Students perform a skit titled "Saved By Parietals" in the inaugural 2006 production of "Loyal Daughters and Sons."
INSIDE COLUMN

Post-Election Uncertainty

Decision 2008 is upon us. Today, a struggling nation discovers which candidate will spearhead the efforts of recovery and reform—or desperately struggle by the American people. Regardless of which candidate emerges victorious, our next president will assume his position with more than enough on his presidential plate. The economic crisis, the war in Iraq, health-care, and abortion are all critical issues that deserve expert analysis and representation. But what about the state of the entertainment industry in America?

The matter of American entertainment will obviously not be of paramount concern to our nation’s next president. However, it is impossible to ignore the condition of the entertainment industry as the presidential race culminates. Never before has the entertainment industry in America received so much attention across all levels of American media. The matter at hand extends beyond such attention into the realm of major news networks where political satire is impossible to ignore the condition of the entertainment industry in America?

Given many artists a newfound inspiration to express their allegiance towards their favorite candidate. Political issues have been the subject of popular songs and albums this year. The entertainment industry in America?

But what about the state of the entertainment industry in America?

Eric Mark runs for a first down in a Duncland Hall section football game on “Duncland Fields” Monday evening.

IN BRIEF

Saint Mary’s College Right to Life will sponsor Right to Life Week. It includes a candlelit prayer vigil on the Library Green at 8 p.m. today, a Celebration of Life party in Neighbors Lounge in Leman’s Hall at 7 p.m. on Wednesday, and a panel discussion from 6 to 7 p.m. in Baggar College Parlor on Thursday.

A colloquium entitled “What the most metal-poor tell us about the early universe” will be held Wednesday from 4 to 5:30 p.m. Dr. Anna Frebel, of the McDonald Observatory, University of Texas at Austin will present in 118 Nieuwland Hall of Science. The event is sponsored by the Department of Physics.

Downtown Lunch & Learn/Eco Film Series: “Six Degrees Could Change the World” will be held at the Crossroads Gallery (Noire Dame Downtown). 217 S. Michigan Street, South Bend on Thursday at 12:05 p.m. The event is for a free environmental film series.

Frank Baseman will present a lecture sponsored by the Suite Museum of Art and the Department of Art, Art History, and Design on Thursday at 7:30 p.m. in the Allen Auditorium of the suite. The main event on Thursday is free and open to the public. Baseman is on campus to meet with and critique the works of design students.

To submit information to be included in this section of The Observer, e-mail detailed information after the event to obnews@nd.edu.
by the Republican ticket of Sen. John McCain and Gov. Sarah Palin, which won 41.1 percent of the vote. The final Gallup Poll, based on data from Oct. 31 to Nov. 2, has Obama at 55 percent to 44 percent advantage among likely voters. Trend data shows Obama ending his campaign with a lead of up to 11 percent points among likely voters.

Schmidt told The Observer on the eve of the election that the general perception about the University — that Notre Dame is a conservative campus — caused him to predict a Republican victory in the student government mock election.

"I thought that McCain would win the election," Schmidt said. "I just assumed, because we are a fairly conservative university ... I thought McCain would come out ahead."
Chinese population has access to education, she said. "Voting for the right person and the right policy depends on how much education you receive," Zhu said. "If you are not educated, you can make a better choice."

Zhu said she has watched all three of the presidential debates between Sens. John McCain and Barack Obama and the debate between Vice President, said a Sen. Joe Biden.

"When the U.S. has a new President, we feel that the country will change."

New stories will be included, and Barack Obama will take over as the President of the United States has a new Male perspective."

"Voting for the right person and the right policy depends on how much education you receive, you can make a better choice."

Christina Zhu sophomore

"Most of the people in these stories are confused about something and trying to play on stage forces you to really identify with that confusion, which, for me, led to a very unique understanding of the issues and the difficulties this play addresses." 

Devin Preston co-writer

"As a theatre major, I appreciated being involved in something that involved my theatre technicalities towards a positive cause. The great thing about being involved in this show is that you're dealing with real stories, which allows you to get to know someone who you probably hadn't had a chance to meet. Most of the stories are confessional."

"I would say, go to performance. Stay for the panel discussions." 

Zoe Cross co-writer

"I believe that if students choose to attend the play, they learn to be involved in the world of politics." 

Contact Elynn Michalak at emichalak@nd.edu

Young continued from page 1

Since the beginning of the school year, the Positive Press has been buzz with different student groups trying to get their voices heard. The student body has consequently raised awareness and heightened interest in the election.

Like many first-time voters in the freshman class, Kahn said that he is thrilled to be voting for the first time this election.

"It's pretty exciting. I have friends in the high school telling me that I'm lucky," he said.

Kahn also pointed out that the strong participation by young voters in both presidential campaigns contributed to his anticipation. "I've reviewed, considered voting to be that 'exciting' but with so much attention being paid to this election, especially from the younger generation, I certainly feel like I'm fortunate to be involved in it," he said.

Similar to many people, Kahn said he believes the economy is the most important issue in this election. "As a first-year student, the state of the economy is probably my No. 1 concern when it comes to politics. I know I would have to graduate from college last year or be graduating this year, and I don't want the economy to be in such a state in four years," he said.

Kahn also cited the war in Iraq and national security as two other important issues.

Pollsters are predicting a record number of college-age voters in this year's election. Kahn agreed with these forecasts, but personally hopes that the youth vote might eventually change the political climate. "I believe it's extremely important for the youth of America to vote, but it's even more important that they vote for the right reasons. It seems like a 'trendy' thing to do. Young voters need to pay attention to the issues and make educated decisions," he said.

Contact Liz O'Donnell at codonell@nd.edu

Arrests continued from page 1

festivities include the use of alcoholic beverages, remember to follow Indiana laws and drink responsibly," Chapman said. "I urge enforcement officers to arrest underage drinkers and to arrest individuals who call for tailgate parties.

Chapman said NDP worked with the statewide Excise Police, St. Joseph County, Notre Dame and South Bend Police.

Contact John-Paul Win

Tuesday, November 4, 2008

The Observer • CAMPUS NEWS

Loyal continued from page 1

Dame students should be able to go every year and learn something new from the show. New stories will be included, and some stories from previous productions will be integrated into new productions," Cross said.

Cross said, "Also, the show continues to evolve, which was the original hope." The play, originally titled "Loyal Daughters," debuted on campus in 2006. Emily Weihsbecker, a 2007 Notre Dame graduate, wrote the show in order to increase student awareness of sexuality issues present on campus. In 2007, Sarah Van Mill, a 2008 graduate as well, wrote the final version as the show's co-writer and decided to rename the show. "The show was renamed "Loyal Daughters and Sons" to reflect the increased proportion of male perspectives that were included," Cross said.

This year, the show hoped to incorporate even more of a male perspective with the creative efforts of a male co-writer Preston. Preston conducted interviews with students and other members of the Notre Dame community in order to gain new material for the show's script.

"I think having a male interviewer is invaluable to the project in terms of gathering stories from the community. When you're talking about sex issues, it is important that people are able to interview with either a man or a woman because most likely they will be more comfortable with one or the other," Preston said.

"This is an issue that also can't be solved by one organization. It's crucial to have men just as involved in the production as well." Preston first became interested in "Loyal Daughters and Sons" after he helped the show in 2006. Preston said, "I was involved with In diana State and Notre Dame and is based off of real-life experiences of Notre Dame students and faculty." Preston said, "This year's production consists of 31 different scenes. Each scene deals with sex, sexuality and sexual assault at Notre Dame and is based off of real-life experiences of Notre Dame students and faculty."

