ELECTION 2008

Indiana candidates prepare for election

Students help out on local congressional campaigns

By MADELINE BUCKLEY
News Writer

While the 2008 Presidential election has spurred many students to become involved in national campaigns, some Notre Dame students have turned their attention to the local elections that will also take place on Nov. 4.

Incumbent Joe Donnelly is running against challenger Luke Puckett for Representative of Indiana's 2nd District. Both candidates told The Observer they have seen enthusiastic support from Notre Dame students.

"There have been a number of students and faculty who volunteer on a regular basis," Donnelly said. "We are extraordi­narily grateful for all the help that they have seen enthusiastic support from Notre Dame students.

Both candidates told The Observer they have turned their enthusiasm to partake in political activities as Americans. Voting: A Right to Political

ND Alumni address security concerns

New Web site, council will attempt to restore friendly atmosphere by working with University

By KATIE KOHLER
Assistant Managing Editor

Even though University President Fr. John Jenkins created an ad hoc committee to review football weekend safety and security protocol earlier in the month to address complaints from fans, some alumni and fans said there is still more that can be done.

Eric Murray, a 1998 Notre Dame graduate, along with around six other alumni and several other contributors, founded the Alumni Council for Enforcement Reform to address these concerns. Murray is spearheading the effort to restore the atmos­phere of past seasons without escalating law enforce­ment.

"Our goal is not to have a confrontational relationship with the University. We want to act as a conduit to validate these complaints towards a rational response," he said.

They have received numerous responses via their website, ther­e­al­noted­ame­de­ate­m.com — some more vocal than others —

Panel discusses political involvement

By LIZ O'DONNELL
News Writer

A panel of local community members discussed the rights of political involvement that are held by citizens living in modern soci­ety the auditorium of the Hesburgh Center Thursday.

With the 2008 presidential elec­tion less than a week away, stu­dents and other members of the campus community have devel­oped a heightened sense of inter­est in their ability to partake in political activities as Americans.

This event, entitled "Beyond Voting: A Right to Political Participation in the 21st Century," is a part of the yearlong celebra­tion of the 60th anniversary of the adoption of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR).

Jackie Smith, an associate pro­fessor of Sociology and Peace Studies, moderated the discussion, the focus of which was to educate and discuss the practice of democ­racy on a local, national, and international level.

"Political participation has to be expanded far beyond the ballot box if we want it to count," Smith said. Participants in the panel were four people from the local South Bend community. Two of the pan­elists are past members of the Student Worker Union. In addition, a representative from the Student Government Association and a professor from the Department of Political Science.

Members of the Campus Labor Action Project (CLAP) at Notre Dame want to 'break the taboo of the word union,' CLAP member Sarah Lyons said. So starting today they will begin an education campaign and collect signatures in sup­port of a union for Notre Dame workers.

"A big part of this education campaign will be showing that unions are not a ridiculous, crazy idea," CLAP member Mary DeAgostino said Thursday. "The law supports it. Catholic social teaching sup­ports it. [Executive Vice President] John Affleck-Graves said he supports workers' right to unionize. It's kind of ridicul­ous our workers have to be so afraid of talking about a union."

CLAP will kick off its cam­paign on a home football game Friday to pick up alumni signa­tures. CLAP member Nick Krafft said.

"If [the workers] see that a few hundred people are willing to sign something that says they support this effort, that's just a real boost in confidence," he said.
Catholics

A woman foams at the mouth, convulsing hystically. A man howls and lunges, attacking the priest praying for him.

These scenes seem straight out of a low-budget horror movie. But for Rev. Vincent Lampert, official exorcist of the archdiocese of Indianapolis, this is just another day's work. His tools are a rosary, crucifix, Holy Water and the ancient texts The Rites of Exorcism.

Father Lampert came to speak at the Catholic Newman Center of the University of Illinois about his experiences as an exorcist while I visited there, and his stories range from the humorous to the outright frightening.

The most important qualification: the person must want to be exorcised. Also, Demons go to great lengths to distract the exorcist from his prayers. They force their hosts to levitate, foam at the mouth, undergo exorcism, a demanding process.

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The most important qualification: the person must want to be exorcised. Also, Demons go to great lengths to distract the exorcist from his prayers. They force their hosts to levitate, foam at the mouth, undergo exorcism, a demanding process., The demons curse God, the saints and anyone else — with one huge exception.

"They curse everyone except for the Blessed Virgin," Rev. Lampert said.

As a Notre Dame student, I was pretty excited to know my school is under the jurisdiction of a Catholic university, where a priest would be a consultant to students seeking an exorcist's help.

Rev. Lampert makes sure the person has his or her soul. In the Oct. 29 In Focus special edition of The Observer, the student editors regret this error. My other question: Why do those in the columns of The Observer not necessarily those of The Observer>Contact Tess Civantos at tcivantos@nd.edu.

In Brief

Student Activities Office will be holding a Haunted Campus Tour today starting at 10 a.m. in LaFortune Ballroom. The tour is part of the S.A.O Halloween Weekend.

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.

DeBartolo Performing Arts Center will be holding a concert by the Alston Brown Quartet on Sunday at 2 p.m. The quartet is a bluegrass band. Tickets will be $38 for general admission and $15 for students.

To submit information to be included in this section of The Observer, e-mail detailed information about the event to observer@nd.edu.
Academic building
dedicated at College

By MEGAN LONEY
miloney01@saintmarys.edu

"There is real energy in this building. I hope you have had a chance to see it today."

Patricia Fleming
vice president and
dean of faculty

"It is a statement by Saint Mary's that not only is there no contradiction between faith and reason — between faith and learning — but that education is only complete when both are nourished." Rev. John M. D'Arcy
Bishop of Fort Wayne-South Bend Diocese

"What is being dedicated here is a place of learning," he said. "It is a statement by Saint Mary's that not only is there no contradiction between faith and reason — between faith and learning — but that education is only complete when both are nourished."

After the official blessing, Saint Mary's alumnus Jennifer Mathilde Prickett, a member of the Board of Trustees, thanked those involved with the development of the building and explained her personal interest in this project.

"Finally, we can show you how much we mean to us, and how much we value what you do," Prickett said to the faculty.

President Carol Ann Mooney closed the ceremony with a final word of thanks to those who made the building possible and some of the donors. Their contributions totaling $19.4 million paid for the entire building, so that no tuition fee is needed to be spent, she said.

A Thanksgiving Mass was held in the Holy Spirit Chapel of Le Mans Hall following the reception held after the blessing of Spes Unica.

Contact Megan Loney at
miloney01@saintmarys.edu

Spes Unica receives positive reviews
Students and faculty appreciate resources of new academic building

By MANDI STIRONE
mstirone01@saintmarys.edu

"It's a little hard because the furniture and fabrics are pretty standardized," she said. However the technology and the large amount of space available to both faculty and students is especially beneficial, she said. She pointed out the new resource room for the Women's Studies department located on the second floor. It's equipped with a computer, books, files and even movies to create a "community space" for students, she said.

"We've been just really blessed to have a building like this," she said. "In Social Work the students are energized and have stated to me that they believe their learning needs have been more than met." The social work department in another department with a lab, she said. "Before we were separated." The "cooperative" feel of the building is something that bothers Professor Amanda Littauer, Assistant Professor of Social Work's, Studies.

"It's a little hard because the furniture and fabrics are pretty standardized," she said. However the technology and the large amount of space available to both faculty and students is especially beneficial, she said. She pointed out the new resource room for the Women's Studies department located on the second floor. It's equipped with a computer, books, files and even movies to create a "community space" for students, she said.

Chair of the sociology department, professor Susan Alexander's favorite part of the building is her new office. "I was in the lower level of Madeleva Hall so I wasn't with a window for 17 years," she said.

She is also a big fan of the new technology available to both students and teachers, she said. The only problem she has encountered is stu-
dents sitting in the far corner of a classroom whose view of the projection screen is partially blocked by the podium provided for the computers, she said.

Her department has two labs, one is a statistics lab, equipped with computers and other aids, and the other is more spacious. It has more equipment for students to use including computers and a large flat-screen television. The labs are Alexander's favorite part of Spes Unica.

"This is my 17th year here and it's the first time I've had space to do research, so I'm very happy with the labs," she said.

Contact Mandi Stirone at
mstirone01@saintmarys.edu

PITT PEP RALLY
Halloween Night
and live music at J.A.C. Gate 3 @ 5:00

Students sit closer to team- Free glowsticks
Select amount of game t-shirts tossed out by team

ONWARD TO VICTORY!
Congress continued from page 1

have given.

Donnelly said students have done a lot of work in the area, talking to people who lived there and calling voters in the district to computer assistance.

"They believe in this community," he said.

The excitement over the Obama campaign on campus has spilled over into the congressional campaign, where the first-year students have spoken to a couple of classmen.

He said he is the president of the Notre Dame College Republicans, and "they have an initial role in his campaign," Yap has organized phone banks, events, and volunteer lunch, and "I don't think the campaign is hurt," Murphy said.

"He would walk the parades with me," he said. "It's good at that time to talk to students."

Puckett said working with college campaigns has been a lot of fun, and he has enjoyed being a part of the organization.

Senior Cindy Brenner spent the summer working on Congressman Donnelly's campaign for reelection.

Brenner said she initially became involved in the local Congressional campaign because she enjoys working on campaigns, and she thought she would have more responsibilities on a local campaign.

"I had the opportunity to work for Congressman Donnelly because he disagreed with Donnelly's voting record," Brenner said. "I looked for the alternative and found it in Luke Puckett," he said. "When I met him, he was very convincing and I agreed with him on a majority of their positions.

In addition to agreeing with Puckett's campaign platform, Yap said he has thoroughly enjoyed working personally with Puckett.

"He's the type of guy that you would love to go out and get a beer with," Yap said.

Puckett's campaign platform is based on energy and the economy, and he said these two issues are "front and center".

"I am very worried about how they are going to afford to pay gas in their car, and therefore don't pay their mortgages," he said. "That affects the providers, and affects the economy, he said.

"It's a very interesting vote for him," Yap said.

Puckett said he believes energy independence is key in improving the economy.

"If I believe that if we are going to see gas prices stay down, our government has got to have the backbone to drill American oil," Yap said.

"Economic improvement also rests on lowering the corporate tax rate, which is now up to 39.3 percent," he said.

"Individuals who have left our country to make money internationally have got to be sure they're not buying this," he said.

"We have got to keep coming into the market," Yap said. "Luke has a small business owner, he does not have a background, but rather a business one, which he believes will help him in Washington."

"I believe Luke believes in the business principles and apply them to our government," Yap said.

While Donnelly favors cutting taxes for 90 percent of middle class Americans and raising taxes and raising taxes for Americans in the top income bracket, Puckett said he believes this will hurt business in the area because the people that are being taxed are "the backbone on business in the area." The decrease in spending from the people in top tax brackets will spilt a ripple effect and "hurt the jobs in the area," he said.

"This is not tax cuts for the middle class, this is about jobs. This is all about jobs," he said.

Contact Madeline Buckley at mbuckley@nd.edu

Ushers continued from page 1

cite stories of people being reprimanded or ejected from football games, and people have never seen the sheer numbers of law enforcement from multiple jurisdictions as I saw Saturday. It was chilling. There seemed to be enough for them to stand shoulder to shoulder. This was not the Notre Dame football experience I recall from better times.

Murray and the other contributors said they are careful to make sure the claims are true.

"We want to make sure these things are true and not simply to place a one up on stories someone else. We want credibility with our stories because if we take a rational approach, the administration will be more receptive in doing something positive."

So far, Murray said they have seen results such as the creation of the ad hoc committee and "we have seen results."

Most of the complaints on the Alumni Council's message board criticize the University, including: "My friend has vowed never to return to Notre Dame Stadium as long as the ushers bastards football.

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The collective outrage has been put on the table and voiced. Future need was to be less 'gothics' in nature and more in facilitating a safe and fun atmosphere at games. Undercover cops, surveillance cameras at tailgates and following people in bathrooms are not consistent with this," he said.

"The ad hoc committee is a good start step toward acknowledging there is a problem. We've gotten over that hurdle, but we are not fully confident the people on the committee don't have a conflict of interest. They are all very close to what we see is the problem."

Murray is hoping their success this season will carry over into needed as future seasons.

The site offers the opportunity to be anonymous, but Murray encourages contributors to reveal themselves.

"If they deal with us they have the option to be anonymous. Some tops are outlandish and if people don't want it came forward, it will hurt our efforts."

Contact Kate Kohler at kkohler1@saintmarys.edu
INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Planted bombs kill 61 in northeast India

GAZIABAD, India — Bombs planted in cars and rickshaws ripped through crowded markets in a coordinated attack Thursday in India's volatile northeast, killing at least 61 people and wounding more than 300.

The scale and planning behind the 13 blasts surpassed anything that had been a victim of random roadside violence. The worst was in West Virginia, where Southern states also rank at the bottom.

The findings dovetail with trends seen in obesity. More than 200,000 women and 130,000 men are diagnosed with breast cancer each year, according to the American Cancer Society.

NATIONAL NEWS

Obesity leads to increase in diabetes

WASHINGTON — The number of new diabetes cases nearly doubled in the United States in the past 10 years, the government said Thursday.

