Dorm Drinks experiences sales spike

Two-year beverage delivery service helps students avoid Huddle Mart’s high prices

By KATIE PERALTA
Assistant News Editor

Two years ago, then-sophmores Adam Hansmann and John Jeffrey, both enterprising business majors, created Dorm Drinks, hoping simply to provide a service to their fellow on-campus students. Dorm Drinks today is arguably the most successful student-run business at Notre Dame.

The drink delivery service sells non-alcoholic beverages and snacks to students through an online ordering system. Hansmann, Dorm Drinks CEO, said, Dorm Drinks makes deliveries twice a week, Wednesday and Sunday, and currently employs six students to make deliveries.

Whereas Dorm Drinks previously only provided beverages, it has expanded to selling "everything from candy, gum, pretzels and other bulk items [purchased from Sam’s Club]." Hansmann said.

The service, he says, saves students from the high prices of the Huddle Mart and building vending machines. "A lot of factors created space for us," he said. "It’s

Dorm Drinks SALES INCREASE

Spring 2008
Fall 2009

Customers
75
300

Revenue
$600
$10,000

Laura Boettin | OBSERVER GRAPHIC

Campus reflects on study day changes

By JIM FERLMANN
News Writer

Students will have fewer days off at the end of this week than in years past to study for final exams.

Traditionally Thursday and Friday have been set aside as study days, but like last fall, Thursday will be the last day of University classes, reserving just Friday as a study day.

This policy applies only to the Fall Semester and was introduced to the academic calendar last year after a meeting in 2007, University Registrar Dr. Harold Pace said.

"This is the second year that the University had had this policy, and it was the product of compromise between student representatives and the faculty," Pace said. "Three years ago, we looked at the issue of the Wednesday before Thanksgiving as a travel day for students. The concern was that we were seeing low class enrollments on that day. It would be logical for students to travel the day before so they could be with their families on the holiday itself. We felt that Wednesday should be a travel

Students upset by inclement weather

By LAURA MCCRYSTAL
News Writer

Senior Kathryn Carcoran said the wind and snow was making so much noise outside on Wednesday that it distracted her from the exam she was taking.

"I was not expecting it to be this bad today," she said. "It makes me never want to go outside again."

The National Weather Service released a high wind warning, which was effective from 10 a.m. to

see WEATHER/page 8

Students brave adverse weather conditions to walk across South Quad on Wednesday.

see DRINKS/page 8

More study locations available for finals week

By SARAH MEROVISH
News Writer

With finals in sight, the Hesburgh Library and other preferred study locations will fill up fast, but students needing a place to study during finals week now have other options.

Rooms in South Dining Hall, North Dining Hall and the Career Center will be open for both individual and group studying.

"At the Library, everything fills up even in the early hours of the morning," Student Senate’s academic affairs chair Austin Hollower said. "By noon, so many of the tables, the desks, especially outlets as well, every nook and cranny is filled up."

For this reason, Hollower said his committee worked with Food Services to open up rooms in both dining halls for studying during finals week.

The east wing of South Dining Hall will be open from 9 a.m. to 2 a.m. The gold and F dining rooms in North Dining Hall will be open from 8 p.m. to 2 a.m. Sunday to Wednesday, Hollower

see SPACES/page 6

ROTC club focuses on helping community

By MOLLY MADDEN
News Writer

Members of Notre Dame’s Army ROTC are getting a jump-start on their career of service by participating in a club that promotes volunteer work throughout the greater community.

Members of the battalion recently resurrected the service club Alliance To Lead And To Serve (ATLAS). The club has been dormant in the past but was recently brought back because of efforts made by Valparaiso University senior Kailyn van Beckhun and Notre Dame junior Geralyn Janka.

"We heard that there was this fourth club in ROTC that no one was doing anything with," ATLAS vice president Janke said. "It’s turned out to be a really good thing."

"We really want to focus on the South Bend and Elkhart areas because there is such a need there," ATLAS president Beckhun said. "We have a few members that are from those areas so that was also significant."

The club participates in one volunteer project each month and members try to organize a wide variety of service projects. This semester, Janke said, the club has organized a blood drive, painted the parking lot at the Robinson Community Center, organized a food and

see ATLAS/page 6

Members of Notre Dame’s Army ROTC ATLAS service club walk at the food and clothing drive they organized for the Salvation Army.

INSIDE TODAY’S PAPER

SMC Craft show page 3 • Scene says’ advice column page 15 • Men’s basketball defeats IUPUI page 24 • Viewpoint page 10
American Christmas

Mariah Carey’s “All I Want for Christmas Is You” is not the best Christmas song. It’s annoying and a cliche ringing in your ears. You can tolerate it if it’s playing in the background of “Love Actually.”

This year I want the best American Christmas music. I have not listened to Christmas music in two years. Seriously? Ask my sister, I llen (who is crazy about Nickelback and claims Newsong’s “Christmas Shoes” as The American Christmas song.)

Last year, my parents and two sisters came to Spain, where I was studying abroad, for the holidays. My parents went out of their way to make sure Madrid hotel rooms extra special — from the little faux Christmas tree to all the presents from Santa himself. My sisters and I could not, however, listen to Christmas music. That’s for home. That’s for America. It was simply too painful.

With this Christmas music comes not only annual holiday cheer but also years of fond memories.

My first and foremost plug goes to Kenny G’s Christmas album Miracles. The whole thing, “Winter Wonderland” brings back memories of snow days, gingerbread houses and my parents kvestching about the cats pooping on the Christmas tree.

Number two absolutely is The Frank Sinatra Christmas album. Again, the entire thing. His sexy rendition of “Jingle Bells” is both classic and sassy. It just sounds so right.

Bummed I never made it to Chicago this Christmas.

How about James Taylor’s “Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas.” It reminds me of our beautiful old house on Wayne and how my mom’s way of decorating the house made it seem like the most special place in the world.

This list of classics most obviously also needs to include Brenda Lee’s “Rockin’ Around the Christmas Tree.”

Who doesn’t just think of Kevin McCullister and booby traps when this song plays? (Huzz’s girlfriend, Waf!)

So...I must mention my latest holiday fetish. Lady Gaga’s “Christmas Tree.” What an innovator. Only she can turn Christmas trees and the phrase falalalala into something totally raunchy.

How I made a vow to myself that I would not listen to Christmas music before The Undertones this year.

As soon as November hit, however, I could not help myself.

My sisters and I, in light of last year’s fabulous but un-American Christmas, said we would guard and obsessively double dose on the holidays this year, which explains why I might throttle Frank and James on my way to class.

Sorry I’m not sorry. These holiday tunes, paired with some classic holiday flicks like “White Christmas,” “It’s a Wonderful Life,” “Home Alone,” “The Grinch” and obviously “Gremlins,” are the perfect recipe to a very Merry Christmas.

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

Contact Katie Peralta at kperalta@nd.edu

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

**QUESTION OF THE DAY:** What do you think about Jimmy and Golden Living?

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Katie Peralta
Assistant News Editor

*“It sucks.”*

*“A little worse but I wish them the best of luck.”*

*“Well... I want Golden to stay. He’s my boy.”*

*“Good for them. They are going to be paid millions of dollars.”*

*“And I need you now tonight. And I need you more than ever... and you be tripatin.”*

*“I wish them the best of luck.”*

Notre Dame cheerleaders sing the Alma Mater at the end of yesterday’s men’s basketball game against IUPUI at the Purcell Pavilion at the Joyce Center.

**OFFBEAT**

**Woman arrested for allegedly hitting man with steak.**

**DUNDELEON, Fla. — A 53-year-old was arrested after allegedly hitting a man in the head with a raw steak.**

According to a Marion County Sheriff’s Office report, the man told deputies Eilie Egan repeatedly hit him with the uncooked meat and slapped his face after he refused a piece of sliced bread. The man said he wanted a bread roll.

Egan denied hitting the man with the steak but did admit to slapping him, saying she did it “so that he could learn.”

The man told deputies that Egan was his live-in girlfriend.

He declined medical assistance.

Egan was charged with abuse of a disabled adult. According to online records, she has been released on $2,500 bond and is scheduled to appear in court in January. It’s unclear if she has an attorney.

Man gets in jail for urinating on police officer

**HEBOVGAN, Wis. — A Waldo man accused of urinating on a police officer during his fifth drunken-driving arrest has been sentenced to a year in jail.**

Court records released Wednesday show 36-year-old Daniel L. Shiit Jr. of Waldo was also fined about $3,600 and had his driver’s license revoked for three years.

The Sheboygan Press said according to the criminal complaint, Shiit was pulled over in November 2008 in Plymouth after an officer saw his vehicle hit a pole at a gas station. The complaint said Shiit failed field-sobriety tests. It said as he was taken to the police station he urinated in the back of the squad car, spraying the back of the officer’s head.

Information compiled from the Associated Press.

**In Brief**

The film “An Education” will be shown today at the Information Obscura of the Deltartilo Performing Arts Center at 6:30 and 9:30 p.m. Tickets are $5 for faculty and staff and $4 for students.

The Halftime Co-Ed Acapella Fall Concert will be performed today from 7 to 9 p.m. at Washington Hall. Tickets are $5 and are available at the door.

Tomorrow is a study day.

The opera Turandot will be performed tomorrow at 1 p.m. at the Browning Cinema of the Deltartilo Performing Arts Center. Ticket information is available at performingarts.nd.edu.

The Undertones Winter Concert will be held Friday from 8 to 10 p.m. at Washington Hall. Tickets are $5 and are available at the LaFortune Box Office.

The women’s basketball team will play Valparaiso Saturday at 2 p.m. at the Purcell Pavilion at the Joyce Center. Ticket information is available at 574-631-7356.

The Notre Dame Glee Club will perform its Christmas Concert Saturday at 6 and 9 p.m. at the DeBartolo Performing Arts Center. Tickets are $6 for faculty and staff and $3 for students.

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

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

Contact Katie Peralta at kperalta@nd.edu

**CORRECTIONS**

The Observer regards itself as a professional publication and strives for the highest standards of journalism at all times. We do, however, recognize that we will make mistakes. If you have made a mistake, please contact us at 631-4541 so we can correct our error.
Among his Notre Dame professors was Rev. Julius Nieuwland, C.S.C., the inventor of the formula for synthetic rubber, in whose odoriferous laboratory on the second floor of the Chemistry Building Carney later remembered becoming so comfortable that “it convinced me it was not necessary to have oxygen to live.”

After graduation, that comfort level sustained Father Nieuwland’s apprentice through the pursuit of master’s and doctoral degrees in organic chemistry from Pennsylvania State University and post-doctoral research in medicinal chemistry at the University of Wisconsin.

From the academic year, Carney went to the pharmaceutical industry, working in all phases for Eli Lilly in Indianapolis and G.D. Searle in Chicago.

Before founding Metachem in 1976, he spent more than 35 years in research, development, planning, operations and administration, working in and presiding over laboratories in which numerous patented antibacterials, antibiotics, anticonvulsants, barbiturates and other drugs were developed. He himself held numerous pharmaceutical patents.

He also wrote widely on all dimensions of his chosen field and published three books: “Laboratory Fractional Distillation,” “Instant Evolution” and “False Profits.”

Throughout his life, Carney was deeply engaged in the affairs of his alma mater.

In addition to being a generous Notre Dame benefactor, he served as president of the Alumni Association, founded the Alumni Senate, led fundraising projects and campaigns and sat on the advisory councils of the Colleges of Science and Engineering. Elected to the University’s Board of Trustees in 1967, he served as its chairman from 1982 to 1986.

Among several other Notre Dame honors, Carney received an honorary degree from the University in 1969, and, with his wife, Mary Elizabeth Carney, was awarded his highest honor, the Laetare Medal, in 1986.

Preceded in death by his wife, who died in 2006, Carney is survived by his four children, all Notre Dame graduates, Thomas Jr., of Lake Forest, Ill.; Sheila Hopkins of Bingham, Mass.; James of Brooklyn Park, Minn.; and Janet O’Brien of Glenview, Ill.

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Students support Economics dept. with uncertain future

By JOHN TIERNY
News Writer

Students concerned about the uncertain future of the Department of Economics and Policy Studies have gathered over 1,000 signatures on an online petition supporting the department, but have yet to see the results of their efforts rewarded by the University or the department.

The students, who are led by senior economics major Matt Panhans, are prioritizing getting information about the future of the department, which is "surrounded by mystery," Panhans said.

The University currently supports two economics departments — the Department of Economics and Econometrics and the Department of Economics and Policy Studies.

The Observer reported in September about Dean of the College of Arts and Letters Jeff Ullmann, who sees two economis departments in the University’s long-term interest and that Economics and Policy faculty were "looking closely" for other opportunities.

The College of Arts and Letters has not yet released a formal announcement regarding the future of Economics and Policy Studies.

"The ultimate goal is to have some sort of conversation about this," Panhans said. "The way it’s happening has been very silent, without much input from Policy Studies faculty or from students."

The Economics Club invited McGreevy to discuss the future of Economics and Policy Studies at a forum earlier this semester. McGreevy declined to participate in the forum, however, citing the sensitivity of the situation and the personnel issues involved.

Panhans said he and other students spoke with University President Fr. John Jenkins about Economics and Policy Studies in his office hours this semester.

“He did say he agreed with us,” Panhans said. “He wants us to keep talking about this stuff. We’re still going to do it outside the classroom."

Matt Panhans
senior

Students support Economics dept. with uncertain future

By SARAH MEROVSH
News Writer

Student Senate recommended the creation of a health services advisory board and thanked security guards for their increased willingness to allow students access to campus in two resolutions passed at their final meeting of the semester on Wednesday.

The resolution suggesting a health services advisory board was passed unanimously.

