Students to rally for peace in Sudan

Student government, department of athletics organize tournament to raise awareness

By MEGAN DOYLE
News Writer

Notre Dame students will unite on campus for peace in Sudan on Saturday during a rally that will feature University President Emeritus Fr. Theodore Hesburgh following the Playing for Peace 3-on-3 basketball tournament.

Social concerns chair Pat McCormick said the rally will combine the visibility of Notre Dame athletics with the University’s moral concern for social justice.

“We deeply believe that as the greatest Catholic university in the world we have not only the ability but the responsibility to harness all the means at our disposal, but particularly the Notre Dame athletic brand, for social change,” McCormick said.

The 3-on-3 basketball tournament — sponsored by the men’s basketball team, men’s lacrosse team and student government — will begin at 9 a.m. Saturday in the Joyce Center, and the “Stand with Sudan” peace rally will begin at 12 p.m. in the Joyce Center Fieldhouse.

“From the student government perspective and from the athletic perspective, we really only think this could have been possible because of the strength of the student body and the level of engagement of our students,” McCormick said.

The rally will include remarks from professional basketball players Ed bona and Luol Deng, Notre Dame men’s basketball coach Mike Brey, Notre Dame men’s lacrosse coach Kevin Corrigan, and a video message from a Notre Dame graduate student from Sudan.

“Think of two people in Sudan, the north and the south. Both of these really want peace. Peace is the overarching concern of everybody in Africa today because there has been so much unrest and so much war,” Hesburgh said. “I think it is high time we started working very hard for peace throughout the continent, and I think it is possible.”

Hesburgh visited Sudan more than 15 years ago and remembers driving deep into the country during his trip.

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Construction on the Legacy Square townhouse development at the corner of Notre Dame Avenue and Sorin Street has come to a halt over zoning issues.

Developer Robert Cimala, who was also one of the developers of off-campus student housing development Legacy Village, said his property was set to receive final permits from the South Bend Building Commission. But at the beginning of November, the Building Commission said his plans would have to go to a public hearing before the Area Plan Commission (APC) on Dec. 21, to see if they are in accordance with PUD zoning provisions.

This process of review could derail the housing project.

Legacy Square is zoned as a planned unit development (PUD), composed of 32 condominiums in four buildings. The condominiums were developed as high-end housing geared toward single-family, owner-occupied living.
**Question of the Day:** What is your favorite Christmas song?

Caroline Bernardi, freshman Lewis

“It’s Beginning to Look a Lot Like Christmas”

David Correa, senior Duncan

“Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas”

Jackson Bangs, senior Stanford

“Chestnuts Roasting over an Open Fire (The Christmas Song)”

Kim Dumais, freshman Pangborn

“Last Christmas”

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

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**OFFBEAT**

Mysterious Santa adorns highway with ornaments

LITTLE EGG HARBOR TOWNSHIP, N.J. — An annual Christmas mystery is playing itself out again along a busy New Jersey highway.

A secret Santa is once again surreptitiously hanging ornaments from a large pine tree by the side of the Garden State Parkway in the dead of night.

A gold star was hanging from the housetop of the tree Tuesday morning.

It’s the fourth year in a row that the ornaments have shown up on the same tree in the southbound lanes in a sparsely populated area of Little Egg Harbor Township.

No one has come forward and acknowledged decorating the tree. The New Jersey Turnpike Authority, which maintains the road, has said it isn’t responsible.

The ornaments appear gradually, starting with one or two, and eventually growing to about a dozen by Christmas.

Woman accused of stealing library books

ANNISTON, Ala. — They knew someone was stealing hundreds of dollars worth of books, and now they believe they know who did it: A jobless woman who believes they know who did it:

A 42-year-old Regina M. Smith was arrested Wednesday on a felony theft charge after officials at the local library reported that a woman was seen stealing two books.

Police said they determined Smith had taken 22 books valued at $5,432 over the past couple of years — mainly crime novels, mysteries and vampire stories.

Investigator Kyle Price said Smith has a library card but sneaked books out and kept them rather than borrowing them legally, she said.

Information compiled from the Associated Press.
Bike theft creates concern

By ALICIA SMITH
Assistant Saint Mary’s Editor

Saint Mary’s has experienced 12 bicycle thefts since August, David Gariepy, director of security said. Gariepy notified students of the thefts via e-mail Nov. 22. The e-mail, which stated thefts usually occurred near resident hall bicycle racks, encouraged students to report suspicious activity to campus security, especially “anyone near our bicycle racks, not fitting the description of a typical Saint Mary’s College student (female, late teens to early 20’s) should be viewed as suspicious.”

“Some bicycles were locked to bicycle racks and the locks were cut, while some bikes were not locked and simply taken,” Gariepy said. “Some bicycles were locked to bicycle racks and the locks were cut, while some bikes were not locked and simply taken,” he said. “Most were taken from or near bike racks located near our resident halls.”

The e-mail said the bicycle locks, which were cut, were discarded where the bicycle was parked. Gariepy said campus security currently has no leads to particular suspects, but has been carefully watching for suspicious activity to prevent further thefts. “Officers are aware of the thefts and are keeping a closer watch for suspicious activity near bicycle storage areas,” he said.

According to Gariepy, one bicycle was stolen in August, three in September, four in October and four in November.

Gariepy encouraged students to make sure their bicycles were secured. He said students could prevent theft by registering their bicycles with campus security and purchasing tamper-proof locks to secure the bicycle to the rack.

“Student may also take advantage of the indoor winter storage that security provides at no cost,” he said.

Gariepy also reminded students to “be aware of suspicious persons or activity on campus and always report your observations to security.”

To report suspicious activity at Saint Mary’s College, call campus security at 574-284-5000.

Contact Alicia Smith at asmith01@saintmarys.edu

Free Store encourages college sustainability

By ASHLEY CHARMLEY
Saint Mary’s Editor

The free store that allows Saint Mary’s students to donate unwanted items so that other students may use them is now open 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

Items in the store, which is sponsored by Saint Mary’s Environmental Action Coalition (SMEAC), include furniture, table, chairs and other items that would be found in a dorm room.

Senior Ashley Cook, co-president of SMEAC, said the change in store hours has increased use, but also increased the need for donations. The store, located in the basement of Le Mans Hall, is open to all students.

“We now have the free store open 24 hours so that students can either donate or pick up used items at any time,” Cook said.

Contact Ashley Cook at acharm01@saintmarys.edu

University of Notre Dame Chorale & Chamber Orchestra

Annual Performances of HANDEL’S “MESSIAH”

November 18, 2010, 8:00PM
December 4, 2010, 8:00PM
LITCHTON CONCERT HALL
DAG
GENERAL ADMISSION $12
STUDENT TICKETS $3

Write News.
Email Sarah at smervosh@nd.edu
Library to launch redesigned website

By NICOLE TOCZAUER
News Writer

After a decade of being online, library.nd.edu and its online interface are being updated. The new website design will launch right before the beginning of the Spring 2011 semester, said Mark Dehmlow, head of the Library Web department.

Dehmlow said preparations should be completed by Jan. 13, but test versions of the website and catalog were available online a month ago. “The old system served us well and provides some great features, but we had been getting to the point where we were almost constrained in what we could do with it,” he said. “The goal was to acquire a platform that could serve the research expectations of Notre Dame and bring a contemporary web experience to the catalog.”

The new website feature a set of online tools that includes a cleaner organization of frequently used student resources, Notre Dame Library, Bethel College Library, Hesburgh Library, Dehmlow said. “This will allow users to focus their energies on applying information to their work, rather than dealing with difficulties found in it.”

“The new site uses fly-out menus at the top to provide deep access to a lot of content. We also took the most highly-used resources and placed them in the highly-visible [Quicklinks] section,” Dehmlow said. “We kept our tabbed search box in the prominent location and decided to give a more prominent space to library news.”

CatalogPlus, the revamped version of the library’s current online catalog, will provide a comprehensive search of the Hesburgh Library, Kresge Law Library, Saint Mary’s College Library, Holy Cross College Library and Bethel College Library, Dehmlow said.

“Our users might not be aware of it, but they are actually able to check out items at those other libraries using their Notre Dame ID,” he said.

In addition to expanding the access to materials, the new catalog is based on technology similar to that used by Google. Using an optimal search program, Dehmlow said a true relevance ranking will provide better results without using complex search strategies.

“The new system features a ‘Filter’ column, which allows users to easily drill down into the collection by bringing information from the records up to the surface for the interface such as authors, topics and date ranges,” he said. “It really takes a lot of guesswork out of the search process.”

Eliminating guesswork from the system is the reason for the major digital renovation, Dehmlow said. After hearing reports of students finding the system difficult to navigate, Dehmlow and a team of IT staff worked to develop a better online presence for the library. He said the team placed importance on user feedback.

“We solicit feedback through focus groups, surveys, usability testing and feedback gathering from the library staff who interact with users,” Dehmlow said. “Usage statistics and industry trends help us focus on areas in which we can make the biggest impact.”

Dehmlow said the launch of CatalogPlus is the first step in content expansion for the website. “Our long-term goal is to take any unnecessary complexity out of the search process for our users and create new technologies and standards are helping us do just that,” Dehmlow said. “Our success is measured in how well we are able to facilitate access to information.”


By providing an e-mail address on the feedback form, students qualify for prizes in a drawing.

