

# THE OBSERVER

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## Ticket goes unchallenged in campus election

Rocheleau, Rose only candidates to submit completed petition; Senate votes to proceed with contest



- ☒ If no write-ins are approved, Brett Rocheleau and Katie Rose will run unopposed in Feb. 8 election
- ☒ First time in recorded history a student body election will feature one approved ticket
- ☒ Write-in candidates can be approved until Monday at midnight

ELISA DECASTRO | The Observer

By SAM STRYKER  
News Editor

For the first time in recorded history, Notre Dame will hold a student body president and vice president election featuring only one approved ticket.

Juniors Brett Rocheleau and Katie Rose filed the only completed official petition by the Jan. 27 deadline. If no write-ins are approved, they will run unopposed in the Feb. 8 election.

Tuesday evening, the Student Senate voted against a recommendation by the Judicial Council to suspend the election, as outlined by the

Constitution of the Undergraduate Student Body.

If the order had passed, Rocheleau and Rose would have assumed the positions of student body president and vice president, respectively, without being elected by the student body.

According to the recommendation, the request to suspend the elections was made to save "financial and human resources that would otherwise be expended in the conduction of an election." The recommendation was filed because Rocheleau and Rose were the only interested candidates to file a successful official petition.

Sophomore class president Nicholas Schilling, who served as Senate Chairman pro-tempore as Rocheleau was absent from the meeting, said the group decided it was in the best interest of the student body to go forward with the election.

"The general feel from the Senate was they didn't want to deprive the student body from the right to vote," he said. "Also, in case there were any write-in candidates they wanted to make sure there was an opportunity for those candidates to come forward."

Sophomore Cait Ogren,

see ELECTIONS/page 5

## Belles for Fitness get into shape

By CAITLIN HOUSLEY  
Saint Mary's Editor

The women of Saint Mary's gained 134 new BFFs on Monday — Belles for Fitness, that is.

The Belles for Fitness program, created in 2008, encourages participants to exercise 200 minutes per week over a five-week period.

Bridgette Van Schoyck Clark, fitness instructor and Belles for Fitness director, said the

see FITNESS/page 5

## Students network at Winter Career Fair

By LISA SLOMKA  
News Writer

Armed with crisp résumés, snappy suits and firm handshakes, hundreds of students descended on the Joyce Center Field House Wednesday to speak with recruiters from 130 companies at the Winter Career and Internship Fair.

Students from all colleges and majors were invited to explore summer job opportunities and career options spanning several industries, from accounting and marketing to engineering and health care.

Senior marketing major Emma Higgins said the fair provided opportunities for students to network with companies they are interested in working for.

"The fair is a great way to talk to people who have already had internships and to get your name out there," Higgins said. "Advertising doesn't hire until they have a need. Typically you won't know if you have a job until July. I want to go into advertising though, so I'm looking at those firms."

Like many other Career Fair attendees, senior marketing major Lindsey Downs said she took time to prepare for the fair prior to speaking with companies she was interested in.

"I researched the different companies that would be present and what jobs they offered," Downs said.

Senior marketing major

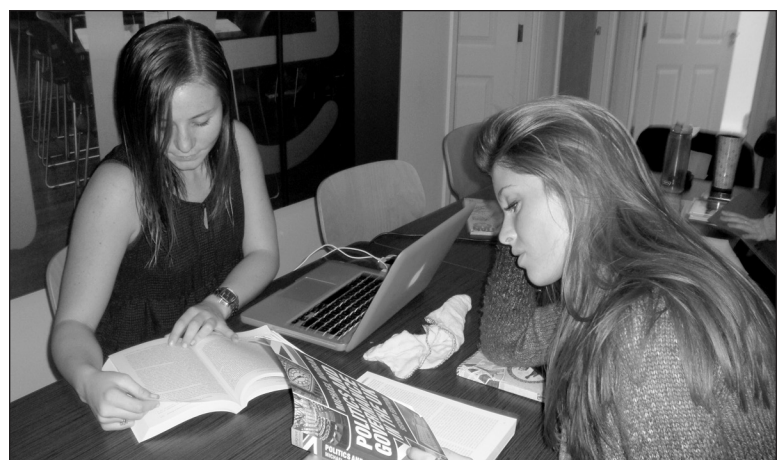
see FAIR/page 4



ALEX PARTAK/The Observer

Senior Christine Hamma talks to a representative from Target at the Winter Career and Internship Fair in the JACC on Wednesday.

## Administrators dedicate new London Program building



MEGAN DOYLE/The Observer

Juniors Kailey Grant, left, and Dylan Tramontin, right, study in the common area of their flat in London's Conway Hall.

By MEGAN DOYLE  
News Editor

First the building housed a hospital for women and children in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century.

Then it was a gloomy, dilapidated building in the background of a Sherlock Holmes film.

Now it is home to more than 130 Notre Dame students studying abroad in London during the spring semester.

University President Fr. John Jenkins and University administrators officially dedicated Conway Hall during a ceremony in London on Friday. The dedication marked

the beginning of the building's second semester as the new residential space for students studying abroad in the capital of the United Kingdom.

Since the building officially opened in August 2011, London Program Director Greg Kucich said it has been "a major center for Notre Dame's international operations in London."

The building had been abandoned and was "an eyesore" when Notre Dame began its renovations, Kucich said.

When its first residents moved into the flats last fall,

that eyesore was completely transformed.

"There was an incredible process of renovating the building over less than a year period actually, a major renovation project to turn it into the very efficient and elegant building that it is now," Kucich said. "I think you get the impression when you go in there that it looks like a four-star hotel."

The University previously rented accommodations for its students in London, but Kucich said owning a unique property was financially ben

see CONWAY/page 5



HIGH  
LOW



# Students lead RecSports fitness classes for their peers

By CAROLYN GARCIA  
News Writer

Between schoolwork, socializing and extracurricular activities, many Notre Dame students turn to fitness classes to incorporate exercise into their busy schedules.

But some students take that commitment to fitness even further by working as RecSports student fitness instructors.

Senior Caitlin Kinser channels her interest in dance by teaching Zumba, a dance-based fitness program that involves routines set to international music. After attending her first Zumba classes with a friend two summers ago, Kinser continued pursuing her interest in the program through a RecSports class the following fall and became a licensed instructor that October.

For Kinser, the decision to become a student instructor instead of a class participant was an easy one.

"I said to myself, 'Okay, I could either pay to take the class or I could get paid to work out and do something that I love,'" Kinser said. "It's a win-win situation."

Kinser said student fitness instructors are responsible for creating unique routines and workouts for each class meeting and are free to choose accompanying music for the classes. As a member

of the Zumba Instructor Network (ZIN), Kinser said she receives CDs and DVDs with suggested songs and choreography.

Although the provided material would simplify Kinser's role as a Zumba instructor, she said she prefers to choreograph most of her own material set to her favorite music, even if it requires more time and effort to do so.

"I really enjoy [choreographing classes], but at the same time, it's the hardest and most time-consuming part," Kinser said. "My classes are one hour, but it may take me all day to make up new routines."

Senior Allie Hamman decided to become an indoor cycling instructor after her own instructor of two years encouraged her to pursue the opportunity through RecSports. To qualify for the position, Hamman took a grueling indoor cycling instruction course that involved six hours of biking and a written exam. She is now completing her second year as a RecSports instructor.

Although indoor cycling

is essentially an individual sport, Hamman said her role as an instructor has allowed her to encourage class participation in common fitness goals.

"Normally, working out is more of a personal thing and instructing's more about projecting what you want people to do," Hamman said.

Both Kinser and Hamman said they faced some initial difficulties leading their first few classes.

"Having the microphone on definitely took some getting used to. I think that was the hardest thing," Kinser said. "Because I did a lot of dance in high school, I'm used to learning and doing choreography, but when you're dancing you don't have to tell people what's coming next, you just do it."

However, Kinser said those challenges gradually disappeared as she became accustomed to teaching her classes.

"After teaching for about a month, I got comfortable with it and started being able to have fun when I was teaching, so now I've kind of got my own style," Kinser said.

*"It's always rewarding to see people doing something I enjoy and knowing that they are feeling the enjoyment that I am trying to project."*

Allie Hamman  
senior



KIRBY MCKENNA/The Observer

**Students exercise in a fitness class offered by RecSports. Classes are taught by both adult instructors and students.**

Though developing class workouts can be challenging, Hamman said she tries to motivate her students by providing them with fresh, interesting workouts each week.

"You never want someone to come to a class and think, 'I could have done this on my own. Why am I here?'" she said. "You want to be pushing them further than they would normally push themselves, which I think is the goal of having a fitness instructor."

Whatever the difficulties of their respective positions, Kinser and Hamman agreed the rewards of seeing students improve outweigh the challenges of their jobs.

"There were people that I could see a physical difference in, and that's really rewarding, because ultimately you want to see your students succeed and you want to see them getting fitness results," Kinser said.

"It's always rewarding to see people doing something I enjoy and knowing that they are feeling the enjoyment that I am trying to project," Hamman said.

Students can visit [recsports.nd.edu](http://recsports.nd.edu) for more information on student-instructed fitness courses and other RecSports fitness programs.

Contact Carolyn García at [cgarcia7@nd.edu](mailto:cgarcia7@nd.edu)

## Life Issues in the Black Community:



**Ryan Bomberger**  
*The Radiance Foundation*

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SENATE

# Crawford addresses College achievements

By MARISA IATI  
News Writer

Dean Gregory Crawford spoke to Student Senate Wednesday about the College of Science's accomplishments since it set goals for development in 2008.

The College aimed to improve its undergraduate program, grow economically and advance its Catholic character, Crawford said. Crawford focused on the College's success in developing its academic curriculum.

"We really put a lot of effort the last three years in biology," he said. "A lot of the young people that we hired [for that department] we got from incredible schools."

Crawford said the College of Science added a new department called Applied and Computational Mathematics and Statistics, noting the University's previous lack of a variety of statistics courses.

"It was becoming an issue that we didn't have the expertise to really dig deep into some of these questions that our researchers had," Crawford said.

The College also launched a minor in sustainability last fall, Crawford said. The program, open to all students in all majors and colleges, incorporates elements of science, human health, the environment and energy.

"There are different tracks you can take, so you can ... find

your own niche in what you might be interested in doing," Crawford said.

The College of Science expanded its membership in the Glynn Family Honors Program, which endeavors to bridge the arts, humanities and sciences, Crawford said.

Student body president Pat McCormick said he has been in conversation with the staff of the DeBartolo Performing Arts Center (DPAC) about creating an arts advisory council.

"DPAC has been working to really try to develop this proposal to really advance the arts at Notre Dame," he said after the meeting. "I think they're still determining what the membership of the council would be, but essentially it would be a means of providing student input into the arts at Notre Dame and also work to coordinate among students in efforts to advance advocacy for the art community."

McCormick said he also scheduled a meeting with the South Bend Police Department next week to promote community relations between Notre Dame and South Bend.

"We're looking forward to just continuing to try to build up good relations and also a shared commitment to keeping the community safe," he said.

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# Fair

continued from page 1

Chrissy Carson said she used campus resources to prepare for the fair.

"I had my résumé looked over and printed out some business cards," she said.

Students with career goals outside the traditional corporate world were able to speak with companies in specific industries. Sophomore Science major Elizabeth Leonard said she came to the fair in search of a position in a health-related industry.

"This is the first career fair I've been to. I'm looking for an internship from either Cardinal Health, Stryker or Healthscope," Leonard said.

