ND victory brings mixed reactions

Students call first Irish game a 'rollercoaster'

By JOSEPH McMAHON
Assistant News Editor

Although Notre Dame's football team kicked off the season Saturday with a victory over the San Diego State Aztecs, the performance didn't sit well with some students.

"I was kind of disappointed," sophomore Robert Ward said. "I didn't see a lot that signaled we were different than last year."

Quarterback Jimmy Clausen threw two interceptions and running backs Armando Allen and Robert Hughes each fumbled once in the 21-13 win over the Aztecs. The Irish scored two touchdowns in the fourth quarter.

But senior Matt Kerman said the team looked much better in the fourth quarter.

"It was two completely different feelings. During the first half I was already looking forward to basketball season," he said.

Election 2008

Candidates invited to speak at University

By KAITLYNN RIELY
Assistant News Editor

Over the next two months, presidential candidates Sen. Barack Obama (D-Ill.) and Sen. John McCain (R-Ariz.) will be traversing the country, each making his case that he is the best person to lead the nation for the next four years.

But will they pitch their candidacy in Notre Dame, Ind., prior to Election Day Nov. 4?

Notre Dame has invited the presidential candidates for the Democratic and Republican tickets to come to campus every presidential election year since 1952.

Assistant Vice President for News and Information Dennis Brown said, "Letters of Invitation to the Obama and McCain campaigns are being sent early this week, he said.

Then-University President Father Theodore Hesburgh initiated the tradition of asking presidential candidates to speak at Notre Dame campus in 1952, Brown said, when he invited Republican nominee Dwight Eisenhower and Democratic nominee Adlai Stevenson to speak on campus. Both accepted and spoke at Notre Dame, he said.

The invitation to the presi-

see ELECTION/page 3

Abroad participants back at ND

Students experience 'reverse culture shock' upon return to campus

By EMMA DRISCOLL
News Writer

Returning to Notre Dame after studying abroad can often be just as overwhelming and challenging as aclimating to a foreign culture due to the effects of "reverse culture shock."

This fall, over 400 students returned to campus after studying abroad throughout the world for either one or two semesters.

"Reverse culture shock" happens when students have expectations about returning to campus and come to find that life seems different.

"Reverse culture shock is when you expect that you know what to expect when you return and suddenly it's different," senior Anne McKeown said.

Two students, Hayley More, a senior in business administration, and Stephanie Trammell, a senior in finance, returned from study abroad in Australia.

"I was really nervous because I had no idea what to expect," More said.

Trammell, who went to Europe, said she was "nervous and excited."

Recycling initiatives expand to game day

By MEG MIRSHAK
News Writer

Student volunteers helped tailgaters recycle before Saturday's football game against San Diego State University, as part of an expanded program designed to improve recycling efforts on campus.

The Game Day Recycling program grew this year under the newly created Office of GreenND and a Game Day Recycling volunteer on Saturday.

"We're trying to make it really easy for tailgaters to recycle," Cline said. "We're trying to be more comprehensible."

Cline said tailgaters responded well to the recycling program on Saturday, but the amount of items collected was unknown on Sunday.

see ELECTION/page 3

see FOOTBALL/page 4

see ABROAD/page 4

see RECYCLING/page 3
Inside Column

Times, they are a-changin'

Upon my return to campus this year, I was met with several surprises. While some students stuck to the status quo, others—such as the new flock of students, our very narrow trash bag allotment (we are now up to San Diego State trash bags)—proved more welcoming. But most upset me more than our housekeepers’ decision to stop supplying trash bags to dorm residents. The official party line for this disappearance: The privilege was abused. Apparently, 16-22-year-old women are just not capable of controlling their kleptomaniac tendencies when confronted with mass amounts of trash in their rooms. Apparently, we had too much trash. For our new trash bags had been varied over the years, although I fail to see where the abuse comes into play. From makeshift ice buckets (for very hot-ankle sprains I am sure) to dorm prank necessities, each and every one served a purpose, satisfying some ultimate goal in the grand scheme of things. Until now.

Now we have to buy our own trash bags. While other dorms have them provided in their room and board, we are expected to somehow either find a way off campus or else succumb to the ridiculous over-pricing that is the Housekeeping’s way of doing business. Unless, of course, we resort to thieving necessities, each and every one of which has transcended from a house to neighboring dorms to procure their trash bags. Other dorms have more during individuals have stolen them from campus bins throughout the dorm, leaving our social spaces without a trash bag receptacle.

I have also heard reports of people forgetting the bags entirely, risking the overall cleanliness of their room by allowing waste to accumulate same-bag, leaving a layer of semi-liquid permanence in the bins. No doubt the housekeepers will realize this, but I’m afraid we’ll be held by the time they do it will be too late.

Perhaps this is just one of many moves in the GreenNo campaign. If that’s the case, I hope it falls miserably. I can’t imagine our trash chute has seen any holes. But none upset me more than our housekeepers’ decision to stop supplying trash bags to dorm residents.

Housekeeping is a-changin’... and I feel it is too late to blame them.

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

Contact: Kara King
kkim@nd.edu

Question of the Day: What’s your favorite word?

Sade Murphy junior off-campus

“Ubiquitous... starts with ‘u’ means everywhere.”

Brigitte Githinji sophomore off-campus

“Salaam because it transcends borders.”

Sean Gaffney senior off-campus

“Florida.”

Belma Torres senior on-campus

“Y-E-S Yes! It opens so many opportunities.”

Michael Baznik junior on-campus

“Microcosm... because Dean Hugh Page says it.”

Offbeat

Cries for help turn out to be a bird

TRENTON, N.J. — Cries for help inside a Trenton, N.J., home turned out to be for the birds. Neighbors called police Wednesday morning after hearing a woman’s persistent cry of “Help me! Help me!” coming from a house.

Officers arrived and when no one answered the door, they kicked it in to make a rescue.

But instead of a distressed, scared human, officers found a caged cockatoo with a condescending call.

It wasn’t the first time the 10-year-old bird named Luna had said something that brought authorities to the home of owner Evelyn DeLeon.

About seven years ago, the bird cried like a baby for hours, leading to reports of a possible abandoned child and a visit to the home by state child welfare workers. But it was only Luna practicing a newfound sound, DeLeon says.

Youngest to hit hole-in-one at course is 5

BELLEVILLE, Ill. - Look out Tiger Woods, 5-year-old Drew Gray’s got game.

The kindergartner had a hole-in-one — though it doesn’t count because it was on par-3 course — last Friday on the 72-yard, fifth hole at Yorktown Golf Club.

The shot was witnessed by several family members and verified by course owner John Bethard.

Drew is the youngest player to ace a hole at the course. Bethard said Drew has been playing golf on family outings for two years. He played this summer in the club’s golf camp for 4- to 5-year-olds.

Information from the Associated Press.
SIBC provides int’l opportunities

Council also provides business experience through non-profit work with non-profits, and half with for-profit businesses, Eskew said. Brian Eskew, SIBC director of international business oriented. One key concept of SIBC is to link such business experience with non-profit work, said senior Brian Eskew, SIBC director of international business oriented.

"When you work for a non-profit, you feel like your work means more," said junior Maria Evan Eintz, the club’s president.

"I always feel like I’m really helping in an area where they will use your ideas." Usually, internships work half with non-profit and half with for-profit businesses, Eskew said. He added that SIBC offers 20 different internships in 13 different countries.

"We pretty much span the globe in terms of stuff we offer," he said.

Buffalino added the opportunities offered are not always specifically business oriented.

"SIBC is very diverse and has interest for everyone whether it is strictly business or more service oriented," she said.

One such experience was this past summer, when sophomore James Pappas went to Ghana, Africa.

Pappas interned for the government’s cocoa industry doing clerical work. He also worked for the Agribusiness Development Group, a group founded by Notre Dame graduates that takes tropical fruits that would normally be wasted and dries them out to send to North America and Europe, according to the group’s Web site.

"It was an extremely eye-opening experience," Pappas said. "There is no other way to broaden your horizons." Another major aspect of SIBC is the business experience that students get, said junior Eva Binda, the SIBC accounting director.

"You network with top firms. You network with these really famous companies that people want to work for," she said.

One way to get experience with these companies is to work on case competitions, she said. A case competition is an attempt to provide a business solution for fictional companies. For example, Binda said: "This business wants to go green so from an accounting standpoint, what can we do?"

This year, on Oct. 2, up to 30 teams of four people will compete and present a solution to a case, she said. Ultimately, one team will be chosen to go to an international case competition in Dubai, she said.

In the past, teams from Europe, Asia and the Middle East have attended, but this is the first year that North America will participate, said Binda.

"This is giving us a chance to go international. (The winning team will not only get to represent Notre Dame, but also the United States, which is a huge honor)," she said.

This case competition is open to students of all ages. The only qualification is that participants must be members of SIBC, but do not need significant business experience, she said. Students who attend Monday’s meeting and join will be eligible to participate, said Binda.

One of SIBC’s main goals this year is to increase awareness and expand participation across campus, Lintz said. SIBC is looking for students from all schools and majors to participate in the competition.

"It is SIBC’s open to anyone on campus," said Lintz.

Contact Sarah Mervosh at smervosh@nd.edu

Recycling

continued from page 1

Student volunteers wearing purple shirts provided blue bags for tailgaters to recycle aluminum cans, plastic bottles, paper products and other recyclable items, excluding food.

Cline said. Tailgaters left the blue bags in the parking spaces where a recycling company picked them up during the football game, she said.

Under the newly expanded recycling program, participating student volunteers designated $75 to be allotted to a club of their choice. A selected student club or organization also helps sponsor the volunteerism each home football game week by soliciting volunteers from their club, she said.

A lot of people are excited about the opportunity to recycle," Cline said. "In the past, resources weren’t there.

Some families, especially in the library lot where Game Day Recycling was available in 2007, were expecting the student volunteers to bring the bags to their tailgate areas, she said.

“They had been waiting on us all morning,” she said.

Another member of Greend and a volunteer on Saturday, sophomore Bangs said he checked concession stands for recyclable items and helped distribute blue bags where they were needed.

A team never done it on this scale before," Bangs said about the students’ effort to cover all of the tailgate lots and concession stands. He said the more than 50 students who volunteered also checked the cardboard recycling bins on the university’s cross campus to see if they were being used effectively.

"Almost everyone I talked to was excited about the program," Bangs said. "Some people thought it was a great idea for a bag."

Greend and other campus environmental groups have not met to address the effectiveness of Saturday’s large-scale recycling effort, Jackson said.

Contact Meghan Jackson at mmjs1@nd.edu

The Center for Ethics and Religious Values in Business and The Institute for Ethical Business Worldwide

Proudly Present

Berges Lecture Series in Business Ethics
(Sponsored by the John A. Berges Endowment)

"Climate Change: Technical, Business and Ethical Implications"

Panelists:
Mark McCready, Professor and Chair of Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering
Gerard Pannekoek, Management Department and former CEO of the Chicago Climate Exchange
Patrick E. Murphy, Co-Director, Institute for Ethical Business Worldwide

Moderator:
Georges Enderle, Ryan Chair of International Business Ethics

All participants are faculty members at the University of Notre Dame.