The proposed board would be comprised of members of Health Services and students appointed by the student body president.

“It will be a source for students to give their opinions or comments about how health services is running,” University Affairs chair Jeff Lukas said.

The resolution said the goal of Health Services is to provide “competent, supportive care services that are accessible and cost-effective, health care services to minimize the impact of illness in the academic life of students and to provide a valuable medical resource on campus.”

Since students are the prime recipients of the health care resources on campus, the University should seek the evaluation of students so that they can continue to improve their services, the resolution said.

Both students and Health Services employees have expressed interest in the creation of the board.

Numerous members of the student body have expressed an interest in providing input to University Health Services,” the resolution said. "The director of Health Services, Ms. Ann Klava, has been extremely willing and eager to receive student feedback."

Schmidt recognized the enthusiasm for such a resolution on part of both the University and student government.

“Health Services is very eager to see this happen and a recommendation from us will further it along,” student body president Grant Schmidt said.

Senate also passed a resolution thanking security gate officers for their efforts and for their willingness to meet with a student government representative.

The resolution recommended that security gate guards continue to understand and recognize legitimate reasons that students need access to campus.

The resolution passed in a 21-1 vote. Schmidt said the resolution was representative of the student body’s concerns.

“This Student Senate has not passed many resolutions,” he said. "This is one thing though that students have consistently asked about — that it’d be nice if the gate guard understood and had a little bit more leniency about letting students come through.

Schmidt also emphasized the power of resolutions.

“When you have the power of Student Senate, you’d be surprised that when Student Senate resolved that they’d like to see X, Y and Z happen, it’s taken into much more consideration,” he said.

Student body vice president Cynthia Weber concluded the meeting by thanking senators for their work this semester.

“Our committees have done really substantial work. It really has been an extraordinarily successful year, primarily in the committee work and the discussions we had in Senate.”

Cynthia Weber
student body vice president

Students support Economics dept. with uncertain future

STUDY TIME

Building Hours for STUDY DAYS & Finals Week

DeBartolo Hall
December 11, 12, 13: 7am to 9pm
Finals Week: December 14-18: Rooms available except when scheduled by the Registrar’s office.

December 18: DeBartolo Hall closes at 5:00pm.

See Building Support Personnel if you have specific needs: Room 193 or 194.

Coleman-Morse
December 12 & 13: Como 1st floor is open 24 hrs
1st Floor: 7am-4:00am *
2nd Floor: 7am-3:00am
3rd Floor: 7am-12am

December 18: Coleman-Morse closes at 5:30 pm
See Building Support Personnel if you have specific needs. Room 181.

Finals Week: Rooms available except when scheduled by the Registrar’s office.

O’Shaughnessy: December 11-13: 7am to 3:00am
Rooms available except when scheduled by the Registrar’s office.

Good Luck with Finals

Special thanks to
Facility Operations and Campus Ministry
INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Court upholds Gaza student's expulsion

A federal judge in Washington, D.C., on Wednesday upheld the expulsion of a university student from the West Bank to Gaza just before her graduation.

The student, Rebalta Azam, said she was two months away from completing her degree in business administration at Birzeit University when she was stopped at an Israeli checkpoint. After presenting her Gaza-issued identity card, Azam said she was blindfolded and driven in an Israeli army jeep to Gaza.

The ruling could set a precedent for expulsion of other Palestinian students who live in the West Bank. The Israeli human rights group Gisha estimated their number at 25,000.

Bolivia exports rodent jerky

LA PAZ, Bolivia — Where some see only an endangered rodent, others see economic opportunity.

Indigenous communities from Bolivia’s eastern lowlands are planning to export dried meat of the world’s largest rodent to Venezuela, where the animal is widely consumed.

The pioneering effort is endorsed by the Friends of Nature Foundation. Foundation leader Ruth Delgado says plans are under way to export jerky during his sixth visit to Bloomington next month. The meat is expected to be eaten by students at the Indiana University Auditorium May 12 and 13. A suatra is a teaching roadblock.

NATIONAL NEWS

Some abuse medical marijuana card

EUGENE, Ore. — For as long as people have asked for and got the cards, pot dealers and growers have gone to great lengths to stay under the radar.

Now police say some Oregon marijuana farmers are taking advantage of a relatively new tool — a state-issued medical marijuana card — to help conceal their criminal activity.

“For some growers, the card adds to a hop-on-hop-off route. They’re hoping that if somebody sees their marijuana and checks it out, they won’t get caught,” Oregon State Police Sgt. Todd Phillips, who supervises Lane County’s Intergovernmental Drug Enforcement Unit, said Wednesday.

Lawmakers nix govt’s impeachment

COLUMBUS, S.C. — South Carolina lawmakers voted down a measure to impeach Gov. Mark Sanford, but recommended a formal censure.

The state Senate on Monday voted to censure the governor, even though he virtual manslaughter in the shooting of his Argentine mistress, though his affair use of state planes and a $2 million taxpayer-funded trip to Argentina were not serious misconduct that merited removal from office.

Instead, the lawmakers unanimously approved a resolution saying he has “brought ridicule, dishonor, disgrace and shame not only upon Governor Sanford but upon this state and its citizens which rises to a level which requires a formal admonishment and censure.”

LOCAL NEWS

Dalai Lama to visit Bloomington

BLOOMINGTON, Ind. — The Dalai Lama will visit the city set to be the “heart” of Buddhists during his sixth visit to Bloomington next May and also present a public talk in Indiana University’s Altgeld Auditorium.

The Tibetan Buddhist spiritual leader and Nobel Peace Prize laureate will discuss the “heart sutra” during three lectures at the Indiana University Auditorium May 12 and 13. A suatra is a teaching session.

DENMARK

China urges soul-searching for U.S. on climate

Associated Press

COPENHAGEN — The U.S. and China exchanged barbs Wednesday at the Copenhagen climate talks, under scoring growing suspicion between the world’s two largest carbon polluters about the sincerity of their pledges to fight global warming.

U.S. chief negotiator Todd Stern urged China to “make good” on its promise to slow the growth of the country’s carbon output and make the development of a hard-nosed international climate change agreement.

China rejected that demand, and accused the Americans of a ploy to boost its own economy.

“I was starting to enjoy the global warming. Hundreds of flights were canceled or delayed at [D’Hare] International Airport in Chicago, and only a few were scheduled at Des Moines International Airport. Travelers at Minneapolis-St. Paul International Airport were experiencing long delays. Blizzard warnings also covered eastern Nebraska, where overnight snowfall reported 12 inches were common, and parts of Kansas, Illinois and Minnesota. Snow also fell in western and central Michigan. Thousands of power outages were reported in Illinois, Missouri, Michigan, Wisconsin, Kentucky, New York and New Jersey.

By the time the storm moves off the Maine coast Thursday night, it may have affected as much as two-thirds of the country, said Jim Lee, a meteorologist with the National Weather Service in Des Moines.

“It’s a monster of a storm,” Lee said.

In northern New York, as much as a foot of snow was expected to accumulate Wednesday and more than 3 feet was expected by the week’s end near the Great Lakes. Maine and New Hampshire could see snow accumulations of 6 to 10 inches capped off by rain and sleet in the evening.

Gavin Graham, 8, of Concord, N.H., spent two hours sledding in the morning and planned to head out again in the afternoon.

First winter weather hits states hard

Heavy snowfall and pounding winds cause problems for Midwest and New England

Associated Press

DE SOTO, Iowa — A fierce storm left dangerous ice, heavy snow and violent winds walloping the Midwest on Wednesday, snarling traffic and closing hundreds of schools from the Upper Midwest through New England.

More than a foot of snow was expected in parts of Illinois, Wisconsin and Iowa, where the National Weather Service warned of “extremely dangerous blizzard conditions” and near whitout driving conditions. Wind gusts of up to 50 mph could build snow drifts between 8 and 15 feet tall.

Parts of New England also girded themselves for bone-chilling wind gusts and snow accumulations of up to a foot.

The storm was blamed for at least 12 deaths, most in traffic accidents.

“It’s horrible out there,” said Todd Wasch, a traffic supervi sion agent in Bloomington, where the wind gusts and blowing snow forced schools to delay openings.

Motorists got stuck on drift-blocked highways all over Iowa. State troopers were dispatched with National Guard soldiers in Hum- mos.

“They’re not even plow ing the streets anymore because the wind will just blow it back down and cover it,” said Dan Hansen, a carrier for the Iowa Service in Iowa City. He was bundled up in hand and feet warmers, snow boots and a parka to brace his route. “I’ll get worse before it gets better.”

High winds knocked down the two-story Christmas tree that, until Wednesday, was the only holiday sight in the center of downtown Champaign, Ill.

With classes canceled and more than a foot of snow on the ground, University of Wisconsin-Madison stu dents planned to try again to hold the world’s largest snowball fight on Wednesday. An attempt in January to break the record — 3,700 people who hurled snowballs at Michigan Technological University in 2006, according to the Guinness Book of World Records — fell far short.

The storm felt like a rude surprise after an unseasonal warm and dry November in parts of the region. The massive system is the first major blast of winter weather for many parts of the Midwest.

“I’ve been dreading this day,” said Kim Brust, shov eling the sidewalk in front of his Minneapolis home before sunrise Wednesday.

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Celebrate the Season.

Wishing you and yours a safe and happy holiday season.

Don't forget that you have safe, secure access to your accounts 24/7 on our website at www.ndfcu.org. Plus, you have access to your money at more than 32,000 Surcharge-Free ATMs nationwide.
IN BRIEF

Truckers petition for delay of rules

SACRAMENTO, Calif. — Citing the poor economy, the trucking industry Wednesday asked California air regulators to delay the nation’s toughest rules to reduce diesel emissions.

The pitch came at a California Air Resources Board hearing, where truckers were reviewing whether trucking companies should be given more time to replace their fleets with cleaner trucks. Board scientists said diesel emissions are 20 percent lower this year than originally estimated, a result of many trucks sitting idle during the recession.

“Em concerned these regulations could put us out of business,” said Christina Ramorino, controller at Roadstar trucking based in Hayward. “With everyone hurtin for business, it’s hard for us to pass on this cost to our customers.”

Board chairwoman Mary Nichols said California is required by federal law to clean up pollution and meet federal air standards by 2014. She suggested the state might be able to give truckers more flexibility in the first few years but rejected calls to set aside the standards.

Feds fight cybercriminals overseas

WASHINGTON — The tip came from another country’s law enforcement officials. Eight million banks in the U.S. were being targeted by cybercriminals operating there.

FBI agentsfanned out that night to warn the branches that hackers were aiming to break into their computer systems. The banks were able to stop the attempted heists, and block them, FBI officials said.

Concerned about the rise in this type of sophisticated computer attack from abroad, the FBI and the U.S. Secret Service are beefing up their international cybercrime enforcement, sending agents who specialize in the threats overseas to counter quickly deal with such attacks.

Their growing coordination with other nations, however, faces legal and political challenges posed by conflicting laws and the lack of broadly accepted international guidelines for Internet oversight.

MARKET RECAP

Analyst Press

The stock market finished the week lower, with most of the week’s gains coming on Friday on news of a deal to help Greece.


The biggest loser was the energy sector, which fell 2.5 percent, with oil prices falling below $70 per barrel.

Dollar weakens after five-week steady gain

NEW YORK — The dollar weakened after five straight weekly gains. On Wednesday, the 16-nation euro rose to $1.4745 in late New York trading, up from $1.4645 late Tuesday. Earlier in the session, the euro fell as low as $1.4567, its weakest point since Oct. 5.

The dollar has dropped as much as 4 cents in the past five trading days this month, as investors are locking in the gains they say were improperly made on the euro’s rise this year, said Joseph Trevisani, chief market analyst at FXSolutions. The dollar has also gotten a boost from concerns over European countries’ public finances and higher expectations for the Federal Reserve to hike rates sooner, he said.

Higher interest rates can boost a currency as investors transfer funds to where they expect to earn higher returns.

The British pound dipped to $1.6248 from $1.6261 as U.K. Treasury chief Alastair Darling downgraded his forecast for the British economy in 2009. He also said he expects the British government to borrow slightly more next year than he previously thought. Earlier this week, Moody’s Investors Service said the U.K. must fix its public finances in order to avoid threats to its top Triple-A credit rating.

Meanwhile, the dollar dropped to 77.27 Japanese yen from 88.34 yen. Against a basket of six major currencies, the dollar retreated from a 5-week high.

The dollar, which is considered a safe-haven currency, is also getting support from concerns about government finances. Earlier this week, a credit ratings agency downgraded the creditworthiness of Greece’s sovereign debt, while Moody’s cited the U.K.’s deteriorating public finances.

It also cut its ratings on six Dubai state-linked companies.

The Greek prime minister is promising to do “everything necessary” to reduce its growing deficit.

“The key questions now being asked is, will the rest of Europe have to help Greece out, and will Greece be the beginning of other debt downgrades across Europe,” said CMC Markets’ Michael Hewson.

General Mills Mills to reduce sugar

Growing consumer, regulator scrutiny over nutritional value prompts change

Associated Press

PORTLAND, Ore. — General Mills — the maker of Lucky Charms, Trix and Cocoa Puffs — plans to reduce sugar in its cereal products by 20 percent. The plan was announced Wednesday and comes as many food companies alter their products and face greater scrutiny by consumers, regulators and health groups over the nutritional value of their foods.

General Mills said it will cut the sugar in 10 of its cereals to single-digit grams per serving. It did not provide a timeline for reaching this goal, but it said the reductions the company rolled out two years ago.

The sugar in Cocoa Puffs, for example, could drop at least 25 percent from its original level and 18 percent from a current 11 grams per serving.

