  | 196  | SR     
| 47     | Ameer Noor      | LB   | 5-11  | 229  | SR     
| 48     | James Oliver    | LB   | 5-11  | 229  | SR     
| 49     | Tyler Smith     | LB   | 5-11  | 229  | SR     
| 50     | Steve Padilla   | LB   | 5-11  | 229  | SR     
| 51     | Martin Quintana | LB   | 5-11  | 229  | SR     
| 52     | Kevin White     | LB   | 5-11  | 229  | SR     
| 53     | Sue McNeil      | LB   | 6-0   | 241  | FR     
| 54     | Kevin Washington| LB   | 6-0   | 241  | FR     
| 55     | John Lewis      | LB   | 5-11  | 197  | SR     
| 56     | Jordan Givens   | LB   | 5-11  | 197  | SR     
| 57     | Brian Smith     | LB   | 5-11  | 229  | SR     
| 58     | Jordan Givens   | LB   | 5-11  | 229  | SR     
| 59     | John Lewis      | LB   | 5-11  | 229  | SR     
| 60     | Jordan Givens   | LB   | 5-11  | 229  | SR     
| 61     | Jordan Givens   | LB   | 5-11  | 229  | SR     
| 62     | Jordan Givens   | LB   | 5-11  | 229  | SR     
| 63     | Jordan Givens   | LB   | 5-11  | 229  | SR     
| 64     | Jordan Givens   | LB   | 5-11  | 229  | SR     

**Players to watch**

As a freshman last year, Williams played in all 12 games at nose guard and made 45 tackles. This season, he will need to play even better to fill the void left by departed defensive end Trevor Laws.

With Tom Zbikowski, who held down the strong safety position for the last four years, gone, McCarthy is the front runner to take his place. The rising senior made 20 tackles and had an interception last fall.

Smith stepped into a starting role late last season as a freshman and made 28 tackles at outside linebacker. This spring, he has worked outside and inside to give the Irish defense flexibility.

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**ADJUSTED GAME FORMAT & SCORING FOR 2008 BLUE-GOLD GAME**

**GAME FORMAT**

**GAME CLOCK**

Two 30-minute halves with a running clock. Clock stoppages only due to injuries or timeouts. Normal clock rules apply to the last two minutes of each half.

**TIMEOUTS**

Each team is allowed three timeouts per half.

**HALFTIME**

Halftime will last 20 minutes.

**COIN TOSs**

A preliminary coin toss (Wednesday, April 16) determines jersey color, sidelines and locker room for the offense and defense. A ceremonial coin toss at the beginning of the Blue-Gold game determines which end the defense will defend.

**OTHER RULES**

Players in red jerseys must be tagged off with two hands to be down. All other players are live.

Each possession starting a half, following a score or after a defensive stop will begin on the 35-yard line. If the ball is punted, then the drive will begin from the spot of the return.

There will not be any kickoffs.

A scoring point system (right) will determine the winner of the game.

**POINT SYSTEM**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>POINT</th>
<th>DESCRIPTION</th>
<th>DEFENSE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Extra Point</td>
<td>Missed Extra Point</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>2-Point Conversion</td>
<td>Missed 2-Point Conversion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Explosive Play</td>
<td>Defensive Stop Sack</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(10-yard rush/20-yard pass)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Field Goal Block Punt</td>
<td>Missed/Blocked Field Goal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3 and Out</td>
<td>3 and Out</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Touchdown</td>
<td>Turnover</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Turnover for Touchdown</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
No shoes to fill: McCarthy has own style

By CHRIS HINE
Sports Writer

It's a question most people would get annoyed with if they heard it ad nauseum — "How are you going to replace Tom Zbikowski?" But if Kyle McCarthy is bothered by it, he doesn't show it. Instead, McCarthy takes the question into a guiding force to get through the dull drudgery of spring practice.

"It's a pretty big challenge," McCarthy said of taking over for Zbikowski's strong safety position. "Anytime you're replacing an All-American candidate and a fan-favorite, there's definitely going to be a little bit of pressure, but I'm taking that as a way to motivate myself and just get better."

Free safety David Bruton, who had breakout season in 2007 with three interceptions and 45 tackles, said McCarthy is going to put his own unique stamp on Notre Dame football and not simply try to be a replica of Zbikowski.

"The thing takes anything for granted. He's business-like, but he's definitely not Zibby, but he's Kyle McCarthy and you shouldn't want him to be Zibby, you should want to be better or find yourself, and obviously, Kyle is doing that."

Last season, McCarthy had 70 tackles and one interception. While he wants to create his own identity at strong safety, McCarthy is still trying to maintain Zbikowski's tough style of play.