Tuesday, September 9, 2008
7:00 p.m.
141 DeBartolo Hall

"Climate Change: Technical, Business and Ethical Implications"

Panelists:
Mark McCready, Professor and Chair of Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering

Gerard Pannekoek, Management Department and former CEO of the Chicago Climate Exchange

Patrick E. Murphy, Co-Director, Institute for Ethical Business Worldwide

Moderator:
Georges Enderle, Ryan Chair of International Business Ethics

All participants are faculty members at the University of Notre Dame.
Electoral 2008

McCain takes on Bush and Obama

Republican candidate attempts to project independent, ‘change’ image

Associated Press

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. — Barack Obama isn’t John McCain’s only opponent. Someone named Daniel Barrera said it was him, that he’s running almost as hard against President Bush and the Republican Party as he is against Obama, his Democratic rival for the White House.

The GOP is guilty of indiscipline, letting its independent White House officials who are eager to build up Bush’s legacy, the Republican candidate asserted, projecting an image of independence and political populism.

One of his challenges is to bring back a tarnished image. The unpopular incumbent in the White House and fight against his charge that a McCain presidency would amount to a third term for Bush.

On the core issues, the economy and the war, he has joined the president, who is leading in polls, on the issue. However, McCain represents change in Washington as is laughable as his claim that he’ll take on the special interests when some of the biggest corporations behind him in America are running his campaign.

Observer from the dispatch report from that morning. The dispatch report police were called at 2:31 a.m. Saturday morning to Lafayette Square where two males reported they were assaulted while walking to the apartment complex.

The two males had been the ambulance treatment, SBPD said. McCain and Williams said they told the police they would not be able to identify their assailants. Agent Koegel described them as black men in their 20s.

When Koegel returned to campus, he went to Health Services at around 3 a.m., he said, to have his injured arm examined.

They said I got hit in the best place that I could have gotten hit,” he said.

After an examination, his arm was put in a sling but later removed. Neither student was seriously injured in the attack.

Contact Jenna Metz at jmetz@nd.edu

Football

continued from page 1

The 2008 season, but during the second half we switched to a hurry-up offense and I don’t think I’ll get used to it,”

The Ups and downs were a highlight, although we were very tired afterwards and it led to a quiet night in the dorm, he said.

The mid-20 also featured the new “crank me up” cheer, which was introduced during Tuesday pep rally. The new cheer confused some of the students who didn’t attend the pep rally.

“It was hard to understand at first because I didn’t go to the pep rally and I didn’t really like it,” sophomore Laquetta Williams said. “But I think I’ll get used to it.”

Sophomore Chris Schiraldi said he thought the game was excellent, but would have been better if Kicker Brandon Walker had managed to score a touchdown on the play in the second quarter when a botched snap put the ball on the 2-yard line.

“I just want to see him involved in the offense,” Schiraldi said.

Contact Joseph McMahob at jmcmahob@nd.edu

MCCONKEY, Colo. — Some lawmakers turned corrupt and wound up in jail, he told a rally in Albuquerque, N.M.

“Change is coming, change is coming,” McCain told those watching, projecting an image of independence and political populism.

One of his challenges is to bring back a tarnished image. The unpopular incumbent in the White House and fight against his charge that a McCain presidency would amount to a third term for Bush.

On the core issues, the economy and the war, he has joined the president, who is leading in polls, on the issue. However, McCain represents change in Washington as is laughable as his claim that he’ll take on the special interests when some of the biggest corporations behind him in America are running his campaign.

There’s no free pass from McCain. The Arizona senator’s campaign has been quick to pounce on its rivals. McCain campaigns represent change in Washington as is laughable as his claim that he’ll take on the special interests when some of the biggest corporations behind him in America are running his campaign.
CUBA

Hurricane hits Caribbean islands

Heavy rains force residents of Cuba, Haiti, Bahamas to find shelter, evacuate

Associated Press

CAMAGUEY, Cuba — Hurricane Ike bore down on Cuba after raining terrifying, low-lying islands Sunday, tearing apart houses and the nation's crops and worsening floods in Haiti that have already left at least 300 people dead.

With Ike forecast to sweep across Cuba and possibly hit Havana head-on, hundreds of thousands of Cubans were evacuated to shelters or higher ground. To the north, residents of the Florida Keys felled up a narrow highway, fearful that the "extremely dangerous" hurricane could hit them Tuesday.

At least 68 people died as Ike's winds and rain swept Haiti Sunday, raising the nation's death toll from four tropical storms in less than a month to 306. A Dominican man was crushed by a falling tree. It was too early to know of deaths on other islands where the most powerful winds were still blowing.

Ike's center hit the Bahamas' Great Inagua island, where the roofs of two shelters both sprang leaks under the 135 mph (217 kph) winds. As the storm passed, people inside peeked through windows at toppled trees and houses stripped of their roofs.

"It's nasty. I can't remember gusts like this," reserve police officer Henry Nixon said from inside a holding shelter holding about 85 people.

Great Inagua has about 1,000 people and about 35,000 West Indians. Dinghies — the world's largest breeding colony. Both popula-

tion and safety experts worried the winds and driving rain, with the pink flamingos gathering in mangrove thickets. Biologists worried that the world's unique habitat could be destroyed.

"There's a possibility that the habitat can't really be replaced, and that they can't find an equivalent spot," said Greg Butcher, bird con-
servation director for the National Audubon Society.

"You might have a significant drop in the number of flamingos." At 8 p.m. EDT (0000 GMT), Ike had weakened slightly to a Category 3 hurricane with top winds of 120 mph (195 kph). It was about 30 miles off Cuba's northern coast, moving westward at 14 mph (22 kph). The U.S. National Hurricane Center predicted Ike's eye would make landfall early Monday and could hit Havana, the capital of the nation's largest island, with 2 million people, with many vulnerable old buildings, by Monday night.

Cuba's government said more than 224,000 people were being evacuated in the central-eastern province of Camaguey alone. Foreign tourists were pulled out from vulnerable beach resorts, workers rushed to protect coffee plants and other crops, and plans were under way to distribute food and cooking oil to disaster areas.

"There's no four here, but one has to be prepared. It could hit us pretty hard," said Ramon Olivera, gassing up his motorcycle in Camaguey, where municipal workers boarded up banks and restaurants.

More than 100 people waited in chaotic bread lines at each of the numerous government bakeries around town as families boarded supplies before the storm.

On the provincial capital's outskirts, trucks and dented school buses brought about 1,000 evacuees — many of them families with small children — to the sprawling campus of an art school.

Classrooms at the three-story school built on stilts were filled with metal bunk beds. The approaching hur-

ricane brought a stiff breeze through the open windows.

Mirtha Perez, a 65-year-old retiree, said hardly anyone was left in her small town of Salomé, located nearby the resort island of Cayo Largo.

"It's a huge evacuation," she said. "We are waiting and asking God to protect us and that nothing happens to us.

In the first islands to be hit later Sunday, the Turks and Caicos, which have little natural protection from storm surges of up to 18 feet (5.5 meters)
Cruise lines cut trips to save

Associated Press

PORTLAND, Maine — When the 1,020-foot Explorer of the Seas cruises through North Atlantic waters next year, it’ll spend more time off the coast of New England and less time near Canadian shores, and it’s not because of better views.

Royal Caribbean International and other cruise lines have begun charting a new course in search of routes that eat up less fuel, already one of the industry’s biggest costs, record fuel prices have cut heavily into the bottom line.

The impact of shifting itineraries will certainly have implications for cruise operators, creating winners and losers in port towns all along the way.

When cruise ships pull into Maine’s Bar Harbor, passengers spend an average of $105 each while ashore, according to a 2002 University of Maine study.

Explorer of the Seas, which expects more than 400,000 passengers to travel on its 175 cruises that can carry between 1,000 and 3,000 passengers.

While Portland stands to reap big rewards from the itineraries changes, neighboring communities along Canada’s Atlantic coast will be on the losing end.

Canada’s Atlantic ports saw a 13 percent jump in cruise ship visits between 2000 and 2007, according to a 2008 Canadian Cruise Association report.

“This is disappointing to be losing a bit of business, but we realize that cruise lines have to make decisions to save money,” said Lanie Needham, vice president of Cruise Canada Association and business development manager of the port of Saint John, New Brunswick.

Royal Caribbean International changed the fall itinerary for the Explorer of the Seas along its northern route next year, shortening the distance between ports.

Rather than sail from New Jersey to Quebec City and back, the ship will add stops in New England and go no farther than Nova Scotia.

Fuel consumption was the primary reason, said Vice President Diana Black.

“You have to look at where the biggest benefit is financially and that is the impact on the guests,” she said.

Annual fuel bills for cruise lines can add up to tens of millions of dollars and their ships can gobble up tens of thousands of gallons of fuel on any given cruise.

The price of intermediate fuel oil, which most cruise ships use, has risen in tandem with crude oil.

Many cruise lines have added fuel surcharges to passenger bills, and energy companies are cutting into profits and squeezing margins.

Cruise lines have also begun using new, more fuel-efficient designs and new window coatings that reduce the need to keep rooms cooler.

They’ve also been using new hull paint that reduces a ship’s drag in the water.

And increasingly, cruise lines are altering itineraries so ships can cruise at speeds of 12 knots rather than higher fuel-guzzling speeds, said her itineraries manager. Many cruise lines have added fuel surcharges to passenger bills, and energy companies are cutting into profits and squeezing margins.

“While it is paramount to offer a cruise itinerary that a guest wants to take, then the sequence of that itinerary can be evaluated to minimize the distance between ports of call and the speed necessary to accomplish that itinerary,” Fagan said.

In many cases, passengers will barely notice the difference.

Besides changing port calls on some routes, Royal Caribbean is reviewing its departure and arrival. In some cases, ships are leaving port half an hour earlier at night or arriving half an hour later in the morning — allowing ships to travel at slower speeds between ports.

Cutting speed cuts costs. For example, going 23 knots will consume twice as much fuel as going 15 knots for the new Savannah class of ship being launched this year by Celebrity Cruises, said John Krounoulis, senior vice president for marine operations.

Many cruise lines have added fuel surcharges to passenger bills, and energy companies are cutting into profits and squeezing margins.

The Cylcone, the famous Coney Island roller coaster, and the 150-foot-tall Wonder Wheel, a Ferris wheel, areCruise lines cut trips to save

Associated Press

NEW YORK — When reports circulated over the weekend of a six-minute deal to keep Coney Island’s historic Astroland amusement park open for another year, owner Carol Hill Albert was unamused.

Indeed, she was bitter as she described plans to close her amusement park sight on June 1, in lieu of an agreement with the city or private developer, which have competing plans for the site.

“Despite rumors to the contrary, there are absolutely no plans to close Astroland,” she said.

Once a favorite haunt of New York City’s mayor and the home of the beloved Wonder Wheel, Astroland park has seen better days, and evidence of that is aplenty, but the park’s future is far from bleak.

A month after the Aug. 7 explosion that killed six people and injured dozens, the park is looking for new life, and it’s already got some.

A new owner, its first since 1953, has been named, and the city has shown a willingness to overlook certain rules.

“I can’t wait to see what happens,” said Amos Wengler, who has owned Astroland for more than four decades.

She was rather hopeful about Astroland’s future had created stress for its 400 employees.

Owner Joe Carelli, who gladly owns Astroland for more than 50 years.

One of a few who said they felt there was “still hope” that Astroland would not disappear. Even if a developer takes over, “you can always make it something again,” he said.