“This is a significant development across some of our biggest and longest-term brands,” said Jeff Harmening, president of the company’s Big G cereal division.

General Mills, which is based in Minneapolis, said the updated products will begin to roll out in the next year. The timing will vary by product.

“The reduction doesn’t represent perfection but it represents improvement,” said Kelly Brownell, director of the Rudd Center for Food Policy and Obesity at Yale University.

Several cereal makers have adjusted their products to address the growing health concerns.

Last year, Kellogg Co. reformulated a number of its Urban Accents, Froot Loops, Apple Jacks and Corn Pops. The changes vary according to product but decreased the sugar by 3 to 3 grams per serving. Kellogg also added fiber to some of its cereals. Post Foods said it has cut the sugar content in both Frooty Pebbles and Cocoa Puffs by 20 percent. And it increased the vitamin D in Pebbles and Honeycomb cereals this year.

The cereal companies have really been under a lot of pressure,” Brownell said.

The Food and Drug Administration has been cracking down on food packaging that touts misleading health benefits. That led to one industry organization halt its “Smart Choices” labeling program, which was attacked because sugary cereals like Fruit Loops qualified for the label.

General Mills’ effort won’t change some products, like Frankenberry and Boo Berry, which are generally considered children’s cereals and once had 15 grams of sugar each. General Mills has since reduced that to 12 grams, but the cereals aren’t included in the new effort because they don’t advertise on TV shows or other media aimed at children.

And some of the company’s other cereals, such as Cheerios, already meet the goal with 1 gram of sugar per serving.

The Rudd Center recently published a study that found the least-healthy breakfast cereals are the most frequently and aggressively marketed directly to children. It also found that General Mills markets to children more than any other cereal company, and six of 10 least-healthy cereals in its study were made by the company.

“Children deserve to be marketed products that are healthier to them than what is being marketed now,” Brownell said.

General Mills said the move is a reaction to consumers’ desire for less sugar, rather than a response to criticism. The company said it has taken a number of steps — including increasing whole grain and nutrients in its cereals — to improve their healthfulness.

The company wouldn’t say how the cereal’s formulas would be adjusted except for the sugar reduction but said it would not use artificial sweeteners.

BY THE OBSERVER
Drinks

inconvenient to go off campus (to shop for refreshments) and the Huddle prices really drove up our sales. "What we’ve done, Jeffrey said, constitute about 65 percent of total sales, can be purchased at the Huddle and in most University store vending machines for $1.35, but Dorm Drinks sells bottles for what ends up being about 25 cents each.

Hansmann said Dorm Drinks recently cut its marketing budget but has doubled its sales this semester. This fall, he said, the business provides service to over 300 different students and has generated over $10,000, as opposed to its approximately 75 customers and $400 in sales its first semester of operation. "With the cost of the product, gas and employees, we still gross a couple thousand dollars per semester," Jeffrey, Dorm Drinks CFO, said. "It’s good spending money."

Jeffrey said he attributes the growth of the business to the loyalty of the customer base. "The growth has been phenomenal. Most customers order at least two times a week." John Jeffrey founder Dorm Drinks

Weather

degrees Fahrenheit on Wednesday afternoon at the South Bend Regional Airport, but with wind chill it felt like 10 degrees, according to the National Weather Service Website. The site also reported wind speeds of 41 mph. When Corcoran left class on Wednesday, she said it was miserable to walk outdoors in the wind and snow. "The walk from DeBartolo to LaFortune was so brutal, and all I could think about to get me from one point to the next was a hot cappuccino from Starbucks," she said.

Corcoran said when she reached LaFortune, the line at Starbucks was exceptionally long, which she attributed to the cold weather. Freshman Kayla Covill is from Texas and said she was surprised by the cold weather. She began wearing her winter coat several weeks ago because she thought the fall weather was already very cold. "I haven’t never experienced anything like this in my life," she said. "I can’t really imagine it feeling colder."

Temperatures are predicted to drop even lower during the day today. The National Weather Service forecasts wind chill values as low as -10 degrees and wind gusts as high as 35 mph, although no additional snow is expected during the day. Kicki Astuno, also a freshman, said she was not looking forward to a cold and snowy winter because college students have to spend so much time walking outside. "I’m so nervous for the next three months," she said, "I don’t know how I’m going to handle it.

Astuno said she was surprised by the cold weather because she thought the weather this fall was relatively mild.

Corcoran said she was happy the weather remained nice through the last home football game at the end of November, but she is not looking forward to the winter months. "And I think it’s going to be a longer one that normal," she said.

Senior Ronnie Thompson said she works at Rolls, where Wednesday’s wind gusts were strong enough to blow the front doors open. Thompson also said winter weather presents additional problems for students who live off campus. "If I lived on campus I’d be more excited for winter," he said, "but now just snow and driving on the roads is a huge hassle."

Contact Kari Peralta at kperalta@nd.edu

Dorm Drinks founders Adam Hansmann, middle, and John Jeffrey, right, deliver cases of water to a customer last year in Duncan Hall.

Drinks

continued from page 1

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The Observer ◆ CAMPUS NEWS Thursday, December 10, 2009

Study Break Luncheon at the CoMo

Lunch & Conversation for Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual & Questioning Students at Notre Dame

Friday, December 11 Noon to 1:30 p.m.
316 Coleman Morse

The Core Council invites gay, lesbian, bisexual & questioning members of the Notre Dame family, along with their friends and allies, to an informal luncheon at the CoMo.

Everyone is Welcome and Confidentiality is Assured.

Lunch Will Be Served

Contact Laura McCrystal at lmccrystal@nd.edu

Weather

Drinks

continued from page 1

"I was not expecting it to be this bad today. It makes me never want to go outside again."

Kathryn Corcoran senior

"I have just never experienced anything like this in my life. I can’t really imagine it feeling colder."

Kayla Covill freshman

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Weather

continued from page 1

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Kathryn Corcoran senior

"I have just never experienced anything like this in my life. I can’t really imagine it feeling colder."

Kayla Covill freshman

"The growth has been phenomenal. Most customers order at least two times a week. We have a backbone of 25 to 30 subscribers that constitute about 20 percent of what we do."

Hansmann and Jeffrey hope the success of Dorm Drinks as younger students take over next semester. "A couple guys [sophomores Tyler Hudson-Crimi and Richard Gonzalez] will take over in January," Hansmann said.

Hudson-Crimi and Gonzalez, both sophomore business majors who have been making Dorm Drinks deliveries, are excited to take over after break. "We’re very enthusiastic to continue the tradition of passing off-campus to on-campus students while simultaneously providing the convenience of door-front delivery," Hudson-Crimi said.

Hansmann and Jeffrey both said they will oversee the business in its transitional phase for a while. "We really want to see it stay [at Notre Dame]," Hansmann said.

Hansmann and Jeffrey both said the experience of running a business has helped them in their professional aspirations.

"It’s given me an entrepreneurial spirit," Hansmann said. "It made me enjoy business more than my classroom experience. It was also a huge resume boost."

Jeffrey echoed Hansmann’s sentiment. "It gave me an edge in all interviews," he said. Next year, he said he will "do something similar to this but on a larger scale."

Jeffrey will work for Macquarie Capital in Chicago and Hansmann will work for McKenzie in New York.

Contact Katie Peralta at kperalta@nd.edu
Changes
continued from page 1

to be made up at another time in the semester.
“It was very important that we main-
tained the total number of class days for the semes-
ter at 70,” Pace said. "Deciding on a day to make up the classes, he said, required ad-
ditional deliberation.
“We original-
ly suggested making the finals Monday before or-
going a class registra-
tion day, as a school day to make up the di-
ference. The student repre-
sentatives, however, disagreed with this idea, say-
ing that a day of acclimation before classes was ben-
eficial to the stu-
dents. We the-
 Aerosol reached a compro-
mise that students would have classes on what was once one of their study days.
While some students are unhappy with the University’s new policy, oth-
ers are more accepting of the change.
“From my experience, I think that students should have a full week of studying for finals,” Bipasha Deb, a graduate student of chem-
istry, said. “Finals are always intensive, and stu-

dents should have time to study for them accordingly.”
Junior Kevin Danchikso said he supports the change.
“I would rather have a travel day before Thanksgiving than an extra day of studying for Thanksgiving.” Another jun-
ior, Brittany Schmier, echoed Danchikso’s sentiment.
“I’d rather have four study days, and I think you could get more done on that extra day, but I still think it’s a really big help in getting home for Thanksgiving.”
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“It was very important that we main-
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University Registrar

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Mining is due to start in Salmon-Challis National Forest, about 200 miles northeast of Boise, in 2011 and could continue for 30 years, it said.

Cobalt is used in jet engines, hybrid vehicle batteries, prosthetic knees and hips, even radio frequency identification tags that help retailers including Wal-Mart Stores Inc. track their products.

Exploration companies are hunting for cobalt from Duffih, Minn., to Cuba to rich deposits in Africa’s Zambia and Congo, where much of today’s cobalt supply is mined.

Sargent and Chief Executive Officer Mari-Ann Green said Formation aims to supply as many as 1,400 tons annually of 99.9 percent-pure cobalt.

Sargent worked with the Strategic Metals Group, who sold him the rights to the deposits.

Cobalt is a small but valuable metal that is used in aircraft engines — for example, the Phantom II — the -15 and 22, as well as jet engines.

Many factories in the world use cobalt in their processes, and the country is the world’s largest producer.

The company is supported by a number of international companies, including the United States.

Reclamation has spent $50 million, including $17 million on permits.

To complete the mine by 2011, it’s finalizing a stock-
and-debt deal with investors to raise another $140 million by the end of 2009, Green said.

Formation must put up reclaimation bonds totaling $29.6 million to address even-
tual impacts of its mine and has agreed to chip in another $515,000 annually for the life of the mine for watershed improvement projects.

In return, the Idaho Conservation League, an envi-
ronmental group, agreed in 2008 not to challenge the mine in court.

The company has also won the backing of other groups including the Shoshone-Bannock Indian tribes to win support. Green said.

“We’ve gone that extra mile,” she said. “We’re really proud of the fact that none of those fellows are appealing the project.”

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Let’s set some things straight

In light of the latest Viewpoints, the significance attached to the content of stolen e-mails from climatologists, the current Copenhagen Climate Change Conference and recent U.S. federal legislation, I think it would benefit and elevate the discussion if we straighten a few things out.

1. The Earth’s natural green- house effect which is a product of several gases that naturally exist in the atmosphere including carbon dioxide, methane, nitrous oxide and even water vapor. These greenhouse gases trap some of the solar radiation and warm the Earth, allowing plants, ani- mals and humans to live here (where-as nothing lives on the moon or Venus — the moon due to the lack of the greenhouse effect and Venus due to a very pronounced greenhouse effect). Levels of these greenhouse gases have fluctuated several times over the last 400,000 years, reflecting the ice ages and the interglacial periods. However, the concentrations of carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases in the atmosphere today have not been seen in the last 400,000 years.

2. Ever since humans began burning wood, coal, oil and nat- ural gas, we have slowly begun to put more greenhouse gases into the atmosphere. Since the Industrial Revolution, greenhouse gas emissions have greatly increased. We have also created synthetic chemicals like chlorofluorocarbons and hydrofluorocarbons, which did not previously exist, new act as greenhouse gases as well, and do not have a natural sink or process to decrease their presence in the environment.

3. Thousands of scientists have been monitoring and analyzing the Earth’s climate and have seen evidence that

we are changing our climate.

Thousands of other scientists have studied the chemistry of the atmos- phere and the processes that affect the climate and have written thou- sands of papers documenting their observations and analyzing the results to understand what makes the climate function as it does, what impacts it, what effects the climate has on natural systems and ecosystems, and what the climate is likely to do in the future.

4. The results of this body of scien- tific research were summarized by scientists for policy makers in the United Nations Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) Assessment Reports, of which there have been four over the last 20 years. The scientific understanding of global climate change found in the IPCC is based on a wide range of scientific assessments, and therefore is not dependent on one university in England or anywhere else where cli- mate science is studied. Despite recent claims that stolen e-mails in England dispute climate change, the emails do not state that global climate change is not happening or is a conspiracy among scientists. Whether or not the data from the university in England is faulty, a substantial amount of other legitimate climate research exists and proves that global climate change is happening.

5. The hardest thing for the general public to understand about climate science, and any science in general, is uncertainty. If scientists have a degree of uncertainty about something, that does not mean that it is a lie or untruthful. Climate scientists, like doc- tors, predict that certain processes will happen based on their knowledge and research. For example, if a doctor tells a smoker that he or she is likely to get cancer if that person does not stop smoking, the smoker could still live a long, full life and never develop cancer. That does not mean the doctor lied; it means that based on past evi- dence and scientific knowledge the effects of smoking on the body, lung cancer is a highly likely outcome of smoking. Similarly, climate sci- entists can make predictions with high probability about the effects of global climate change and when and to what extent these effects could happen. The Earth and its climate are even more complex than the human body, and the effects of climate change will vary across regions (this is why global cli- mate change is a more accurate term than global warming).

6. While I have tried to explain the climate science as I see it, as a science major, have learned it, I encourage each reader to educate him or herself from the science itself. Get the infor- mation from the climate scientists themselves (www.realclimate.org). Even better, go to lectures around campus and meet the scientists them- selves. How you value that information, the human and other creatures affected by it, and what you decide to do about that is your prerogative. As one of my science professors, ecologist Jessica Hellmann has said, “Saying I don’t believe in cancer does not mean it ceases to exist. It just means that I am ignoring reality.” Let us argue about what we do in response to the scientific facts, whether or not global climate change exists. I chal- lenge you to listen to the sources of scientific knowledge, evaluate the results, and decide what that means for the world you want to live in and leave for future generations.

