Ok Go releases video with ND Band
"This Too Shall Pass" premiere; participants pleased with results, excited to see finished version

By AMANDA GRAY
News Writer

The music group OK Go released the music video for their single "This Too Shall Pass," featuring members of the Notre Dame Marching Band, on Jan. 12, according to the group's Web site.

Members of the Notre Dame Marching Band were excited to see the finished version of the music video.

"Though we got to see an early version of the video after we were done filming, it was great to see the finished product," sophomore and piccolo player Alice Harada said. "It's a really creative idea and I'm glad it turned out as well as it did."

Junior and trombonist Andrew Jones was also satisfied with the outcome.

"I have seen the finished video a few times, and I am very happy with it," Jones said. "I'm relieved to see that our days of work weren't for nothing, and the video was even better than I expected."

OK Go is known for its creative music videos filmed in a single take, including the popular "OK Go on Treadmills" for the song "Here It Goes Again."

Drum major and senior Aaron Hernandez was satisfied with the final video.

"I thought it came out really well," Hernandez said. "I'm pleased on how they edited it. They couldn't edit the video a lot — because it was one continuous take — but the sound and the particular take that they chose I really enjoyed."

Hernandez said the near week of production during last semester's Fall Break was long and painstaking, but made bearable by friends.

"On Sunday (of Fall Break), just a few of us were in the field to figure out where to go. Monday and Wednesday were figuring out what to do. The

Alumnae launch volunteer program in Guatemala

By AMANDA GRAY
News Writer

Recent Notre Dame graduates founded HANDS Organization — a volunteering-oriented venture based in the United States and Guatemala — co-founder, director and 2008 graduate Mariana Diaz said.

"We incorporated HANDS in Indiana in February 2009. Along the way, we participated in the Notre Dame Business Competition, we made it to the finals which helped us develop our model," Diaz said. "As we received a lot of support, when the girls graduated, we decided to open a branch in Guatemala to promote that culture of volunteering that exists in other countries. We incorporated in July 2009 and inaugurated the branch last December."

HANDS has its roots both at Notre Dame and the country of Guatemala — all three of its founders attended the University and are Guatemalan.

"The organization was legally
INSIDE COLUMN

Loyal Coach Kelly

“Lane Kiffin, Bobby Petrino, Rich Rodriguez, Brian Kelly and Nick Saban— all top coaches whose combined lies could outweigh an ocean liner,” seethed ESPN.com’s (and Tennessee graduate) Gene Wojciechowski.

In an article describing Kiffin as “the most disgusting-ly hypocritical” coach in college sports, CSN.com columnist Gregg Easterbrook rhetorically asked after Pete Carroll’s hire by the Seahawks. In addition to the columns and articles dismembering Kiffin for leaving Tennessee at a bad time after only 14 months, Internet message boards and discussion forums are aflame with vitriol directed at USC’s new coach. In seemingly every opinion, the writer has drawn a comparison from Kiffin to other “scum-bag” coaches, including our new hire, Brian Kelly.

As a Notre Dame fan who stopped everything to watch Kelly’s introductory press conference — and loved what he said — this is disheartening, to say the least. Is Kelly no better than Saban, who jumped from LSU to the NFL to Alabama, least. Is Kelly no better than Saban, who has accused of NCAA violations, and he took a job that was in every way better

Not the case. This has been Kelly’s dream job since his childhood. Only Kiffin can say if he’s taken a job that was in every way better than his previous job. The other coaches? Not the case. This has been Kelly’s dream job since his childhood. Only Kiffin can say he was being offered for his dream job — but he only developed that “dream” as a member of Carroll’s coaching staff less than ten years ago. In addition, Notre Dame has never had a “weasel coach” — the requirements for the job here to a large extent prevent that.

But yes, that nagging feeling won’t go away.

“The news from Central Michigan after three years because money was wavered. Does anyone seriously think he won’t shaft Notre Dame if money is wavered again? Kelly misled his Cincinnati players, then abandoned them the instant it benefitted him. He’s a promise-breaker. Notre Dame, that’s the kind of person you want running your program,” asked Easterbrook. For now, let’s reserve judgment till all is said and done. I’m going to hope for the best, and I’m going to support Coach Kelly 100 percent because I do believe that he’ll be loyal to this school. But, on the unfortunate chance that the Internet critics are right, let’s not act like we didn’t see it coming.

The voices expressed in the Inside Column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer. Contact Allan Joseph at ajoseph29@nd.edu.

QUESTION OF THE DAY: What was the highlight of your break?

Albert Garcia sophomores O’Neill

Calvin Nicholas junior Pagehorn

Brian Schwartz freshman Fisher

Cara Norton junior Cavagnale

Patrick Lane junior off campus

IN BRIEF

An exhibit titled “New Faces” will be held in the bist Gallery in O’Shaughnessy Hall. The exhibit will be open all day today. Admission is free.

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

A lecture titled “Extra-System Electoral Volatility” will begin at 4:30 p.m. today. The lecture will be held in C-103 in the Hesburgh Center for International Studies.

An open Hall information session will be held at 5 p.m. today. The session will be held in the Stapleton Lounge in LeMans Hall at Saint Mary’s College.

A cookies and cider event will be held at 10 p.m. today. Aces will feature live student musical performances and will be held in the LaFortune basement. Admission is free.

The Student Union Board will present the movie “The Rex” today at 10 p.m. The movie will be shown in 101 DeBartolo Hall. Admission is $1.

The Taste of the States will begin at 10 p.m. and will feature free food from across the country. It will be held in the LaFortune Ballroom, the Dooley Room and the Sorin Room. Admission is free.

The film “Extraordinary Measures” will be held today at 6:30 p.m. and 9:30 p.m. in the Browning Cinema in the DeBartolo Performing Arts Center. To reserve free tickets visit performances.nd.edu.

To submit information to be included in this section of The Observer, email detailed information about an event to observer.questions@gmail.com.

Students constructed a snowman on South Quad Wednesday, according to the South Bend Tribune, St. Joseph County experienced 25.1 inches of snowfall during the month of January.

OFFBEAT

Rescuer led to 94-year-old unconscious man by dog

“PINE CITY, Minn. — Police credit a 15-year-old German Shorthaired dog with saving the life of an elderly, unconscious man in Pine City. Brett Grinde said he took Effie out for their usual walk on Monday evening, but within a couple minutes she started pulling on the leash, wanting to go in a different direction. Effie then took off running, leading Grinde to a neighbor’s house where a 94-year-old man was face down on the drive-way. The dog started licking the man’s face. Grinde called 911, then started CPR. KARE-TV reported the elderly man, William Lepsch, regained consciousness and is in serious condition at North Memorial Medical Center. Man plans to convert home into duplex, alarmns neighbors

KNOXVILLE, Tenn. — Residents in a Knoxville’s wealthy Sequoyah Hills neighborhood are alarmed that a man wants to convert his home into a duplex and run a music studio and fertility service out of it. The Knoxville News Sentinel reported David Perkins is asking the Metropolitan Planning Commission to allow the change, saying he wants to operate businesses that would involve music lessons and the coordinating of two fertility services. “We are very much opposed to all of this,” said Jim Bleiter, board member of the Kingston Pike Sequoyah Hills Association. “Man who said members would appear before the commission on Thursday to speak against Perkins’ proposal.”

Information compiled from the Associated Press.

Today’s weather

TODAY TOMORROW FRIDAY SATURDAY SUNDAY MONDAY

HIGH 37 35 28 LOW 25 22 18 16

HIGH 32 30 28 LOW 25 22 18 16

HIGH 30 29 25 LOW 22 19 16 16

HIGH 31 29 25 LOW 16 13 16 16

HIGH 33 30 27 LOW 22 19 16 16

HIGH 25 22 18 LOW 16 13 16 16

HIGH 27 25 22 LOW 16 13 16 16

HIGH 28 25 22 LOW 16 13 16 16

LOCAL WEATHER


Have an idea for Question of the Day? E-mail observer.questions@gmail.com.
By CASEY KENNY
News Writer

Notre Dame’s recent launch of an online virtual campus tour allows students, alumni and visitors alike to experience the architecture, beauty and spirit of the University campus.

The virtual tour on the University Web site features many prominent campus locations using multimedia techniques to display life at Notre Dame.

The tour includes academic buildings, residence halls, student social facilities and athletic facilities, ranging from DeBartolo Hall to Rolfs Sports and Recreational Center to the Main Building.

Descriptions of the landmarks and locations are integrated with interior and exterior photos, as well as student-led video tours.

“No one can visit campus as often as they would like,” Beth Grisoli of AgencyND said. “This virtual tour brings the spirit of Notre Dame to them.”

The virtual tour features the work of University photographer Matthew Cashore, including his aerial views or his 360-degree panoramic photos of such landmarks as the Basilica of the Sacred Heart, the Grotto of Our Lady of Lourdes and a packed Notre Dame Stadium as the Irish prepared to receive a game’s opening kick.

According to Cashore, the online tour is a result of a need and an idea for a solution coming together at the perfect time.

“I had been experimenting with panoramas for several weeks before I knew about the Virtual Tour project and it seemed like a perfect fit to add them to the mix of visual elements,” Cashore said. “I think of places that lend themselves well to a 360-degree view, such as the Main Building rotunda, or other campus locations that people can’t easily get to but would like to experience, such as the inside of the locker room.”

The response to the Web site has been positive and the University plans to continually update it with new photos and features.

“The site is dynamic and we aim to add interactive elements to the site in the future, such as a way to post one’s own memories about locations,” Grisoli said. “People are quite excited about this new feature and we hope it will continue to conjure up feelings that express the beauty and spirit of campus.”

Student feedback about the virtual tour matches Grisoli’s enthusiasm.

