Irish fall to Tar Heels 2-1 in Championship

Notre Dame loses to North Carolina in national title game for the second time in three years

Please turn to page 20 for full coverage.

Pink Zone to combat deadly disease

Women's basketball game against DePaul to benefit breast cancer patients

By MADELINE BUCKLEY
News Writer

At Sunday's women's basketball game against Purdue, the cheerleaders donned pink T-shirts, the Leprechaun wore a pink vest and 150 pink T-shirts were passed out to students. The array of pink replacing the usual blue, gold and green was part of a project to publicize the Pink Zone game, an event to benefit breast cancer patients. The publicity for the event was put together by a management class at Notre Dame, said sophomore Nicole O'Connor, a member of the class and one of the project's leaders.

"Our class's job was to start promoting the Pink Zone game," she said. "The class is a combination of working on the project and going through the textbook.

The Pink Zone is an event put on by the Women's Basketball Coaches Association (WBCA), O'Connor said. Each school involved designates a game to be the Pink Zone game, and they use that game to raise money and awareness for breast cancer.

Lenz retires after 35 years of service

By PUJA PARIKH
News Writer

Sister Jean Lenz, O.S.F., special assistant to the Vice President of Student Affairs at Notre Dame, formally announced her retirement from the Office of Student Affairs on Dec. 3.

She will retire at the end of the fall semester after 35 years of service to the University.

While Sr. Jean has certainly earned the right to enjoy a relaxing retirement, she is a valued and beloved member of the Office of Student Affairs.

Students make fleece blankets for cancer patients

Third-annual Aiden Project held in South Dining Hall Saturday

By TESS CIVANTOS
News Writer

Noite Dame students made over 250 fleece blankets and cards for cancer patients at the third-annual Aiden Project Saturday. The project began when then-sophomore Aidan Fitzgerald of Knott Hall was diagnosed with cancer three years ago.

"I had to take a year off my sophomore year for chemo," Fitzgerald said. "And when my roommate, who was the Vice-President of Circle K, decided to start this, he asked 'Would it be all right if we called it the Aiden Project??'

His roommate, Chris Esher, and other friends started the project as a means of showing support and raising awareness. The blankets are distributed to various hospitals which treat children with cancer, including Riley Children's Hospital, Memorial Hospital, and St. Joe's Hospital, Fitzgerald said. He receives some interesting responses from the children who receive the blankets.

"I got a huge packet of cards from kids last year, and the little kids are just hilarious," he said.

Esher said the project continues to receive support from Circle K, Kiwanis, Knott Hall, the Class of 2009 and student government.

Meanwhile, the project has grown more popular with students every year.

"It blows our expectations every year," Fitzgerald said. "We had to turn people away last year. This year we doubled the amount of fleece we used from last year, and look.
INSIDE COLUMN

Deck the Halls

As I walked into my building, the faint sounds of Christmas music were heard from every corner of the hall. The welcoming aroma of Christmas cookies filled the air, and graciously met me as I entered the dorm. The entire hall appeared to be in the Christmas spirit.

As I continued on my trek to the fifth floor, I saw wrapping paper and ribbons, bells, and Nativity scenes. There were snowmen, stockings, Santas, and snowflakes. As I walked to my room, I realized that something was missing. Although nearly all of the residents had decorated for Christmas, the bright and colorful twinkle of the Christmas lights I had grown to love could not be found within any of the students’ rooms.

Christmas lights are banned from Saint Mary’s residence halls. Deemed a fire hazard, lights are not allowed on trees, hung around the rooms, or in the windows. All lit decorations are prohibited to students. However, the halls may have lights in the lobby. The lobby of McCandless, which is filled with Christmas lights, has not one, but several lit trees. Other halls on campus have lit rooms and various other lit decorations.

An e-mail was sent to students reminding them that electric decorative lights are not allowed in or around student rooms. This includes Christmas lights with exposed bulbs, and halogen bulbs are also prohibited.

A painful twinge of disappointment ran through me as I read the e-mail sent last week. No lit Christmas tree for me this year. Although the dorm still remained festive, I could not help but think that just a few colored lights would make the Christmas spirit once more of McCandless, as well as create a more homely feel to the building. According to www.christmascarols.com, Christmas lights have been a holiday tradition since approximately 1925 when president Grover Cleveland displayed the first lit Christmas tree.

Saint Mary’s students are not able to take part in that tradition.

Although I can understand how the lights could be a fire hazard if not taken care of properly, I do not see the harm in a little Christmas spirit. Students could make their holidays a little brighter, especially since they are in the building every day, so why not? I am a freshman, but I am unable to comprehend how it is safe to have Christmas lights in the lobby, but it is unsafe to have them in our rooms. I visited Notre Dame one evening this past week, and noticed that in a few of the windows of one of the dorm buildings, there were strings of Christmas lights. Why are Christmas lights a fire hazard to Saint Mary’s, but not to Notre Dame? I pondered that thought for a few moments. With a frown I continued on my way, wishing that we Saint Mary’s students were allowed to have a little more holiday spirit.

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

Corrections

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

QUESTION OF THE DAY: WHAT IS YOUR LEAST FAVORITE CHRISTMAS SONG?

Ross Degenhardt
freshman
Duncan
“Joy to the World — I hate it.”

James Bishko
freshman
Duncan
“Jingle Bells ’stinks.”

Brandon Perras
sophomore
Duncan
“Whichever one’s being sung.”

Eric Mark
sophomore
Duncan
“Feliz Navidad because it’s annoyingly repetitive. And not English.”

C.J. Ramsey
senior
Duncan
“Blue Christmas” because Christmas is not the time for whiners.

IN BRIEF

American Red Cross will be having a blood drive today from 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the Grand Ballroom of LaFortune. Students who would like to participate are asked to sign up online at www.givelife.org. Walk-ins are welcome however.

A Student Forum on Cultural Difference and Social Change will be held today at 4 p.m. in 549 Hanner Hall. Thirteen students will be presenting research that they did during their travels this past summer.

A public talk on “American Politics: A New Era” is taking place Tuesday at 4 p.m. in the international Studies Auditorium of the Heschberg Center. Dr. William Kristal will be speaking on the impact of the recent election.

The 66th annual Christmas at the CoMo featuring the ND Celebration Choir and instrumentalists will be held on Wednesday at 7:30 p.m. in the Coleman-Morse Center. The event will feature reflections on Christmas traditions by ND international students. A free will offering will support the Holy Cross Missions in Haiti.

The special lecture “What and When was the Christmas Star? An astrophysicist’s perspective” will be given by Grant Matthews, professor of physics, in the Jordan Hall of Science Digital Visualization Theater. The event, held on Friday from 7 to 8:30 p.m. is sponsored by Department of Physics.

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

OFFBEAT

MBA graduate posts resume in taxi cab

NEW YORK — Are you talking ‘to me — about a job?

A recent MBA graduate who can’t find work in his chosen field has resorted to posting his resume inside the taxi he’s been driving around New York City.

James Williamson earned his master’s degree in business administration at Philadelphia’s La Salle University. Then he spent four months on interviews and hopelessly trying to line up a job. The MBA graduate feels as though he’s been left in the lurch.

Homework cooking makes students sick

BIRMINGHAM — Students at Birmingham school can honestly say homework made them sick. Nearly half of the students in a Smith Middle School language arts class became ill Friday after tasting meals that students had prepared as part of an assignment.

Birmingham schools spokesman Michaelle Chapman said the students were to write about their favorite dish and how it was prepared. The teacher allowed them to make and bring the dish to class if they wished.

Of the 18 students, 16 of them brought in dishes and eight students got sick after tasting them. Information compiled from the Associated Press.

Irish senior forward Brittany Bock slide tackles Tar Heels midfielder Ali Hawkins in Notre Dame’s championship match against North Carolina Sunday.

The Observatory ♦ PAGE 2

Monday, December 8, 2008

TODAY

LOCAL WEATHER

TOMORROW

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

HIGH

33

33

33

33

32

LOW

32

32

31

31

31

SUNSHINE

SUNSHINE

SUNSHINE

SUNSHINE

SUNSHINE

Alicia Smith
News Writer

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Alicia Smith

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Mendoza names new director
Keane appointed head of Executive Education of business college

Special to The Observer
Sharon E. Keane has been named the director of Executive Education of the Mendoza College of Business at the University of Notre Dame.

"I'm excited to be carrying forward this tradition," said Keane. "We are responsible for overseeing the transition to a new Executive MBA education center. Notre Dame received a $20 million gift from alumnus Ralph C. Stayer, chairman of the board and chief executive officer of Johnsonville Sausage, for the construction of the new center just south of the business school. Keane joined the Executive Education program in August 2000, focusing primarily on developing custom programs, which earned a BusinessWeek ranking of 15th among Executive Education custom programs worldwide in 2007. Previously, Keane was a vice president at South Bend Ind.-based Corporate Staffing Resources. She also worked for the federal government for nine years in policy analysis, sales and marketing positions, and served as a legislative assistant to Sen. Hank Brown, R-Colorado.

