

THE OBSERVER

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NDSMCOBSERVER.COM

Student faces charges after attempted stabbing

Female sophomore charged with attempted battery, reports victim sexually assaulted her in Nov.

By SARAH MERVOSH
Managing Editor

The Notre Dame student who attempted to stab another student in a dorm room earlier this week was charged Wednesday by the county prosecutor.

Sophomore Vanessa Cabello was charged with attempted battery, according to the affidavit posted on WNDU's website. The offense is a class C

felony, which is punishable by a maximum sentence of six to eight years in prison and up to a \$10,000 fine.

Cabello attempted to stab a male student acquaintance in a Siegfried Hall dorm room Sunday. After a short struggle, the male student was able to take control of the knife and locked Cabello in the room until Notre Dame Security Police (NDSP) arrived, the affidavit stated.

Cabello told police the male student had sexually assaulted her in her dorm room on Nov. 20, but she had not reported the incident to authorities or sought medical treatment. She also declined medical treatment following the incident on Sunday.

The male student said the sex was consensual. The Observer is not naming the male student because he is the alleged victim of a crime, and has not been

charged with a crime related to Cabello's allegations of sexual assault.

University Spokesman Dennis Brown released a statement on behalf of the University on Wednesday evening.

"Notre Dame is deeply troubled by these events and continues to take all appropriate action to ensure the safety of everyone involved and hold accountable those who have violated the law

and/or University policy," the statement said. "Whenever the University is made aware of a sexual assault allegation, we take the report seriously and conduct a prompt and thorough investigation."

Cabello told police she went to the male's room Sunday to discuss frustration she had felt toward him since the alleged sex

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Sexual assault policy encourages reporting

By MEGAN DOYLE
News Editor

In the eyes of Associate Vice President for Residential Life Heather Russell, more reports of sexual assault can be good news.

This is because for Russell, more reports mean less silence.

"When we're doing this right ... the number of people reporting is going to go way up," Russell said. "I don't think that's because there is anything new under the sun. I believe it's because we are actually creating a system that people think works and a culture of reporting, and some people who have been silent in the past will come forward."

Russell serves as the University's Deputy Title IX coordinator, which means that she

Title IX Investigation Process

All conducted within 60 days

- ♦Victim reports sexual assault to a non-confidential source
- ♦Names of students, date, time, location and description of assault reported to Deputy Title IX Coordinator
- ♦Complainant and accused each assigned a SARC (sexual assault resource person) and given a no-contact order
- ♦Investigator compiles information and presents report to Deputy Title IX Coordinator
- ♦Complainant decides whether he or she would like to also pursue disciplinary or criminal action against accused
- ♦Disciplinary or criminal action may also be pursued by the university if believed necessary without complainant
- ♦Disciplinary action must also be completed within 60-day time frame

ELISA DECASTRO | The Observer

is the first point of contact for all reports of sexual assault on campus.

Russell's position is a new one not only at Notre Dame,

but at most college campuses across the United States. The job is a product of the "Dear Colleague" letter issued in April by the Office of Civil

Rights (OCR) in the Department of Education.

The letter called for all col

see ASSAULT/page 6

Professor says stats can deceive

By AMANDA GRAY
News Writer

Several Notre Dame economics professors said the latest unemployment numbers, released by the U.S. Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics last week, should be taken with a grain of salt.

The numbers show a .4 percent decrease in unemployment, going from 9 percent to 8.6 percent from the end of October to the end of November, according to the Bureau.

Economics professor Eric Sims said that the reason this number has fallen may not be a good one.

"The numbers mask some stuff," he said. "The unemployment percentage is the ratio of people actively seeking work and not working to the number of people in the work force, which is all the people wanting jobs."

While the number of jobs did increase by around 120,000, what changed the number most was around 315,000 people leaving the work force — meaning they are no longer working and no longer actively seeking employment, according to Sims.

"Most of what drove the numbers was people dropping out of the work force, not new job creation," he said. "We have a term for these people — 'discouraged worker.' These are people who have been looking for work and are going to quit looking."

However, Sims said there are also other reasons why people drop out, such as women who become mothers and decide to stay home with their child.

Assistant economics professor Abigail Wozniak said the number

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Forum organizers reflect, plan spring events



JAMES DOAN/The Observer

Former Florida Gov. Jeb Bush delivered a Forum address on Sept. 26 advocating radical education reforms.

By EMILY SCHRANK
News Writer

As the first semester comes to a close, organizers of this year's Notre Dame Forum are pleased with the events that have taken place and are preparing for a full agenda next semester, said Nicole Stelle Garnett, Forum committee co-chair and law professor at Notre Dame.

This year's Forum topic, "Reimagining School," has already brought several prominent figures to campus, including former Florida Gov. Jeb Bush and New Jersey Gov. Chris Christie.

"From the very beginning, we've believed that the primary purpose of this year's Forum should be to provide a space for Notre Dame as a university community ... to

be as imaginative as possible in forging a meaningful response to the challenges and opportunities that currently confront at risk schools and schoolchildren," Garnett said. "We still have a whole semester to go, but I've been extremely gratified by what we've seen so far."

The Forum kicked off on Sept. 26 with an address from former Florida Gov. Jeb Bush.

"I think his keynote was the perfect way to launch the Forum," Garnett said. "He's established a legacy for aggressively pushing some fairly radical reforms despite significant opposition ... It was just the right way to begin a year of 'reimagining' education."

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THE OBSERVER

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Questions regarding Observer policies should be directed to Editor-in-Chief Douglas Farmer.

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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 (574) 631-4541 so we can correct our error.

QUESTION OF THE DAY: WHAT'S YOUR FAVORITE DISTRACTION FROM STUDYING?



Nico Giraldo

*freshman
Zahm*

"People watching."



Kelly Passabet

*freshman
Pasquerilla East*

"Making lists of what I should be studying while actually doing none of it."



Erin Walters

*freshman
Farley*

"Thinking about how awesome it'll be when I get all of my work done, while doing zero work."



Teresa Lester

*freshman
Farley*

"Skyping and Facebook."



Leon Zhou

*senior
Stanford*

"Answering the Question of the Day. And my bed."



Evan Danieli

*senior
off-campus*

"Slayin' hoodrats."

Have an idea for Question of the Day? Email obsphoto@gmail.com



KEVIN SONG/The Observer

Students participate in the "Dodge Stress, Fight Cancer" event, sponsored by the College of Science, on Wednesday. All funds raised went to Pink Zone, an organization dedicated to raising money for breast cancer awareness.

OFFBEAT

Man acquitted in mistaken marten assault

MONTESANO, Wash. — A jury has acquitted a Washington man accused of breaking into a home and throwing a dead mink at another man during a confrontation that made weasel headlines across the country.

Defense lawyer Chris Crew said Monday that 33-year-old Jobie J. Watkins of Hoquiam was found not guilty of burglary.

Police said Watkins was carrying the dead animal when he went to the other man's apartment looking for his ex-girlfriend on June 6. The other man said he was struck after he

asked Watkins why he had a dead weasel and Watkins reportedly insisted that it was a marten.

Crew said witnesses provided inconsistent accounts and the "prosecution failed to prove a link to the mink."

The Daily World of Aberdeen reports Watkins never explained why he had the carcass.

Pizza delivery woman lies about heist

PAHRUMP, Nev. — Authorities say a Nevada pizza delivery driver made up a story that she was robbed, including detailed descriptions that led to composite sketches of two men.

Nye County Sheriff's Detective David Boruchowitz says 27-year-old Keri Rush was arrested Tuesday after an investigation of her report that she was robbed after a pizza delivery Monday night in Pahrump, about 60 miles west of Las Vegas.

According to investigators, Rush claimed two black men approached her, demanded money and ran off. She described the two in detail — including their height, weight and clothing — and police released sketches of the men to the public.

Information compiled from the Associated Press.

IN BRIEF

The Office of Sustainability and GreeND will sponsor a free coffee giveaway for students who bring reusable mugs between 9 and 11:30 a.m. and 1:30 and 3:30 p.m. today outside of DeBartolo Hall.

The Insights from Foresight presentation will take place today at 5 p.m. in the Atrium of the Mendoza College of Business. Projects by teams of business majors will be on display. At 6:30 p.m., Dean Cycon, founder and CEO of Dean's Beans Organic Coffee Company, will give a talk titled "Sustainable Business as a Vehicle for Social Change" in the Jordan Auditorium.

The classic Christmas film "It's a Wonderful Life" will screen in the DeBartolo Performing Arts Center tonight at 6:30 p.m. Tickets are \$3 for students.

The student a cappella group Halftime will perform its winter concert tonight at 7 p.m. in Washington Hall. Tickets are \$3 for students.

The Notre Dame Collegium Musicum fall concert will take place tonight at 7 p.m. and again at 8:30 p.m. at the DeBartolo Performing Arts Center. Tickets are \$3 for students.

The film "Edward Scissorhands" will screen tonight at 9:30 p.m. in the DeBartolo Performing Arts Center. Tickets are \$3 for students.

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

LOCAL WEATHER

TODAY



HIGH 36
LOW 33

TONIGHT



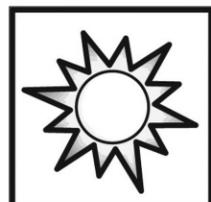
HIGH 31
LOW 27

FRIDAY



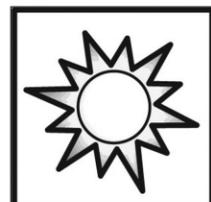
HIGH 29
LOW 19

SATURDAY



HIGH 28
LOW 26

SUNDAY



HIGH 36
LOW 28

MONDAY



HIGH 40
LOW 32

Team discovers Roman forum

By BROOKE KOVANDA
News Writer

After six grave sites, 133 coins and over 10,000 fragments of animal bone, archaeologists with assistant professor of classics David Hernandez's excavation team hit pay dirt, or rather, pay pavement, in the form of an ancient Roman forum.

This summer, Hernandez and a team of Notre Dame undergraduates embarked on a six-week excavation trip to Butrint, Albania, where they made the discovery.

Hernandez shared his thoughts on the trip during a lecture Wednesday night.

Since the 1920s archaeologists have probed the site, producing evidence of a Greek sanctuary of Asclepius, a medieval house, a Venetian castle and now, a Roman forum, he said.

The forum was a rectangular plaza surrounded by government buildings in ancient Rome, and its discovery holds key insight into the urban history of the area of Butrint, Hernandez said.

Before the most recent excavation began, a small corner of the forum had already been discovered, and the goal was to find just how far it expanded eastward. The discovery of the intact pavement slabs was a critical moment, he said.



SUZANNA PRATT/The Observer

Assistant professor of classics David Hernandez discusses his excavation of a Roman forum during a lecture Wednesday.

"The pavement slabs themselves, just flush and intact, it's easy to take it for granted in retrospect, but really, we had no idea if these pavement slabs were

"The entire pavement was preserved, and I knew at this moment, that this is one of the best preserved Roman forums in the provinces of the Roman Empire. There just aren't forums like this that are preserved in this way."

David Hernandez
assistant professor
classics

going to be preserved this far away from where we had found them before," Hernandez said. "The entire pavement was preserved, and I knew at this moment, that this is one of the best preserved

Roman forums in the provinces of the Roman Empire. There just aren't forums like this that are preserved in this way."

On the last day of the excavation, the team made a rare find.

"Right at the very end of the excavation, we found the head of a goddess figurine, which was a votive offering that dates to the fourth century B.C.," Hernandez said. "It was really a beautiful find, in the 11th hour, and it was one of these electrifying moments."

Butrint, recognized by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) as a World Heritage Site in 1992, is located in an area of Albania where ancient maritime trade was prominent.

The region's well-preserved layers of archaeological artifacts dating back to the 7th century B.C. were slowly unearthed during the excavation.

Contact Brooke Kovanda at bkovanda@nd.edu

Dodgeball tournament benefits 'Pink Zone'

By AUBREY BUTTS
News Writer

After learning about Niemann-Pick Type C (NPC) disease at a lecture this fall, sophomore Ashley Barraza contacted Dean of Science Gregory Crawford, who biked cross-country with his wife the two previous summers to raise awareness for the disease, with an interest in giving back.

During the brainstorming process, an event to benefit NPC morphed into a benefit for breast cancer and the inaugural "Dodge Stress, Fight Cancer" dodgeball tournament was born.

The event took place Wednesday night at the Rolf's Sports Recreation Center.

"Increasing breast cancer awareness and discovering ways to fight this disease is a really important cause, especially at Notre Dame," Barraza said. "Dean Crawford really supports this initiative, so we wanted to raise awareness and help monetarily in a small way."

Barraza and Crawford ultimately decided to support Pink Zone, a national initiative dedicated to raising funds for breast cancer awareness in women's basketball, on campuses and in communities, according to the Notre Dame athletics website.

Barraza credited Crawford with conceiving the idea for a dodgeball tournament.

"Playing dodgeball was Dean Crawford's idea. After seeing some students playing at Rolfs one day, he said it looked like a lot of fun," Barraza said. "We both thought joining dodgeball with fundraising was unique and an effective way to target a wide range of students."

Undergraduates, graduate students, MBA students, representatives from Notre Dame athletics and professors partici-

pated in the event.

"Dr. Hyde and the Knockout Genes," a genetics study group, included a professor, a teaching assistant and undergraduate students.

Sophomore Kevin Matuszewski, a member of Dr. Hyde's team, viewed the tournament as a way to bond with his fellow group members.

"We have gotten to know each other pretty well throughout the year, so this was a good way to have fun with our professor and with each other," Matuszewski said.

Matuszewski also commented on Crawford's eager participation.

"You see a darker side of Dean Crawford," Matuszewski said. "He brought his whatever it takes attitude into a new arena."

Zahm Hall's team was excited to continue their dodgeball dominance while also getting the opportunity to contribute to a great cause.

"Originally, we signed up because we won the interhall dodgeball championship, but the deciding factor was the cause," junior Casey Lilek said. "Supporting others is what Zahm is all about."

While Zahm eventually lost to "Where My Money At," a team of MBA students, Barraza said they played hard the entire tournament.

Based on preliminary numbers, Barraza believes the tournament raised around \$1,000, which was much higher than she expected.

"I am really happy with the outcome," Barraza said. "Everyone was really enthusiastic and competitive, and I think all the participants had a lot of fun."

Contact Aubrey Butts at abutts@nd.edu

STUDY TIME



Building Hours for STUDY DAYS & Finals Week

DeBartolo Hall

December 9-15: 7AM to 3:00AM

December 12-16: Rooms available except when scheduled by the Registrar's office.

December 16: 7a-5pm.

See Building Support Personnel if you have specific needs~ Room 103 or 104.



