

THE OBSERVER

The Independent Newspaper Serving Notre Dame and Saint Mary's

VOLUME 44 : ISSUE 61

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 1, 2010

NDSMCOBSERVER.COM

Knott wins energy competition

By SARA FELSENSTEIN
News Writer

After 30 days of commitment to dimmed lights, taking the stairs and unplugging cell phone chargers and game systems, Knott Hall won Notre Dame's third annual Dorm Energy Competition Tuesday.

The energy competition, hosted by the Office of Sustainability, began Nov. 1. This year focused on reducing "vampire energy," the power that is sucked by most electronic devices even when they are turned off.

Knott received the \$500 grand prize for their 26 percent energy reduction. Zahm and Lewis tied for second place with 21 percent energy reduction each.

"All the dorms together saved 13 percent, equivalent to \$9,250 or 259,000 pounds of carbon dioxide emissions," Rachel Novick, education and outreach

see KNOTT/page 5



COLEMAN COLLINS/The Observer

Knott Hall won this year's Dorm Energy Competition, held annually by the Office of Sustainability. Knott took first place by reducing its energy usage by 26 percent.

Crowder to perform at College

By ALICIA SMITH
Associate Saint Mary's Editor

Fox News' youngest contributor, Steven Crowder, will be visiting Saint Mary's College Thursday, College Republican president Elizabeth Molnar said.

Crowder will speak in Little Theatre in Moreau Hall at 7:30 p.m. Thursday. The event is free and open to the public.



Crowder

see CROWDER/page 4

Freshmen launch site aimed at non-Greek life



Photo courtesy of Aaron Weber

From left to right, freshmen Quinn Whalen, Kevin Carr, Aaron Weber, Koby Larz, Mike Franczak and Rob Mungia pose in GDI attire.

By MELISSA FLANAGAN
News Writer

A group of freshmen from Knott Hall aim to embrace their status of being "Compulsory GDI's" with the launch of the new website, TotalGDI Move.org.

GDI, or God Damn Independent, is the name students in the Greek system use to refer to those not in a fraternity or sorority.

The students modeled their site on the increasingly popular website TotalFratMove.com. On this site, fraternity brothers post comments that embody the characteristics of the typical fraternity brother.

On the website, at the end of each post is the tagline TFM, implying that the comment is a classic one someone in a fraternity would say.

see SITE/page 5

Class studies homelessness



Photo courtesy of Emily Salvaterra

Senior Emily Salvaterra, right, interacts with a guest at the South Bend Center for the Homeless. Students taking "Confronting Homelessness in the U.S." must volunteer at the Center.

By KRISTEN DURBIN
News Writer

For many Notre Dame students, the concept of homelessness in America may only represent a social problem far removed from their lives, but senior Emily Salvaterra said she confronts the reality of the issue on a weekly basis.

As students in Professor

Benedict Giamo's American Studies course, titled "Confronting Homelessness in the U.S.," Salvaterra and her peers commit at least three hours per week to volunteering at the Center for the Homeless in South Bend.

"The whole idea of this class is to bring a national social issue into a local perspective," Salvaterra said. "The experiential learning component is real-

ly important to understanding homelessness, and you don't get the chance to do things like this in every class."

The course, which Giamo has taught since his arrival at Notre Dame in 1990, examines the conditions of extreme poverty and homelessness within the context of American culture and society. It studies

see CLASS/page 5

THE OBSERVER

P.O. Box 779, Notre Dame, IN 46556
024 South Dining Hall, Notre Dame, IN 46556

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF
Matt Gamber

MANAGING EDITOR **BUSINESS MANAGER**
Madeline Buckley Patrick Sala

ASST. MANAGING EDITOR: Sam Werner
ASST. MANAGING EDITOR: Laura Myers

NEWS EDITORS: Sarah Mervosh
Laura McCrystal

VIEWPOINT EDITOR: Michelle Maitz
SPORTS EDITOR: Douglas Farmer
SCENE EDITOR: Jordan Gambale
SAINT MARY’S EDITOR: Ashley Charnley
PHOTO EDITOR: Dan Jacobs
GRAPHICS EDITOR: Blair Chemidlin
ADVERTISING MANAGER: Lillian Civantos
AD DESIGN MANAGER: Jane Obringer
CONTROLLER: Jeff Liptak
SYSTEMS ADMINISTRATOR: Joseph Choi

OFFICE MANAGER & GENERAL INFO
(574) 631-7471
FAX
(574) 631-6927

ADVERTISING
(574) 631-6900 observad@nd.edu
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF
(574) 631-4542 mgamber@nd.edu
MANAGING EDITOR
(574) 631-4541 mbuckley@nd.edu
ASSISTANT MANAGING EDITORS
(574) 631-4324 swerner@nd.edu, lmyers2@nd.edu

BUSINESS OFFICE
(574) 631-5313

NEWS DESK
(574) 631-5323 obsnews.nd@gmail.com
VIEWPOINT DESK
(574) 631-5303 obsviewpoint@gmail.com
SPORTS DESK
(574) 631-4543 observersports@gmail.com
SCENE DESK
(574) 631-4540 jgambale@nd.edu
SAINT MARY’S DESK
acharn01@saintmarys.edu
PHOTO DESK
(574) 631-8767 obsphoto@gmail.com
SYSTEMS & WEB ADMINISTRATORS
(574) 631-8839

THE
OBSERVER ONLINE
www.ndsmcobserver.com

POLICIES

The Observer is the independent, daily newspaper published in print and online by the students of the University of Notre Dame du Lac and Saint Mary's College. Editorial content, including advertisements, is not governed by policies of the administration of either institution. The Observer reserves the right to refuse advertisements based on content.

The news is reported as accurately and objectively as possible. Unsigned editorials represent the opinion of the majority of the Editor in Chief, Managing Editor, Assistant Managing Editors and department editors. Commentaries, letters and columns present the views of the authors and not necessarily those of The Observer.

Viewpoint space is available to all readers. The free expression of all opinions through letters is encouraged. Letters to the Editor must be signed and must include contact information.

Questions regarding Observer policies should be directed to Editor-in-Chief Matt Gamber

POST OFFICE INFORMATION

The Observer (USPS 599 2-4000) is published Monday through Friday except during exam and vacation periods. A subscription to The Observer is \$130 for one academic year; \$75 for one semester.

The Observer is published at: 024 South Dining Hall Notre Dame, IN 46556-0779 Periodical postage paid at Notre Dame and additional mailing offices.	POSTMASTER Send address corrections to: The Observer P.O. Box 779 024 South Dining Hall Notre Dame, IN 46556-0779
---	--

The Observer is a member of the Associated Press. All reproduction rights are reserved.

TODAY’S STAFF

News Ashley Charnley Alicia Smith Melissa Flanagan	Sports Meaghan Veselik Chris Allen Cory Bernard
Graphics Sofia Iturbe Photo Coleman Collins	Scene Jordan Gambale Viewpoint Patricia Fernandez

CORRECTIONS

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

QUESTION OF THE DAY: IF YOU COULD NAME A COLLEGE FOOTBALL BOWL, WHAT WOULD YOU NAME IT?



Caroline Dikibi

sophomore
Pasquerilla East

“The Supreme Bowl”



David Kirkland

sophomore
St. Edward’s

“The Banana Bowl”



Livia Lin

sophomore
Welsh Family

“The Ice Cream Bowl”



Marcel Frenkel

junior
Alumni

“Disney Bowl”



Mindy Zhen

sophomore
Welsh Family

“The Rice Bowl”

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



SUZANNA PRATT/The Observer

As You Wish Imports returns to campus this week in the Sorin Room in LaFortune Student Center, selling jewelry, scarves, purses and other fair trade products from Central and South America and Asia.

OFFBEAT

Roadside secret santa along N.J. highway

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 boughs 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 south-bound 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.

N.M. clerk foils robberies with package of pastries

DEMING, N.M. — Robbers, beware of clerks wielding pastries.

Police in Deming, N.M., say a clerk foiled a robbery last week when she hit the culprit on the back of the head with a package of empanadas, a type of Latin

American pastry.

Police say the masked man didn't say a word when he grabbed the cash register at Amigo's Mexican Food and tried to flee.

Deming police Capt. Brandon Gigante says the man dropped the register when the clerk threw the pastries and hit him.

Barbara Orquiz, who owns Amigo's with her husband, Arnold, says the cash register's cord got caught when the man tried to take it. The clerk saw him grab it, screamed and got him with the empanadas.

Information compiled from the Associated Press.

IN BRIEF

The program “How About Doing Senior Thesis Research in Europe?” will take place today at 5 p.m. in 329 DeBartolo Hall. Student presenters will share their experiences with preparing and conducting thesis research in various European countries.

TransPose dance collective will put on their Fall Concert, Dante's Inferno, today in the Snite Museum of Art. The performance is free and will begin at 7 p.m. Audience members will follow Dante from his entrance to Hell through the 9 Circles.

The workshop “Grant Writing-101. Thinking Outside the Box” will take place today at 8 p.m. in 129 DeBartolo Hall. The workshop will focus on discovering research ideas, developing grants proposals, and finding funding with Dr. Cecilia Lucero and Professor Dan Lindley.

Pasquerilla East Hall's Annual Signature Event “Silent Night, Silent Auction” will take place tomorrow from 6 to 9 p.m. Attendants can bid on Christmas baskets with the proceeds going to St. Margaret's House and Building Tomorrow. The event will be in the Ballroom of LaFortune Student Center.

The Jingle Jog will begin tomorrow at 7 p.m. in front of South Dining Hall. The race is 5K and is sponsored by the Alumni/Student Club.

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

	TODAY	TONIGHT	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
LOCAL WEATHER						
	HIGH 28	HIGH 25	HIGH 32	HIGH 34	HIGH 36	HIGH 38
	LOW 22	LOW 22	LOW 23	LOW 23	LOW 22	LOW 19



FREE Two-Day Shipping

Students Only

Get your gifts the easy way

Millions of eligible items

Shop for anyone, ship to anywhere

No minimum purchase

 **amazon.com/student**

Amazon Student

Free two-day shipping available to customers who qualify for our free Amazon Student program

SMC alumnae to host book web chat

By ASHLEY CHARNLEY
Saint Mary's Editor

In an attempt to unify the campus community, the Alumnae Board has established the One Book, One Saint Mary's book club, which will be meeting virtually today at 8 p.m., according to Lisa Maxbauer Price, a member of Saint Mary's Alumnae Board and 1999 graduate.

"Since 1998, many communities throughout the world have adopted this idea — originated by the Washington Center for the Book — of unity through the reading of literature," Price said.

The club will be meeting at www.FriendFeed.com to chat via the Internet about the book, "The History of Love" by Nicole Krauss, she said. Participants can then search "One Book, One Saint Mary's" and discuss the book together from anywhere in the country.

"As Saint Mary's women, we feel a real bond with one another," Price said. "But sometimes it's hard for alums scattered across the country to feel connected to one another, or to the students and the campus they love so much. This program seemed like an easy way for everyone to have a common, shared experience — regardless of our graduation year."

The Board has created a Facebook page for the event, and Price said they have 903 people who have joined the group so far. She said a majority of the members are alumnae.

"Several alumnae clubs around the nation, for example Grand Rapids, Mich., have already had events, book club meetings for the chosen book:

The History of Love," Price said.

Dr. Ted Billy, professor of English at the College, will use the book in one of his English classes next semester, she said.

Price said the Alumnae Board received recognition from College President Carol Ann Mooney, who sent a letter to the alumnae.

"I think the concept of 'One Book, One Saint Mary's' is an excellent one and I fully support your efforts. This book has received such excellent reviews that I look forward to reading it very soon," Mooney said in the letter.

Price also said the book club is appealing because it is a simple, no cost way for the campus community to connect.

"The alumnae board agreed it was an easy, free way to connect people participating in the program, whether they're on campus or halfway across the country," Price said. "If people enjoy the web chat, it will be very easy for the alumnae board to host more throughout the year."

The Board is hoping to make this an annual event and feature alumnae writers in the future, she said.

The event is not limited to Saint Mary's community members, but can also be accessed by Notre Dame and Holy Cross alumni, students and faculty members.

Depending on results, Price said the Alumnae Board will continue events like this one.

"If people enjoy the web chat, it will be very easy for the Alumnae Board to host more throughout the year," Price said.

Contact Ashley Charnley at acharn01@saintmarys.edu

History of Science Society comes to ND

Special to The Observer

The History of Science Society (HSS) has arrived at Notre Dame — a move that promises to benefit the society, the University's History and Philosophy of Science (HPS) program and Notre Dame's science programs by providing new opportunities for collaboration among society members, faculty and students.

HSS, which relocated from the University of Florida this fall, is the world's largest society dedicated to understanding science, technology and medicine, and their interactions with society in historical context. The organization has more than 3,000 members.

The society's work "fits into Notre Dame's mission to cultivate an appreciation of human achievement while underscoring a desire to better the human condition," said Robert Jay Malone, HSS executive director. "This way of thinking also motivates scientists, and so creates a common goal between the humanities and the sciences.

"By nurturing this shared objective, HSS and Notre Dame hope to create an atmosphere where science is seen as a personal endeavor and not an objective practice removed from context, devoid of emotion and biases," he said. "The history of science can serve as a kind of conscience for science, providing practitioners — as well as the public — with insights into how science operates and giving examples of where it has given comfort and where it has startled us into new ways of thinking."

Don Howard, professor of philosophy and director of the HPS graduate program at Notre Dame, said he looks forward to partnering with the society to bring new conferences to campus, support future research, and give students more opportunity to learn from working scholars. Because HSS also serves the Philosophy of Science Association, he said, HPS will now benefit from having "the two biggest professional associations in the two areas central to our graduate program be housed at Notre Dame."



0% APR

With a Special 0%^{APR} Introductory Rate and a Full 1% Cash Back on all purchases, our Visa Platinum® is the only credit card you'll ever need.

Apply Today!

 **NOTRE DAME**
FEDERAL CREDIT UNION
574/631-8222 • www.ndfcu.org

Annual Percentage Rate (APR). Purchase rate of 0%APR is available for the first six (6) months, after which the APR will return to the standard rate of 12.9%. Accounts one payment late will revert to the standard rate. 1% cash back is paid out annually in January and is not applicable for cash advances or balance transfers. Not valid on delinquent, over limit, or closed accounts. Independent of the University.