Doctors dragged the wounded and dead to cars that took them to hospitals. Police officers covered bodies with blankets.
Governor
continued from page 1
Studies and political analyst for the South Bend Tribune Jack Colwell.
"He's been on TV since March and they've been consistently glowing on the governor spot," Colwell said. "She had to turn off her television a lot of the time. It's been a bad month of September and October, and left him running almost unopposed.
Indiana has also hurt Long Tom's chances to win, according to Colwell.
"People in Indiana aren't focused on the races, because of the presidential race, he said. "The governor race hasn't created much of a stir at all. When she couldn't be on TV all the time, that's what really hurt her."
In the South Bend area, some of the biggest issues in the election are the Indiana Toll Road and Daylight Savings Time, according to Colwell. Despite Daniels' double-digit leads in statewide polls, "Toll roads and daylight saving time are dead issues for a major issue in this area because of the Toll Road and Daylight Saving Time," Colwell said.
The state leased the Toll road to a private corporation for 75 years. This corporation has recently raised tolls on the Toll Road, but Daniels has not seen any of that money.
"A lot of that money that got up front for that lease has been used for projects in other parts of the state," Colwell said.
Long Thompson has said that she would not favor further private, according to Colwell. Daniels was responsible for adopting daylight savings time in 2006, Colwell said.
"People are still kind of displeased about that," he said. "They had too much that time to change the clocks and that's in this "
As governor, Daniel claims "strong leadership and pro-active business-minded skills" according to his campaign's website. He created the Indiana Development Corporation, which is designed to attract new jobs to the state.
Daniels also created the state's Office of Management and Budget in 2005 to help increase efficiency and savings in state government. He balanced the state's budget for the first time in eight years in 2005 and has continued to balance the budget throughout his time in office, according to his campaign.
The claim of getting the first balanced budget in eight years is somewhat disputed, according to Colwell. Daniels claims that the state was "bankrupt" when he assumed the governorship. However, this is not entirely accurate, because the state constitution prohibits the state from going into debt.
"He did get a truly balanced budget," Colwell said.
If re-elected, Daniels will be most concerned with property taxes and education in 2009, according to his campaign. He wants to pass a constitutional amendment that will make the current caps on property taxes permanent. He is also proposing tax rebates that will automatically send taxes unused by the state -- provided that the budget is balanced and that the state has enough money saved in its "rainy day fund" -- back to the taxpayers.
On the education front, Daniels has proposed requiring schools to work through the state to buy certain supplies. The proposed coordination would allow schools to save money because the state would negotiate the purchases in bulk.
Daniels is also proposing a plan to help unionize $6000 tuition discounts for their families. No years at an Indiana college.
Daniels has served as governor since being elected in 2004, when he defeated Democratic incumbent Joe Kernan. Prior to his election, Daniels served as Director of the Office of Management and Budget in George W. Bush's first administration. In this role, he helped negotiate the tax cuts of 2001 and 2003 and helped the United States respond to the Sept. 11 attacks on a domestic level, according to his campaign website.
From 1993 until 2001, Daniels was employed by Eli Lilly and Company, serving as President of North American Pharmaceutical Operations. He previously served as CEO of the Hudson Institute, a non-profit think tank that was then based in Indianapolis.
Long Thompson represented Indiana's 4th Congressional District in the House of Representatives from 1989 until 1995. She was defeated by Mark Souder in the Republican's huge electoral gains in 1994.
Long Thompson was then appointed as Undersecretary of Agriculture in Bill Clinton's administration, a position she held until 2001. After leaving the public sector, Long Thompson served as President of the Center for Food and Agricultural Policy as a representative, Long Thompson voted against tax increases, but was a supporter of education, Medicare and Social Security, according to her campaign.
Long Thompson is campaigning mostly on the job that Daniels has done in his first term in office, according to Colwell.
"Long Thompson has suggested that he has not done a very good job, particularly with the economy and job creation," Colwell said.
Long Thompson has used the economy, Colwell said, to tie Daniels to President Bush by talking about the "Bush-Danels economy."
"Maybe that's fair because when he ran for the first time, he ran as 'My Man Mitch,' which was a direct quote from President Bush," Colwell said.
Long Thompson is blaming Daniels for the federal budget deficit, because when he became Director of the Office of Management and Budget in 2003, there were record surpluses that quickly turned into record deficits, according to Colwell.
With only a few more days until Election Day, it will be difficult for Long Thompson's charges of Danny's ties to Bush to change public opinion, said Colwell.
"He's probably going to win," Colwell said.
Contact John Treemey at jtreemey@nd.edu

Panel continued from page 1
1986, Fr. Robert Dowd and professor Robert Fishman are members of the Kellogg Institute for International Studies. Dowd is Assistant Professor of Political Science, while Fishman is a Professor of Sociology.
The panel also included Julia King, a Citizen Activist and member of the Women's Action for New Directions (WAND) and Lisa A. Plencer, President of the South Bend chapter of the League of Women Voters.
Fishman began the discussion by talking about the importance of voting.
"The right to vote is one of the most important rights that human beings are born with," Fishman said. "Basic human rights allow a person to become rich or poor, to hold a job or be unemployed, to public decision making and in the policy-making outcomes.
"The right to vote is one of the most important rights that human beings are born with," Fishman said. "Basic human rights allow a person to become rich or poor, to hold a job or be unemployed, to public decision making and in the policy-making outcomes.
Dowd then addressed the differences in the democratic system in the United States and in Kenya.
"When I arrived in Kenya in 1990, there was only one political party in Kenya, while when there were elections, they were only single
party elections, " Dowd said. "They were elections, they were only single
party elections, " Dowd said. "They were elections, they were only single
Asia leads rally in world stock markets

THE OBSERVER

B U S I N E S S

Friday, October 31, 2008

MARKET RECAP

| Dow Jones | 9,180.69 | +189.73 |

Leads | Stocks

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Verizon approved to buy Alltel Corp.

WASHINGTON — Verizon Wireless, the go-to buy of Alltel Corp., in a $2 billion deal that would create the nation's largest wireless carrier.

Trader Michael Gross works on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange on Thursday.

Wall Street begins to show stabilization

Dow Jones average rises 190 points, trading calms after fear of recession

Associated Press

NEW YORK — Wall Street showed welcome signs of stability Thursday, taking a dovish-tinged corporate-profit report in stride and driving the Dow Jones industrial average near 190 points in relatively calm trading. Even the last half-hour of the session, lately a period of turbulent activity, was comparatively subdued.

The market that a week ago was reeling from fears about recession was more composed after the Commerce Department's report that GDP fell at an annual rate of 0.1 percent during the third quarter — its worst showing in seven years. Analysts expected a 0.5 percent decline in GDP, the broadest measure of economic activity. For the year, however, where focus appeared more on U.S. data that showed the economy out of recession, however, where focus appeared more on U.S. data that showed the economy out of recession.

Verizon Communications Inc. and Britain's Vodafone Group PLC, already has agreed to the government's condition that it sell assets in 22 states.

For the week ending Wednesday, investment firms drew loans at a slower pace. That was down from $111.3 billion.

The Fed reported Thursday its third-quarter average up nearly 190 points in relatively calm trading. The Dow was only briefly in negative territory, and traded in a range of less than 300 points — well below the 400- and 500-point swings that have become commonplace.

The market did not erupt into frantic buying or selling in the last 30 minutes — a move that has become almost expected at the end of every session as big funds tried to raise cash to meet investors' calls for their money back, or rushed to cover their short positions. The last hour saw a quarter point. In Japan, speculation was the most placid in a market's volatility is over — shrinking.

America's benchmark index rose 7 percent to 37,449, building on even stronger gains in the two previous sessions.

“Then there's the idea that life will go on, and we will go on,” said Richard E. Cripps, chief market strategist for Stifel Nicolaus, noting that the daily trading range Thursday for the Standard & Poor's 500 index was about half its October average. “The market sort of paused, and it was waiting to exhale — and you're seeing that now.”

The Dow rose 189.73, or 2.11 percent, to 9,180.69.

Advance stock indicators also finished higher. The S&P 500 index rose 240, or 2.58 percent, to 9,249.09, while the Nasdaq composite index rose 41.31, or 2.49 percent, to 1,698.52.

The Russell 2000 index of smaller companies rose 23.30, or 4.75 percent, to 514.18.

Advancing issues outnumbered decliners by about 5 to 1 on the New York Stock Exchange, where consolidated volume came to 6.95 billion shares, down from 7.01 billion shares on Wednesday.

Banks borrow record amounts from Fed

WASHINGTON — Banks borrowed in record amounts from the Federal Reserve's emergency lending program over the past week, while investment banks drew loans at a slower pace.

The Fed report showed that its net holdings of daily borrowing over the past week. That surpassed the $87.4 billion.

For the week ending Wednesday, investment firms drew $87.4 billion. That was down from $111.3 billion of this

The Fed has said that around $1.3 trillion was reeling from fears about recession.

The Dow Jones Industrial Average was the most placid in a market's volatility is over — shrinking.

Asia leads rally in world stock markets

Associated Press

LONDON — World stock markets were stronger Thursday led by sharp rallies in Asia and Latin America after the U.S. Federal Reserve said it would supply new lines of credit to Brazil, Mexico and Singapore to help them deal with the global credit crisis.

Gains were more moderate in Europe, however, as focus appeared more on the stronger performances of emerging markets. Russia's rouble was up 4 percent or more. Russia's two main indices were also up sharply.

Asian markets started the day galloping higher, with Hong Kong's Hang Seng index leading the charge, up 12.8 percent to 14,329.85. South Korea's key stock index soared a record 12 percent to 1,084.72 and Japan's Nikkei 225 stock average gained 10 percent to 9,029.76, as exporters like Toyota and Sony got a boost from the ongoing fall in the value of the yen.

Elsewhere, benchmarks in Australia, Singapore, Taiwan and the Philippines added 4 percent or more. Brazil's two main indices were also up sharply.

Hong Kong's de facto central bank followed the Fed's half-percentaged point rate cut Wednesday by cutting its key lending by the same amount and Taiwan reduced its key interest rate by a quarter point. In Japan, speculation mounted that the central bank would cut its key rate, already at a low 0.5 percent, at a meeting Friday.

For the week ended, China also lowered its rates by just over a quarter point. The Shanghai Composite index was up 2.9 percent.

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For the week ended, China also lowered its rates by just over a quarter point. The Shanghai Composite index was up 2.9 percent.

Market took heart from an announcement that the Fed would temporarily supply new lines of credit worth up to $30 billion to the central banks of South Korea, Brazil, Mexico and Singapore.

The International Monetary Fund also said Wednesday it is creating a new program to get money quickly to developing countries with strong economies that are facing cash crunches in the global financial crisis.

The news brought new-found optimism to Latin American markets after a weeklong plunge in stock values and currencies.

Brazil's Bovespa index finished up 7.5 percent to 37,449, building on even stronger gains in the two previous sessions.

Mexico's benchmark IPC index also jumped 5.5 percent to 20,207.
California to cut water deliveries to help ration

By AMANDA GRAY

As Halloween approaches, the story "Gipper' haunts Washington Hall"
haunted Notre Dame’s and Saint Mary’s campuses seem to rise from
the grave.

One of the biggest legends on campus is the story of "Gipper" and the Kern County Water Agency
building management is
typical. "I don’t believe in ghosts and I don’t think that Washington Hall is haunted,”
Grissoli said.

However, he does admit working in the building sometimes spooked him, and others.

"When the wind blows outside, the noises above the main stage make the most eerie noise. It’s like someone making a sustained 'spook',” he said. "I can easily understand how people might think the windows take the crepes, groans and other odd noises that a 127-year-old building can make."

Professor of film and television Mark Piklton said
"Those who want to believe, love to believe."

Mark Piklton professor of film and television

California to cut water deliveries to help ration

Associated Press

SACRAMENTO — California said Thursday that it plans to cut water deliveries to its second-largest water district because of low levels, following the prospect of rationing for cities and less planting by farmers.

The Department of Water Resources projects that it will deliver at least 15 percent of the amount that local agencies throughout the state received last year.

Since the first State Water Plan was adopted in 1962, the only time less water was promised was in 1993, but heavy precipitation that year ultimately allowed agencies to receive almost all their requests.

The reservoirs that are most crucial to the state’s water delivery system are at or near 20 percent levels since 1977, after two years of dry weather and court-ordered restrictions on water pumping out of the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta. This year, water agencies received just 35 percent of the water they requested.

Farmers in the Central Valley said they have not yet received water deliveries of 50,000 acre-feet, while others said they have received less than 10 percent of their requests.

A state-appointed panel of experts said Tuesday that water deliveries to the Valley should be reduced to 25 percent of normal.

"We're seeing a phenomenon in the Central Valley where growers who have been in the business of agriculture are laying off workers who have been with them for 20 or 30 years because we don't have enough water," said Timmerman, who said one in three farmers now faces the prospect of losing their jobs.

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In Southern California, the Metropolitan Water District is also cutting water deliveries to 30 percent of normal levels for the first time this year.

"We are preparing for the very real possibility of water shortages and rationing throughout the region in 2007," said Commissioner Jeff Kightlinger, who added that his agency is considering rationing during its meeting next month.

The State Water Project delivers water to more than 25 million people and 760,000 acres of farmland.

In 2006, water agencies received their full allotment, in part because of heavy rains that helped raise water levels.

This year, a federal court limited water pumping out of the Delta to protect the threatened delta smelt.

Mother accused of kidnapping son

Lawyer decried suggestion that client was responsible for abduction

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ELECTION 2008

COMPILED FROM THE OBSERVER'S WIRE SERVICE

Sound Byte: Education

What will you do to improve the education system?

"And if I'm President, we'll give every child, everywhere the skills and the knowledge they need to compete with anyone, anywhere in the world. I will not allow countries to out-teach us today so they can out-compete us tomorrow. It is time to provide every American with a world-class education. That means investing in early childhood education. That means recruiting an army of new teachers, and paying them better."

Obama

"Public education should be defined as one in which our public support for a child's education follows that child into the school the parent chooses. The school is charged with the responsibility of educating the child, and must have the resources and management authority to deliver on that responsibility. They must also report to the parents and the public on their progress."

McCain

Thousands of people decide to vote early

Obama surges ahead in early voting, McCain forced to play catch-up before election begins

Early voters fill poll booths at Cincinnati's Hamilton County Board of Elections on Wednesday. A worker estimated that the location is getting approximately 2,000 early voters per day.

Associated Press

WASHINGTON—Democrats are disproportionately voting early 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 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 disproportionately numbers. Black voters overwhelmingly support Democrat Barack Obama, who is bidding to become the nation's first black president.

Voters can always cross party lines and no vote totals are announced until Election Day, but the early indications clearly favor Obama. It is unclear, however, whether they will translate into success on Nov. 4 because never before have so many Americans cast their votes before Election Day.

In Florida, for example, voting lines have been so long that Gov. Charlie Crist signed an executive order Tuesday extending early voting hours.

About a third of voters are expected to vote early this year, up from 22 percent in the last presidential election.

More than 15 million voters have already cast ballots, according to statistics compiled by Michael P. McDonald, a political scientist at George Mason University.

"This is off the charts in some of these states," McDonald said. "They already have record turnout (among early voters) in some states."

But is Obama, who is using his fundraising superiority on a massive early voting campaign, merely eating into the number of votes he would otherwise receive on Election Day? Or is McCain, who trails in most polls, falling perilously behind as Election Day approaches?

McCain said the McCain campaign is digging itself out of a dangerously deep hole in states the Arizona senator cannot afford to lose. "We have yet to see the Republicans really gear up their get-out-the-vote campaign," McCain said.

However, he noted that Democrat John Kerry led among early voters in Iowa in the 2004 presidential race, only to lose on Election Day.

Mike Duncan, chairman of the Republican National Committee, hopes McCain will do the same in numerous states this year.

