University contributes $5.5 million to area

Local leaders say money is needed

By JENN METZ
News Writer

The University's $5.5 million in contributions to local communities demonstrate Notre Dame's "commitment to leadership," University President Fr. John Jenkins said in a June 29 press conference.

The voluntary contributions will be distributed over the next 10 years to the cities of South Bend and Mishawaka, the town of Roseland and to St. Joseph County. The unrestricted funds will be provided in increments of $500,000 in each of the first five years, increasing to $600,000 annually in the second five years and may be used as needed by the municipalities, according to a University press release.

According to a University press release, the campaign seeks to provide financial support to four main areas of Notre Dame, including the undergraduate educational experience, research and graduate studies, diversity and international studies and Catholic intellectual life.

"We are richly blessed that within less than five years we reached and exceeded the goal of $1.5 billion," Vice President of University Relations Lou Nanni said. "People have stretched out heroically to give back."

Currently, the University has raised $1.56 billion and will continue to look to increase this total. Despite the decline in the economy since the campaign began in July 2004, over 70 percent of the commitments given to the University are already in hand.

"Our Lady was looking over us," Nanni said. "We had the providence of timing with the campaign where it began just as the last recession was coming to an end, and we got so much of the giving in before the recent devastating recession."

While the University is pleased at the progress of the campaign, they will continue to raise money for more specific individual targets.

"We have an enormous sense of gratitude, as well as a profound sense there is still work to be done," Nanni said. Nanni said there are a number of priorities that are not yet fulfilled, the most important of which is raising more resources for financial aid.

He said the recent decline in the economy is a signal of the importance of this. "Fifty-four percent of Notre Dame undergraduate students received aid from the University last year, while this year over 50 percent will receive aid," he said. "The need of current and incoming students has increased dramatically and we need to raise more money to keep a Notre Dame education accessible to current students and those coming tomorrow."

Citing the need for the University to remain competitive, he said, "The need of current and incoming students is enormous and we need to continue to provide financial support to keep Notre Dame education accessible to current students and those coming tomorrow."

Students excited for 2009 season

By IRENA ZAJICKOVA
News Writer

Despite last year's even record, students say they are optimistic about the Irish's chances against the Nevada Wolf Pack Saturday to begin Notre Dame's 2009 football season.

After last year's 6-6 record followed by a victory in the Sheraton Hawaii Bowl, students say they have high hopes for the football team, especially in light of the No. 23 preseason ranking in the Associated Press.

SMC to launch store for free item exchange

By ASHLEY CHARNLEY
Saint Mary's Editor

As the economy worsens, students are feeling the sting of limited funds just as badly as the rest of the country. Saint Mary's Environmental Action Coalition (SMEAC) is giving students the opportunity to not only watch their wallets, but also help the environment at the same time, through the Saint Mary's Free Store, which will have its grand opening Sept. 6 from 2 to 6 p.m.

The store — located in the basement of LeMans Hall — is full of goods donated by students who no longer needed them. At the end of the year, or the end of the Christmas break, anyone with items they cannot take home, but are still in good condition, can donate them to the free store. Then other students can go through them and take any items they need.
INSIDE COLUMN

Football memories

For my first Inside Column in over a year and a half, I would have to make mine cliché and just reminisce about my college experience and how awesome football season was. Sorry. I read those and so will you.

Since I was in Spain last year and only had the opportunity to watch one Notre Dame football game total (thanks Lisa), I think I am easily more excited for Saturday than any year I have ever gone to Notre Dame football games. Which has been a lot.

I used to live in South Bend, and in grade school, my mom and dad would tote my two sisters and me to family tailgates every home game Saturday. From there they would force us to go around with our little box of candy bars to sell to all the over-served and overly enthusiastic ND fans.

This was the annual Candy Sale, the creative fundraising effort of my dear old Saint Joseph Grade School on Hill Street. Who could resist mediocre, overpriced candy from a sweet-faced kid in a school uniform? While I hated selling mediocre, overpriced candy from a sweet-faced kid in a school uniform, I did love the excitement of football Saturday and deep down vowed to never leave it completely. High school days have been and those Saturdays did not change, but now I was ditching my parents and rolling into tailgates with my friends after biking from our Wayne Street houses. After sipping Diet Cokes for a few hours with family and friends we would bike back and resume everyday life.

Notre Dame to me then was then still my comfortable back-ground playground, but the prospect of actually belonging there did not really cross my mind. I thought of Notre Dame as a place for overachieving out-of-state kids. I crossed it off my list.

And then, after a cross-country move and a change of heart, to be back here again this year for my first Inside Column in over a year and a half, brings me back to those SJGS days. Everything to me now is much easier to do things who lost the fingernails in a Guinness World Record event is 2002 for longest finger-nails on a woman. The 68-year-old won't live for another 30. Redmond hadn't cut her nails since 1979 and saying it took 30 years to grow them back out again. The movie "Rudy" will play on North Quad tonight at 9:00 p.m. The event is free for students and is sponsored by Flipside.

American Studies professor Erika Doss will deliver a lecture titled, "Memorial Mania: Public Art and Public Feelings in America Today," Saturday at 12:00 p.m. in the Annex Auditorium of the Snite Museum of Art. The lecture is sponsored by the College of Arts and Letters and is part of the Saturday Scholars series.

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

The views expressed in this Inside Column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer. Contact Katie Peralta at kperalta@nd.edu.

CORRECTIONS

The Observer regrets itself as a professional publication and states for the highest standards of journalism at all times. We do, however, recognize that we will make mistakes. If you have an issue with a mistake, please contact us at 631-4941 so we can correct our error.

QUESTION OF THE DAY: WHAT IS YOUR PREDICTION FOR SATURDAY'S GAME?

Tim Ryan
Sophomore
Keenan
"We will score more often than a Nevada lady of pleasure."

Nate Farley
Senior
Keenan
"21-6, Notre Dame."

Keith Hetrick
Sophomore
Keenan
"45 pushups!"

Paola Garcia
Sophomore
Keenan
"They will need-a-da score against us!"

Brian Wysocki
Junior
Fisher
"Mets 3, Cubs 1. Two more Mets injured."

Members of the Notre Dame class of 2012 play flag football on South Quad Thursday. The sophomore class held flag football and a barbecue Thursday evening.

OFFBEAT

Man calls 911 to complain of hunger

DELRAY BEACH, Fla. - Authorities said a man was arrested after calling 911 twice for a ride and saying he was hungry. Police reports said Benjamin Dower, 26, was charged early Wednesday with making false calls to 911. The report said Dower was apparently drunk when police found him sitting on a sidewalk. He asked police for a ride to a park and told them he was hungry.

When police refused, Dower walked away and called 911 a second time for a ride. Dower was being held behind bars at the Palm Beach County Jail on a $1,000 bond.

Woman's life easier with shorter fingernails

SALT LAKE CITY - A Salt Lake City woman who held the record for longest fingernails in the world since 1979 and entered the Guinness World Records book in 2002 for longest fingernails on a woman.

The Guinness World Records book included a total of more than 28 feet long in 2008, with the longest nail on her right thumb at 2 feet, 11 inches.

Information compiled from the Associated Press.

TODAY

TOMORROW

GAME DAY

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

LOCAL WEATHER

TODAY: 65°
TOMORROW: 66°
GAME DAY: 73°
SUNDAY: 73°
MONDAY: 74°
TUESDAY: 75°

 atlanta 69 / boston 79 / chicago 76 / denver 62 / houston 93 / los angeles 87 / minneapolis 78 / new york 82 / philadelphia 82 / phoenix 103 / seattle 73 / st. louis 81 / tampa 87 / washington 64 / 69

Have an idea for Question of the Day? E-mail observer.questions@gmail.com

IN BRIEF

The Hammes Notre Dame Booksellers will host a book launch celebration today for the book, "Monk's Tale: The Pilgrimage Begins, 1941 - 1975," by Rev. Edward "Monk" Malloy, C.S.C. from 12:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. The event is free and open to the public.

The film "Afghan Star" will play tonight in the DeBartolo Performing Arts Center. The film begins at 6:30 p.m. To purchase tickets call the ticket office at 574-631-2800 or visit the performing arts Web site.

The No. 2 ranked Notre Dame women's soccer team will play No. 1 ranked North Carolina tonight at 7:30 p.m. at Alumni Stadium. For ticket information, call 574-631-7356 or visit the Athletic ticket office Web site.

The movie "Rudy" will play on North Quad tonight at 9:00 p.m. The event is free for students and is sponsored by Flipside.

The Observer, e-mail detailed information about an event to observer@nd.edu.
Students react to pep rally format changes

New venues include Irish Green, Stepan Center; student government says length of program will decrease

By THERESA CIVANTOS
News Writer

South Quad, Stepan Center and Notre Dame Stadium are a few of the planned locations for this year’s pep rallies, which will be very different from those of years past — and not just because they’re moving around campus.

“We’re going to keep them short,” said student body president Grant Schmidt. “The Band will play and pump everyone up, the team will come in, there will be one speaker, a couple cheers, and it’s done.”

“Thirty minutes of everyone yelling, screaming, high-fiving each other. That’s back to the core of a solid pep rally,”

Students say a shortened pep rally is a relief after the two-hour rallies of previous years.

“People don’t want to sacrifice two hours on a Friday, and people definitely don’t want to stand there for two hours,” said senior Leslie Vaughn. “It’s smart to make it shorter.”

Despite the excitement of a shortened pep rally, students are apprehensive about some of the planned locations.

With eight pep rallies occurring this season, four will be held at Irish Green, south of the DeBartolo Performing Arts Center. Tents and activities will be set up from 3 to 7 p.m. on Fridays, concluding with the 6:30 p.m. pep rally, and be open Saturday mornings until game time.

In addition to Irish Green, one pep rally will be held in Stepan Center, one in Notre Dame Stadium, one in Purcell Pavilion at the Joyce Center and tonight’s Dillon Hall pep rally will be on South Quad.

But the Irish Green location is unprecedented.

“I’m not sure if outside pep rallies will work,” sophomore Sarah Teising said. “And I had never heard of Irish Green before.”

Schmidt said student government is uncertain about the success of the Irish Green pep rallies.

“It’s not that much farther than the JACC, but walking to the JACC you pass by the stadium, you pass by Touchdown Jesus, you get pumped,” he said. “You don’t have that walking to Irish Green. Plus people don’t really know where it is.”

Meanwhile, pep rally planners hope for strong student support throughout the season.

“In order for a pep rally to be a true pep rally, it needs to have students,” Schmidt said.

“I remember visiting Notre Dame as a sophomore in high school and I was just in awe of the students — their spirit and excitement.”

A key part of the pep rally experience is involving alumni and campus visitors as well as students, Schmidt said.

But it’s just not a pep rally without enthusiastic student involvement.

“The most important aspect of a pep rally is to remind the Notre Dame football team that the student body is behind them,” Schmidt said.

Contact Theresa Civantos at tcivantos@nd.edu

By THEObserver

Congratulations Father Edward A. Malloy, c.s.c.
on the publication of the first installment of your memoirs.

Monk’s Tale

The Pilgrimage Begins, 1941-1975

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continued from page 1

Poll.