Last fall, Astroland and Thor Equities, which owns 11 acres of seaside property that includes the amusement park, agreed to a one-year lease extension that expires Jan. 31, 2009. Albert said Sunday that she had been negotiating an extension with Thor through 2010 but was “decided to give up on the future of Coney Island” with several months remaining on her lease.

The Daily News reported that Astroland’s rides were already being offered for sale on the Internet, with prices ranging from $12,500 for the merry-go-round to $199,000 for the bumper cars.

The Cyclone and Wonder Wheel will not be affected by park’s end.

For information and tickets

CHARISMATIC PRAYER MEETING

Dillon Hall Chapel, Tuesdays 7:30 PM

Mass follows the prayer meeting.

Associated Press

TBLISI, Georgia — On the eve of a European Union shuttle mission to convince Russia to pull its troops back to prewar positions, Georgia’s president vowed Sunday to regain control of two breakaway provinces with the help of “the rest of the world.”

A month after the Aug. 7 outbreak of war in the region and weeks after a cease-fire was approved, Russian troops remain entrenched deep inside Georgian territory.

French President Nicolas Sarkozy is due in Moscow on Monday at the head of an EU delegation charged with reducing tensions and ensuring Russian compliance with the cease-fire terms, which include withdrawing its troops to positions held before the fighting broke out.

Russia says those troops are peacekeepers and that they are allowed under the accord.

Despite the presence of Russian troops on Georgian soil, President Mikheil Saakashvili said the West would help his country regain control of South Ossetia and Abkhazia, the separatist regions of Georgia recognized as independent nations by Moscow last month.

“Our territorial integrity will be restored, I am more convinced of this than ever,” Saakashvili said in a televised appearance. “This will not be an easy process, but now this is a process between an irate Russia and the rest of the world.”

“Our goal is the return of our territory and the peaceful unification of Georgia,” he said.

In Moscow, Prime Minister Vladimir Putin, who often takes the West by surprise, appeared in an interview broadcast late Saturday that Russia was justified in its intervention in South Ossetia. He said there would be no more fighting of any kind because the West depends on Russia’s oil as its main energy wealth.

“The West has been reluctant to provide Russia with any aid in reunifying Georgia,” he said.

President Dmitry Medvedev declared Saturday that “Russia is a nation to be reckoned with” following its war with Georgia.
Government seizes Fannie Mae, Freddie Mac in attempt to right giants

WASHINGTON — The Bush administration's seizure of troubled mortgage giants Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac could cost the government potentially a $200 billion bet that it will help reverse a prolonged housing and credit crisis.

The White House announced Sunday it would support lawmakers who want regulators to restore the companies by driving up the cost of home loans and all other types of borrowing because the failures would "create great dis­­trust in our markets here at home and around the globe.

Mark Zandi, chief economist at Moody's Economy.com predicted that 30-year mortgage rates could dip to 5.5 percent. That's because investors will be more willing to lend money at investment grade, making it difficult for the companies to borrow at affordable rates. Chrysler, Ford and General Motors, the three biggest carmakers, are facing financial struggles.

Federal Housing Finance Agency Director James Lockhart, left, and Treasury Secretary Henry Paulson said allowing the companies to fail would have extracted a far higher price on consumers by driving up the cost of home loans and all other types of borrowing because the failures would "create great distrust in our markets here at home and around the globe.

WASHINGTON — The Bush administration's seizure of troubled mortgage giants Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac could cost the government potentially a $200 billion bet that it will help reverse a prolonged housing and credit crisis.

The White House announced Sunday it would support lawmakers who want regulators to restore the companies by driving up the cost of home loans and all other types of borrowing because the failures would "create great dis­­trust in our markets here at home and around the globe.

Mark Zandi, chief economist at Moody's Economy.com predicted that 30-year mortgage rates could dip to 5.5 percent. That's because investors will be more willing to lend money at investment grade, making it difficult for the companies to borrow at affordable rates. Chrysler, Ford and General Motors, the three biggest carmakers, are facing financial struggles.

Federal Housing Finance Agency Director James Lockhart, left, and Treasury Secretary Henry Paulson said allowing the companies to fail would have extracted a far higher price on consumers by driving up the cost of home loans and all other types of borrowing because the failures would "create great distrust in our markets here at home and around the globe.

WASHINGTON — The Bush administration's seizure of troubled mortgage giants Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac could cost the government potentially a $200 billion bet that it will help reverse a prolonged housing and credit crisis.

The White House announced Sunday it would support lawmakers who want regulators to restore the companies by driving up the cost of home loans and all other types of borrowing because the failures would "create great distrust in our markets here at home and around the globe.

Mark Zandi, chief economist at Moody's Economy.com predicted that 30-year mortgage rates could dip to 5.5 percent. That's because investors will be more willing to lend money at investment grade, making it difficult for the companies to borrow at affordable rates. Chrysler, Ford and General Motors, the three biggest carmakers, are facing financial struggles.
I'm writing this column from Salzburg, Austria. Rather than cheering for our football team to a victory Saturday, I spent the day walking through thousand year-old castles, climbing up mountains, and listening to grand pianist street performers (do you think he carried it on the bus with him there?).

This year, I write you from -- the German-speaking country of Austria: Innsbruck, to be specific. As Notre Dame's oldest study abroad program, we... okay, that's not really relevant to anything. We're just old.

In preparation for this column, I had a few primary worries. First of these was that my German has already crept into my English skills. If you notice any choppy or backwards-sounding sentences, or can pinpoint where an idiomatic phrase came from, please recognize the mistake quietly to yourself, maybe share a laugh with a few dining hall acquaintances, and then continue reading.

Simultaneously plaguing my mind was the best experience of his or her life.
NDSP needs to organize priorities

It is a shame that what should have been a memorable start of the football season and a perfect occasion to reunite with friends, ended up being eclipsed by an unfortunate episode. I write this letter with the intent of expressing my frustration and disappointment towards an incident that happened during a tailgate event. It is my hope that this letter can be a catalyst for a complete misunderstanding.

I attended the tailgate event around 30 minutes before it was broken down by our very own Notre Dame Police department. I had asked one of my friends, who's twenty years old, to hold my beer while I went to the restroom (it just felt wrong to carry the open can with me into the portable potty). Just about when I was coming back, an NDSP officer got her with the can. When I tried to explain the situation to him, in the calmest and most respectful way possible, he chose to blatantly ignore us. I asked him to test my friends' alcohol level to verify that she was not drinking and that we were both absolutely sober. It was clear to him that we were, and yet, he chose to incurate my friend of "underage alcohol possession on a minor".

This incident made a negative impression on me and my friends. Not only was this an evident case of abuse of authority, but it was coming from an officer who works with and for the University and thus, should have the student's interests in mind. The officer's poor judgment and unwillingness to listen was not what I expected from someone in his position. Being that there were more important things to attend to, he wasted his time with the wrong couple of tailgaters and, by the way, he spoiled our day. Yes, I asked the wrong person to hold my Bud Light. But from now on... Should I keep track of every person's age before asking them to hold my beer when I go to the restroom? I'm afraid that would be absolutely absurd. And if so, why do authorities punish possession? Once again, my friend was not drinking.

Get thy ears lowered

Jimmy Clausen needs a haircut. Based on the number of people I heard expressing the same sentiment at Saturday's football game, I may be onto something. Rather than simply complaining about the issue, I would like to propose, with our young quarterback's cooperation, the following: I will personally donate twenty dollars for the man to seek the services of a barber or hair stylist of his choice, provided it approaches something resembling last year's (let the Google image searching commence). I also challenge all students, faculty, and staff to match, exceed, or otherwise contribute to increasing this sum. The money collected will go to pay for the man to seek the services of a barber or hair stylist of his choice.

Dude, where's my dorm?

Ladies and gentlemen of the Notre Dame community, I'm writing this message with regard to the future of our community. I fear that university officials are trying to make changes to student life without fully taking student interest to heart. They seem to be more concerned with how outsiders view us rather than us, quite ourselves. We have heard that the annual Dillon pep rally has mysteriously been cancelled, but this is only the latest step in a series of cancellations. Notre Dame in-campus traditions have all been experiencing the same fate: stories about the crazy events that used to go on. Coming in freshman year, I heard about how watered down everything was becoming. Unfortunately, now I'm the one that has to say that. Living in Zahm, I know that there was pressure by the University to stop us from doing certain things. I thought it was only directed toward us, but now it is clearly becoming an all campus plan. AnTostal and Pep Hallies have already gone out the window. Unless we acknowledge the issue here, I would watch for the Revue or Zoo to follow suit in the near future. As members of the Notre Dame Community, let us be aware of what is happening. Five years from now, don't claim ignorance that the university's traditions have faded away.

How to perform a fire drill

Yesterday afternoon (Thursday) I witnessed a bizarre and somewhat unsettling event take place in the Jordan Hall of Science. Fire alarms blaring, a steady stream of students poured down the stairs on the side of the building. At the base of the stairwell, students quickly followed the green "EXIT" lights directly to a door. This is when something rather extraordinary occurred. Seeing the "Emergency Exit Only" signs on the door handle, the entire stream of fleeing Jerdanites began frantically yelling at one another as they turned around 180° and jostled their way back into the main hallway in search of another door.

Confused, I walked up to the door with three other physics majors and exited.

Get thy ears lowered

Hubert George

off campus

Sept. 7

How to perform a fire drill

An empty space is a lonely space.

Make this a happy space.

Submit illustrations, editorial cartoons, quotes or Letters to the Editor.

viewpoint.1@nd.edu
By JOEY KUHN

Scene Writer

While you were screaming your head off and throwing your hands into the air at the pep rally on Friday, another group of people was doing the same thing in St. Patrick's Park, just north of South Bend. This group, however, was giving it up not for the Notre Dame football team, but for a band called Umphrey's McGee.

After a slew of uninspired videos at the pep rally, Umphrey's McGee was a refreshing breath of air. Their sound was constantly morphing and evolving, going from Styx-influenced stadium rock to psychedelic waves of sound effortlessly and seamlessly. The band members communicated these transitions to each other with hand signals, which somehow seemed oddly appropriate, what with their baseball hats and sporty attire. They didn't dress like the stereotypical hippie/jam band, contrary to expectations.

Umphrey's whole style seemed to be about "contrary to expectations." They were always doing something surprising, and the surprises were pleasant. For instance, what started out sounding like their song "Higgins" actually turned into a stellar rendition of Pink Floyd's "Breathe." They also covered "Africa" by Toto.

But the real strength of their show was not in their covers, but in their own unique sound and their epic jam sessions.

The band is hard to put into any genre; they could be described as alternative or progressive rock, but they had moments in which they sounded like reggae, techno, arid rock and even a little hip-hop. The chord progressions are quirky and engaging, the lyrics are intelligent and meaningful, and the six-member depth of the band allows for intricate song arrangements.

Many of their faster songs feature helter-skelter, stop-and-start rhythms crafted by their two percussionists, Andy Farag and Chris Meyers. These two used both traditional drum sets and more unusual percussion devices, such as bongos and cowbells, to achieve their sound.

The two guitarists, Brendan Bayliss and Jake Cinninger, also employed a wide variety of strange effects, sometimes lengthening every note until they built on one another into some monumental chord, or sometimes damping their strings to sound almost like a ukulele. Backed up by the outstanding rhythm section of Joel Cummins on keyboards and Ryan Stasik on bass, the sextet was unstoppable.

