Saving the best for last
Fighting Irish win on Senior Day for the first time since 2007; students storm the field

With cold gusts, intermittent rain and a No. 14 ranked opponent in the house, you could forgive Notre Dame seniors for not expecting more than participating in the traditional marshmallow toss during halftime of their final home game as students. But then, the unthinkable happened. Notre Dame upset Utah 28-3, giving the Irish its first Senior Day win since 2007, and the senior class, along with much of the student body, stormed the field.

Senior Nick Mancinelli said the amount of people combined with the excitement of running onto the field contributed to one particularly thrilling moment Saturday. “I remember trying to get on the field and at one point I was moving without either of my feet touching the ground,” he said.

Mancinelli said ending his time as a member of the student section on such a high note makes up for many of the losses during the past four seasons. He also said the positive atmosphere of the Apple Store opens in Mishawaka mall

For the many students who own MacBooks, iPhones and other Apple products, the brand-new Apple Store at University Park Mall will be a welcome addition to the South Bend area and Notre Dame community. The store, which opened at 10 a.m. Saturday, is only the second Apple Store to open in Indiana, joining the technology giant’s Indianapolis retail location.

The new location will provide students with a geographically closer option for purchasing and repairing Apple products than the Chicago location, which was previously the closest Apple Store to Notre Dame.

Several students said they believed the arrival of an Apple Store in the South Bend area was inevitable, if late in coming. “I personally think it was long overdue,” sophomore Kristin Ruekert said. “I can’t believe it took this long.”

Students continue peace tradition

There is nothing “structurally special” about senior Bridget Flores’ off-campus house, but she knew she wanted to live there since her freshman year. It wasn’t the house itself, but all it represented — community, social justice, intellectual discussion — that attracted Flores to the house located just a few blocks from campus.

Flores and three other students live in what is traditionally known as the “Peace House,” which is passed down each year to students who are interested in social justice and international issues, and usually have a supplementary major or minor in peace studies.

“Traditionally the house is not like any other college house — at least not any other traditional college house,” Flores said.

Flores and her roommates try to bridge the gap between the classroom and students’ social lives, as well as the gap between the Notre Dame and South Bend communities.

The most notable way they do this is by inviting professors into their home for Friday dinners.

Apple Store opens in Mishawaka mall

Students Protest University’s Investments

Students said the University did not provide evidence that HEI Hotels & Resorts was a “good” company. They protested outside Eddy Street Commons and around campus Friday.

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Q: What was your best birthday present ever?
Rachel: Skydiving or my unicycle.

Q: How many piercings or tattoos do you have?
Rachel: Two tats and 16 piercings. I used to have 18, but I let two close up.

Q: Would you survive an alien attack?
Rachel: Heck yes, and then I would make friends with all of them.

Q: What mythological creature are you?
Rachel: A unicorn, but not a girl one. A black one.

Q: If you weren’t a person, what would you be?
Rachel: A banana slug.

The Observer regards itself as a professional publication and strives for the highest standards of journalism at all times. We do, however, recognize that we will make mistakes. If we have made a mistake, please contact us at 631-4541 so we can correct our error.
Saint Mary’s to host Hunger Banquet

By KRISTYNA HARCOURT
News Writer

The Saint Mary’s College Student Diversity Board (SDB) will host a Hunger Banquet sometime before Christmas break, but students can begin helping now.

The event is meant to remind students that hunger is a major concern around the world, Kelly Reidenbach, vice president of SDB, said.

On the day of the event, students are asked to donate a meal swipe — one meal at the College’s Noble Family Dining Hall — to an organization that provides food for the underprivileged and to participate in an experiment that helps demonstrate the global wage gaps between classes.

Reidenbach said the entire process for participating in the event is very simple.

“It is just like swiping for a meal in the dining hall except the money that would normally go to Sodexo will be donated to an organization that helps fight hunger,” she said.

A table will be set up in the Student Center Atrium on the days prior to the event so students can sign up with their identification number.

After donating a meal, students are asked to donate a meal swipe — one meal at the College’s Noble Family Dining Hall — to an organization that provides food for the underprivileged and to participate in an experiment that helps demonstrate the global wage gaps between classes.

Students will be divided into different economic classes and each group will be served dinner according to their class, Reidenbach said.

A slide show will be shown and a few professors will give short talks on topics dealing with the event.

“The Hunger Banquet is a great way to provide an opportunity for open discussion as well as an opportunity to educate students and community members and bring awareness of an issue that affects millions of individuals worldwide,” Reidenbach said.

“Many people do not realize that hunger is not only a world issue, but also an issue in the United States and even the South Bend community.”

The Board strives to fulfill one of its main purposes through the event — to provide opportunities for discussion on issues related to various socio-economic backgrounds among other topics of diversity, according to Reidenbach.

The Board has been working with Oxfam International, an international relief and development organization that works to create hand-crafted goods and bring them into the field,” she said.

The country that stuck with her the most, however, was Nepal. After Conrado’s trip around the world, she returned to Nepal to teach English for six months.

“A year after teaching in Nepal, I was frustrated by the education system. Students there are naturally resourceful and their education beats it out of them,” Conrado said.

Conrado decided she needed to do more than just teach English and in 2004, she started Hope Initiative, a non-profit organization dedicated to educational reform in Nepal.

So far, Hope Initiative has opened a computer technology center, where Nepali people can teach themselves how to operate and use computer technology. Hope Initiative also operates an orphanage where 10 children currently live.

Since Conrado joined the design faculty at Notre Dame, she brought her passion for Nepal to the University and shared it with her students.

“I wanted a way to combine the values we cherish in the classroom and bring them into the field,” Conrado said.

With that vision, Conrado decided to combine the work of her charity with her passion for design.

Contact Krystyna Harcourt at kharco01@saintmarys.edu

Students work with Nepali artisans

By ANNA BOARINI
News Writer

Eleven years ago, industrial design professor Ann-Marie Conrado decided to leave the corporate grind and travel the world.

“I started out in St. Petersburg and a year later I ended up in Hong Kong,” Conrado said.

The country that stuck with her the most, however, was Nepal. After Conrado’s trip around the world, she returned to Nepal to teach English for six months.

“A year after teaching in Nepal, I was frustrated by the education system. Students there are naturally resourceful and their education beats it out of them,” Conrado said.

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With that vision, Conrado decided to combine the work of her charity with her passion for design.

Now, every summer, a group of Notre Dame students spend 10 weeks working with local designers and becoming immersed in Nepal’s culture.

Senior Andrew McRide traveled to Nepal last summer and hopes to return again.

“It was awesome,” McRide said.

“The coolest part for me was there, they all refer to each other as brother and sister. Everyone in the community is like a member of an extended family.”

The students and Conrado spend their time in Nepal helping local artisans work on designing new fair trade products that they can sell.

In Kathmandu, the capital of Nepal, local low-income artisans work to create hand-crafted goods that are indigenous to the region.

The artisans, 89 percent of which are women, work for the Association for Craft Producers, which is in charge of quality control. They produce all the raw materials and finish the products to give them uniformity, Conrado said.

“It brings grassroots producers to the global market,” Conrado said.

The Notre Dame students use their design background to work with local artisans to develop new products. They can design, prototype and produce a product in one location.

“I want to change the students prospective,” Conrado said. “It’s not about changing the world of design, but about changing the design of the world.”

Hope Initiative will host a sale this week in the LaFortune Student Center from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. every day. Students designed many of the products being sold and all the proceeds will go toward ongoing projects in Nepal.

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Seniors continued from page 1

game contrasted to previous games this year. “There was something noticeably different about this game,” Mancinelli said. The entire student body was excited. It reminded me of what Notre Dame football is about. You become jaded after loss after loss. It became fun again.

Senior Kaitie McCabe also said the combination of a final win and rushing the field made up for a lot of the difficulties the class experienced as Fighting Irish fans. “I think it was probably the most perfect way we could have ended our four years of Notre Dame football,” she said. “Despite the rain and everything, it was a great time. Rushing the field was one of the coolest things I have done.”

“Even though we were the losing-est class during our four years, we raised and won.” McCabe said the mood of the student section felt much more upbeat for their Senior Day than it had for other games this season, contributing to the excitement of the day.

“Especially during this season, we were really upset. But for this game everyone was talking about how they bled for this team,” she said. “We were fighting for the win. It was almost as if we hadn’t lost a lot of the games we did this season.”

Sophomore Ethan Bailey, a member of the Notre Dame Band, said he could hear the crowd’s enthusiasm over the band’s music.

“During the game there didn’t seem to be any downtime,” he said. “Everyone seemed to be actively cheering during the game.”

“Not many seniors can say the best game was the last game of their four years.”

Nick Mancinelli
senior

“Especially during this season, the sentimentality of the experience.

“Everyone was really excited to rush the field, but when the Alma Mater came on, it was a reflective moment,” she said. “Everyone stopped amidst the chaos.”

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“During the game there didn’t seem to be any downtime,” he said. “Everyone seemed to be actively cheering during the game.”

Bailey said ending the season on such a high note was not only great for the Notre Dame student body, but especially the seniors. “You didn’t want to end the season on a bad note. The last home game leaves an impression for the rest of the year,” he said. “It was exciting for the seniors too. It was nice to see them get excited for a game and end their four years like that.”

Senior Anna Katter said the halftime marshmallow toss, a Senior Day tradition, was a seemingly light-hearted moment that conveyed the bond the campus of Notre Dame possesses. “It was really awesome to see everyone trying to climb over from the student section,” she said. “It was fun to whip marshmallows to your body. It was fun to whip them out at halftime,” she said. “There was something

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Katter said rushing the field also reminded her of the close-knit nature of her class. “It was really cool to just run into people. There was just a sense that everyone was thrilled that we won and were seniors,” she said. “It was great to see people you didn’t normally associate with. It was just a sense of fun. We were all there bonded and united on the field.”

Bailey said being on the field before the rush was equally as exhilarating because members of the band are used to select number of students being on the turf after games.