"We will send out over 200 million pieces of mail and have over a quarter of a billion contacts, counting the mail, the phones and the door knocks," Duncan said. "These are numbers we've never been able to reach before."

McDonald said the Republicans' massive get-out-the-vote campaign "took us all by surprise in 2004, and it could happen again. But this is a juggernaut operation that the Obama campaign has." Democrats argue they have an advantage in voter enthusiasm, which helped them register far more new voters this year than the Republicans. Obama's campaign is turning the registration operation into a formidable get-out-the-vote effort.

Absentee voting used to be reserved mainly for people unable to make it to the polls on Election Day, whether they were sick, away on business or serving in the military.

There are more than 30 states allow any registered voter to cast an early ballot, some in person and others by mail.

Campaign News

Candidates to be interviewed on ESPN

ESPN says the presidential candidates are planning to participate in one-on-one interviews via satellite that would air at halftime of "Monday Night Football," the day before the election.

ESPN's Chris Berman will do the segments earlier Monday, if the candidates' schedules permit, and they'll air at about 10:15 p.m. EDT.

The interviews will give both candidates a last major chance to appeal to Americans during a covered spot on prime-time television. "Monday Night Football" has averaged 12.2 million viewers this season.

The game, between the host Washington Redskins and the Pittsburgh Steelers, will be the first NFL game played in the D.C. area on the Monday night before a presidential election in 24 years. The Redskins defeated the Atlanta Falcons 27-14 on Nov. 5, 1984, Ronald Reagan was re-elected the following day.

Obama previously appeared on "Monday Night Football" on Dec. 11, 2006, when he opened the broadcast of a game involving his hometown Chicago Bears by parodying his own upcoming announcement of his intention to run for the presidency.

 Palin considers her political future

ARLINGTON, Va. — With days still to go in the White House race, backers of vice presidential candidate Sarah Palin are talking her up as a possible contender in 2012, speculating that irritates other Republicans who contend she's a drag on the ticket and that her lightweight image — unfair or not — will be hard to shed.

The Alaska governor has done little to quiet the talk. In fact, she fueled the discussion this week when she signaled that she will remain on the national political scene no matter what happens Tuesday. "I'm not doing this for national security," she said in an interview with ABC News.

The telelegenic Palin, who burst onto the national stage seven weeks ago, has divided conservatives — some energized by her strong stance on social issues and others concerned by her halting interview performances. On the campaign trail, she is a popular draw, attracting numbers that a Republican Party searching for female star power can't ignore.

Biden vows to do more for middle class

ARLINGTON, Va. — With dozens of laid off autoworkers on stage behind him, Democratic vice presidential candidate Joe Biden pledged Thursday to do more for the middle class if he and Barack Obama are elected.

Biden said the union autoworkers did right by their employer, but 2,400 of them in nearby Fenton lost their jobs this fall as the economy soured. The workers at Chrysler's South Assembly Plant in Fenton rolled the last Dodge minivan off the assembly line Wednesday, two days ahead of schedule.

"At the end of the day, it's ultimately about jobs," Biden said.

Obama surges ahead in early voting, McCain forced to play catch-up before election begins

Thousands of people decide to vote early

Early voters fill poll booths at Cincinnati's Hamilton County Board of Elections on Wednesday. A worker estimated that the location is getting approximately 2,000 early voters per day.

Associated Press
Spain

Farmers suspect in Illinois murder

Associated Press

CHICAGO — George Weedon hid a tractor behind a false wall on his property, allegedly for a bankrupt dairy farmer who authorities say was trying to conceal assets from his creditors. But Weedon did not keep the secret for long.

For some reason — A guilty conscience? Cold feet? An ad in the local weekly promising amnesty to anyone involved in the scheme? — Weedon called up the FBI and told them what farmer Joseph Diekemper was up to.

Two days later, Weedon and his wife were found shot to death, and their home had been burned to the ground.

Around town, suspicion immediately fell on Diekemper, an often belligerent and abrasive figure whose neighbors so distrusted him that secretely called him "Snark" because they were convinced he was always hiding something.

Diekemper, 60, is behind bars, awaiting trial on bankruptcy fraud charges, and has not been charged in the April 2007 slayings. State Police last week would not discuss any possible suspects and said there was not enough evidence to charge anyone. And DiKemper's lawyer, Detective Robert Rosenblum said his client had nothing to do with the killings.

But according to court papers filed this month, Weedon, a trucker on medical leave, had nervously told an FBI agent he feared his home would burn down. Another witness said the casualty toll was not higher.

"We got lucky with the weather. Nobody else was injured because there were fewer people than usual inside," the station's Web site quoted her as saying.

"Everybody is worried he's going to get out," Diekemper's brother, Wayne, said. "Joseph Diekemper, said from behind the wheel of his rusty, 1960s-model tractor. "We don't want him on the loose." Diekemper — "Joe" to those who know him well — had his 64-year-old wife, Margaret, filed for bankruptcy in 2004, claiming assets of $1.7 million and liabilities of $5.5 million. But bankruptcy officials suspected they weren't telling the truth. So did the bank managing their property.

In April 2007, the bank took out a large ad in the Carlyle Union Banner warning that anyone helping Diekemper hide his possessions could be breaking the law. The ad promised "CIVIL AMENDITY" to anyone who confessed.

"It's not clear whether Weedon saw the ad or heard of it, or why he allegedly cooperated with DiKemper in the first place.

But Weedon, according to an FBI summary of the call, told an FBI agent he had stabbed one of DiKemper's workers behind a false wall Diekemper helped build in a shed on Weedon's land, tangled into corn and soybean fields miles off the highway.

The FBI said Weedon told the FBI he would be careful about disclosing his identity. Weedon agreed to call back the next week to arrange a formal interview.

But before he could arrange to meet, he was found dead in the front seat of a muscle car that he had been fixing up for his own use in the Carlyle away, in the ruins of the burned out home. Firefighters discovered the remains of Linda Weedon, a 41-year-old hospital worker.

On the days that followed, an investigator quietly told neighbors to watch their barns, and they heeded the warning.

Diekemper's 61-year-old brother slept with a high-powered rifle and parked a gun in his bib overall when on his tractor. Down the road, 62-year-old Albut, shared a bed with a .40-caliber pistol and took it with him when he cut the grass.

Albut recalled that he once reported Diekemper to environmental regulators for dumping manure along the road: and Diekemper got even by spreading the waste so thick and so close to Albut's neighboring house that his four-wheel-drive machine got stuck.

"He did that just to spite me," Albut said. "He didn't do that to neighbors, either."

Wayne Diekemper said his brother was chronically in financial trouble.

"He always wanted to be the biggest cheese of the family," Wayne Diekemper said. "He wanted to do everything, outfarm everybody. He was always bragging and carrying on.

Authorities said Diekemper, a player of poker and black jack and neighbor to neighbors — blew $115,000 in 199 trips to casinos.

Last summer, Diekemper and his wife were indicted on charges of defrauding their creditors and others by lying about — and often hiding — millions of dollars in real estate and farm equipment that had been sold since July, when a federal judge voided a bankruptcy filing after finding he had two rifles.

Coffee at the Condo

For Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual & Questioning Students at Notre Dame

Tuesday, November 4
11:00 a.m. - 9:00 p.m.
316 Coleman Morze
The Core Council invites gay, lesbian, bisexual & questioning members of the Notre Dame family, along with their friends and allies, to an informal gathering at the Co-MI.

Everyone is Welcome and Confidentiality is Assured

Coffee and Refreshments Will Be Served
After five weeks of controversy, the Saint Mary's Board of Governance (BOG) finally approved the 2008-2009 Student Government Association (SGA) budget effectively allowing funds to be dispersed to clubs and organizations who have been waiting for their allotments since mid-September at their meeting Wednesday night.

At the heart of the controversy was a stipend allotted for the Executive Board, who also serve as the SGA budgeting committee and therefore designed the budget, in the amount of $20,000. This money was to come from the $140 each full-time student at the College pays for a student government fee along with tuition. After BOG continuously voted not to approve the budget, the Executive Board reduced the amount of the stipend and eventually removed it entirely last year's Executive Board was the first to take a monetary stipend in the amount of $40,000. The student body and many members of the 2007-2008 BOG did not know that this amount of money was being used to pay a stipend which amounted to salaries. This year’s Executive Board should be applauded for being forthcoming with their intentions to take a stipend, allowing the student body to voice their opinion and ultimately listening to them.

But why was this controversial stipend allowed to be a line item on the past two SGA budgets in the first place and why was the budget held up for so long? It is very clear in fact that there are checks and balances in place in the SGA Constitution that keep the Executive Board from having the final say on the budget.

The Constitution does not stipulate whether or not the Executive Board can allocate funds for themselves; however, that does not explain why this practice started in the first place. The students who would collect a stipend were unaware that they would be receiving a salary for their service to the student body when they ran for office or applied for their appointed positions. They were told of the stipends after taking office and had to decide whether or not they would budget for the stipend as well. If they applied for the job with no intention of receiving a stipend, why did they decide to include it in the budget?

Had the stipend been approved this year, it would have changed the way student government functions at the College. While some students would still run for office because they love Saint Mary’s and want to give back to the student body, there would be others who would run solely because they would be receiving money.

The Executive Board clearly does a lot of work managing student government and planning events for the student body, but funding which is set aside for student government should be used for those events and activities instead of as a paycheck.

**EDITORIAL CARTOON**

“We have the money so I thought, Joe, why not buy an additional 30 minutes of prime time network TV and make my own closing argument for Barack?”

**QUOTE OF THE DAY**

“Forget your enemies. Nothing annoys them so much.”

Oscar Wilde

playwright
As our airplane descended into Seattle last weekend it rocked with some turbulence. While this was probably just the result of bad winds, I couldn't help but be reminded of Zach Braff's Nightmare in "Garden State." Grabbing my armrest, I braced for the worst and considered whether or not it would be possible to fashion a parachute out of a blanket if the plane were to rip apart like in "Lost." As the plane righted it's course, I not only realized that we were going to be fine, but that I might watch too many movies.

Like many people I try to act like I am fearless, but with today being Halloween it is only appropriate that I admit to my fears while recognizing everybody else's. With our economy in shambles and the country on the verge of an historic yet divisive election, Americans of all backgrounds are scared of what might happen next. This Halloween, more than any other in my lifetime, finds Americans more fearful than ever.

As the presidential election enters its final weekend, websites and television programs have all reported that Americans are terrified that their future will look much like the two campaigns. Americans can't afford the flying cars that "The Chinese" would have us believe we need because we are forced to pay ridiculous-
ly high taxes just to make sure the govern-
ment doesn't collapse. If people are worried about GM and Ford in the pres-
ent, I can only imagine what it will be like when Honda, Toyota, and Nissan have cornered this market on flying cars.

That will be fine with me, though. I do have that acute fear of flying I men-
tion earlier.

Although I might not be as troubled by flying cars that I couldn't afford and then looking to the govern-
ment for help to keep us afloat, I do have the fear.

The generation ahead of us destroyed this economy by purchasing houses they couldn't afford and then looking to the govern-
ment when the financial system into which they had their finger colluded. The government, in turn, produced $700 billion out of nowhere to fix this mess, leaving the governments of the future to bear the burden.

Sarah Connor might have had it right.

However we know better by now. We have seen T.I. Judgment Day cannot be prevented; it can only be delayed. So just as John Connor was left to solve the problems that his mother couldn't, we will find ourselves around the pieces of our current economic crisis. Only this time it will happen many years after John McCain or Barack Obama has been given years to dig an even deeper whole of debt for this country.

Some might say that it doesn't matter who you vote for, just as long as you vote. I agree that it doesn't matter who you vote for, and it doesn't even matter if you vote. I believe this because four years from now the government will have left its children with more loans to pay off, and it problems to solve. I think that we have the ability to save itself by fashioning a parachute out of a blanket. On the bright side, we will probably still have a new "Saw" movie to ease our fears every Halloween.

I encourage everyone to educate themselves and vote for who they feel is best, because there will never be a per-
fect or near perfect politician.

The problem with labeling Obama a socialist is not only, pace Pesavento, that he doesn't have the military might to stand against his critics. It is, however, from the perspective of the economist. Pesavento's cookie-cutter concept of "socialism" seriously ("Barack the Socialist," Oct. 21) says he will not because he doesn't agree that any Senator who voted to give Treasury Secretary Henry Paulson the authority to recapitalize and governmental ownership and adminis-
tration of tax-payer subsidized medicine for the poor and the elderly in the guise of "socialism". It is time for our gen-
eration to change this trend and take responsibility, because in a few short years the results will be ours to bear.

I encourage everyone to educate themselves and vote for who they feel is best, because there will never be a per-
fet or near perfect politician.
Voting privilege

Every morning on my way into work at the human rights bureau at the State Department, I pass by a powerful image many of you have probably seen in the media: the picture of an Iraqi woman giving the peace sign, her right index finger stained purple after she voted in the 2005 elections. It’s a reminder about democracy and the governance process. That’s an idea that we often take for granted in this country, even to the extent of getting lazy about exercising our constitutional right to vote.

As we sort of take for granted in this country, there is still the possibility that when it gets down to the wire, some of us may not go to the polls or send in an absentee ballot. Maybe due to indecision, lack of spare time, or doubt that our votes will really matter this time around. Do not let that be you on Nov. 4.

If the fact that this election is critical for the future of our country as we face daunting challenges on nearly every policy front is not a sufficient reason, then I urge you to think again about the sacrifices people all over the world have made for freedom and recognition of their rights through the ballot box. Voting is fundamental to faithful citizenship. Voting is also easy. So let’s make sure NDVOTES on Nov. 4.

Michael McKenna
alumna Oct. 30

A campus-wide thank-you

We just want to let the students at South Dining Hall know how special they are to us. Each of you bring your own special ‘sunshine’ into our day. Being checker/monitor is a pleasure to look forward to, as it gives us an opportunity to get acquainted with wonderful young ladies and gentlemen, who come through our station. It is a gift that we will always remember and treasure. Thank you all for making our time here a rewarding experience.

John and Lila Rinchard
South Dining Hall employees
Mishawaka, Ind.

Think vampires are scary? Try your phone charger.

The long,ailing, the temperature is (dra stically) dropping, and everyone is excited for the frightening Halloween fun that will commence this weekend. However, there’s one thing that isn’t falling – our cellphones! In light of Halloween, we’d like to take this time to talk about energy consumption and the affects of all to your wallet, vampire, electricity.

