Fr. Riehle dies at 83 after brief illness

Chaplain to sports teams remembered for his love of Notre Dame athletics, students

By CHRIS HINE
Editor-in-Chief

Rev. James Riehle, C.S.C., chaplain to Notre Dame sports teams for nearly three decades and former dean of students, died at Holy Cross House Wednesday. He was 83.

Riehle’s died following a brief illness, the University said.

“He was a man’s man. He was always interested in sports,” said University President Emeritus Fr. Theodore Hesburgh, who gave Riehle his final blessings before he died.

“He was a good friend because I sat next to him over the dining hall at Holy Cross Hall and I knew a good deal about him. I saw him every day. We were good friends.”

Riehle was a Notre Dame football player and had a 10-10 tie with Michigan State, when the Irish were ranked No. 1 and the Spartans were No. 2.

Riehle, who graduated from Notre Dame in 1949 with a bachelor’s degree in business administration, played the football team’s chaplain in the 1992 movie “Rudy,” and was featured in an Adidas football commercial with former Notre Dame and Super Bowl winning quarterback Joe Montana in which he asked Montana: “What did you ever end up doing after you left college?”

But beyond his association with Notre Dame athletics, Riehle served in many offices at Notre Dame, including dean of students from 1967-73, during the student protests of the Vietnam War. At universities around the country, some student protests against the Vietnam War turned violent, but not at Notre Dame, where Hesburgh said students could protest as long as they did not disrupt classes or University business. Hesburgh said Riehle did “a very good job” enforcing this policy in a pragmatic way. “About 250 of my fellow presidents were fired at that time, or died, or just left in frustration during that period,” Hesburgh said. “We had, like, every university, a fairly rough time but we came through without any big disruptions of

OIS prepares abroad students for election

Students overseas experience difficulties in making sure their votes are counted by election day

By JENN METZ
News Editor

As students on campus are scramble to send out absentee ballots before Nov. 4, the estimated 450 Notre Dame sophomores and juniors currently studying abroad are experiencing a very different presidential election season, complete with logistical difficulties for sending their vote to the United States to make sure it’s counted.

The Office of International Studies (OIS) helped prepare students by reminding them of the upcoming election during orientation sessions last spring, sending out pre-departure letters and posting links on their Web site.

Kathleen Opel, director of OIS, told the Observer the Office believes “voting is a vital component of democracy and strongly encourage[s] students abroad who are U.S. citizens to exercise the right to vote.”

“How many students actually vote, I don’t know,” she said.

Program managers reminded participants to remember to register for absentee ballots before they left the United States, a message that was repeated at OIS’ “Bon Voyage” meeting for all students last spring. Opel said.

Opel told the students their “franchise to vote is a privilege to be cherished, and recent elections have demonstrated the value of each vote.”

In a pre-departure letter sent over the summer.

The Web site offers scrolling reminders of the upcoming election and a link to the Association of International Educators’ (NAFSA) Web site, which provides information about absentee ballot procedures for students and educators living abroad, which are different from domestic absentee ballot procedures.

“Every state has different rules for voting, so it’s hard to give specific voting information to a group of students from different states,” Opel said.

The NAFSA Web site, she said, provides that information for each state.

In some locations in capital cities, students may be able to vote in person at consulates, she said. Othersstudents send their vote in the mail. Opel said OIS will assist stu-

Bush speechwriter delivers lecture

Gerson speaks about changing political landscape in America

By IRENA ZAJICKOVA
News Writer

Michael Gerson, former speechwriter to President George W. Bush, delivered the inaugural McCulloch Lecture in Responsible Journalism and Government Wednesday. Gerson spoke in the McKeon auditorium to a crowd of about fifty people.

Gerson won two inaugural addresses, several State of the Union addresses and many important post-9/11 speeches during his time working for President Bush. In addition to writing speeches, he served as a White House policy advisor on global health, development, and strongly encourage[s] student involvement.

Opel said OIS will assist stu-

Board of Governance

Group approves budget after poll

The Saint Mary’s Board of Governance (BOG) approved the Student Government Association (SGA) budget after the third vote on the issue at their meeting Wednesday night. The budget was approved with 24 for it and one abstention.

BOG polled the student body through e-mail as to whether or not they thought the Executive Board deserved a stipend on Tuesday.

Student body president Mickey Gruscmi said 557 students, which is almost one third of the student body, voted and the majority did not agree with the stipend. Treasurer Mo Weaver presented a revised budget to BOG for their approval. The revised budget did not contain a stipend and the money formerly allocated to the stipend was dispersed to funds for clubs and organizations, co-sponsorships, and the campus Readership Program which brings the USA Today, New

see WRITER/page 4

see BOG/page 6
INSIDE COLUMN

Rays' play: not sexy

Stupid Rays. Thanks to them, I have to watch the "Sex and the City" movie.

What in God's name brought about this unfortunate chain of events? How did I bury myself in this predicament? I placed faith in the Rays, something which, as history should show us, I should never have done.

I had a bet with my girlfriend on the World Series. If the Rays win, she had to watch "Clarks" with me. "Clarks" is one of my top 10 Sports Editor favorite movies, one of the greatest of all time. Dunne and Rundall's wity banter demonstrate what's really important in life, especially in today's dreary climate. Who cares that the economy is in the toilet, that people are losing their jobs, that Kim Cattrall dates a man half her age? The only reason she dates him is because he "Sex and the City" is the one and only relation I have to watch the hockey game on the roof, the funeral, the unfortunate death in the convenience store bathroom, sheer brilliance.

Instead, I have to watch Charlotte and her entourage parade around New York City comparing their Prada handbags and Manolo Blahnik kicks. Game 1 was an aberration. Game 2, the Rays got back on track. Game 3 was a great baseball game. Game 4 just sucked. Once Game 5 rolled around with Hamels as the starter, I thought the Rays were done for.

But then fate intervened; God didn't want them to lose to the Phillies. I won't enjoy watching Jay and the Phillies, I won't enjoy watching Jay and the Phillies, I won't enjoy watching Jay and the Phillies. Maybe it will be like the hockey game on the roof, the tennis match in the Sunoco gas station, the game between 24 hours a day by two police officers. Maybe it will be like the hockey game on the roof, the tennis match in the Sunoco gas station, the game between 24 hours a day by two police officers.

The sportswriters have taken the day off. They have taken the day off. They have taken the day off.

The stories expressed in the Inside Column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer. Contact Bill Brink at brinkb@nd.edu.

CORRECTIONS

The Observer regrets as a professional publication and strives for the highest standards of journalism at all times. We do, however, recognize that we can make mistakes. If we have made a mistake, please contact us at 631-4541 so we can correct our errors.

QUESTION OF THE DAY: What are you dressing up as for Halloween?

Chris Anderson 
freshman 
Keean

"A banana."

Dan Scheper 
freshman 
Keean

"Snarlax."

Kimberly Hildner 
sophomore 
Lewis

"The witch from Monty Python and the Holy Grail."

Patrick Doonan 
senior 
off-campus

"I'm going to be R.J. Jacobi."

Cherie Ng 
freshman 
McGill

"Joe the Plumber."

IN BRIEF

Today South Bend area students and their families will be welcomed to North Quad for Fall Fest—a community relations event taking place from 3:30 p.m. to 4:30.

Saint Mary's College will bless Spes Unica Hall, the new academic building, today with open houses and tours for the Board of Trustees starting at 11:00 a.m. and academic department presentations from 3:30 to 5 p.m. throughout the building. The blessing will take place in the atrium at 5 p.m. with a reception to follow and a Mass of Thanksgiving in Holy Spirit Chapel, LeMieux Hall at 6:30 p.m.

Joan Payden, Chief Executive Officer of Payden & Rygel Investment Management will speak as part of the Mendoza College to Business Boardroom Insights Executive Speaker Series Friday at 10:40 a.m. in Jordan Auditorium in the Mendoza College of Business.

Gregory P. Crawford, Dean of the College of Science will give a lecture entitled "Notre Dame Science: Making a Difference" Saturday at 11 a.m. in Room 105 of the Jordan Hall of Science.

Black Images will be held on Saturday from 8:30 to 10:30 p.m. It will be held in Washington Hall. Admission is $5.

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

OFFBEAT

Man hospitalized in car crash after firing at gas pump

NAGATUCK, Conn. — A man who police said fired gun shots into a gasoline pump on Saturday morning was expected to be charged with three felonies when he's released from a local hospital.

Police said the man went to the Sunoco gas station on New Haven Road and fired a shotgun at a gas pump several times while customers stood nearby.

Lucky, nobody was injured and the pump did not explode.

The man drove off and struck two cars and was injured in a crash following the shooting incident.

Police have an arrest warrant for the man and his hospital room is being guarded 24-hours a day by two police officers.

Man goes to jail following centipede attack on neighbor

KUALA LUMPUR, Malaysia — A Malaysian man has been accused of trying to hurt his neighbor with a dangerous weapon — centipedes. Prosecutor Mazri Mohamed said Wednesday that R. Prabakaran has been charged with attempting to cause harm with a dangerous weapon after allegedly unloading four centipedes and bugs in his neighbor's bed last week following an argument.

Prabakaran, 21, allegedly climbed on to the roof to enter his neighbor's house where he committed the offense, Mazri said.

Prabakaran pleaded not guilty Tuesday in a court in the southern city of Johor Baru and has been released on bail, Mazri said.

Information compiled from the Associated Press.

TODAY

TOMORROW

FRIDAY

GAME DAY

SUNDAY

MONDAY

LOCAL WEATHER

TODAY

TOMORROW

FRIDAY

GAME DAY

SUNDAY

MONDAY

LOCAL WEATHER

TODAY

TOMORROW

FRIDAY

GAME DAY

SUNDAY

MONDAY

HIGH 58
LOW 49
HIGH 48
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LOW 52

TODAY

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LOCAL WEATHER

TODAY

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HIGH 67
LOW 52

The Observer • PAGE 2

Thursday, October 30, 2008
SMC students enjoy Halloween festivities

By KATIE KOHLER News Writer

Saint Mary's students got in the Halloween spirit early last night as Holy Cross Hall and Dalloway's hosted campus-wide events. The events were put on by the Holy Cross Hall Council, resident advisors, and the Residence Hall Association (RHA) were all free and open to students and the children of Saint Mary's faculty and staff.

In years prior, Holy Cross has hosted Haunted Tunnels, a haunted house set up in the sub basement of the hall open to students and children of faculty and staff. However, this year, due to construction and low-hanging pipes, Saint Mary's Security said it would be safer to cancel the activity. As a result, Terrie Paul, Holy Cross Hall director and the rest of the Holy Cross Hall Council came up with a contingency plan.

"Security told us we can't go on with Haunted Tunnels because they are undergoing construction and it's a safety concern for the students," Paul said.

Instead, Holy Cross hosted "HoCre Halloween" in the hall lounges. Activities included ghost stories, coloring for the children, drinks and snacks from 8 to 10 p.m.

In addition, all the residence halls on campus were given the opportunity to host Trick-or-Treaters from 6 to 8 p.m.

Construction aside, Paul also attributed some of the stress of preparing the events to getting a late start on hall council this year.

"Hall council was off to a slow start, especially since Halloween is really soon in the year. This is a Holy Cross tradition and generates money for Holy Council," she said. "But there was an excellent turnout and the girls really took control of a last minute situation.

Dalloway's, the coffee shop on campus, also put on "Haunted Tours" which is one of their most attended events, Stephanie Anton, Dalloway's commissioner said. It occurs annually.

The Haunted Tour is a walk around campus hosted by the Dalloway's Board. The guide of the tour stops at a certain place to tell a scary story related to the event, Anton said. There was free hot cider, cookies and candy available at Dalloway's.

Anton said the board has been preparing for the event for about two weeks and focused on the decorations. The event was open to the public, but mainly to Dalloway's Board. The guide of the tour stops at a certain place to tell a scary story related to the event, Anton said. There was free hot cider, cookies and candy available at Dalloway's.

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Student Senate

Group examines dorm printing

Printers not available in 18 residence halls, senators discuss expansion

By JOSEPH McMATH Assistant News Editor

Prompted by a number of complaints, the Student Senate discussed the need for printers in every residence hall yesterday.

"People complain about it on a regular basis," Alumni Hall Senator Zach Reeves said. "It always comes up during hall elections.

Students often complain of having to walk on long lines to print at the clusters.

"I live in McGlinn and sometimes when I go to Dottorato in the morning before classes there are really long lines," Senate Committee on Student Outreach chair Sarah Rodts said. "I don't always get what I need printed."

"Construction aside, Paul also attributed some of the stress of preparing the events to getting a late start on hall council this year.

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Abroad

continued from page 1

dents in the cases it advises it best not to use local mail to send ballots to the United States; on-location program directors will send these ballots, but will ensure they arrive on time to be counted. "It's a routine problem, in some places, the local mail takes forever," she said.

Of course, by sending out e-mails today reminding abroad students once again about the election and referring them to the Youth Vote Overseas Web site, students know their ballots are lost or late in arriving.

The United States election is a hot topic in various media outlets abroad, though not to the degree as domestic coverage.

