Student underage drinking arrests slow

Meetings this week between student representatives, South Bend Police Department result in increased cooperation

By SARAH MERVOSH
News Editor

Since representatives from the University and student government met with local law enforcement at the beginning of the month, the number of students arrested for underage drinking has decreased.

This change came as a result of increased cooperation and understanding on both sides, student body president Catherine Soler said after meeting with representatives from the South Bend Police Department (SBPD) and Indiana State Excise Police this week.

“Everyone is just really happy to be moving forward in a productive manner,” Soler said. “It was cooperative and polite and mutually respectful so that makes a big difference.”

SBPD arrested six underage students for minor consuming at a Sept. 10 incident on the 1000 block of N. Lawrence Street. Officers arrested two and cited four for minor consuming at a Sept. 17 incident on the 200 block of S. St. Louis Boulevard, according to police logs.

Cleveland said his meeting with representatives from Notre Dame resulted in greater understanding of the University’s perspective, and he said he thought the University

Wall Street Journal ranks colleges on recruiting

Wall St. Journal
Top School’s Ranked by Job Recruiters

Top US universities ranked by corporate recruiters nationwide:

1. Penn State
2. Texas A&M
3. University of Illinois
4. Purdue
5. Arizona State University
6. University of Michigan
7. Notre Dame

Penn State topped the list of 25 schools released last week. Notre Dame was one of only six private universities listed in this new ranking system, and one of six schools ranked in U.S. News & World Report’s top 25 national universities.

Jennifer Merritt, who led

Former biology prof. dies at 92

By LAURA MCCRYSTAL
News Editor

Julian Pleasants, associate professor emeritus of biological sciences at Notre Dame, died Sept. 17 at the age of 92, according to a University press release.

Pleasants graduated from Notre Dame in 1939 and began working at LORANDO, the University’s germ-free research center, in 1944, according to the press release issued Thursday. He earned his doctorate in microbiology from Notre Dame in 1966, and worked in germ-free research for the rest of his career.

In addition to his work teaching and researching at Notre Dame, Pleasants worked throughout his life as a Catholic social activist and peace activist. He joined the Catholic Worker Movement at the end of the Great Depression. In 1941, he helped create South Bend’s first Catholic Worker house of hospitality to serve meals made from Notre Dame’s dining hall leftovers to unemployed men. As a member of the Catholic Worker movement he joined a community of Catholic social activists, which included Catholic writer and editor Eugene Geissler and Notre Dame professor Willis Nutting.

He began to correspond with his future wife, Mary Jane Brady, when she was editor of “Life and Home” magazine. They married in 1948. In 1949, Pleasants, his wife and other members of the Notre Dame theology program, in which he studied for a master’s degree, purchased an 80-acre farm in Granger to live in a communal, religious setting and work closely with the land. He and his wife raised seven children in that community.

The Pleasants were also founding members of Little Flower Catholic Church. Pleasants, his family and other members of the community sought to integrate faith, Catholic liturgy, social justice and the importance of life into their lifestyles.

He was a volunteer at South Bend’s Logan Center and a founding member of Friends of l’Arche, both of which serve the developmentally disabled. Both organizations have been important to the Pleasants, his family and other members of the community.

There will be a memorial service and reception at the University of Notre Dame’s Peace Center on Saturday, both at Little Flower Catholic Church on 54191 Ironwood Rd. Contributions in Pleasants’ memory can be made to the Logan Center or Little Flower Catholic Church.

Contact Laura McCryst at lmmccrystal@nd.edu

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The Observer

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POLICIES

The Observer reserves the right to refuse to publish communication that is not appropriate for a public university newspaper.

Questions regarding Observer policies should be directed to Editor-in-Chief, Mark Gardner.

OFFBEAT

Woman battles bear with zucchini

HELENA, Mont. — A Montana woman fended off a bear trying to muscle its way into her home Thursday by pelting the animal with a large piece of zucchini from her garden.

The woman suffered minor scratches and one of her dogs was wounded after tussling with the 200-pound bear.

The attack happened just after midnight when the woman let her three dogs into the backyard for their nighttime ritual before she headed to bed. Missoula County Sheriff's Lt. Rich Maricelli said. Authorities believe the black bear was just 25 yards away, eating apples from a tree.

Two of the dogs sensed the bear, began barking and ran away, Maricelli said. The third dog, a 12-year-old collie that wasn’t very mobile, remained close to the woman as she stood in the doorway of the home near Frenchtown in isolated western Montana.

Before she knew what was happening, the bear was on top of the dog and battling the collie back and forth, Maricelli said.

Toilet-paper bandit pleads guilty

LINCOLN, Neb. — The so-called “toilet-paper bandit” has pleaded guilty to attempted robbery in Lincoln. Sentencing is set Oct. 28 for 29-year-old Joshua F. Nelson, of Lincoln. Nelson made his plea Wednesday in Lincoln County District Court after an agreement with prosecutors, who had lowered the charge and dismissed a weapons count.

Nelson faces a maximum of 20 years in prison.

Offense

IN BRIEF

The Observer regards itself as a professional publication and strives for the highest standards of journalism at all times. We do, however, recognize that we will make mistakes. If we have made a mistake, please contact us at 631-4543 so we can correct our error.

Friday, September 24, 2010

What has been your greatest moment in volleyball?

Probably beating Stanford in three sets last year. We owned them. It was sweet.

What is your sports career goal?

To have fun. And win ... obviously.

If you weren’t playing volleyball, what sport would you play?

Snowboarding or surfing.

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Snowboarding or surfing.

Who is your favorite Notre Dame football player?

I can’t even choose. I just love football and all of the players so much!

What teammate of yours is the loudest on the court?

[Junior libero] Frenchy Silva. She’s a feisty one.

Know someone who should be in the hot seat? E-mail obsphoto@gmail.com
Some senior students spent the past two weeks in a blur of résumés, business suits and follow-up interviews after attending the Fall Career Fair at the Joyce Athletics and Convocation Center on Sept. 8. Director of the Career Center Lee Svete said the fair brought 138 potential employers to Notre Dame.

“We found that more employers had more jobs and internships this year,” Svete said. “Also, more companies were willing to travel to the event.”

Over 2,000 students ranging from freshmen to seniors attended the event. “What we’re really seeing in Notre Dame students is that they’re smart, and freshmen and sophomores are coming out,” Svete said. “They’re checking out the career fair, handing out résumés and picking up business cards.”

The early start certainly paid off for senior Vince Montalbano, who attended career fairs both his sophomore and junior years. Montalbano said he received an internship last summer with IT consulting company Accenture after talking to their representative at the fair his junior year. The internship led to a recent job offer that Montalbano said he is strongly considering. Montalbano said he was most impressed by the quality of companies who attended Notre Dame’s career fairs in the past. "It’s great to know that top-notch firms are looking to recruit people from Notre Dame," Montalbano said.

Students secured 1,700 internship through the Career Center last year, and Svete said he hopes more of these internships will lead to job offers like in the case of Montalbano. “We are seeing, at least in the industries for business and engineering, between 80 and 90 percent of students who did summer internships are getting job offers,” Svete said. “That’s huge, since it means our Notre Dame students are performing at high levels.”

Some students’ internships were so successful that the companies where they interned last summer asked the students to help out as recruiters at the fair earlier this month. “Employers are realizing that they can utilize students who have experienced the company culture,” Svete said. “It gives other students a feeling of comfort and connection because they see one of their peers.”

According to Svete, 600 interviews took place the day after the career fair. “Our performance in interviews seemed to be very positive,” Svete said. “We have students who are having second round interviews as early as tomorrow in places such as Chicago and New York.” However, many companies don’t interview the next day or even within the next few weeks, he said. Job offers could potentially take a while to materialize.

“In certain industries, such as publishing and public relations, that job offer won’t come until later,” Svete said. “Those decisions won’t be made until March.”

Svete said he wants students to know that if they didn’t find success at the career fair that there are still many opportunities for students to make connections with companies. Two upcoming events are the Winter Career Fair and the Post-Graduate Service Fair, which takes place Sept. 29.

Senior Liz Young attended the Fall Career Fair, but said she is more excited for the service fair coming up. “Considering my interests, I’m much more interested in the Post-Graduate Service Career Fair coming up,” Young said. “But it was definitely good to go and see what it’s like and get practice presenting your professional case to a business.”

In addition to the events on campus, there will be five career fairs over winter break in various cities such as Boston and New York. Notre Dame shares these fairs with other top-tier schools, such as Vassar and Cornell. Svete said these have been highly effective.

Eighty-two percent of the Class of 2010 graduated from Notre Dame with at least one job offer, Svete said. Contact Melissa Flanagan at mflanag3@nd.edu
Saint Mary’s course promotes learning by doing

Public communications students teach courses on speech at Center for Homeless, receive award for service

Learning through doing, is the goal of one of Saint Mary’s public communication courses. Saint Mary’s communication professor, Dr. Terri Russ and many public communication students were honored Tuesday with the Volunteer of the Year award from the Center for the Homeless in South Bend.

The award honored students who devoted their time to teaching the Center’s guests the importance of public speech. The course, which has been offered for three semesters at the College, is not a typical lecture class. Instead, the students become the teacher and apply their learning to real world situations.

Russ was the brain behind the idea of teaching students into the South Bend community. She said she is a strong advocate of hands-on learning and wanted to develop something beyond the lecture-style used in the classroom.

“I thought I would privilege the ‘public’ part of public communication and actually take the class into the public,” Russ said.

She also wanted to prove to her students that youth does not restrict them from making a difference in the community.

“We have an obligation as citizens to give to the community in any way we can,” she said. “As little as an hour a week can have a tremendous impact on the world.”

The class is devoted to helping guests tell their own personal story by enhancing their communication skills. At the end of the semester, Russ said the class assembles a narrative of the guests’ stories, and the guests will present their own speech about their lives.

Senior Katrina Mesina said she went into the class with her own personal aspirations.

“Identity is such a big part of who a person is, and sometimes, that can be lost,” Mesina said. “We wanted to restore people’s self-images and we did so by working one on one with our guests to help them form [these] speeches about their lives.”

The class worked with a number of different age groups including small children and mothers. Senior Emily Treat worked with Club PS, a club devoted to educating the children of the Center. Treat said it is important for children, not just adults, to learn public speaking skills.

“Since they’re in their formative years and highly susceptible to growth and development, it is crucial that we not only teach them to express themselves, but serve as role models for success and help steer them in the right direction as well,” Treat said.

Treat and others who worked with Club PS used games to help the kids warm up to the idea of public speech. Last session, they played “telephone,” demonstrating the difference between good and bad communication.

Treat said the class has been a powerful experience for her and many other students because it has taught them they have the power to have a positive change on the community.

“My learning that I can make a real difference in the quality of life for these children just by being there and showing them I care,” Treat said. “It’s amazing to me to see a child who’s in the lowest of spirits and refuses to participate slowly open up to us in a matter of a half hour.”

Senior Anne Sofranko said the class helped her learn more about her relationship with common stereotypes.

“This course really helps you see that you shouldn’t stereotype and judge other people because you never know where they have come from and what they have been through,” Sofranko said.

Sofranko’s experience taught her about poverty, one of Russ’ goals for the class.

“Poverty is a cycle and isn’t necessarily a reflection of the person. Societal pressures can also be to blame,” Russ said.

Mesina said she will never doubt the role the class played in her life.

“I learned a lot about the power of the human spirit. It can be broken down, but with patience, care, and support you can build it up again,” Mesina said. “The residents at the Center for the Homeless remind me ever day that there are prejudices in our world and if we do not take the time to look past them, we can miss out on relationships and experiences with wonderful people.”

Russ said out of her entire career, her work with the public communications class made her the most proud.

Contact Caitlin Housley at chous010@saintmarys.edu

By CAITLIN HOUSLEY
News Writer

Peter Lombardo, third from the left, of the Center for the Homeless poses with SMC students and Dr. Terri Russ, third from the right.
Award-winning Tomlin to discuss theatre at SMC

By ASHLEY CHARNEY
Saint Mary’s Editor

Emmy and Tony award-winning actress Lily Tomlin will speak on Saint Mary’s campus Monday in O’Laughlin Auditorium at 7:30 p.m. “An Evening with Lily Tomlin” will be hosted by the theater department’s Margaret Hill endowed lecture series, which has brought figures such as actress Glenn Close and director Hal Prince to campus in previous years. As part of Tomlin’s visit, she will teach a class before the lecture on Monday. Students in the theater class, which is closed to the public, will present what they have worked on with Tomlin and she will provide feedback, as well as share her own professional knowledge with them.

“If you had a formula, that would be great, but you don’t exactly,” Tomlin said. “If by being in the class and exchanging my own experiences and whatever knowledge I’ve gleaned over all these years and have a real exchange with the students, hopefully I’ll learn something.”

