Jenkins calls for increased faculty diversity

17 percent of Notre Dame’s faculty are minorities compared to 28 percent at Yale, 25 percent at University of Chicago, and 22 percent at Princeton. Jenkins flipped through PowerPoint slides comparing the percentages of female and ethnic minority faculty members employed at Notre Dame with those employed at private schools in the Association of American Universities (AAU), an organization of 62 leading research universities in the United States and Canada. According to data from the Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS) and Notre Dame’s Office of Institutional Research, 28 percent of full-time instructional faculty in 2006 at AAU private schools were female, compared with 23 percent at Notre Dame. When the professor numbers are compared by rank, Notre Dame exceeds the average percentage of female assistant professors for AAU private schools, but falls below the average for female associate professors and full professors. The Office of Institutional Research shows the number of racially and ethnically diverse faculty, as a percentage of the whole teaching and research faculty, has increased from 11 percent to 13 percent between 1997 and 2006. Comparing all faculty, 17 percent of Notre Dame’s faculty are minorities, compared to 28 percent at Yale, 25 percent at the University of Chicago, 14 percent at Duke and 11 percent at Brown, in comparison to Notre Dame’s research staff.

ELECTION 2008

SMC lines up events for Rock the Vote Festival

‘Vote Smart’ bus travels to college to educate students

By LIZ HARTER
Saint Mary’s Editor

When Saint Mary’s students walked past the parking lot in between McCandless Hall and the Student Center on Tuesday they were met with the sight of a red, white and blue bus with words “Vote Smart” on the side. The bus, a part of www.votesmart.org , travels the country with information about the Web site and organization which provides non-partisan, unbiased information on over 40,000 candidates running in local, state and national elections, arrived at the College five hours early and left three hours ahead of schedule due to a miscommunication between Saint Mary’s and the Vote Project Vote Smart Bus, which provides information on over 40,000 candidates, sits between McCandless Hall and the Student Center Tuesday.

Eck Center broadcasts interview with author

By MOLLY MADDEN
News Writer

An interview about the new novel, Indignation, written by Pulitzer Prize winning author Philip Roth was broadcast in the Eck Center Auditorium Tuesday. Fellow author Benjamin Taylor asked Roth questions regarding the novel, and his inspiration for past works during the interview that included some reader-submitted questions from select university and bookstore across the country.

Indignation, Roth’s 29th novel, is a story about a passionate young man named Marcus Messner who is recounting his life against the backdrop of the Korean War. Many of Roth’s works have dealt with a particular time in American history although he said the manner in which Indignation came to be was somewhat different than his previous works. “I did not really have a story in mind,” Roth said. “I just had a period, and that period happened to be the Korean War.” Roth, was entering his freshman year of college when the Korean War broke out. He said it is impossible for him to look back on his college years and not think of what he called, America’s “Forgotten War.”

COUNCIL OF REPRESENTATIVES

Group debates Frosh-O changes

Student Activities V.P. discusses criticisms of new program at meeting

By JOHN TIERNY
News Writer

First Year Orientation should make first year students feel welcome at Notre Dame. Vice President of Student Activities Brian Coughlin told the Council of Representative (COR) as they discussed criticisms of the changes made to Orientation this year at their meeting Tuesday.

Vice President of Student Activities Brian Coughlin, right, discusses criticism of Frosh-O changes with council members Tuesday.
Inside Column

Bowl to pregame

The combination of creative minds, too much free time and a never-ending desire to drink alcohol has created a plethora of drinking games on college campuses across the country. Beer Pong, Flip Cup, Power Hours, Quarters, Anchorman, Sports Editor Big Booty. Keeping whatever you want to call it, the list just keeps on going. Some students have even created games to popular songs like "Roxy" by the Police. ACD's "The Balanced Man" from "Beer for My Horses" by the legendary Toby Keith.

Many of these activities are used in the pregame portion of your night on the town. They are fun to play, so to speak, and provide some distractions during that awkward sober stage to keep you from making inappropriate passes at your friends that can be blamed on your beer.

However, all these new innovations have sadly overshadowed some classic pregame opportunities that have all but fallen off the map. games that our grandfather's taught our fathers that we have left in the closet covered by dust next to Battleship and Pokemon cards.

One brave group is doing their best to reverse this trend and revive a classic pregame opportunity. They started with small pins, balls and alleys also provide trash to your opponents and a splash on the stage to keep you from making inappropriate passes at your friends that can be blamed on your beer.

The Observer regards itself as a professional publication and reserves the right to publish the views expressed in the Inside Column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer Contact Dan Murphy at dmurphy@nd.edu

Question of the Day:

What are you doing to save energy during energy week?

Nathan Menendez
senior
Morrissey

"Studying to become a chemical engineer so I can increase energy efficiency."

Victor Saez
senior
off-campus

"Studying philosophy so we must be more energy efficient."

Piper Muenez
freshman
Lyons

"Studying outside instead of my dorm room."

Mary Kate Roohan
freshman
Lyons

"Unplugging my fan."

Katrina Rodriguez
freshman
Lyons

"Turning off the bathroom light when I leave."

Offbeat

Protests sparked by closing "nude" disco

KATHMANDU, Nepal - Hundreds of disco workers protested in Kathmandu on Monday against a government crackdown on "nude dancing" in its bid to improve the deteriorating law and order.

Police have raided scores of discos, nightclubs and dance bars in the past two weeks and detained 1,500 people saying many were running bars where "nude dancers" were performed, not allowed by law in the Hindu-majority society.

There are hundreds of such night spots in the Kathmandu valley, although the country has no specific law to regulate them.

Berlin candy shop sells hallucinogenic sweets

BERLIN - Police closed down a Berlin sweet shop after discovering the owner was selling chocolate lollipops laced with hallucinogenic mushrooms and marijuana.

The 25-year-old owner of the shop in the trendy east Berlin district of Prenzlauer Berg, an area known for its vibrant night life, was taken into custody on suspicion of drug-dealing.

In the shop we found 120 pieces of magic mushroom room chocolate and count­ less cannabis lollipops, said police, who confiscat­ ed around 70 sachets contain­ ing various drugs, about 20 marijuana joints, a range of pills and some jars of drug-laced honey.

Police said one customer, who appeared intoxicated, was arrested after trying to buy a bag of hallucinogenic mushrooms from an officer in the shop.

Information compiled from the Associated Press.

In Brief

There will be a lecture enti­ tled "How We Can End the Genocide in Sudan" given by John Prendergast in the Hesburgh Center for International Studies Auditorium, on Thursday from 12:30 to 2 p.m. Lunch will be available prior to the lecture. It is sponsored by the Kroc Institute for International Peace Studies, DeBartolo Performing Arts Center, and the Center for Social Concerns.

This event is free and open to the public.

In "The Wonderbread Years," Pat Hazell finds humor in the experience of growing up in America. This event will be Thurs., Fri., and Sat. at 7 p.m. in DeBartolo Performing Arts Center, Debe Maltrege Theatre. Tickets are $40, $32 for faculty/staff, $30 seniors, and $15 students and can be pur­ chased at the Ticket Office.

The annual Forum Film Festival will be held Friday at 7 p.m. in the Browning Cinema of the DeBartolo Performing Arts Center, Films on sustainability will be shown. The event is open to the public. Tickets are free and must be reserved in advance at the Ticket Office.

The 25th annual Domer Run will take place Saturday at 9 a.m. The race will start on the west side of the Stadium. Runners must check in no later than 8:45 AM at the registration tables. Race day check-in will be held at Legends begin­ ning at 8 a.m.

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

Corrections

The Observer apologizes for an error in a previous publication and regrets for the highest standards of journalism at all times. We do, however, recognize that we will make mistakes. If we have made a mistake, please contact us at dmurphy@nd.edu so we can correct our error.
ELECTION 2008

Professor looks at faith and politics

By EMILY DABISH  News Writer

As a part of Saint Mary’s Rock the Vote festival and Super Tuesday series, Vincent D. Rogeau, a professor in the Notre Dame Law School, discussed the balance between political responsibility and being a Catholic.

The Catholic faith calls followers to express the values of the faith through participation, Rogeau said.

"[Voting] is the primary way for expressing our values," he said, even though some of the values of the faith may be compromised while voting.

While the Catholic faith gives guidance to voters through the values of the faith, it does not remark on what party to vote for because "it is not the position of the Church to say how people should organize their political lives."

Certain principles should be acknowledged when making a political decision, primarily the right to life, he said.

Right to life does not solely deal with abortion but includes unjust war and the death penalty, he said.

Other principles Catholic voters should be concerned about include the dignity of the human person, social, economic and political rights and responsibilities, the dignity of work, and stewardship for God’s creation.

Rogeau said the United States does not fully embrace these principles.

"Voters need to think about how a candidate’s policies affect the weakest among us (and) how these positions affect people who face discrimination," he said.

He said every person is created equal and therefore it must be recognized that it is impossible to come to agreement on every issue.

Since every Catholic value may not be found in one candidate, Catholic voters should look for the candidate that respects others, he said.

"It is important to have a well-developed and informed conscience," he said, cautioning people not to be a one-issue voter.

"Rely on your heart and God."

Contact Emily Dabish at edabish@stmarys.edu

Chief Justice speaks to students

Law students submitted questions for Supreme Court judge to answer

Special to The Observer

Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States John Roberts addressed a room packed with Notre Dame Law School students, faculty and staff on Sept. 12 (Friday). He visited campus as a guest of the Law School and Notre Dame’s president, Rev. John I. Jenkins, C.S.C.

Roberts’ talk was presented as a conversation, with William Kelley, associate professor of law, sitting on stage with Roberts, asking the justice questions of his own and reading questions submitted by students.

Kelley served in the White House as deputy counsel to the president from 2005 to 2007 and helped guide Roberts through the Supreme Court confirmation process.

Roberts began by speaking briefly about his early years growing up in Long Beach, Ind. Following high school, he attended Harvard University and earned a history degree. "It wasn’t until law school that I knew I wanted to be a lawyer," he admitted.


"He taught me that there is more to life than being a lawyer," Roberts said. "He once told me, ‘if you want time to spend with your young children, you have to do it while they’re young.’”

Roberts offered advice to students considering a career in the courtroom: "Preparation is key. Go over and over the case, write down a list of potential questions the judge may ask, and have friends or family review them with you again and again.”

Over the course of 20 years as a litigator, Roberts argued before the Supreme Court 39 times.

"I was nervous before every argument," he said.

Roberts considered his job to be “absolutely” fun. He enjoys the variety of cases and the ability to decide how he is going to spend his day, whether it’s reading a brief, writing an opinion, or reviewing a case with his clerks.

One example of Roberts’ approach to his work is exemplified in the way he selects his law clerks. He has been known to ask interviewees to tell him a joke after quizting them on their legal views.

"We spend a lot of time together, and I want to know you’ll enjoy my company," he said.

Some of that time is spent writing, reviewing and revising his opinions.

"On the front of the opinion, for record-keeping purposes, I always write what draft it is. You will never see fewer than 20 drafts before I issue my final opinion," Roberts said.

Following his talk, Roberts mingled with students, faculty and staff at a reception and signed autographs.

Corby Night

Men of Notre Dame . . .

Is God calling you? Join us.

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

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

Wednesday, Sept. 17, 8pm at Corby Hall

vocation.nd.edu

Questions? call 1-6385
"Orientations is one of those lowest common denominator activities," Coughlin said. "Everybody does it. It's our job to make sure that every student who comes here has a comfortable, safe and enjoyable experience."