This week’s column was written by Lisa Bunn. She is a junior from Paugerella West. She can be reached at lbunn@ndsmu.edu

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

Submit a Letter to the Editor at www.ndsmobserver.com

“Vexosity has no cure.”

William Langland

author

**QUOTE OF THE DAY**

“*My definition of an expert in any field is a person who knows enough about what’s really going on to be scared.*

—P.J. Plauger

author and entrepreneur
Dear Ms. Peasvento,

You continue to try and spread your extreme ideals through bias and misinformation. The document you spoke of in your most recent column ("Too much faith in humanity," Dec. 8) states, "an unknown source leaked more than 1,000 e-mails and technical documents." These e-mails and documents were "leaked" by a source responsible for illegally hacking and stealing this information, which therefore has credibility issues due to the unscrupulous manner which the information was obtained. The incident is still being investigated as to the credibility of the documents and the source of the security breach.

As for the facts of global warming, simple research conducted via the National Climatic Data Center (NCDC) and National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Web site provides a plethora of still available data and temperature readings to the world which are regulated by the NCDC. "Evidence is mounting that the global climate is changing. The extent to which man is responsible is still under study." While the effects of man are under question, the simple statement that the climate is changing is not. By looking at the average global temperature from the years 1991 to 2000 in comparison to the yearly data from 1880 to 2009, the NCDC found that from 1880 to 1935 the average temperature was below the established; the lowest it was seen was at 4 degrees Celsius below the mean from 1907 to 1912. Then from the years 1935 to 1980 the temperature fluctuated about the mean. Since 1990 there has been a steady increase in the temperature. For the past seven years, this level has been 6 degrees Celsius above the mean. For the past 30 years the upper and lower bounds have not included the meaning (since 1980). These are undisputed facts presented by a well-respected and official government institution that has known to operate with both political parties terms. The question should not be whether the temperature is rising or the effects it is rising and how can we prevent any damaging effects.

There is only one certainty: The human species developed under very specific geological climate conditions. If those conditions disappear, will we survive?

Luke Ricci 
Senior 
Off Campus

Not definite assertions

After reading the letters in the Viewpoint by Mr. Rains ("The best from Europe and America," Dec. 8), Mr. Kohoi ("I argue that climate change has been exaggerated," Dec. 8) and others, I wish to expound a few thoughts. For one, each sought to reaffirm the litany on climate change. I have come to recognize the need for more debate on the subject. Each author, and probably many others, believes that climate change is occurring, is beyond doubt a catastrophic threat that cannot be reversed by cuts in CO2 levels. While the first point is undisputed by anyone who has done serious research into it, the other points are highly contentious. Before we spend billions on cutting carbon emissions, we need a real debate as to the practicality of these goals.

That climate change is undoubtedly manmade is a ridiculous assertion. Earth’s climate is a highly complex, nonlinear system with literally thousands of variables. To assert that we know for a fact that a 100 ppm increase in a relatively minor greenhouse gas is the primary driver of observed warming is to assume more than be proven possible, especially when the impact of variables like cloud cover is as yet underdetermined. This point is further driven home by research showing that the correlation between actual temperature and solar radiation and solar variance is much closer between Arctic temperatures and CO2 emissions. The fact that CO2 driven models of climate change have fared poorly in modeling the last decade seems to show that our knowledge of the link between CO2 and warming is at best incomplete.

The third point, that warming will be catastrophic, is based on the second. The models showing drastic warming, while scary, do not predict past weather well when run backwards and have thus far failed to accurately predict coming weather.

The fourth point, that it would make economic sense to limit CO2 emissions, is indefensible. Bjorn Lomborg, who has commissioned some of the most extensive studies on the possible benefits of cutting CO2, found that the massive (and expensive) cuts mandated by the Kyoto Protocol, if extended to 2011, would have cut warming by 0.06 degrees Celsius by 2100. This is a statistically insignificant benefit, a vastly expensive program. His models further assumed 100 percent CO2 influence on warming, which as I have stated earlier does not capture the full picture. When other impacts are taken into effect, the benefit of cutting CO2 would be even less.

I know that the authors of the articles to which I am responding would find these points I am making contentious. Therefore I do not challenge any of the arguments of climate change sometime in the near future. We can set a time and place of your choosing. Please respond to ingroen@buffalo.edu if you wish to accept this challenge.

Matt Gore
Senior
State Hall
Dec. 9

Thanks dining hall

I would like to express my appreciation for the staff of the BuffDining Corp., who clearly worked very hard to provide a wonderful Christmas season dinner on Tuesday night. From the cheerful greeters to the people whadda the sea of students who offered food to whatever can be considered a beautiful dinner: The atmosphere. Despite the crowds, I saw many students return to have dinner in the dining hall with their friends. The food was also delicious. So thank you, everyone, for all the work you do during the year, and especially for giving us such a wonderful meal.

Johanna Kirsch
Junior
McGillis Hall
Dec. 9

A most notable debate

Ah, the global warming debate: perhaps the most infamous and notorious round of the last century. It saddens me that so many people argue about the climate, using random facts which only jump up and down because one person can be cut off here and there if you are not doing that same. The reason people have grown so attached to the idea of climate change is because they are only your piercing truth, but also the sources you get those opinions from. For our sake (and for decent journalism), please cite something.

Now, which foreign, somewhat unknown organization should I use for my position? Hmmm ... how about NASA? An article from the 2008 Wall Street Journal said that, "The hottest year on record was 1998, as previously believed, but 1934, and that of the 10 hottest years since 1850 antedate 1998, a year in which the sea ice in the extent of Antarctic sea ice has been expanding for years. At least as of February, last winter was the Northern Hemisphere’s coldest in a decade. Furthermore, the forecast for the world’s temperature is that it will begin rising again in 2020. The world’s climate is cyclical. We’re doomed.

Finally, a recent article written on Dec. 7, for “The Space Review” notes that NASA’s Goddard Institute for Space Studies (GISS) has long been resisting disclosing its data following a U.S. Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request made by Chris Horner of the Competitive Enterprise Institute (CEI), a well-known climate change skeptic.

Why should NASA protect its statistics concerning global warming, for any reason? The answer is that this issue is a political game, nothing else.

Long Live Al Gore.

Douglas Schuda
Senior
O’Hall Hall
Dec. 9
On a regular Tuesday afternoon, the week before finals, we hopped into our car and drove three and a half hours to Pontiac, Mich., to watch a Phoenix concert. The French electro-rock band is on their U.S. tour, and our plan was to leave Notre Dame at 2 p.m., watch the concert and be back before partitals. Yet after a long drive on Michigan’s road infested highways, we arrived at the Orchard Cargos, a church-turned-concert venue, only to wait another two hours for them to actually start playing.

Due to the late start, we left later than expected and were hit with a snow storm. Also, because so many people were smoking at the concert, one of us (the only one with a driver's license) got an irritated eye and couldn't see properly, making it impossible to drive. A Holiday Inn Express shown like a beacon of hope in the dark snowy night. We had to drive back in the morning, and go straight to our 10:40 a.m. class with last night's clothes.

In the end, was it worth it? Absolutely.

Phoenix put on such a high energy show that the crowd never took a break from dancing. The band played almost all their songs from their newest album, "Wolfgang Amadeus Phoenix," as well as all their older fan favorites. Lead singer (and Sofia Coppola paramour) Thomas Mars seemingly did not stop to take a breath. The only times he did pause, it was to express his strong gratitude to the crowd.

Opening with one of their most popular songs, "Lisztomania," Phoenix continued to play another two songs before even addressing the crowd, leading to the show's fast paced momentum which fed the audience with their energy. This kept the crowd moving, singing and dancing the entire time. One girl even tried to crowd surf but failed horribly as she immediately fell and knocked one of us down.

One of their best performances, "Lasso," came early — although all of them were incredible. Mars walked up to the audience and sang straight into the front row, which only further excited the crowd. From afar, all we could see were people's hands touching his face and ruffling his hair. The band did an outstanding job at making their live music sound even better than on the record, largely due to the combination of their talent with their spirited performance.

After singing "Rally," "Fences" and "Long Distance Call," Phoenix slowed the pace down with "Love Like A Sunset," a largely instrumental track allowing for everyone to appreciate their all around talent (and for the couples to dance closer together). Another notable performance, "Napoleon Says," captured even more excitement when recorded, giving this older song new vigor.

Before we even knew it, Phoenix was announcing their last song, "Rome." Yet, moments after exiting the stage they returned for a four song encore. They played an acoustic version of "Everything Is Everywhere," a beautifully performed cover of the Virgin Suicides soundtrack, "Playground Love" by Air, and "If I Ever Feel Better." Phoenix ended on a high point with their current hit, "1901," making the crowd jump even higher and sing even louder than they had been before.

As if we weren’t all going crazy for the band already, Mars also walked amongst the crowd from the end of the room and back, saying thank you the entire time. Phoenix made our trip so worthwhile that the whole hassle of getting there and back only added to the excitement of our adventure. Definitely take the time to listen to their music. In short, they’re awesome.

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

Brandy Cerne at lcerne1@nd.edu and Tashi Spragin at tspragin@nd.edu.

Contact Brandy Cerne at lcerne1@nd.edu and Tashi Spragin at tspragin@nd.edu.

The name of this game is rap. Rap in all of its glory — from a young Jay-Z standing on a Brooklyn corner boppin’, down to Harlem where a disgruntled rebel known as Immortal Technique exposes the government for its evils, to a Queens high school with sold-out seats to hear Biggie Smalls speak, across the country to a sentimental California tale of mother and son as best told by Tupac, to a crazy fan named Stan and even a letter of apology from Andre 3000 to Ms. Jackson. These are the best rappers of our era, and these are some of their best songs. Let the rhythm get you, the flow move through you, and the lyrics affect you, and feel the best lyricists to ever emerge out of America’s streets.
Scene: The Observer

Thursday, December 10, 2009

Weekend Events Calendar

Thursday, December 10

Scene

"An Education" 6:30 and 9:30 p.m. at Browning Cinema, DPAC

Directed by Lone Sherfig, this film follows the whirlwind romance of 16-year-old Jenny, and David, a much older man. Coming of age in post-war London, Jenny is being groomed for Oxford, but feels smothered by her father and his expectations. David seems to be the enmascorper of her perfect, and older man. David exposes her to the finer aspects of London culture, but Jenny is faced with a difficult decision when she begins to understand how David has become the successful business man he is. "An Education" is showcasing at the Browning Cinema Thursday. Friday and Saturday at 6:30 and 9:30 p.m.

"Turandot" 1 p.m. at Browning Cinema, DPAC

"Turandot," Puccini's last opera, tells the story of Princess Turandot. A haber of men, she offers her hand in marriage to any suitor who can properly answer three riddles. If he fails, he will die. At the execution of the latest suitor, Prince Calaf is overcome by Turandot's beauty and vows to win her as his bride. Calaf successfully overcomes Turandot's riddles, to her grave disappointment. Yet he offers her a middle of his own. If she can find out his name by morning, Calaf vows to forfeit his own life. A compelling story about the puzzles of love and the musical talent at Notre Dame.

Glee Club Christmas Concert 6 and 8:30 p.m. at DPAC

It is time, once again, for the Glee Club Christmas Concert. As always, this concert promises to be an excellent performance by Notre Dame's own premier all-male chorus group. Including traditional Christmas carols from America and overseas, the Christmas repertoire is sure to put you in the holiday spirit. With the stress of finals looming and Christmas break fast approaching, it can be difficult to get in the mood for the holidays. This is an excellent way to both enjoy the sounds of the season and support the musical talent at Notre Dame.

Study Day

Even the University can't help you procrastinate on Sunday. With nothing going on around campus, it is finally time to buckle down and study for finals. So put on some comfy clothes, grab a giant mug of coffee and start fighting for one of those coveted library win-dow seats. (If you need more ideas on where to study, please refer to the "Study Spots: Campus' Best and Worst" article that ran earlier this week in Scene). Best of luck to everyone with finals — it will be Christmas before we know it.

Contact Genna McCabe at gmccabe@nd.edu

By MATT BROWN

Scene Writer

Dear Scene,

In light of your recent advice column on pranksters, I have an important query regarding the ethics of pranking. A good two months ago, some acquaintances initiated a prank war with our room. We spent valuable time, brainpower and flex points devising our revenge. Pals were shaken, middle fingers were raised and friendships were shattered. Currently, we're up, 3-1 and they haven't responded in a solid month, demonstrating their cowardice. Lack of strong leadership and docile response of pranking is morally obnoxious to prank them again? Let me rephrase that. Should we prank them again?

Sincerely,

Frustrated in Braden

Dear Frustrated in Braden,

Your attitude for prankish behavior is to be commended and astounds even us, veterans of several tours of prankishness including the unforgettable conflict of 2004. We wholeheartedly support the furthering of this tactic. We believe you have a right, may an obligation to continue to take this fight to their proverbial doorstep. However, guard your lobes, as your tomfoolery tutor. We feel I must warn you that this seeming inaction by your foes may be a devouring of the unsuspecting comfort only to strike with a fiery vengeance. After all, America did not create its nuclear arsenal in seven days. When they strike, and strike they will be they any men at all, prepare yourselves for pranking at an entire new level. It may be wise to stockpile several days' worth of food and water, as well as duct tape and industrial strength plastic sheeting. Whatever their response, remain calm and take it with good humor and a jolly heart. Any consternation they cause, you cannot hold a candle to the great campaign of terror you have carried over the intervening months. Personally, we have witnessed pranks in which the planning process took years as well as multiple thousands of dollars. Your act of pranking may only incite their rage, causing them to add nefarious elements to their already devious prank. We must also warn you about the perils of reported and escalating pranking, the fall of the Roman Empire can be directly correlated to the large volume of silly string and fake noses imported by Nero in an attempt to get back at his friends after his hilarious well-executed elephants over the mountains prank.

