Health care debate discussed
Rising costs, limited access and lack of sustainability cause confusion

By JOHN TIERNEY
News Writer

Editor's note: This is the first installment in a two-part series examining some issues in the health care debate in the United States.

The complex health care picture in the United States can be broken down into three major issues, according to Bill Evans, a professor of Economics and Econometrics who specializes in health economics.

Evans said the main issues in the health care sector are rising costs, limited access and the lack of sustainability of Medicare.

"We seem to have no handle on costs," Evans said. "The cost of medical care is increasing at a much higher rate than inflation. The cost of insurance is increasing faster than inflation."

One problem with the rising cost of health care is that it impacts wages, Evans said. "Most people receive health care from private insurance, and most insurance is provided by employers," Evans said. "The cost of insurance is coming from the wages of workers."

Evans said a common misconception about employer-based health insurance is that the employer is paying for the insurance. However, he said workers ultimately pay in the form of receiving lower wages. "Because of the rising cost in health care, there is a limited growth in other components of compensation," Evans said.

The second problem of the U.S. healthcare system — limited access — is the easiest problem to solve, he said. The uninsured rate can be lowered by heavily subsidizing insurance for low-income people and establishing individual mandates that require everyone to have health insurance. These solutions to the problem of access have been proposed in the ongoing Congressional debates on health care, he said.

But Evans said the proposals to expand access are not problem-free. "Few of the proposals are doing anything on the cost side," he said.

They also do not address the third major problem of the healthcare system, which is Medicare. "Medicare is a time bomb," Evans said.

Initiative raises funds for water development

By LAURA McCRYSTAL
News Writer

Student government will launch "The Global Water Initiative" — a year-long fundraising and awareness campaign for water development with a T-shirt giveaway, lecture and benefit concert Tuesday night.

The initiative marks the first time that Notre Dame student government has focused on one social issue for an entire year. Rachel Roseberry, chair of the Senate social concerns committee, said, "We can pick an issue and really make a difference." Roseberry said, "Water is a fundamental issue. Globally more than one in six people are without access to safe drinking water."

All of the money that student government raises will go to The Water Project, a non-profit organization. The funds will be used to dig wells in Kenya and possibly Uganda, Roseberry said.

Justin Pham, director of the Global Water Initiative project, said the organization was carefully chosen and they are confident in the work that The Water Project does.

"The issue of water development is so complex and there are so many issues surrounding it, we wanted to make sure that we chose a non-profit that would address all those issues," Pham said.

Student government also collaborated on the project with the Ford Family Program

DuBois looks at religious issues

By JIM FERLMANN
News Writer

The government needs to make contact with non-profit groups to help shape faith-based initiatives from the federal level, The Rev. Joshua Dubois said Monday.

Dubois, a Pentecostal minister and Executive Director of the White House Office of Faith-Based and Neighborhood Partnerships, spoke to an audience of about 50 students, faculty and community members at Golden Hall auditorium.

"President Obama's logic behind the re-launching of this office is based on two foundational concepts," Dubois said. "The first is that we are facing significant challenges in our nation and across the globe ... The se..."
**Inside Column: Civantos Hall**

The year is 2030 A.D. The coal plant on campus has been replaced by a windmill. The squirrels on South Quad are the size of cats. And I am a guizillionaire. That last thing is the least likely to happen. I'm a Program of Liberal Studies major, which means, by definition, that I'll make peanuts after graduation. If I'm lucky enough to have a job at all. But it is still undergrad. We get an ancient place — Waddick's is my second home. Here's what I would do if I had a gazillion dollars in 2030 A.D.:

**Civantos Hall**

- **By Tess Civantos**
- **News Writer**

"How much I wanted to push the Purdue fans in front of me off the stands."

"Not again!"

"I waslone in a bar in Ontario, and I wanted to kill myself."

"It shouldn't be this close."

"I should probably wake up from my nap now..."

"Woo! We're going to win!"

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**Question of the Day:** What were you thinking about during the end of the Purdue game?

Brooke Reid  
Johnsen Lewis  

MaryJeanne Brenholts  

Matt Cook  

Michael Selep  

Rory Norton  

Zoe Evans  

sophomore  

Levis  

freshman  

Levis  

freshman  

O'Neill  

senior  

off campus  


**Offbeat**

Islamist party wants Boycott to cancel concert

KUALA LUMPUR (Reuters) — Malaysia's opposition Islamist party wants U.S. pop star Boycott to cancel a planned concert in this Southeast Asian country, two years after it prevented the singer from performing in the country.

Best of all will be the library. It will be enormous, with at least three copies of every book. Every effort will be made to exactly replicate the library from Disney's Beauty and the Beast. There will be a Waddick's, of course, with its usual chandelier, lots of cozy reading nooks and wide windows framed by long, luxurious curtains.

That is, of course, when the classes will be held outside on a grassy lawn. My astrology books were held in the library, but I'm a PLS major so the classrooms will be held in the big new College of Arts and Letters building with cramped classrooms. Inside, the high, arching glass ceiling will feature everything beloved by liberal arts kids. There will be a lot more bookshelves, and no pesky art gallery across the hall. A chandelier, lots of cozy reading nooks and wide windows framed by long, luxurious curtains.

"I've already picked out a location for Civantos Hall. Have you ever run around St. Mary's Lake and seen that plaque concerning the body of a body that was found on the lake? That's where I'll build it. Just wait for it. We only have 20 years to go.

**Contact Tess Civantos at civantos@nd.edu**

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**Correction**

The views expressed in the Inside Column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer. Contact Tess Civantos at civantos@nd.edu.

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**Students participate in a barefoot three versus three soccer game Saturday to benefit Grassroots, an AIDS prevention charity.**

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**In Brief**

A lecture entitled "Memor Across Generations: The Meaning of 1968 in Military Brazil" will be held at 12:30 p.m. today. The lecture will be held in C-103 in the Hesburgh Center.

"Experimental Characterization of Buffer Layer Structures: Associate with Extreme Wall Stress Events in a Layer" will be held at 5:30 p.m. in 128 DeBartolo Hall today.

Daily Mass will be held in the Basilica of the Sacred Heart today at 11:30 a.m. and 5:15 p.m.

The Post Graduate Service Fair will be held in the Stapleton Lounge at Saint Mary's College today at 5:00 p.m.

Part one of the four-part Internship Prep Seminar will be held at Saint Mary's College today. The seminar will be located in 137 Spes Unica and will begin at 6:30 p.m.

The Catholic Culture Literature Series: "Close to Catholic: A Celebration of Kindred Spirits" will be held at 8 p.m. The lecture will be in 155 DeBartolo Hall today.

A movie entitled "The Man Who Would be Polka King" will show at 7 p.m. in the Browning Cinema, DeBartolo Performing Arts Center tomorrow. To reserve tickets, call 574-631-2800. Tickets are free.

To submit information to be included in this section of The Observer, e-mail detailed information about an event to observerquestions@gmail.com.
By JILLIAN STINCHCOMB

Tuesday, September 29, 2009

The Observer • CAMPUS NEWS

Students, staff satisfied by Google

Office of Information Technology says G-mail received an increase of 36 percent in satisfaction

By JILLIAN STINCHCOMB

News Writer

The first year with Google has "absolutely" been a positive experience, Katie Rose of the Office of Information and Technology (OIT) said.

Incoming freshmen of the Class of 2012 were introduced to Notre Dame Gmail in May 2008, and the rest of the upperclassmen made the switch on Sept. 3 of last year.

"All 12,000 accounts were switched in one day," Rose said.

OIT made the switch for several reasons.

"All of the stars aligned," Rose said.

In January 2008, Legacy, the old Notre Dame server for e-mail, informed OIT that they would stop supporting parts of the old infrastructure.

Meanwhile, the majority of student government candidates in that spring had at least part of their platform based on improving e-mail, particularly by switching to Google.

"Students were asking for Google in a variety of ways," she said.

Students are making use of the applications available to them on Gmail. "I use all the apps available," Kevin McKenzie, a sophomore, said. "Gmail, obviously, but I also update my calendar almost every day, chat with classmates about projects, and use Google Docs consistently. Also, I have the Ninja theme as my background of my Gmail."

Junior Chris Dinkins, who is on the cheerleading team, uses the cheerleading Google calendar to keep track of events. "It's very convenient and easy to use," he said.

He also uses Google Docs with his work at OIT, when they are testing new software.

