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THE OBSERVER

Students endure rainy weather, see Irish snap eight-game losing streak against rivaled USC

By MADELINE BUCKLEY
News Writer

LOS ANGELES — When senior Scott McIntosh attended the Notre Dame football game at USC in 2008, the Irish entered the Los Angeles Memorial Coliseum with a 6-5 record, and rumors that then-head coach Charlie Weis would be fired were already swirling.

McIntosh recalled the grim mood of Irish fans before that game and said energy flagged even more when USC pumped the Irish 39-3.

But when he returned to the Coliseum Saturday, the mood of Notre Dame fans was palpably more energetic.

This year, everyone was definitely much rowdier, and I think you could get a sense that this is a more competitive game, more evenly matched,” he said. “You could feel there was a chance we would win.”

Rain pelted fans in the stadium for much of the second half, but students who trekked to Southern California for Saturday’s game said watching Notre Dame fans was excitingly end to a season of highs and lows.

“For McIntosh, a former resident of Alumni Hall, the best part of the game was senior safety Harrison Smith’s inter-

College places first in statewide competition

By ASHLEY CHARNLEY
Saint Mary’s Editor

Ten days, 83 pages and one case study later, Saint Mary’s students took first place at the Indiana Certified Public Accounting Society’s (INCPAS) 2010 collegiate contest in Indianapolis earlier this month.

The team was given a scenario about a struggling accounting firm and wrote a report on how to deal with the issue. The team was comprised of juniors Allison Courtney and Maggie DePauw, seniors Betzy Reed and Maureen Temchuk and faculty advisor Mary Ann Merryman, chair of the Business Administration and Economics department.

The Saint Mary’s team comprised against 12 others from Indiana to win the contest, which was held Nov. 19.

The group had to put together a 50-page report and 30 pages of appendices in 10-day time frame, Courtney said. Then, the top six reports were chosen to present in Indianapolis. From those six, the Saint Mary’s team took an additional 20 pages of appendices in the 10-day time frame.

By AMANDA GRAY
News Writer

Headaches with printer issues should be alleviated by the beginning of next semester.

New Xerox 4510 printers will be placed in the residence halls and several other locations on campus, replacing the 3600 model currently in use, said Brian Burchett, manager of Technology Enhanced Learning Spaces for the Office of Information Technology (OIT).

"[The problems with printers] happened very quickly last year," Burchett said. “We were concerned with the Xerox 3600 printers in the residence halls."

The problems occurred when printing PDF files and because students began using the printers more, he said.

The University leases the printers from Xerox, and OIT decided to lease the 3600 model after looking at printer usage from previous years. The Xerox 4510 has more memory, faster print speed and is more user-friendly.
QUESTION OF THE DAY: WHAT WAS THE HIGHLIGHT OF YOUR THANKSGIVING BREAK?

Ariel Terpstra
Kate McGovern
Sophomore Pangborn
Sean Sail
Junior off campus
Alex Sajben
Senior Radin
Betsy McGovern
Sophomore Pangborn
Matthew Balkey
Senior Dillon

"Either the win against USC or all the Christmas baking we did yesterday."

"Breaking the eight-year losing streak."

"Basement Football League."

"When Harrison Smith caught that interception."

"My brother was on the news for winning his high school football game."

Have an idea for Question of the Day? E-mail obsphoto@gmail.com

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Scene
Mariana Frobes
Viewpoint
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'Bellezine' gives voice to College

By ASHLEY CHARNLEY
Saint Mary's Editor

When three Saint Mary's alumnas started the College's campus interest magazine, Bellezine, they wanted a publication that would give students "a voice of their own — a space to express their thoughts, ideas and knowledge," according to the magazine's first edition in 2002.

Eight years later, Bellezine is still publishing student-generated work, "reflecting the interests and experiences of" the students of the Saint Mary's, said co-editor Elis Wasserman, a junior.

The magazine published creative articles, essays, interviews, personal essays, interest articles and surveys.

"The content is broad, allowing students to publish many ideas," said Wasserman, who leads the magazine's broad, allowing students to publish many ideas, said Wasserman, who leads the magazine's "entire competition," according to the magazine's first edition in 2002.

Bellezine needs students to help keep it going because it allows students to voice their thoughts and beliefs about the college and what it means to be a woman.

"This magazine helps unify the campus community by truly expressing what it means to be a Belle," Wasserman said of the fall issue.

Wasserman said the magazine needs students to help keep it going because it allows students to voice their thoughts and beliefs about the college and what it means to be a woman.

"This magazine helps unify the campus community by truly expressing what it means to be a Belle," Wasserman said of the fall issue.

"We teach math, science … relationships," Regev said. "It's a cheeky play on Jane Austen characters."

Burchett said the problem was PDF printing was one of the main reasons for the change.

"Normally when you lease anything, there are penalties in breaking the lease early. Xerox is allowing us to upgrade (the printers) without any penalties," he said. "This is very beneficial to the University."

As Burchett said print problems until the new printers are installed, he said.

"People deal with these PDF printing issues that same skill set to create a relationship, Regev said.

"It's a cheeky play on Jane Austen characters."

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Ronald Johnson in the fourth quarter as a game-changing moment.

Senior Sarah Wanek said that dropped pass was when she began to believe the Irish would win.

“Being a Notre Dame fan, you always want to go in with the expectation that we will win even though we’ve been used to losing,” she said. “Especially with that dropped pass, once that happened, it gave me confidence that we would win.”

Reuvers said he breathed a sigh of relief when Johnson missed the pass.

“When he dropped the ball — that was the end zone we were in — everyone just let out a huge gasp,” he said. In between the masses of maroon at USC, students said Notre Dame fans had a strong presence at the game. Junior Caroline Walsh sat in the USC student section with a friend and said she could hear Irish fans cheering from across the stadium.

“When it got to the fourth quarter and USC was not doing well, I could hear Notre Dame fans cheering, ‘Let’s go Irish,’” Walsh said.

“Viewing that from the student section of USC and seeing the Irish fans getting rowdy in the rain was awesome,” Reuvers said Notre Dame made its mark on the pregame atmosphere on USC’s campus with numerous tailgates and displays of blue and gold.

“It felt like the Notre Dame tailgating experience was transplanted to Southern Cal,” he said. “It was almost like being home a little bit. Being surrounded by a sea of green felt good.”

But sitting in the USC student section sporting Irish colors, Walsh said she experienced some animosity.

“During the fourth quarter when it was so intense, I was getting some glares for cheering when everyone else was silent,” Walsh said.

Despite a storied rivalry between USC and Notre Dame, senior Kristen Tappel left the Coliseum with a positive impression of the USC fans surrounding her. One of her friends dressed for the warm weather before the game, and didn’t have a jacket when the weather turned cold and rainy.

“They saw that she didn’t have a jacket on her and gave her a blanket,” Tappel said. “Everyone was worried and offering blankets, trying to keep everyone dry and having a good time.”

Tappel said she is hopeful that this win will be a turning point for the football program.

“This is what [Irish coach Brian Kelly has been saying. Changes within the organization were hard to see with successful losses earlier on, and now those changes are starting to show,” she said.

Contact Madeline Buckley at mbuckley@nd.edu

Studies target childhood obesity

Special to The Observer

With the new Family Lifestyles and Heart to Heart projects, researchers at Notre Dame’s Center for Children and Families are taking direct aim at two major obstacles to healthy child development: childhood obesity and child maltreatment.

The Center for Children and Families, established in 2001 by Professors John Borkowski and Mark Cummings, works to improve the well-being of children and families through research and intervention.

Projects impact three key areas: income and health disparities; developmental disabilities and psychopathology; and optimization of development, education and learning. The center currently is conducting more than 20 research projects with faculty from economics, sociology, psychology, anthropol-

ogy, business and other disciplines.

“When you have a research center, you’re bringing in people who have different interests and experiences,” Julie Braunagart-Rieker, professor of psychology and the center’s director, said. “Yet there’s often a common issue that researchers would like to tackle, and that’s when it gets exciting.”