Contact Nicole Toczau at ntoczaun@nd.edu

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Lecture shows Lannon’s enthusiasm

By ANNA BOARINI
News Writer

Professor of Physics Kevin Lannon said his job description was every young boy’s dream.

“[Physics] is figuring out how the universe is made,” Lannon said.

What Lannon loves about the job is that science really does not understand the universe. The LHC is a 27 kilometers in size and sends energy into beams through the use of superconducting magnets.

Lannon expressed his enthusiasm for the device and his work, Lannon said he wasn’t always passionate about physics. While in graduate school, he was afraid he wasn’t cut out for this work after a meeting with his advisor.

“He drove to come and see me, and when he got here, he was talking about how he was thinking about my analysis and all these ideas he came up with while driving,” Lannon said.

While in school, Lannon wanted to ask questions beyond the realm of science. He said he wanted to know why bad things happened to good people and why cures hadn’t been found for fatal diseases. He said in the years since, he still now thinks about physics while doing mundane tasks such as driving his car.

Lannon said he also lives to be a teacher.

“I get to share my enthusiasm for something I love, inspire others to work on the same questions and give others the tools I would like them to use to work on problems I have been getting to the point where we were almost constrained in what we could do with it,” he said. “The goal was to acquire a platform that could serve the research expectations of Notre Dame and bring a contemporary web experience to the catalog.”

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Contact Nicole Toczau at ntoczaun@nd.edu

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Professor of Physics Kevin Lannon said his job description was every young boy’s dream.
Sudan
continued from page 1

"I got a feeling for the place, and it is like most of Africa. Every country in Africa seems to have a problem," Hesburgh said. "[Sudan's] problem is are they going to join north or south, or are they going to develop separately... the conflict always boils down to the same thing, and that is access to resources."

The northern and southern parts of Sudan have been torn by civil war for more than 50 years. The Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA) formally ended civil war in 2005 and scheduled a referendum for Jan. 9, 2011. The Sudanese will then vote on whether Southern Sudan will secede.

"The peace agreement called for resources to develop separately... The conflict is the underlying issue and it is like most of Africa," Hesburgh said.

"We've got so many problems, we don't know what to do about. If we just give them the peace accord, they will fight over it. We are in a situation where we will have to do something," Dugan said.

"We just want to see a sense of urgency. If the peace accord is going to expire in January, we will ask if we let people overseas, we say 'because you have the opportunity to do something, don't bad things happen,'" Dugan said. "They're trying to capture the spirit of Notre Dame in a special way."

Kevin Dugan
director of operations
men's lacrosse
continued from page 1

The Playing for Peace logo, a shamrock, appeared on 2,000 t-shirts to be sold for $5 each on Saturday and 2,000 buttons to be distributed for free, Dugan said.

"We just want to see a sense of urgency. If the peace accord is going to expire in January, we will ask if we let people overseas, we say 'because you have the opportunity to do something,'" Dugan said.

"All these different groups are coming together for what is unquestionably the most pressing social concern need of the Church in this year," Dugan said.

"Men's lacrosse coach Kevin Corrigan was excited to see the collaboration between the department of athletics and student life on an issue of international importance. "While student activism is a great part of this, the focus now needs to be on the events unfolding in Sudan and how our voices can contribute to the call for a peaceful and just solution to the problems that may arise with the expiration of the peace accord here," Corrigan said.

Contact Megan Doyle at mdoyc11@nd.edu

Economic development will make good education a top priority, and with good education will come good jobs, and with good jobs will come good salaries. That is the only way we are going to get equality, by equality of opportunity." — F. Theodore Hesburgh
Universiy president
emeritus

Housing
continued from page 1

situations, as opposed to rentals. PUD zoning allows for flexibility in building, and they normally contain private residences and common areas. Cimala said that because of the slow economy and a bad housing market, he has decided to rent some of the condominiums to students until he can sell them.

"I'm not doing anything that anyone else isn't doing," Cimala said. "This is a very nice development, and all I'm doing is exercising my legal right to rent each condo to two students until I sell them."

"They're trying to prevent me from exercising my legal right to rent each condo to two students until I sell them," Robert Cimala
developer

"The two most powerful things at Notre Dame, the two things people are most passionate about, are athletics and Catholic social thought. When you bring the two of those things together, you can capture the spirit of Notre Dame in a special way."

Kevin Dugan
director of operations
men's lacrosse

The community meeting could have significant implications for the students who signed leases to live in Legacy Square during the 2012-13 academic year. If the building plans are found to be within guidelines, Cimala will receive his final building permit, and he said he could get the buildings constructed by June 2011, when students move in on time for the school year. If the building plans are not approved, however, the end result remains unclear.

Contact Amanda Gray at agray@nd.edu

Currently Available: Two 2-Bedroom Residences
One: $750.00/Month
Other: $800.00/Month

Rents Include: electric, heat, water, lawn care, trash pickup and snow-plowing.
Perpetual Residents: 3.5
dues per month.
Leasing Office: 2622 Main St. (inside) Clinton Township, on 18641 Cleveland Road, South Bend, Indiana 46637.
Cheering until the end

So here we are, at what has become our favorite weekend of the year. Football season is over, and we can finally relax, decompress from a season of disappointment and spend our Saturdays doing something productive, like this ever-increasing pile of homework. What a relief.

This hasn't happened before. We aren't disappointed at all. We're — dare we say it? — excited.

For the first time since nearly all current Notre Dame students have been here, the football season did not come to a screeching halt, nor did it limp to the finish. It won, and won again, and won again.

Not only that, but the rest of Irish athletics are winning, too, and our enthusiasm is carrying over.

So much for getting that theology paper done this weekend.

Instead, we'll be watching our women's soccer team face Ohio State today in the College Cup semifinals and hopefully again on Sunday to try for the championship that has eluded them for the past four years.

We'll be attending or at least watching as our No. 16 women's basketball team takes on Purdue Sunday afternoon on national television, a 10-year anniversary of the season that the two programs battled for (and Notre Dame won) a national title.

As we move into the last week of classes and study days, we still won't find the sweet relief of athletic department depression. We're just going to get even more distracted.

Will we be doing a group project Wednesday night? No, we'll be eating buffalo wings and watching as our No. 25 men's basketball team taking on Gonzaga at home. Who would miss that?

Notre Dame games aren't everything we have to look forward to for a study break, though.

Tomorrow, we'll be playing basketball and hanging out with the men's basketball and lacrosse teams at the Stand for Sudan rally — because maybe Notre Dame athletics are becoming relevant again, in more than just rankings.

Then comes Sunday, when we find out whether the football team will be playing in Orlando, El Paso, San Diego or some other warm, post-Christmas destination come bowl season.

Do you think students can afford airplane tickets to get to that game, athletic department? Of course not. But they'll find a way — one that probably involves more time working at Sharro and less time working on problem sets during finals week.

Our grades may suffer as we cheer for the Irish or spend massive amounts of time staring at a picture of last Saturday's 20-16 Coliseum scoreboard.

But it's all good. We're happy about what's going on. It's all about priorities, and, for once, we've got them right.
Dear Mac Hendrickson,

Reading your review of Kanye West’s album (“No exaggeration necessary for Kanye West’s masterpiece,” Dec. 1) it’s clear that you have no knowledge of Hip-Hop music. I tried my best to respect your opinions, but I must express my anger with your ignorance of the topic. You are quick to compare Kanye’s work to that of Nas, Jay-Z and the Beastie Boys (whose inclusion alone shows your lack of knowledge), but I honestly wonder whether you’ve even heard much of their work before. Anyway, Kanye West is certainly a unique artist that has created his own lane and doesn’t deserve to be compared to other greats, but quickly after stating this you go on to make embarrassing comparisons.

You’ve taken it upon yourself to proclaim that “Fantasy” is the greatest Hip-Hop album of all time. Even if this is how you feel right now, a week is not long enough to decide whether an album deserves “classic” status, alone crown it the greatest of ALL TIME. I would hope that the greatest album of all time would be one that has proven it will remain as valuable forever, similar to albums like “Illmatic” and “Ready to Die.” You applauded that Hip-Hop was “snatched from the hands of thugs and placed back where it belongs.” You proudly use a horrible and insulting stereotype, disrespecting some of the greatest artists of all time. Just last year, 2Pac, a “thug,” had his song “Changes” honored by being placed on the Vatican’s playlist, which must have been because of its “moral repugnance.” Nas’s “Illmatic” was released before his 21st birthday while he was living in the violent Queensbridge projects, but to you it must all seem mindless because you can’t put yourself in someone else’s shoes. The “ghetto-ness” of many rap songs comes because the artists are telling stories of life in the ghetto. From a dorm room at a $50,000 a year college you refuse to find art because you can’t put yourself in someone else’s shoes. The “ghetto-ness” of Nas’s “Illmatic” was released before his 21st birthday while he was living in the Vatican’s playlist, which must have been because of its “moral repugnance.”

One last thing: maybe you didn’t hear Kanye say this on Hot 97 a couple weeks ago: “No one is ever gonna be bigger than Eminem. He’s the No. 1 greatest rapper of all time.” Too bad you’ll never give him a chance because he raps about the “morally-repugnant” subject of drugs. You can have your non-thug rappers, but keep your hands off my music. Get back to me about Pusha T though.