Sophomore Stephanie Sansone uses the start page for weather, Observer news and her Google Calendar. "We saw a 36 percent increase in student satisfaction with mail," Rose said in reference to the yearly satisfaction survey.

"It's harder to tell how much use the other apps are getting, since they weren't available with the Legacy server, but students as well as clubs are using Calendars (such as the cheerleading squad) and Google docs.

Google has been a great support. Since Google is in charge of their apps, "there's much less internal maintenance," Rose said.

Google also has a blog and Twitter account to support students, give tips and answer questions, as well as their continued technological improvements.

For OIT, however, the most important aspect is student satisfaction.

"The biggest benefit is better teaming with the students. Google improved our relations with the students. It's been a fantastic move for us." Katie Rose

Office of Information Technology

Tuesday, September 29, 2009

This is the last chance to attend the Study Abroad in Perth, Australia Information Meeting.

Contact Jillian Stinchcomb at jstinchcm@nd.edu

Study Abroad in Perth, Australia

Information Meeting

Wednesday, September 30, 2009
5:30 PM  140 DeBartolo Hall

For ALPP and ANTH

College of Science

College of Engineering

Application Deadline is November 15, 2009

www.nd.edu/~ois

SGA

Budget to be set next meeting

By NIKKI TAYLOR

News Writer

Saint Mary's Student Government Association (SGA) is off to a successful year with its first sponsored event, a trip to Notre Dame College, running smoothly this past weekend, student body president Jenny Hoffman said.

A total of 37 Saint Mary's students went on the bus trip to the all-male Wabash college in Crawfordsville, Ind. Hoffman attended the trip and deemed it a "great success."

With two resolutions passed and one event under their belt SGA is preparing to finalize their budget next week, Hoffman said.

 Clubs and organizations can now begin to request allotments of funds. These funds will cover office supplies and other basics that clubs need to conduct regular business. Co-sponsorships will be available for trips or conferences but will require a separate petition to SGA before funds are granted, Hoffman said.

Another project that SGA is undertaking is researching the computer networks and services of peer institutions in order to propose changes to Saint Mary's ResNet. SGA is currently talking to ResNet to see more ResNet support of SGA and other student organization computers. They would also like to see some printers in the residence halls and for all the halls to be equipped with wireless internet access, Hoffman and student body vice president Meg Griffin said.

Peer institutions are schools with similar statistics such as enrollments including some that are also single sex. Some of the peer institutions that Hoffman and Griffin are talking to are Smith College, Mount Holyoke College and Stephen's College, which are all all-female, Hoffman said.

Hoffman and Griffin are still accumulating data on peer institutions but did offer a report of what they have found thus far.

The network administrators of most schools of similar size to Saint Mary's offer support to student organization computers; most ResNet offices hold similar hours to that of Saint Mary's, and about half offer printers in the residence halls, Griffin said.

"We're looking for better justification to ask our ResNet for what we want," Hoffman said.

SGA's new Facebook page is now up and running. Students can "Friend" SGA to keep links to their events calendar and also to see status updates, which will serve as reminders for events around campus, public relations coordinator Caitlin O'Brien said.

"We've been here a month and we've already had a successful event and passed two resolutions. I think it's going really well," Hoffman said to the Board.

Contact Nikki Taylor at staylor01@nd.edu
DuBois

continued from page 1

and thing is that we can meet these challenges, but we can’t do it in Waco alone.”

DuBois stressed the importance of the government enlisting the help of non-profit groups.

“Instead, it’s incumbent upon us in the government to connect with these real change agents: The churches that are feeding the hungry. The non-profit groups that are giving dropouts a second chance and helping prisoners.”

According to DuBois, universities and colleges can play a major role in reform.

“That’s where change happens: with community serving institutions and faith-based groups. With you,” he said.

He said he would like for his office to connect with smaller organizations to bring about change.

“My office is a facilitator to provide a link between the government and the grassroots.”

Rev. Joshua DuBois  
Protestant minister

Hannah

continued from page 1

common concern of children with differences, he said.

“I am who will care for them if the parents are unable, Eventually, the Weis’ settled on founding Hannah House and a broader notion of effective partnership.”

DuBois also said his office was not an advocate for the president’s agendas, but there were still points in which political conjecture made its way into the lecture, especially concerning the health care debate.

“We want you to hear about the Global Water Initiative, and to learn something about it too,” Roseberry said. After Tuesday’s events, Student Government will work to involve more campus groups in the fundraising process.

There’s a unique way to bring everyone together, Roseberry said. “Ideally, we’d like to involve every student and have every student feel like they’re a part of this.”

Future events for the initiative will include a documentary film screening, forums and fundraisers including the possibility of a benefit CD featuring Notre Dame student performers.

The idea originally grew out of student body president Grant Schmidt and the president’s girlfriend’s campaign last spring. They realized that by focusing on one issue, student government and the student body could make a tangible difference, Roseberry said.

“This is one of the best places to start an initiative like this,” Pham said.

Roseberry and Pham said they are unable to set a specific fundraising goal because they do not want to aim too low. The cost of one shallow well in Africa is $4,500 to $5,000, but they hope that if the money will build more than one.

“The hasn’t happened before,” Roseberry said. “We’d like to present this from as many perspectives as possible because it’s such a complex issue.”

Contact Laura McCrystal at lmcrye@nd.edu

For information, contact Judy Madden 631-8508 or jmadden2@nd.edu
INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Terror charges dropped against activist HARRARE, Zimbabwe — A prominent humanitarian who co-accused cannot be tried — now or in the future — on terror charges because they were beaten and tortured, a high, Zimbabwe's Supreme Court ruled Monday.

ChieflJusticegodfrey Chidyausiku said the court was issuing a permanent stay of prosecution in the case of Jestina Mako in and a dozen other defendants because their constitutional rights had been violated.

Such a ruling from judges appointed by longtime President Robert Mugabe could signal a significant turning point in the country's troubled unity government. But in a country that seems to be heading from promising to perilous from day to day, trends are hard to spot.

Abuse led woman to kill daughter, self LONDON — Years of torment from young boys led a despairing single mother to kill herself and her disabled daughter, and police inaction contributed to the deaths, a British inquest jury ruled Monday.

Flora Pilkington suffered more than a decade of abuse from a gang of youths who tormented her family by urinating on her house, taunting her developmentally challenged daughter and beating her severely disabled son.

HONDURAS

President tries to appease citizens TEGUCIGALPA — The coup-installed president of Honduras backed down Monday from an almost four-day standoff with protesters and suggested he would restore civil liberties and reopen closed television and radio stations by the end of the week.

But police ruled supporters of ousted President Manuel Zelaya who gathered for a large-scale protest march, setting off a days long standoff. The government of interim President Roberto Micheletti declared the march illegal, sent soldiers to silence dissenting broadcasters, and suspended civil liberties for 45 days.

But in a sudden reversal, Micheletti said Monday he was aware of a plan to topple his government and said he would lift them by the end of the week. But by Wednesday, he said he was changing his mind.

He also repeated his pledge not to attack the Brazilian Embassy, where Zelaya has been held up by 60 supporters since sneaking back into the country on Sept. 11. He even "banged a big gong" to Brazil’s president, a day before giving him a 10-day ultimatum to expel Zelaya or move to Brazil.

The increasingly authoritarians measures by the government had prompted international condemnation, though the U.S. representative to the Organization of American States also had harsh words for Zelaya, calling his return to Honduras "unlawful and illegal.

The Micheletti government says Zelaya supporters are planning a violent insurrection. So far, protests have been peaceful, but to the extent the police are going to attack the law, "that doesn't mean the police are going back to barracks.

Monday's march drew hundreds of people, many of whom covered their mouths with tape to protest government censorship. Protest leaders insisted that thousands more were trying to join but were stopped by leaving poorer neighborhoods or from traveling from the countryside.

Supporters of Honduras' ousted president pray at the Brazilian embassy in Tegucigalpa Monday. The government is backing off of its measures to retain power.

Associated Press

LOCAL NEWS

Boy loses foot to passing train INDIANAPOLIS — A 9-year-old boy is recovering after his left foot was severed by a passing train.

Authorities say Phillip Cross and two friends were walking along railroad tracks about 8 p.m. Sunday as a 51-car CNX train traveling less than 10 mph approached.

One of Cross' friends stumbled on some rocks and his left leg fell across the train and as the train began to move, it dragged him, clipping Phillip's shoulder from behind and spun him around until his leg landed beneath the train. The boy's foot was found on his part to the train about 300 yards away.