“I really like the 360-degree panoramas,” sophomore Kevin Brainard said. “They give a complete view of the locations and allow you to really explore them.”

Junior Rob Steward believes the online tour could also help with recruiting.

“It’s a great idea that Notre Dame is trying to play up the visuals of Notre Dame since they are one of the University’s greatest assets.”

Rob Steward junior

The Golden Dome as shown on the University’s new virtual tour. The tour offers 360-degree panoramic photos of the campus.

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The Golden Dome as shown on the University’s new virtual tour. The tour offers 360-degree panoramic photos of the campus.

By SARAH MAYER
News Writer

Saint Mary’s College sophomore Cat Cleary co-facilitated the “Women’s Issues in the Urban Environment” conference run out of the Indianapolis Peace Institute in Indianapolis over Winter Break.

The program was designed to be a service-learning experience that incorporates direct service, visits to non-profit organizations and guest speakers.

The week-long program explored issues of women who live in the city of Indianapolis — including domestic violence, homelessness, HIV and STIs, and immigration.

Sixteen other students attended the conference from the University of Wisconsin-Madison, Saint Rose College in Albany, New York, Cleary was the only Saint Mary’s attendee.

Due to her prior experience, Cleary helped run the conference.

“I had taken a similar alternative break trip through the Indianapolis Peace Institute last Spring Break and had done a service trip over Thanksgiving,” Cleary said. “I was familiar with the organization.”

Cleary said every time she leaves these conferences she feels more passionate and energized about women’s issues. Her first trip had a major impact on choosing to be a Women’s Studies major, which she is designing herself at the College.

“Now that I have taken it a second time, I am starting to focus more on the issues and groups that are major and interests can take me,” Cleary said.

Cleary said it is also nice she gets to return to Saint Mary’s, an all-female environment and she comes back with ideas to enhance the College.

Some of my many ideas are to start a Peace Garden on campus, develop a women’s empowerment grant program, and student drive for the inmates at the Indiana Women’s Prison,” Cleary said.

Also off campus, she is working to challenge gender roles in the primary grades by encouraging girls to participate in more masculine activities.

“Currently, I am helping put on a girls’ only All Coquillard Primary Center — a Title I school — to empower third and fourth grade girls to think about and get interested in science,” Cleary said.

In every location where she goes she feels she is a representative of Saint Mary’s because the conference especially it was interesting to receive insight into other colleges.

These trips have made me increasingly more aware of how fortunate and blessed I am to live the life that I do,” Cleary said.

“They reignite my passion for social justice and cause me to think critically about the world I live in.”

Contact Sarah Mayer at smayer01@saintmarys.edu

Opportunity available for research students

Special to The Observer
Students looking for an opportunity to showcase their statistical research as undergraduates — and who want to stand out from the crowd after graduation — may want to take a suggestion from Thomas Foote, an assistant professor in the Department of Economics and Econometrics.

The competition is open to undergraduates of any major across campus.

“I would absolutely encourage people to enter the competition,” said Foote, a 2009 Notre Dame graduate who earned bachelor’s degrees in economics and finance. “It’s very rewarding and a great capstone experience to your time at Notre Dame.”

The Bernoulli Awards aim to encourage research among undergraduates that is worthy of being published in peer-reviewed journals, explains Richard Jensen, chair of the Department of Economics and Econometrics.

Each year, the competition’s panel of judges decides how many papers — if any — earn the available prizes, which include:

First prize and $5,000 for a student whose paper meets the standards required for submission to a leading peer-reviewed journal.

Second prize and $2,500 for a student whose paper could be submitted to such a journal after revision.

Honorable mention and $1,000 for a student whose paper, while perhaps not publishable in a leading journal, still exceeds the level of research expected from a senior thesis.

The goal, Jensen says, is to push students to learn how to conduct statistical research, a skill that will pay dividends in a variety of fields, including business, engineering and mathematics.

The competition is sponsored by an anonymous donor who made a gift with a request that a student whose paper is a Bernoulli Awards winner receive a cash prize.

The anonymous donor who funds these awards uses statistical analysis in his own financial management, Jensen said. “Many businesses want students who have developed skills in statistical analysis, and students cannot succeed in graduate programs in many disciplines without these skills.”

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Schmidt said, “The biggest thing but this survey is a much bigger survey. Schmidt noted the survey is similar to last year’s student census, but an 11th-hour deal and focuses more on student services on campus. My job is to represent the concern of students by taking their suggestions and questions,” Schmidt said. “The biggest thing is that the University consults the student body frequently and have plans of action in mind after the survey is completed.” Schmidt said while the survey is an honest evaluation of things that need improvement, it also highlights positive aspects of campus life, such as the Career Center and Funding Services. According to Sama, once the survey ends, the results will be reviewed and the spring semester with the campus units. The units will collaborate during spring and summer to address the results and action plans for those areas that call for improvement. Both Schmidt and Sama said all issues that need improvement would have to be thoroughly considered on the campuses and in general need. Once these areas are addressed, the University and the campus units involved in the survey will be able to proactively use the results of the survey to improve campus life.

There is no set time in which this change will occur because the survey results will be analyzed in terms of trends and groups, such as male responses and female responses or responses from students living on and off campus.

The final results will not be available until later in the semester. The ultimate impact and effectiveness of the survey depends primarily on student responses. Ideally, administrators hope the entire student population will take the survey. So far, 33 percent of under graduates and 46.5 percent of law students have completed the survey. Graduate students received their invitation this week.

“We truly hope to see as high a percent-age participation as possible, and at a minimum we are hoping for a sizable majority of students to provide their feedback on the survey.”

Julie Sama
administrator of the survey project

“OK Go didn’t set it – it was different, exciting, creating it as we went along.” Hernandez was part of the creative experience when he changed the role in the video. “I was originally going to be on a laptop, but a decision was made when we were all tired after so much.” Hernandez said. “The early parts of the video were exciting.” Both Harada and Jones were part of the creative experience when they had the lead singer of OK Go like me going into the camera,” Hernandez said. “That decision was made on Wednesday. Thursday we had over 20 takes. Despite all of that, being around friends was what made it fun.” Harada also thought rehearsals were tedious. “My favorite part of the production was being able to work with a Grammy-winning band and video team,” Jones said. “The members of OK Go were very approachable and fun to collaborate with. After seeing the great work they have accomplished in the past, I wanted to be a part of it.” Both Harada and Jones were Band members in bleachers. Gildner was one of the “gillies,” or individuals in green costumes. “I actually was one of the people in the gilly suits, which turned out to be a lot of work since our part happened earlier in the video,” Gildner said. “We ended up rehearsing a lot more, and doing more run-throughs. Wearing the suit was definitely an interesting experience, although covering your face made it difficult to play your instrument.”

Contact Amanda Gray at agray3@nd.edu

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Contact Kristen Durbin at kdurbin@nd.edu

ImproveND survey to address issues

By KRISTEN DURBIN
News Writer

The Office of Strategic Planning and Institutional Research is conducting several ImproveND surveys to effectively address the many aspects of campus life at Notre Dame. These surveys solicit both student input on campus life and contributions from more than 20 campus units.

Every survey — which students can complete through Jan. 29 — includes a wide variety of questions pertaining to nearly all aspects of campus life. In addition, these questions vary for undergraduate, graduate and professional students at the University. Comment boxes are included at the end of the survey so students can provide their feedback, express their unique views and opinions on the topics covered by the survey, and provide comments pertaining to any aspect of campus life.

“The goal of ImproveND is to comprehensively assess the effectiveness of internal co-curricular and extra-curricular services provided to Notre Dame students.”

Julie Sama
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Williams continued from page 1

Iraq and the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks.

His coverage of the devast-

ation of Hurricane Katrina earned him praise and several awards.

The New York Times described his coverage of the hurricane’s impact as “a defining moment as a network reporter and anchor.”

He joined NBC news in 1993 after working for seven years as a correspondent and anchor for CBS news, where he covered the fall of the Berlin Wall in 1989.

Williams is not the first jour-

nalist to deliver the Notre Dame Commencement address. Tom Brokaw gave the address in 1993, and Tim Russert spoke to the Class of 2002. William F. Buckley Jr. delivered the Commencement address in 1978 and Mark Shields in 1997.

President Barack Obama delivered last year’s Commencement speech, an invitation that generated nationwide controversy regarding the president’s views on religion. Williams has received several awards for anchoring and reporting, including four Edward R. Murrow awards, five Emmy Awards, the duPont-Columbia University Award, the 2009 Walter Cronkite Award for Excellence in Journalism and the industry’s highest honor, the George Foster Peabody Award.

Early in his career at NBC, Williams was named chief Washington correspondent and covered the Clinton administration.

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He has also worked in Africa, covering issues such as AIDS, poverty and disease. Williams was one of the first network evening anchors to report to the 2001 tsunami in Indonesia, where he related recovery and relief efforts. He also covered the deaths of Princess Diana and John F. Kennedy Jr., as well as the funeral of Pope John Paul II.

Currently, Williams is cover-

ing the destruction in Haiti after Wednesday’s earth-

quake.

He is a frequent guest on “The Daily Show with Jon Stewart.” “The Tonight Show with Late Night with Jimmy Fallon” and “The Late Show with David Letterman,” and has made cameos appearances on NBC’s “30 Rock.”

Williams attended George Washington University and the Catholic University of America.

Contact Madeline Buckley at mbuckley@nd.edu

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The Observer ◆ CAMPUS NEWS

Thursday, January 14, 2010

Page 6
NATIONAL NEWS

Mexican authorities arrested a drug lord

Tijuana — It will take more than a few arrests to disrupt drug kingpins to end the vicious cycle of drug violence plaguing Mexico.