Please recycle The Observer.

Student gov't restructures elections

Judicial Council discontinues dorm commissioners to increase efficiency

By JOHN CAMERON
News Writer

Following a resolution passed by the Student Senate before Thanksgiving break, the Judicial Council is restructuring the Elections Committee, which is responsible for ensuring the fairness of student government and Class Council elections.

Judicial Council president Marcelo Perez said the existing committee was less effective due to its large size and the fact that its members were spread across campus.

"Two weeks before Thanksgiving break, we had that resolution passed to do away with the previous elections committee that was in place, which consisted of the election commissioner from each of the dorms," he said. "It was always hard to get them together."

The new election committee, which will be significant-

ly smaller, will assist in approving candidates for student government positions and dealing with accusations that may arise regarding candidates' fitness to run for office, Perez said.

"The newly formed Elections Committee, as outlined in the constitution, will deal with the allegations that come forward during the campaign season and will help the vice president to run the elections," Perez said. "What we did was make it a smaller group so it might be easier to get them together."

The Judicial Council has sent out multiple solicitations to the student body looking for applicants to the reformed committee.

"We want to make sure anyone who wants to apply applies," he said. "Sometimes if you send one e-mail people may not look at it."

Perez said he hopes more

students applying to the committee will result in a wider perspective when handling the campaign issues members face.

"You need a committee that's not too divided but at the same time you don't want everyone having one single opinion," he said. "That way, if it comes to an allegation, any interpretation of the constitution is made in a fair way, that it's not just a one-sided interpretation."

The application to the Judicial Council is only the first step for students hoping to become part of the committee. After the Judicial Council selects applicants, they need approval by the Council of Representatives, Perez said.

The election committee falls under the Judicial Council's responsibility of handling elections, which, paired with assisting students facing disciplinary proceedings, makes up the Council's objectives as defined by its constitution, he said.

"I believe in the constitution it says the role of the Judicial Council is to run the elections as well as to help the student body with a better understanding of the rules as outlined in du Lac," Perez said.

Contact John Cameron at
jcamero2@nd.edu

Crowder

continued from page 1

"The College Republicans try to bring in a speaker every year, and this year we really wanted a young, fresh, up-and-coming conservative voice to speak at Saint Mary's," Molnar said.

According to Molnar, Crowder is known for his comedy and discussions of current political issues on Fox News.

"Steven is insightful, engaging and hilarious, which made him the perfect person to bring to our campus," she said.

Molnar said Crowder was featured on "Geraldo at Large" on Fox News. In addition, Crowder won MySpace's "So You Think You're Funny" competition.

"Anyone and everyone is welcome to attend the Steven Crowder event," Molnar said. "We want to especially encourage all students from Saint Mary's, Notre Dame and Holy Cross to attend, as we feel it will be a fun event for students."

The event is co-sponsored by Saint Mary's College Republicans and the SMC-TV club.

"[The] SMC-TV club jumped on board once they heard that Steven frequently appears on TV, and they thought that co-sponsoring the event would allow for their club to get further insight to the world of tele-

vision," Molnar said.

According to Molnar, the event aims to bring a conservative voice to the College to educate students.

"We really wanted to bring in someone that our students could relate to, which made Steven a perfect candidate, as he is young, and has a very strong message, which is something all of us can relate to, or learn something from," she said.

Molnar said the College Republicans wanted to bring new ideas to Saint Mary's College.

"I think it's important to have events like this because it brings a new voice to campus," she said. "Regardless of what you

"Steven is insightful, engaging and hilarious, which made him the perfect person to bring to our campus."

Elizabeth Molnar
president
College Republicans

may believe politically, opening yourself up to new ideas is something that is very important in developing and strengthening your own beliefs."

Molnar said she believes the event will be enjoyable, and hopes students will attend the event.

"I would just like to encourage everyone to attend for a night of fun and laughs," she said. "Steven will be taking questions from the audience after his talk."

Molnar said College Republicans and the SMC-TV club will be hosting a small reception after the event.

Contact Alicia Smith at
asmith01@saintmarys.edu



the Center for Undergraduate Scholarly Engagement



The Sorin Scholars Program is the only University-wide honors program, open to students in all colleges, schools, and majors. Sorin Scholars are identified as sophomores whose stellar performance both inside and outside of the classroom indicates exceptional promise for lifelong scholarly and civic engagement. Through regular mentoring Sorin Scholars will become Catalysts around which new cohorts of students will be encouraged to participate in Scholarly engagement.

2011 Sorin Scholars

Ryan Ackmann
Christopher Allen
Joseph Altura
Caitlin Baransky
Alexandria Brumfield
Matthew Bush
Patrick DuBois
Elexis Ellis
Stephen Erickson
Michael Fronk
Anna Gorman
Brigid Halloran

Zach Harris
Edward Jacobson
Kevin Kelly
Margaret Kennedy
Peter Kerrian
David Klueck
Patrick Kramer
Crystal Lee
Olivia Lee
Michael McCormick
Nora Nickels

Lindsay Nowak
Timothy O'Brien
Alex Oloriz
Theresa Palid
Cameron Pywell
Catherine Reidy
Elena Rodriguez
Colin Slaggert
Peter Thompson
Jeffrey Ulrich
Eric Zeltwanger

Associate Director Philippe Collon, Sorin Scholar Mentor

Class

continued from page 1

the issue from historical, sociological and economic perspectives.

However, Giamo said the experiential learning aspect of the course is crucial to students' grasp of homelessness as a real issue.

"I think it's very important for students to account for homelessness as an academic area and as a real, living presence in contemporary society," Giamo said. "Homelessness is still very much a social problem, and it has not been ameliorated."

Students sharpen their skills in integrating theory and practice by writing journal entries about each volunteer experience at the Center for the Homeless.

They take on various service roles in their work at the Center, including tutoring, overseeing children's activities, working at the front desk

or in the kitchen and participating in after-school programs for children. In general, Giamo said he encourages his students to interact with homelessness as much as possible.

"I want students to encounter and put a face on homelessness," Giamo said. "The more students interact with the homeless, the more they will be able to understand individual stories of homelessness."

Salvaterra said she brought her previous experience as a summer intern at the Center for the Homeless into her academic and practical understanding of the issue during the course.

"I've always been interested in issues of homelessness, so I went out of my way to take the class because I wanted to connect my academic pursuits with volunteering," Salvaterra said. "Literally confronting homelessness at the shelter causes you to confront your own biases and learn about people in ways that you can't

in a regular class."

Academically, the course covers the issue of homelessness from the late 19th-century to the present day, highlighting the social and economic changes that contributed to shifts in patterns of homelessness in the U.S., Giamo said.

He said he wanted to give his students a sense of the history of homelessness by studying the issue from its initial identification as a social problem. For this reason, the first half of the course focuses on poverty and homelessness in New York City and other urban areas from the turn of the century to the 1970s.

"The social and economic forces of the Civil War helped create conditions of urban poverty after the war," Giamo said. "At the end of the century, social investigators encountered the poor

and homeless in slums and tenements, and they wrote about it for a middle-class American audience."

Giamo said he covers homelessness from 1980 to the present in the second half of the course.

According to Giamo, the importance and effectiveness of the experiential learning aspect of the course comes through in students' documentary accounts of their experiences, which "forces them to integrate the objective, ethnographic dimension of the experience with the subjective dimension — their own feelings and impressions about homelessness."

Giamo said students who have experience with the issue from their time studying abroad in London and Dublin now have intercultural ideas about homelessness.

"It's interesting because homelessness is a global problem in advanced industrial countries," Giamo said. "Local microanalysis is at the center of this course, but we are aware that homelessness is a national and global phenomenon."

Contact Kristen Durbin at kdurbin@nd.edu

Knott

continued from page 1

programs manager at the Office of Sustainability, said. "This is more than we have saved in any previous Dorm Energy Competition, which shows that we are getting broader participation across the campus than ever before."

Knott Hall president Jared Stewart said the Energy Competition was an opportunity to bring the residents of Knott together for a common goal. Stewart said Knott Hall government, especially Energy Commissioner freshman Jack McLaren, worked to inform residents about different ways to save energy.

"We put up a lot of signs on all the floors about taking the stairs, not using the elevators and we also put signs up throughout the stairs thanking people for taking the stairs and encouraging them to do so," he said.

Stewart said Knott also saved energy by unplugging all electronics other than the refrigerator over Thanksgiving, using cold water in the washing machines, and leaving lights off whenever possible.

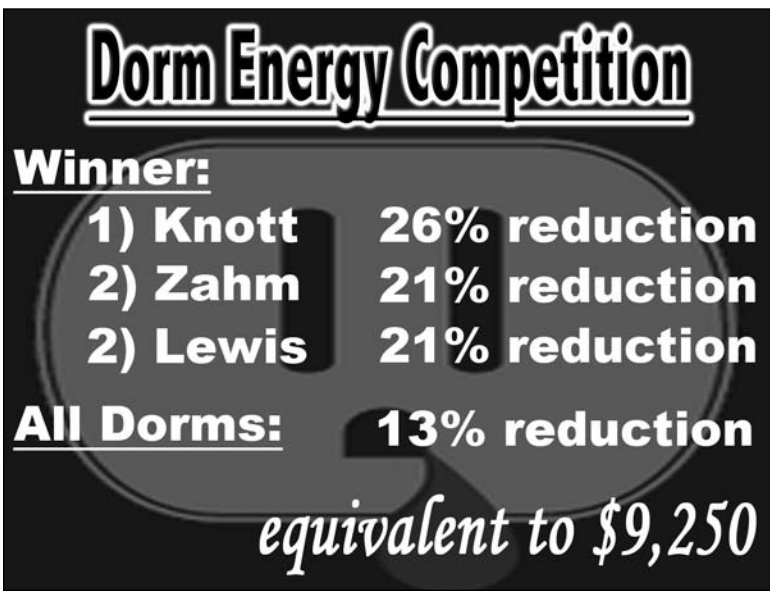
"[We encouraged] people to turn off their lights when they leave the room. I think that some of the key areas where we kept the lights off were the bathrooms, definitely," he said. "The hallways we had dimmer. On the first floor, we kept the lights off completely unless they were needed."

He said he was impressed by the commitment and dedication his fellow Knott residents had to the competition.

"Throughout this whole month I've only seen people using the elevator a few times, and pretty much everyone was on board with it," he said. "Sometimes people would even be in the room with the lights off."

Despite the significant strides students have taken to conserve energy over the last month, Novick said it is important to continue the same energy-saving practices into the future.

"Students can cut down energy consumption by sharing a refrigerator with a whole suite, and by keeping appliances unplugged when they're not in use, like chargers, stereos, TVs and game



SOFIA ITURBE | Observer Graphic

systems," she said. "Clothes dryers also take a lot of energy so hang-drying clothes is a great way to save energy."

Novick said the plastic water bottles found everywhere on campus are wasteful, and that students should switch to reusable bottles.

"People have gotten so used to carrying around plastic water bottles," she said. "The truth is that bottled water is not any healthier than tap water, typically. Mostly, it's just filtered tap water and it's tremendous amounts of plastic."

With Christmas lights and decorations covering campus during the holiday season, Novick said The Office of Sustainability has worked to inform students, faculty and staff about how to decorate using less energy.

"We started last year working with offices on reducing the energy of Christmas lights," she said. "We visited offices all across the campus and offered them free timers so that their tree lights would turn off automatically at night."

This year, she said the Office of Sustainability will focus on reducing energy use in dorms. She especially advised using LED Christmas lights.

"If a dorm has a big communal display, that's a great opportunity to use a timer ... you have a big opportunity to save energy," she said. "We'd like to visit the dorms during December and offer them timers."

She also said opportunities exist for "green" Christmas decorating — it just might take a bit of creativity.

"One thing that I saw in

Cavanaugh last year is that in order to encourage people to celebrate without energy, they had a green decorating contest, [and] encouraged people to decorate without electricity and to use recycled materials. A lot of the dorms were really beautiful. There are opportunities to have alternative decorations," she said.

Novick said for widespread energy conservation to occur, a cultural change is needed. College campuses like Notre Dame, she said, could be a good place to start this type of change.

"I think that campus communities are such a great living laboratory for creating cultural change," she said. "When people do stuff together on a campus, they can see the results. It gets [them] a lot more excited."

Stewart said he sensed excitement about change even within the smaller Knott environment.

"I think a huge thing in this whole energy competition was bringing everyone together," he said. "I also think the [unity] this brought about will carry through. [We know] if we all come together as a dorm we can accomplish some pretty significant things."

Novick said sustainable living does not mean living with less, it simply means being more aware on a day-to-day basis.

"Sustainability is not about living without things that make [you] happy, it's about being more conscious about the choices [you] can make," she said.

Contact Sara Felsenstein at sfelsens@nd.edu

DOWNTOWN SOUTH BEND

Live Jazz

...and Great Food too

WEDNESDAYS
JAZZ: 7:30 - 10:30 P.M.

FRIDAY & SATURDAYS
JAZZ: 9 P.M. - 12:30 A.M.

MONDAYS-SATURDAYS
DINNER: BEGINS AT 5 P.M.

WWW.TRIOSSB.COM • 574.288.8746

129 N. MICHIGAN STREET, SOUTH BEND
DOWNTOWN - ACROSS THE STREET FROM THE MARRIOTT HOTEL

Trios
RESTAURANT & JAZZ CLUB

Site

continued from page 1

Total GDI Move is set up the same way, except with the tagline TGM, to show that the post perfectly describes something a GDI would say, the website founders said.

Aaron Weber and Kevin Carr, two of the site's founders, have many friends from other schools who pledged to join a fraternity or sorority. Weber said when he visited a friend at another college, he was referred to as a GDI the entire time he was there.

"We don't really see it here at Notre Dame because we don't have Greek life but at schools like [University of] Tennessee and [University of] Alabama, there's such a divide in the student body," Weber said. "That's where the term GDI came from."

