24,000 employees affected by data breach

Personal information exposed on the Internet, University working to minimize future threats

By SARAH MERVOSH
News Writer

Important personal information, such as social security numbers, names and zip codes, of many Notre Dame employees was exposed to the Internet after the University accidentally placed the information in a publicly accessible location.

The data breach affected about 24,000 employees, including some students who work for the University, Gordon Wishon, associate vice president of information technology and the University’s chief information officer, said.

The personal information that was exposed will no longer be accessible because the University immediately removed it from the Internet and secured it, he said.

There was no evidence the information was inappropriately used, Wishon said. But chair of Faculty Senate Thomas Gresik, who was affected by the data breach, said he did not feel sure he was safe from identity theft.

“The isn’t possible to determine if somebody managed to download that information before it was taken down,” he said. “The logs show that the information had been out there for awhile.”

Gresik said he is concerned his information could be out there still.

“That’s the current threat,” he said. “That information might be sitting on somebody’s hard drive or it may have been posted to a bulletin board or whatever places identity thieves post information.”

Those affected by the data breach were informed in a letter, which was received on Nov. 20. “I nearly didn’t read it because it was one of those copies of a group letter, except my attention to it was that it was addressed dear Sabine, my first name.” Sabine MacCormack, a professor

Voting begins for Senior Legacy gift

By ADRIANA PRATT
News Writer

The Senior Legacy will donate to a graduate school and job visitation/interview fund, the Hesburgh Memorial Library or an area of greatest need at the end of the year.

Voting for the Senior Legacy gift will end on Dec. 18 at 11:59 p.m.

Emily Everett, co-chair of the Student Development Committee, said the choices were made based on senior input.

“These are all senior ideas and once we narrowed them down, we got in contact with the various departments to see what they need and if it’s feasible,” she said.

Ian Secviar, the Student Development Committee’s other co-chair, said Notre Dame’s level

Learning Tree provides teaching resources

By ALICIA SMITH
News Writer

Recently relocated to a new facility on the first floor of Madeleva Hall, the Learning Tree offers a variety of resources for students, teachers within the community and the general public.

“Our new location offers a brighter and cheerier. It’s much larger workspace. It’s much higher working environment.” Jayne Fogle, director of the Learning Tree, said.

The Learning Tree provides games and learning materials that can be borrowed or purchased for a low cost. According to Fogle, the Learning Tree was started by a group of teachers in the 1970s as a South Bend school program. The program was moved to Saint Mary’s College in 2001.

This fall, the facility was relocated from the third floor of Madeleva Hall to the present location on the first floor of Madeleva Hall.
Movie stars and music

Pretty much since there have been movie stars, there have been movie stars making music. And it needs to stop. It involved.

moment, the classic example of Scarlett from the fact that she was famous, herself in the most ridiculous situations ever when it comes to making music. Her first album — as in, the very first record she ever recorded ever — was a collection of Tom Waits covers produced by the imitable David Andrew Sitek (of TV on The Radio fame), which featured two of the three members of Yeah Yeah Yeahs, a couple of members on the Radio and two guest vocal tracks by David Bowie. For all intents and purposes, it should have been the most awe-some album to come out that year as far as anyone who has ever read Pitchfork is concerned.

edly central player: Scarlett. Even worse than that, she was actually kind of good. But therein lies the problem: to make an album that everyone was expecting (and with which you can pull off a crossover success (notable and Zooey Deschanel, both of whom had singing bits in more than one movie they were in), because even if you manage to get a ton of really great people to work with you on it, it's massively hard to do it with the star power that you've surrounded yourself with. Or you know, you could just put out an awful record to begin with after working with no one of notoriety at all. Jennifer Love Hewitt.

The Observer regards itself as a professional publication and series for the highest standards of journalism at all times. We do, however, recognize that we will make mistakes. If we have made a mistake, please contact us at 631-454-5010 so we can correct our error.
Arizona faces powerful snowstorm winds

Associated Press

LAGUNA BEACH, Calif. — High winds buffeted much of California's coast on Monday, causing power outages in several locations and sending hundreds of commuters to the roads.

The National Weather Service issued a wind advisory for much of the state, including Orange County, where the winds were expected to reach 50 to 60 mph.

The advisory was in effect from 7 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday, according to the weather service.

Associated Press

The Associated Press

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. — The SpaceShipOne was the first privately developed aircraft to exceed 1 million miles in altitude.

On Monday, the SpaceShipOne was unveiled as part of a new program called SpaceShipTwo.

The SpaceShipOne was the first privately developed aircraft to exceed 1 million miles in altitude.

The program is expected to cost $200 million and is expected to begin in 2011.

Colombian cancer deaths drop due to better treatment

Annual report shows cancer mortality rate continuing to decline since 1990

Researchers at the advocacy group and other organizations — who predict that death rates will drop even more over the next decade. By 2020, the rate could be half what it was in 2000, they said.

The prediction assumes colon cancer screening and improved chemother vapy drugs have been used along side surgery to improve survival.

And as of 2005, about half of U.S. cancer deaths are caused by liver cancer.

But overall, cancer diagnoses and death rates have declined significantly, a success attributed to improvements in screening and treatment and declines in smoking.

The colorectal cancer death rate was about 17 deaths per 100,000 men and women in 1975, compared to 12 deaths per 100,000 in 2006.

It seems to me that it’s a case of a commercial passenger flight being launched from a large desert on a larger design suitable for commercial use.

Since that historic feat, entrepreneurs have been laboring in the Mojave Desert in California on a project called SpaceShipOne.

On Monday, Virgin Galactic unveiled its successor, a sleek, bullet-shaped spacecraft called SpaceShipTwo, which was built under a secret development contract for two years. The company plans to sell suborbital space rides for $200,000 to a lucky few in a few years.

The spacecraft is designed to carry two people on a suborbital flight in a small capsule that will be attached to a carrier rocket.

The spacecraft will be launched from a spaceport near the town of Mojave, Calif., and will carry up to two people on a suborbital flight.

The spacecraft will be able to carry up to 600 pounds of cargo and will be able to be launched multiple times per week.

Cancer deaths are statistics, but they are also personal stories.

One of the key features of the SpaceShipTwo project is that it will be a commercial venture, with passengers paying for the ride.

The spacecraft will also be able to carry scientific research payloads.

“Basket to me that it’s a cascade of things that include medical science and technology advances,” said Dr. Michael Fisch, head of general oncology at the University of Texas M. D. Anderson Cancer Center in Houston.

The spacecraft will have a steep learning curve, but it’s expected to be a significant step forward in space travel.

SpaceShipTwo’s first flight is scheduled for late 2011.
the committee would enhance the committee as well as provide a mechanism for students to receive feedback on the issue. Student body president Grant Schurman said in a statement saying it would add an additional voice to the committee.

The underlying reason is that the Campus Life Council has no access to credit monitoring services for those affected, according to the letter. 

Schmidt said the letter was drafted by the committee in the days following the data breach, and that it would be sent to the affected students. The letter was also a response to the concerns raised by the students.

In the letter, the university announced that it would offer students credit monitoring services for free, and that students could also order credit reports for a fee. The university also acknowledged that some students had received credit alerts and advised them to take appropriate action.

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The letter also mentioned that the university was taking steps to improve its data security and was working on a detailed plan for future data breaches.
Historic climate debate opens

World leaders gather to address global warming as U.S. gives welcome boost

Associated Press

COPENHAGEN — The United States delivered a welcome boost Monday to a pivotal climate conference by saying greenhouse gases blamed for global warming should be regulated as a health hazard.

The Obama administration’s announcement came as delegates opened a meeting of 192 nations with emotional appeals to leaders in Washington and elsewhere to take stronger action.

Such regulation by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency would supplement the cap on carbon dioxide emissions being considered in the U.S. Congress, effectively raising the U.S. offer on emissions reductions in two weeks of hard bargaining in Copenhagen.

