

THE OBSERVER

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Program educates local teens

By JILLIAN BARWICK
News Writer

Saint Mary's senior Cat Cleary and junior Laura Corrigan teamed up this semester to work with high school students in South Bend through a program called "Use Your Voice." They created the program, directed toward teens, to raise awareness about sexual harassment in schools, as well as to improve prevention methods and responsiveness to the issue.

After receiving the 2011-2012 Campus Action Project grant from the American Association of University Women (AAUW), Cleary and Corrigan said they used the funds to implement "Use Your Voice" at four high schools in the South Bend Community School Corporation through 60-minute afterschool workshops.

"Our goals for this program and this semester are to start a conversation at each of these schools about sexual harassment because dialogue is a great step in the right direction," Cleary said. "We also know this is a complex issue

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The Shirt announces vendor



SUZANNA PRATT/The Observer

Coach Brian Kelly unveils The Shirt for the 2011 football season. This year, The Shirt will be crafted by Alta Gracia Apparel, a socially conscious brand of clothing.

By SAM STRYKER
News Editor

As students pack Notre Dame Stadium next fall, not only will they be cheering on the Irish in style, but they will also be doing so in a socially conscious fashion.

For the first time ever, The Shirt Project is announcing the identity of their vendor: Alta Gracia Apparel. The company will further the tradition of The Shirt Project, promoting both Notre Dame's tradition and socially conscious identity.

Junior Andrew Alea, president of The Shirt Project, said Alta Gracia Apparel went beyond The Shirt's usual tradition of supporting the Notre Dame community.

"The Alta Gracia brand is a socially conscious brand. The shirts are manufactured in a town in the Dominican Republic called Alta Gracia," he said. "They pay their workers a living wage, which is basically enough to feed, clothe and house their entire family."

Alea said proceeds from The Shirt would go back to students in various ways, ranging from covering medical costs to funding additional clubs and organizations. Revenues would also help pay for students who could not otherwise afford to participate in campus activities, according to the project's website.

"It's an added message to The Shirt," he said. "In ad-

dition to contributing back to the University, now we are contributing back to the world in a sense."

Alea said he thinks Notre Dame students will appreciate the social significance this year's Shirt will have.

"By supporting The Shirt, you're not only supporting Notre Dame student body clubs and activities, but supporting a living wage in the Dominican Republic, which is actually a cool message to have," he said.

Alea said The Shirt Project has felt the need to explore socially conscious vendor options over the past few years. This year, the offers were

see SHIRT/page 5

Republicans debate for candidacy

By NICOLE MICHELS
News Writer

Four nominees remain in the race to become the next Republican candidate in the 2012 presidential election.

Political Science Professor David Campbell said the great irony in this election has been the Republican Party's overhaul of structure in its delegate appropriation, which did not have the effect the GOP hoped to see.

"The Republicans changed their rules hoping to get a more long drawn-out contest," Campbell said. "But it hasn't mattered. Romney has won, and it's hard to see how any one will carry on beyond Florida since no one else has the money to compete there the way that Romney can."

He said the drawn-out contest weeded out Republican hopefuls who lacked the resources necessary to pursue a strong national campaign.

Professor of Political Science Christina Wolbrecht said since the campaign started long before the Iowa caucus, candidates had to employ large amounts of money in order to compete.

"The campaign has been going on

see PRIMARIES/page 5

Movement opens campus dialogue on GLBT issues

By MARISSA IATI
News Writer

Through the 4 to 5 Movement, the Progressive Student Alliance (PSA) is trying to bridge the gap between students that identify as gay, lesbian, bisexual or transgender (GLBT) and their straight allies, said senior Jackie Emmanuel, co-president of PSA.

"Sometimes a lot of straight students really aren't aware of the problems that GLBT students face, or if they are aware and want to be supportive, don't necessarily know where to go or how to be supportive in the correct way," Emmanuel said.

Senior Joanna Whitfield, vice president of PSA, said the Movement aims to inform students about GLBT civil rights and mobilize them to action.

"PSA [in general] tends to be about large gatherings, and 4 to 5 is more about awareness, education, more minor changes around campus," she said.

Although the 4 to 5 Movement officially began in August, Whitfield said it was sparked by a campus visit on March 28 from Brian Sims, the first openly gay college football captain in the NCAA.

Sims told attendees that four out of five college students or college-educated people between the ages of 18 and 30 in the United States support the general package of gay civil rights, but believe only one out of three support that package.

Emmanuel said this creates the illusion that supporters of GLBT rights are in the minority.

"The remaining fifth person is often very loud, and because there's almost this silent majority, they don't necessarily think their peers will agree with them if they stand up to the fifth person," she said.

Emmanuel said PSA hosted a panel presentation about how allies can support members of the

see PSA/page 5



Photo courtesy of Alex Coccia

The Progressive Student Alliance displayed signs outside of North Dining Hall first semester in support of the 4 to 5 Movement. The Movement aims to bridge the gap between GLBT students and their straight allies.

THE OBSERVER

www.ndsmcobserver.com

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

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

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CORRECTIONS

Due to a reporting error, in the Jan. 18 article of The Observer, the article "Campus Housing Changes Structure" incorrectly stated which party terminated the relationship between Campus Apartments and Campus Housing at South Bend. Campus Apartments initiated the termination. The Observer regrets this error.

QUESTION OF THE DAY: WHAT IS ONE THING YOU WISH YOU WERE BETTER AT?



Saad Khan

sophomore
Carroll

"Preaching a message of peace."



Dan McCormack

freshman
Fisher

"Chill-to-pull ratio."



Keith Kane

freshman
Fisher

"Stealing things."



Keith Podgorski

freshman
Duncan

"The Electric Slide."



Bethany Herila

junior
McGlenn

"Walking."



Shannon McNaught

senior
Howard

"Post-grad apps."

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



ALEX PARTAK/The Observer

Students watch the Laugh Out Loud Comedy Improv Show in the LaFortune Ballroom Thursday night. The late-night show kicked off a series of events hosted by the Student Activities Office this semester.

OFFBEAT

Paralyzed snowmobile rider completes trip to South Pole

SOUTH POLE – A Nevada man who was paralyzed in a 2010 snowmobiling accident has successfully reached the South Pole on a modified "sit-ski." Grant Korgan, 33, traveled 75 miles through sub-zero temperatures to reach his destination.

"Although my body has been broken, my spirit never will be. I am unbreakable," Korgan said in a statement posted on the crew's Web site.

Over the past year, Korgan trained with a team on practice missions in Alaska, Norway, Lake Tahoe and South America, according to the Associated

Press. The South Pole trip was arranged to help raise money for the High Fives Foundation, which helps injured winter athletes reintegrate back into their chosen sport. The group is also supporting the Reeve Irvine Research Center, which studies repair, regeneration and recovery from spinal cord injuries.

Passengers accidentally warned of impending crash

MIAMI, Florida – Passengers aboard a trans-Atlantic British Airways flight were startled when a recorded message was accidentally triggered at 3 a.m., telling them their flight was about to crash into the ocean.

"We were about three

hours into the flight when an automated message came over saying, "This is an emergency. We will shortly be making an emergency landing on water," flight passenger Duncan Farquharson told the Daily Mail.

The automated message, which began while the plane was at 35,000 feet in the air during its voyage from Miami to London, was triggered when one of the pilots accidentally bumped it in the cockpit's tight quarters.

British Airways issued an apology to customers after the incident for any "undue stress."

Information compiled from the Associated Press.

IN BRIEF

RecSports, Women's Basketball and the College of Science is hosting a 24 hour Pink Zone spin-a-thon to raise funds for Breast Cancer. The event starts at noon today in the Rockne Memorial Cycling Studio. You can sign up to participate via RecRegister. Funds raised will go towards funding mammograms, diagnostic services and ultrasounds.

Today from 3 to 5 p.m. at Innovation Park, Harry Kraemer will share highlights from his new book, "From Values to Action." Kraemer is the former CEO of Baxter International and is currently an executive partner at Madison Dearborn Partners in Chicago. The event is free and open to the public.

The Congregation of Holy Cross joyously celebrates the life of its founder, Blessed Basil Moreau, today at 5:15 p.m. with a mass in the Basilica of the Sacred Heart. During the mass, Notre Dame Director of Student Financial Strategies Joe Russo will receive the 2011 Spirit of Holy Cross Award.

The ND-SMC Irish Dance Team is hosting a fundraiser show called "Dance Like a Champion Today" tonight from 7 to 8:30 p.m. in Washington Hall. Proceeds from the event benefit the ND-SMC Irish Dance Team. Tickets cost \$5 for students. For more information, email irishdan@nd.edu

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

LOCAL WEATHER

TODAY



HIGH 22
LOW 17

TONIGHT



HIGH 21
LOW 18

SATURDAY



HIGH 23
LOW 14

SUNDAY



HIGH 37
LOW 34

MONDAY



HIGH 40
LOW 24

TUESDAY



HIGH 30
LOW 26

RecSports supports students' New Year's resolutions

By KRISTEN DURBIN
News Writer

New Year's resolutions can be notoriously difficult to maintain throughout the full 365 days of the year, especially when the goals involve personal fitness and exercise.

Although she lacked success in keeping up with past resolutions, junior Colleen Bailey said this year would be different.

"I make similar resolutions to be better about exercising and to improve my fitness every year, but I'm really serious about it this year," she said. "My most tangible goal right now is to run the Holy Half Marathon, so I'll do whatever it takes to get myself to that point."

Jennie Phillips, RecSports Assistant Director of Fitness and Fitness Facilities, said students like Bailey with New Year's fitness resolutions need look no further than RecSports

for assistance in meeting their health and exercise goals.

She said RecSports offers students free consultations with RecSports staff for fitness equipment orientation, body composition and blood pressure exams. She said students could also participate in fitness classes, cross-country skiing and various special events sponsored by RecSports throughout the year.

According to the RecSports annual facility usage report, 94 percent of the undergraduate student body used the Rolfs Aquatic Center (RAC), the Rolfs Sports Recreation Center (RSRC) or the Rockne Memorial at least once

during the 2010-2011 school year. Phillips said this percentage remained relatively consistent, although RSRC fitness room usage tended to peak in the winter months.

"February is typically our busiest month throughout the year," Phillips said. "I assume some of it is due to New Year's resolutions and spring break preparation, but it's also partly due to the winter weather."

She also recommended writing down goals and scheduling ahead for exercise sessions, in addition to participating in enjoyable activities.