Writer

continued from page 1

and genocide.

Gerson's lecture concerned the changing political landscape. He emphasized three main aspects that have caused a shift in the political nature of the United States.

The first factor is the economic decline of mainstream media, which has led to a major change in the nature of news, he said. The rise of Internet media, according to Gerson, has facilitated a culture of exclusion, encouraging those who do not agree with an idea to remain silent rather than challenge it. "Americans can now if they choose live in an ideological universe of their own creation and view everyone outside that universe as idiots, as fools," said Gerson.

Gerson admitted that the mainstream media could also be corrupt, even hypocritical. But hypocrisy cannot exist without standards, he said. Without a mainstream media and journalists devoted to saying the truth, Americans are left with a news media where anger rules, he said.

The second factor is a lack of liberalism in politics, he said. The last two presidents worked to change their respective parties, Gerson said. There is none of that in today's election and both parties are running empty campaigns, he said. Gerson said that Obama is naturally talented in the art of politics, but that he has not made any moves to innovate his policies. A lack of any sort of modern policy agenda will empower the Democratic Congress, leading to backlash from conservatives, he said.

"Obama is a strong, able man," Gerson said. "But it may take a strong president with a developed and centered ideology to shape and defy a democratic Congress." The third factor relates to conservatism, he said. Gerson said the party is lost, exhausted, and preparing for fratricide. Unless Republicans change their tactics and apply creative, free-market ideas to human problems, they will never succeed, he said.

Gerson said that McCain has been such a reformer. In the past, he was willing to oppose his own party. However, he is also running an empty campaign now. He has made no announcement of any kind of reform, he said.

Contact Irena Zajickova at izajicko@nd.edu

NCAA

continued from page 1

Eight of the men's sports programs - basketball, baseball, lacrosse, fencing, soccer, swimming and tennis - received perfect scores of 100.

The three programs that did not receive perfect scores did receive scores in the 96s. Hockey received a score of 96, football a score of 94 and golf a score of 90.

"It is a testament to the philosophy of the University in terms of athletics that graduation should be a routine part of the experience," said John Heisler, the senior associate athletics director.

Heisler said, and in some areas, Notre Dame improved. Last year, 18 of the University's 22 athletic programs received a GSR score of 100. I suppose, in a lot of cases, that the numbers are impressive enough that the goal is probably perfection," Heisler said. "You'd like to see 160 on the board."

The 2007 NCAA report showed Notre Dame had a percentage of .818 (18 of 22), which made it No. 1. In 2006, Notre Dame's percentage was .773 (17 of 22), which placed it at the No. 2 rank behind the U.S. Naval Academy. In 2005, Notre Dame's score was .800 (16 of 20), which resulted in a No. 1 rank, according to a news release from the Notre Dame Athletics Web site.

The numbers released in the fourth year of the NCAA GSR survey are based upon entering classes from 1998 to 2001.

According to the Notre Dame Athletics Web site, the GSR was developed four years ago to account for transfer student athletes and others not tracked by federal graduation rate accounting, to account for increased mobility of students. Under these standards, schools are not penalized for students who transfer from the institution in good academic standing.

Contact Kaitlynn Riedy at kriley@nd.edu

I would imagine they are definitely talking about the election, especially in Europe," Opel said.

Junior Molly Conway, currently studying abroad in London, said "it's available."

"They see him as being a breath of fresh air for American politics and they are very vocal about their endorsement," she said.

Gerson also voted by absentee ballot, which she also had mailed to her abroad location. She said that due to the time difference, six hours for those in London, most students have been watching presidential debates on YouTube or other Web sites after they occur Stateside.

"But the people stayed up to watch them," she said.

Contact Jenn Metz at jmetz@nd.edu

Writer

continued from page 1

of athletics that graduation should be a routine part of the experience."
College tuition up despite economy Students and families see no relief amid falling wages and job losses

Associated Press

As the economy walloped their finances, students and families saw little relief in 2007-2008, according to a College Board survey released Wednesday. After years of double-digit increases that fueled worries about student debt, private borrowing rose at public two-year colleges. But that's only because overall inflation was unusually high — about 5.6 percent.

"No one really thinks it's easier to pay for college just because other prices have gone up," Sandy Brandt, economics professor at Skidmore College and senior policy analyst at the College Board, said in a telephone interview. While families may postpone other big-ticket items, "it's harder to wait to go to college than to wait to buy a car," she said.

Public two-year colleges once again were the biggest bargain. Average in-state tuition rates rose 3 percent, to $2,394, or 6.4 percent, to $4,065 for out-of-state students. At four-year public institutions, tuition rates rose 2.9 percent, or 5.9 percent, to $9,125, according to the survey.

At public universities, the average net cost is only about $26,900. And while some private colleges now exceed $30,000, many are factoring in aid that students are likely to get, according to the College Board.

"We have an arm in our pockets and an invisible hand holding the other one," said Jane Stolz-Nielsen, a research associate at the College Board.

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BOG
continued from page 1
York Times, Chicago Tribune, and the South Bend Tribune
to campus.

The budget also
allowed for an increase to the contingency fund.

"We upped the
contingency fund just because we don't
know about this this readership program,"
Weaver said. "Last year, they had
a $13,000 for the newspaper."

So, we just want to make sure
we have that covered.

Patrick Daniel, director of
Student involvement and BOG
advisor, congratulated the board on passing the budget.

however, he said he was
disappointed with the way the
issue was handled.

"I'm appreciative of how
much people were passionate about... the budget
and the stipend, but I was a little disappointed
that it became very
personal," Daniel said.

Daniele
reminded
BOG, and
those in attendance at
the meeting that
the student
government
will make decisions that
they don't
agree with at times, and
hopes people will focus on the
issue instead of making things
personal in the future.

He also said that with the
passing of the budget, BOG
has the opportunity to move
about the boycott of the dining
hall which took place
before Fall Break in students
disenchantment with the
food.

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became very
personal."

Patrick Daniel
BOG advisor

United Kingdom
Russell Brand quits BBC
after radio show suspended

Associated Press

LONDON — Every enter-
tainer knows there's a fine
time between offbeat and offensive. Russell Brand has
built a career walking it —
but now he may have stum-
bled.

The wild-haired, motor-
mouthed British comedian is
erenowned for risque rou-
tines, as he
recounting his drug and sex
addiction and
called President Bush "that retard-
ed cowboy fellow" while
hosting MTV's Video Music
Awards.

On Wednesday, Brand quit
his BBC radio show after he
and fellow performer
Jonathan Ross were sus-
pended indefinitely for leav-

ing lewd messages
on the voicemail of a 73-year-old
actor. Also under threat
is the reputation of Britain's state-funded national broad-
caster, which allowed Brand's routine to make it to
air.

The calls by Brand and
Ross to actor Andrew Sachs —
best known for playing
Spanish waiter Manuel in the
1970s sitcom "Fawlty Towers" — have drawn more
than 18,000 complaints.
Prime Minister Gordon
Brown called the comments
"inappropriate and unac-
cceptable."

In the scatological messages,
the pair claimed Brand had slept with Sachs' grand-
daughter, Nora Baillie, and joked that Sachs might hang himself as a
result of the news. Baillie, a 23-year-
old burlesque performer,
acknowledged she had a
strong sexual relationship with
Brand but said the calls to her
grandfather were
"cruel.

The duo also
made further calls
to Sachs in which they tried
to apologize but continued to
blurt out lewd messages.
The calls were recorded
Oct. 16 and aired on Brand's
radio show two days later.

Both Brand and Ross
apolo-
gized.

"I am sorry that I upset
Mr. Sachs," Brand, 33, told
reporters outside his London
home Wednesday. Ross, 47,
said he was sorry for his
"stupid
error of judgment."

BBC director general
Mark Thompson made a "personal
and unreserved apology" for
the "gross lapse of taste by the
performers and the produc-
tion team."

He said the pair would be suspended pending a full
report into the affair.

Brand later said he
decided to resign from his
BBC radio program, which
attracted 2 million listeners
a week.

"As I only do the radio
shows to make people laugh,
I've decided that given the
subsequent coverage I will stop
doing the show," he
said in a statement. "I got
caught up in the moment
and forgot that at the
core of the rude comments
and silly songs were the
real feelings of a beloved and
brilliant comic actor and a
very sweet and big-hearted
young woman."

Several politicians have
called on the BBC to fire the
pair. Telecommunications
regulator Ofcom said it
would investigate whether
the calls breached the
broadcasting code, which
sets standards for fairness
and privacy.

The case is reminiscent of
the antics of American
"shock jocks" such as Don Imus or Howard Stern — who
repeated obscenities fines
before jumping to the unreg-
gulated
haves of satellite
radio — or Don Imus, who
was fired from MSNBC and
CBS Radio for making racist
and sexist comments about a
women's basketball team.

There have been
numerous incidents of DJ-inspired out-

rage in the U.S. In DJ
team Opie and Anthony were
fired by CBS Radio
after broadcasting a live account
of two listeners having sex
in New York City's St.
Patrick's Cathedral.

Sachs said he did not plan to
complain to the police or
other authorities.

"I respect his decision," he
said about Brand. "I hope he
moves forward, I really hope he
does."

The Observer • NEWS
Thursday, October 30, 2008

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Day of the Dead
Día de los Muertos
7 p.m. Oct 30
Snite Museum of Art
University of Notre Dame

Eric Chavez of Oaxaca,
Mexico, discusses
scrapel weaving and Dia
de los Muertos followed
by traditional Mexican
music, dance, and
refurbishments. Free
T-shirts to the
first 50 guests.

Co-sponsored by the
Snite Museum of Art
and the Institute for Latin Studies
with support from the Kellogg
Institute for International Studies,
Campus Ministry, Multi-cultural Student
Programs and Services.

Eharte01@saintmarys.edu
and Ashley Charney at
acharney1@saintmarys.edu


Thursday, October 30, 2008

**BUSINESS**

**Market Recap**

<table>
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**In Brief**

FDAs opposed drug suit policy

WASHINGTON — Apotheke and career employ­ees at the Food and Drug Administration opposed agency regulations that weaken consumers' ability to sue drug makers, congressional investigators said Wednesday.

At issue is language in a drug labeling rule from 2006 that effectively limits when people can sue in state court over injury claims involving medications. The FDA contends federal regulations prevail when there is a conflict with state law. This concept is called preemption.

Government documents showed that career offi­cials opposed this approach, according to a report released by Rep. Henry Waxman, chairman of the House Oversight and Government Reform Committee. In the past, the agency had viewed private suits as an important method of protection against unsafe drugs, the report said.

"Much of the argument for why we are proposing to invoke pre-emption seems to be based on a false assumption that the FDA-approved labeling is fully accurate and up-to-date in a real time basis," the report quoted Dr. John Jenkins, who oversees FDAs new drug reviews, as saying. "We know that such an assumption is false."

Patients injured by drugs have won suits against drug manufacturers for falling to warn against certain dangers.

World stocks higher as Fed cuts rate

LONDON — World stock markets ended mostly higher Wednesday but many retreated from their session peaks as investors returned to fleeing towards corporate earnings in a global recession and a rally on Wall Street fizzle.

The U.S. Federal Reserve cut market expecta­tions by trimming a key interest rate by half a percentage point in a bid to revive the world's ailing economy. Global markets surged Tuesday in anticipation of the Fed's move but then appeared to the only lackluster move through.

Late-session selling sent the Dow Jones industrials down 74.16, or 0.82 percent, to end at 8,999.96 after being up nearly 290 points, which would have given them a two-day gain of more than 1,100 points.

European stock markets closed mostly higher Wednesday, catching up with Tuesday's surge on Wall Street that started after European exchanges had closed.

**Key interest rate lowered to 1 percent**

WASHINGTON — The Federal Reserve cut interest rates by half a percen­tage point Wednesday, driving it to a level seen only once before in the last half-century, and the governors finally began distributing funds from the billions in the financial rescue package.

Those efforts and others were part of a concerted drive by officials, just days before a national election, to demonstrate they are moving as quickly as possible to deal with the most serious financial crisis to hit the country since the 1930s.

"The cruel irony is that at the time when citizens need their state governments the most, we are least equipped to help them because of plummeting revenues," said Peter Sanders of Vermont, who said states are hurting, our national economy suffers.

"This time of adversity should be translated into a time of opportunity with respect to our infrastructure projects," Corzine told the transportation committee. "We should not lose the opportunity to invest in our future, our children, and our grandchildren's future."

But the immediate future of the economy is murky at best, given resistance from President Bush to the spending-focused approach favored by Democrats. While Democrats say there's no time to waste, giving the faltering economy, they may have to wait until January to enact their plans — if Barack Obama is elected.

"A lot of the claims that are made about how much transporta­tion could actually help the economy are overblown," said White House Press Secretary Dana Perino. "We are working on a new stimulus package, she said the White House has not "seen a pack­age that we could support.""