While “El Teo” Teodoro Garcia Simental was the fourth major trafficking suspect to be apprehended this year, drug lord Felipe Calderon launched a major offensive three years ago, 20 more high-profile drug lords have been killed, including billionaire Joaquin “El Chapo” Guzman, the leader of the vast Sinaloa Cartel — reportedly on orders from President Calderon.

And the vacuum created by Garcia’s arrest Tuesday in Baja California is expected to fuel a battle for the drug lord’s turf.

“I know that politicians are making a big deal about this arrest, but honestly there is a line of ill-intentioned people who wanted to take the place of that man,” said Dulce Gonzalez Armenta, a 25-year-old recessionist in Tijuana. “Not only do I believe this will not bring peace to Baja California, but I also think it will only end up creating more violence.”

Israel to expel U.S. journalist

JERUSALEM — Security officials said Wednesday that an American journalist has been detained at Israel’s Ben-Gurion Airport and will be expelled.

They said the journalist, identified by the Associated Press as Jared Mahin, raised security suspicions during an initial investigation upon his arrival. The Interior Ministry decided he would not be permitted to enter or remain in detention until his expulsion.

LOCAL NEWS

Teen slaps fellow student

PORT WASHINGTON — Police say a 14-year-old boy who had a folder student in the neck during a confrontation in the cafeteria of a Fort Wayne high school.

The 17-year-old victim was hospitalized after the magnitude-7 quake flattened much of the capital of 2 million people.

The funding is from the U.S. Department of Education’s “Race to the Top” program, a $55 billion competitive fund that will award grants to states to improve education quality and results. The program, created in the economic stimulus law, is part of Democratic President Barack Obama’s efforts to overhaul the nation’s schools.

Perry has been critical of the federal stimulus program and the federal bailout of the nation’s financial institutions. He previously turned down $5.5 billion in federal stimulus money for the state’s unemployment fund because it would require Texas to expand its unemployment benefits.

However, the state did accept billions of dollars of federal stimulus money to help balance its two-year budget in 2009.

Perry said next to Texas Education Commissioner Robert Scott and representatives of teachers’ unions and said taking the money would force the state to adopt national education standards and result in Texas losing its autonomy in educating its children.

The education program is pushing for a link between student test scores and teacher pay. Other reforms it is asking is pushing for a link between student test scores and teacher pay. Other reforms it is asking for include turning around the lowest-achieving schools and building new systems that measure student growth and success and inform teachers and principals about how they can improve instruction.

Leaders in states such as Michigan and Wisconsin have been pushing hard for lawmakers to overhaul their education systems so they have a better chance at qualifying for the money. At least 10 states have changed laws banning the use of student test scores to judge teachers, eased charter school restrictions or backed off budget cuts to boost their chances.

Perry said Texas’ education system is doing well under state and local control — standardized test scores are up, the dropout rate is down and Texas has been recognized as one of only four states that is closing the achievement gap in math. The grant program doesn’t remove schools from state and local control but it gives Obama considerable leverage as he pushes education reform.

“Here in Texas, we don’t have broad consensus on every issue facing our school system,” Perry said. “We do agree we’d rather work those differences out in Texas with solutions that work for Texans instead of accepting a top down mandate from some distant bureaucrats.”

Texas Democrats were quick to criticize Perry’s decision.

State Rep. Jim Dunnam, D-Waco, said he didn’t agree with all of Race to the Top’s mandates, but the grants could help the state lower the achievement gap and better prepare Texas children for college.

By throwing in the towel before the competition has even begun, Gov. Perry has officially won the race to the bottom,” said Dunnam, chairman of the House Select Committee on Federal Economic Stabilization Funding.

But several teachers’ unions and groups promoting fiscal responsibility supported Perry’s decision, saying the state’s curriculum serves students well and they have no interest in the federal government dictating teaching practices.

The dollars being dangled have far too many strings attached and for Texas the price would be far too high,” said Jeri Stone, executive director of the Texas Classroom Teachers Association.

HATI

Death to rises in Haitian earthquake

Cox's ruling federal takeover of current state public school system

Governor cites increasing federal takeover of current state public school system

Texas decides decline education funds

Gov. Rick Perry speaks during a news conference Wednesday in Houston, Texas announcing his state will not compete for federal stimulus money for education.

Associated Press

HOUSTON — Texas won’t compete for up to $700 million in federal stimulus money for education because the program “smacks of a money-grab race to the top” of public schools, said Gov. Rick Perry.

“The funding is from the U.S. Department of Education’s “Race to the Top” program, a $55 billion competitive fund that will award grants to states to improve education quality and result. The program, created in the economic stimulus law, is part of Democratic President Barack Obama’s efforts to overhaul the nation’s schools.

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“By throwing in the towel

Associated Press

PORT-AL-PRINCE — Dazed survivors wandered past dead bodies in rubble-strewn streets Wednesday, crying for loved ones and searching collapsed buildings as officials feared the death toll from Haiti’s devastating earthquake could reach into the tens of thousands.

The first wave of rescue workers converged on buildings great and small — from shacks in shantytowns to President Rene Preval’s gleaming white National Palace, where a dome tilted ominously above the manicured grounds.

Hospitals, schools and the main prison collapsed. The capital’s Roman Catholic archbishop was killed when his office and the main cathedral fell. The head of the U.N. peacekeeping mission was missing in the ruins of the organization’s multistory headquarters.

At a triage center improvised in a hotel parking lot, people with cuts, broken bones and crushed ribs moaned under tent-like covers fashioned from bloody sheets.

“I can’t take it any more. My back hurts too much,” said Alex Georges, 28, who was still waiting for treatment a day after the school he was in collapsed and killed 11 classmates. “I thought I was a few feet away.”

People struggled to comprehend the extent of the catastrophe — the worst earthquake to hit the country in 200 years — even as aftershocks still reverberated.

“It’s incredible,” Preval told CNN. “A lot of houses destroyed, hospitals, schools, personal homes. A lot of people in the street dead. … I’m still looking to understand the magnitude of the event and how to manage.”
Crowley continued from page 1

said he never spent much time with “Hollywood people,” and he and his wife were “humble, confident and a little bit skeptical” when the studio and producers approached the family about telling their story on the big screen.

“It took the better part of a year for Allen and I to get comfortable with basically signing away our lives to a studio to go away to a studio to make a film about our family,” he said. “This is a profound decision. How do you make this decision for your family?”

Emotional scenes, Crowley said, were “a quiet and reserved kid,” was anxious at first, while Patrick was “wholly ambivalent” about telling his life story. “It just took to know when his friends could come over and when we could play PlayStation,” Crowley said.

According to Diaz, the organization has various organizations with programs focusing in community development, health, education, housing and infrastructure and microfinance.

“Crowley is portrayed by John Crowley, who is portrayed by John, a “quiet and reserved kid,” was anxious at first, while Patrick was “wholly ambivalent” about telling his life story. “It just took to know when his friends could come over and when we could play PlayStation,” Crowley said.

Crowley described the current research emphasis on the “Golden Age” of medicine, pointing to Haldar as a leader in that facet of what Cross Currents intends to be.

“I think one of the lessons for us is the importance of innovation and a lot of people, including myself and others, need to keep working to drive science to the next best treatment that ultimately cures an disease.”

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Crowley continued from page 1

Incorporated February 13, 2009 in Indiana, but it was born in the summer of 2008 in Guatemala in a little café, creator, director and 2009 graduate of the University of Princeton, N.J.

Crowley’s voice changes — it’s stronger, “and you can tell he’s smiling.”

“The lack of opportunities and information that there for students interested in helping led to the formation of the organization.”

“This resulted in what is HANDS today — a unique platform that promotes the development of Guatemala through a movement of volunteers. We connect volunteers with existing organizations where they can participate in service opportunities. With the help of the organization, volunteers can maximize their impact and we give others the opportunity to help make a difference.”

The group is looking for volunteers to work this summer in Guatemala, Diaz said.

“Since HANDS is in its concept, we need to know if a student’s mind works.”

The right people, including academics, are needed, to keep working to drive science to the next best treatment that ultimately cures an disease for the disease.”

Crowley said his family didn’t want to do the subject matter, because it’s an easy subject to do that if you want to,” he said.

“One of the reasons why the world is going to know us and we want to make sure that it was done the right way by the right people.”

All three of them are different, he said, and their reaction to the film is only one part of their personalities.

Patricia, a “quiet and reserved kid,” was anxious at first, while Patrick was “wholly ambivalent” about telling his life story. “It just took to know when his friends could come over and when we could play PlayStation,” Crowley said.

According to Diaz, the organization has various programs with programs focusing in community development, health, education, housing and infrastructure and microfinance.

“In order to see what programs are available, students need to let us know their interests by filling out our application through our Web site,” Diaz said.

Crowley and Diaz bosch said the organization intends to spread all over Central America, including Panama and El Salvador, most likely by 2012.

“Each time we meet new people and learn about who they are, they are heroes who have come across so many difficulties in life and yet, they are still willing to improve their living conditions and provide a better future for their children,” Diaz said.

This gives us the strength to continue working and making a strong effort to help others. When you live in a country where the incidence of poverty is everywhere you go, you realize it is your duty to make a difference.”

To learn more about HANDS, including volunteering efforts and donation opportunities, go to wwwHANDSorganization.org or e-mail info@HANDSorganization ORG.

Contact Amanda Gray at agrey3@nd.edu

Crowley continued from page 1

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The telecommunication company said Wednesday that it's making it easy to donate to Haiti, a country devastated by a January 12 earthquake, by sending a text message with the word "HAITI" to 90999. All donations received will be made to the Paris-based humanitarian organization, Doctors Without Borders, which also builds shelters for displaced people.