The changes to Orientation developed first from a committee convened by Assistant Provost Dennis Jacob. "Talked about orientation at the 30,000-foot level," Coughlin said. The committee was comprised of students, parents, faculty and administrators.

"This committee talked about how we believed the Frosh-O schedule was, the awkward gender relations, the session that happens in the Joyce Center on Saturday afternoon and the lack of a true academic component to orientation that the faculty was concerned about," Coughlin said.

In an attempt to address some of these concerns raised by the original committee, Jacobs established a standing University Committee on Orientation, which was chaired by Dean Hugh Page of First Year Studies and Vice President of Student Affairs Fr. Mark Pooman.

"It was a meeting of folks who had worked on orientation traditionally in the past," said Coughlin, who was a member of the committee.

He said the committee made several major changes to the Orientation weekend, which allowed for more leisure time and tried to insist a sense of community within the dorms.

"We tried to unpack the schedule a little bit so (incoming freshmen) weren't running around constantly," he said. "We also wanted to start building community within the halls at first -- this was from some conversation with students and a lot from rectors. The Friday night went to something that had all-in-hall activities. This was a change for 25 percent of the halls."

"We also wanted to be a little more conscious to set a standard that applied all across the University. Before, a parent would get the official weekend schedule from the University and they wouldn't know what the dorm was doing," Coughlin said.

Coughlin said that the committee also wanted to make Orientation a more comfortable atmosphere for students. He said he has heard that many halls used to wake first year students early in the morning to do activities, which the committee asked dorms not to do. "We also asked people to be respectful of first-year students' right to get a good night sleep," he said.

He said there have been many criticisms to the new Orientation schedule from both first-year students and upperclassmen.

"Anytime any difference comes on to the Notre Dame campus, there's some hesitation," he said. He said dorms need to consider physical disabilities of some of their orientation activities.

"The request that was made of halls was that if you're doing something physical, consider the physical limitations and capabilities of everyone in your first year class," he said. "The last thing we want to do is alienate someone who has a disability, or is on crutches."

He said students with disabilities are left behind during activities such as dorm runs during orientation that alienates them from their residence hall, "which is supposed to be the cornerstone of the Notre Dame experience."

Coughlin also said upperclassmen have expressed concerns about first year students spending too much time with their parents during orientation weekend, but he thinks that criticism is unjustified.

"The chunks of parent time isn't much different," he said. "All we added was a one-to-one-and-a-half hour buffer between the end of the Spirit of Notre Dame Mass on Sunday and the first program."

Coughlin said the administration is not looking to change Orientation solely on what the committee recommended.

"There's not a conspiracy," he said. "There's a real desire to improve things for everyone. I know Mr. Jacobs well enough that he didn't hand select a committee to force things through."

He said that the committee was convened to make necessary changes that make Orientation a better experience for everyone.

"If we have to program for those who are a little more shy, or less comfortable about being on campus, we have to do it," he said. "In terms of First Year Orientation, it's on all of us to make everyone in the community feel comfortable and not awkward."

The parts of Orientation that are rooted in the core of what the University is will not change, Coughlin said.

"We won't change the importance of the residence hall community, exposing first year students and their families to some academic part of the weekend, having the spiritual component of Mass, and establishing community," he said. "Residentially, academic life, spiritual life, and community -- that's what we're about."

Contact John Tierney at jtierney@nd.edu
**INTERNATIONAL NEWS**

**Intercepted calls prove self-defense**

TBILISI, Georgia — In a bid to portray Russia as the aggressor in its month-long war, Georgia has released recordings of what it says are two intercepted cell phone calls purporting to show that Moscow launched the conflict before Georgia’s offensive against South Ossetia.

The recordings, released Tuesday, if authentic, will not cut down the fog of the final hours when escalating tensions burst into war. But President Mikhail Saakashvili hopes they will help dispel a dominant narrative that his country was on the attack. He said he proves Russian tanks and troops entered South Ossetia many hours before Georgia started its offensive against separatist forces.

"Evidence in the form of telephone intercepts and information that we have from numerous eyewitnesses conclusively prove that Russian armor and forces invaded our territory before the conflict began," Saakashvili told reporters.

**Pakistan troops to open fire on U.S.**

ISLAMABAD, Pakistan — Pakistan’s army said Tuesday that its forces have orders to open fire if U.S. troops launch another raid across the Afghan border, raising the stakes in a dispute over how to improve coordination and cooperation along the Pakistan-Afghan border.

**NATIONAL NEWS**

**RNC delegate robbed of $50K**

MINNEAPOLIS — Police are trying to find a woman who apparently snatched a Republican National Convention delegate and robbed him of about $50,000 worth of jewelry, cash and other items in his hotel room.

Gabriel Schwartz, a Denver attorney and party donor, told police he met the woman in a bar early Sept. 4, a few hours after Alaska Gov. Sarah Palin accepted the GOP vice presidential nomination.

"Once there, police say, the woman made deep eye contact and began to get undressed. The 29-year-old delegate told police that was the last thing he remembered. Police believe he was drugged but aren’t sure what drug he was given," police Sgt. William Palmer said Tuesday.

"We checked in the area and found so many of his belongings that included a watch he valued at $30,000," he said.

Ohio Wal-Mart closed for methane

GARFIELD HEIGHTS, Ohio — Wal-Mart Stores Inc. has closed one of its stores in the Cleveland area because of high water, and some more than 15 feet above flood stage. The Natioal Weather Service said an 8-foot section of that area built atop a landfill amid concerns about potentially explosive methane gas.

An independent contractor confirmed there is a problem with the odorless gas generated by rotting garbage, said Tara Stewart, a spokeswoman for the Bentonville, Ark.-based retailer.

Worse was reported storm damage.

**IKE raises death toll across Midwest**

Severe weather submerges roads in water, leaving 10 million without power

Associated Press

ST. LOUIS — Just a few months after a near-record flooding across the Midwest, roads in the region were under water again Tuesday and more than 1 million people were without electricity and gas, thanks to the remnants of Hurricane Ike.

"The old-timers knew it was wise to leave the sandbags," said Arnold City Manager Mathew Unrein, whose town south of St. Louis still has the sandbags defenses built when it was threatened by floods in March. The Meramec was expected to reach 18 feet above flood stage in Arnold on Thursday.

Several rivers in Missouri were rising toward crests expected later this week, some more than 15 feet above flood stage. Flooding already was occurring at several locations along the Missouri and Mississippi rivers, including St. Louis. The President Castel neighborhood in St. Louis riverfront shut down for some time since the river rose because of high water, and the boulevard that runs in front of the Gateway Arch was closed.

 Ike dumped as much as 8 inches of rain on parts of Indiana, Illinois and Missouri around Labor Day in Iowa during the weekend. It spawned hurricane-force wind gusts and a tornado in Arkansas that damaged several buildings. The devastating rain and wind in the Midwest brought Ike’s total death toll to at least 47 in 10 states from the Gulf of Mexico to the upper Ohio Valley.

The violent weather also knocked out power to more than 2 million homes and businesses across the Midwest on Tuesday and Ohio. As of Tuesday, the Ohio Emergency Management Agency said 1.4 million customers still had no electricity.

The Meramec, Ohio and Kentucky declared states of emergency. Several utilities said many customers might not be back on line until the weekend, and Louisville Gas and Electric says it could be two weeks before service is fully restored in Kentucky’s largest city.

More than a half-million Ky. customers lost power at the height of the storm. "This is the biggest outage on record in the commonwealth of Kentucky," said Kentucky Gov. Steve Beshear. He said half the state’s 120 counties reported storm damage.

The National Weather Service is projecting moderate flooding from Hannah south to the convergence of the Missouri and Mississippi rivers. Major flooding is expected from St. Louis south to Cape Girardeau, although few homes are expected to be affected. At Hermann, the Missouri is expected to crest 11.5 feet above flood stage Thursday, enough to flood 37,000 acres of farmland and threaten at least two businesses.

The rain from Ike combined with earlier storms in southern and western Michigan to rupture a dam in Berrien County and cause massive sewage overflows and street flooding, authorities said.

An 8-foot section of that earthen dam gave way Monday night on the Oswego River and about a dozen homes had to be evacuated.

The rain also overwhelmed Chicago’s 4,300 miles of sewers — backing up into homes and inundating streets and parking lots. Stores in the Chicago area reported a run on sump and utility pumps. “People were running around like chickens with their heads cut off trying to stop the damage,” said Pete Palermo, a manager at the Keystone Ace Hardware in Albany Park.

Hundreds of homes were flooded in northwestern Indiana during the weekend and a busy stretch of Interstate 80/94 was still blocked by water Tuesday. Road crews were still working to pump water from the highway, a major route into the Chicago area, the Indiana Department of Homeland Security said Tuesday.

Indiana National Guard troops were activated Sunday and Monday to help evacuate about 5,000 residents from flooded parts of Munster, Ind., during the weekend.

**ELECTION 2008**

Financial crisis takes over campaign

Associated Press

GOLDEN, Colo. — Economic fears are suddenly dominating the presidential campaign, casting a dark cloud over the markets and every other issue. Republican John McCain told CNBC on Tuesday, while Democrat Barack Obama laughed that off as “the oldest Washington trick in the book.”

"This isn’t ‘91,” Obama told a noisy crowd early Tuesday at the Colorado School of Mines, dismissing the idea of a need for study. "We know how we got into this mess. What we need now is leadership that gets us out. I’ll provide it. John McCain won’t."

McCain, campaigning in Florida, promised reforms, too, to expose and end the “reckless conduct, corruption and unbridled greed” that he said had caused the financial crisis on Wall Street.

The bewildering turmoil has shaken Americans’ confidence, erased hundreds of billions of paper wealth for U.S. stockholders and led McCain and Obama to forsake other controversies and scrutinize back to the economy as the primary concern of voters. The presidential campaign had taken an old turn to side issues — Alaska’s “Bridge to Nowhere” and moose-hunting, Obama’s crack about lipstick on a pig — after McCain’s surprise pick of Gov. Sarah Palin as his running mate.

There was a fascination with huge crowds attracted by Palin. But the collapse and merger of some of Wall Street’s legendary companies forced a return to reality seven weeks before the election.

McCain and Obama now are trusted equally on the economy, with 34 percent of voters naming each as the candidate who would do a better job dealing with what is easily the country’s top worry, according to an Associated Press-GfK Poll conducted last week. Previously, Obama had had a solid advantage on the issue.
Electoral continued from page 1

that drives people," he said. "It's finding someone who inspires them.

The Electoral College was put in place by the framers of the Constitution, something those
trying to understand it today need to keep in mind, he said.

"I think the main thing people ask is why in the world we would have something like it," he said.

Democracy was associated with mob rule when the Constitution was written, he
said. Because of this the framers were not willing to allow a popular
vote but gave the actual vote to representatives of the
state to avoid "issues of judgment." "The electors were supposed to be smarter (than the average
person)," he said.

These representatives come from every state and the District of Columbia. They number of Electoral Votes a state has is
based on the number of representatives it has as well as each state's two Senators, he said.

The states are allowed to make their own laws regarding

Vote continued from page 1

Smart organizers.

"It was a miscommunication between us, we need to be in
Indianapolis tomorrow morning which will be a three hour drive or so," Bob Kastan, the deputy media
director of Vote Smart said.

The bus, which had come through South Bend before, had made its way to the College from the
University of Toledo and was on its way to Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis (IUPUI).