Umphrey's true strength unquestionably comes from their improvisational prowess. This is where they really wowed the crowd. Their songs weren't really songs anymore, so much as pieces of sonic art being created before your very eyes. It was easy to get carried away with Cinninger as he felt out each note, often closing his eyes and letting his musical instincts guide him.

As everyone who's ever been to a concert knows, though, the actual music isn't the only important aspect of the concert experience. The audience, the people surrounding you, is just as important to the overall effect. Of course, most of the crowd was chemically induced, but that in no way detracted from the show. In fact, the slew of peacefulstoners and ex-hippies actually made the concert more fun. At least if the music ever got boring (which it didn't), there was some interesting people-watching. One guy had a scooped-out half watermelon rind on his head with glow necklaces sticking out of it. He looked like a giant neon daddy-long-legs walking around in the crowd and spreading love, giving glow sticks to everyone. There were none of the pushy, overbearing fans one usually runs into at concerts.

Getting into the venue was a long and arduous ordeal, but that was probably the only truly negative part of the entire night. The temperature was pleasant and cool, and the sky was cloudless. At the end of the three-hour concert, which Umphrey's McGee divided into two sets, the techies even played the Notre Dame Victory March over the loudspeakers, capping off a near-perfect night with a little Irish spirit.

Umphrey's McGee has played in South Bend regularly for the past two years, making this concert their third in an annual series of concerts on Notre Dame's opening weekend. They come to South Bend often because several of the band members attended or have ties to Notre Dame, including Bayliss, who lived in Keenan Hall as an undergrad.

Umphrey's sound may not be for everyone; if you don't enjoy complex, carefully orchestrated song arrangements and mind-blowing, 15-minute long jam sessions, you might want to look somewhere else, such as mainstream radio. But for everyone else, if you're around the Bend next year, don't miss Umphrey's McGee.

Contact Joey Kuhn at jkuhnl@nd.edu
Aztecs ruined
Notre Dame avoids embarrassment, beats San Diego State 21-13

By LAURA MYERS
Sports Writer

It wasn't pretty, but Notre Dame rallied from a fourth quarter deficit to defeat the San Diego State Aztecs 21-13 Saturday.

Mistakes marred Notre Dame's play, including two fumbles, two interceptions; a botched field goal attempt and several penalties.

"We looked like a team that was playing their first game," coach Charlie Weis said. "You're happy with an ugly win because it's better than an ugly loss."

In the following three quarters of mistake-ridden football, Notre Dame's fortunes changed with 11:55 left in the fourth quarter.

The Irish were down 13-7, and San Diego State had a first-and-goal at the four-yard line. Quarterback Ryan Lindley handed the ball to running back Brandon Sullivan, who sprinted toward the goal line.

Just before Sullivan broke the plane, senior safety David Bruton and Kyle McCarthy knocked the ball from his grip and recovered it in the end zone. It was "game-changing play," Irish coach Charlie Weis said.

There was some disagreement on who caused the fumble, but Bruton wasn't going to argue.

"I'm fine with Kyle saying I did it," he said.

On the ensuing Irish drive, sophomore quarterback Jimmy Clausen completed 5-of-5 passes, including a 38-yard touchdown pass to sophomore wide receiver Golden Tate to take a 14-13 lead. Clausen threw another touchdown pass to senior David Grimes on the Irish's next possession to make the score 21-13 and put the game further out of reach of the Aztecs.

Tate had six receptions for 93 yards in the game. Clausen finished the game 21-for-34 for 237 yards with two touchdowns, three interceptions and 15-yard touchdown run.

Senior Darron Mougey, San Diego State quarterback Ryan Lindley scored the first touchdown of the game on a 1-yard run.

"We have a lot of work to do," Weis said. "I thought we would execute better, take care of the ball better."

Charlie Weis
Irish coach

"I thought we would execute better, take care of the ball better.

The Aztecs scored again in the third quarter after senior Ronnie Holmes intercepted Clausen's pass in the end zone. Lindley led an 80-yard drive that ended in a 15-yard touchdown pass to Mougey.

That drive seemed to be over after the Aztecs failed to convert a third-and-three at their own 39, but senior safety Ray Herring jumped offsides before throwing a 43-yard pass to senior Darren Mougey, San Diego State quarterback Ryan Lindley scored the first touchdown of the game on a 1-yard rush.

"We're Notre Dame. Every team comes in here and plays their heart out," McCarthy said. "They come in here like it's the Super Bowl."

Notre Dame's offensive line, which is one year older and many pounds bigger, showed some improvement.

A line that gave up a record 58 sacks last year (119th in the NCAA) kept Clausen vertical the whole game. Also, there were no false starts and only one holding penalty, against junior guard Eric Olsen in the fourth quarter.

Weis saw improvement in the team's confidence as well.

"You know, there are times when you look into the players' faces and you see a scared look," he said. "For the guys playing in this game, that wasn't the look you were getting."

But how will the team do here on out? "The jury's still out," Weis said.

Contact Laura Myers at lmyers2@nd.edu

player of the game
Golden Tate
Notre Dame receiver
Tate caught six passes for 93 yards and a touchdown.

stat of the game
0
Sacks allowed by Notre Dame's offensive line.

play of the game
David Bruton's fumble recovery in the end zone
The play gave the Irish the ball back and let them drive for the go-ahead touchdown.

quote of the game
"You're happy with an ugly win because it's better than an ugly loss."

Charlie Weis
Irish coach
report card

B+  B-  C+  B-  B+  C  B+  B-  B-

coaching: The Irish ran some predictable plays on third-and-short, but the no-huddle offense was effective. Defensive penalties extended an Aztec drive, eventually allowing them to score.

overall: They took their time, but the Irish eventually found an offensive rhythm. The defense looked confused, but it wasn't a win.

adding up the numbers

Catches by Notre Dame receiver Golden Tate. Tate had six catches all of last season.

6

Net yards per punt by San Diego State punter Brian Staubach.

23

Third downs Notre Dame converted in 12 attempts.

3

Touchdowns thrown by Jimmy Clausen. Clausen has thrown three touchdowns in three of his last four starts.

14

Times in five attempts the Irish converted when in the red zone.

3

All-purpose yards by Armando Allen.

158

Number of penalty yards on San Diego State.

100

Like most people who watched Saturday's game, I left Notre Dame Stadium feeling unfulfilled. I can remember the Good Old Days (read: when Brady Quinn was here), when a win meant 41-9 (I'm looking at you, Army). And you left knowing that we were the better team on the field. You can delve into the stats as deep as you want, an unbelievable 3-for-12 on third down? Terrible. One of five in the red zone? Atrocious. Four turnovers five including the botched field goal? Nasty — and not the good kind. But before you go too far down the final statistics chart, go ahead and look at the top, and tell me what you see.

21-13 final score? Pretty darn good.

As a wise man in a commercial once said, "A win's a win; a loss is a loss," and that's the attitude you should take. If for nothing else, you should think that because Notre Dame had coach Charlie Weis is. "Are you happy with an ugly win? I told [the team], Yes, you're happy with an ugly win because it's better than an ugly loss. I'll take an ugly win any day of the week." Charlie Weis Irish coach

unfulfilled, but still pleased

"Are you happy with an ugly win? I told [the team], yes, you're happy with an ugly win because it's better than an ugly loss. I'll take an ugly win any day of the week."

"The way we did it isn't exactly the way we wanted to do it... I think the biggest thing says something about our character," said Former Notre Dame coach Lou Holtz in his autobiography, Wins, Losses and Lessons, that a football team has to go through four stages before it can win: it has to learn to compete, then learn to win, then learn to handle winning, and then it can be a win nonetheless. And for those of you keeping score at home, the Irish are sitting on a three-game winning streak dating back to last season.

This blueprint provides a timeline without dates, something that important Notre Dame fans need to understand. With a wholly inexperienced team last year, the Irish needed to learn how to compete, they needed to build their character and become a football team.

"Wins, Losses and Lessons," that a football team has to go through four stages before it can win: it has to learn to compete, then learn to win, then learn to handle winning, and then it can be a win nonetheless. And for those of you keeping score at home, the Irish are sitting on a three-game winning streak dating back to last season.

This most important thing this team needs right now is patience. The Irish won't be great this year and likely not next year, but they will be better each season.

But as for right now, a win is a win, and that's good enough for me.

Contact Jay Fitzpatrick at jfitzpat@nd.edu.

The views expressed in this column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer.
No-huddle offense jump-starts Irish

By CHRIS HINE
Sports Writer

Notre Dame’s offense needed something to get going. The Irish had played three quarters and managed just seven points against San Diego State, team that allowed 29 points to Bowl Subdivision Cal Poly a week ago.

But down 13-7 with 11:55 left in the game, and facing the prospect of losing its third home opener in four years, Notre Dame changed the pace of its offense, and by changing the pace, changed the entire game.

Oh, and it certainly didn’t hurt that Dame changed the pace of its offense, and

By CHRIS HINE
Sports Writer

By CHRIS HINE
Sports Writer

So, the Irish had played three quarters, and managed just seven points against San Diego State, a team that, allowed 29 points to Bowl Subdivision Cal Poly a week ago.

But down 13-7 with 11:55 left in the game, and facing the prospect of losing its third home opener in four years, Notre Dame changed the pace of its offense, and by changing the pace, changed the entire game.

Oh, and it certainly didn’t hurt that Dame changed the pace of its offense, and

Irish quarterback Jimmy Clausen, left, celebrates with receiver Golden Tate after Tate’s touchdown catch put Notre Dame ahead 14-13.

“Golden has become much more of a

The final two drives were a night-and- day change from the first three quarters, which saw the Irish struggle to score even when the defense and special teams put on some solid performances. Weis had said prior to Saturday that he wanted the Irish running game to “pound them,” but the offense didn’t waste every gift the defense and the special teams gave them.

Weisascalculatedour winning percentage back, he wanted the ball in the

Then, in the third quarter, Kerry Neal intercepted an pass from Arizona quarterback Ryan Lindley on the San Diego 17-yard-line, but Clausen gave it right back to San Diego, throwing a fumble — to Arizona corner Vontae Davis.

But the offense didn’t waste every gift the defense and the special teams gave them. In what Irish fans hope is a sign of things to come, Clausen connected with freshman wide receiver Michael Floyd for a 35-yard score following a blocked punt by Sergio Brown.

“We’ve had a bad season last year, but it always happens when you have a bad season last year, we have to make a statement to the

Coach Yonto honored before kickoff

By CHRIS HINE and LAURA MYERS
Sports Writers

Before the game, Notre Dame honored the memory of Joe Yonto, who died Monday, August 4. Yonto served as an assistant defensive coach under Ara Parseghian, Dan Devine, Gerry Faust and Lou Holtz from 1964-1980 and 1986-1987. He was 81.

Yonto was the best to
closer to the second half, a lot of inaccuracy during his career under Weis era. Weis explained that when Brady Quinn was his backup, he backed him up the ball in the hands of the offense as much as possible. No such luck with Brown.

Can Brown do for you?

What can Brown do for you?
Struggling to victory

It wasn’t inspiring. The start smacked of last season, complete with interceptions, fumbles and three-and-outs. The pass defense gave up big plays. The crowd booed before the first half was over, fearing the worst, and fans called for Dayne Crist. But the clouds cleared in the second half. David Bruton and Kyle McCarthy kept the game within reach, saving a touchdown and forcing a fumble to give Notre Dame the ball. Jimmy Clausen found a rhythm with his receivers and ran an effective no-huddle offense to put the Irish ahead. The running game controlled the clock late, and Clausen added the gravy when he hit David Grimes for a score to take an eight-point lead.