While the site pokes fun at the styles and attitudes of those in fraternities, Mike Franczak, another founder, said the site is intended to trivialize the debate between Greeks and non-Greeks, not just to point out flaws in the people in fraternities.

"It kind of makes fun of both sides," Franczak said.

The students said there are good and bad aspects of Greek life, but they don't feel Notre Dame is missing anything without it because of the strong sense of family within the dorm system.

"I think a good thing is that you can pick a group of people you can identify most with," Carr said. "But I think our dorm system here fosters that."

The site, which launched Nov. 18, has gotten 60,000 hits. Franczak said they are spreading the word by posting on Total Frat Move.

"We've posted on TotalFratMove.com saying, 'Oh that comment belongs on Total GDI Move,'" Franczak said.

The students are hoping the two sites will be thought of together eventually.

"With the popularity of frats, there was an opening in the market for the antithesis of [TotalFratMove.com]," Weber said.

For the group, the best part of building the site was deciding what constituted a "total GDI move."

"We had to socially construct

different items of clothing and types of music and events to be GDI," Franczak said.

They said they decided on cargo pants, more alternative music, V-neck shirts and frugality. The founders said they tried to make this known by being blunt about what makes something GDI in their first few posts.

Total Frat Move celebrates many of the opposite styles and behaviors. Common views of fraternity brothers include name brand clothing, access to wealth and conservative views.

While the site has gotten some negative responses, most people, even those in the Greek system, see the humor in it, they said.

"A lot of my friends are in frats and they think it's hilarious," Carr said.

Franczak said while the site is mainly for entertainment, its founders intend to point out the different aspects of being in a fraternity versus not being in one.

"We kind of aim at educating both the frat lifestyle and the GDI style," Franczak said. "There are positives and negatives to both."

Contact Melissa Flanagan at mflanagan3@nd.edu

INSIDE COLUMN

Enjoy Christmas season

Eddie Pola and George Wyle had it right when they wrote the classic "It's the Most Wonderful Time of the Year." Forget papers, projects, finals and break. It's finally Christmas season, indeed the most wonderful of all.

Matthew Robison

Sports Production Editor

There's only one problem with Christmas season at Notre Dame. It's just too short.

Everyone is so stressed out with studying and anticipating Winter Break that many people forget to celebrate the jolly, joyful Christmas season.

When I stroll through the quad on a cold Tuesday night returning from the Library, LaFortune or the dining hall, I should see residence halls bedazzled with Christmas lights, inflatable Santa Clauses the size of King Kong dominating the landscape and "White Christmas" being blared so loud that I can hear Bing Crosby's voice echoing all the way across campus.

But, as it is, I resign myself to a string of lights strung around an anonymous third floor window, a miniature Christmas tree on the end table in an office, and ugly Christmas sweater parties with cold, carbonated beverages rather than hot cocoa beings.

There are glimmers of hope in the bleak Indiana landscape, however. North Dining Hall and South Dining go crazy with the Christmas decorations, which really gets my holiday-loving blood pumping, and some dorms do indeed go all out. But it's just not what it could be.

So, on behalf of all Christmas season lovers, I implore you, students of Notre Dame and Saint Mary's, take some time out of your busy pre-finals lives and celebrate. Indulge in your guilty pleasure by listening to the Backstreet Boys' Christmas album while you bury your head in that Chemistry textbook. Read not by the light of a desk lamp, but by a string of white lights decorating your loft. Bake cookies for your friends. If you are a guy and don't know how to bake, beg your female friends to bake them for you. When you go the dining hall, don't leave without a delicious cup of hot chocolate warming your hands as you brave the wind chill on your trek back to your dorm. Sing in the shower. As Buddy the Elf says, "The best way to spread Christmas cheer is singing loud for all to hear."

If it makes it easier, start early next year. As you wind down before Thanksgiving break, take a few hours to blast Michael Bublé Christmas on Pandora and hang up some decorations. Then, when you come back to campus, a Christmas wonderland will await, just in time to get you into the mood.

We only have three weeks to enjoy the season, don't let the stress of your college existence weigh you down. Don't wait until finals are over to let your guard down and enjoy the season.

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

Contact Matthew Robison at mrobison@nd.edu

I hate America

Man, I can't stand America. This country just stinks. Especially since the government isn't doing exactly what I want it to do. Sometimes it seems like those bloated Washingtonian fat cats don't have any idea what I think government should be doing, or what I need it to do. Even when I voice my concerns loudly, say to coworkers or in a letter to my congressman, I rarely see the kind of sweeping changes in national policy that should accompany my every pronouncement and whim. Hello! Aren't we supposed to be living in a democracy?

Brooks Smith

Intellectual

Or have I just gone demo-crazy?

And since we're in the middle of a recession and unemployment is high, I might not be able to find the type of cushy job that is my inalienable birthright as a scion of the upper middle class. I've heard horror stories of people from my age and social stratum doing work that used to be reserved for illegal immigrants. How is our free-market economy failing me so badly? The rich are supposed to be getting richer (because everyone who's rich is hardworking) and the poor should be getting poorer (because everyone who's poor is lazy), not the other way around! As one of the rich, if I don't get settled onto a nice, comfortable career path, then the whole institution of capitalism is a bust.

Don't even get me started on the

trash that passes for "pop culture" in our dumb country. I often want to have deep conversations, but whenever I try to discuss the themes of tragedy and redemption in Faust, people just ignore me and keep talking about is who Snooki hooked up with last night on Jersey Shore. In general, people don't spend nearly enough time listening to critically acclaimed music like Radiohead, or watching critically acclaimed TV like The Wire, or reading critically acclaimed books like Jonathan Franzen's new novel "Chronic City." It's hard to communicate when other people when they show no desire or effort to stop being uncultured boors and rise to my exalted level. Wake up and smell the Starbucks half-caf extra-foamy cappuccino, people! (My favorite drink, and one that's criminally underappreciated.)

Plus it seems like nobody even bothers to read the Western Canon anymore, or listen to classical music. It used to be that intelligent men and women could bond over a shared appreciation of the works of Rousseau whilst Chopin etudes alternated with Debussy preludes. Nowadays you're lucky if you can get a conversation going about the new Twilight movie with Jack Johnson playing in the background. And people seem to like it that way! Everyone's so anti-intellectual. They can't appreciate how hard I've worked to make myself the flawlessly learned and cultured person that I am.

But I haven't even gotten to the worst thing about America: Namely, that I

have to share this country with 300 million other people. Many of these so-called "other people" simply don't understand that my point of view is the correct one on every subject, whether it be politics, religion, or which TV shows to watch (Arrested Development, you are sorely missed). Almost half of these people vote Republican and a great deal of them believe what Fox News has to say, which proves beyond a doubt that they are brain-dead mouth-breathers not fit to share this planet with me, much less this country. How could any person with a functioning mind disagree with my political opinions?

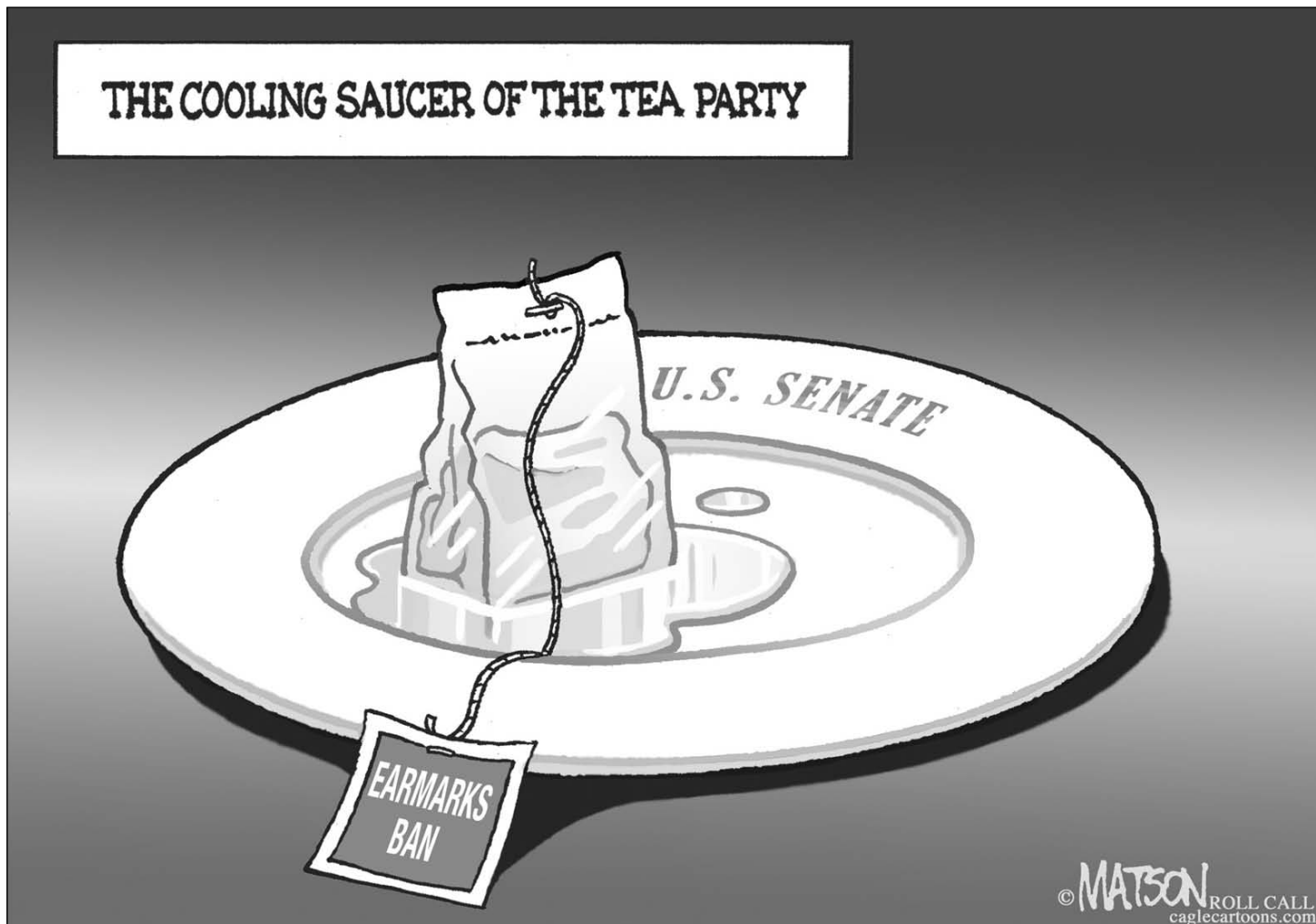
I gotta tell ya, it scares me sometimes. Sometimes, for isolated moments, I even start to worry that the world doesn't revolve around me, and that I will have to accommodate other people's stupid points of view and wack lifestyles. When that happens, though, I just repeat to myself over and over, "I am the center of the universe. I am the center of the universe." This mantra calms me down wonderfully, and soon I have regained the lofty imperial pedestal from which I survey all human activity that is not my own.

Now if only I could get other people to agree with me that I'm better than they are, I'd be all set.

Brooks Smith is a senior. He can be contacted at bsmith26@nd.edu

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

EDITORIAL CARTOON



QUOTE OF THE DAY

"It's only after we've lost everything that we're free to do anything."

Chuck Palahniuk
U.S. novelist

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

QUOTE OF THE DAY

"Courage is being scared to death — but saddling up anyway."

John Wayne
U.S. film actor

All I want for Christmas: The Silent Night Silent Auction

Need some help getting into the Christmas spirit? Not to fear, Silent Night Silent Auction (SNSA) has lots of holiday cheer! This Thursday Dec. 2 from 6 to 9 p.m., Pasquerilla East (not to be confused with Physical Education ... sorry “The Week”) will be hosting its annual signature event, the Silent Night Silent Auction in the LaFortune Ballroom. SNSA is a charity event auctioning off Christmas baskets full of goodies that make perfect gifts for family and friends, as well as provide you with great bargains on the items in the baskets.

The Silent Night Silent Auction is the

Lauren Elliott

*Guest
Columnist*

perfect opportunity to start getting in the Christmas spirit. There will be Christmas concerts from 6 to 8 p.m. by Josh Diaz, James Emanuel, The Undertones and Constance Jones. From 8 to 9 p.m. we will have Christmas Karaoke — the perfect chance for everyone who has been itching to sing along in the dining hall to claim their shining moment on stage.

Have you been missing the days where you could sit on Santa’s lap? Not to worry Santa Claus will be at the Silent Night Silent Auction, willing to take pictures and make all your Christmas wishes come true!

All proceeds will be donated to two charities: Building Tomorrow and St. Margaret’s House. Building Tomorrow is an international social-profit organization encouraging philanthropy among young

people by raising awareness and funds to build and support educational infrastructure projects for under-served children in sub-Saharan Africa. St. Margaret’s House is a day center in South Bend that improves the lives of women and children by providing individual attention to their immediate needs, breaking the bonds of isolation and helping them acquire skills to better their lives. Through a philosophy of shared ownership in St. Margaret’s House, guests become empowered by participating in planning and decision making.

By now you’re probably curious, what items are being auctioned off? Here are some of what we have so far: Nordstrom jewelry and accessories, signed athletic gear and dates with some of Notre Dame’s top varsity athletes, a DVD player,

a color printer, an Anthropologie scarf, J Crew scarf and mittens, lots of chocolate and goodie baskets, a digital camera, a Vera Bradley overnight bag, Mary Kay spa items, Sephora make up and spa items, official Notre Dame clothing items, lots of DVDs, blankets, coffee mugs and gift cards to just about everywhere!

Pasquerilla East truly hopes you will join us for even a few minutes Thursday to enjoy some of the food, concerts and holiday spirit!

Thank you and a very merry Christmas to you all!

Lauren Elliot is a junior. She can be reached at lelliott3@nd.edu

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

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Ghost Rider

Outlined against a wet black November sky a lone horseman rode. In dramatic lore he is known as Ghost Rider. This is only an alias. His real name is Tim Kelly. He was not seen on any TiVo, slo-mo, high def, official review or replay. He was invisible to the naked eye and the camera. But to the eyes of the hearts and souls of those who knew him, his presence at Saturday’s game was as unmistakable as the gleam on the Golden Dome, forcing the errant throw and two dropped touchdown passes on the game’s final drive.