The company is also donating $50,000 to the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) for use in the recovery effort. The money will help pay for tents, water purification equipment and food supplies for children. The company will also support Haiti's national broadcasting company "HTV" with news satellites and live TV coverage.

It was clear that how jobs would be affected at the plant in Shreveport, which also builds Chevrolet Colorado and GMC Canyon pickup trucks, would be a key issue in the negotiations. The Hummer plant employs 1,000 people and is driven off the assembly line at the General Motors Plant in Shreveport, Louisiana. In April 2005 file photo, the first completed Hummer H3 was driven off the assembly line at the General Motors Plant in Shreveport, Louisiana. In this April 18, 2005 file photo, workers cheer as the first completed Hummer H3 hits the assembly line at the General Motors Plant in Shreveport, Louisiana.

In brief

AT&T Inc. is making it easy to donate $10 via text message to assist earthquake victims in Haiti. The wireless carrier announced Wednesday that its wireless customers can donate the money to the Red Cross by sending a text message saying "yes" to finalize the donation, which is added to their bill or deducted from the prepaid account. AT&T said all of the money will be sent onto the Red Cross. Earlier this year, AT&T gave $200,000 to the Red Cross as part of a five-year, $1 million commitment.

The company is also donating $50,000 to Telecoms Sans Frontieres, a humanitarian organization that has sent an emergency team with satellite mobile and fixed communication equipment to Haiti. AT&T also said it is donating $50,000 to Haiti relief efforts through its corporate giving program.

Hershey works on Cadbury bid

HARRISBURG, Pa. — The Hershey Co. is assembling a bid to acquire British candy maker Cadbury PLC without the help of Italian candy maker Ferrero and one on its own. The company has been working on two parallel bids to top the $16.5 billion hostile offer from American food giant Kraft, continued to defend its offer and issued an earnings forecast that may increase its bid.

Meanwhile, the company that bid first, American food giant Kraft, continued to defend its offer and issued an earnings forecast that may increase its bid. "For the long-term, we know our best opportunity to preserve jobs at the facility is the support of the sale of the Hummer brand, a transaction that appears to be on track according to GM officials, as well as to attract additional automotive tenants to fully utilize the facility," he said in a statement. "This is a temporary suspension of production and we expect the sale is going to go through," Eby said. Gerald Thomas, 60, who has worked at the plant for 26 years, said he was disappointed by the news, but he didn’t expect job cuts right now either. "I figured they’d go up to the maximum production if we sold to the Chinese, but that’s the thing, it seems like it keeps getting put off, like it’s one thing after another," Thomas said.

Hershey has been working on a bid for the British candy maker Cadbury PLC without the help of other bidders, including Italian candy maker Ferrero. The company is also assembling a bid to acquire Cadbury PLC without the help of Italian candy maker Ferrero and one on its own. The company has been working on two parallel bids to top the $16.5 billion hostile offer from American food giant Kraft, continued to defend its offer and issued an earnings forecast that may increase its bid.

GM to halt Hummer production

Louisiana plant to close due to pending sale of brand to Chinese corporation

John Dreyfus, president of the UAW Local 2166, said it was unclear how jobs would be affected at the plant in Shreveport. "It’s not an established manufacturer, something normal-ly required by Chinese governments," Wale said. "We had a speech Wednesday, the Automotive News World Congress in Detroit. "It’s a not recognized car manufacturer, and they have rules that require that people can’t just randomly go into key businesses," Wale said. "They have to get approval so that they don’t end up with too many suppliers, too many people trying to compete in each industry. It’s not a specific issue associated with Tengzhong or Hummer. It’s just its structural management of their economy."

It was unclear how jobs would be affected at the plant in Shreveport, which also builds Chevrolet Colorado and GMC Canyon pickup trucks, according to GM official, as well as to attract additional automotive tenants to fully utilize the facility," he said in a statement. "This is a temporary suspension of production and we expect the sale is going to go through," Eby said. Gerald Thomas, 60, who has worked at the plant for 26 years, said he was disappointed by the news, but he didn’t expect job cuts right now either. "I figured they’d go up to the maximum production if we sold to the Chinese, but that’s the thing, it seems like it keeps getting put off, like it’s one thing after another," Thomas said.

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Dow Jones       10,680.77 +53.51
Up   Same:     Down: Composite Volume: 2,773 147 1,051 532,808,388
AMEX         1,885.57 +11.23
NASDAQ        2,307.90 +25.59
NYSE          7,430.14 +59.69
S&P 500       1,145.68 +9.46
NIKEI (Tokyo) 10,735.03 0.00
FTSE 100 (London) 5,473.48 +25.23

GM to halt Hummer production

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In this April 18, 2005 file photo, workers cheer as the first completed Hummer H3 hits the assembly line at the General Motors Plant in Shreveport, Louisiana.

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Manhattan Declaration

One hundred fifty-two Catholic, Orthodox and Evangelical leaders recently issued the Manhattan Declaration (MD) in defense of "the sanctity of human life, the dignity of marriage as a union of husband and wife, and the freedom of conscience and religious liberty." The new declaration is crafted by Princeton Professor Robert George, Dean Timothy George of Samford University and Chuck Collins,foregrounding Viewpoint Center for Christian Worldview. Online signers of MD exceed 400,000. MD, which it is in "allusion to the origin of the lives of the unborn, the disabled, and the elderly are ... threatened..." already butchered by promiscuity, infidelity and divorce, is ...resulted in accommodatable fashionable ideologies; ...the rights of conscience are ...jeopardized by those who would ...compelled persons of faith to compromise their deepest convictions." MD relies on reason: "it cannot afford the threat of ...Benedict XVI’s view that the Church contributes to "discussion of the questions shaping America’s future by proposing respectful and reasonable arguments grounded in the natural law and confirmed by the perspective of history" (Oct. 2, 2009). MD spares neither political party: "[S]ince Roe v. Wade, ... both ... parties in the political marketplace in giving legal sanction to what Pope John Paul II described as "the culture of death." MD presents a bill of particulars: "[H]uman embryo-destructive research and its public funding are promoted ... The President and many in Congress favor ... funding of ... "therapeutic cloning" ..." the mass production of human embryos to be killed (to produce) ..."sterilized stem cell lines and tissues. At the other end of life, [a] movement to promote assisted suicide and euthanasia ... threatens the lives of the vulnerable ... persons." MD, unfortunately, misses the origins of the "culture of death." MD describes "the cheating of life that began with abortion" and "the license to kill that began with abortion" and "the license to kill that began with abortion" and "the license to kill that began with abortion" and "the license to kill that began with abortion." God, in Humanae Vitae, Pope Paul VI predicted that the acceptance of contraception would place "a dangerous weapon ... in the hands of public authorities the most personal ... sector of conjugal intimacy" (No. 17). The failure of MD, in its catalogue of legalized promotions of the "culture of death," even to mention the entry by government into the business of subsidizing contraception the rejection of new life, is inexcusable. Once that role of government was conceded, the other evils denounced by MD were predictable. Perhaps the purpose of MD was to put together a coalition of signers that would include proponents of public funding of contraception. If MD politicized and radicalized itself. On another concern of MD, same-sex marriage, the impact of contraception was spelled out by Methodist Pastor Donald Sensing of Franklin, Tenn. "Since the invention of the pill ... human beings have ... been able to control reproduction ... The acceptance of these changes is impelling the move toward illegal marriage. Men and women living together ... become the dominant lifestyle in the under 20 demographic group. In the next generation they ... control their reproductive abilities ... of the pill. The pill's success ... the arguments against homosexual consanguinity began to with ... view that the will of God. But ... sex marriage, if it comes about, will not cause the degeneration of ... marriage; it is the result of it" (Wall Street Journal, March 15, 2004). The signers of MD commendably pledge, in their perfunctory Thomas Aquinas and Martin Luther King, to disobey any edict that would compel them or their institutions to participate in "any ... act," treat "immoral sexual partnerships ... marriages or ... refrain from proclaiming the truth." They also voice a prayer for their own perseverance: "May God help us not to fail in [our] duty to proclaim the Gospel." Regrettably, MD did not further call upon the American people to pray for themselves: The Observer is the independent, daily newspaper published by Notre Dame Student Press. All opinions are those of the Editor-in-Chief Jenn Metz. All rights reserved.
The greatest fraternity

My father and mother were graduates of the Notre Dame/Saint Mary’s classes of 1917, respectively, and totally dedicated to both schools throughout their life times. I grew up with a constant stream of clergy and former classmates for dinner, picnics (the nuns didn’t come in the house in those days), assorted class activities and post football reunions. Whenever we traveled, there were alums to be visited and in times of need to be called upon for help. We, it seemed, part of a giant fraternity-sorority that proceed, I surmised later, from the friendships formed and the love expressed on these residential campuses. Friendships characterized by an extraordinary inclusiveness, which continue through life as most graduates who have traveled widely can attest.

It’s a new decade! A completely arbitrary marker on a calendar which will nevertheless enable you to resolve to become a better person, which resolution you will halfheartedly keep for the first three weeks of January. In this spirit of semi-enthusiastic self-improvement, I have drawn on my considerable and hard-won experience with social gatherings to bring you an exhaustive breakdown of how much to drink at parties. Each of the three cases below describes a party type and its corresponding, tried-and-true drinking strategy. Shainte!

Disclaimer
The scenarios described in this article are for professional drinkers of legal age, and should not be attempted by anybody, or else I will get ResLifted, as well as several starving Kenyan children. Please, think of the children.