"We have 13 new scenes this year, which I think bring in a lot of material that the show hasn't dealt with before. We have tried to bring in useful previous stories that complemented the new material," Preston said. "This year's show reflects a lot of confusion and questions that some people are trying to figure out what they want to be, or, in other words, what it means to be sexual, what it means to be Catholic, what it means to be raped. We also tried to pay attention to how people are responding to the sexual assault that show examines. It's important to know who can or should do about the issue." "Loyal Daughters and Sons," directed by senior Megan Hartmann, will be shown Nov. 5-7 at 7:30 p.m. in the LaFortune Box Office and at the door. Immediately following the Thursday and Friday performances, a post-show panel will be held to discuss how to prevent, avoid and address sexual assault at Notre Dame. "I believe that if students choose to attend the play, they learn to be involved in the world of politics." 

Contact Elynn Michalak at emichalak@nd.edu

Election Day. Use The Observer's electoral map to chart the results and pictures from tomorrow's edition for complete analysis.
INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Bin Laden aid gets life in prison

GUANTANAMO BAY NAVAL BASE, Cuba — A Guantanamo prisoner who made propaganda videos for Osama bin Laden and says he volunteered to be a Sept. 11 hijacker was convicted of terrorism charges and sentenced to life in prison Monday.

A jury of six U.S. military officers deliberated for just under an hour before condemning Ali Hamza al-Bahlul at Guantanamo's second war-crimes trial. Al-Bahlul was convicted of 35 counts of conspiracy, solicitation to commit murder and providing material support for terrorism.

The jury, which announced its verdict earlier Monday, also convicted him of one count of providing material support for terrorism.

The 39-year-old Yemeni defiantly admitted joining al-Qaida, accused the U.S. of oppressing Muslims for 50 years and said "we will fight any government that governs America."

Congo refugees angry at lack of food

KIHATI, Congo — Hungry refugees rubbed their stomachs and Scrolls arrived at their camp Monday, but the jubilation turned to anger when U.N. workers dumped only soap and plastic jerry cans instead of food and sped on past rebel lines.

U.N. officials conceded that hunger at the Kihati camp, where tens of thousands sheltered from fighting in eastern Congo, was dire but said the first priority was to resupply medical clinics hit by retreating government troops.

"Are we supposed to eat this?" demanded Francois Ndayamusyena, an elderly man wan­ning a bundle of spring onions brought by a friend. He said he was with eight family members who had not eaten in five days.

National News

Funeral held for Hudson's slain family

CICOGO — Hundreds of mourners attended a private funeral service for Oscar winner Jennifer Hudson's slain mother, brother and nephew Monday at a South Side church.

A composed Hudson paused before the bodies of her relatives before giving her mother a final goodbye. "My beautiful mother, you were my一座."

Local News

Election 2008

Candidates campaign relentlessly

McCain, Obama travel the country, looking for votes in battleground states

Associated Press

TAMPA, Fla. — Barack Obama rallied confidence and John McCain displayed the grit of an underdog Monday as the presidential rivals reached for the finish line of a tiring campaign. The two got in a burst of campaigning across battlegrounds from the Atlantic Coast to Arizona.

"We are one day away from changing America, " said Obama, a Democrat seeking to become the first black pres­ident — a dream not nearly as distant on election eve as it once was.

McCain, too, promised to turn the page of the era of George W. Bush, and he warned about his opponent's intentions. "Sen. Obama is in the far left lane," of politics, he said. "He's more radical than a guy who calls himself a Socialist and that's not easy." Republican running mate Sarah Palin was even more pointed as she campaigned in Ohio. "Now is not the time to experiment with socialism," she said. "Our opponent is just for bigger government."

Late-season attacks aside, Obama led in virtually all the pre-election polls in a race where economic concerns dominated and the war in Iraq was pushed — however temporarily — into the back­ground.

Early voting, more than 29 million ballots cast in 30 states, suggested an advan­tage for Obama as well. Official statistics showed Democrats have already voted outnumbered Republicans in North Carolina, Colorado, Florida and Iowa, all of which went for President Bush in 2004.

Democrats also anticipated gains in the House and in the Senate, although Republicans battled to hold their losses to a minimum and a significant number of races were rated as tossups in the campaign's final hours.

By their near-non-stop rate get-out-the-vote opera­tion both for the primary and the general election, McCain and Obama have been everywhere.

Election 2008

Obama mourns grandmother's death

Associated Press

HOMESTEAD — Barack Obama's grandmother, whose personality and bearing shaped much of the life of the Democratic presidential candidate who has died, Obama announced Monday, one day before the election. Madelyn Payne Dunham was 96.

Obama announced the news from the campaign trail in Washington, D.C. The joint statement with his sister Maya Soetoro-ng said Dunham died late Sunday night after a battle with can­cer.

"She's gone home," Obama said as tears of thousands of rowdy supporters filled the arena. "Charlotte grew silent in an evening drizzle."

"And she died peacefully in her sleep with my sister at her side. And so there is great joy as well as tears. I'm not going to talk about it too long because it is hard for me to talk about."

But he said he wanted people to know a little about her — that she lived through the Great Depression and World War II, working the latter on a bomber assembly line with a baby at home and a husband serving overseas. "He said she was humble and plain spoken, one of the "quiet heroes that we have all across America" working hard and hoping to see their children and grandchildren thrive.

"That's what we're fighting for," Obama said. Obama learned of Dunham's death Monday morning while he was camp­aigning in Jacksonville, Fla. He went ahead with campaign appearances. The family said a private ceremony would be held later.

Democratic candidate Sen. Barack Obama campaigns in Florida, a battleground state, on Monday.

Democratic volunteers in Maryland, a state safe for Obama, called voters in next­door Virginia, where McCain trailed in the polls. The Democratic presidential can­didate's visit to Virginia during the day was his 11th since he clinched the nomination.

Unwilling to concede any­thing, McCain's campaign filed a lawsuit in Richmond seeking to force election officials to count late-arriving ballots from members of the armed forces overseas. No hearing was immediately scheduled.

Several hundred miles away in Ohio — the state that sealed Bush's second term in 2004 — voters waited as long as three hours in line to cast
String of bombings shake Baghdad, kill 10, wound 40

Attacks show that extremists still have the capability to stage bombings even in heavily guarded capital city

Associated Press

BAGHDAD — A series of bombings struck Baghdad and a neighboring city Monday, killing at least 10 people and wounding 40, in the deadliest violence in the Iraqi capital in nearly two months.

A group of people were inside the Baghdad headquarters of the intelligence services office of the Ministry of Defense when an explosion occurred, said N CBS, a security official who agrees with the government. "We have four dead, including the leader of the group, and 40 wounded, all of whom were bystanders," he said.

Iraqi police said they were in a house near the window in a residential neighborhood when they were injured by a bomb in a nearby house. They were in a vehicle when they were injured by a bomb in a nearby house.

Police said they were in a car when they were injured by a bomb in a nearby house.

In the western districts of the city, several people were injured by bombs. One of the bombs exploded in a residential neighborhood, killing two people and wounding four. Another bomb hit a vehicle carrying a group of people in a commercial area, killing three and wounding five.

Iraqi security forces said they were blocking a street when a bomb exploded nearby, killing six and wounding 10. They said a suspected suicide bomber blew himself up in a car in a residential neighborhood, killing two and wounding four.

Iraqi police said they were in a car when they were injured by a bomb in a nearby house.