“The executive branch is showing what it can do, even while legislation is pending,” Rajendra Pachauri, chairman of the U.N. scientific network on climate change, said of the EPA action. “It also sends a powerful signal to Congress. It shows a degree of resolve on the part of the president.”

The conference climaxes come when President Barack Obama and more than 100 other national leaders arrive for the final hours of talks next week. In preparation, Obama was meeting with former Vice President Al Gore, a leading climate campaigner, at his White House on Monday.

Earlier in the day, the European Union hailed America for a stronger “bid” by the Americans, who thus far have provisionally pledged emissions cuts much less ambitious than Europe’s.

The endgame in Copenhagen “will mostly be on the table,” said the United States and China, “the world’s two biggest greenhouse-gas emitters, European Union environment spokesman Andreas Carlgren told reporters. He said he would be astonished if Obama did not put more on the table.

Whether the prospect of EPA action will satisfy such demands — and what China may now add to its earlier offer — remains to be seen.

And success in the long-running climate talks hinges on more than emissions reductions. Most important, it requires commitments of financial support by rich countries for poor as they cope with the impacts of a changing global climate.

The clock has ticked down to zero. After two years of negotiations, the time has come to deliver,” Yvo de Boer, the U.N. climate chief, said as he opened the conference in the chilly and foggy Danish capital.

The conference president, Denmark’s Connie Hedegaard, called it a last, best chance.

“Political will has never been stronger,” she told delegates assembled in the Bella Center’s cavernous pigeon hole. “And let me warn you: Political will will never be stronger. This is our chance. If we miss it, it could take years before we get a new and better one.”

Some 15,000 delegates, environmentalists, business lobbyists, journalists and others are gathered in the huge convention center for the pivotal talks, along with thousands more outside, planning protests, street theater and scholarly discussions. The colorful global show demonstrates that the future of the Earth’s climate is the future of everything, from Eskimos and Midwest farmers, to oil sheiks and African peasants.

As climate talks have dragged on for two decades, the planet has continued to warm, something scientists blame largely on carbon dioxide and other emissions from the burning of fossil fuel and other industrial, transport and agricultural emissions.

This week, the World Meteorological Organization is expected to announce that 2009 ranks as one of the warmest years on record, and this decade as the warmest.

This is how she ultimately came to be targeted,” Welner said while testifying at a hearing to determine if Mitchell is competent to stand trial. “And let me warn the opposition, whether it’s the shah or the leader!” the students chanted, according to a 1979 day-by-day comparison between Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei and the pre-U.S. shah, thrown out in Iran since his overthrow in the 1979 Islamic Revolution.

U.S. visa-fraud scam busted in Brazil

SAO PAULO — Authorities arrested 11 people Monday in an alleged U.S. work-visa scam that raked in more than $50 million from thousands of Brazilians since 2002.

Some of those scammed went to the U.S. and wound up as illegal aliens because promised jobs didn’t exist. Wanda Barzee told him Mitchell followed girls

An activist eats an apple near the poster he put up in the city center on the opening day of the Climate Conference in Copenhagen Monday.

Local News

Snowstorm sweeps across West

FLAGSTAFF, Ariz. — A large and powerful storm blanketing the West with snow and strong winds Monday, snarling traffic, closing schools and leaving motorists stranded and muddled in wildfire-devastated Southern California.

Virtually the entire region was suffering — from Colorado to Utah, virtually the entire region was suffering — from Colorado to Utah, from Utah to Nevada, from Nevada to Arizona, from Arizona to New Mexico, from New Mexico to Texas, from Texas to Oklahoma, from Oklahoma to Arkansas, from Arkansas to Mississippi, from Mississippi to Alabama, from Alabama to Tennessee, from Tennessee to Kentucky, from Kentucky to Virginia, from Virginia to West Virginia, from West Virginia to Ohio, from Ohio to Indiana, from Indiana to Michigan, from Michigan to Wisconsin, from Wisconsin to Illinois, from Illinois to Missouri, from Missouri to Arkansas, from Arkansas to Oklahoma, from Oklahoma to Texas, from Texas to New Mexico, from New Mexico to Arizona, from Arizona to Utah, from Utah to Colorado. Blizzard warnings were in effect for northern Arizona and parts of Colorado, with forecasters predicting up to 2 feet of snow around Flagstaff.

REUING — Police took Liu Xiaobo away one year ago, a day before the publication of a document he co-authored that called for more civil rights in China and an end to the Communist Party’s political dominance.

But a former professor has been held without charge ever since and allowed just two visits from his wife.

Other Chinese bold enough to put their names to “Chapter 08” — an unusually direct call for a new constitution guaranteeing human rights, the open election of public officials, and freedom of religion and expression — have been interrogated or tailored by police as part of a government drive to quash the effort.

A new blackout and Internet censorship ship have left most Chinese unaware that it exists.

Still, a year later, about 10,000 people have signed “Chapter 08” and several signatories said Monday that their aspirations are still alive.

Beijing lawyer Mo Shaoping said the document marks a significant step for China and compared it to the document it was modeled on — a charter written by Vaclav Havel and others in 1977.

That declaration helped pave the way for the 1989 Velvet Revolution that swept away the communist regime in what was then Czechoslovakia.

“Only a few hundred intellectuals took part in Vaclav Havel’s Charter 77, so it was initially much smaller in scope than ours, but they kept at it and well, everyone knows how that turned out,” said Mo, who was barred from representing Liu, the document’s chief architect, because he too was a signatory. Two other lawyers from his firm have taken the case instead.

Dec. 8, 2008, the day before the charter was released and held at a secret location for six months.

The literary critic and former professor was formally arrested in June on suspicion of “inciting to subvert state power” — a loosely defined charge that carries a maximum sentence of 15 years.

Associated Press

CHINA

Main still jailed despite call for reform

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Afr. — A large and powerful storm sweeping across the West with snow and strong winds Monday, snarling traffic, closing schools and leaving motorists stranded and muddled in wildfire-devastated Southern California.

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School dedicated to syrup educates students

International Maple Grading School teaches the ‘ins and outs’ of maple regulation, clarity, color, density

Associated Press

SKOWHEGAN, Maine — Tasting maple syrup is a lot like tasting wine. Sniff the aroma, take a sip, hold it on your tongue and savor it for a moment to register the sensation.

At the International Maple Grading School, syrup is serious stuff. At a time when syrup production has boomed to its highest levels in decades, students here learn the sappy sweet nuances of the trade, such as how syrup flavor is influenced by soil type, weather, tree health, production practices and numerous other factors.

“If you think about all the variables that go into producing syrup, it’s not surprising there are so many possibilities,” Debra Hartford, who owns the Thurston and Peters Sugarhouse in Newfield, Maine, said after sniffing and swallowing a sip of syrup to test her tasting abilities.

There be no mistake: The subject matter was sickly sweet at this unique school, a two-day session of instruction where syrup buyers, producers, inspectors and educators came together to learn the ins and outs of syrup regulations and the equipment that’s used to measure a syrup’s color, clarity and density.

They also learned about the complex regulations governing syrup, which vary among syrup-producing locales. For instance, different places have different methods to classify the same syrup — the lightest grade is called “fancy” in Vermont, but “light amber” in Wisconsin in the car of one of his victims, a coroner said.

Tyron Adair, 38, died of a gunshot wound, Dane County Coroner Raymond Wosepka said as workers towed the vehicle. Poskie said as workers towed the vehicle.

He left the house in the Acadia around 4 p.m. He then left a “somewhat remorseful” voice-mail for his sister, Mahoney said.

Tyrone Adair, 38, died of a gunshot wound, Dane County Coroner Raymond Wosepka said after sniffing and swallowing a sip of syrup to test her tasting abilities.

Killing 33-year-old Tracy Judd

Associated Press

The Observer ◆ NATIONAL NEWS

Tuesday, December 8, 2009

Wanted man’s body found in car of victim

Associated Press

MADISON, Wis. — Police on Monday found the body of a man wanted in two double homicides in Wisconsin in the car of one of his victims, a coroner said.