Case One
You know nobody. All the lessons your parents have taught you about moderation are purely an illusion. Steel yourself for the social ordeal which awaits you by drinking to excess. Of course, anybody can drink a lot, but, how much of too much is enough? You may have had enough, but still have not had “enough,” if you catch my drift. There are two schools of thought on how to achieve the desired result. The first, recommended for mathematicians, physics majors and engineers (the ones most in need of this advice), is: Calculate how drunk the other partys...
By ADRIANA PRATT | Assistant Scene Editor

Too many stars, too little plot. "Nine," a musical film directed by Rob Marshall, hit theatres Christmas Day, luring audiences with passionate songs, beautiful women and fantastic costumes. One might think all these components would add up to an enchanting tale, but instead "Nine" proved that you can't judge a book by its cover.

The film detailing the life of an Italian movie director is nominated for five Golden Globes, including Best Picture (Daniel Day-Lewis and Best Actress (Marion Cotillard), but notably lacks a Best Picture nomination, for good reason. Day-Lewis, Cotillard and the slew of other noticeably brilliant actors (including Nicole Kidman, Judi Dench and Sophia Loren) performed at their peak but were given an exhaustingly long storyline that's pace only picked up when the singing and dancing began and crashed once the songs ended.

"Adapted from Arthur Kopit, Mario Fratti and Maury Yeston's musical "Nine," which was in turn adapted from Federico Fellini's film "8 1/2," the film follows the life of Guido Contini (Day-Lewis) and the trials he faces while trying to write a new film amidst temptations from women both past and present.

In "Nine," Contini, who wed one of his beautiful leading ladies, Luisa del Forno (Cotillard), suffered from a severe case of the wandering mind. His woman on the side, the sultry and seductive Carla (Penélope Cruz) clung to Contini with all her might, attempting suicide when she thought their trials were ending for good. Stephanie (Kate Hudson), an American for Vogue Magazine, attempted to bed Contini. Claudia (Nicole Kidman), another leading lady of Contini's films, confessed her love to him. No one was immune from the lure of the successful woman-izing director.

Two of the most enticing performances of the film came from Kate Hudson and Fergie. Hudson's song "Nature" was Yeston's only new addition to the musical's song list and her role for a "Best Song" Golden Globe. Fergie's role as the Italian prostitute Saraghina was both visually and vocally shocking. She gained 17 pounds for the role, which seemed to enrich the density of her voice, and bustled out an enchanting and powerful performance of the movie's richest song "Be Italian." Hudson surprised audiences with her ability to sing and dance and admit it did a decent job. While one shouldn't expect to see her stormy the Grammy stage, however, as swiftly as she were given a catchy beat that makes it one of the leading tracks on the album. Although all the songs have appealing aspects to them, two tracks were clearly flops that would look better on an Avril Lavigne or Miley Cyrus album and Boys and "Party at a Rich Dude's House" are both songs that could have been left off the album.

Guido was undeservedly spoiled by the women in his life and was unworthy of the affection thrown at him. "Nine" attempts to send this message but loses it in the muck of an unbearably drawn-out plot. YouTube the film's musical performances and you'll get the highlights without wasting the money.

Contact Adriana Pratt at apratt@nd.edu

"Nine"

By KATHERINE GREENSPON | Scene Writer

The New Year means new artists, so say goodbye to LMAO and 30H!3, and hello to the new singing sensation, Ke$ha. Ke$ha made her stoning debut on Flo Rida's track "Right Round" and after the song gained immediate popularity, critics and fans started taking notice. Flo Rida's rap and crunching beats were not what made this song stick but the mysterious female voice that haunted the chorus. Ke$ha's debut single "Tik Tok" online. This single was downloaded more than 600,000 plus times last week online. This single broke the "Right Round" chart records. Ke$ha continued to shock the public when she earned the number one spot on the Billboard Hot 100 chart. She trumps Lady Gaga, Katy Perry and Amy Winehouse with her no restraints attitude and occult lyrics that people have shockingly embraced.

The album starts off with "Your Love is My Drug," a song that proclaims her love for boys and what they have to offer. Her head-banging beats travel throughout the album, very similar to Lady Gaga's "Just Dance" and "Monster" tracks but with a little more naughtiness to them. Ke$ha seems to push the envelope a little on this album with other tracks titled "Take it Off" and "Blah Blah Blah," which are two of the known favorites on the album. "Take it Off" starts off with lyrics, "There's a place downtown where the freaks all come around," which should give people pretty clear prediction of what follows in the 14-track album. Ke$ha helped to write all the songs on the album, including the song that the album is named for, "Animal."

We were all pretty sure the trashy electro sound was dying out, including the king of New York, rapper Jay-Z with his hit song "D.O.A. (Death of a True)." which earned him a 2009's biggest hip-hop hit in the charts. Ke$ha's love for Ke$ha is set a new record on the Billboard Hot 100 chart.

"Animal" Ke$ha

Record Label: RCA

Noteworthy Tracks: "Tik Tok," "Stephen," "Take It Off," "KISS and Tell"

"Tik Tok," "Stephen," "Take It Off," "KISS and Tell"
Extraordinary Measures at DPAC. 6:30 p.m. and 9:30 p.m. “Extraordinary Measures” presents a story that will especially connect with Notre Dame students. It is based on the true story of Notre Dame alumnus John Crowley (Brendan Fraser), who risks his career to find a cure for his children’s rare and deadly genetic disease. Crowley and his wife (Keri Russell) find hope when they meet an unconventional researcher, (Harrison Ford) who may have the solution. Crowley will be present at both screenings to introduce the film. This is a great chance to see an inspiring film weeks before the rest of America can. Reserved tickets are available by calling the ticket office at DPAC.

By JORDAN GAMBLE Associate Scene Editor

On paper, it all sounds pretty tame, even lame. Gregg Gillis, aka Girl Talk, mixed together a bunch of different songs on his laptop and played the concoction in the Congress Theater in Chicago. The group starts out the show by selecting random articles from newspapers and magazines in the audience and follows with a satirical news show, à la “The Onion” or “The Colbert Report.” The fast-paced show is known for presenting a comedic spin to the even the most serious of current events. This group of quick and funny comedians will surely have the audience laughing through the night.

Tyler Hilton at Legends, 10 p.m. Singer-songwriter Tyler Hilton is playing a show Saturday night. Hilton is best known for his hits “When It Comes,” “How Love Should Be” and “You’ll Ask For Me,” as well as his acting in “One Tree Hill” and “Walk the Line.” Hilton’s music can be compared with the style of Howie Day’s, another singer-songwriter who sang a bit show at Legends last year. The smaller venue of Legends will combine perfectly with Hilton’s music to give an intimate and personal feel to the performance. Concerts on campus are rare but popular events, so you should arrive early to ensure you are able to see this young and talented performer.

Carmen: The Metropolitan Opera Live in HD at DPAC. 1 p.m. Many times, quality cultural events are only available in large cities, but Bizet’s “Carmen” will be playing at DPAC’s Browning Cinema Saturday and Sunday afternoons. Watch The Metropolitan Opera One of the world’s best, perform the story of a beautiful gypsy who seduces the soldier Don Jose, which leads to jealousy, fights and irreversible consequences. This popular opera will transport you from South Bend on a January afternoon to Seville, Spain in the 19th century. Plus, you shouldn’t have much homework to do after only one week of class. Tickets are $15 for students.

Contact Brandy Cerne at bcerne1@nd.edu
NCAA Men's Basketball

Smith leads Blue Devils in dominant win over Eagles

Associated Press

DURHAM, N.C. — Nolan Smith scored 24 points to help eighth-ranked Duke bounce back from a weekend loss and beat Boston College 79-59 on Wednesday night.

Kyle Singler added 15 points for the Blue Devils (14-2, 2-1 Atlantic Coast Conference), who pushed ahead for good late in the first half and pulled away in the opening minutes after the break.

Boston College scored 20 points for the Eagles (10-7, 1-2), but he BC's only double-digit scorer.

While Boston College held up through the first 15 minutes or so, the Blue Devils' pressure defense finally started to make a difference late in the first half. Duke held Boston College without a field goal for nearly eight minutes, so long that Duke was able to turn a two-point deficit late in the half into a 46-35 edge on Singler's alley-oop dunk off a feed from Smith with 17.0 left in the game.

The lead reached 54-37 before Tyus Rose broke the drought with a pair of free throws from the line, and Smith added two more before the break to give the Blue Devils a 17-point halftime lead.

Virginia shot a season-low 26 percent (6 for 23) from 3-point range in the first half, including 3-20 since joining the ACC's leader in 3-pointers this season.

Virginia limited USF (10-4, 2-0 Atlantic Coast Conference) to 19 points in the second half and scored 20 in the period. The Hokies (13-2, 4-1 Big East) erased an 18-point deficit in the first half with Ebanks scoring eight in a 16-2 surge that enabled the Mountaineers to open a 46-32 lead with 14 minutes to go.

West Virginia (13-2, 1-AC) had 11 points.

Virginia bounced back from a 70-68 road loss to Notre Dame, pulling away in the opening minutes of the second half with Ebanks scoring eight in a 16-2 surge that enabled the Mountaineers to open a 46-32 lead with 14 minutes to go.

South Florida fell to 9-8-2 all-time against ranked opponents, including 3-2 since joining the Big East.

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South Florida fell to 9-8-2 all-time against ranked opponents, including 3-2 since joining the Big East.

Virginia lost its first three shots after halftime. By the time he made a pair of free throws with 10:45 remaining, the Bulls trailed by 17 and had only managed to score once since the field from the field during a 12-minute stretch that began late in the first half. Jarrid Famous, Chris Howard and Mike Mercer each scored apiece for USF.

Virginia Tech 81, Miami 66

Malcolm Delaney had 28 points and a career-high nine assists, and Virginia Tech routed out to a 35-point lead in the first half on the way to an victory over No. 23 Miami on Wednesday night.

Terrell Bell scored all of his career-best 13 points in the first half for the Hokies (13-2, 1-AC) who snapped a five-game losing streak to ranked teams that dated to last season.