Tomlin was born in Detroit, Mich. She said she started performing on the back porch of her home for her parents. Tomlin talked about growing up in an apartment that had characters who inspired her to imitate them and put on shows for her families, or anyone who would watch.

“Our time, it’s like you develop a kind of fascination with it — a love and feeling for all these different types of humans,” she said.

Originally, Tomlin attended Wayne State University to study medicine, but was attracted to her elective courses in theater instead because she wanted to express herself.

“I always wanted to express something — and that has to be part of something all actors want to do — it’s expressing something about the human condition or other human beings,” Tomlin said.

Tomlin started her career in coffeehouses and cafes in New York, and since has had countless roles in television, film and stage. Just a few of her projects include “Laugh-In,” “The Lily Tomlin Show” and “Murphy Brown,” on television, onstage she performed in “ Appearing Nitely” and “The Search” and was featured in the films “Big Business,” “I Heart Huckabees” and “A Prairie Home Companion.”

Tomlin’s own experiences vary widely, but theater is her favorite medium.

“Theater is the thing I like most because I like the immediacy,” she said. “I’m glad I have the chance to do a little bit of anything.”

Tomlin is known for her comedy, but the actress has played dramatic roles as well. “I didn’t really see an incredible difference between comedy and drama,” Tomlin said. “It is all similar things, a continuum. You lean one way or the other. It’s the capacity of every human to be as dramatic or comedic, as sad or as funny at any moment.”

Throughout her career, Tomlin worked with other actors such as Bette Midler, Steve Martin, Glenn Close, Martin Short and several more. She said some of her favorite moments are particular scenes that stand out to her.

One example she gave was a scene in director Robert Altman’s movie “Short Cuts” when the actress playing her daughter hands her a plastic bag with goldfish.

“There is some tiny moment, that maybe it doesn’t even register for the audience. There is just a moment there and it just rings so true for me that I just love it,” Tomlin said.

Tomlin said acting should give people a way to come together.

“I think in some way it just elevates you as a human, and somehow you hope that that familiarity with other people sort of validates all of us,” Tomlin said. “If we all find the same things moving or funny, then there is a huge connection there.

For acting students, Tomlin said she had “homely advice” that she said may have stemmed from her own upbringing and the generation she grew up in.

“That could be a factor of the time I came up in, if you had any kind of awareness or consciousness, the last thing you wanted to do was do something for money,” Tomlin said. “You wanted to do something for excellence or to make a contribution — to be a real artist.”

Contact Ashley Charnley at acharn01@ saintmarys.edu
Pre-game tailgate promotes departmental unity

Economics faculty, staff, students and friends bond over burgers, brats and games at traditional football ritual.

By MARISA IATI
News Writer

Notre Dame’s Department of Economics wants students to know they have the world’s largest economics tailgate.

The Department of Economics has spent every home football Saturday offering a tailgate for its majors and other students that want to attend.

The Department started its tailgates two years ago as a means to meet colleagues’ families but became an annual event during the 2009 season.

Each home game tailgate draws in an average of 50 to 75 people, most of whom are department faculty members, their families or their friends. Occasionally, former students who are in town for the games will stop by and participate at the tailgate as well, Eric Sims, professor of economics, said.

The economics tailgates offer its attendees burgers, brats and pulled pork sandwiches and games of cornhole.

“We like grilled meat,” said professor of economics Bill Evans. Evans and Sims organize the tailgates and send out an e-mail to the staff and students in the department to advertise.

Evans and Sims said the tailgates begin between 6 a.m. and 7 a.m. and generally take place south of Notre Dame Stadium in the Joyce Center parking lot.

Although other University departments including the Investment Office, The Center for Culture and Ethics and the Alliance for Catholic Education also host tailgates for their members, Sims said his department’s tailgate is different.

“I think that it’s unique in that we have near universal participation among faculty members in this department,” Sims said. “It’s also unique because we have a flag.”

Assistant Professor of Economics Kasey Buckles designed the flag, which is bright yellow with the phrase “Supplying Spirit, Demanding Victory.”

Sims said he sees the department tailgate as something more than a game day event.

“The purpose of the tailgate is to bring the Department together as a family and to unite together in our support of our University and our football team,” he said. “I think our Department is unique in that everyone gets along well and we’re all committed to the department succeeding and the University as a whole succeed-

College introduces new events calendar

Special to The Observer

The University of Notre Dame has launched a new electronic events calendar that delivers information about Notre Dame activities in your desktop, your phone, your computer and to personal electronic calendars such as Outlook and Google.

The new site, calendar.nd.edu, phases out the former agenda.nd.edu for a visually lively homepage of pictures and clearly identified events of the day.

New features will be phased into the calendar in the coming months. Among them, faculty, staff, students, community members and visitors will be able to subscribe to the events they most care about, and receive updates via RSS technologies. The calendar also links to map.nd.edu to provide immediate information on directions.

The new calendar was developed over the past year by a student and staff committee including specialists from the Offices of Public Affairs and Communications.

Information Technologies and several administrative and academic departments.

“There is an amazing array of speakers and experiences on campus,” says Todd Woodward, associate vice president for marketing communications. “We were looking for a tool that was easy for community event planners to get the word out about what those experiences are, and to allow people to find them and use them on their own.”

The planning committee, led by calendar editor Jennifer Laiber, searched for a tool that complemented the needs of a university community. Woodward adds. “This new platform has proven to be successful in the higher education environment. It was developed at Yale and is used at campuses including Duke University.”

Complementing the new calendar, Laiber is managing a comprehensive training program so faculty, staff and student event coordinators can submit their events as they are planned.

Please recycle The Observer.
Hackett speaks on CRS for Forum

By MADELINE ROE

Dr. Ken Hackett, President of Catholic Relief Services (CRS), explained the fundamental Catholic identity and history of the international charity organization Thursday night as part of the Notre Dame Forum.

The "social development" stage of forming CRS, Hackett reflected on the development of CRS by defining "three phases of history," in which he perceived "lenses" of the world and how to address specific issues.

First, Hackett described the "social welfare lens" in the beginning stage of forming CRS. In the context of the "darkest days of WWII," CRS focused on the corporal works of mercy and established a network of international institutions, called "Caritas Internationals," that still function today.

"Catholic identity was strong but it was difficult to look introspectively," Hackett said.

The "social development" stage in the 60s and 70s was geared towards "providing sustainable solutions," but Hackett said there was an absence of a Catholic identity.

"We began to look more and more like any other NGO," he said.

The important shift of the organization to Catholic Social Teaching occurred through several tragic and personal experiences. Hackett said he was shocked to learn that CRS hadn’t provided fresh water to the people of Somalia but instead to a group of conquerors.

After providing food amidst the ethnic tensions in Rwanda two years before the genocide of 1994, Hackett said the CRS现实ized they needed to change the direction of their efforts.

"800,000 were slaughtered in the most vicious way (in Rwanda). It was horrific, and for us, it was personal.

Because CRS staff lost colleagues, friends, family members, it wasn’t something over there, it was on here — personally and institutionally," he said.

"And after the genocide, we learned a tough, bloody lesson: all the good work we thought we were doing … was not enough.

Hackett said that he and other CRS officials knew about the ethnic tensions between the Hutus and Tutsis that eventually led to genocide that claimed nearly one million lives.

He said he regrets that he did nothing to address the issue before it was too late.

"That was politics. We did development," he said.

"We realized after that cleansing, a lot of weeping, and introspection and prayer that we as an agency had to start addressing justice issues in imbalance of society in Rwanda and imbalance of society elsewhere. And we started to incorporate a justice-centered focus worldwide."

Embracing the principles of solidarity within Catholic Social Teaching, CRS redefined the endeavors of the organization towards the human dignity of stricken people, as well as the employee relationships with one another.

"Catholic Social Teaching is not just a theological exercise," Hackett said.

"It’s a practical and fundamental guide for how the church should live in the world. And we as an organization should transform ourselves to function in the world."

In the closing questions, an African priest from Darfur gave homage to Hackett’s work with CRS benefitting his people, yet posed the question of how the Catholic Social Teaching vision should appeal to the majority of CRS workers, who are not Christian.

Hackett responded with the words of St. Francis.

"Preach always, sometimes use words. We should be recognized by what we do and how we do it," Hackett said.

Hackett closed by acknowledging that people of all faiths identify with the dignity of a human person.

"You know who you are and you’re ready to say who you are, without boastfully pushing who you are. Do it with humility," he said.

Contact Sara Felsenstein at sfelsen@nd.edu

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Arrests
better understood his side as well as the other. “Hopefully we’ve all seen a move in the positive direction,” he said.

Svete said he encouraged his officers to issue citations rather than arrest, when underage students are respectful and it is safe to release them. “I have encouraged my officers to use some discretion on whether or not they arrest or whether they cite and release,” he said. “Obviously, we’re not going to cite and release someone who tests 20 because that’s a liability for us to have someone who is under 21 and who is twice the legal limit walking around where they could get hit by a car or something could happen to them.”

Nick Ruof, chief of staff, who also attended the meetings with the students, said officers are, in general, more discretion.

“They are using discretion when they start issuing [minors in consumption] or when they approach a situation with underage drinkers,” he said. “They are using a lot more discretion than they would before.” But students have also done their part to mitigate conflict with police. “We’ve made more efforts to be safe and respectful and that’s definitely paying off,” he said. “The meetings were also informative about the internal workings of the police system.”

After the first set of meetings with the University and student government, SBPD officers began to activate body microphones, which would record interactions when busting parties. Soler said SBPD officers have activated their microphones, but have not checked them yet because there has not been a complaint about an interaction.

Ruof said he learned that underage students are major for minor consumption do not have to be read their rights.

“Even though they put you in handcuffs, they’re not interrogating,” he said. “The only time they are going to read you your rights is if they interrogate you about the situation.” As a result of the meetings, student government created a task force that will research how other universities interact with local law enforcement and Soler hopes to draw up a more formal definition of how the student body relates with police.

She also plans to compile a list of Indiana University’s alcohol laws to send students, because some laws may be different than in their home states.

Soler said, overall, the meetings were productive. “It’s been a great effort on both parts,” he said.

Contact Sarah Mervosh at smervosh@nd.edu

Journal
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the project as The Wall Street Journal’s careers editor, said many college rankings look at the caliber of students who enter the schools, but not as they leave. “We look at both,” he said.

Lee Svete, director of Notre Dame’s Career Center, said he decided to look at the other end of the equation, which is really, really important to people these days.

“They asked how we made the list,” he said. “When we responded that other elite universities were not on this list, however, he said his surprise turned to irritation that Notre Dame was ranked. Merritt said she was also surprised by the survey’s outcomes, especially by companies’ preference for larger state schools.

“I expected that some of the common wisdom would be debunked, but however I did not expect that to be sort of as extreme as it was,” Merritt said. The surveys showed that the private universities that did make the list, however, represented a combination of preparedness and other qualities.

Merritt said Notre Dame ranked highly because recruiters reported a commitment to integrity and ethics in its students.

“Comments included things about the graduates being both academically prepared and able to sort of jump in and contribute quickly at companies, but also — things that Notre Dame is kind of famous for — having a really ethical approach to the way they carry themselves and do business,” Merritt said.

These qualities are typical of Notre Dame students, but may have also hurt Notre Dame in the overall ranking for Arts and Letters students. For example, Notre Dame students pursue diverse career options, including graduate school and postgraduate service. Among 200 graduating seniors enter service programs, which

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SAN ANTONIO — A Mexican journalist who was the target of death threats like those made by drug cartels says he has been granted asylum in the United States in a case believed to be the first of its kind since the country’s bloody drug war began.

Two years ago, Jorge Luis Aguirre answered his cell phone while driving to the funeral of a colleague who had been killed in drug violence. “You’re next,” warned the chilling voice on the other end.

Death threats are at the heart of thousands of Mexican asylum requests received by the U.S. each year, but only a fraction of the petitions are granted. Even people who cross the border with fresh bullet wounds or whose family members have been tortured by drug gangs can face long odds.

But attorneys say the decision to give safe haven to Aguirre, editor of the Mexico news site LaPolaka.com, could open the door for other reporters covering the war.

Violence against reporters has surged since the Mexican government launched a crackdown on drug traffickers nearly four years ago.

El Paso attorney Carlos Spector is handling asylum cases for four journalists, including one who spent seven months in an immigration detention facility.

“What has changed is the situation in Mexico, where it’s now impossible to deny reality,” Spector said. “It is an indication that the asylum office is now listening.”

Aguirre (pronounced ah-gweer-EH) fled to El Paso after getting the threat in 2008 and has lived there ever since. He announced the asylum Monday on his website.

At the time of the threat, he was reporting in Ciudad Juarez, the epicenter of drug-gang violence across the border from El Paso.

It’s unclear exactly who threatened Aguirre. He told a U.S. Senate committee last year that officials in the state of Chihuahua did not like his criticism of a prosecutor and decided to adopt cartel-style tactics to tone him down.

