Gas leak evacuees gather in JACC
Transpo brings 500 evacuated workers and residents from downtown South Bend to campus

By SARAH MERVOSH
News Editor

Around 500 people gathered in the Joyce Athletic and Convocation Center available to workers and residents who were displaced, University spokesman Dennis Brown said.

Brown said 1st Source Bank, which has offices downtown, called the University and asked if their employees could come to Notre Dame’s campus. “They said, ‘We don’t want them hanging out on the streets, can we bring them up to the Joyce Center?’ We said, ‘Yes, by all means,’” Brown said.

Transpo began transporting evacuees to the Joyce Center, where food, water, coffee, juice, Internet access and blankets for the elderly were provided. “Anyone who wanted to jump on a bus could come up to the Joyce Center and have a place to wait it out,” Brown said.

Evacuees arrived at the Joyce Center around 9:30 or 10 a.m. and were “coming and going” for the next four hours, peaking around lunchtime, he said.

Brown said evacuees needed a place to wait because they did not know when the leak would be capped and could not go home because much of the city was blocked off. Wherever their cars may be parked, they couldn’t get to them, he said.

In addition to the evacuation of businesses and restaurants, low-income housing and assisted living complexes were also affected. Many of these evacuees needed medical or wheelchair assistance, Brown said.

“When we were really concerned about those folks in particular,” he said.

Various Notre Dame departments, such as Notre Dame Security Police and the Office of Information Technology, worked with downtown businesses and the American Red Cross to assist evacuees.

“The leak, which occurred in the 100 block of West Jefferson Boulevard, was capped shortly after noon,” Brown said. Brown said the Joyce Center cleared out by around 2 p.m.

Contact Sarah Mervosh at smervosh@nd.edu

Experts analyze disordered eating
By LAURA McCRYSTAL
News Editor

When a student approached Notre Dame psychology professor Alexandra Corning several years ago about writing a thesis on eating disorders, Corning said she knew very little about the topic.

Now, she conducts research about eating disorders and teaches an undergraduate course titled “Understanding Eating Disorders.” While diagnosable eating disorders are a major concern, Corning said she focuses on the large number of people who struggle with symptoms, but do not have a diagnosable disorder.

“Even when you’re struggling sub-clinically, you’re struggling.” Corning said. “Our campus, even if you looked around and discovered, yes, full-blown, diagnosable cases are rare... there’s lots of people who are struggling at a sub-clinical level.”

One in three college-aged women has disordered eating habits, although only nearly 10 percent have a full-fledged eating disorder, according the University Counseling Center and resources distributed on Notre Dame’s campus this week as part of Body Image and Eating Disorder Awareness Week, sponsored by the Gender Relations

Travel alert affects students abroad
By CASEY KENNY
News Writer

With the State Department’s recent release of a general travel alert for all Americans in Europe, Notre Dame’s Office of International Studies (OIS) took extra precautions to enhance awareness of the alert and to ensure the safety of its students studying or traveling abroad.

The travel alert, released on Sunday, alerted U.S. citizens to the increased potential for terrorist attacks in Europe and recommended U.S. citizens take safety precautions when traveling abroad, particularly in public places like tourist sites and ports or while riding public transportation.

“The alert, a step below a formal “travel warning” which advises U.S. citizens to avoid traveling to particular places, was issued after an assessment of information that terrorist groups appeared to be plotting attacks on cities in Europe.”

There are presently 235 Notre Dame students studying in Europe, according to Kathleen Opel, director of OIS.

OIS is in close contact with its students who are studying abroad and the program directors urged students to listen to the warnings of the State Department and adopt appropriate safety measures.

“The Office of International Studies has notified students in Europe of the State Department’s advisory,” Opel said. “We have advised them to follow the tips from the State Department and have provided them with various strategies to do so.”
THE HOT SEAT: ONE PERSON, FIVE QUESTIONS, INFINITE POSSIBILITIES

When did you start skating? Lavin: I started skating at the age of three. I got skates for Christmas and my dad took us out back on the lake and we started skating.

Crosby or Ovechkin? Lavin: Sidney Crosby.

What’s been your best hockey moment at Notre Dame? Lavin: We played Michigan at home at the end of [last year]. That was a big thrill. It was a big weekend for us, especially heading into the playoffs. It was a big win at home in front of a good crowd.

Could LeBron James play hockey? Lavin: I don’t know. You put skates on that dude, he could do just about anything.

Will you average the football loss and beat Michigan this year? Lavin: We will. We’re really confident. We have a lot of confidence, but at the same time we’re staying pretty humble. I think we have a lot in the room.

Know someone who should be in the hot seat? E-mail obsphoto@gmail.com

CORRECTIONS

The Observer regrets indulging as a professional publication and errors 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 631-8543 so we can correct our error.
Author investigates man behind sports phrase

By KATLYN SMITH
News Writer

Pulitzer Prize nominated sports writer Jack Cavanaugh places the phrase “Win one for the Gipper” as one the most famous expressions in sports history, but he said not many people know about the man who uttered those famous words.

“Everybody’s heard the expression, but hardly anybody knows anything about the man behind it,” Cavanaugh said.

The man, George Gipp, was a Notre Dame football player who died during his senior year in 1920. Notre Dame legend says Gipp said the phrase on his deathbed to coach Knute Rockne as a rallying cry for his team.


Cavanaugh will be at the Hammes Notre Dame Bookstore for signings Friday from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. and Saturday from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Cavanaugh’s interest in the Gipper began as a young Notre Dame football fan.

“Sometimes as a kid, I heard this mystical type of a person,” Cavanaugh said. “I wondered if he even existed, or he was just somebody who was made up because he seemed too good to be true as an athlete.”

After tracking down some of Gipp’s former teammates for a Sports Illustrated story in 1991, Cavanaugh had enough material to write a book on the former Notre Dame football player.

“A couple of them even had roomed with him and gone to high school with him and then followed him to Notre Dame,” Cavanaugh said. “So they knew him very, very well.”

Cavanaugh, an adjunct professor at the Columbia University Graduate School of Journalism, said Ronald Reagan’s presidency and his memorable portrayal of Gipp in the 1940 film “Knute Rockne All American” also inspired the book.

“He loved that role,” Cavanaugh said of the former president. “If he wanted to get a hill through Congress, he’d say, ‘Let’s win one for the Gipper,’ the famous expression.”

For Cavanaugh, the film failed to capture Gipp’s gambling and poor attendance at Notre Dame.

“It was a very saintly portrayal of George Gipp,” he said. “It made George Gipp look like the All-American boy, just real nice, handsome guy, real good person, and he was hardly that.”

In his book, Cavanaugh recounts how Gipp became the best pool player in South Bend.

“Win one for money in college gambling,” Cavanaugh said. “He wasn’t your typical scholar athlete.”

On the field, however, teammates recognized Gipp’s leadership.

“Everybody, including his roommates, said he was certainly dead honest when he was a player,” Cavanaugh said. “He went all out for Notre Dame.”

Although Rockne had to convince him to try out for the football team, Gipp still holds University football records almost a century after his death.

“He was so outstanding, and he never played football in high school,” Cavanaugh said. “That was one of the most remarkable parts of it all.”

Researching the phrase that made Gipp iconic, Cavanaugh encountered a mixed reaction from Gipp’s teammates as to whether or not he ever spoke the words.

One of those teammates, Hank Anderson, went to high school with Gipp and roomed with him at Notre Dame. Anderson became the head coach of the Notre Dame football team after Rockne died in a plane crash in 1931.

“He knew him as well as anybody, and when I talked with him, he doubted that Gipp would have said that,” Cavanaugh said. “He said that he was just not a sentimental guy.”

The book is loaded with debate, but Cavanaugh also spent significant amount of time describing how Rockne and Gipp contributed to Notre Dame’s rise in national popularity.

In a 1913 game against Army, Rockne caught the then-novel forward pass, contributing to Notre Dame’s victory and changing the coverage of Notre Dame football forever.

“They upset Army in one of the biggest upsets in college football history,” Cavanaugh said. “All of a sudden all the New York papers are writing about this little, unknown Catholic school out West.”

By the time Gipp played his last game, he had reached national acclaim.

“Even the Northwestern fans were chanting for him to come out on the field because he was so famous at that point,” Cavanaugh said.

Gipp was sick with what doctors at Saint Joseph’s Hospital later diagnosed as strep throat. Despite the illness, Gipp traveled with the team to Evanston, Illinois, for the Northwestern game because he wanted to play for alumni who had shown up for a “Gipp Day.”

According to Cavanaugh, Rockne let Gipp play in the last quarter.

“He went in the game and threw two passes, and they both were for touchdowns,” Cavanaugh said. “That was typical Gipp, and the crowd went wild.”

After that game, Gipp wouldn’t live much longer. He died on Dec. 14, 1920. Thousands of Notre Dame students attended his funeral.

“One of the biggest funerals at Notre Dame was after he died,” Cavanaugh said. “It was only topped by the Rockne funeral not too many years later.”

Cavanaugh questioned whether the football program would produce a similar figure whose untimely death struck during the height of his popularity.

“I doubt that’s ever going to happen again,” Cavanaugh said. During his 25 years at the New York Times, Cavanaugh covered Notre Dame football and basketball when the teams played on the East Coast. His research for the book brought him to the Archives Department in the Hesburgh Library last fall when he pored over Scholastics, books and newspaper microfilms.

Cavanaugh will return to campus this weekend and support the Fighting Irish at the Pittsburgh game.

“Deep down, since I won’t be covering the game, in large measure because of the book and because I’ve learned so much about Notre Dame and having been out to the campus and coming back again. I’ll definitely be rooting for Notre Dame.”

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Photo exhibit offers cultural insight on India

By CAITLIN HOUSLEY
News Writer

Bold black and white eyes greet visitors of the Cashway-Leighton Library. These eyes belong to the subjects of photographer Fazal Sheikh’s “Ladli: Beloved Daughter” photo exhibit, which senior Chelsea Crane described as “moving.”

“The exhibit opened my eyes to a culture with which I am unfamiliar,” Crane said.

Associate professor of business and economics Ujvala Rajadhyaksha helped viewers become culturally aware as one of the prime goals of the exhibition. [The exhibit] attempts to raise consciousness about the plight of women and young girls in India who live on the margins of Indian society.

These women have fought hardship in a culture that is predominantly male-oriented, and the exhibit was meant to share their experiences.

Crane and Kryk said the stories accompanied the photos were powerful, but it was the images that made them real.

Rajadhyaksha said she completely encompassed reality.

“Looking at their faces … [they] completely encompassed the stories they have,” Kryk said.

Rajadhyaksha said this was a much better alternative than the typical action of leaving the infants in a dumpster.

“The portraits give a personal element to the plight of Indian women,” she said.

Rajadhyaksha said she hopes students experience other insights when they visit the exhibit.

“This exhibit presents a contrasting image of India from the one that exists in the popular press of the country...”

Ujvala Rajadhyaksha
associate professor
business

The exhibit is open to the public and will run through October 15th during regular library hours.

Kryk said she would strongly encourage students and other community members to visit the exhibit.

“I would definitely encourage more people to attend the exhibit,” she said. “It makes you realize that your bad day — maybe you got a bad grade on a test or something — isn’t as bad as someone else’s bad day. It makes you put things in perspective.”

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SMC launches new awareness program

By ALISON MEAGHER
News Writer

The Bellas Against Violence Office (BAVO) is launching the National Green Dot program to raise awareness during the annual Domestic Violence Awareness Month. The Green Dot program is a national initiative that was developed at the University of Kentucky.

The Green Dot program focuses on violence prevention by capitalizing on peer and cultural influence,” Connie Adams, director of BAVO, said.

According to Adams, students will learn about sexual assault, stalking and relationship violence.

“The training focuses on providing a range of techniques students can use to intervene as bystanders,” Adams said.

Students interested in participating the BAVO training, located in the basement of Holy Cross Hall or call 574-284-4018 for more information.

“While we cannot do everything, we can each do something,” Adams said. “The Green Dot training helps participants to discover the potential things which can be done.”

Contact Alison Meagher at ameagh01@saintmarys.edu
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LEGENDS of NOTRE DAME

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Pace  
continued from page 1

A passionate Notre Dame fan who has a helmet signed by Joe Montana in his office, said he was disappointed that the Notre Dame football team does not offer $5 Footlongs. He does not believe students should have to go off campus to take advantage of the deal.

"As a longstanding and generous contributor, I’m very happy about [that]. I see ads in the Observer for Subway off-campus [for] the $5 Footlongs. That makes me upset," he said.

Pace said his education at Notre Dame as a double major in the Program of Liberal Studies and Business, as well as his experience as Editor-in-Chief of The Observer, helped prepare him for a job in the business world.

"The Observer was the toughest job I ever had," Pace said. "I was Editor-in-Chief of the Observer from March 1978 to March 1979. Before that, I was features Editor and before that I covered interhall sports."

After graduating from Notre Dame, Pace went on to the University of Pennsylvania’s Wharton School of Business, where he earned his Masters of Business Administration and was the editor of Business School Weekly.

Pace said his background in journalism and the liberal arts helped him build the communication skills necessary for a career in business.

"I’m in marketing now, and the great thing about marketing is that it is a big piece of it is how you communicate — whether you write headlines, or lay out a paper, all that was fabulous training," he said.

Pace said under his leadership, Subway emphasized advertising on the Internet, specifically on Facebook and Twitter sites of celebrities.

"Obviously, everyone’s communicating digitally now," he said. "We are trying to use innovative techniques in four advertising! Whether its Michael Phelps, Michael Strahan, Nastia Liukin — all of these folks also have a presence in the digital space and social media."

Pace said Subway does not solely use the faces of celebrities to promote the brand.

"Unlike many other brands, we don’t use celebrities, we use fans of Subway who happen to be famous," Pace explained. "These guys and gals really do eat at Subway, so it’s natural for them to talk about the brand."

Pace said that sometimes, celebrities will tweet the sandwich they’re ordering, just because they love Subway, and because they know "the people at Subway like it."

"Michael Strahan will go into a Subway and send out a tweet saying ‘I’m having a Subway blank and blank sandwich.‘" Pace said. "We just view it as another way to connect to our consumers. (Social media) advertising allows consumers to get as close to Subway as they want."

While digital media is an ever-expanding advertising platform, Pace said he has not lost focus on more traditional methods of advertising.

"Television is still an extremely effective media form," he said. "Without traditional advertising, the $5 Footlong song would never have caught on that quickly. With television … you’re reaching 30 million people with a message."

Most recently, Pace has been working on an advertising campaign with the New York City Marathon, creating a sponsor-ship deal as “Official Training Partner” since Subway’s Jared Fogle will be participating in the marathon.

"So the thing that we just kicked off last weekend is making news of the fact that Jared’s running the New York City Marathon," Pace said. "Jared lost all that weight by walking and eating Subway. Here we are 10 years later he’s running a marathon, so that’s a big deal. We have a TV commercial [on Jared] that actually just started running on Sunday."

Pace emphasized that all of Subway’s “Famous Fans” are celebrities who already liked to eat at Subway.

"If I ask someone what their favorite sandwich is, and they say ‘uh, tuna?‘ I know that person isn’t a real fan," Pace explained.

He said people often have a go-to Subway sandwich. He talked about Michael Phelps ordering turkey when he’s in training, but a meatball sub when he’s not.

Pace said he personally likes to get creative with his Subway order. "My favorite Subway sandwich is actually not on the menu," he said. "My favorite is what I refer to as ‘chicken and cheese.‘ I want a single portion of cheese, half of it Swiss and half of it provolone. Put onions on before you toast it, so they’re cooked into the cheese. Then I want lettuce, tomato, cucumber, sometimes pickles or banana peppers, depending how I’m feeling, and a bit of mayo … usually on flatbread, although I also do Italian once in awhile."

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Toxic factory waste reaches Danube River  
Associated Press

KOLONTAR, Hungary — The toxic red sludge that burst out of a Hungarian factory’s reservoir reached the mighty Danube on Thursday after wreaking havoc on smaller rivers and creeks, and downstream nations rushed to test their waters.