Tyrone Adair, 38, died of a gunshot wound, Dane County Coroner Raymond Wosepka said at a news conference in Madison. He would not say whether Adair had shot himself.

Madison Police spokesman Joel DeSpain said police were not looking for Adair, who also was wanted in the deaths of 25-year-old Deja Adair and 2-year-old Naveah Weigel-Adair. An autopsy was planned for Tuesday morning.

Adair was charged Friday with killing 33-year-old Tracy Judd and 23-month-old Deja Adair, Judd and Adair’s daughter. He also was wanted in the deaths of 25-year-old Mike Poskie and 2-year-old Naveah Weigel-Adair.

All four bodies were found Thursday.

The four-day search set the bar for about 45 minutes, around 2 p.m. He remained at the Branch Street Retreat bar in Madison, police said.

Chief Noble Wray said, according to a police timeline, detectives suspect Adair killed Judd and Deja Adair on Thursday morning at the suburban town of Middleton home they shared, then after Weigel and Weigel-Adair at their Madison duplex that evening.

Dane County Sheriff David Grove said he was glad Adair didn’t make the grade.

“We have a lot of customers who buy in bulk from us for ingredient purposes — large bakeries, sausage companies — so they want a heavy maple flavor because they’re blending it with other ingredients,” Mancuso said.

But the product isn’t always sweetness after sap is extracted from maple trees and boiled down into syrup every late winter and spring. For their training, students took sips of syrup out of small paper cups that had hints of tree buds, chemicals, chlorine and other off-flavors.

“Once I tasted a barrel of syrup you could blow bubbles with,” he said.

But the most important thing about syrup, as anyone will tell you, is flavor.

Late last week, students sampled more than three dozen syrups to differentiate the light variations from the heavy syrups and to identify the off-flavors of syrup that don’t make the grade.

The syrup school, now in its sixth year, is sponsored by the Canada-based International Maple Syrup Institute and is held for two days at a different site each year. For the classes last week, about 20 participants gathered at the University of Maine Cooperative Extension offices in this central Maine town.

“We were the sugar is high density and clear syrup — the lightest grade is called “fancy” in Vermont, but “light amber” in Wisconsin in the car of one of his victims, a coroner said.

If you think about all the variables that go into producing syrup, it’s not surprising there are so many possibilities,” Debra Hartford, who owns the Thurston and Peters Sugarhouse in Newfield, Maine, said after sniffing and swallowing a sip of syrup to test her tasting abilities.

“The best the syrup, the higher the price,” Mancuso said. “In 2008, the U.S. average price was $40.50 a gallon.”

He left the house in the Acadia around 4 p.m. He then left a “somewhat remorseful” voice-mail for his sister, Mahoney said. He would not say what the message said specifically.

The man told police it appeared the sport utility vehicle had been parked there for several days, DeSpain said.

Investigators found a revolver in the vehicle.

Mancuso, who’s in charge of quality control at Bascom Maple Farm in Alstead, N.H., said the grading system is important because customers have different needs.

“For example, consumers generally like to use their pancakes with a lighter syrup, which has a milder flavor,” Mancuso said.

But the product isn’t always sweetness after sap is extracted from maple trees and boiled down into syrup every late winter and spring. For their training, students took sips of syrup out of small paper cups that had hints of tree buds, chemicals, chlorine and other off-flavors.

The taste can go bad from warm weather, how it is produced or even how sugarhouse operators clean their equipment, said Henry Mackreks of the Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food & Markets.

“Once I tasted a barrel of syrup you could blow bubbles with,” he said.

The Observer ◆ NATIONAL NEWS

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Brad Moore, 12, covers buckets used for collecting maple syrup while taping maples near his family farm in Loudon, N.H., in this March 2003 photo.

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Environment Protection Agency Administrator Lisa Jackson makes an announcement on the climate during a news conference in Washington Monday.

Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Administrator Lisa Jackson makes an announcement on the climate during a news conference in Washington Monday. EPA

EPA: Greenhouse gas harmful

Environmental Protection Agency study revealed in time for climate conference

The Observer

Tuesday, December 8, 2009

Market Recap

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| AMEX       | 1,788.31  | -4.17 |
| NASDAQ     | 2,189.61  | -4.74 |
| NYSE       | 7,155.73  | 26.98 |
| S&P 500    | 1,103.25  | -2.73 |
| NIKKEI (Tokyo) | 10,167.60  | 41.00 |
| FTSE 100 (London) | 5,310.66  | -11.70 |

In Brief

Obama, Gore meet on climate change

WASHINGTON — President Barack Obama has met with former Vice President Al Gore at the White House as the president prepares for his appearance at a major international climate summit in Copenhagen.

Obama met with Gore in a closed meeting with no press coverage.

The former vice president won the Nobel Peace Prize in 2007 for his work toward combating climate change.

Obama is also meeting on Wednesday with environmental and business leaders to discuss climate change.

The summit will be the biggest of world leaders on Dec. 18.

GM to invest in Michigan facilities

DETROIT — General Motors Co. said Monday it will spend $700 million at eight Michigan facilities to get its new rechargeable electric car road-ready — a technological and economic boost for its home state.

GM officials detailed their investment plans for the Chevrolet Volt on the floor of its assembly plant that straddles the border between Detroit and tiny Hamtramck.

The plant, which will begin mass producing the Volt in late 2010, is getting a $336 million upgrade that includes new machinery and other equipment.

GM’s combined Volt-related investment also includes $202 million for a new plant in Flint that will build engine generators, $43 million for a plant in the Detroit suburb of Brownstown Heights that will begin making battery packs early next year, $37 million for a Bay City powertrain plant, and $27 million for the GM Tech Center in suburban Warren, home to the Volt’s battery laboratory.

The state of Michigan last year approved $1.15 billion in tax incentives for those sites and others.

It was a sign that GM and Chrysler endured bankruptcy protection and announced the closure of nearly 30 plants in the U.S. and Canada.

GM’s wins was as much a relief as celebration for the politicians and workers who attended the news conference. Many speakers welcomed the chance to talk about something other than the state’s economic woes.

Robert Gibbs said President Barack Obama, "still believes the way to move forward is through the legislative process" something Obama has expressed on a number of occasions as he has pressed Congress to shift the nation’s energy priorities away from fossil fuels and to reduce climate-changing pollution.

The EPA said scientific evidence clearly shows that greenhouse gases "threaten the public health and welfare of the American people" and that the pollutants — mainly carbon dioxide from burning fossil fuels — should be reduced, if not by Congress then by the agency responsible for enforcing air pollution

Kennedy criticizes mining practice

AP

WASHINGTON — The Obama administration took a major step toward imposing the first federal limits on air- changing pollution from cars, power plants and factories, declaring there was compelling scientific evidence that global warming from man-made greenhouse gases endangers Americans’ health.

The announcement by the Environmental Protection Agency was clearly timed to build momentum toward an agreement at the international conference on climate change that opened Monday in Copenhagen, Denmark. It signaled the administration was prepared to push ahead for significant controls in the U.S. if Congress doesn’t act first on its own.

The price could be steep for both industry and consumers. The EPA finding clears the way for rules that eventually could force the sale of more fuel-efficient vehicles and require plants to install costly new equipment — at a cost of billions of dollars or even tens of billions of dollars — or shift to other forms of energy.

Energy prices for many Americans probably would rise, too — though Monday’s finding has no immediate impact since regulations have yet to be written. Supporters of separate legislation in Congress argue they could craft measures that would mitigate some of those costs.

Environmentalists hailed the EPA announcement as a clear indication that the United States needs to take steps to attack climate change even if Congress fails to act. And they welcomed the timing of the declaration, saying it was crucial that the Obama administration convinces delegates at the international climate talks that the U.S. is seriously about addressing the problem. Obama will address the conference next week.