A co-captain of the 1970 team that suffered a national championship dream-shattering loss to Southern California in a monumental downpour at the Coliseum, Tim left us on Tuesday, the anniversary of

Notre Dame’s first football game. Tim was buried late Saturday afternoon just in time to make it out to the game. He was simply not going to let us lose.

Tim showed what kind of person he is when he ignored doctors’ orders — Tim had recently had an operation to remove a brain tumor — in order to travel to Notre Dame to be with his teammates at the Pittsburg game for our 40-year reunion. The epitome of old school Notre Dame, one couldn’t find a better brother in Notre Dame than Tim.

Mike Keating

Associate Football Manager, 1971
Nov. 30

UWIRE

Could chocolate milk be the ultimate energy drink?

Chocolate milk, a beverage commonly consumed by children, is now being used as a sports recovery drink for people of all ages. Karp, Johnston, Tecklenburg, Mickleborough, Fly and Stager (2006) established that it can help to rehydrate the body and rebuild muscles during and after workouts or athletic events. Maybe that is not surprising, because the contents of chocolate milk include carbohydrates, protein, vitamin A, vitamin D and calcium, all of which contribute to rebuilding muscle. Also present are sodium and sugar, which help stabilize and restore the body’s electrolyte balance.

By contrast, energy drinks, which are popular among youth and some active people, contain large amounts of caffeine and sugar, along with ingredients such as taurine, guarana, ginseng, green tea and vitamins.

So, which is better for refueling the body after a workout: chocolate milk or energy drinks? Two recent studies have addressed this question.

Thomas, Morris and Stevenson (2009) showed the difference between chocolate milk and two other replacement drinks (fluid and carbohydrate energy drinks) when consumed by nine well-trained male bicyclists before and during low to moderate exercise. In the study, “participants cycled 51 percent and 43 percent longer after ingesting chocolate milk than after ingesting carbohydrate replacement drink and fluid replacement drink, respectively” (p. 81).

Pritchett, Bishop, Pritchett, Green and Katica (2009) compared chocolate milk and a similar carbohydrate replace-

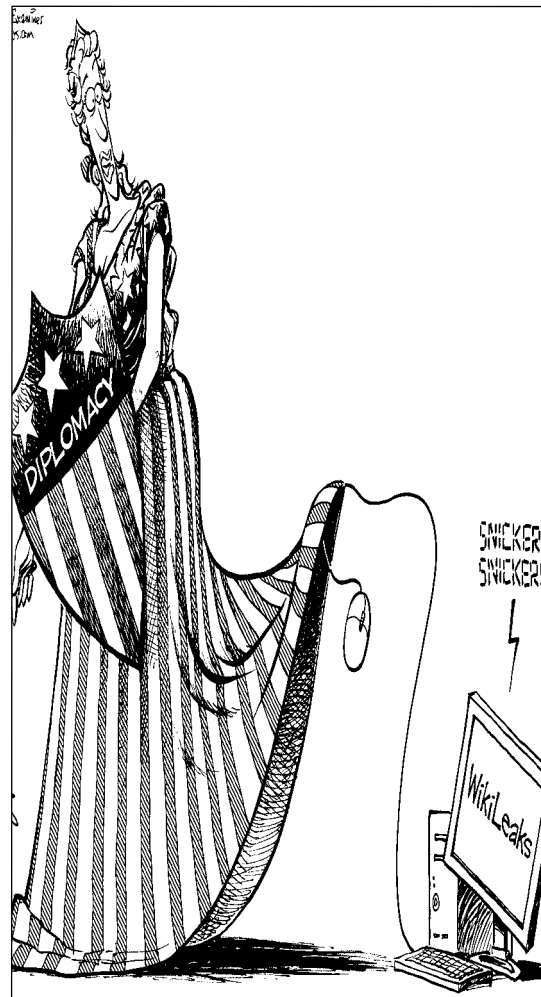
ment beverage among 10 well-trained male bicyclists before and during high intensity exercise. The only significant difference they found was a higher creatine kinase level in the carbohydrate replacement drink from the beginning to end of the trials, while the creatine kinase levels of chocolate milk remained about the same throughout. Creatine kinase is an enzyme present in muscles and the brain that uses adenosine triphosphate or ATP. ATP is the main energy source for cells of the body, while adenosine diphosphate is the main energy source for muscles and the brain. In other words, the consumption of a carbohydrate replacement drink required more energy, which depleted the athletes’ muscles more quickly and slightly increased their level of exhaustion.

While the jury is not in entirely, these two small preliminary studies suggest that chocolate milk appears better at refueling the body after workouts compared to energy drinks. Clearly, though, additional studies using more diverse and longer samples are warranted. It’s unfortunate that some people have decided to use the number one video site on the Internet to spread their hate and agenda. The beautiful thing about open forums is that they allow you to express your opinions and discuss issues. Like many good things handed to us on a golden platter, people in our society have managed to take negative advantage of the forum — something that could have been, and may still be, a powerful and useful tool for us to honestly learn from one another.

This column first appeared in the Nov. 30 edition of the OSU Daily Barometer, the publication serving Oregon State University.

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

EDITORIAL CARTOON



Be Green.
Dont waste paper.

Submit a Letter to
the Editor at

www.ndsmcobserver.com



FROM KEENAN HALL
TO
JAKE GYLLENHAAL

ND grad's memoir inspired new film Love & Other Drugs

By MARISSA FROBES
Scene Writer

Jamie Reidy is an acclaimed author, whose memoir “Hard Sell: The Evolution of a Viagra Salesman” catalyzed the creation of the new film “Love and Other Drugs.” In the film, Jake Gyllenhaal portrays Jamie, and Anne Hathaway stars as his fictional love interest.

Reidy is a 1992 graduate of Notre Dame with a degree in English. After serving in the United States Army (he was in ROTC at Notre Dame), he took up employment as a pharmaceutical sales representative for Pfizer, a job he quickly learned to manipulate. Reidy managed to only work 15 hours per week but also become the No. 1 sales representative in the country, peddling drugs of all kind, most notably the 1990s wonder drug, Viagra.

Reidy was “always interested in writing,” and it was selling Viagra that gave him an initiative to start. In 2005, “Hard Sell” was published by Andrews McMeel Publishing. Reidy snagged the book deal without an agent.

The Observer interviewed Reidy about the “Evolution” of his life from a salesman to a screenwriter.

What made you decide to write “Hard Sell?”

One of my classmates said to me one time, “When are you going to stop talking about [writing] and actually do it?” That was a great question for me, kind of a kick in the pants.

As far as “Hard Sell” goes, when I was working for Pfizer I was working 15 hours a week, but I had this whole elaborate system for making it look like I was working when I wasn’t working. I thought, “I have a lot of funny stories, but you can only write about sleeping late and quitting early so much.” Then, I got promoted to sell Viagra, and Viagra became a pop culture phenomenon — I knew that was my hook. Drug rep: okay good story, but it’s selling the one drug. That was the hook.

Once you got “Hard Sell” published in 2005, you were fired from pharmaceutical company Eli Lilly, where you sold chemotherapy. Do you at all miss your days as a pharmaceutical rep?

I miss people. Being a writer is a pretty lonely occupation. I don’t miss the day-to-day BS of

a corporate job, but I do miss establishing relationships with doctors and nurses.

And certainly, I miss selling the chemotherapy for Eli Lilly. I really believed in our drugs and helping patients. A woman from Maui, a breast cancer survivor, once hugged me as if I had invented the drug. That was really rewarding.

Whose idea was it to adapt the book into a movie? How did Fox 2000 Pictures end up with the rights to the book?

I always thought it was a no-brainer, in terms of turning it into a movie. Just add a love story, and boom it’s a romantic comedy: guy selling Viagra, falls in love.

I got in touch with Malcolm Gladwell, the guy who wrote “Blink.” He spoke at the last Eli Lilly cancer meeting that I went to. He told some stories that he had written for “The New Yorker” about the prescription drug crisis. I contacted him afterwards and told him I had a book coming out in a couple of months and wanted to see if he’d be interested in doing a review on it for “The New Yorker.” Of course, I look back now and think, “As if, no way.” I couldn’t even believe he answered my e-mail. My publisher sent him one of the galleys and we never heard from him. I thought, “Oh my God, my book is so bad, this poor guy doesn’t even want to e-mail me.”

I stalked him again. I said, “Hey, my book came out, I got fired, I was on TV a couple times, blah blah blah,” and he said, “Yeah I noticed that, I hope everything worked out.” Then he asked if I had sold the movie rights. I said, “Not yet, here’s my agent,” and he said, “Okay, I know somebody who might be interested.”

So, a couple weeks later my agent got a call from the manager for Charles Randolph. He was hot in 2005, for writing the script for the movie “The Interpreter.” It was the film that reminded Hollywood that adults would go see a movie.

I got on the phone with Charles and he said, “You know why we’re talking right?” I said, “Because you read my book?” He said, “No, Malcolm Gladwell.” I couldn’t even believe it: Stalking totally paid.

So he bought the book. Once Charles got on board the project launched. Universal [Pictures] and Fox 2000 actually ended up in a bidding war, two words you

definitely want to hear sometime in your career. Universal won, but two years ago they decided adults weren’t seeing movies anymore. They put it on what’s called “turn-around,” meaning it was open for some other studio to come in and buy it. That’s how Fox got it.

Did you have a role in the filmmaking process, or did you simply hand over the rights to the book?

Certainly when you sign your rights away, it’s just gone. But I worked pretty closely with Charles, probably spent about 20 hours together, either at lunches or over the phone. I was telling him stories that were in the book, and actually I remembered stories I forgot to put in the book — really just explaining the whole life of a drug rep. There’s a lot of stuff in the movie that’s completely true. If it didn’t happen to me, it happened to people I know. He really did a nice job keeping it as real as possible.

And when they were shooting, I was on set for five days, which was amazing.

Do you think the fact that the film has become largely a love story detracts from its ability to portray the life of a pharmaceutical salesman?

I don’t think it detracts at all. In his character’s arc, he becomes a better person over the course of the movie thanks to the love story. He comes to a big realization about what he’s doing in life, which is pretty cool and really fits well at the end. If the movie is as big as we’re hoping it is, it will certainly shine a light on the industry.

Were you happy with the choice of Jake Gyllenhaal to play you in “Love and Other Drugs?”

I don’t know if you’ve seen a picture of me but I’m thrilled, believe me. When I was still for sale after I first made the deal, they could have had RuPaul play me and I wouldn’t have cared. But my friends were really concerned that my large ego was going to grow even further. The girl I took to the prom e-mailed me to let me know Danny DeVito was available to play me. That was a little rough.

When Jake was chosen, classmates of mine from Keenan Hall — I used to live in Keenan — e-mailed me to ask if Jake had to shave his head to play me. And I

said, “You guys are such jerks, you know that I had hair when I was 27.” Love those Domer friends.

What is your favorite and least favorite thing about the way “Hard Sell” was adapted?

My favorite part is the fact that in 50 years people might think that I actually slept with Anne Hathaway.

And least favorite, I don’t think — I like everything. And I also don’t want to get in trouble with Fox. I’m trying to make it as a screenwriter now. The whole process was so amazing. On set, I actually got to correct a couple things, make them more realistic in terms of what drug reps really do. They really embraced me.

At the premiere a couple of weeks ago, I felt like the belle of the ball. Everyone was congratulating me, and the director said to my girlfriend, “Aren’t you proud of this guy?” I don’t have a love interest in my book, so I don’t know how they could have made it any better. I’m really proud.

Do you have any other projects you’re currently working on?

The banter between my dad and I in the book got a really good response, so I’m trying to start a collection of humorous essays about my dad and me.

Do you have any advice for Notre Dame students looking to get into the entertainment industry?

You have to write everyday. Whether it’s good enough isn’t nearly as important as honing your craft and writing, writing, writing. My mom said that to me back when I was talking about being a writer. She said, “You know what? I think writers, they write,” which is absolutely true. That is how you get better, doing it everyday. It’s a lot easier to get on a roll when you just start writing.

And the second thing, you have to have an outline. You can’t just write your novel or your screenplay and wing it. I don’t do anything without a really detailed outline now. It really annoys me that I have to admit that because I used to think differently. I’d wake up in the morning sit down at my desk and be like, “What the hell is this? What was I thinking last night?” The outline is key for me now.

Contact Marissa Frobles at
mfrobles@nd.edu

No exaggeration necessary for Kanye West's new masterpiece

By MAC HENDRICKSON
Scene Writer

This is a big moment. The fact that everything Kanye West does is important makes creating an album as ambitious and groundbreaking as "My Beautiful Dark Twisted Fantasy" tremendously risky. He didn't have to make this album. Something along the lines of "Graduation," with two or three pop-radio singles we all know West is more than capable of creating, would have suited critics and fans just fine.

But, as any history aficionada will tell you, "just fine" doesn't quite make the books. This album could have failed miserably, and the M. Night Shyamalan comparisons would resound in the deep. Thankfully, this is not the case.

The album was released a mere week ago, and yet, any new acclaim seems stale. A five-star review from Rolling Stone (which only happened 15 times last decade), a perfect 10.0 from Pitchfork Media (which hasn't happened since 2002) and countless other rave reviews have saturated the collective cultural response. The substance of acclaim, however, has been devoid of the macro and remained anecdotal and specific. This is surprising, considering the album is a bigger temptation for ridiculous claim-making than a Radiohead LP.

The best acclaim is simple and direct: "Fantasy" is more than likely the greatest hip-hop album of all time. Nothing Nas, Jay-Z, Wu-Tang Clan, Run DMC, the Beastie Boys or any other big leaguers have done before can compare in the slightest.

"Fantasy" is magnificent and epic. It walks the line between innovation and mastery with style and beauty. Production-wise, the album is perfect. At times, it sounds as if West dug Phil Spector's Wall of Sound from the grave and throttled it back to life with his inverted, Auto-Tuned electricity. If Spector weren't in prison, I would've suspected collaboration.

West has crafted a masterpiece that both highlights his career thus far and defies the limits that he himself set for the pop world. It's the orchestration,

the spoken word, the non-hip-hop moments of the album that remind the listener that no one has done or is doing what West does.