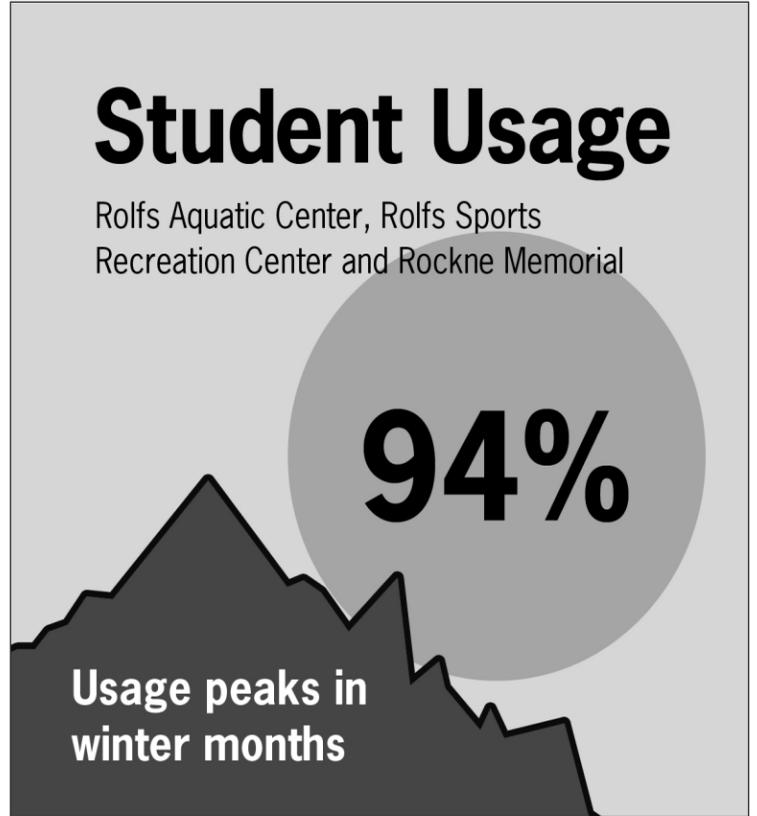
"Play basketball, ice skate, cross-country ski, take a fitness class — whatever works best for you. I would recommend cross-training, or doing different activities, over the course of a week or even a day," she said.

Junior Mike Butler said he and a group of friends were making a collective effort to be more active this year.

"I just want to make an effort to get some physical exercise on a more consistent basis, even if it's just going to play basketball with some friends," he said. "We want to have some fun while staying active."

"February is typically our busiest month throughout the year."

Jennie Phillips
RecSports assistant director



BRANDAN KEELAN | The Observer

Although the New Year inspires students to improve personal health at the beginning of each year, Phillips said fitness goals should be made year-round.

"If you need to make a resolution for the motivation, that's great, but hopefully you'll be motivated for other reasons as well, such as overall health, improved sleep, better immune

system functioning, stress management and improved concentration," she said.

Students with questions about fitness can contact Phillips at Phillips.42@nd.edu, while general RecSports information is available at recsports.nd.edu

Contact Kristen Durbin at kdurbin@nd.edu

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Rev. Larry Snyder, President, Catholic Charities USA

March 23 **Social Innovation**

Erin Krampetz, Senior Change Manager, Ashoka

March 30 **Innovations in City Government**

Pete Buttigieg, Mayor, City of South Bend

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Javon Bea, President & CEO, Mercy Health System

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Lectures are held from 10:40 a.m. to 12:10 p.m. in the Jordan Auditorium, Mendoza College of Business. Lectures are open to the public. Ten Years Hence is sponsored by the O'Brien-Smith Leadership Program.

"Ten Years Hence" is listed as BAUG-30210 and MBGR-60210, and is open to all Notre Dame and St. Mary's students and employees. There are no prerequisites to enroll. See your academic advisor or your department chair for additional detail. You are expected to attend all lectures and be prepared to engage speakers. No unexcused absences. This is a "Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory" course. This course requires no textbook purchases, examinations or term papers. Registration is available online.

Saint Mary's College hosts Peace Project Contest

Celebrate Martin Luther King, Jr. Peace Project Contest



BRANDON KEELEAN | The Observer

By ANNA BOARINI
News Writer

Saint Mary's College hosted the Peace Project Contest as the final installment in a series of events held this week in honor of Martin Luther King, Jr. Students submitted poems, artwork and speeches dedicated to the messages left by the Civil Rights leader.

Tamara Taylor, assistant director of Student Involvement and Multicultural Services, said the project was a way for students to use their creativity to celebrate the life of Dr. King and his dream for peace.

"Traditionally, 'Celebrate Martin Luther King' has only been one day and it has traditionally been the day we get back," she said. "It has gotten lost in the shuffle, so we decided, 'Why not do a week?'"

Jacquitta Martin, president of the Sisters of Nefertiti, said the sisters helped plan and execute the event.

"This contest started out as an oratorical contest. Then sisters asked why limit to just speech when we can open it up to allow students to be more creative," she said.

The 10 entries in the contest ranged from original poetry to a short film.

Junior Elizabeth Elsbach won the top prize, a spa package from J. Ross Salon and Spa, for her poem.

"I decided to write a poem because when you are expressing something as intangible as peace, you have to use something intangible like poetry to reach out and stir up the desire to reach a common goal," she said.

First year Asha Gilmore took second prize with her original film. The film originally began as a project for a social work class, she said.

"It was a project where we compared and contrasted three different writers: Sister Madalava, Mary Jane Adams and Martin Luther King, Jr.," she said. "I decided I wanted to use song and intensity in the animations to make the project more memorable."

Junior Lizzy Schroff finished in third place for her poem.

"I write a lot of poetry, and I like poetry because I like to express things through a new perspective and grab people's attention with vivid imagery, and [allow them] to see things in a new light," she said.

Vice President of Student Affairs Karen Johnson served on a panel of judges and helped choose the winner of the contest.

"I was amazed by how excellent everything was, and it should be shared with the community," she said.

Elaine Meyer-Lee, the director of the Center for Women's Intercultural Leadership, also served as a judge.

"I think it is really great that so many students came out and created something with so much substance," she said. "It was a meaningful event that is worthy of the legacy of Martin Luther King, Jr."

ed something with so much substance," she said. "It was a meaningful event that is worthy of the legacy of Martin Luther King, Jr."

Contact Anna Boarini at
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Voice

continued from page 1

that needs a coordinated community response, so our goal is for students, teachers, parents and other high school staff to gain knowledge from this."

Cleary said last summer the AAUW polled 1,965 students from grades 7 to 12 about their thoughts and experiences with sexual harassment. According to the survey, 30 percent witnessed online sexual harassment and 44 percent experienced sexual harass-

ment in person.

"We know this is a complex issue that needs a coordinated community response, so our goal is for students, teachers, parents and other high school staff to gain knowledge from this," Cleary said.

Cleary and Corrigan said they learned about the Campus Action Project grant through the National Student Advisory Council. They received the grant from AAUW based on a research report they released in November about harassment in schools, specifically grades 7 through 12.

Cleary was also appointed as a representative of wom-

en at universities across the United States last year, while Corrigan is one of 10 women on the National Student Advisory Council this year.

Cleary and Corrigan said they want "Use Your Voice" to raise awareness about sexual harassment and make schools a safer place.

"We really want teens to know that they have a safe place to report sexual harassment issues to," Corrigan said. "Sexual harassment in schools is a preventable issue that students should not have to simply live with."

Contact Jillian Barwick at
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"The European Union" (POLS 34420)

Primaries

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for a very long time before the Iowa caucus, and that's 10 months before the general election," she said. "That's very expensive."

Political Science Professor Darren Davis said it was surprising candidates dropped out early because there remained opportunities for other contestants to gain on Romney. Herman Cain, Jon Huntsman, Michelle Bachmann and Rick Perry have dropped out of the presidential race so far.

"It's not going to be a cakewalk for Romney by any stretch of the imagination. Romney may eventually receive the nomination, but we have only had two contests so far and it is still really early ... I think that the other candidates will have some appeal," Davis said.

The campaign season has been marked by great volatility, Campbell added.

"This period will be memorable for the huge amount of flux in the polls so early on, characterized by both spikes in the polls and sudden and almost precipitous declines," he said.

Davis said the issue positions of the candidates are all very similar, forcing voters to look to the personality, values and backgrounds of candidates.

"What they are all really interested in showing right now is the type of character who could defeat Obama," Davis said.

Campbell said Republican nominees have employed various strategies to separate themselves from the pack. Campbell said Romney's successful attainment of endorsements and early support from prominent political officials was key to his victo-

ries in the Iowa and New Hampshire primaries.

"Romney himself is everyone's second choice. Romney is like the girl that you marry not because he's the glamorous one. He's moderate, and therefore he's seen as a potential winner in the general election," Campbell said.

He added it remained to be seen whether other candidates would be able to garner more support without alienating loyal voters.

Political Science Professor Ricardo Ramirez said candidates sought such support through unique platforms on previously unmentioned issues. Michelle Bachmann's approach to immigration exemplified this strategy.

"It's been interesting because until the 2010 Gallup polls, immigration has not been an issue of paramount importance in U.S. elections," Ramirez said. "Bachmann made immigration a priority first, and then the rest followed."

Davis said candidate Rick Santorum's attitude toward key social issues was also noteworthy, as it pressured other candidates to establish their position on the matter.

"Increasingly you hear [candidate Newt] Gingrich talking about social issues and other things of that nature, but it was Santorum that first articulated his positions, even on the potentially divisive social issues," Davis said.

Campbell said while the stormiest part of the primaries was over, voters must wait to see which candidate advance to the general election.

"With more information out there about all of the candidates and more voters paying attention to the race, spikes are a lot less likely now," he said. "The stakes are higher."

Contact Nicole Michels at nmichels@nd.edu

Shirt

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competitive enough to move in such a direction, he said.

"Over the past three years, the vendors who have come to present on campus have each been more pushing the socially conscious brands or ideas," Alea said. "It's out there, and we felt the time was right to do something about it."

As this year's vendor inspires a message of social responsibility, Alea said the unveiling of The Shirt is being planned accordingly.

"We really want to incorporate the story and the added message to the marketing and unveiling of The Shirt," he

said.

Though the vendor and the unveiling may be different this year, Alea said the traditional purpose of The Shirt to inspire Notre Dame fans remains the same.

"The design will be based on tradition, it will not be a socially conscious design," he said. "[There is] the same design process, the same ink process. The Shirt still fits the same. Everything is the same."

Senior Paul Baranay, vice president of The Shirt Project, said the selection of a vendor with strong social concerns ties compelled the committee to make the choice public, a change from previous years.

"There has been a lot of discussion about the vendor, and the Committee got the sense

the student body was very interested in finding out who the vendor was," he said. "We think it was a good time to talk to the student body."

Baranay said that although the same vendor has not produced The Shirt every year, Knight's Apparel, the parent company of Alta Gracia Apparel, has worked with Notre Dame in the past. He said this was crucial in the partnership, citing a level of familiarity behind the choice of a socially conscious vendor.

"In some sense, we are getting the best of both worlds," he said.