Mac Hendrickson,

Your review of Kanye West’s album (“No exaggeration necessary for Kanye West’s masterpiece,” Dec. 1) made me legitimately angry. It didn’t bother me how you absolutely rushed over the album (by saying “Nobody is claiming the album is perfect” but then using the word “perfect” three times in the article), or how you broke down your descriptions of the songs. It was how you easily dismissed all-time-great rappers and producers without mentioning the albums or songs that made them legends. Have some respect for the game and specify the albums you think don’t even compare to “Fantasy.”

The other thing that bothered me was that you separated rap fans into two groups: thugs and non-thugs. What constitutes a thug-rapper or a ghetto song? Let’s take away any rapper that ever talks about the ghetto. There goes Biggie, Pac, Jay-Z, N.W.A, Eminem, 50 Cent, Big L, Big Pun, Wu-Tang (including RZA), Mob Deep and the Clipse. Wait. Wasn’t Pusha T part of the Clipse? How is a Hip-Hop duo who became famous for rapping about the drug cartels they ran? Is that the same guy you’re featured on “Runaway,” which, according to you, is the greatest Hip-Hop track of the last 30 years? Is he a thug or non-thug? Those of us who like the “harder” stuff from the 1990s need to know. Whether he is one of your thugs or not, those who rapped about the ghetto produced some of the greatest albums of all time. I’d stack “Illmatic,” “Reasonable Doubt,” “Ready to Die” and “All Eyez on Me” against Kanye’s latest any day. Hip-Hop exists today because of the guys from whom you want to snatch it.

One last thing: maybe you didn’t hear Kanye say this on Hot 97 a couple weeks ago: “No one is ever gonna be bigger than Eminem. He’s the No. 1 greatest rapper of all time.” Too bad you’ll never give him a chance because he raps about the “morally-repugnant” subject of drugs. You can have your non-thug rappers, but keep your hands off my music. Get back to me about Pusha T though.

Michael Turner
junior
Morris Hall
Dec. 1
**Notre Dame women's soccer College Cup semifinal vs. Ohio State**
Where: Watch on ESPN2 or ESPNU
When: Friday, 4 p.m.

The Irish make their school-record fifth consecutive trip to the College Cup.

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**A Carroll Christmas**
Where: Far Quad
When: Friday, 6 p.m.

A great way to kick off Christmas on campus as well as an excuse to make the trek out to Far Quad. Events include a Christmas tree lighting, a performance by the Notre Dame Glee Club, a Christmas carol karaoke session, pictures with Santa, and a Christmas cookie contest at 8. Numerous Christmas refreshments will be available. Guests are encouraged to bring a toy that will be donated to Toys for Tots.

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**Tig Notaro comedy act**
Where: Legends Nightclub
When: Friday, 10 p.m.
How much: Free to all ND/SMC/HCC students

An alum of both Last Comic Standing and The Sarah Silverman Program, the Mississippi-native Tig Notaro brings Southern humor — with a twist — to Legends.

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**Blue and Gold Track Meet**
Where: Loftus Sports Center
When: Friday, 6 p.m.
How much: Free for all ND/SMC/HCC students

Notre Dame’s Track and Field team starts off the winter indoor season against Marquette University, DePaul University and the University of Detroit Mercy. This track meet is also a food drive, so bring canned goods and non-perishable items!

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**Ice Skating**
Where: JACC rink
When: Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays when there is no home hockey game from 12 to 1 p.m.
How much: Free admission, skate rentals for $3

Bring your own skates or rent some for an alternative to lunch break.

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**Playing for Peace: Peace Rally and 3-on-3 Basketball Tournament**
Where: Joyce Center
When: Saturday, games start at 9 a.m.; rally at 12 p.m.
How much: Attendance and participation is free, t-shirts will be $5

Join the tournament or attend the rally to raise awareness of the conflict in Sudan. Speakers include: coaches Mike Brey from men’s basketball and Kevin Corrigan from men’s lacrosse; Ed Bona, a Sudanese native who was the first African to play Division I basketball; Joe Touomou, a Cameroonian native and former captain of Georgetown’s basketball team; and possibly even University President Emeritus Theodore Hesburgh.

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**“The Best Christmas Pageant Ever”**
Where: Washington Hall Lab Theatre
When: Saturday, 4 and 7 p.m. Sunday, 4 p.m.
How much: Free

Based on the book by Barbara Robinson, “The Best Christmas Pageant Ever” follows the story of a couple who cast the most awful kids in town in their Christmas pageant. Hilarity and Christmas cheer ensue!

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**Times New Viking**
Where: Legends Nightclub
When: Saturday, 10 p.m.
How much: Free to all ND/SMC/HCC students

This indie-rock band hails from Columbus, Ohio, and has performed at Pitchfork Music Festival.
Defending Her Glory

Suffocating defense leads the Irish to fifth consecutive College Cup
Road-tested ND faces Ohio St. in semifinals

By MIKE GOTIMER
Starpower

No. 7 Notre Dame will head to its fifth consecutive College Cup this weekend in Cary, N.C., where it will face No. 17 Ohio State in the national semifinal. Although the Irish (17-2-2) were highly ranked and had a reputation as one of college soccer’s elite programs, a 2-0 loss to Connecticut in the quarterfinals of the Big East championship resulted in a drop to a fourth seed in the NCAA Tournament. The lower seed gave the Irish a daunting road to the College Cup in which they played three ranked teams and traveled nearly 4,000 miles. “I think when the bids came out, all the girls didn’t publicly come out and say anything and we didn’t either, and I think we all felt like it was just a bump of a shaft on that,” Irish coach Randy Waldrum said. “I think we were expecting a two seed and to get a four [seed], we were all disappointed in that. So I think they had a bit of a point to prove, so that’s probably served as a little motivation.” Since that loss, the Irish have dominated their opponents on both ends of the field, outscoring opponents 13-1 thus far in the tournament. Waldrum said he believes this team has played as well as any other team he has coached during his tenure at Notre Dame. “I think this team is really well prepared, and I think it’s got all the ingredients,” Waldrum said. “It could win it. You know now [we have to] still go out and perform on the day, but I think it’s as good right now as any team that we’ve had coming through at this point in the year.” While Notre Dame has been to the College Cup 12 times in its history, Ohio State (17-4-2) is making its first appearance on the national stage. It is the Buckeyes’ fifth consecutive College Cup appearance, and it is Ohio State’s first time there, and that can be a dangerous thing,” Waldrum said. “You know, it can be one of those Cinderella runs like USC did a few years ago — the first time they were in they won the whole thing — and so I think Ohio State certainly has a good enough team to do that. The Buckeyes will present challenges for the Irish on both sides of the ball, but their defense has been especially sound, allowing just 0.61 goals per game. “They don’t give up many goals. They look to be a team that’s really organized, so I think it’s [going to be] a great game,” Waldrum said. “I think it should be a really good game, and you know when you get to the final four teams, you’re playing somebody good.” Should the Irish get past Ohio State on Friday, they will face the winner of the other semifinal contest between No. 1 Stanford and No. 18 Boston College. Like the 2008 Notre Dame squad, which entered the College Cup unbeaten and ranked No. 1 in the country, the Cardinal (22-0-2) enter this year’s College Cup looking to wrap up an undefeated season with a national championship. Waldrum said he believes Stanford will face some pressure to win a storied national title, but he doesn’t think it will derail them. “Well there’s some pressure with it — I can tell you that from us doing it,” Waldrum said. “You know, every game that you get, everybody will try to think about it or subconsciously think about it, you go. ‘Well there’s only now two games left and if we win it we go undefeated, now there’s only one more game.’ I don’t think the pressure of them carrying that undefeat ed season is [going to] burden them enough that it’s [going to] cause them to collapse or anything.” Like Ohio State, Boston College (17-6-1) is also making its first trip to the College Cup. The Eagles were one of the nation’s hottest teams at the beginning of the season, but cooled off towards the end before stepping their game up again in the tournament. “I think Boston College has had an exceptional year,” Waldrum said. “They started out really hot — they beat [North] Carolina early in the year, and they tied Stanford early in the year. They seemed like they’ve turned it back around again late in the year.” Notre Dame will begin the final stage of its chase for the program’s third national title Friday against Ohio State at 4 p.m. at WakeMed Soccer Park in Cary, N.C. The winner of that game will square off with the winner of the Stanford vs. Boston College match at noon Sunday for the national title. The semifinal games will be broadcast on ESPN2 and ESPNU, while Sunday’s match will airs on ESPNU2.

Quarters end in loss to tournament sparkles Irish

By ALLAN JOSEPH
Starpower

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Contact Mike Gotimer at mgotimer@nd.edu

Quarters end in loss to tournament sparkles Irish

By ALLAN JOSEPH
Starpower


due to the loss, the Irish still

good thing that we lost,” Henderson said. “You never want to lose.”

Waldrum said. “I would rather have won, and won the Big East tournament, don’t get me wrong.”

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Waldrum isn’t ready to say this
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But he doesn’t think it will derail them. “Well there’s some pressure with it — I can tell you that from us doing it,” Waldrum said. “You know, every game that you get, everybody will try to think about it or subconsciously think about it, you go. ‘Well there’s only now two games left and if we win it we go undefeated, now there’s only one more game.’ I don’t think the pressure of them carrying that undefeated season is [going to] burden them enough that it’s [going to] cause them to collapse or anything.”

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Quarters end in loss to tournament sparkles Irish

Waldrum said. “’We’d still not lost a game in a while so I was a little reluctant to make the change,’ he said. “I thought we were doing well and that we didn’t need to make any changes, I don’t know that I would have done the first time we won that game.’