The album's opening track is one of its best. Before launching into one of the finest productions The RZA has done since 1995, Auto-Tuned cadences rise to a climax. Hallucinatory magic transcends the scene. "All of the Lights" is the highest moment in a perfect album. Drum patterns and horns like fireworks envelop and illuminate a melodic triumph rife with both beauty and desperation. The song features over 11 popular artists, from Kid Cudi to Elton John, in a continuous masterpiece that sounds like the anthem of a generation.

This leaves us to discuss "Runaway," the ninth song on the album and the best hip-hop track of the last 30 years. Understanding the greatness of "Runaway" is similar to understanding Kanye West in general. Thus, most Kanye opponents despise this song more than any of his other songs, and similarly despise any notion that the song poses a quality of greatness.

This dynamic, however, is exactly what makes the song so great. Beginning with minimalist piano punches and a perfectly crafted drum pattern, "Runaway" becomes West's most accurate portrayal of how the public perceives not only him, but also hip-hop artists in general. In a self-loathing salute, West pilots the genre into existential self-awareness. Hip-hop is staring in the mirror. The song is honest, divisive, cruel and enticing.

The rest of the songs are nothing less than Kanye classics. The complaint of song length, many far passing the six-minute mark, has been made on numerous occasions, though only two or three songs are truly overbearing. Nobody is claiming the album is perfect. Many moments are too bizarre, many too self-indulgent. But it all fits within the complex of the album. This is Kanye's fantasy, both beautiful and twisted.

It's only natural, after an artist has created what many assume to be his magnum opus, to make some ridiculous comparison that seems to make sense only after the stormy sea of cri-

My Beautiful Dark Twisted Fantasy Kanye West

Label: Roc-A-Fella, Def Jam

Best tracks: "All of the Lights,"
"Runaway"



tique and acclaim has calmed. Kanye West is not our generation's 2Pac. He is not our generation's Nas or Notorious B.I.G. Neither is he a Springsteen, a Sinatra or a Mozart. He isn't even the Beatles. I suppose there is positive significance in the futility of comparison for West. Most great artists sculpt their own seat in history, rather than filling some retired artist's mold.

Indeed, no fair comparison will or should be made for West. However, the brilliance of the album begs an intriguing question. Who else could have made this album? The answer is simple: The Beatles, and that's about it. Not even Michael Jackson, had he the funds and enterprise to break with the shallow and mechanized demands of '80s culture, could have crafted something as simultaneously groundbreaking and beautiful.

For fellow hip-hop fans who would prefer something more "ghetto," something that "goes harder," I kindly direct you back to the 1990s. Beginning with "The College Dropout" and finalized by the release of "Fantasy," hip-hop has been snatched from the hands of thugs and placed back where it belongs. For those who waited patiently through the mindless, philosophically-drab and morally-repugnant gangster-rap dominance of the late 1980s and early 1990s for a pink-polo-wearing Chicagoan to turn the tide, this is our moment, as much as it is West's.

Contact Mac Hendrickson at
mhendri1@nd.edu

NFL

Texans defense justifies Kubiak's confidence

Associated Press

HOUSTON — Texans coach Gary Kubiak has insisted his defense was improving, even as opponents continued to pile up big plays and points.

Houston finally backed him up Sunday, beating Tennessee 20-0 for the franchise's first shutout since 2004.

There's no time to relax, though. The Texans (5-6) have a quick turnaround before facing Michael Vick and high-powered Philadelphia (7-4) on Thursday night.

Vick leads the NFL with a 106.0 passer rating, and Philadelphia ranks second in total offense (399.3 yards per game) and points per game (28.2).

That would seem to be another mismatch for a Houston defense giving up 386.4 yards and 286 yards passing per game.

Lately, though, a few changes have produced a subtle turnaround and Kubiak is encouraged.

Kevin Bentley has moved into the middle linebacker position, allowing Brian Cushing to go back to his more familiar spot on the outside.

Kubiak has reduced the work load for rookie cornerback Kareem Jackson, who's allowed long passes in Houston's losses. And defensive coordinator Frank Bush has moved from the press box to the sideline, improving

communication with his players.

"We've done some things differently," Kubiak said. "All those things together have got it balanced out a little bit. And really, for the first time in a while, we've had the same guys on the field for about three weeks. That sure helps."

Houston's defense was struggling even before All-Pro middle linebacker DeMeco Ryans was lost for the season with a ruptured Achilles' tendon on Oct. 17.

Cushing, who was suspended for the first four games, played middle linebacker for the next two games, both Houston losses.

Bentley, who was Ryans' backup, has played middle linebacker for the past three games. He intercepted a pass and recovered a fumble in Houston's 30-27 loss to the New York Jets two weeks ago.

The switch has also spurred Cushing closer to the form that earned him Defensive Rookie of the Year honors in 2009. Cushing led Houston with seven tackles on Sunday, including four for losses.

"Everyone is where they need to be, and the calls have been simplified a little bit," Cushing said. "We're really comfortable, finally. It took a little bit of time, but I think we are where we need to be."

The Texans held the Titans to 162 yards on Sunday, easily Houston's best defensive performance of the season. Pro

Bowl running back Chris Johnson finished with a career-low 5 yards rushing, and rookie quarterback Rusty Smith threw three interceptions to Glover Quin.

Houston has four interceptions in the past two games after getting only five through the first nine. Bush says the Texans are not only making more plays lately, but also reducing mental miscues.

"A lot of mistakes have been cut down, guys are playing faster, playing harder, they're more conscious of what's going on," Bush said. "Really, they've just taken ownership of everything we're doing. They're starting to believing that it's their defense, and not just me making calls."

But the Texans say that having Bush on the sideline for the past two games may be the biggest factor of all in the recent progress.

"We're a lot more interactive with him," Cushing said. "We can talk over our problems right there, instead of through the phone on every other series."

Safety Bernard Pollard said Bush has also brought some much-needed energy to the field.

"Having Frank on the sideline, that's a blast," Pollard said. "He brings a lot of excitement to the sideline. He's been snatching up players the last couple of weeks, having fun, and getting aggression out of that excitement."



Houston Texans cornerback Glover Quin celebrates after intercepting a pass during the game Sunday.

ment."

The Texans said they still have a long way to go, and they'll get an idea of just how far against Vick and the Eagles.

Pollard is eager to see if Houston's defense is up to the challenge.

"Good things come to people who keep working hard, and that's the only thing we can do," Pollard said. "All we can

do is grind right now, continue to grind, and let the chips fall where they may."Notes: The Texans waived DT Malcolm Sheppard and activated TE Anthony Hill from the physically unable to perform list. ... Kubiak said TE Owen Daniels is "50-50" to playing on Thursday night after missing the past four games with a hamstring injury.

PGA

Poulter criticizes rules, suggests changes for 2012 season

Associated Press

THOUSAND OAKS, Calif. — The Rules of Golf are under review, and Ian Poulter has a suggestion.

It involves a player who tries to replace his ball on the putting green, only for it to slip out of his hands just inches above the ground and land on his marker — a lucky coin, in this case — and move it ever so slightly.

There was no intent for the marker to move. There was no advantage to be gained.

But there was a one-stroke penalty.

"It puts the focus on another stupid rule," Poulter said.

No doubt he could find a few other colleagues wanting to tweak the Rules of Golf, which will next be amended for 2012.

Brian Davis was docked two shots in a playoff at Hilton Head when his club ticked a loose reed in a waste area to the left of the 18th. Juli Inkster was penalized for swinging a club with a weight attached to stay loose during a delay. And who will ever forget Dustin Johnson not realizing he was in a bunker at the PGA Championship, going from a playoff to a tie for fifth after his two-shot penalty?

Poulter speaks from an experience he would just as soon forget.

He was on the second hole of a sudden-death playoff with Robert Karlsson at the Dubai World Championship, a great finish to the European Tour season, when they came to the par-5 18th green. Poulter went to replace his ball on a 40-foot birdie putt when it fell from his fingertips, hit the

edge of the coin and made it flip over.

"It was literally like this," Poulter said Tuesday, squatting and twirling a golf ball with his fingers before letting it fall to the ground.

First, some perspective.

Poulter knows he was unlikely to win the tournament, for while he had the long birdie putt, Karlsson had pitched to about 4 feet for birdie.

"That softens the blow a little bit," Poulter said.

He will argue, however, that he at least had a chance until one slip of the hand, one flip of the coin. Did it cost him the tournament? Probably not, although it made for some sensational "what if?" stories.

The difference between winning and losing was \$417,000. Throw

in an extra \$150,000 for the Race to Dubai bonus. And those ranking points could wind up costing Poulter even more money in incentives, the whole package perhaps worth close to \$1 million depending on how he finishes the year at the Chevron World Challenge.

"I understand the rule," Poulter said. "I knew straightaway, because I had heard of it happening before. Look, I don't want to sound like bitter grapes. I didn't do anything intentional to gain an advantage. Do I think the rule should be changed? Yes. Did I think the rule should be changed beforehand? I wasn't really bothered by it."

Poulter also realizes that if this had happened on the seventh hole Friday, no one might have noticed, much less cared.

"When you look at when it happened, where it happened and what it meant ... it couldn't have happened at a worse time," he said. "It was a really, really bad time."

It could have been worse. Imagine the outrage if Poulter had been 4 feet from the hole for birdie and Karlsson was 40 feet away. That would have cost him the tournament, the money, the world ranking points.

"I would be sick," Poulter said with a healthy grin. "I wouldn't be talking to anyone. I would still be miserable."

Consider the reaction if Johnson had made his par putt on the 18th hole at Whistling Straits, which would have made him the PGA champion until he got into the scoring trailer and been told to add two shots to his score.

CLASSIFIEDS

The Observer accepts classifieds every business day from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Notre Dame office, 024 South Dining Hall. Deadline for next-day classifieds is 3 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 all classifieds for content without issuing refunds.

FOR RENT

6 Bedroom 2 Bath house available for 2011-12 school year.

Close to campus - student rental area.

Call for details 574-329-3849

PERSONAL

UNPLANNED PREGNANCY?

Don't go it alone. Notre Dame has many resources in place to assist you. If you or someone you love needs confidential support or assistance, please call Sr. Sue Dunn at 1-7819 or Ann Firth at 1-2685. For more information, visit ND's website at: <http://pregnancysupport@nd.edu>.

If you or someone you care about has been sexually assaulted, we can help.

For more information, visit Notre Dame's website:

<http://csap.nd.edu>.

And now, some brilliance from Shel Silverstein:

Did you hear 'bout Ticklish Tom? He got tickled by his mom.

Wiggled and giggled and fell on the floor, Laughed and rolled right out the door.

All the way to school and then He got tickled by his friends.

Laughed till he fell off his stool, Laughed and rolled right out of school

Down the stairs and finally stopped Till he got tickled by a cop.

And all the more that he kept gigglin', All the more folks kept ticklin'.

He shrieked and screamed and rolled around, Laughed his way right out of town.

Through the country down the road, He got tickled by a toad.

Past the mountains across the plain, Tickled by the falling rain,

Tickled by the soft brown grass, Tickled by the clouds that passed.

Giggling, rolling on his back He rolled on the railroad track.

Rumble, rumble, whistle, roar-- Tom ain't ticklish any more.

Attention
JUNIORS GOING ABROAD AND DECEMBER GRADUATES
interested in applying for a

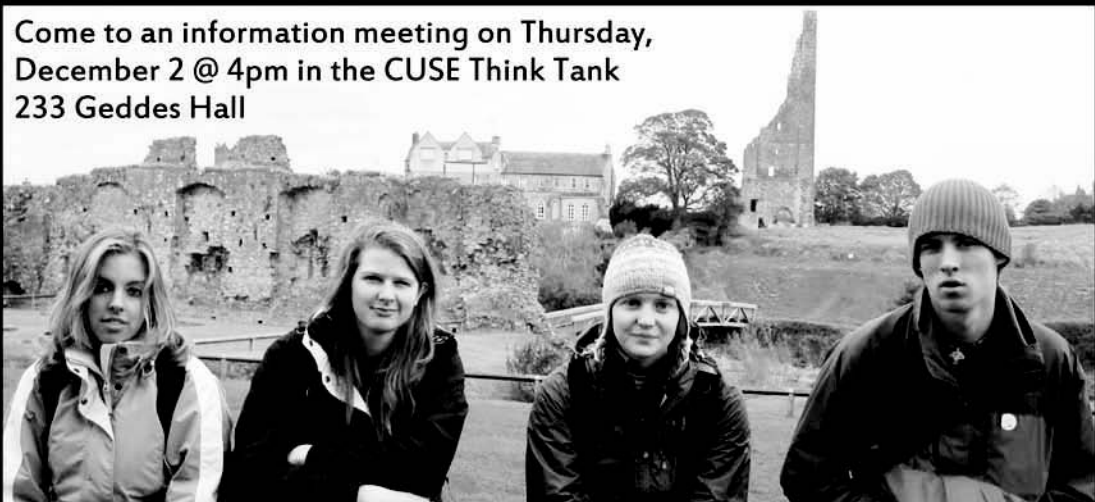
RHODES SCHOLARSHIP
(graduate study at Oxford)

MARSHALL SCHOLARSHIP
(graduate study in the United Kingdom)

MITCHELL SCHOLARSHIP
(graduate study in Ireland)

FULBRIGHT GRANT/ENGLISH TEACHING ASSISTANTSHIP
(research, study or teaching English around the world)

Come to an information meeting on Thursday,
December 2 @ 4pm in the CUSE Think Tank
233 Geddes Hall



FELLOWSHIPS

If you cannot attend but would like information, please
contact the CUSE Fellowships Office, 233 Geddes Hall

fellows@nd.edu • www.nd.edu/~fellows

UNIVERSITY OF NOTRE DAME

CHORALE & CHAMBER ORCHESTRA

ANNUAL PERFORMANCES OF

HANDEL'S "MESSIAH"



8:00 PM

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 3, 2010

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 4, 2010

LEIGHTON CONCERT HALL

DPAC

GENERAL ADMISSION \$12

STUDENT TICKETS \$3

DEBARTOLO +
PERFORMING ARTS CENTER

PGA

Woods participates in final 2010 event



Tiger Woods speaks at a press conference Tuesday before the Chevron World Challenge. Woods has yet to win a tournament this year.