Renee will change religious life for good

NEW YORK — Organized religion was already in trouble in the U.S. before the fall of 2008. Denominations were stagnating or shrinking, and church attendees are in the millions, not the billions. Faith groups were fretting about their future.

The Great Recession made things worse.

It further drained the financial resources of many congregations, severing ties with wealthy donors and local businesses. Some congregations have disappeared and schools have been closed.

In a recent survey, the Associated Press found 30 percent of congregations say they're in serious financial trouble, says David Rozzen, a lead researcher for the Faith Communities Today multi-faith survey, which measures congregational health annually. "With around 320,000 or 350,000 congregations, that's a hell of a lot of them.

The sense of community that holds together religious groups is broken when large numbers of people move to find work or if a ministry is forced to close.

"I'm really still in the mourning process," says Eve Fein, former head of the now-shuttered Morasha Jewish Day School in Rancho Santa Margarita, California.
Zazi taken to New York for conspiracy charges

Associated Press

NEW YORK — After initially being charged along with his father and the Imam with lying to investigators, Zazi was due in federal court in Brooklyn on Tuesday for an arraignment on charges he conspired to use weapons of mass destruction. The 24-year-old airport van driver has said he was not involved.

A letter written by Brooklyn detectives Shortly before what was supposed to be hydrogen peroxide and acetone, which can be key ingredients for homemade bombs, authorities have said.

Before the raid, police detectors picked up acetone, a Queens Imam at a mosque where Zazi had once worshipped — photographs of him and three possible suspects, court papers say. It was unclear whether those three were the same ones suspected of arming Zazi in Denver.

Tuesday, September 29, 2009
The company agreed to pick up all increases in health care (premiums), sight unseem. The deal affects Harrah’s Resort Atlantic City, Caesars Atlantic City, Bally’s Atlantic City, and the Showboat Casino Hotel. But it is expected to become the blueprint for deals with the remaining six casinos that are not yet under contract.

McDevitt said the union has "no interest in negotiating changes now that we have an approved contract."

But he said the bargaining committee was careful to ask for a deal that would be acceptable to all 11 of the city’s casinos.

The union has an existing contract in place with the Borgata Hotel Casino & Spa.

McDevitt said Trump Entertainment Resorts, which has three casinos here and is operating under Chapter 11 bankruptcy protection, is studying the deal reached with the four Harrah’s Entertainment Inc. casinos.

In his praise of the deal, Don McDevitt, the Eastern Division president of Harrah’s, appeared to refer indirectly to torturous negotiations with the United Auto Workers involving dealers, which have degenerated into a costly, bitter fight that is scaring away customers.

Two and a half years after the union won representation elections at four Atlantic City casinos, it has yet to sign a deal with the four Harrah’s casinos. But it is expected to become the blueprint for deals with the remaining six casinos that are not yet under contract.

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Woman commits suicide by jumping off of bridge

Daughter of heiress found 24 miles north of New York City after jumping Sunday

Associated Press

TARRYTOWN, N.Y. — A family member found 24-year-old Victoria Douglas, the granddaughter of Detroit News publisher Dean Scripps, by jumping off of a bridge near the hamlet of Zee Bridge with a suicide note. The body was found in the icy water, freezing, there was snow on the ground and the sun was coming up the day that the body was found.

Police found Petitto’s body Tuesday morning on the north side of Tarrytown Reservoir, a half-block from her home on the job.

“T could not help but think of the little girl’s two older step-sisters, who feared the news of their father’s death for the first time,” said Petitto’s sister. “It’s absolutely heartbreaking.”

“She loved their sister,” said another.

Petitto’s career as district attorney began with the sensational case of Scott Douglas’s murder trial. Douglas, a 47-year-old wine wd and mother of six, was found dead in the house and saw either the attacker or her aftermath.

“T had a feeling there was something wrong,” said Petitto’s sister. “I was scared and I was terrified.”

By jumping off of bridge

The suicide came 15 years after her father committed suicide at the same bridge, leaving a suicide note and a note saying he would face the same. The family has always been the same way.

“My last words to her were ‘Mommy, boo-boo’s,’” Petitto said.

Too many lives have ended in this way. The truth is the effect of that crime lives on in the family and friends of the victim. The truth is the effect of the effect.

“T was 15 years old when I first heard of the murder,” said Petitto’s sister. “I was scared and I was terrified.”

The murder of a young man who was on vacation, the case proved to be a difficult one. The court realized that the case was over.

“The court realizes that the case is over,” said Petitto’s sister. “It’s the effect of the effect of the effect.”

The little girl’s two older step-sisters feared their father’s return, and when his body wash up in the Bronx on March 30, 1994, Petitto said, “I was scared and I was terrified.”

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Judge allows Smart to testify in proceedings

Associated Press

Brian Smart, who is accused of murdering his estranged wife, will be allowed to testify in proceedings for the man charged with her 2002 abduction.

In a ruling Monday, U.S. District Judge Dale Kimball said Smart’s testimony is relevant to the issue of Britain’s ability to meet the nuclear power standard. Smart is scheduled to provide his testimony Thursday.

Smart was 14 when she was abducted from her Salt Lake City home. She was found nine months later in a suburb with Mitchell and his estranged wife.

Your Classroom in the Aran Islands

Information Session

University College Dublin
Dublin, Ireland

Immerse into an Irish University and still be part of a Notre Dame campus

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6:00 pm 129 Hayes Healy


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Terry F. Crawford, Dean

The Observer • NEWS

Tuesday, September 29, 2009
Teens fatally beat 16-year-old boy with railroad ties

Associated Press

CHICAGO — Cell phone footage showing a group of teenagers striking a 16-year-old honors student with splintered railroad ties has sparked outrage among Chicago officials to address child-toting problems and dozens of deaths of city teens each year.

The graphic video of the afternoon melee emerged on local news stations over the weekend, showed the fatal beating of Derrion Albert, a sophomore at Christian Fenger Academy. His death was the latest addition to a trend that keeps getting higher. More than 150 children have been killed last school year, and the city could exceed that number this year.

Six of the seven Chicago teenagers on Monday who were charged in the beating, according to authorities, went to a bus stop when he got caught up in the mob street fighting, according to authorities. The violence stemmed from a shouted early Thursday morning involving two groups of students from different neighborhood high schools. Albert was not a student of one of the groups, but friends of the two groups began fighting outside Fenger High School, an AP source said.

The attack, captured in part on cell phone video, shows Albert being caught in the middle of a group of several young men wielding wooden planks. After he falls to the ground, a boy, who was reputed to have struck him, is seen getting up, he is struck again and then kicked.

Prosecutors charged Silvouis Shannon, 19, Eugene Riley, 18, and Derrion Albert, 16, with first-degree murder, and they were ordered held without bond on a $1 million bond to kick out at the Cook County Public Defender’s Office. The Cook County Public Defender’s Office, which represented the three teenagers, said it had not had the opportunity to file an immediate comment Monday.

Chicago police said the teens are pending a fourth suspect and that they are looking for any additional witnesses, but would not discuss a possible motive for the attack.

Simpson added that Albert was a bystander and not part of either group. Albert said he was knocked to the ground and stabbed him. Gray, crying, said he was just trying to get his revenge and didn’t mind getting a little prep aid to the experience. Smith stabbed him more than 30 times, holding the handle of the knife in his left hand, before pulling out a folding knife and stabbing Albert once again.

Simpson added that Albert’s case was pending and that he was fooled by the victim, who had been 11 and had never really been alive, he said. "That’s the sad part."

"That’s good," said Smith on the phone. "He’s taken down."

"Tell the other kids to take this address," the other boy added.

"I don’t think 100 years would be enough, just for the fact that he’s gone and they’re still alive, and we don’t get to ‘em no longer alive,’" he said. "That’s the sad part."
Whose side is Holder on?

Last month, Attorney General Eric Holder announced that the Justice Department will investigate whether Bush-era CIA agents should face prosecution for suspected prisoner abuse. His statement came on the heels of the Department of Justice’s release of a 2004 report from the agency’s inspector general describing the alleged use of interrogations tactics, with both decisions sparking fury among conservatives as well as former CIA Director Leon Panetta, a Democrat and an Obama appointee.

Critics received support from seven former CIA directors on Sept. 19, who requested that the president call off the criminal probe in a letter to the White House. These seven directors served under both Republican and Democratic presidents.

