By LAURA McCRYSTAL

A delegation from Notre Dame, led by University President Fr. John Jenkins, will be present at the Vatican Sunday for the canonization of Blessed Brother André Bessette, a member of the Congregation of Holy Cross.

"I think [the canonization] is an opportunity not only to reflect on the person canonized, but also the call to holiness in all our lives," Jenkins said.

The first member of the Congregation of Holy Cross who will be proclaimed a saint, Bessette was born in Canada in 1845 and entered religious life at the age of 25, according to a University press release.

Bessette spent his 40 years as a Holy Cross brother serving as a doorman, janitor and sacristan at Montreal’s College of Notre Dame. In this position, he also received many poor and sick visitors. "He was a person of compassion," Jenkins said. "When people came to him, he would treat them with great compassion and kindness."

Bessette visited Notre Dame’s campus at least once during his life, Jenkins said, but his greatest connection to the University was in his devotion to Saint Joseph and his spiritual example. "I think the spirit of Brother André is closely connected with the spirit of Notre Dame in many ways — the spirit of welcome, community and compassion," Jenkins said. "Brother André had a very simple job of opening the door, but he made it into a real calling of holiness and I think we can all reflect on that."

Notre Dame’s delegation to Rome also includes University Provost Thomas Burish, Associate Vice President and Counselor to the President Fr. James McDonald and Notre Dame theology department Chair.

Gay student shares experience

By SARAH MERVOSH

After senior Brandon Buchanan decided to come out to the Notre Dame community as gay, he felt "surrounded and suffocated" by the heterosexual culture at the University.

Single-sex dorms, partials forcing his female friends to leave and talk of "ring by spring" felt overwhelming to Buchanan and he got severely depressed. "I had a really, really hard time," he said. "I wanted to drop out of school."

Buchanan said the process of coming out was challenging enough when it was done by choice. If someone had not invited him before he was ready, he "couldn’t imagine" what it would feel like.

The case of Rutgers University freshman Tyler Clementi, who committed suicide Sept. 22 after his roommate streamed a live encounter between Clementi and another male on the Internet, is one of several recent incidents that have raised questions about the level of acceptance on college campuses.

The Straight and Gay Alliance (SAGA) at Saint Mary’s College held a candle-light vigil last night in response to the recent suicides.

"The Rutgers situation was just horrifying. It was just one of those things that puts everything back into perspective," Karen Borja, SAGA president, said. "If it happened there, there is a possibility that it can happen here."

Borja said the vigil was meant to "show that Saint Mary’s cares," but also to give a voice to the issue and start a dialogue.

Buchanan said this kind of preemptive dialogue is exactly what the Notre Dame and Saint Mary's community needs. "You should never have to lose a person to have that conversation," he said.

Buchanan said he hasn’t heard many students discussing the issue since Clementi and other cases made headlines.

"I honestly don’t think Notre Dame people think it could happen here," he said. "And I would disagree."

Buchanan estimated there are about 200 people in the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) community at Notre Dame. Among those, he said about 150 are closeted students who could potentially be outed without their consent.

"There are people here who are completely unwilling to come out but are in these ten-
The Observer

Friday, October 14, 2010

In Brief

The exhibit “Parallel Currents: Highlights of the Ricardo Pau-Llosa Collection of Latin American Art” will be shown at The Snite Museum of Art. It will feature contemporary Latin American artworks from the collection of Ricardo Pau-Llosa, Cuban-American poet, critic, curator, professor and collector.

Selections from the William McGraw Photography Collection will be on display daily from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. in the Snite Museum of Art. The photographic styles range from straightforward documentation to surrealist. It will be shown in O’Shaughnessy Galleries II and III.

RecSports will offer 10 percent off all personal training packages on Monday. You can receive this discount on any Monday during the football season. Log in to RecRegister to sign up.

The “Even Fridays” event for Friday, Oct. 22 will be a Family Swim. Even Fridays is a program designed to meet the recreational needs of family, staff, graduate students, and their families. These events are held on the second and fourth Friday of every month. Remember to sign up through RecRegister.

On Sunday, Oct. 24 Family FIRST will host a climbing class in Rockne Memorial from 1 p.m. to 2 p.m. Family FIRST seeks to improve the mind, body, and spirit of Notre Dame’s families. Registration is required for all classes due to limited availability.

To submit information to be included in this section of The Observer, e-mail detailed information about an event to observers.nd@gmail.com.

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Collection to boost awareness of computer security threats, Saint Mary's College Information Technology will offer computer security awareness sessions Monday Oct. 25.

Kathy Hausmann, coordinator of student computing, said three sessions will be offered at noon, 4 p.m. and 7 p.m. to educate students, faculty and staff about the dangers of the Internet, as well as other computer security topics.

Hausmann said she would talk about malware, which is malicious software for the computer, as well as phishing, which is an attempt to acquire passwords or personal information illegally.

She will also talk about using file sharing programs like LimeWire, how to create effective passwords and Facebook privacy.

According to Hausmann, each time a computer is logged onto the Internet, it is vulnerable to a variety of threats.

“These are our tools for defense. Education is what can protect you.”

The Observer  ♦  CAMPUS NEWS

By ALICIA SMITH
Associate Saint Mary’s Editor

Contact Alicia Smith at asmith01@saintmarys.edu

Collection to give Internet security training sessions

By ALICIA SMITH
Associate Saint Mary’s Editor

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Contact Alicia Smith at asmith01@saintmarys.edu

Wednesday, October 27, 2010
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McKenna Hall Atrium & Auditorium

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- Great giveaways
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8:30 a.m: Vendor Fair open
9:00 a.m: Managing Risk at Microsoft
10:30 a.m: How To Protect Against Network-Borne Security Threats in 2010 and Beyond
12:45 p.m: Securing the Mobile, Virtual and Web 2.0 Landscape
2:00 p.m: A Parent’s Guide To Protecting Children Online
3:00 p.m: Fraud and Identity/Information Theft Risk Reduction and Investigations
4:00 p.m: Mobile Device Security Tips

For more information, visit: secure.nd.edu/securitymonth

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Collection to benefit Haiti

Students cheer during the Stanford game Sept. 25. At the Western Michigan game, a collection will be taken in honor of a former Holy Cross priest who is being canonized. Profits will benefit Haiti.

By LAUREN KELLY
News Writer

A collection will be taken during the second quarter of the Western Michigan game Saturday to support efforts by Notre Dame and the Congregation of Holy Cross to rebuild Haiti following January’s destructive earthquake.

The collection will be taken in honor of Blessed Brother André Bessette, who will become the first saint from the Congregation of Holy Cross to be canonized Oct. 17.

Mike Seamon, associate vice president of Campus Security, said the collection would be “a huge weekend celebration for the congregation.”

“This is the perfect way to celebrate the canonization of the first Holy Cross saint as well as make people aware of the rebuilding in Haiti,” Seamon said.

All donations from the collection will go to the efforts of the Holy Cross Missions in Haiti as they try to rebuild and administer to the needs of the people both physically and spiritually.

Over 300 students have volunteered their time to walk through the stands collecting donations. Many Holy Cross seminarians will also be participating in the stadium collection, which will take place during the first media timeout of the second quarter.

The collection will be a quick event that will only take about eight to 10 minutes, he said. Seamon said Notre Dame has only held two other game day collections, one after the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11, 2001 and another after Hurricane Katrina.

Students who volunteer to take collections will have the opportunity to take a VIP tour of the Notre Dame Stadium press box and locker room.

“It’s a small way to say ‘thank you’ for giving up their time at the game,” Seamon said.

Seamon added that he was impressed by the number of students who volunteered to take collections.

“It has been unbelievable how students rise to the occasion,” Seamon said. “Their generosity is truly inspiring.”

Contact Lauren Kelly at lkelly3@nd.edu
Members refocus toward on-campus programs

By MEGAN DOYLE
News Writer

Student Senate discussed shifting student government’s focus from off-campus issues to on-campus safety and programming during its meeting Wednesday.

“We are in a transitional period where the off-campus business has been a lot of our focus,” student body vice president Andrew Bell said. “We are trying to look back to on-campus issues.”

After members of student gov-ernment met with University leaders, South Bend law enforcement, the Prosecutor’s Office and mem-bers of the local community Tuesday, Student Senate discussed the results of the meeting.

The meeting focused on the ways students and members of the local community can protect against crime, student body presi-dent Catherine Soler said.

“But Soler said on-campus stu-dents should also remember to take small safety precautions, like locking the door to their rooms.

Bell said student government wants to focus more attention toward on-campus issues after so much discussion about off-campus arrests.

“This is definitely a conversation we can bring back to dorms,” Soler said. “We need to ask what we can do here to make our nightlife on campus a little livelier.”

Soler said the Student Activities Office (SAO) and student govern-ment have discussed late-night programming as a way to keep students on campus on weekend nights.

“We want to know if SAO set up programming from midnight to 2 a.m. if students would attend those events,” Soler said.

Student government will soon host a week for students to give their ideas and complaints in pub-lic places around campus.

“We should be setting up tables to ‘whine and dine’ in the dining halls,” she said.

Bell said well-rounded input can lead to the best decisions so stu-dent government encourages stu-dents to share their feedback.

“We really want to keep a pulse on how students are reacting to these events and stay updated on how students feel about them,” he said.

Members of Student Senate and other student government groups investigated other schools to gauge how they deal with commu-nity relations.

The ideas from that report will play a role in the next step for Notre Dame’s leaders, Soler said.

Contact Megan Doyle at mdoyle11@nd.edu

Groups ask Board for more funding

By ASHLEY CHARNLEY
Saint Mary’s Editor

Several Saint Mary’s clubs and organizations asked for more funding at the Student Government Association meet-ing Wednesday.

SGA recently gave out allot-ments, which is the amount of money each club or organization receives for the year to cover start-up costs for events.

The Board’s Finance Committee will take three of the five appeals into consideration.

Al-Zahra, a club representing the Middle Eastern and North African cultures, appealed the money allotted to it because funds were low following their first event, Kaitlyn Sahd, president of the club, said.

“The purpose of club is to try and raise awareness of Arabic culture and issues on Saint Mary’s campus,” Al-Zahra vice president Caroline Proulx said. “It’s an outlet for [Muslim students] to help them express their identity and what it truly means to be Muslim in the United States.”

The Board voted to have the allotment appealed and it will be presented to the Board again once the Finance Committee reviews it. Rachael Chesley, student body presi-dent, said.

Circle K, a club that encourages volunteering in the community, appealed their allot-ment as well. Club President Amanda Garrett said entrance fees to the national organization have changed, which made it harder for the club to host its usual events.

“We do a lot of volunteer activities throughout the year,” Garrett said. “We have parties for the Center for the Homeless and work with the convent here.”

The Board voted for the Finance Committee to review Circle K’s allotment.

The Social Work Club was the last to present their appeal to SGA. President Maria Kenney said she was concerned with the allotment because the club’s events don’t reach the minimum for spon-sorship through SGA and their estimated revenue from club dues was not as high as antici-pated.

Kenney said the club hosts events with Hope Ministries and St. Margaret’s House in South Bend during the year.

SGA voted to have their allot-ment reviewed by the Finance Committee.

Contact Ashley Charnley at acharn01@saintmarys.edu
Vatican
continued from page 1

Matthew Ashley

The delegation will arrive in Rome Sunday morning to attend the canonization and remain in Rome until Wednesday, during which time Jenkins said they would attend other Masses and celebrations for Bessette.

In addition to attending the series of Vatican events surrounding Bessette, the Notre Dame delegation will meet with Vatican officials, Jenkins said. These meetings include work with the Vatican’s Office of Christian Unity regarding Notre Dame’s Tanur Ecumenical Institute in the Holy Land.