Keane earned a bachelor's degree in the Program of Liberal Studies from Notre Dame and a master's degree in public administration from Syracuse University's Maxwell School. "I'm bringing into the position a strong understanding of the challenges faced by executives seeking additional education, particularly in today's complex global business environment," Keane said.

Recycling market enters slump
Budgeting at centers becomes tougher with global economic meltdown

Associated Press
CHARLESTON — Norm Steenstra's budding worriesmount with each new load of cardboard, aluminum cans and plastics jugs dumped at West Virginia's largest county recycling center.

"It's getting more difficult to find buyers in some markets," Steenstra said. "Just months after riding an incredible high, the recycling market has tumbled almost in the lockstep with the global economicmeltdown. As consumer demand for autos, appliances and new homes dropped, so did the steel and aluminum mills' demand for scrap, paper and other recyclables.

Cardboard that sold for about $135 a ton in September is now going for about 12 cents a pound. Aluminum cans dropped nearly half to about 40 cents a pound, and scrap metal tumbled from $225 a gross ton to about $100. It's getting more difficult to find buyers in some markets, Steenstra said.

While few across the country appear to be taking such drastic measures as Steenstra, the recycling market has gotten so bad that haulers in Oregon and Nevada who were once paid for recyclables are now getting nothing or in some cases having to pay to unload their wares.

In Washington state, what was once a multimillion-dollar revenue source for the city of Seattle may become a liability just months ago, customers caught everyone off guard, said Steven Kowalsky, president of Empire Recycling, N.Y. "Nobody saw it coming," he said. "Absolutely nobody," Kowalsky said. "Even the biggest players didn't see it coming."

At the height of the market just months ago, customers were lining up outside Kowalsky's business, hoping to hawk their recyclables at a store to pay rising food and fuel costs. "That's not happening any more," he said.

The Kanawha County Solid Waste Authority has cut 20 of its 24 employees, going from five, shuttered six of the authority's drop-off stations and is urging residents to load their recyclables after informing municipalities with curbside recycling programs that the center will accept only paper until further notice. "The market is just not there anymore," Steenstra said.

The Kanawha County Solid Waste Authority, which earns soldindonations from residents and municipalities, sells about 7,500 tons of paper, plastic and aluminum a year, Steenstra said.

Ted Armstrong, III, managing partner of The Wine Shop at Capital Market in Charleston, says it won't be in the room emptying his recyclables at home, but he doesn't have that luxury with 500 customers, which uses a lot of cardboard boxes.
PINK

continued from page 1

research.

Notre Dame's Pink Zone game will be against DePaul on Feb. 8. The game will be televised on ESPN2. A silent auction and other events will raise money for breast cancer research.

The objective of the project was to use management skills taught in class to market the Pink Zone game, O'Connor said. The game was officially announced to fans at yesterday's game through the efforts of the students in the class, she said.

"The class teaches the principles of management—planning, organizing, leading, controlling, evaluating," she said. "So our class was divided into project teams according to those phases."

The project leaders were given an outline of what was needed to publicize the event from Women's Basketball Office, and the students did the legwork to get the word out about the Pink Zone game, O'Connor said.

"We put up posters, sent out e-mails and tried to talk up the event in the dorms," she said. "Each student [at the Purdue game] got a T-shirt and a McDonalds gift card, and at the end of the game we passed out save the date cards for Feb. 8.

The class also invited Saint Joseph Medical Center, Riverbend Cancer center, LaPorte hospital and the Secret Sisters Society to set up tables at the game with information about breast cancer, O'Connor said.

"The game was sold out, so it was a pretty exciting opportunity to reach every one," she said.

O'Connor said her group was in charge of creating the pink T-shirts. Members of the class submitted design ideas, and they used a local t-shirt company to produce the shirts, she said. Students got free shirts, and the extras were thrown into the crew.

The management class, taught by Chuck Lennon, Associate Vice President for University Relations, was approved by the Center for Social Concerns (CSC) as a service learning class. O'Connor said.

"It's the only management class in the College of Business that was approved for this distinction," she said.

Prof. Lennon presented the idea to the CSC because of the unique opportunity to get us actual real life management experience.

The posters used to advertise the event were funded by Women's basketball and the funds for the T-shirts came from the Alumni Association, which is headed by Chuck Lennon, O'Connor said.

"I think this was a great opportunity because we were able to apply what we were learning in class to real life situations," she said. "It showed us the full range of what management requires."

Contact Madeline Buckley at mbuckley@nd.edu

Cheerleaders performed in pink shirts during the Irish women's basketball game against Purdue Sunday night.

LENZ

continued from page 1

Student Affairs, and I know I speak for the entire senior staff, but saying that her daily presence in the office will be missed tremendously," said Father Mark L. Poorman, Vice President of Student Affairs in an e-mail sent to colleagues within the department.

"Sr. Jean's dedication, wisdom, and commitment to the University are unparalleled." Lenz, however, is ready to move on.

"My body was saying to me: I don't want to do this anymore," Lenz said. "It became very clear to me that it was time to step aside from doing administrative ministry. I know that once I did not have to pick up and make a decision in my life and that I would be able to stay on campus and continue doing ministry because of administrative work.

Lenz, a Franciscan sister of the Congregation of the Third Order of St. Francis of Assisi, Sr. Immaculata came to Notre Dame from Marquette when she received a master's degree in theology. After six years, Lenz, along with 10 other Franciscan sisters, were asked to come back to the University and take part in the University as a pastoral figure and to a conductional institution after 30 years in an all-female environment.

"I remember getting the letter from Notre Dame asking me to come help. It was really walking into the unknown when I first came here. I only planned to stay a year or two and just help them get started with their programs. Little did I know that I would later go on to become the rector of Farley Hall," she said.

"My time with Farley Hall is incomparable because of all the women I came to know. They were all so wonderful and helpful," Lenz said after serving as rector of Farley Hall. Sr. Jean switched to administrative ministry and entered the Office of Student Affairs in 1984. "I've worked with three Notre Dame presidents, and that's been a great gift," she said. "I have so many memories from the years. I remember Fr. Jenkins when he was a student. He was a really good friend in the community process here. What an important step it was that Notre Dame opened its doors to women. And we never had big upsets, it was a gradual shift. But those first women, they were real pioneers."

Lenz plans to continue ministry at the University and assisting youth with spiritual direction. She will help students who have basic religious questions, are interested in the Catholic faith, want to figure out what they will do after leaving the University.

"I have been formed pastoral to teaching to administrative work," she said. "I think Administrative work is something different. I just got to a point where it seemed time to change. It's kind of administration and the typical stress that goes with that. I have done pastoral teaching before and really enjoy it."

Father Mark L. Poorman said that Lenz will be missed. "During her time at Notre Dame, Sr. Jean has been a consistent spokesperson for the University and the typical stress that goes with that. I have done pastoral teaching before and really enjoy it."

"Her compassion, warmth, deep faith, and great humor are an inspiration and joy to everyone who knows her."

Lenz also will continue to serve in Farley Hall and assist with ongoing programs. She has been involved with the University's Irish Immersion Program, where she served as registrar and chaplain from 1973 to 1983, in addition to being an adjunct instructor in theology. Sr. Jean is also the author of "Our Daughters," an account of her years at the University.

Contact Puija Parikh at pparikh@nd.edu

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MARSHALL SCHOLARSHIP (for two years of graduate study in the United Kingdom)

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FULBRIGHT GRANT/ETA (for one year of research, study or teaching English around the world)

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INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Counting begins in Ghana election

ACCRA — Election officials began counting ballots late Sunday in one of Africa's rare democracies, where voters are painfully aware of the example they are setting on a continent better known for coups, rigged elections and one-man rule.

In courtyard throughout the capital, election officials put police tape around the plywood tables where they began counting ballots. Hundreds of onlookers fanned walls around the counting tables, standing on chairs to get a view and whistling as the stacks of their candidate of choice grew taller.

The count capped a long day in this humid capital. The election began the night before, when hundreds of voters slept on the streets outside their polling stations in an effort to be first. Voters spoke of carrying the burden of the continent's numerous failures as they waited to vote.

Authority challenged in Thailand

BANGKOK — Loyalists of former Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra met Sunday to counter a sudden bid by the main opposition party to form a new government it believes the deposed premier could win in a new election.

The move comes after protesters recently paralyzed the capital Bangkok and shut down its main international airport, stranding more than 300,000 travelers and dealing a heavy blow to the country's tourism-driven economy.

The government was dissolved by a court order Tuesday for election fraud. A number of members of the coalition Prime Minister Somchai Wongsawat's People Power Party, who owe their allegiance to Thaksin, regrouped in a new one, the Phuea Thai Party.