Associated Press

THOUSAND OAKS, Calif. — The goal for Tiger Woods has always been to be better than he was the year before. Despite losing his marriage and every tournament he played, he still gave himself a passing grade.

"As a golfer, I learned so much more this year than any other year — and as a person, infinitely more," Woods said Tuesday. "So it's been a very successful year, even though it was a very painful year, as well."

That year comes to a close with the Chevron World Challenge, which starts Thursday featuring an 18-man field of players inside the top 50 in the world ranking. Woods has won the last two times he played, although he missed the last two years — in 2008 while recovering from knee surgery, and last year because of the Thanksgiving night accident that led to revelations of his infidelity.

It was a year that Woods described as "harder than anyone could have imagined."

On Tuesday of tournament week a year ago, the Florida Highway Patrol cited him for reckless driving and fined him \$164 for running his SUV over a fire hydrant and into a tree outside his home, while a magazine had a cover story from a cocktail waitress who said she had 300 text messages to prove her 31-month affair with Woods.

His personal life was just starting to unravel.

Woods said he never thought about walking away from golf for the entire year, shooting down speculation in a book that he would enlist in the Navy. Woods said as a kid, he either wanted to be a pro golfer or a Navy SEAL.

"I love playing the game of golf," Woods said. "It's fun, it's certainly challenging, and it's also something that I know when I do it right, I'm pretty good at it."

That was not lost on Ian Poulter as he hit balls on the range Tuesday morning and talked about the world ranking, amazed that Woods has lost more ranking points than any player has earned this year.

Poulter recalled a time not long ago when the distance between Woods and whoever was No. 2 in the world was

greater than No. 2 and the player ranked 100th or lower.

"It shows how good," Poulter said, pausing. It sounded as though he was ready to say "how good he was," but the Englishman caught himself, because he believes Woods will return. "It shows how good he can be when he's at his best."

Can he get it back?

"I think it's in him even more," Poulter said.

Woods talked about the need to change his personal life and his golf swing, but he never explained until Tuesday why he had to change a swing that had brought him 31 tour victories, including six majors, under Hank Haney.

"As I played throughout the summer, I kept trying to do the things that I was working on with Hank over the years, and it just wasn't working anymore, and it got to a point where I just couldn't do it," he said. "It's kind of hard to try and play tournament level golf, major championship golf especially, when at the time I was struggling with which way the ball was going to go. That's not fun."

Why wasn't it working?

"For some reason, it just wasn't," he said. "And it was time to go a different route."

Woods is back to work this week, although only he knows to what degree his life is back to normal. He had a board meeting with the Tiger Woods Foundation on Monday night — Woods picked up the tab for dinner — and more meetings as the host of this tournament on Tuesday before a press conference and some work on the practice range.

He no longer is grilled about his personal life, including his divorce in August.

Instead, the focus has shifted back to his golf game, and there hasn't been much to report on that front. Woods went without a win on the PGA Tour for the first time in his career. He lost his No. 1 ranking for the first time in five years to Lee Westwood of England.

The Chevron World Challenge does not count as official on the PGA Tour, although it does offer world ranking points, and Woods mathematically will have a chance to get back to No. 1 this week with a victory. That seems unlikely given his recent form.

Please recycle The Observer.

MLB

Tulowitzki signs extension



Rockies shortstop Troy Tulowitzki speaks at a press conference Tuesday. Tulowitzki recently signed a seven-year contract extension that will keep him in Colorado until 2020.

Associated Press

DENVER — Troy Tulowitzki and the Colorado Rockies are looking ahead with 2020 vision.

The sides agreed Tuesday to a new contract that pays Tulowitzki an additional \$132 million over seven seasons through 2020, a deal that means Colorado has guaranteed the All-Star shortstop \$157.75 million in the next decade.

"I'm really lucky," Tulowitzki said. "I can't wait to be here my entire career."

Tulowitzki wanted to be like his idol, Cal Ripken Jr., who played in just one city, and not his mentor, St. Louis slugger Matt Holliday, whose departure from Denver a couple of years ago after 11 years in the Rockies organization deeply affected him.

"I didn't want that to happen to me," Tulowitzki said. "I wanted to stay here for my career and not deal with all the other stuff. I'm sure he's in a great place now and I know he's happy but at the same time, this is where I want to be."

Tulowitzki's 10-year contract is the eighth-highest in baseball history, trailing two of Alex Rodriguez's deals (\$275 million and \$252 million) and agreements for Derek Jeter (\$189 million), Jose Mauer (\$184 million), Mark Teixeira (\$180 million), CC Sabathia (\$161 million) and Manny Ramirez (\$160 million).

The genesis of the extension was a heart-to-heart talk with general manager Dan O'Dowd in his office at season's end.

"They were just discussions about life," O'Dowd said. "The maturity of understanding the continuity and stability of things and what he's trying to become as a man led me to say to our owner, 'I think maybe we should explore this right now.'"

A second chat in O'Dowd's office, this time with team owner Dick Monfort sitting in, got the negotiating started on the deal.

"I said it definitely is a possibility I want to be here my whole career, but there's a lot

of things that have to work out, such as money, such as a commitment to winning," Tulowitzki said. "And all the answers I received from the beginning stayed on a straight line. They never veered off. And they sold me."

And the Rockies paid him.

Tulowitzki, 26, already had been guaranteed \$25.75 million through 2013 under the \$31 million, six-year contract he agreed to in January 2008.

Asked about the characterization that the Rockies ownership hasn't been committed to winning, O'Dowd said: "I will say this, that we're not committed to winning at all costs."

"Maybe there's a perception we're not committed to winning because we don't go out and do the Mike Hampton and Denny Neagle thing anymore, but if you didn't notice that didn't work out too well," O'Dowd said of Colorado's colossal contracts that blew up in the franchise's face in the early 2000s. "And so we are committed to try to hold onto our own internal players before we hold onto anything external."

Both sides are taking risks: Tulowitzki will be 35 by the time the contract expires and he could have some monster years during that time.

Despite missing 33 games with a broken wrist last season, Tulowitzki won his first Gold Glove and NL Silver Slugger awards after hitting .315 with 27 homers and 95 RBIs.

"They felt like they had a guy they wanted to be the face of the franchise and they came after him," Tulowitzki said. "And on my side, I love the game and that's more than enough money than I'll ever need in my entire lifetime."

Tulowitzki said he believes the Rockies are on the cusp of something big and that ownership promised him he won't have to carry the load by himself.

The Rockies are hoping to have these kinds of big contract announcements regarding ace Ubaldo Jimenez and star slugger Carlos Gonzalez in winters to come, although it could prove an insurmountable challenge to keep both of them in

purple pinstripes beyond 2014, when they would become free agents.

The Rockies are close to securing prized left-hander Jorge De La Rosa for a couple of years, keeping one of the most sought-after arms on the open market from leaving Denver. O'Dowd said there was still some issues to be ironed out, such as getting De La Rosa from his native Mexico to Denver for a physical.

"De La Rosa was a huge acquisition for us," Tulowitzki said. "You're talking about a guy that we had that has top-notch stuff. A lot of teams were after him but at the end of the day he kind of realized like I did that you don't get what you get here in every place."

"He loves playing here, I know that. He wanted to be a part of this for the next two or three years. I'm sure he turned down some money to stay here and that's what it's all about. If you want to make a commitment, do it. If you don't, go and get the top dollar, but you might not be the happiest."

Tulowitzki receives \$5.5 million next year, \$8.25 million in 2012 and \$10 million in 2013 as part of his previous contract, which contained a \$15 million team option for 2014 with a \$2 million buyout.

Under the new deal, he receives \$16 million in 2014, \$20 million in each of the following five seasons and \$14 million in 2020. Colorado gets a \$14 million option for 2021 with a \$4 million buyout.

In both 2020 and 2021, if it's exercised, Tulowitzki's salary could escalate by up to \$6 million annually depending on his finish in MVP voting, whether he is an All-Star or earns Gold Glove or Silver Slugger awards and other criteria.

Tulowitzki has finished fifth in MVP voting the last two seasons.

"I want to be the best player in this game," Tulowitzki said.

But more than that, he wants to win a World Series, and now he's got 10 more chances to do it in Colorado.

"It's an important day for our franchise," O'Dowd said, "but hopefully we have a lot more important days in front of us."

NBA

James anxious, excited about Cleveland return

Associated Press

MIAMI — There's not much LeBron James can absolutely say about what awaits when he returns to Cleveland as an opponent on Thursday night.

Fun, weird, tough, draining. James cites them all as expectations.

He's likely right on each count, and who knows how many more ways the emotional gamut will swing on Thursday when the Miami Heat visit Cleveland, the city James scorned on July 8 when he announced in a nationally televised special that he was "taking my talents to South Beach."

It'll be James' first time back as a visitor, and Cavaliers fans have been waiting months to not welcome him home.

"It's going to be tough, but I'm there to win a basketball game," James said after Tuesday's Heat practice and preparing for Wednesday's game against Detroit — almost forgotten given the magnitude of what looms Thursday. "I understand. I understand how passionate fans are about sports. I'm ready for whatever response that I'm going to get. It's going to be very emotional."

True, for all parties involved.

But the NBA might have helped James out a bit with this trip.

Because Miami plays at home Wednesday night, the Heat will not arrive in Cleveland until early Thursday morning. The team won't practice that day, just have meetings and a walk-through at its hotel, which will be teeming with security — like always. They'll bus to the arena, play the game, head to the airport and leave for Miami.

No time to visit old haunts or old friends. A business trip, nothing more, nothing less, and James seems relieved by that.

"I think it's going to be very emotional for myself," James said. "I've got a lot of great memories in that city. So many times, from ups and downs, and a lot of things that I've done in my life, I give a lot of thanks to that city, lot of thanks to those fans for giving me the opportunity to not only showcase my talent but grow from a young boy to a man."

He's not from Cleveland, but

Akron, about 40 miles south. The Cavaliers' franchise was reborn when they won the right to pick James No. 1 overall in the 2003 draft, and together, they soared. Cleveland won 349 games during James' seven seasons, second-most in the Eastern Conference over that span, and the Cavaliers' 127 wins in 2008-09 and 2009-10 — James' MVP years — topped the NBA charts.

So when he became a free agent, there was angst in Cleveland, understandably.

Angst turned to anger at 9:27 p.m. on July 8, when James revealed his decision.

"I think it's going to be something that none of us have ever seen before," Heat guard Dwyane Wade said of what's coming on Thursday. "If we can be a fan and watch it from afar, we all would, and not go. I would love to watch it and see as a fan, but I'm involved in it. It's going to be entertainment for everyone to watch."

Some Heat fans will gather to watch, at a team-sponsored event known as a "road rally."

Of course, it'll happen at the Cleveland — on South Beach. At least the Heat will be cheered somewhere on Thursday.

"I'm sure a lot of people are going to show their support for the Cavaliers in their own kind of way," Heat forward Chris Bosh said. "I don't think we know what to expect, but I'm sure it's going to be something like we've never seen before."

He'll see something like it on Feb. 16, when he returns to Toronto, his former home, for the first time as an opponent.

"I'm glad LeBron breaks the ice first," Bosh said.

It's a Cleveland homecoming for former Cavs center Zydrunas Ilgauskas as well, and while he said the trip will be "a unique situation," he's almost certain not to face the level of venom that'll be directed at James.

Wade said he'll give James simple advice beforehand.

"The only thing I would say to him is not try to go out to get 100 points," Wade said. "Play the game. Let the game flow to you. I know he wants to play great, but sometimes you can force it too much. Just play basketball like LeBron James."

Rocco's
Restaurant

First Original Pizza in Town!
Since 1951

Specializing in Italian Entrees
Tues. - Thurs.: 5:00 PM - 11:00 PM
Fri. - Sat.: 5:00 PM - 1:00 AM
537 North St. Louis • South Bend, IN
574-233-2464
Open on Graduation Day, Sunday May 16th. 4-10pm

Proprietors
Warren & Linda

"As You Wish"

Imports

LOADS OF SILVER & BEADED JEWELRY,
SILVER RINGS AND TOE RINGS,
TAPESTRY WALL HANGINGS/ BEDSPREADS
AND MUCH MUCH MORE

LOW PRICES! GREAT CHRISTMAS GIFTS!

Guatemala - Bolivia - Peru - Mexico - Thailand - India

Lafortune - Sorin Room
Nov. 29th - Dec. 4 (Sat). 11-5pm M-F Eves 7:30-10pm

Proceeds from sales of jewelry guarantee the loving hands of Guatemalan families 3 times their average salary, as well as funds for their education

Baylor

continued from page 16

to No. 12 UCLA in double overtime and 81-76 to No. 9 Kentucky on Nov. 18 and Nov. 21, respectively. McGraw said she sees those contests as an important starting board for her young team as they take on the Bears.

“I think that it definitely helped us to play ranked teams and to see a few things that we need to work on. It was good for us to compare ourselves to other ranked teams and to know that we have to really be more fundamentally sound,” she said. “We can’t get away with making some of the mistakes that we made in the other games, and we have to really be attentive to the details.”

The Irish haven’t had much time to take care of details in

the last week while they hosted the WBCA Classic over the holiday weekend, defeating three teams in three days. Notre Dame took out IUPUI 95-29, Wake Forest 92-69 and Butler 85-54. Despite the team’s success, McGraw said none of the tournament opponents provided enough of a challenge for the Irish to have to execute their offense, an area McGraw said will be essential in tonight’s competition.

“We play teams, and when you can score 92 points on them, you don’t have to execute the offense. You can just run your transition but [tonight], we’re going to have to run the offense,” she said. “We’re

going to have to have that ability to really focus and run the offense through.”

McGraw also said that Notre Dame will need to control its turnovers against Baylor and not play “sloppy.” But working on the details may not come until after final exams.

“We just had three games in three days, so we haven’t had practices for five days, so that makes it a little bit tougher because we know we have to fix some things and we only have one day to do that,” McGraw said. “We are really looking forward to having some time after final exams that we can really get back and

“There’s a bit of a challenge with a 6-foot-8 post player inside”

Muffet McGraw
Irish coach

work on some things.”