The European Union and environmental officials both fear an environmental catastrophe affecting half a dozen nations if the red sludge, a waste product of making aluminum, contaminates the Danube, Europe’s second-longest river.

Officials from Croatia, Serbia and Romania were taking river samples every few hours Thursday but hoping that the Danube’s huge water volume would blunt the impact of the spill.

The reservoir break Monday disgorged a toxic torrent through three villages and created a flow into waterways connected to the Danube. Creeks in Kolontar, the western Hungarian village closest to the spill site, were still swollen and ochre red days later and villagers said they were devoid of fish.

The red sludge reached the western branch of the Danube early Thursday and its broad, muddy current by noon, Hungarian rescue agency spokesman Tibor Dobson told the state MTI news agency.

Dobson said the pH content of the red sludge entering the Danube had been reduced to the point where it was unlikely to cause further environmental damage. It had been tested earlier at a pH level of 13 and now was down under 10, and no dead fish had been spotted where the slurry was entering the Danube, he said.

A neutral pH level for water is 7, with normal readings ranging from 6.5 to 8.5. Each pH number is 10 times the previous level, so a pH of 13 is 1,000 times more alkaline than a pH of 10.
Disorder

continued from page 1

Center.
Statistics, however, are not always accurate because eating disorders and related symptoms are often underre-ported, according to Valerie Staples, staff clinician and coordinator of eating disorder services at the University Counseling Center.

Eating disorders and body image issues are prevalent for the college-aged population due to competition and comparison among students, Staples said.

Even if students on cam- pus think that they don’t know somebody with an eating disorder, it’s very likely they do,” she said. “We have a lot of members of our community who are really strug-gling and who are in a lot of physical and emotional pain.”

Corning said it is important for students to understand that they are not alone in facing symptoms of eating disorders. A study she did in 2006 found that a great num-ber of female undergradu-ates at Notre Dame displayed these symptoms.

“Of the people who signed up for our study and were in it – 56.2 percent either had a diagnosable eating disorder or showed symptoms,” Corning said. “It means that if you think no one else is struggling, you’re wrong.”

While she said the study did not set out to find statisti-cs in that area and was not an entirely random sample, the findings did show that eating disorder symptoms are frequent on campus.

There are three types of eating disorders, Corning said. They fall under the cat-egories of anorexia nervosa, bulimia nervosa and not oth-erwise specified. Not all symptoms fit under these categories, and some fit into all of them. For exam-ple, Corning said over-exer-cising can be a symptom of anorexia, but also a form of purging after binge eating associated with bulimia.

Eating disorder symptoms are prevalent in both men and women in part because popular culture provides con-stant reminders of a thin ideal for women and a mus-cular ideal for men, Corning said.

“And (college students today) have grown up in a culture where there’s more bombardment of these images,” she said.

Staples said she finds the amount of student energy and participation in the event this week to be extremely encouraging. One of the most important aspects of Body Image and Eating Disorder Awareness Week is based on educating students about how they might help a friend with an eating disorder, she said.

Of all the students who came to the University Counseling Center last year, Staples said the Center’s annual report indicates that 10.3 percent reported eating concerns. Yet in addition to working with students who have eating disorders, Staples also meets with con-cerned friends.

Every year, every semes-ter, I have people calling me or coming in in groups to consult about a friend who they’re worried about,” Staples said. “When I’m con-sulting with them about how to help a friend, we spend a lot of time talking about not always knowing the way to their friend, but also about what to expect.”

Students wanting to help a friend, Staples said, must address specific concerns about behaviors in a compas-sionate, nonjudgmental man-ner.

“It’s not about finding the perfect words,” she said. “I don’t have tips on how to make this an easy conversa-tion, but I think there really isn’t a wrong way to tell someone you’re worried about them.”

While realizing the preva-lence of disordered eating and the difficulty of con-fronting these issues can be discouraging, Staples said she finds hope in stories of recovery.

“I think that there’s, for some, a misconception that people can’t get better,” she said. “And if I didn’t see people get better, I don’t think I could keep doing this job.”

“It’s a long process of change, but people can over-come an eating disorder and live very long, full lives with-out this consuming them.”

Contact Laura McCrystal at lmccrystal@nd.edu

Alert

continued from page 1

Opel said she would tell Notre Dame students in Europe to increase their awareness when in specific locations or settings.

“Students need to be vigilant and always be aware of their sur-roundings,” she said. “They are aware that they should not be attending political rallies or wear-ing clothing that draws attention to them as Americans.”

Students in the Notre Dame London Program were made well aware of the advisory.

“The London program has reviewed the travel alert with stu-dents both by email and verbally,” London program director Greg Kucich said. “We are emphasizing the alert’s precautions regarding vigilance, especially at transporta-tion centers and large public gatherings.”

Kucich said the London Program urged students to follow the security procedures already estab-lished by the program, which include always filling out electronic itinerary travel forms and carrying the operational cell phones provided by the London program, as well as the emer-gency phone numbers.

Both Kucich and Opel empha-sized that students should use common sense and listen to and heed their instincts.

“Students seem to be taking this in stride,” Opel said. “Most remember 9/11 and have grown up and live in an environment where travel vigilance is required.”

Kucich said Notre Dame stu-dents should even increase their awareness in their daily activities.

“Students are paying due atten-tion to the travel alert and recom-mended precautions while pro-ceeding in a cautious, calm way with their academic studies, their daily routines in London, and their travel plans,” Kucich said. “Students are responding intelli-gently and maturity to the travel alert and are following all recom-mended precautions without dis-rupting their travel plans.”

Junior Alex Study, who is abroad in London, is aware of the advisory and necessary precau-tions.

“The recent travel advisory has not significantly affected my fall break thus far,” Study said. “I have made travel plans and I intend to keep those plans.”

Study said most students are cautious but not allowing the advi-sory to negatively affect their aca-demic and traveling experiences while abroad.

“Most people don’t seem to be taking any real precautions, but some people are a little concerned and will be trying to avoid public transportation for a while,” he said. “As for myself, I won’t be taking any specific precautions, but will just exercise common sense and be aware of my sur-roundings.”

The Office of International Studies will continue to work closely with students and program directors in monitoring and com-municating the heightened threat.

“We are looking out for what is best for the students,” Opel said. “We want to make sure the loca-tions are safe and we will contin-ue to monitor information as it develops and reassess from there.”

Contact Casey Kenny at cckenny@nd.edu

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Investment manager Marcus Schrenker, who tried to fake his death in a Florida plane crash, has been sentenced to 10 years in prison.

Hiking path gets European support

Associated Press

AUGUSTA, Maine — The International Appalachian hiking trail got a major boost Thursday as chapters in several European countries endorsed the project, which promises to become the world’s largest trail network.

Trail clubs in Iceland, Norway, Sweden, Denmark, the Netherlands, England, Ireland and Wales formally joined the International Appalachian Trail during a meeting in Aviemore, Scotland, IAT officials said.

The IAT is an extension of the Appalachian Trail, which extends from northern Maine to northern Georgia along the Appalachian Mountains. The IAT begins near Maine’s Mount Katahdin and extends through eastern Canadian provinces. Hikers can continue on the IAT by crossing the Strait of Juan de Fuca and the Pacific Ocean by boat or plane and picking it up in Greenland and Iceland, IAT officials said.

“By joining, they (the international chapters) will set up a trail in their territory,” IAT geologist Walter Anderson said. “Now we have jumped the pond.”

The extended trail will follow mountains that were formed millions of years ago when the continental plates of North America and Europe collided. The Appalachian region of North America is the largest trail network in the world, with multi-national membership on three continents. The organization said it sees the trail as a “fanciful opportunity” for outdoor adventure companies interested in providing services in a market that’s home to more than 500 million people.

While many references call the Appalachian Trail the longest continuous footpath in the world, a number of other planned or existing trails compete for the title of longest.

Ind. money manager who crashed plane gets 10 years

Associated Press

NOBLESVILLE, Ind. — A judge Thursday ignored pleas for leniency from an Indiana money manager who conned friends and family into investing in a fund that didn’t exist and tried to fake his death by parachuting out of a plane and crashing it when the scheme started to unravel.

Hamilton Superior Court Judge Steven Nation sentenced Marcus Schrenker to 10 years in prison, ignoring Schrenker’s claims that a lighter sentence would give him enough time to make things right. Schrenker will serve the sentence consecutively with a four-year federal prison term he received for derailed a trial in January 2009 and crashing it in Florida.

Schrenker, 39, told Nation he wanted to repay investors and rebuild his relationship with the three children he’s seen only once since his arrest. He said he had bipolar disorder and had got caught in a downward spiral of stress after his wife died and he was left to take care of two young daughters and a toddler.

“I had it all and I threw it away,” Schrenker said as his estranged wife, Michelle, watched him weep quietly from the audience.

Schrenker pleaded guilty last month to five securities fraud charges and agreed to pay more than $600,000 in restitution. As part of the plea deal, four charges against Schrenker were dismissed.

Nation said he had such a hard time believing Schrenker wouldn’t spiral into the same pattern of behavior again that he almost didn’t accept the plea agreement.

Schrenker estimated he still owes investors about $400,000, but Hamilton County Deputy Prosecutor Jeff Wehmueller said he faces millions of dollars in court-ordered judgments when he is released from prison.

Wehmueller said it would be “virtually impossible” for Schrenker to pay back all the money he owes. Schrenker was an amateur daredevil pilot who stole money from investors to buy planes, luxury cars and a 10,000-square-foot home in an upscale Indianapolis neighborhood called “Cocktail Cove,” where affluent boaters often socialized, prosecutors say.

They say Schrenker bilked nine clients, including a friend of 10 years and his own aunt, out of a total of about $1.5 million they thought they were investing in a foreign currency fund that didn’t exist.

“I almost lost everything,” one of those victims, Charles Williams Black, said in a letter Thursday. He told Schrenker he had betrayed them when he parachuted out of his plane nearly two years ago. He said he wants Schrenker to serve up to 10 years in prison, ignore his plea deal and “virtually impossible” for Schrenker to pay back all the money he owes.

“How big a chunk of Marcus do we want?” he asked.

But Wehmueller questioned whether Schrenker was thinking of his children’s well-being when he parachuted out of his plane nearly two years ago. He said he wants Schrenker to serve up to 10 years in prison, ignore his plea deal and “virtually impossible” for Schrenker to pay back all the money he owes.

Hikers can continue on the IAT from Greenland and Iceland, IAT officials said. The IAT begins near Maine’s Mount Katahdin and extends through northern Georgia along the Appalachian Trail, which were formed millions of years ago when the continental plates of North America and Europe collided. The Appalachian region of North America is the largest trail network in the world, with multi-national membership on three continents. The organization said it sees the trail as a “fanciful opportunity” for outdoor adventure companies interested in providing services in a market that’s home to more than 500 million people.

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Nation said he had such a hard time believing Schrenker wouldn’t spiral into the same pattern of behavior again that he almost didn’t accept the plea agreement.

Schrenker estimated he still owes investors about $400,000, but Hamilton County Deputy Prosecutor Jeff Wehmueller said he faces millions of dollars in court-ordered judgments when he is released from prison.

Wehmueller said it would be “virtually impossible” for Schrenker to pay back all the money he owes. Schrenker was an amateur daredevil pilot who stole money from investors to buy planes, luxury cars and a 10,000-square-foot home in an upscale Indianapolis neighborhood called “Cocktail Cove,” where affluent boaters often socialized, prosecutors say.

They say Schrenker bilked nine clients, including a friend of 10 years and his own aunt, out of a total of about $1.5 million they thought they were investing in a foreign currency fund that didn’t exist.

“I almost lost everything,” one of those victims, Charles Williams Black, said in a letter Thursday. He told Schrenker he had betrayed them when he parachuted out of his plane nearly two years ago. He said he wants Schrenker to serve up to 10 years in prison, ignore his plea deal and “virtually impossible” for Schrenker to pay back all the money he owes.

“How big a chunk of Marcus do we want?” he asked.

But Wehmueller questioned whether Schrenker was thinking of his children’s well-being when he parachuted out of his plane nearly two years ago. He said he wants Schrenker to serve up to 10 years in prison, ignore his plea deal and “virtually impossible” for Schrenker to pay back all the money he owes.

Hikers can continue on the IAT from Greenland and Iceland, IAT officials said. The IAT begins near Maine’s Mount Katahdin and extends through northern Georgia along the Appalachian Trail, which were formed millions of years ago when the continental plates of North America and Europe collided. The Appalachian region of North America is the largest trail network in the world, with multi-national membership on three continents. The organization said it sees the trail as a “fanciful opportunity” for outdoor adventure companies interested in providing services in a market that’s home to more than 500 million people.

While many references call the Appalachian Trail the longest continuous footpath in the world, a number of other planned or existing trails compete for the title of longest.
Pep rallies undergo revisions

By JOHN CAMERON
News Writer

This fall has seen the implementation of a multitude of changes to the format of pep rallies at Notre Dame, and while student participation fluctuated from week to week, student government is overall pleased with the results.

“I think that we definitely saw a positive response to the changes for the Michigan pep rally,” student body vice president Andrew Bell said. “The walkover seemed to work very successfully, and we think it solved the issue of dorms standing amongst a bunch of alumni an hour before the rally.”

Bell said the changes helped with logistics and the overall atmosphere of the rallies. “We thought the atmosphere of the Michigan rally was great. Attendance was high, we tried to make the football team.”

“We've tried to make the emphasis from the beginning to encourage disheartened students,” she said. “From a planning perspective, maybe it wasn't a good time for student government to address those for the coming pep rallies at Notre Dame, and while.

Soler said she felt the student response has been positive, “We were disappointed with the football team.”

“We've also provided the dorms with the incentive of whoever comes with the most spirit has the opportunity to have Brian Kelly come to the dorms, and it's worked really well,” Oliver said.

While the overall student response has been positive, Soler said she felt the student turnout at the student-only Boston College rally was lacking. “We were disappointed with participation in the Stepan rally, and we think it can be indicative of many things,” she said. “Early in a planning perspective, we really did all we could. It could have been the timing, maybe it wasn't a good time for students,” she said.

With the losing season, Soler recognizes that student government must work especially hard to encourage disheartened students to attend the rallies.

“American Politics at the Breaking Point” Robert Schmuhl
Walter H. Annenberg-Edmund P. Joyce Professor of American Studies and Journalism, Department of American Studies

12 Noon, Saturday, October 9, 2010
Annenberg Auditorium
Snite Museum of Art

Less than a month before the 2010 mid-term elections, this lecture will focus on the state of American politics and the reasons partisanship and polarization have become so pronounced in recent years. Why is there such anger and division within the body politic today, and what can citizens do to reduce our democratic discontent?
N.Y. seeks to ban sugary drinks from food stamps

Associated Press

NEW YORK — Using food stamps to buy sodas, teas, sports drinks and other sugar-sweetened beverages would not be allowed in New York City under a new government effort to battle obesity.

Mayor Michael Bloomberg and top health officials announced Thursday that they are seeking permission from the U.S. Department of Agriculture, which administers the food stamp program, to add sugary drinks to the list of prohibited goods for city food stamp recipients.

If approved, it would be the first time an item would be banned from the federal program solely on nutritional value.

Spending government money on "foods of little or no nutritional value not only contradicts the intent of the program, it also effectively subsidizes a serious public health epidemic," New York officials wrote in their proposal.

The idea has been suggested before, but New York was the first state to get buy-in from Maine, where it drew criticism from advocates for the poor who argued it unfairly singled out low-income people and risked sending off potential needy recipients.

In 2004, the USDA rejected Massachusetts' proposal to ban junk food, including soda and candy, from food stamp purchases, saying it would violate the Food Stamp Act's definition of what is food. It could create "confusion and embarrassment" at the register.

New York City Health Commissioner Thomas Farley said New York's request has a better chance of being approved than the Massachusetts proposal because it focuses only on beverages.

He said it also has the advantage of being a temporary program with "an end in sight" and a plan to study its effectiveness.