The Shirt will be unveiled April 20.

Contact Sam Stryker at sstryker@nd.edu

PSA

continued from page 1

GLBT community in December. PSA also sponsored Notre Dame Coming Out Day in October, created informational signs and posters, co-sponsored events with the Core Council for Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Questioning Students and distributed promotional T-shirts and pins.

PSA plans to host another speaker or panel discussion this semester, Emmanuel said.

"We'll probably do at least one person-to-person event like cookouts [or a] picnic on the quad to invite people to open up discussion with each other," she said. "Often, having a place to have dialogue is a big step. We're

probably going to have another education session sometime this semester."

Emmanuel said these events are meant to ease the sensitivity of GLBT issues, especially in a conservative campus atmosphere that poses challenges for PSA.

"Occasionally, there are a couple of people that are outspoken against us, but overwhelmingly, the campus is supportive," she said.

Whitfield added that some people did not support their view, but ultimately their combative actions helped PSA in the end.

"When we put up the 'Did you know?' posters [to promote GLBT civil rights], there were a few locations where people tore them up, but the counter-response was so supportive," she

said.

PSA members also checked with teachers and campus administrators to ensure the language used in their programs was appropriate, accepting and not confrontational, Whitfield said.

Emmanuel believes the way students perceive GLBT issues has changed since she came to Notre Dame three-and-a-half years ago.

"Since PSA has been working on changes, we've definitely seen a difference in general in attitudes on campus," she said. "We had a couple of goals last year that were eventually realized, like Core Council getting a space on campus in [the LaFortune Student Center]."

Contact Marissa Iati at miati@nd.edu

Now accepting applications for 2012-2013 Editorial Board

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Email Douglas Farmer at
dfarmer1@nd.edu for more information



INSIDE COLUMN

Not being in Cairo

One year ago today, I stepped off a plane into 70 degree weather, took a bus ride during which I was stared at by creepy men (and by no means because I was looking good after almost 18 hours of traveling) and found myself immersed in a completely foreign city.



Sarah Mervosh

Managing Editor

That's abroad for you. And that was Cairo. But that was not, ultimately, my abroad experience.

If you read my blogs on The Observer's website last year, you know I was among the Notre Dame students evacuated from Egypt because of the Arab Spring. And you know we saw violence, felt the effects of tear gas and stood in line for about 10 hours at the airport before being evacuated.

But I'm not going to harp on that. That was January 2011 and this is January 2012. Let's focus on the present.

When most people hear about my experience, the first question they often ask is, "How was it being in Cairo?" But after having a year to reflect, what I really wish they would ask is, "How was it not being in Cairo?"

For me, the most difficult part of the entire experience was not actually being in Cairo during the revolution. Sure, there were scary moments. But for the most part, it was exciting to be able to witness a revolution. Plus, it's a great conversation topic during interviews.

The more difficult part was the adjustment.

I'm a planner. If you look at my assignment notebook, you'll find every activity of my day planned out, and then neatly crossed out when it is completed. But you can't plan for a revolution.

And so, when I was evacuated and continued my semester in London — a place where I ironically had never wanted to study abroad because I deemed it too "easy" — that was when the real challenges began.

Little things, like buying winter clothes or finding a new class schedule that would fulfill major requirements.

But also big things, like the loneliness of living over an hour from the Notre Dame flats in London, or the disappointment of seeing a dream fade away.

I wanted an abroad experience that would challenge me, and I got it — just not in the ways I expected. But for every bad day, there was a new opportunity I wouldn't have gotten if I had stayed in Cairo. Like meeting a lot of great people in the London program, or traveling to the Auschwitz concentration camp — which certainly was life-changing.

It sounds cliché, but a year later, I still believe the Rolling Stones were right. You can't always get what you want, but sometimes, you get what you need.

I just couldn't see what I needed at the time. But I'm thankful that life or some higher power could.

Contact Sarah Mervosh at smervosh@nd.edu

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

The title of Francis Fukuyama's "The End of History?" is misleading: his 1989 manifesto is far more argument than question, and far more assertion than argument. But the title is misleading for another reason also: the millennium that Fukuyama hails is one beyond history, not one beyond events. Life and love, war and peace, death and taxes would go on as normal. Our world would still be one of economic and military conflict. But ideological conflict — the kind that dominated the history of modernity — would have come to an end.

Dan Sportiello

Bound Variables

Fukuyama, echoing Hegel, argued that history is driven forward by the resolution of contradictions — by, that is, the tensions internal to various ideologies. Liberalism — that is, democratic capitalism — is the end of history because it has solved those contradictions. For instance, one obvious contradiction, or tension, that has plagued societies throughout history is that between rulers and ruled. While it is necessary in any sizable society to have some kind of centralized planning for various purposes, such as defense, this leads to a powerful ruling class and a powerless underclass — one full of resentment for the rulers. This contradiction is solved with the introduction of representative government. As it was in our society, the rulers and the ruled become, ultimately, one and the same. A society resolves the tension between rulers and ruled; in other words, its people rule themselves by electing representatives who reflect their ends. Now that we have achieved repre-

sentative democracy, Fukuyama asked, are there any contradictions, any tensions, left? If not, we have reached the "end" of history — its goal, politically speaking, where all can live in perfect freedom, equality and happiness. Of course, some have suggested that there are, in fact, serious tensions remaining within democratic capitalism — tensions that rival societies, founded upon rival principles, could solve.

The twentieth century yielded at least two such challengers: fascism and communism. Fascism held that democratic capitalism had a great tension because of, on the one hand, the need of people to have deeper meaning and a sense of communal belonging in their lives and, on the other hand, the refusal of democratic capitalism to settle, or even to debate, questions of deeper meaning. Communism held that democratic capitalism held a great tension because of the antagonism between workers, who provide all of the labor but get little of the reward, and the capitalists, who reap most of the reward but without whom the workers would not know how to direct their labor.

One might — perhaps should — find the existence of these tensions plausible. Whether one does or not, however, the solutions that fascists and communists suggested were as horrific as they were predictable. Fascism tried to collapse the distinction between the nation as state and the nation as community, thus creating the "Volk," or "people," while communism tried to collapse the distinction between workers and capitalists by having the workers own in common the factories and farms in which they worked, thus abolishing private property. As we witnessed, neither of these

systems proved workable: the Volk turned out to be an extraordinarily aggressive horror that could only have ended in the nuclear ash in which it did, whereas the abolition of private property led to an extraordinarily stagnant economy that could not compete with that of capitalism. Whether or not the genocide and repression that accompanied fascism and communism were essential to these developments is a question for another time.

In any case, democratic capitalism beat the only challengers around; there is nowhere else for history to go. Or so said Fukuyama in 1989.

Before you laugh too hard, though, let me tell you that after a century of utter madness, we were desperate to believe that it had all meant something. One of my earliest memories, when I was six years old, was seeing on television a statue of Lenin torn down. I remember because of how important it was to the adults; after fifty years on the brink of Armageddon, sanity had returned. All of our sacrifices had been worth it. The world was one. We had won. We could breathe again.

This was a juvenile fantasy, as is clear from hindsight. But it strikes me that, when we lost the hope that characterized the following decade — a hope difficult, now, even to explain — we lost something precious, something perhaps irreplaceable.

These are the musings of one whom history left behind. Make of them what you will.

Daniel John Sportiello is in his fourth year in the philosophy Ph.D. program. He can be reached at dsportie@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

"First say to yourself what you would be; and then do what you have to do."

Epictetus
Roman slave & Stoic philosopher

Submit a Letter to the Editor

Email obsviewpoint@gmail.com

What was the best part of Winter break?

Torturing siblings	0%	(0)
Eating your weight in candy canes	50%	(3)
Making New Year's Resolutions	17%	(1)
Breaking New Year's Resolutions	33%	(2)
total number of votes: 6		

Eight political stories to follow in 2012

For good and bad, American politics may be “the greatest show” on Earth, and 2012 will most likely be a year to help prove why. Below are eight political stories to follow in 2012.

8. Can the Democrats finally raise taxes on the rich?

Adam Newman

*Scientia
Potentia Est*

At the end of 2012, the Bush Tax Cuts will expire, effectively raising taxes on all Americans. Democrats and Republicans agree that the tax provisions for the bottom 98% of income earners should be extended, but disagree over the tax breaks for the top 2% of income earners. If Congress and the President cannot agree to an extension, then everyone’s taxes will go up Jan. 1, 2013.

7. Will Mitt Romney ever be loved?

It looks like Mitt Romney will be the Republican’s nominee for president, but can Republicans embrace him? Most of the Republican establishment supports Romney, but the real question is whether “the rank and file” will support him.

6. Who will be the Republican nominee for VP?

Perhaps an even more interesting question is who will be Romney’s running mate. This may be Romney’s only chance to win the rank and file’s support before the election, so he will

probably pick someone popular within the party, like Governor Chris Christie of New Jersey or Senator Marco Rubio of Florida. But given both lack experience (and in Christie’s case, saying he is not ready to be president), it is more likely Romney will pick Representative Paul Ryan of Wisconsin, the party’s biggest star and best debater.

5. Will John Boehner become unemployed?

Republican Speaker of the House John Boehner may say that he has control of the House Republicans, but few believe him. Boehner is an old school Republican politician who is sensible, a stark contrast to the Tea Party freshman, a group that makes up roughly one-third of his caucus. It has been reported that Boehner’s party has taken different positions than him on the debt ceiling and spending, amongst other issues. Boehner’s deputy, Eric Cantor, is both ambitious and better connected to the Tea Party. Don’t be surprised if Boehner is ousted in an insurrection and replaced with Cantor as the new session of Congress approaches in 2013.

4. Can the Republicans take the Senate?

The Democrats currently hold the Senate with 54 members, but that could evaporate in the 2012 election. The Democrats face two ugly trends in their pursuit to maintain the Senate: a) The bad economy will make the re-election

efforts of Democratic Senators more difficult, and b) The anti-incumbent mood that has swept the country will make the re-election of incumbent Senators much more difficult. Given that Democrats are defending 23 Senate seats out of 33 seats up for grabs in the 2012 election, it will be very difficult for Democrats to maintain control of the Senate.

3. How will the Supreme Court rule on health care reform?

The controversial individual mandate, which starting in 2014 mandates Americans to either acquire insurance or pay a fine, is a key part of the 2010 health care overhaul and whose constitutionality will be decided by the Supreme Court. The mandate is a key part of the law because the law also prevents insurance companies from denying insurance to people with a pre-existing condition. Without a mandate for people to acquire insurance, older and sicker people will sign up for the new insurance exchanges, while younger and healthier people will wait to buy insurance until they become sick, making implementation of the coverage provisions impossible.