"It remains a mystery to me whether this hearing is mere­ly a fact-finding expedition or whether it is laying the groundwork for action in Congress next month in a stimulus package," said Rep. Jim McCrery, R-La., a mem­ber of the House Ways and Means Committee. "If our goal is to make law this year, then I want to remind my col­leagues that it is of little use to draft a package ... if it cannot also pass the closely divided House and be signed by the current occupant of the White House."
Congo

Soldiers, refugees flee rebel fighters

 Rwandan Tutsi-led government denies charges that troops crossed the border, attacked soldiers

Associated Press

GOMA — Firing wildly, Congolese soldiers commandeered cars, taxis and motorbikes Wednesday in a retreat from advancing rebel fighters, joining tens of thousands of terrified refugees struggling to stay ahead of the violence.

As gunfire cracked in this eastern provincial capital, the Tutsi rebels said they had reached the outskirts of Goma and declared a unilateral cease-fire to prevent panic as the army retracts and residents flee.

Congo said Rwandan troops had crossed the border and attacked its soldiers — raising the specter that neighboring nations will again be drawn into Congo's war. Rwanda's Tutsi-led government immediately denied the charge, but Congo turned to Angola for help defending its territory.

As the chaos mounted, the U.S. announced its officials would leave Goma and urged all American citizens to do the same. The State Department said Assistant Secretary of State for African Affairs Jonjay Frasier was heading to the capital, Kinshasa, and would arrive Thursday.

"There is a lot of violence," said a spokesman for African nations and became a rush at the country's vast mineral wealth.

The unrest in eastern Congo has been fueled by fostering hatreds left over from the 1994 Rwandan genocide, in which half a million Tutsis were slaughtered. More than a million Hutu extremists fled to Congo where they regrouped in a brutal militia that helps fuel the continuing conflict in Congo.

Rebel leader Nyunda, an ethnic Tutsi and former general, quit the army several years ago, claiming the government of President Joseph Kabila was not doing enough to protect minority Tutsis from the Hutu extremists.

On Wednesday, retreating government soldiers entered Goma along with the fleeing refugees, grabbing cars, taxis and motorbikes to help in their escape.

About 15 soldiers briefly commandeered a car carrying an AP cameraman and photographer and demanded to be driven about 50 miles to the town of Saki.

"I'll kill you! I'll kill you!" yelled one soldier in front of an airfield near downtown Goma.

The soldiers grabbed boxes that looked like ammunition from the U.N. compound at the airport, pried them into the SUV and took off. Some of the soldiers piled onto the roof, others hung from open doors. The journalists finally managed to get away, jumping out of the moving vehicle at a military police checkpoint.

As the torches grew of a wider surge in fighting and needs more troops quickly, India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Uruguay and South Africa are the main contributors to the existing force.

But hopes for immediate backup from the European Union dimmed. French Foreign Minister Bernard Kouchner said Wednesday the EU had considered sending troops to reinforce the peacekeepers in Congo but some countries refused.

Fear has grown of a wider war that could drag in Congo's neighbors. Congo suffered back-to-back wars from 1996 to 2002 that embroiled eight nations and became a "They suddenly became very agitated and people began leaving the camp in a panic" Ron Redmond Agency spokesman

and at other strategic points.

A rebel statement said their fighters were just outside Goma.

"We are not far from Goma," rebel leader Laurent Nkunda was quoted as saying on the BBC's Web site. "But because there is a state of destabilization in this region we decided — unilaterally to proclaim a cease-fire."

Nkunda, who has ignored calls by the Security Council to respect a U.N.-brokered truce signed in January, called on government forces to follow suit.

The U.N. says its biggest peacekeeping mission — a 17,000-strong force — is now stretched to the limit with the surge in fighting and needs more troops quickly, India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Uruguay and South Africa are the main contributors to the existing force.
Values issues highlight state ballots

Candidates can decide their states’ position on issues like abortion and gay marriage

Associated Press

Social issues so volatile that the presidential campaigns sidestepped them will be on the ballot and staked out several states next week, including measures that would criminalize abortions, outlaw affirmative action and ban same-sex marriage in California, one of only three states that allows it.

In all, there are 153 proposals on ballots in 36 states.

In Washington, voters will decide whether Clinton made up her mind in the end. And while Alaska made no mention of McCain in his paid television ad, both men sharpened their rhetoric during the day.

Palin suggests she will be a GOP future

TOLEDO, Ohio — Facing the unhappy prospect of defeat, Republican vice presidential candidate Sarah Palin indicated Wednesday that she will not disappear from the national political scene if the race was tightening as it neared the end. And while McCain needs to win most of them — including in California, Michigan and Washington — to carry the day.

Democrats dominate early voting

WASHINGTON — Democrats are dominating early voting in six key states President Bush won four years ago, forcing Republican John McCain to play catch-up even before Election Day arrives.

Democrats outnumber Republicans among early voters in Iowa, North Carolina, Florida, Colorado, New Mexico and Nevada, according to statistics from election and party officials in those states. Bush won all six in 2004, and McCain needs to win most of them to claim the White House this year.

Georgia, another red state, doesn’t track early voters by party, but it does by race. About 1.4 million Georgians have already cast ballots, and blacks are voting in disproportionate numbers. Black voters overwhelmingly support Democrat Barack Obama, who is bidding to become the nation’s first black president.

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LETTER TO THE EDITOR

In response to the various abortion arguments—mocking the Viewpoints page these cold fall days, all it really shows is the obvious discord between beliefs in this country. I thought an opinion from experience would be useful to throw into the mix.

I am a mother. I have faced the "choice." There are no words to express the flood of emotions which filled a woman when she discovers she is pregnant, especially at such a young age. From happiness to fear, it ranges across the spectrum.

Overall, I agree with Mary Daly’s opinion (“For Clarification,” Oct. 28) when she says, “A pregnant woman who finds herself in a position in which abortion seems the only answer — is not being afforded the right to choose.”

Unfortunately, in today’s society, that is often the case. I have held a staunch pro-life view throughout my life, but not until you stand with the issue at hand do you truly question your beliefs. I will admit, abortion was an option, and a highly considered option for me the first few days.

When one is floored with ideas of today’s norm of leading life (i.e., college, job, marriage, promotion, then children) the more-common-than-not shame afforded to unwed mothers in our society, I felt as alone when, with a single decision, I was ripped from that norm into a life-track of my own. This loneliness forced me to consider abortion, however, after a night of tears and prayer, that “choice” was forever deleted from my mind.

What made me decide not to partake in this option given to me? It came down to one word: support. I learned of the support offered to me by my family and friends. I discovered the support given to me by the University. I supported myself by knowing I could be a mother and still reach all the goals in my life.

Too often today are women like me faced with the same problem. Why? Because you have given the support they need in order to know that abortion, while a legal choice, is the choice least available to them. While I feel that this nation is a long way from making abortion illegal again based on a rights disagreement, we should be focusing on making less and less women need to terminate a pregnancy because she feels there is no other choice.

How? Support, and unlimited amounts of it. I still believe abortion is the murder of an innocent life, but I now understand how a woman can feel so trapped that she sees no other option available. Now, after going through the most difficult nine months of my life, I have a beautiful one-year-old boy who never stops smiling, a wonderful fiancé I am marrying next spring, high grades in school, a promising internship next summer and the most fulfilling life I could have ever imagined.

I do hope, as Lindsey Schwartz (“Who has the ‘Right to Life?’” Oct. 13) pointed out, that no one is put into the situation that I was, however, know that the choices you can make lead you to be the happiest you can be. Your love of a child and tears fill my eyes with the thought that I might have never seen her big, beautiful, blue eyes with a "choice" I almost made.

Staysia Sigler
junior

---

Today's Staff

News
Mandi Strome
Becky Briscoe
Robert Singer
Viewpoint
Kara King

Sports
Lorenzo Reyes
Alex Ricker
Jenning Breese
Scene
Mark Witte
Blair Chermidlin

Observer Poll

Would you rather spend a night on the town with?

John McCain
Barack Obama
Joe Biden
Mr. Sarah Palin

Vote by Thursday at 5 p.m. at www.ndsmcobserver.com

COPE OF THE USA

"Success usually comes to those who are too busy to look for it." — Henry David Thoreau
U.S. author
I wish you could have met Thomas Fitzzian, my grandfather. I think I wish you could have met him. He was the intimidat­
ing old man. The completely undisputed truth is I do not have the time or political knowledge to debate that topic. Nonetheless, Pesavento’s column fails to support socialist principles. While I strongly disagree with her on that conviction, I do not have the time or political knowledge to debate that topic. Nonetheless, Pesavento’s column fails to comprehend the atrocious financial conditions in which a great amount of Americans live. In fact, no one, including myself, can truly understand the horrid environment that these unfortunate people must experience daily.

Today, when I want to really remember my grandfather, I think of two times: the day we sat at his kitchen table and he cried about losing his brother in the Depression; and the days I sat next to him as he died. My point is this: I think there is something deeply revelatory about seeing some­one who you know to be powerful become suddenly vulnerable. Someone who seemed totally secure and in control, living in another world than ourselves, become suddenly helpless and broken, and knowable. And I wonder if Jesus isn’t sometimes one such person for us.

...and the government must come in to “even out the playing field.” My history teacher assigned an essay in which she asked, “Why not ask grandpop?”

I am proud of Sean Lyttle (“We need socialism,” Oct. 28) and his future “lucrative career” as a trial lawyer. I’m sorry, however, that he feels no reason he should.

Obama decide the “faircutest” allocation of the peo­ple’s resources, why not decide for our guilty selves?

Moreover, Lyttle claims that the leading cause of personal bankruptcy in this country is “cata­strophic medical bills.” This very well may be true, but it is not a reason to “trust” Barack Obama. “If you think health care is expensive now, wait until you see what it costs when it’s free.”

Lyttle is right that the recent bailouts on Wall Street were ludicrous, and if it is forcing an already break­

I have a dream — one particular moment in our inter­

On the appointed day, my mom drove to my grandpa’s house. I pulled out a piece of looseleaf on which I had written down everything I wanted to say to my grandpa. And, hiding behind the paper, I began the interview. “Where were you living when the Depression began?” I will never forget the next hour of my life. Because over the next hour, this man, in all of his inappropriat­

Lyttle seems to be talking about the things he has learned in his brief time praying because I feel, deep down, that God must be somehow disappointed in me. That is to say, God, in my weakness, can seem unapproachable.

I do believe there is a key difference between the thinking of liberals and conserva­tives. Lyttle suggests that it is some kind of des­

...and I screamed, “No way!” — as she asked, “Why not ask grandpop?”

On the verge of not completing the complex issues to the tax rates for Americans that earn a net income of over $250,000 is unwar­

First, Pesavento declares, “... English philosopher John Locke ... states, ‘government has no other end than the preservation of property of individuals.’” On another point, Pesavento draws a complex connection between Democratic presidential nominee Barack Obama’s tax proposals with other issues. Original I was a slow learner, that is not a red herring anyway. Americans who earn a net income of over $250,000 is unwarn­

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like countless Notre Dame students, I started off my Monday morning by zorning out in my 9:30 and persuing The Observer, where I discovered a viewpoint entitled “Barack the Socialist” (Oct. 28). In her article, Christina Pesavento draws a complex connection between Democratic presidential nominee Barack Obama’s tax proposals with other issues. Original I was a slow learner, that is not a red herring anyway. Americans who earn a net income of over $250,000 is unwarn­

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Great Things Are Attached to Grocery Stores: El Paraiso

By KARA KING
Acme Writer

Just down Main Street in South Bend, El Paraiso is a Mexican restaurant that few students beyond the Irish ski team have discovered. And this needs to change. With prices and speed to rival Taco Bell, and traditional Mexican food that is hard to find past the Red River, it is more than worth a visit.

El Paraiso looks (and feels) like the type of dive frequented by Guy Fieri. Attached to a Mexican grocery store, it screams authenticity throughout the dining experience. The smell is overpowering when you enter, and it sets the stage for the dining experience to follow.

The restaurant itself is basic: a simple room with several cafeteria-type tables, orange walls and a few Mexican decorations spaced throughout. This simplicity belies all this place has to offer.

The menu offers anything and everything Mexican, from favorites such as tacos, burritos, and quesadillas to chimichangas and milanesa. Most selections are a la carte, although there are several plate options and daily specials. Rice and beans can also be added to any order for a few dollars more. But with the exceptionally generous portion sizes, they aren’t needed. The burrito size easily rivals those of Chipotle, except that instead of being overly stuffed with rice and other fillers, they contain copious amounts of meat with just enough sides to enhance the flavor. Quite obviously, these burritos mean business.

The food itself is amazing, albeit a little bit greasy (although with Mexican food that should be expected). To begin, pick an entree. Then customize. Choose a main filling from steak, chicken, ground beef, pork or black beans. Several options, such as tacos and burritos, are offered in several styles, including “El Paraiso,” with sour cream, cheese and simple guacamole, and “Mexican style” with cilantro and onions. For those less adventurous, they also offer the traditional “American style,” with lettuce, tomatoes and cheese.

Besides all the offerings for such a small place, even the little things are done right. The beans and rice are a welcome break from what passes for such in the dining hall. The salsa actually has flavor and heat. The wet burrito and chimichanga are especially delicious and even their lesser-known entrees are cooked to perfection.