But business groups said regulating carbon emissions through the EPA under existing clean air law would put new economic burdens on manufacturers, cost jobs and drive up energy prices.

"It will choke off growth by adding new mandates to virtually every major construction and renovation project," declared Thomas Donohue, president of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, which in recent months has been particularly critical of the EPA’s attempt to address climate change.

The EPA signaled last April that it was inclined to view heat-trapping pollution as a threat to public health and welfare and began to take public comments for formal rulemaking. That marked a reversal from the Bush administration, which had refused to issue the finding, despite a conclusion by EPA scientists that it was warranted.

EPA Administrator Lisa Jackson said Monday, "There are no more excuses for delay," adding that the so-called endangerment analysis from global warming had been under consideration at the agency for three years.

After the official finding, she said the agency is now "obligated to make reasonable efforts to reduce greenhouse pollutants under the Clean Air Act."

White House spokesman Robert Gibbs said President Barack Obama, "still believes the way to move forward is through the legislative process" something Obama has expressed on a number of occasions as he has pressed Congress to shift the nation’s energy priorities away from fossil fuels and to reduce climate-changing pollution.

The EPA said scientific evidence clearly shows that greenhouse gases "threaten the public health and welfare of the American people" and that the pollutants — mainly carbon dioxide from burning fossil fuels — should be reduced, if not by Congress then by the agency responsible for enforcing air pollution

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Last November, an unknown source leaked more than 1,000 e-mails and technical documents from the Climate Research Unit at the University of East Anglia in Britain to the Internet. These documents reveal that a number of scientists within the Unit had engaged in some disturbingly unprofessional behavior in order to downplay, or in some cases eliminate, data that raised doubts about the anthropogenic causes of global warming. From data manipulation and deletion, to suggestions of evidence in response to a Freedom of Information Act request, to blacklisting journals whose editorial boards contain climate change skeptics, to subversion of the peer-review process, and finally to at least one threat of violence, it appears that these scientists would stop at nothing to prove that climate change is man-made.

(For those interested, all the documents are available online at www.climategate.org.)

What is even more troubling than the e-mails themselves is the reaction to the revelations. A number of media outlets have refused to scrutinize the emerging scandal. Two weeks after the daunting documents were released, ABC and NBC have only acknowledged their existence in an offhand manner. Instead of scrutinizing the evidence, they still maintain that “the science is solid” and “the evidence is overwhelming that man is behind climate change.”

The Obama administration has also failed to moderate its global warming alarmism, and is working in “full speed deployment” mode toward negotiating at Copenhagen’s climate change summit that the President will be attending.

Instead, the Obama administration, the United Nations, the media, and even some in the scientific community have refused to recognize the gravity of the situation.

David Harsanyi of the Reason Institute explains why:

“To many of these folks, the science of global warming is only a tool of ideology. To step back and re-examine their thinking would also mean, at least apparently — ceding a foothold on policy that allows government to control behavior. They would mean putting the brakes on the billions of dollars allocated to force fundamental economic and societal manipulations through cap-and-trade schemes and fabricated “new energy economies,” among many other intrusive policies.”

When science, aided by allies in the media and politics, becomes an ends-ori-ented endeavor rather than an objective search for the truth, the basis for knowledge crumbles, and society suffers the consequences. The emails and subsequent attempts at a cover-up may not disprove anthropogenic climate change, but they do cast serious doubt on the methods and motives of the scientists behind the claims. Climategate should provide ample reason for all to re-examine and reconsider the tremendous faith we have placed in the hands of mankind not only in the scientific field, but in all realms of life. It may turn out that man’s capacity to control and manipulate the world is not a sound as some, particularly those who favor governmental engineering of social and economic systems, would like to think.

As prominent 18th-century statesman and political philosopher Edmund Burke once wrote: “ Virtue is man, in the public and role of guide, equipped with a map compiled from his own abstractions, would lead society to destruction.”

Christie Pesavento is a senior who is majoring in political science and sociology. She can be reached at cpesaven@nd.edu

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

These remarks raise questions we ignore at our peril. Why do we have to “respectful of human nature”?

And where do we get “inalienable rights”?

Do moral issues, in health care and else-where, reflect merely personal or sectarian preferences? Or is there an objective moral order — a natural law — that deter-mines whether an act is right or wrong? In her interventions in the public arena, said Benedict to European parliamentari-ans on March 30, 2006, the Church draws attention to “principles which are not negotiable . . . protection of human life in all its stages . . . These principles are not truths of faith, even though they receive . . . light and confirmation from faith, they are inscribed in human nature itself and therefore they are common to all humani-ties.”

Natural law is neither a merely Catholic teaching nor even a Christian invention. Aristotle and Cicero affirmed it. Everything has a nature built into it by its maker. General Motors built a new car and gave you directions on how to act in accord with that nature so that you will have a new car. “Maker” has built a nature into us that we ought to follow if we are to achieve our goal of harmony with the moral law. We can know the law of our nature, as St. Thomas Aquinas put it, by “the light of reason itself,” which “is good and what is evil.” And our Maker has given us directions in Revelation, including the Ten Commandments, which express the “principal precepts” of that natural law as well as personal conduct.

The natural law provides a standard for human law as well as personal conduct. Martin Luther King cited Aquinas when he said, in his Letter from Birmingham Jail, that “An unjust law is a code that is out of harmony with the moral law.” So, when Rosa Parks refused to give up her place on the bus in 1955, she made a natural law statement. Legally enforced racial seg-re-ration is unjust and a civil law that man-dates it is illegal.

The first, self-evident principle of the natural law is, in Aquinas’ words, that “good is to be done and promoted and evil is to be avoided.” The good is that which is in accord with the nature of the subject. It is good to feed gasoline to a car. It is not good to feed it to a man. It is not good, i.e., it is evil to steal, because such acts are contrary to the nat-ural human inclination to live in communi-ty. While we can affirm through reason the objective rightness or wrongness of acts, we generally have neither the time nor the ability to judge the subjective culpabil-ity of the person who commits that act. What I can say is that if such an act is wrong and choose to do it.

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Tuesday, December 8, 2009

By MARY CLAIRE O’DONNELL
Scene Writer

Just as Jack Frost is finally beginning to nip at our noses, so too are finals starting to bite at our heels. They are looming over our heads, and the idea of studying for them is daunting. To help out, the following is a list of the three best and the two worst study spots on campus. Criteria include proximity to caffeine and sugary snacks, potential for distraction and comfort. Let’s just hope these spots don’t fill up the night before your big Orgo exam.

BEST
1. Library Window Seats

These are some of the best study spots on campus. The library is a quiet place to work with little to distract you from your studies, unless you bring your computer and leave Sporcle open. Also, by snagging one of the window seats, you do not feel stuck inside a cement prison, forced to study until your eyes bleed. Instead, when you find yourself stamped or just completely overwhelmed, you can take a calming breath and just look out across the beautiful Notre Dame campus. Furthermore, you can stop by the Huddle on your way over for some caffeine and sugar and other deli-cious food than any other study locale. If you live on West or South Quad, the bustle of LaFortune, affording studiers a level of isolation conducive to extreme focus. Also, the seats offer the easiest access to caffeine, sugar and other deli-cious food than any other study locale.

2. LaFortune Booths Behind Subway

These spots are excellent alternatives if all the window seats fill up. The booths are far enough away from the hustle and bustle of LaFortune, affording studiers a level of isolation conducive to extreme focus. Also, the seats offer the easiest access to caffeine, sugar and other deli-cious food than any other study locale.