Although he began applying for positions with several advertising firms prior to the fair, junior marketing major Tom Temmerman wanted to speak with a few of the firms he applied to in person.

"I have already applied to [advertising] firms. One that I'm interested in is Leo Burnett, and today I'm hoping to talk to them directly," he said.

Temmerman said he thinks the Career Fair provides Notre Dame students the chance to make valuable connections that may lead to interviews and eventually job offers.

"I know some people who've been asked for an interview and then have a job the next day," Temmerman said.

Senior Accountancy and Spanish major Anna delCastillo came to the fair in search of a job with one of the "Big 4" accounting firms.

"I'm looking at jobs with Ernst & Young, Deloitte, PWC and KPMG," delCastillo said. "I'm staying for a fifth year [master's] in Accountancy, so I'm trying to get a feel for the job market."

Alumni presenters and PricewaterhouseCoopers employees Chris Cugliari and Lauren Wickel are proof of the career fairs' success in placing students in employment opportunities after graduation. They both obtained interviews for their current positions by attending Notre Dame career fairs.

Cugliari said he attended every Notre Dame career fair since the spring of his sophomore year, and Wickel said she spoke with employers at the fair during her junior spring semester and senior fall semester.

Sophomore Civil Engineering and Spanish major Emily Palmer said the career fairs have given her the skills to put her best foot forward in the often overwhelming job market.

"[The fairs] are pretty helpful. You learn how to talk both to interviewers and in the work place and how to articulate yourself well," she said.

Sophomore Jennifer Loconsole, who is studying the same fields as Palmer, said she has become more comfortable in what to do at the fairs.

"The first one I went to, I learned that I wasn't really good at it," she said. "Now I'm less nervous and know more about what to say and do, and I should get better each fair I go to."

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SGA

# Group passes Senate resolution

By CAILIN CROWE  
News Writer

The Saint Mary's College Student Government Association (SGA) passed legislation outlining the future structure of Senate and announced the dates of the upcoming College-wide elections in their meeting Tuesday.

The student body election period will take place from Feb. 27 to March 1. Candidates for SGA, Residence Hall Association, Student Activities Board, Student Diversity Board, student body president and vice president may begin campaigning Feb. 26. The results of the elections on March 1 will be announced the following day.

Senate and Class Board candidates may begin campaigning March 4 for the March 8 elections, with results announced March 9. Current juniors, sophomores and first years can campaign for Senate positions during this period.

Incoming first years will round out the Senate with elections in September.

SGA members will staff an informational table from Feb. 13 to 17 to introduce students to the future structure of SGA. Though the table's location has yet to be determined, SGA members will inform them about the election process, Executive Secretary Emma Brink said.

"We are committed to getting as many students as possible to participate in the elections, whether by running or voting," Brink said.

Brink said SGA hopes the presence of the informational table will increase voter participation in the upcoming election. Part of SGA's new structure will involve incorporating creative ways to get more students to vote and promoting enthusiasm about running for Senate.

In its meeting, SGA also approved legislation outlining the new structure of the Senate, which will now

be comprised of fifteen students who represent diverse interests and student involvement at Saint Mary's. The students will be divided by class year to guarantee fair representation of the student body, with positions allocated for four seniors, four juniors, four sophomores and three first years.

"SGA is extremely excited to introduce the new structure to students and promote the new opportunities that students will have on the Senate," Brink said.

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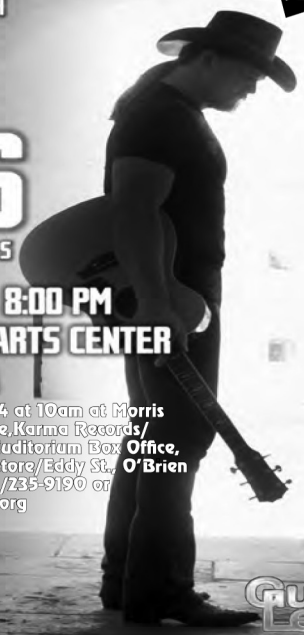
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# Conway

continued from page 1

need to walk about 15 minutes to reach the London Center in Trafalgar Square for their classes.

“That not only provides students with a wonderful walk across the bridge every day, but it also integrates the two facilities really nicely so we can do academic events and cultural events at Conway Hall, as well as in the London Center,” he said. “Notre Dame becomes like a colossus with one foot in Trafalgar Square and another foot in South Bank, striding the Thames.”

Conway Hall is also located next to one of the campuses of King’s College in London, and students have access to the college’s student union, gym and library facilities.

“One of the challenges of the London program traditionally has been for students to move outside of the Notre Dame friend-work of living together, taking classes together, which has its benefits but has its limitations too because as an international student, one really wants to become immersed in local contacts and meet new people,” Kucich said.

“This opportunity to link with King’s College in this way is accomplishing or fulfilling one of the principle goals for this program, which has been a challenge for many years now. So we are overjoyed at the connection we have now with a British university and its environment.”

Students living in Conway Hall are equipped with kitchen and living spaces, and the building also includes small study areas, a chapel and a student activities center for larger gatherings.

“You develop community within individual flats and



MEGAN DOYLE/The Observer

**Junior Emily Houtsma cooks dinner in her London flat in Conway Hall. Houtsma and her flatmates share meals weekly.**

among different flats as well when students get together through meals,” Kucich said. “Along with that ... arranging for dinners in your flats means going out in London and shopping in London and going to markets and engaging with London life, rather than just going to a dining hall the way you would at Notre Dame.”

Junior Dylan Tramontin said the apartment-style living in Conway Hall helped her get to know the other members of her study abroad program.

“I love how it encourages a sense of community, even more so than the dorms,” Tramontin said.

Tramontin and junior Kailey Grant, who live together in a flat with eight other girls, said they especially enjoy cooking with their roommates and gathering for meals around their large dinner table.

“I love our weekly flat dinners,” Grant said.

Conway Hall accommodates a total of 268 students, according to a University press release. Kucich said 132 of those students are Notre Dame undergraduates participating in the London program, six are Notre Dame undergraduates studying

at the School of Oriental and African Studies through the University of London and 22 are Notre Dame law students. Students from other universities occupy the remaining spots.

At the dedication ceremony, Jenkins said the building strengthens Notre Dame’s historical ties to London.

“Notre Dame has had a presence in London since 1968, when our first students came here to study law,” Jenkins said. “Since that time, we have been able to expand our international presence here, enabling the Colleges of Arts and Letters, Business Administration and Engineering to develop their own programs in London as well.”

Kucich said the building opens new doors for the expanding international programs at Notre Dame.

“The number one issue is Notre Dame’s commitment to expanding and strengthening its international centers, in London in particular because this is the flagship international study abroad program, but also around the world,” he said.

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# Fitness

continued from page 1

unhealthy fitness behaviors of some students prompted her to create the program.

“I started this program in 2008 because as I would spend [about] three hours per day in the Angela [Athletic Facility], I noted that one to two weeks before Spring Break the students were in there killing themselves with these ridiculous marathon workouts to lose their holiday pounds before [bikini season],” Clark said.

“I decided to develop a program that would help them shed their holiday pounds safely over a [five] week period instead of two.”

Clark said Belles for Fitness helps students safely shed their winter break weight by encouraging participants to form teams of two to 10 people for motivation and moral support.

“Research has proved over and over that women have a greater chance of success with the support of their friends and family; thus, the teams,” she said.

And the choice of a 200-minute weekly fitness goal was no accident either, Clark said.

“The goal of 200 minutes comes from the recommendation of the American College of Sports Medicine that we need to exercise 300 minutes per week to prevent weight gain,” Clark said. “So 300 minutes minus about 100 minutes of walking on campus to and from classes equals 200 minutes.”

Clark said various types of exercise count as fitness, including cardiovascular and strength training, flexibility, fitness classes, exercise videos and sports.

Teams are also encouraged to exercise and meet outside of the Angela Athletic Facility.

“[Teams] come together once a week for a ‘team huddle’ to keep each other motivated,” Clark said. “[They can] share

Shape Magazine ideas, recipes, new ab routines, or discuss the helpful information put together for each huddle.”

Clark added she is trying to freshen up the routine with new activity offerings for participants this year.

“I’m trying to change it up and keep it fresh and fun, so [teams] will be getting free passes to some of the local facilities to change up their workouts,” she said. “They can go to the ICE [Athletic Center] for a Piloxing class, Memorial [Health and Lifestyle Center] to swim in the pool, Solace [Yoga Studio] for Hot Yoga and the Kroc [Corps Community Center] for the rock climbing wall. I also have guest trainers coming in on the weekends to take the girls through some fun Belles for Fitness workouts.”

Clark’s creative ideas have produced positive results for Belles for Fitness. The program’s record turnout over the past four years is 150 participants, and this year’s pace is on track with that record, with 24 teams totaling 134 students and faculty members participating so far.

As a team-based initiative, Belles for Fitness helps students push themselves to work out not only on an individual level but also as integral members of a team.

“In January and February, we can easily go 10 days without seeing any sunshine, which makes it easy to hibernate in our nice warm dorm rooms and eat comfort food, cooped up with all the germs that run rampant through campus,” Clark said. “This program gives the girls that little extra push to get out and exercise, relieve some stress, build up their immune system, work the kinks out and exercise their most important muscle — their heart.”

Clark has a simple message for students considering joining the initiative: “Just do it.”

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# Elections

continued from page 1

president of elections, said the circumstances surrounding this election were unprecedented in recent history.

“Since 1996, there has been no situation like this,” she said. “Whether one happened before, we don’t have record of.”

Though Rocheleau and Rose will run unopposed on the ballot, write-in candidates have the opportunity to be approved up until midnight Monday.

As outlined by the Constitution, those interested in running as write-ins must provide 100 extra unique signatures in addition to the 700 signatures mandatory for all candidates. They must also furnish proof of academic good standing from the First Year of Studies or the Office of the Registrar, and prove good disciplinary standing as determined by the Office of Residence Life.

According to Ogren, no write-in candidate has been approved yet.

Ogren said that while write-in candidates have been approved in Student Government elections in the past, they have usually replaced a candidate on a ticket. She said having an entirely new

ticket emerge through this process is unheard of.

“If for some reason in the past somebody has dropped out or has been deemed ineligible for some reason and the ticket has wanted to continue with a new candidate, that has happened before, but never in a situation like this,” she said.

Ogren said it is too soon to decide if there will be a debate or public forum in which students can discuss campus issues with eligible candidates.

“We just found out the election will be proceeding, so there are some things we are going to have to take into consideration with these unique circumstances,” she said. “The one thing we know is the election will take place as planned.”

Though Rocheleau and Rose are the only official ticket, Ogren said she hopes students approach this year’s election as they have in the past.

“We are hoping that students will participate in this election as fully as if it were a normal year,” she said. “We hope that everyone considers it their duty to the Student Union to vote for the candidate they see fit for the position regardless of the unique circumstances.”

Contact Sam Stryker at [stryke1@nd.edu](mailto:stryke1@nd.edu)

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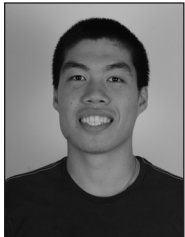
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## INSIDE COLUMN

Senior year,  
no regrets

This is it. The moment I've been waiting for my whole life. Tonight is the night I turn 21. When the clock strikes 12:00 and my MacBook calendar tells me it's finally Feb. 3, 2012, I'll let out a sigh of relief while casually sipping a legal drink. Along with that sigh, though, I'll shed a tear or two. You see, I am the second-to-last last senior to turn 21 (Pat Coveney is last, in case you were wondering), and that is not an easy title to give up. You don't go all your life as the youngest person in the room just to be put on the same playing field as everyone else by some legal threshold. My time is here, but I'm not ready to go. What if I didn't have to?