“I proved that it was political persecution,” the 52-year-old Aguirre told The Associated Press. “They threatened me many times and wrote to me, and I presented all that as proof.”

Fear of being hurt isn’t sufficient grounds for asylum. Cases hinge on proving that a person is being persecuted because of race, religion, political views, nationality or membership in a particular social group.

Since 2000, a total of 65 journalists in Mexico have been killed in violence, according to Mexico’s National Commission on Human Rights, making Mexico the deadliest country in the world for news people.

The asylum process is not public, and U.S. officials refused to comment on individual cases, citing the need to protect applicants. Both the State Department and U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services said they could not even confirm that Aguirre applied for asylum.

But State Department spokesman Mark Toner said the government acknowledges the increasing danger to Mexican journalists, calling the number killed in the last five years “pretty startling.”

“We obviously condemn these acts and have expressed our concerns about the safety of journalists to the Mexican government,” Toner said.

Before Aguirre, the best-known Mexican journalist seeking asylum was Emilio Gutierrez Soto, who fled to El Paso after writing a series of stories about alleged Mexican military abuses of civilians.
An educational obligation outside the classroom

Notre Dame students have plenty to say. They talk about whether police officers will continue to arrest students for underage drinking. They talk about the 8-cent increase in the price of “quarter dogs.” They talk about whether we should give up on Brian Kelly three games into the season.

But for the majority of the Notre Dame student body? Not a word.

Although student government and campus political organizations are doing their best to get students involved in local election issues, most students are busy catching up on the endless pages of reading, volunteering and not remembering their precious few moments of free time on the weekend — as they should be.

This is college. Our lives are jam-packed and so are our brains. We don’t feel like putting in the time or energy to stay informed about which candidate supports which bill or even who is running for congress in our district, because those are just extra facts that could replace ones we will be tested on.

As students, we understand this. But in a few short years, we will not be judged by our performance on papers and tests, but rather on our ability to speak intelligently about issues of local and international importance.

Are we apathetic? No.

Are we too busy to care about important issues? Sometimes.

Are we uninformed? Dangerously so.

Three major national newspapers are offered in the dining hall for a reason — read them. Lectures are offered on campus examining the midterm election and other important issues — attend just one. Your peers may get belligerent on weekend nights, but they are all intelligent people engaged in intellectual debate — talk about which candidate you support over those over-priced quarter dogs.

Learning for learning’s sake may seem like a noble, but impractical cause for many Notre Dame students.

But will we snag that dream internship if we can’t intelligently debate local, national and international issues? Not a chance.

INSIDE COLUMN

‘Swift’ analysis

I think it’s safe to say this campus has a thing for Taylor Swift. I won’t say her adoration has reached Lou Holtz proportions, but the girl is pretty much beloved by most members of the student body.

Boys love her because she’s beautiful and love her because she’s beautiful and a talented writer. Professors love her because she’s one of the few celebrity names they recognize when students talk about her.

However, while everyone on campus is generally Team Tay-Tay, there is also a significant faction of people who have a very different love/hate relationship with her music.

You know who you are. You (mostly) fangirl over her love songs because they are written from the heart and even in tunes that tend to be accompanied by amazing music videos, no matter what Kanye West says.

However, there is also a part, that very bitter and emotional, part that gets incredibly angry when the final stanza of a Taylor Swift song blare from the iPod. Why? Because of the unrealistic (do the words “Joe Jonas” and “text message” ring a bell) but she still knows Taylor’s had her fair share of boy drama (from the plot of a Swifty song please let me know when the idiot boy finally wakes up to “Mine.” I do not know of a single instance of a bad Jennifer Lopez pop song where the idiot boy finally wakes up to “Ain’t It Funny”).

Like in her hit song “Love Story.” If your father hated the guy from the beginning, why the hell is he all the sudden gung-ho about you being engaged to Romeo? That doesn’t happen. A more likely ending would feature poor Romeo in the hospital after taking a blow to the head courtesy of Papa Juliet.

And the fabulous “You Belong With Me,” where you don’t know of a single instance where the idiot boy finally wakes up and realizes that the not as cute, kind of dorky best friend is really a better romantic option than the homongous brut he is currently dating. Life tends to not follow the plot of a bad Jennifer Aniston film.

Oddly enough, anytime someone complains about the decepitive quality of a good Taylor Swift song, they always tend to finish the rant with a declaration of how much they still love her and the song they just picked apart. And we do. If it weren’t for Taylor’s music we would be stuck trying to somehow make our lives follow the plot of Vanessa Carlton’s “White Houses,” which probably isn’t a good idea if you know the lyrics.

So Taylor, keep on writing so that we can keep on hoping that one day our lives will parallel the plot of one of your amazing songs. And please excuse while I put my headphones in and sing along to “Mine.”

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

Contact Molly Madden at mmadden3@nd.edu.

INSIDE COLUMN

Assistant News Editor

Molly Madden

QUOTE OF THE DAY

“Please recycle The Observer.”

Friday, September 24, 2010

QUOTE OF THE DAY

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

“ ‘Mine.’ You cannot live a perfect day without doing something for someone who will never be able to repay you.”

John Wooden

U.S. Hall of Fame basketball player and coach

“I have never met a man so ignorant that I couldn’t learn something from him.”

Galileo Galilei

Italian astronomer and physicist
Denying communion to Gov. McDonnell

In preparation for Progressive Day on Sept. 28, a few of the Notre Dame College Democrats feel it is important to let the rest of the community know why they are progressive.

Colleen Lowery is progressive because the security of having adequate health insurance for everyone is more important than partisanship between a small group of white men.

Lauren Restivo is progressive because it is about time that we the people demand the government treat everyone with dignity and access to the American dream for all.

Matt LaFortune is progressive because "love thy neighbor" refers to more than just the physically able.

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

Greed isn’t good, it’s great.

By COURTNEY COX
Scene Writer

“The point is, ladies and gentlemen, that greed, for lack of a better word, is good.” Gordon Gekko says it all with this iconic line in the 1987 classic film, “Wall Street.” The Wall Street scene in the 1980s was plagued by a near compulsory obsession with money and power. It was gloriously extravagant and set the stage for the emblematic financial thrill ride that is Oliver Stone’s “Wall Street.”

The film is about a doubt the most exciting study in business ethics. Bud Fox (Charlie Sheen) is a young New York stockbroker who embodies the word hustler. He finally works his way into Gordon Gekko’s office for a mere five minute conversation that would change the course of his career, and life, forever.

Gekko (Michael Douglas) is the man. There is simply nothing around that. While he may be the villain in this film, he was the hero for millions of other white-collar workers. He knew how to play the Wall Street game and he played it better than anyone else out there. He was the top of his game, a player that did not seem to have any limits.

Gekko’s methods, however, are the driving force of the well-laid plot. At a stockholders meeting he proclaims the gospel of greed stating, “Greed is right, greed works, greed clarifies, cuts through and captures.”

Is this simply the essence of capitalism? Gekko takes it one step further admonishing Fox after a deal gone bad saying, “Stop sending me information and start getting me some.” Before Martha Stewart sported ponchos knit by her cellmates, Gekko was the poster boy for insider trading. “When you’re not inside, you’re outside,” Gekko cautions as Fox worries about losing his license. Insider trading, it seems, defined the game, and if one chose not to take advantage of that, they were the only ones to blame.

Wall Street must have glittered with the most cutting edge technology available as the cast viewing the film 23 years after the premiere the technology is so antiquated it’s almost laughable. The “mobile telephone” was larger than a box of tissues and the computer screens featured the mind numbing color scheme of neon green writing on a black screen — classic 80s.

Even better than the out-of-date technology is the wardrobe. Western business attire may not have changed much since the movie came out, but the penchant for wearing suspenders has certainly been forgotten. Another clear sign of the times is the hair choices of both the men and the women. Gordon Gekko’s beautiful dark hair has never looked so cool and leading lady Daryl Hannah was never caught without the gorgeous big hair every 80s survivor wishes they could forget.

“Wall Street” was so incredible because it questioned the capitalist system that perpetuates greed and corruption, but at the same time glamorized its results. Without the game, Gordon Gekko could never have been the incredible player he was. The line between right and wrong was clear, but the outcome of choosing the wrong path was so clearly enticing that it was almost viewed as right.

It certainly made audiences question their values and has them still thinking 23 years later in light of the financial crisis. With the sequel set to be released today one wonders whether or not greed is truly the reality that players like Gekko and Fox are still around is clearly enticing that it was almost evident.

The sequel promises to be just as good as the original perhaps because of the 20-odd years between the two as well as the fresh perspective on Wall Street antics following the financial crisis and subsequent Wall Street Bailout.

Even more promising, however, is the fresh young talent. Carrie Mulligan, the Academy Award nominated British actress, is the leading lady to Shia Lebouf’s young Gekko wannabe. With a cast full of Oscar winners and nominees, “Wall Street: Money Never Sleeps” is set to be legend to Lebouf’s test of strength in the adult acting world. Returning as Gekko is of course Michael Douglas and Josh Brolin also plays a prominent role in the film.

The 1987 “Wall Street” captured the feeling of an era so wrapped up in greed that it couldn’t even see the error of its ways. It made what was to soon be known as “Wall Street: Money Never Sleeps” have to say about the current generation?

Contact Courtney Cox at cccox3@nd.edu

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**“Mobile Chateau”**

Matt Costa

While Picasso had his blue and rose periods, singer/songwriter and musician Matt Costa is making his way through the decades with the tone of his third and latest album, “Mobile Chateau.” His 40s and 50s influenced style, a mixture of pop, rock and blues is set aside in favor of 70s psychadelic folk in his latest venture.

And if you are a fan of the late-60s to 70s, the Mama’s and Papa’s type of music, he prepared to fall head over go-go boots for “Mobile Chateau.”

Just get any iPod dancing commercial fantasies out of your head. “Mr. Pitiful” from his second album was featured on one and was also in “I Love You, Man.” Costa, who has previously worked listeners and critics alike with upbeat songs from his previous two albums, “Songs We Sing” and “Unfamiliar Faces,” has made a significant detour from his 90s-inspired California folk-pop that made him a perfect fit at the head of Oscar winners and nominees, “Wall Street: Money Never Sleeps” is set to be a Mr. Lebouf test of strength in the adult acting world. Returning as Gekko is of course Michael Douglas and Josh Brolin also plays a prominent role in the film.

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Contact Courtney Cox at cccox3@nd.edu
By JUSTIN PELLINO
Scene Writer

Since May 2009, little known Alexander’s Grill has been winning over the hearts and stomachs of Notre Dame students and the South Bend community through their delicious food and commitment to making eating out a personal experience. The restaurant, located in the same strip mall as Studebagers and Breeze Buns, places an emphasis on making patrons feel like family. This is primarily due to the larger-than-life personalities of its co-owners, Ari Lambridis and Maria Stergiotis, and a staff who like to refer to their customers by name. A Greek immigrant with the accent to match, Lambridis draws upon his heritage and Stergiotis’ family recipes to offer traditional Greek fare in a friendly, comfortable environment. What the place lacks in decor it makes up for. A little bland for my liking, the souvlaki (a cheese filled phyllo dough) and spanakopita (a spinach and feta cheese filled pastry) garnished with cucumbers, tomato and feta cheese. While the soup was a little bland for my liking, the crepe and gyros were excellent and really stood out for their freshness. The thing that really struck me about the restaurant, however, was the way Alexander’s goes out of its way to cater to the college community. All patrons with a Notre Dame ID receive a 15 percent discount. Every Wednesday the restaurant offers a student special. Five dollars buys a gyro, fries and a soda or beer.

Lambridis says the restaurant has struggled a bit since the opening of the Little City Commons. Alexander is committed to drawing in customers by opening early for breakfast (6:30 a.m. Saturday and Sunday), staying open late (4:30 a.m. Friday and Saturday) and always promising good food at low prices. In the coming weeks the restaurant will begin offering a delivery service for the Notre Dame campus, which is perfect for when you’re looking for something a little different than your traditional pizza or sub sandwich. But to really get the full experience you need to dine in. Grab a group of friends and head over to Alexander’s Grill. Eat some good food. Relax. Strike up a conversation with Ari. Surf the web on the free Wi-Fi or catch a game on one of the many flat screen TVs on the walls. Make yourself at home.