Yes, that is really what it’s Creepy, right? Vampire electricity refers to electricity used by appliances and electronics when they are turned off. You may not know it, but your TV, DVD player, microwave, toaster, clock radio, laptop and yes, your phone charger, all consume small amounts of energy even when you are not using them. The reason for this is that most modern electronics put into standby (or sleep) mode when you hit the off switch – they never actually turn off. These small amounts of energy add up to a pretty spooky total amount of time and cost, and consumers a lot more money than they realize.

The Department of Energy estimates that five percent of U.S. electricity is wasted by vampire electronics every year, and that figure could increase to 20 percent by 2010.

Vampire electricity is estimated at about $5.5 billion a year, which, when multiplied by 110 million households, gives the ghastly figure of $6.7 trillion per year that Americans are spending on this backs. That’s enough to buy nine and a half million houses, suck electricity, “pro-life” must be respectful of human life at all levels in all nations, not only toward privileged American fetuses. As a pro-life person, you would consider the livelihoods of Americans of all ages and backgrounds, the guests of America and the citizens of the countries with whom we have relations and responsibilities.

Consider generation, besides your own when voting. While one candidate may have an attractive offer on how to fix a problem temporally, it would be far wiser to consider the candidate who has a detailed plan on how to fix problems with far-reaching outcomes. Younger Americans, consider a plan for health care which benefits both Americans. If one vote is low, it will be substantial by the time we need it, and we will receive respect from the older generations. Politicians, consider admitting mistakes of previous administrations and withdraw from the countries who have made it clear they do not want our help.

Consider respecting the military families and non-Americans who have been suffering long enough. Leaving a war is a “pro-life” action on multiple levels. Not only will we save lives, but we will be able to use the money we had been spending there on and spend it on issues that matter here at home.

Consider using the money to boost our troubled economy. Invest in education so we can shape future American leaders and help back on track with the global academic classroom. Invest in the environment to show our commitment to life and future life.

Do you want to vote this election? Consider the candidates who can help America grow stronger and provide solutions. Then make the decision that will help the nation and your future. Remember, you have one day left to make this decision. Make sure you vote!

Katie Woodward
junior Oct. 29

Unplug. You Don't need to have your cell phone charger plugged in when your phone is not attached. You can speak for the TV or the toaster. The convenience factor may be lost, but you'll gain a lot more in terms of money and energy saved. Unplug. You need to have your phone charger plugged in when your phone is not attached.

For the CSC's Energy Awareness Week, the Department of Energy estimates that five percent of U.S. electricity is wasted by vampire electronics every year, and that figure could increase to 20 percent by 2010.

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Do you want to vote this election? Consider the candidates who can help America grow stronger and provide solutions. Then make the decision that will help the nation and your future. Remember, you have one day left to make this decision. Make sure you vote!
"Way to Normal" is the title of the latest album produced by the cynical rocker, Ben Folds. Though the title of the album may suggest otherwise, the musician’s third full length studio album proves to be far from the norms of pop rock.

The album may seem like trademark Ben Folds irony, the North Carolina native would argue that the album is a return to his inspirational roots.

"This new album is really about me being free, which is why it feels cathartic and expressive," Folds said on his official Web site. "It’s about me coming back to being myself. "Way to Normal," which hit the stands on Sept. 16th, is expected to be a popular reinvention for a diverse Folds following.

Though Folds’ Web site promised “irresistible hooks and piano-pounding pandemonium,” listeners haven’t been treated to... since his years with Ben Folds Five. "Way to Normal" features few structural differences compared to his previous albums. That isn’t to say that the album is a failure. It packs the same sardonic punch that has earned Ben Folds his devout fan base.

The album strongly opens with two crowd pleasers entitled "Hiroshima (B B Benny Hit His Head)" and "Dr. Yang." The first track is an account of the public humiliation Folds earned after falling off the stage while performing in Japan. Not only did the accident affect the performer medically, it also provided the material for one of the album’s most memorable tracks when set to the rhythmic pounding of Folds’ piano. "Dr. Yang" similarly drives the listener deliberately toward a final fuzzed and energetic crescendo.

In addition to the signature anthems, Folds births several romanticist ballads that call to mind previous works such as "Brick" and "The Luckiest." Accompanied by a subtle orchestral ambience, Folds ponders both the beginnings and failures of relationships in "Cologne."

The song draws a curious reference in citing former astronaut Lisa Nowak to "put on a diaper and drive 18 hours to kill her boyfriend." Concluding the album with a similar romantic obsession, "Kylie from Connecticut," recounts the past affair of the long-wedded protagonist Kylie.

The final track of the album lulls the listener into appreciative tranquility with its waltzing piano line and clinching string section.

The album’s first hit single, "You Don’t Know Me," featuring the bright vocals of Regina Spektor, may be the best track on the album. The poppy single combines many of Folds’ best musical and lyrical tendencies juxtaposed with Spektor’s swooping voice. "It’s an excellent introduction to Folds’ quirky and acerbic tendencies. If you’re looking for an album that deviates from typical pop trends, look no further than "Way to Normal,"" Folds agrees that the addition of Spektor vitalizes the single. "She gave it more life. I think she’s one of the best singers out there, she’s just so talented."

Many of the other tracks spawn from characteristic Ben Folds lyrical spontaneity and harsh opinion. He criticizes, with tonal contrasts between verse and chorus, upper class elitism in "Frown Song," and even voraciously attacks a critic through several challenges of the victim’s integrity in "Brainswacht."

The album isn’t flawless, though. More than once, Folds deviates from the flowing structure of his typical musical style for droning conversationally tangents. The misplaced digressions lengthen several songs unnecessarily, borring the listener. Fortunately, these shortcomings are limited and do not excessively taint the album’s integrity.

At times during "Way to Normal," Folds displayed the musical charisma of some of the greatest piano rockers: Elton John, Billy Joel or Freddie Mercury.

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If you are a faithful Folds fan, "Way to Normal" will resemble the pianist’s past albums — a collection of both catchy anthems and emotional ballads whose appeal gradually grows on the listener. For those who are unfamiliar with the artist, the album is an excellent introduction to Folds’ quirky and acerbic tendencies. If you’re looking for an album that deviates from typical pop trends, look no further than "Way to Normal."
"Synecdoche, New York" metaphorical must-see

By SHANE STEINBERG
Scene Writer

Try and name a Hollywood screenwriter. Just one. It seems an oxymoron to refer to anyone who has written a screenplay without doubting as a director as famous. Screenwriters simply write the stories and show up in the credits. Don't tell that to Charlie Kaufman, though.

To say that Kaufman transends Hollywood is an understatement. He is a paradox of a writer whose work is almost indescribable and incomprehensible at times, yet always engrossing. His plots are otherworldly. His dialogue is down-right foreign. Each scene that he constructs operates in a dreamlike fashion, allowing the audience to seamlessly surrender any semblance of what they're accustomed to seeing when at the movies.

He is Charlie Kaufman, the lone star writer, and as Kaufman is a paradox of a writer whose work is almost indescribable and incomprehensible at times, yet always engrossing.

Directed by: Charlie Kaufman
Starring: Philip Seymour Hoffman, Samantha Morton, Michelle Williams, Catherine Keener, Philip Seymour Hoffman, Samantha Morton, Michelle Williams, Catherine Keener

"The Duchess" depicts the desperate life of Georgiana, the Duchess of Devonshire (Kiera Knightley) living in 18th century England. In the eyes of her public, the Duchess was one of the most fashionable and charming women around. Even high society followed in her wake, emulating her fashions and wigs. It is painfully obvious early on that the gossip line is evident, and that the Duke is the only man in England not in love with his wife.

While Georgiana leads an extravagant political and public life, her personal life is characterized by unhappiness due to her marriage. Ralph Fiennes perfectly portrays the evil Duke with great subtlety that it creeps up on the viewer. The Duke does not bother to get to know his wife, but like many other stories of the time only wants her to provide him with a male heir.

While this film does contain some soap opera underpinnings, it avoids most of the soap opera pitfalls. The riveting performances of the actors save the film from this fate by demonstrating elegance, wit, and power.

The awkward meals that the three share are extremely tense. When the Duchess can no longer remain calm at one of these meals, it leads to a harrowing sexual confrontation between the Duke and his wife. The film succeeds here by avoiding the cliched drama about the woman being infertile, as Georgiana births four children in the end, and a well-deserved, nomination for Best Actress.

The weekend away that contains a beautiful piece that delves into the dirt and visage of the seemingly clean cut royal class. Part of the realism translates from the book, which was based on a true story that inspired the film, by Amanda Foreman.

While the Duchess struggles to produce a son, she must suffer through the uncomfortable love triangle that includes her husband and his live-in mistress, Lady Katherine (Charlotte Rampling), Georgiana's once best friend and confidant.

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"The Duchess" is visually sumptuous and more honest than most costume dramas. Knightley is truly exceptional as the titular character. There is even Oscar buzz surrounding the actress with a performance.

After roles in "Pride and Prejudice" and "Anticongem," it seems she has perfected the British time period woman who experiences fanciful fits, eloquent monologues, and sometimes a little steamy sex. It would be the second, and a well-deserved, nomination for Knightley.

While Knightley certainly deserves ample praise, Fiennes does just as well. Since the film is entitled "The Duchess" it is expected that her character will sometimes overshadow his. However, he holds his own as he perfectly plays the controlling villain, although his performance is certainly less obvious than his Lord Vordermort persona. In a twisted way, he makes the Duke's terrible actions seem necessary, and towards the film's end he briefly reveals a hint of humanity.

His portrayal of the painfully aristocratic man is impeccable, as he leads the audience to consider sympathizing with him and condemning society instead.

The Duchess contains expansive scenery, wonderful costumes, makeup and hair, impressive dialogue, and outstanding performances.

Directed by: Saul Dibb
Starring: Kiera Knightley, Ralph Fiennes, Charlotte Rampling, Dominic Cooper

"The Duchess" is visually sumptuous and more honest than most costume dramas. Knightley is truly exceptional as the titular character.
Lyons looking for a big upset against top-seeded Welsh Fam

Playoff-tested PW set to battle Howard; Walsh wants to avenge Farley blowout; Pangborn and McGlinn ready to go

By MOLLY SAMMON, DOUGLAS FARMER, CHRISTEL MICHALSKI, and RYAN O’CONNELL
Sports Writers

To kick off the first round of the playoffs, top-seeded Welsh Fam and MountainView have history on its side against No. 8 seed Lyons. These two teams met in the first playoff game of the season with the exact same seeds last year. Welsh Family won—but it’s a new season, a new game, and Lyons seems prepared for the fight.

“This looks like the biggest challenge this Sunday is being prepared mentally.” Lyons junior quarterback and co-captain Claire Connell said.

“We need to show up to the game ready to play with intensity.” Lyons senior Willa Whirlwind said.

As Lyons works on their game intensity, Welsh Family has been dependent on getting their defense to stop the winning offense from their opponents. Welsh Family quarterback and co-captain Jovi Cargula said.

During the regular season, the Whirlwinds would enter an impressive 6-0, but almost suffered their first loss against Beacon-Phillips in their last game, losing their problems to struggling to score in the red zone.

Lyons finished its regular season with a 4-2 record.

“We have not played Welsh Family all year, but we know that they are a strong team,” Connell said. “We are looking forward to ending their winning streak.”

The game will be played Sunday at 1 p.m. at the LaBar Field.

Howard vs. Pasquerilla West girls’ soccer season, when playoffs roll around, it becomes a different ballgame. Teams with deep playoff experience, such as Pasquerilla West, can understand this fact.

But despite being separated in the standings by half a game, and tying each other earlier this fall, Pasquerilla West (3-1-2) enters the first round game against Howard (3-2-1) on Sunday with at least one large factor in its favor. At the end of September when the two teams last met, the season was near its halfway point. The two teams endured a defensive slugfest to a 6-6 tie.

Pasquerilla West senior captain Cara Davies described that matchup as “an ugly, sloppy game by all accounts.”

Both teams relied on strong defensive rushes to flush the opposing quarterback. This strategy led to Pasquerilla West Lineman Jordan Johnson recording two sacks. The Howard defense countered those sacks by intercepting Davies twice in the first half.

The greatest difference between the two teams is their playoff experience. PW has won two titles in the past three years, while Howard was stifled by the Lady Dukes in the state title game.

“Our goal this year is to end up back in the Stadium.” Cara Davies PW captain

“We’re taking it one game at a time,” Howard senior Kylah Bishop said. “But we’ve always got that Stadium game in the back of our minds.”

“We need to show up to the game ready to play with intensity.” Lyons senior Willa Whirlwind said.

“Lyons looking for a big upset against top-seeded Welsh Fam”

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A

around the dial

NBA

Bulls at Celtics 8:00 p.m., ESPN

Spurs at Trail Blazers 10:30 p.m., ESPN

Brewers hire Macha as manager

Associated Press

MILWAUKEE — Ken Macha was hired Thursday as manager of the Milwaukee Brewers, taking over from Dale Sveum following the team's first postseason appearance since 1982.

The 58-year-old Macha, who managed Oakland to a pair of AL West titles, agreed to a two-year contract. He replaces Sveum, who was fired with 12 games left in the regular season.

"It means a tremendous amount to me," Macha said. "The players are the guys that go out there and win or lose the games for you, and I think the job of a manager and a coach is to get those players as prepared as you possibly can.

Macha immediately tried to dispel the notion that he lost touch with his players in Oakland, including Jason Kendall, now the Brewers catcher.

"I've got a couple things to say about that. No. 1, the job of the manager is really not to be buddies with all the players. You have to make very difficult decisions over the course of the year," he said.

"Sometimes players get a little personal and think it's personal. It really isn't."

Macha led Oakland to a 368-260 record. He was fired two days after the Athletics were swept by Detroit in the 2006 AL championship series, a result that frustrated players.

"I think if you go back and talk to those players now, they might have a little bit of a different take," Macha said.

Macha said he spoke with Sveum, who was dropped from consideration Oct. 17, and encouraged him to keep his dream of being a manager one day.

"I really feel that Dale will be a plus to this staff," Macha said. "I'm hoping that he stays." Willie Randolph and Rob Brenly also were finalists for the job.

Six years ago, Macha was considered the lead candidate to become the Brewers manager when Doug Melvin became GM, but Macha was promoted from bench coach to manager in Oakland.

Milwaukee went 90-72 last season and won the wild-card berth on the final day. The Brewers then lost in four games to Philadelphia, the eventual World Series champs, in the first round of the playoffs.