Coleman-Morse

December 9- 7am-12am

December 10-1st and 2nd floor 8am-4am

3rd floor 8am-12am

December 11-14- 1st and 2nd floor open 24 Hours

3rd Floor: 7:00am-12am

December 15- 1st and 2nd floor 7am-4am; 3rd Floor: 7am 12am

December 16: Coleman-Morse closes at 5:30 pm

See Building Support Personnel if you have specific needs~ Room 101.

Finals Week: Rooms available except when scheduled by the Registrar's office.

SNA hosts dinner to help sick children, families

By BRIDGET FEENEY
News Writer

The Saint Mary's Student Nursing Association (SNA) took a break from studying for finals on Wednesday evening to spread some holiday cheer to local families.

SNA sponsored a dinner for the families of children with demanding medical needs who are currently receiving respite care.

Senior nursing major and SNA cabinet member Julia Humphrey said these families devote themselves entirely to taking care of their children.

"The parents of these children are incredibly selfless," she said. "They lovingly give to their children mentally, emotionally and financially. Because of our close connection with and understanding of these families, SNA knew that our Christmas sponsorship would be fun for them."

In addition to dinner, the families decorated Christmas cookies, made ornaments and received a visit from Santa.

Humphrey said she felt the impact of SNA's efforts to plan the

dinner before the first course had even been served.

When she called the families to formally invite them to Saint Mary's for the evening, Humphrey said the families became choked up from the gratitude they felt toward SNA and Saint Mary's.

Humphrey said the experience reaffirmed her choice to major in nursing.

"Being in the nursing field, we must ask ourselves daily, 'What is one thing I can do to lighten the load of another,'" she said. "We have been able to apply this same notion to creating this party."

SNA and Saint Mary's nursing classes worked all semester to plan the event and to ensure every detail was accounted for, Humphrey said.

"The nursing class has been absolutely incredible, donating their time, money and effort to this cause," she said. "The party would not have come together if it had not been for the hard work of each individual."

Contact Bridget Fenney at bfcene01@saintmays.edu

for students who park in D2 South:

before you head home for the holidays,

be sure and move your car from the area
outlined in red below.

**cars that are not moved will be lot-transferred
at the student's expense.**



Campus Wellness Center - Site



**for more information related to construction, contact Mike Daly in
Facilities Design & Operations at 574-631-4200**

Students present to Hope Ministries

By MADELINE MILES
News Writer

After an entire semester of research, social work majors at Saint Mary's College presented their final projects to the director of Hope Ministries in South Bend on Wednesday afternoon.

Social work professor Fran Kominkiewicz's class of social work majors conducted surveys with the residents of Hope Ministries, which serves as a homeless shelter and an agency to assist people during tough economic times.

"The students rose to the occasion beautifully," Kominkiewicz said. "This project was a chance for them to look at agencies like Hope Ministries in the South Bend community and determine what Saint Mary's can do to give back."

Two groups of Saint Mary's seniors presented their research on different aspects of homelessness in South Bend to the director of the local shelter and agency.

The first project focused on the health and lifestyle of the homeless, specifically diet, exercise and smoking.

The research showed that 80 percent of residents smoke a pack of cigarettes a day.

Eighty-five percent of residents also indicated walking as their primary form of exercise, most likely due to a lack of transportation. And although Hope Ministries does have a workout facility, 65 percent of residents have never used it.

"We found that updating the workout program or implementing a yoga class would be a waste of resources," senior group member Aileen Hurd said. "We recommended more educational resources on understanding the importance of healthier choices."

Senior Sarah Shoff said she had suggestions regarding nutrition at the Hope Ministries shelter.

"There is a positive trend in eating meals in Hope's kitchen and being overweight," Shoff said. "It might be beneficial to expand their selection at Hope of healthy eating choices."

The second project focused on housing, or lack thereof, for the homeless in South Bend.

"The point of our research was to see what the homeless consider as housing options," senior Lauren Toth said. "And also, to see the barriers of receiving housing."

The group surveyed residents on their housing history, educational background and employment.

Toth said the group's biggest finding was a high instance of unemployment.

Senior Alma Bravo said she was shocked at the education level of the residents of Hope Ministries.

"More than half had a high school diploma," Bravo said. "It wasn't like they hadn't had any sort of education. We concluded the state of the economy is contributing to the lack of jobs."

The group also took into account the housing history of the homeless.

"In terms of housing history, some were so scattered that there was never a stable living situation," Toth said. "It was interesting to see where people were in the past and to see where they wanted to be in the future and whether or not it was actually obtainable for them."

Both groups hope the agency will take results of their research into consideration.

"I think Hope Ministries would do well if they put more emphasis on finding employment," Toth said. "Because without monetary gain, personal housing is difficult to achieve."

Contact Madeline Miles at mmiles01@saintmarys.edu

Forum

continued from page 1

Two days later, the Forum brought four experts in education, including the founder of Teach for America, to campus for a panel discussion.

"That was a compelling event on a number of fronts," she said. "What struck me most at the time, and what has continued to stay with me, was how it helped clarify just how important it is that we as a university continue to expand and enhance our investment in at risk schools and schoolchildren."

New Jersey Gov. Chris Christie delivered the keynote address for the symposium, "Educational Innovation and the Law" in November.

"It was interesting to hear an elected official discuss his experience with K-12 education, as well as to challenge the Notre Dame community to think critically about what it can do to make a systemic and sustainable impact in this field," Garnett said.

Garnett said Forum organizers have a full agenda planned for the second semester.

On Jan. 27, Terry Moe, professor of political science at Stanford University, will come to campus.

SPRING LINEUP

January 27	Terry Moe Political scientist and author
February	Kathleen McCartney Dean of Harvard's School of Education
March 26	Pauline Lipman Professor in University of Illinois-Chicago's College of Education
April 10	Diane Ravitch Historian of American education

ELISA DECASTRO | The Observer

"Terry is a nationally acclaimed political scientist and author of several groundbreaking books on K-12 education," Garnett said.

The second semester will also include keynotes from Kathleen McCartney, the dean of the Harvard School of Education, and Diane Ravitch, a well-known historian of education, she said.

Garnett said she has high expectations for the remaining Forum events.

"I'm hopeful that the events

we've planned for the spring will provide an opportunity for some very serious conversation about where many of the 'fault lines' in K-12 education and education policy currently lie," she said. "We want to foster serious conversation that can help surface some ideas on the varied roles that Notre Dame can — and must — play in service to K-12 schooling."

Contact Emily Schrank at eschrank@nd.edu

Jobs

continued from page 1

of jobs created might be around the number needed to keep the U.S. economy stable, but there needs to be more.

"That number — 120,000 — is about the number of new jobs we need per month," she said. "But this won't put us in a positive growth. To really keep people out of unemployment, we need about 200,000 jobs a month."

Sims said initial positive reports might have been overzealous.

"I think there was an initial hysteria over good numbers," he said. "These numbers are just from surveys — I think there's a decent chance that, with more time, the job growth numbers will be revised."

Most of the job growth was in

the private sector, with government jobs decreasing, he said.

"Most jobs were in services, like retail, but there was not much change in construction or manufacturing," he said. "We won't see a better employment picture until we see more construction and manufacturing jobs."

Wozniak, however, cautioned against construction. She said workers in this sector might not have skills for jobs in other sectors, which leaves them vulnerable.

"As a labor economist, I'm more concerned with the long run," she said. "I'm concerned with training and skill of workers. We need to do a lot more with people coming out of high school, especially with even more skills and secondary education."

"Growth in manufacturing is good, but it's never going to be the main engine for growth. ...Workers doing best in this economy

are those in selective fields with skills that aren't necessarily job-related. They learn how to write and communicate."

She said she would like to see policy makers focus on making programs for these skills.

"A lot of people see construction as an economic indicator," she said. "I'd like to move away from this — these are unskilled workers. It's not a great sector for the workers in it, because they don't have skills for other sectors."

Both professors said students entering the job market should be patient.

"Those numbers mean we still aren't seeing much of a recovery," Sims said. "It's a bad job market. Don't be too discouraged."

Wozniak said this economic state might be cause for concern for graduating seniors.

"Students should keep in mind that unemployment numbers are higher for young people," she said.

Ultimately, these numbers don't tell the most accurate story, Sims said.

"The unemployment rate is imperfect measure, it provides an imperfect picture," he said. "What the economy needs is people moving from unemployed to employed, not unemployed to no longer looking for employment."

Contact Amanda Gray at agrays3@nd.edu

LET'S
TALK
ABOUT
*sex**

...Or gender, or patriarchy, or masculinity, or feminism, or the media,
or homosexuality, or the family, or culture, or relationships

*In a well-crafted, academic essay of ten to forty pages in length.

The Gender Studies Honor Society is now accepting papers for the annual publication of *Through Gendered Lenses*, the student-edited undergraduate research journal that analyzes the significance of gender in society.

Visit genderstudies.nd.edu for more information.

Submit to gender@nd.edu by **January 31, 2012 at 5:00pm**

Write
News.

Email observernewseditor.nd@gmail.com

Assault

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leges to more strongly implement Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, which prohibits sexual discrimination at institutions that receive federal funds. Russell said the letter required the University to create her position as well as a more clearly outlined investigation process for sexual assault.

While she could not comment on specific cases, Russell said the number of reports this semester has already exceeded the number she expected for the entire year.

Under the microscope

Even as Notre Dame implemented these Title IX changes, Russell said the OCR had another concern.

"At the same time, the OCR had come forward to Notre Dame and asked if we would do a voluntary compliance review, and Notre Dame agreed," Russell said.

Vice President for Student Affairs Fr. Tom Doyle said the OCR approached the University in fall 2010.

"They visited campus, they interviewed people, they looked at particular cases," Doyle said. "At the end of that review, they wrote a letter that is a public document that basically was what their findings were. They spent about half of the letter commending Notre Dame for the things that are included in its policies and practices ... and then they spent about half the letter making suggestions."

In the letter, the OCR said its investigation was "agency-initiated," not based on a specific complaint.

"OCR's investigation followed an internal review of previously filed cases against the uni-

versity, and recent articles in the press about Notre Dame's handling of sexual assault complaints, including one incident in which a student committed suicide after reporting that she was sexually assaulted by another student," the letter stated.

Earlier that fall, Saint Mary's student Lizzy Seeborg committed suicide after alleging that a Notre Dame football player sexually assaulted her.

Doyle said Seeborg's death and the investigation did fall in proximity to one another.

"Whether or not there is causality there, I don't know," he said.

New process

Russell said the new Title IX process must be condensed within 60 days, a new requirement from the Department of Education.

These 60 days begin when a victim reports an assault to a non-confidential source — typically anyone who is not a dorm rector or a member of campus ministry.

This person then reports the names of the student, date, time, location and brief description of the assault to Russell. Both the accused and the complainant are then assigned a sexual assault resource coordinator (SARC). The complainant and the accused are to have no contact after this point, Russell said.

"If the accused or the complainant had any questions about what is the process, what happens next, that SARC is

their resource person through the entire process," Russell said.

An investigator compiles a full report on the incident for Russell, and then she meets with the complainant to talk about the next step. This student could decide to pursue disciplinary action, criminal justice, or neither.

If the student decides not to pursue those options, the University can still move forward on either front without the student's participation. Any disciplinary action through the Office of Residence Life must also be completed within the OCR's 60-day timeframe.

"So it's a very much refined way of shepherding a case from beginning to end in a way that we hope is humane and kind and just," Russell said. "I think the thing that has been paramount in my mind throughout all of this is, what are we doing both in terms of what OCR asked of us but what we believe is right."

Changes in ResLife

As the new Title IX process took effect, the University disciplinary process changed slightly as well to reflect the OCR's recommendations.

Brian Coughlin, associate vice president for Student Affairs, and Kathleen O'Leary, director of Community Standard, applied the results of the OCR review to the sexual assault policy outlined in du Lac.

O'Leary said two significant changes to the disciplinary process took effect this semes-

ter.

The first change allows the complainant to ask to be in a separate room from the accused during the disciplinary hearing, O'Leary said.

"I think providing the complainant some reasonable alternatives to not be in the same room is bringing us up to speed with other institutions," she said.

The second change involves the case review process after a disciplinary hearing. O'Leary said now either the complainant or the accused can request a case review "based on either a procedural defect that occurred during the disciplinary review process or based on the discovery of substantive new information that was unavailable to them at the time of the hearing."

Previously, only the accused could request a case review.

O'Leary said her office has not dealt with any cases involving sexual assault yet this year, so she cannot gauge how effective these changes will be in the future.

After this summer's changes, Coughlin said continuing to update the sexual assault policy reflects the fact that "sexual assault isn't something that [only] happens to a University or a University community, but to an individual as well."

Coughlin said he hoped the changes would improve the experience for everyone involved with the sexual assault policies.

"All in all, I think that what we've learned and how we've gone through the process is a really good thing," Coughlin said. "I think that we hope that we do enough in terms of prevention and education that we won't ever have to use it, but the reality is that we probably will."

A 'life-giving' process

Though the changes are still new, Russell said early feedback on the new processes is positive.

"Both complainants and accused have commented on how helpful it has been to have a SARC, that sexual assault resource person who has been their first point of contact," Russell said.

As she continues in her new position, Russell said she hopes for the process to be "life-giving" for the students who go through it.

Despite positive signs after one semester, Doyle said the University needs to continue to hold itself to a higher standard.

"Where would we like to be a year from now?" Doyle asked rhetorically. "We do need to have the community understand what the obligations are for reporting and the processes, but to my mind, the real conversations are the conversations that help us as a community to create the kind of community where sexual assault does not exist."

Contact Megan Doyle at mduoye11@nd.edu

"If the accused of the complainant had any questions about what is the process, what happens next, that SARC is their resource person through the entire process."

Heather Russell
associate vice president
Residence Life

"We do need to have the community understand what the obligations are for reporting and the processes, but to my mind, the real conversations are the conversations that help us as a kind of community to create the kind of community where sexual assault does not exist."

Fr. Tom Doyle
vice president
Student Affairs

Charges

continued from page 1

ual assault. She said she brought the knife as "self-defense," according to the affidavit.

Police saw "superficial cuts" on Cabello's wrists when they entered the room Sunday, but Cabello said the male student had not threatened or struck her in the past or during the incident in his room.

University Spokesman Dennis Brown declined to comment on the status of Cabello's enrollment at Notre Dame, but said the University reserves the right "to temporarily dismiss any student who is charged with a felony."

Brown said the University did not issue an email alert to the

student body, as is customary in incidents of crime against students, because NDSP mitigated the threat in a prompt manner.

"A timely warning was not issued because the alleged assailant was immediately detained by NDSP and therefore was not a threat to the community," he said.

The University statement said the circumstances leading to the charges against Cabello were "immediately and thoroughly" investigated by NDSP and turned over to local law enforcement.

"The University has and will continue to work with the authorities as this matter proceeds through the criminal justice system," the statement said.

Contact Sarah Mervosh at smervosh@nd.edu



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Veterans remember Pearl Harbor

Associated Press

PEARL HARBOR, Hawaii — In wheelchairs and on walkers, the old veterans came Wednesday to remember the day 70 years ago when the Japanese bombed Pearl Harbor. But FDR's "date that will live in infamy" is becoming a more distant memory.