Virginia Tech went up 11-2 and then put the game away with a 35-1 run that spanned nearly 13 minutes of the first half.

Bell had 1-3 point with 2:43 to go and added a basket with 2:16 remaining to give the Hokies their biggest lead, 48-13. The Hokies shot 62 percent (18 of 29) in the first half and led 50-23 at the break.

Miami (15-1, 2-1) shot just 27 percent in the first half (7 of 26) and had its seven-game winning streak snapped.

The ACC's leader in 3-pointers made came into the game (140) missed its first eight attempts from beyond the arc. The Hurricanes were 6 of 27 on 3s for the game.

Bell, who had scored in double figures only once this season, went 5-6 from the floor. He had never hit more than one 3-pointer in a game in his career, but connected on all three of his attempts — all in the first half.

Jeff Allen added 14 points and 10 rebounds for the Hokies, while Lorenzo Hudson had 13.

The Hurricanes had only one player in double figures. James Dews led Miami with 11 points.

The Observer accepts classifieds every business day from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Notre Dame office, 624 South Dining Hall. Deadlines for next-day classifieds is 3 p.m. All classifieds must be prepaid. The charge is $5 per item per day, including all spaces. The Observer reserves the right to edit all classifieds for content without incurring refunds.

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PERSONAL

We want to say THANK YOU to all our student friends at Notre Dame, for the beautiful Christmas Cards. We so appreciate each and every one of you.

We are down to the last 10 days to graduate you.

God bless you all.

-John and Luke Reischl

COURAGE is rightly esteemed the first of human qualities... because it is the quality which guarantees all others.

Winston Churchill

I am prepared to meet my Maker. Whether my Maker is prepared for the great event of meeting me is another matter.

God bless you all.

-Anonymous

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**NCAA Division I Men’s Basketball Coaches’ Poll**

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**NCAA Division I Women’s Basketball Coaches’ Poll**

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**NCAA Division I Men’s Ice Hockey Rankings**

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**NFL**

**FOXBOROUGH, Mass. —** Junior Seau has retired after an illustrious career. He was named to 12 Pro Bowls during his time with the San Diego Chargers, Miami Dolphins and New England Patriots. He came out of retirement this season to play with New England.

**Junior Seau retires after playoff loss**

NFL linebacker Junior Seau has retired after an illustrious career. He was named to 12 Pro Bowls during his time with the San Diego Chargers, Miami Dolphins and New England Patriots. He came out of retirement this season to play with New England.

**Associated Press**

Rivers fined $25,000 by NFL for uttering expletive.

EAST RUTHERFORD, N.J. — Doc Rivers was confused when he was thrown out, and even more so when he was fined.

Especially since he says the NBA told him the call he was arguing was incorrect.

The NBA fined the Boston Celtics coach $25,000 on Wednesday for an argument with officials that led to two quick technicals and an ejection.

"They admit that the ... call was wrong," Rivers said before the Celts game against the New Jersey Nets. "Of all the fines I’ve ever had, this is by far the most disappointing. I just don’t get this one. I watched a couple of coach-es last week run out on the floor and no fine. I get fined for being right."

Rivers was irate over a flagrant foul called on Glen “Big Baby” Davis with 6:16 left in Monday night’s game against the Atlanta Hawks. The Celtics coach flew back-to-back technicals when he didn’t stop yelling at referee Bennett Salvatore, a third “T” was called on soft-spoken assistant Armond Hill.

**NFL linerbacker Junior Seau has retired after an illustrious career. He was named to 12 Pro Bowls during his time with the San Diego Chargers, Miami Dolphins and New England Patriots. He came out of retirement this season to play with New England.**

**In Brief**

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**Johns Hopkins award as top offensive players**

NEW YORK — That blur speeding away from opposing defenses and running off with The Associated Press 2009 NFL Offensive Player of the Year award is Chris Johnson. Considered the fastest man in pro football, Johnson was uncatchable in setting a league mark for yards from scrimmage (2,509) and becoming the sixth player with a 2,000-yard rushing season.

He is the first NFL player to finish with at least 2,000 yards rushing and 500 receiving (503).

That earned the second-year pro 38% votes Wednesday from a nationwide panel of 50 sports writers and broadcasters who cover the NFL. Johnson easily beat New Orleans quarterback Drew Brees, who received nine votes.

"I kind of realize what I did and I feel like I had a dream season," said Johnson, who scored 16 touchdowns (14 rushing), second to Minnesota’s Adrian Peterson, and tied the NFL mark with six consecutive games rushing for at least 125 yards.

**Tiger Woods loses free access to GM cars**

NEW YORK — General Motors Co. says an agreement with Tiger Woods that allowed the fallen golf star to have free access to its vehicles is over.

Woods’ endorsement contract with GM’s Buick brand ended in 2008, but an arrangement remained in place that allowed him to keep several GM loaner vehicles. A spokesman says the arrangement ended on Dec. 31.

Woods has lost a host of endorsement contracts since the Nov. 27 car crash outside his Florida home. The accident trig-gered allegations marital infidel-ity that led him to take a break from professional golf, though the GM spokesman says the vehicle arrangement had been previously scheduled to end on Dec. 31.

USA Today reported GM’s deci-sion in a blog post Tuesday.
Haitian players fear for the worst

Associated Press

INDIANAPOLIS — Pierre Garcon waited for word as his mother frantically tried to reach relatives in Haiti.

He knew what is expected to be his first career playoff game, the Indianapolis Colts' redesign of his country, was without its trademark smile.

"Aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews. We still have not heard from them, and my mom is still trying to call them," Garcon said. "I'm kept in the dark by my mom. It's tough to get in touch with people down there because of the phone lines."

Garcon and other relatives of Haitian descent were devastated Wednesday by the powerful earthquake that struck the Caribbean nation.

"I heard from my father and he e-mailed us OK. That was a relief," Philadelphia 76ers center Samuel Dalembert said. "There are so many other people I don't know about, relatives and friends who are waiting for new information all the time."

The 76ers planned a moment of silence and the organization is in the process of assembling funds, team spokesman Mike Preston said.

"It's kind of hard to fathom a situation like this because those people didn't do anything wrong," Preston said. "It's so hard to watch the TV and feel helpless."

The parents of WBC welterweight champion Berto are from Haiti, and he has many relatives on the island.

"Like many other Haitian-Americans, my family and I are working to reach our loved ones," Berto said. "For whatever it's worth, I believe that, to this point, some of my family members are still missing and we have already been informed that members of my family have passed away in the earthquake."

The Miami native fought for Haiti in the Athens Olympics after barely missing the U.S. team. He's scheduled to face South Africa's Scott Quigg on May 30 in Las Vegas in the biggest bout of the undefeated fighter's career. Garcon's training was interrupted by the tragedy.

Berto (25-0, 16 KOs) has been heavily involved in charitable efforts in Haiti for years. He's working on another charity initiative to help Haiti's recovery from its training camp in Winter Haven, Fla.

On his Twitter account, Berto wrote: "Haiti is the first black country since 1804. Haitians are strong, powerful, prideful people but this a time for them to humble (to endure), and My heart bleeds for this people."

Garcon, a second-year player from Mount Union in Alliance, Ohio, was born in Carmel, N.Y., and attended high school in Florida. But his parents are from the United States from Haiti and most of his cousins still live there. Garcon said there are too many to count.

"I got a phone call Wednesday back to the country for his grandmother's funeral, and he planned to return in April with his charitable organization, the Pierre Garcon Foundation. But when the 7.0-magnitude quake struck Tuesday, devastat- ing one of the world's poorest nations, Garcon changed the plan. Instead of waiting until spring, Garcon jumped onto his Twitter account and started tweeting and texting help.

"At one point, he tweeted: 'We need the US military as soon as possible. We need the 4 million Haitian that live out side of Haiti to know that help is coming.'"

Garcon's team has already joined the cause. The Colts announced in a news release Wednesday that they will donate $10,000 to the Red Cross relief effort, and they're asking fans to pitch in, too.

The Colts will also accept donations at the team store, and proceeds will be added to the total.

"It's a little disappointing, because he brings so much to the table," Colts coach Jim Caldwell said on a conference call.

"It's a little disappointing because he brings so much to the table," Colts coach Mike D'Antoni said on a conference call. "It's a big loss for us."

"It's kind of hard to watch the TV and feel helpless." Pierre Garcon Colts receiver

"How's it so hard to watch the TV and feel helpless."

Samuel Dalembert 76ers center

"It's so hard to watch the TV and feel helpless." Pierre Garcon Colts receiver

The Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — Blake Griffin's first season with the Los Angeles Clippers is over before it even began.

Garcon will have surgery on his broken left kneecap, keeping the No. 1 draft pick out for at least more four months, the eternally star-crossed Clippers announced in a statement Wednesday.

Griffin hasn't played a regul- lar-season game yet for the Clippers after injuring his kneecap in their final presea- son game Oct. 23, winning in pain as he landed after a dunk. After resting the stress fracture for several weeks, the former Oklahoma star recently increased his work- load in rehabilitation by run- ning on a treadmill.

But the power forward recently developed pain in his knee while jumping in pool, and an examination Tuesday revealed his recovery wasn't progressing properly.

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"It's a little disappointing because he brings so much to the table." Mike Dunleavy Clippers coach

"I think the reaction is going to be one of disappointment, but he hasn't been here all year," Dunleavy said. "We've just got to move forward and do what we were planning on doing anyway — making the playoffs."

Being the top pick hasn't been such an honor in recent NBA drafts. Griffin is the sec- ond in the past three years to miss his entire first season with an injury.

Gray Oden, the Ohio State center chosen by the Portland Trail Blazers in 2007, had microfracture surgery on his right knee three months after the draft. Last month, Oden also broke his left kneecap and was lost for the rest of this season.