We realize our advice may offend some of our readership with the deli-cate feelings of an emotional under-developed adolescent girl. Some may even say that we're advocating licking your opponent while he is down, sweeping in a puddle of his own filth? Our response to these overemotional critics is comprised of two equally important pieces. First, man up. Second, what would you do if you was Jackie Chan who was down? Would you stand there and let him jump up and proceed to beat you with a lemon peel? No. You have to press your advantage and in this case, he positive that their lives never become a monotonous drudgery stare to the soul.

Prank and prank well my children.

Scene

Is your life troubled? Do you need the wise words that only an anonymous paper can provide? You're not alone.

We're looking out for you. We've been there, walking the same dark alleyways and doing the same things you're currently traversing. We came out better men and women and only wish to pass our sage advice onto the future generation. Do you have a question, problem, anomaly or otherwise sticky situation that you need help with? Write Scene at sbgde65@nd.edu

Contact Matt Brown at mbrownwal34@nd.edu

Contact Genna McCabe at gmccabe@nd.edu

By LAUREN BALDWIN | Observer Graphic
NFC

Eagles, Reid agree to three-year extension

Brass shows confidence in 10-year coach; Reid to reportedly earn between $5 and $6 million per year

Associated Press

PHILADELPHIA — on the day he signed a new contract, Andy Reid joked about his weight.

The usually stoic coach has plenty of reasons to be happy, and it’s not because he can afford his own cheesesteak joint. Despite failing to win a Super Bowl in his first 10 seasons with the Philadelphia Eagles, Reid got a three-year extension through 2013.

He has all the ingredients — leadership, football knowledge, the ability to gain the respect of everybody that he works with, especially the players, assembling a team — to take what he has and go forward .

Terms of the deal weren’t disclosed. Reid reportedly will earn between $5 and $6 million per season.

“I’m a piece of the puzzle here, and by my waist size I’m big,” but in reality I’m just a piece of the puzzle,” Reid said. “I love Philadelphia. The fans, there is nothing like them. They have certainly been very supportive.”

They’re fair. If we stink, they let us know we stink, if we’re doing well, they’re doing well. We’re doing OK, but they’re always there. That support is phenomenal, absolutely phenomenal.

Reid is the winningest coach in team history, leading the Eagles to the playoffs seven times with five trips to the NFC title game and one Super Bowl appearance in 10 seasons. The Eagles are 8-4 heading into Sunday’s game at the New York Giants and in solid position to make another postseason run.

Since taking the team in 1999, Reid has won 151 games, compiled a .561 winning percentage, both best in Eagles history.

Reid took over a franchise that was considered a laugh- ingstock in the NFL a decade ago. He inherited a team that was 4-13 a season earlier and quickly turned it around to perennial contender. Reid selected quarterback Donovan McNabb with the No. 2 overall pick in the 1999 draft, a crucial piece in the rebuilding process.

The Eagles improved to 5-1 in their first season under Reid then went 11-5 a year later and made the playoffs five straight years.

“It’s well-deserved for him,” McNabb said. “I’m happy for him. It was a great move for them. He’s a great coach.”

Though he’s one of the most successful coaches in the NFL, Reid has drawn criticism from fans because the team hasn’t won a Super Bowl. The closest the Eagles got was a 24-21 loss to the New England Patriots following the 2004 season.

“None of this history, nor far it is to win a Super Bowl,” Reid said. “One of the reasons for the success we have today is prioritization of that.”

He does have that burning desire to take it one more step to win a Super Bowl! This man here has a tremendous burning desire and obsession and will do nothing short of every attempt possible.

The Eagles have reached the NFC championship game four other times, including three straight losses before their Super Bowl appearance. The Eagles also reached the conference title game last season, losing 32-25 to the Arizona Cardinals.

“I would say very simply that’s where all of my energy goes and the players’ and the coaches’ energy goes,” Reid said of winning a Super Bowl.

Reid took a leave of absence during the offseason in 2007, but he was arrested on drug charges. One son is out of prison after completing a drug treatment program and the other is serving a two-year sentence after pleading guilty to smuggling prescription pills into a county jail.

Asked how he avoids getting burned out from coaching, Reid made another joke about his sizable waist line.

“I have a lot to burn off, so I have a lot of energy stored in this body,” he said. “I still love what I’m doing. I can’t say I love press conferences, but I love everything else about it, and so I don’t feel I’m at that point. If I ever get to that point, I’ll be the first to raise my hand and stop coaching football.”

Eagles head coach Andy Reid, left, answers questions as Eagles Chairman Jeffrey Lurie looks on during a press conference at the team’s training facility Wednesday. Reid is the winningest coach in Eagles history.
AROUND THE NATION
Compiled from The Observer's wire services

NCAA Division I Men's Basketball AP Poll

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NCAA Division I Women's Basketball AP Poll

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NCAA Division I Women's Ice Hockey Rankings

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Ochocinco fined $30K for celebration

CINCINNATI — Bengals receiver Chad Ochocinco is taking the NFL's fine for his latest touchdown celebration as a challenge to do more.

Ochocinco was fined $30,000 for briefly donning a mock poncho and a sombrero next to the bench following his touchdown catch during a 23-13 win over Detroit on Sunday. That's $10,000 more than the fine he got for pretending to bribe an official during a game earlier this season.

The receiver said Wednesday he's not sure why the amount went up so much.

"That's OK," he said.

"They keep jacking them up, I'll keep jacking up the celebrations."

Earlier in his career, Ochocinco regularly got fined for his celebrations. Some of his most memorable included doing a river dance, pretending to perform CPR on a football and using the end zone pylon as a golf club. He also donned a mock Hall of Fame jacket on the sideline.

With receivers competing to top each other's celebrations, the league cracked down, making it illegal to use a prop on the field or have a rehearsed celebration with teammates.

Ochocinco scaled back on the celebrations earlier this season. He did a Lambeau Leap — into a section of Bengals fans — during a win at Green Bay, but toned down his act as the team won games and moved into first place in the AFC North.

There had been no chance to celebrate a touchdown lately. Ochocinco went four games without even one before finally getting into the end zone against the Lions. Asked if the brief celebration he wore the hat for only a couple of seconds — was worth the hefty fine, he said, "You're damn right it was. That was fun."

The league fined him $20,000 and reprimanded him for taking a dollar bill onto the field as a pretend bribe during a win over Baltimore on Nov. 8. He held the dollar in his right hand as he approached the officials during a review of one of his catches. He kept the dollar after an official motioned for him to stay away.

Ray Anderson, the league's executive vice president of football operations, sent Ochocinco a letter over the pretend bribe that said, "The very appearance of impropriety is not acceptable. Your conduct was unprofessional and unbecoming an NFL player."

Ochocinco said Wednesday that he’ll keep doing things that cross the league’s line.

IN BRIEF

Cowboys to put Romo back as place holder

IRVING, Texas — The Dallas Cowboys might have a new holder on kicks, a guy who made a costly flub the last time he tried — Tony Romo.

Romo practiced as the holder for kicker Nick Folk on Wednesday and might do it Sunday against the San Diego Chargers. He would replace punter Mat McBriar, whose hold on a costly missed field goal this past Sunday prompted kicker Nick Folk to throw up his arms in disgust.

Folk has missed five of his last seven kicks, with at least one miss in four straight games. He's been especially erratic on kicks between 40 and 49 yards, hitting just 4 of 10 after making 17 of 18 over his previous two seasons.

"We feel like we need to do something," coach Wade Phillips said. "I just think something new for our kicker would maybe help him mentally, I guess."

Orioles trade Chris Ray for Millwood

INDIANAPOLIS — The Texas Rangers sent pitcher Kevin Millwood and about $3 million to Baltimore for reliever Chris Ray on Wednesday night, giving the Orioles a durable starter and cash to help pay for him.

Texas also got a player to be named in a deal where money was a major factor.

Millwood is owed $12 million next season in the final year of his contract, a salary he guaranteed himself by reaching 180 innings this year for Texas.

The Rangers had cash flow problems this year, with Major League Baseball stepping in to provide assistance, and owner Tom Hicks is trying to sell the team.

Millwood was 13-10 with three complete games last season. His 3.67 ERA was eighth-best among AL starters — in fact, it was the lowest by a Texas pitcher who qualified for the ERA title since 1997.

Tigers manager Leyland agrees with new rule

INDIANAPOLIS — Jim Leyland has gotten into his share of spats with umpires. But the Detroit Tigers manager would have no beef with a rule that cuts down on disputes.

"I thought about this long and hard. I’ve always said that I think they ought to change one thing," he said Wednesday at the winter meetings. "I don’t think you should be able to argue an out-safe call at first base.

"Talk about delaying the games and everything," he added. "I think if they don’t allow you to argue that call — he said he was safe, he said he was out, he never changes his mind — plus he’s behind the plate the next time.

"Rather than ruffle the ump, Leyland said it’s better to stay in the dugout.

"So why go out and argue? I think the only time you would do it is if a player was involved and you got a little upset and you wanted to get him out of there," he said.
**NHL**

Jets sit dissapointed Sanchez

Associated Press

FLORHAM PARK, N.J. — The Sanchise is in a funk this week, and he’s not happy about it. Before the New York Jets’ rain-soaked 21-17 win over the Buffalo Bills, coach Rex Ryan decided Wednesday that Mark Sanchez will not play at Dallas Sunday or in the next two games. Sanchez, who shares the job with Kellen Clemens, will start in his place.

"I’m just a frustrated part of this game," a clearly irritated Sanchez said Wednesday. "I don’t know if I could at least try to practice (Thursday) and he said ‘no way…you know I’m going to practice tomorrow, then you’re going to play and we don’t want to run any risk of further injury. It’s difficult to handle."

Ryan said he consulted with team doctors and made the call."Sanchez is mad as a hornet" at him.

"He wants to play in the worst way," Ryan said "and he’s going to play," Ryan said. "It’s just not going to be this week. I have a lot of confidence in Kellen. I think that if an injury that would be worse than a concussion, I’m just going to make it now."

Sanchez sprained the posterior cruciate ligament in the knee during the third quarter of the Jets’ 19-13 win over Buffalo in Toronto last Thursday. He said he’s still not sure if the injury occurred on his first or second down, or a previous play. He didn’t appear to be noticeably hobbled or favoring his leg, but was down from the podium.

"I think if this was the Super Bowl, I would definitely be playing," Sanchez said. "I started every game this season since beating out Clemens for the job. The injury came two days after the Jets beat the Saskatchewan Roughriders. Geragorier-Jiradri said Sanchez needs another 10 days or so to be ready, but he thought if Ryan might have been sending a message to him by sitting him through a team spokesmen that the decision was not punitive.

Sanchez didn’t practice Monday or Wednesday, and is expected to get a fitted knee brace Thursday. He already wore a brace on his left knee from a previous injury.

"At first, I guess I was upset that we wouldn’t even give me a chance to practice and try to wait until the last second," Sanchez said. "At the same time, I understand that Kellen needs all the reps as possible if he’s going to start this week. That’s totally fair to him, and I understand where Rex is coming from, but that doesn’t necessarily mean I agree or I’m happy about it."

Ryan, who was optimistic about Sanchez’s chances Monday, said there were no setbacks in the quarterback’s recovery that swayed his decision. He added that Sanchez was "held out of practice" Monday and not travel to Tampa Bay.

"The last time I felt like this, I was a redshirt freshman where you don’t travel to the game," Sanchez said. "It’s just a weird feeling."

The Jets (6-6) got back in the AFC playoff mix by winning their last two games, and took on a Buccaneers team that has struggled to a 1-11 record. Ryan said the quality of the opponent was not a factor in deciding to go with Clemens, who’ll make his ninth NFL start Sunday, and first since 2007 when he took over for a struggling Chad Pennington.

"I think I’d be a little bit more concerned if it was my first start ever," Clemens said. "but I have some experience under my belt."

Clemens came in after Sanchez was injured and was 1 for 2 for 14 yards, helping lead a scoring drive against Buffalo.

"You never like to see a teammate’s that’s injured, but it’s a good opportunity for me," Clemens said. "I’m excited to be out there playing again."

Clemens was drafting of the second round out of Oregon in 2006 and was considered the Jets’ quarterback of the future. He sat for most of his rookie season, but started half the games the following year with mediocre results. Clemens barely got on the field last season with Brett Favre in town, and has only thrown three passes this year.

"It hasn’t been an easy road sitting on the bench on Sundays," he said.

This is the last year on Clemens’ contract, and there’s some speculation that he won’t be back next season, making this a chance to showcase himself.

**MLB**

LHP Wolf, Hawkins sign with Brewers

Associated Press

INDIANAPOLIS — The Milwaukee Brewers landed a pair of free agent pitchers Wednesday, reaching agreements with starter Randy Wolf and reliever LaTroy Hawkins, two people familiar with the negotiations told The Associated Press.

Wolf’s deal is worth $29.75 million over three years and includes a $10 million option for 2013, one of the people said Wednesday. Hawkins will get $7.5 million over two seasons, the other person said.

Both agreements are subject to completion of final details, the people said. Both spoke on condition of anonymity because the announcements had been made.

Wolf, a 33-year-old left-hander, was 11-7 with a 3.23 ERA this year in the bone season of his second stint with Los Angeles Dodgers. He had a $55 million base salary and earned $2 million in performance bonuses based on innings.