Fewer and fewer veterans who experienced the attack on Dec. 7, 1941, are alive to mark the anniversaries and most of them are in their 90s, many prevented by health problems from traveling to Hawaii. One survivors' group said it would disband because age and infirmity made it too difficult to carry on.

"People had other things that they wanted to do with the remainder of their lives," Pearl Harbor Survivors Association president William Muehleib said. "It was time."

The 2,390 Americans who died in the attacks are not forgotten. Besides Pearl Harbor, there are remembrances elsewhere

In Phoenix, the goal every year is to draw 1,177 people — the number who died on the USS Arizona — but organizers don't come close to that anymore.

Just 45 people showed up last year. On Wednesday, about 300 people gathered for a mile-long remembrance walk, carrying miniature U.S. flags and tags bearing the names of Pearl Harbor casualties.

"As time goes by, it might actually fade. This may be the last significant anniversary when we could thank a survivor. Get out there. Get your chance to thank them," event chairman Ben Ernyei said.

Those who made it to Pearl



Pearl Harbor survivors stand at attention during the Pearl Harbor memorial ceremony Wednesday in Hawaii.

Harbor were treated to a hero's reception. The 5,000 spectators whistled, shouted and applauded loudly as the 120 or so survivors stood to be recognized, and others asked for autographs and took photos with them.

Muehleib said local chapters of his group will function as long as they have members and survivors can gather socially, but they will no longer have a formal, national organization. He also predicted survivors would attend future commemorations at Pearl Harbor.

The association — founded in 1958 — has 2,700 members, he said. There are an estimated 7,000 to 8,000 Pearl Harbor survivors.

President Barack Obama hailed the veterans in a statement proclaiming Wednesday as "National Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day."

"Their tenacity helped define the Greatest Generation and their valor fortified all who

served during World War II," he said. "As a nation, we look to December 7, 1941, to draw strength from the example set by these patriots and to honor all who have sacrificed for our freedoms."

Sen. Daniel Inouye, D-Hawaii, witnessed the attacks as a young man in Honolulu and fought in World War II, losing his right arm in combat and earning the Medal of Honor.

"As we continue to lose members of the Greatest Generation, those who witnessed the attack, lived through the war and saw the world change, we must remember the events of December 7," he said in a speech on the Senate floor.

The nation has debated how to mark anniversaries and memorials before as events fade into history. New York City's mayor this year suggested it might be time to stop reading the names of nearly 3,000 Sept. 11 victims every year once that 10th anniversary passed.

Blagojevich gets 14 year jail sentence

Associated Press

CHICAGO — The Rod Blagojevich who once challenged a prosecutor to face him like a man, the glad-handing politician who took to celebrity TV shows to profess his innocence, was nowhere to be found Wednesday as he was sentenced to 14 years in prison for corruption.

Frowning and pulling nervously at his tie, the disgraced former governor seemed like another person as he stepped up to address the sentencing judge. Bluster once as conspicuous as his famously lavish head of dark hair was wiped out, a victim of his June convictions on charges that included attempting to sell President Barack Obama's U.S. Senate seat.

In a low voice, the two-term Democrat apologized again and again, telling Judge James Zagel he had made "terrible mistakes."

"I caused it all. I'm not blaming anybody," Blagojevich said, trying with uncharacteristic humility to avert severe punishment. "I was the governor and I should have known better and I am just so incredibly sorry."

It was not enough for Zagel, who gave the 54-year-old a sentence close to the 15

to 20 years prosecutors had sought.

"The abuse of the office of governor is more damaging than the abuse of any other office, except the president's," he said.

"Whatever good things you did for people as governor, and you did some, I am more concerned with the occasions when you wanted to use your powers ... to do things that were only good for yourself," Zagel said.

Blagojevich slumped forward in his chair — momentarily frozen as the judge pronounced the sentence. Moments later, his wife, Patti, fell into his arms; when he pulled back from their embrace, he brushed tears from her cheek.

"When it is the governor who goes bad," Zagel said, "the fabric of Illinois is torn and disfigured and not easily repaired."

Illinois governors have gone bad with stunning frequency. Four of the last nine have been sentenced to prison, including Blagojevich's predecessor, George Ryan.

Blagojevich, who received more than twice as much time as any of the other governors, was also more of a national spectacle — both because of the charges against him, and how he responded to them.

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INSIDE COLUMN

Leave Santa alone

Here's a Christmas surprise: some parents have argued that Santa — with his round belly and universal appeal — might be contributing to the rise in childhood obesity.

Santa's entire lifestyle is physically inactive. He's confined to his home in the North Pole, where it's too cold to go for a jog outside or even walk his reindeer.

And while Mrs. Claus is an excellent cook, she's no health freak, actually beating Paula Deen in a butter drinking contest on a visit to Deen's show last month. "Sorry to burst your bubble, Paula dear," Mrs. Claus said, "but we use even more butter up North."

When Santa's off delivering gifts, he sits in the sleigh while the reindeers do all the work. He then falls down chimneys, which takes zero cardiovascular effort. And the millions of cookies he consumes on Christmas Eve? Even the harshest New Year's diet resolution can't remedy that indulgence.

But Mrs. Claus said it's "ridiculous" to say her husband is negatively affecting children's health. "He's been this way for years, and the obesity epidemic is very recent," she said. "Plus it's fundamentally wrong to think we will ever sauté tofu or grill Boca burgers."

Mrs. Claus added that with toys and elves crowding the house, there's hardly room for a few hand weights, let alone a treadmill. "To be frank, I'm glad he keeps the weight on," she said. "It's kind of endearing." But does this excuse the unhealthy image he promotes to children? Yes, it does. Because "too many calories" is a phrase that kids are learning far too early. Because all they really need to know is "moderation." Because obesity is often linked to stress or unhappiness. Santa makes kids happy. So why criticize the jolly old guy?

The "health" craze has gotten extreme. It wouldn't be surprising if some parents now tell kids to leave a plate of carrot sticks and hummus on the fireplace next to a nice big cup of nonfat soymilk.

To be fair, we're talking about a serious problem with serious consequences. Childhood obesity reached a staggering 17 percent in 2008, according to the Center for Disease Control. But blaming weight gain on "the holidays" isn't going to solve anything. Let's start recognizing the deeper problems pushing childhood obesity to that shocking statistic. Clearly, our country's obesity epidemic is rooted in American culture, one overly focused on image as opposed to health.

Mrs. Claus said the American tabloids have been especially vicious to her husband, taking pictures from "horrendously unattractive angles."

"It's making him self-conscious, which is unhealthy itself," she said. "I mean, it's a tough economic time for weight loss. He's been the same size for almost 200 years! Replacing all those suits would be insanely expensive."

Contact Sara Felsenstein at sfelsens@nd.edu

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



Sara Felsenstein

Associate News Editor

Wisdom from mom brings rest for your souls

What do these three pieces of advice have in common? Take a shower and see how you feel. Remember to say thank you and offer to help. Stand up straight.

In addition to the fact that your mother may have said all of them to you at one time or another (my mom did), they also each contain little bits of wisdom for these busy, stressful days of exams, travel and holidays. Put them together and you may notice an improvement in your ability to navigate the next few weeks.

When my brother and sister and I were growing up, if we woke up feeling sick (unless we absolutely couldn't drag ourselves out of bed) our mom would always advise us to "take a shower and see how you feel" before pulling the plug on school or whatever else we had going on that day. And doesn't the shower solution stand the test of time? You know it: no matter how tired, cranky or unprepared for that exam (or even just the day) you feel, post-shower is always a substantial step above pre-shower. So even if your schedule is so turned around in these next eight days or so that you can barely remember if it's time for breakfast or dinner, don't skip the shower! You'll be glad for the gift of those five minutes.

Whenever we would accept an invitation to a friend's house for a meal, our mom would send us off with, "Remember to say thank you and offer to help!" Although it never hurt to impress someone else's mom a time or two

along the way, what has stuck with me about this advice has been the importance of feeling real gratitude and acting in response to that gratitude. Despite the anxiety attendant on this time of the year — or really whenever we face worry, sorrow or oppression — taking a moment to find a person, situation or other reason to be thankful can help us regain perspective. And once you have found a reason to be grateful, don't just sit there! Take one, five or 30-some minutes to call home, text your brother, thank the lunch lady in SDH or pick up the trash someone dropped on the beautiful quad outside your hall. Go to the grotto and light a candle for someone you know who has more serious problems than you do.

And finally, stand up straight. "What?" You ask. "Who cares?" Let's face it, you're all trapped; doomed to languish in the depths of the Worst Posture Generation. You have grown up with bigger backpacks and greater quantities of heavier books than I or anyone schooled in the 20th century ever carried, and yet you were born just barely too soon to be one of those kids who will go carry nothing but an iPad or its futuristic cousins for their entire 12 years of elementary and high school education. So how can you possibly be expected to stand up straight? Well, remember the beautiful, comforting words of encouragement Jesus offers us in Matthew's gospel: "Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest." Sometimes we are stooped not merely from the weight of a Chemistry text or a binder full of research notes, but from worrying over a family situa-

tion, a friend's illness, financial fears or even a careless action or comment that has snowballed into a painful argument. These are exactly the burdens Jesus wants to lift from us, exactly the place from which he offers, "I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls."

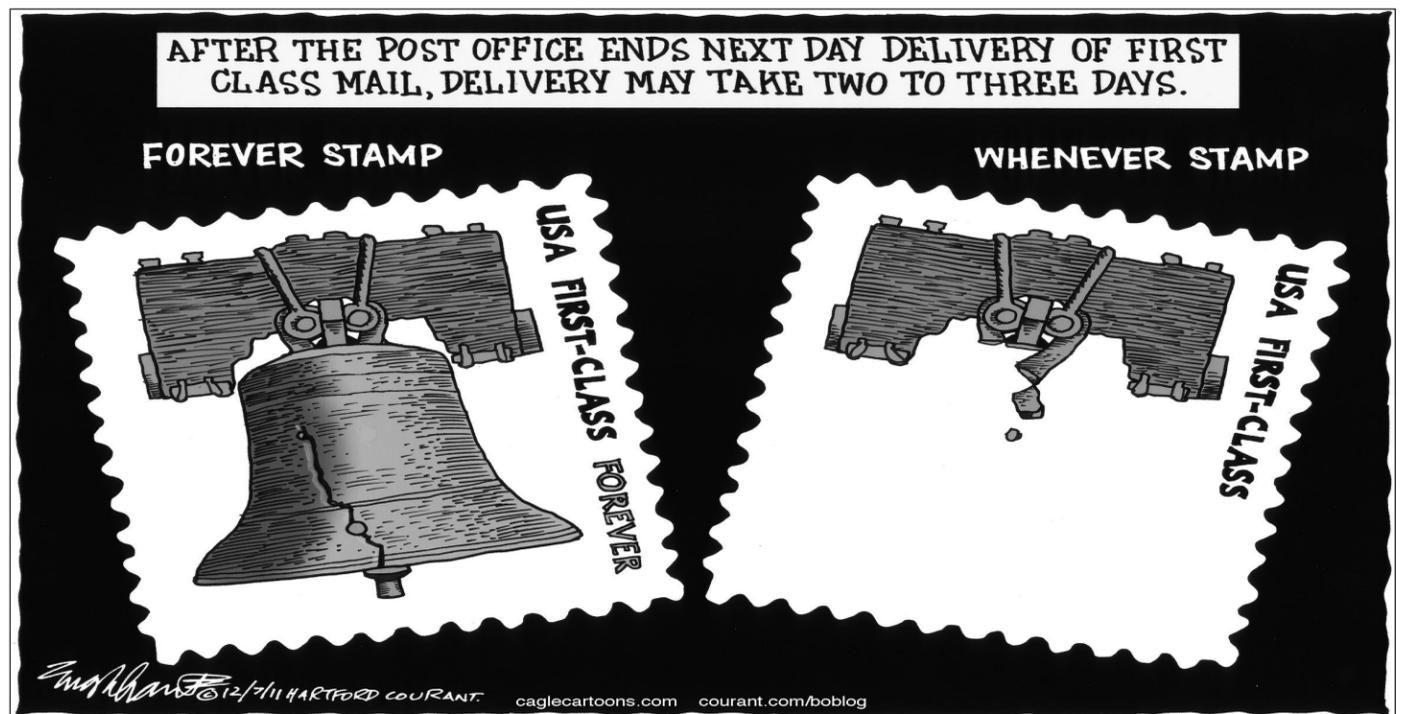
In the common — even somewhat ironic — ways that the call of Christian faith clashes with the voice of our culture, we find ourselves in the midst of Advent, a season which presents us with hope for healing, comfort, the redemption and transformation of our lives and world. Yet even as these weeks offer us freedom of heart, we unfortunately feel more ensnared than perhaps any other time of the year by pressure, anxiety and even fear. Making daily time for prayer or talking to a trusted RA or rector can become vehicles for Christ to bring rest for your soul.

So if you find yourself overwhelmed by exams, by mixed feelings about going home for Christmas, by stress in even your closest relationships, try some or all of these simple steps. Take a shower; find the bright spots around you for which to be grateful; allow the Lord to work through other people or through your prayer to lift any burdens that keep you from standing up straight. May God bless each of you in these weeks of Advent and Christmas ... and finals.

Kate Barrett is the director of the Emmaus Program in Campus Ministry. She can be reached at kbarrett@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

"Happiness is having a large, loving, caring, close-knit family in another city."

George Burns
U.S. actor & comedian

Submit a
Letter to
the Editor

Email obsviewpoint@gmail.com

QUOTE OF THE DAY

"The excellence of a gift lies in its appropriateness rather than in its value."

Charles Dudley Warner
U.S. editor & essayist

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Protecting our rights

In late October a former Taliban activist who had renounced his militant affiliation and applied for political asylum in the state of New York was seized from his home by U.S. Marshals. The man, whose asylum case we studied as part of a course on the Anthropology of Human Rights (with Professor Cynthia Mahmood), had suddenly disappeared.

He was seized without a stated cause or known destination, and was out of reach of his family or legal representation since October. He could have been in Guantanamo Bay or any number of other secret (or not secret) detention centers, or he could have been sent back to his home country without further ado. Fearing the wrath of the Taliban, in whose eyes his defection made him a traitor, the individual appealed to the United States for protection, but was not afforded the due process of law — not even the normal standard of contact with an attorney for legal representation.

The National Defense Authorization Act of 2012 awaits President Obama's signature. This act requires that any individual with suspected ties to terrorist groups be held in military detention without trial until the "end of hostilities" (NDAA 2012). Obama himself says the act "would raise serious and unsettled legal questions and would be inconsistent with the fundamental American principle that our military does not patrol our streets."