Thomas La

Staff  
Photographer

Today is Groundhog Day, after all. What if, like Bill Murray, I kept reliving today over and over again? Wouldn't that be ironic? What if I never turned 21 and became forever stuck in a state of underage youth, reveling in my inability to buy girls drinks or set foot inside the Backer? What if I never had to be an adult, never had to grow up?

Don't get me wrong, I can't wait to turn 21. I've been looking forward to this day since I learned the effects of drinking when mixed with fun. But there's a part of me that's refusing to let go. Besides, there are plenty of advantages to being underage while everyone else is raging hard. Big test coming up and have to study? Oops sorry, can't go out because I'm not 21. "Hey can you buy me a case for my dorm party this weekend?" Nope, sorry, I'm not 21. Although perks of being underage are nice, my hesitation stems from a deeper realization.

The longer I think about it, the more I realize that tonight is not about me. It's not about manhood. It's not about getting wasted. It's not even about Club Fever. No, tonight is about the Class of 2012. Tonight is about our collective 21st birthday. It's a sobering thought, graduation. Some of us are sprinting to the finish, excited at the prospect of what awaits us. The rest of us are going to be dragged out by our ankles swearing that these were the best four years of our lives. (Let's not kid ourselves, it's only downhill from here). However we choose to look back on our time here, let's not look back in regret. As exciting as dorm parties and off-campus ragers may be, an entirely new world awaits us. We're legal now. Let's make the most of what life's proverbial Mulligan's and Kildare's have to offer us.

So, seniors, let this final semester serve as our birthday party. Let's celebrate like we'll never get a chance at being 20 years old again. Climb Stepan. Run the Holy Half. Go to Feve sober. (Warning: Some regret may be involved). Because when we're stepping into the Stadium come May, when we're minutes away from turning 21, wouldn't it be nice not to have to ask, "What if?"

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

What is a "like" worth?

It's nice to get the occasional personal validation. When one of your friends "likes" your post on Facebook, he or she is telling the world that they, too, agree that you are incredibly witty/beautiful/raising an important social issue.

Grace Concelman

Options and  
Futures

It feels good to be liked.

You could say "likes" are priceless because they relieve the remnants of our middle school insecurities. But any good economist knows nothing is priceless, and pretty soon we'll get to find out what all of those "likes" are worth in cold hard cash.

On Wednesday, Facebook filed for an initial public offering (IPO), to take place later this spring. An IPO is the first time a private company sells stock to the public, thereby becoming a publicly traded company. Since public companies have to submit financial statements to the Securities and Exchange Commission, we're about to get a little more information about our beloved social network.

IPOs happen almost every day without any fanfare, but not this one.

The first time the general public actually started caring about IPOs was in the late 1990s. We were finishing up elementary school, busy trading pastel gel pens and Pokémon cards while the "adults" were going wild buying stock in any company that had "technology" or "internet" in the description, regardless of whether that company earned profits or had a

proven business model.

Of course, the dot-com bubble burst long ago, but investors still flock to revolutionary technologies like Facebook. The Facebook IPO is expected to raise at least \$5 billion, which would place it within the top ten U.S. IPOs.

That would value the company between \$75 and \$100 billion. As a comparison, McDonalds and Anheuser-Busch are both currently worth about \$100 billion, and Amazon is valued at about \$82 billion. Sounds reasonable, right?

But McDonalds sells Big Macs, Anheuser-Busch sells beer and Amazon sells everything except Big Macs and beer. These companies have products, services, plants, customers and, most importantly, profits.

What does Facebook have? Data.

Facebook has 800 million users who have created a profile and made friends and tell those friends about all of the cool stuff they do. Every day 400 million users log on to upload 250 million photos, share the latest viral videos and "check up on" friends from the past. Most importantly, though, each user is connected to an average of 80 pages, groups or events that mimic his or her real-life social interactions.

What do all those "likes" add up to?

Right now they add up to an advertiser's dream. Not only do advertisers have people "liking" their pages, they know whom those people interact with. If your friend likes something, odds are that you will, too, and since you both spend so much time on the site, odds are also pretty high that you'll see an ad and click through.

To justify a \$100 billion valuation, however, the Facebook model has to be good for more than advertising. The market, at least, thinks it is.

Facebook began as a pioneer in the communication revolution, but its real value is its use of the information it has gathered through fostering communication and networking of its users.

Facebook continues to develop technology to aggregate and analyze the massive amount of data generated each day on the site — data about you and me. Tag suggestions? Location check-ins? Facebook knows where you are, what you're doing and whom you're with. It knows the ebb and flow of your high school relationships and which restaurants are gaining popularity in your town, all because you and 800 billion people are willing to share.

If you think about it, there's a lot that Facebook could glean from this data. People's locations could predict traffic patterns or the spread of disease. The types of pages they link to could indicate political leanings, intelligence or even credit worthiness. At the most extreme, the possibilities bring a whole new meaning to creeping on someone.

Of course the key question moving forward is whether all of this data will add up to long-term profits for Facebook. If it does, investors are going to have a whole lot to "like."

Grace Concelman is a senior majoring in finance and philosophy. She can be reached at gconcelm@nd.edu

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

## 'Father, I have had impure thoughts'

I could never list all the things that I love about being a priest. There are very many. Of the top things that I love about being a priest is the incredible privilege that it is to hear confessions. I am always grateful to be able to be a minister, unworthy that I am, of God's grace and mercy in the confessional.

Father Joseph V.  
Corpora, CSC

Guest Columnist

I have the privilege of hearing confessions a lot at Notre Dame — most often in the Basilica, on NDEs and retreats, and sometimes in my room in Dillon Hall. One of the most common things that I hear is, "Father, I have had impure thoughts." I hear it a lot. I suppose that most priests do.

While I know what the penitent means by saying "impure thoughts," I wish to look at a different meaning or take on these words.

Not one of us could really begin to understand the unconditional and ever-present love of God. The love of God is greater than what we can

imagine. The love of God is free. The love of God is unconditional. God initiates this love in each one of us. God loves us when we sin and when we don't sin. God loves us when we succeed and when we fail. God loves us when we win and when we lose. God loves us when we turn towards Him and when we turn away from Him. God loves us without reason.

The Scriptures tell us that God's love is like the rain, which falls on the good and on the bad. God loves us in season and out of season. God loves us when we are hopeful and when we are despairing. God loves us when we do good and when we do evil.

St. Paul repeatedly assures us that nothing can separate us from God's love. Even if we wanted to escape from God's unconditional love, we could not. God loves us at every moment of our existence. If God stopped loving us for a split second, we would become like a grease spot on the floor somewhere.

I long to know that love more deeply. I want to be penetrated by that love to the core of my being. I think that the

only "impure thought" I can really have is that I am not totally loved by God or that I am unlovable or that something that I have done could cause God to withhold His love from me.

These thoughts are impure because they are so against the love and nature of God. That is more impure than any other "impure thought." My most impure thought is that I could be outside of the love and embrace of God.

I wish that this would be the understanding that we might have of impure thoughts. God's love is so overwhelming and so great and so large that to doubt it or to think that you are outside of it is what real impurity is.

This week's column is written by Fr. Joseph V. Corpora, CSC., the Director of University-School Partnerships with the Alliance for Catholic Education (ACE) and an Assistant Rector in Dillon Hall. He is a sinner whose sins are forgiven. He can be reached at jcorpor@nd.edu

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

## QUOTE OF THE DAY

"Those who control their passions do so because their passions are weak enough to be controlled."

William Blake  
English illustrator & poet

Submit a  
Letter to  
the Editor

Email obsviewpoint@gmail.com

## WEEKLY POLL

What's the best part of the Super Bowl?

The advertisements  
The food  
The uniforms  
The rivalry

Vote by 5 p.m. Thursday at  
ndsmcobserver.com



## Ron Paul’s undesired candidacy

The GOP field currently features three presidential candidates who appear willing to do anything short of making a deal with the devil simply to be addressed as ‘Mr. President’ come 2013. But the fourth candidate seems fine with keeping the title ‘Dr. Paul.’ Just ask Ron Paul’s campaign chairman, Jesse Benton, whose words were featured in a September issue of Time Magazine:

“He does not have a great personal desire to be the President,” said Benton. Come again?  
Paul is a man with intellect, experience and the courage to present radical ideas in an environment full of empty rhetoric. But he should not be running for president.  
Perhaps we need to take Mr. Benton’s quote in context. After all, it was published at a time when Paul’s closest competitor in the polls was Michele Bachmann and he was still trailing not only Mitt Romney, but Rick Perry as well. Maybe at the time he truly did not have

John Sandberg  
Columnist

the desire to be president, but it has since changed. Isn’t it funny how a tumultuous four months of polling and a strong showing in Iowa can suddenly make a man want to be leader of the free world?  
It is more likely the case that Paul actually does not want to become the president. Benton’s quote did seem to be pretty cut and dry. Even now, with millions of dollars in campaign funds and resilient polling numbers, some maintain that his campaign is about ideas. There is the notion that the presidential election is Paul’s platform for spreading the message of minimized government, and any discussion on winning or losing is secondary.  
All of this is enough to make many Americans crazy. We are talking about the presidency, the highest office in the land, a position that only a handful of people have known and some of the most extraordinary people have served. Sure, a few dim bulbs slipped into the White House over the years, but overall the institution has shown bright. So if someone lacks the burning desire to go after it with all that he or she has, or if there is

even a shadow of a doubt about whether that desire will stay lit for eight challenging years, don’t run.  
I, like the vast majority of Americans, also grow tired of watching candidates bash one another month after month. A primary battle filled with attacks and counterattacks — like we just saw take place in Florida — often reaffirms the reasons why so many people find politics entirely unattractive.  
Say what you will about the personalities, policies and/or credibility of Romney, Gingrich and Santorum, but nobody can deny that they want the job. This alone anyone can appreciate, even if we don’t necessarily appreciate the distasteful ways in which they compete.  
As far as “spreading a message” is concerned, why does Paul’s platform need to be the presidential election? Aside from the fact that he has already run for president twice before, Paul serves in the U.S. Congress and sits on the House Committees on Foreign Affairs and Financial Services, some influential stages in and of themselves.  
And why must this campaign of ideas

cost so much? More individuals donate personal money to Paul’s campaign than any other candidate’s. Given this, the grand promotion of ideas which we are seeing seems excessively expensive, and ironic, considering that the man at the center of the campaign has long been a crusader against excessive spending.  
Paul has strong academic credentials, a history of military and governmental service and unflinching resolve in his beliefs on governmental policy. Not to mention he’s easily the most entertaining guy to watch in the Republican debates. For these things he should be applauded.  
In a presidential election, however, these merits don’t mean a thing when some voters still aren’t convinced that you want the job.  
  