Until then, the Irish aren’t slowing down, especially not with one of the tallest post players in the NCAA standing in front of them tonight. Baylor sophomore Brittney Griner, standing tall at 6-foot-8, averaged 30 points, 8.7 rebounds and 6.67 blocks in 23.7 minutes in the Bears’ three most recent contests.

McGraw said Griner will pose a threat.

“There’s a bit of a challenge with a 6-foot-8 post player inside,” McGraw said. “We had Kentucky who had a really good post player but she was only 6-foot-1, so we’re not going to see one this often with this kind of size and agility. We’re getting our game plan formulated [Monday] and we’re going to try some things out [Tuesday]. I think we have to play a little bit smarter.”

McGraw said for the Irish, it’s about keeping a strong attitude

throughout 40 minutes of play.

“We don’t want to beat ourselves, we don’t want to beat ourselves with turnovers and missed box outs and little things like that. We want to just battle on the boards and defensively, we want to be able to defend, and that’s kind of what we’re looking for,” McGraw said. “I think it’s an attitude, and I think we’ve got a really good attitude about that and I think that starts with [senior forward and captain] Becca Bruszewski.

“I think they’re ready and I think the most important thing is that we have to compete and that’s what we do best, we battle,” McGraw said. “We’re a team of fighters and they are ready to accept the challenge.”

The Irish take on Baylor tonight at the Ferrell Center in Waco, Texas at 7 p.m. CST.

Contact Meaghan Veselik at
mvesel01@saintmarys.edu

ONLY 3 MINUTES FROM CAMPUS

**Little Caesars®**

HOT-N-READY®

LARGE PIZZA



\$5

Cheese, Sausage or Pepperoni

©2006 L.C.E., Inc. 10684

•Original Round •Carry out •Plus tax

HICKORY CROSSING PLAZA

3601 Edison Road at Hickory • 243-4680



Senior forward **Becca Bruszewski** drives for a layup on Nov. 15 against **Morehead State**. **Bruszewski** will face off against Baylor sophomore phenom **Brittney Griner** when Notre Dame faces the Bears Wednesday.

Villaflor

continued from page 16

ground has aided Villaflor in his diving success, he has had to make adjustments in transitioning to a completely different sport.

“Although gymnastics helps a diver with ‘air sense’ and the flipping motions, the techniques of the two sports are very different,” Villaflor said. “It’s challenging for most gymnasts to make the adjustment toward more diver-like technique, but I was so young when I practiced gymnastics, my gymnastics techniques were not very strong when I began diving.”

Villaflor has been a tough competitor for Notre Dame this season, missing out on the top three in any competition only once. In the team’s most recent competition against Utah on Nov. 12, he earned silver in the one-meter and bronze in the three-meter.

Villaflor credits his ability to twist quickly while diving as his greatest strength.

“I tend to be a pretty fast twister, which allows me to add

difficulty to the list I compete,” he said.

As Villaflor prepares for the rest of the season, which includes competing at the Iowa Invitational this weekend along with upcoming meets at Northwestern, Cleveland State and Michigan State, he is now working on perfecting his dives.

“I have learned all the dives that I need for the season, so now I will work on improving them and making them as consistent as possible,” Villaflor said. “I am currently working on fixing some bad habits that I have developed over the past few weeks, which will hopefully be back to normal in time for our invite this weekend.”

At the Big East Championships last season, where he earned top marks for the Irish program, Villaflor earned two of his career-best dives. He was also awarded the competition’s Most Outstanding Diver award.

“Winning Big East was incredible,” Villaflor said. “It was really rewarding because there was good competition there. The most difficult thing about big diving competitions like that is it is so easy to miss one dive,

which would put you out of the running for the top places. I was happy that I was able to put together a solid meet when it counted.”

Villaflor said he hopes to improve last season’s achievements with a trip to the NCAA Championships this March.

“My lofty goal for the end of the season is to qualify for the NAAs, but I would really like to place in the top 10 at Zones [the qualifying meet for NAAs],” Villaflor said. “I have been close, but yet to break into the top 10 spots.”


Regardless of the rest of this season’s events, Villaflor said he is proud to be representing the Irish for one last season. A marketing major, he has accepted a position with the Abercrombie and Fitch home office in Columbus, Ohio after graduation.

Villaflor and the rest of the Irish swim and dive squad will face Iowa, Denver, South Dakota State, Green Bay, Milwaukee and Ohio State (diving only) at the Iowa Invitational this weekend.

Contact Maija Gustin at
mgustin@nd.edu

EXTENDED OPEN HOUSE HOURS
THIS FRIDAY, SATURDAY & SUNDAY

**THE CLOSEST
YOU CAN LIVE TO CAMPUS!**



**PHASE I
SOLD OUT!**

PHASE II

FLATS

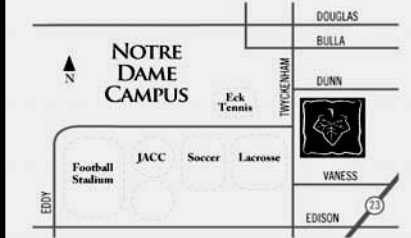
- 4 Bedrooms
- 4½ Baths
- Patio & Deck

ESTATES

- 7 Bedrooms
- 6½ Baths
- on the Quad!

Move in Summer 2011!

- Spectacular views of campus – across from Eck Tennis
- Town Homes, Flats & Estates with up to 7 bedrooms
- Own a home on the “alumni quad”



IVY QUAD
Living in the Shadow of the Dome
(574) 607-4271
info@IvyQuad.com
www.IvyQuad.com

Call David at (574) 607-4271 today!

Sycamore

continued from page 16

Dwayne Lathan's 22 points, didn't make it easy on their hosts. Indiana State started 5-of-6 from the field and led 11-10 at the first media timeout. The Sycamores used a Jake Kelly 3-pointer to take a 16-12 lead before Notre Dame scored the next seven points, highlighted by a Hansbrough dunk that put the Irish up 17-16.

Notre Dame led 38-33 at halftime and used an 8-2 run to start the second half to build a 46-35 advantage. The Irish lead hovered around that margin the rest of the way, as Notre Dame shot 60 percent from the field in the second half and made 4-of-9 three-pointers.

"We were pretty poised," Brey said. "It wasn't pretty, it wasn't flowing great, but like down in Orlando, nobody really panicked."

All five Irish starters scored in double figures and accounted for all but two Notre Dame points, with Hansbrough leading the way by going 8-of-12 from the floor, including 4-of-5 from beyond the arc.

"Ben let the game come to him," said Brey, who also praised Hansbrough's second-half defensive effort. "I'm so proud of how he's leading us. He's set a great tone for us."

Senior forward Tyrone Nash scored 16 points and grabbed seven boards, and senior guard Scott Martin scored 15 points, including the first seven of the game for Notre Dame. Forwards Tim Abromaitis and Carleton Scott chipped in 13 and 11 points, respectively.

Tuesday's win ended a stretch of four games in six days for the Irish, who were playing their first game since capturing the Old Spice Classic in Orlando, Fla., over the



MAGGIE O'BRIEN/The Observer

Senior forward Scott Martin goes up for a shot during Notre Dame's 81-72 win over Indiana State. Martin had 15 points in the game.

weekend. Brey said his team will now be "downshifting through Sunday," with days off Wednesday and Saturday.

"We're thrilled with the start. I think it's given our guys a lot of confidence," Brey said. "I know we've played eight —

glance at the next eight. I glanced at it and threw it back in my notebook a little bit."

That "next eight" includes Kentucky, Gonzaga, Georgetown, Syracuse, Connecticut and St. John's — with all but Kentucky and

Syracuse at home. The eight-game stretch lasts exactly a month and begins Dec. 8 with the Wildcats at Freedom Hall in Louisville, Ky.

Contact Matt Gamber at mgamber@nd.edu

Miller

continued from page 16

Miller also said that her teammates, especially her classmates, have made her time on the Irish squad unforgettable.

"Being a part of this year's senior class is something I can't describe," Miller said. "Becoming what we are today took a lot — a lot of learning, a lot of laughs, a lot of success and some failure too. It also took a lot of growing up. But doing all of that together is what makes us so close. The experiences I have had with our class are some that I won't ever forget."

As she looks forward to the end of her time here at Notre Dame, Miller has set personal and team goals.

"The best accomplishments for this team have yet to come," she said. "We have won Big East for the past 14 years and sometimes it can feel like a tradition. What we all want is something more. We want our team to be seen on a national level. We want to be able to take more girls to NCAAs each year and score more points as a result."

On a personal level, Miller hopes to leave a legacy of success and a winning tradition at Notre Dame.

"My goal is to leave my footprint on this program," Miller said. "Coming into Notre Dame we had such a strong class and I think that is still true today. We want to walk away from this all knowing that we left our mark and started a new wave of success."

Miller and the Irish return to competition Dec. 2-4 as they compete in the U.S. Nationals in Columbus, Ohio.

Contact Michael Todisco at mtodisco@nd.edu

States

continued from page 16

legitimate threat in international competitions.

"It was a great feeling to represent the United States like that," Meindhart said. "It was huge for us because we really made the presence of United States fencing felt at the competition."

He said his accomplishment was a result of his fortitude and long hours he spent training.

"This is something that you work for all year," Meindhart said. "Everything was working for me at the World Championships. This will be a boost of confidence for me, and it shows that all my hard work is paying off."

Meindhart said he sees his medal as a sign of his victory not only on a personal level but as something to also be celebrated with coaches, friends and families.

"It meant a lot to represent both Coach Gia [Kvaratskhelia] and my coach at home," Meindhart said. "Afterward, I received so much support and positive feedback from all the people back home, athletes I had trained with and even from older fencers."

Kvaratskhelia said Meindhart's medal will show itself as crucial for Notre Dame fencing in years to come.

"It is really important that a kid came here and in his third year of being here, his result hadn't decreased or leveled out, but it is actually getting better," he said. "Because of all the work at school, fencers usually level off, so for future recruiting it will be great to show that if you come here your fencing performances can excel."

This strong finish placed Meindhart among the leading foilists to represent the United States at the 2012 Olympics in London. He participated in the Beijing Olympics in 2008 before arriving at

school. After this season, he will be taking next year off from school to return to San Francisco in order to focus on his training and make a stronger showing in London.

"When I fenced in Beijing in 2008, the thrill was just to qualify, and there were really no expectations, as I was the youngest by five years," Meindhart said. "This time around, the result is everything."

Contact Michael Todisco at mtodisco@nd.edu

"It was huge for us because we really made the presence of United States fencing felt at the competition."

Gerek Meindhart
Irish fencer



What are you doing this summer?
May 18 to June 30, 2011



The London Summer Program

- ✓ Six weeks study in London
- ✓ Earn 6 credit hours
- ✓ Easy application at: www.nd.edu/~ois
- ✓ Courses from a variety of different departments (some fulfill university requirements)

Information Session

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 1st
5:30 - 6:30 P.M. Hayes-Healy 127

Application Deadline: February 4th

CROSSWORD

WILL SHORTZ

- Across**

1 Director Lee

4 Big name in sport shirts

8 Dispute

14 Little dipper?

15 Film style

16 Makes less than a killing

17 Cholesterol abbr.

18 Nut with caffeine

19 Grand grounds

20 Comment on life by 52-Across?

23 Like some straw

24 Hangs around

28 Deposit and withdrawal site for 52-Across?

32 Lamebrained

33 Musical Reed

34 Displaying more violence
- 35 Result of an encounter with 52-Across?

40 Seize for ransom

41 Capek play

42 Mole, e.g.

43 Crib plaything for a young 52-Across?

49 Buffy the Vampire Slayer, e.g.

51 Stiffness

52 See 20-, 28-, 35- and 43-Across

56 Vampire story, e.g.

59 Deuce follower

60 Frozen water, to Wilhelm

61 Hebrew name for God

62 Part of a vampire

63 ___-Foy, Que.
- Down**

1 Like the heart during a horror movie

2 "Sorry, Charlie"

3 Frozen treat

4 Way to pay someone back

5 ___-suiter

6 Like mechanics' hands

7 Void of any va-va-voom

8 Poem title start

9 Ill-fated ship of film

10 Spot to pick up Spot

11 Spanish she-bear

12 Bar fixture, maybe

13 Squeeze (out)

21 Fierce sort, astrologically

22 Sort

25 Awesome, in slang

26 Stink

27 Neighbor of Turk.

29 Tiny bump on a graph

30 ___ Center (Chicago skyscraper)

31 Commercial lead-in to Sweet

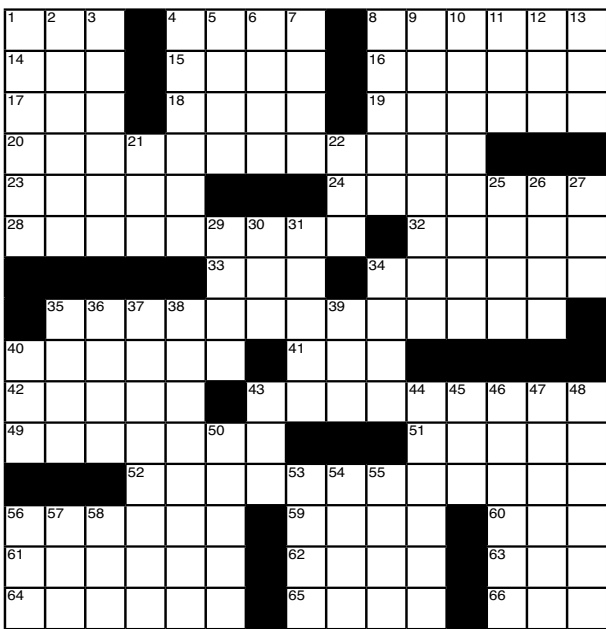
34 "Cootie"
- 64 Pied Piper's sound

65 Nipper

66 Down

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

R	A	L	L	Y	P	A	P	A	B	E	A	R			
A	V	O	I	D	R	I	O	T	A	N	N	A			
T	O	R	E	S	T	O	R	E	S	A	N	I	T	Y	
S	I	R	S	O	M	B	T	R	A	D	E	S			
	R	E	T	R	O		A	L	U	M					
		O	A	F		L	A	D	Y	L	U	C	K		
N	B	A		T	A	I	L	S		A	R	E	A		
C	O	L	B	E	R	T		S	T	E	W	A	R	T	
A	R	T	E			S	T	O	R	M		L	A	Y	
A	N	A	T	H	E	M	A		E	M	B				
			A	L	E	G		M	A	R	C	H			
S	T	A	N	Z	A		T	W	O		I	H	O	P	
T	O	K	E	E	P	F	E	A	R		A	L	I	V	E
A	R	I	A		S	E	A	R		A	L	T	E	R	
B	E	N	T		E	M	M	Y		R	O	A	R	K	



Puzzle by Jay Kaskel

- 35 Carpet feature

36 Month before Nisan

37 Having clean hands

38 Like some parks

39 QB's utterance

40 Speed meas. in Europe

43 Big ___
- 44 Popsicle choice

45 Pen with a cap

46 "Um ... O.K."