“This approach will seriously damage the willingness of many other intelligence officers to take risks to protect the country,” the letter states. “In our judgment the willingness of many other intelligence officers to take risks to protect the country is essential to our national security. We believe that any decision to prosecute these officers will deter them from making future decisions to protect our country.”

Yet the most alarming of Holder’s actions involves his efforts to win clemency for a group of terrorists known as FALN.

Back in the 1970s and 1980s, members of the Armed Forces of National Liberation (FALN) is the Spanish acronym) was a paramilitary group seeking Puerto Rican independence from the U.S. through violent means. Carried out a series of brutal attacks on American targets that included bombings, arson, armed robberies, kidnappings and prison escapes. The most horrific of these attacks occurred in 1975, when a bomb exploded inside a tavern in Manhattan during the lunch-hour rush, killing four and injuring 60 innocent bystanders.

The eventual capture and conviction of professional FALN members halted their reign of terror. Then in 1999, President Bill Clinton offered clemency to 16 of the prisoners. Those who had worked tirelessly to put them behind bars were livid, along with family members of those slain.

But it wasn’t until January of 2009, during Holder’s confirmation hearings, that the public learned of the details surrounding our current attorney general’s role in Clinton’s contentious decision.

In 1993, a self-identified human rights organization calling itself “Offensiva 92” filed a petition for clemency on behalf of the imprisoned FALN members because the prisoners, according to a House Committee on Government Reform report, “refused to part in any process that would legitimate the government’s actions against them, therefore they refused to file their own petitions.” Under normal circumstances, the Justice Department only considers clemency if a prisoner files a petition. Officials were apparently willing to make an exception in this case, however, because the petition portrayed the prisoners as innocent freedom fighters rather than violent terrorists.

In fact, the prisoners were described in the aforementioned congressional report as “very unlikely candidates for clemency” on the grounds that “they did not admit to wrongdoing and they had not renounced violence before such a renunciation had been made a quid pro quo for the release. They expressed no contrition for their wrongdoing and they had not renounced violence under any condition.”

But these circumstances did little to temper Holder’s efforts to win clemency for a group of terrorists known as FALN.

...
Burrito blues

As a resident of the Fiddy Street Common, I was thrilled when I discovered that the Chipotle would be opening so soon. I was even more excited when I discovered that it was going to be open until at least 8:30 p.m. Is that what the promotion stated was the ending time? No. If the manager had not cut off the line, they would have been serving burritos for at least an hour after the time that the line off. I promise, it DID take an hour and a half. Furthermore, the restaurant did not exhibit: a truly inspiring piece of work that may even teach some struggling wannabes how to drop a few pounds and exhibit a debilitating and life-threatening disorder.

No band, no excuses

We don't want to hear excuses about how the band is going to San Antonio this year, etc.; etc. At the VERY LEAST, band members should have been encouraged to VOLUN­
TARY attend the Purdue game Saturday night, just like the 90 percent of the end zone fans who were there rooting for Notre Dame. The volunteer band members could have signed any necessary waiver to the University, etc. At the VERY LEAST, band members should have been encouraged to VOLUN­
By JORDAN GAMBLE  
Assistant Scene Editor

I like it but I’m too ashamed to tell anyone except the entire readership of The Observer. Hello, my name is Jordan, and I’m a Mileyholic.

After watching the Irish crush Purdue’s hopes and dreams last Saturday night, after screaming and singing our fight song and weeping through throngs of disheartened Boilermaker fans, after trudging 4.8 miles to the public pay lot on the southern edge of Purdue’s campus, I felt the urge. The urge to crack up Miley Cyrus in my Pontiac and belt out, “I throw my hands up, I throw my hands up.”

Miley Cyrus’s latest release is one of those songs that you don’t like to admit to liking. It’s derivative, naïve and ridiculous, which is exactly why I love it. I have always adored “Party in the U.S.A.” because it never fails to make me nostalgic, equally and incredibly confident in my singing ability all at once.

It’s derivative.

It meshes together all the carefree summer songs of my youth, the ones that I enjoyed on my cassette player after my mom would turn it off. My sister and I would put on Hanson and sing along to the entire album on repeat. Then we graduated to the Spice Girls and their catchy, but so is the flu, and I think I’d rather have the latter stuck in my head all day. Miley Cyrus’ people understand that about half her demographic consists of closet listeners, who are yearning for the mindless, lyrical, simplistic pop that speaks to the ears, shes famous because her father is.

She’s not her own person. She doesn’t have little computer help, Miley’s voice is just tuneful and her step for step. It’s nasally.

Duh. Everyone knows Miley Cyrus can’t sing. Obviously, Miley Cyrus’ people understood that about half her demographic consists of Closet Listeners who are yearning for the mindless, lyrically simple and catchy-as-heck music of the late-1990s. Miley’s producers shrewdly dissected each of these songs, harvesting the catchiest elements of each.

It’s naively.

Dot dot dot, Miley Cyrus’ producers shrewdly dissected how much you love Jay-Z and Britney in a track and sang “Achy Breaky Heart.” I will repeat that: “Achy Breaky Heart.” I hope that sunk in. Just for good measure. Miley even know he does other things besides be Beyonce’ s husband? If she does, maybe Miley?

The greatest problem with Miley Cyrus is that adults dignify her with attention. Twenty-year-olds sing and dance to a song sung by a 16-year-old. Not written, not composed — just sung. There are plenty of more talented, non-sellout artists who demand our attention, yet as consumers we settle for the status quo. There is better, catchier, generally more fun music out there, so why is this spawn of Billy Ray getting so much attention?

Miley Cyrus’ songs if I couldn’t play it “ironically” and sing along to the insidious ear crack of cyrus songs is I wouldn’t like any Miley Cyrus songs if I couldn’t play it “ironically” and sing along to the insidious ear crack of the song references Britney (one word), which I can understand. Like I said before, this song is a shameless reiteration of every feel-good pop song ever. But why a Jay-Z shout-out? Does Miley even know he does other things besides be Beyonce’ s husband? If she does, maybe Miley Cyrus deserves an Oscar, because she’s really been fooling me. Yet if the lyrics weren’t ridiculous, I probably wouldn’t even like this song. I wouldn’t like any Miley Cyrus songs if I couldn’t play it “ironically” and sing along to the insidious ear crack of the song references Britney (one word), which I can understand. Like I said before, this song is a shameless reiteration of every feel-good pop song ever. But why a Jay-Z shout-out? Does Miley even know he does other things besides be Beyonce’ s husband? If she does, maybe Miley Cyrus deserves an Oscar, because she’s really been fooling me.

Don’t even pretend you don’t relish the chance to sing along to all three minutes and 25 seconds of that insidious ear crack that is “Party in the U.S.A.” It’s already a dorm party staple, obliterating the rule that stipulates songs must spend five months in popular release before they enter the iTunes of Notre Dame students. Obviously this song is the devil’s work.

(By I love it. I do.)

Contact Jordan Gamble at jgamble@nd.edu

By SZYMON RYZNER  
Scene Writer

Miley Cyrus is a menace. Her lack of talent, annoying demeanor and overall hideousness frighten me. Other female artists attempt to be their own persons, but Miley Cyrus is a parody of starstruck, a caricature marketed appropriately with that gem? But this is hardly the biggest problem with “Party in the U.S.A.” How does an artist get away with singing about listening to other artists? This is a hit song? Referencing how much you love Jay-Z and Britney in a track of your own is shameful.

The plot of the song isn’t awful; it’s the story of a girl coming into the big city, trying to find her place. But it doesn’t have to be nearly as annoying at it turns out to be. Also, why the pole dancing on an ice cream truck? She is attempting to create a risqué image, and perhaps it is succeeding, but hardly any young stars escape from that stratagem unscathed. Britney had her melt-down and it was spectacular. Miley is following her step by step.

The greatest problem with Miley Cyrus is that adults dignify her with attention. Twenty-year-olds sing and dance to a song sung by a 16-year-old. Not written, not composed — just sung. There are plenty of more talented, non-sellout artists who demand our attention, yet as consumers we settle for the status quo. There is better, catchier, generally more fun music out there, so why is this spawn of Billy Ray getting so much attention?

Genuine girl-power pop and rock is out there, and that is something I entirely approve of. Ultimately, though, I have probably been too extreme with my judgments of Cyrus. Lots of little girls look up to her, and she should act like an adult in recognizing that. I will even give Miley Cyrus one ounce of credit — she’s less infuriating than the Jonas Brothers.