“It was really awesome to see someone trying to climb over from the student section,” he said. “It was funny having friends come up to me after the game on the field. That has never happened before.”

McCabe said despite the excitement of being on the field, the throngs of students still had respect for the sentimentality of the experience. “Everyone was really excited to rush the field, but when the Alma Mater came on, it was a reflective moment,” she said. “Everyone stopped amidst the chaos.”

Now, in addition to being the losing-est class in history, seniors can add another notch to their belt.

“Not many seniors can say the best game was the last game of their four years.”

Mancinelli said.

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Think green.
Recycle.
The Observer.
Peace

continued from page 1

Brown-Gort said the atmosphere was very casual during dinner, with everyone in attendance contributing an item. "They had a couple big pots of stuff, like rice and kind of a curry. And then just about everybody brought stuff," Brown-Gort, who brought cookies to the dinner, said.

While Brown-Gort said it was similar to the classroom in that he facilitated discussion, he said people were more open to sharing opinions and comments regarding immigration. "It’s more of a discussion because no body feels like they’re going to be graded on it,” he said.

Brown-Gort spoke at the Peace House in September, he has kept in touch with students he met there and had productive discussions. “We've been able to get together a few times and I’ve loaned them some books and had some discussions. Just sort of kicked around ideas for papers,” he said. “It’s nice because that relationship can go on.”

Not only does the Peace House bring together intellectual and social lives of Notre Dame students, those who live there are "drummed into the same purpose. Senior David Rivera, another resident of the Peace House, said he and his housemates are involved in different activities, but share a common goal of social justice. “It’s someone with a labor issue, Core Council, Progressive Student Alliance and the more service side of the Center for Social Concerns,” he said. “It’s really bringing together people who are working on these social justice causes under one roof.”

The Peace House also tries to give back in simpler ways, such as using as little energy as possible, Flores said. “We do compost. We washed as long as possible to turn on our heat. We bike and walk whenever we can instead of drive,” she said.

Rivera said he and his housemates often get pointed out as being an unusual example of off-campus living, but said the Peace House’s initiatives would not be difficult for other students to do as well. “It’s things people can do within their own home,” he said. “It’s very much opening your home to the community and what your passion is about.”

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Apple

continued from page 1

believe the closest one before was in Chicago.”

Sophomore Meredith Angell expressed similar views on the store’s recent opening and the services it will be able to offer to Notre Dame students. “I’m surprised there wasn’t already an Apple Store around here because so many students have Apple computers,” Angell, a Mac owner, said. “I’m excited because I’ll be able to go there to get my computer fixed or ask questions about any problems I have.”

Although the Office of Information Technologies provides vendor authorized warranty repairs on Apple, Dell and IBM/Lenovo computers, according to its website, some students were unaware Apple computers were included in OIT’s repair expertise. “I didn’t even know I could take my Mac to OIT to get it fixed if needed,” Angell said. “Now that there’s an Apple Store nearby, I would definitely take it there if anything happens.”

Sophomore Maddie Smierciak said having an Apple Store close to campus was a factor in deciding which computer to buy prior to her freshman year. “When I bought a computer, I looked into whether or not South Bend had an Apple Store, and I was initially apprehensive about buying a Mac because there wasn’t one,” Smierciak said. “It makes me happy that the store opened because it gives me confidence that there is someone certified to handle Apple products nearby if anything happens.”

The convenience of the new location in case of technological emergencies was also important to sophomore Mac owner Colleen Bailey. “I think the Apple Store will be a handy resource in case my computer breaks in the future,” Bailey said.

Although the store is located a few miles from campus, Ruekert said the off-campus location of the Apple Store may hinder some students from bringing their computers there for repairs. “Students that don’t have cars probably won’t bring their computers on the bus with them to the mall,” Ruekert said. “I’m guessing a lot of students will still take their Apple computers to OIT if they have problems.”

Sophomore Mac owner Tylor Gauger said he thought OIT’s Apple repair customer numbers would not change much as a result of the new store opening nearby. “I think it’s a good thing for the South Bend community, but I don’t think it will play a huge role for students because a lot of people will still take their computers to the well-priced Mac specialists at OIT for free,” Gauger said. “It would make more of a difference for purchasing Apple products.”

Although she does not own an Apple computer, sophomore Betsy McGovern said she is interested in purchasing other Apple products from the new store location in the future. “I would definitely rather buy a new iPod there than have to wait to get one when I go back home,” McGovern said. “It will be way more convenient for people to get their iPods fixed there as well.”

Smierciak also noted the prevalence of iPod-related issues among students and the fact that iPod repair locations were few and far between before the new store opened. “OIT can’t really fix your iPod if it breaks, and it’s a common problem for a lot of students,” Smierciak said. “The new store will be awesome for students who have iPod problems.”

The “Go Irish Jobs” section of the Notre Dame Career Center website is currently advertising job openings for students at the Mishawaka Apple Store location and at locations across the country.

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The Peace House is traditionally passed down to students interested in social justice and international issues. Students living in the house typically are majoring or minoring in Peace Studies.

The dinners are open to anyone who is interested and about 20 to 50 students typically attend, Flores said.

Allert Brown-Gort, associate director for the Institute for Latino Studies, gave a talk on immigration issues at the Peace House earlier this year. Brown-Gort had not heard of the Peace House before attending, but said it was nothing like he expected. “I thought it was kind of going to be like a co-op. I thought, if that’s the case, it will really be five or six people, we’re going to sit down and eat something and we’ll talk for a little while and someone will bring stuff,” Brown-Gort, who brought cookies to the dinner, said.

While Brown-Gort said it was similar to the classroom in that he facilitated discussion, he said people were more open to sharing opinions and comments regarding immigration. “It’s more of a discussion because no body feels like they’re going to be graded on it,” he said.

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JERUSALEM SUMMER PROGRAM

Study where Judaism, Christianity and Islam meet

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INFORMATION MEETING TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 16 5:30PM 149 DeBartolo Hall

Apple employees wait to help customers in the newly launched site. The store opened in the University Park Mall Saturday.
American Indians prove victorious on Capitol Hill

Jefferson Keel, governor of the Chickasaw Nation, participated in a meeting with American Indian leaders on Capitol Hill last year.

President Barack Obama, along with Dorgan of North Dakota and Murray of Montana, hosted the conference. "For Indian Country, we’re not just talking about our tribes and our federal policy and court challenges," said Keel. "We’re talking about the serious questions about when it’s appropriate to operate on a sick person at risk to save another."

The procedure, in which a sick person is given drugs from a healthy donor and transplanted into the ailing recipient, is possible because of the liver’s ability to regenerate. "In 1944, in response to assimilation policies, leaders from our communities came together, to visit with our congressmen and senators, to enable us to not only talk about our issues, but to actually influence the political process," Keel said. "That enabled us to not only talk about our issues, but to actually influence the political process, and to have a strategy that will develop a strategy that will affect tribal interests."

Keel also acknowledged that voters’ feelings toward Congress and the Obama administration were “pretty negative,” leading up to the midterm elections. "For Indian Country, we’re not just talking about our issues that face us are Indian issues, and they affect our tribal governments and our communities so we have to work with Congress. We have friends on both sides of the aisle, friends that are Democrats, but also Republicans."
Myanmar

Suu Kyi calls for liberty

Recently freed from house arrest, democracy leader presses on

YANGON — Myanmar’s democracy heroine Aung San Suu Kyi is vowing to press ahead in her decades-long fight for political liberty while also calling for compromise with other political parties and the ruling junta after taking her own first steps back to freedom.

Suu Kyi, who was freed from house arrest Saturday amid a divided political landscape and days after widely criticized elections, made clear she faces a precarious position: maneuvering between the expectations of the country’s pro-democracy movement and the realities of dealing with a clique of secretive generals who have kept her locked up for much of the past two decades.

“I’ve always believed in compromise,” the Nobel Peace laureate told reporters Sunday in the dilapidated offices of her party, the National League for Democracy, with its rough concrete floor and battered wooden furniture. “I am for national reconciliation. I am for dialogue. Whatever authority I have, I will use it to that end. I hope the people will support me.”

This Southeast Asian nation, once known as Burma, has been ruled by the military since 1962, leaving it isolated from much of the international community and battered by poverty. The junta has an abysmal human rights record, holding thousands of political prisoners and waging brutal military campaigns against ethnic minorities.

In recent years, though, it has also become an increasingly important regional trading hub, and its natural gas reserves and hydroelectric possibilities have brought it close to energy-hungry China and India.

Earlier Sunday, Suu Kyi spoke to a rapturous crowd of as many as 10,000 people who jammed the street in front of her office. While the speech was technically illegal — any gathering of more than a handful of people needs government permission in Myanmar, the authorities made no arrests.

Deeply charismatic, the 65-year-old Suu Kyi is by far the country’s most popular politician, a popularity the junta clearly fears. Dozens of secret police officers were on hand Sunday to record her comments and photograph those in attendance.

“I believe in human rights and I believe in the rule of law. I will always fight for these things,” she told the crowd. “I want to work with all democratic forces and I need the support of the people.

But she also urged her followers to work for national reconciliation.

“If we want to get what we want, we have to do it in the right way, otherwise we will not achieve our goal however noble or correct it may be,” she cautioned.

Later, Suu Kyi told reporters her message to junta leader Gen. Than Shwe was: “Let’s speak to each other directly.” The two last met in secret talks in 2002 at the encouragement of the United Nations.

If her comments might appear surprisingly measured for a woman who has become an international symbol of democratic reform, she has long said she was willing to negotiate, even with the junta.

The top-ranking U.S. diplomat in Myanmar, Charge d’Affaires Larry Dinger, was among a group of diplomats who met her Sunday and also met her while she was under house arrest.

She’s made clear to us that she’s a pragmatic politician who wants to find pragmatic solutions to this country’s problems,” he said.

Energized as Suu Kyi’s supporters are, she faces a military determined to cling to the power it has wielded for decades, and any collision between the two could well land Suu Kyi right back from where she emerged this weekend — house arrest and isolation.