*John Sandberg is a sophomore political science major from Littleton, Colo. He is a fan of the Chicago Cubs, Dave Matthews Band and good Mexican food. He can be reached at jsandbe1@nd.edu. The views expressed in this column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer.*

### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## So long bike shop, sustainability

Dear Students and Faculty,  
This may come as a surprise to some of you, but the Notre Dame Bike Shop is closing indefinitely this semester. It has been wonderful serving the Notre Dame community by working at the bike shop for the past three years. For those of you who haven’t heard of the bike shop, it provided free bicycle repair for Notre Dame students and workers. We repaired 331 bikes last school year and also fixed-up old bikes for priests and rectors on campus. All parts we used were salvaged from bikes NDSP collects at the end of the year.  
This leads me to two main reasons why the shop closing is such a big loss for the Notre Dame community: sustainability and safety. Our school is making great strides to become a greener, more sustainable family. The bike shop was one of the most sustainable endeavors on campus: all parts were reused from old bikes, all junk parts were recycled and, of course, the shop encouraged riding bikes, the most efficient form of transportation.  
The shop was also responsible for promoting safety across campus. A large number of repairs were on broken brakes. I imagine that now most students don’t have the resources readily available to fix their broken brakes. Therefore, in the coming months there may be many students speeding through campus without a way to stop for that freshman looking for Geddes Hall or that Jimmy John’s driver zipping into campus for a fast drop-off.  
It won’t take much to restart this invaluable service. All we need is a heated garage where we can store tools and bikes. NDSP is willing to reopen the shop, but for that to happen there needs to be a visible and vocal desire for it. So, I encourage anyone who is reading this to write into the Observer or email me (jschomme@nd.edu) with a positive bike shop experience or even just a wish for this free and friendly service to be available to the Notre Dame family once again.

Jon Schommer  
junior  
Knott Hall  
Feb. 1

## SMC is doing it right

Regarding medical amnesty in the Observer’s Jan. 27 article, “ND explains lack of medical amnesty,” Brian Coughlin stated, “It is hard to fathom one Notre Dame student acting so much out of a perceived self-interest that they may not help a fellow student in need because they are more worried about potential discipline.”  
In my mind, this situation is easy to fathom. Let’s say that a friend of mine is extremely inebriated and I’m really not sure whether he or she needs medical help. Of course, the smart thing to do is err on the side of caution. However, the threat of discipline stands as the primary motivation to do otherwise.  
There’s a simple rule of economics that states that people respond to incentives. Discipline is a significant disincentive when one is unsure if their friend needs help. It is also important to bear in mind that the people making these decisions are often inebriated as well; they can’t be expected to make rational choices.  
The University should be more concerned with ensuring the safety of students than its right to discipline.

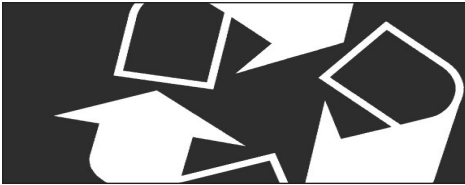
Brian Appleton  
junior  
Morrissey Hall  
Feb. 1

Matthew Planell  
junior  
Morrissey Hall  
Feb. 1

## Protecting the right to choose

The recent issue of the availability of contraceptives on Notre Dame’s campus has sparked much controversy. A letter from the officers of Notre Dame’s Right to Life Club (Feb. 1) states that artificial contraception is “neither a ‘right’ nor health care.” I would like to respectfully disagree.  
The choice of whether or not to use prescriptive contraceptives is a choice involving a woman’s body and subsequently her health. The act of procreation involves carrying a baby that is taxing on both the physical health of the woman and on the emotional health of both the man and the woman. It is a difficult decision to make that certainly concerns multiple aspects of the parents’ health.  
The officers’ letter also quotes the Catechism of the Catholic Church (2399) stating, “Without the [unitive and procreative] aspects the sexual act is stripped of its meaning, and man and woman fail to give themselves to each other in complete love.” The decision whether or not to have children involves many factors in a person’s life, such as finances, the woman’s job and the current health of both parents.  
The decision to hold off on having children or to not have children at all does not diminish the love between two people. The love expressed through intercourse is defined by much more than the possibility of procreation.  
I realize that not everyone has these same opinions and that it is their right to form their own opinions, but it is also their right to be able to take prescriptive contraceptives if they so desire. The University’s denial of coverage of these prescriptions in their health insurance strips this right away from many women whose thoughts differ from that of the Catholic Church. I am happy that the right to choose has come full-force to Notre Dame in terms of reproductive services.

Evan Graham  
sophomore  
Carroll Hall  
Feb. 1



Please recycle The Observer.





By PATRICK McMANUS  
Scene Writer

The Super Bowl, in addition to being a showcase for some of America's finest football, is also famous for having the best commercials. Rightfully so, a lot of time is spent discussing the best of those commercials. But the commercials that air every other day of the year often go unsung, probably because most of them are uninteresting, annoying distractions from our favorite television programs. However, the best of the best ordinary time commercials deserve some recognition before the furor over Super Bowl ads begins in earnest.

There are probably some hilarious or otherwise effective commercials out there, which, despite the technical facility with which they were assembled, are obscure.

In this age of Hulu and DVRs, and with the myriad choice of cable channels, it is all too easy to circumvent or simply miss the majority of television adverts. So only those commercials that have attained a very high degree of market saturation are discussed in the national forum. Because these commercials are aired so frequently and widely, it is especially important that they be entertaining.

Perhaps because car insurance is so boring and the different companies all offer basically the same thing, many car insurance commercials are among the best that air throughout the year.

One of the best is the series of Allstate commercials in which actor Dean Winters portrays Mayhem. Always clad in his black suit, he personifies a variety of dangers on the road that might cause an accident and hence bring insurance into the mix. They are quite humorous.

Another great car insurance commercial of the present is the Geico one featuring a woman driving home with a pig in the back seat, literally going "wee, wee, wee" all the way home. Sure, it is random and maybe a little bit annoying, but the pig is so cute and the concept so elegant that the whole package is endearing. The same cannot be said for the sequel with the pig on the zip line, however.

One of the most interesting commercials to pop up in a while is the Direct TV commercial that features a series of causal relationships beginning with having cable and waking up in a roadside ditch. On first viewing it is something of a revelation, though the novelty does subsequently wear off. It remains to be seen whether

this genre of commercial has any staying power, but it represents good initiative.

The Old Spice commercials featuring "The Man Your Man Could Smell Like," Isaiah Mustafa, are fantastic. Something about the way he talks, the crisp colors and the striking visual effects make those commercials endlessly entertaining. The Old Spice commercial with Terry Crews' brain flying around is not as good.

All of the above commercials are worthwhile, but undoubtedly the greatest advertising character of our time is the Dos Equis' "Most Interesting Man in the World." Those commercials drastically increased sales of the product they were advertising, entertained America and spawned an Internet meme. What more could one ask for?

Unfortunately, for every good commercial there are countless bad ones. The current most annoying commercial has to be the AT&T spot with the tailgating guys and their 4G phones dismissing everyone else who has slower phones. It seems like 4G technology makes peoples jerks. Hopefully in between the drives of Sunday's big game, a host of new advertisements will enter the pantheon of great commercials.

Contact Patrick McManus at  
pmcmanu1@nd.edu

By KEVIN NOONAN  
Scene Writer

This is the Scene section, not the Sports section. I know that. If you read Scene regularly, you know that. But this week is one of those rare times when the single most important event in the entertainment industry is a sports event — the Super Bowl.

Now if you're a Scene regular, there's at least a mild chance that you're not a big sports fan. But this being America and what not, there's a great chance that at least some of your friends are and that you're going to get roped into watching the Super Bowl with them.

This can be an uncomfortable experience; if you don't care about the game, don't know anything about football or both, it can cause tension between you and your friends. No fear, here are a few things to remember on Sunday to make a smooth game for everyone.

**This is football, not a fashion show.**

There are few things more irritating while watching a football game than someone commenting on the style sense of the uniforms.

If you don't believe me, start doing it on Sunday and watch the collective rolling of eyes that you get in response. One team will be in blue. One team will be in white. That should be the extent of your concern about uniforms.

I know Tom Brady is married to a supermodel. I'm also well aware of his objective attractiveness. I'll make you a deal, and I'm sure any good sports-loving man would agree with me here — if you don't talk about Gisele and fashion during the Super Bowl, then I won't talk about Tom Brady and football while I'm watching the Victoria's Secret Fashion show.

ELISA DE CASTRO | Observer Graphics

**Pick a quarterback to hate, you'll fit right in.**

Nothing bonds sports fans more than common hatred, and there is so much to go around in this game you really can't go wrong. Just pick someone to actively root against and your friends will both be surprised by your sports knowledge and respect you as a person.

There are two safe bets in this game — the two quarterbacks, Tom Brady (Patriots) and Eli Manning (Giants). Why people hate Tom Brady is pretty simple: He's wildly successful. And if there's one thing that people will hate you for in sports, it's killing dogs. No, just kidding, it's being successful. Ironically, being successful is also the only way to be forgiven for something horrific, like a dog fighting scandal. But that's a topic for another time.

Eli Manning is a little more difficult to explain. He's been portrayed, fairly or not, like an overrated, possibly selfish brat ever since he came in the league. He also plays in New York, and after being successful, the second best way (although slightly redundant) to get yourself hated in sports is to play for a New York team.

Moral of the story: Complain every once in a while when your player of choice makes a good play, and your friends will cut you some slack when you don't understand what "first down" means.

**If you don't understand, just pretend. Dear God, please just pretend.**

This is really a big one. It's okay if you don't understand everything that's going on. You think I know what peep-toe heels are? Or who Valentino Garvani is? No, I don't. And your sports fan friends won't expect you to know every detail of the game either.

The best way to handle it is to just pretend like you know what's going on. Cheer when everyone else cheers, boo when everyone else boos. Football teams only get three timeouts per half; maybe think about limiting yourself to three questions about the rules and gameplay per half.

**The snacks aren't healthy, we know.**

Part of the Super Bowl tradition for most people is an abundance of food. No, it's not healthy. We know that, we accept it and we move on.

Football is a dangerous sport. You take risks.

**If all else fails, there is one thing that every football fan can agree on (outside Boston): Bill Belichick is evil.**

Bill Belichick is the head coach for the Patriots. You can recognize him by the nasty sweatshirt he wears and the maniacal scowl etched across his face.

Belichick has a whole host of factors going against him. He's successful. Boom, people hate him. He coaches in Boston, the second worst city in America in terms of the people-will-hate-you factor (also known as the "Johnny Damon" factor).

No matter how successful he is, he always comes off like an ungrateful jerk in interviews. And on top of it all, he's really, really successful.

So if you ever find yourself in a tight spot, or make an egregious error (like calling a field goal a free throw, or saying that the Patriot's uniforms are tacky), just cover it up with one of these: "Yeah, but Belichick is the worst, right guys?" And now you're the most popular person in the room.