Detaining a person without trial until cessation of hostilities, on suspicion alone, is indeed a shocking proposition in the America we thought we knew. The current "War on Terror" has ominously no parameters by which cessation of hostilities can even be defined. We are, therefore, talking about the potential to hold a suspect population indefinitely without access to due process.

Acts like the National Defense Authorization Act of 2012, with all its legal ver-

biage, slide past us on the evening news. For many Americans ready to trade fear for a minimal sense of security, these may sound like a good idea; but once you "know" someone affected by the post-Patriot Act logic, that marks a move away from the sense of acceptance that remains inscribed on one of our most treasured landmarks — the Statue of Liberty. And there is not one, but thousands of cases such as this. The more our fear grows, the greater the class of suspects grows. Who will be next?

We lost one class project. A man lost his freedom. Will we allow our government's promise for our freedom be lost as well? If our ruling powers cannot protect our rights, then we are the only ones left to do it for ourselves.

Martha Karam
senior
Welsh Family Hall
Dec. 7

James Baffa
senior
off-campus
Dec. 7

Jamie Murray
junior
Pasquerilla East Hall
Dec. 7

UWIRE

Gifford's recovery a lesson in forgiveness

Sometimes, you look for the word "chair," but the only word that comes is "spoon." If this year has taught you anything, it's that sometimes you have to fight for the simplest things.

In January, a man heard from news reports that his wife had been killed by a gunman in a Safeway parking lot. Nearly a year later, that man and his wife sat on national TV, telling Diane Sawyer the story of Rep. Gabrielle Giffords' recovery from a gunshot wound to the brain.

Kristina Bui

The Arizona Daily Wildcat

On Jan. 8, just as students were gearing up to return to campus, Tucson stood still as news outlets struggled to keep up with reports of a gunman at north-side Safeway, where the congresswoman was holding a "Congress on Your Corner" event. Six were killed and 13 injured, including Giffords, that day.

Later, everyone from reporters to commentators, pundits to bloggers, speculated that the gunman, identified as Jared Loughner, had been driven by vitriolic discourse. Some suggested Loughner had a vendetta against the government. Others thought he was just sick, suffering from a mental illness and failed by Arizona's struggling health care system.

Over the course of the last year, experts contemplated how Loughner would stand trial, whether or not to medicate him and what sort of sentencing he would face. Meanwhile, Giffords left Tucson for Houston, where she began the long and slow process of regaining some semblance of normalcy.

What happened brought Tucson to the national stage: On Jan. 12, President Barack Obama came to Arizona and spoke at the McKale Center to pay tribute to the shooting victims, but UA students overshadowed the event with their behavior at the memorial service. Critics suggested the behavior treated the memorial service like a pep rally.

The thing is, you can't control the cards life deals you. You can only play the hell out of the hand you're given.

On Jan. 12, attendees of the memorial service cheered and applauded because they saw what the critics could not. They said their goodbyes, and then celebrated the hope that drives healing. What no one said then was that, nearly a year later, that memorial service in McKale could be looked at as a sign of what was to come.

In the last year, Giffords has gone from lying, bruised and broken in the hospital, to opening her eyes and sitting up. Soon she was remembering words, then phrases, then full (albeit short) sentences.

Loughner is being treated in Mississippi and awaits trial. The country waits to learn if Giffords will have recovered enough to hold office again. In the coming year, maybe Giffords will return to office. Maybe she won't. But in the last year, she's been set further back and come further than anyone else has.

She still speaks in short sentences. Sometimes she resorts to gestures, as if all the words are in her hands. But nearly a year later, Giffords and her husband told Sawyer that they're not angry with Loughner, and wish he'd been helped. Giffords called it "life ... life."

Forgiveness is a process, like learning to speak again, and the future is more uncertain than anyone ever imagines it is. You could say this has been a dark year, and that Loughner and his story brought home all the horror that humans are capable of. You could also argue it's been a year of fighting — a year of letting go of the things you can't hold, of holding on with all your might to the things you can.

Understand that everyone has a capacity for darkness. Give out all the light you have.

This article first ran in the Dec. 7 edition of The Arizona Daily Wildcat, the daily publication serving the University of Arizona.

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

Cost reform needed for education opportunity

The current state of our country leaves economists, analysts and politicians to question, "what are we doing wrong?" and "what can be done to fix it?" One thing that many neglect to factor in is the poor and declining education system all across the U.S.

The content of class work needs to improve, but at least those who choose to have an education of any value pursue it because they can afford to. If education was more affordable, this country could easily see reduced ramifications produced from less than average choices.

Oriana Pawlyk

The Miami Student

According to a CNN article, "Why does college cost so much?" back in 2009, "spending by Americans for post-secondary education totaled \$461 billion, an amount 42 percent greater than in 2000, after accounting for inflation. This \$461 billion is the equivalent of 3.3 percent of total U.S. gross domestic product (GDP) and an amount greater than the total GDP of countries such as Sweden, Norway and Portugal."

And it's only gotten worse. The American higher education system needs cost reform, as U.S. Secretary of Education Arne Duncan addressed in a speech earlier last week. Sure, many of us at Miami University attend because our parents are paying, but when those students are paying back loans on their own in a few years, we will all see just how much and how ridiculous some of those fees are.

The article also stated that, "College seniors who borrow to finance their education now graduate with an average of \$24,000 in debt, and student loan debt now tops credit card debt among Americans."

The number of college graduates goes beyond the number of job opportunities — students are resorting to taking a job just "to settle," but not what they're really qualified for. While I may only earn a bachelor's degree here, it is more suitable for me to coincide with a profession that highlights what I've studied at Miami for the last four years; I would never and could never settle for a job being a retail employee or working at a restaurant just because it "pays the bills," but unfortunately, that is what most Americans have settled for.

Bottom line, students, faculty and staff should always ask questions about university spending. If you run a university like a business, you should value the customers, in this case, the students. Just because you'd like to be "selective" doesn't also mean pleasing constituents such as university trustees, alumni, etc., needs to be a major priority in university spending — think of the students who are here to learn and what their finances are going to.

If these problems aren't addressed, America will have an increased rate of uneducated people, leading to an increased crime rate, increased number of people living on welfare, etc. The repercussions are devastating. Education is and should always be the number one value for all — it doesn't ever hurt to learn, but if people are discouraged because it will hurt their bank accounts, then America should no longer be valued as "the land of opportunity."

This article first ran in the Dec. 7 edition of The Miami Student, the daily publication serving Miami University.

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

Have an opinion?

Write a Letter to the Editor
Email obsviewpoint@gmail.com

MOVIES TO LOVE



Four weeks of no class, no homework, no papers and no tests is a daunting idea. After sleeping off your finals stress for a week and preparing for a marathon of Christmas events, you might find yourself stuck at home with nothing to do. The holiday season is always full of new releases of the biggest movies of the year, and this year is no exception. From family-friendly films meant to capture the Christmas spirit to serious Oscar-contenders, December and January are chock-full of the movies that you just have to see. And with all that time on your hands, what's stopping you?

“Arthur Christmas”

In theaters now

This is the tale of Arthur Claus, Santa's son. His older brother, Steve, is the head of the house, and next in line for Santa. Arthur, awkward and easily excited, sits on the sidelines and tries not to cause trouble — until one little girl's present gets left behind. As the only one who cares, Arthur takes charge and becomes the unlikely hero of the story, saving Christmas, at least for that little girl. This story reminds that we should always try to make Christmas special for everyone. This movie is a perfect choice for the holiday season, and they also giftwrap a polar bear to boot.

“Tinker Tailor Soldier Spy”

Dec. 9

With an all-star cast featuring Gary Oldman, Colin Firth, Tom Hardy and every other famous British actor you know (outside of “Harry Potter,” at least) this adaptation of John le Carre's espionage thriller finally opens in America. Deep in the midst of the Cold War, Gary Oldman's MI6 agent is forced out of retirement to uncover a Soviet agent amongst the ranks of Britain's intelligence elite. The film has received mostly positive reviews abroad and Oldman is garnering some serious buzz for awards season.

“New Year's Eve”

Dec. 9

Another movie is trying to adopt the “Love Actually” model, blending together the storylines of a number of different people into one movie. From a pregnant couple to friends on the verge of falling in love to a man trying to find an amazing woman he randomly met the year before, this movie seems to have almost every cliché known to man — and every attractive celebrity. But many of the vignettes are heartwarming and if you like romantic comedies, this seems like a safe bet. Hopefully this movie will be better than “Valentine's Day,” which seemed to have a similar plot idea.

“Young Adult”

Dec. 9

Feeling a void of snarky, quirky dialogue in your movies lately? “Juno” director Jason Reitman and screenwriter Diablo Cody team up again for “Young Adult,” a dramedy that has Charlize Theron playing delightfully bad-behaving teen lit author Mavis. When Mavis returns to her hometown, she tries to win back her married high school sweetheart (Patrick Wilson) and relive her glory days of high school. She's not really a character we're supposed to root for, so it should be interesting to see how or if Reitman, Cody and Theron make this questionable character likeable.

“The Sitter”

Dec. 9

Jonah Hill stars as the world's most irresponsible babysitter in what looks like another slacker movie. Hill appears to have no regard for the safety of the children as he drags them along to booze fueled romps and seedy neighborhoods. Though Hill may not have the ability to carry a film, it looks like he is backed by a crew of genuinely

funny kids, played by Max Records, Landry Bender and Kevin Hernandez.

“Sherlock Holmes: A Game of Shadows”

Dec. 16

After being pleasantly surprised by the first “Sherlock Holmes,” the sequel “Sherlock Holmes: A Game of Shadows” appears to be equally as thrilling. Robert Downey Jr. returns as Holmes with Jude Law as the begrudgingly straight-laced sidekick Watson. It's the perfect action flick with an alluring period piece aesthetic.

“Carnage”

Dec. 16

Famed director Roman Polanski brings the acclaimed play “God of Carnage” to the big screen with help from playwright Yasmina Reza. The story, about two couples that meet to discuss a fight between their young sons, devolves into chaos as the parents lose all traces of civility and resort to childish arguing in an attempt to resolve differences. The couples are played by Jodie Foster, John C. Reilly, Kate Winslet and Christoph Waltz.

“Alvin and the Chipmunks: Chip-Wrecked”

Dec. 16

I thought it would be impossible to name another “Alvin and the Chipmunks” movie after the Squeakquel, but they've done it. As one might glean from the subtitle, this third installment in the chipmunk franchise features the guys on a cruise and somehow they get shipwrecked. Full of pop cultural references and animated animals doing silly things, this movie should be fun for the whole family. And with Jason Lee and David Cross as the real people in the film, it hopefully won't be too silly.



ELISA DE CASTRO | Observer Graphic

By MAIJA GUSTIN
Scene Editor

Various musical groups at Notre Dame take domestic tours throughout the year to bring the sounds of Notre Dame to family, friends and fans across the country. This winter break, the Notre Dame chorale will tour the Southeast and parts of the East Coast, with stops in Kentucky, Tennessee, Georgia, South Carolina, Virginia and ending in Pennsylvania. The chorale will perform a va-

riety of pieces from their fall repertoire, Handel's Messiah and Christmas music. Come out with friends and family to support the choir and enjoy some festive music to brighten your January.

Sunday, Jan. 8

Louisville, Ky.
Our Lady of Lourdes Church
4 p.m.

Monday, Jan. 9

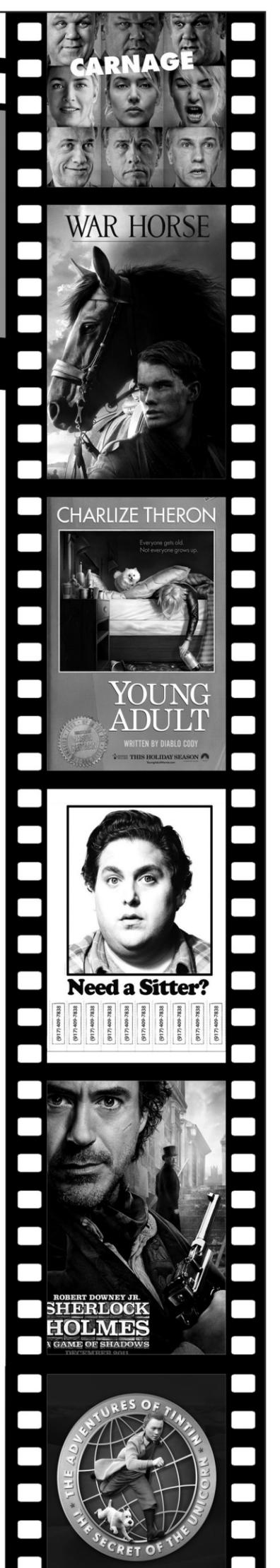
Knoxville, Tenn.

SCENE

Thursday, December 8, 2011

The Observer | ndsmcobserver.com

page 11



“Mission: Impossible – Ghost Protocol”

Dec. 16 in IMAX, Dec. 21 everywhere

Though it would have been cooler if the whole title were rendered with two colons, Ghost Protocol offers everything that fans of the series and of action movies have come to expect. There are terrorist bombings, international relations disasters and Tom Cruise as an off-the-grid agent who, with his team, has to save the world or something. Also starring are talented actors Jeremy Renner and Simon Pegg, not to mention writing and producing by J.J. Abrams. But the real draw to see the film in select IMAX theatres is for the prologue of “The Dark Knight Rises.”

“The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo”

Dec. 21
The new David Fincher film — based on the hit Swedish novel of the same name by Steig Larsson — has billed itself as the “feel bad movie of Christmas.” Following the investigation into a 40-year-old murder joined with plots of sadism, sexual violence and general mistreatment of women, that label is probably correct. However, “Dragon Tattoo,” which stars Daniel Craig and Rooney Mara as anti-heroes Mikael Blomkvist and Lisbeth Salander, respectively, isn’t about exploiting these issues for sensation and box office dollars. Rather, the film tells an incredibly dense story about the travesties people will commit against other human beings and the ways that one chooses to deal with that. Even if the material sounds dark, don’t deny yourself a wonderfully complex mystery story that is equally chilling and fascinating. Check out the superb Swedish film as well.

“The Adventures of Tintin”

Dec. 21
Tintin, a beloved hero of European culture, hasn’t found the same rabid fan base on this side of the Atlantic. However, the story of an intrepid and stalwart young journalist, who will willingly jump into danger to solve a crime or mystery, has become one of the greatest animated movies this Christmas. Steven Spielberg, who has often compared “Indiana Jones” to “Tintin,” tackles motion capture for the first time to bring the animated world of “Tintin” cartoons to life.

“We Bought a Zoo”

Dec. 23
In this film, Matt Damon plays Benjamin Mee, a recently widowed father of two who moves to the countryside to try and start a new life for his family. The catch — the house he bought contains a zoo in the backyard. He hopes to renovate the struggling zoo, and in doing so, finds new meaning in his life and reconnects with his son. And he finds love with one of the zoo workers, played by Scarlett Johansson. The plot seems fairly predictable, but Damon’s character is engaging and Elle Fanning is adorable as his young daughter, making for a fun movie to see with the whole family.

