Notre Dame Forum canceled

By MADELINE BUCKLEY
News Editor

This year’s Notre Dame Forum has been canceled because of a scheduling conflict with a major speaker, the University announced Monday.

University President Fr. John Jenkins started the Forum in 2005 when he took office to assemble “world leaders on campus in discussion of the leading issues of the day,” according to a 2008 press release.

University spokesman Dennis Brown said the administration will not release the identity of the scheduled speaker or the planned topic at this time.

“We are going to revisit the topic and speaker so we would prefer to keep that private at this point,” he said.

The Forum, usually held in the fall, was delayed to the spring.

Brown told The Observer in September that the forum was pushed back because “the spring semester is a better fit for the schedules of key panelists.”

The University plans to host the Forum next fall, but Brown said it will not necessarily be the same topic and speaker planned for this year’s discussion.

But that topic will be examined on campus in some form, he said.

“It won’t necessarily be next year’s Forum but at some point in the future at a forum we will take up that topic so we’re going to hold on to that idea for now and get back to it in the future,” Brown said.

This spring’s Forum would have been the University’s fifth. Last fall, General Electric CEO Jeff Immelt, Colorado Gov. Bill Ritter, environmental activist Majora Carter and MIT Professor Ernest Moniz discussed sustainability issues.

Other issues examined in past Forums have included global health care, the role of religion in a plural world and immigration.

Brown said the University will not try to find a replacement for this spring’s forum.

“We think the Notre Dame Forum is such an important event so we didn’t want to scramble at the last minute to put together something not of the quality as the last have been,” he said.

Contact Madeline Buckley at mbuckley@nd.edu

Students meet with provosts about program

By SARAH MERVOSH
News Writer

Students who studied in Innsbruck, Austria last year met with University provosts Monday to discuss the recent decision to cancel the Innsbruck study abroad program.

“Our main goals for the meeting were a) to obtain some sort of an explanation for why the Innsbruck program was cancelled and b) what were the rationalizations,” senior Jessica Technow, one of the nine students who attended the meeting, said.

Joe Buttigieg, assistant provost for International Studies, said Notre Dame’s oldest study abroad program had problems sustaining itself for the past 10 years, due to low enrollment numbers.

When the program fell to seven students in the 2005-2006 year, and nine in 2006-2007, the University created a spring semester option in an attempt to increase enrollment, he said.

“That basically saved it,” Buttigieg said.

see INNSBRUCK/page 4

Group considers bands for annual spring concert

By SARA FELSENSTEIN
News Writer

Talk of the upcoming Student Union Board (SUB) spring concert has been floating around campus in recent weeks. Students are currently sending around Facebook asking students to rank their preferences of seven artists of different musical genres.

MGMT, Girl Talk and Dropkick Murphys are some of the artists listed as possibilities for the concert.

Mallory Davidson, co-director of programming, said SUB is trying to break from the Notre Dame tradition of mainstream rock concerts and diversify the types of bands they bring to campus.

“It is certainly trying to bring an artist of a different genre,” junior Marie Wicht, co-programmer of concerts, said.

“In past years we’ve had rock-type bands like Jack’s Mannequin, Cartel and OK Go [and] we have also hosted rapper Lupe Fiasco and alternative artist Citizen Cope.”

Planning for the upcoming spring concert began last April, Wicht said.

“We [first compiled] a long, long list of possible performers and genres,” she said. “The genres consisted of everything from country to rap, mash-up to coffeehouse rock and Irish rock to techno. After narrowing down to a few artists in each genre, we proceeded to look up agent information to inquire on pricing and availability.”

Wicht and co-programmer of concerts Brian Hagerty are in charge of picking talent based on student input.

see BANDS/page 6

SIBC offers global experience

By LAUREN KNAUF
News Writer

The Student International Business Council (SIBC) will sponsor internships for up to 20 students this summer, allowing them to participate in humanitarian and business projects in locations around the globe.

In 2006-2007, seven students in the 2005-2006 year, and nine in 2006-2007, the University created a spring semester option in an attempt to increase enrollment.

Junior James Pappas poses in Ghana in 2008, where he spent the summer helping residents start a dried fruit business.
INSIDE COLUMN

A small world

Last weekend I took a walk down memory lane. No, I did not try to garner a comprehensive story of my childhood, but instead to escape from the wee hours of Saturday morning. Instead I went even further back to recede my dim memories. I went back to elementary school.

That is right. At 20 years old, I made my very first return to elementary and middle school. For me, this was all one place. And that means that a single building (and the little ones that I held during school hours) got to see me progress through my adorably, precocious younger years to my shamefully awkward and embarrassing teen years. I should make a small confession to give my return to primary school a better personal context. My awkward years far (far) outnumbered and outweighed my “cute little kid” years.

If estimated, about 75 percent of my primary school experience was spent in glasses, headgear, braces and a plaid jumper. On top of this, I had minimal to no athletic ability and generally a scary attitude (that proudly persists today). And then there was always the stereotypical acne and general disregard for my formative years. I should make a small confession to see me progress through my adorable, middle school. For me, this was all one.

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END OF TYPING


Class council series hosts housing CEO

By KATLYN SMITH

CEO of housing company Pulte Homes Richard Dugas will deliver a presentation Tuesday evening, the second in a lecture series sponsored by the Junior Class Council.

Junior Class president Caitlin Pulte said she envisioned the series as an academic component of her ticket’s platform.

Originally intended for CEOs, the series now features professionals from a variety of fields. Tom Cole, a Chicago lawyer, was featured in the series last semester.

Pulte said the series offers multiple benefits for students, including contact information from business leaders and recommendations from beyond the academic realm.

GLC will meet in smaller task forces to collect feedback after Monday’s meeting, and these ideas will be presented to Kirk at the Council’s Feb. 8 meeting.

“We are not the ones to approve these policies, and we are not an advisory board,” student body president Grant Schmidt said. “But this is a great opportunity to provide our input.”

Kirk said the administration established a completion deadline for early June in order to allow time for the new edition to freshmen arriving in August.

Contact Megan Doyle at mdoyle@nd.edu

In a world with so much wealth, why is there still so much poverty?

The End of Poverty?

Not Rated; 97 minutes; English, Spanish, French language with English subtitles

The End of Poverty? is a daring, thought-provoking and very timely documentary by award-winning filmmaker Philippe Diaz, revealing that poverty is not an accident. Renowned actor and activist Martin Sheen narrates The End of Poverty?, which explains how today’s financial crisis is a direct consequence of unchallenged policies that have lasted centuries.

Executive producer Clifford Cobb will discuss the film following the first screening.

6:30 p.m. and 9:30 p.m. on Saturday, January 30, 2010
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Contact Megan Doyle at mdoyle@nd.edu
Saint Mary’s Campus Ministry invited students to participate in casual discussion with several priests Monday about the call to vocation. Students listened to the stories of local priests’ trail to religious life. Fr. John Pearson of Campus Ministry, Fr. John Patrick Riley, associate pastor of St. Joseph Parish in South Bend and Deacon Kevin Grove also of St. Joseph visited the College to discuss their paths to the priesthood.

“I think what happened to me is once I started it I just gradually gradually became family and I began to understand something about how God is calling me to a life where I would take vows of poverty, chastity and obedience and I would live with this community and I would help this community and they would help me to find our way to God,” Pearson said.

Called “The Religious Life Roundtable,” the discussion offered students the perspective of local religious as they reflected on their call to vocation. The Roundtable was created by students in collaboration with Campus Ministry. The m e t i n g a l l o w e d s t u d e n t s t o p a r t i c i p a t e in casual conversations with religious about their calling to join the religious family.

“In the seventh grade I came down to Notre Dame to Holy Cross Seminary which no longer stands and spent a week learning about the community,” Pearson said. Pearson said he determined he wanted to become religious at a young age and said he was inspired by the sisters that lived in his community.

“I remember that I just was inspired by this notion which the sisters gave which I still believe very much, sometimes, you’re called to live the gospel in a very specific way,” Pearson said.