The series of attacks occurred in Baghdad, leaving the city at the center of the debate over the future of the United States and other Western nations' presence in Iraq.

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Key states could bring early winner
Landslide possible if Obama secures Georgia, Indiana, Virginia

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Election watchers won't have to wait for polls to close across the West Coast to know how things are going. The first states to declare their votes, when voting ends in Georgia, Indiana and Virginia, will likely set the tone for victories or defeats, possibly even on a landslide. If Republican John McCain wins any of the three, he could be on his way to a comeback. If Obama wins one or more of these states, he could be in the driver's seat from the very beginning. The results in Georgia, Indiana, and Virginia could set a tone for the rest of the country. The Associated Press has concluded that the state will be an early indicator of how the election will play out. In Georgia, the state has a significant number of swing voters, and in Indiana and Virginia, there are a large number of undecided voters. If Obama wins these states, he could be on his way to victory. But if McCain wins any of these states, he could be on his way to a comeback. And if any of these states are too close to call quickly, that could indicate a long night ahead — and, perhaps, a squeaker of a result. President Bush comfortably won the trio four years ago. But Obama has used his financial muscle and his draw as the young, black candidate to make an early push to win these states, and to convince others to put them, and other historically reliable Republican states, into play.

Thus, the Democrats have several routes they can take to victory. They can win the 270 Electoral College votes needed to be president. Obama's strategy has no room for error: he must win nearly all the states that went to Bush in 2004, and even one or two others. Even a squeaker of a result would do. Democratic Sen. John Kerry that year. McCain's financial advantage, and the way he has taken the issue of Iraq, are two that voted for Democrat states that went to Bush in 2004. And if any of these states are too close to call quickly, that could indicate a long night ahead — and, perhaps, a squeaker of a result.

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Today, as you are watching Election Day coverage on television or tracking the results online, use The Observer's Electoral Map to chart the battle for 270 electoral votes. Color states blue for Sen. Barack Obama, and red for Sen. John McCain and tally their votes.
In this presidential campaign, why did so many Catholics apparently reject the teaching of the Church on abortion and voting. "Not all moral issues," said Cardinal Joseph Bernardin, now President-elect XVI, "have the same weight as abortion." There may be a diversity of opinion among Catholics about war and the death penalty, but not about abortion and euthanasia.

A Catholic would be guilty of formal cooperation with evil if he were to ... vote for a candidate because of the candidate's permissive stand on abortion. When a Catholic does not share a candidate's stand in favor of abortion, but votes for that candidate for other reasons, it is remote material cooperation, which can be permitted in the presence of proportionate reasons.

With over 48 million surgical abortions and uncountable millions more by pill or other abortifacients, all authorized by law, Archbishop John J. Meyers of Newark accurately concluded that "politics on welfare, national security, the war in Iraq, Social Security or taxes, taken singly or in any combination, do not provide a proportionate reason to vote for a pro-abortion candidate." The Obama campaign, as the Washington Post put it, reached out "aggressively" to Catholics, arguing "that the church's teachings on social justice and poverty, the environment, health care and unjust warfare should guide Catholic voters as much as abortion....

The Democratic effort includes antiabortion and non-personal conformity to the basic truth that the unborn child is a person in every sense of the term from conception. When four cardinals, Krol, Manning, Cody and Medeiros, testified before the Senate in 1974, they insisted that a constitutional amendment "should clearly establish that, from conception onward, the unborn child is a human person in the terms of the Constitution." It should restore the "right to life...to the unborn just as it is provided to all other persons in the United States." Cardinal Medeiros said "A States' rights amendment which would simply return jurisdiction over the abortion law to the States, does not seem to be a satisfactory solution...Protection of human life should not depend upon geographical boundaries... Therefore, the prohibition against the direct and intentional taking of innocent human life should be universal and without exceptions."

"If the unborn child were recognized as a "person" with respect to his right to life, abortion would still depend on state legislatures. The prohibition would be bound by "the supreme law of the land" not to deprive the unborn child of right to life. During the late 1970s support for the cardinals' position eroded. In 1981, the bishops endorsed a states' rights amendment. Archbishop John R. Roach, president of the NCCB, in endorsing the amendment, told the Senate that "We are committed to full legal recognition of the right to life of the unborn child," but the NCCB acknowledged that amendment "places the extent of restriction and prohibition [of abortion] entirely in the discretion of the federal and state legislatures." The Senate Committee on the Judiciary agreed that under the amendment, a state legislature or Congress "could prohibit abortion or... maintain...abortion on demand [or enact] reforms that fall somewhere between these... propositions." Report, June 8, 1982.

The states' rights' approach affirms the holding of Roe that the unborn child is a nonperson. If your life is subject to termination at the discretion of a state legislature or Congress, you are, in terms of the constitution, a nonperson. Yet, there exists beyond the limited recognition in Evangelii Gaudium, in which the bishops "could licitly support" an imperfect law on abortion when it is "not possible to overturn or abrogate a pro-abortion law." Nor is "states' rights" a return to the situation prior to Roe. Before Roe, there had never been a ruling by the Court on personhood. Once the Court ruled in the negative, the only coherent response was, and is, to insist on the personhood of the unborn with respect to his right to life. That does not preclude the advocacy also of effective restrictions on abortion.

The bishops continue in their support for "states' rights." One of the most eloquent statements by bishops in the 2008 campaign undermined its affirmation of the right to life by saying, "Roe is bad law. As long as it stands, it prevents returning the abortion issue to the states where it belongs, ... the people can decide its future through fair debate and legislation."

It is no surprise that some Catholics interpret, or use as a pretext, the bishops' consignment of abortion to the evaluation and decision of state legislatures as an invitation to them, as voters, to make that same political evaluation with abortion as one issue on a pair with others.

The technology of early abortifacients is not only dramatically more effective beyond the reach of the law. To promote what John Paul II has called "the culture of life," it is more essential than ever to insist on the entitlement of every human being "to be respected and treated as a person from the moment of conception." On Introduction to Bioethics.

It involves no criticism of the bishops, whose witness is admirable, to suggest that it would be appropriate for them to reconsider the cardinals' 1974 insistence on the entitlement of the unborn child to the right to life guaranteed to persons by the Constitution.

Charles E. Rice is professor emeritus at the Law School. He has reached at 633-4415 or at rice@nd.edu. The views expressed in this column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer.
**LETTERS TO THE EDITOR**

Hark, ye fellow Domers! As we were watching the Texas Tech students rush their field not once, not twice, but THREE times this past Saturday, a sad realization settled over the room: Texas Tech just rushed the field three more times in one game than we will in four years. As a matter of fact, the Texas Tech student body has had so much fun in recent years that their field goal posts have been placed too near the sidelines so the fanatical rushers and field officials can lower them before students can tear them down in their joy.

I know that rushing the field is not necessarily the goal of every game, but it would be nice to win a game that would warrant such a glorious celebration. Unfortunately, the outlook for winning such a game is bleak given the lack of quality home wins in recent years. To enlighten the freshman and sophomore classes, who have cursed our football program with their presence, the last quality win we've had at home was against Penn State in 2006 and that was far from field-rushing material.