Best of all, it’s cheap. Tacos start at $1.20 each and burritos at $5.00. Even the most expensive offerings fail to bust the $10 mark. It is an easy place to visit on a budget and leave full and satisfied.

The service is good, for what it is. Mostly, intended as a take out restaurant, the waitress managed to keep the chip basket full (although they do charge for refills beyond a certain point) and brought out the food as it was ready and warm. While service is clearly not the strength of El Paraiso, it is better than expected.

The attached grocery store is an added bonus and worth a walk through even if you don’t buy anything. With traditional Mexican produce year-round, if you ever find yourself in need of a mango or coconut, you know where to look. The Mexican candy section is also culturally enlightening and offers several interesting Halloween treats.

Overall, El Paraiso offers an unexpected Mexican dining experience in South Bend on a college student budget. Go for the affordability. Return for the food.

Contact Kara King at kking5@nd.edu

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Service: 2 of 4
Atmosphere: 3 of 4
Food: 3.5 of 4
Cost: 4 of 4

Overall: 3.25 of 4
By MICHELLE FORDICE  
Assistant Scene Editor

We're back and the doors to the dining hall are flung open once again, so it's time to get back to work finding good things to eat. Hopefully a week off has put a shine back on the offerings. Not to be missed.

Thursday: "Shaun of the Dead" at Legends, midnight.

In light of this spooky holiday season, Legends is getting into the horror game by sponsoring a showing of the 2004 British film "Shaun of the Dead." This spot-on parody spoofs classic zombie movies while still scaring up its share of chills and Halloween thrills. In the film, slackerish Shaun (Simon Pegg) attempts to win back his girlfriend Liz (Kate Ashfield) while he and his bumbling best friend Ed (Nick Frost) battle hordes of flesh-eating zombies across their North London neighborhood. Not to be missed.

Friday: Notre Dame Glee Club Fall concert, Leighton Concert Hall, 8 p.m.

This week's concert will feature not only Notre Dame Glee Club, but also feature several of the smaller ensembles within the Glee Club, as well as some spooky, Halloween-type selections. Also, watch for sales of the group's albums outside of the concert hall. Tickets cost $8.50 for faculty and staff, $5 for seniors and $3 for students.

Saturday: "Dracula" at the South Bend Civic Theatre, 8 p.m.

Yes, it's the day after Halloween, but why not keep the spooky spirit alive another night? The South Bend Civic Theatre, minutes from both the Notre Dame and Saint Mary's campuses, will feature performances of "Dracula" all weekend. As the Count himself says in the play, "I want your fear . . . for your fear renders your veins rich and full!"
The play is an adaptation by Steven Dietz of the original Bram Stoker novel. Visit www.arteverywhere.com for more information. Tickets cost $17 and there is also a midnight showing on Friday.

Sunday: The Alison Brown Quartet, Leighton Concert Hall, 2 p.m.

Ever given bluegrass a try? Even if you've never seen a banjo, the Alison Brown Quartet is sure to impress. Alison Brown is a Grammy-winning banjo artist who has worked with a variety of bluegrass performers, including Alison Krauss. Billboard magazine once likened Brown's banjo playing to "James Taylor's voice or B.B. King's guitar" for its unique style and beauty. Tickets cost $38, $30 for faculty and staff, $28 for seniors and $15 for students.

Contact Anahle Lipari at alipari@nd.edu.

Dining Hall Dish

By MICHELLE FORDICE  
Assistant Scene Editor

We're back and the doors to the dining hall are flung open once again, so it's time to get back to work finding good things to eat. Hopefully a week off has put a shine back on the offerings of North and South, but if not here are some ideas to keep you going, so dig in!

This week's recipes:

**Pitas with Garbanzo Beans and Spinach**

There is something about pitas that just makes them fun, so staff away! Spinach has gotten a bad name, probably because it is often served over-cooked, but don't give in to the association. It has a great flavor and is a good shake up from the usual lettuce. Garbanzo beans (the stars of many Middle Eastern foods such as hummus and falafels) with their nutty flavor and are a good source of protein. Fill a bowl with spinach, garbanzo beans, mushrooms, feta cheese (Not a feta fan? Try blue cheese, or even sprinkle on a bunch of the Parmesan from the pizza area) and red onion.

Mix a dab of Dijon mustard into red wine vinegar and pour over the contents of the bowl. You can squeeze some lemon on top as well, if that is to your taste. (Too much work? You can actually just toss a dab of Dijon mustard on the top, pour over the vinegar and mix it later.)

If you want a hot pita, stop by the microwave and zap it for about 1 minute. If you're in more of a crunchy and fresh mood, just leave it as is.

Make sure everything is well mixed and cut into bite sized pieces. Sprinkle with pepper.

Stuff the mixture into the pitas.

**Black Bean and Bacon Salad**

Lettuce is hardly a requirement for a salad. This one is based around black beans, a bunch of other yummy vegetables and of course, bacon. There isn't much that beats bacon, is there?

Fill a bowl with black beans, shredded carrot (or dice up a couple of carrot sticks), diced tomatoes, red onion and corn.

Add a little red wine vinegar, but not too much, you don't want to overwhelm this one.

Fork up a couple slices of bacon from the sandwich area for hot from the breakfast area if it is early enough in the day). Shred and mix into the other ingredients.

Warm up the bowl in the microwave for about a minute. Sprinkle with salt and pepper. You can try adding in some ranch dressing for another taste.

**Quick Tip**

Have a favorite sandwich you always make? Try transferring the same ingredients to a wrap, a pita, or even just some of the nicer breads you have to slice yourself. It will make a tried and true dish a little more special. Don't forget the pickles!

**Have your own dining hall recipe? We would love to feature it! E-mail mfordice@nd.edu.**
Associated Press

PHILADELPHIA — From losingest team to longest game, the Philadelphia Phillies are World Series champions.

Strange as that sounds. Strange as it was.

Brad Lidge and the Phillies finished off the Tampa Bay Rays 4-3 in a three-hour, 20-minute sprint Wednesday night to win the World Series. It was the end of redemption for all the losses, the jokes, the slights. Finally, something to celebrate.

How much did Philly fans love it?

Well, the sports hero they point to with the most pride isn’t even a real person.

“Andy,” the skipper did it.

“It’s over,” shortstop Jimmy Rollins said. “It’s over, man.”

Lidge went 48-0 on saves chances, this year, including this two-word, retired two batters with a runner on second, striking out pinch-hitter Eric Hinske to end it.

Lidge jumped in front of the dugout, ran to grab his keys with arms outstretched. Catcher Carlos Ruiz ran out to meet him, his teammates sprinted to the mound to join them as owling-fan fans let loose.

“At first, I couldn’t believe it. Then and the gravity of what happened hit me,” Lidge said.

A generation ago, it was Tug McGraw who went wild when the Phillies won their first title. A few days after country singer Tim McGraw scattered his dad’s ashes on the mound, it was Lidge’s turn to throw the final pitch.

Despite low TV ratings and fewer fans in the stands, fans will always remember how this one wrapped up. Just for the first time in a long while, kids saw a World Series champion crowned in Philadelphia.

“I believe this firmly, our guys are not going to be satisfied without playing in October from now on,” Rays manager Joe Maddon said.

“That’s a good thing. And that’s all because of this group of people this year,” reliever J.C. Romero got the win, his second of the Series.

Hamels went 4-0 in five postseason starts, beating the Rays in Game 1 and pitching six sharp innings in the rain during Game 5. He was set to be the first batter when the game resumed, and was immediately pulled for a pinch-hitter.

While former NL MVPs Ryan Howard and B J. Upton drive the Phillies, it was their less-heralded teammates who helped win it on this chilly night.

Tied at 3, Pat Burrell led off the seventh with a drive off the center-field wall against J. P. Howell, Chad Bradford relieved and one out later Feliz singled home pinch-runner Eric Bruntlett.

Rocco Baldelli’s solo home run off Ryan Madson made it 3-3 in the top of the seventh. The Rays almost got more, but All-Star closer Jose Valverde walked Chase Utley reliefing a throw to first on a grounder over the bag and instead threw out Jason Bartlett at the plate.

Pinch-hitter Geoff Jenkins, the first batter Wednesday night, doubled and later scored on Jayson Werth’s bloop single.

In all, there were six new catches, three pinch-hitters and two pinch-runners when play restarted.

Manager Charlie Manuel, whose NL East champions clinched a playoff spot in the final week guided the Phillies’ second overall championship in six World Series titles. The Phillies helped themselves by going 7-0 at home this postseason, beating Milwaukee and the Dodgers in the NL playoffs and then defeating the Rays.

“I always thought we’d win the World Series. I knew we could beat anyone in the league,” Manuel said.

Once known as a city of chameleons, Philadelphia sports fell on hard times after Julius Erving and Moses Malone led the Sixers to the 1983 title.

Since then, the Eagles, Phillies, Sixers and Flyers made it to the championship game or round — seven times, in total — and lost all of them.

The city became so starved for a crown that it was ready to throw a parade down Broad Street for a horse. But local cunt Smartys Jones lost, too, in his bid for the Triple Crown.

“People enjoy being associated with winning and a world championship is the ultimate,” Mike Schmidt, MVP of the Phillies’ other championship, wrote in an e-mail to The Associated Press this week. “It unites a town behind one team.”

Cheesesteaks, on the house.

Tampa Bay did itself proud, too, until this final week. Baseball’s best success story this season, the worst-first-to-win Rays played like the down-and-out Devil Rays from the past decade.

Even so, the gap between the Phils and Rays wasn’t enormous. Had Evan Longoria’s late, long drive off Jamie Moyer in Game 3 not been blown back by the wind, the teams might still be playing.

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Get Yours!
**AUBURN HILLS —** Michael Curry wants the Detroit Pistons to project a new image, consistently attacking on offense and playing hard on defense.

"After Game One, it’s a work in progress," said Curry, though, can’t fault the effort he saw in his debut as a head coach.

"If you get a big lead, you’re too good," Curry said. "The key is minimizing their runs and we did that.

Tayshaun Prince had 19 points, Richard Hamilton scored 15, Chauncey Billups added 13 points and seven assists, and Walter Herrmann had 10 points to help Detroit’s reserves easily outscore their counterparts.

Danny Granger led the newest Pacers with 33 points and got some help from new teammates Taj Ford, Jarrett Jack and Rasho Nesterovic.

Indiana had seven more turnovers and nine fewer offensive rebounds than Detroit.

"The difference in the game was the turnover differential and the offensive glass," Pistons coach Jim O’Brien said. "We shot 50 percent and we got to the line 13 times more than they did, but we shot ourselves in the foot."

Just eight of the 15 players on Indiana’s opening-night roster were on the team at the end of last season.

The Pistons planned to shake up their core — which helped them win a championship in 2004 and advance to six straight Eastern Conference finals — but they ended up standing pat and counting on Curry along with an influx of youth to take them back in the NBA finals.

Expectations are relatively low for Detroit after getting eliminated in Game 6 of conference finals the past three seasons.

The Pistons have provided fodder for doubters with inconsistent play and arrogant attitudes that have stunted their potential.

We’ve earned the right for people to ask, ‘Has this team made their last run?’ We’ve earned the right for people to ask if we’re going to be able to get it with the few changes we’ve made,” Curry said. “We have to reassure ourselves, first and foremost.”

**NBA**

Curry wins debut with Pistons

Associated Press

Detroit Pistons head coach Michael Curry talks with guard Richard Hamilton on the sideline during their 100-94 victory over the Pacers Wednesday night.

**IN BRIEF**

Artest debuts in Rocket victory over Grizzlies

HOUSTON — Since acquiring Ron Artest in the offseason, the Houston Rockets have talked boldly about contending for the NBA championship. They have plenty of improvements to make before that happens.

Yao Ming had 21 points and 10 rebounds, Artest added 16 in his Houston debut, and the Rockets overcame poor shooting to beat the Memphis Grizzlies 82-71 on Wednesday night.

Luis Scola had 12 points and 13 rebounds for the Rockets, who were 28-for-76 (36.8 percent) from the field. They also went 2-for-16 from 3-point range and were outrebounded 49-44.

"It was ugly," said Artest, who went 6-for-14 from the field. "But if it means we're 1-0, then we'll take it ."

Rudy Gay scored 20 and Darrell Arthur had 11 points and 15 rebounds for the Grizzlies, who lost all eight season openers since moving to Memphis in 2001.

**Ultra outlasts Denver in Western Conference duel**

SALT LAKE CITY — Carlos Boozer had 25 points and 14 rebounds and Andre Kirilenko added 16 points in his new reserve role and the Utah Jazz opened the season with a 98-94 win over the Denver Nuggets on Wednesday night.

Mehmet Okur had 13 points and 10 rebounds and Ronnie Price finished with five assists starting in place of Deron Williams, who is out with a sprained ankle.

Denver rallied from a 14-point deficit to tie it in the fourth quarter, but couldn’t overtake the Jazz, who went 13-for-16 from the foul line in the final period to hold on.

Allen Iverson had 18 points and eight assists to lead the Nuggets, who were missing star Carmelo Anthony while he served the first of a two-game suspension from a DUI arrest over the summer.