Alexander’s Grill
Phone: (574) 247-1780
Location: 1841 South Bend Ave.
Hours: Mon-Thu 11A.M.-10P.M
Fri 11A.M.-4A.M.
Sat 6:30A.M.-4A.M.
Sun 6:30A.M.-9PM.
Prices: $-$, Credit Cards Accepted

Contact Justin Pellino at jpellino@nd.edu

The Walkmen take it easy in their new album 'Lisbon'

By MACKENZIE HENDRICKSON
Scene Writer

The Walkmen’s career has been a 10-year musical presentation of “taking a chill pill.” Starting off with post-punk revival fury in the early 2000’s, they have progressively calmed down their sound without losing their smooth pessimism. One of their earlier songs, “Bat,” was an angry look at 21st century disconnectivity. “Lisbon,” their newest effort, sounds like a bunch of buddies sitting in a sunroom, playing anthems about how life is kind of flattened brightness. The songs get more and more ballad-like as the album concludes; this is a peculiar progression considering the opening track is almost a ballad.

Unlike many other artistically confused bands, the Walkmen have made complete sense within light of what front man Hamilton Leithauser is singing about. The band is the same old down-and-out collective they were back in 2003, but this time there is an element of acceptance. Before, they were young. They were pissed. They wanted to be heard. Now they’ve retired to the sonic countryside, where life’s a little calmer and little sunnier. Leithauser can sound like Dylan on a few tracks and Brandon Flowers on others, which is cool. His pessimism is an appropriate mix of “Blowin’ In The Wind” Hippiness and “Mr. Brightside” misfortune. “Angela Surf City” is the home run on the album. The drums skip along at a rapid beach hop. The bright guitar, as with other songs on the album, sounds as if it could care less what the drums are doing. “Stranded” sounds more like an album closer than a mid-record cut, but shines nonetheless. This actually makes sense within an album with more than its fair share of tracks that could be exit music for a tragic film. There’s one problem in all this: the songs just aren’t that pleasing in a modern sense. They move along at a Sinatra swagger too relaxed for the attention span of the 21st century music audience. The songs can come off as bland and uninteresting to even the mellowest among us. “Lisbon” won’t please listeners as much as fellow New York balladeers The National. There are no cliché catchy elements. No appeals to popular culture. Nothing blogging nerds could claim as the sound of the future. It’s immediately and forever forgettable. For others, that’s what makes a solid record.

“Lisbon”
Walkmen
Released: September 14, 2010
Label: Fat Possum / Bella Union
Best Tracks: “Angela Surf City”, “Stranded”

Contact Mackenzie Hendrickson at mhendri1@nd.edu
Defensive end Justin Trattou's 35-yard interception for a score gave the Gators a three-touchdown lead. "It's not the way we've won a lot of games around here," coach Urban Meyer said. "We've outscored people, but that's not efficient, championship-style football. Our defense has to do that." And get this: Florida's success the first two weeks came without one of the team's best defenders. Safety Will Hill was suspended for two games for an undisclosed violation of team rules. He returned against the Volunteers, but was somewhat rusty. He bit on under-inflated ropes and gave up two long TD passes.

The Gators expect Hill to play better Saturday against Kentucky. They might need him to. Led by senior quarterback Mike Hartline, senior running back Derrick Locke and junior receiver Randall Cobb, Kentucky has been efficient and error-free to start the season. They can only hope for the same results in Gainesville. "I think it's a little bit of everything," Locke said. "A lot of it has got to do with Hartline. We've been throwing a lot and if he's making bad decisions, they can pick us. But right now he's doing a good job, and when I'm running the ball or Cobb is running the ball, we've got to hold onto it." Phillips also credited Hartline with the offensive ball security, saying he's done a solid job of getting rid of the ball and not forcing throws. "You'd better be lucky, too," Phillips said, pointing out a few times the ball has bounced his way. "As long as the ball is in the air or on the ground, we'll be good." The Observer
Suzuki breaks own record in losing effort
Giants use offensive explosion to defeat Cubs; Brewers get past Marlins

Associated Press

TORONTO — On a day of milestone hits, Jose Bautista’s big shot won the game.

Bautista hit his major league-leading 50th home run, connecting off Felix Hernandez and sending the Toronto Blue Jays over the Seattle Mariners 5-0 on Thursday.

Seattle’s Ichiro Suzuki also became the first player with 10 straight 200-hit seasons, breaking his own record with a fifth-inning single.

“We got to see some things happen today that I’ve never seen before,” Blue Jays manager Cito Gaston said. “It’s a day I’ll always remember.”

Bautista became the 26th player in baseball history to reach the 50-home run mark with a first-inning drive off Hernandez (12-12).

“It’s really a big honor to be put in that elite group of hitters,” Bautista said. “To tell you the truth, I really haven’t let it sink in yet, I haven’t thought about it too much. Once I do that, then I’ll probably have more feelings to describe. Right now I’m really honored and happy.”

After fouling back a 2-0 pitch, Bautista hammered the next one into the left-field bullpen.

“That’s what happens when you get behind in the count,” Hernandez said.

All 50 of Bautista’s homers have been to left or left center. He exchanged hugs and fist bumps with his teammates before coming out of the dugout for a curtain call and trying to get the attention of his parents, who were in the crowd.

“I tried to wave at them,” Bautista said. “Everybody was standing up so I don’t think they could see me.”

The homer was Bautista’s major league-high 31st at home this season, breaking Carlos Delgado’s team record set in 2000.

Prince Fielder (50) and Alex Rodriguez (54) were the last players to hit 50 homers, both in 2007.

“It’s obviously a pretty historic game,” Blue Jays outfielder Vernon Wells said.

“Bautista is the pretty much the staple of consistency for what he’s able to do year in and year out. For Jose, it’s pretty neat to watch one of your teammates hit 50 home runs in a season.”

Suzuki struck out in the first, doubled to left in the third and collected his 200th hit when he lined to center on the first pitch he saw from Shawn Hill (1-2) in the fifth.

Giants 13, Cubs 0

A pregame hitters’ meeting seemed to help shake the San Francisco Giants out of their recent slump.

A stiff wind blowing out of Wrigley Field didn’t hurt, either.

Juan Uribe hit a grand slam and a two-run homer, both shots coming during a nine-run second inning that sent the Giants past the Chicago Cubs 13-0 Thursday night.

“The guy is a huge impact to the game,” Giants manager Bruce Bochy said. “He’s knocked in a lot of runs for us this year. It’s nice having a shortstop who can do that. We needed a big game from somebody and we got it from him tonight.”

San Francisco began the day one-half game behind San Diego in the NL West. The Padres played later at Los Angeles. The Giants have the same record as idle Atlanta, which leads the wild-card race.

“We’re better than this and it’s going to take everybody to focus out there,” Bochy said of his players. “Trust the guy behind you. We’ve had a few guys trying to do too much out there. Just try to get a quality at-bat and keep things going.”

The Giants responded with 19 hits and four home runs.

San Francisco pitchers, meanwhile, kept doing a solid job.

They have gone 17 straight games giving up three or fewer runs, the longest streak since the Chicago White Sox set the record with 20 in a row in 1917, the Elias Sports Bureau said.

Madison Bumgarner (6-6) scattered seven hits over seven innings and struck out a career-high nine.

“I feel like I was keeping the ball down a lot better today than I was the last few games,” he said. “I’m trying to keep the same approach each time I go out there, I feel good about going out there and giving us a chance to win.”

Uribe had only two hits in his previous 21 at-bats before his quick six RBIs as the Cubs took 6-1 lead off on Ryan Dempster (14-11) and reliever Thomas Diamond.

“He (Dempster) didn’t look comfortable to me from the get-go,” Cubs manager Mike Quade said. “He’ll be fine next outing.”

“You certainly have to put this one behind you. This is a turn-the-page game for me,” he said.

Brewers 8, Marlins 3

Corey Hart is disappointed the Milwaukee Brewers struggled early and never regained enough ground to join the post- season chase. But his personal achievements during a wild season have helped wipe away some of that frustration.

“I definitely have a smile on my face every time I come here,” said Hart, who reached 30 home runs for the first time in his career Thursday night.

Hart hit one of three Milwaukee homovers and Yovani Gallardo added another win to his strong September, leading the Brewers to an 8-3 victory over the Florida Marlins.

Ricky Weeks and Prince Fielder added consecutive homers in the seventh on the first three pitches of reliever Sandy Rosario’s a major league debut.

Gallardo (14-7) gave up three runs in 6 2-3 innings, improving to 3-0 with a 1.95 ERA and 25 strikeouts for his four starts and impressed Marlins manager Edwin Rodriguez.

“He’s amazing,” Rodriguez said. “It’s the first time I’ve seen him pitch live. He threw one pitch to Logan Morrison that we’re still trying to figure out what it was.”

Probably a slider, something Gallardo has been working on extensively this season.

Brewers manager Ken Macha says it’s now the ace’s best breaking pitch.

Morrison, a rookie, just stopped swinging at Gallardo’s pitches. That helped him draw a walk that extended his streak of reaching base safely to 42 games, tying the best mark in the NL this season as his career-stricker father watched from the stands.

“It would’ve felt better if we won the game.”

Morrison said.

“I feel like I was hitting a little bit and that’s what happens when you don’t stick to your approach. It’s a learning process.”

will be mathematically eliminated from the playoff chase unless the Brewers win their final 10 games, the Braves lose their final nine and multiple other scenarios play out.

Milwaukee was eliminated earlier this week and hasn’t played a factor in the race all season, just two years after winning the NL wild card.

Gallardo and the rest of the Brewers have accepted that they squandered another opportunity with a 8-3 victory over the Florida Marlins.

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Mariners left fielder Michael Saunders, left, congratulates Ichiro Suzuki on his 10th consecutive 200-hit season.

Baseball Scoring Leader

SUNDAY

2-3 P.M.

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3:02 P.M.
PITTSBURGH — The decades may change, but the conferences may change but everything stays the same when Miami plays Pitt. The games are as one-sided as the rivalry.

Jacory Harris led quick touchdown drives to start each half and No. 19 Miami dominated Pittsburgh much like it did when the schools were Big East Conference rivals, winning 31-3 on Thursday night.

Harris had two more floater-type interceptions like the four he threw in a 36-24 loss to No. 2 Ohio State two weeks ago, but shook them off to throw for two scores and 248 yards while going 21 of 32. Damien Berry did the rest by running for 87 yards and a touchdown on 21 carries in an offense that out-gained Pitt’s 348-232.

The Hurricanes (2-1), faster defensively and more athletic than the Panthers (1-2), never gave Pitt quarterback Tino Sunseri any time to throw in his third college start, and he was pulled in the fourth quarter after completing 8 of 15 passes for 61 yards.

Dion Lewis, the nation’s lead returning rusher, was given little running room by an overwhlmed offensive line and ended with 41 yards on 12 carries. Lewis, coming off his 1,279-yard season as a freshman, has been held to 143 yards in three games.

Miami’s plan was simple and effective: Strike early, strike effectively, then let its defense and special teams do the rest.

With the Hurricanes up 17-3 early in the fourth, they forced a fumble by punt returner Cam Saddler. Harris took advantage to throw a 10-yard TD pass to Travis Benjamin that wrapped up Miami’s seventh consecutive victory against Pitt and its 15th in 16 games dating back to 1994.

“The defense played great,” defensive end Andrew Smith said. “We put an emphasis on tackling (in practice), and we were getting all 11 to the ball. We wanted to wrap them up and drive them back, and that showed on the field.”

And in the statistics, the Hurricanes had five sacks, nine tackles for losses—a stat in which they lead the nation—and forced three turnovers. Sean Spence had 1 1/2 sacks and 2 1/2 tackles for a loss and a team-high nine tackles.

“When you can stop the run and make them one-dimensional, you have a good chance of winning,” Harris said. “We always want to be the one to throw the first punch. We did a great job of starting fast.”

Again, it was a bad day for the Big East, which is 1-2 so far this season against nonconference opponents from BCS conferences. Pitt is 1-1 against ranked nonconference teams since 1996, while Miami has won 33 in a row against unranked nonconference teams.

Harris also found Leonard Hankerson on a 19-yard scoring pass on Miami’s fourth play from scrimmage in the second half, completing a 51-yard drive set up by a 26-yard punt by Pitt’s Dan Harris. Hutchins hit Benjamin for 29 yards on first down.

“The game was well, he made some great throws and he did his job,” Miami coach Randy Shannon said of Harris. Shannon once played for and coached under Pitt coach Dave Wannstedt, but he didn’t do his old boss any favors. Wannstedt was so upset with his team’s performance, he held a hastily called post-game meeting with his seniors and some other players.

“We’re just not in sync,” Wannstedt said. “We’ll make some good play on offense and two bad ones. … If we need to make changes, we’ll make changes. We’ve got to look at the offensive line.”

The teams hadn’t met since Miami left the Big East for the Atlantic Coast Conference in 2004, but, as usual, the Hurricanes made it look easy. Pitt didn’t advance inside the Miami 30 until the next-to-last play of the third quarter, and that was on a 15-yard roughing-the-quarterback penalty.

Lewis gained only 5 yards on the next play, but Huschins kicked a 27-yard field goal to avoid Pitt’s second straight loss of the Dave Wannstedt era.
Braden allows one hit in eight innings for win

OAKLAND, Calif. — Dallas Braden allowed one hit in eight innings and the Oakland Athletics beat Texas 5-0 on Thursday night, stalling the Rangers’ pursuit of their first AL West title since 1999.