National News

New "Meet the Press" host selected

NEW YORK — David Gregory's new job as moderator of "Meet the Press" was made official Sunday with an announcement on the long-running NBC interview program that he will take over starting next week.

Gregory, who replaces the late Tim Russert, was introduced by Tom Brokaw, who stepped in as temporary host last June after Russert's death.

"I welcome new methods of improving our brain function," and doing it without drugs is no more morally objectionable than eating right or getting a good night's sleep, these experts wrote in an opinion piece published online Sunday by the Journal Nature.

Brain pills demanded by scientists

NEW YORK — Healthy people should have the right to boost their brains with pills, like those used for hyperactive kids or memory-impaired elders, several scientists contend in a provocative commentary.

College students are already illegally taking prescription stimulants like Ritalin to help them study, and demand for such drugs is likely to grow elsewhere, they say.

"We should welcome new methods of improving our brain function," and doing it with pills is no more morally objectionable than eating right or getting a good night's sleep, these experts wrote in an opinion piece published online Sunday by the Journal of Nature.

Local News

Two victims killed in house fire

ELROD, Ind. — State police say a house fire that killed two children in southern Indiana town of Elrod killed two people.

Milan firefighters responded to the fire shortly before 1 a.m. Sunday, but put out the blaze in about an hour. The bodies were found after the fire was out. Firefighters believe the fire had been burning for some time before it was reported.

The victims weren't immediately identified. Autopsies were scheduled for Monday at Dearborn County Hospital in Lawrenceburg.

Greece

Riots rage over fatal police shooting

ATHENS — Hundreds of youths angered by the fatal police shooting of a teenager rampaged through Greece's two largest cities on the second day Sunday in some of the worst rioting the country has seen in years.

Gangs of youths set cars and erected burning barricades in the streets of Athens and Thessaloniki. Riot police clashed with groups of mostly self-styled anarchists throwing Molotov cocktails, rocks and bottles. Clouds of tear gas hung in the air, sending parents scurrying for cover. Rioting in several cities, including

Iowa Court to address gay marriage

Officials to hear arguments from couples challenging same-sex marriage ban

Associated Press

DES MOINES, Iowa — The gay marriage debate moves to the Midwest this week as the Iowa Supreme Court hears arguments in a challenge to the state's ban on same-sex marriage.

If the high court rules in favor of Oklahoma's same-sex couples who sued it, validity of gay marriage in Iowa and other Midwestern states may be similarly challenged.

The Iowa case has been moving through the legal system for more than three years, and it could take a year or more for the state Supreme Court to issue a ruling on the arguments Tuesday morning.

Camilla Taylor, an attorney for Lambda Legal, a gay rights organization representing the gay and lesbian couples behind the lawsuit, said the state has historically been a leader in supporting minority and women's rights.

"Iowa has an opportunity to play the role that it often has played in the past — being at the forefront of civil rights struggles — often long before other states were willing to be similarly courageous," she said. "This is not an unsustainable role for Iowa to take, and we are looking at them to make a real difference in the promise of equality in the Iowa Constitution.

Lambda Legal filed the lawsuit in 2005 on behalf of six Iowa couples who were denied marriage licenses as they tried to register as the couples' children. It names former Polk County Recorder and registrar Timothy Brien.

The lawsuit prompted a ruling in August 2007 by Polk County District Court Judge Robert Hanson, who said a state law allowing marriage only between a man and a woman violated the constitutional rights of due process and equal protection.

After that ruling, nearly 100 gay and lesbian couples applied for marriage licenses, but only one couple managed to get married before Hanson stayed his decision the next day in anticipation of the state's appeal to the Iowa Supreme Court.

The marriage of Seane Fritz and Tim McQuillan of Ames, Iowa, was suspended, although its validity could depend on the high court.

The Polk County attorney's office declined to comment on the pending case. In court documents, it has criticized the lawsuit as an attempt to change the way public policy is made.

"Plaintiffs seek to have this court establish the courts and not the Legislature make public policy for the State of Iowa by redefining marriage to be something totally different from what it has ever seen," the county attorney's office argued.

Maggie Gallagher, president of the Manassas, Va.-based Institute for Marriage and Public Policy, a conservative group that opposes same-sex marriage, said Americans have repeatedly made clear that they want traditional marriage protected.

I think it has to be clear to judges that Americans care about this issue, and in 30 out of 30 cases, when they've been allowed to vote, they say that same-sex marriage is not a civil right," she said.

"Americans don't think that two men in a union are just the same as a husband and wife, and they don't really appreciate the idea that the legal system is going to force them to accept that."
Pearl Harbor commemorates 67th anniversary of attack

Associated Press

PEARL HARBOR. While smoke still billowed from the torched ruins of the U.S. fleet at Pearl Harbor, Thomas Griffin's B-25 group took off from its Oregon base to search for Japanese ships or submarines along the West Coast.

They didn't find any, but four months later the group flew from the aircraft carrier USS Hornet and attacked Tokyo. The raid inflicted little damage but boosted U.S. morale and the Japanese, who launched the ill-fated attack on Midway Island six weeks later, recalled Griffin, a retired Army Air Corps major from Green Township, outside Cincinnati.

"The American people decided that they would strike back at the enemy," Griffin said at a ceremony Sunday to mark the 67th anniversary of the attack.

At 7:55 a.m., the moment on a Sunday morning in 1941 when hundreds of Japanese planes began raining bombs and torpedoes onto the U.S. military installations and planes, onlookers across the U.S. watched in horror as the USS Arizona sank in minutes.

"It was an impossible beginning," said Melvin Maclin, a factory coordinator of the project's organizers, who has a hard time describing his feelings toward the project. "I can't even describe this in words. It's amazing," she said.

Contact Tess Civanatos at tcivanatos@nd.edu

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Join us in the nation's capital to proclaim the dignity of every human life, from natural conception to natural death.

January 22nd, 2009

Register online at: www.nd.edu/~prolife

Dec. 19th deadline

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Questions? E-mail prolfe@nd.edu

Sit-in a symbol of employees' plight

Two hundred Chicago workers demand severance and vacation pay


"These workers deserve their wages, deserve fair notice, deserve health security," Jackson said. "This may be the beginning of long struggle of the future resistance finally."

Laford Frieh, an organizer for the United Electrical Workers union that represents the workers, said the company told the union that Bank of America has canceled its financing.

Bank of America received $25 billion as part of a government bailout. Some workers carried signs Sunday that said: "You got bailed out. We got sold out."

The bank had said in a statement that it was not responsible for the benefits and payments for the employees. The employees have not commented on the sit-in.

"We're not just here to make blankets, we're here to raise awareness," Annette Esquibel, the Kiwanis Chair of Notre Dame's Circle K, was pleased with this year's event.

In addition, the project emphasizes awareness in addition to just making blankets. They try to raise awareness for cancer in college-age people.

"The goal of the project is to raise cancer awareness — that it can happen in youth, that it can happen to your friends," Esquibel said.

Associated Press

CHICAGO — Chicago workers in the third day of a sit-in on Monday, December 8, 2008, demanded severance and vacation pay. The 200 Chicago workers were joined by 50 other workers whose jobs were being cut at the company's Ohio plant.

"These workers deserve their wages, deserve fair notice, deserve health security," Rev. Jesse Jackson said. "This may be the beginning of long struggle of the future resistance finally."

The company told the union that Bank of America has canceled its financing.

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"The goal of the project is to raise cancer awareness — that it can happen in youth, that it can happen to your friends," Esquibel said.
WASHINGTON — Unemployment is on the rise. The stock market is in the tank. Is this any time for a party?

For the sake of the masses expected for President-elect Barack Obama’s inauguration, let’s hope so. While Obama must be sensitive to the nation’s time of war and recession, there still is reason to expect a rollicking time.

“We’re mindful of the fact that people in this country are hurting, that they’re going through hard times,” said Linda Douglass, spokeswoman for the Presidential Inaugural Committee. “On the other hand, we see this not just as a celebration of an election, but as a way to help people to come together and celebrate their common values and shared aspirations and goals.”

The committee has disclosed few details of the celebration, but it surely won't come cheap. President George W. Bush raised $42 million to help finance his second inauguration. Millions more were spent by the government on security.

Though costly, an inauguration helps set the tone for a presidency, said Gil Troy, a visiting scholar at the Bipartisan Policy Center who has written extensively on presidents and first ladies.

Gasoline hits almost five-year low
CAMARILLO, Calif. — The average price of U.S. gasoline fell 22 cents a gallon during the past two weeks, bringing it to its lowest level in nearly five years, according to a national

The average price of regular gasoline Friday was $1.75 a gallon, oil industry analyst Trilby Lundberg said. The price of mid-grade was $2.02 a gallon.