Hardly fantastic, somewhat hopeful. Good enough to beat Michigan? Doubtful. But better than last year, and at this point that’s all that matters.

— Bill Brink
By SHANE STEINBERG
Scene Writer

Jason Friedberg and Aaron Seltzer’s latest foray into the beaten-up-and-left-for-dead genre of spoof comedy has resulted in ninety minutes of utter stupidity.

Their latest brain-dead brainchild of a film, the aptly titled “Disaster Movie,” is a beacon of all that is worth­less and beyond the point of saving in the entertainment industry. The creation may have worked for the self-proclaimed spoof kings in the past, but Friedberg and Seltzer, just as they did in “ Epic Movie” and “Date Movie,” have once again proven that they should have
disappoints with
unfunny gags

called it quits after their only success, their collabora­tion with the Wayans brothers on the “Scary Movie” series, ran dry.

Instead, determined to take bits and pieces of great­er movies, throw in a few completely random appear­ances by pop culture personalities and mold them into a “comedy,” the duo have trekked on, churn­ing out piles of garbage. “Disaster Movie” is no excep­tion.

The plot of “Disaster Movie” alludes to such recent films as “Cloverfield” and “Indiana Jones and the Kingdom of the Crystal Skull,” as well as references to “Juno,” “No Country for Old Men,” “Enchanted,” and “Superbad.”

The storyline, if you’re generous enough to call it that, follows a guy named Will (Matt Lanter) who suddenly finds himself trying to save the world after being told an apocalyptic prophecy by none other than Amy Winehouse (Nicole Parker).

From there, the plot basically dis­ appears. Soon enough a host of overused Michael Jackson jokes are thrown in, and the scenes get progressively weirder (or stupider). To make a long and completely pointless story short, dur­ing one scene a man in a panda suit and a naked guy screaming “I am Beowulf!” run around through “Night in the Museum.”

How Friedberg and Seltzer managed to create a comedy without an ounce of humor must befuddle viewers. Is it too much to ask for a “ha ha” moment every ten minutes? Then again, when you try to fit together a comedy by throwing random laugh­able into random scenes with actors who shouldn’t have careers in comedy, horrendousness is bound to happen.

It’s a calamity that a studio could actually be willing to fund a film like “Disaster Movie,” but then again, if one thing is certain in the entertainment industry, it’s that stupidity sells. “Disaster Movie” will probably go on to make a fair amount of millions, as quality scripts are over­looked in favor of the next idiotic film. But really, what’s the point of watching an unfunny comedy about other movies when you could simply watch the other movies and not feel like your brain cells are being murdered in the meantime?

In the end, there are about one thou­sand ways to rip “Disaster Movie,” but when all is said and done, bluntly put, “Disaster Movie” is nothing more than a gruesomely bad film made by supposed filmmakers who ought to do audiences a favor and never work in Hollywood again.

Contact Shane Steinberg at steinb@nd.edu


By ANALISE LIPARI
Scene Editor

Unoriginal in more ways than one, “Disaster Movie” is the latest spawn of a genre with a lot of cinematic history. The gag film scene examines the history of the Hollywood gag film by ranking some of its best-known examples into three distinct categories. Good gag films deserve multiple viewings of a well-worn DVD. In-between gag films might garner a rental and an oversize bowl of popcorn on a Friday night. Bad gag films deserve to be incinerated and never seen again.

The Good

Airplane! (1980): Often seen as the grandaddy of all gag films, “Airplane!” is chock full of iconic film moments. Examples include seeing Barbara Billingsley, TV’s June Cleaver, translate “I’ll be back” with a white stewardess; a gag film. Scene examines the history of genre with a lot of cinematic history: the granddaddy of all gag films, “Airplane!” is chock full of iconic film moments.

Directed and Written by: Jason Friedberg and Aaron Seltzer
Starring: Matt Lanter and Nicole Parker

The In-Between

Kung Pow! Enter the Fist (2002): A parody of Hong Kong action cinema, “Kung Pow!” features a battle sequence between our protagonist, the Chosen One (Steve Oedekerk) and a fighting cow named Moon Yoo who uses her udders as battle gear.


Scary Movie 1 & 2 (2000-2001): The original “Scary Movie” was directed by Keenen Ivory Wayans and featured the tagline “No mercy. No shame. No sequel.” Ironically, the opposite has proven true, much to the chagrin of moviewatchers. It’s also ironic that the main source of parody in “Scary Movie” is “Scream,” which itself was meant to riff on horror movie conventions. The origi­nal “Scary Movie” and its first sequel, “Scary Movie 2” (with the tagline “More merciless. More shameless. We lied”), are both worth a rental.

The Bad

Disaster Movie (2008): It seems odd that Jason Friedberg and Aaron Seltzer would bother parodying films like Adam Sandler’s “Don’t Mess with the Zohan.” Normally successful films might deserve some good-natured ribbing, but “Zohan” was hardly worth its original on-screen appearance, let alone an allusion. Add that to its ill-timed comedy in gener­al, and you’ve got a recipe for little more than a waste of time.

Date Movie (2006): The creative team of Friedberg and Seltzer, who both cowrote the first “Scary Movie” film with four others, brought this gem to film after getting two years of development. Now a high­ly respectable cast including Alyson Hannigan (“How I Met Your Mother”), Fred Willard, Eddie Griffin and Jennifer Coolidge, “Date Movie” was, much like those that came before and after it, an uneven collection of unfunny gags.

Meet the Spartans (2008): Much like its料Friedberg-Seltzer brethren, but with a slightly different name, “Meet the Spartans” was mainly focused on paro­odying 2007’s “300.” With Carmen Electra playing a key role, an assess­ment of the quality of “Meet the Spartans” can likely go without discus­sion. Lindsay Lohan, Paris Hilton and Britney Spears are unable to escape the parody machine, but all three have been mocked more successfully elsewhere.

White Chicks (2004): Little needs to be said. Let us just say, Wrong. wrong, and painfully wrong.

Contact Analise Lipari at alipari@nd.edu

The gag film genre reached its creative peak in 1980 with the classic “Airplane!”

The plot of “Disaster Movie” alludes to such recent films as “Cloverfield” and “Indiana Jones and the Kingdom of the Crystal Skull,” as well as references to “Juno,” “No Country for Old Men,” “Enchanted,” and “Superbad.”

How Friedberg and Seltzer managed to create a comedy without an ounce of humor must befuddle viewers. Is it too much to ask for a “ha ha” moment every ten minutes? Then again, when you try to fit together a comedy by throwing random laughable into random scenes with actors who shouldn’t have careers in comedy, horrendousness is bound to happen.

It’s a calamity that a studio could actually be willing to fund a film like “Disaster Movie,” but then again, if one thing is certain in the entertainment industry, it’s that stupidity sells. “Disaster Movie” will probably go on to make a fair amount of millions, as quality scripts are over­looked in favor of the next idiotic film. But really, what’s the point of watching an unfunny comedy about other movies when you could simply watch the other movies and not feel like your brain cells are being murdered in the meantime?

In the end, there are about one thou­sand ways to rip “Disaster Movie,” but when all is said and done, bluntly put, “Disaster Movie” is nothing more than a gruesomely bad film made by supposed filmmakers who ought to do audiences a favor and never work in Hollywood again.

Contact Shane Steinberg at steinb@nd.edu

The gag film genre reached its creative peak in 1980 with the classic “Airplane!”

“Disaster Movie” will probably go on to make a fair amount of millions, while quality scripts are overlooked in favor of the next idiotic film.

“How Rod” the movie uses gag film techniques.

Marlon, left, and Shawn Wayans co-star in “White Chicks,” a 2004 gag comedy.

‘Scary Movie’ 2” is an “Airplane!” meets “Top Shots” is an “Airplane!” meets “Top Gun” spoof directed by Jim Abrahams, co-director of “Airplane!” The on­film saga of Topper Harley (Sheen), a pilot in “Airplane!”, has resulted in ninety minutes of utter stupidity.

Scary Movie (2000): Much like its料Friedberg-Seltzer brethren, but with a slightly different name, “Meet the Spartans” can likely go without discus­sion. Lindsay Lohan, Paris Hilton and Britney Spears are unable to escape the parody machine, but all three have been mocked more successfully elsewhere.

White Chicks (2004): Little needs to be said. Let us just say, Wrong. wrong, and painfully wrong.

Contact Analise Lipari at alipari@nd.edu
Associated Press

McDonald - Brett Favre sank to one knee on the sideline, helplessly watching the Miami Dolphins try to upstage his comeback with one of their own.

A month after Favre began a brief retirement, he made a stunning return as a Denver Bronco. With the potential to claim the starting quarterback job in Denver, Favre decided to sign a backup contract with the team Tuesday.

"I'm a New York Jet. I don't know about a native New Yorkian, or however you say it. Hey, I'm happy to be a Jet."

For the Dolphins, the loss might just be a downsloping start to the Bill Parcells era, and it was painfully reminiscent of last year's 1-15 team. Parcells took over last December, but Denver went on to win more than half the roster and hiring Tony Sparano as coach, the Dolphins gave up too many big plays and sputtered on offense until their frantic late rally.

"We had just made one more play, we could have won the game," receiver Greg Camarillo said. "That's what hurts.

Pennington, playing against the team that released him in favor of Favre, drew boos after he said he had the right decision," he said in his Mississippi drawl. "I'm a New Yorkian, or however you say it. Hey, I'm happy to be a Jet."

For the Dolphins, the loss might just be a downsloping start to the Bill Parcells era, and it was painfully reminiscent of last year's 1-15 team. Parcells took over last December, but Denver went on to win more than half the roster and hiring Tony Sparano as coach, the Dolphins gave up too many big plays and sputtered on offense until their frantic late rally.

"If we had just made one more play, we could have won the game," receiver Greg Camarillo said. "That's what hurts.

Pennington, playing against the team that released him in favor of Favre, drew boos after he said he had the right decision," he said in his Mississippi drawl. "I'm a New Yorkian, or however you say it. Hey, I'm happy to be a Jet."