Braden (10-13) outpitched Cliff Lee to end his four-game losing streak and keep Texas’ magic number at four for clinching the division.

The left-hander, who tossed a perfect game against Tampa Bay in May, retired 19 batters in a row after Nelson Cruz’s two-out single in the first inning. Ian Kinsler ended the streak by drawing a leadoff walk in the eighth.

Braden walked two and struck out seven. Brad Ziegler made the save.

Associated Press

Saint Mary’s enters the game at 8-4 record (3-1 in the MIAA) while Alma holds strong with a 3-9 record (1-3 in the MIAA). The two teams only played once last season, at 8-4 record (3-1 in the MIAA).

The next week will be critical for the Belles as they look to get their first conference win of the year. They have had difficult times on the court this season, beginning the season with a three-game losing streak before winning three of their next six games. Since then, Saint Mary’s lost to conference foe Kalamazoo in four sets (25-13, 25-17, 25-20, 25-18). In the decisive fourth set, the Belles prepared for Scots winning 3-2 (16-25, 25-23, 25-22, 27-29, 11-15).

Sophomore Stephanie Bodien fronted the Belles with 11 kills in the loss. Senior Meghann Roeser led both teams with 20 digs, while Bodien added 17 and senior Ellen Hueslmann picked up another 16. Junior Danie Brink led the way with 40 assists during the match.

Danie Brink led the way with 40 assists during the match. She was named to the All-Tournament team from her 11 kills and 16 digs in the first match before adding five more kills and two blocks in the second match Sunday.

The next week will be critical for the Belles as they look to get back on track in MIAA play. Following tonight’s match against the Scots, Saint Mary’s will host Adrian Saturday night at 7 p.m. on the Alma courts.

Contact Andrew Owens at awcens@nd.edu

Saint Mary’s led through much of the fourth set after establishing a five-point lead and then a four-point one up to the 14-0 mark. As the Hornet’s came back, the Belles stayed within close range by help from Bodien, who has been key to the Saint Mary’s success this year.

Saint Mary’s is coming off of a recent MIAA loss to conference leader Almazoo in four sets (25-10, 16-25, 25-12, 31-29). In the deciding fourth set, the Belles fought with the Hornets through 16 ties and six lead changes when there were only three ties and two lead changes previously.

Jumping onto the scene last year and making a big impact her rookie season, she has only improved on the court this year. At the Manchester Tournament last weekend, Bodien was named to the All-Tournament team from her 11 kills and 16 digs in the first match before adding five more kills and two blocks in the second match Sunday.

The next week will be critical for the Belles as they look to get back on track in MIAA play. Following tonight’s match against the Scots, Saint Mary’s will host Adrian Saturday night before traveling to Trine College on Sept. 29.

The Belles will face the Scots at 7 p.m. on the Alma courts.

Contact Andrew Owens at awcens@nd.edu

Nuala Ni Dhonnhaill’s “Smiúthín Aíne/Áine’s Thread”
A talk on Ireland’s ancient lore

Nuala Ni Dhonnhaill is regarded among the most gifted Irish poets, and her poetry has been translated into more than a dozen languages.

Admission is free, and all are welcome.
Chaos
continued from page 19
will abandon their offense quite yet. “We’re hoping to put up some more points against Lyons on Sunday,” Truitt said.
The upstart Lyons’ team will try their best to keep Cavanaugh in check at 5 p.m. Sunday at LaBar Fields.

Farley vs. Breen Phillips
Farley and Breen Phillips, both coming off tough losses last weekend, will battle for a much-needed victory this week. The Finest lost 6-0 to Chaos Saturday while the winless Babes (0-2) lost 25-0 to Lyons.

“We don’t have a victory yet this season, so right now that is just serving as extra motivation for us,” Babes senior captain Kate McNelis said. “This past Sunday’s game was tough but we came out of it ready to make changes and start another week off strong.”

Farley (1-1) senior captain Molly Casanova also said that the loss will help motivate the team.

“Coming off that loss has made us buckle down, get to work, and focus on what we need to improve on for this next game,” Casanova said.

McNelis said that the key to a win over Farley will be improving on the offensive side of their game, which was lacking in their past two losses, while also focusing on defensive pressure.

“We have to make sure our defense stays sharp and that players on both sides are ready to face plays and strategies they’ve never seen before,” McNelis said.

The Finest have experienced on their side with many returning players, and they will rely on that experience in the matchup against a youthful but inexperienced Babes squad that has had a hard time adjusting to the interhall game in the season’s first two contests.

“We look forward to this weekend’s match up against BP,” Casanova said. “Every game we go in with the attitude to always play our best and be supporting of every member of the team.”

The match up of North Quad neighbors will take place Sunday at 6 p.m. at LaBar Fields.

Pasquerilla East vs. Badin
Pasquerilla East takes on Badin in a battle of winless squads seeking redemption for their losses thus far this season. Pasquerilla East (0-1) is coming off a narrow 7-0 loss to Lyons in a game that was a battle of defenses. The Pyros were not able to get their Pistol offense up and running against a stalwart Lewis defense, considered among some to be one of the best defenses in the league. Junior wide receiver and sophomore receiver Erica Chenard believes that the Pyros will improve after a great week of practice.

“We are starting to get a good feel for the offense and we practiced really fast-paced this week,” Mannon said.

She also said she saw progress from her freshmen this week. “The freshmen are beginning to realize what a high level of play this league is and are improving quickly,” she said.

Mannon said she is especially confident in sophomore wide receiver Erica Chenard and believes that she could be the game changer this Sunday for the Pyros.

ND WOMEN’S GOLF

By MEGAN FINNERAN
Sports Writer

The Irish tee off their season Saturday at Michigan State’s Mary Fossum Invitational. Seniors So-Hyun Park and Katie Conway said they are particularly looking forward to jump-start their last season on the Notre Dame team.

“I think we need to remember to start strong and get a good start for the season,” Park said. “The competition in this weekend’s tournament field is going to be very tough, so we need to stay focused and not make any sloppy mistakes.”

“We are all ready to go out and play, so we just need to get it done,” So-Hyun Park Irish golfer

Since returning to campus, the Irish have worked hard to get to competitive level at which they wish to play.

“The team has changed practice to be more structured and to be more competitive with each other,” Conway said. “If we practice by wanting to beat each other, we will be more ready to come together to beat our opponents at each event. I’m excited to see the results of the changes we’ve implemented this year.”

The Irish will face tough opposition including Kent State and Michigan State. The team’s goal is to win the invitational, but as it is their first meet, the playing process is more important than the end result. They’re just excited to get the season started.

“It all circles back to taking it one shot at a time. We hope to set a good tone for the rest of the season and gain some momentum as we move along with our fall schedule,” Conway said.

“I think a good start of this weekend will help us get into a good momentum and build our confidence for the season. We are all ready to go out and play, so we just need to get it done.” Park said.

The Irish will tee off Saturday in East Lansing to commence their season and the Mary Fossum Invitational.

Contact Megan Finneran at mfinneran@nd.edu

Irish prepared to tee off season

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NOTRE DAME CAMPUS

Sports Writer

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The Irish will tee off Saturday in East Lansing to commence their season and the Mary Fossum Invitational.

Contact Megan Finneran at mfinneran@nd.edu
Fisher

continued from page 20

know, however, that Sorin will be a tough matchup. “Sorin looks a lot better than Zahm,” McMahon said. “Besides being stronger, bigger, and more organized, Sorin runs a plethora of plays on offense and focused on their assignments on defense.”

Sorin and Fisher meet Sunday at 2 p.m. at Riehle Fields.

Keenan vs. Keough

Keenan and Keough each hope to break into the win column at the other team’s expense Sunday.

Keough (0-1) opened with a disappointing 13-0 loss at the hands of rival Stanford last week. Despite the lack of success, the Knights will only make minimal changes against Keough.

“Defensively we’re going to pretty much stick to what we did,” Keennon senior captain and linebacker Bart Dear said. “Offensively we may look to make or break,” Laughlin said.

“We're gonna attempt to stick to what we have and what we've been practicing,” Keough senior captain Kevin Lauglin said. “The Kangaroos are prepared to adjust on the fly, however, if they don’t get off to their desired start.”

“We're in the process of putting in other packages to give us more flexibility,” Laughlin said. “We understand if it ain't working, don’t stick with it too long.”

Despite the added intrigue of a sibling rivalry between Keough senior cornerback Brian Koepsel and Keenan senior defensive back and co-captain Jamie Koepsel, each team realizes more than bragging rights are at stake, with the deep hole of 0-2 knocking on the door.

“We both came off a loss, so for both teams it’s going to be make or break,” Laughlin said.

Keenan and Keough clash in a sibling rivalry between Keough senior corner back Kayla Bishop, “I think our line needs to continue playing strong. I think they have a good job of putting pressure on the quarterback.”

The four-interception per-performance by Pangborn’s defense two weeks ago created positive momentum and confidence that the team hopes will carry over into this weekend.

“We think we did play a really great game,” senior quarterback Gabby Tate said. “We think the defense played well. It was a team effort.”

Pangborn will face Howard Saturday at 1 p.m. at LaBar Fields.

McGlinn vs. Welsh Family

Two West Quad dorms will face off Sunday, as McGlinn and Welsh Family are looking to shake the sour experience of losing lopsided contests to Pasquerilla West in their previous games.

McGlinn (1-1) will look for offensive leadership from junior quarterback Lauren Miller, whose weapons include senior receiver Kathleen Stanley and junior receiver Kate Tucker.

The winless Wild Women look to upset the undefeated Purple Weasels at 4 p.m. Sunday at LaBar Fields.

McGlinn vs. Walsh Family

The Shamrock defense will face off against Walsh, as McGlinn and Walsh are in opposing conferences with success in recent years.

Walsh captain Amy Langnecker runs for a touchdown in Walsh’s 18-7 loss to Ryan last Sunday.

“We take every game seriously and that does not mean that they pull our winless Wildcats. It was so exciting not only for our team to win, but also score.”

Kat Rodriguez

Lions captain

Walsh ready to take on Phoxes

By MEGAN GOLDEN, SARAH CRIPPIN, MATT UNGER, JOSEPH MONARDO, LUCIE GORDON, DAVID KENNEY

Pamn Winters

Defending champions Keenan will take on Pangborn Sunday.

Coming fresh off a bye week, the Phoxes (1-0) first victory was a 40-6 blowout over Radin. Phoxes head coach Kevin Koepsel says they believe that as long as the defense lives up to its expectations, this game will be pretty much a walk in the park, just how talented the team really is.

“We will want to be better than last year,” sophomore outfielder Jason Koepsel said. “We were just so close and I think if we do well against Howard then we’ll know that we have a little more potential to make it to the State Tournament.”

Howard (2-0) is a team that has outscored its previous two opponents, Lewis and Badin, by a total of 38 points with game scoring a total of 20 points respectively. Despite Howard’s ability to put points on the board, their captain believes defense is the team’s greatest strength.

“We pride ourselves on our ability to shut down other teams’ offenses,” senior quarterback Kayla Bishop said. “I think our line needs to continue playing strong. I think they have a good job of putting pressure on the quarterback.”

The Shamrock defense will face off against Walsh, as McGlinn and Walsh are in opposing conferences with success in recent years.

Walsh captain Amy Langnecker runs for a touchdown in Walsh’s 18-7 loss to Ryan last Sunday.

“We want to win another offensive game,” senior McGlinn quarterback Gillian Albup said. “We have to learn from the mistakes and missed opportunities from our loss and increase our defensive intensity.”

Game plan in mind, McGlinn will counter a Welsh Family offense that does not mean that they pull our winless Wildcats. It was so exciting not only for our team to win, but also score.”

Kat Rodriguez

Lions captain
Knot and Duncan set to fight for first win

Dillon prepared to start season; St. Ed’s looks to continue winning ways

By VICKY JACOBSEN, ANDREW CASTELUM, KELSEY MANNING, Jack HUEY, THOMAS LOOREN, and SAM GANS

When Knot and Duncan face off this afternoon, both will be looking to put narrow opening losses behind them. The Juggerknotts (0-1) fell to Morrissey by a final score of 7-6, while the Bulldawgs (0-1) held off visiting champion St. John’s to just one field goal in a 3-0 defeat.

Unlike Knot’s last year, junior captain Dan Schafer called his team’s loss a “wake-up call,” noting that the team needs to improve its practice attendance.

Although the offense gave a strong effort throughout their first game, the Juggerknotts will work for more successful finishing drives, as they failed to score a touchdown despite entering the red zone four times last Sunday.

The Highlanders will head back to the drawing board this week, expecting a cleaner understanding of their offensive system to translate into offensive production on the field.