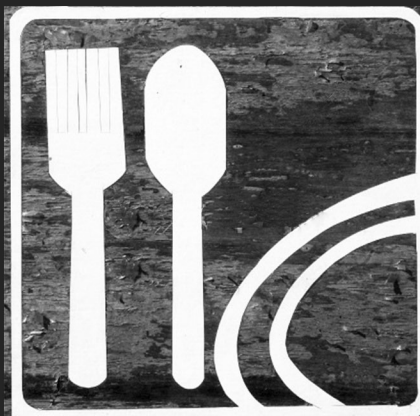
Contact Kevin Noonan at  
knoonan2@nd.edu

## Guide to watching that big football thing with all the funny commercials



## WEEKEND EVENTS CALENDAR

thursday 02



**Restaurants Week**  
Restaurants in Downtown  
South Bend  
All day  
Discounted meals at selected  
restaurants

The second annual “Eat. Drink. Downtown South Bend” is upon us. Through Feb. 4, various restaurants in Downtown South Bend will feature specials and discounts on their food and beverages. Each participating restaurant offers a special dinner menu for \$25 along with various other discounts on individual items.

friday 03



**Tiffany Haddish and DJ3J**  
Legends  
10 p.m.  
Free

Comedian Tiffany Haddish has performed at comedy venues around the world and appeared in guest spots on shows such as “My Name is Earl” and “It’s Always Sunny in Philadelphia.” She will perform at Legends beginning at 10 p.m., followed by an old school hip-hop DJ set from DJ3J at midnight. Legends is always free for students and the event is open to all ages.

saturday 04



**“The Princess Bride”**  
Browning Cinema  
\$3  
Midnight

The ‘80s fantasy classic, about the vivid characters of a children’s storybook, is the first of this semester’s Midnight Movie series at the Browning Cinema. Spawning such classic lines as “Hello. My name is Inigo Montoya. You killed my father. Prepare to die”; “As you wish” and “Have fun stormin’ da castle,” “The Princess Bride” is the perfect way to cap off your Saturday night.

sunday 05



**A Fantastic Afternoon with**  
Georges Melies  
Browning Cinema  
\$3  
3 p.m.

Pioneering filmmaker Georges Melies was the subject of Martin Scorsese’s Oscar-nominated “Hugo.” A screening Saturday at 3 p.m. will feature a collection of the director’s short works, while the Sunday program will present his most famed film, “A Trip to the Moon,” and a documentary about its creation, “The Extraordinary Voyage.”



Finn’s solo  
venture  
showcases  
Americana

By COURTNEY ECKERLE  
Scene Writer

“Good old Freddy Mercury’s the only guy who advises me,” The Hold Steady front man Craig Finn belts on his first solo venture, “Clear Heart Full Eyes,” in true cool-guy fashion. Really, invoking the name of Freddy in a song is second only to well ... God, and this album sees Finn doing that too. Rock idolatry and religion, all in one album. Let the smiting and lightning strikes begin.

The Hold Steady is currently working on their sixth album, but fans shouldn’t worry; this solo debut is not a sign of the dreaded band-pocalypse breakup. In other words, no need for a Destiny’s Child-era flashback.

The album was recorded in Austin, Texas, with Spoon’s producer Mike McCarthy. Use local musicians and add in a nod to television show “Friday Night Lights” (a clever switch up of its mantra, “Clear Eyes Full Hearts Can’t Lose”), and you have a rock and roll front man in Finn who is seriously dipping his toe into the Americana pool.

Lighter musically but lyrically darker than the usual Hold Steady fare (see the band’s 2008 album “Stay Positive”), most of the tracks reflect the yin and yang otherwise known as the human condition. Dynamically narrative, “Jackson” talks about depression, and “No Future” references the Sex Pistols both in title and with the lyrics, “The best advice I’ve ever gotten/ was from good old Johnny Rotten/ he said God save the Queen/he

said, no future for you/no future for me.”

The Americana flair emerges again in the emotionally taut, “When No One’s Watching,” which tells a tale about telling tales, something any Texan would heartily get behind.

“There’s somethin’ in how well you tell the story/The way you overcame the odds all stacked against you/The way that you prevailed in the face of greater danger/The way at first that they misunderstood you ... That’s the pieces come together that’s these things I keep hearing, about the hero that you are when no one’s watching.”

Another bit of the Texas element that comes out in the album is when Finn, in true Hold Steady style, mentions “The Wagon Wheel” in more than one song. The band commonly encourages the interaction of people and places across songs and albums. Also, the description sounds like a place that would have great barbecue.

Finn is a rarity in the rock world. He is openly Catholic (he gives up drinking every year for Lent) and is an avid sports fan, although only one side of his personality is reflected in this album. “Clear Heart Full Eyes” often weaves religion throughout, a common thread that continues through all of his tracks, although Finn certainly isn’t peddling any message, just his thoughts.

“New Friend Jesus” is a perfect example with its gospel-like romping, guitar-picking opus of love gone wrong because the redemption of one person comes too late.

Finn comically croons, “I wish I was with Jesus when I met you ... You’d give yourself right up to me.” He continues, “It’s hard to suck with Jesus in your band,” a clear reference to the Notre Dame marching band.

In “Western Pier,” Finn characterizes Jesus as a judge: “He is kind, and he’s just.” But it isn’t all happy-go-lucky religious hand-holding. There’s real doubt and pondering in his lyrics. In “Honolulu Blues,” he laments, “All those hymns you learn as a kid and they make perfect sense to you,” and “you’ve got to think that maybe Jesus isn’t getting through.”

However, the lyrics conclude, “We’re all good, we’re all bad, we’re euphoric and we’re sad,” reflecting this up and down, light and dark, saints and sinners (mostly sinners) album. As with any good solo venture, Finn’s core fans will feel at home, while at the same time new fans will be welcomed in this Americana infusion.

Contact Courtney Eckerle at  
cecker01@saintmarys.edu

Craig Finn

“Clear Heart Full Eyes”

Label: Vagrant Records

If You Like: The Hold Steady, Bruce Springsteen & the E Street Band



SPORTS AUTHORITY

Time to trim the fat of the four major sports

I'm going to skip to two topics and two topics only: contraction and contracts.

As the Sultan of Sports, I have supreme authority over the four kingdoms of the NBA, the NHL, the MLB and the glorious realm, the NFL. My first order of business is to cut the excess fat holding back each league from reaching its true potential, and that means axing teams through contraction. Nothing is quite as embarrassing and uncomfortable to watch as a sporting venue take place in a half-filled stadium, even when the home team is battling for playoff contention.

Day 162 of the 2011 baseball season may go down as the greatest regular season day of play, with the Tampa Bay Rays and St. Louis Cardinals both fighting their way into the playoffs thanks to the collapse of the Atlanta Braves and Boston Red Sox. With their season on the line, Evan Longoria and the Rays closed a seven-run deficit in the eighth and ninth innings to clinch a Wild Card berth in extra innings. They did so in front of less than 30,000 fans, or about 65% of the capacity at Tropicana Field.

The Rays are just one of several teams I'm shutting down for good. If your city can't even sell-out a play-in game three years removed from a World Series appearance, you simply don't deserve the privilege of hosting a professional organization.

The contraction of just four MLB teams (Rays, Padres, Marlins and Royals) from 32 to 28 would create a more competitive environment, one in which Prince Fielder may actually deserve a \$214 million contract.

Not only would rotations be stacked, but lineups would give fans what they longed for during the steroid era: power hitting. Contraction would also preserve the sanctity of the Hall of Fame,



Chris Masoud  
Assistant Managing Editor

*The contraction of just four MLB teams (Rays, Padres, Marlins and Royals) from 32 to 28 would create a more competitive environment, one in which Prince Fielder may actually deserve a \$214 million contract.*

which honors former players who regularly competed against teams brimming with fellow Hall of Famers.

And contraction would not be limited to just the MLB. The Jaguars (NFL), the Lightning (NHL) and the Bobcats (NBA) are all on the chopping block (maybe I'll just contract Florida sports under an executive order). Again, more competition leads to more fun for the fans and a better product on the gridiron/diamond/ice/court.

Now to contracts: Scott Boras, you are hereby relieved of your duties, and Dwight Howard, you are hereby ordered to stay in Orlando or remain silent.

But seriously, Scott Boras throws his weight around harder than Fielder rounding the bases. I realize he represents the greatest players in baseball, but owners and general managers quiver in fear at the sight of his phone number across their cell phones. Now playing hardball with Boras is a losing prospect, because if you tick him off once you lose access to the best talent.

But if everybody plays hardball... Which will never happen without a salary hard cap rather than a luxury tax. If you really want parity in baseball, stop letting the big markets push everyone around.

Finally, prospective free agents, you must first become a free agent to act like a free agent. Nothing is more unsettling than watching a seven-footer with massive deltoids cry his way out of a city. Hate LeBron all you want, but at least he waited until his summer of free agency to make a Decision.

One more thing: I am moving the headquarters of sports from Bristol to San Francisco, removing Skip Bayless from television and replacing his show with my own: West Coast Bias, airing Monday through Friday at 8 p.m. Pacific Time.

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

Contact Chris Masoud at cmasoud@nd.edu

NFL

Irsay postpones decision on QB

Associated Press

INDIANAPOLIS — Jim Irsay is putting the Peyton Manning decision on hold.

The Colts owner said Wednesday he will monitor Manning's recovery from Sept. 8 neck surgery over the next month and may wait until the last possible moment to determine whether to pay the quarterback a \$28 million roster bonus, redo the five-year contract he signed last summer or risk losing the four-time MVP as a free agent.

"It's two-phased. There's the medical aspect, as to whether he can play at a really high level and that's the only place he wants to be. Can he drill it in Foxboro in 10 degrees, 50 yards, that sort of thing," Irsay told a small group of reporters. "The second issue has always been his health and the risks of going back onto the field. When the Super Bowl ends, he and I will continue to talk about it."

The sticky situation has been a hot topic in Indianapolis, where Manning's younger brother, Eli, will try to win his second Super Bowl ring with the Giants on Sunday against Patriots quarterback Tom Brady, who is trying to win his fourth title.

No matter what Giants and Patriots players and coaches have said this week, Peyton Manning somehow winds up stealing the headlines.

Just two days after Irsay said he wouldn't talk about Manning again this week, he broke that embargo and discussed the ongoing overhaul of the franchise. Since Jan. 2, Irsay has fired vice chairman Bill Polian, general manager Chris Polian, coach Jim Caldwell and most of Caldwell's staff.

The next big decision is all about Manning, who didn't play a minute last season. The surgery was his third in 19 months, and he still hasn't fully recovered. With a March 8 deadline to pay the bonus, Irsay intends to take his time making this call.

"Look, anything is possible if the two parties choose to get together," Irsay said when asked about redoing Manning's \$90 million contract.

Even if Manning is healthy enough to play a 15th season, the questions are sure to continue.

Earlier Wednesday, new offensive coordinator Bruce Arians said he hopes Manning returns to the Colts though he believes the best way for a rookie quarterback to learn is by playing. He didn't drop



AP

Indianapolis Colts owner Jim Irsay discusses the future of the team at the Super Bowl XLVI media center Wednesday in Indianapolis.

hints about the Colts' plans for Manning or what Indy would do with the No. 1 overall draft pick.

Irsay has already said the Colts will choose Manning's successor in April. The decision is expected to come down to presumed No. 1 choice Andrew Luck or Heisman Trophy winner Robert Griffin III -- either of whom would get playing time if Arians has a say.

"I say let him grow, man, put him out there and let him play," Arians said. "They are going to make mistakes. You have to live with it and learn from it to get better."

Arians was the first NFL quarterbacks coach to work with Manning, the No. 1 choice in 1998. He also tutored former No. 1 pick Tim Couch in Cleveland and Ben Roethlisberger in Pittsburgh during the last five seasons.

"It's kind of like deja vu (in Indy). It's scary," he said. "There is a new general manager and a new coach. Hopefully Peyton can come back and get ready to go. But, there will be a new quarterback and a new beginning. It's exciting."

The multi-million dollar question is whether Manning can come back.

There have been whispers all week that Manning might retire rather than land with a new team next season, and there has been rampant speculation about the velocity on his throws and whether the nerve will re-

generate.