In Brief

Witten wants to play Sunday against Giants

IRVING, Texas — Cowboys tight end Jason Witten feels every breath he takes because of a broken rib. Sleeping is difficult and doctors have told him that it could be three or four weeks before his side will feel any better.

Yet, Witten still hopes to play Sunday against the NFC East-leading and rival New York Giants.

During the early portion of practice open to reporters, Witten was in shorts and doing conditioning drills on the side with a team trainer. It was the second day in a row he didn't practice.

Witten, the NFC's leader with 46 catches, said he would like to get some practice reps this week, but still described himself as a game-time decision.

The Cowboys (5-3), who had lost three of their four games before their 13-9 victory Sunday over Tampa Bay, are already without quarterback Tony Romo (broken pinkie) and guards Kyle Kosier (foot) on offense and several injured defenders.

Griffey on the market after White Sox decline option

CHICAGO — Ken Griffey Jr.'s $16.5 million option was declined Thursday by the Chicago White Sox, making the No. 5 home run hitter in major league history eligible for free agency.

Griffey, who was owed a $4 million buyout, was dropped from consideration as the White Sox entered a rebuilding mode last season and won the AL Central.

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Judge says that Vick must appear in person

SUSSSEX, Va. — Former NFL quarterback Michael Vick won't be allowed to plead guilty to dogfighting charges by videoconference, a judge ruled Tuesday.

Vick's lawyers had requested that he be allowed to enter the plea from federal prison in Leavenworth, Kan., where he is serving a two-year term since admitting he bankrolled a dogfighting operation and helped execute dogs.

But citing high public interest in the case, Surry County Circuit Judge Samuel Campbell said it would be better for Vick to appear in person.

Prosecutor Gerald Poinder preferred that Vick's plea wait until his release from federal prison. He objected to the video conferencing motion on grounds that it has never been used in Virginia and he didn't want the county to set a precedent.
MLB
Rays shift their
close to next year

Associated Press

PHILADELPHIA — One remarkable ride is over, and the Tampa Bay Rays are already planning another.

No stopping back to savor what they accomplished over the past six months. The AL champions want to make winning and going to the World Series an expectation.

“Our minds have been stretched. Everything about us has been stretched,” manager Joe Maddon said. “I don’t think our guys are ever going to be satisfied going home in October again.”

A year after finishing with the worst record in baseball, the young Rays pulled off one of the most improbable turnarounds in major league history. They won 12 of 14 games to one point they were dismissed by the way to a franchise-best 97 wins. Maddon’s bunch showed it doesn’t take a large payroll to field a winning.

Including the playoffs, they won 39 more games than in 2007. The team dropped the “Devil” from its nickname, took on new colors and uniforms and said goodbye to a decade of futility in which Tampa Bay finished last in the AL East in nine of 10 seasons.

“We made a powerful statement,” Maddon said. “It’s just the beginning.”

Players began clearing out their lockers at Tropicana Field in St. Petersburg on Thursday.

“I’m having a tough time today. But seeing the guys raises the pain,” slugger Carlos Pena said. “The reason it hurts too much is because we were having too much fun. It was amazing.

We were kids just living a dream. We’re hungry for more. This year is one we’ll never forget.”

Pitcher James Shields said it hurt to fall short of their ultimate goal, but echoed his teammates’ sentiments that the future is bright.

“IT hit me this morning when I woke up. But I woke up all smiles,” Shields said. “What a crazy season. Absolutely amazing.”

Not only did the Rays outlast the high-spending Boston Red Sox and New York Yankees to win the division, they also prospered in the playoffs, long after skeptics figured they’d run out of gas.

“They kept believing in themselves to the point they were dis­ appointed they didn’t win this thing,” principal owner Stuart Sternberg said after Wednesday night’s 4-3 series-clinching loss to the Philadelphia Phillies.

“They never counted themselves out at any time from the month of February on,” Sternberg said. “They really believed, even down three games to one … they felt extraordinarily confident that they were going to bring this back to St. Petersburg, and win this thing.”

The Rays did not play well against the Phillies, however they didn’t make excuses for the shoddy defense, shaky pitching and lack of timely hitting.

Instead, Maddon focused on what they did well, and how that ties into a promising future.

In Games 2 and 3, the Rays scored eight runs, just one of them on a hit. Pushing four runs home on groundouts and scoring on a sacrifice fly, safety squeeze and throwing error delighted the manager.

He’s going to put out an instructional video and use it in spring training to reinforce how much small details mean to winning.

He plans to spread the message to players in the minor league system, too.

“We need to continue to grow. There are a lot of things we have to do better,” Maddon said. “I’m into the little things. This series really validates a lot of the concepts we have put out there. The young Rays pulled off one of the Angels system in the AL East in nine of 10 seasons.”

Still, he cautioned his younger teammates to beware, citing the Detroit Tigers as an example.

“They had a great team, a great bunch of guys and added even more depth to their team and didn’t quite get over the hump in 2007. But the year before, they were an outstanding team,” Floyd said.

“If you want to look at anything, you look at that team and see how quickly it can turn. The Colorado Rockies, how quickly it can turn. You have to come prepared for spring training, knowing that this year is completely over, you’re not the champions and if you’re going to be champions we got a taste of what it takes to do that.”

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Please recycle The Observer.
Philadelphia Phillies want to do it again

Associated Press

PHILADELPHIA — The Philadelphia Phillies are built to be more than a one-year wonder.

Cole Hamels and Brad Lidge aren't going anywhere. Neither are Chase Utley, Ryan Howard and Jimmy Rollins. With the team's nucleus expected back and Jimmy Rollins. With the team's nucleus expected back, and the franchise's 126-year history, there's still an expectation that the Phillies want to do it again.

"We're losers no more," said manager Pat Gillick screamed after the Phillies beat the Tampa Bay Rays to capture the second championship in three years.

"Thanks for your support! And to be real, it's a challenge," said general manager Pat Gillick screamed out to the delirious fans Wednesday night, moments after the Phillies beat the Tampa Bay Rays to capture the second championship in three years.

"When players don't go 100 percent, they get hurt. David is a percent, they get hurt. David is a 108 for an outfield player — held money next year. He has three-year contract expires in 11/19/08. No other discounts apply.

The first two were played in Tampa Bay's quirky, domed stadium with all the catwalks and goofy ground rules.

"It's not really in my hands," Beckham said on a conference call with reporters. "In my view, this on January on a three-month loan to Milan?" Surviving the euphoria of the wild celebration, Beckham said when he signed with AC Milan? "We're losers no more," said manager Pat Gillick screamed after the Phillies beat the Tampa Bay Rays to capture the second championship in three years.

"The 71-year-old Gillick probably got caught up in the euphoria of the wild celebration, Beckham said when he signed with AC Milan.

"Heck, no," Moyer said after. "We're losers no more," said manager Pat Gillick screamed after the Phillies beat the Tampa Bay Rays to capture the second championship in three years.

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Henry pleads not guilty to charges

Associated Press
BILLINGS, Mont. — Former NFL running back Travis Henry and a co-defendant pleaded not guilty Thursday to federal cocaine trafficking charges.

The 30-year-old Henry and 29-year-old James Slack of How Mar, Colo., were arrested Sept. 30 in the Denver area. Authorities say the two had plotted to supply at least 5 kilograms of cocaine to customers in the Billings area. They were arrested in an undercover sting operation after authorities said an associate was pulled over in a traffic stop in Montana and found to have cocaine and marijuana.

Both men are free on bond. In a brief arraignment hearing Thursday, Magistrate Judge Carolyn Ostby admonished Henry for violating the terms of his release on at least one occasion.

"The conditions for release are not optional," Ostby told Henry, who played for the Broncos, Titans and Bills in a seven-year NFL career. "Your pretrial release can be revoked." Federal prosecutors in Billings said they did not know the details of the violation, but that it apparently occurred in Denver.

Court documents list numerous release terms for Henry, including a ban on drinking alcohol, travel restricted to Colorado and Montana, random substance abuse testing and home detention. The defendants each face one charge of conspiracy to possess cocaine with intent to distribute and two charges of possession with intent to distribute, and distribution of cocaine.

A count carries a minimum of 10 years to life in prison, a $4 million fine and at least five years of supervised release. Henry was released by the Broncos in June after playing one season of a four-year, $22.5 million contract. Lawyers for the two men declined comment at Thursday's arraignment. The case was assigned to U.S. District Judge Richard Cebull.

"The conditions for release are not optional." Carolyn Ostby
Magistrate Judge

Jones approves, Johnson

Associated Press
DALLAS — Jerry Jones is glad Brad Johnson will be the Dallas Cowboys starting quarterback against New York Giants and he expects coach Wade Phillips and offensive coordinator Jason Garrett if and when to make a change.

"Those guys have a good feel for it. I wouldn't touch it," Jones said. "They have spent hours and hours over the last couple of years with Brad. They know where Brooks is and where he is right now. I am totally and completely satisfied with their timing on any decision they make regarding the quarterback."

"Our best chance is to have Johnson," said the owner. "We have got a guy [Johnson] who has years and years of making decisions here."

Jerry Jones
Dallas owner

"We have got a guy [Johnson] who has years and years of making decisions here."

Cowboys and Mavericks will host the 2010 NBA All-Star game at the football team's new stadium. The Cowboys are a heavy underdog Sunday, partly because of all their injuries. Romo is among several key starters who will be missing on defense and offense. Tight end Jason Witten, the NFC's leading receiver, could be out for the season due to a broken rib.

After playing New York, Dallas will have a bye. The injured players are all expected back Nov. 1st. Washington.

"The conditions for release are not optional." Carolyn Ostby
Magistrate Judge

"We have got a guy [Johnson] who has years and years of making decisions here."

Phillip R. Sloan
Professor, Program of Liberal Studies and Graduate Program in History and Philosophy of Science

"Catholics and Evolution: Old Tensions and New Directions"

11:00 a.m.
Saturday, November 1, 2008
Annenberg Auditorium, Snite Museum of Art

Are Catholics committed to supporting "Intelligent Design" against evolutionary theory? Sloan will examine the history of the response of Church officials to Darwin's theory and summarize the most recent reflections in Catholic circles and in the official statements of the Vatican.

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09/06—San Diego State
"Faith: Taking Shape: Early Christianity and the Arts" Thomas F. Noble, Professor and Chairperson, History

09/13—Michigan
"Peer Pan as Cultural Icon" Susan C. Omher, William T. Carey and Helen Kuhn Carey Associate Professor of Modern Communication, Film, Television, and Theatre

09/27—Purdue
"Election 2008: Race, Gender, and Faith" David B. Campbell, John Cardinal O'Hara, C.S.C., Associate Professor, Religious Studies

10/04—Stanford
"The Sub-Prime Mortgage Mess and Federal Reserve Policy" Christopher J. Waller, Gilbert E. Schaefer Professor of Economics

11/01—Pittsburgh
"Catholics and Evolution: Old Tensions and New Directions" Philip R. Sloan, Professor, Program of Liberal Studies

11/22—Syracuse
"Before and Beyond Modernism: Icons as Art" Charles E. Barber, Professor and Chairperson, Art, Art History, and Design

3-1/2 hours before kickoff in the Annenberg Auditorium, Snite Museum of Art (unless otherwise noted).

For more information, visit http://saturdayscholar.nd.edu

The Observer • SPORTS
Friday, October 31, 2008
NFL
MLS

Mariners mum on Griffey return

Associated Press

SEATTLE — The Seattle Mariners can have Ken Griffey Jr. back if they want him, now that he’s a free agent.

New Mariners general manager Jack Zduriencik refused to say whether Seattle will make a push to sign its former franchise center fielder who is still beloved in the Northwest.

That was hours after the White Sox made a deal with Griffey, a free agent — and free for a potential return to the team with which he said two years ago he would like to retire.

“We can’t comment on any specific free agent at this time,” Zduriencik said Thursday afternoon through a Mariner’s spokesman in an e-mail to The Associated Press.

The White Sox declined Griffey’s $16.5 million contract option for 2009. Griffey will get a $4 million buyout to complete a $100 million payroll to lose 100 games.

Griffey is 18th with 1,772 games. Griffey batted .260 with 18 homers and 71 RBIs.

Griffey had arthroscopic surgery on his left knee this month in New York to repair torn meniscus and torn cartilage, a condition that affected his power numbers.

“He will undoubtedly help some club, both on the field and in the clubhouse,” White Sox general manager Ken Williams said Thursday. “Pure class.”

Griffey passed Sammy Sosa for fifth on the all-time run list last season and has 611, trailing only Barry Bonds (762), Hank Aaron (755), Babe Ruth (714) and Willie Mays (660).

Griffey is 18th with 1,772 RBIs.

His fit in Seattle could be as a full-time DH, something he has resisted becoming. But he may not fit Seattle’s first months of a massive rebuilding job that Zduriencik was hired this month to lead.

The Mariners last season became the first team with a $100 million payroll to lose 100 games.

When he came back with the Reds for an interleague series in Seattle in June 2007, Griffey said he wanted to retire as a Mariner. When asked to clarify whether he’d like to play for Seattle again, Griffey said then, “I don’t know. That depends on a lot of things, health and everything else.”

Griffey didn’t specify whether he’d like to return to Seattle as an active player or simply for a ceremonial contract before retiring.

In the weeks leading up to his 07 return, Griffey was reluctant to talk about it and even told Mariners president Chuck Armstrong he feared getting booed.

But then he got an extended roar from the crowd before the series opener, just after Armstrong and others presented him with a framed picture of Safeco Field with the words “The House that Griffey Built” across the top.

“Never did I imagine it would be like this coming back. I didn’t know how much I missed being in Seattle,” Griffey told the crowd that night. “I don’t know how much I missed being in Seattle.”

Danny Richar to Cincinnati

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“He will undoubtedly help some club, both on the field and in the clubhouse,” White Sox general manager Ken Williams said Thursday. “Pure class.”

Griffey batted .260 with three homers and 18 RBIs in 41 games with the White Sox, who acquired him July 31 in a trade that sent right-hander Nick Masset and infielder
**WOMEN’S SWIMMING**

**Notre Dame set to open home slate**

By MICHAEL BLASCO
Sports Writer

Notre Dame welcomes Big East foe Pittsburgh (1-0) tonight for its first home meet of the season. Races begin at 5:00 p.m. at the Rolfs Aquatic Center.

"This is one of great dual-meet rivalries in the Big East, and we look forward to it every year," Notre Dame coach Tim Welsh said. "Pittsburgh is a well-coached team and very competitive. We enjoy going head-to-head with them and we’re excited to have the team in our pool."