Despite all of the positives that came from the loss, the Irish still maintain they would have pre ferred to win the game with Connecticut. “It’s hard to say that’s it’s a

good thing that we lost,” Henderson said. “You never want to lose.”

Waldrum said. “I would rather have won, and won the Big East tournament, don’t get me wrong.”

If that loss [last year] caused them to collapse or any-

Waldrum isn’t ready to say this
Junior defender Jessica Schuveiller clears the ball during Notre Dame's 2-0 loss to Connecticut on Oct. 31.

By CHRIS MASOUĐ
Sports Writer

At a glance, Notre Dame's convincing victories on the road to its College Cup appearance this weekend can be a bit misleading. Postseason success that included a 4-0 dismantling of Southern California and a 4-1 rout of North Carolina on the road will raise questions about the team's ease of schedule. But in the eyes of Irish coach Randy Waldrum, Notre Dame's road to the Cup has nothing to do with luck of the draw.

"Probably what was one of the hardest draws we've had in the four years I've been here," Waldrum said. "We've played some teams that are really capable of scoring a lot of goals on you. The defense has carried us and that's what you need carrying you at this time of the year." Posting three shutouts in its four tournament matches, the Irish defense has stifled high-powered offenses in the friendly confines of Alumni Stadium and before sell-out crowds on the road. Well aware of the stakes at hand, the backline has risen to the intensity of each contest.

Our tournament games have really been the best games we've played all year long," senior goalkeeper Nikki Weiss said. "Since we get here in August for (the) preseason, winning a national championship is always our goal, so it actually comes time to make that dream come true we get really excited.

But turning up the intensity in the postseason takes more than flicking a switch. Notre Dame's defensive dominance in the tournament has been an extension of the team's regular season success rather than a sudden improvement.

Heading into the postseason, the squad had only allowed 10 goals in 18 games, while posting 10 shutouts.

"I think a lot of it really has to do with keeping the ball away from us," Weiss said. "I think our offense does a good job of that. We just work really well together. We always try to stay really close and tight, and move around the field so we don't leave a lot of gaps in between."

Much of that coordination can be attributed to taking the field each game with the same personnel. Senior defender and four-year starter Julie Schiedler said the back line has developed an uncanny chemistry the stems from the players' familiarity with each other.

"It's just a different feeling being friends with someone and then playing on the field next to them — you just know what their moves are going to be and exactly what they're going to do," Schiedler said. "It's like we don't even have to talk anymore, it's just kind of a look. We just know each other so well that it just comes." So when Waldrum decided to move senior Lauren Fowkes from the back to the midfield position following a 0-0 loss in the quarterfinals of the Big East championship, that chemistry was put to the test. But Fowkes' replacement, junior Molly Campbell, has proven to be an excellent fit as she continues her transition from the back.

"The defense has carried us and that's what you need carrying you at this time of the year." Randy Waldrum

"Moving Molly back wasn't a real hard thing to do because she had three really solid people around her that could kind of help put her at ease when we made that change," Waldrum said. "She stepped in and has been fantastic for us in the back. I can't say enough."

In addition to being a capable defender, Campbell brings an offensive mentality to a group of seasoned defenders. Rather than detracting from the back line's overall chemistry, Campbell's teammates said they come to appreciate her nuances and aggressive tendencies.

"It was obviously a good decision," Weiss said. "Molly's a very solid player. She's not a natural born defender, but sometimes it's helpful that she has that attacking mindset. She's come in and really handled her job well.

While Campbell's addition to the defense came towards the end of the season, the Irish came into the year with a number of talented underclassmen with limited or no experience available for a starting spot. Freshman Keica Morway and sophomore Jazmin Hall emerged as the leading candidates, and the two have split the time on the all-sea-

Waldrum credits their energy and willingness to adjust to the collegiate level for their immediate success.

"First I came in obviously really nervous because I didn't know the people playing around me," Morway said. "Throughout the season, with all of everyone's support in the back line, I've kind of bonded with them and learned how they played and enabled me to adjust to the system and do my job better."

Joining a defense that features a lone senior and two juniors, Morway and Hall have made their contributions felt while still learning to play from an experienced line. The two have not only complemented each other well, but have added youth to the dynamic group.

"Keica and Jaz are doing really well for us," Weiss said. "They're very interchangeable, which is good. They both have different strengths, which is really beneficial against different types of teams. The combination of the upperclassmen with the underclassmen is really key here."

But talent and chemistry can only take a team so far. Regardless of a team's experience level, leadership and passing is an essential part of the championship equation.

The defensive unit has both traits in second-year captain Jessica Schuveiller. More than the raw talent she brings to the table, the seasoned junior adds direction and composure to the back line and to the squad as a whole, Waldrum said.

"By leadership for us, it's not only on the field," Waldrum said. "In the last few weeks, Jess has been really good, especially since we moved Lauren out of the back. Lauren was usually the more vocal player, and now Jess has really stepped up and organized things on the field and has really taken charge on the field with her leadership."

Quick to deflect praise, Schuveiller said the team's success can be attributed in large part to Weiss, who has been a mainstay in the Irish goal all season.

"(Nikki) is amazing," Schuveiller said. "Playing in front of her is really easy because she is so confident. She does a great job communicating and it helps out a lot. It really helps that we're all friends on and off the field, so the chemistry is there."

With the Big East's lowest goals against average (.53) and highest save percentage (.867) during the regular season, Weiss has enjoyed tremendous success during her final season in an Irish uniform. But it wasn't always that way.

Weiss struggled to earn the job as the starting net-minder during her first two seasons at Notre Dame, a result of inconsistency and transitioning to collegiate play.

"When you come in to Notre Dame, you're not sure how the level actually is," Weiss said. "For me, it took a lot longer to adjust. Once I kind of relaxed and started having fun, things starting falling into place.

Waldrum said the turning point in Weiss' career came during a 2-0 shutout over Florida State in the quarterfinals of the NCAA Championships last season. Weiss made five saves and grabbed a number of crosses, leading the Irish in a victory that sent them to the College Cup.

"Last year when she stepped in, she did a great job," Waldrum said. "She played great for us in the Final Four (in 2009). Nikki's played great for us all year and kept us in a lot of the games early when we were trying to find our way with the back.

As the Irish travel to Cary, N.C., to take on third-seeded Ohio State Friday in the semifinals of the College Cup, Weiss and the back line bolster a Notre Dame squad that has been lifting the defense all season.

"We know we're not going to be the ones up on the score board getting the goals or anything," Schuveiller said. "But when you get a good hard tackle in or you really get something, the team really feeds off that. You can see it boosts the whole rest of the team."
In a year where the NCAA Tournament has been filled with upsets, Notre Dame has remained the only constant, as the Irish head to the College Cup for the fifth straight season. With two teams making their first appearance in the Final Four and another seeking perfection, Notre Dame finds itself in an ideal situation with the fewest distractions of the four remaining teams. While the Irish have dominated on both ends of the field throughout the tournament, their experience will reign supreme in this year’s College Cup.

FINAL RESULT:
Notre Dame 1, Stanford 0
Irish win national championship

Mike Gotimer
Sports Writer

It’s an interesting foursome in the College Cup. With traditional powers Notre Dame and Stanford matching up against Final Four newcomers Boston College and Ohio State, there’s a unique dynamic awaiting in North Carolina. The Cardinal and Irish absolutely dominated their regions, while the Eagles and Buckeyes struggled somewhat. I fully expect comfortable semifinal wins to set up a marquee Stanford-Notre Dame national championship. Both of those teams are loaded with talent, and while it’ll be about as nerve-wracking a final as possible, the experienced, even-keeled and tested Irish will prevail.

FINAL RESULT:
Notre Dame 3, Stanford 2 (OT)
Irish win national championship

Allan Joseph
Sports Writer

I’m not quite sure how the Buckeyes made it this far with four losses to their name, but I’ll take it. Notre Dame should blow past Ohio State by a wide margin to make it back to the title game. Although the Irish defense no longer features All-American Carrie Dew, it has lifted this team to the College Cup unlike previous years. That should be the difference that pushes this team to a national title. But Stanford will be Notre Dame’s toughest opponent yet, and even if Melissa Henderson plays like Melissa Henderson (which I think she will), the Irish may not get much.

FINAL RESULT:
Notre Dame 0, Stanford 0 (5-4 PKs)
Irish win national championship

Chris Masoud
Sports Writer

The Observer • IRISH INSIDER
Notre Dame women’s basketball vs. Purdue
Where: Purcell Pavilion at the JACC
When: Sunday, 2 p.m.
How much: Free for students

Intrastate match-up between the No. 16 Irish and the Boilers. Notre Dame beat Purdue to win the NCAA championship ten years ago — is the grudge still on?

A Kodachrome Christmas
Where: Decio Theatre in DPAC
When: Dec 9-10, 7 p.m.; Dec 11, 7:30 p.m.; Dec 12, 2 p.m.
How much: $15 for students

This scripted comedy show follows performer Earlene Hoople as she attempts to host a Christmas show for access cable in front of a live audience.

The Undertones Christmas Concert
Where: Washington Hall Main Stage
When: Dec. 10, 8 p.m.
How much: $5, available at LaFortune Box Office

Kick off study days (and study day nights) with Christmas crooning.