“The Darkest Hour”

Dec. 25
The perfect Christmas movie, “The Darkest Hour” finds a group of young Americans, including Emile Hirsch, Olivia Thirlby and Max Minghella, stuck in Moscow during an alien attack. The aliens go for Earth’s power supply and this rag-tag band of heroes exploits electricity to find the

aliens’ weakness. Full of all the action sequences and special effects you’ve come to love about science fiction movies, “The Darkest Hour” looks like it could be a genuinely scary take on the genre.

“War Horse”

Dec. 25
Steven Spielberg directs this moving war drama about the bonds of friendship between a boy and his horse that survive separation during World War I. Albert Narracott (Jeremy Irvine), a teenage boy living in southwestern England in 1914, must part with his beloved horse, Joey, when he is sold to the British cavalry. Joey serves on the front lines at times for the British then for the Germans. And despite being too young to enlist, Albert heads to France to save his friend. The film is a touching testament to friendship, hope and survival.

“The Iron Lady”

Dec. 31 in New York and Los Angeles, Jan. 13 everywhere else
Meryl Streep is eerily identical to Margaret Thatcher in this biopic about the former British prime minister. A non-British actress playing one of the most iconic British figures of the last few decades, Streep has been garnering early rave reviews for her portrayal. The film pays particular attention to the weeks before the Falklands War in 1982 and the sacrifices Thatcher had to make to become a woman in power in a typically male-dominated profession. Even if British politics aren’t really your thing, Streep’s performance is something you should be sure to see.

Sacred Heart Cathedral
7 p.m.

Tuesday, Jan. 10

Atlanta, Ga.
St. Jude the Apostle Catholic Church
7 p.m.

Thursday, Jan. 12

Charleston, S.C.
Cathedral of St. John the Baptist
8 p.m.

Friday, Jan. 13

Roanoke, Va.
St. Andrew’s Catholic Church
7 p.m.

Saturday, Jan. 14

Pittsburgh, Pa.
St. Scholastica
5 p.m. mass
6:30 p.m. concert

Contact Maija Gustin at mgustin@nd.edu



ELISA DE CASTRO | Observer Graphic

SPORTS AUTHORITY

Conference changes benefit hockey fans

Still slogging its way through the effects of the 2004 lockout, the NHL did something right. It has nothing to do with this season, nor does it have to do with who will hoist the Cup in June.

No, it has to do with the most important thing in hockey after the players on the ice: the fans.

It is for those fans that are still bitter after having their hearts crushed by NHL Commissioner Gary Bettman, when he cancelled the 2004-2005 NHL season.

It is for those fans that left the sport for the NFL and college football and occasionally follow their former on-ice obsession through their iPhones.

And it is for those fans who aren't fans yet, or the kids who play pond hockey and dream to be like Stamkos or Kane, while most kids want to be like Kobe and Peyton.

And all the NHL did was realign the conferences.

There were no major roster changes or even new teams added, which had sadly been the biggest news we would usually hear from Bettman. Just schedule changes and playoff format changes, but it will make all the difference.

On Tuesday, Bettman announced the NHL would end the four-team, six division format it has stubbornly stood by since the 1993-1994 season. Instead of the Eastern and Western conference, there will be four conferences with seven or eight teams in each conference, which could be described regionally — but not yet officially — as the West, Central, East and Atlantic:

Conference A (West): Anaheim, Calgary, Colorado, Edmonton, Los Angeles, Phoenix, San Jose, Vancouver

Conference B (Central): Chicago, Columbus, Dallas, Detroit, Minnesota, Nashville, St. Louis, Winnipeg

Conference C (East): Boston, Buffalo, Florida, Montreal, Ottawa, Tampa Bay, Toronto

Conference D (Atlantic): Carolina, New Jersey, NY Islanders, NY Rangers, Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, Washington

Under the new format, each team will play its conference

rivals five to six times a season (no different from this year). The major scheduling change involves the out-of-conference teams as every team in the NHL will meet in a home-and-home series each season.

Financially, this move makes sense as Sidney Crosby, Alexander Ovechkin and the reigning Stanley Cup champions will go to every city, sell seats and create buzz. Fans in Calgary will get to see Crosby every year, while east coast fans get to see the up-and-coming west coast teams — Canucks, Kings, Sharks — they would normally see every other year.

The new conferences will surely heighten the already thrilling regional rivalries we see each year in both the regular season and playoffs. Starting next year, the Capitals and Penguins will face off six times each year, while keeping its regional ties to the Flyers and Rangers.

But here is where things get interesting, as hockey fans everywhere lick their chops. The top four teams from each conference will qualify for the playoffs, regardless of their comparisons to teams in other conferences. Meanwhile, the first two rounds of the playoffs will occur within the division, as the four teams will duke it with their rivals for the conference championship before advancing to the Stanley Cup semifinals.

Not only do we get to see six regular season games between cutthroat rivals from October to April, but now the chances of seeing Boston and Montreal meet in another exhilarating series are dramatically enhanced.

Who knows what will happen when they get cozy with each other during the regular season. And that is probably the beauty of it all. Each team will know each other all too well, and will do anything to knock their counterparts from the playoffs. Regular season competition between conference rivals will also improve, because they know they could face that same team again in the playoffs if they don't knock them out during the season.

Regular season games will feel like playoff games, and playoff games like Game 7's.

And who gets to watch it all unfold? We do: the fans.

Contact Andrew Gastelum at agastell@nd.edu

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



Andrew Gastelum

Sports Writer

MLB

Marlins introduce SS Reyes

Associated Press

DALLAS — Jose Reyes felt the love from the Miami Marlins. And the money.

When the free-agent signing period began last month, the Marlins wanted to meet the All-Star shortstop right away — as in not a minute to spare.

So owner Jeffrey Loria, team president David Samson and their top baseball officials arranged a midnight rendezvous with Reyes and his agent at a table outside Bemelmans Bar at The Carlyle, the New York hotel famous for hosting President John F. Kennedy and Marilyn Monroe a half-century ago.

"12:01. Those guys are crazy," Reyes said Wednesday, when his \$106 million, six-year contract was finalized. "They showed me a lot of love."

Reyes joined a team that suddenly aspires to be among baseball's big spenders. When the winter meetings began Monday, the Marlins finalized a \$27 million, three-year contract with closer Heath Bell.

A few hours after the Marlins introduced Reyes, manager Ozzie Guillen said the team had reached a deal with free-agent pitcher Mark Buehrle. And the week has been dominated by Miami's pursuit of three-time NL MVP Albert Pujols.

Leaving the cash-strapped New York Mets, who signed him when he was 16, Reyes accepted an offer that pays him \$10 million in each of the next two seasons, \$16 million in 2014 and \$22 million in each of the final three years. Miami has a \$22 million option for 2018 with a \$4 million buy-out, which could raise the total to \$124 million.

Reeling from three straight losing seasons, \$70 million in losses and a lawsuit seeking to recover money from their owners for the victims of the Bernard Madoff Ponzi scheme, the Mets never made a formal proposal to retain their first NL batting champion.

"They didn't make a real offer, so that means they don't want me there," Reyes said. "I need to move on."

After trading Francisco Rodriguez and Carlos Beltran, All-Stars are disappearing as fast from the Citi Field home clubhouse as spectators are from the stands. Reyes sounded hurt



Jose Reyes addresses the media Tuesday. Reyes was introduced as the new shortstop for the Miami Marlins earlier in the day.

that the Mets made little effort to retain him.

"If you're asking whether I should have sent him a box of chocolates, perhaps I should have done that," general manager Sandy Alderson said. "But on the other hand, the box of chocolates would have cost \$106 million."

Wearing the new look of the Marlins — a cap with a blue, white, orange and yellow "M" with a swoosh that looks like it could be a logo for a fast food chain — Reyes' dreadlocks dangled onto the white jersey of the team, which was renamed from the Florida Marlins as it prepares to move into its \$515 million downtown ballpark next season.

It appears as Reyes' bank account swells, his hair will shorten.

"We have team rules. Period," Loria said. "Everybody adheres to them."

Samson said he arrived at 11:56 p.m. for the initial meeting.

"Jeffrey walked into the Hotel Carlyle with a long overcoat because it was about 12 degrees out, and under the overcoat was the Jose Reyes new Marlins jersey that had not been released yet," he said. "A few other people in the bar thought that this was some sort of strange, freaky show, because the owner of the team stood up and literally went like this, and underneath was Jose Reyes' jersey," Samson said, pulling apart his jacket by the lapels. "We then ordered some drinks and stayed around for

a couple of hours just talking and getting to know each other, and a few days after that Jose came down to Miami and saw the ballpark. So 12:01 to us was always a big deal because we wanted to show Jose from the beginning that we had an idea."

A four-time All-Star, the 28-year-old Reyes hit .337 and also topped the league with 16 triples, while also stealing 39 bases. But hamstring injuries have limited him to no more than 133 games in any of the last three years.

"It's a perfect situation in Miami," Reyes said. "We have a lot of talent there and the new stadium, the weather, close to Dominican, a lot of Spanish people there, so I think I'm going to like it and enjoy it as much as I can."

His arrival means All-Star shortstop Hanley Ramirez will have to move to third base. Loria said he spoke with him.

"It was an upbeat conversation. He's going to be a member of our team," the owner said.

For months, Reyes had been waiting for the Mets to make an offer. Alderson said Friday and early Saturday that he thought maybe some of the parameters he suggested could develop into an offer, but by Saturday night it was clear to him the Mets weren't willing to pay what was needed.

The realization of the switch dawned on Reyes on Sunday night, when agent Peter Greenberg accepted the Marlins' offer.

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.

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#QUINNING

Seinfeld Quotes:

"As of today I am a proud parent of a one-mile stretch of the Arthur Berkhardt Expressway." - Cosmo Kramer

"That stuff is unbelievable. I'd eat it out of a dumpster." - Cosmo Kramer

"I am never putting on another piece of clothing unless it's straight out of the dryer." - Cosmo Kramer

"I'm on First and First. How can the same street intersect with itself? I must be at the nexus of the universe!" - Cosmo Kramer

"I have no funny friends. I'm the funny one. El-Clown!" - George Costanza

"I am not here for rage. I'm here for revenge." - George Costanza

"You think I tell Jerry everything? It's not like he's my wife." - George Costanza

"You should've seen her face. It was the exact same look my father gave me when I told him I wanted to be a ventriloquist." - George Costanza

Why do you fall in love with every woman you see who shows you the least bit of attention?

Drink up, young man.

I would never tell them this, but they are the best at what they do, and they specialize in the ridiculous.

Give me a minute, I'm good. Give me an hour, I'm great. Give me six months, I'm unbeatable.

MLB

Lefty Buehrle signs with Marlins

Associated Press

DALLAS — The Miami Marlins plucked another free agent prize Wednesday, reaching a deal with four-time All-Star pitcher Mark Buehrle for \$58 million over four years.

Manager Ozzie Guillen praised Buehrle over and over at baseball's winter meetings. They were togeth-

er on the Chicago White Sox this season, and Guillen was eager to have the left-hander on his side next year.

"This kid is special," Guillen said. "He pitched in the big scenarios, big moments, very tough city to pitch. When people love you in Chicago, that means something."

Buehrle's deal is subject to a physical, which the sides

were arranging.

The Marlins have been the busiest team by far in the majors this week, spending \$191 million on three prime free agents.

They previously landed a pair of All-Stars: shortstop Jose Reyes and closer Heath Bell.

Plus, they've been pursuing slugger Albert Pujols and pitcher C.J. Wilson.

NCAA FOOTBALL

Boise State to join Big East for football



AP

Boise State President Bob Kustra announces the Broncos' move to the Big East in 2013 for football on Wednesday in Boise, Idaho.

Associated Press

NEW YORK — The new Big East will span four time zones, 3,000 miles from coast to coast and, eventually, have 12 teams.

The beleaguered and ever-changing conference hopes it all adds up to a billion dollar television contract and a spot among the best football leagues in the nation.

The Big East introduced Boise State, San Diego State, Houston, SMU and Central Florida as its newest members, effective 2013.

"The Big East conference is the first truly national college football conference," Commissioner John Marinatto said Wednesday during a teleconference with the university leaders from the five schools. Boise State President Bob Kustra said the announcement was "a significant step forward in the evolution of Boise State University and our football program."

The Big East, depleted by the planned departures of Syracuse, Pittsburgh and West Virginia, is trying to rebuild as a 12-team football conference with a western division.

It's been a slow process that began in September, and there is still work to be done.

Boise State and San Diego State, which currently play in the Mountain West Conference, will join the Big East only for football. Houston, SMU and UCF will be leaving Con-

ference USA and joining the Big East in all sports.

"We have ambitious plans, and this expansion is a great stride toward reaching them," Marinatto said.

The Big East has also been pursuing Air Force and Navy as football only members, but it seems Air Force is no longer a possibility. Lt. Gen. Mike Gould, the superintendent of the academy, said the school will stay in the Mountain West.

"We belong out West and for now that's where we're going to stay," he told the AP.

Boise State has reportedly worked out a deal to have its other sports teams compete in the Western Athletic Conference, where its football team dominated for 10 seasons. San Diego State is reportedly finalizing a deal to have its other teams compete in the Big West.

The Big East has only five football members committed to the conference beyond this season: Connecticut, Cincinnati, Louisville, Rutgers and USF. It also has seven schools that do not play major college football and Notre Dame, which competes in the Big East in everything but football.

Marinatto has pledged to hold Pittsburgh, Syracuse and West Virginia in the conference until 2014, in accordance with the Big East bylaws. West Virginia wants to join the Big 12 in 2012 and has sued the Big East to get an early release.

The Big East filed a countersuit to keep West Virginia in the conference. Pittsburgh and Syracuse intend to join the Atlantic Coast Conference as soon as possible, but are not challenging the Big East's bylaws.

Syracuse athletic director Daryl Gross said he expected the Big East might ask his school and Pitt to leave early now.

"They'd need us to move out of the way," said Gross, who was taking part in IMG's Intercollegiate Athletics Forum in Manhattan on Wednesday.

Marinatto said there have been no discussions with the new members about the possibility of letting the departing members out early. Potentially, that could lead the Big East to have the same eight teams it has now in 2012 and as many as 15 members in 2013.

"I think it's a simple matter of respecting our bylaws," Marinatto said of having lame duck members. "An early departure and a violation of those bylaws would damage the membership."

The Big East was born in 1979 as a northeast basketball conference and in 1991 added football with the inclusion of Miami, Virginia Tech and others.