Hawks, a right-hander who turns 37 on Dec. 21, spent the last two seasons with Houston and went 1-4 with a 2.13 ERA and 11 saves in 15 chances this season. He had 45 strikeouts and 16 walks in 63 1-3 innings.

A veteran of 15 major league seasons, he is 60-81 with 87 saves and a 4.51 ERA. He also has pitched for Minnesota, the Chicago Cubs, San Francisco, Baltimore, Colorado and the New York Yankees.

**NCAA Football**

9 Mich. St. players charged

Associated Press

LANING, Mich. — Authorities charged nine Michigan State football players with misdemeanor conspiracy Wednesday following a dormitory brawl last month that has left the team short-handed for its Jan. 2 bowl game.

All nine were charged with conspiracy to commit assault and battery, according to Ingham County prosecutor Stuart Dunning III and campus police chief Jason Dunlap. Each was charged with at least one count of assault or battery.

Coach Mark Dantonio has suspended 11 players, up from eight following the Nov. 22 incident.

Two days afterward, he dismissed running back Gunnloden and defensive back Darqueze Dennard. Both players have been charged in the incident.

The players could face up to a one-year maximum sentence on the assault charge, a maximum of 93 days on the other charges. All are accused of being involved in the brawl.

Dunning said more charges could be filed.

As for the ongoing investigation, so I wouldn’t rule that out," the prosecutor said.

The suspensions come as Michigan State (6-6) prepares for its first game with Texas Tech (8-4) in the Alamo Bowl matchup of Big Ten and Big 12 teams.

Michigan State spokesman Terry Donaghue said none of the suspended players are allowed in the weight room, study areas or other parts of the football building. They will not travel with the team to the game in San Antonio.

"They don’t have access to any of the activities," he said. "None of them are preparing for the bowl game."

Karl Price of Louisville, Ky., national president of Iota Phi Theta fraternity, said the disciplinary action was taken in concert with a few between a football players and members of the fraternity at an East Lansing nightclub on Nov. 21.

One night later, Michigan State held its annual football awards banquet. Roughly 90 minutes after it ended, a group of players allegedly went across the street to the Other Hull, where the fraternity was wrapping up a potluck dinner in the dorm lounge.

"The exact version of what happened next varied," he said. "Some have said 15 or 20 people; others say some wore ski masks — got involved in a brief fight. Others say there were no masks, and that most in attendance were just bystanders."

"Some players have said if any injuries resulted from the altercation, Iota Phi Theta said, "any numbers are treated at a hospital."

**University Resources for Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and Questioning Students**

The Core Council for Gay and Lesbian Students

Information, education, and resources

Contact: Dr. Sue Dunn, OP, 1-5555 or Eddie Valezquez at evevalu@emu.edu

Office of Campus Ministry

(Annual retreat for gay/lesbian/questioning students and their friends; pertinent library resources)

Contact: Mr. Joe Carey, CSC, at 1-7800

University Counseling Center

There were no spectators, but those in attendance were just bystanders.

Contact: Dr. Maureen Lofrak at ralfofrak@emu.edu

Visit our web site at corecouncil.edu

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**Core Council for Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, & Questioning Students**
NBA
Josh Howard’s return spurs Mavs past Suns

Associated Press

DALLAS — Josh Howard looked sharp coming off a 13-game break to rehabilitate his surgically repaired left ankle, scoring 18 of his 20 points in the second half and leading the Dallas Mavericks to a 102-101 victory over the reeling Phoenix Suns on Tuesday night.

Howard missed the first five games of the season recovering from the surgery, then lasted just 2½ games. The Mavs put him through some grueling workouts to make sure he’s all the way back, and he sure looked it by scoring 16 points during a stretch late in the third quarter and early in the fourth when Dallas went from being tied at 66 to leading 86-79.

Phoenix made three 3-pointers in the final 47.9 seconds to make things interesting all the way to the buzzer, but the Suns wound up losing for the fourth time in five games. All those losses are on the road, and they’ve all come during the first eight days of December. Phoenix lost only three times over the last week of October and all of November.

Dirk Nowitzki scored 33 points and eight rebounds, and Shawn Marion had 10 points and seven rebounds in his first game against his longtime team since rejoining the Western Conference.

The Mavericks also ended their first two-game losing streak.

Steve Nash scored eight of his 27 points in the final minute and had eight assists. Jason Richardson scored 25, including a long 3 during the final minute, and Amare Stoudemire had 20 points and Jared Dudley 11.

Jason Terry had 15 points and kept the drama to the buzzer by missing a free throw with 3.7 seconds left. He intentionally missed the shot, hoping for a rebound, but it didn’t happen, and he then heaved it about 75 feet. It was pretty obvious it wasn’t going in.

J.J. Barea, who had what likely will become Howard’s spot in the starting lineup, scored 14. Jason Kidd had 11 assists and seven points.

Howard entered to a nice ovation with 5:07 left in the first quarter. He missed a jumper on a fast break, but before fans could wonder whether he pulled up because he was tentative about the ankle, he proved otherwise by hustling back on defense and blocking a shot by Grant Hill. He soon after went over to the rim on a fast break and was knocked down but got right up.

Howard was 0 for 2 with two points in the first half. Dallas didn’t have much going right outside Nowitzki the first two-plus quarters, yet managed to remain close.

When Howard came in midway through the third quarter, he put up a brick from the outside, then passed up a shot on a fast break and dished to Kris Humphries. He wasn’t expecting the pass and the ball rolled out of bounds.

But, he just wasn’t done.

MLB
Petitte to stay with Yankees

INDIANAPOLIS — Andy Pettitte asked himself all the important questions: Was he ready to prepare for another long year? Could he top last season? Was his family on board?

And then he decided — rather quickly, too — he indeed wanted to pitch again for the New York Yankees.

“I didn’t want to regret not playing,” he said.

Pettitte and the World Series champions agreed Wednesday on an $11.75 million, one-year contract. The deal represents a raise for the 37-year-old left-hander, who made $10.5 million last season and helped the Yankees win their 27th World Series title.

“I wanted to get this decision made,” he said on a conference call. “It’s nice to get it wrapped up.”

Pettitte became the first pitcher to start and win the clincher in all three postsea- son rounds. After beating Minnesota and the Los Angeles Angels in the AL playoffs, he defeated the Philadelphia Phillies on three days’ rest in the sixth and final game of the World Series, earning his fifth championship ring.

The year ended so well, it prompted Pettitte to wonder whether it was time to retire.

“There’s no doubt it did,” he said. “What else is there to do? Why even continue to play? Why would you go back? How could you finish any bet- ter?”

And with the backing of his wife and family, he had his agent call the Yankees during Thanksgiving weekend.

“Let’s do it another year,” Pettitte said.

Pettitte was 14-8 with a 4.16 ERA in 32 regular-season starts, and 4-0 with a 3.52 ERA in five postseason starts. His 18 postseason victories are a major league record.

A two-time All-Star, Pettitte pitched for the Yankees from 1995-2001, helping them win four World Series titles and six AL pennants, before spending three years with his hometown Houston Astros. He returned to New York in 2007 and has made 19 starts for the Yankees.

NCAA FOOTBALL
Mack Brown receives raise from Longhorns

Associated Press

AUSTIN, Texas — Texas coach Mack Brown is a $5 million man, not just this season, but for the life of his contract.

With the Longhorns playing for their second BCS national championship in five years, school officials on Wednesday agreed to raise Brown’s annual salary from $3 million to at least $5 million.

Brown was scheduled to receive a one-time $2 million payment early next year, but his University system regents agreed to make that an annual payment for the rest of his contract, which runs through 2016.

The length of the contract has not changed. Brown also will continue to receive an annual $100,000 raise already in his contract. He’ll also get a $450,000 bonus if Texas (13-0) beats Alabama (13-0) on Jan. 7 in Pasadena, Calif.

Brown’s counterpart in that game, Nick Saban, recently signed a one-year extension to his contract with Alabama that pays him $4.7 million annually.

“Mack is the best college football coach in America and this action recognizes him for that,” Texas athletic director DeLoss Dodds said. “He brought new life to our program and he’s done it with great integrity and class. He is who we want at Texas for as long as he is willing to serve as our head coach.”

Texas has raised Brown’s salary more than 500 percent since his first $750,000 deal signed in 1997. Texas has given Brown restructured deals with raises in 1999, 2000, 2002, 2005 and 2007.

Texas’ second-year defensive coordinator Will Muschamp has been designated as Brown’s replacement if he decides to retire, but Wednesday’s deal seems unlikely to happen anytime soon.

Brown is 68 and just won his second Big 12 championship. Texas won the 2005 national championship and has won at least 10 games for nine consecu- tive seasons, the second-longest run of 10-win seasons in NCAA history.

The Longhorns also earned their third trip to one of the lucrative BCS bowls in the last five years.

With Brown still reeling in recruiting classes that are con- sistently ranked among the best in the country, he’ll be expected to maintain that run of success.

“Mack has built one of the nation’s premier football programs, and he’s brought credit to our university,” university President William Powers Jr. said.
**NBA**

**Roy scores 29 to lead Portland past Pacers**

Associated Press

INDIANAPOLIS — The Portland Trail Blazers can’t afford to lose any more players — or coaches.

Despite having only nine active players Thursday, coach Nate McMillan, the Trail Blazers got 29 points from Brandon Roy and beat the Indiana Pacers 102-91 on Wednesday night.

Portland’s laundry list of injuries includes center and Indiana native Greg Oden (left knee), guard Rudy Fernandez (sciatic pain) and forward Travis Outlaw (left foot). McMillan, who didn’t travel, had surgery on his right Achilles’ tendon after injuring it during a team practice Dec. 4.

“Just that the type of guy Nate is,” said Roy, who added seven rebounds and five assists.

“We were down a lot of bodies that day, he wants to get out there and play. It’s just too bad his body wasn’t up to it. It’s a tough thing, he cares about this team a lot,” Roy added.

Trail Blazers assistant Dean Demopoulos said McMillan was assisting head coaching duties while McMillan recovers, plans to return to the sideline.

“Even when I was young enough, I wasn’t good enough,” Demopoulos joked. “I’m 10 or 11 years older than Nate. I’d blow both Achilles’ out.”

Demopoulos and the Trail Blazers didn’t need a full complement of players to beat the struggling Pacers. LaMarcus Aldridge had 20 points and eight rebounds, and Andre Miller scored 15 for Portland (14-9), which snapped a four-game losing streak.

“When you talk about team wins, this is the essence of team,” Demopoulos said. “Everyone stepped up, held hands and collectively got it done.

The Pacers, on the other hand, continued their downward spiral.

Dahnaj Jones had 19 points and rookie Tyler Hansbrough added 13 points and 11 rebounds for Indiana (6-13), losers of six straight.

The Pacers played without injured All-Star Danny Granger, who is expected to miss at least four weeks with a torn right plantar fascia. The team’s leading scorer won’t require surgery.

“It’s back to the drawing board,” Jones said. “Losing is not fun.”

The Pacers, who trailed by 11 in the first half, tied the score at 83 on Luther Head’s jumper with 8 minutes left in the fourth quarter. Portland used an 8-2 run, capped by Miller’s layup, to take a 105-91 lead. Roy had consecutive baskets to spark the rally.

**NCAA Basketball**

**‘Cats hold on on top Huskies**

Associated Press

NEW YORK — Freshman John Wall scored a season-high 25 points, including 12 of Kentucky’s last 15 in the game, and the fourth-ranked Wildcats beat No. 14 Connecticut 64-61 on Wednesday night in the SEC/Big East Invitational.

Wall led up to his billing in his first appearance at Madison Square Garden, overcoming first-half foul trouble and dominating the game over the final 71/2 minutes.

The Wildcats (9-0) moved John Calipari closer to one of the icons at the school that has more wins (1,996) than any other program. The only coach to have a better start to his career at Kentucky was Adolph Rupp, who started 10-0 in 1931.

There were two totally different halves played in front of the crowd of 15,674, which seemed split down the middle.

Jerome Dyson had 17 points for the Huskies (6-2), who finished 14 of 24 from the free throw line, including 2 of 4 in the final 3 minutes.

After a first half of runs and big plays, neither team had a lead of more than five points over the final 11 minutes.

Wall, the 6-foot-4 guard who has drawn raves in his freshman year as Calipari tries to lead Kentucky back after two disappointing seasons under Billy Gillispie, scored almost every way possible in his game-closing spurt.

His three-point play on a breakaway dunk gave the Wildcats a 54-47 lead with 7.16 left. Stanley Robinson, Connecticut’s skywalking forward, finally became a factor for the Huskies, scoring six straight points. When Gavin Edwards scored on a break dunk with 4:24 to play, Connecticut was within 56-55 with 4:24 to go.

Kemba Walker, who had 12 points and six assists for the Huskies, gave them their final lead of the game on a jumper with 1:12 left.

Wall put Kentucky ahead for good on a three-point play after he drove to the basket that made it 62-61 with 30 seconds left.

Connecticut called two timeouts, then went for the tie with Walker drove and there was a tip by the Huskies as well. But Walker was forced to foul on the rebound, and Ramon Hord made one of two free throws with 13 seconds left.

**NFL**

**Eagles’ Westbrook practices, but not game-ready**

Associated Press

Philadelphia — Back for practice for the first time since sustaining two concussions in a three-week span, Brian Westbrook said he wasn’t completely healed the last time he ran with the Eagles.

When the what the doctor said, he said that although some of the symptoms wore gone, I was not healed completely.”

Associated Press

“Me and (head athletic trainer) Rick (Burkholder), the trainers and the coaching staff, we did everything we could, but sure we get hit, you’re not sure if you’re healed completely. It’s not like an ankle, you can feel it every single day or a knee. A concussion is a different beast for me. It just wasn’t healed completely.”