“The junta is not a benevolent body that wants to suppress all forms of democracy,” said professor Michael Aris, before who she was imprisoned for seven years, though she has been jailed or under house arrest for more than 15 of the last 21 years.

In that time, she was unable to see her husband, the British scholar Michael Aris, before he died of cancer, and has never met her grandchildren. She has not seen her two sons for almost 10 years.

But she insisted Sunday her time in detention — in a crumbling lakeside family villa where she had a small staff — was far easier than most prisoners here face. Human rights groups say the government holds more than 2,200 political prisoners.

“Honestly, throughout these years of detention, they have treated me well. But they have not acted according to the rule of law, and that I will always fight against,” she told reporters.

She said she “kept myself pretty much on an even keel” during her detention, but added for years she had only the radio for company. “I’d like to listen to human voices,” she said.

The Tube.

SAUDI ARABIA

Train will shuttle Muslims between cities during hajj

MINA — Saudi Arabia has unveiled an elevated light-rail that will shuttle some Muslims beginning the pilgrimage from Mina, Mount Arafat and Mecca, the holy city between Islam’s holy sites, part of plans to turn the ancient city of Mecca into a modern metropolis and ease crowding during the annual pilgrimage.

The four-day Islamic pilgrimage draws around 2.5 million worshipers each year, and the large numbers present authorities with a challenge in preventing stampedes, fires in pilgrim encampments and the spread of disease.

Dubbed the Mecca Metro, the new 11-mile (18-kilometer) light-railway is to begin shuttling pilgrims between holy sites Monday, although it’s reserved for Saudis and citizens of other Gulf nations until it becomes fully operational next year.

The train is just part of a bold plan to transform Mecca into a modern, high-tech city and increase the number of pilgrims it can host annually from the current 10 million to around 50 million by 2020.

“We are trying to make Mecca accessible to the world that realizes the desires of its residents and visitors throughout the year by using the best urban planning, the smartest technology to ensure the trip of the pilgrim is safe, easy, and enjoyable,” Mecca mayor Osama Al-Bar told The Associated Press.

The train is part of a massive project to expand the holy city of Mecca itself, was constructed but does not stop at holy sites in Saudi Arabia. The $2 billion train, which is built on a concrete mass and connects to the airport and a new highway reserved for Saudis and citizens of other Gulf nations until it becomes fully operational.

The first phase of the Mecca Metro project will transport pilgrims between Mina, Mount Arafat and Mecca with the aim of reducing traffic jams. It also forms part of a larger project aimed at developing the ancient structure in Mecca’s Grand Mosque known as the Kaaba.

Officials say next year it will be at full capacity, serving around 500,000 pilgrims and disposing of thousands of buses that shuttle the pilgrims between rituals and crowd the streets and pollute the air.

During the hajj, pilgrims seek forgiveness for their sins and meditate on their faith, while in Mecca the Prophet Muhammad and also Abraham, who Muslims believe built the ancient structure in Mecca’s Grand Mosque known as the Kaaba.

Over several days, the pilgrims will circle the Kaaba, reenacting the desperate search by Abraham’s wife for water for her son Ishmael, and perform the symbolic act of stoning the devil.

Saudi Arabia has for years carried out development and construction projects to expand the city and increase the number of pilgrims, by the millions of pilgrims from around the world who are performing the hajj — one of Islam’s main pillars required of every able-bodied Muslim once in their lifetime.

The Tube.
Today is an open letter to the self-declared “King of Controversy” Mark Easley, a senior who once expressed his disgust for the “Annexing SMC.” (Nov. 10). Here is our response to your kind offer to rid us of our burden of gender uselessness: as if it. Don’t suppose that any self-respecting “Saint Mary’s O’Lass” as we’re so condescendingly referred to would ever consider such important impediment.

Inevitable? Notre Dame is inevitably going to annex Saint Mary’s? Right? I forgot, because those sister Sinister Sisters of the Holy Cross (who are just wait- ing to line their “collars” with tons of cash) have turned down numerous lucrative offers for their land because they’re just waiting for Notre Dame to make an offer — that’s us, just a bunch of girls on an expensive tract of land waiting for a Notre Dame dude to deign to send a glance our way.

Easley, dearest, you should have learned by now that you can’t buy a pretty girl like old SMC to get her to really like you (even if you do have that impressive 4 billion burning in your pocket), or throw around bad words like “bitches” and “dracon- ian” — and you definitely shouldn’t insult her intelligence like you have.

Despite our small size and dracon- ian learning style we like it that way. We like that after we’re done supporting each and every Notre Dame team, without asking anything in return — not even your respect, apparently, since we’re so generally and casually abused daily — we can come back to a place where people don’t hit each other over the head with their own awesomeness. From these viewpoints or comics in The Observer to the clas- sic “M-R-S degree” joke, we’ve taken this in stride for years and we’ll keep on keepin’ on … and on, and on, and on, because there is no way you’re goin’ ting your grubby hands on our cam- pus. So I guess you’ll have to solve your recruiting problem some other way than dangling a bigger (some would say better) buckeye as bait.

Here’s the bright side — you won’t have to worry about that terribly long walk! Hate on me as much as you like, because that’s the Notre Dame spirit I’ve heard so much about — ganging up on a group of girls. So thanks for the favor — but no thanks. And if you meant the article as a joke … you did- n’t write it well enough.

Dear Mark Easley,

In response to your “Annex SMC” article (Nov. 10), as Saint Mary’s College students, we are not interested in merging with Notre Dame despite the “benefits” that you list. If you even knew a few of the intelli- gent women that attend Saint Mary’s College then you would quickly realize that many Saint Mary’s students are extremely proud to be Belles and have never pos- sessed the desire to apply to Notre Dame, much less be “annexed” by your University!

Unquestionably, the “oppressive thumb of draconian single-sex education” that you speak of is something we cherish. Our single-sex education is not something that we feel impedes our learning in any way. Instead, the opportunity to learn in an empowering environment encourages open discussion and increased participation. We do not consider our education to be draconian in any way. In fact, in think it is more appropriate to say that your view towards women is draconian. Furthermore, a merger between the two schools is unique and a tradition in itself; you don’t want to take our name, and number two, you don’t want to live with us.” Fr Hesburgh was absolutely correct. No matter how many Notre Dame men propose to Saint Mary’s women, we as a whole are not interested in taking the Notre Dame name nor its residence halls. The current relationship between the two schools is unique and a tradition in itself, why fix something that isn’t broken.

We clearly know where we stand in terms of priorities; merging with Notre Dame is not one of them. Contrary to your belief, we are not a territory of land beg- ging to be bought out by our “superior” brother school. We are, however, a nation- al liberal arts college that has produced thousands of successful graduates just as your university has. We “lovely ladies across the lakes” do have much to offer to the world, and we will proudly offer that with our Saint Mary’s College degrees.

Signed,

Lindsay Ellis
sophomore
McCardless Hall

Dani Haydel
sophomore
Le Mans Hall

Alyssa Vinluan
sophomore
Le Mans Hall

Nov. 10

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am writing in response to a letter written by an anonymous writer on Nov. 10th. I would like to address the lack of respect shown towards Saint Mary’s College.

First of all, if you are not familiar with the college, then you are entitled to speak with respect. Saint Mary’s College is a small liberal arts school that prides itself on its academic and social environment. It is a place where people don’t hit each other over the head with their own awesomeness. From these viewpoints or comics in The Observer to the classic “M-R-S degree” joke, we’ve taken this in stride for years and we’ll keep on keepin’ on … and on, and on, and on, because there is no way you’re goin’ ting your grubby hands on our cam- pus. So I guess you’ll have to solve your recruiting problem some other way than dangling a bigger (some would say better) buckeye as bait.

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Saint Mary’s can stand alone

Claire Eckerson
juniors
McCandless Hall

Nov. 11
LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dearest Shlee ...

Will you go to the SYR with me?

With Love,

James Dunae
junior
O’Neil Hall
Nov. 14

UWIRE

Courts shouldn’t decide on violence

It has always been the responsibility of adults to shield children from that which might not be appropriate for them, but in the age of accessible technology it has become increasingly difficult. So then, what happens when one of the most popular forms of technology among children — video games — raises questions about violence? You get a case in the United States Supreme Court.

More specifically, you get Entertainment Merchants Association v. Schwarzenegger. The case deals with whether it should be illegal to sell violent video games to children, but it’s not as simple as it sounds. It highlights First Amendment rights and how to determine what makes a video game “unacceptably” violent.

The hearing took place on Nov. 2, with Supreme Court Justices grilling both California Deputy Attorney General Zackery Morazzini, the attorney arguing against video games, and Paul Smith, who is representing the video game industry’s perspective.

The issue with making it illegal to sell video games to children seems hardly debatable. But the reality is that such a ruling would impinge on developers’ First Amendment rights, forcing them to self-censor and speculate whether their games might provoke a federal case.

From the looks of everything, it seems pretty clear as to what the big deal is: California is concerned for the psyches of children — a completely noble and understandable aim — and worries that playing violent video games will lead them down some twisted path of degeneracy.

The video game industry, on the other hand, insists that video games are no more damaging than any other form of violent media and that they deserve full protection from the First Amendment, just like any other art form. This battle has been raging for over a decade, but there has remained one thing stopping states like California from attacking video games.

Plain and simple, lawyers who don’t play video games are trying to talk about them. And not just talk, but make hugely important decisions about their future. Either way, it’s clear in the transcript of the hearing that not only does Morazzini have limited understanding of the real level of violence in video games, but the justices are also not experts.

That’s to be expected to some degree, but when your argument is based off of a hypothetical game in which you can torture babies and “Postal 2,” which seems to be the only name California ever uses in its cases against video games, is nothing like any game made today. Since video games have become a respected medium of art and entertainment, people have formed standards. Developers, by and large, aren’t just in it for the shock value anymore.

The Supreme Court now has the power to change video games forever — raises questions about violence? You get a case in the United States Supreme Court.