USDA spokesperson Aaron Lavalette said Thursday the agency received the proposal and will consider it.

The food stamp system, launched in the 1960s, serves some 40 million Americans per month and does not currently restrict any food item based on nutrition.

Recipients can essentially buy any food for the household, although there are some limits on hot or prepared foods. Foods stamps also cannot be used to buy alcohol, cigarettes or items such as pet food, vitamins or household goods.

The ban would apply to any beverage that contains more than 10 calories per 8 ounces, except for milk products, milk substitutes like soy milk and rice milk, and fruit juices with added sugar.

A 20-ounce sugar-sweetened drink can contain the equivalent of as many as 16 packets of sugar.

Some New Yorkers who receive the assistance said officials had good intentions but felt the proposal went too far.

"I can see the sodas, but suppose somebody's in bad shape and they just want juice?" said Harold Vilsan, a 56-year-old Brooklyn resident who said he uses food stamps.

"If people want to buy that stuff, they should be able to. If it's not an illegal product, they should be able to buy what they want to buy," he said.

The program would be temporary, so officials could study its effects over two years. It would apply only to food stamp recipients in New York City — 1.7 million of the city's more than 8 million residents — and would not affect the amount of assistance they receive.

"Sugar-sweetened drinks are not worth the cost to the health, and government should not be promoting or subsidizing them," said Bloomberg, who has also out- louded efforts in restaurants to sell soft drinks and has forced chain restaurants to post calorie counts on menus.

In fiscal year 2009, New Yorkers received $2.7 billion in food stamp benefits and spent $75 million at $135 million of that on sugary drinks, the city said.

Officials said stores that participate in the food stamp program would be responsible for enforcing the ban. They acknowledged the possibility that food stamp users could travel outside city limits to buy the prohibited drinks.

Advocates for the poor expressed alarm about the proposal, which the New York City Council launched in August to "punish poor people for the supposed crime of being poor."

"It's sending the message to low-income people that they are uniquely the only people in America who don't know how to take care of their family," said Jeff Berg, the group's executive director. "The problem isn't that they're making poor choices, the problem is that they can't afford nutritious food."

There still are many unhealthful products New Yorkers could purchase with food stamps, including potato chips, ice cream and candy.

Officials said the proposal targets sugary drinks because they are the largest contributor to obesity.

More than half of New York City residents are overweight or obese, along with nearly 40 percent of public school students in kindergarten through eighth grade.

City officials said lower-income residents are most likely to drink one or more sugar-sweetened drinks a day, adult onset diabetes is also twice as common among poor New Yorkers compared to the wealthiest.

New York, a proposal to adopt a penny-per-ounce tax on sweetened soda failed to get out of the state Legislature earlier this year; Bloomberg backed the state proposal.

U.S. gay activists protest Mormon church remarks

Associated Press

SALT LAKE CITY — Gay rights activists protest Thursday outside the headquarters of the Mormon church in Salt Lake City in response to a church leader's remarks that homosexuality is impure and unnatural.

"Not so!" said activist Jasmine Clark. "But, I feel like that homosexual behavior is have far reaching affects on the Internet broadcasts — could affect millions more through world-wide television, radio and Internet broadcasts — could have far reaching affects on what is food and could create confusion and embarrassment," she said.

"You know they will listen to him and believe what they are doing is wrong," she said. "I think it's just wrong. He has power and I think he's using it in the wrong way."

Activists have called for Packer's message — heard by more than 8 million residents in the church conference center and millions more through world-wide television — to be recanted.

Local church leaders, however, continually emphasized that there is no room in this discussion for hatred or mistreatment of anyone.

"That is not within the Church's doctrine and I believe that the statement that is making you feel like less of a person, you're wrong — were difficult to say," said Matotek, who attended the protest with his girlfriend, 22-year-old Jasmine Clark. "But I feel like I am the person I'm supposed to be."
Foes of health care law lose key court ruling

Associated Press

DETROIT — A federal judge on Thursday upheld the authority of the federal government to require everyone to have health insurance, dealing a setback to groups seeking to block the new national health care plan.

The ruling came as a lawsuit filed in Michigan by a Christian legal group and four people who claimed lawmakers exceeded their power under the Constitution’s commerce clause, which authorizes Congress to regulate trade.

But Judge George Caram Steeh in Detroit said the mandate to get insurance by 2014 and the financial penalty for skipping coverage are legal. He said Congress was trying to lower the overall cost of insurance by requiring participation.

"Without the minimum coverage provision, there would be an incentive for some individual to wait to purchase health insurance until they needed care, knowing that insurance would be available at all times," the judge said.

"As a result, the most costly individuals would be in the insurance market and the least costly would be outside it," Steeh said. "In turn, this would aggravate current problems with cost-shifting and lead to even higher premiums.

Julian Davis Mortensen, a University of Michigan law professor and former U.S. Supreme Court law clerk, said the decision affects only the parties in the lawsuit and is not binding on any other federal judges hearing challenges to the law.

Nonetheless, the Justice Department hailed Steeh’s opinion as the first time a "court has considered the merits of any challenge to this law.

The court found that the minimum coverage provision of the statute was a reasonable means for Congress to take in reforming our health care system," spokeswoman Tracy Schmaler said. "The department will continue to vigorously defend this law in ongoing litigation."

Robert Muise of the Thomas More Law Center in Ann Arbor, Mich., which filed the lawsuit, said it will appeal the ruling to a federal appeals court in Cincinnati.

The four individual plaintiffs said they do not have private insurance and object to being forced to buy it. They also fear any financial penalty paid to the government would be used to pay for abortions.

TRENTON, N.J. — Gov. Chris Christie pulled the plug on a decades-in-the-making train tunnel connecting New Jersey and New York on Friday, saying Thursday that New Jersey can’t afford to pay for cost overruns on a plan originally intended as a solution to a long-standing rail transit mess.

More than a half-billion dollars has been spent on the tunnel, and construction began last year. The largest federal transportation project in the country, it was expected to double train traffic in and out of New York City during peak commute times once completed in 2018.

But over the years, the cost for the tunnel also has nearly doubled. It started at $5 billion in 2005 and grew to $8.7 billion by 2008. In recent months, Federal Transit Administrator Peter Rogoff has made public statements that put the price tag between $9 billion and $10 billion. On Thursday, Christie said his advisers put the costs at $8.5 billion to $14 billion.

"The bottom line is this, New Jersey has gone for too long and for too many decades ordering things that they can’t pay for," Christie said at a news conference. "This project has some flaws in it, but in the end this is a financial decision. When weighing all the interests, I simply cannot put the taxpayers of the state of New Jersey on what would be a never-ending book.

"A month ago, the Republican governor ordered a 30-day halt to all work on the tunnel over concerns that it would go over budget. On Thursday he directed state transportation officials to explore other approaches to modernize and expand rail capacity into New York.

U.S. Transportation Secretary Ray LaHood’s spokeswoman indicated the project might not be dead. An e-mail statement that LaHood and Christie plan to meet Friday afternoon to "discuss a path forward on the ARC tunnel project." Proponents of the tunnel — dubbed Access to the Region’s Core, or ARC — hailed Christie’s recognition of the vital importance of the tunnel.

"Without increased transportation options into Manhattan, New Jersey’s economy will eventually be crippled," said Lautenberg, who held a news conference outside Newark’s Penn Station to criticize the decision. Lautenberg helped secure federal funding for the project.

Lautenberg acknowledged that cost overruns on a project of the tunnel’s size were inevitable, but said Christie’s numbers are inflated.

The federal government and Port Authority of New York and New Jersey had each pledged $3 billion to the tunnel. New Jersey had committed $2.7 billion, the project is being run by NJ Transit.

New Jersey Assemblyman John Wisniewski, who leads the Assembly transportation panel, accused Christie’s advisers of inflating the cost of building the tunnel to justify what they believe will be the governor’s decision and to divert the money to smaller road and rail projects. Christie has not said how he plans to use money.

The independent Regional Plan Association said Christie was using fuzzy math.

"Gov. Christie’s claim that he supports ARC but could not afford more because of budget overruns is most likely not true," the group said in a statement.

"The Federal Transit Administration (FTA) officially never released its estimates for potential budget overruns — only Gov. Christie estimates them to be in the $3 billion to $5 billion range. What’s more, Trenton has repeatedly rebuffed federal officials’ efforts to work out a cost overrun deal.

"The project had been in the works for about 20 years. Currently, NJ Transit and Amtrak share a century-old two-track tunnel beneath the Hudson River. The new tunnel would add two more tracks, more than doubling the number of NJ Transit trains that could pass under the river. But as soon as he announced the decision, critics of the tunnel contractor BEM Systems in Chatham, said 10 to 15 employing.

"We don’t have alternate work to put these people on," said Nardolillo, whose firm handled environmental permits and data management for property acquisition. "This is the one job you counted on. I’ll have a devastating impact on the region.

"Commuters at New York’s Penn Station weren’t pleased to hear the project had been canceled.

"This is not good. I hope they reconsider," said Michael Murphy, an IT and infrastructure expert who makes his home to Morristown. But, he added, "if they have a problem with the budget, there are many, many, much choice."

Roy Gainsburg, a retired book publisher who still rides into the city occasionally, said commuter trains frequently get stuck in the tunnel.

"It certainly would be nice if there was another tunnel, because this one has only two tracks, so trains get stuck at peak hours," he said.

Christie’s predecessor, Democratic Gov. Jon Corzine, broke ground on the tunnel in June 2009, a few months before the gubernatorial election that he lost to Christie.

During his campaign last year, Christie supported the project.

But as soon as he announced the project, lawmakers and transportation officials suggested Christie had planned to scrap the project and to use the state’s share of the money to pay for the nearly broke Transportaton Trust Fund, which pays for local road projects and rail repairs.

Christie has refused to raise the state’s gas tax, which is among the lowest in the country, to replenish the fund.

Associated Press

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Associated Press

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**INSIDE COLUMN**

**Hometown hunger**

As Notre Dame is a national university, students of this fine institution are not only very proud of our school, but of the unique culture they originate from. Students from Texas, Minnesota and New Jersey are particularly strong representatives of their respective suburbs.

Chicago (the Windy City) and New York (the Big Apple) provide plenty of material for students to back and forth at one another. The argument is fueled by the overwhelming array of points that can be made. Better talk show hosts? Chicago has Oprah. New York has David Letterman. Better eccentric musical artist? New York has Lady Gaga. Chicago has Kanye West. Better skyscraper? New York has the Empire State Building. Chicago, the Sears Tower. Better art? Chicago's Art Institute. New York and then there is Second City. New York has Jerry Seinfeld. Better talk show hosts? Chicago has Oprah. New York has David Letterman. Better talk shows (in particular, Memphis) and then there is Second City. New York has the Big Apple, Chicago has the Stanley Cup. It never ends.

Eating it in my own house in the Connecticut suburbs of New York City, no winner can be declared. When I told my mom how it seems to bother me, she responded, “Sam, some people just don’t understand that New York is the center of the universe.” Mom lived in Chicago for two years and always says if it weren’t for family, she would have stayed out in the Second City. She also likes to talk about how Chicago introduced her to Corona and Corona well before her New York friends. Chicago, if you’ve made Mom happy, you have done well. Yet her love of Broadway shows (in particular, Memphist) and family tugs her east.

Having said all that, you may have noticed I have left out the biggest piece of the puzzle. This particular regional disagreement reared its ugly head a few weeks ago when I visited the University’s Counseling Center, one in three college-aged women has disordered eating habits, and 10 percent of college-aged women have diagnosable eating disorders. According to statistics provided to students this week by the University Counseling Center, one in three college-aged women has disordered eating habits, and 10 percent of college-aged women have diagnosable eating disorders.

**Eating disorders awareness week**

It is no secret that Notre Dame students are motivated and competitive and often strive for perfection. These are qualities that contribute to the success of so many Notre Dame alumni in their careers following college. Unfortunately, these same traits also seem to create an environment on campus that easily lends itself to the struggles of eating disorders.

This week is Body Image and Eating Disorders Awareness Week on campus. Given the characteristics of Notre Dame’s student body, body image and eating disorders are especially relevant issues in this community. Although it may not be characterized by the same visibility and prevalence on campus as other weeks, such as the annual Energy Week, a week dedicated to learning about body image is just as important.

Because an eating disorder is such a personal problem, it must be dealt with differently than other campus-wide initiatives. The sensitive nature of the topic makes it, perhaps, less visible and more difficult to address than other issues.

Although students who personally suffer from eating disorders may find difficulty in stepping forward and attending the events offered, the most important and effective aspect of Body Image and Eating Disorders Awareness Week is its potential to spread awareness to the friends of those affected.

According to statistics provided to students this week by the University Counseling Center, one in three college-aged women has disordered eating habits, and 10 percent of college-aged women have diagnosable eating disorders. A common misconception about eating disorders is that in order for a person to qualify as having a problem, they either do not eat at all, or follow their meals with bouts of self-induced vomiting. It is also a stereotype that the person must be extremely thin, and female. Flyers passed out around campus during this past week debunk these ideas; over one million men struggle with an eating disorder or disordered eating, and people with bulimia may be of normal weight.

Eating habits are not the only symptoms or manifestations of eating disorders. According to the University’s Office of Undergraduate Admissions, roughly 70 percent of current Notre Dame seniors were varsity athletes in high school, and this trend continues every year.

Notre Dame students are proud of their reputation as a very active, athletic community. Exercise can also, however, become an excessive habit. The signs posted around Rolls Sports Recreation Center, for example, warn students about the dangers of over-exercising.

While the high-pressure, competitive and active environment at Notre Dame may exacerbate the struggles of individuals dealing with eating disorders, other aspects of the Notre Dame community provide tremendous support and a great number of resources for individuals who struggle with disordered eating.

The University Counseling Center is equipped with resources for suffering individuals as well as concerned friends who want to know how they can make a difference. The dining halls and other campus eateries provide limitless healthy food choices. Posters with tips for eating right and staying healthy can be found all over campus.

More uniquely, this community’s close-knit community and faith-based culture offers individuals support for coping. Notre Dame is just like other top universities around the country in regard to the frequency of issues relating to body image and eating disorders. But this University also has the ability to use the positive and distinctive aspects of its culture to address these realities.

**QUOTE OF THE DAY**

"Shut out all of your past except which will help you weather your tomorrow."

Sir William Osler
British physician

"We play the hands of cards life gives us. And the worse cards can make us the best players."

Doc Searls
American journalist and author

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

Contact Sam Stryker at sstryke1@nd.edu
This week the Supreme Court opened its new session with a plunge into another complicated issue by hearing oral arguments Wednesday regarding a First Amendment case: Does free speech ever become so offensive that it loses protection under the Constitution?

Albert Snyder of York, Penn., the father of a Marine killed in Iraq, petitioned the high court to reinstate a $5 million judgment against the Rev. Fred Phelps — a former lawyer disbarred for verbally abusing a witness on the stand — and other church members who picketed Snyder's son's funeral. The protestors carried signs displaying "Thank God for Dead Soldiers," "Thank God for 9/11" and "God Hates Fags." At issue are the crudely offensive anti-gay protests at military funerals staged by members of Phelps' Kansas-based Westboro Baptist Church.

Snyder contends that Phelps was harmed by the nonviolent protest. He notes that the demonstration not only tarnished his son's funeral, but it is burned into his memory as his last day with his slain son. Lance Corporal Matthew Snyder, who died in a Humvee accident in 2006. However, Phelps and his followers did not argue that the Maristites were being hurt, just that war deaths in general are God's punishment of a nation that tolerates homosexuality. In 1998, Phelps first came into the national spotlight when he protested the death of a 17-year-old Wyoming student Matthew Shepard who was hung on a wooden fence to die. Phelps brought signs that read, "Matt in Hell" and "AIDS cures fags.

The Supreme Court will be asked to determine how far private entities such as cemeteries, universities and churches, can go to justify pickет-free zones or buffers to silence or limit the speech of demonstrators. St. Mary President George W. Bush routinely limited access to public events based solely on support of the president. In New York City, for example, the Secret Service set up a 200-foot zone blocked away from venues featuring high-profile international officials with Bush.