2. What will be the unemployment rate in November 2012?

No number may be more relevant to the re-election prospects of President Obama than the percentage of Americans unemployed. As of January 2011, it was at 8.5 percent. With economic growth projected to be less than three

percent for the next three quarters, it is unlikely that unemployment will drop much. Even if unemployment drops to eight percent, it will be very difficult for Obama to win, as incumbents George H.W. Bush (7.4 percent), Jimmy Carter (7.5 percent), and Gerald Ford (7.8 percent) all lost their elections.

1. Can President Obama win re-election?

And of course, the most important political question of 2012: Can President Obama, someone once seen as a “transformational president”, win re-election? The election will certainly be a referendum on Obama’s handling of the economy. Given the state of the economy, Obama will have a very hard time making a case for another four-year term. Fortunately for Obama, Republicans may not be smart enough to realize this and could make the election a referendum on the size and role of government — areas that are much easier for Obama to campaign on. Either way, the man who pledged to fix Washington in 2008 will run against it in 2012, similar to how Harry Truman ran against a “Do Nothing Congress” in 1948.

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

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Mathieson must go #1

“Gone are the days of the traditional American families, if they were ever here to begin with. The visages of Rockwell’s wholesome Americanism that we find on postcards and calendars are nothing but illusory shadows.”

I’m glad that Mr. Mathieson, in his piece for the Observer’s “Scene” segment, finds Alexander Payne’s “The Descendants” a redeeming and forgiving film about familial love. Unfortunately, I wish his rich description of contemporary American family life, quoted above, held similar optimism. Instead, Mr. Mathieson condemns the coveted pillar of our society, the family, to an irredeemable state of destitution and unattainable happiness.

I must adamantly disagree with Mr. Mathieson’s assessment of family life. The family should be viewed as a God-given opportunity to forge the strongest of bonds with fellow human beings, not some hopeless abyss of parental shortcomings or shattered souls.

In addition, Mr. Mathieson projects Payne’s analysis of marriage as an inexact and illogical science, as if it were reality. However, this is far from the

truth. In fact, popular adult dating websites, such as eHarmony, Match.com, Ashley Madison, Zoosk and even Craigslist have made the process of marriage and family-building as concretely sound as the walls of Fort Knox, boasting user success rates as high as 40 percent.

If it’s true that the family in America is a lost cause, then how can it be that thousands of Americans are finding love and creating meaningful relationships?

In sum, I wish to call upon our community to set Mr. Mathieson’s damnation of the family aside, and to never give up on the wonderful relationships of compassion and trust we can share with the ones we love. Shame on you, Neil. You may think America’s families are dead, but they are alive and well in our hearts. Your resignation would be more than appropriate.

Peter Vogel
senior
St. Edward’s Hall
Jan. 19

Right to life issues

This is in reply to Mr. Slavin’s letter regarding his concerns that Notre Dame, and Catholics overall, place too much emphasis on abortion versus other social ills.

First, the letter cheapens the efforts that Notre Dame has made to encourage students to take action regarding such issues. The University’s Center for Social Concerns has sent multitudes of students all over the United States and overseas to learn about the hardships of poverty, immigration and the like. Hundreds of students have boxed in the Bengal and Baraka Bouts to benefit missions in Africa and South Asia. Perhaps most obviously, advertisements during the football games viewed by millions tout the University’s commitment to combatting such problems. Combined with the work that the Church does worldwide on a massive scale, these items, and more, are proof that the University and the Catholic Church are “raising their collective and institutional voice” to right the wrongs in our world.

Second, the letter reflects a problem to which Catholics on both sides of the political aisle fall victim: interpreting teachings through the political lens. One immediate example is when the

conservatives assailed the University for inviting President Obama to speak at the 2009 commencement, while the liberals praised the University for it. Until there is a party whose platform conforms to every Catholic social teaching, there will always be contradictions when a Catholic in good conscience supports a particular politician because he or she believes that politician will help to solve a particular social problem. Judging said Catholic poorly because his preferred politician does not completely align with the Church is unfair and, at least in this polarized climate, an exercise in futility.

However, Mr. Slavin is correct in that we should pray for all life and work towards a world that respects it. To those of you who are students at Notre Dame: take advantage of the many opportunities that the University provides to do so. To everyone: if you do believe in the political process, write your government officials regarding issues that affect human life. You might even convince some of them.

Michael Wodarcyk
Class of ’09
Evanston, Ill.
Jan. 19

Mathieson must go #2

Over the past two days, I have been deeply disturbed by some of the articles that I have read in the Scene section of the Observer. The articles that I am referring to are the movie reviews of “The Descendants” and “Mission Impossible: Ghost Protocol,” both written by one of your Scene writers named Neil Mathieson. These pedantic, pseudo-intellectual rants by Mr. Mathieson have made me sick to my stomach and ruined my day. RUINED MY DAY. I’m sorry to bring this up, but I know it’s something that is on everybody’s mind, and somebody had to say it.

I do not enjoy reading articles containing separate references to Norman Rockwell and Tolstoy in the first paragraph, as Mathieson’s review of “The Descendants” did. I do not want to read articles written by somebody who throws in SAT prep words like ‘ephemeral’ and ‘proliferation’ and includes phrases such as ‘poignant tenderness’ to make themselves look smart. I do not want to listen to Mathieson, who was born and raised in Canada, lecture on the lack of “the traditional American family” or “wholesome Americanism.” He should stick to Avril Lavigne and

Degrassi references and leave Americanism to Americans.

All I ask is that Neil Mathieson be fired immediately. I don’t think that is too much to ask. I mean, what business does a 21-year-old childless Canadian man have talking about the “transgressions of ineptitude and hypocrisy that every parent will undoubtedly take?” No business, that’s how much.

Neil, if you are by chance reading this, I apologize. I apologize for lying to you the other day when I said I liked your article. I did not like it. I shouldn’t have lied to someone I’ve lived with for four years. Anyway, I hope this doesn’t affect our friendship, and I will see you when I get home today.

Ryan Kim
senior
off-campus
Jan. 19

SUNDANCE OF SOUTHBEND



By MEGHAN THOMASSEN
Viewpoint Editor

Thank your lucky stars syllabus week coincides with the Notre Dame Student Film Festival, because this is a year you don't want to miss. From campus romance to post-apocalyptic drama to psychological thriller, the students of the introductory, intermediate and advanced film courses have outdone themselves — again. With the mileage some of these aspiring directors and producers have experienced as a result of their classwork, the festival has become the launching point for both influential and unique filmmakers.

"LOOK AWAY"

"Look Away," filmed by junior Luis Ibarra and senior Brendan Fitzpatrick, has all the ingredients of a good love story: obsession, insanity and a final plot twist. "You'll know it when you see it; it's the one with the ominous music," Ibarra said.

Last year's festival extended far beyond Notre Dame's campus; Erin Zacek and Dan Moore's documentary, "The Elect," was selected by the 2011 Los Angeles Film Festival, as well as the international Angelus Student Film Festival in Hollywood.

"Picking Up America," by Marie Wicht and Michael Burke, appeared in 10 national film festivals in 2011, won the Social Change Award at the Ivy Film Festival and was featured on both ABC and NBC national news broadcasts.

This is no glorified class project; the Notre Dame Student Film Festival is the Sundance of South Bend.

the final product something they couldn't have envisioned at the beginning of their assignment.

"We fiddled with the story a lot, and added some deep bass too," Ibarra said.

He describes the festival as a professional presentation.

"It's more Vimeo than You-



Photo courtesy of the Department of Film, Television and Theatre

When asked about the plot of the film, Ibarra said cryptically, "It's ... complicated."

In the film, a man becomes obsessed with a girl dressed in red. As she appears over and over again, his preoccupation escalates into a psychological breakdown.

"But there's a little twist at the end," Ibarra said. "It's definitely unexpected."

For Ibarra and Fitzpatrick, adding the final touches, including the soundtrack, made

tube. For the people in the FTT program, they'll see their skills will mature in this class. You can see progress happening. It's not just a collection of clips, but a movie," Ibarra said.

Ibarra is unsure about his career in film post-graduation, but is happy with his final product.

"This film could be a thought experiment, or you can just get lost in the sound and see what happens. It's what you want it to be," he said.

"KING OF THE PARK"

Intermediate film student Megan Kozak's film, "King of the Park," directed with partner Marty Flavin, follows the comedic tale of a juggler's fall from the spotlight.

"We wanted to show how he responds when he is tested with a change in his life, how he got over it," Kozak said.

The weeks spent developing the concept for "King of the Park" included hammering out the plot.

"We had some slow weeks where we were just turning in story boards or scripts, but when you actually have to shoot, you're talking about locations, costumes and actors, which took us about 15 to 20 hours a week," Kozak said.

They were challenged by their professors to think out-

side the Notre Dame bubble, literally and figuratively.

"We wanted to appeal to the college student in general," Kozak said. "We shot at Howard Park in South Bend every weekend for a month."

Kozak and Flavin, whose film is also silent, used physical comedy to communicate the emotional journey of the downtrodden juggler.

The pair wanted to make sure each part of the film worked together so the entire audience, including faculty and South Bend residents,



Photo courtesy of the Department of Film, Television and Theatre

"CASSETTE"

"Cassette," directed by intermediate film students Kurt Zhuang and Rob Schaus, examines the silent journey of one man in a post-apocalyptic world.

Zhuang and Schaus took a simple approach on their project to deliver a worthwhile payoff for their audience.

"We went through multiples stages and drafts," Zhuang said. "First it had zombies, then monsters, but it's a skeletal framework. It makes the character more believable, since one of our constrictions was to have no dialogue."

Zombies and monsters are familiar subject material for Zhuang.

The first R-rated film his father took him to? Dawn of the Dead.

"It scared me so badly, I slept at the foot of my mom's bed for a week. Something making you feel like that, something about adventure and the movies made

me want to get into it," Zhuang said.

Zhuang found his spot behind the camera when his friends started making skating films with a camcorder.

"I stopped skating altogether because all I wanted to do was film," Zhuang said.

Zhuang and Schaus worked about two weeks on their production.

"I've been rifling through it so long, I hate it, but I feel that way about a lot of my projects," Zhuang said. "[My classmates] say they like it, but I haven't heard any truly anonymous comments. I want to go to the festival and have someone who doesn't know me or know it's my film tell me what they think."

Zhuang doesn't plan on submitting "Cassette" to any festi-



Photo courtesy of the Department of Film, Television and Theatre

vals outside Notre Dame, but he does see a few opportunities on the horizon.

"Over break I shot a music video for BMajor, who mixed beats for artists like Drake, T Pain, Chris Brown. He said he could get me a job mixing for Pepsi or Coca Cola," Zhuang said.

However, Zhuang may go the old-fashioned route—Los Angeles.

"I might just want to move out to LA and make my own way. Ideally I'd be both director and producer, because if you handle the money, you also handle the vision," Zhuang said.