WORST
1. The Futon In Your Dorm Room

Despite the immense comfort your futon or couch gives you, studying on it may not be your best idea. Unfortunately, it is the comfort itself that will lead to your studying downfall. Inevitably, in your sleep-deprived state, you will curl up, declare you are only going to nap for 20 minutes, set your phone alarm and close your eyes. Two-plus hours later you will wake up to find that, contrary to popular belief, sleeping on your “History of the Roman People” textbook will not help you absorb facts about Augustus’s evolution of the Republic into the Principate. Valuable study time will have been lost. Furthermore, unless you illegally set up a coffee maker or hot water heater in your room, caffeine will be out of easy reach. Overall, the opportunity cost of comfort is not worth the hours of studying you will lose.

2. Any 24-hour Lounge

The PDA you will undoubtedly witness in these lounges negates any of their advantages. After parties, these areas are full of couples studying, playing games or watching movies. The sweet nothings you will hear floating through the air may sicken you. General rule, just avoid the area if you are not one of those couples.

Contact Mary Claire O’Donnell at modonne5@nd.edu

3. Mendoza Commons

Mendoza provides a terrific alternative to LaFortune. There are many comfort-able study areas inside the building, from small tables under the stairs to couches in the Business Information Center (BIC). As Mendoza lies further away from the dorms than other build-ings available for study, it will most like-ly have less occupants to create noise. There is, however, the longer walk to contemplate. Also, the cafe closes at 5 p.m., so remember to bring snacks from home.

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Contact Mary Claire O’Donnell at modonne5@nd.edu

By MATT BROWN
Scene Writer

Every Christmas season comes along with a decision that holds within it the power to make it a time to remember or an experience that you wish you could forget. Sugar plums dancing. St. Nick HO HO HO-ing and Christmas caroling are all vital components to a successful yuletide season but in this modern age I dare say that we must add one more box to our holiday checklist, that of the Christmas eve movie.

Now this is not a choice to be made lightly, there are many Christmas movies and all have merit, all have their place: “Elf,” A Christmas Story, Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer, Bad Santa. But to make sure there will never be a movie made that can usurp the Christmas eve throne of the “Muppet Christmas Carol.” “Muppet Christmas Carol” com-bines everything you love about the story: Scrooge, ghosts, tender moments with the Muppets we know and love. Like Beaker, Animal, Kermit, Rizzo, Gonzo, even Statler and Waldorf.

Kermit and Michael Caine give the performances of a lifetime as Bob Cratchit and Ebenezer Scrooge respectively with seamless give and take that shows why they have been two super-stars of the acting world for their entire profes-sional careers.

The Muppets add a fan-tastic twist to this classic tale with unfor-gettable songs and hilarious moments which, added with flaw-less interaction between the human actors and their less than biological co-actors, actually have you believing that the Muppets are a part of this reality.

The Great Gonzo knows the story like the back of his hand narrating as Charles Dickens and Rizzo adds enough doubting and side comments to keep him guessing and the audi-ence laughing. Their antics as they attempt to follow Scrooge on his journey through time and space to save his Christmas spirit are flat out hilarious whether you are 5 or 55. The rats combine to make a diligent work force under Scrooge despite the chilled conditions of the office and the ice-skating penguins may be the highlight of the opening song and credits.

The plot is basically identical to the one we all grew up with, know and love but with plenty of Muppets to make it approximately a bajillion times better.

The Ghost of Christmas Past takes him to see Sam the Eagle, his old school teacher, and also Fozzy Bear, owner of the Hubble and Friece, famous for his Christmas soliloquy where Scrooge had his first job. From there he meets the ebullient ghost of Christmas Present who wastes no time inviting him to “Come in and know me better man”. Scrooge then proceeds to travel through Christmas celebrations and I’ll just leave you with this: at some point Rizzo is dancing on a turkey.

The third and final ghost is actual-ly pretty frightening for a Muppet creation and this Ghost of Christmas Future shows Scrooge what will hap-pen if he doesn’t change his ways.

I won’t ruin the ending but I’m gonna go out on a limb here and say that you, reader, may know what comes next. But if you have not seen the movie you have no idea the joyful Christmas ride that you are missing.

Ladies and gentle-men, do yourself a favor this Holiday season. This Christmas eve, curl up with your mom, dad, siblings or dog and pop in the “Muppet Christmas Carol” and get caught up in the joy of the season. Christmas is a magical time that only comes once a year, give your all, love your all and Merry Christmas to all, to all … a good night.

Contact Matt Brown at mbrown14@nd.edu
The English oratorio “The Messiah,” originally composed by George Frideric Handel, held well to tradition of the composition and was performed excellently by Notre Dame’s official concert choir, the Chorale.

In a modern context, only the first of three parts of “The Messiah” are performed, and the Chorale did the same, replacing the final song of the first part with the most famous song of “The Messiah,” the ‘Hallelujah’ chorus, which brought the entire crowd to their feet and which earned a solid amount of applause following the show.

Handel composed “The Messiah” in 1741 and revised it throughout his life. It premiered in Dublin, with Handel himself playing the harpsichord for the performance. The oratorio, which is often performed around Christmas, utilizes gospel passages taken from the King James Bible to celebrate the prophecies and birth of Jesus, set to polyphonic choruses accompanied by arias and recitatives. The prophecies come primarily from the Old Testament, focusing on prophecies of the birth of a savior, the lyrics were composed by Charles Jennens, who borrowed mainly from the King James Bible, except for the Psalms. Originally, “The Messiah” was composed in three parts. The first of which is the prophecies and birth of Jesus, set to polyphonic choruses accompanied by arias and recitatives. The prophecies come primarily from the Old Testament, focusing on prophecies of the birth of a savior, the lyrics were composed by Charles Jennens, who borrowed mainly from the King James Bible, except for the Psalms. Originally, “The Messiah” was composed in three parts. The first, which is the most frequently performed part, deals mainly with the birth of Christ, and the prophecies that predicted the coming of a savior. The lyrics for this part come mainly from Isaiah and are supplemented by passages from Haggai and Malachi.

The second part dealt with the passion, death, resurrection and ascension of Jesus, and was meant to conclude with the famous ‘Hallelujah’ chorus. The third part then deals with prophecies of the second coming, mainly from the book of Revelation.

The star of the show was certainly senior tenor Joshua Diaz, who performed the first recitative, “Comfort ye, my people,” and the first aria, “Every valley shall be exalted.” He finalized his performance by singing the final aria before the “Hallelujah” chorus, ‘Thou shalt break them with a rod of iron,’ and he received the longest ovation after this capstone.

His voice was powerful and clear, two of the most important parts of performing a composition like “The Messiah,” which has lyrics that can become incomprehensible if not sung well. The lyrics serve as one of the main connections between the audience and the performers, and Diaz perfectly accomplished this task.

The most impressive part of the show, particularly from the aspect of a college student, was that it has the ability to hold the interest of its listeners.

Unlike many compositions from the time period, “The Messiah” is sung in English, which helps to keep the interest of those listening. Its music is also lively enough to keep the enjoyment level high, even for those who don’t have an affinity for classical music.

“The Messiah” is likely performed around Christmas because of the upbeat nature of the music, by which one cannot help but be uplifted. Though it is to see the Chorale’s excellent performance of the Handel’s most famous work, this reviewer highly recommends finding a CD of the performance to truly get oneself into the Christmas spirit.

Contact Eric Prister at eprister@nd.edu

"Bright Star," which played at the DeBartolo Performing Arts Center this past weekend, is an unexpected movie. Unexpected because, even in the height of their restraint, the passion that Keats and Fanny show for each other, physically, verbally and emotionally, seems so unlike that seen in other comparable period pieces. Despite their cold and distant outward appearances, their love is evident from the beginning, making the ending, when their feelings finally burst out of them, all the more heart-wrenching. This isn’t “Pride and Prejudice” and this isn’t “Titanic.” It’s a new love story that falls into so many different categories, but stands on its own nonetheless.

"Bright Star" will be released on DVD on Jan. 26, 2010.

Contact Maija Gustin at mgustin@nd.edu

Contact Jane Campion, tells the story of poet John Keats and his sort-of lover, Fanny Brawne. Campion’s lush and breathtaking rendering of this happy-then-tragic tale is sure to draw a lot of attention come awards season this spring. The film features an excellent script full of wit, passion and levity, is shot with a stunning visual style, and it deserves more than the period-piece label attached to it.