While Jenkins and the Notre Dame delegation are in Rome, on-campus events will also honor Bessette.

Fr. Peter Rocca, rector of the Basilica of the Sacred Heart, said all three Masses in the Basilica Sunday would honor Bessette. Rocca said Bishop Kevin Rhoades gave permission for the University to celebrate the canonization with readings and prayers that differ from the ordinary Sunday schedule.

“Some of the readings and the prayers of the Mass will be taken from the texts for the Feast of Brother Andrew,” Rocca said. “We will also have special prayers in his honor that will be sung.”

The University will also celebrate the Mass of Bessette in every residence hall Oct. 31, followed by a special night of prayer at the grotto in honor of the newly canonized saint Nov. 1, Rocca said.

“This is the first saint of the Congregation of Holy Cross, and because of that it’s more important that the University celebrate his canonization, and that our students in particular come to know who this holy man of a very humble heart was,” he said.

Contact Laura McCrystal at lmccryst@nd.edu

LGBT
continued from page 1

thing could happen,” he said.

Another issue that played a role in recent publicized suicide cases among gay teens was bullying and harassment.

“Being a teen is general hard for everyone,” he said. “Every teen wants to be normal.”

But fitting in can be more difficult for gay teens that often experience bullying and harassment. Buchanan said teens tend to react emotionally and think the mistreatment will never end.

“You assume that the way you’re treated in high school is the way you are going to be treated always,” he said. Buchanan said this helplessness is a significant factor in the choice to commit suicide and gay teens need role models who can tell them that it will get easier.

“No matter where you go, homophobia will be there. However, your ability to handle it, your self-confidence and your own knowledge will grow as you get older,” Buchanan said. You just have to survive the pain that you feel now and know that it will get better.”

Another factor is the fear that they would lose their support system. In particular, Buchanan said many worry they will lose the unconditional love of their parents if they come out.

“People don’t understand how much love you can lose,” Buchanan said. “I always feel uncomfortable with ‘Do you have a girlfriend?’” he said.

Buchanan suggested using “inclusive language” by asking questions like, “Do you have a significant other?”

Borja asked students to be tolerant of the LGBT community at Notre Dame and Saint Mary’s.

“Coming out is something really profound. It’s like the essence of a person. If you can’t respect that, what can you respect?” she said. “There just needs to be more tolerance for other human beings.”

Buchanan said change is slowly occurring at Notre Dame and regards to accepting the LGBT community, but that does not mean the University is immune to tragedies like those that have occurred throughout the nation.

“Do I think that we’re making progress? Yes,” she said. “But could it still happen here? Yes.”

Contact Sarah Mervosh at smervosh@nd.edu

Pro-life
continued from page 1

A five-person committee, which includes Solomon, Notre Dame Professors Fr. Wilson Miscamble, Carter Snead and Daniel Philpott and Associate Director of the Center of Ethics and Culture Elizabeth Kirk, controls the fund.

The Fund will announce the Evangelium Vitae Medal recipient each year on Respect Life Sunday, Solomon said, and award it on the Feast of the Annunciation, which falls on March 25, 2013.

The award includes a $10,000 prize and a special commission medal, according to the press release.

This medal is part of a larger initiative by the Fund to Protect Human Life, which will be formally announced within the next six weeks.

“We’re starting a big new pro-life initiative in general, and we’re going to call it the Project Guadalupe,” Solomon said. “It’s a project that will both involve education efforts here at Notre Dame and research efforts. The initiative will encourage programs such as an annual life seminar on Notre Dame’s campus, a number of courses about life in the Notre Dame curriculum and a two-year master’s degree and service program based on pro-life work, Solomon said.

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Rory McVeigh
Professor and Chair, Department of Sociology

12 Noon
Saturday, October 16, 2010
Annenberg Auditorium
Snite Museum of Art

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WASHINGTON — Eager to protect their politically vulnerable Senate leader, Democrats plan to sink more than $2 million into Harry Reid’s home state of Nevada in the final weeks of the campaign, but have begun scaling back in Missouri where polls show their candidate trailing.

The adjustments, described by officials from both parties, come as Republican-leaning outside groups maintain a drumbeat of advertising in both states as well as in other key battlegrounds.

In the contest for control of the House, Republican-aligned groups are planning a $50 million advertising drive, an extraordinary surge of spending aimed at keeping Democrats on the defensive.

Reid is trying to overcome a strong re-election challenge from tea party-backed Republican Sharron Angle, who reported raising $14 million in the last three months. And the committee charged with electing Senate Democrats has reserved airtime to help Reid withstand a barrage of negative advertising from GOP-aligned groups, according to the officials, who spoke on condition of anonymity because they do not discuss strategy publicly.

Democrats also are spending considerably less than they had planned in Missouri this week, where Democrat Robin Carnahan is struggling in her race against Republican Rep. Roy Blunt. Democrats have cut airtime reservations for the state in the next two weeks, too, but they still could decide to run ads during that period.

The shifts in strategy illustrate the volatile nature of the political landscape in the closing days of the election. Candidates and outside groups are setting records for spending. In House contests, Republican-allied organizations are broadening the field by injecting money against House Democrats that the party had not counted as their most vulnerable.

The Democrats’ chances of winning Senate seats currently held by Republicans in Missouri, Florida, Ohio and New Hampshire have dwindled. Polls show GOP candidates in the lead. Democrat Jack Conway in Kentucky also is lagging Republican Rand Paul, but Senate Democrats still are spending money in the state. They say Conway still has a strong chance of winning.
NEWARK, Del. — Republican Senate hopeful Christine O’Donnell is dismissing comments she’s made over the years on religious and social issues such as evolution, sexual abstinence and homosexuality, saying they’re not relevant to the campaign.

Squaring off against Democrat Chris Coons in a nationally televised debate, O’Donnell said Delaware voters want to hear about job creation and spending, not comments she made as a television commentator long ago.

She refused to say if she still believes evolution is a myth, as she has said in the past.

Coons, a county executive, argued that O’Donnell owes voters an explanation. He said her remarks are directly related to how she would serve in the Senate, citing Supreme Court nominations as an example of where they might come into play.

The 90-minute debate was held at the University of Delaware and moderated by CNN’s Wolf Blitzer. The network carried the first hour of the debate.

Brigham opened the debate by vouching for O’Donnell, an extremist who would promote partisanship instead of compromise. O’Donnell, a tea party favorite, shot back that Coons would be a “rubber stamp” for Democrats in Washington. He’s had two priorChance.

One light moment was provid-

ded by Coons, who, pointed out the major differences in opinion between Coons and O’Donnell. He asserted that the two candidates had different views on a number of issues, including evolution, sexual abstinence, and homosexuality.

O’Donnell insisted that she had never believed in the theory of evolution, and that she had only ever discussed homosexuality as a personal belief, not as a political issue. Coons disagreed, saying that he believed those issues were important and should be discussed.

Despite their differences, the two candidates agreed on some points, such as the need for job creation and spending cuts. They also both expressed support for the Affordable Care Act, or Obamacare.

O’Donnell made it clear that she believed in the importance of protecting the rights of women and minorities, and that she would fight for these issues as a senator. Coons, on the other hand, stated that he believed in the importance of protecting the rights of all Americans, regardless of their gender or ethnicity.

The debate ended with both candidates expressing enthusiasm for their respective positions and for the future of the country. O’Donnell spoke about the need for a strong economy and increased educational opportunities, while Coons spoke about the need for stronger national security and a more prosperous future for all Americans.

In summary, the debate was an interesting and informative exchange between two candidates with different views on a number of issues. However, it was clear that both candidates were committed to representing the people of Delaware in Washington and working towards a better future for the country.
Ethnic hate crime case wraps up

Associated Press

SCRANTON, Pa. — Two young men were filled with alcohol and testosterone — and, as prosecutors charge, ethnic hatred — when they took part in the fatal beating of a Mexican immigrant two years ago.

Now it’s up to a jury to decide whether they are guilty of a federal hate crime.

Jury deliberations will begin Thursday in the trial of former high school football players Brandon Piekarsky and Derrick Donchak, charged in the July 2008 death of a 25-year-old illegal immigrant in the small town of Shenandoah.

In her summation to the all-white jury, Justice Department prosecutor Myesha Braden said Wednesday that Donchak, now 20, and Piekarsky, now 18, were motivated by their dislike of Shenandoah’s growing Hispanic population when they beat and kicked Luis Ramirez during a random late-night encounter in a park. An Air Force officer, Donchak, said the young men joked about what they had done and plotted to lie to the police.

“They showed no remorse that night ... no sense of responsibility for having beat- en a man to the point of death,” Braden said.

The defendants, along with two of their friends who have already pleaded guilty, “acted as a team,” she said. “As a team they issued racial slurs and threats and slurs. They told their team they issued racial hatred — when they beat Ramirez, they lied to the police. They said they didn’t even know Ramirez lived in Shenandoah.”

Donchak and Piekarsky were charged in federal court with violating Ramirez’s civil rights after an all-white jury in Schuylkill County cleared them of serious state charges last year.

Prosecutors allege that Piekarsky delivered a fatal kick to Ramirez’s head after he’d been knocked unconscious by another teen, Colin Walsh, who pleaded guilty in federal court and testified against his former friends last week.

Donchak took part in the fight and then conspired with Shenandoah police to cover up the crime, federal prosecutors say. The accused officers are scheduled to go on trial early next year.

Both defendants are charged under criminal provisions of the Fair Housing Act, while Donchak faces additional counts related to the cover-up. The hate crime charge carries a maximum sentence of life in prison.

As they have all along, defense attorneys insisted Wednesday that the fight stemmed from youthful aggression — not ethnic hatred.

“Brandon Piekarsky is not, nor has he ever been, a racist,” said James Swetz, Piekarsky’s attorney.

He ridiculed the government’s theory that Donchak and Piekarsky intended to deprive Ramirez of his federally protected housing rights, saying they didn’t even know that Ramirez lived in Shenandoah.

The fight began late in the evening of July 12, 2008, when a half-dozen drunken teens, all football players at Shenandoah Valley High School, were walking home from a block party and came across Ramirez and his 15-year-old girlfriend in a park.

A verbal altercation escalated into a wild melee, with punch- ing, kicking, punching, punching, with Ramirez’s head after a terrorist attack.

Shenandoah.

The incoming Marine commandant, Gen. James Amos, and his predecessor, Gen. James Conway, both have told Congress that they think most Marines would be reinstated, I’d be the first one in the door.

Arbury, now a university student, “If I was to hear news that automatically everything would be reinstated, I’d be the first one in the door.

Arbury said he wants to know “If I was to hear news that automatically everything would be reinstated, I’d be the first one in the door.

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Arbury was passed, yet there remains a powerful rhetorical weapon for opponents of lifting the ban — fear that the military would reintegrate gay ex-soldiers: “If I go back in I want to know, ‘Do I get my rank back? Do I get any dam- ages or compensation?’”

The uncertainty extended overseas. When asked by a reporter whether the Pentagon had had any impact yet, a two-star U.S. Army com- mander in eastern Afghanistan suggested he was unsure anything would change and it was unlikely that his soldiers even knew about the court order.

“If that law is changed, they’ll abide by the law,” but “That’s why I think the right thing from their mind” as they fight, said Maj. Gen. John W. Thomson, the commander of the 101st Airborne Division.

The Justice Department is considering whether to appeal the ruling, which is currently under review in Riverside, Calif., to seek a temporary or permanent freeze. If Phillips turns down the request, the Justice Department probably would then turn to the federal appeals court in California.