47 1955 novel that was made into 1962 and 1997 films

48 Obliterated

50 Racy film
- 53 1920s chief justice

54 Subject of the book "Six Armies in Normandy"

55 N.H.L. venue

56 No. on a map

57 Tokyo, once

58 Melted chocolate, e.g.

For answers, call 1-900-285-5656, \$1.49 a minute; or, with a credit card, 1-800-814-5554. Annual subscriptions are available for the best of Sunday crosswords from the last 50 years: 1-888-7-ACROSS. AT&T users: Text NYTX to 386 to download puzzles, or visit nytimes.com/mobilexword for more information. Online subscriptions: Today's puzzle and more than 2,000 past puzzles, nytimes.com/crosswords (\$39.95 a year). Share tips: nytimes.com/wordplay. Crosswords for young solvers: nytimes.com/learning/xwords.

HOROSCOPE

EUGENIA LAST

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Kaley Cuoco, 25; Clay Aiken, 32; Ben Stiller, 45; Billy Idol, 55

Happy Birthday: Concentrate on career and status this year. The more you engage in activities that you believe in or feel can do some good, the higher your profile will become and the better your chance of moving into a leadership position. A partnership will enable you to reach more people both personally and professionally. Your numbers are 8, 13, 24, 26, 31, 40, 44

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Don't look for trouble or more responsibilities. Vacation plans can be made but don't go over budget or you will not enjoy your holiday. Size up a situation at work but don't take action just yet. ★★★

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Someone may try to twist your words. Be ready to clarify exactly what you mean. Good fortune will come your way if you do the best job possible. Don't let a pushy competitor steal your thunder. ★★★

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Take a look at your financial situation and budget well. Now is not the time to be loose with your cash or too generous with others. Refrain from verbally responding to a situation before having all the facts. ★★★★★

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Take on a new hobby or pick up a new skill that will make you more marketable. Strain to obtain anything that will give you an edge over the competition. Don't let negativity take over. ★★

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Trust in your own assessment of any situation you face. A problem at home or with family may lead to additional responsibilities. Don't be afraid to ask for help or to delegate jobs. ★★★

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): You'll be faced with a judgment call that will influence your residence and domestic life. Don't be too hard on someone having trouble concentrating on what's important to you. Bad memories will haunt you if you don't come to terms with them. ★★

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Don't limit what you can do because you don't feel motivated. Push a little harder to accomplish your goals. You have too much going for you to hide it away in a dark corner until you feel more personable. There is nothing you cannot master if you put your mind to it. ★★★

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Get involved in something that excites you. A creative outlet will do you a world of good and will help you decide what you want to do next in the real world, as well. You don't need structure, you need playtime. ★★★★★

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Don't let your imagination get the better of you. Look at the facts before you go off on a tangent and make a fuss over nothing. Emotional upset is apparent, along with sudden changes. Listen, observe and learn from the past so you don't make a mistake you'll regret. ★★

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Making a move before you are ready will lead to confusion. A past partner will want to touch base. Before you decide to get together, recall why you don't see more of this person and consider whether or not it's a good idea. ★★

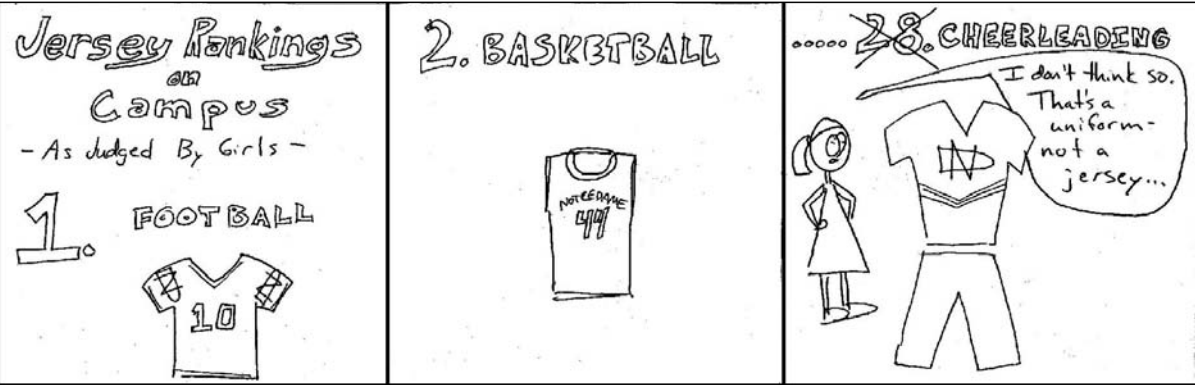
AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): A reserved approach to festivities will ensure that you head into the new year in good financial standing. Don't let anyone guilt you into buying something you don't need. Trust your instincts. ★★★★★

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Don't let an impulsive move someone makes cause you to follow suit. A change will lead to an interesting new friendship with someone who has plenty to offer. Handle your current situation responsibly. ★★★

Birthday Baby: You are quick to respond and like to make a big, bold statement personally, professionally and emotionally. You easily drum up the assistance you require to get ahead.

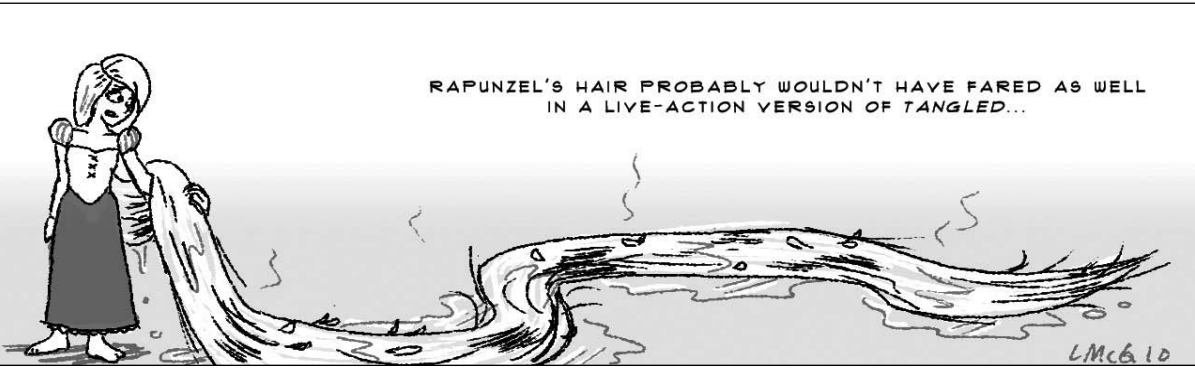
PLEASANDVILLE

JAMES SOLLITTO, CODY ECKERT and JOHN FLATLEY



TUESDAY VARIETY SHOW

LAURA MCGINN



JUMBLE

JEFF KNUREK
MIKE ARGIRION

JUMBLE

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

NALTS

□ □ □ □ □

TOIDI

□ □ □ □ □

VASHIL

□ □ □ □ □

PHAMIS

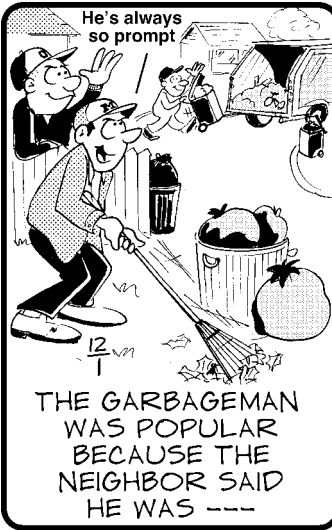
□ □ □ □ □

A: AT □ □ □ □ " □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ "

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: FATAL AIDED ALPACA SOIREE
Answer: What he did when he was offered a chance to skydive — "LEAPED" AT IT

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME
by Mike Argirion and Jeff Knurek



Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

THE OBSERVER

Published Monday through Friday, The Observer is a vital source of information on people and events in the Notre Dame and Saint Mary's Community.

Join the more than 13,000 readers who have found The Observer an indispensable link to the two campuses. Please complete the accompanying form and mail it today to receive The Observer in your home.

Make checks payable to:
and mail to:

The Observer
P.O. Box 779
Notre Dame, IN 46556

- ☐ Enclosed is \$130 for one academic year
- ☐ Enclosed is \$75 for one semester

Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____

MEN'S BASKETBALL

Still perfect

Hansbrough's 24 lead Irish over Indiana State

By MATT GAMBER
Sports Writer

Senior guard Ben Hansbrough scored 19 of his game-high 24 points in the second half to help No. 25 Notre Dame shake off a pesky Indiana State team, 81-72, Tuesday night at the Purcell Pavilion.

The Irish (8-0) are off to their best start in 11 years under coach Mike Brey, who wanted his team to enjoy its new spot in the top 25.

"I'm proud of them that they've earned it, they deserve it, and I think they'll handle it the right way," said Brey, who called the win over the Sycamores (3-4) a "grind-it-out game."

"I thought we were methodical, we were confident, and we thought, 'we're getting this,'" Brey said.

But the Sycamores, led by

see SYCAMORE/page 14



Senior guard Ben Hansbrough drives into the Indiana State defense during Notre Dame's 81-72 victory Tuesday night. Hansbrough led all scorers with 24 points on 8-of-12 shooting. MAGGIE O'BRIEN/The Observer

MEN'S SWIMMING

Senior aims for NCAAs in final year

By MAIJA GUSTIN
Sports Writer

Senior diver Wesley Villaflor trampled the competition at last year's Big East Championships to earn gold medals in both the one- and three-meter dives, and he's already on track to do the same this season.

But this time, Villaflor wants to take it to another level. He is working to qualify for the 2011 NCAA Championships as the Irish enter the second half of their season.

A native of Golf, Ill., Villaflor began gymnastics at an early age, but became bored with the sport. Everything changed when he started practicing his gymnastics techniques off of diving boards. Years later, it is has landed Villaflor as the top diver for Notre Dame.

Although his gymnastics back-

see VILLAFLOR/page 13

ND WOMEN'S SWIMMING

Miller reflects on USC rivalry, Notre Dame legacy

By MICHAEL TODISCO
Sports Writer

Notre Dame's rivalry with USC hits close to home for Irish senior Amywren Miller, whose older sister Kammy was a Trojan swimmer from 2003-07. But Miller doesn't see her sister as an enemy, but rather as a motivating factor.

"My biggest inspiration has always been my sister," Miller

said. "She was a swimmer too, and I always wanted to be as good as her, if not better."

In her junior season, Miller equaled her sister's greatest accomplishment when she was named an All-American for the first time in her career. Kammy had earned the same honor as a freshman in 2003.

Her impressive résumé of accomplishments while on the Notre Dame team does not

end there. She has represented the Irish at the NCAAs in each of her three seasons and she was named the team's most valuable player last season. Miller also became the fastest sprinter in program history when she broke the 50-meter freestyle record in her sophomore season and reset the same record as a junior with a time of 22.30 seconds.

She sees her success as a testament to her determina-

tion and perseverance.

"Self-motivation enabled my success at ND," Miller said. "No one can motivate you more than yourself. Reflecting back on my time here as a part of our team, I have seen my mistakes and learned from them. I have become a better teammate and athlete because of this and it has allowed me to succeed in ways I would not have otherwise."

Beyond personal accolades, Miller said the Notre Dame

identity was a key aspect of defining her time on the swimming team. She said that the best part of her experience her as been "being Irish."

"The tradition and experiences here are unlike any other university," Miller said. "Representing Notre Dame at our competitions is so much fun because we already have such great school spirit."

see MILLER/page 14

ND WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Team to face ranked Baylor

By MEAGHAN VESELIK
Sports Writer

The No. 16 Irish are ready to battle tonight as they take on No. 2/3 Baylor in Waco, Texas for their third contest against a ranked opponent.

"I think they're ready for another opportunity to play a ranked team," Irish coach Muffet McGraw said of her young team. "We've had two chances, and we weren't really happy with the things we did during those games, so now we have another chance. We have a lot of chances this year, we play a lot of ranked teams, so each game is a whole new opportunity for us."

Notre Dame (5-2) fell 86-83

see BAYLOR/page 13



Sophomore guard Skylar Diggins looks to pass the ball to senior forward Becca Bruszewski in a Nov. 15 game against Morehead State. PAT COVENEY/The Observer

FENCING

Meinhardt fences for United States in Paris

By MICHAEL TODISCO
Sports Writer

Junior fencer Gerek Meinhardt became a part of national and school history earlier this month when he earned the bronze medal in the Individual Men's Foil competition at the World Championships in Paris, the first United States fencer to ever medal in the event.

Quite simply, the San Francisco native is the best in the U.S. at what he does.

Irish foil coach Gia Kvaratskhelia put the importance of Meinhardt's accomplishment into context.

"This is incredible not only

for Notre Dame, but for the United States Fencing Association," he said. "Gerek set the precedent for what can be done for a United States athlete. Ten years ago, if a U.S. athlete had a top-16 finish, it was a magnificent achievement. Gerek showed what is attainable. This is real now. The next generations now see what is possible."

Meinhardt is blazing a path for United States fencing that was once thought to be impossible. For him, his result from Paris is important as it helps to establish United States fencing as a

see STATES/page 14