"Last time we came to South Bend we came to Notre Dame but we try to get to as many campuses as possible so we wanted to come
to Saint Mary's this time," Kastan said. "It happened to coincide with this Rock the Vote festival so it worked out well,"

Kastan said quite a few students visited the bus while it was on campus who were interested in
finding out about Congresswoman Sarah Palin, Senator Barack Obama and Senator John McCain
but he knew many students would not be able to visit because they
were in class.

"A few people came to us interested in their state candidates because we have information on
candidates running in local and state elections in all 50 states,"

Roth continued from page 1

"Here in America, people were not totally mesmerized by a war that we were not fully engaged in as we had been during World
War II," Roth said. "One of the things that prompted me to put this particular book together was that younger people have no idea
what the social, cultural, and sexual norms of the 1950s were."

Many of the questions submitted by viewers at other universities
and bookstores focused on
Roth's writing style and how his work supports (or not) con-
ceptual models. Sometimes something he said raised questions to do

"I never intended to create my

books to the events of today," he said. "I'm focused on the time period that I have chosen to
write about. If I wanted the book to be about something else then I could have chosen to write about something else."

Both said he has come to think of himself as a historian of sorts
because most of his books deal with a specific time in American
history.

"I let the American past flow into the story. I allow historical
events determine the lives of the characters," he said. "When I
write I start with virtually nothing. Sometimes I've started with
a period and I try to create a story that I can tell that will
somehow give a flavor of that
time in time."

Contact Kathy Madder
madden@hcc-nd.edu

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### Stocks stabilize, but AIG teeters

Nervous investors concerned about world’s largest insurer’s future

**NEW YORK** — Oil prices extended their retreat Tuesday, shedding $10 a barrel in a violent, two-day slide as tumblers on Wall Street dimmed hopes for a swift economic recovery and signals another drop in U.S. energy demand.

Crude, which shut up near $150 a barrel only two months ago, is now down 2 percent on the front-month contract.

Meanwhile, gas prices edged higher at the pump, topping $3.85 a gallon amid continuing worries over the health of giant insurer AIG. The market was also fretting about the health of bond insurers and credit derivatives.

### In Brief

Fed holds key interest rate steady

WASHINGTON — Showing a tough love stance for now, Federal Reserve Chairman Ben Bernanke and his colleagues decided to keep a key interest rate steady Tuesday. They acknowledged stresses in financial markets have grown, though, and hinted they would bring billions of dollars in relief to the financial system if needed.

Senate reaches tax break agreement

WASHINGTON — Senate leaders said Tuesday that they had broken a months-long impasse over a tax break package that would bring billions of dollars in relief to individual and business taxpayers, developers of clean energy resources and people threatened by the alternative minimum tax.

FDA defends chemical found in plastic

Washington — With scientists at odds about the risks of a chemical found in plastic baby bottles, metal cars and other food packaging, the government on Tuesday gave consumers some tips on how to reduce their exposure to BPA even if it said the substance is safe.

Oil prices sink in Wall Street tumult

NEW YORK — Oil prices extended their retreat Tuesday, shedding $10 a barrel in a violent, two-day slide as tumblers on Wall Street dimmed hopes for a swift economic recovery and signals another drop in U.S. energy demand.

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### Associated Press

**NEW YORK** — Wall Street took a step back from the ledge Tuesday, with the Federal Reserve resisting cut in interest rates and the stock market staging a small rebound one day after a stomach-churning drop.

Investors still held a nervous eye on American International Group Inc., the world’s largest insurer, which had been favored by the New York Fed in hopes of staying off a failure that would create even more financial panic.

The Fed, in its first unambiguous decision this year, kept its closely watched federal funds rate unchanged at 2 percent — but noted a surprise increase in stresses in financial markets.

The Fed’s move did not force the Fed — as some thought it would — to bring billions of dollars in relief to the financial system if needed.

However, given crude’s continuing slide, world oil prices were expected to keep crude prices down as much as 60 percent Tuesday.

Late Monday night, all three major credit rating agencies cut AIG’s ratings at least two notches. While the new ratings are all still investment grade, they add pressure on the company and its subsidiaries.

In London, November Brent crude fell $2.69, or 8 percent for the year. The fall wiped out all of oil’s gains for the year.

### Commodities

- **Commodities**
  - Light Crude ($/bbl.): +3.96 95.71
  - Gold ($/troy oz.): +6.50 780.50
  - Pork Bellies (carnauba): +1.98 90.13

### Exchange Rates

- **YEN**: 104.9300

### Market Recap

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**Fed holds key interest rate steady**

WASHINGTON — Showing a tough love stance for now, Federal Reserve Chairman Ben Bernanke and his colleagues decided to keep a key interest rate steady Tuesday. They acknowledged stresses in financial markets have grown, though, and hinted they would bring billions of dollars in relief to the financial system if needed.

The Fed, in its first unambiguous decision this year, kept its closely watched federal funds rate unchanged at 2 percent — but noted a surprise increase in stresses in financial markets.

The Fed’s move did not force the Fed — as some thought it would — to bring billions of dollars in relief to the financial system if needed.

However, given crude’s continuing slide, world oil prices were expected to keep crude prices down as much as 60 percent Tuesday. Late Monday night, all three major credit rating agencies cut AIG’s ratings at least two notches. While the new ratings are all still investment grade, they add pressure on the company and its subsidiaries.

In London, November Brent crude fell $2.69, or 8 percent for the year. The fall wiped out all of oil’s gains for the year.

### Associated Press

**NEW YORK** — Oil prices extended their retreat Tuesday, shedding $10 a barrel in a violent, two-day slide as tumblers on Wall Street dimmed hopes for a swift economic recovery and signals another drop in U.S. energy demand.

Crude, which shut up near $150 a barrel only two months ago, is now down 2 percent on the front-month contract.

Meanwhile, gas prices edged higher at the pump, topping $3.85 a gallon amid continuing worries over the health of giant insurer AIG. The market was also fretting about the health of bond insurers and credit derivatives.

Investors worried its failure would pose an even greater threat to the U.S. financial system than the collapse of Lehman. AIG stock was down as much as 60 percent Tuesday.

Late Monday night, all three major credit rating agencies cut AIG’s ratings at least two notches. While the new ratings are all still investment grade, they add pressure on the company and its subsidiaries.

In London, November Brent crude fell $2.69, or 8 percent for the year. The fall wiped out all of oil’s gains for the year.

### Commodities

- **Commodities**
  - Light Crude ($/bbl.): +3.96 95.71
  - Gold ($/troy oz.): +6.50 780.50
  - Pork Bellies (carnauba): +1.98 90.13

### Exchange Rates

- **YEN**: 104.9300

### Market Recap

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Jenkins continued from page 1

Jenkins said he did not think there would be a "quick fix" to increasing the diversity of Notre Dame's faculty. But he recounted the work of his most recent predecessors, University Presidents Emeriti Fr. Theodore Hesburgh and Fr. Edward "Mick" Mallin, in increasing the presence of both women and ethnic minorities at the University.

"Whatever our current challenge, Notre Dame is today a more diverse and rich institution because of these leaders and the people who worked with them," Jenkins said. "Our task is to build on the progress that they made."

Jenkins said he is considering proposals made by the University Committee on Diversity and the University Committee of Women Faculty and Students about their recommendations to enhance support for women faculty and students and ethnic minorities. He said he is working on his response to the recommendations.

In his faculty address two years ago, Jenkins emphasized increased recruiting of Catholic faculty. He said the University will employ "useful strategies" they have discussed to recruit Catholic faculty. University Provost Tom Burish established the Office of Recruitment Support, Jenkins said, which will be headed by Fr. Bob Sullivan, whose title is now Associate Vice President for Academic Mission Support.

Jenkins stressed to the faculty gathered in the DeBartolo Performing Arts Center that although the University is "proactively" seeking to hire minorities, women and Catholics, these characteristics will not factor in decisions about reappointment, tenure or promotion.

Research at the University

Jenkins' address to the faculty last year encouraged a University-wide commitment to becoming a premier research institution, including undergraduate research. On Tuesday, Jenkins praised the accomplishments of the faculty thus far in the field of research and encouraged more progress.

Last year, Jenkins listed membership in the AAU as a goal of the University. The University is continuing to strive toward membership in that organization, Jenkins said, but not just so it can be "part of a prestigious club."

"Our goal, rather, is to become a better research university, and thus to make ourselves a compelling candidate for membership in the AAU so that we can reap the benefits of association: access to information and reputation that such membership can bring," he said.

During the 2007-2008 academic year, Jenkins said, research funding at Notre Dame increased by 4 percent, a substantial figure considering that National Science Foundation (NSF) funding decreased in real dollars and National Institute of Health (NIH) funding was flat.

The Innovation Park planned as part of Eddy Street Commons will "help move discoveries of our faculty to market," Jenkins said.

He commended Cecilia Lucero, the assistant director for Undergraduate Research at the University, for organizing Notre Dame's first campus-wide undergraduate research conference.

"We must strive, as a community, to make practical steps in response to the energy challenge in our lives and on our campus," he said.

Contact Kaitlynn Riely at kriely@nd.edu
President visits Gulf evacuees

Bush asks residents to wait for instructions before returning to homes

Associated Press

GALVESTON, Texas — President Bush got a first-hand look Tuesday at the fury that Hurricane Ike unleashed on the Gulf Coast, and warned Texans against returning before it is safe to return.

"I know a lot of people are anxious to get back in," Bush said. "I urge you to listen to state and local authorities before you come back.

"The devastation and the wind in the nation's midsection brought the death toll from Ike to at least 40 in 10 states from the Gulf Coast to the upper Ohio Valley.

"I urge you to listen to state and local authorities before you come back."

Associated Press

JERUSALEM — Both front-runners for the leadership of Israel's ruling party vow to take a hard line against Iran. But their support for possible military force if sanctions don't work may precisely what Tehran believes is a covert weapons program.

"I don't think it's a woman's place to make a weak leader," she said in an interview published Friday in the Jerusalem Post.

"The only thing I want to do in advance what I would do."

The Journal of Undergraduate Research

ARTS & LETTERS STUDENTS:

THE CUSHWA CENTER FOR THE STUDY OF AMERICAN CATHOLICISM PRESENTS

The Religious History of American Women: Reimagining the Past

(University of North Carolina, 2007)

Catherine A. Beckus, editor, with contributing authors Anthea Butler, Kristi Nahlah-Warren and Kathleen Spours Cummings

Saturday, September 20, 2008
9 a.m. to noon
McKeen Hall Center for Continuing Education

ISRAEL

Leaders threaten force against Iran

Associated Press

"I need to understand the military threats exist and is not an issue."

"The only thing I want to do in advance what I would do."

"Iron says her nuclear program is in the peaceful production of electricity, the U.N. Security Council has imposed three rounds of sanctions over Iran's nuclear program."

"The military options are very poor," Christopher said. "And we need a new way to deal with Iran..."
EVERY ENGINEERING MAJOR | INTERNSHIPS | FULL-TIME POSITIONS

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Wednesday, September 17
Aerospace Engineering Night
Joyce Center, Monogram Room
6:30 - 8:00 p.m.

Thursday, September 18
Civil Engineering Lunch
Joyce Center, Monogram Room
12:30 - 2:00 p.m.

Networking Reception
Joyce Center, Monogram Room
4:00 - 5:00 p.m.

Career Fair
Heritage Hall in the Joyce Center
5:00 - 8:30 p.m.