Griffin was the consensus college player of the year in 2009 with 22.7 points and an NCAA record 14.4 rebounds per game last season for the Sooners, and the Clippers eagerly chose him in last June's draft.

Griffin averaged 13.7 points and 8.1 rebounds during the preseason, and coach Mike Dunleavy and his new team- mates all expected him to be a major part of their comeback season. Instead, Griffin has never been fully healthy in Los Angeles, even straining his left knee during the summer league play in Las Vegas.

The pool exercises were part of the last hurdles to be cleared before Griffin could rejoin the Clippers in practice. He has been a constant pres- ence at Clippers games and in film sessions during his injury.

"Blake learned a lot off the court (during his injury)," Dunleavy said. "He's been very much in tune with every- thing we're doing, and he's just going to continue in that mode. I think he'll come back next season more prepared."

Griffin's woes sadly can't be surprising to fans of a team with just two winning seasons in the last 20 years and just one playoff series victory since moving to town in 1984. The Clippers also have a long history of disappointing draft picks, including a pair of No. 1 overall choices that didn't dazzle.

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As he prepares for Saturday night's playoff game against Baltimore, Garcon intends to use the NFL's stage as a pulpit to seek more assistance in the recovery effort.

"That (Twitter) is how we got the pictures out, the word out, that's what really help- ful," Garcon said. "Spreading the word and helping others is really what it's all about, and this is the best situation to do that now."

Loaiza and teammates offered their sup- port and prayers for Garcon, who is coming off a breakout season and is expected to play at least this first round of the playoffs on Saturday despite missing the last two games with a bruised hand.

"It's hard, not knowing what's going to happen," he said. "The rebuidling process is going to take forever."
ITF officials want to keep Davis Cup

Associated Press

LONDON — The International Tennis Federation defended its Davis Cup competition on Wednesday following a proposal by leading men’s players for a World Cup-style tournament.

Serbian player Novak Djokovic, who topped Nadal in ATP Player Council along with top-ranked Roger Federer and No. 2 Rafael Nadal, said: “we proposed it .. but it’s all fresh and all ideas.”

The World Cup would likely be a 10-day biennial tournament with 32 teams, played at a single venue. It would feature several rule changes, including mandatory substitutions during a match.

This proposal, also shown to the ITF, has some interesting elements and, of course, timely branding, given the current worldwide fascination with the 2010 FIFA World Cup. It also has many challenges that must be faced if it is to succeed,” the ITF said in a statement.

“Everyone is in agreement that a new competition format is very attractive, something that has been thought about for many years.”

The 110-year-old Davis Cup pits countries against each other on several weekends during the tennis season. Many top players skip Davis Cup to take time off during the packed tennis calendar.

The ITF also noted that it has a five-year contract with the ATP World Tour “guaranteeing dates and ranking points.”

The idea has been shown to World Cup officials, who are making the show a reality. The ITF said: “The idea has been shown to World Cup officials, who are making the show a reality.”

The Davis Cup has weathered other major changes in its history, including the move to professionalism in 1968 and the advent of the ATP tour.

“While Davis Cup has evolved and modernized over the years, it has not lost its intrinsic values based around the home-and-away format that attracts great support from fans, sponsors, television and the players themselves who enjoy playing in front of their home country fans,” the ITF said.

The ITF also noted that it has a five-year contract with the ATP World Tour “guaranteeing dates and ranking points.”

The concept is being pitched by a team, including Australian Open tournament director Craig Tiley, who is the World Cup’s marketing and sponsorship firm. Tiley was: “The idea has been shown to World Cup officials, who are making the show a reality.”

The annual debate over India’s place in the World Cup has been revived once again. The tournament organizers have been forced to think about the effectiveness of the two big courts and the impact of the Australian Open tour.
PARIS — Mario Balotelli endures abuse that no 19-year-old should suffer — for no other reason than because he is black.

There is the ugly graffiti on walls leading to the San Siro stadium, where the Inter Milan striker plays. "Non sei un vero Italiano, sei un Africano nero," it says. Translation: "You are not a true Italian, you are a black African."

There are the unprintable racist chants and vicious boos he hears when he plays, and which live on even after matches are over in videos on the Internet. There was the time in Rome last June when, his sister says, hooligans threatened him and hurled a bunch of bananas into the bar where Balotelli was relaxing with fellow players from Italy's under-21 squad, prompting the owner to call the police.

And what has the Italian league done in response to the insults he regularly faces? Nothing.

"It’s ridiculous, and I think my brother just doesn’t want to think about it because he is so disgusted," Cristina Balotelli says of the world, all you’d need to know about Balotelli is that he is young, gifted, quick, muscular, scores goals and is nicknamed "Super Mario." He joined Inter in 2006. He made his first team debut in December of the following year, aged just 17, as a late substitute in a 2-0 win against Cagliari. Two days after that, he scored twice in a 4-1 crushing of Reggina. With a total of 23 goals in 68 appearances for the 17-time Italian champions, a call-up to Italy's national squad may not be far off.

But the racists who have long spoiled Italian football don’t see Balotelli’s skills, just the color of his skin. Even when Inter is not playing, he has been targeted for abuse. Prosecutors in France are investigating taunts about Balotelli that Juventus supporters shouted when the club played French champions Bordeaux in the Champions League last November, saying the French anti-racist group that is pushing for comment from her brother, somehow, manages not to be cowed by the hatred flowing from a vocal minority of "very ignorant people" who "need an enemy and they need someone to curse." So far, he also has resisted the temptation of leaving it behind by going overseas, to the English Premier League, for example, where there has been talk of interest from clubs such as Arsenal or Chelsea.

"He gets very upset but then ... he doesn’t think about it anymore, this is a strength," her brother says. "Of course, I know that he is hurt. If he decides to go abroad it shouldn’t just be because of this," she adds. "It’s like to run away, it’s like to be defeated."

Such outrages in Italy have gone on for years. In 2001, when 18-year-old Nigerian forward Schézegoun Omlade took the field for Trevise, fans hoisted a banner that said, "We don’t want a black player on our team" and then left the stadium.

After those riots, in which dozens were injured, Cristina Balotelli found herself fending off calls from reporters looking for comment from her brother, as if he must have something to say as one of the few high-profile black Italian success stories. That, in itself, suggests how widely Balotelli is marked out for his color in Italian football — as was shown last week when violent clashes erupted between African crop-pickers and local residents in southern Italy.

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Balotelli’s lone goal, he again heard insults and boos, directed, he said, both at him and Luciano of Brazil, who also is black.

In response, Balotelli mocked the crowd by ironically applauding when he was substituted late in a 2-0 win. This, in itself, suggests how widely Balotelli is marked out for his color in Italian football — as was shown last week when violent clashes erupted between African crop-pickers and local residents in southern Italy.

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"What has my brother got to do with this?" she says. "I want my brother to lead his life without having all these burdens on his shoulders."

"We don’t have black politicians. We have very few blacks who are in important positions," she adds. "He became a symbol of too many things. At times, for those 19-year-old shoulders, it all becomes too much."

A week ago in Verona, in a match Inter won thanks to Balotelli’s lone goal, he again heard insults and boos, directed, he said, both at himself and Luciano of Brazil, who also is black.

In response, Balotelli mocked the crowd by ironically applauding when he was substituted and by saying in a post-match TV interview that "the fans are more and more sickening."

The Italian league’s fine followed the next day. If Inter’s subsequent appeal is rejected, then it will be a victory for hooligans — because now they know that by provoking Balotelli, they can get him punished too.

"He just applauded for two seconds," his brother, Corrado, told the AP. "It’s crazy."
PARADISE VALLEY, Ariz. — Expanded instant replay is on the agenda for the first meet- ing of Major League Baseball’s newly formed com- mittee, which met two long-time executives on Thursday. The 14-man committee also will hear testimony about the first round of the playoffs to best of seven and ways to eliminate less decis- ive breaks during the postseason.

MLB commissioner Bud Selig said he’s out there (is) because he wants to hear from them. I’ve encouraged this group to be very up front about every- thing they want.”

“I’ve encouraged this group to be very blunt, talk about anything they want.”

Bud Selig

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Freshman guard Avery Bradley reacts after No. 1 Texas’ 90-83 victory over Iowa State Wednesday. Bradley scored 24 points in the victory.

“I think the fixation just at the major league level is that there are days we can elimi- nate, and should,” Selig said.

Selig spent hours meeting with general managers on Wednesday. Selig declined to divulge the topics of discussion but said it was a con- structs the season. He has invested in player development and scouting.

The committee includes Toronto president Paul Beeston, Philadelphia president Dave Montgomery, Seattle pres- ident Rick Armstrong and St. Louis chairman Bill DeWitt. Political consultant George Will also is on the panel.

Scioscia was livid with the number of off days during the last postseason, and Selig has promised a new and expanded format, which added four extra off-days starting in 2009, to the best of the sport’s broadcast networks.

New union head Michael Weiner and his 28-member collective bargain- ing committee may propose during the new labor talks is for the 2011 to expand the first round of the playoffs from best of seven to best of 10.

“The problem is, everybody wants to talk about going into November with a last minute playoff, they want to add on to the schedule,” Selig said. “I’ve encouraged them to think about postponements and travel.”

“I didn’t say we couldn’t do better,” Selig said. “I do have some ideas. Yes, there are days we can elimi- nate, and should.”

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“I feel like we competed great. If we can just carry this over, it can help us out throughout the Big 12.”

For all that Texas has accomplished under coach Rick Barnes, — 11 straight trips to the NCAA tournament, three regional finals in seven years and a spot in the 2003 Final Four — it has never reached the top spot in the polls until Monday.