Riley also gave his account of his calling to the priesthood. He said he did not think of joining religious life until after college. Riley graduated from Notre Dame and found his passion for service while a student.

“One day in [St. Edward’s Hall], my roommates were going to do a service project through the dorms at the Center for the Homeless. They were like ‘John, you should also come along’ said Riley. “So we go to the Center for the Homeless and it was one of the greatest days of my life. I couldn’t believe it.”

Riley also discussed his service work in Phoenix, Ariz., with the group. Grove said that his first calling occurred in the third grade, though he did not agree in his calling until much later.

“In that instance in third grade we were going around and talking about what we wanted to do and I mentioned that the Holy Cross was where I decided to go,” Grove said.

Grove said that though he thought about the prospect of becoming a priest in the third grade, he heard a different thought from his mind. It was not until he visited the Holy Cross that he decided.

“Finally I went on a graduate school tour and the last place I stopped on my tour was to some faculty over at Notre Dame and just went to a daily mass while I was there. I heard a rather homily about Holy Cross. I picked up a vocation brochure,” Grove said. “The more I read the more something about it seemed to fit.”

Kevin Grove Deacon St. Joseph Parish

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Fr. John Pearson Saint Mary’s Campus Ministry

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The discussion Monday night ended with a song and collective prayer. The next discussion will be held on Feb. 22.

Contact Alicia Smith at asmith01@stmarys.edu

By ALICIA SMITH News Writer

“I think what happened to me is once I started it I just gradually gradually became family and I began to understand something about how God is calling me to a life where I would take vows of poverty, chastity and obedience and I would live with this community and I would help this community and they would help me to find our way to God,” Pearson said.

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Innsbruck continued from page 1

The numbers then rose in the following years to around 15, the minimum threshold to keep the program going. But for the 2010-11 school year, only two students applied for the year, and nine applied for the spring semester, he said.

“We noticed that the numbers were so low. We said our good-bye, not only have we had a problem with the program for quite a substantial number of years, but now its reached the point where it is almost impossible to keep it going,” Buttigieg said.

Students in Innsbruck usually take classes exclusively with Notre Dame students and taught by Notre Dame hired faculty. This design creates a need for a certain number of students each year to make the program financially feasible, associate provost Dennis Jacobs said.

“We would have needed to hire five faculty to teach two courses, said. “On the opposite end of exclusivity environment,” Jacobs said the Innsbruck program’s problem with enrollment, not only have we had a much higher percentage of a year, abroad and Notre Dame’s growing number of study abroad locations.

“Since the program started, the landscape of international study has changed dramatically. We have 36 programs. Students are going to find more and more programs that address directly what they’re interested in,” he said. “It’s not as if we have in any way, privileged the program in Timbucktoo over the program in Innsbruck.”

Jacobs said the Innsbruck program’s problem with enrollment was also partly due to the way its curriculum was modeled.

“Innsbruck has an on-site director and has faculty teach Notre Dame students in an exclusive environment,” Jacobs said. “On the opposite end of the spectrum, students would take their classes at a universi- ty, like Oxford or something like that.”

The disadvantage of the Innsbruck program was that it could not absorb the fluctuations in enrollment, because it did not exist as a part of a larger group, he said.

Technow said in an ideal world the Innsbruck program would like to see the Innsbruck program be reinstated. For now, they simply asked that the Innsbruck program not be ruled out in the future, and that the cancellation of the Innsbruck program be used as a learning experi-

Buttigieg said he has already begun evaluating what went wrong with the Innsbruck pro-

“We should have insisted much, much, much earlier on that a much higher percentage of the students’ courses being taken at the University because that was the soft underbelly of this whole thing,” he said.

He added, “you’ve got to find a way where the survival of the program is not dependent of the oscillation of the students going into it.”

Buttigieg also asked the students to think about qualities of the Innsbruck program that were most important to them, and said he would be receptive to their suggestions.

“What is really fruitful is to distill in simple, straightforward articulation, what is the ideal program for German language? What is it that, in your experience, mattered most?” he said.

Both parties said they were pleased with how the meeting went.

“[I think that was a great dis- cussion,” Jacobs said. “I think it was very helpful and construc-

Though the Innsbruck pro-

program remains discontinued, Technow said she felt the stu-

“we’re more optimistic about having some sort of input in the future.”

Contact Sarah Mervosh at smervosh@nd.edu

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Tuesday, January 26, 2010

The Observer  •  CAMPUS NEWS
Boats collide causing oil spill
Quick response from authorities helps divert environmental disaster in Texas

Associated Press

DALLAS — The worst Texas oil spill in more than 15 years was contained Monday, and authorities credit a massive emergency response with averting an environmental disaster.

About 462,000 gallons of oil spilled when a barge carrying about 500,000 gallons of oil collided Saturday in Beaumont colliding Saturday with a vessel pushing two barges. As of Monday, roughly 220,000 gallons of oil had evaporated, dispersed or been recovered, the U.S. Coast Guard said.

No injuries have been reported. Port Arthur residents were evacuated after the spill, while officials tested the air quality. So far only two oil-covered birds have been reported, one of them was captured and cleaned up, and the oil flew away.

More than 60 vessels and 550 people from the Coast Guard, the state, the shipping company and other responders responded to the spill. More than 11 miles worth of the plastic walls known as boom are floating around the spill, and 27 skimmer boats were removing the oil floating on the water.

“This response has helped contain this threat and keep it from becoming a catastrophe,” said Texas General Land Office spokesman Jim Suydam.

“Had this oil not gone down a ship channel, it could have been a catastrophe.”

It was the largest spill in Texas since 1990, when a Norwegian tanker spilled 4.3 million gallons about 60 miles off Galveston. The state typically has been more than 800 spills a year, but nearly all involve less than one barrel, according to the Texas General Land Office.

Two sensitive wildlife areas near the spill remain unaffected by it. The spill is mostly contained in a 2.5-mile stretch of the Sabine Neches Waterway near Port Arthur, about 90 miles east of Houston. The estuaries and other delicate environments are crucial for fish, shrimp and “everything that lives in the Gulf,” Suydam said.

Environmental watchdogs were encouraged by the speedy response but concerned about what air pollutants people nearby were exposed to.

Hilton Kelley, a Port Arthur environmental activist and head of the group Community In-Power and Development, said he was near the water Saturday during the evacuation. He said the smell was so overpowering that he had to put on a respirator mask, and that he told two women walking down the street with their coats over their faces to leave because it was dangerous.

“The fumes were just unbearable,” he said.

“Our main concern is the number of people who might have been impacted over the long term by the fumes.”

The evacuation was lifted Saturday night. The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality was monitoring the air and water quality and said there were no reports of problems with drinking water or wastewater.

“We’ve learned a lot over the years how to do this right,” said Tom “Smitty” Smith of the activist group Public Citizen. “The downsides, of course, are the long-term impacts of the people who are exposed to the emissions.”

The shipping channel was closed Monday, and it was unclear when it would reopen, the Coast Guard said. Coast Guard Petty Officer Larry Chambers said there are currently 13 vessels waiting offshore to get into the waterway and 11 waiting to get out. He said about a dozen tankers move through the waterway each day.

Major refineries have been in this small area of the Gulf Coast since 1901, shortly after the discovery in nearby Beaumont of Spindletop, which at the time was the world’s most productive oil field, said Joe Piotrowski, an oil industry historian at the University of Houston.

Haiti in need of more tent cities
PORT- AU-PRINCE, Haiti — The collapse of much of the capital has a large part of the nation struggling just to find a place to sleep.

As many as 1 million people — one person in nine across the entire country — need to find new shelter, the United Nations estimates, and there are too few tents, let alone safe buildings, to put them in.

That leaves about 700,000 other people living on the streets around Port-au-Prince under whatever they can salvage. In the case of Jean Anthony’s family, that’s a blue plastic tarpspin for a ceiling and a faked jink sheet with a floral print border for two walls.