"SOLES"

Collin Erker, an intermediate film student, found inspiration for his film, "Soles," in the Warner Bros. 2011 film, "Crazy, Stupid Love."

In their film, he and his partner, Nicole Timmerman, tell a love story using only parts of the body. Their assignment, after all, was to produce a silent film.

"The first shot is just underneath a table with two pairs of feet, and you still get to know the personality of the characters," Erker said.

In their production, Erker and Timmerman decided to reveal the characters slowly, from the feet, to the hands, to the face, to create a sense of mystery.

It's no secret, however, how demanding making a film can be.

"There was one 10-hour day of

shooting where we didn't realize the gauge on our camera was broken, and we had to film three hours again," Erker said.

Despite the time needed to scout locations, audition actors and edit the material, Erker and Timmerman were able to shoot an emergency scene in South



Photo courtesy of the Department of Film, Television and Theatre

Bend Hospital, as well as a scene at LaSalle Grill.

"It's terrifying, but the film program makes you feel like you can do the things you want to do, especially with the externship program," Erker said.

After switching from engineering to psychology, Erker has finally settled on premed and film as his majors of choice. Instrumental to this was his participation in the summer externship program provided by the FTT program in Los Angeles last summer.

"The program is getting stronger; we have more diverse classes, better professors," Erker said.

One new class, "The Producer," is taught by an independent film producer. This application of education has previously been

lacking from the program, but Erker sees Notre Dame closing in on well-known programs at schools like NYU, USC and UCLA.

"I'm probably going to forgo medical school and move out to LA," Erker said.

Ted Mandell, professor of the introductory and documentary courses, said the festival is a launching pad for aspiring film students.

"We choose the most accomplished pieces from this past full year of classwork," Mandell said. "It's subjective, though, so we're putting additional films on iTunes U."

Mandell believes each year, the students try to "one-up" the festival films they saw the previous year.

"I'm proud of their work. They take their subjects seriously and make powerful films. This is not just for the Notre Dame campus, but global," Mandell said.

Mandell added he usually challenges his students to get the audience emotionally involved in the film.

"Whether it be on an intellectual level or just getting them to

laugh, you need to get the audience attached to your story in some way," Mandell said.

This year's festival also stands out by its level of professionalism and creativity.

"The audience will be shocked at the level of filmmaking," Mandell says. "These films are entertaining, accomplished, thought-provoking. They'll be shocked, stunned."

The 23rd Annual Notre Dame Student Film Festival will take place each night from Jan. 19th through the 21st at 6:30 p.m. and 9:30 p.m. in the DeBartholomeo Performing Arts Center's Browning Cinema.

Tickets for students are \$3, \$5 for faculty and \$6 for general admission.

Contact Meghan Thomassen at mthomass@nd.edu

‘DRAGON TATTOO’ LEAVES ITS MARK

By MAIJA GUSTIN
Scene Editor

David Fincher is a filmmaker of many hats: a masterful storyteller, a visionary director, a weaver of thrilling suspense and an utter perfectionist behind the camera and in the editing bay.

He wields all of these titles adeptly in every film he makes, but his most profound ability—and the one that separates him most from his peers—is his ability to construct and capture an atmosphere or an ambience or whatever you want to call that prevailing mood that enwraps Fincher movies.

“Seven” and “Zodiac” stand out for a tone that permeates every element of the film, while “Fight Club” reveals the gritty world of chaos so graciously given by Chuck Palahniuk’s book.

Even in “The Social Network,” where the only atmospheric elements dictated by the plot are Harvard society and Mark Zuckerberg’s computer-prowess, Fincher’s total tone made the film not just a story, but a world unto itself.

In the case of “The Girl With the Dragon Tattoo,” the source material is all about tone. Stieg Larsson’s Swedish blockbuster story isn’t popular around the world just because people can’t seem to get enough of Lisbeth Salander.

Rather, the very world that his novels capture and the way that they capture it sucks the reader in and provides a lens to understand the less-than-noble characters that populate the story.

Fincher’s challenge with “Dragon

Tattoo” was not just adapting the novel to the big screen, but capturing that very tone that makes the novel so suspenseful, so engrossing and so good.

Against powerful odds, Fincher did it again.

His “Girl with the Dragon Tattoo” is more than just a by-the-book adaptation. It is, in many ways, a poem entirely reflective of its source material, capturing the nuances of Larsson’s language in a way most films simply cannot.

What makes the movie exceptional is the way that this close attention to the fine details of ambience balances almost perfectly with an excellent script and marvelous performances from the actors.

Specifically, Rooney Mara as the hard-shelled, damaged and waifish Lisbeth Salander drives the movie every bit as effectively as the unconventional character does in the novels.

While the novel and the film center more narratively on Mikael Blomkvist (Daniel Craig) and his quest to solve a decades-old murder, Salander is the heart of the story. Mara owns the role, presenting a Salander deeply rooted in the novels’ character but also in her own.

There isn’t a bad actor in the house, but don’t be surprised when Mara steals the film even from James Bond himself.

“Dragon Tattoo” is a dark but compelling, deeply distressing story. It is rife with murder, violence, misogyny and some generally detestable characters—even the “heroes” sometimes fly far outside the boundaries of moral excellence.

Fincher’s film is every bit as dark as the novels, as the director handles and presents this sinister material in the same way Larsson does. By exposing and exaggerating very real flaws within civilized society with a critical tone, he points out just how messed up humanity can be.

There are scenes of sheer brutality that are difficult to watch, but they pull the viewer in with a sense of urgency to expose a problem.

It is common knowledge now that the film and the novel feature particularly vicious scenes of violence against Lisbeth, but Fincher presents them with a coldness that ignores all sensationalism, instead exploring the depths of human ugliness.

“Dragon Tattoo” is not for the faint of heart, but it is a must see for anyone ready to brave rough images for a shockingly effective translation of this worldwide blockbuster sensation. Mara seems to be the talk of the town when it comes to this film, and rightfully so. “The Girl With the Dragon Tattoo” is worth seeing for her performance alone.

For fans of the novel or Fincher’s American version, also check out



Photo courtesy of Yahoo! Movies

the Swedish adaptations of the trilogy, which are excellent even for the subtitle-phobic.

Contact Maija Gustin at
mgustin@nd.edu

“The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo”

Studio: MGM Studios
Starring: Rooney Mara, Daniel Craig
Director: David Fincher



Sushi Grill Nothing Special



Photo courtesy of urbanspoon.com

By ANKUR CHAWLA
Staff Writer

I should preface this review by saying I am not a sushi connoisseur. The few times I’ve eaten it before visiting Toyo I did enjoy it (and yes, that even includes the sushi from Reckers).

Basically, I’m not the authority on sushi like I am on cupcakes. That being said, the cuisine at Toyo Grill was not one of my favorites.

I went there with a fairly big group and we were eager to try their traditional wooden platter of raw fish, and the ambience certainly reflected that.

They had a “master chef” behind a display case of fish in the back of the restaurant slicing, dicing, and rolling up his concoctions. Behind him was a lovely display of wooden figures, mounted swords and bottles of wine.

The service, however, was fairly slow, as one waitress served the entire restaurant, coming by maybe once every hour to refill our glasses of water, take our orders, deliver our food and bring the check. Granted, when she was around, she was very nice and helpful, but for an entire restaurant they may want to hire a few extra hands.

Now on to the food. Our group got a mix of sushi and Japanese grill

items, none of which lived up to our expectations.

When starting out with appetizers, do not get fooled by the “Tofu with Secret Sauce.” We were so intrigued to find out what the secret sauce was that we were a bit blinded by the fact that they were very large cubes of unseasoned, soft tofu that is unpleasantly topped with a fairly standard red chili sauce.

While I did not personally try the edemame, I was assured that it was up to par.

Moving on to the main course, we ordered from a wide selection of standard and specialty rolls, alongside a few pieces of nigiri.

I’ll start by saying the specialty rolls were not very special. They were too large, mashed together with too many textures and flavors to be enjoyable, especially the Philadelphia roll, which happened to have salmon skin.

Not to be confused with salmon itself, the salmon skin tasted like burnt shards of toast that my more sushi-familiar friends assure is an acquired taste.

The standard rolls weren’t bad by any means, but they were very plain—simply rice wrapped around pieces of fairly bland fish.

The nigiri was an experience. For those of you who don’t know (I didn’t before I ordered), nigiri is a

slice of raw fish sitting on a small bed of rice.

This was the best dish we ordered and a pleasant surprise.

Those of us with Americanized palettes went for the teriyaki steak and chicken dishes, which were definitely passable, but nothing to write home (or in The Observer) about.

Regarding the price, Toyo Grill does not rank high on my list of recommended restaurants in the area. Sushi dishes ranged from \$6-12 per roll, and grill items were upwards of \$15.

Still, if you are looking for a nice place to feel like you’re at a traditional sushi bar, Toyo might be a good option.

Toyo Grill

620 W. Edison Rd.
Mishawaka, IN
(574) 254-9120



SPORTS AUTHORITY

Image is everything -
but should it be?

When did athletes become politicians?

With the 2012 presidential election fast approaching, it becomes more and more clear what is most important in being elected to public office — image.

But when did image become most important to athletes too?

Rafael Nadal recently criticized fellow tennis great Roger Federer because Federer refused to speak out against the current state of professional tennis, as Nadal and others did.

At first glance for most, Nadal is in the wrong. Why should Federer speak out? He has no desire to stir up controversy. Federer is a great tennis player, and instead of bringing attention upon himself, he chose to stay quiet.

But what about the other side? Why shouldn't Federer speak out? He

certainly is, to some degree, bothered by the same issues that Nadal and others are bothered. So why does he remain silent?

Federer cares more about his image than the problems at hand. This is harsh, true, and in no way should one blame Federer for this, nor should one believe Federer has calculated that his image needs protecting. This de facto protection of an athlete's image is unconscious and innate. But why is this the case?

When Tiger Woods won the Chevron World Challenge, his first tournament victory since 2009, he was asked if this win would serve as a springboard to next season and would be just the first step toward returning to his former greatness. His response was bland: He was just excited to have won. It felt good, and it was a great weekend of golf.

But what was Woods really thinking?

"You better believe this is a springboard! I'm back, baby, and anyone who isn't careful is

going to be trampled along the way. I am the greatest golfer of all time, and it's long past time that I retake my rightful place."

The response, which could be seen in his post-tournament fist pump, had to be toned down in the interview. But why?

Athletes are instructed, even coached, to give unemotional, uninspired responses because they need to protect their image. But why is this necessary? These athletes are not being elected; they don't need votes. And it isn't about success or stardom; LeBron James is just as popular (even in a bad way) as Aaron Rodgers or Peyton Manning. He is hated, yes, but that doesn't keep people from buying tickets to watch him play.