Light crude ($/bbl.) -2.86 40.81
GOLD ($/Troy oz.) -13.30 752.20
10-YEAR NOTE +3.39 0.087 2.657
13-WEEK BOND +0.84 +0.026 3.11
COMMODITIES

Legal counsel threatened by economy

SEATTLE — The day before Maria Nunes fled Florida for Seattle, her abusive husband beat her unconscious. She had already divorced him, which made the Jamaican native vulnerable to deportation because she depended on her marriage for her legal residency in the United States.

At a women's shelter in Seattle, Nunes was told she could still become a permanent resident, but that the law required women in her plight to prove they had been abused.

Senator calls for GM head to step down
CHRIS DODD, D-Conn., urges Rick Wagoner to leave his post as chief executive

Rick Wagoner, the chief executive of GM, "has to move on," said Christopher Dodd, D-Conn., chairman of the Senate Banking, Housing and Urban Affairs Committee. He spoke on CBS' "Face the Nation."

"I think you have got to consider new leadership," Dodd said. Asked if that should be a condition of any bailout, he added, "I think it is going to have to be part of it.

"I think it's clear GM is in the worst shape," Dodd said before specifying the need for Wagoner to step down.

In response, GM spokesman Steve Hammes said the company appreciates Dodd's support for the loans, but added, "GM employees, dealers, suppliers and the GM board of directors feel strongly that Rick is the right guy to lead GM through this incredibly difficult and challenging time."

Last week, The Associated Press asked Wagoner if he would resign at the request of Congress, to which he replied, "It's not clear to me that experience in this industry should be viewed as a negative, but I'm going to do what's right for the company and I'm going to do it in consultation with the board."

GM's board recently has been meeting three times a week by telephone.

But the shots kept coming Sunday. In Detroit, Barack Obama accused auto executives of a "head-in-the-sand approach" to long-festering problems. In response, GM's board recently has been meeting three times a week by telephone.

"I think that the law required women in her plight to prove they had been abused," said Congressman Paul Hellyer, a congressman who had written extensively on presidents and first ladies.
The Observer

VIEWPOINT

The endangered book

You might want to ask Santa for a book this year, since the book might be on its way out.

The news from the publishing industry (or at least the trade publishing industry, academic presses are still doing relatively well, so those of you who are hoping to say goodbye to text books are out of luck) is grim. Major publishers — Random House, HarperCollins, Simon & Schuster, to name a few — are freezing salaries, laying off staff members and, the worst sign of all, no longer acquiring new titles. This makes about as much sense as having a TV channel refuse to create new shows; after all, who really enjoys watching TV Land or My Michiana? And it all comes down to old-fashioned demand: Publishers are doing badly because bookstores are finding it harder and harder to sell books because, in all likelihood, people aren’t reading for pleasure as much anymore.

If not the economic turmoil, then technology might spell the end of the poor codex. Amazon’s Kindle, for example, is far from perfect in either price tag or the quality of the read, which is about as visually appealing as the display screen of a first-generation iPod. It does, however, represent the first generation of devices that will someday allow us to access all the world’s literature (read: Google Books, probably) on demand. No more metals a second hand to turn the page, no more herniating your inter-vertebral discs when moving out of your dorm room; the portable digital reader will do it all.

Yet there are more than a few reactionaries — Luddites, if you like, and more often than not authors or professional literary critics — who feel an inexcusable horror at the prospect of replacing books with electronic downloads. J.K. Rowling, for example, has stipulated in her contract that Harry Potter will never appear in electronic format, though one wonders whether this is as unbreakable a vow as it seems. Those who, for instance, insist that the aesthetic experience of reading a book is absolutely unparalleled on the one hand might be surprised at how well technology can recreate the book-reading experience, and on the other appear more than a bit blinkered. Practically issues, which is to say the apparent inability of anyone to come up with a durable standard for data storage in anything, ever (.doc? .docx? .pdf? .wps?); will hopefully do so. That is, the e-book might be harder to read well because it will be so easy to read.

Of course, there is one last point worth mentioning: Books are also a sort of status symbol — which, in South Bend, is probably a compelling enough reason to hope that they don’t disappear just yet.

Darryl Campbell is a second-year Ph.D. student in History. He can be contacted at dcampbell.18@nd.edu.

The views expressed in this column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer.
Spygate, Cassell’s success prove Weis can’t coach

Perhaps this is just the bitter Steelers fan inside of me speaking after having two AFC Championships stolen, but Charlie Weis built the Patriots’ offense and got them to the Super Bowl. Spygate involved Patriots’ video coordinator Matt Walsh filming the opposing team’s defensive coordinator as well as game-warm-ups with the goal of knowing which play the defense was going to run on each down. Subsequently, Weis and the Patriots’ defense would call the play they felt would be the most effective against that defense. Clearly, this reads calling the right plays and winning superbowl a whole lot easier.

Sure, there is the school of thought that the Patriots’ signal stealing was crafting and just part of the game, but when Notre Dame, a school with no knowledge of this alleged scandal, hires you solely because of your past success at picking plays, this becomes tantamount to fraud — fraud that the school wouldn’t tolerate when they hired George O’Leary did. So, maybe the University is to blame for wrongfully attributing the Patriots and Tom Brady’s success to Weis, and maybe calling his super-bowls fraud is a bit of a stretch, and maybe Swarbrick should be fired for relying our mistake, but since Charlie Weis is staying I’d like to offer him one piece of advice. Try not to fall too hard off of Bill Belichick’s coat-tails, or you may just re-injure that knee, and destroy what little remains of your coaching career in the process.

Dear Mr. McDonnell,

can tell from your recent Letter to the Editor “Defeating a bowl bid” (Dec. 4) that you are rather disappointed with the way things have gone for our beloved Fighting Irish this year. Please believe me when I say that I share your frustrations. But please, do not allow an unfortunate year of football to cloud your judgment on what is best for our team.

While I’ll admit that Notre Dame needs neither the monetary gains nor the recruiting opportunities that attending a bowl game would offer. Although I’ll agree with you in regard to the recruiting, I do promise you that there are plenty of programs here at Notre Dame that could use a little financial boost, whether they be athletic, academic or otherwise. And I know plenty of students whose lives would be eased significantly if they had a little extra scholarship money from the school. Now, I would think that Notre Dame would help all of these people and programs if they had the money, so I’m assuming that Notre Dame could definitely use more money. Do we need the money? Probably not, but I’m sure it would be nice to have. You also claim that the extra practices in December that the team would gain wouldn’t be particularly beneficial. Perhaps not, but they certainly can’t hurt the team. And although the senior players — who will be sorely missed — will not gain from the practices, the team is not composed entirely of seniors. There are plenty of talented juniors, sophomores and freshmen on our team and they will be benefited by the practices.

Finally, I notice that you don’t actually present any reason that Notre Dame shouldn’t attend a bowl game, unless you count the incredibly vague statement “the Notre Dame standards of intelligence, sportsmanship and athleticism will not be served by accepting a bowl bid.” Now, if there is a good reason why attending a bowl game is bad for the team I’d love to hear it, but so far I’m not seeing it. And as far as your statement goes, I will say this: it seems unintelligent to pass up on easy money and practices, and it seems unpatriotic to not play the game just because you aren’t winning.

Plus, there is at least one major bonus to attending a bowl game — we can win it. I have ‘faith in our football team (as any true fan should) that they can rise above some problems in the past to defeat whatever opponent is thrown their way. I don’t want to see my Fighting Irish hide under a rock until next season — I want to see them fight.

Carefully consider buyout

I read with dismay some recent letters from students urging the university to buy out Charlie Weis’ contract. Some students even volunteered to chip in a little for the fund. If Notre Dame buys out Weis’ contract, they had better never contact me for a donation again. Any university that chooses to use its resources this way and still expects families to pay $50,000 a year for their children to attend has no sense of proportion at all and does not deserve my financial support. Students and alumni are not “owed” a winning program, much less a national championship. They should expect a program with integrity, nothing more or less.

Use money for good

I’m an avid alum and fan of football at Notre Dame (ask any of my former students, some of whom even write for The Observer now). I have posters of Notre Dame in my classroom and every Monday, somebody brings up the topic of the game, and I even suffer through watching Pete Carroll gloating as he trounces us! But how much money is it really worth to win a few more games each year? More than football, which I love, Notre Dame taught me to love helping other people. Use the buyout money for something more altruistic and dignified of the University. If they want to get rid of somebody, look for the guy who gave the contract extension to an untested head coach!

Meader’s arrogance

As a female alum of the University, I am incredibly insulted that Mr. Meader (“Notre Dame arrogance,” Dec. 3) would refer to one of his fellow classmates as a “little girl.” It seems that he needs to take a look at himself and his own prejudices and arrogance before he starts casting stones at those around him. Furthermore, if he felt so adamantly that the University was extremely arrogant from the day he hit campus, he should have done the honorable thing and transferred so that someone more appreciative could take his place.