“We need to make sure everyone picks up their assignments,” junior captain Paul Schaad said. “The play breaks up when people aren’t where they’re supposed to be.”

Despite a disappointing loss of offensive production, the strong defense that frustrated St. John’s has the potential to be just as successful against Knot.

“We felt like the defense came out and performed even past what I expected,” Schaaf said. The Juggerknotts held their leading senior running back Jay Mattes in his first game on defense.

“We are looking forward to [our players] return so we can get our run offense in gear and really establish it as a dominant force,” he said.

Thanks to a Week 1 bye, this will be Carroll’s season opener.

“We are very confident in the offensive line,” senior center Tim Curran and junior tackle Sean O’Brien, who are one of the Dawgs playmakers. They hope to be part of a new Alumni squad with a new game plan centered around physicality under senior captain.

“Hit ’em hard and get some yards,” Dan Dansdill said.

Kickoff between Morrissey and Alumni will be at 1 p.m. Sunday at Riehle fields.

Sorin vs. Fisher

Sorin is looking to bounce back this weekend with a victory over Fisher, while the Green Wave is looking to continue breaking the mold of the last three years.

After a tough 13-12 loss to St. Ed’s (1-0), the Otters (0-1) have posted the put the past behind them and are looking forward to Sunday. Leading Sorin into this weekend will be its three standout sophomores: wide receiver Ryan Reckinson, quarterback Andrew Gant, and senior captain Kevin Stenelli.

“We have been practicing at 3 p.m. this week to stimulate our lights out offense,” Sullivan said.

“Fisher is going to need more than men to rock our boat, and I fully expect our defensive catalyst Bobby Shields to sit on one of the Fishermen this week.”

On the flip side, Fisher (0-0) is coming off their first real win in three years with last Sunday’s 6-0 victory over Zahm (0-1). Behind senior running back Michael McMahon and junior quarterback and linebacker Patrick Hertenstein, the Green Wave is expecting to continue their success this weekend. They

see FISHER\page 19
Senior Conor Alan-Lee was part of the winning team from last year’s event and he’s playing well, Kubinski said.

“Having a senior who knows the course out there is huge for our group,” he said.

The event will also serve as a showcase for the Warren Golf Course, which was recently named to Golfweek Magazine’s list of the top 15 college golf courses in the country. Kubinski, who knows the course as well as anyone, says the honor is well deserved.

“It’s a great honor. I’m a little biased, obviously, but having been to all the other courses, I think we deserve being in the top five,” Kubinski said. “It’s still nice to have that honor though.”

The event will tee off Monday morning at the Warren Golf Course.

Contact Chris Allen at callen10@nd.edu

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**SMC Soccer**

Belles to host Franklin in search of second win

The Belles are preparing to host Franklin Sunday in hopes of securing their second win of the season. Saint Mary’s recently secured their first season victory Sept. 16 off a goal from freshman Jordan Diffenderfer to defeat Illinois Tech 1-0.

But the Belles were not able to keep the streak going, falling short Tuesday 2-0 to Manchester and bring their record to 1-8.

Saint Mary’s will look to freshman midfielder Mollie Valencia and junior forward Katelyn Tondo-Steele for offensive production. In addition, Saint Mary’s will hope to improve its second-half defense, as two-thirds of the goals the Belles have allowed have come after the halftime break. A large part of improving second-half play will be decreasing the number of fouls the Belles commit.

The Grizzlies (3-3) are coming off a recent string of losses, the last being to the Belles conference foe Trine. Saint Mary’s hopes to capitalize on those losses when they host Franklin at 2 p.m. Sunday.

Observer Staff Report

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**Greens**

continued from page 24

with freshman Niall Platt. Senior Conor Alan-Lee was part of the winning team from last year’s event and he’s playing well, Kubinski said.

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Contact Chris Allen at callen10@nd.edu
論者 continued from page 24

tion to take those huge steps has come in the form of a string of tournaments against highly competitive teams, including then-ranked No. 18 Arizona and No. 18 Dayton. The competition has done a good job of preparing the Irish for their conference schedule.

Junior outside hitter and co-captain Kristen Dealy was the solo Irish player named to the All-Tournament Team after finishing with 40 kills and 48 digs. Junior Frenchy Silva totaled 34 digs across 11 tournaments.

"Every year we go into the Big East, we get a competitive spot to be challenging for that championship, both in the regular season and the tournament, and certainly, that's our goal," Brown said.

An essential part of achieving that goal for Brown and the team is making sure they are tapping into all of the talent on their roster.

"We have to get better every day we play and each time we get into the practice gym, make sure that we're maximizing our opportunities," she said. "It's a matter of continuing to develop our talent and knowing how to utilize the strengths of each of the individual players that we have to make that much better." The Irish are coming off of a challenging weekend in which they hosted the Notre Dame Invitational and fell to Delaware, Santa Clara and Dayton, but it did give the team a chance to see its hard work pay off.

Junior outside hitter and co-captain Kristen Dealy was the solo Irish player named to the All-Tournament Team after finishing with 40 kills and 48 digs. Junior Frenchy Silva totaled 34 digs across 11 tournaments.

"Every year we go into the Big East, we feel that we're in a competitive spot to be challenging for that championship." 

Debbie Brown Irish coach

"I think we have done a good job of working out the kinks so that by the time we reach the end of the regular season, we will be in a good place to move on." 

Kristen Dealy senior outside hitter

"I’d like to be in the final group going into the last day with the No. 1 team in the country." 

Mark Hamilton Belles coach

and was named to the All-Tournament team. Her two-day score of 156 was good for tie for second place.

A familiar foe awaits the Belles at the Mission Inn Resort, No. 1 Methodist University. The Monarchs captured their second consecutive win at the O'Brien Invitational on Monday and are undefeated this season.

"Despite Methodist’s dominance this year and in the past, Hamilton said he wants the Belles to challenge the Monarchs.

"I’d like to be in the final group going into the last day with the No. 1 team in the country," Hamilton said.

In addition to Methodist, Saint Mary’s will face Allegheny College, Piedmont College, Birmingham Southern College, Berry College, Wartburg College, Rhodes College and Illinois Wesleyan University.

Saint Mary’s will tee off at the Mission Inn Resort Saturday, and the tournament will conclude Monday.

Contact Matt Robinson at mrobinson@nd.edu

Belles to take on entire MIAA Observer Staff Report

Saint Mary’s will head to Olivet Saturday to race in this season’s MIAA Jamboree. All MIAA teams will be competing in this race, which will play a significant role in determining the conference champion later this season.

The MIAA Jamboree race determines one-third of the points of who the conference champion will be, with the other two-thirds being decided at the MIAA championships at Calvin College on Oct. 30.

The Belles recently took eighth at Calvin’s Knight Invitational among 14 highly competitive teams, including No. 14 Ohio Northern and No. 21 Aquinas. While Saint Mary’s finish of 208 points was behind No. 15 Calvin, the Belles did come out ahead of Adrian and Alma.

Saint Mary’s posted impressive individual times from junior Joanne Almond, sophomore Julia Kenney and Emma Baker and seniors Sam Wessel and Cate Salver.

The MIAA Jamboree will take off at 11 a.m. Saturday at Olivet.

Contact Molly Sammon at msammon@nd.edu

Greens continued from page 24

There will be an interesting mixture of experience and inexperience on the Belles roster this weekend, as two of the five Belles have played this course before. But, Hamilton said his team adjusted well to the course in the fall.

"With a lot of your players, you can see the adjustments that need to be made right away," Hamilton said.

"We’ve done a great job making those adjustments. Anyone who plays golf, though, knows that adjustments are much more difficult to make on the golf course than on the tennis court." This weekend, the Belles need to pay attention to detail, Hamilton said.

"We’re going to try to eliminate some unforced errors," Hamilton said.

Senior Mary Kate Boyce led Saint Mary’s in the O’Brien Invitational, and she will look to set the pace again in Florida. Earlier this week, Boyce was named MIAA Golfer of the Week.

Saint Mary’s in the O’Brien said.

"They’ve been away," Hamilton said. "I’d like to be in the final group going into the last day with the No. 1 team in the country." 

Mark Hamilton Belles coach

"Every year we go into the Big East, we feel that we’re in a competitive spot to be challenging for that championship." 

Debbie Brown Irish coach

"I don’t think we have to make it that much better. The individual players that we utilize the strengths of each of the solid teams, but I think if we come out with confidence and play to our strengths, we won’t have a problem winning our first two matches." The Irish will begin Big East play tonight against West Virginia at 4 p.m. and the Irish win on Monday and are undefeated this season.

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Contact Matt Robinson at mrobinson@nd.edu

Reynolds continued from page 24

Saturday, we were able to get an extra practice," Clark said. "From now on until the playoffs, we’ll be going two games a week. This was the longest stretch we’ve had, and hopefully that will serve us well down the line."

The Irish had a rough last weekend against Michigan and Michigan State, where they ended play in a scoreless tie against the Wolverines and lost against the Spartans after giving them an early lead, 2-0.

"We started a little bit slowly in that game and it took us a little time to get up to speed," Clark said.

Clark stressed the importance of getting an early lead in the game as one thing he will be looking for in particular against St. John’s. He also said they have worked on converting their offensive strengths, like leading in possessions and shots, into goals.

"The only way you prove that is by winning, and we’ve got to start turning our superiority into goals," Clark said. "It doesn’t matter if you have superiority with possessions or shots if you can’t turn them into goals."

Kick-off is scheduled for noon Saturday and admission is free to the public.

Contact Molly Sammon at msammon@nd.edu

SMC CROSS COUNTRY

Belles to take on entire MIAA Observer Staff Report

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**Crossword**

Across
1. Other day at auction in “Ciclopes”
11. Queenie’s Stadium
15. Tom
16. Gaps
17. What a lift may get you out of
18. Languages in the lookup
20. Not
21. Procuring
22. Russian ornamental name
23. European princely dynasty
24. Ancient dynasty name
25. Newspaper section
29. Phil Michelson
Shoey
30. Snake, as a tail
31. Bri of bread

Down
1. Put in the archives
2. Like many forum postings: Abbr.
3. Not just vestibule
4. Bastard’s jig
5. “Touch” elicitor
6. Effects created by 43-crosses
7. Unpredictable, maybe
8. Disharmony
9. Sin, in chromatology
10. Plot’s setting
11. Folks are often shocked when these arrive
12. Magazine
13. Prudential
14. What critics must be used by
16. Yen, overused
17. Screenwriter
18. Alligator
19. Still developing
20. Many women and children
21. Topping

**Jumble**

**Crossword Horoscope**

**TUESDAY VARIETY SHOW**

**Horoscope**

**HOROSCOPES BORN ON THIS DAY:** Rip Torn, Jimi Hendrix, Harry Caray, Al Pacino, Gerrit de Geus, Howard Keel, Tallulah Bankhead, Louis Armstrong, Verne Troyer, Beau Belic, Bob Newhart

Happy Birthday! You may find yourself as odds with what you want to do and what you should do in life. FCU will direct you to the right end. Make a list of your ideas, concerns, and those things that need some alterations and begin completing them. Numbers are 1, 7, 12, 15, 20, 26, 31, 34.

**ARIES** (March 21-April 19): If you oppress or comfort someone, you can create a bigger than life problem that will be difficult to get past. Make home a place of comfort and peace for when things get hectic, and people are causing you grief.

**TAURUS** (April 20-May 20): You can make gains today if you are willing to alter your plans. A short delay will result in you needing something you needed to have seemed impossible in the past. 4 stars

**GEMINI** (May 21-June 20): Put your heart and soul into whatever you do and you will not regret the effort you will make. You will have fabulous ideas that may lead you in a whole new direction. Don’t let love stand in the way of your progress. 3 stars

**CANCER** (June 21-July 22): Emotional matters will take over at some time today. Try to Approach anyone with a strong bond in your affairs. Verbal abuse, deception and manipulation can all be expected today. 2 stars

**LEO** (July 23-Aug. 22): Someone may spring something on you today. Enjoy your fair share and enjoy the adventure. Romance is in the stars and looks most inviting. Children will play an important role in your life. Trend plans should be made. 3 stars

**CIRCO** (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Speak up and control the situation. Take care of matters involving the younger members of your household. An opportunity to do something for yourself.