Additionaly, “Postal 2,” which seems to be the only name California ever uses in its cases against video games, is nothing like any game made today. Since video games have become a respected medium of art and entertainment, people have formed standards. Developers, by and large, aren’t just in it for the shock value anymore.

The Supreme Court now has the power to change video games forever with one ruling. Here’s hoping they see that video games should be protected by the First Amendment.

This column first ran in the Nov. 11 edition of the Arizona Daily Wildcat, the daily publication serving the University of Arizona.

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

James Dunae
junior
O’Neil Hall
Nov. 14

LONG LIVE BOWIE

It is an incontrovertible truth that David Bowie is the greatest singer that the world has ever known and will ever know. It is also an objective fact that Brooks Smith has quite an abysmal taste of music.

In his recent article “David Bowie is Dumb,” (Nov. 11) our Mr. Smith commits the logical fallacy known as reductio ad Enō — that is, denigrating a beloved artist on the grounds of association with the musician Brian Enō. Bowie’s Berlin phase, during which he worked extensively with Enō, was anything but unprolific. During this phase Bowie churned out some of his greatest music. The album “Heroes” is innovative and catchy, and features Bowie at his most creative. His following “disco” phase, as Mr. Smith refers to it, is as edgy as anything Bowie has created and embodies the spirit of the ’80s. Any fanbase shared by Bowie and Coldplay is an unfortunate coincidence.

The article groundlessly posits a false dichotomy of artistic self-promotion — indeed, a “pompous theatrical flair” — and profound musical talent.

Bowie’s eccentric styles and intelligently crafted characters throughout his career contribute to his greatness rather than mask any deficiency. (Nor is Bowie’s commendable acting career indicative of anything but genius!) Brooks Smith wishes he could wear platform shoes and a kimono to work. Fashion, one might say, only adds to fame.

Bowie’s intuitive feel for the strange and his penchant for shocking novelty have enabled him to continuously adapt his music to the times. He was not, as Mr. Smith alleges, merely associated with the glam rock fad of the early ’70s. He founded it. The “Ziggy Stardust” album of 1972, in its own right and in tandem with its successor “Aladdin Sane,” constitutes the greatest musical achievement that the world has ever seen or heard!

Brooks Smith has no idea what he’s talking about! Long live Bowie!

Matt Boutilier
senior
Duncan Hall
Nov. 14

EDITORIAL CARTOON

NDSP, try to be nice ...

We always enjoy coming back for football weekends, but especially visiting the Grotto one more time before hitting the road on Sunday. As we pulled up to the east security gate at 9:45 a.m., the guard asked me where my wife and I were headed. I said “We are heading to the Grotto,” with a nice smile. His reply: “Well, make it quick.”

Really? Do we now have a time limit for alums to be on campus? Should I pray quicker? Maybe speed read through my Hall Mary’s? Or should I just skip the prayers for the non-life threatening situations?

You know with alumni contributions down $120 million over the last reporting cycle, you might want to show a little courtesy to those who support this university.

And yes, we prayed for you too.

Daniel Carsten
alumnus
Class of 1980
Nov. 14

You know better than they do.
You know you know better.

Tell them how it is.
Weigh in with a Letter to the Editor.
This alien sci-fi film may go down in history as one of the worst movies ever, with the likes of "Killer Clowns From Outer Space," "Lawnmower 2: Beyond Cyberspace" and "The Incredibly Strange Creatures Who Stopped Living and Became Mixed-Up Zombies!!?"

Despite great special effects and stunning cinematography, nothing could compensate for the poor acting and even worse plot. Moviegoers may actually wish or think they were abducted by evil extraterrestrials while watching "Skyline."

The movie starts with wide and spinning camera shots of the city of Los Angeles, with sudden streaks of blue lights waking up the clearly hung-over main characters. They are attracted to the light like freshmen to the fro-yo machines at the dining halls. The first character to look out the window steps onto a porch and is sucked in by the light, apparently abducted by the aliens.

Right after this scene, a completely useless flashback to a day earlier tries to establish the characters and provide a background to the rest of the film. But don’t look too much into the “character development” as none of it is ever mentioned again and even the protagonist, Jarrod (Eric Balfour), has as much depth as the reflecting pool in front of Touchdown Jesus. What’s worse is after merely showing a few minutes of party scenes, the movie essentially replays the opening sequence of spinning shots and cool camera angles. Once again, the streaks of light appear and the main characters exhaustedly roll out of bed and go towards the light.

So much of the film is time filler and repeated scenes and sequences. For instance, at least seven seconds are used as the core characters are in a car waiting for a gate to slowly open, not to mention that every door they come across is locked and they must yell at each other to open the door. The biggest problem with this recurring theme is it takes time away from what could have been a thought provoking plot with dynamic characters. Instead, this movie is nothing more than a brainless thriller to find out if Jarrod will live or die at the end, and how or if the humans will find a way to stop the virtually indestructible UFOs from eating people.

A few bright spots exist in this movie, as Donald Faison (Turk from "Scrubs") plays Terry, a successful actor, who is hilarious and interesting. It is a shame that his role was limited in the movie — had he been the star it may have been considerably better. In addition, the special effects were very well done and the story had a good base to go from but never. The main characters escaped unscathed too easily, like the good guys never getting hit by bullets in older westerns. "Skyline" is almost a comically bad movie, so if that’s your thing, by all means see it. However, was incredibly disappointed with the awful plot, or lack there of, and hope to spare you from a similar experience. "Skyline" barely deserves to be on the Sci-Fi Channel, and certainly would barely deserve your time.

By ANKUR CHAWLA
Scene Writer
contact Ankur Chawla at achawla@nd.edu

"Skyline": a disaster of epic proportions

By JULIA STEINER
Instrumental Listening
by Apple

1. "Lumos! (Hedwig's Theme)" - John Williams
2. "Pet Sounds" - The Beach Boys
3. "Instrumental" - The Microphones
4. "La Femme D'Argent" - Air
5. "Avril 14th" - Aphex Twin
6. "Hot House" - Dizzy Gillespie
7. "Oh Little Brain" - STS9
8. "Intro" - The xx
9. "Greyhoundredux" - MGMT
10. "Hunting Bears" - Radiohead
11. "Crips" - Ratatat
12. "Movement II: Sleeping Invader" - Sufjan Stevens

In the midst of the pre-Thanksgiving exam crunch, the last thing any of us need is more words to hear, memorize, think about or process in any way. Luckily, all of the songs in this playlist are instrumental — there really are no words. So, feel free to take a study break and fill in the blanks.

Listen online at ndsmcobserver.com/scene
There is nothing more exhilarating than attention to detail. What do I mean by this? Exhibit A: East Entrance to Hesburgh Library one dreary fall afternoon. A high heel-clad fashion devotee, laden with a satchel full of books, left arm cradling a mass of notebooks and her faithful agenda, with her right hand clutching her mid-day caffeine fix (a large latte), approaches the doors which will lead to a long evening of research and study. As she looks up, approaching from said library’s interior appears one of her male collegiate counterparts.

Thank goodness, she thinks, a gallant knight come to open the doors for me to the temple of knowledge! Alas, ’tis not to be. Said young man opens said door in question, exits hurriedly, ignoring this damsel in distress, and strides away. Exhibit B: A few seconds later, this same fashion devotee stares at said doors attempting to find an imaginative solution to their opening which does not involve the phrase “Open Sesame.” A second member of the opposite gender appears. Noting the distress with which his fairy-tale counterpart is eyeing these challenging portals, he smiles and holds the door open, allowing for the disappearance of the damsel in distress and strides away. Exhibit B. A few seconds later, this same fashion devotee stands at said doors attempting to find an imaginative solution to their opening which does not involve the phrase “Open Sesame.” A second member of the opposite gender appears.

The crux of this story lies in the ability of an unexpected detail to change our day for the better. And that is precisely what patterned hosiery has been doing since the invention of nylon in 1935. On the other side of the pond, the incorporation of every different kind of stocking into one’s daily outfit is accomplished with an unbridled fearlessness. Europeans devote whole stores to hosiery. In these boutiques you can find stockings in every color imaginable (one of my friends once bought a shocking teal variety in Paris’ sixth arrondissement) and every pattern—fishnets, ribbed, checked, even floral!

With the advent of cooler weather, our wardrobes often seem to become dull and monotonous. You may feel as though you wear the same pants or dress ad nauseum. However, with an eye-catching pair of hose, the same dress can become part of a whole new outfit. Pairing a bright red hose with a black dress can instantly make your look pop. You can also match the color of your hosiery to your accessories, making that purple bag you’ve been dying to wear finally work with your final fashion presentation.

While some may think fishnets are questionable attire, Italian women have been wearing them to the office for forever (proof of this lies in any 1960s cinematic endeavor involving the great Sophia Loren). Add a pair to a knee length skirt and comfortable heels, or even better, wear them underneath a pair of pants with flats. The different textures will create a canvas that rivals any Picasso.

Moreover, stockings take up negligible room in the small spaces allotted for closets in our time-honored housing institutions: the dorms. Forever 21 offers a wide variety for just $3.50 a pair. Details, you’ve never looked better!

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

Contact Felicia Caponigri at fcaponig@nd.edu

By COURTNEY COX

Name: Caitlin Pulte
Spotted: On the field in Notre Dame Stadium
Caitlin is dressed for the final game of the season in a sequin headband and stickers that match the smile that can only come after an Irish victory.

The most stylish part of her outfit, however, is Notre Dame pride. That’s something that never goes out of style.

Contact Courtney Cox at coox3@nd.edu

Purple Tights, Forever 21, $3.50

Freshman Emily Nash’s feet model fishnets.

By COURTNEY COX

Photo courtesy of Forever 21

Freshman Emily Nash’s feet model fishnets.