The 30-year-old former All-Pro running back sustained his first career concussion when he hit his head on a defender’s knee during a Monday night win at Washington on Oct. 26. He briefly lost consciousness but walked off the field under his own power.

Westbrook sat out two games and returned against San Diego on Nov. 15, only to sustain another concussion when he got sand-wiched between a blocker and a tackler on a screen play.

The Eagles have examined two specialists in Pittsburgh, and has been cleared to return to practice. Westbrook will work with the scout team, and coach Andy Reid hasn’t ruled him out for Sunday’s game at the New York Giants.

“You gradually get him back in, take baby steps,” Reid said. “We’re not going to throw him in and he’s not feeling right.”

Westbrook didn’t sound like a guy who expects to play this week.

“I think all the signs right now are aiming toward being able to play before the end of the season,” he said.

While Westbrook eases his way back, wide receiver DeSean Jackson expects to play against the Giants after missing one game due toussion. The dynamic playmaker was a full participant at Wednesday’s practice.

“I’m pretty much good,”

Jackson said, “back to normal, back to being DeSean Jackson.”

Though he’s eager to help the Eagles (8-4) pursue a Super Bowl, Westbrook is taking a cautious approach.

“I’m more concerned about how things will happen for me in the future, how having concussions now will affect me 20, 30 years from now,” he said. “I don’t think I’m scared to play the game of football. I’m concerned that things that are happening now, concussions, head injuries, can affect my life down the road. That really concerns me.”

So why risk coming back?

“I still think I can play, still think I can produce,” Westbrook said. “And I’ve learned from the doctors that if I don’t have a high risk of getting another concussion after healing completely and that’s the No. 1 thing to be heal completely.”
Belichick disciplines Moss

Associated Press

FOXBOROUGH, Mass. — Tom Brady wants his teammates to prepare harder to keep a playoff berth from slipping away.

On Wednesday, Randy Moss and three key defensive players didn’t even make it to practice.

Coach Bill Belichick declined to elaborate on their absence from the first practice since the New England Patriots’ lead in the AFC East dropped to one game. Moss and linebackers Adalius Thomas, Gary Guyton and Derrick Burgess were sent home after showing up late for an 8 a.m. team meeting, according to the Web site of the Providence Journal.

“Yeah, it’s a coach’s decision,” said Brady, who made it to work despite a moderate snowfall that caused traffic snarls. “I’ve got to do my job. I’ve got plenty of things to do. Like I said, I’ve got to show up every day and bring whatever I have — the energy and the leadership that I have — to this team, because that’s what all those guys (do). That’s what our job is.”

Brady went to work the day after his wedding, supermodel Gisele Bundchen, gave birth to their son. He said they hadn’t chosen a name and she and the baby were doing well. “I didn’t get much sleep,” he said.

Brady didn’t comment on either. He was listed by the team, as he’s been all season, with a right middle finger sprain. The practice report also listed a right index finger, which he said “is hanging in there.”

The finger didn’t stop him from throwing a 58-yard touchdown pass to Moss on the first series of last Sunday’s 22-21 loss at the Miami Dolphins. The Patriots fell to 7-5 and suffered their third loss in four games for the first time in seven seasons.

“We didn’t change much” because of the injury, Belichick said. “He probably won’t change much for Sunday’s home game against the Carolina Panthers (5-7) just because Moss and the linebackers missed practice. All were listed on the practice report as missing the session for reasons not related to injury. Moss has been listed on the Wednesday report several times this season with that designation.

Belichick declined to discuss their absence.

“It’s not about playing hard on Sundays. I mean, we do that,” he said Wednesday. “That’s three hours a week that you have to show up and really commit yourself to. I don’t think that’s too much to ask of anybody and guys do that. It’s not like we think we’re not fighting out there in the game.”

I think what coach tells us and what I was alluding to was probably more of just the other six days of the week. We’ve got to make the commitment to each other. I think at times we all feel a little bit sorry for ourselves because you’re tired and you’re sore and it’s the end of the year and you go, ‘Why is (Belichick) doing this?’ But, in the end, you’re either gaining ground on a team or you’re losing ground, and I always prefer to be gaining ground.

As a team leader, Brady’s comments carry weight with other players, but he was saying what some of them already knew.

“It’s dead-on. We need to respond to adversity better,” running back Sammy Morris said. “I think we all need to know it or felt it and I think him just saying it kind of just put a little more emphasis on it.”

Carolina coach John Fox said players must be disciplined.

“I’m not liking players to children,” he said, but “everybody has roles and jobs and needs to be held accountable and needs to be disciplined. It’s not just as a head coach, that’s what you have to do sometimes. It’s not easy.”

Players who did practice Wednesday talked about expectations about how Belichick handled the situation regarding Moss and the three linebackers.

Bell leads the way as Lakers roll past Jazz

Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — Kobe Bryant scored 27 points, Paul Gasol had 19 points and 12 rebounds, and the Los Angeles Lakers rolled off 19 consecutive points in the fourth quarter of their 10th straight victory, 101-77 over the Utah Jazz on Wednesday night.

Ron Artest scored 17 points for the Lakers, who improved to an NBA-best 17-3 by holding the Jazz to six points and two field goals in a combiably one-sided fourth quarter.

After leading by just two points entering the fourth, Los Angeles held the Jazz scoreless for more than six minutes while getting points from five players.

Deron Williams scored 17 points for the Jazz, who couldn’t manage a field goal in the first 27:25 of the fourth period of their 13th consecutive loss to the Lakers at Staples Center, counting six losses in the past two outings.

Mehmet Okur and C.J. Miles scored 14 points apiece for Utah, which managed just two field goals in the fourth quarter on 2-for-10 shooting.

Andry Bynum scored 14 points for Los Angeles, which forced two shot clock violations by the Jazz during that fourth quarter stretch, while getting eight points from Jordan Farmar, the inconsistent backup guard. Williams’ jumper with 4:35 to play was the Jazz’s first field goal of the period, and he didn’t get another until Miles’ basket in the final minute.

Carlos Boozer had 11 points and 12 rebounds for the Jazz, who dropped to at least 21 points for the first time in nine games, which hasn’t beaten the Lakers at Staples Center since Jan. 1, 2006, rebounded from a loss to lowly Minnesota with a win over San Antonio on Monday, but its fourth-quarter woes in Los Angeles led to just the Jazz’s third loss in 11 games.

Los Angeles’ winning streak is its longest in a single season since winning 10 straight in February 2008.

Bryant played after skipping “the morning shootaround, telling the Lakers he was shaken up after a home-invasion robbery occurred in his family’s gated community in Orange County last night, leading to a police standoff.

The Lakers are one game away from completing an undated six-game homestand, which concludes Friday with a visit from Minnesota. Los Angeles’ lofty record is little surprise after an exceptionally generous schedule featuring 17 of its first 21 games at home, but the Lakers are on the road for all but nine of the following 28 contests.

Most of the Lakers’ victories have been with the notable exception of last Friday’s one-point win over Miami, which is Bryant’s self-acknowledged lucky 3-point shooting day. Coach Phil Jackson felt a few close games would help his team’s late-game execution later on, and they got another taste of that tonight against Utah — until the fourth quarter, that is.

Los Angeles had been outshining in the middle two periods during its winning streak, repeatedly pulling away from its opponents to render the fourth quarter fairly meaningless. But Utah took the lead in the second half, and finally in the third quarter the Jazz fell through superior offensive rebounding until late in the third, when Bryant and Lamar Odom shook the Lakers from their slumber.

It’s not about playing hard on Sundays, I mean, we do that,” he said Wednesday. “That’s three hours a week that you have to show up and really commit yourself to. I don’t think that’s too much to ask of anybody and guys do that. It’s not like we think we’re not fighting out there in the game.”

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Players who did practice Wednesday talked about expectations about how Belichick handled the situation regarding Moss and the three linebackers.
**NBA**

Crawford leads Hawks victory

Associated Press

ATLANTA — Jamal Crawford and Atlanta’s other backups gave the Hawks the lift the Chicago Bulls were missing. Crawford scored a season-high 29 points and the Hawks opened the second half with a 20-4 run and beat the Bulls 118-83 on Wednesday night. The Hawks led by 14 before pulling away with the big run.

“At halftime we told ourselves ‘let’s try again,’” said Atlanta’s Josh Smith, who capped the decisive run with an alley-oop jam to push the lead to 30 points at 76-46 with 3:35 remaining in the third period.

“We didn’t want them to come back and get some momentum,” said Smith, who had 18 points.

Maurice Evans had 18 points as Atlanta’s reserves outscored Chicago’s backups 66-32. Rookie Jeff Teague had eight points and eight assists as 12 Atlanta players scored.

“We came out and took care of business from beginning to end,” Hawks coach Mike Woodson said. “Everybody got a chance to play. It was a total team effort.”

The Bulls, who have lost four straight and nine of 10, remained close only in the first period. Atlanta pushed its lead to double digits for good on a jam by Smith with 5:17 remaining in the first half.

Joakim Noah said he has “no idea” why the Bulls are struggling after winning four of their first six games.

“The way we started the season I thought there was definitely some optimism,” said Noah, who had only two points but led the Bulls with 11 rebounds. “But I think we’re definitely going through it right now as a team. We’ve just got to find a way to snap out of it.”

Derrick Rose, who led Chicago with 19 points, said the loss “really hurts.”

“Either you want it or you don’t,” Rose said. “Hustle, if you want it. Rebound. The score tonight speaks for itself. We’re just not playing hard.”

Taj Gibson, who had 11 points, was Chicago’s only reserve to score in the first three periods. Each team played backups through most of the fourth period.

Backup forward James Johnson had 17 — all in the final period — and John Salmons added 16 for Chicago.

“They jumped on us early in the third quarter, and then we ended up playing catch-up,” said Bulls coach Vinny Del Negro. “We didn’t score well enough to play catch-up like that.”

The Bulls shot a season-low 36.4 percent (28 for 77) from the field.

“It’s not good. It’s not good,” Del Negro said. “But you know, the guys are working. … It’s frustrating but you’ve got to battle through it.”

Noah said the Bulls “are not competing together at all.”

“We really need to stick together,” Noah said. “I think there’s enough character on this team for us to turn this around. We’ve got to turn this around. We will.”

Joe Johnson and Marvin Williams each had 12 points for Atlanta.

The Hawks have won two straight for the first time since a seven-game winning streak from Nov. 7-20.

The Bulls scored only two points off the Hawks’ eight turnovers. Atlanta scored 22 points off Chicago’s 19 turnovers.

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**CCHA**

continued from page 24

on five scoring going and maybe get some shorthandled goals,” Thang said.

On the other side of the ice, sophomore wing Billy Maday leads Notre Dame with 12 points on four goals and 11 assists on the season. Junior wing Calle Ridderwall is second on the team with 14 points on 10 goals and four assists. Ridderwall and Maday, along with senior center Kevin Deeth, make up the line that is most likely to bust the Irish out of their scoring slump. Last weekend, in a pair of losses to Miami (Ohio), the Irish failed to score a goal in a weekend series for the first time under Jeff Jackson.

“It’s just a matter of trying to create some chemistry and getting the little things going,” Thang said.

The Irish and Wolverines face off at 7:30 p.m. Friday night in Ann Arbor, Mich. and 4:05 p.m. Sunday in the Joyce Center.

“I’ll be fun to get some fans here, get going,” Thang said. “And see if this can help turn the season around.”

Contact Sam Werner at swerner@nd.edu

**BOXING**

Pavlik to defend title versus Espino

Associated Press

YOUNGSTOWN, Ohio — Middleweight champion Kelly Pavlik says his left hand is finally recovered from a staph infection and he feels good heading into a Dec. 19 title defense against Miguel Espino.

Pavlik was throwing jabs with his left on Tuesday, three days after he was supposed to fight Paul Williams in defense of his WBC and WBO titles. The infection forced Pavlik to twice cancel fights, creating a backlash within the boxing community and even among his most ardent supporters.

Now Pavlik (35-1, 31 KOs) is healthy again and preparing to face Espino (20-1, 9 KOs) in a pay-per-view title defense in Pavlik’s hometown at Youngstown State University. It will come nearly 10 months after his last fight, a win over Marco Rubio on Feb. 21, and end what has become the longest layoff of his career. It also will put to rest the fears that Pavlik would never fight again.

“You get a lot of keyport pushers that sit at home on their couches and sit at home and they write that my career is over,” Pavlik said. “But they don’t know the difference between a left hook and a fishing hook.”

Jack Loew, Pavlik’s trainer, has heard all the criticism — even from fans in Pavlik’s hometown. He camp addressed rumors that Pavlik had entered rehab for alcohol abuse and was dealing with personal problems. All the rumors, they say, are false.

“I don’t understand it,” Loew said. “Here’s a kid that has done more for charities in this town than any other boxer — any other athlete — ever has. Because he’s turned down two fights and then schedules this fight, everything kind of blew up and went the opposite direction we thought it was going to go. So many people have turned on him. It hurts me because I’ve known him since he was 9 years old.”

The fight against Espino is mandatory — Pavlik would have lost his WBC and WBO belts had he again refused. Still, he wasn’t healthy when he agreed to the fight in October. He didn’t begin hitting a heavy bag until about two weeks ago, forcing him to cram a typical eight-week training camp into about five weeks.

His hand has responded better than anyone could have hoped, considering he needed two surgeries and still couldn’t make a fist with his left hand in late October, prompting the second cancellation of the Williams fight.

“I’m glad they forced it on us. We needed to get back in the ring,” Loew said.

“Even two weeks ago, we weren’t 100 percent … I was worried. We had our work cut out for us.”

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he's a good shooter.”