Therefore, to remedy this problem, we propose a premeditated stampede to the gridiron at the next home game. That is correct folks: we are planning to storm our hallowed field after the conclusion of the Syracuse game. We are about 87 percent sure even we can't lose to Syracuse at home. I mean, they're no Navy. I know some of you haters sitting in your ivory towers will say that a victory over Syracuse is not worth populating the turf with students, but after last season's home victory coming against Duke and our loss against a mediocre Pittsburgh team last week, we should never take a home victory for granted again. Each win we have at home is worth celebrating. For all of you that don't think this will be worthwhile, imagine how much fun it will be to watch Sportscenter analysts try to make sense of the student body rushing the field after beating a (projected) 2-8 Syracuse team. And then imagine your delight after seeing Lou Holtz explain to Mark May why such an event is occurring. As my beloved father once told us after losing to Pittsburgh, "I hope you boys came to this school for an education." Well, let's put it this way: when I tell people that I go to Notre Dame, they don't say "Wow! What an education you must be getting!" Conversely, they usually say "Wow! You must really hate football now!" It's time to change that. Maybe at least a few people will one day say "Wow! Rushing the field against Syracuse must have been a blast."

To all the alumni reading this letter saying aghast wherever it is that you believe in something, taking the risk of being wrong and taking the pleasure of getting it.

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**U-Wire**

**It's not about who wins or loses, but who casts the vote**

I acknowledge that I will be relieved, for many reasons, when this election ends. I am sympathetic to every side of this fight. I am tired of the word "maverick," and I am tired of mocking the same word. I am tired of Bill Ayres, but the Plumber, Lipstick, Pigs and ACORN. Most of all, I am tired of the idea that voting is a waste of time. Your professors teach because they feel guilty that they're so smart. We can argue the best way to help others, and indeed we should. But Duffy's cynical analysis of Lyttle's motivation is an attitude unbecoming of anyone associated with Notre Dame, and I feel pity that anyone would choose to see nothing but guilt and rage.

The ballot doesn't care if you aren't cool, or if you have all the answers. It just claims and it's terrifying.

Voting, you see, is not just about politics. It's about working up the courage to believe in something you want to believe in. It's the moment when you ask someone on a date even if you think you aren't cool enough. It's the moment when you raise your hand in a class to give an answer you kind of, maybe, think you know. It's not the vote that matters, it's the risk you take when you cast it: that you might be wrong, certainly; that it might break your heart if he wins, and becomes just another politician, the kind of guy who made you not want to vote to the first place. I believe the courage of asking for an impossible kind of dream is more important than the pleasure of getting it.

You can decide if that's reason enough to vote. But to not vote is to say to possibility, and yes to whatever you got stuck with. Sure, if you vote, you might not make it to that boring class on time, or have time to read the next article and eat your lousy sandwich. You can resign yourself to fate, or you can design your own. You don't need to tell anyone you voted, or who you voted for. You can have a secret moment where you said yes to your rightful stake in the world, where you let yourself become the type of person who has ideals and takes action to make them come fruition.

The ballot doesn't care if you aren't cool, or if you have all the answers. It just wants to know one thing: Who are you voting for?

This editorial first appeared in the Nov. 3 edition of The Maine Campus, the daily paper at the University of Maine. The views expressed in this column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer.
Everyone knows it’s nearly Election Day when the campaign ads start getting really, really nasty. Nothing screams "Elect me!" quite like attacking everything you possibly could about your opponent, from his voting record to his family life.

I think we’re all ready for the election to be done and over with, not only to resolve this whole “who’s going to win” issue, but to get those ads off the television.

We all wonder if the negative ads are really necessary to running a campaign. It makes you wonder if either candidate is strong enough on his or her own merit to really win the election. Almost every ad I’ve seen has focused first on blasting the other candidate, and then basically said, “This candidate won’t do this.” Stated by this candidate’s campaign.

The problem seems to be that neither candidate has actually told the truth in one of their campaign ads. I feel like everything I’ve seen, read, and heard has been skewed by one source or another. There are very few, reliable, unbiased places to go for such a heated election.

The candidates themselves certainly aren’t reliable; both want their views to get across, and they do so by casting their opponent in a negative light.

My question to both candidates is this: what are you really going to do? Stop talking about what you’re not going to do and give me some concrete ideas of what you are going to do. No matter who you’re voting for, I feel like we can all agree on one thing — this country needs change. Our economy is spiraling downwards, education and health care are a mess, America has a million reasons and the resources to be an incredible country, and yet we are lackluster compared to many others.

A decent campaign ad should address these issues, clearly and honestly. I know that we should expect some skewing of the facts — in a race, we all want to be the winner, and our presidential candidates are no different. They pull ahead by spinning what they believe is best they can. But honestly, I’d think this race would be far less close than it is if both candidates focused on their own views instead of the views of their opponent. I’d love to know the solid plans that either one of them has to reform our health care system. I think it would be great to see what their plans are for public education. But the way things are going now, I barely know what either candidate plans on doing for any problem we face. Oh, other than that, it won’t be what their opponent is doing.

If both candidates were focused on their own views instead of just condemning the views of the other, their own platforms would be much stronger. It’s undeniable — half of the undecided voters are undecided simply because they don’t see what either candidate offers over the other one. It’s too late for the current election to be changed by a new wave of positive campaign ads, but let’s hope that the next one isn’t so negative.

So good luck to whichever candidate you’re voting for tomorrow. Any hope I can just hide under a rock until it’s over and the winner is decided. Just to avoid the Election Day wave of nastiness.

Yeah, I didn’t think so.

The views expressed in Scene and Heard are not necessarily those of The Observer.

Contact Kathleen Conway at kconway2@nd.edu

Jezebel

Jezebel is a self-proclaimed “blog for women that will attempt to take all the essentially meaningless but sweet stuff directed our way and give it a little more meaning.”

Besides showcasing celebrity fashion faux-pas and clips from Gossip Girl, the contributors at the Jezebel blog offer their takes on election news, from the polls to Sarah Palin’s appearance on SNL.

Slant: Pro-Obama.

Yes We Can (Hold Babies)

Yeswecanholdbabies.wordpress.com

With so much vitriol in a campaign — the accusations, personal attacks and Paris Hilton — sometimes it’s nice to just see some cute kids. The bloggers at Yes We Can (Hold Babies), a couple of college students from Massachusetts, say their mission as “the international source for pictures of Obama holding babies” is to uphold the storied tradition of politicians scoring brownie points by kissing babies at public events.

Slant: Pro-Obama and people who love cute babies

McCainBlogette.com

Meghan McCain, John McCain’s 24-year-old daughter, chronicles the election through her own pictures and musings while on the campaign trail with her family. Meghan runs with blog with help from a photographer and producer who also travel with the McCain campaign. The photos are the biggest draw for this site, capturing both the public rally atmosphere and life-living on the “Straight Talk Express” campaign bus.

Slant: Pro-McCain (duh).

Contact Jordan Gamble at jgamble@nd.edu

The Google Election Blog

http://www.google.com/2008election/

If you want comprehensive, non-partisan election coverage and commentary, the Google Election Blog is where you go. It’s not so much a blog as a continually updating compendium of everyone else’s blog posts, news stories, Youtube videos, and quotes from all the presidential candidates for the 2008 election, from Barr to Barack, from Nader to McCain.
Harrison Ford as President James Marshall in "Air Force One"

Bio: President James Marshall takes a tough stance against terrorism and then becomes a hostage himself when Air Force One is taken over by terrorists from Kazakhstan, led by Ivan Korshunov (Gary Oldman). The terrorists demand the release of their leader General Badek. Marshall appears to escape from the plane in an emergency capsule yet is actually hiding on board. Then he silently kills a member of the terrorist group before establishing contact with F-15s to engage the hijacked plane. Marshall is the handsome, down-to-earth hero with surprisingly good hand-to-hand combat skills. Even though he is the President he takes chances with his life (much to his Vice President, Glenn Close’s, chagrin) such as when he swings from a cable in midair.