To touch a more immediate and personal cord, one need only recall the disgustingly graphic demonstration on Notre Dame's campus in protest of President Barack Obama's commencement address. While the protestors have been deemed a protected variation of free speech, should smearing blood (real or simulated) or picketing the church be protected? Should those anti-abortion protestors nearly two years ago at Notre Dame have a right to step onto University property and flagrantly flout a theatrically sentimental demonstration?

The Court may decide the limits, if any, of disruptive behavior in light of First Amendment protections. At my church in Washington, St. Matthew's Cathedral, our monsignor banned a man from silently sitting in the front pew with a T-shirt displaying anti-pedophile and anti-Catholic priest logos. While he was offensively looking to all who read his shirt — and especially to the lectors who could hold nothing but the shirt the entire mass — he made no verbal outbursts to disrupt services. Maybe he return under the forthcoming ruling.

The Westboro Baptist Church anti-gay demonstrators may eventually affect the school children of this nation with this case. The Supreme Court's ruling may alter dress code and behavior standards for schools. Will a T-shirt with "Muck Fichigan" that may be considered cute in South Bend or a major city but offensive in Michigan or other more conservatively-minded Midwestern plains communities become emancipated under the ruling?

The issue of freedom of expression in this nation is one skewed by the eye of the beholder. Almost all of Phelps' congregation may be his own faithful members who see a god of revenge. Many who call themselves "Christian" see a god of love, albeit in varying degrees regarding political stances. Therefore, some who espouse liberty today in our political climate would prefer to use a gun to eliminate those whose thought of liberty is to let everyone live a life without limits of sexuality, religious restrictions or aggressions of war.

Consequently, the issue of free speech will be determined by nine Americans who behold freedom in different ways. Yet free speech is nearly an absolute, especially when it does not cause physical harm to others. Unfortunately, Phelps should win his case. However, it is our responsibility to remain mature and tolerant while leading with the steady hand of reason. If we do not, we hold ourselves hostage to friction and groups and give up the causes for which Corporal Snyder fought. We have always been grander than narrow zealosuses. We are better than that right now.

Gary Caruso, Notre Dame '73, serves in the Department of Homeland Security and was a legislative and public affairs director in President Clinton's administration. His column appears in this other Friday. He can be contacted at GaryCaruso@alumni.nd.edu

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

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The Rosary in honor of Our Mother

I was very pleased to read Kate Barrett's Faithpoint column on Oct. 7 recommending the Rosary on this Feast of the Rosery. When I first came to Notre Dame in 1984, we were still in the throws of the anti-piety campaign of certain elite theological minds in the Church. Precisely because of the humble origins of the Rosary as Ms. Barrett described them, it was thought by some that these sorts of simple pious practices were in a way beneath the modern, enlightened, educated Catholic culture of the 20th century and a belittling of the culture that Notre Dame ought to be working to transform and advance.

I actually heard a homily in the Basilica Crypt on the Feast of the Immaculate Conception on how Mary would be embarrassed by the way we address her and a homily in the Basilica itself on the piety of praying the Rosary. Neither homily, I am happy to say, was preached by a member of Holy Cross. But how ironic to hear this at a University that places itself under the patronage of Mary?

Then in 1996 in that same Crypt, I attended a tragic funeral of a child who had died late in the womb of her mother. The Dominican priest who preached the homily spoke of how the events of our own lives are mirrored in the mysteries of the Rosary and traced out on the heads, as we live our lives with Christ and stand at the foot of His cross. No childless piety there except for those who do not have eyes to see or ears to hear. It was a personal turning point for me in my appreciation of the Rosary, although I have not been able to say it regularly. And perhaps it also signified a general turning point in the social life of prayer here at Notre Dame as well, or better a movement of reverence that had been taking place unnoticed, now fully in bloom in Ms. Barrett's praise in the pages of The Observer. Well done.

If we are to add anything to her fine column, it is that while it is true that the repetition of the Hail Mary itself. Roman Catholics are often taken to task for not being sufficiently biblically-grounded, and our practice of praying to Mary is in many instances taken to confirm that judgment, as praise of her is taken to be a distraction from Christ. But just consider that other than the Our Father recited at the beginning of each decade, there is likely no regular set prayer of the Church more explicitly biblically-grounded than the Hail Mary. The prayer is easily broken up into three parts. “Hail Mary, full of grace. The Lord is with you,” the salutation of Gabriel as reported in Scripture, to which we join our own praise of the Incarnation when we repeat it. Mary was humble at that salutation, not embarrassed. “Blessed are you among women,” are you amongst the anointed and blessed is the fruit of your womb,” the salutation of Elizabeth to her cousin as reported in Scripture, by which we again join ourselves in praising the one who will bear Christ for and to us. And finally, “Holy Mary, Mother of God,” pray for us sinners now and in the hour of our death,” the invocation of Mary's intercession. Of course that invocation isn't simply scriptural quotation as the first two parts are. But it does have a biblical foundation, first in the guests at Cana approaching Mary with their request which is repeated a second in Christ's own invitation to the Servant of God to John at the foot of His cross, when He says, “Son, behold your mother.” John stands in for us in all of the foot of the cross of Christ, if we are willing.

I hope this is not simply in vain. Mysteries of the Rosary that we are joined to the Incarnation, Death and Resurrection of Christ, but also when through the Hail Mary we pray that Notre Dame may become Our Mother.

John O'Callaghan
Notre Dame
American Professors of Philosophy

This Face? Right Here?

Is anyone besides me concerned about Notre Dame's apparent liberalism? And I'm not referring to the Obama scandal, although that's good too.

I attended several events at Washington Hall and the DeBartolo Hall during our 50th Reunion. They were all very informative and well-presented. However, I was struck by the obvious liberal bias of the discussions and arguments. No one even seemed bothered by it? And no one challenged any of it.

For example, our class town hall meeting had virtually no representation of business, industry, entrepreneurship, capitalism, etcetera. Yet we know that the prosperity of our country and probably Notre Dame will be highly dependent on what happens to private industry during the coming decades. The professions, while important, will not be able to sustain the prosperity America has enjoyed over the years without a strong manufacturing base — a large and growing manufacturing base — and productive good paying jobs for working Americans.

Recently, I've been attending the Notre Dame Forum via the internet. Again, the same impressive Notre Dame presentations are enabled by the liberal perspective. At least that's how I see it from my pragmatic perch.

Notre Dame, pray for your University!

Bill Paulwes
Class of 1960
Jonathan Lutz, a native Chicagoan, moved to South Bend with his wife seven years ago, and four years later opened up his flagship restaurant, Uptown Kitchen in Granger. Now, his latest venture, The Mark Dine & Tap, is the only locally owned business in Eddy Street Commons. With “high quality and fresh ingredients,” a student-friendly to-go window and an upscale diner feel, Lutz is hoping it will be a stand out among South Bend eateries.

CE: How is The Mark different from Uptown Kitchen?

JL: I think that there are a lot of differences, actually. A couple students have told me that people find in both restaurants is that they are first and foremost getting a very fresh, fresh tasting, delicious meal. I also hope they feel like they are getting a very friendly yet professional level of service that is being served in a really unique and comfortable yet classy environment. But that’s pretty much where I would say the similarities end. It’s still what I would call upscale casual dining, but the look of the place is completely different. And the menu, although still based on high quality, fresh foods — we have over 400 fresh ingredients in our kitchen — the reality is that the menu is completely different than Uptown’s.

CE: Why did you decide to open up in Eddy Street Commons? I’m sure you’re aware of the only locally owned business there.

JL: I think it’s great. I wish there were more locally-owned, owned spots. I feel like there’s a lot of chains that can afford it, so I’m just taking a chance because I feel like this place has a lot of potential.

CE: Anything specific that made you want to open up at Eddy Street?

JL: The day that I absolutely knew I wanted to come to Eddy Street was at the end of the basketball season a few seasons ago. I think we were playing Villanova. I told my family we were going to meet over at Legends at 5:30 before the 7:00 game, and we got there and Legends was absolutely packed and we could not get in. We walked out the door, and this was when Eddy Street was being built, and I looked across the street and I thought, “Hey, that would be a great spot to put a restaurant.”

CE: How would you describe the menu?

JL: I kind of call it gourmet comfort food. We take some classic comfort food and diner dishes and give it a little bit of a gourmet twist. There’s a good variety of stuff, there’s definitely some stuff on The Mark’s menu that, although high quality and fresh, maybe not so good for the waistline, but we still have plenty of healthy choices, and vegetarian and gluten free options as well.

CE: Explain your To-Go window. Do you think it will especially appeal to students?

JL: There are [are] 260 odd apartments at Eddy Street, plus there’s condominiums and town homes, so there’s all sorts of stuff around here. So I do believe that option will be well received.

CE: What makes The Mark a great place to eat?

JL: I think there’s a lot of things that make us stand out — for instance, we’re the only one that’s locally owned and operated — and I think that there’s a good mix of things to eat and drink at Eddy Street, but nothing quite like we’re offering. It’s the fact that we’re a nice sit-down restaurant with a variety of food that’s at a good location.

Contact Courtney Eckerle at ccker01@ saintmarys.edu

By COURTNEY ECKERLE Scene Writer

Jonathan Lutz, a native Chicagoan, moved to South Bend with his wife seven years ago, and four years later opened up his flagship restaurant, Uptown Kitchen in Granger. Now, his latest venture, The Mark Dine & Tap, is the only locally owned business in Eddy Street Commons. With “high quality and fresh ingredients,” a student-friendly to-go window and an upscale diner feel, Lutz is hoping it will be a stand out among South Bend eateries.

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Contact Courtney Eckerle at ccker01@ saintmarys.edu

By KATHERINE GREENSPON Scene Writer

The weekend has finally arrived and you decide to spend the day shopping at the newly built Eddy Street Commons with friends in hopes of an early dinner out. South Bend’s sleek and trendy Eddy Street is located across the street from Notre Dame’s main entrance, a prime location for those students with an eager appetite. You walk through the doors of The Mark Dine & Tap and you are instantly taken in by the aroma of fresh ingredients, and the smile of friendly servers. The lavish bar is packed with people enjoying a crisp beer and lavish bar is packed with people enjoying a crisp beer and waiting to be seated it is hard not to notice the contemporary and chic décor that drapes the restaurant’s walls and ceilings. You are seated and given a colorful menu with anything and everything you could imagine. With everything from mouth watering burgers to crisp and fresh salads, The Mark does not disappoint.

Restaurateur Jonathan Lutz is the proud owner of The Mark Dine & Tap, which is the only locally-owned business in the Commons. Lutz owns Mishawaka-based restaurant Kitchen 400, as well as The Mark, so many of the same fresh foods that you love at Uptown Kitchen can also be found at this new restaurant. The Mark gives the feel of an American diner with a touch of class that makes the experience even more enjoyable. The menu offers breakfast, lunch and dinner seven days a week so their sandwich station, comfort foods and appetizers are available all week long. For those veggie lovers out there, there are no fear because The Mark offers delicious “go green” foods like their amazing grilled romaine wedge and their mouth-watering peanut chicken soba salad. Many students have expressed their love of the burger.

The Mark’s menu caters to a variety of food choices. They offer a variety of foods that anyone will find appetizing. Their menu is fresh with quality ingredients and recipes that you can truly tell when you are eating the food. The flavors are amazing and because the menu is so versatile it allows customers to revisit repeatedly. The food that is offered at The Mark is food that can be eaten everyday after day, so whether it is baked oatmeal for breakfast, a juicy burger for lunch or southern style buttermilk fried chicken with a side of sweet potato fries for dinner, your taste buds will not leave unsatisfied.

The Market opened in late August, just in time for the students’ fall return and those crowded football weekends. Next time you go out for a meal head over to The Mark and treat yourself and your family to one of their wonderful delectable dishes.

Contact Katherine Greenspoon at kgrenso1@saintmarys.edu

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Contact Katherine Greenspoon at kgrenso1@saintmarys.edu
Guitarist/musician/producer-hipster-socialite extraordinaire Mark Ronson is back with a new album after his critically acclaimed 2007 disc of cover songs, “Version.” Under the name of his new band, Mark Ronson & The Business Int’l., “Record Collection” has entirely original songs that feature Ronson, his band and a slough of assorted American and British musicians, from rappers to the London Gay Men’s Chorus to ’80s pop icons. The album is full of Ronson’s typical brand of hipster dance floor music, featuring an assortment of synthesizers and other electronic tools and eccentric instruments to supplement the more typical drums, guitars and vocals.

Ronson is perhaps best known in the states as either the brother of DJ Samantha Ronson and fashion designer Charlie Ronson or the man behind hits songs from Amy Winehouse, Lily Allen, Sean Paul, Christina Aguilera, Adele, Estelle and the Kaiser Chiefs. He has also been responsible for introducing some of the most important British artists of the last five years to the public and is a popular cultural figure in the UK.

Despite his success producing for some very talented artists, it’s refreshing to finally hear Ronson on some of his own original work. While his last two albums, “Here Come the Fuzz” and “Version,” have been more about featuring other talent, “Record Collection” finally gives Ronson the chance to really show off his musical chops. Most notably, this album marks the first time in a long time that he has done vocal work for his songs. He’s not a strong singer and is typically overshadowed by his guest artists, but his incredible creativity and impressive ability to craft really ingenious songs make up for any vocal missteps.

Most of the songs on “Record Collection” feature help from guest artists, usually lesser known rappers or musicians from other bands. It’s great to see Ronson working with some under-the-radar talent, and they all breathe refreshing air into Ronson’s unique blend of electro-pop-hip-hop music.

“Record Collection” opens with its first single, the catchy “Bang Bang Bang.” The song features vocals by American hip-hop artist member of A Tribe Called Quest, Q-Tip and American electronica duo MNDR. The chorus is awesome and “Bang Bang Bang” sets a great starting tone for the album. Unfortunately, the album’s second song, “Lost It (In the End)” featuring Wu-Tang Clan rapper Ghostface Killah, doesn’t hold up that standard. Mark Ronson’s vocals pale in comparison to his guest artists and the song lacks the power and infectious flavor of “Bang Bang Bang.” Ghostface Killah’s rap is definitely the highlight.

“Heard Somebody to Love Me” sounds like a nice ’70s/’80s hybrid throwback and even features ’80s pop icon Boy George of Culture Club. Andrew Wyatt, of The Bird and the Bee and Miike Snow, also contributes vocals to the upbeat yet melancholy track.

“You Gave Me Nothing” joins Andrew Wyatt and Rose Elinor Dougall, a British singer-songwriter and member of the Pipettes, together on vocals. Dougall is absolutely the star of this song, which again draws on Ronson’s apparent love of the ’80s.

“Record Collection” is interspersed with some non-vocal numbers, like “The Colour of Cranmer” and “Circuit Breaker.” That may get passed over in favor of the more conventional with-words songs. However, they deserve a listen, especially the awesome “Circuit Breaker.”

“Introducing the Business”

By MAIJA GUSTIN
Associate Scene Editor

‘Record Collection’
Mark Ronson & The Business Int’l.

Label: Sony Music Entertainment
UK Limited

Despite his success producing for some very talented artists, it’s refreshing to finally hear Ronson on some of his own original work.

While he does collect an impressively diverse group of rappers and musicians to join him on this hipster-pop-electronica album, it’s more a testament to Ronson’s incredible talent as a musician and producer than anything else. The album feels cohesive but displays a great breadth of style to create an impressive collection of songs ready for your next party. Urban Outfitters or maybe even a hip and swanky club.

Contact Maija Gustin at mgustin@nd.edu

Friday, October 8, 2010

Follow Scene on Facebook and Twitter to hear about our latest coverage of campus entertainment and pop culture at large.

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ST. PETERSBURG, Fla.— Gratiotated to finally be in the playoffs, Michael Young and the Texas Rangers are making the most of their opportunity. Young hit a three-run homer one pitch after keeping his bat at alive with a disappoint-ed check-swing, helping C.J. Wilson and the AL West champion beat the Tampa Bay Rays 6-0 Thursday for a 2-0 lead in their division series.