The Irish last faced the Panthers in November of last year, with Notre Dame claiming a 109.5-131 win on the back of individual victories in nine of 16 events. Juniors Mackenzie LeBlanc and John Lytle each won individual events, with LeBlanc finishing first in the 200 breaststroke (2:08.94), while Lytle tied for first in the 200 yard freestyle with Trojan Zoltan Povazsnyi, who represented his native Hungary at the 2008 Beijing Olympics. LeBlanc claimed first in the 200 butterfly (1:52.16).

The College Swimming Coaches Association of America recognized six former and current Irish swimmers and divers for academic and athletic excellence. Rave, graduated Steven Crowe, Lytle, graduate Steven Brus each earned Honorable Mention All-Academic nods from the CSCAA.

"We were very pleased and proud of our men for their great academic accomplishments last year," Welsh said. "With the 2007-08 season being one of our finest in terms of academics, it is nice to be recognized for those efforts and it serves as even more encouragement to perform just as well, or even better, in the years to come."

Notre Dame finished with a team-average 3.32 GPA, fifth in the nation. Contact Michael Blasco at mblasco@nd.edu

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**ND CROSS COUNTRY**

**Irish off to Big East Championships**

By LAURA MYERS
Sports Writer

The men’s and women’s cross country teams look to repeat past glory today in the same city where a former Irish star will be commemorated this weekend. Notre Dame will compete in the Big East Championships this morning at Van Cortland Park in New York City. The last time the league championships were held there, in 2005, the Irish swept both races.

Many past Irish runners will gather in New York this weekend to honor former Notre Dame cross country standout Ryan Shay, who died Nov. 4, 2007 in New York City while competing in the U.S. Olympic Trials.

"There’s a minimum of five really strong teams. If you do well against these teams it’s going to help you immensely." Joe Plane Irish coach

"They trained really hard over break. How do you get to national if you’re not in the top two of your region?"

Joe Plane Irish coach

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Fisher continued from page 28

"It's tough having been to the playoffs before and now being in the situation that we're in," Fisher linebacker Cameron Compton said. "I guess you just find importance in whatever the situation is. We don't want to end the season winless, so that's what we're playing for."

Following a near victory last week that saw them lose because of botched extra point attempts, the Raider 6s (0-2-1) are in the same boat as the Green Wave. Winless and with an ironclad defense that has yet to be mastered, the Raiders are at similar places.

This battle between the running prowess of the Raider 6s and the stiffened pass defense of Fisher would prove an interesting one on any given day, but on Sunday, it will decide which team ends its sour season on a good note and which team heads into the playoffs this year with a win on the schedule.

The Highlanders must find an answer to their offensive woes if they have any chance of an upset. They have only managed six points the last two games, finishing the year 4-6-3 and 2-5.

The performance of Duncan wide receiver Mike Kearney, who scored the lone touchdown, will be key if the Highlanders hope to put any points on the board against a strong Siegfried defense, which has allowed just three points the entire year.

Although the Ramblers have already locked up a playoff spot, they know they need to win to secure a favorable seeding in the playoffs. Captain Kevin Kelly said that they are not taking this game lightly.

"We'd like to continue our intensity and continue our execution on our plays against Duncan," he said. "It's a challenging, but back-to-back U-2 1/2 game. We hope to put any points on the board against a strong Siegfried defense, which has allowed just three points the entire year.

"We have really good chemistry and we work really well together," Kelly said. "If we put all our roles, we work really well together."" We have really good chemistry and we work really well together," Kelly said. "If we put our roles together, we can be a great team.

Kevin Kelly Siegfried captain

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The Battle for the Chapel and the rivalry game on Riehle Fields.

The Highlands have yet to savor the taste of victory, and they want to end the season on a high note by defeating Siegfried.

"We obviously want to go out with a win on the schedule, but most importantly representing a team would be great," Duncan captain Garrett Burke said.

Dean of the College of Science

Gregory Crawford

will give a public lecture titled, "Notre Dame Science: Making a Difference in the World"

Saturday, November 1, 2008

11 a.m.-12 p.m.

Jordan Hall of Science, Room 105

Interested in covering this event? Please contact Christina McDonnell at cmcdonne@nd.edu, Shane Steinburg at ssteinb2@nd.edu, Maureen Hoyle at mhoyle@nd.edu, Vector Graphics at vgraphic@nd.edu, Kyle Smith at kyle3113@nd.edu, Liz Navarro at lnavarro@nd.edu, Katie Schmitz at kschmitz@nd.edu, and Bobby Graham at rgraham@nd.edu.

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**ND VOLLEYBALL**

**Syracuse comes to the JACC**

By JARED JEDICK
Sports Writer

The Irish end a three-game road trip when they return to action this weekend with a trip to the Eck Visitors’ Center for matches against Big East foes Pittsburgh and Marquette.

The Irish (11-11, 6-3 Big East) will stand third place in the conference in a tie with Louisville (10-10, 6-3 Big East) and Pittsburgh (14-10, 6-3). Ahead of them in the standings are St. John’s (16-2, 7-1) and Cincinnati (20-0, 5-2).

Although they have one more match against St. John’s left at home, the Irish are not in control of their own destiny and would still need help from other teams to win the Big East title.

“Even if we win out and beat St. John’s, we still need a lot of help,” head coach Debbie Brown said. “We need to win as many games as we can, and certainly we would like to have the third place possibility in the tournament.”

Freshman outside hitter Kristen Dealy has had a strong couple of matches for the Irish, with double-doubles in each of the team’s last three games. Dealy has a 2.84 kills per set average, second in digs per set with 14.5.

Syracuse (14-11, 5-3) is currently ranked 13th in the Big East and is coming off a sweep of Marquette (8-13, 2-6) who is 20th in the conference. The Irish will have to play balanced volleyball, Brown said.

“Syracuse is playing very well right now,” Brown said. “They’re one of the top two or three teams in the Big East. We’ll have to be at our best to beat them.”

**MLB**

**Phillies fans anxiously await parade**

Associated Press

PHILADELPHIA — Many baseball fans here would not speak the “F” word in the anxious days leading up to the city’s World Series title, lest they jinx the team.

But now that the Philadelphia Phillies have claimed their second championship, everyone is talking about a parade.

Hundreds of thousands of people could crowd the sidewalks on Friday to cheer the city’s first national sports title in 25 years. A hundred thousand more are expected to pack the baseball and football stadiums to watch the festivities on big screens and rally with the players.

“This is a bright and shining moment,” Mayor Michael Nutter said. “We’re going to have a great time.”

But he cautioned against the scattered vandalism that marred the postgame revelry late Wednesday and early Thursday. Police reported 76 arrests and several vandalized business.

“We can be joyous; you cannot be a jackass,” Nutter said. “That kind of idiotic, destructive behavior will not be accepted in the city of Philadelphia.”

The Phillies parade begins downtown at noon on Friday, and is expected to take about 90 minutes to cover approximately four miles to the sports complex in South Philadelphia. Team officials said the players will attend a rally at Citizens Bank Park and make a brief appearance at Lincoln Financial Field, where the Eagles play.

Free tickets to the two stadiums were gone in less than 90 minutes after becoming available on the Phillies’ Web site Thursday. Officials stressed the importance of using public transportation.

Friday, though thousands of fans built up three trains, buses, trains and subways are likely to be operating at full capacity.

“Patience is going to be crucial, and frankly so is common sense,” said Rita Cutler, deputy mayor for transportation.

Fans continued the celebration on Thursday, snapping up World Series T-shirts, pins and hats.

At one downtown sporting goods outlet, at least 100 people stood in a line wrapping around the inside of the store as they waited to pay for their merchandise.

The city’s two main newspapers, the Philadelphia Inquirer and Philadelphia Daily News, sold out of their first run of 350,000 copies and ended up printing another 350,000 to be available by Thursday afternoon, publisher Brian Tierney said. The Phillies’ victory over the Tampa Bay Rays also means Nutter gets to enjoy a meal of Florida seafood. He won a bet with three Tampa-area officials — St. Petersburg Mayor Rick Baker, Clearwater Mayor Myrl Hobbard and Tampa Mayor Pam Iorio — who will be sending him coconut shrimp, stone crab claws, Cuban sandwiches, key lime pie and cigars.

Had the Phillies lost, Nutter would have been sending cheeses, teaks, soft pretzels and Tastylakes to Florida.

The last time a Philadelphia team won a major championship was in 1983, when the 76ers won the NBA title. The Phillies won their only other World Series in 1980.
Irish can clinch division

Team travels to Morgantown to face West Virginia Saturday

By GREG ARBOGAST

After one year full of graduations, injuries, upsets and convincing victories, No. 19 Notre Dame enters its final game of the regular season with its Big East destiny in its own hands.

In 2007, the Irish suited up for their final game against Georgetown two points ahead of Connecticut, but Notre Dame’s tie combined with a Huskies victory over Seton Hall allowed Connecticut to grab a share of the Big East Blue Division title with the Irish.

This year, the Huskies are again the team standing in Notre Dame’s way of an outright division title, but the Irish have even more margin for error if Connecticut doesn’t beat Seton Hall tonight or manage a win on Saturday, the Irish walk away outright division champions.

“We have an opportunity to win the league for the second year in a row and that’s something we’ve never done before.”

Bobby Clark
Irish coach

Still, West Virginia has shown the capability to play with the upper echelon of teams. The Mountaineers are 2-3-1 against ranked opponents this season including wins over Connecticut and Ohio State.

The Irish enter Saturday night’s game on a positive note after their 2-1 defeat of No. 24 Georgetown. Sophomore forward Jeb Brousky led the way, scoring both goals. Brousky has made his presence felt recently, scoring three of his five goals this season in Notre Dame’s last four games.

As always, the Irish will also count on forward Bright Dike to drive the team’s offense. The senior leads the team in goals (10) and points (25), and his assist on Brovsky’s first goal Wednesday night tied Dike with Dave Donahue for the Irish lead in assists five.

At the other end of the field, there will be a new face in the Irish goal as junior Phillip Tuttle will get the start. Although Tuttle has played in three games this year, including one start, senior Andrew Quinn has shown the capability to play in a hall against Georgetown on Wednesday and will be out for at least several weeks.

Saturday’s game will begin at 7:30 p.m. and can be followed via GameTracker at und.com.

Contact Greg Arboagast at garbogas@nd.edu

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HOCKEY

Conference will Equal to help build confidence

By DAN MURPHY
Spen Edos

No. 13 Notre Dame took a 10-hour bus ride to Marquette, Mich., Thursday to get ready for its weekend series against Northern Illinois. It’s always challenging to go on the road especially on a long trip like this. We’re here a day ahead of time so hopefully we’ll be refreshed for tomorrow,” Irish coach Jeff Jackson said.

“They can win a lot of confidence especially on this weekend against Marquette tonight and again tomorrow night in search of their first conference win on the season.

The team opened its conference schedule last week with two losses to No. 2 Miami at the Joyce Center. The RedHawks picked up a 2-0 shutout last weekend before falling off a late surge on Saturday for a 3-2 win.

“We went to a win under our belt in the conference and it’s important that we gain some momentum and get offen­ sively back on track,” Jackson said.

The Irish (2-3) have had a slow start to the season against top competition. Their other loss came against then-No. 6 Northern Illinois at the Joyce Center.

Jackson said before the sea­ son that he expected his young, talented team to fill up the nets against ranked opponents.

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Happy Halloween.

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A NEW LOOK FOR OXFORD WORLD’S CLASSICS!

Happy Halloween.

The Observer • SPORTS page 25
Juniors continued from page 26

talent.

The staff is so, so far ahead than they have ever been," Frank said. "We have more of a group of players that are ready to play and more of a organized group of guys when it comes to filling all the slots in the lineup. They are eight years ahead of where they were a few years ago." With the 2008 campaign shaping up in a favorable man-
ner, a strong finish will put a long way in terms of gaining the pipeline state of California. They are eight years ahead of where they were a few years ago.

Weissenhofer nor defensive a run-down sofa.

Hanks while hardly missing a

so many minutes during the reg-

anchor Carrie Dew played all of

where we were going to be trav-

ferent where we sit today than

Where we had to win to keep the

slow start, you know," Irish

run out of gas in the 2007 post-

difficult because we had such a

The team's ability to avoid

Shawn Aftel, a 6-foot-4, 255-

offensive lineman in this class

that early hole for the remain-

the season 2-3-2 and had to

elite talents receive. Offensive

"I think a lot of people are

pounds has offers already from

Dame can finish this season

Areas of the Irish shine in a
different where we sit today than

rest will help them to

extra rest will be needed. And if

out of St. Bonaventure High School, Illinois, will

the extra rest to prepare for

if Notre Dame wins eight or nine games, which I firmly believe they will,

Marty James is 6-foot-7, 285-

Pennsylvania, guys from all

The depth of the team is bet-

Their defense was more than the

Randy Waldrum said. "We can

we're going to do," Irish coach

rest every time we stepped on

goals with Dea and keeper

to leave everything they

have on the field, and the Irish

At this time as we go into the

keep the rotation, we will," he

But Waldrum said it will be

in a game where we feel like we need to

Big East continued from page 28

Last season, the Irish began the season 2-3-2 and had to essentially dig themselves out of that early hole for the remain-

of the regular season. The 2008 team is in better position to make a national title run because it has been able to stay fresh and allow numerous play-

ers to contribute off the bench. Not to mention that immaculate

Weissenhofer nor defensive a run-down sofa.

"A guy like Brett Thomas, who is a safety at 6-foot-1, 185

points, will be one of the better prospects in California," Frank said. "To get California kids on the field, you have to be impressive enough. They're coming in on their own
dime. Notre Dame can't pay for their trips. I just got so many guys from Florida, guys from Pennsylvania, guys from all over the country, it says something

about the effort Notre Dame is putting in." Although the prospects are showing serious interest in the

Irish, there is still work to be done. It will be essential to perfor-

well on the field to pick up Velzecke. "We're really ready and I

think we'll have a little extra rest not playing on Thursday or

Friday. We'll be ready to go on

Sunday. That's always been the Irish

style, to leave everything they

have on the field, and the Irish

plan on doing that Sunday.

I think it's a game where we'll

go back — we've kind of felt this
way every time we stepped on

the field this year, some games

more than others — but I feel like it's a game that, regardless of which team we play, it's about how well we perform and what we're going to do," Irish coach

Randy Waldrum said. "We can really only focus our execution of

what we want to get done, I feel like if we do that, we'll be fine."