Friday, September 19
Interview Day
Flanner and Fitzpatrick Halls
8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

PARTICIPATING COMPANIES

Accenture
Acuity Group
Air Force Flight Test Center
Alliance for Catholic Education
American Structurepoint, INC.
Ansys Johnson Co.
ARCO/Murray National Construction Company, Inc.
AT&T
Bain & Company, Inc.
Bastian Material Handling, LLC
Baxter Healthcare
Belcan Advanced Engineering & Technology
Boland
Bosch
BP Energy Company
Carrier Corporation
Central Intelligence Agency
Chevron Corporation
Clarity Consulting, Inc.
Clark Construction Group, LLC
Cook Nuclear Plant
Cowhey Guzmanson Leder, LTD
CTS Corporation
Cummins Inc.
Deloitte U.S.A. Firms
Delphi Corporation
Eaton
Epic Systems Corporation
Exterran
ExxonMobil
F.H. Pachter, SN Nielsen
General Electric
Gilbane Building Company
Greenline Financial Technologies
Hewlett-Packard
Honda Manufacturing of Indiana LLC
Infosys Technologies
ITT Corporation
ITT Space Systems Division
Janicki Industries
Johnson & Johnson
K&M Machine-Fabricating, Inc.
Kiewit Western Co.
Kimley-Horn and Associates, Inc.
Lockheed Martin
Merck & Co., Inc.
Metavante Corporation
Michelin North America
Microsoft
Miller Brewing Company
Modine Manufacturing Company
Morningstar, Inc.
Nestle Waters
NetQos
Northrop Grumman Space Technology
Office of Naval Intelligence
Parsons Corporation
Perigo Company
Pierce Associates, Inc.
PPG Industries, Inc.
Praxair, Inc.
PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP
R.W. Armstrong
Raytheon
Rolls-Royce Corporation
Schumberger
SMART Business Advisory and Consulting, LLC
SPX Corporation
Stepan Company
Stryker Instruments
Technology Services Group
The Boeing Company
Trading Technologies
Turner Construction
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Chicago District
U.S. Marine Corps Officer Programs
Valdes Engineering Company
Walsh Group
Westinghouse Electric Company
Xerox Corporation

Companies listed in bold will be interviewing on September 19

Zimbabwean refugees seek asylum

Citizens cross border to escape hunger, poverty from inflation

Associated Press

MUSINA, South Africa — A power-sharing deal has not stopped the flow of Zimbabweans streaming into South Africa to escape the hunger and poverty wrought by runaway inflation in their home country.

About 1,000 Zimbabweans seeking asylum formed a line that snaked across a packed-dirt parking lot in this South African border town Tuesday. Many had been waiting for days to file their applications.

Some said they feared President Robert Mugabe was still in a position to unleash violence on his enemies. Others said that while they found hope in the agreement signed Monday, they did not expect Zimbabwe's political and economic crisis to be quickly resolved.

Under the pact, Mugabe remains president and head of government. Morgan Tsvangirai is prime minister-designate and will head a new Council of Ministers responsible for forming government policies.

Observers worry that rather than resolution, the agreement could widen government paralysis.

In Musina, asylum seekers waited restlessly in a lot dotted with ash left over from the previous night's fires and lengths of cardboard used as mattresses. Children gathered around a blackened paint pot balanced over a fire to await a breakfast of corn meal porridge and milk.

Robin Murhanca reached South Africa on Saturday and was still waiting Tuesday to have his application processed.

For 15 years, Murhanca grew tobacco, avocados and vegetables on a small farm in Chimungu, south of Harare. This year, with official inflation the highest in the world at 164 million percent, he could not afford seedlings, seeds or fertilizer. He and his wife relocated to selling vegetables on the streets, but were barely making enough to feed themselves and their three children.

"In the morning, you wake up with bread selling at 8 trillion (Zimbabwe dollars)," which is about $0.06 in the black market, and at 10 trillion. And tomorrow, again, new prices," he said. "The hunger is the main issue. Some people are even dying.

The International Red Cross estimates more than 2 million people are hungry in Zimbabwe, and that the number is going to rise to 5 million, about half the country's population, by year's end.

Some aid groups estimate that in recent weeks as many as 6,000 Zimbabweans have been crossing into South Africa each day. Many go back within a few days carrying groceries and other essentials that are scarce at home.

But there has also been a spike in those seeking refugee status.

While most are men, more and more women and children are coming, said Grace Maporo, an official of Medecins Sans Frontieres, which has been providing medical care for Zimbabweans and other immigrants in Musina.

"My feeling is that now more women and children are coming than before (because) the situation is getting a bit more desperate," she said.

High prices aren't the only reason Zimbabweans are struggling. The last harvest was poor, and Mugabe's government restricted the work of aid agencies in June, according to a paper of siding with the opposition before a presidential vote that was postponed last month, but aid agencies say it takes time to get through.

"People are eating berries, people are eating roots, people are eating anything they can get their hands on," Maporo said.

Associated Press

BEIJING — China's latest product safety scandal — tainted milk formula blamed for killing two Chinese babies and sickening 1,200 — expanded to include more foods Tuesday, with state media reporting some formula produced by companies involved was exported.

State broadcaster CCTV reported on its evening newscast that a nationwide investigation of the 175 Chinese companies making baby milk powder showed that 22 of them had traces of the industrial chemical melamine in their products.

One company, Guangdong-based Yashi, exported its products to Bangladesh, Yemen and Myanmar, CCTV said, but added that initial testing of samples of the company's exports turned up no trace of melamine.

In Hong Kong, food inspectors ordered a recall after melamine was found in an ice cream bar made by Shanghai Yili AR Foods. The amounts of the chemical found "would not pose major health effects from normal consumption of the bar, however, small children should not eat it," the food and health department said in a notice posted on its Web site.

The widening scandal is an embarrassing failure for China's product safety system, which was overhauled to restore consumer confidence and preserve export markets after a string of recalls and warnings abroad over tainted toothpaste, faulty tires and other goods.

It is also the second major case in recent years involving baby formula. In 2004, more than 200 Chinese infants suffered malnutrition and at least 12 died after being fed phony formula that contained no nutrients.

The state-run Xinhua News Agency quoted the Health Ministry as saying medical agencies were prepared for the probe to uncover additional cases and warn parents of a treatment system for affected infants.

The company at the heart of the food scandal, Sanlu Group Co., discovered traces of the industrial chemical melamine in its milk powder last Thursday, after the New Zealand government took up the issue with China.

"If they don't give Mr. Tsvangirai those soldiers, I don't think anything can change," Maporo said. "They must resign. Then everything will be all right."
Working at a small independent bakery in a semi-ghettoid neighborhood this summer, I had interesting encounters with every other customer. Some were a good kind of interesting (the lady who was en route to northern Michigan for her first-ever kayaking trip), some were a bad kind of interesting (the people who complained to cashiers about prices), and some were just plain interesting (the residents of the nearby mental health facility).

But one of my favorite interesting conversations came late in the summer. A lady named T’Raina called in one day to request four leaves of six-gram bread. I took her order over the phone and, as I was working unexpectedly the next day, served her when she and her teenage daughter came in to pick it up. I handed her her bag of bread and asked, "Can I get you anything else, ma’am?"

"I’m sorry, I’m just curious," T’Raina said, motioning to the area right beneath my own throat, a few inches from a childhood surgical scar that, oddly enough, healed up just fine. And, because I was on Xanga long enough to know just how much fun other people’s medical stories are, those are all the details you need.

Anyway, I’d recently gone through a long process to get the keloids conclusively identified as such. Now it was pretty refreshing that T’Raina had diagnosed them at first glance.

"Yes, ma’am," I told her. "Those are keloids."

"Oh," she said. "I didn’t think white people got those."

I was a little too taken aback to formulate a coherent answer, so I said "Um, yes ma’am, they’re keloids. I inherited them from my dad." (My father’s father’s family came from Syria about a hundred years ago. This is as close as I come to non-whiteness and is all I could think of.)

"Okay," T’Raina said. "I didn’t mean to be intrusive. I just wondered."

"It’s fine," I said. "I’m just glad someone knows what they are."

That was true. But the whole truth was there something else I felt glad about. As I packaged up a few muffins for T’Raina, helped distribute the bags between her and her daughter, rang up her total and wished them a nice afternoon, I’d admit the guilty euphoric little solidarity dance.

Thus we all struggle against the literal imperfections. They may be the only things that people can agree they have in common.

Last week I watched dozens of people say goodbye to their families at the International Departure gate at O’Hare. Some went down the security line reserved “For Deployed Military.” Some were simply leaving for a long time. One girl my age broke quickly away from her parents before the exchange could become too emotional. Watching all that, realizing that the rest of the world goes through the same hard goodbye, made my own leaving the country easier. Somehow, knowing that a struggle belongs to everyone takes some of the weight from your own.

Maybe that’s because knowing you share someone else’s struggle is a sure way to connect with them. So is a white girl with keloids — by virtue of them — automatically not a racist? Of course not. But she has a little more affinity for one of her bakery customers who happens to be black.

And in the mirror the keloids look a few inches from a childhood surgical scar that, oddly enough, healed up just fine. And, because I was on Xanga long enough to know just how much fun other people’s medical stories are, those are all the details you need.

Katherine Khorey is a junior studying English and Russian at Trinity College, Dublin. She plans to spend a lot of her free time baking organic bran muffins while wearing her hand-sewn flowered apron. Seriously. The views expressed in this column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer.

"Yes ma’am, white people get keloids, too"
I was rather dismayed when I read the Sept. 15 Letter to the Editor enti­
tified “Raytheon’s money is blood money.” This is precisely the very
dangerous and myopic view.

In fact, it is evident that she is taking issue with the very existence of the company and weapons manufacturers, as a whole and no particular policy. Apparently she has forgotten that the world in which we live is a dangerous one. The very freedoms she that, and in deed all of us, enjoys are protected by force of arms.

It would be nice to believe that every situation could be handled in a civil manner but this is not the case. Put another way, there is a reason that members of the Department carry firearms.

Just as there exists persons who wish to do harm to their fellow Americans (terror, homicide, etc.) there also exists extra-territorial threats to American citizens. These threats are dealt with through diplomacy when possible and force exerted by the military when necessary. The brave men and women who compose the military and police forces are armed by compa­

ines like Raytheon. Thus these companies — and the weapons they produce — make it pos­sible for military and police to protect your freedoms. This is not to say that government should not be careful of the police or military is always noble.

However, the deployment of these forces is an entirely separate matter from the basic issue of their being. It is simply a reality that this world necessitates, on occasion, the use of force to ensure liberty.

It is true that we must all work for a more peaceful world, but unilaterally discarding arms of mass destruction. In fact, it is likely that doing so would only decrease America’s national secu­rity and the cause of bringing about greater stability and peace. After all, Pax Romana was not guaranteed by the backbone always consisted of its legions. In many ways, the world has changed since then, but human nature has not. Brosnihan would do well to do to these facts: “If you want peace, prepare for war.”

Jim Napier
junior
Seabright Hall
Sept. 16.

Blue recycling bins, stealth bombers, gas-sipping cars and M-16s all have the potential to be used for the same pur­
pose: protecting America’s interests and making her a stronger country. We all know the same familiar story of high energy prices due to our dependent addiction to foreign oil, and the typical Washington response: Do nothing.

While those of us back in the real world wait around for our gridlocked leaders not to solve our energy prob­
gles as we helplessly watch billions of dollars get sent abroad in return for some black sludge, there is something that we can do both to help our econo­
my and strengthen the relative position of our beautiful country in this danger­
ous world. And the answer is easier than you think. Recycle, recycle, recycle.