“I just think that we’ve had a great mentality these first two games,” Young said. “We’re not really thinking about some huge, grand pic-ture here. We empty the bank for what we’re playing that day.”

Texas is the only current major league franchise that’s never won a playoff series. After winning consecutive games on the road, that can change with one victory when the least of five matchup-shits to Rangers Ballpark this weekend.

“I’m really excited,” Saturday, with Matt Garza pitching for Tampa Bay against Colby Lewis.

“Being up 2-0 is huge, espe-cially winning two on the road. But we still haven’t accomplished anything yet,” Rangers manager Ron Washington said. “Our goal is to get as far as we possibly can and we’re just going to take it back to Texas and come out and try to play as hard as we can again.”

Ian Kinsler also homered for the Rangers, who are in the playoffs for the first time since 1999 and hadn’t won a postseason game in 14 years before Cliff Lee shut down the sputtering Rays in their home park on Wednesday.

Wilson was evenly impress-ive, allowing two hits in 2-3 3 innings. He gave up a single to leadoff man Jason Bartlett to start the game, then limit-ed the Rays to just three baserunners on an error, a walk and a hit batter over the next five innings.

Willy Aybar doubled in the seventh for the second hit off the Texas starter, who departed with runners on sec-ond and third. Darren O’Day struck out pinch-hitter Matt Joyce, and Wilson got four outs to finish the two-batter before a sellout crowd of 35,535.

Long known for fielding powerline-ups, the Rangers finally look as though they have the arms to match.

“The story today was our pitching,” said Young, who lauded the “total team effort” that has Texas on the verge of making franchise history.

Young’s first playoff hit was a massive home run. Before Wednesday, the six-time All-Star had played in five careers without appearing in the postseason — the second-most among players behind Randy Winn’s 1,717.

Miles is our backbone,” Wilson said. “He’s our Derek Jeter or our Cal Ripken or what’s-that-guy. We rely on him for all sorts of stuff.

Young said he’s only interest-ing in winning.

“For me personally, this personal stuff goes out the window. It’s always nice to do well, but we play well,” the third baseman said. “We’re competitors, we want to do our jobs well. But when the end of the day, the ‘W’ is what every team is searching for.”

The Rays, whose 247 bat-ting average was the lowest for an AL club that made the postseason since the 1981 Oakland Athletics, were held to eight hits in two games at Tropicana Field, where they had one of the best home records in the league this season.

Texas pitchers fanned 23 batters in two days, which is not surprising. Tampa Bay’s 1,292 strikeouts this season were the most by a major league team that reached the playoffs.

The Rangers take home field advantage from Rays
Belles look to break out of losing streak

By ANDREW OWENS
Sports Writer

In every level of sports, teams face adversity over the course of a long season. What separates the good teams from the bad teams is the ability to overcome the difficult parts of the season and be able to play well down the stretch, something that Saint Mary’s is trying to accomplish this weekend.

The Belles (3-13, 1-7 MIAA) will try to snap a seven-game losing streak this weekend when they face Beloit (9-9) and Albion (14-15, 0-8).

Saint Mary’s defeated Albion 3-0 in its conference opener four weeks ago, but since then, the Belles have dropped seven consecutive conference matches to fall to eighth in the standings.

After a rough start, Belles head coach Toni Kuschel expects the team to begin playing better.

“They key for us to get better each time we step out onto the court together,” Kuschel said. “The Belles have an advantage in the match against the Britons that they do not have when they play Beloit, as they have already competed against Albion this season.”

Saint Mary’s has had a tough time getting their offense going during their losing streak. They have been practicing to fix those problems this week, however, and Kuschel expects it to pay off on Saturday.

“We have emphasized running a more consistent offense,” Kuschel said. “The MIAA Tournament is less than four weeks away, so it is crucial in each match that the Belles continue to improve their game and win some matches in order to improve their seeding for the tournament. As the team comes down the stretch, their focus will shift so that they are ready for postseason play.

“Our goal is to play at the highest level we are capable of,” Kuschel said. “We have seen everyone in our conference now and we need to improve in all areas; we hope to have a better record the second time around.”

Saint Mary’s faces Albion at 11 a.m. Saturday and will immediately follow with the match against Beloit at 1 p.m.

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Rutgers

continued from page 28

fielder Lauren Fowles’s goal in the 84th minute. While the Scarlet Knights may not be ranked in the top-10 for this year’s match, Irish coach Randy Waldrum still believes that they pose a potent threat for Notre Dame.

“Rutgers is still a very good team,” Waldrum said. “I think they got off to a little bit of a rough start, but you look down and they went on the road and played Portland to [a 2-1 loss], who’s No. 2 or 3 in the country depending on the poll. They’re going to be very, very good, and I don’t see them being much different than they were last year.”

Rutgers has been ranked as high as No. 17 in the NCAA poll this season. Redshirt freshman Jonelle Filigo leads the team with 17 goals and redshirt sophomore goalkeeper Emily Simpkins has posted a 0.93 goals against average between the pipes this year. Historically, the Scarlet Knights have only beaten the Irish once in twenty tries, while Notre Dame has beaten Rutgers 17 times.

Before the Irish take on Rutgers, they will face a vastly improved Seton Hall squad. The Pirates, who won just five games a year ago, have already surpassed their win total from 2009, entering the match against Notre Dame with six wins on the year.

Waldrum said he believes that this Seton Hall squad is dangerous because they have displayed an uncanny ability to play up or down to their competition this season.

“They’re very, very improved,” Waldrum said. “I would ask the students that they come out and support us.”

“I would ask the students that they come out and support us.”

Randy Waldrum
Irish coach

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SMC CROSS COUNTRY

Team travels to compete in invitational event

By MICHAEL TODISCO
Sports Writer

Saint Mary’s will travel to Lisle, IL, today to compete in the Eagle Invitational hosted by Benedictine University. The Belles hope to build off the momentum they gained last week when they finished strong in invitational event. They have lost their plates with the aca-

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SMC VOLLEYBALL

Fall, 2010 is the Season for Saints!

In September we celebrated the 100th anniversary of the birth of Mother Teresa and the beatification of John Henry Cardinal Newman. In October, we will witness the canonization of Blessed Brother Andre, CSC.

Now, courtesy of Institute for Church Life, you can spend an hour with the Saints before the game on each Saturday in October. Come nourish your Catholic faith and your mind at the same time with talks by three members of the Department of Theology.

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SATURDAYS WITH THE SAINTS

October 9

10:30-11:30am
Andrews Auditorium
Lower Level, Geddes Hall

Ever Ancient, Ever New:
The Holiness of Blessed Teresa of Calcutta on the 100th Anniversary of her Birth
Larry Cunningham
John A. O’Brien Chair of Catholic Theology
Yankees widen series lead

Associated Press

MINNEAPOLIS — Sure, the New York Yankees stumbled through September as Andy Pettitte tried to work his way back from a groin injury. After landing in the AL wild-card spot, the defending World Series champs looked as though they had the Minnesota Twins right where they wanted ‘em.

Pettitte turned in a vintage performance with seven smooth innings and Lance Berkman had two hits in his return, but the Yankees are still a win away from their seventh — one pitch after it in the fifth. His double in the seventh run in the fifth and a tiebreaker — the ond-longest streak in history for the Philadelphia Phillies right-hander.

"Quite a nice effort he had," Larsen said. "You have to give him credit for that." Halladay recorded his second no-hitter of the season in 4-0 victory Wednesday against the Cincinnati Reds in Game 1 of the National League Division Series. The 2003 AL Cy Young Award winner threw a perfect game at Florida on May 29.

Larsen tossed a perfect game for the New York Yankees in the 1956 World Series against the Brooklyn Dodgers, for more than five league records. But the Twins? They haven’t won a postseason game since 2003. The look changed — or-die" game for his team, which fell to 2-11 against the Yankees in four division series since 2003. The look changed — the Twins wore their 1961 throwback uniforms — but the plot didn’t.

"I guess if you work hard enough good things are going to happen to you and it did for me and Halladay. "We’ve got a big hill to climb. Things are going to happen to you and it did for me and Halladay," Larsen said. "I guess if you work hard enough good things are going to happen to you and it did for me and Halladay. You have to appreciate these things because you never know what’s going to happen in the future."

Larsen, who turned 81 in August, and Halladay had almost identical numbers in their postseason gems. Larsen struck out seven in New York’s 2-0 vic-
tory in Game 5. and Halladay had eight K’s and one walk in his playoff debut against Cincinnati.

The 54th anniversary of Larsen’s perfect game is this Friday. "It was just a great day. I think about it every day," Larsen said. "No one has to remind me what happened. I was just happy to be a part of it with the New York Yankees and against Brooklyn in the World Series, everybody was watching."

Both Halladay and Larsen beaped praise on their catchers. Halladay said Carlos Ruiz helped him get into a rhythm early and Larsen said Hall of Famer Yogi Berra played a key role in his masterpiece. "I couldn’t have done it without Yogi," Larsen said. "He was a hell of a catcher. He deserves a lot of credit for it."
Associated Press

MANHATTAN, Kan.—Nebraska quarterback Taylor Martinez rushed for 242 yards and four touchdowns Thursday night and the seventh-ranked Cornhuskers ended a 99-year rivalry with Kansas State in the same lop-sided fashion it began, thrashing the slower, out-manned Wildcats 48-13.

Martinez, the redshirt freshman who has rushed for 737 yards in his first five games for the Huskers (5-0), also threw a 79-yard touchdown pass to Kyler Reed for a 38-6 lead in the third quarter. His rushing total broke Jamaal Lord’s Nebraska record for a quarterback and his four rushing TDs tied the team quarterback mark. He was replaced by Cody Green with almost 10 minutes left in the game.

Martinez finished 5 of 7 for 128 yards as the Huskers piled up 587 yards total offense in the Big 12 opener for both teams. Daniel Thomas, a senior running back who was averaging 157 yards a game for the Wildcats (4-1), was held to 63 yards on 22 carries. Kansas State did not have nearly enough quickness to keep up with Martinez and the Huskers. Roy Helu broke loose for a 68-yard TD run in a 21-point third quarter that made a rout of what could be the last game these two schools ever play. In a rousing start to their farewell Big 12 tour, the Huskers’ shortest touchdown play was 14 yards.

To hear Randy Moss tell it, this week’s blockbuster trade that moved him from New England to Minnesota didn’t just bring him back to the place where he started his NFL career.

The headline grabbing move wasn’t as much as Moss simply coming back to a team that traded him five years ago.

More important than anything for Moss, and thus for the Vikings, is that the star receiver feels like he is home.

“I’m very fortunate to be back home where it all started,” said Moss, the West Virginia native who referred to Minnesota as home seven times Thursday. “It’s been a hectic last 48 hours. I didn’t really know what to expect.

I’m back home.” Wearing that familiar purple No. 84 on his back, Moss practiced with the Vikings a day after he was acquired from the Patriots in a trade his new team hopes will get them right back in the Super Bowl conversation.

“To all the Vikings fans that are coming to the Metrodome, pull your 84 jerseys on,” Moss said. “I think this is going to be a fun ride.”

Moss owns two lattes and Will watching from the sideline, coach Tom Cable told offensive coordinator Darrell Bevell as he prepares for Monday night’s road game against the New York Jets.

“Who would have thought it?” Favre asked.

Moss spent his first seven seasons in Minnesota, emerging as the best deep threat in the league for one of the most potent offenses ever assembled. He was traded to Oakland in 2005 and spent the last three seasons with the Patriots before being dealt back to the Vikings on Wednesday.

“The people that I meet on the regular outside the state of Minnesota, all they know is me being in the purple 84,” Moss said, adding later: “I still have a lot of love for the Minnesota Vikings, man. Just luckily I did get traded here. For what reasons, I still don’t know to this day. But I am back.”

No matter where he has played — in college, with the Vikings after he slid down the draft board in 1998 or in New England after many thought he was washed up — Moss has always played his best with a chip on his shoulder.

That’s what the Vikings are hoping to see again.

“I think there’s always that,” coach Brad Childress said after the trade was announced. “The great thing about this business is you have to do it every week. For anybody that is saying anything bad about Randy Moss, he gets a chance to show them wrong. That’s never a bad motivator.”

Moss became a star in college, when he ended up at Marshall after off-the-field issues caused Notre Dame to rescind a scholarship offer.

He had two big performances with the Thundering Herd, but he fell to the Vikings at No. 21 in the 1998 draft because of concerns about his character.

Moss unleashed all that pent up frustration in his first season, scoring 17 touchdowns and averaging more than 19 yards per catch to help the Vikings reach the NFC title game. In his seven seasons with the Vikings, Moss caught 574 passes for 9,142 yards and 90 touchdowns.

But the Vikings eventually grew tired of Moss’s occasionally petulant behavior, and shipped him to the Raiders in 2005. A few nagging injuries and Oakland’s struggles on the field combined to make his two years there largely unproductive.
Hockey continued from page 28

hockey program needs.
To put it lightly, last year did not go as planned. The Irish entered the season with legitimate national championship expectations but experienced a first-round loss to Ohio State.
But, as the cliché goes, last season is over, and most of the players on this Irish roster have no recollection of last year's disappointments. Most of the freshmen that will see ice time this season played on successful junior teams. They're conditioned to winning.
Of course, the Irish will need their upperclassmen to contribute as well. Three of Notre Dame's five leading scorers from last season are returning, and senior defenseman Joe Lavin will provide strong leadership on the blueline. It's telling that Lavin, who only played in the spring semester last season after transferring, was an unanimous selection by his teammates to captain the Irish this season.
For his part, Irish coach Jeff Jackson seems to have accurately identified the problems, tactically and mentally, that plagued the Irish last season. He talked in the of-season about a sense of entitlement that pervaded the team, not completely shocking for a team that had been consistently ranked in the top five.
Again, though, that's exactly where Notre Dame's youth could come in handy. There's no sense of entitlement among these freshmen, they have no previous national championship game appearance to fall back on. Most of this team has a completely blank page, upon which they will write their Notre Dame legacy.
Strategically, Jackson has talked about the need to instill more grit on his team. While Notre Dame certainly has a talented roster, they're probably still too inexperienced to beat teams on skill alone. Especially early in the season, Notre Dame is going to have to get comfortable winning games 1-0 or 2-1.
"Last year, I think we thought that we were going to be a really pretty team," senior right wing Calle Ridderstrom said. "I think a lot of guys thought we weren't going to have to work hard or be gritty. I think we've established early in the season that we're going to be a gritty team, a hardworking team."
Granted, everything is just talk at this point. A 5-3 exhibition win over the University of Guelph is nice, but Notre Dame will have to find its identity quickly against the big boys of college hockey. The Irish national powers North Dakota, Michigan, Miami (Ohio) and either Boston University or Wisconsin before they even head home for Winter Break.
It's impossible to predict exactly how Notre Dame will finish this season. The Irish are as talented as any team in the country and their coaching staff is second to none. A top four conference finish and an NCAA tournament berth are eminently achievable goals, even for a team with this many question marks. Of course, as we saw last season, that pendulum could swing in the other direction, too.
The biggest challenge will be making sure this young team reacts well to adversity. It's easy to envision an early loss snow-balling into a disappointing season, which is what appeared to happen last year. These freshmen, and the Notre Dame team as a whole, have a chance for redemption this season. They just need to be ready to make their mark on a fresh sheet of ice.