Contact Szymon Ryzner at sryzner@gmail.com

Tuesday, September 29, 2009
**Empty Calories**

By **NICK ANDERSON**
Scene Writer

Author's Note: I'm writing this in the interest of full disclosure. I fear Miley Cyrus. While I detest what she and the Disney brand have done to popular culture, that's not the source of my fear. I am afraid that Miley Cyrus will eat me. I'm not sure if that's a metaphor for her devouring my soul or if I'm actually going to be cannibalized.

While not an academic resource, Wikipedia has proven extremely informative. Because it is knowledge by democracy, it can help determine what is important to our culture. Miley Cyrus's wiki contains 6,132 words. That is six times the length of this article. It is also roughly 500 more words than both Mozart's and President James K. Polk's entries. The Beatles' entry comes in at 16,155 words, implying that Miley is equivalent to .380 Beatles. That's rings and a little bit of George. There's no way that is right. In Google results, Miley Cyrus also beats Elvis Presley and the Rolling Stones. Combined.

The entry for Miley Cyrus' latest single, "Party in the U.S.A." runs for 3,796 words, about 25 fewer than "Stairway to Heaven." It's hard to be sure, but the title almost implies an allusion to Neil Young's classic, "Rockin' in the Free World." If it is, it falls as such. Young was harnessing his talent to criticize both our government and society. Cyrus is harnessing her stressful move from Nashville to Hollywood, three years after she first became famous and 16 years after she was born into a rich, semi-famous family. The song also came out at the same time as her clothing line. Other than that, it's an every-day story.

Even stranger, the video, while officially an homage to "Grease," channels Tupac's "California Love." A rumbling, heavy base line filters through both songs. Both take place in a dystopian California desert, often in a twisted metal cage. Again, it's unclear if this is intentional. One thing is clear: although Tupac's video is about future warring tribes, Miley's desert party is orders of magnitudes scarier. This brings up the real question: Haven't we seen this act before? An innocent Southern teenager who has stumbled into pop success, unaware that she embodies the Madonna/harlot complex, complete with press release-ready feud and the remarkable ability to claim to be a role model for young girls. Miley even name drops her predecessor in the song: "And a Britney song was on." We all watched as Britney went down in flames. Let's just hope Miley follows the comparatively good example of the Olsen twins by taking the money and leaving the public spotlight.

The worst part about this is how little quality music exists. At least we had an excuse before now. This song, along with the thousands of others like it released in the past 40 years, is manufactured from start to end. It may as well be a petroleum by-product. Miley's "aw-shucks, I'm just a country girl" gimmick is the latest in a long line of consumer-ready personalities, from the Sex Pistols' anarchism to anything disco. History doesn't look kindly upon any of them.

What record companies offer today is the musical equivalent of corn syrup. We consume it in massive quantities and it tastes oh-so-good. Twenty years from now we'll be bloated and indifferent, with nothing to show for our misspent youths. If we don't clean up our tastes now, we're in for trouble in the long run. No one will be looking for MP3s to pass on to their children. Instead, we'll have to hang our heads in shame. On a related note, I would like those kids to kindly get off my lawn.

Contact Nick Anderson at nanders5@nd.edu

**Part Starter**

By **ADRIANA PRATT**
Scene Writer

It is impossible not to feel fantasic when "Party in the U.S.A." comes on. Ignore who sings it, ignore that it's pop to an extreme (unless you're like me and genuinely enjoy a quality pop song) and just embrace it. Although Miley Cyrus might not be a college student's favorite — unless you're Views on writer Brooks Smith — her song has certainly made its way into almost every dorm party, workout playlist and even The Observer office during a particularly late night of editing. I have to say, Miley's done it again.

This past weekend I visited a frat at DePauw University and, lo and behold, they had a dance to "Party in the U.S.A." complete with camoillage and an American flag. The song has crossed even the most unlikely borders, and for good reason. How many of us have been caught in an uncomfortable or daunting situation full of strangers? It might even have happened to you when you first set foot on Notre Dame's campus. That's what Miley sings about — putting yourself out there, even though it's scary, and realizing it will all be OK. "Party in the U.S.A." is a song that calms your nerves, lets you take a deep breath and gives you excitement for what is ahead.

My recommendation is to take the song and put it on repeat while running. The beat keeps your adrenaline rushing, your face smiling and your legs kicking. It sufficiently distracts you from the miles ahead, and it throws you back into the night before, reminding you of the great time you had dancing to for nailing it.

You know that awkward beginning-of-party hour when people start to arrive and stand around uncomfortably because there are only five of them there? The best way to avoid that scenario is to turn on "Party in the U.S.A." It is guaranteed to relax your guests, get the laughs started and propel the party forward to the fun portion. The best part is that you can play it again later once every­ one has arrived, because by that hour, the original five won't remember they've already heard it.

Unfortunately, the innocence of the song doesn't seem to reflect the real Miley Cyrus. The 16-year-old's performance of this hit at the Teen Choice Awards caused quite a bit of scandal, especially when she got up in extremely short shorts and danced around an ice cream truck pole. Here is my question: Why does her dad let her do that? Why would a parent of a 16-year-old think, "Yeah! Let's get Miley to dress like a miniature Britney and stick a pole next to her and let thousands of Disney fans and their parents see what happened? Genius!" Beats me.

The music video isn't much better. If I watch her make a pouty face and look seductive at the camera one more time while she runs her hands through her hair, I might hurl. It's just so strange and borderline creepy. I bet any kid would be thinking, "Is she trying to picture someone her age dressing and danc­ing like Miley Cyrus ... it spells trouble. I'm thinking Miley might have given Britney a shout-out in her song for a reason.

But take my advice and don't let the song's artist distract you from the greatness that is "Party in the U.S.A." Just nod your head like yeah and move your hips like yeah, and you won't regret it. Do it for America.

Contact Adriana Pratt at apratt@nd.edu
Pirates infielder Andy LaRoche follows through after he hit a two-run home run during the eighth inning of the Pirates 5-3 win over the Dodgers.

**MLB**

LaRoche’s two home runs keep Dodgers from clinching

Beckham’s three RBIs lift White Sox over Indians; Detwiler gets first win for Nationals

Associated Press

**PISTOUHGH (AP)** Former Dodgers prospect Andy LaRoche homered twice, doubles doubled in a single, driving in six runs as the Los Angeles Pirates again prevented Los Angeles from clinching the NL West with a 10-1 romp Monday. Each Duke pitched shutout ball into the ninth inning against a patchwork Dodgers lineup. LaRoche set a career-high for hits in a game for 5 for 5 and scoring four runs.

Already two of a playoff spot, the Dodgers lost three of the four Pirates, which had dropped 23 of 26 going into the series — the franchise's worst stretch in 119 seasons.

The Dodgers blew a three-run lead in the ninth inning Sunday and lost 6-5, then got blown out in the series finale. Technically, their magic number is two, but in reality it is one less because they own the tiebreaker against Colorado.

Los Angeles was missing the injured Manny Ramirez (hamstring), Ronnie Belliard (groin, Casey Blake (hamstring) and their makeshift lineup included Mark Loretta at third, Juan Castro at short and Brad Ausmus at first.

The Dodgers played like a team that couldn’t wait to get out of town Monday. A report shared by few teams this season — while being three runners thrown out on the bases and committing a key error — put them in a 4-0 hole in the sixth.

The Dodgers had Chapman ice in their clubhouse, ready to celebrate on Sunday, but the Pirates scored four runs in the bog-

Tom of the ninth. Now, it must be time to go back to San Diego for the start of a two-game series against the Padres on Tuesday.

Duke (11-15) was in control from the start, allowing only three singles until Orlando Hudson tripled with one out in the ninth inning for a total for a pitcher who has allowed an NL-high 225 hits.

**Pirates**

Danks (13-10) allowed three hits and one run, striking out seven in his first complete game at any level since being drafted in 2003 by Texas. Shin-Soo Choo hit his 19th homer leading off the seventh to break up the lefthander’s bid for his first career shutout.

Danks bounced back from being hit hard in an 8-6 loss to Minnesota on Tuesday in which he gave up seven runs and eight hits, including a career-high-tying three homers, in six innings. He had been 0-2 in five starts since beating the Boston Red Sox on Aug. 27, but set a career high in wins, one more than he had last year.

The White Sox took a 3-0 lead in the second against Aaron Laffey (7-8) without hitting the ball hard. They loaded the bases on three consecutive one-out singles — then scored three runs without hitting a ball out of the infield.