"Bright Star" never feels contrived, the most cynical modern audience. The word ‘frame,’ heard frequently once March rolls around. Both actors manage to infuse their feelings finally burst out of them, their cold and distant outward appearances. Their love is evident from the beginning, making the ending, when their feelings finally burst out of them, all the more heart-wrenching. This isn’t “Pride and Prejudice” and this isn’t “Titanic.” It’s a new love story that falls into so many different categories, but stands on its own nonetheless.

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Contact Maija Gustin at mgustin@nd.edu

The oratorio, which is often performed around Christmas, utilizes gospel
Goodell urges Dolphins to upgrade stadium

MIAMI — NFL commissioner Roger Goodell says the Miami Dolphins’ stadium needs more upgrades if South Florida is to remain competitive in bidding for future Super Bowls.

The 22-year-old stadium underwent $250 million in improvements in 2007 but is still falling behind the competition with new stadiums opening in Dallas, Phoenix and Indianapolis and New York, Goodell said Monday. Miami will host the Super Bowl for an NFL-record 11th time Feb. 7. Goodell spoke at a kickoff luncheon for the game.

“They’ve got a great job host- ing Super Bowls here in the past,” Goodell said. “The key thing is to make sure the stadium is state of the art and that it can compete with the stadiums in some of these other communities. They are moving to another level in some of our games.”

Deficiencies with the Dolphins’ home include lighting and the location of lower-level seats, which are not close to the playing field. The league doesn’t see a retractable roof, Goodell said.

Dolphins owner Stephen Ross said, “We’re still in the planning stage, and it’s pre- mature to put out dollars. We know it’s hard to put up dollars in South Florida in this economy.”

“They’re working to keep it as low as possible and work with the league. We’ve got to show a package. That’s what we’re look- ing to do — put together a pack- age.”

A new stadium isn’t being con- sidered, Ross said. The Pro Bowl will be played in Miami for the first time in Jan. 31. Goodell supported experimenting with a new location and schedule slot for the all-star game, which has been played in Hawaii in the week after the Super Bowl.

“If this doesn’t work out, it will be my fault,” Goodell said.

On other subjects, the commis- sioner said:

— Players perform in a “very safe environment,” thanks in part to recent stricter league guidelines regarding concussions.

“We’re all learning more about the problem,” he said. “That’s why we’re seeing a pretty clear thing that doesn’t happen until you get your back up against the wall a little bit, and you have to be careful. You want to make sure it heals properly.”

— Negotiations on a new labor agreement are progressing slow- ly, with another meeting sched- uled this week. The new labor agreement with the NFLPA is set to expire at the end of the season. The league considers an extension to the current deal “fairly possible.”

“With the Marlins leaving in a couple of years, there’s an oppor- tunity to make this truly a foot- ball stadium and make it a great facility that can host multiple Super Bowls,” Goodell said.

Bengals’ schedule gets tougher with Vikings and Chargers

CINCINNATI — The easy times are over for the Cincinnati Bengals.

The Bengals secured their sec- ond winning record in 19 years with two winning of three during a stretch of games against struggling teams. They now face the challenge ahead of them with Minnesota and Detroit. Cincinnati has given up 16-7 and then finished off the defense got pushed around in the first quarter, and the offense didn’t show a lot of its usual power. "They said, 'If we in a situation where we have to stop the run, we'll have some other things in there,'" offensive tackle Andrew Whitworth said.

The Bengals have had three different backs — rookie Bernard Scott, newcomer Larry Johnson and Benson — top 100 yards in each of the past three games, the first time that's happened in the NFL since 2006.

That’s pretty big-time in this league because you’ve got to run the ball to win championships, no doubt about it,” Benson said. “The guys up front are making that happen.”

CFL

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## NCAA Football

**USA Today/Coaches’ Top 25**

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**Women's Basketball**

**Big East Standings**

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## Around the Dial

**NCAA Men's Basketball**

**Division I AP Top 25**

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**Arkansas running back Mark Ingram has been invited to the Heisman Trophy presentation in New York after leading Alabama to the BCS National Championship game. Ingram rushed for 15 touchdowns this season.**

Suh, Ingram among Heisman finalists

NEW YORK — Tim Tebow added another Heisman first to his long list of accomplishments just by being selected a finalist for this year’s trophy.

Tebow became the first player to be invited to the Heisman Trophy presentation ceremony three times when the Florida quarterback — along with Colt McCoy, Mark Ingram, Troy Gerhart and Ndamukong Suh — was named a finalist Monday for college football’s most prestigious player of the year award.

“Having the chance to go back to New York means a lot to me,” Tebow said in a statement. “It is a special honor but it wouldn’t be possible for me to have this opportunity without my teammates and coach-es.”

The Heisman Trophy will be awarded Saturday in Manhattan. The presentation ceremony has been televised since 1981 and since 1982 at least three players have been invited to attend.

The last time as many as five players were invited to New York was 2004, when USC quarterback Matt Leinart won the award.

Tebow, who was the first sophomore to win the Heisman in 2007, is trying to become the second two-time Heisman winner, joining Ohio State’s Archie Griffin. Tebow finished third in the voting last year, while getting the most first-place votes.

He’s also the first player to finish in the top five of the Heisman voting three times since Georgia tailback Herschel Walker did it in the early 1960s.

McCoy was the runner-up last season to Oklahoma’s Sam Bradford and has led No. 2 Texas to the BCS national championship game this season. Ingram has rushed for 1,342 yards and scored 15 touchdowns for No. 1 Alabama.

Stanford’s Gerhart, meanwhile, has run for more yards (1,736) and scored more touchdowns (26) than any player in the nation.

And Nebraska’s Suh had 7.5 sacks in an attention-grabbing performance against Texas in the Big 12 title game. He is the first defensive player to be a finalist since 1997, when Michigan corner- back Charles Woodson became the first full-time defensive player to win the Heisman.

Tebow and McCoy entered this season as heavy Heisman favorites, but neither has been as productive this season as last and neither will go into Saturday’s presentation as the front-runner.

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**Brief**

**Yankees trade Brunezy to Washington at meetings**

INDIANAPOLIS — Brian Brunezy, who was the first player to be invited to the Heisman Trophy presentation ceremony three times when the Florida quarterback — along with Colt McCoy, Mark Ingram, Troy Gerhart and Ndamukong Suh — was named a finalist Monday for college football’s most prestigious player of the year award.

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Tebow and McCoy entered this season as heavy Heisman favorites, but neither has been as productive this season as last and neither will go into Saturday’s presentation as the front-runner.
Indianapolis — Whitey Herzog spent a long time stewing about a blown call in the 1985 World Series. So in a strange way, perhaps this was his moment. He’s going into the Hall of Fame, standing next to an umpire.

Herzog and prominent crew chief Doug Harvey got the call Monday at the baseball winter meetings at the Grand Hyatt in Indianapolis. Herzog was elected by the Baseball Writers’ Association of America.

Herzog was a single vote short in 2007 and 2008, but he’s a Hall of Fame player, manager and executive for more than 45 years.

“I’m pretty confident in my abilities and being a starter in this league, you know,” said Harvey. “If yesterday cemented it, that’s good. My goal is to continue to be a manager and get this team in position to win four out of five games. I’ve got a job, and I have to just be the manager an offense. And what happens after that will happen.”

During a 2-minute drill he let guys that have been on the other side when you’re on the street make the change that Russell was enough to do that you’ll succeed. And I’m happy it’s over,” Herzog said. “It was just in the last few years when I was only missing by a few votes that I thought, maybe I deserve it.”

Among those who came close this year was former players’ union head Marvin Miller. He was on a separate slate for executives and officials, and fell two votes short.