For the Dolphins, the loss might just be a downsloping start to the Bill Parcells era, and it was painfully reminiscent of last year's 1-15 team. Parcells took over last December, but Denver went on to win more than half the roster and hiring Tony Sparano as coach, the Dolphins gave up too many big plays and sputtered on offense until their frantic late rally.
C O M P I LED FROM T H E O B S E R V E R ' S W I R E S E R V I C E S

around the dial

NCAA Football
AP Top 25

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Team</th>
<th>Points</th>
<th>Previous</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>USC</td>
<td>1,577</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Georgia</td>
<td>1,626</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oklahoma</td>
<td>1,641</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Florida</td>
<td>1,438</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ohio State</td>
<td>1,347</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wisconsin</td>
<td>1,336</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LSU</td>
<td>1,231</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Texas</td>
<td>1,169</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Auburn</td>
<td>1,087</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wisconsin</td>
<td>910</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alabama</td>
<td>665</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Texas Tech</td>
<td>645</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kansas</td>
<td>625</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nebraska</td>
<td>577</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Florida</td>
<td>493</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wake Forest</td>
<td>404</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fresno State</td>
<td>280</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Utah</td>
<td>256</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>California</td>
<td>195</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Illinois</td>
<td>164</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>West Virginia</td>
<td>163</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

25 West Virginia 163 8
24 Illinois 164 24
17 Penn State 607 19
16 Oregon 164 26
15 Arizona State 737 14
14 Oregon 717 15
13 Kansas State 604 11
12 Texas 705 13
11 Kansas 564 12
10 Texas 508 10
9 Washington 465 9
8 Louisville 445 8
7 Oklahoma 437 7
6 Missouri 407 6
5 Oklahoma 377 5
4 Florida 357 4
3 Missouri 336 3
2 Texas 316 2
1 Alabama 295 1

NCAA Football
USA Today Top 25

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Team</th>
<th>Points</th>
<th>Previous</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>USC</td>
<td>1,481</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Georgia</td>
<td>1,454</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oklahoma</td>
<td>1,370</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ohio State</td>
<td>1,308</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ohio State</td>
<td>1,289</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wisconsin</td>
<td>1,272</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LSU</td>
<td>1,194</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Texas</td>
<td>1,086</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Auburn</td>
<td>911</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wisconsin</td>
<td>865</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kansas</td>
<td>854</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Georgia</td>
<td>764</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Florida</td>
<td>693</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wake Forest</td>
<td>604</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fresno State</td>
<td>520</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Utah</td>
<td>495</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Colorado</td>
<td>495</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Louisiana</td>
<td>475</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Utah</td>
<td>420</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Texas</td>
<td>406</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>California</td>
<td>367</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

25 West Virginia 128 NR
24 Texas 125 NR
23 Oregon 121 NR
22 Utah 120 NR
21 Utah 119 NR
20 Oregon 118 NR
19 Arizona State 117 NR
18 Washington 116 NR
17 Colorado 113 NR
16 Kansas 112 NR
15 UCLA 111 NR
14 Texas 110 NR
13 Oklahoma 109 NR
12 Oregon 108 NR
11 Arizona State 107 NR
10 Colorado 106 NR
9 Colorado 105 NR
8 Washington 104 NR
7 Arizona State 103 NR
6 Oklahoma 102 NR
5 Texas 101 NR
4 Oregon 99 NR
3 Washington 98 NR
2 Arizona State 97 NR
1 Texas 96 NR

N A T I O N

Brady injuries kneed in Patriots’ win

Associated Press

FOXBOROUGH, Mass. — Tom Brady screamed. The seemingly indestructible star of the New England Patriots lay on the ground, clutching his left knee. The NFL’s reigning MVP and three-time Super Bowl champion was done for the day—at least.

When you hear a scream, "You know that," Kansas City safety Bernard Pollard said after hitting Brady on the left leg midway through the first quarter. Untested Matt Cassel took over, and played well as the Patriots beat the Chiefs 17-10 in Sunday’s opener. But they needed a last minute defensive stand to do it.

There was no word on the extent of Brady’s injury—"I am not sure what we are dealing with," coach Bill Belichick said — or how long he would be out. But his 128-game starting streak, third-longest in NFL history, is in jeopardy.

"It kind of looked bad," Randy Moss said. "I know the show must go on and, hopefully, Matt Cassel is ready to step in."

Still, the Patriots plum­meted from an excla­mation point of an unbeaten 2007 regular season to a huge question mark in 2008. They lost the Super Bowl to the New York Giants 17-14 then went 0-4 in the exhibition season, leading many to wonder if he would even make the team on which he backed up Brady the past three seasons.

"He did a good job com­ing in and, obviously, made some big plays for us," tackle Matt Light said. "That guy’s had a lot of criticism cast down on him and I felt like he stepped up and played like a professional."

For the first time in 57 games, Brady wasn’t listed on the Patriots’ injury report for Sunday’s game. He completed seven of 11 passes for 76 yards. Cassel, who had thrown just 39 passes in his first three seasons, went 13-15-4 for 152 yards and one touchdown.

"This is something I’ve been preparing for (for) a long time. It’s not some­thing that we expected to come up on opening day," he said. "Since I’ve been here and been around Tom, he’s always popped back up. Not this time. And Kansas City also had its

IN BRIEF

Colts open new stadium with “party” atmosphere

INDIANAPOLIS — The Indianapolis Colts wanted a party atmosphere for their first NFL regular­season game at Lucas Oil Stadium, so they opened it up.

The Colts opted to play Sunday night’s season­opener against the Chicago Bears with the retractable roof pulled back and the sliding glass window in the north end zone wide open.

Commissioner Roger Goodell, who attended the game, called the new stadium “spectacular” and said the windows on both ends made the Colts’ new stadium different from any other in the league.

NFL rules allow the home team to make a decision about whether to open the roof 90 minutes before kickoff. It must remain open through the entire game unless the officials decide to close it for safety reasons.

East Carolina in Top 25 for first time since 1999

NEW YORK — East Carolina can’t play the underdog role anymore.

After opening the season by upset­ting two ranked teams, the Pirates earned themselves a place in the AP Top 25 for the first time in nine years.

East Carolina was No. 14 in the media poll released Sunday. Southern California remained No. 1 and Georgia was No. 2.

East Carolina’s latest big win was its third straight against a ranked opponent, dating to last season’s Hawaii Bowl victory against Boise State.

East Carolina manhandled previously No. 8 West Virginia 24-3 Saturday, shutting down Pat White and the Mountaineers’ speedy spread offense. That came a week after the Pirates took out Virginia Tech.

West Virginia dropped all the way to No. 25.

For now, Chad Johnson can’t wear Ocho Cinco

BALTIMORE — Chad Johnson has changed his name, but his jersey remained the same Sunday.

The Cincinnati Bengals receiver legally changed his name from Chad Johnson to Chad Ocho Cinco, but the NFL decided against allowing him to put his name on his jersey.

"While the NFL has recognized the legal name change of Chad Johnson to Chad Ocho Cinco, the league informed the Bengals today that certain issues remain to be resolved before Ocho Cinco will be permitted to wear his new surname on his jersey," the league said in a statement.

"He will wear the name Johnson on his jersey today and will be referred to as Chad Johnson on the official play-by-play sheets," the statement said. "Further questions should be directed to the league office.”
Feed your future

See how many ways there are to create your own path at PwC.

Begin at www.pwc.tv
**BEACH VOLLEYBALL**

**Olympic duo loses again**

May-Treanor and Walsh lose in semifinals of AVP Crocs Tournament

Associated Press

**NEW YORK** — Phils manager Charlie Manuel was ejected in the first inning of a crucial game Sunday night against the Mets for arguing an unusual rule call—interference.

New York slugger David Wright was awarded first base after a foul ball because plate umpire Jerry Meals ruled Chris Coste's mitt touched Wright's bat as he swung.

Manuel came out of the dugout and the 6-foot-4 manager tossed over two meals as he gestured and pointed down at the ump. After a long argument, Meals ejected Manuel while the Shea Stadium crowd roared.

It was Manuel's fourth ejection this season.

Replays showed Coste gripping and yanking his mitt back toward his body as Wright followed through on a late swing—though it was difficult to tell for sure if his glove grazed the glove. After the pitch, Wright immediately turned around and pointed to Coste, who was charged with an error.

Carlos Beltran hit Cole Hamels' next delivery for an RBI single and Wright slid safely into third on a close play, bringing Phillies bench coach Jimy Williams out for an argument.

After winning the opener of a day-night doubleheader 6-2 behind Jamie Moyer, the Phillies defeated the Mets for a 23 decision to Elaine Youngs.

**MBL**

Manuel tossed for unusual dispute

Associated Press

**NEW YORK** — Phillies manager Charlie Manuel was ejected in the first inning of a crucial game Sunday night against the Mets for arguing an unusual rule call—interference.

New York slugger David Wright was awarded first base after a foul ball because plate umpire Jerry Meals ruled Chris Coste's mitt touched Wright's bat as he swung.

Manuel came out of the dugout and the 6-foot-4 manager tossed over two meals as he gestured and pointed down at the ump. After a long argument, Meals ejected Manuel while the Shea Stadium crowd roared.

It was Manuel's fourth ejection this season.

Replays showed Coste gripping and yanking his mitt back toward his body as Wright followed through on a late swing—though it was difficult to tell for sure if his glove grazed the glove. After the pitch, Wright immediately turned around and pointed to Coste, who was charged with an error.

Carlos Beltran hit Cole Hamels' next delivery for an RBI single and Wright slid safely into third on a close play, bringing Phillies bench coach Jimy Williams out for an argument.

After winning the opener of a day-night doubleheader 6-2 behind Jamie Moyer, the Phillies defeated the Mets for a 23 decision to Elaine Youngs.

**Mode of Needed**

Looking for MODELS
to model for Figure Drawing

tuesdays and Thursdays
from 12:30 - 3:15 PM

during the fall semester

Modeling is done in the classical tradition, with nude poses.

$20 per hour

Please contact:
Prof. Maria Tomasula
at Tomasula.3@nd.edu

Dept. Art, Art History & Design
Riley Hall

**NCAA Men's Basketball**

'Glory Road' Hall of Fame coach dies at 78

Haskins helped to break color barrier when he started five black players to win 1966 title

Associated Press

**EL PASO, Texas** — Don Haskins, credited with helping break college basketball's color barrier in 1966 when he used five black players to capture the national championship for Texas Western, died Sunday. He was 84.

Texas-El Paso spokesman Jeff Darby said the Hall of Fame coach died Sunday afternoon. He had no other details.

UT-Pan American, which was previously known as Texas Western.

"The word unique does not begin to describe Don Haskins," former Texas Tech coach Bob Knight said. "There is no one who has ever coached that I respected and admired more than Don Haskins. I've had no better friend, I have enjoyed more than Don Haskins.

Haskins was an old-time coach who believed in hard work and was known for his gruff demeanor. That attitude was portrayed in the 2006 movie "Glory Road," the Disney film that chronicled Haskins' improbable rise to national fame in the 1966 championship game against Kentucky.

The movie, which was released in book stores with the same title, also sparked renewed interest in Haskins' career.

"The myth that surrounds Haskins is that he was one of the most gruff players to be a head coach," Knight said. "But when you see things like that (championships), you begin to describe Don Haskins.

Don got more out of his players than any other coach I've ever had a chance to work with. He was a great basketball coach.

During his career, Haskins turned down several more lucrative offers, including one with the newly formed American Basketball Association, to remain at UTEP as one of the lowest paid coaches in the Western Athletic Conference.

Haskins retired in 1999 after 38 seasons at the school. He had a 553-259 record and won seven WCAC championships. He took UTEP to 14 NCAA tournaments and to the NCAA seven times and briefly worked as an assistant with the Chicago Bulls.

His health had been an issue in his final coaching years, often forcing him to remain seated during games, and his program struggled after twice being slapped with NCAA sanctions. Serious health concerns continued in his retirement. In the midst of a series of hook signings and other activism, Haskins was hospitalized with various woes.

After his retirement, Haskins became a star in his home state by turning the El Paso太阳docks into a basketball powerhouse.

He was considered the greatest high school coach in Texas basketball history by the Texas Association of Basketball Coaches and was inducted into the El Paso Sports Hall of Fame.