The Family Lifestyles Project, led by Braunagart-Rieker, Jennifer Burke Lefever, research assistant professor of psychology and Elizabeth Moore, associate professor of marketing, is an interdisciplinary study that examines environmental contributors to childhood obesity. At a time when one in five preschoolers is at risk of becoming obese before age six, a study of this kind is an essential first step to creating successful early intervention programs.
they looked at the X-ray image. A lot of people had to go back through because they had tissues in their pockets. “The whole experience was kind of freaky.” Thekkethala was one of many Notre Dame students who faced heightened security measures in response to new Transportation Security Administration guidelines. Thekkethala said the process of scanning every individual caused several delays. “It slowed security down a lot,” she said. “I would have definitely missed my flight if it hadn’t already been delayed.” The full body scanner is going to make everything take a lot longer.” The length of time airport security checks take is a constant complaint of travelers when discussing the worth of the multiple security checks at airports. Thekkethala said she found the new security measures to be “time-consuming,” but they did make her feel safer.

“I’ve experienced stricter security measures when I’ve flown in Europe,” she said. “These new scanners and other security are just steps the U.S. airlines are taking that probably need to happen anyway.” Junior Mitch Hemann also had to go through the full body scanner this past summer at the Minneapolis airport. He said the experience was “quick and painless,” and it wasn’t bothersome because every single passenger went through the scanner.

“A lot of people wonder if all these security measures are necessary when flying,” he said. “I don’t think the TSA would want to create more work for themselves. They have a better idea about security than I do.” But body scanners weren’t the only additional security measure in place over the holiday season. After sophomore Christina Mezes checked her bags and walked through a metal detector at the Toronto airport, she faced yet another security check. “I had to get my hands swabbed,” Mezes said. “They told me they were checking for any chemical substances, which I didn’t even know they did at airports.”

Junior Taylor Popplewell said she had an “invasive” pat down before she boarded her flight for Minneapolis out of Cancun, Mexico. They separated us into groups of girls and boys and everyone had to individually put down at the gate, even after we had done the regular security checks,” Popplewell said. “When we were in the Minneapolis airport, the U.S. officials were pulling people out of the line for random searches.” Although Popplewell said she found the pat down embarrassing, she said she appreciated the safety measures. “I definitely think these measures are necessary for international flights, but I don’t think they need to do quite as invasive searches for domestic flights.”

Taylor Popplewell senior

Contact Molly Madden at mmadden3@nd.edu

Mobilize Your Ideas!

Mobilize Your Ideas! 1st Notre Dame Mobile Development Contest Enter today. Your idea could be worth $10,000. The contest runs through April 29th, 2011.

Participants must register online before January 31st 2011 to be eligible to win one of the following prizes:

1st Prize: $10,000
2nd Prize: $5,000
3rd Prize: $2,500
Up to 5 additional prizes valued between $500 and $1,000 each.

For more information about the contest, to sign up for the newsletter, and to register, visit: mobilize-your-ideas.com

The Wireless Institute and the Notre Dame Energy Center invite all students, staff, faculty, and alumni of the University of Notre Dame to propose and develop (individually or in teams) creative solutions to challenges in Energy, Sustainability, and the Environment, using mobile technology.

WASHINGTON — Striking back, the Obama administration branded WikiLeaks executives guilty of a crime worse than a quarter-million-sensitive film leak. The State Department announced Sunday that WikiLeaks acted illegally in posting the material. She said the administration was taking “aggressive steps to hold responsible those who stole this information.”

Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton asserted Monday that WikiLeaks acted illegally in posting the material. She said the administration was taking “aggressive steps to hold responsible those who stole this information.”

Attorney General Eric Holder said the government was mounting a criminal investigation, and the Pentagon was tightening restrictions on small computer flash memory devices such as USBs and flash drives.

“This is not saber-rattling,” Holder said. “I want you to know that we are taking aggressive steps to hold responsible those who stole this information.”

Attorney General Eric Holder said it was possible those who stole this information could face criminal charges separately in civilian courts.

Col. Dave Lapan, a Pentagon spokesman, said it was possible that many people could be held accountable if they were found to have ignored security protocols or somehow enabled the download without authorization.
Ask the GreenMan

Dear GreenMan,

I really want to go to our bowl game this December, but I'm concerned about the environmental impact of traveling. Is it better to drive or to fly?

—Fan in Fisher

Dear Fan in Fisher,

As a diehard fan myself, I admire your devotion to the team as well as your eco-consciousness. Our bowl is expected to be somewhere in one of the southernmost U.S. states, meaning a trip of more than 1,000 miles each way. For short plane rides (under 300 miles), planes are way more energy-intensive than cars because most of the fuel is used for take-off and landing. But taking a plane all the way to the bowl is only a little worse than driving a car there by yourself.

However, if two people share a car, that’s half the emissions. If four people share the car, that’s a quarter the emissions you get the idea. If you can take a bus or a train, carpooling is definitely the best way to reduce your impact.

You might say, “But the plane is flying anyway, so isn’t it better to hop on than to drive?” It turns out that fuel usage in planes is directly correlated to take-off and landing. But taking a plane all the way to the bowl is only a little worse than driving a car there by yourself.

—The GreenMan

Quote of the Day

"Keep on going and the chances are you will stumble on something, perhaps when you least expect it. I have never heard of anyone stumbling on something sitting down."

—Charles F. Kettering, U.S. electrical engineer & inventor

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

Quote of the Day

"You are not here merely to make a living, but to be truly useful, to stand or fall by your work. Life is not measured by the breath you take, but by the breath you blow. Life is not measured by years, but by moments."

—Woodrow Wilson, 28th U.S. President
There’s an old adage of government spending, often attributed to the late Sen. Everett Dirksen — “A billion here, a billion there, and pretty soon you’re talking real money.”

The remark still echoes in the halls of Congress, mostly ignored by politicians who would rather waste time trying to ban earmarking, a useful practice which accounts for only 1 percent of the annual federal budget.

Republicans and Democrats alike hail it as a step toward government accountability and a shrinking deficit. Whether this is lame duck grandstanding or they seriously believe their own claims, it only takes a quick review of facts to realize it’s a step backwards.

The essence of earmarks is distributive. By definition, they are appropriations of funds in a spending bill to benefit local projects. This means attaching less earmarks doesn’t make the original bill any lighter, it only sends the funds in fewer directions.

Recall, as mentioned earlier, that earmarks account for only 1 percent of the annual federal budget, or $16 billion — not “real” money by any means, and a tripe compared to that wasted in health care spending.

Combine this fact with your knowledge of earmarks, and you’d be strained to make a strong logical link between banning them and shrinking the deficit.

Sen. Mitch McConnell — who until recently championed earmarks to vastly improve the capitol of his state of Kentucky — claims that “the abuse of [earmarking] has caused Americans to view it as a symbol of the waste and out-of-control spending that every Republican in Washington is determined to fight on the list at all.”

We can agree with everything but his solution. Yes, earmarks are a symbol, but that’s it. In a way, he admits a ban would be merely symbolic.

And indeed, there have been cases of abuse, that which comes to mind first is the infamous “bridge to nowhere,” an Alaskan bridge connecting the mainland to an island with a population of about fifty.

However, for every useless bridge and beer museum — whether you’ll refuse to use it because it’s worthless or not, it’s a sharing of a useful practice which exists for the public good.

If the problem is money going to underserving projects, then why not ban that instead?

Which brings the focus on the politicians who’ve been fighting earmarks all along, most famously Sen. John McCain, who recently teamed up with Oklahoma’s own Sen. Tom Coburn.

Together, they are pushing for a Senate vote on an earmark moratorium.

McCaoin and Coburn maintain that earmarks are corrupting and shady, but in more cases they actually serve as tools of compromise.

They’re also fairly transparent, with a modern application process and records kept on representative and senator websites.

Again, if politicians have problems with the process, why not reform it rather than pass a temporary ban? It’s counterproductive and keeps funding from worthwhile recipients.

The world of government is full of examples. The State Department’s files, however, will certainly be revelations, as the nation seems uniquely under pressure from Assange and his team.

Adding information to the public domain on important issues — this is a journalistic duty few would deny. Major publications will certainly be excited to see what Wikileaks publishes this time, as they have in the past.

New York Times, for example,Espionage as well as how the “war of words,” and a whole feature, “The War Logs,” to analyze Wikileaks’ postings on the Iraq war. Yet this latest batch of documents concern U.S. diplomatic affairs around the world, from confidential assessments by ambassadors about foreign leaders to the private communications from Washington to individual embassies. This latest broadside from Wikileaks makes the journalistic position more important.