Felicia Caponigri
Scene Writer

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Contact Felicia Caponigri at fcaponig@nd.edu
Garrett sparks Cowboys to victory in head coaching debut

Associated Press

MELBOURNE, Australia — Jason Garrett’s first game as the Dallas Cowboys’ head coach was a victory — but it was not without its share of drama. The Cowboys, who needed only six plays to score a touchdown after Tony Romo broke a collarbone against the Giants on Sunday, were trailing by two touchdowns at one point in the game.

The Cowboys’ defense stepped up in the final round, stopping the Giants’ offense after a 71-yard touchdown pass by Jon Kitna. The Cowboys then scored a touchdown on a 51-yard interception return by Miles Austin, who had returned two passes for the Giants (6-3) since 2007, needed only six plays to score.

The Cowboys also got help from Eli Manning, who threw a touchdown pass to Miles Austin, who had a five-game winning streak snapped.

The bottom line was Dallas finally looked a little like a talent-ed team instead of one which sometimes not totally — there were two in the third quarter who took 11 minutes, with the second one turning the 156 billion New Meadowlands Stadium into total darkness for about 10 to 15 sec-

Hometown Appleby holds on down under

Woods missed two par puts from 1 foot on the par-4 15th and 1 foot on the par-5 18th that brought the only first-third quarter , and the second one turning the 156 billion New Meadowlands Stadium into total darkness for about 10 to 15 sec-

The culprit all week was putting. That’s what happened.

Woods made way too many mistakes and needed to guess again.

He rallied from a seven-shot deficit in the final round, stayed one of the year. He still ended a full hour, when he made two eagles and a birdie on the final hole.

About his only mistake was a missed put on the final hour. He played the final six holes in 1-under par, highlighted by the eagle puts on the par-

He also was three behind Graeme McDowell at Pebble Beach in the U.S. Open.

Woods now gets two weeks at home — including Thanksgiving, where his troubles all began before finishing out the year in California for his Chevron World Challenge.

The Cowboys made big play in big game with now changing the momentum more than McCann’s interception in the second quarter.

Delta: “How would you like me to make your life a living hell?”

Appleby thanked them, realiz-

Appleby was as golden as the winner’s jacket he wore. He finished from a seven-shot deficit in the final round, stayed one of the year. He still ended a full hour, when he made two eagles and a birdie on the final hole.

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The Cowboys made big play in big game with now changing the momentum more than McCann’s interception in the second quarter.
We did what we worked on. We went in with the determination to push the ball and not be defeated about getting ready for the turnaround of the team, we played awesome," Brindock said. "We had confidence on the field. We carried that confidence into the carryover on the court. Our chemistry was very strong, and it showed up on the floor. We tied it against Rutgers and Seton Hall. We kind of got away from that another and had fun playing the sport we all love."

The Irish moved down the Scarlet Knights 3-0 (25-18, 25- 8, 25-12) Saturday morning to lead the series 8-2, and 16-0 in regular-season confer- ence play, their third straight sweep. Eight block assists and five kills from senior middle blocker Katie O’Connell helped Notre Dame win as Notre Dame recorded 11 of the weekend’s 14 aces.

Associated Press

PITTSBURGH — Tom Brady maintained his mastery of the Steelers by passing for three touchdowns to pass tight end Rob Gronkowski and scoring once himself.

Gronkowski bounced back from an embar- rassing punt-bang-off-the-body blow by the Steelers 39-26 on Saturday night.

That gave Brady the NFL’s team win more than its home field than Pittsburgh, but no opposing player wins there like Brady, who has won six of seven overall against the Steelers and four of five at Heinz Field. He was 30 of 45 for 350 yards with no sacks or intercept- ions, and now has 14 career TD throws and three interceptions against Pittsburgh.

The Patriots and AFC East- rival Jets are tied for the confer- ence’s top record at 7-2.

The Steelers, unable to solve Brady during its second home- field loss this season, drops into 3-5-1 on the season. They did go on a little run in the second half to within 40-20, but Brady was too much for the defense.

Brady threw only one incom- plete pass against the Steelers on New England’s first presen- tation that ended with his 19-yard TD pass to wide receiver Hines Ver- dell. He had 8 of 12 completions, including 1 of 2 to tight end Rob Gronkowski and scoring once himself.

"I could tell I was back this morning in walk-through," Brady said. "My legs felt good. My ankle strong felt, I felt a lot better all around."

A sprained ankle sidelined Jones for nearly three weeks of practice. He missed both exhibition games. Against Wright State on Sunday night, he played a high level of defensive end. For this team to win a grind-it-out game, we can work on before the NCAA’s."

"It was a great confidence booster," Donlon said. "It’s a great confidence booster for our team. We can stay on this path and earn the title of Big East Champions."

Contact Meaghan Veselik at mvesel10@saintmarys.edu

NCAA BASKETBALL

IU breezes past Wright St.

Associated Press

BLOOMINGTON, Ind. — Verdell Jones’ offense is back. The three-week injury layoff that left junior forward Tom Donlon worried?

"Forget about it."

Jones scored 37 points, one below his career high, on 11-of-14 shooting to pace Indiana to a 90-54 victory over Notre Dame on Sunday night.

"I thought it was a game with two very good teams and possibly demonstrated with two very good teams and possibly demonstrated with the best of our team’s performance, a lesson they got with the loss to Louisville.

"I think we played a strong 80 minutes, but a soccer game last 90 minutes," Clark said. "I think we didn’t chase the game perhaps as well as we could have. With 10 minutes left to go, I think we could have done that a little better. We lost a little bit of our discipline at that time, it was up to our discipline and passion to tie the game up. I think we did that and we can work on before the NCAA’s.

"When it comes to winning, the most that’s the key to our season, and I hope we’ll still have four weeks left to continue the team’s development."
Shawell
continued from page 15
ished the race in 31:18.36 for 3.53 place. Freshman Marcin Gruba was not far behind at 40th place in 3:22.08. Junior Joe Miller and senior Mat Abrenathy rounded out the Irish line-up in 31:43.98 and 33:24.02 to take 57th and 64th place.

“arly next year,” Raas said.

he men were led by freshman Alexa Aragon, who completed the 8k in 25:22.55 to take 22nd place earning all-region.

As with the men, a small gap existed between the first and second runner when junior Rachel Velarde crossed the line just seconds later at 21:43.83 for 41st.

“I did not achieve my goal I had coming into this race, but it was probably my best race of the season,” Raas said.

The next three runners for the Irish piled in neatly back to back.

Kennedy
continued from page 18
broke another personal record as she finished with a run in the 22:53.34 for 42nd place for the first time ever. Her final time of 22:53.33 granted her 34th place finish overall. Kenny’s day received All-Region honors at the conclusion of the race.

“Julia ran a very tough race, and I was so excited to see her finish in the top 25 and receive All-Region recognition,” Bauters said. “I definitely see bigger and better things for her next year.”

Junior Joanne Amanda, the second-place finisher on Saint Mary’s squad, also had a personal record with a time of 23:33.1. Sophomore Emma Baker finished 73rd, running a 24:44.7. Senior Emily Salver took 102nd overall, finishing with a time of 24:11.2. Sam Wassel, a senior, ran well enough to put the Belles in finish between Adrian and Alma in the team standings. Wassel finished 153rd overall in 25:08.5.

ND Volleyball
Irish sweep twice over weekend

By MEAGHAN VESELIK
Sport Writer

Two straight sweeps and 31 kills from junior outside hitter Kristen Dealy marked the end of the regular conference season for the Irish as they defeated Rutgers and Seton Hall over the weekend to put them at (17-11 overall, 10-4 Big East) as they head into the Big East tournament next weekend.

“We are really excited because this weekend’s games are a springboard for the upcoming Big East tournament,” Dealy, a co-captain of the squad, said.

A number of other Notre Dame players looked ahead to the Big East tournament, including freshman outside hitter Andrea McHugh, who has earned five Big East weekly honors this season.

“It feels really good to end the conference on two solid wins,” she said. “As a team and coaching staff we have really been focusing on finishing strong and building each and every day as a team so we can perform our best in the Big East tournament.”

Dealy complimented her 31 kills, 20 of which came Sunday at Seton Hall, with 9 digs on Saturday at Rutgers and 15 on Sunday for one of her best hitting efforts this season. She averaged 5.17 kills/set and 4.00 digs/set across six sets, but still brought her success back to the efforts of her teammates.

“I am really impressed with the selflessness of each player and the cohesiveiveness with which we played,” Dealy said. “This is essential for the tournament, because we clearly have the talent to be very successful, we just need an all out effort from the entire team all at once, which I think we saw this weekend.”

Notre Dame saw strong hitting from all sides of the court this weekend as the team hit .377 against the Scarlet Knights and .267 over Seton Hall, including 14 aces from six Irish players.

Sunday’s 3-0 win (25-23, 25-20, 25-17) almost wasn’t a sweep when hitting errors on the Notre Dame side gave the Pirates five free points and putting the Irish down 7-5. The two teams traded points until Seton Hall broke out with a pair of three-point runs. An ace from Dealy tied the set at 20-20 and two kills from freshman middle blocker Sam Brown brought them to set point at 24-21. A Dealy kill closed the set.

The Irish fell behind in the second set but back-to-back Dealy kills and an ace at 17-12 propelled them to another win before taking down the Pirates again in the third.

Freshman outside hitter Andrea McHugh recorded 10 kills and 10 digs at Seton Hall to chip in on offense while sophomore middle blocker Hillary Eppink had six kills, while five more Irish players recorded a kill in a match.

Senior setter Maggie Brindock had a career weekend with 25 assists, five digs and four blocks Sunday after posting 25 assists, three aces and eight blocks at Rutgers. Similar to Dealy’s outlook, Brindock said she felt that the weekend was really a display of what the Irish players could see BRINDOCK/page 13

ND Volleyball
Irish senior middle blocker Kellie Scalco jumps for a block against Northern Iowa Nov. 7 in the Purcell Pavilion.

Analyze Italy’s greatest film comedies! Comedy, Italian Style!