Why can we not live in a world in which athletes speak exactly what is on their minds? If a quarterback is frustrated by the play of his team's defense, why not say so? If a coach thinks his star rookie choked in the fourth quarter, must he hide this? And if a basketball player thinks his newly formed team will win not four, not five, not

six rings and makes this belief public, is that so wrong?

Athletes protect their image for many reasons, but we are the ones that force them to do it. Journalists, fans

and analysts bash athletes for speaking their mind — not for having those feelings (which is only natural), but for making them public. We criticize politicians for concerning themselves only with image, yet we have forced our athletes to do the same.

But really, in the end, I just want to thank my fellow writers, because without them none of this would be possible. I'll come back out tomorrow and work hard and keep trying to get better. Oh, and I just need to keep taking it one article at a time.

Contact Eric Prister at epriester@nd.edu

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



Eric Prister

Senior Sports
Writer

"If a quarterback is frustrated by the play of his team's defense, why not say so? If a coach thinks his star rookie choked in the fourth quarter, must he hide this?"

SMC SWIMMING

Belles prepare for dual meet

By JOE WIRTH
Sports Writer

With only two meets remaining before the all-important MIAA Championship in February, the Belles' window is dwindling to prove they can take home a conference championship.

Coming off a 146-102 defeat at the hands of Olivet College on Tuesday, the Belles hope to redeem themselves Friday in a dual meet with Alma College and Calvin College.

"My expectations are the same for all our meets," coach Mark Benishek said. "I want to see my swimmers swim their fastest and never give up on themselves or their teammates."

Despite the loss, there were a few bright spots in the Olivet meet. Senior Audrey Dal-

rymple was the Belles' star, winning the 100 breaststroke with a time of 1:12.31. She also won the 200 breaststroke with a time of 2:34.81 and the 200 individual medley in 2:18.28.

She continued the trend of strong swims by the St. Mary's upper-classmen.

"Their senior leadership has been great and they have backed it up with strong swims. We know we can always count on them for motivation."

Mark Benishek
Saint Mary's Swimming Coach

"Our senior leadership has been a strong point all year. Katie Donovan, Megan Price and Audrey Dalrymple have all had strong performances," Benishek said.

"Their senior leadership has been great and they have backed it up with strong swims. We know we can always count on them for motivation."

Calvin and Alma will provide a stiff test for the Belles

and prepare them for the upcoming MIAA Championship.

Alma will also try to get back to winning ways Friday, as they fell to Albion College last weekend.

While the Belles are led by their senior leadership, Calvin has a talented group of underclassmen making their own mark.

This group includes the triumvirate of freshman Erika Waugh, sophomore Samantha Musol and freshman Kathryn Wrobel. Waugh has the team's fastest times in the 50, 100 and 200 back, while Musol has the fastest time in the 50 free. Wrobel has the fastest time in the 375 free.

"Every conference dual meet is preparation for the conference championships," Benishek said. "Each meet gives the team a preview of their competition. This allows us to fine tune our training and put us in a place to succeed."

The competition will take place at the Venema Aquatic Center on the campus of Calvin College in Grand Rapids, Mich.

Contact Joe Wirth at jwirth@nd.edu

ND WOMEN'S TENNIS

Irish open spring season at home

By KATIE HEIT
Sports Writer

The highly touted Irish begin their competitive season this weekend with a match against Cincinnati on Saturday, followed by matches against Missouri and IPFW on Sunday.

The contests pose new challenges for a Notre Dame squad that has not faced any of this weekend's opposing squads in several years.

"This is our first time playing these teams," senior captain Kristy Frilling said. "We don't really know much about them. We're just going into it ready to play our matches and see what happens."

The Irish squad returned a week early from winter break and has spent the extra time preparing for upcoming competition. With the beginning of the season comes new goals, and Frilling is ready to make the best of her final semester at Notre Dame.

Frilling said she and fellow captain and senior Shannon Mathews plan to make this

season their best with the Irish.

"We want to win all of our matches, and we're really looking forward to our senior season," Frilling said. "We plan on putting our heart in every match and making sure it comes back with good results."

Mathews said that having three matches so early in the season serves as a great starting point for herself and her teammates.

"We're really excited for these three matches," she said. "We're fortunate to have three matches to test our doubles play and our singles and things we've been working on at practice."

Mathews added she is looking forward to see the goals the team set in the beginning of the season come to fruition.

"As a team right now, one of the main goals is to come out and give everything, every practice and every match," Mathews said. "We're hoping to bring home another Big East championship. We're taking it match by match. Our first goal is to take care of business against Cincinnati and then we'll take

it match by match, focusing on the little things and the little details that will give us the success later in the season."

As co-captains, Frilling and Mathews have been working to keep their team motivated.

"We've been trying to keep everyone very motivated and very excited about the matches," Frilling said. "It's super exciting for the freshmen and sophomores because this is only their first or second time around, and the first match is always the most exciting because you want to make the best of it."

Mathews added she would like to make up for the late loss in doubles competition with her partner Frilling at Nationals last fall.

"A little revenge after the fall season would definitely be sweet," Mathews said.

The Irish will take the court against Cincinnati on Saturday at 1 p.m. at home before taking on Missouri at 11 a.m. and IPFW at 5 p.m. in a pair of Sunday matches.

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CLASSIFIEDS

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Little surfer little one
Made my heart come all undone
Do you love me, do you surfer girl
Surfer girl my little surfer girl

I have watched you on the shore
Standing by the oceans roar
Do you love me do you surfer girl
Surfer girl surfer girl

We could ride the surf together
While our love would grow
In my woody I would take you
everywhere I go

So I say from me to you
I will make your dreams come true
Do you love me do you surfer girl
Surfer girl my little surfer girl

Well
Girl surfer girl my little surfer girl

Well
Girl surfer girl my little surfer girl

Well
Girl surfer girl my little surfer girl

Wouldn't it be nice if we were older
Then we wouldn't have to wait so long
And wouldn't it be nice to live together
In the kind of world where we belong

You know its gonna make it that much better
When we can say goodnight and stay together

Wouldn't it be nice if we could wake up

In the morning when the day is new
And after having spent the day together
Hold each other close the whole night through

Happy times together we've been spending
I wish that every kiss was neverending
Wouldn't it be nice

Maybe if we think and wish and hope and pray it might come true

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MEN'S TENNIS

Weekend matches to pose new challenges

By WALKER CAREY
Sports Writer

The Irish will be back in action this weekend as they host William & Mary on Friday night before traveling to Champaign, Ill., to take on Illinois on Sunday afternoon.

Notre Dame (2-0) enters the weekend fresh off strong victories over Illinois State and Toledo. Despite the team's convincing victories, Irish coach Bobby Bayliss believes the team needs to focus on the challenges this weekend presents.

"Getting those wins last weekend was great," Bayliss said, "But we need to move on and get ready for the challenges this weekend brings. Every match is different and every match presents new challenges, so we always need to be well prepared."

Bayliss added home-court advantage could benefit his team Friday night.

"There are two reasons why our team really likes to play at home," he said. "Firstly, our guys are comfortable playing at home. Secondly, they are familiar with the Eck Tennis Center. When we go on the road, we have to get acclimated to a new playing service. Every facility is different, so there are often many adjustments that need to be made."

The strong doubles play of William & Mary will present an opportunity for the Irish doubles teams to step up.

"William & Mary is a pretty good team, and its doubles teams are solid," Bayliss said. "The No. 1 doubles team took down a North Carolina team last weekend that beat us last year, so they definitely have some strong players. Our doubles teams have been improving, so it will be interesting to see how they handle the challenge William & Mary will

bring."

Hitting the road, the Irish will take on a very talented Illinois team in a regional rivalry match Sunday.

"Illinois is always a competitive team, and we cannot afford to take them lightly," Bayliss said. "Last season, it was a top-10 team, and this year it is a top-20 team. I think our squad is very comparable. It would be reasonable to predict that the score will be 4-3 going in either direction."

When discussing the Illini, Bayliss noted the importance of strong play from his singles players.

"Illinois has two really strong players in senior Dennis Nevolo, who is ranked No. 2 nationally, and senior Roy Kalkanovich, who is a very solid player," he said. "They are going to provide strong competition for [senior Casey] Watt and [sophomore Greg] Andrews, but I know our guys are up to the task."

Bayliss added there are three things he would like his team to achieve by the time the final point is played Sunday.

"Obviously, I would like to come away from the weekend with two victories," Bayliss said, "But, I would also like to see our doubles play continue to improve and for our singles lineup to shape up. Last weekend, we played ten guys who all contributed quite well, so, it should be interesting to see who steps up again. We have more guys who are capable of being starters than we do starting positions, and that is a good problem to have."

The Irish will host William & Mary Friday night at 6 p.m. at the Eck Tennis Center and will hit the court against the Illini on Sunday at 4 p.m.

Contact Walker Carey at wcarey@nd.edu

Spartans

continued from page 16

One area where the Irish hope to excel is in the diving portion of the meet. Freshmen Michael Kreft and Nick Nemetz, along with Junior Ryan Koter, are coming off a sweep of both diving events against Northwestern.

"One thing in our favor is diving," Welsh said. "[Michigan State] is thin in diving, with only one diver."

Spartan Jacob Jarzen comes into the meet with confidence after picking up three individual first-place finishes in the 100-yard backstroke, 200-yard backstroke and the 100-yard butterfly against Purdue. Irish swimmers sophomore Frank Dyer and junior Kevin Overholt look to repeat the success they had Saturday against Northwestern. Both swimmers finished with multiple first place performances.

With four weeks left until the Big East championships, the meet against Michigan State will be the last dual meet the Irish compete in this season before shifting focus towards the post-season.

"It's a time when we want to be pretty sharp and rested, but still

working hard to improve," Welsh said. "We want to see what our new normal is at this meet now that we're back from training and students are in their regular schedules again. It'll be a good chance for us to say, 'This is where we are, and this is what we need to do to be faster than ever.'"

With championship season in mind, Welsh hopes to see marked individual improvements.

"I need to see improvement this week," Welsh said. "We're all about getting better. Guys care about how much they improve. In swimming and in life, it's important for people to commit themselves to improving and then follow through. We need guys to follow through this week."

According to Welsh, the team is excited about its recent performance and eager to see how it translates at the Big East championships.

"We've done well," Welsh said. "Were excited to see how all this is going to turn out, and we'll get a first good look at that on Saturday."

The Irish take on the Spartans on Saturday at 2 p.m. in the Rolfs Aquatic Center.

Contact Jonathan Warren at jwarren3@nd.edu

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TRACK AND FIELD

Irish prepare to host Invitational

By LAURA COLETTI
Sports Writer

Both Irish squads will participate in the daylong Notre Dame Invitational meet Saturday, hoping to use the Invitational as preparation for later meets this season.