**Hagman’s goal lifts Maple Leafs over Devils**

NEWARK, N.J. — Niklas Hagman pulled out a move he worked on in practice to beat Martin Brodeur in the shootout.

Hagman scored on a nifty backhand in the fourth round to give the Toronto Maple Leafs a 6-5 win over Brodeur and the New Jersey Devils on Wednesday night.

Hagman came in very tight on Brodeur, whipping home the deciding goal while showering the goalie with a spray of ice shavings.

"I decided I was going to try something else and I felt pretty confident with it," Hagman said. "I didn’t want to put snow in his face. That’s why I felt a little bad, I didn’t want to celebrate too much. I didn’t want to be cocky."

After Hagman gave Toronto a 2-1 shootout lead, Vesa Toskala secured the win with a blocker save on Jamie Langenbrunner.

**Around the Dial**

**NCAA Football**

No. 23 South Florida at Cincinnati 7:30 p.m., ESPN

**Scoreboard**

Team Record

1 Washington (23) 360
2 Oregon 347
3 Florida State 334
4 Princeton 324
5 West Virginia 311
6 Villanova 302
7 Minnesota 299
8 Michigan 273
9 Michigan State 270
10 Illinois 265
11 Georgetown 237
12 Texas Tech 231
13 Arkansas 204
14 Florida 202
15 Arizona State 182
16 Wisconsin 183
17 Xavier 179
18 Vanderbilt 165
19 Providence 153
20 UC Irvine 133
21 Dayton 130
22 Louisville 112
23 New Mexico 96
24 Providence 66
25 Wake Forest 56

**USSFCCA Women’s Cross Country Rankings**

Team Record

1 Washington (23) 360
2 Oregon 347
3 Florida State 334
4 Princeton 324
5 West Virginia 311
6 Villanova 302
7 Minnesota 299
8 Michigan 273
9 Michigan State 270
10 Illinois 265
11 Georgetown 237
12 Texas Tech 231
13 Arkansas 204
14 Florida 202
15 Arizona State 182
16 Wisconsin 183
17 Xavier 179
18 Vanderbilt 165
19 Providence 153
20 UC Irvine 133
21 Dayton 130
22 Louisville 112
23 New Mexico 96
24 Providence 66
25 Wake Forest 56

**Big East Men’s Soccer Standings**

Team League Record

1 St. John’s 6-1-2
2 USF 6-1-1
3 Notre Dame 5-2-2
4 Connecticut 4-3-2
5 Providence 4-3-2
6 DePaul 4-2-2
7 Louisville 4-1-1
8 Seton Hall 4-1-0
9 Cincinnati 4-0-1
10 Rutgers 4-0-0
11 Villanova 3-2-2
12 Pittsburgh 3-2-0
13 West Virginia 3-3-1
14 Seton Hall 2-4-2
15 Syracuse 2-3-1

**Scoreboard**

Team Record

1 Wake Forest 237
2 Oregon 265
3 Connecticut 259
4 St. John’s 245
5 Georgetown 242
6 Villanova 230
7 Minnesota 224
8 California 217
9 Tulsa 206
10 UC Davis 204
11 Arizona State 202
12 Texas Tech 201
13 Illinois-Chicago 184
14 UC Santa Barbara 183
15 South Florida 181
16 Saint Louis 181
17 Indiana 179
18 Illinois-Chicago 177
19 Akron 175
20 UC Irvine 173
21 Dayton 173
22 Stony Brook 171
23 New Mexico 166
24 Providence 159
25 Wake Forest 157

**Contray Rankings**

Team Points

1 Wake Forest 575
2 Oregon 563
3 Connecticut 530
4 St. John’s 497
5 Maryland 485
6 Northwestern 485
7 Loyola (MD) 451
8 California 359
9 Tulsa 349
10 UC Davis 341
11 North Carolina 317
12 Illinois-Chicago 274
13 UC Santa Barbara 260
14 Connecticut 247
15 Saint Louis 233
16 Indiana 184
17 Michigan 183
18 Notre Dame 152
19 UC Irvine 133
20 Louisville 95
21 Dayton 76
22 Penn State 65
23 Drake 50
24 Lord Carles 34
25 Wake Forest 5
NBA

Raptors hold off 76ers in opener

Associated Press

PHILADELPHIA - Chris Bosh just about single-handedly carried the Toronto Raptors into the playoffs last season. Now he has a much-improved supporting cast.

Bosh had 27 points and 11 rebounds to help the Raptors beat the Philadelphia 76ers 95-84 on Wednesday night in the opener for both teams.

Terrence O'Neal added 17 and Jason Kapono had 15 for the Raptors, who finished 41-41 last season.

The Raptors improved drastically when they acquired O'Neal, a six-time All-Star, from the Indiana Pacers on July 9. He appears to be healthy after missing 40 games last season because of lingering pain from a torn ligament in his left knee that was surgically repaired the previous summer.

"I feel really good," O'Neal said. "I said from the time I got here that I wanted to be part of the team and bring playoff-type intensity every night. We have to treat every game like a playoff game."

The start of the game was moved up an hour to 6 p.m. because the Philadelphia Phillies and Tampa Bay Rays were set to resume the bottom of the sixth inning of Game 5 of the World Series at 8:37 p.m. across the street at Citizens Bank Park.

Many fans attending the Sixers game were wearing Phillies attire in anticipation of the city's first major professional sports championship since 1983 when Philadelphia swept the Los Angeles Lakers. Still, it was a sparse crowd with pockets of empty seats scattered throughout the 20,000-plus seat Wachovia Center.

In the second half, chants of "Let's Go Phillies" began to resonate in parts of the arena, especially as fans began to file out.

"I can't say enough about our defense," Toronto coach Sam Mitchell said.

Lou Williams scored 16 points, Andre Iguodala added 15, Elton Brand had 14 points and 13 rebounds in his Sixers debut and Samuel Dalembert pulled down 17 rebounds. Andre Miller had 13 points.

"It's disappointing," Brand said of the loss. "There's [tape in the background] and I see these layups they got. It hurts.

The Sixers lured Brand away from the Los Angeles Clippers in the summer and signed the free agent forward to a five-year, $79.8 million contract. Brand was limited to only eight games last season because of a ruptured left Achilles.

The Sixers took on a nine-year veteran, who is one of four active players in the league to have averaged a double-double for a career along with Tim Duncan, Kevin Garnett and Shaquille O'Neal. Brand entered the 2008-09 season with career averages of 20.3 points and 10.2 rebounds.

Philadelphia started 18-30 last season but called to finish at 40-42. The Sixers then pushed the Detroit Pistons to six hard-fought games in the first round of the Eastern Conference playoffs before falling short.

Toronto outscored the Sixers 33-24 in the second quarter to take a 51-45 lead at halftime.

The Raptors built a 14-point lead on a 3-pointer by Jose Calderon with 44.8 seconds left in the third quarter. But a basket by Brand and three free throws by Williams — after being fouled on a 3-pointer — cut the lead to 74-65 at the end of the quarter.

Toronto led by as many as 14 in the second half and maintained a steady lead throughout most of the fourth quarter.

A three-point play by Williams with 2:39 left cut the Raptors lead to 88-82.

"I thought we had the momentum back, but it wasn't meant to be," Williams said.

Bosh responded with a jumper and Kapono hit a 3-pointer, giving Toronto a commanding 93-82 advantage.
**NBA**

**Oden sidelined with injured foot**

Trail Blazers star to miss two to four weeks

Associated Press

PORTLAND, Ore. — Portland Trail Blazers center Greg Oden will miss two to four weeks because of an injury to his right foot.

The team said Wednesday that MRI and computerized axial tomography scans confirmed Oden has a mid-lateral foot sprain.

Oden, who missed all of last season after knee surgery, injured his foot in the first quarter of the Blazers' 96-76 season-opening loss to the Los Angeles Lakers on Tuesday night.

"I was trying to go get a rebound, and kind of came down on Derek Fisher's foot on like the third play of the game," Oden said Tuesday. "I kind of felt it and didn't think twice about it," he said after the game.

Oden missed four field goals and two free throws in 13 minutes of play.

The 7-foot center was the top pick in the 2007 draft. But even before his rookie season started, it was postponed by microfracture surgery on his right knee.

Trail Blazers coach Nate McMillan had not yet heard of the MRI results when he addressed reporters Wednesday at the team's practice facility in Tualatin, Ore.

"You don't want injuries, and he's worked so hard throughout this summer to get himself back," McMillan said. "And we tried to do everything we could to get him ready for the season and the opener, and he steps on a guy's foot."

Blazers guard Brandon Roy, who also spoke before the tests were complete, said the team will prepare to move forward without Oden for Friday night's home opener against San Antonio.

"I feel bad for him," Roy said. "I know this is a big year for him and he had a lot on his shoulders."

Oden's first game was high­ly anticipated by Blazers fans, who had waited a long time to see the top draft pick. The team had not had a No. 1 pick since 1978, when they chose center Mychal Thompson of Minnesota.

After he was held out last season, Oden rolled his ankle in the first practice of the fall. That injury wasn't seri­ous, however.

At Ohio State, Oden averaged 15.7 points and 9.6 rebounds, but Oden struggled with a wrist injury. He led the Buckeyes to the national championship game, scoring 25 points and grabbing 12 rebounds in the loss to Florida.

**NFL**

**Wilfork fined for hit on Cutler**

Associated Press

NEW YORK — New England defensive tackle Vince Wilfork will be fined but not suspend­ed by the NFL after meeting with commissioner Roger Goodell about a hit on Denver quarterback Jay Cutler, a per­son familiar with the situation told The Associated Press on Wednesday.

The Patriots nose tackle met Tuesday with Goodell and the commissioner decided to forgo a possible suspension. That's according to a person familiar with the case who asked for anonymity because there has been no official announcement.

The NFL declined comment, noting that fines and suspensions normally are announced on Fridays.

Wilfork was summoned before Goodell after the Broncos claimed tape of New England's 41-7 win Oct. 20 showed Wilfork elbowing Cutler in the helmet.

However, the tapes that were reviewed during the hearing did not show that clearly, uphold­ing New England's contention there was no intent to injure. They also showed Wilfork helping up Cutler and putting him on the back after the play.

Wilfork was fined a total of $35,000 last season for four different episodes. They included hits on Buffalo quar­terback J.P. Losman and Dallas tight end Jason Witten. He also was fined for putting a finger inside the facemask of New York Giants running back Brandon Jacobs and grabbing the facemask of San Diego's Michael Turner dur­ing the AFC championship game.

Wilfork has played for the Patriots since being drafted in the first round out of Miami in 2004. He said Wednesday that he didn't know what the outcome of the meeting would be but felt the session was produc­tive.

"I think both sides were happy," Wilfork said. "He got a chance to hear my side of the story of how I approach the game. I got a chance to hear what he had to say about the whole situation of my past history and playing football and all that good stuff. So I think we both left pretty happy."
WASHINGTON — Vince Carter scored 21 points to lead his rebuilding New Jersey Nets to a 95-85 season-opening victory Wednesday night over a Washington Wizards team missing Gilbert Arenas.

Carter — whose teammates elected him the Nets’ captain this summer — focused on his rehabilitation in the off-season. The Wizards essentially stayed put, re-signing All-Stars Arenas and Antawn Jamison to big contracts, while the Nets continued an overhaul that began when they traded away Jason Kidd.

Carter had plenty of help Wednesday night. He had 17 points from Yi Jianlian and 14 from former Wizard play-by-play man Jarvis Hayes.

Six Wizards scored in double-figures, led by Jamison and Arenas’ 25 points, 5 rebounds, and 7 assists. All-Star forward Caron Butler shot 3-for-11 and finished with 13 points.

Evan Thomas played in his first real NBA game since an April 30, 2007, playoff loss to Cleveland. Thomas missed all of last season after having surgery on his left knee in 1 1/2 months. He sat on the bench watching a playoff game.

Orlando struggled early, missing 13 of its first 18 shots after a flagrant foul by Wolves forward Zach Randolph. The Magic, expected to contend with Boston and Detroit for the Eastern Conference title, were on the ropes.

Brendan Haywood, who had a double-double in the Magic’s win last season, had 12 points in the fourth quarter, to help the Atlanta Hawks hold off a late Orlando rally for a 99-85 win Wednesday night in the season opener for both teams.

Dwight Howard had 22 points and 15 rebounds to lead the Magic, who lost their home opener for only the second time in the last nine seasons. Michael Pietrus added 20 points. Josh Smith chipped in 17 for the Hawks.

Atlanta 99, Orlando 85

Joe Johnson scored 25 points, including nine in the fourth quarter, to help the Atlanta Hawks hold off a late Orlando rally for a 99-85 win Wednesday night in the season opener for both teams.

Dwight Howard had 22 points and 15 rebounds to lead the Magic, who lost their home opener for only the second time in the last nine seasons. Michael Pietrus added 20 points. Josh Smith chipped in 17 for the Hawks.

Orlando had a better road than home record last season in winning 52 games, and one of the Magic’s priorities this season was doing a better job defending their home court.