"I definitely have my own personality," McCarthy said. "There are a lot of similarities between me and him, but I'm definitely my own player and my own person. After people watch me play, I hope they see me kind of as a tough-hard-nosed kind of guy who has a nose for the ball and a good all around player."

With Zbikowski, who was one of Notre Dame's captains last year, gone, McCarthy, along with Bruton, has stepped into more of a leadership role. Irish coach Charlie Weis said McCarthy's confidence has improved this spring.

"It's one thing when you're filling in for Zibby, but it's another thing when it's your job to lose. And he's playing like it's his job, not like he's trying to lose it, been stressed in practice and press conference on April 11. Part of all the practice is communication among the defensive backs, and developing a rapport can be difficult with someone new in the mix. But Bruton said the transition this spring has been smooth.

"He knows his calls. It's not me trying to get everybody on the same page, it's him working one side, I'm working the other," Bruton said. "If he's uncertain about something, I'll butt it out because he'll do the same thing. There are no question marks about whether we're right or wrong on a call because we're always on the same page."

Weis has monitored the defense more this spring than in past years, and said he notices a good chemistry between Bruton and McCarthy.

"Now, he's been here for four years and the confidence is as mental as it is physical because there's a great line of communication between him and Bruton," Weis said. "It's not like Kyle has to turn around and count on David. They're communicating very well, even between the two of them which has made everything flow a lot better."

Contact Chris Hine at chinm@nd.edu
Clausen improves ‘everything’ in offseason

Clausen had his best game of last season in a loss to Air Force, when he threw for 246 yards and three touchdowns. He then had 194 yards and three more touchdowns when he went 19-for-32 for 196 yards in the finale against Stanford.

“Coming in last spring, I was new to everything, the college experience and being a college student; getting thrown in with everything, not knowing the plays,” Clausen said. “Now, this spring, it’s pretty much night and day.”

Weis compared Clausen’s learning curve to college class levels. Clausen, he said, jumped from 106-level classes to 300-level classes, bypassing the 200 level entirely. He’s not quite at the 400 or graduate level, Weis said, but made a “quantum leap” in knowledge.

To avoid a repeat of last season, Clausen took the initiative to improve upon himself. For starters, he packed on 18 pounds of muscle, along with the fact that his throwing elbow has healed, makes him healthier than ever.

“Jimmy’s throwing the ball a lot harder, a lot stronger,” wide receiver David Grimes said.

The volume of playbook that troubled Clausen last year is coming into focus for him, he said. Rather than concerning himself with the routes of the receivers, he said, Clausen now looks for the offensive line’s blocking schemes.

“Mentally, I’ve progressed a lot,” he said. “I’m starting to get the little pieces of the playbook, so I’m trying to get the big picture.”

The mental aspect of Clausen’s transition encompasses, as Weis and Bowling said, everything. Clausen said Clausen was a perfectionist, and that his perfectionism and work ethic has transformed him into a leader.

“He’s a hard-working guy, he wants to know, he wants to do it right,” Weis said. “He strives to make every throw perfect and strives to know exactly what’s happening on every play with everybody. When you do that you put yourself in a leadership position.”

Clausen said his increased grasp of the playbook helped him become a leader.

“You can’t be a leader until you know what you’re doing,” he said. “Last year I was just getting my feet wet real fast, picking up everything as quick as I can. Now I have a better grasp of the offense. I know what we’re supposed to do and what we’re capable of doing.”

A final factor in Clausen’s assertiveness is the belief that the improvement is the absence of pressure. Linebacker Evan Sharpley, who is currently playing first base for the Irish baseball team, said this means Clausen in getting the majority of the reps in practice, drilling the playbook into his head even deeper. On the flip side, too many reps could hurt an arm which already had trouble, but Weis said he is taking care to keep Clausen healthy.

“Between the coaching staff and Jimmy, we’ve been able to manage getting through the spring with giving him a heavy dose,” Weis said.

Weis flirted with hyperbole when asked about how Clausen compared to former Irish quarterback Brady Quinn, which of course it was.

And Weis said it is that type of aggression and flexibility that Clausen can teach with his experience.

“There is no substitution for experience,” Weis said. “Again, it’s where we want to go and we have to keep it going.

But only time will tell if aggression turns into wins.

Contact Bill Brink at wbrink@nd.edu
CAMPUS CROSSFIRE
A DEBATE BETWEEN THE COLLEGE DEMOCRATS, LIBERTARIANS, AND REPUBLICANS

FRIDAY
APRIL 18
6:30 PM
FLAGPOLE
SOUTH QUAD

Come to hear party representatives discuss where their party stands on the economy, health care, and foreign policy and get registered while you’re there. Free pizza and pop will be served.