“I can’t call it a tent, but it’s much more than terrible,” said Anthony, the 60-year-old owner of a collapsed restaurant.

Video game banned from inmate
MADISON, Wis. — A man serving life in prison for first-degree intentional homicide lost his legal battle Monday to play Dungeons & Dragons in prison.

Kevin T. Singer filed a federal lawsuit arguing that playing the game promoted gang-related activity and was a threat to security. Singer challenged the ban but the 7th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals on Monday upheld it as a reasonable policy.

Dungeons & Dragons players create fictional characters in often well-planned adventures that can be violent, according to their advocates who are working together as a group, with the help of complicated rules.

Damage Picasso painting restored
NEW ORLEANS — A Picasso painting damaged in a storm when a woman lost her balance and fell on the canvas last week will be repaired in time for an exhibition of the artist’s works in April, the Metropolitan Museum of Art said Monday.

“The Actor,” a painting from Picasso’s rose period, will be restored at the museum’s conservation laboratory, the Met said.

The accident has also led museum director Thomas P. Campbell to request a review of relevant policies and procedures, spokeswoman Elayne Topalian said.

“The museum described the damage as an irregular 6-inch tear to the lower right-hand corner of the painting. Conservation and curatorial experts “fully expect” that the restoration “will be unobtrusive,”” the museum said in a statement.

Iraq

Western journalists killed by suicide bomber

Associated Press

BAGHDAD — Suicide bombers struck in quick succession Monday at three Baghdad hotels favored by Western journalists in well-planned attacks that killed at least 37 people and wounded more than 50.

The attacks were another blow to an Iraqi government already struggling to answer questions for security officials that have allowed bombers to carry out mass attacks in the heart of the Iraqi capital since August, raising serious questions about the country’s stability ahead of the March 7 parliamentary elections.

The blasts were launched over a span of 15 minutes, shortly before Iraq announced it had hanged Saddam Hussein’s notorious henchman “Chemical Ali” and gave rise to speculation about possible links to the attacks.

The first explosion struck near the Sheraton Hotel, along the Abu Nawas esplanade across the Tigris River from the Green Zone. The force of the blast toppled a row of 10-foot, 7-ton concrete blast walls protecting the site, tore cars apart and damaged a number of other buildings.

Twisted metal and shards of glass littered the lawns and courtyards of the popular fish restaurants along the river.

Although known in Baghdad as the Sheraton Istatar, Starwood Hotels & Resorts Worldwide Inc. — owners of the Sheraton brand — pulled out of the hotel years ago.

Two other blasts followed minutes later, striking near the Babylon Hotel and Iliama Hotel, which is popular with Western journalists and foreign security officials.

Militants in business suits walking alongside a suicide car bomb opened fire on a private security checkpoint at the Hamra, police and guards said. The hotel and the compound in which it is located is home to the Baghdad offices of several Western news organizations, including The Washington Post, McClatchy Newspapers, NBC and The Los Angeles Times.
The Observer  •  CAMPUS NEWS

Tuesday, January 26, 2010

Bands continued from page 1

Lupe Fiasco performs at Notre Dame in 2007. The Student Union Board is in the process of selecting a band for the spring concert.

SIBC continued from page 1

Although the internships are generally unpaid, SIBC covers the cost of travel, documentation and vaccinations.

“In some instances, the employer will provide a stipend or some form of payment as well as housing for the student,” Bufalino said.

Summer internships are often fiercely competitive, and sopho-
more John Goedert, vice president of internships for SIBC, said the 2010 programs will be no different.

“This summer will probably be above the norm in terms of competitiveness because the positions we’re offering and the state of the economy,” Goedert said.

He predicted SIBC’s new opportunities, including a sports marketing position in Germany and non-profit management in Washington D.C., will garner much attention this year.

“These are experiences that are difficult to find elsewhere,” Goedert said. “What the intern gets out of a position depends completely on where they are.”

Matthew Brownschidle, a senior finance major, has partici-
pated in SIBC programs in Thailand and Belize. He said the internships are “great opportunities to get your feet off the ground and develop the most basic business skills, which involve interacting with other people.”

Brownschidle worked for a printing company in Belize in the summer of 2005. He said his experience demonstrated how the SIBC’s internships use business and commerce to promote peace and prosperity.

“The books were sold at extremely low prices in the hopes of advancing chil-

dren’s literacy in central America,” he said. J a m e s  Pappas, a junior finance major, also participate-
ed in an internship through SIBC. Pappas helped Notre Dame alumni in Ghana with efforts to start a dried fruit busi-

ness.

“There are so many challenging dimensions of international business, like dealing with cul-

tural differences, that an intern-

ational internship allows stu-
dents to understand and master,” he said.

Pappas, like Brownschidle, encountered a humanitarian element in his work abroad. The company that he helped launch will be an important source of jobs in an impover-
ished country, he said.

“Everyone that I talked to in Ghana was very excited about the prospect of our company coming in and bringing jobs,” Pappas said.

For its internships, SIBC seeks students of all areas of study who have an interest in interna-
tional business. Goedert said the ideal intern is students “who will be passionate about what they will be doing.”

Applicant reviewers particularly favor those who have shown their dedication through participation in previous proj-

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tion with major corporations. They enable students to think practically, beyond what is sim-
ply taught in the classroom, Bufalino said.

“We’re hoping to let the student

choose what will appeal to the most amount of students.”

The concert will be held in the Stepan Center, most likely towards the end of the semester, Davidson said.

“We aren’t sure of who’s coming yet because of artist avail-
ability and budget constraints,” she said. “We’re trying to get things coming along here, and from there it just depends on how long the contracts take to get approved by the agents. … We’re hoping to get the student body know really soon.”

Contact Sara Felsenstein at sfelsen@nd.edu

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Undergraduate Research Grant-writing Workshop
SESSION II
Student Research Panel and Robert Zerr, Risk Management & Safety
Wednesday, January 27 - 3:30-4:30 pm
Coffee House, Geddes Hall • Refreshments Served

“We are really trying to find the best act available for the money we have.”

Brian Hagerty
co-programmer of concerts
SUB
**Market Recap**

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<td>Dow Jones</td>
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**Business**

Apple Inc. sees best quarter ever

iPhone replacing iPod sales as Apple continues to see growth in revenue

Associated Press

**In Brief**

**Airlines abandon fare increases**

Have you noticed that your flight ticket prices were lower in December? That’s because most carriers dropped a price hike attempt to avoid a fare rollback. American Airlines confirmed on Monday that it had dropped a price hike from last week. American spokesman Tim Smith said Delta had pulled the increase even before American, Continental and United also retreated.

**Ford to add jobs in Chicago**

Ford announced plans to add 1,200 new jobs for Illinois, as Quinn said at a briefing with reporters in Chicago on Monday that 1,200 new jobs were coming to Illinois. Quinn told reporters later this year to build the new Explorer on the same frame as the Taurus sedan, which is built at the Chicago plant.

**Market Recap**

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**Controversy surrounds planned refinery**

Cable said the Board of Minerals and Environment granted the permit in August after finding Hyperion Resources, based in Dallas, had met the requirements under state and federal laws and rules. Board members endorsed the state Environment Department’s recommendation to approve the permit for what would be the first new U.S. oil refinery built since 1976.

**The Observer**

Tuesday, January 26, 2010

Shoppers check out a MacBook Pro at the Apple Store in the Valley Fair Shopping Centre in San Jose, Calif. Apple Inc. is expected to report its most profitable quarter ever over the holidays.

**Apple Inc. sees best quarter ever**

Apple’s report reflected the company’s ability to allure shoppers without deep cuts to its premium prices. Apple's reputation as a luxury brand hasn’t dented its ability to put up better numbers even as many computer buyers grapple toward cheaper options.

Apple sold 8.7 million iPhones in the quarter, double what it sold in the same period last year. Apple's chief financial officer, Peter Oppenheimer, said on a conference call that half of the company's revenue growth could be attributed to the iPhone change, but Apple was silent on the change's effects on net income.