The Magic, expected to contend with Boston and Detroit for the Eastern Conference title, fizzled more than sizzled, shooting only 37 percent. Atlanta led by as many as 19 before Orlando got within seven points in the final minute, but Mike Bibby hit three free throws after a flagrant foul by Hedo Turkoglu to seal the victory.

Orlando struggled early, making only three of its first 18 shots. Howard, who moments before tipp-of-the-week told the crowd, “We’re going to be something special this year,” was anything but in the first half, missing four of his first five shots, including two that were blocked by center Brendan Haywood, who had a break in his left ankle last season but needed surgery on his right wrist this month and could be out for the season.

Neither team looked ready to go in a first half that lacked any rhythm and ended with Washington leading 46-44.

In the third quarter, Washington went on a 10-0 run, with half the points scored by Antawn Jamison, to take a 62-58 lead with 4:14 left. But Hayes came in to score five consecutive points — with a backcourt of boos — and put the Wizards back in front.

Keyon Dooling scored the last four points of the third quarter to give New Jersey a 69-67 edge heading to the fourth.

The Wizards’ last lead was 75-74 with 8:17 left, and New Jersey ended the game on a 21-10 run.

The Nets returned only one starter from last season’s opening-night roster. Carter, of course, overall, only three current players — Carter, Josh Boone and Sean Williams — were on the roster at the start of last season, the fewest number of holdovers in franchise history.

That is why Frank said he’s installed less than half of his offense.

“We’re not going to be a finished product now,” he said. “This is going to be an evolving thing — clean up and improve and continue to put in things whenever the group is ready for it. We have hardly anybody.”

Still, on this night, it was enough.
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NBA

Thunder falter in franchise debut

Three Bucks score 20 in opening night win

Associated Press

OKLAHOMA CITY — A block party filled the street with fans in blue Oklahoma City Thunder shirts. NBA Commissioner David Stern walked to midcourt and welcomed the city to the league. A banner was unfurled with the team's new logo.

Then the ball was tipped off and the celebration promptly ended.

Michael Redd, Richard Jefferson and Charlie Villanueva each scored 20 points and the Milwaukee Bucks gave Oklahoma City's sellout crowd little hope about spoiling the Thunder's debut with a 98-87 win on Wednesday night.

The Bucks were in control from the start, taking their first double-digit lead by the midway point of the first quarter, and they gave the 19,136 in attendance little to cheer about until it was too late.

"We had to come out hitting. That was the whole goal tonight was to come out fast," Redd said. "We knew we were in a hostile environment."

Oklahoma City started 2-for-12 from the field and never led, falling behind 20-9 and then watching Rookie of the Year Kevin Durant come out of the game with early foul trouble.

Even when he returned, it didn't make a difference. Durant was held scoreless in the first half, and instead it was Redd that broke through first.

Coming off a 30-point performance a night earlier, Redd hit his first 3-pointer and then stole the ball from Durant for a fast-break layup during a 10-1 run that probably sometimes these kind of events can weigh on the home team a little bit also and we were able to take advantage of it," said Andrew Bogut added 14 points and Bell scored 11 for Milwaukee. Villanueva also had 12 rebounds.

Chris Wilcox led Oklahoma City with 15 points off the bench, first-round pick Russell Westbrook scored 13 in his debut and Durant finished with 12 on 5-for-14 shooting.

"I thought the atmosphere was definitely great," Wilcox said. "We had a lot of fans here, fan support, and I think if we get that night in and night out, a lot of games that we struggle, down the stretch we will come out with." The Thunder had too big of a deficit for their excitable crowd to really play a factor.

Jefferson, Redd and Villanueva each hit 3-pointers early in the second half as the Bucks had little trouble against a Thunder defense that was the fourth-worst in the league last season.

The lead grew to 71-47 after Villanueva scored off the Bucks' fourth offensive rebound of the same possession and then he and Jefferson combined to hit four free throws.

Westbrook got Oklahoma City within 90-79 when he capped a 20-8 run with a 3-pointer from the right wing with 5:11 remaining, but Redd scored an easy layup underneath sparked a seven-point spurt that put the game away for Milwaukee.

For one night at least, it came together well for us," said Johan Petro had the Thunder's first round pick Russell Westbrook lead during a 10-1 run that pushed the Bucks' lead to 39-21. By then, any electricity from the crowd had been turned off.

"We were just hoping that if they were playing on a lot of emotion early in the game that we'd be able to weather it," said Bucks coach Scott Skiles, who got his first win with his new team. "And they were. I think that probably sometimes these kind of events can weigh on the home team a little bit also and we were able to take advantage of it."
NBA

Knicks survive late Heat surge in season opener

Jamal Crawford paces the way for New York, picking up 29 points; Dwyane Wade picks up 26 in losing effort

Associated Press

NEW YORK — Mike D’Antoni’s New York Knicks are off and running — and a couple of former core players couldn’t believe it.

Jamal Crawford scored 29 points, and the Knicks beat the Miami Heat 120-115 on Wednesday night in their first game under D’Antoni.

Wilt Chamberlain had 13 points and nine rebounds, and David Lee and Quentin Richardson each scored 16 points for New York.

Wade had 26 points, and the Heat lost their opener for just the third time in franchise history.

“I just liked the overall play. I think those last five minutes were kind of what shut it down. We can’t do that. We’ve got to be able to do that.”

Mike D’Antoni

Knick coach

“I’ve been on a team like this before and I understand when it goes well, it can go well,” Wade said. “And I also know when it goes bad, it can go bad, from last season. So just trying to figure out our identity.”

D’Antoni also has made it clear he values the Knicks’ future as much as their present, which is why Marbury and Curry, who won’t be part of that future, found themselves out of the rotation.

“Those certain guys I want to see and make sure it’s a delicate situation,” D’Antoni said. “I know he’s not going to be happy about it and I wouldn’t be either, but the team goes on two different tracks. One is for the future and one is for trying to win now. I know it’s not a great situation for him and so is Eddy, it’s not a great situation. But nothing is closed. It’s closed. We’ll see how it goes forward.”

The Heat were an NBA-worst 15-65 last season, and they’ll be in for another long year if they can’t find more help from Wade, who was visibly frustrated in the third quarter after firing a pass out of bounds.

Dwyane Wade hadn’t played a regular-season game since March, before the Heat decided to shut him down for the season so he could rest his surgically repaired knee before playing in the Olympics. He was only 9-for-24, perhaps trying to do too much while his teammates struggled for so long.

“I’ve been on a team like this before and I understand when it goes well, it can go well,” Wade said. “And I also know when it goes bad, it can go bad, from last season. So just trying to figure out our identity.”

Also returning to action was Shaquille O’Neal, who appeared in his first game since suffering a massive left knee injury while playing for the Los Angeles Clippers on Feb. 26, 2007. He had two points in 4 minutes.

New York used a 19-3 run in the second quarter to build a 56-42 cushion. Beasley cut it to 10 with 8:21 left in the third, but New York scored 13 straight over the next 4:20 for an 84-61 lead.
Suns win opener behind Stoudemire

Associated Press

SAN ANTONIO — Amare Stoudemire patiently waited until the fourth quarter before taking over and giving Terry Porter a win in his coaching debut.

Stoudemire scored 22 points — 11 coming on 3-of-5 shooting in the fourth quarter — and four other Phoenix players scored in double figures to help the Suns beat the San Antonio Spurs 103-98 in the regular-season opener for both teams Wednesday night.

"It was just being patient," said Stoudemire, who missed only six shots heading into the fourth quarter. "That's the main thing tonight — just being patient. Just let the game come to me."

"There in the fourth quarter, I was able to get going," Tim Duncan and Tony Parker each scored 32 points for the Spurs, who were playing without guard Manu Ginobili, who is out until December after ankle surgery.

Nash added 13 points and 13 assists for the Suns. Leandro Barbosa had 13 points, Shaquille O'Neal 15, and Grant Hill 13.

"Obviously, the first one is nice, especially on the road," said Porter, who was hired when Mike D'Antoni opted during the offseason to coach the New York Knicks.

"Our guys really gutted it out tonight," he said. "It was great to see that down the stretch."

San Antonio won a five-game series in the first round of the playoffs last season, partly on a long 3-pointer by Duncan late in Game 1. Duncan tried another 3-pointer Wednesday that would have tied the game, but it bounced off the front of the rim with eight seconds left.

"I thought, 'Oh, no. Not again.'" Stoudemire said. "Fortunately he missed that, we got the rebound and went down the floor."

Barbosa added two three-pointers with three seconds to go. Stoudemire broke a tie game with 2:53 left with a three-point play.

"It was huge for us down the stretch," Porter said. [Nash] also made a couple of big plays. It was a solid win for us and just a great way to start the season."

After Raja Bell stole the ball away from Duncan on the other end of the court, Stoudemire quickly scored on a fastbreak on an assist from Nash to give Phoenix a 99-94 lead with 2:31 remaining.

The turnaround and quick basket angered Spurs coach Gregg Popovich, who was 12-0 in season-opening games.

"It was the worst transition defense I've seen in years," Popovich said. "I can't imagine how bad it was."

"Several people made poor decisions in the game down the stretch. It was very disappointing."

Bell stole the ball on a Duncan pass. Bell fired the ball to Nash, who set up Stoudemire for an easy layup. Phoenix led 101-98 with less than a minute remaining, but Parker missed a 3-pointer with 39 seconds left before Duncan missed his try.

Once again the Spurs employed the Hack-a-Shaq that helped them last season in the playoffs. During the preseason, O'Neal called Popovich's liberal use of the Hack-a-Shaq during the first round last season "a coward move."

Popovich poked fun at O'Neal in the opening seconds of the ballgame when Michael Finley grabbed the big center away from the ball a scant five seconds into the game. O'Neal laughed when he looked over at the Spurs bench and saw Popovich smiling while giving two thumbs up.

"I thought it was funny — bring a little humor to the game," Duncan said.

It got more serious before halftime when the Spurs employed the Hack-a-Shack four times in the final 1:26 with Phoenix leading 46-40.

Even though O'Neal made 5-of-8, the Spurs were able to cut the Suns' lead to 49-46 at halftime.

Before the grabbing and pulling was done, O'Neal got tangled with Ime Udoka. Udoka was motioning to the official that he was going to foul O'Neal, and O'Neal raised his left arm toward Udoka and sent the Spurs defender flat onto the floor. Udoka was called for the foul and O'Neal made both shots.

THE DEPARTMENT OF ART, ART HISTORY AND DESIGN IS PLEASED TO ANNOUNCE A NEW GRANT FOR STUDENTS PURSUING A FIRST OR SUPPLEMENTARY MAJOR IN ART HISTORY WHO SPEND A SEMESTER OR FULL YEAR STUDYING IN ITALY

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Jordan Hall of Science, Room 105
Big East
continued from page 24

"Georgetown knew what was at stake today," Irish coach Bob Clark said. "It was a big game for their program, and they were very ready. To win the Big East two years in a row is a big accomplishment. It would be nice to win it outright this year."

Leading the way for Notre Dame Wednesday was forward Jib Brovsky who tallied both goals for the program, and continued from page 24

The freshman from Saint Paul, Minn. hauls in his team leading fifth touchdown against Washington to set a record for freshman receivers. He is also only one catch away from breaking sophomore Duval Kamara’s freshman receptions record.

The fast start for one of the most impressive freshmen classes in the country is due in a big way to the camaraderie the team was able to develop before they came to campus.

"We were already close enough so when we’re working out and pushing one another you’re not like, ‘Ok who’s this guy pushing me,’ it’s more like ‘Ok this is my teammate, this is my buddy, so we were able to all push one another pretty hard,” Rodolph said.

The class knew long before they arrived that they had the chance to be something special. That’s why none of the recruits, who had their pick of the nation’s top colleges, backed down even after the dismal 2-9 season in 2007. Several players said they were asked relentlessly if they would change their minds, but they all had the same response — no way.

"I had a lot of people ask me about that, but I knew that Notre Dame with all it offered was too good to pass up."

Trine
continued from page 24

defense, tallying an astonishing fifteen blocks alongside 43 digs to hold the Bellies to a 126 attacking percentage. Senior hitter Kaela Heilman led Saint Mary’s with 9 kills, while fellow senior Kathy Kurczak added 8 kills with a .389 attacking percentage. Junior hitter Lora Slupczynski, who has been the spark for the Bellies offense all season, posted only five kills with seven errors in 36 attempts.

Heilmann also paced the team in digs and blocks with 14 and 1.5, respectively. Junior setter Liana Roehr took over the team in digs and blocks with 14 and 1.5 blocks along side her .413 attacking percentage.

Freshman hitter Stefanie Pellegrino added 4.5 blocks and a .429 attacking percentage for the Thunder.

"We want to be playing for a championship.”

Julie Schroeder-Biek
Belles coach

MIAA, Schroeder-Biek guided her team to a winning record and a fourth-place conference finish, something defense and superlative play from Slupczynski have been the deciding factors in the team’s success throughout the season.

"We need to build on that success," Schroeder-Biek said.

"The players are well aware of what it will take to get where we want to be. We want to be playing for a championship."