Sue Ellen Dooley
alum
class of 2005
Dec. 6

Bowl bid essential for team

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I can tell from your recent Letter to the Editor “Defeating a bowl bid” (Dec. 4) that you are rather disappointed with the way things have gone for our beloved Fighting Irish this year. Please believe me when I say that I share your frustrations. But please, do not allow an unfortunate year of football to cloud your judgment on what is best for our team.

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Michele Thomas
alum
class of 1983
Dec. 3

Look at this.

This is an awful lot of empty space.

(That’s your cue to fill it with a Letter to the Editor.)

viewpoint.1@nd.edu

Use money for good

I’m an avid alum and fan of football at Notre Dame (ask any of my former students, some of whom even write for The Observer now). I have posters of Notre Dame in my classroom and every Monday, somebody brings up the topic of the game, and I even suffer through watching Pete Carroll gloating as he trounces us! But how much money is it really worth to win a few more games each year? More than football, which I love, Notre Dame taught me to love helping other people. Use the buyout money for something more altruistic and dignified of the University. If they want to get rid of somebody, look for the guy who gave the contract extension to an untested head coach!

Dave Henner
alum
class of 1973
Dec. 6

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Michele Thomas
alum
class of 1983
Dec. 3

Editorial Cartoon

The Holiday Sweater 2008

The Baked

The Obeser

Run to here
By PATRICK GRIFFIN
Scene Writer

One would be surprised to learn the self-categorization of the duo that make up The Knux considering their criminal past and the company they continue to keep.

Despite their arrests for involvement in an I.D.-forging and auto theft ring, the brothers from New Orleans cite artists such as Radiohead, Led Zeppelin and the Strokes as some of their strongest influences.

"We spent our youth thuggin'," Kintrell 'Krispy Krean' Lindsey told "Blender" magazine in their December issue. "I know the same people back home [LiP] Wayne does. The dudes he calls to get someone knocked off? Same dudes I'm gonna call."

The flannel clad duo of Krispy Kream and his brother, Alvin Rah Almillo', recently released their debut album: "Remind Me in 3 Days..." The two account for 100 percent of the album as they played every instrument including guitars, synthesizers and bass.

Growing up in the tough environment of New Orleans' Ninth Ward, the Lindsey brothers were made to practice the trumpet, trombone, and French horn by a domineering mother. While their peers notched legal alterations all over the streets of New Orleans, Kintrell and Alvin excelled in their school's marching band.

Their mother's tough love eventually generated the critical acclaim that they have enjoyed of late. The Knux have garnered mass recognition and have established themselves as contenders in the developing "hipster rap" genre.

Though the band recognizes their gangster rap influences, The Knux are more than just repetitive beats and arrogant lyrics.

"We want to bend rules in our music," Krispy explained in "Blender." "Hip-hop is just the lens we run all our influences through." That is just what the brothers Lindsey have done with their initial mainstream effort.

Though their lyrics channel the likes of fellow rappers such as Big Boi of Outkast and The Roots, it is the instrumental styling on display in "Remind Me in 3 Days..." that distinguishes The Knux from most hip-hop regulars. Krispy Kream and Rah Almillo combine original and exploratory beats with crunchy guitar riffs that are both simple and memorable.

In the sixteen-song album, The Knux explore a broad range of subject matter including the typical topics of sex and money. However, the duo also delves into their troubled past and ongoing redemption from their previous legal conflicts.

Other tracks celebration the illustrious party lives that the brothers now enjoy. In fact, the album's initial track opens with a dialogue featuring Krispy with the background ambiance of a nightclub.

Most of the tracks are creatively distinct from each other, providing a brand new experience for every successive track.

One of the few negative observations of the album may be attributed to the album's length. Because the rookies released a high quantity of tracks, some pieces seem to lack key instrumental participation, as if the songs were hastily tossed together.

It is almost as if The Knux had some leftover lyrics that they just couldn't leave on the back burner, but no significant accompaniment to accent the vocals. Thankfully, these monotonous songs are few and far between, and there are still plenty of quality tracks.

For a band only several years removed from serious legal ramifications, The Knux have done well to entirely reinvent themselves in a way most beneficial to the public.

As the hip-hop industry continues to evolve, resulting in a most dynamic sound, The Knux have proven to be a musical force with a promising future.

Contact Patrick Griffin at pgriffi3@nd.edu
Deck the halls with boughs of holly — it's officially time for Christmas music.

I usually bring myself to play any of my holiday tunes before Thanksgiving. Heck, mid-November, I heard Mariah Carey's "All I Want for Christmas Is You" at a local barroom establishment, and that was just too much. But last week didn't quite feel right, and songs like "Holly Jolly Christmas" were unplugged on my laptop and in my dorm room door. I'm ready to jam to my Christmas playlists and start rocking around the Christmas tree.

I always like hearing my friends' favorite holiday tunes and contrasting them with my own. I've discovered new and old classics, like Ginger's "Donde Esta Santa Claus?" and Darline Love's original version of "Christmas Baby Please Come Home" after trading Christmas playlists with my buds and dormmates. I've also shared some of my own collection, including some of Bing Crosby's lesser-known ditties like "Christmas in Killarney." Over some hot cocoa and frosted sugar cookies, it's always a good time.

As the dorm rooms and dining halls keep up their steady soundtrack of holiday fare, I'm offering a list of my top Christmas hits to the world. Feel free to add or subtract your own, as there's no shortage of holiday music out there.

1. "Hark, the Herald Angels Sing": I couldn't keep any Christmas song count entirely secular, especially as a Catholic girl at a Catholic university. While I have other liturgical Christmas favorites, particularly "O Come, All Ye Faithful" and "Joy to the World," "Hark the Herald Angels Sing" remains at the top of my list. Plus, on a less holy note, it closes one of my all-time favorite holiday specials, "A Charlie Brown Christmas." So what's on your holiday playlist? Keep those tunes pumping throughout the Christmas season, and have a very merry, music-filled Christmas.

Contact Analise Lipari at alipari@nd.edu

WHAT'S ON YOUR Christmas playlist?

Analise Lipari
Scene Editor

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Contact Analise Lipari at alipari@nd.edu

SCENE'S TOP VIDEO PICKS

Jump — Love Actually

Arguably the movie's best scene.

Charlie Brown Christmas

That's what Christmas is all about, Charlie Brown.

Classic tune, classic Muppets.

12 Days of Christmas — Muppets & John Denver

Classic tune, classic Muppets.

Bing Crosby "White Christmas"

A true holiday standard.
Tennessee clinches AFC South with rout of hapless Browns

Eagles deal Giants second loss of the year with ball control, stout defense; stay in the hunt in the NFC East

Associated Press

NASHVILLE — The Tennessee Titans aren't left to wonder its division champion.

Kerry Collins throws two third-quarter touchdowns, and Chris Johnson runs for 136 yards and a score as the Titans (10-2) ended any hope the Browns (2-9-1) had of finishing their first season with a winning record.

"Obviously, we're all pleased and happy we won the division," Collins said.

The Titans have won 15 of their last 16 games, and are the first team to finish the first month of the season with a perfect record. They maintained at least a two-game lead with three to play for the NFC South title.

The AFC South and the AFC East remained undecided, with the Browns starting a third-round bye when San Francisco beat the New York Jets 24-14 late Sunday.

A validated celebration featured players dumping a cooler of water on the first-year coach who didn't start a game. The Titans took their third consecutive playoff berth, secured with the franchise's best record since 1978 and 13 games, more than any other team.

"Those guys have been tremendous," Titans coach Jeff Fisher credited his Titans' 10-4 start.

"They have a great depth and a division away from the Indianapolis Colts.

Tennessee is still feeling good.

Our goal when we left the playoff game in San Diego, the day we came back home, we were going to try to win the game this year. That was our first goal, to win the AFC South, and we've already won that goal now that we'll. We'll move on the next step hopefully," Fisher said.

The Titans were a bit like a video game that didn't work. They thanks to a blown transformer that knocked out all but four emergency lights in their dressing room. They turned it on three times, with the second round for what would be the first time.

"We're not last year's team," Collins said of the Titans. "We've got two different football teams. We have to play another.

Tennessee finally got it together in the first quarter in a 68-second TD drive capped by the TD to Hinn. Pinned at their 7, the Titans put together their longest scoring drive this season for a 14-6 lead just before halftime.

During the drive, Johnson joined Hall of Fame Earl Campbell and Eddie George as the only rookies in franchise history to rush for 1,000 yards, and he tapped that mark with a 12-yarder on his ninth carry.

Eagles 20, Giants 14

Donovan McNabb, Brian Westbrook and the desperate Philadelphia Eagles proved more than a headache for the New York Giants on Sunday, and they capped their rout with a 100-yard rushing game for McNabb to clinch the NFC East.

The Giants (11-2) still won the division title when Pittsburgh beat Dallas 20-13 later Sunday.

"I just kind of think we beat them," said Eagles tight end J.J. Smith, who had six catches for 44 yards. "It's tough to say. That's one of: 'How many licks does it take to get to the center of a Tootsie Roll?' Who knows if the distractions hurt them and helped us? I don't know."