Italy boasts a long line of comic genius, stretching from the comediana dell’arte and Carlo Collodi’s Adventures of Pinocchio to Fuinnit writings on laughter and the antics of Roberto Benigni. Analyze the popular film genre known “commedia all’italiana” from the 1950s to the 1970s along with earlier and subsequent comic masterpieces and comic stars. Learn the history of a living comic tradition that continues to be a vital force of aesthetic pleasure and political commentary. Fulfill university requirements, FTT international requirements, and Italian studies.

Contact Katherine Mack at kmack1@nd.edu

Men’s Soccer
Irish fall to Louisville in Big East semifinals

By MOLLY SAMMON
Sports Writer

The Irish campaign for a Big East Championship ended Friday with a 1-0 loss against the No. 1 Louisville Cardinals, in the tournament’s semifinal ever. For the Irish, the road to South Bend to prepare for the NCAA tournament.”

“Overall, I am very pleased with the season,” Bauters said. “I think we broke through some serious barriers this season, and many of the girls see the potential that can be for next year.”

Contact Katherine Mack at kmack1@nd.edu

The Irish, sporting a second seed placement in the blue division, fell to the Cardinals

boasting not only a top seed in the red division, but also the top spot on the national ranks.

“They’re a well-organized team, and they work very hard as a team. They’re well coached,” Clark said. “Their biggest asset is that they play as a team. They attack as a team, they defend as a team.”

In the first half of the game, the teams proved evenly matched as they headed into the field, each team scoreless. Louisville outshot Notre Dame 2-1 in the first half of the contest, but the Irish had two shots on goal to the Cardinal’s one.
The Wolverines responded to the Irish victory with a five-goal performance on Saturday night. Michigan rode three second-period goals to take the lead for good. Notre Dame led 2-1 after one period on goals from Tynan and Lee, but two goals in the span of a minute for Michigan and a late goal from Hagelin were too much for the Irish. Senior defender and captain Joe Lavin also lit the lamp in the game for the Irish. Jackson said the fluky nature of some of the goals for Michigan lessened his concern about the game’s result.

“They were strange circumstance,” Jackson said. “Give Michigan credit, because you have to be a talented team to take advantage of some good bounces, but there were some strange goals on Saturday. I felt bad for [sophomore goaltender] Mike Johnson. I thought he played very well in the game, and some of the goals he gave up, I don’t know if anyone could have stopped them. It was a little disheartening.”

The loss on Saturday ended a five game road trip for Jackson’s team, as the Irish went 2-2-1 on the tough stretch. They will be back in action Friday at the Joyce Center against Michigan State in CCHA action.

Contact Chris Allen at callen10@nd.edu

By MICHAEL TODISCO
Sports Writer

Notre Dame traveled to Happy Valley this weekend to compete in the Garret Open where junior Reggie Bentley brought home a bronze medal for the Irish. The event featured top fencing squads from across the country including Penn State, University of Pennsylvania and Princeton.

The women’s portion of the tournament took place Saturday. Irish freshman Lian Osiier finished first for the Notre Dame women in the sabre. Osiier fell in the medal round to Monika Aksamit from Penn State and finished fourth in the event.

Many of the top Notre Dame women did not compete in the tournament. Juniors Beatriz Almeida, Courtney Harley, and Kwa Nelip competed in the World Championships in Paris hosted by the International Fencing Federation. Bentley claimed bronze in the foil event with a win over Penn State’s Michael El-Saleh. Irish coach Janusz Bednarski was pleased with Bentley’s performance.

“He was able to beat a Penn State fencer, which is very good news for us because we are always in competition with them,” Bednarski said. “To get a win there is a great achievement.”

Senior Gregory Schoolcraft also competed in a medal match for the Irish. He fell in the epee bronze medal match to Princeton’s Edward Kelley. Overall, Bednarski drew positive results from the competition they faced.

“We fenced pretty strong in this event, and are pleased to come away with a bronze medal,” Bednarski said.

Contact Michael Todisco at mtodisco@nd.edu

By MEGAN FINNERAN
Sports Writer

After a week of tapering in preparation, the Irish joined more than 30 teams this weekend for the NCAA Midwest Regional Saturday. The men placed third, finishing behind Wisconsin and Indiana, and the women took sixth.

The race, hosted at the Katke-Cousins Golf Course in Rochester, Mich., set the tone for the NCAA Championship next weekend.

“The team ran really well and we were pleased with how we placed. Coming into the meet we knew that a top-three finish would get us to Nationals, and that’s exactly what ended up happening,” Rae said.

Senior Dan Jackson continued his season-long streak, finishing at the top of the Irish line-up. Jackson came in at fourth place of over two hundred runners in the 10-kilometer race, coming in at 30:31.11. Only seconds later came sophomore Jeremy Rae, who took 16th place in 30:42.01, and junior Jordan Carlson, who crossed the line in 30:51.30 for 22nd place. All three earned all-region honors.

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“Juniors Johnathan Shavel and Jordan Carlson run amidst the pack during the Notre Dame Invitational Oct. 1 see SHAWEL/page 14

ND CROSS COUNTRY

Irish participate in NCAA Midwest Regional

Saint Mary’s College
2010 International Education and Modern Languages Week
November 15-19, 2010

Monday - November 15
French Dinner
4:30-7:30 pm, Noble Family Dining Hall

Modern Languages Recital
7:00-8:00 pm, Little’ Theater

Tuesday - November 16
German Dinner
4:30-7:30 pm, Noble Family Dining Hall

Intercultural Learning Showcase
7:00-9:00 pm, Conference Room D, F, F, Student Center

Wednesday - November 17
CWIL Colloquium:
“Benefits of International Educational Exchange: the Case of Music at Nanjing Arts Institute”
by Ms. TENG Dixian, Chinese musician and Choir Conductor of Nanjing Arts Institute
12:00-1:00 pm, Mother Pauline’s room

Italian Dinner
4:30-7:30 pm, Noble Family Dining Hall

International Student Panel
6:00-7:15 pm, Vanderven Theater, Student Center

Fall Choral Concert
Women’s Choir and Collegiate Choir (in different languages)
7:30 pm, O’Laughlin Auditorium, Moreau Center for the Arts

Thursday - November 18
Spanish Dinner
4:30-7:30 pm, Noble Family Dining Hall

Study Abroad
Pre-departure Orientation
6:00-8:00 pm, Huggar Parlor

Friday - November 19
International Cultural Festival
12:00-2:00 pm, Student Center Lounge

Arabic Dinner
4:30-7:30 pm, Noble Family Dining Hall

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Co-Sponsors of the events: Center for Women’s Intercultural Leadership; Modern Languages Department; Music Department; Office of Student Involvement; Sodexo Dining Services; Around the World Club; Student Government Association; Office of Special Events
Gring continued from page 20

don’t really know if I was or not.

When the ball came down, it appeared as if the pass would be intercepted in the endzone, but Gring wrestled the ball away from a Big Red defender for the catch and the score.

“I think it bounced off my thigh pad and I was able to catch it,” Gring said.

For Spinelli, who had tears running down his face during the post-game celebration, that single play erased some of his lingering ghosts from the past.

“My last pass in high school was an interception and now to have my last pass of the season be a touchdown in the championship game, in Notre Dame Stadium, this is amazing,” Spinelli said. “I knew I wouldn’t be able to play football for Notre Dame but to play and win in the Stadium is pretty special.”

Both sophomore wide receiver playmakers for Dillon and Sorin were kept relatively quiet on the day defensively. Sorin wide receiver andlinebacker Ryan Robinson had only four catches while Dillon (6-1) wide receiver and defensive back Will Salvi managed only one catch.

Both, however, made their marks on defense. Salvi intercepted a Spinelli pass in the end zone and Robinson continuously disrupted the Dillon offense by batting down balls and getting to the quarterback.

The Observer Editor-in-Chief and Sorin defensive lineman Matthew Gamer had seven tackles for the Otters.

After a first half that saw four total turnovers, three by Sorin and one by Dillon, the second half was just as defensively oriented.

Sorin only managed 42 total yards of offense in the second half and did not get a first down until the fourth quarter. Their only sustained drive of the second half saw three first downs two on consecutive completions to senior wide receiver Jon Beckerle but was halted inside Dillon territory.

A false start penalty and a sack by Dillon freshman David Kenney derailed the drive and forced the Otters into a turnover on downs.

After the stop on fourth down, the Big Red took over from their own 35-yard line. As Dillon moved the ball into Sorin territory, it was a 1-and-11 and four from the Sorin 46-yard line. Dillon freshman quarterback Kevin Fink eluded the pass rush and found sophomore running back Terry Howard over the middle for a 16-yard gain. Three plays later, the Big Red lined up for a game-winning 38-yard field goal.

The potential game-winner, however, fell just short of the uprights and the contest headed overtime with the game still tied at zero.

Dillon got the ball first to open the overtime period. On a fourth down from the two, the Big Red opted not to kick the field goal but rather go for a touchdown. Senior captain and running back Jordan Smith plunged into the end zone to give Dillon the lead. The extra point, however, sailed wide left and the lead stayed at 6-6.

After Sorin’s touchdown, sophomore kicker Connor Wathen booted the game-winning extra point, giving Sorin the championship. Wathen could be seen the game holding the game ball.

“It was a great team win today. Matt (Gring) made his first catch of the year and Connor (Wathen) won the game for us,” Browder said. “But we couldn’t have done it without (former Sorin rector) Fr. Jim. This feeling is unbelievable. We’ve been working for this moment for four years and it’s finally here. It’s incredible.”

Contact Matthew DeFranks at mdefrank@nd.edu

The Otters hoist the Interhall Football Championship trophy after their 7-6 overtime win in Notre Dame Stadium Sunday.

Contact Jack Heffron at wheffero@nd.edu

The Observer ◆ SPORTS

Monday, November 15, 2010
HOCKEY

Irish, Wolverines split pair

By CHRIS ALLEN
Sports Writer

The freshman-laden No. 11 Notre Dame team got its first taste of a bitter rivalry with No. 9 Michigan this weekend, splitting a pair of games on the road at hostile Yost Arena. The Irish won 3-1 on Friday night before dropping a 5-3 decision on Saturday to the Wolverines.