Waldrum said the post-season is not likely to mean changes to Notre Dame's game either. And if

it's anything like the regular season, that could mean a lot of scoring from multiple faces on

the field. The Irish outscored their opponents 64-8 in the regu-

lar season, and 15 different Irish players pitched in.

Senior Kerri Hanks leads the

Irish with 18 goals, with Melanie Henderson in a close second with

15. The Irish defense hasn't been quiet either, allowing only eight goals with Dea and keeper

Kelsey Lysander at its backbone.

"That's probably going to fall

on a game-by-game basis. If we

can keep the rotation, we will," he

said. "But if we get into a game

where we feel like we need to

leave our forward line on a lit-

tle bit more and our midfielders

on a little bit more, then we'll do

that. That's the plus side of hav-

ing the rotation and doing it as

much as we've done this year. It
gives us two different options."

Options that are likely to help

the Irish continue far into the postseason.

Rest continued from page 28

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Sunday. The last competition

Notre Dame saw came on Oct.

26, when the Irish defeated

Seton Hall 6-0 in their final game of the season. The players hope

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Options that are likely to help the Irish continue far into the postseason.

Contact Deirdre Kruska at dkruska@nd.edu

Irish defender Lauren FWolkes kicks the ball during Notre Dame's 3-1 win over Marquette on Oct. 5. The Irish have not lost this season and earned a first-round bye in the Big East tournament.

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**WOMEN’S SOCCER**

**Bring on the Bearcats**

By DEIRDRE KRASULA

Few teams can say they’ve ended their regular season undefeated, but that’s why Notre Dame is No. 1, and the Irish hope to carry that perfect record right to the Big East Championship. The first test starts Sunday when the Irish take on Cincinnati in the Big East quarterfinals on Alumni Field.

The Bearcats (11-6-3) enter the contest having knocked off St. John’s 1-0 Thursday night to make the quarterfinals. Julie Morrison scored the Bearcats’ only goal in the 56th minute. The Irish are no strangers to Cincinnati, having defeated the Bearcats 6-0 on Sept. 28, but that doesn’t mean Notre Dame is certain of a win or a guaranteed spot in the championship.

The Irish did not practice Thursday or Friday, gaining a little time to rest and prepare for the contest having knocked off St. John’s 1-0 Thursday night to advance to the Big East quarterfinals on Alumni Field.

The St. Ed’s offense will have to face a stiff test this week, as St. Ed’s (3-0) also comes into the game unbeaten. The Gentlemen have relied on a string of victories, and are coming off a 14-12 victory over Zahm. For them, they hope that this energy will carry over and propel them to a strong performance against Sorin. St. Ed’s, like Sorin, has dominated the league on both sides of the ball. Specifically, the Gentlemen hope to use their running game effectively. St. Ed’s captain Andrew Nester predicted that running back Gavin Payne would put up “a mile of rushing yards.”

The St. Ed’s defense has only given up six points on the year. To win Sunday, the Otters need to continue to maintain the vigor and energy that has made the team one of the strongest competitors. Specifically, they will need a big game from freshman standout Bobby Sullivan.

“We’re confident we will emerge from this game undefeated and earn a top seed in the playoffs,” Sorin captain Bob Gallic said. However, remaining undefeated promises to be a difficult task this week, as St. Ed’s (3-0) also comes into the game unbeaten. The Gentlemen have relied on a string of victories, and are coming off a 14-12 victory over Zahm. For them, they hope that this energy will carry over and propel them to a strong performance against Sorin.

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**Football**

**High school junior prospects visit campus**

By LORENZO REYES

Although Notre Dame got off to a hot start on the recruiting trail despite last year’s 3-9 season, the Irish coaching staff is already looking ahead at the class of 2011.

With 16 members of the class of 2009 already pledging their verbal commitments, Notre Dame will have close to 50 high school juniors on campus for the game against Pittsburgh Saturday.

Mike Frank, who covers Notre Dame football for Scout.com, spoke about the importance of making a notable first impression on many of these elite talents.

“They’re going to have players coming in from all over the country,” Frank said. “This is essentially a junior day in October, which is unheard of. This just kind of goes along with the success that they are having with recruiting right now.”

Much of the reason as to why all these high school juniors will be visiting is a testament to the effort coach Charlie Weis and the rest of the Irish staff has invested in recruiting top prospects to both sides of the ball. The St. Ed’s defense has only given up six points on the year. To win Sunday, the Otters need to continue to maintain the vigor and energy that has made the team one of the strongest competitors. Specifically, they will need a big game from freshman standout Bobby Sullivan.

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**Men’s Basketball**

**Season opens against Briar Cliff**

By GREG ARBOGAST

Nobody will be surprised by Notre Dame this year. After two consecutive years in which they began the season unranked and finished with NCAA Tournament appearances, the Irish commence the 2008-2009 season as the No. 9 team in the nation according to a USA Today/ESPN preseason Coaches’ Poll.

The highest previous Coaches’ poll preseason ranking for Notre Dame was No. 17 in 2000-2001.

During the team’s media day at the Joyce Center, Frank predicted that running back Gavin Payne would put up “a mile of rushing yards.”

The Irish did not practice Thursday or Friday, gaining a little time to prepare for the contest having knocked off St. John’s 1-0 Thursday night to advance to the Big East quarterfinals on Alumni Field.

**Men’s Interhall**

**St. Edward’s faces Sorin in battle of unbeaten**

By CHRISTINA MCDONALD, SHANE STEINBURG, KYLE SMITH, LIZA NAVARRO, CHRIS MASOUD and BOBBY SMITH

Two undefeated teams will face off this Sunday when St. Ed’s takes on Sorin at 2 p.m. at Riehle Fields in the last game of the regular season.

The Otters (3-0) have dominated all season long. Their offense and defense coalesce to form a powerful, cohesive unit. The stage is set for two undefeated teams to fight for their record in the last game of the season.

The St. Ed’s offense will have to face a stiff test this week, as St. Ed’s (3-0) also comes into the game unbeaten. The Gentlemen have relied on a string of victories, and are coming off a 14-12 victory over Zahm. For them, they hope that this energy will carry over and propel them to a strong performance against Sorin. St. Ed’s, like Sorin, has dominated the league on both sides of the ball. Specifically, the Gentlemen hope to use their running game effectively. St. Ed’s captain Andrew Nester predicted that running back Gavin Payne would put up “a mile of rushing yards.”

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**Assistant Managing Editor**

By DEIRDRE KRASULA

**Associate Sports Editor**

By GREG ARBOGAST

**Sports Writer**

FRAN TOLAN
BOY WONDER

Freshman receiver MICHAEL FLOYD lights up opposing secondaries—and gets better with every game.
Irish need win to prove true talent

Wisconsin, Oregon St., Arizona, Miami OH, Washington, San Jose St., Northern Colorado, Central Michigan and Idaho. What do all these teams have in common — other than the fact that you can probably count the players you know on their rosters with less than one hand?

These are the teams that schools that have lost to Notre Dame have beaten — all of them.

The Irish have taken down five teams this far this season, more than most may have expected, but it's put that into perspective. Those five teams are currently a combined 9-21. Four of those wins belong to Stanford and none of the other teams have more than two.

From that list it sounds like the grounds crew should be spray painting the turf blue. For a school that normally prides itself on its strength of schedule this year could use a little spinach.

Notre Dame's two losses in 2008 have come on the road against No. 22 North Carolina and No. 21 Michigan State, both ranked with 6-2 records.

So where does that leave Charlie Weis and his apparently revitalized football team?

They have without a doubt proved that they can win football games, which is an improvement from last year. But so far, they have yet to prove they can win a game that hasn't been decided before the coin toss. It appears Notre Dame still has a lot of questions to answer.

Questions that kept pollsters from ranking the team when it started 4-1 for the first time in program history.

However, take away a pick six to start the second half in Chapel Hill or a freshman fumble to start the second half in East Lansing and this could be a very different tone. Those plays didn't doom the Irish, but they certainly could have made a difference. Even Ball State can get ranked without a loss.

Don't get me wrong, Notre Dame doesn't deserve to be 7-0 or ranked at this point in the season. Finding a way to close out tough wins is a big part of being a good team, something that a very young Irish team has yet to learn to do.

These next two weeks are a huge opportunity for the Irish to make the next jump. Both Pittsburgh and Boston College are quality teams in the same puck as Notre Dame, right at the fringe of cracking the Top 25.

The players want to be on a Top 25 team. You've got to beat the good teams that are on your schedule. I mean, it's really pretty simple. So you've got a team like this coming in here that's a nice solid team that's coming in and playing at home. You've got to beat them," Charlie Weis said.

The Irish players said they were just trying to take things one game at a time, and would worry about polls and bowls when that bridge needed to be crossed. The response is generic, but it is the right one.

The Panthers should be the only team on their minds, because right now it is the biggest game of most of the young player's collegiate careers.

All season long the nation has watched a youthful team and its youthful players maturing right in from that they're eyes. The team has learned to win, how to create offense and how to finish a game. This Saturday against Pittsburgh is another major step in that progression. The Irish need to learn how to beat a quality opponent.

Doing that is not quite as simple as, well, play a little bit better.

The psyche of facing a team that has national superstars — like Michigan State's Javon Ringer or Pitt's LeSean McCoy — or that is favored to beat you is different.

It is the type of difference that can let an early second-half turnover take the wind out of your sails. When a team is suppose to beat you, it is much easier to accept it when it starts to happen.

Notre Dame has the talent to compete with teams like Pitt and Boston College, so these games will come down to whether or not the team has the confidence and maturity to assert themselves.

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

Contact Dan Murphy at dmurphyG@nd.edu

The Observer football writers blog about the team at Observersportsblog.21cr.info. Visit the blog to read more.

2008 Irish opponents

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Last week</th>
<th>This week</th>
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<tr>
<td>(1-7) L, 38-34, Colo. St.</td>
<td>(2-6) L, 35-21, Mich. St.</td>
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<td>(2-6)</td>
<td>(7-2) W, 35-21, Mich.</td>
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<td>(6-2) W, 45-24, BC</td>
<td>(0-7) L, 33-7, ND</td>
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<tr>
<td>(5-2) L, 54-34, Rutgers</td>
<td>(5-2) L, 45-24, UNC</td>
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<td>(5-3) W, 34-7, SMU</td>
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A NEW LOOK FOR OXFORD WORLD'S CLASSICS!

The Observer • IRISH INSIDER

Friday, October 31, 2008
A steady ascent

Michael Floyd's first collegiate catch was a touchdown. He hasn't looked back since.

By BILL BRINK
Sports Editor

As much as Michael Floyd's play through the first half of the season has bordered on hyperbole, his attitude and demeanor fall on the opposite end of the spectrum.

How does he feel about breaking the school freshman record for touchdown receptions? "About being tied with Golden Tate for most receptions on the team? About becoming a favorite target of Jimmy Clausen's and playing a large role in the reversal of Notre Dame's fortune?

"It's been pretty good," Floyd said. "I like it a lot."

The king of understatements. To Floyd, though, his performance this season coincides with his goals. He said he hoped to get playing time this year and worked hard over the summer, both physically and mentally, to get there.

It was just about paying attention a lot. I wanted to play this year," he said. "That was one of my goals, to come in here and play. Giving a lot of attention to detail, formations and stuff like that really helped me a lot.

It's no surprise to him, then that his performance gets better and better every week. From his first reception, his role in the offense has helped Clausen find his rhythm, take pressure of Tate and revitalize the Irish offense.

But aside from what he does for his teammates, his personal accomplishments draw the most attention — and rightfully so.

San Diego State: one reception, 22 yards, one touchdown

Floyd's first catch of his career went for a touchdown in the second quarter of Notre Dame's 21-13 win over the Aztecs. In fact, it was the first touchdown reception of the season for Clausen and playing a large role in the reversal of Notre Dame's fortune.

"I just try to do my own thing. The outcome will take care of itself. I try not to get a big head."

Michael Floyd
Irish receiver

Irish receiver Michael Floyd powers past a Michigan defender during Notre Dame's 39-17 win over the Wolverines on Sept. 13.

"He kind of talks to me about that," he said. "Coach Weis has a lot of confidence in us catching the ball, making big plays."

That rapport with Clausen has continued.

"Our relationship is good now. We just connect," he said. "He knows how I play, I know how he plays. Getting the routine down with the wide receivers is a good thing."

Purdue: six receptions, 100 yards

Both Clausen and Floyd say the deep routes down the sideline that put Floyd on the highlight reels this year depend on the coverage they face and the play call.

"When I look at the line, the DB, it depends on how he plays," Floyd said. "If I convert my route on him, I know he knows when I'm looking out there that I should convert my route. He's going to throw it up and when not to."

Those long go routes have helped Floyd rack up 353 yards on 31 receptions and five touchdowns this season. Floyd was the No. 5 wide receiver in last year's class. Only one of the four ahead of him — Southern Miss' DeAndre Brown — has more touchdowns than he does.

The No. 1 receiver recruit, Alabama's Julio Jones, has 444 yards and four touchdowns this season.

Floyd doesn't care.

"I just try to do my own thing. The outcome will take care of itself," he said. "I try not to get a big head. Players help me out with that too."

Stanford: five receptions, 115 yards, one touchdown

Floyd displayed his hands in the previous game. Against Stanford, he showcased his physicality.

Theoretically, Floyd had met his match in Cardinal cornerback Wopamo Osaisai, the Pac-10 100-meter champion. Osaisai, at 5-11, 198, gave up some yards to the 6-3, 215-pound Floyd, but said Osaisai's school-record 10.39 100 time would keep Floyd in check.

Not so much. Floyd torched him down the sideline for a long reception and had his best game yet.

"It's just a challenge for me knowing that he's the Pac-10 100 champion," Floyd said. "So it was a challenge for me to do what I know I can do."

Floyd's speed and strength stood out from his workouts before the season, he said.

"I wanted to get stronger in the summer," Floyd said. "I know there are a lot of upper-classmen who are stronger than me, but maybe I can get them off with the quickness and the agility I have."

Floyd said his strength and athleticism helped him run over people in high school while running back, but that strategy won't work now.

"A lot of guys are stronger, faster, so you just have to use a lot of technique," he said, adding that receivers coach Bob Lavelle often critiques his run blocking along with his route running.

North Carolina: six receptions, 93 yards, one touchdown

During the first road game at Michigan State, Floyd said he wasn't nervous. At North Carolina, however, he said knowing what the crowd would be like helped.

The natural talent of the game overshadowed another great performance. With less than a minute remaining and Notre Dame down by five, the Irish had the ball on their own 37-yard line that put Floyd on the high ground. Clausen knew that when I'm looking down as quickly as possible. The route called for him to put the Irish ahead just three minutes into the game.