The statistics were all Philadelphia's (7-5-1).

McNabb finished 19-of-30 for 191 yards on a windy day that the Eagles controlled the game with a 3-0 in the first half.

"We were a lot better than that," said Giants coach Tom Coughlin.

"I just kept lookin' at the side of her face

"It was just a bad game," said Pierre, who had a game-high 15 tackles.

It didn't help that Eli Manning didn't have Burress as a target.

In his place, Domenik Hixon dropped a 50-yard pass in his hands with New York trailing 7-6 lead.

"I should have caught the ball," said Hixon, who had three catches for 30 yards.

New York scored late in each half. Kevin Beckwith returned a blocked field goal 71 yards for a touchdown on the first play of the first half, and Manning (13-of-27 for 123) found Burress for a 1-yard TD pass with 15 seconds to go.

The loss opened up the NFC East race. Until Sunday, the Giants were the dominant team.

The Eagles gave everyone hope, beating the Giants at their own game: defense and ball control.

"It was one of those days where their defense didn't play as well as they had in the past and we played very well," Westbrook said.

The Giants, who have overcome the retirement of Michael Strahan, a season-ending preseason knee injury to Osi Umenyiora and a suspension and hamstring injuries to Burress earlier this season in going 11-1, did almost nothing right in the first half.

The one play they got right was the third-down field goal that ended the first half with Philadelphia leading 10-6. Westbrook kicked the ball, as Stabler moved forward in breaking a tackle attempt by Eagles guard Todd Herremans, regained his balance and scooted into the end zone for a score that prevented the Giants from being shut out in the first half for the first time since 2004 against Washington.

The Observer accepts classifieds every business day from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m., at the News Observer office, 204 South Dining Hall. Deadline for next-day classifieds is 3 p.m. All classifieds must be prepaid. The charge is 5 cents per character per day, including all spaces. The Observer reserves the right to edit all classifieds for content without removing names.
College Football  

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NCAA Swimming  

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colleges that had Oklahoma at No. 1 and Florida at No. 2 — the reverse order of their rankings in the Associated Press poll — setting up the first meeting between these storied programs. "Nine weeks ago our team got together and said let's make every game count," Gators coach Urban Meyer said, speaking of Florida's rebound from its only loss, in September to Mississippi. Tim Tebow and the Gators did just that. So did Oklahoma, which bounced back from a loss in October to Texas. Two teams with one loss each don't normally make for a defensive-free lead-up to the title game, but even President-elect Barack Obama — outspokenly in favor of a playoff for college football — might have to agree that both these teams belong. Florida (12-1) has averaged 49 points a game in the nine games since its only loss. Oklahoma (12-1) became the first team since 1919 to score 60 plus in five straight games. Other teams had their chances this season, and also finished with one loss: Texas Southern, California, Alabama, Texas Tech and Penn State. Of them, Texas had the best argument for why it should've been playing for the title. The Longhorns finished in a three-way tie in the nation's toughest division — the Big 12 South — but weren't denied a spot in the title game because of the tiebreaker, which looks to the BCS standings.

PHOENIX, Ariz. — Florida was an up-and-coming program and Oklahoma was a declining one when Bob Stoops made his move. He left his post as Gators defensive coordinator to take his first head-coaching job with the Sooners. Ten years later, both programs are on top. On Sunday, they earned their invitations to play for the BCS national championship on Jan. 8 in Miami. As expected, the final BCS standings had Oklahoma at No. 1 and Florida at No. 2.  

Around the Dial

NHL  

Buffalo at Pittsburgh  

7:30 p.m., Versus

In Brief  

Pacquiao dominates De La Hoya in eight rounds  

LAS VEGAS, Nev. — The end for Oscar De La Hoya on this night came as he sat in the corner after the eighth round, his left eye swollen shut and his face bruised by punches Manny Pacquiao seemed able to land almost at will. The decision to call it a night was easy. The decision to call it a career may be tougher. "My heart still wants to fight, that's for sure," De La Hoya said. "But when your body doesn't respond, what can you do? I have to be smart and make sure I think about my future plans." Pacquiao gave De La Hoya a lot to think about by beating and battering him around the ring for eight rounds. Saturday night before De La Hoya declined to answer the bell for the ninth round.  

Wie earns LPGA card at Qualifying School  

DAYTONA BEACH, Fla. — Michelle Wie has been playing LPGA Tour events since she was in the seventh grade, drawing the biggest galleries because of her youth and power, but earning little respect from players because of her preferential treatment. In the 62 tournaments she has played over the last seven years, Wie received 53 exemptions or invitations. The next time the 19-year-old from Hawaii tees it up, she finally can feel like she belongs. Wie opened with three straight bogeys before settling down in blustery conditions Sunday for a 2-over 74, easily finishing among the top 20 players at the Q-school to become a card-carrying member of the LPGA Tour. "It's a good feeling," Wie said. "I really earned it. I legitimately went through Q-school. I took my medicine. And I got it. It feels good. It's like high school graduation."  

Skip Holtz intends to meet with Syracuse  

CHARLOTTE, N.C. — East Coast coach Skip Holtz hopes to meet with Syracuse's athletic director, but said he is not close to accepting the Orange's head coaching job. Holtz said Sunday he has had no formal meetings with Syracuse and called an NFL Network report that he was to be introduced as the new coach Monday "inaccurate." Holtz, however, didn't rule out replacing the fired Greg Robinson. "I would like to have the opportunity to talk to Syracuse— AD Daryl Gross," Holtz said. "But at this point, no, I'm not going through an interview process. I'm made that very clear." Holtz was in Charlotte on Sunday to serve as the keynote speaker for the Bronko Nagurski Trophy dinner, an award given to the nation's top defensive player. Holtz led the Pirates at a 27-24 win at Tulsa in the Conference USA championship game Saturday. East Carolina (9-4) will play Kentucky in the Liberty Bowl.  

Oklahoma wide receiver Brandon Caleb celebrates after Oklahoma beat Missouri 62-21 to win the Big 12 Championship on Saturday in Kansas City, Mo. The Sooners ended the season ranked first in the BCS standings.
Irish run away in Blue and Gold meet

By LAURA MYERS
Sports Writer

"Though it's only early December, the Irish are the leaders in most of the invitational meets and are looking towards the Big East Championships in late January. We'll finish in the top five in its events at East anyomore."

"That was a great way to end the season and not having to worry about qualifying for the Big East anymoer."

"We'll train this week, and get as many people qualified Friday's marks.

"We've delivered 7 days a week, and do not deliver on Christmas Day."

IRISH RUN AWAY IN BLUE AND GOLD MEET

Saint Mary's ended up with a fourth place finish in this weekend's TYR Invitational hosted by Carthage College in Kenosha, WI.

The meet was won by a favorite in Division II — No. 3, St. Cloud State University. The Belles also finished behind Carthage and Hillsdale.

The Belles also have several strong individual performances this weekend. Freshman Audrey Dairymple pulled off a solid finish in the 200-yard breaststrokes with her season best time of 2:28.76 seconds. The time was just 23 seconds away from the Saint Mary's all-time record. Dairymple was also within one second of breaking another school record in the 100 breaststroke with a time of 1:19.45 seconds.

Freshman Eva Cavadini pitched in with a pair of top 10 finishes, finishing fifth place in the 200 butterfly with a time of 2:11.82 and a ninth place finish in the 100 butterfly.

Belles finish fourth in TYR Invite
**Freshman leads Irish over Purdue**

By BILL BRINK  
Sports Editor

Freshman forward Kellie Watson said she didn't want to play like a freshman when she stepped on the court against Purdue.

"I thought Kellie was maybe the player of the game," Irish coach Muffet McGraw said.

Purdue coach Sharon Versyp said the game plan was to keep Watson from getting an open shot.

"We were not supposed to help off of her at all," Versyp said.

Watson finished with 13 points. Purdue finished with 13 points.

Guard Melissa Lechlitner had a career-high 19 points on 7-of-13 shooting. While always in the driver's seat of the offense, she asserted herself in the paint and created shots for herself in the second half.

"She just keeps getting better and better as she's played," Versyp said of Lechlitner.

Boileurers forward Lindsay Wisdom-Hylton led Purdue with 14 points in the second half.

The Purdue zone defense struggled. Almost three minutes passed after Lechlitner's 3-pointer before the Irish scored again, but once they did, they didn't stop. Lechlitner's 3 started a 14-4 run that put Notre Dame ahead 41-27 with 8:48 to go.

At that point, Lechlitner took over. She drove the lane to put Notre Dame ahead 41-27 with 8:48 to go. She drove the lane for a layup on a give-and-go to Schrader, then hit a jumper with the shot clock winding down. She hit another jumper at the top of the lane to put Notre Dame ahead 49-40 with 2:59 to go.

"She didn't stop. Lechlitner got hot," McGraw said.