Judging from an inspired performance in the bowl game and a promising freshman class, the Irish could be good this year, senior Jason Miller said.

"Based on what we saw in the bowl game, our schedule and the incoming class, I think the pieces are finally falling into place for a breakout seas­on," Miller said. "It's going to be fun to watch."

Since he was abroad last fall, Miller said this season will be even more exciting, as he has not seen a football game in Notre Dame stadium for almost two years.

And the promise of a good season makes that even better, Miller said.

"I'm hugely excited for the first game. After a year away, I can't wait to get back in the stadium," he said. "Like most other people, I have high hopes for this season, and I'm excited to be a part of it.

For freshmen with no prior game day experience, this year signifies the beginning of an era of quality football that will hopefully last for the duration of their time at Notre Dame, according to James Benner, a freshman from Dillon Hall.

"The guys on SportsCenter are saying that this will be a breakthrough year for the Fighting Irish, so it's a pretty exciting time to be a freshman here," Benner said. "I've got a lot of good football to look forward to."

Benner, along with most other freshmen, is also looking forward to his first football game in the student section.

"I feel it's very big on Notre Dame football, but I've never been to a college football game, so this is pretty cool for me," Benner said.

Another thing to look forward to is the highly-anticipated return of the Dillon Hall pep rally. The pep rally's cancellation last year was met with great disappointment from the student body, and students are happy to have it back, said sen­ior Michelle Hackner, a resident of Walsh Hall.

"The Dillon pep rally was hilarious my first two years here, and I was sad that they cancelled it," Hackner said. "My friends are all excited to watch this year. Hopefully it's funny."

As a senior, Hackner has high hopes for the season.

but she said there are other things to look forward to if the team doesn't meet expecta­tions, such as tailgating.

"I'll still be excited for games and tailgating if the team doesn't live up to the hype, but it will all be much better if they do," Hackner said. "The starters are all back and they played well in the Hawaii Bowl, so there's no reason for them not to do well this year."

The Irish will kick off their season tomorrow at 2:30 p.m.

The Dillon Hall pep rally will take place tonight at 5:45 p.m. on South Quad.

Contact Irena Zajickova at izajick@nd.edu

continued from page 1

live in the market place for prospective students, Nanni said the money from the campaign will also fund aca­demic initiatives.

"Prospective students are very educated consumers," Nanni said. "They want to know which schools have the most obvious additions to campus. Reggie Brooks and Jack Nolan Hall and the two new arenas for lacrosse and soccer are some of the most visible areas, Nanni said. He also said there are a number of non-tangible aspects money from the campaign will go to fund, including the Rooney Center for American Democracy and the Eck Center for Global Health and Infectious Diseases.

"We feel we have an important niche in higher education and we are doing everything we can to strengthen and preserve the distinction of a Notre Dame education." Lou Nanni vice president University Relations

"We are enhancing quality of life through knowledge." Lou Nanni vice president University Relations

While the goal of $1.5 billion has been reached, Nanni emphasized there is still two years to go on the campaign.

"We will do everything we can in the next two years to raise as many resources as possible to enhance aca­demic standing, improve all of our offerings for our students and ultimately have a greater impact on this world," he said.

Contact Liz O'Donnell at lodoonnel@nd.edu

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INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Earthquake kills 57 in Indonesia

BY KANG KUANG — Children were crowded around a video game console, passing the time before they could break the Muslim holy month of Ramadan, when an earthquake hit. Three people died, two others were injured, and a child was hit by a falling object.

Judge excludes gruesome photos

CHICAGO — A judge has excluded several photos of three slain children and four adults from evidence in a murder trial because they might inflame the jury.

Chinese protest needle stabbings

URUMQI — Thousands marched through this city in western China on Thursday after series of stabbings with hypodermic needles further unnerved residents already jittery over deadly rioting between Han Chinese and Muslim Uighurs.

National News

R.I. state workers to be laid off

PROVIDENCE — Gov. Don Carcieri warned Thursday he will lay off 3,000 state workers after a judge blocked him from shutting down programs and the state's troubled video lottery games.

V. sentenced in sexting case

AMHERST — An 18-year-old pleaded guilty to reduced charges Thursday in Vermont's first "sexting" case, in which he admitted to encouraging a girl to send nude photos via text or instant messaging.

Local News

Judge excludes gore photos

NEW YORK — A state Supreme Court judge has excluded several photos of three slain children and four adults from evidence in a murder trial because they might inflame the jury.

National News

Barack Obama speaks at the White House on Friday, Aug. 21. The White House has said this week that the administration is open to compromising on health care reform.

White House open to compromise

Obama administration signals at possibility of concessions on health care reform

WASHINGTON — Even as liberals urge President Barack Obama to hold, far-reaching changes to the nations health care system, the White House signaled openness Thursday to changes that might attract moderate congressional Democrats as well as some Republicans.

Obama believes in "fundamental principles" about overseeing health care, top presidential adviser David Axelrod told The Associated Press, but "hes not dogmatic about how we get there."

Axelrod comments did not definitively answer how hard Obama will push for the most ambitious parts of his proposal, including health insurance for virtually all Americans, a government-run plan to compete with private insurers. But his diplomatic tone was in keeping with the administrations strategy of avoiding a fight by demanding several parts that are dear to Democratic activists who helped elect him.

Those are the type of conciliatory hints that frustrate many liberals. They fear Obama will dilute the bold health care proposals he campaigned for, even though Democrats control the House, Senate and White House. One group, the Progressive Change Campaign Committee, sent a mass-distributed e-mail quoting a Texas man saying he is "dropping out of political activism" because of his disillusionment with Obama over health care.

Also, former President Bill Clinton told Esquire Magazine that Obama should forge ahead with his health care goals and "wouldn't even worry about the Republicans," Clinton said. Obama is doing the right thing, he said, "even though hes jamming a lot of change down the system."

But many Democrats wonder if Obama really will jam a robust plan past overwhelming GOP opposition and the reservations of many centrist congressional Democrats eyeing their next election.

Those Democrats will listen carefully for clues when Obama addresses a joint session of Congress next Wednesday night.

Axelrod cautions answers Thursday might offer little comfort to those seeking forceful signs from the administration.

Asked if Obama might accept a Republican senators idea for creating a public health insurance option only if private insurers prove unwilling or unable to meet certain affordability targets, Axelrod replied: "We need choice and competition within the pool that's created."

The plan has been floated by Republican Sen. Olympia Snowe of Maine. She often is seen as the most likely GOP lawmaker to support a primarily Democratic-crafted health bill. She would have non-profit agencies offer health insurance only if private insurers could not cover 95 percent of the people in their regions with plans costing no more than about 15 percent of the persons or households annual income.

Many Democrats want prompt creation of a government-run program to compete with private insurers, who stand to gain millions more customers if Congress mandates coverage of the nations uninsured. Obama has often said he favors such a "public option." But he and his aides have repeatedly stopped short of saying he would sign a bill without it.

Obama polster Joel Benenson sent new survey findings to Democratic lawmakers Thursday in an apparent bid to reassure them that support for health care changes can be politically popular. The somewhat lukewarm support for Obamas initiatives, his memo said, is "based in large part on a lack of awareness of the details of the plan."

EgyPt

U.N.: Darfur crisis at end after drop in violence

Associated Press

CAIRO — The outgoing U.N. peacekeeping chief in Sudan's Darfur region said Wednesday the world should no longer consider the long-running conflict a war after a sharp decline in violence and deaths over the past year.

Activists and Darfur residents disagree, and the new Republic of Chad president, Idriss Deby, has said he will not recognize the UN-African Union peacekeeping mission in Darfur, or UNAMID.

"I think now everybody understands it. We can no longer speak of this issue," he said.

The Darfur conflict began in February 2003 when ethnic African rebels took up arms against the Arab-dominated Sudanese government in Khartoum, claiming discrimination and neglect.

U.N. officials say the war has claimed at least 300,000 lives from violence, disease and displacement. They say some 2.7 million people were driven from their homes and that its height, in 2003-2005, it was called the worlds worst humanitarian crisis.

President Barak Obama now envoy to Sudan, Scott Gration, caused an outcry in June when he said the violence in Darfur no longer amounted to genocide and then suggested easing sanctions against the Sudanese government.

Adding to the complications, violence is on the rise on another front in semi-autonomous southern Sudan, more than four years after a 2005 peace accord ended a separate 21-year civil war that left 2 million people dead. If violence there escalates, it could potentially overshadow Darfur.
continued from page 1

"We have full confidence that local government leaders know how these funds can best be used for the good of their constituents," Jenkins said. "We hope and believe that these funds will make a positive difference in our community."

University Spokesperson Dennis Brown described the variety of ways in which Notre Dame contributes to the local community in an e-mail message to The Observer. With an annual economic impact of $873 million, the University accounts for more than 12,000 jobs in St. Joseph County and draws more than 685,000 visitors from outside the county who spend roughly $114 million at off-campus retailers.

Notre Dame also contributes more than $273,000 work hours through student volunteerism and has accounted for more than $12,000 in St. Joseph County and draws more than 685,000 visitors from outside the county who spend roughly $114 million at off-campus retailers.

Money

Brown noted that University-backed initiatives such as the Robinson Community Learning Center, the Northeast Neighborhood Revitalization Organization and, more recently, MetroNet, Eddy Street Commons and Innovation Park also assist local municipalities, Brown said.

However, the contribution of $5.5 million over 10 years is "a more direct financial commitment, and it is provided with the sincere intent to be a valuable partner in the community," Brown said.

The current state of the nation's economy was a factor in the decision, Brown said. "We are also keenly aware of the extraordinary financial hardships our local community faces. And we, too, have felt the brunt of the recession," he said. "So, we hope and think that this contribution comes at a particularly important time."

Brown described the contribution as "a welcome surprise" and told The Observer the municipality is not yet sure how it will spend the money, but indicated funds will likely be directed to city promotions. "What the University does is bring people to our area, so we would like to have information available on different things they can do while they're in our area," he said.

Through the amount is "significant," it will not fund any long-term expenses, he said. The clerk treasurer of Roseland, Susan Hammons, told The Observer the funds were used for payroll for staff in the police department because revenue from annual state income taxes has not yet been distributed.

The money from the University was "a good surprise," she said. President of the St. Joseph County Board of Commissioners Bob Kovach said St. Joseph County has not yet determined how it will use the money.

"The County Council is the county's fiscal body, so the board of commissioners [...] could make a recommendation and then it would be up to the county council fiscal body to make actual appropriation," he said.

Brown said the University has received comments regarding the contribution, and most have been in support.

The idea for the free store is to get students to reuse items instead of throwing them away," she said. "This keeps items out of the trash and gives students an opportunity to pick up something they might need instead of buying it new."

Contact Ashlynn Charnley at acharn01@stjohns.edu

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WASHINGTON — Defending a costly plan to revitalize the economy, Vice President Joe Biden on Thursday said the government’s sweeping stimulus effort “is in fact working” despite steady Republican criticism and public skepticism.

“The recovery act has played a significant role in changing the trajectory of our economy, and changing the conversation in this country,” Biden said. “Instead of talking about the beginning of a depression, we are talking about the end of a recession.”