Weapon of Choice: His fists

Memorable Quote: "We will never negotiate. We will no longer tolerate such terrorists. We will no longer be afraid. It's your turn to be afraid."

Also, "Get off my plane!"

Morgan Freeman as President Tom Beck in "Deep Impact"

Bio: The unfortunate job of breaking the news to the American people that the planet is about to be hit by a massive comet is left to the able President Beck. He must also inform the public that the government has been preparing underground caves to house a million lucky people who are to be selected to survive the impending disaster. He decrees the plan to build the caves, and eventually ends up saving humanity. National survival wins his fate.

Weapon of Choice: Freeman’s characteristic, calming voice

Memorable Quote: "Cities fall, but they are rebuilt. And heroes die, but they are remembered."

Michael Douglas as President Andrew Shepherd in "The American President"

Bio: While President Shepherd runs re-election and negotiates a new crime bill, he courts an environmental lobbyist (Annette Bening) and the press swarms with every move. Douglas is theoretical enough to make even the most cynical viewer feel at least a twinge of romant­ic patriotism. Seeking re-election, the Democrat sells his environmen­talism and then becomes a hostage himself when Air Force One is taken

Weapon of Choice: Wit, charm and impeccable taste in universities.

Memorable Quote: Mrs. Bartlet asks the introspective President what he is thinking about, and Bartlet replies: "Tomorrow."

Bill Pullman as President Thomas J. Whitmore in "Independence Day"

Bio: Whitmore leads by example in his battle against an alien invasion. He refuses to let the aliens stay and pools together his resources in a powerful Fourth of July speech he uses to rouse the American people from the back of a pick-up truck before climbing on the top of the Empire State Building to engage the hijacked plane. Marshall is the handsome, down-to-earth hero with surprisingly good hand-to-hand combat skills. Even though he is the President he takes chances with his life (much to his Vice President, Glenn Close’s, chagrin) such as when he swings from a cable in midair.

Weapon of Choice: Fighter jet and the Fresh Prince

Memorable Quote: "If you've ever seen the look on somebody's face the day they finally get a job. I've had some experience with this, they look like they could fly. And its not about the paycheck, it's about respect, it's about looking in the mirror and knowing that you've done something valuable with your day. And if one person could start to feel this way, and then another person, and then another person, soon all those other problems may not seem so impossible. And you don't really know how much you can do until you stand up and decide to try."

Martin Sheen as President Josiah "Jed" Bartlet on "The West Wing"

Bio: A devout Roman Catholic who attended the one and only University of Notre Dame in the hope of one day becoming a priest, until meeting his future wife and First Lady Abbey (Stockard Channing). He speaks four languages, and was a Nobel Laureate in Economics. Bartlet is portrayed as a stern but loving father. He hides the fact that he suffers from multiple sclerosis from the American public, then divulges his illness, but is still re-elected. Bartlet's accomplishments as President include granting amnesty to illegal immi­grants from the Americas, appointing the first Hispanic Supreme Court Justice and first female Chief Justice, negotiating a peace settle­ment between Israeli and Palestine, creating millions of new jobs, and support for alternative energy. Bartlet is endowed with a fierce intellec­tual, great personal integrity, toughness yet compassion, and a sense of humor. He also demonstrates respect and affection for his staffers.

Weapon of Choice: Vil, charm and impeccable taste in universities.

Memorable Quote: Mrs. Bartlet asks the introspective President what he is thinking about, and Bartlet replies: "Tomorrow."

Denis Haysbert as President David Palmer on "24"

Bio: As a Senator from Maryland, Palmer is elected President after several assassination attempts against him in the day of the California primary are failed by Counter Terrorist Unit (CTU) agents Jack Bauer (Kiefer Sutherland). Palmer's role as President is silent vital to the suc­cessful foiling of terrorist plots. Palmer is seen as a good leader who makes difficult decisions without much hesitation. On several oc­casions, his intervention as President and the execution of his Presidential powers are extremely helpful for the CTU and Bauer.

Weapon of Choice: Jack Bauer
Kings stay winless after blowout loss to 76ers

After trade for Iverson, six Pistons score in double figures helping Detroit beat Charlotte, stay perfect on season

Associated Press

PHILADELPHIA — The solution to the Philadelphia 76ers' 3-point shooting woes might be at the end of their bench.

Karen Rush and Donnell Marshall have to hope the way they almost flawlessly buried all those open looks earns them a second look at a bigger role in the rotation.

Thaddeus Young scored 18 points and the 76ers led by as many as 40 points in a 125-91 rout of the winless Sacramento Kings on Monday night.

Rush and Marshall went with a combined 6-for-7 from 3-point range and each played their season high in minutes, even though most of their playing time came when the game was put away.

The 76ers were last in the NBA last season in 3-point percentage and 3s made. So they signed Rush as a free agent and hoped he would boost those numbers.

Instead, Rush earned a DNP-CD the last game and had attempted only one 3-pointer this season.

"It's very discouraging," Rush said. "I didn't plan on this when I signed here, but it's the way it is. A lot of these guys have been here for a number of years and played with (coach Maurice) Cheeks a number of years, so I think it's a familiarity thing that he has with the guys.

"Will Green scored 16 points and Elton Brand had 15 for the 76ers, who were up 20 points at halftime and were able to stretch the lead in the second half instead of playing catch-up like they did last Saturday at Atlanta.

In that one, the Hawks rallied from a 23-point deficit to stun the Sixers. This time, role players like Green and Williams kept making shots in the third quarter and to keep the road-weary Kings from rallying.

"We talked about coming out in the second half and being more aggressive than we were," Green said. "We weren't going to let that happen again.

No need to worry about blowing this one against the Kings.

Jason Thompson scored 17 points and Spencer Hawes had 15 for the Kings (0-4), who can't wait to head home after a dreary seas­son-opening road trip.

The Kings, off to their worst start since 1997-98, open their first four-game homestand on Wednesday against Memphis.

"You can't win in the NBA if you give up 120 points a game," coach Reggie Theus said. "I told them that is not acceptable, from the leaders all the way down. In order to win, you have to be tough­minded, and right now we're not tough-minded.

"The Kings shot only 32 percent (13-for-41) on 3s in their first three games but did seem to discover their long-range form against the Kings, finishing 10-of-13.

"This is what I do," Rush said. "That's what they brought me here for. That's what I can bring to this team. Hopefully I can find a way to get some regular time, crunch time, instead of blowout games.

"DeMarcus Cousins needs to learn a lesson after blowout the big lead over the weekend and would try to play a bigger role in the rotation.

He used 10 players in the third quarter and all but Samuel Dalembert scored. Rush scored 10 points and hit a 3 for a 92-65 lead.

Pistons guard Richard Hamilton drives to the basket during Detroit's 101-83 win over Charlotte Monday.

Detroit Pistons overcame a wild, emotional day to crush their old coach's new team. It didn't mean they were easily coming to grips with the blockbuster steal that shook the foundation of their core.

It was clear after their 101-83 rout of the Charlotte Bobcats on Monday night that it's going to take the Pistons time to warm to the idea that Allen Iverson is now their teammate — and Chauncey Billups and Antonio McDyess are headed to Denver.

"Do we like the trade? Maybe not. Ain't no telling," forward Rasheed Wallace said.