Apple's numbers also got a boost from an accounting change. Apple started posting iPhone revenue and profit on its books when the gadget is sold, rather than deferring those results over the presumed life of the device.

Apple said Monday it earned $3.4 billion, or $1.27 per share, in the latest quarter, which ended Dec. 26. In the same period of 2008, it had made $1.34 per share. 

Revenue was $15.7 billion, a 23 percent jump from $12.7 billion in the same period last year. Apple’s chief financial officer, Peter Oppenheimer, said on a conference call that half of the company’s revenue growth could be attributed to the iPhone change, but Apple was silent on the change’s effects on net income.

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Apple sold 8.7 million iPhones in the quarter, double what it sold in the same period the year before. And its sales of Macintosh computers rose 33 percent.

But the 21 million iPods it sold marked an 8 percent decline. Although Apple refreshed its iPod Nano with new colors and a video-camera last fall, sales of the iPod have suffered as Apple switches to a tablet-style computer.

Apple also offered a profit and revenue forecast above Wall Street forecasts. The iPhone’s rollout in several major new markets, including China and South Korea, helped Apple double sales of the hot phone.

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A year ago, our newly-inaugurated President gave his address to a nation eager for change. Then just a week ago, the people of Massachusetts voted for change, albeit one the Democrats did not anticipate. The seat held by Sen. Ted Kennedy for nearly half a century in a state that has not elected a Republican senator since 1972 will now be filled by a Republican by the name of Scott Brown.

Yes, the same Scott Brown whom Keith Olbermann called “an irresponsible, homophobic, racist, reactionary, ex- nautical model, tea-bagging supporter of violence against women and against politicians with whom he disagrees.” He did apologize later though ... for leaving out “sexist.”

As my friend Wally Forman observed, “If Olbermann is right, people must really hate Obama.”

Or at least his policies.

To be sure, Brown is no conservative, at least on social issues. Yet he campaigned on a straightforward platform that included conservative positions on economic policy and national security. Most significantly, he has vowed to be the 41st vote against Democratic health care legislation that until last Tuesday was steamrolling its way through Congress.

Like their fellow voters in New Jersey and Arizona and Idaho last November, Massachusetts residents are not pleased with the way Democrats are handling the country. Obama may have successfully kept his post-partisan pragmatist mask in place during the campaign, but lately that mask is slipping off his face to reveal the liberal ideologue underneath. And Americans are not happy with what they see.

Some may take issue with the claim that Obama is no fair-minded pragmatist, declaring that Democratic leaders in Congress are the ones refusing to act in a bipartisan manner. Between the closed-door meetings to craft legislation and the labeling of conservative Americans as redneck, gun-toting, racist, sexist, Bible-thumping, Nazi-sym pathetic tea-baggers, it becomes diffi- cult for anyone, even The Messiah, to reach out to Republicans.

This assertion, however, leaves the president open to charges of ama- torunism and incompetent leadership for allowing members of his party to hijack his agenda. Obama the candidate prom ised to rid Washington of “the same par tisanis and pettiness and immaturity that has poisoned our politics for so long.” As president, he appears to be enabling it. He stood by idly as Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid handed out kickbacks like candy to senators in exchange for votes in favor of health care legislation. He twisted his thumb when Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi accused townhall protesters of carrying swastikas. He even allowed his own administration to pick petty fights with Rush Limbaugh and Fox News.

That’s not to say that Obama has managed to stay completely above the fray. Recently, the president himself bowed to special interest pressure by giving union members a five-year exemption from the tax on health insurance that Democrats were planning to impose on over 90 per- cent of the labor force in order to pay for their health care package.

Moreover, despite having held office for over a year, Obama continues to recycle that same tired response to criti cism again and again. “The only thing that swept Scott Brown into office swept me into office as well,” he angrily and rather frustrated. Not just because of what’s happened in the last year or two years, but what’s happened over the last eight years.”

Translation: it’s all Bush’s fault!

Now Obama is correct when he says Americans are angry. However, his assessment of the source of their anger is not quite as accurate. Americans feel betrayed by a president who vowed to bring bipartisanship to Washington but has instead tried to ram his legislation through Congress without substantial Republican support. His definition of “bipartisanship” is looking more and more like Bush’s “take it or leave it” approach with each passing day. Real bipartisanship involves the willingness to compromise, and so far the Democrats have not demonstrated such willingness. In fact, Obama appears to be much more comfortable offering an extended hand to the clenched fists of countries that want to destroy us than to American politicians on the other side of the aisle.

But the main reason behind American anger, to borrow a phrase from a presi dent who became a real pragmatist, is “the economy, stupid.” Instead of the pragmatism we were promised, Obama and the Democrats have convinced themselves that the stimulus package will get the economy back on track, leaving them free to pursue their anti- capitalist, anti-growth, ideological poli cies like cap-and-trade, tax increases and the expansion of government health care coverage (which will cover more people, cost less, and will magically not be rationed). Yet the economy, if it is improving, is still in a fragile state. Americans are fearful that more taxing and spending will spiral the recovery and plunge us into another recession.

The most transparent indicator of Obama’s lack of pragmatism and bipar tisanship may be yet to come, depending largely on how Obama and his party react to the Massachusetts election. If they pretend Brown won was nothing but a minor setback and continue push ing their liberal agenda, they risk politi cal and economic exchange to adherence to ideology. But if they step back and try to repair the partisan divide through com promise and prioritization of economic recovery, they may be able to hold onto the pragmatist label, though at the expense of implementing liberal policies.

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

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

Job well done

I have delivered The Observer for more than a decade. The Observer is going on 50 years old. Students have worked hard to put out one of the finest daily newspapers. Many people, not all in the Notre Dame community, have told me this. I am an independent contractor, I don’t work for Notre Dame or The Observer, but have worked with the students long enough to know the cartoon is not what The Observer is about.

The Observer is about putting out a paper that all of its loyal staff can be proud of. The students work from 9 p.m. until 4 a.m. five nights a week and continue with their class work with a smile. The Observer consists of 10,000 copies per day and on football Fridays, 15,000. They have gone to class all day and then having to edit 20-plus pages of newspaper at night, anyone could easily miss something. Give these students credit for the wonderful job they do.

My prayers go out to the staff of The Observer for all the hate calls and e-mails they have been receiving. It would be much nicer to compliment them for all their hard work and dedication.

I want to thank and compliment you for the very fine job you do.

Jack Radican

Still overpriced

As occasionally happens, I wondered into the Huddle Mart due to a hunger that convinced me that Huddle Mart’s relative- ly close location made it the ideal candidate for me to purchase some munchies. I headed directly to the Clif bars, a source of quick sustenance I use to rely on to get me through time crunches. To my angst, Clif bars are priced at $2.09 rather than $0.99 as I used to use. This made an article that was published in The Observer sometime within the last year (“Huddle Mart unable to compete with retailers,” Oct. 13) pop into my mind.

The article argued that the Huddle Mart’s prices were comparable to other convenience stores and displayed a list of about 20 assorted items compared to average store prices. I figured maybe the price of Clif bars had increased. Since I had last purchased them and continued my search. The next item that caught my eye was a seven-ounce bag of chips, and then its price. The Huddle Mart wants $3.29 for a bag of chips the size you might pay $1.29 for or maybe $1.59 if you found it in an over-priced convenience store. I did not recognize the brand so I figured this may be an expensive brand and moved on.

Silk Vanilla soy milk caught my eye because I regularly pur- chase the half gallon size for $2.99 and I wanted to confirm the story that Huddle Mart’s prices were reasonable. This was a quarter gallon, factoring in for the convenient size I guessed $2 would be the maximum reasonable price. The Huddle Mart price is $3.29. Why would I pay more for a quarter gallon at the Huddle Mart than I would pay for a half gallon somewhere else?