As a coach, Haskins became a star early in his career by leading his Mines to the 1966 NCAA championship game, then making the universal decision to start five blacks against all-white, heavily favored Kentucky coached by Adolph Rupp. The Miners won, 72-65, and were a national sensation.

Haskins retired in 1999 after 38 seasons at the school. He had a 553-259 record and won seven WCAC championships. He took UTEP to 14 NCAA tournaments and to the NCAA seven times and briefly worked as an assistant with the Chicago Bulls.

His health had been an issue in his final coaching years, often forcing him to remain seated during games, and his program struggled after twice being slapped with NCAA sanctions. Serious health concerns continued in his retirement. In the midst of a series of hook signings and other activism, Haskins was hospitalized with various woes.

After his retirement, Haskins became a star in his home state by turning the El Paso太阳docks into a basketball powerhouse.

He was considered the greatest high school coach in Texas basketball history by the Texas Association of Basketball Coaches and was inducted into the El Paso Sports Hall of Fame.
Murray defeats No. 1 Nadal to reach first Grand Slam final

Associated Press

NEW YORK — Rafael Nadal hunched over, his chest heaving, his hopes of reaching his first U.S. Open final fading fast.

No one ever seems to run Nadal ragged.

Andy Murray managed to do just that.

Exhibiting precisely the sort of winner-vaporizing, opponent-demoralizing defense new No. 1 Nadal usually employs, Murray reached his first Grand Slam final by completing a stunning, rain-interrupted 6-2, 7-6 (5), 6-4, 6-4 upset of the Spaniard on Sunday.

"He beat me because he was better than me," acknowledged Nadal, whose 19-match winning streak at major tournaments ended. "When he's playing aggressive, he can beat everybody."

Now, instead of a third consecutive Grand Slam final between Nadal and the man he replaced atop the rankings, Roger Federer, it will be Murray vs. Federer on Monday night.

Federer will be attempting to win his fifth consecutive U.S. Open championship and 13th Grand Slam title overall. And Murray, the 21-year-old Scot is trying to become the first British man to win a major tennis title since Fred Perry at the 1936 U.S. Open.

Get this, though: Murray owns a 2-1 career mark against Federer.

"He's got loads of experience in these situations, and it's something new for me," Murray said. "I know I'm going to have to play great to have a chance of winning, but I've played well the last couple of weeks."

The sixth-seeded Murray won the first two sets against Nadal and was down a break at 3-2 in the third in Louis Armstrong Stadium when play was suspended Saturday because of Tropical Storm Hanna.

As should surprise no one, the generally indefatigable Nadal made a stand when they resumed things in Arthur Ashe Stadium on Sunday, taking the third set and going ahead 3-1 in the fourth after saving seven break points in one game.

"It was almost slipping away," Murray said.

But he took five of the last six games, twice breaking Nadal, who later said he "wasn't very fresh" and complained that the U.S. Open plays the men's semifinals the day before the final.

While they were exerting themselves, striding and sweating this way and that, the second-seeded Federer went through more-relaxed paces in a practice session Sunday. He managed to get through his semifinal before the rain arrived Saturday, beating Novak Djokovic in four sets for a 33rd consecutive victory at the U.S. Open.

After that match, Federer said he'd prefer to play Nadal in the final, mentioning his losses to his nemesis in the French Open and Wimbledon finals this year.

"I mean, I'd like to play Andy, as well, but obviously he hasn't been as good as Rafa for the past years, you know," Federer said Saturday. "But I'm sure he will be, you know, at the top of the game for a very long time, because I always thought Andy has incredible talent."

Murray entered his first major semifinal 0-5 against Nadal as professionals. Nadal, meanwhile, was hoping to become only the fourth man in the 40-year Open era to win three consecutive Grand Slam titles, joining Rod Laver, Pete Sampras and Federer.

While Murray's skills have been clear since he won the 2004 U.S. Open junior title, he knew he had work to do. With a new team of support staff since the end of last year, he's focused on improving the strength of his body and mind.

Welcome to 21st century student apartments.

ONE BLOCK EAST OF NOTRE DAME

Brand new, contemporary, furnished apartments now leasing for Fall 2009.

- Two bedrooms
- Private, full bath in each bedroom
- Furnished
- Includes 42" flat panel HDTV
- Laundry room with washer & dryer
- FREE Internet & 200+ TV stations
- Walk to campus

IrishRowApartments.com 574.277.6666

Irish Row luxury apartments

NOW LEASING FOR FALL 2009
The Observer • SPORTS

Thinking about Europe?
Come see us!

GRANT INFORMATION NIGHT
September 9, Tuesday
5:00 - 6:30 pm
118 DeBartolo Hall
Travel & Research Internships & Service Language Study
Past grant winners will share their stories!
http://nanovic.nd.edu

Irish
continued from page 20

For every occasion
Unmistakably Italian Unbelievably Good

Falcons wide receiver Michael Jenkins sprints to the end zone for a touchdown in Atlanta's 34-21 win Sunday.

Associated Press
ATLANTA — Matt Ryan hopped down the field to celebrate after his first NFL pass, knocking down teammate Todd McClure along the way.

That was about the only stumble as the Atlanta Falcons started a new era.

The new quarterback did just fine. The new running back looked like an All-Pro. The new coach was beaming.

Ryan became the first quarterback in eight years to throw for a touchdown with his first pass, Michael Turner rushed for a team-record 220 yards and the Atlanta Falcons put Michael Vick in their rearview mirror with a 34-21 victory over the Detroit Lions on Sunday.

"We wanted a fast start, and I thought we did that," said Mike Smith, who had never been a head coach at any level until the Falcons gave him a shot.

Indeed, Atlanta scored on its first three possessions for a 21-0 lead. Ryan, the third overall selection in the draft, looked worth-while of the starting job bestowed on him after just three preseason games. In keeping with that numerical theme, he hooked up with Michael Jenkins on the third snap of the game for a 62-yard touchdown pass.

The running game did most of the damage, with Turner handling the bulk of the load. Atlanta's big free-agent signee broke off a 69-yard touchdown, scored again on a 5-yard romp and had another TD called back by a penalty. Even with that setback, he averaged 10 yards on his carries to break the team record of 202 yards set by Gerald Riggs in 1984.

"I always wondered what it would feel like to break a record," said Turner, who also set an NFL record for most yards by a runner in his first game with a new team. "It just happened."

The Lions resembled, well, the Lions. They bickered among themselves on the sideline, showed just how meaningless the preseason is (they had won all four exhibition games) and slipped to 31-82 since the start of the 2001 season. They surrendered a staggering 318 yards rushing, allowing the Falcons to break their franchise record. "It happened, and it was bad," coach Rod Marinelli said.

The Falcons decided to start over after Vick was caught up in a dogfighting scandal last year. He pleaded guilty to federal charges and headed off to serve a nearly two-year sentence, leaving his former team to struggle through a dismal 4-12 season.

Afterward, the team brought in a new general manager (Thomas Dimitroff), hired a new coach and used its first pick on Ryan, who was quickly anointed Vick's successor.

So far, so good.

Atlanta took the opening kick-off and handed the ball to Turner on its first two snaps. Then, Ryan found Jenkins on a slant over the middle, hitting him in stride at the Detroit 45 and watching him streak all the way to the end zone ahead of Travis Fisher and Gerald Alexander.

Ryan raced down the field to celebrate, knocking over McClure when he jumped on the center's back. Michael Bishop was the last quarterback to throw for a touch- down in his first NFL pass, doing it with New England in 2000, according to the Elias Sports Bureau.

"I was fired up," said Ryan, who completed his first five passes and finished 9-of-13 for 161 yards.

While Bishop lasted only one year in the league — and it would be his lone TD pass — the Falcons are counting on a much longer stay for Ryan.

"He didn't seem like a rookie," Turner said. "He took control of the huddle. He made all the right calls. He was a real drill sergeant out there. He was letting everyone know he was in control."

With Norwood chipping in to rush for 93 yards, including a 10-yard touchdown that gave Atlanta a 31-14 lead late in the third quarter, the Falcons averaged 6.6 yards per run on their 42 carries.

Jon Kline threw a couple of touchdown passes for the Lions, hitting Roy Williams from 21 yards and Casey FitzSimmons on a 1-yard score, but Detroit gave few indications they are over last season's 1-7 finish, which ruined a 6-2 start.
match was not scheduled to play during the conference season. The Irish victory will not count in the Big East standings.

The Irish open Big East play on September 10 against the Hoyas.

Contact Kate Grabarek at kgrabar1@nd.edu

SMC Cross Country

Belles place fourth in the Hokem Karem race by Kate Grabarek

The Saint Mary’s Cross Country team traveled to Crawfordsville, Ind., for the match placed fourth in the Hokem Karem race, an event known for its peculiarities.

“The Hokem Karem isn’t a traditional race,” head coach Jankie Bauters said. “It is a relay with pairs, where each pair runs 1 x 1 mile each for a total of four miles per pair.”

The scores were based on the top three finishers from each team.

The first Belles to cross the finish line were junior Megan McIlroy, and freshman Andrea Rodriguez. McIlroy finished 47th with a time of 25:45. Rodriguez finished 49th overall with a time of 24:44.

Another Saint Mary’s team finished just behind Brodmerkel, and Almond. Sophomores, Caite Saber, and Claire McSherry finished 20th overall with a time of 24:56.

The Irish will be back in action on Friday against Central Michigan and Bradley Invitational next Friday at home. Thursday against Marquette at 7 p.m.

Contact Matt Gamber at mgamber@nd.edu

Idaho continued from page 20

Dame dominated Washington State (3-3) three sets to one for one of their biggest wins, but the Saints were defeated by Eastern Washington (3-3) and Idaho (5-1) by scores of 1-3 and 0-3 to finish things up.

“We were very good against Washington State, but we struggled against the other two teams,” Brown said. “Against Idaho we had our most error-prone match of the year. We were unable to make the adjustments.

The first match against Eastern Washington on Friday was a very hard fought affair, with the teams often tied and exchanging the lead. The first set saw five ties and two lead changes that resulted in a two-point win for Eastern Washington.

The Irish came right back in the second set and fought through 10 ties and five lead changes to earn the second set and tie up the match. The rest of the match went Eastern Washington’s way, with the Eagles winning the third set by two points, and the fourth and final set by six.

The win over Idaho was a great win for the Irish in the match and the entire weekend was junior outside hitter Christina Kaelin, Against Eastern Washington, Idaho had 20 kills for a .286 average and five digs. Overall on the weekend, she had 34 kills.

“As the team is looking great,” Bauters said. “Our goal was to have seven in the top 10, and we ended up with 8 in the top 11.”

Bauman said the team’s most accomplishments were running well together, which is evident in their close finish. The Irish have scored more than 25 points in a row and the competition is going to get tougher,” junior Emily Wauford, who finished eighth with a time of 18:39, said.

“IT was a variety of things that led to the errors,” Brown said. “Our first contact wasn’t good, and we were chasing the ball all over the court and miscalculating.”

Freshman Virginia Bieti hit Kristen Dealy had 15 digs in the match, and sophomore outside hitter Kellie Siarca led Irish to hit 10 leads the offensive.

The Irish kept things close in the first set, losing by only four points, but dropped the other two sets by margins of eleven and eight.

The problem for the Irish on the weekend was their inabil­ity to be consistent from set to set and from game to game.

“We need to find the best combinations of players in certain situations,” Brown said. “We were having inconsistencies in individual players and we just need to be more consistent overall.”