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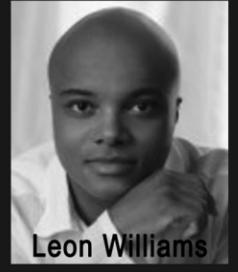
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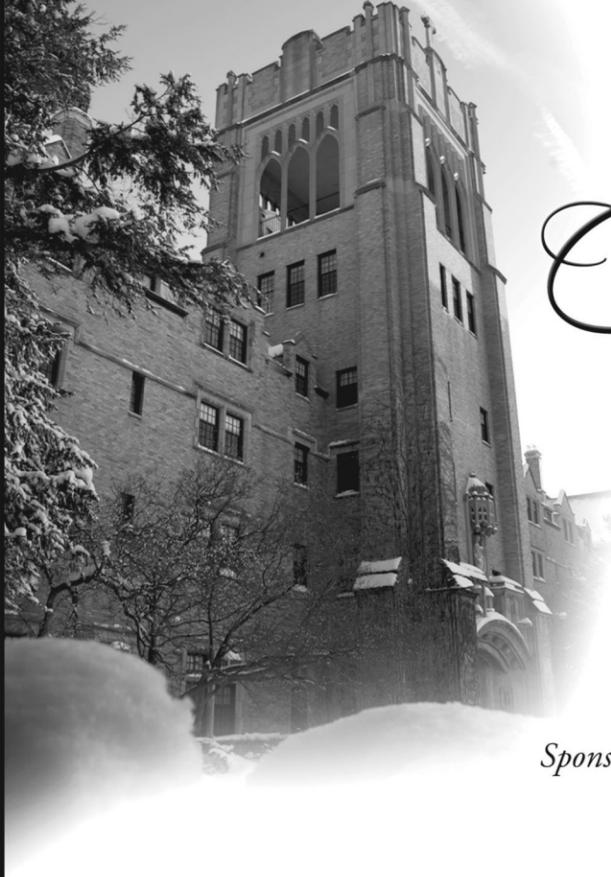


Sandy Hackett's Rat Pack Show
Broadway Musical
Fri-Sat, Jan. 20-21

Upcoming Events

<p>Saturday December 31 Palais Royale <i>Morris Tickets & Gift Certificates Make Great Holiday Gifts!</i></p>	<p>Sunday, January 22 State Ballet Theatre of Russia Presents "Swan Lake"</p> <p>Saturday, January 28 South Bend Symphony Masterworks Concert Gabriel Schlafer, Violin</p> <p>Saturday, February 11 South Bend Symphony "Romance at the Symphony"</p>	<p>Sunday, January 22 State Ballet Theatre of Russia Presents "Swan Lake"</p> <p>Saturday, January 28 South Bend Symphony Masterworks Concert Gabriel Schlafer, Violin</p> <p>Saturday, February 11 South Bend Symphony "Romance at the Symphony"</p>
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Visit Morris Ticket Outlet at Hammes Bookstore & Cafe in Eddy Street Commons



Christmas

Craft Show

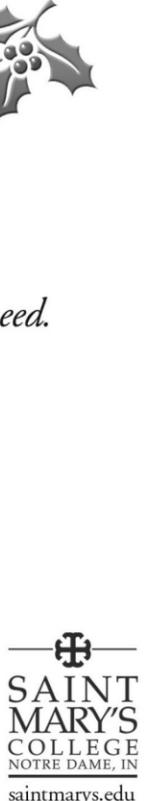
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NCAA FOOTBALL

Griffin III named Big 12 offensive P.O.Y.



AP
Baylor senior quarterback Robert Griffin III escapes a tackle in No. 12 Baylor's 48-24 win over Texas on Dec. 3 in Waco, Texas.

Associated Press

DALLAS — For Robert Griffin III, this might be the only precursor.

Baylor's exciting dual-threat quarterback was selected Wednesday as The Associated Press' Big 12 offensive player of the year.

A leading contender in what is expected to be a tight Heisman Trophy race, Griffin was unquestionably the Big 12's top offensive player, getting 14 1/2 of 17 votes from a panel of AP member reporters who regularly cover the league.

Oklahoma senior defensive end Frank Alexander was the Big 12's top defender with 14 votes.

The highlight producer known as "RG3" leads the nation in passing efficiency and has piled up 387 total yards per game. He has completed 267 of 369 passes (72 percent) for 3,998 yards with a Big 12-leading 36 touchdowns and only six interceptions, and run for 644 yards with nine more scores.

"He wins," Texas coach Mack Brown said. "He's a guy that when you go into a game, he's such a dynamic player that he changes the game."

Brown made that statement even before Griffin passed for 320 yards with two long touchdowns and ran for two more scores in a 48-24 victory over the Longhorns last weekend.

That nationally televised showcase for Griffin before the final Heisman ballots were cast gave the 15th-ranked Bears (9-3, 6-3 Big 12) their fifth straight victory. It is the longest winning streak in 20 years for Alamo Bowl-bound Baylor, whose only 10-win season came in 1980 during Mike Singletary's senior season.

Griffin is one of five finalists for the Heisman Trophy, which will be presented Saturday night in New York.

"He's done enough this season to win a Heisman," Baylor coach Art Briles said. "When you judge somebody, you judge them over the long run, not the short run. His long run has been very impressive this year."

The Big 12 coaches also selected Griffin as the league's top offensive player in their voting announced Wednesday. The coaches picked Alexander and Iowa State junior linebacker A.J. Klein to share honors for defensive player of the year.

Alexander led the Big 12 with 18 tackles for losses, and

his 8 1/2 sacks matched Texas A&M's Sean Porter for the most in the league.

"He's had a huge year. Everybody's recognized it and he just played at a different level than he did a year ago and he's just been disruptive," Sooners coach Bob Stoops said. "Whether it's pressure, sacks, tackles for a loss, forced fumbles, batted balls, he's just been very, very active so he's had a huge year for him and for us."

Texas senior linebacker Emmanuel Acho got the remaining three votes for top defensive player from the AP panel. He had 102 tackles and three sacks this season.

Kansas State coach Bill Snyder, named Tuesday the AP Big 12 coach of the year, got the same honor in the vote of his peers.

The AP All-Big 12 team will be released Thursday.

Baylor's current winning streak includes the Bears' first win ever over Oklahoma, when Griffin set a school record with 551 total yards and threw the game-winning TD with 8 seconds left.

Before beating Texas, the 15th-ranked Bears had already swept their four November games. That had won only four Big 12 games combined in that month the previous 15 seasons.

Kansas State's running quarterback Collin Klein got 1 1/2 votes for offensive player of the year, with one ballot's vote split between Griffin and Klein. Brandon Weeden, the quarterback for Big 12 champion and BCS-bound Oklahoma State, got the other vote.

Klein threw for 1,745 yards and 12 touchdowns, but also ran for league-best 26 touchdowns while ranking sixth in the Big 12 with 1,099 yards rushing. Weeden passed for 4,328 yards and 34 TDs.

A year after Oklahoma State's Justin Blackmon became the first receiver to become the Big 12 offensive player of the year, and break a streak of 11 consecutive years with quarterbacks getting the award, it was only quarterbacks getting votes again this year.

Texas freshman running back Malcolm Brown was selected as the offensive newcomer of the year. Brown finished eighth in the Big 12 with averaging 71 yards rushing in his 10 games. He was on pace to be a 1,000-yard rusher until being hampered by injury the second half of the season that forced him to miss two games.

MLB

Rockies trade Street to Padres

Associated Press

DALLAS — The Padres quickly got a new closer by acquiring Huston Street from the NL West rival Colorado Rockies.

San Diego announced the deal Wednesday at baseball's winter meetings, where two days earlier former Padres All-Star closer Heath Bell was introduced by the Miami Marlins.

The 28-year-old Street had 29 saves in 33 chances for Colorado in 2011. He was 1-4 with a 3.86 ERA in 62 games.

The right-hander has 178 saves in seven seasons with Colorado and the Oakland Athletics.

"We're happy how it ended up. He's a very proven closer. He's done it in this division, he's had three good years in Colorado, which is a very hard place to pitch," new Padres general manager Josh Byrnes said. "We're glad to have him."

Colorado gets a player to be named and cash in the deal.

Street is due \$7.5 million next season, \$500,000 of which the Rockies will pay. His contract also includes a \$9 million player option for 2013 that includes a \$500,000 club buyout that Colorado would pay as well.

Street was the second closer to get traded this week. The Chicago White Sox sent Sergio Santos to Toronto on Tuesday.

The Mets reached a deal Tuesday with Frank Francisco to be their likely closer.

Bell, who had more than 40 saves in each of the last three seasons in San Diego, got a \$27 million, three-year contract with the Marlins. He converted 43 of 48 save chances with a 2.44 ERA this year.

Though San Diego had offered salary arbitration to Bell, Byrnes stayed in contact with his former boss, Colorado GM Dan O'Dowd, about a possible deal.

"It's been going on at least a month," said Byrnes, who was hired to be O'Dowd's assistant in Colorado in 1999 and held that role for two years. "We were able to stay in touch about this idea and ultimately get it done."

Once Bell made his move this week, the Padres sped up their process to fill the void. There were other trade talks and discussions with free agents in Dallas before finalizing the deal with the Rockies.

"Even a week or two ago, we thought we might have to wait and see," Byrnes said. "Heath signed. These meetings prompt activity. We were in the middle of that. In the sense of timing, it was time to go."

Street was on the 15-day disabled list in August with a strained right triceps, but returned to pitch nine games with a 2.45 ERA the rest of the season. He had right shoulder inflammation in 2010.

ELIA'S
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MLB

Dodgers, Fox Sports meet in court

Associated Press

WILMINGTON, Del. — Attorneys for the Los Angeles Dodgers and Fox Sports squared off in court Wednesday over the team's plan to sell the media rights to games starting in 2014 as part of its plan to exit bankruptcy.

The Dodgers are asking a U.S. Bankruptcy Court judge in Delaware to approve a process for selling the television rights to future games as part of a settlement with Major League Baseball that also calls for the sale of the team and Dodger Stadium.

Fox, whose Prime Ticket subsidiary owns the current television contract with the Dodgers, is challenging the proposed sale process, saying it would violate Fox's rights under the existing contract. That contract gives Fox an exclusive 45-day period starting in October 2012 to negotiate a new TV deal and prohibits the Dodgers from talking to any other party until Nov. 30 of next year.

The Dodgers contend that a sale of the media rights is the best way to maximize value for the team's creditors and emerge from bankruptcy in a timely fashion.

"It's an obvious place to look for liquidity and long-term stability for the company," said Tim Coleman, a senior managing director for Blackstone Advisory Partners, which is acting as financial adviser to the Dodgers.

But Fox maintains that a media rights sale would result in the Dodgers breaching their existing contract with Fox, leaving the team subject to potential legal claims that could drive down

the price potential buyers would be willing to pay for the club.

Coleman disagreed, testifying that even if Fox loses out on bidding for the future television rights, it would not mean a damage claim against the Dodgers or the team's new owner. Coleman said Fox would have virtually the same rights under the proposed sale process as it has now, including an exclusive 45-day negotiating period, with the major difference being that the timetable for reaching a new TV deal would be bumped up by 10 1/2 months. The settlement with Major League Baseball calls for a sale of the team and its assets, including the future media rights, to be completed by April 30.

"The procedures are essentially the exact same procedures as Fox has today, other than dates," Coleman said.

The Dodgers also note that the proposed sale process includes a provision for Judge Kevin Gross to decide whether the media rights sale would result in any damage to Fox and to estimate any payments to which Fox might be entitled as a result. If such payments threatened to significantly reduce the benefits of the media rights sale, the Dodgers could call it off.

But attorneys for Fox Sports argued that the sale process would give a buyer of the Dodgers the ability to reject any new TV deal reached with Fox, something they said the current contract does not allow.

Fox attorney Greg Werkheiser warned that the dispute over the proposed media rights sale could prompt the network to withhold a January royalty payment to

the Dodgers that Werkheiser said was at least in the millions of dollars, if not tens of millions.

"We're not going to be able to sit around and wait to see if we're being injured in the process and cough up a large sum of money when we're not getting the benefit of the bargain," Werkheiser said.

The Dodgers sought bankruptcy protection in June after baseball Commissioner Bud Selig refused to approve a new TV deal with Fox that Dodgers owner Frank McCourt was counting on to keep the franchise solvent.

The Dodgers subsequently argued in bankruptcy court that auctioning off the television rights to future games was the best way to maximize the value of the bankruptcy estate for the benefit of all stakeholders.

The league disagreed, saying any plan to sell television rights without its approval was "dead on arrival" and would spell the end of the club. League attorneys argued that such a sale would breach the Dodgers' existing contract with Fox and provide grounds for termination of the franchise for failure to abide by MLB agreements.

But after battling with the Dodgers over control of the ballclub and seeking to force McCourt to sell the team, MLB reached a settlement last month with the help of a court-appointed mediator. Many of the settlement terms remain confidential, including procedures regarding the sale of the Dodgers, approval of prospective buyers, and how the league would apply MLB rules and regulations to the media rights sale

UEFA CHAMPIONS LEAGUE

Manchester United, City ousted from CL



Manchester United forward Wayne Rooney, center, walks off the field after a 2-1 loss to FC Basel at St. Jakob-Park on Wednesday.

Associated Press

LONDON — There will be no Champions League final for Manchester United this season.

Instead of trips to famous football arenas such as Camp Nou or the Santiago Bernabeu stadium, United will be heading to the likes of Metalist Kharkiv and Legia Warsaw after a shock 2-1 defeat at FC Basel dumped the three-time European champions out of the tournament.

United needed only to avoid defeat in Switzerland to secure a 15th knockout round appearance in 16 Champions League seasons and keep its quest for a remarkable fourth final in five seasons on track.

But Basel progressed instead, leaving United facing the unappetizing — and far less lucrative — prospect of playing the second half of the season in the Europa League.

"It's incredible," Basel goalkeeper Yann Sommer said. "A Swiss team, a little country, against Manchester United, one of the biggest teams in the world — it's crazy."

But at least United didn't have to deal with the humiliation of seeing its local rival go through. Manchester City joins United in the second-tier tournament despite beating Bayern Munich 2-0.

City, which leads the Premier League from United by five points, got the win it needed against the already qualified German club but Napoli's 2-0 win at Villarreal took the Italian side through instead.

Lyon won 7-1 at Dinamo Zagreb to complete a remarkable turnaround and qualify ahead of Ajax, which lost 3-0 to Real Madrid. CSKA Moscow won 2-1 at Inter Milan to take the final spot and complete the 16-team lineup for the next round.

After losing three of the last four finals, United was expected to join Chelsea and Arsenal in the next round after the London clubs progressed on Tuesday. But, with United defender Chris Smalling lying dazed from a collision with teammate Nemanja Vidic, Basel captain Marco Streller put his team ahead with a ninth-minute shot past goalkeeper David de Gea.

Things got worse for United in the 43rd when captain Vidic was carried off on a stretcher after twisting his right knee while making a challenge. And despite almost constant pressure from United, Basel doubled its lead through Alex Frei in the 84th.

United's Phil Jones got a late goal and his team twice hit the bar but to no avail.