To polish off my dissain of Huddle Mart prices, and convince myself not to waste time hunting for munchies again, I priced Clif bars on the Clif bar Web site, usually on par with convenience stores and displayed a list of about 20 assorted items compared to average store prices. I figured maybe the price of Clif bars had increased. Since I had last purchased them and continued my search. The next item that caught my eye was a seven-ounce bag of chips, and then its price. The Huddle Mart wants $3.29 for a bag of chips the size you might pay $1.29 for or maybe $1.59 if you found it in an over-priced convenience store. I did not recognize the brand so I figured this may be an expensive brand and moved on.

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By KATHERINE GREENSPON
Scene Writer

On Jan. 12, an earthquake with a scale of 7.0 hit southern Haiti close to capital city Port-au-Prince, where lives were lost and families were separated. The caliber of this tragedy has sent ripples of fear and sadness throughout the world, with people volunteering their time, donating money to major charities, and coming together quickly for a catastrophe that requires awareness and action.

Hollywood’s elite came together this past Friday to put on a “Hope for Haiti” concert and telethon that has been one of the largest aid efforts yet. George Clooney is no stranger to donating and giving aid where it is needed and Friday night’s charity event was one of the largest he has hosted so far. A worldwide broadcast with George Clooney hosting in Los Angeles, Haiti native Wyclef Jean in New York and CNN’s Anderson Cooper in Haiti showed a raised emotion, news and stories from the Haitian people right to their living room televisions. Throughout the benefit, celebrities like Reese Witherspoon, Brad Pitt, Robert Pattinson, Jennifer Aniston, Leonardo DiCaprio, Stephen Spielberg and others manned the phones for the telethon from 8 to 10 p.m. And even after the concert was over, celebrities worked overtime to answer as many phone calls as they could.

The concert segment of the event featured performances by many artists including the likes of Wyclef Jean, Bruce Springsteen, Jennifer Hudson, Mary J. Blige, Shakira and Sting in New York City. From the Los Angeles set came numbers by Alicia Keys, Christina Aguilera, Dave Matthews, John Legend, Justin Timberlake, Stevie Wonder, Taylor Swift and a group performance by Keith Urban, Kid Rock and Sheryl Crow. And in London, Coldplay performed, and there was a group performance by Bono, The Edge, Jay-Z and Rihanna.

Clips from the wreckage were streamed during event and Haitian survivors offered their time to share stories and involved in relief efforts.

“I wasn’t involved with the Haiti relief effort until I watched the concert with artists like Justin Timberlake who sang ‘Hallelujah,'” he said. “It was then that I became inspired to get involved.” During the concert, students called in to the telethon to give their donations by phone. Not only were they donating to an excellent cause, they were given the chance to talk to celebrities over the phone. Sophomore Shannon Whelan and Karen Hanley did just that.

“After getting the busy signal numerous times I finally got a hold of a telethon operator where I was able to give my donation,” Whelan said. “Having the telethon was a great idea because it made it so easy to call in and donate, plus I was able to watch a great concert,” Hanley said. “Hope for Haiti” has reportedly brought in more than $50 million already, and donations are still coming in.

All proceeds from the event will be divided up between five charities, including UNICEF, the Red Cross, Oxfam America, Partners in Health and Wyclef’s Yele Haiti foundation. All five of these notable charities are working actively in Haiti right now.

Performances that were televised are now available on iTunes for $.99 and Apple has agreed to give all funds directly to the “Hope For Haiti” charities.

For more information on Haiti Relief charities and how to donate and make your contribution visit www.hopeforhaitinow.org or call toll free at 1-877-99-HAITI.

Contact Katherine Greenspon at kgreen01@saintmarys.edu
By NICK ANDERSON

Damon Dash in one of the many men in the entertainment industry whose profile doesn’t match his influence. (In that sense, he’s like Diddy, but the exact opposite.) He’s one of the co-founders of Roc-A-Fella Records as well as the respective clothing line and film studio. He’s worth more than $50 million to make a movie and expects about $50 million in return.

It’s actually rather surprising this happens time and time again. Dash reached out to The Black Keys and ultimately interrupted the recording and ultimately pushed and prodded, examined and dissected. Throughout the masterfully constructed plot device of the Imaginarium, Gilliam is able to transform the twisty mind into a very real place, where desires are embodied in a brightly animated reality, but deals with the devil are followed by a handshake.

The film tells the story of Doctor Parnassus, a former monk, once a protector of the existence of the universe, as he travels through modern-day London leading his motley crew of four in their attempts to entertain and enlighten an un receptive audience. Parnassus, his confidant Percy, his daughter Valentina, and her suitor Anton, run the shabby but powerful Imaginarium, which opens to another dimension, where the visitor is confronted with a choice between paths of light and darkness. In their travels, they find Tony, a man being chased by mobsters, hanging by his neck beneath a bridge. Tony, it seems, is a Godsend, helpless in the eyes of the devil, Parnassus, who选秀 his life of immortality, if Mr. Nick wins, he is condemned for the rest of his life. The plot is by far the best rap song released in 2009. This track, along with last year’s “Stay Off the Flowers,” put the song far and away from the cloistered world of hip-hop; the lyrics stick firmly to matters explored thoroughly in both genres — sex, drugs and money — and the music idolizes them in all the glory for which both hip-hop and rock have already been celebrated.

There are two outstanding performances. Raewone and Nicole Wray. Wray’s gravelly voice on “Only Built for Cuban Linx Pt 2,” is well done but Depp and Ledger do a more than welcome job. The character while not fully fleshed out and despite their overwhelming personality traits, manage to narrowly avoid becoming parodies. Gilliam’s most underrated talent is easily his ability to deliver a beautifully shot at the expense of real development, but the majesty of the visuals make up for this more than often not. The character while not fully fleshed out and despite their overwhelming personality traits, manage to narrowly avoid becoming parodies.

The Imaginariam of Doctor Parnassus will no doubt divide audiences. Its faults are evident and flaws are easily critiqued, but a movie about humanity would struggle without significant flaws. Those who are forgiving of its weaknesses will be rewarded with a strange trip into an even stranger mind.

Contact Nick Anderson at nanders@ndu.edu
CBS urged to pull pro-life Tebow ad

Associated Press

NEW YORK — A coalition of women’s groups called on the NFL CBS network on Monday to scrap its plan to broadcast an ad during the Super Bowl highlighting telegenic college football star Tim Tebow and his mother, who criticizes in her book and on television the institution of abortion.

The charge is that Tebow’s pregnancy in 1987 with what is now his wife, Schulte, the first time she’s served a set in six matches

All the broadcast networks, including CBS, have policies that prohibit “hardcore” ads with the certain types of contentious advocacy messages. The FCC has no policy in rejecting an ad by the liberal-leaning United Church of Christ, which is the UCC’s welcoming stance toward gays and others who might feel shunned by more conservative churches.

CBS was criticized for rejecting that ad — and perhaps might have worried about complaints from comparable conservative groups if it had rejected an ad featuring such a charismatic and well-known figure as Tebow.

CBS noted that it had run some advocacy ads in recent months, including spots taking conflicting sides in the debate of a national health care overhaul.

A columnist for CBSSports.com, Gregg Doyel, also objected to the CBS decision to show the ad, specifically saying it would air on Super Sunday.

If you’re a sports fan, and I am, that’s the holiest day of the year,” he wrote. “It’s not a day to discuss abortion. For it, that’s not the day to have that discussion.”

Tebow’s pregnancy in 1987 with what is now his wife, Schulte, the first time she’s served a set in six matches

UNPLANNED PREGNANCY

Neither life was wanted in the womb, and both terminated in abortion. The choice was never about abortion, but about whether a life was wanted or not.

All collected data had to come to one of the authors. Drs. Shulman, Nathan and Schulte all contributed to the data and understanding of the results. Dr. Nathan is equally credited. The choice was never about abortion, but about whether a life was wanted or not.

AUSTRALIAN OPEN

No. 1 seeds dating back eight years against the Italian.

Roger Federer greets Australian Lleyton Hewitt after Federer’s victory at the Australian Open Monday.