Floyd acted equally blase about the response to his play from students on campus and his friends back home.

"[Friends back home] just say, 'We were watching on TV, stuff like that,'" he said. "They just say great game, keep going, just positive things. My roommates always write stuff on the board, like good job."

At least his friends aren't inflating his game.

Rest of season: who knows?

Floyd has dazzled in the first half of the season and has the potential to help the Irish continue to win. He speaks in simple words, and he simplified the keys to Notre Dame's success for the rest of the season.

"Just play, we know we can play," he said. "No turnovers for the offense."

Contact Bill Brink at
wbrink@nd.edu
Notre Dame Fighting Irish

Record: 5-2

AP: NR

Coaches: NR

Notre Dame

2008 Schedule

Sept. 6 SDSU—W
Sept. 13 MICH—W
Sept. 20 at MSU—L
Sept. 27 PURDUE—W
Oct. 4 STANFORD—W
Oct. 11 at UNC—L
Oct. 25 at WASH—W
Nov. 1 PITTT
Nov. 8 at BC
Nov. 15 NAVY
Nov. 22 SYRACUSE
Nov. 29 at USC

Head Coach

Charlie Weis

Former Chicago Bears and Miami Dolphins head coach Dave Wannstedt has proven he can recruit in his first college coaching gig, but he has yet to lead his alma mater to a bowl game.

After his team proved it could win on the road last week, Charlie Weis' squad needs to avoid a home letdown to a Pitt team that has looked great at times and awful at others.

Notre Dame

COACHING

Irish experts

Irish

PASSING

Michael Floyd needs two catches to become Notre Dame's leading freshman receiver of all-time, and his touchdown last week was his fifth, also a fresh

PASSING

Man. and running game

THE IRISH INSIDER

THE KICKOFF:

Bill Brink

Sports Editor

The Irish will recycle the game plan from Michigan State, because this game comes down to the same idea: stop running back LeSean McCoy. McCoy will get his yard — and touch-
downs — but once the Irish stack the box to

Bill Stull threw for a career-high 279 yards before leaving last week's game because of a concussion. His 233 1 passing yards per game rank second in the Big East, but Stull has thrown five interceptions compared to just five touchdowns.

The Panthers allow 122 yards per game on the ground but surrendered just 71 yards on 30 rushes to Rutgers. Iowa's Shawn Greenie and Syracuse's Curtis Brinkley each ran for more than 100 yards in consecutive weeks in end September.

The Panthers run defense may be average, but Dave Wannstedt has proven he can recruit in his first college coaching gig, but he has yet to lead his alma mater to a bowl game.

The then-No. 17 Panthers looked prepared for a top-5 Rutgers team last week, but they fell short in a 27-3 loss. Stull's 279 yards were the fewest for an Irish home loss and have been competi
tive in each game this year.

The Panthers run defense may be average, but Stull's 279 yards were the fewest for an Irish home loss and have been competitive in each game this year.

Things are just going right for Notre Dame right now. It won its first road game hardly after two close losses earlier in the season. And with the passing and running game coming together nicely, the Irish have a good chance of exploiting Pitt's defense. Weis knows how to exploit a team's weaknesses and he has a bit of chess as to what those are after Rutgers dropped 54 on them last week.

Bill Brink

Sports Editor

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Pittsburgh

Pittsburgh Panthers

2008 Schedule

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Sept. 6 BUFFALO—W 28
Sept. 20 IOWA—W 28
Sept. 27 at *CUSE—W 28
Oct. 2 at USF—W 28
Oct. 18 at NAVY—W 28
Oct. 25 RUTGERS—L 28
Nov. 1 at NOTRE DAME 34
Nov. 8 LOUISVILLE 22
Nov. 22 at CINCY 22
Nov. 28 WEST VA 28
Dec. 6 at UCONN 28

PANTHERS RUSHING

The Irish allowed just 26 rushing yards to Washington last week, holding their per game average of 120.6 yards to a mere 2.9 yards per carry. But memories of Jovan Ringer's 201-yard outburst in week three will linger.

LeSean McCoy is scary. Through seven games, he has racked up 835 rushing yards and 14 touchdowns, and his 12 points per game scoring average leads the nation. And he's a sophomore.

Don't expect McCoy to pull the same 30-yard trick this week. The Panthers beat the Irish last season 28-27, and the Pitt coaching staff will be all too aware of the 287 total yards the Panthers gained in that win.

PANTHERS PASSING

A rejuvenated pass rush has eased the burden on an overachieving defensive end unit. LeSean McCoy's success stems from his ability to spread the ball around to multiple receivers. The Panthers have seven players with at least 10 receptions, and three more with 8. Head coach Dave Wannstedt has been fired up to host a quality defense.

THE IRISH INSIDER

Dan Murphy
Sports Editor

In keeping with the theme of last week's presidential election, this week should be a referendum for Notre Dame's run defense. Panthers running back LeSean McCoy has 861 yards on the ground so far this year, and he currently leads the nation in scoring. The defense could have a tough time, but overall, Notre Dame's offense is too good right now.

FINAL SCORE: Notre Dame 35
Pittsburgh 28

Pittsburgh

Pittsburgh Panthers

Rosters

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Pittsburgh Panthers

The Irish have proved that they can win the games they are supposed to win, but they haven't yet pulled off a big victory. Home field advantage will play a factor in changing that as Clausen comes back on track after a sub-par showing against the Buckeyes. The Panthers will be keying on Floyd and the other deep threats that have become a staple of Weis' attack, so look for Rudolph to get back in the action this week and make a difference.

FINAL SCORE: Notre Dame 34
Pittsburgh 28

Pittsburgh

Pittsburgh Panthers

Roster

LeSean McCoy RB 5-9 210 SO
Patrick Dye FB 6-1 240 JR
Jordan Todman DB 6-1 205 FR
Tyler Mann LB 6-2 200 JR
Elijah Fields DB 6-2 220 SO
Chris Niles DL 6-2 225 JR
Aaron Smith WR 6-0 180 FR
Tristan Roberst LB 6-1 230 FR
LaRod Stephens- RB 5-11 180 SR
Brandon Walker has one of the best run defenses in the country.

But the fact remains that the Irish offense has looked dominant on its own field. Needless to say, the Irish defense will have its work cut out for it.

The Irish have slightly favored the Panthers in the run game thus far, but the Irish run defense was one of few that could slow down LeSean McCoy last season. That was a big deal so.

Irish experts

Pittsburgh Panthers

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Irish experts
Crunching the numbers

2008 Season Averages Per Game

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>PITT</th>
<th>ND</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PITT points scored</td>
<td>28.2</td>
<td>26.6</td>
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<tr>
<td>ND points scored</td>
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<td>PITT points allowed</td>
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<td>18.7</td>
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<td>ND points allowed</td>
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<td>ND rush yards</td>
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<tr>
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<td>120.8</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>ND pass yards</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>212.3</td>
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<tr>
<td>ND passing allowed</td>
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What is your favorite football moment?
Probably this year beating Michigan. Having come here and having two losses my freshman and sophomore years and coming out and being a part of it and laying a pretty good one on them.

In practice, who is the toughest guy to block?
For me it’s usually Ian Williams because we’re always in those one-on-one battles. He’s a pretty stocky guy, strong and powerful. We’ve had some battles in the trenches.

Who is the strongest guy on the team?
Who is the strongest guy on the team? In the weight room is one of our walk-ons, [junior linemen] Tom Burke. He’s just a shredder. We call him “Tomold” because he reminds us of Arnold Schwarzenegger. So I would probably say Tomold as far as weight room. He just goes in there and throws around weights.

Who is the funniest guy on the team?
James Aldridge is pretty funny. But I think in our own little section of the O-line, I think we all have our little moments.

If we went to your iPod right now, what is the top played song?
Probably “Sacrifice” from The Expendables.

What is your pre-game routine?
I don’t really have a routine. It’s just I kind of put on some calming music and get my head cleared and get focused for the game and being in a relaxed mood for going into the game.

What’s your favorite spot on campus?
My dorm room and my bed.

What’s the hardest class you’ve had so far?
Probably Finance.

Are you a business major?
I was, but then I changed. I’m a sociology major now. I realized business is not for me. It just wasn’t suited for my type of personali-

What’s your favorite place off-campus?
I would have to say Bruno’s. It’s pretty good food and we get a lot. It’s always a good time just around with the guys. It’s usually buffet.

What’s your favorite food in the dining hall?
I usually got a lot of grilled chicken, a lot of vegetables — corn, broccoli, things like that — I might get a Caesar salad. I try to eat pretty well.
Mc Coy, like Ringer, presents a challenge to ND defense

By CHRIS HINE
Editor-in-Chief

Notre Dame has already faced one big-name running back this season — Michigan State’s Javon Ringer — and will face another one Saturday against Pittsburgh in sophomore LeSean McCoy. Ringer torched the Irish for 201 yards on 39 carries in Michigan State’s 23-7 win over the Irish on Sept. 26.

In seven games, McCoy has rushed for 861 yards on 161 carries (5.2 yards per carry) good enough to rank 11th in total rushing. He has 14 touchdowns — four in Pittsburgh’s 54-34 loss last week against Rutgers — which has propelled him to the No. 1 spot nationally in scoring average. McCoy also has caught 17 passes this season for 206 yards.

"Their whole offense centers around McCoy,” said Charlie Weis, Irish coach. "He knows he’s a sophomore, but he’s definitely one of the best backs in the country.”

Charlie Weis
Irish coach

"McCoy knows where the crease would be and he just wasn’t getting the ball and running. He’s maturing and starting to see the big picture. Yes, you have to run recklessly but at the same time you have to do the little things and I think that’s what everyone’s seeing.”

Dave Wannstedt
Panthers coach

"I thought that our offensive coaches had a very good plan on how to attack Rutgers and all their movements and pressures. That’s a credit to the blockers but also a credit to LeSean. We have to do both.”

By JAY FITZPATRICK
Sports Writer

On the field for the Irish this season, freshman Robert Blanton’s biggest contribution came against Purdue when he returned an interception for a touchdown.

"Coach Brown made a great call, put me in a good position to make the play,” Blanton said of the pick. "And then once I caught the ball, my teammates were there to make the blocks left and right into the end zone.”

Off the field, he has made his biggest impact with his mouth.

Notre Dame coach Charlie Weis said Blanton is one of the biggest trash talkers on the team, something he has had to temper at times this season.

"I like it when I’ve had an incident, players have had incidents,” Weis said. "Because sometimes you have to pull them aside and say, okay, you’re a freshman and if you want to do this, this is what’s going to come with the territory. We have had that side of the story as well.

However, classmate Darius Fleming told their team story.

"Honestly, he’s definitely not quiet, not one bit," Fleming said. "I honestly don’t say too much, I try to keep it down, I just pump my teammates up, give them confidence, keep them going,” he said.

Weis told one example that describes Blanton’s personality in practice.

"He had an interception in a one-on-one [in practice], so I intercept the ball and he runs about ten yards to where the offensive guys are and then he just dives over the line like he was diving into the end zone, okay, and spikes the ball,” he said.

Blanton explained that play, saying he wanted to needle the offensive players.

"Any time you make a big play is to make the offense feel worse about it so they will make another bad play, I try to do that every time," he said.

One main target of Blanton’s trash talk this season has been fellow freshman, receiver Michael Floyd. Floyd said Blanton’s talkativeness is necessary for a defensive back.

"You gotta have swagger if you’re a DB. If you don’t you’re not really a DB,” he said.

But Floyd can hold his own in the back-and-forth.

"He thinks he’s a good basketball player, but he sucks. I never really play him because he’s just average,” he said of Blanton.

Fleming spilled the beans.

"Blanton’s not always the smack-talker that he is when playing, however.

I’ve got a personality on the football field and a personality off the football field," he said.

"Off the football field, I quiet down, tone down. On the football field I try to release all my energy.”

Blanton said his life at Notre Dame is pretty simple.

"I like to hang out with teammates. Most times we’re going back and forth from football to study hall to dinner. And hanging out with the ladies,” he said.

But the Blanton said he thinks the one thing people should know about him is that he’s not a guy who really spends a lot of his time on the edge... That is not the same hanging out back we have here, this guy can run inside and run outside and they give him an opportunity to do both.”

But this week Notre Dame may be able to load the box against McCoy and contain him. As of press time Wednesday night, the status of Pittsburgh running back Bill Stull was uncertain. Stull, who has thrown for 1,562 yards and four touchdowns this season, suffered a concussion against Rutgers. Pat Bostick would start in place of Stull if Stull can’t go.

Even if Stull does play, Notre Dame may have success at the line of scrimmage due to the injury of center Rob Houser. Houser sustained a season-ending ankle injury last week against Rutgers. Wannstedt wasn’t sure how he was going to fill that hole, but regardless, Notre Dame knows it will see a heavy dose of McCoy.

"We’re going to have to show that we can stop them or else it’s going to be a long day for the Irish,” Weis said.

Contact Chris Hine at chine@nd.edu
“Catholics and Evolution: Old Tensions and New Directions”

Phillip R. Sloan
Professor, Program of Liberal Studies and Graduate Program in History and Philosophy of Science

11:00 a.m.
Saturday, November 1, 2008
Annenberg Auditorium, Snite Museum of Art

Are Catholics committed to supporting "Intelligent Design" against evolutionary theory? Sloan will examine the history of the response of Church officials to Darwin's theory and summarize the most recent reflections in Catholic circles and in the official statements of the Vatican.

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Thomas E. Noble, Professor and Chairperson, History

09/13-Michigan
"Peter Pan as Cultural Icon"
Susan C. Ohmer, William T. Carey and Helen Kuhn Carey Associate Professor of Modern Communication, Film, Television, and Theatre

09/27-Purdue
"Election 2008: Race, Gender, and Faith"
David E. Campbell, John Cardinal O'Hara, C.S.C., Associate Professor, Political Science
Darren W. Davis, Professor, Political Science
Christina K. Wolfrechts, Associate Professor, Political Science

10/04- Stanford
"The Sub-Prime Mortgage Mess and Federal Reserve Policy"
Christopher J. Waller, Gilbert F. Schaefer Professor of Economics

11/01-Pittsburgh
"Catholics and Evolution: Old Tensions and New Directions"
Phillip R. Sloan, Professor, Program of Liberal Studies

11/22-Syracuse
"Before and Beyond Modernism: Icons as Art"
Charles E. Barber, Professor and Chairperson, Art, Art History, and Design

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