If the government does appeal, that would put the fate of the law in the position of continuing to defend a law it opposes.

White House press secre- tary Robert Gibbs said time is running out for the ban on gays serving openly.

“This is a policy that is going to end,” he said.

Gates, who supports lifting the ban once the Pentagon puts in place a plan for mini- mizing disruptions, said that besides developing new train- ing for troops, regulations will have to be revised.

Gates and Adm. Mike Mullen, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, face disagree- ment by some senior general officers on whether lifting the ban would cause serious disrup- tion at a time when troops are fighting in Afghanistan and winding down a long war in Iraq.

The incoming Marine com- mander, Gen. James Amos, and his predecessor, Gen. James Conway, both have told Congress that they think most Marines would be discharged, said that including a survey of how the troops feel, which he says is “impressive for Congress — and only that repeal should be a ques- tion of how the troops feel, which he says is “impressive for Congress — and only that repeal should be a ques- tion of how the troops feel, which he says is “impressive for Congress — and only that repeal should be a ques- tion of how the troops feel, which he says is “impressive for Congress — and only that repeal should be a ques- tion of how the troops feel, which he says is “impressive for Congress — and only that repeal should be a ques- tion of how the troops feel, which he says is “impressive for Congress — and only that repeal should be a ques- tion of how the troops feel, which he says is “impressive for Congress — and only that repeal should be a ques- tion of how the troops feel, which he says is “impressive for Congress — and only that repeal should be a ques- tion of how the troops feel, which he says is “impressive for Congress — and only that repeal should be a ques- tion of how the troops feel, which he says is “impressive for Congress — and only that repeal should be a ques- tion of how the troops feel, which he says is “impressive for Congress — and only that repeal should be a ques- tion of how the troops feel, which he says is “impressive for Congress — and only that repeal should be a ques- tion of how the troops feel, which he says is “impressive for Congress — and only that repeal should be a ques- tion of how the troops feel, which he says is “impressive for Congress — and only that repeal should be a ques- tion of how the troops feel, which he says is “impressive for Congress — and only that repeal should be a ques- tion of how the troops feel, which he says is “impressive for Congress — and only that repeal should be a ques- tion of how the troops feel, which he says is “impressive for Congress — and only that repeal should be a ques- tion of how the troops feel, which he says is “impressive for Congress — and only that repeal should be a ques- tion of how the troops feel, which he says is “impressive for Congress — and only that repeal should be a ques- tion of how the troops feel, which he says is “impressive for Congress — and only that repeal should be a ques- tion of how the troops feel, which he says is “impressive for Congress — and only that repeal should be a ques- tion of how the troops feel, which he says is “impressive for Congress — and only that repeal should be a ques- tion of how the troops feel, which he says is “impressive for Congress — and only that repeal should be a ques- tion of how the troops feel, which he says is “impressive for Congress — and only that repeal should be a ques- tion of how the troops feel, which he says is “impressive for Congress — and only that repeal should be a ques- tion of how the troops feel, which he says is “impressive for Congress — and only that repeal should be a ques- tion of how the troops feel, which he says is “impressive for Congress — and only that repeal should be a ques- tion of how the troops feel, which he says is “impressive for Congress — and only that repeal should be a ques- tion of how the troops feel, which he says is “impressive for Congress — and only that repeal should be a ques- tion of how the troops feel, which he says is “impressive for Congress — and only that repeal should be a ques- tion of how the troops feel, which he says is “impressive for Congress — and only that repeal should be a ques-”
Hats off to Judge Phillips

A federal judge recently took an enormous step towards correcting one of the most heinous injustices present in our society. On Tuesday, United States District Judge Virginia Phillips issued an injunction ordering the government to immediately cease enforcement of the military’s “don’t ask, don’t tell” policy regarding openly gay U.S. soldiers serving in the armed forces.

The policy, introduced as a compromise between Democrats and Republicans in 1993, stated that while gay soldiers were forbidden from serving in the military, no one was to be asked about his or her sexual orientation, thus essentially allowing gay men and women to serve, so long as they did not reveal their sexuality. However, the law required that any soldier who did come out as openly gay while serving in the armed forces be immediately discharged from the military. Thanks to the courageous actions of Judge Phillips, no one will ever again be subjected to this egregious injustice.

“Don’t ask, don’t tell” is a bad policy and a bad law. Since the policy was enacted 17 years ago, more than 13,000 soldiers have been discharged for revealing their sexual orientation. In an era when this country is fighting multiple wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, it’s not exactly a wise decision to disqualify any man or woman who is willing and able to serve, especially given the well-documented recruiting difficulties that the armed forces have faced in recent years. What’s more, many of the original architects behind “don’t ask, don’t tell” have since disavowed the policy or acknowledged that it is unjust and counterproductive.

Three current and former chairmen of the joint chiefs of staff have come out against the policy, as has Defense Secretary Robert Gates (a Republican) and Presidents Bill Clinton and Barack Obama. In addition, the idea that having openly gay soldiers serving in the military would decrease troop morale and negatively affect unit cohesion has been definitively debunked and refuted, as more and more people continue to acknowledge the extraordinary contribution and sacrifice that gay men and women have made to the defense of our country.

Conservatives will undoubtedly decry the ruling as yet another example of “judicial activism,” that is, of an unelected judge legislating from the bench and overturning the will of the people. It is a charge that has been leveled countless times throughout this nation’s history, by politicians on both sides of the aisle. These politicians have used the specter of “judicial activism” to attack such historic rulings as Brown v. Board of Education, Roe v. Wade and Citizen’s United v. Federal Election Commission. Most recently, the charge was lobbed at Judge Vaughn Walker, whose brilliant ruling in California nullified that state’s grossly unconstitutional ban on same-sex marriages. The truth is that judicial activism is not the monstrous evil that some politicians make it out to be. As evidenced by each of those rulings, it is often the only way in which the rigid partisan-ship of Congress can be overcome so that bad laws can be thrown out. In the case of “don’t ask, don’t tell,” Congress attempted to hold a vote on repealing the policy several weeks ago, but obstructionist grandstanding and special interests prevented the bill from coming to the floor. Thanks to the courageous ruling of Judge Phillips, the 17 year wait for gay service members and women is over, and no one will ever again have to hide their true identity in order to serve their country in the military. Hats off to Judge Phillips, an extraordinary woman who was not afraid to stand up and do the right thing.

Ryan Williams is a recruit coordinator for the University. He can be reached at rwil20@nd.edu

The views expressed in this column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer.
I spent Fall Break of my senior year studying for the LSAT’s. A waste. Not a waste in that I would have preferred Florida with my friends, though this was certainly true. But a waste in the sense that, if my Fall Break activity foolishly got me enrolled in law school, and
2) I spent precisely one month there before running out the back door, con-fused, depressed and completely lost. All and that good beach time lost forev-er.

This utterly wasted week of my life is just one of the reasons I am so captivated by the odd story of the little man who will be canonized this weekend in Rome as the first Holy Cross saint — Brother André Bessette. He’s one of the prodigious accomplishments. Not a waste in that I would have pre-

I thoroughly enjoyed Ms. Zorb’s critique of my essay (“The ration-ality of dining hall guilt.” Oct. 13). However, I feel she should be — to paraphrase myself — irrationally bothered by my suggestion that we should not feel guilty about waste in the dining hall. First, I would hope she realized that absorbing students from their waste was not the point of my article. That aspect was about two short and two simple days, and it was not meant as a study of waste and its harmful effects. Ms. Zorb should notice the title is not “On Waste and how it affects African children.”

Second, there is a difference between feeling guilty and realizing that waste could have harmful effects on others. In my opinion, one does not need to feel guilty to realize that waste can be harmful, and that one should alter their behavior to minimize these effects. Much like my Catholic elementary school teachers, Ms. Zorb sees guilt as a motivator, however, I do not see that connection. If guilt motivates you to do the right thing, Ms. Zorb, I encourage you to keep feeling guilty. I, however, do not need guilt to know that I should limit my waste.

Perhaps my example was poor and, obviously, no one should waste food just for the sake of doing it. At a school grounded in Christian thought, one does not do the right thing because he or she feels guilty; one does it because it is right. Guilt has nothing to do with it.

Furthermore, I would caution her from making sweeping state-ments such as “resources like gasoline, whose carbon emissions are contributing to global climate change, which is having the largest negative effects where? … Africa” without citing any research. Ms. Zorb’s argument is meant to be a study of waste and its harmful effects. Ms. Zorb should note the title is not “On Waste and how it affects African children.”

As a freshman, I regularly ate breakfast at Centennial Hall. In the dining hall I would witness students who were preoccupied with something other than food. Some would engage in conversations with friends. It required obliviously loud screams and boisterous hand gestures to rouse them from their technolog-ical stupor. Even after a couple of weeks, they were unwilling to communicate and quickly returned to the digital domain.

This experience is a manifestation of “the screen invasion,” a term coined by Matt Richtel, a technolo-gy reporter for The New York Times. The term describes the ubiquity of technological gadgets con-stantly inundating us with information. Significantly, our constant use of technology is influ-encing us in unforeseen ways. Current research is unearthing both its cognitive and behavioral effects.

Technology has effectively become a necessity for anyone who wishes to survive in contemporary society, and it certainly has its perks. Does it make us more productive? Sure it can — if you’re careful.

According to a 2009 Stanford University study, truly productive multitasking is far more challenging than previously thought. The problem, says the study, is that “processing multiple incoming streams of information is considered a challenge for human cognition.” This is because “the more one multitasks, the more difficult it becomes to filter out irrelevant information.”

With our cell phones, iPads, Laptops, video games, Kindles — the various mediums of entertainment currently available — we are in a state of constant over-invasion, a term coined by Matt Richtel. The reality is that technology in our life is inevitable. However, rather than completely discon-necting, we should be creating downtime that allows us to relax and not think about the buzz in our pocket or the e-mail in our inbox. Perhaps it is as simple as sitting down and enjoying your break-

This article first appeared in the Oct. 13 edition of The Minnesota Daily, the publica-tion serving the University of Minnesota. The views expressed in this column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer.
### On-campus MOVIES

**By MARIELLE HAMPE**  
Scene Writer

If you’re looking for an action-packed adventure with dynamic characters, intense plot and violence then stop by DeBartolo Performing Arts Center on Fall Break to see “The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo” and its sequel, “The Girl Who Played with Fire.” The Los Angeles Times called “Dragon Tattoo” a “mind-bending and mesmerizing thriller that takes its time unlocking one mystery only to uncover another, all to chilling and immensely satisfying effect.”

The two movies are adapted from Swedish journalist Stieg Larsson’s internationally best-selling “Millenium” trilogy. Larsson died at the age of 50 before his novels were published.

The movies were originally filmed in Sweden and have English subtitles. The filming of an American version of “The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo” began recently in Sweden starring Daniel Craig (“James Bond”) and Rooney Mara (“The Social Network”).

In “The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo,” known as “Men Who Hate Women” in its original Swedish version, computer hacker Lisbeth Salander (played by Noomi Rapace) and journalist Mikael Blomkvist (played by Michael Nyqvist) team up to solve a murder mystery.

Forty years ago, Harriet Vanger disappeared from the island her powerful family owns, and her uncle is convinced a family member murdered her. He employs Lisbeth and Mikael to investigate.

As they delve into Harriet’s disappearance, they uncover a number of grotesque murders and reveal dark secrets about the Vanger family. The movie has an ample supply of violence, sex and gore, and it explores the themes of feminism and sexual violence against women.