Notre Dame men’s basketball vs. Gonzaga
Where: Purcell Pavilion at Joyce Center
When: Dec. 11, 8:30 p.m.
How much: $15 - $40, individual tickets available at (574)-631-7356 or http://und.com/tickets/nd-tickets-m-basketball.html

Support our basketball team next Saturday in their game against Gonzaga. Take a break from studying, go with a group of friends, and cheer for the Fighting Irish in what promises to be a great game!

Notre Dame hockey vs. Northern Michigan
Where: JACC rink
When: Dec. 11, 7:05 p.m.; Dec. 12, 4:05 p.m.
How much: Limited tickets, free to all ND/SMC/HCC students

Watch the Irish take the ice on Saturday and Sunday next weekend against the Northern Michigan. Cheer them on as they try to make another run to the Frozen Four.
NHL

Gabriel and Avery combine in 6-5 victory

Associated Press

UNIONDALE, N.Y. — Marian Hossa and Tuomo Ruutu scored goals in the third period to lift the Chicago Blackhawks past the New York Islanders 5-3 at Nassau Coliseum on Saturday. But, the Islanders have now dropped eight straight wins and are still winless in 15 games since they beat Toronto 8-3 on Oct. 2. The Islanders have scored just 10 goals in their last five games and have not scored more than three goals in any game in their last 12 contests.

Mlb

Jeter closes in on new contract

Associated Press

NEW YORK — The New York Yankees increased their contract offer to Derek Jeter. The team informed Jeter's side of the offer during a telephone conversation early Thursday, a person familiar with the negotiations said. The person spoke on condition of anonymity because no announcement was made.

NCAA Women's Basketball

Terrapins top Boilermakers

Associated Press

WEST LAFAYETTE, Ind. — Lynette Kizer scored 20 points to help No. 22 Maryland rally past Purdue 56-55 on Thursday night in the ACC/Big Ten Challenge.

UNPLANNED PREGNANCY?

Associated Press

If you or someone you care about has been sexually assaulted, we can help. For more information, visit Notre Dame's website: http://pregnancysupport@nd.edu.

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Classifieds

The Observer accepts classifieds every business day from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Notre Dame office, 800 South Dunng Hall. Deadline for next-day classifieds is 1 p.m. All classifieds must be prepaid. The charge is 5 cents per character per day, including all spaces. The Observer reserves the right to edit entries for content or length.
James silences Cleveland crowd in Heat victory

CLEVELAND — First the Cleveland fans had their say, then LeBron James answered.

James led a 16-0 first-quarter surge that quelled the boos and abuse of fans who used to call him King, scoring 38 points to lead the Miami Heat to a 118-90 victory over the Cavaliers on Thursday night.

It was James’ first game back in the city where he played for seven years before leaving via free agency, angering disbelieving fans who considered him one of their own.

Dwyane Wade added 22 points, James Jones 18 and Chris Bosh 15 for the Heat, a star-studded team which has seldom played like one in going 12-8 so far.

Daniel Gibson scored 21 for the Cavaliers, who have lost six of eight and now play seven of their next eight on the road.

James had 10 more points than Cleveland’s starting lineup.

Ahead by 19 at the half, the Heat poured it on by shooting 73 percent from the field in the third quarter, with James going 10 of 12 and Wade hitting all four of his attempts to stretch the lead to 30 points.

James sat on the bench for all of the fourth quarter, with dozens of security guards and police lining the team’s entrance to the court and guarding against objects thrown at him. After the final seconds sifted away, he left without incident.

Until then, James frequently bantered with his former coaches with the Cavaliers and even talked to fans at courtside. The native of nearby Akron smiled while shooting free throws, in spite of what seemed like the entire arena chanting, “Akron hates you!”

The early spurt left a crowd of 20,562 with nothing left to cheer except James’ occasional missed shot. He didn’t miss many, finishing 15 of 25 from the field, to go with eight assists and five rebounds.

James, of course, left the Cavaliers this summer to take his act to sunny Miami.

By far, the loudest cheers were saved for Cavs owner Dan Gilbert, who had ripped James after his decision, saying he quit on the Cavaliers during their season-ending playoff series with Boston. There were five guys wearing a single letter each on their white T-shirts that spelled out: LeBum.

Cleveland native and game show host Drew Carey, Browns icon Bernie Kosar, Indians slugger Travis Hafner and most of the current Browns were cheered wildly when, just before the start, they slowly made their way to courtside seats. Cincinnati Bengals receiver Terrell Owens even was in attendance.

It didn’t take long for the Heat to end the suspense once the game began.

Cleveland led 17-12 early, but James led the 16-0 surge that all but put the game on ice. He scored on a reverse layup in traffic to put the Heat up 19-17 at the 3:10 mark and they never looked back.

With the Cavaliers falling farther and farther behind, the fans had to content themselves with cheering each time James had a shot blocked or was called for a foul.

When he was barely bumped with 4:28 left in the first quarter by Cleveland’s Joey Graham 20 feet from the basket, he flopped onto the floor. The crowd went crazy when the replay showed the former Akron St. Vincent-St. Mary High School star hit the deck, with lusty boos following when it appeared he might have embellished the contact.

During warmups, they booed whenever James touched the ball and cheered whenever his shots clanged out.

He hit a mid-range jumper at the 10:41 mark for his first points — and the crowd responded angrily.

By the end, though, they were quiet.

Associated Press

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**MLB**

**White Sox sign Adam Dunn**

Associated Press

CHICAGO — Slugging first baseman Adam Dunn agreed to join the Chicago White Sox for a four-year, $56 million contract, a person familiar with the negotiations told The Associated Press on Thursday.

The person spoke on condition of anonymity because the deal had not been officially announced. If Dunn passes a physical, he could be intro-duced Friday at a news conference.

Dunn hit 38 home runs with 103 RBIs for Washington last season. He hit .260 and had five, two-out, run-scoring hits, and was seeking a multi-year deal.

Even after adding Dunn, the White Sox still hope to re-sign Paul Konerko, who is a free agent after turning down Chicago’s arbitration offer.

The 31-year-old Dunn has a career .242 average, 196 home runs, 359 RBIs and 831 hits in 10 major league seasons with the Washington Nationals, Arizona Diamondbacks and Nationals. He is also prolific with striking outs — 805 in 4,560 at-bats, or 17.5 percent — and, but would potentially put up big offensive numbers in homer-friendly Chicago.

The Nationals told trade offers for Dunn at the July dead-line but had decided not to make a deal. Reports say the White Sox were among the three or four top teams interested at the time.

**NCAA FOOTBALL**

**NCAA responds to Cam Newton scandal**

Associated Press

NCAA President Mark Emmert responded Thursday to more questions about the presence of a “hush fund” and said he was pushing for better policies in future cases.

“Few of these investigations affect student-athlete eligibility and others do not,” Lach explained. “The investigation does not stop with a student-athlete eligibility issue, but school officials are still responsible for it as soon as they are aware of the violations.”

The NCAA also took issue with comparisons made to the case of former Southern Cal player O.J. Simpson, referring to the latter’s這麼大. "But look at the situation with the student-athlete. In this case, it was a single athlete," Lach said. "It’s not a case of a single athlete. It’s not a case of a single athlete, it’s a case of multiple athletes."
**Sharks shut out Senators in Heatley’s return**

Associated Press

OTTAWA — Dany Heatley's return to Ottawa gave the NHL a hostile homecoming of its own.

Logan Couture scored twice and Heatley had an assist in his first game in Ottawa since forcing the trade that sent him to San Jose, leading the Sharks to a 4-0 victory over the Senators on Thursday night.

Antti Niemi made 28 saves for his first shutout of the season — and San Jose's first, too.

Patrick Marleau and Justin Braun scored power-play goals on the Sharks' first two chances.

Heatley, who drew both Ottawa hooking penalties that led to San Jose's first two goals, was booed loudly throughout his shifts in the first period, prompting chants of "Traitor! Traitor!"

"He was a rallying point for our team tonight," Sharks coach Todd McLellan said. "Players elevated for his play and they wanted to get it done, and that's a real good sign for us."

A Healthy No. 15 Senators jersey was tossed onto the ice during a stop in play early in the game but the Ottawa fans' wrath later dwindled to jeering their former star only after he touched the puck.

Couture scored the Sharks' third and fourth goals in the first half of the third.

Pascal Leclaire stopped 29 shots for Ottawa, which has lost seven of nine, including a 4-3 loss to Edmonton on Monday night.

On the same night that NBA superstar LeBron James was enduring the vitriol of his former fans in his return to Cleveland, Heatley was subjected to the scorn of his one-time admirers in the Canadian capital.

A two-time 50-goal scorer with the Senators, Heatley was booed loudly throughout his shifts in the first period, prompting chants of "Traitor! Traitor!"

"It was kind of a playoff atmosphere there, especially early," Heatley said.

"It was a kind of a playoff atmosphere in there and I thought the pace was going a little bit more, not only for leaving the team before last season."

Jose's first two goals, was booed hooking penalties that led to San Jose's first, too.

Couture scored the Sharks' third and fourth goals in the first half of the third.

Crosby did not score three consecutive goals during any of his six previous hat tricks, but he did so against Atlanta goalie Ondrej Pavelec, who had an 0.83 goals-against average during Atlanta's winning streak.

Bryan Little scored off a rebound 6:21 into the game, the first goal allowed by Pittsburgh's league-leading penalty-killing unit in its opponents' last 33 power plays. Pittsburgh had gone nine games without giving up a man-advantage goal.

Crosby needed only 1 minute, 11 seconds to tie it, settling down a bouncing pass from Chris Kunitz at the side of the net and beating Pavelec.