**LIBRA** (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Don’t give in to emotional blackmail. Walk away from any consideration that turns up. Someone is likely to exaggerate—don’t let that someone be you. A unique experience can take your mind of your worries. 2 stars

SODAIRO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Do things you know will broaden your horizons and introduce you to people who have similar interests. A change of plans will lead to a journey. Someone from your past is likely to look up your here. 1 star

**SAINTHARIUS** (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Getting involved in activities with friends, relatives or neighbors will enable you to realize how much you have to offer. Love is looking good. Ask someone you are involved with if yes, or if, approach someone your way. 5 stars

**CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Don’t make promises you can’t keep or let yourself get backed into a corner. Life is good right, especially with legal, medical or financial matters. Be cautious when using your old relationships or with a commitment you have made will leave you feeling lucky. 3 stars

**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Take a scheme. Arrange in your home. Life or surrounding will help you someone you love. Don’t overwork yourself if you don’t have to. Have your budget with what you are doing rather than adding in. 3 stars

**PIECES** (Feb. 19-Mar. 20): You will be indexOf and exciting to be with but don’t let this lead to unnecessary purchases. Just be yourself if you want to get noticed —you were born and are a success. Someone you respect will give you some good advice. 5 stars

Birthday Baby: You are original, a bit of a provocateur and lovable. You are very good at delegating — a leader and a communicator.

**The Observer apologizes for the absence of PleasaNDville.**

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The Observer
P.O. Box 779
Notre Dame, IN 46556

**The Observer**

Friday, September 24, 2010 page 23
**ND Volleyball**

**Hitting the Big East**

Irish open Big East schedule in search of regular season and tournament championships

By MEAGHAN VESELIK
Sports Writer

In 2009, the Irish defeated every team in Big East regular season play before falling in five sets to Louisville in the conference tournament's championship match. This year, they don't plan to let that happen, as their conference season begins this weekend against West Virginia tonight and Pittsburgh Sunday.

"The team is really excited to start conference this weekend because we know we can be just as competitive and successful as last year, if not better," Irish senior co-captain Angela Puente said. "Conference play almost feels like a separate season altogether so we're ready to take huge steps toward an incredible season."

Notre Dame's (7-5) preparation will be evident on the field come Saturday.

"Last year the advantage was enough to get us the win," Kubinski said. "We were in a tight battle with Ohio State and Arkansas, and the finishing stretch of our course really requires a lot of knowledge and experience. It's tough to put a number on it, but it definitely helps."

The Irish are familiar with the boost that having an event on a team's home course can have on a round performance, as the same thing happened in Charleston. "At the Charleston Invitational, [College of Charleston] really gave us a push at the end there on their home course," Kubinski said.

Kubinski will depend on the experience of some of his older golfers to defend the Classic title that the Irish earned in last year's event. To achieve a repeat, the coach has tweaked the Irish lineup. "The lineup is a little different than last week," Kubinski said. "There are a few shots we need for this course, there's a few elevated greens. But general preparation is always our goal."

**Men’s Golf**

**Fighting Irish Gridiron Golf Classic to feature nation’s best**

By CHRIS ALLEN
Sports Writer

After braving the whipping winds and ocean mist of Kiawah Island, S.C., en route to a second place finish in the College of Charleston Invitational on Sept. 26-27, the Irish find themselves on much more familiar territory.

"They're always well prepared, they always have good players, and they're always technically good and tactfully good. They are definitely a good team," Irish coach Bobby Clark said. "It'll be a challenge, but not one that we'll be scared of. It's one we're looking forward to."

Notre Dame (2-2-1) will be the underdogs for Saturday's contest against No. 12 St. John's (5-1). St. John's leads the overall series at 11-3-5, but Notre Dame holds the advantage in the last 10 meetings, going 7-3-0.

"Last year the advantage was enough to get us the win," Kubinski said. "We were in a tight battle with Ohio State and Arkansas, and the finishing stretch of our course really requires a lot of knowledge and experience. It's tough to put a number on it, but it definitely helps."

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Ian Williams anchors the new-look Irish defense
Belief needed for Notre Dame wins

When Brian Kelly came to Notre Dame, fans were shown a picture of a man who can motivate and inspire, who can develop players as people and not just as cogs in his football machine. He’s not just a play-caller or a strategist, was the sentiment. He’s a coach.

Now we’re going to see if that’s true.

Two tough losses can wear on any team. The ‘what if’ from Michigan and Michigan State are numerous. And now the Irish he’s going to deal with a top-20 opponent that has won its first three games by an average of 38 points.

Kelly brought out his party line after Saturday’s loss to the Spartans.

“What do you believe in after a loss like this?” he said. “Do you believe in your teammates, do you believe in your coaches, do you believe in the preparation? If you do, you’ll come back and we’ll work harder and we’ll continue to work to get better. If you don’t believe, then these are times when you start to see teams pull apart. So, it’s all about belief at this point.”

And Kelly’s not terrible. There are still nine games to play. But with No. 16 Stanford Saturday, followed by a road game at Boston College and a matchup with a Pittsburgh team that is barely out of the top 25, things could get bad pretty fast. Kelly knows that.

“The line of belief may be a thin one, but it’s true — and is probably something Kelly repeats often to his players. So, do the Irish believe in their teammates? Lacks that way. Junior tight end Kyle Rudolph emphasized belief in his teammates after Saturday’s loss.

“We believe in each other,” Rudolph said. “We believe that mates after Saturday’s loss. Emphasized belief in his team-

Junior tight end Kyle Rudolph probably something Kelly sees that.

Right now, Notre Dame is just trying to get as many [Class of] 2012 kids on campus as they can and start qualifying them,” said Frank, who runs the ESPN affiliate Irish Sports Daily. “They want to see them, talk to them, hopefully see some game film, and start figuring out if they are their type of kids and will fit into what they want to do.”

Frank said at least threepotential ESPN 150 juniors will visit Notre Dame this weekend: athletes Eli Harold, lineman Danny O’Brien and defensive back Brian Poole.

“It’s important to get a jump on the competition, for the kids to get to campus early and experience a game weekend,” Frank said.

“Yes, Brian Kelly needs to be smart when calling plays and he needs to be a good strategist. But, perhaps most important right now, Brian Kelly needs to be a coach.”

By MATT GAMBER
Sports Writer

With 19 solid verbal commitments already secured for the Class of 2011, most of the Notre Dame staff’s limited game week-end recruiting efforts will be devoted to highly touted high school juniors, Irish recruiting expert Mike Frank said.

Belief in preparation is belief in themselves, to make it second nature not to make the errors things again. And it seems the Irish have that belief.

“You’ve got to go work hard and believe in what we’re doing,” sophomore linebacker Manti Te’o said. “If you really love the game, don’t let a loss hold you down.”

From the outside, there’s no reason to think this Irish team doesn’t believe in itself or in its coaching staff. And while belief alone is not enough to beat a team like Stanford, it is a necessary factor as Kelly continues to implement his offensive and defensive schemes despite uneven results.

Eventually, the schemes will be in place and the players utilized to the best of their abilities. That’s what Kelly has done at every stop in his coaching career, most notably at Cincinnati.

That’s what he’s already started to do, with players like sophomore receiverEthereal Riddick and junior defensive ends Koy Lefon Lewis-Moore and Ethan Johnson.

But for the team to be wholly on board when kids are working out and the playbook is installed (it will be crucial — belief in their teammates, in their coaches and in themselves. Because those things probably won’t be finalized this weekend. Maybe not even next weekend or the end of the season.

Until they are, Kelly is going to need to find a way to keep the team together.

Yes, Brian Kelly needs to be smart when calling plays and he needs to be a good strategist. But, perhaps most important right now, Brian Kelly needs to be a coach.

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

Contact Laura Myers at lmyers2@nd.edu
In the middle

By SAM WERNER
Sport Writer

Ask any football coach what the most important position is in a 3-4 defense is, and the response is almost unanimous.

"I knew a little bit about them, just watching Cincinnati and some of their games last year," head coach Brian Kelly said of his new defensive line coach. "I was really excited for the opportunity to have a new coaching staff and just try something new, start fresh."

Williams said the technical changes on the Notre Dame defense weren't as big a deal to him.

"It doesn't make that much of a difference to me," he said. "I'll play what I need to play. Defense is defense, I know I've said that plenty of times, but I'm just trying to go out there and have fun on every play."

In addition to Diaco, Kelly also hired strength and conditioning coach Paul Longo, who Williams said has been invaluable to his development.

"It's all paying off," Williams said. "I mean, we're 1-2 right now, but I think it's paying off and we're getting better."

New system, new position

Williams entered Notre Dame out of Atlantic Coast Springs, Fla., in 2007 as one of ESPN's top 150 high school players. Recruited to play nose tackle in then-defensive coordinator Corwin Brown's 3-4 system, Williams played in all 12 games his freshman year, starting two.

He totaled 45 tackles on the year and was named a Freshman All-American.

Since that first year, though, the Irish defense has switched defensive coordinators twice, and moved to defensive coordinator Jon Tenuta's 4-3 scheme in 2009. The switch meant that Williams had to move to defensive tackle, and away from his natural position.

When new Irish coach Brian Kelly hired defensive coordinator Diaco over this summer, he meant that Notre Dame was switching back to the 3-4, and Williams was moving back to the middle.

While much has been made about the schematic changes, Williams said he was more excited about the new attitude the coaching staff brought.

"It's all paying off. I mean, we're 1-2 right now, but I think it's paying off and we're getting better."

Ian Williams
senior defensive tackle

"It's all paying off. I mean, we're 1-2 right now, but I think it's paying off and we're getting better."

Old man on the line

In addition to Williams' responsibilities on the field, he's also the senior man on the Irish defense this line season.

"I'm the old guy in the group now," Williams said. "So I just feel like I have to be a role model for the younger guys."

Elston said that Williams has been taking charge by his attitude in practice, as well.

"He's been a leader, he's been working hard," Elston said. "Not a day goes by that I think he's wasting his wasting our time. He's been doing a nice job. He's locked in and having fun too."

Williams said that over the off-season, he had freshman defensive lineman Bruce Heggie, who lives about a half-hour away in Florida, over to his house to show Heggie some workouts.

"I had him come down where I lived and just worked on some things this summer," Williams said. "He just came down, I showed him some things to work on, and he just really worked on them by himself."

Williams added that he modeled his leadership after the advice he got from seniors during his freshman year.

"I mean when I was a freshman, I had Trevor Laws, Justin Brown and [Pat] Kuntz who were the older guys," he said. "They showed me how to play."

The newfound leadership role became official this past weekend, when Williams was named a game-day captain, along with junior tight end Kyle Rudolph, for Notre Dame's showdown against Michigan State. Williams said he was caught a bit off guard when Kelly called his name out at the Friday team meeting, but knew that someone back home would be very happy.

"I was very surprised and I was very thankful," he said. "My mom's been asking for four years. 'Ian when are you going to be a captain?' 'Ian when are you going to be a captain?' So I talked to her on Saturday and said, 'Mom, I'm a captain,' so she was really proud of me."

"Clog the middle"

Against the Spartans, Kelly singled out Williams for his outstanding play.

"Yeah, he's a man," Kelly said. "He's been a leader, he's been dominant."

Williams said he owes a lot of his success to Kelly.

"I expected him to play the middle. I knew a little bit about him," Williams said. "I really appreciate him calling me out and giving me a little bit, but I just feel personally that I still have a lot of things to work on."

While the generic job description of a nose guard in a 3-4 defense is to "clog the middle," Williams said it was more specific than that.

"My job is to make sure the ball bounces outside," he said.

"Make sure the ball doesn't come in any of my gaps."

Once it gets out there, Williams relies on junior defensive end Kapron Lewis-Moore and Ethan Johnson to make plays. He called Lewis-Moore and Johnson "two of [his] best friends."

"It helps with chemistry, talking on the field," Williams said. "We can joke around about little things, keep everything level on the field."

Despite Williams' difficult job description, he has never missed a game during his three-plus years at Notre Dame. Of that recruiting class, only Williams and linebacker Kerry Neal have accomplished that feat.

"Me and Kerry, we've worked hard since we got here as freshmen," Williams said. "We made a pact before we got here that we would just try and make plays in every game that we play in."

Defensive lines naturally take a pounding from game to game, but Williams said that he's never been close to missing a game — he's always been prepared mentally and physically.

One aspect of the game that is not part of Williams' job description is pass defense. But in Notre Dame's last two wins — this year against Purdue and last year against Washington State — Williams has recorded interceptions.

"It's crazy because D-linemen never get interceptions so it's exciting I got two," he said.

Against Purdue, Williams caught the ball after senior cornerback Gary Gray tipped it to him. Williams said he owes Gray a night out to dinner for helping him get the pick.

Williams is currently tied for the team lead with one interception, and has his sights set on more.

"I'm trying to go for more," Williams said jokingly. "I'm trying to lead the team."

Notre Dame's defense currently ranks 99th in the country in run defense, but gave up negative-6 yards rushing in the fourth quarter against the Spartans. Kelly said he's seen improvement in the defense.

"Being a defensive player, you don't want the opposing offense to get any points, gain any yards or anything like that," Williams said. "So, I mean, that's a negative right there. But I can see a difference in us from last year."

Elston said that while Williams' strong play didn't surprise him, he foresaw even more improvement during his senior year.

"I expected him to play the way he is playing right now, so it is not really a shock," Elston said. "He is not yet, but he can be a dominant, dominant nose guard."