Justine Henin resumes her Grand Slam comeback in a quarterfinal against Nadia Petrova, who has already out-

Australian Open

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Vikings unsure about Favre, future

Associated Press

EDEN PRAIRIE, Minn. — One after another, the Minnesota Vikings mentioned how much they enjoyed playing with Brett Favre.

Will the fun be one season and done?

The devastated Vikings gathered Monday at their practice facility for exit physicals and meetings with coaches, two weeks sooner than they hoped thanks to a renewed desire to return to the Superdome. "I really enjoyed it, to be honest. Just how much I enjoy it can hold up, especially after a day like today."

He took a beating by the Saints, and the ankle injury he suffered in the third quarter of the locker room at Winter Park while it was open to reporters, but his demeanor after the game and responses from teammates suggested he's leaning toward quitting. For now.

"In a situation like this I really don't want to make a decision right now based on what's happened, because I do know the year could not have gone any better aside from us not going to Miami," Favre said Sunday night at the Superdome. "I really enjoyed it, to be honest. Just how much I enjoy it can hold up, especially after a day like today."

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Vikings quarterback Brett Favre, pictured here in Sunday’s NFC Championship loss to the Saints, is pondering retirement. Favre led the Vikings to a 12-4 record this season in the only year of his contract.

In Brief

Bill Haas notches first victory at Hope Classic

LA QUINTA, Calif. — Bill Haas followed his father’s advice to be patient through six long days at the Bob Hope Classic until his final hole, when a highly impatient shot clinched his first PGA Tour victory.

Haas made a short birdie putt after an aggressive approach shot on the 18th hole to win the Hope Classic on Monday, beating Matt Kuchar, Tim Clark and Bubba Watson by one stroke with an 8-under 64.

"I’d been wanting to win from the first tournament I played, and it’s a process, and there’s a lot to it,” said Haas, a rookie in 2006. “It’s special, but I don’t know if it’s a monkey off my back. I know how hard it was to win, and I’m grateful.”

The 27-year-old son of 1988 Hope Classic champion Jay Haas was the last of three co-leaders to play the par-5 18th.

Rick Ankiel to become Royals center fielder

KANSAS CITY, Mo. — The Kansas City Royals are reshaping their entire outfield and making Jose Guillen their full-time designated hitter.

While introducing newcomer Rick Ankiel on Monday, general manager Dayton Moore said the injury-prone Guillen would be replaced in right field by David DeJesus, last year’s left fielder. Ankiel will play center and Scott Podsednik, another newcomer, will be in left.

The Royals opened last year with Coco Crisp in center field but he got hurt and the position mostly belonged to Mitch Maier after that.

“We feel that right now, going into spring training, this is the best way to position our outfield defense,” Moore said. “These three guys are all capable of playing center field. We felt Rick’s best use is to put him in center field at this time.”

Glen ‘Big Baby’ Davis wants to drop nickname

BOSTON — Boston Celtics forward Glen “Big Baby” Davis is looking to change his image. Step One: Drop the nickname.

Davis, who missed the start of the season following surgery for a broken thumb he sustained in a fight with a, well, a friend, was recently fined $25,000 for directing inappropriate language at a fan during a game against Detroit last Wednesday.

“I’m in the public eye. Kids look up to me. You just can’t make those kind of statements,” he said before Monday’s game against the Los Angeles Clippers. “It (stinks) that you have to learn this way, how to keep your emotions intact. I know who I am as a person, and hopefully my fans know who I am as a person, that I am a good guy. I’m not a troublemaker or a fighter.”

AROUND THE NATION

Tuesday, January 26, 2010

page 13
NFL

Colts hope to repeat ‘07 feat

Associated Press

INDIANAPOLIS — The Indianapolis Colts started this season with one goal: winning another Super Bowl.

Now they are a victory away from a championship and bound back to the site of their previous one.

No, the plans haven’t changed much from Indy’s last postseason trip to Miami. This week will be spent putting in a game plan, and next week, first-year coach Jim Caldwell is taking a page right out of Tony Dungy’s playbook. The Colts will stay at the same hotel, practice at the same facility and follow almost the same routine that they did before beating Chicago in the rainiest Super Bowl on record.

“We’ll change some things. We’ll tweak them and adjust a little bit, according to how we envision some things, and it depends on what happens to us this week,” Caldwell said Monday. “We’ll make some adjustments; it’s not an iron-clad sort of routine. But, overall, we’ll probably be fairly close to what we’ve done previously.”

Some of the changes are not by choice. Four-time MVP Peyton Manning and his Pro Bowl teammates, who include Dallas Clark, Dwight Freeney and Reggie Wayne, are expected to be in town Sunday afternoon for a pregame news conference — a full day before the rest of the Colts arrive. Team president Bill Polian called that rule “distasteful” and a “fiasco” on his weekly radio show Monday night.

Indy’s team plane also is expected to arrive a little earlier than it did three years ago because of new rules implemented in 2008.

But with nearly half of Indy’s roster having Super Bowl experience, Caldwell will rely on his veterans to help younger players cope with the countless distractions of the next two weeks. Players, like fans, are scrambling to make travel plans, fill countless ticket requests and answer all kinds of e-mail and text messages. Caldwell said he had about 250 e-mail and more than 150 text messages after Sunday’s 30-17 victory over the New York Jets.

Pro Bowl center Jeff Saturday before returning to practice Wednesday.

“The reason? Once Indy reaches Miami, Saturday recalls, players will study film and do additional prep work for the Saints,” he said. “The ultimate goal is to win it (15-3) in unfamiliar surroundings or hotel rooms. New Orleans is in the Super Bowl for the first time in franchise history.

Another possible problem: Most people who come to town want to vacation or party. But the Colts have a job — completing a mission deemed so essential they threw away a chance at perfection to win a title.

So the Colts don’t want anything derailing their plans. “I guess it is kind of a relief that we’ve made it, but we’re not satisfied just being here,” left guard Ryan Lilja said. “We want to win, we want a ring, and that means you shouldn’t be hanging out on South Beach on Saturday night.”

Indy’s leaders will make sure that does not happen.

Among those singled out by Caldwell were Freeney, Manning, Saturday and Wayne — all of whom are likely to treat this trip like the business trip they made to Miami in February 2007.

“He, we’ve got three months,” Saturday said. “You can hang out on South Beach for three months if you want. But we have a job to do first.”

And it’s that attitude that Caldwell believes will make a difference on game day.

“The ultimate goal is to win it all,” he said. “Nobody is going to be satisfied until we do that.”

MLB

Mets’ Santana looks to pitch opening day

Associated Press

PORT ST. LUCIE, Fla. — New York Mets ace Johan Santana is set to throw off a mound, hoping his left elbow has recovered from surgery last season.

Santana is scheduled to pitch Tuesday during the Mets’ three-day minicamp at their spring training complex. He expects to be ready for opening day after having bone chips removed Sept. 1.

“I’m feeling good. Time will tell, but I am feeling good,” the two-time Cy Young winner said Monday. “We did a pretty good job with the offseason, working out and doing all the rehab, and I’m feeling good. Everything is on schedule.”

Santana went 13-9 with a 3.13 ERA in 25 starts. He struggled after June, going 6-7 with a 4.02 ERA before the Mets shut him down in late August.

Pitcher Oliver Perez, who had scar tissue removed from his right knee last season, also was optimistic.

“Right now I don’t feel anything,” Perez said of his knee. “I think that’s why I’m really happy.”

Mets general manager Omar Minaya said the team’s health is the key to this season. Depleted by injuries, the Mets went 70-92 last year.

“Two weeks ago we were confident in Carlos Beltran being in the lineup, and now he’s not going to be for the start, so that’s why we went out and got Gary Matthews,” he said. “I think a healthy Mets team will contend for a playoff spot. I think the Phillies have really improved themselves, so we have a lot of work to do.”

“I don’t think we are a joke but I do believe when you lose and you have a situation where — let’s be honest — we didn’t have a good year. In New York, for people to pay more attention, you have to win,” he said.

The Mets quickly fell out of contention last year. In the two previous seasons, they doomed themselves with late collapses.