In a blog post yesterday, Blake Hounshell of Foreign Policy asked if Wikileaks has gone too far. Hounshell admitted to being eager to see the documents but expressed doubt about undermining the ability of diplomats to do their jobs and Wikileaks’ dismissal of it’s role.

The group argues that the world should have as many classified documents as possible — any nation, any time.

That’s not really how it’s working out. It’s now increasingly hard to ignore an anti-American vendetta in Assange’s efforts. Documents about U.S. operations in Iraq and Afghanistan may have informed the public in meaningful ways — even if they apparently had nothing new for those living in the region. With the State Department’s files, however, there will certainly be revelations, and many seem more likely to embarrass and damage U.S. foreign policy than do anything else.

The Secretary of State Hillary Clinton has been leading efforts to mitigate the ongoing onslaught by reaching out to world leaders before ambassadors’ private observations of them come into light.

The Secretary, in an interview as START — the Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty with Russia — could be jeopardized.

One might argue that Assange has no vendetta against the United States and that Wikileaks is a U.S.-focused documents because they are not available to his group.

Consider Assange’s own words, however: “The material that we are about to release covers essentially every major issue in every country in the world.” So, ignoring the Assange stance, we have to consider possibilities.

The State Department has taken the position that these documents were obtained illegally and will risk the lives of various individuals. Assange has denied his of ability to negotiate on individual redactions, a possible compromise with which the U.S. government is inherently suspect. Yet secrecy is not always sinister. The unfortunate by-product of this release is that, as Wikileaks publishes by massive salvo, not by individual scoop, the United States will suffer politically in areas we cannot yet predict.

Like the rest of the journalistic field, I am usually excited by the prospect of breaking news that holds governments and large corporations accountable for their actions. As an American journalist, I cannot help but feel uneasy at Wikileaks’ actions.

Whether by circumstance or by design, Assange seems to be harming the country’s ability to operate. Because I reject the notion that all American operations are wrongful, I cannot view this release of documents as simply a journalist’s bonanza.

We can hope that the release of these documents encourages government accountability and contributes to the public discourse. That Assange’s latest efforts will have yielded a positive contribution for the glacial to the public may be increasingly suspicious that this will not be the case.

This column first appeared in the Nov. 29 edition of The Crimson Daily, the publication serving the University of Oklahoma.

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

Write a Letter to the Editor.
My Fellow Domers, it is good to see you all once again enjoying the crown jewel of life at Notre Dame, your dining hall. Let us take a journey into the social, cultural and, dare I say, romantic opportunities available at North and South Dining Halls. If you have been waiting for the opportunity to step your game up from the occasional awkward weekend hook-up to the equally awkward dining hall first date, you can impress with the following culinary savviness.

Main Dish

The Deluxe DH Burger

1) Get a well-done patty and add cheese to taste.
2) Spread butter on the inside of each half of the bun, and toast them in the toaster.
3) Mix together mayonnaise, ketchup, mustard, diced onions, salt and garlic powder and apply liberally to each bun half.
4) Place the patty on the bun and top with lettuce and tomato.
5) Garnish with a pickle-speare, fries, chips, onion rings and potato poppers based on availability.
6) As an extra bonus, if fresh bacon is available, be sure to add it on top of the cheese, because bacon improves pretty much everything.

Dinner Discussion: Dining Hall Dating

The key to this recipe is making two burgers, and getting two straw for the one milkshake. As a courtesy to your date, be sure to check what burger toppings he or she prefers, or if he or she will need a veggie burger, before you aim to impress with your dining hall cooking skills.

After the meal is prepared, the next key is picking a perfect spot to eat. Show your date that you are compassionate by arranging the meeting in his or her “home” dining hall to ensure your date feels as comfortable as possible.

For the first date, select one of the more secluded areas in the dining hall to ensure that you will be shielded from prying eyes or the well-intentioned friend who ends up crashing as a third wheel. In North, go for a circle table in one of the lower levels, but not too close to a television so that you can be sure the focus is on the conversation. In South, opt for one of the small tables lining the edges to guarantee a level of privacy.

After the meal, at an appropriate lull in the conversation, excuse yourself to fetch dessert. The break will allow your date to think about how great their drink and take a seat while you handle the menu. Whip up this classic burger to impress even the most discerning of diners.

Dessert

Cookies and Cream Shake

1) Put two scoops of chocolate ice cream into a cup.
2) Fill the cup half way with milk.
3) Add 4 heaping scoops of crushed Oreos to the top of the cup.
4) Drizzle chocolate syrup into the mixture.
5) With a knife, blend all the ingredients together in the cup until thoroughly mixed.
6) Top with whipped cream from the waffle station.

By COURTNEY ECKERLE

Not many British artists can sling on the boots of Americana music quite so comfortably as Elvis Costello, which he does, and then some, on his latest album, “National Ransom.” His 10th album in 11 years, it’s the result of years of dabbling in every genre known to man and in many parts the best music past decades have had to offer. It’s a jump, dance hall, vaudeville, rock ’n roll serenade courtesy of the powerhouse musician and songwriter Costello.

Paired for the second time with producer T-Bone Burnett (the first time being his last album, “Secret, Profane and Secure”), Costello cements his status as a musical bard, tramping his way through musical history. The storytelling on this album is both heart wrenching and fun.

The finger-picking “Dr. Watson, I presume,” for instance, is an ode to real life. The song showcases the showman himself, vaudevillian Jimmie getting drenched at a Lancashire train station.

“Where have you been all my life?” is what one feels after a mosfawell. Costello fever. Not as sweet as it is sour, “National Ransom,” it’s easy to catch the jump-jive and shake, ratte and roll Costello fever. Not as sweet as it seems at first, it’s also an old-fashioned protest of the wolves on Wall Street, with the lines, “Mother’s in the kitchen picking bones for breakfast/There’s a wolf at the window with a ravenous maw.”

“My Lovely Jezebel,” “That’s Not The Part of Him You’re Leaving” is the depressing country slow song you love to croon on a long, lonely road trip home, preferably with a howling hound dog at your side. It’s also perfect for a leading man to drown his sorrows in at a dusty saloon somewhere.

Contact Courtney Eckerle at ccker01@stmarys.edu
“Tangled,” the new princess story directed by Nathan Greno and Byron Howard and produced by Roy Conli, is yet another cute, colorful and crisp 3-D feature by Disney, just the kind of movie viewers have come to expect. Starring the vocal talents of Mandy Moore as the endearing Rapunzel, Zachary Levi as the charming Flynn Ryder, and Donna Murphy as the savvy but evil Mother Gothel, “Tangled” is a fairly cookie cutter Disney classic fairy tale for the holidays.

Continuing the tradition of Disney’s more recent films starring strong, coming-of-age princesses, Rapunzel is exactly where we expect, longing for what we expect her to want — a way into the world and out of that tower. The audience finds themselves in the typical fantasy kingdom composed of a happy lower class, ruthless royal guards, surprisingly lovable thieves and thugs and a princess in a pink and purple dress. Complete with a villain played by the foster mother and good-looking hero/love interest come to help set her free from eternal grounding, all the ingredients are present to make a successful Disney animated feature.

With a few pleasant and passionate songs thrown in, “Tangled” pleases musical, adventurous and overall cheerful audiences alike. Though not nearly as scary, dramatic or suspenseful as some of the Disney masterpieces of the 1990’s, it is to be expected for a film whose target audience is younger girls. Although there is intermittent action, a movie predominantly about a timid girl with fabulous hair who longs to escape and fulfill her dreams is hardly an hour and a half to please most fellows in the crowd. Despite a few exciting chase scenes involving royal guards and Viking-esque thugs, it just barely earns itself a PG rating. Of course a Disney movie would not be complete without humor. Though both the physical and visual humor to please the children and the somewhat clever dialogue to please those who took the children are present, don’t expect to be laughing your head off throughout the movie.

With the strong, obvious fairy tale theme, this colorful and fun film is a pretty good choice for a predominantly female audience. Though it’s an entertaining retelling of a classic fairy tale, the young female protagonist’s efforts are still strongly colored by a princess theme. Even the heroic male lead next to her matches the female ideal — clever, handsome and a bad boy—in Disney terms, anyway.