This may seem like a crazy thing for a relatively conservative Republican to say, as we Republicans seem to have a bad reputation on environmental issues. But trust me, in recycling I can find almost as much agreement with a crazy hippie environmentalist than my stomach finds with a 3 a.m. Taco Bell run.

Recycling serves a multitude of goals, the most obvious being its environmental ben­efits, but also including econom­
ic and security benefits of great propor­tions for us in terms of more jobs, cheaper energy, and most importantly, less foreign borrowing from China to pay for the greatest wealth trans­fer in history to hostile and questionable nations like Venezuela, Iran, Russia, ... actually almost every country we get our oil from.

You may think I’m crazy, but hear me out. In America, we buy over $700 bil­lion of foreign oil every year. While much of this is refined to make gaso­
ine, a lot is also needed to make the plas­tic that we use and throw away every­day. Recycled plastic saves 70 percent on energy costs, creates jobs through its collection and reprocessing and replaces all that waste from dan­gerous places with a source that is already here. And this is in all addition to the fact that the plastic doesn’t end up taking up space in a landfill some­
where in New Jersey or chilling out on the Pacific coast with some sea otters.

While I can understand why you don’t see plastic from new uses, it is simply not possible to hate on cute sea otters. By reduing the amount of all we use in plastic production, our gas will cost less, the American economy will benefit from the recycling industry’s growth. Also the national transfer of our money to countries who hate us and sponsor terrorism with oil revenues will be low­ered as we pay more Americans to pro­
duce plastic with resources we already have here at home.

Increased recycling should not be lim­
ited to plastic, however. It pains me when I see bag after bag after bag of Nats cans mixed in the trash. Take the Nats dorm bathrooms every Sunday after the parties are over. Besides the gross fact that people who drinking Nasty Lite, it costs 95 percent less to produce alu­minum from recycled cans than from virgin sources. That is a ridiculous margin, yet I see cans in the trash all the time. I could lament the waste and inefficiency for days and still be upset.

When it costs 1.43 cents to make a can put it into the recycling bin on your way out of the building. And don’t accept that stupid little plastic bag from the cashier at Subway when you are just going to walk 15 steps to a booth, sit down and eat it within site of the ugly yellow sign anyway.

Just try to make a small conscious effort to recycle throughout the course of your daily life. I don’t care if you do it for Captain Planet, Uncle Sam, in Doe, Our Lady or Jesus Christ himself, but just spend the extra two seconds to recycle your aluminum, paper and plastic each day.

Collectively we will save ourselves money at the store and at the pump, help other Americans by creating jobs, and help protect the country that we so dearly love from foreign sponsored ter­
rorism and other threats, just as she dear love from foreign sponsored ter­
rorism and other threats, just as she

Raytheon important aspect of national defense

In response to Claire Brosnihan’s Sept. 15 Letter to the Editor, I wholeheartedly agree with the notion that supporting Raytheon in any manner is basically giv­ing them the power to kill. She makes a strong point claiming that no Notre Dame student should pursue a career with Raytheon, a career with a company that, in my eyes, is the epitome of evil. However, I think it is necessary to take her idea one step further and not support Raytheon in any means. Additionally, we might as well remove all support to any industry or organization that profits from blood money. I strongly think it is imperative that we then start to the top, the complete removal of the United States Military. We need to end all support of our sol­
diers and veterans. I mean when is the last time that they have done any good for us? Pension for veterans, what was that? Miss Brosnihan, do you not realize that it is blood money that has brought about our nation’s freedom? It appears that you are suggesting that we throw away over 200 years of sacrifices made by men and women of this fine country, just so that no innocent life would ever be harmed. Need I remind you of Pearl Harbor? Did we not have a military force, we would have been annihilated during WWII. Forgive me if I think a few innocent lives are a necessary price for the freedom of countless American.

What I truly want to know is do you really want some dictator to march into our country and take away our rights because we would not have the military to defend ourselves, or maybe you are a fan of dictatorship and communism? I am appalled that you would vehemently attack our nation’s freedoms—albeit in a round about manner—but nonetheless, you are disgracing our nation. If you are so anti-American, might I suggest Canada, or some other foreign nation which does not have a military, therefore allowing us not to be bothered by the blood money being thrown around. For me, I am proud to be an American

But to stick to my point, I truly think Notre Dame should cut all support to any and all activities where innocent lives are lost. For starters, we might as well dis­
band our football team — yes there are fatalities every year in football — inno­
cent boys losing their lives. Additionally, we might as well stop sending money to missionaries that travel across the globe to help these less off. In both of these activities, football and mission work, innocent lives are lost and there is no way we can have that now is there?

Charles Cossell
junior
Alumni Hall
Sept. 15.

Getting most out of recycling

Blue recycling bins, stealth bombers, gas-sipping cars and M-16s all have the potential to be used for the same pur­
pose: protecting America’s interests and making her a stronger country. We all know the same familiar story of high energy prices due to our dependent addiction to foreign oil, and the typical Washington response: Do nothing.

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“The Office” Season Four Comes to DVD

By JORDAN GAMBLE

Scene Writer

Why is NBC’s comedy “The Office” so popular among Notre Dame students? Perhaps because of the parallels between the two worlds. Take, for example, “leave the hour-long for the season finale.”

The writers of “The Office” need to take the advice of one of their characters, Michael Scott, and “keep it simple. Stupid.” The end of last season, for instance.

The office temp-turned-executive Ryan Howard (B.J. Novak) commiss fraud and is sent to the real world’s version of Res Life. “Michael Scott” (Steve Carell), is given a chance to pursue a senior/freshman romance when he meets the charming but unassuming newcomer Holly (Amy Ryan). He also finds out that his ex-girlfriend Jan Levinson (Melora Hardin) is pregnant, courtesy of Ryan. He also finds out that his ex-girlfriend Jan Levinson (Melora Hardin) is pregnant, courtesy of B.J. Novak.

The DVD

With only fourteen episodes, the $49.99 price tag for the boxed set seems steep, but a wealth of bonus materials helps fill the void.

In three episode commentaries, directors, writers, and cast members weigh in on the making of the show from script to final edit, and the 20-minute blooper reel reveals just how much fun the cast and crew are really having on set. Perhaps the most intriguing of the behind-the-scenes features is an hour-long writer’s panel from “The Office” Convention, although the video quality leaves much to be desired.

Another nice touch “Michael Scott’s Dunder Mifflin Ad” on the second disk as a stand-alone, separate from the episode in which it originally aired. Some clever NBC promos fill out the first and third disks.

The deleted scenes for every episode often rival the material that made it on television, so the included table draft of the script for “Dinner Party” is a great addition for fans wanting to compare it to the televised episode. The paper reproduction fits neatly into the cardboard sleeve.

With this much material in the bonus features and 14 pretty darn funny episodes with great performances, if you love “The Office” you would appreciate the season four boxed set.

Contact Jordan Gamble at jgamble@nd.edu

Despite humorous anecdotes, Season Five of “The Office” needs some tough love

By MARY FRANCIS POPIT

Scene Writer

Why is NBC’s comedy “The Office” so popular among Notre Dame students? Perhaps because of the parallels between the two worlds. Take, for example, “leave the hour-long for the season finale.”

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With this much material in the bonus features and 14 pretty darn funny episodes with great performances, if you love “The Office” you would appreciate the season four boxed set.

Contact Jordan Gamble at jgamble@nd.edu

Despite humorous anecdotes, Season Five of “The Office” needs some tough love

By MARY FRANCIS POPIT

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Around the water cooler:
Moments in "The Office"

Celebrating Diwali

Dwight & Angela revealed!

Jim & Pam’s first kiss

The Office Survivor

Rabies Fun Run

Booze Cruise

Michael & Jan’s first fling

Basketball Match
The Rays top Sox in bottom of ninth, lead AL East
Waters' complete game leads Orioles over Blue Jays; Lowe and Dodgers edge closer to NL West crown

Associated Press

ST. PETERSBURG, Fla. — Donez Navarro singled with the bases loaded and one out in the ninth inning, enabling the Tampa Bay Rays to beat the Boston Red Sox 2-1 and remain in first place in the AL East.

Navarro delivered his second game-winner in a week against the defending World Series champions, lifting a fly ball that sailed over the head center fielder Carl Crawford on a 2-2 pitch from Jason Marquis (3-6).

A night after Boston hit six home runs to rout Rays ace Scott Kazmir 13-5 and pull within percentage points of the division lead, Tampa Bay wiped out a 1-0 deficit on Carlos Pena's seventh-inning double.

The Rays, who have led the division for the past 34 days, moved one game ahead of the Red Sox, who have lost seven of eight at Tropicana Field this season.

The Rays loaded the bases on Jason Bartlett bloop single, a walk and a hit by Navarro, whose ninth-inning double off Jason Bay at Fenway Park last Tuesday, ended with a fly that fell just short of the warning track.

Beckett and Rays starter Andy Sonnanstine were outstanding against each other for the second time in six days.

Beckett limited the Rays to one hit, and two singles in eight innings, and Sonnanstine held the Red Sox to three hits and an unearned run on Kevin Youkilis sacrifice fly in sixth innings.

Both allowed just one run last Wednesday at Fenway Park in a game Tampa Bay eventually won 4-2 in 11 innings.

Beckett retired 13 in a row before Floyd singled in right with one out in the fifth. He walked Navarro, but escaped unscathed when he struck out Eric Blaske and Gabe Gross to end the inning.

The Red Sox snapped a scoreless tie in the sixth.

Jacoby Ellsbury beat out an infield single and Dustin Pedroia followed with a sharp grounder that Rays third baseman Evan Longoria bobbled and then kicked for an error. David Ortiz grounded to first, moving the runners up, and Youkilis followed with a sacrifice fly.

Akinori Iwamura singled with one out in the sixth for the second hit off Beckett. Pena's homer in the seventh was his 15th since the All-Star break and only the second Beckett has allowed in his last six starts.

Orioles 2, Blue Jays 0

Chris Waters hit a four-hit shutout and Luke Scott homered to lead the Baltimore Orioles to a victory over Toronto Tuesday night.

Toronto lost its third straight and saw a six-game winning streak ended. The Blue Jays had won seven of their past eight games against the Orioles.

Baltimore, which has lost 17 of 21 coming in, posted its first shutout since beating Texas 9-0 on Aug. 15.

Making his ninth major league start, Waters (3-3) walked two and struck out six in seven innings. The left-hander was 0-3 with a 6.45 ERA in his past four outings.

Toronto rookie Travis Snider had the only extra-base hit, a one-out double in the eighth, but Waters got out of it by retiring Marco Scutaro and Jose Bautista on grounders.

Waters pitched right shutout in his major league debut, allowing one hit in a road victory over the Los Angeles Angels on Aug. 5.

Scott opened the fourth with a double to center, his 23rd, and reliever John Parrish, as the Orioles won consecutive games for the first time since a three-game winning streak from Aug. 15-18.

The Orioles had chances for more, but Ramon Hernandez stranded two runners in the third and Ret澄清 whether two runners with an inning-ending double play in the ninth.

Toronto starter Shaun Marcum (7-9) left after two-plus innings because of numbness in his right forearm. Marcum missed 27 games earlier this season with a sore right elbow.

The Orioles took over a double and a walk in the first without allowing a run and be set the Orioles down in order in the second before ending into trouble with his control in the third. Nine hits and six runs arrived. Umpire Tim Timmons called Lowe safe.