"I thought the kids played well this weekend," Irish coach Jeff Jackson said. "Friday was a really solid game, and Saturday was a real tough game emotionally for us because the kids played very hard."

This year's edition of the rivalry between the Irish (7-3-1, 5-2-1-0 CCHA) and Wolverines (6-3-3, 5-2-1-0 CCHA) got underway Friday as the teams traded goals in a sloppy, disjointed first period. Sophomore left wing Nick Larson scored first for the Irish three minutes into the period, and the Wolverines wasted no time in equalizing the score, as left wing Carl Hagelin netted a goal twenty minutes into the period.

Larson scored first for the Irish with the Irish having been outplayed for most of the period. The score remained tied 1-1 after the first period, but the Irish took the lead early in the second period on a goal from freshman defender Kevin Costello. The Irish went on to win the game 3-1.

Jackson said he was pleased with the play of many of his freshmen standouts over the weekend.

The freshmen are learning how to prepare themselves to play," Jackson said. "Freshman wing Jeff Costello moved up this weekend to one of our top lines. [Freshman] Anders Lee and T.J. Tynan continue to play on the top lines. [Freshman wing] Jeff Costello is showing his ability to play more minutes. They're getting chances to play on the power play and on the penalty kill—came less than two minutes into the period. Jackson said he was pleased with the play of many of his freshmen standouts over the weekend.

"We need to do a better job of recognizing the situation going into a road environment. We can't play too loose offensively, obviously there needs to be some creativity, but there needs to be smart play on the offensive end." The game settled down in the second period and both teams put together a strong defensive period. The game remained scoreless going into the third period.

In the third period, the Irish pulled ahead for good on goals from freshman defender Kevin Lind and senior wing Calle Ridderwall. The go-ahead goal from Lind—the first of his career—came less than two minutes into the period.

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Waldrum continued from page 20

forward in 2010 but had been playing defense in 2010. "It's happened to us two or three times now," Jackson said.

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McGraw continued from page 20

ed it to be in the first half,” McGraw said. “I thought the press was good, the pressure was good. We scrambled well — we really did a lot of work.”

With the loss of 2010 graduates Ashley Barlow and Melissa Lechlitner, McGraw has changed her team’s offense in response to the different personnel on the team. No longer a squad that relies heavily on perimeter shooting, the Irish have a balanced attack that starts at the top with sophomore guard Skylar Diggins.

“We have so many weapons, and we have so many people who can score,” McGraw said. “That makes us really hard to guard when you think you’re going to shut down one person and then another gets hot.”

To commemorate the 10th anniversary of the 2000-01 national championship team, the Irish honored Buth Riley and the members of the squad during a halftime ceremony that brought Irish fans to their feet. Riley’s number 00 was retired before the start of the game, as her jersey was added to the Ring of Honor at Purcell Pavilion.

“It was amazing — well deserved,” McGraw said. “We are so blessed to have her as a representative of Notre Dame and of our program. She was an outstanding person as well as a player. She has made her mark and left an amazing legacy for everybody at Notre Dame. It was a proud moment for everybody in the arena.”

Notre Dame’s 36 steals breaks the previous mark of 29, while the 49 forced turnovers eclipses a 30-year-old record of 48 turnovers set in 1980.

“We’ve been going defense day in and day out,” Novosel said. “One of our points of emphasis is just defense and intensity. Once it starts, it’s really contagious and everyone gets up to pressure, and then it’s just an exciting feeling.”

Contact Chris Masoud at cmasoud@nd.edu

Brey continued from page 20

point in the process. I think Ben has set a great tone, letting the game come to him,” Irish coach Mike Brey said. “That’s a big step forward for him. That’s why he’s become a better shooter. I think he’s truly playing like a fifth-year senior, and his tempo’s better.”

Hansbrough was 9-15 from the free throw line and caused five rebounds, shooting 12-15 from the free throw line and causing foul trouble for much of Liberty’s front court.

“When their team fouls up early, we try to use that as a weapon, and it really paid off today,” Nash said. “I worked on it all summer. When I was home, I just wanted to work around and watch T.V. and rest, and my dad would say, ‘Go to the gym and shoot some free throws, Ty.’ I knew to help out my teammates this year. I would have to be able to knock them down from the free throw line, because they’re going to put me there and I’m just trying to convert.”

Liberty started out the game on top, scoring the first four points, and kept itself in contention until the last minute of the first half, when Notre Dame went on a 16-3 scoring run, taking a 19-point lead at half. The Flames never came within 15 points after that point.

“We played two games, and you couldn’t have two more drastic styles of play and drastic styles of game, which I hope will be good for us,” Brey said. “I like the fact that I had to play some key guys more minutes, more like it’s going to be. I thought our three guys of the bench in the second half really gave us a good lift, and we have to keep developing that. They really helped us in the second half, giving us a lift.”

Brey said freshman guard Eric Atkins also impressed him over the weekend. Atkins scored 19 points and recorded seven assists over the weekend, but Brey praised his demeanor on the court.

“For a young guy, [Atkins]’ focus is excellent,” Brey said. “He is really sharp, picked out system weapons that he’s playing with, he stays in character. Not a lot of guys any year can do that.”

But Atkins’ said the unselfishness comes easily.

“It’s actually very easy to not search for my shot,” Atkins said. “With all the great shooters we have and all the great finishers, when I get into the lane I always try to look for them. I will grow in my shot, but right now I’m just more of a facilitator and that’s OK with me. I pride myself on it. I want to have a lot of assists every game.”

Atkins, Hansbrough and the Irish will be back in action Wednesday when they take on Chicago State at 7:30 p.m. in the Purcell Pavilion at the Joyce Center.

Contact Eric Prister at epriester@nd.edu

Irish senior forward Devereaux Peters absorbs contact and attempts a layup during Notre Dame’s 99-48 victory over New Hampshire Friday in the Purcell Pavilion. Peters had a career high of 23 points.

SMC CROSS COUNTRY
Belles finish 15th in final meet

By KATHARINE MACK
Sports Writer

Although the Belles’ season came to an end Saturday afternoon at Regionals, the race concluded a one of the most successful seasons in program history. “It was a pretty good day yesterday,” Belles coach Jackie Bauters said. “Everyone ran fairly well, although we were hoping for some faster times.

The race started very fast, so I was pleased that they held on as well as they did. We also finished 15th, which was one of our team goals.”

The Belles improved from a 17th place finish in the NCAA Division III Great Lakes Regional last year to a 15th place finish this year with a score of 407. The field comprised of 34 squads, which included numerous top-25 programs.

“The field was packed. We have some really tough competition in the Great Lakes,” Bauters said. “Among these were MIAA foes No. 10 Hope, who finished second, and No. 7 Calvin, the winner of the Regional. The Belles did finish ahead of MIAA conferences foes Adrian and Alma Saturday.

Sophomore Julia Kenney

see KENNEY page 14

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INTERHALL FOOTBALL

Otters, Ducks achieve Stadium glory

No. 2 Sorin upsets No. 1 Dillon to take interhall crown

By MATTHEW DeFRANKS
Sports Writer

When Sorin senior captain and running back Michael Browder caught his first pass of the year from quarterback Matt Gring against Southern, Dillon went unorganized. Gring saw a hole and sprinted into it.

“Ted must have thought I was open,” Gring said. “But I didn’t use it.”

After the high-powered offense was derailed, Browder was doused with ice water.

A simple tactical change sparked a formerly struggling No. 2 Sorin to a 3-0 win over Dillon, 7-6 in overtime in Notre Dame Stadium on Sunday.

Sorin (6-1) senior wide receiver Matt Gring caught his first pass of the year from starting quarterback Kayla Bishop. The pass set up an 11-yard touchdown run by Browder that sparked a No. 2 Sorin senior quarterback Michael Browder to create an extremely good team in the Big East.

Georgia Southern coach Bryn McKinnon said, “I mean we needed the rebounding. She did a great job on the boards as well as scoring, and I’m really, really happy with that.”

Natalie Novosel, who finished the season with 11 points and a team-high seven steals, led the Otters with a K.O.

Two high-powered teams ran out of the tunnel on Sunday, but in the end it was No. 1 Howard that held on for a 7-0 win over No. 2 Pasquerella West and a second straight Interhall championship in Notre Dame Stadium.

The Ducks (7-0) came out with the ball first and tried to set the tone with a series of short passes, including several to senior center Amelia Voigt. The stout defense stepped up though, and knocked a fourth-down pass by Howard senior quarterback Kayla Bishop to the turf.

By JEFFERSON
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Two high-powered teams ran out of the tunnel on Sunday, but in the end it was No. 1 Howard that held on for a 7-0 win over No. 2 Pasquerella West and a second straight Interhall championship in Notre Dame Stadium.

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By JEFFERSON
Sports Writer

A simple tactical change sparked a formerly struggling No. 2 Sorin to a 3-0 win over Dillon, 7-6 in overtime in Notre Dame Stadium on Sunday.

Sorin (6-1) senior wide receiver Matt Gring caught his first pass of the year from starting quarterback Kayla Bishop. The pass set up an 11-yard touchdown run by Browder that sparked a No. 2 Sorin senior quarterback Michael Browder to create an extremely good team in the Big East.

Georgia Southern coach Bryn McKinnon said, “I mean we needed the rebounding. She did a great job on the boards as well as scoring, and I’m really, really happy with that.”

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Senior receiver Duval Kamara pulled in two touchdown catches. Senior safety Harrison Smith intercepted a first quarter pass. Senior linebacker Brian Smith led the Irish with 10 tackles.

Throughout all of Notre Dame's 28-3 victory over Utah Saturday, seniors led the way, just as they have for the past 11 months.

"It's not a moment. It's the culmination of what we've been working on since December," Irish coach Brian Kelly said. "You don't just put a hat on out of a hat. You don't just wake up one day and go, 'Oh, let's rise up today.' It's the consistency of approach on a day-to-day basis and how we go to work every day."