Nearly 200 days into the effort, Biden delivered an address aimed at countering the $787 billion rescue effort that President Barack Obama pushed through Congress. He quoted estimates by private analysts that the plan has created or saved 500,000 to 750,000 jobs so far. But many millions remain out of work.

“The effectiveness of the two-year program is a matter of sharp public debate,” and Biden sought to counter many of the criticisms with a listing of tangible results.

“One of the criticisms is that it is simply a grab bag of different programs,” Biden said in a speech at The Brookings Institution. “But that the fact the recovery act is multifaceted does not reflect a lack of design, it is the design.”

The stimulus package is a mix of tax cuts, increased spending on Medicaid and huge investments in infrastructure, education, energy projects and more.

The White House is eager to promote signs of progress as the economy hunders out of recession. Many economists warn that the unemployment rate will keep rising until at least next summer, and it is that measure — the loss or creation of jobs — by which many Americans decide whether their economic life is getting better or worse.

Biden warned that the recovery will be uneven. But he said so far, the law is “doing more, faster, more efficiently, and more effectively than most expected.”

The White House, though, has also admitted that its initial economic forecasts to sell the stimulus were too rosy. Many Republican leaders say the stimulus is not working nearly as well as the White House promotes, and at huge cost of debt to the nation.

With Obama on vacation at the Camp David presidential retreat in Maryland, the White House hopes Biden’s message will break through.

A Gallup poll last month found 51 percent of Americans wished the government would have spent less to stimulate the economy. The same poll found 41 percent thought the stimulus package was helping the economy in the short term; 33 percent saw no effect, and 24 said it was making the economy worse.

The vice presidents appearance is part of a concerted White House push in advance of the 200th day of the stimulus act on Saturday.

Five top administration officials plan to speak about the law’s benefits on Thursday in appearances in Arkansas, Virginia, Illinois, California and Minnesota.

Public approval of Obamas performance and of his handling of the economy have slipped. Polls now put both figures slightly above 50 per cent.
Arson said to be cause of wildfire

Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — Investigators launched a homicide investigation Thursday into the wildfire north of Los Angeles after determining that the gigantic blaze — which has killed two firefighters, scorched 226 square miles and destroyed dozens of homes — was set intentionally.

"We believe that this was caused by someone intending to set a fire," sheriff's spokesman Steve Whitmore said in an afternoon briefing.

Officials said forensic evidence at the fire's point of origin revealed that the wildfire — among the largest in Southern California's history — was an act of arson.

Whitmore declined to elaborate on dents about their losses and later investigation.

Earlier Thursday, Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger toured a fire-ravaged community where the fire left dozens of homes in ruins, encountering piles of twisted metal and rubble as firefighters began to bring the blaze under greater control.

The fire was 38 percent contained Thursday, up from 28 percent the previous day.

Schwarzenegger talked to residents about their losses and later thanked firefighters for all of their work in putting out the flames. At one point during the tour, the former bodybuilder picked up a 30-pound barrel located amid the wreckage.

"Even though we are still battling those fires, we are now trying to help get people's lives, rebuild," Schwarzenegger said. "When you see this kind of devastation, it's horrible to lose your home, your personal belongings."

Despite the overall progress against the fire, firefighters dealt with a flare-up overnight in a remote canyon as strong down-slope winds "just kind of blew the fire up," said U.S. Forest Service official John Huschke. Twenty-five people in 11 homes were evacuated to the canyon area.

The wildfire, now in its eighth day, has destroyed 64 homes, burned three people and left two firefighters dead. During the night, a firefighter injured his leg when he fell 20 foot from a cliff and was taken to a hospital by a medical helicopter, officials said. He was in stable condition.

Full containment was expected Sept. 15, meaning fire officials expect that they will have the blaze under control.

Firefighters have been conducting an aerial assault on the fire to complement efforts on the ground. Helicopters have dropped 1.7 million gallons of water — enough to fill about three Olympic-size swimming pools — while airplanes have dropped 670,000 gallons of retardant on the fire.

Calif. water crisis under review

Associated Press

FRESNO — Top Obama administration officials took California Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger to task Thursday for blaming the state's water crisis on federal environmental restrictions.

The governor sent a letter to Washington on Wednesday demanding a response to "catastrophic impacts" he said were caused by federal environmental rules that have slashed water deliveries.

Interior Secretary Ken Salazar and Commerce Secretary Gary Locke countered that a three-year drought is responsible for most of the state's water shortages, not agency scientists.

At Schwarzenegger's request, the governor's office was reviewing the secretaries' written response.

Tight water supplies have caused cities throughout the state to ration supplies and farmers to abandon a quarter-million acrefoot of crops.

The state's failure to restore the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta, the freshwater estuary that forms the heart of the state's outdated water delivery system, has only compounded the problem, the secretaries said.

"We are disappointed that your letter would attempt to lay the California water crisis at the feet of agency scientists," the letter read. "You can be assured that the federal government will be a full partner to help implement any comprehensive plan that the state enacts into law."

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Amerijet pilots on strike demand pay raises, bathrooms

Associated Press

MIAMI — Flying a Boeing 727 around the world might sound like a dream. But pilots for a Florida air cargo company claim their job is a nightmare that includes no sick pay, shrinking wages and no place to use the bathroom on flights but a plastic bag.

Sixty-two pilots and flight engineers for Fort Lauderdale-based Amerijet International Inc. went on strike on Aug. 27. Among their demands is flushable toilets on board. Their union has been trying to negotiate a new contract the past five years.

"This is actually the bathroom that we're expected to use on Amerijet airplanes," said Dawn Leschinski, a 37-year-old pilot who has been with Amerijet 5 years.

They said their days can last 18 hours, with only small periods between shifts, and that they suffer heavy financial penalties for calling in sick.

"It doesn't make you feel like you're a professional at all," said Kamal Patel, a 37-year-old pilot who has been with Amerijet 5 years.

Because full bags can't be easily discarded, they accumulate on longer flights, leaving a heavy stench.

"You're treated like we're working in a third-world country," Amerijet spokeswoman Christine Richard declined to comment on the claims, but said the company's cargo service to cities around the world hasn't been affected by the strike.

The privately owned company has 550 U.S.-based employees, but it's not clear how many pilots that includes.

Workers say they're working under dangerous conditions. They said their payrolls cut by 10 percent.

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SEUL — North Korea said Friday that it is in the final stages of enriching uranium, a process that could give the nation a second way to make nuclear bombs in addition to its known plutonium-based program.

North Korea informed the U.N. Security Council it is forging ahead with its nuclear programs in defiance of international calls to abandon its atomic ambitions, the official Korean Central News Agency said in a report early Friday.

The dispatch said plutonium "is being weaponized," and that uranium enrichment — a program North Korea revealed in recent months — was entering the "completion phase." Experts had long suspected that the North had a hidden uranium enrichment program, which would give the regime a second source of nuclear material.

"We are prepared for both dialogue and sanctions," the Korean Central News Agency quoted a South Korean Foreign Ministry spokesman as saying.

The North's announcement came a day after a U.S. special envoy arrived in Beijing for talks with Chinese officials on how to get North Korea back on track with its commitments to nuclear disarmament.

Stephen Bosworth, the special envoy to North Korea, was to arrive in Seoul later Friday for similar consultations with South Korean officials before traveling to Tokyo on Sunday as part of an Asia tour aimed recent conciliatory moves by Pyongyang.

His visit to the region aims to "continue consultations with our partners and allies on how to best convince North Korea that it must live up to its obligations ... and take irreversible steps toward complete denuclearization," the U.S. Embassy in Beijing said in a statement.

North Korea called the decision to push ahead with its nuclear programs a reaction to the Security Council's moves to tighten sanctions against the North for years on dismantling its nuclear program in exchange for aid and other concessions.

North Korea warned on Friday that it would "leave with no choice but to take yet stronger self-defense countermeasures" if the Security Council continues the standoff, KCNA said without elaborating on what it meant by the countermeasures.

Meanwhile, the North also said it has never objected to the denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula and left open possibility for dialogue with some permanent members of the Security Council, an apparent reference to the U.S.

"We are prepared for both dialogue and sanctions," KCNA said.

The North has long sought one-on-one negotiations with Washington on the nuclear program, hoping to raise its international profile. The U.S. has said it is willing to hold talks with Pyongyang but only on the sidelines of the six-nation disarmament talks.

North Korea walked away from the talks earlier this year. North Korea also conducted its second nuclear test in May, drawing international condemnation and new U.N. sanctions.

The tests also came amid its conciliatory overtures to Seoul and Washington. The North views its nuclear program as a security guarantee against what it claims is U.S. hostility and its alleged plans to attack Pyongyang.

The U.S., China, Japan, Russia and South Korea have been negotiating with North Korea for years on dismantling its nuclear program in exchange for aid and other concessions.

Police said a suspected member of the Mari 18 gang was arrested Thursday on suspicion of involvement in the killing of Christian Poveda, a former war photographer whose latest film takes an intimate look at the violent lives of gang members deported back to the Central American country after serving time in U.S. prisons.

Police inspector Oscar Nuñez Ramos said the suspect was detained north of the capital of San Salvador, but he refused to provide any details on what led to the arrest, saying he did not want to undermine the investigation.

Poveda, 53, was found Wednesday inside a car in the rural Tonacatepeque region north of San Salvador. He was shot in the head.

The day of his death, the filmmaker had set out to visit the gang-dominated area of Soyapango, just outside the capital, to arrange an interview with female gang members from a French fashion magazine. He told the Los Angeles Times that he was "located by a photographer about the outing before leaving. Gang violence in impoverished El Salvador fuels one of the highest homicide rates in Latin America."

Poveda practically lived among members of the Mara 18 to create "La Vida Loca," filming gang initiations, drug use, tattoo sessions and funerals. Pirated copies of the film are sold on the streets of the capital, and even Salvadoreans consider the documentary to be a shocking glimpse into gang life.

French Foreign Minister Bernard Kouchner praised Poveda's irrepressible work, calling him "a respected journalist, a professional who never hesitated to take great risks in the name of freedom of information."

In April, Poveda told the Los Angeles Times that despite the drugs, shootings, beatings and cruelty captured on the film, he had sympathy for many of the gang members, whom he described as "victims of society."

"As savage as they can be, they're people of their word. The gangs are very well-structured organizations and the decision made by a gang is the final one. From the moment I understood that, I had no problems," he said.

Poveda, who lived and worked as a filmmaker and photojournalist in El Salvador during the civil war that began in 1980, had recently been touring with "La Vida Loca."

Salvadoran Public Safety Minister Manuel Molina called Poveda's slaying a "reprehensible and reproachable criminal act" and said police would work "tirelessly" to find the killers.

Meet the Author

St. Martin's Press and the Hammes Notre Dame Bookstore invite you to celebrate Jim Dent's newest book, Resurrection

Jim will be at the Hammes Notre Dame Bookstore signing his book on

Friday, September 4
3:00pm - 5:00pm
&
Saturday, September 5
11:30am - 1:30pm

Resurrection is the story of Ara Parseghian, an unexpected choice for head football coach and the first selected from outside the Notre Dame "family." The task before him was not simple: to rebuild a once proud program and teach a team how to win again.