“The Girl Who Played with Fire” is the next installment in Larsson’s trilogy. Mikael, the journalist, is about to publish a story that will link many well-known Swedish society members to an extensive sex trafficking operation between Sweden and Eastern Europe. Lisbeth wants to get involved in Mikael’s story because she is a rape victim, but she is unexpectedly accused of three murders.

As Lisbeth and Mikael separately try to clear her name, the first movie’s themes of violence and sex become prevalent once again.

Highly dramatic and provocative, these movies are racy and fast-paced thrillers, and a good way to close the sleepy fall break if you’re stuck on campus.

For more information about upcoming events at DeBartolo Performing Arts Center, including “Halloween Bugs,” a tribute to classic Halloween-themed Warner Brothers and Looney Tunes cartoons, visit performingarts.nd.edu.

Contact Marielle Hampe at mhampe@nd.edu

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### Off-campus MOVIES

**Kevin Noonan**  
Scene Writer

Back in the day, they only had one theater in this town and it only showed “Bridge Over the River Kwai” and “The Alamo.” And they had to walk five miles uphill both way in the snow with no shoes or socks.

In the happening, expansive metropolis of South Bend and the surrounding area, there is a plethora of theater options (three), each showing a variety of excellent films worth seeing. Here’s a quick look at where to go and what to see this Fall Break.

**Theaters:**

- **AMC Showplace South Bend 16** – 450 W. Chippewa, South Bend  
- **Cinemark Movies 14** – 910 W. Edison, Mishawaka  
- **Cinemark Movies 6** (second-run dollar theater) – 6424 N. Grape, Mishawaka

**Movies:**

- **“Hereafter”** – Clint Eastwood makes good movies. It opens this Friday.
- **“Red”** – Bruce Willis, Morgan Freeman and John Malkovich come together for an action comedy. It may not be “Die Hard,” but anywhere you have, see it again. Showing at the dollar theater.
- **“The Social Network”** – Here’s a movie about a tool at Harvard (redundant?) who made a lot of money by stealing ideas from a bunch of people.

Few plotlines are true to real life.

**The Town** – An ensemble cast of fantastic actors with an intriguing storyline, this action drama is receiving a lot of early Oscar buzz.

**Secretariat** – My Computer Essentials teacher freshman year of high school said Secretariat was the greatest athlete in sports history. That is patently false; horses aren’t athletes, and besides, horse racing is barely a sport. But Secretariat was still kind of a big deal.

**Toy Story 3** – If you haven’t seen it, see it. If you have, see it again. Showing at the dollar theater.

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

Kevin Noonan can be reached at knoonan2@nd.edu

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### Scene Staff Report

North and South Dining Halls close their doors and turn off their ovens after the post-game candlelight dinner on Saturday. Students have a few options for food, stock up on Grab ‘n Go, limited-hour establishments in LaFortune or perhaps the restaurants at Eddy Street Commons. For those with the means to go off campus, there are many options for a taste of everything on the menu is delicious and totally affordable.

**Breakfast:**

- **Uptown Kitchen** – 303 Florence Avenue, Granger

Uptown Kitchen is a local eatery from the folks behind the newly-opened The Mark at Eddy Street Commons. Uptown Kitchen has a little bit of everything, but is especially known for its breakfast food — for those who like to sleep in, make sure to request the “Lula’s Dip” with your eggs and wash it all down with one of their many flavors of iced tea.

**Lunch:**

- **Lula’s** – 1631 Edison Road, South Bend

Within walking distance of Notre Dame, Lula’s is a great place to chill out and maybe do some homework. Along with their fresh sandwiches, make sure to request “Lula’s Dip” with your chips and wash it all down with one of their many flavors of iced tea.

**Dinner:**

- **Fiddler’s Hearth** – 527 North St. Louis Boulevard, South Bend

Make sure you bring along your other campus-breaking friends with you to one of South Bend’s finest pizza places, because the portions are huge. Start off with some salad and cheesy garlic bread, then buckle down for a delicious pizza. Their dough is thin yet soft, and 100 percent delicious.

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### Late-night Dining hall alternatives

- **Roo’s** – 127 North Main Street, South Bend

Fiddler’s Heath is an Irish pub located in downtown South Bend. The menu features British favorites, from fish and chips to Welsh rarebit, and American classics, like burgers and sandwiches. The pub often hosts local musicians at open mic nights. For those of age, Fiddler’s has a variety of great imported beers on tap, including Guinness, Smithwick’s, Harp, Hoegaarden and Hacker-Pschorr. Best of all, everything on the menu is delicious and totally affordable.
A sneak peek at Scene Around the World

Thursday, October 14, 2010

What do LeBron James, Kobe Bryant and Kevin Garnett have in common? All three played on Amateur Athletic Union (AAU) teams before rising to stardom. But the path to NBA greatness is far from smooth, with greed, corruption and crushed hopes along the way. “Play Their Hearts Out: A Coach, His Star Recruit, and the Youth Basketball Machine,” a new book by George Dohrmann, sets out to expose the dark underbelly of the AAU system.

Dohrmann, a Pulitzer Prize winner and alumnus of Notre Dame, will be at the Hammes Bookstore Saturday from 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. for a book signing. A member of the class of 1995, Dohrmann is an investigative journalist for Sports Illustrated. Beginning in 2000, he spent eight years chronicling the Inland Stars, a team of talented young players led by coach Joe Keller.

Dohrmann met Keller while working on an article about corruption in professional basketball. Though the article failed to provoke change, Dohrmann was determined to dig deeper into the closed-off world of grassroots basketball, where children as young as 8 or 9 years old are scrutinized and exploited for their potential.

He came to Keller with a proposal: allow him unfettered access, and he wouldn’t publish anything until the boys were in college. Keller agreed.

The result is “Play Their Hearts Out,” and Dohrmann says nothing. Keller is depicted as a mercurial, self-serving coach who is the center of Keller’s Inland Stars. In fact, Keller comes to treat Walker as a son, brother and colleague, depending on his mood. The other players look up to Walker as a guiding force in the team — the glue holding them together.

The Inland Stars win and lose and players come and go. This is real life and disappointment is inevitable. There is something surreal in finding these young people in very young.grown-ups situations, but they deal with life’s challenges maturely, and there is a noticeable change in the way the boys carry themselves after eight years.

Ultimately, not everyone lands a scholarship, but otherwise, the kids have what they weren’t getting” from the more experienced writers.

Dohrmann. “Talking to the boys and their parents, going down and seeing them all the time, it’s something that I’ve lived with for eight years,” he said.

The quality of his writing shows it. The story is gripping, the pacing is fluid, and the characters are vivid. Even at over 400 pages, Dohrmann is able to maintain our interest. He carefully avoids sensationalism, doing his best to preserve a journalistic objectivity. At times the particulars of the game and the system get in the way of the characters, but otherwise the book strikes a winning balance between the two.

Dohrmann began his “vocational training” as a journalist at The Observer during his time at Notre Dame.

“I just wrote and wrote and wrote … it really helped me find my voice as a writer,” he said. “It was a great job.”

Dohrmann said he had “an itch … for another longer project.” As his first is already receiving significant attention, this seems likely. Highly recommended for basketball fans and anyone looking for a well-researched, in-depth true story. “Play Their Hearts Out” will leave readers thinking, both about the grassroots systems, and professional sports in general. As Demetrius Walker said, “a lot of people are going to be watching now because of this.”

Contact Ward Pettibone at wpettibone@nd.edu

By WARD PETTIBONE
Scene Writer

The London Undergraduate Program places us at the intersection of day-to-day academic life and nightlife. Our time has been characterized by trips to the Continent (aka the rest of Europe) and exploring, or should I say, laying around the famous pub scene. I have spent entire days exploring Trafalgar Square, sitting through the National Gallery or grabbing a pint at the Iovetin with my professor.

One of the most spectacular nights I spent was on the South Bank watching fireworks explode over the River Thames.

Truly “The World’s City,” London is a place like no other, from its glittering skyscrapers to the majesty of Parliament, London takes the cake as one of the world’s most beautiful cities. Notre Dame students have taken full advantage of all the city has to offer.

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Nick Weidt, a Notre Dame junior, is currently in the United Kingdom. He can be reached at nweidt@nd.edu
Alumni and Knott square off on Thursday night against Sorin, the two dorms will take place at 8:30 p.m under the Thursday lights at LaBar Fields.

The spirited rivalry between the two dorms will take place at 8:30 p.m next Thursday night lights at LaBar Fields.

Morrissey vs. Siegfried

In a highly anticipated match-up, Siegfried will square off against Morrissey tonight with playoff implications on the line. The Ramblers (2-1) were outscored in a tough battle last week against Alumni. Unfortunately for Siegfried, the game was not the only thing they lost. A plethora of starters, including senior quarterback Matt Meinert, were injured, resulting in an interesting game plan for the Ramblers heading into their biggest game so far for the season.

“We have been making sure our new starters get more reps now that they have been taking over for the injured players,” Siegfried said.

St. Edward’s running back Sean Philbin is brought down by two Fisher linemen during Sunday’s game.

Dawgs wish to get better in certain key areas, Sullivan said.

“We actually lost another receiver to a knee injury so that definitely affects us,” Oloriz said. “We will probably stick with the run game more than we would like to.”

As a last resort to help them pull out their first win, the Zahmbies have been spending a lot of time in the film room to prepare for St. Edward’s.

“We have been watching Rudy a lot,” Pomereneck said.

The spirited rivalry between the two dorms will make for an exciting game. After the last game, the Zahmbies have clinched a spot in the playoffs and contain them.”

“I think we can play good defense offensively and pass-heavy defenses but theirs is pretty balanced,” Sullivan said.

“It will be a lot of fun if we do and we win.”

The Zahmbies have been working to improve their offense throughout the season, and Pomerenke said Thursday night could be their breakthrough game. Since it will be the Zahm seniors’ last game this season, the upperclassmen hope to pass the torch to the younger teammates.

“We have a lot of inspired young kids on the team and I think they’re going to step up,” Pomerenke said. “There are only a few years of interhall experience left ahead of them, and interhall is where division is determined.”

The Gentlemen (1-2) on the other hand have had their confidence rocked this season. With multiple injuries, difficulty executing offensively and a pair of upsetting losses, St. Edward’s is not in the position it had hoped for. Junior captain Jay Males cited making mental mistakes as two of the Gentlemen’s biggest obstacles this season.

Despite that win, the Otters captain Bobby Sullivan said his team has an unortho-

“We’ve been using mouse traps during practice, it helps keep us on our toes [on offense].”

Bobby Sullivan

“I don’t think it’s going to die off at all.”

Knot, of the other hand, is playing for nothing but bragging rights. Though their postseason hopes are dashed, Juggerknots junior captain Alex Oloriz said his team would come out with a lot of heart, as they look to notch their first win.

“We’re trying to work as hard as we can and just bring our best to the season,” Shaffer said. “I don’t think it’s going to die off at all.”

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Favre injures elbow threatens starting record

Associated Press

EDEN PRAIRIE, Minn. — Brett Favre's latest problem is his elbow.

With the NFL investigating whether he sent lewd photos of himself to a Jets game hostess while he played for New York in 2008, Favre said Wednesday that his cherished, league-record streak of 289 straight starts could be in danger if the pain in his right elbow gets any worse.

The 41-year-old quarterback did not practice with Minnesota on Wednesday, preferring to rest the tendinitis that flared up noticeably on Monday night in the Vikings 29-20 loss to the Jets.

"I don't want to play just to play," Favre said. "It's kind of a funny injury. It could flare up and get worse.

"It's even more adversity for Favre this season, which so far has been anything but a repeat of last year's charmed stretch. The 41-year-old quarterback has always managed to keep his focus on the game, often delivering some of his best performances along the way.