Notre Dame's rout dropped the Utes to No. 23 in the BCS standings and marked the team's first win over a ranked opponent since a 41-17 victory over No. 19 Penn State in 2006. "Through the last three weeks, we certainly have had a great deal of activity that we've been able to overcome together as a group," Kelly said. "In those times, toNeal 37x264 be able to get this thing going to put the game in the fourth quarter and then hold an offensive scoreless for more than 50 minutes. Despite coming off a 42-7 rout at the hands of TCU, Utah headed into Saturday's match-up averaging 41 points per game."

"I don't think we ever had control of the line of scrimmage," Utes coach Kyle Whittingham said. "[Notre Dame] has big, physical guys, and they've got 245-pound inside linebackers that will come up and smack you. The front does a nice job with their technique and staying square."

In addition to Brian Smith's 10 tackles, sophomore linebacker Manti Te'o added nine tackles and one sack as the Irish held the Utes to just 265 yards of total offense. "It feels great," Brian Smith said. "I've been a part of Senior Days where we lost, and the seniors went out with a look on their faces — it just broke my heart. I'm glad that [this senior class] didn't go out that way. It was a collective effort from the seniors all the way down to the freshman. It just feels great to get a win."

Notre Dame struggled on offense to start the game, falling to convert a first down on its first three possessions of the game. With the first quarter winding down and neither team taking control of the tempo, junior cornerback Robert Blanton blocked a Utah punt, scooped up the loose ball and ran it in for a 7-3 lead.

After watching tape, Blanton said that special teams coordinator Mike Elston hoped to take advantage of the small splits on the Utah line with pressure from the outside on punt return. "I think any time you block a return for three more scores, including a three-yard pass to junior receiver Michael Floyd to give the team the 14-3 lead heading into halftime.

The special teams unit made its impact felt again in the second half, as freshman wide receiver Austin Collinsworth forced a fumble on the opening kick that was recovered by the Irish. On the ensuing play, Blanton found a wide open Kamara in the corner of the end zone to extend the lead to 21-3.

With two games remaining against Army and USC, the Irish need one more win to become eligible for a bowl game. With a victory over a ranked opponent under their belts, Kelly said that his players are moving in the right direction.

"You play it hard for four quarters," Kelly said. "You get it to the fourth quarter and you close. My career has been built on closing games out and building the mentality of that football team. That's what we had to make sure we got done."

Contact Chris Masoud at cmasoud@nd.edu

By CHRIS MASOUD
Sports Writer

Game stats

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<td>Tommy Rees</td>
<td>156.8 yards</td>
<td>Robert Blanton's six-yard blocked punt return for a touchdown</td>
<td>&quot;We should give our fans what they want, and show them that we appreciate their support.&quot;</td>
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<td>Irish quarterback</td>
<td>The Irish defense held the Utah offense scoreless for more than 50 minutes.</td>
<td>Notre Dame's first touchdown came on Blanton's momentum-changer, giving the Irish the lead for good.</td>
<td>Manti Te'o</td>
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<td>The Irish held the Utes to just 265 yards of total offense.</td>
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Senior running back Robert Hughes gained 5.2 yards per carry during Notre Dame's 28-3 win over No. 14 Utah Saturday. Hughes and the rest of the senior class led Notre Dame to its first win on Senior Day in three years.

Seniors set tone; others take note

All season long, the Irish appeared to lack leaders on the field. By naming captains on a game-by-game basis, it can be argued Kelly robbed the team of designated leadership. But, when a team loses two games it expected to win, someone within the team must step up, designation or no designation. Apparently, these seniors did so. They set the tone.

Then junior corner back Robert Blanton provided proof that the proper tone can yield results, giving Notre Dame both the lead and the momentum with his blocked punt and subsequent return for a touchdown.

Sophomore running back Cierre Wood started to evade tacklers once he sensed a hint of Utah discouragement. Freshman quarterback Tommy Rees shook off his initial jitters in his first career start once he had a lead to work with. Each of his three touchdown passes was thrown with precision accuracy, and the Irish, freshman through seniors, were rolling.

“[Getting the seniors a win] was our number one goal," Rees said. “The seniors have done an unbelievable job all year. Whether it be preparing us, keeping us focused, especially in the last two weeks. To send them off with a win is truly special." 

There it is again — the seniors set the tone for the rest of the Irish, same as the Class of 2011 as a whole, breaking past the ushers first, only to wait for the rest of the student body to join them.

In reality, the past four years have included more disappointment than satisfaction for this team’s 36 seniors. Yet, by leading the way to Notre Dame’s biggest win since a victory over No. 3 Michigan in 2005, they set the stage for the coming years. Last week, senior receiver David Kamara — two touchdown receptions Saturday — said the striving of the past will be worthwhile, once Notre Dame reaches a national championship, and he can say he was part of building that.

Notre Dame took a big step toward that lofty goal Saturday. The seniors, the same ones who have suffered through a career 20-26 regular season record, provided the beginning push which led to that big step.

As senior safety Harrison Smith said after recording his third career interception — “Leaving [Notre Dame Stadium] with a win is like turning the page.”

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

Contact Douglas Farmer at dfarmer16@nd.edu

For even more coverage from the Notre Dame victory, check out The Irish Insider Extra at ndsmcobserver.com/sports/irish-football/irish-insider-extra
Rees’ efficiency carries Irish in win

By CHRIS ALLEN
Sports Writer

In his 11 months on campus, Irish freshman quarterback Tommy Rees has undoubtedly heard all the names of Notre Dame’s quarterbacking legends — Bertelli, Lujack, Theismann, Montana and Quinn.

Of all those names, and the many others, none accomplished Rees’ feat of throwing for 129 yards in his first career start Saturday.

“You know, in the beginning running out there you get [butterflies], but all positive butterflies,” Rees said. “You’re anxious to play, and you know the first series comes, they’re all gone.”

Rees turned in an efficient performance in his starting debut, throwing for 129 yards on 13-of-20 passing. Though the statistics did not compare with Rees’ 400-yard plus performance in relief of injured starter Dayne Crist during Notre Dame’s 28-7 loss to Tulsa on Oct. 30, Irish coach Brian Kelly said Rees did a good job within the designed game plan in beating No. 14 Utah 28-3.

“Obviously the first couple of drives weren’t that great for us offensively, so it kind of just happened that way,” Rees said.

“Just going with the pace of the game, and situations started clicking there. That blocked punt for a touchdown really helped the offense out because we were struggling, and jump-started the whole sideline and the team,” he added.

The touchdown was not the first of Blanton’s career, however, as he returned an interception to the end zone in a 2008 game against Purdue.

Duval finds the end zone

Senior wide receiver Duval Kamara, who set Notre Dame freshman records for catches and touchdown catches in 2007 but has struggled to find consistent production since, recorded two touchdowns in his final game at Notre Dame Stadium.

Kamara, who had a 26-yard reception in the early moments of the second half was his first touchdown since 2009 against Washington State. When he grabbed a 12-yard pass minutes later, he completed a multiple-touchdown effort for the second time in his career. Kamara had previously hauled in two touchdowns against Navy in 2007.

“It felt amazing [to catch two TD passes],” Kamara said. “I haven’t been in the end zone in a while in this stadium.”

Kamara’s heavy playing time was partly the result of an injury to freshman wide receiver JD Jones, who had been playing ahead of Kamara for a majority of the season.

“I couldn’t be happier,” Rees said. “Getting the win is the most important thing. To send the seniors off I’m ecstatic.”

Contact Chris Allen at callen10@nd.edu

scoring summary

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Irish freshman quarterback Tommy Rees turns to hand the ball off to senior running back Robert Hughes. In his first career start, Rees completed 13-of-20 passes for 129 yards and three touchdowns.

Senior Day victory brings Notre Dame relief

By CHRIS ALLEN
Sports Writer

Saturday’s 28-3 victory over Utah represented the first Notre Dame win on Senior Day since 2007, when Notre Dame beat Duke 28-7. With the win, the Irish improve to 9-2-1 for the first time in Senior Day games.

“The team needed [a win] badly,” senior cornerback Gary Gray said. “But mostly for the seniors because it is our last chance playing in [Notre Dame Stadium]. Since I’ve been here we haven’t beaten a ranked team. Just for the seniors to go out with a win is great.”

The Utes — who came into the game ranked No. 14 — represented the highest-ranked opponent the Irish have beaten in a Senior Day game since the 1987 season, when they disposed of No. 10 Alabama. The win also moved the all-time mark for Notre Dame in Senior Day games against ranked opponents to 16-11.

Blanton’s big play

Junior cornerback Robert Blanton’s blocked punt and subsequent touchdown in the first quarter was the first blocked punt for Notre Dame since the Hawaii Bowl in 2008. The last Irish player to return a blocked punt for a touchdown was Tonyou Smith, who did so in a Nov. 15, 2008 game against Navy.

“We worked really hard this week on getting a punt,” Irish coach Brian Kelly said. “That was something we talked about, let’s get one.”

The touchdown was not the first of Blanton’s career, however, as he returned an interception to the end zone in a 2008 game against Purdue.

By CHAD PEMLER

The Observer

Irish junior wide receiver TJ Jones hauls in his first career touchdown pass from Irish freshman quarterback Tommy Rees in the first quarter.

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Facing a top-20 opponent for the second time this season, the Irish performed much better against No. 14 Utah than they did earlier in the season against Stanford.

Seniors led the way for Notre Dame during its 28-3 victory Saturday. Senior linebacker Brian Smith led the team with 10 tackles while senior receiver Duval Kamara pulled in his first two touchdowns in more than a year. Senior running back Robert Hughes also added in 28 total yards.

Freshman quarterback Tommy Rees also connected with junior receiver Michael Floyd for a touchdown in the second quarter.

Junior cornerback Robert Blanton started the Irish scoring with a blocked punt return for a touchdown in the first quarter.