"I have no plans on doing that," he said Tuesday when asked about retirement. "My plan hasn't changed. I'm on track with what the doctors have told me to do, and I'm doing that. I'm rehabbing hard."

Irsay's decision may be based on more than Manning's arm strength. He is still willing to pay the bonus if he can find a way to make it work under the salary cap, and if he determines bringing back Manning would be the best move for the organization. Yes, Irsay wants to keep No. 18 for the rest of his career.

But it may not make good business sense.

"Emotionally, I think it's difficult from a sentimental point of view," Irsay said. "I think it's even harder on the fans because you don't want to look at the reality. But my responsibility is that when we go on the field on opening day, the circle is as strong as we can be to win."

Separately, Irsay said he expects former offensive coordinator Clyde Christensen to remain on new coach Chuck Pagano's staff though it hasn't been determined whether Christensen will coach quarterbacks or receivers. The team plans to interview defensive coordinator candidates Wednesday and Thursday, and Irsay called re-signing defensive end Robert Mathis and receiver Pierre Garcon offseason priorities.

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1979 - Lindsay Langston, Modesto California, archer (Olympics-1996)

1979 - Petra Cada, Prague Czech, Canadian table tennis player

1979 - Fani Halkia, Greek hurdler

1979 - Irini Terzoglou, Greek shot putter

1979 - Shamita Shetty, Indian actress

1980 - Teddy Hart, Canadian professional wrestler

1980 - Gucci Mane, African-American rapper

1980 - Oleguer Presas, Spanish football player

1981 - Jason Kapono, American basketball player

1982 - Han Ga In, South Korean model/actress

1982 - Sergio Castaño, Spanish footballer

1982 - Kelly Mazzante, American basketball player

1983 - Carolina Klüft, Swedish athlete

1983 - Alex Westaway, British musician

1983 - Will South, Thirteen Senses frontman

1983 - Jordin Tootoo, Canadian hockey player

1987 - Gerard Piqué, Spanish football player

1987 - Martin Spanjers, American actor

1992 - Rebop Rundgren



NFL

# Woodhead battles stereotypes to reach Super Bowl

Associated Press

INDIANAPOLIS — Under-sized and undrafted, Danny Woodhead had two things against him when he set out on his pro career. In less than

four years, the diminutive star from Division II Chadron State has made it to the pinnacle of the NFL. The 5-foot-8, 195-pound running back has been a steady contributor to New England's

Super Bowl season. Woodhead has become an inspiration for other undersized players — proof that a small guy from a small school can make it in the NFL.

To him, it's not all that impressive.

"I'm not too concerned with the past," he said. "I think every day is the drive, not necessarily something in my past. I just want to get better every single day."

Woodhead was a star running back at North Platte (Neb.) High School, where he was the Omaha World-Herald's male Athlete of the Year in 2004. Like most youngsters in his state, he wanted to play college football for the Nebraska Cornhuskers. Nebraska and the other big schools weren't interested, so he stayed in state and went to Chadron State.

He won the Harlon Hill award in 2006 and 2007 as the nation's top Division II player and finished his career with a then-NCAA record 7,962 yards rushing.

Those numbers weren't enough to impress pro scouts, and he went undrafted. The New York Jets signed him as a free agent in 2008, but he missed the season with a knee injury. He played sparingly for the Jets in 2009, then they cut him at the start of the 2010 season. The Patriots signed him four days after the Jets cut him, and he has been a solid

contributor since.

The Giants respect his tenacity.

"Woodhead's a good football player," Giants defensive end Osi Umenyiora said. "I love his story. I love where he's come from to be what he is now."

Woodhead always thought he'd make it in the league, even after the Jets cut him.

"I felt like I'd get another chance," he said. "I don't know if there was something that made me believe that. I guess I just didn't think it was over. I felt like I had a lot of football left in me."

His first year with the Patriots, he ran for 547 yards, averaged a team-record 5.6 yards per carry and caught 34 passes for 379 yards. This season, he ran for 351 yards, caught 18 passes for 157 yards and returned 20 kickoffs for a 21.9-yard average.

Woodhead is humbled, but not surprised about his success because he never saw his size as a negative.

"To me, it is not an issue," he said. "I don't think it is something that I have to fight at all, because it is not something I have had to worry about ever. I don't think being 5-8 has ever hurt me. Maybe in the eyes of some, but it is not something that I worry about at all."

His toughness makes him a favorite of his teammates.

"Woody's a great player, man," Patriots receiver Deion

Branch said. "The coaches truly enjoy him. The players — we love him. He's another small guy that has done a lot for this league and changed the naysayers minds. He's one of my guys."

Woodhead knew he'd get a chance to show what he could do when the Patriots picked him up.

"I think they just try to get the guys that they think will work in their system the best, and we go out there and try to do our job every single play," he said. "They are going to do their job trying to find the best players for them and we are going to go out there and work as hard as we can."

His approach to the game has earned respect from his peers.

"Woody comes to practice, he works hard," BenJarvus Green-Ellis, the team's leading rusher, said. "He's extremely fast, quick. He does good things as a running back."

The Patriots don't see Woodhead as a novelty — they need him.

"The things that this guy brings to the team are truly unbelievable," Branch said. "We truly appreciate this guy being here, and he has a big role this game this week."

Kevin Faulk, another undersized back on the team, paid him perhaps the best compliment: "He's everything you want in a small guy."

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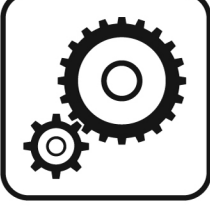

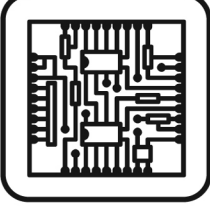




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## INTERNATIONAL SOCCER

## Upset victory in Egypt leads to devastating riots

Associated Press

CAIRO — At least 74 people were killed and 248 injured after soccer fans rushed the field in the seaside city of Port Said Wednesday following an upset victory by the home team over Egypt's top club, setting off clashes and a stampede as riot police largely failed to intervene.

It was a bloody reminder of the deteriorating security in the Arab world's most populous country as instability continues nearly a year after former President Hosni Mubarak was swept out of power in a popular uprising.

The melee — which followed an Egyptian league match between Al-Masry, the home team in the Mediterranean city, and Al-Ahly, based in Cairo and one of Egypt's most popular team — was the worst case of soccer violence in Egypt and the deadliest worldwide since 1996. One player said it was “like a war.”

In Cairo, fans angered that another match between Al-Ismaili and Zamalek was halted because of the Port Said violence set fire to the bleachers at the main stadium in the Egyptian capital, authorities said. No injuries were reported and employees said firefighters extinguished the blaze before it caused much damage.

The clashes and ensuing stampede did not appear to be directly linked to the political turmoil in Egypt, but the violence raised fresh concerns about the ability of the state police to manage crowds. Most of the hundreds of black-uniformed police with helmets and shields stood in lines and did nothing as soccer fans chased either, some wield-

ing sharp objects and others hurling sticks and rocks.

Security officials said the ministry has issued directives for its personnel not to “engage” with civilians after recent clashes between police and protesters in November left more than 40 people dead.

The violence also underscored the role of soccer fans in Egypt's recent protest movement. Organized fans, in groups known as ultras, have played an important role in the revolution and rallies against military rule. Their anti-police songs, peppered with curses, have quickly become viral and an expression of the hatred many Egyptians feel toward security forces that were accused of much of the abuse that was widespread under Mubarak's regime.

Egypt is not immune to soccer violence. In April, the ineffectiveness of the police force also was on display when thousands of fans ran onto the field before the end of an African Champions' game between local club Zamalek and Tunisia's club Africain. The hundreds of police on duty at Cairo International Stadium could not stop the violence then either.

Activists quickly scheduled rallies Thursday outside the headquarters of the Interior Ministry in Cairo to protest the inability of the police to stop the bloodshed.

The scuffles began out after fans of Al-Masry stormed the field following a rare 3-1 win against Al-Ahly. Al-Masry supporters hurled sticks and stones as they chased players and fans from the rival team, who ran toward the exits to escape, according to witnesses. One man



AP

Fans rush the field after Al-Masry's home victory over Al-Ahly of the Egyptian soccer league in Port Said, Egypt, on Wednesday. 248 people were injured and at least 74 were killed in the riots that followed the game.

told state TV he heard gunshots in the stadium, while a lawmaker from Egypt's powerful Muslim Brotherhood said the police didn't prevent fans carrying knives from entering the stadium.

TV footage showed Al-Ahly players rushing for their locker room as fistfights broke out among the hundreds of fans swarming on to the field. Some men had to rescue a manager from the losing team as he was being beaten. Black-clothed po-

lice officers stood by, appearing overwhelmed.

The Interior Ministry said 74 people died, including one police officer, and 248 were injured, 14 of them police. Security forces arrested 47 people for involvement in the violence, the statement said.

State TV appealed to Egyptians to donate blood for the injured in Port Said, and the military sent two aircraft to evacuate serious cases to the capital, Cairo.

Field Marshal Hussein Tantawi, the head of the military leadership that assumed power after Mubarak's ouster, welcomed Al-Ahly team players who were flown back to Cairo from Port Said on a military aircraft.

“This will not bring Egypt down,” he said at a military air base east of Cairo. “These incidents happen anywhere in the world. We will not let those behind it go ...This will not affect Egypt and its security.”

## WOMEN'S TENNIS

## Venus practices, aims for return at Fed Cup

Associated Press

WORCESTER, Mass. — Recovery never comes fast enough for Venus Williams.

The latest has been especially slow for Williams, who plans to return this weekend in the Fed Cup matches against Belarus after a five-month layoff caused by Sjogren's Syndrome, an autoimmune disease that can cause fatigue and joint pain.

Williams practiced with the U.S. team Wednesday morning and said she's thrilled to be so close to competing again for the first time since the opening round of the U.S. Open.

“I think just being on a team and just having some adrenaline just gives me even more energy, to be honest,” she said at a news conference Wednesday. “I need to be on a team every week and not at home.”

Williams has had to learn the difference between recovering from an injury and an illness. That has meant pacing herself more in practice and minding doctors' orders not to push it while she tries to regain her form. The former world No. 1 and seven-time Grand Slam singles winner, Williams isn't used to taking it easy.

“The difference is acceptance — trying to accept how you feel and limitations. Listening to your body and taking care of yourself,” she said. “Instead of trying to run through a wall, just really kind of take a step back and be smart. I think that's kind of what I've learned.”

Williams hasn't played a sanctioned match since the U.S. Open in August. She withdrew after the first round and was not ready to return last month for the Australian Open.

“There are some things you can't keep going through,” she said. “I still have to be reminded to slow down, but hopefully there will be a day when I don't have to be reminded of that.”

Williams played her younger sister, Serena, in an exhibition in Colombia in November, but that has been her only public competition since Aug. 29 at the U.S. Open.

The recovery has been frustratingly slow at times, but she feels ready for this weekend when the U.S. begins its quest to return to the top tier in the Fed Cup. The Americans were bounced to Group II in a 5-0 loss to Germany last year, when Venus was with the team but couldn't play because of a hip injury.

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NCAA MEN’S BASKETBALL

Michigan bounces back against IU

Associated Press

ANN ARBOR, Mich. — Trey Burke scored 18 points, and No. 23 Michigan raced to a 20-point first-half lead before holding on for a 68-56 victory over No. 20 Indiana on Wednesday night.