"I think he's really handling it well. I really do," said Vikings coach Brad Childress said "I am not overly concerned about where he's at with the investigation, that hampered him against the Jets last week."

Favre's preparation "may even be better" now than it's ever been, with the investigation ongoing, Favre said his mental state "is what it is. But I see a guy that is here ready and prepared."

"The guy is so resilient, he's handled it really well," Favre said Wednesday that it was his elbow, not the investigation, that hampered him against the Jets. "I think he's handled it really well."

Favre said he will "be smart" with his practice reps this week to rest his elbow as much as possible, all while trying to quickly forge a connection with new receiver Randy Moss.

He feels "very good about the preparation" this week to face a desperate Cowboys team that needs a win as much as the Vikings do.

As for the investigation, said Childress on Monday night: "We can't afford to have it carry over the rest of the season."

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As for the investigation, said Childress on Monday night: "We can't afford to have it carry over the rest of the season."

Deadspin report played no factor in his performance. Favre said his preparation and focus "may even be better" now than it's ever been.

Favre has been through tough times before.

"I don't mean to minimize it. It's his elbow," Childress said. "I don't want to play just to play."

"You're not going to make every throw but I would have made some of those throws," Favre said.

He insisted yet again that the allegations from a Deadspin report played no factor in his performance. Favre said his preparation and focus "may even be better" now than it's ever been.

"The guy is so resilient, he's handled it really well," Favre said Wednesday that it was his elbow, not the investigation, that hampered him against the Jets. "I think he's handled it really well."

Favre missed several wide open receivers on throws "that I could have made blindfolded" were it not for the pain in his elbow.

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As for the investigation, said Childress on Monday night: "We can't afford to have it carry over the rest of the season."
The Irish have had three successful tournaments over the last three weeks and are finally enjoying a few days off the course this weekend before facing their toughest competition so far at the end of fall break.

After competing the past three weekends we will take this weekend off from golf and just get away from the grind for a few days,” Irish coach Susan Holt said. “This week Tuesday through Friday each player is focusing on their own game and where they need to get better.”

Notre Dame won its first two tournaments of fall before taking fifth at the third. The first title came at Michigan State’s Mary Forest Invitational on Sept. 26, where the Irish defeated both Michigan State and Kent State, two teams they’ve struggled with in the past.

Playing host to the William & Mary邀请赛 on the following weekend, the Irish once again dominated on the course and successfully held off Kent State again. The Golden Flashes got their revenge the following week, though, holding the Irish to fifth at the Mercedes-Benz Championship.

Finding areas to improve upon when Notre Dame has finished in the top-five teams of each tournament might be hard for outsiders, but Holt has a clear plan for her team over break.

“Short game is always an area we emphasize in practice and we will continue to do that in preparation for the days off,” Holt said. “I think we will give us a chance to recharge our batteries for the final two tournaments of the fall.

The first of Notre Dame’s two final events of the fall schedule will be Oct. 22-24 at the UNC Wilmington’s Landfall Tradition Invitational at the Country Club of Landfall in Wilmington, N.C. Holt said that the tournament will put the Irish “head to head with the best field of 17 teams we have played against this year,” but she still has another game plan ready for the weekend.

“My goal is for each player to play 18 holes of smart and well executed golf for three consecutive days,” Holt said. “As a team we have not yet played our best golf and we are competing very well up to this point but we can and must do better.”

Among the 18 teams that will be competing in Wilmington, seven competed on the same course last May in the NCAA Championships. Among those seven is Duke, the former Landfall Tradition champion, Texas, Florida State, Virginia, Oklahoma State, UCLA and South Carolina will also be returning to the course, as well as some local favorites Wake Forest, North Carolina, North Carolina State and UNC-Greensboro. But rankings and achievements mean little to this Irish squad, whose focus remains on themselves.

“We really do not concern ourselves with what teams are at the tournament and who we have to beat,” Holt said. “Our goal is to win. Our best chance of winning is to play the golf course the best that we can. If we do this with the talent that we have I feel very confident we will always put ourselves in a position to win.

Our toughest competition is against ourselves. We need to get out of our own way and play great golf the way we all know we can do.”

Notre Dame will tee off sometime between 8:30 a.m. and 10:36 a.m. on Friday, Oct. 23 in Wilmington.

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Irish to test their spirit against Pitt

By MAJIA GUSTIN Sports Writer

Coming off a win at their Dennis Stark Relays last weekend, the Irish team looks to take on division rival Pittsburgh Friday in the first dual meet of the season to open their Big East conference schedule.

“We were very encouraged by the relays,” Irish coach Tim Welsh said. “We thought it helped us. We got off to a very good start.”

Notre Dame opened its season by winning gold in all but three races Friday to win the event overall. The Irish clocked two meet records, one in the 400-yard freestyle relay and the other in the 400-yard breaststroke relay. After suffering a loss to Michigan at last year’s meet, Welsh said he believed the enthusiasm of this year’s team has made the difference.

“One of the things we’ve been noticing is there’s a real joy and exuberance to this team,” he said. “They race with that spirit.”

Training has been a top priority for the team this year, and Welsh believes the team is faster than it was at this time last year.

“We’ve put a lot of emphasis this year on the idea of trying to get more than one year’s improvement out of one year’s training,” he said. “The team has embraced that.”

Pittsburgh has competed twice at home this season, and Welsh said he thought the Panthers might be a little more in tune.

“They’ll know a little more about how the squad is shaping up than we will,” Welsh said.

Irish captain Mike Sullivan said he’s looking forward to facing a tough division rival.

“The meet against Pitt is always a fun one for us,” Sullivan said. “They always swim well against us in dual meets, and the meet is often a close one. We are definitely confident after the way we swam on Friday, but we need to just keep training for the next few weeks and be ready to swim faster. We look to improve with every meet through the season, so we’ll see if that holds true in two weeks.”

Welsh called Notre Dame’s rivalry with the Panthers “a collegiate rivalry as it’s supposed to be.”

“Inside the event, it’s very intense,” he says. “But outside the event, there is very good sportsmanship.”

The Irish defeated Pitt last year in their first dual meet of the season, besting the Panthers 152-148.

“We’re a team they like to race and they will be prepared for us,” Welsh said. “It’s a meet I look forward to every year. We’re just eager to see where we are. We want to measure ourselves.”

Notre Dame will take on Pittsburgh at 12 p.m. at the Rolfs Aquatic Center on Thursday, Oct. 22.

Contact Majia Gustin at mgustin@nd.edu

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Junior Ryan Belecanech races in a freestyle event at the Dennis Stark Relays on Oct. 8.

Contact Coleman Collins at collinscm@nd.edu

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THE JUGGLER

Created anything good lately?
Submit it to ND’s student literary magazine, The Juggler, by October 27th.

E-mail juggler@nd.edu (no limit to number of pieces; short stories 2500 words or less, art 300+ dpi). Art may also be turned in to Mary in 206 Riley Hall.
Cornerback Cox expresses passion

Associated Press

JACKSONVILLE, Fla. — Jacksonville Jaguars corner- 
back Derek Cox has been in the starting lineup, on the 
bench and on the inactive list this season. 

He handled the demotion and the promotion the same 
way. With little reaction and 
even less emotion. 

His subdued responses are part of his laid-back, person-
ality. But he doesn’t want 
anyone mistaking them for a 
lack of passion or enthusi-
asm. But he doesn’t want 
anyone mistaking them for a 

He believes taking a step 
back helped him move for-
ward. He’s expected to return 
to the starting lineup Monday 
night when the Jaguars (3-2) 
host AFC South rival 
Tennessee (3-2).

“There’s a pretty strong 
likelihood that he reclaimed 
his position with that effort,” 
coach Jack Del Rio said. “He 
played well in his role, so that 
was good to see.”

Cox finished with five tack-
les and a pass defense.

AFC South rival 

Del Rio gave little insight 
about Cox’s benching, saying 
“Football is what I do. It 
doesn’t define me,” Cox said. 
“I shouldn’t define any of 
these guys in here. If you look 
at the grand scheme of it, a 
football career, that’s a 

while I’m doing it, I give it my 
lifetime and their life span. 

Years, it’s a smidgen of their 
life. Even the 
guys that play double-digit 

Cox, who led the Jaguars 
with four interceptions last 
season, had no explanation 
for the way his season unfold-
ed. While playing through a 
foot injury, Cox struggled in 
coverage during training 
camp and the preseason. The 
Jaguars figured it would pass, 
but Cox got burned several 
times in the opener against 
Denver. 

Cox tried not to let it get to 
him. 

“I tell him that all the 
time. Whether it’s with food 
or a book he’s reading, he’s a 
huge thinker. It helps you in 
some aspects of life. But in 
others, you can think a little 
bit too much. He’s young. He 
just has to learn how to sepa-
rate the two,” Cox said. 

Fellow cornerback Rashean 
Mathis agreed, saying Cox 
“clear his head.”

“Football is what I do. It 
doesn’t define me,” Cox said. 
“I shouldn’t define any of 
these guys in here. If you look 
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years, it’s a smidgen of their 
life span. While I’m doing it, I give it my 
all. My passion is there and 
desire will always remain.”

Cox was benched during the 
season opener, pulled after 
giving up a long reception, 
and played just one snap the 
next three games. The sec-
ond-year pro, a third-round 
draft pick who started every 
game as a rookie in 2009, 
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return
Bayliss continued from page 24

NCAA time, or before.”

The Midwest Regional qualifying round will bring in 64 players beginning on Thursday and Friday that will compete for eight spots in the main draw that will run through Monday.

“There will be a conference call Oct. 13 to determine which players are selected and into which draw they will begin play,” Bayliss said. “I expect to get nine doubles teams in the event. We are still trying to determine exactly which players are going to pair up as doubles teams for us.”

In this event last year junior Casey Watty was able to make a strong run to the finals. This year, Bayliss noted that senior Stephen Havens has been playing at an elite level and could make a deep run in the tournament. The Irish are also looking for their doubles play to continue to improve as it has most of this fall season already. At the event last year, their doubles teams had a poor showing, so Bayliss is hoping with the addition of the fresh, men, the results will improve.

The chance to demonstrate this here in front of friendly fans is a perfect opportunity for us to show the growth that is taking place in our doubles,” Bayliss said. “Havens and Tyler Davis are playing very well together. At times, [junior] Niall Fitzgerald and [sophomore] Spencer Talmadge have been awesome. Watt and Anderson are pretty good. Andrews and Pecor can each factor into the doubles equation. There are others, as well, and we certainly going to have options this year.

The Irish will look to continue the dominance that has been a strong theme this fall on their home turf before heading south to the Alabama Invitational the first weekend in November to round out their fall season.

Contact Kate Grabarek at kgrabarek@nd.edu

ND WOMEN’S SWIMMING

Irish head south after first place relay finish

By MICHAEL TODISCO
Sports Writer

The Irish will head south over Fall Break in an attempt to tame a pair of Tigers in SEC opponents No. 8 Auburn and No. 25 Louisiana State.

Despite the highly ranked competition, Irish coach Brian Barnes believes his team will be able to perform well in the event.

“We know that Auburn and LSU will be very tough opponents,” he said. “I still expect our team to go down there and be competitive against a couple of really good teams.”

Barnes stressed that his team’s demeanor and attitude will be essential for the Irish to be successful.

“We need to approach this meet with confidence and poise, and believe that we have the ability to keep up with [Auburn and LSU],” Barnes said.

Notre Dame will be looking to build off a successful start to the season, as they took first place at the Dennis Stark Relays on Oct. 8. Although the Irish had a strong showing at the relays, there were still many areas that Barnes wanted to work on heading into the non-conference showdown.