The Dodgers already had a run in on Blake's 10th home run, then scored three more runs following the one-out call at first. Russell Martin hit a sacrifice fly, Andre Ethier singled in a run after sitting out three games and Ramirez doubled in the fourth run.

Blake tripled and scored on Blake DeWitt's sacrifice fly an inning later. Blake finished a double short of the cycle, hitting into a force play and grounding out in his other two at-bats.

Lowe (14-11) didn't need much run support, though he rarely does against the Pirates — he is 5-0 in six career starts against them. He struck out three, walked none and was in trouble only in the fourth when the Pirates, down 4-0, scored on consecutive singles by Sanchez, Nate McHugh and Ryan Doumit to start the fifth. Lowe recovered to get Brandon Moss to ground into a double play and retired 11 straight.

Mariners beat Pirates 4-3

The Pirates have had their last four home scores come in 21 hits in 23-2 innings — a 0.68 ERA — since they dropped each game by a margin of at least four runs.

The Pirates wish they could win at PNC Park the way Lowe and the Dodgers do. Los Angeles is 25-6 in Pittsburgh since the ballpark opened in 2001 and has never lost a series there.

The Dodgers are guaranteed at least a split in this four-game series. Lowe is 5-0 in Pittsburgh.

With Karstens (2-6) losing his sixth consecutive decision since he plied 7-2-5 perfect innings against the Diamondbacks on Aug. 6, the Pirates dropped their eighth in 11 games and 19th in 25 games. They are 13-30 since trading top run-producer Jason Bay to Boston on July 31, part of the three-team deal that sent Ramirez to the Dodgers.

Ramirez, facing the Pirates for the first time since that trade, is 6-6 for-9 in the series. He is hitting .402 for the Dodgers with 14 homers and 48 hits in 43 games.


eXtreme classifieds

The Observer accepts classifieds every business day from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Notre Dame office, 428 South Dining Hall. Deadline for next-day classifieds is 3 p.m. All classifieds must be prepaid. The Observer reserves the right to edit all classified ads without issuing refunds.

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Baltimore players celebrate in the dugout after Luke Scott's solo home run in the bottom inning Tuesday's 2-0 win.

CLASSIFIEDS

LOST & FOUND

FOR SALE

P E R S O N A L

UNPLANNED PREGNANCY?

If you or someone you care about has been sexually assaulted, visit http://nd.edu/department/pcas/

Some day somebody's gonna make you want to run around and say goodbye

Until then baby are you going to let them hold you down and make you say it?

If you don't know what to change this is how you go your way.

Do you know what to change or how to go your way.

If you hold on for one more day

It's just for decoration, man,... that's all and that's all.

www.victorytickets.com . 574-232-6024 South Dining Hall. Deadline for next-day classifieds is 3 p.m. All classifieds must be prepaid.

Homes available now & 2009-10 & House near ND. Call (574) 329-0308.

Wanted: ND football tix for family. Home for rent for ND football weekends. Contact Rocky at Rhodes29@nd.edu.

For Sale

Purdue Weekend - Varsity Club Suite - Friday and Saturday Nights with Large Tickets $800

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House for rent in ND football weekends. 3 bdrm, 1 1/2 baths in Michiana. Just 2 blocks from ND campus. Contact Rocky at Rhodes29@nd.edu.

Need Purdue & IU parking pass. 574-276-8557.

Need Purdue & IU parking pass. 574-310-3863.

Tickets

Purdue football for family. 2 tickets. 574-251-1577.


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**AROUND THE NATION**

**Wednesday, September 17, 2008**

**MIAA Women’s Soccer NSCAA Top 25**

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**cies Council Standings**

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**MLB**

**MILWAUKEE — Once he finished packing, Ned Yost figured he'd begin the long drive back home to Georgia. He might even tune in a ballgame.**

"I've got XM Radio, so I'll be able to listen to the Brewers pitch-by-pitch and root Dale on in his first win," Yost said.

**A day after being abruptly fired as Milwaukee's manager and replaced by third-base coach Dale Sveum, Yost insisted Tuesday he had no feelings toward the team that let him go with 12 games left while tied for the NL wild-card spot.**

"If anybody thinks that I've got sour grapes or I don't want this club to succeed, they're crazy. I'll be rooting them on every inch of the way and I hope they can win that wild card and go deep, deep into the playoffs and win the World Series," he said.

Sveum starts out Tuesday night with the opener of a three-game series against the NL Central-leading Cubs at Wrigley Field.

**Yost intended to be in charge when he flew into Chicago on Monday.**

Instead, he's got a new plan: taking wife Debbie out to dinner for their 31st wedding anniversary Wednesday night.

Yost said he had no idea he was about to be fired when he went into general manager Doug Melvin's room in the team hotel in Chicago and saw principal owner Mark Attanasio.

"When I walked in, I hadn't even sat down on the couch and Doug said we were going to make a change," Yost said.

"They didn't ask me any questions what did I think we needed to do," Yost said. "There was none of that.

That contradicted what Attanasio and Melvin said Monday at a hastily called news conference about four hours after the move was announced. The two said they had asked Yost for answers for the team's recent woes — including a 3-11 stretch in September and a four-game sweep in Philadelphia — before the firing.

The slide left the Brewers, trying for their first playoff spot since 1982, tied with the Phillie's for the wild card.

"I don't agree with the decision, but I respect Doug Melvin's decision.

**Jays Marcum leaves with right forearm numbness**

TORONTO — Blue Jays pitcher Shaun Marcum left the game against Baltimore on Tuesday night after two-plus innings because of numbness in his right forearm.

Left-hander John Parrish replaced Marcum, who missed 27 games in June and July because of soreness in his right elbow. Marcum struggled after returning, July 22, going 3-2 with a 6.19 ERA in seven starts, and was optioned to Triple-A Syracuse on Aug. 22 to work on his location.

He had gone 1-0 with a 1.26 ERA in two starts since being recalled on Sept. 2.

Making his 25th start of the season, the right-handed Marcum (9-6) gave up a double and a walk in a scoreless first, then retired the Orioles in order in the second.

**90-year-old reminisces about Yankee Stadium opener**

NEW YORK — Standing in front of the Yankees dugout during batting practice, Joe Mignogna remembered opening day as if it were yesterday — opening day 1923, that is.

Now 90 years old, Mignogna went to the very first game at Yankee Stadium with his grandfa-

"You want highlights?" he said. "I remember all the people — the fans and the dignitaries. The dignitaries wore fedoras, top coats. None of the fans here would have been let in."

"Every time I come in, I get that feeling of exhilaration," he said. "I used to come here and sit in the rain, and a couple of times in the snow. When I was going to high school, my favorite place was out in the bleachers. I've still got splin-

**Jets cut former AussieRules punter Ben Graham**

NEW YORK — The New York Jets waived punter Ben Graham on Tuesday, two days after a poor outing in a loss to the New England Patriots.

Graham, a former Australian American football star who was in his fourth season with the Jets, averaged just 27.3 net yards in the 19-10 loss. The Patriots ben-

"They didn't ask me any questions what did I think we needed to do," Yost said. "There was none of that.

**Around the dial**

**CFB**

Kansas St. at Louisville

7:00 p.m., ESPN 2

**MLB**

Brewers at Cubs

7:00 p.m., ESPN 2
Seattle trades for pair of receivers

Associated Press

SEATTLE — The Seattle Seahawks took two steps in bolstering their injured-depleted wide-receivers corps by trading for Keary Colbert and reacquiring Koren Robinson on Tuesday.

Seattle agreed to a one-year contract with Robinson, its former No. 1 draft choice. Agent Alvin Keels confirmed the agreement and its length in an e-mail to The Associated Press.

Robinson worked out for the Seahawks on Tuesday and convinced team president Tim Ruskell he has changed since Russel released him in the 2005 season because of repeated problems with alcohol.

The Seahawks have lost six wide receivers to injury this season. Robinson is expected to start Sunday's game against St. Louis, a matchup of two of the NFL's worst offenses.

The 28-year-old Robinson said he has been sober for 25 months and religion.

"I'm definitely proud of that," he said.

Robinson was sentenced to 90 days in jail after pleading down to a charge of fleeing police. He also was sentenced to three months in jail for violating probation on a separate drunken-driving case in Kirkland, Wash., in 2006.

The NFL suspended him for one year then reinstated him last October. He caught 21 passes and returned kickoffs in nine games last season for Green Bay. If Robinson violates the league's substance-abuse policy again, he faces a lifetime ban.

Last week when the Seahawks had four receivers injured, coach Mike Holmgren mentioned Robinson to Russell as a possible replacement. And quarterback Matt Hasselbeck, Robinson's quarterback from 2001-04 in Seattle, told Russell that Robinson had turned his life around.

Hasselbeck saw Robinson during a weekend Christian retreat in Dallas last winter and was impressed.

"I don't know about the football side of it at all, I haven't seen him play in a long time," Hasselbeck said Monday. "But I think he's matured and got his life turned around in the right direction ... I'm proud of him."

"I understand the criticism ... if this was the Koren of four years ago, that would be warranted," Russell said. "And we could be wrong ... but all of us believe in second chances."

Logan Payne started Sunday's loss to San Francisco but injured a knee. He is the third wide receiver to be out for the season.

Backup quarterback Seneca Wallace pulled his calf while pressed into receiver duty and will miss up to a month.

Colbert's agent, Gary Uberstine, said Tuesday in an e-mail to The AP his client is also coming to Seattle, from Denver, FoxSports.com first reported the trade.

The deal is believed to be for a one-year contract and its length in an e-mail to The Associated Press.

The 28-year-old Colbert has been suspended twice and also behind former Seahawks Darrell Jackson and veteran Brandon Stokley.

Sunday, September 17 2008

The Observer • SPORTS

Recycle The Observer.

WELCOME BACK
REENTRY OPEN HOUSE

For all ND students returning from experiences abroad — study abroad, internships, research grants, language study, etc.

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HESBURGH CENTER FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDIES
REFRESHMENTS WILL BE PROVIDED.

Learn how to receive funding to go abroad again for research, language development, and internships. Reconnect with old friends. Share your photos and stories with others who have traveled abroad. Visit the technology room to learn how to create podcasts, blogs, and more.

REGISTER NOW
at kellogg.nd.edu/students/open_house.shtml

O.J. SIMPSON TRIAL
Simpson witness contradicts self

Former USC running back O.J. Simpson sits in court Thursday. Simpson is on trial for 12 charges, including felony kidnapping.

Associated Press

LAS VEGAS — A key witness in the O.J. Simpson robbery trial was confronted with contradictions in his testimony Tuesday, including his claim that he didn’t try to profit from the casino hotel room confrontation that led to charges against the former football star.

Memorabilia dealer Bruce Fromong, who returned to the stand after becoming ill Monday, told defense attorney Gabriel Grasso he didn’t have money on his mind while allegedly being robbed of sports collectibles by Simpson and a group of other men.

“You were not trying to profit off this?” asked Grasso.

“I was not trying to profit from it,” said Fromong.

The attorney played a tape recording of the 2007 incident, which Fromong said, “It’s not [expletive] over. I’ll have ‘Inside Edition’ down here for us tomorrow. I told them I want big money.”

Fromong acknowledged it was his voice and he conceded that he later advertised memorabilia on eBay with the statement, “The same ones stolen by O.J. in Las Vegas.”

On redirect questioning, District Attorney David Roger asked to play more of the tape excerpt in which Fromong raged against Simpson.

“Nobody puts a [expletive] gun in my face. I stood up for this [expletive] when he was in jail. I stood up for him when he was on trial. I set up his offshore accounts,” he yelled.