For junior Jeremy Rae and the men's team, the Invitational is just another step en route to the team's goal of winning the Big East meet. While the Invitational is one of the smaller meets of the season, Rae said it is important for the team to perform well.

"Our team's long-term goal is to win the Big East meet," Rae said. "The meet this weekend is one of the smaller meets of the season, but it's important for us to get qualified for the bigger meets later in the year, and the Notre Dame Invitational is an opportunity to do so."

The Irish will look to their sprinters for strong scores. Freshman Chris Giesting recently garnered Big East Track & Field Athlete of the Week accolades for his performance in the Blue & Gold Invitational 400-meter dash earlier this season. His time of 47.40 was the fastest in the country as of Dec. 6.

"We've all been really excited about the way [Giesting] has been running," Rae said. "We now have the tools to have a really competitive 4x400 relay



GRANT TOBIN/The Observer

Junior Jeremy Rae leads the pack in Notre Dame's season-opening Blue and Gold Meet on Dec. 2.

team, which will help at the Big East meet."

Rae said the toughest competition Notre Dame will face this weekend comes from DePaul and Michigan State.

"DePaul has some great throwers and Michigan State will have some talented middle-distance and distance runners entered," he said. "There isn't really any pressure going into meets like this one. Seeing as the meets only get more competitive from here, this serves as a way to race ourselves into shape and prepare for the Big East meet and Nationals."

The women's team also expects to use this race as a warm-up for bigger meets later in the season. Senior captain Maddie Buttinger's goals for the

women's team are similar to Rae's.

"We definitely want to improve our standings from last year at the Big East meet," she said. "Our goal is to be a top-three team at the Big East Indoor and Outdoor Championships, possibly contending for the team title."

The Irish will count on recent success from Buttinger, freshman Kaila Barber and junior hurdler Nevada Sorenson to carry momentum into the Notre Dame Invitational this weekend.

The Invitational opens with the men's and women's long jump at 10 a.m.

Contact Laura Coletti at
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SMC BASKETBALL

Coming off loss, Belles ready to take on Alma

By BRENDAN BELL
Sports Writer

Saint Mary's will face a familiar foe Saturday as the second rotation of MIAA conference play begins against Alma. No. 4 Calvin defeated the Belles (7-10, 3-5 MIAA) 80-54 Wednesday night.

Despite the inability to take down the undefeated Knights, Saint Mary's coach Jennifer Henley praised her team's sound fundamental play throughout the contest.

"I think we played stretches of very good defense last night against Calvin," Henley said. "I thought our team did a pretty good job on the boards rebounding as well."

Now Saint Mary's will attempt to earn a bounce-back victory against Alma, who it defeated earlier in the season.

In the first meeting, the Belles beat the Scots (4-13, 2-6) 72-50 as senior forward Patsy Mahoney led the way with 19 points. Saint Mary's took a 30-22 lead at halftime and pulled away in the second half, going up by as many as 25 points. The Belles also out-rebounded the Scots 44-34 and convert-

ed 37 points off turnovers.

Still, Henley said the team is not overlooking a conference opponent.

"We have to be ready defensively for them and continue to attack on offense in order to win," she said.

Along with Gooding, Alma freshman Grace Wheeler has been key for the Scots, averaging 9.3 points per game and leading the team in scoring. The Scots will also have an advantage playing at home, where they have earned all their wins this season and have compiled a 4-3 mark.

The Belles, on the other hand, are 3-7 away from home. To avoid continuing road struggles, Henley said her team would need to be more effective on offense. Over the course of the season, Saint Mary's has shot 38.3 percent from the field, compared to its opponents' mark of 43 percent.

"We need to execute better with the ball and create more second-shot opportunities," Henley said.

Saint Mary's will look to improve offensively and earn its fifth conference win Saturday at 7 p.m. at Alma.

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ND WOMEN'S SWIMMING AND DIVING

Spartans head to Notre Dame after consecutive losses

By MATTHEW UNGER
Sports Writer

Having fallen short in three straight meets dating back to November, the Irish welcome an opportunity to reverse that trend Saturday when they host a struggling Michigan State squad. The Spartans last won a meet against St. Bonaventure in November and recently lost to Ball State and Indiana.

The Michigan State swimmers are familiar foes for the Irish, as the two schools competed in the Ohio State Invitational in early December. The Irish (3-5) and Spartans (placed fourth and fifth respectively) in the five-team event.

Junior Jenny Rusch is one of the Spartans' top swimmers, as she has excelled in the 50-yard and 100-yard freestyle events, winning the 100-yard event in the Purdue meet and the 50-yard freestyle against Ball State. Junior swimmer Alexandra Pierce has also been a consistent performer for Michigan State in the individual medley and butterfly events.

However, no Michigan State swimmer has earned the accolades of Irish freshman Emma Reaney. She earned her third Big East Swimmer of the Week award of the season with three first-place finishes in last Saturday's double-dual meet against Michigan and Northwestern. Reaney will attempt to follow up the award with a strong performance on Saturday.

One matchup of particular interest will be the 1-meter and 3-meter diving events between Irish junior Jenny Chiang and Spartan senior Sarah Clay.

Chiang recently took first in the 1-meter event during Notre

Dame's double-dual meet against Michigan and Northwestern and placed second in the 3-meter event. Meanwhile, Clay swept the diving events in the Spartans' meet against Purdue and earned the Big Ten Diver of the Week award in November.

This will be the final home dual meet of the season for the Irish at Rolfs Aquatic Center.

Following its meet with the Spartans, Notre Dame will host the two-day Shamrock Invitational from Jan. 27 through Jan. 28.

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ASHLEY DACY/The Observer

Junior diver Kimmie Lisiak and freshman diver Jordan Russell talk during the Dennis Stark Relays at the Rolfs Aquatic Center on Oct. 14. The Irish will host Michigan State on Saturday.

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Burn

continued from page 16

of putting it would be we need to be overly patient. We can't take quick shots. That burn mentality has permeated through [the team]. It's been a good teaching tool to understand patience

against teams that want to run."

In its last two losses, Notre Dame has experienced some offensive struggles and has failed to reach the 60-point mark in both contests.

Sophomore guard Eric Atkins and graduate student forward Scott Martin were the only Irish players to reach double-digit point totals against Rutgers,

posting 15 and 11 points, respectively. The Orange, meanwhile, have yet to score fewer than 70 points in a Big East matchup this season.

The Irish and Orange will tip-off Saturday at 6 p.m. at the Purcell Pavilion.

Contact Andrew Owens at aowens2@nd.edu

McGraw

continued from page 16

-ter every game, and you have to come into practice ready to work hard the next day, and that is what this team has been so good at. They've got their eye on the present, and we are trying to stay focused on the present."

Meanwhile, the Wildcats (12-6, 2-3) are coming to South Bend fresh off winning the 2011-2012 Philadelphia Big Five Championship with a convincing 52-30 win over Pennsylvania. The victory marked the team's 13th Big Five title under head coach Harry Perretta. Averaging 59.5 points this season and allowing just 52.1, Villanova features a slow-paced half-court game that graduate student guard Brittany Mallory said the team has been preparing for in practice.

"In practice we get frustrated [by Villanova's style of play], and that's the best place to get it out because when it comes game time, we need to be perfect and we need to execute," Mallory said. "It's going to be a

little frustrating. They shoot a lot of threes and they make a lot of passes in one 30-second offense, so we are going to have to move past the frustration and keep playing."

McGraw echoed Mallory's sentiments on the uniqueness of the Wildcats' style.

"We don't ever want to play Villanova," she said. "It's a difficult game to prepare for; it doesn't really help you to prepare for anybody else; it's a completely different scout. It's like an anomaly in the middle of the season. It will be difficult to switch gears, and if they are able to slow us down, we've got to play a half-court game."

In addition to dealing with Villanova's pace, McGraw emphasized a few other key points the Irish will look to improve upon.

"We have plenty of things to work on," McGraw said. "We are looking at doing some different things with our press. Defensively we can get better, rebounding-wise, guarding the ball screen. I think there are a lot of things that we can improve on, and we just need to keep working to get better."

Those things will be es-

pecially important for Notre Dame when it takes on No. 7 Tennessee on Monday at home. The 15-4 Vols, led by coach Pat Summitt, have averaged 78.4 points so far this season and feature a pair of elite scorers in versatile senior guard-forward Shekinna Stricklen and graduate student forward Glory Johnson.

But according to McGraw, the Irish will not be looking past the Wildcats.

"I don't think it will be difficult," she said. "It is a Big East game, and I think when the Big East teams come in, we have always got to be ready."

Mallory said the keys to being ready for Saturday will be communication and defending Villanova's half-court game.

"Coming to play Villanova, it's going to be about communication and our defense more importantly, so we are not really looking past them," she said. "We know it's going to be a tough game, it always is."

The Irish tip off against the Wildcats at the Purcell Pavilion on Saturday at 1 p.m.

Contact Kelsey Manning at kmanning3@nd.edu

Bednarski

continued from page 16

weaker than usual because of the Olympic games, but we are confident that [the underclassmen] can step in in their absence."

The absence has opened up an opportunity for the younger generation of fencers to step up and prove their mettle. The veterans have been guiding the younger fencers in practice and in competition to ensure that the Irish are not only strong at the top, but across the roster.

"What we have noticed already in practice and in the bouts is a great cooperation between team members, especially younger and older," Bednarski said. "Upperclassmen, seniors, were helping the younger fencers during the practice and in the competition in Colorado Springs [on Jan. 7]."

The men opened their season at the Western Duals on Jan. 7 on the campus of the Air Force Academy with a sweep. The Irish beat Cal Tech, UC San Diego, Swarthmore, Air Force, Stanford and Florida, including two 27-0 decisions.

Although the fencers have only been back on campus

for a few days, their preparation began months ago during the fall season.

"We had training yesterday and two days ago," Bednarski said, "but kids were competing for four months during the fall."

Bednarski said he is confident the Irish are prepared after a strong preseason practice schedule.

"The fall was very hard. We worked very hard," he said. "There was a lot of training.

Everyone was working very hard. I think that we are very well prepared. Physically, we should be very well prepared. Mentally, I believe as well."

Because of the team's

youth this weekend, victory is not as certain as it has been in past meets. Nevertheless, Bednarski is hopeful his team's cohesion and ability, even without four returning all-Americans, will lead Notre Dame to victory.

"For us, results are unknown," Bednarski said. "We don't have huge expectations, but we expect from them very ambitious positions. They will continue to try to improve during bouts and qualify for the national finals."

The St. John's Duals run all day Saturday and the NYU Invitational runs all day Sunday. Both the men's and women's teams will compete.

Contact Matthew Robison at mrobison@nd.edu

"For us, results are unknown. We don't have huge expectations, but we expect from them very ambitious positions."