"Since Barlow was out I knew coming in I had to take a little more offensive mindset," Lechlitner said.

The Purdue zone defense spread out to cover the outside. Lechlitner said, which opened the middle of the floor for drives to the basket.

Purdue started pressing the Irish in the final 10 minutes and produced turnovers, but the Irish defense kept them from capitalizing.

Lechlitner stole the ball as Purdue ran the fast break after one turnover, and Watson blocked a shot after another steal.

The press came back to bite the Boilers with two minutes remaining. Watson rebounded a missed Purdue shot and started a passing chain that snaked through the press and found Schrader by herself under the basket for an open layup to put the Irish ahead 53-42.

"Foul trouble hurt the Irish in the second half. Brzezinski fouled out with 2:55 remaining and Williamson picked up her fourth foul with four minutes to go. Purdue got an easy layup and a jump shot from forward Natasha Bogdanova. Two free throws from guard FahKara Malone put Purdue up by nine with 7:04 to go in the first half. After three offensive rebounds and three missed put-back attempts, Schrader put the fourth home, and two free throws from Novosel brought the Irish within three. Notre Dame out-rebounded Purdue 47-35 and had 17 offensive rebounds.

"We knew this game would be won on the boards," McGraw said.

Purdue got an easy layup and a jump shot from forward Natasha Bogdanova. Two free throws from guard FahKara Malone put Purdue up by nine with 7:04 to go in the first half.

When Watson got hot from long distance, the Irish pulled ahead by one at the half.

Note:

- Guard Ashley Barlow did not play because of a concussion she suffered in the Michigan State game.

McGraw said she was day-to-day.

Contact Bill Brink at wbrink@nd.edu

Notre Dame leads Irish over Purdue

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53-42.

The first half started slowly for both teams, but the Boilers took a 12-2 lead with 12:13 left in the first half. After three offensive rebounds and three missed put-back attempts, Schrader put the fourth home, and two free throws from Novosel brought the Irish within three. Notre Dame out-rebounded Purdue 47-35 and had 17 offensive rebounds.

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Contact Bill Brink at wbrink@nd.edu
**HOCKEY**

Red hot Irish win 12th in a row

By SAM WERNER
Sports Writer

Two more games, four more CCHA points for the top-rank Irish.

Notre Dame (12-3-2, 8-2-2-2 CCHA) extended its unbeaten streak to 12 games this weekend, taking 3-1 and 1-0 decisions over Ferris State.

Irish senior goalie Jordan Pearce stopped 30 of 31 Bulldog shots Friday night, and made 25 saves Saturday to earn the shutouts.

"I thought he played well both nights," Notre Dame coach Jeff Jackson said. "I thought Friday night they were definitely trying to shoot at bad angles on him and create rebounds. Our team did a good job of coming back and not allowing any of those rebounds to be taken..."

Jackson also said, though, that the squad would have to adapt to maintain its effectiveness.

"Teams are going to find ways to try and shut it down," he said. "And we're going to have to try to find ways to give it a different look."

"They're sharing the puck," Jackson said. "And when we scored I think we were dictating the tempo of the game."

The Irish took the lead just 1:10 later with the first of two power-play goals of the night. Senior Mike LeBlanc redirected the scored pass from the right wing at 17:55 of the second period.

Jackson gave Notre Dame an insurance goal on the power play at 16:02 of the final period with his team-high 10th score of the season.

Jackson said the Irish power play, which leads the CCHA with a 23.9 percent success rate, has done well because of the selflessness of the players on the unit.

"They're sharing the puck," he said. "No one player has been trying to do too much."

"They are going to find ways to try and shut it down," he said. "We're going to have to try to find ways to give it a different look."

The Bulldogs shut down the Irish power play Saturday night, holding the unit scoreless for five chances. It didn't matter, though, as a second period goal from Dan Kissel was all the scoring Pearce needed. Kissel knocked in a Hanson pass at 17:55 of the second period for the game-winner.

"Even though the score was tighter," Jackson said, "he felt his team played better Wednesday night. They're taking the Ferris State's unique defensive trap style..." He seems to have had to see it live to get accustomed to what we were going to face," Jackson said.

Jackson also said the ability to win tight, low-scoring games is an important part of any championship contender.

"Having the ability to close out games is extremely important," he said. "Our team has to know how to handle it. They have to know how to play smarter with the puck. It's all about turnovers, and it's about making sure you don't get beat up the ice by extra people..."

With only two games remaining in the first half of the season, Notre Dame currently sits in second place in the CCHA, three points behind leader Miami. The Irish, though, have two games in hand against the RedHawks.

"We will try to get in [the CCHA championship in] Detroit," Jackson said. "The Irish gold will definitely be a part of any championship contender..."

The Irish have a 20-4-2 record overall, 10-2-1 in the CCHA, and are 7-1-1 against the NHL.

Contact Sam Werner at swerner@nd.edu

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**ND SWIMMING**

Maxwell's records headline at OSU

By MIKE GOTIMER
Sports Writer

Sophomore-Samantha Maxwell's two school records highlighted Notre Dame's third-place finish at the Ohio State Invitational this weekend.

Maxwell, Notre Dame's top breaststroke/breaststroker, broke her own school record Sunday in the 200-yard breaststroke record with a time of 2:12.46 at Ohio State's McCorkle Aquatic Pavilion. Maxwell's record-setting swim in the 200 came less than 24 hours after she broke another of her own school records Saturday in the 100-breestroke with a time of 1:01.57. Maxwell had previously set both records during the 2008 Big East conference championships.

As a team, the No. 24 Irish finished with a total of 458 points, finishing in third place behind Minnesota and Penn State. However, the Irish finished two spots ahead of sixth-place Purdue, who had previously defeated Notre Dame on Nov. 8.

Notre Dame's season-best performances began with junior Andrew Deters' 11th place finish in the 1650-freestyle. His time of 15:35.4 was the fastest time of any Irish swimmer this season.

Sophomore Michael Sullivan set a season-best time in the 200-breaststroke with a 1:49.98, which was also good for 11th overall.

In the 100 free, junior John Lytle finished sixteenth overall with a time of 44.78. Senior Daniel Rave finished seventh in the 200-breaststroke with a 2:10.05 and sophomore Mackenzie LeBlanc's sixth place finish in the 200-fy with a time of 1:49.07.

Contact Mike Gotimer at mgotimer@nd.edu

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**NOTRE DAME vs. UNION (8:05 p.m. CT)**

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**UNION vs. UMD OR UMass-Lowell (4:05 p.m. CT)**

**NOTRE DAME vs. UMD OR UMass-Lowell (7:05 p.m. CT)**

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Men's Basketball

Turner leads Buckeyes past Irish in Indianapolis

By GREG ARBOGAST
Space Writer

All week, Luke Harangody was the main topic of conversation, but it was Evan Turner that had everyone talking by the end of Saturday afternoon.

Turner had 28 points, 10 rebounds, five assists and two clutch free throws to help seal Ohio State's 67-62 upset over No. 7 Notre Dame.

After Tory Jackson made his third 3-point of the second half to cut the Buckeyes lead to one with 26 seconds remaining, Turner was put on the free-throw line with 21 seconds to go. The sophomore nailed both free throws and left the Irish needing a three-pointer to send the game to overtime.

Kyle McAlarney attempted to dial up a shot reminiscent of his 3-point shooting barrage against North Carolina in Maui, but his long-range attempt hit off the side of the rim and ended Notre Dame's comeback effort.

McAlarney missed a three-pointer was an all too common occurrence for the Irish Saturday. After hitting 10, nine of which were from the arc.

"They got us out of our offensive rhythm," McAlarney said to the Associated Press. "We weren't in a good flow, weren't scoring well.

The Buckeyes' defensive strategy did leave open spaces inside the lane and forced the Irish to utilize the low-post much more than they're accustomed to. Harangody was the primary beneficiary. The junior big man, who reportedly has lost 12 pounds since contracting pneumonia in Maui, showed no ill effects in finishing the game with 25 points on 10-for-25 shooting and 16 rebounds.

"I felt good in practice," Harangody told the AP after the game. "Once I got out there, it was easy to forget about everything else. Toward the end of the game (I felt tired), but overall I felt pretty good out there."

Despite his 16 rebounds, neiether Harangody nor any other Notre Dame player was able to do anything to deny Ohio State on the boards during a key second half stretch.

Between the 13:45 and 8:51 mark in the second half, the Buckeyes grabbed five offensive rebounds and outplayed Ohio State to score on seven consecutive offensive possessions. Before that stretch, the largest Ohio State lead had been six points, but in that five-minute stretch the Buckeyes turned a one-point lead into a nine-point advantage that Notre Dame would never overcome.

Ohio State out-rebounded Notre Dame 43-36 on the game, and the Buckeyes grabbed 11 offensive rebounds -- eight of which came in the second half -- to Notre Dame's nine.