Walk, but don’t necessarily run, to see “Tangled” with younger sisters or cousins. It has enough action and humor to keep you interested, enough fun music to get you humming and enough of a plot to keep you from falling asleep. But not enough to keep you on the edge of your seat. You might not guess the whole plot, but you’ll get pretty close. Surely we have all come to the realization that Disney movies are good, but terribly predictable. Not this decade’s next animated masterpiece, but another enjoyable Disney movie. Overall, “Tangled” is another addition to the Disney princess repertoire.

My past two playlists played on the “Aggressively Casual” theme, actively trying to be calm and chill.

This week, flipping the concept around, is a list of songs that while relaxed and casual in their sound, are aggressive in their lyrics. They exude a swagger and exemplify the feeling of the Irish winning three straight football games.

Listen online at ndsmcobserver.com/scene

Casually Aggressive
by Ankur Chawla

1. Forget You — Cee Lo Green
2. Smack That — Akon
3. Heartless — Kanye West
4. Erase Me — Kid Cudi
5. Let’s Get It On — Marvin Gaye
6. Roses — Outkast
7. Flake — Jack Johnson
8. Somebody Told Me — The Killers
9. Makes Me Wonder — Maroon 5
10. Cooler Than Me — Mike Posner
11. Afternoon Delight — Starland Vocal Band
12. Bye Bye Bye — NSYNC

By CLAIRE STEPHENS
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Associated Press

FORT WORTH, Texas — TCU is getting out of future debates about whether the Horned Frogs deserve to be in a BCS game. They are joining a league with automatic bids to the BCS, a position that has eluded a small private school for years.

The Frogs won’t have to be a BCS buster when they move to the Big East Conference, starting with the 2012 season. Their new league and team will be guaranteed a spot in one of the big-money games.

In the latest restructuring of the major college football landscape, TCU’s board of trustees unanimously approved an invitation Monday to join the Big East in football and all other sports. The move from the Mountain West Conference becomes official July 1, 2012.

TCU athletic director Del Conte said gaining automatic-qualifying status “was a big factor” in the move and gives the Horned Frogs “the greatest opportunity to compete for the national championship.”

The Big East, currently with eight football teams, has one of six automatic BCS slots.

“It is not the road we chose not to take,” said Frogs coach Gary Patterson, whose third-ranked Frogs (12-0) wrapped up their second consecutive undefeated regular season and Mountain West title with a 66-17 win at New Mexico on Saturday.

The move comes in BCS stand-ings—the highest-ranked non- automatic qualifying team—and is the second significant change to the national championship if Auburn, Alabama, Texas, Oklahoma and Oregon lose this weekend. The Frogs likely will play in the Rose Bowl if Auburn and Oregon fall.

“Who would have thought five years ago that the guaranteed fallback position is, you’re going to the Rose Bowl, and one loss is the same home that we bought, that we joined,” he said. “It’s not the same home that we bought, it’s not same home we were invited to, and things changed, the landscape changed.”

Boise State president Bob Kustra called TCU’s decision disappointing “but not entirely surprising” given the stakes of automatic qualification in the BCS bowl system and relative lack of access for non-AQ conferences.”

He said the Mountain West was still a good fit for his school.

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Patterson said, “I’ll say this, we don’t seem to get bored around here.”

The pending departure of TCU continues a big shuffle for the Mountain West, which last summer announced that Boise State was leaving the Western Athletic Conference to join its league in 2011. That was expected to bolster the strength of the WAC, but put Boise State in a better position for possibly gaining an automatic BCS berth in the future. But now so much has changed.

TCU set for Big East move

Associated Press

NEW YORK — Sidney Crosby extended his point streak to 13 games and the Pittsburgh Penguins won their seventh straight by beating the New York Rangers 4-1 on Monday night.

The Penguins, 9-0-1 in their past 10, haven’t lost since failing to score in the second period of a 3-1 home loss on Nov. 15. Their previous loss in regulation was Nov. 11 against Boston, when Brent Johnson beat Calgary on the strength of Crosby’s hat trick that included the captain’s 200th NHL goal.

Crosby, the leader in votes for the upcoming All-Star game, assisted on Letang’s fifth of the season. Crosby has 12 goals and 14 assists during this point streak. The leader in scoring leads the league with 41 points, two more than Tampa Bay’s Steven Stamkos.

Crosby finished with a point in the closing minutes. Marian Gaborik returned after a game-long absence but feeling the effects of the flu, and scored in the second period to cut the Penguins’ deficit to 3-1 with his fifth goal. Henrik Lundqvist stopped 31 shots while making his fourth straight start following a two-game rest.

The Rangers earned a rare victory over the Penguins in the only other meeting this season, despite not having a single power play.

But Pittsburgh re-established its dominance over New York in the rematch, improving to 18-5-8 since the start of the 2006-07 season.

Despite confetti that fell onto the ice late in the game, there was little for Rangers fans at Madison Square Garden to celebrate.

New York had won four of five before Monday, including back-to-back wins over Florida and Nashville on its just-complet- ed road trip. The Penguins are 6-0-3 since Nov. 1, and haven’t lost at home since Oct. 18 and Nov. 7.

Crosby started doing damage 5:10 in, less than a minute after Pittsburgh forward Chris Kunitz recorded the first shot for either team.

New York’s Ruslan Fedotenko dropped the puck at his skates in his zone, but it got away to Maxime Talbot, who skated in front of the net and beat Lundqvist from in close to make it 1-0 just 6:05 into the game. New York hadn’t scored an 8-6 advantage through one period, but their control didn’t last.

Pittsburgh broke out fast in the second, and spent most of the period in the Rangers’ end with the puck on their sticks.

The Rangers had scored 5-3-3 shots in the period and broke open the game, when Letang and Conner connected 1:15 apart to build the 3-0 lead late from.

Letang took a beautiful backhand pass from Crosby that went around the left post and skated for a one-timer that got past Lundqvist at 12:01. Conner received the puck from Tyler Kennedy in the slot and zipped a shot over Rangers defensemen Steve Eminger and in at 13:16.

Gaborik got the Rangers on the board after an uncovered snap shot that found its way past Fleury with 3:41 left in the sec- ond.
Johnson, Finnegan handed fines, not suspended

Associated Press

HOUSTON — Andre Johnson called NFL Commissioner Roger Goodell on Monday morning, before the league fined Houston’s star receiver and Tennessee cornerback Cortland Finnegan $25,000 each for their fight a day earlier.

Johnson did not speak with Goodell, but left a message. Johnson said that Goodell called back and left a voicemail while the Texans were preparing to practice on Monday night.

“I just think that was something that I needed to do, just to communicate with him and let him know my side,” Johnson said. “I’ll give him a call back and whenever we get a chance, we’ll talk.

Neither player was suspended after they slug it out in the fourth quarter of Houston’s 20-0 victory.

Finnegan set off the brawl by jabbing at Johnson’s neck and face mask at the line of scrimmage. Johnson ripped off Finnegan’s helmet and landed at least two punches to Finnegan’s head and neck. The two spun each other, and Finnegan tore off Johnson’s helmet before players and referees intervened.

Houston (5-6) plays at Philadelphia (7-4) on Thursday night, and Johnson said he was relieved to learn that he’d be allowed to play.

“That’s something I have been thinking about ever since the incident happened,” Johnson said. “I’m happy that I’m not suspended. But there’s not really anything I can say, or tell them.”

Finnegan did not speak to reporters after Sunday’s game, but talked about it Monday on his weekly radio show. Finnegan said Johnson “snapped,” and added that if he had punched Johnson, the NFL likely would have suspended him.

“This is the NFL, not the NHL, and it’s a higher standard,” Finnegan said. “That’s the NFL. They fight. They get penalized for that. The NFL, it’s not even heard of ... you do that, you’re suspended. Hands down. That’s what I’ve been taught.

“I guess he got his money’s worth.”

This was the second time they scuffled during a game. Last season, Johnson was fined $7,500 for taking Finnegan to the ground by the face mask.

Finnegan plans to appeal the fine for Sunday’s brawl. He said he felt like the game was going pretty good, other than the fact that he probably had that built up over last year’s time,” Finnegan said.

Finnegan also told the Web site he didn’t think he deserved a suspension or a fine.

“I didn’t throw a punch. It’s not a fineable offense,” he said. “There’s nothing I did that felt like was a fineable offense. Maybe a flag for quick-jamming him and hitting him in the face mask. But there’s no way that I thought that that would ever be a suspension.”