Hunter cited Hansbrough’s effect on how the defense guards the rest of the Irish as important.

“He will make [senior forward Lake] Harangody’s shot a lot easier because you can’t double on him,” he said.

IU fell in 8-3 in the loss.

Junior forward Tim Abromaitis scored 18 points in his second straight start. In his first start, a 90-72 win at home over Central Florida Sunday, he scored 31 points on 10-17 shooting and made eight of his nine free throw attempts.

Abromaitis started over guard Jonathan Peoples, who came in off the bench.

“I’ve been comfortable – all year out there, I think,” Abromaitis said. “It’s just confidence from coaches and other players on the team just translating to me being a little bit more loose out there and ready to go.”

Hansbrough, called Abromaitis the best backdoor cutter he’d ever seen. Brey said he liked the production from Abromaitis but still rode him about some of the finer points.

“I thought he was a little tentative with the ball against their zone,” he said, but noted that he was “thrilled” with Abromaitis.

Harangody scored 16 points and had 11 rebounds. His reduced scoring was partly a function of the Jaguars’ match-up zone defense, but Harangody handled it well, Brey said.

“We couldn’t get [Harangody] as many touches in the zone,” Brey said. “He didn’t panic because he wasn’t getting touches.”

Harangody was fine with being the third-leading scorer, an unusual role for him.

“It’s a great thing to have these weapons around us,” he said. “That never happened a lot last year. It takes a lot of pressure off myself.”

The Irish moved the ball well and looked comfortable playing with another. They had 22 assists as a team, a season high, and out-rebounded the Jaguars 41-32.

“We’re a great passing team,” junior forward Tyrone Nash said. “From the one to the five we can all pass.”

The starters, plus Peoples and junior forward Carleton Scott, have begun to mesh into a group used to playing together, Brey said.

“I thought this was another night starting with the Saint Louis game ... where the seven guys all complemented each other and knew who they were,” he said. “You want to keep building the seven-man group.”

The Irish jumped ahead 11-2 and led by seven for most of the first half. Abromaitis dunk and 3-pointer gave the Irish a 33-17 lead with 7.15 left in the half.

Near the end of the half, Hansbrough sank two free throws and a transition layup off of a long pass from Harangody to make the score 44-21.

IU utilized struggled to make shots in the first half. The Jaguars, who shot 51.1 percent from field goal range prior to Wednesday’s game, made only 25.9 percent of their shots in the first half.

The Irish made 53 percent of their first-half shots. Hansbrough had 15 first-half points and made 3-of-4 3-point attempts.

Notre Dame led by 27 in the second half, but eight straight points from Glenn and a 3-pointer from Young cut the lead to 16.

When asked if he was worried about giving up 48 second-half points, Brey said, “Not really. Not if we can score 50.”

“I told the team we got 20 minutes to get better,” he said of his halftime speech. “Ignore the score.”

Abromaitis’ 3-pointer and senior guard Tony Jackson’s layup edged the lead back to 21, and Scott tipped in a missed free throw to give Notre Dame a 64-40 lead with 13:04 remaining.

Notre Dame plays Loyola-Marymount Saturday, and then has a week off before UCLA visits South Bend on Dec. 19.

Contact Bill Brink at wbrink@nd.edu

**Note:**

- Harangody’s 16 points moved him into fifth place on Notre Dame’s all-time scoring list with 2,070 points.
- He passed Troy Murphy, who had 2,058, and has Pat Garrity (2,085) in his sights.

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**Break**

continued from page 24

McGraw said, “It’s a nice trip to Florida, too. But when you come around finals, you really don’t want to travel.”

Notre Dame has been sluggish in two close wins over Iona and Eastern Michigan, with Scott taking a lackluster start to rout IPFW 96-60 Tuesday. McGraw said the game might have acted as a spark for the team.

“I think they liked the way they played a little bit more defensively, they played really well,” she said. “We can’t become complacent even though we press looked good, we turned them over a lot, I think they’re probably going to take a year of confidence.”

Virginia (3-4) is coming off of a 77-52 loss to No. 15/15 Pittsburgh. The Crusaders will enter the Purcell Pavilion in its second of three straight road games against Big East teams.

The Crusaders bring a challenge in the back court and in the paint, according to Brey. Adams leads the team with 17.1 points per game, and forward Lee Kenney is right behind her with 16. Kenney is 40-of-76 shooting (52.6 percent) in seven games this season.

“Our intensity’s good right now,” McGraw said. “I think we’re pretty focused, despite the finals looming. I think they’ve done a really good job of putting that aside for now and hopefully we’ll be ready to play.”

The game begins at 2 p.m. Charlotte will come to South Bend on Dec. 20 for a 1 p.m. game. Then IU (4-5) has three straight after a rough start to the season and will play one more game before traveling to Notre Dame.

After that game, the Irish will have over a week off for Christmas, and will head to Orlando on Dec. 29 to play Central Florida. It will be the fourth straight home game for the Knights, who lost 62-59 heartbreaker to Washington in their last contest.

The game will begin at noon.

The Irish will play No. 14/16 Vanderbilt just two days later in South Bend in a 2 p.m. start. The Commodores (8-1) will present a significant challenge to the Irish offense, who will need to recover quickly. So far in the season, Vanderbilt has allowed just 59 points per game, while scoring 76.4. Their defense averages 10.1 steals and 23.6 forced turnovers per game.

Notre Dame’s first game of 2010 will be Jan. 4 against Purdue and will be nationally televised on ESPN. The Hoosiers (3-5) began the season ranked at No. 23 but have had a disappointing start, including recent losses to then-No. 14/15 Virginia and Northwestern. The game, which begins at 7 p.m., will be the second straight home game for Purdue. It will also be both teams’ last game on the non-conference schedule.

Upon returning to South Bend for the beginning of the spring semester, the Irish will take on their first Big East team, Villanova on Jan. 9.

“We’re trying to get through the non-conference part of the schedule and then head into Big East play.”

“We look at it as three different seasons, the non-conference, the Big East and then the ACC. We want to finish strong in the non-conference so we can get ready for Big East.”

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Cincinnati coach Brian Kelly points as he works the sideline during the Bears' 45-44 win over Pittsburgh on Dec. 5.

Kelly continued from page 24 since its opening. Over the last few days, coaches have been quick to withdraw themselves from the discussion. Urban Meyer was the first to do so, followed by Iowa's Kirk Ferentz and finally Bob Stoops. After a week of rumors that Stoops was interested, the Oklahoma coach issued a firm denial, leaving Swarbrick and Notre Dame fans with their focus on Kelly.

The Bearcats coach has been the hot name for good reason. Kelly led Cincinnati to a 12-0 season this year, along with a second consecutive Big East Championship and BCS bowl berth. Critics will doubt his ability to recruit, or that he can translate winning his team. They'll point to his similarities with Weis — a strong offensive scheme with a struggling defense.

But in reality, Kelly is extremely different from Weis in all the right ways. He has motivated and coached his less-talented players to wins over ranked opponents. Defensively his teams have been underrated, letting up just over 20 points per game in 2009 and ranking in the top 10 nationally in sacks and tackles for loss despite losing 10 starters from last year. Kelly's offensive abilities are unquestioned. The Bearcats offense has been one of the most potent in college football, and when first-year starting quarterback Tony Pike went down, backup Zach Collaros and the offense didn't skip a beat.

His teams have been disciplined and overachieved for their level of talent, a sign of coaching ability rarely, if ever, seen at Notre Dame since the Holtz era. And unlike Weis, Kelly is a proven winner at the college level, with just one losing record in 19 seasons as a head coach.

Kelly has won at every stop, and as good a hire as any one could expect. The arrogance and ludicrous expectations of some fans will leave them dissatisfied with anyone that isn't a coaching star like Meyer, Stoops or Saban, but no coaches just pack up and leave top programs, not even for tempting destinations with the tradition of Notre Dame. Thankfully, it appears there have been serious talks between Swarbrick and Kelly. There appears to be mutual interest, although in this clandestine coaching search it seems every nearly report is contradicted or denied the next day (sorry Adam Schefter and Joe Schad). If Kelly isn't hired though, which should be completed by the end of the week if it will ever happen, it will be time to panic. After three consecutive failed coaching hires, Notre Dame badly needs to nail its one.

And if not Kelly, there's no one left. That's not to say there is no other available coach who couldn't turn the program around, but there is no coach with the winning history and talent of Kelly that can immediately stabilize the program.

Randy Edsall is by all accounts a great guy and good coach, but Notre Dame needs a great one. And if people think Kelly will struggle with recruiting, how many current commits do you think know who Edsall is?

If Kelly is not the answer, it means that again Notre Dame has botched the coaching search. Maybe they should have reached out to candidates earlier, or compromised with other coaches supposed demands, but whatever the case, anything less than Kelly will send the message that once again, Notre Dame has made a faulty hire.

The views expressed in this column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer.
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See Also
ndmconsol ovar.com for full and continued coverage of the Notre Dame coaching staff

FOOTBALL

Akron names Ianello head coach

Observer Staff Report

Notre Dame interim coach Bob Ianello will be the next head coach at Akron, the school announced late Wednesday.

Ianello will replace the fired J.D. Brookhart, who had a disappointing 3-9 record with the Zips last season.

During the Charlie Weiss era, Ianello served as the wide receivers coach and recruiting coordinator, helping Notre Dame to land four top-15 national recruiting classes.

Ianello is expected to be officially introduced at a press conference at noon today.

Ianello had served as the interim head coach for the short period after Weiss firing.

“I am a skilled coach and has played a central role in coordinating our recruiting, and I know he will provide us with the leadership we need going forward between this period of time and when we have a new coach in place,” director of athletics Jack Swarbrick said at last Monday’s press conference.

As a receivers coach, Ianello has coached some of the great receivers in program history, including Jeff Samardzija, Maurice Stovall, Golden Tate and Michael Floyd.

Ianello described his role as interim coach at last week’s press conference.

“We’ll have a three-fold thing right now,” Ianello said. “First of all, to supply the support to our current student-athletes that they need during this current transition.”

The second thing is to help secure the recruiting that we have so far… And the third thing is supply any support that I have for our coaches and our support staff and our administrative staff during this time [of transition]. So that’s how I see it breaking down.”

Ianello spent the past week and a half coordinating working on recruits despite his uncertain future.

“There are great resources that the University has and those things won’t change,” Ianello said. “I think the message is clear to the guys we’re dealing with at this time, and that will be what we go throughout the country and be on the forefront here in the next few weeks.

Ianello also said at the press conference that while recruiting he would look to “reach out to some other people to secure our future.”

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Contact Michael Bryan at mbryan@nd.edu

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Ending it early

Hot first half shooting leads ND over Jaguars

By BILL BRINK
Sports Writer

IU coach Ron Hunter knew he was in trouble quickly Wednesday night.

“When you see the ball going in early it makes a difference,” he said. “The ball was going in early for them.”

Especially for senior guard Ben Hansbrough, who scored 22 points during Notre Dame’s 93-70 win over the IU team at Purcell Pavilion Wednesday. Hansbrough made 6-of-8 field goals and 8-of-10 free throw attempts. “I like the fact that (Hansbrough) took jump shots he had,” Irish coach Mike Brey said. “When he’s got an open look, he’s got to take it because he’s got to get back to the top of the CCHA standings, and there’s no better weekend to start than this one.”

Notre Dame (4-4-2 CCHA, 7-7-4 overall) is tied for fifth in the conference, 10 points behind Miami (Ohio). The Irish aren’t the only traditional power underperforming this season, though.

Michigan (4-6-0 CCHA, 8-8-0 overall) has slid all the way to 10th in the conference. After two wins over Lake Superior State — in which the Wolverines scored 11 total goals — Michigan dropped five straight games against Miami (Ohio), Michigan State and Bowling Green.

Red Berenson’s squad has rebounded to take three of its last four, but the Wolverines need a prolonged winning streak to break back into the CCHA’s elite ranks.

“Michigan’s had some struggles, just like us,” senior center Bryan Thang said. “But they’re very talented offensively. In a way they’re just like us.”

Michigan holds a 46-47-5 lifetime advantage over the Irish in Notre Dame’s longest-running hockey rivalry.

In the teams’ last meeting, though, the Irish took the win on the conference’s biggest stage. Despite trailing 2-0 in the second period, Notre Dame scored five unanswered goals to claim a 5-2 victory in last year’s CCHA Championship at Joe Louis Arena in Detroit.

The win gave Notre Dame its second conference crown and a 2-1 win in the season series over the Wolverines.

The Irish will face a familiar face between the pipes this weekend in junior Wolverine netminder Bryan Hogan. Despite a wealth of experience, Hogan has struggled this season, posting a 2.71 goals against average, 10th in the CCHA.

Up front, junior Carl Hagelin leads an offensive attack that has averaged 2.6 goals per game in the CCHA season. Hagelin and freshman Chris Brown have each posted 15 points on the season, tops in the team. Defensively, the Wolverines sport the league’s toughest penalty killing unit, successfully shutting down 90.4 percent of opponents’ powerplays.

“We really need to get the key guys back,” coach Mike Brey said. "They’ve been our strength all year long. We’ve gotta get them back before we can win again.

Kelly the right pick for ND job

Ten days after the announcement of the dismissal of Charlie Weis, and still no one knows who will be the next Irish head coach, what is clear now, however, is that Director of Athletics Jack Swarbrick and the Irish have only two possible names left to search:

Brian Kelly or Rusty Blotsky.

The Cincinnati coach has been the hot name for the job ever since the crushing loss to Navy, and has been the odds-on favorite to win the job.

Irish look to get back in CCHA race against Michigan

By SAM WERNER
Associate Sports Editor

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