Contact Sam Werner at swerner@nd.edu

The Observer • IRISH INSIDER

Friday, September 24, 2010 page 3
The Irish struggled to run the ball against Michigan State, carry- ing it 26 times for 92 yards. Part of that problem was caused by the back and forth nature of the game, which forced the Irish to throw more often. Senior running back Armando Allen has had a successful year so far on the ground. He led Notre Dame in carries and yards against the Spartans, and junior tight end Kyle Rudolph. The Cardinal defense has been dominant against the pass. They rank first in the NCAA in passing defense, holding conference foe UCLA to only 81 passing yards. Stanford will be Crist’s first real test, and only the game will tell if he is up to the challenge.

**Brian Kelly's offense continues to develop.** Sophomore running back-turned-receiver Theo Riddick also broke out against Michigan State, catching 10 balls for 128 yards and a score. Kelly said Riddick now gives the Irish a third option to balance junior Michael Floyd, who had two touchdown receptions against the Spartans, and junior tight end Kyle Rudolph. The Cardinal defense has been dominant against the pass. They rank first in the NCAA in passing defense, holding conference foe UCLA to only 81 passing yards. Stanford will be Crist’s first real test, and only the game will tell if he is up to the challenge.

**Irish in carries and yards against the Spartans, and has averaged 5.5 yards per carry through the first three games of the year. The Cardinal rush defense has not been as sturdy as their pass defense, giving up 137.67 yards in three games, which ranks 54th in the nation. It will be up to Kelly to exploit the weaker part of the Cardinal defense, and Allen will likely need to have a big game for the Irish offense to be successful. More run plays could longer breaks to the Irish defense as well, since Kelly’s normal attack is one that features quick strikes, giving the defense less time to adjust.**

**David Rudder is still perfect for the Irish, capitalizing on his one field goal opportunity against the Spartans, which moves him to 10-for-10 on field goals in his career.** Stanford struggles defending in the return game, ranking in the bottom half of the country in kick return defense and dead last in punt return defense. Irish kick returner Allen and Cierre Wood have both looked good at breaking a return for a score, and this game might be their chance.

**The Stanford defense poses a difficult matchup for the Irish, but Kelly has faced talented teams before, and knows how to gameplan around their strengths. This weekend’s game should be no exception.**

**Notre Dame has played well enough at points this season to beat Stanford, no matter what Stanford’s ranking or average points per game is. Notre Dame has also played poorly enough at points this season to be blown out by Stanford. We will probably see both versions of the Irish this weekend, but it is how much of the latter version we see that will determine Notre Dame’s fate against the Cardinal. With Imanor’s Slaughter back and Michael Floyd wised up, the Irish will play enough good football this weekend.**

**Notre Dame Fighting Irish**

**Record: 1-2**

**AP: NR**

**Coaches: NR**

**First season at Notre Dame**

**career record: 172-59-2**

**record at ND: 1-2 vs. Stanford:**

**2010 Schedule**

- Sept. 4: Notre Dame vs. Purdue
- Sept. 11: Notre Dame vs. Michigan
- Sept. 18: Notre Dame vs. Western Michigan
- Oct. 2: Notre Dame vs. Temple
- Oct. 9: Notre Dame vs. Pittsburgh
- Oct. 16: Notre Dame vs. Navy
- Oct. 30: Notre Dame vs. Tulsa
- Nov. 13: Notre Dame vs. Utah
- Nov. 20: Notre Dame vs. Army
- Nov. 27: Notre Dame vs. USC

**notre dame offensive coaching**

**Notre Dame OFFENSIVE COACHING**

**ND OFFENSE**

**Scoring: 26.6 ppg (76th)**

- Total: 511.3 ppg (10th)
- Rushing: 137.67 ypg (54th)
- Passing: 373.67 ypg (7th)
- Total: 227.67 ypg (6th)

**T.O.P. against: 27:27 (20th)**

**Turnovers for: 7 (20th)**

**Rushing: 133.0 ypg (81st)**

**Total: 400.0 ypg (77th)**

**Interceptions: 3 (37th)**

**Sacks: 11 (6th)**

**Def. Coordinator**

Bob Diaco

**Charley Molnar**

**Def. Coordinator**

**Charley Molnar**

**Off. Coordinator**

**Eric Prister**

**Associate**

**Sports Editor**

**Sports Writer**

** Matt Gamber**

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**Sports Writer**

For more matchups and pregame analysis, as well as a live IRISH INSIDER ONLINE at ndsmcobserver.com/sports/
The Irish secondary will have trouble stopping the high-powered passing attack of the Cardinal, especially with an injured group of defensive backs. In addition to safety Jamoris Slaughter, who has not been on the field in the past two games, Kelly said that three other members of the Irish secondary played through significant injuries against Michigan State.

Stanford sophomore quarterback Andrew Luck has been excellent for the Cardinal, completing 64.3 percent of his passes, with 10 touchdowns and no interceptions. His accurate passing and lack of mistakes will be tested by the Irish front seven, who ranks 29th in the country in sacks this season. Stanford has allowed only one sack in three games, however, and if Notre Dame is unable to put pressure on Luck, the banged up secondary will have a difficult time keeping tabs on the Cardinal receivers, and Luck, an highly-touted NFL prospect, will have a field day.

**Final Score:** Stanford 35, Notre Dame 20

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**Statistical Leaders**

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**2010 Schedule**

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**Stanford Cardinal Record:** 3-0

**Coaches:**

- Head coach: Jim Harbaugh
- Off. Coordinator: David Shaw
- Def. Coordinator: Vic Fangio

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**Stanford Cardinal**

**Record:** 3-0

**Coaches:**

- Head coach: Jim Harbaugh
- Off. Coordinator: David Shaw
- Def. Coordinator: Vic Fangio

---

**Fourth season at Stanford**

**Career record:** 46-26

**Record at Stanford:** 17-20 against ND. 1-2

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**Head-to-Head**

**Record at Notre Dame:**

- 1-1

**Record at Stanford:**

- 3-0

**Record against Notre Dame:**

- 5-3

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<td>12</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Penalties For</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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**Golden Pick of the Golden Tate**

**“Although while I was there we never beat a ranked team, I think this year it’s all about to change! The Irish badly need to win this game so I think they will figure a way to come out with a win. Based on our past, if they wait til the last few minutes of the game it will not look good! I take my boys in this one.”**

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**IRISH INSIDER**

**Sports Writer**

- Laura Myers

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**The Observer**

**Sports Writer**

- Sam Werner

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**Box Score**

**Stanford vs. Notre Dame**

**FINAL SCORE:** Stanford 35, Notre Dame 20

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**Books to Read**

- *The Big Red Book* by Tom Fears

The Observer

ND's Opponents Last Week & This Week

(2-1) W 24-13 Ball State
Toledo

(3-0) W 42-37 UMass
Bowling Green

(3-0) W 34-31 (OT) Notre Dame
N. Colorado

(3-0) W 68-24 Wake Forest
@ND

(2-0) BYE
Va. Tech

(1-1) BYE
Miami (Fla.)

(1-2) L 37-24 Toledo
Idaho

(2-1) W 37-23 @Louisiana Tech
Air Force

(1-2) L 65-28 @Oklahoma St
Central Ark.

(3-0) W 56-14 @New Mexico
San Jose St.

(2-1) W 21-0 North Texas
Duke

(3-0) W 32-21 @Minnesota
@Wash. St.

Irish face challenge in Cardinal quarterback Luck

By LAURA MYERS
Sports Writer

The last time Notre Dame faced Andrew Luck, the red-shirt freshman broke a finger in the fourth quarter of what turned out to be a 45-38 Stanford win on Nov. 28, 2009. Despite his inability to lead his team in a bowl game, Luck earned freshman All-America honors, among other awards, for his first season.

Before the 2010 season, Cardinal coach Jim Harbaugh had high praise for his now-sophomore quarterback.

“He’s the best I’ve been around, pro or college,” Harbaugh said in a press conference before the season. “He’s just got no red flags about him whatsoever.”

In a press conference Tuesday, Irish senior cornerback Darrin Walls had a similar sentiment.

“Andrew Luck is a great player. He can run and throw it. Obviously he’s got a big arm. He really runs it well so he’s a tough challenge for us.”

Harrison Smith
Irish safety

“I wish we could have had the opportunity to see Luck last year,” Walls said.

Luck’s supporting cast includes receivers Doug Baldwin and Ryan Whalen, who have each caught 10 passes for 194 and 113 yards, respectively, and running back Stepfan Taylor, who has rushed 31 times for 162 yards.

Against Wake Forest on Sept. 18, Luck went 17-for-23 passing for 207 yards and four touchdowns, and ran for 69 yards, including a 52-yard run for a touchdown. The Cardinal won the game 68-24; they have won their first three games by an average of 38 points.

How much fanfare did you get from your friends and family after getting your first interception in the Michigan State game?
I got a lot. A lot of people were hitting me up on Facebook.

How badly did you want to run the interception out of the end zone?
Oh my gosh, I did. You could tell, too. I think if I had, Carlo [Calabrese] would have tackled me.

When do you think your next interception will be?
I’m hoping this Saturday.

Coach Kelly said you are the kind of guy who would give him your arm. Is there anything you would not give to Coach Kelly if he asked for it?
I’m sure there are some things I probably wouldn’t give him. I don’t know if I would literally give him my arm.

Sophomore quarterback Andrew Luck (9) evades Wake Forest defenders during Stanford’s 68-24 victory Saturday. Luck accounted for five touchdowns in the game, four passing and one rushing.
Elston returns to Irish after missing two games

By DOUGLAS FARMER
Sports Editor

Every game Mike Elston has coached on the Notre Dame sideline, the Irish have won. Unfortunately, Elston has missed the last two games as he recovered from an illness that plagued him since before fall camp began.

“The first day I started feeling poorly was August 2nd, right before camp began,” Elston said Tuesday, after his second practice back with the Irish since missing the majority of two weeks. “I’m not going to say a lot about it, but it was a lot more than everybody knows and it was a scary time for me and my family.”

Elston stuck with the Irish through fall camp and coached the defensive line and special teams in Notre Dame’s victory over Purdue, until Irish coach Brian Kelly told Elston he was too sick to keep coaching.

“I didn’t decide [to leave the team],” Elston said. “Coach Kelly decided for me.”

Elston said the toughest part of his ordeal was stepping away from the team right in the beginning of the season.

“We put so much into it over the summer and fall camp, and to not be a part of it with the guys that you love and the guys that love you — that was the hardest part,” Elston said. “A lot of guys were trying to reach out and give me their best.”

Senior defensive tackle Ian Williams was one of the many players who sent Elston messages during his absence, sending two text messages in the two weeks.

“I didn’t really want to bother him because I knew he was with his family, so I wanted to give him his time and space,” Williams said. “But I sent him two texts letting him know I was thinking about him and I missed him.”

Upon his return to the locker room late last week, Elston received a standing ovation from the players, surprised by his arrival.

“It’s good to have him back,” junior defensive end Ethan Johnson said. “Everyone is excited to have him back. It is as simple as that. Everyone really likes coach Elston and he does a great job, brings a lot to the table and he’s a great guy.”

While the team took the field minus Elston against Michigan, he attempted to watch the game from his hospital room.

“I was on the cardiac floor at Mayo Clinic, and they always had to have on a heart monitor,” he said. “When that game came on, my average heart rate was ridiculous, so they had to take me off the heart monitor for during the game.”

Elston watched Notre Dame’s loss at Michigan State from the sidelines in a non-coaching role, and despite the result, was grateful for that opportunity compared to his situation for the Michigan game.

“Obviously the outcome was as painful, if not more painful, losing on the last play of the game,” Elston said. “Being there with the guys and seeing the game unfold, that is better than being in a hospital bed having a heart monitor go off every time something was going on.”

In the light of Michigan State coach Mark Dantonio suffering a heart attack after last weekend’s game, Elston said he realizes the dangers of coaching on the sideline.

“I can only imagine what my heart rate would have been like on the sidelines,” Elston said. “I bet you a coach’s heart rate during a game for the whole four or five hours is probably 150 or 160 beats per minute.”

Nonetheless, Elston is not about to leave the sideline or the team again soon.

“It made me appreciate it a bunch,” he said. “I can’t even give you an answer long enough. It makes me appreciate everything in life.”

The team, and especially Williams and the defensive line, is glad to have Elston back in practice.

“I just gave him a big hug, like ‘Thanks coach for fighting through this,’” Williams said. “I’m glad to have him back.”

Elston said he is not 100 percent, but will be with the team for the rest of the season.

“I’m not 100 percent yet, but I’m working that way … Next week I have some appointments,” he said. “But Sunday I got my blowhorn and whistle back, and am able to game plan for Stanford.”

Contact Douglas Farmer at dfarmer1@nd.edu
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