“It wasn’t like last year was something that happened three or four years,” Minaya said. “We all feel disappointed by how the year turned out last year, but the good thing about it is it’s a new year.”

Minaya said the Mets were still exploring their choices at catcher. They lost out on free-agent Bengie Molina, who re-signed with San Francisco, and currently have four options:

Gary Matthews, Chris Coste and young Josh Thole.

“If we need to go with the guys we have we will. But we are still talking to some other teams and looking at some free agents,” Minaya said.
Archie roots for Peyton over Saints

INDIANAPOLIS — Who dat say dey gonna beat dem Saints? Well, Archie’s boy might have something to say about that.

In a stunning turn of events, the team led through its formative years by a strong-armed quarterback named Archie Manning has finally made it to the Super Bowl. And look who’s standing in the way of the first NFL championship in New Orleans’ largely forgettable 43-year history as a pro football city.

None other than Peyton Manning and the Indianapolis Colts.

Archie’s son guided the Colts into the Super Bowl with a 30-17 victory over the upstart New York Jets in Sunday’s AFC championship game. About four hours later, the Saints stamped their ticket for South Beach by beating Brett Favre and the Minnesota Vikings 31-28 in an overtime thriller that decided the NFC title.

The winners will face off for the ultimate prize Feb. 7 in Miami.

Ever the doting father, Archie Manning attended the AFC championship game along with another son, New York Giants quarterback Eli Manning, and made it clear he’ll be rooting for the Colts in the Super Bowl, though he knows a Super Bowl title would mean so much to his adopted hometown.

"I’m pulling for the Colts 100 percent. It’s not even close."

Archie Manning
former Saint’s QB

The elder Manning still lives in New Orleans, hanging in there even as the city struggles more than four years later to overcome the hellishness of Hurricane Katrina.

"I’m pulling for the Colts 100 percent. “ Archie Manning said. “It’s not even close.”

Still, the family subplot hovering over this game will give everyone plenty to talk about during the next two weeks.
Associated Press

FLORHAM PARK, N.J. — Rex Ryan was so pleased with his team’s surprising playoff run this season, he’s clearing out his wardrobe.

Only green and white from now on for the New York Jets coach.

“You won’t see me in nothing but Jets gear because I believe,” Ryan said Monday before taking yet another shot at his king-sized build. “And the fact that there are 4X.”

All kidding aside, the Jets proved they were no joke after coming within a win of going to the Super Bowl. Any disappointment from their 30-17 loss to Indianapolis in the AFC championship was overshadowed by pride as the Jets began thinking about next season.

“I told our players to wear their Jets stuff and be proud of it,” Ryan said. “There’s no reason we shouldn’t be proud to be a New York Jet. This isn’t the ‘Same Old Jets’ and any negative connotation that way is crazy. Like I said, punch somebody in the face if that’s the case.

“That’s the way we feel about our football team is tough. We are resilient and I think we are going to get back.”

It’s tough to argue with Ryan considering the Jets (11-8) were by far able to get to the conference championship with a first-year head coach, a rookie quarterback and a new defensive system. They were also able to overcome injuries to key players such as Leon Washington and Kris Jenkins and a dismal stretch that appeared to ruin their playoff chances.

“Rex came in here and laid down the law and said how things were going to be,” center Nick Mangold said. “We took it to heart and ran with it.”

They sure did, all the way to the Super Bowl.

Ryan warned his players that they all believed there’s much more to come, starting next season — and maybe with a home AFC championship game.

“We played this game in front of our fans and our stadium, the New Jets Stadium,” Ryan said with a smile. “That’s going to be (the name of) it when we play in it. I can’t wait. We get our stadium and we are not the visitors in our stadium. This is our stadium. We are the biggest show in town and that’s what’s going to be.”

“We had a great run,” Revis said. “When people didn’t believe we could do it, we made a way.”

Ryan called it a “yo-yo season,” one in which the Jets started 3-0, lost six of their next seven and then closed out the regular season with five wins in their last six games to make the playoffs.

“We started great and then we about hit rock bottom, came right back up again,” Ryan said. “And then unfortunately, (Sunday night), we hit rock bottom again, because there’s no tomorrow.”

There was also an incredible lucky streak in which the Colts pulled their starters in Week 16, giving up a chance at a perfect season, and the Jets took advantage.

New York benefitted the following week when Cincinnati came to town with little to gain, and the Jets beat the Bengals, too. Meanwhile, all the teams ahead of them in the playoff race kept losing.

“There was a point where we could’ve just tanked,” Sanchez said. “But the way these guys are in this locker room, how excited we are to play for each other, and how Rex got us going, we just want to play for each other and win some games.”

While the top-ranked running game thrived behind Thomas Jones’ career-high 1,402 yards rushing, Sanchez struggled mightily with turnovers. Then, as the games became more important, the rookie began playing like a seasoned veteran.

“I think we saw our future, I really do,” Ryan said of Sanchez. “I want to be, and I know all our fans want me to be, more multiple I’m sure on offense, instead of just the run first, run second, run third-type mentality.”

Ryan established a brash, confident mentality the moment he was hired as the coach a year ago, making it clear he’s never afraid to say what’s on his mind. For a franchise sorely lacking an identity, Ryan took care of all that by himself.

“We believed in him as the season went on,” safety Kerry Rhodes said. “A lot of the things he said came to fruition, even though we didn’t meet the President. We got pretty close.”

Ryan warned his players that it’s no given they’ll be back in this spot again next season. But they all believe there’s much more to come, starting next season — and maybe with a home AFC championship game.

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Jets head coach Rex Ryan fields questions from the media after New York’s 17-30 loss to Indianapolis in the AFC Championship Sunday.

Please recycle.
are ranked second and third in the country in assist-to-turnover ratio behind Duke’s John Scheyer. But it’s not all on them. “To [Abromaitis] I credit, he has delivered,” Brey continued. “He has made the shots. Abromaitis isn’t just a shooter — several times he took advantage of a gap and took a pass under the basket against DePaul and threw down a dunk or two in the process.

One of my strengths is really my versatility,” Abromaitis said. “I’m able to score on the inside and outside and it makes it hard for some teams to match up with me.”

He also understands how important Jackson and Hansbrough are to his success. He credited their drive-and-kick passes to helping him get open looks. “I don’t know how they see me half the time when they give me the ball,” he said. Hansbrough said.

“When somebody’s shooting 50 percent from the 3-point line, you have in the back of your mind, ‘Where’s he at?’” Hansbrough said.

“He does a great job of finding open areas.”

Abromaitis has also taken advantage of the transition offense. He can take a pass on the fast break in the lane or sit on the perimeter while the defense rushes past, then wait for a pass and an open shot.

“At the beginning a couple transition buckets got me a couple easy looks,” he said. “The penetration of Ben and Tory, they did a great job getting in the lane and knowing where people are up and down on them and kicking it out to the open shooter. That just happened to be me a lot of the time today.”

That phenomenon burned the Demon Deacons, DePaul interim head coach Tracy Webster said. “If he was ball-side and his guy had to help, he was going to get an open look,” Webster said.

“As potent a scorer as he is, he’s done it under the radar until recently, even in his own eyes. He was surprised that he scored 30 points Saturday. ‘I don’t really count or anything like that,’ he said. ‘I’m kind of a quiet scorer but that might be better for me.’”

Tim Abromaitis
Irish forward

Indeed, the first-round bye and subsequent home ice advantage have proven to be vital to Notre Dame’s success during Jackson’s tenure.

In 2006, the Irish finished eighth in the CCHA, and host-ed a first-round series, but without a bye fell to Alaska Fairbanks, 1-3, 0-1. The following year, Notre Dame won the CCHA regular-season title and used its first-round bye and home ice advantage to reach the CCHA championship in Detroit, where the Irish won their first CCHA tournament. The team followed the same road in 2009.

The value of winning the CCHA tournament cannot be overlooked, as it brings with it an automatic bid into the NCAA Tournament, and a shot at the ultimate goal, the NCAA Championship.”