Being inconsistent can be a killer for a team, as it only takes a couple runs by an inferior team to run away with a game.

“With the 25-point game we can lose three or four points in a row in a given game, that can be the difference in a match,” Brown said.

The Irish will be back in action on Friday against Cal Poly to start the Diet Coke Classic in Minneapolis, Minn.

Contact Jarek Jedick at jedick@nd.edu

The women did not run any freshmen in the race because “Please recycle The Observer.

Graduating Notre Dame University Students

Do you have what it takes to be a trader at Optiver? FIND OUT IN 8 MINUTES IF YOU ARE UP TO THE CHALLENGE.

Think you have what it takes? Start the application process today at optiver.com/ever/notredame

To learn more about Optiver, please stop by our booth on September 10 at the Fall Career Expo 2008. For a complete job description, please visit your Career Center’s website.

optiver

Optiver, a leading international proprietary trading firm located in Chicago, is recruiting traders. Ideal candidates will come from an analytically oriented field of study. Maximum 3 years experience, 4 years college minimum. Graduating before August, 2008. Questions? Email UsCampusRecruits@optiver.com

Questions? Email UsCampusRecruits@optiver.com

Please recycle The Observer.

Velesik continued from page 20

Crucader Open. Sophomore Marissa Trefco finished overall with a time of 17:42 on the weekend.

“It’s how we wanted to start the season,” senior Becca Bauman, who came in seventh with a time of 18:35, said.

By KATE GRABAREK

Sport Writer

Senior Erin Seidlemann and Marissa Treece finished first overall with a time of 17:42 in Peoria, Ill. Senior Caitlin Brodmerkel and freshmen Arianne Rodriguez, McClowry and Veselik finished just behind Brodmerkel, with a time of 24:44.

The team of sophomore Angie Veselik and junior Kelly Payne in 46th place, only 10 tie and five lead changes to earn the second set and tie up the match. The reality, they all have continued to improve in the match including .342 efficiency. The Irish took a 15-14 lead halfway through the second set and fought to win the set, eventually taking 15-14.

“Christina Kaelin’s offense was dominant,” Brown said. “She wanted the ball and had some really good kills. She was playing at the level she is capable of.”

Junior setter Jamie Nicholas pitched in with 35 assists.

The Irish followed up their hard-fought match against Eastern Washington with a three-set sweep of Washington State on Saturday morning.

Kaelin had 10 of her kills against the Cougars, and Nicholas contributed a double-double with 10 digs and 20 assists. Freshman Freeman Silva also added 10 digs for the Irish.

The Irish hit a .313 average in the match including .342 and 400 hitting percentages in the last two sets. The Irish dominated the first set from the onset, winning by nine points. The Cougars kept things close throughout the second set, but the Irish won four of the five point sequences, and the third set by three. The final set flew by with a 25-14 Irish win.

“You always want to string points together in a row,” Brown said. “You hope that when you lopsided games can occur.”

The Irish saw themselves on the other side of a lopsided game on Saturday evening when host Idaho swept them in straight sets.

The Irish hit a .313 average in the match including .342 and 400 hitting percentages in the last two sets. The Irish dominated the first set from the onset, winning by nine points. The Cougars kept things close throughout the second set, but the Irish won four of the five point sequences, and the third set by three. The final set flew by with a 25-14 Irish win.

“You always want to string points together in a row,” Brown said. “You hope that when you lopsided games can occur.”

The Irish saw themselves on the other side of a lopsided game on Saturday evening when host Idaho swept them in straight sets.

The problem for the Irish on the weekend was their inabil­ity to be consistent from set to set and from game to game.

“We need to find the best combinations of players in certain situations,” Brown said. “We were having inconsistencies in individual players and we just need to be more consistent overall.”

Being inconsistent can be a killer for a team, as it only takes a couple runs by an inferior team to run away with a game.

“With the 25-point game we can lose three or four points in a row in a given game, that can be the difference in a match,” Brown said.

The Irish will be back in action on Friday against Cal Poly to start the Diet Coke Classic in Minneapolis, Minn.

Contact Jarek Jedick at jedick@nd.edu

The women did not run any freshmen in the race because “Please recycle The Observer.

Graduating Notre Dame University Students

Do you have what it takes to be a trader at Optiver? FIND OUT IN 8 MINUTES IF YOU ARE UP TO THE CHALLENGE.

Think you have what it takes? Start the application process today at optiver.com/ever/notredame

To learn more about Optiver, please stop by our booth on September 10 at the Fall Career Expo 2008. For a complete job description, please visit your Career Center’s website.

optiver

Optiver, a leading international proprietary trading firm located in Chicago, is recruiting traders. Ideal candidates will come from an analytically oriented field of study. Maximum 3 years experience, 4 years college minimum. Graduating before August, 2008. Questions? Email UsCampusRecruits@optiver.com
The Observer is looking for artists interested in designing a daily comic. If you are interested, e-mail Chris Hine at chine@nd.edu or call (574) 631-4541. Deadline is Friday, Sept. 12.
**Squad takes care of pair of top-15 teams over the weekend**

By DEIRDRE KRASULA
Sports Writer

As No. 4/5 Notre Dame faced the daunting task of going toe-to-toe with a pair of top-15 teams this past weekend, the Irish defense didn’t back down. In fact, it took the challenge with determination, and wound up victorious against No. 25 North Carolina on Friday and No. 12 Duke on Sunday.

Notre Dame took the lead early in the second half against the Tar Heels, but it was the defense that held the margin together and paved the way for victory.

Just six minutes into the second half, senior Brittany Bock drilled a 30-yard goal that came with a little bit of luck as well as continued pressure from the Irish offense.

Senior Kerri Binks broke free off a pass from sophomore Taylor Knaack, but Tar Heels senior goal keeper Anna Rodenbough denied her drive.

Rodenbough tried to clear the ball, but it landed at Bock’s feet. Bock took advantage of the open net and her 30-yard drive sailed over the keeper’s head and into the upper left corner of the net. “Brittany made a really intelligent play after she saw the keeper off her line,” Irish coach Bobby Clark said. “From that angle we were at, we could tell it was going to be trouble right away and it just kept going right into the net.”

However, North Carolina came fighting back to test the Irish defense and junior goalkeeper Kelsey Lyndsay. The defense, led by senior Carrie Dow, turned in another strong performance, forcing Lyndsay to make only three saves in her second consecutive shutout of the season.

North Carolina shots from junior Casey Nogueira and freshman Merritt Mathias that just missed the Irish net. With a strong defensive line, the Tar Heels had to resort to threatening from outside the box. With less than 20 minutes remaining in the match, junior forward Nikki Washington freed a shot that nearly missed the Irish goal from 20 yards out.

“We were very pleased with this win and especially happy with the play of our defense,” Waldrum said. “We kept our shape well and didn’t get flustered when they made their run at us after our goal in the second half.”

The Tar Heels defense was nearly caught off guard in final quarter of the game. Bocks broke past the defense to send a 20-yard shot over Rodenbough’s fingertips only to hit the crossbar. Just missing a chance to widen their lead, the Irish would finish the game with the 1-0 victory.

The Irish took to the field against Duke for their final game of the Carolina Classic. Like Friday, the Irish struggled to get on the board until the second half. Bocks opened up scoring for the Irish scoring off a cross from Bock in the first half of the game.

**Defending the homestead**

Irish display dominance with pair of wins over Dartmouth and South Florida to take tournament championship

By MATT GAMBER
Associate Sports Editor

No. 8 Notre Dame snuck by Dartmouth 2-1 Friday before blowing out No. 5 South Florida 5-0 Sunday to win the Hilton Garden Inn Mike Berticelli Memorial Tournament, held at Notre Dame.

Notre Dame (3-1-0) has now won its last three games, scoring 11 goals in those matches after losing its season opener 3-0 to Akron on Aug. 29.

“This was a very good tournament,” Irish coach Bobby Clark said. “To come out on top of it with two good wins is a good start. And that’s all it is, a start. It maybe makes a statement that this team can score goals. ... We have a lot of guys that can contribute and that’s very important.”

Junior midfielder Dave Donohue secured Friday’s win with the go-ahead goal in the 90th minute from sophomore forward Jeb Browsky.

Notre Dame got on the board early thanks to junior midfielder Michael Thomas’ first goal of the season in the sixth minute. The Big Green tied it, however, just two minutes into the second half on a corner kick.

“I never felt comfortable in that game mainly because of how they handled their corner kick and long throws,” Clark said. “But, we stuck to it and I felt in the last 20 minutes we got a hold of things ... Full marks to Dartmouth, they played very well.”

The Irish appeared to carry the momentum from Friday’s dramatic win into Sunday’s game, as they took down South Florida 5-0. Notre Dame dominated the game, recording 20 shots to the Gators’ four.

**Erratic play mars weekend**

Inconsistency at Idaho Volleyball Classic brings season record to .500

By JARED JEDICK
Sports Writer

Notre Dame had an inconsistent road-trip at the Idaho Volleyball Classic this weekend in Moscow, Idaho, to drop their season mark to 3-3.

“We were pretty disappointed in our performance,” head coach Debbie Brown said. “We made a lot more errors than we should have, and we are not where we want to be at this point in the season.”

The Irish played some of their best volleyball of the year this weekend, as well as some of their worst. Notre Dame defeated Idaho 3-0 Friday before falling to Washington State 3-0 on Saturday.

This year this weekend, as well as some of their worst. Notre Dame defeated Idaho 3-0 Friday before falling to Washington State 3-0 on Saturday.

Senior Veselik finishes fifth despite loss of shoe

By LAURA MYERS
Sports Writer

Kevin Veselik proved that “Impossible is Nothing” by kicking off his Adidas.

The senior runner finished fifth at the Crusader Open in Valparaiso, Ind., Friday, even though another runner kicked off his shoe halfway through the race. Veselik was in first place before another runner clipped his shoe off with three kilometers to go in the 6K race. A little after that, Veselik said, yet another runner clipped his shoe off with the spikes in his shoe.

“Impossible is Nothing” by kicking off his Adidas.

Kevin Veselik proved that “Impossible is Nothing” by kicking off his Adidas.

The senior runner finished fifth at the Crusader Open in Valparaiso, Ind., Friday, even though another runner kicked off his shoe halfway through the race. Veselik was in first place before another runner clipped his shoe off with three kilometers to go in the 6K race. A little after that, Veselik said, yet another runner clipped his shoe off with the spikes in his shoe.

“Impossible is Nothing” by kicking off his Adidas.

Kevin Veselik proved that “Impossible is Nothing” by kicking off his Adidas.

The senior runner finished fifth at the Crusader Open in Valparaiso, Ind., Friday, even though another runner kicked off his shoe halfway through the race. Veselik was in first place before another runner clipped his shoe off with three kilometers to go in the 6K race. A little after that, Veselik said, yet another runner clipped his shoe off with the spikes in his shoe.

“Impossible is Nothing” by kicking off his Adidas.

Kevin Veselik proved that “Impossible is Nothing” by kicking off his Adidas.

The senior runner finished fifth at the Crusader Open in Valparaiso, Ind., Friday, even though another runner kicked off his shoe halfway through the race. Veselik was in first place before another runner clipped his shoe off with three kilometers to go in the 6K race. A little after that, Veselik said, yet another runner clipped his shoe off with the spikes in his shoe.