If Texas wants to hang onto the lofty ranking, though, it’s going to have to earn it. The Longhorns host Texas A&M Saturday before trips to No. 13 Kansas State and No. 15 Connecticut next week.

But the Longhorns appear stronger than ever thanks to their recent surge. Kammrath led all Belles with 18 points and 14 rebounds for the unbeaten Longhorns (16-0, 2-0), who opened the second half with a 16-4 run and never trailed again.

“I just feel like I’m getting more comfortable playing with my teammates. I’m just learning the game in college,” Bradley said. “I think the fixtures just at the major league level is that there are days we can elimi- nate, and should.”

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**Brothers**

continued from page 20

high praise for the tandem and adds that the sibling rivalry works to the brothers' advantage when training.

First of all, they're both 17-foot vaulters," Piane said.

Northwestern this weekend when they face Michigan

Welsh's experience and expertise in this sport will be a key advantage for the Irish as they look to secure their sixth Big East title in six seasons. For Welsh, the road to success here at Notre Dame has been a long one. In Welsh's 24 seasons, the Irish posted a 287-154 record. The consistent powerhouse has finished in the top four of the Big East in each of the last 11 seasons.

Before coaching at Notre Dame, Welsh spent eight seasons as head coach of the Johns Hopkins men's and women's teams. During those eight seasons he led the team to two Division II National Championships and eight conference championships.

Welsh began as the coach of the men's and women's teams before they split into two separate programs. The men's team began in the Midwestern Collegiate Conference before switching to the Big East.

Though recruiting is always near the top of a coach's to-do list, Frank said it has been Kelly's top priority since his hiring Dec. 10.

The big focus was to get a great staff and make sure he's in place to fill in the right types of coaches," Frank said. "I know a lot of people wanted big-name coaches, but I think what he did was smart in that he got a bunch of people he knows and has worked with at various stages of his career."

"I used to be one of those guys who thought, get as many big-name recruit, as big-name guys, as you can, but the more you follow it, the more you realize how important chemistry is on a coaching staff. I think that was priority number one." With the Feb. 3 National Signing Day looming, Kelly and his staff will continue to reach out to both committed and uncommitted players in the coming weeks, with the hopes of landing a few more players to the Class of 2010.

"Right now, this is a solid class but there's not a whole lot of star power in there," Frank said. "You don't need a ton of stars, you need is some good football players. It's important for him to land some guys, especially on the offensive line. Another defensive line, pass-rusher type. A safety would be ideal, although that might be tough, and a linebacker would be good but tough as well."

"I think they'll have a shot to land some of these guys, and they have been doing a good job getting in with these guys." Notre Dame remains in contention for several of the nation's top uncommitted recruits, including Scaanteel Henserson, the five-star offensive tackle from St. Paul, Minn. Other top targets include offensive tackle Mutt James (Cincinnati, Ohio), athlete Anthony Barr (Los Angeles, Calif.), defensive lineman Ego Ferguson (Frederick, Md.) and linebacker Christian Jones (Oviedo, Fla.).

Frank said landing one or more of those prospects would be impressive considering the short timetable with which Kelly and his staff have to work for it. They're in position for a good sign for the future of Notre Dame recruiting.

"If they don't (sign any), I don't think it says anything about the future in recruiting," Frank said. "It's a difficult situation for anybody to come into. Look at Urban Meyer's first class at Florida, Pete Carroll's first at USC — they weren't impressive."

"If they are able to land a couple of guys, it says quite a bit, but recruiting is a marathon and you're building relationships and trust. You just can't do that in three weeks."

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**Recreats**

continued from page 20

Tommy Rees. Only defensive end Chris Martin and defensive back Toney Hurd have withdrawn their verbal commitments to Notre Dame since Weir firing.

"So far I think (Kelly) has done a really good job keeping those plans committed," Frank said. "That's not always an easy task with a whole bunch of new coaches coming in that these kids don't have a relationship with. It's a leap of faith that a lot of these kids that are committed are going to make."

Though recruiting is always near the top of a coach's to-do list, Frank said it has been Kelly's top priority since his hiring Dec. 10.

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**Gameday**

continued from page 20

McGraw has guided the Irish to a sensational 15-0 start to the season, but Saturday's contest will be their toughest challenge yet. In addition to the talent on the court, the Huskies are averaging close to 10,000 fans per game in Gampel Pavilion.

"It's not a game where there's any pressure on us to win," McGraw said. "I think because the game is at UConn, the Gameday event is definitely geared towards them and their fans. They're the No. 1 team in the nation, and they've earned that right to have the publicity be about them. It's fine with us. We're very content to be the underdogs in this game." ESPN College Gameday made its debut in 1993 as Notre Dame hosted Florida State in a matchup of the top two football teams in the country. Like the first premiere, the Irish hope to break in the show with a victory.

"The first ever Gameday was here for a football game, and that's kind of how the whole Gameday thing got started," McGraw said. "So it's kind of fun that Notre Dame gets to be involved in the first historic event, now for women's basketball. I think that really makes it exciting for the team that Notre Dame would get to be involved here.

Despite the overwhelming distractions, senior guard Ashley Barlow is confident the Irish can handle the hype may bring.

"We're just going out like it's any other game. Basically, we're trying to stay in a bubble right now and avoid every-thing the media is saying and what the fans and everyone outside are saying. We're just trying to stay within the team and we can't worry about anything else."

McGraw will be relieved when the media's attention is no longer a factor in her players' performance. Although Notre Dame finished with a convincing 81-64 victory over South Florida Tuesday, the game's outcome was still uncertain late in the second half.

"It was hard for them because there's a lot of attention for several of the players," McGraw said. "It's a difficult situation for anybody to come into. Look at Urban Meyer's first class at Florida, Pete Carroll's first at USC — they weren't impressive."

"If they are able to land a couple of guys, it says quite a bit, but recruiting is a marathon and you're building relationships and trust. You just can't do that in three weeks."

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THE OBSERVER
ND TRACK & FIELD

Schipper siblings fight for Big East pole vault title

By MATTHEW ROBISON
Sports Writer

Among the many standout performances this year’s promising Irish squad are brothers Matt and Kevin Schipper. The tandem has led Notre Dame as one of the best one-two punches in pole vaulting in the Big East for the last two years.

In the first indoor event of the season, the Blue and Gold Invitational on Dec. 3, the two finished first and second with Kevin as the winner and Matt as a close runner-up. Matt, a senior, has been a top Big East performer for the last several years. Last year, Matt earned victories at the Blue and Gold Invitational, the Notre Dame Invitational and the Big East Indoor Championships. Later in the season, Matt claimed his second conference title with a pole vault victory at the Big East outdoor championships.

Matt has consistently improved over the years as both his statistics and his results have improved with experience. His freshman year he placed fifth with a 4.65-meter mark at the Big East outdoor championships and followed that up the next year with a fourth place finish with a jump of 4.95 meters and a vault of 5.06 meters at the NCAA Championships. Last year was the best of his career as he finished fifth in the NCAA Championships with a personal best of 5.16 meters. This year, Matt will face stiff competition in his quest for a second consecutive Big East sweep in the pole vault from someone he has known his entire life — his younger brother.

Kevin, a sophomore, burst onto the pole vaulting scene as a freshman last year with a second place finish at the Big East indoor championships, placing fourth with a mark of 5.10 meters. He will be gunning for his brother’s title and has already shown he can be a challenge after a second place finish at the Blue and Gold Invitational with a 4.80-meter vault.

The brothers have certainly displayed their dominance of the Big East this season and will be looking to continue their dominance as they will be gunning for Big East supremacy, the title that has led Notre Dame as one of the top Big East performers in recent years.

ND WOMEN’S BASKETBALL

Standing in the spotlight

Showdown vs. UConn featured on Gameday

By CHRIS MASOUD
Sports Writer

Notre Dame will make ESPN history once again this weekend as the Irish take on the Connecticut Huskies in the network’s premiere of Women’s Basketball College Gameday. Although the matchup features two of the nation’s top three teams battling for Big East supremacy, conference standings have taken a backseat to the competitive Ohio State Buckeyes vs. the Buckeye Nation on Saturday.

“We’re just so excited to be part of the whole Gameday atmosphere,” Irish coach Muffett McGraw said. “I know this crowd is going to come out, and the fans will be very supportive of the entire day. It’s going to be a historic event for women’s basketball, and we’re thrilled to be a part of it."

SMC BASKETBALL

Belles fall to MIAA rival Hope

By TIM SIGLER
Sports Writer

The Saint Mary’s basketball team endured a devastating 91-72 loss to the No. 3 ranked Hope College Wednesday. The Irish, like the rest of the MIAA, looked like they could contend with Hope, but began to lose steam at the end.

Saint Mary’s was outscored by the Flying Dutch in the first half, which led to a 14-7 lead early. However, little by little Hope came back with its onslaught of 3-pointers.

At the start of the second half, Saint Mary’s came out sluggish and the Flying Dutch took advantage. The 50-38 lead that the Flying Dutch held at halftime increased and eventually overwhelmed the Belles.

“The Flying Dutch forced Saint Mary’s to play defense further out to guard the 3-pointers, which then opened up the inside,” Saint Mary’s coach Joe Piane said Wednesday.

FOOTBALL

Staff focuses on recruiting

By MATT GAMBER
Sports Editor

With his staff completed and National Signing Day less than three weeks away, Irish coach Brian Kelly and his assistants will focus the majority of their attention on completing the recruiting class Charlie Weis’ regime began.

Notre Dame currently holds 18 verbal commitments, according to recruiting analyst Mike Frank of Irishsports-daily.com. That number includes 13 early enrollees who were set to begin class this week — cornerbacks Lo Wood and Spencer Boyd, safety Chris Badger, wide receiver Taiser Jones and quarterback