The [NCAA Tournament] dictates the [NCAA Championship].” Jackson said. “I have said since I got here that what you need to is put yourself in position to get to Detroit and there put yourself in position to make the NCAA Tournament.”

Thanks to the recent surge, the Irish are closing in on that desired fourth-place position, and once the postseason struggles and weekend sweeps.

Contact Douglas Farmer at dfarmer1@nd.edu

CLUB SPORTS

Figure skaters tie for fifth at Mid-America

Special to The Observer

This weekend the Notre Dame Figure Skating Team tied for fifth at the Mid-America championships in Fraser, Mich.

In an increasingly competitive division of 13 well-established open collegiate programs, the Irish skaters improved their rank from the
Peters continued from page 20

"I'm just trying to give it everything I have and see where that takes me." - Devereaux Peters

Irish forward

Deep continued from page 20

While the Irish opened the season ranked 30th in the nation, Bayliss doesn't worry about the polls early in the year. "I don't put a lot of stock in rankings, especially pre-season ones," Bayliss said. "Ours is based primarily on last year's finish. I think we are better than that.

The Irish also have four players with singles preseason rankings including freshman Blas Moreo (No. 74), sophomore Casey Watt (No. 18), and juniors Stephen Havens (No. 93) and Dan Stahl (No. 95).

Bayliss said the Irish will need to rely on their doubles teams to pull out the doubles point and start the matches off strong. "We have been working hard on our doubles this year, as well as trying to concentrate on the areas of individual weakness that each of our players has," Bayliss said. "I can honestly say that critical decisions still need to be made regarding both who and what combinations will step out on the court. Watt and [Tyler] Davis have played together in the last fall and had some good results, but they need to buy into a system that gives them a better chance to win, playing higher percentages and being more consistent, or perhaps find other partners.

"Havens and Fitzgerald have been a pleasant surprise so far. After that it will be our challenge to find a solid No. 3 team." After losing seven matches last season by a score of 4-3, the Irish hope their experience in close matches will result in more wins in the spring.

The Irish are 2-1 after opening the season with wins over William & Mary and IUPUI but falling 7-4 to No. 2 Virginia. They will return to the court Saturday to face Tulsa in Columbus, Ohio.

Contact Jared Jedick at jjedick@nd.edu

Espinoza continued from page 20

"Between Barack and a Hard Place: Race and Whiteness in the Age of Obama" Tuesday, January 26, 2010 7:30 PM

Carey Auditorium - Hesburgh Library
A Question and Answer session will follow.

Event is free and open to the public.

Tim Wise is among the most prominent anti-racist writers and activists in the U.S., and has been called, "One of the most brilliant, articulate and courageous critics of white privilege in the nation." Wise has spoken in 48 states, and on over 400 college campuses, including Harvard, Stanford, and the Law Schools at Yale and Columbia, and has spoken to community groups around the nation.

Wise has a B.A. in Political Science from Tulane University, where his anti-apartheid work received global attention and the thanks of Nelson Mandela and Archbishop Desmond Tutu. He received training in methods for dismantling racism from the People’s Institute for Survival and Beyond, in New Orleans.

"Racism and White Privilege: Between a Rock and a Hard Place" TIM WISE

ANTI-RACIST WRITER, ACTIVIST, SPEAKER

Sponsored by Multicultural Student Programs and Services (MSPS)
The Observer apologizes for the absence of Schad & Freude.

Hey, check out my brand new Mac tablet! No way had you even heard of them, much less used one. I heard that thing is like a Kindle, Macbook, iPhone, and Google all put together.

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The Observer
P.O. Box 779
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Wednesday, January 26, 2010

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ND Track & Field

Thrower Espinoza brings leadership to Irish squad

By MATT ROBISON
Sports Writer

Jaclyn Espinoza has become a standout on the Irish squad this year in more ways than one. Not only is the All-American thrower starting the season with notable results, she’s also becoming a leader among her teammates.

The Oregon native has gotten off to a fast start this season with a fourth-place finish at last weekend’s Notre Dame Invitational, helping the women’s side to win the event. In the Notre Dame Indoor Opener on Jan. 15, Espinoza finished third with a Big East qualifying throw of 13.71 meters, and at the Blue and Gold Meet in December she finished second.

Espinoza burst onto the throwing scene when she qualified for the NCAA Outdoor Championships as a Freshman in the discus and the shot put, one of only two throwers in her class to accomplish that feat. She also earned All-Big East honors that year with a second-place finish at the Big East outdoor championships in the discus.

Her sophomore year featured more of the same outstanding performances. Espinoza earned All-Big East honors again with appearances in the Big East Indoor and Outdoor Championships and a spot in the NCAA Outdoor Championships. In 2009, things got even better for Espinoza. With a Big East outdoor title in the discus and a third place finish at the NCAA outdoor championships, she became the first Irish athlete to earn All-American honors in the discus.

“She is a student of her trade, and has a real understanding of her sport that helps her win even though she is always the smallest person out there,” throwing coach Adam Beltran said. “She simply refuses to lose.”

“Whether it requires a 6 a.m. lift or a 9 p.m. throwing session, Jaclyn will do it without complaint and get the job done,” Beltran said.

In terms of her leadership, her positive attitude has rubbed off on her teammates and has created a sense of oneness on the squad.

“Jaclyn has been an amazing leader,” Beltran said. “She has really stepped into her role, and will utilize the new freshmen throwers. Even though she is one of the best in the country, she is...

see ESPINOZA/page 18

Men’s Basketball

Abromaitis evolves into deadly offensive weapon

By BILL BRINK
Sports Writer

As Tim Abromaitis lined up a free throw near the end of Notre Dame’s 87-77 win over DePaul Saturday, a desperate Blue Demon fan screamed, “Who are you?”

Thanks to his performance, not just against DePaul but this whole season, now we know.

Abromaitis scored 30 points and hit five 3-pointers in the game Saturday, one point off his season high of 31 against Central Florida, the first game he started. He’s started every game since.

For someone who didn’t play a single minute last season, that’s quite a transformation. But not if you ask those who saw him last season — Irish coach Mike Brey said there were some days in

see ABROMAITIS/page 17

Peters undeterred by injuries

By LAURA MYERS
Sports Writer

Two years is a long time for a scholarship athlete to go without running.

Junior forward Devereaux Peters dribbled in a 78-59 win over Western Kentucky on Nov. 13, 2007.

see Peters/page 18

Experience, depth give Bayliss lineup options

By KATELYN GRABAREK
Sports Writer

If this year’s Irish team doesn’t meet expectations, experience and depth certainly won’t be to blame.

Notre Dame returns all but one player from last year’s squad and adds three freshmen, resulting in a team that gives Irish coach Bobby Bayliss some unique challenges.

“The biggest challenges facing us this year involve two things: dealing with one of the country’s most difficult schedules and keeping a very deep team happy with ample playing opportunities,” Bayliss said. “I feel we are good enough to take on this schedule, but we need to be sufficiently resilient to handle some losses and rebound well to take advantage of the large number of opportunities that we will have.

“As for playing time, I believe that this might be the deepest team we have ever had in my 23-year Notre Dame tenure. We have 10 players who have done well as starters, or are impact freshmen.

Bayliss understands that with only graduating one starter from last year’s roster and adding three solid freshmen, the season will be difficult to get everyone ample playing time consistently.

see DEPTH/page 18

Hockey

ND moves up CCHA standings

By DOUGLAS FARMER
Sports Writer

Two weeks ago Notre Dame was in a three-way tie for seventh place in the CCHA after being swept at home by No. 11 Ferris State.

After gaining four points against No. 18 Lake Superior State this past weekend, the Irish have come into sole possession of sixth place, and are a mere three points behind fourth-place Lake Superior.

Irish coach Jeff Jackson said the team realized the dire position it was in after the Ferris State sweep, and set to playing its way back into contention.

“They are playing like they have their backs against the wall,” he said. “I give them a lot of credit to play with that sense of urgency that we do...