“We need to look at our starts and turns as a team,” he said. “I have been happy with our racing between the walls, but changing directions and being around the walls is something we have put a real emphasis on.”

Barnes also stressed the fundamentals to his team during practice this week in an effort to improve his team’s performance.

“We spent a lot of time up on the blocks this week. We have really been relearning mechanics and improving our starts,” Barnes said.

The tri-team meet will be held at Auburn on Oct. 22, with races beginning at 3 p.m.

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SMC SWIMMING

Belles ready to relax after high-paced relay

By CORY BERNARD
Sports Writer

Fresh off their first meet of the season last week at Notre Dame’s Dennis Stark Relays, the Belles can now look forward to a more relaxed event. Unlike the three Division I teams faced last weekend, the MIAA Relays contain only fellow league participants.

Sophomore Liz Palmer said the upcoming meet will be more enjoyable than the Belles’ previous race into top-flight competition.

“It’s really fun,” Palmer said of the MIAA Relays. “We get to see how the other schools are; there’s no pressure. We’ll just see how we do.”

The relaxed atmosphere of this warm-up to regular season action differs greatly from what Palmer said seemed like a daunting task last week.

“Going into it we were apprehensive,” she said. “Half the team was really worried and half the team was confident, but we didn’t do as bad as we thought.”

The results of the Belles efforts against higher competition will encourage

Saint Mary’s as they move through the season, Palmer said.

“It was fun to see the great competition,” Palmer said. “It ended up being a really good confidence booster for us for the meet on Saturday.”

In Saturday’s meet, the Belles will carry not only improved confidence but also improved team chemistry and physical conditioning.

Palmer said new coach Mark Benisek has been instrumental in building team unity and to already getting the squad into mid-season form.

“We were worried about the transition,” Palmer said of bringing Benisek in. “He has been great, very motivational. He is really focused on the team and team building activities. Also, we’re in really good shape. We are where we were physically at the end of last year.”

The Belles will travel to Calvin at the end of Fall Break to take part in the MIAA Relays on Oct. 23.

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Barnes said.

The Irish are a very deep team again this year returning all of their starters from last season as well as adding new freshman such as Billy Pecor and Greg Andrews.

“We know that Auburn and LSU are going to be a bigger stage and I am anxious to see how each handles it,” Bayliss said. “Both were in national junior singles finals a year ago. If [freshman] Ryan Bandy gets an opportunity to play he has looked pretty good so far, as has [freshman] Matt Dooley at times.”

Palmer said she is confident in the Belles ability to compete against a couple of really good teams.

“We need to approach this meet with confidence, but we didn’t do as bad as we thought.”

The chance to demonstrate this here in front of friendly fans is a perfect opportunity for us to show the growth that is taking place in our doubles,” Bayliss said. “Havens and Tyler Davis are playing very well together. At times, [junior] Niall Fitzgerald and [sophomore] Spencer Talmadge have been awesome. Watt and Anderson are pretty good. Andrews and Pecor can each factor into the doubles equation. There are others, as well, and we certainly going to have options this year.

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Contact Kate Grabarek at kgrabarek@nd.edu
Shipp's third and final assist came in the 30th minute, when he once again took the ball into the box before sending it back out to junior Adam Mena. Mena connected and went top shelf into the back of the net, just a minute after entering the game.

Clark said he was disappointed by the way his team came out in the second half. The Irish allowed Marquette to get on the board in the 56th minute. A Golden Eagles corner kick was initially handled by the Irish, but the ball got loose and sophomore forward Chris Madsen sent the ball past Tuttle.

"I think we kind of took our foot off the gas in the second half," Clark said. "We lost a goal, and that made a game of it for a little while. It's hard to keep it going for 90 minutes. That's the challenge. We ask for a 90-minute performance, and unfortunately we got a 45-minute performance. But there were good bits in the second half, but I felt we just sat back a little."

Perry's second goal of the night sealed the win for the Irish, who now begin a three-game Big East road trip. They will travel south to take on No. 2 Louisville on Saturday before heading to Seton Hall for a game on Tuesday. Notre Dame will then finish its road trip with a match against No. 6 Connecticut.

"The first half was absolutely great," Clark said. "If we play like that all the time, we're a great team."

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need for improvement on the Irish's 'point scoring side,' when the team is serving as opposed to receiving the serve.

"It is so important to score points and win rallies when you are serving," Brown said. "We had a real tough time with that. This involves better serving, blocking and transitions, all of which we will focus on before our next match."

Notre Dame will return to the court Friday when the team hosts DePaul (1-18, 0-6 Big East), but will be without

junior outside hitter Kristen Dealy, who has been battling injuries.

"We want to give Kristen some time to heal," Brown said of the team's offensive leader. "This will mean we will need to look at some team strategies and lineups and options. Hopefully some new people will have the chance to play and get some game-experience.

The Irish will have a brief interlude from Big East play after the match against DePaul when the team travels to Western Michigan (13-6, 4-2 MAC) on Tuesday, Oct. 19, before returning to campus to continue their conference schedule. Notre Dame will take on Syracuse (20-2, 4-2 Big East) on Saturday, Oct. 23, and Marquette (11-7, 3-2 Big East) on Sunday, Oct. 24.

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Senior Angela Puente serves against West Virginia on Sept. 24. The Irish won the match 3-0. They next take on DePaul at home on Friday, October 15 at 7:30 p.m.

Piane looks to guide team to Pre-Nationals

By MAIJA GUSTIN
Sport Writer

After strong performances at the Notre Dame Invitational, the Irish men's and women's teams look to earn big points and valuable experience at the NCAA Pre-National Meet on Saturday.

"Teams will come from east, west, north, south and have the opportunity then to see the course and run on the course," Irish men's coach Joe Piane said in an interview with und.com. "There will be roughly 80 teams there.

The Notre Dame men finished seventh at the Notre Dame Invitational last weekend, while the women placed eighteenth. Competition was stiff and both teams faced some of the top schools in the country amongst the 21-team field.

"We're going to be better than that," Piane said. The Notre Dame team placed first, Piane wasn't disappointed with the day's results.

"We did beat some teams that are going to help us get some big points for the NCAA (Championships)," Piane said.

On the men's side, Piane pointed out senior Dan Jackson, junior Jordan Carlson and sophomore

Jeremy Rae as the anchors for the team this season.


For the women, freshman Meg Ryan has been the top runner for Notre Dame at the invitational, coming in with a 17:37 finish at the Notre Dame Invitational. Senior Erica Ryan has been the top runner for the Irish since then.

Jeremy Rae as the anchors for the team this season.

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Lee continued from page 24

Jeff Jackson expressed confidence in his younger players. “I think he’s a mature kid, physically and mentally. He had a great year in the USHL last year, which allowed him to come here with a lot of confidence,” Jackson said. “The one thing about freshmen is if they have great instincts and they’re physically strong enough, generally they can make an impact.” Lee was one of a handful of Irish freshmen who made an impact during the opening weekend, as freshmen T.J. Minnick and Shayne Taker all joined Lee in netting their first collegiate goals. “With a number of young playmakers supplementing an experienced core led by senior defenseman Joe Lavin and senior left wing Calle Ridderwall, Jackson said he was beginning to get a sense of where the multitude of Irish freshman fit into his lineup. “As we watch our team play, and as we get more feeling for some of these young guys — where they belong, where they fit and what their strengths and weaknesses are — then we’ll focus on those things to work on improving,” Jackson said.

Like Notre Dame, Lake Superior State (0-1-1) participated in a showcase tournament to begin the season. The Lakers tied the opener of the Superior Showcase 6-6 against Minnesota-Duluth before falling 6-2 to Michigan Tech. Jackson said that although the Lakers are a work in progress at this point in the season, they should present a challenge to his defense. “They’ve got some guys that are good hockey players — smart, gritty hockey players; and they’re a big team,” Jackson said. “They’ve got real forwards.”

Though the Irish have gone through their typical pregame routine as far as scouting in preparation of their first conference game of the year, the team has taken a more simplistic approach to game preparation in the hopes of turning around last year’s sub-.500 campaign. “We’re trying to focus our preparation more on ourselves and what we need to work on in practice,” Lavin said. “Last year I think we got away from that a little bit. An Irish win would be the 300th of Jackson’s eleven-year career at the Division I level, spanning stints at Notre Dame and, coincidentally, Lake Superior State, where Jackson was national championship winners in 1992 and 1994. The coach was quick to deflect praise to his players and fellow coaches, however. “I would never take responsibility for any success we’ve had here,” Jackson said. “It’s the responsibility for the failures,” Jackson said. “I’m not going to take responsibility for the success we’ve had here or my opportunities because it was my entire coaching staff, it was our entire support staff, it was a bunch of great kids.”

The two-game set will be played on Thursday and Friday nights at the Joyce Center with the puck dropping at 7:35 p.m. both nights. Contact Chris Allen at callen1@nd.edu

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O’Neill and Stanford set to change records

Undefeated Dillon hopes to continue streak

By JACK YUSKO and MEGAN GOLDEN
Sports Writer

With a playoff spot on the line, tonight’s game between evenly matched O’Neill and Stanford promises to be an intense and hard-fought battle. O’Neill (2-1) and Stanford (2-1) are currently tied in the Green League, with both teams taking their only loss from undefeated Dillon. The winner of this matchup will advance to the postseason, while the loser will have to turn in their pads with a .500 record.

“We’re looking to make it to the [championship game in Notre Dame] and then go on to the NCAA Division III tournament this year, and winning this game is our next step toward that goal,” O’Neill freshman defensive lineman Rodney Suter said.

While also looking for a playoff bid, Stanford is also looking to make up for their loss last Sunday. “Last game left a bad taste in our mouths,” senior captain and quarterback Tony Rizzo said. “We didn’t play our best and showed we still have room for improvement. Thursday is an opportunity to show what we’ve been working on in practice and prove we deserve to make it to the post-season.”

Practice for both teams this week has been intense, with each team perfecting their current system instead of introducing new sets or plays. Rizzo said that Stanford has been focusing on defensive back play and knowing their assignments. “We’ve got a strong receiving corps and our two-minute offense has been vastly improved. Second half of this game is going to be outstanding Stanford,” Suter said.

Stanford recognizes O’Neill’s potent offense and says that defense will be key. “I have confidence in our offense, and our running backs should give O’Neill a hard time all game,” Rizzo said. “But it’s our defense, led by senior linebacker Colin McNamara — that’ll win us this game.”

Both teams predict a close high scoring match-up, as each has demonstrated offensive prowess in previous games. Stanford and O’Neill face off Thursday for the right to continue playing at 9:30 p.m. at LaBar Fields.

Dillon vs. Keough

The wireless Kangaroos are looking to finish the season strong under the lights and upset the Green League regular-season champion Big Red. Dillon (3-0) and Keough (0-3) have played the same three teams with the Big Red ousting the Kangaroos 56-9 against these opponents. It will up to Keough’s defense to slow down Dillon’s offensive explosion. “We need to stop showing ourselves in the foot,” Keough senior wide receiver Kevin Laughlin said.

Dillon sophomore coach Lee Harrano said he was aware of the challenges Keough presents. “They gave Stanford a really good battle last week, so we know that they can play ball,” he said. “We’ve got to turn it around really fast. We’ll hit it hard in practice so we can be ready for them on Thursday.”

In order for Dillon to continue to be a threat on offense, freshman quarterback Kevin Fink said he and sophomore wide receiver Will Salsi must remain on the same page in the Big Red’s passing game. “We just want to keep being consistent, keep playing without penalties,” Fink said. “We real- ize that Keough is a really good team, and we’re going to come and play hard.” Laughlin said he believes his team’s attitude is its strength. The Kangaroos lost by only six points in two of their games this season.