“Very few individuals have had as significant or as positive an impact upon the history of baseball as Marvin,” union head Michael Weiner said in a statement. “The Hall remains incomplete without Marvin’s plaque. Herzog was a fixture in major league dugouts for two decades. He won the 1982 World Series and three NL pennants with Kansas City. He became the 19th manager to make it.

“I think he was one of the guys who started managers doing more creative things,” said Hall of Fame shortstop Ozzie Smith, one of them. “You’d see him take a relief pitcher and put him in right field. Smith was a late addition to the 16-member panel that nominates candidates for induction.

“Nothing’s happened. If he comes to a team in our division, I would be interested. He’s really good,” Boston Red Sox manager Terry Francona said.

“Damon and designated hitter Hideki Matsui, the World Series MVP, wants to stay in the United States, you might get a lot of people running what they are doing,” Francona said. “They are not going to go away. I hope they don’t get too attached to the player because we have to deal with them.”

Teams also were waiting for the midnight Monday deadline to pass for about two dozen free agents to decide whether to accept arbitration offers from their former clubs.

Boston agreed to a small deal with right-hander Scott Mathieson and a big deal of two seasons with the Hanshin Tigers in Japan’s Central League. Their 20 million yen per season was the most ever paid to a Japanese player. The Tigers also purchased the contract of pitcher Matt Murton from Colorado.

The New York Mets, coming off a 71-91 season at Citi Field, have held numerous trade talks but have not been successful in finding the pieces. Also, former agent Dennis Gilbert was at the hotel. Now a Chicago White Sox executive, he is among the holders of the Bay Area’s top two free-agent hitters, appearing to have slow-moving markets. Given the recent run of mediocre GMs, it is unlikely the White Sox will spend $20 million for a third straight season.
Iverson takes court in Philly for first time since ‘06

PHILADELPHIA — The A.I. Show took center stage again in Philly.

And the early returns have Philadelphia 76ers fans in love with the revival as much as the original.

Iverson took a familiar route to the Wachovia Center on Monday night for his first game since returning to the Sixers last week. He pulled in to the player’s parking lot at 5:55 p.m., waving to fans who waited in the cold for a glimpse of one of the most polarizing athletes in Philadelphia’s deep sports history.

He hit the court for warmups to the sound of fans screaming his name and holding “Welcome Home” signs. He took passes from his former 76ers backcourt teammate Aaron McKie, now an assistant coach.

He hit shot after shot to the delight of the crowd and broke out in a wide smile as they erupted in cheers.

Iverson, who did not talk pregame, was in the starting lineup Monday against the Nuggets.

“I feel like I am home,” Iverson said. “Just seeing people I’m accustomed to seeing, seeing the reporters, seeing some of the fans when I go out to eat. Just the smell of Philadelphia when I go outside.”

Iverson’s not sure how many minutes he can play because of his limited basketball activity over the past year. His stint in Detroit was cut short with a back injury and he played only three games for Memphis this season.

“I don’t know about game condition,” Iverson said. “If I can’t get my scoring on like I want to, I just want to do other things on the basketball court that will help us win.”

The Sixers have lost nine straight games and hope Iverson can lead them back into the win column. He’ll play against Denver, one of three teams he played for after leaving Philadelphia.

Karl, who had Iverson for two-plus seasons in Denver, said he was surprised Iverson was back with the Sixers.

“I was thinking it would be a team trying to win a championship that needed points,” he said. “He always had a love affair with the city and he took them on an incredible run.”

Iverson always considered Philadelphia home and dreamed of a return to the team he led to the 2001 NBA finals.

“In your dreams, you always hope for the best,” he said. “That’s what I’m doing. I love these people here. They know that. They love me back. Hopefully, it’ll just be a great experience.”

Iverson broke down in tears at his press conference after he signed a non-guaranteed deal with the 76ers last week.
Goals slow in coming for Notre Dame offense

By DOUGLAS FARMER
Sports Writer

Notre Dame's 3-2 defeat on Nov. 14. Riderwell leads the Irish with 10 goals this season.

The Irish currently average 2.11 goals per game, three goals per game would jump the team from 11th in the NCAA standings to second. One goal more per game on many occasions boils down to a bounce here or there, according to captain Ryan Thang.

"The bounces aren't going our way, whether it be hitting on pipes or just not capitalizing on chances," Thang said. "For some reason the puck is hitting the post and not going in, whereas other teams are hitting the post and it is going directly in. It is a matter of centimeters and inches."

For one Irish forward, the puck has been to find the back of the net. Junior Calle Riderwell leads the team with 10 goals.

"I think the times I've been scoring have been a couple of bounces, a bounce off a teammate, a bounce off the back of the net," Riderwell said. "So because you have the puck bounce your way a little bit. Fortunately I've had that happen to me a couple times this season."

HOCKEY
Rodgers leads Packers past Ravens

GREEN BAY, Wis. — The standings say the Green Bay Packers are in good shape for the playoffs. But Monday night’s victory over the Baltimore Ravens sets them up as a team that might have some work to do to be taken seriously as a Super Bowl contender.

Aaron Rodgers threw three touchdown passes, including two to tight end Jermichael Finley, and the Packers beat the Ravens 27-14 in a penalty-filled game Monday night.

It was the fourth straight win for Rodgers (8-4), solidifying their spot in the NFC wild-card race. But it certainly wasn’t pretty.

Baltimore Ravens’ Haloti Ngata is seen on the bench during the second half when Driver caught a pass from Rodgers. Ngata allowed Rodgers to get away with several moves around the line.

The Packers drove to the Baltimore 17 thanks in large part to a 15-yard face mask penalty by Ray Lewis on Greg Jennings, but the Packers were pushed back by a holding penalty on right tackle Mark Tauscher and the Packers had to settle for a field goal — but Mason Crosby missed from 34 yards.

Flacco then threw deep downfield to Derrick Mason, who caught the ball but was called for offensive pass interference against Charles Woodson. Mason compounded the problem by drawing an unsportsmanlike conduct penalty afterward, and the Ravens had to punt from their own 9-yard line.

The Packers got the ball back at the Baltimore 49, and Rodgers threw to Korey Hall and Driver for first downs before finding Finley for a 19-yard touchdown pass and a 24-14 lead with 10.31 remaining.

athlete Después no estando situado hasta este pasado weekend, Notre Dame's 3-2 defeat on Nov. 14. Riderwell leads the Irish with 10 goals this season.

"January, February and early March we had a real difficult time scoring."

Surprisingly, an injury to the team's leading scorer sparked a scoring surge at an ideal time.

"Then we got to the NCAA Tournament and Erik Condra got knocked out, and he was our best player," Jackson said. "All of a sudden we score seven against (New Hampshire) and score five against Michigan. We got to the Tournament, and we came to life. Any little thing potentially could trigger [an offensive outburst]."
The No. 5 Irish will play host to a struggling Indiana University-Purdue University Fort Wayne team tonight at 7 in the Purcell Pavilion amid hopes that Notre Dame will be able to extend its winning streak to eight.

Irish coach Muffet McGraw is anxious about complacency amongst her players and said that the Mastodons (3-4) could possibly pull an upset against an undefeated Notre Dame (7-0) team that has been sloppy since returning from the Paradise Jam in the Virgin Islands.

"I am really disappointed in the way we have been practicing since coming back from the Paradise Jam," McGraw said. "I feel like we are complacent. I don't know if we are reading our rankings, or what we are doing. We are not playing hard, we don't have any intensity, and we are not focused. And I think that is why we played poorly against Eastern Michigan, and I am not sure what to expect tomorrow."

McGraw said she hopes the senior leadership will be able to step up and keep the ship sailing in the right direction, but senior guard and captain Melissa Lechlitner has been hobbled this week in practice after injuring her quad and hamstring.

"Lechlitner hasn't practiced," McGraw said. "She had a pulled hamstrings and she pulled a quad yesterday when she tried to practice."