For questions please call 574.631.5757
Some people may have heard about a little petition circling the faculty and student body. Around a 1,100 students thus far, but who’s counting? This pernicious petition requests that the Hesburgh Library augment its collection with more materials, making it more competitive with other (more pretentious) leading universities, who are vastly outstripping Notre Dame in research materials. We have a stake in this petition. In the majority of the Editor in Chief, Managing Editor, Assistant Managing Editor, and the other departments of The Observer, publish five new issues every week.

Sure Hesburgh Library probably represents the epicenter of Notre Dame’s academic community, an over–size Jesus, the name of University President Emeritus Fr. Theodore Hesburgh, its numerous floors of great intellectual works and its remarkably nice and remodeled bathrooms. But not everyone can have Jesus and Hesburgh so visibly on their side. Really, the unlevel playing field here at Notre Dame becomes apparent when comparing the written works found in the Library and other campus collections of written works, hypothetically like the publications of The Observer collection. In this comparison, the discrepancies are easily apparent, and it’s safe to say that the publishing playfield here is downright un-American.

The lack of patriotism latent in this petition aside, there are also several practical issues that come to mind. Like do students actually use books? More specifically the books of the Library? In a recent small sample of 10 typical Notre Dame upperclassmen, only a collective total of six books had been checked out of the Library during their academic careers. Making up this sample were four business majors, one programs of Liberal Studies major, an English major, and an American Studies major. Not great odds. What does this casual, non-confirmable (this sample may or may not have been The Observer Editorial Board), anonymous sample say about the average Notre Dame student’s relationship with the Library? Not much. Honestly perhaps there is simply little to say. That’s why so many unnecessary words (note: honestly, maybe, little) were added to the previous sentence.

To undergrads, the Library is the home of our favorite mascot, Touchdown Jesus. It’s the inspiration for Shrek’s castle. It’s the “warm cut” that we take when picking up tasks at Library Circle. To librarians and students in those brutal winter months. None of the above functions demand the presence of books.

Of course, to be a library, the building must have a collection of books. But that seems like a which-came-first-the-chicken-or-the-egg type of question. And everyone who’s been forced to take a philosophy or logic requirement course has learned to listen to that kind of nonsense. The only situations in which it is truly necessary for the Library to possess books are scenarios involving research papers and exams. Most undergrads find these two aspects of collegiate life abhorrent. In fact, we spend half of the academic year, trying to suppress memories of finals week. The other half is generally spent procrastinating with the ultimate goal of avoiding research projects necessary for our final grades. It seems that if the administration was being pragmatic, Notre Dame would simply eliminate those less desirable aspects of the college experience. There are two possible ways to achieve a “happier” collegiate existence. Option One: Eliminate exams and research entirely, also eliminating necessity of a library collection. Option Two: Get rid of all possible research materials (i.e. books), making it impossible to adequately study and prepare for the bases of academic life. Is not the overall happiness of the Notre Dame community not what is at stake in the struggle of our college years?

So do it for the fair competition of America’s free market. Do it for Sherman and his Antitrust Act. Do it as a stand against the banes of academic life. Is not the overall happiness of the Notre Dame community not what is at stake in the struggle of our college years?

A library with no books
I went to Catholic grade school and high school, and enrolled here in 1977. There wasn’t any other place that I really considered. While studying as an undergraduate, the residential life and proximity of places that I thought I had thought about off and on for several years of formation. Fr. Jim was ordained in 1988. He returned to the University for a final time in 1997, and has called Notre Dame home ever since. Fr. Jim’s love for the University and its Holy Cross mission is readily apparent. The essential characteristic of a Holy Cross education, he comments, “is the recognition that we are here to develop people in the spiritual life and to develop their hearts, because it’s ultimately fulfilling one’s heart’s desire that should be the goal of any person’s life.”

Universally, a Catholic university is an extension of the Catholic mission of preaching, educating and evangelizing people in the faith, and the University is not at all trivial.

One of the proudest moments of my life was standing outside of the Basilica. The biggest danger for people that I’ve ever seen is when you leave graduates with a lot of their lives; leaving them at that point, we all share that vocation to minister to and serve one another. Ultimately, a Catholic university is a ministry to people.

“I was born in Chicago, an only kid from the South Side. My father, a submarine officer who was stationed firmly under his chin, Fr. Jim’s particular ministry at Notre Dame bears its own unique rewards. "Sorin," he comments, "is close to the ideal of a home: a large, rambling, family home, I sometimes think, and think that this is just like one big summer beach house with all the cousins of a like age." That familial character displayed itself in various ways: when resident Kevin Healey, Class of 2011, succumbed to a battle with cancer. In memoriam of the proudest moments of my life, Fr. Jim, eyes glistening, recalls, "was standing outside of the Basilica last Sunday and wondering who was going to come out from the courtyard behind Sorin and walk to the Basilica in a double file line as you read this I am flying over the Pacific Ocean for a few predawn hours of Sunday morning I will be sitting in front of a computer

Let me do it because tomorrow, the season starts anew. It doesn’t matter if I was at 21 games during the worst consecutive seasons in the history of this school. It doesn’t matter if I have been disappointed by this team more times than by I have been disappointed by Michael Bay films. It doesn’t matter if I will be on the other side of the world by the time the band marches out. The traditions of these games forged my love for this campus which I started attending games 13 years ago. These traditions took the choice out of my college decision and brought me to Notre Dame 20 years ago when I knew nearly nothing about all of the things that I would grow to love about it and its students. These traditions of Notre Dame Football connect my past to my present and future, and I will do it because tomorrow, the season starts anew. It doesn’t matter if I was at 21 games during the worst consecutive seasons in the history of this school. 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The Observer wants funny comics

THE MOBILE PARTY Option No. 1
No low was recently voted the 15th douchiest college in the US by "GQ" Magazine

T.I.N.D. Option No. 2
Freshman Year Sophomore Year Junior Year Senior Year

THE INVADERS Option No. 3

UNTITLED Option No. 4

REAL Gender Relations at ND

LOCAL Option No. 5

Su Doku Option No. 6

In an attempt to alleviate the never-ending comic complaints received by the Viewpoint Department, we, The Observer Editorial Board, hereby grant you, the reading public, the right to choose which comic you'd like to see featured on the Today page for the academic year.

We realize that this is a heavy decision, and should not be taken lightly. Consider the anonymous samples to the left with care.

Please vote at ndsmcobserver.com by Sunday evening and check back on Monday's paper to see if your favorite* wins.

*If none of these attempts at humor is deemed to be funny, we can always run a Su Doku instead.
By JORDAN GAMBLE
Scene Writer

After 40 hours of script writing, 10 hours of rehearsals and two years of waiting, the Dillon Hall pep rally is back. Dillon Hall senior Keith Ruehlmann is the head writer for this year's edition of the campus tradition, which was cancelled last year. Along with other writers and the hall president, junior Kevin Doyle, Ruehlmann has been working on the show since last spring.

"It's a lot of work, but it's definitely worthwhile," Ruehlmann said. The show's absence last year was jarring because it has been a campus staple on the Thursday before the first home football game for so long. The official rally is a nice, round 40 years, but Ruehlmann and Doyle admit that it is difficult to track down the date. This year, though, the pep rally is on Friday.

For one thing, the pep rally hasn't always been held on the expanses of South Quad. In the early years, Ruehlmann and Doyle said, the show was tucked into Dillon's courtyard that faces South Dining Hall. As it grew more popular each year, the show was moved to accommodate a bigger audience.

Senior Brendan McQueeney was Dillon’s hall president last year and a writer for the 2008 event that was ultimately cancelled. He explained that the show is a mix of intense preparation and spontaneous energy.

"It's much like the Keenan Revue, in essence, where we comment on student life. There's normally a solid storyline: little skits about Notre Dame, little skits about the world in general that we act out to entertain the entire campus," McQueeney explained.

Integrated into that format are special guest speakers — usually the football team — as a bonding tool for the freshmen, because we have it the first football weekend. It's a really good tool to continue.

Dillon boys dance on stage during a raucous performance at their pep rally. Look for more excitement as they hit the stage Friday for the first time in two years. Joyce Center this year, Dillon Hall has to take responsibility for pumping up students, alumni and football fans alike.

Although the audience may be bigger and more diverse this year, Ruehlmann said it didn't figure much into the writing process.

"I don't think it's going to feel any different to the students," Ruehlmann said. "Our freshmen are still going to be in the front. The rest of the students are going to be sectioned off to the right behind them. The alumni will be out back there.

"Crackhead" smashes plates on his forehead, usually the world in my opinion, our academics aren't the main point of the rally. The main point of the rally for us is to introduce the freshmen to what our vision of Dillon Hall is," Doyle said. "It's like the passing of the torch," said McQueeney. "All the upperclassmen are in it, all the freshmen are watching. You pick up the fever in it, you get pumped. The Dillon Hall Pep Rally really kicks off the season.

McQueeney is excited and happy for the pep rally's revival this year, but also nervous. Last year's cancellation and the move to Friday made him ratcheted up expectations within the dorm and across campus. With so "official" pep rally in the

Contact Jordan Gamble at jgamble@nd.edu
By COLIN RICH
Scene Writer

The view from the Metro's balcony Aug. 7 afforded teeming youth, tight security and total pandemonium as one of the U.K.'s most prolific and respectable rock acts, Arctic Monkeys, garnered an impressive turnout from many faithful, if not insomniac, Chicagoans.

Fresh off the release of their third album "Humbug," the new look, new sound Monkeys descended upon the Midwest for a Tuesday stint at the north side Metro's and, more notably, Lollapalooza in downtown Chicago. It was managed to catch both shows, time enough to realize that like the title of their latest record insinuates, the band has opted to shun its pop influences and explore the far more intricate and mysterious depth of rock in 2009.

The Monkeys first captivated Britpop fiends with 2006's "Whatever People Say I Am, That's What I'm Not." Its fast-selling debut album in the U.K. chart history, and 2007's "Favourite Worst Nightmare," a similarly sensational sophomore album broke they signed to Domino Records, indie music scene in 2005 when enjoying sell-out crowds in their hometown of Sheffield. The explosive dance rock of "I Bet You Look Good on the Dance Floor" and "505," to exceed at such a wide range of venues with 2006's "Whatever People Say I Am, That's What I'm Not." Its fast-selling debut album in the U.K. chart history, and 2007's "Favourite Worst Nightmare," a similarly sensational sophomore album broke they signed to Domino Records, indie music scene in 2005 when enjoying sell-out crowds in their hometown of Sheffield. The explosive dance rock of "I Bet You Look Good on the Dance Floor" and "505," to exceed at such a wide range of venues with 2006's "Whatever People Say I Am, That's What I'm Not." Its fast-selling debut album in the U.K. chart history, and 2007's "Favourite Worst Nightmare," a similarly sensational sophomore album broke they signed to Domino Records, indie music scene in 2005 when enjoying sell-out crowds in their hometown of Sheffield. The explosive dance rock of "I Bet You Look Good on the Dance Floor" and "505," and demonstrated a formidable confidence in their departures from their initial record, with repeated listens. The album reveals an dense, menacing, undeniable new sound, the Monkeys have added greater depth to an already broad rock catalogue. While their first two albums balanced an array of punk, rock balladry, and vigorous singles, "Humbug" revels in a more complex, varied sound. The album creates clear separations from the band's younger ventures as it sprouts a sensual and satisfying rock thicket for fans to hack away with repeated listens. The effects of the Monkeys' collaboration with Queens of the Stone Age front man Josh Homme, who lent his electric touch as the album's co-producer, surfaced in both live appearances.