The views expressed in this column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer. Contact Sam Werner at swerner@nd.edu

SMC SWIMMING

Belles to compete in relays to open season

By CORY BERNARD
Sports Writer

Saint Mary's heads into the 2010-11 season looking to improve upon last year's last place finish in the MIAA. The Belles enter the fall under new leadership, as new head coach Mark Benischek was hired in September to lead the program.
As an assistant director of RecSports at Notre Dame, Benischek oversees the day-to-day operations of the Rolfs Aquatic Center and the Rockne Memorial pool. He will continue to fulfill those duties while guiding a Belles swimming and diving squad that has established 40 new top five all-time Saint Mary's performance ever the past two seasons.
Benischek and his pupils will have their work cut out for them, as senior diver Laura Powell is the lone fourth-year on the youth-laden roster.
The young Belles, however, will be bolstered by sophomore distance swimmer Ellie Watson. The second year swimmer from Grand Rapids, Mich., was the lone Saint Mary's representative on the All-MIAA swimming and diving team as a freshman and made the league championship final in each of her events.
The Belles kick off their season at the Dennis Stark Relays, which pays homage to coach Dennis Stark, the Irish men's swimming and diving coach from 1956-63. Saint Mary's will compete among side-D-1 opponents Illinois State, Valparaiso and Notre Dame. Races are set to begin at 5 p.m.

Contact Cory Bernard at cbernard@nd.edu

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Jackson continued from page 28

son in the Joyce Center, however, the Irish will be sporting a somewhat of a younger look. Normally, Notre Dame has relied heavily on its seniors to provide leadership for a freshman class that played an important but limited role in the team’s development. This year, however, with only five seniors on the roster, compared to 12 first-years, the Irish will have to rely much more on the entire team for production and leadership.

“If you’re a leader, you’re a leader, no matter what level you are,” senior captain and defenseman Joe Lavin said. “I just think we need to stick together.”

Senior alternate captain Calle Ridderwall is excited by the opportunity to shape a young squad, as he understands that the transition to the collegiate game can be difficult at times.

“It’s still a work in progress, and it will be, probably, for the first month,” he said. “The upperclassmen have done a good job incorporating the young kids, and this group is really good at buying into what our culture is.”

Despite their youth, Notre Dame has not revised its expectations for the season — only its mentality.

“They’re the same goals we’ve always had. We want to get to the Frozen Four,” Ridderwall said. “We’re an underdog this year. We’re going to be a gritty team, a hardworking team.”

The Irish will kick off their season with a challenge unlike any other, as they travel to St. Louis for the Warrior College Hockey Ice Breaker Tournament. On Friday, Notre Dame will face Holy Cross at 6:30 p.m., followed by a matchup between traditional powers No. 14 Boston University and No. 13 Wisconsin. The losers of Friday’s games will play for third place at 1 p.m. Sunday, while the winners will meet at 4 p.m. for the championship.

The season-opening clash will provide Notre Dame with a sense of their identity, which Ridderwall sees as a positive thing.

“We’re going to find out who we are this weekend,” he said. “We’re going to play some tough teams in the beginning.”

Lavin concurred with his teammate.

“I think it’s good to be playing the top-ranked teams,” he said. “Every team is going to face adversity, and it’s the really, really good teams that respond well to that adversity.”

The adversity will only keep coming, especially in the month of November, when the Irish will take trips to Michigan and North Dakota and will host Michigan State.

“It’s going to be a trial by fire, especially the month of November,” Jackson said.

The learning from adversity will be the key for the Irish in this pivotal season as they work to incorporate a new batch of freshmen into the program.

“If it doesn’t kill you, it makes you stronger,” Jackson said. “Those are the kind of environments that make you stronger.”

The Irish participate in the Ice Breaker Tournament this weekend and then kick off their home schedule on Oct. 15 against Lake Superior State.

“I honestly expect the whole team to have a great year this year,” Sullivan said. “I think coming off of giving us a tough loss to Louisville in the Big East last year, we will reach our full potential this year. By skipping right into those first two games, we spend less time getting into shape and more time improving, which is the ultimate goal.”

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The Irish have high expectations this year and senior captain Mike Sullivan says they hope to make a splash on both the Big East and national stages.

“As far as the team goes, we hope to regain the Big East championship title as well as send some swimmers and divers to score at the NCAA championship meet,” Sullivan said. “I hope to be one of those swimmers, and I know there are a lot of guys in the same boat who will definitely get there by putting in hard work all year long. And it goes without saying that I’d love for our team to rewrite our record board this season in the process.”

As the season approaches, Sullivan thinks the preseason training has helped the team grow closer and has them headed in the right direction.

“Preseason workouts were pretty grueling this year. We did a set of practices that really came from the whole senior class, with a lot of guys contributing sets,” Sullivan said. “I tried to do some stuff that was hard, but also fun so that guys would be excited about starting the season up again. We also did some stuff with strength coaches that would help us stronger before the season started up.”

Sullivan puts the team’s goals first, but said he does have some individual goals he wants to accomplish before his Irish career ends.

“In terms of individual goals for this season, I just want to get faster and hopefully push my teammates to do the same,” Sullivan said. “With this likely being my last year of swimming, I have to put all of my effort in so that there are no regrets at the end of the year.”

Sullivan also credits Irish coach Tim Welsh for getting the team in the proper mindset to start the season.

“[Coach Welsh] always does a great job setting the tone at the beginning of the year and reminding us of that tone in order to keep everyone focused,” Sullivan said.

The Irish have revised its lineup and will host Michigan State.

“Normally, Notre Dame has not been a very strong at youth, Notre Dame has not really good at this group is young kids, and we have done a lot of training has helped the upperclassmen really stick with people, and it was a nightmare schedule,” he said.

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Lincecum lights out in Giants playoff opener

Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO — The Freak really showed up for San Francisco on his biggest stage yet.

Tim Lincecum pitched a two-hitter and struck out 14 in a dominating postseason debut, and the Giants scored their only run after a questionable umpiring call to beat the Atlanta Braves 1-0 in Game 1 of their NL division series Thursday night.

“As far as shutouts go I think that was up there with my better ones,” said Lincecum, who pitched on seven days’ rest. “I was pretty anxious to get out there a couple days ago. You just have to deal with those extra days.”

The two-time NL Cy Young winner pitched a gem, a day after Philadelphia’s Roy Halladay pitched only the second no-hitter in postseason history in his first playoff game. Lincecum outflewled playoff veteran Derek Lowe and caught a break, too.

Cody Ross singled in the only run Lincecum needed in the fourth after Hunter Pence was called safe by umpire Paul Emmel on a steal of second.

“I guess it’s a good thing we don’t have instant replay right now,” Posey said. “It was a beautiful slide, wasn’t it?”

It was the first career steal for Posey, even though he appeared to be tagged out by Brooks Conrad on the play — retirding Braves manager Bobby Cox, the all-time leader in ejections, did not argue.

“I haven’t seen it,” Cox said. “Some of the guys came down after that inning and said he was out by six, eight inches. From the dugout you can’t see anything.”

Lincecum struck out Derrek Lee for the third time to end the 119-pitch masterpiece in 2 hours, 26 minutes. He became just the 12th pitcher with 14 or more strikeouts in a postseason game.

“That’s one of the best efforts I’ve ever seen,” Giants manager Bruce Bochy said. “What a great job that kid did. He’s tough.”

In a postseason already filled with plenty of stellar pitching, this was the first 1-0 game in the postseason since 2005, when the Chicago White Sox finished off a World Series sweep over Houston.

Game 2 of this best-of-five series is Friday night, with 13-game winner Matt Cain going for the Giants against Tommy Hanson.

Lincecum’s only other complete game this season came in a six-hit shutout of the New York Mets on July 15. He threw all his pitches effectively, from his off-speed stuff to his power fastball.

“It kind of progressed as it did. All the pitches were working,” Lincecum said. “It just felt like things were in place.”

Lincecum carried the momentum from a strong final month right into October. His strikeouts set a franchise record for a postseason game — his eighth time with 10 or more Ks this year and 27th of his career.

“He was lights out,” Cox said. “We had two runners at second base all night and that’s it.”

Lowe, who won his last five regular-season starts with a 1.17 ERA over that stretch, allowed one run on four hits in 5 1/3 innings, struck out six and walked four.

Lincecum, still hitting 91 mph on the radar gun in the ninth, became the first pitcher to record 12 strikeouts or more in the playoffs since Roger Clemens had 15 for the New York Yankees against Seattle in the 2000 AL championship series.

Lowe was done after giving up Posey’s double and a walk in the sixth. That delighted the orange-towel-waving sellout crowd of 43,936 at AT&T Park, which drew the largest attendance for a postseason game in the ballpark’s 11-year history.

Ross delivered in the fourth after Lowe intentionally walked Pablo Sandoval. Ross is one of a handful of late acquisitions to contribute to the Giants’ first NL West title and playoff berth since 2003.

Making his playoff debut at age 26 and in his third full major league season, Lincecum looked every bit an ace. He was sharp throughout, walking only one. This is the same pitcher whose career-worst five-start losing streak began with a defeat Aug. 5 at Atlanta.

“At the time guys were telling me you’re going to go through your struggles,” Lincecum said. “It almost kind of feels it was that far back there. I try not to go back there and think about that mental slide.”

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“Despite our losing record, our team has continued to play hard and put our full heart and body into games,” senior captain Amy Langnecker said.
The Wild Women pride themselves in teamwork and dorm unity and will be looking to their slow-kuit chemistry to help them emerge victorious over the Shamrocks.

“We have not achieved what we hoped we would, an undefeated season,” Langnecker said. “We have overcome many obstacles and achieved what, in the end, is really important about women’s interhall football—dorm unity.
The Wild Women have also seen encouraging things from their team as the season has progressed, as they have developed a real identity as a team with passion and love for the game and each other.

Our team has a lot of talent and athletic ability, but we have struggled in putting everything together at games,” Langnecker said. “We have had blown plays and missed tackles, but have been focusing on these things during the past week of practice.”
The battle between playoff hopefuls and a team hungry for a win will take place on Sunday at 3 p.m. at LaBar Field.

Ryan vs. Welsh Family
The newest divisional rivalry on campus will square off in each team’s final game of the season on Sunday as Ryan faces Welsh Family with both teams needing a win and some help to secure a spot in the postseason.
The Wildcats (1-2) are coming off a 32-7 loss against undefeated Pasquerilla West while the Whirlwinds (1-2) are hoping to carry their momentum into this Sunday from their first win last weekend against winless Walsh by a score of 26-6. Both squads look to capture their second wins to end the regular season, and earn a possible playoff berth depending on score differentials.

In the absence of the Wildcats senior captain Claire Fisher this weekend, sophomore wide receiver Maya Pillai and the rest of her team hope to fill the void and end the season with a win.

“We’re looking to finish the season with a win. We’re hoping to pick up the intensity with sides of the ball,” Pillai said. “In practice, we’ve been practicing just getting better as a team this season.”

After only scoring seven points last week against Pasquerilla West, Pillai and the rest of the offense hope to put some more points up against a stingy Whirlwind defense that only allowed six points last week. The Whirlwinds are hoping to carry their momentum from their first win last weekend and to finish the season with two straight victories.

“We’re very excited about the results of last weekend. We hope to carry the momentum to Sunday,” Whirlwind senior captain Cari Pick said. “We’re really hoping to win because that will give us a chance for the playoffs, but either way, we hope to end the season strong and leave the returning players on the right note.”
The Whirlwinds square off against the Wildcats at 4 p.m. at LaBar Field this Sunday in each team’s final game of the regular season. In pursuit of the playoffs, the team must continue in a do-or-die situation.

Lewis vs. Pangborn
A playoff berth is on the line, with the losers deciding who will clinch the playoff spot by the loser will need to light a candle at the Grotto, praying for a wildcard spot.

Both teams earned much-needed wins last week, putting themselves in position to punch a playoff ticket. The Chips kept it close, but with signs of slowing down in their quest to repeat. The Ducks look to cap off a successful season, while the Phuex (1-1) shut out the Ducks 19-0.

“Our receivers did a great job of reading the (Pyros’) defense,” Pangborn senior captain quarterback Gabby Tate said. “We have smart, talented players on offense. Our go-to offense keeps the defense on their toes.”

Lewis senior captain Sarah Ceponis was also pleased with the Chips’ performance last week.

“The team was very enthusiastic and energetic which got us far,” Ceponis said. “We have a phenomenal offense, and the new players are working very hard.”

Both teams are trying to carry over the momentum from last week’s wins to this week’s crucial contest.

“Our team motto is ‘Play with intensity,’ and we’re trying to keep that up,” Ceponis said.
Pangborn will attempt to match the Chips’ intensity and control the tempo of the game.

“Our strategy is to dictate the pace of the game and keep our energy up,” Tate said.

“We also want to stay calm and confident,” Ceponis said.

Because both offensives are struggling on the line, pressure becomes a factor in this week’s game, but the teams are not letting it affect them.

“Our strategy is to be fear less,” Ceponis said. “There is a lot on the line, but we hope to play our game and not be intimidated. Pangborn should expect a tough game from us.”

Tate views the contest the same way.

“We are approaching this game like an any other,” Tate said. “But we might wear a little more eye black and cheer a little bit louder.”

Lewis will face Pangborn in a battle for the playoffs Sunday at 2 p.m. at LaBar Field.

Howard vs. Pasquerilla East
Defending interhall champion Howard has signs of slowing down in their quest to repeat. The Ducks look to cap off a successful season, while the Pyros (3-0) have been dominant through their first three games, outscoring opponents 65-13, Pasquerilla East junior captain kitten Mannion believes that the Pyros (1-2) have more than a fighting chance.

“They’re obviously the defending champs, so we know what to expect,” Mannion said. “We know that they have a great quarterback, and the key will be getting containment on her.”
The Ducks are led by senior captain Kayla Bishop, who gives credit to her stout defense for the team’s strong start.

The key has been our defense getting containment of both the pass and the run and getting our offense the ball,” Bishop said.

That defense will be tested by a Pyros offense that has shown flashes of solid play so far this season despite managing only 13 points through the first three games. The Pyros are coming off a 19-0 defeat by Pangborn and should be hungry for a statement win against the Ducks.

Drawn up a couple new plays on defense, and our defense has been one of the bright spots to the season thus far, showing how promising they can be,” Mannion said. “The key will really be playing under control and getting containment on their quarterback.”

For Howard, the key, according to Bishop, will be to continue to follow the formula that has the Ducks undefeated three games into the season.

“[We] is solid on both sides of the ball and should be a good test,” Bishop said. “We just have to go out and play our game.”

The game will be contested at LaBar Field at 2 p.m. Sunday.

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Please recycle The Observer
Notre Dame (11-5, 4-0 Big East) continues their conference road swing this weekend as they travel to Louisville and No. 21 Cincinnati.

With victories at South Florida and Georgetown last weekend, the Irish currently are on a 19-game conference winning streak, the sixth longest in the nation. The streak will be put on the line this weekend, as Louisville (8-5, 3-1 Big East) and Cincinnati (15-3, 4-0 Big East) are two of the strongest teams in the conference. The Bearcats sit tied with the Irish at the top of the Big East, while the Cardinals are in a three-way tie for third.

Irish coach Debbie Brown views the upcoming pair of games as a new challenge for her squad.

"The two games against Louisville and Cincinnati are definitely an increase in the level of competition we have been facing so far," she said. "They are both really solid teams.

On Sunday the Irish head to Cincinnati for a showdown between the only two undefeated squads left in the Big East, which should come as little surprise as both teams were expected to be at the top of the conference at the beginning of the season. Cincinnati was the unanimous decision by the Big East Coaches to win the conference while Notre Dame was selected to finish third.

Cincinnati's attack is led by senior Stephanie Niemer. Niemer was selected by the coaches as the preseason Player of the Year and has won four straight Big East Player of the Week Honors. Brown said that both Louisville and Cincinnati present a style of play that the Irish have yet to see this year.

"Both of these teams play a really physical style of volleyball," she said. "They play high above the net, so we really have to focus on stopping their big hitters with our blocking.

The Irish begin play at 10 a.m. at Louisville Saturday. The 5 p.m. match Sunday at Cincinnati will be nationally televised on ESPNU.

ND VOLLEYBALL
Team plays conference pair

By MICHAEL TODISCO
Sports Writer

Irish senior middle hitter Kelly Sciacca goes up for a spike during Notre Dame's 3-0 loss to Arizona on Aug. 29

"Our goal is obviously to win again and just go out there and play our best." So-Hyun Park

Irish senior

Notre Dame looks to continue team success

By MEGAN FINNERAN
Sports Writer

The Irish have gotten off to nothing short of an incredible start this season, taking first place in their first two meets this year. Notre Dame will look to extend its hot streak in Knoxville, Tenn., at the Mercedes-Benz Championship at the Holston Hills Country Club.