Finnegan was fined for personal fouls in three consecutive games earlier this season and was warned by the league after the third incident to watch his behavior after the whistle.

Johnson, meanwhile, has built a clean-cut, soft-spoken image in eight seasons. He doesn’t think the ugly incident will change that.

“I think anybody who really knows me, I don’t think I’ve damaged my reputation,” he said. “I can say that you can only take so much from a person before you explode. Texans coach Gary Kubiak said he never expected Johnson to be suspended.

“I didn’t think that would happen,” he said. “I think the league does a great job of evalu- ating every situation. Andre’s reputation as a player and a person speaks for itself.”

Johnson wouldn’t say if he was surprised that Finnegan wasn’t suspended. The Titans (5-6) play Jacksonville (5-6) on Sunday.

“Can he say what he wants to say,” Johnson said. “I’m not going to keep talking about him. He’s just looking for attention, I’m not worried about that.”

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Finnegan didn’t throw a punch, Fisher said in his opinion. Finnegan didn’t throw a punch, but he got his money’s worth.

Neither player was suspended after they slugged it out in the fourth quarter of Sunday night’s Houston Rockets game with full- back Vonta Leach and got a standing ovation when he was introduced during a timeout.

“I couldn’t do anything but laugh,” Johnson said. “At the same time, it just shows the fans were still behind me, and still showing support, so I really appreciated it.”

Titans coach Jeff Fisher, co- chairman of the NFL’s competi- tion committee, spoke with league officials earlier Monday. Fisher said in his opinion Finnegan didn’t throw a punch, but he got his money’s worth.

“A lot of things that happen,” Johnson said. “I’m happy that I’m not suspended. I have very strong opinions about the fact I think he should not be suspended.”

Fisher said of Finnegan, “As far as what the league decides to do, that’s a league decision.

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SMC BASKETBALL

Belles split weekend games

By JOE WIRTH
Sports Writer

The Belles suffered their first loss of the season Saturday but rebounded Sunday to improve to 9-1 in nonconference play. Playing at the Julie Costello Memorial Classic, hosted by Thomas More in Crestview Hills, Ky., Saint Mary's fell to Wilmington, 57-44, and beat Otterbein, 56-51.

Interim Belles coach Patrick Daniel said the win was crucial for the team to avoid any negative momentum heading into conference play.

“It is always key to be able to bounce back from a loss in your next game. No team wants to be on a losing streak,” Daniel said.

Forward Kelley Murphy and guard Patsy Mahoney, both juniors, were named to the all-tournament team.

“Murphy tallied a double-double with 14 points in the winning effort. Senior Liz Wade had a big hand in the Belles’ victory as she filled up the stat sheet with five rebounds, five steals, five assists and three points. The Belles got off to a hot start in the first half and had a 30-22 lead at halftime. But they were tested in the second half when the Cardinals came out of the locker room strong with a 10-2 run to tie the game. Otterbein took a three-point lead, but that was when the Belles answered with a run of their own. They reeled off a 12-2 run to take command of the game, and with solid free throw shooting down the stretch, Saint Mary’s put away the Cardinals for good. Daniel said he knows how important the Belles’ second half performance was.

“At half-time we told the team that Otterbein is well-coached and a very good team, so they needed to be prepared for a run. It was our hope to extend the lead early, but we had some turnovers, missed some shots and did not score for the first four minutes of the second half,” Daniel said. “But our team knew that our defense must dictate our offense and having caused 27 turnovers in the game, making some key shots, and going 4-for-4 from the free throw line in the final minute helped lead us in winning this highly contested game.”

Daniel said the team’s first loss to Wilmington included a lot of self-inflicted setbacks that cost the Belles the game. He said they cleaned up many of those mistakes versus the Cardinals and that helped them pull out the win.

“Saturday’s loss to Wilmington was based on a lot of missed chances and opportunities for us,” Daniel said. “We knew on Sunday that we needed to convert those same type of shots missed on Saturday, continue to play good pressure defense and we would give ourselves a chance of winning a game against Otterbein.”

The Belles will be in action next for their home and conference opener Saturday against No. 23 Calvin.

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Bears continued from page 16

Golden Bears to just five points in the first half. Senior forward Carleton Scott led Notre Dame in that game with 16 points and 10 rebounds. He was the only Irish player to score in double figures in each game of the tournament, which earned him a spot on the all-tournament team along with fourth-year forward Tim Abromaitis.

Notre Dame continued its dominant defensive performance in the finals as Wisconsin scored just nine points in the first half in the Irish’s 58-51 win. The Badgers rallied to take an 11-point lead over the Irish in the second half, but Notre Dame used a 15-0 run in the final four minutes to pull away. Scott and freshman guard Eric Atkins led Notre Dame with 12 points apiece, and Abromaitis’ 10-point, nine-rebound effort helped him earn the tournament’s Most Valuable Player award. In the final two games of the tournament, Notre Dame held California and Wisconsin to a combined 30.5 percent from the field.

“I think we showed a lot of people out there that we still have some fight in us.”

Tim Abromaitis

Irish forward

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For more information, please contact: Tami Schmitz at 574-631-3016 or tami.schmitz@nd.edu

Tuesday, November 30, 2010
away from Butler early in Sunday’s contest, as the Bulldogs trailed just 16-14 with less than 10 minutes remaining in the first half. Butler’s timely three-point shooting kept the contest close, as the squad shot 30 percent from beyond the arc.

“They had 10 wide open 3s in the first half,” McGraw said. “They were really open — that’s a problem for our defense. We got caught in screens, we didn’t communicate — we just weren’t paying attention enough. I wasn’t really happy with the three-point defense today.”

Notre Dame’s struggles at the three-point line continued. The team went 0-for-7 from three-point land in the first half, but finished 3-for-13 after Novosel and senior guard Brittany Mallory connected in the second.

“We actually weren’t going to shoot any [threes] in the second half,” McGraw said. “Our best offense was going inside — the mid-post was really open in their zone. We had the weak-side pin. We really could have exploited the post a little bit more, but we didn’t.”

Lifted by Novosel’s 20 points and 5 rebounds, the Irish took advantage of a porous Butler defense late in the first to extend their lead to 37-21 at the break. Sophomore guard Skylar Diggins chipped in 11 points, seven assists and five rebounds as the squad closed out its third game in three days with a win.

Diggins said the intense schedule over the weekend should benefit the team as it prepares for its upcoming match against No. 2 Baylor (7-1) on Wednesday.

“Although there will be holes to fill, we think that with the young players we have coming back supplemented with a really strong recruiting class we are in a really good position,” Brown said. “A lot of times this year, we would have four freshmen on the court at the same time. They gained significant playing time, and that will be huge for us when next season rolls around.”

Contact Michael Todisco at mtodisco@nd.edu
Senior
continued from page 14

Spice Classic affirmed that possibility as a reality. The Irish are undefeated through seven games, tied for the best start in Mike Brey’s tenure as head coach, and they have done it collectively. No one player has stood out above the rest as the de facto star of the team, and that’s just what Notre Dame needs. While it’s nice to have a dominant player who can be counted on for 25 points per game, it’s also relative- ly easy to game plan against. This Irish squad is far from being easily defen- ded. That is not to say that par- ticular players haven’t given star performances, only that it has not been the same player every night. Ben Hansbrough led Notre Dame in scoring in each of the first three games and looked to be their go-to guy. When his hot hand suddenly went cold in Orlando, players like Tim Abromaitis, Carlson Scott and Tyrone Nash picked up the slack. Four Irish players are averaging double digits, which makes them infinitely harder to defend.

Hansbrough was particularly cold in the first round of the Old Spice Classic against Georgia, and Scott Martin looked timid. Because of their diversity, though, Brey was able to give the ball-handling responsibility to Eric Atkins, and Martin sat down the stretch. But when Nash struggled to get into the flow of the game in the champi- onship against Wisconsin, he sat and Martin contributed when the game was on the line.

With so many talented play- ers, Notre Dame’s offense doesn’t stall because of one man’s off-night. If Hansbrough isn’t shooting well, Abromaitis will. If the defense is over-playing the perimeter, Nash can score in the paint. Atkins can handle the ball and slow the pace, or Hansbrough can speed things up and put pres- sure on defense.