Both shows arrested audience with the rhythmically entrancing opener "Pretty Visitors," setting the tone not just for the performances but filled with a slow, uninteresting vocal line on top of the repeating rhythm section. Luckily, Turner makes even the most underwhelming lines sound good. The pre-chorus picks it up a little, and escalates well into the chorus. The whole song progresses well, breaking down for a short guitar solo and a brief a cappella verse. It's no "A Certain Romance," but "Crying Lightning" is a well-built song that satisfies the needs of the fans. Where the album struggles is two, it's easy to nitpick. Upon further review, it has a lot to offer the Arctic Monkeys connoisseur. However, if someone who had never heard the Arctic Monkeys before wanted a track recommendation, it wouldn't be any of these.

By ANDREW SEROFF
Scene Writer

The Arctic Monkeys have always radiated a casual vibe, through the butter-smooth slurs of Alex Turner, the under-prodigious lead vocalist, to the slurred art rock of their second-album successor, "Favourite Worst Nightmare." It doesn't have the novelties or proves temporary pop success that satisfies the needs of the fans.

While "Humbug" is still the Arctic Monkeys we've come to know and love, differences from their brand-new sound always prove to be a little compelling. Whether the band remains the same or proves temporary pop success that satisfies the needs of the fans.

As we all know, football season is upon us. What better way to celebrate and get excited than the University of Notre Dame Fighting Irish? CRANK ME UP playlist?! This list includes songs popular at ND parties this year (those Steds boys like their Miley Cyrus ...), summer jams and some classic Notre Dame-y tunes. Let's go Irish!
ST. LOUIS — Rookie Casey McGeehee hit a two-run homer off John Smoltz after St. Louis failed to turn a double play, and the Milwaukee Brewers beat the Cardinals 4-3 on Thursday to avoid a three-game sweep.

Manny Parra stayed on after a slow start and pitched into the seventh inning for Milwaukee, which has won four of six.

Trevor Hoffman closed for his 30th save, striking out Albert Pujols with a runner on base for his 1,000th career hit. Smoltz (1-1), making his third start for the Cardinals, allowed four runs and six hits over six innings. He struck out six and walked none.

The Cardinals took a 2-1 lead into the sixth, but Craig Counsell led off with a double and southeast Smoltz struck out Ryan Braun. Pinch-hitter Prince Fielder grounded into a potential inning-ending double play. But second baseman Khalil Lugo bobbled the ball momentarily and Counsell rolled boiling Fielder as the tying run scored.

McGeehee followed with a go-ahead drive just inside the left-field foul pole for his 13th home run of the season. He homered to Lugo and Ryan Dempster for an error. Alexei Ramirez then delivered an RBI single to make it 3-0 and chase Ryan Dempster (8-8).

Soriano had a cortisone injection in his sore left knee Sunday and missed those three games earlier in the week. After his misfire, what appeared to be a德育 in the seventh, Reliever Mitch Stetter struck out Khalil Greene looking and Claudia Vargas got Pujols to ground out on a 3-2 pitch.

Pinch hitter Matt Holliday, who had three hits, brought the Cardinals to within one on the ninth inning for his 10th as a Cardinal and 21st overall. He homered to Lugo and Ryan Dempster for an error. Alexei Ramirez then delivered an RBI single to make it 3-0 and chase Ryan Dempster (8-8).

Chase Ryan Dempster (8-8). The make up of a June 16 rainout featured two defending division champions whose playoff hopes have faded greatly. It was the latest matchup for an anticipated NL Central race.

Clete Thomas added a two-run double in the sixth inning for his 10th as a Cardinal and 21st overall. He singled earlier in the game for his 1,000th career hit.

Pinch-hitter Colby Rasmus walked late in the eighth, but was picked off by Vargas. Hoffman worked around Lugo's one-out single with one on in the ninth.

Chicago, Cubs 0

Albert Pujols with a runner on base for his 1,000th career hit.

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**Around the Nation**

Friday, September 4, 2009

**COMPILED FROM THE OBSERVER'S WIRE SERVICES**

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### NCAA Men's Soccer NSCAA Division 1 Preseason Poll

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<th>Points</th>
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<td>1. Maryland</td>
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<td>2. North Carolina</td>
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### NCAA Women's Soccer NSCAA Division 1 Rankings

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### NCAA Women's Volleyball

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<td>15 San Diego</td>
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### Around the dial

**NCAA Football**

Tulsa at Tulane
6 p.m., ESPN

**MLB**

Chicago Cubs at New York Mets
7 p.m., CSNCH

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### In Brief

**Grieving Jankovic upset at U.S. Open**

NEW YORK — Jelena Jankovic felt as though she couldn’t even watch the ball. The night before, her beloved grandmother had died back home in Serbia. That’s where her heart and mind were Thursday, not on the No. 5 seed’s second-round match at the U.S. Open that ended with a loss to Yanina Shvedova.

"I was very sad and emotionally I was really suffering. I was there and to try to play, but it was really not on court," Jankovic said. "I was very sad and emotionally I was really not on court." Jankovic was scheduled to play against the Eagles on Thursday night when he threw a six-pitch ninth inning against the New York Mets in his first action in a week. He brushed it off as the effects of a weeklong layoff.

Bruce Bowen retires after 12 seasons in the NBA

SAN ANTONIO — Bruce Bowen won’t be pestering the NBA’s best anymore.

The 38-year-old former San Antonio Spurs forward retired Thursday after 12 seasons and a reputation as one of the league’s most menacing defenders, hounding opponents with a tenacity that some players groused was more dirty than dogged.

He called it quits after being waived this summer by Milwaukee, where the Spurs dealt him in a veteran dump-off for swingman Richard Jefferson — a decision Bowen said he understood.

"You need to do things to better the business, and the Spurs definitely got better in the players they received, so I’m looking forward to continuously supporting the Spurs, but from more of a distance now," he said in a news conference at his wife’s San Antonio salon.

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### NFL

**Vick eligible to play in third game**

NEW YORK — NFL commissioner Roger Goodell announced that Vick will be eligible to play in Week 3.

Previously, Goodeil said Vick was a surprise signing by the Eagles on Aug. 15, but did not travel with the team to its second preseason game a week later in Indianapolis because he could not play.

He played six snaps in Philadelphia’s home game against Jacksonville last week. He brushed it off as the effects of a weeklong layoff.

Franklin Morales filled in and recorded his first major league save Tuesday night when he threw a six-pitch ninth inning against the New York Mets in his first action in a week. He brushed it off as the effects of a weeklong layoff.

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Teen Oudin upsets Dementieva at U.S. Open

Associated Press

NEW YORK — It’s not quite the case that 17-year-old Melanie Oudin and her family knew for sure she would get this far, this fast.

Not when Melanie was 7, hitting buckets of tennis balls with Grandma Mimi back home in Marietta, Ga. Not a couple of years later, when Melanie and her twin sister began taking lessons together. And certainly not when Melanie lost her first two Grand Slam matches.

Still, there was Oudin at the U.S. Open on Thursday, ranked all of 70th, dealing with a painful leg and an overwhelming occasion on a supersized stage — and stunning No. 4-seeded Elena Dementieva 5-7, 6-4, 6-3 to set up a third-round match against 2006 champion Maria Sharapova.

All the while, Oudin sported this word stamped near the heel of her pink-and-yellow sneakers: “BELIEVE.” The idea for that bit of inspiration came from her boyfriend, Austin Smith, a 15-year-old who helped Melanie prepare for her Arthur Ashe Stadium debut by practicing together in the 23,763-seat arena at 9:30 a.m. Thursday.

“During the match, I had confidence, and, I mean, I was right there with her the entire time,” Oudin said. “She wasn’t blowing me off the court. She wasn’t hitting winners left and right on me.”

Don’t, though, get the mistaken idea that Dementieva played poorly or showed the sort of nerves she has in the past. Dementieva played rather well — displaying the stingy groundstrokes that carried her to two Grand Slam finals and an Olympic gold medal — and graciously gave credit to Oudin, who now will face the scrutiny that comes with being the “Next Great American Hope.”

After the Williams sisters at No. 2 and 3, you have to scan all the way down to Oudin to find the next U.S. woman in the WTA rankings. “It’s just the beginning,” Dementieva cautioned, “but it looks like she has a good future.”

Truth is, Oudin — pronounced “oo-DAN,” owing to her father’s French ancestry — has a pretty good present, too. This was not, after all, her first such upset at a major tournament. Oudin reached the fourth round at Wimbledon by beating former No. 1 Jelena Jankovic.

“She knows,” said Brian de Villiers, Oudin’s coach, “that she can play with these girls now.”

Next comes a stern test against three-time major champion Sharapova, who eliminated another 17-year-old American, Christina McHale of Englewood Cliffs, N.J., 6-2, 6-1 at night. The 381st-ranked McHale was a wild-card entry who didn’t really challenge Sharapova.

Looking ahead to facing Oudin, Sharapova said: “I definitely have to go out there and expect her to play some of her best tennis.”

Jankovic made another early departure from a Grand Slam event, losing to 55th-ranked Yaroslava Shvedova of Kazakhstan 6-3, 6-7 (4), 7-6 (6). Jankovic reached the U.S. Open final in 2008, and she was seeded No. 5 this year, but her head might not have been focused on the court on this day: Her grandmother died Wednesday night.

The losses by Dementieva and Jankovic mean half of the top 20 seeded women are out of the draw. No. 23 Sabine Lisicki also is gone, having left in tears as she was taken away in a wheelchair after injuring her ankle at the end of a 6-3, 3-6, 7-5 defeat against Anastasia Rodionova.

No. 1 Dinara Safina nearly joined the parade of surprising exits, turning in her second poor performance of the week before hanging on to edge 67th-ranked Kristina Barrois of Germany 6-7 (5), 6-2, 6-3.

“Another tough day in the office,” said Safina, who double-faulted 15 times, including three in the tiebreaker. “There is no problem in the technique or nothing. Just in my head. No seeded men lost in early action Thursday, when the winners included 2009 runner-up Novak Djokovic, and four Americans: 27th-seeded Jesse Witten, 55th-ranked John Isner, No. 21 James Blake and No. 22 Sam Querrey. French Open runner-up Robin Soderling advanced when his opponent, Marcel Granollers, quit during the third game with a back injury.

Oudin twice received treatment from a trainer for her lingering left leg injury. Late in the match, Oudin was blinking away tears, trying to push aside the injury — and trying to finish off Dementieva.

That injury, de Villiers said, forced Oudin to pull out of two hard-court tuneup events. “But this is the U.S. Open,” he said. “She isn’t going to give up anything. She’s going to play on one leg if she has to.”

No matter what sort of message might have adorned Oudin’s shoes on this day, even her biggest fans did not think this level of success would arrive at this age.