**NATIONALS**

**DODGERS**

Morse has had a hard time finding his stroke since the Pirates scored four runs in the fifth. He hit a double off Hiroki Kuroda (8-8) in the first at-bat, but pulled up. He hit a career-high 19th homer leading off of the 19th homer leading off the second to break up the lefthander’s bid for his first career shutout.

Morse had been 1-5 with 5.63 ERA in nine previous starts against the Indians, posting a 19.56 ERA in his last three.

Laffey lost his fifth straight start, allowing three runs and eight hits over 7 1/3 innings. Cleveland has totaled 12 runs of support during the five losses. The left-hander is 0-5 in seven starts since beating Minnesota on Aug. 16.

**NATIONALS, 2 METS 3**

Mike Morse homered for the second straight game and Josh Beckett earned his first career win as the Washington Nationals beat the New York Mets on Monday night.

Morse led off the sixth inning with a home run over the out-town scoreboard in right field to break a 1-1 tie. The home run was his third this season, all in the past three games. During the stretch he has doubled his career total — Morse has three this season — all in 2005.

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**College Football Rankings**

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**College Football Rankings**

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<td>Mary Hardin-Baylor</td>
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<td>Mississippi</td>
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**NCAA Golf World/NIKE Men's Division I Rankings**

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**NBA**

**Recent NBA number 1 draft pick Blake Griffin, left, poses with his teammate Baron Davis for photos during the Los Angeles Clippers media day Monday.**

**'Clipper Curse' does not worry Griffin**

Associated Press

**LOS ANGELES — Blake Griffin has battled Los Angeles' famous traffic. He's played Good Samaritan for a woman in a stalled car. He's been photographed by paparazzi.**

Now if only he could get around to the real reason he came to town — helping the Los Angeles Clippers become a playoff team.

It's been a long time waiting for this,” he said Monday. “I'm ready to get going.”

The No. 1 pick in the NBA draft joined his teammates at Staples Center for media day, which began with a glitch. Power within several blocks of the arena went out, cutting the lights shortly before the players took the court. Backup power eventually kicked in, allowing a small group of fans to meet and greet Griffin.

He comes to a team that has had two winning seasons in the last 30 years — they were 19-63 last season amid a slew of injuries — and just one playoff appearance since 1997.

Still, Griffin doesn't believe in a so-called Clippers Curse. "I did some research on my own and there's not enough evidence for me to believe," he said, smiling.

The Clippers have focused their marketing campaign around Griffin, including a full-page color ad in the Los Angeles Times. "I don't feel like a lot of individual pressure to go out and do this or that," he said. "We have guys that can do all this stuff. I just need to come in and contribute."

But coach Mike Dunleavy said Griffin will open training camp on the bench, with last season's starters — Baron Davis, Marcus Camby, Eric Gordon, Al Thornton and Chris Kaman — retaining their spots.

"If I have to come off the bench, I'm perfectly happy with that," said Griffin, who wasn't in that position since freshening his frosty man at Oklahoma. He was the consensus college player of the year after leading the nation with 14.4 rebounds per game while averaging 22.7 points last season for the Sooners.

The rookie forward strained his right shoulder during a summer league game in July, but Griffin said it was back to normal in less than a month though the Clippers kept him sidelined longer as a precaution.

Dunleavy liked what he saw from Griffin, who averaged 19.2 points and 10.8 rebounds in summer league play.

"He came in defensively and I don't think he missed a rotation, knew exactly where he's supposed to be and was there and was on time," the coach and general manager said. "For a rookie that really impressed me."
NBA

Jackson still wants to be traded from Oakland

Associated Press
OAKLAND — Stephen Jackson was his typical candid self. Yes, he still would like to be traded from the Golden State Warriors and is fed up with all the losing.

"I said it last year and I said it in the locker room," Jackson said on Wednesday. "I feel like it, regardless of money. I'm worth $28 million in November, but we're not going to be a competitive team.

"We stick by Jack. Jack is Jack. What that means is expect the unexpected," Rowell said. "We have a lot of respect for him and his game. Sports is emotional. I'd rather have people who speak their mind than people who don't."

Jackson acknowledged last week he discussed the idea of being traded during a conversation they had early last season, before Jackson accepted the new deal. Jackson said Monday he was surprised Nelson brought the idea up to him then, but the coach has said he knew Jackson would struggle with the losing by a young roster.

"Why did Jackson make his feelings known now and not before signing the extension?" Nelson said. "That doesn't mean things can't happen. Shaq got traded. Michael Jordan went to another team."

Jackson averaged 20.7 points, 5.1 rebounds and 6.5 assists in 59 games last season. He insists he will continue to play hard as long as he's here. Nelson and general manager Larry Riley have said they would explore a trade for Jackson only if it's the right situation for the Warriors.

"You don't hold it against the player," guard Speedy Claxton said. "It can only be a distraction if you let it be a distraction. A lot of guys in the NBA could be mad and don't think before they say certain things."

Since Jackson arrived in the Bay Area in a trade with the Pacers in January 2007, he has rebounded from a rocky past to become a key piece for Nelson and a major spark for the Warriors. Golden State shocked Dallas in the first round of the 2007 playoffs, the organization's lone postseason trip since 1994. The 2008 squad barely missed the postseason despite winning 48 games, the most by a non-playoff NBA team in a quarter-century.

"It don't feel good to me that ever since I've been here I know I had a big part in getting this organization back to a winning attitude, if not the biggest part," Jackson said. "Every year I've lost somebody I felt helped me get to that, with Baron (Davis), Jason (Richardson), Al. It felt like I'm next. It feels like we're not getting better. It's no disrespect to guys on the team. I love all the guys on the team and I'm not saying the job couldn't get done with them, but at the same time I came into this game a winner and I want to continue to be a winner."

Study Abroad in
Perth, Australia

Information Meeting
Wednesday, September 30, 2009
5:30 PM 140 DeBartolo Hall

For ALPP and ANTH
College of Science
College of Engineering

Application Deadline is November 15, 2009
www.nd.edu/~ois
McGlinn vs. Howard

When it opens its 2009 season tonight against Howard, McGlinn will be anxious to show that its championship victory in the 2008 season was not a fluke.

"We're out for [the championship] again this year," senior captain Emily Dore said. "We want to show everyone that we're not just a one-trick pony."

Not only was Dore confident that the Shamrocks could repeat a championship victory, she even cited some improvements in the team for the 2009-season.

"We have a lot of depth on our team, even more than last year," she said.

Dore highlighted the strength and versatility of both the offensive and defensive squads, saying that the team feels extremely confident putting the ball in the hands of sophomore quarterback Lauren Miller and her favorite receiver, junior Kathleen Stanley. Dore also praised the ruthless defense, led by sophomore Jillian Stinchcomb.

"We're really excited for our opening game against Howard," Dore said. "We've been waiting for this [game] for a long time now.

Howard's (1-0) senior captain Kayla Bishop echoed the same high hopes for the Ducks 2009 season, after winning their first game last week.

"We're hoping to gather momentum from our win on Sunday against Lewis," she said. "We're hoping to carry it through the season," she said.

"McGlinn is an excellent team," the Shamrock said. "They're expecting us to put up a good fight.

In order to combat the toughness of the Shamrock squad, Bishop said the team plans to rely on their solid wide receivers, particularly sophomore Kristyn Jeffries and junior Kaithlin Robinson.

"We're expecting [Jeffries and Robinson] to step up and make big plays for us tonight," she said.

As for the Duck's strategy to combat the defending champion Shamrocks, Bishop anticipates the team will rely on high-hard and fast field goals.

"We're hoping to come out strong and play with that same intensity throughout the game," she said.

The McGlinn Shamrocks will open their season against the Howard Ducks (1-0) tonight at 7 p.m. at Riehle Field.

Paquerraentza East vs. Lewis

Two teams looking to bounce back from last season's disappointments.

"We're hoping to create some excitement tonight," senior captain Tara Pilski said. "We had a horrible record, no wins, a tie and a bunch of losses last year."

The McGlinn Shamrocks will open the stadium to the Shamrocks and the Lewis Lions tonight, in their season opener. McGlinn will host Lewis at Riehle Field.

"We have a lot of depth on our team," senior captain Tara Pilski said. "We had a horrible record, no wins, a tie and a bunch of losses last year."

Even though we lost, we thought we looked pretty good," sophomore Brande Gentry said.

"We've looked amazing in practice," senior captain Tara Gellere said. "We definitely have some secret weapons we're going to use.

The game should tell both teams a lot about their chances of reaching the playoffs and accomplishing their goals for the season.