Testimony came on the first anniversary of Simpson’s Las Vegas arrest. He and co-defendant Clarence “C.J.” Stewart are charged with 12 counts of robbery, kidnapping, assault with a deadly weapon and coercion. They have pleaded not guilty.

Temper in the case boiled as Roger referred to the confrontation as “the robbery.” The defense, which claims Simpson was trying to recover stolen personal items, objected on grounds that it was a legal conclusion.

“Can it call it alleged. I’m calling it a robbery,” snapped Roger.

The judge admonished Roger to say “at the time of the incident” or “at the time of the event.” She told jurors to disregard his remark and then yelled at objecting lawyers: “Sit down!”

“Listen folks,” she said. “The last thing you want me to do as the judge is to start losing my temper in front of the fine ladies and gentlemen of the jury and having to deal with all of you. You’ve been warned, folks.”

Fromong’s contradictions continued. He acknowledged that he said previously, “I felt my life was being threatened.”

But moments later, under inquiry by Stewart’s lawyer Robert Lorchinski, Fromong said, “I was not scared.”

He insisted the memorabilia Simpson sought was not stolen but said he didn’t know where some of it came from.

“I believe those items belong to Mr. Simpson’s kids. They should go back to him,” he said, claiming that if he and Simpson had discussed it, they could have reached “an arrangement” by which he would trade the items for Simpson’s signature on photos he could sell.

Jurors Tuesday also saw surveillance video from the Palace Station casino hotel which showed the comings and goings of Simpson, Stewart and seven other men on the night of the alleged robbery. The tapes showed men walking about and eventually leaving with boxes.
NFL

Big Ben’s shoulder sprained, coach says

Associated Press

PITTSBURGH — Pittsburgh Steelers coach Mike Tomlin clarified the status of quarterback Ben Roethlisberger’s shoulder: Sprained but not separated.

The injury will likely keep Roethlisberger from fully participating in practice Wednesday, but not from playing on Sunday against Philadelphia.

The Steelers said last week that their quarterback was nursing a sore shoulder, but a TV commentator on Sunday night termed the injury a shoulder separation.

During his weekly news conference Tuesday, Tomlin said Roethlisberger appeared agitated by the latter description.

“‘I have no idea where that report came from,’” Tomlin said. “‘It didn’t come from me or my medical staff. If anybody in here has got any information about where that report came from, send them to me.’”

Tomlin said Roethlisberger sprained his AC, or joint, an injury to the ligaments that attach the collarbone to the shoulder blade.

Asked if Roethlisberger was the source of the disputed information, Tomlin said, “Not to my knowledge.”

The issue may be one of semantics. The American Academy of Orthopedic Surgeons describes a mild shoulder separation as a sprain of the AC ligament. It differs from more severe shoulder separations in which the ligament is torn.

Whatever the injury, Roethlisberger threw for 186 yards and a touchdown during Pittsburgh’s 10-6 win over Cleveland on Sunday and is expected to play this Sunday against the Eagles.

“He said it feels better than it did a week ago, which is good,” Tomlin said.

Roethlisberger was sacked three times Sunday but perhaps endured his hardest hit — from 350-pound Browns defensive tackle Shaun Rogers — after releasing the ball. Roethlisberger appeared to hold his arm gingerly after that play.

Tomlin said Roethlisberger can do no further damage to the shoulder by playing. The coach was asked if it was a worry that his quarterback was missing so much practice time.

“It really depends on the quarterback,” Tomlin said. “Some guys require a great number of snaps to get prepared to play. Some guys can learn visually, film room and so forth. Thankfully with Ben he’s a pretty quick study and sharp guy — it doesn’t take him a great number of reps to be prepared to play.”

“Hopefully it won’t be an issue this week. I know it won’t be an excuse.”

In other injury news, defensive end Keiwan Ratliff was ruled out for the Eagles game and likely for at least a month overall, though Tomlin said he would be evaluated “week to week.”

U.S. Women’s Soccer

Top players join new league

Associated Press

NEW YORK — U.S. national team players received phone calls Monday night informing them of which club each would join in the new Women’s Professional Soccer league.

Then they sat down for dinner together.

“We were kind of afraid to see one another, because we were certain somebody would not be happy,” goalie Hope Solo said.

“That wasn’t the case at all. People were having glasses of champagne and cheering, and the competition had already begun,” Solo said.

The WPS announced the allocation of its biggest stars Tuesday, with each of the seven squads receiving three players.

The league is scheduled to debut in April.

Solo will suit up for St. Louis — she donned a Cardinals cap as she was introduced. Kristine Lilly, the second-leading scorer in women’s soccer history, will play for Boston.

The league will also have franchisees in the Bay Area, Chicago, Los Angeles and New York/New Jersey.

A contract between the WPS and the national team players association has yet to be completed, commissioner Tonya Antonucci said. Antonucci had said in July that she expected to have the agreement finalized by now.

Some small details remain to be resolved, she said Tuesday.

Two-time NBA MVP and soccer buff Steve Nash, a part-owner in the league, helped Antonucci announce which players will play where.

“I think it’s only time that we had the best women in the world playing here in America, representing themselves, representing the game, representing us at the highest level, setting the standard for women’s soccer around the world,” Nash said.

The WPS seeks to succeed where the Women’s United Soccer Association failed. WUSA was launched after the success of the 1999 World Cup, but folded in 2003.

“One of the biggest lessons learned was to be 100 percent disciplined on the business side and have an eye toward starting out realistically and growing it, and having a growth plan without trying to be at the end of your growth plan immediately,” Antonucci said.

WUSA had the star power of Mia Hamm, Julie Foudy, Brandi Chastain, Joy Fawcett and Lilly. The 37-year-old Lilly is the only one still playing. She’ll return to the field after taking off 2008 to have a baby.

Can she add one lasting pro league to her long list of accomplishments that includes five World Cups and three Olympics?

“It’s important because I think I’ve been a part of so much in soccer, from the first World Cup, the first Olympics, a part of this,” Lilly said, as she held 2-month-old daughter Sidney Marie. “Now to bring it home with all these new faces to start here is great.”

Wambach, who broke her leg before the Olympics, expects to be ready for the league’s first game. Walking without an apparent limp Tuesday, she’s able to swim and ride a bike. By late January or early February, she hopes to be playing again.

First she needs to build back the 15-20 pounds of muscle she lost after surgery.

The undeterred U.S. team wound up in Beijing without her.

“The league was going to happen regardless, so whatever kind of publicity and promotion we can piggyback off of from the gold medal that they won, we’re going to take it,” Wambach said. “I know that they’re going to use it, because this league is so important to all of us.”

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Wednesday, September 17, 2008

2010 WORLD CUP
Blatter happy with visit to Cape Town

Associated Press
CAPE TOWN, South Africa — FIFA president Sepp Blatter says he danced for joy after arriving in South Africa to check on preparations for the 2010 World Cup.

Glossing over concerns about delays, cost overruns, crime and lack of transportation, Blatter visited Cape Town's new "jewel" of a stadium Monday. The project has been beset by political wrangling but now is slightly ahead of schedule.

He was less flattering about the national soccer team, which failed to qualify for the 2006 World Cup, seems likely to miss the 2010 African Nations Cup and hasn't won any of its last five matches — including against lowly Guinea — since June.

Blatter said South Africa should have taken advantage of the four years since it was awarded the tournament to build up a strong team. "In 1996 they were African Champions and where are they now? It's incredible and I cannot understand that," he said. "Do something; move it."

Blatter said he would raise his concerns with the South African Football Association on Tuesday, when he tours the venue for the opening and final match at Johannesburg's Soccer City and meets anti-apartheid icon Nelson Mandela, whose lobbying helped bring the tournament to South Africa.

Blatter stressed his trip was a courtesy visit rather than an official inspection. He played down fears that the ongoing turmoil in South Africa's ruling party, pitting incumbent President Thabo Mbeki against likely successor Jacob Zuma, could have repercussions for the World Cup if key ministers involved in the preparation are dismissed.

"We are absolutely not concerned about the internal political problems in South Africa," Blatter said. "We are going to organize and deliver this World Cup and it will be a great, great event."

For Blatter, the success of the 2010 tournament has become a personal crusade. He hopes it will create a legacy benefiting millions on the continent.

"When I left the plans and arrived on African soil, I started dancing," the 72-year-old Swiss said during a news conference with Mbeki on Sunday.

He may need to muster his nimble footwork to avoid the many obstacles that loom. At the top of the list is public transit, or the lack of it. The government has set aside $1.7 billion to improve rail and road links in venues cities. Organizers hope the much-vaunted and hugely expensive Green Point stadium connecting Johannesburg's international airport with the city center will be ready in time, but there is nothing similar planned for either Cape Town or Durban.

In an interview with a local radio program, FIFA general-secretary Jerome Valcke gave reassurances about the government's ability to rein in violent crime in a country where more than 50 people are killed each day, often for as little as a cell phone.

"I am not so much concerned by security today. I think we are going the right way," he said, adding it was impossible to be 100 percent safe even in cities like Paris and Zurich. He said local organizers were working closely with Interpol and foreign police and security forces to keep out hooligans.

The government plans to increase police to 190,000 by the time of the tournament, and he notes that such major events like the rugby and cricket world cups were held without serious incident. Police and the armed forces have staged high-profile dress rehearsals to prove they can protect South Africa's skies and seas from potential attack.

So far, less than half the 55,000 rooms needed for visitors have been secured. FIFA plans to step up marketing to persuade hotel and guest house owners to sign up.

South Africa has 80,000 graduated rooms — more than enough to satisfy FIFA, according to government figures. Although there is plenty of accommodation in tourist centers like Cape Town and Durban and the economic hub of Johannesburg, rooms may be hard to find in more outlying areas like Polokwane.

Earlier concerns about the speed of stadium construction have eased. The stadium in the southern coastal city of Port Elizabeth will not be ready for the 2009 Confederations Cup but should be ready for 2010. Work is about eight months ahead of schedule at Durban's semifinal venue, and at the two stadiums in Johannesburg, Valcke said that even Beijing's Bird Nest Olympic stadium looked small compared to Soccer City. Even Cape Town's $490 million stadium, the most controversial because it is in the middle of prime real estate — is on track.

Cape Town Mayor Helen Zille said the 68,000-seat stadium, the site of one semifinal, would be the "world's most spectacular stadium in the world's most spectacular city." The big unknown remains the weather, given that it will be winter. Temperatures are near freezing at night in Johannesburg. Gales and torrential rain are buffeting Cape Town, and even balmy Durban feels distinctly chilly. Valcke conceded it would be a challenge to persuade supporters to stay and celebrate in frigid packs at night.

South Africa's last white president, F.W. de Klerk, joined Blatter's entourage on a visit to Cape Town stadium site, De Klerk, who helped steer in multiracial democracy in 1994, said the nation was united behind the success of the World Cup.

"All of us want 2010 to recapture the spirit of 1994 when we launched the new South Africa," he said.

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**MLB**

**Nationals score one, shutout first-place Mets**

Loss to last-place Washington puts New York second in the NL East, despite a small cushion in the wild-card race

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — It took six days for the New York Mets to squander a 3-game cushion in the NL East. Now, the only race they lead is for the wild card — and not by much.

Odalis Perez shut down the slumping Mets and scored the only run of the game, sending Washington to a 1-0 victory Tuesday night that knocked New York out of first place.