Benfica topped Group C with 12 points after a 1-0 win over Otelul Galati. Basel finished with 11 and United was two points further back.

"Manchester are a good team, they had a lot of pressure and some-

times we were a bit lucky not to concede, and this is a crazy night," Sommer said. "We are through and Manchester are out — it's super."

City needed to beat Bayern to have any chance of prolonging its first season in the Champions League and did so with ease, scoring a goal in each half through David Silva and Yaya Toure.

But Gokhan Inler and Marek Hamsik scored second-half goals to secure Napoli's place as the Group A runner-up to four-time European champion Bayern.

Napoli labored to find a way through the Villarreal defense and the home side had a first-half goal ruled out for offside before Inler launched a 25-meter (yard) drive that left goalkeeper Diego Lopez motionless in the 65th. Hamsik added a second goal 11 minutes later with a close-range finish.

Napoli finished with 11 points to Bayern's 13. City had 10, while Villarreal became the first Spanish club to suffer six straight group stage defeats.

"We're very sorry for our supporters and I'm sorry for our players," City manager Roberto Mancini said. "I think we need to improve as a team because we got a tough group this year."

Lyon started its match at Dinamo Zagreb three points behind Ajax and needing a seven-goal swing to overturn the Dutch club's advantage on goal difference.

Real Madrid, which was already assured of top spot in Group D, helped out by completing this season's only perfect first-round record but Lyon did much of the hard work itself with a 7-1 rout of 10-man Dinamo.

Things looked bad for Lyon when Dinamo Zagreb overcame the 28th-minute sending off of Jerko Leko for a second yellow card. Mateo Kovacic putting the home side ahead five minutes before halftime.

But Bafetimbi Gomis equalized just before halftime and scored another three goals after the break, with Maxime Gonalons, Lisandro and Jimmy Briand adding the others as the home side fell apart.

Jose Callejon scored twice and Gonzalo Higuain once to give Madrid a 3-0 win at Ajax, which had two goals disallowed, leaving Lyon tied on points with the Dutch side but ahead on goal difference.

A late winner from Vasili Berезutsk earned CSKA Moscow a 2-1 victory at Inter and a place alongside the home team in the last 16, with Trabzonspor and Lille eliminated after a 0-0 draw in Group B.

Chelsea, Marseille and Zenit St. Petersburg clinched their places on Tuesday, joining already qualified Bayer Leverkusen, Arsenal, APOEL, AC Milan and defending champion Barcelona.

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MLB

Mets solidify shaky bullpen

Associated Press

DALLAS — Walking across the hotel lobby, New York Mets manager Terry Collins smiled. "We rebuilt our bullpen in one day," he said.

In a rapid-fire series of moves at the winter meetings that took 1½ days to put together and 1½ hours to finalize, the Mets agreed to trade center fielder Angel Pagan to San Francisco for outfielder Andres Torres and pitcher Ramon Ramirez, and reached agreements with free-agent relievers Frank Francisco and Jon Rauch.

Francisco gets a \$12 million, two-year contract while Rauch receives a one-year deal worth \$3.5 million. He can earn an additional \$500,000 in performance bonuses.

"Good, solid arms," Collins said. "We've got some depth now."

Collins was beaming as he headed upstairs to congratulate general manager Sandy Alderson.

"No disrespect to our guys," Collins said, "but we couldn't stop some teams. I think we can now."

Francisco, the likely closer, spent six seasons with the Texas Rangers before he was traded to Toronto last winter for catcher Mike Napoli. The 32-year-old right-hander had 17 saves in 21 chances for the Blue Jays, going 1-4 with a 3.55 ERA.



Former Mets outfielder Angel Pagan makes a running catch last season. Pagan was traded to San Francisco on Wednesday.

Rauch also was with the Blue Jays, and the 33-year-old right-hander was 5-4 with 11 saves in 16 chances and a 4.85 ERA. He has 85 big league saves in a career that includes time with the Chicago White Sox, Montreal-Washington, Arizona and Minnesota, including a career-high 21 for the Twins in 2010.

Ramirez, a 30-year-old right-hander, was 3-3 with a 2.62 ERA this year, holding right-handed hitters to a .203 average and lefties to a .240 mark. He came to the Giants at the trade deadline in 2010 — when general

manager Brian Sabean added a band of "castoffs and misfits" as they became known to help the franchise to its first World Series title since moving West in 1958.

"I know one thing: He gets lefties out. He's got the good sinker," Collins said. "We're going to be able to spread out all the workload."

New York's bullpen had a 4.33 ERA last season, 28th among the 30 major league teams, ahead of only Minnesota (4.47) and Houston (4.49).

NCAA MEN'S BASKETBALL

Dayton upsets 'Bama behind great shooting

Associated Press

DAYTON, Ohio — Chris Johnson scored 20 points and Dayton closed with a 17-9 run to knock off No. 16 Alabama 74-62 Wednesday, ruining Crimson Tide head coach Anthony Grant's homecoming.

Grant starred for the Flyers from 1983-87. Alabama fell behind 38-27 at halftime with star forward JaMychal Green on the bench most of the first half with two fouls. Green scored the Tide's first six points and finished with 12 on 6 of 9 shooting.

Dayton (6-3) led 56-40 with 11:52 to play when Alabama increased its defensive pressure to cut its deficit to 57-53 with 7:43 left.

Dayton point guard Kevin Dillard answered with consecutive 3-pointers and Dayton was on its way to its third win this season over a BCS conference team. The Atlantic-10 Flyers have now won nine of their last 10 games against BCS opponents.

The Flyers shot 60.9 percent from the floor and 10 of 19 from 3-point range to score the most points Alabama has allowed this season. Tide opponents were shooting just 33.3 percent from the field entering the game.

Josh Parker came off the Dayton bench to make 3 of 5 3-pointers and score 17 points. Dillard added 14 and Josh Benson 11.

Alabama, which lost its second straight game, was playing a true road game for the first time this season. The Tide finally found some momentum with a full-court, trapping defense. Green's steal at half court as he came up to trap Dayton's Devin Oliver led to a layup for Trevor Releford that cut Dayton's lead to 57-53 with 7:43 to play.

Alabama had extended its 2-3 zone, giving Dayton's offense problems. Then Dillard busted that zone with consecutive 3-pointers to push the lead to 63-53 with 6:09 left.

Dayton had lost its two previous games against Buffalo and Murray State. In the 84-55 home loss to Buffalo one week ago, Dayton shot 28.1 percent from the field in a sluggish effort. But the Flyers were hot from the start and shot 64 percent in the first half.

Dayton quickly jumped to a 46-29 lead in the second half on 3-pointers by Paul Williams and Johnson and a 15-footer by Benson. Dayton led 56-40 midway through the half when Alabama began to chip away on layups by Releford and Tony Mitchell to force a Dayton timeout with the Flyers up 56-45.

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McGraw

continued from page 20

of Notre Dame's post players. "Catching and finishing, dribble penetration, they were finding open seams, we really just worked well around the paint area today. You have to credit [graduate student forward] Devereaux [Peters], Ace [Achonwa], [freshman forward] Markisha [Wright] and [sophomore forward] Ariel [Braker], for being around the area and being ready for the ball. When their numbers were called, they stepped up."

As impressive as the Irish were on offense, they were equally dominant on defense. The Irish held Marquette to 29.5 percent shooting and forced 37 turnovers.

"I was really pleased with the defense," McGraw said. "I thought the press was good, the pressure in the half court was good, we turned them over and we didn't let up."

Junior forward Sarina Simmons led the Golden Eagles' futile offensive effort with 14 points, only three of which came in the second half.

Notre Dame also managed to outrebound the Golden Ea-

gles, an area in which they have struggled to succeed all season. Peters grabbed 10 rebounds for the Irish and added nine points, falling just short of a double-double.

Notre Dame's success across the board against Marquette represented a near perfect performance, McGraw said.

"It was as close as we've been all year," McGraw said. "I think it was, start to finish, a good effort all around."

I think that was definitely our best game thus far in the season."

Having captured a win in their first conference matchup of the season, the Irish will not play another Big East opponent until Jan. 4, when they travel to East Orange, N.J. to face

Seton Hall.

"It's really important to get off to a good start, because now we have to wait almost a month to get our next conference game in."

Before resuming Big East play, the Irish will enter a rough stretch of games during which they travel to No. 12 Purdue on Dec. 10 before hosting No. 10 Kentucky on Dec. 18.

Contact Joseph Monardo at jmonardo@nd.edu

"I was really pleased with the defense. I thought the press was good, the pressure in the half court was good, we turned them over and we didn't let up."

Muffet McGraw
Irish coach



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SMC BASKETBALL

SMC rallies in second half, but loses at Hope



COURTNEY ECKERLE/The Observer

Senior forward Jessica Centa rises for a shot during a Nov. 15 game against Wheaton. The Belles won 66-63.

Observer Staff Report

Saint Mary's hopes of winning consecutive conference games went out the window Wednesday, as the Belles fell to No. 15 Hope 74-56.

The Belles (3-6, 1-2 MIAA) trailed the entire game, after the Flying Dutch (7-1, 3-0) took an 11-point lead early on. Hope came out aggressive in the first half, as senior guard Maddie Burnett tallied nine points in the opening minutes for the Flying Dutch. Hope broke away with a 13-4 run with six minutes to play in the half and by halftime led 34-19.

Hope contributed to its lead by attacking the basket and shooting just under 45 percent for the game. Along with Burnett's 17 points, junior forward Courtney Kust added 15 points for the Flying Dutch.

The Belles offense showed a balanced attack as well, as senior forwards Jessica Centa

and Kelley Murphy scored 12 and 10 points, respectively.

Saint Mary's grabbed more rebounds and also had eight more shots than Hope. Despite the strong effort on the boards, mistakes plagued Saint Mary's. The Belles turned the ball over 17 times in the first half.

Saint Mary's cleaned up its play in the second half and came within five points of the Flying Dutch at 53-48. But with the game in reach for the Belles, the Flying Dutch went on a 15-2 run to set the score at 68-50 with only 2:47 left, all but securing the win for Hope.

This weekend, Saint Mary's will look to get back on track against No. 2 Chicago, led by senior guards Bryanne Halfhill and Meghan Herrick. The undefeated Maroons (7-0) will be the fourth ranked team the Belles have faced this year with tipoff set at 1 p.m. Saturday at the Angela Athletic Facility.



DILLON WEISNER/The Observer

Sophomore guard Eric Atkins drives the lane during a game against Detroit on Nov. 14. The Irish won 59-53.

Brey

continued from page 20

"We're doing fine. We're doing good. You know why we're doing good? I don't think the rest of the Big East has figured anything out either. Our league is not like last year. There's a lot of people searching — us included."

Big East play begins on Dec.

27 with a clash against No. 15 Pittsburgh. The Irish will play a total of six conference games before classes resume on Jan. 17, including home games against South Florida and No. 9 Connecticut, the defending national champions.

The Irish and Black Bears will tip-off at 7:30 p.m. at Purcell Pavilion.

Contact Andrew Owens at aowens2@nd.edu

Scoring

continued from page 20

biggest issue right now."

Resurrecting their high-powered offense will be especially difficult for the Irish this weekend, as they face one of the nation's staunchest defenses in Ferris State (10-5-1, 6-5-1). The Bulldogs' current goals against average of 1.88 is the third lowest in the NCAA, a byproduct of their conservative defensive scheme. Their defense sends both wingers down low to congest the corners and the area in front of the goal, which forces the opposition to settle for outside, low-percentage shots.

Notre Dame's leading scorer, sophomore center Anders Lee, will be one of the key pieces in the team's quest to rediscover the back of net.

"Ferris State is a good

team," Lee said. "They're always high up there on the defensive side of things in the nation, and it's a small little rink, so we've got to get shots on net. Right now we've got to just play our game and get back to the basics — and shoot the puck."

In addition to getting back to basics, Jackson said his players will need to slow the game down and let it come to them.

"We've talked a lot about our poise and making plays under pressure, whether it's on the breakout, or off a line rush, or on the powerplay. Right now we're not responding to pressure as quickly as we should be," he said. "It starts in practice, in my estimation. If things are challenging for you in practice, then the game comes easier."

Notre Dame's ability to overcome those obstacles this weekend may well become a turning point in its season. After Friday's game in Big Rapids, Mich. and Saturday's matchup at home, the Irish will have 21

days off until they host Boston University on New Year's Eve. With such a long period in between games, this weekend's series puts the pressure on the Irish and serves as the team's last chance for a while to turn the page, start another winning streak and gain six important points in the conference standings.

"This is a huge weekend for the CCHA, especially going into our little Christmas break," Lee said. "We just need to get back to our basics and work hard. We've had a good week of practice, and those games we've lost are done with. We've just got to move on."

The Irish will kick off the weekend at Ferris State's Ewigleben Ice Arena on Friday and will return to the Compton Family Ice Arena on Saturday. The puck will drop at 7:05 p.m. on both nights.

Contact Jack Hefferon at wheffero@nd.edu

Olympics

continued from page 20

year, with many of the student-athletes focused on final exams. The timing, coupled with the fact that it is an individual event, means the entire team will not be traveling.

Farr singled out some of the top fencers to travel to Kansas City, including junior sabreuse Lian Osier, senior foilists Radmila Sarkisova and Darsie Malynn, sophomore foilist Nickolas Kubik and sophomore sabreur Kevin Hasset.

For these participants, Farr envisions the weekend as more than just an opportunity to gain experience.

"A lot of the kids [participating] are our top fencers,

so I believe those kids are going to do well," Farr said. "They aren't just going there to compete and learn. They're going to [win] medals and get results. That's what the event is. For the kids that are going, that's really where their drive is."

Other registered fencers include freshman foilist Maddie Zeiss, junior foilist Grace Hartman, freshman epeeist Ashley Severson, junior epeeist James Kaul, sophomore epeeist Michael Rossi and senior foilist Reggie Bentley. Though it is still early in the season, the coaching staff is impressed with some individual performances so far, especially at last month's Garrett Open at Penn State, Farr said.

"When [Hasset] finished in the top eight at Penn State, we were happy with that," Farr said. "Also, we were pleased with [Zeiss], [senior foilist] Enzo Cas-

tellani and [Bentley] all placing in the top three at Penn State. We were really expecting a lot from those kids."

In Kansas City, the coaching staff will also be focused on the next wave of Irish fencers, as the North American Cup events include divisions for high school fencers.

"For us coaches, this is a big recruiting weekend," Farr said. "Since it's a national event, high school student-athletes will be there, giving us another opportunity for to get in contact with them, talk with them, talk with their parents and talk with their coaches."

The Irish take to the mats Friday and continue through Sunday at the Kansas City Convention Center.