The most important aspect of this team, though, is not their diver- sity: it is that they are comfort- able utilizing it. Starting five seniors who know how to play together, who know each other’s strengths and weak- nesses is invaluable. They know not only how to put themselves in good spots, but how to put each other in those spots as well. And they have fun doing it.

Notre Dame is only seven games in, and hasn’t faced a single Big East opponent, but this team is showing signs of life. They give everything they have on the floor, and that effort is paying off. Fortunately, they are talented too, and those two strengths go a long way in the making of a successful season.

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

Contact Allan Joseph at ajoseph2@nd.edu

Sioux
continued from page 16

Friday’s matchup, dominating the first period and taking a 2- 0 lead on the strength of a 15-3 advantage in shots on goal. Notre Dame (9-4-2) was rarely able to break out of its own zone all game Friday night. Though freshman winger David Gerths would bring the Irish back to a single-goal deficit midway through the second period, North Dakota would answer each Notre Dame goal with a score of its own to reopen its two-goal advantage.

“Our guys weren’t as sharp as they needed to be (Friday),” Jackson said. “The two-goal deficit in the first period put us on our heels a bit. We couldn’t get the job done Friday night.”

Irish sophomore goateharderplayer Matt Kinnon found 39 shots on the night, finishing the night with 33 saves.

“It was a challenging envi- ronment for him and our defense didn’t play up to expectations,” Jackson said. “I thought he played well enough to come back the next night (instead of being replaced by freshman Steven Summerhays).”

Johnson did just that Saturday night, putting on one of his best performances of the year in the 2-2 draw in front of another sold-out crowd. He made a season-high 39 saves including three crucial saves on the penalty kill in overtime to preserve the tie.

“Saturday night (Johnson) helped us stay in the game and he did what he had to do,” Jackson said. “He played extremely well on Saturday.”

The Fighting Sioux broke through first on Saturday at the halfway point of the sec- ond period, but the Irish answered four minutes later with a short-handed goal from freshman TJ Tynan. Notre Dame currently leads the country in shutpered goals with seven on the season.

North Dakota opened the third period on the power play and converted to take a 2-1 lead early in the final stanza. As the third period rolled on, it seemed the Irish would have to take a disappointing pair of losses back to South Bend, but with just 3:03 remaining in regulation, sopho- more defensemen Sam Calabrillo scored his first col- legiate goal off a rebound from a Tynan shot to earn the 2-2 tie.

“We were a better team on Saturday night,” Jackson said. “We were less impacted by the environment. The kids com- peted hard.”

The games against North Dakota were the fifth and sixth of an extremely difficult stretch of eight games which started against No. 11 Michigan and then-No. 17 Michigan State. The stretch will close with a trip to Ohio to play two games against No. 6 Miami on Friday and Saturday.

“It’s a grueling schedule for us. My thing is that if it doesn’t kill you, it makes you stronger, so we’re still alive,” Jackson said. “It’s going to be another challenging series for us. It’s going to be a tough weekend, and we’re going to have to play better than we did last weekend.”

Contact Eric Prister at eprister@nd.edu

Fowlkes
continued from page 16

an insurance goal in the final minute to seal a trip to the semifinals.
(Tucker) almost came out of the game in the first half because she injured her ankle pretty badly,” Waldrum said. “To see her suck it up and stay in there, and then actual- ly the game-winning goal and the icing on the cake at the end says a lot about the heart she has to play through the injury. It was a good night.”

Notre Dame heads to the College Cup for the 12th time in program history and the sixth time in seven years. The squad will take on the third-seeded Ohio State Buckeyes Friday for a chance to play for a national title on Sunday.

“Probably what was one of the hardest draws we’ve had in the four years I’ve been here, and yet I think we prob- ably handled these four games as well as we’ve handled [them] in any years,” Waldrum said. “I think the girls have been great about their focus and really paying attention to the game plan.”

Contact Chris Masoud at cmasoud@nd.edu

Senior defender Lauren Fowlkes advances the ball during Notre Dame’s 4-0 win over USC at Alumni Stadium Nov. 14.
Crossword

Across
1 With 77, Across, event of 10/09/10
6 A 180° turnabout for Bill O’Reilly used by 39- Across
12 Duck, as a question
15 Real comedian
16 Tolksy’s Karoema
17 See 1-Across
22 Knotty
23 White House facial (p)
24 Deals in a fantasy league
28 Gambler’s best friend
29 Supreme Court’s separator
30 ___ Mountains, interest, e.g.
31 Michael of “Scott Pilgrim vs. the World”
32 1918 song girl whose name is Parsing with a stutter
33 Final Four int.
34 Brought into the world
35 Utah ski resort
37 Informal reply to “Who’s there?”
40 Wager
42 2 or 3 on the Richter scale, maybe
43 Jane Austen meddler
45 Tempest
46 Wrestling duo

41 Organizer of the NY Times Crossword
44 Until display
45 Tempst
47 Troubadour’s song
48 Object of boating
51 Enery’s kid
53 “Shake ___”
54 With 65-Across, event of 10/09/10
59 Song part
61 Duo
63 Breakfast place that’s often open 24 hrs.
66 “Care name,” e.g.
69 Cook in a way, e.g.
70 In an OK city
71 Not straight
72 Award won for 39- and 41- Across’s programs
73 “The Fish Head Band” here

Down
1 “Darn it!”
2 To have, to
3 Pater of “Casablanca”
4 Doodles
5 They are 3 ft. long.
6 Annual construction site
8 “The Tall-Tale Heart” writer
9 Offered for breeding
10 Eric who played the Hulk in 2003
11 An OK city
12 Throw in a few chips, say
13 Tampa Bay team
14 How a practical joke or a subway train may be taken
15 Be All You Can Be group
20 2.5%/year interest, e.g.
21 Rodeo rope
26 Rodeo rope
28 Gambler’s best friend
29 Supreme Court’s separator
31 Michael of “Scott Pilgrim vs. the World”
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61 Duo
63 Breakfast place that’s often open 24 hrs.
66 “Care name,” e.g.
69 Cook in a way, e.g.
70 In an OK city
71 Not straight
72 Award won for 39- and 41- Across’s programs
73 “The Fish Head Band” here

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39 40 41 42 43 44 45 46 47 48 49 50 51 52 53 54 55 56 57 58 59 60 61 62 63 64 65 66 67 68 69 70 71 72 73 74 75 76 77 78 79 80 81 82 83 84 85 86 87 88 89 90 91 92 93 94 95 96 97 98 99 100 101 102 103 104 105 106 107 108 109 110 111 112 113 114 115 116 117 118 119 120

THE MATING RITUAL

As you can see, hometown honeys took a big hit over Thanksgiving break, but club Fever hookups, Notre-dating, and “focusing on school” are still holding strong.

THE MATING RITUAL

JAMES SOLLITTO, CODY ECKERT and JOHN FLATLEY

WILL SHORTZ

EUGENIA LAST

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY

ANNIE Potts, 43; Eric Clapton; 46; Andrew McCracken, 41; Howie Mandel, 57;

Happy Birthday! Thank what you start before moving on to something new. You will have personal success this year. Try getting up on time, or you may have fun in your standard work with such matters. Try not to involve delays and delays in the end. Focus on what’s important. Be careful not to make your mental model control. Your numbers are 1, 5, 17, 23, 35, 38, 41.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) Don’t waste time arguing about something you cannot change. Be prepared for circumstances your way, if not realize them beforehand, instead of getting stuck, will bring you much closer to getting what you want. A tight budget is in order.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) A private understanding regarding your financial position may be less accurate than you think. If you are not ready to make changes and make it self-controlling.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21) Look at the overall information you have before rushing to self-consulting. You may be pointed at the date for a quick fix for information that isn’t in the red, and will not try to enter. Start work and maximize on your bright reputation.