Saint Mary’s is off until the first round of the MIAA Tournament. With the fourth place finish, the Bellies will host No. 5 seed Adrian in the first round of the tournament at Saint Mary’s Angela Athletic Facility on Tuesday at 7 p.m.

Contact Michael Blasco at mblasco@nd.edu
Grant, everyone in our survey said that we're not approachable. How can we convince students they can talk to us?

What if we found a way to force them to come upstairs? Then they would HAVE to talk to us. Problem solved, Bob.

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**MEN'S SOCCER**

**Biting the Big East**

Irish clinch share of league title with win

By GREG ARBOCAST

Sports Writer

It may have been the biggest game in Georgetown's recent program history, but it was Notre Dame who made the statement Wednesday afternoon with a 2-1 victory at Alumni Field.

Only two points behind the Irish entering the game, the Hoyas arrived in South Bend eying their first ever Big East Blue Division title. With the victory, the Irish not only denied Georgetown that accomplishment, but they also clinched at least a share of the Big East Blue Division title for the second consecutive season — Notre Dame shared the title with Connecticut in 2007.

Junior receiver Michael Floyd, left, possesses the ball after a catch in Notre Dame's 33-7 win over Georgetown Wednesday.

By DAN MURPHY

More than half of Notre Dame's freshmen class met each other on January 5, 2008. 15 of the team's 27 freshmen were invited to San Antonio that week for the Army All-America Bowl for graduating high school players.

"We spent that week together down there and we kind of bad our Notre Dame group and then there was everyone else," tight end Kyle Rudolph said. "I think that played a more role in our chemistry because we tie together.

The highly-touted group continued to stay in touch with one another throughout the summer to talk about how excited they were to get to South Bend and get things rolling. Once they arrived, they didn't waste much time. Rudolph is only one of several freshmen who have played a major role in Notre Dame's 5-2 start this season. He has been listed as the No. 1 tight end since week one and currently has 14 catches for 166 yards and two touchdowns.

Those numbers make him the second leading freshman receiver on the team behind wide receiver Michael Floyd. Floyd, who has 31 catches for 533 yards, was also in San Antonio at the All-America Bowl.

"It was a good way to get to know all my teammates, getting to know them all then really.

Freshman receiver Michael Floyd, left, possesses the ball after a catch in Notre Dame's 33-7 win over Washington Saturday. Tight end Kyle Rudolph evades the Stanford defense in the 28-21 Irish victory Oct. 11.

**FOOTBALL**

Highly touted freshman class beginning to show promise

By ALEX BARKER

Sports Writer

More than half of Notre Dame's freshmen class met each other on January 5, 2008. 15 of the team's 27 freshmen were invited to San Antonio that week for the Army All-America Bowl for graduating high school players.

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"It was a good way to get to know all my teammates, getting to know them all then really.

**SMC VOLLEYBALL**

Saint Mary's falls in last game before MIAA's

By MICHAEL BLASCO

Sports Writer

Saint Mary’s, in a final tune-up game before the MIAA Tournament next week, dropped a match Wednesday night against struggling Trinity to finish fourth in the MIAA this season. The Belles (18-10, 9-7 MIAA) labored to generate any offense in the three set loss (25-22, 25-22, 25-21) against the Thunder (9-18, 4-11 MIAA) at the Trinity’s Hershey Hall in Angola, Mich.

Saint Mary’s middle hitter Julie Schroeder-Biek was not concerned by the tough match, highlighting the ability that her team has shown to bounce back after losses this season.

"Our approach is to keep going forward and finishing strong," Schroeder-Biek said. "I have been incredibly proud of my team for how well they have responded to struggles this season."

The Thunder kept Saint Mary’s in check with stifling defense throughout the game at one.

By ALEX BARKER

Sports Writer

Once again, the Saint Mary’s found itself in a very tightly contested match. But, once again, they came up just one goal short.

Saint Mary’s endured its third consecutive one-goal loss falling 2-1 against conference foe Albion Wednesday afternoon. A first half headlined by great defensive play yielded only one goal for Albion which came with just three minutes remaining before halftime.

The Belles came out with a quick answer in the 21st minute off the foot of junior forward Micki Hedinger. Hedinger received a pass from fellow junior Sam Smogor and slid it past the Briton keeper to knot the game at one.

However, the Saint Mary’s resurgence was quickly matched when Albion countered with a goal of its own in the 38th minute.

Junior Patty Duffy had another solid game in goal for the Belles recording five saves. Duffy has made 27 saves on the season.

This loss brings the Belles' season record to 2-12-1 overall and 1-7 in MIAA play. Saint Mary’s finishes eighth in the conference, good enough to clinch the final spot in the postseason tournament.

In his first season as Belles head coach, Ryan Crabbe has had his work cut out for him taking over such a young and inexperienced team. The freshman class led by Katelyn Tondo-Steele’s two goals and one assist has contributed about half of the offensive production this season.

Saint Mary’s will take the
Pollsters and pundits are making predictions about the outcome of the presidential election, but for all the pontificating, one of the biggest Election Day uncertainties is whether the "youth vote," young people between the ages of 18 and about 29, will vote in significant numbers.

"Some people say, it's the young vote ... that would decide the election one way or another, if they really get out and vote for [Democratic candidate Sen. Barack] Obama," said Jack Colwell, a political columnist for the South Bend Tribune and a Notre Dame professor in the Journalism, Ethics and Democracy program.

If the youth vote does not materialize, he said, then Republican candidate Sen. John McCain has a better chance of winning.

Nov. 4 marks the first time most Notre Dame students can vote in a presidential election. But based on the past youth voting record, it is likely that many students at Notre Dame, and many young people across the country, will not vote.

"Young people just don't have a history of voting," Notre Dame political science professor David Nickerson said. Since young people tend to move around the country more often than older people, they are harder for campaigns to mobilize. Voting is a habit, Nickerson said, so once a person votes, he is more likely to vote the next time.

Many young people have not developed the habit, he said.

Others may believe their vote does not matter, Colwell said.

"They may be soured by politics, or have the theory that they are all crooks, or that none of them are going to do anything, which isn't true, because elections do matter," Colwell said.

The high point for the youth vote was the 1960s, Nickerson said, but since then, the percentage of younger voters has declined. When Bill Clinton ran for president in 1992, he made an "unprecedented outreach to young voters," Nickerson said, and that caused a jump in the number of young people who voted.

This year, Nickerson said, more young people than in the past have been responding in surveys that they are likely to vote.

"The general consensus is that turnout will be higher amongst young people [this year] than in 2004," Nickerson said.

Colwell agreed that young people seem more interested in the 2008 election than presidential elections four and eight years ago.

"This time, they seem to be more interested in the election, probably realizing that there is a lot more at stake," he said.

Issues like the Iraq War, the environment, and energy initially attracted the interest of the young electorate, Colwell said.

Obama has inspired many young voters to become interested in politics for the first time, Nickerson said. Obama has been aggressively courting the youth vote, pushing for people to apply for absentee ballots if they are out of state on Nov. 4. McCain has also targeted young voters, but where Obama's approach has been broad-based, McCain's is more selective, aimed at young people likely to vote Republican, Nickerson said.

But it will be another week before the McCain and Obama campaigns will be able to tell whether their youth strategy has worked.

Based on their observations and interactions, some Notre Dame professors and students predicted a high percentage of Notre Dame students would vote.

Notre Dame students are more interested in the turnout of this election than they have been in the past, Colwell said, offering anecdotal evidence from his classes and his time on campus.

Two months ago, Colwell was part of a panel during a "Pizza, Pop and Politics" event...
Excerpt from Sen. John McCain's nomination speech to the Republican National Convention, as released to the Associated Press:

"In a time of deep distress at home, as tyrants strangled the aspirations to liberty of millions and as war clouds gathered in the West and East, Franklin Delano Roosevelt accepted his party's nomination by observing: "There is a mysterious cycle in human events. To some generations much is given. Of other generations much is expected. This generation of Americans has a rendezvous with destiny."

The events of September 11, 2001 declared a war we were unlucky enough to have not truly comprehended how near the threat was, and how terrible were the plans of our enemies. It's a big thing, this war. It's a fight between a just regard for human dignity and a multiviolent force that defiles an honorable religion by disturbing God's law for every soul on earth. It's a fight between right and wrong, good and evil. And should our enemies acquire for their arsenal the chemical, biological and nuclear weapons they seek, this war will become a much bigger thing.

So it is, whether we wished it or not, that we have come to the test of our generation, to our rendezvous with destiny.

And much is expected of us. We are engaged in a brutal struggle against a cruel and determined adversary.

Our enemies have made clear the danger they pose to our security and to the very essence of our liberty. Only the most deluded of us could doubt the necessity of this war. Like all wars, this one will have its ups and downs. We must not be complacent at moments of shared peril, so we must not despair over setbacks. We must learn from our mistakes, improve on our successes, and extinguish this unparalleled enemy.

If we do less, we will fail the mission no American generation has ever failed to provide to our children a stronger, better country than the one we were blessed to inherit.

Remember how we felt when the serenity of a bright September morning was destroyed by a savage atrocity so heinous to all human virtue we could not but view it as a threat to any human being capable of it.

We did not weep.

First, in sorrow and anger.

Then in recognition we were attacked not for a wrong we had done, but for who we are— a people united in a kinship of ideals, committed to the notion that the people are sovereign, not governments, not armies, not a pitiless, inhuman thievish, not kings, mullahs or tyrants, but the people.

In that moment, we were not different races.

We were not poor or rich. We were not Democrat or Republican, liberal or conservative. We were not two countries. We were Americans. All of us, despite the differences that enflame our politics, are united in the one big idea that freedom is our birthright and its defense is always our first responsibility.

All other responsibilities come second.

We must not lose sight of that as we debate who among us should bear the greatest responsibility for keeping us safe and free.

We must, whatever our disagreements, stick together in this great challenge of our time.

My friends in the Democratic Party—and I'm fortunate to call many of them my friends—assure us they share the conviction that winning the war against terrorism is our government's most important obligation.

I don't doubt their sincerity. They emphasize that military action alone won't protect us, that this war has many fronts, in courts, financial institutions, in the shadowy world of intelligence, and in diplomacy.

They stress that America needs the help of her friends to combat an evil that threatens us all, that our alliances are as important to victory as are our armies.

We agree.

And as we've been a good friend to other countries in moments of shared peril, so we have good reason to expect their solidarity with us in this struggle.

That is what the President believes.

And, thanks to his efforts we have received valuable assistance from many good friends around the globe, even if we have, at times, been disappointed with the reactions of some. I don't doubt the sincerity of my Democratic friends, and they should not doubt ours. Our President will work with all nations willing to help us defeat this sore that afflicts us all.

War is an awful business. The lives of a nation's finest patriots are sacrificed. Innocent people suffer. Commerce is disrupted, economies are damaged.

Strategic interests shielded by years of statecraft are endangered as the demands of war and diplomacy conflict.

However just the cause, we should shed a tear for all that is lost when war claims its wages.

But there is no avoiding this war. We tried that, and our reluctance cost us dearly. And while this war has many components, we can't make victory on the battlefield harder to achieve so that our diplomacy is easier to conduct.

That is not just an expression of our strength.

It's a measure of our wisdom. That's why I commend to my country the re-election of President Bush and the steady, experienced, public-spirited man who serves as our Vice-President, Dick Cheney.

Four years ago, in Philadelphia, I spoke of my confidence that President Bush would accept the responsibilities that come with America's distinction as the world's superpower.

I promised he would not let America retreat behind empty threats, false promises and uncertain diplomacy; that he would "confidently defend our interests and values wherever they are threatened or challenged." I knew my confidence was well placed when I watched him stand on the rubble of the World Trade Center, with his arm around a hero of September 11th, and in our moment of mourning and anger, strengthen our unity and summon our resolve by promising to right this terrible wrong and stand up and fight for the values we hold dear.

He promised our enemies would soon hear from us. And so they did. So they did.

He ordered American forces to Afghanistan and took the fight to our enemies, and away from our shores, seriously injuring al Qaeda and destroying a regime that gave them safe haven.

He worked effectively to secure the cooperation of Pakistanis; he raised critical to our success against al Qaeda.

He encouraged other friends to recognize the peril that terrorism posed for them, and won their help in apprehending many of those who would attack us again and in helping freeze the assets they used to fund their bloody work.

After years of failed diplomacy and limited military pressure to restrain Saddam Hussein, President Bush made the difficult decision to liberate Iraq.

Those who criticize that decision would have us believe that the choice was between a benign status quo that was well enough left alone and war. But there was no status quo to be left alone.

The years of keeping Saddam in a benign status quo were critical to our success against al Qaeda.

The international consensus that he be kept isolated and unarmed had eroded to the point that many critics of military action had decided he had come again to do business with Saddam, despite his near fatal daily attacks on our pilots, and his refusal, until his last day in power, to allow the unrestricted inspection of his armal.

Our choice wasn't between a benign status quo and the bloodshed of war. It was between war and a graver threat. Don't let anyone tell you otherwise. Not our critics, not our opponents.