“Our strength is our desire to play the game. We’ve been in a position to win every game so far, but one bad break or two has cost us in every game,” Laughlin said. “I expect that change this week.”

Dillon has only clinched a spot in the 2010 playoffs. They look to play well against Keough, however, as they have much larger goals in mind. “We’re 3-0, we just got to keep it going and go strong into the playoffs,” freshman safety Ben Diaz said.

Keough, on the other hand, is ready to compete for the upset. “We’re expecting a game between two good teams, under the lights no less,” Laughlin said. The battle between Dillon and Keough will begin at 9:30 p.m. on Thursday at LaBar Fields.

Contact Jack Yusko at jkyusko@nd.edu and Megan Golden at mgolde01@stmarys.edu

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still a couple of wins away from that at least. In fact, if the Irish con-tinue with their conference perfection this weekend, they will clinch at least a share of the National Division, two more Notre Dame wins combined with any Georgetown loss will give the Irish the crown outright. Notre Dame travels to face the Hoyas next week.

At the forefront of the Irish’s minds, however, is the trip to Storrs. Conn., the site of the renewal of a traditional league rivalry. The match will focus on stopping the three-pronged attack of Elise Fugowski, sophomore Husky senior midfielder Jill Camburn will pose the biggest offensive threats to the Irish back line, but the true intangible will be the team’s confidence.

Waldrum took the time to mention that its importance was earned, not given. “I think we’re going to find a very confident Providence team.”

With the weekend shaping up to be one that could be crucial late in the season, Waldrum took the time to mention that its importance was earned, not given. “If we didn’t do the work early in the season, these last two weekend wouldn’t matter,” he said. “We’ve put ourselves in a really good position.”

The Irish clash with Connecticut at 4:30 p.m. on Friday and then battle Providence at 1 p.m. on Sunday.

Belles lose close match to Hope

The Belles lost their fifth straight game Wednesday when they were defeated 1-0 by conference rival Hope.

The Flying Dutch registered the only goal of the contest in the 11th minute when sophomore Alyson Epolito scored her fourth goal of the season.

The Saint Mary’s defense held strong after that goal, although Hope registered 22 more shots, five of which were on goal.

The Belles’ best chance at getting on the board came in the 51st minute when Saint Mary’s nearly tied the game up off of a corner kick from sophomore Maddie Meckes to junior Taylor Patton, but Patton’s shot hit the cross bar and bounced away. Meckes, junior Katelyn Tondo-Steele and freshman Molly Valencia also had shots on goal in the match.

Belles sophomore goalkeeper Caitlin Walsh had four saves in the losing effort.

Saint Mary’s will return to its home field Friday when they take on Kalamazoo in hopes of ending their losing streak. The Hornets (5-6-2, 2-1-1 MIAA) hope to give the Belles a run for their money.

The Belles will also need their defense to kick into gear and hold strong as they did Wednesday. With the exception of the Wednesday’s shutdown, the Belles offense has shown improvement as the season has worn on, but their defensive performances have suffered as they have given up 20 goals in the last five games.

Saint Mary’s will kickoff on Friday at 4 p.m. at Hoesch Field.

Contact Joe Wirth at jwirth@nd.edu

Free but ticketed event:
Tickets for the Nov. 5 Forum event featuring Thomas Friedman are free to Notre Dame students, faculty and staff. Tickets are available at the DeBartolo Performing Arts Center Office beginning Wednesday, Oct. 27, during regular ticket office hours (noon-6 p.m.). You must present a valid Notre Dame ID. Two tickets per ID on a first come, first-served basis. Limit one ID per person.

Event will be available online via live web stream at forum.nd.edu

Contact Allan Joseph at ajoseph2@nd.edu

November 3 / 7 pm
Leighton Concert Hall / DeBartolo Performing Arts Center / Thomas L. Friedman, the influential Pulitzer Prize-winning columnist from The New York Times, will speak on the title topic. Friedman has examined a wide range of subjects in his work, including globalized economic issues, religious fundamentalism and terrorism, and the Middle East conflict. He is the author of four best-selling books, most recently The World is Flat and Hot, Flat, and Crowded, both currently best-sellers.

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Join the discussion.
forum.nd.edu
Freshman Lee named Rookie of the Week

By CHRIS ALLEN
Sports Writer

Notre Dame will open its final season in the Joyce Center tonight with a two-game series against Lake Superior State to kick off the CCHA season.

The Irish (11-1-0) come into the contest fresh off of a second-place finish in the season-opening Warrior Ice Breaker Tournament in St. Louis, defeating Holy Cross 6-3 but falling to Boston University 5-4 in the tournament’s championship.

Freshman left wing Anders Lee shined in both games, netting a hat trick against the Crusaders and adding an assist in the last minute loss to the Terriers. For his play, Lee was named CCHA Rookie of the Week. Irish head coach Jeff Jackson expressed confidence in his young son, the No. 4/5 Irish will remain in the regular season’s championship.

Irish return to campus to compete

By KATE GRABAREK
Sports Writer

Coming off a tough first showing at the ITA All-American Event in Tulsa, Okla., the Irish will return home over fall break to host the Midwest Regional Tournament Oct. 21-22.

We certainly did not get the results in Tulsa that I was hoping for, but that event represented the top 64 players, college tennis. Irish coach Bobby Bayliss said. “None of our guys had played the event before and our draws were difficult. What was important, though, was for each of them to see the top level and understand that we will need to meet that level by NCAA time, or before.”

The Midwest Regional qualifying round will bring Notre Dame (11-6, 4-2 Big East) will take on conference opponents DePaul, Syracuse and Marquette as well as opponents DePaul, Syracuse and Cincinnati, breaking their 19-game conference winning streak. Although the matches did fall in Notre Dame’s favor, Irish coach Debbie Brown stressed that there were important lessons for the squad to take away from the losses.

“The two matches last weekend showed us that certain aspects of our game, which earlier in the season we had felt pretty good about, clearly need to be worked on and improved,” she said.

Brown emphasized the need for improvement on the Irish’s “point scoring side,” when the team is serving as
From WALK-ON

to STARTER
to SURE THING

After 16 straight field goals, David Ruffer is Notre Dame’s Mr. Consistency
As I considered a topic for this column, there was so much temptation to write about, well, pretty much anything except for the game itself. After all, what does Saturday's game against Western Michigan mean for the 3-3 Irish?

I thought back to when this year's schedule was announced and so many fans were up in arms that Western Michigan graced the Irish calendar. “How dare Notre Dame play a team from the MAC, especially when the schedule already looks soft?” Well, ask anyone about the schedule today, and the uproar is about the difficulty of Notre Dame's first six games, and not the perceived softness of this week's opponent.

Similarly, I thought of those first six games, and how Saturday's date with the Broncos marks a turning point in an Irish schedule that now includes three straight winnable games before battles with Utah and USC are sandwiched around the Army game at Yankee Stadium. After a 1-3 start, the Irish now have a real chance to shine at Notre Dame Stadium enough to hand to them. There's no doubt Notre Dame is the more talented team, so there is that inclination to take this game as a given and look ahead one, two, or even three weeks.

It's one thing for us, as onlookers, to have this attitude, to gaze weeks into the future, and to check out the other major storylines around the country on weeks like this. But the Irish can't afford to do that Saturday, and for what it's worth, Brian Kelly is saying the right things to make us think they won't. Kelly's been in games like this from the Western Michigan perspective, and it sounds like he's demanded his team's attention all week.

The Irish know where this game fits into their schedule and what it could mean as some big games approach. But at this point, I hope they aren't taking anything for granted. As much as we want to think about where this team is going, let's not forget where it's been, while Western Michigan certainly wouldn't consider it a "signature win." Notre Dame hasn't won enough lately to be satisfied with playing anything less than its best game, even against an inferior opponent.

Saturday's game doesn't have the "measuring stick" potential of several the Irish have played this season, but in some ways, I think we could get our best look at just how hungry this team is. This game doesn't have the added excitement of the opener against Purdue or the bitterness of the rivalry with Boston College. We aren't asking, "Can the Irish slow down Denard Robinson's Heisman campaign?" or "Will Notre Dame shut down future first-round pick Andrew Luck?" We're not taking the Irish's most penetrate coollie ties with Michigan State's Mark Dantonio or the way Pittsburgh's Dion Lewis torched the Irish last year.

From the Notre Dame perspective, this game's not quite a build-up, magical storyline or bulletin board material heading into a game against Western Michigan. If the Irish win, they'll still be unranked, and we won't have a much better picture of how they stack up with the best teams in the country.

So, as much as we as outsiders want to take this game as a given or find some added meaning to the matchup, Saturday gives us a unique chance to just learn about the Irish, and especially their attitude and identity as a team. Is dominoing is selling the gold and going to Notre Dame Stadium enough to get these guys fired up? Do they want to go out, not to dishonour, a team trying to come into their house and pull an upset? Are they ready to take advantage of every opportunity to improve and perform on Saturdays?

Most importantly, do these guys just love to play football? Saturday's game may not tell us much about Notre Dame's offensive capabilities or defensive speed in relation to the nation's best, but it could give us our best look at the intangibles the Irish will need to compete at that level.

That's what Saturday's game means.

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

Contact Matt Gamber at mgamber@nd.edu
Walk-on, kickoff

Every time David Ruffer has attempted a field goal, he has made it, as he bucks all walk-on expectations

By DOUGLAS FARMER
Sports Editor

When David Ruffer walked off the practice fields Tuesday afternoon, two loyal autograph seekers quickly approached him and asked for his signature. Unsurprisingly, the senior walk-on kicker signed away — something he never thought he would be in a position to do.

“It’s cool I guess,” Ruffer said a few seconds after putting the cap back on the provided Sharpie. “I never really thought of myself as somebody one day who would be signing autographs, but I’ll take what I can get. It’s neat to be in that position.”

Then again, Ruffer never thought of himself as somebody who would be Notre Dame’s starting place kicker, having never missed a competitive field goal, even splitting the uprights from 50 yards away. In fact, the only aspect of Ruffer’s current life he could have anticipated was the one aspect he initially had denied him — being a student at Notre Dame.

Denial serves its purpose

Ruffer’s father and grandfather graduated from Notre Dame, as did a few of his uncles and his older sister, but when Ruffer received a response to his application, it was not the response anybody in the family had hoped for.

“I grew up loving Notre Dame. I just wanted to be a student first of all,” Ruffer said. “I didn’t get in from the front door, and that was probably the biggest thing that ever happened to me. It made me realize you have to work really hard for the things you want.”

Ruffer then turned his eyes to William & Mary for a year, where, after four years of playing varsity golf in high school, he took up kicking field goals. After a tryout, Ruffer walked-on to the Tribe football team.

“I walked on there kicking,” he said, “and it’s worked out ever since.”

A field goal and a tryout

Once he transferred to Notre Dame, Ruffer joined the Siegfried interhall football team, and after two games, in which he kicked one field goal and a couple of extra points, attempted to walk on with the Irish.

“It was more of when I would go out and practice [that impressed people],” Ruffer said.

The tryout process was three-fold — one night with only tees and the then-special teams coach Brian Polian, one night with a snapper and holder and Polian, and a final night in front of then-Irish coach Charlie Weis.

“I was really nervous. These guys were going to see me for about 15 or 20 minutes, and if I don’t do really well, they will probably not want to see me again,” he said. “I just hoped I would perform to the best of my ability. I would have obviously been upset with myself if I came out here and didn’t do the best that I know I could have.”