CANCER (June 22-July 22) Focus on home, family and keeping a family reputation. Cautious any responsible actions at this is the best that you can do and will and unnecessary. The way you handle situations will lead to a position in the near future.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) Impassion action to emotional support will pay off in the end. You must start on work and productivity and lose on spending money. Put any challenge with confidence and play to win. Avoid medical problems.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) You’ll have to juggle several issues if you don’t want to upset the people with whom you spend most of your time. A straight forward manner will catch you off guard but for their benefit they should be in someone else’s advantage. Act fast, but not in anger.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) There will be a lot of information left unclear. Big deep before you make a decision. You have had little issue with what you do or don’t want. An effort will be made to give you as little information as possible. You should be aware of.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) Speaking and writing will be in your opinion that can cause you to change related. An amount of indication will lead to your success. A material decisions are those who will lead to your opportunity. A successful cooperation is key.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) Balti must be maintained, especially where areas span from food services areas are concerned. Look after your own interests and personal properties. If you want to make sure that everything is taken care of properly before you’re ever.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) You have to decide time, space and your skills to some- thing that will help you make your financial stability, family or career stability. Don’t be afraid to speak up on your business. Timing is crucial.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20) Be careful but don’t be too quick to reverse. You have to be sure that you are not spending your money. Please ensure that you are not involved in any professional partnership will end inastic. Control your emotions.

Birthday Baby: You are nimble and always looking for adventure. You are charming enough to let a helpful but not a prideful feeling solution to problems.

THE OBSERVER

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ND MEN’S BASKETBALL

Smells like victory

Team takes on Indiana State after tourney win

By MIKE GOTIMER
Sports Writer

No. 25 Notre Dame will try to continue its winning ways against Indiana State at home Tuesday after a first-place finish in the Old Spice Classic this past week.

It was unclear just how far the Irish (7-0) could go in the tournament after an 89-83 double overtime victory over Georgia (4-2) on Thanksgiving in which Notre Dame trailed by as many 13 points in the second half. The Irish rallied, however, relying on strong defensive efforts against California (3-2) and Wisconsin (4-2) to clinch the program’s third preseason tournament title.

The Irish put up a record-setting performance in their 57-44 win over California at the Old Spice Classic in Orlando, Fla. Nov. 26.

"It was a great crowd for [Oklahoma State]," Irish coach Randy Waldrum said. "Right from the opening whistle, we took control of the game. I thought we played with a lot of confidence. I thought the kids managed the last 15 or 20 minutes really well. Instead of panicking, I thought the kids handled that last spell, that last run, really well."

In front of a sellout crowd of 2,660 at Cowgirl Soccer Complex, the No. 7 Irish (19-2-2) turned in another complete performance, stifling an Oklahoma State offense that featured forward Krista Lopez, the second-leading scorer in the Big 12 during the regular season.

While Notre Dame’s offense struggled to find the back of the net in the first half, the Irish outshot No. 6 Oklahoma State (20-4-2) by a 10-1 margin. "OSU did a great job of minimizing real good looks at the goal," Waldrum said. "We dominated in terms of the possession and not allowing them any opportunities. It was one of those games when you get into halftime, you were concerned that you hadn’t scored yet, but you never had a feeling that they were going to come at us in waves."

Captained by junior defender Jessica Schuveiller, the stalwart Irish defense held the Cowgirls in check until the 63rd minute. She added, "Offensively, did pretty much everything we could ask for her. I thought she [Novosel] had one of her most complete performances against OSU all season long."

"I thought she [Novosel] had just an outstanding three-day tournament — shot the ball extremely well, got to the foul line," Irish coach Muffet McGraw said. "Defensively, did pretty much everything we could ask for her. She really was just so hard to guard. We’re going to need that all season long.

"No. 18 Notre Dame (5-2) defeated the Jaguars (1-5) Friday, 95-29, to snap its two-game losing skid, before overcoming the Demon Deacons (5-1), 92-69, on Saturday. The Irish closed out the tournament with an 85-54 victory over the Bulldogs (3-3). The Irish struggled to pull one thing became apparent as the Irish won three games over the weekend to take the trophy at the Old Spice Classic in Orlando, Fla. — the best player on the team is anyone’s guess. And there is nothing more interesting about this team than that.

Coming into the season, it was clear this senior-dominated Notre Dame squad had the potential to be incredibly diverse, which certainly will be a pleasant change of pace from the Luke Harangody-dominated teams of the past three or four years. The Old

ND WOMEN’S SOCCER

Squad advances to College Cup with win over OSU

By CHRIS MASOUD
Sports Writer

For the fifth consecutive year, Notre Dame will take the pitch on the final weekend of collegiate soccer after shutting out Oklahoma State, 2-0, Friday night. Freshman midfielder Elizabeth Tucker netted a pair of goals in the final 30 minutes of the NCAA Championship quarterfinals match, sending the Irish back to the College Cup.

"It was a great crowd for [Oklahoma State]," Irish coach Randy Waldrum said. "Right from the opening whistle, we took control of the game. I thought we played with a lot of confidence. I thought the kids managed the last 15 or 20 minutes really well. Instead of panicking, I thought the kids handled that last spell, that last run, really well."

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ND HOCKEY

Irish battle Fighting Sioux

By ALLAN JOSEPH
Sports Writer

Playing in front of 11,680 fans at No. 7 North Dakota’s Ralph Engelstad Arena, the No. 12 Irish struggled in a 6-3 loss Friday night but rebounded with a gritty performance Saturday for a hard-fought 2-2 tie.

"This was the first time our freshmen were overwhelmed," Irish coach Jeff Jackson said. "It’s a professional environment. It’s like playing in front of a pro crowd in a pro-type building. Playing them in their building in that environment was ultimately a good experience for us."

The Fighting Sioux (9-5-2) jumped on the visitors early in

ND WOMEN’S BASKETBALL

Team earns title with three weekend wins

By CHRIS MASOUD
Sports Writer

Following back-to-back losses against ranked opponents in No. 13 UCLA and No. 9 Kentucky, Notre Dame returned to the win column in convincing fashion over the weekend. The Irish took down IUPUI, Wake Forest and Butler to claim the WBCA Classic title at the Purcell Pavilion.

Junior guard Natalie Novosel was named tournament MVP; while junior forward Erica Solomon and senior forward Devereaux Peters were named to the all-tournament team. Novosel finished with a combined 55 points over the three-day event.

"I thought she [Novosel] had just an fantastic three-day tournament — shot the ball extremely well, got to the foul line," Irish coach Muffet McGraw said. "Offensively, did pretty much everything we could ask for her. She really was just so hard to guard. We’re going to need that all season long.

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LOS ANGELES — In the moments after Tommy Rees took a knee on his own three-yard line at the Los Angeles Memorial Coliseum Saturday night, sophomore receiver Theo Riddick dropped to his knees. Other players jumped up and down. Most just sauntered towards the tunnel, the stands or each other, partaking in amazed hugs and handshakes.

On the strength of a late touchdown drive and countless key defensive stands, Notre Dame had beaten USC for the first time since 2001, a victory that was in doubt until the final minute.

Junior receiver Michael Floyd celebrates Notre Dame's 20-16 victory over USC Saturday in Los Angeles. Floyd led the Irish with 11 catches for 86 yards in Notre Dame's first victory over USC since 2001, a victory that was in doubt until the final minute.

“I don’t think words do it justice. Everyone’s ecstatic,” said Rees, a true freshman who started for the third time this season. “It’s great for the seniors to go out with a win over USC. Words can’t describe how everyone’s feeling right now.”

Senior running back Robert Hughes ended a 77-yard drive with a five-yard touchdown to complete the scoring at 20-16. The Trojans got the ball at their own 31-yard line with 2:16 left in the game. They drove to the Irish 23-yard line before senior safety Harrison Smith intercepted a pass from quarterback Mitch Mustain at the one-yard line. Three plays later, the game was over.

But in the rainy conditions, Johnson dropped the ball. The touchdown, a quarter-hour later, the game was over.

“I don’t think words do it justice. Everyone’s ecstatic,” said Rees, a true freshman who started for the third time this season. “It’s great for the seniors to go out with a win over USC. Words can’t describe how everyone’s feeling right now.”

Four plays before the turnover, Trojans receiver Ronald Johnson evaded Smith and was open for a pass that could have turned into a touchdown. But in the rainy conditions, Johnson dropped the ball. "It’s about time we caught a break," Kelly said. "Both teams started out with strong defense, and each punt was twice in the first quarter. By the end of the game, Notre Dame (7-5) had punted six times and USC had punted seven times.

USC started with a short field on each of its four scoring drives due to three Rees interceptions and a lost fumble. But the Irish defense limited the Trojans to three field goals and a single touchdown, all coming after turnovers.

"Defensively, we have the mentality, you just put the ball down and we’ll go out and play," sophomore linebacker Manti Te’o said. “It doesn’t matter whether you’re on our five-yard line or their five-yard line. We’ll go out and play.”