Contact Mike Monaco at jmonaco@nd.edu

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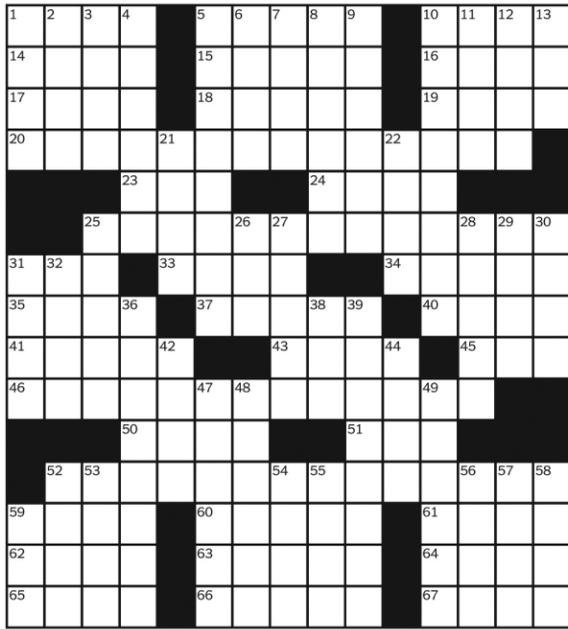
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 - 15 Thoroughly enjoy
 - 16 Monarch moniker, for short
 - 17 Part of an equine pedigree
 - 18 California's Santa ___ University
 - 19 Cemetery sights
 - 20 Nearly impossible target, literally
 - 23 Apt name for a crime boss
 - 24 Gist
 - 25 One who's enraptured, say, literally
 - 31 Ship navigation hazard
 - 33 Detected
 - 34 Equatorial land
 - 35 Promenade
 - 37 Weenie
 - 40 Caboose
 - 41 "It must be ___ news day"
 - 43 Some jeans
 - 45 Young ___
 - 46 Inadvertently destructive sort, literally
 - 50 Mardi follower
 - 51 Five pairs
 - 52 Something rapidly deteriorating goes to it, literally
 - 59 A good one is cracked
 - 60 "Bye-bye, mon ami"
 - 61 Something that's just for starters?
- Down**
- 1 Pirate's punishment
 - 2 Inter ___
 - 3 First part of an I.P. address?
 - 4 A chair usually has one
 - 5 Rose
 - 6 Treadless
 - 7 Like faces, typically
 - 8 Bread
 - 9 Cleared
 - 10 One without a title
 - 11 Chicago exchange, informally, with "the"
 - 12 Porcine protest
 - 13 Division units, for short
 - 21 Ages upon ages
 - 22 Job to do
 - 25 Stringed instruments
 - 26 Wood used in Voldemort's wand
 - 27 Sound at a funeral



Puzzle by Parker Lewis

- 28 Top
- 29 Film private
- 30 They may ring or have rings
- 31 Jobs plan, once
- 32 Convert, in a way
- 36 Certain beer bottle
- 38 Sushi staple
- 39 Intimates
- 42 ___ of the state
- 44 2000 World Series locale
- 47 Grand ___ Island
- 48 Depleted
- 49 Marked down
- 52 Neighbors of the Navajo
- 53 Similar
- 54 Having less fat
- 55 Uninviting look
- 56 Building toy brand
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ARIES (March 21-April 19): Look at every possibility. Try expanding what you have to offer and presenting a new version of something you have done in the past. A combination of the past and present will lead to a prosperous future. ★★★

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Put love on a pedestal and do everything in your power to make someone you care for feel good about life. Your thoughtfulness will bring emotions to the surface and prompt rewards that will lead to a bright future. ★★★

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Take care of financial matters. Act conservatively now so you will be able to deal with burdens at the end of the year when the bills need to be paid. Knowing your limitations will help keep things under control. Don't mess with authority. ★★★

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Show your strengths and lend a hand. Your contributions will help you prove a point and show your capabilities. The little extras you do will also help you prepare for upcoming events you plan to host at home. ★★★

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Too much of anything will work against you. Modesty, especially when dealing with people you work with, will be a must if you don't want to look foolish or frivolous. You can make a difference and initiate change by offering honest opinions. ★★

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Getting together with peers for a little festive cheer will do you good and can lead to an entertaining suggestion that intrigues you. Love is in the stars, along with self-improvement projects and taking action. ★★★★★

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Fix up your digs. You need to feel comfortable in your space if you intend to get things done. Love is on the rise, and matters pertaining to home and family should be taken care of before you relax or have fun. ★★★

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Give credit to others. You don't have to do everything on your own. Someone will be quite capable to take over, giving you a break and a chance to reflect on the year gone by. Your status is heading for a hike. ★★★

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Travel to a place you haven't seen in a while to revisit dreams, hopes and past wishes. An old friend or lover will be disgruntled but happy to see you. Offer a lifeline to someone who needs your help. ★★★

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): You know what you must do, but it won't be easy to get past the people in charge. Use finesse and knowledge to get your way. Arguing will work against you. A property deal, investment or purchase will turn out favorably. ★★★★★

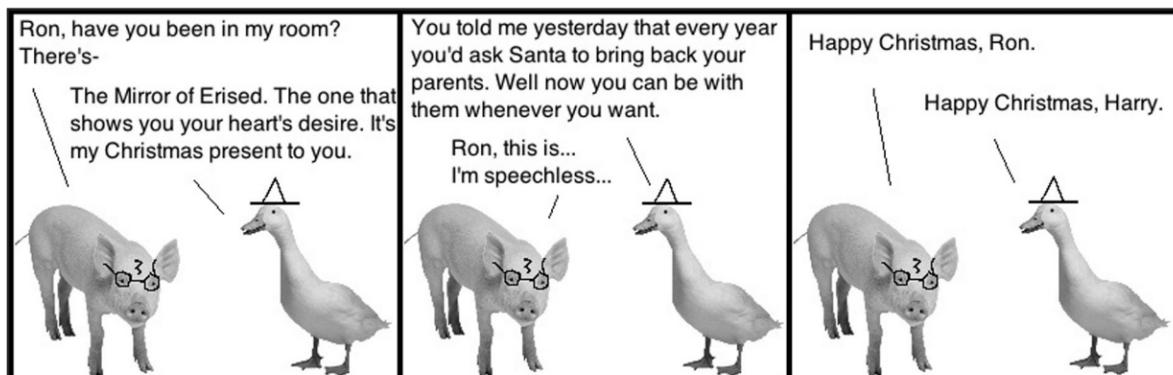
AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Keep things simple. Too much of anything will not go well. You don't have to spend a lot to make an impression. Do extra work if it will bring more work or income your way. Altering your vocational direction will have benefits. ★★

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Don't tip your hand. Actions are what will count at the end of the day. A partnership will be enhanced if you are progressive, productive and proficient. Show everyone how talented you are. ★★★★★

Birthday Baby: You are determined, stubborn and focused on accomplishment.

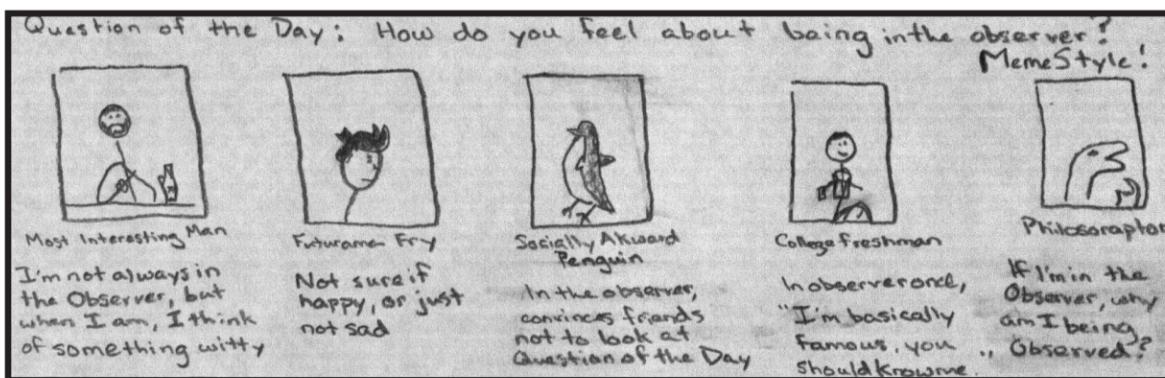
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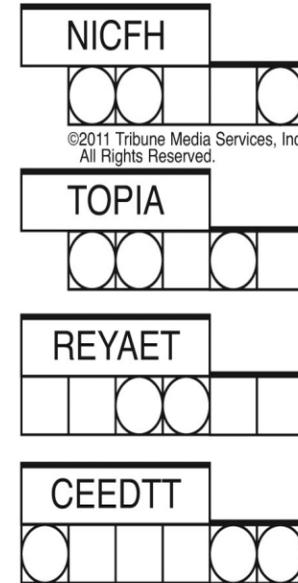
JON REPINE



JUMBLE

HENRY ARNOLD
MIKE ARGIRION

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



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

A: [Grid of circles]

(Answers tomorrow)
Yesterday's | Jumbles: GIZMO ABATE JINGLE STOCKY
Answer: Instant replay was such a hit when it was introduced in 1963 that people wanted to — SEE IT AGAIN



THE OBSERVER

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ND WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Big East blowout

By JOSEPH MONARDO
Sports Writer

In the 37th meeting between No. 3 Notre Dame and Marquette, the Irish turned in one of the best performances in the matchup's history Wednesday with a 95-42 win over Marquette at the Purcell Pavilion.

The Irish (8-1, 1-0) opened the Big East portion of their schedule with a big win over the Golden Eagles (5-5, 0-1 Big East), extending their current winning streak to five games and pushing their advantage in the all-time series to 31-6.

Notre Dame secured the 53-point margin of victory — tied for the largest margin of victory in series history — by shooting 57.8 percent from the floor, including 7-13 from behind the arc. The 95 points represent the team's third-highest point total of the season and was led by sophomore guard Kayla McBride's 19 points on 8-for-9 shooting.

Senior guard Brittney Mallory contributed 11 points on 3-3 shooting from three-point range.

McBride barely edged out junior guard Skylar Diggins in the points column, who collected 17 points, six steals and seven assists, including an electrifying behind-the-back pass to sophomore guard Natalie Achonwa midway through the first half. Diggins' assist total led the Irish effort, resulting in 29 assists — the most since a Nov. 15, 2009 vic-



JULIE HERDER/The Observer

Junior guard Skylar Diggins dribbles upcourt during Notre Dame's 95-42 win over Marquette at Purcell Pavilion. Diggins had 17 points and seven assists in the victory.

tory over Arkansas Pine-Bluff. "I thought [Diggins] played extremely well," Irish coach Muffet McGraw said. "She really did distribute the ball and she threw some great passes, kind of got the crowd excited

with a couple of them. She shot the ball well. I was really pleased."

Notre Dame was especially successful getting the ball inside, as the team poured in 52 of its 95 points from inside the

key.

"We worked a lot on the high-low, getting the ball in the paint, and they were just finishing," Diggins said

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FENCING

ND's elite travel to Missouri

By MIKE MONACO
Sports Writer

The defending champion fencing squad will be back in action Friday in the United States Fencing Association's North American Cup in Kansas City, Missouri.

The NCAA does not sponsor the three-day event, so the team's approach will be different, Irish assistant coach Ian Farr said.

"We have different goals because we clearly are not trying to win," Farr said. "We're trying to get our kids experience and to expand our horizons fencing-wise... This is harder than collegiate competition since the best fencers in the U.S. will be there."

The North American Cup events also provide fencers with the chance to improve their individual standing for the national team.

"Since [the event] is not affiliated at the collegiate level at all, it's an opportunity to make the Olympic team," Farr said.

Farr said the event comes at an inopportune time of the

see OLYMPICS/page 18

MEN'S BASKETBALL

Notre Dame looks to bounce back vs. Maine

By ANDREW OWENS
Associate Sports Editor

After dropping four of their last five games, the Irish return to Purcell Pavilion today desperate for a win against Maine.

The most recent Notre Dame loss came at the hands of Maryland on Sunday at the Verizon Center in Washington, D.C. Irish sophomore guard Jerian Grant led Notre Dame (5-4) with 20 points and three assists in the 78-71 loss, while sophomore guard Eric Atkins scored 16 points and added two assists. Grant and Atkins are two key components of Notre Dame's effort to replace fifth-year senior forward Tim Abromaitis, who is out for the season with a knee injury.

"I guess how we played [Sunday] maybe there's a little less post feeds in the low post, not that we're getting away from it altogether, and our [frontcourt is] ball-screening more for Eric and Jerian," Irish coach Mike Brey said. "With Eric and Jerian's ability to get in there and make decisions and get fouled, we've told [the frontcourt] to

come out and set screens for those guys."

Maine (3-2) enters the contest after splitting two consecutive overtime games. The Black Bears lost at Eastern Illinois on Nov. 30 before defeating Rhode Island on the road Dec. 4.

The Irish will host Dartmouth on Saturday and then have a week off before playing in-state opponent Indiana at Consecro Fieldhouse in Indianapolis on Dec. 10. Notre Dame will host Sacred Heart in its final non-conference game of the regular season on Dec. 19. The remaining non-conference slate will be important for the team's improvement before facing Big East opponents, Brey said.

"I guess it's overall finding our identity a little bit with who we are offensively, who we're going to be defensively, are we going to play more zone, I think that still has to be considered and looked at and I think the biggest thing is getting guys confident for the Big East season," he said.

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HOCKEY

Irish look to end three-game skid

By JACK HEFFERON
Sports Writer

Heading into their three-week long break for final exams and the holidays, the No. 7 Irish hope to give themselves an early Christmas present when they take on No. 10/9 Ferris St. in a home-and-home series this weekend.

Notre Dame (10-5-3, 7-2-3 CCHA) currently sits in the roughest stretch of its season so far, as it has followed up an 11-game unbeaten streak with three straight losses — including a 9-2 drubbing by Northeastern last Friday. But while digging out of a losing skid is always difficult, Irish coach Jeff Jackson said he believes his team is taking all the right steps to work its way back to playing winning hockey.

"The guys are [still loose]. They're always loose. As long as they're ready, that's all I can ask," Jackson said. "They've practiced really well so far this week. Obviously, after a couple of losses they kind of start listening again, and that's why losing is sometimes good for you."

One of the biggest factors in Notre Dame's current los-



JULIE HERDER/The Observer

Irish sophomore winger Michael Voran corrals the puck in a 3-2 victory over Western Michigan at the Compton Family Ice Arena on Nov. 15.

ing streak has been its inability to score goals. After averaging four goals per game during their 11-game winning streak, the Irish have scored just five total goals in the last three games.

Jackson said a lack of secondary scoring has kept his team off the scoreboard.

"[Goal scoring] has got to be a collective effort," Jackson said. "Scoring comes from a num-

ber of different sources on good teams. We were fairly consistent with that last year, when we were getting production from our fourth line and from our third line. That's not happening right now. Production has predominantly come from one or two lines, and we need to get more production from our other lines. And that's really the

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