Impress them he surely did, as Ruffer does not remember missing a single kick in the three tryout sessions.

The rest is history

Ruffer only took one kick in a game in 2008, a point-after attempt that clanked off the upright. In 2009, Ruffer took over place kicking duties after incumbent Nick Tausch injured his foot, and Ruffer connected on nine of his 10 point-after attempts, and all five field goal attempts.

This season, he has made all 11 of his field goal attempts, bringing his Irish career total to 16-of-16. Including his one field goal as a Rambler, Ruffer has never missed a field goal attempt in competition.

By making kick after kick, Ruffer has raised the Notre Dame standard for place kickers. His 16 consecutive made field goals bested Tausch’s school record of 14, as well as the previous record for most consecutive made field goals to open a career, which was previously 13.

“I try not to think about [the streak],” he said. “Right now I’m zero-for-zero with Western Michigan coming up, and that is how I approach every game.”

Ruffer’s 50-yard kick against Pittsburgh tied the sixth-longest field goal in Notre Dame history. The longest in school history was kicked in 1976 by Dave Reeve, a 53-yarder. Reeve should not count his record safe as long as Ruffer is kicking, according to special teams coach Mike Elston.

“I see the kid kick 52 or 53 yards every day,” Elston said. “We were well in front of his threshold [on the 50-yard field goal] which is really about the 35-yard line.”

Senior kicker David Ruffer sends his first kickoff of the season downfield during Notre Dame's 23-12 victory over Purdue on Sept. 4.

Just make sure he’s just focused on the kick.

Elston said he has seen the “head-case” in kickers that Kavanagh refers to, but in Ruffer it is more of an even demeanor that Elston sees.

“The kickers that I’ve been around that are good athletes, that have a good demeanor, that aren’t just specialists as kickers and have done other things in their athletic career, they typically tend to be more competitive and more even-keeled when they take the field in pressure situations.” Elston said. “Because they are used to being in it.”

Whatever reasoning Kavanagh and Elston have for his success this season, Ruffer thinks he has found a groove simply because he has relaxed, in all areas of his life.

“I still work really hard [in school], but before I was really a perfectionist. Now I have grown up to a point where I realize things won’t always go your way,” Ruffer said. “Little bit of a laid-back attitude has helped me focus a little bit.”

At some point, things on the football field won’t necessarily go Ruffer’s way. He may miss a field goal — believe it or not, he does miss them in practice. When the Saturday afternoon comes that one goes astray, Ruffer said he is ready to deal with that setback.

“You can only learn from mistakes,” he said. “You can’t make every single one, so it will happen eventually. The trick will be how I bounce back from that. It will happen, but I feel like I have a pretty strong head, so I’ll be okay.”

“Not For Long”

If Ruffer keeps making each and every one of his field goals, questions concerning the NFL are bound to come his way. Ruffer quickly dismisses those thoughts.

“I don’t plan on playing football forever,” he said. “It’s probably going to end after this season and I’ll need to get started on the next chapter of my life.”

NFL tends for Not For Long, right? I would give it a shot, but if there is something else that gives me more of a sense of fulfillment, I’ll do that instead.

Amid all of his success on the field, the primary reason Ruffer is at Notre Dame hasn’t changed — the same reason he wanted to come to the University in the first place.

“It’s been difficult, but I still think of myself as a student first,” he said. “That’s why I’m going through the interview process right now, and just trying to get that Notre Dame degree.”

Ruffer, an Economics major, interned in the accounting department of Garley Leep over the summer, and has not decided what he will do after graduation, nor has he ruled much out.

“I could go on and be a house husband,” he said. “If my wife is the breadwinner, maybe I’ll just take care of the kids.”

He may not know what the future holds, but Ruffer did not expect any of what the present holds either, as he continues to move past his wildest dreams, field goal after field goal.

“I never thought this was going to happen. Obviously I thought it be something cool, but never to this magnitude. I can’t say it’s a dream come true, because I never really dreamed of this much.”

Contact Douglas Farmer at dfarmer1@nd.edu
The Irish offense has the upper hand in this matchup, and will take advantage of Western Michigan's weakness in the secondary.

The Irish offense has demonstrated its ability to score points against good defenses, and will look to continue that trend against Western Michigan.

The Irish defense will need to contain Western Michigan's running game and limit their yards per carry. They should be able to do this with their experienced secondary and a strong defense.

The Irish will need to adjust to Western Michigan's spread offense and look to limit their yards per pass. They should be able to do this with their experienced secondary and a strong defense.

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Quarterback Alex Carder has been off and on in his first season under center for the Broncos. He threw for seven touchdowns in his first two games, but has thrown only three since that point. He has both a 403-yard game and a 104-yard game, and has been picked off seven times over the course of the season.

There is no doubt that the Broncos run a pass-first offense, so their running game is not particularly strong. They average 103 yards per game, which puts them 102nd in the NCAA, and gain only 2.9 yards per carry. Western Michigan's biggest threat on the ground comes from quarterback Alex Carder, who has run 13 times per carry.

The Broncos run a pass-first offense, so their running game is not particularly strong. They average 103 yards per game, which puts them 102nd in the NCAA, and gain only 2.9 yards per carry.

Western Michigan's biggest threat on the ground comes from quarterback Alex Carder, who has run 13 times per game over their last three games, and will throw. They are averaging 43 pass attempts per game, and threw the ball 64 times against Toledo. The Broncos rank 23rd in the nation in passing yards per game, and will certainly look to move the ball through the air.

The Irish have had trouble at times stopping the pass, ranking 99th in the nation against the pass. They have been opportunistic, however, intercepting eight passes in six games, the 14th best total in the NCAA. Cornerbacks Darris Ward, Gary Gray and Robert Blanton have their work cut out for them against a talented group of Western Michigan receivers.

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The Observer

IRISH INSIDER

Thursday, October 14, 2010

The Mid-American Conference (MAC) has existed since 1947, but Western Michigan will be the first team from the MAC ever to play against Notre Dame.

The Broncos (2-3) are currently third in the West Division of the MAC, which includes teams from New York, Ohio, Illinois, Indiana and Michigan.

"Up until this week it meant a lot," Broncos coach Bill Cubit said in a press conference. "You're the only one out there playing [Notre Dame]. And then you get the tape, and you hit reality. These guys are pretty good. This is a storied program."

Cubit said his team prepared with music and crowd noise to imitate Notre Dame Stadium. The Broncos' average attendance is 17,350 fans, as opposed to Notre Dame's 80,795.

"That's the best thing when you're playing Notre Dame, because that's what they're going to hear," Cubit said. "Hopelessly they don't hear the fight song too much. But that's what they're going to hear so they get used to it."

This will be Notre Dame's first game this season against a team from a non-BCS conference (the MAC champion goes to GMAC Bowl in Mobile, Ala., and the conference also sends teams to the uDrove Humanitarian Bowl in Boise, Idaho and the Little Caesars Bowl in Detroit). But Irish coach Brian Kelly said his team has no choice except to focus completely on the Broncos.

"We are not that good to think about anybody else but our next opponent," Kelly said in his Tuesday press conference. "We can't roll the ball out and expect to win football games."

It is a common practice for BCS teams to schedule MAC opponents for a guaranteed win — but that is not the case Saturday, players said.

"He's shown us statistical proof of teams that they have beaten or been very close to beating in games where I'm sure those teams went in overlooking a Western Michigan opponent," junior quarterback Dayne Crist said. "They do some good things on offense, they do some good things on defense. It's just like any other game."

For the Broncos, though, the game is a rare opportunity, Cubit said, that they plan to take advantage of.

"There's only one Notre Dame," he said. "I know they take some criticism for that, but they built that. I give them all the credit in the world. "This is a college experience. It's for the kids. Fifteen, 20 years from now, they can say they did this. I told them yesterday: It's one thing to play in the Stadium, it's another thing to play well in the Stadium."

By LAURA MYERS
Sports Writer

You are currently vying for a spot on Team Reckless. What made you decide to attempt to join?

Dayne had said a long time ago that I should join, but we never got around to it. We’re trying to set that up.

Is it a very selective process?

I’m not ever sure what the process is. We’ll see in the next couple of days what I have to do.

How reckless do you think you’ll have to be?

I think I’m pretty reckless. So I don’t think I’ll have to be too much more reckless than I already am. I think I’ll fit right in.

Would it be an honor to be the first member of the Notre Dame defense on Team Reckless?

Yeah, it’d be a great honor, first defensive player. It’d be nice.
By SAM WERNER
Sports Writer

Since arriving at Notre Dame last December, Irish coach Brian Kelly has been preaching the importance of his “next man in” philosophy, which means that every player at every position needs to be ready to step in and be productive if called upon.

Now it’s time to put that mantra to the test.

With junior tight end Kyle Rudolph sidelined for the rest of the season, sophomore Tyler Eifert and senior Mike Ragone, as well as sophomore Jake Golic, will have to fill the void left by the preseason All-American.

“No one player is going to stop what we do,” Kelly said at his Tuesday press conference. “It’s a ‘next man in’ philosophy for us. Tyler Eifert, Mike Ragone, Golic — those guys are going to have to step up and play the position for us at a high level. We think those guys can. We have a lot of confidence in them.”

It may help that the hamstring injury had been nagging Rudolph all season, and offensive coordinator Charley Molnar said the tight ends and coaching staff had discussed a plan for what would happen if he had to miss any action.

“We talked about this in summer camp when he was sore and we’ve been prepared for it,” Molnar said. “Everybody moves up a notch on the ladder, moves up a rung, and those guys have been ready for it. We don’t slow down a bit; we just keep on moving.”

Eifert and Ragone are the two players most likely to see a substantial increase in playing time with Rudolph out. Of those two, Eifert has seen more playing time so far this season, but has only hauled in one pass for 17 yards against Michigan. Since then, he’s been hampered with a shoulder injury, but said that it was at a point where he thought he could play through the pain.

“They feel better to be on the field,” Ragone said. “It feels better to be on the field that it does to sit on the sideline.”

He added that the lack of playing time early on wouldn’t affect his play going forward.

“First couple of games I just didn’t get as many reps,” Ragone said. “But hey, when your opportunity’s called you just step up and you just do what you’ve got to do.”

Both players stressed the need to not try and fill the shoes of Rudolph, one of the top tight ends in the country, but rather to play within their abilities to help the team win.

“Why would I want to be Kyle Rudolph?” Ragone said. “I want to be Michael Ragone, he wants to be Tyler Eifert, he’s Kyle Rudolph over there. We’re all different. I’m just gonna keep doing what I’m doing and we’re gonna win these ball games.”

Part of Rudolph’s effectiveness could be attributed to his tight-knit relationship with starting quarterback Dayne Crist. The two are close friends and seemed to have a strong rapport on the field. Crist, though, said that he would be just as comfortable throwing to whoever takes Rudolph’s spot.

“I have a ton of confidence in our other two tight ends, Mike Ragone and Tyler Eifert,” Crist said at his press conference Wednesday. “They are great players and doing some good things for us, as well. We will continue to bring those guys along and get better with those guys because that’s really our focus right now.”

For their part, Eifert and Ragone both said they’re comfortable enough with the playbook to step in right now.

“We know the offense,” Eifert said. “I’ve picked it up well and I’m confident, I just need to go out and execute.”

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While losing a player of Rudolph’s caliber is obviously a tough blow to Notre Dame’s chances going forward, Eifert and Ragone said they were excited about their chance to showcase their ability with more playing time.

“The circumstance, [Rudolph] being down, is not great,” Ragone said. “I’m not smiling about it or anything, but now my opportunity is called and now it’s time to step up.”

Contact Sam Werner at swerner@nd.edu
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