“This is what she loves. She just loves it. She loves the game. She loves the atmosphere,” Oudin’s mother, Leslie, said after giving her daughter a hug and a kiss outside the locker room. “I knew she’d always make the top 10 or 20. I did know that. But not now. Maybe when she bit 21 or something.”

American Melanie Oudin celebrates after defeating Russian Elena Dementieva in the second round of the U.S. Open.

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Friday, September 4, 2009

U.S. OPEN

The Observer • SPORTS
NFA

Jagodzinski canned by Tampa Bay coach

Associated Press

TAMPA — Former Boston College coach Jeff Jagodzinski was fired Thursday as offensive coordinator of the Tampa Bay Buccaneers, who have been unhappy with the progress of their passing game.

First-year coach Raheem Morris offered a vague explanation for the abrupt move on the eve of the team’s preseason finale against the Houston Texans.

Quarterbacks coach Greg Olson was promoted to Jagodzinski’s role and will take over play-calling.

“I have a lot of respect for coach Jags, and what he did, and the effort he put into his work, but we’re at the point now where we need to be more precise, we need to be more detailed and we need to have more direction on where we’re going to go,” Morris said.

Jagodzinski was hired in January, three weeks after being dismissed by Boston College for pursuing an NFL head coaching job.

At the time, adding an experienced assistant who was Green Bay’s offensive coordinator in 2006 was viewed as smart move by Morris, who turned 33 Thursday and is the youngest head coach in the NFL.

He installed an offense featuring a zone-blocking running scheme and a passing attack that encourages the quarterback to be aggressive throwing the ball downfield. Morris stressed that philosophy won’t change under Olson.

Offensive line coach Pete Mangurian, who presides over the running game, and assistant head coach/receivers Richard Mann will assume greater responsibility, too.

“It’s not a knock on coach Jagodzinski. It’s just what we needed to do, the plan we needed to have,” Morris said.

“A lot of the things remain the same. This offense was going in the right direction. You have got to give Jagodzinski credit. He did get it started in the right direction. Now we’ve got to finish off the deal with some of our other guys,” Morris said.

Jagodzinski led Boston College to the Atlantic Coast Conference championship game in each of his two seasons there, but was fired after being told he would be let go if he interviewed for the New York Jets’ coaching vacancy.

He interviewed despite the ultimatum and was fired the next day. The Jets job eventually went to Rex Ryan.

Jagodzinski, 45, was offered a demotion to quarterbacks coach, but declined.

“I am certainly disappointed but I wish nothing but the best for Raheem Morris and the entire Buccaneer organization,” Jagodzinski said in a statement released by the team.

Morris sidestepped questions about Jagodzinski’s play-calling. And, he insisted the move had nothing to do with last weekend’s decision to begin the season with Byron Leftwich as the starting quarterback.

“I think Jags may be a better head coach, may be a better position coach, to be honest with you,” Morris said, explaining why Jagodzinski was offered Olson’s old job.

“We just didn’t have the direction from the coordinator’s spot, so we offered him a position on the staff. But realistically, it didn’t make the most sense for both of the parties involved,” Morris said.

Jagodzinski led Boston College to a pair of bowl appearances and lost twice to Virginia Tech in the ACC title game during his brief stay with the Eagles.

He was an NFL assistant for eight years with Green Bay and Atlanta before moving to BC, where he tutored last season’s NFL rookie of the year Matt Ryan.

Boston College athletic director Gene DeFilippo issued a statement when he learned of Jagodzinski’s firing.

“It’s unfortunate. All of us at Boston College wish Jags and his family the very best.”

Morris said he did not feel the change will disrupt Tampa Bay’s preparation for the Sept. 13 season opener against Dallas.

“When you talk about being in chaos, you’re talking about not having a plan,” Morris said. “The plan has not changed.”

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Please recycle The Observer.
Jets defeat the Eagles in game that sees Vick booed

Associated Press

EAST RUTHERFORD, N.J. — Michael Vick might need the first two weeks of the regular season to get back up to speed before he plays again — for real.

Vick was hard-luck in his first significant action in three years, just hours after the Philadelphia Eagles quarterback found out he'll be fully reinstated in Week 3. He ran for a 2-yard touchdown, but was sacked four times, lost a fumble and was intercepted as the New York Jets beat the Eagles 38-27 on Thursday night.

"I still think I'm a couple of weeks away," Vick said. "It felt good to finally get out and get some snaps at the quarterback position," Vick said. "I think I played fairly well. A lot of things I could've done better, but it was good to get out there and play some quarterback on a consistent basis and shake off the cobwebs a little bit.

Vick, released from federal custody July 20 after serving 18 months of a 23-month sentence for his role in operating a dogfighting ring, will be eligible to play Sept. 27 against Kansas City, commissioner Roger Goodell said earlier Thursday.

"It was good to get him in there," Eagles coach Andy Reid said. "I'm sure he'll be a little sore tomorrow. That's OK. He'll have a couple of weeks to recover from it."

"I think I played fairly well. A lot of things I could've done better, but it was good to get out there and play some quarterback on a consistent basis and shake off the cobwebs a little bit."
APA

Woods frustrated over putting in Boston

Associated Press

NORTON, Mass. — Tiger Woods created a slight stir Thursday morning on the TPC Boston when a Nike representative approached him on the first tee carrying two putters.

One was the Scotty Cameron model that Woods has used in 72 worldwide victories and 13 majors over the last 11 years. That's the putter he was using when he missed one crucial putt after another on the back nine at Hazeltine to lose the PGA Championship, the same one in his hands when he missed a 7-foot birdie putt on the final hole last week at The Barclays.

The other putter that Rick Nichols brought him was a Nike model. Woods studied it with a meticulous eye, leaning the putter on its toe as he looked down the shaft.

"Is the world's No. 1 player so frustrated that he is willing to finally change putters? Is he fed up with missed putts to finally change putters? Is he looking for a new putter?"

"That's the putter he was using last week at The Barclays. He has several backup putters, which hardly anyone ever mentions. "That's because I haven't needed it," Woods said.

"Woods is nowhere near panic mode with his putting. Even though he didn't win his last two tournaments, he still has 12 top 10s in his 15 starts on the PGA Tour. Besides, Woods felt more at home during his pro-am round at the Deutsche Bank Championship on a course where he has won and finished second twice.

The greens at TPC Boston do not have poa annua, the strain of grass found at Hazeltine, which gets bumpy like the ones at Liberty National a week ago.

"They're rolling perfect," Woods said. "They're rolling great. I was telling Stevie (Williams), 'Every time we come here, we think the greens are undulating.' Not this time.

"I really putted well on the weekend, I just didn't make a lot of putts," he said. "When you're tapping out a lot of putts, you're not putting poorly. Those greens were a tough read for a bunch of people."

Woods has a hard time finding much fault with anything this year, except for not winning a major. His five victories are twice as many as anyone else, and he still holds the No. 1 stop in the FedEx Cup standings going into the second week of the playoffs.

The big surprise is Heath Slocum, who was planning a trip to Switzerland this week after a win at the Omega Masters on the European Tour until he won last week at Liberty National. That moved him from second-to-last place at No. 124 to No. 3, right behind Woods and Stricker.

Players have been debating whether Slocum earned too many points, and they tried to balance his rocket rise with the notion that he did beat a field at The Barclays that included the top 124 players on the PGA Tour.

The top 100 qualified for the Deutsche Bank (minus Paul Casey, who is injured), and that number will be pared to the top 70 players in points going to the third round next week at the BMW Championship outside Chicago.

Woods is virtually a lock to at least contest for the $10 million prize that comes with the FedEx Cup, especially the way he has played over the last two months — two victories, two runner-up finishes.

"This last stretch, I think I've hit the ball pretty good," Woods said. "I've putted well in stretches. Some people have alluded to other things, but that's not too bad for my last four events. The overall year has been very consistent.

He missed the FedEx Cup playoffs last year recovering from knee surgery. The last time he played the Deutsche Bank was in 2007, when he tied for second, four shots behind Phil Mickelson. Woods took nine more putts than Mickelson that day."

Friday, September 4, 2009
The Observer • SPORTS
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**St. John’s**

continued from page 28

could be a make-or-break weekend for his team.

"This is a huge weekend," Clark said. "This is arguably one of our biggest weekends of the year. Having to play top-five teams back-to-back is a challenge. We got off to a good start on Tuesday against St. Michigan, and now we’ll have to see if we can follow that up with a couple good results.

This match will represent the fifth meeting between Notre Dame and the Demon Deacons, with Wake Forest having won all of the previous matches. The two last met in the 2007 NCAA Tournament, where the Demon Deacons won the overtime match 1-0.

"Against Wake Forest, we’ll find out exactly where we are, and where we measure out, and what we have to work on," Clark said. "In my time here we’ve played Wake Forest two previous occasions, and lost, so I feel maybe we’ll be third-time lucky."

The Irish last sparred with the Red Storm in 2008 in a hard-fought, scoreless tie between then-No. 3 Notre Dame and No. 5 St. John’s at the old Alumni Field. The Red Storm lead the all-time series at 10-4-4. Clark is looking for a little payback against St. John’s after last season’s tough draw. "We should have done something with St. John’s last year, when we heavily outshot them," Clark said. "We’ll find out a lot about ourselves against them."

The Irish take on the Demon Deacons at 5 p.m. today before Sunday’s 11:30 a.m. match against the Red Storm.

In spite of the challenge facing his team, Clark said he expects to enjoy himself in Bloomington.

"It’s always a great tournament and a fun atmosphere," Clark said. "I think the team is really looking forward to it."

Contact Mike Blasco at mblasco@nd.edu

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**FOOTBALL WEEKENDS AT THE COLLEGE FOOTBALL HALL OF FAME**

**MARK YOUR CALENDAR**

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**St. John’s**

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Three bedrooms, 2 bathrooms
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Cressy & Everett
Tar Heels
continued from page 28

"It is rather fitting for women's college soccer in general that the two best teams in the country are playing each other in a brand new stadium," Waldrum said, downplaying the meaning of the game to his team.

The last time the two soccer powers clashed was in last year's NCAA National Championship, in which North Carolina topped the Irish 2-1. The winning goal was scored with only two minutes left in regulation time.

"We definitely thought we had the ring on our finger, and then it was ripped off," senior forward Michele Weissenhofer said. "Being the competitors that we are, we will definitely hold that against them."

The team captain's sentiments were echoed by Waldrum.

"It has not been a hard week to get them excited down the road," Waldrum said.

"You know what, I think it's more of seeing where we are at this point in the season, Waldrum said. "Against a Carolina team you have to do a couple of things," Waldrum said. "Over the past few years we've been successful with them and we're sure they're gonna use the same strategy as always. We've got to break their back three in the back are very good and very athletic and we've got to get in behind them. They lure you in and let you think that you have space, but they drop back and defend their space well."

On the other side, Waldrum expects the UNC offense to put pressure on the Irish defense.

"They're more of a direct team, not much of a soccer team, not much of a possession team, Waldrum said. "They want to dump the ball in your end and make you make plays."

The Irish first practiced on the new field at Alumni Stadium Thursday night after first laying eyes on it Tuesday.