Janusz Bednarski
Irish coach



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For those unable to attend the March, there will also be on-campus observances on Monday, January 23rd, including a Rosary in the Grotto at 1p.m. and a prayer for the sanctity of life hosted by the Alumni Association in the Log Chapel at 4p.m.

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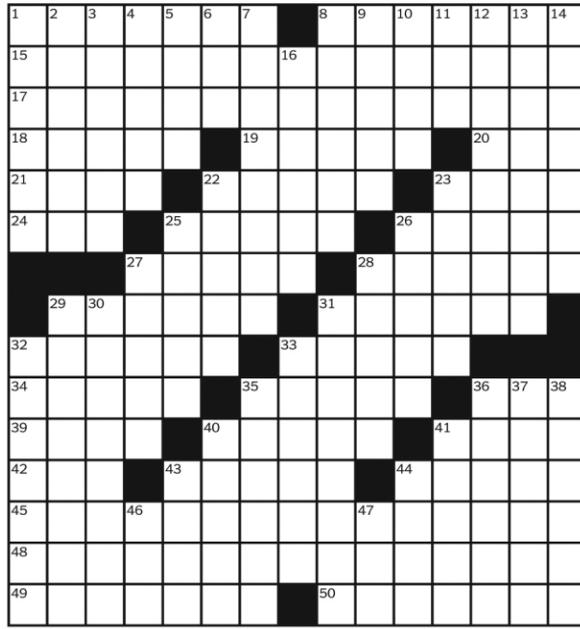
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 - 8 Alchemist's goal
 - 15 Early Appalachian crossers
 - 17 Like friendly acquaintances
 - 18 Google Maps offering
 - 19 Prepare for gardening, maybe
 - 20 Last article in the Constitution
 - 21 Striking things about rec rooms
 - 22 Creature on the New York coat of arms
 - 23 They're grounded when they're misbehaving
 - 24 Columbia _____, Minn.
 - 25 Betrays one's blue state
 - 26 Four front?
 - 27 Rat race remedy, briefly
 - 28 Pariahs and others
 - 29 Where to make tracks
 - 31 Drops for dirty clothes
 - 32 "Les Mots" autobiographer, 1964
 - 33 Pieces for grilling
 - 34 Govt. instrument
 - 35 Place for grilling
 - 36 Option for a seal
 - 39 Taiwan Strait city
 - 40 Ascribe to
 - 41 Questionnaire info
 - 42 Big mouth
 - 43 Tons
 - 44 One may clash with another
- Down**
- 1 Leave a black mark on, say
 - 2 Carried the day
 - 3 Goes after
 - 4 Treas. and the like
 - 5 "Ah"
 - 6 Point on a line: Abbr.
 - 7 Japanese island
 - 8 Triptych trio
 - 9 "Well, golly"
 - 10 Fed.
 - 11 Questionnaire info
 - 12 "Route 66" car
 - 13 Rancors
 - 14 Goal facilitators
 - 16 Teriyaki ingredient
 - 22 Orange half of a TV duo
 - 23 Cuts up
 - 25 Training unit
 - 26 "The Alchemist" novelist Coelho
 - 27 Rough to drive on, perhaps
 - 28 Staples, e.g.
 - 45 Effect used to measure astronomical distances
 - 48 It does a body good
 - 49 Galore
 - 50 What brains do well on



Puzzle by Doug Peterson and Barry C. Silk

- 29 Daly City's county
- 30 Smokeys, so to speak
- 31 Volcano south of Quito
- 32 Occupies
- 33 Cocktail party bite
- 35 Kansas-Nebraska Act signer
- 36 Simpson who was Time's first Woman of the Year
- 37 Start of some salutes
- 38 Loser at Salamis and Plataea
- 40 Rocker Liz
- 41 Sweet, in music
- 43 _____ Longa, ancient city founded by the son of Aeneas
- 44 Trolley
- 46 Cut back
- 47 Like some univ. courses

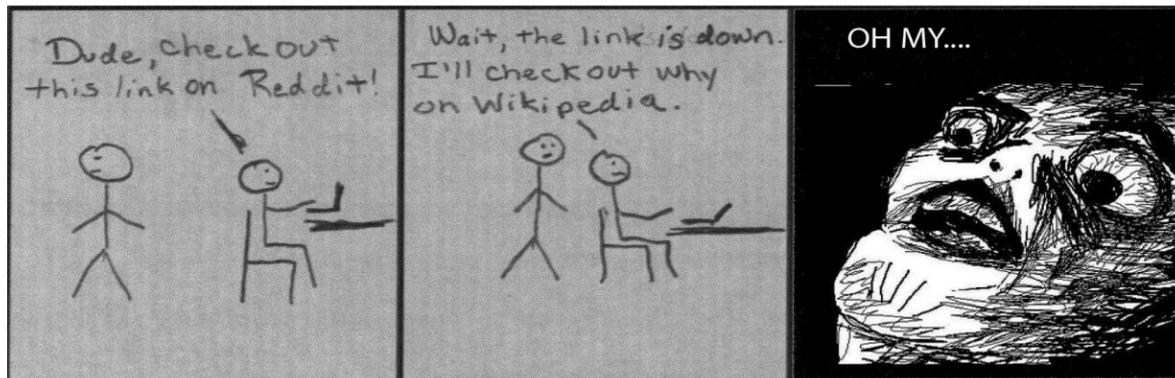
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ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE



THE CLAMMY HANDSHAKE

JOE MILLER and KELLY LYNCH



THE LONDON EXPRESS

ALEX GRISWOLD and LEE HAGGENJOS



JUMBLE

HENRY ARNOLD
MIKE ARGIRION

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

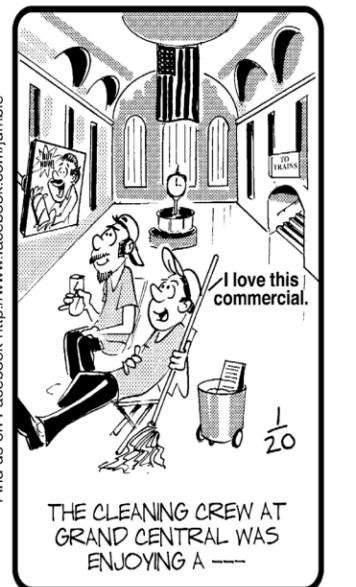
SRUBT

RCTUK

GOEVAY

FANYIM

A: _____



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

A: _____

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: JOINT TYING THORNY BICKER
Answer: His new position at the medieval-themed restaurant was this — HIS "KNIGHT" JOB

THE OBSERVER

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MEN'S BASKETBALL

No. 1 task

By ANDREW OWENS
Associate Sports Editor

After suffering consecutive conference losses, the Irish return to action at home Saturday against top-ranked Syracuse.

The Orange (20-0, 7-0 Big East) are off to their best start in school history, as they had never started a season with 20 consecutive wins before defeating Pittsburgh 71-63 on Monday.

Irish coach Mike Brey said he is excited about the team's opportunity to play No. 1 Syracuse, adding that the return of the student body from winter break is a big advantage for his squad.

"[Playing No. 1] is a great opportunity for us," he said. "It's another league game, but it's a special league game. I love the fact that our students are back. We have missed our sixth man in this building. We're 29-1 in our last 30 games in this building. We'd like to get our students and their energy back."

The one home loss during that stretch came in Notre Dame's last home game, a 67-53 defeat to Connecticut last Saturday.

Brey said it is important Notre Dame (11-8, 3-3) plays its style in order to compete against the vaunted and deep Orange roster.

"We're really going to have



KEVIN SONG/The Observer

Junior forward Jack Cooley slams in a basket during Notre Dame's 87-78 home victory over Maine on Dec. 8. Cooley is averaging 10.4 points and 8.3 rebounds per game.

to control tempo," he said. "We can't run up and down the floor with them. They have too many bodies to do that with. When we have won here the last couple of years, we've been good at con-

trolling tempo."

The coach went on to stress the importance of his team's adherence to the 'burn offense' he has installed to slow down the pace of play.

"We're always kind of burning. I would say we're semi-burning a lot of times with this team," Brey said. "A better way

see BURN/page 14

FENCING

Youth will lead way to NYC

By MATTHEW ROBISON
Sports Writer

Notre Dame continues its quest to defend its 2011 national championship this weekend at the St. John's Duals in the Big Apple. Despite its position as defending champions, Irish coach Janusz Bednarski thinks his team is an underdog in the New York City meets.

"We are not the favorite of this competition," Bednarski said. "But we will try to show all the country that we are Notre Dame, that we are fighting and we will be fine."

The Irish have not taken a step back in training, but they have lost several key members of the squad to the 2012 Olympic trials. Seniors Ewa Nelip, Courtney Hurley, Gerek Meinhardt and sophomore Ariel DeSmet will not be with the team in Queens.

"We know that a lot of teams are very strong," Bednarski said. "We are a bit

see BEDNARSKI/page 14

ND WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Unconventional offense to challenge the Irish

By KELSEY MANNING
Sports Writer

After the offensive explosion that was Notre Dame's 120-44 win over Pittsburgh Tuesday, the No. 2 Irish look to maintain their momentum as they face the challenges of Villanova's slower-paced game on Saturday.

"Villanova is a really difficult team to guard," Irish coach Muffet McGraw said. "They are going to hold the ball, they are going to try to keep the score in the 40s, 50s — as low as they possibly can. Of course, we want to score more, so it's go-

ing to be a battle of pace.

"I think they are going to slow it down, use a lot of the shot clock. They are going to shoot a ton of threes, 25 or 30 threes. We have got to be able to guard them because they have a great motion offense."

Though the Irish (18-1, 6-0 Big East) are coming off a blowout win that broke six school scoring records, McGraw said the victory has not made her squad lax.

"I think you have to be focused and have your eye on the goal, which is to get bet

see MCGRAW/page 14

MEN'S SWIMMING AND DIVING

ND to face Spartans in dual meet

By JONATHAN WARREN
Sports Writer

With the Big East tournament quickly approaching, the Irish look to capitalize on their momentum when they take on Michigan State in a dual meet Saturday. The Irish have won their last two contests, a dual meet against Northwestern and the Copa Coqui tournament in Puerto Rico.

The Spartans are coming off a 180.5-107.5 loss to Big Ten opponent Purdue, who defeated the Irish earlier in the season by a similar margin, 184-113.

"We're expecting a challenge," Irish coach Tim Welsh said. "They lost to Purdue as



ASHLEY DACY/The Observer

Freshman John Andrade, center, speaks with teammates during the Dennis Stark Relays on Oct. 14 at Rolf's Aquatic Center.

close as we did. We've improved since then, but we're expecting a close meet."

The Spartans edged out the Irish 155.5-144.5 around this time last year in East Lansing. Now, Michigan State comes to

South Bend looking to defeat the surging Irish again.

"Their front line is very fast," Welsh said. "Typically, they race very well against us."

see SPARTANS/page 11

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