The Wolverines (17-6, 7-3 Big Ten) remained unbeaten at home. They got off to a quick start after last weekend's loss at No. 3 Ohio State, scoring the first 13 points and eventually taking a 28-8 lead.

Indiana (17-6, 5-6) twice fought back within two points in the second half, including at 52-50 with 3:20 remaining. Tim Hardaway Jr. hit a big 3-pointer for Michigan, and after Indiana's Derek Elston missed the front end of a 1-and-1, Stu Douglass made a 3-pointer to put the Wolverines up by eight.

Jordan Hulls scored 18 points for Indiana.

During the final seconds, the Michigan fans began chanting "Beat the Spartans!" — the Wolverines will try for their fourth straight victory over Michigan State on Sunday in East Lansing.

The Hoosiers beat Michigan 73-71 earlier in the season, part of a 15-1 start for Indiana that included wins over Kentucky and Ohio State. The Hoosiers have lost five of their last seven to fall well off the pace in the Big Ten race.

Burke opened the scoring



Michigan sophomores guard Tim Hardaway, Jr., right, and freshman guard Trey Burke celebrate during the Wolverines' 68-56 win Wednesday.

with a spinning layup and added two 3-pointers, and Zack Novak's 3-pointer from the right corner put Michigan ahead 13-0.

It was 28-8 after a free throw by Michigan's Jordan Morgan, but Indiana answered with nine straight points. Burke found a cutting Hardaway with an alley-oop pass to make it 33-20, and the Wolverines led 33-22 at halftime.

Michigan had only one turnover in the first half, while Indiana had eight.

The Hoosiers kept chipping away in the second half. Watford's three-point play made it 38-36 with 12:53 remaining, but Novak answered with a 3-pointer, the start of a 9-2 run

for Michigan.

Indiana trailed by six points when Hulls made a 3-pointer and Watford added a free throw to again cut the deficit to two. But Hardaway, who has struggled with his outside shot, connected from the left wing after a pass from Burke to make it 55-50.

Hardaway and Novak each scored 13 points. Cody Zeller had 11 for Indiana but was outshined by Burke in a matchup of two of the country's top freshmen.

Hulls went 4 of 5 from 3-point range, but the rest of the Hoosiers were 1 of 9.

There were eight fouls called in the first half and 25 in the second.

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Irish sophomore Alan Markow lunges during the foil portion of the Notre Dame Invitational at the Joyce Center Fieldhouse on Jan. 29.

Kuall

continued from page 16

ample has been the most effective method, but that does not mean he won't use a hands-on approach to leading if it is necessary.

"It's a lead by example approach," Kaull said. "[But] I absolutely do take time to break down certain techniques and skills and mindsets going into tournaments."

This mode of leadership stems from the approach of the coaching staff, which allowed the culture of collaboration to rise "organically," Kaull said.

"[The coaches] didn't ask me to do anything in particular," he

said. "They assumed I would figure it out."

The lack of All-American star power does not mean the Irish lack the skill or preparation to defend their title, however. The junior said Notre Dame is as confident as ever in its ability to capture another national championship.

"We're ready to go," Kaull said. "We don't have as many big names as we did last year, but I feel like we have all the talent in the world to win it. It's not going to be a big flash performance. It's going to be a lot of grit and a lot of upsets that we'll need to pull off to win, but I feel like we absolutely have the people to win it."

Contact Matthew Robison at mrobison@nd.edu

Please recycle The Observer.





Senior forward Jessica Centa goes up for a shot during the Belles' 72-50 home victory over Alma on Dec. 3.

## Murphy

continued from page 16

game.

"We all have to step up," Henley said. "We have to do that on the defensive end."

While the Britons shot 46 percent from the floor for the game, in the last five minutes the Belles held them to just nine points. The Belles also held the advantage on the boards, out-rebounding the Britons by a count of 42-26. Murphy was a big contributor to that tally, grabbing 11 boards of her own.

"[Murphy] had a pretty solid week for us on both ends of the court," Henley said. "We've been talking to her about her rebounding ability, and I think that showed up this week."

Saint Mary's will continue to

lean on its seniors during the final stretch of the regular season. Under the new structure of the MIAA tournament, the top four teams will play for the conference title, providing an additional incentive for the Belles to earn a postseason berth.

"With this being the first year that the MIAA has gone to this four team playoff with basketball, I think this entire team is really focused on making sure we are one of those four," Henley said. "We kind of had some bumps and bruises with key losses early in the season that we are to avenge right now as we go through the second round."

The Belles look to earn another conference victory when they take the court Saturday at 3 p.m. at Olivet.

Contact Brendan Bell at [bbell2@nd.edu](mailto:bbell2@nd.edu)

## Johnson

continued from page 16

tense practices approaching the championship meet and is mentally prepared for the big meet.

"I know we're all excited

and ready to get there and race," Johnson said.

The Irish will travel to Pittsburgh for the Big East Swimming Championships, which take place from Feb. 15 to Feb 18.

Contact Megan Golden at [mgolde01@saintmarys.edu](mailto:mgolde01@saintmarys.edu)

## Cooley

continued from page 16

pounds and enlisted in a cardio program, which included strenuous workouts and conditioning six days a week. But Cooley said the real change in his game occurred midway through the season, when the Irish endured a rough stretch, losing four of five games just two weeks before the start of conference play.

"When I was sick [with the flu] and watching the Maryland game, I got pretty upset with how the season had been going so far," he said. "I was really disappointed in myself and how I had been playing. I made sure that I made changes, and that was the point where it really started."

The mellow, soft-spoken junior seems anything but laid-back on the court, especially in Notre Dame's 67-58 win over then-No. 1 Syracuse, during which he was praised nationally for his unyielding grit and tenacious defense. Cooley recorded a double-double (17 points, 10 rebounds), out-muscling and out-hustling the Syracuse big men in a brilliant performance accentuated by the raucous cheers of the sellout crowd.

Then that same crowd joined the big man on the court.

"I was in shock," Cooley said. "I was just glad to be a part of one of the real rush-the-court games and not one of those lame ones where an underdog beats the No. 10 team. To beat the No. 1 team in the country, especially here because that is what we do here, it felt like a bunch of history

was coming together at that moment. It was pretty surreal.

"We know that we play so well in [the Purcell Pavilion]. I don't know if the fans realize this, but if they jump up-and-down during free throws the basket shakes, so that pretty much makes it impossible to make a shot. There is a special presence during home games."

One thing that has been constant in Cooley's time at Notre Dame is the eerie comparison to former Irish forward Luke Harangody. Although Cooley said the comparisons don't bother him, he said it gets to one person more than anyone.

"It's not a bad person to be compared to. My girl-

friend gets pretty upset over it though. She'll get visibly and verbally upset," he said jokingly. "It's all just for fun though. Although, I didn't help myself by picking number 45 ... It was kind of weird meeting him for the first time, but we are two totally different personalities and two different people."

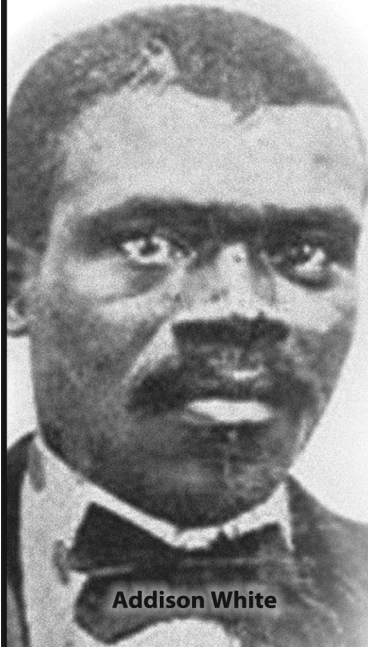
Cooley admitted it would be tough to match what Harangody accomplished at Notre Dame. But one thing Harangody never had was a sellout crowd shouting how 'Cooooool' he is after every big play.

Contact Andrew Gastelum at [agestel1@nd.edu](mailto:agestel1@nd.edu)

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Addison White

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CROSSWORD

WILL SHORTZ

- Across**

1 Wagner heroine

4 Eagerly expectant

8 Street \_\_\_\_

12 Opportunity maker?

14 Hello and farewell

15 With 37-Down, complete

16 Facile

17 Start of a brainteaser whose answer appears in order, from top to bottom, in this puzzle's circled squares

19 City in the San Gabriel Valley

21 Complete

22 John XI's successor
- 23 War of 1812 battle site

24 Schedule abbr.

27 Part two of the brainteaser

30 One of the Chaplins

31 Home state of the 1964 and 2008 Rep. presidential candidates

32 Part three of the brainteaser

38 Debate (with)

39 10th- to 12th-century Chinese dynasty

40 Part four of the brainteaser

48 Muckraker Tarbell

49 Harsh

50 1944 Sartre play

51 Lays the groundwork for?
- 52 Inventory

53 End of the brainteaser

57 Harem rooms

58 Nifty

59 Trifled (with)

60 Spanish muralist

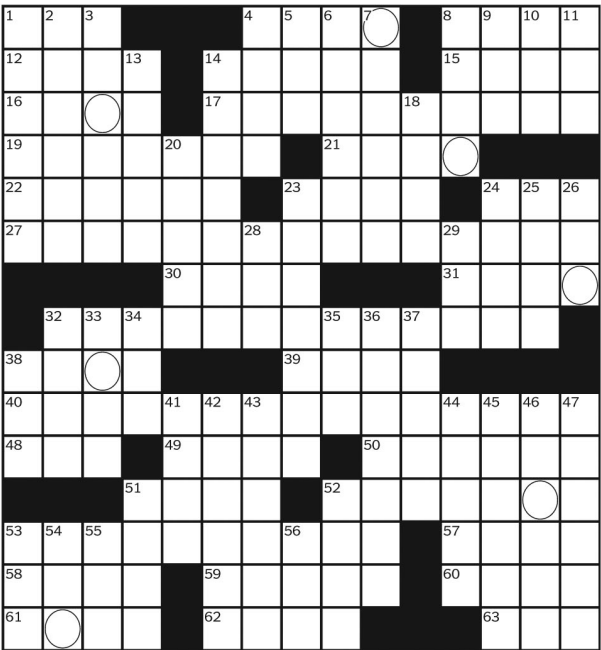
61 Russia/Ukraine's Sea of \_\_\_\_

62 They can be batted and rolled

63 '60s radical grp.

Down

- 1 Communist Friedrich
- 2 Rudy with a megaphone
- 3 "The End of Eternity" author
- 4 Zoological wings
- 5 Certain cat
- 6 Start of many a bumper sticker
- 7 Peppermint \_\_\_\_
- 8 At the home of
- 9 Old bus maker
- 10 Suffix with Euclid
- 11 W.W. II gen.
- 13 Greater than
- 14 10,000, for 4, in base 10, e.g.
- 18 Person who's groundbreaking?
- 20 Curtain fabric
- 23 Online merchant
- 24 When tripled, a 1970 war movie
- 25 One who may say "I say" a lot
- 26 Woodworker's tool
- 28 Blowup: Abbr.
- 29 Cry from a crib
- 32 Popular tablet



Puzzle by David Steinberg

- 33 Zola best seller

34 Coastal flier

35 Half a strawful, say

36 Like a house that's of interest to ghost hunters

37 See 15-Across

38 Subj. of three of the six Nobel Prizes
- 41 Aerosol target

42 As yet

43 Restaurant gofer

44 "How to" explanations

45 Rust and quartz

46 Person with a conical hat, maybe

47 Bikini explosions
- 51 Onetime show for John Candy

52 Composition of Polynésie

53 \_\_\_\_ sense

54 Part of a French face

55 \_\_\_\_ Tomé

56 "g2g" follower

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

HOROSCOPE

EUGENIA LAST

**CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY:** Lee Thompson Young, 28; Michael C. Hall, 41; Big Boi, 42; Pauly Shore, 44.