"Our goal is obviously to win again and just go out there and play our best," Park said. "There are lots of great teams playing in this tournament and I think we really need to take advantage of that and play well."

The three-day meet begins today and will extend until Sunday, with 18 holes played each day of play. Saturday's play will include a "Pink Out" in honor of Breast Cancer Awareness Week, with players wearing pink and donning their bags with pink ribbons.

"The two games against Louisville and Cincinnati are definitely an increase in the level of competition we have been facing so far," she said. "They are both really solid teams.

Notre Dame kicks off the weekend on Saturday when they travel to Louisville. This Irish will have revenge on their minds against the Cardinals, who have knocked the Irish out of each of the last four Big East Championships.

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Contact Michael Todisco at mtodisco@nd.edu

ND WOMEN’S GOLF
Notre Dame looks to continue team success

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keep the pressure on the Ramlar offense. The key will be stopping Sigfried’s great running game because I am confident our offense can put some points on the board," said Dawg junior captain Dan Dansdill. "The run game has worked for us for the past two weeks but I have faith that Cronin can throw the ball downfield if necessary.

In a defensive battle with an undefeated record on the line, Sigfried and Alumni are slated to kick off at 2 p.m. Sunday at Riehl Fields.

Carroll vs. Zahn

Carroll looks to keep its per- fect record intact this week as the Vermin take on Zahn. Carroll (1-0) comes into the game looking strong on both sides of the ball, partially as a result of an influx of freshman talent and enthusiasm. Zahn (0-2) looks to show Carroll that it has more than just a tough, spirited defense after being shut out in its first two games.

Both teams have been looking to target weak areas of their game in practice. Carroll has looked strong with freshman quarterback Jack Gardner at the helm, but the Vermin seek to improve on finishing their offensive drives in the red zone. With the ultimate goal of win- ning the championship in the stadium in mind, the Vermin have worked hard to continual- ly improve all aspects of their game.

"As a team, we’ve been stressing the importance of getting better every day and making sure that we aren’t taking any minute on the field too lightly," junior center and defensive end Mitch Spier said. "Last year, we had a great first two weeks of the season, and we tailed off and played miserably in the second. This year we want to change that."

Zahn has also been working hard to improve on both sides of the ball, but has also focused on the mental game as well. Zahn looks to shore up things offen- sive as senior linebacker and coach Mark Pomerence will step off the field on offense and call plays from the sideline instead of the huddle. The Zahnites will also incorporate some unconventional approach- es.

"Most of the preparation for the week has been mental," Pomerence said. "I have had my running back coach, Colin Casey, watch The Little Engine That Could’ every night before bed and we asked our fellow line- backer Greg Allare to listen to nothing but Pantera until the game."

After much preparation, both teams remain confident about their chances on Sunday.

"We hope to come away with a win on Sunday against Zahn," Spier said. "We know that, especially in dorm football, records don’t matter one bit. One little miscue and the game could be lost. Our goal is to stay as prepared as possible and not to do anything wrong.

Pomerence echoed that senti- ment: "We are optimistic about our chances," he said. "We have been missing a lot of players lately, and we have been prac- ticing hard at showing up." Carroll takes on Zahn at 2 p.m. at Riehl Fields on Sunday.

Fisher vs. St. Edward’s

Fisher and St. Edward’s are filled with determination going into this week’s battle between the two squads. The Gentlemen (1-1) have their eyes on a return to the Stadium and are determined to get redemption for a loss two weeks ago to Carroll.

"We would love to get our game against Carroll and our injuries and lack of practice played a big role in our loss," St. Ed’s captain and junior running back Matt Linheaver Jay Mathes said.

This week the Gentlemen plan on turning the tide.

"We looked a lot better in practice this week," Mathes said. "We’re planning on going out there and playing our best ball against Fishmen.

The Fishermen (1-2) are also determined, but not for redemption.

"We want to get a big win going into next year," seniors captain and quarterback Michael McMahon said. "We plan to dominate teams by a lot of points. It will cap off a regular season that our program has not seen in a while.

The Gentlemen had a tough time getting their offense mov- ing against Carroll. The run- ning game in particular sput- tered and was not able to gain momentum. Senior quarter- back Matt Abeleng will have an easier time this weekend in junior wide receiver Joey Riccioli, who will return this week from a hamstring injury. The Gentlemen believe he will be a spark for their offensive attack against Fisher.

Fisher’s offense feels like they are up to the challenge against the St. Edward’s defense. They have a lot of weapons on both sides of the ball, but offen- sively we are led by Junior quarterback Pat Hertenstein, McMahon said. "We are excited to get to practice this week and get ready to play the Fishmen.

One of the offensive weapons Fisher is counting on is Joe Paggi, whom McMahon believes is having a great season thus far, and he’s having a big impact on the improvement of the program. Paggi will face off against St. Edward’s defensive lineman Jose Carranza who, according to Mathes, domi- nates the line.

The two down-but-not-out squads go head to head this Sunday at 1 p.m. at Riehl Fields.

Dillon vs. Stanford

The battle between the Big Red and the Griffins should be hotly contested right from the start as Dillon and Stanford both look to score early to secure a league titie and an automatic trip to the playoffs.

Dillon (2-0) has defeated O’Neill and Keenan in thrillers so far this season. The Big Red trailed at halftime in both games, only to come back in the second half of both games and steal the championships.

"Even though we’re 2-0 we have a lot of room to grow," Coach John Mathes said.

The first two games we didn’t start off as well as we wanted to, especially in the third and fourth quarters," dilllon coach Tom Hiltz said. "We have to start off as well as we can to have a chance to beat the red zone offense in order to remain undefeated.

"We’re looking to improve on converting our red zone oppor- tunities. When we get down to the endzone we want to make sure we get some points out of it," senior quarterback Tony Rizzo said.

Rizzo believes that in order to find success in the red zone, a solid performance from their offensive line is crucial.

"On offense the key is to go our offensive line. I think our offensive line is going to be pretty important in this game," he said.

Dillon is aware of Stanford’s offensive firepower, and they hope their defense will take leadership in defending the undefeated Griffins.

"They’ve really put up some points. Defensively I think it will be a challenge to keep them from contain our offense, but I think we’ve got guys who will be up for that challenge," Lee said.

"We’ve got good senior leadership. We’ve got guys who are really passionate about competing, so we’ve just got to channel that in the right ways.

For Stanford, this game is more than just another victory. "Our goal and our plan is to stay undefeated and go all the way to the championship and win," Rizzo said. "We’re not just looking to make the playoffs. This year we are looking to bring the championship back to Stanford.

Stanford will take on Dillon Saturday at 3 p.m. at Riehl Field.

Duncan vs. Morrissey

The 2010 Duncan Highlanders as a result of overcoming Adelphi to become the first team in ball history to make the playoffs. To accomplish this unprecedented task, they will have to defeat an undefeated Morrissey squad this week.

Duncan (1-2) had a tough game last week, as they lost to an undefeated Alumni team 14- 6. With their final game looming, Highlander junior captain Paul Scheel has not lost confi- dence in his team.

"During our game with Alumni, we had many lapses on both sides of the ball that must come must come huge for us to have a shot at Morrissey," Scheel said.

"We will rely on strong play from junior middle linebacker Joe Leahy and sophomore defensive end Chris Herrlihy against the Morrissey offense.

"During our game with Alumni, we had many lapses on both sides of the ball that must come huge for us to have a shot at Morrissey," Scheel said.

"We must come back and get a win against Morrissey. We want to be the first team in Duncan history to playoffs.

For the Monad (1-1), physical- ity and speed are key to both their defensive and offen- sive game. Morrissey has had a week to think about their loss to Alumni two weeks ago.

During our last game, Alumni outplayed us by using their physicality throughout the course of the game," sophomore captain Alex Oloriz said. "We must use that same style of play against Duncan.

"We’ve got a lot of young junior offensive lineman Steve Bruns must use his toughness and strength to help his Highlanders to have any chance.

Duncan will need to play after losing a very winnable game this past weekend," Scheel said. "We want to come back and get a win against Morrissey. We want to be the first team in Duncan history to playoffs.

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**SMC VOLLEYBALL**

**Team looks to break losing streak in pair**

By ANDREW OWENS

In every level of sports, teams face adversity over the course of a long season. What separates the good teams from the bad teams is the ability to overcome the difficult parts of the season and be able to play well down the stretch, something that Saint Mary’s is trying to accomplish this weekend.

The Belles (3-13, 1-7 MIAA) will try to snap a seven-game losing streak this weekend when they face Beloit (9-9) and Albion (4-15, 0-8).

Saint Mary’s defeated Albion 3-0 in its conference opener four weeks ago, but since then, the Belles have dropped seven consecutive conference matches to fall to eighth in the standings.

After a rough start, Belles head coach Beth Staton expects the team to begin playing better.

“They key for us is to get better each time we step out onto the court together,” Kuschel said.

Irish junior midfielder Chris Sutton controls a pass during Notre Dame's 1-0 win over St. John’s on Sept. 25.

Irish head to Morgantown to take on WVU

By ALLAN JOSEPH

Fresh off a 2-1 road win in Bloomington against Indiana Wednesday, the No. 22 Irish will pack their bags again and head to Morgantown, W. Va. Saturday to face West Virginia.

The Irish opened the season with two road trip back to back. They need to prepare themselves physically.

The Irish (5-2-3) enter the contest on a modest two game win streak and have not lost dating back to a 2-0 loss to Illinois on Sept. 19. An 80th minute goal from junior midfielder Chris Sutton was the difference as the Irish look to continue their Big East success punctuated by wins against St. John’s and Providence.

The Mountaineers (5-3-2) come into the game looking to knock off the Irish for the second straight year and notch a Big East win. The Mountaineers are led by sophomore forward Moeryhan Doue, who leads the team with five goals and twelve points. Though the game is of particular importance as the Irish look to continue their Big East success, the Mountaineers also need to prepare themselves for the upcoming Big East conference standings.

“We've got to somehow get to a point where we can win every game we come out for.”

One Irish player who will be riding a swell of good fortune into the West Virginia game is senior forward Job Brovsky, who was named a finalist for the Lowe's Senior Class Award.

Saint Mary’s has had a tough streak this season as their Big East Conference play has been riddled with losses. Their focus will shift so they can get to a point where they can win every game.

“I'm old-fashioned, but my mood doesn’t change much based on what’s going on as far as streaks,” Clark said. “The only thing we discuss as a team is how we play together, you know, can we play together as a team? If we do that, we put ourselves in position to win every game.”

The Irish head to Morgantown to take on WVU Saturday to face West Virginia. The Mountaineers are led by sophomore forward Moeryhan Doue, who leads the team with five goals and twelve points. Though the game is of particular importance as the Irish look to continue their Big East success punctuated by wins against St. John’s and Providence, Clark is more focused on playing good soccer than worrying about conference standings.

“It’s not so much about a conference game,” Clark said. “We’ve got to somehow get to a point where we can win every game we come out for.”

One Irish player who will be riding a swell of good fortune into the West Virginia game is senior forward Job Brovsky, who was named a finalist for the Lowe’s Senior Class Award.

Adam Mena gave the Irish the late-game edge against the Hoosiers. Clark said the team needs to focus on the here and now to avoid getting caught up in the recent win streak.

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**Hockey**

**Notre Dame to play last season in Joyce Center**

By **ALLAN JOSEPH**

Sports Writer

With the Compton Family Center rising on the southeast part of campus and a new infusion of freshman talent entering the Joyce Center for its final season, the 2010-2011 season will mark a transition point in No. 17 Notre Dame’s hockey history as the program looks to establish itself as one of the premier forces in collegiate hockey.

“[The Compton Family Center] is kind of a symbol of where we are and where we’re headed,” Irish coach Jeff Jackson said. “Even though we’ve had some success in the last five years, the potential for us to be consistently in the mix will be helped by the building.”

For the 43rd and final season, the 2010-2011 season will mark a transition point in Notre Dame’s hockey history as the program looks to establish itself as one of the premier forces in collegiate hockey.

**Men’s Interhall**

Siegfried and Alumni face off in battle of unbeatens

By **KELSEY MANNING, KRISTEN LASKA, DAVID JENNINGS, MEGAN GOLEN and ADAM LLORENS**

Sports Writers

It will be a battle to remain undefeated when the Blue League’s top two teams, Siegfried and Alumni, face off this Sunday. With Siegfried coming off a dominating win over Knott and Alumni battling Duncan by a touchdown last week, both teams are feeling confident.

“We’ll always be confident. You never want to walk in not confident,” Rambler senior captain Michael McDonnell said. “However, [Alumni] does have a very dynamic offense, which is actually intimidating to look at. We are not going to under estimate them and we will try to mentally prepare properly for this game.”

After a slow start on offense, the Rambler’s defense is looking to perform well against the Shamrocks. They will get the chance to complete a strong regular season as the wirless Wild Women try to play spoiler.

“I think the season has been good so far,” senior captain Gillian Allsup said. “Our goal every year is playoffs, so we need to win this weekend to accomplish that.”

**Women’s Interhall**

Shamrocks play Walsh to earn playoff berth

By **LAURA COLETTI, IAN GARRAHY, TORI ROECK and CONNOR KELLY**

Sports Writers

McGlinn’s objective is simple this Sunday, as a win over Walsh will secure a playoff berth for the Shamrocks. They will get the chance to complete a strong regular season as the wireless Wild Women try to play spoiler.

“I think the season has been good so far,” senior captain Gillian Allsup said. “Our goal every year is playoffs, so we need to win this weekend to accomplish that.”
Riddick thrives at his new position
COMMENTARY

Pitt game affects future of program

Not many Notre Dame fans make it a point to see the Pittsburgh game every year. It is not exactly a natural rivalry at all. The Irish and Panthers match-up is rarely a top-25 clash. It is a rivalry that has been more meaningful to the fans in the recent past, however. For many fans, the game is reminiscent of the days when Notre Dame was a powerhouse. The game has become a symbol of the programs’ past greatness.

Fans’ opinions are not all that Pittart’s result will affect Notre Dame’s three games following this game. The Irish have struggled against Michigan, Navy and Tulsa — all are very winnable. Entering that stretch as a .500 team is less than ideal. If Notre Dame can get out of that stretch unscathed, anything could happen in those three games. If Notre Dame wins them all, Brian Kelly and Brian Kelly would likely look at the season as a success. However, if Notre Dame loses even one of those games, it will likely be a disappointment to many fans.

In August, many Irish fans were excited about the possibility of Notre Dame’s season-defining game. The win over Boston College was a big moment in Notre Dame’s season. It was the moment when the Irish fans began to believe that their team could make a run at the BCS Championship. However, in recent days, reports have suggested that the commitments of multiple high-profile recruits may be in jeopardy. If Notre Dame loses to Pittsburgh, it is possible that some of those commitments could be rescinded.

“I think it’s going to be a very important game for us,” Frank said. “I think there’s a chance that we can go to 3-3 after this weekend, and that could be a season-defining game for us.”

—if Notj?e Democraticaalong|, the game will likely determine how fans view the rest of the season. A win could put Notre Dame on the path to a .500 record, while a loss could mean that Notre Dame may struggle for the rest of the season. The game is sure to be exciting and will likely have a significant impact on Notre Dame’s season.
Sophomore running back-turned-receiver Theo Riddick is ready to take his game to the next level

By SAM WERNER
Sports Writer

Looking at the top of Notre Dame’s receiving statistics, one might reasonably expect to find junior receiver Michael Floyd or tight end Kyle Rudolph. In fact, the leading Irish pass-catcher so far this season is a player who wasn’t even on the receiver depth chart a year ago.

Not that Theo Riddick ever doubted his ability to get there.

Making the switch

The sophomore moved from running back to receiver in the offseason. While some players may have faced an extended adjustment period, Riddick slid in right away.