"We want to set our record and make the playoffs...and of course the goal of everyone is to make it to the stadium," Pilski said.

Added Gellere: "Our eyes are on the stadium.

The two teams are set to square off at 8:00 p.m. at Riehle Field.

Welsh Family vs. Farley

When Farley faces Welsh Family under the lights tonight, one team will be hoping to build on its momentum while the other will be hoping to create some.

Farley won a close 7-0 game over Lewis Sunday, while the Welsh Family fell 13-12. Farley junior captain Emma Koesterman made it quite clear what the momentum has done to the Finns' mentality.

"We are excited so far this season," Koesterman said. "We've gone out and practiced hard to keep it up."

Even though Farley only managed one touchdown against Lewis, Koesterman expects the game of the season's coaches, juniors Tomny Smith and Kevin Bitt, will help put that to some points tonight.

"We have to give a lot of credit to our opponents this year," Smith said. "I think we're going to see some stuff really good, but for now it's a secret."

Welsh Family hopes to change its recent fortunes against senior captain Tara Schimpf said.

"We are a very driven and talented team," Schimpf said. "There is a new dynamic to our team this year, so we are just concentrating on meshing well.

Farley hopes to continue its unbeaten season, en route to the ultimate goal.

"We need to get one common goal," said Farley. "We need to be a great team, not just a good team."

The Whirlwinds look to prove their talent on the field, returning to the weekly Hunt to be shown in past years.

"We have a little more of an uphill battle than we had in the past. This year we are 1-0, it's a great start."

Levis is also trying to put last season behind them, as they finished with a 0-10 loss to Farley last week.

The Ducks are looking optimistic.

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The Whirlwinds look to prove their talent on the field, returning to the weekly Hunt to be shown in past years.
Bullfrogs

continued from page 24

the end," said senior captain Kelly Stevens. "Our defense was great, defense was fabu-

lous and the offense set up some big gains." 

Daniels is already looking for-
varding the fall. "I think we'll be ready to run our next route to 13-12 victory and score-
ing the biggest upset of the season.

Junior quarterback Kayla Happy Birthday Jared!

Schaefer

continued from page 24

"I got great experience from watch-
ing Matt Besler play and with that in mind, I think Schaefer said. "Practice is not that different from the games." 

And when Schaefer "A long time after Schaefer was able to de-

velop his own work ethic that are finally pay-
ing dividends now that he is seeing the fi-
nal season of his career approach. 

"As a player at the bottom of a lot of things we can't see in prac-
tice. The Bulls have work to do on both sides of the ball, but made several promising offensive plays and had a handful of cru-

ial breakdowns. "We need to work on routes and most of our offensive, defense. "The defense also needs to tighten up. "Despite the loss, Schaefer said she was definitely satis-

fied with the team's performance, but knows there were plenty of mistakes to work out. 

"Our defense was fantastic when we didn't have the ball, but not quite as great on the ball, Schaefer said. "We need to work on our defense and our special teams, which resulted in a handful of turnovers on downs and in our routes and be ready to play," she said. 

Badin will also face Walsh Hall on Sunday. "We'll be ready for Walsh," said Cline. "We're always ready."

Breen-Phillips 22, Passaquerrla East 0

Devin's a wireless 2008 cam-

aign. Passaquerrlla East came out firing against Breen-Phillips Sunday, shutting out the Bishops.

Senior captain and quarter-
back Tate Pillai, senior captain and safety Stephanie Vossler and senior captain and wide receiver Laura Yoviene for the Pyros' first offensive play from halfback against the Bishops as they recovered a "secret" option. If we didn't try to "secret" ones. "We've got to focus, sharpen our touc-
downs," said Cline. "We're always ready." 

Happy Birthday Jared!

Howard 13, Welsh Family 12

An extra point conversion was all that separated Howard and Welsh Family Saturday. Howard was able to come from behind to beat the Norse in a 13-12 victory and scoring the biggest upset of the season.

Junior quarterback Kayla Happy Birthday Jared!

\(\text{Happy Birthday Jared!} \)
Water polo squad loses heartbreaker to GVSU

The Observer • SPORTS

The Irish were leading 6-5 on 5, and sent the game into overtime. Unfortunately, Notre Dame was unable to capitalize on the sudden death format. Unfortunately, the Irish were unable to capitalize on the sudden death format. The Irish defense was very solid in the overtime period.

**Field Hockey**

The Notre Dame field hockey team traveled to Cincinnati this Sunday to play Xavier University and the Centurions, a local club team. Notre Dame won the first game 6-1.

The Irish scored five times in the first half. Danielle Straccia scored twice, both assisted by Mary Ellman. Nellie Goeckner also scored a pair of goals in the first half, assisted by Jen O’Neil and Mary Ellman. Finally, Jen O’Neil put one in the back of the net to end the half.

Xavier came back strong in the second half, allowing only a goal by Ellen Blatt. After playing Xavier, Notre Dame played a tough match against the Cornhuskers, a local club team composed of mostly international players. Notre Dame was able to score again as the Irish won the game 10-8.

Notre Dame’s next game was against Ball State University. The Irish came out strong early, winning by a score of 5-0 after the first period. After giving the entire Irish bench significant playing time, Notre Dame cruised to an 18-4 victory. Billy Bauman with three goals and significant playing time, Notre Dame was able to spot the Cornhuskers a 5-1 lead by the middle of the second period, thanks to quick movement within the backline. Notre Dame was able to score twice before halftime, leading by five going into halftime. The game started with a series of penalty shots by Penn State, which planted the Irish deep in their own territory.

**Water Sliding**

The water ski club is currently sitting ninth among 15 college teams in the conference championships held this weekend. The water ski club is currently sitting ninth among 15 college teams in the conference championships held this weekend. The water ski club is currently sitting ninth among 15 college teams in the conference championships held this weekend.

**Squash**

An undermanned Notre Dame squash club dropped a pair of 9-0 matches this weekend at Purdue, losing to the host Boilermakers and Illini. Four Irish starters missed the match due to ROTC, freshman/sophomore retreats, and the ILSA. Of particular note, new players Nima Urban, Mark Hinch, and Thomas Doer were very competitive at second, third, and fourth singles, respectively. Urbani stepped up to take on the No. 2 spot despite being a freshman at his first collegiate squash tournament. Hinch, a senior, played hard and quickly against Purdue and Illinois, but the more seasoned opponents took advantage of his inexperience. Doer showed significant potential, playing very well at times against both teams, but his inconsistency led to his downfall.

**Men’s Rugby**

The Notre Dame Rugby club traveled to Elkhart, Ind., this weekend to play in the “Big Ten Plus One Tournament.”

On Saturday, the team started off against a strong Michigan State side. The Notre Dame squad, led in part by David Ring and Dan Scherer, was able to take a quick advantage in the first half, leading by the gain going into halftime. Michigan State struck back at the open of the second half with a quick score, but the Irish pushed down the field with intensity and discipline and were able to score a try within two minutes of Michigan State’s strike. With five minutes left, Sean Peterson hit a penalty kick to put the Irish up 14-7.

In their second game, the Irish faced up against a sizable Purdue side. Within the first four minutes, Purdue punched in a try to take an early lead. However, the Irish were able to score twice before halftime, taking a 14-7 lead. During the second half, both teams had trouble scoring, but with 5 minutes remaining, Purdue threatened to tie the score with offensive pressure in the corners. However, the Irish were able to hold them off until time expired and therefore would move onto the semifinals the next morning.

On Sunday, Notre Dame played Indiana. The Irish were able to hold the game in Indiana’s side of the field and scored two tries due to quick movement within the backline. Indiana struck back with a try in the second half, but they were not able to score again as the Irish won 12-5.

Notre Dame’s victory over Indiana qualified them for a spot in the championship game against No. 5 ranked Penn State, who had beaten Ohio State in their previous match. The game started with a series of kicks by Penn State, which planted the Irish deep in their own territory.

Penn State took an early 7-0 lead, but the Irish came back with a penalty kick set up by a long lineout from key forwards, including Jason Gonzalez. The rest of the half was dominated by the Irish, who scored another try to go ahead 8-7 at halftime. During the second half, the tides turned in favor of Penn State, who scored two tries with 10 minutes left in the game to give the Nittany Lions the win.