Philadelphia moved a half-game in front with an 8-7 win at Atlanta. It's the first time the Mets, who have lost four of five, have been out of first place since Aug. 26. They lead struggling Milwaukee by a half-game in the wild-card standings.

Needling wins in a tense pennant race, the free-falling Mets can't find a way to beat the lowly Nationals.

Sounds the same as last September — only this flop happened faster.

"We've got to dig down deep," David Wright said. "This is what makes it fun. You've got, what, 12, 13 games left and that's going to decide the season? This is what you work hard for, this is what you prepare for, as an athlete, a competitor, you love this."

The Mets and their fans aren't loving the flashback to last season, when New York held a seven-game advantage with 17 to play only to lose the division crown to Philadelphia and miss the playoffs in one of the worst collapses in baseball history.

They were up by 3 games with 17 to go this year, but that lead is gone. And on Tuesday night, New York also lost outfielder Fernando Tatís for the rest of the season to a separated shoulder.

The Mets went 1-5 against the Nationals over the final two weeks last season — a big reason for their massive meltdown. This time, New York has dropped the first two in a four-game series at Washington mainly because it can't find any offense.

The Mets' four hits Tuesday wasted an outstanding start by Mike Pelfrey. The one real threat by the Mets was thwarted when Willie Harris made another key catch against New York, something he's done regularly over the past year or so.

"We're a better-hitting club than we've shown here," manager Jerry Manuel said. "We've just got to do a better job, period, offensively."

A day after John Lannan held the Mets to one hit over seven innings, New York mustered just two in the first seven innings against Perez (7-10).

The lefty retired 13 in a row between those two hits — which came in the first and sixth innings — and never let a Met runner advance beyond second base. Perez struck out six and did not walk a batter in 7 1-3 innings, his longest outing since Aug. 11, 2005.

"He had the best command of the season so far," Washington manager Manny Acta said. "He threw every one of his pitches for strikes. He was able to stop the middle of the lineup. He was just tremendous."

Perez gave way to Mike Hinckley after giving up singles to pinch-hitters Ramon Castro and Robinson Canóel in the eighth. Hinckley got Jose Reyes to ground into a fielder's choice, putting runners on first and third with two outs. He then struck out Ryan Church to end the threat.

Hinckley has opened his major league career without giving up a run in his first nine innings.

"I said to him, 'Great job,'" Perez said. "'You saved my game.'"

Joel Hanrahan worked a perfect ninth for his ninth save. He struck out Wright and Carlos Delgado.

Pelfrey (13-10) was the hard-luck loser. He allowed seven hits and four walks in seven innings. "Sometimes you go up against someone that's very good, and Odalis Perez was very good tonight," he said.
Houston hopes repairs to the structural damage on the roof of Reliant Stadium will be completed by early October

Associated Press
HOUSTON — Mario Williams dodged downed trees to get out of his neighborhood and worried about the safety and security of his home as he left for practice with a tree splashed on one end of it. He didn't return to practice Tuesday for the first time since Hurricane Ike, trying to concentrate on football when most people didn't have electricity and many were dealing with significant damage to their homes.

"I feel very lucky," said Williams, the top overall pick in 2006. "My area is very bad. There's tons of trees that are down, lots of trees that fell through houses, but thank goodness no one was injured.

Williams' mother, whose roof was torn off during Hurricane Ike, said a tree crashed into his house during the storm, but he was still living there despite the damage and lack of electricity.

"It's really difficult, not just for myself, but for everyone," he said. "You've got to go work and you've got to make a living. But at the same time you're thinking: 'I hope my place is still all right.'"

Mario Williams
Texans defensive end

I lost the shingles first and then the water started coming in before my ceiling collapsed. I lost stuff. I lost a lot. But, you don't lose anything when you've still got your family.

Andre Johnson's home was destroyed

"I'm tired of sitting around the house and feeling sorry for myself and the fact that we don't have power and we have trees crashed across the front of the house and all that sort of thing." - Bob McNair

Bob McNair
Texans owner

It was worse than I thought it would be," he said. "After the hurricane was over I just got in my truck and rode around to look at some of the things. I think the most shocking thing was when I saw the damage to the extent of the roof. I lost the shingles first and then the water started coming in before my ceiling collapsed," he said. "I lost stuff. I lost a lot. But, you don't lose anything when you've still got your family."

"I'm tired of sitting around the house and feeling sorry for myself and the fact that we don't have power and we have trees crashed across the front of the house and all that sort of thing." - Bob McNair

Hurricane Ike caused severe structural damage to Reliant Stadium, the home of the Houston Texans earlier this week, causing the team to relocate.

"I lost the shingles first and then the water started coming in before my ceiling collapsed. I lost stuff. I lost a lot. But, you don't lose anything when you've still got your family."

Mario Williams
Texans defensive end

"I'm tired of sitting around the house and feeling sorry for myself and the fact that we don't have power and we have trees crashed across the front of the house and all that sort of thing." - Bob McNair

The Texans are hoping that repairs to their damaged stadium can be completed in time for their next home game against Indianapolis on Oct. 5.

Johnson knows the Texans face a tough road in playing 15 straight games after their bye week was moved to last weekend to accommodate the change in the schedule because of the hurricane. He hopes the team can fight through this and become an inspiration to the area as it recovers.

"I think we could be a bright spot for the city," he said. "A lot of people are going through tough times and maybe we going out winning games could make a lot of people around here happy."
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Big East

continued from page 28

and advance significantly in the NCAA tournament," Brown said earlier this year.

Sophomore middle blocker Kellie Scarica was named to the Diet Coke Classic All-Tournament team after she notched a team-high nine kills on a .350 average against No. 9 Minnesota.

Based on non-conference play, Cincinnati, Connecticut and George Mason all sit atop the standings with 6-3 records, but those losses could be a little misleading.

"Nobody is tearing it up right now," Brown said.

Senior middle blocker Jesi Nevels, who was named Big East Player of the Week as she moved past 1,200 career kills with 46 in the ASU Sherraton Invitational over the weekend, leads Cincinnati.

They have a good balance of youth and experience," Brown said. "Their middle blocker Jesi Nevels is very strong leading their team."

Connecticut blistered their way to a 6-3 record by beating up on some non-conference foes, but their losses to unranked Albany, Michigan State and UW-Milwaukee raise questions.

Huskies junior libero Jessica Isaac earned a spot on the MSU Showcase All-Tournament team as she combined for five assists and 16 digs in the Huskies' win over Maryland.

"They both rely pretty heavily on foreign players, which gives them a lot of big, physical, experienced players," she said.

St. John's has losses to No. 9 California, Missouri, and LSU in its first five games.

Leading St. John's is senior libero Lena Lee with 164 digs.

The Red Storm has not lost at home since Nov. 11, 2005, going 25-0 during that time. St. John's has won all 10 home matches in each of the last two seasons.

Louisville has also had a very difficult road, losing to No. 1 Penn State over the weekend. Senior outside hitter Tatjana Kolesnikova earned all-tournament honors at the Chicago Classic this weekend.

The Irish will start up Big East play in two weeks after hosting conference opponents Liberty, UC Irvine, and Western Michigan this weekend in the Golden Dome Invitational.

Contact Jared Jedick at j Jedick@nd.edu

O-line

continued from page 28

out of the ring. It was hard work," Young said.

On Wednesday, head coach John Latina said that his players are definitely pulling their weight but the lack of sacks should be attributed to the entire offense.

"Our right ends block, our receivers are doing a good job getting open, those are team stats and I've always believed that," he said.

Jimmy Clausen has helped his own cause several times already this year by feeling pressure and getting rid of the ball, something he struggled with in his first year.

"It really is a combination of everything - the backs and the quarterback making good reads," left tackle Mike Turkovich said.

Turkovich said he struggled last year when he played guard, but was committed to making himself a better player in his final season at Notre Dame.

"Last year I wasn't seeing the whole picture. I was just kind of doing my own thing," he said. "As an offensive line you have five guys out there and you have to see the bigger picture."

The Irish have also shown that their line is deeper than before in their first two games. Last week starting guards Chris Stewart was playing injured throughout the first half in the second half true freshman Trevor Robinson stepped in and took over right where Stewart left off.

"I thought Trevor really did a nice job for us," Latina said. "The good thing was I didn't notice him. On the offensive line if you are doing your job you don't get noticed.

Mariners solve Oswalt, beat Astros

Associated Press

MIAMI — The Houston Astros are running out of time to solve their problems at the plate.

Jorge Cantu hit a three-run homer and rookie Chris Volstad allowed five runs in eight innings to lead the Florida Marlins to a 5-1 win over the Astros on Tuesday night.

The Astros, who have lost three straight, entered their last two games behind Milwaukee and Philadelphia in the NL wild-card race.

"We've got to figure out a way to get our offense going a little bit," Astros manager Cecil Cooper said. "Either they're making good pitches or we're not making good swings. Something's not happening."

Cantu's three-run homer in the first inning stopped Houston ace Roy Oswalt's franchise-record scoreless innings streak at 32 1-3 innings. Oswalt (15-10), who had last lost at least eight innings in two of his previous six starts, allowed five runs — three earned — and six hits over six innings. He struck out four and didn't walk a batter.

"After the game someone told me 97 pitches, 72 fastballs," Volstad said. "I just mixed in some off-speed pitches to keep them off balance but it was mostly the two-seamer."

Florida's lineup rattled Oswalt early. After Cantu's home run — his 27th of the season — Dan Uggla scored on a double by Cody Ross to give the Marlins a 4-0 lead. Oswalt then hit Alfredo Amezaga with a pitch, which drew warnings for both teams.

In the second inning, Mike Jacobs doubled to the deepest part of Dolphin Stadium to score Hanley Ramirez and make it 5-0. Oswalt settled down after Jacobs' double, but the damage was done.

Michael Bourn doubled to open the eighth inning and advanced on Brad Ausmus' fly to right. He scored on pinch-hitter Kazuo Matsui's groundout to make it 5-1.
**FOOTBALL**

**Hold the line**

Irish offensive line showing major improvements through first two games, hasn’t allowed a sack

By DAN MURPHY

Fresh off its second consecutive victory in the Sal Vacco Invitational, the Belles have a lot to build on from their performance in last weekend’s Sal Vacco Tournament. This past weekend, the team’s co-captain Sam Young said, “You just lock into each other and push until someone comes. We need to play as a team to continue improving upon expectations for the match.”

Despite the quality of their non-conference losses, the Belles have a chance to show off against Hope College, who is always at the top of the conference.

**SMC SOCCER**

**Belles to face Hope in non-conference match**

By MIKE GOTIMER

Although the match is considered a non-conference match, the Belles are very familiar with Hope, who is also a member of the MIAA. Saint Mary’s always sees Hope as a formidable opponent who is always at the top of the conference.

Hope, who enters the match with a 3-3-0 record, ranks third all-time in winning percentage in the MIAA and had at least a .500 record with an overall score of two-under par (214). The Georgia Bulldogs took the title with their six-under par (66) on the tournament’s final day.

The best thing about Big East play coming up for the Irish is that everyone’s records are still the same within the conference. Notre Dame (3-6) has a steep uphill climb, however, as they take on the Flying Dutch on Saturday.

**ND VOLLEYBALL**

**Irish looking for fresh start**

By JARED JEDICK

The main positive that the Irish can take out of their early losses is that they were against top quality opponents. Three of their losses came against No. 8 Cincinnati and having below average Big East preseason coaches’ poll.

The Irish return to action this weekend when the will head to East Lansing, Mich. to participate in the Mary Fossom Invitational.