**Happy Birthday:** Nothing will be easy to decipher. You must take small steps toward your goals. Use your head and think matters through. If you let your emotions take over, you will make mistakes that are time consuming and costly. Do whatever you can without the help of others and you will not be misled. Your numbers are 2, 7, 21, 26, 30, 38, 42.

**ARIES (March 21-April 19):** Don't labor over trivial matters. If a decision needs to be made, make it and move on. Don't let personal uncertainty stand in the way of your progress financially or professionally. Do what's best for you and you will excel. ★★

**TAURUS (April 20-May 20):** An honest assessment of what you can and cannot accomplish must be established if you want to get ahead. Don't be fooled by what others say or promise they will contribute. Rely on you and what you are willing to do. ★★

**GEMINI (May 21-June 20):** Start at the top of your to-do list. You can prove a point if you are innovative in the way you tackle your responsibilities. Don't let emotional matters slow you down. Taking charge will prove you can be a leader. ★★

**CANCER (June 21-July 22):** Prepare to take advantage of an opportunity offered. Uncertainty will be what holds you back. Put a little pressure on someone reluctant to concede to your plans. Home improvement projects will pay off in the near future. Love is highlighted. ★★

**LEO (July 23-Aug. 22):** Your outgoing, generous nature will bring you greater popularity, but don't try to buy love or you will fall short. Someone will be looking for an opportunity to take advantage of you. Keep your guard up and your choices selective. ★★

**VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22):** Learn all you can and apply what you know to your personal and professional life, as well as to your partnerships. Striving to get along and make things work will lead to success. Avoid anyone using emotional blackmail. ★★

**LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22):** Take the initiative and you will have an impact on the people you encounter. You can make a difference if you share your ideas and do what you can to make reforms to a plan that lacks luster. ★★

**SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21):** Take a back seat and listen carefully to others. You will get your turn, but it's to your advantage to gather information that will enable you to lay out your thoughts and plans flawlessly. Perfection means avoiding rejection. ★★

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21):** Play to win. Talk the talk and walk the walk. Your charm will help you advance, but be cautious with those who know you well. Any form of exaggeration will lead to a feud that will affect your personal life. ★★

**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19):** Don't let good times elude you because you are busy making changes that suit your needs only. Look out for others as well, and you will avoid being ridiculed. Equality in all you do will lead to success. Love is highlighted. ★★

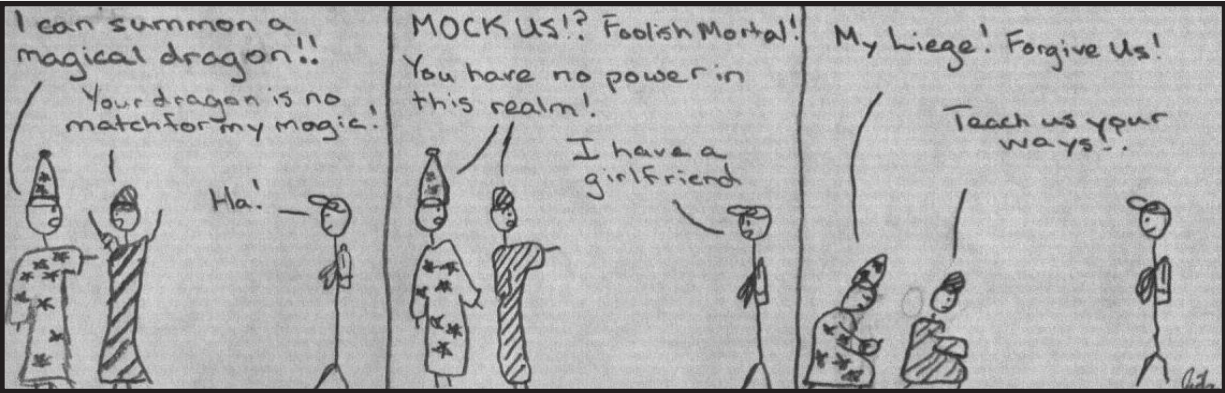
**AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18):** Put greater emphasis on your relationships. Determine who is good for you and who isn't. You need to weed out your circle of friends in order to protect your emotional, physical, financial and mental well-being. ★★

**PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20):** Love is in the stars, along with personal improvement. Do whatever it takes to upgrade and update so you are a contender for advancement. A partnership will be enhanced if you are honest regarding your expectations and intentions. ★★

**Birthday Baby:** You are passionate and caring. You are an inventive and innovative dreamer.

EXPND

JON REPINE



ALEX GRISWOLD and LEE HAGGENJOS



HENRY ARNOLD  
MIKE ARGIRION

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

BOMOL

CATHW

FUSYTF

DMAYID

A: OF A

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: EMPTY GULCH COOKIE PASTRY

Answer: When the actor broke his leg on-stage, they had to — RECAST HIM



THE OBSERVER

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## MEN'S BASKETBALL

## Cooley heating up

*Jack Cooley powers Irish with his competitiveness in midst of a breakout season*By ANDREW GASTELUM  
Sports Writer

On Jan. 10, Notre Dame junior forward Jack Cooley dunked over a South Florida opponent. He landed, stared the Bulls in the face and dared the defenders to challenge him again with a booming roar.

"It was just a way to let it all out," Cooley said. "I knew I was going to get [a technical foul]. A little voice in my mind told me to stop and avoid the technical foul but there was a bigger voice that told me to keep doing it if it looks cool. At that point in the game I knew it really didn't matter, and [Irish coach Mike Brey] said he loved it."

It was unlike anything he had ever done in a Notre Dame uniform, the junior said — a microcosm of his breakout season with the Irish.

At Media Day in October, Brey said he couldn't ever see Cooley, who is averaging 10.7 points and 8.4 rebounds per game, playing for 30 minutes in a single game. Now, the junior has logged 30-plus minutes in seven of the last nine, including 43 minutes in Notre Dame's 67-65 double-overtime victory at No. 10 Louisville.

"Coach [Brey] used to tell me



DILLON WEISNER/The Observer

**Junior forward Jack Cooley battles for a rebound in Notre Dame's 67-58 victory over then-No. 1 Syracuse at the Purcell Pavilion on Jan. 21. Cooley had 17 points and 10 rebounds in the game.**

that I am a guy who can get 20 minutes [per night]," Cooley said. "But I think he did that to get me a little angry, get me to work harder and get in better shape. I know I wasn't planning on being a starter and playing only 20 minutes.

I wanted to work hard to play more than that and I kind of took it upon myself to try and prove him wrong and change."

But the 6'9" forward said Brey's message has changed ever so slightly as the season has progressed.

"Now he just tells me to not get in foul trouble so I could go that long," Cooley said bluntly. "That works for me."

During the offseason, the Chicago native lost over 30

see COOLEY/page 14

## SMC BASKETBALL

## Belles get late surge, beat Albion

By BRENDAN BELL  
Sports Writer

Saint Mary's displayed the importance of senior leadership Wednesday night, as senior forwards Kelley Murphy and Jessica Centa guided the Belles to a 70-62 victory over Albion.

"We are riding our seniors," Belles coach Jennifer Henley said. "There isn't one particular player that we need to help — we all do."

The significance of experience has never been more evident for the Belles (10-11, 6-6 MIAA) than when they found themselves tied against the Britons (13-7, 8-4 MIAA) with five minutes remaining in the contest. At a critical point in the game, Saint Mary's was able to fall back on its seniors for 16 of its final 17 points.

Murphy and Centa's offensive production, along with strong defensive play from the team as a whole, helped Saint Mary's slowly work its way up to an eight point lead, a lead it maintained for the rest of the

see MURPHY/page 14

## MEN'S SWIMMING AND DIVING

## Postseason training begins

By MEGAN GOLDEN  
Sports Writer

After falling to Iowa in the Shamrock Invitational last weekend, the Irish find themselves with less than two weeks to prepare for the Big East Swimming Championships.

With the regular season in the books, Notre Dame junior and co-captain Chris Johnson said he is excited to see the team's 16 freshmen train for the postseason.

"Going through these next few weeks with no meets, it's important for guys to focus on being ready come game time," Johnson said. "Some of the new guys haven't done this type of taper before, so it's important for all the older guys to let them know how things work and how they should be feeling in the water."

No. 12 Louisville, the defending conference champion, is the lone Big East squad ranked in the top 25. The last time Notre Dame faced off with the Cardinals, the Irish fell 191-109 at Ralph Wright Natatorium on Nov. 12.

With Louisville leading a talented Big East conference, Johnson said Notre Dame is taking advantage of its time off to prepare for a challenging field of swimmers at the championship event.

"Competition this year in the Big East is tougher than ever," Johnson said. "Louisville is returning nearly everyone from their champion team last year, and they've added a fast freshman class. West Virginia isn't nearly as close, but they always do well."

The title meet will be held at Trees Pool in Pittsburgh, a location Notre Dame has already captured a win at this year. The Irish topped the Panthers 193-107 on Oct. 28, earning three victories from freshmen swimmers Michael Kreft and Cameron Miller.

Irish sophomore Frank Dyer, who has secured a spot in the championships, also had a standout performance at Pittsburgh, earning gold in the 200-yard freestyle.

With underclassmen like Kreft, Miller and Dyer stepping up throughout the season, Johnson said he has high expectations for the Irish in spite of their youth.

"I do think this freshman class is going to have a huge impact in Pittsburgh," he said. "With all of the depth and experience we have from the upperclassmen, the freshmen just add to that."

Johnson added Notre Dame understands the need for in

see JOHNSON/page 14

## FENCING

## Irish eye title despite departures

By MATTHEW ROBISON  
Sports Writer

During the 2011 campaign, the Irish were loaded with a talented crew of seven seniors and 11 All-Americans, eventually winning the national championship. Although the objective is the same this year, the approach is totally different.

The nature of the 2011 national championship team was a top-heavy ensemble of talented seniors who carried the Irish to the title. However, the lack of star power on this year's squad has created an entirely new atmosphere, an atmosphere that junior James Kaull said has brought a new culture to Notre Dame fencing.

"There were a lot of talented kids who not only had big personalities but who were also very good," Kaull said. "Everyone else just kind of fell into place behind them."

This year however, there is a distinct feeling of cooperation among experienced fencers and new ones alike, unlike the upperclassmen-dominated 2011 squad. This top-to-bottom style of improvement was something Notre Dame did not see last year, according to Kaull.

"It's definitely something new this year," he said.



SARAH O'CONNOR/The Observer

**Notre Dame junior Jason Choy competes in the Sabre event for the Irish at the Notre Dame Invitational in the Joyce Center Fieldhouse on Sunday.**

This season, several veterans have risen to replace the leadership and talent of graduated seniors. However, their focus is more on developing the youth than carrying the team to victory by themselves.

The result is a dynamic environment that features young and experienced fencers working together every day. The leadership roles are constantly evolving,

Kaull said.

"With them gone, the leadership roles aren't so defined," Kaull said. "People don't necessarily fall into place naturally. The new leaders have to figure out their own leading style, and the younger ones have to cope with that period of uncertainty."

For Kaull, leadership by ex

see KUALL/page 13