Crosby reached the 20-goal mark early in the second period, surprising teammates after that any time Crosby had scored three goals in a row. Crosby has never had an NHL four-goal game.

Pavelic has been nearly unbeatable in net for two weeks, giving up five goals in six games while stopping 183 shots, but is 0-6 against Pittsburgh while allowing an average of nearly five goals per game.

**NHL**

**Crosby, Penguins beat Atlanta**

Associated Press

PITTSBURGH — Sidney Crosby scored all three Pittsburgh goals for the first natural hat trick of his six-season career and the Penguins won a matchup of teams on long winning streaks, beating the Atlanta Thrashers 3-2 on Thursday night.

With Crosby becoming the first Penguins player in nearly 11 years to score three goals in successive home games, Pittsburgh ran its winning streak to eight games.

The Penguins, 10-0-1 in their last 11, are on their longest game streak ended.

Sidney Crosby talks with coach Dan Bylsma after his third goal in the Penguins' 3-2 victory over Atlanta Thursday night.

Crosby did not score three consecutive goals during any of his six previous hat tricks, but he did so against Atlanta goalie Ondrej Pavelec, who had an 0.83 goals-against average during Atlanta’s winning streak.

Bryan Little scored off a rebound 6:21 into the game, the first goal allowed by Pittsburgh’s league-leading penalty-killing unit in its opponents’ last 33 power plays.

Crosby had outscored opponents 22-5 during Atlanta’s winning streak.

Crosby needed only 1 minute, 11 seconds to tie it, settling down a bouncing pass from Chris Kunitz at the side of the net and beating Pavelec.

Crosby reached the 20-goal mark early in the second period, surprising teammates after that any time Crosby had scored three goals in a row. Crosby has never had an NHL four-goal game.

Pavelic has been nearly unbeatable in net for two weeks, giving up five goals in six games while stopping 183 shots, but is 0-6 against Pittsburgh while allowing an average of nearly five goals per game.

**NFL**

**Vick throws for 302 yards in Eagles victory**

Associated Press

PHILADELPHIA — Michael Vick shook off all the hard hits, continued to get up off the ground and kept making plays.

Vick threw for 302 yards and accounted for three touchdowns, rallying the Philadelphia Eagles to a 34-24 victory over the Houston Texans on Thursday night.

Vick was hurried, harassed and battered throughout the game. But he never stayed down despite taking a bunch of jarring hits, and scored the go-ahead touchdown on a 2-yard run.

"He got knocked around a little bit," coach Andy Reid said. "He got back up and kept going. I loved his energy in the second half. Both sides of the ball, he was firing them up."

"It was the first time Vick led the Eagles (8-4) back from a fourth-quarter deficit. They led 14-12 in the first half before falling behind 24-20.

"We did a great job battling back," Vick said.

Matt Schaub had 337 yards passing and two scores for the Texans (5-7). Andre Johnson had 149 yards receiving — four days after his hockey-like fight with Tennessee's Cortland Finnegan.

The NFC East-leading Eagles were coming off their first loss in about a month. Vick led and finished. He was 5-0 before a 31-26 loss at Chicago.

Vick continued his remarkable comeback story with another outstanding performance. He completed 22 of 33 passes for two touchdowns, and had his third 300-yard game. Vick, a three-time Pro Bowl pick in six seasons with Atlanta, only had two 300-yard efforts this year.

He also ran for 48 yards and a score.

"This young man is playing as good as anybody I've seen play in the NFL and I've been doing it for a while," Texans coach Gary Kubiak said of Vick. "He's special and we just tried to contain him, but obviously he still had a big night. He's been doing it against a lot of people so... We had a couple of chances for turnovers. He gave us a couple of opportunities that we just didn't take advantage of."

The Texans took their first lead in the third quarter, the Eagles quickly answered. Vick sneakied in from the 2 to put Philadelphia ahead 27-24 early in the fourth. Vick's 33-yard pass to DeSean Jackson to the Texans 11 set up the score.
Jackson continued from page 16

the top. Miami is one of them,” Jackson said. “It’s a lot easier to develop those rivalries when you’re playing a team four times a year, when, you know, we’ll play Miami.”

The young Irish team enjoyed a nice week off the ice, as sophomore center Riley Sheahan was invited to the Canada World Junior Championship selection tryout and freshman center E.J. Tynan was named the CCHA Rookie of the Month for November. The young core that includes Tynan and Sheahan has Jackson optimistic that his team will be able to compete with the balance of the nation’s top programs.

“[Miami is] a great program to emulate. Similar to Boston College and some of the other top programs, they build the team through real solid recruiting, nice balance of skill guys and gritty guys,” Jackson said. “That’s where we’re trying to get to. They have good balance up and down their lineup. They’re probably as good a team as we just played. North Dakota and Miami, on paper, should be two of the best teams in the country.”

The RedHawks are led by a strong trio of forwards that includes seniors Carter Camper and Andy Miele and sophomore Reilly Smith. Camper leads Miami with 32 points on the season.

“They’ve got three of the best forwards, and I think they’re much deeper than that,” Jackson said. “Camper is a character guy. Smith’s really come into his own this year. They’re deeper than that even.”

The puck will drop on the first game of the series at Steve Cady Arena at 7:35 p.m. on Friday, and the teams will play again at 7:05 p.m. Saturday.

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Wesley continued from page 16

the Hawkeyes fell to No. 13 Minnesota in their last meet. The team, however, has had nearly a month to recover and train since that loss.

“We’d like to see how fast we can race against them,” Welsh said.

Welsh and his team have taken the recent Thanksgiving break to train hard and rest up for the meet. The team worked on their form during training in the days before Thanksgiving and went “back to hard work, back to basics.”

“We want high speed stuff in practice that approaches race pace,” Welsh said.

Traditionally, the weekend after Thanksgiving break is a good weekend for us to race. The fields are fresher and more energetic,” Welsh said.

The Irish go into the Iowa Invitational after defeating Utah, 184-116, Nov. 12. The Irish then head to San Juan, Puerto Rico, for winter training in late December. They begin 2011-12 conference opener.

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McGraw continued from page 16

“We want high speed stuff in practice, she said. “We’d like to see how fast we can make them work.”

“We’ve got three of the best forwards, and they’re much deeper than that,” Jackson said. “Camper is a character guy. Smith’s really come into his own this year. They’re deeper than that even.”

“We’re looking forward to getting back in the gym,” McGraw said.

“We are very well-coached and return some very good players. We played Calvin last week and I feel like we have the pieces, but we’re struggling to put it together for 40 minutes. I’m really confident that we’re going to.”

Notre Dame boasts a competitive relationship with the Boilermakers as the two met 10 years ago in the national championship game, which the Irish won, 68-66. The Boilermakers lost to Maryland Thursday for their first loss of the season, a 56-55 defeat that shattered their six-game win streak.

Though a 4-1 record gives Purdue a good confidence boost heading into the game at Notre Dame, its season has not been particularly easy. Boilermaker Drey Mingo was hospitalized for bacterial meningitis, which caused Purdue’s athletic director to cancel the team’s trip to Cancun. They missed out on an appreciable portion of their season due to Mingo’s illness.

“It’s going to be a big game, and we’re all hoping for a good crowd,” McGraw said.

Tip-off is scheduled for 2 p.m. Sunday. The game will be aired on ESPN.

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Daniel continued from page 16

McGraw Irish coach

It’s going to be a big game, and we’re all hoping for a good crowd,” McGraw said.

“We played well in spots and we shot the ball well, too,” McGraw said. “I feel like we have the pieces, but we’re struggling to put it together for 40 minutes. I’m really confident that we’re going to.”

Notre Dame boasts a competitive relationship with the Boilermakers as the two

McGraw continued from page 16

“We are very well-coached and return some very good players.”

He said his team must execute at a high level and avoid any sloppy play, but he feels the opening stretch of their schedule has prepared his team well.

“We must play great pressure defense, control the boards, limit our turnovers and execute on offense to give ourselves the opportunity to be successful in our first home game of the year,” Daniel said. “Being on the road in our first six games hopefully has prepared this team for conference play that I believe will very competitive this year. Playing Calvin will be a great test for us in our conference opener.”

Saturday’s game will begin at 3 p.m.

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WILL SHORTZ

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Nancy, Nell; David Schwimmer, 44; Ed Lamp, 49; Shuli appropriately, 69.

Happy Birthday! Your power will grow and you will see through everything you face in your personal and professional lives. Your thoughts will EVE.

JIMMY ARKON (March 21-23): Look for any opportunity to get ahead professionally. Take care of any personal business immediately if it might create a problem in the future. Someone will remind you of or offer you something that will not develop.

TAMRA (April 23-25): A chance to have your own way at your expense seems apparent. Consider an appropriate or formal event as an opportunity to share the things you enjoy. Focus your efforts to earn you some money.

GEMINI (May 21-25): Don't get your emotions too loud when you look for the right path. Your emotions are out of control and the time has come to recognize their potential and plan for the future. Don't let anyone take advantage of your good nature.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): The more you challenge and test people in your life, the better your chance will be at advancement. Add to your skills by purchasing a course offering a variety of information, services, or products. Make sure that what you are getting onto will be developmentally.

LEO (July 23-Aug 22): You will find it difficult to win, especially when it comes to affairs of the heart or to do anything personal, family, and home. You will be a victim of something if you rely on someone else's expertise instead of your own common sense.