Senior defender Haley Ford fields the ball in the 2008 National Championship against North Carolina.

Meet the Author

The University of Notre Dame Press and the Hammes Notre Dame Bookstore invite you to celebrate Father Edward A. Malloy, C.S.C.'s newest book, Monk's Tale

FATHER MALLOY WILL BE AT THE HAMMES NOTRE DAME BOOKSTORE SIGNING HIS BOOK ON FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 4 FROM 12:00 PM - 2:00 PM

Monk's Tale

Edward A. Malloy, C.S.C.

For questions please call 574.631.5757

#2 Women's Soccer

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#1 vs. #2

TONIGHT @ 7:30 PM VS. #1 NORTH CAROLINA FOLLOWING THE PEP RALLY!

SUN., SEPT. 6TH @ 1:30PM VS. WISCONSIN-MILWAUKEE

Both games will take place at the NEW Alumni Field!
Dillon Hall Pep Rally

5:45 PM

South Quad

5:45 PM

In case you were wondering

5:45 PM
10 teams in a week's span. "All the teams have different strengths," Irish coach Debbie Brown said. "It will be a really competitive weekend but we're really excited about it. Our goal is to win the tournament."

The Irish had a strong start to their season, sweeping Denver and Stanford Friday and Saturday before a 3-0 loss to LSU. Senior outside hitter Serenity Phillips and sophomore outside hitter Kristen Dealy both had strong showings over the weekend and were named to the all-tournament team.

"If we are able to execute the things that we worked on in practice this week, then I think we can come back with a win."

Debbie Brown
Irish coach

Among a powerful group of Irish seniors, Dealy is one of the underclassmen making a statement on the court early on in this season. She leads the team in points with 34. Junior Kellie Sciacca and senior Christina Karlin have also been central to the Irish offense this fall, with 24 and 15 kills, respectively. Heading Notre Dame's defensive blocks is senior Tara Enzweiler, followed close behind by Sciacca. However, there's always room for improvement. "We decided to work on the choices in our offense and how we can get to be smoother," Brown said. "We're working on improving our technique and passing on defense. We all felt we didn't serve very well last weekend, and have worked to reduce the number of errors on the court. Irish have excelled so far in the side-out game, reaching close to 70 percent last weekend. "It's hard on the opponent when serving that you aren't able to put a string of points together," Brown said.

Brown said it is difficult to play three games so close together, but that she is confident in her team. "I think we're just taking it one match at a time, which is hard on weekends like this," she said. "We have to be excited too. If we are able to execute the things that we worked on in practice this week, then I think we can come back with a win."

Contact Meaghan Veselik at mvesel01@saintmarys.edu

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It's hardly what you'd call joining the rat race

"Life is what happens while you're busy working," doesn't apply to Deloitte's Cedric Habe. He's able to work in risk consultation and towards his dream of running the 100m dash in the 2012 Olympic Games, simultaneously. All thanks to Deloitte's belief in career-life fit. Catch up with Cedric at www.deloitte.com/myfuture. It's your future. How far will you take it?
Young
expected to carry the load, because we will need them to be comfortable in that role later in the year as the competition becomes more intense."
Juniors Erica Watson and Theresa Cattuna, and sophomores Kari Johnson, Molly Hirt and Susanna Sullivan are all expected to stand out at Friday’s meet for the women’s team. Juniors Spencer Carter, and Ryan Gamboa, and sophomore Kelly Lynch are expected to be top names in the men’s division.
The women’s race begins at 6 p.m. today and the men will follow at 6:45 p.m.
Contact Molly Sammon at mham@nd.edu

Steele
"From an attacking perspective I have high expectations from Micki Hedinger, Sam Smogor and Katelyn Tondo-Steele," Crabbe said. "In addition, Colleen Ferguson, Jess Sloan and Keely Noonan bring a full season of playing together in the midfield this year. On our backline we see two new faces, Corissa Hart and Taylor Paton, joining Romayne and Michelle Marshall. Also, we got Katie Wehrli back in 2009 after she missed much of 2008. I expect every player on our roster to contribute this fall."
Senior Katy Durkin also scored a goal for the Belles in the game against Holy Cross.
Crabbe noted that he wants to see his players take more responsibility for their goals in each game. The Belles dropped eight of their contests last season that were decided by only one goal.

The Belles will turn to senior Bridget Ronayne to lead the defensive squad this season.
Bridget is a very mature player on the field," Crabbe said. "She is a good leader and her teammates respect her. Her success playing in the back for us comes from her ability to read the game and make good decisions under pressure. She is very good at minimizing mistakes which is key as a defender."
The Belles will face Centre College on Saturday at 7 p.m., and then face Transylvania on Sunday at noon.
Contact Kate Grabarek at kgrabarek@saintmarys.edu

A 12-page Sports section is just not enough for the real Notre Dame fan.
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ND SOCCER

Good, Better, Best

No. 2. Irish women to play No. 1 Tar Heels

By DOUGLAS FARMER and MIKE GOTIMER
Sport Writers

Notre Dame opened Alumni Field 19 years and two days ago with a 5-1 victory over Northeast Missouri State. Irish coach Randy Waldrum coached his first game on the Irish bench 10 years and one day ago—a 3-2 overtime loss to No. 1 North Carolina. Today Notre Dame looks to re-write history as the No. 2 North Carolina.

Tonight Notre Dame faces the top-ranked Tar Heels (2-0-0) face the top-ranked Tar Heels (3-0-0) at 7:30 p.m. in the women's first game at newly-opened Alumni Stadium. The game is part of the Inn at St. Mary's Classic. The game is part of the Inn at St. Mary's Classic.

More about the Valparaiso Crusader Open.

ND CROSS COUNTRY

Runners to start off season at Valpo Crusader Open

By MOLLY SAMMON
Sport Writer

The 2009 season opens for both the Irish men's and women's cross country teams today as they travel to Sunset Hills Park in Valparaiso, Ind. for the Valparaiso Crusader Open.

In terms of competition, both teams are looking at Friday's meet as one of the easiest that they will encounter this season and an excellent chance to place in first for a good boost to carry on through the duration of the season.

"This is a very low-key meet, and the only time we're running a six-kilometer race," men's coach Joe Plane said. "We normally run an eight-kilometer race. It will give the guys a sense of confidence."

Since the beginning of the summer, the runners have been preparing daily with the challenges of this season in mind. "Our runners have been training since the end of the outdoor track season for the fall," women's coach Tim Connolly said. "So far, most of our work has been general conditioning work, with very little race-specific work to date. That will come later in the season."

Both teams have been working hard at distance training and not focusing much on interval training. The coaches said that some of the members from each the men's and women's teams have been running 75 miles a week to prepare for this season.

Friday's opening meet is a chance for both teams to use some of their less experienced runners in order for them to get a feel for how they will match up for the remainder of the season as it gets tougher and more competitive.

The group that will compete are people who weren't in the top seven last fall, but certainly have the potential to be contributors this year," Connolly said. "I want to put these people in the position that they are being counted on as scorers and contributors.

ND VOLLEYBALL

No. 7 Michigan awaits Irish in Cincy

By MEAGHAN VESELIK
Sport Writer

After opening the season with two wins and a loss in the Shamrock Invitational, the Irish head to Cincinnati this weekend to face another three challengers at the Xavier Invitational.

No. 7 Michigan (2-1) will go up against Xavier, Tennessee and No. 7 Michigan. Their match against the Wolverines, along with their 3-0 win over No. 5 Stanford at the Shamrock, will be the first time since 2007 that the Irish have taken on two top-7 teams in a weekend. They have their sights set on a chance to face the No. 7 Wolverines.

Just as they did in the Shamrock, the Irish will take on the Big Ten teams with a chance at a ranked win. The Wolverines are coming off a loss to No. 5 Stanford last weekend at the Xavier Invitational, but the Irish have a chance to capture a ranked victory.

Men to take on No. 3 Wake, No. 1 St. John's

By MICHAEL BLASCO
Sport Writer

The Irish are riding high after Tuesday's 5-0 drubbing of No. 21 Michigan that inaugurated the new Alumni Stadium. But Notre Dame may get ripped back to earth with two matches against top-five teams this weekend.

The No. 10 Irish travel to Bloomington, Ind., today to take on No. 3 Wake Forest at the Adidas/IU Credit Union Classic. On Sunday, Notre Dame will clash with No. 1 St. John's in an unofficial Big East showdown.

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Brian Smith hopes to lead the Irish to a fast start against Nevada
Commentary

New mantra for ND: just win, baby

When it comes to team mantras or philosophies, Irish fans have heard it all from in recent years. Weis has asked his team to "get nasty," to "defend right in," and, most recently, to "just show me." Was he an NFL guy, right? So he should be familiar with this little ditty from Guy's old-time Raiders boss Al Davis: "Just win, baby." 

Given the current state of affairs in Oakland, perhaps Davis' Raiders aren't the best role models for this Irish head coach. After all—well, there's something to it.

Role models for this Irish team to "get nasty," to "dive like a team cog," to "get nasty," to "dive like a team cog"—whatever Davis' Raiders aren't the best role models for this Irish team, nonetheless, has been the way Davis' Raiders aren't the best role models for this Irish team, perhaps, to some, signaled the time Raiders time Raiders

A u th o r a n d  not n e cess a rily represent the views of The Observer.

K e yB an k

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Contact Matt Gamber at mgamber@nd.edu
Brian Smith provides Irish linebacking corps with experience, flexibility heading into 2009

By BILL BRINK
Sports Writer

Not to gloriﬁy retribution, but sometimes it can be healhy for a defense.

Ask Brian Smith. After a teammate was illegally blocked during a game — he wouldn’t say which one — Smith called the defense together.

“As a defense we can’t let this happen,” he told his teammates. “Next time you get a shot at this guy, take it.”

Guess who got the ﬁrst shot?

“I cleaned the guy’s clock,” Smith said. “I was trying to send a message to the team. If someone hits you in the mouth, we’re brothers. We gotta take care of each other.”

That sentiment holds true this season, when Smith, a junior, plays an interchangeable role in Notre Dame’s linebacking corps. Smith will play two positions, the weakside and middle linebacker. He’s comfortable playing either, but given the choice, he’d take the Will.

“Because it allows me to run,” he said. “I’m not taking as many blocks. I can come downhill and hit you in the mouth instead of maybe sideways or forwards sometimes.”

What a tough guy, with all his talk about hitting people in the mouth and taking numbers of opposing players he needs to light up later. But there’s a calmer side.

“One thing you’ll ﬁnd on my iPod I don’t have a lot of hard fast songs,” he said. “I like to listen to slow John Legend type of music.”

“If there was anything in the world I could do instead of play football it would be to sing and play the piano like John Legend.”

Can he sing?

“No at all,” he said. “I always sing in the locker room, and they always tell me to shut up.”

He used to learn to play the piano by ear, however, along with the tuba, trumpet, saxophone, drums and bass guitar. Eventually, he realized he wanted to focus on football, and he got tired of music after a while.

Actually, Smith, from Overland Park, Kan., knew since second grade he had a future in football.

“If you’re good in first grade in any form or fashion, you’re going to be the best player out there,” he said. “I was one of the better ones out there and when you’re the best you just want to keep doing it.”