“This is everything I expected,” Riddick said. “It started ever since Coach Kelly got here, so the transition’s been a while. I’m starting to see the light.”

Riddick said then-running backs coach Tony Alford called him over winter break last year and asked if he would do anything to help the team win. After the New Jersey native right away responded that he would, Alford asked if he would be willing to take on the receiver position. Riddick said he immediately accepted the change.

After agreeing, Riddick said he got to work right away preparing for his new role.

“I used to watch film,” he said. “It was hard for me because I didn’t have to know that much about coverages (as a running back), so I tried to teach myself.”

While the tactical side of the position may have taken some additional time, Riddick said he spent most of his offseason trying to prepare for Irish coach Brian Kelly’s new high-paced offensive system from a physical standpoint.

“I was just trying to get into better condition,” Riddick said. “That was the main thing once I found out (about the position change), because in a spread offense you’re running 24/7.”

Riddick said the other receivers were incredibly helpful to him in making the switch, specifically Floyd. He added that Floyd helped him learn the tricks of the trade — including breaking down coverages and learning to run his routes.

“If it wasn’t for (Floyd), I don’t know where I’d be right now,” Riddick said. “He’s just communicated picking up on all the little things, trying to make me better every day.”

Riddick also had help from another familiar face. When Kelly was hired in December, he decided to retain Alford on his staff, but as the wide receivers coach. Riddick said working with Alford last year made his development as a receiver even easier.

“It helps a lot, because you actually build a relationship,” Riddick said. “I’m not saying I don’t have a relationship with the other coaches, but I knew him before so it was more of a comfort zone coming right in.”

Fitting right in

Riddick said the first time he actually felt like a receiver came over the summer — even though it may have been apparent to his teammates first.

“I started to see the development and a lot of other players did as well,” Riddick said. “They started like chuckling and saying side comments like, ‘Hey, you’re starting to look like a wide receiver,’ and I didn’t really see it at the time, but now I do.”

His growing comfort at the new position was becoming clear to the coaching staff as well.

“Back in the summer even, I said that I thought he was going to really come on and be pretty good and I think that’s held true,” offensive coordinator Charley Molnar said. “We could see it during summer camp that he was really close.”

Riddick’s ability to adapt quickly was essential to the Irish offense, because as the slot receiver, he’s expected to be one of the most versatile players on the field.

“In our offense, he’s a guy that we can get the ball to very quickly a number of different ways. We haven’t had the ball off to him very much, but we can do that,” Molnar said. “He’s in close proximity to the quarterback, he’s in a good position to throw screens to — bubble passes — and also the number of times he’s working against linebackers rather than corners, so sometimes we have a real physical mismatch.”

Kelly specifically noted Riddick’s ability essentially to neutralize Boston College linebacker Mark Herzlich last weekend.

“You take a Herzlich out of the game against B.C. because he’s got to stay out over Theo Riddick the whole game,” Kelly said. “I don’t know if he had a couple of tackles, but he wasn’t really taken out of the ballgame.”

Riddick is also valuable when teams elect to double cover Floyd or Rudolph, because it will leave Riddick in single coverage, often times against a mismatched linebacker.

“(Floyd and Rudolph) both have been double covered a number of times, and when those things happen, that usually singles up somebody and that’s what’s really happening right now with Theo,” Molnar said.

Turning it on

Through two games this season, Riddick caught only four passes for 52 yards. In the last three, he’s caught 26 balls for 268 yards and three touchdowns.

“We knew that it would take time, that those things happen, that usu-ally singles up somebody and that’s what’s really happening right now with Theo,” Molnar said.

“Just being out there and doing my job, and read the defense better than I was,” he said. Last year, Riddick rushed for 160 yards on 29 attempts and returned kicks for the Irish. He said the experience of simply being on the field, even if it was at a different position, has helped him excel this year.

“The game is a lot slower,” Riddick said. “Coming out as a freshman, everything was a lot quicker, everything moved quicker.”

“Just being out there and knowing that I could perform on that level gave me that confidence.”

Even throughout inconsistencies playing time a year ago, Riddick said he never stopped learning the game.

“I mean, even though I wasn’t in, I was always in tune on the sideline, trying to know what the call was to envision what was going to go on, so nothing really changed,” he said.

“Now that he’s ingrained himself at the receiver position, all that’s left to do is turn the Irish into a winning football team.”

“I’m just trying to win ball games,” he said. “If my play can develop to a victory, that’s all I care about.”

When the Irish fell to 1-3 two weeks ago, the criticism inevitably started to swirl around campus. Riddick said he tried to ignore the negative vibes and just focus on football and his teammates.

“We were 1-3 and some people started to give up on us and stuff like that, but we don’t really worry about that,” he said. “We just go out there and play for one another.”

After the win against Boston College, though, he said the mood inside the football program has changed dramatically.

“Everyone’s happy, a lot of smiles definitely and more to come,” Riddick said.

Riddick said that he didn’t have any specific personal goals for the season, only that he wanted to become the best receiver he could be.

“I just want to get a lot better, and be able to catch every ball,” he said. “I don’t want to catch 90 and drop one.”
Despite a decisive 18-point victory against Boston College, the Irish passing attack did not look strong after the first quarter. Quarterback Dayne Crist threw for only 84 yards in the final three quarters, and the Irish offense scored only one more touchdown after putting three across in their first four drives.

Still, Crist is 12th in the nation in passing yards, and with 10 touchdowns to four interceptions, his numbers are impressive for a first-year quarterback. Tight end Kyle Rudolph has been quiet recently, but is still Crist’s favorite target, and wide receivers Theo Riddick and Michael Floyd have been reliable. Pittsburgh’s defense has struggled when facing capable quarterbacks, giving up five touchdowns in two games to Miami’s Jacory Harris and Utah’s Jordan Wynn. The Irish will likely look to pass early and often like they did against Boston College and, if given time, Crist should have a big game against the Panthers.

EDGE: NOTRE DAME

Kicker David Ruffer has done all that the Irish have asked of him this season, making all eight of his field goal attempts and all 13 of his extra point tries. He has become a sure thing in the offense, and Notre Dame will continue to rely on him. Pittsburgh is in the top 12 in kick return defense and the top 5 in punt return defense, an area that the Irish have struggled in so far this season.

EDGE: PITTSBURGH

Brian Kelly’s strategy of scoring fast worked like a charm against Boston College. An aerial attack is likely to be the strategy this week, and Kelly is in his element when Crist has the ball in his hands. He might use the run to set up the passing game, but the Irish will probably abandon the run in favor of the pass sooner rather than later. Kelly said that Notre Dame got back to the characteristics of a spread offense last week. Look for that to continue.

EDGE: NOTRE DAME

Notre Dame looked great against Boston College, scoring touchdowns on three of its first four drives, which is a change, but also exactly what has been expected from this team all year. Boston College was nowhere near as good as the Irish, and Notre Dame defeated the Eagles, as it should have.

Pittsburgh may not be as bad as Boston College, but the Panthers are still not as good a team as Notre Dame. If the Irish can stay focused, concentrate only on this game and get off to a good start again, they should win handily.

NO OFFENSIVE COACHING

The Irish offense finally found the accelerator against Boston College, scoring three early touchdowns and showing what Kelly’s attack can look like. But they seemed to release the gas pedal as quickly as they found it, and they’ll need to avoid that Saturday.

Heading into the season, I thought Dion Lewis was the best player on the Irish schedule. And while Denard Robinson proved me wrong, I’m still scared of a Lewis-Ray Graham combo that gives me visions of the Connecticut ground game last season. Still, this Pitt team is just not that good, and Notre Dame has a chance to get on a roll.

FINAL SCORE: Notre Dame 38, Pittsburgh 17

The Observer - IRISH INSIDER ONLINE at ndsmcobserver.com/sports/
Redshirt sophomore Tino Sunseri has struggled passing the ball so far this year, throwing only four touchdowns and two interceptions. He passed for more than 200 yards in only one game and was pulled in the fourth quarter of Pittsburgh’s game against Miami, a game in which Sunseri finished with just 61 passing yards.

Receiver Jonathan Baldwin is the Panthers biggest offensive threat. Baldwin finished with just 61 passing yards. against Miami, a game in which Sunseri had an incredible freshman year, winning both Big East Rookie of the Year and Offensive Player of the Year. He ran for 1,799 yards and 17 touchdowns, but has struggled to break loose so far this season. He is averaging only three yards per carry, and the longest of his two touchdowns went for only 18 yards. Sophomore running back Ray Graham has been the spark for the Panthers’ offense so far this year. Last week against Florida International, he ran for 277 yards and three scores, his third straight 100-yard rushing game. He and Lewis will both see significant carries, and it will be up to the Irish front seven to slow them down.

The Irish gave up only five yards rushing to Boston College last week, but have struggled at times. They are giving up 153 yards per game, and will need to continue to stay focused if they are going to stop Pitt’s attack.

EDGE: NOTRE DAME

Notre Dame has had trouble at points in the Panthers, and though he has not taken a kick back for a score yet this year, he averages 31 yards per kick return, and his speed and agility always make him a threat.

EDGE: PITTSBURGH

Offensive coordinator Frank Cignetti’s offense averaged 32 points per game last season, one of the best marks in school history. The Panthers have struggled so far this season, but Cignetti has weapons and knows how to use them. Sunseri is still a work in progress at quarterback, so the running game will likely be highlighted against the Irish. If they can establish the run, that will open things up and allow Baldwin to become a focus.

EDGE: PITTSBURGH

Pittsburgh kicker Dan Hutchins has made eight of his 11 field goal attempts, missing all three from 40 yards or longer. He also punts for the Panthers, and his 46-yard per punt average is the eighth best in the league.

Pittsburgh will be a step up in terms of quality of opponent after last week, but this is still a very winnable game for the Irish. If Notre Dame can exhibit the same tenacity stopping the run as they did against Boston College, it’s doubtful that Panther quarterback Tino Sunseri will be able to beat the Irish on his own. Notre Dame will have to run the ball — and stay committed to running the ball — against a tough Pittsburgh rushing defense. Still, the Irish got a win under their belts, and that newfound confidence will go a long way.

FINAL SCORE: Notre Dame 30, Pittsburgh 21
Pittsburgh sophomore running back Dion Lewis earned nearly every accolade a freshman could receive in 2009. Among other honors, he was named the Big East offensive player of the year and a unanimous freshman All-American.

But when Lewis was unable to play Saturday against Florida International after being "banged up" in practice, Panthers coach Dave Wannstedt gave his other sophomore running back, Ray Graham, his first start.

Graham took advantage of the opportunity, running for 277 yards on 29 carries. He scored three touchdowns, including a 79-yard run, and returned two kick returns for 78 yards. The performance earned him Big East player of the week honors.

"What they do offensively has been evolved around a running game that has featured Dion Lewis in the past. Now it's Ray Graham."

Brian Kelly
Irish coach

"What they do offensively has been evolved around a running game that has featured Dion Lewis in the past. Now it's Ray Graham."

Ray Graham and Dion Lewis will both practice and they will both play. We're fortunate to have both those guys, and we'll continue to play them both.

The Irish defense allowed Boston College just five rushing yards Saturday in their 31-13 defeat of the Eagles. With Lewis and Graham in the game, the run defense will need to step up once again, Kelly said.

"Having both those backs obviously presents a great challenge," he said.

In 2009, Lewis carried the ball 325 times for 1,799 yards, the second most ever by a Pitt freshman. As Lewis' backup, Graham rushed 61 times for 349 yards, an average of 5.7 yards per carry.

Sophomore Graham takes advantage of new role

By LAURA MYERS
Sports Writer

Pittsburgh sophomore running back Ray Graham outruns the New Hampshire defense in the Panthers' 38-16 win on Sept. 11. Graham ran for 277 yards and three touchdowns last week against Florida International.

What is the best horoscope you’ve gotten from The Observer?
It's hard to say but I will say I'm a huge Horoscope guy. I always make sure I grab The Observer and look out for any four- or five-star days out there.

Who’s your favorite person to follow on Twitter?
Probably [freshman nose guard] Louis Nix. He's funny on Twitter and he's easily one of the funniest kids, if not the funniest kid, on the team. ... LNix67. Got to check it out.

What did you think of Tuesday’s episode of Glee?
It was very deep. I couldn't get enough of it. Got me a little choked up, I'm not going to lie.

Are you rooting for Finn and Rachel?
I am rooting for Finn and Rachel. I know a lot of previews before the season hinted at other things, but I like what has happened so far. We'll see what happens so far. Maybe the "Grilled Cheesus" will keep answering his prayers.

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Youthful offensive line begins to gain confidence

By DOUGLAS FARMER
Sports Editor

In Brian Kelly’s spread offense, the quarterback repeatedly hears he needs to get rid of the ball quickly. But no matter how quickly Irish quarterback Dayne Crist releases the football, his offensive line needs to give him enough time to do so.

In the first few games of the season, especially during the 37-14 loss to Stanford, Crist was pressured more often than Kelly would have liked, and both the Irish passing and rushing attacks suffered.

Against Boston College, the Irish offensive line consistently gave Crist time to throw and to run the Irish offense. Notre Dame needed those few games of adjustment because three of the five starting linemen were starting their first game against Purdue, offensive coordinator Charlie Molnar said.

“During summer camp, when talking about our youth, how these guys had never taken a snap, now all of a sudden these guys have over 300 plays,” Molnar said. “I just think that the continuity helped. Really, up until Saturday the same five guys virtually took every single rep at the same position. So they got a ton of work. … They’ve played half a season. They are quickly becoming veterans.”

Sophomore tackle Zack Martin, junior center Braxston Cave and senior tackle Taylor Dever all started their first game against Purdue, with only fifth-year guard Chris Stewart and junior guard Trevor Robinson holding experience on the line.

Nonetheless, each of those three first-timers has progressed as their confidence grew.

“Definitely every game your confidence is going to grow,” Martin said. “Confidence from your teammates and coaches. Each game you feel a bit more comfortable in there.”

The youngest of the three, Martin, has particularly impressed Kelly as he has learned on the fly, confronting new defensive looks and challenges in each game.

“There are things happening each week that he has never seen before,” Kelly said in his Tuesday press conference. “When you look at Zack Martin as a first-time starter, each week he sees new things and maybe doesn’t handle it like a veteran starter, but those things that he has encountered already, he’s playing at a high level. He’s grading out as our top lineman at this point.”

Of the three offensive line newcomers, the one with the most responsibility, and pressure, has been Cave. He holds the job of identifying defensive looks and blitzes, as well as matching Crist’s cadence and snap count. Against Stanford, Cave said he did not do an adequate job at these tasks, and it cost the Irish.

“It was just the fact of holding onto [the ball] when I needed to so Dayne could see the blitzes coming,” Cave said. “In the Stanford game I didn’t do a good job of that. They were timing things up well. We just switched it up and worked on it every day in practice.”

Those growing pains have receded as Cave has gained more and more experience, in those 300 snaps, offensive line coach Ed Warinner said.

“Playing experience. Just being able to play, watching film, that has led to maturation in playing that position.”

Against Boston College, Cave missed a handful of snaps after rolling his ankle. In his place stepped junior Mike Golic, Jr. Golic is also the back-up at right guard, behind Robinson.

“[Backing up two positions] helps me more than anything else,” Golic said. “Knowing what I have to do at guard helps me know what I’m doing at center by knowing what the guy on either side of me is thinking.”

That level of comfort showed in his few snaps Saturday.

“There wasn’t a big drop-off between Cave and Golic,” Molnar said. “I’d say in the last five or six weeks, we’ve been commenting on how Mike has been getting a better understanding of the offense and being more physical.”

That confidence and depth will be necessary against Pittsburgh, a foe Kelly has faced each of the past three seasons.

“It’s a tough, physical defense, and again, they can do some very good things with their front four,” Kelly said of the Panthers. “They give great pressure on the quarterback with their front four.”

Fortunately for Kelly, the confidence his offensive line has gained has inspired some confidence in him.

“I feel pretty good at the offensive line,” Kelly said.
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