"Everybody's been talking about that," added Tayshaun Prince. "When you have six straight years with somebody, you've got that bond, that connection. Now all of a sudden it's gone."

Richard Hamilton scored 19 points and the Pistons toyed with Larry Brown's Bobcats, improving to 3-0 and perhaps showing Iverson that he'll have plenty of scoring options when he takes over at point guard.

But from the tone of the sub­dued locker room, Iverson will have to win over his new team­mates as he joins a team used to being among the Eastern Conference powers.

"Obviously we're all shocked by the situation," Prince said. "We're going to go out and play. Under the circumstances I thought we went out and played a good game. No one who plays, when something happens like this it's tough for the team to go out and play. We were able to come out with a win."

Williams added 15 points and four other players scored in double figures. Rodney Stuckey replaced the departed Billups at point guard and had nine points and three assists as Detroit shot 50 percent.

"It was a tough game," coach Michael Curry said. "When your captain gets traded and Dice, who's not a captain, but it's one of the emotional leaders of this team, it's tough for the guys.

Shannon Brown came off the bench to score 16 points, and Gerald Wallace had 15 points and 12 rebounds for Charlotte, which couldn't build off Saturday's win over Miami in the beginning of a week of reunions for the well­travelled Brown, who has his own problems.

Brown, who has lamented man­aging partner Michael Jordan's inability to bring in more depth up front, was clearly frustrated after Monday night's loss.

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"I've known our problems since the beginning of Brown's reunion week — he visits New York on Wednesday, where he spent one ugly 23-win season in 2005-06 — was overshadowed by Detroit's makeover.

The Pistons arrived in Charlotte on Monday night while president of bas­ketball operations Joe Dumars worked into the night on a trade he felt would give his team a differ­ent way to win games "other than the same predictable way we've been doing it for quite some time."

Informed they were headed to Denver early Monday, Billups, McDyess and project Cherik Samb left town before the morn­ing shootaround. It left Detroit with 12 players — and Stuckey starting at point guard — instead of their coach.

Stuckey, wearing No. 3 in per­haps a precursor to the Iverson era, had only one turnover and Detroit showed its depth, inside play, rebounds and breezes and steady outside shooting to over­whelm Brown's ninth NBA team.

Hamilton, who agreed to a three-year contract extension Monday in the midst of the Iverson trade, scored 11 points in the third quarter when the Pistons pulled away. His 3-pointer and mid-range jumper on consecutive possessions made it 76-60.

Playing again without forward Shawn Marion, who is struggling with his weight and conditioning fol­lowing knee surgery, the Bobcats couldn't recover with their under­ sized lineup that included 6-foot-7 Jared Dudley at power forward.

Huston of the time to one-sho the Bobcats were outrebounded 45-31.

"You can get away with it against Miami," Brown said of Saturday's win against the under­ sized Heat. "You're not going to get away with it against 6-10, 6-11, 6-10 front­line, all athletic. It just doesn't happen."

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**Women's Basketball NCAA Division I AP Poll**

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**Women's Soccer NSCAA/Adidas Division I Rankings**

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**Around the Dial**

Detroit Piston traded for Big Bills, McQyess

Iverson traded to Pistons for Bilups, McQyess

DETROIT — The Detroit Pistons worked the phones last summer, trying to trade for a superstar to shake up their roster.

They ended up standing pat because a deal didn't make sense.

Two games into the season, Allen Iverson was the answer to their hopes in a blockbuster that generated rare buzz for the NBA in November.

Detroit acquired the former NBA MVP on Monday for All-Star point guard and former finals MVP Chauncey Billups, top reserve Antonio McDyess and project guard Cheikh Samb.

"We just felt it was the right time to change our team," Pistons president of basketball operations Joe Dumars told The Associated Press.

"Iverson gives us a dimension that we haven't had here and we really think it's going to help us."
MLB

GMs meet amid economic troubles

Associated Press

DANA POINT, Calif. — Baseball front office general managers began an offseason of economic uncertainty when they gathered Monday at the Hesburgh Center for International Studies for the annual meeting — at the same posh resort used last year by Waxman and his counsel to criticize AIG executives for their role in the company’s government bailout.

Monday’s meeting featured five sessions, with Waxman’s senior counsel, David Holt, attending. The sessions were closed to the press.

The week began Thursday with four Seattle-area meetings of front offices. The meetings were closed to the press.

The main topics of the meeting were the postseason and free agency.

"I heard about the various owners talking about losing money and so on," said Dave Dombrowski of the Detroit Tigers.

"I know we’re sensitive to the softness of the economy and frankly are taking it into account as we do our planning for next season," said Jeff Moorad of the Arizona Diamondbacks.

"We’re bullish about next season on the one hand, but we recognize that especially on the corporate partnership side, there could be some direct impact," said Ken Caminiti, the former manager of the Minnesota Twins.

"I want to see who is the highest bidder for a regular gallon of gas and so am I," said Manny Ramirez, the Boston Red Sox free agent.

"I have a gut feeling that I’m not going to tell you what I’m going to do," said Ramirez.

"We could be shopped by the Padres in the offseason of 2009," said Ramirez.

"Yeah, that’s a hypothesis that I don’t consider," said Ramirez.

Tuesday, November 4, 2008

THE OBSERVER • SPORTS

FOOTBALL

Huskies now only winless team

Associated Press

SEATTLE — A week ago, on the day Washington announced coach Tyrone Willingham’s firing, university president Mark Emmert said the Huskies’ losing football program was at the "lowest ebb" in the school’s storied history.

His reference was probably a week early. Burdened with a lame­duck coach in Willingham, and players still reacting to the news of Willingham’s firing, the Huskies’ 56-0 loss to No. 7 USC on Saturday left Washington as the only winless team in the country.

"Honestly, it’s not easy. I’ve never been in this position before," said Tyrone Willingham, Washington coach.

"That’s a hypothetical that I don’t consider," said Willingham.

"I think in some places it’s easier to lose focus but our team has the desire remain­ing to rally around it’s out­come. We’re staying close," said Pete Carroll, the Huskies’ coach for 2009.

"I’ve been in this situation before. I’ve never been in this situation before."

The announcement last week of Willingham’s firing, effective the end of the sea­son, surely felt like the low­est point of Washington’s downward spiral. That was before the Huskies were shut out for just the second time since 1981, prompting Willingham to be asked Monday whether he second­guessed striking around for the final five games of the season.

"No, not at all," said Willingham.

"When I fired him, when I fired him, when I fired him," said Willingham.

"We’re not letting people get frustrated or give up on the season.

"The blowout against USC concluded a difficult week for Washington’s players. It started with most of them receiving word by e-mail or text message that Willingham would be out at the season’s end. It concluded with a lifelessness performance against the Trojans, where Washington, which managed only 184 total yards and didn’t make a first down on offense until its sixth possession.

In the modern era, only a 65-7 loss at Miami in 2001 and 73-0 loss against Oregon in 1973 had larger margins of defeat. Washington lost to California 72-3 in 1921.

"Definitely. He’s an incredible man. He has a lot of things he can coach us on as far as being better young men and players," defensive tackle Johnnie Kirtton said. "I feel people are still listening to him and taking his words of advice. I don’t think any­one is going to give up on the way he teaches us."

Tuesday, November 4, 2008

THE OBSERVER • SPORTS

A Human Development Conference

Innovation in the Service of Human Dignity

Hesburgh Center for International Studies

Registration Deadline— November 4th at kellogg.nd.edu/ford
Belichick's call costs Patriots

Associated Press

FOXBOROUGH, Mass. — Matt Cassel keeps making progress. The Patriots quarterback might have made more if coach Bill Belichick hadn't called a timeout.