Smith started as a fullback and thought he’d be going to college in the backﬁeld. But during his junior year at St. Thomas Aquinas High School, the team instituted a spread offense, rendering the fullback less important. There was a shortage of linebackers, so Smith told the coaches he could play there.

Once he got to Notre Dame, he played in 11 games his ﬁrst freshman season and started the last three. He started nine games his sophomore year, missing two because of an injury. He had 54 tackles and forced a fumble against Michigan, which he returned 35 yards for a touchdown.

But back to this season, when the Irish linebackers will rotate positions depending on the formation. Smith is ready, the mental capacity for either place, Tenuta said.

“I’m going to show how versatile I am and help me be able to attack from different spots on the ﬁeld, so I’m ready for it.”

Brian Smith Irish linebacker

“I’m not going to get upset because of a bility,” Smith said. “I have a lot of ability.”

Smith said, “We have to work on containing him and play sound football come Saturdays.”

Similar to Navy and Michigan, the Pistols offense allows the quarterback, especially a mobile one like Kaepernick, to scramble and run the option. To prevent this, the players are assigned one of three offensive players to shadow: the quarterback, the “dive man” — the runner who could take a handoff straight up the middle — or the “pitch man,” who swings outside with the quarterback waiting for the ball.

“It’s fun unless sometime you face a team that doesn’t pitch it all the time, and you’re stuck on the pitch man and you’re just out there and you have to go to the pitch man every time, but the time you go happen to not go to the pitch he pitches it,” Smith said.

The defense has at least one inclination, however, of where the ball is headed. The players, Smith said, are taught to read formations to decipher what the offense is most likely to run.

“Coach Tenuta does a good job of drilling us, final formation dictates what the offense is going to do,” he said.

Quite a convergence of events for Smith on Saturday. Two positions to play, the addition of a very talented but still inexperienced linebacker in Te’o, the ﬁrst game of the season against a quarterback with wheels in an unorthodox offensive set.

“It’s going to show how versatile I am and help me be able to attack from different spots on the ﬁeld, so I’m ready for it,” he said.

To illustrate Saturday’s importance, he quoted coach Charlie Weis, who took the mantra from Bill Parcells.

“This is step one of the marathon,” he said. “You want to get off the blocks well in a marathon, start fast and continue on it week by week.”

Contact Bill Brink at wbrink@nd.edu
The Irish, meanwhile, are set to boast their most prolific passing attack since Brady Quinn left campus. A more mature Jimmy Clausen will still have Golden Tate and Michael Floyd to throw to, and Kyle Rudolph is emerging as one of the best pass-catching tight ends in the country. All this serial annoy all needs to be truly elite is a solid third receiver, and Duval Kamara hopes to make that leap this season.

There are many reasons Nevada could make this a close game, but this isn’t one of them. Expect the Irish to throw the ball with success early and often. Though Clausen, may not put up Hawaii Bowl numbers, he could come very close.

**EDGE: NOTRE DAME**

In the offseason, Charlie Weis promised a renewed commitment to the running game, analyzing the rushing attacks of all 10 BCS teams from last season. Junior Armando Allen is now the full-time starting running back, with junior Robert Hughes and Jonas Gray waiting in the wings.

Hughes won’t be available for his debut at placekicker from the freshman on teams is kick returner Theo Riddick. The Irish may have the talent advantage, but you can never tell how freshmen will respond to the big stage.

**EDGE: EVEN**

The Irish defense will struggle a little against the Wolfpack through the air and potentially on the ground as well. They aren’t outthink himself, the Wolfpack through asserting his will against Nevada pass defense. Weis has an astounding array of weapons at his disposal, from Golden Tate to Armando Allen to Michael Floyd...

Charlie Weis takes back the reigns as play caller, and should be licking his chops going up against a weak Nevada pass defense. Weis has an astounding array of weapons at his disposal, from Golden Tate to Armando Allen to Michael Floyd... Weis should be able to assert his will against the Wolfpack through the air and potentially on the ground as well. As long as Weis doesn’t outthink himself, this one really won’t be that close.

**EDGE: NOTRE DAME**

There aren’t many nice things to say about Nevada’s pass defense. The unit ranked 119th among Division I FBS teams last season, giving up a whopping 311 yards per game last season. The lone bright spot for the Wolfpack is senior safety Jonathan Amaya, who led the team in tackles and interceptions in 2008.

**EDGE: NOTRE DAME**

In the Irish Offense vs. Wolfpack Defense

Nick Tausch makes his debut at placekicker Saturday, and we’ll see if there are any nerves on the freshman on opening day. Another freshman starting on special teams is kick returner Theo Riddick. The coaching staff has gushed about his talent and stressed the need to get him on the field.

The Irish may have the talent advantage, but you can never tell how freshmen will respond to the big stage.

**EDGE: EVEN**

The Irish defense will struggle a little against the pistol at the outset, but the offense should click the entire game. Kyle Rudolph has a career day with over 100 yards and close to 10 catches. Adjustments at the half and a little experience against Kaepernick and the formation will lead to a few stops, and Notre Dame pulls away late.

The Wolfpack offense won’t have the passing game to come from behind when forced to throw the football. Manti Te’o will see a lot of the field and will not disappoint, and Nick Tausch will make every kick he gets a look at in his debut.

**FINAL SCORE: Notre Dame 34, Nevada 28**

**FINAL SCORE: Notre Dame 41, Nevada 28**

**FOR MORE MATCHUPS AND PREGAME ANALYSIS, VISIT IRISHINSIDER.COM**
While Wolfpack quarterback Colin Kaepernick is a perfectly capable passer, he doesn't really have anyone to throw to this year. Nevada returns only two receivers who actually caught a pass last year because of injury, but led the WAC in rushing in 2007 with more than 1,400 yards and 15 touchdowns. Any time a team can boast three 1,000-yard rushers — no matter what kind of offense they run — that's pretty good.

The Wolfpack stable will be only be because they don't have to. Anytime a team can boast three 1,000-yard rushers — no matter what kind of offense they run — that's pretty good. The Wolfpack stable will be going up against an inexperienced front line that includes only two players with more than a year of playing time.

The Irish youth will have to play beyond their years if they hope to contain the Wolfpack, a tall order for any defense.

EDGE: NEVADA

Like the Irish, Nevada's kick returner is a young player who's just too talented to keep off the field. Redshirt freshman Mike Anello is back 100 percent from last year's broken leg. Kaepernick is a perfectly capable passer, but could make an impact returning kicks.

The Irish can't afford to sleepwalk through a game against an inexperienced team that includes only two players with more than a year of playing time.

EDGE: EVEN

Jon Tenuta is calling the plays on defense now, and he comes with Gerwin Brown to form one of best defensive coaching tandems in the country.

The Irish secondary should be able to cover Taua out of the backfield. Freshman Manti Te'o, junior Brian Smith and sophomore Darius Fleming can provide help against the pass.

The only situation where Notre Dame might struggle is if Nevada is successful running the ball that it opens up opportunities for Kaepernick downfield.

EDGE: NOTRE DAME

Brian Smith and sophomores Darius Fleming can provide help against the pass. The only situation where Notre Dame might struggle is if Nevada is successful running the ball that it opens up opportunities for Kaepernick downfield.
What song is most played on your iPod right now? Grace is Gone by Dave Matthews.

What's your favorite TV show? The Real World on MTV. Joey was my favorite character before he left.

What's the toughest class you ever took at Notre Dame? Accounting I. It's like another language to me.

What's your favorite location on campus that has nothing to do with football? North Dining Hall. I love the make-your-own pizza and a glass of chocolate milk.

If you could have one superpower, what would it be? I'd like to be invisible.
Kaepernick perfect fit for Ault's unique pistol offense

By MICHAEL BRYAN
Assistant Sports Editor

Nevada quarterback Colin Kaepernick is to the pistol what Tim Tebow is to Urban Meyer's spread offense the perfect dual-threat leader. The 2008 WAC Offensive Player of the Year will be featured Saturday in Wolfpack coach Chris Ault's innovative formation, and will be the biggest threat to an Irish victory in the season opener.

Kaepernick, a junior, has thrived as a freshman and sophomore in the formation, and will be one of the top offensive players in the nation. He has all the physical qualities, according to Verducci, a "fantastic runner" who can "take it to the outside or go up the middle, with or without protection." He has the speed and quickness to "go with the defense."

Verducci added, though, that he believes in Kaepernick's long coaching history.

"To be honest, I really didn't have much of a choice but to put all my trust and faith in Coach Verducci, to know that he's going to do the right thing to put us in the best position to win," Olsen said.

Olsen will be replacing senior Dan Wenger, who just a few weeks ago was placed on the Rimington Award Watch List, for the nation's top center.

Olsen is now listed as a back-up behind senior Chris Stewart, and Wes indicated that he would play in Saturday's opener against the Irish.

"I'm just a little nervous that the whole season at left guard, into senior year, after starting the next level, but he does have the NFL helping him see Olsen's potential," Olsen said that, initially, he was a bit hesitant to make the switch.

"It's a personal level, going into senior year, after starting the whole season at left guard, it was a little nervousness that came with that," he said. "Starting a new position, trying a new thing on having the responsibility of snapping the ball.

"When you come in you kind of have to help the team, yeah, it's going to help the team," Olsen said that even though he was a little nervousness at first, the move to center could be dividends for him.

"That's what you're thinking a few years down the road. After being granted a higher status, you're thinking a few years down the road. After being granted a higher status, you want to get that job back, because that's what you want to do."

Olsen said that, initially, he had a learning curve in the position.

"He has all the physical qualities," Verducci said. "I think the hardest thing is the mental part of the game. At the other four positions, you're basically being told if there are any adjustments, if you're the center, you're telling what those adjustments are.

Verducci, though, had other things on his mind.

"Let's get past the first snap of the first game, and then we'll get past the first series or whatever, we've got the coaching staff to get it adjusted on the sideline."

With both Lippincott and Taua healthy, it seems likely that Ault will incorporate formations using one back behind Kaepernick and Olsen to his side. The pistol variations Ault may use Saturday will illustrate a disciplined and focused effort from the Irish defense.

"We're ready for any adjustment. And our guys have prepared, we've got a large package against the conventional offers."

"So whatever Nevada comes out and lines up, after — we'll be ready for it. And if we're not, after the first series or whatever, we've got the coaching staff to get it adjusted on the sideline."

While Kaepernick's mastery of the pistol running attack averaging seven yards per carry in 2008) has grown his reputation as a runner, he has also showed off his passing ability at times. In the Wolfpack's win over Maryland in the Humanitarian Bowl he threw for 117 yards while his running game was limited by a foot injury, and was named the bowl's most valuable player in the Nevada loss.

With Notre Dame's_template: "We're not ready for it. And if we're not, after the first series or whatever, we've got the coaching staff to get it adjusted on the sideline."

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With Notre Dame's template: "We're not ready for it. And if we're not, after the first series or whatever, we've got the coaching staff to get it adjusted on the sideline."

Contact Michael Bryan at mhbryan@nd.edu
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Papa Predicts

NOTRE DAME—38
Nevada—17

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