**Field Hockey**

The Notre Dame Club field hockey team traveled to Cincinnati this Sunday to play Xavier University and the Centurions, a local club team. Notre Dame won the first game 6-1. The Irish scored five times in the first half. Danielle Straccia scored twice, both assisted by Mary Ellman. Nellie Goeckner also scored a pair of goals in the first half, assisted by Jen O’Neil and Mary Ellman. Finally, Jen O’Neil put one in the back of the net to end the half.

Xavier came back strong in the second half, allowing only a goal by Ellen Blatt. After playing Xavier, Notre Dame played a tough match against the Cornhuskers, a local club team composed of mostly international players.

In the first half, Danielle Straccia rolled home a shot, making it 1-0 at halftime. The Irish offense was very solid in the overtime period, and went on to lose the game 10-8.

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Fisher, junior.

Fisher's touchdown went unannounced until the second half when the ball was handed off to senior Michael DesJardins, taking a 7-0 lead in the process. Siegfried's defense also kept the Otters' momentum. The Rams took control of the first quarter, seemingly giving them a 7-0 lead in the process. Siegfried's defense also kept the Otters' momentum.

The fourth quarter was a defensive struggle featuring multiple defensive stops on the final play of the game. The defense held firm, allowing the Rams to retake the lead with a field goal attempt missed on the last play of the quarter. The score was 21-14 after a fumble recovery by senior Michael DesJardins, taking a 7-0 lead in the process.

While it was a win for both teams, it was a relief for the coaches, who reflected on the game.

The Otter's victory boosts their record to 2-0 while Zebra 6.4 oppression, the game had been a struggle for both teams. The defense held firm, allowing the Rams to retake the lead with a field goal attempt missed on the last play of the quarter. The score was 21-14 after a fumble recovery by senior Michael DesJardins, taking a 7-0 lead in the process.

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Weis continued from page 24

Purdue averaged only 2.8 yards per carry as a team, and Weis said even that number was a touch inflated by three long runs.

"You know, they had a couple of carries where they got yards, and then the rest of the carries, 1, 2, 3 yards, and they gained 11 yards on the other 14 carries," Weis said. "The rest of it averaged less than a yard a carry."

That doesn't eliminate all concerns, however, as the Irish struggled to stop a mediocre passing attack for the second straight week.

Notre Dame's two safeties, senior Kyle McCarthy and junior Harrison Smith, are the team's two leading tacklers through four games. Both are relied upon to help significantly in stopping the run, especially when the front seven struggles to contain the ground game.

When McCarthy and Smith creep closer into the box, that forces the corner backs to play a softer coverage to avoid being heat deep, and that likely accounts for the cushion that both Michigan State and Purdue exploited in consecutive weeks for 354 and 289 yards, respectively.

And the Irish still need to improve their tackling, which Weis mentioned as early as Week One.

"I think thing we need to do both in practice and in games is just play him more," Weis said. "The only thing, when you have a young linebacker you'll go through some growing pains, but I think that you'll see him just playing more.

"We talked about that today, I think as the year goes on, you'll see his playing time just increase more and more."

Contact Matt Gamber at mgamber@nd.edu

Boilermakers was significant.

"This is [coordinator] Jon Tenuta and the defensive staff deciding that they had to put a couple wrinkles in here to get a little bit of balance," Weis said. "I think that especially when a lot of those coverage's they went to were bluff and blitzes, I thought it was a nice change of pace."

Though he was used sparingly, there was one Irish player in particular who looked a major change of pace.

Freshman linebacker Manti Te'o still hasn't garnered consistent playing time, as junior Brian Smith and sophomore Darius Fleming have flanked senior middle linebacker Torjan Smith in most base defensive packages.

But when Te'o has been in the game, he has made his presence felt. Te'o surged through the Purdue line and sacked quarterback Joey Elliott for a loss of 12 to bury the Boilermakers on their first play after Notre Dame's final touchdown.

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Tryout continued from page 24

"It was very worthwhile for us to do that because we felt if we could find somebody that could come in and help run the second team, it would be a really good thing for us," Brown said. "I think we had 13 people come out and I thought the tryout went well, but we just felt like the speed of the game and for what we needed, we didn't end up keeping anybody."

Nicholas, who has been nursing a painful leg injury all season, leads the Irish in sets played with 43 and total assists with 473 (111 assists per set). Nicholas has played in more than 100 matches in her Irish career, accumulating a total of 2,431 assists.

"She's been hurt, so it's tough," Brown said. "She's doing everything she possibly can in terms of being as strong and in shape and anything she can do, but she's limited even with that. It's a lot of just her leadership and experience and determination, but she's certainly been vital to the team's success."

So for now Brown will employ a setter-by-committee solution, giving Nicholas breathers by substituting in freshmen outside hitter Marie Roof and freshman libero Christina Theofilos, who has some experience at the setter position in high school.

"Both Marie Roof and Christina Theofilos can help us in that role," Brown said. "Christina can set out of the back row and Marie out of the front row, Marie hasn't set before, but she's a very good blocker and she does have a good touch on the ball, so we're working with her a little bit to do a simple-side offense."

Nevertheless, the lion's share of the playing time will still go to Nicholas, whose health will continue to be a concern for the Irish as they head into the season's grind. But Irish fans have every reason to believe that Nicholas will carry the load without complaint as she has done all season.

"I'm totally fine with it," Nicholas said. "I'll have to be careful on my leg and just start the offense like I have been running it all year. The girls who are going to come in have been around the game, they know what they need to do, just encourage them to be confident out there."

Contact Chris Masoud at cmasoud@nd.edu

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The Observer • SPORTS

Tuesday, September 29, 2009
**Men's Soccer**

**Schaefer steps into starting role after Rellas goes down**

By JARED JEDICK  
Sports Writer

The last thing a team wants to experience to begin the year is a season-ending injury to one of its key players, but that is exactly what happened to the Irish when fifth-year senior defensem an Cory Rellas went down with an ACL injury to his left knee just minutes into the first game of the season against Michigan. “We didn’t want it to happen that way,” head coach Bobby Clark said. “It was unfortunate. Cory missed last year with an AC injury too.”

But the Irish had an answer when senior defensem an John Schaefer stepped up and took over the role seamlessly. “I didn’t see Cory go down,” Schaefer said. “But then [senior goalkeeper Phillip] Tuttle nudged me and I saw him limping off the field. I thought that this is it, you have to go in there and do what you do best.”

And that is exactly what he did, helping the Irish to earn an early opening win against one of the best teams in the country in Michigan. “I was not nervous at all,” Schaefer said. “I knew I had to finish the game off for [Cory]. He is such a great leader. If we could get him back and he can do a better job for the team, we need to get him out there.”

Schaefer had a long road from playing ball with his brother as a young kid to becoming the starting defensem an for one of the premier college programs in the country. He had only played in two previous games in his career, and both of those were in midweek games. “It kills you,” Schaefer said. “In my junior year I really wanted to play, but I had some good players ahead of me.”

It is no small wonder why he did not see the field early in his career, as Schaefer has some big Notre Dame shoes to fill, having played behind players like Rellas and Matt Besler, currently a starting defensem an for the Notre Dame Fighting Irish.

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**Men's Interhall Football**

**All knotted up**

Three games finish deadlocked Sunday

By CHRIS ALLEN, ANDREW OWENS, KATIE GABRIEL, DENNIS and KAITLYN MURPHY  
Sports Writers

Only a couple of inches separated Alumni from an first victory of the season Sunday. Dannaun and Alumni were tied at seven when sophomore kicker Matt Libel’s 25-yard field goal bounced off the crossbar as time expired, leaving both teams with records of 0-3-1.

The makes made came at the end of a game in which Alumni’s defense, led by freshmen linebacker Anthony CosSELL and Ryan Grejus, sophomore defensive back see COSSELL/page 20

Knott running back Houston Clark runs past a diving Siegfried defender during Sunday’s game. The Mod Quad rivalry ended unresolved in a 7-7 tie.

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**Football**

**Rushing defense improves**

By MATT GAMBER  
Sports Editor

The Irish defense was far from dominant in Saturday’s heart-stopping 24-21 win at Purdue, but a quick look at the statistics shows Notre Dame did a pretty decent job of stopping the Boilermakers, particularly on the ground. The Irish held their hosts to 363 yards of total offense and limited talented tailback Ralph Bolden to 67 yards on 17 carries in what was, by far, Notre Dame’s best effort against the run since the opening shutdown of Nevada.

"The rushing defense I thought was dramatically improved," Irish coach Charlie Weis said in his Sunday press conference. "I think that was one of the things that I was pleased with the most, especially in the second half."