VIRGO (Aug 23-Sept 22): Taking refuge in places outside your home and away from family will be your best outlet for success. Problems at home will only tend to interfere with or obstruct your environment and gain can be made.

LIBRA (Sept 23-Oct 22): Lattes other know too much about your past will work against you. Be a little creative. A memory will surface due to someone or something you encountered. Don't get it there you did.

SCORPIO (Oct 23-Nov 21): Your ability to take care of your responsibilities will show how you are. You will enhance your reputation and ability to communicate with individuals equally as strong and passionate about results.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov 22-Dec 21): Don't let your enthusiasm cause you to remain under the influence of your own ideas and visions that will get you to the conclusion you are so eager to reach. Emotions will be kept at control and could lead to insincere situations.

CAPRICORN (Dec 22-Jan 19): You've got everything figured out, so stop analyzing and do more. Your ideas and visions and the approach you take will enable you to take up important situations, as well as support. A better financial situation will allow you freedom to expand.

AQUARIUS (Jan 20-Feb 18): Be honest with yourself and with the people who care about you. Decisions, enthusiasm, and getting involved in the environment will all be true to achievement and growth. Progress is better.

PISCES (Feb 19-Mar 20): Relaxation and doubts, and checking what anyone tells you. Make sure that in fact this is true before you decide. You should develop a habit of testing and testing again when you should.

Birthday Baby: You are helpful, strong-willed and competitive. You have something to chance or how you can, or how to help you. If you want a heart of gold.

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TUESDAY VARIETY SHOW

LAURA MCGINN

PLEASANDVILLE

JAMES SOLLITTO, CODY ECKERT AND JOHN FLATLEY

JUMBLE

JEFF KNUREK

MIKE ARGIRON

HOROSCOPE

EUGENIA LAST

CROSSWORD

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE
**HOCKEY**

**On the road again**

No. 12 ND will face No. 6 Miami (OH)

By CHRIS ALLEN
Sports Writer

Fresh off a difficult trip to North Dakota, where the young No. 12 Irish lost Friday and fought back to salvage a tie Saturday, Notre Dame will continue its “Murderer’s Row” schedule with a weekend series against No. 6 Miami (Ohio) in Oxford.

“It’s going to be very similar circumstances. We have to be better Friday,” Irish head coach Jeff Jackson said.

“That’s the key. We weren’t as good as we should have been Friday night. I think our team was, to some degree, awestruck by the facilities and just the overall environment of that building.

“Hopefully going into this weekend, Friday night, we’ll be better prepared to do well. On the road, when you’re playing two games on the Friday, Friday night is always the night that you have a better opportunity to be successful.”

Notre Dame (9-4-2, 7-2-1-1) has gotten off to a strong start this season and trails Miami (9-4-3, 7-3-2-1) by one point in the CCHA standings.

After the loss to North Dakota, the Irish are now 2-2 in their last four Friday night games.

“We’ve had a history in the past of being pretty good on Friday nights, but this year hasn’t been as positive,” Jackson said. “I’m hoping that we will hopefully get better.”

The Irish have lost six straight games, including 1-0 and 4-0 defeats last season, but this year’s team will attempt to break the streak in the increasingly energized CCHA rivalry.

“They’re a great team. If we’re going to be a great program, we have to have natural rivalries with teams that are competing to be at the top.”

**SMC BASKETBALL**

**Belles look to stay hot in December**

By JOE WIRTH
Sports Writer

After one of the most successful November’s in school history, Saint Mary’s is set to take on No. 23 Calvin Saturday in the Belles’ home and conference opener.

The Belles (5-1) are led by junior forward Kelley Murphy, who leads the team in scoring and rebounding and is averaging nearly a double-double with 15.6 points per game and 9.7 rebounds per game.

Saint Mary’s is also receiving big contributions from junior guard Maggie Ronan, who is averaging 12.5 points per game.

The Knights opened their conference season with a 75-40 victory over Adrian, giving them a record of 4-2 overall and 1-0 in MIAA play. If the Belles are going to win they must find a way to contain preseason All-American Carissa Verkaik, who is averaging 22.4 points and 9.8 rebounds per game.

Belles interim coach Patrick Daniel said he knows what kind of challenge they will face in Calvin.

“Saint Mary’s is a very experienced team and they have a lot of depth,” Daniel said. “They’re going to be very competitive and we’re going to have to be ready to respond.”

**SMC SWIMMING**

**Irish prepare for tough Invitational**

By MAJA GUSTIN
Sports Writer

The Irish begin a string of four away meets this weekend as the annual invitational, held in Iowa’s brand new pool.

“It will be wonderful conditions,” Irish coach Tim Welsh said. “We’re eager to race in their new pool.”

The Belles are not a very race against many of the teams at the invitational, but Welsh said there will be a number of tight races.

“It’s a very good field,” Welsh said. “I want to be in a very good field so that we’re challenged.”

Iowa should be one of the team’s toughest competitors despite the fact

**ND WOMEN’S BASKETBALL**

**Team set to take on rival Purdue**

By MOLLY SAMMON
Sports Writer

With two days left to work out a few kinks before in-state rival Purdue comes to the Purcell Pavilion Sunday, the No. 16 Irish are hoping to build on Thursday’s 76-65 loss to Baylor.

“We always have a good game against Purdue,” Irish coach Muffet McGraw said. “It’s a lot of Midwest kids that know each other really well. The Purdue game is always a big game on our schedule.”

With a 4-1 record, Purdue has flirted with a national ranking but has not been able to break into the top-25 yet this season.

**MCGRaw**

Freshman forward Kayla McBride lays it up in Notre Dame’s 99-48 win over New Hampshire on Nov. 12.
Defending Her Glory

Suffocating defense leads the Irish to fifth consecutive College Cup
Road-tested ND faces Ohio St. in semifinals

By MIKE GOTIMER
Sporz Writer

No. 7 Notre Dame will head to its fifth consecutive College Cup this weekend in Cary, N.C., where it will face No. 17 Ohio State in the national semifinal.

Although the Irish (19-2-2) were highly ranked and had a reputation as one of college soccer’s elite programs, a 2-0 loss to Connecticut in the quarterfinals of the Big East championships resulted in a drop to a fourth seed in the NCAA Tournament. The lower seed gave the Irish a daunting road to the College Cup in which they played three ranked teams and traveled nearly 4,000 miles.

“I think when the bids came out, all the girls didn’t publicly come out and say anything and we didn’t either, and I think we all felt like there was a stain on a shaft on that,” Irish coach Randy Waldrum said. “I think we were expecting a two seed, and to get a four [seed], we were all disappointed in that. So I think they had a little bit of a point to prove, so that’s probably served as a little motivation.”

Since that loss, the Irish have dominated their opponents on both ends of the field, outscoring opponents 13-1 thus far in the tournament. Waldrum said he believes this team has played as well as any other team he has coached during his tenure at Notre Dame.

“I think this team is really well prepared, and I think it’s got all the ingredients,” Waldrum said. “It could win it. You know now (we have to) still go out and perform on the day, but I think it’s as good right now as any team that we’ve had coming through at this point in the year.”

While Notre Dame has been to the College Cup 12 times in its history, Ohio State (17-4-2) is making its first appearance on college soccer’s biggest stage. Although the Irish have a clear advantage in experience, Waldrum isn’t buying that this team will have an easy road to Sunday night’s final.

“I think it is [Ohio State’s] first time there, and that can be a dangerous thing,” Waldrum said. “You know, it can be one of those Cinderella runs like USC did a few years ago — the first time they were in they won the whole thing — and so I think Ohio State certainly has a good enough team to do that.”

The Buckeyes will present challenges for the Irish on both sides of the ball, but their defense has been especially sound, allowing just 0.61 goals per game.

“They don’t give up many goals. They look to be a team that’s really organized, so I think it’s [going to] be a great game,” Waldrum said. “I think it should be a really good game, and you know when you get to the final four teams, you’re playing somebody good.”

Should the Irish get past Ohio State on Friday, they will face the winner of the other semifinal contest between No. 1 Stanford and No. 18 Boston College. Like the 2008 Notre Dame squad, which entered the College Cup unbeaten and ranked No. 1 in the country, the Cardinal (22-0-2) enter this year’s College Cup looking to wrap up an undefeated season with a national championship.

Waldrum said he believes Stanford will face some pressure to win a storybook national title, but he doesn’t think it will derail them.

“Well there’s some pressure with it — I can tell you that from us doing it. You know, every game that you get has some pressure behind it. I think about it or subconsciously think about it, you go. ‘Well there’s only now two games left and if we win it we go undefeated, now there’s only one more game.’ I don’t think the pressure of them carrying that undefeated season is [going to] burden them enough that it’s [going to] cause them to collapse or anything.”

Like Ohio State, Boston College (17-6-1) is also making its first trip to the College Cup. The Eagles were one of the nation’s hottest teams at the beginning of the season, but cooled off towards the end before stepping up their game again in the tournament.

“I think Boston College has had an exceptional year,” Waldrum said. “They started out really hot — they beat [North Carolina] early in the year, and they tied Stanford early in the year. They seemed like they’ve turned it back around again late in the year.”

The Buckeyes will begin the final stage of its chase for the program’s third national title Friday against Ohio State at 4 p.m. at WakeMed Soccer Park in Cary, N.C. The winner of that game will square off with the winner of the Stanford vs. Notre Dame match at noon Sunday for the national title. The semifinal games will be broadcast on ESPN2 and ESPN3, while Sunday’s match will air on ESPNU.