While Cassel was sneaking from the Indianapolis 7-yard line for an apparent first down, Belichick was signaling for a timeout as he ran frantically to get an official's attention. He got the timeout, the run didn't count and Belichick decided to go for a field goal in the fourth quarter of New England's 18-15 loss Sunday night.

"We didn't get a very good look at the spot," he said. "At first, we thought it was fourth and inches, then all along it was fourth and about a yard. So once we saw what the distance was, it just seemed better to get the points."

It was an unusual miscalculation by one of the NFL's best coaches that contributed to the loss that cost the Patriots (5-3) sole possession of first place in the AFC East.

Patriots quarterback Matt Cassel threw a touchdown pass in the first quarter and made it the Patriots couldn't stop the game. Then, 3 and 1/2 minutes last timeout and the rest of the AFC East. That tied the game 15-15, make a 25-yard field goal session of first place in the conference.

New England tied the game 15-15, then on the first play of the fourth quarter, during a conversation by one of the NFL's best coaches.

"I think Matt has continued to improve every week since Week 1," Belichick said. "It doesn't surprise me. He works hard. He is an effective, smart kid who has talent, and every opportunity he gets a chance to practice, he takes and play, I think he improves. He's worked hard on it and I think that has shown up in his performance on a consistent basis."

But his longest completion Sunday covered 20 yards and he barely threw longer, even though Randy Moss was open.

Still, his confidence is becoming tougher inside the 20 because the offense has less room to work with.

"An area where there is not much field space, it is harder to throw down there than it is out in the field. But it is still something you have to do. It is harder to run down there, too, because everyone is closer to the line and there is less space to defend," Belichick said Monday.

"I am confident in Matt throwing the ball. I am confident in us stopping them, but we just have to do a better job of it, that's all."

Still, his confidence is bolstered.

"I thought it was too long a quarterback sneak," said. The Patriots gained 140 yards on 32 carries and didn't lose ground on any of them. The offensive line didn't allow a sack.

"We just ran the play and snapped the ball at that point," Cassel said. "Then I got up and saw the coach called a timeout.""I got the feeling after the game that it's still not where we need it to be," Belichick said.

One thing the last few weeks has elevated Cassel is that Belichick is less likely to get over officials when he thinks a call is wrong. But on this play, the officials were right.

"I thought it was too long a quarterback sneak," he said. "I got the feeling after the game that it's still not where we need it to be," Belichick said.

"We are not going into it saying, 'Hey, just because these guys are back everything is fixed and we are going to win all our games,' coach Wade Phillips said Monday.

"If we go into it that's where we need to go, that's where we need to go. I think it's important to have confidence in that. I think the guys have spent a lot of the rest of his new quarterback feeling exactly that."

"The reality is Randy is replacing Brad Johnson and Brooks Bollingr who just left the offense after having the Dallas went from scoring at least 24 points in all his starts to topping out at 14 in the three games he missed. "It's kind of sickening," receiver Crayton said.

"We are 0-7, this is the worst we have played all season," Phillips said. "We have to regroup during this off week."

"It's kind of sickening. I don't really know what's going on. We really need to get by the fact we are not where we want to be. We want to get it fixed by the starting quarterback for the AFC West.

"We are going to be at 1-5, the offense has to be better. We have to be ready to go on Sunday," Belichick said.

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**Interhall continued from page 24**

that consistently halted promising drives.

"Our defense played well," St. Edwards' coach Cameron Hogue said. "Even though we did not force turnovers, it was still a dominant performance." The defense came down to a battle of the defenses. Specifically, Stori's tight coverage broke up the passing game. The Rams had several three-and-outs from a usually explosive St. Edwards' offense. The Gentlemen attack, led by quarterback Matt Abeling, managed less than two minutes of offense on the ground for next week," Edwards' coach Cameron Hogue said. "We will make a run for this." With Zahm taking over on second downs to stop the clock, Shanm's quarterback tried to take a knee and complete a long pass. After an early from the coaches, the Rams ran the clock and walked away with a win.

With its defense picking up penalties and missing the tackle to a St. Mary's running back, the Green Wave could only shake their heads and laugh at their deficient loss on the day. "This was the ugliest football game I've ever been a part of going all way back to grade five pro-" weed football," Mulhan said.

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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-Mo.

Everyone is Welcome and Confidentiality is Assured

Coffee and Refreshments Will Be Served

Recycle TheObserver.
LANDOVER, Md. — Byron Leftwich led two touchdown drives after Ben Roethlisberger injured his throwing shoulder and the Pittsburgh Steelers beat the Washington Redskins 23-6 on Monday night.

The Steelers' top-ranked defense had seven sacks, allowed only 221 yards and became the first team this season to intercept Jason Campbell.

Leftwich went 7-of-10 for 129 yards and a touchdown as the Steelers (6-2) beat an NFC East team for the first time in three attempts this season.

Roethlisberger was 5-of-15 for 56 yards and an interception before leaving the game at halftime, again hindered by the slightly separated shoulder that has bothered him since the second week of the season.

Roethlisberger said he's capable of going back in the game, but we went down the field with Leftwich in there to start the second half. We'll just see how he is." Roethlisberger spoke briefly in the locker room. Asked if the injury was serious, he said: "I hope not. We'll find out."

Leftwich's 50-yard completion to Nate Washington set up a 1-yard TD run by Willie Parker, who was back from a four-week layoff with a knee injury. He also had a 5-yard scoring pass to Santonio Holmes, who returned from a one-game benching over a charge for a marijuana-related offense. Roethlisberger celebrated that touchdown on the sideline by high-fiving his teammates — with his left hand.

The Steelers held Clinton Portis to 51 yards rushing, ending his streak of five straight games with at least 120 yards. Washington (6-3) came close to scoring a touchdown only once — when Campbell, who finished 24-of-43 for 296 yards, thought he had scored on a scramble with the previous play but a replay challenge showed he was down just before the goal line.

While the Steelers remain atop the AFC North, the Redskins lost ground in the NFC East to the New York Giants. Washington enters its bye week needing to tweak an offense that has put together promising drives all season but has often struggled to find the end zone.

The game was the first hosted by Washington on the eve of a presidential election since 1984, and there was no mistaking the combination of football and election fever. One fan alternately waved a white towel with Barack Obama's image in the left hand and an all-burgundy Redskins towel in the right hand. Sports-themed interviews with Obama and John McCain were broadcast by ESPN during halftime.

The Redskins also used the special occasion to wear burgundy jerseys and pants together for the first time in franchise history. A more noticeable color, however, was the yellow from the sea of Terrible Towels waved by Steelers fans who managed to secure tickets by the boatload for the lower bowl of the stadium. In a bizarre sight, visiting Pittsburgh players were waving to the fans all around them to make noise crowd during defensive stands.

Neither team managed 100 yards in a first half that included seven sacks and a combined 13-0-32 performance by Roethlisberger and Campbell. The Redskins didn't convert on third down until Campbell hit tight end Chris Cooley for a 12-yard gain late in the third quarter. Campbell's streak without an interception reached 271 attempts — 249 this season — before cornerback Deshea Townsend grabbed a pass tipped by Portis late in the third quarter.

Washington was on the board early with two field goals in the first four minutes — without the benefit of a first down. Linebacker Al fonzo Funcher alertly recovered the Steelers surprise onside kick that opened the game, and Cornelius Griffin intercepted a pass tipped by teammate Andre Carter. Both plays gave Washington the ball in Pittsburgh territory, leading to field goals of 44 and 43 yards by Shaun Suisham.