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Nogueira

continued from page 20

corner of the not-Irish goalie Kelsey Lysander had hardly any time to react on the shot. "I just hit it as hard as I could, and thank goodness it went in," Nogueira said. Her second goal proved to be the game-winner. With 2:06 remaining in the game, the right-footed Nogueira hit a bobby shot from just outside the box. The ball was deflected and sailed over Lysander's head. "On the greatest platform we have, which is the national championship final, she scored two of the most phenomenal goals I've ever seen," said Dorrance, who has coached North Carolina for 30 years.

"I'm talking about, if both of those were struck in a Premieriership game, you'd be seeing both of those goals on a highlight reel at the end of the week," Nogueira said. She came to North Carolina with consider­able raw skills but little idea of how to use them. She said, somewhat jokingly, that her coaches even had to teach her how to sprint. "When I came in here my freshman year, there was a lot I had to learn and (Dorrance) has taught me a lot," Nogueira said. "I never really knew the dif­ference between playing and competing. I just liked to play so I did." Dorrance agreed and said that his star forward is still a work in progress. But he also claimed that "the sky is the limit" for Nogueira.

"I think Casey has the poten­tial, if she puts all the pieces together, to be one of the greatest players in the world," Dorrance said. Dorrance said Nogueira has the skill set to be among the best players in the game. But the coach added that he hopes she continues to improve. "You could be the greatest juggler and still be totally inf­ective on the field," Dorrance said. "So her evolution as a player is to take all these remarkable tools she has and figure out how and when to use them."

Nogueira certainly knew how and when to use them Sunday against Notre Dame. Contact Fran Tolan at ftolan@nd.edu

Hawaii

continued from page 20

on a good note. The Hawaii bowl is Notre Dame's 29th in school history and fourth in the past five sea­sons. The Irish have not won a bowl game since 1994, when it defeated Texas A&M in the Cotton Bowl 24-21. Notre Dame is 13-15 all-time in bowl games. Hawaii is 5-1 in bowl games since it joined the Bowl Championship Subdivision in 1974. The Warriors are 7-6 this season.

"We are thrilled to have the University of Notre Dame in the 7th Annual Sheraton Hawaii Bowl," Sheraton Hawaii Bowl Executive Director David A. K. Matlin said in a release. "Notre Dame is a storied football tradition and we are honored to have both them and the University of Hawaii in our 2008 game."

ESPN will tele­vis­e the game at 8 p.m. EST.

Contact Bill Brink at wbrink@nd.edu

Fickle

continued from page 20

season it's been." Still, seniors Kerri Hanks, Carrie Dew, Elise Weber and Brittany Bock deserved better. Even though soccer is often such a crapshoot, the fourth-year players must feel like their numbers never came up. After Notre Dame beat Stanford 1-0 on Friday despite being outshot 20-12, Cardinal players and coach Paul Ratcliffe repeat­edly talked about the illog­i­cal nature of soccer. They claimed that they outplayed the Irish in the second half but simply got unlucky. Notre Dame, especially the seniors, surely felt the same way as the crowd counted down the final sec­onds of the season. The Irish had defeated North Carolina in the teams' last two meetings but came up just short on Sunday. Most of the Notre Dame players took up soccer when they were barely kindergarten graduates. For the most part, the sport treated them well and that's why they have given so much of their time to it. But on Sunday, the Irish surely felt like soccer packed up its bags and moved on them.

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

Contact Fran Tolan at ftolan@nd.edu

Finals

continued from page 20

planned to alter the game plan for her. I wasn't worried about Casey Nogueira, I mean any more than any other player Carolina has," Waldram said. "She's a great player along with a lot of great players, we didn't make any special arrangements for her, we didn't do anything dif­ferent than we would do with anybody else on their team."

Neither team seemed to change its game plan, knowing either could have netted a win. Notre Dame and North Carolina could arguably be the two best programs in the coun­try — unfortunately for the Irish, soccer isn't a seven-game series sport.

The Irish were understand­ably unhappy with the nat­u­rally, especially after a debat­ed lack of call in the box late. In the final 30 seconds Hanks made a run down the left flank and fell to the turf. Hanks felt he was fouled. "I was running and I know she didn't mean to trip me but she did," she said. "It's in the box and she's the last player. It should have been a call." Waldram declined comment on the possible foul, but told fans to watch replays and make the decision for themselves. A call in the box and the Irish could have been right back in the game with a shot at over­time. But the luck just didn't swing their way.

Notes:

- Courtney Barg, Kelsey Lysander and Kerri Hanks were named to the All Tournament team.
- Carrie Dew was named the defensive MVP of the tourna­ment.

Contact Deirdre Krasula at dkrasula@nd.edu
**ND Women's Soccer**

**Twice denied**

Two Nogueira goals lift Tar Heels over Irish for second time in three years

By DEIRDRE KRASULA
Assistant Managing Editor

CARY, N.C. — Not even an undefeated season and a goal within the first 17 seconds of the title game could secure Notre Dame a National Championship.

With two nearly un触れable shots by Casey Nogueira, North Carolina ended the perfect Irish season.

In the 87th minute, Nogueira tested her left foot. Standing from the left side of the Irish 18, Nogueira sent a chip that deflected off an Irish defender into the top right corner of the Irish net. The goal was a final surprising blow in a game the Irish thought was theirs from the start.

Kerri Hanks and Notre Dame caught North Carolina flat-footed in the first 17 seconds. Hanks took a long ball from Courtney Rosen and buried a ball in the right corner of the net and past Barheir's keeper Ashlyn Harris.

"Kerri Hanks is a great player. There's no way I'm going come right past me or dribble me, I have way too much respect for her," Harris said. "I just tried to come out, make myself as big as a 1 could, she just had so much time, she just tapped it right past me in the corner."

And even though the Tar Heels managed to outshoot the Irish 7-2 in the first half, Notre Dame clung to the 1-0 lead going into halftime. But the early lead wasn't enough — that's just how soccer goes, Hanks said.

"That definitely wasn't our game plan (scoring early). You score a goal early and that's good for our team, just try to keep doing it, but obviously we didn't get it done," Hanks said.

"I thought we played a good game, but that's how it goes. The game of soccer."

One fewer foul and the game could have gone to the Irish. But in the 48th minute, Notre Dame committed a foul at the top of its own 18-yard box, giving North Carolina a chance to tie it at 1-1. And that's just what Nogueira did. The Tarheel junior drilled the free kick into the bottom left of the Irish net, evening the score at one and deflating the Irish sails.

Irish coach Randy Waldrum said Notre Dame seemed to fall off its rhythm early in the second half, but he felt that his team turned it back around.

"I actually thought we were better after about 15 minutes," Waldrum said. "I thought early in the second half we were still working, finding our way to get our rhythm to get out, but I actually thought after the first 15 minutes, I thought we started to get our rhythm back and create some opportunities."

The Tar Heels continued to outshoot the Irish 11-5 in the second half, but the game looked like it was headed for overtime. With five minutes of regulation time remaining, both teams seemed to show their pace and preparation limited opportunity. That never happened.

And even though Nogueira had both goals for North Carolina, Notre Dame never got comfortable with its lead.

**Nogueira's great skill set could still improve**

By FRAN TOLAN
Associate Sports Editor

Nogueira's great skill set could still improve

CARY, N.C. — After North Carolina forward Casey Nogueira scored both of her team's goals in a 2-1 win over Notre Dame Sunday, Tar Heels coach Anson Dorrance compared her skills to those of Brazilian superstar Ronaldo.

Despite Nogueira's pair of nearly perfect shots, the compliment was probably a stretch. But it also says a lot about the state of NCAA women's soccer.

"Obviously, our game doesn't get much exposure and certainly for the young girls that are watching, it gets almost none," Dorrance said. "As far as those young girls think, the only sort of people that can hit that kind of strike (like the two by Nogueira) are those men that play in the (English) Premiership."

"What's kind of cool right now is in the national championship final, everyone that Troth (that game can show their kids. "This is how women can play."

Nogueira, a junior who won the ACC player of the year award, notched her first goal on a rocket free kick into the left corner. A second goal, this one from outside the box, deflected off an Irish defender into the top near post. The second was even less likely, but that's just how it goes."

Dorrance said. "There's no guarantee even on your best day, even on a day you dominate, that you're going to win."

The nature of soccer, as Dorrance described it, came back to haunt Notre Dame.

"After beginning the season 26-0-0, the Irish finished on a one-game losing streak. And that loss is what matters most in the women's game," Dorrance said. "That loss is what matters most in the women's game."

"Notre Dame trailed just twice all season. Unfortunately for them, one of those instances was the final two minutes of the national title game."

"Which is why it hurts so much. There's no way around it. And the Irish didn't try to disguise the pain they felt. In the team's press conference after the game, Irish coach Randy Waldrum gave his shortest post-game statement of the season."

"I'm just really proud of our girls. That's it," Waldrum said. "I'm not the normal gregarious coach."