Contact Mike Gotimer at mgotimer@nd.edu

Quarterfinals loss in conference tournament sparks Irish

By ALLAN JOSEPH
Sporz Writer


These were just some of the terms the Irish players used to describe their shocking 2-0 upset by a conference opponent since 2005 and a 3-0 loss to a conference foe since 1995, Notre Dame took the pitch flat, giving up a pair of second-half goals to a conference opponent, for the first time in the program’s history, their season ending.

“We went into that game kind of uninterested and unexcited because it was just another game,” she said. “It’s kind of re- motivated us because we realized that we actually have to work for our wins.”

There were no inspiring speeches after the loss. There was no emotional tirade. No tears were shed. There wasn’t even a players-only meeting to set the team straight. Rather, the Irish forged a steely resolve after they realized what was at stake.

“We just looked at each other and kind of knew,” junior forward Melissa Henderson said. “Everybody said what they needed to say. Hey, we’ve got to pick it up. Now it’s not all fun and games. It’s serious now. You lose and you’re out.”

After Notre Dame slept off the sting from the loss, the team went back to business and worked to grow from the experience.

“I remember we had to go in the morning after and watch film 4:30 in the morning, and I remember going to breakfast after that with a couple girls on the team,” junior defender Molly Keady said. “We were just talking about how either the team would just implode or we would just kind of really respond. Obviously we picked the best way we could have.”

It wasn’t just a change in mentality that sparked the NCAA run, however. The loss prompted Waldrum to make a lineup change that would eventually pay huge dividends. Waldrum moved senior Lauren Fowlkes from the back line to the attack and put Campbell in her place. Waldrum was rewarded with a three-goal, two-assist effort from Fowlkes on the opening weekend of the tournament.

“The big question was whether [Campbell] could step in late in the season with not a lot of practice in that position and show some consistency, especially at a crucial time with the NCAs, and she’s been fantastic there,” Waldrum said. “She’s been really the key — we knew Lauren could do that because we had her doing it last year.”

Fowlkes’ offensive dynamism translated to the rest of the Notre Dame attack, as a formerly struggled Irish was energized by the most crucial games of the year.

“I think it really helped with our offense, obviously,” Henderson said. “Lauren’s really strong and a good player to play off of, so it gave us a little diversity up front.”

Before the loss, the team had been struggling through the latter stages of its conference slate, and Waldrum said that the defeat forced him to finally make the changes he had been thinking about for some time.

“We’d still not lost a game in a while so I was a little reluctant to make the change,” he said. “I thought we should have done it the first time there, and that can be a dangerous thing.”

Despite all of the positives that came from the loss, the Irish still maintain they would have preferred to win the game with Connecticut.

“It’s hard to say that it’s a good thing that we lost,” Henderson said. “You never want to lose.”

Waldrum said, “I would rather have won, and won the Big East tournament, don’t get me wrong.”

The first weekend of the NCAA Tournament, Waldrum used one more phrase to describe the Connecticut game – this one more positive than the one his players used.

“A blessing in disguise,” he said.

Contact Allan Joseph ajoseph2@nd.edu
Notre Dame’s 2-0 loss to Connecticut on Oct. 31.

extension of the team’s regular season, the Irish defense has stifled high-scoring opponents in the friendly confines of Alumni Stadium. Senior goalie Nikki Weiss has been a mainstay in the Irish goal all season. Weiss has been really good, especially since we moved Lauren out of the back. Lauren was usually the more vocal player, and now Jess has really stepped up and organized things on the field and has really taken charge on the field with her leadership."

Quick to deflect praise, schlueter said the team’s success can be attributed in large part to Weiss, who has been a mainstay in the Irish goal all season. "[Nikki] is amazing," schlueter said. "Playing in front of her is really easy because she is so confident. She does a great job communicating and it helps out a lot. It really helps that we’re all friends on and off the field, so the chemistry is there."

With the Big East’s lowest goals-against average (.53) and highest save percentage (.967) during the regular season, Weiss has enjoyed tremendous success during her final season in an Irish uniform. But it wasn’t always that way. Weiss struggled to earn the starting net-minder during her first two seasons at Notre Dame, a result of inconsistency and transitioning to collegiate play.

When you come in to Notre Dame, you’re not sure how high the level actually is," Weiss said. "For me, it took a lot longer to adjust. Once I kind of relaxed and started having fun, things started falling into place.""Waldrum said the turning point in Weiss’ career came during a 2-0 shutout over Florida State in the quarterfinals of the NCAA Championships last season.

Weiss made five saves and grabbed a number of crosses, leading the Irish in a victory that sent them to the College Cup.

"Last year when she stepped in, she did a great job," Waldrum said. "She played great for us in the Final Four [in 2009]. Nikki’s played great for us all year and kept us in a lot of the games early when we were trying to find our way with the back."

As the Irish travel to Cary, N.C., to take on third-seeded Ohio State Friday in the semifinals of the College Cup, Weiss and the back line bolster a Notre Dame squad that has been lifted by defense all season.

"We know we’re not going to be the ones up on the score board getting the goals or anything," schlueter said. "But when you get a good hard tackle in or you really get something from the bond, it sets the tone for the game. You can see it boosts the whole rest of the team."
In a year where the NCAA Tournament has been filled with upsets, Notre Dame has remained the only constant, as the Irish head to the College Cup for the fifth straight season. With two teams making their first appearance in the Final Four and another seeking perfection, Notre Dame finds itself in an ideal situation with the fewest distractions of the four remaining teams. While the Irish have dominated on both ends of the field throughout the tournament, their experience will reign supreme in this year's College Cup.

**FINAL RESULT:**
Notre Dame 1, Stanford 0
Irish win national championship

**Mike Gotimer**
Sports Writer

It's an interesting foursome in the College Cup. With traditional powers Notre Dame and Stanford matching up against Final Four newcomers Boston College and Ohio State, there's a unique dynamic awaiting in North Carolina. The Cardinal and Irish absolutely dominated their regions, while the Eagles and Buckeyes struggled somewhat. I fully expect comfortable semifinal wins to set up a marquee Stanford-Notre Dame national championship. Both of those teams are loaded with talent, and while it'll be about as nerve-wracking a final as possible, the experienced, even-keeled and tested Irish will prevail.

**FINAL RESULT:**
Notre Dame 3, Stanford 2 (OT)
Irish win national championship

**Allan Joseph**
Sports Writer

I'm not quite sure how the Buckeyes made it this far with four losses to their name, but I'll take it. Notre Dame should blow past Ohio State by a wide margin to make it back to the title game. Although the Irish defense no longer features All-American Carrie Dew, it has lifted this team to the College Cup unlike previous years. That should be the difference that pushes this team to a national title. But Stanford will be Notre Dame's toughest opponent yet, and even if Melissa Henderson plays like Melissa Henderson (which I think she will), the Irish may not get much.

**FINAL RESULT:**
Notre Dame 0, Stanford 0 (5-4 PKs)
Irish win national championship

**Chris Masoud**
Sports Writer

"I've seen Notre Dame soccer up close and personal. I know Randy fairly well. I know he has a team that year-in and year-out will compete for a national championship. Beating North Carolina was a huge step for that potentially happening on Sunday. I know that they're ready to battle whatever comes their way."

**BRANDI CHASTAIN**

**Predicting the College Cup**

**In a year where the NCAA Tournament has been filled with upsets, Notre Dame has remained the only constant, as the Irish head to the College Cup for the fifth straight season. With two teams making their first appearance in the Final Four and another seeking perfection, Notre Dame finds itself in an ideal situation with the fewest distractions of the four remaining teams. While the Irish have dominated on both ends of the field throughout the tournament, their experience will reign supreme in this year's College Cup.

**FINAL RESULT:**
Notre Dame 3, Stanford 2 (OT)
Irish win national championship

**Mike Gotimer**
Sports Writer

It's an interesting foursome in the College Cup. With traditional powers Notre Dame and Stanford matching up against Final Four newcomers Boston College and Ohio State, there's a unique dynamic awaiting in North Carolina. The Cardinal and Irish absolutely dominated their regions, while the Eagles and Buckeyes struggled somewhat. I fully expect comfortable semifinal wins to set up a marquee Stanford-Notre Dame national championship. Both of those teams are loaded with talent, and while it'll be about as nerve-wracking a final as possible, the experienced, even-keeled and tested Irish will prevail.

**FINAL RESULT:**
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**Allan Joseph**
Sports Writer

I'm not quite sure how the Buckeyes made it this far with four losses to their name, but I'll take it. Notre Dame should blow past Ohio State by a wide margin to make it back to the title game. Although the Irish defense no longer features All-American Carrie Dew, it has lifted this team to the College Cup unlike previous years. That should be the difference that pushes this team to a national title. But Stanford will be Notre Dame's toughest opponent yet, and even if Melissa Henderson plays like Melissa Henderson (which I think she will), the Irish may not get much.

**FINAL RESULT:**
Notre Dame 0, Stanford 0 (5-4 PKs)
Irish win national championship

**Chris Masoud**
Sports Writer

"I've seen Notre Dame soccer up close and personal. I know Randy fairly well. I know he has a team that year-in and year-out will compete for a national championship. Beating North Carolina was a huge step for that potentially happening on Sunday. I know that they're ready to battle whatever comes their way."

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