McGraw said she believes Lechlitner will be able to make it onto the court and play tonight, but she knows that she will need to get help from other players.

"It is hard without her out there," McGraw said. "[Senior guard Ashley] Barlow is doing everything she can to get the intensity up. [Junior guard] Brittany Mallory is doing the same thing, but other than those two I do not feel like anybody is really doing what they need to do.

The team would also like to see junior forward Becca Bruszewski get more time on the court and stay out of foul trouble, as McGraw said she is key to the team's success.

"Really, overall she has only 17 fouls in 7 games, which is really just two per game," McGraw said. "It is really just in the last three that she has gotten into foul trouble. I would certainly like her to stay on the floor longer, because overall she is playing really well."

The inconsistent play is a great worry for McGraw, and she said she believes the team might need a wake-up call to snap out of a post-Virgin Islands malaise.

"We will probably have to lose a game is probably what will be the reality check," McGraw said. "I thought Eastern Michigan would be a wake-up call, but apparently it wasn't." IPFW brings a lot of skill and size to the table against Notre Dame, and McGraw said she wants the team to get up and ready for what should be a stiff challenge.

"I am worried about their post game, [and] their guards are quick," McGraw said. "[Junior guard Chelsea] Jackson is kind of a tough matchup for us. She is quick and she can score. Their post can score around the basket and away from the basket, which leads to match-up problems with us having to guard them. With the way we are playing it is a little scary going into the game."

The Irish should not take a struggling IPFW squad lightly, McGraw said.

"You can't take anybody lightly, there have been so many upsets," she said. "We saw that with Eastern Michigan. Any team can come in here and just come out and play hard. It is the Super Bowl for them. This is the biggest game of the year for the teams coming in. They get a chance to play a ranked team, Notre Dame. You bring your A-game and you have to be ready."

By JARED JEDICK
Sports Writer

Contact Jared Jedick at jjedick@nd.edu

Senior guard Melissa Lechlitner sizes up the Iona defense during Notre Dame's 80-45 victory on Nov. 22.

"We are not playing hard, we don't have intensity, and we are not focused." Muffet McGraw
Irish coach

Silent Directed Retreat

January 4 - 10, 2010
At Moreau Seminary
(Registration deadline is Dec. 16)
All students, staff, and faculty are welcome.

Applications available online (campusministry.nd.edu) or in 114 Coleman-Morse Center
For more information, please contact: Tami Schmitz at 574-631-3016 or tami.schmitz.8@nd.edu

Seeking More? Consider Time with God on a ...
Decision
continued from page 20

never contended for a BCS berth, much less a national title. And, as Clausen admitted when asked directly about his legacy at Notre Dame, “To be honest, I don’t know. I think that’s still to be determined. I don’t know either, and it’s truly a shame, because these are two players with unbelievable skills. In truth, they have both made plays that none of their Irish predecessors ever made — Tate’s Hail Mary grab against Washington State comes to mind. Now’s not the time to dig up the regrettable but unforgettable comments a teenage Clausen made about Heisman trophies and national championships at his infamous signing day press conference, just as last Monday wasn’t a time to rehash Charlie Weis’ open-forum decision. As last Monday wasn’t a time to rehash Charlie Weis’ open-forum decision.

Clausen began to display his talent on an improved unit in 2008, passing for more than 3,000 yards and recording 25 touchdowns for the Irish. The quarterback was the co-MVP of Notre Dame’s 49-21 Hawaii Bowl win, snapping a nine-game bowl losing streak for the program.

The best year of Clausen’s career came in 2009, as he finished second in the nation in passing efficiency. Clausen led the Irish to several close victories early in the season, including a fourth-down touchdown pass to Kyle Rudolph with 25 seconds left at Purdue and a go-ahead drive with less than two minutes left against Washington.

“I don’t think we could have done more than we did the past year,” Clausen said. “Golden [Tate] has played great, I’ve done my part. I think this is just the best time for us to go out.”

Despite not accomplishing goals of leading Notre Dame back to the BCS, Clausen said it was time to move on.

“When you come to a college program you want to go to the national championship and win as many games as you can. Obviously, we didn’t really do that and didn’t reach our full potential,” Clausen said.

While many viewed Clausen’s choice to go to the NFL as a foregone conclusion, the junior said it was a tough decision.

“I’ve always wanted to play professional football. But at the same time I’m going to leave a lot of good friends and people that I have met here and that are going to be my friends for the rest of my life,” he said. “It’s going to be a hard transition for me.”

Clausen will hand the reigns of the team over to sophomore Dayne Crist, who is currently recovering from an anterior cruciate ligament (ACL) injury.

“[Crist] is going to do a great job,” Clausen said. “I told him to get healthy as fast as he can and get these guys going.”

While excited about realizing his dream of playing in the NFL and seeing what his future holds, Clausen said he will miss the experiences and relationships he built at Notre Dame.

“When I think about not being here next semester and next year, it gives me the chills,” Clausen said. “It’s been a great time in my life. I couldn’t ask for anything more.”

Contact Michael Bryan at mbryan@nd.edu

Tate
continued from page 20

Perhaps what’s most memorable about Tate’s junior campaign, though, was how he turned in his best performances when fellow wide receiver Michael Floyd was out with a broken collarbone.

In the five games that Floyd missed, Tate averaged 7.4 catch es for 125.2 yards and more than a touchdown per game. On the year, Tate caught 93 passes for 1,496 yards and 15 scores, in addition to running for an additional 186 yards and two touchdowns.

“Coming into my junior season Coach Weis and I actually had a conversation,” Tate said. “He said I wouldn’t leave after junior year unless I had 17 touchdowns and about 1,500 yards. He hit the nail right on the head. As for his decision to leave for the NFL, Tate said the choice was harder than some may have thought.

“When you come to Notre Dame you know you’re going to develop some very good relationships with people,” Tate said. “Going into this year, I’m expecting to be here for another year after my junior year. Then for it to become a reality that I might not be here and to leave the people up here that I love so much and develop great relationships with, it’s tough.”

As for the factors that went into Tate’s decision, he said that the ongoing coaching search, as well as Clausen’s decision to declare early, played a role. Tate said that the main reason for his decision, though, was the fact that he didn’t feel he could improve on his record-breaking junior season.

“After having the year that I had, I’m not sure if I can even do much better,” he said. “So I just feel like it was the right time. Go out while you’re hot, you know.”

ESPN.com’s Scouts, Inc. has Tate ranked as the 26th-best available overall prospect, and draft projections range from the first to third round.

Right now, though, Tate said he’s just worried about finding an agent and taking the next steps in the draft process. He said that, ultimately, he plans to return to school and finish his degree. As for all the draft projections, that’s a worry for another day.

“I’ve talked with a few people, and I think they predict me to go between the first and the seventh (final) round, so somewhere between there,” Tate said in complete deadpan. “But I’m not sure. I’m just going to start working towards being up there.”

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Clausen and Tate shared MVP honors in last year’s Hawaii Bowl.
Irish stars make the tough, but right, choice

This was the right decision for Jimmy Clausen and Golden Tate. It wasn't an easy one, and for these guys walk around campus over the next few days, they'll probably realize it wasn't a popular one. But it was the right one.

Notre Dame fans, myself included, will miss watching No. 7 Irish No. 23 in stride on those perfectly thrown go patterns that charmed Puritas in 2007 and that we've seen in just about every game over the past two seasons. We'll miss Clausen's laser-beam out routes, his pinpoint accuracy and the fiery, competitive attitude he showed this year, during which he has compiled a tremendous season from a talented, cocky player into a more polished, mature leader.

We'll miss Tate's unmatched ability to bring down jump balls, make those difficult catches in space and provide soundbyte likes those he uttered after jumping into the Michigan State band and added to Monday, when he laughed off a question about a statement issued at Monday's press conference. "They've both put themselves in positions to advance their football careers to the next level and have a great chance to be successful, and that's a credit to how hard they've worked and what they've accomplished.""