The Steelers didn't cross midfield until Carlos Rogers grabbed Hines Ward to commit an obvious 43-yard pass interference penalty, setting up a 33-yard field goal by Jeff Reed that cut Washington's lead to 6-3.

The Steelers went ahead after Andre Frazier blocked Ryan Plackemeier's punt. William Gay recovered, giving Pittsburgh the ball at Washington's 13 and setting up Roethlisberger's 1-yard TD.
Pastor

continued from page 24

accepted into the students' cheer repertoirae.

But upon further examination, the song contains words of wis­
dom for the Fighting Irish, especia­
ly after the tough loss to
Pittsburgh Saturday. Pastor Troy
knows pain, in the same way as
Notre Dame does, and he knows what it's like to have a rough
history like the Irish had last
season.

Also, the name "Pastor" plays
to Notre Dame's religious affilia­
tions, even if there aren't pas­
tors in the Catholic Church.

Minor detail. It's nothing new to
have a priest pray with the team
before kickoff, so having the
crowd chant the words of the
Pastor puts the team in a famil­
iar state of mind.

Let's look at some of the lyrics:

"Now ease up shorty, let the G
slide through": Offensive line
coach John Lazina says this to
center Dan Wenger, who at 6-
foot-4 is the "shorty" of the
offensive line. What he means by
this is to let the defensive guard
slide through a hole in the line
when Wenger pulls to the side
to block for a sweep. This lead
blocking helps spring running
back Armando Allen to the side­
lines, where he can use his
speed to create plays, or on
short-yardage conversions when the
defense guesses that James
Aldridge will run up the middle.

"And I don't leave without my
32": An homage to Notre
Dame's secret weapon. When I
last played organized football in
eighth grade, our bread-andbutter run play was called
Power-I right 32. In this case,
Notre Dame uses a rare three­
back set with Robert Hughes,
Asaph Schwapp and James
Aldridge in the backfield at the
same time. Aldridge, the three­
buck, would take the handoff
and run behind Hughes and
Schwapp through the two-hole,
the space between Wenger and
right guard Chris Stewart. Why
this wasn't part of the "round­
it" philosophy is beyond me.

"Putting it down for five years,
the blood, the sweat, the
leapfrogged tears": A clear ref­
erence to the hard work the
fifth-year seniors, Maurice Crum
Jr., Terrail Lambert and Justin
Brown, have put in during their
careers. They lasted through
two coaches, two BCS bowl los­
es and the worst season in the
history of Notre Dame football.
They deserve some dap.

"Hard as a hammer, I am
Atlanta": A shout-out to Paul
Duncan, Eric Maust, Morris
Richardson, Junior Slaughter
and Torny Smith, who all hail
from the great state of Georgia.

"Soon as I step on the scene,
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it" philosophy is beyond me.
W hirlwind’ s first touchdown, Welsh Family captain and quarterback Jenni Gargula said. "But once we got into the game, we played like we always do.”

Gargula ran in the Whirlwinds’ first touchdown, tying the game 7-7 just before the half. They kept the momentum going for the remainder of the game, and the Lyons defense struggled against a strong Welsh Family offense in the second half. The Whirlwinds scored two more touchdowns, by Katherine Hart and Natalie Baldasare, before the time ran out to secure their victory.

"We came up a little short, but everyone improved as the year went on,” Connell said. "I am looking forward to seeing what we can do next year.”

As Lyons finishes their season, Welsh Fam still must prepare for another opponent as it hopes to stay undefeated going into the championship game in the Stadium.

Pasquerilla West 12, Howard 6

Pasquerilla West’s hopes of a third Stadium appearance in four years survived as PW downsed Howard Sunday, thanks to two touchdowns, one by air and one by ground, from senior quarterback Card Davies.

On its opening drive, PW, the No. 4 seed, marched down to the end zone in seven plays. Davies competed a 9-yard pass to junior receiver Cynthia Carley for the touchdown and an early 6-0 lead.

Howard, the No. 5 seed, attempted to respond quickly with a score, but the Purple Weasels defense held strong. On fourth-and-goal from the 5-yard line, Howard-sophomore quarterback Kayby Bishop looked to throw, but PW senior Jordan Johnson grabbed her flag from behind for the sack, killing Howard’s momentum.

PW opened the second half by intercepting Bishop at the 15-yard line. Two plays later, Davies raced around the end for a 1-yard touchdown and a two-possession lead.

Howard was able to manage one touchdown on its final possession. A deep completion set up a Bishop five-yard touchdown run. Nonetheless, the Ducks left the game saddened, still nursing a playoff victory in team history.

"We are really disappointed with the way we played today,” Bishop said. "We just got out-played.”

Davies added: "The win today was a good step towards our season goal. But we don’t want to rest on our laurels." Staying motivated won’t be hard for PW. In the semifinals, the Whirlwinds faced Welsh Family. Last season Welsh Fam beat the Weasels in the same round. That loss is the only playoff loss for PW in the past four seasons.

The second half was all Farley’s. An interception on the first drive led to touchdown and extra point passes both to sophomore Molly Casanova.

The Finest then forced a three-and-out, which Murphy turned into six more points on a pass, again to Casanova.

By this point, the Wild Women, found themselves behind 13-0 with little time left. They managed to find Meghan Hadley in the end zone, but it was too little too late.

Although the Wild Women’s season was over, the coaching staff was proud of the team’s accomplishments.

"The defense performed well on our first offensive drive, allowing McGlinn to hang on to its close lead at the end of the game,” Pasquerilla West’s hopes of a great job battling. We had some tough calls that didn’t go our way, but we never lost our composure,” DeGroot said. "Still we have improvements to make before our next game against Farley but we feel like we have some momentum and that we can play with any team in this league.”

The Phoxes were disappoint ed with the loss. "Our quarterback Gabby Tate and our defense played a great game,” Pangborn captain Kathleen Poploski said. "It was a tough loss.”

"Just being in the win column, the team is encouraged for next season since this year’s team is young.”

"A lot of our team was fresh men and sophomores so we’ll have a lot of returning players,” McGlinn said. "We’re only losing two seniors. We should be much improved"
Postseason pressure

Three games without winners in final weekend

By CHRISTINA MCDONNELL, SHANE STEINBURG, NYSMILE SMITH, LIZA NAVARRO, CHRISTOPHER MASoud and ROBERT GRAHAM

Two unbeaten teams remained without a loss Sunday when St. Edward's and Sorin played to a scoreless tie. The Otters (3-0-1) established dominance quickly when their defense forced a turnover within the opening minutes to give them possession early. However, the Gentleman (3-0-1) continued its offensive prowess with a potent defense.

Hanks' injury won't hurt Irish in playoff games

Not much can rattle the Irish, not even seeing their leading scorer down on the field grabbing her knee — okay so maybe that was momentarily scary, but the Irish shook it off. And there's more than one reason that Kerri Hanks' strained MCL wasn't nearly as frightening as one set of legs: enter senior captain Brittany Beck. Beck is just an assist behind Hanks with nine on the season, and she boasts six goals in addition to that. But it's not just Beck and Henderson who will help nurse the pain of Hanks' injury. The Irish have had 17 different players score 69 goals in the 2008 season. And the Irish defense has only let up eight goals in a still-undefeated season. So Irish fans, I see no reason to worry yet.

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NYD WOMEN'S SOCCER COMMENTARY

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