The touchdown, a quarter-back sneak in the third quarter, was the first the Irish had surrendered in November and ended a streak of 13 straight quarters without an opponent scoring an offensive touchdown.

"Unbelievable effort," Kelly said. "We put them in some bad situations, and they just continued to battle and they’ve done that all year. This is not a one-time occurrence. This is a defense that has played really well in the month of November." The Irish offense struggled early and did not achieve a first down until its third possession of the game. But in the second quarter, Rees and junior receiver Michael Floyd connected on a one-yard pass for Notre Dame’s first touchdown.

Nearly 10 minutes later, with 44 seconds left in the half, the Irish went 62 yards for another touchdown, this time a one-yard pass to senior Duval Kamara. They did not score again until the game-winning drive in the fourth quarter.

“The offense really rallied together to be able to bounce back on our last drive,” Rees said. “It showed what kind of character we have, and leadership.”

Rees finished the game 20-of-32 passing for 149 yards.

Sophomore running back Cierre Wood led with 89 rush yards on 15 carries, while Hughes had 69 yards on 11 carries.

Floyd led the team with 86 yards on 11 carries, eight of which came in his second-quarter touchdown drive. When he walked past the Irish supporters still in their seats and into the tunnel after a long celebration, he kept his arms raised above his head.

"(This win is) huge," Kelly said. “It’s looking at the faces of so many Notre Dame fans that have been waiting for this moment. Just to see the look on their face, it’s satisfying.”

Contact Laura Myers at lmyers2@nd.edu

By LAURA MYERS
Sports Writer

Monday, September 19, 2005
LOS ANGELES — It was a win over an unranked team. It moved the Irish to 7-5, certainly not a spectacular record and nowhere near the top 25, but to the Irish, this was a win over the Trojans in nine years.

It was a win over USC Saturday in the rain at the Los Angeles Memorial Coliseum.

The win over USC is still just one win. But it is also a sign of things to come — not a sign of excellent recruiting or a decided schematic advantage, but a sign that this team has a willingness to see its faults, correct them, and know that it is better for it. It is a sign of good things to come.

Win over SC means much more
Past adversity leads to success now

By ERIC PRISTER
Assistant Sports Editor

LOS ANGELES — After a 4-5 start to the 2010 campaign, Notre Dame entered the month of November with low expectations. Four weeks later, they are 7-5 and bowl bound.

Irish coach Brian Kelly said that it was the adversity they faced in the first two months of the season that allowed them to end the season as they have.

“I would like to have some more wins on the board, but I love the development of our football team and where we’re going from that standpoint,” he said. “You look back to the 1-3 start, and you see how we played after that. We think we stumbled twice where maybe we shouldn’t have, but our kids never blinked. They kept playing hard, they kept competing, and that’s why we are where we are in November.”

No unit has faced more adversity or risen to the occasion as spectacularly as the defense, which has given up only 22 points and one offensive touchdown this month.

“At that point [early in the season], we were trying to find ourselves and see where everyone fit in,” senior safety Harrison Smith said. “As the season went on, everybody started improving and making plays, and over time everybody has just gotten closer together and picked up their game. It was time for us to grow and learn from our mistakes, and we took advantage of that later in the year.”

After giving up 37 points in a loss to Stanford and 37 rushing yards in a loss to Navy, the Irish defense held both Utah and Army to three points each and gave up only 80 rushing yards to a talented Utah offense.

Sophomore linebacker Manti Te’o said that the ability was there the entire time.

“I think we just learned what we could do,” he said. “We learned our potential and we just knew that we had a lot of things to improve on, and we did.”

No single player realized his potential as much as senior linebacker Brian Smith, who led the team in tackles with 10 against Utah and intercepted a pass in Yankee Stadium against Army. He also played a motivational role on the defense.

“We’ve been in these situations before and came out on top. This is our time now. What a better time to do it? This is USC, we’re up, and it’s time for us to put a stamp on this Notre Dame football squad,” Smith said.

Another change for the Irish in November came at quarterback. After junior Dayne Crist fell to a season-ending knee injury against Tulsa, freshman Tommy Rees took over under center and has led the Irish to three straight victories.

Rees said it was the challenges of the first two months that allowed them to fight back strategically against the rival Trojans.

“We lost some tough games early on, and we learned how to fight back and keep battling when adversity hits,” he said. “Adversity hit again tonight, but obviously we’re making great strides to be able to come back against a great team like USC in the fourth quarter.”

And while the individual efforts have been impressive, it was the team as a whole coming together and making positive strides that allowed the Irish to have success down the stretch, Brian Smith said.

“Everyone has just picked their game up to make this a better team,” he said.

Contact Eric Prister at eprister@nd.edu

scoring summary

By LAURA MYERS
Sports Writer

LOS ANGELES — Notre Dame will learn of its bowl destination on Sunday. This week, players will work out but will not practice.

After the game Saturday, Irish coach Brian Kelly did not speculate on where or who the Irish would play in a bowl.

“Suffice to say I think our kids are excited about playing and looking for an eighth win,” he said.

 Sophomore linebacker Manti Te’o acknowledged that Notre Dame’s 7-5 record would probably take the Hawaii Bowl out of the picture, but said he wasn’t disappointed about going somewhere other than his home state.

“It doesn’t matter as long as we have another football game,” Te’o said.

Victory captains

Junior receiver Michael Floyd and senior safety Harrison Smith were named captains for the game against USC, the third straight game in which they were the two captains. Floyd has been captain for five games this season, and Smith four.

All five games under Smith’s captaincy have been wins, while the only loss while Floyd was captain was against Tulsa.

Catching the records

With his touchdown catch in the second quarter of Saturday’s game, Floyd moved into a second-place tie on Notre Dame’s career touchdown receptions list. He is now even with former Irish receiver Golden Tate at 26 touchdowns, and needs one more to tie former receiver Jeff Samardzija, who had 27 touchdown receptions in his career.

Starting without the football

Notre Dame won the coin toss before the USC game but elected to defer and begin the second half with the ball. It was the first time this season the Irish did not start the game with the football.

It meant little; the Trojans went three-and-out in their first possession, and Notre Dame ended its first drive of the second half with an interception after just two plays.

Trojan milestones

The 7-3 lead Notre Dame achieved early in the second quarter was the first time Notre Dame had led USC since it led 31-27 late in the game in 2005. The last time the Irish had given up just three points in a half to the Trojans was in the second half of the teams’ 1995 contest, which Notre Dame won 25-24.

Contact Laura Myers at lmyers2@nd.edu

statistics

Passing Yards

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First quarter

Notre Dame 0, USC 3
Joe Houston 45-yard field goal with 4:09 remaining.
Drive: 4 plays, 3 yards, 2:20 elapsed.

Second quarter

Notre Dame 7, USC 3
Michael Floyd 1-yard pass from Tommy Rees (Dovel Ruffer kick) with 2:38 remaining.
Drive: 7 plays, 62 yards, 0:07 elapsed.

Notre Dame 13, USC 3
Duvall Kamara 1-yard pass from Rees (Ruffer kick failed) with 0:07 remaining.
Drive: 7 plays, 62 yards, 0:37 elapsed.

Third quarter

Notre Dame 13, USC 6
Houston 37-yard field goal with 6:25 remaining.
Drive: 7 plays, 19 yards, 4:03 elapsed.

Notre Dame 20, USC 6
Robert Hughes 5-yard run (Ruffer kick) with 2:23 remaining.
Drive: 7 plays, 77 yards, 3:55 elapsed.

irish observer

Wednesday, November 24, 2010
Nine years later

More than nine years, and eight consecutive defeats in the series, since Notre Dame last beat USC, Brian Kelly’s Irish managed that feat 20-16. Kelly became the first Irish coach to win his first match-up with the Trojans since Lou Holtz did so in 1986.

The first quarter ended with USC up 3-0, but by halftime Notre Dame led 13-3. While a Mitch Mustain rushing touchdown did briefly tie the game at 13-13, Irish quarterback Tommy Rees led Notre Dame down the field late in the fourth quarter to take the lead for good on a five-yard Robert Hughes rushing touchdown.

Senior safety Harrison Smith sealed the game for the Irish with an interception with 36 seconds left on the Trojans one-yard line.