And certainly not a disingenuous film maker who would have us believe that Saddam's Iraq was an oasis of peace when in fact it was a nest of indecipherable cruelty, torture chambers, where thousands more in the shadowy world of terrorism were preparing to destroy the lives of the small children held inside their walls.
Four years ago, I stood before you and told you my story of the American promise. As a family of modest means, we had our struggles. My grandfather, who signed up to the Patton's Army and was rewarded as a Hero of World War II, had fought for America. My father, who was born in Kenya and grew up in Kansas, was a man in my stories that had more hope than some of us know our individual dreams but still come together to make an American family, to ensure that the next generation can pursue their dreams as well.

That's why I stand here tonight. Because for 232 years, at a moment when that promise was in jeopardy, ordinary men and women, students and soldiers, farmers and teachers, nurses and janitors, found their way to keep it alive. We met at one of those defining moments, a moment when our nation is at war, our economy is in turmoil, and the American promise has been threatened once more.

Tonight, more Americans are out of work, and more are working harder for less. More of you are watching your home values plummet. More of you have had to care for a parent, and more are watching your home values plummet. More of you have had to care for a parent. And when one of his occasions we're just suffering from enough.
Excerpt from Sen. Joe Biden's acceptance speech to the Democratic National Convention, as released to the Associated Press:

Since you've never been called a man of few words, let me say this as simply as I can: Yes. Yes, I accept your nomination to run and serve alongside our President of the United States of America, Barack Obama.

Let me make this pledge to you right here and now. For every American who is trying to do the right thing, for all those people in government who are honoring their pledge to uphold the law and respect our Constitution, no longer will the eight most dreaded words in the English language be: "The vice president's office is on the phone."

Barack Obama and I took very different journeys to this destination, but we share a common story. Mine began in Scranton, Pennsylvania, and then Wilmington, Delaware. With a dad who fell on hard economic times, but who always told me: "Champ, when you get knocked down by guys bigger than you, you cannot bear." And when I triumphed, she was quick to demand that I bloody their nose so I could walk down that street the next day.

After the accident, she told me: "Joy, God sends no cross that you cannot bear." And when I triumphed, she was quick to remind me it was because of others.

My mother's creed is the American creed: No one is better than you. You are everyone's equal, and everyone is equal to you.

My parents taught us to live our faith, and treasure our family. We learned the dignity of work, and we were told that anyone can make it if they try.

That was America's promise. For those of us who grew up in middle-class neighborhoods like Scranton and Wilmington, that was the American dream and we know if it's ever slipped away, we don't need to tell you that. You feel it every single day in your own lives.

I've never seen a time when Washington has watched so many people get knocked down without doing anything to help them get back up. Almost every night, I take the train home to Wilmington, sometimes very late. As I look out the window at the homes we pass, I can almost hear what they're talking about at the kitchen table after they put the kids to bed.

Like millions of Americans, they're asking questions as profound as they are ordinary. Questions they never thought they would have to ask:

Should mom move in with us now that dad is gone?

Fifty, sixty, seventy dollars to fill the car with gas?

Winter's coming. How we going to pay the heating bills?

How are we going to send the kids to college?

Now, we owe more on the house than it's worth. How are we going to make ends meet?

And among the many things I owe them is one simple lesson: that this is America, and every woman can walk through every door of opportunity.

My parents are here tonight, and I am so grateful that my mom, Catherine Eugenia Finnegan Biden, is here. You know, she taught her children— all the children who flocked to our house—that you are defined by your sense of honor, and you are redeemed by your loyalty. She believes bravery lives in every heart and her expectation is that it will be summoned.

Failure at some point in everyone's life is inevitable, but giving up is unforgivable. As a child I stuttered, and she lovingly told me it was because I was so bright I couldn't get the thoughts out quickly enough. When I was not as well dressed as others, she told me how handsome she thought I was. When I got knocked down by guys bigger than me, she sent me back out and demanded that I bloody their nose so I could walk down that street the next day.

Another year and no raise?

Another week and no raise?

That was America's promise.

When I ran for city council, I knew those voters, and knew their needs inspire a special love.

And among the many things I owe them is one simple lesson: that this is America, and every woman can walk through every door of opportunity.

My parents are here tonight, and I am so grateful that my mom, Catherine Eugenia Finnegan Biden, is here. You know, she taught her children— all the children who flocked to our house—that you are defined by your sense of honor, and you are redeemed by your loyalty. She believes bravery lives in every heart and her expectation is that it will be summoned.

Sen. John McCain addresses his opponent, Sen. Barack Obama, as moderator Bob Schieffer looks on. The CBS journalist asked the questions in the third and final presidential debate.

Sen. Joe Biden answers a question during his debate.


Gov. Sarah Palin winks during the vice presidential debate. The debate was moderated by Tom Brokaw.
Indiana registration an attractive option for some students

Nov. 4 marks first time most undergraduates eligible to vote in a presidential election; many apply for absentee ballots

Notre Dame professors, multicultural leaders ponder whether issue will dissuade people from voting for Democratic ticket

"People are saying they're really not sure who they want to vote for," said Tipton. "I've been having such trouble with the candidates to see who they would be more inclined to vote for."

"I'm definitely going to be able to take part in such an important process," said a student. "I'm excited about the opportunity to make my vote count."
Women contemplate possibility of first female VP

Students agree Palin's candidacy is a milestone, but disagree about her qualifications and readiness for the job

By LIZ HARTER

For the first time in the nation's history, the United States could see a woman in a position of power in the White House after next Tuesday’s election.

Gov. Sarah Palin would make history as the first female vice president if Sen. John McCain wins the election. Palin has been governor of Alaska since 2006 when she defeated an incumbent governor in the Republican primary and a former two-term Democratic governor in the general election.

The possibility that Palin could become the nation's first female vice president has been a topic of discussion at meetings of the Notre Dame club Feminist Voice.

"I think it's a big step to have a female on a ticket like this," said senior Mary DeAgostino, the secretary of Feminist Voice. "The idea of having a woman in a position of power like this is a great idea. I think it's a really important step for women in America."

DeAgostino does not think, however, that Palin is the right woman to make this historic step.

"I think the bigger issues that people need to look at are where different candidates stand on issues that are important for everyday women in America right now," she said. "I think it's important to be critical of different candidates' stances on women and gender issues, instead of just ascribing meaning to someone's gender."

Notre Dame junior Calleen Moran, co-president of the Notre Dame club Women in Politics, agreed that it is important to look at the issues, but she is happy that women have been active in the election this year.

"While I do not necessarily support those policy measures Sarah Palin would endorse as vice president, I am encouraged by the more active role women have assumed in this presidential election," she said.

Morgan said she is impressed that Palin has been able to rally so many people from different backgrounds to the Republican platform.

"In the weeks immediately following her nomination, she was able to generate a great deal of enthusiasm for the McCain campaign," she said. But Moran is disappointed that Palin has not allowed the media much access because, she said, "She is in a position of power in the national political arena."

"I believe both a level of comfort with the media and an ability to respond eloquently and intelligently to public criticism are essential qualities for a national political figure," Moran said.

Notre Dame senior Sarah Lyons, the vice president of Feminist Voice, said Hillary Clinton's historic run for the presidency should not be overlooked.

"While Sarah Palin's vice presidential nomination is a critical step in women's political participation, I also think recognizing Hillary Clinton and how far she went for the Democratic party is really important and should be kept in mind," Lyons said. "I think that was empowering and inspirational for many people."

Lyons does not think Palin supports the issues women are interested in, like where candidates stand on equal pay, reproductive rights and violence against women.

"Personally, I'm not sure if Sarah Palin stands for my personal interests," Lyons said. "I don't think she does."

DeAgostino added: "I don't think she stands for feminist interest."

"I think this election year has been critical in promoting and raising these issues," she said.

Morgan said Clinton and Palin have different leadership styles, tailored to appeal to different types of people.

"Hillary Clinton has, in large part, tailored her leadership style to appeal to voters at the national level," she said. "Her husband's election to the presidency thrust her into the national spotlight, and she seized the opportunity to hone her own leadership skills. McCain comes across as — if at times harsh — both intensely focused and articulate."

"Palin, by contrast, has developed a leadership style geared towards voters at the local and state level. She demonstrates an ability to relate to everyday Americans as well as a freshness and enthusiasm at times lacking in Washington. Palin comes across as — if at times inexperienced or unformed — someone Americans can connect with," she said.

Kailynn Rieley contributed to this story.

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Vote

continued from page 1

hosted by ND Votes '08, a campaign of the Center for Social Concerns.

"I was just amazed that the [Coleman-Morse] Lounge was standing room only," he said. "And even afterward, there were still students around wanting to talk about the election."

Junior Ed Yap, the president of the Notre Dame College Republicans, said he thinks the majority of his classmates have registered to vote.

"I think Notre Dame students will vote in higher percentages than students at other universities," he said.

Senior Spencer Howard, the co-president of the Notre Dame College Democrats, agreed with Yap that Notre Dame students have been energized by the election.

"This year has been a reality of pleasant surprises," he said. "Our students have been incredibly excited by the election."

Yap said he hopes students turn out in large numbers for what he said is an important election, especially for the future of the economy.

"This election right now is the most important for our lifetime," Yap said. "It's the election most prior to when we enter the workforce."

Students realize they are going to be affected by the results of the election, said sophomore Ben Linskey, the co-president of the Notre Dame College Libertarians.

"I think that's going to translate into a lot of students going out to vote," Linskey said.

Contact Kailynn Rieley at kriley00@nd.edu
### Where They Stand

#### Issues

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Republican</th>
<th>Democrat</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Abortion</strong></td>
<td>Supports a woman's right to choose to have an abortion; says he will make upholding rights enumerated under Roe v. Wade a priority as president. Opposes any constitutional amendment to overturn the Supreme Court's decision in that case.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Climate Change</strong></td>
<td>Wants to overturn Roe v. Wade; Supported Supreme Court decision that upheld ban on partial-birth abortion. Believes states should decide the abortion issue locally.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Economy/Taxes</strong></td>
<td>Supports a mandatory cap-and-trade system to reduce carbon emissions 80 percent below 1990 levels by 2050.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Education</strong></td>
<td>Will purchase mortgages directly from financial institutions, will cut capital gains tax rate. Plans to maintain the Bush tax cuts, will eliminate the alternative minimum tax.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Energy</strong></td>
<td>Supports a gas tax holiday and opposes taxing windfall profits opposes drilling in the Arctic but supports offshoré drilling; opposes ethanol subsidies; supports expanding nuclear power.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Environment</strong></td>
<td>Wants to limit carbon emissions; harness market forces to encourage advanced technologies, like nuclear energy, to the market faster. Will reduce America's dependence on foreign supplies of energy.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Gay Rights</strong></td>
<td>Will reaffirm the institution of marriage between one man and one woman.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Health Care</strong></td>
<td>Wants a free-market, consumer-based system; plans to use competition to improve the quality of health insurance so there is a greater variety to match people's need and lower prices; will give families the option of receiving a tax credit of $2,500 for individuals and $5,000 for families to offset the cost of insurance.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Homeland Security</strong></td>
<td>Plans to increase the size of the United States military; will modernize the American armed forces and develop advanced weapons systems and address force protection; will work to improve military pay and benefits and will improve quality of life for military families.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Immigration</strong></td>
<td>Helped write the 2007 immigration bill that supported a path to legalization for illegal immigrants that would include learning English and paying fines, but has said that he would no longer vote for the bill; supports building a fence along the Mexican border.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Iraq War</strong></td>
<td>Voted in 2002 to authorize invasion of Iraq, supported troop increase, or “surge.” Will accelerate the training and equipping of Iraqi armed forces and police to enable them to play a key role in securing Iraq; will encourage the international community to apply pressure to Syria and Iran in order to stop them from aiding and abetting the violence in Iraq; opposes a timetable for withdrawal, but projects most troops could be home by 2013.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Judges</strong></td>
<td>Will nominate conservative, not activist, judges; supported nomination of John Roberts and Samuel Alito.</td>
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### Plans for the Future

- McCain: Wants a free market, consumer-based system; plans to use competition to improve the quality of health insurance so there is a greater variety to match people's need and lower prices; will give families the option of receiving a tax credit of $2,500 for individuals and $5,000 for families to offset the cost of insurance.
- Obama: Supports a mandatory cap-and-trade system to reduce carbon emissions 80 percent below 1990 levels by 2050.

- McCain: Supports competition between schools for most effective, character-building teachers, hiring them and rewarding them. Will provide federal financial support so parents can take children out of failing schools and send them to better ones.
- Obama: Supports a gas tax holiday and opposes taxing windfall profits opposes drilling in the Arctic but supports offshor&eacute; drilling; opposes ethanol subsidies; supports expanding nuclear power.

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- Obama: Plans to reform No Child Left Behind. Will create an American Opportunity Tax Credit to help American students go to college. Will devote $18 billion a year to new federal spending on early childhood classes, teacher recruitment, performance pay and other initiatives.

- McCain: Supports competition between schools for most effective, character-building teachers, hiring them and rewarding them. Will provide federal financial support so parents can take children out of failing schools and send them to better ones.
- Obama: Supports a mandatory cap-and-trade system to reduce carbon emissions 80 percent below 1990 levels by 2050.